

KNOX NEWS

December 2022

Issue # 58

Knox Presbyterian Church, Listowel, Ontario

knoxpres@wightman.ca

www.knoxlistowel.ca 519-291-4690

Next Holy Communion

December 4, 2022

INSIDE KNOX NEWS

- ♦ Christmas Memorial Service
- ♦ Message from the Board
- ♦ MacDonald Memorial Library
- ♦ Poinsettia Order Form
- ♦ Financial Statement
- ♦ Message from the Minister
- ♦ Humanitarian Needs Report
- ♦ Youth for Christ
- ♦ Dutch Service Information
- ♦ Crief Hills events

And much more!



UPCOMING DATES

Poinsettia's Arrive

- ♦ Friday December 2

Dutch Christmas Service

- ♦ Saturday December 3, 2:00 pm

Eaton Funeral Home Service of Remembrance

- ♦ Sunday December 4, Trinity United Church, 2:00—5:00 pm (*please note change of venue*)

SS Christmas Program Dress Rehearsal:

- ♦ Friday December 9, 4:30 pm

Sunday School Christmas Program

- ♦ Sunday, December 11, 10:30 am Service

Music of Christmas Concert

- ♦ Sunday December 18, 2:00 pm & 7:00 pm

Christmas Eve Service,

- ♦ Saturday, December 24, 7:00 pm

Christmas Day Service (Hymn Sing)

- ♦ Sunday December 25, 10:30 am

Office Closed Fri. Dec. 23 thru Monday. Dec. 26

Annual Lunch & Meeting

- ♦ Sunday, February 12, 203, 11:30 am

From the Minister's Desk

A Christmas Post-Covid


Did you know that for the past two years, I haven't been able to lead a Christmas Eve service with congregation members? I am not saying Covid-19 is over, just that we are passed the point of lockdowns. The closest I got was in 2021. We had everything all prepared. Readers, extra soloists; I had my best Christmas Eve message all planned. By golly it was going to be the best one I had ever led and finally we would be all together. Then, because of omicron, we had to go online only. The service was moved online only three days before Christmas Eve, and it was a real buzzkill for a lot of people. I got letters that were frustrated with the choice to go online only and I got letters that praised it. Lots of people had lots of opinions and that is normal for a church, but what really stung about it was I had planned for my mom and dad to come down to Brampton and worship with us. My parents had never seen their son lead worship on Christmas Eve. I had bought Ottawa Senators hockey tickets to take my dad to a game, just like he did with me many many years ago on Christmas Day. I had planned the drive to Ottawa where they lived, I had paid non-refundable money on tickets for a team I didn't really like so that I could spend a special afternoon with my father. I had bet big on the world being open, and it wasn't.

That Christmas Eve night in 2021 was kind of a disaster too. As my wife and I drove up to Brampton from Hamilton, about 5 or 10 minutes from the church, just before we needed to use the exit off of the 410, a man failed to press his break peddle and rearended my wife and me. Three days after the church moved the service online only, and I had said to myself I would do my best to make it the best live stream we had ever had, I was standing on the side of the 410 highway an onramp and about 40 mins of walking away from my goal. I was very anxious that day and I have to admit it, I am anxious for this coming Christmas Eve service. A lot could happen. Do I even remember how to lead a service on Christmas Eve?

This year is special, it will be the first time in two years, to be honest almost three years, that we can really gather on mass to celebrate Christ coming into the world. It is kind of the first post-covid Christmas Eve service. I know it is the same story every year, but maybe this year is a bit different, maybe we really haven't heard it in a while?

On the back of this Knox News is a poster and it is a poster that invites you to our service on Christmas Eve, I hope you will join us as we remember we are shepherds of this story, and that Christ is with us.

In Christ and In the Spirit of the Season
Rev. James Clark



On behalf of the Session at Knox Listowel, I would like to take a moment to wish you all a very Merry Christmas. During this special season, we celebrate Hope, Peace, Love and Joy; I pray that all four of these would fill your life in every way this Christmas and beyond.

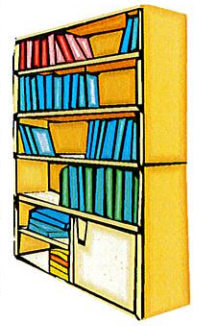
This has been an exciting year here at Knox, a getting back to normal year as well with our Church family.

This will be our first Christmas at Knox with Rev. James and Abbey. What a wonderful blessing they have been to our congregation since they arrived in September and we look forward to worshipping with them during our Advent and Christmas season.

