



# EOORC News

*Wednesday, March 20, 2024*

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

## QUICK LINKS

- [Pastoral Relations Minutes](#)
- [Executive Minutes](#)
- [Jobs](#)
- [Remit Resources](#)
- [Upcoming Events](#)
  - See all the Holy Week and Easter events planned in EOORC
- [Submit an Event](#)

## IN THIS ISSUE

- Church Extension Committee
- M&P Workshop
- Greeting from Rev Tori Mullen
- Stewardship Update
- RendezVous
- Multifaith Housing
- Rural Ministry Network
- ...and more!
- News from GCO

### Applications to the Church Extension Committee

The Spring Meeting of the EOORC Church Extension Committee will be held on Zoom on MAY 1, 2024, at 2 p.m.

Submit your applications for loans or grant to: JUDY HARMS-POTTER VIA EMAIL AT [jharms.potter@gmail.com](mailto:jharms.potter@gmail.com) using the guidelines posted [HERE](#).

### Ministry & Personnel Committee Workshop Saturday, May 11 9am-12noon

This ZOOM workshop will cover all the main roles and responsibilities of the Ministry & Personnel Committee. The workshop is a repeat of the one offered in the Fall of 2023. This is an orientation workshop for those on the M&P Committee who have never taken it, new members of the M&P Committee, as well as a good refresher for everyone else. Ministry Personnel are also welcome to register for this workshop. **PLEASE NOTE** that [registration](#) is required to participate in this Zoom workshop

### LLWL News

All Ministry Personnel who are not in a call or appointment and who wish to be a Voluntary Associate Minister...

Please complete your portion of the VAM form, send it to the Community of Faith that is supporting your VAM status, and have them complete their portion of the form and return it to [wstrong@united-church.ca](mailto:wstrong@united-church.ca) as soon as possible. [VAM form 2024-25 RC-12 EN.doc \(live.com\)](#)

### REMIT 1 - Last few days to Vote!

Please, if your Community of Faith hasn't voted yet and you need assistance contact [ajansman@united-church.ca](mailto:ajansman@united-church.ca)

**Deadline is March 31<sup>st</sup>**

*EOORC News* is a bi-weekly newsletter that provides information Communities of Faith of the EOORC, published every second Wednesday. If you want an item placed in the newsletter, please send it to [ajansman@united-church.ca](mailto:ajansman@united-church.ca) by 12 noon on Tuesday the week of publication. If you do not wish to receive this weekly newsletter, please send me an email to the same address above.



Easter Greeting from  
Rev. Tori Mullin,  
Growth Animator

[2024-03 Easter Good](#)

[News – ENGLISH](#)

[2024-03 Easter Good](#)

[News FRENCH](#)

### Stewardship Update – March 2024

By Roger Janes

My Latest Stewardship Blog – [“Teamwork Makes the Stewardship Dream Work”](#)

Upcoming Stewardship Events – Spring 2024. See here: [Called to Be the Church: The Journey](#)

[Getting Started in Stewardship](#)—The place to begin! Communities of faith that start here have better success on their stewardship journey. The 90-minute session and 3 follow-up assignments get you ready to proceed to other stewardship programs. **April 10, 2024**

[Bequests and Estate Giving Spring 2024](#)—Join Jess Smith (United Church Foundation) and I for a two-session webinar on how your community of faith can set up your Planned Legacy Program and inspire and invite planned gifts. **April 24 and May 8, 2024**

**Mission and Service** – *This note from Sarah Charters (our Executive Officer of Philanthropy).* We would like to thank all the Communities of Faith who forwarded their contributions on time allowing our finance team to provide us with these numbers earlier than in previous years. We would also like to express our heartfelt appreciation for the ongoing and generous support you have given to Mission and Service.

There is good news to report. The Mission and Service contributions by Congregations, UCW and Special Donations all exceeded budget and the totals for these three areas, sitting at \$17,090,056, were slightly over the 2022 actuals of \$17,062,694. In addition, out of the 19 regions, only one was under the 2022 contributions and that was by a small amount.

The amounts raised for Mission and Service from Direct Gifts, Foundation Gifts and Legacies were below budget, as well as below the 2022 actual amounts. The total for these three areas in 2023 was \$3,741,507, which was below the 2022 actuals of \$4,069,520.

For this initial report, the total for Mission and Service from these areas was \$20,831,564. This compares favourably to the total budget of \$20,225,000 and is close to the 2022 actual amount raised of \$21,132,213.

**Book a time to talk about stewardship:** Roger Janes is your stewardship support person and is available to share resources, answer questions, or brainstorm with. Don't know where to start? Book a phone or zoom conversation with Roger today using [this link](#).

**EOORC YAYA will be attending *Rendez Vous*** in St. Catherine's, ON. at Brock University, July 3– 6, 2024

This event is for youth ages: 14-18 (High School Grades 9-12) and being held in partnership with the Presbyterian Church.

