



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:

57 grants were awarded through 2020 Spring round of the Seeds of Hope Granting program at the United Church of Canada Foundation totaling \$395,044.

Children, Youth, and Young Adult Programs

From the Camping Trust Fund

- \$1,500 to **Burly Heights Camp and Retreat Centre** (St. John's, NL) in support of the Outdoor Chapel Upgrading and Trail Revitalization project. This spring they aim to make their chapel more accessible by completing groundwork and removing trees. They also aim to revitalize the trail system that leads to the chapel by removing trees and filling holes to make it safer. Their goal is for the chapel to be able to be accessed safely for everybody through our intricate trail system
- \$2,000 to **Hardisty Lake United Church Camp** (Forestburg, AB) in support of their Floor covering for outdoor play space project. At Hardisty Lake United Church Camp they have just received funding to build a 32 by 16 foot outdoor play space. This will enhance the camp by providing sun and rain protection for outdoor activities. They are going to install a rubber floor in this play space which will make it safer and more user friendly than the hard concrete floor.
- \$2,000 to **MacKenzie Camp Society** (Armstrong, BC) in support of the MacKenzie Camp Lighting project. The MacKenzie Camp Lighting Project involved the upgrading of lighting both in the Craft Hall, a multi purpose building used for many program activities, especially during rainy days when outdoor programming is unavailable, and our kitchen/Dining Hall building. The craft hall currently has poor lighting with old florescent fixtures. This project would allow installation of 12 energy efficient 4'LED lighting throughout the Craft hall and upgrading 10 new 4'LED fixtures in the kitchen/dining room.

From The Jean Moore Endowment Fund

- \$1,800 to **Brooks United Church** (Brooks, AB) in support of the United Church Children's Dance Videos project. The Children's Dance Videos project will choreograph and film lively yet simple dances, set to songs in United Church resources (esp. Voices United and More Voices), for children to learn. Videos will be posted onto a dedicated YouTube channel, for use in United Church communities of faith for worship, church school, camps, and vacation schools. The



project will begin at Brooks United Church, and expand to other communities of faith through sharing of electronic resources.

From The William Naylor Trust

- \$2,000 to *Uganda Martyrs United Church of Canada* (Toronto, ON) in support of the Annual Children and Youth Family Camp. Last summer they registered over 70 campers for their first overnight church camp, from ages 2 to 22-years. Their theme was Survivor: Overcoming Fears and Challenges. The venue they have booked this year allows campers to participate in mountain-biking, rock-climbing and high-ropes, activities that many children in their community may not otherwise have the chance to participate in. With this grant they can provide these opportunities without changing the cost of registration.

From The Wesley C. Smith Fund

- \$10,000 to *Kenesserie Camp Incorporated* (Ridgetown, ON) in support of Kenesserie Connects - Virtual Camp. Kids can't come to camp this summer so they will take camp to them. Through "Camp In a Box" and virtual camp the magic is delivered to their camp families. Campers sign up for week-long sessions. A box of camp activities for each week and 3-4 virtual touch points a day thru interactive and pre-recorded sessions. They keep the connections with their camper families and provide a safe space for them to connect with one another.
- \$10,000 to *Islington United Church and The Go Project* (Toronto, ON) in support of the GO Summer Virtual Camp. In lieu of in-person programs, The GO Project Virtual Summer Camp program will provide a half day of programming for both children and youth across the country with a framework focused around social justice, mental wellness and community support. Children's Camp will be facilitated mornings every Monday through Friday, and Youth Virtual Camp will gather in the afternoon. Through discussion, calls to action and reflection, participants will build community and foster positive local change.
- \$7,000 to *Camp Cosmos* (Montreal, QC) in support of their Accessibility Program. Camp Cosmos' Accessibility Program allows children with disabilities to experience the joy of camp in a safe and supported environment. They are one of the only camps in Montreal that offers free accompaniment services. This year they are trying to increase their number of Shadows and will add 2 additional spaces for campers with disabilities in their Accessibility Program.
- \$5,000 to *Fundy St. Lawrence Dawning Waters Regional Council* (Scakville, NB) in support of Building Connection while Social Distancing: A Virtual Camping Program for Children, Youth and Families. This project seeks to develop and evaluate innovative ways to pursue the mission and values of United Church Camping when traditional methods are neither feasible nor accessible. A flexible program of online videos, web-based interactive activities, and physical activity kits ("Camp-in-a-Box") will be modifiable to reflect the unique traditions and needs of individual camping communities. Following implementation and evaluation, program materials and evaluation results will be made available to other camps free of charge.
- \$2,500 to *Arthur Kidston Memorial Camp* (Lower Sackville, NS) in support of Meeting camper needs: nutrition Camp Kidston offers faith-based overnight camping programs and leadership training to children, youth, and families throughout Region 15. Safe and efficient food service is crucial to their Mission: proper nutrition and hydration is needed when campers are active in



