

When many people think of the Canadian Council of Churches, they think of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity which is an annual event in January. But the Canadian Council of Churches does much, much more than this one important week of common prayerful action.

The Canadian Council of Churches helps the churches of Canada advocate with provincial, territorial, and federal governments on important social issues like poverty, homelessness, refugee rights, racism, and climate change. The Canadian Council of Churches holds long-standing inter-faith dialogues such as Christian-Jewish and Christian-Muslim dialogues, including a new dialogue this year with First Nations' faith traditions from all across Canada. The Canadian Council of Churches helps Canadian Christians reflect on the intersection of faith and technology and how technology is changing how we live and work and worship. The Canadian Council of Churches links Canadian churches to churches across North America and around the world through relationships with the National Council of Churches in the USA and with the World Council of Churches in Geneva.

On Wed, Nov. 6, 2024 - join in celebrating the 80th anniversary of the Canadian Council of Churches. During the day, there is a learning event at Mount Zion Lutheran Church in Waterloo (Westmount Road, just south of Erb St). Come learn about the history of the Canadian Council of Churches, find out how the CCC is engaging with young adult Christians across Canada, and learn about some milestone events both in terms of relationship with First Nations people and in celebrating 25 years of reflecting theologically and ethically on the intersection of faith and technology. This event will run from 10:30 am to 4:00 pm and includes lunch at a small cost. Come and meet Pastor Peter Noteboom, the General Secretary of the CCC. Come and hear the stories of Canadian churches working together - these are our stories!

Then in the evening come and hear Cesar Jaramillo of Project Ploughshares and be led in song by Andrew Donaldson and Wendy Wyatt Donaldson as we lift our voices in lament and hope towards peace on November 6, 2024.

We look forward to having you join us for both of these events on
Wednesday, November 6, 2024.

For more information, contact Pastor Peter Kuhnert at
peterkuhnertcan@aol.com.

Canadian Council of Churches

80th Year Anniversary Events

Wednesday November 6, beginning at 10:30 EST



10:00 AM EST In-Person Registration and Coffee at Mt. Zion 29 Westmount Road, Waterloo, Ontario

10:30 AM EST Acknowledgement and Morning Welcome - Rev. Dr. Philip Mathai, Member of The Canadian Council of Churches Governing Board

Panel: Stories of Vitality from 80 years of Ecumenism in Canada: Christian Unity and Social Justice in Contexts

Rev. Canon Alyson Barnett-Cowan, 80th Anniversary Historian: *Themes from 80 Years of CCC Ecumenism*
Rev. Peter Noteboom, The Canadian Council of Churches General Secretary: *Memories from the Margins*
Rev. Karen Kuhnert, Eastern Synod (ELCIC) Archivist: *Canadian Ecumenism and the 1977 United Nations Conference on Discrimination Against Indigenous Populations in the Americas*

Panel: Listening to Young Adults in the Canadian Ecumenical Movement

Emily Savage, Vice-President of The Canadian Council of Churches
Marina Fanous, CCC Communications Coordinator and Program Coordinator, Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
Boston Laferté, CCC Governing Board Youth Member

12:30 PM EST Zoom only Presentations, "Community-based Ecumenical Vibrancy" led by Nicholas Jesson with guests from across Canada.
Lunch for in-person registrants.

1:30 PM EST Acknowledgement and Afternoon Welcome - Rev. Amanda Currie, President of The Canadian Council of Churches
Tending Tomorrow Presentation by Leah Reesor-Keller, Transitional Executive Director of KAIROS Canada

Panel: Shared Stories of 25 years of Ecumenical Engagement at the Intersection of Faith, Life Sciences and Biotechnology

Rev. Dr. Peter Kuhnert, ELCIC Lutheran, Co-Chair CCC Faith and Life Sciences Reference Group
Dr. Rosemary Meier, Religious Society of Friends (Quakers), Co-Chair of the CCC Faith and Life Sciences Reference Group
Stephen Allen, former Chair and Presbyterian Church in Canada Member of the CCC Biotech Reference Group

3:50 PM EST Blessing and Sending - Rev. Dr. Das Sydney, Past President of The Canadian Council of Churches

7:00 PM EST 80th Anniversary Evening - Singing Lament and Hope Towards Peace at First United Waterloo
Music leadership by Dr. Andrew Donaldson and Wendy Wyatt Donaldson with Deacon Scott Knarr
Presentations on "Climate, Peace and Security" by Cesar Jaramillo, Executive Director of Project Ploughshares

