

Rideau Park United Church Congregational News – December 2021

Council News

Council met on November 24 over Zoom, and welcomed corresponding members Alyce Dunnewold (for Debi Brown) and Kristina Inrig (Environment Committee).

- Council recommended to EOORC that Sharon Sanderson be renewed as a Licensed Lay Worship Leader in an electronic vote, confirmed at this meeting.
- Nominations committee is working on finding new officers and committee chairs for 2022.
- Social Action Outreach Committee has received an invitation to discuss more collaboration with area churches, including outreach work.
- Office closures over the holidays will run from December 24 (noon) to January 4. Year end donations received in the mail marked 2021 will be included in 2021 donations through the first week of January.
- A Foundation Grant of \$5,000.00 was approved for the Environment Committee's EV Charging Station project.
- We received reports on the Stewardship campaign, preliminary budget and an update on Christmas Cheer and Christmas Shoebox projects.
- Re-entry of groups and rentals: at this time we are only making arrangements with groups who were meeting at the church prior to the pandemic. There is a need for evening duty officers.

Upcoming Events

Sunday, November 28, 10:00 am – **Advent 1 Sunday worship**, with Advent candlelighting and Communion.

From November 28 to January 2, we are proud to present a **Display of Nativity Scenes in the chapel**, from the private collection of Jean Cloutier, City Councillor Alta Vista ward from November 28, 2021 to January 2, 2022. The collection can be enjoyed Sunday mornings, before or after morning worship, or contact the office for more information. If you are willing to help host the display for a few hours during December, contact Elizabeth Bryce.

Wednesdays, December 1, 8, 15, 22 at 7:00 pm – **"Advent is Prophetic" Retreat series** on Zoom. Contact Elizabeth or Steve for the Zoom coordinates.

Thursday Online Meditation Group continues at 10:00 am.

Sunday, December 5, 7:00 pm – **Ring in Christmas Bell Concert** from 2019 will be streamed.

Sunday, December 12, 10:00 am – **Annual Christmas pageant**, featuring children and youth from Kitchissippi and Rideau Park United Churches. The whole service will be pre-recorded, but the sanctuary will be open for viewing in-person, with registration at www.rideaupark.ca.

Sunday, December 19 at 4:00 pm – **Forest Church**: we gather in front of RPUC and walk into the forest to worship with all God's creation. Everyone welcome – dress for the weather!

Friday, December 24, 7:00 pm – **Christmas Eve service**. The sanctuary will be open for up to 75 (90?) people in attendance and livestreamed. It will also be posted immediately following the service on our YouTube channel.

Saturday, December 25 at 10:00 am – **Christmas Day service** with Sharon Sanderson, on Zoom.

Sunday, December 26 at 10:00 am – Sunday worship will be **led by Emmanuel United Church**. You are welcome to attend in person at 691 Smyth Rd, but you must register in advance at www.rideaupark.ca. It will also be livestreamed on www.emmanuelunited.ca.

Sunday, January 2, at 10:00 am – **Shared Epiphany service** with Riverside and Emmanuel United Churches at Rideau Park United. Please register ahead to attend the service, attendance for all three congregations will be limited to 75 (90?). The service will also be livestreamed.

Sunday, January 9, at 10:00 am – Our morning worship will include **covenanting with our UCW Executive** and the congregation.