the outdoors all day. Their objective is ensure they can continue to meet campers' nutritional needs, through planned replacement of key food service equipment.

- \$7,500 to **St. George's United Church** (Courtenay, BC) in support of the Comox Valley Mainline Protestant Youth Ministry Partnership (CVYM). This is an ecumenical and theologically progressive engagement with youth in the Comox Valley by way of a joint Youth Ministry program with a half time Minister. This pilot project will run 8 months and will be a shared ministry between St. George's United Church and St. Peter's Anglican Church, with participation from all theologically progressive mainline churches in our area, and beyond.
- \$5,000 to **Coverdale Courtwork Society** (Halifax, NS) in support of Love is Not Abuse. Love Is Not Abuse blends literature and critical thinking with health education. It draws on the motivating power of texts to build reading, writing and analysis skills, all while helping students develop tools for preventing and responding to dating abuse. Love Is Not Abuse is designed to inspire individual and systemic change toward healthier relationships using both real and fictional stories.
- \$3,000 to **Camp Bimini** (St. Pauls, ON) in support of Virtual Camp. The Covid 19 pandemic has forced the camp to be closed for campers this season which made them think of "How do we connect with these children and youth who are missing the camp experience"? Their idea is to use social media for a "virtual camp". Staff members on site would record camp activities (with less than 5 people until restrictions are lifted) and broadcast this to the families of campers. Reaching out with their message and ministry, establishing connection and confirming God's love.

From The Watkins Fund for Innovative Programs and Projects in Addressing Poverty and Children at Risk

- \$10,000 to **Fred Victor** (Toronto, ON) in support of Steps to Success: Child and Youth Program. Steps to Success supports at-risk children & youth living in their affordable housing facilities, all who have experienced forms of poverty, homelessness, trauma, and isolation. For children who have experienced stressors navigating school, friendships and growing-up can be particularly challenging. They provide a safe, supported, and welcoming space for children to learn, make friends, ask for help and express themselves. Regular & effective activities include – homework help, reading club, computer literacy/coding, summer camps, and backyard gardening.



- \$4,083 to *Chalmers Community Services Centre of the United Church of Canada* (Guelph, ON) in support of Healthy Children, Healthy Communities. The "Healthy Children, Healthy Communities" project is dedicated to ensuring that every child who walks through their doors receives a full basket of nutritious food, without compromise. In 2019, they served 15,052 guest visits and 7,862 of those visits were from children. Almost 400 of those visits were from children they had never served before. This is the first time they have ever served more children than adults.

From The Watkins Fund for Innovative Programs and Projects in Addressing Poverty and Children at Risk, and the Kingscourt United Church Fund

- \$10,000 to *Massey Centre* (Toronto, ON) in support of their Young Moms Advisory Council project. They are going to establish an advisory council made up of the adolescent mothers who reside at our centre (aged 13-24). The purpose of this council is to provide the youth with leadership roles and have their voices incorporated into our strategic plans and daily practices. This committee will ensure that youth not only have a voice in their own care, but also in the larger care system that is designed to support them.
 - \$8,100 from the Watkins Fund for Innovative Programs and Projects in Addressing Poverty and Children at Risk
 - \$1,900 from the Kingscourt United Church Fund

From The United Church of Canada Foundation's General Fund, and the Watkins Fund for Innovative Programs and Projects in Addressing Poverty and Children at Risk

