

# The Messenger

October 18, 2023

**CONGRATULATIONS** to the folks of St. Andrew's UC for hosting another, excellent, Harvest Dinner on Oct. 14th!

Thank you to all the great volunteers, and attendees, from both StAU and ZUC. A shining example of neighbourly fellowship, friendship and food:)

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: [ckoooyman@shaw.ca](mailto:ckoooyman@shaw.ca)

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

Next Messenger will be  
October 25, 2023



Our ZUC member, Hoa of HoaMai Berry Farm, will be wrapping up her presence at the Vernon Farmers' Market (Mon/Thurs 8:00am-1pm) by the end of October. If you are interested in purchasing some of her delicious jams, act fast:)



## Calling all men

The monthly men's breakfast will be held on

**Friday, October 20 at Zion United Church Hall.**

The coffee will be ready at **8 am** followed by breakfast at 8:30. We hope to see you there.

Wayne



Thanks for continuing to purchase Askew's Cards.

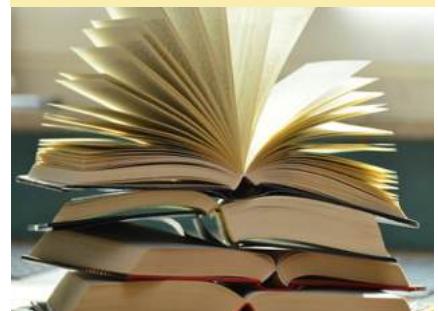
They will be available at church from Eleanor Kiefer, Sharon or Isobel.

Or if you miss that opportunity give Eleanor a call at 250-546-8195.

Remember they can be used at any of the 5 Askew's stores.

Eleanor

## BOOK NOOK at Zion



. Book Nook will be open on **Wednesday mornings** from 10 a.m. to 12 noon

Come in and check out our selection of books and puzzles.

## IPE Extras !

**Frozen/Unbaked Apple Pie \$10**

**Gallon of Frozen Chili \$20**

**2.84 L of Diced Tomatoes \$8**

*If interested in any of the items, please contact Suzanne Skinner (250-546-2842) or Wilma Koersen (780-933-9732)*



**Armstrong Acoustic Coffee House.**

October 21st at 2:00 PM

Bring your acoustic instruments to play and jam.

All are welcome to come enjoy the music

Admission and refreshments by donation.

**Zion United Church Hall**  
2315 Pleasant Valley Boulevard  
**250-546-9384**



# BREAKAWAY is BACK!

Wednesday's / 2pm-4pm / ZUC Hall

## 50 Years Flies By!

James Alexander (Manson) is now a professor of classical piano music in Bern, Switzerland:)

### No one laughed when he sat down to play

Twelve-year-old Jamie Manson may be the youngest fulltime United Church organist in Canada.

Zion United Church, Armstrong, B.C., reluctantly offered him the job last September—reluctant not because of his ability: no more accomplished organist was available, but because of his age. “What about his school work?” some of the music committee worried. “What about choir practice? What about weddings and funerals?”

They needn’t have worried. Jamie hasn’t missed a thing.

Under its former organist, Ron Heal, the congregation had been enjoying both formal anthems and modern selections, and had its best choir in years. Then Mr. Heal had a severe heart attack and had



to give up the responsibility. It was he who suggested Jamie as his replacement.

The boy, son of Zion’s minister, the Rev. Alex Manson, had been playing the piano since he was big enough to reach the keys. He began lessons at five with his father, also an accomplished musician, and Mr. Heal. He not only excelled at the piano but, like any boy, found an interest in popular guitar and later in the trumpet and tenor saxophone in the school band, and naturally tried the church organ from time to time.

Now every Sunday Jamie arrives after Sunday school, kicks off his shoes and takes his place at the electric organ, fully prepared to give it all his talent and attention. He never misses the 6:30 choir practice, and is home in time for homework. The brides and their mothers love him. Mrs. W.J. Bradley, a part time organist, plays for most funerals. The choir has discovered it need not go back to simpler music. Bach and Handel or Simon and Garfunkel—their new organist can play almost anything on sight.

It is hoped that long before Jamie goes off to college, Mr. Heal will be back at the organ. Meanwhile, they say, Jamie and his dad make a great team.

—Ruthanna Bosomworth

THE OBSERVER



## 50 Years Ago in Zion UC!

James at piano in 1973 & again in 2023