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[View this email in your browser](https://mailchi.mp/a13ef167ceab/march-newsletter?e=%5BUNIQID%5D)

Next Deadline for submissions: March 20

[Sign up for our newsletter & forward this one to friends.](https://wowrcucc.us20.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=3430c44e426848fe31d8afb4b&amp;id=65ceaaaf22)

Moderator Richard Bott's Lent message for 2020

Ash Wednesday isn’t only about lament and death—it’s also about celebrating life because the two are so deeply intertwined. For the 40 days of Lent, you are invited to join in celebrating life each day.

Visit the United Church [worship page](https://www.united-church.ca/worship?mc_cid=cabf2a6e24&amp;mc_eid=1807891ded) for additional Lenten resources.

The National Indigenous Elders Council and Moderator Richard Bott have written a [joint letter](https://www.united-church.ca/news/support-wetsuweten?mc_cid=cabf2a6e24&amp;mc_eid=1807891ded) in support of Wet’suwet’en.

Learn how your faith community can [encourage](https://www.united-church.ca/social-action/act-now/wetsuweten-and-right-free-prior-and-informed-consent?mc_cid=cabf2a6e24&amp;mc_eid=1807891ded) the Canadian government to embody the [UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples](https://www.united-church.ca/social-action/justice-initiatives/un-declaration-rights-indigenous-peoples?mc_cid=cabf2a6e24&amp;mc_eid=1807891ded) in their relationships with Indigenous Peoples.

*~~~~~ From the Editor's Desk ~~~~~*

*One year ago, the regional council staff were scrambling to assemble email lists to send newsletters. Our newsletter platform was not working for the volume of our work and our websites were a distant hope! Thank you for your patience as we have developed these communication tools.*

*The website and newsletter are still being reviewed and refined - we continue to make improvements.*

*Welcome to our newly formatted newsletter. We realize that the newsletter has a three-fold purpose:*

1. *to provide useful advice for communities of faith;*

2. *to detail upcoming events;*

3. *to share stories of life throughout the regional council.*

*We want to provide all three in a way that makes it easy to navigate the newsletter*

*and to skim it for selected portions if desired. This newsletter is divided into 3 sections:*

*For Your Community of Faith*

*Upcoming Events*

*News from Around the Regional Council*

*Enjoy the read!*

*for* Communities *of* Faith

Covenanting Service

Glen Morris United Church

March 15 - 10:30 am

Join us for a special covenanting service with our interim minister, Michiko Bown - Kai, who is with us at Glen Morris United Church while Meghan Gilholm is on maternity leave. Be with us for this gathering to be followed by fellowship and refreshments to continue the celebrations! Spread the word and join us at Glen Morris United Church ([Google map](https://www.google.ca/maps/place/Glen%2BMorris%2BUnited%2BChurch/%4043.2737399%2C-80.347156%2C15z/data%3D%214m5%213m4%211s0x0%3A0xf3a89f670b4706ed%218m2%213d43.2737399%214d-80.347156?hl=en)).

Confirmation Retreat

Five Oaks, April 3 - 5

Colour Outside the Lines, Unravel Faith, Resurrect Hope and Create Radical Beauty on Earth with Ruth Noble, Alana Martin and Kathy Douglas.

A retreat to support & enrich the confirmation process of your congregation. For both youth & leaders. Come, [share the journey](http://fiveoaks.on.ca/program-schedule/5540/confirmation-weekend/)!

For information email Kathy Douglas.

Please Share this Newsletter

Leadership Development and Continuing Education For lay people and clergy who want to learn, explore, and question, the Centre for Christian Studies is offering two one-week learning circles: [Oppression and Resistance](http://ccsonline.ca/program/courses-and-circles/sj03-oppression-resistance/) (Apr 15-21) and [Ages and Stages](http://ccsonline.ca/program/courses-and-circles/ew02-ages-stages/) (April 23-29). Application deadline this month. Both will be in Winnipeg. Click on the name of the circle to find out more. If you have questions call 204-783-4490 or e-mail info@ccsonline.ca.

Sisters Together: Clergy Women's Retreat for Women in Ministry - April 20 - 24

The theme of this 5-day event is 'Voices of Hope in Challenging Times'. The event features Rabbi Elyse Goldstein, Rev. Dr. HyeRan Kim-Cragg and Diamond

Fotiadis. The Blanket Exercise with Kairos

Canada will also be presented.

