

KNOX NEWS

JUNE 2018 ISSUE # 43

Knox Presbyterian Church, Listowel
knoxpres@wightman.ca 519-291-4690
www.knoxlistowel.ca

"...a welcoming family of God's people, committed to worshipping Jesus Christ, sharing our faith and doing His work in the world."

Next Holy Communion—June 3, 2018

INSIDE KNOX NEWS

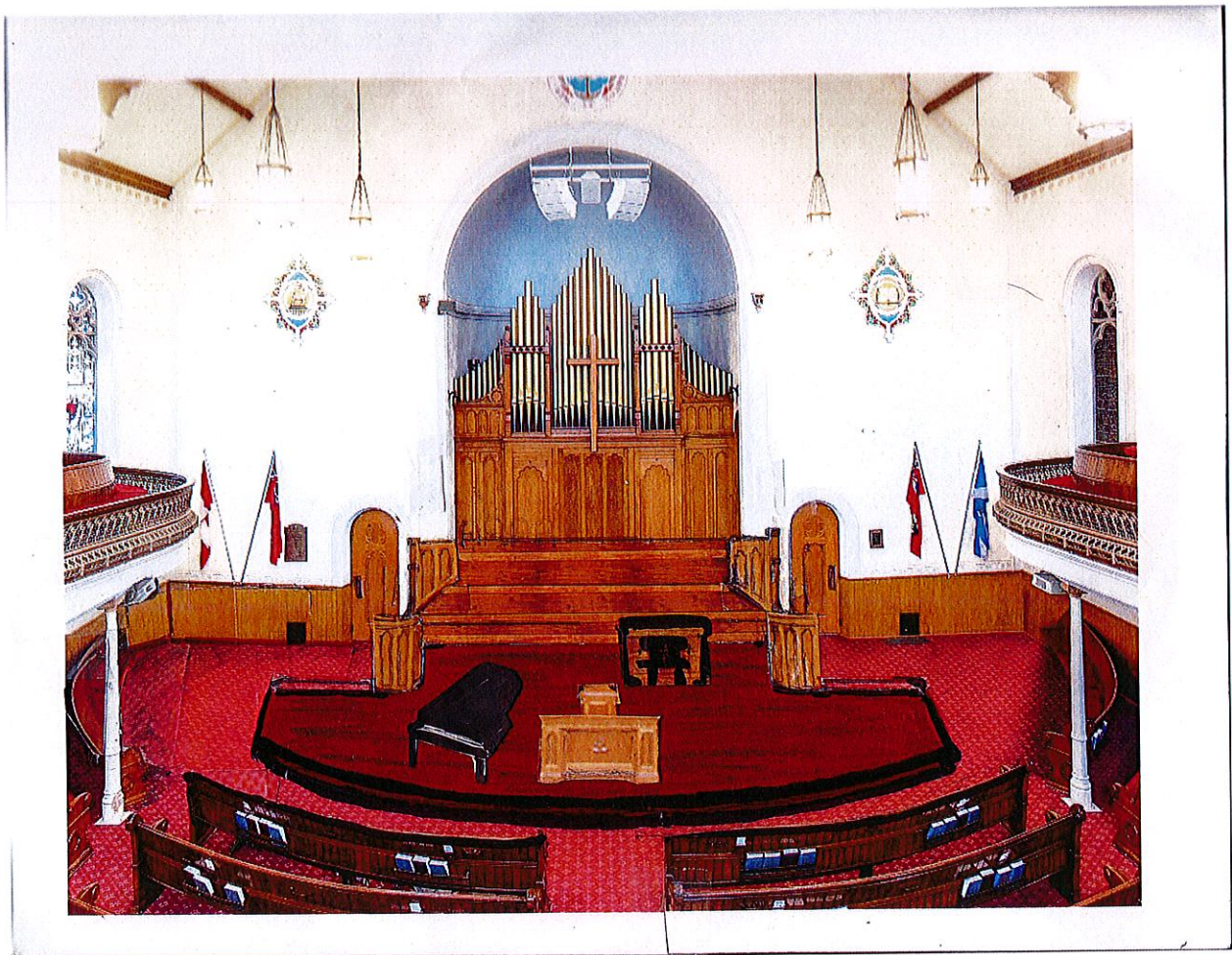
- ✦ **Sanctuary Renovation Project**
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- ✦ **Syrian Refugee Article**
- ✦ **Camp Kintail Information and much, much more**

