

THIS WEEK WE PRAY:

>for our members and friends with special needs: Joan, John, Devon, Hollice, Marlene, Joyce, Audrey, Susan, Bernice, Maria, Miles, Tom, Marian, Anne, Leanne, Hans, Isabelle, Ingrid, Al, Melinda, John, Dan, Brian, Paul, Glenn, Jim, Nya, Lynnette, Cathy, Brock, Katana and Kolby;

>for those who have no one to pray for them.

THIS WEEK AT ZION:

Mon. April 8

2:00 PM Prayer Shawl in Parlour

6:00 PM Pathfinders in Fellowship Hall

6:30 PM Youth Symphony in Parlour &
Shuffleboard Room

Tues. April 9

7:00 AM Rotary in Fellowship Hall

9:30 AM Chair Yoga in Fellowship Hall

2:00 PM Worship at Greenwood

6:30 PM Sparks in Fellowship Hall

6:30 PM Rotary Meeting in Boardroom

Wed. April 10

9:00 AM Quilters in Parlour

1:00 PM Avon Menn. Prayer Group in their office

2:00 PM Worship at McCarthy

4:30-7:30 PM Playmakers in Shuffleboard Room

5:00 PM Bethel Community Meal in Fellowship
Hall

7:00 PM Future Directions in Parlour

Thurs. April 11

12:00 NOON Bible Study in Parlour

2:30 PM Worship at Hillside

4:15 PM Confirmation

7:00 Choir Practice in Fellowship Hall

Sun. April 14

“Easter 3”

10:00 AM Worship

10:00 AM Sunday School

4:00-9:30 PM Éric in Sanctuary

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY, APRIL 14TH AS WE WORSHIP

Greeters: Darrell & Judy Renecker

Reader: Murray Scholl

Usher Captain: Darrell Renecker

Counting Captain: Carmen Beck

Altar: Sister Jean Widmeyer

House of Blessing: Irvin Riehl



*"Peace
be with you.
As the
Father
has sent me,
so I send you."*

John 20:21, NRSV

April 7, 2024

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

Stratford, Ontario

Church Office: 519-271-8527

email: zionlc@golden.net

Cell: 519-274-1300

website: www.zionstratford.com

People of Zion

Rev. Jeffrey Laustsen

Sister Jean Widmeyer

Paul Shilton

Laura Burton

Éric Charbonneau

Ministers

Pastor

Visitation Minister

Minister of Music

Organist

Pianist

Easter 2

April 7, 2024

GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome, Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

Page 116

Hymn 391: “This Joyful Eastertide”

Greeting

Prayer of the Day:

Almighty God, with joy we celebrate the day of our Lord’s resurrection. By the grace of Christ among us, enable us to show the power of the resurrection in all that we say and do, through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WORD

First Reading: Acts 4:32-35

Psalm: 133

Second Reading: 1 John 1:1 - 2:2

Alleluia Verse

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Gospel: John 20:19-31

Children’s Message

Sermon: <https://www.youtube.com/live/a6AI8-gbKwk>

Hymn 785: “When Peace, Like a River”

Nicene Creed

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Prayers of Intercession

Choir Anthem: “For Where Love Is, There is God”

Douglas E. Wagner

MEAL

Offering Hymn 182: “Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful”

Offertory Prayer	Page 129
The Great Thanksgiving	Page 129
Communion Prayer	Page 133
The Lord’s Prayer	Page 134
Distribution of Holy Communion	
Distribution Hymns: 462, 362	

Post-Communion Blessing	
Post-Communion Prayer	Page 136

SENDING

Blessing	Page 136
Hymn 366: “The Strife is O’er, the Battle Done”	
Dismissal	Page 137
Postlude	

Zion Lutheran Church welcomes our **visitors and guests**. We are pleased that you have come to join us in the worship of our God of grace and love. May you be strengthened and uplifted in our time together. *Please sign our guest register and make yourself known to Pastor Jeff.* We hope that you will plan to be with us, again, at your earliest opportunity.

All people of faith and those who seek faith are welcome to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion. This morning, we will be distributing the Lord’s Supper in a continuous fashion. Trays holding individual cups of wine are on stands at either side of Pastor Jeff for those wishing to receive wine. **We are making available a small number of individual glasses filled with non-alcoholic white wine. These are for those not wishing to partake in the red wine containing alcohol.** The ushers will invite the congregation to come forward down the center aisle.

Please note that masks are now “optional or personal preference”. Disposable masks remain at all entrances for those wishing to continue to wear one.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME: We are pleased this morning to have *Kelly Walker* with us to share his musical talents. Thank you Kelly for joining us.

SUNDAY SCHOOL: A reminder that Sunday School will end at 11:15 A.M. We ask that parents/guardians wait until that time before coming for your children.

A reminder to all that we are a **nut-free** Sunday School. We have a student in our Sunday School who is allergic to nuts.

