

LIFE AND WORK OF EMMANUEL UNITED CHURCH

At St. Aidan's and Rideau Park

MAY 2011



Telephone: 613 733 0437

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For information on any of our church activities, please call
613-733-0437 or email office@emmanuelunited.ca or go to our website at
www.emmanuelunited.ca

June Issue Submission Deadline:
Monday, May 23, 2011

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.

Please note that during our church revitalization our offices are located at St. Aidan's Anglican Church at 934 Hamlet Road. The entrance for Emmanuel United Church is the RED door; please ring the doorbell and someone will let you in.

**Church Office Hours: Monday to Friday, 9 am to 4 pm
(closed from noon to 1 pm for lunch hour)**

Pat: Monday & Tuesday
Louise: Wednesday to Friday
Peter: Monday to Thursday
Christine: Monday to Wednesday

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Lay Minister:

Christine Williams youth@emmanuelunited.ca

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | |
|---|-------------------|
| Children’s Ministry | page 5 |
| Youth Ministry | page 5-6 |
| Christian Development Committee | page 7-9 |
| Church Activities & Groups | page 9-10 |
| Communications Committee | page 11-12 |
| Community Groups | page 12 |
| Council and Executive of Council | page 12-13 |
| Health Committee | page 13-14 |
| Keeping in touch Committee | page 14 |
| Minute for Mission | page 14-15 |
| Pastoral Care | page 15 |
| Presbytery Events | page 15-16 |
| Revitalization Fundraising | page 16 |
| Salvadoran Liaison Committee | page 17 |
| Social Action Committee | page 18 |
| Worship Committee | page 18-19 |

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY



We have a Sunday program each week for children of all ages. If you have not already done so please fill in a Sunday School registration form. If you would like to volunteer to help please email youth@emmanuelunited.ca or speak with Christine Hywarren.

THE JUNIOR CHOIR will meet each Sunday from 12:10 until 12:30. All Emmanuel children are welcome to attend! For more info email youth@emmanuelunited.ca

YOUTH MINISTRY



Sunday School for grade 9 and up:

May 1 – all high school youth in the parlour

May 8 – Christine is attending the General Council Executive meeting so all high school youth will attend worship

May 15 – youth leading worship, Confirmation service

May 22 – all high school youth in the parlour

May 29 – all high school youth in the parlour



More than a shelter
Helping the homeless since 1906

Emmanuel United Church Youth Mission Partners

The Mission gives those who are homeless an opportunity for food, shelter, clothing and life changing programs.

The Mission makes a difference by offering job training, educational support, medical services, housing support and addiction treatment services.

Val Dowd and Nancy Gardiner are coordinating our mission program this year – go to our website for a registration form or email youth@emmanuelunited.ca.

JAM Rehearsals – Please be set up and ready to rehearse at 9:30 am in Brackenridge Hall at Rideau Park on Sunday May 1 and May 8th.

POST-SECONDARY BURSARY FUND

This bursary is to be paid to a deserving Emmanuel student commencing a full-time post-secondary program. **The deadline for application is May 29, 2011.** The program must be started sometime in the calendar year following that date. ***The student can be up to the age of twenty-four years.*** The Application form is available from Christine or the Emmanuel website.

CONFIRMATION continues at Emmanuel... the schedule this month includes;

- class during worship on May 1
- confirmation service on May 15th

RENDEZ-VOUS 2011 - Aug. 11-14, 2011. Each congregation is asked to participate in Each One Send One - to send at least one youth from each congregation. It is a big, national gathering being hosted by the United Church of Canada. It's intended for youth, young adults and their leaders and promises to be an exciting time of worship, learning, growth and service.

Some of the speakers and leaders being lined up are AMAZING, and it looks like a really fabulous and unique opportunity to gather with young people on a big scale. Start making plans and visit <http://www.united-church.ca/getinvolved/events/rendez-vous-2011> to learn more. Emmanuel hopes to send a group of youth and leaders – check out your calendars now!

New Orleans Pilgrimage – team meeting at the home of Malcolm and Betsi Collins
6:30 PM Friday May 13th



WHAT ARE YOU DOING THIS SUMMER?

