



Thanks to the generous members of the United Church and the General Council Office, we are pleased to announce the following grants made through:

### The Seeds of Hope Granting Program:

*48 grants were awarded in the 2023 Fall round of the Seeds of Hope Granting program at the United Church of Canada Foundation totaling \$303,450. These grants are:*

### United Church Camping Programs

#### **From the Watkins Fund for Innovative programs and projects in Addressing Poverty and Children at Risk and the Davey Family Endowment Fund**

- \$2,000 to *Camp Shagabec* (Swift Current, SK) in support of the *Mental Health 101 For Camp Counsellors* project. The project will include: Better resources for counsellors while they are at camp to help support the mental well being of themselves, campers and fellow counsellors. Bringing in a certified mental health practitioner for Leadership Training to teach our counsellors how to take care of themselves while looking after young children. Bringing in new content/books to be read during vespers and campfire to foster inspiration, positivity and a sense of community.
  - \$1,000 from the Watkins Fund for Innovative programs and projects in Addressing Poverty and Children at Risk.
  - \$1,000 from the Davey Family Endowment Fund.

#### **From the Watkins Fund for Innovative Programs and Projects in Addressing Poverty and Children at Risk**

- \$6,000 to *Camp Menesetung* (Goderich, ON) in support of the *Camp Health Centre & Accommodations Building Renovation: Equipment & Furnishings* project. Camp Menesetung seeks to fully renovate their 60+ year old camp health centre/staff accommodations building, transforming it into a space that is functional, accessible, and equipped for year-round use. Through fundraising, donations, and grants they have raised enough funds for the building itself - work has begun! They are seeking additional support from Seeds of Hope to help them fill the building with health care equipment, cabinetry, and accommodations furnishings, including a pharmacy counter and kitchenette.



### From the C. Jean Moore Endowment Fund

- \$3,300 to *Sherbrooke Lake United Church Camp* (Franeys Corner, NS) in support of the *Healthcare Lead at Sherbrooke Lake Camp* project. For Summer 2024, they wish to increase their team by 1 member as their healthcare lead and assistant on site, with 3 weeks of pre-summer training and 7 weeks on site for overnight camp programming and ministry. This position will increase supervision on site, decrease the load of medication administration from our young lifeguards, professionalize the process of parental communication, better align with local guidelines and prioritize health and wellness of campers, volunteers and staff.

## Children, Youth, and Young Adult Programs

### From the Living Spirit Fund

- \$5,000 to *Lambton Presbytery United Church Centre* (Lambton Shores, ON) in support of the *Youth Board: Building the Next Generation of Leaders* project. The Youth Board will run as an ongoing program for youth ages 15-25. As a youth board, participants will be mentored in leadership, learn effective board management, have the opportunity to try out different positions as part of a board, and be part of impacting their community on a local level. The Youth Board will design, plan and implement ways to engage the community with outdoor ministry, as well as ways to serve widely.

## Anti-racism Programs

### From the Alfred J. Mitchell Trust

- \$10,000 to the *Black Clergy Network* (Toronto, ON) in support of the *Black Clergy Network Gathering 2024* project. The Black Clergy Network's event in May 2024 is dedicated to celebrating the contributions of Black clergy within the United Church of Canada. This event will serve as a platform for networking, education, and spiritual growth, aligning with the organization's Anti-Racism Action Plan. It will feature prominent speakers, workshops, and community-building activities, fostering a sense of fellowship and empowerment among Black clergy members.
- \$10,000 to *The Canadian Council of Churches* (Toronto, ON) in support of the *An open-house celebration: RE-STORYING our experiences of Colonization and Racism* project. RE-STORYING aims to foster intergenerational dialogue among Canada's racialized communities to tackle racism and colonization. By creating safe spaces for diverse storytelling and interaction, the project encourages a broader understanding of racialization. Through collaborative artistic and decolonial storytelling and dialogue sessions, participants will share experiences, develop new anti-racism tools, and engage in decolonization actions, all rooted in the Canadian context, promoting inclusivity and cultural relevance in addressing systemic issues.



