
PCCConnect



The Presbyterian Church in Canada

presbyterian.ca

SEPTEMBER 2026

NEWS

Update: Flooding in Nepal

The scale of the disaster in Nepal continues to grow. The PCC's partner, United Mission to Nepal (UMN), reports that, according to the latest government figures today, 1,252 bodies have been recovered, 11,993 people rescued, and 4,216 people remain missing or unaccounted for. Homes, farmland, businesses, roads, bridges, schools, health facilities and water systems have been badly affected. UMN will be working with partners to respond to the disaster in Dhading and Nuwakot.

Since the onset of the flood in Nepal, PWS&D's partner, INF Nepal, has been actively assessing needs and delivering immediate relief support. Initial response activities have focused on displaced families in Nuwakot, particularly in Bidur Municipality.

While the areas where PWS&D's long-term development projects are implemented have not been impacted, PWS&D is able to respond through its networks and coalitions. Priorities include emergency shelter, food, clean water and sanitation, health and education.

Bibhu Singh (UMN) asks that people continue to pray for Nepal and expresses gratitude for the PCC's support. "Thank you for continuing to stand with Nepal. We are deeply grateful for your prayers, generosity and partnership as we seek to serve those most in need."

Through your gifts to Presbyterians Sharing, the PCC will be sending USD \$5,000 to support the relief efforts.

[PWS&D is accepting donations for Nepal relief here.](#)

Read more, including stories from people affected [here](#).



Children Live in Fear in Christian West Bank Village

Taybeh, the only remaining Christian village in the West Bank, includes Christian archaeology dating back to the Roman era and early Christianity. Located in the Ramallah area of the West Bank, the village's population has dwindled to 1,200 people, all of them Christians. In the 1980s, the population was around 3,000.

The World Council of Churches (WCC), of which the PCC is a member, reports that the village, which is surrounded by four settlements, has been repeatedly attacked by Israeli settlers

through arson, shootings, and the destruction of trees, including damage to an ancient church. Video footage shows settlers riding through Christian families' properties on all-terrain vehicles, shouting and harassing residents. Children are especially frightened during these scenes.

Read the full story on the [WCC's website](#).



Collective 2026

After four days of worship, learning, laughter, advocacy, dancing, games, and making new connections, participants said their farewells as Collective 2026 ended. One youth participant summed up the bittersweet feeling: "I wish there was another Collective happening next year!" While Collective 2026 may be over, the experiences there continue: new friendships, deeper faith, renewed courage, and the knowledge that no one journeys alone. The overarching hope of those who attended is that the mutual support will brace them for the sometimes difficult realities they face in this world, and (em)brace one another for collective impact.

Revisit the daily Updates and watch videos here:

Day 1: [Click here](#)

Day 2: [Click here](#)

Day 3: [Click here](#)

Day 4: [Click here](#)

Find photos from the event [here](#).

Principal Clerk attends Gifting Ceremony at National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation

As part of The Presbyterian Church in Canada's commitments to healing and reconciliation, the PCC contributed \$500,000 to the construction of the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation's permanent home on the University of Manitoba campus. This contribution is part of a collaborative, multi-year \$1.5 million gift pledged along with the Anglican Church of Canada and the United Church of Canada. To mark this cooperation, the denominations were invited to attend a Gifting Ceremony in June. Vivian Ketchum, who is a Survivor of the Cecilia Jeffrey Residential School, one of 12 Residential Schools originally operated by the PCC, accompanied the Rev. Victor Kim, Principal Clerk of the General Assembly, to the ceremony.



At the Gifting Ceremony, representatives of the three churches received a beautiful bronzed eagle feather from the NCTR, along with hand-woven sashes from the Manitoba Metis Federation.

The Rev. Kim noted, "We are grateful to the NCTR for hosting this important event and for the graciousness with which they recognized our role in constructing the permanent home for the NCTR. This permanent home will play a vitally important role in preserving the stories of Indigenous peoples, the impact of colonization and the Residential School System and in educating future generations in making more faithful choices in our relationships with all of God's creation."

