

# *Connections*

*Connected Creative Caring*

## *The Reverend's Reflection*



Good morning Humber Valley, it is a beautiful June morning and the sun is just coming up here in Toronto and the humidity is high, the birds are singing, it's a shorts and T-shirt kind of morning walk day.

As you wake up to this day, you're probably going to turn on the news if you're anything like me, and it is another day with some difficult news.

It just feels like it keeps coming in waves — from last week in Kamloops, B.C. with 215 indigenous children whose lives were stolen/murdered. Then this week, the news of Sunday night and that beautiful family in London, Ontario who was murdered with only their nine year old surviving — only because they call God "Allah", the Arabic word. They are Muslim and they are brothers and sisters and they are God's children and they were taken.

How do we process all of this? How do you wake up to another day, figure out how to muscle through, power through, struggle through another pandemic day with all the news going on? I don't have an answer to that. I just know that with all that we carry, the good news is we don't have to carry it alone. This is where community is essential, where community matters. When one part of the body rejoices, we all rejoice; when one part struggles, we all struggle.

One of the things I have thoroughly enjoyed since being at Humber Valley is the Daily Bread Prayer Group, run by Joanne Stenerson, which takes place Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 8:30 a.m. There was one this morning. It's always been such a great, safe place to process with people who care and feel the pain and the reality of the world.

So, as you enter this new day, may you know you are not entering it alone for we are with you. And may you know that always, always Christ is with you. Go in peace. Together let's stand for all children's lives and let's unite for Islamic lives and say at Humber Valley "no, no, no, that's not what we are about". Be well, stay safe.

*from Rev. Trevor's morning walk on June 9, 2021*

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## **OF NOTE**

*The new electronic signs are up and running. Read more on pages 8-9.*

*Crosses to commemorate those lost to COVID have been placed on the front lawn. Crosses were built by Peter White and Chris Roper, and painted by Humber Valley Youth.*

*Come take a look at the HVUC Urban Vegetable Community Garden and read more on pages 6-7.*

*Learn more about Indigenous cultures and read the prayer of United Church Moderator Dr. Richard Bott.*

*Humber Valley*  
**UNITED CHURCH**



So much sadness. So much to celebrate!

Some of the news this past month has been horrifying — 215 children buried on the grounds of the Kamloops Residential School, and this grisly find may just be the tip of the iceberg. This issue of *Connections* includes a prayer for those young students from the Right Reverend Dr. Richard Bott, Moderator of the United Church of Canada on page 16.

Some of the news has shaken the roots of our Canadian identity, as statues of Canadian icons like Sir John A. Macdonald and Rev. Egerton Ryerson are toppled and defaced because of their roles in founding the residential schools.



COVID has taken its toll over the past 15 months, and Toronto churches are recognizing this by placing crosses in memory of those who died of COVID during

the pandemic. Humber Valley has now set up one of these performative graveyards to join in an act of lament and memorial with churches across the city.

And yet, we still have so much to celebrate. Our community is vibrant, with recent activities including a virtual auction and placing an urban vegetable garden on the grounds of our church. Our new Humber Valley signs are up — at last!



This issue of *Connections* contains a sneak preview of our plans for a Carillon Concert on the Lawn on July 1 — reprising the one that took place last year. See Allan Jones's article on page 12. The COVID restrictions are lightening up just in time for the celebration!

There's a pop-up event or two in the offing, plus plenty of speakers, singing, and some lay services to help fill the summer months. Remember the sad things, but let's celebrate too.

*Colleen Isherwood*

## Celebrating the Life of Richard Cosburn



*Carole and The Cosburn Family wish to make a commemorative and an appreciative donation to HVUC and to 55+ in memory of their dear husband and father who heartbreakingly passed away on June 11, 2019.*

Photo: Carole and Richard Cosburn.

## Sally Roper celebrates 65 years since U of T Graduation

Sally Roper is celebrating 65 years since she graduated from the Household Economics program at the University of Toronto in June 1956.

This year's program was virtual and it included celebrations for honoured graduates from both 2020 and 2021 since no event was held last year due to the pandemic.

Similar to the usual in-person event, there were a variety of "Stress Free Degree" seminars, where guests could attend lectures by current profs. There were get-togethers for each faculty and college, including trivia nights, virtual breakfasts, cooking demos, virtual tours and class chats. There were also programs for kids.

The event culminated with the "Chancellor's Celebration" for graduates in the honoured years: 55, 60, 65, 70, 75 and 80. We suspect the 25- and 50-year grads had a separate session. The expert from the university archives created a very enjoyable presentation with several pieces of memorabilia for each honoured year, starting with the early years of WWII and continuing with each five-year interval through until 1966.

We saw the final Red Ensign that was flown at the university, just prior to the adoption of the current Maple Leaf Flag. We saw the yearbook cover for each honoured year, including the 1966 book that was the final year that EVERY university graduate was shown in a single book. We even saw a photo of the year that a chicken got loose in Convocation Hall during the cer-

emony — why do I think there may have been some engineers behind that escapade?

Sally and Nancy have tracked down all the grads from Sally's class and are planning a Zoom Get Together in the coming weeks. It's certainly been a trip down memory lane!

*Nancy Roper*



***Sally Roper with her medal celebrating 65 years since her U of T Graduation.***

## This issue is dedicated to the Friends of Norm Roper

*June 12 was the first anniversary of Norm Roper's death. In his honour, the Roper Family would like to dedicate this issue of Connections to two gentlemen who enriched Norm's life and showed incredible kindness in his later years.*



work — for example, he took a geology course to better understand what the rocks on the planets might look like.

Along the way, a young teacher-to-be arrived at the Planetarium as a receptionist. Her name was Catherine and she had done radio work while studying English and Theatre at Queens. The current Planetarium show needed a narrator, and Catherine was assigned to the job. She and Bill met and the rest is history!



**Bill at the Neilson Centre.**

### Getting to Know Bill Ireland

**Bill Ireland**



Bill and Norm became friends via many enjoyable projects with the church Property Committee. Bill then joined Norm on several occasions to assist in building the replica Avro Arrow. Bill gave us our first "porch visit" very early in the pandemic before that phrase was in our vocabulary — he brought his own lawn chair and tea and sat way down the walkway so no germs would be shared. What a delight it was for Norm who was craving his friends.

Bill Ireland is a man of many talents. He and his older sister, Donna, were born in Leaside and also lived in Don Mills. Bill graduated from the Ontario College of Art.

Bill spent his career as the graphic artist for the McLaughlin Planetarium. He found from the first day that scientific illustration was a difficult combination of research, creativity, technical knowledge and innovation combined with detailed astronomical accuracy. It was a very exciting time as every time that NASA put up a spacecraft, the visual knowledge would change. The

Planetarium had a staff of top-notch astronomers and scientists who worked with Bill to put together a variety of 1 hour shows to introduce school groups and the public to historical discoveries, myths and legends from many cultures, as well as pure astronomical science. Bill's job was to create the illustrations and models that were used for the shows — houses and trees for the horizon, planets and satellites and space ships for the show, etc. Bill loved learning the science and became very knowledgeable. He took additional courses at York University to enhance his

They lived near the Science Centre initially, then moved to a house on Herne Hill and then on to their current house a few years later.