### From the C. Jean Moore Endowment Fund

- \$3,000 to *Good Tree Korean United Church* (Toronto, ON) in support of the *Korean Canadian Voices Project*. The Korean Canadian Voices Project aims to amplify the voices of Korean Canadians, combat racism against Asians, and preserve Korean culture within Canada. They will collect and share personal narratives, and host cultural events and educational programs. By doing so, they empower the community to embrace their heritage while fostering cross-cultural understanding. This project celebrates the rich legacy of Korean Canadians in Canada, fostering a stronger, more inclusive community.

## Peace & Justice Programs

### From the Peace and Justice Endowment Fund

- \$1,000 to *Bethany United Church* (Halifax, NS) in support of the *Exploring Becoming an Affirming Ministry* project. They will respectfully and prayerfully engage Bethany to work toward justice for, and inclusion of all, while providing an awesome experience of God's love. Creating opportunities for self-exploration, education and decision-making. Bias and discrimination will not be part of the ministry of Bethany United Church. Share Bethany's vision with the HRM community, offering information and interactive social sessions to start conversations, engage guest speakers, provide faith study opportunities and collaborate with other Affirming congregations.

### From the Watkins Fund for Innovative Ministries with Senior Adults

- \$5,000 to *Stamford Lane United Church* (Niagara Falls, ON) in support of the *Bargain Boutique Ministry Outreach* project. Stamford seeks to fill existing gaps their community partners experience with their clients by providing gift certificates for the Bargain Boutique and other specific low cost stores. In close coordination with key community partners they will improve food insecurity, housing affordability, support victims of domestic violence and welcome Immigrants and refugees. They will fill the gaps identified by our partners in making available free and/or deep discount essential/emergency clothing and other items as referred by professional partners.
- \$7,500 to *St. Paul's United Church* (Bowmanville, ON) in support of the *Bread of Life Social Justice Cafe* project. The cafe addresses the needs of those with food insecurity issues. It gives those individuals the respect and dignity that every business and person should give them regardless of financial status. They will provide them with healthy and hearty food options. They will not ask questions, and they can eat until they are full. They will provide employment for those who are otherwise unemployable. It will be a safe space for all, no exceptions.



- \$10,000 to *Brunswick Street Mission* (Halifax, NS) in support of the *Outreach Program Physical Supports* project. Brunswick Street Mission will expand physical supports to meet the increased needs of clients while they work to achieve safety and shelter for them. On top of their usual trauma-informed mental health support, breakfast and foodbank services, ID support, and work with partner agencies to find shelter, they must broaden their help to include provision of supplies like tents, sleeping bags, winter coats and boots, prescription payments and other costs.
- \$1,000 to *Knox United Church* (Vancouver, BC) in support of the *Ecotones Arts Festival* project. Ecotones looks to create a hub that is safe and exploratory in nature which is age and ability inclusive. They are looking to actively cultivate spaces where the crossover of faith and communities can be explored. Where art that gives insight to life of all peoples has a focus. Where accessibility and anti-racism is a priority from the very conception and we have chosen to work with arts organizations that reflect this.

### From the Rowntree Learning Fund

- \$12,500 to *St. Paul's United Church* (Thunder Bay, ON) in support of the *St. Paul's Inter-Cultural Immigrant Community of Faith* project. The coming together of immigrants from various countries who wish to worship God in their own way, languages, cultures and traditions. The Inter-Cultural Ministry and its mandate to bring together racialized people fits harmoniously in the mission and goals on the United Church of Canada, St Paul's Mission goals and even in the new vision of the United Church of Canada that targets the creation of 100 immigrant congregations by 2025.

### From the James Robertson Memorial Trust Fund

- \$5,000 to *Beaconsfield United Church* (Montreal, QC) in support of the *Building Canada's Interfaith Network at the National Conference of The International Coalition for Human Rights in the Philippines (ICHRP)-Canada* project. The Conference programme will feature speakers from leading human rights organizations in the Philippines and in Canada, with an anticipated attendance of 100 participants from across the country. The overall objective is strengthening the capacity of the faith community in Canada in addressing human rights issues. Speakers will include Philippine faith partners to emphasize the importance of faith-in-action, ensuring the recognition, appreciation, and safeguarding of this work.

