

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: November 26, 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.

Meetings This Week:

UCW Executive meets Monday November 27, 7pm

Seekers meets Monday, November 27, 2pm in the Shalom Room. Please read Chapter 4 of the book for discussion.

Lectionary Group Discussion meets on Tuesday, November 28 10:30 am in the Shalom Room. Theme & Text: The Hidden God (Isaiah 64: 1-9)

Choir rehearsals are on Thursdays at 7:15pm

Thanks to everyone who volunteered, donated goods, baked and cooked, worked to set up, sell and shop to enable this year's bazaar to earn even more revenue than last year! Chris Brown, Coordinator

Thanks to the talented people who sewed, knitted etc for the Christmas Bazaar. Bev Wilcox

This Sunday! Dan and Wendy will be making a **collection of wine/beer/etc. bottles/cans** with all proceeds going to the Zambia Partnership. We'll have our car parked and the trunk open to receive all contributions! Collect yours, your friends, your neighbours, your families - ALL contributions are welcome!!

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.

Copies of the **2024 Canadian Church calendar** (United Church edition) are now available for purchase from the office for \$10 each.

Mark Your Calendars! Seasonal Choral Music is coming!

OWECC Ecumenical Choirs fundraising concert will be held **Sunday December 3, 7pm** at St. Stephen's Anglican Church, (off Pinecrest). BCUC Choir is participating!

BCUC Christmas Choir Concert will be held **Sunday December 10, 6:30 pm**. Free-will offering in support of Operating Fund. Refreshments to follow.

Communion Services in December

First Sunday of Advent & Communion - December 3, 10 am during the service. We will go back to the traditional way of serving communion in the pews following health protocols.

Christmas Eve Service & Communion - December 24, 6:30 pm.

Communion will be served by intinction where people are invited to come forward to receive the elements. All are welcome.

Good News for UP Youth ages 12-18! We are happy to inform you that Kael Fowler, with the assistance of Dana Ducette, had agreed to take on leadership with the UP Youth Group. Please watch out for more information on upcoming youth events!

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

Advent and Christmas Flowers Opportunity. You may donate a minimum of \$10 to remember a loved one who has passed. A virtual poinsettia will be included in services from December 3 until December 25. Live poinsettia flowers will adorn our sanctuary. Ross Mutton will be available after the service on **November 26** to receive your donations and dedication. Donations by cash or cheque please.

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



Welcome to Affirmation Station!

The Affirming Circle has chosen a rainbow-coloured umbrella as our logo. The rainbow colours represent all of human diversity, the spokes represent the supportive, collaborative people of our congregation and the umbrella as a whole symbolizes BCUC as an Affirming, fully inclusive organization. As we progress through the steps of the Affirming Process, our umbrella will gradually open wider to form a wonderfully vibrant circle that affirms and includes everyone. Watch this space for information and news from the Affirming Circle.

Coffee and Friends: Ladies, join us Thursday mornings, 9:15am for friendly conversation, laughter, cookies and coffee. Bring a neighbour and/or friend. Information: Bev Wilcox 829-1180

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

BRASS CHRISTMAS CONCERT: The three Christian parishes of Bells Corners are hosting a Brass Christmas Concert at St. Martin de Porres Church (3891 Old Richmond Road) on **Saturday, Nov. 25, at 7:15 p.m.** Join the **Hogtown Brass Quintet** for a wonderful evening of music with all proceeds going to FAMSAC Food Cupboard. Tickets are available from the church office and at the door (cash only). Adults \$25, Seniors \$20, Families \$50. For more information, contact Michael Hammond at 613-447-2111.

FAMSAC began over 50 years ago to help families in need at Christmas with hampers. Today, FAMSAC provides emergency food support to about 150 families every month from our new permanent home at Hollyer House. Demand has been steadily growing in the past few years with a new record in terms of the number of food orders we provide and the number of people requesting assistance through our Christmas program. In 2022 we provided assistance to more than 300 families at Christmas and expect to surpass that record once again in 2023.