Forms are available for all children age 4 -12! We will host just one week of Camp Awesome this summer from July 4-8, 2011. Camp will be held at St. Aidan's Anglican church on Hamlet Road.

Applications for the Emmanuel Junior Leader in training program for youth entering grade 7 and 8 are also available.

We will need adult support! If you are interested please speak with Christine Williams or email youth@emmanuelunited.ca.



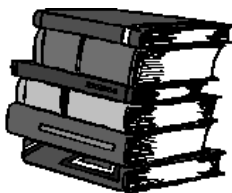
THE CANOE ADVENTURE July 11-13

The Canoe Adventure! Youth in the grade 5-8 Emmanuel Sunday School are invited to paddle, swim, sing, and have a crazy wonderful time at the annual canoe camp!

Head to the beauty of the Gatineau Hills under the capable leadership of Emmanuel leaders and have an amazing adventure in the great outdoors!

Registration forms are on the Emmanuel web page or available from Christine.

CHRISTIAN DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE



THE EMMANUEL BOOK CLUB will meet next on Monday, May 9 from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm at the home of Elaine Brown.

| Date | Book | Location | Discussion | Refreshments |
|-------|---|--------------|--------------|-------------------|
| May 9 | <i>Nine Lives of Charlotte Taylor</i> by Sally Armstrong | Elaine Brown | Jean Hodgins | Heather Sanderson |

CAMP BITOBI WEEKEND 2011

A camp weekend will be held at Camp Bitobi from 7pm Friday June 24 to 4pm Sunday June 26. Camp Bitobi is located on 200 acres of beautiful wilderness near Gracefield, Que, about 1 3/4 hours north of Ottawa. The facilities include rustic log cabins, a large main dining hall and a gorgeous lake with a private beach and pedal boats.



You must bring your own bedding, but all meals (except Friday night) are provided. Everyone will be asked to take a turn to help prepare meals and do dishes.

The cost for the weekend is \$60 for a single person or \$150 for a family. Alternatively, you can come just for the day on Saturday for \$15 for a single person or \$40 for a family.

We hope that you will join us for a fun weekend of swimming, loafing, laughing, campfire, games, worship and more!

Forms are available on the website or from Christine.

For more information, contact Val Lines.

QUILTING - The group works at St. Aidan's on Tuesdays from 10:30am to 3:30pm. You don't need to come for the whole time – just drop in as suits your schedule. For further information contact Joan Foster-Jones

Emmanuel Café at St. Aidan's
 Sunday May 29th 7 PM
 with the sights and sounds of the New Orleans Pilgrimage

PILGRIMAGE –

(n) A journey (usually of a long distance) made to a sacred place as an act of religious devotion; the action or practice of such a journey

(v) to travel; to wander; to stay or dwell in a foreign land; to sojourn

Oxford English Dictionary

Following the road of faith has long been a metaphor for the spiritual life. Christians among other faith groups have been called the “pilgrim people of God.” Over the centuries Christians have made pilgrimages to sacred sites. It gradually fell away in the Protestant tradition but has been rediscovered as a Christian spiritual practice that helps us to connect more deeply with our faith story.

Pilgrimage is rooted in the belief that life is a continual process of change. As the pilgrim travels the road, he or she is also acknowledging an inner journey of the soul, the faith cycle of death (letting go), and resurrection (rebirth, new beginning). Pilgrimage can be a journey that opens our spirit. Pilgrimage takes us out of familiar surroundings and leads us to new discoveries. We may make connections with strangers. We may experience hospitality. We may learn a new appreciation for community. We may get sore feet. It’s all part of the journey. Peter and Christine will be leading a pilgrimage with 5 people from Emmanuel to Zambia from June 2-16.

Omega Bula, Executive Minister, Partners in Mission, General Council Office of the United Church of Canada will accompany the group. This pilgrimage will explore a global partnership between Emmanuel United Church and Chipembi United Church of Zambia within the already existing partnership between the United Church of Canada and the United Church of Zambia.

This pilgrimage will also include an exploration of the details required in building a school in memory of Iain Beaudoin with People’s Action Forum, a United Church of Canada partner. This project was initiated by the legal community in Ottawa who approached Emmanuel to work in partnership - the school will be in a community that has identified that need and with an active People’s Action Forum community circle. There is much learning in this situation for all in how to share resources and learn together.