### From the C. Jean Moore Endowment Fund

- \$2,000 to *Siloam United Church* (London, ON) in support of the *Growing Food, Sharing Food and Reducing the Impacts of Food Insecurity* project. This project aims to: 1. Build Community and teach transferable culinary skills. Communal bi-weekly cooking program led by volunteer local Chef where youth prepare and eat communal meals from the harvest. They take nutritious meals home to their families. 2. Teach soft skills (money management, customer service, inventory control etc.) Harvest Garden Market at Siloam 3. Reinvest in the Garden: Partner Youth with older Community of Faith members--Preserve produce. Sell jams and preserves to generate revenue.



### From the Brian and Belva Piercy Endowment Fund

- \$11,000 to *Affirm United/S'affirmer Ensemble* (Ottawa, ON) in support of the *REAFFIRM: A Faithful Response to Anti-2SLGBTQIA+ Hate* project. This project will provide support for Affirming Ministries and clergy, as well as those working to become Affirming, as they challenge anti-2SLGBTQIA+ hatred. Communities of faith require a range of supports to be able to do this work at a local level, including community connection, spiritual care, and education. With this funding, through their volunteer and staff network, they will offer these various types of support through online services, community building sessions, and educational workshops.

### From the Wesley C. Smith Fund

- \$3,000 to *Beach United Church* (Toronto, ON) in support of the *Queer Youth United* project. Queer Youth United will be a weekly drop in for youth and young adults who identify within the Queer community and more specifically with a desire to focus on the experiences and needs of transgender people. Beach United Church offer safe(r) space for transgender and questioning individuals in a space that offers positive alternatives to engaging the world. QYU is about celebrating and encouraging queer youth in the universal call to "live as our authentic selves".

### From the United Church of Canada Foundation General Fund

- \$2,500 to *Britannia United Church* (Ottawa, ON) in support of the *Community Cooking Connection* project. Cooking Connection will include 15 - 20 people per monthly session. Attendees will benefit from shared wisdom and knowledge from conversation with a registered nutritionist. Session topics will include: cooking for one, food safety, healthy meal preparation, affordable and environmentally responsible protein alternatives, new Canada food guidelines. During sessions people will prepare and share meals. A resource packet with information, recipes, and other information will also be made available for participants to take home.
- \$3,000 to *St. Paul United Church* (Westville, NS) in support of the *Food for Focus* project. Food for Focus is a Pilot Project to provide families with food insecurity: milk, bread, eggs, a fruit/vegetable and a meal along with other items, such as hygiene or personal as available for the weekend. Supplies are delivered or picked up on Friday morning.
- \$5,000 to *Good Tree Korean United Church* (Toronto, ON) in support of the *2SLGBTQIA+ Inclusivity in Faith Program* project. This project was developed with the aim of creating a safe and supportive environment for Christian 2SLGBTQIA+ individuals. Grounded in the teachings of Christ, this program will bridge the gap between faith and identity, fostering a strong sense of community, belonging, and growth. Through various seminars, workshops, and activities, this project will provide a dedicated space for 2SLGBTQIA+ individuals to engage with Christianity without compromise due to the history of homophobia existing within Christian spaces.



- \$10,000 to *The Bridge: From Prison to Community* (Hamilton, ON) in support of the *Addiction and Criminal Relapse Prevention* project. This project will offer a therapeutic group component where participants will engage in a weekly lesson about addiction and criminal activity. It will help them identify areas in their life where they had unmet needs, or lack of skills, that lead them to addiction and criminal activity. By becoming self aware of what has happened and why they made these choices, they will be more able to make more informed, healthier choices the future.

## Faith and Mission Programs

### **From the Living Spirit Fund**

- \$5,000 to *Eglise unie Saint Jean* (Montreal, QC) in support of the *Shaping and building our future together* project. They will solidify collaborations with Camino and the Malagasy Protestant Church, particularly in community development and sustainable economy projects. Develop new avenues to meet the spiritual expectations of searching Francophones. Better publicize the presence of the parish and the EUC in French in Montreal. Transform the St-Jean building into a welcoming, multifunctional meeting place. Ensure parishioner participation and engagement for new projects. Provide resources so that members with new, unifying projects can carry them out.

