

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 Summer Hours: Tuesday/Thursday 9-noon, 1-4pm

ANNOUNCEMENTS: July 9, 2023

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.

Summer Office Hours: Tuesdays & Thursdays 9-noon & 1-4pm. For pastoral concerns please contact Rev. Lorrie Lowes. Messages will be checked regularly.

BCUC Name Tags may be ordered by contacting the office. It has been too long since we invited people to order a name tag. The price remains the same, ie. pinback is \$12 and magnet back is \$16.

Camp Awesome at BCUC July 10-14. Contact Tamara Glanville at 592-4575. Please see below supplies requested for crafts during camp week. It is important that all supplies be CLEAN and that jars and bottles have lids. There is a box in the hall by the lounge door to collect materials. Here is what the staff would like:

- Glass bottles and jars
- plastic bottles and jars
- cardboard boxes
- creative recyclable materials

Men's Coffee: Come on Friday mornings, 9:30 am, to join the men for coffee and conversation. Information: David Stafford 592-0296.

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.

The 2023 (NO masks!) Congregational Photo is on display and will be framed for viewing by everyone. An electronic version is available for ordering by contacting the office. We will send you the file and you can make a print as you wish.

BCUC's Book Club meets at the church on the third Wednesday of the month, from September to June. We take turns "reviewing" the books, and enjoy talking about the various books we've been reading. New members are always welcome at any time, and even casual attendees may come to check us out and see what we're about. If you're looking for some summer reading ideas, you might consider some of our book selections for the coming year:

September - *Shrines of Gaiety*, by Kate Atkinson

October - *The Sleeping Car Porter* by Suzette Mayr

November - *Permanent Astonishment* by Tomson Highway

January - any mystery by Peter Robinson

February - *The Sentence* by Louise Erdrich

March - *The Silence of the Girls* by Pat Barker

April - *All That She Carried* by Tiya Miles

May - *Everyone Knows Your Mother is a Witch* by Rivka Galchen

For more information about the Book Club, contact Ruth Abbott (613-829-2868) or Jan Pound (613-828-0548). Happy summer reading, Everyone!

Our **Partnership Visit to Chipembi** is scheduled for August 3- 21. This visit includes two important aspects: the **Opening of the New Building and Camp Chipembi**, along with planning together for future partnership projects. Rev. Lorrie, Wendy Morrell, Alex Price and Kael Fowler will represent BCUC. Kael and Alex will be involved in the planning and implementation of Camp Chipembi, working with Young Adults from the Chipembi community. Rev. Lorrie and Wendy will help with the food prep and whatever else those young people ask! All of us will be taking part in planning sessions with the local committee to determine next steps in this wonderful partnership. With the substantial increase in air fare, the cost of this trip is higher than anticipated. We have worked hard to fundraise, but also appreciate any help you would like to offer. Donations for this aspect of the partnership can be made to the **Mission Exposure Fund**. Make cheques payable to BCUC with Mission Exposure in the memo line. Thank you for your support! We will do our best to represent this congregation well.

Sponsor a child to **Camp Chipembi** this year! \$100 gives a youngster 7 days of fun and fellowship - including a full meal and snacks each day and a t-shirt to remember the awesome week! To ensure that we can accommodate all of the children who want to attend, we need to find sponsorship for at least 11 more. Let's do this!

Donations can be made to the BCUC **Zambia Partnership Fund**. Make cheques payable to BCUC with Zambia Partnership in the memo line.

Looking for some time for yourself to centre, ground and relax in a beautiful forest by a lake? Support CGIT Camp Kalalla's Fundraiser and come to our **Summer Retreat!**

Full Day Option (July 15) or Half Day Options (July 16).

All options include a Gong/Sound Bath.

For more information and to register, visit <http://kalalla.com/summer-retreat-full-day-or-half-day-in-nature-at-camp-kalalla/>

Send a camper to camp!

CGIT Camp Kalalla works hard to provide leadership and growth opportunities in a fun and relaxed environment for girls and young women. We have campers who are interested in attending this summer, but who need financial assistance for the registration fee. If you are able to make a donation (donations are tax deductible), please email campkalalla@gmail.com

**At its June 21st Meeting the BCUC Church Board passed a motion to receive the following report, compiled by Bob Ferguson, with results from the recent survey on the possible use of Church lands for Affordable Housing & Related Uses. The motion also approved the creation of a committee to study the feasibility of proceeding with exploring such a venture. If you are interested in being part of this exciting exploration please contact the church office. Specific skills will assist the Steering Committee in its work. If you or someone you know has one of the following skillsets, please consider sharing it by contacting the church office. We need a lawyer, a social worker, someone with knowledge about housing and a businessperson with experience in dealing with the City and related zoning matters.

