



**Overview of Workshops at the Festival of Faith
June 9-11, 2023 – North Bay, ON**

1. Living Faithful: Justice and Public Witness; Friday, June 9th at 4:00 with Jeffrey Dale

This workshop will explore how we are called by God to live out being a justice seeking people. Through the use of scripture, song, and story, this workshop will activate our sense of who and how we are called by God in community.

2. Kindred Works; Friday, June 9th at 4:00 with Kristopher Tavella and Tim Blair

We have invited staff from Kindred Works to come and speak about what their group does and how they can help churches in the Canadian Shield Regional Council. Kindred Works is a United Church of Canada department that acts as a development and asset manager—developing and managing land on behalf of The United Church of Canada, our communities of faith, and ecumenical partners. Kindred Works is building a nationwide portfolio of mixed-income rental housing and gathering spaces, with an aim to create homes for 34,000 people in the next 15 years. Doing so will enable churches to continue offering the services and support that already exist, and extend the potential of their spaces to as many people as possible—because at the heart of Kindred Works’ vision is the belief that a secure and stable home can be the foundation for a life full of opportunity.

3. Collaborative Ministry; Friday, June 9th at 4:00 with Rob Smith

Rob will discuss Collaborative ministry - arrangements where two or more congregations, or pastoral charges, enter into an agreement to work together.

4. The Strategic Plan of The United Church of Canada; Friday, June 9th at 4:00 with TBA

The United Church of Canada’s Strategic Plan is working towards discerning a strong purpose, offering a clear vision, and proposing five interconnected strategic objectives, the plan strives to create the conditions for growth, slowing if not stopping the slide in participation, impact, and finances. The status quo is not an option. A representative from the UCC General Council Office will offer a workshop on the plan.

5. Music: One Step on our Journey to Becoming an Anti-Racist Church; Saturday, June 10th at 10:45 with Faye Moffatt

“The songs we sing have the power to form us and to spiritually malform us” –Brian McLaren. In 2008 the United Church aimed to become intercultural; in 2020, to become anti-racist. How are we doing? Jesus interacted with people from at least 8 different cultural and ethnic groups...if we don’t sing about that, our understanding of God is pretty small. In this participatory workshop we’ll sing, sample and celebrate. With

enthusiasm, we'll examine the implicit bias in our practice and expand our repertoire of holy song. You will leave with very practical take-aways and resources.

6. Embodied Prayer Shop; Saturday, June 10th at 10:45 with Diane Matheson-Jimenez

The Prayer Shop workshop will be an opportunity to explore spiritual practices and embodied prayer through arts, music, movement, sensory items, journaling, and more. Participants are welcome to come and go as they need to from this self-guided prayer experience.

7. Healthy Stewardship is Discipleship; Saturday, June 10th at 10:45 with Melody Duncanson-Hales

Melody's Stewardship workshop will be about "Healthy Stewardship is Discipleship." Good stewardship is **never** about guilt or coercion or simply meeting the budget. Good stewardship is about discipleship, generosity, and spiritual growth. Join with Melody Duncanson Hales to explore practical tools to develop stewardship in your congregation.

8. Forest Church; Saturday, June 10th at 10:45 with Mary Savage

Many people find that their most profoundly spiritual moments are when they are outdoors, in nature. Forest Church (aka Wild Church) is an emerging church movement which provides an opportunity to recognize and experience the beauty, wonder and mystery all around us. At the Forest Church workshop we will gather outdoors to experience and discuss this way of slowing down, paying attention to the divine, reconnecting with creation, engaging with the environment, and worshipping in and with nature.

9. Right Relations Land Acknowledgement; Saturday, June 10th at 1:30 with Lisa Blais and the CSRC Right Relations Resource Team

This workshop is framed on 3 basic questions: Why do/should we give a land/territorial acknowledgement; How do you create a "good" land acknowledgement; and How do you handle any resistance regarding land acknowledgements. There will be an opportunity for people to discuss and ask questions.

10. One-on-one with CSRC Staff; Saturday, June 10th at 1:30

Book some one-on-one time with a CSRC staff member. There will be a signup sheet at the registration desk.

11. Forest Church; Saturday, June 10th at 1:30 with Mary Savage (REPEAT)

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12. Ukulele Workshop; Saturday, June 10th at 3:00 with Linnea Good

Linnea Good, our musical guest for the weekend, will perform and teach participants how to use the Ukulele.

13. Neurodiversity; Saturday, June 10th at 3:00 with Torrin Maag

Torrin Maag will explore what it means to love and to live in a world of many minds. By bringing together disability theory, queer theory, and relational theology, Torrin will offer a series of principles for building just neurodivergent communities and the problems that neurodivergence raises and solves.

14. A Space of Belonging; Saturday, June 10th at 3:00 with Kim Uyede-Kai

How can our church be a space of belonging for ministry personnel and lay members who bring new and sometimes unfamiliar diversity to a community? We'll explore how God calls us to meet cultural challenges as faithful opportunities to be God's people in relationship in new ways.

15. Rural Connect; Saturday, June 10th at 3:00 with Randy Boyd

- Lay-led/clergy-led churches
- Large and small churches
- Challenges to churches in this new digital age;
gaps/gulfs between all generations and how to come together
- Multi-site hubs