

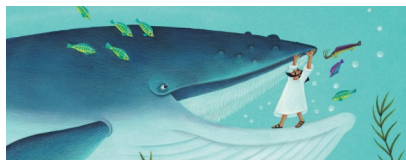
## Stretch the Mind and Open the Heart

As another sun-soaked season fades away (full credit to Dashboard Confessional), Humber Valley United Church turns the corner into an exciting fall. Fall 2022, holds so much promise and potential. Praying that viruses will be kept in check, we prepare for another ministry year, where hope, beauty, and the gospel of Christ will saturate our community.

Two things especially energizing for this fall are

- 1) September's teaching series through the Book of Jonah, and
- 2) our 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration.

Beginning September 11<sup>th</sup>, we are going to spend four weeks exploring the Book of Jonah, as found in the Hebrew bible. Most of us remember Jonah as the guy who gets swallowed by a fish and survives in its belly for three days. Undoubtedly, the first question people ask is, 'did the fish part really happen?' It's a fair question.



I think the better question is, why does a story about God and faith include such a mind-stretching event? Unless of course, that's the whole point. To stretch the mind and open the heart.

If you've ever felt swallowed by the enormity of a situation...

If you've ever felt consumed in the depth of a faith crisis...

If you've ever felt like you were drowning in what can feel like the abyss of life...

Jonah's story, has something to say to you/us.

Then on October 16<sup>th</sup>, we are going to celebrate HVUC's 70-years of ministry and faithfulness. Seventy years!!! It's been said; "70 is the new 60"... but I think 70 looks great on all of us!

The General Secretary of the United Church of Canada, Rev. Michael Blair will join us to teach on this historic Sunday. And in true HVUC fashion there will be plenty of singing, food, cake and fun.

Friends, enjoy the warmth and savour the longer days while they last. But don't get too nostalgic for summer because this fall is going to be a great one. Let's be the church God calls us to be; forming and inspiring disciples of the Jesus-way for justice, compassion and belonging in this moment and into the future.

*Trevor*

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Editor's Desk	2
Refugee Fundraiser	2
Stewardship	3
55+	4
Quilt for Hania	5
AV Team & Gardens	6
Fundraising	7
Coincidences	8-9
Youth & Young Adults	10
Youth Without Shelter	11
Shredding	12
BBQ & Carnival	13
Summer of 22	14-19
70th Anniversary	20
Fashion Show	21
Men's Group	22
Car Rally	22
HVUC Board	23
Godspell	23
Bake Sale	23
Music Music Music	24
Nature Inspires Me	25
UCW Awards	25
Sponsors	26-28
Daytimers	29
Deb's Message & Vision	30

70<sup>th</sup>  
Humber Valley  
UNITED CHURCH  
Anniversary  
1952—2022

## It's a Small, Small World From the Editor's Desk

Nancy Roper's series on coincidences got me thinking. Finding out what a small world it is is surprising — and reassuring.

Ever since the 1980s I've been wanting to go to Chautauqua, "a community of artists, educators, thinkers, faith leaders and friends dedicated to exploring the best in humanity". My neighbour, Mary Jean Affleck, attended thirty or so years ago — with her sister — and raved about it. So when Anne Pietropaolo said she and Bev Conner were going this summer I immediately said, "Me too!" And so did Sally Jo Martin.

Chautauqua is like a Victorian summer camp for adults.



We four had a wonderful time building our friendships. And there are plans afoot for a Humber Valley Group to go in August 2023 and stay together in a gorgeous Victorian style house right by the Lake.

But, you say, what about the coincidences? Well, we were having our Happy Hour on the porch of Mayflower House where we were staying when, as usual, other residents stopped to chat with us. Sally Jo struck up a conversation with a couple in the typical way: "Where are you from?" They said "St. Charles, a suburb of Chicago". Sally Jo, with very little hope of a positive response said, "I know some people from there. Do you know them?" And in a flash they discovered that they were good friends of the same people. Needless to say the conversation went on for quite a while after that.

Chatting with people in the Mayflower's kitchen we dis-

covered a father daughter pair also from Toronto. Turns out the daughter is a librarian whose best friend was a colleague of mine at Queen's Park. Her father, Rev. Robert Steffer, is retired but was scheduled to guest preach at a Toronto church very close to the neighbourhood where Sally Jo grew up. So we decided to go to his service.

*"Susanne and I really enjoyed the service at Hillcrest Christian Church this morning. We were warmly greeted by many and visited with Robert and Erika afterwards."*



*The service featured a powerful organ accompanying the hymns, an inspirational solo, "I Believe," and a sermon that Robert gave which recounted a number of family/friend situations related to the scriptures.*

*The church has lots of history having been supported years ago by the Burton Family aka Robert Simpson Co. There is wonderful stained glass in the old style with a more modern Tree of Life on one window.*  
~Sally Jo

Coincidences wrapped up in coincidences!

As you can see from this edition of *Connections*, HVUC is truly humming this fall. Be sure to join us in worship and take advantage of all the great events and activities.

The next edition of *Connections* will feature our 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. We love to hear from you. Please send your comments and suggestions to [Susanne](#) or [Colleen](#).

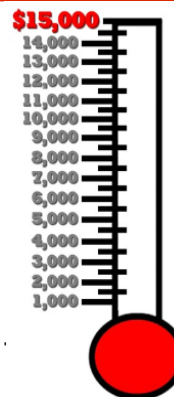
*Susanne Hynes*

### HVUC Refugee Fundraiser

How can I help us reach the \$15,000 goal?



- [Sponsor](#) Someone walking 5K in the TCS Charity Challenge
- [Enter the TCS Charity Challenge](#) to walk for donations



# Stewardship Report

The table at right below shows detailed financial results for HVUC to the end of July 2022. Results to end of July 2021 are included for comparison purposes.

At the Annual General Meeting in April 2022, the congregation approved the 2022 operating budget which forecast an annual operating deficit of \$125,000. You will note that the deficit as at this July has already exceeded the full year forecast at \$129,000 and is also significantly more than last year. To fund this deficit, the Trustees have transferred \$115,000 to Humber Valley United Church.

Congregational givings and Use of Church are not the primary issue.

Use of church has increased from last year with the church now open again after COVID. The increase in Use of Church is offset by the loss of COVID-19 grants which were substantial in 2021. Funds Available for Church Operations are more or less in line with last year.

The primary issue is on the expenses side.

There are major increases in YTD expenses, which exceed expenses of 2021 by \$128,000. Payroll and building expenses are higher than last year. Building expenses were budgeted to increase this year since the cost of the out-sourced cleaning contract was reallocated to the area with the retirement of Zoran. In addition, a water leak from a valve by the furnace generated a water bill in April that was many times larger than our typical consumption. The leak was located and repaired so excess water consumption should not reoccur.

Without significant changes to income and/or expenses over the next few months, the year end deficit will be much higher than forecast.

It is already more than one hundred thousand dollars higher than this time last year!

However, you, the congregation have been highly supportive in the past when faced with financial challenges and I am confident that history will repeat itself.

Fall is coming quickly and is a time when many of us will return to church from cottages and travel.

Please remember to keep your giving levels up. If you are not physically at church, please remember to send your cheque either by mail or by dropping it in to the office at your convenience. You can also e-transfer your donation to Humber Valley United Church using the email address [finance@hvuc.ca](mailto:finance@hvuc.ca).

As always, sincere thanks to all of you for your continued support of HVUC.

This year is certainly presenting a financial challenge as we continue on our transformational journey together.

*Allan Orr*

Chair, Stewardship & Finance Committee

Source of Funds	July 22	July 21
Par Givings	90,106	91,966
Envelopes/Stock Donations	50,742	41,929
Use of Church	95,708	61,784
Trustees	11,081	11,081
Other	25,080	14,346
<b>Subtotal Operating Revenues</b>	<b>272,717</b>	<b>221,106</b>
Government and Other Grants	28,187	81,999
<b>Subtotal Funds available for Church Operations</b>	<b>300,903</b>	<b>303,105</b>
Receipts for Grants and Special Holdings	109,992	86,498
<b>Total Sources of Funds</b>	<b>410,895</b>	<b>389,602</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>		
Payroll	267,671	251,205
Worship and Music	10,204	14,901
Office	30,018	23,350
Building Expenses	111,846	33,918
Regional Assessment	10,518	8,761
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>430,258</b>	<b>332,134</b>
Grant spending and Transfers of HF	109,992	86,498
<b>Total Uses of Funds</b>	<b>540,250</b>	<b>418,632</b>
<b>Operating Deficit</b>	<b>-129,354</b>	<b>-29,029</b>

## Summer with 55+

Do you ever look back on a season and wonder where did the time go? At the end of summer it's nice to take a look back and savour some of the good times that seem to slide by too quickly and to look forward with anticipation for what the new season has in store for us!