Catherine taught at a small private school and then worked at Bell Canada International prior to resuming her teaching career at North Albion Collegiate in Etobicoke. Bill spent his entire career at the Planetarium and then helped a friend frame houses for a couple of years after he retired.

The Irelands have two children: Jennifer is an occupational therapist at Toronto Rehab; Steve works at Tridel and his wife Manali is a contract lawyer. Steve and Manali are expecting their first baby in August, much to the delight of Catherine and Bill.

Bill's parents were born in Scotland and his Mom's family was granted 180 acres of forest near Timmins with the understanding that they would immigrate, clear the land and farm it. Bill is blessed to have access to the family cottage nearby which is on a small lake that is teeming with Lake Trout — Bill loves fishing. Bill also loves his time at Catherine's family cottage near Wiarton. He is often found doing woodworking projects and repairs on both properties.

Bill continues his art work at the Neilson Park Creative Centre — if you are lucky enough to visit the Irelands' home, you can see many of his paintings there.

After many years with men's recreational hockey leagues including Humber Valley, Bill continues to play twice a week with senior oldtimers' leagues.

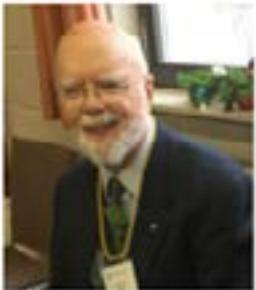
At the church, Bill was a very active member of the Property Committee for many years. The committee met twice a week or more to identify, plan and complete projects. Some of their accomplishments while Bill was on the committee include the sound baffles at the back of the sanctuary, lights for the parking lot, spotlights on the cross

## Getting to Know our Church Friends

on the outside wall of the church, a new roof on the shed and various other repairs. Bill helped build the stage for the church production of "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat", and the iceberg for the penguin play, "Our Iceberg is Melting". Bill also works with Sally Jo Martin to maintain the stained glass windows in the sanctuary. When conditions permit, they will continue to use specialized epoxy to reattach pieces of glass that have fallen.

Please thank Bill for all his contributions to the church and his kindness to people like Norm. Best wishes for loads of fun with your soon-to-arrive first grandchild.

Allan Jones



Allan always made sure that Norm had someone to talk to during coffee hour at church and then stayed and visited in the Narthex while Sally and Carol enjoyed the knitting club ("UFO"). Allan dedicated the 2020 Canada Day Carillon Concert to Norm, choosing songs that Norm would have liked and wearing his Avro Arrow T-shirt to the event.

### Getting to Know Allan Jones

Allan was born in Toronto but his family moved several times, such that he went to Runnymede Public School, Northlea Public School and Humbercrest Public School, and then on to Runnymede Collegiate. He has a younger brother and several cousins that are very close.

A serious injury during a football game in grade 10 ensured that Allan would follow his love of music. Allan had taken piano lessons as a kid and was just starting to

learn the cello when the student who played the double bass moved away and Allan took over. Allan performed with the school orchestra and the Royal Conservatory orchestra, and sang in the choir at Humbercrest United Church where his family attended.

Allan met Carol in grade 8, but it took a while for the relationship to develop. In high school, Carol was dating Allan's best friend who would often ask Allan to walk Carol home, because her house was on his way. As Allan says, this happened once too often, and the rest is history!

Carol went to Teachers College after high school and Allan went to U of T for electrical engineering. They were married following 2nd year, which means they celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary this past spring on April 29. After Allan joined Ontario Hydro, he went back to the

U of T, and added a Master of Engineering to his resume.

Carol and Allan lived in the apartments on Anglesey right after they were married, and then purchased their family home on Tromley, which backed onto the woods at John G. Althouse. They moved to Barclay Terrace in 2016. Carol and Allan have two children.



Jones grandchildren.

Elizabeth lives in Mississauga and enjoys many outings with her friend Rob. Brad and his wife Kim live in Atlanta with their two daughters: Stephanie, who is headed to university this fall on a full scholarship, and Rachel, who is entering Grade 10. Both girls love dance, and pre-pandemic, Carol and Allan would visit frequently to enjoy the girls' school concerts and dance recitals.

Allan spent most of his career at Ontario Hydro. Initially he did research on electrical insulation and chose to become a specialist in underground and submarine cables. Next, he worked downtown in the underground design group, working on cables and transformers. The last segment of his Hydro career was spent on the challenge of underground metal corrosion. Some years, he would travel the province from Pelee Island to Moosonee, troubleshooting problems. Allan's post-Hydro career was with United Wire and Cable, where his experience with insulation and cables provided a very useful background.

Carol and Allan transferred from Humbercrest United to St. Luke's when they moved to Tromley, and joined Humber Valley in 2010, when St. Luke's was closed. Allan was happy to learn about the handbell ensemble, and was also quickly recruited to the carillon team. In addition to those performances, Allan also puts on a spectacular Canada Day Carillon concert, that he starts preparing for many weeks in advance. It draws an appreciative crowd each year.

A big THANK YOU to Allan for sharing your musical talents with the church and for being so kind to people like Norm Roper. Allan misses Norm, because they always enjoyed sitting down to talk about virtually anything!

*The "Getting to Know Our Church Friends" series of articles are written in memory of Norm Roper who died in June 2020. Norm loved visiting with people and hearing their stories. He never forgot the things that people told him, always remembering to ask how a special event had gone or checking in on people's children and grandchildren, etc.*

Nancy Roper

## Introducing the HVUC Community Vegetable Garden



Introducing the New HVUC Urban Community Vegetable Garden! A whirlwind of installing, filling, growing, and spreading the good word throughout HVUC and our community!

In May 2021, approval was granted, and funds raised to install a 200 stacked milk crate intergenerational community vegetable garden. Teamed with Rev. Trevor, Deb Turnbull, Peter White, Ron Crago, Licia Naomi Bryden, and Valerie Wood, the HVUC urban vegetable community garden became a possibility as planning and email conversations began and evolved.



Thank-you to Zoran Mrkovic, Chris Roper and Dale Smith who prepared the grounds by filling a trench and leveling the area where the crates now stand.

