



# EOORC News

Wednesday, December 11, 2024

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

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### The United Church of Canada's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

EOORC will be hosting a Centennial celebration at the EY Centre in Ottawa on Sunday, **June 15th 2025**. It will be a large event...a joyful time to be together and celebrate 100 years of the United Church.

Mackay United Church in Ottawa has decided that the whole congregation will join in the big regional celebration on June 15<sup>th</sup>.

Here's a note from Jane Kops, Worship Chair at MacKay: **"I think it's a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, to share in worship with 100's of people, celebrating 100 (!!) years of OUR denomination. The music will be glorious, the preaching inspired and we will all be together. Likely an experience not soon forgotten!"**

We hope that all communities of faith will join us for a large, "United" celebration on June 15<sup>th</sup>! Please be sure to share the Centennial info with your worship committee or governing body.

### New 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Email Address

Do you have a question about our regional plans to celebrate the United Church of Canada's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary? Would you like to know more details? Would you like to contribute to the planning of the event? Please email us at [eoorc.anniversaryinformation@gmail.com](mailto:eoorc.anniversaryinformation@gmail.com). We look forward to hearing from you! You can also visit <https://eoorc.ca/about-us/centennial/> for more information.

*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 [nmatkovsky@united-church.ca](mailto:nmatkovsky@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.

## Save-the-Date – EOORC Upcoming Events

### Winter EOORC Meeting (Online Educational Event)

- Saturday March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025

### EOORC AGM

- Friday June 13<sup>th</sup>-Saturday June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2025

### 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the United Church of Canada

- EOORC-Wide Event Sunday June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025

*We invite all EOORC members to put the Winter Meeting and AGM dates in their calendars. Your whole community of faith is encouraged to join us for the big celebration on June 15<sup>th</sup>!*

## New Phone Numbers for EOORC Staff

You will notice on our [Staff Page](#), that some EOORC staff now have new phone numbers as we transition from our previous phone service to our new platform. We will be completely switched over to our new phone system on January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025 so be sure to update your contacts before that time. Thank you!

While our mailing address is at First United Church, regional staff work from home offices. Staff travel throughout the region as needed to support EOORC communities of faith, teams and networks.

**WORSHIPLUDE  
2025**

FRI. JAN. 31ST – SUN. FEB. 2ND  
OTTAWA, ONTARIO

Join us for a weekend in Ottawa  
for Winterlude activities and  
gather with us for Dinner and  
Worship Saturday night at  
Southminster United Church  
(15 Aylmer Ave, Ottawa)

\$20 PER PERSON

REGISTER FOR MORE INFO

DANA DUCETTE  
DDUCETTE@UNITED-CHURCH.CA

DE L'OUTAOUAIS ET DE CEST DE L'ONTARIO  
EASTERN ONTARIO OUTAOUAIS

**You are invited to Worshiplude 2025!  
Jan. 31-Feb. 2 in Ottawa**

### New to Worshiplude?

Worshiplude is a winter worship and fellowship event for youth and young adults (ages 10+) hosted by the Eastern Ontario Outaouais Region (EOOR) of the United Church of Canada that coincides with Winterlude in Ottawa.

It's been happening for over 20 years and is a combination of "Worship" + "Winterlude" = Worshiplude. Individuals and Groups attend Winterlude activities during the day and then gather Saturday night for collective dinner, worship/communion and hang...until 11pm.

You can learn more about accommodations and grants [here](#).

### To Register:

Please follow the QR code.

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## Learnings from Gibimishkaadimin Canoe-Camping Trip for Indigenous Reconciliation

Rousseau Whiteley has taken time to share about his experience on the Gibimishkaadimin youth canoe-camping trip for Indigenous reconciliation.

*“Before the trip, I couldn't identify the smell of a smudge or the taste of cedar tea, both things I now will never forget. I also couldn't have expressed how it felt to be in nature and to feel the living world around me, in the way Gibimishkaadimin taught me that I could. This change might be intangible, but I'd argue that it was the most important change. I will never feel the same, walking through the forest, thinking about the world or literally anywhere for that matter. The experience forever changed me.”*

You can read the whole reflection [here](#). Rousseau is from Lyn United Church and will be one of EOORC's commissioners to the 45<sup>th</sup> General Council.

