

# KNOX UNITED

## SPRING NEWSLETTER 2019

### KNOX COFFEE CONNECTIONS

Would you like to have a one on one coffee/tea time with someone from Knox? Would you like to get to know a new friend or perhaps renew acquaintances with an old friend? Are you feeling alone or would you just like to get together with someone for an hour? If you answered yes to any of these questions then the congregational care committee has an idea for you.

If you are interested in making one of these coffee connections here is what you can do. Call Sharon in the office (204) 727-6975 and she will put your name on a coffee connections list. When you feel like getting together with someone Sharon will give you the names of those who are on the list. You can pick out a name, get in touch with them and arrange for a time and place to get together. Here is a way for you to make some real coffee connections.  
“Submitted by the Congregational Care Committee”



### Brown Bag Lunch: 7th St Access Center

On Thursday March 21 Chris Blaikie, from 7th St Access Center provided an information session on the services they provide. Most individuals who present at Knox or other churches for help are now directed to the Center for supports, whereas in the past Knox often directly assisted. An annual contribution is made to the Benevolent Fund at the Center to assist with those needs which cannot be covered elsewhere.

A wide range of services are provided at 7th St :

- free access to phone, voice mail, computer, photocopying
- laundry and shower
- emergency food on weekends
- assistance with income tax returns
- assistance to navigate the community services systems to obtain needed supports
- Counseling, case management, parenting support
- access to medical treatment by Dr and Nurse Practitioner



Chris Blaikie  
7th St Access Center

- fast access walk-in care for adults living with high-risk substance use and addictions
- addictions counseling , access to take home Naloxone
- pharmacist and dietician consultations
- home care services for ambulatory individuals
- assistance to find and maintain affordable housing
- language interpretation services
- HIV Clinic

Contributions to the Benevolent Fund are coordinated through the Outreach Committee, and have been funded through the sale of Sobey's cards in the past. They can also be made by congregation members by indicating Benevolent Fund on donation.



**KNOX RUMMAGE SALE COMES AGAIN!**

**MAY 4, 2019**

**9am—1pm**

**Start gathering your household & garden treasures so they can find a new home, new purpose, and new friends!**

**Items can be left on the stage from April 28—May 2.**

**Many helpers are required - sign up sheet in the Narthex. We can use your talents, and expertise so join us for fun, food and comradeship!**

# WHAT'S HAPPENING?



The Knox Singers Annual Concert  
 Celestial Sounds  
 April 28, 2019 7:30 PM

Come out and join the Knox musicians as we soar through the Cosmos, presenting songs of the sun, the moon, the stars, and the planets! Like a chorus of angels, the Knox United Singers, Knoyse, and Keyboardists will offer our 2019 Annual Spring concert, CELESTIAL SOUNDS. We know you love to sing too. By popular demand, the concert will include a sing-a-long of some favourite songs of celestial objects! This is the Choir's only fundraiser of the year. We do not charge admission but will be asking for your donation at the concert. If placed in a Knox Church envelope, this will be added to your annual giving's and a tax receipt will be issued. Bring a friend and enjoy the ride.

## GREEN TEAM EVENTS

The next event in the Knox Green Team Speaker Series will be on Tuesday April 30 at 6:30 PM.

### *"Backyard Conservation"*

When you hear the media or politicians talk about "carbon sequestration" as a cure for Climate Change do you think that this could possibly have anything to do with you? Bernie Whetter from The Greenspot will tell you how with your own small space you can become part of the solution.

Plans are underway for an event on rain water capture and rain gardens.  
 More details will be out about these events in the next few weeks.

The Green Team is always looking for other suggestions of events or speakers we could host. If you have ideas on topics please contact one of the Green Team members or leave a note in our Green Team box at the church.

Wayne Clayton Chair – Knox Green Team



## SPRING LUNCHEON WEDNESDAY MAY 22

Knox United Church will be hosting their **SPRING LUNCHEON** on Wednesday, May 22nd, 2019. Lunch will be served from 11:30-1:00 PM. Cost of \$9.00 for adults, \$4.50 for children under 12 and preschoolers are FREE. Please join us for a variety of freshly made salads, assorted bunwiches and our delicious homemade desserts. Gluten free options will be available. If you would like to make a reservation for friends and or family call the church office (204-7286975) and leave it with Sharon. **LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU !!!**

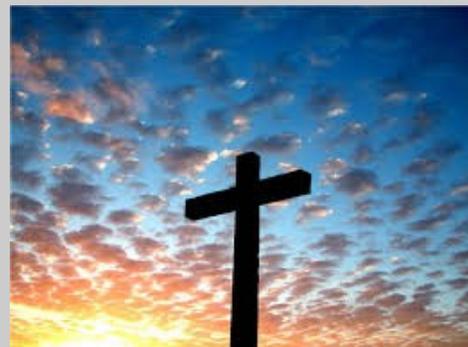
# WORSHIP MATTERS

## Keeping Company with Jesus

April 7 — Lent 5: “Slow It Down”

