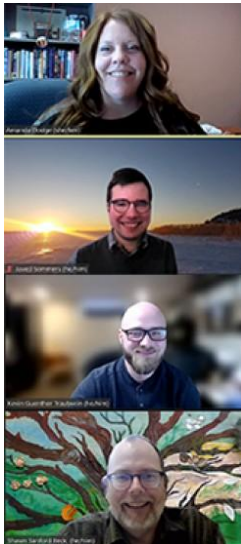


October 2022



## KAIROS PRAIRIES NORTH NEWSLETTER



### A note from the KAIROS Prairies North Coordinating Committee

Our communities have been rocked by the violence that occurred at James Smith Cree Nation and Weldon, Saskatchewan. First, feelings of alarm, shock, and deep concern. Days of uncertainty, anxiety, and sorrow passed. Then, as matters resolved, sitting with the grief of the aftermath.

We lament the reverberating pain caused by the violence and our hearts go out to those who are grieving. We also acknowledge that what occurred is an extension of colonial violence and abject failure on the part of our systems to meaningfully address intergenerational trauma. We strengthen our resolve to walk in restorative solidarity with Indigenous communities seeking healing, justice and self-determination.

We offer this prayer:

From all that is broken, let there be beauty.  
From what is torn, jagged, ripped, frayed, let there be not just mendings but meetings unimaged.  
May the God in whom nothing is wasted gather up every scrap, every shred and shard, and make of them new paths, doorways, worlds.

- *From Voices Together, 908, Mennonite Churches of Canada and the United States*

Yours in faith and goodwill,

The Prairies North Coordinating Committee  
Kevin Guenther Trautwein (Convener)  
Shawn Sanford Beck (Regional Representative)  
Javed Sommers (Treasurer)  
Amanda Dodge (Secretary)



## Regional Highlight: KAIROS Regina

---



### Journeying in Hope for Climate Justice

When KAIROS Regina members considered what stories we could share about our recent activities, Laura Stewart's petition adventure stood out. She recalls:

On October 23rd, 2021, I attended "The Last Children," a fanciful and strangely light-hearted film-and-theatre production about two survivors of a climate-driven catastrophe. The show opened with a stop-motion film sequence in which the waters rose, and Canada broke up along provincial boundaries into chunks that floated away. The survivors lived out their whimsical days in a Saskatchewan lighthouse, growing old but never joining an adult world.

After the show, I got my picture taken with my e-bike in front of Casino Regina, a former VIA Rail station, before setting off to ride 150 km to my closest train station in Melville. I was on my way to Winnipeg to deliver copies of the "Climate Code Red" petition, and draw attention to our struggle to get our calls for federal climate action heard through Regina MPs. In Winnipeg, the struggle continued. Finally, I got a meeting with Indigenous MP Leah Gazan, who heartily agreed with most of the petition, but then told me its clause about Indigenous consultation did not rise to the level of UNDRIP.

Just before reaching Gazan's constituency office, I had taken a call from VIA Rail, saying my return train was cancelled due to floods and mudslides in B.C. Over the coming hours and days, I would learn that my own daughter was in B.C. for a wedding, and stranded outside Hope. My mind returned to "The Last Children." In just three weeks, the scene of a flood cutting off large chunks of Canada had changed, from fanciful to prophetic.

The petition setback in Winnipeg reminded us of the vital importance of relationships and communication for effective service. In a visioning exercise this year, we agreed

that our recent work has centred around climate justice, with some ongoing study of reconciliation, decolonization and income justice. We continue to consider what will be the pillars of our work in KAIROS Regina, what work to leave to other groups, and importantly, how to keep connections among our efforts so we can support each other's work, learn from each other, and be guided by those most affected.

Prior to the Climate Code Red petition campaign, we worked for climate justice primarily through the national ecumenical initiative, [For the Love of Creation](#). We also supported local efforts to get a strong, ambitious Energy and Sustainability Framework passed in Regina, and early this year we urged city councillors to ensure that this Framework aligned with a target of no more than 1.5C of warming globally.

This fall we are urging action even closer to home, in the buildings where we gather to worship. Please look for our weekly posts, [tagged 'Regina KAIROS'](#) on the KAIROS Canada blog, leading up to a one-day workshop on October 15th titled, Creation Care in Our Places of Prayer: Energy Retrofits and Other Faith-Based Climate Action. You will find more information and/or can [register here](#) to join us in person or online.

In our workshop and the article series, we will offer a theological call to action, tangible examples of successful responses, and practical discussions to get us started. As always, we trust that Jesus will be in the midst of our gathering. May these small steps help move our communities closer to "[social tipping points](#)," where all join in pursuit of climate justice, and we can look to our children's future with faith and hope.

---

## Upcoming Events



### Creation Care in our Places of Prayer: Energy Retrofits and other Faith-based Climate Action

KAIROS Regina invites you on a journey of faith, one that challenges our comfortable lives and changes the very buildings we worship in. Join us on October 15, for a one-day hybrid conference.

[Learn more & Register](#)



### Activating Hope: Faith and the Climate Crisis

This will be a hybrid event.

Attend online or in-person at Grace Presbyterian Church (1009 – 15Th Avenue SW, Calgary).

October 29: Save the date!

[Learn more & Register](#)

---

[Forward to a Friend](#)

Connect with us: [kairosprairiesnorth@gmail.com](mailto:kairosprairiesnorth@gmail.com) | [Facebook](#)

Visit our websites: [www.kairoscanada.org](http://www.kairoscanada.org) and [www.kairosblanketexercise.org](http://www.kairosblanketexercise.org).

[Unsubscribe](#)

---



**KAIROS Canada**  
faithful action for justice