

We are ... ordinary people, praising God, caring for others, learning to be the Family of God

June 2021

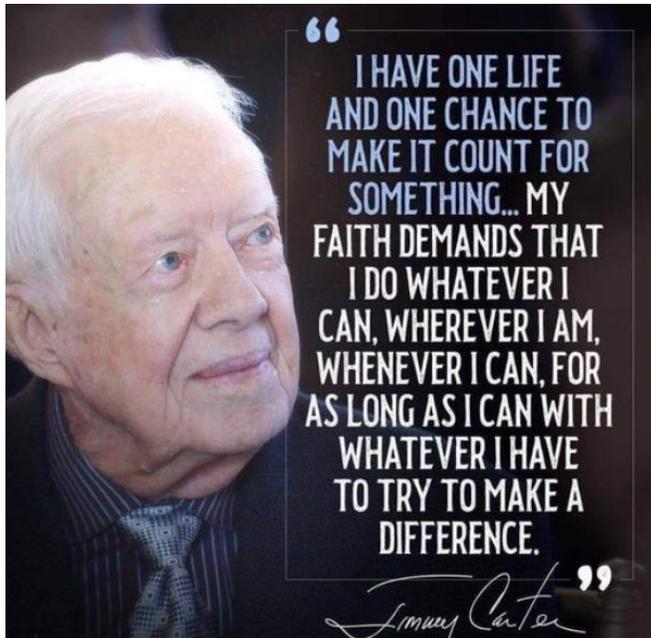


Figure 1: [Jimmy Carter Quotes](#)

## Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge with gratitude that we are on the traditional territory of the Anishinaabe, the Mississauga of the New Credit, Haudenosaunee, and Attiwonderonk Nations, on land that was subject to Treaty 3 an area also known as the [Between the Lakes Purchase](#).

We also acknowledge the importance of The Dish with One Spoon Covenant, a peace agreement made between Indigenous nations before the Europeans arrived. It characterizes our collective responsibility to each other and Mother Earth, to take only what we need, leave enough for others, and keep the dish clean.

*By acknowledging this covenant and the First Nations, Métis, and Inuit peoples, we are reminded of our important connection to this land where we live, learn, and work together as a community.*

Recently, Don and I were very much impacted when we participated in a Kairos Virtual Blanket Exercise. We came away with feelings of desperation, loss, and hopelessness, and have a better understanding of the inner strength that the Indigenous people possess to continue to carry on in the face of all they have endured.

Now more than ever, in light of the horrendous discoveries found at residential schools, let us commit to working into right relationship with the Indigenous Peoples of this land that we occupy.

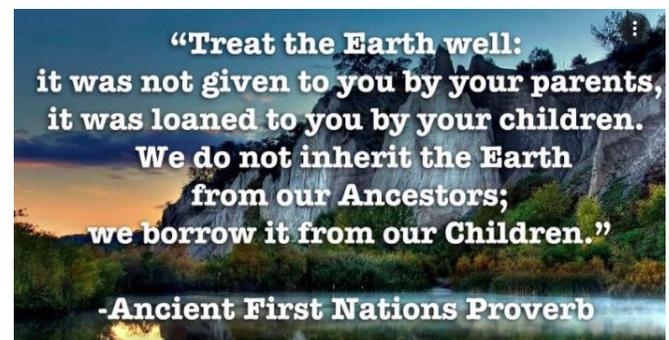


Figure 2: [People's Initiative for Universal Peace](#)

## House Teams

Thank you to House Team 1 for providing the scripture readers for the month of June.

Thank you to all House Teams for assisting with our worship services throughout this past year. And thank you to our House Team Leaders – Janet Worthington (Teams 1 and 2); Kathryn Murrell (Team 3); Dorothy Wilson (Team 4); Ann Shantz (Team 5). Praising Team will be recruiting scripture readers for July and August.

