



Keeping in Touch



Standing with God in Hope

My friend Carol wondered what triggered me to choose this topic of 'hope'. She said, "Should hope be part of a Christian's vocabulary?" Faith, trust, love, service--yes! But hope? She thought that was a rather weak word. We can only hope. Non-Christians use that all the time.

But wait, Hope is the first candle of Advent. We are reminded to hope.

From *Jeremiah 29:11*, we read, "...for I know the plans I have for you", declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future". The word hope means to have an optimistic or positive state of mind; to believe that something good will happen. There are many promises in the bible that say we can hope in God. Hope, the faith that God does have plans for us, and that they are good indeed. To have hope you need to have faith and to have faith you will have hope. For any single story in the bible, hope is an important component of the journey.

Blessings, Nancy

Nancy Risto, National UCW President



Image Source:
Count Your Blessings (TM)
Coloring Book P.26 2021

AN INVITATION TO PRAYER We invite all United Church Women to include in your weekly prayers a message of hope and healing for our world and its people. Add your own personal concerns of care to this list. Share with us a concern of importance to you for inclusion in future *Invitations to Prayer*

God of HOPE, guide us in prayer for your people that we may give what is most needed to help and to heal, no matter how difficult, so that we may banish evil, end war, create and rebuild to bring people together in love and safety, with critical needs fulfilled.

**People of Ukraine, Korea Peace Appeal, Women for Change – Zambia,
Innocent Victims of Gun Violence, Women and Children Victims of Human Trafficking,
Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls, Residential School Survivors,
Climate Change Action for a Healthy Planet, Global Healthcare and Safe Drinking Water**



Korea Peace Appeal 10,000 Signature Campaign

The goal is for the United Church of Canada to collect 10,000 signatures by August of 2022. It's a very simple sign-on process, and there are some great educational resources available on the website as well.

Your Connection as UCW:

You likely know that United Church Women have had a long relationship with women in the PROK (Presbyterian Church in the Republic of Korea). There were guests from the PROK at the UCW anniversary event in Vancouver. In the early 90's there was a UCW Korea Peace Ribbon campaign, a solidarity project with the women of Korea to mark the 50th anniversary of the end of the Japanese occupation of Korea and hopes for reunification. It would be fantastic for the UCW to once again support those peace efforts.

Thanks for your consideration!

Amy

Amy Crawford (she/her)

Team Leader Identity and Mission | Identité et Mission

Church in Mission | L'Eglise en Mission

The United Church of Canada | L'Eglise Unie du Canada

3250 Bloor Street West, Suite 200, Toronto, Ontario, M8X 2Y4

[United Church of Canada - Korea Peace Appeal](#)

70 years is enough. End the Korean War.

That's the message of the recently launched [Korea Peace Appeal](#), a global campaign that seeks to collect 100 million signatures by 2023, the 70th anniversary of the armistice. The United Church of Canada has been challenged by our Korean partners to add 10,000 Canadian signatures to the petition. [Your support through Mission & Service](#) actively supports peace-making in Korea.

[Signing this petition](#) is another way to help.



Women for Change – Zambia – A NUCW 60th Anniversary Fundraising Initiative
As of May 12, 2022 donations have reached \$83,000.00!

Send donations to: The United Church of Canada, 3250 Bloor St. W. Ste 200, Toronto ON. M8X 2Y4

Note: Mark your cheques on the memo line to direct funds to **UCW Women for Change – Zambia**

Marilyn Rodger, a UCW member from **Four Winds Presbyterial in Bay of Quinte UCW East Central Ontario Region** creates face masks with the UCW Crest (logo used with permission) to support the 60th Anniversary Fundraising Special Project. Marilyn donates all money from mask sales to “Women for Change – Zambia”. Masks are reversible, 3-ply 100% pre-washed royal blue cotton with narrow elastic and clear barrel adjusters. Design does not fog glasses. **To Order Email Marilyn at marilynrodger@aol.com**. Cost \$15 each. Shipping extra. Pay by Credit card, Cheque or Etransfer.



UCW 60TH ANNIVERSARY CONTINUING IN HOPE: JULY 11 – 15, 2022

Membertou Trade and Convention Centre, Sydney, Nova Scotia

Link: [UCW's 60th Anniversary News \(ucceast.ca\)](http://ucceast.ca)

Email: ulvashepherdns@hotmail.com

As I write, we have 24 days until the kick off of the 60th UCW Anniversary “Continuing in Hope” We have sold and sent out 2050 pins — Those that ordered with their registration will receive them in their welcome packet. We will have a few to sell at the celebration and will take orders to be sent out once we deplete our supply.

As I write, there are registrants getting their mani/pedis, getting their last-minute haircuts and checking on the details of all things UCW 60th.

