

GO TO  
TABLE OF CONTENTS



LEARN, GROW and SERVE as followers of  
JESUS CHRIST

# KNOX NEWS

DECEMBER 2011



*Love  
Finds  
a Voice  
in  
Bethlehem*

## A letter from Rev. Deb

Dear Friends,

Thanksgiving - Christmas - the New Year! Over the years I have called this busy time, "the shute." Church members come up to me now and say, "Well Deb, we're almost in the "shute" again!" So true, but I think my new phrase might become, "is there life outside the 'shute'?" Ah, the dilemma of our times, never truer than the holiday season. Our Advent theme this year builds upon the discussion in November concerning increased simplicity of life and discovering what is really "enough." Our topics this December will include the gifts of time, affirmation, acts of service, presence and gift giving. As we reflect on this season and prepare for it, often we remember cherished gifts which have come to us through one of these expressions of love. A quiet, unhurried moment with a grand child, a warm bear hug after a long separation, a fresh pie hot out of the oven, the willingness to be near and attentive from a friend are all some of the most valued gifts of any season. What gifts might keep us from sliding down that slippery "shute" day after day this season?

The holidays, holy days and new year encourage a looking back. We think of what we were doing last year, who isn't present with us, how circumstances have changed, who we would love to see, what is the new normal? We look around today and pray to appreciate present blessings, including time with those we love. We look ahead with both wonderment and anxiety. What will the days ahead offer? What can I offer?

This past year has been very full for my family and our church family. Time after time I have experienced and seen gifts of encouragement, the joy of anticipation and gratitude for accomplishments.

This past year has also been shaped by realities of illness, unemployment, loss, instability of government near and far. I am reminded again and again that the source of our strength and our renewal of hope comes from God from whom the best gifts first come - light, life, love. God makes time for us in the universe. God is present with us, affirming our life and our hope through Jesus Christ. God works through people, and together we share and serve by being the body of Christ in the world. So, let's shoot the "shute" this Christmas season and seek to become givers of ourselves no matter what, no matter where, no matter why we are tempted to do otherwise.

Looking back, our greatest Gift came in a fragile form in a hasty, humble setting. Looking to today, we have Light which penetrates all darkness and offers hope; we have renewed opportunities every day. Looking forward, put a bow on yourself and sit by the tree. You are a gift of God; a gift waiting to be opened.

May God bless your gifts of time, affirmation, presence, care, attention, and sharing of resources this Christmas season. May your heart be full, whole, healed.



## DON'T MISS THIS ADVENT

- ‡ **December 11, 7:00 p.m. - Carols and Candlelight** - A Service of beautiful music, singing, scripture and readings.
- ‡ **December 20, 7:30 p.m. - The Longest Night Service** - A Service for Healing and Wholeness

## LOVE FINDS A VOICE IN BETHLEHEM

Isaiah the Prophet carried the message of challenge and repentance, of comfort and hope to God's people Israel. They were in exile in Babylon when he said to them,

"Comfort, O comfort my people says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem and cry to her...the Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth.

God gives power to the faint and weary, strengthening the powerless...those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength." Is. 40:1, 28, 29, 31

There are many who might say that they feel as if they are in exile. These are difficult times everywhere in the world. Persons and governments are trying to find a new normal; trying to create a way amidst conflicts and challenges. Even for those who are doing well - healthy and stable with a work to do, they see the darkness of the turmoil and of the times around them. Our Advent theme this year looks again to the light of the World to penetrate all darkness with rays of goodness and guidance. Not unlike the early children of God, we may have contributed to our own exile or become victims of it. But again, we turn to the One who is Light, seeking ways to carry this light to one another and to know it for ourselves.

Our theme this Advent affirms the love of God who comes as the Light of the World and whose birth we journey to again. Christ is God's voice hearkening all to turn toward him. Advent reminds us that we are on the cusp of what God will do and can do in Jesus Christ. Christ enables us to know love and show love. We do this through simple acts every day.

First Sunday in Advent	November 27	The Christmas Language of Time
Second Sunday in Advent	December 4	The Christmas Language of Affirmation
Third Sunday in Advent	December 11	The Christmas Language of Acts of Service
Fourth Sunday in Advent	December 18	The Christmas Language of Presence
Christmas Eve	December 24	Love Finds a Voice in Bethlehem
Christmas Day	December 25	The Christmas Language of Gift Giving

**Join us for worship and special services during this holy season. May you hear God's voice of love, be encouraged and share in the rejoicing.**



## **The Longest Night Service for Healing & Wholeness - December 20, 7-8 p.m.**

Knox has begun a series of services in the last few years which provide a place for grief and hope and an affirmation of burdens within Christ' healing light.