This summer the 55+ program has continued to offer our regular weekly Zoom programs of fitness, dance, yoga and coffee time, which have provided some continuity while folks come and go with traveling, cottages and life at a relaxed pace! We also added in some outdoor time to make the most of the beautiful summer weather. Our weekly walking meditation continued through out the summer with walks at James Gardens every Tuesday morning and we enjoyed inspiration from nature and the psalms.



A little farther afield we visited the Aga Khan museum to explore exhibits and art installations. We even got in a road trip with an outing to Port Hope to see the musical *Nine to Five*, directed by Rob Kempson. We enjoyed a picnic lunch together and the show was amazing!

Outreach into the community continued throughout the summer with care kits provided to seniors at Mabelle Arts Food market. Our neighbours and friends at Mabelle Arts really appreciated the packets of coffee, tea and chocolate milk for making icy cold drinks to beat the heat!

We also made sure we were a visible presence to the community surrounding HVUC with pop ups on the lawn. Our pop ups with activities such as campfire sing along in West Deane Park and Paint Day with Licia on the lawn definitely were a hit and we learned a lot for planning future pop up events.



Over the summer we were able to reach out to other organizations serving seniors in the community and we're thrilled to introduce three new partnerships that we're developing! The Centre for Aging and Brain Health Innovations (CABHI) will be sharing some of our programs with their national network and will present to

us at Daytimers in November to tell us about their innovative work on seniors issues.

We are also excited to be building a partnership with Just Like Family homeware services with our virtual programs being shared nationally and caregiver training sessions in the works!

Finally, we are extending our care kits and partnership to the foodbank Room to Grow at Westway United Church. Each month we'll be providing practical items to support more seniors living in the community. We'll also look at how we can collaborate on some fun intergenerational activities such as crafts and Storytime for young families.

As we head into the fall season, we've got a wonderful line up of programs planned. We are especially pleased to be able to hold our first in person Daytimers in over two years! On Monday September 26 we're going to celebrate with a luncheon party in Steed Hall. Valley Voices will be performing songs from the musical *Godspell*, we'll have some fun and games and Erin Billowits from Vintage Fitness will share about seniors fitness! There will be chair yoga and fitness demonstrations and you'll get to hear all about the 55+ programs coming this season.

Come and join us on Zoom or in person we'd love to see you this fall!

*Anne Pietropaolo*



The 55+ Team,  
Anne and Bev Conner



Campfire sing along in West Deane Park.

## A Quilt for Hania

*Made with love by Laureen Kinnear*

Almost a decade ago, Laureen Kinnear met a lady in Florida who invited her to attend a quilt group meeting. Laureen hesitated, so the lady said “We talk, have lunch and sew”. Laureen decided to try it out and LOVED IT!

She can’t imagine going back to regular sewing now – she adores all the fabrics and patterns and colours in quilting. She helped the quilting group make multiple quilts for needy children in Florida and has now made a regular quilt for each of her children and grandchildren and each bedroom at the cottage. She has made 25 “Table Topper” mini-quilts that adorn the tables in the café at Dorothy Ley Hospice throughout the seasons of the year and approximately 50 “Lap Quilts” for the seniors at Mabelle Arts.

When Laureen heard that Humber Valley was going to host a refugee family with a little girl, she knew just what to do! She wanted Hania to have something special, just for herself, that would make her feel welcome in Canada. Laureen made the most beautiful single bed quilt for Hania. She chose pink because “all little girls love pink” but added in a little mauve and a little purple since “girls like those colours as they get a little older”.

When all the piecing was done, Laureen visited a lady out Burnhamthorpe way who has a giant quilting machine in her basement – together they selected a lovely daisy design for the quilting. Since we weren’t sure how quickly our refugee family would arrive, Laureen asked if the quilt could be prioritized and the quilting lady was happy to do so. Laureen also made a decorative pillow case to match. She then pondered a doll but decided that all her kids preferred stuffed animals, so she bought what she thought was a teddy bear and made a matching quilt for the beast. Laureen added an inscription on the back of the quilt that says:

*“When you sleep under this quilt,  
you sleep under a blanket of love.*

*Hania, this quilt was made especially  
for you and made with love.*

*Laureen Kinnear, 2022”*



Sylvia Cohen, from the refugee committee, presented the quilt to Hania at the end of August. She shared the following update:

“The family was very surprised to receive such a lovely gift and could not believe that Laureen had made it especially for Hania. Hania posed like a little model as you can see in the photos. She was hugging and snuggling the bear until we saw it has a pouch! We think it is a kangaroo! The pouch will be a perfect hiding place for candy!

I had a lovely visit with them: they are very hospitable and kind. They are looking forward to coming to church on September 18th for the BBQ.”

Thank you, Laureen, for your wonderful idea to do something so notable for Hania. That was a huge investment of time and I know that it will be a treasure for Hania and her family – I hope they will pass it down from generation to generation.

*Nancy Roper*

## Happenings at HVUC

### AV Team Transitioning

Three members of our AV team have now graduated from high school. Congrats to Anders, Alex and Nicky. Anders and Alex are going to universities out of town and Nicky will be at Humber. We hope Nicky will continue to help in the booth, as his time allows. Magnus and Cameron will continue to work with George in the booth.

Additional volunteers welcome.

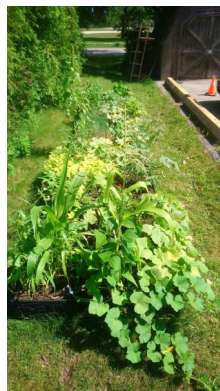
Please reach out to George at [george@hvuc.ca](mailto:george@hvuc.ca).



*Congrats to Anders, Alex and Nicky*

### Summer Garden Updates

**August 14:** Thank-you Augustus, Cameron, Natasha, and Evan for watering Mon/Wed/Fri mornings. I know it's not easy knowing when and how much to water. I hope the hydrometer is helping. The main crates are struggling but the indigenous teaching garden has produced enough to donate. The community fridge was emptied same day thus sharing our fresh and nutritious harvest with those in need.



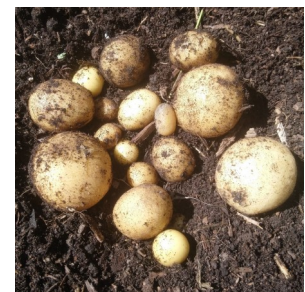
**August 15:** YWS recently held a master chef cooking competition with the youth. Herbs, vegetables, and beautiful edible flowers grown in their urban crate garden were used in all dishes in the competition. The event was a great success and the garden an asset to all YWS chef final entries. Absolutely wonderful!!



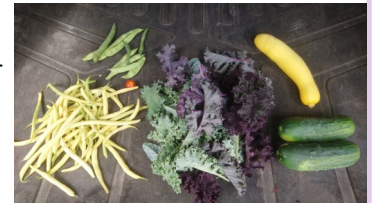
**August 24:** Another HVUC small harvest and community fridge donation! Every morsel counts!!

Vegetables, even potatoes from our HVUC crates(!) were picked yesterday, placed in the community fridge, and gone before the sunset. Fridge is empty.

Susanne, the basil you planted is thriving. I have five other crates filled with basil which can be used as well. Looks like we can plan an HVUC pesto making workshop!



**August 28:** Today HVUC donated vegetables from our HVUC Urban Garden once again. The community fridge has been much appreciated by those looking for food donations. The fresh vegetables and leafy greens HVUC has donated thus far are gone before the sun sets the same day I pop everything into the fridge.



*Valerie Wood*

### HVUC Gardens

Ron Crago, Sally Jo Martin, and Susanne Hynes have been working, planning, and supervising to keep the grounds of the church looking good. There are new plantings (euonymous) by the front entrance, weeds have been controlled, shrubs and hedges have been trimmed, lawn edges have been kept neat, soil has been improved, and all has been watered. Augustus, one of our excellent summer students, has kept it all tickety-boo. We must also thank Bruce Boyd who plants the central garden and Carolyn Whiteside who keeps out planters beautiful.

