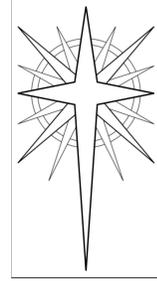


# Kimberley Shared Ministry

Anglican and United



## Advent and Christmas Services

<b>LESSONS AND CAROL SERVICE</b>	<b>Dec 5</b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>
<b>HOLY COMMUNION SERVICE</b>	<b>Dec 8</b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>
<b>ADVENT SUNDAY III</b>	<b>Dec 12</b>	<b>10:00 AM</b>
<b>ADVENT SUNDAY IV</b>	<b>Dec 19</b>	<b>10:00 AM</b>
<b>BLUE CHRISTMAS</b>	<b>Dec 21</b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>
<b>CHRISTMAS EVE</b>	<b>Dec 24</b>	<b>7:00 PM &amp; 9:00 PM</b>
<b>FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS</b> <b>(This will be an informal Carol service)</b>	<b>Dec 26</b>	<b>10:00 AM</b>

## Minster's Message

Dear Friends,

Greetings in the name of the Child of Bethlehem, whose birth we look forward to celebrating and are preparing for.

For Ida and me, this is going to be our first Christmas here in Kimberley. As we moved in, we were hoping that our children would be able to join us during this season for it has been a long time since we celebrated Christmas as a family. But it is not going to be. However, in Christ, we have a family here in the Kimberley Shared Ministry and we thank God for you all. We are looking forward to celebrating our First Christmas here in Kimberley with you all.

Someone said, *"Christmas: Make people forget the past with a present"*. (however you understand the word 'present'). But here we are as a faith community trying to study what that "First Christmas" was like as some Biblical scholars tell us, so as to make meaning of Christmas in the present that is so much commercialized.

Please don't get me wrong, but I see people spend hours and hours waiting in line on a "Black Friday" just to save a few dollars to get the gifts and holiday décor that they need to make the Christmas gathering and celebration a great one. Their feet may ache and they may catch a cold from being out in the weather for so many hours. Perhaps, that is their joy. But how many do say *"I found the best deal?"*

Christmas as I understand is not a race to see which gives out first – your money or your feet. It is a 'Mass' - a Worship we offer in remembering the Christ, the one who comes to us in humility and lowliness with a love to transform us. May I therefore, invite you all to spare some time in the midst of your busyness and in the midst of the pandemic, following the protocols to join in our Advent & Christmas worship services and other programs so as to celebrate this Christmas meaningfully?

The Newsletter provides all the information concerning our worship services and programs for the Advent/Christmas season. Come and be a part of it.

On behalf of Ida, me and our children, I take this opportunity to wish you and your families the love, peace and joy of Christmas that leads you into a blessed and challenging New Year 2022.

Alwin Maben.

## Council Chairs Message

*I am only one. But still, I am one.  
I cannot do everything, but still I can do something.  
And because I cannot do everything, I will not refuse to do the  
something that I can do.*

Edward Everett Hale



We came across these few lines as we were contemplating this Christmas newsletter and thinking about our wonderful new Shared Ministry here in Kimberley. Each of us is only one, but collectively we have strength, enduring support for each other, ideas that flourish and the will and desire to make a difference in our community of Kimberley and around the world. It matters not if you have been in our faith communities for a lifetime or if you are new to us. Together with each doing something we will continue to move as the spirit moves us and rejoice in what we can accomplish.

Each of our respected churches is governed by a Church Council model.

All Saints Church Council, at present time, is made up of ten Lay members elected annually at the AGM. Members of Council are Val Bromley, Ian Ferrie, Jackie Leach, Lois Lafaut, Ken Macdonald, Barrie Peterson, Judy Peterson, Elaine Pickles, BarbThompson, Terry Thompson. We have been without Ministerial Leadership since June of 2020. The Chairperson and Secretary are elected by Council members at the first meeting of the new Council. The Treasurer is an elected position. Also elected at our AGM are two representatives to attend Diocesan Synod which is held every three years as well as two alternates and two representatives who attend Regional Council meetings. Council has continued to meet monthly, with the exception of July, and is responsible for the day to day operations of the Church.

Life of the Church has seen many changes as we have all dealt with the challenge of Virtual Services and meetings.

Kimberley United also uses the Council model. We have ten members, which include chair (Diana Semenchuk), vice-chair (Kathy Desbiolles), secretary (Gerda Mann), Treasurer (Susan Baker), and the chairs of each of our working committees. These are Communication (Jim Andrews), Ministry & Personnel (Louise Welsh), Property & Finance (Allan Sayegh), Outreach, Pastoral Care and Fellowship (Jan Simmonds), Trustees (Linda Johnson, and Worship (Carol Andrews). These members are elected by the congregation at the AGM.

All Saints do not have any paid staff members but do have the good fortune of having four licensed Lay Ministers qualified to lead worship. At Kimberley United we have a paid secretary and music director.

With the onset of Covid, however, both of our congregations have not had services since March of 2020.

As of Oct 1, 2021 we have been blessed to welcome Rev. Alwin Maben as our shared ministerial leader. With his guidance and keen direction we are hoping that our Shared Ministry will move into the future with hope and expectations of building a strong Christian presence in Kimberley.

We are happy to be worshipping together and look forward to finalizing the formal declaration of our new combined Shared Ministry.

As we enter the Advent and Christmas season, may the familiarity of the stories comfort you. Know that you are surrounded by the goodwill of people of faith throughout the ages. We celebrate and rejoice that we can share our own faith stories and traditions as we walk into the future with courage and hope, trusting that God will guide our way.

During this season may you seek and find signs of holy presence within and all around you, in the ordinary and in the everyday.

God's Blessings

Terry Thompson, Chair All Saints Anglican  
Diana Semenchuk, Chair Kimberley United.

