

The Messenger

June 19, 2024

Worship times

From now until the end of JUNE the worship times will be:

St. Andrew's, Enderby. 9:30 a.m.

Zion, Armstrong 11:00 a.m.

The first Sunday of each month will continue to be a joint service with alternating hosts.

Do remember that ALL services in July are at St. Andrew's at 10:00 am, and ALL services in August are at Zion at 10:00 am.

Zion United Church
Sunday worship — 11:00 am

St Andrews United Church
Sunday worship — 9:30am

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
June 26, 2024

Men's Breakfast

The last Men's Breakfast of the season is June 21, coffee at 8 and breakfast at 8:30 am.

The group is taking a break during July and August. Men, please join us.

Wayne

Golf Tournament is a Huge Success!!!

It was a beautiful day on Saturday at the Salmon Arm Golf course filled with lots of laughter, fun, sun, prizes and great food. We had a record turnout of golfers and funds raised. We are still waiting for the invoices from the golf course so we don't have a total yet, but it is BIG!

THANK YOU to all of the golfers and to all those who supported them with generous pledges.

And another great moment, Hati learns to drive a golf cart!





So wonderful to have Roger and Alison York here from Winnipeg. They used to live in Armstrong and be a big part of the Zion choir. Plus, we had a quartet that sang together. Cheers to good friends and warm memories. ☺ Not blood relatives, but family nonetheless.



Penny

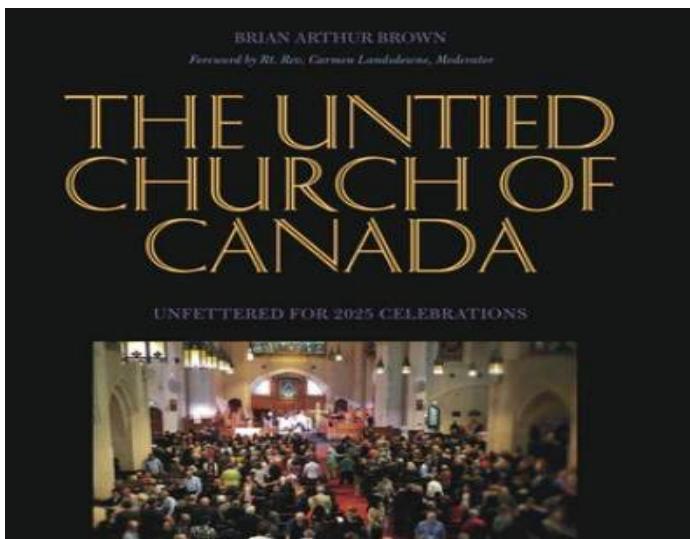
St. Andrew's United Church, Enderby

It is with saddened hearts that after nine months of discussions and serious consideration of all workable options, the Church Council brought forth a recommendation to the congregation on Sunday, June 9th that the Church will close effective December 31st 2024. A question, answer and discussion period followed the announcement with guidance from our Pacific Mountain Region representative.

The Church has been struggling for a number of years both financially and physically (human resources) to keep it operating but this can longer continue.

After the service on June 23rd a motion will be put forth and discussed prior to a closed ballot vote by the Church membership on the recommendation by the Church Council.

Ken Earl



Celebrating 100 years!

On June 10th the United Church of Canada begins its 100th anniversary year. A commemorative book "The Untied Church of Canada" containing written and pictorial accounts of past and present as well as hopes for the future is being published by Wood Lake Books. And yes, it is "Untied"! – unfettered for 2025 celebrations and for the future!

The books are being offered at a group rate as part of the 100th anniversary celebration. The rate for 10 - 24 copies is \$14.95 each, and for more than 25 copies is \$9.95 net

of tax and shipping. If you would like to order a copy contact Lorraine Powell or Leona Harrison before June 23.

Just a quick note. St. Andrew's United Church was completed in 1906, the same year that Enderby was declared a city and is celebrating its 118th Anniversary of being a part of Enderby's faith community. The cost of building the church at that time was \$5000 with much of the work done by volunteers.

