



Bell Ringer

Bells Corners United Church

Volume 17, Issue 3

Easter/Spring

April 2019

Lenten Appeal

SOSA

By: Alison Bridgewater

This year, BCUC's Lenten Appeal will support the United Church of Zambia mission site in Chipembi. This is the place that Hazel, Doyle, and Lorrie have visited. It is the home of the Chipembi Girls' Secondary School, which they partnered with, but also includes a Church, a Medical Centre, an Agricultural College, and a Basic School (grades JK to 7).

All parts of the mission and the people who live there would benefit greatly from a partnership with BCUC - and we will benefit greatly from learning about the people and the life in a part of the world so far removed from our own. One way we will be able to help immediately is to support a summer day camp, "Camp Chipembi", which is modelled after our own Camp Awesome.

As we journey through this season of Lent, we will share more details and stories about our neighbours in Chipembi. Your generosity is appreciated. Watch the SOSA bulletin board for pictures and information!



OWECC

By: Peggy Aitchison

What's happening at the Ottawa West End Community Chaplaincy these days?

For over thirty years BCUC has been a major player in this outreach program to the social housing neighbourhoods of West Ottawa. If you would like to hear more about new ventures and challenges facing OWECC plan to attend the annual general meeting on April 28th at 2.00 p.m. at BCUC.

During a short business meeting both Rev Steve Zink, the part time chaplain, and Lorrie Lowes will highlight their involvement. (Lorrie is currently doing a six month community placement with OWECC.)

Following the business meeting we will have the opportunity to hear Karen Secord, from Parkdale Food Centre, address the topic of economic inequality. Over refreshments the conversation can continue!



**Special Offering Envelope Inside
Please Help Support the Work of
Bells Corners United Church**



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BCUC Minister's Message - The Joy of Sabbatical

Dear friends at BCUC,

In this season of “new life”, resurrection and renewal, it is time for me to step away for a little while from the wonderful, busy church life at BCUC. This is my 6th year serving this congregation and based on the sabbatical policy, adopted by the United Church of Canada in 2005, I am entitled to a sabbatical leave, which I think is amazing! Sabbatical, according to the UCC policy, is a period of at least three consecutive months intentionally set aside by Ministry Personnel in pastoral relationships as an occasion for 3 R's: reflection, recreation and revitalization, unencumbered by their usual and customary responsibilities, and yet still receiving their usual remuneration and benefits.¹ This policy applies to ministry personnel who have served a pastoral charge for five consecutive years. In addition to these three months leave; I am also taking a one-month vacation, which means that I will be away for a total of four months from April 29 until August 28, 2019.

Some of you have approached me with this question: “Kim, what are you doing on your Sabbatical?” Well, I came up with a to-do list that I think will give me the much-needed reflection, recreation and revitalization.

I plan to attend the Festival of Homiletics in Minneapolis on May13-17, which is a five-day gathering of church ministers, pastors and lay worship leaders in US, Canada and some parts of the world. It is a week of being inspired by some of the nation's finest preachers and theologians while meeting new and old friends and the opportunity to visit the beautiful city of Minneapolis.

In June, I am traveling with Ken to South Korea and Singapore. We look forward to visiting some of the historic sites and national parks as we immerse ourselves in the rich ancient and modern architecture, stunning landscapes, and unforgettable scenery that characterize these two beautiful Asian countries.

I am also attending a high school reunion in Philadelphia in July. This week-long reunion will give me the opportunity to reconnect with my high school classmates and friends who have immigrated to the US and Canada. Part of this reunion is an ecumenical gathering that I am leading together with another classmate who is a pastor in Alaska.

During those Sundays that I'm not traveling outside Ottawa, I plan to go "church-hopping" to benefit from different worship experiences and to broaden my view of the universal Church and the meaning of ecumenism, multi-faith and inter-denomination. In addition, I plan to broaden my learning experience by reading books particularly on spiritual practices, biblical studies and theology.

