



Spring 2014



Calling Lakes **ECHO**

**Marleen Naumetz -
Celebrating 40 years**



Come and join the board and staff of Calling Lakes Centre as we celebrate Marleen Naumetz's forty years of service to the Centre. Marleen, our Food Services Coordinator, starting working in the kitchen in 1974

and is now looking forward to retirement in the fall of 2014.

The event will take place in the afternoon on June 9th and will end with supper at 5:30 p.m. We will be sending out further details via email.

Annual General Meeting – June 9, 2014

The 2014 Annual General Meeting of Calling Lakes Centre will take place June 9, 2014 at 7 p.m. All friends of the Centre are welcome. Also, please feel free to join us for Marleen's party in the afternoon and/or supper at 5:30p.m.

Celebration of Remembrance – Fall 2014

The board of Calling Lakes Centre is considering an on-site event for the Fall of 2014 to mark the ending of on-site operations. Watch for further details as our plans progress.

**This Ancient Love –
Celebrating Calling Lakes**

**Tues, Jun 10(6pm supper) to
Wednesday, June 11(4pm) Or
Friday, June 13(6pm supper) to
Saturday, June 14 (4pm)**

*In one of Carolyn McDade's hymns we sing:
Long before the night was born from
the darkness
Long before the dawn was rolled
unsteady from the fire
Long before she wrapped her scarlet
arms around the hills
There was a love this ancient love
was born.*

We are inviting you to come to Calling Lakes Centre this spring to experience, once again, the loving embrace of the hills of the Qu'Appelle Valley. Come and be filled with the spirit of this place as you remember all the ways that this Centre has been a part your life.

We will gather as community on the first evening to open ourselves to this experience and again on the following afternoon to share our thoughts and prayers before we leave. The rest of the time will be yours to explore the valley and connect with the ancient love that was here even before the hills were formed and will still be here long after we are gone.

(Cost of this Event including meals & accommodation : \$75/person)



Dear Friends of Calling Lakes Centre

With deep sadness, the Calling Lakes Centre Board made the following motions at its April 1, 2014 meeting:

- 1. That the operations of Calling Lakes Centre cease as of December 31, 2014.**
- 2. That, as a board, we begin the process of dissolving Calling Lakes Centre (legally known as Prairie Christian Training Centre) as a non-profit organization.**

Following the ratification of these decisions by our membership, **Calling Lakes Centre will permanently close its doors at the end of 2014.** We will no longer be offering any programming, on-site or off-site after the end of 2014. The land, the buildings and their contents will be sold, debts will be paid and the remaining funds will be disbursed.

Calling Lakes Centre (PCTC) Board had hoped to build a new facility with permanent housing and an educational retreat centre included. This would have required some financial support from all courts of The United Church into the year 2015 to allow time for feasibility studies for both aspects of the project. This financial support is not available to us. Given the financial constraints that The United Church finds itself in at this time, we accept this reality with regret.

Appreciation For Calling Lakes Centre Staff

As a result of these changes we will be saying **farewell to many of our valued staff members.** In the midst of challenging times, they have offered resources, support and dedication. What has been offered has been life-changing for many of us. We hope you will take the time to contact present and former staff by telephone, e mail or send cards to express your appreciation for what they have given to Calling Lakes Centre and to the wider church over many years. There cannot be too many words of appreciation expressed!

Programming for the Remainder of 2014

On-site programming and hosted events will continue until mid-August 2014. In the fall programs such as **Prairie Labyrinth Pilgrimage, Ministry of Church Office Workers and Courage & Renewal Retreats** will be offered in off-site locations. Watch our website for more information.

Over the next few months we will be working with the staff at the General Council Office to facilitate the transition of the **Designated Lay Ministry Diploma Program** to another United Church educational institution.

Financial Support Required to the End of 2014

We will continue to rely on your generous donations to cover the cost of operations to the end of 2014. These costs will include salaries for on-site staff who will be administering programming, handling communications, completing closure tasks and providing site supervision in the fall of 2014.

Saying Goodbye to Calling Lakes Centre

The land and buildings of Calling Lakes Centre have been a gift to the people of the United Church. This inheritance has transformed the lives of many and we are grateful. This is a time to both celebrate what has been and to mourn the loss of this sacred place in our church and our lives. The board is working to provide opportunities for all of us to say good bye to the Centre. Watch for emails and other communications over the next few months.

The sorrow of closing loved and sacred spaces is known to many in our church as times change - even so, we dwell in an abundance of grace, freely given. May that blessing nurture and guide us as we move forward together.

Sincerely,

Margaret McKechney
Acting Chairperson
Calling Lakes Board of Directors
margaret.mckechney@sasktel.net



Calling Lakes Centre

...where the Spirit calls

Box 159 Fort Qu'Appelle SK S0G 1S0
306-332-5691 www.callinglakes.ca