Download the [poster](https://mcusercontent.com/ee15470ca4eab124ea964929b/files/200fbaa7-2c57-4698-84a7-171a7e88c3cd/SistersTogetherPoster.pdf) for information, go to the [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/Sisters-Together-108528020497328/) page, send an email to sistersandministers@gmail.com, or go directly to the [registration form](http://regionalcouncil789.formstack.com/forms/sisterstogether).

Limited to the first 50 participants.

Please share this newsletter widely. It is especially helpful for people involved in leadership roles in your community of faith to know what upcoming events are planned that they might find helpful.

Invite people to subscribe for themselves by including the following with the announcements: Stay in touch with the wider church: [subscribe](https://wowrcucc.us20.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=3430c44e426848fe31d8afb4b&amp;id=65ceaaaf22) to the regional council newsletter.

Video Licensing Available for May 2020 to April 2021

Video licensing information is available online at [Buying United](https://buyingunited.net/video-licensing). Those who had video licenses last year should have received their invitation for this year. Please share this information as widely as you can. The deadline for applications for this round is Friday, March 27.

Contact Alexandra Belaskie or at 1-800-

268-3781 x4157 for more information.

HUB Youth Event & GO Project Climate Change & Our Faith Saturday, March 14, 2-8 pm

St. Paul's UC, Oakville

Calling all youth & groups, grades 8 & up!

Climate change. We know it’s real. We know it matters. We know it’s making all the headlines right now. So how can we go deeper than a headline or a hashtag?

Personality Type in Religious & Spiritual Community

Martin Luther University College

April 29, 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Exercises in Jungian personality type and what is valued in religious & spiritual community. Emerge with awareness of what community means to you and other personality types. Enhance motivation & skill for building community.

Celebrate with authors Christopher Ross and Leslie Francis on the publication

of *Personality, Religion and Leadership*

based on two decades of research.

Held at Martin Luther University College ([Google map](https://www.google.ca/maps/place/Martin%2BLuther%2BUniversity%2BCollege/%4043.4719272%2C-80.5287395%2C15z/data%3D%214m5%213m4%211s0x0%3A0x9e861a8c9b4decb3%218m2%213d43.4719272%214d-80.5287395)). Download the [flyer](https://mcusercontent.com/3430c44e426848fe31d8afb4b/files/07532846-d87a-4270-83fe-ae34bffa7fe8/PersonalityReligion.pdf), [click here to register](https://event-wizard.com/personalitytype/0/register/).

United Church Women Annual General Celebration Saturday, May 2 - 9:15 - 3:00pm

Theme: Women for Change. At Calvary Evangelical United Church, 48 Hawksville Road in St. Jacob's ([Google map](https://www.google.com/maps/place/Calvary%2BUnited%2BChurch/%4043.5452608%2C-80.5565875%2C15z/data%3D%214m5%213m4%211s0x0%3A0xc0eb3c774d8591e3%218m2%213d43.5452608%214d-80.5565875)).

The guest speaker is Rev. Japheth Ndhlovu, the Program Coordinator for Southern Africa & South Asia, Partnerships of the United Church.

Register by sending your name to ucw.wow@gmail.com or phone Kim at

705-734-0162. $15 is payable at the event. Please wear your UCW pin & name tag, Remember to car pool and bring your water bottle & Voices United.

What are the facts and what does it all have to do with Jesus? How do we engage this issue as people of faith? If being a disciple means making a difference, how can we actually do that??

So many questions! And that's what this day is all about! Exploring those

important questions, and learning how we can make positive changes to protect this planet God gave us.

Register by March 9, llimited spaces:

hubleadership@gmail.com. Find out everything [here](https://www.facebook.com/events/st-pauls-united-church-oakville/the-hub-go-climate-change-our-faith-youth-event/116713633102790/) !

Licensed Lay Worship Leaders

Registration for Unit 4 (Spring

2020) is Now Open

A Licensed Lay Worship Leader is a lay member of The United Church of Canada, in good standing, who has been recommended by the governing body of their pastoral charge, duly educated, and

licensed by their Regional Council to offer occasional worship leadership and preaching within the bounds of their Regional Council.

A very popular on-line webinar through United-in-Learning.com. Download the [brochure](https://mcusercontent.com/3430c44e426848fe31d8afb4b/files/018eb14e-bc90-4bd2-855d-2d1b048ec1e2/LLWL_Brochure.pdf) or [poster](https://mcusercontent.com/3430c44e426848fe31d8afb4b/files/d5a75497-fc71-4809-89e0-d11f04fe39a1/LLWL_Unit_4_Poster.pdf). Find out more or register at [United-in-Learning](https://united-in-learning.com/index.php/llwl-online-training-program/94-llwl-unit-four).

