

LIFE AND WORK OF EMMANUEL UNITED CHURCH MAY 2025



Photo Credit: Emma Dowd

June Issue Submission Deadline:
May 20, 2025

Welcome to Emmanuel United Church

INCLUSIVE • COMPASSIONATE • JUSTICE SEEKING • WELCOMING ALL

Welcome to Emmanuel United Church, where the church is the body of Christ with each member having unique gifts to share and a ministry to offer. We invite you to come and visit, to worship, to join in our fellowship, to participate in our many activities, and to enrich your faith. As an affirming church, we welcome everyone.

We recognize the Algonquin Nation, on whose traditional unceded territory Emmanuel United Church is located. We gratefully acknowledge them as past, present and future stewards of this land.

**691 Smyth Road,
Ottawa, ON K1G 1N7
Website: www.emmanuelunited.ca
Telephone: 613-733-0437**

Sunday Worship at 10:00 AM

**Office Hours: Monday – Thursday
9:00 am-4:30pm**

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KEEPING IN TOUCH

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For Information on any of our church activities, please call or email the office and check out our website - the upcoming events and good to know sections of the homepage host excellent content; get to know us even better by exploring more!



In Memoriam

**Cathy Borza
March 17 2025**

***Blessed are those who
mourn, For they shall be
comforted.
Matthew 5:4***

***Thank you to all
those who made
donations to the
Memorial Fund,
in honour of a
loved one or
friend.***

ACTIVITIES & GROUPS

On May 12th, **Book Club** will discuss *The Women* by Kristen Hannah, *discussion lead by Janice*.

The **Emmanuel's Men's Group** meets monthly for Breakfast from 8:15-10:15 am. The location for May is to be determined, contact Jon Jones or Terry Henderson for details. The upcoming dates are May 10, June 14, July 12, and August 9.

This spring the **Thursday Morning Discussion Group (Heretics)** will be discussing interesting articles in recent Broadview issues. All are welcome to join us for our interesting and lively conversations. We meet at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday mornings on Zoom, and there's always room for more. Please contact Evelyn Perkins (perkeve@hotmail.com) or any member of Heretics for further information or a Zoom invitation.

Monday Night Christian Meditation Group

“If anyone wants to be first, he must make himself last of all and servant of all” (Mark 9:35)

“It requires nerve to really become quiet. To learn just to say the mantra and turn away from all thought requires courage. But as we persevere we discover that the poverty of the mantra leads us to a really radical simplicity that makes this courage possible, for we are capable of greater courage than we usually believe of ourselves. But meditation is the prayer of faith, because we have to leave ourselves behind before the Other appears and with no pre-packaged guarantee that He will appear. The essence of poverty consists in this risk of annihilation. This is the leap of faith from ourselves to the Other. This is the risk involved in all loving.”

— John Main OSB

The meditation group meets on Monday evening for an hour starting at 7:00pm on Zoom. There is 25 minutes of silent meditation, a talk or video presentation, and a time for sharing.

For further information and a zoom link, please contact Evelyn Perkins (perkeve@hotmail.com).



Food Bank Sunday and Monday

It's that time again. Time to think about donating to the Rideau Rockcliffe Community Resource Centre food bank.

Size 3T, 4T, and 5T diapers and feminine supplies are especially appreciated, as is coffee. Egg boxes are back on the list too. Reusable grocery bags continue to be welcome as well.

Feel free to drop contributions in the **Food Bank Collection Box** on or before Sunday, May 25th. You can bring your donations to the church on Monday, May 26th between **2:00 to 3:00 PM**.

At this time, we will not be accepting monetary donations to the Russell Heights Food Bank – either in cash, cheque or e-transfer. Monetary donations can be made directly to:

Russell Heights Community House
1799 E&D Russell Road
Ottawa ON K1G 0N1

No tax receipts will be issued.

Some weeks, after church, you may purchase Loblaws, Metro and Farm Boy Gift cards to raise funds for refugee housing through the Ottawa Mennonite Refugee Association. The grocery store partners pay OMRA between 4% and 5% of the value of the grocery cards. OMRA uses the funds to subsidize rents for refugee housing. So bring cash or your chequebook and support this great cause. **Upcoming sale dates are May 18, June 24, and July 20.**

Red Dress Day

MAY 5



Commemorating the missing and murdered Indigenous women, girls, and two-spirit people.