Upcoming Dates

- | | |
|------------|---------------------------------|
| June 1-3 | Jr. High Retreat @ Camp Kintail |
| June 3 | Communion Sunday |
| June 13 | Joint WMS Meeting |
| June 10 | Church School Wrap Up |
| June 17 | Father's Day |
| June 19 | Over 90's Party |
| July 2 | Canada Day - Office Closed |
| July 6-15 | Pam Vacation - Office Closed |
| July 16-20 | Vacation Bible School |

Update on the Platform Renovation

In May the Session voted by a significant majority to go forward with the renovation of the dais and choir loft. In the course of our consultation with the Congregation in April, an alternative design was submitted which the Elders feel deserves serious consideration. It provides significantly more room on the platform while reducing the cost, since alterations to the basement steps and the steps in the hallway should not be necessary. The new design is wheelchair accessible and also re-uses some of the existing architectural features. Further research is being done and the hope is to make a decision on the design in early June. If things fall into place the renovation could take place over the summer when attendance is lower and we can meet in the (air-conditioned!) church hall. In the meantime we would like to share the new concept with you. If you have any suggestions or comments we'd love to hear from you via an email to myself at donpmccallum@wightman.ca or a note to George Sjaarda.





Income & Expense Statement
January 1, 2018- April 30, 2018

<u>Income</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>Budget</u>
General Fund	\$ 70,202.79	\$ 69,136.79	\$ 80,168.44
Children's Fund	\$ 34.00	\$ 21.00	\$ 66.68
Presbyterians Sharing	\$ 8,213.32	\$ 7,788.32	\$ 9,400.00
Other Missions	\$ 12,248.64	\$ 11,320.08	\$ 8,280.00
Other Income	\$ 4,690.50	\$ 3,659.46	\$ 3,133.36
Total Income	\$ 95,389.25	\$ 91,925.65	\$ 101,048.48

<u>Expenses</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Salaries/Personnel	\$ 55,031.63	\$ 58,868.46	\$ 57,238.53
Administrative Expenses	\$ 12,881.71	\$ 13,260.87	\$ 14,430.55
Building/Grounds	\$ 18,018.16	\$ 19,857.15	\$ 16,315.04
Missions/Outreach	\$ 16,665.57	\$ 14,522.76	\$ 13,089.36
Christian Education	\$ 341.07	\$ 677.87	\$ 2,736.68
Ministry Expenses	\$ 900.92	\$ 1,027.62	\$ 1,116.64
Library	\$ 890.27	\$ 646.62	\$ 733.36
Music Ministry	\$ 977.08	\$ 2,264.34	\$ 1,473.36
248 Livingstone Expenses	\$ 3,686.43	\$ 3,865.76	\$ 3,713.96
Total Expenses	\$ 109,392.84	\$ 114,991.45	\$ 110,847.48
Excess Expenses	\$ (14,003.59)	\$ (23,065.80)	\$ (9,799.00)



Net Cash Position April 30, 2018

	<u>2018</u>		<u>2017</u>
Net Cash Position on January 1, 2018	\$ 56,412.63	January 1, 2017	\$ 57,490.80
Excess Expenses	\$ (14,003.59)	Excess Expenses	\$ (23,065.80)
Net Cash Position on April 30, 2018	<u>\$ 42,409.04</u>	Apr. 30, 2017	<u>\$ 34,425.00</u>
Bank Balance April 30, 2018	\$ 48,608.66	Apr. 30, 2017	\$ 40,855.79
HST Receivable	\$ 2,100.38	GST Receivable	\$ 1,689.21
Less: Liabilities (Habitat/Refugee/Nicaragua)	\$ (8,300.00)	Less: Liabilities Held	\$ (8,120.00)
Net Cash Position on April 30, 2018	<u>\$ 42,409.04</u>	Apr. 30, 2017	<u>\$ 34,425.00</u>

submitted by *Pamela D. Coleman*

As I write my first report as chairman of the board, I'm amazed at all the work and cooperation from the members of board and congregation that was put into the Opportunity Sale.

We raised approximately \$5000.00. A great big Thank You to all who helped in anyway, setting up, selling items, putting everything away and many other jobs that were done.

We have a full slate of board members this year. We welcome Joanne Brown, Pam Jackson & Mike Boneschanker to the board.

The board has several projects on the go. We are continuing with the restoration of the stained glass windows. Several other projects are in the planning stages, when time and money allow them to be done. Small repairs are always being completed. If you see something that needs repaired, please bring it to the attention of a member of the board.

