

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: December 31, 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 is 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.

NOTICE OF LEAVE:

Rev. Kim will be on holidays from January 2-8, 2024 returning on Tuesday, January 9th. Please speak with Rev. Lorrie for any Pastoral Care concerns.

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 make a flow-through donation to the M&S fund - which will be a donation sent

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.

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 29, the total is \$3,910. 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 CHRISTMASTIDE:

December 31 – First Sunday After Christmas / Joint Service with Glen Cairn & Kanata United Churches / Celebration of Baptism
Theme: "Stories Behind Carols" (UCC Resource 2023)

SEASON OF EPIPHANY:

January 7, 2024 – Baptism of Jesus Sunday

Guest Preacher: Rev. Don MacLean

January 14, 2024 – 2nd Sunday after Epiphany
Sermon: "Sam is the Man!" (1 Samuel 3: 1-10)

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.

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-EYmwdiknIU5GUYNPQ3bIFRnnAD04A/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.

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.



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.

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:

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 Stoaate</i>	<i>Stillwater Creek, Nepean</i>
<i>Gerry & 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.