Have you noticed that the greenest lawns in a time of drought are not grass? We've noticed that. So we are planning to seed our lawns with clover that will stay green and provide pollen for bees.

## Fall Fundraising Plans

The HVUC Fundraising Committee has many exciting plans.

### FUNDSCRIP GIFT CARDS

**September 2022 and ongoing.** Fundscrip is a program in which the buyer purchases a gift card from the church for a store in which they regularly shop, and the church gets a percentage of the gift card amount. For example, I buy a Loblaws gift card for \$100.00. When I buy groceries at Loblaws, I use the gift card to pay. The church gets 3% of the hundred dollars. I spend only what I would be spending anyway, and the church gets a \$3.00 benefit. It is easy and it is painless for me, and though the percentages are not huge, we have raised more than \$3,000 for the church. There are many choices of stores, including grocery stores, gas stations, hardware stores, and coffee shops. The cards are easy to use yourself, and also make nice gifts.

The next order will be submitted in late September. Contact Kathy Kitchen or Lynn Manning for an order form.

### GODSPELL, THE CONCERT VERSION

**Saturday, October 1, 2022, 7:00 PM**

In February 2022, many of you dug out your tie-dyes and bandanas to sing along with Briar Boake and friends at the show "Where were you in 72?". Now Briar is back to bring you the concert version of Godspell. It has been 50 years since the musical Godspell was first introduced. HVUC has produced the show twice, with casts drawn from members of the congregation.

Though this is not a full production, Briar and six friends will bring you all the best known songs from the musical. Briar is also inviting the new Valley Voices Community Choir and members of the former HVUC productions to join in on some of the numbers. See the ad on the back cover for ticket information.

### SHREDDING DAY

**Saturday October 15, 2022, 9:00 AM to Noon**

Back by popular demand, the Wasteco Shredding Truck will once again be turning sensitive documents into indecipherable pieces. Start sorting your documents now, and tell all your friends and the small businesses you patronize about this great bargain opportunity. See article on page 12 for details.

### CAR RALLY

**Saturday October 22, 2022, 1:00 PM**

Rain Date: Sunday October 23

Think you know Etobicoke? Test yourself at our new and

improved Car Rally. Based on feedback from previous participants, this year's rally will be shorter and closer to home. It will focus on urban areas in and around Etobicoke, and last approximately an hour and a half.

Open to the entire community, you only need a car, sharp eyes, a sense of humour, and more importantly, the ability to "get along" with your passenger/navigator(s) during the trip.

The entry fee is \$30 per car. Please contact Kelly or call the church office ASAP to register at 416-231-2263 X22. *Please break the HVUC pattern, and register early.* We will proceed only if we get a minimum of 15 cars.

### CHEESE PLEASE

**November 2022**

This fall, the Fundraising Committee will be taking orders for Empire cheese products, with delivery by December 7. Exact details and pricing are still being finalized, but will include baskets perfect for Christmas and hostess gifts. Watch for more details to come.

### SINGALONG SOUND OF MUSIC

**Friday, December 2, 2022**

This is already one of the most highly-anticipated events of the year. We are expecting the sanctuary to be filled with people joyously singing along with all the wonderful tunes in everybody's favourite musical. (Don't worry if you can't remember what comes after "Fa"; the words will be on the screen.) There will be a prize for best costume, so save the date and start working on your designs now.

### TORONTO WELSH MALE VOICE CHOIR

**Sunday February 5, 2023, 2:00 PM**

We have been waiting more than 2 years to bring you this concert. Do you remember Rita MacNeil and the coal-miners' chorus called "The Men of the Deeps?" That rich sound is what you get from the Toronto Welsh Male Voice Choir. Performing a variety of music, (in English, not Welsh), this popular group will surely warm your February afternoon.

**Do you have a Fundraising suggestion?** We are constantly looking for new ideas, and we have a lot of fun deciding which ones might work. If you would be interested in joining our team, or just suggesting a project, please contact Joan Belford: [jbelford@pathcom.com](mailto:jbelford@pathcom.com).

*Joan Belford*

## Coincidences It's Hard to Believe, but it Truly Happened!

Have you ever witnessed an event where you said "What was the chance of that happening"? If so, then this series of articles is for you! Send us your stories (to [nancy.roper@sympatico.ca](mailto:nancy.roper@sympatico.ca)), and we'll print them in an upcoming newsletter. Thank you to David Dallimore who has contributed three stories from Atlantic Canada for us this month.

### Coincidences in Atlantic Canada

It's quite amazing that during two separate holidays spent in Atlantic Canada Judith and I unexpectedly met Humber Valley United Church folk.

A few years ago, we decided to spend a holiday in Newfoundland. We had a wonderful trip and fell in love with the province and its people.

During this trip we spent a few days visiting Gros Morne National Park located on the western side of Newfoundland. We especially wanted see Western Brook Pond, a spectacular inland fjord which can be viewed from a small tour boat which traverses the length of this glacier-carved land-locked fjord. We saw waterfalls cascading from 2000 feet that often turned to mist before reaching the pond, billion year-old cliffs, and frequent wildlife activity. On the morning of our planned trip we were lucky that the heavy fog, very prevalent in Newfoundland coastal areas, lifted in time for our reserved boat trip.

So we drove to the Western Brook Pond car park and embarked on our short walk from the car park to the boat dock, hoping to spot a stray moose or two. Imagine our surprise when behind us we heard two familiar voices – Sharon Dowdell and her husband Dan. We immediately turned around to say hello and walked with them to the boat dock. But that wasn't all. When we boarded the boat, we spotted Gary and Karen Ward. So three couples from Humber Valley were together on the same small boat tour to view the fjord!

What were the chances of three couples from the same church meeting on a small boat in rural Newfoundland given that none of us knew in advance of the others' holiday plans?

Whilst in western Newfoundland and not far from Gros Morne Park, Judith and I took the opportunity of visiting the other Humber Valley United Church which is in Pasadena, Newfoundland. Like HVUC, the Newfoundland church took its name from the local Humber River. Coincidence?

**Editor's Note:** I spent my summers at our cottage on the Humber River about ten miles west of Pasadena. And now I live in Humber Valley Village and attend HVUC. (SH)



## Coincidences in Atlantic Canada

Our other coincidence occurred on the Cabot Trail in Nova Scotia about three years ago. Judith and I were travelling with her sister Pauline. About one third of the way along the trail, we stopped at a small motel for the night. Across from the motel was a nice looking restaurant and we decided to have dinner there.

We had hardly got through the door when we heard a voice loudly calling from the far side of the dining room "Hi Judith". Of course, everyone in the dining room turned to see what famous person must have arrived. The voice was Charlotte Browning's. She owns a cottage not far away and was delighted to see us. It was a great surprise for her and for us. Pauline was very impressed that we should know someone in deepest Nova Scotia. "What a coincidence" she said afterwards. And it was.

So you never know if you will meet someone from Humber Valley United Church in the most unlikely places.

*David Dallimore*

### Back in Cape Breton

Charlotte Browning is back in Cape Breton this summer after 3 years away because of COVID and by coincidence she sent in a few pictures of the Cabot Trail, beaches, and sunsets viewed from her house in Cape Breton.

"So glad to be able to travel this summer.

The bars are scaffolding the roofers used at my house to install a new roof. The Surete winds are often over 120 km in velocity and are not too kind to shingles."



*Charlotte Browning*

## Youth and Young Adult Program Summer 2022

What an exciting summer it's been! Despite vacations, summer jobs and much needed R and R time Humber Valley Youth had continued to thrive!

Before summer break began we made Chilli for the Youth in residence at YWS and had a blast cooking together! We plan to do this more often in the fall!

We spent a day at the R.O.M. exploring the indigenous cultures exhibit and learned just how far back colonialism has been harming the first Nations in North America. We discussed awareness being the first step in changing the racism that has seeped into the foundations of our country. It was a very enlightening experience.

Over the summer we hired Cam Brubacher as our intern for Youth, Family and Young Adult programming and with his help provided bi monthly pop ups with crafts, games and fun for grade school aged children. We had rainbow mosaics, bubbles, bathtub boats and of course, colouring! We used the model of our successful Family Fun Fair to create stations for each activity. Our Fun Fair raised money for a great organization called ArtsCan Circle which provides artistic opportunities for Indigenous youth and we were thrilled to partner with them for this event.