With God's guidance and persistent work, much can be accomplished.

Respectively submitted, Ivan Suggitt, Board Chairman

Knox raised \$2,845.00 towards metal for Nicaragua homes.

Project Zinc houses in the community of ARENERA in Ticuantepe.

This project has blessed 3 families who lived in conditions of extreme poverty, they built a house with wood lined with zinc on the roof and walls, because previously their roof was plastic and the walls were also made of plastic.

1. Xiomara Benavidez

The story of this family is very interesting. They were taking care of the house of a lady who is Catholic, but 5 months ago they converted to Christ and began to visit the Church. This did not please the owner of the house, and she told them that if they did not leave the church they would have to leave their house and gave them until April 1 to vacate the house, so they had great faith and decided to continue with their faith and began to pray and fast to obtain a house, for them It is very difficult, because of its economic situation, the truth was that they had nothing to start with, the only thing they had was an empty lot, and that's when the Zinc



project for houses appeared as a response from God for this family. This changed their life, to see how their prayers had been answered, and their faith strengthened. They are very happy now that they have a roof to sleep in, they are grateful from the deepest part of their heart for the person that God used for this to come true.

(above) This is the land that the family had with the hope of being able to build their house

Here is the house already built and a dream come true.

They are very happy



2. Amelia Plata



This family lives in extreme conditions, 8 people live in the house, this really impacts my life, to see how it is possible that this family is in these extreme poverty conditions and to see the children there, this was very sad, but I thank God for sending this donor and being able to change the conditions of this family a bit, when we arrived for them it was great news that they were going to help them build their house.

This was the condition of his house previously.



So this is your home. This family has a safer place to live, they thank the donor and ask in their prayers that God bless him.

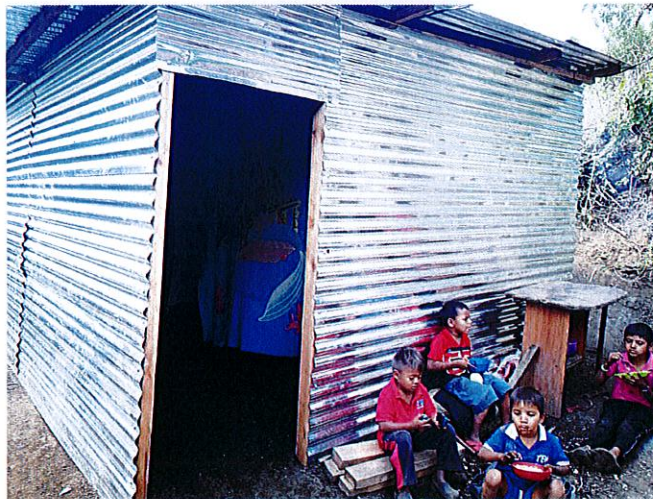


3. Mariluz Marengo

In this house live 6 people and the conditions are extreme, this was the worst house, there really was a need to help this family.



This was the condition of the house.

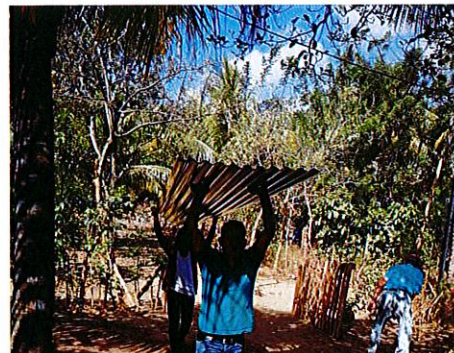


This is the current condition of the house, I found the children eating their lunch, this family thanks the donor, because for them it was something impossible to do, but their conditions improve a little with this house.



This project turned out to be a blessing for these families, I want to thank the donor deeply and I ask that the blessings of God be on your life and family. There are still some families missing, but this is a beginning of something great that impacts this humble community.

Other photos of the project:



News from the Christian Education Committee

At our meeting last month we learned that Nicole Kaufmann had decided to resign as our Youth and Family Coordinator at the end of this school year. Nicole is full-time teacher and has decided that she needs to make some adjustments to her time commitments. We appreciate the work that Nicole has done over the past few years and thank her for the time she has been able to spend with us.

Since we are now back to Year 1 of our 6-year rotation for the Grade 1-6 group we anticipate that we have most of the resources we need on file. Deanne will work with our Office Administrator, Pam Coleman, to oversee those resources and make sure that they get to our teachers and other volunteers. New resources are on order for the Youth Class and we look forward to working with those volunteer leaders as well.