Registration cost:

Early bird registration April 15-May 15: \$425

Registration fee May 16-31: \$500

Registration closes May 31, 2024

Travel Costs: approximately \$200

Website: [Rendez-vous 2024: Audacious Hope | The United Church of Canada \(united-church.ca\)](#)

More Info: [Rendez-vous 2024: Audacious Hope brochure \(united-church.ca\)](#)

There are funds within EOOR to support Youth attending this event. In order to access these funds, I will need to know how many people are attending. If you are interested in attending, please fill out an expression of interest form and I will be in contact with you regarding further information. Interested in going or learning more? Visit the [website](#) or fill out the form [HERE](#). Questions? Email [dducette@united-church.ca](mailto:dducette@united-church.ca)



### Beautiful Music with MHI

One of the most surprising and moving moments at this year's Grammy Awards featured a string quartet. It wasn't the beautiful classical music they played, but, simply, their togetherness.

The CEO of the Recording Academy explained: "As individuals, they sound really good, but together, they achieve something beautiful they could never do apart. These musicians of Palestinian, Israeli, and Arab descent are here playing together. Now is the time for us, for humanity, to play together and to come together with empathy and with love." (Harvey Mason, Jr.). These four wonderful musicians set an example for the world, with their talents, efforts, and concern for humanity.

In a nutshell, that's what Multifaith Housing Initiative (MHI) strives to do. The organization is lifted and propelled by Jewish, Muslim, Baha'i, Hindu, Unitarian, and Christian communities -- including about 35 local United Churches. Rather than taking solo paths to create affordable housing in the Ottawa region, they perform together, with the shared goal of providing and promoting safe, affordable, and well-maintained housing in inclusive communities. This diversity extends to MHI's tenants, Board of Directors, committee members, other volunteers, Patrons, and staff -- and it encompasses an orchestra of colours and cultures.

It is beautiful to see strong, lifelong friendships based on mutual respect formed among people of different backgrounds. You can see it during the planning of an inspiring National Housing Day celebration. When tenants gather to experience a religious celebration. And when faith group members walk harmoniously together at MH's *Tulipathon* to raise funds for tenant subsidies. As well, Board and committee meetings begin with a reflection, typically an inspirational message drawing on various religious teachings. Over the next months you will see this diversity reflected in the planning for the Dream LeBreton Flats build - with its ambitious offering of community engagement programming and a strong Indigenous foundation.

Like the string quartet, MHI provides a positive example to the rest of the world. And we can all use some positivity. As Suzanne Le, MHI's Executive Director, says, "We don't find division in diversity. We are enriched by it. We are enriched because of it. And because of who we are -- not despite it -- we have been gifted with the ability to serve the community in the most meaningful of ways. We provide those most at risk, most in need of our help, with a home. We give them a safe place to live, and a welcoming community in which to grow and thrive. A place where they are welcomed and valued. Where diversity is not just respected but honoured.

Read MHI's latest newsletter [HERE](#).

**EOORC News** is a bi-weekly newsletter that provides information Communities of Faith of the EOORC, published every second Wednesday. If you want an item placed in the newsletter, please send it to [ajansman@united-church.ca](mailto:ajansman@united-church.ca) by 12 noon on Tuesday the week of publication. If you do not wish to receive this weekly newsletter, please send me an email to the same address above.

## YOUTH – LOOKING FOR AN ADVENTURE?

Gibimishkaadimin is looking for 10 Indigenous youth from across Canada and 10 non-Indigenous youth from Southern and Eastern Ontario to participate in a reconciliation canoe trip this summer. Gibimishkaadimin (Gib-EE-mish-KA-dim-IN) is an Anishinaabemowin word representing “Paddling together by boat” and is the name of a reconciliation and relationship building opportunity for youth. This trip began over five years ago as an intentional youth reconciliation project between three United Churches in Toronto and is now a part of Indigenous Ministries and Justice and the General Council of the United Church. The purpose of this trip is for youth to participate in collaborative and experiential learning through an Indigenous perspective. Gibimishkaadimin seeks to provide youth with the opportunity to foster relationships with each other, the land and the water during a canoe trip in northern Ontario.

**Ages:** This trip is for Youth between the ages of 14-18. Youth must be within the age range during the trip.

**When:** Tuesday, August 20 to Wednesday, August 28, 2024

**Where:** Lake Temagami with Northwaters Outfitters

**Cost:** There is **no cost** to participate in this trip, this includes all travel, accommodation, and outfitter costs.

Funding is provided by Indigenous Ministry and Justice and the General Council in response to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada’s calls to action.

