



# EOORC News

Wednesday, September 18, 2024

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

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### EOORC Fall Meeting

You are invited to the Fall Meeting!  
It will take place at  
Trinity-St. Andrew's United Church, Renfrew  
Saturday October 5<sup>th</sup>

Due to unexpected circumstances,  
registration for the Fall Meeting has been slightly delayed.

An email will go out when the registration form is  
available on the website.

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### Ministry & Personnel Committee Workshop

There will be another M&P Committee online workshop on Saturday, November 9, 2024 (9am – 12noon). This workshop is open to M&P Ctte members (both new and current), Council members, and Ministry Personnel. If you have any questions, please contact Rev. Whit Strong [wstrong@united-church.ca](mailto:wstrong@united-church.ca)

Pre-registration is required.

<https://united-church.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMucu6qrjlrH9zRqkbFDkXEIBPx3go7aB7O>

### Church Extension Committee Fall Meeting, Wednesday, October 23, 2024, 1:00 P.M. via Zoom

Just a reminder that if your community of faith is preparing an application for a grant or loan, the application should be sent to Judy Harms-Potter, Secretary of the Church Extension Committee, by Oct 11th.

If you need further information about the Church Extension Committee, please follow this [link](#) to see the guidelines for submissions.

Judy Harms-Potter [Jharms.potter@gmail.com](mailto:Jharms.potter@gmail.com) 613-735-4944

**Are you from a Community of Faith that is seeking your next minister?**

**Are you a Pastoral Relations liaison that is supporting Search Committees in search for a new minister?**

**Do you have questions about ChurchHub profiles you find or applications you receive from ministers who belong to different denominations, maybe not even in Canada?**

If so, we'd like to invite you to an online Open House with the Admission Matching Committee. This hour long gathering will happen through Zoom on Sunday September 22nd at 4 pm Eastern Time. The Admission Matching Committee's work is part of a pilot project to bridge the gap between Ministers who are available and excited to work in The United Church of Canada and Communities of Faith who need a minister.

To register for this free program, please send your name, location, email, and reason for registering to: **Beverly at [bthurst@united-church.ca](mailto:bthurst@united-church.ca).**

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**THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA  
FOUNDATION**

THE FOUNDATION BOARD AND STAFF  
 WARMLY INVITE YOU AND A GUEST TO  
 OUR 2024 ANNUAL RECEPTION

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**CONNECTING**  
*in*  
**THE CAPITAL**

*FEATURING SPECIAL GUESTS*  
**THE HON. REV. ROB OLIPHANT**  
*MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT*  
**THE REV. PETER WOODS**  
*MACKAY UNITED CHURCH*

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**OTTAWA CONFERENCE AND EVENT CENTRE**  
 ROOM 106H, 200 COVENTRY RD, OTTAWA

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FRIDAY SEPTEMBER	<b>20<sup>th</sup></b>	5:30 PM to 7:30 PM
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DRINKS & HORS D'OEUVRES  
 WILL BE SERVED

[More Information](#)

### Strengthening Invitation | United in Prayer

Each Thursday at 12pm EST, the Growth Department prays for and with communities of faith in our shared ministry of Strengthening Invitation. This event will be hosted primarily in English.

***Let us know how we can pray for your community of faith.***

Are you planning a special service to invite your neighbours?

Are you reaching out to your neighbours through an event?

Are you asking hard or exciting questions about your future?

**Join us and pray for others.**

Send your prayer request to [growth@united-church.ca](mailto:growth@united-church.ca) (you can send a request even if you're not attending)

Register to join us [here](#). *Envoyez-nous vos demandes de prieres en francais aussi!*

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## Responding as a community of faith to the rise in hate crimes against 2SLGBTQI people By Terri Mullin

You may have heard that Statistics Canada has reported that in 2023, hate crimes targeting sexual orientation increased 69% from the previous year. This alarming increase invites communities of faith to think about our national commitment to the just treatment of all of God's children.

As we sing in our A Song of Faith:

Jesus announced the coming of God's reign—

a commonwealth not of domination

but of peace, justice, and reconciliation. All churches, whether they have completed the Affirming Process or not, has a responsibility to speak out against homophobia and transphobia.

Near my hometown, in Southern New Brunswick, a local school just painted a rainbow crosswalk in front of their school. This crosswalk was defaced overnight. The message this sends to queer, trans and curious kids returning to school is devastating. As churches and ministries, we can offer a healing ministry of acceptance to children, youth and their families by loudly offering God's inclusive welcome. This public witness, a bold discipleship and daring justice, is also a ministry to those who feel entitled to act out with violence and hatred.