For In-person Registration

<https://form.jotform.com/242486985429272>

For Zoom Registration:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/zoom/register/tZUvce2vpzMhNS0Mxhlp36Ta3zG1csVDFd2>



Wednesday
Nov 6, 2024

1 Day - 2 Events

Come Learn
Come Share
Come Sing
Come Hope

Canadian Council of Churches

80th Year Anniversary Events

Wednesday, Nov 6, 7pm



Learn with us about
Climate, Peace, & Security
as we respond with songs of
Lament and Hope towards Peace

Led by Dr. Andrew Donaldson &
Wendy Wyatt Donaldson



First United Church, Waterloo
Contact PeterKuhnertCan@AOL.com for any inquiries

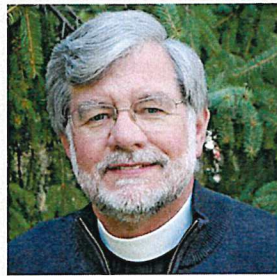


The Canadian Council of Churches (CCC) is celebrating 80 years of churches working in partnership together across Canada.

What started 80 years ago as a small group of 10 churches committing to common ministry together has grown to

include 26 denominations that together comprise over 13,500 worshipping communities from coast to coast to coast. Today, the Canadian Council of Churches represents 85% of Canadian Christians and remains the largest faith movement in Canada.

We invite you to join in on the **Wednesday “CCC Day of Learning” (10:30 am to 4:00 pm at Mt. Zion, Waterloo)** and also, the **evening of singing lament and hope towards peace 7:00 to 8:30 pm on November 6, 2024, at First United, Waterloo (at the corner of King and William in Uptown).**



Pictured here: Evening Song Enliveners Dr. Andrew Donaldson and Wendy Wyatt Donaldson, Project Ploughshares Executive Director and Presenter Cesar Jaramillo, Song Host Stephen Larson, Co-MC and CCC Communications Coordinator Marina Fanous, Co-MC and CCC Past-President Das Sydney, Host Pastor Hoeun Lee of First United Church. Deacon Scott Knarr will assist in enlivening music in the evening.



Executive Director Cesar Jaramillo of Project Ploughshares

has four areas of focus for his work including nuclear disarmament, the protection of civilians in armed conflict, emerging military technologies and conventional weapons controls. As an international civil society representative Cesar has addressed, among others, the UN General Assembly First Committee, the Conference on Disarmament, the UN Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, as well as states parties to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and to the Arms Trade Treaty. He has given guest lectures and presentations at academic institutions such as New York University, the National Law University in New Delhi, the China University of Political Science and Law in Beijing, and the University of Toronto. Cesar graduated from the University of Waterloo with an MA in Global Governance and has Bachelor Degrees in Honours Political Science and in Journalism. Prior to joining Project Ploughshares, Jaramillo held a Fellowship at the Centre for International Governance Innovation (CIGI).



Rev. Hoeun Lee, Evening Welcome to First United and Acknowledgement of Territory and Peoples.

Rev. Lee was ordained in The Presbyterian Church of Korea in 2012 and admitted to The United Church of Canada in 2020. Rev. Lee has shared his passion for intergenerational and intercultural ministry with congregations in Saskatchewan and Ontario. Rev. Lee is currently serving the people of First United, Waterloo.



Rev. Dr. Stephen Larson, “Introduction of Dr. Andrew and Wendy Donaldson, CCC 80th Anniversary Evening.”

Rev. Dr. Stephen Larson has served as parish or campus pastor in Canada and the USA. In Switzerland, he was pastor of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Geneva's English-speaking Congregation for 15 years. Larson served as a consultant with the Lutheran World Federation's Department for Theology and Public Witness in Geneva, from 2011-2012. He chaired the International Worship Planning Committee for the LWF Assembly and the 500th Commemoration of the Reformation in Namibia in 2017. Larson is co-author of *Liturgy, Justice and the Reign of God: Integrating Vision and Practice* and also *The Sacraments Gentle Call to Justice: Creation and New Creation*.