We offer these times of worship three times a year, especially at some of the busiest or celebrative seasons. These may be the times when our spirits do not match the culture around us. December 21 is the longest night of the year, when all of us, but especially those of us with greater burdens, need a time of stillness and hope, a time of healing prayer. This year our service is on December 20, and together we will bask in the promise that Christ is the light which breaks through our darkness. This is a time of prayer, music and candlelight.

# ADULT EDUCATION

## **SUNDAYS**

***Love Finds a Voice in Bethlehem*** Leader: Brooks Reid  
9:00 a.m. in the Sr. High Room (Basement)

***The History of Jesus 10:30 a.m. Study*** Room 202 Leader: Jim Clinton  
12/4 Jesus' Christology 12/11 Last Days in Jerusalem  
12/18 How Jesus Became Christ 12/25 No Class

## **TUESDAYS**

**Men's Study of The Gospel of John** Leader: Frank Mayer  
9:00 a.m. in Room 202

***Mary: Choosing the Joy of Obedience*** 9:00 a.m. in Room 203 Leader: Sue Curry  
This Women of Faith study continues through December 20.

**Tuesday Evening Bible Study** Leader: Rev. Eric Heinekamp  
We will be studying Genesis from *The Bible from Scratch* by Donald L. Griggs. Please contact Rev. Eric with any questions at [ejkamp@aol.com](mailto:ejkamp@aol.com).

## **WEDNESDAYS**

**Women On Wednesdays** Leaders: Margaret Lambka & Robin Kolar  
9:15-11:15 a.m., "Serving From The Heart" concludes December 7 and will begin again January 18 with a study of Philippians and Colossians. WOW includes childcare and activities for infants through Kindergarten.

## **THURSDAYS**

**Daybreakers** Leader: Rev. Clinton Roberts  
6:00 a.m. in the Coffee Bar

**Thursday Morning Bible Study** Leader: Rev. Cindy Karis  
9:30 - 11:00 a.m. Room 202 (Child Care Provided). Our Advent Study will be *Love Finds a Voice in Bethlehem* continues and will meet on December 1 & 8. Please join us! Contact Rev. Cindy Karis at [ckaris@knoxpres.org](mailto:ckaris@knoxpres.org) or 630-615-4308 if interested.





## CROWN MINISTRIES

Crown Ministries is dedicated to helping you manage the money God provides according to biblical principles. We are working our way through their "Money Map 7 Step Plan to Financial Freedom."

Clinton Robert is now leading us in a sermon series based on Adam Hamilton's book, *Enough*. We are challenged to evaluate our American Dream, if it means our joy in life is found by having more and more stuff and living beyond our means. This book gives a lot of great advice to help us rethink our perspective on money from a biblical viewpoint.

Crown Ministries mission is to give you all the tools you need to manage your money in the way *Enough* describes.

For more information, visit the crown.org website, or contact Scott Elliott at 630-357-4784 or selliot@wideopenwest.com.

Let's all have a Merry Christmas and live within our means!