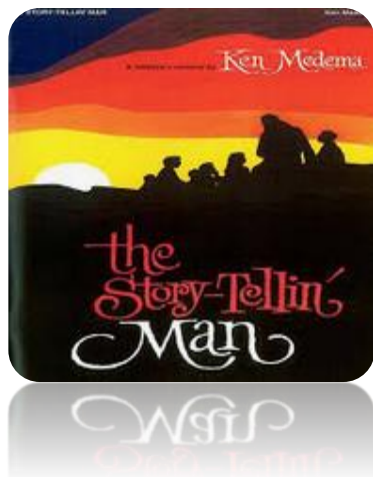
In my absence, Lorrie will be your worship leader, your pastoral caregiver, your learning facilitator and your spiritual mentor in addition to her regular duties as Ministry Candidate. These next few months, I am sure can be both a surprising and exciting time; Continue to Learn! Continue doing what we have always done here at BCUC: love God, love each other, love the community and the world. Be there for each other and for what is happening within the four walls of BCUC and our community. Continue sharing your gifts of compassion and creativity. Continue to be the good news of God's love for the world. And for all you know, four months will have gone so swiftly.

Happy Easter, dear friends. Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed!

I'll be back soon. I promise.

Rev. Kim

¹ United Church of Canada website.



2019 Musical: The Story Tellin' Man

We hope you will join us on **Saturday April 27th at 7pm** for this performance! Parable's told, music sung, action and dancing will bring this adaptation on the Ken Medema musical to life. Please stay for refreshments, snacks and fellowship after the show! This is a free will offering event and all monies raised will go to support the life and work of the Church!



Family ministry is alive and well at BCUC as we facilitate family worship and special programming, foster intergenerational interaction, expand our partnerships with community and faith-based groups, and experiment with ways to engage and retain young families at BCUC. Bring your ideas regarding family ministry to Jordan or Erin Berard or join the team! jordan.berard@outlook.ca ❖

Ministry candidate – Lorrie Lowes

The gospel reading in the Lectionary from April 7 comes from the book of John 12:1-8. In this story, Jesus and his disciples are visiting his friend, Lazarus. While Martha is busy preparing food for the guests, Mary opens a very expensive jar of ointment to anoint Jesus' feet. She wipes it away with her hair. Judas thinks this is an absolute waste of resources and that the money it cost should have been used to help those in need instead.

I see a link here between this story and the presentations made by our young people who have traveled long distances on Partnership Visits. Like the nard that Mary used to anoint Jesus' feet, it costs a lot to send people out into the world. Since I came to BCUC, we have sent a group to Nicaragua, to Zambia, and to El Salvador. Is it wise to spend so much money on travel to far-off places? Would the money be better spent helping those in need?

Jesus' answer to Judas Iscariot tells us a lot. The poor and the needy will always be with us - but will we always be able to see them? Will we really understand them? Will we only see their needs and not celebrate and learn from their strengths? If we hear of their needs and rush to help with humanitarian aid, will they see us only as a source of money and influence?

There is much value in providing the necessities of life to others - food, water, clothing, and shelter - but there is even greater value in building relationships, in walking beside others, in making the experience and wisdom of those who walk in a very different reality, a part of our own view of the world. This is the new vision of "mission" in the United Church of Canada. With Partnership visits, we aim to do more than put band aids on problems; we are building leaders who will transform the systems that cause those problems in the first place. In its finest form, this learning and growth happens to both the visitors and the visited. I think Jesus would agree that this is a worthwhile extravagance.

Draw the circle wide!

Financial Management

Bell Ringer report from Financial Management Committee – March 28, 2019

This is a summary of the BCUC financial results as presented to the Congregation at the AGM on March 3, 2019. The results for the 2018 Operating Fund, Directed Funds and Capital Funds are summarized here followed by the approved 2019 Operating Fund budget. Full details can be obtained from the church office.

2018 Results

Operating Fund	Actual 2018	Budget 2018		
Revenues	\$ 418,174	\$ 415,400		
Expenses	\$ 413,785	\$ 429,978		
Surplus/(-Deficit)	\$ 4,389	(\$-14,578)		
Directed Funds	Opening Balance	Credits	Debits	Closing Balance
Committee Directed	\$ 26,037	\$ 43,538	(\$-49,138)	\$ 20,437
Building Mtc & Repair	\$ 16,109	\$ 5,875	(\$-\$4,617)	\$ 17,367
Capital Directed				
Labyrinth/landscape	\$ 7,979	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 7,979
Audio/Visual	\$ 3,422	\$ 3,805	(\$-7,167)	\$ 60
Portico	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 6,786 (TD Shares)
Roof Fund	\$ 99,853	\$ 180,879	(\$-274,598)	\$ 8,545
Shalom Renewal	\$ 5,145	\$ 255	\$ 0	\$ 5,400

2019 Budget

The Congregation approved a 2019 General Budget at the Annual Meeting on March 3, 2019. This is a summary of the approved Operating Fund budget for 2019.