Dr. Andrew Donaldson is a performer, teacher, composer and editor who has led workshops on congregational song across North America, as well as in Korea, Indonesia,

Poland, Switzerland and Scotland. Andrew is a past President of the Hymn Society and in that role he and Wendy together helped to broaden the society's outlook on what might be included under a broader definition of what makes a hymn. With **Wendy Wyatt Donaldson**, herself a trained educator and gifted musical enlivener, the Donaldsons have worked in many contexts as pastoral musicians to build singing communities of faith through worship under four guiding pillars: worship as play, music as community, singing the world, music as ministry. The Donaldsons animated music engagement in Geneva, Switzerland, for five years during which time Andrew worked as Worship Consultant to the World Council of Churches. In this role he guided planning and leading worship for people of many ecumenical traditions and many faith communities. A notable accomplishment for Andrew was helping to shape worship for the WCC's Global Assembly in Busan, Korea.



Rev. Dr. Das Sydney, "Blessing and Sending" and Co-MC for CCC Evening. Rev. Dr. Das Sydney is the Immediate Past President of The Canadian Council of Churches and Minister Emeritus at Highland Baptist Church in Kitchener, Ontario. Sydney has served in churches in Ontario and Nova Scotia. He is a past-President of the Canadian Baptists of Ontario and Quebec. While he has lived most of his life in Canada, his country of birth is India and he spent many of his early years in Africa where he began university studies in Ghana. Sydney is a graduate of McMaster Divinity School and earned a Doctorate in Chicago. Sydney has served as an Adjunct Faculty at Acadia Divinity College and McMaster University. Rev. Dr. Das Sydney made the CCC Expression of Reconciliation to Survivors of Canada's Residential School System on behalf of the Members and Associates of the CCC.

In the evening, we will hear from Executive Director Cesar Jaramillo about the important work of Project Ploughshares, the peace research arm of the CCC. As we reflect on making peace in a world of escalating conflicts, we will respond musically with songs of lament and hope, led by Andrew Donaldson and Wendy Wyatt Donaldson. Andrew was the chief liturgist for the World Council of Churches, organizing worship services for the 2013 WCC General Assembly in Busan, Korea.

Come learn, come share, come sing, come hope - let's do it together.

Canadian Council of Churches
 80th Year Anniversary Events
Wednesday, Nov 6, 7pm

Learn with us about
Climate, Peace, & Security
 as we respond with songs of
 Lament and Hope towards Peace

*Led by Dr. Andrew Donaldson &
 Wendy Wyatt Donaldson*

Cesar Jaramillo
 Executive Director
 Project Ploughshares

Advancing Autumn 2023 papers
 from *The PLOUGHSHARES Monitor*
 (cover image by Tasneem Jamal)

First United Church, Waterloo
 Contact PeterKuhnertCan@AOL.com for any inquires



Rev. Dr. Philip Mathai, Morning Welcome and Acknowledgement of Territory and Peoples. Pastor Philip Mathai found his way to Waterloo, Ontario, from the Karnataka region of southern India where his father was a seminary professor. After completing his Bachelor Degree in Science, he did his basic theological training while still in India. Then Mathai worked for a year with the church of his roots, the Mar Thoma Church, a reformed church of the St Thomas tradition. Mathai then earned his MTh (Master of Theology) and spent the next nine years working for an organization involved in theological education. Pr. Philip continued his studies at Drew University in Madison, New Jersey, for a year, followed by several years at the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago where he completed his Doctorate which has led to the publication of *Songs as Locus for a Lay Theology*. For more than a decade Mathai has been pastor to the diverse peoples of Mt. Zion Lutheran Church in Waterloo.

Rev. Canon Dr. Alyson Barnett-Cowan, “Themes from 80 Years of CCC Ecumenism.” The Rev. Canon Alyson Barnett-Cowan is a Past President of The Canadian Council of Churches and has recently authored the CCC's latest history. Barnett-Cowan is retired from her work as the Director for Unity Faith and Order for the Anglican Communion based in London, England. In that capacity she staffed the Inter-Anglican Commission for Unity, Faith and Order. She was the lead staff for the ecumenical dialogues of the Anglican Communion. For the first six months of 2015 Alyson served as Interim Secretary General of the Anglican Communion, heading the Secretariat which supports the work of the Instruments of Communion (Lambeth Conference, Anglican Consultative Council, Primates Meeting and the Archbishop of Canterbury). Before her appointment to the Anglican Communion Office, Alyson was the Director of the Faith, Worship, and Ministry Department of the Anglican Church of Canada. She has been a member of the Faith and Order Commission of the World Council of Churches and a Vice-President and President of The Canadian Council of Churches.



