

## Calendar

18 January - The Changemakers Series Begins, Communion  
20 January - Council 6:30 PM  
22 January - Broadview Reading Club 10 AM  
23 January - Spirit Kids' Club (grades 3-8) 7 PM, Skating at the Oval  
26 January - Carrying the Empire on Our Backs 7 PM  
27 January - Outreach 1:15 PM  
28 January - Spirit Kids' Club (grades 3-8) 6 PM, Games Night  
31 January - Mitten Fundraiser 1-4 PM  
1 February - Brunch, Annual Meeting

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### EMAIL ADDRESS CHANGE for Knox Church

For email and e-transfers, please update your records.

[admin@knoxunitedbrandon.ca](mailto:admin@knoxunitedbrandon.ca)

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### NEW: Mission and Service

Mountains of Service

[Mountains of Service | The United Church of Canada](#)

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## New Series Begins January 18 – The Changemakers “Go and do likewise.” - Jesus

A Changemaker is a risk-taker, someone who puts their faith into action to make a positive difference in the lives of others. Sharing in the purposes of Jesus, empowered by the Spirit, we are the “assets” we’ve been looking for. Our wealth lies in the Compassion, Collaboration, Creativity, and Empowerment that sustains us through change, for change, for the sake of a better world. Join us as we hatch new ideas and fly to new heights, risking something big for something good.

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### NEW: Broadview Reading Club

Join us for our next discussion, Thursday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>, at 10 AM in the Chapel.

All are welcome!

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**JANUARY 26 7PM**



Knox UC

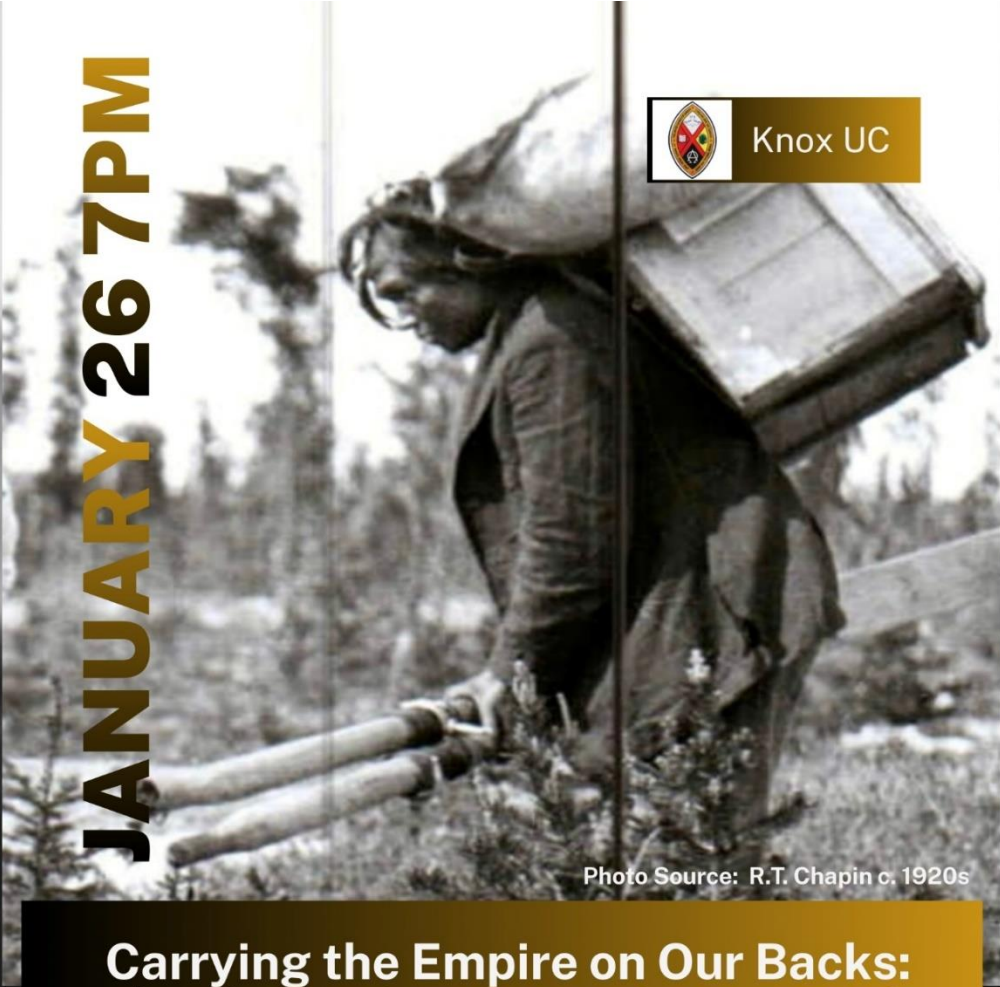


Photo Source: R.T. Chapin c. 1920s

## Carrying the Empire on Our Backs: Island Lake Stories of the Fur Trade

Dr. Patricia Harms

Dr. Harms is a historian collaborating with the Island Lake Anishinew Okimawin Tribal Council on a historical recovery project of the Anishinew peoples in North Eastern Manitoba.

For more info contact: [craigatknox@wcgwave.ca](mailto:craigatknox@wcgwave.ca)  
Knox United 451 - 18<sup>th</sup> Street Brandon  
<https://knoxunitedbrandon.ca/>

Indigenous communities in Northern Manitoba played a vital and complex role in the development of the fur trade and of the British empire. While the negative impacts of this colonial story are often emphasized, this presentation will explore the contributions of the Island Lake people to the global story of the Hudson's Bay Company.