### **From the C. Jean Moore Endowment Fund**

- \$3,000 to *Centre for Christian Studies* (Winnipeg, MB) in support of the *Bold Discipleship for Common Good* project. This initiative is developing and equipping morally/spiritually courageous leaders with the character, skills, and supports necessary to 'go forth' as Bold Disciples. Jesus invited people into character-changing learning experiences centered on presence and relationship with others. They have formed two diverse intentional Communities of Practice adapted from Mike Breen's work, led by an experienced facilitator. They will meet online twice monthly for 18 months. Participants will become strong, understanding and confident disciples, active in various forms of ministry.
- \$5,000 to *Sprucedale United Church* (Sprucedale, ON) in support of the *Sprucedale Community Hub* project. In partnership with The Dragonfly Collective, Sprucedale United Church envisions a space for the community to come for coffee, meet neighbours, and gather for a variety of programming. As a ministry of hospitality and community building, they want to empower people to share their gifts in meaningful ways and also provide some revenue for the church. They need to hire a part-time coordinator to work with volunteers, as well as coordinate and promote their activities.



- \$10,000 to *Montreal City Mission* (Montreal, QC) in support of the *Raising Interfaith Awareness Through an Anti-Racist Lens* project. The plan is to hold the following gatherings - April: Celebrating Ramadan, Easter and Passover over a delicious meal provided by their catering service; presentations planned by clergy of Christian, Jewish, and Muslim background. Movable Feast - July : Exploring the history of Jewish and Muslim presence in Montreal on a walking tour, followed by a community meal. Good Neighbour - December: they will gather with their interfaith/cultural friends over a meal to discuss how they can extend hospitality to one another, especially in these troubling times.

### **From the Alfred J. Mitchell Trust and The United Church of Canada Foundation General Fund**

- \$20,000 to the *Toronto Chinese United Church* (Toronto, ON) in support of the *Canada-Hong Kong United Heart Project*. Their initiative is to continue and expand the Canada-Hong Kong United Heart Project (funded by Embracing the Spirit in 2022, initiated by Mississauga Chinese United Church) to show Hong Kong immigrants, that the United Church is ready to assist and welcome them. Their proposed project will develop various ways to connect with newcomers before and after they migrate. Secondly, they will help them settle through various activities, share gospel and build up their faith.
  - \$10,000 from the Alfred J. Mitchell Trust
  - \$10,000 from The United Church of Canada Foundation General Fund

### **From the James Robertson Memorial Trust Fund**

- \$6,000 to *St. Andrew's College* (Saskatoon, SK) in support of the The 6th An Intercultural Adventure Seminar project. An Intercultural Adventure is a continuing education project aimed primarily at Koreans in The United Church of Canada. It holds a three day seminar every two years on a topic chosen by the participants at the previous seminar or by the planning committee. A small book on the topic of the seminar is produced out of the seminar presentation. The book is published in Korean and in English versions.

### **From the Rowntree Learning Fund**

- \$12,500 to *St. Andrew's Wesley United Church* (Vancouver, BC) in support of the *Co-labouring: Building Capacity for Collaborative Ministries in a Downtown Context* project. This project has several stages: By learning from others (phase one), building leadership capacity (phase two), encouraging culture change (phase three), and establishing relationships (phase four), they intend to move their community of faith toward a newly articulated model of ministry for this context. In addition, they hope to learn from and contribute to the practice-based knowledge bank of collaborative ministry initiatives undertaken by this denomination.



## From the United Church of Canada Foundation General Fund

- \$4,000 to the *Toronto Chinese United Church* (Toronto, ON) in support of the *Renewal for Next Generation* project. Their project focuses on welcoming new immigrant families' kids and youth from Hong Kong. They provide a community that nurtures faith and caters to the emotional needs of children and youth during their adaptation to their new environment, by introducing Godly Play to revive the children in Sunday school and through Summer camp. Additionally, they plan to engage students and youth through camping activities and worship training, strengthening their connection with faith.
- \$5,000 to *St. James United Church* (Montreal, QC) in support of the *Resonance: A musical meditation offering to the City: une offrande musicale a la ville* project. They have designed 6 one hour music and meditation sessions in their sanctuary over lunch time from May 2024 to October 2024. The music will come from various faith traditions, be varied in style and will be accompanied by an invitation to contemplate and meditate. After the session, a light snack will be offered and there will be an opportunity to converse with the musicians, who are often university students, the meditation leader and volunteers.
- \$10,000 to *St Mary's Road United Church* (Winnipeg, MB) in support of the *St. Mary's Road United Church - Camino Manitoba* project. Camino Manitoba will facilitate a spiritual community through contemplative walking practices and sharing opportunities that allow people to deepen their own connection to the inner source of peace, to one another and to the land. They invite people into a new identity: from consuming tourists to contemplative journeyers in community. They propose to do this through one day events as well as longer retreats within Winnipeg and Manitoba.