Acknowledgement of Territories and Peoples Afternoon Welcome Rev. Amanda Currie

Amanda Currie is the current President of The Canadian Council of Churches (2024-2027) and serves in this role from her home in Treaty 4 Territory in Western Canada (Regina). Currie was one of the Vice-Presidents of the CCC from 2021-2024. At the time of election, Currie said,

"As a Presbyterian who values the good order of church decision-making bodies, I am looking forward to convening the Governing Board meetings and assisting the churches to live out the Forum method of decision-making in which every church's voice is heard and we strive for agreement by consensus. As a member of an Interchurch Family (I am married to a Roman Catholic theologian), I am looking forward to continuing to pray and work together with leadership from a broad spectrum of Canadian Churches for the full visible unity that is Jesus' desire for us."

Nicholas Jesson, “Community-based Ecumenical Vibrancy.” For those able to join on Zoom, Nicholas Jesson will host conversations with ecumenical partners from locations across Canada where the “ecumenical community” is “alive and well.” Jesson is the Ecumenical Officer for the Archdiocese of Regina. He is currently a member of the Anglican-Roman Catholic Dialogue in Canada and of the Canadian Council of Churches’ Commission on Faith & Witness. He is the editor of the Margaret O’Gara Ecumenical Dialogues Collection, and editor of the Anglican-Roman Catholic Dialogue archive IARCCUM.org. Jesson was the Ecumenical Officer for the Diocese of Saskatoon (1994-99 & 2008-17), Executive Director of the Prairie Centre for Ecumenism (1994-99), and a member of the Roman Catholic-United Church of Canada Dialogue (2012-20).





Leah Reesor-Keller
Tending Tomorrow

Leah Reesor-Keller is the Transitional Executive Director, KAIROS Canada. Prior to her role with KAIROS, Leah served as the Executive Minister of Mennonite Church Eastern Canada, part of the Mennonite Church Canada denomination. Leah is the author of the book *Tending Tomorrow: Courageous Change for People and Planet* on faith, leadership and culture change in the context of the climate crisis. (link to [Tending Tomorrow](#))

As a faith leader, writer and facilitator, Leah cares about listening deeply, asking reflective questions, fostering relationships of mutuality, and holding space for new dreams and visions of a better future for people and the planet to emerge. She has 20 years of experience working with faith-based and social justice organizations in Canada, Haiti, Jamaica, and Nepal. Leah holds an MA in Development Studies from York University and a BA in Political Science and Peace and Conflict Studies from the University of Waterloo.

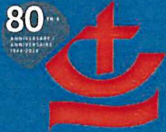


Deacon Scott Knarr serves as the Diaconal Minister of Music with the people of St. Matthews, Kitchener and previous Mount Zion, Waterloo. In 2019. Previously, he was Diaconal Minister of Music at Mount Zion Lutheran Church, Waterloo. Scott earned a MA in Theology in 2014 from Waterloo Lutheran Seminary (now Martin Luther University College). He co-facilitates the Feather & Cross program which brings together Lutherans and Indigenous folks in the urban context to learn and share with one another. For several years he has supported the youth-led, grassroots organization Music for the Spirit on the Six Nations of the Grand River Territory.

Rev. Peter Noteboom, Canadian Council of Churches General Secretary, "*Memories from the Margins.*" Active in his home church, the Christian Reformed Church in North America, Peter Noteboom was ordained as a Commissioned Pastor in November 2019. He has been the General Secretary of The CCC since 2018. In this role he lifts up the call for gospel unity, provides direction and leadership through the development of vision and priorities, implements the strategic and program plans of the Council, facilitates Canadian and global ecumenical relationships, and participates in and leads in Canadian interfaith initiatives. Peter serves as the Co-Chair of the Canadian Interfaith conversation, advocating for religion in a pluralistic society and in Canadian public life. He is also a member of the Interfaith Committee on Canadian Military Chaplaincy and the Interfaith Committee on Chaplaincy in the Correctional Service of Canada. Peter has been with the CCC since 1999 beginning as Associate Secretary, Justice and Peace, as staff support for the Commission on Justice and Peace, the Human Rights Committee, the Ecumenical Healthcare Network, the Canadian Ecumenical Anti-Racism Network, the Biotechnology Reference Group and the Working Group on Human Trafficking / Sexual Exploitation in Canada.

