



UNITARIAN FELLOWSHIP OF REGINA

THE CHALICE

JUNE 2025



Reminder - Sunday Services begin at 1:00 PM.

Join us for *friendly, informal* Sunday Services at 1:00 PM.

[Join Sunday Service Zoom here](#)

Services will be held in-person at 2700 College Avenue (the Unitarian Centre), AND [on Zoom](#). Meeting ID: 864 9808 0299 Passcode: 832134

Services for June



June 1 – Flower Celebration

Today, we use the symbol of flowers to celebrate the unique beauty and gift of every person. The flower ceremony is one that celebrates the strength and freedom of the human spirit.

Service to be followed by Council meeting

Please join us in person at the Unitarian Centre or online by [clicking HERE](#)



June 8 – Pride Week in Regina

How do we support the 2SLGBTQIA+ Community? Do we make our support “Public, Intentional, and Explicit”? Pride Week runs June 6th to 15th with the annual parade on June 14th.

Please join us in person at the Unitarian Centre or online by [clicking HERE](#)



June 15 – Summer Solstice and the Wiccan Society of SK

Join Susie Gourlay of the Congregationalist Wiccan Society of Saskatchewan. Unitarians draw on many sources of wisdom, including spiritual teachings of earth-centered traditions which celebrate the sacred circle of life and urge us to live in harmony with the rhythms of nature.

Service will be followed by a brief Congregational meeting to confirm lay chaplains.

Please join us in person at the Unitarian Centre or online by [clicking HERE](#)

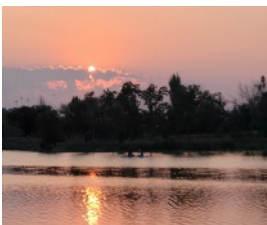
Potluck moved to June 22.



June 22 – Picnic on the Lawn

End of year gathering at the Unitarian Centre. Bring your favourite outdoor dish to share. If the weather is fine, bring a chair to sit outside under the tent in the front yard at the Unitarian Centre.

Please join us in person at the Unitarian Centre.



June 29, 2025 – No Service

Long Weekend, no service.

To add an article or announcement to this newsletter, please contact Mike McCall:

email reginauu@gmail.com, or 306-522-7357 (office). The deadline for contributions is the 20th of the month.

Unitarian Fellowship of Regina - 2700 College Avenue, Regina, SK, S4T 1V1

email reginauu@gmail.com

Website: <http://reginaunitarians.ca/>

Podcast: unitarianfellowshipregina.podbean.com

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/reginaunitarians/>

Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/regina_unitarians/



We envision a vibrant, diverse and inclusive home for spiritual exploration and social action.

UFR Board of Trustees

President	Jamie Struthers
Past President	Jane Knox
Vice-President	Sandi Whitford
Secretary	Ethel Struthers
Treasurer	Joanne Green
Members-at-Large	Claire Clement, George Garbe

Committees & Action Groups

STANDING COMMITTEES

Finance – Joanne Green, Sandi Whitford

Lay Chaplain – Wayne Williamson, Chair

Membership – Ethel Struthers, Marena Charron,
Jim Hutchings

Program – Julie Mitchell, Jamie Struthers, Glenna
Ottenbreit-Born, Claire Clement

Property – Joanne Green, Claire Clement, Jim
Hutchings, Wayne Williamson

Nominating – Claire Clement, Julie Mitchell

ACTION GROUPS

Policies – Julie Mitchell, Jane Knox

Reconciliation – Claire Clement, Sandra
Blenkinsop, Julie Mitchell, Ethel
Struthers, Helmi Uguh, Jane Knox

Social Media – Sandi Whitford, Joanne Green,
Jim Hutchings, Jane Knox

Board Talk

By Ethel Struthers, Secretary

Greetings

The Board met May 8, 2025. The highlights are as follows:

- The Board briefly discussed succession planning. Sandi Whitford will be stepping into the role of treasurer and Claire Clement will be stepping into the role of the vice-president at such time that Joanne Green steps down from the role of treasurer.
- The membership Committee thanked everyone for their help with the Volunteer Appreciation Celebration and for making it the success it was.
- The date for the Special Meeting to confirm our two new lay chaplains has been set for June 15, 2025.
- A motion was passed to accept the update of the Unitarian Fellowship Reconciliation Statement. No new statements had been made since 2017 and interestingly enough the new changes are mostly formatting. It will be placed in front of the Reconciliation Action bulletin Board.
- The Policy Action Group will be looking at cyber security procedures in June. The committee plans to proceed by pulling in different people for different policies.
- Ilara Stefaniuk- Gaudet, our CUC board liaison will be visiting with the congregation and holding an in person discussion on the CUC goals and strategies and how we can better communicate during an informal Sunday service July 27.
- **SAVE the DATE-** The UFR Council Meeting will be held June 1 to discuss what's important to Regina Unitarians? What would members and friends of the UFR like to see more of and what would you like to see less of?