The Garden Committee is looking for summer volunteers again this year. If you are able to help out in any way, please speak to Pam in the office or one of the committee members.

Bobbi Jo Stewart, Beth Purcell, Donna McMillan and Sandra Boertien



COMMUNION

Communion will be celebrated at the **Caressant Care Retirement Home** on Sunday, June 3rd at 1:00 p.m.

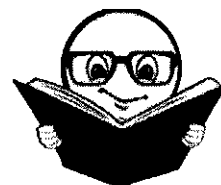
MacDonald Memorial Library New Titles...Spring 2018

Adults

Mark Batterson- *Whisper*
Colleen Coble- *The View from Rainshadow Bay*
Mesu Andrews- *Isaiah's Daughter*
Lynn Austin- *Where We Belong*
Tracie Peterson- *In Places Hidden*
Irene Hannon - *Pelican's Point*
Angela Hunt - *Paul Apostle of Christ (DVD)*
Bart Millard *I Can Only Imagine (DVD)*

Children

Leonard Dion- *Gobi A Little Dog with a Big Heart*
Bible Heroes
When God Made Light



DVD's

The Star; *All Saints*; *On Wings of Eagles*; *Extraordinary*;

It's That Time of Year Again

Once again the Session is sponsoring a party to honour those in the congregation who are 90 years and older. This year it will be held on Tues. June 19 at 2 p.m. If you know of someone who will be 90 before the end of Dec. 2018, please call the Church Office (519)291-4690 as soon as possible so that invitations can include everyone that qualifies.



As of May 6, our giving's to *Presbyterians Sharing* totaled \$ 8,64832, which is 30.67 % of our pledged amount for this year (\$28,200.00). In other words, we are about \$ 3,101.68 **SHORT** of where we should be at this time in our giving's!

Flight to Freedom:
Destination Unknown

Excerpts of a story in the Rural Route (Issue 02, March 2018) by Jennifer Bowman

They asked people on the plane where Listowel was.
Nobody knew.

This was their flight to freedom and a new life. But after 10 long hours when the plane finally landed, instead of relief, they felt anxiety.

Muhammed Ajjo and his wife Shirin Willo boarded the plane with everything they owned, their two children, no passports, and only the name of the town they were told they were headed to somewhere in Canada.

“It was 12 o’clock at night and Shirin asked, ‘where do we go?’ I said ‘I don’t know,’” Muhammed remembers.

Muhammed walked out of the customs area into the arrivals lounge. In the crowd he noticed a sign with his family member’ names on it – in Arabic. Tears glistened in some of their eyes as they remember.

In the English he’s learned since he arrived, he tries to express his overwhelming joy and relief.

“I look and see my family’s names. I am very happy. I forget I am tired” Muhammed says.

The Ajjos are one of 23 cases (120 individuals total) of Syrian refugees who have resettled in the Stratford and South Georgian Bay areas since April 2015. They arrived in May 2017, the result of a combined effort of about 15 churches in the Listowel area and the Mennonite Central Committee.

The Ajjos had led a pleasant life in Syria with their two young children. He left Syria first leaving his wife and children behind while he went to Turkey to find a job and a place to live. Shirin and their two young children left in 2013 when the bombing in Aleppo started.

Crossing into Turkey used to be easy. They didn’t need passports and there was very little conversation at the border. The guards would smile and send them through. But policies changed, the border closed, and now without passports, they became refugees. Shirin and the children waited at the Turkish border for nine days. The children were sick and vomiting for a week – from fear and contaminated water.

“You can’t speak to the police, they hit you”, Shirin says.

Now eight months later I am meeting with them at their home. We are joined by Fierouz Oukla, Hasan Alchahin and his wife Khadija Khalil to discuss their stories.

As the bombs began exploding in Aleppo, Fierouz and her family also fled Syria. Although both Fierouz and Khadija are from Telara, a town just outside Aleppo, they didn’t know each other until they met in Listowel.

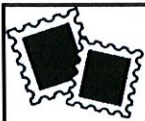
Fierouz spent one day on a bus during her escape to Lebanon. Police would periodically stop the bus, search passengers, sometimes take men.

They are finding ways to create a new family here. The children are enrolled in school and learning quickly, the adults participate in daily English as a Second Language classes [here at Knox]. There are about 10 refugee families in the Listowel area sponsored by different groups who have connected, partly through the classes.

This is only a small part of a 3 page article. If you would like to read it in its entirety, please see Pam in the office.