**Application Deadline:** April 30, 2024. [SEE POSTER](#)



**United Church Rural  
Ministry Network**

[www.UCRMN.ca](http://www.UCRMN.ca)

“Connecting rural stories  
with rural people across Canada”

**March 2024 Newsletter**  
of the  
United Church  
Rural Ministry Network  
is now [available](#).

### PLEASE NOTE

**We’re still getting mail at the old address.**

**EOORC MAILING ADDRESS  
HAS CHANGED**

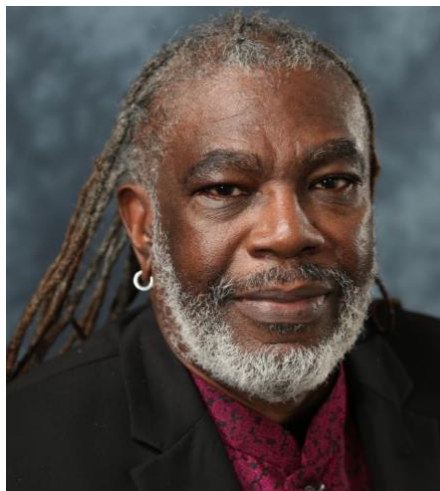
Please direct any mail to:

EOORC

c/o First United Church  
347 Richmond Rd,  
Ottawa, ON K2A 0E7

### Clergy: Lead a Worship Service at The Cathedral of the Trees – Algonquin Park

Time at Algonquin Park to enjoy and be renewed by the wonders of this jewel of nature and to provide a ministry that helps others to do and express the same. Cathedral of the Trees Algonquin Park is a ‘new shoot’ of a longstanding ministry of the former Bay of Quinte Conference, which saw ministry personnel providing an outdoor worship service at Algonquin Park on Sundays in the months of July and August. Apply [HERE](#)



### State of the Church: Leaning into God’s Future

A talk with Michael Blair, General Secretary of the United Church of Canada.

Monday, May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024, 3:30PM to 5:00PM at St. George’s Anglican Church (1001 av. Des Canadiens-de-Montréal, Montreal)

As the United Church looks to its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2025 amid a changing Canada and a changing world, the United Church Studies Program at Montreal Dio is delighted to welcome Michael Blair for an open forum on where the church stands now and where God is calling it in the future. Michael will begin with overview remarks and then engage in open discussion and questions with participants.

All are also warmly welcome to join us at 7pm that evening for Montreal Dio’s annual Convocation at which we will celebrate the accomplishments of several United Church of Canada students and hear a Convocation address from Michael Blair.

**EOORC News** is a bi-weekly newsletter that provides information Communities of Faith of the EOORC, published every second Wednesday. If you want an item placed in the newsletter, please send it to [ajansman@united-church.ca](mailto:ajansman@united-church.ca) by 12 noon on Tuesday the week of publication. If you do not wish to receive this weekly newsletter, please send me an email to the same address above.



# THE ELUSIVENESS OF A JUST SOCIETY IN CANADA

## A HISTORIC AND ILLUSTRIOUS PANEL DISCUSSION

CAUSES AND SOLUTIONS TO ECONOMIC DISINTEGRATION, SYSTEMIC RACISM, SOCIAL INJUSTICES AND NATIONAL ALIENATION



MAXIME  
BERNIER



IMAN SYED  
SOHARWARDY



REV. ALEXA  
GILMOUR



SENATOR KIM  
PATE



RYAN BANFIELD  
YOUTH OTTAWA



ADRIAN  
HAREWOOD



ANGELLA  
MACEWEN (CUPE)

HORTICULTURE BUILDING - LANSDOWNE PARK | APRIL 27, 2024 | 10:00 AM - 12:00 NOON



You're invited to a historic and illustrious panel discussion on the elusiveness of a just society in Canada for all. For many, Canada is drifting without the apparent political will to redress worsening problems of economic disintegration involving a growing "working poor" and homelessness; institutionalized racism; and oppression of the very ability of express our expressions of profound oppression which subverts the very integrity of our Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms. Panelists come together to collectively identify the root causes of growing injustices in society and how we can solve them together to rejuvenate the Canadian Dream for all. **Panel features Rev. Alexa Gilmour, United Church minister and community activist.** [More information](#)

## News from the General Council Office



### E-ssentials

The [March 19<sup>th</sup>](#) issue offers a message from the Moderator and a reminder that the Remit Vote deadline is March 31<sup>st</sup>!



### United in Learning

e-Learning for church leaders

The [March 11<sup>th</sup>](#) issue offers courses on Bearing Faithful Witness and Resourcing for LLWLs.

\*\*\*

**EOORC News** is a bi-weekly newsletter that provides information Communities of Faith of the EOORC, published every second Wednesday. If you want an item placed in the newsletter, please send it to [ajansman@united-church.ca](mailto:ajansman@united-church.ca) by 12 noon on Tuesday the week of publication. If you do not wish to receive this weekly newsletter, please send me an email to the same address above.