



# EOORC News

Wednesday, January 22, 2025

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

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- And More!

### Good News Story – Bethel United Church, Rideau Ferry

Bethel United Church (Rideau Ferry, ON) recently completed a energy-efficient renovation with help from a Faithful Footprints Grant. This included the installation of energy-efficient installation, radiant heaters, a heat pump, LED lighting, efficient ceiling fans, sealing windows, insulating pipes and making sure that the church is accessible to everyone, "including the installation of a fully accessible bathroom." The renovations are designed to lower energy costs and carbon emissions.

The project was featured by the Lanark Climate Network in an article [here](#). The Climate Network wrote: "This project is a powerful example of what can happen when individuals and organizations come together for the greater good. It is a story of environmental stewardship, community engagement, and a commitment to making the world a better place, one building at a time. The future looks bright for Bethel United Church, not only as a place of worship but as a symbol of what can be achieved when communities come together to make a positive impact on both their surroundings and the world at large."

Would your Community of Faith like to learn more about the Faithful Footprints program? You can visit their website or talk with Stephen Collette Email: [scollette@faithcommongood.org](mailto:scollette@faithcommongood.org) | Phone: 705-930-1011.

### EOORC 2024 Report Available

It is that time of year...annual reports! As your Community of Faith is compiling your annual report, would you like to include a summary of EOORC activities and meetings in 2024? If so, you can visit our website to [read our summary](#). You are welcome to copy and paste this into your annual report, or EOORC reps may choose to write their own reports.

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

### Regional Event and Survey

EOORC will be celebrating 100 years of the United Church of Canada with a special worship service on Sunday June 15<sup>th</sup>. Everyone is invited! We are encouraging all communities of faith in EOORC to participate. You can find lots of information on our [Centennial web page](#). Questions? Please contact us at [eoorc.anniversaryinformation@gmail.com](mailto:eoorc.anniversaryinformation@gmail.com).

A survey was sent out last week. We invite you to consider how your community of faith might participate, and to consult with your governing body (and worship committee) before sending back your response. Didn't receive the survey? Please contact [Natalie Matkovsky](#).

And lastly, in reference to the meeting date/time for those interested in worship planning for the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, the date for the preliminary meeting would be: 1:30 PM on Wednesday, February 5<sup>th</sup>. Interested parties should reach out to the email address and the link will be forwarded to them at that time. Does that make sense on your end?

### 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Worship Planning Team

EOORC is celebrating the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the United Church of Canada on Sunday, June 15<sup>th</sup>. We are looking for people who would like to help plan worship. Do you have gifts or passion to share in this work? This team will meet for the first time on Wednesday, February 5<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 PM. Please write to [eoorc.anniversaryinformation@gmail.com](mailto:eoorc.anniversaryinformation@gmail.com) to receive the link for this meeting.

### Bus Grants

Did you know that the United Church Foundation is offering grants of up to \$5000 for Centennial celebrations? Some EOORC congregations will be applying for these grants to pay for a bus to travel to the big celebration at the EY Centre on June 15<sup>th</sup>. In the next couple of weeks, we will send out a draft grant proposal that you can use.

### Centennial UCW - United Church Women Leading the Way!

For many communities of faith, their first centennial event may be the March 2<sup>nd</sup> worship led by United Church Women (U.C.W.). U.C.W.'s across Canada are dedicating that Sunday to remembering the faithful and dedicated service of women's organizations throughout the past 100 years of the church's life. More information about the U.C.W. and resources for the service itself may be found at: <https://united-church.ca/community-and-faith/being-community/united-church-women-ucw>.

U.C.W.'s are encouraged to add these celebrations to the [centennial map](#) so that others may join worship that day!

Children's Ministry Event – Please Share with Sunday School Teachers and Leaders of Programs for Children and Youth  
 For a larger poster or plain-text version, please click [here](#).

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY ROUNDTABLE

# Lent & Easter

MINISTRY WITH CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Come and Share your ideas, and hear about resources/programs from others.

**Guest Speaker: Annika Sangster**

Annika, is a diaconal minister from Nova Scotia has over 20 years experience with family/children's ministry. She develops intergenerational worship resources and curriculum approaches attentive to differing learning styles and the needs of small congregations.

Two opportunities to attend:

**Wednesday Feb 5th 7:00 to 8:15 pm EST**

**Thursday Feb 6th 11:00 to 12:15 pm EST**

TO REGISTER OR FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Kathy Douglas: [kdouglas@united-church.ca](mailto:kdouglas@united-church.ca)  
 Sharon Hull: [shull@united-church.ca](mailto:shull@united-church.ca)  
 Shawn Redden: [sredden@united-church.ca](mailto:sredden@united-church.ca)

Logos for Shining Waters Regional Council, Canadian Shield Regional Council, and United Church of Canada are at the bottom.