Interim Ministers Spring Retreat

Five Oaks Retreat Centre

May 6 to May 7

Holy connection, worship, open space, spiritual practices, kaleidoscope Bible study, learning experience.

Registration deadline is March 30. Download the [poster](https://mcusercontent.com/3430c44e426848fe31d8afb4b/files/07a644d3-882a-4f26-b091-f4fe78eceaba/IM_Spring_Retreat_2020.pdf) or go to the [registration form](http://regionalcouncil789.formstack.com/forms/imspringretreat).

Youth Ministry Training Retreat

May 8, 6:30 pm - May 9, 6:00 pm

5 Oaks Centre, Paris

A training retreat for youth leaders in paid and volunteer ministry with youth. Leadership provided by Kathy Douglas and Jeffrey Dale.

Cost is $60 for shared room and $90 for single rooms. Limited space, register early by emailing Kathy Douglas.

reVITALize 4

SAVE-THE-DATES June 5 & 6

United in Worship Project

The [United-in-Worship Project](https://www.united-in-worship.ca/) is an exciting joint venture that has grown from the ground up to support communities of faith that are without trained worship leadership.

Worship leaders and communities of faith across Canada volunteer liturgies for worship, sermons/reflections, and their creative time and energy, with added digital media so that these communities can access worship resources:

order of service digital presentations sermon texts

video sermons

Download the United-in-Worship [postcard](https://mcusercontent.com/3430c44e426848fe31d8afb4b/files/a1c1a13f-d774-4178-bc5b-68c4b1136f32/UIW_Post_Card.pdf) or go to the [website](https://www.united-in-worship.ca/) to learn more.

Want to Include Something Here

Do you know of a region-wide event or happening that would be of interest to ministry personnel and/or lay members? To have it posted in this regional newsletter, send an email with the information to pkukadia@united- church.ca.

The next deadline is March 20.

Lent is here! give, Give, GIVE

What if we not only give up something, but GIVE something for Lent?

Early Bird Rate until: March 31st!

reVITALize 4: Amazing guest speakers. Presented by the Centre for Practical Theology & The Middlesex Foundation June 5 & 6. [Find out more](http://metropolitanchurch.com/contribute/revitalize-4/)! [Download the poster](https://gallery.mailchimp.com/ee15470ca4eab124ea964929b/files/31319f13-761f-4b79-b75b-db4c47c40d1e/revitalize4_legal.pdf).

Rendez-Vous: Bold Faith. Brave

Space. Brazen Grace.

[Rendez-vous](https://www.uccrendezvous.ca/), an M&S supported event, brings together youth (grade 9 and up to any age), young adults and their leaders from across the country (and beyond!) for a celebration of vibrant music, inspiring speakers, and dancing like there is no tomorrow.

[Find ideas here](https://giftswithvision.ca/) on what to give ... and [download the flyer](https://mcusercontent.com/f61273749cb51631850ac8b12/files/0b888f32-265e-405c-8571-1e19e93a89a0/Lent_is_coming_GIVE.pdf) from Dave Jagger.

Upcoming Events

Nations Uniting Parallel Paths

March 11 - 1:30 - 3:30 pm

Come and explore Parallel Paths with us: compare Traditional Culture and Stories of Spirituality to Christian Scriptures and stories that are similar with guest speaker, Renee Thomas-Hill.

At Nations Uniting, 1652 Chiefswood Rd, Ohsweken ([Google map](https://www.google.com/maps/place/1652%2BChiefswood%2BRd%2C%2BOhsweken%2C%2BON%2BN0A%2B1M0/%4043.0681278%2C-80.1202936%2C12z/data%3D%214m5%213m4%211s0x882c6012fdaaac43%3A0xec9c755f89e884ce%218m2%213d43.0681278%214d-80.1181049?hl=en)).

PIE Day Worship, March 14

Facing Queerphobia Video from Affirm United

PIE Day happens every March 14! [Affirm United/S’affirmer Ensemble](http://affirmunited.ause.ca/) and [Affirming Connections](https://affirmingconnections.com/) have partnered to bring you tools and

We are planning to take 10 participants. The cost of the registration will be about

$350 and the flight will be $800-$900. We're applying for funds to help cover 1/3 of the cost.

Get involved. [Find out how](https://gallery.mailchimp.com/3430c44e426848fe31d8afb4b/files/5924a7a9-6842-472d-b0c4-7b28a790608d/RendezVous_Flyer.pdf). Email Kathy or call her at 519-441-0656.

