

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 28, 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 29, 2 pm in the Shalom Rm. Please read Chapter 7 of the book.

Lectionary Group meets Tuesday January 30, 10:30 am. Theme & Text: On Eagles' Wings (Isaiah 40: 21-31 NRSVUE).

Victoria's Quilts meets Wednesday January 31, 7pm.

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

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

Cans & Bottles Recycling this Sunday: Bring your empty wine and beer bottles and cans for fundraising for Youth activities.

2024 Tax Receipts have been sent out by email. If you did not receive yours please check your spam before calling the office. If you wish a printed receipt the office will be happy to provide one. All other receipts will be available for pickup after worship on Sunday or will be mailed to you.

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.

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!

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

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.

Request: The **West Ottawa Interfaith Bridge committee** invites an interested person from Bells Corners United Church to join the committee. We are represented by the three churches and the mosque in our neighbourhood and have two educational activities and an Interfaith Dinner each year. We also help the community in a variety of ways. Please contact Alison Bridgewater at 613 726 9099

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

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 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 Storytelling 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

Pancake Supper 2024: The UP Group is pleased to invite you to a Pancake Supper on Saturday, February 10, 5:30 - 6:45pm in support of the UP Group (BCUC Youth). Please come and support the youth of the church!

Tickets at the door for \$10.00 per person; 6 tickets for \$50.00; Kids under 12 are Free! You may be asked to help - please say Yes!

Calling for griddles - if you have one to lend, please advise the church office 613-820-8103. Let the church office know if you will attend.

Kael Fowler, Coordinator

kaelfwlr@gmail.com

Text to 819-921-1152

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.

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.

Information to the BCUC Congregation from the Study Committee on the Use of Church Lands for Affordable Housing.

At the Church Board meeting on January 17, 2024, the Study Committee reported on the developments after having four meetings. One of those meetings was with the United Church's Kindred Works, an organization, which helps congregations develop uses of its lands, especially for affordable housing. At this time, Kindred Works doesn't see our church as qualifying for a feasibility study because we are an active community-minded church with many activities going on each week, a healthy balanced budget and with many groups renting our facilities. The church board approved extending the mandate of the study committee by passing two motions to ask the committee to investigate uses of the church lands for other than affordable housing and to allow them to communicate with other groups outside of BCUC who might be interested in the development of affordable housing either on BCUC lands or elsewhere in our city. (These groups could include Multifaith Housing, Harmer House, the City of Ottawa and/or other churches.)

The Study Committee on land use will have a table at the Committee Fair Day on Sunday, February 4th and would be happy to see you and talk with anyone on this topic.

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

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



Affirmation Station will feature a few interesting words and expressions each week. Do you know these ones? Are there any surprises?
2SLGBTQIA+: an acronym used to denote identities of individuals and groups; can be understood to be inclusive of people who identify as Two-Spirited, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, and asexual.
Two-Spirited: indigenous people who fulfill one of many mixed or cross-gender roles found traditionally.
Intersex: an umbrella term describing people born with sex anatomy resulting in neither purely male nor female bodies (internal/external).
Asexual: a person who does not experience sexual attraction or desire.

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:

COMING SOON at BCUC!!!

DINNER & SHOW

A MEANINGLESS HOUR

Written and performed by
Tom Sherwood

WHEN
Fri 22 March 2024
5:30 – 9:00 pm

WHERE
Bells Corners United Church
3955 Old Richmond Road, Ottawa, Ontario
Telephone: 613-820-8103
Email: office@bcuc.org

**HUMOROUS
THEOLOGICAL
REFLECTION
ON KING
SOLOMON &
THE BOOK OF
ECCLESIASTES**

SCHEDULE
5:30 - 7:00 pm
Dinner by Two Men
and a Stove

7:00 - 8:00 pm
Show

8:00 - 9:00 pm
Audience discussion

TICKETS
\$30 Dinner + Show
\$10 Show only
(per person)

Available for
purchase at the
church office and at
the door

BENEFITING
Camp Chipembi
2024, Zambia
Partnership



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

David Bell	Peter D. Clarke, Nepean
Irene Bertrand	Thornccliffe, Nepean
Bea Blackwell	Stillwater Creek, Nepean
Irene Bossons	Valley Stream Manor, Nepean
Jo Brunskill	Red Oak, Kanata
Peggy Burton	Valley Stream Manor, Nepean
Betty Clarke	Carlingview Manor, Ottawa
Kathy & George Eaton	Starwood, Nepean
Jack Fraser	Park Place, Nepean
Geoff Gale	The Ravines, Ottawa
Jim Gardner	Park Place, Nepean
Helen Gordon	Valley Stream Manor, Nepean
Carl Halchuk	Park Place, Nepean
Marion Helgason	Stillwater Creek, Nepean
George James	Forest Hill, Kanata
Bill Johnson	Carleton Lodge, Nepean
Barbara McFall	Robertson House, Nepean
Derry Oke	Valley Stream Manor, Nepean
Norah Pacey	Hillel Lodge, Ottawa
Dave Peck	Valley Stream Manor, Nepean
Sheila Prince	Granite Ridge, Stittsville
Shirley & Earl Schaubel	Bridlewood Trails, Kanata
Pat Stoate	Stillwater Creek, Nepean
Gerry & Kay Sutherland	The Courtyards, Kanata



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