They’re coming by plane, car and ferry! By all accounts people are excited to start this adventure! We have people arriving from as early as July 8th right up until 4:15 PM, just in time for dinner on the 11th, with someone scheduled to meet you all at the airport to guide you to your hotels.

Pack for the weather — in Cape Breton it can be 11 degrees or 25 degrees.

Pack your sand (if you were asked to bring it along).

Pack your sunglasses for the tour. Pack your raincoat just in case.

Pack your medication (we’re going to ask you for a list).

Pack your masks but if you forget, Marilyn Rodger will have some for sale.

Pack your money. There are books and trinkets and gifts to be bought.

Bring your smiles, your singing voice, and your good vibes.

Bring your appetite — Maritimers like to feed people, so be prepared to eat, sing, play and pray.

Who would have thought? After hurricanes and floods, wildfires and drought, a war and a pandemic, who would have thought we would have the chance to get together?

Yet, here we are! See you in Sydney. Safe travels!

Ruth Kennedy, Chair 60th Anniversary Committee



DID YOU RECEIVE GRANT MONEY TO TRAVEL TO THE 60TH BUT HAD TO CANCEL THE TRIP?

UCW women who have received a *Dorothy Amos* or *Agatha Kaasa* grant for \$400.00 to attend the 60th Anniversary but have had to cancel attendance please ensure that you return the grant money. When returning the funds make your cheque payable to *The United Church of Canada*, and **very important**, on the memo line of the cheque you write *Dorothy Amos* or *Agatha Kaasa*; whichever grant you received. Mail cheque to *The United Church of Canada, Church in Mission Unit National UCW, 3250 Bloor St. W. Suite 200, Toronto, ON M8X 2Y4.* Thank you.

SAVE THE DATE

Friday, September 23, 2022

Morning Worship and Communion Service

(Approximate Start Time 10AM Eastern

Time to be confirmed)

“Standing with God in Hope”

We invite you to join the National United Church Women Executive in Worship on the final day of our National Annual Meeting via Zoom link from our meeting venue in Mississauga, ON

Worship Leader: Rev. Dr. Japhet Ndhlovu

Please contact your Area, Region/District UCW President for how to register. Many Blessings.





REGIONAL UCW NEWS

Horseshoe Falls Region (HFR) UCW

- Wanda Kelly, travelling with Phyllis Buchner, shared this news from HFR UCWs AGM



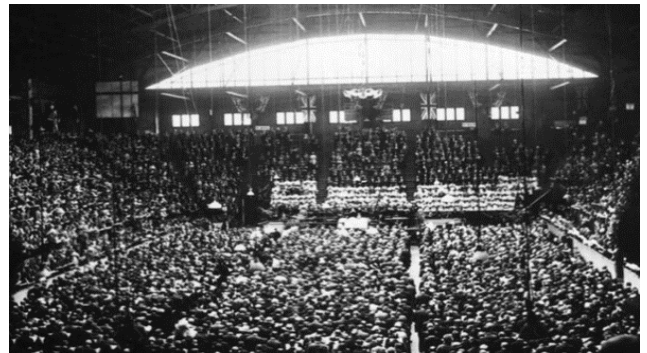
Members from the former Erie Presbytery stand with the new Horseshoe Falls Regional Banner in front of the communion table at the beautiful St. Paul's United Church, Dundas ON

- **New Horseshoe Falls UCW banner will be presented this July at the UCW 60th Anniversary celebration in Sydney, Nova Scotia** - Banner creator is incoming President, Marilyn Johnston. The banner will travel with members of HFR UCW who are attending the conference.
- **Truth and Rights – Justice and Right Relations** - Guest Presenter: Marilyn Johnston, incoming HFR UCW President, herself an indigenous woman, gave an insightful and eloquent presentation and shared her experiences from her visit to Sandy Lake First Nation and spoke of their struggle with accessing clean water.
- **Celebrating United Church of Canada's 97th Anniversary (June 1925 – June 2022)**
Rev. Robert Lawson, President Horseshoe Falls Regional Executive Council and worship leader for the HFRUCW Annual General

Meeting, brought attendees back in time with the photo from the big meeting on June 25, 1925 at Mutual Street Arena, Toronto, which heralded the beginning of our church at the Act of Union.

Rev. Lawson told the story of his grandmother, who claimed she was there on the day. Rev. Lawson has poured over the photo looking for her, but does not think there were too many women present, because of the lack of hats evident in the picture! Rev. Lawson did stress that women were indeed present, but likely in the more traditional ways we know the women of the church to have always been present --preparing the meal for the meeting, fundraising, champions for many causes and being present in a myriad of other ways.

