



May 17, 2026

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

Stéphane Potvin

Laura Burton

Éric Charbonneau

Ministers

Pastor

Visitation Minister

Minister of Music

Organist

Pianist

Seventh Sunday of Easter

May 17, 2026

GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome, Announcements

Confessions and Forgiveness

Page 116

Hymn 656: “Blest Be the Tie That Binds”

Greeting

Prayer of the Day:

O God of glory, your Son Jesus Christ suffered for us and ascended to your right hand. Unite us with Christ and each other in suffering and in joy, that all the world may be drawn into your bountiful presence, 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 1:6-14

Psalm: 68:1-10, 32-35

Second Reading: 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11

Celtic Alleluia



Gospel: John 17:1-11

Sermon: <https://www.youtube.com/live/AbI1lvKYnw?si=iw9YKiFRODx7ewHu>

Hymn 574: “Here I Am, Lord”

Nicene Creed

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Prayers of Intercession
Sharing the Peace

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MEAL

Offering Hymn 182: “Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful”

Offering Prayer

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The Great Thanksgiving

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Communion Prayer

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The Lord’s Prayer

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Distribution of Holy Communion

Distribution Hymns: 494, 533

SENDING

Post-Communion Blessing

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Post-Communion Prayer

Blessing

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Hymn 576: “We All Are One in Mission”

Dismissal

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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.



THIS WEEK WE PRAY:

>for our members and friends with special needs: Liz, Gertha, Peter, Marilyn, Isabelle, David, Carol, Bev, Jim, Wayne, Matthew, Marjorie, Bill, Marie, Jamie, Marleen, Nancy, Gwen, Jim, Jack, Diane, Gloria, Kathleen, Tony, Paul, Wendy, Devon, Hollice, Maria, Tom, Marian, Leanne, Al, Brian, Paul, Nya, and Cathy;

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

THIS WEEK AT ZION:

Mon. May 18

OFFICE CLOSED FOR VICTORIA DAY

4:30-9:00 PM Éric in Sanctuary

Tues. May 19

9:30 AM Chair Yoga in Fellowship Hall

7:00 PM Finance Meeting in Parlour

Wed. May 20

9:00 AM Quilters in Parlour

5:30-8:00 PM Thorne Property in Fellowship Hall

7:00 PM Congregational Council Meeting in Parlour

Thurs. May 21

12 Noon Bible Study in Parlour

2:15 PM Knollcrest Worship

4:30 PM Confirmation in Parlour

Friday, May 22

WOF making sandwiches in Kitchen

Sun. May 24

*** PENTECOST ***

CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

10:00 AM Worship

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY, MAY 24TH AS WE WORSHIP

Greeters: Ellen Wolfe/Carmen Beck

Usher Captain: Jerry Terhaerd

Altar: Shirley Whittaker

Reader: Glenn Rittinger

Counting Captain: Isaac Whittaker

House of Blessing: Janet & Gerry Ahrens



ANNOUNCEMENTS

**** SUNDAY SCHOOL IS ON A BREAK NOW UNTIL SEPTEMBER 13TH ****

SUNDAY SCHOOL REGISTRATION FOR SEPTEMBER 2026

Parents/Grandparents: Have you registered your child(ren) or Grandchild(ren) for Sunday School? Registering them is not a commitment for them having to be here every Sunday. Registering them helps us arrange our classes and arrange for the number of teachers we need.

Children/grandchildren eligible for Sunday School include any child turning four (4) years of age in 2026 right through to children in Grade 6.

If a child(ren) has left the Sunday School program for any reason and would like to return, they are more than welcome!

It is quite easy to register them. All we require is the child(ren)'s name(s) and current grade(s) as of September 2026. You may email the information to zionluth.sscord@outlook.com.

All children/grandchildren of members need to be registered to attend Sunday School. Any visiting families with children four (4) years of age in 2026 are welcome without registering.



70th Wedding Anniversary

OPEN HOUSE: *WALTER & GISELA MUELLER WILL BE MARRIED "70 YEARS" ON MAY 19TH.*

You are invited to help celebrate. There will be an Open House on: Saturday May 23rd from 2:00 – 4:00 PM in the Griffith Auditorium at Spruce Lodge, 643 West Gore Street, Stratford. God has blessed them with much love, health and many wonderful memories over the years. Come share some of your memories as your gift to them.

JOY ON THE JOURNEY hosted by Elgin Keen-Agers

Wednesday, May 27, 2026

11:00 AM

Catered Lunch - \$21 / Person

Elgin Missionary Church Fellowship Hall

Special Guests: Bill & Mary Lemmon

Call Elgin Missionary Church to Register by MAY 20TH 519-271-5407

COMPOSERS IN CONCERT – MMMM 2026: Composers Michael R. Dobinson, Doug Peterman and Marco Burak together with their guests, Emily MacSween and Susan Laustsen, invite you to their concert on **Saturday, May 30th, 2026 at 4:00 PM** in the Sanctuary here at Zion Lutheran Church, 202 Erie Street, Stratford. Admission is by donation!

