

News@Knox

April 2023

WELCOME NOTE FROM OUR MINISTER



As Spring begins to unfold, the words of Natalie Sleeth's "In the Bulb There is a Flower" always come to mind: "In the cold and snow of winter there's a spring that waits to be, unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see." These words seem to be particularly poignant as we head into Holy Week, continue our work in the area of truth and reconciliation and continue to come out of these difficult past couple of years.

These past weeks of Lent have been a time of meaning, reflection and action. As we leaned into living into our commitments of truth and reconciliation, we have been able to move forward in some tangible ways. Rev. Tony Snow invited us into the season at the Ash Wednesday service. Throughout Lent, we explored some of the foundations of the work with truth and reconciliation: uncomfortableness, truth, beloved community, humility and reconciliation. Some of us were able to learn from the Blanket Exercise about the residential school history in Alberta. We made public statements and prayers by tying ribbons on our garden fence and through a generous gift from the Barr Estate, we were able to have a banner made that invites us all into action. Following Easter, there will be more ways to continue the work of truth and reconciliation. Stay tuned.

In addition to the work of truth and reconciliation, we were also able to celebrate our Affirming Ministries through PIE Day (Public, Intentional, Explicit). It was so much fun to gather in our garden and pass out pie to everyone walking by! What a fun scene of the beloved community – people from all walks of life and experiences coming together to show our commitment to the 2SLGBTQIA+ community. Thank you to everyone who brought pie!

I hope you will consider attending the events of Holy Week and Easter:

Thursday, April 6 Maundy Thursday Dinner at Stoney Nakoda (Mni Thni)

3:45 pm - Meet at Knox to carpool to Morley

5:00 - 7:00 pm Morley Gym

We are invited to join our Iyarhe Nakoda relations in this observance and expression of faith on our journey toward reconciliation. All are invited to join in the observance and feast. **Please bring a salad or dessert to share.**

Friday, April 7 – Good Friday Service at Knox 11:00 am

Join us for a meaningful and reflective service.

Sunday, April 9 – Easter Service at Knox

10:30 am

Celebrate the hope of resurrection and new life with special music.

Submitted by Rev Sheena Trotter-Dennis

REV TONY SNOW – BLANKET EXERCISE



PIE DAY WITH SHEENA AND VOLUNTEERS



JOIN THE FAMILY – MEMBERSHIP

Reverend Sheena welcomes all adherents (and complete newbies) who want to explore membership of our Knox UCC family. Please contact her for a conversation if you are interested at strotterdennis@kxcalgary.com.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

We are seeking a Chair for the Finance Committee. Before Christmas, when this was called the Finance “Working Group”, this work was shared by David Westwick, who now has a formal position with the Knox Foundation, and Jo-Anne Willmet, who will be focusing on our Stewardship efforts going forward. Responsibilities include convening and chairing Committee meetings, liaising with the Treasurer and Committee members between meetings and preparing a monthly Finance Committee update for the Knox newsletter. Additional volunteers to serve as members of the Committee are also welcomed.

The Chair of the Finance Committee will sit on the Governing Body.

A short application form for all Committee positions is available from Sue at the office, or please reach out directly to Betty Norman Bray or Diane Trimming of Opportunity Knox.

Volunteer hosts, greeters, ushers enable our events and concerts and are always needed. Most rental agreements we host require that we supply ushers. As a result, we always need volunteers. We can't do it without you!

Please support Knox in this important way. Please go to the Knox website (www.kxcalgary.com) and sign up for the events and the positions of your choosing. Thank you.

We are also in need of a **Contributing Editor for our newsletter.** Karen Harrison, who has done this work until now, moved to BC a few weeks ago to take up full time work there. She feels that the editor needs to be an active and present member of the community, which she can no longer be. She would very much like to collaborate with anyone willing to take over her role on the newsletter team to support the transition its creation. Please contact Karen directly on nuzashto@yahoo.co.uk, or speak to Sue at the office.

We are looking for a **Tuesday office volunteer** to compile the weekly Sunday announcements and some other light office duties like filing, answering the phone, creating baptism certificates and wedding documents. Please contact Sue at sforsyth@kxcalgary.com if you are interested in this opportunity.

GOVERNANCE

UPDATE FROM THE KNOX COMMISSION/GOVERNING BODY

The Commission is excited to welcome Murray Songer as the Property Chair.

The Knox Commission met February 28, 2023. This meeting was mostly focused on moving forward, following the motions passed at the February 26 Annual Congregational Meeting.

Opportunity Knox continues to search for a Chair of Finance and Stewardship.

January 2023 Knox finances highlights include: The bank overdraft is half of what it was last year. Targeted givings are up by about \$4,500 because of the stewardship campaign work completed by Jo-Anne Willment. Net loss from operations is less than last year.