Continuing our investment in Youth Without Shelter, we hosted a workshop with them to learn not only about the scope of what the organization provides and how it impacts the community, but also statistics about homeless youth in Toronto and dispelling some of the misinformation about their situation and circumstances. This inspired us to renew our efforts to partner with this organization in every way possible in the coming year.

We had a very successful intergenerational paint day hosted by Anne and the 55+ Program! I was pleased to again contribute by walking the group through a step by step paint instructional and the feedback received was all positive! We hope to schedule many more of these events as a great way to integrate all age groups together!

Through some research and elbow grease I compiled a list of all the United churches I could find in Toronto and their contact information to attempt a refresh of the networking that began several years ago but had to be set aside during COVID. I've garnered interest with several more congregations than were on the initial cluster list and am excited for further integration of our programs when possible!



In addition to this goal, I am introducing a new curriculum and model this fall for youth group which has been re-named L.I.F.T. (Learning in Faith Together). We will follow Trevor's sermon series along with him and open the youth room (which the youth have dubbed "The Bunker") after service each week to encourage more youth engagement in Sunday services. We will still have a youth group meeting in the evenings weekly that will be more structured, post service get together will be more drop in style.



Young Adult gatherings will become more regular! Once a month we will alternate between an offsite gathering and a drop in at The Bunker! We are still feeling out how the structure of the group will work but we are planning some fun activities for the fall including a public powwow and a karaoke night! We have named the YA group "Rooted" as our focus will be on getting ourselves grounded to contribute to our communities and families from a place of strength, faith and assurance. Rooted will be group led and I am present as more of a faculty advisor than anything.



The formation of this group has triggered a change in my title and slight modification of my contract as the "Young families" moniker was confusing people due to a seeming

## Youth continued, and YWS

overlap between Claire and my roles. I will still provide family events once or twice a year (for example our upcoming bake sale to benefit our newcomer family from Afghanistan!) but my title (as approved by Trevor) has changed to Director of Youth and Young Adults. The majority of the young family networking and support is done through the context of JAM and the nursery program.

This summer has been such an opportunity to explore new avenues and methods, mentorship opportunities and of course, extensive networking! I'm excited for the fall and the opportunities these changes have created!

*Licia Meldrum* (she/her)

Director of Youth and Young Adults, HVUC

## Youth Without Shelter

Humber Valley, and St. Luke's before us, have long been major supporters of Youth Without Shelter. UCW Units, Valerie Wood and her container gardens initiatives, the congregation in general and now the Youth Group (see Licia's article on page 10) all are contributing money, time, ideas and support to this very worthy charity in Etobicoke.

HVUC's support of Dorothy Ley Hospice was recognized on the hospice website.



"Our ardent supporters, the congregation of Humber Valley United Church, won one of the Top Fundraiser prizes for Hike for Hospice that were generously donated by Jocelyne Johnston of COBS Bloor West Village. The "HVUC Margo Marchers" Hike Team won a Gift Certificate for free bread for a whole year.

In a very generous turn of events, the HVUC team have decided to donate the gift of bread to Youth Without Shelter in Etobicoke. YWS will receive 4 loaves of bread on the 15th of every month going forward – talk about community partnerships! Thank you to both COBS and Humber Valley United Church Margo Marchers team!"



This year Unit 7 women decided to make more lunches for YWS instead of just the one we have prepared for years in January. They are providing lunches four times a year and added an extra lunch in the summer. In addition to a healthy lunch that included local peaches and tomatoes the Unit donated flip flops, umbrellas and sun tan lotion.

Special thanks to Barbara Clarke who keeps up the communications with YWS and delivered the goodies.

### Donate \$\$\$ for Monthly YWS Dinners

HVUC's Outreach Group contributes \$250 per month to provide dinners for the kids at YWS. You are invited to contribute to this fund.

Donations of any amount are welcome and a tax receipt will be sent by HVUC to donors in February. Just note YWS on a cheque, cash donation or e-transfer to the church.

Summer is fading away, fall is here and with it fall house cleaning chores.

Just in time to help you and your friends with the big task of clearing out all those accumulated sensitive papers that should not be randomly tossed in the garbage bin, Humber Valley United Church is hosting its annual **Paper Shredding Day.**

The big, commercial, cross-cutter Wasteco shredding truck will be in the church parking lot from 9 am to noon on Saturday, October 15th ready to safely and securely destroy your bank statements, old tax returns, credit card receipts, invoices, printed e-mails and anything that could give a stranger your identity, or those of your friends i.e. account number, name, address, e-mail address. Volunteer and /or business reports, meeting minutes, staff listings and another papers should be disposed of as well.

With our bargain prices, the success of our previous Shredding Days shows that this is a valuable service to the community. For your convenience, we are now including even more ways to make your payment.



**AVOID IDENTITY THEFT**

**DRIVE-BY PAPER SHREDDING DAY**

**SECURE & CONFIDENTIAL**

**From Your Trunk to Our Shredder. You Can Stay Put in Your Car.**

**Saturday, Oct. 15, 2022 - Rain or Shine**

**9am - 12noon in the PARKING LOT**  
(enter off Hartfield Road only)

**CONVENIENT SERVICE AT A BARGAIN PRICE!**

Price per bankers box or equivalent

- 1- 2 boxes \$15 ea.
- 3-5 boxes \$12 ea.
- 6+ boxes \$10 ea.

*Humber Valley*  
**UNITED CHURCH**

Proceeds Support Charitable Endeavours

**76 Anglesey Blvd., Etobicoke**

Bring your paper in any bag or container; No need to remove staples or paper clips.  
**Cash, cheque, debit or credit card accepted.**

**QUESTIONS? 416-231-2263 Ext. 39**  
**info@hvuc.ca | hvuc.ca**

**Mark October 15th on your calendar and spread the word to your friends, neighbours and colleagues. Start sorting your papers now!**

#### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

This is a one day commitment, but we need volunteers to ensure it runs smoothly.  
If you can help out for a few hours, call Joan Belford at 416-236-8208.

*The Hospitality Committee wishes to thank all the volunteers who served Sunday Lemonade this summer.*

*Thank You*

*Your willingness to participate was really appreciated.*

# BBQ & CARNIVAL



**Sunday, Sept. 18 11:30am**

- **FREE BBQ**
- **DUNK TANK**
- **BOUNCY CASTLE**
- **CARNIVAL GAMES**

*Humber Valley*

UNITED CHURCH

[www.hvuc.ca](http://www.hvuc.ca)

76 Anglesey Blvd. Etobicoke

416-231-2263

**All Welcome**

*The Summer of 2022 was an "almost back to normal summer". Many masks came off, people gathered indoors again, many people had mild cases of COVID, families gathered at cottages, and travel resumed. Here are some stories about Humber Valley United's Summer of 22.*

### Bountiful Blessings

I was fortunate to spend most of August at a cottage 8 hours drive north of Toronto. No TV, radio, or Wi-Fi ..... but thousands of acres of lakes, trees, and

#### WILD BLUEBERRIES!



Although a scarcity in most areas of southern Ontario, "North of the Watershed" (where rivers flow to James Bay) the crop was truly bountiful this year.

It's wonderful to pick handfuls around the cottage to add to your breakfast cereal every morning, but where we like to really pick is "in the bush" on Crown land. The soil is very sandy with stands of cedar trees

waiting to be harvested. After the trees have been cut and the logs removed, the sun and rain can get to the low berry bushes amid stumps and piles of brush. Pickers use logging roads to access favourite (often secret) patches far inroad from the highway and travel by pickup trucks, ATVs, or other 4-wheel drive vehicles over the rough terrain. We park on the crest of a hill so always able to keep our vehicle in sight and to check out our surroundings as we ARE in bear country! We also pick in groups as it's easy to stray and lose your bearings with few landmarks in the bush.

Fashion options for blueberry picking are usually light-coloured, long-sleeved tops (the light colour helps to keep black flies away) and long pants with running shoes and socks - clothing you don't mind getting berry-stained.



