

KNOX NEWS

December 2018

Issue # 45

Knox Presbyterian Church, Listowel, Ontario

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Next Holy Communion December 2, 2018

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- ◆ Music of Christmas Info

And much more!



UPCOMING DATES

Dutch Christmas Service

Saturday December 8 2:00 pm

Eaton Funeral Home Service of Remembrance

Sunday December 9th,
Knox Presbyterian Church, 2:00—5:00 pm

Music of Christmas Concert

Sunday December 16, 2:00 pm & 7:00 pm

SS Christmas Program Dress Rehearsal:

Friday December 21, 4:30 pm

Sunday School Christmas Programs

Saturday December 22, 7:00 pm

Sunday, December 23, 10:30 am Service

Christmas Eve Service,

Monday, December 24, 7:00 pm

Office Closed Mon. Dec. 24 thru Wed. Dec. 26

Annual Lunch & Meeting

Sunday, February 10, 2019, 11:30 am

So Little

Rev. Don McCallum

On Thanksgiving Sunday our son and daughter-in-law announced that they were having a baby next April. Good news! It's been a long time since we've had any little ones around.

A while ago I was visiting in the hospital where one of our members had just had a baby and the new mom let me hold the little girl for a while. I think she figured I needed the practice. I discovered that holding a newborn is like riding a bike. You immediately start to rock back and forth. You adjust the crook of your arm to hold up their head.

But she was so little! Kids grow up so quick it's easy to forget how small they are when they start out.

If you think about it, the baby Jesus was like that in the stable in Bethlehem. He was so little.

Mary and Joseph must have marvelled: "How could the creator of the universe be so little? How could God pack himself into such a small package? Could something so important start with something so tiny?"

God frequently likes to start with things that are so little.

The disciples went scrounging for food and came back with five loaves and two fish. It was so little. But Jesus took that snack and turned it into enough for more than five thousand.

The disciples often had so little faith. But Jesus told them that even if their faith was the size of a grain of mustard it could move mountains.

Zacchaeus was so little in stature that he had to climb a sycamore fig tree to get a glimpse of Jesus walking by. However being so little led to being noticed by Jesus. That lunch with the Son of God transformed Zacchaeus and blessed many around him.

Jesus spent so little time on earth. His ministry of teaching and healing was just two or three years long, but that short time transformed human history.

And after the crucifixion, the followers of Jesus had so little hope in their hearts. Actually, they probably had none! But it exploded into hope for all eternity on Easter morning.

What do you have 'so little' of that you might think it is worthless? Time? Money? Health? Talent?

In God's hands a little can be a lot. Offer up your 'so little' and see what he can do.



MacDonald Memorial Library

Some good reads

Tracie Peterson -the big hat series #1, #2, #3

Lynn Austin: 'Legacy of Mercy'

Elizabeth Camden: 'A Daring Venture State' #2

Lauraine Snelling: 'A Season of Grace'

Robert Whitlow: 'Chosen People'

Susan Mason: 'Best of Intentions'

Colleen Coble: 'Leaving Lavender Tides'

Ted Dekker: 'The 49th Mystic'

Melody Carlson: 'Christmas by the Sea'

Angela Hunt: 'Jerusalem's Queen'

The Day the World Came to Visit

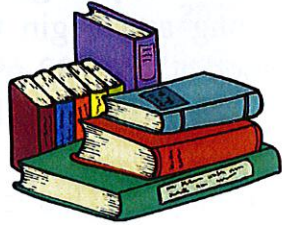
Chanel of Peace

Irene Hannon: 'Hidden Peril'

Max Lucado: 'Unshakable Hope'

Steve Milton: 'Tessa Virtue and Scott Moir'

Laura Young: 'Megan Duhamel and Eric Radford Soul Mates'



Thank you to the many hands who helped to make the **Turkey Supper** a success!



We sold out at 450 tickets!

Thank you to everyone who purchased tickets and were able to enjoy the supper. The food that everyone donated and cooked tasted wonderful and the people that helped with set-up, serving and clean-up were fantastic! The decorations in the Sanctuary, hall and the tables have never looked so beautiful! The saying that 'many hands make for a successful event' was proven with a resounding success!

Thank you again from the Board of Managers.

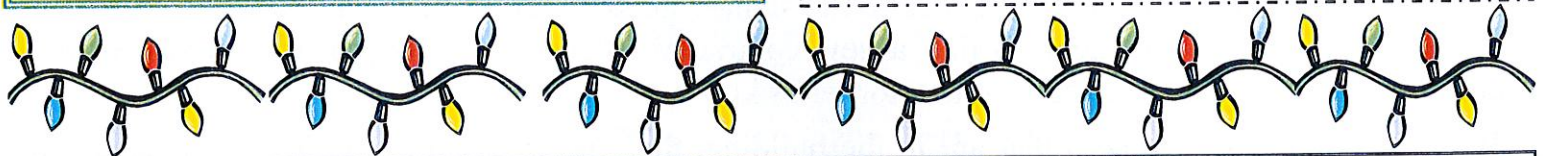
Memorial Service

The Holiday Season can be a difficult time for those who have been affected by the death of a loved one.



