



EOORC News

Wednesday, April 2, 2025

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

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Lunch & Learn: Getting your church on the map!



Join us on May 6th at 12:00PM EST for a 45-minute webinar that will walk you through setting-up your church's Google Business Listing. In this webinar we will be exploring ways you can create a welcoming "digital doormat" for your community of faith. From ensuring you're easy to find on search results, to highlighting the what seekers *really* want to know, we will explore how to create a strong invitational first impression online.

This Lunch & Learn will offer you one practical tool you can implement today to strengthen invitation to your community of faith. This webinar will be provided in English, but content is available in French by emailing tmullin@united-church.ca.

Register: https://united-church.zoom.us/meeting/register/RaQ37EahRj-AnyoP5rtf_A

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 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 AGM on Saturday June 14th

The 2025 Annual General Meeting will be held on **Saturday June 14th**. It will take place at the EY Centre near the Ottawa airport, with a Zoom option available. Registration will open in early May. A draft agenda and more information are available [here](#).

For those travelling from the Chalk River/Arnprior area: a bus is in the works and will be a simple, fun and eco-friendly way to travel to the meeting.

Montreal Mission Internship 2025



Montreal Mission Internship 2025: A 9-week summer program for young people ages 18 to 25. Serve others, grow in faith, learn more about where God is calling you in the world—and spend the summer in a fantastic city. Participants receive a \$5000 stipend and, if needed, access to discounted housing in Montreal. More information

at www.montrealmission.ca or via e-mail to Alan Ma

at director@montrealmission.ca.

Church Extension Fund – Loans and Grants

The Church Extension Committee will be meeting on May 7th, 2025 at 1:00 p.m. via zoom. If your community of Faith wishes to apply for a grant or a loan your application will need to be in by April 25th to secretary, Judy Harms Potter. You can email her at jharms.potter@gmail.com for more information regarding the Church Extension Committee.

Follow the link to see the requirements for applications: <https://eoorc.ca/resources/funding-sources/>

2025 Indigenous-Racialized Youth Scholars Program

ATTENTION: All GenZs who are members or associated with The United Church of Canada

We are looking for a **NEW** cohort of 6 youths ages 18–26 years old who identify as Indigenous or Racialized, and are interested in participating in a 10-week research program. Do you know a young scholar who would like to participate in the program? Details [here](#).

Events for Ministry Personnel and Retired/Retiring Ministers

April 29th – [Retired and Retiring Clergy Event: Nourishing and Nurturing our Spiritual Lives in Retirement](#)

May 6th – [Christian Witness in a Crisis-Shaped World: An Event for Ministry Personnel](#)

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Faithful Footprints is hoping to celebrate 100+ United Church of Canada events during [Together for the Love of Creation: Earth Week 2025](#) (April 20 -27, 2025).

For the third year in a row, Faithful Footprints is inviting past and current program participants to [host an in-person retrofit tour event](#). This is an opportunity to celebrate the building upgrades that communities of faith have achieved thanks to the support of the grant program and a chance for others to get a closer look at the renovations and upgrades.

We're encouraging United Church communities of faith that have participated in the program to host a tour and help spread the word about upcoming tours.

InterChurch Youth Camp

A camp for age 11-18+. More details [here](#).

100 Words of Hope Campaign

Feeling anxious about our world right now? So are we. But we know there is hope.

We've invited United Church leaders to share "100 Words of Hope" that speak to these moments of high anxiety, and that lean into deep spirituality. We also invite YOU to share your own 100-word reflection, poem, or prayer on hope and faith in these times. Submit your reflection or prayer using this [form](#).

Together, we can lift each other up in faith, hope, and love. We are not alone. We live in God's world.

"May the Fourth Be With You"

Is your community of faith planning a Star Wars themed service on May 4th? Please let us know by writing to Natalie Matkovsky at nmatkovsky@united-church.ca. These services may be of interest to people in the wider community, and we would love to help you promote them.



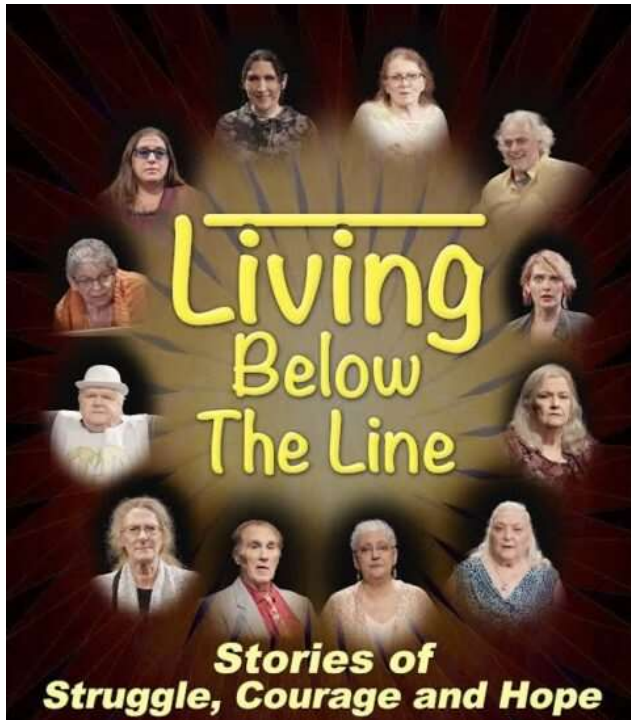
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Holy Week and Easter Bingo

Would your community of faith be interested in Holy Week and Easter Bingo? This is an engaging way to try new spiritual practices. The “bingo card” was designed by Karen Wilson, Communications Assistant to the East Central Ontario RC. You can download it [here](#).

“The Bible and the War on Gaza” – Webinar Series

Shining Waters Regional Council and PalNet invite you to a webinar series on the Bible and how our interpretations of scripture have influenced historical events leading to the current war in Gaza. Learn more [here](#).



On May 3 at 2 pm, Bells Corners U.C will host a showing of the film "Living Below the Line", presenting true and thought provoking stories of poverty in Canada.

In 2022, fifteen individuals living with poverty in Waterloo Region worked with theatre artists to co-create a play about their lives. Scenes cover stigma, addiction, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), bias in education, the medical system maze, partner abuse, discrimination and homelessness.

Community co-creators perform stories about their own and each others' struggles, courage, and hope.

This well-received play has now been filmed to share these important stories more widely. You are invited to join Bells Corners United Church to watch the film, which is about 1 hour long. Following the film, three of the actors from the play will join by Zoom for a short 'talk-back' session. Refreshments will be served. There is no charge for this event.

News from the Wider United Church

The [March 25th edition](#) of E-ssentials shares about Easter M&S resources...and more!

The [March 27th edition](#) of *Living into Right Relations* includes information about justice for Missing and Murdered Indigenous People, recent GCE decisions around Orange Shirt Sunday and a donation to the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation, vacancies on Indigenous Ministries and Justice Committees, and more!

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