**NEW:** This presentation will be available live and recorded for future viewing on our YouTube channel.

***The Knox Konnexion***

<https://www.youtube.com/c/TheKnoxKonnexion>

## **NEW: SHIFT into your superpower! Be a Role Model!**

Take the opportunity to share the many ways large and small that you are working towards lowering your carbon footprint. Are you buying less? Recycling more? Composting? Insulating your home? Putting in new windows? Throwing out less food? Writing more letters? Calling your councillor? Talking to your neighbors? Investing differently?

What are the ways that you are helping move the needle on emissions? There are two ways you can let us know.

1. Volunteer to do a "Just A Green Minute" during worship. We are looking for people willing to share the story of their journey toward a more sustainable life for themselves and their community.
2. Let everyone know by filling out a slip of paper on the East side of the sanctuary. We will post it on our "Path to 50X30" as we make a chain of events along that path.

Don't be shy. Let us know. You may be an inspiration to all of us!

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## **Reminder: JAGM - Be a Role Model**

What actions are you taking to lower your carbon emissions? Before Christmas we were exploring the SHIFT program - Super High-Impact Initiative for Fixing Tomorrow. We talked about the many choices we have as citizens, professionals, investors, consumers and role models in taking action that has an impact. Here's the link if you want to know more: [SHIFT](#)

We are going to focus on your superpower of Role Model as we ask all of you to think about the actions you are taking or have taken and then tell us what you are doing, how easy or difficult it has been, what you might do differently if you could, and how these changes have affected you and your family. We will do this during the time for Just A Green Minute on the first and third Sundays of the month.

Call, text or email Madelyn or Quentin Robinson and we can help you if you would like and we can schedule you for a convenient Sunday. We know that many of you have taken steps to lower your own emissions and we are hoping that you will be willing to share your journey. No step is too small. Let's share our stories and be an inspiration to our friends and neighbors!

Madelyn 204-871-0349 [madelynrobinson@hotmail.com](mailto:madelynrobinson@hotmail.com)

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## **NEW:** An Invitation to Wonder: Online Discernment Weekend, February 20-22, 2026

Is something stirring in you? A wondering about ministry – what it is, how it looks, and whether it might be calling your name? Join us for An Invitation to Wonder, a gentle online retreat for people exploring a call to ministry in The United Church of Canada. While our original hope was to gather in person, we will now be offering this retreat online via Zoom, allowing participation from near and far. Instead of full days on screen, the weekend will unfold in intentional blocks of time, with room for group exploration and personal discernment woven throughout. This is not a commitment. This is not a decision-point. This is simply space to listen - to your heart, your questions, and the Spirit moving within you.

Follow this link to register: <https://form.jotform.com/253206013148244>  
**Deadline for registration is January 31.**

All are welcome – youth, young adults, mid-lifers, elders, lifelong United Church folks, newcomers, seekers, and those simply curious. If something is nudging in you... come and wonder with us.

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KNOX 'HOW TO' SERIES:

# Learn to Sew Mittens from Sweaters

**\$50**



JANUARY 31, 2026 1-4PM  
KNOX UNITED CHURCH  
AUDITORIUM

Price includes everything you need!  
Call Katheryne to register at 204-573-6558



## **NEW: Just A Green Minute - From Despair to Hope**

As the climate crisis continues and our world becomes increasingly more unstable, in these dark days of winter, it is easy to lose hope. How to avoid moving inexorably into despair is a challenge, but a challenge that we need to face because quitting is not an option.

History and faith teach us how to meet despair and not fall into its clutches. All throughout human history, we have seen times like these. Times when chaos and anarchy seem to have taken hold and common sense appears to be in short supply. When some of our friends and neighbors fall under the spell of leaders and ideology that threaten the survival of the world as we know it.

From ancient times to recent history, we can find hope and learn lessons from those that have met struggle and overcome it. In all these instances, I know that the people involved were tempted toward hopelessness and pushed beyond because the only way to the other side is through it.

The abolishment of slavery: impossible until it wasn't.

The right of women to vote: impossible until it wasn't.

Civil rights for all: impossible until it wasn't.

The fall of the Berlin wall: impossible until it wasn't.

Right now, the Climate Crisis looks like one of those impossible situations. Every day we are told about the many ways in which our leaders, our corporations, our educational system, our economic system, our communities are failing to address the seriousness of the climate crisis. Yet every day, if we know where to look, we can find evidence of change.

**Wall Street banks** earned \$3.7 billion from climate related loans in 2025. More than the \$2.9 earned from fossil fuel related loans.

**In five years**, Hungary has gone from getting 7% of its power from solar, to getting 25% from solar.

**According to Bloomberg Green**, more corporations are quietly putting in the work to cut emissions and protect their supply chains.

**China, one of the world's largest carbon emitters**, has seen their emissions decline in 2025. They now have more solar and wind power installed than the rest of the world combined.

For all it seems that nothing is happening, if you look in the right places change is happening. As long as we don't lose hope, join in with our friends, families and neighbors, continue to advocate for the world we want, the climate will be in crisis... until it isn't.

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## **Reminder: Greenspot & Sobeys Gift Cards**

Greenspot Home & Garden and Sobeys gift cards are restocked and available in the church office. A portion of every card supports our church's outreach ministries throughout the community.

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## **Reminder: Zeebu Youth Retreat Registration Now Open!**

Zeebu Youth Retreat - Knowing our Neighbours: Many Religions, One Community  
Harrow United Church - Feb 20th to 22nd, 2026. Grade 7 to 12 plus young adult leaders. [Details and Registration Here](#)

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## **Sunday Morning Worship on YouTube**

Join our Sunday worship at 10:30 AM on YouTube  
<https://www.youtube.com/c/TheKnoxKonnexion>  
Or search *The Knox Konnexion*