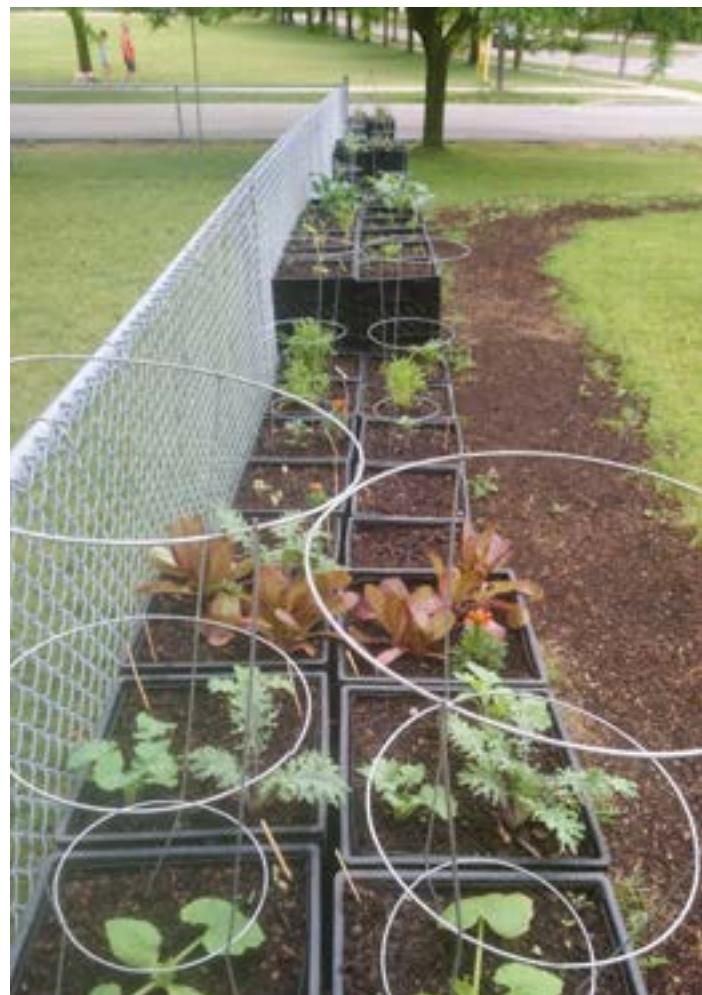
This project was possible due to The George and Mary Turnbull Foundation, The HVUC Youth Group, Ron and Wilma Crago, The Wood Family, and The Bowery Project,

who all jumped on board and graciously sponsored the initiative. Thank-you, thank-you, thank-you!

Why milk crates? Milk crates are a fantastic and mobile way to grow food. Lined milk crates allow optimal aeration and drainage, resulting in strong and healthy root systems. The ease of stacking crates, allows all ages and all abilities to garden. No one has to get down to the ground to garden.

We decided to stack two feet and three feet raised sections, in two rows, which are secured to our chain link fence on the west side of the church. With the help of the Bowery Project ([boweryproject.ca](http://boweryproject.ca)), 200 milk crates were delivered to HVUC on May 19th.

Valerie and Graeme Wood spent seven hours lining and installing the crates, which were then ready to be filled with organic triple mix soil the following morning. On May 20th, four cubic yards of soil were delivered at



## Learning, Teaching, Watering and Weeding!

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7 a.m. to the front of the church. Former HVUC youth group members, Scott Martin, Valerie Wood, and Paige Presswood, filled each growing crate and began planting kale, spinach, beets, peas, bush beans, and red lettuce.

On Saturday May 22nd, the Smith/Wood family, three generations, planted more vegetable seedlings and seeds. On Sunday May 23rd, Licia, Scott, Alexis, and Lucy met Valerie at the garden to water and plant sunflowers and carrots. On Thursday May 27th, Valerie Wood safely taught Hillside Montessori how to remove seeds from red bell peppers and tomatoes, which were then planted in another section.

That same day, Mindwerx jumped on board offering to help water the garden Fridays until school ends and to plant cucumbers, which will hopefully climb and thrive throughout the chain link fence. During this time, members of HVUC and our surrounding community stopped by to ask questions. All ages, all abilities, are excited to see a community vegetable garden and so many are ready to get involved. A true blessing indeed.

What will HVUC do with the harvest? HVUC owns the 200 milk crates. Together, we will work with all interested

in learning, teaching, watering, weeding, planting, and maintaining the garden.

As vegetables are ready to harvest, and once it is safe and restrictions are lifted, we are hoping to hold baking, canning, and pasta sauce making workshops. The HVUC youth are proposing fundraising initiatives with sauces and baked goods they make from the food we grow. Baked goods and/or veggie plates can be served after Sunday worship and shared within our community.



We can prepare food baskets that we can give to Youth Without Shelter and others in need. There are so many options to learn, grow, and share!

If you would like to get involved with watering, weeding, planting, teaching, and learning about urban growing, please email Valerie Wood at [valerie@ert-cpr.com](mailto:valerie@ert-cpr.com). Everyone is welcome.

The HVUC Urban Vegetable Community Garden. Growing Together! Sunshine and Blessings my friends,

*Valerie Wood*

## Humber Valley's New Signs are up!



***Our electrician preparing the Wimbleton sign connection.***

In a few weeks we will start the new sign ministry reaching out to our neighbours and people passing by our church in cars, on buses, on bicycles, and on foot. Our old signs have gone to sign heaven, and the new ones have been installed – and are almost finished. By the time you read this, they undoubtedly will be. We are waiting on a couple of final details and the final inspection by the city.

Many people have worked on this project, which has been led by the Communications Committee. Key among them are Brian Thomson, who did the initial negotiations with the vendors; Peter White, who coordinated the church infrastructure; and Dale Smith, who did the extensive electrical work.



***Our old signs being dismantled for their trip to sign heaven.***

We have had help from diggers, gardeners, designers, and a focus group. And we have had significant financial support from the congregation. Kelly designed the upper, name portion of the sign.

Thank you everyone!

Watch *Keeping in Touch* for the date when we will be able to accept messages from groups in the church.



***On a hot March 22, several senior men from HVUC took shovels and picks to dig a trench to carry electrical and data cables out to the signs.***

## Outside Signs Message Guidelines



***Our logo being unloaded ready to be installed.***

### Communicating with the Neighbourhood

The signs are a very important means of communications with the community. The main focus will be on faith and church related items. This includes messages that relate to justice and world events, special seasons and times of the year, and events at the church.

Rev. Trevor is in charge of the Sign Ministry. Kelly Wells is the administrator. Both will be able to upload messages to the signs. Rev. Trevor has the final say on what those messages are.

### We have two signs

You may have messages displayed on one or both of the signs. The sign facing Hartfield Road is probably best geared to families, since most people going to the school will pass by that sign. It is also very visible to cars and buses heading west on Anglesey.

The sign facing Wimbleton is best seen by southeast-bound traffic on Anglesey and eastbound traffic on Wimbleton. This is a more general audience.

### Submitting a message

Submit messages to Kelly Wells, Church Administrator. Please send them in at least two days before you expect them to be displayed. Kelly and Trevor may edit messages.

### Content of Messages

- Be Concise.
- Include the most important information. Know what you want to say.
- Title of event, three or four words describing it, ticket costs, contact information ...
- We suggest a limit of three or four lines.
- Time Frame.

- Specify the time frame for your message: "please have it on display from \_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_."

### Accepted

- Messages about church events including annual meetings.
- Messages about the work of the church including programs.
- Advertising for concerts and other events sponsored by renters (paid).
- Advertising for the schools using our building (paid through their rent).
- Some graphics can be displayed on the signs.

### Not Accepted

- Messages about birthdays unless they are very significant like 90 or 100.
- Messages about regular committee meetings.
- Advertising for local businesses.

Rev. Trevor has the last word on what is displayed on the signs.

At busy times of year, it could be that your message will only be displayed for a couple of days, or that it will have to wait for another one to come down.

*Susanne Hynes*



*A sincere thank you to Susanne Hynes  
for leading our Communications  
Ministry through the design, construction  
and completion of our  
New Electronic Sign Project.*



The Smothers Brothers and the Blues Brothers weren't available, so Humber Valley United Church enlisted our very own Orr Brothers, Mike and Allan, as auctioneers for the virtual auction on May 15.