As you look at the photo below it is a sobering thought to think how far within our church structure the role of women has evolved. All this time the UCW, coming from the WA and WMS traditions, has been present, working to support the work of the church and stepping up for noteworthy causes and campaigns.



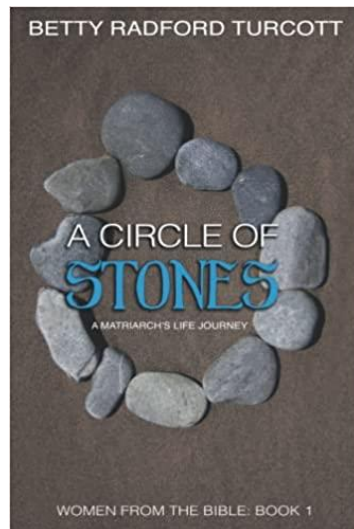
Mutual Street Arena - Toronto - June 25, 1925

Phyllis and Wanda have shared that at church [St. Andrew's in Vittoria and at Neal Memorial United] on Trinity Sunday, a special focus was placed on the church's 97th Anniversary and UCWs 60th Anniversary. Inspired, Wanda created lapel stickers depicting church and UCW crests which were given out. Wanda will share the label file so you may use them for your own church and UCW purposes as you wish. Labels will print to Avery label #5160.



A Circle of Stones

"Just as she brought biblical women to life in her book, *And She Said*, Betty Radford Turcott has done it again with Sarai/Sarah whom we follow from her birth to her death. We are drawn into the amazing life of this great leader and healer of women, journeying with her as she gathers her special stones along the way."
Pat Gilmore. Director, Grand River Books. Paris, Ontario



"In this novel, Betty weaves tender stories between husband and wife, mother and child, and friend to friend, making *A Circle of Stones* a circle of love. It is a story of one woman's remarkable journey. The rituals and ceremonies lift the

human spirit and model a way for women to celebrate who they are." *Gloria Nye Author of the Dragonfly Novels.*

Thank you for your interest and support.

Betty

Bay of Quinte UCW

East Central Ontario On-line Book Club with Betty Turcott

Betty Radford Turcott's latest book, *A Circle of Stones*, gave Bay of Quinte UCW East Central Ontario Region a wonderful opportunity to form an online book discussion group. Tuesday evenings in March, we met by Zoom to share and deepen our experience of a book that brings to life the story of Sarai and Abram. When Betty joined us the final week, we gained insight into her writing experience, the character of Sarai and the support and wisdom that Sarai, and we, receive from women met along life's journey.

Meeting for an hour, one night a week for four weeks, was good for our group. Each gathering began with a check-in on the week's focus: sisterhood in your life, a word or phrase to name God, a 'stone' or memento you cherish. With 17 in the group, we used breakout rooms of 4 - 5 people, each with a leader. A planning team developed discussion prompts for each week, but *A Circle of Stones* is a many-layered novel and we never ran out of things to discuss. After the allotted hour each week, many chose to stay on to talk and the group became a circle of sisters in itself.

Typical comments: "I liked the breakout rooms. It was good that everyone had a time to have their say." "The general focus on personal experience I found refreshing." "Betty Turcott holds a dear spot in my heart, as she does with others as well. What a blessing to be able to call her friend and have her join the group to discuss her book." And many asking: "When can we do it again!"

Submitted by Cheryl Mound, Vice-President,
Bay of Quinte UCW ECOR

SAVE THE DATE



Fundy St. Lawrence Dawning Waters
Regional Council & Regional Council 15

MARITIME UCW (MUCW) is hosting another learning event with Janice MacLean for Prayer Bench Ministry.

SAVE THE DATE

**November 14 th 2022 at 1pm Atlantic time.
There are only 100 spots available on the Zoom.**

Details of topic will be shared later on. If you want to register, please email MUCW secretary Ruth Kennedy at ulvashepherdns@hotmail.com to get your name on the list.



Women's Inter-Church Council of
Canada/Conseil œcuménique des
chrétiennes du Canada
47 Queen's Park Crescent East,
Toronto, Ontario, M5S 2C3

Women's Inter-church Council of Canada (WICC) Report. www.wicc.org

Ending Violence Against Women: WICC has a longstanding commitment to ending gender-based violence. 'Restore'-- Programs and resources, are available on the web site, to educate and empower people to advocate against gender-based violence. Sign up for the September 20th webinar event "*Thursdays in Black- Working together to End Gender-Based Violence in Canada*"

World Day of Prayer 2023, Written by the WDP committee of Taiwan. Theme "*I Have Heard About Your Faith*" based on Ephesians 1: 15-19. Look for information on WICC web site starting in November. Once again, WICC will produce a full-length service video. \$60,000 in grants distributed in 2021. WICC is looking for Field Reps in Manitoba, Quebec and Atlantic Canada

'Fellowship Of The Least Coin: coordinated by WICC, a world-wide ecumenical movement of prayer for peace and reconciliation.

