

**For Immediate Release
December 19, 2021**

Zion Lutheran Church to Provide Christmas Eve Worship via Radio

Leaders Look to Find Safer Ways to Gather Amid Increasing COVID-19 Cases

Hartford City, IN – December 19, 2021 — Zion Lutheran Church announced Saturday they will be celebrating Christmas Eve in a new way. They will broadcast the worship service via shortwave FM Radio on December 24, 2021 at 7:00 PM

Zion Lutheran Church leadership says the congregation has elected not to meet in their sanctuary space during “red” COVID-19 advisory levels from the Indiana Department of Health. “A lot of – the majority even – of our members have been vaccinated. But we’ve heard hospitals in the area are overwhelmed,” said Pastor Sharilyn Wendt. “It’s not just about protecting our health, but the health of the community and our healthcare system.” Previously Zion has been using online video and other methods to support their members. The Christmas Eve service will be a new experiment for them.

The community may come to the worship service Christmas Eve at 7:00 PM. Attendees are instructed to park in the church’s parking lot on Commercial Street. The volunteers and staff will instruct attendees on the correct signal for the FM Radio in order to hear the service through their car speakers. “People may want to bring a flashlight,” Wendt advised. “Everyone will get a bulletin where words to the Christmas hymns we will sing are printed.”

The most up-to-date information can be found on the church’s website: www.zionhc.org

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Zion Lutheran Church
308 S Monroe St
Hartford City, IN 47348
765-348-3157

Contact: Sharilyn Wendt (pastor)
pastorzionluth hc@gmail.com