

## BELLS CORNERS UNITED CHURCH

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

**Website:** [www.bcuc.org](http://www.bcuc.org) **Email:** [office@bcuc.org](mailto: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: December 24, 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.*

**\*\* Please note that the church office will be open Friday December 29, 9-noon and 1-4pm. Regular office hours will resume on Tuesday January 2.**

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

**Rev. Kim & family express their sincerest thanks and appreciation to all who have sent them Christmas greetings and wishes in many ways. May you have a blessed Christmas and a happy New Year!**

**2023 Advent Project:** The Advent Project for 2023 is support for the **Mission and Service Fund** of the United Church. It has recently been announced that the grants from the M&S fund to the regions of the church including our local EOORC region will be reduced by 30%. This will significantly affect the ability of EOORC to support some key local programs in our area such as the Ottawa West End Community Chaplaincy, the Carlington Chaplaincy, Centre 507 and three summer camps including the Camp Awesome leadership training program. It is often thought that this Fund is for support of partners overseas, but in 2022, 69% of the funds were spent within Canada. We encourage you to

**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.

make a flow-through donation to the M&S fund - which will be a donation sent to M&S over and above what the church gives through the budget process. A flow-through donation can be made either by an e-transfer to 'treasurer@bcuc.org' with M&S Fund in the message line, or give a cheque to the office marked for Mission and Service Fund. **As of December 22, the total is \$3,635. Keep the donations coming! The thermometer is now set for \$5,000!**

**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 ADVENT & CHRISTMASTIDE:**

**December 24, 9 :50 am** – 4th Sunday of Advent / All-Ages Service / Wear Red! Christmas Pageant

**December 24, 7 :00 pm** – Christmas Eve Communion Service (By Intinction)

**December 31** – First Sunday After Christmas / Joint Service with Glen Cairn & Kanata United Churches / Celebration of Baptism

Theme: "Stories Behind Carols" (UCC Resource 2023)

**Lectionary Group** resumes on Tuesday, January 9, 10:30 am in the Shalom Rm.

**The SEEKERS** book discussion resumes on Monday, January 22, 2 pm in the Shalom Rm.

**Help Needed for Our Youth Leader:** Our youth leader, Kael Fowler, needs someone to pick him up (one way) on Sunday mornings at 9:15 am or earlier to go to BCUC. Pick up location is the Tim Hortons parking lot on Fallowfield/Woodroffe in Barrhaven. He has a ride to go back home. If you are able to help, please speak with Kael Fowler or Dana Ducette after the service. You may also call the church office and speak with Rev. Kim. Thank you.

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

**2024 Givings Envelopes** are available on the table in the corridor. They are arranged numerically. If you wish to begin to use envelopes please contact the office.

**Mitten Tree:** As is our custom you will find a mitten tree outside the office waiting for your donations of warm mittens and hats for children and adults who are in need at this time of year.



**Affirmation Station** will feature a few interesting words and expressions each week. Do you know these ones? Are there any surprises?

**gender:** refers to the socially constructed roles, behaviours, activities and attributes and appearance that a given society considers appropriate for men and women

**gender identity:** a self-determined identity that reflects an individual's understanding of gender in regard to their own embodied experience

**gender presentation/expression:** how a person chooses to express their gender identity through clothing, behaviour, activities, etc.

**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. We remain very grateful for the financial support that so many churches, businesses, community groups and individuals provide.

**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-EYmwdiknlU5GUYNPxQ3bIFRnnAD04A/edit#gid=0>

**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.

**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

### **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, \$100

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

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



#### **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](mailto:office@bcuc.org).



#### **E-Transfer**

- Donate anytime via your online banking service, addressed to payee: [treasurer@bcuc.org](mailto: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.