Each individual is loved and missed.

This display of red clothing is intended to draw the eye of those passing by and introduce them to the on-going plight of the MMIWG2S+ people and their communities. It is a solemn memorial to those whose lives were lost, and in support of grieving families still waiting for justice. Canadians are encouraged to wear red on May 5th in tribute to the thousands of Indigenous people still being victimized, murdered or missing in our society.

You are encouraged to wear red on May 5.

EMMANUEL UNITED CHURCH, OTTAWA

LET'S STAY TOGETHER

MAY 25, 11:30 AM - 1 PM

Join us for lunch & fellowship

After lunch you can choose between:

A talk by experienced birder Aaron Hywarren about local birds and how to attract them, or building a birdhouse (an all-age activity).





CHRISTIAN DEVELOPMENT

The **Nursery** is available every Sunday.

Sunday School provides activities for children aged 3 to 14 during our Sunday church service.

Rainbow Hub is a monthly social group for LGBTQ2+ youth who are 12-18 years old from across the city. The meetings are usually held on the first Friday of each month. For more information, please contact Ellen Brohman. (ellenbrohman@gmail.com)

Our next ***Let's Stay Together*** Sunday will be **May 25** (later this month due to other events and the long weekend). Join us after the service for lunch and fellowship. After lunch activities will include a choice of a talk by experienced birder Aaron Hywarren about local birds and how to attract them or building a birdhouse (an all-age activity).

Confirmation – May 11

Over the last few months some of our teens have been taking part in confirmation classes. We've explored different aspects of our faith and the beliefs and work of the United Church. Our confirmation service and celebration will be held on May 11. The service that day will be a celebratory intergenerational worship service. We hope that many will attend and join us in welcoming our young people!

Post-Secondary Bursary – Students entering the first year of a post-secondary program are encouraged to apply for a bursary from Emmanuel. To apply, please fill in the application form found at [Student-Bursary-Application.pdf](#) and include a letter of reference and proof of acceptance into the program. For more information contact Janice Peron, Val Lines or Ellen Brohman. Applications are due by June 8, 2025.

Youth Community Service Leadership Camp - July 7 to July 11, 9am to 3:30pm. Youth going into Grade 6 to 10 will take part in community outreach projects as well as games, crafts and baking. For more information or a registration form contact Amelia Brohman or Valerie Lines.

Cook and Canoe Camp - July 28 to Aug 1

Youth going into Grade 4 and up will spend Monday and Tuesday at Emmanuel preparing food for our canoe trip, playing games and taking part in other activities. Wednesday morning to Friday afternoon will be spent canoe camping at Lac LaPêche, about 50 minutes north of Ottawa. For more information or a registration form contact Valerie Lines.

COUNCIL

All members of the congregation may attend meetings of Council and Executive of Council as observers. Our meetings are held on the third Tuesday of the month.

Our next meeting will be a Council meeting on Tuesday, May 20, 2025 at 7:00 pm on Zoom. If you wish to attend and observe, please contact Keith Jeacle or Val Dowd at k.jeacle@outlook.com or webmaster@emmanuelunited.ca for the Zoom coordinates.

FINANCE

On our website, on the Resources page, under the Financial Documents heading, you can find this year's **Post Secondary Bursary Application**. If you or someone you know is beginning their first year of post secondary education, please apply before the deadline of June 8, 2025.

GLOBAL PARTNERS

News from our partners:

Iglesia Bautista Emmanuel:

- IBE is working among the outlying communities in El Salvador. They have reopened the Missionary and Pastoral schools with leaders from those communities.
- IBE's school Colégio Bautista Emmanuel is still in a difficult situation. There are a couple of upcoming meetings at IBE about the situation, with the second one being to make decisions concerning the future of the school.

Chipembi Congregation:

- We are still looking for young adults to serve as leaders at Camp Chipembi. Tentative dates for that event (including travel) are August 9 – 25. So far, we have two interested leaders from Bells Corners United and one from Emmanuel United.
- We have received a proposal from Chipembi about the Girls' Secondary School Dormitory which will provide a safe and secure accommodation for girls while attending the school. The proposed school will have space for 100 girls. The proposal contains early estimates for the construction of the building. The current estimate is approximately \$47,000 CAD (including 10% contingency) and doesn't include furnishings.