This year we tried plastic and metal "claws" to assist with picking. Although these make for faster picking, it's harder to pick "clean" so you must spend longer at the table later separating out leaves and stems. Lightweight plastic pails are used to collect the berries and to transport

them back to the cottage and eventually to the city.

All in all, it was a wonderful August activity and although we eat many handfuls of fresh berries while we're up north, the rewards of frozen wild blueberries to put into muffins, oatmeal and pancakes throughout the Toronto winter, more than makes up for any discomfort from bug bites, muscle aches, and stained fingernails.



With all the berries we picked this year, I welcome any recommendations of recipes using blueberries that I can try.

*Catherine Ireland*

### Memoir Group Garden Party

After nearly two years of on-line classes, the Memoir Writing Group was thrilled to gather in person for a year-end get-together. As part of the 55+ Program, the Memoir Writing Group was originally led by Carolyn Peters, from Baycrest, who got us off to a flying start. When Carolyn fell ill, we were most fortunate to have our own Donna McCorquodale, a skilled writer and former English teacher, take over as lead. Not that the group needs much leading; the members have no end of fascinating stories to tell. Though many of us knew each other from HVUC, those people who joined us from outside the church brought in new faces and new perspectives.

Over the two years of lockdown, members have shared many reminiscences. Sometimes a suggested topic will have people stymied for a bit, but when one person reads what they have written, others are inevitably reminded of incidents from their own pasts, and go on to create their own variations on the theme. The readings have always entertained, sometimes amazed, and often left our sides aching with laughter. We have also heard stories that brought us to tears. Through the sharing of our backgrounds, the group has developed a sense of intimacy, and trust that our stories are safe with each other. We were therefore delighted to have the opportunity to meet each other face-to-face (even though two people told me they thought I would be taller.)

On June 27, 15 members of the Memoir Group gathered in the backyard of Joan Belford and Peter White for lunch. Blessed with lovely weather, we were able to sit a comfortable distance apart, but still converse. Each person contributed something delicious for lunch, but people were so busy talking, the food took second place.



The exception was the amazing Platinum Jubilee Dessert created by Carolyn Whiteside. Carolyn said the dessert was so much work and took so long to make, that she brought the recipe with her and gave it away, vowing she would never make it again. The dessert served everyone at the party, including some second helpings, and got such rave reviews that we may have to persuade Carolyn to change her mind. Regardless, I am sure the story of the Platinum Jubilee Dessert will show up in our next round of memoirs.



*Joan Belford*

## 55+ trip to Port Hope and the Capitol Theatre

It was a beautiful sunny morning on August 17 when we boarded the highway coach that was to take us to Port Hope to see Rob Kempson's production of *Nine to Five*, a musical about life in an office, featuring, of course, the music of Dolly Parton.



After a slow crawl along the Toronto portion of Highway 401, we arrived in Port Hope just in time for lunch in the park. A delightful repast was supplied by the organizers consisting of wraps, sandwiches, veggies, fresh fruit, cookies, and cold drinks. Bev had arranged for picnic tables to be available, some in the sun, others in the shade.



After lunch, there was about an hour of free time available, so we wandered over to flag-bedecked Walton Street (Highway 2) and browsed through some of the shops. We noticed that a lot of the older buildings are being restored to their former glory and being repurposed as condominiums. Just north of the main street we even saw two fishers in the Ganaraska River hoping to catch one of the salmon that were migrating upstream to their spawning grounds.



All too soon, it was time to head for the theatre, an early twentieth century movie house that has been restored to its original elegance.



Everyone in the audience had to wear a mask to protect other members of the audience and the cast. As Rob noted, if any of the cast members contracted COVID, there would be no show.

## SUMMER of 2022

The production was absolutely first-class, with great singing and dancing on par with Stratford or the Shaw Festival.



At the end of the show, the group was invited to the theatre lounge for wine and cheese and a Q and A session with Rob.

We then boarded the bus for the ride back to HVUC. Traffic moved well until Pickering but the slowdown didn't matter because the bus driver had to deal with it. We arrived around 8:00 PM, grateful to the 55+ organizers for such a delightful day.

*Jim Rayner*

### Is the Lake a Pool?

I grew up at a family cottage but David was a golfer so we put in a pool and stayed in the city close to his club. I thought it time my grandsons - ages 8 and 5 - learn about baiting hooks, catching fish and swimming in water that is not blue.

The family thus spent a week in a cottage at Elmhirst resort near Peterborough. What fun we had. After a few days



Davey, 5, stopped calling the lake the pool and the boys had fallen in love with fishing and ping pong.

One of the fun activities the boys participated in was the spaghetti eating contest. About 25 children of all ages sat at picnic benches and at the sound of a whistle had to eat their spaghetti with hands only. Howey, who weighs 48 lbs, easily won third place. He stuffed that spaghetti down so fast we wondered where it was going. He proudly claimed the jumbo chocolate bar prize... but was too full to eat it.



Kayaking, bonfires with s'mores, jigsaw puzzles, swimming and sand castles made the week exactly what I hoped it would be.

I'm into creating memories these days. This was one of them.

*Cathy Wilkes*

### Discovering Downtown

Early this summer I served on a jury in a civil trial that lasted almost five weeks. The trial was interesting — but very repetitive and long — my fellow jurors were interesting and nice people, and we were able to come to a verdict without very much trouble.

The courtroom was on the sixth floor of the Confederation Life Building on University Avenue, across the street from Osgoode Hall and close to City Hall. I spent my lunch hours wandering around the nearby streets and I learned that Toronto is a very interesting city. Here are a few of the photos I took.



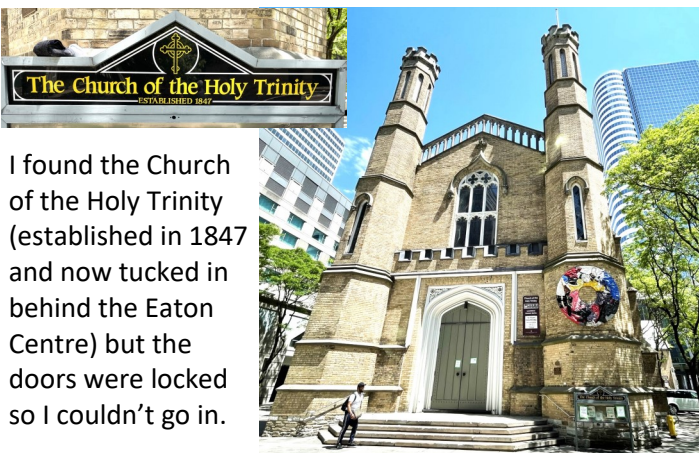
It is not just the tourists who hang out at City Hall. One young woman was lounging on a bench looking at her phone right next to the pool. I can't explain the buildings in the water.



Kids love the Toronto sign.

The building in the distance is the Confederation Life Building where the courtroom was.

While there are lots of cars, taxis and streetcars, many people walk or cycle. I was struck by this man pushing a heavy cart, like in the third world.



I found the Church of the Holy Trinity (established in 1847 and now tucked in behind the Eaton Centre) but the doors were locked so I couldn't go in.

Downtown Toronto is a city of contrasts that is bustling with people of all sorts. A few times I ate my lunch sitting on a bench in Grange Park. Near me, and passing by, were young, old, and homeless people.



I was struck by the gorgeous architecture and also, only steps away, by the back alleys full of garbage and graffiti.



Queen Street has a lot of restaurants and shops of all sorts and is only five minutes away from the grandeur of University Avenue.

I also learned that I can still get up the two long flights of stairs out of the west side of the Osgoode Subway Stop. By week three of the trial I didn't have to stop to catch my breath any more.

*Susanne Hynes*

### Sand, Sunsets, Horses, and My First Selfie

I enjoyed many happy times this summer.

Cottage rental with my grandchildren, Lake Huron sunsets, visits with friends from 1960s university days, sharing love of horses with my granddaughter and taking my first selfie on a phone with a friend from grade 6.



Does life get any better than these experiences?

Feeling blessed,

*Sally Jo Martin*

### From Alaska to London via Ontario

Beautiful Ketchikan and Icy Point with two of my granddaughters. We had lots of fun and great weather.



Wonderful memories were made with Juliet, baking at the cottage.

Bonnie and I enjoyed a bus tour to Kitchener for a lunch and a "Rock and Roll Revival."



Perfect weather for sightseeing by double decker bus in London on my British Isles cruise.



