

BELLS CORNERS UNITED CHURCH

3955 Old Richmond Rd., Nepean, ON K2H 5C5

Website: www.bcuc.org **Email:** office@bcuc.org

Facebook: @bellscornersunitedchurch

YouTube: Bells Corners United Church

Ministers: Rev. Kim Vidal, Rev. Lorrie Lowes

Music Director: Abe TeGrotenhuis

Office Administrators: Ruth Timms, Ellen Boynton

Chair, Church Board: Rotating

Church Office Hours: Monday- Friday, 9:00 am-12 noon; 1 -4 pm

ANNOUNCEMENTS: March 3, 2024

ACKNOWLEDGING THE TERRITORY

We acknowledge that we are gathered on the unceded traditional territory of the Algonquin Anishinaabe First Nation. We pay respect to the elders past and present and honour all indigenous people's reverence of this land throughout the ages. May we live in peace and friendship to sustain the earth and all its people. All my relations.

Meetings This Week:

The SEEKERS book discussion will meet on Monday, March 4 2 pm in the Shalom Rm. We will cover chapters 10 and 11 of the book.

Lectionary Group meets Tuesday March 6, 10:30 am in the Shalom Rm. Theme & Text: Jesus: A Beacon of Love (John 3:14-21)

Affirming Circle meets Tuesday March 5, 7pm.

Worship/CE meets Wednesday March 6, 7pm.

Coffee & Friends meets on Thursday mornings, 9:15am. Come and join with other women for conversation and friendship. Information: Bev Wilcox – 829-1180.

Men's Coffee: Come on Friday mornings, 10:00 am, to join the men for coffee and conversation. Information: David Stafford 592-0296.

Lenten Project 2024 Update: Multifaith Housing Initiative

Our SOSA Committee has set a goal of **\$8000** to contribute towards the MHI **Dream LeBreton Capital Campaign of \$1.5M**. Upon completion of this project, MHI will own and operate 130 housing units, which will add to their current 139 homes.

How to donate: **cheque** made out to BCUC (Lenten Project on memo line), **cash** or by **etransfer**

INTERAC E-TRANSFER: To transfer funds directly to BCUC through your online banking service, first set up BCUC as an Interac e-Transfer payee using '**treasurer@bcuc.org**' as the email address.

Then, for each transaction to send money, please enter the dollar amount, select your bank account for withdrawal of funds and select BCUC as the payee.

In the Message line, add your Name and the Purpose of the Funds, if other than a regular donation, and, for a charitable receipt add your envelope number or home address.

Note: a security question & answer is not required as BCUC has enabled Auto deposit of your funds into the BCUC Operating Account.

Final Step: Review your transaction details to ensure they are complete & correct before pressing SEND.

Thank you for your donation.

Thank You:

Coffee & Refreshment Servers: Pierre & Marion Dugas

The **BCUC Annual General Meeting** will take place **onsite and by Zoom** on **Sunday March 3rd at 11:30 AM**. The purpose of this meeting is to review and receive the 2023 Annual Report and Audited Financial Statements and to approve the 2024 Activity Plan, Budget and Nominations Report, and various other items of importance. Coffee and muffins will be served following morning worship. Childcare will be provided in the crib nursery.

The proposed Agenda, 2023 Annual Report, Financial Report, and other documents have been circulated by e-mail and print copies are available in the office. If you did not receive the materials, please contact the office and we will arrange for you to have them.

Members wishing to attend the AGM from home can use the following Zoom link to access the meeting:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://algonquincollege.zoom.us/j/92113738724?pwd=UDRRUEILZHNPtMq4WVc0U0RIT9RQT09> Meeting ID: 921 1373 8724 Password: 502169

2023 Tax Receipts have been sent out by email. If you wish a printed receipt the office will be happy to provide one.



AFFIRMATION STATION

Survey results are in. Of the yes/no votes received, 91% were in favour of continuing the process of exploration to determine whether to become an **Affirming Ministry**. We also received many constructive comments and suggestions. Thank you!

As part of the exploration process, we invite you to join us on Sunday, March 10:

- to celebrate National PIE Sunday at our 10 am worship;
- to enjoy a variety of pies at coffee hour right after the service;
- and to attend a 1 1/2 hour workshop to have a conversation about **what makes people feel comfortable and "at home", and what it could mean for BCUC to be an Affirming Ministry.**

P.S. PIE is short for Public, Intentional and Explicit. These are the standards for an Affirming Ministry. More details to follow during the service and the workshop. We hope to see you there.

Once again there will be **free income tax clinics** sponsored by Canada Revenue Agency's Community Volunteer Income Tax Program (CVITP) held at **Christ Church Bells Corners (CCBC)** for those with modest incomes and simple returns. Details are available, along with other tax clinics, on the CVITP website at: <https://apps.cra-arc.gc.ca/ebci/oecv/external/prot/cli>

Membership Survey – To get a better picture of our congregation's current demographic we will attempt to contact as many families and individuals as possible over the next few weeks. Our plan is to confirm basic contact information, age data and level of involvement. This data will help current and future boards and committees with planning for the needs of our congregation. For those attending services we will have a table in the main hall during our fellowship time. For those not in regular attendance we plan to contact you with a phone call. Your participation is greatly appreciated.

