

News@Knox

May 2023



Easter Blessings! I hope this newsletter finds you enjoying the warmer weather and noticing the early signs of Spring all around us. This week I saw my first robin which gave me a jolt of joy. I'm also finding myself still singing the hymns of Easter that speak to resurrection in our world and in our lives – “In the Bulb There is a Flower,” and “Morning Has Broken” and “This is the Day that God has Made” seem to be on a continuous loop.

And, there are many signs of hope around Knox. Each week brings new people into our building for concerts, events and worship. We continue to see our Sunday morning worship numbers increase and our engagement through social media continues to draw new followers. I've had hopeful conversations with many in our congregation who have great ideas for programs, events and funding for Knox – I am inspired by your dedication and energy for this community.

One of the most hopeful experiences of the season was the energy around truth and reconciliation and the re-commitment of this congregation. The 35 people who made the trip to Morley for the Maundy Thursday service was encouraging, but the conversations at the dinner were even more hopeful – that a new way forward was possible.

I invite you to continue to step into the work of truth and reconciliation by taking the free Indigenous Canada course through the University of Alberta. This is offered as an on-line 12-lesson course that you do at your own pace. It is taught from an Indigenous perspective and explores complex experiences Indigenous peoples face today from a historical and critical perspective highlighting national and local Indigenous-settler relations. <https://www.ualberta.ca/admissions-programs/online-courses/indigenous-canada/index.html> Beginning May 8, from 7-8 pm, we will offer a weekly zoom gathering to discuss issues raised by the course. Details will be in the bulletin, on the church website and on social media.

May the hopeful spirit of Easter continue to be with you and live within you!

Submitted by Rev Sheena Trotter-Dennis

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 and 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.

Neighbor Day –Looking for Volunteers

Are you someone who likes to plan events? Are you someone who wants to celebrate kindness and community? We are looking for a team of people to plan Neighbor Day – June 17th .. Neighbor Day started in June 2014 to recognize the incredible outpouring of support and generosity of neighbours following the 2013 floods. Each year on the 3rd Saturday in June, the city celebrates the kindness and community of Calgary. If you would like to be a part of the celebration, contact Sue at sforsyth@kxcalgary.com

SCRIPTURE READERS AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We are looking for a cross section of people from across our congregation to read scripture on Sunday mornings and to do our land acknowledgement. No previous experience is necessary – all readings are assigned ahead of time

THANK YOU!

Thank you to everyone who donated to our Lenten clothing drive for the Centre. The donations were all gratefully received and distributed. We are not taking any more donations at this time but will again and make an announcement when we start up.

HEALING TOUCH MINISTRY

Knox Healing Ministry had been active for over 20 years but was stopped by the pandemic. There has been interest in resurrecting our healing ministry. If you are interested in knowing more about this ministry please contact Elizabeth Campbell or Ricardo Moraes-Pinto through Sue at sforsyth@kxcalgary.com

GOVERNANCE

UPDATE FROM THE KNOX COMMISSION/GOVERNING BODY

On behalf of the Knox Commission, we hope you all had a Happy Easter, and are enjoying the spring weather. The Knox Commission is looking for ideas to rename the Knox Governing Body and its working groups. Ideas were collected at the April 2nd potluck lunch. There is still time to submit further ideas to any member of the Commission/Governing Body.

The names will be voted on at the May 28th Congregational Meeting.

The Knox Commission met on March 28th. Highlights from this meeting were:

- Kay de la Ronde is the Grant and Strategic Partnership Liaison with the Finance and Stewardship Working Group.
- Plans on event coordination are underway. The job description for Event Coordinator is being fine-tuned, with the view to have a person in place by September.
- Opportunity Knox is advertising for a Knox Representative to the Chinook Winds Region.
- Janet Zatka reported on the February finances: Total Revenues are higher than the same time last year by \$11,502, Total Expenses are slightly higher than the same time last year by \$3,290, and the bank overdraft is less than the same time last year by \$13,196. As we regroup following the challenges of the pandemic, things are beginning to move in the right direction.
- Meetings are taking place to move forward with the Mission and Vision.
 - Plans to deal with security issues are underway.
- Opportunity Knox continues to search for a Chair of Finance and Stewardship.

Applications have been submitted for grants from the federal government and the United Church of Canada Foundation. Applying for these grants was part of the 2023 Budget plan approved by congregation at the congregational meeting on February 26, 2023. The outcomes of the applications will not be known until early summer. This work was completed with help from many during the information gathering and preparation process. A huge "Thank You" to all involved!

Please mark your calendars for the May 28th Congregational Meeting to be held following the Sunday worship service.

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

SAY HELLO TO MURRAY SONGER OUR NEW BUILDING OPERATIONS MANAGER



Like many other Calgarians, I am a native of Saskatchewan. However, I have lived in Calgary for 30 years and have attended Knox for most of those 30 years. My role at Knox has included time on the Ministry and Personnel committee, Director of the Knox Foundation, and part of the weekly coffee team. I have also recently accepted the role of Chair of Property at Knox and hope that my varied work experience and contacts made in my previous positions will assist with my duties here. My time in Calgary has been spent in the hospitality and service industry, and the last number of years of employment were in operations and

upper management. I am presently also serving on the condo board in the building in which we live. Volunteering has kept me busy, but I will need to find a paying job when I return from Memphis at the end of April. I have one son and four grandchildren who live there, and consequently, I look forward to visiting that part of the world as often as I am able.

CALENDAR – MAY 2023

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|---------|--|--|---|----------|
| | 1st | 2nd | 3rd Wed Worship 12:30 to 1:30 | 11 th Choir practice 7:00 | 5 th RED DRESS/SHIRT DAY 200 Memorial Drive 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm | 6th |
| 7 th Worship Service 10:30 am Communion Sunday Potluck Sunday –11-45 in Gym | 8 th Indigenous Course zoom 7-8 pm | 9th | 10 th Wed Worship 12:30 to 1:30 | 11 th Choir practice 7:00 | 12th | 13TH |
| 14 TH Worship Service 10:30 am | 15 TH Indigenous Course zoom 7-8 pm | 16TH | 17 TH Wed Worship 12:30 to 1:30 | 18 TH Choir practice 7:00 | 19TH | 20TH |
| 21 ST Worship Service 10:30 am | 22 ND OFFICE IS CLOSED FOR HOLIDAY Indigenous Course zoom 7-8 pm | 23RD | 24 TH Wed Worship 12:30 to 1:30 | 25 TH Choir practice 7:00 | 26TH | 27TH |
| 28 TH Worship Service 10:30 am CONGREGATIONAL MEETING AFTER SERVICE | 29 TH Indigenous Course zoom 7-8 pm | 30TH | 31 ST Wed Worship 12:30 to 1:30 | | | |