Operating Fund	Budget 2019
Revenues	Total projected \$ 432,300
Expenses	Christian Service Committees \$ 64,625
	M&P Salaries \$ 254,500
	Property Management – Operations \$ 62,000
Mtc & Repair (net of D-Funds)	\$ 7,600
	Administration , Presbytery, Other \$ 43,575
	Total all expenses \$ 432,300
Surplus/(-Deficit)	\$ 0

The Board will work with committees to achieve the \$0 deficit by taking action to increase revenues, reduce expenses, attract new members, and use directed funds where possible.

Thank you for your continued support.

Bill Johnson,

Chair Financial Management❖



LAWN AND GARDEN SUPPLIES SALE

Spring is in the air and your lawns and gardens need some nourishment to get a good start. The supplies offered include lawn and garden fertilizers plus products to add humus to your soil. All products are supplied by Ritchie Feed and Seed, long time provider of quality garden supplies in the Ottawa area.

A complete list of the products offered, and an Order Form may be obtained from the Church Office or the coordinators. Watch for your opportunity to place an order after the Church service until April 14 or by telephone from **Coordinators: Larry & Lola Ryan 613-726-1362; Jean Brunton, 613-828-0880; or Bert Donnelly, 613-435-8152.** Spread the word to your neighbours.

Orders will be ready for pick up at the Church on Friday April 26, 4-6 pm or Saturday morning April 27th, 9 am - noon. **Orders must be received by April 15th.**

All proceeds will go to help finish the "Raise the Roof" Fund. We are now within about \$20,000 of having it complete! Your support is appreciated.



SPRING GARAGE SALE

Saturday May 11, 9 am – 1 pm

As you do your spring cleaning please set aside things you no longer need for the Garage Sale. All the usual sales areas including Books, CD's, DVD's, Children's toys & games, Furniture, Good used Women's & Children's clothing, Plants (indoor and outdoor) and Sporting goods, as well as Household items, will be offered for sale. Scouts will also be offering an e-waste opportunity on the day. Computers, monitors, phones, TV's and printers will be welcome donations for e-waste. If you have an idea for any other sales areas please let us know.

If you need donations picked up, please contact coordinators, Bob & Ellen Boynton, 613-828-3820 or eboynton@rogers.com. **Things we cannot accept include:** window blinds, mattresses, carpets, curtains, drapes, sofa beds, bed frames, closet doors, microwaves or out of season sports equipment. In the books sales area, please don't donate encyclopedias, magazines or textbooks.

If you can help with any of the sales areas, please contact the Boynton's. It's a fun day of fellowship and fundraising! Watch Sunday bulletins in coming weeks for further details.

CAMP AWESOME JULY 22-26TH:

Are you looking for a camp that children return to year after year? Camp Awesome is that camp. I see small four year old children arrive at the church afraid to let go of their parent's hand. A counselor will come and take them by the hand and help them find a friend to stand by while they sing. I eat lunch each day with these little ones since they often need help with a juice box and it can be a little scary eating lunch in a room with 40 other people for the first time. They come back the next year a little bigger and a little braver. They remember where to put their bags when they arrive and quickly remember the songs they learned last year. Before I know it they are setting an example to the younger groups as they take time to help in the kitchen. They are also quick to start singing songs while eating lunch or playing 'broken telephone'.

It is for children 4-12 years old. The camp day is from 10 until 3pm. The cost this year is \$85. I recommend you register before May 31 to guarantee a space for your child and to take advantage of the early bird price of \$75. The registration form can be found on the church website at www.bcuc.org. For more information and to offer your support please contact Tamara Glanville at 613-592-4575. ❖

Look for the E-WASTE drop-off May 11th at BCUC!

2109 PLC EVENT

The BCUC Progressive Learning Circle (P.L.C.) is planning the next annual event to be held on Saturday Sept 21 - Sunday Sept 22 at BCUC. This event will explore the theme of how to make faith relevant in today's society with the title:

"From Charity to Social Action: Working Together to Create a Just Society".

The guest speaker on Saturday afternoon will be the Rev. Dr. Cheri DiNovo, Minister at Trinity St Paul's United Church and Centre for Faith, Justice and the Arts in Toronto, and a former member of the Ontario Provincial Government. Rev. DiNovo is invited to speak on Saturday afternoon to the way in which we can work collaboratively as faith groups to lobby for social change to assure equitable and socially just policies. On Sunday afternoon, an Interfaith panel with Imam Delic of the SNMC Mosque in Barrhaven and Dr. Fran Klodawsky, Professor Emerita at Carleton University, founding member and former Board chair of Multifaith Housing Initiative and member of Temple Israel will join Cheri DiNovo to raise up points from the Saturday session and receive questions for discussion.