RESOURCES



Season of Creation (September 1 – October 4)

The Season of Creation is an ecumenical celebration of prayer and action to protect the Earth, our common home, beginning September 1 and running through October 4. It is a chance to celebrate God's good creation while drawing attention to the ways we can seek to work and advocate to address environmental degradation, ecosystem health and the climate crisis.

The theme for 2026 is "Living Water" and is drawn from Ezekial 47:1-12, which portrays God's life-giving water

flowing from the temple of God. Global ecumenical prayers and resources highlighting this theme are available from seasonofcreation.org.

Read more [here](#).

Presbyterians Sharing Sunday

Presbyterians Sharing Sunday is September 20, 2026. On this day, congregations remember and celebrate that they are a part of a wider church family, The Presbyterian Church in Canada. God's Spirit connects us, inspires us, and challenges us to continue Christ's ministry in our communities, in Canada and across the globe. If September 20 doesn't work for your congregation, this service can be held on any day that works for you.

Download the Presbyterians Sharing Sunday worship service and find bulletin inserts, brochures and videos [here](#).

Order printed resources online [here](#) or by email at resources@presbyterian.ca.

The French and Korean videos will be available and posted shortly.



Presbyterians
Sharing



National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

September 30 is the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, also called Orange Shirt Day. It is a national day of memory for the generations of Indigenous children taken to residential schools: for people who are Survivors, intergenerational Survivors, their families and communities, and for the children who never made it home from the schools.

Orange Shirt Day was begun by Phyllis Webstad, a Survivor who, at age six, entered the St. Joseph Mission Residential School in B.C. wearing a beloved orange shirt, only to have it taken away and replaced with the

institution's uniform. The loss of the orange shirt became symbolic of all that was taken from children at the schools - language, culture, family and community relationships, spiritual practices, safety, security, identity and sometimes even their lives.

The Presbyterian Church in Canada ran 12 residential schools. In the church's apology, we make five fundamental commitments, including listening to and learning from Indigenous people and telling the truth about the past. One way congregations support these commitments is by publicly marking September 30.

Learn more [here](#).

2026 Acts and Proceedings Available for Download

The new 2026 Acts and Proceedings (A&P) is available for [download](#).

You can also download the complete A&P from 1980 to 2026 as a large compressed ZIP file (737 MB). The compressed file also includes minutes from 1925 to 1979, the 2026 Book of Forms and Living Faith in English, French, and Korean.

The Statistical Information will be provided in a separate file by September.



Policy and Procedures for Addressing Harassment and Workplace Violence in the Church

The 2026 General Assembly adopted an updated version of the Policy and Procedures for Addressing Harassment and Workplace Violence in the Church. While the policy statement remains the same, the procedures are updated regularly for clarity, flow of information and to ensure compliance with applicable legislation. Download the latest version of the policy for your annual review [here](#) or order [here](#).

Archives Digital Collection

Hey researchers! Check out our digital collection on [Internet Archive](#), featuring the *Presbyterian Record*, *Glad Tidings*, and more. Our page is now hosting the *Acts and Proceedings* from 1875 to today! Use the "search text contents" box to keyword search across multiple years and publications at once. To learn more about this new tool, reach out to the [Archives](#).

Becoming Intercultural: 9-Week Online Course

Join us this Fall for the first course of the Intercultural Office's 3-part series, *Becoming Intercultural*. During the course, you will develop intercultural awareness and learn about *unconscious bias* and *power dynamics* as you work through the theology and biblical foundations necessary to become intercultural. There are also real-life practice scenarios & intercultural tools. This course is self-paced with three online group meetings.

Dates: September 25 – November 29, 2026

Who can sign up?

You! Sessions, congregants, ministers, presbyteries & anyone in your community! Bring a group or we will find you one!

Ready to register?

Fill out this [expression of interest form](#) to hold your spot!

Want to learn more about our work and programs?