## News from Leadership Council

Leadership Council has met regularly through Zoom. Minutes are posted on Zion's website. **MAL Vacancy:** This vacancy remains open although one nomination, effective at Zion's Fall Congregational meeting, has been received. For more details, call Neil Lackey at 519-656-2653

## Finance Report from Steve Martin, Chair

Thank you to the Congregation for your generous giving to the Zion Church Budget. The report to the end of May, is that our disbursements are \$9900 more than our receipts. If you could remember Zion in your givings, that would be good. You can give through PAR, dropping off an offering at the Church, mailing an offering to the Church, or giving online through Canada Helps on the Zion web page.

Year to date (to end of April)

Receipts: \$52,017 (includes income from Manse)

Year to date (to end of April) Expenses: \$61,897

Bank Balance (to the end of April): \$47,088 (since we ended last year with a surplus)

We have received 27% of our Budget when the end of April represents 33% of our budget.

## You are invited!



Please join Rev. Maggie in conversation at our Zoom Café on **July 4, 2021**, at 10:30 a.m.

The idea of a sacred garden ministry arose during a recent Zoom Café gathering. The Trustees recommended that an Ad Hoc Task Group be established to explore the intent and focus of such a ministry.

As a first step, the Leadership Team invites Zion members to a broader discussion. Your input is valued and appreciated. We sincerely hope you will join us!

## HR Report from Kathryn Murrell, Chair

The HR Committee thanks all of our amazing staff for the wonderful work accomplished this past year under very trying circumstances. We are very blessed to have such dedicated people working with us to keep Zion strong and connected.

Thanks to Rev Maggie for her inspiring sermons and pastoral care, Jennifer Meyer for keeping us organized and functioning, and Kathy Poirier for her work with the children and youth. We have all enjoyed seeing their smiling faces during services.

Thanks to Barbara Kellerman for gracing us with her musical talents and Ashley Haid for keeping our church building clean and safe.

If anyone in the congregation has a compliment or concern about any one of our staff, please send an email to Kathryn Murrell at [kmurrell@rogers.com](mailto:kmurrell@rogers.com)

This year, the HR committee has been meeting monthly and connecting regularly with staff.

Two of our committee members attended a "Basics" workshop sponsored by the WOW Regional Council. Rev Maggie and I attended two seminars of the Fresh Start programme sponsored by WOW. These seminars are presented to help ease the transitions required in a new ministerial relationship.

### Property

Have you noticed the front perennial garden? It's been cleaned up, dug out, prepped with new soil, planted, and mulched! A huge thank you to Sharon Ross for her vision, and Janet Worthington, her assistant, and to their volunteering spouses – John and Don! If you are walking past the garden and see it needs watering, please do not hesitate to give the plants a drink! The watering can is beside the water tap at the side of the church.

Thank you to Trustees Ann Shantz and Carol Gilmore for caring for the manse garden.

### Caring Team from Pat McGlynn, Chair

June 13, 2021, marked the First Anniversary for our Zion Food Pantry. The year in operation has brought out all our amazing and wonderful Zion Family members to support this worthy and much-needed cause. In the last year, we have never been without a volunteer to cover the week's coverage for the Food Pantry. Also, the support you have

shown for our Thanksgiving and Easter Food Drives was so over the top. As we now enter Year Two, we will continue to need your assistance. On behalf of the Zion Caring Team a big "Thank You"!

### Learning Team

"A Journey in June" is a community event being put on by Zion United's Learning Team until June 30. To participate in this Photo Scavenger Hunt throughout Baden and New Hamburg, you need to search for the picture of the waterwheel in the windows of over 20 local businesses. If you locate enough of the pictures, you will be entered to win a prize. Just take pictures with the signs you find and email them to Kathy at [zionyouth@bellnet.ca](mailto:zionyouth@bellnet.ca) by July 1. For all the details, visit <https://zionyouth6.wixsite.com/scavengerhunt>.

Thanks to everyone for your donations of First Aid Supplies and empties in support of Camp Bimini. Click the link [How to Give and How to Help](#) to see how you can further provide assistance.