Rekindling the Fire SAVE-THE-DATES September 24-26

Early Bird Rate until: March 31st! Rekindling the Fire: Many guest

speakers. Presented by the Centre for Practical Theology & The Middlesex Foundation September 24 to 26. [Find out more](http://metropolitanchurch.com/contribute/rekindling/)! [Download the poster](https://gallery.mailchimp.com/ee15470ca4eab124ea964929b/files/a7bf0524-6260-4893-bd5c-6cf2a08bfe20/rekindlethefire_legal.pdf).

Regional Council Events

Youth Rally 2020: Escape! April 23 - April 26

Pearce-Williams Christian Camp

High-School aged youth: Do you love to

ideas to put on your own PIE event.

Find out about the activities happening on

March 14. Check out [www.pieday.ca](http://www.pieday.ca/).

Download the [February - March newsletter](https://mcusercontent.com/3430c44e426848fe31d8afb4b/files/3d398ccd-61d8-46ca-aab7-c59cc1ff723e/AffirmFebruary.pdf) from Affirm United.

Centre for Christian Studies Annual General Meeting March 19 at 6 pm CT

You're invited to the Centre for Christian Studies' 2020 Annual General Meeting on Thursday, March 19, from 6:00 pm to

8:00 pm Central Time. Join us in person at Woodsworth House (60 Maryland St, Winnipeg) or online via videoconferencing. (Call or email Cheryl -

204.783.4490 or office@ccsonline.ca for the link.) Agendas, reports, and documents will be posted on the [CCS website](http://ccsonline.ca/event/ccs-annual-general-meeting-2020/) soon.

Two Countries, One World

Return to Columbia

United Church Youth!

be inspired, challenged to think, meet new people & hang out with good

friends ??? Do you enjoy being in an open

& welcoming community where you are free to be completely yourself ? Well, faith, fellowship and connection is what Youth Rally is all about.

Come join us for Youth Rally 2020: Escape! Registration closes when full.

There is limited space! [Register Early](https://regionalcouncil789.formstack.com/forms/youth_rally). Deadline for registration: April 9.

For more information email Shannon.

Kids Across the Regions: Heroes Unite! June 6 - June 7

Camp Bimini, St. Paul's

A fun, faith filled weekend for children (grades 3 to 8) from across the three regional councils of Antler River Watershed, Western Ontario Waterways and Horseshoe Falls of The United Church of Canada! We’ll be gathering in early June after the Annual Meetings of the three regional councils to give us warmer weather and access to the beautiful pool at Camp Bimini.

Join us! Registration closes when full. [Register Early](http://regionalcouncil789.formstack.com/forms/kids_across_the_regions). Deadline for registration: May 22.

We are inviting youth & young adult leadership for this event. If you are a high-school aged youth or young adult interested in being leadership

for Kids Across the Regions, please contact

Kathy Douglas.

Find out more at an information night for potential participants and parents/guardians to ask questions. Check out [our site](https://www.waterlootcow.ca/who/) to learn about us along with our [frequently asked questions](https://www.waterlootcow.ca/tcow-2021/faq/). Information nights will be

held in March and April. Download the [poster](https://mcusercontent.com/3430c44e426848fe31d8afb4b/files/399d4920-e9e2-4737-9e27-e277e09aa81d/TCOW.pdf) to find out where and when.

Come with all your questions, hopes, fears and dreams!

Guatemalan Global Experience

March 13 - 23, 2021

SAVE-THE-DATES

High Country United Church is planning a mission trip for approximately 20 youth (ages grade 9 and up) to go to

Guatemala in 2021. We have applied for grants in hopes of reducing the cost per person by $1,000 from $3,500.

Visit our [website](https://highcountryunited.weebly.com/) to learn about our trip to Nicaragua in 2017. Download the [registration form](https://mcusercontent.com/3430c44e426848fe31d8afb4b/files/c96ac141-7d60-45ce-8775-6176f69472ec/Guatemala2021Form.pdf) and [brochure](https://mcusercontent.com/3430c44e426848fe31d8afb4b/files/6716c4f2-229e-4dca-83b4-1677a159194a/Guatemala2021Info.pdf). If you're interested send an email asap to Rev. Janet Jones to let us know - first 20 registered will go.

Crossan is coming to Westdale

United Church, Hamilton

April 3 and 4

For more information email Kathy

Douglas or call 519-441-0656.