Lay Chaplain Services

The Fellowship provides non-denomination services to celebrate rites of passage, including births, weddings and deaths. *Our Lay Chaplains are available to the public to provide services.* Please feel free to contact us at (306)522-7357 or reginauu@gmail.com.

Office Hours & Rentals

Mike McCall is available at the Unitarian Centre on Wednesdays from 3-6 pm for any business which needs to be dealt with in-person. Feel free to telephone the Centre (306-522-7357) and leave a message, or email reginauu@gmail.com to make an appointment, or to discuss any other business.



Interim Financial Report from the Treasurer

The most recent annual meeting in March gave members and friends a report on the financial health of the Fellowship as of December 31, 2024. Current financial information as of May 15, 2025 is in the summary below.

	Actual To May 15, 2024	Actual to May 15, 2025	Budget to May 15, 2025	Diff Between Actual & Budget 2025
Total Income	\$17632.00	\$17245.00	\$16507.00	\$738 higher
Total Expenses	\$13258.00	\$13454.00	\$17291.00	\$3877 lower
Net Inc (Loss)	\$4374.00	\$3791.00	(\$784.00)	n/a

Total income to May 15, 2025 is down slightly from the same time last year. Approximately 60% of the total received is donation income. Total income continues to exceed expenses at present.

Total expenses are just \$200 higher than the same time period in 2024. Utility expenses are expected to drop due to the reduction in carbon taxes. The Fellowship's expenses are also well below budget at this point as no major repairs have been started.

Joanne Green, Treasurer



Community Events

Prairie Water: Sovereignty, Scarcity and Conservation

Wednesday, June 4 – 7:00 PM MST webinar

A panel of experts discuss issues related to water, the law, and whether current threats also include opportunities.

Sponsored by the Edmonton Chapter of the Council of Canadians.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Health Impacts of Fracking on Neonatal Outcomes

Tuesday June 10, 3:00 PM

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Queen City Pride Parade

Saturday June 14 - 12:00 PM

For more details, monitor

<https://www.notstr8ight.com/explore/queen-city-pride/>

Fundraiser for Palestine–Bazaar of Middle Eastern Food, Clothing

Saturday June 14 - 2:00 – 5:00 PM

St Mary's Anglican Church, 3337 15th Ave

Sponsored by Palestine Solidarity Regina

Books to Bash Barriers

**It Stops Here: Standing Up For Our Lands, Our Waters
and Our People (2024)**

by Rueben George with Michael Simpson

For over a decade, Rueben George has been a leading voice against the development of the Trans Mountain Pipeline, a fossil fuel megaproject, in Tsleil-Waututh Nation territories. His memoir relates his uncompromising stand against Canadian systems of prioritizing control, profit and resources over responsibility to lands, waters and people.

Through his book, Rueben showcases how Indigenous law and jurisdiction are essential for sustainability and wellbeing.

Papa's Coming Home (2025)

by Chasten Buttigieg

A picture book about unconditional love and warmth in same-sex families.



Obituaries

Remembering Linda van Havere

January 27, 1947 – April 1, 2025

Linda van Havere, a long-time member of the Unitarian Fellowship of Regina, died on April 1, 2025. She will be missed by many including past members that have moved all over the continent. Linda lived in Regina most of her life, except when she was travelling the world. Her travels took her to India on sabbatical, New Zealand, Australia, Europe and an African safari. A Bachelor of Science obtained from McGill University in Montreal led to a career as a computer programmer for the Department of Health in Regina. Linda retired in September 2006 after 35 years of service.

According to her family, by the time Linda was 11, she had read every book in the children's section at the Albert Branch Library. From fairy tales to the complete required reading list for Grades 1 through 8. Linda was eventually granted access to a shelf in the adult section marked with a skull and crossbones and thus began her mystery reading career.



