



First Dawn Eastern Edge Regional Council
Weekly Announcements
January 26, 2022

info4rc16@united-church.ca

[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. Vera Abbott, Summerville Pastoral Charge

Gracious God, as we begin our earthly journey in this new year, we pray for guidance with the sense of your loving direction. So many of us are being overwhelmed by this new normal, that we need a new beginning in our life of faith and so we pray that you will renew us for the living of our days.

We see your work all around us, God. We see kindness, courage, compassion, and determination amidst the suffering and fear. We pray that you will continue to give strength to the weak, hope to the despairing, peace to our troubled hearts and above all the assurance of your presence.

Teach us to see you God and to hear you wherever we are; enabling us to come alive to the wonder and mystery of your presence around us.

When we feel frightened, alone, confused, and frustrated, we pray that your Spirit will intercede with sighs too deep for words. May we be reassured and rest in your presence, trusting that you are involved in our daily living, working to bring forth healing and peace for all. It is in the strength and power of the Holy Spirit that we pray. We are not alone. God is with us.

Amen & Amen

Self-Assessment Checklist for Communities of Faith

Communities of Faith are required to regularly complete a self-assessment of their ministry and file the self-assessment report with the Regional Council. To assist in this work, Regional Council Executive have prepared a Self-Assessment Checklist for use in First Dawn Eastern Edge Regional Council. Please see further information in memo from Executive Minister Rev. Faith March-MacCuish along with the checklist on the Regional Council website: <https://ucceast.ca/64597-self-assessment-checklist-for-communities-of-faith/>

Self-Assessments will need to be submitted to the Regional Council office by **February 28, 2022** to info4RC16@united-church.ca

Call for Nominations

The Academic Awards and Scholarships Sub-Committee (1 vacancy)

We are seeking an individual with the skills and experience to assess the merits of various applications. This committee awards grants and scholarships for theological and academic work, including the McGeachy Scholarship. For more information, visit:

<https://united-church.ca/sites/default/files/2022-01/43-61-academic-awards-committee.pdf>

United in Learning – Webinars for Church Treasurers

A monthly series for church treasurers. Formally called Congregational Finances during the pandemic. To find out more about these webinars, please visit: [United in Learning](#)

Emmanuel College

Winter 2022 continuing education offerings at Emmanuel College. For more details please visit: [Continuing Education](#)

The United Church of Canada Foundation

We are excited to announce the annual Scholarship, Bursary, and Academic Awards and Seeds of Hope granting rounds are now open! Please share this information widely.

The Joint Grants Committee welcomes applications to the Seeds of Hope granting program for new, unique projects that:

- Provide innovative seniors' ministry
- Celebrate and encourage children and youth
- Address environmental and social justice issues
- Explore new ways to provide ministry and support during transition periods
- Facilitate experiencing faith and spirituality

For more information on Seeds of Hope grants and to apply

please visit: <https://www.unitedchurchfoundation.ca/grants/seeds-of-hope/>

For more information on scholarships and awards please visit:

<https://www.unitedchurchfoundation.ca/grants/scholarship-research-grants/>

Connecting Communities in Prayer

Come and share 24 hours of celebrating rural people, places and ministries! We start by joining with the 41st Annual Rural Ministry Conference hosted by the Center for Theology and Land at Wartburg Seminary, Dubuque, Iowa, 0900 local time, 1500 GMT, on Monday, March 7, 2022. For more information, please visit: <https://irca.online/conferences/>

Generosity Matters 2022 Playlist Link

For your viewing and sharing pleasure, the 2022 Your Generosity Matters Playlist is now live on YouTube. These are eight stories of the amazing work our Mission & Service supports. We will feature these, and other stories, throughout the year in our efforts to engage, inspire, and give concrete examples of how our gifts make a difference. For more information visit:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EjJACpVvWEs&list=PLQDu-SgFb3Ri6qP8WEABHeID1bCj4vqxB>

Vacancy

Newtown Lumsden Pastoral Charge is currently looking for a half time minister (20 hours/week). Salary will be paid at the appropriate category (A-F) level at a rate of 50% of that rate as determined by General Council. Newtown Lumsden Pastoral Charge is located on a 246 km loop that runs from Gander to Gambo along the northeast coast of Newfoundland and Labrador. The boundaries of the Pastoral Charge extend from Deadman's Bay to Pound Cove and include also the communities of Lumsden, Cape Freels, Newtown and Templeman. Details can be found on United Church Hub.

Office of Vocation

The #UCCan Office of Vocation has a new podcast called It's Your Call hosted by Andrew Richardson and Karen Medland. The podcast explores the stories of those who have answered the call to ministry in the United Church of Canada. The most recent episode, Rev. Dr. Jennifer Janzen-Ball shares how the Candidacy Pathway came into being through deep discernment. <http://ow.ly/XZ2B50HteAx> #UCCan #podcast #CalledtoServe #Vocation

Annual Declaration of Criminal Records

As ministry personnel (including candidates in Supervised Ministry Education appointments or other appointments) you need to submit your annual declaration on criminal charges form on ChurchHub. This can be done now, and the portal will remain open until May 15, 2022.

It is essential that you fill out this form in order that you may remain on the registry of accredited ministers, be eligible for calls or appointments and for licenses for sacraments and marriages.

There is no payment required, neither does it require a lot of time. To fill out the form:

1. Log in to churchhub.ca and click the "My Ministry Page" tile.
2. Look to the right for the "My Professional Requirements" box and then select the "View" link next to "Annual Declaration 2022".
3. Enter the date of your last police records check. (Contact your OV minister if you do not have the date of your last police records check).
4. Tick the appropriate box for your declarations and submit.

If you are having technical problems with ChurchHub, please contact ministry@united-church.ca

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2022 Insurance – First Dawn Eastern Edge Regional Council

As you are aware, the Division of Finance and Administrative Resources have been working hard to assess the best options for your congregations with respect to the insurance policy. We have come to some conclusions and those will be communicated in a letter accompanying your invoice for the 2022 year. For those congregations who asked for a change in options, these will come into effect for the 2022 year for most and for others, it will come into effect when we are able to receive the requested information back from your congregation. Once you receive your letter and invoice in the new year, if you have questions, please do not hesitate to be in touch with our office. We understand that these are difficult times and that in the insurance world, things continue to become more complicated and expensive. While we cannot control the insurance industry, we have done our best to help you, our pastoral charges, and to ensure we have adequate coverage and provide protection for our Trustees, Boards and congregational assets.

Prayer Bench Subscription Packages

Prayer Bench Subscriptions packages are convenient. Order today and receive your resources by email. When each one is available. To learn more visit: [Prayer Bench](#)

AST News (Atlantic School of Theology)

AST is pleased to announce that Rev. Dr. Rob Fennell is the Acting President, effective December 18/2021.

Dr. Fennell's service as Academic Dean has been valued and appreciated by the AST community. In his new role as Acting President, Rob has the confidence, support, and gratitude of his faculty colleagues, the administrative staff, and the Board of Governors. Rob brings considered, informed, intellectual and spiritual leadership to his new role.

As AST moves through the process of identifying our new President, we are confident that Rob's skills and qualities as a scholar, educator, and leader will continue be of great benefit in supporting our students and their learning during this transitional period.

Tatamagouche Centre

Full moons are times of threshold's - shedding & openings. It has been a tough time. We have been moving at the speed of grief but also love and hope. It is also a time of deep work. How do we do we centre care for ourselves and each other? Gathering and connections? The land?

This year, like last, we'll offer our core programs that help us show up in our spiritual and community practices. In 2021, we also worked on new projects during closures - digital supports for Elders and seniors, local food boxes, green retrofit especially the Sanctuary, new roofs and insulation, an audio tour of our place and our people.

Happy to say that we are buoyant and so very grateful for all your generous gifts and accompaniment. On behalf of the board and staff, we thank you! Your support has been so beautiful at this challenging and uncertain time.

We've also been solidifying and flattening our team structure and governance. Megan was promoted to head up hospitality and local relations. Michelle was promoted to part-time maintenance. And we're very excited to welcome Mohamed Yaffa in a new role related to programming, personal and collective racial healing building on his previous leadership with Building Bridges, the Black leadership Advisory Council and ASPIRE. We are grateful to the Catherine Donnelly Foundation to experiment with a job-share together. Stay tuned for cohort-based learning programs related to racial healing and building bridges.

During the winter, we are a small team working mostly remotely due to COVID-19 and weather. We are thrilled to be offering an online game design series and a program for loved ones supporting Trans folk.

Emmanuel College Connections

Thursday, January 20, 12-2pm [Virtual Vocations Fair](#) - This is an opportunity to hear from and connect with Emmanuel graduates as they share about their work in various spiritually-informed careers. This session will also feature a representative from the Canadian Armed Forces who will present on chaplaincy careers in the military.

Saturday, March 5, 1-3pm [Day with Emmanuel – Virtual Open House](#) - Join us live on Zoom to experience the Emmanuel Community. Meet current faculty and students. Learn about the programs and applications process. Ask questions and make new friends.

Broadview Magazine recently published a piece that highlights our [Ministry Integration Seminar](#) in our [Master of Divinity program](#) along with our [Continuing Education Offerings](#)