### TABLE OF CONTENTS

Pastor's Letter, pg. 2

#### **CARE MINISTRIES OF KNOX**

A.S.K. Ministry, pg. 19

In Our Prayers, pg. 18

Pastor's Discretionary Fund, pg. 13

S.H.I.P., pg. 19

#### **EDUCATION LIFE-LONG LEARNING**

Adult Education, pg. 4

Children's Ministries, pgs. 6-8

Crown Ministries, pg. 5

Music Ministries, pgs. 6 & 8

#### **UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS**

Advent Potluck Dinner, pg. 7

Babysitting Fundraiser, pg. 6

Carols and Candlelight, pg. 8

Chilimania, pg. 15

Empty Nesters, pg. 15

Evening Book Club, pg. 14

Great Banquet, pg. 15

Hall of Famers Luncheon, pg. 14

Knox Seasoned Citizens, pg. 15

Library Corner & Book Review, pg. 12

Longest Night Service, pg. 4

Men's Monthly Breakfast, pg. 14

Presbyterian Women, pgs. 14 & 20

#### **WAYS TO SERVE**

Amor Mission Trip, pg. 12

Christmas Angels, pg. 9

Christmas Joy Offering, pg. 9

Christmas Card Fund, pg. 9

Christmas Food Drive, pg. 13

Dakota-Sisseton Needs, pg. 12

Communion Servers, pg. 8

Hesed House, pg. 12

Sanctuary Christmas Decorations, pg. 20

#### **CHURCH NEWS**

Fund for Theological Education, pg. 17

Jewelry, Note Cards & Ornaments, p. 16

Knox Connections, pg. 16

Knox Interns, pg. 17

N.I.S.T., pg. 12

Seasonal Job Opportunities, pg. 19

# CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

## Middle School Fellowship

### Lock-in at the Church

Friday, Dec. 2 - Saturday, Dec. 3

8:30 p.m. - 7:00 a.m.

\$5 plus bring a snack to share

**CHAPERONES NEEDED (YOU WILL GET  
SOME SLEEP... I PROMISE)**

### Rock Climbing - Vertical Endeavors

Friday, Dec. 9

7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

\$16.00

Meet at Vertical Endeavors

28141 Diehl Road

Warrenville, 630-836-0122

In Lifetime Fitness Building

RSVP to Jenny Hubbard [jhubbard@knoxpres.org](mailto:jhubbard@knoxpres.org), 630-615-4318

Permission Slips are available online under Middle School Fellowship  
and must be completed for each event.



## Dance & Music Ministry - Blessed Ballerinas - Blessed Voices

**Dancers/Singers Needed  
for the 4:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service**

**Ages: 3-6**

Practices : Tuesdays - 4:15 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

11/29 - 12/20

(Kids can still register, even if they have missed the first practice)

Registration Forms available online

Contact Jenny Hubbard if interested: [jhubbard@knoxpres.org](mailto:jhubbard@knoxpres.org) or 630-615-4318

## NEED TIME TO CHRISTMAS SHOP?

### Babysitting Services

### Pay It Forward Middle School Fundraiser

The Middle School kids and adult advisors will be providing a fundraiser to raise money for the young adults participating in the Amor Mission Trip. We will be providing babysitting for parents to drop off their kids and go Christmas Shopping, go on a date, or just relax. Structured activities will be planned.

Saturday, **December 17** from 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Cost: \$20.00/child or \$50.00/family



If interested, please contact Jenny Hubbard at 630-615-4318 or [jhubbard@knoxpres.org](mailto:jhubbard@knoxpres.org)



The Church Life and Children's Ministries Councils  
Invite you to an

**ADVENT POTLUCK DINNER  
(All Ages Invited)**

**Saturday, December 3 - 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.**

Evening will include:

- Potluck Dinner (Chicken provided - Please bring a side to share)
  - A telling of the Christmas Story by Santa Claus
  - Meet and Greet with Santa - Bring your cameras
- Decorating ornaments as a mission project to send to Joplin, Missouri
- If you would like to further help Joplin, please bring a gift card from Target/Wal-Mart and we will send it with the ornaments.

Please sign up in the Commons on Sunday and let us know what you will be bringing.  
Contact Jenny Hubbard at 630-615-4318 with questions.

## The Sunday School Scoop



### SS Mission Project - Feeding the Hungry

- ♦ Thank you to all of you who brought food as your SS Offering for Loaves & Fishes. Children are asked to continue bringing nonperishable food as their SS Offering into the new year.
- ♦ During Advent, the SS has a special collection for Loaves & Fishes:

### **Sunday School is collecting Birthday Bags for Loaves & Fishes.**



November 27 to December 18 Drop off in Basswood Hallway

- To celebrate Jesus' Birthday, we want to help Loaves & Fishes give families with children age 2-12 the fixings for a birthday celebration.
- Decorate plain bags or purchase party bags.
- Fill a bag with a cake mix, frosting, candles, and some party supplies such as decorations, cups, plates, napkins, table cloth, etc.

### SUNDAY SCHOOL CALENDAR

December 25 - Sunday School will not meet.

January 1 - Sunday School will not meet.

Remember at Knox, children are always welcome in worship.

When SS doesn't meet, children up to PreK are also welcome in childcare.

