



First Dawn Eastern Edge Regional Council Weekly Announcements January 19, 2021

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[Staff Directory](#)

[Making Hope Visible Podcast – Justice and Mission Network of the Atlantic Regions of the United Church of Canada](#)

[First Dawn Eastern Edge Regional Council is on Facebook!](#)

Weekly Prayer, Rev. Elsie Squires – Britannia Pastoral Charge

Gracious and Holy God, we thank you for the gift of this day and for your daily presence with us. We thank you for your many blessings, particularly the answer to prayer for a vaccine for Covid-19. We give you thanks for those who worked long and hard to develop the vaccines. We give thanks for all who are following guidelines and for areas where numbers of Covid-19 have declined. We lift- up in prayer the areas of our Country and the world where the number of cases is over-powering. We give thanks for all medical staff and support staff and all that they do to help. Be with all the ill and those who care for them and about them. Be with the grieving. We know that the call for all people is to follow the applicable guide-lines and to be safe.

We thank you for this week of Christian Unity. We pray **your** prayer: **that we all may be one**. May our actions help make this prayer a reality. Christ is the vine and we are the branches that can draw sustenance and strength from the vine. May we love one another and abide in your love. You have called us to unity but we confess that we have used all sorts of dividing lines to separate one another of different spiritual practices and ways of life. May we use our time and talent to help heal divisions and yet honour diversity. May there be peace in the world and within all hearts. In your holy name, we pray. Amen.

Tri-Regional Town Hall Meeting

Please save the date for a Tri-Regional Town Hall, to be held using zoom video conferencing:

Topic: Congregational Annual Meetings

Date: January 28, 2021 at 12:30pm (Atlantic)

Zoom Instructions can be found here:

<https://ucceast.ca/60963-tri-regional-town-hall-january-28-2021-at-100-pm-nst/>

Certificate of Ministry of Supervision

Certificate of Ministry of Supervision is being offered February 22-26, 2021, by Vancouver School of Theology. For more information please visit: [Ministry of Supervision](#)

Stewardship Updates

Welcome to Called to be the Church 2021

“We are not alone.”

These words from A New Creed have more meaning than ever in these days of pandemic. Worship delivery has changed; pastoral care has changed; everything has changed—and so has *Called to be the Church*. This year, we’re introducing:

- A new **worship focus** for any five weeks of the year on our theme, Discipleship is Stewardship
- New **Stewardship@Home** materials to use during the week to reinforce the Discipleship is Stewardship message
- A new **web location** for all your stewardship digital resources: united-church.ca/stewardship

And you are not alone.

Introducing **Called to be the Church: The Journey**—tailored and topical modules with coaching and ongoing support to meet your stewardship needs.

Module #1: Stewardship Best Practices is rolling out in early 2021.

As part of a small group experience, plan your next steps to:

- Grow generous disciples
- Increase financial resources available to do mission and ministry
- Get to know other communities of faith using *Called to be the Church*
- Share and apply practical and spiritual education about stewardship

Don’t let your community of faith miss out on this! To find out when **Called to be the Church: The Journey** modules will be offered in your region, subscribe to “God’s Mission, Our Gifts” at <https://united-church.ca/e-newsletters> or contact Roger. *(Currently looking for participants for our first course offering in February! Let me know if you are interested.)*

For more information, or for support for your Congregation’s Stewardship initiatives, please contact Roger Janes (rjanes@united-church.ca) or Call 709-486-3239

Atlantic Regions Ministry & Personnel Committees – Managing Conflict

A webinar for lay members of M&P Committees

Saturday, February 20, 2021

9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Atlantic, 10:00 a.m. to 12 noon Newfoundland

[Register here](#), deadline to register Feb 15, 2020

This webinar will be resourced by the three Regional Ministers of the Atlantic Regions - Kendall Harrison (Fundy St. Lawrence Dawning Waters), David Hewitt (Region 15) and Heather Sandford (First Dawn Eastern Edge). Topics will include roles and responsibilities, stages of conflict, strategies for addressing conflict, resources and support. For more information, please contact the Regional Minister for your Region.

Removal of Insurance on Properties Sold

To all Ministry Personnel, Central Treasurers, Board Chairs, Incorporated Ministries - Please find a letter on the Regional Council website from Rev. Faith March-MacCuish, Executive Minister, regarding removal of insurance on properties sold: <https://ucceast.ca/60855-removal-of-insurance-on-properties-sold/>

Prayer Bench 2021 Subscription Packages available until Jan. 31, 2021

You may notice that I am offering a smaller package of resources this year and at a lower cost, to open space for study and personal reflection in 2021. It is a semi-sabbatical as I enter the 7th year of the prayer bench part-time ministry and serve a part-time pastoral charge.