### UCW News

Our UCW held its final meeting featuring guest speakers, Wayne & Lynda Buck. We



Figure 3: [Ruby-throated hummingbird](#)

learned so much about winter and summer birds, and our knowledge was tested with a quiz. It was a delightful evening. Please email [janetbradley453@gmail.com](mailto:janetbradley453@gmail.com) if you would like to view the presentation.

Can you answer these questions??



1. What is the name of Waterloo's native swan?
2. What is the name of the fastest bird in Waterloo region?
3. What caused the ospreys' decline several decades ago?

### News from Hope Community

Kathryn Murrell writes: "I received a letter from Lucy that the technical school is completed, and they will be starting to use it this May - such an amazing accomplishment.

Lucy is now looking to buy the equipment needed to run this school, and she has sent us a list. Let's show our support for Lucy and Hope Community by helping her purchase the equipment needed to run this school. Lucy works so hard to ensure that all the children at HOPE receive the resources they need to become contributing members of society. Hopefully, our Zion family can help Lucy furnish this school with some of the things required. One Canadian dollar is worth 88.57 Kenyan Shillings."

*Hello Zion Family*

*Greetings from Hope Community Centre Family . Thank you so much for standing with us .God is so good the technical school is finished .We are believing God to start the school this May 2021 .We believe many students who cannot join university will benefit from this course.*

*Blessings ...Lucy/kids*

|   |                  |
|---|------------------|
| <b>DRESSING MAKING</b>  | KSH.             |
| Domestic sewing machine complete with table and motor 4 PCS X KSH.15000   | 60,000           |
| Industrial sewing machine complete with table & motor                     | 55,000           |
| Domestic overlock machine complete with table and motor 2 PCS X KSH.22000 | 44,000           |
| Other Sewing materials, etc.  | 23,000           |
| <b>TOTAL</b>  | <b>182,000</b>   |
| <b>WELDING AND CARPENTRY</b>  | KSH.             |
| Welding machine 200 Amps (regular Vulcan)                                 | 61,500           |
| Welding kit   | 13,300           |
| Adjustable Vice 5"record  | 128,400          |
| MITRE saw GCM12 GDL Bosch   | 120,000          |
| Cable reel 40 MTR 2.5MM x 3 core  | 54,300           |
| ABAC com pole position 2HP 24 LTR 1 PH                                    | 65,400           |
| 1Pc New SC 30 (circular saw with tilting blade                            | 1,410,000        |
| <b>TOTAL</b>  | <b>1,852,900</b> |



## Changes

Do you remember what it was like 15 months ago? How far we have come in our worship services. Congratulations to our AV & Tech Team and all those volunteers involved.

Thank you to our hymn singers, Joan Berge, Kathryn Wall, Judy Neumann, and Donna Underwood.

At first it was an unsettling time as we didn't know how to do our jobs in the way we've always done them. But then we did! We moved quickly and innovated. There were glitches along the way, but thanks to skillful editing, you may not have noticed! I was reading an article about the introduction of Zoom in our Ontario courts. For awhile, there were times when the judge, a participant, or key witness were no longer in the virtual



court, times when the internet connection was unstable causing delays, echoing audio, freezing video, background noise, or the ubiquitous "You're on mute", but since then, the virtual medium has been embraced.

Zoom certainly has allowed our UCW to meet faithfully every month, and our Leadership Council, Zoom Café, and Faith & Life Conversation group to meet regularly. Over the past year and almost a half, we've come a long way. Congratulations!! Due to COVID-19, we've taken a large digital leap forward. We're Zoomers now!

## COVID-19 Reflections

I asked our house team members to reflect on how COVID-19 has changed their lives.