The butterflies for the Easter banner are brought to you by Sunday School artists: Nicole Anderson, Abby Boerson, Hayden & Henrik Cade, Carl, Faye, Gloria & Louise Daly, Lydia Schade and James & Nico Selby.

The children will be singing in church on Sunday, April 14th during the 10:00 A.M. worship. Could the parents please have the children in the chapel by 9:45 A.M. so Susan and Paul can rehearse with them.

LAST SUNDAY TO GIVE TO THE SPECIAL EASTER OFFERING:

The “Special Easter Offering” this year will be divided equally between Canadian Lutheran World Relief and our Current Fund. Today is the final Sunday to give your Easter offering. Thank you for your support!

STRATFORD CONNECTION CENTRE: The Women of Faith would like to “thank you” for your support to the Stratford Connection Centre.

The current needs for the coming weeks are:

- Spring coats
- Underwear (men and women’s size medium)
- Hygiene products (deodorant, shampoo, body wash, toothpaste and brush)
- Single serve snacks (granola bars, apple sauce, bear claws, cheese and crackers)
- Bottled water
- Food Basics gift cards

Collection bins are conveniently placed at the back of the church and also near the office. Items are picked up and delivered weekly.



QUILTS FOR SALE: Our talented quilting ladies still have some beautiful quilts for sale. They are now on display in the Parlour with the sizes and costs on each quilt. Just a reminder that Mother's Day is May 12th and will be here before we know it. To receive one of these handmade quilts would thrill any Mother (hint, hint)! Or perhaps you would like to treat yourself and purchase one as a lovely accent to a couch or chair in your own home. If you would like more information or to purchase one of these beautiful quilts, please see Irene Ehgoetz or give her a call at 519-271-8878.

STRATFORD HOUSE OF BLESSING: We have received a bulletin insert (which is included with today's bulletin) for the House of Blessing's "*Spring Food Drive*" which lists the most-needed items. To help them with their significant increase in the number of people using their services, as you are able, if you could bring **something from their list** and place it in the basket at the entrance of the church. Thank you for sharing your blessings with those in need.

BETHEL COMMUNITY MEAL: The next Community Meal hosted by Bethel Church here at Zion in the Fellowship Hall will take place on **Wednesday, April 10th at 5:00 P.M.**

All are welcome!

Bethel has asked me to pass along to you that if anyone is interested in volunteering at their Community Meals, they would be pleased to have you join them!

STRATFORD BLOOD DONATION EVENT: The following Blood Donor Clinics are scheduled for the month of April:

Saturday, April 13 10 A.M. to 2 P.M.

Stratford Christian School, 190 Queensland Road

****NEW LOCATION FOR APRIL 13TH ONLY****

Tuesday, April 16 1 P.M. to 8 P.M.

Stratford Rotary Complex, 353 McCarthy Road

Appointments are required. Book now by calling 1-888-236-6283 or online at www.blood.ca/GiveBlood App.

2024 YOUTH UNLIMITED YFC STRATFORD ANNUAL MINISTRY CELEBRATION BANQUET is taking place on **Saturday, April 13th at the Stratford Country Club.** Doors open at 5:30 P.M. Dinner and program starts at 6:00 P.M. For tickets and more info: 519-272-1614 or info@yfcstratford.com or yfcstratford.com

STRATFORD & DISTRICT RIGHT TO LIFE Annual Dinner & AGM

is taking place on **Saturday, April 13th, 2024.**

Location: Christian Reform Church, 190 Athlone Cres., Stratford

Social: 5:30 P.M. Adults: \$30.00

Dinner: 6:30 P.M. Students: \$20.00

For tickets contact: Virginia Miller 519-393-8400 or Mary Kay Lobsinger 519-273-5356 or Glenn Kahle 519-616-3536.

SHELTERLINK YOUTH SERVICES: Enclosed with today's bulletin is an information brochure from Shelterlink Youth Services. Please take a few minutes to look it over to have a better understanding of the work this important organization does in our community.

TRI-COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS – HURON/OXFORD/PERTH:

Presents “Pollinator Gardens 101” on

Saturday, April 13th, 1-4 P.M. at the MacKay Seniors Centre, Goderich

Saturday, May 4th, 9 A.M. – 12 P.M., Avondale United Church, Stratford

Saturday, May 11th, 9 A.M. - 12 P.M., Innerkip Lions Centre, Innerkip

Design, choose native plants and create a successful pollinator garden.

Tickets are \$15.00 and can be purchased online at Eventbrite:

tricity.eventbrite.com.

SPACE IS LIMITED SO PLEASE REGISTER EARLY !

GOD IN THE FOG: Join the Nith Valley Ministry Area for conversation regarding the **Election Process of the Synodical Bishop** and what that means for congregations and the Wider Synod:

April 20, 2024

9:30 A.M. Coffee

10:00 A.M. – Noon Conversation

Zion Lutheran Church, Stratford

We will explore the Electoral Process and provide information about the folks who have been nominated for positions of leadership.

