



EOORC News

Thursday, May 1, 2025

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

QUICK LINKS

- [Pastoral Relations Minutes](#)
- [Executive Minutes](#)
- [Jobs](#)
- [Upcoming Events](#)
- [Submit an Event](#)

IN THIS ISSUE

- Communities of Faith in the News
- Bells Corners Affirming Ministry
- Information Evening on Appointments with Student Ministers
- Opportunities for Youth and Young Adults
- The Keeping in Touch Team
- Learning for Refugee Sponsors
- And More!

United Church Communities of Faith in the News

St. John's United Church (Kemptville) was recognized for their *Exemplary Work in the Community* in the North Grenville Civic Awards 2025. You can read about the civic awards at [MyKemptvilleNow](#).

Arts Hub Brockville (a partnership with St. John's United Church Brockville) recently celebrated its first anniversary. You can read about this innovative partnership in the [Brockville Recorder and Times](#).

Wall Street United Church and St. John's United Church (both in Brockville) joined other local churches in a Good Friday walk of the cross. [The Brockville Recorder and Times](#) shared about the walk. In the article, Rev. Kimberly Heath of Wall Street United Church reflects on Good Friday and the importance of bringing the church together.

Grace United Church invited the whole community to the deconsecration service of its building in Rupert, Quebec. The congregation continues to gather for worship in Chelsea, Quebec. Student Minister Marie Chery presided at the service. Rev. Éric Hébert-Daly (who was a member of Grace United Church prior to ordination) and Jim Allen represented EOORC. Winnifred Woods, Hubert McClelland and other members of the congregation spoke at the service. You can read about the deconsecration service at the [Low Down Online](#).

A team of women from Christ United Church (Lyn) volunteered to make sandwiches, cookies and squares for their Anglican neighbours. They hosted a reception after the deconsecration service of St. John the Baptist Anglican Church in Lyn. The deconsecration service was written about in the [Brockville Recorder and Times](#)

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.

Appointments with a Student Minister, Information Evening – via Zoom

May 21 @ 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

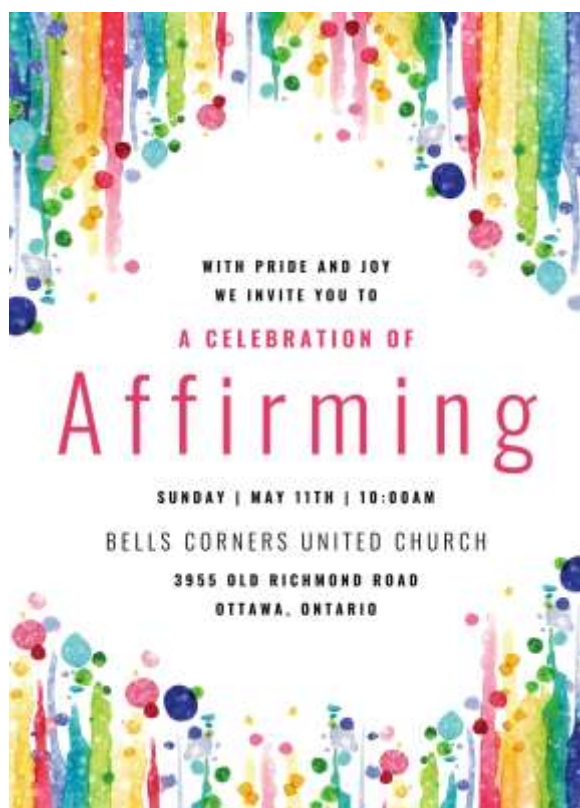
Hiring a Student Minister: a workshop on Appointments with a student for a Supervised Ministry Experience (SME), or a Diaconal Field Placement.

The workshop is for anyone involved with Pastoral Relations, current or future PR Liaisons, and Communities of Faith interested in being a learning site. PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED. Please click [here](#) to register.

We will cover competency-based learning, the learning site, expectations of the Community of Faith, expectations of the student minister, and confusion around "Learning Goals." The workshop is for anyone involved with Pastoral Relations, current or future PR Liaisons, and Communities of Faith interested in being a learning site.

For more information, please click [here](#).

Congratulations to Bells Corners United Church on Becoming a New Affirming Ministry!



Bells Corners United Church is a newly Affirming Ministry. With pride and joy, Bells Corners United Church invites you to join in celebrating on Sunday May 11th at 10 am.

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 [here](#).

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.

Opportunities for Youth and Young Adults

Summer Job Opportunities

[Climate Motivator \(Canada Summer Job Program\) | The United Church of Canada](#) (May 5 deadline)

[Leadership Animator \(Canada Summer Jobs Program\) | The United Church of Canada](#) (May 5 deadline)

[Leadership Coordinator \(Canada Summer Jobs Program\) | The United Church of Canada](#) (May 5 deadline)

Gibimishkaadimin Canoe Camping Trip

Gibimishkaadimin, a journey of reconciliation - Realizing Truth and Reconciliation as we paddle together.

[TRIP DETAILS | home](#)

DATES: Aug. 19-27, 2025

LOCATION: Lake Temagami with Northwaters and Langskib Outfitters.