I am thinking of creating a poster with some of the pictures we have??

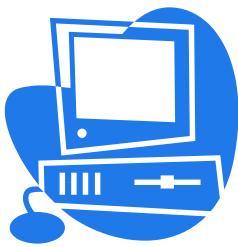
Blessings, Lorraine



Askew's Cards

Thanks for your continued support by buying Askew's cards. They are available at church on Sunday or by calling Eleanor Kiefer at 250-546-8195.





Office Administration Position

We are currently looking to fill the Office Administrator position. This position is approximately 6 hours a week based out of Zion United.

This person facilitates communication and ensures necessary information is shared appropriately and provides administrative support to our minister.

This person is the key liaison between the minister, the public and both Zion and St. Andrew's congregations.

A detailed job description is available.

Please contact Maureen at maureen@snowcapinterior.com or Dalynn at dngkearney@gmail.com for more information.

Dalynn

Deadline Date for applications to the Zion Office Administration Position is June 23rd

Maureen

A generous helping of puzzlements

By Jim Taylor

Friday June 14, 2024

At 5:00 a.m., the sun had not yet risen. The hotel's breakfast room had not opened.

We were in Laos, an almost forgotten country squeezed between Thailand, China, Cambodia, and Vietnam. Laos is intensely Buddhist. In Luang Prabang every block seemed to have its own red-and-orange temple.

We had risen early to take part in the daily almsgiving ceremony for the monks of those temples. The tour company provided a wicker container of sticky rice to each of us to give away.

As dawn crept into the sky, we sat at curbside.

The monks came up the street. Single file. Barefoot. Wrapped in orange robes – and nothing else. (Not even underwear, we were told, although we had no way of checking that claim.) The novices wear their robes with their right shoulder bare; older monks cover both shoulders.

The novices were young. Some might have been nine years old; others teenagers. Only males, of course.

As they passed, we dropped small blobs of our sticky rice into the basket or jar they carried on their right hip. A few local residents also gave money. Or perhaps a candy bar.

That's all the monks would have to eat that day.

As I doled out my sticky rice, I couldn't help wondering what it might feel like, to know that your meals today depend on what people drop into your basin.

To know that you have done nothing to earn their generosity, but they give anyway.

To know that you're dependent on them. And that they know you're dependent on them. And that you know that they know that you know...

As an alms receiver, are you doing your donors a favour by giving them an opportunity to be generous?

Questions, questions, questions

In the words of Yul Brynner in *The King and I*, long ago, "Is a puzzlement."

The experience of giving alms left me with lots of puzzlements.

Don't think of these monks and novices as ignorant people, we don't know any better than to beg. They become monks to avoid being ignorant. The temples provide education.

Later that week, our group interviewed a young man graduating going on to university. "Is your education strictly religious?" someone asked. "Do you learn about the modern world of nuclear threats and stock markets too?"

For his response, the young monk pulled an iPhone from his robes.

Buddhism is not evangelical, he told us. It doesn't seek to convert people; it simply seeks to show a way of life.

Which includes recognizing everyone's dependence on everyone else.

Which leaves me with even more "puzzlements."

In my North American world, we see begging as weakness, incompetence, helplessness. Our culture encourages us to be ruggedly independent. To look after ourselves first, then to help others.

We give to charities grudgingly, through our bank accounts or credit cards, so that we never come hand-to-bowl with the orphans or refugees we support.

While I still lived in Toronto, I came to the Okanagan three times a year for meetings. I stayed with my friend and business partner Ralph Milton. He never charged anything for room and board. And he always loaned me a car to go visit my father or my wife's mother, each a day's drive away.

"I feel bad," I admitted one day. "You do so much for me, and I have no way of doing anything for you in return."

Ralph said, "Jim, just be glad that you're the kind of person people like to do things for."

Why do we feel good, doing something for someone else?

How can we make sure that doing something for someone else doesn't make them feel bad?

How do we learn to feel good about receiving something that we didn't earn, maybe don't even deserve?

Is a puzzlement, indeed.

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