

## PANDEMIC UPDATE – November 27, 2020

Greetings friends,

By now most of you, no doubt, are aware of the recent upgrades to COVID 19 restrictions for our province. For us, worship will continue in person, unless further changes demand that we stop. We must limit to 1/3 of our regular attendance – and safely distancing. Nothing changes for us, in that regard. The province is asking, however, that masks be worn throughout the worship service – with the exception being when a person is speaking, at least 2 metres distance from others. So – you will still be able to see my face when I lead worship.

The service is still posted weekly to both websites – [www.sundreunited.ca](http://www.sundreunited.ca) and [www.oldsunited.ca](http://www.oldsunited.ca)

Please know that I and the Leadership Teams really do understand that for some, attending group worship is compromising to your health, or to the health of a family member. We hold you in our prayers, and hope that soon we can be together.

In Olds, our friends from Redemption Church will be significantly reducing the numbers that attend the services, as per the new restrictions (from over 100 to about 40), and encouraging their regular attenders to participate in worship on-line. This will allow space for new-comers to connect with the leadership team.

In Olds and Sundre, there may be an opportunity for a ZOOM training session in early December to help us learn how to do worship that way – so that those that are not feeling ready to worship in person may experience our services and / or in the event we must shut down in-person worship, we may have that option to do so by ZOOM. If you are interested in being a part of that ZOOM training session, please let me know, whether you are from Olds or Sundre.

Seasonally – we are beginning Advent this week. On the 3rd Sunday of Advent, we will have our White gift service – generally we have special offerings for Olds Christmas Angels and Sundre Santas. For that Sunday – December 13 - I will be needing a few readers. Please let me know if that is something you would like to assist with, and I will send you the script with your part next week.

We had hoped to hold a small “Longest Night” gathering, but have decided that will not happen. Our Moderator, Richard Bott, will be hosting one on-line on December 9th, I believe. I will send out details of time, etc as soon as I have that information.

As it stands currently, our hope is to still hold Christmas Eve worship in person – with a limit of 100 people at Olds, and about 75 in Sundre. It is our hope that the most recent restrictions will be lifted, otherwise things may have to change. We will keep you posted. For now, if you plan on attending on Christmas Eve, please inform the church office via email or telephone with the number of people that will be in your group. This will allow us to arrange seating, with social distancing.

These are indeed strange and confusing times. Let us trust and be grateful for our faith, and the truth that we are not alone. God is with us. Thanks be.

Blessings,  
Tammy