The funds for the school will be raised through the Ottawa legal community and personal donations solicited outside Emmanuel United Church.

Where is Zambia?



Zambia, officially the **Republic of Zambia**, is a landlocked country in Southern Africa. The neighbouring countries are the Democratic Republic of the Congo to the north, Tanzania to the north-east, Malawi to the east, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Botswana and Namibia to the south, and Angola to the west. The capital city is Lusaka, located in the south-central part of the country. After visits by European explorers starting in the 18th century, Zambia became the British Colony of Northern Rhodesia towards the end of the nineteenth century. For most of the colonial period, the country was governed by an administration appointed from London with the advice of the British South Africa Company. On 24 October 1964, the country declared independence from the United Kingdom. The new name of Zambia was derived from the Zambezi river (Zambezi may mean "God's river") which flows through the western region of the country.

What is the United Church of Zambia?

The United Church of Central Africa in Rhodesia, now part of the United Church of Zambia, owes its beginnings to the work of the London Missionary Society, the Church of Scotland Mission, the Union Church of the Copperbelt and the Copperbelt Free Churches. In the Copperbelt, mining began in the early 1920s. Christians from various areas went to work in the mining towns, and interdenominational worship began in both the African and European housing areas. Helped by the fact that they were already cooperating in education and welfare, the Church of Scotland, the Methodist Missionary Society, and the London Missionary Society came together in African areas to form the Union Church of the Copperbelt. Shortly after this, the congregations of the European areas came together in the Copperbelt Free Church Council. By 1945, the way had been prepared for the union of the London Missionary Society and the Church of Scotland Mission in Northern Rhodesia. These congregations, along with the Union Church of the Copperbelt, joined to form the Church of Central Africa in Rhodesia. In 1958, the act of union took place. In 1965, the church united with the Methodist Church and the Church of Barotseland to form the United Church of Zambia. It is the largest Protestant church in Zambia today and continues to grow rapidly.

The UCZ maintains good relations with the Methodist Church in Great Britain, the Church of Scotland, the United Church of Canada, Global Ministries of the Presbyterian Church (USA) and the Board for World Ministries of the United Church of Christ (USA), and Cevaa.

At Emmanuel we have a lot to offer and a lot to learn too! Together – we can make a difference – in our lives and the lives of others and make Emmanuel a stronger community of faith.

Please pray for those preparing for the pilgrimage to Zambia.

Please pray for the United Church partners in Zambia.

We will be taking gifts to share with those we visit. If you are able, please bring new school supplies on Sunday May 29th. Scissors, pencils, coloured pencils and other school supplies along with skipping ropes and soccer balls would all be appreciated!

We are pilgrims on a journey, fellow travellers on the road, we are here to help each other walk the mile and bear the load...

CHURCH ACTIVITIES & GROUPS

The United Church of Canada Identity Survey – Planning our future together! This initiative will help the whole church – and OUR congregation – look to the future with hope and joy.

We have been asked by The United Church of Canada to participate in the survey. Only a select number of congregations have been selected to participate, and we are one of them!

A professional survey research firm is conducting the study. They will gather a snapshot of the identity, values, and beliefs of United Church people who worship on a regular basis, including youth born in the year 2000 or before.

Why should we participate?

Well, we are in the unique position of being able to have *our* say in how the church develops programs and policies that will better serve our needs.

It's pretty straightforward. You can complete the survey online, which is the cheapest and most environmentally friendly option. Just go to www.identity-survey.ca between May 1 and June 5. The address is also *on the bookmarks*. If you can't possibly do the survey online, please contact the church office and we will give you a paper copy to complete and mail back via Canada Post.

As long as there are enough people who participate, we will receive a report on our *own* survey results—with everyone's identities kept anonymous, of course. It will give our lay leaders a clear picture of what this congregation is all about. And THAT will be a big help in planning our future together.

The important thing to remember is that we need EVERYONE who worships here, including youth born in the year 2000 or before, to participate!

Please go to www.identity-survey.ca and do the survey. Let our voices be heard!!