January 8 - Sunday School resumes. Contact: Jane Burkelman, Co-Director of Children's Ministries, jburkelman@knoxpres.org



## CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS CHOIR

### Kindergarten through Fifth Grade

Once again, we will have a special Children's Christmas Choir for Kindergarten through Fifth Grade which will sing on Christmas Eve. If your child loves to sing (or you want them to sing!), here are the rehearsal dates and times (meet in the choir room):

**Wednesday, November 30** ~ 7:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

**Wednesday, December 7** ~ 7:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

**Wednesday, December 14** ~ 5:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

**Wednesday, December 21** ~ 5:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

This Children's Christmas Choir will sing at both the 4:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m. services. You may select which service works best for your family's convenience. I do not expect any child to sing at both services. You will be able to indicate which service your child will sing at a later rehearsal date. I am looking forward to having your child sing with us! It's a very special time! Questions? Contact Jan Parry at [jparry@knoxpres.org](mailto:jparry@knoxpres.org) or 630-615-4317.

## CAROLS AND CANDLELIGHT

**December 11 at 7:00 p.m.**

We will host our "Carols and Candlelight" program which will include a multi-generational full orchestra, Praise Team, Chancel Choir, Prime Time, JAM, scriptures and readings. There are always special musical guests and surprises.

This annual event is one of the cherished services of our Christmas season. It is a lovely time to stop and experience the wonder and joy of God's gift ~ as "Love Finds a Voice" for all of us. It is one you won't want to miss. Our gift to you is meant to be shared, so please invite a friend for an evening of singing, listening, and cookies after the program!

## WAYS TO SERVE...

### COMMUNION SERVERS



Since 2006, Session approved the invitation to all adult members of Knox to serve Communion. We serve the first Sunday of every month at both services. The Worship Council handles this area and if you think you would be interested in finding out more information, please contact Bev Mayer at [bmayer@knoxpres.org](mailto:bmayer@knoxpres.org) or 630-615-4325.



## CHRISTMAS ANGELS



We will give gifts to Sisseton and a school in Aurora again this year. If you would like to participate:

- **PICK** an angel off the tree in the Commons and pick up wrapping & labeling directions.
- **WRAP** present(s) and put into a Christmas bag (no boxes, please) with the name of the child on the bag.
- **PLACE** under the Christmas tree by **Sunday, December 11** before the first service.

If you would like to donate to a specific child or age, or if the tree has been removed and you'd still like to have an angel, please contact Julie Milldrum @ 630-717-8240.

## THE CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING

Our deepest Joy lies in loving God through loving and supporting one another. For seventy years Presbyterians have given at Christmas time to support the needs of the extended church family:

- To missionaries, church workers and pastors with financial needs in retirement
- To new workers and students with needs as they begin in ministry

Let us not only rejoice in the tidings of comfort and joy but embrace them by taking this opportunity to offer comfort to those in our church family who need it.

The JOY OFFERING may be given during Advent and will culminate with the Christmas Eve offering. Questions? Contact a member of the Mission Council or one of the pastors.



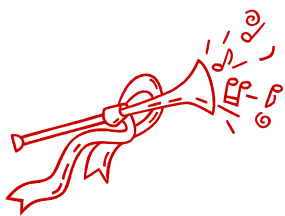
## CHRISTMAS CARD FUND

Instead of sending Christmas cards, Knox members are invited to join a long-standing tradition by offering Christmas greetings to the entire congregation while making a donation to Knox mission projects at the same time! A large Christmas card will be in the Commons area on the Mission Table. Make checks payable to Knox Presbyterian Church, marking the memo section "Christmas Card Fund-*your mission choice*."

Mission projects to designate include Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry, Hesed House, The Scott Moreau Fund, the Lehman Foundation Fund, and the Sherren Scholarship Fund. You set the amount of your donation and either place it in the offering plate or give it to our Financial Secretary. Those signing by December 5 will be acknowledged in the Christmas Eve bulletin. Donations are accepted immediately, but the card will be posted **November 27** until New Year's.

Can you think of an easier way to send over 500 Christmas Cards? Contact Anne Sherren, 630-932-0481, with questions.