Fundraising for Camp Chipembi 2025:



Once again, this year and for the 12th time, we are supporting the vacation bible school to be held from August 18 to 23 at the Chipembi Consistory of the United Church of Zambia. This year's camp will be for 100 children and youths. Everyone at the camp gets a t-shirt, and each day they receive a nutritious lunch. Starting in May and until mid-July, we will be selling sponsorships for lunches, and t-shirts.

You can sponsor in any of the following ways:

- Send a kid to Camp Chipembi (t-shirt & lunches) – \$50
- Provide funding for any number of t-shirts – \$15 each
- Or any number of lunches – \$7 each
- Or lunches for a kid for the whole camp – \$35

How to pay for your sponsorship:

- a) buy a sponsorship at the table at Coffee & Conversation;
- b) by e-transfer (to envelope.secretary@emmanuelunited.ca);
or
- c) write a cheque (to Emmanuel United Church) in an envelope mailed or dropped off at the church.

In the case of b) or c), please indicate in the comments field or on a note what you are sponsoring and that it is for Camp Chipembi.

Tax receipts will be provided.

If you have any questions, contact Keith Jeacle @ 613 440-6646 or Jim Lamb @ 613 797-2753



KEEPING IN TOUCH

Welcoming Lunch, May 11

All newcomers and newly confirmed members and their families are invited to a lunch, following the service. We look forward to gathering together. Contact Joyce White by phone at 613-324-8759, or by emailing welcoming@emmanuelunited.ca

Let us know of address or phone number changes

We appreciate knowing when your address or phone number changes so that Emma can update the Congregational List. Please contact our committee or the office so that we can “keep in touch” with you.

Thank You

We are grateful to Bev Laplante for sharing her gift of Easter card making and to Patty Kavcic for helping to choose the Easter plants for the Eastbrook cross.

Coffee and Conversation, May 4

Volunteers are welcome – If you would like to help KIT with Coffee and Conversation, we would be happy to teach you more about kitchen routines.

The next Keeping in Touch Meeting is Tuesday, June 3 at 7:00 P.M. on Zoom.

MINISTRY & PERSONNEL

Ron will be on vacation the week of April 28. Please contact Rev Grant or any member of the Pastoral Care team if needed.

Emma will be away on vacation from April 30 through May 19. Loli Zahinda will be in the office while Emma is away.

PASTORAL CARE

Together We Thrive – When We Pray for One Another

A community prayer for the Easter Season you are invited to pray.

God of Resurrection

I pray with a grateful heart for the gift of Jesus Christ—our risen Savior and Living Hope. In this season of new life, I’m reminded that we are never alone. I know we thrive together when we lift one another up in prayer. So, I pray with thanksgiving for the prayers of this church family. I pray for those in our community who are tired or struggling—may they find renewed strength and courage to carry on. Be especially close to those who are grieving any kind of loss. Let the flame of hope continue to burn gently within them. And, Lord, help us remember that our prayers are not just for ourselves. We lift up all who are in need—those near to us and those we may never meet. We pray for the lonely, the hurting, the hungry, and the forgotten. Finally, we remember the world You created—every creature, every ecosystem, every part of this earth that longs for healing. **Amen**

An Easter Meditation

“Very truly I tell you, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds.”

— John 12:24 (NIV)

Spring, with its delicate emergence, reminds us that life always returns, not in haste, but with a quiet unfolding—like the soul finding its way back to itself. The resurrection is not merely a one-time event; it is the perennial grace of life breaking through all the spaces where we thought it was lost. In the soft light of morning, we are invited to trust that all things—our hearts, our hopes, our world—will bloom again, even when we cannot see it coming. *John O’Donohue*

Spring Pilgrimage

Theme: No One Stands Alone

Where: Vincent Massey Park (Riverside at Heron)

When: Wed. May 7th (rain date May 21st) 10 A.M-2 P.M.

Who: All are welcome!

