



EOORC News

Wednesday, October 2, 2024

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

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Remembering The Very Rev., The Honourable Dr. Lois M. Wilson: In honour of the life of Lois Wilson, we are asking Congregations to light a candle and provide a moment of silence on Sunday, October 12th (Thanksgiving Sunday). If you would like to talk about who Lois was and all that she did, you can find a [biography of sorts on The United Church of Canada website](#). A memorial service is planned for October 15, at 11:00 a.m. at Metropolitan UC, 56 Queen St E, Toronto, ON. The service will be [livestreamed on YouTube](#). Find out more details, and read [full news story](#).



Note: Some scammers have been creating GoFund me and Facebook pages about Lois Wilson's funeral. These are not legitimate sites.

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There will be an **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. All new members to M&P Cttes are strongly urged to participate. While this will be a repeat of past M&P workshops, it will be a good refresher for all current M&P members.

If you have any questions, please contact Rev. Whit Strong wstrong@united-church.ca
Pre-registration is required. <https://united-church.zoom.us/join/91234567890>

Moderator's Flourishing Event

Many local folks attended the Moderator's workshop in Ottawa.
Thank you Rev. Mary Royal-Duczek for the photo!
The workshop explored what flourishing means in our churches and communities.



Safe Consumption Site Open Letter

Rev. Molly Bell of Orleans United Church shares this open letter. The letter expresses the concerns of faith leaders with the government's plan to close supervised consumption sites. It asks the government to take immediate action to fund safe consumption sites in Ontario. Here is the link to the letter, if you are interested to learn more or to sign the letter: <http://www.faithsupport4scs.ca>

Journaling as a spiritual practice

Wednesdays at 7pm Eastern from Oct. 9 to Nov. 20 on ZOOM
Whether you are new to journaling or just want to explore new possibilities, this program might be for you! Sessions will include prayer, input, and some quiet time to try a few exercises. Course cost is by donation, register by October 7th at shalomssm@shaw.ca.

Church Extension Committee Fall Meeting

Wed. October 23, 2024 at 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 the link below to see the guidelines for submissions.

<https://eorc.ca/resources/funding-sources/>

Judy Harms-Potter Jharms.potter@gmail.com

613-735-4944

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You Are Invited – Town Hall with Rev. Michael Blair and General Council Executive Members

The annual General Council meeting is scheduled for October 19. We invite you to join an informal, thoughtful national town hall on Oct. 22 at 6 p.m. with the General Secretary, Rev. Michael Blair, and guests from the GCE – LIVE ONLINE. They want to hear from the church across the country, so they can prepare for the November GCE meetings and beyond.

[This personal invitation](#) from General Secretary Rev. Michael Blair is for you, for staff and congregations. It is an opportunity to engage with the decisions and dialogue from the annual meeting – right after it happens.

Whether you're a listener or a caller, this check-in is where you can have a conversation with leaders in real time.

The General Secretary and members of GCE are listening. Live. In real time. Everyone is welcome. [Register](#) on CHURCHx.

A note: This is a pilot project. We hope it will be the first of quarterly check-ins next year. While this live event will not offer interpretation or translation, we are planning to hold one check-in fully in French next year (or as fully as we can, with the help of our bilingual GCE members and Ministries in French staff). Watch for scheduling and updates by subscribing to the General Council website.

Facilitated by: Treena Duncan, Regional Executive Minister, Pacific Mountain Regional Council

An invitation for clergy in Ottawa and the surrounding area:



You are cordially invited to

Luncheon for Faith Leaders: Lay Training in Pastoral Care

The Ottawa Pastoral Care Training Program presents a free information luncheon for Ottawa and surrounding area clergy. Including time for networking and sharing among faith-leaders

Thursday | October 17 | 12:00pm

St. Paul's Presbyterian Church
971 Woodroffe Avenue

Please RSVP
ottawapastoralcare@gmail.com



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Welcome Back Rev. Éric Hébert-Daly!

Rev. Éric Hébert-Daly is back from sabbatical. He spent June and July 2024 walking the Camino del Norte, the Camino Lebaniego, the Camino Primitivo, the Camino Inglés and the Camino Muxia/Finistera as part of his sabbatical. He walked 1458kms carrying his backpack across mountains, fields and coasts while holding communities of faith and ministry personnel in prayer. Éric will share some insights of his journey over the coming months. You will find these below in a new section entitled "Camino Reflections."



Reflection 1: Alone: As many will have heard, my decision to walk the Camino was rooted in a need to strengthen my 'solitude muscles' and to find balance with my normal extraverted tendencies. During my process to becoming a minister, the psychologist who did my assessment qualified me as a 'galloping extrovert' beyond anyone he had met in his 40 years of service. He warned me of the importance to develop some resilience in times of solitude. The Camino seemed like the right place to hone these skills when it came time for my sabbatical. I even chose the lesser traveled paths in an effort to keep me focused on this goal. To continue reading, [please visit ECORC's website.](#)

New Paths for the Churches and Indigenous Peoples

Friday, November 1 - Saturday, November 2

More information: <https://ustpaul.ca/en/event/conference-new-paths-for-the-churches-indigenous-peoples/>

The Centre on the Churches, Truth, and Reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples invites you to participate in its upcoming conference, "New Paths for the Churches and Indigenous Peoples" on November 1–2, 2024. Join panelists Christine Jamieson, Darren Dias, Harry Lafond, Sheila Smith, Niigan Sinclair, and Michel Andraos for discussions and workshops. Register today at <https://forms.gle/2rZ7a4jxDADVNUmLA>. Email the Centre at cctr@ustpaul.ca for more information.