Larry Ryan & Bev Wilcox, Membership

Join Us for Onsite Worship ** Please review the questions on the website before coming to ensure that you are well. We look forward to seeing you soon.

Upcoming Worship Services Onsite and Livestream at 10 am

Broadcasts will be available for future viewing. Text format of the worship service will be emailed to you and posted on our website at bcuc.org. Sunday sermons can be found under the header 'Worship at Home' button the following week.

SEASON OF LENT:

March 3 – Third Sunday in Lent / AGM

Sermon Focus: "Jesus: A Social Prophet" (John 2: 13-22)

March 10 – Fourth Sunday in Lent / National UCC PIE Sunday

Sermon Focus: "Jesus: A Beacon of Love" (John 3: 14-21)

Join us for a pies and beverages after the service in the main hall and stay for a learning event.

March 17 – Fifth Sunday in Lent

Worship Leader: Rev. Lorrie Lowes

BCUC's Book Club will have their next discussion on **Wednesday, March 20th** at 1:30 p.m. All are welcome, even if you haven't had time to read the book - it's a great way to try out a new activity - no risk, no obligation. We will be discussing *The Silence of the Girls* by Pat Barker, a novel which recounts the events of the Iliad chiefly from the point of view of Brieis, the childless wife of King Mynes. Pat Barker is a British writer and novelist, who has won many awards for her fiction, which centres on themes of memory, trauma, survival and recovery. If this topic doesn't interest/appeal to you, please bring along another book about which you can tell the group. For further information about the BCUC Book Club, contact Ruth Abbott (613-829-2868) or Jan Pound (613-828-0548).

Plan to attend 'A Meaningless Hour' Dinner and presentation by **Tom Sherwood** of a humorous theological reflection on King Solomon & the Book of Ecclesiastes on **Friday March 22**. Dinner, hosted by Two Men & A Stove, is at 5:30pm and the presentation in the Sanctuary is at 7pm. Audience discussion will follow at 8pm. Dinner will include pork tenderloin with vegetables, apple strudel for dessert and hot beverages. Dinner and show tickets cost \$30; show only will be \$10. Tickets can be purchased from the office or on Sunday mornings. Revenue from the evening will support Camp Chipembi 2024, as part of the Zambia Partnership.

BCUC Name Tags may be ordered by contacting the office. The price remains the same, \$12 for pinback and \$16 for magnetic back

Camp Awesome 2024: BCUC is now booked to host Camp Awesome **July 29 – August 2**. Hope you can make your summer plans to include attending our fun summer week of camp. Registration information is now available on the BCUC website. We are happy to announce that Vicki Martin will be our BCUC Camp Coordinator.

CANDLELIGHTERS WANTED: We are looking for volunteers (individuals, pairs or families) to light the Christ Candle every Sunday. A sign-up sheet until Easter Sunday is posted across from the church office. You may also call the church office or talk to Rev. Kim to secure a date. Thank you.

Sunday Sale of Grocery Gift Cards: The church earns about \$2,000 each year by enabling people to purchase grocery cards for Loblaw, Sobey & FreshCo from the office. If someone was willing to sell cards during Fellowship Time after Sunday worship we could earn much more. Please contact the office if you are interested in volunteering for this task.

Request: The **West Ottawa Interfaith Bridge committee** invites an interested person from Bells Corners United Church to join the committee. We are represented by the three churches and the mosque in our neighbourhood and have two educational activities and an Interfaith Dinner each year. We also help the community in a variety of ways. Please contact Alison Bridgewater at 613 726 9099

For Sale in the Office:

The following items may be purchased by visiting the office:

- * **Credit/Debit/Gift Card Tabs** are available. A package of four costs \$5. These tabs can be attached to your cards for easy access when hidden in wallet slots.
- * **Lanyards** for wearing on your wrist to hold your keys are available for \$5.

HEALTH CONCERNS: We are again in the flu season and the rising number of cases of COVID is a concern that we do not want to ignore. We would like to encourage everyone to stay home if you are unwell, and to remind you that Ottawa Public Health continues to strongly recommend mask use for people at risk for severe illness, and for everyone when in a crowded indoor setting. We would also ask that everyone at BCUC respect the decisions of others who

choose to mask and/or to avoid handshaking and other physical contacts while here at church. -The Worship/CE Committee

BCUC WELCOMES VISITORS & GUESTS! Please sign our GUEST BOOK on the narthex table with your name and contact info. Thank you for joining us and we hope to see you again.

Prayer Circle continues. Join us from the comfort of your homes or wherever you are. Pray with us at 8 pm every Wednesday. If you have any **prayer requests**, please send them to Rev. Kim. Or you may fill in a prayer request form and drop it in the Prayer Chalice in the narthex or the Prayer Box at the entranceway. Continue to pray for one another.