- \$20,000 to *Brunswick Street Mission* (Halifax, NS) in support of the Outreach Program. Brunswick Street Mission's Outreach Program will focus on situations where a person requires personal support, they are not eligible for other community programs and where there is evidence that we can make a change to improve their quality of life with the support they have to offer, helping to ensure they are not likely to experience the negative situation moving forward.
 - \$10,000 from United Church of Canada Foundation's General Fund
 - \$10,000 from the Watkins Fund for Innovative Programs and Projects in Addressing Poverty and Children at Risk



Events

From The James Robertson Memorial Trust Fund, and the Wesley C. Smith Fund,

- \$12,750 to **1JustCity** (Winnipeg, MB) in support of their Poverty Stigma Reduction Programmer project. The grant will support development to create a poverty stigma reduction program. This program would be created in consultation with educators and evaluated for its efficacy. Their goal is to create a best practices based presentation that includes a lived experience speaker with opportunities after to engage directly with other people in our spaces experiencing poverty. The presentation design will be flexible enough to accommodate varying class lengths in schools and universities.
 - \$10,000 from James Robertson Memorial Trust Fund
 - \$2,750 from the Wesley C. Smith Fund

From The Brian and Belva Piercy Endowment Fund

- \$1,400 to **Sandy-Saulteaux Spiritual Centre** (Beausejour, MB) in support of the Visit by Palestinian farmers Fayez and Mona Owda project. The project goal is to build cross-cultural solidarity on questions of economic and agricultural justice. We will host a Palestinian farmer to share his story of sustainable agriculture under oppressive conditions in the West Bank. Fayez is a farmer that Adrian met on a United Church delegation to Palestine last year who has been invited to make a cross-country tour of Canada to share his story.

Faith Formation & Congregational Ministry

From The Davey Family Fund

- \$1,500 to **St. Luke's United Church** (Sarnia, ON) in support of their Live Digital Streaming Initiative - Faith Inclusivity for All project. This will make use of digital streaming technology to make worship accessible to all. Coordinate live streaming with other churches to provide multi church participation, provide home bound members and youth at post secondary the opportunity to continue to worship with home church, provide young adults the ability to live stream wedding / baptism celebrations to friends and family who cannot attend.

From The Faith and Mission Fund

- \$4,000 to **First United Church** (Waterloo, ON) in support of their Online Ministries project. This will allow them to take their church worship service experience to an online platform. Building on the experiences encountered during the COVID-19 pandemic when many First United activities (worship services and weekday programs) went online including joint services with the three other United Churches in Waterloo they are going to purchase enhanced video and sound



equipment, secure the music rights for such recordings, and expand their current facilities to include the ability to live stream services and activities.

From The Brian & Belva Piercy Fund, and the Faith & Mission Fund

- \$4,500 to **Five Oaks Centre** (Paris, ON) in support of their Online Programming in Faith Nurture and Community Support in a time of Pandemic project. In this unprecedented time of pandemic and lack of opportunity for public gathering, our communities still need support, encouragement, tools and opportunities to: develop resilience, respond to change-induced and disenfranchised grief, do theological reflection on new realities, find anchors for one's faith when traditional rhythms (church, going on retreat, attending learning opportunities) are not available. Five Oaks will develop and provide a series of online workshops, webinars, learning opportunities and theological resources with experts in various fields.
 - \$500 from the Faith & Mission Fund
 - \$4,000 from the Brian & Belva Piercy Fund

From The Watkins Fund for Innovative Ministries with Senior Adults, and the Davey Family Fund

- \$15,000 to **North Bramalea United Church** (Brampton, ON) in support of their Production Studio and Online Ministry project. They will build a Production Studio/Creative Space to build on their online reach. This includes their Sunday Online Ministry (60-100 people per Sunday before COVID19) as well as a number of other online initiatives as Facebook Live, new podcasts, multiple videos for leadership training and spiritual growth. They are currently reaching twice as many as total people Sunday mornings so instead of 400-500 they are reaching 1,000 plus and had 1,300 Easter Sunday!
 - \$10,000 00 from the Watkins Fund for Innovative Ministries with Senior Adults
 - \$5,000 from the Davey Family fund

Environmental Programs

From The Living Spirit Fund

- \$25,000 to **Montreal City Mission** (Montreal, QC) in support of GREEN SAGE: Mission to the Environment. GREEN SAGE: Mission to the environment is a new way of being church in the world that includes protection and caring of all species. Theory grounded in nature activities for the wider community, and joint efforts to preserve biodiversity, will connect dynamic segments of society to teach and learn from one another. A practical eco-theology will emerge that redefines our relationship to creation and expands our anthropocentric concept of friendship and mutuality to all life.



