



EOORC News

Wednesday, May 3, 2023

The bi-weekly newsletter of the Eastern Ontario Outaouais Regional Council

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2023 EOORC Annual General Meeting

May 26 – 27, 2023

Brockville Memorial Centre, Brockville, ON

Friday 9:00 am. – 8:00 p.m.

(registration begins at 8:15 a.m.)

Saturday 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.



Guest Speaker: Rev. Michael Blair
General Secretary, United Church of Canada

REGISTER TODAY

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SETTING OUR SIGHTS! STRATEGIC PLANNING GROUP

By Paul Dillman, Chair of Setting Our Sights

The Eastern Ontario Outaouais Regional Council has established a Strategic Planning group to lead the Regional Council in a process of reviewing the General Council Strategic Plan for 2023-2025 and shaping how the national plan fits with the needs and work of EOORC. This process in EOORC is called *Setting Our Sights*.

Eight people have been named to the Task Group: Cindy Casey (Kanata United, Ottawa), Liz Church (Portland), David Clemis (Orleans United, Ottawa), Paul Dillman (Riverside United, Ottawa), Mary Ruth Endicott (McKay United, Ottawa), Kimberly Heath (Wall St. United, Brockville), Sharon MacDonald (Sharbot Lake) and Mary Royal-Duczek (Almonte). Éric Hébert-Daly and Peter Bartlett are offering staff support.

The *Setting Our Sights* task group has met twice by Zoom and are working on designing a process which will include time at the May 26-27 AGM meeting in Brockville.

The acronym for this group is SOS and that helps us to remember the urgency of this work as we respond to the General Council plan, but also as we discern God's call amidst the changing landscape of the church and the needs of our communities and world. What can we do together to support renewal in communities of faith? How can we make an impact on priority justice needs. How can we support and transform our models of leadership?

For those of you interested in seeing the national strategic plan adopted by the GCO, you can find all the documents here: [Our Call and Our Vision | The United Church of Canada \(united-church.ca\)](#)

If you have any comments or questions, contact any member of the group, or Paul Dillman at rucrev@rogers.com phone: 613-733-7735.

FROM THE VISION AND TRANSFORMATION LEADERSHIP TEAM

by Janice Peron, Member of Vision and Transformation

More good news and exciting possibilities from Vision and Transformation application grants recommended in April. I cannot forget the button maker. As a widely spread-out region, it can be a challenge to take advantage of tools available in only one place. The Inverary Battersea youth cluster would like to purchase a button maker to network, promote voices for pride, clean water and so on, and explore questions of faith.

The Rural United Ministry will use a series of stories, supported by an professional story teller, to connect its diverse membership and consider their roles to meet community needs.

The House of Lazarus is an outstanding outreach organization serving the Grenville, Dundas and Stormont counties through a myriad of programs. "Getting Ahead in Just Getting-By World" is going to use investigation and discussion to better understand the causes of poverty. Then it is mean to help participants to understand their unique situations and envision what life could be like.

Sometimes it just takes a logo to bring folks together. Osgoode -Kars united has recently amalgamated. A new logo will create identical signage for each church building. A local artist will create a quilt that connects the history of each church. The logo will be reproduced in many formats.

And then there is the Elgin United Church which last year reached out to youth of the community with speakers, snacks, bussing, movies and so much more. This year they would formalize the relationship with the North Leeds Youth Council recognizing the funding cut from United Way. Elgin will continue to partner and fundraise to support this new ministry. Next there are the 2nd and 3rd years of multiple year grants in progress. Several of the current applications represented multiyear proposals. Note that proposals up to 3 years can be accepted.

Have you already received a grant? Please tell us your story. Did it work as planned? What were the lessons learned? Did one of these grant stories spark your dreams of what your community of faith could undertake? Maybe you have a completely different project in mind? We look forward to hearing from you in the fall.

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From the desk of
**Rev. Whit
Strong** Minister
for Pastoral
Relations



1. **Are you available for Sunday Supply?** The Pastoral Relations Commission is compiling/updating a list of ministry personnel who are available to do occasional Sunday Supply.
2. **Pastoral Relations Liaisons:** At any given time, we have a number of Pastoral Charges who are experiencing a change in pastoral relations. In their search for a new minister, it is necessary for them to be accompanied through this process by a Pastoral Charge Liaison whose role it is to assist in the creation of a vacancy profile for *ChurchHub*, as well as participating in the actual search. We are currently short of people available to journey with congregations as they look for a new minister. If you would like to know more about what is entailed in serving the Regional Council in this capacity, we would love to hear from you. Initial training and ongoing support is always available.
3. **Sacraments Elders:** Communities of Faith who are expecting to be without a called or appointed minister for an extended period of time are invited to consider having a suitable person from within your congregation be trained and licenced as a Sacraments Elder.
4. **Pastoral Charge Supervisors:** Pastoral Charges who are without called or appointed ministry personnel are required to have a Pastoral Charge Supervisor. A reminder to those Communities of Faith who currently have a PC Supervisor, it is EOORC policy that you reimburse them for the time they are with you in meetings at a rate of \$30/hour (including any travel time), plus \$.55/km for travel. Ministry Personnel within EOORC are invited to offer themselves to serve in this important capacity.
5. **Is your Community of Faith searching for a new minister?** Pastoral Charges who are in search for a new minister must work with a Pastoral Relations Liaison. A reminder to those who are currently in this situation, it is EOORC policy that the pastoral charge reimburse the PR Liaison for travel at a rate of \$.55/km.