With this in mind, the Eaton Funeral Home is holding a Service of Remembrance at Knox Presbyterian Church, Listowel, on Sunday, December 9th at 2:00 pm

This is not another funeral, but rather a short, uplifting service of remembrance, strength and sharing. You, and anyone you know who may benefit from this support during the Christmas season, are welcome to attend.



DEVOTIONAL GUIDES



The December-January-February issue of **Our Daily Bread** is now available. Free copies are set out in the Narthex, the Church Hall, and outside the Church Office. *Our Daily Bread* has a scripture reading and meditation for each day of the month. Please feel free to take one home and use it for your daily devotional reading -we have *lots!*

They're Back! *The Bible League of Canada Devotional Day Planner* for 2019 are available once again. These popular books are an excellent way of keeping your lives organized and spiritual for a mere cost of \$4.00 each. There is a limited supply, so don't wait too long and be disappointed! Speak to Pam in the office to get yours.



Volunteer Opportunities

Christmas 2018 – The Salvation Army Community & Family Services

KETTLES KETTLES KETTLES – These are an integral part of our annual fundraiser and a great opportunity for our community to get involved when they have limited time to give. Shifts are only 2 hours long and begin the last weekend in November. To volunteer contact Ray or Diane Homewood at 226-622-6989



December 11th – Strong arms needed as we move stock from building to building in preparation for our distribution

December 13th – Come one, come all we have a job for you. This is the day we pick up donated items from throughout the community and take the time to sort, and pack according to the item.

December 14th – Another opportunity for strong arms! We need to move those recently sorted items into place

December 17th – Hamper packing. This day we pack all dry/canned goods into our hamper bags in preparation for the big day

December 20th – Distribution clean up. After a long day of distribution it is such a gift to have fresh faces and ready helpers to pack up and clean up until next year.

Additionally we are in need of a truck and trailer for our Distribution from December 19-20 and possibly towing that trailer on the morning of distribution.

For more info please call: Gwyneth Woods – Family Services manager



Greetings From the Knox Board of Managers

Much has been happening around the church in the past few months. The choir loft & pulpit area have been renovated. A new sidewalk & railing leading to the hall have been put in. By the time this newsletter has been received the bricks around the Chapel window will have been repaired. The remainder of the brick work will be worked on as time allows. In order to keep this lovely old building in a good state of repair we must diligently keep repairing. Thank you to anyone who has been involved in these projects.



Due to health reasons, nothing happened to the stained glass windows this year. It is a possibility that we will need to find a new contractor to complete this job. If someone of the congregation knows of a capable contractor let us know.

With the number of furnaces that are in the building, there is an ongoing job in which we try to keep on top of. By the time you're reading this we should have one more new one installed. Another is being watched for later installation.

Thanks to all who work and/or supply food to make the annual Turkey Supper happen. It takes the whole congregation to make this annual event happen.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year and keep Christ in the season.

Ivan Suggitt, Chairman





Income & Expense Statement

January 1, 2018- October 31, 2018

<u>Income</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>Budget</u>
General Fund	\$ 163,901.56	\$ 166,517.21	\$ 198,421.10
Children's Fund	\$ 73.00	\$ 36.50	\$ 166.70
Presbyterians Sharing	\$ 20,015.30	\$ 20,269.30	\$ 23,500.00
Other Income	\$ 12,659.69	\$ 14,987.92	\$ 12,433.40
Other Missions/Restricted	\$ 33,026.60	\$ 37,424.04	\$ 20,950.00
Total Income	\$ 229,676.15	\$ 239,234.97	\$ 255,471.20
<u>Expenses</u>			
Salaries/Personnel	\$ 134,769.76	\$ 141,096.77	\$ 141,689.91
Administrative Expenses	\$ 18,395.96	\$ 19,014.14	\$ 21,810.72
Building/Grounds	\$ 37,050.55	\$ 47,997.07	\$ 40,790.13
Missions/Outreach	\$ 43,333.37	\$ 41,700.03	\$ 34,148.40
Christian Education	\$ 2,908.75	\$ 3,559.98	\$ 6,686.70
Other Expenses	\$ 8,672.48	\$ 8,553.54	\$ 9,983.40
248 Livingstone Expenses	\$ 6,954.47	\$ 8,388.35	\$ 7,949.90
Total Expenses	\$ 252,085.34	\$ 270,309.88	\$ 263,059.16
Excess Income/Expenses	\$ (22,409.19)	\$ (31,074.91)	\$ (7,587.96)
<u>Net Cash Position</u>			
Net Cash Position on January 1, 2018	\$ 56,412.63	January 1, 2017	\$ 57,490.80
Excess Expenses	\$ (22,409.19)	Excess Expenses	\$ (31,074.91)
Net Cash Position October 31, 2018	\$ 34,003.44	October 31, 2017	\$ 26,415.89
Bank Balance Oct. 31, 2018	\$ 34,667.85	October 31, 2017	\$ 33,019.62
HST Receivable	\$ 657.91	HST Receivable	\$ 1,686.27
Less: Liabilities (Misc. Charities)	\$ (1,322.32)	Less: Liabilities Held	\$ (8,290.00)
Net Cash Position October 31, 2018	\$ 34,003.44	October 31, 2017	\$ 26,415.89