If you need access to a computer to complete the survey, the staff computers will be available May 2-5 from 10:00 am – 2:00 pm.

HOSTA SALE! I am dividing many of my hostas and offering them for sale. The prices have been determined by looking at what five major Canadian hosta suppliers are charging and dividing the average by two. The hostas will be available mid-late May. All of my proceeds over \$250 will be donated to the Emmanuel Revitalization Fund. For availability please check http://www.magma.ca/~fredrkng/Hosta_sale_2011.html.

This page will be updated as the hostas are dug and divided. The quantities at present are estimates. - *Ann Frederking*

MEN'S CLUB BREAKFAST – Saturday, May 14, 8:15 am at Perkins Restaurant, corner of St. Laurent and Coventry. All men are welcome.

TRIPLE F will meet on May 17 at 12:30 pm at Perkins Restaurant, corner of St. Laurent and Coventry.

TELEOS will meet on May 25 for a potluck supper and planning meeting.

FRIENDLY BRIDGE CLUB - Emmanuel's Friendly Bridge Club and St. Aidan's Monthly Bridge Club meet together every Wednesday from 1 to 3:30pm. **Please note there will be no bridge on May 11.** For info call the church office.

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION MONDAY NIGHT MEDITATION GROUP continues at St. Aidan's at 7:30pm. Please use the door to the left of the main door off the parking lot and come down stairs to the choir room. Everyone is welcome. For further information contact Ron Dicks at

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

EMAILS REQUIRED - During the renovations, the church office will keep everyone informed as to what is happening and when activities are taking place. Email is the quickest method to inform everyone. Please send an email to support@emmanuelunited.ca if you have not yet verified your details on the master list. Include your name, address, phone and email. Those without emails will be contacted directly by Keeping in Touch.

SERMONS - are available on the Emmanuel United church website, navigate to "**Life & Work**", and there under "**Sermons**", you will find sermons going back several years in print, and also the latest ones in MP3 format. Not only can you read the sermon, you can listen to it on your computer or iPod.

ATTENTION GROUPS, ACTIVITIES and COMMITTEES, PLEASE submit items of interest for the congregation to the Chair of the Communications Committee at assistant.webmaster@emmanuelunited.ca for posting on the Emmanuel website. This not only provides information for the congregation, but it also keeps the website from becoming stale. I am adept at posting content but not so good at mind reading what your group is up to.

WANTED ! PHOTOGRAPHS OF A GRAPHIC NATURE !!!!

The Emmanuel United Church website has just undergone a major rebuild, something that seems to happen every couple of years. The latest incarnation is much more visually based, and as a result, WE NEED YOUR PICTURES.

The website is made livelier by the addition of photos showing activities that take place both at Emmanuel, and in the community. Family Camp, Camp Awesome, Weddings, Baptisms, Coffee and Conversation, anything at all that will spruce up the site.

And, yes, we will either make them small enough so that people cannot be recognized, or we will contact you for permission to post them.

Please submit photos to solvason.pastuch@sympatico.ca or on a CD or USB memory stick that Russ will return. To those who have sent photos, thank you.

BULLETIN/NEWSLETTER PRIVACY ISSUES: The Bulletin and the Newsletters are BOTH posted on the Website. Prior to their being uploaded, ALL information of a personal nature, such as telephone numbers, email addresses, names associated with photographs, etc., is removed. Should you have ANY concern with what is on the Website, PLEASE contact assistant.webmaster@emmanuelunited.ca

SPECIAL NEEDS: If you have trouble reading the small print in the order of service, large print versions are available. Also, for those whose hearing is not quite what it used to be, hearing assist devices are available at Rideau Park for your use.

CHURCH SIGN: Even though we are currently “living” at St. Aidan’s and Rideau Park, our many church activities continue. Therefore the sign outside Emmanuel continues to display activities happening within the Emmanuel family. I need to know of events that should be advertised WELL in advance of the event. Please pass your request through both staff and Chair of Worship as they have priority.

