



CCSAC NEWSLETTER

CENTRETOWN CHURCHES SOCIAL
ACTION COMMITTEE

March 2020

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St. John the Evangelist Anglican
St. Matthew's Anglican
St. Patrick's Basilica
St. Peter's Lutheran
St. Peter & St. Paul's Anglican
St. Theresa's Roman Catholic
Southminster United
Trinity Anglican

Our mission:

To unite Christians of all
denominations through
joint participation in social
projects and prayer.

Get in Touch!

We would love to hear from you!
Please feel free to e-mail us,
call us, or even mail us:

507 Bank St.
Ottawa, Ont. K2P 1Z5
613-232-3059
contact@centretownchurches.org

Outreach Initiatives of CCSAC Churches - Hot Meals & Fellowship

Centre 120 Out of the Cold - Knox Presbyterian Church, 120 Lisgar Street



Volunteers dish up hot meal for table servers at Centre 120 Out of the Cold at Knox Presbyterian Church.

The Centre 120 Out of the Cold program was initiated by Knox Presbyterian Church in 1995. The purpose of the program is to welcome disadvantaged members of the community into its church for fellowship and to serve them a hot meal each Saturday night during the winter months, beginning in November and continuing until the end of March. An average of 120 people are served each week. Doors open at 4:00 p.m. and dinner is served from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Visit www.knoxottawa.ca and read the **Out of the Cold Fact Sheet** for more information, and if you are interested in volunteering, please read the **Out of the Cold Volunteer Sheet**.

A Place to Go - St. Peter and St. Paul's Anglican Church, 152 Metcalfe Street

Every Friday St. Peter and St Paul's hosts a drop-in and meal ministry. They offer a good meal, a place to feel safe, and a place to belong in a Christian context. There are opportunities to play cards, read a book, and have a chat with friends. People are available for those who need to talk to someone.. There is also a pastor in attendance the first Friday of every month. Summer hours, in effect June through August, are 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Winter hours, in effect for the remainder of the year, are 7:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

For further information see Our Ministries, Compassion Ministry at peterpaulottawa.com.

Centre 7 Out of the Cold - Southminster United Church, 7 Galt Street

Centre 7's free Saturday suppers program began its 23rd season in October 2019. Centre 7's aim is to serve those with low incomes who need a meeting place with friends and a good hot meal. Through the Saturday suppers program, Southminster Church provides local outreach while living part of its mission to serve others and to stand with those who live on the margins of society. Drop in Saturdays is open from October 19, 2019 through March 28, 2020 from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Hot meals are served from 5:30 p.m. to 6:15 p.m. The Centre is in Southminster's lower hall, entrance 7 **Galt Street off Aylmer Avenue**.

For information about volunteering and financial donations see Outreach, Saturday Suppers at southminsterunitedchurch.com.

Affordable Housing and Homelessness Emergency Rally

By Martha Musgrove, CCSAC representative from First Baptist Church

Bundled against a bitterly cold north wind, several members of the CCSAC board joined over 200 other concerned citizens at a rally on January 29 to support a motion by Councillor Catherine McKenney that the city of Ottawa declare an affordable housing and homelessness emergency.

Earlier in the month, both CCSAC and the Centretown Emergency Food Centre Management Committee sent letters to Mayor Jim Watson, supporting the motion. The CCSAC letter noted that “precarious housing leads to other serious social problems such as food insecurity, social isolation and poverty. Without adequate housing, individuals and families are simply unable to seek or maintain employment, pursue education, lead a healthy lifestyle or establish ties in their community.”

After a day of debate, Council unanimously supported the motion, with a slight amendment to refer to both a housing crisis and emergency. Now the difficult work really begins as Council looks at a range of policies and programs designed to eliminate chronic homelessness by 2024.

CCSAC is now considering hosting a housing forum later this year for faith-based service organizations to determine what our contributions might be to the challenge of providing housing options for Ottawa’s vulnerable communities.



Part of the CCSAC contingent at the housing emergency rally (L-R): Lorna Kingston, Mary Mussell and Emily Weick.

Southminster Welcomes new Pastoral Minister

At the beginning of October, Southminster United Church welcomed its new minister, the Rev. Dr. Steven Moore, pastor, padre and scholar.



Rev S.K. Moore, CD, PhD, the new pastoral minister at Southminster United Church.

Originally from Fredericton, New Brunswick, Rev. Moore was ordained a United Church minister in 1990, and served two early short-term pastorates in Nova Scotia. He then joined the military and was a military chaplain for 22 years. Later in his chaplaincy, in 2008, he obtained a PhD in Theology with emphasis on conflict studies from St. Paul’s University, here in Ottawa. Dr. Moore is a published author of several books and numerous scholarly articles and book chapters.

Before becoming minister at Southminster, Rev. Moore carried out short-term interim and transitional ministries at a number of City and Ottawa valley pastoral charges since 2013. He has found Southminster a “good fit” at this stage of his career and looks forward to ministering with this committed faith community and its gifted lay leadership. He also sees the **Centre 7 Out of the Cold Suppers** key to Southminster’s community engagement, along with other spiritual development and outreach activities.

Dr. Moore’s theology embraces what the World Council of Churches has termed “justice, peace and integrity of Creation.” His current passion is the well-being of the natural environment, and he has proposed a single use plastic projects as the congregation’s 2020 Lenten “giving-up” project.

Excerpted from article by Lawrence S. Cumming in *The Oscar*, January 2020.