May this Christmas be a special time with family and friends, and may your homes be filled with peace, your lives with hope, and your hearts with faith!

Merry Christmas to all.
Paul Stewart, Clerk of Session

The **Macdonald Memorial Library** continues to have its doors open Sunday mornings and continues to replenish its resources and we are so thankful. As the seasons change, the selections will continue to evolve so you are able to find resources to suit your needs. New resources for adults include a humorous lighthearted romance, *Lady's Mine* by Francine River and a new Christmas picture book classic *Merry Christmas, Anne* by Kallie George which may appeal to some of our Anne of Green Gables fans. Coming soon is a new novel by Tracie Peterson, *Under the Starry Skies* for those readers who enjoy Peterson's novels. We also have lots of new and old selections in our DVD section for movie watchers too.



As Christmas approaches, we remember the classics like Dr. Seuss, "What if Christmas, he thought, doesn't come from a store. What if Christmas perhaps, means a little bit more." We pray that you will celebrate all the joys of the season including visiting our library and finding joy in the words and knowledge that books and our other resources offer to you. We appreciate our patrons and the support from our church community. We also want to send a special thank you to Pam in the office for assisting us with the administration tasks. It takes a team and we have a lot of people who help with our library in many ways.

Have a very, merry Christmas!

Sincerely, the Macdonald Memorial Library volunteers

CELEBRATE THE
HOLIDAY SEASON WITH US!

Christmas At Crieff Hills

December 3

Cookie Decorating Class with
Emily's Cookie Jar

December 4

Christmas Market & Open House

December 10

Wreath Making Class with
Botanica Green Florals

December 13 - 15

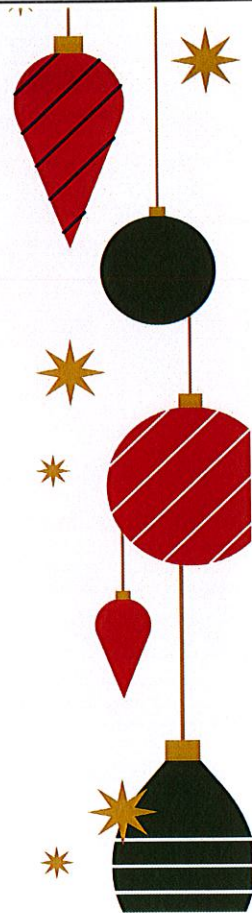
Christmas Lunches

December 16

On Farm Dinner: Christmas Edition

December 21

Lantern Winter Solstice Walk



December 4 - Christmas Market & Open House

Crieff Hills will be opening its doors for a Christmas Open House and Market. Sip a cup of cider while you browse a wide variety of locally-made holiday items in our schoolhouse. Staff will be on hand to say hello and answer questions about our history, and you are welcome to visit the animals or hike one of our wooded trails. There is no cost and no registration required.

December 10

Wreath Making Class with Botanica Green Florals

Last year's Wreath Making Class was so much fun we are hosting another one this year! Join us for an evening in Maclean Hall learning to make a beautiful one-of-a-kind wreath. All materials are provided, including fresh greenery from the Crieff Hills property. Kelly of Botanica Green Florals will offer easy to follow instructions so that even complete beginnings will create a gorgeous wreath. Plus, you can enjoy tea, coffee and holiday sweets from our kitchen while you work.

\$65.00 per person (+HST)

December 13 - 15: Christmas Lunches

We are thrilled to finally host Christmas Lunches again! From Tuesday December 12 to Thursday December 14, celebrate the holiday with a locally-inspired feast The beautiful buffet prepared by Chef Matthew includes Crieff Maple Brined Roast Turkey, Slow Roasted Beef Striploin, Sweet and Spicy Greens and holiday treats including Sticky Toffee Pudding, Classic Shortbread and Ginger Cookies. It's the perfect meal to share with a few close friends or a group of colleagues. 12:30 - 2:30 PM - \$35.00 per person (+HST)

Reserve your table today by calling 519-824-7898 or email events@crieffhills.com

December 3
Cookie Decorating Class with Emily's Cookie Jar
Spend a cozy December afternoon in our historic schoolhouse learning to decorate Christmas cookies! Emily of Emily's Cookie Jar will guide you to design beautiful and Instagram-worthy sugar cookies. \$35.00 per person (+HST) includes all materials plus light holiday refreshments from our kitchen.

