

# **KNOX NEWS & NOTES October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

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Email: [knoxchurch@wcgwave.ca](mailto:knoxchurch@wcgwave.ca) Website: [www.knoxunitedbrandon.ca](http://www.knoxunitedbrandon.ca)

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## **Sunday Morning Worship on Youtube**

Sunday morning worship can be found each Sunday at 10:30 am on our Youtube channel,

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCkSYmhIYagMxAaqG5b0Wruw> .

You can also search for, "The Knox Konnexion" on Youtube to find our channel.

The bulletins (with hymns) will be posted weekly on our website.

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## **NEW! MINUTE FOR MISSION**

**October 25, 2020**

### **Equip a Child for School**

<https://www.united-church.ca/stories/equip-child-school>

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## **NEW! COVID CLOSURE UPDATE**

At its October meeting, the Knox Council decided to take no action to reopen for worship at this time. Concerns were raised about the growing number of cases in the Winnipeg region and the possibility of cases rising in Westman following Thanksgiving gatherings. We know folks are hungry for connection, and we are reviewing options for the coming months.

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## **UPDATE! Christmas Cheer 2020**

"As you may have heard in the news this week, Westman Christmas Cheer has cancelled this years Christmas hamper program due to COVID-19. Your Christmas Cheer committee will be meeting to discuss ways we can support our community during the holiday season this year. We will keep you advised.

If you have already made a donation, we will hold it in our reserve funds until decisions are made. Or, if you wish your donation returned, please contact the church office."

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**Westman Sharing Circle**  
**Monday, October 26 6:30 pm**

Our purpose: To acknowledge and overcome the separation between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples, and to deepen relationships among all nations in the Brandon area by:

- Being together in circles of respect, understanding, healing, friendship and prayer
- Sharing personal experiences and wisdom
- Learning our shared history
- Challenging people to support and create local initiatives for justice and right relations
- Moving forward in a good way

Email Craig for the Zoom link: [craigatknox@wcgwave.ca](mailto:craigatknox@wcgwave.ca)

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**Knox Fall Luncheon – October 28**

KNOX FALL LUNCHEON will be held on Wednesday, Oct. 28th. The format will be like the spring luncheon, delivery and takeout/pickup only. We hope you support this fundraiser, the spring luncheon was very, very well supported.

Menu: Soup - Borscht, Cream of Potato or Hamburger Barley.  
Sandwiches - Egg, Salmon, or Ham Salad, or Ham and Cheese or assorted.  
Dessert - assorted tarts!!!  
Cheese and pickles included as well as extra surprises!!!!!!

GLUTEN FREE options are available for soup, sandwiches and dessert.

Cost - Adults - \$9.00, Children under 12 - \$4.00, Preschoolers FREE

DELIVERY will be between 11:30 and 12:30 PM. Pick up orders will be ready at 12 Noon at 17th St. doors. Please have your payment for lunch in an envelope, change will not be available. Cheques are to be made to Knox United Church.

**ORDERS will be taken at the church office, 204-727-6975 or e-mail [knoxchurch@wcgwave.ca](mailto:knoxchurch@wcgwave.ca) up till noon Monday Oct. 26.**

ALL MANITOBA HEALTH COVID rules will be enforced.

\*\* If you would like to help either by working in the kitchen or auditorium or making tarts please let Sharon Christmas know 204-7280541 or email [rschrimas@gmail.com](mailto:rschrimas@gmail.com). \*\*

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## **Sobeys Gift Cards**

Sobeys Gift Cards are still available, even though the church office is closed to the public. Please contact Sharon McIntosh at the church office to arrange for purchase of gift cards.

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## **Broadview Reading Club**

Do you enjoy reading the articles in Broadview, the magazine of the United Church of Canada? Have you ever thought -- gee, I'd like to discuss this with someone?

Well, here is your opportunity! United Churches across the country are starting a Broadview Reading Club and Knox is going to join the trend. Debby Dandy and Laura Crookshanks will host a time of discussion and sharing ideas each month. The first meeting will be on October 29 at 10:00 am. For questions and/or to register, please call email Debby at [dcoombs.dandy@mymts.net](mailto:dcoombs.dandy@mymts.net) or Laura at [crooks@wcgwave.ca](mailto:crooks@wcgwave.ca).