- [Subscribe to our Newsletter](#)
- [Watch a video about our work](#)
- [Visit our website](#)

Adult Education Webpage

A new Adult Education Webpage includes information on upcoming initiatives for the coming year, along with resources from previous studies, such as Presbyterians Read. You can find the webpage [here](#).

Some new initiatives:

[What Does the Bible Say About...?](#) This new series features short discussions on topics of interest to today's church. Study sheets for each topic explore the passages in the Bible that relate to the issue at hand, explaining how frequently cited passages may or may not pertain to issues in current society. These writings provide material for sermons, adult class discussions, and individual theological reflection and growth. Find the first webinar, "Jesus' Miracles", in the Webinar section of this e-newsletter. Other topics include hell and heaven, baptism, and the end times. The series page can be found [here](#).

[Context Clues for Preaching](#) These webinars focus on a single biblical text and help participants uncover the socio-cultural background, theological themes, distinctive language, and the vision and purpose of the communities who composed the biblical books. Each webinar will include instruction, allow for Q&A, and provide a study sheet with key items of interest for use in preaching, teaching, and group Bible study. This series includes "Preaching Paul: Avoiding the Pitfalls" (find it [here](#)) and the upcoming "Preaching Mark: The Curious Case of Good News" (you will be able to register for this November 9 webinar soon!).

[Theological Reflections](#) These short essays provoke new thought on familiar religious topics, days in the religious calendar, or timely issues of the day. Designed to offer a fresh take on issues of concern to the church, they provide material for sermons, adult-class discussions, and individual theological reflection and growth.

[Presbyterians Go to the Movies](#) This program is designed for adult theological reflection and discussion of selected films. Custom guides include instructions for viewing, plans for leading a film study group, specific questions for each film, and tips to enhance interpretation. Films are organized by theme but can be studied individually at each study group's pace. You will find the upcoming webinar, *An Introduction to "The Church from the Outside" Series*, in the Webinars section of this newsletter.

Sign up for Adult Education updates [here](#). Make sure you check the box that says "Adult Education Opportunities."

Christian Education Exchange



Across the PCC, committed people are doing the important work of faith formation—often without connection to others doing the same work. That’s why the Christian Education Exchange exists.

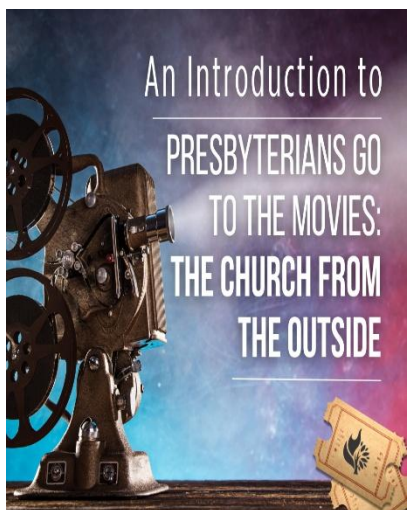
We connect, encourage, and equip those who care deeply about helping people grow in faith. Each month, we gather online to learn together, share our joys and struggles, and exchange ideas for real ministry contexts. It’s a space to reflect on where God is leading, explore new approaches, and be reminded that this work matters.

Whether you’re a minister or a lay leader, a volunteer or paid staff, a seasoned veteran or just beginning, or a retiree who continues to serve—and whether you work with children, youth, young adults, adults, families, or across generations—you are welcome here.

For more information and to sign up for notifications about upcoming opportunities, visit the [Christian Education webpage](#).

WEBINARS

You can find all of the PCC’s upcoming webinars, plus recordings of previous ones, [here](#).