For more information on these events contact - Crieff Hills Retreat Centre,
Concession 1 7098, N0B 2J0, Puslinch, 519-824-7898 events@crieffhills.com

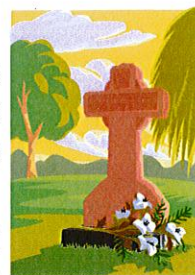
Youth for Christ

The staff are very happy to be back at LDSS with the leadership program and coaching volleyball. The drop-in centre is quite busy on Tuesday and Thursday evenings. There are presently 8 volunteers helping to make these evenings possible for the youth in our community. In their monthly reports, each of the staff mention their opportunities to mentor students. This is a very important aspect of their ministries, as, for many youth, these are very challenging times. Plans are beginning for an in-person fundraising banquet in the Spring. It will be nice to gather again to share in and support the many programs Youth for Christ offers in North Perth. Please continue to pray for the staff and the many youth impacted by their love and care. And if you would like to support them financially, please contact their office at info@yfcnorthperth.com or 519-291-9296.



Memorial Service

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



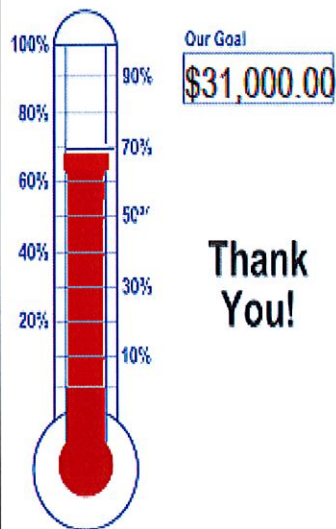
With this in mind, the Eaton Funeral Home is holding a Service of Remembrance at **Trinity United Church**, Listowel, on Sunday, December 4th at 2:00 pm

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.

"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



As of November 6, our giving's to **Presbyterians Sharing** totaled **\$21,463.00**, which is **69.24%** of the pledged amount for this year (**\$31,000.00**). Also, we have raised a total of **\$20,603.00** for **PWS&D—Ukraine** appeal.



The Britton WMS are happy to be able to say that 185 dish cloths were knit and donated to the Salvation Army Food Bank. A dish cloth is put in each food box that is packed for Christmas time and they pack over 200 each December.



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!*



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.

Forms and money can be placed in a separate envelope on collection plates.

Cost is \$11.00 for each memorial poinsettia.

For payment:

Cheques (*payable to: Knox Presbyterian Church Memorial Fund*), or exact cash can be dropped off at the Church Office. Hours are 9 am-2 pm Monday through Friday They may also be placed on the collection plate in a separate envelope. **Please DO NOT use E-transfers for Poinsettias.**

Money and order forms are due November 29th.

After being on display in the Sanctuary, Sunday December 4th, Poinsettias will be delivered to Knox Shut-Ins

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 December 4.

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 December 4.



Income & Expense Statement
January 1, 2022- October 31, 2022

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>Budget</u>
<u>Income</u>			
General Fund	\$ 184,447.64	\$ 181,967.68	\$ 205,750.00
Presbyterians Sharing	\$ 20,958.00	\$ 18,185.31	\$ 25,833.30
Other Income	\$ 3,658.75	\$ 912.60	\$ 7,850.00
Other Missions/Restricted	\$ 47,773.00	\$ 26,215.62	\$ 20,720.80
Total Income	\$ 256,837.39	\$ 227,281.21	\$ 260,154.10
<u>Expenses</u>			
Salaries/Personnel	\$ 90,674.09	\$ 147,317.10	\$ 113,912.12
Administrative Expenses	\$ 28,882.84	\$ 25,885.52	\$ 29,703.15
Building/Grounds	\$ 50,859.08	\$ 30,506.47	\$ 60,097.41
Missions/Outreach	\$ 54,691.00	\$ 28,575.31	\$ 35,873.40
Christian Education	\$ 2,833.06	\$ 2,118.53	\$ 6,725.00
Other Expenses	\$ 17,594.94	\$ 5,104.06	\$ 16,316.80
248 Livingstone Expenses	\$ 10,065.14	\$ 7,582.06	\$ 8,625.39
Total Expenses	\$ 255,600.15	\$ 247,089.05	\$ 271,253.27
Excess Income\Expenses	\$ 1,237.24	\$ (19,807.84)	\$ (11,099.17)
<u>Net Cash Position</u>			
Net Cash Position on January 1, 2022	\$ 55,516.93	January 1, 2021	\$ 56,660.60
Excess Expenses	\$ 1,237.24	Excess Expenses	\$ (19,807.84)
Net Cash Position October 31, 2022	<u>\$ 56,754.17</u>	October 31, 2021	<u>\$ 36,852.76</u>
Bank Balance Oct. 31, 2022	\$ 62,744.81	October 31, 2021	\$ 46,523.01
HST Receivable	\$ 2,217.39	HST Receivable	\$ 1,126.75
Less: Liabilities (Nicaragua/ Camperships/ Misc.Charities)	\$ (8,208.03)	Less: Liabilities Held	\$ (10,797.00)
Net Cash Position October 31, 2022	<u>\$ 56,754.17</u>	October 31, 2021	<u>\$ 36,852.76</u>