Linda joined the Unitarian Fellowship of Regina in June 1994 where she quickly became an active participant in the life of the Fellowship. Linda's love of social justice, books, music, writing and poetry led her to join a couple of committees where her talents would shine. In 1997 she joined both the Chalice (newsletter) committee and the Social Responsibility Committee. Another area where Linda's talents were key was on the Sunday Service Committee for a time. Several people had resigned and Linda met the challenge!

Linda also joined to join the board in February 1998 as a member at large, where she contributed her wisdom for the next two years. Her last meeting was in February of the year 2000 when so many people had been sure computers would stop working on December 31, 1999. Linda was surely a good guide during that time. At the same time, Linda supported the Treasurer by recording (by hand) all the donations each Sunday and depositing them at Conexus. Her handwriting was beautiful!

In 2003, Linda's sister Pauline became the president of the board and started advocating for better accessibility in the Unitarian Centre. She was instrumental in ensuring that Linda and others were able to continue their participation in Fellowship activities.

Linda was involved in many other communities during her life in Regina including Women & Technology and the Regina Art Collective. While living at Wascana Rehabilitation Centre, she had started a creative writing class just before her death.

Tristan Keswick Sarjeant-Jenkins

March 19, 1997 – April 24, 2025

Tristan (Fox) was born in Lancaster, England. In February of 2025 he was diagnosed with a rare blood condition combined with an autoimmune issue. After a valiant fight, Tristan passed away on April 24, 2025.

Tristan and his wife Katerina met in university, were married July 2021 and lived in Saskatoon and Moose Jaw before moving to Regina in 2024. He enjoyed learning languages (Welsh, Michif, and Sanskrit) and earned a degree in modern languages. He also learned the "language" of programmers at Saskatchewan Polytechnic.

Tristan participated in the Unitarian community in both Saskatoon and Regina. He set an example for us all, taking a positive approach to life, and helping others even while in hospital himself. He will be missed by many.



Awareness-Pride Month



June is Pride Month. Celebrated in Canada and around the world, Pride celebrates the accomplishments of the two-spirit, lesbian, gay, bi-sexual, transgender, queer, questioning, intersex, asexual, and other (2SLGBTQ+) communities.

Historically, Pride gatherings emerged in Canada with demonstrations for 2SLGBTQ+ rights in Ottawa and Vancouver in 1971. By 1973, Pride events were held in several Canadian cities, including Montréal, Ottawa, Saskatoon, Toronto, Vancouver and Winnipeg.

While 2SLGBTQ+ rights have progressed in Canada since, 2SLGBTQ+ individuals still face discrimination. Pride month reminds us of the continued need to advocate for 2SLGBTQ+ rights in all aspects of society.

In Regina, the Pride parade is a celebration of the acceptance of all people regardless of their gender or sexual orientation. Regina's 2025 Pride parade is June 14.

Expressions of UU-ism

UU Expressions: Love in Real Life

This is a recently released [10-episode docu-podcast series](#) that uncovers, celebrates, and challenges how UUism is expressed nationwide. Each episode is brief and interesting.

Give Us Spirit

Hope is often misunderstood. People tend to think that it is passive wishful thinking : I hope something will happen but I'm not going to do anything about it.

This is indeed the opposite of real hope, which requires action and engagement.

- Jane Goodall





Reconciliation Ripples

Indigenous History Month

June is National Indigenous History Month. It is a time to recognize and celebrate the rich history, heritage, and resilience of Indigenous peoples. It is a time to renew efforts to advance reconciliation in Saskatchewan by attending events (the Mackenzie Art Gallery is a good place to start) or finding a new source of selected learning.

Reconciliation is an ongoing and dynamic process that requires an appreciation of distinctions, an ability to work with humility in the face of ambiguity, and the willingness of individuals and institutions to grow and evolve.

The **Reconciliation: A Starting Point** is a mobile app and [reference tool](#) for learning about First Nations, Inuit and Métis Peoples, including key historical events and examples of reconciliation initiatives. Users will learn why reconciliation matters and what public servants need to know and do to advance reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples in Canada.

Topics include:

- identifying key historical concepts
- discovering the realities of Indigenous Peoples in Canada today
- understanding what reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples means for the public service
- outlining reconciliation principles for the way forward together
- putting reconciliation into action

This course is also available as a mobile app:

Click on the icons below or search for "Indigenous Reconciliation" on the App Store (iOS) or Google Play (Android) to download the app.