## Seniors and At-Risk Housing Projects

### From the Ina Grafton Gage Trust Fund

- \$10,000 to *Turner Zion Pastoral Charge* (New Denver, BC) in support of the *New Denver Osprey Affordable Housing Project*. This project will creatively use their expertise/funding to help the project for families and seniors move forward. They wish to use this contribution toward the audit, and they request a foundation match toward substantial completion of construction for families and seniors.

## Seniors Ministries Programs

### From the Watkins Fund for Innovative Ministries with Senior Adults

- \$500 to Colborne *Street United Church* (London, ON) in support of the *Living with Loss* project. They will host two trained facilitators from the Caring Hearts Support Network for six weeks who will gently guide a group of participants on a safe journey of healing. Topics of grief and loss will be discussed and caring support provided. Practical tips and strategies on how to best cope with grief will be discussed. Two participants will be trained as facilitators to run future groups at Colborne when the need arises.





- \$750 to *Fenwick United Church* (Fenwick, ON) in support of the *Defibrillator Purchase* project. Fenwick United Church wish to purchase a defibrillator (AED) for their aging congregation, the organizations associated within of church building and the community at large. In purchasing the defibrillator (AED) they will provide opportunities for training to their church family and associations as well as the community at large. It is a purchase that will add the element of safety and care for all.
- \$2,000 to *Trillium United Church* (St. Catharines, ON) in support of the *Community Animator Position* project. The Community Animator will gather seniors together as they transition through amalgamation, in a way that transcends generations, brings joy, meaning and value to their lives and incorporates the spiritual gifts that we all share for hospitality, love and relationship building. They begin with the "Life Story Project" honouring and sharing the lives of seniors, and "Sacred Supper" bringing folks together to break bread, utilize skills and grow relationships; but that is just the beginning.
- \$3,000 to *North Augusta Pastoral Charge* (Prescott, ON) in support of the *R. U. M. Healing Heart Hub* project. Professional Storyteller, Deborah Dunleavy, will facilitate workshops to appeal to seniors. They will engage community members, making room for all people whatever their spiritual journey, whatever their denomination, interest, or passion. The dates and times have been set! It is exciting as they begin to see possibilities: where their ministry might go, what it might look like, where the Spirit is leading them, and who they will travel with.
- \$3,000 to *Oasis United Church* (Penticton, BC) in support of the *The Holy Imagination Project*. The Holy Imagination Project involves initiating four outreaches: 1. Hymnwriting Circle, where participants would meet together with support to create new hymns/lyrics expressing 21st century understandings. 2. Senior's Poetry Group, where participants would read poetry and be supported in writing their own 3. Young Mother's Imagination Retreat, where participants would have the opportunity to take time for self-care and creativity 4. Pentecost Art Show, where intergenerational artists would explore the theme of Transformation.
- \$3,500 to *Jimmy Pratt Memorial Outreach Centre Inc* (Canada Drive, St. John's, NL) in support of the *Seniority- Seniors Past, Present, and Future* project. To create an interactive, informative, engaging, learning sharing and activity-based program environment for seniors and other groups and organizations that would benefit from sharing intergenerational activities and timely information. Utilizing provincial partners, they would develop a multimedia production that would provide information and interaction for Seniors groups needing a platform to express their views and concerns. It would be packaged as a podcast. The program would be produced and directed by seniors for seniors.
- \$5,000 to *Edson United Church* (Edson, AB) in support of the *Food for the Soul* project. As "Kate's Kitchen", Edson United Church will cook and serve approximately 60 individuals in the Church dining hall twice a month. This meal is open to everyone and is advertised as such. As their "United Trinity Kitchen", they cook, package, and deliver approximately 180 meals twice a month to seniors and those who may be unable to provide for themselves regularly (~20). This is an outreach program and is intended to reach those who need it the most.