## Advent Greetings from Campus Ministry at Algonquin College



*Photo above: Volunteers from Knox United Church, Ottawa*

The Algonquin Community Chaplaincy writes: “We want to thank the Ottawa area United Church community for their continued support of Campus Ministry at Algonquin College in 2024. Through the past financial support of individual congregations, such as City View, Emmanuel, Dominion-Chalmers, and Glen Cairn, and the ongoing support of the Eastern Ontario Outaouais Regional Council (and before that, Ottawa Presbytery) we have been able to staff a paid part-time ecumenical Christian chaplain in the college's Spiritual Centre since 2006.

We have also benefited from the volunteer work (past and present) of ministers and licensed lay worship leaders such as Dana Ducette, Eric Lukacs, Gail Christy, George Hermanson, Neil Wallace, and Joyce Morris as well as members of various United Church congregations such as Knox (see photo below), Carleton Memorial, and City View. This work has included pastoral care, hosting Trivia fundraising nights, providing food and support during exam week (for many years, organized by City View's Ruth Anne Carney), and serving on the Campus Ministry Board.” You can read the whole Advent message [here](#).

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**The National Indigenous Spiritual Gathering (NISG)** concluded, after convening from November 29 to December 2 in Winnipeg, MB. The gathering brought together Indigenous leaders, Elders, and community members for a time of discussion, reflection, and prayer. [Read the full statement from Elders](#) who attended.

### **2025 Budget – A Message from the Finance Committee**

The Finance Committee has drafted a proposed 2025 Budget after gathering more information through the fall. We are circulating this proposed budget to both inform the members of EOORC and welcome any questions and input from EOORC members. You can view the budget [here](#).

This draft budget will become operational at the February Executive meeting once adjustments are made based on feedback from members as well as confirmation on the value of our investments.

As always, the budget as well as Reviewed Financial Statements will be available at the Annual Meeting in June.

Please forward any questions or comments to Brian Cornelius at [treasurer.eoorc@gmail.com](mailto:treasurer.eoorc@gmail.com).

### **Called to Be the Church: The Journey – December 2024 Update**

Our Latest Stewardship Blog – Vicki Nelson helps us remember that stewardship is not about the budget! [How I Stopping Worrying and Learned to Ignore the Budget.](#)

Gifts with Vision – Here is the latest: First of all, great news – the current catalogue and website will continue until the end of December 2024! That means there's more time to support your favourites, especially for Christmas giving. For the remainder of 2024 you can see all the gifts on the website [here](#).

You can read Rev. Roger Jane's full update [here](#)!

### **Reminder - Centennial Grants – Next Round Closes Dec. 15**

The Centennial Granting Fund emphasizes the importance of uniting to commemorate this historic achievement together. It provides funding for events designed to mark the milestone moment. There are still three granting rounds left to apply for funding for your celebration! All United Church ministries, communities of faith/ congregations and other organizations undertaking special events to commemorate the Centennial are eligible to apply for grants of up to \$5,000. The next round closes to applications on December 15, 2024. Learn more: <https://unitedchurchfoundation.ca/grants/general-grant-opportunities/#Centennial-Fund>

### Seniors Community Grant Program

The Seniors Community Grant (SCG) Program funds local not-for-profit organizations and individuals representing local unincorporated community groups to deliver projects, supports and resources that help older adults (aged 55+) live independently, ensure their safety and security, connect them to their community, avoid isolation and help them achieve greater financial security and social connections. Grants are available between \$1,000 and \$25,000.

You can read more about the grants [here](#) or see the full guidelines [here](#).

### Christmas Newsletter Schedule

The EOORC News is normally published every second Wednesday. We will be following a slightly different schedule in Advent and Christmas. The EOORC News will be published December 18<sup>th</sup> and January 8<sup>th</sup> before returning to our usual schedule. If you would like something included in the newsletter, please send it to [nmatkovsky@united-church.ca](mailto:nmatkovsky@united-church.ca) by Tuesday at noon to have it in the next day's newsletter.

### News from the Wider United Church



The [December 3 edition](#) shares an update from the National Indigenous Spiritual Gathering.

**Living into  
Right Relations**

Reconciliation and Indigenous Justice Newsletter from The United Church of Canada – [Nov. 29 edition](#).

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