

LIFE AND WORK OF EMMANUEL UNITED CHURCH SEPTEMBER 2026



Photo Credit: Emma Dowd

OCTOBER ISSUE SUBMISSION DEADLINE:
SEPTEMBER 21, 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
Telephone: 613-733-0437**

Sunday Worship at 10:00 AM

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

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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!

The background of the entire page is a photograph of a vibrant rainbow arching across a clear blue sky. Below the rainbow, there are large, fluffy white clouds. The overall tone is peaceful and hopeful.

In Memoriam

Rene Givogue, December 31, 2025

Darlene Read, July 31, 2026

Thank you to all 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



Emmanuel United Church
Holiday Bazaar

Saturday, November 14, 10am-2pm.

As this update is being written for the September Life and Work Packet, the 2026 Holiday Bazaar is 11 weeks away. This may seem like a lot of time, but there is much to do to prepare for one of Emmanuel's largest fund raising events.

A dedicated group of crafters have worked throughout the summer to make items for the CHRISTMAS SMALL GIFTS TABLE (**NEW THIS YEAR**). In addition, work has been going on behind the scenes since January to help make our Emmanuel Holiday Bazaar a success.

We are blessed to have many returning supervisors for various areas of the Bazaar this year. The list of Bazaar areas include:

BAKING, SHANTYMEN'S DELI, BOOKS & CD'S, WOODWORKING, KNITTING & SEWING, INDOOR PLANTS & GARDENING, SILENT AUCTION, CHRISTMAS SMALL GIFTS (NEW), JEWELRY, SCROUNGER'S PARADISE, LUNCH ROOM AND WISH UPON A STAR

There will be many opportunities to contribute between now and November 14. The website, monthly packet, Sunday bulletin and announcements will keep you up-to-date with what's happening and offer opportunities for you to help in big and small ways!



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Emmanuel United Church
Holiday Bazaar

In the meantime, if you are canning or making jams this fall, please consider setting aside a jar or two for the Bazaar.

If you are starting to gather items for holiday baking needs, please consider adding a little extra for Baking Table donations.

If you are knitting or sewing items, please consider donating a few handcrafted items to the Knitting and Sewing Table

If you are cleaning out, clearing out, or wondering what to do with no-longer needed treasures, please consider setting them aside for our Bazaar. **Please note that previously loved Christmas Décor will be located in Scrounger's Paradise.**

September is a great time to make cuttings, and repot plants that you may wish to donate to our INDOOR PLANT TABLE

There will be pop-up workshops to help prepare items for the Bazaar and all are welcome to participate.

Thank you for your support,
Brenda Ashe, Bazaar Convener



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ACTIVITIES & GROUPS

Book Club Meets on Monday, September 14th to discuss A Month in the Country, by J.L. Carr. The discussion will be 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 September 12 and October 10.

Shantymen’s Dinner
Saturday, October 24, 2026
Two sittings at 5:00 pm and 6:45 pm



Our annual Shantymen’s Dinner starts with a traditional meal featuring a hearty menu of homemade beans and ham, coleslaw, bread and dessert. The Emmanuel River Boys will provide us with home-grown, toe-tapping music. Everyone welcome!

TICKETS AVAILABLE IN OCTOBER AFTER CHURCH OR THROUGH THE OFFICE.

Hosted by the Emmanuel Men’s Club, Emmanuel United Church.

Emmanuel Bazaar ~ Deli Workshops

Once again, we will be offering an expanded Shantyman’s Deli at the Emmanuel Bazaar on Saturday, November 14th. We are looking for volunteers to help prepare the following items. A crew of 4-5 people works best. There will be sign-up sheets in the narthex starting in September. For more information, please contact Val Dowd.

From 12:30 – 4:00 approx.	Meals
Thursday, Sept. 24	Chili
Tuesday, Sept. 29	Shepherd’s Pie
Thursday, Oct. 8	Soup
Thursday, Oct. 15	Macaroni and Cheese
Thursday, Oct. 22	Vegetarian Curry
Thursday, Oct. 29	TBD

Food Bank Sunday and Monday

It's that time again. Time to think about donating to the Russell Heights Community House food bank. The need is growing steadily. This month we are collecting both food and school supplies.