Missional Leadership Diploma Atlantic School of Theology June 2020

[Learn the keys to thriving ministry](http://www.astheology.ns.ca/future/diploma/diploma-in-missional-leadership) in the

21st Century. Starts in June - Apply now! Only 25 spots available. For more details on this leading edge program download this [information sheet](https://mcusercontent.com/ee15470ca4eab124ea964929b/files/69726425-8366-4a5a-9a15-b7152fa0c2aa/AST_Missional_Leadership_Information.pdf) and/or contact Dr. Stephen Harper.

Hello & Welcome

Let's welcome Young Seo to Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council. Young just started at Alma Pastoral Charge, (not too far from Drayton) in February.

Question & Answer Column

Question

What educational program offers insight & strategies to leaders serving congregations in transition?

Answer

United Fresh Start. Over 20 modules that teach leadership critical strategies for

Contemporary Spiritual Voices present: A

weekend with John Dominic Crossan.

The foremost historical Jesus scholar will be at Westdale UC from a Friday evening talk through all day Saturday.

[Register online](http://www.westdaleunited.ca/) or [download the flyer](https://mcusercontent.com/f61273749cb51631850ac8b12/files/bf8a00ac-f4b7-4683-b4e6-b3bf7ff89243/Crossan_April_3_4.pdf) and get all the details and information.

Huron-Perth UCW Presbyterial

CLOSING BASH Saturday, April 4 - 2:30

On Saturday, April 4th, at the Stanley Community Complex at 38572 Mill Road in Varna ([Google map](https://www.google.com/maps/place/Stanley%2BCommunity%2BCentre/%4043.5372652%2C-81.6112548%2C15z/data%3D%214m5%213m4%211s0x0%3A0x92088667dd7a9cb9%218m2%213d43.5372652%214d-81.6112548)), starting at 2:30 with registration, continuing to a buffet dinner at 5:00 and then onto the Closing Worship Service BASH.

Tickets must be purchased by March 16 by sending your name and cheque for

$25, payable to 'Huron-Perth Presbyterial' to Registrar Eileen Townsend, Box 476, Clinton, ON N0M 1L0. For more information call 519-606-3237.

Rabbi Richard Address

Our Long and Winding Road Siloam United Church, London Saturday, April 4, 2:00 - 9:00 pm

Seeking our Path in the Longevity Revolution: Rabbi Richard F. Address, DMin is a leading authority on Boomer and Older Adult Ministry. He hosts the weekly radio show "Boomer Generation Radio" in Philadelphia and speaks regularly on issues related to baby boomers, aging and how Judaism can impact our lives as we age.

Download the [poster and registration](https://mcusercontent.com/ee15470ca4eab124ea964929b/files/c9b3b403-d668-44fd-b3e1-47bd318c82aa/RabbiAddress.pdf)

working effectively together. Based on proven methods of organizational leadership experts and on a program developed by the Episcopal Church over the past 20 years.

To find out more, go to Pastoral Relations Toolkit #4 on the Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council [website](https://wowrcucc.ca/pastoral-relations-toolkits/) or click the United Fresh Start logo below.

Do you have a question you want to ask one of the staff??? Submit your questions to pkukadia@united-church.ca for consideration.

Treasurers: Charity Returns

We Have An Answer for You

In response to the following question on the T3010 Charity Return: Was the

charity in a subordinate position to a head body?

Answer: The United Church of Canada

Bn # 108102435RR0003

Thanks for all you do at this busy time of year to help United Church communities of faith understand their financial picture and direct their assets to the service of God's mission.



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| --- | --- | --- |
|  | [form](https://mcusercontent.com/ee15470ca4eab124ea964929b/files/c9b3b403-d668-44fd-b3e1-47bd318c82aa/RabbiAddress.pdf). Contact [Siloam United Church](https://siloamunitedchurch.org/) by email or phone at 519-455-9201. |  |
| The Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council newsletter welcomes submissions of upcoming events, regional news and educational opportunities. This is also the place to keep up-to-date on information from the regional office.Connecting, Supporting, TransformingWestern Ontario Waterways Regional CouncilThe United Church of Canada |
| [Sign up for our newsletter.](https://wowrcucc.us20.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=3430c44e426848fe31d8afb4b&amp;id=65ceaaaf22)*Copyright © 2020 Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council, UCC, All rights reserved.*Want to change how you receive these emails?You can [update your preferences](https://wowrcucc.us20.list-manage.com/profile?u=3430c44e426848fe31d8afb4b&amp;id=65ceaaaf22&amp;e=%5BUNIQID%5D) or [unsubscribe from this list](https://wowrcucc.us20.list-manage.com/unsubscribe?u=3430c44e426848fe31d8afb4b&amp;id=65ceaaaf22&amp;e=%5BUNIQID%5D&amp;c=75a866a143). |
|  |