*Wendy Oliver*

### Grasses on the Golf Courses

Golf is a wonderful game for getting out and appreciating nature. It is a great way to spend an afternoon with family or friends. I feel blessed to be able to enjoy golf both physically and financially. During COVID, golf was indeed a blessing to many. Participation increased as much as 20% in the number of rounds played.

One of our friends at the Diamond is 90, needs a walker to get about, but loves the game and being with friends. So she comes out and rides in a cart with one of the players, watches our play and has lunch with us after golf.

One of the nicest courses I played this year is Seguin Valley near Parry Sound. The course covers 400 acres, has an island green and provides a real challenge. Here I am with my friend Marlene



Apparently it is not uncommon to see moose, bear and deer on the course. We didn't see any that day but I have seen both deer and bear on other courses. At right is a picture of a hawk protecting its nest while we were trying to putt at Humber Valley in north

Etobicoke. We have also seen deer and coyote there.



Most of my golfing is done with my husband Gord and we have enjoyed many games together both here and when we travel.



Here is a picture of members at the Diamond in the Ruff during our annual bug off in June. So much for social distancing. . .

*Linda Grass*



# 70<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Sunday, October 16 at 10:30am

Rev. Michael Blair  
ALL WELCOME

**WE DID IT... 70 years! Here's to 70 more.**

- Feature video "Looking Back and Looking Forward"
- Archival display
- Luncheon with slide show
- Barbara Steed Young
- Hear and share stories

*Humber Valley*  
UNITED CHURCH  
[www.hvuc.ca](http://www.hvuc.ca)

There will be a slide show of pictures of long ago and not so long ago. You'll get to see Melba in that turquoise dress sitting on the piano, and lots of other great photos. Do you know who is in these photos?



Barbara Steed Young visited Humber Valley this summer.



# Fashion Show

"Ladies Night Out"  
Wed., October 26  
6:00pm

Fashion by Zacks  
Wine Reception

**Appetizers! Silent Auction! Vendors!**

**\$35**  
Ticket Line  
416-231-2263  
X39

*Humber Valley*  
UNITED CHURCH

Masking  
protocols in  
place.



Proceeds benefit  
UCW supported  
charities.

**76 Anglesey Blvd., Etobicoke**

Just as summer wanes and we have to put the 'whites' away in the closet, we welcome back the ladies in the crowd after a COVID hiatus.

Gather your friends and come to an evening out on Wednesday, October 26th. starting at 6:00 pm.

Enjoy a wine reception (complimentary glass of wine or punch), light refreshments, silent auction, vendors AND the feature presentation - A Fabulous Fall Fashion Show presented by Zacks of Cloverdale Mall.

Here's an opportunity to see the new fall clothes, find out what colours are 'in' and get some fashion tips. After 2 years of "shopping in our own closets" it will be a treat to see what's new and fashionable!

Book a full table for 8 or come alone or in any combination of numbers. Tickets available starting September 12th. Leave a message on the ticket line at 416-231-2263 ext.39 or see our 'Ladies Night Out' table on Sunday mornings.

*Carolyn Whiteside*

*Our best wishes and congratulations  
to everyone who celebrated birthdays and  
anniversaries in the summer.*

*Special birthday Wishes to  
Rod Mortimer  
who turned 101 on September 4*



## MEN'S GROUP & CAR RALLY

We are pleased to announce that the HUMBER VALLEY MEN'S GROUP will "rise again" this fall with live in-person, in-house and in-your-face presentations. All men in the community are invited. As usual, meetings are scheduled for the last Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Hearth Room. A donation of a toonie is appreciated to cover the cost of coffee/tea, cookies, and the speaker's honorarium.

Our first two meetings are:

**Monday, September 26, 2022 - Mr. Stephen Holyday, Deputy Mayor and City Councillor for Etobicoke Centre.**

This articulate and engaging speaker can talk about the 20 or so current major development applications for Etobicoke Centre as well as plans, policies, and citizen groups. Interestingly to me there are no more vacant lots and City Hall says an average of 125,000 new people come to the GTA every year. Therefore, is the detached single family residence at risk? Bring your questions and challenge him.



**Monday, October 31, 2022 - Mr Michael Yelavich, President and CEO of Altech Security.**

This is a "must attend" meeting titled:  
AN ELECTRONIC  
SURVEILLANCE SOCIETY.

Are you aware of how much surveillance there is? There are many people, companies, and institutions eager to know who you are, what you do and what you may do, etc.. etc...



As always, please advise Kelly (416-231-2263 EXT. #22) at the office to confirm your attendance.

I look forward to seeing and interacting with each of you again.

*Murray Smith*



**We are planning to revive our Annual HVUC Car Rally in October.**

This year's Fundraiser Rally will be focused on urban areas in and around Etobicoke, and should approximate an hour and a half. Open to the community, you only need a car and good humour; and more importantly, the ability to "get along" with your passenger/navigator during the trip.

**THE RALLY IS SCHEDULED FOR SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2022,**

If it rains we will reschedule to **SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23.**

**ENTRY FEE IS \$30.00 PER CAR AND WE NEED A MINIMUM OF 15 CARS.**

**Please call Kelly at the HVUC office ASAP to register (416-231-2263 /ext. #22)**

**See you pre Halloween**

*Murray Smith*



## New HVUC Board

Deborah Turnbull - Chair

Constance Crosby - Secretary

Allan Orr - Chair, Stewardship and Finance Ministries

David Kitchen - Chair, Ministry and Personnel

Ron Crago - Director

Mary Moffat-Johansson - Director

Erin Billowits - Director

Alexa Barkley - Director

Ruth Johnson - Director

Gail Cook-Bennett - Director

Rev. Dr. Trevor Brisbin - Minister

The directors may be given responsibilities for various ministries but these have not been determined to date. The Board expects to do this at its next Board meeting in September.



**GODSPELL**

the iconic  
musical  
performed  
in concert

Saturday  
October 1  
2022  
7pm

- Briar Boake & friends
- professional singers and players
- surprise guests
- sparkling reception to follow

TICKETS AT [EVENTBRITE.CA](https://eventbrite.ca), AT THE  
DOOR AND THROUGH THE CHURCH

*Humber Valley*  
UNITED CHURCH

\$35/Adult  
Children  
12 & under  
**FREE**

### JOIN OUR COMMUNITY CHOIR!

Valley Voices is a Community Choir that is looking for more members. No auditions required. Members can choose to sing at our Community Choir events, or raise their voices at Sunday Church Services with Drew and Saturday Hymn Sings with Jill as well.

Contact Colleen [colleen.isherwood26@gmail.com](mailto:colleen.isherwood26@gmail.com) to join. Or just show up for the practices. Most practices will be on Wednesday evenings starting at 7:00 pm in the Church Sanctuary. The first half hour will be practising for Sunday Services, and the last 1.5 hours for Godspell and other Community Events.

Kate Brown, Humber Valley's Director of Inclusion and Engagement, has agreed to lead the Valley Voices for Godspell and future Community Choir performances. Drew Brown (no relation to Kate) has asked the Valley Voices to sing once a month at Sunday Services, and he will lead us in practices for those services. Jill Diane Filion will continue to lead the hymn sings (below).

### HYMN SINGS CONTINUE THIS FALL

We will be participating in monthly hymn sings on Saturday, Sept. 17; Saturday, Oct. 8; Saturday, Nov. 5; and Saturday, Dec. 3. Join us in the sanctuary or on YouTube to sing familiar and favourite hymns. Jill Diane Filion is choosing the hymns and playing them on piano and organ. Valley Voices will lead with the vocals and members of the congregation are officiating.

You'll love it!

September 17	Bruce Boyd
October 8	Volunteer needed
November 5	Judith and David Dallimore
December 3	Colleen Isherwood

### BE A PART OF GODSPELL AT HVUC!

This fall, Briar Boake has invited Valley Voices to sing as part of the Godspell Concert to be held at Humber Valley United Church on Saturday, Oct. 1 at 7:00 p.m. We will be singing along with professional singers and some of the alumni who participated in the HVUC Godspell productions in 1972-73 and 2005.

The first practice was held Aug. 28 in the Church Sanctuary. If you missed this practice, you can still join us for more practices starting Sept. 7 at 7:00 p.m.