Submitted By: *Pamela D. Coleman*

Prayer Chain

Just a reminder that we have an active "Prayer Chain" here at Knox, but we can always use more people to pray, and if you feel that this is something God has laid on your heart, please call me. I will gladly give you more information, or add you to the list. We never meet as a group, but stay in touch by phone.

"There is a great need for earnest and powerful intercessors".

When you have something or someone in your life that needs prayer, don't hesitate to call the office or me and make your request known. We will present it before the throne of grace and pray to the power

of the Spirit for healing, strength and comfort.

"The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and wonderful results".

James 5:16

Respectfully submitted

George Sjaarda,

Prayer Chain Coordinator 519-291-3529



From the Humanitarian Needs Committee

The mitten tree will again be present this Christmas season. The tree will be inside the east door to the sanctuary. Please leave your donated toques and mittens at the tree and they will be sent to Evangel Hall and the Salvation Army.

Your gifts will keep many warm as the winter weather arrives.



The recent appeal to raise funds to feed the hungry in Nicaragua was successful.

Approximately \$2800 was forwarded to PAN to buy food for people in the poor barrios.

Thank you to all who donated and continue to support the work in Nicaragua.

Jim Corry

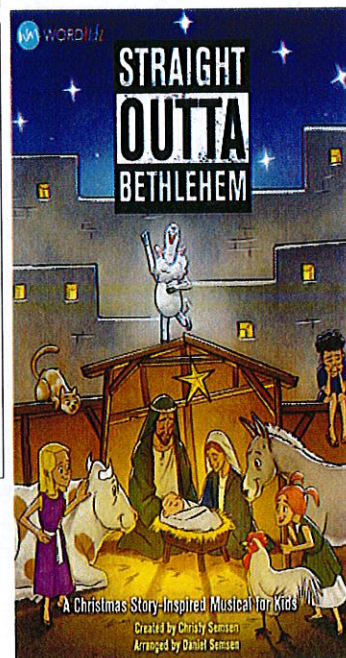
"Please Help Us to be Scent – Sensitive!"

Some of those in attendance have allergic reactions or breathing difficulties triggered by perfumes or other strong scents.

Please help us to make this a welcoming environment for them.



MERRY CHRISTMAS!



Knox Sunday School Christmas Program 2018

Dress Rehearsal is Friday December 21 @ 4:30 pm.

The performance will take place

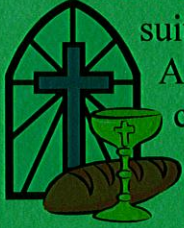
Sunday December 23 @ 10:30 am

This *Christmas musical* tells the story of the first Christmas from the point of view of a group of orphans living in the same Bethlehem inn that Mary and Joseph visit.

HOME COMMUNION

During the week following this upcoming Communion Sunday, December 2nd, Rev. Don McCallum will be available to conduct Communion Services at home for our shut-ins, either individually or in small groups. If you would like to have Communion at home, please speak to your Elder, or call the Church Office.

Rev. Don will then call you to arrange a suitable time.



Also, Communion Service will be conducted at the **Caressant Care Retirement Home** on Sunday, December 2 at 1:00 p.m.

ERE ZIJ GOD, IN DE HOGE...

Come and join us at

Knox Presbyterian Church Listowel

on Saturday, December 8th, 2018 at 2:00 p.m.
for A CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SERVICE in the
DUTCH LANGUAGE

with the singing of familiar Dutch Christmas Carols
Refreshments following in the Main Hall .

Call George Sjaarda 519-291-3529 for more information
ZINGT, ZINGT EEN NIEUW GEZANG DEN HEERE
Psalm 98:1

North Perth Youth for Christ

The Youth for Christ staff, now numbering 6 full/part time people, has been very busy this Fall. Kevin continues to work with the Campus Life program at LDSS and coach their volleyball teams. Gertie, Mel, Ainsley, Jenn, and Melissa are very busy with the drop-in Tuesday and Thursday evenings. They have between 40 and 50 youth attending. This is a wonderful time to build relationships with many who deal with teen issues plus homelessness, mental health, drug addiction, violence, etc. Gertie is beginning a new program to reach young families. They all have individuals with whom they connect regularly. We are so fortunate to have such dedicated people in our community who have been called to devote their lives to enrich and encourage our young people who are living in situations that we find hard to imagine.

