



EOORC News

Friday, February 7, 2025

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

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Including All in Regional News

Lately, some subscribers to the EOORC News have not been receiving our emails. The issue seems to mostly affect Bell and Sympatico email addresses, and to be related to very sensitive spam filters in these email programs. This edition of the EOORC News is a couple of days late as we have been working hard to try to troubleshoot this problem.

Could you please take a moment to forward the email of this EOORC News edition to others in your community of faith (and neighbouring communities of faith!) to ask if they have been receiving the EOORC News?

If someone received this issue, the 100th Anniversary Survey, and the registration email for the Winter Educational Event, this person is likely all up-to-date.

If folks are not receiving the EOORC News emails, they could first check their spam folder. If the emails are not there, they could contact Natalie Matkovsky at nmatkovsky@united-church.ca and Natalie can help them resolve the issue. In the meantime, they can also catch up on the most recent EOORC News at [News - Eastern Ontario Outaouais Regional Council](#).

Ministry & Personnel Committee Workshop

There will be another M&P Committee online workshop on Saturday, April 5, 2025 (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. Pre-registration is required. <https://united-church.zoom.us/meeting/register/DCP-H-VDTQyTg0e4U-o5kw>

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February is Black History Month

Online Event with the Rev. Dr. Anthony Bailey

East Central Ontario Regional Council, one of our neighbouring United Church regions, is hosting an online event. People from any region are invited to attend. The organizers write: "Honouring The United Church of Canada's commitment to observe Black History Month in Canada each year, the East Central Region's Forum on Anti-Racism, Interfaith, Intercultural Forum has invited the renowned Rev. Dr. Anthony Bailey as our guest speaker. Please join us on the evening of **Wednesday, February 12th at 7pm via Zoom**. Visit our event page at [Racism in Church and Society with Guest Speaker The Rev. Dr. Anthony Bailey - East Central Ontario Regional Council of the United Church of Canada](#) for more information and to register."

Special Dinner at Bells Corners United Church



Many EOORC Communities of Faith are hosting special worship services or events around Black History Month. One of these is the "A Night in Zambia" event at Bells Corners United Church, which is an evening of traditional food, African music, Pop Up Market of African inspired items and celebration of Black History Month! More details at <https://eoorc.ca/event/a-night-in-zambia-traditional-zambian-dinner/>

Postcards Across Canada

Agassiz United Church (in British Columbia) is organizing a project called "Postcards Across Canada." Your congregation can write postcards to a few other congregations across the country...and will receive postcards from them too! This is a way to create links across the United Church of Canada as we celebrate the Centennial. You can learn more [here](#) (but please note that the deadline has been extended to the end of February.) For more information or to sign up, contact Cynthia Andrews at AUC.Outreach@shaw.ca.

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Ministry Personnel Gathering

Save-the-date for Tuesday, May 6th at St. John's UC in Kemptville. More details will be forthcoming. Keep an eye on the EOORC Newsletters.

Registration for EOORC Online Winter Educational Event

Registration is now open! Our theme is "Creative Sparks" and we will learn from folks across our region. For more information or to register, please visit [2025 EOORC Online Winter Educational Event - Eastern Ontario Outaouais](#)

Multifaith Housing Initiative Update FEB'25

There is lots of activity at MHI these days as we work to integrate with Gloucester Housing buildings and tenants. It is going well.

The Dream LeBreton project is progressing as planned. The project has a new name: Odenak. The Algonquin word for village. There are two huge cranes in place, busy building. We are told that by the spring, the buildings will be up, above ground. Final completion is planned for DEC'27. The building containing MHI units will be completed first but our rent-up cannot start until both building are approved for occupancy.

The United We Dream capital campaign for Dream LeBreton is going very well. We are over 50% of the way to our target of \$150,000! Every one of EOOR's pastoral charges are listed in the MHI website under United We Dream. Anyone can go to that website and contribute to their church of choice.

