

## BELLS CORNERS UNITED CHURCH

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Minister: Rev. Kim Vidal

Congregational Designated Minister: Lorrie Lowes

Music Director: Abe TeGrotenhuis

Office Administrators: Nancy Meyers, Ellen Boynton

Chair, Church Board: Jordan Berard

### ANNOUNCEMENTS: November 19, 2017

#### Meetings this week at the Church:

**Lectionary Group:** will take a break on Tuesday Nov 21. Group discussion resumes on Tuesday, Nov. 28.

**Coffee & Friends** meets Thursday November 23, 9:15 am. This week's topic is 'What food experiences have you had while travelling or eating out?' All are welcome. Contact: Bev Wilcox 829-1180

**Notice of Study Leave:** Rev. Kim will be on Study Leave from November 20 until November 27 to prepare for the upcoming Advent Study on Gretta Vosper's book. For pastoral care concerns, please speak with Lorrie or call the office.

**Advent BellRinger:** Please have inputs to the office by **Monday November 20** for the next issue to be published Sunday December 3.

**Crerar's Honey Orders** are here for pickup following this morning's service. Please pick up from Leslie at her table or from the office through the week.

**Men's Club Dinner and Speaker:** Tuesday November 28, 5:00 pm with our own John MacFarlane speaking on the **DND Official History Program**. Tickets will be on sale Nov 19 and 26 at \$10 each. Dinner will consist of chili, salad, and dessert.

Copies of the **2018 Canadian Church calendar**, United Church edition, are available for purchase from the office for \$6 each.

**Mitten Tree:** Beginning in Advent there will be a mitten tree outside the office for your contributions.

### Invitation to Advent & Lent Study:

#### Gretta Vosper's book, "With or Without God"

A couple of months ago, the name Gretta Vosper had been featured in the Observer magazine. Vosper is an ordained United Church minister serving West Hill United Church in Toronto since 1997. She is a self-proclaimed atheist and the founder of the Canadian Centre for Progressive Christianity. In September 2016, the Toronto Conference Review Committee alleged that her atheism made her "not suitable to continue in ordained ministry". The matter has been referred to the General Council for a decision that could have her defrocked. As of September 2017, the matter remains unresolved.

A number of BCUC members came forward to suggest we read and discuss her book, "With or Without God" to make us aware of her theological grounding before we pass judgment on her as suitable or unsuitable clergy. Take note that Vosper's book is not in any way a UCC endorsed faith statement. If you're interested in this study, please mark your calendars. We will discuss the first four chapters in Advent, We meet on four consecutive Mondays from 7 pm to 9 pm. The dates are: Nov 27, Dec 4, 11 and 18. The last three chapters of the book will be discussed in Lent. Dates TBA. Please buy your own book. Paperback copy is about \$23 taxes included from Indigo/Chapters or from UCRD. **A sign-up sheet is posted across from the church office.**

#### Upcoming Worship Services:

**Nov 26** – Reign of Christ Sunday / Pulpit Swap with Rev. Andrew Jensen. Rev. Kim is leading a triennial pastoral care & oversight visit with the congregation at Knox.

#### Season of Advent – we will begin at 9:45 am for Carol-Sing

**Dec 3** – First Sunday of Advent / Celebration of Communion / Hope  
Sermon Focus: "When God Hides" (Isaiah 64:1-9). Wear shades of green.

**Dec 10** – Second Sunday of Advent / Human Rights Sunday / Peace  
Sermon Focus: "When God Comforts" (Isaiah 40:1-11). Wear shades of blue.

**Dec 17** – Third Sunday of Advent / Joy / Wear shades of white or pink.  
Sermon Focus: "When God Disturbs" Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

**Dec 24** – 10:00 am - Fourth Sunday of Advent / All-Ages Worship / Love  
Sunday School & Youth lead us in a Christmas Pageant. Wear shades of red.

8:00 pm – Christmas Eve Service / Communion by Intinction

**Healing Tea, Service of Hope and Labyrinth Walk:** If you find it difficult to be joyful at Christmas due to illness, grief or personal crisis or need the encouragement, space and time to acknowledge your moments of sadness and concern, please come and join us on **Wednesday, December 13<sup>th</sup> for a time of hope, healing and renewal** hosted by the Pastoral and Spiritual Care Team at BCUC. We are delighted to welcome back Judith Campbell as our guest speaker during the Healing Tea at 5 pm. A service of hope follows at 6 pm in the Music Room. Labyrinth Walk is offered from 7 pm in the Main Hall. Please speak with Suzanne Ogden, Lorrie or Rev. Kim for more information. All are welcome!