Back: Fierouz Oukla, Shirin Willo, Muhammed Ajjo, Hasan Alchahin, Khadija Khalil
Front: Hanife Ajjo, Abdullah Ajjo, Riham Alchahin



Used Stamps



Once again I sent off a fully packed box (8"x16"x9") of nicely trimmed, used stamps, to the Leprosy Missions of Canada in Markham, Ontario. Stamp wholesalers pay \$10.00 per pound for the stamps and in 2017 over \$6,000.00 was raised and their hope for 2018 is to equal or exceed this amount. This amount completely cures 60 leprosy patients. They are also pleased to accept monetary donations, of course.

If you have postcards or envelopes dated prior to 1950, kindly send them without removing the stamps, as they are greatly sought after by many collectors. They also welcome all foreign, as well as Canadian and American commemorative stamps.

If you have any questions about their program, or would like to make a donation, go to www.effecthope.org or write to Leprosy Mission, 200-90 Allstate Parkway, Markham, Ontario L3R 6H3

Thank you for all of the stamps you put in the basket and I will continue to start filling another box for 2018, as the Mission works towards the day when leprosy is eradicated.

Phyllis Thompson

Opportunity Sale 2018 is

over. I would like to thank all who donated items for the sale and those who sorted and displayed them. The hall looked lovely and the downstairs clothing and accessories – WOW! The book display in the parlour was an excellent idea and looked great! Thank you to BTE for the use of the trailer – it held some interesting items.



The weather didn't cooperate on Friday, with the high winds and loss of power for a couple of hours, but the sale went on as planned. The sun shone for Saturday and we had a great BBQ.

Thanks to Bobbi Jo Stewart, Laura Tryssenaar, Donna McMillan and Chandra Martin for helping me when I was unable to be there. We made approximately \$4,990.00.

Thanks to everyone who helped pack things up and take things down. Thank you to Conway Furniture for delivering leftovers to MCC in Elmira.

Hugs to all, Marsha Hamilton

Kintail News 2018

All Ages Craft Retreat: May 11 @ 7:00 pm - May 13 @ 1:00 pm | \$158.20

We are glad to be able to offer this all ages craft retreat every year. This weekend is a perfect weekend for families to spend together, or for anyone who loves to craft! There is plenty of room for all types of crafts, so bring what you have or come and try something new.

Board Game Retreat: May 11 @ 7:00 pm - May 13 @ 1:00 pm | \$158.20

New for 2018 Camp Kintail is proud to announce our inaugural Board Game retreat. Come along to camp on this weekend for a fun-filled time spent with family and friends and immerse yourself in the world of board gaming. Whether it is some of the old classics or games that are new and exciting, this weekend is sure to be one filled with good times, laughter, and fond memories.

This weekend will be complimented by the reliable camp kintail kitchen and their meals. Come and stay in the dormitory style rooms of MacDonald Lodge or out in the insulated cabins complete with electricity and lighting.

Kintail Music Day: May 15 @ 10:00 am - 3:00 pm | \$20 REGISTER NOW Cost: \$20.00, includes lunch.

At Camp Kintail we love to sing. From morning chapel to closing campfire, each day is filled with song. And over the years we've collected a number of great songs that we'd like to share. So join us on May 15th for a day of singing with Reuben 'Roots' St. Louis as we sing some of your favourites out of our songbook, dust off some oldies that you forgot and discover some new ones you'll want to take home with you.

Staff Commissioning and Open House: July 7 @ 2:00 pm - 6:30 pm

Come and introduce your camper to camp, meet staff, and enjoy a delicious meal. At 4:00, we gather in our beautiful chapel to worship and commission the camp staff of 2018. The tree dedication ceremony will follow at 5:00pm, where we celebrate the service of staff or volunteers who have dedicated five years or more to service to camp. The family BBQ starts at 5:30, and is by donation.

Knox Presbyterian Church ☎ 220 Livingstone Avenue North ☎ Listowel, Ontario N4W 1P9
519-291-4690 knoxpres@wightman.ca ☎ www.knoxlistowel.ca

Minister: Rev. Donald P. J. McCallum Cell #519-444-8434 donpmccallum@wightman.ca

Director of Music: Agnes-Marie Henderson

Office Administrator: Pamela Coleman pcolemanknox@wightman.ca

CCLI # 1209835 ☎ CRL # 134937 ☎ CVLI # 50160573

Office Hours: Monday through Friday 9:00 am – 12:00 pm and 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm