

Growth And Stewardship Updates: New Blog, Links, Visits, Check-in - and more!

Hello FSLDW! I (Rob), your Growth and Stewardship Animator have successfully made the trip across Canada and have settled into the Maritimes - a whirlwind 5 day drive from Victoria, BC. Thank you for your prayers and patience!

I have upcoming travels planned to Moncton, NB and Woodstock, NB in the coming weeks - and emerging possibilities to visit PEI (woo hoo!). I will also be meeting with both the Young Clergy and the Justice, Mission and Outreach networks at the Sackville office in the coming months

I'm excited to connect with you all! Thanks for the invites - and keep them coming.

Some updates and links:

- I've started a blog - and this will, at first, focus on some of the jewels of our United Church and how they relate to Toward 2035. The first post is about the Methodist idea of "Connexionalism" - and you can read it [here](#). Look for a future post on one what I'm learning about the fascinating tradition of "The Sacrament Season" in Maritime Presbyterianism (including in PEI and NB).

- I've posted all about our upcoming Stewardship Courses, Church Tech Best Practices Courses, and an evolving list of Grants that are available to you! I'll be updating this as things change and will let you know when I do. There are also links there to a couple of .pdf resources for posting on your bulleting boards there. Check it all out [here](#).

- I'm excited to see some of the excellent work happening around intercultural and migrant / diasporic communities and ministers in the region. I wanted to lift up the compelling service from Mountain View United in Moncton as a way to imagine what might be possible in your context. You can watch it [here](#). If you're interested in support for intercultural ministry, or the formation of a migrant / diasporic UCC community, drop me a line.

- My Growth and Stewardship Colleague Tori Mullin, wrote a piece on Thanksgiving and Fostering A Life-Giving Mindset, which you can read [here](#).

- Finally, it was great to meet a number of you from FSLDW on last week's 'lunchtime' check-in that my colleague Sharon Ballantyne and I co-host. It happens every week at 11:45am on Tuesdays. Email me for the zoom link if you'd like to join in coming weeks!

Please email me anytime at rshearer@united-church.ca - and let's have a conversation about growth / renewal, stewardship, discipleship, Toward 2035 or church planting!