

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: March 10, 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 will meet on Monday, March 11, 2 pm in the Shalom Rm. We will cover chapters 12 and 13 of the book.

Lectionary Group meets Tuesday March 12, 10:30 am in the Shalom Rm. Leader: Rev. Lorrie Lowes

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.

****Daylight Savings Time** begins this weekend. Remember to 'spring forward' one hour by setting your clocks one hour ahead when you go to bed on Saturday night.

Thank You:

Coffee & Refreshment Servers:

Joan Gale & Nancy Wiles

Affirming Circle - Pies

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.

Easter Memorial Flowers: Ross Mutton or another volunteer will be in the corridor outside the Office after the service on **March 10, 17 & 24** to receive memorial donations of minimum \$10 to purchase Easter flowers for the Sanctuary. Donations may also be made through the office. Thank you for your support. Commemoration slides will be shown at Palm Sunday (March 24) and Easter Sunday (March 31) services.

LENTEN PROJECT UPDATE! Ground breaking will begin later this month for the construction of the Dream LeBreton project where MHI will, upon completion, own and operate 130 of the affordable units. Continue to check out our progress on the SOSA bulletin board (our apartment building!) as we strive to raise \$8000 towards the Dream LeBreton Capital Campaign of \$1.5 million.

How to donate: **cheque** made out to BCUC (Lenten Project on memo line), **cash** or by **etransfer**

A testimonial from a tenant residing at The Haven: *“At The Haven, I finally feel like I can breathe. I can open the main door, and I am outside in a safe and beautiful environment. We are very grateful to be here. My son found new friends. Our home doesn't smell like an ashtray, as our neighbours don't smoke, thanks to the Non-Smoking Policy. We are now in a safe, quiet, beautiful neighbourhood [...] I enjoy meeting my many neighbours from different cultures and love their children. I am looking forward to continuing to serve MHI and my neighbours.”*

- Leila Sieg, Haven resident & MHI volunteer

'A Meaningless Hour' Dinner and presentation by **Tom Sherwood** of a humorous theological reflection on King Solomon & the Book of Ecclesiastes is coming on **Friday March 22**. Dinner, hosted by Two Men & A Stove, is at 5:30pm and the presentation in the Sanctuary is at 7pm. Audience discussion will follow at 8pm. Dinner will include pork tenderloin with vegetables, apple strudel for dessert and hot beverages. Wine will also be available. Dinner and show tickets cost \$30; show only will be \$10. Tickets can be purchased from the office or on Sunday mornings. **Deadline for purchase is Friday March 15**. Show only can be purchased at the door. Revenue from the evening will support Camp Chipembi 2024, as part of the Zambia Partnership.

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. **Roz Russell Turk** has offered to sell cards at the table in the corner of the Main Hall on Sunday mornings when she is available. If you see Roz at the table stop by! We can easily earn more if people can also purchase cards on a Sunday morning.

Membership Survey – To get a better picture of our congregation's current demographic we will attempt to contact as many families and individuals as possible over the next few weeks. Our plan is to confirm basic contact information, age data and level of involvement. This data will help current and future boards and committees with planning for the needs of our congregation. For those attending services we will have a table in the main hall during our fellowship time. For those not in regular attendance we plan to contact you with a phone call. Your participation is greatly appreciated.

Larry Ryan & Bev Wilcox, Membership

2023 Tax Receipts have been sent out by email. If you wish a printed receipt the office will be happy to provide one.

BCUC WELCOMES VISITORS & GUESTS! Please sign our GUEST BOOK on the narthex table with your name and contact info. Thank you for joining us and we hope to see you again.

Camp Awesome 2024: BCUC is now booked to host Camp Awesome **July 29 – August 2**. Hope you can make your summer plans to include attending our fun summer week of camp. Registration information is now available on the BCUC website. We are happy to announce that Vicki Martin will be our BCUC Camp Coordinator.



AFFIRMATION STATION

Survey results are in. Of the yes/no votes received, 91% were in favour of continuing the process of exploration to determine whether to become an **Affirming Ministry**. We also received many constructive comments and suggestions. Thank you!

As part of the exploration process, we invite you to join us on Sunday, March 10:

- to celebrate National PIE Sunday at our 10 am worship;
- to enjoy a variety of pies at coffee hour right after the service;
- and to attend a 1 1/2 hour workshop to have a conversation about **what makes people feel comfortable and "at home", and what it could mean for BCUC to be an Affirming Ministry.**

P.S. PIE is short for Public, Intentional and Explicit. These are the standards for an Affirming Ministry. More details to follow during the service and the workshop. We hope to see you there.

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

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 LENT:

March 10 – Fourth Sunday in Lent / National UCC PIE Sunday

Sermon Focus: "Jesus: A Beacon of Love" (John 3: 14-21)

Join us for a pies and beverages after the service in the main hall and stay for a learning event.

March 17 – Fifth Sunday in Lent
Worship Leader: Rev. Lorrie Lowes

March 24 – Palm Sunday
Sermon Focus: “Jesus: A Movement Leader” (Mark 11:1-11)

BCUC’s Book Club will have their next discussion on **Wednesday, March 20th** at 1:30 p.m. All are welcome, even if you haven’t had time to read the book - it’s a great way to try out a new activity - no risk, no obligation. We will be discussing *The Silence of the Girls* by Pat Barker, a novel which recounts the events of the Iliad chiefly from the point of view of Brieis, the childless wife of King Mynes. Pat Barker is a British writer and novelist, who has won many awards for her fiction, which centres on themes of memory, trauma, survival and recovery. If this topic doesn’t interest/appeal to you, please bring along another book about which you can tell the group. For further information about the BCUC Book Club, contact Ruth Abbott (613-829-2868) or Jan Pound (613-828-0548).

Attention Broadview subscribers: It’s time to renew your subscription! For just \$30 (including tax), you’ll receive 8 more issues of *Broadview* delivered straight to your mailbox. You won’t want to miss out on a single issue of the magazine’s award-winning coverage of spirituality, social justice and ethical living, as well as United Church news and perspectives.

You may provide your **renewal by cash or cheque (payable to BCUC with Broadview in the memo line) to the office or on the offering plate on Sunday mornings by early April.**

Not a subscriber? It’s never too late to join our *Broadview* subscription group! **Ellen Boynton** can help you get signed up today. And remember — the discounted \$30 rate is ONLY for group members.

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.

Once again there will be **free income tax clinics** sponsored by Canada Revenue Agency’s Community Volunteer Income Tax Program (CVITP) held **at Christ Church Bells Corners (CCBC)** for those with modest incomes and simple returns. Details are available, along with other tax clinics, on the CVITP website at: <https://apps.cra-arc.gc.ca/ebci/oecv/external/prot/cli>

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

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.

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

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.

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.

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

Available at the
church office

\$30/person

Dinner + Show

Pre-purchase until 15 March

\$10/person

Show only

Pre-purchase or available at
the door

BENEFITING

Camp Chipembi

2024, Zambia

Partnership

*Tickets will be on sale this Sunday following morning
worship. (*Deadline: Friday March 15)*

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>Don Ferguson</i>	<i>Stillwater Creek, 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>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.