

LIFE AND WORK OF  
EMMANUEL UNITED CHURCH  
APRIL 2026



*Photo Credit: Emma Dowd*

**MAY ISSUE SUBMISSION DEADLINE:**  
APRIL 20, 2026

*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 Anishinabeg 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](http://www.emmanuelunited.ca)  
Telephone: 613-733-0437**

**Sunday Worship at 10:00 AM**

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

---

**Minister of Worship and Pastoral Care**

Grant Stuckless                      [revgstuckless@emmanuelunited.ca](mailto:revgstuckless@emmanuelunited.ca)

---

**Pastoral Care Provider**

Ron MacDonald                      [pastoralcare@emmanuelunited.ca](mailto:pastoralcare@emmanuelunited.ca)

---

**Office Administrator**

Emma Dowd                              [office@emmanuelunited.ca](mailto:office@emmanuelunited.ca)

---

**Leader of Children, Youth and Young Adult Ministry**

Amelia Brohman                      [amelia.euc@gmail.com](mailto:amelia.euc@gmail.com)

---

**Webmaster**

Val Dowd                                      [webmaster@emmanuelunited.ca](mailto:webmaster@emmanuelunited.ca)

---

**Envelope Secretary**

Keith Jeacle                              [envelope.secretary@emmanuelunited.ca](mailto:envelope.secretary@emmanuelunited.ca)

---

**Newsletter Editor**

Phyllis MacRae                              [newsletter@emmanuelunited.ca](mailto:newsletter@emmanuelunited.ca)

---

**Media Publicity**

Steve Taylor                              [publicity@emmanuelunited.ca](mailto:publicity@emmanuelunited.ca)

---

**Keeping in Touch**

Joyce White                              [welcoming@emmanuelunited.ca](mailto:welcoming@emmanuelunited.ca)

---

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*

Clarice Dewar,  
December 27, 1937 -  
March 6, 2026

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

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

## NOTICE OF FUNERAL PLANNING SERVICES

On April 15<sup>th</sup>, a Transitions Lunch & Learn opportunity is being offered with the theme “Preparing a Celebration of Life”. If you have ever wondered about the process of planning a memorial service at Emmanuel, I will be there to answer your questions. You can read more about the event in the Pastoral Care section of the bulletin.

Sincerely,

Emma Dowd,  
Office Administrator

### BAZAAR 2026

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED FOR THE 2026 HOLIDAY BAZAAR

**Scroungers Paradise** and **Silent Auction** are important areas in our Bazaar. Each of these areas requires a Supervisor(s) for our 2026 Holiday Bazaar on Saturday November 14, 2026.

I am inviting families, friends, neighbors, Emmanuel Groups to consider working together to manage either of these areas. I'm open to all possibilities.

All Bazaar proceeds go to the General Fund used to support our Church building, programs and initiatives.

If you have questions, can supervise **Scroungers Paradise** or **Silent Auction**, please contact: [brendalash@gmail.com](mailto:brendalash@gmail.com)

**Brenda Ashe**

## ACTIVITIES & GROUPS

**Emmanuel's Book Club** meets April 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm to discuss *The Salt Path*, by Raynor Winn, discussion led by Joyce.

The **Emmanuel's Men's Group** meets monthly for Breakfast from 8:30-10:30 am at Roger's Italian Bistro, at 500 Terminal Ave. The upcoming dates are April 11, May 9, June 13, July 11, & August 8.

On March 17<sup>th</sup>, *Let's Talk Tuesday's* Discussion Group met on zoom and spoke about St. Patrick's Day memories. They also created limericks to describe the group. A selection are here:

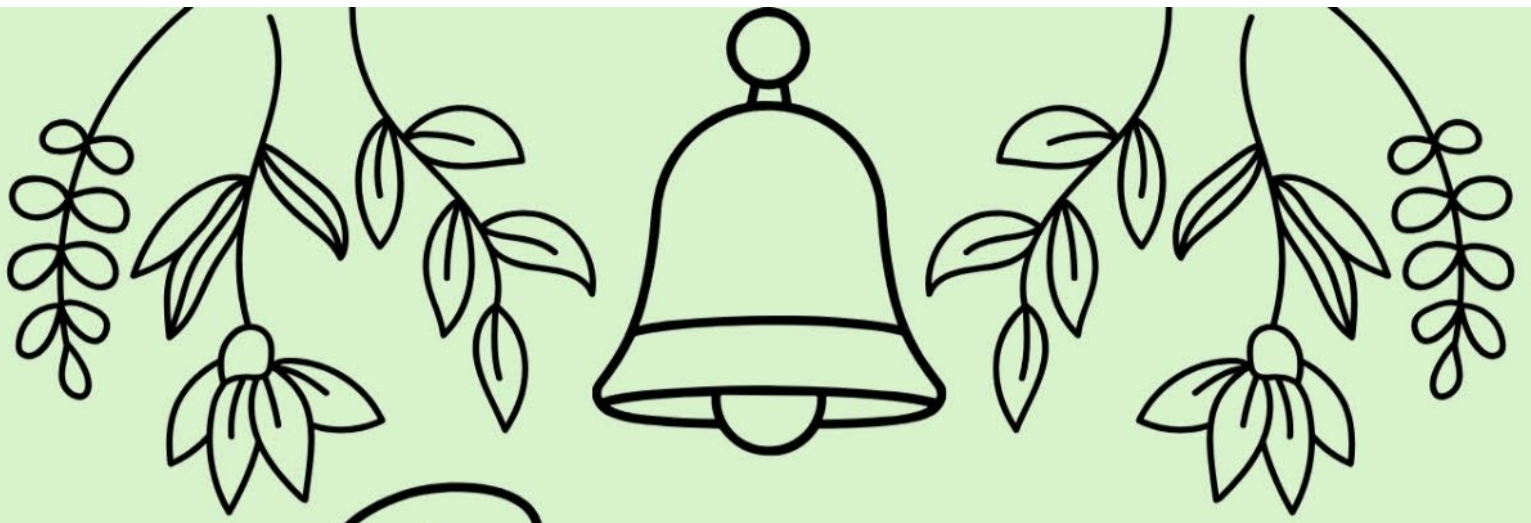
There once was a group every week,  
Where folks came to listen and speak.  
Through laughter and tears,  
They softened their fears,  
And found strength in the comfort they'd seek.

Each Tuesday Emmunuelites meet  
We start each time with a greet  
We care for each other  
Like sister or brother  
Each session is a real treat!

A pleasant group gathers on ZOOM  
For everyone there's always room  
We listen and care  
As wisdom we share  
And where we are planted we BLOOM!

On Smyth there's a church I am told  
Come in and we'll help share your load  
You'll feel welcome here  
We'll serve you good cheer  
To lighten your steps on the road

There once were some folks who were crazy  
Their brains were often quite hazy  
But they vowed they would dare  
To always take care  
Of each other 'til turning up Daisy



# Bells in SPRING

MAY 3<sup>RD</sup>, 2026, 7:00 PM

RIDEAU PARK UNITED CHURCH

Annual concert featuring the Emmanubells and handbell ensembles from St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Trinity Presbyterian Church, and Rideau Park United Church

Free admission - Freewill offering collected for the benefit of all participating ensembles.



# LET'S STAY TOGETHER



**APRIL 12  
11:30 AM - 1:30 PM**

**Join us for lunch & fellowship**

Join us after the service for lunch followed by a choice of two activities with the theme of poetry. There will be a chance to explore poetry for the young and young at heart, and we are also hoping to have a spoken word artist come and share their work.





## CHRISTIAN DEVELOPMENT

The Nursery is available every Sunday.

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

Rainbow Hub is a monthly social group for LGBTQ2+ youth 12-18 years old from across the city. The date of the April Rainbow evening is TBD. For more information, please contact Ellen Brohman. ([ellenbrohman@gmail.com](mailto:ellenbrohman@gmail.com))

### **Let's Stay Together Sunday – April 12**

Join us for lunch after the service on April 12 followed by a choice of two activities with the theme of poetry. There will be a chance to explore poetry for the young and young at heart, and we are also hoping to have a spoken word artist come and share their work.

Looking ahead to **Sunday June 7** – our Let's Stay Together activity will be square dancing for all ages, led by a caller and some dancers from the Merry Squares group. Mark it on your calendar and come out to dance (or watch)!

**Summer Camps** – We're looking ahead and have picked the dates for our summer camps!

**Youth Outreach Leadership Camp – July 27 to 31** for youth in Grades 6 to 10 (please note the change in dates from what was published in February).

