

The Messenger

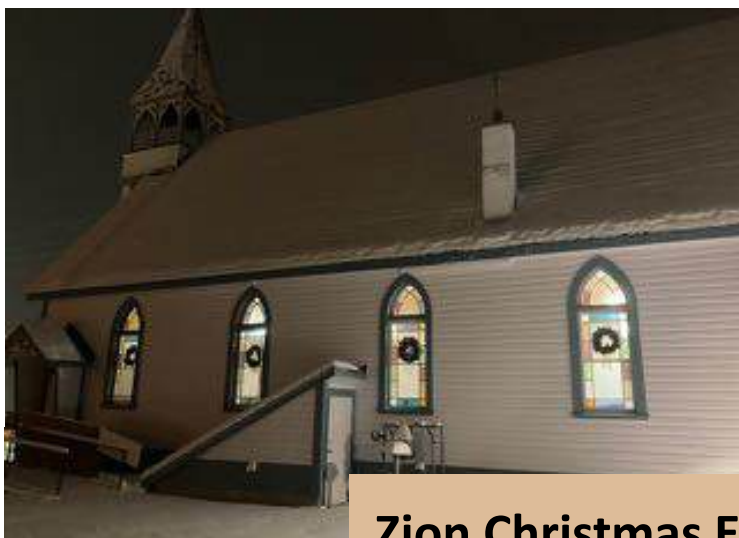
December 29, 2021

Zion United Church

Sunday worship — 9:30 am

St Andrews United Church

Sunday worship — 11:00 am



If you have announcements to be included here please email them to: ckooyman@shaw.ca

It would be helpful if announcements for The Messenger are sent to the above address before Wednesday.

Next Messenger will be
January 5, 2022

Zion Christmas Eve 2021

Light streamed from the church windows on Christmas Eve as if to welcome worshippers. But as I looked at the outline of the building amid the reality of Christmas 2021 it brought to mind a modification of a familiar childhood verse:
“Here’s the church
And here’s the steeple
Open the doors
We’re missing the people.”

Because sadly, in order not to risk the further spread of Covid, the Christmas Eve Service and also regular church on December 26 and January 2 had been canceled.

There was no congregation gathered inside to celebrate the Joy of Christmas. We would just ring the bell and then return to our individual celebrations.

But the light shining through the windows still provided a glorious warmth and sang out “Joy to the World, the Lord is Come!”

And as the bell rang out it proclaimed to the community, “Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere. Go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.”

At home I listened to the beautiful harmony of the O’Brien family singing their Christmas Eve Gift of Music “Infant Holy, Infant Lowly” online. To find it copy and paste the link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b92Wendxf8>

Merry Christmas Season & Happy New Year to all. Stay safe, and hope that we will be able to worship in person again soon.

Leona

Pulpit supply



**Jan-Feb
2022**

This is a wishful list as already Jan 2 is cancelled and maybe more of January

Jan 2 - Lindsay Lundquist

Jan 9 - Heather Burton

Jan 16 - Lorraine Powell

Jan 23 - Heather Burton

Jan 30 - Heather Burton

Feb 6 - TBA

Feb 13 - Lindsay Lundquist

Feb 20 - Heather Burton

Feb 27 - TBA

Louise

Times of the services will change

When we started being a charge with two preaching points, the idea of changing back and forth was discussed, but covid changed that when we went online. The subject came up again in the fall and a decision was made.

In January, 2022 the times of the services will change -

Zion, Armstrong will worship at 9:30 a.m.

and

St. Andrew's will worship at 11:00 a.m.

This will be for a 4 month trial and be reviewed before the time is up.

This will start on January 2. So, make note of this and be at your church at the correct time!

Louise

In case you missed it, on Wednesday Dec. 22 the following message was sent out by Zion Council and Worship Committee:

In light of recent Public Health Orders and advice from the United Church Pacific Mountain Region we are canceling the Zion Christmas Eve Service, and also regular Zion services on December 26 and January 2. This will be reviewed the first week of January.

Although canceling Christmas services was a difficult and disappointing decision, the Pacific Mountain Region suggested we think of it as "giving the gift of life" by ensuring that our places of worship are not a source of virus transmission.

Best wishes for a blessed and safe Christmas.

Rod Gilmer Louise Burton Leona Harrison Penny Kirk
Representing Zion Council and Worship Committee

The Good Food Box program is growing in subscribers but not in helpers! In December 94 boxes were filled. Miranda and Aubrey picked up about 1700 pounds of produce in Vernon.

Wayne



The Good Food Box ...

is looking for extra volunteers to help sort produce - one morning a month for about 1 1/2 to 2 hours on the morning of the third Thursday of the month.

This happens in the basement of the church hall with a friendly bunch of people. We currently have a dedicated group but if one goes on vacation or has an appointment and has to miss a day, we are a bit short of hands.

Louise



Advent 2021



Bell ringer on
Dec 26, 2021

Leona Harrison



Photo by Louise

Photo's by Wilma



Photo by Penny

Advent IV
December 19, 2021

A drawing of the Virgin Mary holding the infant Jesus. Mary is wearing a blue robe and a blue headscarf. Jesus is wearing a white robe and a yellow halo.

Our Thanks to:

Today's Worship Leader:	Rev. Heather Burton
Music Ministry:	Leona Harrison, Penny Kirk & Louise Burton
Advent Candle Lighter(s):	Wilma Koersen & Gerry deBoer
Scripture Reader:	Eleanor Kiefer
Greeter (s):	Rod Gilmer
Coffee Server (s):	Hoa Huynh