This isn't a new gig for the Orr Brothers.

"Michael and I also hosted a live auction at HVUC about two years ago," Allan told *Connections*. "It was very successful and raised several thousand dollars."

And did they enjoy the experience? "The answer to your question is yes," said Allan. "Michael and I have a lot of fun doing these types of auctions and hosting events."

"We know each other very well and therefore a lot of what goes on is completely ad libbed. We don't mind having fun and putting on hats/costumes, etc., to entertain the audience. We must remember it is all for a good cause."

Amid quips and comments, and robust online bidding, Humber Valley Church raised \$2,395.50. Some of the most popular items were the yogurt and ice-cream maker, which went for \$90 after multiple bids; and the gymstick. "Funny, when you think of the two ends of the spectrum here," said Donna McCorquodale, who organized the auction along with Joan Belford, Ruth Johnson, Kathy Kitchen, Lynn Manning, Joan Rayner and Carolyn Whiteside.

Kelly Wells designed the posters, and both Kelly and Susanne Hynes helped get the word out through KIT and eblasts. The actual auction took place on Zoom, with assistance from Kelly who set up the Zoom, and our summer student, Chris Roper, who translated the catalogue into a power point presentation and helped track the winning bids.

All of the items were sold — there were no leftovers!

"I came up with this idea," Donna told *Connections*. "I attended an online auction in January. It was very low key

and a lot of fun ... and a money maker. These have been very popular during COVID. There are even companies that you can hire. But they cost a lot.

"HVUC has had silent auctions in the past, of course, plenty of them. Once we had a trunk sale, where we came with our car trunks full of objects for sale. Not a big money maker as we could only rent out the parking space. This auction, where all proceeds go to the church, is more profitable and involves much less in the way of heavy lifting."

There was a bit of intensive planning around the registration process, Donna noted. Also, the computer acrobatics were quite intensive and somewhat stressful. Most of this was in the last few weeks and days, so easier long-term but a bit of high pressure at the finish line.

"I was happy with the result," she said. "Some people reported having had fun. The camaraderie was just as important as the funds raised, really, especially since we were still quite locked up. We also reached out to the larger community."

Feedback has been positive. Some people made donations to the auction because they had so much fun — very generous and in the spirit of fundraising.

Will there be another auction? Donna isn't sure.

"Too many people said, 'I just want to get rid of stuff, not buy.' We had just the right number of donations but could have used more buyers. We had 60 registrations and about 35 showed up. That is the risk of doing online events that are free. It was a lovely day and who can compete with that? Maybe a January or February online auction would be well received."

"Online sure beats carrying things in and out of the church building," Donna noted.

*Colleen Isherwood*

## HUMBER VALLEY BOARD REPORTS

### UCW Annual Meeting 2021

The UCW Annual General Meeting was held by Zoom on May 31, 2021 at 12:30 p.m.

For about an hour on a sunny Sunday afternoon more than 35 Humber Valley United Church Women spent time with each other to remember and acknowledge the accomplishments of 2020, to review the 2020 Financial Statements and to approve the Budget for 2021.

The perfunctory business of approving the current Executive members for another year and acknowledging the leadership of each of the Units, gave way to a discussion of how we should allocate the special focus charity monies in 2021.

We had only one fundraiser in 2020. This, of course, was tremendously successful and we were so thankful for Linda Grass' leadership of that event and for those who made donations as well as those who contributed in kind or purchased items. With the reduced funds available for charities, the contributions to the local, national and international charities had been reduced in the budget. At the AGM, we agreed that the extra funds available would be reallocated to bring the local charities allocation back to the previous year's allocation. The UCW's contributions to the AV equipment for producing the Sunday services and to the electronic sign were well-received, and the church and Communication Committee registered their thanks.

The meeting also included remembrance of those who had passed or moved away and lives were celebrated. It was suggested that an appropriate fundraising event would be named in Jean Koziak's honour as we proceed into the future.

Each of the Units presented a report on their activities and it is remarkable what the women in the UCW have done for each other and for the community in this absurd and challenging COVID year. Fundraisers proceeded, lunches for Youth Without Shelter were arranged, Unit members were supported and checked on, members moving away to live elsewhere were celebrated, visits were held with Rev Lana and Rev Trevor, toiletries were provided to the Shoebox Project, many members participated in the 55+ activities that occurred and were sponsored by Humber Valley United Church.

Other activities included discussions of first jobs, favourite

drinking vessels and Christmas memories, plus carol singing and an interview with Rev Trevor on his and Marisol's roles as assistant producers of the movie *Saint Judy*. (See movie review on page 20.)

Joint meetings with several units were most successful. Topics included Carole Clarke talking to us live from Barbados, and an event with Risa Shuman, who worked with Elwy Yost on *Saturday Night at the Movies*.

The reach of and the community involvement in the 55+ activities cannot be underestimated. Thanks were given to Anne, Bev and Kelly for their hard work to create, maintain and encourage all these activities; and also of course to the Humber Valley 55+ committee members who inspired and watched over the whole project.

The main goal was managing to stay connected and providing support, fellowship, friendship and solace where needed. We ably accomplished that by simply following the mission of the UCW in our own way at Humber Valley.

Everyone is looking forward to meeting in person, some in each others' homes, some in the church and also at various restaurants in Etobicoke for lunch as the restrictions slowly lift and we see what the balance of 2021 will bring.

Thanks to all the membership for their support of the Executive, and to the Executive for all their hard work.

*Sharon Dowdall*





## From the Carillon Keyboard on July 1



Canada Day 2021 is just a few days away, and this year will mark the 154th Anniversary of Confederation. We at Humber Valley will observe this occasion, as our carillon rings out at 10:30 a.m. on Thursday, July 1st, with a 45-minute program. Our gathering is in accordance with this provision from Step 1 of the provincial Public Health “Roadmap To Reopening”, and parking recommendations are as follows:

***“Outdoor religious services, rites, or ceremonies, including wedding services and funeral services, capped at the number of people that can maintain a physical distance of two metres.”***

***Parking: Please use street parking on Wimbleton, Anglesey, or Hartfield, leaving the Wimbleton lot free for adequately spaced individual chairs. The Hartfield lot will be available for off-street parking, but the sounds of the carillon in that lot are not very good.***

Every tune in my playlist will have connections to Canada, some being very direct and obvious, and others being less obvious, but nevertheless directly related to Canada. The tunes’ dates and connections will range from 1600 to 1999, some being sacred and others secular.

The date of 1600 is thought to be the year when Melchoir Vulpius composed the tune “Vulpius”, which is found in our 1971 Hymn Book at #183. The Canadian connection? The harmonization to the melody was added in 1930, by Sir Ernest Alexander MacMillian, a renowned Canadian composer, chorister, organist, and conductor of the Toronto Symphony Orchestra. This hymn is considered to be a commemoration, and I have included it as a tribute to all the HVUC friends who have passed on during the last 12 months.

