

KNOX NEWS & NOTES November 28th, 2021

451-18th Street, Brandon, MB. R7A 5A9 (204)-727-6975

Email: knoxchurch@wcgwave.ca Website: www.knoxunitedbrandon.ca

Congratulations to Antoinette Gravel Oullette upon receiving the Leadership and Social Action Award and the Florence Halcrow award at the Women of Distinction benefit this week!

Calendar

Nov. 28 - First Sunday of Advent

Intergenerational Advent Event - Noon

Nov. 29 - Sharing Circle at Knox, 6:30 PM

Nov. 30 - Seth Klein Watch Party with Green Team, 7 PM, Zoom only

Dec. 5 - Second Sunday of Advent, White Gift Sunday, Taste of the Holidays, 4:30 Pm Delivery, 5:30 PM Pick- up

Dec. 12- Third Sunday of Advent, Baptism

Dec. 19- Fourth Sunday of Advent, Pageant

Dec. 24- Christmas Eve at 7 PM

Dec. 26- No Worship Gathering

Westman Sharing Circle Meets in Person

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 together in a good way

Monday, 29 November at 6:30 PM in the Chapel

Advent Multigenerational Event

The Inn - Housing the Holy

Sunday, November 28

Noon - 2 p.m. There will be: lunch, music, games, and an opportunity to make your own nativity set. Friends and family are welcome!

Our Annual Taste of the Holidays

Our annual "A TASTE OF THE HOLIDAYS" supper is back with a new menu and new look!

The supper will be held on Sunday, December 5th. We will operate on deliveries and pick up only, no in house seating this year. Deliveries will begin at 4:30 PM and Pick up meals will be ready at 5:30 PM at the 17th St. doors only. Menu this year is: BBQ chicken, meatballs, potatoes, dressing, hot vegetable, coleslaw, dinner roll, pickles and a delicious dessert ALL for the price of \$15.00 for adults, under 12 \$7.00 and preschoolers free. GLUTEN FREE OPTIONS WILL BE AVAILABLE!

Please order your meal by calling the church office, 204-727-6975 or look for the table in the Narthex on Sundays starting Nov. 14th. There are no tickets this year, pay when you have a delivery or when picking up your meal. We ask the money be put into an envelope marked "Church Supper", no change will be available.

A poster is on the bulletin board in the Narthex for food donations and workers. Please look and help us out if you can. For more info, call Sharon Christmas 204-728-0541 or email rschristmas@gmail.com. We THANK YOU for supporting this fundraising event!

The Outreach Committee

The Outreach committee was made aware that the community of Birdtail Sioux First Nation, North of Virden is in need of help. Many families there need household effects and clothing for adults and children. If anyone has anything to donate please email Debby at dcoombs.dandy@mymts.net for pick up.

NEW! Minute For Mission
November 28th, 2021

Taking to the Streets to Deliver Meals and Care

[Taking to the Streets to Deliver Meals and Care | The United Church of Canada \(united-church.ca\)](#)

NEW! Silent Auction

Silent auction will end Sunday December 5th at 11am all bids must be in before that time.

Christmas Cheer Committee

Christmas is coming!!

It's looking like we will be able to gather with family and friends this Christmas!! Last year, even with all the restrictions, the Knox community managed to spread a little joy through Christmas Cheer!

The Covid protocols have loosened somewhat this year. It's wonderful to be able to attend Knox in person and reconnect!

The committee has decided for this year, as last, to request monetary donations for its members to purchase toys and food to be wrapped, packed, and delivered. Once again we have requested 22 families from the Cheer board. That included 85 children last year!! Donations may be mailed, e transferred, or brought to church on Sundays in an envelope marked Christmas Cheer and placed on the collection plate.

Envelopes will be provided at the back of the sanctuary if needed. At Knox we all enjoy the anticipation that comes with the festive season as we await

the promise of Christmas. May we all share the hope, the light, and the joy of Christmas throughout our community.

The Fair Trade Committee

The Fair Trade Committee is looking for at least one more person to join us as we seek to educate and invite others to learn the advantages of Fair Trade. If you are seeking ways to make a difference to farmers

around the world, join us! Contact Madelyn Robinson or Deanna Ginn to learn more.

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/c/TheKnoxKonnexion>

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.

Just a Green Minute

Save the date! November 30th @ 7:00 pm the Green Team is hosting a “Watch Party”. Seth Klein, author of: “A Good War; Mobilizing Canada for the Climate Emergency” has done several virtual talks about his book and the way forward to address the Climate Crisis. We will, through the magic of ZOOM, view one of these events and then have a discussion.

In his book, Seth Klein outlines a path for Canada to successfully respond to the climate emergency, and in the process tackle poverty and inequality and there is lots to discuss.

To register please email: mjrobinson075@gmail.com with “Seth Klein Watch Party” in the subject line.

Fair Trade Committee

Fair Trade is about doing business fairly, ethically and responsibly. Fair Trade makes sure that the farmers and people growing and processing the products get a fair price, have good working conditions and that everything is done in a sustainable way. The Knox United Church Fair Trade Committee is now selling coffee from Level Ground. You can look at what is available by going to: [Collections - Level Ground Trading](#) As soon as you know what you want, email Madelyn Robinson at KnoxKafe@wcgwave.ca and place your order. All prices will be rounded

up to the nearest dollar. So if you want a 300 gr package of coffee the price is \$11.99 the cost to you will be \$12.00. We are buying in bulk and therefore, we don't pay shipping and are able to pass those savings on to you. Remember, there are many places throughout Brandon that you can buy Fair Trade coffee and tea: 10,000 Villages, Forbidden Flavours, Co-Op, Sobeys and more. This is not a fundraiser.