This holiday season, please consider a donation to YfC – North Perth to assist with programs. Alternately, each staff member must raise their own salary from donations by people who care about our youth. I know that financially remembering them during this season of giving would be very much appreciated. (280 Wallace Ave, South, Listowel N4W 1Y2 or mark the third section of our offering envelopes “YFC”)

Sue Knowlton

*The staff of Knox Presbyterian Church Listowel wish
you and your family*

a very Merry, Safe and Blessed Holiday Season!



I THINK IT'S
AMAZING THAT
LUKE HAS ALL OF
THESE DETAILS!



WWW.AGNUSDAY.ORG

MOTHERS ALWAYS
REMEMBER THE
BIRTH.



YOU'RE
TELLING
ME...



MINE WON'T LET
ME FORGET!



© WETZSTEIN '16-12-21

LUKE 2:1-20

Memorial Poinsettias - Order Form

As in previous years, Knox is inviting you to place a memorial poinsettia in the church sanctuary during Christmas. If you would like to share with others in remembering a loved one or someone of honour, please fill out this sheet and return to the office, or call Pam in the office at 519-291-4690. **Please do not put forms and money on collection plates.**

Cost is \$11.00 for each memorial poinsettia.

For payment:

Cheques (*payable to: Knox Presbyterian Church Memorial Fund*), money orders or exact cash can be dropped off at the Church Office.

Hours are 9-12 pm and 1-3 pm, Monday to Friday.



PLEASE PRINT

I (We) wish to place _____ poinsettia(s) in the church.
As a memorial or honour, please state name(s) of person(s)
in whose memory or honour it is to be placed

Name of Person(s) placing Poinsettia(s):



This will be noted in the bulletin during December.

PLEASE PRINT

I (We) wish to place _____ poinsettia(s) in the church.
As a memorial or honour, please state name(s) of person(s)
in whose memory or honour it is to be placed

Name of Person(s) placing Poinsettia(s):



This will be noted in the bulletin during December.

Refugee Resettlement Committee News: Newcomer Updates

Hello everyone! The Elhuseyin family arrived from Turkey on July 13! My apologies that communication from the resettlement steering committee has been scarce. Under normal



circumstances, a family arrival in early summer is difficult as we all have extensive summer plans. And, as I think you'll agree, the arrival of the Elhuseyins has been anything but normal.

Finding a house to rent proved to be a real challenge; we found one just under the wire! It was a flurry of activity as we helped to clean a newly renovated house, then furnished and decorated.

We received some surprising news

about 30 hours prior to the family's arrival. One of the family members has serious health issues! Our health team was pressed into immediate action as they needed medical attention within hours of arrival. Needless to say, this situation has garnered a lot of attention from the team in these weeks since they arrived. Mennonite Central Committee has worked very closely with us to ensure that everything goes as smoothly as possible as we navigate through this process, including giving us emergency financial assistance.

I want to take the opportunity to give a shout out to the steering committee team. In all that has taken place in the past weeks, I've not heard a word of complaint. Everyone sprung into action and simply got the job done. I am very proud of this team, and feel very fortunate to be able to work with this great group of people!

Let me introduce you to the Elhuseyin family. Parents, Ali and Falak, daughters, Dlal (15), Sham (13), Rawan (10), and son, Bkr (7). Ali was a chef in Turkey. Ali and Falak are attending ESL classes 5 days a week. Dlal is attending Listowel District Secondary School, the other children are at Westfield public school.

Sadly, the Alchahin family has moved out of the area. Heyam, their oldest daughter is attending college in Toronto and she is able to catch a bus from their current location.

Things continue to progress well for the Ajjo family. Muhammed has recently gotten his G2 license, and they definitely enjoy their newfound freedom. Muhammed continues to work full time as a welder and it seems he is quite content.



I am extremely pleased to continue this partnership with the congregations of Listowel! Quite literally I believe we are saving lives. And lives are greatly changed, including ours. Once again I thank you with all my heart for the love that you give in the form of finances, prayers, and volunteering!

Perry Streicher - Chairman



THE *Music* OF
CHRISTMAS

Sunday, December 16th, 2018

2:00 P.M. 7:00 P.M.

PRESENTED BY
KNOX CHOIR & FRIENDS

KNOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, LISTOWEL
FREE WILL OFFERING AT THE DOOR

In the event of bad weather, the snow-date will be
Sunday, December 23rd, 2018 at 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.