For more information visit facebook.com/mmmmconcerts.

CELEBRATE ELGIN *then & now*: You are invited to a Worship Service followed by a Reception at Elgin Missionary Church, 4192 Perth Line 36, Stratford on **Sunday, May 31, 2026 at 2:30 PM.**

Please RSVP for the reception by May 22nd to: admin@elginmc.ca or call 519-271-5407.

If you have photos or memories to submit for the slideshow, please email them to admin@elgin.mc.ca by May 20th.

JAZZ VESPER

Sunday, June 7th, 2026 at 4 pm

**Holy Trinity Anglican Church
41 Mornington Street, Stratford**

Featuring:

TIM ELLIOTT & OUR LITTLE BAND

**All welcome
To this informal
Evening Worship Service
(Free Will Offering)**

12TH ANNUAL HIKE FOR HOSPICE: There's something special about coming together for this day, walking in memory, in honour, and in support of compassionate hospice care in our community. Whether you join on Hike Day or make it your own and Hike on Your Site, every step counts.

Whether you hike in honour of a loved one, in gratitude for the care you or someone close to you received, or simply to give back, **every step helps** ensure that individuals and families have access to comfort, dignity and support when it matters most.

Gather your friends, family, colleagues, or group members and be part of something meaningful on **June 14th.**

BETHEL KIDS 2026 SUMMER CAMPS

July 6th-10th
July 13th – 17th
July 27th – 31st
August 10th – 14th

- Ocean Explorers Camp
- Around the World Camp
- Colour Wars Camp
- Camp Carnival

\$200 per week
\$175 per additional child registered

Register at mybethel.ca

L'ARCHE STRATFORD'S 6TH ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT & AFTER PARTY:

Registration is open for the 6th Annual Golf Tournament & After Party at the Stratford Municipal Golf Course on **Thursday, August 13th**

Lunch is served at 12:00 P.M.

Shotgun starts at 1:00 P.M.

with the After Party happening at 4:00 P.M.

Contact Wendy admin@larchestratford.ca for more information

CREATION CARE QUEST VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL:

Trinity Luthern Church, New Hamburg

August 17 – 21 Full Day! 9 am-4 pm

Ages 5 – 11 as of December 31, 2026

Outdoor activities * crafts * science * music * and more!

**Register online at telc.ca
(Registration closes June 30th)**

Financial assistance available.

Please contact Pastor Tanya Varner (varner@telc.ca) prior to registration.

STRATFORD CONNECTION CENTRE: Below is an updated “Needs List”:

- Single serve snacks
- Basic socks
- Laundry soap/pods
- Coffee & sugar (always)
- Bus tickets
- Toothpaste, toothbrushes
- Razors

Donations are accepted Monday-Friday between 12-4:30 pm.

Please contact them if an alternative drop off time is necessary at 519-271-6819 ext 405 or by email connectioncentre@cmhahuronperth.com.

The sandwich makers for the Connection Centre would greatly appreciate donations of food gift cards from Walmart, Food Basics or Costco. Any support you are able to provide is most welcome. Thank You!

Thank you for continuing to support the Connection Centre so they can support our vulnerable neighbours! ❤️



We have received a “most-needed items list” from the House of Blessing. To help them with their significant increase in the number of people using their services, as you are able, if you could bring **hot and cold cereal or Side dishes (KD, Sidekicks, Hamburger Helper, stuffing, instant potatoes, etc.)** and place them in the basket at the entrance of the church. Thank you for sharing your blessings with those in need.



CONCERT SUNDAY, MAY 31ST HERE AT ZION

**MIKE & SUE WEBER
& FRIENDS**
Perform Classic Country Music



SUNDAY MAY 31ST
(2:00 – 4:30 pm)

AT ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

202 Erie Street, Stratford

A FUND RAISER FOR ONGOING MAINTENANCE FEES OF CHAIR LIFTS

Tickets: \$35.00

CALL: 519-271-8527

Refreshments Available

**OUR FUND
RAISER
CONCERT IS
APPROACHING
FAST! DON'T
MISS OUT! GET
YOUR TICKETS
NOW!**

**CALL THE
CHURCH
OFFICE AT 519-
271-8527
WEEKDAY
MORNINGS
FROM 8:00 A.M.
TO 1:00 P.M.**

O R

**PURCHASE ON
SUNDAY
MORNINGS AT
THE BACK OF
THE
SANCTUARY
BEFORE OR
AFTER
WORSHIP.**

**YOUR TICKET
IS WAITING
FOR YOU!**

**NEED A
BIRTHDAY**

GIFT OR PERHAPS A TREAT FOR A FRIEND? BUY A TICKET!

**COME OUT AND SUPPORT THIS WORTHWHILE CAUSE AND HEAR SOME GREAT
CLASSIC COUNTRY MUSIC!**

PLEASE SPREAD THE WORD! THANK YOU!