I have included three pieces composed by two of our own HVUC Directors of Music: Raymond Gould and Paul Chant. Raymond Gould wrote “My Canada” in 1966, and some years later, in 1991, he also wrote “Together We Are Strong”. Paul Chant co-composed “This Is Our World”, from which I have taken an excerpt. I wonder what additional treasures might still be languishing, hidden in the HVUC choir room?

I was delighted to find the 1995 music and words for “O Siem”, the first major hit song by Susan Aglukark, who was born and raised in Arviat, Nunavut. Of course, there are both Inuit and English words; the Inuit title “O Siem” translates roughly into English as “Joyful Greeting”.

And also, from far away, we CFA’s have the “Ode To Newfoundland”, with words penned by Sir Cavendish Boyle, Governor of the Dominion of Newfoundland, in 1902. Sir Cavendish did not care for the original tune to which the words of “The Ode” were set, so he asked his friend Sir Hubert Parry to come up with something better. Sir Hubert did not fancy himself as a composer of mere parochial anthems, but humoured his friend. Consequently, the present tune was chosen and became the National Anthem of the Dominion of Newfoundland from 1904 until 1949, when Newfoundland joined Confederation. Thereafter, the “Ode To Newfoundland” deferred to “God Save The King” as the National Anthem of Canada, but has always remained as the “Newfoundland Anthem”. The Canadian connection? Our own Susanne Hynes, who will insist that in Newfoundland, “The Ode” is the first sound from a new-born baby’s mouth!

Immediately after “The Ode To Newfoundland” in my playlist, is a tune titled “Point Pelee”, which is located in Essex County, Ontario. The Point has the distinction of being the southernmost point in Canada. In fact, the southern point of Point Pelee itself, is further south than the northern border of California! The Canadian connection is strengthened by the fact that the tune was composed by our Canadian composer, Howard Cable, in July 1986. His inspiration was from the Point itself, in his words, “the quiet calm that leads to a oneness with nature ... and ... millions of birds to give the tranquility a twinkle”. Having been “down the Point” many times, I can certainly vouch for Mr. Cable’s inspiration! (Increased “Canadian Content!”)

The song “I’m Beginning To See The Light” may appear to have little, if any, Canadian connection, being composed



## Carillon Concert on the Lawn

by Duke Ellington in 1944, and sung by Ella Fitzgerald in 1968. But "Lady Ella", in May of 1968, performed the song at the Cave Supper Club in Vancouver, B.C. The connection is even stronger, because for that engagement, she was accompanied by the Fraser MacPherson Big Band. Fraser was an accomplished tenor saxophonist born in St. Boniface, Manitoba, and well known across Canada.

Lastly, let me mention "The Prayer", another song with a double connection to Canada. It was recorded twice by Céline Dion in duet with Andrea Bocelli, first in 1998 for release on Céline's CD "These Are Special Times", and again in 1999 for release on Bocelli's CD. The double connection to Canada results from the song's Canadian co-composer, David Foster, being from Victoria, B.C. The song, particularly as presented by Dion and Bocelli, is one of only a few songs to be sung at weddings and funerals alike.



The comments above, show, perhaps, that almost any piece of music, in addition to its lyrics, has an interesting story just waiting somewhere, to be teased out into the daylight! I hope that you have found my remarks interesting, and that you will enjoy the carillon renditions, knowing a little bit of the "backstory" of some of the tunes.

*Allan Jones*



## Carillon Concert Playlist — HVUC July 1, 2021

O Canada. Music by Calixa Lavallée (1880) (National Anthem after 1980)

God Save The Queen. Music Published in "Thesaurus Musicus" (1744)

Vice-Regal Salute. Music "Thesaurus Musicus" and by Lavallée

O Lord of Life (Commemoration). Music "Vulpius" by Melchoir Vulpius (1600 approx.)

Harmony by Sir Ernest Alexander MacMillan (1930 approx.)

My Canada, By Raymond Gould (1966)

O Siem (Inuit for "Joyful Greeting"). Music and Words by Susan Agulkark, (Nunavut, 1995)

This Is Our World (Excerpt). Music by Paul Chant and Andrew MacBean

Comme Au Premier Jour. Music by André Gagnon (Quebec, 1983)

Hymn To Freedom. Music by Oscar Peterson (1962)

For Beauty Of Prairies. Music "St. Basil" (Willan) by Healey Willan (1927)

O God Of All The Many Lands. Music "Valiant" by Keith Bissel (1969)

CA-NA-DA. Music by Bobby Gimby (1967)

The Maple Leaf Forever. Music by Alexander Muir (1867) (Canadian Anthem until 1980)

I'd Rather Have Jesus. Music by George Beverly Shea (1932)

Ode To Newfoundland. Music by Sir Hubert Parry (1904)

Point Pelee. Music by Howard Cable (1986)

Together We Are Strong. Music by Raymond Gould (1991)

Ô Canada! mon pays, mes amours. By George-Étienne Cartier (1834 – Quebec anthem)

The Flag Of Canada. Music by Doan Graham (1899)

I'm Beginning To See The Light. Music by Duke Ellington (1944) — Sung by Ella Fitzgerald (May 1968)

Cape Breton Lullaby. Music by Kenneth Leslie (Trad. 1880 – 1st published 1964)

The Prayer. Music by David Foster – Recorded by Céline Dion (1998)

Charmaine. Hit Record for Guy Lombardo Band (1927)

Snowbird. Music by Gene MacLellan (1970) – Sung by Anne Murray (1970)

The Hockey Song. By Stompin' Tom Connors (1973)

Go Now In Peace. Music by Don Besig (1985)

O Canada. Lavallée

## Fundraising Corner

**Virtual Auction:** Many thanks to the people who donated, attended or purchased items in our Virtual Auction held May 15.

With the help of the hilarious Orr brothers, Allan and Michael, we had a very entertaining afternoon. In fact, three people threw in extra money with their payments because they enjoyed it so much. Allan and Michael, you have jobs for life... I want to thank Donna McCorquodale for her inspiration and leadership of this venture; also a shout out to Kelly who created all the posters and set up the Zoom. The auction raised \$2,385.50.

**Garden Tour Cancelled:** Our proposed mid-August Garden Tour has suffered the same fate as some of my plants: withered for bad timing and lack of commitment. We will reconsider at our next committee meeting.

**Gift Card program:** The Summer order goes in June 22, and there will not be another order until fall, so get your

## 55+ news

Our new *Summer Program Guide* will be released June 28th with lots of your favourite virtual programs and some new surprises too!

### New Community Pop Ups!



**Above: A practice pop-up! All outdoor pop-up events will follow safety and COVID protocols according to provincial regulations.**

Summer is here and we're ready to get outside! We're excited to begin offering some 55+ activities outside at our summer pop-ups. Each week we'll set up an outdoor

thinking caps on and plan for all your summer purchases. Remember, shopping will be opening up (somewhat) soon. You can order from Fundscrip [here](#).

**Connections Dedications:** Celebrating a special event this summer? Mark the occasion with a dedication in *Connections*? Susanne or Colleen can set it up. \$50 or by donation.

**Shredding Day:** Coming Up October 16th. Tuck away those income tax papers and other material that requires discretion, and bring it to the church to be shredded in October. With identity theft and computer hacking on the increase during the pandemic, keep in mind that you should be shredding anything that has e-mail addresses or other identifying information on it, whether your own info or that of the people with whom you correspond.. My first box is half-full already.

