

DO YOU SING IN THE SHOWER?



If you do, Paul Shilton, our Director of Music, is extending an invitation to you to come out and be a part of the choir. Practices are held on Thursday evenings from 7:00 P.M. to 8:30 P.M. Please contact Paul at parkvilla36@gmail.com or Jane in the office by phone (519-271-8527) or email (zionlc@golden.net).

THIS WEEK WE PRAY:

>for our members and friends with special needs: Avrey, John, Paul, Tom, Darlene, Jack, Alan, Phyllis, Steve, Verlie, Allan, Brian, Anne, Sharon, Bruce, Susan, Nya, Jane, Linda, Donna, Brian, Jim, Mary Margaret, Lynnette, Al, Glenn, Brock, Cathy, John, Katana, Brian, David and Kolby;
>for those who have no one to pray for them.

THIS WEEK AT ZION:

<u>Mon. Nov. 28</u>	2 PM	Prayer Shawl Ministry
	6 PM	Pathfinders
<u>Tues. Nov. 29</u>	7 AM	Rotary
	9:30 AM	Chair Yoga
	6:15 PM	Sparks
<u>Wed. Nov. 30</u>	9 AM	Quilters
	1:30 PM	Avon Mennonite Prayer Group
<u>Thurs. Dec. 1</u>	12 Noon	Bible Study
	4:15 PM	Confirmation Class
	7 PM	Choir Practice
<u>Sun. Dec. 4</u>	10 AM	Worship
		Sunday School

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4TH AS WE WORSHIP:

Greeter: Mervyn Dietz

Reader: Glenn Rittinger

Usher Captain: Darrell Renecker Team **Counter:** Marilyn Wells Team

First Sunday of Advent



November 27, 2022

ZION LUTHEAN CHURCH

Stratford, Ontario

Church Office: 519-271-8527

Cell: 519-274-1300

email: zionlc@golden.net

website: www.zionstratford.com

People of Zion

Rev. Jeffrey Laustsen

Sister Jean Widmeyer

Paul Shilton

Laura Burton

Sandra Mogensen

Ministers

Pastor

Visitation Minister

Minister of Music

Organist

Pianist

First Sunday of Advent

November 27, 2022

GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome, Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

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Hymn 705: “God of Grace and God of Glory”

Greeting

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Prayer of the Day:

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection save us from the threatening dangers of our sins, and enlighten our walk in the way of your salvation, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

WORD

First Reading: Isaiah 2:1-5

Psalms: 122

Second Reading: Romans 13:11-14

Gospel: Matthew 24:36-44

Children’s Message

Sermon: (click on the box beside the link)

 [WIN 20221125 08 50 36 Pro.mp4](#)

Hymn 785: “When Peace, Like a River”

Nicene Creed

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Prayers of Intercession

Sharing the Peace

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MEAL

Offertory Prayer, Dedication of Communion Stands

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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

Post-Communion Blessing

Post-Communion Prayer

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SENDING

Blessing

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Hymn 697: “Just a Closer Walk with Thee”

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. 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. The ushers will invite the congregation to come forward down the centre aisle.

Please note that masks are “no longer mandatory”; but, continuing to wear a mask is strongly recommended. Our ropes for “limited” capacity have come down; but, we do encourage “social distancing” wherever possible. “Pre-registration” for worship is no longer required.

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.

SPECIAL DEDICATION: During this morning's worship Pastor Jeff will dedicate two beautiful communion stands made by Brian Coe which are being donated in loving memory of Beryl Horst (2022) by her Grand and Great Grandchildren. Thank you so much!

PRE-PAID EXPENSE CARDS: We will be placing an order for any one wishing to purchase "pre-paid expense cards" for either yourself or as Christmas Gifts. To order, please see Gerald Cook after worship. There are some new retailers that might be of interest to you. Gerald will have new lists available. Thank you for your support!

FLOWERS FOR CHRISTMAS: Donations are now being accepted until the middle of December so the Women of Faith can purchase flowers to decorate the church for our Christmas celebrations. If you wish to donate, please put "**Christmas Flowers**" and your name on a **separate envelope** and place it on the offering plate; or drop it off in the locked mailbox, or bring it to the church office. Thank you for your gift.

STRATFORD BLOOD DONATION EVENTS FOR DECEMBER:

Tuesday, December 6th 1 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Saturday, December 24th *Christmas Eve* 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Both events are taking place at the Stratford Rotary Complex by appointment. Book now by calling 1-888-236-6283 or online at www.blood.ca/GiveBlood

WE ARE REQUESTING YOUR HELP: Members have lived through many changes in life over the last 2 ½ years during the pandemic. *Have you moved? Have you given up your land line to use a cell phone? Have you established new households? Have you gotten new email addresses?*

If you have made any of these changes, please notify Jane in the church office so we can update our records and keep in touch. Your co-operation is greatly appreciated.