You can drop off donations to the church on September 21st between **2:00 to 3:00 pm**. Feel free to drop contributions of food and school supplies in the food bank collection box on or before Sunday the 20th.

- HB pencils, pencil crayons, pencil sharpeners, erasers
- Washable markers, pens
- Kid safe scissors, metric rulers, glue sticks
- Lined notebooks, paper (both lined and graph), duotangs, binders
- Calculators, geometry sets
- French English dictionaries
- Small hand sanitizers
- Size 3T, 4T, and 5T diapers and feminine supplies
- Coffee is especially appreciated
- Vegetable oil, peanut butter, pasta, tomato sauce...
- Reusable grocery bags continue to be welcome.

Please consider product quality over quantity as some items are easily broken by children.

OR

Make a donation to the local food banks **via e-transfer** to **envelope.secretary@emmanuelunited.ca** and indicate for food banks (in this case Russell Heights Community House Food Bank) in the memo field.

The Emmanubells are a mixed-age group of handbell ringers. They rehearse weekly at 6 pm on Thursdays and play in church about once each month. A basic ability to read music is an asset, but no previous handbell experience is necessary as we will teach you. We have space for new ringers willing to commit to regular attendance at rehearsals. For more information, please contact Ann Frederking ViolaAnnF@gmail.com or 613-749-5815

Monday Night Christian Meditation Group

“When a man believes in me, he believes in him who sent me rather than in me.” (John 12:44)

“To follow Jesus was not merely to have an intellectual understanding about him but to experience his personal revelation and the dimension of spirit his person opened for us – to experience this at the centre of our lives to the point of union with him and so ultimately with the Father...”
– 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).

The Thursday Morning Discussion Group (‘Heretics’)

Heretics will resume their weekly Thursday morning meetings starting on Thursday, September 10, with a continued study of the beatitudes using *Claiming the Beatitudes: Nine Stories from a New Generation* by Anne Sutherland as a resource.



Heretics will host a special meeting on **Septmeber 24** to discuss **Guaranteed Livable Income**. **Lorraine Busby**, local coordinator of United Church activities related to Guaranteed Livable Income, will come to speak with us. Please plan to attend what will be sure to be an interesting and informative

meeting. This meeting will be held at our usual time and place – **10:00 am on Zoom**. Contact the church office or any member of Heretics for a Zoom invitation for this or for any of the Heretics meetings.



CHRISTIAN DEVELOPMENT

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 next Rainbow evening is September 11, 2026. For more information, please contact Ellen Brohman. (ellenbrohman@gmail.com)

Let's Stay Together Sunday – September, 13 – Fall Fair

Join us for a BBQ hot dog lunch and fall fair after the service on September 13. There will be a bouncy castle, lawn games and a cakewalk. Come join the fun and invite friends!

If you would like to contribute a cake for the cakewalk, please contact Christine Hywarren.

Young Adult Activities

On July 27, several young adults gathered in the field behind Emmanuel to play bubble soccer and share a meal. Planning for the next get-together is underway. Contact Amelia Brohman (amelia.euc@gmail.com) for more info.

UCC Online Workshop - Becoming an Intercultural Church

Members of the CD team will be joining in a UCC led online workshop on becoming an Intercultural Church from 6pm to 7:30pm on Wednesdays from Oct 14 to Nov 25. If you would like to join us, please contact Val Lines or simply register yourself.

FINANCE

More words from the Finance Committee: The Annual Budget Process

Welcome back to our series on church finances. In March 2026, the Finance Committee explored the difference between Emmanuel's General Fund and its segregated funds. In July/August 2026, the Committee took a closer look at the Memorial Fund. This time, we'll explain how Emmanuel's annual budget is developed.

The budget process begins each fall. Around the beginning of September, church committees, ministry groups, and anyone planning activities that may involve church spending are asked to estimate their expenses for the following year. The Finance Committee reviews this information, may identify additional costs that should be considered, and provides Council with an early picture of what expenses may be expected.

The next step is estimating revenue. The annual stewardship campaign, usually launched in October, helps forecast how much income the church can expect through member giving and other sources of revenue in the coming year. Because member giving makes up the largest share of Emmanuel's revenue, the stewardship campaign is an important part of the budgeting process.