LIVE WEBCASTS: Don’t forget, if you can’t make a Sunday Service, the services are being broadcast on the Internet in real time courtesy of Rideau Park. Go to “**Worship**” in the left hand column and navigate to “**Live Service Webcast**”. If you listen in, please let me know what you think of this offering, by sending an email to assistant.webmaster@emmanuelunited.ca

WEBSITE: The new Emmanuel United Church website is up and running. Hopefully you will find that things are easier to find. Please bear with us as we fine tune things. There will be a full article in the next Newsletter detailing the changes that have been made.

COMMUNITY GROUPS



Hillcrest High School Cancer Drive – thank you to everyone who helped us raise over \$35,000 for the Canadian Cancer Society.

Hillcrest High School’s 50th Anniversary – May 13-15, 2011. Three days of fun and memories. Golf tournament, decade and club rooms, Dave Smith BBQ dinner & dance, family day brunch and kids zone and much more. For more information or to register visit www.hillcrestottawa50th.ca.

Praying Congregations: The Heart of Christian Community with keynote speaker Jane E. Vannard at St. Aidan’s, May 15th at 10:30 am.

The annual **BELLS IN SPRING** concert will be held Sunday, May 15, 7:00 PM at Rideau Park United Church, 2203 Alta Vista Drive.

This concert features bell and chime choirs from FIVE Ottawa churches and includes the Emmanubells.

There is no admission fee, but a Freewill offering will be taken and shared amongst the participating groups.

For information, contact Marcia Gosse at (613) 731-2281

COUNCIL AND EXECUTIVE OF COUNCIL

The Council Executive met on Monday April 18th, and began with a potluck supper with our three confirmands; Tia Hywarren, Ali Lorimer and Andrea Znotinas The girls also joined us for a discussion by Mutual Invitation on how to make our church more “God’s House”.

The Christian Development Committee brought forth a motion that the following camps be held as part of the Emmanuel faith formation program this summer:

Bitobi – June 24 -26, 2011 (combined with our Sunday School Picnic); Camp Awesome at St. Aidan's - July 4- 8, 2011; and the Canoe adventure – July 11 – 13, 2011 at Lac la Peche.

There was also a motion to support a Pilgrimage to Zambia in June for 7 members of our congregation to explore a global partnership between Emmanuel, United Church of Canada and Chipembi, United Church of Zambia, and that, as part of its mission in support of youth in the world, Emmanuel United Church work in partnership with members of the Ottawa legal community, the Beaudoin family and People's Action Forum to build a school in Zambia in memory of Iain Beaudoin. (The legal community will be raising the funds and travelling to Zambia next summer to work on the project with the locals.)

The Social Action Committee is participating in the Multifaith Housing Initiative Tulipathon walk on May 1st, to raise funds and awareness of the need for affordable housing in Ottawa.

The Salvadoran Liaison Committee reported on a message received from Senior Pastor, Miguel Thomas, of Iglesia Bautista Emmanuel in San Salvador, thanking us for our financial support and for being the only partner church in the north to have held a service in remembrance of Oscar Romero.

Plans are in the works for welcome back activities when we return to Emmanuel.

The hands and feet and hearts and minds of many Emmanuel members are engaged in putting their faith into action. Thanks be to God!

Upcoming Meetings:

Tuesday, May 3 – Agenda Planning at 5:30 pm, St. Aidan's
Monday, May 16 – Council at 7:15 pm, St. Aidan's
Tuesday, May 31 – Agenda Planning at 5:30 pm, St. Aidan's

HEALTH COMMITTEE

There will be no TTtbW exercise classes on Monday May 2 as it is voting day and St Aidans is one of the polling stations. There will be no exercise classes Monday May 23 as it is Victoria Day. This has been a long bout of exercise class cancellations so you are all going to have to work extra hard to make up for them.

Speaking of which, did you know that May is Physical Activity month? TTtbW exercise classes are one way to get some physical activity. The weather is improving and you can get out and walk or ride a bike or rake your lawn, or work in your garden or somebody else's if you don't have one. Talk to Janet Mark-Wallace about this one. The Ottawa Public Health website has info on walking and biking trails. The Tulip Festival is this month and the walks are aglow with the colour of tulips, get out and see them! We are so fortunate in Ottawa to have them.

Canadian Physical Activity Guidelines

The [Canadian Physical Activity Guidelines](#) recommend how much physical activity is needed for healthy living. This is a great website as it gives you ideas on how much activity and what kind of exercise you might want to try. It has ideas for young people, middle ages and older folks as well.

