



BEING TRANSFORMED
by the Renewing of Our Minds

**2026 Shining Waters
Regional Council Meeting**

October 23 - 24, 2026
New Beginnings United Church and Online

TIPS FOR USING ZOOM

September 8, 2026

JOINING THE MEETING

- **MEETING LINK** Your link to the meeting will be emailed to you after you register. There will be a reminder email the morning of the meeting that also includes the link. This is the only link that you will need to access the meeting.
- **ARRIVAL TIMES** Friday: sign in to the meeting by 8:45 a.m. (EDT) or earlier. You will arrive in the waiting room and be admitted closer to the start of the meeting. You will be muted upon entry. There will be a brief review of Zoom and how to vote during the meeting at that time. The Call to Order is at 9:00 a.m.
Saturday: sign in to the meeting by 8:44 a.m. You will arrive in the waiting room and be admitted at 8:55 a.m. The Call to Order is at 9:00 a.m.
Celebration of Ministries Service: After the meeting has ended in Zoom on Saturday afternoon, we will switch to our YouTube channel to watch the livestream which will start at 6:30 p.m.
- **YOUR NAME** Check that your name appears correctly in the participant list (see below). The MORE button beside your name allows you to rename yourself. Corresponding and non-voting participants please add a "Z" in front of your name to help with scrutineering.
- **AUDIO** When you join the meeting, you will be asked about connecting audio. It is easiest to join by computer audio unless your computer does not have speakers. If you have trouble with your audio you may also connect by phone with the number in your invitation. Remember to use the toll-free number for long-distance calls. If you use a cordless phone, please be sure it has enough charge to last the duration of the meeting, and/or charge your phone during the breaks.
- **VIDEO** For this meeting you will not need to start your own video (webcam) unless you are going to speak. At the beginning of the meeting it may be nice to "see" everyone,

but once the meeting is underway it is best for all video to be off apart from the presenters. For best viewing please change to “Speaker View” and/or “Side by Side” at the top of the video panel of your screen.

- **RECORDING THE MEETING** This meeting will be recorded and posted to our regional website and YouTube channel. If this is concerning to you, you may not wish to turn on your video camera.

PARTICIPATING

- **PARTICIPANTS PANEL AND CHAT** Open both the Participants Panel and the Chat box on the Zoom toolbar (diagram below).
- **LISTEN ONLY** For the majority of this meeting you will likely only need to listen to those presenting.
- **SPEAKING** Staff will be monitoring the Participants Panel and the Chat box. Please signal your desire to be added to the speaker’s list by raising your digital (not your real) hand by selecting the Reactions button and clicking the Raise Hand button from the options listed. When you are recognized by the President, unmute your microphone to be heard. In the event there is some issue with sound, you may type in the chat box. Please don’t lower your hand, we will do that for you.
- **POINT OF ORDER** To raise a point of order raise your hand, and type “PT OF ORDER” in the chat, so that the President can adjust the speaker’s order accordingly

VOTING

- **ELIGIBILITY** Only elected Lay Regional Representatives and Ministry Personnel are eligible to vote. If you are not a voting member please put an “z” before your name – this way the scrutineers can see the votes more easily.
- **VOTING BY ZOOM POLL:** We will be voting on motions using the Zoom poll. Voting will be done by following the instructions from the Chairperson.
- **VOTE BY PHONE:** Voting representatives participating on the phone will vote by pressing *9 when the Chairperson calls for you to vote by phone and this will raise your hand in the Participants Panel.
- **RE-OPEN THE PARTICIPANT AND CHAT PANELS:** Note: When the host shares their screen (ie: with the agenda or a proposal) the program will put you into full screen mode and you will lose the chat and participant panels. To get these back click “Chat” and “Participant” on the Zoom toolbar (usually at the top of your screen). They will reappear in the centre of your screen but you can move them to the side by clicking on the top of the pod and dragging it over.

- **TWO VOTES:** If two people are joined from the same household one person can vote by poll. The second person can add their vote by typing Yes or No or Abstain in the chat and directing.

CHAT

- **LIMITED:** Chat is limited for this meeting to minimize distractions, and you are only able to chat with the hosts and co-hosts

HELP AND SUPPORT

- See the Zoom tutorials on our website for general information about using Zoom <https://shiningwatersregionalcouncil.ca/communities-of-faith/zoom-video-conferencing/>
- If the meeting suddenly closes, go back to the e-mail with the link and re-join.
- Turn your video off if your connection becomes unstable. You will still be able to see and hear without your video.
- Staff are monitoring the chat for questions and to help troubleshoot, but our capacity to help you may be limited.
- If you cannot locate the meeting link, e-mail Diane Matheson-Jimenez at dmatheson@united-church.ca . Please be patient as she may be assisting other delegates.

QUICK LINKS

Regional Meeting SWC website – meeting documents, workbook, and related information
<https://shiningwatersregionalcouncil.ca/about/regional-meetings/2026-regional-meeting/>

Please note that some icons on the Zoom Toolbar shown below may appear slightly different depending on the device you are viewing on and what version of Zoom your device is using.

ZOOM TOOLBAR

Audio Settings
Leave computer audio
Enable Original sound -
musicians only

Open Participants
Panel to access
voting/ or to request
to speak

Open the Chat
panel to request
to speak or to
ask a question

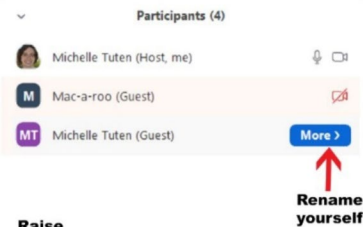
Sometimes your screen size is
too small for the full toolbar to
show. Check the More Panel to
find more or missing options.



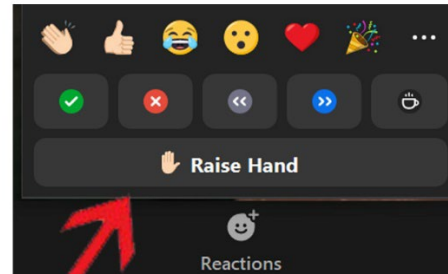
→ PARTICIPANTS PANEL

Opens by
clicking
Participants
on the Zoom
Tool Bar

Participants (2)



REACTIONS PANEL



Opens by clicking Reactions
on the Zoom Tool bar.

We will be using the Raise Hand
button to vote.

→ CHAT PANEL

Opens by
clicking
Chat
on the Zoom
Tool Bar

Choose the
person you
want to address.
In our meeting
only Chat
with Host
is allowed.

Use chat to put
your name on
the speaker's list,
raise a point of
order or abstain.

Save Chat
by clicking
... and it
creates a
file on your
computer