### MARK YOUR CALENDARS

**Wed., Sept. 7, 14, 21, 28:** Practices for Godspell and Church Services. All practices in the Sanctuary.

**Sat., Sept. 17, Oct. 8, Nov. 4, Dec. 3,** Hymn Sings.

**Sat., Oct. 1:** Godspell at HVUC. Practice for Valley Voices begins at 2:00 p.m., followed by a light dinner. Showtime is 7:00 p.m. Tell your friends and family!!

Choir members pay for tickets but get front row seating! Order tickets at [Eventbrite.ca](https://www.eventbrite.ca).

**Wed., Oct. 5, 12, 19, 26:** Practices for Festival of Song and Church Services. (Details to come)

**Sun. Oct. 16:** HVUC 70th Anniversary, VV sing during the service at 10:30 a.m.

**Wed., Nov. 9, 16, 23, 30;** Practices for Festival of Song and Church Services. (Details to come)

**Sun., Nov. 27:** Tree Lighting/Carol Sing

**Wed., Dec. 7, 14, 21:** Practices for Festival of Song and Church Services. VV will sing at the service on either December 18 or 24. VV to decide the date at the first practice with Drew.

*Colleen Isherwood*



**Want to become a member at HVUC?**

**Kate Brown** would be delighted to discuss this with you!

*Humber Valley*  
UNITED CHURCH

## Nature Inspires and Refreshes Me

My love of nature probably started when I first appreciated flowers. As a three year old I picked the blossoms, but not the stems of a neighbour's tulips to present to my mother. "Oh dear! Thanks so much, but you cannot pick someone else's flowers!" Mabel was a wonderful gardener and I owe my interest in the beauty of flowers and the scent of blossoms to that early experience.

My teenage years as a counsellor in Algonquin Park took that appreciation to a more spiritual level. Clear sunny skies, the aroma of pine needles underfoot, wind over the lake and the wonder of the August night aurora borealis all made an impact on my appreciation of the natural world. Today, the mystery of life and my questioning of religion rests in that world.

I relish time spent out of doors. Cottage time with my granddaughters always encourages observation and questioning. "What kind of rock is this? How can the seagull fly against the wind? Can you see the rain storm travelling across the lake?" (See page 18)

We make memories and encourage an interest in nature. Confirmation of that comes when one of them talks about those experiences months later. "I think I will be a biologist". "Come and see my rock collection Gramma". "Do you remember finding the turtle?"

My house has a covered porch looking out onto the back yard. It's my favourite place to sit and reflect. The treed yard could be a cottage property in the middle of the city. The birds, and of course the chipmunks and squirrels, offer no end of entertainment. When I think about the future with the possible need to move to a condo or retirement home, I know that I would miss this place where I now relax and feel a part of "God's wondrous world". A few years ago I listened to one of HVUC's recorded Sunday services while sitting on the porch in the evening. Hearing an inspirational message while watching the night sky had an impact that was hard to describe.

In July, four friends went to The Chautauqua Institute. The theme of the lectures was "Return to the natural world". The relaxed atmosphere of the village where we walked without traffic, the colourful gardens in full bloom and the location on the lake gave us an opportunity to

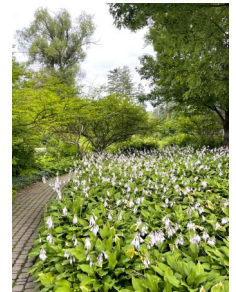
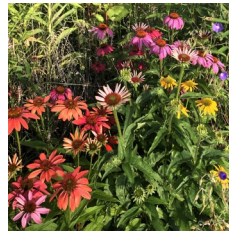
reflect on the importance of nature, not to be taken for granted. Can climate change be reversed? Will the next generation be able to enjoy a healthier planet? Small steps taken by many could make a difference.

Our Tuesday morning walking meditation activity is a wonderful opportunity to observe and reflect. Anne begins with a land acknowledgement followed by a Bible or poetry reading that helps to focus my thoughts during the silent walk. The fallen tree finally gives in to years of rot. Wildflowers bloom and the activity of bees, squirrels and birds are reminders about the cycles of life and death in nature.

I think of life's blessings. So many things to be appreciated.

I pick flowers with their stems as my mother taught me. I take photos of skies. And I reflect on all that is positive in my life right now.

*Sally Jo Martin*



### Shine — Togetherness Day — UCW

On **Wednesday, Oct. 5**, in celebration of Shining Waters Region United Church Women's 60th Anniversary, members will be honoured who have exhibited exceptional leadership qualities within their unit and/or the wider UCW organization.

Five recipients are Humber Valley UCW women:

**Carol Jones**, Charter Member Award for her many years of faithful service to the UCW, **Kathy Kitchen**, **Carolyn Whiteside**, **Sharon Dowdall** and **Sally Jo Martin**.

For further details [READ THE NEWSLETTER](#)

Shine - Togetherness Day at Emmanuel United Church, 420 Balmoral Dr., Brampton. Register by Sept. 19 to attend, but since there are a limited number of spaces, registrants are encouraged to apply as soon as possible.

[DOWNLOAD REGISTRATION FORM](#)

Online	ERT – First Aid & CPR Training		Online
<p><b>Workplace Certification Training</b></p> <p>Need WSIB compliance? Onsite staff certification anytime 7 days a week.</p>	<p><b>Public Certification Courses</b></p> <p>All levels of First Aid &amp; CPR courses available in Toronto and the GTA.</p>	<p><b>On-Line Blended Certification Courses</b></p> <p>Online Blended First Aid &amp; CPR/AED</p>	<p><b>Baby / Child First Aid &amp; CPR Workshop</b></p> <p>Specially designed by ERT for new parents, grandparents, family members and caregivers.</p>

ERT is a proud Canadian Red Cross Training Partner since 2006.

**All Courses offered are New Canadian Red Cross Guidelines, WSIB Approved, in compliance with Child Care Early Years Act and Occupational Health & Safety Regulations**

Certification upon course completion. AED / Defibrillation Certification included in all First Aid and CPR Courses

Valerie Wood 416-937-8576 valerie@ert-cpr.com

Mike Wood 647-883-1999 mike@ert-cpr.com

Book Your **ONLINE** Training Today 416-937-8576 info@ert-cpr.com

# Faibish & Ferrier

Real Estate



**HEATHER  
FERRIER**

**ALLY  
JERICHO-FAIBISH**

**BERT  
FAIBISH**

Sales Representatives

*A Lifetime in  
Humber Valley,  
Part of a  
Great  
Neighbourhood!*

T (416) 319-4888 | O (416) 236-1871 | hferrier@gmail.com | ferrier.ca  
Royal LePage RES Ltd., Brokerage | 3031 Bloor St. West, Toronto ON

*Let's start a conversation*

turnerporter.ca

You've never held back your opinion before, why now?



*You have  
a say  
in this!*

Don't leave the guesswork to others.



*Turner & Porter*

YORKE  
416-767-3153

BUTLER  
416-231-2283

PEEL  
905-279-7663

NEWEDUK  
905-828-8000

## OUR SPONSORS

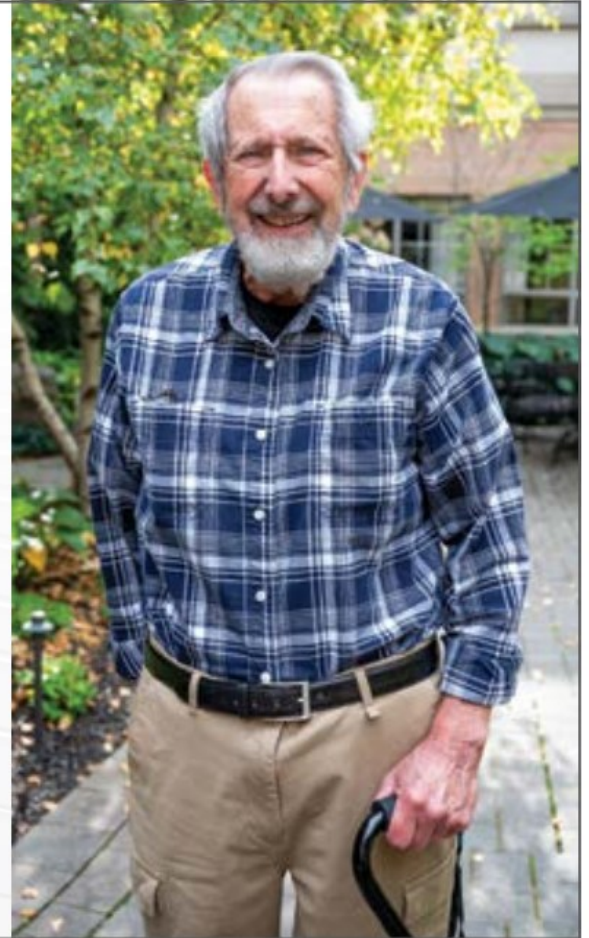
A PLACE TO  
*live well.*

**CHOOSE YOUR LIFESTYLE.**  
**INDEPENDENT** LIVING,  
**SUPPORTIVE** LIVING  
AND **SHORT TERM** STAYS

**DELMANOR**

*Prince Edward*  
*Inspired Retirement Living™*

4180 DUNDAS STREET WEST, ETOBICOKE  
**416-233-0725 | DELMANOR.COM**



**David L. Hynes**

B.Sc., B.Ed., J.D.