- **Children and Youth** should accumulate at least 60 minutes of medium to high intense physical activity daily

- **Adults and Older Adults** should accumulate at least 150 minutes of medium to high intense physical activity per week

KEEPING IN TOUCH

There are so many volunteers who help maintain a healthy Keeping in Touch network at Emmanuel.

Thank you to the phone team for calling those in the congregation without email addresses to let them know of important Revitalization meetings. In the future, we will contact you about worship service changes and special events, as we get closer to moving back to Emmanuel. We appreciate it when you welcome a call or read an email with important Emmanuel news!

Thank you to those who have been providing bulletins and packets for those who have not been able to attend church services over the past few months and to others who have offered rides so that someone can attend a service.

Thank you for the friendliness of greeters and ushers as they welcome people to the worship service. A friendly welcome is key to fostering a sense of belonging in our church. Thank you to the teams that look after coffee and conversation each week so that people can get to know each other a little better in this fellowship time.

Thank you to the Rideau Park congregation for their friendly hospitality and for providing a comfortable atmosphere for us to keep in touch with each other and to make new friendships.

Please contact any member of the Keeping in Touch Committee if you have any questions or feedback for us. The members are: Margaret Armstrong, David Burness, Janet Campbell, Cecil Dewar, Lynn Gullins, Frank Kavcic, Jim Lamb, Hilde Reynolds, Peter Rice, Ron Squires, Joyce White (Chair)



MISSION AND
SERVICE FUND

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Farming God's Way

Mrs Ncube is a farmer in Zimbabwe. She tripled her maize-crop yield when she tried the new Farming God's Way program after learning about it from her sister.

Farming God's Way is a conservation-farming program supported by United Church partner Christian Care Zimbabwe, the Canadian Foodgrains Bank, and the United Church. It focuses on increasing crop yields by using mulch, compost, and manure, while decreasing the need for machines and chemicals. The program also teaches farmers to create and maintain a community seed bank, which saves money and protects traditional seeds.

Farming God's Way is based on four principles:

- planting crops on time
- maintaining a standard that minimizes weeds
- using natural supplies without waste
- caring for crops with joy


The program has been highly successful in Zimbabwe, with people coming from other African countries to learn conservation-farming techniques. Some crops have increased by over 300 percent, and farmers say they will never go back to the old way of farming. Mrs Ncube, who started with a small packet of seeds and some basic training, now has new and exciting skills to share with others.

Your generous support, through Emmanuel's General Fund, provides \$52,000 to the Mission and Service Fund.

PASTORAL CARE

The work of the Pastoral Care Team at Emmanuel continues as it always has. Despite our shifting locations, the same people are offering the same support and care to the congregation.

Please let us know if there are any concerns that we may not be aware of. If you know someone who is ill or in need of a visit/support please call the church office.

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|  | TUESDAY AFTERNOON COFFEE AND CONVERSATION |
| <p>In an effort to be more flexible in how we offer pastoral care during our transition period, Peter is available for coffee and conversation on Tuesday afternoons from 2-3 pm at Starbucks at the Elmvale Mall. Getting downstairs at St. Aidan's is not easy for everyone and maybe meeting outside the church walls is a good thing. Feel free to drop by.</p> | |

OTTAWA PRESBYTERY EVENTS

Sunday, May 1 - from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Multifaith Housing Initiative Annual Tulipathon. Multifaith Housing Initiative is holding its annual walkathon to assist the homeless and those at risk for homelessness in our city by raising money to help create more affordable housing. Registration begins at 1 p.m. in Commissioners Park at the corner of Preston and Queen Elizabeth Driveway. The walk proceeds from there to Bank Street and back. The pledge form and instructions can be downloaded from our website at www.multifaithhousing.ca. For more information, please call Micah Garten at the MHI office: 613-686-1825

Tuesday, May 3 - 5:30 - 8:30 pm. Exploring Ministry amongst Quebec congregations - Gathering II. St. Andrew's United, Gatineau.

Fri, May 6 & Sat, May 7 - **Marriage Preparation Course** at City View United - Brochure available at www.uccanottawa.org.