Why: To enjoy nature, grow spiritually, and share with our Church family. Register: A sign-up sheet is posted in the upstairs hallway opposite the C.E. Hall or talk to Ron MacDonald, Irene Baaker or Jill MacLean. Drivers are needed. Full information will be sent to all who register.

Pastoral Care Team

At Emmanuel, we believe in walking alongside one another through life's challenges, offering emotional and spiritual support to individuals and families in times of need. Our Pastoral Care Team is here to listen, to comfort, and to help support you through whatever you may be facing. To get in touch with the Pastoral Care Team, contact Ron MacDonald, Pastoral Care Provider at: pastoralcare@emmanuelunited.ca or contact the church at 613-733-0437.

Team Members: Rev. Grant Stuckless, Dr. Ron MacDonald, Malcolm Collins, Patricia Fairbairn, Terry Henderson, Jon Jones, Jill MacLean, and Joyce White (Keeping in Touch)

SOUTHEAST OTTAWA CLUSTER EVENTS

The Southeast Ottawa Cluster consists of Emmanuel, Glebe St James, Rideau Park, Riverside & Southminster United Churches.

RIDEAU PARK: A 55+ Spring Luncheon will be held on Wednesday, May 28 at 12pm. We will be serving rotisserie chicken, potato salad, coleslaw and green salad followed by cake with berries and whipped cream. This event is open to everyone over the age of 55 and cost is \$10 per person. To reserve your seat, please RSVP to Sandra Weedmark at 613-731-6447 by Tuesday, May 20. Cash or cheque can be used to pay for your lunch.

RIVERSIDE: Swing Dance on May 31, 6:30-9:30 pm. Tickets (\$20) will be available starting April 6th. Please contact Malcolm Wade ([mpgwade\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:mpgwade(at)gmail.com)) for further details.

WORSHIP

Looking ahead to Worship in May

May 4 ~ Acts 9:1-20, John 21:19-31

Guest handbell choir from St. Andrew's

May 11 ~ Acts 9:36-42

Confirmation and Newcomers' Lunch

May 18 ~ Acts 11:1-18

May 26 ~ Acts 16:9-15

Communion

100th Anniversary Celebrations

On Sunday June 15th at 11:00 there will be a service of celebration for churches in the Eastern Ontario region. It will be held at the EY Centre (near the airport). This service will be livestreamed for those who do not wish to attend in person and will be 90 minutes long. There will be NO service at Emmanuel that morning.

There will be an opportunity for interested people to participate in a massed choir. This group will meet prior to the service to rehearse together. If you wish to be part of this group (even if you are not a part of the Emmanuel choir), contact Joan Foster-Jones for more information.

If you are interested in sharing transportation to the event (either car-pooling or on a bus), please contact Phyllis MacRae or Joan Foster-Jones.

A group of quilters in Kemptville will be creating a special 100th anniversary quilt to be used at the service as well as subsequent regional events. A block representing Emmanuel (our church logo) has been sent to be included in this quilt.

Other services are being planned:

June 8th – there will be a national service livestreamed from Gower Street United Church in St. John's NL.

Simplify Your Celebrations

We would like to thank
those who have made contributions
in the month of April 2025 to
Emmanuel United Church as part of
the *Simplify your Celebrations* project.
Donations were received as follows:



In memory of Eva-May Hamilton
by Janet Campbell,
Hilde Reynolds

In memory of Cathy Borza
by Janet Campbell,
Hilde Reynolds

With thanks to the many people who helped me
following my recent injury
by Joan Foster-Jones



Donations may be made by cheque
payable to “Emmanuel United Church”,
e-transfer to envelope.secretary@emmanuelunited.ca
or through the CanadaHelps.org “Donate Now” button
on our website at www.emmanuelunited.ca

Simplify Your Celebrations

FORM TO ACCOMPANY DONATION

Donation to:
Emmanuel United Church
691 Smyth Road, Ottawa ON K1G 1N7

General Fund ☐ Capital Fund ☐

From: (Name) _____

(Address) _____

In recognition of:

*Please provide a statement that could go into the next monthly packet,
along the lines of those on the previous page.*

If you do not wish for this to be published, please check here _____

Please send acknowledgment to:

If you wish this to be an anonymous donation, please check here _____

Amount: \$ _____

Thank You