The Fundraising Committee very much appreciates your continued support of our church through these many ventures.

*Joan Belford*

activity in different locations in the community. We'll have outdoor chair yoga, Fitness, arts and crafts, paint, container gardening and more! Make sure to check *KIT*, our eblast and the [hvuc.ca](#) site for pop-up announcements!

### MABELLEarts

We are thrilled that our partnership with MABELLEarts is taking off! We welcomed two guests from MABELLEarts at our recent Daytimers meeting on May 31st. Nicolette Felix, Director of Community Mobilization, and Michael Burtt, Lead Artist with the Listening Room, came to share with us about the work of the Food Market and other exciting projects in the community along Mabelle Ave.

Our monthly donations of care kits have been much appreciated and we have been invited to join in some of their programs for seniors which will be taking place over the summer months called, The View From Here. It's nice to move towards building lasting connections and relationships with people, in addition to providing for basic needs.

We're excited to learn about some of their interesting community programs such as cooking community meals at the outdoor fire pit! Stay tuned for more updates from our new friends!

*Anne Pietropaulo*

## Workshop Series: The Church has left the building...

*The Church Has Left the Building: how will we combine online and in-person church?* That was the catchy title of a three part Webinar presented by the United-in-Learning Division of the United Church of Canada in association with the Toronto United Church Council on May 25, June 1 and June 8.

The webinar series attracted 450 registrants across Canada, from coast to coast to coast. HVUC was well represented by a number of congregants and staff. The webinars were hosted by Rev. Stephen Fetter, a former Associate Minister at HVUC.

At first glance, the webinar seemed challengingly complicated with that large number of participants expressing their frustrations, wins and failures while pivoting to COVID-induced online church. The contrasts between the challenges for small rural churches and larger urban churches were startling and humbling.

A recurring theme during the three-part series was the recognition of “we are tired” and yet, we must now urgently decide and learn how to combine online and in-person church in a post-COVID world. Rather than call this new

entity “hybrid church”, there was considerable support for the more hopeful concept of “integrated church”. Despite the gravity of the challenges facing the church, there was optimism and even good humour: the best being a quip, “God is on the loose”.

Humber Valley United Church was very well represented for the across-Canada audience when Anne Pietropao and Rev. Trevor were featured presenters during the final June 8th webinar. Anne and Trevor outlined some of HVUC’s considerable successes adapting to online church and our plans for learning new ways of doing and being church.

Perhaps because we at HVUC had committed to a new strategic plan for transformational ministry before COVID struck, we, in comparison to many other churches, have had the luxury of thriving during this age of online church. Our challenge is to grasp the opportunities that we now face and be leaders in progressive ministry in a new age.

For more information, click on the link to access the original advertising for [\*The Church Has Left the Building webinar series\*](#). Watch the united-in-learning.com website for a promised summary statement of the webinar series in the near future.

*Ron Crago*

## Big Thanks

On behalf of the congregation, staff and Board of HVUC, I want to thank the Board members whose terms will end on June 30th.

Many thanks to the Directors leaving the Board for all their service over the last many years: Ted Loewen, Andrea Ostvik-Van der Vliet, Joan Belford, and Gary Halpenny. Luckily, Joan has agreed to continue to chair the Fundraising Team, and Ted, Andrea, and Gary will continue to support the ministries or committees they previously chaired. Thank you also to Barbara Clarke who has been the Co-chair of the Congregational and Community Life Ministry with Sylvia Cohen. Barbara will be stepping down from this position and Sylvia will stay on as the Chair, for which we are most grateful.

I want to thank Ron Crago for agreeing to renew his position on the Board for another two-year term as a Member-at-Large. I want to thank Constance Crosby for assuming

the Board responsibility for the Worship and Faith Formation Ministry for the one-year remaining in her term. I also want to thank Charlotte Browning for agreeing to become the new Treasurer of HVUC. *Please see page 23 for a complete list of Church Board and Committee members.*

## Big Welcomes

I want to welcome the following people to the Board with their two-year terms beginning on July 1st:

- David Kitchen (Ministry and Personnel)
- Allan Orr (Stewardship and Finance Ministry)
- Erin Billowits (Member-at-Large)
- Ruth Johnson (Member-at-Large)

Please welcome the new members to the Board and extend your sincerest thanks to those leaving their Board positions.

*Deb Turnbull*

## Prayer for the Students of Kamloops Residential School



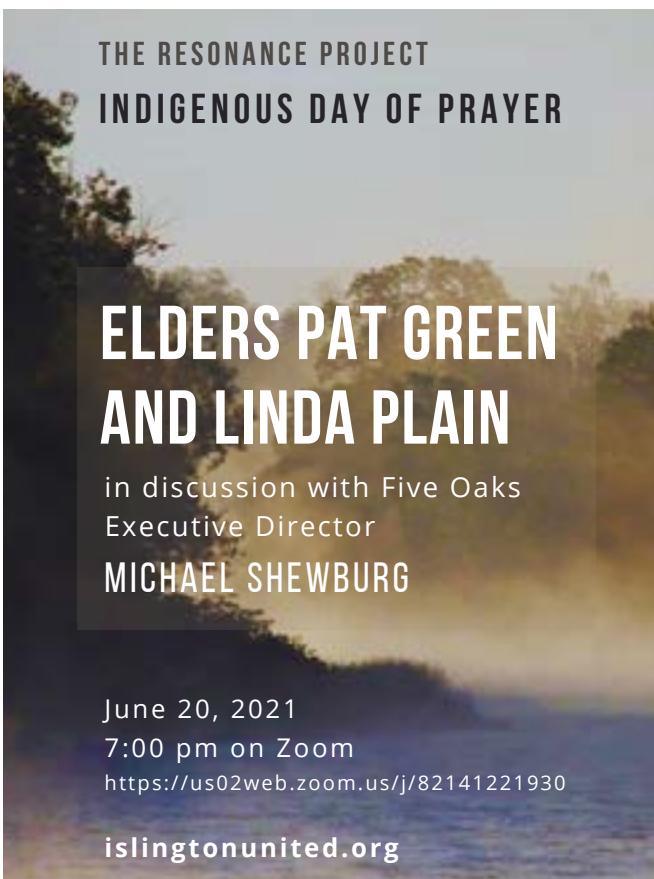
**The Right Reverend Dr. Richard Bott was born in Marathon, ON, on the traditional and unceded territory of the Biigtigong Nishnaabeg, and was ordained in 1994. Rev. Bott has lived his life “as a beloved child of God” within the United Church. He has served communities of faith in Ontario and British Columbia, most recently Pacific Spirit United Church in Vancouver, and is well known for his skills as a leader, writer, and educator, and an active user of social media. Here is his prayer for the students of Kamloops Residential School.**

