



Bell Ringer

Bells Corners United Church

Volume 18, Issue 1

FALL

October 2019

Worship

Oct. 20: SOSA Sunday - World Food Sunday

SOSA Committee Members

Oct. 27: All-Ages - BCUC Homecoming Reformation Sunday

Sermon Focus: "Coming Home Justified"

Nov. 3: All Saints Sunday

Sermon Focus: "Zacchaeus, Come Down!"

Nov. 10: Remembrance Sunday

Sermon Focus: "What Resurrection?"

Nov. 17: 23rd Sunday After Pentecost

Sermon Focus: "Endurance is a Good Word"

Nov. 24: Youth and Children's Sunday

Theme: "Life is a Circus!"



Family ministry team has the mandate to:

Support and plan intergenerational interaction and events

Plan programs to foster faith and engage families

Communicate and listen to the needs of families

Currently we are:

Organizing a 'Secret Pal Project', matching children and adults

Planning an Outreach project called "Sleeping Children Around the World"

Interviewing young families to get feedback about their experiences at BCUC

Contact: Camille Lipsett camillelipsett@sympatico.ca

UP Group:

Our very active Youth Group ~ **UP** (United People)

By: Kim & Alex Culley, Coordinators of Youth Group

UP Group has started! We started later this year than normal but now we are back in the full swing of things. We have many planned upcoming events and we are always looking for ideas for new outreach and activities. Alex and I are always open to new suggestions so please feel free to come and speak with us before/after church or through email at akculley@rogers.com. Our photos are in the church directory if you need; we are also known as Lily's parents!

Also, please reach out to us if you know of a youth that would like to join our group, we are a welcoming group and open to new members.

Kim and Alex Culley ❖



United Church of Canada 2020 Calendars:

Copies of the 2020 Canadian Church calendar, United Church edition, are available from the church office for \$6 each. Enjoy images of United Churches from across Canada as you go through the next year. ❖

Inside this issue:

Opportunities to Support.....	2, 6
Sabbatical Gratitude.....	3
Family Ministry Initiative.....	4
Pastoral & Spiritual Care.....	5
Finance.....	5
Christmas Concert.....	7



BCUC Christmas Bazaar

Saturday, November 16th - 9:00-1:00PM

Co-conveners: Mary Jones, Ellen Boynton

Bells Corners United Church will once again hold its Annual Christmas Bazaar on Saturday, November 16th, between 9:00 am and 1:00 pm, in conjunction with Christ Church Anglican and St. Martin de Porres Roman Catholic. This is the major fundraiser of

the year and we are looking forward to greeting you as you arrive!

There will be the addition of 'Attic Treasurers' this year. Items for this could include home décor, figurines, clean sheet sets, china, gently used *small* appliances etc. Come on out to contribute however you can: set-up and take down tables; help sell at a table. Please come and shop and enjoy a delicious lunch! Silent Auction items are needed and will be welcomed. **No blinds, curtains, large furniture, magazines, electronics or non-PBA plastic items will be accepted.** We need helpers to set up and take down tables, volunteers to staff the boutiques, and donations of gently used women's clothing, children's toys, baking, preserves, and books. Two Men and A Stove will provide coffee and muffins until lunch time, when chili and soup will be available!

Come out to support this major fundraiser for BCUC! Questions? Call the Co-conveners - Mary Jones, 613-828-9759 or Ellen Boynton 613-828-3820

Coffee and Friends: Are you looking to meet friendly people, learn things and experience good conversation? Drop in at the Church's Main Hall starting this Thursday October 17th for a morning of lively, fun conversation on different topics and tea or coffee. Sometimes we even have cookies! We meet at BCUC at 9:15 am We have different topics each week such as show and tell, Christmas party, movies and book reviews, and everyone is welcome! If you have questions please contact Bev Wilcox at 829-1180.



Fall Fundraising initiatives:

Please support these upcoming fundraisers with all proceeds going to the enhancement and continuation of our community and international outreach.