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ANNOUNCEMENT: We want to hear from families!

In 2025 *Jesus, Glue and Glitter* (a children's ministry resource affiliated with the United Church of Canada) will be launching a new project, focused on providing free digital content for families with children ages 3-6. But we need your help! We want to invite parents and kids to help us decide what Biblical stories and themes we should bring to life. We have created a short survey with questions for parents/caregivers and kids! [Take 4 minutes to fill-out the survey!](#) Thank you, in advance, for sharing your thoughts with us!

Choir Gowns Available

St. Andrew's Rockland has 24 choir gowns to give away. Would your church like to have these? If so, please contact Natalie Matkovsky (nmatkovsky@united-church.ca). Hymn books are also available!



Webinar: Changemaking in Bilingual with the Tamarack Institute October 9, 2024 | 1 PM - 2:30 PM ET

The purpose of this webinar is to invite people who run NGOs or lead justice struggles in bilingual communities who need to navigate two sociolinguistic communities simultaneously so that everyone moves forward together. What are the challenges they face? What are the strengths of operating in a bilingual community? How has it engaged both communities at their distinct starting points? Multilingual community engagement requires much more than translation and interpretation. This webinar aims to explore these questions and more to launch into a tool to support true multilingual community engagement. This webinar is taking place in French with simultaneous interpretation into English.

[Read more and register!](#)

Online Affirming Media Conference

November 1-2, 2024

Friday, November 1, 7pm - 9:30pm MT

Saturday, November 2, 9am - 4pm MT

(Conference registration includes BOTH days for in person attendees)

Location: Calgary Central Library - Patricia Whelan Performance Hall & [Online](#)

Focused on providing accessible training in marketing, social media, communications, and media literacy for anyone who wants to create positive change, tell compelling stories, and break through misinformation.

The tickets are through Eventbrite here: <https://tinyurl.com/mediaconference2024>

Affirming Connections has been gracious and supplied Affirm United with a special discount code: [AUSE20](#), which will give you 20% off any ticket type, and they've set aside 20 tickets especially for this code!



Registration is now open for 2 exciting stewardship courses.

Both of these courses are offered on the CHURCHx platform. If you are new to CHURCHx and have questions, please get in touch with Roger Janes (rjanes@united-church.ca).

Getting Started in Stewardship – October 8th - two options – 4 pm or 6:30 pm start (Eastern Time). This webinar will be offered again on November 20th.

Come on your own, or come with a team and join United Church people from across the country to learn some stewardship first principles.

In this 90-minute live meeting we'll answer questions like:

What is stewardship all about anyway?

Isn't stewardship just a churchy word for fundraising?

Why do people give, and why would they give to our church?

What can we do to encourage greater generosity?

This course is great for new Stewardship Committee members, folks looking to activate stewardship work in their community of faith, or those looking for a refresher. It is free to attend!

Read more about the course and register right [here](#).

Bequests and Estate Giving – October 16th and 30th, from 2:30 pm to 3:30 pm (Eastern Time).

Did you know?

One-third of United Church people would consider including the church in their Estate plans if they were asked.

This course will help you get your Planned Giving program set up and running, so that your community of faith can benefit from these financial gifts. A Planned Giving program can excite your community of faith and offer them new ways to financially support your ministry. These gifts from your donor's estates or savings can be transformational to both the donor and the church.

Attend both of these 1-hour on-line sessions with Jess Smith and Roger Janes to learn

- why you should offer a Planned Giving program and how to set it up and maintain it,
- what exactly are the different kinds of Planned Gifts?
- how to inspire and invite people to make a Planned Gift,

how to recognize those who make a Planned Gift. *For more information, and to register, click here: [Bequests and Estate Giving](#)*


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Stewardship Update from Roger Janes, Continued

Stewardship in Worship – Are you a worship leader looking for some new resources for the Fall? Did you know we offer lectionary worship starters, a number of prayers and worship materials, as well as complete worship services? See here: [Stewardship in Worship](#). Speaking of Worship Resources, we have also posted a complete **Thanksgiving Worship Service** on our [Mission and Service in Worship](#) page.

Do you have a **Mission and Service Enthusiast** who is looking for resources and ideas, or the latest Mission and Service Stories? Please share this link with them: [Mission and Service](#).

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](#).



MONTREAL DIO
MONTREAL DIVISION THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE 1878

Tuesdays 7:00pm to 9:00pm
October 29th to November 12th

Preaching Justice:
A Preaching Workshop
An Online Open Enrollment Course

"Justice is what love looks like in public." Our Scriptures vividly illustrate this vision of justice across various circumstances, yet many preachers avoid it, fearing they might be seen as "political" or "controversial."

Jordan Hayne addresses this challenge in "Preaching Justice," a three-session course for preachers.

Participants will explore lesser-known Scriptures, engage in small group discussions, and role-play responses to justice-oriented sermons, enhancing their preaching skills and understanding.

Regular: \$80/person
Friends of the College: 70\$/person

More information
514 849 3004
info@montrealdio.ca

Visit our website
montrealdio.ca/our-courses

Scan to register



**United Church Rural
Ministry Network**

www.UCRMN.ca

"Connecting rural stories
with rural people across Canada"

You can read the September 2024 newsletter [here!](#)

News from the Wider United Church



The [September 10th](#) edition shares Thanksgiving Mission and Service ideas, ways to engage with the General Council and more.

The [September 24th](#) edition invites you to webinar with the *Then Let Us Sing* Committee

The [October 1st](#) edition shares about food insecurity in Canada, and how we can help.

The [September 10th](#) edition is about the Indigenous Church.



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