O God, we are grieving.  
O God, we are shocked.  
O God, we are horrified.  
But, God, if we truly listened, we can't be surprised.  
The Elders and the Communities had already told  
the Truth and Reconciliation Commission,  
told the governments and the world,  
the stories of the children, dead and buried,  
unnoted by the settler systems,  
but never ever forgotten by their siblings, their parents,  
their communities.  
We grieve for the Indigenous children,  
taken from their homes and parents by the government,  
handed over to the responsibility of the Christian church,  
the children who died under its care,  
never to be held by their families,  
never to be returned to their communities—  
not only the 215 children of the Tk'emlups te Secwepemc  
and other Indigenous communities along the west coast  
and interior  
whose bodies have now been found  
on the grounds of the Kamloops Indian Residential School  
grounds,  
but all of those children  
whose bodies have not yet been found

who died in any of Indian Residential Schools.  
We grieve for the survivors of the Indian Residential Schools,  
the children who did come home,  
but were changed by their experience,  
the children who grew up,  
and have the trauma of remembering, again,  
what happened to them.  
Even as we give thanks for their families and communities,  
who hold the stories of the children,  
who have kept searching,  
who keep searching,  
we grieve that that search is even necessary,  
that even one child was taken,  
that even one child died,  
that even one child's death went unnoticed by the system.  
Help us to stop, to sit in silence,  
to remember the names we do not know.  
May their spirits have peace,  
and their bodies be brought home to their lands.  
And God?  
Help us to take this grief,  
this shock,  
this horror,  
and turn it into right action—  
action that works for right relations—  
action that works for healing and justice and hope.  
And, please,  
don't let those of us who are settlers  
and descendants of settlers,  
newcomers to this land,  
let the horror, the shock, and the grief  
just be an outpouring of words,  
or tears,  
or ineffectual hand-wringing.  
Let this be a moment that changes,  
a moment that transforms the brokenness,  
that we might walk in right relations,  
for the good of your children,  
for the good of your world.  
Please, God.  
These things we pray,  
in the name of the one who brought Creation into being,  
in the name of Jesus, our teacher and friend,  
in the name of the Holy Spirit,  
whose wings spread across the sky.  
Amen and amen.

— Moderator Richard Bott,  
The United Church of Canada

## Ten Ways to Help Indigenous Communities



### 1. Donate/Volunteer

- Partial list of [Canadian Charities and Organizations serving Indigenous communities](#).

### 2. Listen to indigenous persons and be educated on their culture and history

*Interviews with residential school survivors:*

- [Project of Heart](#)
- [Legacy of Hope](#)

### 3. Read Indigenous Literature

- Goodreads' list: Best\_Canadian\_Aboriginal\_Literature – (100 books)
- Amazon.ca's Best Sellers in Native Canadian Literature
- Toronto Public Library – search 'Indigenous'

*Individual Book List:*

- *Five Little Indians* – Michelle Good. This book has been awarded the 2020 Governor-General's Literary Award for Fiction.
- *Indian Horse* - Richard Wagamese. A young Ojibwe boy who is taken from his family and forced into a residential school develops a passion and talent for ice hockey.
- *The Round House* - Louise Erdrich. It takes place in the Ojibwe reservation in North Dakota. A young native America man pursues justice for his mother.

- *From the Ashes: My Story of Being Métis, Homeless & Finding My Way* - Jesse Thistle.

#### Books for youth

- *I Am Not a Number* by Jenny Kay Dupuis and Kathy Kacer; Illustrated by Gillian Newland
- *Secret Path* by Gord Downie and Jeff Lemire
- *When I Was Eight* by Christy Jordan-Fenton( Author), Margaret-Olemaun Pokiak-Fenton (Author), Gabrielle Grimard (Illustrator)

### 4. [Attend a Kairos Blanket Exercise](#)

### 5. [United Church of Canada Truth and Reconciliation](#)

We now stand at a crucial time in the life of the church, and the history of Canada, when we can see the journey through. For more than thirty years, the United Church and Indigenous peoples have been on a journey towards mutuality, respect and equity. Towards reconciliation. Towards justice.

### 6. Attend a Pow-wow

Pow wows include traditional costumes, drumming, singing, and a dance competition and there are many held across Canada like the [Six Nations Champion of Champions Pow Wow in Brantford](#), with over 400 participants annually and attended by more than 20,000 people. July 22-24 2022. Sounds like a road trip to Brantford for me!!!

There is also the largest pow-wow in Canada the, Manitoba Ahbee Festival in Winnipeg. Not every pow-wow is open to non-natives, so be sure you are welcome before planning to attend.

### 7. [Watch and Learn from Indigenous TV/Film](#)

- [Indian Horse \(mature content\)](#)
- [Bee Nation](#)

### 8. [Listen to Indigenous Music](#)

### 9. [Blogs](#)

- [Remembering the 215 Children](#)

### 10. [Indigenous History Month 2021](#)

*Barbara Clarke & Joanne Stenerson*  
For more information, please email Barbara  
[bcskc@sympatico.ca](mailto:bcskc@sympatico.ca)



## PASSINGS

It is with sadness the family of Doris June Walker (June 1, 1918 - May 27, 2021) announced her passing just a few days short of her 103rd birthday. Doris was a longtime member of Humber Valley Church, who will be sorely missed. She is shown above playing Christmas Carols on the piano at Chartwell Scarlett Heights Retirement Residence along with members of Unit 7 UCW about a dozen years ago. With Doris are (from left) Joan Belford, Sharon Dowdall, Colleen Isherwood, Gayle Taylor, Jennifer Brown and Sue Hillary.



## ANNIVERSARIES

**Bill & Ina Anthony** (shown at left) celebrated their 50th anniversary on June 4th.

**Trevor and Marisol Brisbin** celebrated their 20th anniversary on June 1.

## BIRTHDAYS

The following Humber Valley members have birthdays in June:

David Dallimore  
Murray Smith  
Deborah Turnbull  
Jim Kozlak  
Peter White  
Steve McCorquodale  
Doreen Huffman  
Wanda Sekunda  
Carol Bruce  
Georgia Laidlaw  
Emily Laidlaw



*Kathy and David Kitchen with their little grandson, Logan Carter Kitchen, who was born on May 27. Son of Robert and Cindy, big brother to Colby.*

## HUMBER VALLEY FOUNDATION

There have often been unfounded rumours among our congregants that there is a link between the establishment of the Humber Valley (HV) Foundation and the payment of reparations by the United Church of Canada with regard to the management of residential schools. As a member of the Foundation when it was formed, I have been asked by Deb Turnbull to correct this rumour.

The HV Foundation was founded for one reason: to generate income which was to be used to assist in our own church's needs as well as other charities the Foundation chose to support. As Foundation Capital would grow, more money would become available for various projects around the church and in the community.

As is the case of the other church Foundations, the purpose was simply to create income which could assist our church needs and the needs we saw in our community. The intent was for the Foundation to be separate and apart, a Fund which we would build to support projects which the Board of the Foundation approved for support. For that reason, it is unaffiliated with the United Church of Canada.

### **The History:**

Two of our former ministers took a special interest in the establishment of a HV Foundation. Rev. Bruce Roberts had witnessed the growth of a sizable Foundation during his ministry at Knox United in Winnipeg and strongly felt that such foundation would also be beneficial to our congregation.

Ian Outerbridge, a memorable and talented lawyer from our congregation, voluntarily built the legal framework and obtained the necessary regulatory approvals from the Province and the CRA to make the HV Foundation an incorporated charity, administered by its own Board of Directors.