<https://www.multifaithhousing.ca/united-we-dream.html>

There is also a 'thermometer' showing our progress at: <https://www.classy.org/campaign/united-we-dream/c642395>

I am hearing about many concerts being given and being planned to raise funds. I look forward to seeing promotions for and descriptions of completed fundraisers in upcoming EOORC newsletters. Please let us all know what you are doing to contribute to the 30 units of affordable Indigenous housing at Odenak!

By Sue Smarkala

Photos: Pancake Tuesday and Ash Wednesday

Does your community of faith host a Pancake Tuesday supper or an Ash Wednesday service? Do you have photos to share from previous years? Please send them to nmatkovsky@united-church.ca and we would be glad to include them in an upcoming edition of the EOORC News.



The February edition of the United Church Rural Ministry Network Newsletter is now available. You can read it [here](#).

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Orleans United Church – How We Will Join the 100th Anniversary Celebrations!

Communities of faith across EOORC will be participating in a big regional event on Sunday June 15th, as we celebrate 100 years of the United Church of Canada. There are many ways to participate. This week, we are sharing the plans of Orleans United Church. (The breakfast and bus sound fun!)

Orleans United Church is getting geared up to celebrate the United Church of Canada's 100th Anniversary with the Eastern Ontario Outaouais Regional Council (EOORC) on June 15, 2025. To ensure no one misses out, we're renting a bus to travel together and enjoy the day as a community.

The morning will start at OUC with a breakfast service in the hall—a mix of food, connection, and worship. After breakfast, we'll hop on the bus at 9:30 AM and head to the big event at the EY Centre. There, we'll join 1000+ of our fellow UCC members and friends in joyful singing, celebration, and worship.

For those who prefer to stay close to home, we'll host a livestream of the event in our sanctuary, complete with leftover breakfast goodies and good company.

We're excited to celebrate 100 years of faith, community, and song, and to mark this special milestone with each other and our UCC neighbours from across the Region. See you at the EY Centre! You'll be sure to notice us by our celebratory OUC swag!

100th Anniversary Event Survey

We are inviting all communities of faith in EOORC to join in celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the United Church of Canada. This special celebration will take place on June 15th at the EY Centre on the outskirts of Ottawa. Have you filled out this survey? [100th Anniversary Survey - Eastern Ontario Outaouais Regional Council](#) We encourage all communities of faith to take the time they need to decide how they would like to participate, and to fill out the survey as soon as they have made a decision. You can find the latest information about this event [here](#).

Serving the Wider United Church of Canada

Member Engagement has just launched the call for nominations for various committee vacancies for the 45th triennium. Please visit our [volunteer opportunities](#) page to learn more.

The following groups have vacancies: General Council Executive, Judicial Committee, Theology and Inter-Church Inter-Faith Committee, Audit Committee, Finance Advisory Committee, Nominations Committee, Board of Vocation, Admission Board, Credentialing Committee, Remedial Committee, Response Committee, Vocational Standards Committee, Candidacy Boards and Other Candidacy Pathways Volunteers

Use our [online nominations form](#) to nominate someone or express your own interest.

Avez-vous des compétences à offrir à l'Église Unie à titre de bénévole ? L'Église Unie a besoin de vous !

Les groupes suivants ont besoin de bénévoles : Exécutif du Conseil général, Comité théologie et relations interreligieuses et interconfessionnelles, Comité des nominations, Conseil des admissions, Conseils des candidatures et autres bénévoles, Conseil de la vocation, Conseil des admissions. [Utilisez ce formulaire de candidature en ligne pour proposer une personne ou exprimer votre propre intérêt](#)

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News from the Wider United Church



**Living into
Right Relations**

In [January 28th edition](#), the moderator thanks Bishop Budde for her “bold and prophetic” words

The [February 4th edition](#) discusses opportunities to serve in the United Church of Canada, the Lenten Devotional, Black History Month and more!

Right Relations: The [January 21st edition](#) shares a statement from the Elders at the National Indigenous Spiritual Gathering, and reminds us that “Have a Heart Day” is coming up soon.