Christmas Bazaar: November 16th, 9-1pm

Vendors Market: December 7th, 9-2pm

Christmas Music Concert: December 8th, 2:30pm

Art Wall at BCUC! Artwork produced by our church family is shared here for all to enjoy and appreciate. The Communications Committee will change the display several times a year, and welcomes art from all ages, as we celebrate the many gifts and talents God has given us. The criteria is simply that it is flat and will fit into the frames for protection and hanging. Fabric and photography, as well as drawings, paintings, etc. are appropriate. For more information, or to contribute your work, please contact cc@bcuc.org



Gift Card Program Coordinator Needed:

For more than 10 years Alan Bentley faithfully coordinated the Loblaws gift card program, raising more than \$50,000 over that time. Alan has retired and although Pierre Dugas has graciously taken over on an interim basis, the church needs someone new to coordinate the program, if it is to continue. Gift cards are sold by the Program Coordinator on Sunday mornings after the service and through the week by office staff. Cards for several supermarkets are sold and the program is well supported making it an easy fundraiser for BCUC. Please contact the office if you could possibly take over this valuable volunteer position.



Sabbatical Gratitude

On Wednesday morning of August 28, I walked into the church office to return to my ministry for the first time in four months. I'm glad to say, like so much of the past four months, that Wednesday morning was exciting. As much as the sabbatical was a

break for me from my church duties, I was ready to resume ministry with the people of BCUC--readier than I expected I would be!

It has been quite the spring and summer for the Kim family. We traveled to some special places—South Korea, Singapore, Philadelphia, Niagara Falls, Mont Tremblant! I traveled too with my sisters to visit some places in Quebec and the Maritimes. We marveled at the stunning beauty of God's creation in all of the places we travelled to. We saw interesting attractions for the first time and met new and old friends. We immersed ourselves in the culture of the people, tasted the food of the locales and enjoyed the beauty and uniqueness of the places we visited!

Along with the travel, I also attended the Festival of Homiletics in Minneapolis, Minnesota in the second week of May. The Festival of Homiletics is a weeklong conference that brings together clergy and lay participants to listen and be inspired by a wide variety of outstanding preachers and professors of Homiletics (art of preaching). Theme for this year's festival is "Preaching as Moral Imagination". Through the festival, I was invited to consider various styles and techniques of preaching, delivery and preparation. Through the various themes and scriptural texts expounded by the preachers, my faith was renewed and my soul refreshed and I hope to share this renewed enthusiasm that I have experienced. Worship was never the same for me. Music was very much alive and present at the festival and yes, friends abound! Finally, I was also nudged to do something about my faith. Walking the talk was very much part of the call in all of the sermons that I've heard and reflected on. I brought home with

me this passage written on a huge banner that was hanging on the wall of the Westminster Presbyterian Church in Minneapolis: "Justice is what love looks like in public."

Another highlight of my sabbatical time was what I called "church hopping". On those Sundays that I was not traveling, I visited a total of eight United Churches in Ottawa and noted the worship life and how church service is done, how the sermon was preached and what programs are being done in each congregation. The churches I visited include Riverside, Emmanuel, Rideau Park, Barrhaven, Kitchissippi, Parkdale, Stittsville and Knox. Visiting other churches gave me the opportunity to sit in the pew as a worship goer and to experience worship with other worshippers outside BCUC. It also gave me the opportunity to learn what ministries each church was doing that were different from BCUC.

While I was away, the life and ministry of BCUC were under the able hands of Lorrie Lowes, our ministry candidate. Thank you, Lorrie, for your leadership and your presence. Note of thanks goes also to Rev. Angela Bailey for helping with Pastoral Care and leading a service, and to Rev. Camille Lipsett, who with Angela assisted in the Board meetings during my absence.

Finally, the sabbatical time gave me space for self-rest and self-engagement in rich and full ways that prepared me to re-engage BCUC and my role as a minister with a new sense of health and wholeness. I viewed the sabbatical period as an opportunity to pull off into a "rest area" for a while as we continue the journey of ministry together--a journey that has now continued for six years. What a gift it was! But now it's time to resume the journey that we're on together as pastor and people. I'm back and ready to go!