Rev. Karen Kuhnert, "*Canadian Ecumenism and the 1977 United Nations Conference on Discrimination Against Indigenous Populations in the Americas.*" Karen Kuhnert is a member of the 80th Anniversary Fundraising Campaign for the CCC. She is a frequent contributor to Canadian and Global ecumenical efforts at the intersections of Climate Change, the WCC/CCC, KAIROS and Indigenous Rights. Kuhnert is the Archivist for the Eastern Synod (Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada, ELCIC). Her first career was as a provincial Legislative worker and researcher. Karen was the ELCIC representative to the KAIROS Indigenous Rights Circle (KIRC) from 2011-2017 as KAIROS entered the period of "With not For" Resetting the Relationships.





Listening to Young Adults in The Canadian Ecumenical Movement

Marina Fanous holds an Honours Bachelor of Arts in French Literature and the Study of Religion, along with a Master's of Theological Studies specializing in Orthodox and Eastern Christian studies, both from the University of Toronto. Her ecumenical journey began in 2022 at the Global Ecumenical Theological Institute, held alongside the World Council of Churches assembly in Karlsruhe, Germany. Marina started with the CCC in 2023, where she now works as the Communications Coordinator and as the Program Coordinator for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. Additionally, she conducted a research project on young adult engagement in the Canadian ecumenical movement, exploring strategies to boost their involvement in the Council's work."



Boston Laferté is one of four elected Governing Board Youth Members for The CCC. Boston is currently in the MDiv program at Lutheran Theological Seminary, Saskatoon while concurrently studying law at UVIC in the joint degree program in Canadian Common Law and Indigenous Legal Orders. Boston previously earned his BA in History and Indigenous Studies from the University of Victoria. Laferté is a member of the Métis Nation of Alberta and grew up in Treaty 8 territory near the town of Peace River, AB, before moving to the unceded lands of the lək'wəḡən people (Victoria). Laferté was an author for UVic's Independent Newspaper (The Martlet). He is now known across the country for the "Let's Talk Faith and Justice" Podcast led by Boston Laferté and Rev. Lyndon Sayers, Multi-faith Chaplain and Co-Pastor of Lutheran Church of the Cross,



Emily Savage was one of the founding forces in the creation of the Eastern Synod (ELCIC) Racial Justice Advisory Committee. She has been active in her local congregation since returning from university, raising awareness and providing affordable produce to food insecure areas of west Toronto, and acting as Youth Leader for half a decade. It is the latter that informed and supported the majority of her engagement with the

Young Canadian Lutherans (YCL) movement, an effort to bring more Young Adults aged 18-35 into intentional engagement at the intersection of faith-church-society. Now she looks to do something similar at the national level in her role as a Vice President of the Canadian Council of Churches (CCC). She sits as the liaison to the CCC's Commission on Justice and Peace, and is looking forward to building a vibrant, and vocal community of young people interested in and passionate about ecumenical work. She hopes to build an organic, intentional and intergenerational approach to ecumenism that values and respects the perspectives of all participants.

Shared Stories of 25 Years of Ecumenical Engagement at the Intersection of Faith, Life Sciences and Biotechnology

Rev. Dr. (MD CCFP) Peter Kuhnert is a medical doctor as well as a commissioner on the WCC Commission of the Churches on Health and Healing. He is an ELCIC Lutheran pastor and Co-Chair of the CCC Faith and Life Sciences Reference Group. Having been raised in Quebec and Alberta, before serving in the NWT and Ontario, Kuhnert brings diverse and multi-lingual Canadian experiences to his work for the CCC and WCC.

Dr. Helen Rosemary Meier is a retired geriatric psychiatrist. She is a member of the Canadian Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends ((Quakers). She is a current co-chair of the Faith and Life Sciences Reference Group of the Canadian Council of Churches.

Stephen Allen was the Associate Secretary for Justice Ministries with The Presbyterian Church of Canada from 1997 until 2018. He served on the Biotechnology Reference Group (BRG) and the Faith and Life Sciences Reference Group (FLSRG, the successor body of the BRG) of the Canadian Council of Churches from the formation of the BRG until 2018. Stephen is a former chair of the FLSRG.

