

KNOX NEWS

MARCH 2023 † ISSUE # 59

Knox Presbyterian Church, Listowel ON 519-291-4690

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Next Holy Communion March 5, 2023

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Easter Worship Services

April 7 Good Friday

10:30 am - Traditional Good Friday Worship service

April 17 Easter Sunday

10:30 am Worship Service



Upcoming Dates

Feb. 21	Shrove Tuesday 5-6:30 pm Pancake Supper
Feb. 22	Ash Wednesday
Feb. 26	Baptism Sunday
March 3	World Day of Prayer
March 5	Communion Sunday
April 2	Palm Sunday
April 7	Good Friday - Office Closed
April 9	Easter Sunday
April 10	Easter Monday - Office Closed
May 14	Mother's Day - Baptism Sunday

SPRING FORWARD

Don't forget to change your clocks
Sunday March 12!

"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.



From the Minister's Desk

Hey. I hope your day is treating you well.

Lent is just about to start, or has already started, and I am going to say something I have always figured, which is, Lent is a weird time in the Christian Church. It is one of the only times that we really focus on bettering ourselves. When I say focus, I mean focus. We are supposed to be growing in faith, and getting better at being a disciple of Jesus all the time. For some reason, we set aside Lent as an extra special time to try to do so.

Historically, Lent used to be just a time of fasting leading up to Easter, but it functioned in a similar way for people following Jesus. Here is a hot fresh quote that sums it up well. Saint Augustine of Hippo once said: "Our fast at any other time is voluntary; but during Lent, we sin if we do not fast."

The idea is that Lent is that extra special time in which we set aside to improve our Christian way of life. In modern day it has moved on from fasting to something else entirely. It can be about giving something up, or maybe about doing something good every day. It seems to me that Lent ends up being a kind of loud yell if we have rested too far into grace. It wakes us up to the fact that we do have responsibilities as followers of Jesus...because we do.

Lent is also special to me. The beginning of Lent is actually the first time that I ever preached at a Sunday morning service. It was at South Gate Presbyterian Church, on February 19th, 2012 and the title of my sermon was "What Did You Give Up for Lent?". Lent had just started and I wanted to know if people were practicing. The entire point of the message was to remind people that Lent is a thing, and that we should take it seriously. Just as Jesus fasted, so should we, but it doesn't need to be all food. It really is about giving up temptations. Lent is one of the only times in which the church especially, asks us to be better people and that is worth being reminded of. If you have in you the desire to improve as a person, Lent is your time of year. New Years resolutions are kind of passed us, right? So, I will ask you the same thing twenty-three year old me asked my childhood congregation..."What are you going to give up for Lent?". I hope that somewhere you have an answer. My answer is "Tim Hortons", so you know I am giving something up too.

See you, but not for the next forty days, at Tim's.

Rev. James Clark



Lenten Services

Please join us for our Mid Week Lenten Service and Lunch

Service begins at 12:10 pm for 2 Wednesday's during Lent, with a luncheon following at 12:30

March 1: Service led by Rev. Ernie Naylor
Atwood Ladies providing lunch

March 8: Service led by Rev. James Clark,
Britton WMS providing lunch



Prayer
Shawl
Ministry

The Opportunity Knox Group continues to provide the **PRAYER SHAWL**

outreach Program within our church and our community!

These shawls have been hand knit with the loving hands of individuals within our congregation. As a result of an appeal for knitters, we now have a good supply of these precious gifts.

The colourful, light weight and warm shawls are the perfect gift for the elderly, sick or anyone who is in need of comfort. Each shawl is accompanied by a bible verse explaining the blue threads in the tassles.

If you know of anyone that would benefit from having the loving arms of God wrapped around them, please make your request to Debbie Seiler (519-291-4832) or ask any member of the Opportunity Knox Group, or the office.



COMMUNION

For Communion on Sunday March 5. we are returning to "normal". That is, we will not be offering additional juice and crackers, just the elements passed by the Elders. For the shut-ins who choose to watch the service online, we continue to encourage you to participate at home by preparing your own elements ahead of time.

During the week following this upcoming Communion Sunday, March 5, Rev. James Clark 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.