Karen Martin writes:

1. What has changed for you - almost everything!
2. What you miss - Hugs, in person visits, watching nieces and nephews be born and grow up (a year makes a big difference in a child's life), social events, going to the theatre, birthday parties and celebrations, being able to have a funeral for my father
3. What you don't miss, - driving the car here, there, and everywhere, having to fill up the car with gas, the hectic pace of life, driving to London to see doctors (really like the virtual doctor appointments; it gives me a day of driving back), less time doing committee work.
4. What you do differently - read more, do more puzzles, sit still while I chat on Zoom with friends, rather than walking or leaving home to be in person, meditate more, relax on the couch. We now have June, my mother living with us in New Hamburg. That is a BIG change. We feel blessed to have her out of the retirement home in Mississauga, given how many residents have died so far from COVID. We are blessed to have the capacity in our home to accommodate her. So pleased how much she likes being in New Hamburg and enjoys walking in town and being independent. [Welcome June to New Hamburg. So happy to celebrate your 90<sup>th</sup> birthday with you!!]

Beth Forrest writes:

About once a week we order food from a local restaurant to help their business and have some different food to eat. We order books from the library to keep our book supply stocked up. We walk twice a day, but Ian goes further than I do as I can't walk as far. I have a new toy - a Fit Bit so I am getting data on my sleep habits, walking and calories burned. It is fun to check the data every day.

We have been to our cottage to do some cleaning and check the water. We supply water to our neighbour so liaised with them about spring hook up. We social distance there, too. It is not far away so we do not have to make any stops along the way.

Don writes:

1. What has changed? Rarely leaving home to run errands - ordering online or picking up curbside, recording with the Zion Singers, virtual medical appointments, getting two COVID-19 vaccinations.
2. What do you miss? Haircuts; going to the gym; being able to travel to the US to see my kids because of the border closing; having company in our home; live concerts and plays!
3. What do you do differently? Winter hiking; wearing a mask; keeping distance; no hugs; hiking on new trails; birdwatching both at home and on new trails; minimal shopping & keeping it local, webinars; ordering online sight unseen and hoping for the best!

[Gotta Be Patient](#) 🎵🎵

## Community News



### EcoNugget

YES!! You can plant trees just by asking the ECOSIA search engine. Ecosia is just like any other search engine, with one major difference: at least 80% of its advertising profits are used to plant trees around the world.

Did you know that Ecosia:

- Plants trees where they are needed the most.
- Has planted 116 million trees in 25 countries.
- Publishes monthly financial reports so you see exactly how income from your searches is spent.
- Produces twice as much electricity as is required for all Ecosia searches using renewable energy.
- Is privacy friendly. They don't sell your data to advertisers, have no 3<sup>rd</sup> party trackers, and anonymize all searches within one week.

Ready to give Ecosia a try? Go to [ecosia.org](https://ecosia.org).

For further information, contact:

[nvecoboosters@gmail.com](mailto:nvecoboosters@gmail.com)

### Music 🎵🎵

“May the blessings of the great Composer, Creator of sound and silence, and the Singer of God’s melody, and the Mystery of the song, echo always within us, and resound through us to all. Amen.”

I think many of us feel the same way this retired teacher does about music.

“Whenever I feel overwhelmed by what is happening, I turn to music as a source of solace and comfort. Music has been a constant companion throughout my life. It has been a source of inspiration whether listening, singing, or playing the piano. Music helps me to pause and reflect on all the positive things in my life.” [[RTO Summer 2021 Newsletter](#)]

In April, I attended a three-day virtual conference presented by Music United. Its theme was “Music Matters”. What a joy it was to meet so many music directors from across Canada for worship, learning, and fellowship. We shared our stories on how we’ve adjusted to making music in the time of COVID because “Music Matters!”

The Zion Singers are taking a summer break. Thank you to Linda Lackey, Kathryn Murrell, Donna Underwood, John Wagner, Kathryn Wall, and Don Worthington for providing the anthems this year. Thank you to Barbara Kellerman for such beautiful accompaniment.

Thank you to Carolyn Gibbons and Norma Fisher for the beautiful piano duets.