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## **6 Session Study — Why are We Here by Mary Jo Leddy**

Acclaimed author and human rights advocate Mary Jo Leddy examines the moral challenges facing Canada in this time of social exclusion and environmental ruin. She focuses particularly on three of our national blind spots – our relationship with Indigenous peoples, immigration, and our poor record of caring for the environment – and addresses the fundamental question, 'why are we here?'

There will be study groups on both Monday mornings at 10:00 am and Tuesday evenings at 7:00 pm. Let Craig know what suits you best: [craigatknox@wcgwave.ca](mailto:craigatknox@wcgwave.ca). Order the format you want of the book at McNally Robinson or Chapters/Indigo.

Monday Oct 26	Session Three: The Original Moment
Tuesday Oct 27	Session Three: The Original Moment
Monday Nov 2	Session Four: Spacious and Gracious
Tuesday Nov 3	Session Four: Spacious and Gracious
Monday Nov 9	Session Five: Grounds for Responsibility
Tuesday Nov 10	Session Five: Grounds for Responsibility
Monday Nov 23	Session Six: What are We For?
Tuesday Nov 24	Session Six: What are We For?

Sessions will be held via Zoom, so Craig will send a link to participants prior to the first session.

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**Worship Series**  
**The Great Adventure: Becoming a New Creation**  
**18 October - 22 November**

"And if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!" - 2 Corinthians 5: 17

What does it mean to be a "new creation?" Many of us yearn for transformation, newness, and growth, particularly during challenging times, but are we willing to pursue this transformation? How is our own personal renewal connected to "new creation" in others, in our communities and in the world itself? Our tradition reminds us that this becoming requires attention, it requires tending. "Tending" means to lean in the direction of something... to "attend" to something is to nurture it, grow it, build it, and pay attention to it.

Paul is one example in our tradition of the mystery of the type of becoming, of growth, that we are talking about. His story is a great adventure.

Paul's writings indicate that as he grew, he became committed to discerning what aspects of Judaism needed to be left behind and what needed to be carried forward. This was a result of his mystical encounter with the risen Christ. Saul initially was opposed to the wisdom, teachings, and theological reforms that the upstart rabbi from Galilee offered. But he was so shattered by this encounter that he underwent an identity shift which was so significant that he needed a new name. Saul became Paul. And so he writes of becoming "a new creation."

We are invited, individually and as a community, to join the adventure.

**18 October - Small Things Count, Planting with Care - World Food Sunday**

"What's a good image for God's kin-dom? What parable can I use to explain it? Consider a mustard seed. When scattered on the ground, it's the smallest of all the seeds on the earth; but when it's planted, it grows and becomes the largest of all vegetable plants. It produces such large branches that the birds in the sky are able to nest in its shade." - Mark 4: 26-34

CEB

Every little thing we do with compassion is a small seed that can sprout into good things beyond our imagining. Like “paying it forward” or “random acts of kindness,” we can tend a new creation with a small droplet that ripples out in ever-larger circles of caring relationships. Can you think of small acts of compassion that changed your life? Love is working through others and through you!

## **25 October - Expanding Kinship - 10th Anniversary of Affirming Ministry**

“Who is my mother? Who are my brothers?” Looking around at those seated around him in a circle, he said, “Look, here are my mother and my brothers. Whoever does God’s will is my brother, sister, and mother.” - Mark 3:20-35 CEB

Tending a new creation may involve the creation or expansion of our concepts of “family.” In the scripture Jesus confirms that kinship in God’s Realm can go beyond bloodlines. We can re-create family in so many ways, whether we grew up with a family of origin that offered us support or did not. Who is our kin? All those who seek to live together in love!

## **1 November - Living Out Loud - All Saints Communion**

“Dear, dear Corinthians, I can’t tell you how much I long for you to enter this wide-open, spacious life. We didn’t fence you in. The smallness you feel comes from within you. Your lives aren’t small, but you’re living them in a small way. I’m speaking as plainly as I can and with great affection. Open up your lives. Live openly and expansively!” - 2 Cor 6:1-13 The Message

The poet Mary Oliver asks in one of her works, “what are you going to do with your one wild, precious life?” The Apostle Paul is trying to spread the Gospel news of new life in Christ but new Christian communities like the one at Corinth frustrate him with their petty feuds and small thinking. “Open yourselves!” is the message here. What do you tend and nurture? Fear or hope? One leaves us small, the other offers us expansive possibilities!