Register for this event at plcconference2019@gmail.com or with the BCUC office.

- Early Bird (by July 31, 2019): \$65.00
- Full: \$75.00
- Single Session: \$40.00
- Students: \$35.00

Members of the PLC committee are: Minister - Rev Kim Vidal, Chair - Rev Angela Bailey, Secretary - Ellie Topp, Registrar & Treasurer - David Stafford. Members at large, David Donaldson, Ian Howes, David Stafford, Clarke Topp.

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

WARNING

During the Christmas Eve service, a man entered the church and rummaged through coats hanging on the rack near the music room. After the service, two people found that articles of value had been taken from their coat pockets. We have photos of the suspect obtained from our security cameras and these have been forwarded to the police but it is doubtful that any charges will ever be made or the goods recovered.

This is a lesson to us all. Never leave keys, cellphones or other valuable items in coat pockets and if you happen to see someone unknown to you wandering about the church, smile and politely ask if you can assist them in any way.

Remember, if you see something, say something!

UP YOUTH GROUP: POTLUCK AND BOARD GAMES NIGHT

This was a wonderful event put on by the UP group and coordinators Kim and Alex Cully for the youth and congregation. A fun evening for all!



KID'S CORNER: FUN FOAM FISH

A brightly colored, magnetic, foam fish to remind kids of Jesus.

TOPICS:

Christian Living, Following Jesus

MATERIALS:

Multi-colored Fun Foam*

or multi-colored construction paper

2 small self-stick magnets

Fish and letters template [PDF] [Click here](#)

or: <https://www.kidssundayschool.com/gradeschool/crafts/fun-foam-fish>

White glue



2019 ECUMENICAL BREAKFAST



Members of the 2019 Ecumenical Breakfast Committee - Sam Paquet & Charlene Nixon (St. Martin de Porres Roman Catholic Church), Vickie Townsen (Christ Church Bells Corners) presenting a \$1,149.00 bank draft to Jeremy Leblanc on behalf of FAMSAC and Judy Harris (Christ Church Bells Corners) and Nancy Wiles (Bells Corners United Church). Absent Julie Gant (St. Martin de Porres Roman Catholic Church) and Bev Wilcox (Bells Corners United Church).

Nancy Wiles, Chair, 2019 Ecumenical Breakfast

UPCOMING WORSHIP SERVICES

Seasons of Lent and Easter Tide Sermon
Series - What Would Jesus Do?

April 18: Maundy Thursday - 6:00 pm
April 19: Good Friday Service – 10:00 am
April 21: Easter Sunday / Celebration of
Communion
Sermon Focus: “Empty Tombs and
Hallelujahs” (Luke 24: 1-12)
April 28: First Sunday after Easter /
Celebration of baptism / Congregational Photo
Sunday
May 5: Anniversary Sunday

Sunday Nite Lite: May 26th. Join us to explore the
topic of “De-cluttering” with presenter Kathy
McEwan.

- 6:30 pm for coffee and chatter
- 7:00 pm for program

BCUC CHURCH BOARD

By: Jordan Berard
(jordan.berard@outlook.ca)

*As approved by the congregation at the 2019 AGM the
Church Board includes the following members:*

Minister: Rev. Kim Vidal

Chair: Jordan Berard

Chair-elect: Vacant

Past Chair: Sue Morrison

Secretary: Norm Pound

Ministry & Personnel: James Eaton

Financial Management: Bill Johnson

Young Adult Consultation: Lorrie Lowes

Youth Consultation: Phoenix Miller

Members at Large: Will Wightman, Ellen Boynton

Regional Representatives: Nicole Beaudry, Desna Sulway

Thank you, too, to everyone who has agreed to sit on a
committee for the upcoming year and to those members who
have decided to step down from committee positions after
years of service. BCUC truly thrives on the time and talents
of its members! ❖

**JOHN 11:25-26 I AM THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE. HE WHO BELIEVES IN ME WILL LIVE; EVEN THOUGH HE DIES; AND
WHOEVER LIVES AND BELIEVES IN ME WILL NEVER DIE.**



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ADDRESS LABEL