Tuesday, May 10 - **Ottawa Presbytery meets at Shawville United Church.**

Saturday, May 14 - 7:30 - 9:30 p.m. **Benefit for Carsonby United Church** - The Ottawa Police Chorus and the Salvation Army Brass Band in concert at the Alfred Taylor Centre, North Gower. Adults \$15, children under 13 \$8. For tickets, contact Isobel Eastman at (613) 489-3276.

Sunday, May 15 - Elijah Harper to speak at Aylmer United Church - 1 p.m. followed by a wine and cheese reception. \$20 per person. All proceeds will be given to the Sunday-Sayer Family fund as they continue their recuperation from a February 2010 car accident. Extensive renovations are planned for their house as they make plans to return home to be a family with their children.

Sunday, May 15 - 9 - 11 p.m. CFRA's Sunday Night with Rabbi Bulka 2nd Annual Radio-telethon - **Victoria's Quilts Canada**. <http://www.victoriasquiltscanada.com> - Donations may be made that evening or in advance. If in advance please mark the donation as a Radio-thon Donation. For more information, please visit www.victoriasquiltscanada.com or call Betty Giffin at 613-843-9125

May 27, 28 & 29: Annual General Meeting of the Montreal & Ottawa Conference. *Theme: Living in Right Relationship with all the Earth.* Event is at John Abbott College, Ste. Anne de Bellevue, Quebec.

Tuesday, May 31, 7:00 p.m. First United Church Evening with Father Rex Reyes, General Secretary for the National Council of Churches for the Philippines

Father Rex Reyes has for many years been a strong voice for social justice in the Philippines, a voice couched in a deep faith and courageous engagement with all sectors of society. As an Igorot Anglican priest born in the Sagada Mountain Province, he is the first indigenous person to become General Secretary of the NCCP. His voice is particularly ardent on human rights violations and extra judicial killings. More details about his visit to Ottawa and this event will be forthcoming.

June 7 - 9 Madawaska Institute: Bruce Epperly - *Where Spirit and Life Meet*. Cost: \$250, members \$200. To register: george@hermanson.ca 613-432-8852. Visit: www.georgehermanson.com

REVITALIZATION FUNDRAISING

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| <p>GOLF TOURNAMENT FUNDRAISER – August 29, 2011 at Pineview Golf Course. Details to follow.</p> |
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QUILT TO BUILD

The Emmanuel quilting group is seeking commissions for handmade quilts in order to support the Revitalization Fund. Each piece will be handcrafted to suit your needs and wishes. The cost will depend on the size and the complexity of the finished quilt but here is a rough idea of what to expect – Queen-sized bed \$750, Double-sized bed \$600, Single-sized bed \$400, Lap quilt \$200, Baby quilt or banner \$100. Once a design has been agreed upon, you will pay for the fabric required. This amount will usually be about a third of the total cost but will vary if we have something suitable in our “stash” or if you already possess some or all of the fabric. The remaining two thirds, which represents the value of our time and skill for piecing the top and for hand-quilting and binding, will be contributed to the Revitalization Fund. For further information contact Joan Foster-Jones

SALVADORAN LIAISON COMMITTEE

SALVADORAN MISSION FUND

Emmanuel United Church transferred US\$3,563.54 to Iglesia Bautista Emmanuel on March 25, 2011 in support of our joint ministries, in which the two churches *take an active part in shared partnership projects that will aid in the spiritual and educational development of children and young people and in the development of healthy and sustainable families and communities.*

Please continue to give generously to the Salvadoran Mission Fund in our joint pursuit of justice and the resistance of evil.

UPDATES ON THE SITUATION IN EL SALVADOR

Lessons from Obama's Visit to El Salvador: U.S. President Obama visited El Salvador March 22 and 23, 2011. Reflecting on the significance of the visit, Salvadoran President Mauricio Funes, the leftist Farabundo Martí Front for National Liberation (FMLN) party, and social movement members concur that Obama's presence definitively disproves the long-time threat by right-wing political parties that the election of a leftist FMLN candidate to the presidency would sever US relations with El Salvador. "We have won the battle against disinformation. We have dispelled the fear that relations would deteriorate," Funes told reporters.