Report to the BCUC Board on the Survey Results regarding the use of Church lands for Affordable Housing & Related Uses - Bob Ferguson

The survey has been a success in that many returns have been received. As you are aware, the survey form was available in the church and sent out via email to those on the church's email list. The total number of survey forms returned is 107. Of these returns, 71 said "yes" to a study of the issue of using church lands for affordable housing and related uses. 36 said "no". One form was "spoiled" in that neither "yes" nor "no" was checked off. So for those interested in statistics, the percentage in favour of the study was 66%. The percentage not in favour was 34%.

Some survey returns included comments, which I have noted and can be shared if you request them. A number of people have volunteered to assist if the Board wishes to pursue this study.

Our Church Board will have to decide, given these results, what the next steps will be. The Board must communicate their decisions on this matter to the church members as soon as is practical.

In my opinion, the Board has the following options:

1. Decide to continue to study this topic if a committee of interested members of the congregation can be found to undertake this task. I have prepared some ideas for a stage 2 of the study. As well, comments and concerns received from the survey should be addressed.

2. Seek advice from the United Church and its related groups, like Kindred Works, on using church lands for affordable housing and related uses.
3. Establish a new Vision Committee to review the 2020 Vision Report and update it for the next 30 years. Have this committee look into the use of the church lands in the future.

****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.

Women in the Bible:

July 9 – Naomi & Ruth

Electronic Sign Fundraising: To date we have about half of the needed funds to proceed with erecting an electronic church sign where our current sign is located. We wish to get on with the project so your donations to help with the fundraising will be appreciated. Make cheques payable to BCUC with 'electronic sign' in the memo line.

Affirming Ministry- Affirming Ministries are congregations within the United Church that make an ongoing commitment to justice and inclusion and publicly declare in words and actions, that God loves and accepts people who are gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, queer or two-spirited. They call upon the rest of the church and society to do the same.

There is interest here at BCUC in exploring what it would mean for us to become an Affirming Ministry. With the blessing of the BCUC Board, the plan is to engage the congregation in a process of education, reflection and discernment, beginning next fall. Anyone interested in being part of a working group that would lead the process, please speak to Susan Young (613-619-2724). We will have the guidance and support of Affirm United, the United Church's partner. For more information about Affirm United and reasons to consider becoming an Affirming Ministry, please visit: http://ause.ca/wp-content/pdf/BecomingAffirmingFlyer_English.pdf

Sunday Fellowship Time: We need volunteers to prepare tea and coffee. Please visit the spreadsheet below to sign up for a Sunday or two. E-mail Pierre (pierre.dugas@rogers.com) and he will send you a link to the sign-up sheet. <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1sOHGCwqvcO9-EYmwdiknIU5GUYNPxQ3bIFRnnAD04A/edit#gid=0>

We Have a Plan to Protect! BCUC takes the well-being and safety of everyone who comes through our doors, and particularly our children, youth, and vulnerable adults, very seriously. Over the past two years, Rev. Lorrie has been taking courses to help us clarify our Abuse Prevention Policies and to be certified as a Trainer. Several groups have already taken the training - Our Board, Trustees and staff, M&P committee members, our Pastoral & Spiritual Care Team, our Sunday School and Nursery leaders and the Property Committee. Rev. Lorrie will be offering the training again in the near future. Anyone who still needs this training for their roles here at BCUC, who wishes to take part out of interest, or because of other roles they play in the community is welcome to attend. Contact Rev. Lorrie for more information or to register.

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. Lorrie. 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

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

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

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.

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 video recordings and 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:

- E-transfer
- Drop off offering envelopes or cheques in the mail slot located in the kitchen door or mail them to BCUC.
- For non-PAR users, consider using PAR – call the office for more information.
- Donate through canadahelps.org
- Contact the church office about donating Securities.

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>Thornccliffe, 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>Betty Clarke</i>	<i>Carlingview Manor, Ottawa</i>
<i>Kathy & George Eaton</i>	<i>Starwood, 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>Stillwater Creek, Nepean</i>

<i>Doug MacKechnie</i>	<i>Stillwater Creek, Nepean</i>
<i>Barbara McFall</i>	<i>Robertson House, 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>



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