- \$10,000 to *Emo-Devlin Pastoral Charge* (Emo, ON) in support of the *Holy Host HQ* project. Emo-Devlin Pastoral Charge wish to expand their kitchen to a functional, modern-day, appealing, climate-conscious, accessible space. The project will significantly [1] improve the workspace allowing more volunteers to participate in kitchen activities, [2] enhance the venue package to support community-enriching activities, [3] complement the new senior center programming, and [4] expose unexplored outreach opportunities which would feature food prepared here. The funds will be used to complete their project budget which would help finance the construction finishing work.
- \$10,000 to *Knox United Church* (Lower Sackville, NS) in support of the *At Risk Seniors and Children, Food Security/Housing* project. Knox's volunteer base operate from their Church kitchen specifically. The volunteer base obtain the food, cook 450 meals a week and distribute to those who cannot pick up. It is their goal to maintain this much needed service. Grant support gives them the ability to continue this great community work. Funds will support this endeavor.
- \$10,000 to *McDougall United Church* (Calgary, AB) in support of the *Abundant Aging: Community Based Programming for Whole Hearted Living* project. Abundant Aging is a multidisciplinary approach to ministry and programming that joins the branches of McDougall and Ogden United Church's ministries: Congregation, Pastoral Care, and Community, that expands beyond the walls of the church. By partnering with community organizations the program will offer resources and opportunities for fellowship on a range of themes from accessible exercise, healthy eating, finding post-employment passions, sexuality and aging, end of life planning (including MAID), and faith journeys and aging.
- \$10,000 to *Red Deer Lake United Church* (Foothills, AB) in support of the *Senior Congregational Care 2024* project. Red Deer will continue the Senior's Support Care Packages which includes prepared meals, comfort items, an interactive magazine, practical, emotional and spiritual support. Access Transit Calgary, the City of Calgary handicapped transportation system, will not provide rides to the church because the church lies just outside the city limits. They will provide this service. Planned organized outings that may include a bus trip to local attractions, this would include transportation and admittance as required based on need.
- \$10,000 to *Westminster United Church* (Orangeville, ON) in support of the *Westminster Garden Transformation Project*. Concerned about climate chaos, food insecurity and injustice, and the need for connection, they are seeking to reduce their carbon footprint, feed the community, and provide soulful community space for the whole community. United Church partner, the Zambian Agricultural college has a saying "The climate is changing; Change with it." They understand that this undertaking will require ongoing adaptation to the changing climate. Climate will impact water, pest management, soil management, pruning and other needs.



## Indigenous & Reconciliation Programs

### **From the Watkins Fund for Innovative Programs and Projects in Addressing Poverty and Children at Risk**

- \$10,000 to *Evergreen* (Toronto, ON) in support of the *Drum Feasts with Kâpapâmahchakwêw (Wandering Spirit School) Community at Evergreen Brick Works* project. In response to community requests for more frequent ceremonies, Evergreen will be working with Kâpapâmahchakwêw (Wandering Spirit School) to host four Drum Feasts at Evergreen Brick Works for 600+ Indigenous community members beginning in Fall of 2023. This collaborative project advances physical, mental, and social wellbeing by bringing Indigenous community members together in ceremonies and celebrations. The program combines education, healthy eating, and cultural ceremony.

### **From the Brian and Belva Piercy Endowment Fund and the Living Spirit Fund**

- \$8,800 to *First United Church* Community Ministry Society (Vancouver, BC) in support of the *Supporting Shelter Residents through Arts, Healing, and Presence* project. Through the project First United Church Community Ministry Society hope to provide avenues for healing, spiritual care, chaplaincy, and creative expression to help nurture the soul and well being of residents in their shelter. The Indigenous Spiritual Care Chaplain will visit the shelter 2-4 times per week and lead expressive arts activities (beading, textiles, painting) and hold space for spiritual support conversations, as needed. Repeated and regular visits establish consistency and trust.
  - \$4,500 from the Brian and Belva Piercy Endowment Fund.
  - \$4,300 from the Living Spirit Fund.