For more information about any of the items above, please contact Rev. Whit Strong, EOORC Pastoral Relations Minister. wstrong@united-Church.ca

Rainbow Refugee Project

Trinity United Church, Ottawa, in partnership with Capital Rainbow Refuge, has embarked on a sponsorship of a transgender woman from East Africa. Worldwide, this community is in constant threat of persecution, violence and death. Of all refugees, those who identify as transgender could be considered most vulnerable. Canada is one of the few nations that accepts LCBTQ2S as a category for refugee asylum. Trinity United Church is committed to raising \$20,000 as our share in bring "Hope" to Canada and a new life. Any support is appreciated. [More information](#)

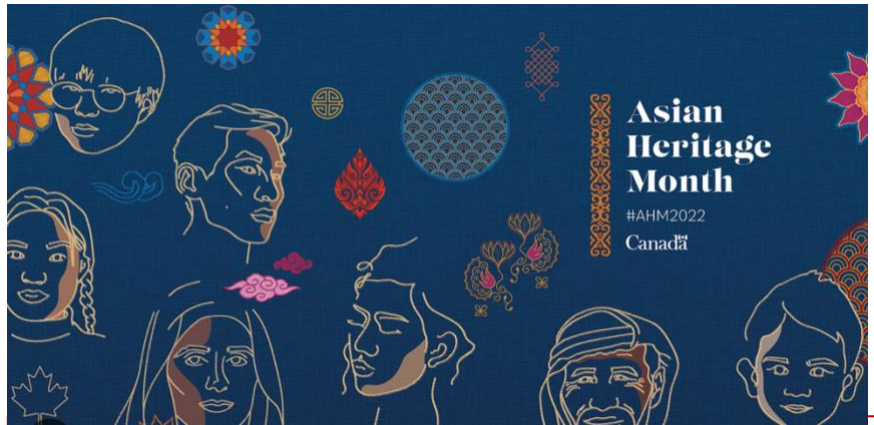
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Doris Mary Falt

Sept. 3, 1934 – Apr. 14, 2023

Doris Mary Falt (nee Naves) September 3, 1934-April 14, 2023. Doris was a long-time member of Almonte United Church and Renfrew Presbytery. She served as the treasurer of Renfrew Presbytery for many years. She also worked at Stewart House, the United Church Education Centre that used to be in Pakenham. Read [obituary](#).



ASIAN HERITAGE MONTH

By Barbara Reynolds, Pastoral Charge Supervisor, (OCUC)

The celebration of May as Asian Heritage Month begins this week. Officially recognized in Canada since 2002, this is a time to prayerfully reflect on the contributions of Asian Canadians to Canadian society. In EOORC, we remember with gratitude the congregation of Ottawa Chinese United Church (OCUC), a member of the United Church for the past 60 years. As the pastoral charge supervisor for this church, I would like to draw your attention to the numerous worship resources for Asian Heritage month that are available on the United Church [website](#). In addition to full services, there are numerous videos and blogs that could be used during worship.

EOORC
Celebration Of Ministries

**CELEBRATION OF MINISTRIES SERVICE
VIDEO NOW AVAILABLE**

The service that took place on Saturday, April 15th can be viewed [HERE](#).

FECHQ Project
AUG 14-18 2023
YOUTH GRADE 9-12
(AGES 13-18)



FAITH THAT ECHOES BACK!
 An overnight, week-long journey for youth

Visit Kanata United Church [website](#) for more information

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News from the General Council Office

Remit 1: Establishing an Autonomous National Indigenous Organization

The remit materials went out around March 10, and they were sent to everyone. If you haven't you're your remit materials, here are a few suggestions that have helped with other people have initially thought they didn't receive the materials:

- check your junk email folders.
- re-check the links in the email itself. A few people didn't realize that there were actually links in the email! They said they didn't get the remit materials because they were expecting a slew of attachments. But everything they needed was in the email itself.

If you still aren't finding what they need, you can access all of the relevant information from the GC44 website:

- [English](#)
- [French](#)

There are currently no plans for the information to also be sent out in print, but people can download and print what they need from the links above. If you wanted, you could also choose to print some copies and make them available at your upcoming regional council meeting.



Centennial 2025 Deep Spirituality, Bold Discipleship, Daring Justice

The Centennial Celebrations Committee would like to hear from you.

On June 10, look for guiding principles and a form on united-church.ca inviting your thoughts—and plans—for Centennial 2025. Please share your ideas!

Ideas so far...a Canada Post Commemorative stamp, a National Worship Service(s), Centennial Editions of Moderator's Book Club, Special Print and Digital Releases...much more



E-ssentials

The [April 25th](#) issue of discusses Climate Integrity

The [May 2nd](#) issue features a story on church leaders urging MPs for stronger advocacy in Palestine and Israel

Living into Right Relations

The [April 26th](#) issue invites you to join Moose Hide Campaign Day on May 11th.



The [April 19th](#) edition offers information on the Mandatory Racial Justice workshop

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