**Canoe Camp** – August 10 to 14. This is a camp for youth going into Grades 4 and up. We spend two days at Emmanuel and three days (two nights) canoeing and camping at Lac La Peche in Gatineau Park.

Contact Amelia Brohman or Val Lines if there are any questions and look for more information and registration forms soon.

# COMMUNICATIONS

**VIDEO/AUDIO:** Operations at the Video and Audio consoles continue to go well. The “team” has been joined by Jordan Trach and Irene Zahinda. Welcome aboard, your help is very much appreciated.

**MOVIES:** Movie nights are finished for the season. If you are interested in the new season starting in September, please send us your ideas for movies the congregation would enjoy.

Russ Pastuch  
Chair, Communications Committee

## FINANCE

**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 in the *finance section* of Emmanuel’s website on the Resources page. 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 7, 2026.

**A word from the Finance Committee –**  
*Mission and Service Fund (M & S)*

We often hear about the M&S Fund, but what exactly is it? The M&S Fund is operated by the United Church and is used to support the day-to-day activities of the church's headquarters. Further, the fund supports the United Church's Canadian and international outreach activities.

For Emmanuel, the Mission and Service Fund is supported through a specific budget item. Many churches provide funds to M and S through designated, separate donations but at Emmanuel it was decided many years ago to support M and S through a lump sum contribution from the General Fund. This provides much appreciated certainty to the United Church. For the last few years, the budgeted amount has been set at ten percent of budgeted General Fund donations. For 2026 this will amount to \$36,000.

Various projects supported by M&S are highlighted through “Minute for Mission” presentations on Sunday mornings.

Aside from donations to our General Fund people can donate directly to support specific United Church of Canada initiatives. For example, it was possible to support humanitarian efforts in Goma in the eastern Congo, through UCC channels, from funds raised through the efforts of Emmanuel members.

If you have any questions about Emmanuel’s budget process or anything else concerning church finances, please ask any member of the Finance Committee (other than Dave Langner).

More information on how the United Church uses our M&S contributions can be found at: <https://united-church.ca>

Ross White

## HEALTH

### **TAKE TIME TO BE WHOLEY- Exercises Programs for Seniors**

#### **Chair Yoga – Monday’s from 10:30 to 11:30 am**

Chair Yoga is a gentle and accessible way to enhance your flexibility, balance and overall well-being. It's perfect for individuals of all ages and fitness levels. No mat is required. Cost: Drop-in fee of \$7 per class or \$65 for 10 tickets.

#### **Stretch and Strength – Friday’s from 10:30 to 11:30 am**

Exercise that consists of light exercises, some standing using light free weights and exercise bands. The program is designed to encourage seniors to stay or become more fit by stretching and exercising most body muscles. All the equipment needed is provided. Drop-in fee of \$7 per class or \$65 for 10 tickets.

**Please note that there will be no classes on the following dates:**

- Friday, April 3, 2026 (Good Friday)
- Monday, April 6, 2026 (Easter Monday)

# KEEPING IN TOUCH

## **Membership**

Make Emmanuel your home church: we welcome everyone who chooses our congregation, wherever you are in your spiritual journey. In the spring there will be an opportunity to become a full member of Emmanuel through profession or reaffirmation of faith, or transfer of membership from another congregation. Becoming a full member of The United Church of Canada signifies a deeper commitment to a progressive, inclusive community that offers opportunities for spiritual growth, active leadership, and social justice engagement. If you are interested in becoming a member on the Emmanuel Roll, or have any questions, please talk to Rev. Grant, or call the church office.

## **Let us know of address or phone number changes:**

Every month we make changes to the Emmanuel address list. If your address or phone number has changed, please let the office know so that we can keep in touch with you.

## **Are You Receiving Congregational Emails?**

Emmanuel is a hub of activity and we want to make sure you are being kept up to date with important notices. If you are not receiving emails from the Office Administrator, Emma Dowd, please contact the church office at 613-733-0437.

## **Thank You Emmanuel Volunteers**

National Volunteer Week is April 19-25 this year. This year's theme is **Ignite Volunteerism**, celebrating the ways people have sparked volunteerism in their communities. Volunteering is rewarding and a great way to get to know others!