BIBLE STUDY: Our Adult Bible Study class is taking place each Thursday at 12:00 noon in the Church Parlour. If any one is wanting to explore God's Word and what it means for us in our daily lives as Christians, bring your lunch and come out and join us on Thursdays at noon. For further information, please speak with Pastor Jeff.

ZION QUILTERS: Our quilting ladies have been busy as well. They have some smaller quilts completed and are offering them for sale for \$50.00 each. They are on display in the Parlour if you would like to come and have a look.

Our ladies are always looking for new projects. If you, or anyone you know, would like our talented ladies to make a beautiful quilt for you or as a gift, please contact Irene Ehgoetz at 519-271-8878.

Anyone who is interested in quilting, our quilting ladies invite you to come and join them on Wednesday mornings from 9:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M.

HOUSE OF BLESSING: To help the House of Blessing with their significant increase in the number of people using their services since this time last year, as you are able, if you could bring rice or cereal for the House of Blessing Food Bank and place it in the basket at the entrance of the church. Thank you for sharing your blessings with those in need.

PORTABLE MATTRESSES: Our Prayer Shawl Ladies would like to say "thank you" to everyone for donating your outer milk bags. They have had an amazing response to their request.

As a result, they have asked me to put a notice in the bulletin that they will not be needing any more bags at the present time.

UPDATE ON THE NEW FAMILY COMING TO TOWN

A new family from Syria will be arriving in Stratford soon. The family consists of a husband and wife and six children ranging in age from 15 months to 9 years. Zion is participating in planning for the family's arrival.

We have been assigned with "equipping the kitchen". Due to your generous support most of the items have been donated. However, we are still in need of a microwave. We also still need blankets suitable for four single beds.

If you have any of these items, please drop them off at the church office on weekday mornings. Small items may be left in the boxes at the church entrance.

We thank you for your efforts on behalf of the Syrian family.



CHRISTMAS NEWS



**As we are made aware of events pertaining to Christmas,
we will publish them here.**

ADVENT CAROL SERVICE

is taking place **tonight, Sunday, November 27, 2022 at 7:00 P.M.**
at St. Matthews Lutheran Church, 54 Benton Street, Kitchener.
For more information visit their website at stmattskw.com

STRATFORD CONCERT CHOIR

Presents "Messiah" under the direction of Stephane Potvin,
Conductor on **Saturday, December 3, 2022 at 7:00 P.M. at
Avondale United Church.** Tickets are \$40 and are available online
at StratfordConcertChoir.org and Blowes Stationery.

SANTA CLAUS PARADE OF LIGHTS

December 4th @ 5 P.M. will be the New Santa Claus Parade of lights!!!
This year the parade will begin at the intersection of Waterloo and William
Street.

The parade will proceed around the Avon River, ending up at the New Tom
Patterson Theatre.

Once the parade is finished around 5:45pm there will be the official
lighting of the Christmas tree.

Shane Wiebe will be the emcee and we need the church community to help
us sing Joy To The World when the lights come on!

ZION SUNDAY SCHOOL

During the 10 A.M. service on Sunday, December 18th the children of the
Sunday School program will be participating. This will be replacing the
normal Christmas Concert that we have the children put on.

GIFTS FROM THE HEART CATALOGUE

If you are stumbling on what to get that "hard-to-buy" for person in your
life, consider something from the "Gifts From The Heart Catalogue".

We have been asked by Heidi Van Schaik, Church Relations Manager with
CLWR to spread the word that this year's edition of their annual "Gifts
From The Heart" Catalogue is ready.

As always, this year's catalogue is full of meaningful, life-changing gifts
that you can use to share God's love with the world, while you add some
joy to your own family's Christmas season. CLWR is inspired by how
many people across Canada choose items from their catalogue each year to
bless their loved ones with gifts in their honour, as they provide crucial
support for some of the world's most vulnerable people.

You can find the whole catalogue online at clwr.org/GFTH.
Happy shopping!

There are also copies of the catalogue on the table at the back of the Church
and in the stand at the entrance to the offices.

"TO STRATFORD WITH LOVE BANQUET"

Congratulations "To Stratford With Love" on your 34th Anniversary.

As in the past, you are invited to experience the true meaning of Christmas
with a warm, friendly celebration IN PERSON!

This year's Banquet is taking place at the **Rotary Complex, 353
McCarthy Road on Saturday, December 17, 2022 at 5:30 P.M.**

Complimentary tickets are available starting November 12th at: House of
Blessing, Salvation Army, City Hall, Madelyn's Diner and The Local
Community Food Centre.