Donations help fund our Christmas gift card program, which, during the pandemic replaced our Christmas hamper program. While much more expensive, this offers families the freedom to purchase food items that suit their needs. Requests should be received by 1 December: (613) 820-5428. We remain very grateful for the financial support that so many churches, businesses, community groups and individuals provide.

Thanks to those who have offered to bake cookies or buy a gift to support the Multifaith Housing Children's Christmas Party at The Haven, the affordable housing project in Barrhaven. We are still in need of gifts for 2 girls, ages 9 years, as well as a couple of dozen cookies.

Cookies must be nut free and easily packaged to prevent crumbling. We are asked to provide the gifts wrapped. The suggested price for gifts is \$25 to ensure consistency with all the children. If you prefer to donate the \$25, I will purchase a gift on your behalf.

If you can help by donating a gift and/or cookies, please contact Barbara Bole Stafford at bbole@sympatico.ca or (613) 592-0296.

Camp Kalalla & Crerars Honey: Use the link below to access the form and order your honey **before the end of November** (contact campkalalla@gmail.com if you have questions.) Thank you for your support of Camp and the work we do to support the growth and leadership of young women in the Ottawa area and beyond!



Friends for the Journey: Are you grieving and interested in a supportive, self-directed group for companionship, conversation and possibly social outings or recreational activities? We need a few more participants to get a group going this fall. For more information or to indicate your interest, please contact Susan Young, Pastoral and Spiritual Care Coordinator (skyoung.susan@gmail.com) by Nov. 30.

Electronic Sign Update: We have received news that the application package for building the new sign has been reviewed, all is in order and the permit should be received soon. Then the sign will be ordered and the hope is that it will be operational before Christmas.

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.

November 26 – Reign of Christ Sunday

Sermon Focus: "When Did We See You?" (Matthew 25: 31-46)

SEASON OF ADVENT:

December 3 – First Sunday of Advent / Communion Service

Sermon Focus: "The Hidden God" (Isaiah 64: 1-9)

December 10 – Second Sunday of Advent

Sermon Focus: "The Comforting God" (Isaiah 40:1-11)

December 13 – Service of Healing & Hope (Blue Christmas)

5 pm – Healing Tea in the Main hall with Guest Speaker, Judith Campbell

6 pm – Service of Hope – Shalom Room

7 pm – Labyrinth Walk – Main Hall

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/1sOHGCwqvc09-EYmwdiknlU5GUYNPQ3bIFRnnAD04A/edit#gid=0>

From the Ministry & Personnel Committee: Rev. Lorrie Lowes has been ordered by her physician to take several weeks off on stress leave. We expect that to extend into December at least! If you wish to send her cards and good wishes, etc., please send them to the BCUC office for delivery. Now is the time for all good congregants to step forward to see where you can lend a hand: Worship assistance; Sunday School; Youth; all need help. Contact Ruth or Ellen in the church office or Rev. Kim: 820-8103. -David Stafford, Chair

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.

The West Ottawa Ladies' Chorus will present "We Need a Little Christmas" **Friday Dec. 1 at 7 p.m. and Saturday Dec. 2 at 3 p.m.** at St Paul's Anglican Church, 20 Young Road Kanata. Tickets \$20 from choir members or \$25 online or at the door. <https://westottawaladieschorus.ca/events>

Stillwater Creek Retirement Community is holding a Holiday Bazaar on **Saturday November 25, 1-4pm**

Wrap it up Holiday Market - 2023 Season! Bells Corners United Church, December 16: Once again BCUC is hosting a **Holiday Market** as a fund raiser for our Zambia Partnership. We invite a maximum of 40 vendors - an awesome mix of artisans, crafters, resellers and makers - to join together for a fun and festive day the week before Christmas. This is a wonderful opportunity for those "last minute" shoppers to find that perfect, unique item - for family, friends - or yourself! In addition to the market, we have an awesome Silent Auction and the "Wrap it Up Cafe" to sit and enjoy the spirit of the season! Tables for this year are going quickly but we have a few left so if YOU or someone you know is interested in being a part of the adventure this year, we'd love to have you be in touch! Contact Wendy Morrell - wendy.morrell@sympatico.ca - 613-299-9499

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, \$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.

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:



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.

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.

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>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>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>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>



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