Income & Expense Statement
January 1, 2023- January 31, 2023



<u>Income</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>Budget</u>
General Fund	\$ 17,201.08	\$ 14,746.38	\$ 22,475.00
Presbyterians Sharing	\$ 1,814.00	\$ 1,864.00	\$ 2,326.42
Other Missions/Restricted	\$ 2,367.00	\$ 2,232.00	\$ 2,082.08
Other Income	\$ 1,148.00		\$ 425.01
Total Income	\$ 22,530.08	\$ 18,842.38	\$ 27,308.51
 <u>Expenses</u>			
Salaries/Personnel	\$ 16,405.81	\$ 9,670.87	\$ 15,295.49
Administrative Expenses	\$ 22,392.16	\$ 16,020.79	\$ 19,120.16
Building/Grounds	\$ 3,799.17	\$ 5,486.04	\$ 7,532.98
Missions/Outreach	\$ 2,775.00	\$ 2,675.00	\$ 3,008.76
Christian Education	\$ (86.54)	\$ -	\$ 362.50
Ministry Expenses	\$ -	\$ 1,377.54	\$ 87.50
Library	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 225.01
Music Ministry	\$ 431.46	\$ 1,057.54	\$ 400.00
Miscellaneous	\$ 33.71	\$ -	\$ 4.17
248 Livingstone Expenses	\$ 2,519.51	\$ 2,181.29	\$ 2,310.33
Total Expenses	\$ 48,270.28	\$ 38,469.07	\$ 48,346.90
Excess Expenses	\$ (25,740.20)	\$ (19,626.69)	\$ (21,038.39)
 <u>Net Cash Position</u>			
	<u>2023</u>		<u>2022</u>
Bank Balance January 31, 2023	\$ 20,108.35	Jan. 31, 2022	\$ 43,176.66
HST Receivable	\$ 5,084.01	HST Receivable	\$ 2,870.58
Cashable GIC Held	\$ 30,000.00		
Less: Liabilities (Nicaragua /Kintail /Campership/Misc Charities)	\$ (7,517.03)	Less: Liabilities Held	\$ (10,157.00)
Net Cash Position on January 31, 2023	\$ 47,675.33	Jan. 31, 2022	\$ 35,890.24

Submitted by Pamela D. Coleman

Board of Managers Report

During 2022, we had eight members on the board retire. We are very thankful for the dedication of these members. Some of these members that are retiring had many years' experience on the board. We also know that if needed in a pinch, these members will step up again to help the church as they can.

We are excited to announce that we have six new members for the board of managers and look forward to a great year going forward managing the different aspects of the church building.

As you can tell we're still down two members from the start of February of 2022, so it's not too late for people to join. Please give this prayerful consideration. Thank You.

Earl Mayes, Board of Managers

Wanted: Members for the Fellowship Group.

We are a small group meeting at the church on the 4th Friday of the month. During the winter months we meet in the afternoon and the rest of the year during the evening. We had a small but lively group for our January games afternoon. Several learned how to play Lost Heir, while others played Dominoes, Scrabble, Yahtzee, etc. In February Constable Kim Lyon of the OPP will be speaking on Frauds & Scams. In March we will have a speaker from the Alzheimer's Society speaking to us. During our years together we have enjoyed touring local gardens, plays in Drayton & St Jacobs, potluck meals, many guest speakers and lots of laughs. Please come and join us. All are welcome and are invited to bring a friend.

For more information contact Shirley Suggitt
226-430- 2220

Humanitarian Needs Appeal

"The purpose of HOPE Links North Perth is to offer tangible assistance and in so doing open opportunities to listen and strengthen as allies those we serve" - Gwyneth Woods

Knox cares about it's community and about those who are struggling most in it. Our Lenten Appeal will be donations to HOPE Links North Perth. This is the mission that is running out of the old Anglican church building on Main Street. HOPE Links strives to serve the tangible needs of those who are under-resourced. It is funded by contributions, the Salvation Army and The United Way but it isn't just dollars we are looking for. Mark the third portion of your envelope HOPE Links to support it financially. Closer to Easter, you will be given the chance to help serve a meal at HOPE Links' HOPE Eats program. Rev. James will have more information on that in the coming weeks.

Thanks for your support
The Humanitarian Needs Committee

**The staff and Session of
Knox Presbyterian
Church Listowel wish
you and your family a very
Safe and Blessed Easter
Season!**



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,

All 2022 Income Tax Receipts have either been E-mailed, hand delivered or snail mailed. If you have not received your receipt, please contact the office.

Knox Presbyterian Church

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Minister: Rev. James W. Clark

Jameswilliamclark3rd@gmail.com

Director of Music: Agnes-Marie Henderson

Office Admin.: Pamela Coleman

Technical Director: Jason Drummond

Sunday School Superintendent: Deanne Deelstra

knoxchurchlistowel@gmail.com

CCLI # 1209835 # 20691531 CRL # 134937

CVLI # 50160573

Office Hours:

Monday to Friday: 9:00 am – 2:00 pm

Rev. Clark's Office Hours

Tuesdays and Thursdays 11:00 am – 4:00 pm

(barring any unforeseen emergency pastoral care that may come up)