

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: January 21, 2024

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:

The SEEKERS book discussion resumes on Monday, January 22, 2 pm in the Shalom Rm. Please read Chapter 6 of the book.

Lectionary Group meets Tuesday January 23, 10:30 am. Theme & Text: The Call of the First Disciples (Mark 1: 14-20 NRSVUE).

Coffee & Friends meets on Thursday mornings, 9:15am. Come and join with other women for conversation and friendship. Information: Bev Wilcox – 829-1180.

Membership C'tee meets Thursday January 25, 3pm.

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

Annual Reports due January 26. In preparation for the AGM on March 3 please send annual reports to the office.

Mark your calendar! **COMMITTEE FAIR – February 4** after the Hymn-Sing Sunday. Come and find out about what is going on at BCUC 'behind the scenes'. Learn how you can get involved!

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.

An announcement from the Sunday School!

Often at the end of the Sunday School and Youth classes, we move to the gym for some play time and so, to make it easier for you to find your young people after the worship service, we will have our dismissal pick-up at the top of the stairs to the gym rather than in the classrooms. For those picking up children under 10, the sign-out sheets will be along the ledge as well.

The gym is a wonderful space for our kids to have some energetic and safe fun - but we cannot leave kids there unattended. If you would like to help with supervising during the Fellowship Time after the service, please speak to Rev. Lorrie or one of the Sunday School teachers.

Remit Vote Complete: At its recent Board meeting on January 20, 2024, the vote was taken, and it was unanimous that we should agree to 'Establishing an Autonomous National Indigenous Organization within the United Church of Canada'. The result of the vote will be sent to UCC prior to the March 31 deadline.

CANDLELIGHTERS WANTED: We are looking for volunteers (individuals, pairs or families) to light the Christ Candle every Sunday. A sign-up sheet until Easter Sunday is posted across from the church office. You may also call the church office or talk to Rev. Kim to secure a date. Thank you.

West Ottawa Interfaith Bridge - is urgently collaborating on a collection of good condition and / or new winter clothing for those in our city suffering from the extreme cold. Temperatures as low as -19C (without windchill) are forecast for the days ahead.

We are asking our congregations - St. Martin de Porres Parish, Bells Corners United Church, Jami Omar Mosque & Christ Church Bells Corners - to kindly donate warm clothing (toques, mitts, gloves, scarves, coats, sweaters, boots, socks, snow pants, sleeping bags, blankets, etc.), for urgent distribution to those in greatest need. All of your donations will be delivered as quickly as possible to the Missions in our city that are supporting the homeless.

Bins for receiving donations will be found in the Narthex.

This clothing drive will run from January 21 to February 4, 2024.

2023 Tax Receipts will be available in February. They will be sent electronically for those with email. All others will be sent by regular mail. If you wish a printed receipt please contact the office.

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.

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 EPIPHANY:

January 21, 2024 – 3rd Sunday after Epiphany

Sermon Focus: "Jonah & the God of Second Chances" (Jonah 3: 1-10; 4: 1-5)

January 28, 2024 – 4th Sunday after Epiphany

Worship Leader: Rev. Lorrie Lowes

February 4, 2024 – 5th Sunday after Epiphany / Celebration Hymn-Sing Sunday Committee Fair following the service in the Main Hall.

February 11, 2024 – Transfiguration Sunday / All-Ages Service

Theme: "It is Good to be Here!" (Mark 9:2-9)

Soup & Sandwich Lunch hosted by the Stewardship Team

BCUC 10th ANNUAL CELEBRATION HYMN-SING SUNDAY

February 4, 2024

Our **10th Annual Celebration Hymn-Sing** will be held on **Sunday, February 4 at 10 am**. We invite you to join with us as we share in a special "worship through music" to celebrate the memory of loved ones or to mark a special occasion. A suggested minimum donation of \$30 per hymn selection is requested. For the past years, the Hymn-Sing donations were used to enhance our worship life, including the purchase of More Voices Hymnbooks, pew cushions, Bibles, and supported several projects, like the Roof Fund, Spring Musical, "the Storyteller Man", audiovisual equipment, Pentecost Sunday picnic, to name a few. This year, we hope to support a hearing enhancement project to help those with hearing difficulty.

Please complete the form (copies on the table in the narthex or in the church office) and forward it, along with your donation (cash or cheque or e-transfer payable to BCUC with the note: Hymn-Sing) to the church office.

It is highly recommended that you select hymns that are in Voices United or More Voices hymnbooks. Old time favorite hymns not found in both hymnbooks will be forwarded to our Music Director, Abe TeGrotenhuis. Only 15 hymns will be sung in the service, but other hymns requested will be sung in the subsequent services following the Hymn-Sing Sunday during Lent and Easter.

You are also welcome to simply donate towards the project without sponsoring hymns. Thank you for your continued support and generosity.

Deadline for receiving hymn sponsorship is Wednesday Jan. 31, 2024

Sunday Sale of Grocery Gift Cards: The church earns about \$2,000 each year by enabling people to purchase grocery cards for Loblaw, Sobey & FreshCo from the office. If someone was willing to sell cards during Fellowship Time after Sunday worship we could earn much more. Please contact the office if you are interested in volunteering for this task.

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.

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



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.

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.

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 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>Derry Oke</i>	<i>Valley Stream Manor, 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>
<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.