Peace, Justice, and Leadership Programs

From The Peace and Justice Fund, and The United Church of Canada Foundation's General Fund

- \$25,000 to *The Bridge: From Prison to Community* (Hamilton, ON) in support of the Bridge Circle of Support Program. The Bridge Circle of Support Program will provide intensive wraparound reintegration support and deliver facilitated support group programming to 20 individuals newly exiting the prison system over the course of a year. Participating clients will be connected to a caseworker, they will be offered critical reintegration supports including transitional housing, income, addictions and mental health supports. They will also be invited to participate in biweekly facilitated support group circles to increase their community connections.
 - \$7,000 from the Peace & Justice Fund
 - \$18,000 from the United Church of Canada Foundation's General Fund

Seniors Ministries

From The Ann Baker Fund

- 15,000 to *Friends of the North Misiway and Cataraqui United Church* (Kingston, ON) in support of the Elder's Outreach Hope Project. This project will develop a Misiway (Everyone in Cree) gathering place for Elders from the community. In collaboration with Moosonee Friendship Centre offer opportunities for Seniors/Elders to craft and market their cultural gifts; the existing Misiway shop would support this process. In collaboration with the Shop they could sell their handicrafts. At this gathering place promote healthy living, which includes foot care, nutritional, economic meals and socialization. Massages, meditation and yoga participation and training would be included in the workshops.
- \$750 to *Trinity United Church* (Smith Falls, ON) in support of the Trinity United Church Homecoming Luncheon. This will gather people from a variety of retirement residences or with limited mobility into one place for fellowship to help renew relationships and deepen links with their home congregation and neighbourhood.

From The Watkins Fund for Innovative Ministries with Senior Adults

- \$10,000 to *Knox United Church* (Winnipeg, MB) in support of Aminata Sillah Seniors Cafe--Part 2. This is a café for newcomer seniors (especially women) for English conversation, mutual support, learning, adaptation, recreation and intercultural engagement. This grant will allow them to complete the social enterprise and renovation phase of this project.



- \$20,000 to **Wesley Urban Ministries** (Hamilton, ON) in support of their COVID-19 Seniors Outreach program. This will provide outreach to low income and vulnerable seniors during COVID-19. Before COVID-19, their senior's outreach program consisted of exercise classes, educational workshops, field trips and a shopping by bus program. These programs have all been cancelled during COVID-19 as well as all regular volunteers opportunities. This grant will help hire an additional staff person to provide critical support by phone and in person.
- \$5,000 to **Cedar Park United Church** (Pointe-Claire, QC) in support of Worship, Connection, Reaching Out through Technology. Using Livestreaming to enable remote participation in worship, and using livestreaming, webcast and podcast and video-editing technologies to enhance distance participation in faith development programming, and faith community connection events. Targeted to seniors, shift-workers, home-bound, unchurched, and 'done-churched.'
- \$7,000 to **Alpha Korean United Church** (Toronto, ON) in support of Care and Health Program for Physically Challenged Seniors in North York. Care and Health Program for Physically Challenged Seniors living in North York and GTA. This program aims to achieve their physical and spiritual well being and to promote social participation by reducing their isolation in the community.
- \$2,000 to **Église unie Drummondville/Mauricie de l'Église unie du Canada** (Batiscan, QC) in support of Cultes de proximité. The Drummondville–Mauricie congregation is very widespread. The usual place of worship is in the city of Drummondville. The goal of this project is to physically reach out to ageing members who live far away and face transportation issues, especially in winter. They are therefore organizing local worship services, either in the members' homes or in churches of other denominations. These services have an average attendance of twelve people.
- \$1,000 to **College Hill United Church** (Belleville, ON) in support of their Senior's Ministry program. The Senior's Outreach Ministry will allow them to provide high quality pastoral and spiritual care for seniors in their area. The program will engage seniors in ways which provide them with a sense of meaning, purpose, and ensures them that they have not been forgotten, by connecting or reconnecting them with the United Church and the broader community.