**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:

**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](http://bcuc.org) where you will find 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**

*David Bell*

*Irene Bertrand*

*Bea Blackwell*

*Irene Bossons*

*Jo Brunskill*

*Peggy Burton*

*Betty Clarke*

*Kathy & George Eaton*

*Jack Fraser*

*Geoff Gale*

*Jim Gardner*

*Helen Gordon*

*Carl Halchuk*

*Marion Helgason*

*George James*

*Bill Johnson*

*Barbara McFall*

*Norah Pacey*

*Dave Peck*

*Sheila Prince*

*Shirley & Earl Schaubel*

*Pat Stoate*

*Gerry & Kay Sutherland*

*Peter D. Clarke, Nepean*

*Thornccliffe, Nepean*

*Stillwater Creek, Nepean*

*Valley Stream Manor, Nepean*

*Red Oak, Kanata*

*Valley Stream Manor, Nepean*

*Carlingview Manor, Ottawa*

*Starwood, Nepean*

*Park Place, Nepean*

*The Ravines, Ottawa*

*Park Place, Nepean*

*Valley Stream Manor, Nepean*

*Park Place, Nepean*

*Stillwater Creek, Nepean*

*Forest Hill, Kanata*

*Carleton Lodge, Nepean*

*Robertson House, Nepean*

*Hillel Lodge, Ottawa*

*Valley Stream Manor, Nepean*

*Granite Ridge, Stittsville*

*Bridlewood Trails, Kanata*

*Stillwater Creek, Nepean*

*The Courtyards, Kanata*



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

***2023 Advent Flower Memorial Donations***

<b><i>Name</i></b>	<b><i>In Memory of</i></b>		
		Ron Knox	My Ellie & Family Members
		Lorrie & Neil Lowes	Our Parents
Peggy Aitchison	My Husband Ian	Judy & Bill Mann	Our Parents
Darrell Barnes	Audrey-Lynne Barnes	Jim & Diane Maxwell	Loved Ones
Nicole Beaudry	Gerry Okolowsky	Doris McElligott, Scott & Family	Donald McElligott
Alan Bentley	Family & My Betty	Nora & Bill McGee	Our Parents
Bob & Ellen Boynton	Sister Donna, Sister-in-law Bonnie	Linda Miller	Donald Miller
Alison & Bert Bridgewater	Our Parents	Avril Milne & Bill Johnson	Our Daughter Emma
Ross & Jean Brown	Our Parents and other Family & Friends	Rick & Sue Morrison	Loved Ones
Jean Brunton	Parents and Brother	Ross Mutton	Gail, Her Brother & Sister, & Our Parents
Johanna Burrows	Loved Ones	Virginia Notley	Lorrie & Bill Wilson
Jean Butler	Phillip, Peggy & René	Jan & Norm Pound	Our Parents
Olly & Ron Chuchryk	Carolyn Barclay	Shirley Reid	My Husband Allan Reid
June Cuthbert	Loved Ones	Larry, Lola Ryan & Family	Family & Friends
Wayne & Phyllis Digby	Our Loved Ones	Beth Sharp	Dave Sharp
Sarah Donaldson	Dorothy Donaldson	Elsa & Ross Snider	Loved Ones
Dana Ducette	David Lotan Ducette (Father-in-law of Justin, Dana, Elizabeth, David & James Ducette	Chris & Hugh Spence	Our Parents
Marion & Pierre Dugas	Our Parents	Barbara & David Stafford	Our Parents, Relations & Friends
Pat Dulude	Family & Friends With Love	Pat Stoate	David Stoate
Margaret Eddy	Loved Ones	Deb, Cindy, Brian & Jeff Stoate	Our Dad David Stoate
Lynne Fox	Ed, Pearl, Carole & Jean	Desna Sulway & Family	Vernon
Joan & Geoff Gale	Family	Abe, Katrina & Heidi Te Grotenhuis	Susan, Curtis & Velma
Ruth & Ian Howes	Parents & Siblings	Denis Watson	Cynthia
Glenna Jackson	Husband & Parents	Jean Watson	My Loved Ones
Kim Family	Efraim Vidal Sr. & Kim Young Hoon	Nancy Wiles	My Parents & Grandparents