There is a meeting with the Calgary Foundation on March 13th where discussions on repayment of the loan will take place. A plan is required by April 28th.

Janet and Chuck, joined Jo-Anne Willment in attending the Trustee Workshop on March 18th at McDougal United Church.

The Commission thanks all who worked on the Knox Annual Report, prepared items for the Annual Congregational meeting, worked on the set up and cleanup for the meeting, and all who attended.

Submitted by the Knox Commission: Rev. Tom Melvin, Rev. Bob Mutlow, Rev. Roslyn Campbell, Rev. Sheena Trotter-Dennis, Betty Norman Bray, Dennis Ruf, Janet Zatzka, Norman Fenton, Chuck Curry, Murray Songer, and Lisa McKay.

KNOX M&P UPDATE

The Committee last met on 16 March. We continue to try to meet with an employee prior to each meeting. In February it was Stephen Wallace, who had been temporary until the beginning of February. Only after being hired on a permanent basis, did he realize that the job was a significant physical stress, and decided to resign from the position. Within two weeks, Justin Cross was hired on a provisional basis.

Otherwise, we are looking at defining the position of Wedding and Events Coordinator and generally, how best to manage the facility with respect to staff and volunteers. Our next meeting is scheduled for April.

Knox Office will be closed on Easter Monday April 10th. Happy Easter Everyone.

CALGARY ALLIANCE FOR THE COMMON GOOD

Partner Organizations with the Calgary Alliance: Part Two

Calgary Interfaith Council

The Interfaith Council seems to be most relevant at this time, as Calgarians celebrate the Holy Month of Ramadan (March 23 - April 21), Passover (April 6), and Easter Week (April 2 - April 9). We share much history and story together, as “People of the Book” and the Interfaith Council explores that commonality. The Calgary Interfaith Council’s goal is to be the central address and voice of the interfaith community in Calgary. It seeks to accomplish this goal by:

- Promoting and modeling respect, understanding, and collaboration among the religious communities of Calgary (through education, dialogue, mutual worship experiences, and social justice),
- Providing all citizens and organizations in Calgary with resources and information that can help them facilitate better relationships with religious faith communities other than their own,
- Providing government and media with a single reputable contact for information and communication with and about the various religious communities in Calgary.

The CIC was originally conceived as the religious support group for the work of the Metropolitan Alliance for the Common Good (now the Calgary Alliance). Its first meeting occurred in September, 2014 at Temple B’nai Tikvah with a call to organize and support the Poverty Reduction Initiatives of MACG. After that first year, the organization began to address other interfaith concerns and embarked upon a broader interfaith focus.

2023 Theme: GET NEIGHBOURING!

One of the invitations common to world religions is to welcome the stranger and love our neighbour. This year the Calgary Interfaith Council is exploring this theme from the richness of our diverse faith traditions and with the shared reality of living in particular neighborhoods in Calgary.

EVENTS:

We Grow Together: We are looking for seedling and seed donations for an April 29, 2023 Indigenous engagement event hosted by Calgary Alliance for the Common Good and Calgary Climate Hub.

We will be connecting with Indigenous community members about how climate change affects them and their families and providing them with free seeds and seedlings, along with growing instructions, for home growing.

More info and sign up here: <https://forms.gle/6RkUiWHcGhAi2y5p8>.

Research Action Team Meetings:

- **Mental Health Research Action Team:** Monday, April 3rd at 7:00 PM
- **Reconciliation Research Action Team:** Tuesday, April 11 at 7:30 pm

For further information, or to attend one of these meetings, which may be held on ZOOM, contact Debi Andrus, Susan Wood, or email info@calgarycommongood.org, or phone 403-993-7123. Please specify that you are a member/adherent of Knox United Church.

If you want further information, or want to help with organizing an Alliance team at Knox, contact Susan at susanwood125@outlook.com or Debi Andrus through the Knox Office.

Susan Wood

CALENDAR – APRIL 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 ST
2 ND COMMUNION SUNDAY Service at 10:30 Potluck in Gym at 11:45	3 RD Office is closed	4th	5 th Wednesday Worship 12:30	6 th Maundy Thursday 5:00 to 7:00 in Morley Gym Pls bring a salad or side dish	7th Good Friday Service 11:00 am Readings and Music 	8th
9 th Easter Service 10:30 am 	10 th	11th	12 th Wednesday Worship 12:30	13 th Choir Rehearsal	14th	15th
16 th Sunday Worship 10:30 am	17th	18th	19th Wednesday Worship 12:30	20 th Choir Rehearsal	21st	22nd
23 rd Sunday Worship 10:30 am	24th	25th	26 th Wednesday Worship 12:30	27 th Choir Rehearsal	28th	29th
30 th Sunday Worship 10:30 am						