This fall, as you welcome old and new members back from the summer, I invite you to think about how you can include a message of inclusive welcome in all that you do. You never know whose life might be changed by that witness of God's steadfast loving kindness.

Resources: · Rainbow Action Hub for advocacy · Affirming Adults: A Guide to Supporting Gender Diverse Children and Youth · Affirming Connections: United Against Hate

*Tori Mullin (they), Growth Animator for Ontario East & Quebec, [tmullin@united-church.ca](mailto:tmullin@united-church.ca)*

Stewardship Update

September



Is your congregation hoping to do some stewardship in the fall, but not sure where to start? Begin with **Getting Started in Stewardship** – October 8<sup>th</sup> at 4pm (Eastern Time).

Curious about how to revitalize stewardship in your community of faith? Register now for our next session of Getting Started in Stewardship. This 90-minute session is the foundational course to help your community of faith move away from the annual cycle of panicking about the budget, to an on-going, sustainable ministry of gratitude and generosity, which supports people in their lives of faith. You can participate as an individual or in a team. After the course, we'll support you in taking the next steps.

Register [here](#) on ChurchX.ca.

Can't make the session on October 8th? Join us on December 3rd. Info and registration is [here](#).

### Stewardship Blog Post – “Because This Place Exists, Lives are Changed”

Rev. Brenna Baker, Community of Faith Stewardship Support Staff, writes about the importance of understanding stewardship as a spiritual discipline, not a financial discipline. Read [here](#), and share with a friend.

**A Stewardship Conversation:** Are you looking to grow generosity and involvement in your community of faith? Do you want to learn the best practices needed to effectively reach out and build new relationships with those not yet participating in your church's ministry? Do you want to develop an effective leadership recruitment plan? Why not book a Zoom or telephone call with Roger Janes and start the conversation: [Roger's Booking Page](#).

**Mission and Service** resources can be found [here](#)!

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## MHI – News Update



Since 2002, MHI has created a strong foundation for its work in providing homes for some of those 12,000 men, women and children on the housing registry in Ottawa. Currently, MHI is building at LeBreton Flats. Dream LeBreton will be comprised of 601 apartments, 133 of which will be owned and operated by MHI and 30 of those will be designated for Indigenous individuals or families. MHI has a goal of \$1.6 million to offset the capital cost of building the 30 units for Indigenous people. Raising funds for these units is a concrete step congregations can take to strengthen Right Relationships with All Our Relations. The proposal is that EOORC fundraise to help support these Indigenous units.

On June 1<sup>st</sup>, at the 2024 Annual General Meeting, a motion was passed:

*That EOORC endorse the approval of the EOORC Executive that congregations be allowed to raise funds for the Dream LeBreton Capital Campaign with a goal of \$150,000.*

Please watch this video of Suzanne Le, Executive Director, MHI, highlighting the Dream LeBreton project... <https://youtu.be/jkE-10sZ4YI>

We are asking congregations to create their own campaigns over the next two years to raise funds and help us meet our goal. All amounts raised, large or small, help us reach our objective.


To help raise awareness of MHI within EOORC and to encourage support for providing affordable housing, particularly for Indigenous persons, Rev. Dr. Teresa Burnett Cole has graciously created and delivered an Indigenous style worship service. This service was offered and videotaped at Glebe St. James on April 7, 2024. Rev. Teresa has given copyright permission for the prayers and hymn/songs and sermon she wrote for the service. The video can be used in part or in whole. All service materials are on the MHI website, along with additional Dream-LeBreton materials. Please see <https://www.multifaithhousing.ca/united-we-dream.html>

To help spark event ideas, we ask that congregations share their fundraising ideas. We will share those ideas through the EOORC newsletter – so watch for them!

We encourage all congregations to use the EOORC calendar to book their events. That way, we can avoid double-booking ourselves

Congregational funds raised will be tracked on the MHI website. We will also create a chart on the EOORC website to show the total amount received from the United Church.

## News From the General Council Office



**100<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY**  
1925-2025

[More Information](#)

**COMMEMORATING 100 YEARS**  
**Deep Spirituality, Bold Discipleship and Daring Justice**  
The United Church of Canada · 1925—2025



**E-ssentials**

The [September 17<sup>th</sup> issue](#) honours the legacy of Lois Willson

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