Once both the expense and revenue estimates are available, expected expenses are compared with expected revenue, and adjustments are made where needed. The goal is to develop a budget proposal that supports Emmanuel's ministries while remaining financially responsible.

The resulting budget proposal is then presented to Council near the beginning of the new year, usually in January. If Council approves it, the proposed budget is presented to the congregation at its Annual General Meeting for discussion and approval. Only after it is approved by the congregation does it become Emmanuel's official budget for the year.

Throughout the process, feedback from committees, Council, and the congregation is considered, and adjustments are made where needed.

Submitted by Chikwa Zahinda

GLOBAL PARTNERS



Dear Emmanuel United,

Kindly receive greetings from the church here in Zambia.

I write to express how grateful and blessed we are to co-host the 13th Anniversary of this year's Camp Chipembi which was celebrated under the theme: Rooted and rising in Christ. On behalf of Chipembi Congregation and the Chipembi Community, allow me to extend our heartfelt gratitude for your support, assistance and most importantly for coming up with this very noble and special event in the calendar of the church and our community here in Chipembi.

This is an awesome program which helps the partner Churches in Canada and Chipembi exchange our cultures, the program helps the young people of Chipembi identify talents, sharpen skills, play some games, interact with children from other Churches as well as get rooted in Christ.

I must indicate here that the children and parents had a wonderful time together. One thing I really love about Camp Chipembi is the fact that it is not segregated but inclusive, by this I mean, it does not only allow participation from the UCZ Chipembi Congregation children but also accommodates children from Catholic Church, Seventh Day Adventist, Jehovah's witnesses and many others.

Young people in our community have a lot of challenges, some of which are dealt with through Camp Chipembi, for instance, early marriages and teenage pregnancies are reduced because the young girls and parents during Camp Chipembi are educated on the need to avoid early

marriages. This year's Camp Chipembi was closed with a life changing speech by His Royal Highness Chief Chamuka VI who issued a strong warning to parents present at Camp that whoever will be found sending a young girl into marriage will be jailed including all those with unregulated boarding houses.

Substance abuse is also reduced because of Camp Chipembi because the young people are taught on the effects of substance abuse and during Camp, the young ones are kept busy with learning so they do not have time to find themselves in wrong companies.

Chief Chamuka ended his closing speech with a donation of two sets of sports jerseys and \$157.89 US which he directed towards the purchasing of ball games for recreation purposes. He further requested Camp Chipembi to consider accommodating all children regardless of where they are coming from. He indicated that in case resources won't be enough to accommodate every child, the organizers should let him know so he can source more funds to allow every child to participate.

Blessings

Rev Chongo
Minister In-Charge
Chipembi Main Congregation

Coming Soon: The Thanksgiving Pie Market will be opening online on September 1 and will run until October 9. In person orders can start anytime now. Once again, this year, Apple, Raspberry, Blueberry, Strawberry Rhubarb and Peach pies will be offered in two sizes: 9” for \$18 and 6” for \$8. The funds raised will contribute to our global partners in El Salvador and Zambia. Go to www.euconlinemarket.ca to order pies.

HEALTH

Take Time to be Wholey classes resume Monday, September 14th.

KEEPING IN TOUCH

Back to School

Good luck to all Emmanuel youth, young adults, staff and others who are returning to school in the fall. We are cheering you on as you continue your journey as a life-long learner.

Post Secondary Packages, Student Information

In October, the Keeping in Touch Committee will deliver “thinking of you” packages to post- secondary students. **Please send us the names and addresses of college and university students so that they can be included.** We have a need for toothbrushes and floss; any donation is appreciated.

I Have Called You By Your Name

Wearing a name badge is a signal that you are open to conversation and serves as a welcoming sign to others. **You can request a name badge on the sign-up sheet located on the bulletin board closest to the office.**

Coming Soon....Karibu...Bienvenue...Welcome...

We are looking for welcome words in many languages for a bulletin board. See Joyce for supplies to create your sign.