## December 2011 Holiday Calendar



Date		Event
Saturday	Nov 26	Sanctuary Christmas Decorating 8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. (or so) Volunteer Night @ Hesus House
Sunday	27	<b>1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT ~ THE CHRISTMAS LANGUAGE OF TIME</b> 9:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Worship Services with Communion & Sunday School Sunday School's Advent Collection of Birthday Bags for Loaves & Fishes Begins Orchestra Rehearsal for Carols & Candlelight, 12:30-2:00 p.m.
Monday	28	Knox Blood Drive, 3:30-7:30 p.m.
Tuesday	29	Blessed Ballerinas/Blessed Voices Practice, 4:15 - 5:00 p.m. Orchestra Rehearsal for Carols & Candlelight, 7:00-8:30 p.m.
Wednesday	30	WOW (Women on Wednesdays), 9:15 - 11:15 a.m. Prime Time, J.A.M. & G3, 5:00 - 7:30 p.m. Sr. High <i>Fellowship</i> , 6 p.m. Dinner; 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Fellowship/Study Children's Christmas Choir Rehearsal 7:00 - 7:30 p.m.
Thursday	1	Hall of Famers Luncheon & Christmas Program, 12 noon - 2:00 p.m.
Friday	2	Middle School Fellowship Event — Lock-In at Church, 8:30 p.m. - 7:00 a.m.
Saturday	3	Advent Potluck Dinner, 5-7 p.m.
Sunday	4	<b>2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT ~ THE CHRISTMAS LANGUAGE OF AFFIRMATION</b> 9 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Worship Services & Sunday School Naperville Men's Glee Club Concert, 3:00 p.m. Orchestra Rehearsal for Carols & Candlelight, 12:30-2:00 p.m.
Monday	5	January Newsletter Deadline
Tuesday	6	Blessed Ballerinas/Blessed Voices Practice, 4:15 - 5:00 p.m. Orchestra Rehearsal for Carols & Candlelight, 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday	7	WOW (Women on Wednesdays) End of Session 1 (resumes January 11) Prime Time, J.A.M. & G3, 5:00 - 7:30 p.m. Christmas Dinner/End of Session I (resumes Jan.11) Sr. High <i>Fellowship</i> , 6 p.m. Dinner; 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Fellowship/Study Children's Christmas Choir Rehearsal, 7-7:30 p.m.
Friday	9	Middle School Fellowship Event — Rock Wall Climbing at Vertical Endeavors, 7:00-9:00 p.m.
Saturday	10	Men's Monthly Breakfast, 8 a.m. Carols & Candlelight Dress Rehearsal, 9 a.m. - 12 noon

Date	Event
Sunday 11	<b>3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT ~ THE CHRISTMAS LANGUAGE OF ACTS OF SERVICE</b> 9 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Services & Sunday School Middle School Bells at 10:30 a.m. Child Protection Policy Training, 11:45 a.m. Carols & Candlelight, 7:00 p.m. Childcare will be provided for children up to 3 years old.
Tuesday 13	Blessed Ballerinas/Blessed Voices Practice, 4:15 - 5:00 p.m.
Wednesday 14	Children's Christmas Choir Rehearsal, 5-5:30 p.m. Sr. High <i>Fellowship</i> , 6 p.m. Dinner; 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Fellowship/Study
Thursday 15	Children's Day Out Christmas Program, Sanctuary from noon-1 p.m.
Saturday 17	Pay It Forward Middle School Fundraiser for AMOR, 1-5 p.m.
Sunday 18	<b>4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT ~ THE CHRISTMAS LANGUAGE OF PRESENCE</b> 9 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Services & Sunday School Knox Hand Bell Choir @ 9:00 a.m. Caroling with Rev. Clint, 3:00 - 5:00 p.m.
Tuesday 20	Blessed Ballerinas/Blessed Voices Practice, 4:15 - 5:00 p.m. The Longest Night—Service for Healing and Wholeness, 7:30 p.m.
Wednesday 21	Children's Day Out Christmas vacation begins. School resumes January 9. Children's Christmas Choir Rehearsal, 5-5:30 p.m.
Friday 23	Office Closed at noon
Saturday 24	<b>CHRISTMAS EVE Services ~ LOVE FINDS A VOICE IN BETHLEHEM</b> 4 p.m. Children's Service with Children's Christmas Choir & Blessed Ballerinas/Blessed Voices <i>Candlelight and Communion Services:</i> 7 p.m. Family Service with Children's Christmas Choir & Praise Team and Middle School and Junior Dancers 9 p.m. Traditional Service with Chancel Choir 11 p.m. Traditional Service Volunteer Night @ Hesed House, 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 a.m. (3 shifts)
Sunday 25	<b>CHRISTMAS DAY ~ THE CHRISTMAS LANGUAGE OF GIFT GIVING</b> 10:30 a.m. Worship Services <b>NO</b> Sunday School
Monday 26	Office Closed
Tuesday 27	Office Closed
Friday 30	Office Closed at Noon