**If you would like to volunteer with the Keeping in Touch Team, contact Joyce White, 613-324-8759 or at [welcoming@emmanuelunited.ca](mailto:welcoming@emmanuelunited.ca)**

# PASTORAL CARE

THRIVING TOGETHER • FOSTERING SELF-ADVOCACY THROUGH MUTUAL SUPPORT

## **Thriving Together as Community Transitions**

*A supportive conversation group about  
aging, care, and what matters most*

### **Preparing a Celebration of Life – Lunch and Conversation - Wednesday April 15<sup>th</sup>, 12:00 p.m. – 2 p.m.**

Rev. Grant and Emma, Office Administrator, will provide information on planning for a Celebration of Life. This session is an opportunity for us to begin to think about how we would like our life to be remembered and celebrated and the resources available to do this. Taking time to make these plans can bring a sense of peace and clarity, while also easing the burden on family members during a difficult time.

Contact Ron MacDonald at [pastoralcarel@emmanuelunited.ca](mailto:pastoralcarel@emmanuelunited.ca) or Emma at [office@emmanuelunited.ca](mailto:office@emmanuelunited.ca) if you would like to attend. Deadline to RSVP is Friday April 11<sup>th</sup>.

### **Mark in Your Calendar – Monday May 25<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 p.m.**

Emmanuel United will be hosting a Cluster Church opportunity with Marc Seguin, author of **Advocacy in Aging**. Mark's presentation will be an opportunity for seniors to bring together anyone who would be their aging/health/financial advocate(s) (e.g. family members, friend etc.) together for thoughtful and proactive communication about aging and unplanned life transitions. Stay tuned for more information.

## Meditation

Spring arrives quietly, yet it transforms everything. What once seemed lifeless begins to stir, as if creation itself remembers a promise it was given long ago. In the Christian imagination, this renewal is not accidental—it is a sign of resurrection, a living parable of grace. Just as the earth does not strive to bloom but responds to light and warmth, so too the soul awakens when touched by God. Martin Luther writes -**“Our Lord has written the promise of the resurrection, not in books alone, but in every leaf in springtime.”** As we prepare to enter this time of renewal, take a moment to reflect on where you see signs of new life—in yourself, in others, or in your faith?”

### The Pastoral Care Team

The Pastoral Care Team offers emotional and spiritual support to individuals and families facing various life challenges. The well-being of the Emmanuel community is our priority. To get in touch with the Pastoral Care Team, contact Ron MacDonald, Pastoral Care Provider at: [pastoralcare@emmanuelunited.ca](mailto:pastoralcare@emmanuelunited.ca) or contact the church at 613-733-0437. **Pastoral Care Team:** Rev. Grant Stuckless, Dr. Ron MacDonald, Malcolm Collins, Patricia Fairbairn, Terry Henderson, Jon Jones, Jill MacLean, Richard Johnston and Joyce White (Keeping in Touch).

# WORSHIP

## EASTER SERVICES

*Maundy Thursday*, April 2 (7:15 pm to 7:45 pm)

*Good Friday*, April 3 at 10:00

Joint service with the Ottawa Mennonite Church at Emmanuel

*Easter Sunrise*, April 5 at 8:30

Light refreshments will be served after the service.

*Easter Service*, April 5 at 10:00

John 20:1-18

**April 12**, Holy Humour

John 20: 19-31

**April 19**, Earth Sunday

Luke 24:13-35

**April 26**

John 10:1-10

## Easter Cross Flowers Needed.



Help bring our Easter cross into bloom by bringing a 4" flowering pot with you Easter morning, April 5<sup>th</sup>. *If you would like your plant returned, place your name on the pot and pick it up after the service*

## Land Acknowledgement

The Worship committee has discussed using a variety of Land Acknowledgements in our Sunday services. We hope this will help us to avoid falling into the habit of hearing the same words without reflecting on their significance. If you have suggestions for alternative versions, please pass them onto any member of the Worship committee for our consideration.

# *Simplify Your Celebrations*

We would like to  
Thank those who have  
made contributions in the month  
of March 2026 to  
Emmanuel United Church as part of the  
*Simplify your Celebrations* project.  
Donations were received as follows:

In memory of Clarice Dewar.  
We will miss her.  
by Hilde Reynolds,  
Keith & Nancy Jeacle

**Remembering the Life of Clarice Dewar,  
With gratitude for her friendship, care and service.**

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