



United Church Women Western Ontario Waterways 2022 Fall Newsletter

Save the Dates 2022-2023 UCW of WOW Gatherings

Fall Gathering
In-Person & Virtually
Saturday, November 5
Calvary United, St. Jacobs
Watch for poster soon

Winter Gathering
Virtual Only
Saturday, February 11

Annual General Meeting
Location to be Announced
Saturday, April 23

“Continuing in Hope” 60th UCW Anniversary in Sydney was Wonderful

Attendees from our Region ranged
in age from 5 months to 92 years



Some faced travel difficulties; Kim Bodnar, Velma Wace, and Janice Milne arrived Tuesday and their luggage three days later.

They got to enjoy comedian Patrick Ledwell “who made us laugh. He broke the ice for us. The event would have been worth it even if we had only had one day of it!” Velma said.



Friendships from across Canada were renewed. There was good food, laughter, music, singing, worship, and inspiration.

The Membertou Band Chief Terrance Paul welcomed us to their Convention Centre and lands with Drummers and Singers.



Plenary speaker Sally Armstrong, author, human rights activist, and journalist has covered stories of girls and women from many parts of the world.

She was inspired by Polish Moms who left their children's strollers at the train stations for Ukrainian mothers escaping the war.

“Watching and knowing about atrocities and doing nothing is complicity” Sally said. In Kenya, 160 girls aged 3-17 wanted to go to school. Twelve-year old Millie made a public accusation of her rapist; it took 6-years before he was found guilty. Such bravery of one young girl gives Sally hope and faith that individuals can make a difference.

One take-away was Sally's statement that “Evil thrives on apathy. The nature of goodness looks like intervention and involvement”.

Rev. Michael Blair, General Secretary-UCC who attended the entire event, was our banquet speaker. He said that, “Fear means that everything is impossible, but Hope opens us to opportunities and possibilities”.

He reminded us that even though the UCW practises hospitality and welcome to all who wish to join with us, we need to invite people to come in and transform us.

There was cake!
Ruth Kennedy-
Hosting Chair and
Nancy Risto-
National UCW
President,
are shown with it.



And finally, there was communion with worship. A bagpiper led the parade to retire the banners that had decorated the hall all week, and then our event was over.

Women for Change Zambia (WfC-Z) Update

Lumba Siyanga, Chief Executive Director (left) and Shadrick Chembe, PME Manager (right) of WfC-Z gave an update on their work empowering girls and women.



UCW has raised over \$107,000 over the past five years to aid WfC-Z in education supports. It is estimated to cost \$2,789 (Cdn \$) to educate a student for 3 years, which means our UCW donations are helping 33 females and 11 males.

There is a Youtube video of their presentation at [www.united-church.ca/Community and Faith](http://www.united-church.ca/CommunityandFaith). Select ‘being community’, and then ‘United Church Women’. On that page in the last paragraph is a highlighted story, *Women for Change Zambia collaboration with UCW July 2022*. It would make a good program for your UCW. (Excerpted from a report by Eleanor Firth)

You can support this project to Dec. 31; send cheques issued to UCC-M&S with UCW WfC-Z on the memo line to:

United Church of Canada
Church in Mission Unit,
3250 Bloor St. West, Ste 300
Toronto M8X 2Y4

UCW WOW 60th Anniversary Banner

Since its return to Ontario, it has been on the move. Susan Dunlop reported that Barrie Hill had a good UCW service and that everyone enjoyed the presentation of the Banner.

The Banner has its own travel schedule:

September 12 - Meaford

September 15-16 - Sauble Beach

October 13 - Monticello

October 16 - Rosemont

October 30 - St. John's Belwood

November 5 - St. Jacob's

Eleanor Firth is overseeing the Banner's travel arrangements. If you wish, contact

Eleanor: garyeleanorfirth@yahoo.com or

1-519-538-4002 to schedule

Banner was created by Linda Bland, Cathie Stewart Savage & Marnie McDonough

Closing of Huron-Perth Presbyterial

On August 27, 2022

More than 50 women gathered in Mitchell, including 11 past-presidents. Stories of the Presbyterial were shared.

Motions were approved to disburse funds:

- pay all expenses for our Closing
- \$1,400 each Camps Bimini & Menesetung
- \$600 Mitchell Resource Centre
- the remaining funds equally between Women for Change-Zambia & UCW-WOW

Faith Formation Minister Kathy Douglas led worship with communion. She reminded us of stories that join and connect us. As UCW, we set goals and expectations. Our voices were heard, and we worked together to accomplish many things.

As a memorial, Kathy urged us to name each member as a stone was put them in a vase to represent caring and sharing, friendship, joyful praise, support, faith, hope worship, outreach and justice, fellowship and food, love, grace, and music.

We were invited to come forward to receive the elements of the Eucharist together. We

closed with singing *We Shall Go Out With Hope of Resurrection* from *Voices United*.

National United Church Women

The NUCW Executive, which includes 2 reps from each region, will be meeting in Mississauga September 19 - 23. Watch for update about the next 5-year National project as well as for other news about the work of the NUCW. You will be invited to join the concluding worship on 23rd; watch for the link that week.

Anne Reuber and Nancy Lennox will be representing you at the meeting.

Individual UCW Memberships

You can become an independent Individual UCW Member of our Region. There are many benefits for those whose UCW has closed or who no longer can get to a meeting. You will continue to receive information about the work of the UCW throughout Canada and the world. You can continue to support UCW. Join Ruth Kaufman who was the first to take out an Individual Membership in our Region.

For more info and the application form contact an executive member listed below or by email to ucw.wow@gmail.com

**This email is monitored daily;
feel free to contact us anytime**

UCW Executive of WOW:

Anne Reuber-Stratford, Joyce Osborne-Ripley,
Marnie McDonough-Annan, Kim Posno-Barrie,
Edith Coyle-Waterloo, Eleanor Firth-Meaford,
Nancy Lennox-Waterloo, Joan Whyte-Seaforth,
Barbara Seaton-Cambridge,
Eileen Townsend-Clinton, and
Jacquie Diverty-Sauble Beach