



EOORC

News

Wednesday, August 19, 2020

EDITOR'S NOTE

It's hard to believe I'm writing this in mid-August. Where has the summer gone? Before we know it, we'll be gearing up for all sorts of new beginnings that the month of September always brings. This fall will be different and likely be clouded with uncertainty as we carefully plan our fall events during the ongoing pandemic.

Speaking of events, I would like to make an appeal to everyone in the EOORC who is reading this. In September, I will be sending out new information about the **EOORC Annual Meeting, which is taking place online on October 16 – 17, 2020**. Now, more than ever, I need to reach every member of the EOORC. I know nearly 700 people receive this newsletter and I also know that some people in various communities of faith make copies of it and give them to those in their congregations who do not have access to a computer. This is much appreciated. But there are still some throughout the EOORC who have never seen a copy of this newsletter and have likely never had contact with anyone in any official manner from the EOORC. This is truly unfortunate.

So, I am going to request again that someone in each community of faith be designated to seek out those people who don't use a computer and provide them with a copy of EOORC news every second week when it comes out. This is a gesture of kindness that will help not only the recipients but will also strengthen the EOORC.

In addition, as we begin plans for a successful online meeting, please give some thought as to how you can help people in your community attend the meeting from people's homes or from your church halls with physical distancing guidelines in place. This will be a very important aspect of the online meeting and I hope you will embrace it. The planning committee is working hard to bring you entertaining videos and informative workshops, so I hope every effort is made to ensure anyone who wants to attend will be able to do so.

Thank you so much for helping the members in your community of faith, and for helping me in my communications efforts. Stay safe and healthy!

Anita ajansman@united-church.ca

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PLANNING TO REOPEN YOUR CHURCH FOR WORSHIP?

By Rev Whitman Strong

Just a friendly reminder to everyone that the EOORC Executive has asked pastoral charges to submit a "REOPENING PLAN" at least two weeks prior to the proposed reopening date. This plan needs to include the details of use of the building, seating arrangements for worship, ushering, entrance and exit plans, sanitizing, etc. In mid-June an email to this effect went out to all ministry personnel which contained many resources for developing your reopening plan. It is also available on EOORC website. To date, less than half of our pastoral charges have submitted a plan. When you have your plan developed please submit it to the EOORC Executive at wstrong@united-church.ca.

MORE INFORMATION

- [COVID-19](#)
- [Online Worship](#)
- ***** NEW ***** [Job posting](#)
- [Add your own \(online\) event](#)

If your Community of Faith is not planning to reopen any time soon, please let us know so that we can take note of this. Whether you are reopening or not, this is still a good time to develop a "Reopening Plan" which outlines all precautionary steps that will be taken even if you are not planning to reopen for some time. Thanks for your cooperation in keeping everyone safe and healthy.

Please have a look at another resource from Ottawa Public Health: [COVID-19 Guidance For Places Of Worship](#)



MULTIFAITH HOUSING INITIATIVE (MHI)



Mark your calendars! In mid-September 2020, EOORC and Multifaith Housing Initiative (MHI) are releasing a special Sunday service package highlighting veterans' homelessness. This service -- which churches can use on any Sunday of their choosing -- is an opportunity for your congregation to learn more about Multifaith Housing and to contribute financially toward the EOORC goal (to be set in October '20 at the AGM) to support MHI - Veterans' House.

This veterans' homelessness service – developed in partnership with Canadian Armed Forces Chaplain Andrew Love – will be available on the EOORC website in mid-September. The service was designed as "pandemic proof" as possible, to be used by congregations this coming church year 2020/21. It can be used regardless of whether you plan to host services in person, via pre-recorded video, or via online live streaming. This veterans' service is also easily customized by each congregation. Stay tuned for the prepared materials, which will include the service text in MS Word format, opening and postlude music, images, and several videos, as well as instructions on how to navigate the pieces of the service to suit your congregation's unique situation and technical capacity.

The kit will also include information on how your church/pastoral charge can get further involved in supporting MHI's Veterans' House project, set to open in January 2021. For congregation leaders currently scheduling their Sunday services for 2020/21: We'd be very grateful if you would consider **setting aside one Sunday this coming year** to host a service for homeless veterans. Stay tuned for more info! To learn more about Multifaith Housing Initiative, please visit www.multifaithhousing.ca. For technical info about the materials, email communications@multifaithhousing.ca

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SOUTH GLOUCESTER UNITED CHURCH

is hosting an Electronic Recycle Fundraiser on Saturday September 19th, from 9 am to 4 pm at the church. [More information](#)



MARRIAGE LICENCES

A [letter](#) from the Ontario's Deputy Registrar about Marriage Licence Validity Period during the time of COVID-19 describes amendments that have been made to extend the three-month validity period.



United Church Rural Ministry Network

www.UCRMN.ca

“Connecting rural stories with rural people across Canada”

UNITED CHURCH RURAL MINISTRY NETWORK

Rural Ministry Network [E-News](#) Summer 2020 is now available.

Rural Ministry colleagues: please subscribe to the United Church Rural Ministry Network [website](#).



CAMP LAU-REN [The Rock](#) Summer 2020 is now available.

JOB OPENING

Kanata United Church is seeking **Ministry with Children, Youth & Families (CYF) Position (Half-time)**. [More information](#)



UNITED THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE

UTC To Sell Building in Bold Action to Advance Its Mission. [More Information](#)

NEWS FROM THE GENERAL COUNCIL OFFICE



E-ssentials

The August 18, 2020 issue of [E-ssentials](#) is now available. This issue features an appeal for help for the devastation in Lebanon, information about church re-opening, and more.

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