

Prairie to Pine United Church Women (UCW)

Two hybrid meetings of the executive of Prairie to Pine UCW were held this past year, Nov 2024 and May 2025, with UCW members attending in person and via Zoom.

The women of the Prairie to Pine region meet once a month via Zoom, on the second Tuesday of the month. The coffee chat meetings are very enjoyable, and are attended by women in various locations throughout the region.

In September 2025, Gaye Pokotylo (Past President) and Karen Corbett (President, Prairie to Pine UCW) attended the National UCW meeting in Mississauga at Queen of the Apostles retreat centre.

A 4F Day for Women: Faith, Fellowship, Fun and Food was held at Trinity United Church in Brandon. Fifty women were in attendance for a great day. Morning worship was led by Karen Kempe and Harold Kuipers. In the afternoon, Joan Zaretsky shared a presentation on “Holy Moments: A Handbook for the Rest of Your Life”. Joan presented the key ideas and ways to brainstorm so that you can quickly start using Holy moments in your life.

Prairie to Pine UCW is hoping to have a similar 4F Day for Women, in a different part of the region, sometime in the spring of 2026. We are looking for other interested host churches in our region to support our desire to provide this special day to many United Church women.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Corbett,
Prairie to Pine UCW President

2025 Bursary Report

The **Prairie to Pine Regional Bursary** has been funded by donations to the Prairie to Pine Regional Council, by UCWs or Communities of Faith. The Prairie to Pine Regional Bursary has been administered by a Committee within Prairie to Pine Regional UCW Network and usually meets in person twice a year, and by teleconference in June. In 2024, we met via Zoom to make decisions regarding the Bursaries.

The purpose of the Prairie to Pine Regional Bursary has been to financially assist promising candidates for the Order of Ministry (ordained or diaconal) from our Conference who are registered in theological studies, as well as persons in the Designated Lay Ministry Training program qualifying for leadership in the Church.

In 2025, there were four applicants, three of whom qualified for the P2P Bursary.

Karen Kempe: \$1,000.00 Accepted as candidate for ordination at St. Andrews College

Jaime Miller: \$1,000.00 Diaconal Ministry

Mulumoderhwa Buhendwa (Peter): \$1,000.00 Master in Divinity at Vancouver School of Theology.

We sincerely thank all UCWs and Communities of Faith for their contributions and ask for their continued support. If your Community of Faith no longer has a contributing UCW, our committee requests that you consider including this in your future yearly budget. Our financial resources for the Bursaries are lacking.

The **UCW Bursary** of \$800 is awarded annually from Prairie to Pine Regional UCW funds to persons, at least 18 years of age, and not in, or studying towards, a paid accountable ministry. The applicant must be actively involved in and taking a course that would benefit the local United Church Community of Faith. For this year, we had no applicants. Please encourage members of your Community of Faith who would benefit from this bursary to apply in the future.

As well, the **Agatha Kaasa Bursary**, established in 2003 by the National UCW, is available to women for leadership training, continuing education or projects/events that would benefit United Church work. This bursary application form can be found on the National site "search."

There is another National Bursary, the **Dorothy Amos Fund**, for any woman who is a UCW member and not in paid accountable ministry. This Bursary was founded in 2012 in honour of Dorothy Amos using proceeds from the UCW 50th Anniversary. Both these National Bursaries can be found by searching under the particular Bursary/Fund name.

Our Bursary Committee wishes to thank both Judy Hare and Cherry Abad, and the Prairie to Pine Regional Council office, for their years of work on our behalf. Our committee also works with Laura Fohse, Minister for the Office of Vocation, and former Heather Dootoff, now Francesca Martina, Financial Administrator, both representatives for our Prairie to Pine Region. Thank you all for your support!

Respectfully submitted,

Darlynne Smith

Darlynne Smith, Convenor

Prairie to Pine UCW Regional Bursary Committee