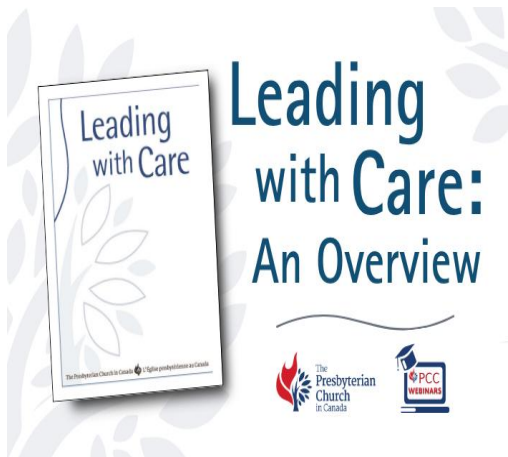
Presbyterians Go to the Movies: An Introduction to "The Church from the Outside" Series

Planning adult education for your church group this fall? Explore religion in film with a study guide for individuals or groups, featuring easy-to-follow instructions for viewing and discussion. This fall’s theme is "The Church from the Outside," and it includes three films: The Mission, Smoke Signals and Places in the Heart. Choose one or all three! Join Dr. Lee Johnson for a free orientation.

Date: September 16, 2026

Time: 3:00 p.m. (Eastern)

Download the Study Guide and register [here](#).



Leading with Care: An Overview

The Presbyterian Church in Canada is committed to ensuring that all ministries provide a climate of safety for children, youth and vulnerable adults. This webinar will present an overview of Leading with Care, the policy and procedures that support the denomination in meeting that commitment.

There will be time for participants to ask questions about Leading with Care following the presentation. Visit www.presbyterian.ca/safety to download and review Leading with Care prior to the webinar.

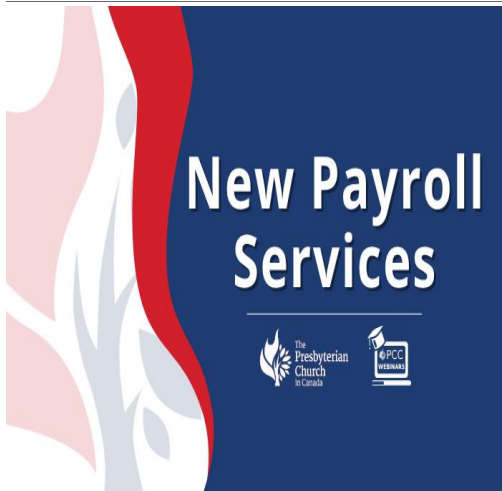
Presenters:

The Rev. Ian Ross-McDonald, General Secretary, Life and Mission Agency
Carragh Erhardt, Program Coordinator, Sexuality and Inclusion

Date: September 17, 2026

Time: 3:00 p.m. (Eastern)

Register [here](#).



An Introduction to The Presbyterian Church in Canada's New Payroll Service

This webinar will provide an opportunity to learn about the planned new payroll service and to ask questions about what the program will offer and how to implement it. The service will be available to all ministries of The Presbyterian Church in Canada.

Presenters: Cindy Stephenson, convener of the Change Leadership Team, and Denise Hughes (consultant)

There are five opportunities for you to attend this webinar. All the dates cover the same presentation and

information. Choose the date that works best for you or attend as many as you like, especially if you've given the new service some thought or have shared the information with others who may be interested and have new questions you'd like answered. All of these options can be found on the [webinars page](#).

Option 1:

Date: September 24, 2026

Time: 4:00 p.m. (Eastern)

Register [here](#).

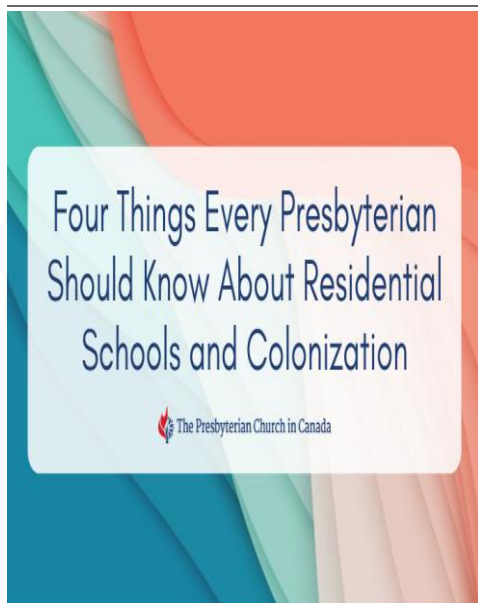
Other dates:

October 14 - 3:00 p.m. (Eastern)

November 4 - 3:00 p.m. (Eastern)

January 8 - 3:00 p.m. (Eastern)

February 8 - 12:00 p.m. (Eastern)



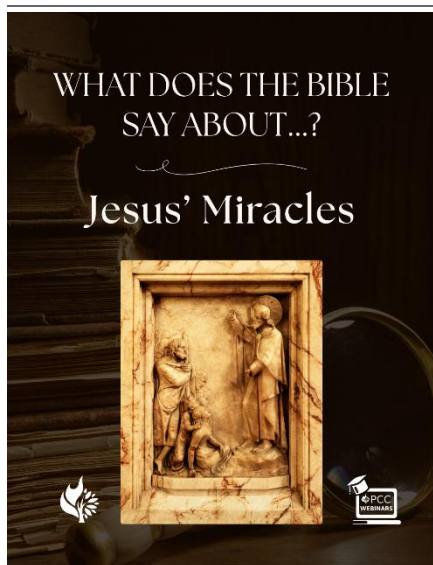
Four Things Every Presbyterian Should Know About Residential Schools

As part of the PCC's ongoing work responding to the TRC's Call to Action #59, this presentation will look at the Doctrine of Discovery, The Presbyterian Church in Canada's role in operating residential schools, the ongoing effects of colonization and residential schools, and work the PCC is doing now to support reconciliation and reparation. Dr. Allyson Carr, Associate Secretary of Justice Ministries will lead the presentation and facilitate discussion.

Date: September 24, 2026

Time: 3:00 p.m. (Eastern)

Register [here](#).



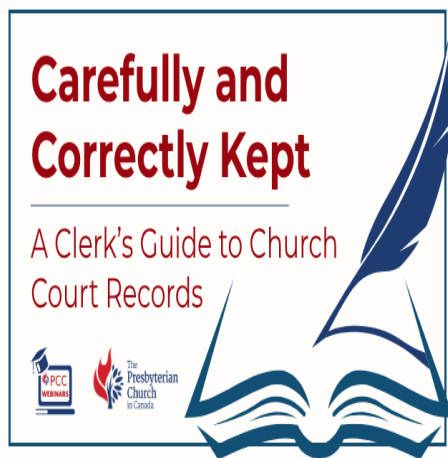
What Does the Bible Say About...? Jesus' Miracles

What Does the Bible Say About...? is a new series of short discussions on different topics of interest for today's church. The first in the series is *Jesus' Miracles*, which explores the remarkable activities of Jesus as reported in the four gospels, with attention to the cultural context and impact of Jesus' actions. The webinar will allow for Q & A. A study sheet will be available following the webinar.

Date: September 23, 2026

Time: 3:00 p.m. (Eastern)

Learn more and register [here](#).



Carefully and Correctly Kept: A Clerk's Guide to Church Court Records

The Presbyterian Church in Canada's Deputy Clerk, the Rev. Jeffrey Murray, will guide new clerks and others needing a refresher on record-keeping through the process. This webinar is aimed at new clerks and those needing a refresher, and it will provide an overview of record-keeping, including taking meeting minutes.

Date: September 28, 2026

Time: 1:00 p.m. (Eastern)

Register [here](#).



Leading With Care: Facilities

Leading with Care helps ministries notice and address safety risks, including risks to physical safety. This webinar will take a closer look at the process of reviewing facilities, some common safety concerns in and outside of church buildings and suggestions for improvements.

There will be time for participants to ask questions about facility checks and physical safety. Visit presbyterian.ca/safety to download and review Leading with Care prior to the webinar.