## **8 November - Healing Old Wounds - Remembrance Sunday**

"Because she had heard about Jesus, she came up behind him in the crowd and touched his clothes. She was thinking, If I can just touch his clothes, I'll be healed. Her bleeding stopped immediately, and she sensed in her body that her illness had been healed." Mark 5:24b-34 CEB

When we tend to our relationship with the sacred, we connect with the power of new life and healing. Sometimes there are wounds that have remained with us over the years and we continue to "bleed" even though we think ignoring them will make them go away. Jesus says to the woman in our scripture story for this week that her faith has healed her. Is there a source of spiritual healing that can end the pain that we've carried around for a long time?

### **15 November - On the Road Again, Sharing our Stories - Stewardship Sunday**

"Jesus called the Twelve to him, and sent them out in pairs. He gave them authority and power to deal with the evil opposition... Then they were on the road. They preached with joyful urgency that life can be radically different; right and left they sent the demons packing; they brought wellness to the sick, anointing their bodies, healing their spirits." -Mark 6:1-13 The Message

As followers of the way of Jesus, we are called to believe that living a new way is possible, and also to share that good news with others. You don't need to think in traditional terms like preaching, healing, or being a missionary. But by our very attempts to live in peace and wholeness, we can live a life of example and witness to others. We don't have to wait until we are perfect to do this... certainly the community of Jesus had questions and doubts until the very end of Jesus' ministry. But he sent them anyway and lives were changed.

### **22 November - Breaking Down the Walls - Universal Christ Sunday**

"That's plain enough, isn't it? You're no longer wandering exiles. This kingdom of faith is now your home country. You're no longer strangers or outsiders... God is building a home. [The Source of Life and Love] is using us all—irrespective of how we got here—in what [Love] is building... with Christ Jesus as the cornerstone that holds all the parts together." - Ephesians 2:11-22 The Message

Our final service of this series offers the vision of the New Creation, a world where we are no longer strangers or aliens because of our

differences. Reconciliation happens as we form new relationships, challenge privilege, and affirm and celebrate what makes us distinct, unique, and similar. We are the human ones of creation, a new creation, day by day. Let us tend to building this house, this new creation, together!

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## **Ways to Give to Knox**

### ***Post-Dated Cheques***

Good old post-dated cheques are a familiar way for people to give. Place them in an envelope and mail them to the church office. That will keep personal contact to a minimum. Don't forget to include your envelope number and any breakdown for directing your giving i.e. General Fund, Mission & Service, Building Fund, Memorial Fund.

### ***PAR (Pre-Authorized Remittance)***

Ensure stable and reliable support by signing up for PAR. Email the office at [knoxchurch@wcgwave.ca](mailto:knoxchurch@wcgwave.ca).

Already on PAR and want to update?

Those already on PAR can easily update the amount of their gift by contacting Sharon at the email above.

New PAR donors are asked to fill out the PAR authorization form, indicating how much they want to give to Knox and how much they would like to donate to people in need and programs that matter through Mission & Service. Because the office is not open, please mail the form along with a voided cheque, or credit card information, to:

Knox United Church

451 - 18th Street, Brandon, MB R7A 5A9

### ***CanadaHelps (CanadaHelps.org)***

Anyone can give to a specific congregation by credit card on-line through CanadaHelps at our page: <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/118986447RR0001-knox-united-church/>. CanadaHelps is a Canadian registered charity that exists purely to enable other charities to receive online gifts. There is a service charge of between 3.5 - 3.7 % when you use this service. CanadaHelps will immediately e-mail the donor a tax-receipt. Every 7-8 weeks CanadaHelps will send us a cheque in the mail with your gifts.

### ***E-Transfers***

Contact Sharon McIntosh if you would like to make an E-Transfer to Knox. Don't forget to include your envelope number and any breakdown for directing your giving i.e. General Fund, Mission & Service, Building Fund, Memorial Fund.

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