

First Glance

January 26th, 2020

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DOCUMENTARY FILM & DISCUSSION

BLUE ROSES - Living and dying in Ottawa inner-city rooming houses

Wednesday, January 29, 2020 @ 7pm

First United Church, 347 Richmond Rd, Ottawa

Blue Roses is an inspiring documentary about frontline workers who provide care to Ottawa's inner city rooming house residents experiencing poverty, addiction and mental illness, and in the process, challenge our conventional understanding of palliative (end of life) care.

A panel discussion, including two persons from First United Patti Robillard and Claire Savage, along with Robert Jamieson, will follow and focus on how spiritual support and practices may play a role in preventing and addressing burnout among workers in the caring professions.

View the trailer at www.bluerosesdocumentary.ca

Admission: Free will offering

Donations will go towards retreats for frontline workers.

Emergency Housing & Homelessness in Ottawa

Our city is experiencing a significant emergency housing and homelessness crisis. People are sleeping in cars, bus terminals, or fast-food restaurants. City shelters are over-capacity every night and are also limited by city policy and general safety protocols regarding the number of mats they are allowed to place down each evening. As such, people often end up sleeping upright in waiting room chairs, all night. We desperately need immediate action from our governments to address this crisis. In Ottawa, just before the holidays, nine men were left homeless after a fire at their rooming house, and set up a tent city near Bayview Station. Please visit <https://www.housingemergencyottawa.ca> to sign a petition and demand the city declare a housing emergency.

There Housing Emergency Rally, on Wednesday, January 29th at 9 AM in front of City Hall to show your support for this motion, which will be debated later that day.

Journey to Adulthood (J2A) Youth Pilgrimage

Over the next few weeks, you will learn about the Journey to Adulthood (J2A) pilgrimage *to Mexico* that will be occurring in the summer of 2020. The youth will be leading the service on the first Sunday of Lent, March 1st. On the evening before, February 29th, there will be a J2A Mexican Fundraising Dinner. Set this date aside in your calendars.

TAX Receipts

Church Council would like to thank you for your generous support of our congregational life this past year. We met our goals for congregational giving and due to some special one-time donations as well as much higher than usual memorial donations, we ended the year with a surplus of \$5,000. A full report will be circulated at the Annual meeting on March 8th.

Tax receipts are being mailed this coming week.

www.firstunitedchurchottawa.org

NEWS FROM FIRST UNITED

Upcoming Events at First United *(save the dates, details forthcoming)*

Saturday February 29th at 5:30 p.m. J2A Mexican Fundraiser Dinner
Sunday, March 8th at 12:15 p.m. Annual Congregational Meeting with Luncheon
Sunday, March 22nd at 2:30 p.m. World Water Day Celebrations
Wednesday, April 22nd Dust to Dawn Vigil for the Earth.
Saturday, April 25th at 9:30 a.m. Fostering Safe Church Culture Workshop (to 12:30)
July (dates to be determined) Joy Camp

If you are interested in helping plan Joy Camp, including booking the dates and working out the details, please contact the church office to express interest.

August 17th to 24th Camp Awesome coming to First United

If you are interested in being on the planning committee for Camp Awesome, please contact the church office.

Help Refresh First's website

Are you well organized and a great writer? We're hiring someone on a contract basis to update the content of First United's new website. No web skills needed- we're hiring an outside company to do that part. Tasks include planning how the new site will be organized, creating and editing new content, and consulting with the web development company about design options. Applications must be sent to the church office by noon of January 30, 2020. An amount of \$3,000 from the New Ways budget will be paid upon project completion. This is a short-term project expected to run from Feb. 15 to June 30, 2020. This role would not be responsible for maintaining the website content once the site is launched.

See www.firstunitedchurchottawa.org for a detailed description of the position and how to apply.

Two Lenten Studies (one Tuesday Evening the other Wednesday Evening)

Come Learn History You May Never Have Known.

Join Us for a Documentary Video with Reflection and Discussion

Doctrine of Discovery - Stolen Lands, Strong Hearts

A powerful, challenging, truthful film prepared for the Anglican Church by indigenous leaders to educate people on the Doctrine of Discovery and to create awareness of its enduring legacy in our relationship with Indigenous People. This video will help us understand more deeply this broken relationship and what is needed for reconciliation.

When: 7:00 - 9:00 pm Tuesday Evenings - March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

Where: Room 7/8

Sponsored by the Right Relations Groups of First United, and All Saints Anglican.

Come and Learn

with leaders of diverse faith communities in Ottawa

Come and discuss how different faiths and religions teach and practice the Golden Rule. Presentations from other faith leaders will be followed by time for questions and small group discussions as we encourage a deeper understanding between faiths, celebrate diversity in our world, and live the principle of treating others as you want to be treated.