April 14 — Lent 6 (Palm/Passion Sunday): “Give it a Rest”

April 19 — Good Friday Tenebrae Service at Trinity United Church  
7:30 pm



## Easter Series

### Draw the Circle Wide

In this post-resurrection season we will explore what it meant for the early church to draw the circle wider and wider as they spread the Good News that love is always rising up in the service of life, making ripples throughout history. What could it mean for us to continue to draw the circle wide in order to offer the world a vision of the rippling affects of grace and peace, reconciliation and joy?

April 21 — Easter Sunday: Ripples of New Beginnings

April 28 — Easter 2: Ripples of Empowerment

May 5 — Easter 3: Ripples of Grace

May 12 — Easter 4: Ripples of G\_d’s Likeness

May 19 — Easter 5: Ripples of Hospitality

May 26 — Easter 6: Ripples of Reconciliation

June 2 — Easter 7: Ripples of Joy

## Coming Events

April 6 — Justice Network 10 am; Music of the Eras 5:30 pm

April 7 — Let’s Talk Knox Session 5 following worship

April 11 — Continuing the Conversation on Racial Justice pt. 2 Noon

April 14 — Palm Sunday; Communion; Brunch

April 16 — Council 6:30 pm

April 21 — Easter Sunday: Spirit Kids’ Club Easter Celebration

April 23 — In Betweeners

April 24 — Give to Us Laughter at Trinity UCC 10 am - 2 pm

April 26 — SKC Youth Evening Event

April 28 — Knox Singers Concert: Celestial Sounds 7:30 pm

April 30 — Green Team “Backyard Conservation” 6:30 pm

May 4 — Spring Rummage Sale

May 5 — Congregational Meeting; Brunch

May 17 — International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia, and Biphobia

May 21 — Council 6:30 pm

May 22 — Spring Lunch

May 24 — SKC Youth Evening Event

April 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	6
		1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	
28	29	30					

May 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	4
				1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	
26	27	28	29	30	31		

print-a-calendar.com

## MARCH 22, WORLD WATER DAY:

On World Water Day, Roger Bright installed a new low-flush toilet in the office washroom. Thank you, Roger!



Amnesty International Canada used the day to encourage Canadians to renew their commitment to supporting Indigenous water defenders. Amnesty says the 2014 Mount Polley mine disaster in British Columbia, the ongoing harmful impacts of industrial pollution at Grassy Narrows, and the construction of the Site C dam in B.C.'s Peace Valley all represent instances of environmental racism and threats to fresh water.

*"We are water. What we do to water we do to ourselves."*

## AFFIRM COMMITTEE REPORT

The Affirm Committee hosted a "PIE Event" on March 14. PIE = Public, Intentional, Explicit. About 35 people attended to eat some delicious (real) pie and listen to eight different speakers present about services available to LGBTTQ folks and their families in Brandon and area. The included picture shows Knox's own Tara Leach sharing information about the GSA at Neelin High School.



On February 21, the Affirm Committee hosted a brown bag lunch session entitled: "Racial Justice & the United Church: Continuing the Conversation". Bev Ramcharan and Betty Kelly facilitated a discussion using video clips from General Council and other experiences.

As agreed by those present, a second session will be held on April 11 from 12:00 noon to 1:30 pm, again a brown bag lunch. Please feel free to attend even if you were not at the first one.

Spring is here. Brandon PRIDE is just around the corner! Knox will once again plan to march in the PRIDE Parade and have a table at PRIDE in the Park. Our Knox PRIDE worship service is scheduled for June 9, at the beginning of of PRIDE week. Watch for further details.

## Knox Visioning Committee – "Let's Talk Knox"

Knox held a Visioning session with Leslee Harrison of EDGE in November. Leslee led a gathering of just over 50 people through a guided discussion process. Following that session, there have been four sessions held to discuss and discern the future of Knox going into the next 3 to 5 years. Sessions have been held at varying times (after church, at the Annual Congregational Meeting and in the evening) to try to allow for the most representative sample of Knox people to attend. After each session, the committee gathered all the feedback to the questions posed, summarized the feedback and sent it out to everyone on the Knox email list.

One last session is planned for April 7 after church. After this last session the Committee will compile a report of all the responses and present it to both Council and at the Annual Congregational Meeting on May 5. Council may have some suggestions as to how we proceed with future planning. Come to the Annual Congregational Meeting to learn more and share your ideas!

# Thinking Critically, Living Faithfully



On Ash Wednesday Rev. Craig joined ecumenical leaders across Canada in fasting and praying for passage of Bill C-262 in the Senate.



