



EOORC News

Friday, November 28, 2025

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

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“Things I Didn’t Learn in Seminary”

Applications are open for our online Continuing Education program for diaconal, ordained ministry and designated lay ministers. If you feel under-equipped to minister in our contemporary context, are feeling isolated in your ministry, or want to explore ways to safeguard your pastoral health, apply to join one of our two bi-weekly cohorts, running for 7 weeks (January to April). **Please apply by December 1st.** You can learn more and apply [here](#).

EOORC Sends Condolences – Rev. John Bushby

It is with sadness that we share the passing of the Rev. John Bushby. John passed away on October 20th 2025. Over many years, he served in ministry with churches in Eastern Ontario, sharing faith and building community. You can read more about his life [here](#). Please hold John’s family, friends and loved ones in your prayers.

Rev. Grant Dillenbeck – Celebration of Life and Conversation in Broadview

The Celebration of Life Service for Rev. Grant Dillenbeck will be at Zion-Memorial United Church in Carleton Place at 11:00 am on Saturday, November 29, 2025, followed by a reception with fellowship & refreshments. The service will also be [live on YouTube](#).

Grant and his friend Christopher White recently spoke about life, death, love and faith [in a conversation](#) in Broadview magazine.

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EOORC Communities of Faith in the News

Inverary United Church – Leah Buckler's 14th birthday was in October, and Inverary United Church wanted to do something to celebrate. They planned a fundraiser to support Leah and her family, or a cause dear to Leah's heart. Leah has battled cancer over the last 3 years. Leah chose the Make a Wish Canada Foundation. She was a recipient in 2024 and travelled to Banff with her family. Leah wanted to help other kids have their wishes come true. Inverary United Church collected donations and held a special walk/run. You can [read all about it](#) in the *Frontenac News*.

Glebe St. James United Church - Rev. Dr. Teresa Burnett-Cole spoke with Capital Current about the importance of community in church, as part of an article about increased Gen Z church attendance in some Ottawa area churches. She also talked about an initiative at Glebe-St. James, creating a safe and welcoming intergenerational space for queer folks. You can read more in *Capital Current* [here](#).

Almonte United Church – Earlier this autumn, youth from Almonte United Church and St. Paul's Anglican Church worked together and with other local organizations to organize a candlelit vigil marking the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. You can read about it [here](#) in *The Lanarkist*.

Confirmation Retreat

The region is hosting a Confirmation Retreat Friday, Jan. 16 at 7pm to Sat. Jan. 17 at 7pm at Bells Corners United Church. This is an overnight event.

This retreat is for youth beginning the process of confirmation within their own congregations and will boost the continuation of work. This event is not meant to be a complete confirmation program, and participants will need to be connected with a congregation to complete the process. Some of the areas discussed during the Retreat will be UCC history, social action, God, Jesus, Holy Spirit, Spiritual Practices and different forms of worship experience.

The registration link is available via the QR code on the poster or [here](#). Blessings, Dana Ducette

**REGIONAL YOUTH
CONFIRMATION RETREAT
GRADE 7 AND UP**

**Fri. Jan. 16th 7:00pm to
Sat. Jan. 17th 7:00pm
Bells Corners United Church
Bells Corners, ON.**

For more information please
contact Dana Ducette,
dducette@united-church.ca

Participation fee: \$60
funding support available

EOORC Youth and Young Adult
Ministry WINTER CONFIRMATION
WEEKEND 2026 Grades 7-12

Register HERE

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A Message from the Ottawa School of Theology and Spirituality

Connecting People on the Path of Faith and Learning

Knowledgeable lecturers, wide range of courses, at an affordable price. Winter semester is all on ZOOM. Winter Term: January 5 – March 16, 2026 consists of two five (5) week classes (Mondays 7:30—9:30 p.m.) No homework or exams. A great way to augment what is preached on and taught in adult bible study sessions. Ecumenical and inter-denominational—all welcome. More information may be found at: www.osts.ca

We want to help more people know about what the Ottawa School of Theology offers. Please print [this poster](#) and post it on your church bulletin board, and/or include the poster in your church newsletter.

Please also share the following during the announcements on Sunday:

The Ottawa School of Theology and Spirituality is accepting registrations for the Winter Term, which runs from January 5—March 16, 2026, on Monday evenings from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. All classes will be on ZOOM. The aim of the school is to “Connect people on the path of faith and learning” and has been offering courses since the 1960’s. There are a wide range of courses to choose from, the lecturers are knowledgeable, and the price is affordable. Better yet—no homework or exams. More information may be found at www.osts.ca or see the poster on the church bulletin board.

A Message to you from Messy Church Canada Team:

Thank you for all you do in sharing God’s love!

Advent, Christmas, New Year’s, Epiphany – they all come so quickly at this time of year! It can be overwhelming to do all the planning and preparation! How are you and your Messy Church team?

The Messy Church Canada Team wants to support you! Let’s connect, share ideas, and pray for and with one another.

On Wednesday, December 3, 2025 there are 2 time options for gathering on ZOOM. You are welcome at one or both!

Wednesday, December 3, 2025

Please use the same link for BOTH:

2 pm EST and 8 pm EST

Here’s the link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/4098204079>

December 6th Service

A GATHERING TO REMEMBER &
A CALL TO ACTION
TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

Saturday, December 6th, 2025 @ 3:00pm

First United Church Ottawa

followed by warm beverages
& circle conversations



347 Richmond Road, Ottawa

We encourage you to also join the 6:00pm National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women Vigil at Enclave: The Ottawa Women's Monument in Minto Park. 102 Lewis St, Ottawa, ON K2P 0S7



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Free Piano – Kemble Baby Grand

Rothwell United Church in Ottawa is giving away a **Kemble Baby Grand Piano** (built circa 1965 in London, England).

- Strong, even sound
- Tuned to concert pitch (A-440)
- Original ivory keys
- Climate control system included
- Condition: Fair, with some wear
- Valued at approx. \$2,000

Note: Anyone interested is responsible for moving the piano.

Contact Rothwell United Church:

- Phone: **613-746-0820**
- Email: rothwellunited@rogers.com

Intercultural Church Workshop – Saturday November 28th

First United Church is hosting a workshop about becoming an intercultural church on Saturday November 28th. You can find more information [on their website](#).

News from the Wider United Church

The **United Church Rural Ministry Network** has a monthly newsletter. You can read the most recent ones: [September](#), [October](#), and [November](#). You can also subscribe to receive each month's newsletter your inbox.

Living into Right Relations – You can read the November 26th edition [here](#).

E-ssentials United Church Newsletter – You can read the latest edition [here](#).