Members of the Keeping in Touch Committee are: Janet Campbell, Phyllis MacRae, Latisha Joseph, Hilde Reynolds, Zawadi Zahinda, Joyce White, David Wray.

Contact: Joyce at: welcoming@emmanuelunited.ca or: 613-324-8759.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, September 1, 2026 at 7:00 P.M. on Zoom.

PASTORAL CARE

THRIVING TOGETHER • FOSTERING SELF-ADVOCACY THROUGH MUTUAL SUPPORT

Transition Gatherings

The theme for this new church season of Transition's Gatherings is **“aging well.”** Guest speakers will be invited to our Transition lunches bringing different perspectives on what it means to age with strength, awareness, and hope. There will be a focus on physical health, on emotional or spiritual wellbeing, and on the practical choices that help us stay safe and steady as we grow older. Our Transition Gatherings will continue to provide an opportunity to gather for fellowship and will be an opportunity, in this new church season, to reflect on aging as a season of our lives filled with possibility, reflection, growth, and connection. Stay tuned for an announcement on the first Transition Lunch and Presentation.

Aging well is a commitment to caring for yourself—staying aware, staying active, and believing that the choices you make today can protect your health tomorrow. (Canadian Heart and Stroke Foundation)

September Meditation: Roots That Hold Us

As September begins and we step into a new church season, we're reminded of one of the quiet gifts of faith: knowing where we belong. Belonging isn't loud or showy — it's the steady feeling that we are held by a community that notices us, cares for us, and walks with us.

So, during September we take a moment to think about our church family — the people who care about us, who notice when we're not here, who share our joys, and who stand with us when life gets hard. We are invited to meditate on our gratitude for our church family that reminds us we don't walk the journey of life and faith on our own.

This sense of belonging stretches across every part of our church life, including those who can no longer be with us in worship nor share in church activities. When some of our senior members are unable to gather in person, Emmanuel's Pastoral Care Team helps keep them connected with the Emmanuel community. Through visits, phone calls, and simple moments of care, the Pastoral Care Team provides the means by which our seniors can continue to feel part of the Emmanuel community of faith.

Scripture tells us, “Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.” It’s a reminder that every person has a place here and every gift matters. This is what keeps us rooted — the experience of belonging to a community of faith where each person’s presence and gifts are recognized, and where that presence and those very gifts strengthen the life we share. This is our meditation.

“In the shelter of each other, we live.” — Irish proverb

The Pastoral Care Team

If you ever find yourself in need of a listening ear — whether you're celebrating, grieving, wondering, or simply feeling the weight of the day — the Pastoral Care Team at Emmanuel is here for you. We're here to offer a gentle presence, a compassionate heart, and prayerful support, whatever the season you're in. 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.

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).

SOUTHEAST OTTAWA CLUSTER

Join our cluster neighbours for a BBQ get together on Wednesday, September 9 from 5-8 pm at Riverside United Church.

We will get together with members of our **six** Southeast Ottawa congregations - Emmanuel, Rideau Park, Southminster, Glebe St James, Riverside and now Centretown United Church.

This will be a potluck supper - bring whatever you like, and it is sure to be consumed. Families with kids are especially encouraged to join - there will be games for youth. Come out and learn all the exciting things that our cluster neighbours are planning for the fall.

Contact Phyllis MacRae, Janice Péron, or Val Lines for information.

WORSHIP

Looking Ahead to Worship in September

September 6th

Matthew 18: 15-20

September 13th

Matthew 18: 21-38

September 20th

Matthew 20: 1-16

September 27th

Matthew 5: 1-12

Truth and Reconciliation Day – wear orange

Simplify Your Celebrations



We would like to thank those
who have made contributions in the
months of July and August 2026 to the
Emmanuel United Church as part of the
Simplify your Celebrations project.
Donations were received as follows:

Thank you to Sue Longstreet for her faithful dedication
to making our worship space beautiful,
adding to our spiritual experience.

The PROUD ribbons were brilliant! The Indigenous Sunday gift of
indigenous carvings, a blanket and earth signs were spectacular – a
perfect addition to our efforts to demonstrate solidarity with our
Indigenous neighbours.

Thank you Sue!
by Areta Crowell

In memory of Rene Givogue
by Colleen Calvert

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