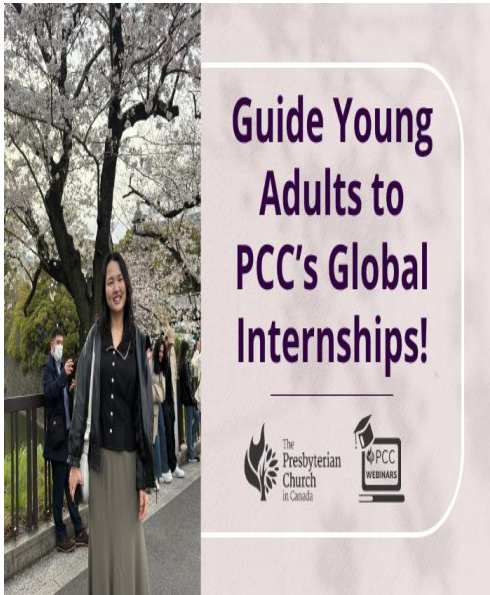
Leaders:

The Rev. Ian Ross-McDonald, General Secretary, Life and Mission Agency
Carragh Erhardt, Program Coordinator, Sexuality and Inclusion

Date: October 1, 2026

Time: 3:00 p.m. (Eastern)

Register [here](#).



Guide Young Adults to PCC's Global Internships!

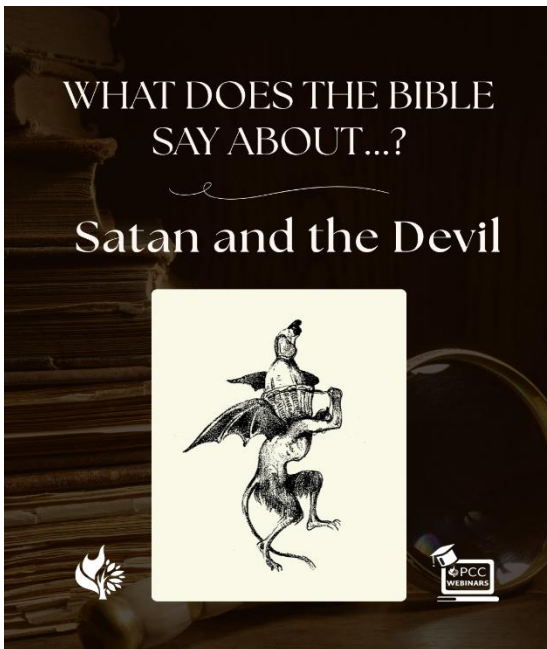
Young adults can be enriched and enrich The Presbyterian Church in Canada through exposure to other cultures and faith communities in a global context. Meet Sophia Kim, the young adult intern who spent 6 months in Japan working for the Korean Christian Church in Japan, as she shares her formative experiences. We will also introduce some of the opportunities provided by the PCC for young adults between 19 and 30 years old. This webinar is intended for leaders who work with young adults (ministers, youth group leaders). A webinar in November is designed for young adults themselves to explore these opportunities.

Date: October 6, 2026

Time: 12:00 p.m. (Eastern)

Register [here](#).

What Does the Bible Say About...? Satan and the Devil



The second webinar in the “What Does the Bible Say About...?” series is Satan and the Devil, which explores the views of the person and work of Satan/the devil across the Hebrew Bible and through the New Testament writings. The webinar will allow for Q & A and a study sheet will be available following the webinar.

Date: October 7, 2026

Time: 3:00 p.m. (Eastern)

Learn more and register [here](#).



Safe Church: Implementing Harassment Policies

This webinar will review the principles of The Presbyterian Church in Canada's harassment policies and how to implement them in ministries and courts of the church.

Presenters:

Carragh Erhardt, Program Coordinator, Sexuality and Inclusion

Tim Purvis, Associate Secretary of Ministry and Church Vocations

Ian Ross-McDonald, General Secretary of the Life and Mission Agency

Date: October 15, 2026

Time: 3:00 p.m. (Eastern)

Register [here](#).