The Fair Trade Committee wants to provide one more opportunity for you to help support the farmers and their communities who grow your coffee.

Orders will normally be placed the first Friday of every month. Due to extenuating circumstances the next order will be placed November 12th. We will send an email to you when the order comes in and you can pick up your order at the Knox Church office during office hours.

Quarterly Statement of Giving's

If anyone would like a statement of their givings to September 30, 2021, please contact Kim at the church office (727-6975 or knoxchurch@wcgwave.ca).

The Inn — Housing the Holy Worship During Advent and Christmas

The pandemic has laid bare, and widened, economic disparity locally and globally. As we enter the Advent season, how can our community of faith become a house where the Holy will be born anew-offering respite, sustenance and care, opening the doors ever wider to those seeking shelter? No one community can do it all, but that's why we are United. As we study the biblical prophets that call us to care for our neighbours and "make room in the inn," the lonely and frightened spaces within us are filled with the light of Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love.

Advent 1 - 28 November - Theme: Making Room
Candle: Hope

How do we "make more room" for the Holy and shift our focus to care of the neighbour? In a time when so many are suffering the economic consequences of the pandemic, we are invited this year to create room for more hope in the world as we learn to reallocate and multiply resources in ways that are just and right.

Advent 2 - 5 December - Theme: A Place at the Table
Candle: Peace

Like the childhood game of “musical chairs,” we are convinced that there are not enough places at the table. And so we shrink the guest list just in case there is not enough, and we scramble to occupy the chairs first. And yet our sacred texts invite us to imagine and make real the gathering of all people to the table, robed in the garments of a Peace that comes with justice. This is what really matters- this is the fruit of what is right and good.

Advent 3 - 12 December - Theme: How Much is Enough?

Candle: Joy

As John baptized new converts, he invited them to live with “changed hearts and lives.” When asked how to do that, his answers all point to making sure no one is cheated or left without the basic necessities of life, including the right to not be harassed. A full life of joy, which the prophet Isaiah describes as an everflowing spring, is the birthright of all children of God. May we act to make it so.

Advent 4 - 19 December - Theme: A Room with a View

Candle: Love

This has been an Advent season of prophets: Jeremiah, Baruch, Isaiah, Micah. And now the prophet is Mary-the woman who was the original house for the holy. She was “the inn,” her womb gestating love for the world. With all her heart, she proclaims that the lowly are lifted, the hungry are fed, mercy reigns. Like Mary, we must envision, must see, must prophesy and act on that vision for the world that G-d continues to call us to co-create. What is the view from the room that Love has prepared?

24 December - Christmas Eve - Theme: The Inn

Candle: Christ Candle

The Inn is now open for business. The long-awaited Messiah has been born and on him the light shines. We have only to open the doors of our lives and to say “welcome.” Our Advent journey has led us to this moment when the light shining through a closed door becomes one opened to new possibilities, new relationships. What a poignant moment for us this year as the light-the hope, peace, joy and love-multiplies from one illuminated heart and hand to another.

Will you be joining us in person this Sunday? If so:

You must be fully vaccinated. Please bring your ID and proof of vaccination. To verify immunization status for Manitobans, we are expected use the Manitoba Verifier Application to confirm a person's immunization status, and then confirm the individual's identity against government-issued identification.

Please arrive between 10:15 and 10:20 AM. The entrance at 17th Street will be open, and a member of our worship committee will be there to greet you. This will allow us time to have everyone seated according to our protocols.

Please stay home if you are unwell.

We ask that you use hand sanitizer as you enter and exit the building, and as necessary based on your movement in the building.

Masks are required for all attendees. We expect you to be wearing a mask upon entry and at all times while in the building, with the exception of eating in the Auditorium at Brunch. If you forget yours at home, we will have disposable masks available at the door.

Physical distancing is required. We ask that you maintain physical distancing (6 feet is recommended) from others not in your household or social bubble whenever possible. Hosts from the worship committee will be in the sanctuary to assist you in being seated. You can seat yourself in the sanctuary in the "free" spaces, avoiding spaces marked with an "X". Please refrain from congregating in the doorways and aisles so others can pass by safely. You may exit the building at 17th Street, 18th Street, or Victoria Ave. exits.

There are a few changes to our practices. For example, for the foreseeable future, we will not have offering plates. You'll be able to drop your offering into the donation box at the main entrance of the sanctuary or continue to donate online through our website. Music will be led at this time by a small number of vocalists.

Any other changes to our in-person activities will be explained on-site.

You may appear on our online streaming. By entering our building, you are giving permission to appear on our live streaming video of our gathering. Even if you sit in the pews behind our installed cameras, we cannot guarantee that you won't end up on the Livestream.

Children and youth aged 12+ should be vaccinated and masked when in the church and at coffee hour, as they'll be in close contact with our most vulnerable community members. Children younger than 12 are to wear a mask and be accompanied by a vaccinated guardian.

Sobeys Gift Cards

SOBEY'S GIFT CARDS

- make great practical stocking stuffers at Christmas
- \$25, \$50 & \$100 cards are available in the office
- contact the office by phone or email to arrange pick-up

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, Memorial Fund.

PAR (Pre-Authorized Remittance)

Ensure stable and reliable support by signing up for PAR. Email the office at knoxchurch@wcgwave.ca and Kim can help you get signed up.

Already on PAR and want to update? Those already on PAR can easily update the amount of their gift by contacting Kim at the email above.

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 approx. 3.75% deducted from your donation 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 the church office 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.