Here are some songs for your listening pleasure:

1. [Raise Your Joys and Triumphs High](#),  
Music United: United Church of Canada  
Association of Musicians
2. [The Lord Is My Shepherd - Vicar of Dibley](#)
3. [What a Friend We Have in Jesus](#), Dolly Parton
4. [I Can't Even Walk](#), Jamie Wilson

5. [Church in the Wildwood](#), Charley Pride
6. [We'll Meet Again](#), Vera Lynn
7. [Whispering Hope](#), Charley Pride
8. [Try A Little Kindness](#), Glen Campbell
9. [Softly and Tenderly](#), Glen Campbell
10. [There Was a Time](#), Elaine Hagenberg

### Thanks

To all the Zion folks. You made my 80th birthday a blockbuster surprise, using Tammy's address. I was amazed to hear from friends near and far. Thanks so much !

.... Carolyn Gibbons

### Prayers

Barely the day started and... it's already six in the evening.

Barely arrived on Monday and it's already Friday.

... and the month is already over.

... and the year is almost over.

... and already 40, 50 or 60 years of our lives have passed.

... and we realize that we lost our parents, friends.

and we realize it's too late to go back...

So... Let's try, despite everything, to enjoy the remaining time...

Let's keep looking for activities that we like...

Let's put some color in our grey...

Let's smile at the little things in life that put balm in our hearts.

And despite everything, we must continue to enjoy with serenity this time we have left.

Let's try to eliminate the afters...

I'm doing it after...

I'll say after...

I'll think about it after...

We leave everything for later like " after " is ours.

Because what we don't understand is that:

Afterwards, the coffee gets cold...

Afterwards, priorities change...

Afterwards, the charm is broken...

Afterwards, health passes...

Afterwards, the kids grow up...

Afterwards parents get old...

Afterwards, promises are forgotten...

Afterwards, the day becomes the night...

Afterwards life ends...

And then it's often too late....

So... Let's leave nothing for later...

Because still waiting see you later, we can lose the best moments, the best experiences, best friends, the best family...

The day is today... The moment is now...

We are no longer at the age where we can afford to postpone what needs to be done right away.

So let's see if you have time to read this message and then share it.

Or maybe you'll leave it for... " later "...

And you'll never share it....

1

2021 has been a year of challenges for our Zion family. Please remember your House Team members, our Community of Faith, and the families of

- Jan Latimer

- Irene and Henry Mohr
- Jim Shantz

Please also remember the following members and ask God to give each one courage and strength for each new day:

- Wayne Buck
- Grant Koch
- Ellen Luelo
- Gail Kaufman
- Gail Roth
- Donna Underwood

**God be in your head,  
and in your understanding.  
God be in your eyes,  
and in your looking.  
God be in your mouth,  
and in your speaking.  
God be in your heart,  
and in your loving.  
God be at your end,  
and at your departing.**

### 5 Things You Will Never Recover In Life:

- A stone after it's thrown
- A word after it's said
- An occasion after it's missed
- Time after it's gone
- Trust after it's lost



Juicing Vegetables

<sup>1</sup> [Veronica Robinson, Facebook Post, August 23, 2020](#)

**“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.”**

*—Margaret Mead*

## Pride Month

The United Church affirms that gender and sexuality are gifts of God. This June, we invite all people of faith to celebrate the lives and ministry of LGBTQIA+ and Two-Spirit people across the church and beyond. Pride Month, which is marked in June in many communities across Canada, is a time to publicly celebrate the rainbow people of God, intentionally affirm people of all sexual orientations and gender identities and make explicit our acceptance and kindness for all.<sup>2</sup>

In honour of Pride Month, David Kai wrote the affirming hymn, “[We Are a Rainbow](#)” 🎵

For those who have access to Facebook, here is a recent rendition by Northlea United Church, Toronto of “[We Are a Rainbow](#)” 🎵

<sup>2</sup> <https://united-church.ca/news/celebrating-pride-united-church>



**“...they’re different colors, have strange names, but all learn to live together in the same box.”**

<sup>3</sup>[Family Circus](#)

## Bird Quiz Answers

1. Trumpet swan
2. Peregrine falcon
3. DDT in the river got into the fish which the osprey ate which made the eggs so thin, so when the females sat on them, they broke



Have a wonderful summer everyone! Stay safe! The Re-Opening Task Force is working on protocols to bring us all back together soon! We can hardly wait to see you. Until then, be well and please stay in touch!