Later, Rev. Don Gibson prepared a comparison of Foundations of churches in our area which he presented at an annual meeting and urged us to actively work towards building our Foundation.

The seed money for our church Foundation came from pledges of church leaders present at the first meeting to discuss its formation. These offerings were over and above their regular tithing-style gifts to the church. During the church's "Faithfully Fifty" Campaign there was also an option for givers to contribute money to the Foundation

as well as to the Church in general. Raising money for the Foundation became popular. For example, in 2004 a Portion of our Talent Challenge went to the Foundation.

The Foundation has been supported since its inception by other contributions too, such as In Memoriam donations, bequests, donations to mark special life events such as birthdays, retirements and anniversaries. Many of these donations have come from friends and relatives outside our immediate church family. At one time beautiful cards designed by the Communications Committee were distributed to funeral homes in the area should folks desire to designate the HV Foundation as a beneficiary of tributes to a loved one.

Our Foundation is strictly administered by its own Board and its objectives are clearly stated. It has a mandate to invest in a balanced portfolio of high-quality companies and fixed income securities. The portfolio has a long-term time horizon and requires annual disbursements in accordance with CRA Charitable Foundation rules. For information, the Chair of the Foundation presents the portfolio results and projects supported in a separate report provided at HVUC's Annual General Meeting each year.

### **Special Projects Supported:**

The Foundation was created to grow and eventually, with wise stewardship, be there for whatever special projects the Foundation Board agreed were important to support. During the years since its inception, the Foundation has supported such projects as the elevator, the protective windows and repair of windows, the sound system, computer upgrades for the office, help with flood damage, the repaved parking lot, and many other projects.

*Cathy Wilkes*

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## Saint Judy Movie has a Powerful Message

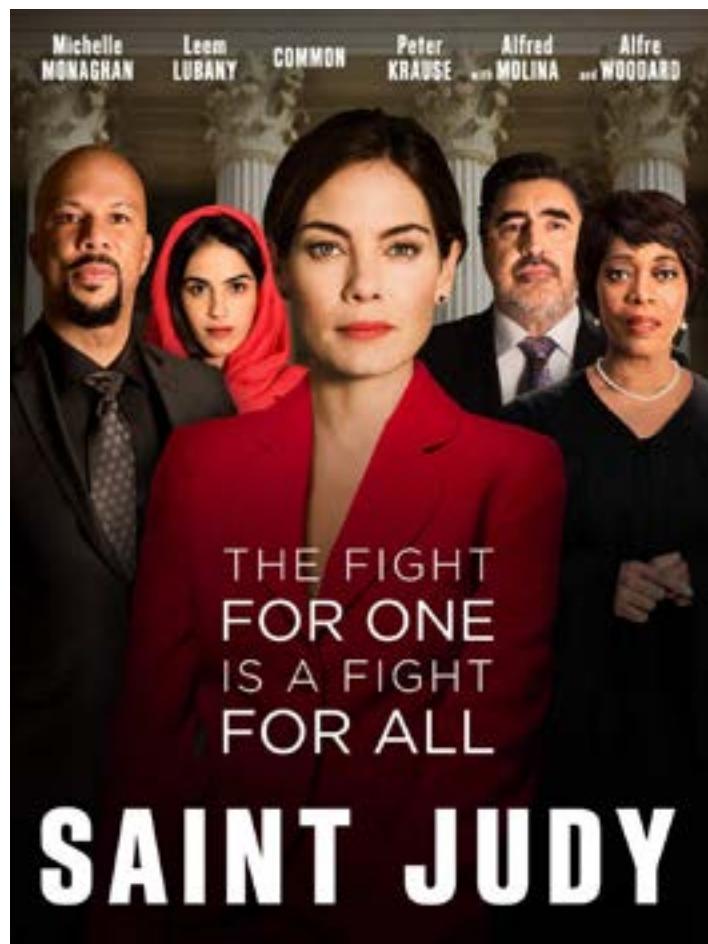
As most of you will know by now, our new minister and his wife, Trevor and Marisol Brisbin, have been dabbling in making movies in Hollywood. If you can, watch *Saint Judy*, a film they co-produced in 2018. Knowing Trevor as we do now, we would expect anything he creates to have a pretty powerful message. This movie does not disappoint.

*Saint Judy* is about a real American woman who, as an immigration lawyer, selflessly strives to assist her clients in securing asylum in the United States. This movie sets the lead actress, Michelle Monaghan, against the desert backdrop of a country whose core values have crumbled under the pressure of bigotry, materialism and expediency. This woman, a real woman, never fails to do her best for her clients and refuses to accept any less from others. Judy Wood stands out as remarkably unusual as a saint would have done against the classism and corruption of the Middle Ages.

This modern day saint leads a legal battle that finally changed the law in America for women seeking asylum from abuse and discrimination abroad.

Previously, women were not recognized as a protected class. This movie pivots on Judy fighting the case for a young teacher from Afghanistan, who tried to operate a school for girls under the Taliban regime. Being deported from the U.S., where she had escaped, she most certainly would have been killed upon being returned to her homeland — even by her own brothers. Saint Judy convinces the appellate court to reverse the decision for deportation and sets in motion a change in American law that to this day saves countless female lives.

As one jaded character states in this movie, “ ‘Truth, Justice, and the American Way — we don’t often find them



in the same place at the same time.” *Saint Judy* strives to prove that such cynicism is not acceptable. You may have never heard of Judy Wood. I hadn’t. But we all should have. Hers is a story that needed to be told - an encouraging message that we need to hear. Thank you, Trevor and Marisol, for helping to make that happen.

*Donna McCorquodale*

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As of July 1, 2021

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Chair, Ministry & Personnel  
Chair, Worship & Faith Formation  
Chair, Congregational & Community Life  
Representative, Stewardship & Finance  
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Member-at-Large  
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Member-at-Large  
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Allan Orr  
Ron Crago  
Mary Moffat-Johansson  
Ruth Johnson  
Erin Billowits  
Rev. Dr. Trevor Brisbin  
Rev. Mark Aitchison

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(Chairs and Co-chairs)

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Faith Formation – Adults  
Faith Formation – Children and Youth  
Faith Formation – Young Adults

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Allan Orr

David Kitchen

**Stewardship and Finance Ministry**

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Property  
Liaises with Trustees  
Liaises with HVUC Foundation  
Liaises with Board

**Ministry and Personnel**



**Star of Bethlehem flower found on church lawn.** — Sally Jo Martin



**Zoran Mrkovic with HVUC's new eco-friendly, battery-operated, rechargeable lawnmower from an anonymous donor.** — Deb Turnbull



**Trilliums on the road to the Kitchens' cottage.** — Kathy Kitchen

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Susanne Hynes and Colleen Isherwood  
Published by Humber Valley United Church



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Faith Formation - Youth and Young Families Coordinator: Licia Meldrum  
Seniors' Program Coordinator: Anne Pietropaoalo  
Finance Officer: Anita Wakeman  
Property Manager: Zoran Mrkovic  
Sexton: Dragan Mrkovic  
AV Director: George Turnbull  
Room Bookings: Janet McColeman