From The Ann Baker Fund for Innovative Seniors' Ministry, and the Watkins Fund for Innovative Ministries with Senior Adults

- \$2,400 to **Pitt Meadows United Church** (Pitt Meadows, BC) in support of the Church History and Volunteer Outreach Record project. The project would produce an oral history of our church in relation to the Pitt Meadows community, and a record of how our members contribute through their personal, caring interactions with members of the larger community. The timing is perfect, as we are forced into social distancing and isolation. Phone/zoom interviews by young people would be a bright spot in the day for our seniors, and would help them recognize their valuable contributions to society.
 - \$1,100 from the Ann Baker Fund for Innovative Seniors' Ministry



- \$1,300 from the Watkins Fund for Innovative Ministries with Senior Adults

Research, Scholarship, & Academic Awards

From the Rowntree Scholarship

- \$26,600 to *The United Church of Canada* (Toronto, ON) in support of Developing the Young Black Scholarship Program. As The United Church of Canada committed to the UN International Decade for People of African Descent, the project's aim is to utilize research on Black Canadian church experience of anti-black racism with a view to inform other anti-racism work within the United Church of Canada's local faith communities. The project will be conducted by a learning community of six African-descent youth/young adults affiliated with the United Church of Canada seeking to become resource experts on the history of anti-black racism in Canadian church contexts. This learning community will focus on thematic research:
 - recognition: explore the history of black experiences in Canadian church contexts;
 - justice: identify spaces for engagement between black and non-black faith communities where the latter can learn from the former; and
 - development: make recommendations how the black experience can inform to help end racism and xenophobia in Canadian church contexts. Project facilitation will be overseen by a United Church of Canada staff via training retreats, online communications and regular check ins."

From the Bill and Anna Jentsch Endowment Bursary

- *Jeri-Lee Jones*
- *Eun Jung Oh*
- *Kathy Dahmer*
- *Sheryl Johnson*
- *Kate Crawford*
- *Saya Ojiri*
- *Frances Kitson*
- *Miriam Spies*
- *Laurie Milito*
- *Nicole Hamel*
- *Anna Constantin*
- *Christine Johnson*
- *Susan Hutton*

From the Victor Blatherwick Memorial Bursary

- *Deivit Montealegre*

From the Clifford Elliott Spirit of Saskatchewan Award

- *Heather Sandilands*

From the W. Norman McLeod Scholarship

- *Yunjung Kim*
- *Kimberly Heath*



From the Elizabeth White Bursary

- *Xueping (Maggie) Ma*
- *Sheng Ping Guo*

From the Alice K. McDonald Memorial Bursary

- *Jenn Brown*

From the Roy M. Davidson Trust Award

- *Jeff Crittenden*

From the McGeachy Senoir Scholarship

- *Alexa Gilmour* in support of “What in God’s name are we to do? A podcast for the faithful Canadian activist” - explore a creative model of clergy leadership that helps churches engage with current issues, and through this exploration to lift up helpful guideposts for the local, regional and national church.

The New Ministries Fund:

8 grants were awarded in the 2020 Spring round from The New Ministries Fund totaling \$168,000.

Second Instalment

- \$25,000 to *Grace United Church* (Barrie, ON), in support of Youth and Music Ministries. \$25,000/year for three years.
- \$25,000 to *Kingsway Lambton United Church* (Toronto, ON), in support of the Kingsway-Lambton’s Fresh Start project. \$25,000/year for three years.
- \$25,000 to *Mackay United Church* (Ottawa, ON), in support of the Kindness of Jazz project. \$25,000/year for three years.
- \$25,000 to *St. Genevieve United Church* (Dollard-des-Ormeaux, QC), in support of ORA grief workshops. \$25,000/year for three years.
- \$10,000 to *Stittsville United Church* (Stittsville, ON), in support of a Spiritual Growth Animator. This is a three year grant of \$15,000 in year one, \$10,000 in year two, and \$5,000 in year three.
- \$25,000 to *Wild Rose United Church* (Calgary, AB), in support of Spiritual Wellness Ministry and Wellness Hub. \$25,000/year for three years.
- \$8,000 to *Tamil United Church* (Scarborough, ON), in support of Tamil United Church. \$8,000/year for three years.

Third Instalment



- \$25,000 to *Trinity United Church* (Thunder Bay, ON) in support of Trintiy Live. Third year 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