Barrister, Solicitor & Notary

**Specializing in**  
**Wills, estates and real estate transactions**

Suite 602  
10 Four Seasons Place  
Etobicoke, M9B 2B1

Tel. 416 639-1905  
Fax. 416 639-1470  
[david@hyneslegal.ca](mailto:david@hyneslegal.ca)

**Westmount**  
*Gallery Ltd.*

*Original Oil Paintings and Sculpture – Frames – Prints*  
*Limited Editions – Custom Framing – Restoration Work*

35 Chauncey Avenue Toronto Ontario M8Z 2Z2

Tel. (416) 239-5427

[www.westmountgallery.com](http://www.westmountgallery.com)

[westmountgallery@bellnet.ca](mailto:westmountgallery@bellnet.ca)

**Place your Business Card Here.**

If you would like to advertise in  
Humber Valley's newsletter, *Connections*,  
contact [susanne@hyneslegal.ca](mailto:susanne@hyneslegal.ca)

All are Welcome to Attend

# Daytimers Celebration!

Monday, Sept. 26 at 11:30am

Daytimers is finally back live and in person and we're ready to celebrate!! Everyone is invited to join us on Monday, Sept. 26 at 11:30 in Steed Hall at Humber Valley United Church.

After more than 2 years we're excited to welcome you back to Daytimers! We plan to gather in Steed Hall for our luncheon featuring individual party platters and a program full of fun and entertainment to kick off this season of Daytimers!

We'll celebrate with table games and prizes, chair yoga and fitness demonstrations, and visits from instructors Sheila and Lena! Erin Billowits from Vintage Fitness will be our guest speaker sharing ideas on how to stay healthy, fit and active! You'll hear about all the special programs and events happening through out the Fall

with our 55+ programs and have a chance to visit with Daytimers friends. The wonderful community choir *Valley Voices* will entertain us with songs from the musical *Godspell*, sure to bring joy to our celebration!

## M E N U

**Our individual party platter menu will include:**

- Party sandwiches
- Veggies and dip
- Potato chips
- Ginger ale
- Cake and ice cream treat
- Coffee and tea

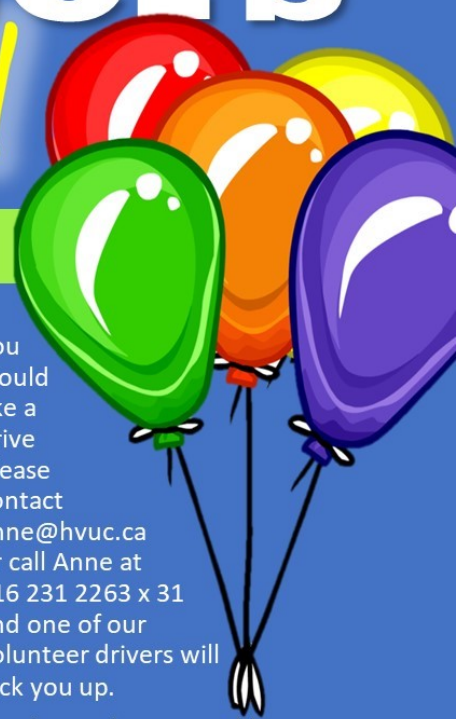
Our Daytimers team and the HVUC staff will make sure that all health and safety precautions are in place to keep us all safe and comfortable. Masking is recommended unless seated at tables and when eating.

If you would like a drive please contact [anne@hvuc.ca](mailto:anne@hvuc.ca) or call Anne at 416 231 2263 x 31 and one of our volunteer drivers will pick you up.

For those who are unable to attend in person we would like to deliver our meal to your home and you can enjoy the presentation online.

Meal delivery will take place on Monday Sept 26 between 2-3 pm.

**We Can't Wait  
to See You!**



## SHARE THE LOVE

- A Freewill donation to cover the cost of the lunch and program would be gratefully accepted. Supplies for lunch and program are approximately \$8 per person.
- Consider giving a donation toward the cost of one or more lunches to support this ministry with our congregation and larger community and help us share the love!

**REGISTER HERE** or Contact Anne Pietropaolo,  
Seniors Program Coordinator, or Beverley Conner  
416 231 2263 x31 [anne@hvuc.ca](mailto:anne@hvuc.ca)

*Humber Valley*  
UNITED CHURCH  
[www.hvuc.ca](http://www.hvuc.ca)

# Connections

## From the Chair of the Board

I hope your summer has been filled with time with family and friends. I hope it has been a time of spiritual renewal and taking time for yourself. I had a wonderful summer: trip out west for a family wedding; swimming; kayaking; visits to friend's cottages; time up north; trips to Stratford; and relaxing moments with friends on front porches and in backyards.

The Fall brings a time of looking forward. At HVUC, it is a time of new ministries, fellowship, and spiritual adventures. Please join us every Sunday, either in-person or online, for our services. Please also join us: for our annual Welcome Back Community BBQ (free) right after church on Sunday, September 18<sup>th</sup> where we will also be welcoming our refugee family to our midst; for the Godspell Con-

cert (fundraiser) on October 1<sup>st</sup>; for our Annual Shredding Day on October 15<sup>th</sup> (fundraiser); our 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Service and Lunch on October 16<sup>th</sup>; our Annual Car Rally (Fundraiser) on October 22<sup>nd</sup>; our Annual Hike on October 23<sup>rd</sup>; and UCW's Fashion Show on October 26<sup>th</sup>. And that is just to name a few.

There is never a dull moment at HVUC.

Looking forward to seeing you in-person or online soon.

Blessings,

*Deb*



## Vision Statement

Humber Valley United Church is a place where everyone belongs.

Just as God rejoices in the goodness and diversity of creation, we celebrate the richness that diversity brings to our church.

We open our hearts and community to all people, respecting differences, honouring uniqueness, seeking social justice, and growing in mutual love.

In Christ, persons of all sexual orientations, gender identities, economic status, races, ages, culture and abilities are welcomed to participate in the full life of the church including membership, leadership, the Lord's Supper, baptism, marriage and funeral services.



76 Anglesey Blvd.,  
Etobicoke, Ontario M9A 3C1  
Telephone: 416-231-2263  
Website: [hvuc.ca](http://hvuc.ca)  
Email: [info@hvuc.ca](mailto:info@hvuc.ca)  
Facebook: [facebook.com/humbervalleyunitedchurch/](https://facebook.com/humbervalleyunitedchurch/)  
Instagram: [humbervalleyunitedchurch](https://www.instagram.com/humbervalleyunitedchurch)  
YouTube: HUMBER VALLEY UNITED CHURCH



Minister: Rev. Dr. Trevor Brisbin  
Director of Worship Arts: Drew Brown  
Director of Inclusion and Engagement: Kate Brown  
Musical Support: Jill Diane Filion  
Church Administrator: Kelly Wells  
Church School Leader: Claire Hatje  
Church School Leader: Michelle Madill  
Nursery: Bridgette Jarvis  
Director of Youth and Young Adults: Licia Meldrum  
Seniors' Program Coordinator: Anne Pietropaolo  
Finance Officer: Anita Wakeman  
Custodian: Zoran Mrkovic  
Custodian: Hakim Dawary  
AV Director: George Turnbull  
Room Bookings: Janet McColeman

### Managing Editors

Susanne Hynes and Colleen Isherwood

Published by Humber Valley United Church