



EOORC News

Wednesday, March 25, 2020

EDITOR'S NOTE

What a difference two weeks make in this time of a global health crisis. So much has happened with something new to report daily. I have tried not to inundate you with emails containing the latest COVID-19 information and I hope you have gleaned necessary information from the COVID-19 [webpage](#) on our website. Please continue to check this page regularly. Please see the important news about the EOORC Annual Meeting below.

I've updated the [online worship](#) page on the website. If you want your community of faith added, please send me an email with the link to your worship service.

Thanks, and stay healthy!

Anita ajansman@united-church.ca

EOORC ANNUAL MEETING NEWS

In the past few weeks, the EOORC executive has been discussing the pandemic, taking votes and trying to secure another date and place for the [Annual Meeting](#). A decision was reached yesterday that the meeting is postponed until **October 16 and 17, 2020**. Further, the executive confirmed that the meeting will be held at the Nav Centre in Cornwall. The Celebration of Ministry will be held at Knox-St. Paul's United Church, Cornwall on Saturday evening October 17, 2020.

The current Executive will continue to provide leadership until the October elections have been conducted. More information will be forthcoming once life settles down and the planning team has made adjustments. Questions about registration can be directed to ajansman@united-church.ca.

MORE INFORMATION

- [COVID-19](#)
- [Online Worship](#)
- ***** NEW ***** [Events](#)
- ***** NEW ***** [Jobs](#)
- [Add Lay Reps to the Directory](#)
- [Add your own event](#)



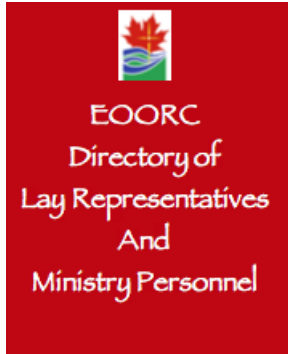
LOOKING FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH ACTIVITIES?

The [Go Project](#) is offering daily virtual camp. [More information.](#)

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CANCELLED WORKSHOPS

Pastoral Relations Workshop – Sat, April 18, 2020 and **Ministry & Personnel Workshop** – Sat, April 18, 2020. These workshops will be rescheduled at a future date.



THE EOORC DIRECTORY OF LAY REPRESENTATIVES & CLERGY

Please be sure to fill out the [form](#) that will become the directory of lay representatives and clergy. There are still many communities of faith who have not filled out the form. We want to include everyone in the EOORC.



2020 CAMP JOBS!

New jobs have been posted to the website including Chaplains, Counsellors and Cooks. Have a [look!](#)

CALLING ALL EOORC CLUSTERS AND NETWORKS!

As we explore new ways to connect in response to Covid-19, this is a good time to check in with what is happening with clusters and networks around the region. I know there are many new groups already coming together, as well as many areas of shared interest where more new groups might form. It may also be that our new “social distancing” reality has kick-started a whole new approach to clusters and networks previously unimagined.

Whatever the circumstances, I would love to hear from you if:

- 1) you are part of a cluster or network that is taking shape
- 2) you have an idea for a potential cluster or network and would like to connect with others who share this interest

Don't worry if you aren't sure whether your group or idea is a cluster or a network or something in between, whether it is large or small or whether it is intended to meet a short-term goal or be a connection that builds and lasts. The most important thing is to get a picture of how people are connecting and how we can best work together to support these emerging possibilities.

If you are already part of a cluster or network please provide a brief description of what is happening and who is involved (with contact information so I can get back to you).

If you have an idea for a cluster or network please let me know who and where you are and what your idea is, so I can connect you with others who share this interest.

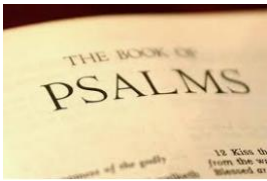
After I hear from people (by [May 15, 2020](#)), there are a number of things that can be done to share these stories and ideas more widely:

- 1) organize a schedule of (online) sessions where you can share your cluster or network idea with anyone who is interested (people without a computer can connect by phone)
- 2) compile a regional list of information gathered and make this available through the EOORC website or newsletter
- 3) add this regional information to a national cluster and network database being compiled by the EDGE Network for Ministry Development
- 4) set some time aside at the Regional Meeting (possibly during one of the lunches) for people who share a common interest to gather face-to-face to build momentum and explore next steps.

Contact Jane Dawson: jdawson@united-church.ca, 1-800-268-3781 ext. 6245

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TWO ONLINE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES



Jane Dawson is offering two workshops online: **Praying the Psalms** and **Opening the Book**. [More information](#)

NEED ANOTHER WAY TO MEET?

zoom

If you're looking for a way for your pastoral charges and communities of faith to meet during the COVID-19 crisis, consider getting a Zoom account. You can [sign up](#) for an account for as little as \$20 a month.

SHARE YOUR STORY



As we respond collectively to the Covid-19 crisis, many communities of faith are coming together to support each other and continue ministering in the new reality. The building may be closed but church is open. God is with us. We are not alone.

Sharing our stories is one more vital way of building community. If you have a story you would like to share about your community of faith's response to Covid-19, the **EDGE Network** has created a form for story gathering. They are looking for stories of persistence, innovation and inspiration as we continue to "be the church" in these extraordinary times. [Submit](#) your story or contact Tyson Gofton (tgofton@united-church.ca) for more information.

NEWS FROM THE GENERAL COUNCIL OFFICE

United in Learning is offering two new timely workshops



[Ministry with Children and Youth During the Pandemic](#)

In these times of social and physical distancing, we need to find new ways to imagine how we minister with children and youth. What are their spiritual needs? What kinds of faith formation can we offer from our homes? How can we continue to be "church" with the folks we serve even as the tools we're used to using are unavailable to us.



[Congregational Finances During the Pandemic](#)

The requirement to self-isolate and socially distance ourselves is an important part of keeping Canadians safe, but there's lots of anxiety across the church about the impact this is having on our congregational finances. Let's together ensure that our congregations have the financial resources they need to offer ministry that matters in these strange and trying times.



E-ssentials

The latest issue of [E-ssentials](#) features more stories about the COVID-19 virus and online worship.

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