This provides some important breathing room to the Funes-FMLN coalition government to continue El Salvador's political transformation, without the Salvadoran right-wing's greatest empty threat. Nonetheless, opposition to US intervention across Latin America continues to smoulder, and for good reason. Neoliberal economics, the "War on Drugs" and the criminalization of Latin America's immigrants remain the pillars of Obama's Latin American policy - so very similar to his Republican predecessors. Thus far what has changed is Obama's framing: in joint press conferences with President Rousseff in Brazil, President Piñera in Chile and President Funes in El Salvador, President Obama stressed "partnerships" among the US and countries in Latin America, naming his priority as "common prosperity and common security."

In Central America the US is seeking to expand its foothold with El Salvador as its top security partner. In El Salvador, Obama announced a joint security initiative to combat regional organized crime and narco-trafficking and to pledge \$200 million in funding. Both heads of state alluded to the successes of bilateral security programs between the US in Mexico (Mérida Initiative) and Plan Colombia to guide the new plan, despite widespread agreement that the militarized, anti-narco-trafficking policies have only increased the profitability of the drug trade at the cost of tens of thousands of human lives, and furthermore have driven cartels into Central America.

Both presidents also expressed the importance that the Central American countries craft the initiative to suit the region's particular needs to combat organized crime. A striking change from the disastrous Mexico and Colombia security plans is Funes' emphasis on rehabilitation, crime prevention and job creation programs in equal measure. What remains to be seen is if the US will back these kinds of programs and to what extent.

For more coverage of this event, follow this link:

http://www.cispes.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=827&Itemid=28

SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE

OTTAWA MENNONITE REFUGEE ASSOCIATION

Farm Boy and Loblaws grocery cards are available on the first Sunday of every month. Cards are redeemable at their full value, and 5% of the cards' value goes to OMRA.

SOUTH-EAST OTTAWA COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTRE

The SEOCHC will be holding its annual fundraising auction on Thursday May 26th. Items will be available for viewing online the week prior to the auction.

BILL 78

Emmanuel's letter of support for Bill 78, the tax credit to cover costs for farmers who donate surpluses to the Food Bank, has been delivered to the Ontario Association of Food Banks and to the MPP for Emmanuel's riding, Dalton McGuinty.

FOOD BANK SUNDAY

Next one is May 15th.

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

Welcome to Emmanuel! It is the season to celebrate the miracle of returning life. We invite you to stand with us at the threshold of everything holy as we open our hearts to the God in our midst.

Our Emmanuel Sunday Service is held at Rideau Park Church at 11:15am, 2203 Alta Vista Drive. Should you require to speak to our minister Peter, Christine or someone in the Emmanuel office, please call 613-733-0437 as the office continues to be located at St. Aidan's Church until we move back into Emmanuel.

UPCOMING SERVICES:

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| May 1 | 11:15 am at Rideau Park, soup lunch to follow, freewill offering to revitalization fund. |
| May 8 | 11:15 am at Rideau Park |
| May 15 | 11:15 am at Rideau Park, Youth Service, Confirmation and Welcoming new members |
| May 22 | 11:15 am at Rideau Park |
| May 29 | 11:15 am at Rideau Park |
| June 5 | 11:15 am at Rideau Park, Rev Stu Hewlett worship leader |

VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED: Throughout the year the Worship Committee attempts to enhance our worship experience by decorating the sanctuary at such times as Easter, Christmas, Thanksgiving, Anniversary and other special occasions. In the spirit of "many hands make light work", we are setting up a roster of folk who might be willing to help with this task. Please contact Carol Lynch if you are interested.

PRAYER CIRCLE - We continue to offer the opportunity for prayer after the 11:15 am worship service, **at the back of the church**. Please do not hesitate to ask for prayer as many times as you feel you need to. We are here to pray with you. Your prayers for this ministry are also appreciated.

COFFEE and CONVERSATION - Volunteers are needed to make and serve coffee and juice following worship. Please call Marge MacLeod if you are able to help

FLOWERS - If people would like to contribute to the 11:15 am service at Rideau Park please call the church office 613-733-0437 or Patty Kavcic if you have a special request.