On March 19 in Ottawa, UCC staff joined church leaders from the Anglican and Presbyterian churches, as well as Mennonite Central Committee and staff from the Quakers to meet with Senators on Bill C-262. Sara Stratton wrote, "Terrific meetings today with Senators Peter Harder, Nancy Hartling, and Murray Sinclair."

COMING IN JUNE  
BRANDON PRIDE PARADE



## *Living the Questions — A Spiritual Journey*

### *A Small Group Study Honouring Creation*

*Many of us in the United Church believe an open and inclusive form of Christianity has something good to offer the human race. At the same time, many have a sense that "salvaging" Christianity is a hopeless task given outdated doctrine, abuses by the institutional church, and society's disdain for Religion but attraction to Spirituality.*

*For decades Knox has sought to offer a safe environment where participants have permission to ask the questions they've always wanted to ask but have been afraid to voice. **Living the Questions** provides a context where group members can pursue their questions, learn from conversations in the Emerging Church, and seek to inform their understanding as part of a life-long spiritual journey. Through exposure to provocative theological and spiritual insights and the engagement of small group conversation, participants in **Living the Questions** will experience how profoundly important the journey itself is. Open to youth and adults.*

*Dates remaining: (6:30—8 pm)  
April 10: Debunking the Rapture  
April 24: Honouring Creation*

*"To travel hopefully is a better thing than to arrive."*

*Robert Louis Stevenson*



**KAIROS Canada**  
faithful action for justice

## **Urgent Action: Ramp up the pressure for the Ombudsperson**

We still need your help! We need you to take action again to call on the government to live up to its promise to create an independent Ombudsperson with the power to compel documents and to investigate. The Ombudsman is intended to hold Canadian mining companies and their subsidiaries, as well as oil and gas and garment sectors with Canadian ties, accountable for human rights violations at their overseas operations.

In January, on the one-year anniversary of the Government of Canada's announcement of the creation of the Canadian Ombudsperson for Responsible Enterprise (CORE), KAIROS put out an urgent action to call on the Government to act on this promise. Thank you for all your calls, letters, posts, and tweets. More are needed because we are now convinced that the government is trying to delay the creation of an effective ombudsperson with the power to compel documents and testimony until it is too late to do so during the current mandate.

**But it's not over yet...as long as we don't stay silent!**

Your continued action makes all the difference! For details on how to take action, please see our website: [kairos-scanada.org/what-we-do/ecological-justice/open4justice](http://kairos-scanada.org/what-we-do/ecological-justice/open4justice)

Thank you for your continued commitment. Together we can do this!  
Sincerely,  
Gabriela Jimenez  
Latin America Partnerships Coordinator,



It takes a lot of space to display pictures of all of us at Knox!!

We thank Les Kelly for creating the extra space by building new display boards!

## *Finally our Pictorial Directories have arrived!!*

They will be available for pick up starting Sunday March 31 prior to and after the service. All you need to get a book is, to have had your picture taken or submitted a picture, 2 pieces of ID one with a photo. NO just kidding! about the ID, the is the rest is correct. If you don't have a picture in the book you won't be able to get one at this time but we could take a list and see if accommodations can be made after.

If you can't arrange pick up on Sundays call Coleen 204-725-3416 or email [cttwall@mymts.net](mailto:cttwall@mymts.net) to arrange pick up.

Thank you for your patience in the printing and arrival of the books. I hope everyone will enjoy them.



### Help Wanted:

The Nominating Committee is seeking an individual for Vice Chair of council as well as members on the following committees: Affirming, Christian Education, Stewardship and possibly other committees.

We would like to lighten the load for many of the long serving committee members.

Anyone interested

Contact: Jill Hannah-Kayes  
Jim Cobb or  
Committee Chairs

### To our Knox Family

We want to thank you for the many messages of sympathy, acts of kindness and prayers following the death in early February of our beloved son, David. Indeed, you have supported us throughout the past 12 years of David's illness – the ups, the downs and the tough times.

We are so thankful we were able to spend his last twelve days with him at the hospice of his choice We had some good days together and he knew we were there for him. Throughout his final journey he had no pain and was at peace – for that we are very grateful.

Most of you know that we have just relocated in Brandon. The last several months have been hectic and stressful. The move is now complete and after the chaos we will now have more time to reflect on the last several weeks.

Thank you for surrounding us with your love and prayers.

Al and Isobel Robertson

KNOX PHOTO ALBUM



MARDI GRAS EVENT

KEMNAY FAMILY FUN DAY



DISCUSSION AFTER 'TRULY AND HUMBLLY' VIDEO



Team 'Taking Our Knox' walkers at the Coldest Night of the Year fundraiser. Way to go Knox, raising well over \$1000!

