

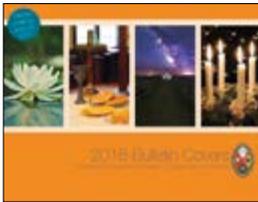


May 2017

What's New?

Resources | Events | On the Web

Recently Released Resources



2018 Bulletin Covers Catalogue Now Offering More Bulletins!

Back by popular demand—and thanks to your support—a bulletin for (almost) every Sunday! July and August have two bulletins each, but every other Sunday is covered—plus Good Friday, Christmas Eve, Mission & Service, baptisms, communion, and funerals. The catalogue is being mailed to all pastoral charges in May. Please remember to get your order in by **June 30, 2017**. Order early to secure your top choices!

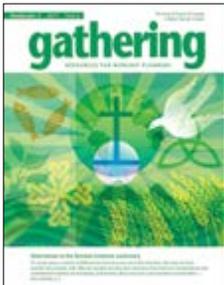
Mailing in May



Connex Gets a Refresh New Look and Added Pension Information

Check out the new look for *Connex*, the newsletter from the Ministry and Employment unit. *Connex* features news and updates on benefits, compensation, and ministry support—and it now has pension information too! Learn about the work of the Permanent Committee for Ministry and Employment Policies and Services and the staff who support ministry and lay employees of The United Church of Canada.

All issues are available online: <http://commons.united-church.ca> (search “Connex”)



Gathering Pentecost 1 Issue Theme: The Revised Common Lectionary and Alternatives

Most United Church preachers today employ the RCL as their starting point. In recent years, different lectionaries have come into existence. Some of these address perceived gaps in or shortcomings of the RCL. Some are intended to meet the needs of different audiences. Others supplement the RCL or are based on themes. Collectively, lectionaries invite us to consider texts we might prefer to avoid, and they remind us that we are not restricted in how we choose the words that will shape worship.

Print
Prayer downloads

CH11032
D11032

\$10.00 each
\$4.95 downloadable version
of prayers featured in this issue

For subscriptions, visit www.UCRDstore.ca/magazines/gathering; call 1-800-268-3781 or 416-231-7680 ext. 4024; e-mail magazines@united-church.ca.

Recently Released Resources (cont.)



Mandate: Special Edition 2017

Theme: Reconciliation

The May issue of *Mandate* magazine is a valuable resource for churches looking to begin or continue the work of reconciliation. This issue includes: two Bible studies on reconciliation; one worship on reconciliation; a workshop for teens that educates them about residential schools and encourages them to consider their involvement in reconciliation; a workshop on white privilege and acknowledging traditional territory; and an extensive timeline that presents key dates in the history of residential schools and the church's work to date on reconciliation. In addition, there are inspiring stories that highlight the reconciliation activities of different churches and what it means to live out the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's Calls to Action and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

CH11039 \$6.00 each

For subscriptions or to receive this special edition, visit www.UCRDstore.ca/magazines/mandate; call 1-800-268-3781 or 416-231-7680 ext. 4024; e-mail magazines@united-church.ca.

Upcoming Events



Rendez-vous 2017: Be the Church / Soyons l'Église!

When: August 16–19, 2017

Where: Concordia University, Montreal, QC

Description: United Church youth (going into grade 9), young adults (under 30), and leaders—come out to the national gathering in Montreal, one of Canada's most exciting cities! Be inspired by keynote speakers, workshop leaders, small groups, and one another, and engage with Montreal's bilingual culture. Search "rendez-vous" on www.united-church.ca for an introductory video. **Early bird pricing available until May 30; registration ends June 30.**

More info: www.uccrendezvous.ca



Social Innovation Challenge at Rendez-vous 2017

When: August 17–18, 2017

Where: Concordia University, Montreal, QC

Description: Do you have an idea that would make your church, neighbourhood, or world a better place to be? The Social Innovation Challenge is a chance to pitch your social idea in 60 seconds or less. It awards proposals that are financially sustainable, environmentally friendly, have a positive social impact, and/or are spiritually grounded. Winning ideas will have the support of mentors from the business world, and receive start-up funding and ongoing support.

More info: www.socialinnovationchallenge.ca/montreal-2017



Photo: Dreamstime.com

Asian Heritage Month Videos **www.youtube.com/UnitedChurchofCanada**

May is Asian Heritage Month, an opportunity to prayerfully reflect on the contributions of Asian Canadians to our church and Canadian society. For 2017, two new videos have been produced to acknowledge the importance of Asian/South Asian Canadians in the United Church. "Struggle and Grace" focuses on history; "Asian Cultures, Asian Heritage" features current United Church ministers and leaders telling their stories. Find them on our YouTube channel or search "Asian Heritage" at united-church.ca.



Doctrine of Discovery **search www.united-church.ca**

The United Church has repudiated the Doctrine of Discovery, which asserted that lands belonged to the Christian powers that "discovered" them. Visit our new webpage to learn what the doctrine is, why it is still relevant—in the context of reconciliation and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action—and how you can respond. Includes a backgrounder and a worship service titled "Living on the Path of Respect."



Embracing the Spirit E-newsletter **www.united-church.ca/newsletters**

Embracing the Spirit is a new learning network and innovation fund to inspire new ideas and hope across the country. Subscribe to our e-newsletter to find out about United Church ministry initiatives, and connect with the exciting, innovative work happening in faith communities around the country!



Mining and Resource Extraction **www.united-church.ca/social-action/justice-initiatives**

Learning from global and Indigenous understandings of the sacredness of the land, we strive to resist that which destroys the health of creation and its communities. Canada is home to half of the world's mining and exploration companies—every day, United Church partners are directly affected by their extraction activities. Explore the new Mining and Resource Extraction page for resources, opportunities for action, and links to Canadian and global partners who are active in this area.



Photo: The United Church of Canada

Our Model of Church Membership

www.united-church.ca/news/seeking-responses-study-church-membership

The Theology and Inter-Church Inter-Faith Committee invites your response to this study on membership in The United Church of Canada. Your feedback will contribute to the committee's recommendation on membership to the 43rd General Council in 2018. Please respond by **June 30, 2017**—see the link to the online submission form on the webpage above, or mail in the Questions and Comments pages at the end of the PDF on the webpage.

Supporting Leadership

www.united-church.ca/leadership/supporting-ministry

Do you work or volunteer in a community of faith? Find resources here to help keep your ministry vital and build healthy caring relationships. Includes links to professional development and networking opportunities, ethical standards and guidelines, details of compensation, financial assistance, and counselling, guidelines and resources to help Ministry and Personnel (M&P) Committees work effectively, and more. Have a look, and if you have any suggestions, let us know at ahanley@united-church.ca.



United in Learning

www.united-in-learning.com

United in Learning offers a variety of distance education opportunities for church leaders. Whether you're clergy or lay, whether you have years of experience under your belt, or you've just joined your first committee, we have ways to connect you with like-minded people across the country to help make your church more vibrant, exciting, and alive.

Most of our programs use computer and telephone to connect people across the miles. It's a way to break down isolation in ministry, and share best practices from one end of the country to another. For most programs, all you'll need is a computer with Internet access, and a telephone.

Have a look at the programs we're offering and see if there's a good fit for you or your church members.



United Church Resource Distribution
The United Church of Canada

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