The new resources for 2021 reflect the most popular resources: Stroll for Your Soul, Email Retreats, daily emails during Holy Week and an Advent small group study and a new program, Fall Rambles. There are other benefits to being a subscriber, like 50% of other resources, including Soul of the Preacher, and a zoom course coming this year. There are other changes in the delivery of the group package to make resources more available for communities of faith during COVID.

Review what is included in the two packages by visiting the Prayer Bench Shop and try out the samples provided to give you a taste of prayer bench resources.

Visit the Prayer Bench Shop <https://prayerbench.ca/shop/>

These packages are available until January 31, 2021. Resources are then available for full price from the shop as they become available.

First Dawn Eastern Edge Regional Council Office Re-opening

First Dawn Eastern Edge Regional Council office will re-open to the public on January 11, 2021. Office hours will be 8:30am – 4:30pm Monday to Friday. Bookstore hours will be 8:30am – 1:00pm, 2pm-4:30pm Monday to Friday.

COVID-19 protocols will be in place. The doors will remain locked please ring the buzzer next to the door to enter. Before proceeding upstairs please use the hand sanitizing station located in the porch. Masks are mandatory as well. If you wish to meet with one of our staff, we ask that you contact that person and make an appointment.

The bookstore will permit 3 people to be in the store at one time and when we have reached capacity, you will be asked to remain in your vehicle until space permits you to come in. The bookstore is hoping in 2021 to have our products online, which will permit you to order online or you are always welcome to visit in person.

Any questions, please contact Leona Laundry at l laundry@united-church.ca

Making Hope Visible

Making Hope Visible Podcast Episode available: [Don MacDougall – Contemplative Living and Justice Seeking](#)

Contemplative practices and ways of living are complimentary practices to working for change. In this episode Laura talks to Rev. Don MacDougall, a wise teacher, leader, and mentor of Spiritual Direction and contemplative living. They dig into the differences between dedicated practice and spontaneous practice, why “mindfulness” might not be the best word to describe the practice, and how it is important for all of us to have ways that we attend to our hearts and minds while working for change in the world. Don describes what was missing for him after 8 years of preparation for ministry and how a journey into contemplative ways of living and working helped. Here **you will find this episode and past episodes at [Making Hope Visible](#)**

Presents: Ministry Innovations in Midst of a Pandemic

A virtual lunch and learn series, free of charge, with a special welcome to students

All sessions will be on Thursdays at 1:00 - 2:00 pm (Atlantic Time)

Schedule

February 4	Rev. Dr. Kimberlynn McNabb	Two- bit Itty Bity Bible Study
February 11	Rev. Dr. Kyle Wagner	Topic TBA
March 4	Rev. Dr. Jeffrey Crittenden	Preaching: Where Two or Three are Gathered?
March 11	Rev. Tammy Hodge Orovec	How Virtual Worship Has Made us a Stronger Church Family
March 18	Rev. Mitchell Anderson	Vision & Renewal
March 25	Rev. Dr. Dave Csinos	Topic TBA
April 15	Rev. Dr. Sadekie Little-Forbes	Good News or Bad Times – Preaching in a Pandemic
April 22	Rev. Dr. Rhonda Britton	Faith Formation

*More dates and topics to be added. To register visit: [Ministry Innovations](#)

Pine Hill Divinity Hall Continuing Education Bursary Guidelines 2020-2021

Please visit the following link for all the information on bursary guidelines: [Education Bursary Guidelines](#)

Call for Nominations

Are you, or do you know, a young adult (18-30) who is passionate about the church and ecumenical conversations in Canada?

The Canadian Council of Churches (CCC) is adding three Youth Members to its Governing Board. The United Church of Canada is invited to nominate one of our members for these positions.

[43-52 Youth Member Governing Board](#)

First Dawn Eastern Edge Regional Council Webpage Emergency Response Link

Stay updated with [Emergency Response Updates on COVID-19](#) on the First Dawn Eastern Edge Regional Council web-page.

United Church Bookstore

Faith on The Move

Our spiritual practices carry us through the times of transition in our lives, when we wander in a metaphorical desert. For migrants, refugees, immigrants, and others, the journey is more than a metaphor. In this Lenten devotional, daily reflections by diverse contributors invite us to reflect on and embody God's welcome and love for people who are on the move for a variety of reasons. A study guide for in-person or online groups is included. **\$18.95 Tax Included. Order your copy today.**