Grocery Gift Cards Available for Purchase: Please help support fundraising for BCUC by purchasing grocery gift cards. The office has the following grocery cards available for purchase:

Loblaws - \$50, \$100, \$250

Metro - \$50, \$100

Sobeys/FreshCo/IGA - \$50, \$100

You may pay with cash or cheque payable to BCUC, with 'gift card' in the memo line.

KEEP INFORMED! Visit the Bells Corners United Church Facebook page? If you have a Facebook account, please follow us and like our BCUC page. Information is posted on a regular basis. You can also subscribe to our YouTube page! Watch one of our church services and click subscribe! Please visit our website bcuc.org where you will find text format of the worship services, Sunday School resources and weekly announcements and updates.

CONTINUE TO GIVE! Thank you for your continued love and support to BCUC! Please remember that costs of maintaining the church and paying salaries always need to be met. Your generosity is much appreciated. The following options are available:

COMING VERY SOON at BCUC!!!

DINNER & SHOW

A MEANINGLESS HOUR

Written and performed by
Tom Sherwood

WHEN
Fri 22 March 2024
5:30 – 9:00 pm

WHERE
Bells Corners United Church
3955 Old Richmond Road, Ottawa, Ontario
Telephone: 613-820-8103
Email: office@bcuc.org

**HUMOROUS
THEOLOGICAL
REFLECTION
ON KING
SOLOMON &
THE BOOK OF
ECCLESIASTES**

SCHEDULE

5:30 - 7:00 pm
Dinner by Two Men
and a Stove

7:00 - 8:00 pm
Show

8:00 - 9:00 pm
Audience discussion

TICKETS

\$30 Dinner + Show
\$10 Show only
(per person)

Available for
purchase at the
church office and at
the door

BENEFITING

Camp Chipembi
2024, Zambia
Partnership



Envelope Givings

- Offerings* may be cash or cheque.
- Place offerings in the plates on Sunday, OR
- Slip them through the kitchen door mail slot, OR
- Mail them to the church address.



Pre-Authorized Remittance (PAR)

- Monthly automatic withdrawal from your bank account, accompanied by an annual tax receipt.
- For more information, registration and amendments, call or email office@bcuc.org.



E-Transfer

- Donate anytime via your online banking service, addressed to payee: treasurer@bcuc.org.
- Include your name, purpose of funds, and address* in the message.



CanadaHelps.org

- Search for Bells Corners United Church as a Registered Canadian Charity.
- There are options to donate once, monthly, or to donate securities.

- Contact the church office about donating Securities.

*Tax receipts will be issued for donations of \$20 or more, if provided with a name and complete address.

Tickets will be on sale this Sunday following morning worship.

Long Term Care Facility Residents
Please keep the following people in your prayers

<i>David Bell</i>	<i>Peter D. Clarke, Nepean</i>
<i>Irene Bertrand</i>	<i>Thorncliffe, Nepean</i>
<i>Bea Blackwell</i>	<i>Stillwater Creek, Nepean</i>
<i>Irene Bossons</i>	<i>Valley Stream Manor, Nepean</i>
<i>Jo Brunskill</i>	<i>Red Oak, Kanata</i>
<i>Peggy Burton</i>	<i>Valley Stream Manor, Nepean</i>
<i>Betty Clarke</i>	<i>Carlingview Manor, Ottawa</i>
<i>Kathy & George Eaton</i>	<i>Starwood, Nepean</i>
<i>Don Ferguson</i>	<i>Stillwater Creek, Nepean</i>
<i>Jack Fraser</i>	<i>Park Place, Nepean</i>
<i>Geoff Gale</i>	<i>The Ravines, Ottawa</i>
<i>Jim Gardner</i>	<i>Park Place, Nepean</i>
<i>Helen Gordon</i>	<i>Valley Stream Manor, Nepean</i>
<i>Carl Halchuk</i>	<i>Park Place, Nepean</i>
<i>Marion Helgason</i>	<i>Stillwater Creek, Nepean</i>
<i>George James</i>	<i>Forest Hill, Kanata</i>
<i>Bill Johnson</i>	<i>Carleton Lodge, Nepean</i>
<i>Barbara McFall</i>	<i>Robertson House, Nepean</i>
<i>Derry Oke</i>	<i>Valley Stream Manor, Nepean</i>
<i>Norah Pacey</i>	<i>Hillel Lodge, Ottawa</i>
<i>Dave Peck</i>	<i>Valley Stream Manor, Nepean</i>
<i>Sheila Prince</i>	<i>Granite Ridge, Stittsville</i>
<i>Shirley & Earl Schaubel</i>	<i>Bridlewood Trails, Kanata</i>
<i>Pat Stoate</i>	<i>Stillwater Creek, Nepean</i>
<i>Kay Sutherland</i>	<i>The Courtyards, Kanata</i>



If you know of other congregation members who should be included in this list, please call the office with details.