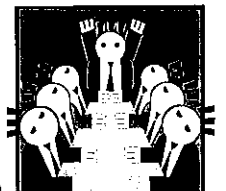
Submitted By: *Pamela D. Coleman*

October was a busy month and many of you may have noticed that there were new doors put on the church. This was done for a couple of reasons but the biggest ones were for safety and that there were issues with being able to lock the old doors. Thanks to everyone who helped with this project.

The Board would like to thank everyone for their continued financial support which allows these types of projects to be completed and allows us to maintain the beautiful church that we are blessed to worship in.

The New Year is fast approaching and we are still looking for more people to join the Board of Managers team. Please prayerfully consider this opportunity to meet new people and to become involved in a group that meets once a month, 10 times a year, and is always looking for new talents.

Betty Bannerman
Chair



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 be standing in the Nathex again this year. It will be present during the first four Sunday's of Advent. Your donated gifts of hats, mitts and scarves will be delivered to the Salvation Army and Evangel Hall in time for Christmas and the coming cold weather.



Each Christmas we have a great response to this outreach. Thank you to all who participate. Your donations help to keep many people warm each winter.



Our mission appeal during Advent is to raise funds for the Salvation Army food bank.

There will be increased use of all food banks this winter. Let's help to keep the supply sufficient to feed those in need,

and keep our community strong during the colder upcoming months.

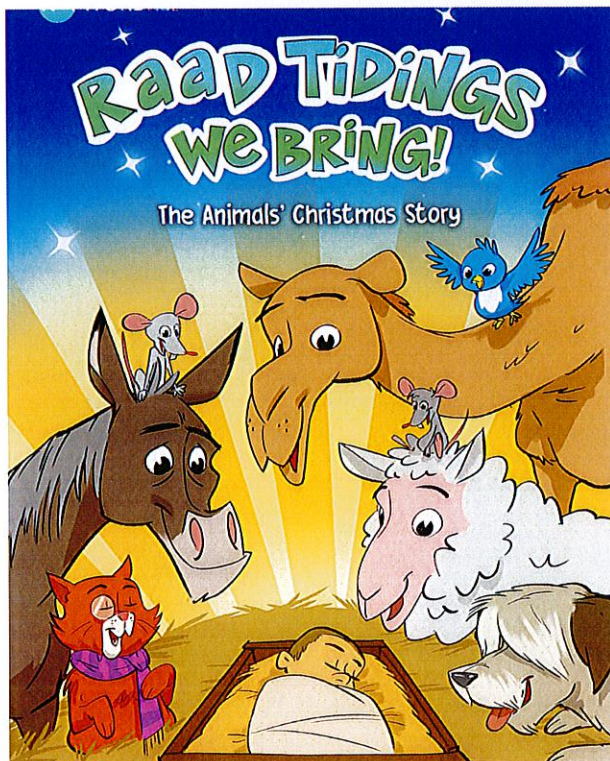
We ask that you use the third column of your giving's envelope, marking it "Food Bank" to support this cause.

Jim Corry

Knox Sunday School Christmas Program 2022

Dress Rehearsal is
Friday December 9th @ 4:30.

The performance will take place
Sunday December 11th @ 10:30 am.





THE *Music* OF
CHRISTMAS

Sunday, December 18th, 2022

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

PRESENTED BY
KNOX CHOIR & FRIENDS

Knox Presbyterian Church, Listowel

Free will offering at the door
A portion of proceeds will be donated to a local charity

In the event of bad weather, the snow-date will be
Wednesday, December 21, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.



SHEPHERDS OF THE STORY

Come Hear The Story
At Knox Listowel
7:00 PM December 24th