### **From the United Church of Canada Foundation General Fund**

- \$1,100 to *St. Paul's United Church* (Peace River, AB) in support of the *AND MORE! How to shop and prepare affordable healthy meals* project. Targeting at-risk families and individuals (selected through the local women's shelter, food bank, and Sagitawa (Indigenous) Friendship Centre), they will provide three relaxing evening events in which they teach participants how to shop for and prepare nutritious and affordable meals. There will be four participants at each event and they will be welcome to bring children 12 and under to spend the evening and share in the meal.

### **From the Watkins Fund for Innovative Ministries with Senior Adults**

- \$7,500 to *First United Mount Pearl* (Mount Pearl, NL) in support of the *Peace garden, peace pole* project. First United will create a Peace Garden with benches, and a Peace Pole at its centre. Adding to it vegetable garden boxes, and walking track.



## Other Grants

*2 grants were awarded through the Foundation's trust-based granting program totalling \$21,100. These grants are:*

### From the Trust-Based Granting Program

- \$7,500 to *Treaty Land Sharing Network* (Regina, SK) in continued support of their work in removing barriers to access of Indigenous land and assist with their organizational costs. This is a final grant, made in addition to previous grants of \$17,900 in 2020 and \$22,800 in 2022. Funding to come from the United Church of Canada Foundation General Fund.
- \$13,600 to support the *Caring for the Soul – Spiritual Retreat Hong Kong 2024* project. This retreat aims to provide care and support, in a safe place, to debrief political trauma in relation to the controversial national security law imposed by Mainland China, which has triggered dissolution among many Hong Kong Chinese. Funding is to come from The United Church of Canada Foundation General Fund.

## General Council Grants

*2 grants were awarded through special requests from the General Council totalling \$200,000. These grants are:*

### From Special Requests from the General Council

- \$100,000 to *The General Council Archives* in support of the *Bringing the Children Home Research project*. This project is continuing the file identification and digitization of records in the Ontario Regional Councils, Living Skies, Nakonha:ka, Eastern Ontario Outauois, Bermuda-Nova Scotia, and Fundy St. Lawrence. This is a second grant, made in addition to previous support of \$100,000 made in 2022. Funding is to come from the Judith Sim Fund.
- \$100,000 to support the *(Re)Generate: The Moderator's Leadership Program*. Funding will be split into two instalments of \$50,000 each, made 1-year apart. This project has a goal to identify, stretch, and grow leaders in line with the Leadership Objective, creating a new eco-system of leaders who are nurtured and inspired for ministry leadership towards a vibrant future. Foundation funds will be used to facilitate the development of both a cohort of invigorated and robust leaders, and a potential model for future leadership training funding to come from The United Church of Canada Foundation General Fund.



## The New Ministries Fund:

**6 New Ministries grants were awarded in the 2023 Fall round from the Embracing the Spirit granting program totaling \$116,500. These grants are:**

- \$14,500 to *Christ First United Church* (Mississauga, ON) in support of the *Community Network Ministry*. This is the second installment of a three-year grant.
- \$22,000 to *First United Church* (Ottawa, ON) in support of the *Soul Space* project. This is the second installment of a three-year grant..
- \$15,000 to *Ralph Connor Memorial United Church* (Canmore, AB) in support of the *Green Exodus* project. This is the second installment of a three-year grant.
- \$20,000 to *Trinity United Church* (Montreal, QC) in support of the *L'Église Sainte-Claire an online French Ministry* project. This is the final instalment of a three-year grant.
- \$25,000 to *The United Church of Canada Korean Network* (Toronto, ON) in support of the *Growth and Development of The United Church of Canada Korean Network* project. This is the final instalment of a three-year grant.
- \$20,000 to *Eglinton St. George's United Church* (Toronto, ON) in support of the *Flourish House: Young Adult Intentional Community and Spiritual Community for non-residence* project. This is the final instalment of a three-year grant.

***If you have questions about these awards, would like to apply for a grant, find out if your project is eligible for funding, or would like to learn more about the Foundation, please contact us at 1-866-340-8223 or by email at [grants@united-church.ca](mailto:grants@united-church.ca)***