ONTARIO WELSH FESTIVAL, STRATFORD APRIL 19-21, 2024:

Gala Concert with Voices of Wales One Night Only!

Saturday, April 20, 2024 @ 8:00 P.M.

Avondale United Church, 194 Avondale Ave., Stratford

Tickets \$40 cash at door; Advance tickets \$35 at <https://voicesofwales2024.eventbrite.ca/>

Gymanfa Ganu (Hymn Singing) Session
Sunday, April 21, 2024; 1:30 P.M. to 3:30 P.M.
Avondale United Church

No ticket required * Free will offering * Doors open at 1:00 P.M.

Festival information is available at www.ontariowelshfestival.ca

LOCAL VOCALS: An evening of fun music, familiar faces, and witty repartee with Wilmot's *a cappella* chorus. Featuring songs like:

Blackbird*For the Longest Time*Happy*Hallelujah*Angel
Eyes*Somewhere Over the Rainbow*Pachelbel's Canon*Sound of
Silence*Seasons of Love*and more!

Friday, April 26th @ 7:00 P.M.
Trinity Lutheran Church
23 Church Street, New Hamburg 519-662-1810

General Admission \$20 * Students \$10 * Children \$5
Includes refreshments at intermission

Tickets available at the door or by calling or emailing Trinity's church office

Ticket sales in support of Trinity's Major Capital Expenditures Campaign

CUPPA CANDLES: **ROTARY HOSPICE** has a volunteer that makes lightly scented candles out of tea cups and saucers. They are looking for donations of tea cups and saucers to use in the making of these candles. If you are house cleaning, downsizing or cleaning out your china cabinet and have some that you can donate they would be greatly appreciated. For drop offs: Rotary Hospice is staffed 24/7 so teacups and saucers can be dropped off anytime. Their address is 80 Greenwood Drive. They are located behind Greenwood Court (you have to pull in their driveway at 90 Greenwood and follow it all the way around back to find them). Ring the intercom at the front door and leave the teacups and saucers with reception.

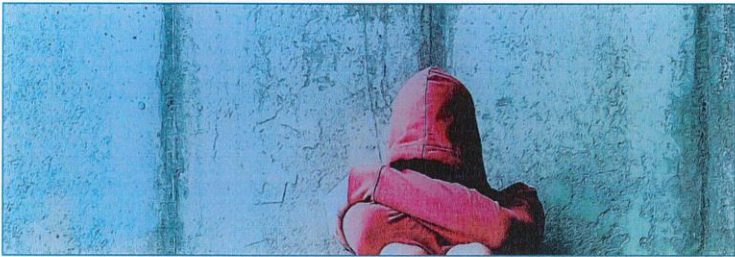
The **CUPPA CANDLES** are for sale at reception but they are also incorporated into their "*Care Bundles*". A "*Care Bundle*" is given to family after their loved one has died, as they are leaving the hospice. The bundle also includes information from their social workers on grief and bereavement and resources to support this next step of their journey.

Rotary Hospice is very grateful for any donations you may be able to offer.



Shelterlink

YOUTH SERVICES



Supporting Perth County youth aged 16-24 experiencing homelessness, or at risk of homelessness.

SHELTER

- 24/7 support for youth experiencing homelessness.
- 15 short-term emergency shelter beds.
- Basic needs (meals, clothing, personal care items, showers, laundry facilities, respite from the elements).

OUTREACH

- Support for youth in community at risk of homelessness.
- Prevention and diversion services.
- Family mediation and reunification.

130 Youngs Street – 3rd Floor
Stratford, ON N5A 1J7
519.272.2294
www.shelterlink.org



STRATFORD

House of Blessing
FOOD BANK

Spring
FOOD DRIVE



MISSED US?

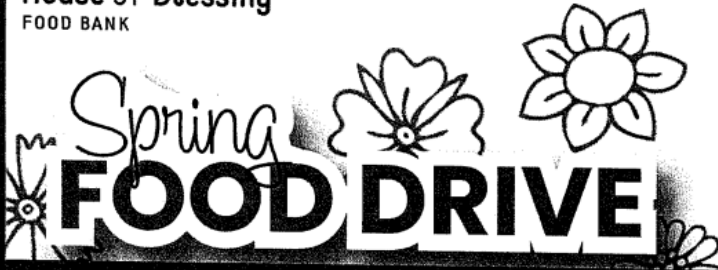
Drop donations off year-round:
423 Erie Street
Monday - Friday
8:30AM - 12:15PM
12:45PM - 4:30PM

**Learn more about
our food bank!**



STRATFORD

House of Blessing
FOOD BANK



MOST NEEDED ITEMS:

- Assorted Crackers
- Cereal
- Canned Meat
- Canned Vegetables
- Boxed Mac & Cheese
- Pasta
- Pasta Sauce



**Thank you for
your support!**