From Ideas to Impact: Bringing your Ministry Vision to Life

Every ministry begins with an idea. Join Jennifer Astop, Senior Program Coordinator of Congregational and Community Ministries, to hear inspiring stories of congregations and ministries that have turned creative ideas into meaningful ministry in their communities with the help of PCC grants. The Rev. Dr. Konnie Vissers, Executive Director of Rooted: Centre for Theology and Eco-Justice, will share how grant funding has helped Rooted expand its community gardens and orchards, offer environmental education and summer programming for children, and grow its ministry of food security and care of the earth. Julianna Kwon, a grant recipient from London Korean Presbyterian Church, will share her experience of developing outdoor concerts, knitting and choir ministries, as well as her journey through the grant application process. Together, these stories will highlight the many ways grant funding can help bring a ministry vision to life. You'll leave with new ideas, practical tips and inspiration to explore what might be possible in your own congregation.

Date: Thursday, October 19, 2026

Time: 12:00 - 1:00 p.m. (Eastern)

Registration [here](#).

What Does the Bible Say About...? Hell and Heaven



The next webinar in the series is "Hell and Heaven" which explores the views and language about the afterlife, reward and punishment in the biblical writings. There will be time for Q&A. A study sheet will be available after the webinar.

Date: October 21, 2026

Time: 3:00 p.m. (Eastern)

Learn more and register [here](#).

EVENTS

2026 Canadian Society of Presbyterian History Conference

Are you interested in Presbyterian history? If so, you are invited to attend the Canadian Society of Presbyterian History's annual conference on Saturday, September 26 at Knox College in Toronto, or online via Zoom. The conference includes a variety of exciting papers, as well as a special panel on Canadian Presbyterian Lucy Maud Montgomery and the Ontario Soccer Hall of Fame plaque unveiling for Knox College's 1878 championship-winning soccer team.

Date: Saturday, September 26, 2026

Time: 9:30 a.m. (Eastern)

Find out more [here](#).

Contact secretary@csph.ca to register.



APCE Annual Event

The purpose of the Association of Partners in Christian Education, Inc. is to advance educational ministries in the Church and increase the ongoing witness of our faith in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

The APCE Annual Event will be held in Portland, Oregon from January 27-30, 2027, either in-person at the Marriott Downtown Waterfront or via Annual Event Online. Each day, we will look at different questions we ask ourselves about how we do the ministry of Christian education,

moving through the breath, sinews, flesh, and spirit of this collective ministry in the world we live in.

Find out more [here](#).

Bursaries are available to help PCC participants attend. Please visit the [Christian Education webpage](#) or email faithformation@presbyterian.ca for more information.

OPPORTUNITIES



New Deadline: October 1 for Grant Applications

Looking for funding to support your ministry idea? The Presbyterian Church in Canada has moved the fall grant application deadline forward. Applications for both our main program funds and the Supporting Ministry Grants (which help supplement a minister's stipend) are now due by **October 1**. Please mark this date on your calendar.

To view the full list of funding opportunities available through the PCC, click [here](#) or contact [Jennifer Astop](#) for more information.

Let's Stay Connected

Looking for information about PCC events, webinars, resources and more? We regularly post news items on our [website](#) and share information on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).

If you haven't already, please follow or like our social media accounts (Facebook, Instagram and YouTube), and engage with our content! Comment on, like or share our posts.

Remember, we are also a direct message, email or phone call away. The most important thing is to stay connected.



Atlantic Mission Society: <https://pccweb.ca/ams>

Women's Missionary Society: www.wmspcc.ca

Crieff Hills Retreat Centre: www.crieffhills.com

Presbyterian College: <https://presbyteriancollege.ca>

Vancouver School of Theology: <https://vst.edu>

Knox College: <https://knox.utoronto.ca>

- Knox College Ministry Forum: <https://ministryforum.ca>

St. Andrew's Hall: www.standrews.edu

- St. Andrew's Hall Centre for Missional Leadership Ministry: <https://thecml.ca>

Presbyterian Camps

A complete directory of PCC Camps can be found here: www.presbyterian.ca/contact/camping/

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