For this gift of Sabbath, I am truly grateful. Happy thanksgiving!

Blessings for the journey, Kim

Secret Pal Project

Organized by the Family Ministry Committee

Matching secret friends between generations, each child with one adult.

Your Family Ministry group is initiating a matching program in order to strengthen the bonds between generations in our congregation. We will match adult and child.

ADULTS: If you wish to be a special friend to a child, you can fill out the form and give it to Camille in person or by email and then you will have the opportunity to become acquainted through cards and letters with one of our Bell's Corners' children.

Your cards and notes will be signed 'Your Mystery Friend' and left in the Secret Pal Mail Box in the foyer of the church. You will be given a child's name and birthday. Your special pal will meet you in person, after seven months of mystery letters, at a luncheon party after church one Sunday next spring. You are asked not to send gifts but only letters and cards (Birthday, Christmas, Easter, Hallowe'en etc.).

CHILDREN: If you would like to receive letters and cards from a secret friend in the congregation you should fill out the form called 'Secret Pal Project'. I will give your name to an adult in the congregation who wants to be a Secret Pal. You will receive letters and cards until May when you will meet your mystery friend at a luncheon party after church. You may want to write notes back and put them in the special Secret Pal Mail Box in the foyer of the church. On the outside of the envelope just write, 'From: _____' and your name and we will make sure your pal receives your note or card or picture.

It will be exciting to solve the mystery of the secret pals at our Friendship Gathering when secret friends become known to each other and all have lunch together in the spring.

Join in the fun. Fill in the forms and give or send them to Camille or put them in the secret Pal Mail Box at the church.

Contact person: Camille Lipsett (Family Ministry Committee) Ph: 613-829-2742

camillelipsett@sympatico.ca

..... (cut here)

Secret Pal Form

Name: _____

Mailing address: _____

For Child to Fill in only

Birthday: _____

I give permission for _____ to participate in the 'Secret Pal Project' at Bell's Corners United Church.

Parent's signature: _____

Pastoral and Spiritual Care

Warm greetings to everyone! As the new season begins, the Pastoral and Spiritual Care Team is planning some events to enhance the compassionate support and learning opportunities we offer BCUC and the wider community.

Grief: What it is... and isn't

Thursday, October 17 from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.
Join us in the main hall for an informative talk by Ian Henderson, a trained grief and bereavement educator. Come and learn about the grieving process and the journey towards healing from loss. A question and answer period and refreshments will follow the presentation. All are welcome.

Death Café

Tuesday, November 12, 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.
Meet us in the Shalom Room for tea and treats and a friendly conversation about death. There will be no presentation, no advertising and no expected conclusions, we promise. Let's see where this conversation goes!

Healing Tea and Blue Christmas Service

Wednesday, December 11, 5:00-8:00 p.m.
The Christmas season can be an especially difficult time for those who have experienced change or loss.

If you find yourself feeling more "blue" than festive at this time of year, you are invited to attend the Healing Tea from 5:00 to 6:00 pm. Our guest speaker, Judith Campbell, will offer an informal talk and a relaxing guided meditation. At 6:00 pm., Rev. Kim Vidal and Lorrie Lowes will lead a special Blue Christmas service and afterwards, there will be an opportunity to take a labyrinth walk in the Main Hall. A labyrinth keeper will be available to give a brief introduction to this spiritual practice.

We're Here for You

If you or someone you know would like a friendly visit or telephone call, please contact the church office or a member of the Pastoral and Spiritual Care Team.

Thank you to BCUC staff, members of the Pastoral and Spiritual Care Committee and all of the many people who work quietly behind the scenes to provide caring support for our community. Whether you have offered a listening ear, a helping hand, a kind word, a card, a casserole or a visit, you have made a difference. We are all part of the Team.

Blessings to you all,
Susan Young
Pastoral and Spiritual Care Coordinator

Finance Update!