[View the HTML web-based app version](#)

Updating the Fellowship's Statement on Reconciliation

The Fellowship has had a Statement on Reconciliation since 2017-2018. In 2025, the Reconciliation Action Group recognized that the Statement required subtle changes to show a growing understanding of what is required to build reconciliation and the related relationships.

In revising the Statement on Reconciliation, the Action Group drew on significant learning from its studies. These included discussion on the TRC's *94 Calls to Action*, and work on the *231 Calls for Justice* from **Reclaiming Power and Place**, the Report of the Commission on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls. Even more important was the sharing of insights and discussion of current events.

In May 2025, the Reconciliation Action Group recommended a revised Statement on Reconciliation. The Board accepted the following revised Statement on May 8, 2025.

Unitarian Fellowship of Regina Statement on Reconciliation

Updated 2025

For the Unitarian Fellowship of Regina, Reconciliation means:

- respecting Indigenous spirituality and cultures;
- educating ourselves continuously about the true history of this land and ongoing systemic discrimination;
- engaging with First Nations, Inuit, and Métis communities and joining them on a journey toward justice and equity.

We commit to take individual and communal action that accountably dismantles racism and systemic barriers to full inclusion of Indigenous Peoples.

"Reconciliation" is about establishing and maintaining a mutually respectful relationship between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal peoples in this country."

[p.113, *What We Have Learned: Principles of Truth and Reconciliation*](#)



Protecting the Planet

World Environment Day June 5: solutions to plastic pollution (#BeatPlasticPollution)

Plastics are useful but also cause harm to people and every aspect of the ecosystem. Products must be designed to be used more than once, and to be recycled at the end of their life.

In August 2025 in Geneva Switzerland, the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC) on Plastic Pollution aims to secure a treaty that could redefine our relationship with plastics and safeguard human and environmental health. Member States of the UN Environment Assembly have been working since 2022 on an [international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution](#).

Recycling alone is not enough

- It is estimated that only [21 per cent](#) of plastic today is economically recyclable, meaning that the value of the recycled material is high enough to cover the cost of collecting, sorting, and processing it.
- Only [9 per cent](#) of all plastics produced are actually being recycled globally.

We can do our part by:

- Looking for products in packaging that is not plastic or is recycled plastic
- Learning more about the issues and what we can do

Environmental Assessment in Canada

In May 2024, Canada adopted the Cabinet Directive on Strategic Environmental and Economic Assessment (SEEA), which facilitates an **environmental analysis** across various dimensions including:

- greenhouse gas emissions,
- impacts on nature and biodiversity,
- broader environmental effects,
- climate change impacts and climate resilience.

With the current economic pressure to move infrastructure projects forward rapidly, it is important to understand how environmental assessments work now.

a. To learn more about the federal system, [check out this site](#).

b. To learn more about the Saskatchewan system, [check out this site](#).

Wisdom from Humanism

Submitted by Pam Bocking

Bertrand Russell

1872–1970

Obituary



Humanist Bertrand Russell

lived a long and productive life and strongly influenced analytic philosophy, logic, and mathematics. However, in this series I have focussed on his writings, speeches, activities, and pronouncements on society, education, politics, and everyday life and decision-making. He wrote his own obituary many years before his death. This is what he wrote about himself:

“ His life, for all its waywardness, had a certain anachronistic consistency, reminiscent of that of the aristocratic rebels of the early 19th century. His principles were curious, but, such as they were, they governed his actions. In private life, he showed none of the acerbity which marked his writings, but was a genial conversationalist and not devoid of human sympathy. He had many friends, but had survived almost all of them. Nevertheless, to those who remained, he appeared, in extreme old age, full of enjoyment, no doubt owing, in large measure, to his invariable health, for politically, during his last years, he was as isolated as Milton after the Restoration. He was the last survivor of a dead epoch.”

Having said goodbye to Bertrand Russell, I will be focussing on other humanists in future months.

Canadian Unitarian Council

CUC eNews

The Canadian Unitarian Council's [eNews](#) is the digital monthly newsletter of the CUC, connecting and informing Canada's Unitarian Universalists.

[Subscribe to the eNews.](#)

The Canadian Unitarian Council has a number of events happening, and welcomes everyone to join in their on-line events. For a full listing, go to their [Events web page](#).