## "THE BIBLE... AND ZOMBIES"

### APOCALYPTICISM THEN & NOW

Zombies, Pop Culture and 1st Century Apocalyptic Thought in the Book of Revelation

With Dr. Mona Tokarek LaFosse, Emmanuel College of Victoria University, University of Toronto

Register:

2025 Hilliker Preaching Lectureship

<b>SATURDAY WORKSHOP</b> 1 March 2025, 9 AM - 12 PM The Spire, 82 Sydenham St. <a href="http://sydenhamstreet.ca">sydenhamstreet.ca</a>	<b>SUNDAY WORSHIP</b> 2 March 2025, 10:30 AM Chalmers United Church 211 Barrle St, Kingston
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Register [here](#) for Worshiplude!

# 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

Logos for United Church of Canada and other organizations are at the bottom.

### “Carrying the Light Into the Ordinary” ...

St. Andrew's College (in partnership with leaders from the Living Skies Regional Council, Northern Spirit Regional Council, and GreenSpirit Chaplaincy) invites you to our next contemplative gathering, to be held with the Saskatoon Theological Union Chapel community on Tuesday February 18, at 11:40am Sask time. Come spend 40 minutes or so in quiet contemplation, centered on the ancient practice of *lectio divina*.

Join us via zoom right here: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82963758924>  
 All are welcome ... and invite a friend!

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### Seeds of Hope- Beauty and Abundance at Multifaith Housing, The Haven

Barrhaven United is pleased to share the good news of the Grant we received from the United Church Foundation, Seeds of Hope program for the summer of 2025. This Grant will enable us to hire an Agricultural Student to lead in the maintenance and upkeep of the resident's areas at The Haven. Residents and volunteers will work together to integrate native plants, pollinator friendly plants, and where possible vegetables.

As part of our commitment we are looking for financial donations to assist us in raising 50% of the Grant money. To this end we are asking congregations if they would like to make a donation, large or small, to assist in raising \$1,000 to \$1,500. We have also reached out to other faith groups in the Barrhaven area and to local businesses.

If you are able to assist, please make your donation to Barrhaven United Church with a memo notation of: Seeds of Hope. This could be mailed to: Barrhaven United Church, 3013 Jockvale Rd, Nepean, ON K2J 4E4 or e-transfer to [BUCenvelope.sec@gmail.com](mailto:BUcEnvelope.sec@gmail.com). With thanks for your support!



### United Church Rural Ministry Newsletter + LLWL Check Ins

The January edition of the United Church Rural Ministry newsletter is now available! You can read it [here](#). This newsletter talks about many interesting events, including a new virtual check-in for LLWLs. This is a connection time for LLWLs, who serve the church in important ways and may at times feel isolated. The newsletter also includes information about a 24 hour prayer zoom, rural churches celebrating the Centennial, and more.

### Mental Health First Aid

Mary Louise Ireland is offering an online Youth Mental Health First Aid course Jan 23rd and 24th, 11 a.m to 3 p.m. EST. This course is for participants 18+ and is a great opportunity for those who work with youth or have youth in their life! Please see more details below. Please feel free to share with your contacts and reach out to Mary Louise ([mlicounselling@gmail.com](mailto:mlicounselling@gmail.com)) directly if you would like further information. Within the United Church - EOOR Region there are funds to support those wanting to participate

### Horizons: Encountering Diverse Perspectives - Emerging Scholars Symposium April 28-29, 2025, Paper Proposals Prolonged to January 27, 2025

Christian theology today stands at the intersection of multiple disciplines, societies, cultures, and spiritualities. This reality calls for emerging scholars to embrace an openness and collaborative spirit, engaging with diverse perspectives and exploring new horizons. In a globalized world, the diversity of viewpoints and approaches becomes essential for understanding and addressing contemporary challenges, particularly those experienced in the existential margins and peripheries of society. While opportunities to respectfully encounter the perspectives of others can be scarce in our polemically-oriented world, this colloquium aims to provide emerging scholars with a stimulating and collegial environment within which to foster constructive dialogue. Learn more [here](#).

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## News from the Wider United Church



The [January 14<sup>th</sup> edition](#) talks about the Centennial and the Draft Apology to Two Spirit and LGBTQIA+ Communities. The [Jan 21<sup>st</sup> edition](#) encourages us to pray for a permanent and lasting ceasefire between Israel and Hamas.



The [January edition](#) of the Centennial newsletter talks about the United Church of Canada's history of work in disaster relief.

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