Summary

By: Bill Johnson, Chair Financial Management

This is a brief summary of BCUC's financial status as of August 31, 2019.

Note that the Operating Fund is below expected revenue and needs immediate attention.

Operating Fund	Jan-Aug/2019	Jan-Aug/2018	Budget/2019	Budget/2018
Revenue	\$ 247,633	\$ 272,652	\$ 432,300	\$ 415,400
Expenses	\$ 301,305 (#)	\$ 306,116	\$ 432,300	\$ 429,978
Surplus/(Deficit)	(-\$53,672)	(-\$33,465)	(\$0)	(-\$14,578)

Note (#) – Expenses to end of August include monthly notional allocations for M&S that are not paid out until December (\$25,667 allocated at end of September vs. \$38,500 paid out in December).

Other Funds	Balance Aug	Receipts Jan-Aug
Directed Funds	\$ 27,025	\$ 22,392
Bldg. Mtc & Repair	\$ 17,284	\$ 8,499
Capital Funds	\$ 16,925	\$ 41,019
Total:	\$ 54,514	\$ 71,910

Please keep the needs of the Operating Fund in mind as you plan your donations for 2020!

Church Board, Chair's Report

After a restful summer, the BCUC Board is back in action!

The Board extends sincere thanks to all who contributed to the roof fund and to helping to ensure that the repayment of the loans was completed in a remarkably short time. The generosity of this congregation is humbling!

The Board would also like to thank all of the members of the Raise the Roof Committee, who have now completed their mandated work. Sincere thanks to Bert Donnelly, Doug MacKechnie, Bob Boynton, Ruth Howes, Bill Johnson, Ken Kim and Gordon Ritcey.

Here are a few of the projects we are working on in the fall:

The Board has launched a Biennial Policy Review in order to update the Policy Manual on our website. Committee Chairs should have recently received an e-mail from me with more information. It's hard to believe that it is this time already, but committees are asked to start thinking about their Annual Budgets and Activity Plans! More information will be coming soon.

We are in desperate need of a Vice Chair on the Board. This will be my final year as Chair of the Board and I will be stepping down at the next AGM. Having a Vice Chair in place sooner rather than later will help facilitate the transition! If you think you might be interested in this important role, please contact me or the Church Office.

Blessings,
Jordan Berard

Vendor's Market

Saturday Dec. 7th from 9-2pm

Another opportunity to find one of a kind gifts for those special people in your lives! Funds raised will go toward, Mission Exposure. Come and join us for multi-vendor one stop Christmas shopping!

For more information, call 613 820-8103

Special Offering Envelopes

You will find special offering envelopes, in the Narthex or within a print copy of the Newsletter, that are available as an additional method of supporting the work and ministry of Bells Corners United Church. Thanks so much!

Frozen Fruit Orders

Blueberries, raspberries, cranberries, oh my! You can place your order after worship service or at the Church Office from October 13 to the deadline of October 25. Payment, by cash or cheque, must be made at the time of placing your order.

Blueberries (2kg):	\$20
Raspberries (2.5kg):	\$25
Cranberries (2kg):	\$16





*Christmas Music Concert
Sunday December 8th – Time: 2:30 pm*

*Please join us for an afternoon of seasonal choral music,
and individual performances.*

- *Special guests*
 - *Refreshments to follow*
 - *Free will offering*
- Music director: Abe TeGrotenhuis*

Raise the Roof Committee

We did it!!

We are pleased to report that all Roof loans have been repaid and a recommendation has been made to the BCUC Board that the committee be dissolved.

Thank You Everyone!

Bert Donnelly, Chair

Doug MacKechnie, Past Chair

Bob Boynton, Ruth Howes, Bill Johnson, Ken Kim, Gordon Ritcey

Photo Directory We are presently planning the publication of a Photo Directory of our church community! Every church member photographed will receive a free directory and there is the option to purchase a photo package. Timing for this is currently being considered so we will get the word out as soon as possible. Stay tuned!



"The wonderful Bell Canto Choir share their gift of voice with the congregation ~ Director Erin Berard"



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