

BELLS CORNERS UNITED CHURCH

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

Website: www.b cuc.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 30, 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. After August 3 please contact the office. You will be redirected to a clergy person who will help. Messages will be checked regularly.

****Electronic Sign Fundraising Update:** Thanks to generous donations we now have 68% of the needed funds. A provider has been chosen and work is beginning to secure bylaw approval etc. Please make cheques payable to BCUC with 'electronic sign' in the memo line.

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

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-EYmwdiknlU5GUYNPpxQ3bIFRnnAD04A/edit#gid=0>

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.

Quarterly Financial Report to BCUC Congregation – Quarter ending June 30, 2023

As this is the end of the second quarter, the target numbers are at 50%. Thanks to the continued generosity of members of the church total revenue to the end of June was \$137,750 which represents 41% of budgeted revenue, slightly off target. Envelope givings are at 33% of projected, similar to last year, PAR givings sit at 49%. Rental income continues to do well at 50%. The garage sale achieved 80% of targeted revenue – thanks to all involved. Even though we have no one on Sundays selling Loblaws and other gift cards, that income has already reached 90% of goal.

The continued endeavour of committees to keep expenses at a minimum led to total expenses at 47% of target, so we are holding the line on our expenses as was the case last year. We continue to meet our commitments in support and service.

The electronic sign fund has reached a donation point of \$20,640 which is approximately 66% of anticipated cost.

The budget for this year projected a \$20,000 deficit. I am confident that as was the case last year, we will be able to balance the budget by year end. Your continued support of BCUC is greatly appreciated and allows us to make a difference.

Ross Mutton, Treasurer

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

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!

Church Land Survey Followup Action: Following Board approval to pursue creation of a committee to look into the feasibility of exploring possible use of Church lands for Affordable Housing and Related Uses, Bob Ferguson is seeking people interested in participating in this exploration. If you have skills such as lawyer, social worker, someone with knowledge about housing or are a businessperson with experience in dealing with the City and related zoning matters please contact Bob at 828-9610 or bferguson@sympatico.ca. 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.

THANK YOU!

Your generosity to date has ensured that **31 more children** are assured a spot at **Camp Chipembi** this summer!

There is still time to take part in this wonderful initiative. **\$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! It also allows us to purchase the materials that will make the week extra fun for these kids – balls, balloons, a parachute - and other supplies needed by the community. Donations can be made to the BCUC **Zambia Partnership Fund**. Make cheques payable to BCUC with Zambia Partnership in the memo line.

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

Two Canoes – One River: Come Paddle with Us on October 13 -14 - 15, 2023.

For our next Progressive Learning Circle Event, Rev. Dr. Teresa Burnett-Cole and Rev. Tony Snow will explore the diverse histories of the Indigenous United Church congregations in the East and the West. Rev. Burnett-Cole will discuss three different spiritual responses to Christianity in eastern Canada, and Rev. Snow will do similarly with the diverse spiritualities in the west. There will be an exploration of the different types of collaboration between the Indigenous church and Settler regions. For details of the event and to register, visit www.bcuc.org.

****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 30 – Hagar

August 6 – Rev. Dr. Victor Lujetic 'Spiritual Truth in Secular Songs'

August 13 – Rev. Deacon Tamara Connors

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

Progress Pride Flag: You will find a new flag in the Entryway window. Created by Daniel Quasar in 2018, the Pride Progress Flag features black and brown stripes to portray marginalized LGBTQ+ communities of color and baby blue, pink and white to incorporate the trans flag in its design.

Daniel displaced the trans flag stripes and marginalized community stripes to the flag's hoist, where they form a new arrow shape. The arrow leads to the right to confer forward movement while purposely being along the left edge, pointing to the fact that much progress still needs to be made.

The symbol being used to serve LGBT people is evolving. And it's all part of a journey to be more inclusive of the expansive breadth of identities within this community.

The intention behind this change is not to replace or erase what the Pride flag was, but rather to recognize the value of all parts of the modern queer community, which the Progress flag does a better job of.

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.

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.

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.

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>Carleton Lodge, 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.