## **Kimberley Shared Ministry Sharing and Believing Together**

- a shared report written by Barb Thompson and Louise Welsh



The season of Advent is about waiting. When you think about Mary and Joseph in their last months of pregnancy, the waiting and uncertainty must have seemed like a long time. You can also think about the 40 years that the people followed Moses around in the desert as an extreme waiting period with no certainty other than their trust in God. Good things take time. For those of us involved in writing the Shared Ministry Agreement it has been a long journey.

We can liken this journey of a shared ministry to preparing for an evacuation – or a journey into the unknown much like those who travelled before us. What do we pack to take with us for the future and what do we leave behind? Prayer, worship, mission and pastoral care are portable. What is our mission and the call of Jesus in our time? Those are the essentials. The rest – our institutional structure – our buildings are only there to serve that mission. Being in a space together – restructuring our worship together – accepting and loving one another – that is what is important.

It is hard to believe that conversations first took place in April 2019, discussing the possibility of a Shared Ministry between the United Church and All Saints Anglican. There have been challenges along the way but through dialogue and perseverance we have made great progress. “The times they are a changing” – climate change; the world during and after Covid is and will be changed. Church has changed. How we think, see and feel has changed and whether we like it or not, we must learn to accept and adapt. Together we can dare to dream of a world where we can face challenges head on and know that we are there for each other.

In the new year, we will be looking at how to combine our governance roles and committee responsibilities. We need to find ways to create more interaction and dialogue.

The intention of the “G8” Anglican/United committee is to share the agreement with all the congregation and give time for review before setting up a meeting where we can accept the agreement formally. Please contact anyone of the G8 group if you have thoughts or questions.

Committee members: Susan Baker, Lois Lafaut, Kathy Desbiolles, Elaine Pickles, Diana Semenchuk, Ken MacDonald, Barb Thompson and Louise Welsh

We thank Jim Andrews for all his hard work and contributions. Kathy Desbiolles will be taking his place in 2022.

## **KUC Property and Finance**

Your Property and Finance committee has been pretty active over the past couple of months.

We managed to sign a contract for snow removal one day before the snow storm came along. There was great relief when I saw our walkway and sidewalk clear on Sunday. The commitment is to make sure the walkways are clear of snow every Sunday by 9:00am.

Some of you might have noticed that our door entering the building is literally falling apart. We are pleased to report that we are having new doors made which will hopefully close properly and keep the cold and water out of the building. A big thanks to Carol Fergus who did all the research and made all the arrangements.

As you have probably heard by now we are hoping to begin streaming our Sunday service onto our website as soon as possible. In order to do this we will need one person each week to step up and operate the camera. There will be some training involved, but with today's technology, it is pretty simple.

We see this working the same way it does for our counters, and our greeters. If we have 4 or 5 folks interested in this, we will rotate the responsibility as we do with the above mentioned positions. So you will be called on every 4 or 5 weeks to operate a camera. Please let me know if you would be interested in helping with this fun and worthwhile project.

Finally, a very big Merry Christmas from your property and finance committee. We wish you a happy and healthy Holiday Season.

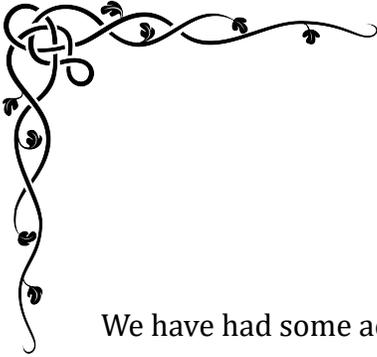
Allan Sayegh

## **KUC Mark Creek Market Till Receipts**

Many thanks to everyone who donated their Mark Creek Market till receipts to our Shared Ministry. When we reach \$5000.00 in till receipts we receive a Mark Creek Market store voucher worth \$30.00. So far this year we received 18 vouchers totalling \$540.00. These vouchers are used to make purchases for activities of the church. Please continue to save your receipts and place them in the marked pouch located outside the upper hall. It really does make a difference.

Our thanks to Mark Creek Market for their ongoing support.

Gerry and Diana Semenchuk



## **KUC Trustees Report, November 2021**

We have had some activity in our Legacy Funds over the year.

In April, 2021 we invested \$30,000 from our accumulated Operating Funds while we were without a minister, and this account as of Nov. 19, 2021, has a value of \$35,115.32.

In May, 2021 we withdrew \$7,016 from our Legacy Organ Fund to purchase and install audio-visual equipment, leaving \$1,312.26 remaining in the Organ Fund, which will probably be used in the near future for more additions to this system.

In October, 2021 we received a \$5,000 bequest from the estate of a KUC member, which was invested in our Legacy Funds. This fund, as of November 19, 2021 now has a value of \$171,174.45. The balance of this fund January 1, 2021 was \$136,562.84, which shows a gain of \$34,611.61.

Trustees – Rev. Alwin Maben, Gerry Semenchuk, Linda Johnson, Bill Bale, and Gerda Mann

*Submitted by Linda Johnson, Secretary-Treasurer, on behalf of Trustees*

## **KUC Outreach, Pastoral Care, Fellowship**

With The Christmas Advent season coming upon us this year and Reverend Alwin Maben to take us through this season of Advent. The Church services on Sundays make us feel we are turning the corner to a better year in 2022. Jill Sayegh has reported the sale of Purdy's chocolates went very well again. Not sure when they will be arriving as they are trucked in from Vancouver. Please do not forget to phone in and order you Christmas cookies at the Church office. The sale is on December 10th. As you know we have not been too active since Covid arrived 2019. Still we are all connected and ready for a full festive season of Joy and Happiness. We wish you all a Merry Christmas and blessings to all.

Jan Simmonds