**Wreath Making Workshop:** Nicole Beaudry is leading a Christmas Wreath Making Workshop on Sunday November 26, 7 pm. If you want to participate please bring a wreath form (some available from Nicole) and materials you might like to add. Greens will be provided as well as other trimmings.

#### **Fish Fry Fridays**

**Introducing Fish Fry Fridays:** A series of Fish dinners in support of local fund raising to occur occasionally at BCUC.

The next is **Friday November 24**, in support of the Zambia Mission Trip. Tasty battered cod with fries, coleslaw and cake for dessert. All for \$18 pp; \$45 a family. Sittings at 5:30 and 6:30 pm. Come and support this BCUC and Presbytery Mission Trip. You may purchase tickets **TODAY** following the service or from the office through the week. Tickets are also available at the door.

The next Fish Fry Friday will be in March, 2018. [zambiatickets@gmail.com](mailto:zambiatickets@gmail.com) to acquire tickets

*Today's bulletin covers have been generously donated  
by Doris McElligott  
in memory of her husband Don*

**Stop and Shop Vendor Market** coming to BCUC on December 9. Please contact Lorrie if you would like to rent a table. All proceeds to the Zambia Partnership Visit.

**Financial Update for Operating Fund - Sunday November 19** This table summarizes the Operating Fund revenue received and expenses incurred in the period from January to October (the latest available). For comparison, the same figures are shown for last year. The year-to-date deficit is **-\$8,169** to the end of October almost the same as the planned budget deficit for 2017. Please continue to give generously to the Operating Fund to eliminate the budget deficit.

<u>Operating Fund</u>	<u>Jan-Oct 2017</u>	<u>vs. Jan-Oct 2016</u>	<u>Budget 2017</u>
Revenue	\$ 337,927 *	\$ 309,887	\$ 405,700
Expenses **	\$ 326,096	\$ 325,008	\$ 413,850
Surplus/(-Deficit)	<b>(-\$8,169)</b>	<b>(-\$15,121)</b>	(\$-8,150)

\* Revenue (2017) includes regular income plus authorized transfer from Stinson Bequest.

\*\* Expenses include monthly allocations for M&S commitments that are paid out in December at year-end.

**Cans & Bottles Recycling** will take place next Sunday November 26. Bring your empty beer & pop cans, wine & beer bottles. Proceeds support Youth activities.

**Greeter/Ushers needed for Sunday services:** Please sign up at the Welcome Information Centre for an upcoming Sunday. Thank you.

**November 20, 7 pm, at The Oasis in Kanata:** "Talking about Eating Disorders." Representatives from the Hopewell Eating Disorder Support Centre and Anchor Psychological Services will provide an overview of eating disorders as they affect mental health. They will provide guidelines for caregivers to help their loved one deal with an eating disorder, especially teens with their concerns about self-image. Glen Cairn United Church, 140 Abbeyhill Drive, Kanata. Free. All are welcome.

**Multifaith Housing Initiative (MHI)** will hold a celebratory event TODAY, 2:30 pm at Ottawa City Hall, Jean Pigott Place. Faith groups will gather to celebrate Canada 150 as well as MHI's 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Dr. Lindy Samson, CHEO Chief of Staff and Chief Medical Officer, will speak on the importance of affordable housing for health and well-being and the role that non-profits, such as MHI, play in helping meet this need. There will be sacred Aboriginal drumming, as well as presentations from Muslim, Jewish, Baha'i, Hindu, and Christian traditions.

**Zambia Partnership Visit 2018! Support BCUC participants** Hazel Smith, Doyle Smith and Lorrie Lowes. Rev. Hillary Merritt and another participant from North Gower will also be joining the trip.

\* **Hazel's Soaps** can be purchased from the office for \$4 each. Come and see her new ones for fall 2017!

\***"Be You"**, a new **CD** from our own **Rory Gardiner**, can be purchased in the office! Rory is donating the entire price of **\$10 each** to the Mission Exposure Fund in support of Young Adult Global Partnership Visit to Zambia.

**Glen Cairn United Church's 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Christmas Cookie Walk** is set to take place on Saturday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> from 9:00am until noon at 140 Abbeyhill Drive in Kanata. Choose from various sizes of boxes and fill them with scrumptious cookies. A large selection to choose from! Craft sale, silent auction and entertainment, too! Hope to see you there! For more info, please contact office@gcuc.ca or phone 613-836-4756.

**Carols, Candles and Cookies: Sunday, December 3rd, 6:00pm. Kanata United Church**, 33 Leacock Drive, Kanata. Please join us for a fun Christmas sing-along! Special guests - Alleluia Singers/Sounds of Joy and the Intermediate choir. Christmas cookies to follow! Fun for all ages! Free! Please contact 613-592-5834 for info.