When: 7:00 – 8:30 pm Wednesday Evenings - March 4, 11, 18, 25, April 1

Where: Church Hall

Posters for both events are at back of church to post if you have a place you can post it.

www.firstunitedchurchottawa.org

SMALL GROUP MINISTRY

WEEKLY / MONTHLY SMALL GROUP GATHERINGS

If you have an idea for a small group that you would like to initiate, please contact Brian, who will help to facilitate getting it started.

Art Explorations: February's project details coming soon! (1 – 4 pm in room 5/6) Contact Jane Sly at jsly@primus.ca or Judith Miller at j3miller@uwaterloo.ca

Book Study Group: Mondays from 9:30-11:30 a.m., Room 5/6. The first book is *"From Where I Stand"* by Jody Wilson-Rabould, followed by *Indigenous Writes - A Guide to First Nations, Metis and Inuit Issues in Canada* by Chelsey Vowel. For information contact Maryanne MacDonald at maryanne.macd@gmail.com

Christian Meditation: Every Monday at 5:30 pm in the Chapel. For more information, contact Joyce Hardman: jhardman@rogers.com or Liz Tyrwhitt: liz.tyrwhitt@gmail.com.

Drumming Group: Monday, February 3rd at 7 pm in the sanctuary. Bring something to make a joyful noise & join other drummers for a time of connecting spirit with rhythm. For more information, contact Dave Henderson at daveandging@gmail.com

Families with Children (or not) Potluck: Saturday, February 29th at 4:45 p.m

Healing Pathway: Give yourself the gift of deep relaxation, and healing hands offered in the Spirit for the highest good of mind, body, spirit, emotions. Healing Pathway sessions are every Tuesday between 11:00 am and 9:00 pm by appointment. Please contact - HealingPathway2010@gmail.com

Living into Right Relations Circle: We explore next steps we might want to take in our path to reconciliation and to continue the work of decolonization that we have begun. If you have ideas, or an interest in helping with this work, you'd be most welcome. Please connect with sharonmoon45@gmail.com

Men's Breakfast: Sunday, February 2nd, 9:00 a.m. at Kristy's, 809 Richmond Road (near Cleary Avenue traffic light). For more information contact Paul at pdurber@rogers.com or Tseheyou at Tsehayouseyoum@hotmail.com

Queer Group Potluck: Tuesday, January 28th at 6:15pm at the home of Brian Cornelius, 7 Edgar Street. For more information, contact Chantel Nantel at cnantel555@gmail.com

Stories & Stitches: Brown bag at First United, **Tuesday, February 18th**-
5:30 pm- gather and chat as we eat our brown bag supper (Bring your own)
5:45 pm- Storytelling Sharing stories.... bring a story to share, or listen to tales others tell! Finished by 7:30 pm.

Talking About Mental Health: This social gathering that discusses mental health issues will meet after church. **Sunday, February 23rd** in room 5/6 at 12:30 p.m. Join us for a bowl of soup and conversation. For more information, contact Jessica Ward-King at j.ward-king@hotmail.com or Zachary Houle at zacharyhoule@rogers.com

TGIF: Our regular weekly gatherings, which is primarily seniors but not exclusively, meets on **Fridays** at 1:30 p.m. in Room 5/6. Newcomers are always welcome to join us for tea and conversation! Call the office at 613-232-1016 for more information.

SOCIAL JUSTICE / LEARNING



Have a Heart Day

Have a Heart Day is a child and youth-led reconciliation event that brings together caring Canadians to help ensure First Nations children have the services they need to grow up safely at home, get a good education, be healthy, and be proud of who they are.

For more information, please visit <https://fncaringsociety.com/welcome>

International World Water Day is being held on Sunday, March 22, 2020, focusing attention on the importance of freshwater and advocating for the sustainable management of freshwater resources. World Water Day is an international observance and an opportunity to learn more about water related issues, be inspired to tell others and take action to make a difference.

More details will be coming soon.



Revolution Selfie: Come Face to Face with the Armed Revolutionary Warriors of the Philippines:

See Steven De Castro's Documentary on his Search for the New Peoples' Army and their Struggle for Liberation and Democracy in the Philippines.

Ottawa Activists and Friends

The Ontario Committee for Human Rights in the Philippines (OCHRP) in partnership with the International Coalition for Human Rights in the Philippines and Anakbayan are a fund raiser for Human Rights in the Philippines. In this regard we have made an arrangement with the Bytowne Theatre to host a film. We are selling advanced tickets to NY film maker Steven De Castro's provocative documentary Revolution Selfie: The Red Battalion. De Castro's film explores 3 major dimensions of Philippines society, from a Human Rights perspective it looks at Duterte's "War on Drugs" which has killed thousands in the Philippines, it examines the daily struggles of a particular family living in the Streets of Manila, and finally it goes into the jungles to meet fighters of the revolutionary movement. It is an excellent documentary on the situation in the Philippines, and has received numerous awards.

Screening is at the **Bytowne Theatre: 6:30 PM, Thursday January 30th.**