'We-Connect': A WICC newsletter, sign up on line to receive a copy electronically. Check out the web site for more information about any of the above www.wicc.org

Blessings from *Win Czum*, UCW rep to WICC Board



UCW Individual Membership – Count Me In!



National UCW has approved the UCW Individual Membership. This membership is for women who no longer have access to a local Community of Faith UCW Unit.

Just as when a United Church closes, all members of the congregation are still members of *The United Church of Canada*; so too, when a UCW Unit closes the members are still UCW women within their congregations and the wider church.

Each year the Local Community of Faith UCW Units complete a "Statistics Sheet" to report membership numbers, names and contact information for key Executive positions, and the names of women blessed to receive a Life Membership Pin and Certificate. Later this year the new statistics form will also give the option to include the number of UCW women in each Area, Region/District who register as "Individual" members.

Enroll for Individual Membership

You are important to us! If, as a UCW woman, you are living your purpose in your community of faith, but may not have access to an active UCW Unit, reach out, sign up, and be counted!

Contact your Area, Region/District UCW to request a form. You will be asked to provide your contact information and the ever-important email address. A UCW Executive member will then share information about upcoming events within UCW locally and nationally, and you can request copies of the National UCW Newsletter, *Keeping in Touch*, to stay connected to other UCW women.

Please contact Carolle Dallas-Arbuckle, Chair NUCW Communications Committee.

Email: cdallas@ripnet.com

Phone: 613-821-2828.

Blessings! And, yes, I want to count you in!

Carolle Dallas-Arbuckle

NUCW Communication Committee



National UCW Alumni

MAILING LIST UPDATE – The mailing list, email and snail mail contacts, for the members of the National UCW Alumni are being updated for 2022.

If you know of anyone in your region/district who has moved to a new address or is no longer with us, please contact:

Pat Edmonds

NUCW Alumni Coordinator

patriciaedmonds11@gmail.com

Often family members do not think of contacting the NUCW when a loved one dies or moves to a different address. Your assistance is much appreciated as we honour and celebrate United Church Women across the country.

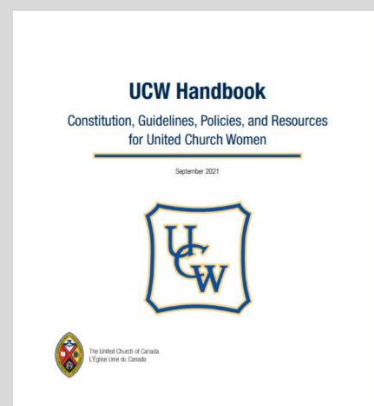
The United Church Women of the Communities of Faith
(formerly known as Congregations)
Local units formed within Communities of Faith
Usually meets monthly

The Area United Church Women
(formerly known as Presbyterials)
or equivalent structure composed of the United Church Women
of the Communities of Faith or successor groups within the area
Usually meets two to four times a year

The Region/District United Church Women
(formerly known as Conferences) or equivalent structure composed
of the Area United Church Women or successor groups
within the Region/District
Usually meets at least once a year for an annual general meeting
The Region/District UCW Executive usually meets two to four times a year

The National United Church Women (NUCW)
composed of the UCW Region/District presidents and Past/Vice-
Presidents/Presidents Elect or alternates
Usually meets once a year for a 4-5 day gathering.

Chart: Page 8 UCW Handbook – September 2021 Edition



The updated (September 2021) UCW Handbook is available free to download /print from the UCW web page at

https://united-church.ca/sites/default/files/handbook_ucw.pdf

A copy can also be made available through your Regional UCW President



SOCIAL MEDIA – WEBLINKS – RESOURCES



To find us on the web click the link or copy and paste into your browser: <https://united-church.ca/community-and-faith/being-community/united-church-women-ucw>



United Church Bookstore ucrdstore.ca

Contact: Kim Allin: kallin@united-church.ca

National Mailing Address for NUCW/UCW

The United Church of Canada,
Church in Mission Unit, National UCW
3250 Bloor St. W. Suite 200,
Toronto, ON, M8X 2Y4

UCW Endowment Fund

*Donations to honour or in memory of
UCW Members*

The United Church of Canada Foundation
3250 Bloor St. W. Suite 200,
Toronto, ON, M8X 2Y4



What is happening in your Region, your Area, and your local UCW Unit?

Send us a photo (JPG) or article (500 words or less).

Submit an article, idea or questions for our October 2022 issue.

Send Email to nucwkeepintouch2021@gmail.com

Editor reserves the right to modify submissions as required.

May the God of Hope fill you with all Joy and Peace [*Romans 15:13A NIV*]