APPLICATIONS DUE: May 15

JOIN US - We accept applications from Indigenous youth from coast to coast to coast in Canada, and non-Indigenous youth from southern and eastern Ontario. Youth must be 14 to 18 years old on the first day of the canoe trip.

2025 Indigenous-Racialized Youth Retreat

The United Church of Canada is looking for eight (8) Indigenous and eight (8) Racialized youth to join us for an **unforgettable retreat** where we'll build a community of faith, through engaging in conversations, a multitude of activities and new experiences. This is a space for Indigenous and Racialized youth to connect, learn, and strengthen both cultural identities and spiritual lives with each other. Furthermore, this is a contribution to the United Church's commitment to becoming an anti-racist church. More information can be found at [2025 Indigenous-Racialized Youth Retreat | The United Church of Canada](#) (May 23 deadline)

InterChurch 2025 Youth Camp -Registration Closes May 9



Keeping in Touch Team Looking for Members

There's a new leadership team getting started in the Region. Several people have already expressed interest and we are looking for 3-5 more people to join the team! Team members will be assigned a list of Pastoral Charges in the Region to Keep in Touch with. We are looking for lay, ordered and retired members of the Region to join this Team. (This team is outside of formal Pastoral Relations work such as a Pastoral Charge Supervisor or a Liaison.)

Each team member will be assigned approximately 10-13 pastoral charges to keep in touch with! Team members will connect with the congregations on their list several times a year, by phone. They will connect with the clergy and lay rep(s) from each congregation to check in with them and ask questions such as: "How are you doing?" "Is there anything the Region can help you with?" The hope is that these conversations can help clergy and lay reps to feel more connected to the Region/United Church of Canada.

No experience necessary! Rev. Mary Royal Duczek is the staff support to this leadership team. If you would like to learn more or express interest in joining this Leadership Team please reach out to Mary at MRoyal-Duczek@united-church.ca or 613 451 1671.

National Refugee Sponsorship Conference

We are excited to invite all Communities of Faith within your Regional Council to the upcoming **National Refugee Sponsorship Conference** on **May 13, 2025, from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. (ET)**.

The conference is funded by Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) and organized by the **Refugee Sponsorship Training Program (RSTP)** and the **United Church of Canada's Refugee Team**.

We kindly ask you to **share the attached flyer and link <https://bit.ly/acalltorevive> widely** with your Communities of Faith and to **post it on your bulletins and other community boards** to help spread the word. Your support in promoting this important event is deeply appreciated.

Continuing Education Opportunity –“The Song of the Earth” with John Bell

Five Oaks is hosting a retreat in June. For more information, you can visit their website: <https://fiveoaks.on.ca/programs-and-retreats/>

“Practical Ideas for Housing Searches”: A Workshop for Refugee Sponsors

The Ontario Private Refugee Sponsorship Network is hosting an event on how to find housing for refugees. It will be on May 10th. You can register at: <https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/a43qlltRTzaadJkr-dqt1A#/registration>

Emmanuel United Church, Ottawa: Looking for a Treasurer

Do you have experience or an interest in finance? We have a strong and supportive finance committee and are in need of a Church Treasurer. If you, or you know of anyone that is interested in becoming Emmanuel's Treasurer, please contact our church office at 613-733-0437. There is an annual honorarium paid to the Treasurer.

Stewardship Update from Rev. Roger Janes



May is PAR Month: Our Philanthropy Staff Team have just created some resources for pastoral charges to create their own Pre-Authorized Remittance campaign next month (or whenever)! Resources include a Step-By-Step Guide to creating your Own Par Campaign, A Sample Plan, A PAR Sermon, communication messages, as well as links to other previously shared resources. Check out the downloads section of our [PAR Webpage](#).

Called to Be the Church: The Journey: When you are ready to make good stewardship a core part of your community of faith, we are here to help. Each course has a specific focus, enabling you to set goals, create a plan, and be successful, including both learning and practical elements. Here are our slated for this Spring and Summer:

- [Bequests and Estate Giving](#) - 2 sessions that will teach participants about the varieties of Planned gifts and how to inspire and invite people to make a planned gift. **April 24th and May 8th.**
- [Setting Up Your Giving Program](#) – 2 sessions that are designed for you and your Stewardship Team to develop the resources you need to get your Congregational Giving Program off the ground! **April 30th and May 15th.**
- [Getting Started in Stewardship](#), will run on **June 19th and July 17th.**

Be the First Bloom! Support Mission and Service This Easter:

Just as the first tulips of spring bring vibrant life, [Mission and Service](#) brings hope and action to communities in need across Canada and around the world. This vital work, powered by your compassion, takes many forms, adapting to diverse needs. But Mission and Service needs you. This Easter, we invite you to be a personal embodiment of that vibrant first bloom. [Make a critical gift](#) to support our dozens of partners fighting injustice, poverty, and inequality. Your generosity is the essential nourishment for this living church in action.

News from the Wider United Church

The [April 24th edition](#) of *Living in Right Relations* encourages us to take action for Missing and Murdered Indigenous People.

The [April 22nd edition](#) of E-ssentials shares a photo: A Place at the Table - Re-imagining the Last Supper.

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.