Knox's Ryan Fabrizio and the home owner smoothing the stucco together last year

### AMOR MINISTRIES MEXICO MISSION TRIP 2011-2012

We would like to thank everyone who has prayed for us, participated in our tamale sale fundraiser and contributed donations for the trip. Additional donations can be dropped off at the Church Office with "Mexico Trip" on the memo line of the check or on the outside of the envelope. The home that we will build in Tijuana for a needy family will be a "house that Knox & friends built," due to all of your support.

Please continue to pray for us as we prepare for this trip, fly to San Diego on December 28 and return home on January 1. Participants on the 2011-2012 trip are Kyle Jachcinski, Bryce Goll, Rev. Robert Thomas Quiring, Alison Mickelson, Derek Mickelson, Melissa Mickelson, Steven Mickelson, Anneke Miers, Kenneth Rood, Abbey Storey, Mark Storey and Bruce Burkelman.

### NAIROBI INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

The Scott Moreau Scholarship Fund at Knox has helped to support the educational ministry of this institution for many years. Scott grew up at Knox, now teaches at Wheaton College, but has also been a missionary to NIST in Nairobi. Donations to the fund which bears his name help to educate students for ministry from all over Africa, Asia and North America.



Recently Dr. Emmanuel O. Bellon, President of NIST, was in the United States visiting mission partners of the school. Pastor Clinton and others had an opportunity to meet with Dr. Bellon and to hear about recent developments at the school. Most recently, students and faculty are using new cell phone technology to train church leaders throughout the African countryside. A plaque was given to Knox in gratitude for many years of support and leadership!

### DAKOTA-SISSETON NATIVE AMERICAN NEEDS

The temperature drops to 20 degrees below zero in the Sisseton-Wahpeton area in the winter. In this harsh economy, any extra coat or blanket would be appreciated. Gently used or new winter coats or blankets would be so appreciated by the kids and elderly who need it the most.



Please put any donations in the donation bin by the Coffee Bar by December 18.

### HESED HOUSE



We are always in need of volunteers for both food donations and evening shifts on site. The next volunteer night is **Saturday, December 24**. Contact Doug or Jan Isley at 630-904-4496 if you can help. There is an ongoing need for bicycles by Hesus House guests. If you have a bike that is in very good working condition that you wish to donate, contact Joan Schaeffer at 630-416-1765.



## PASTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Since its inception in 2002, the Knox Pastor's Discretionary Fund has spent \$202,085 on individuals and families. Because of your donations to this fund, it has allowed your pastors to quietly and with confidentiality, assist our Knox families with unexpected crisis and many significant needs. It is unbelievable what we have been able to do through the PDF. This year alone we have supported people with medical crisis, the reality of foreclosure & moving, transportation needs, bill payments, and scholarships of all kinds that enable youth & families much needed opportunities that would otherwise be impossible. We offer meals at Thanksgiving and gift card bags at Christmas to our unemployed.

You have shared graciously! We have helped over 150 families and individuals, including donated vehicles which we have given to single-mother families and the under-employed who still need transportation for work.

We know times are tough this year by all the indicators around us, and we know times are difficult when folks are no longer able to give to the PDF. The fund's income has been much smaller this year, and we have heard that there are many reasons for it. Never the less, contributions are coming in, and sometimes they are from the very folks who were once helped. Sometimes they are very small, but they are a sign of gratitude from those who have been helped.

If you would like to make a donation to the Pastor's Discretionary Fund, please send it to Rita Eagleson, our financial secretary. Make the check out to Knox, and mark it PDF in the memo section.

Thank you for all your support!

### CHRISTMAS FOOD DRIVE DECEMBER 4, 2011

Store certificates to purchase turkeys (due to lack of freezer space, turkeys purchased as needed)

1-3 lb. non-refrigerated canned ham  
Canned Yams or Sweet Potatoes  
Boxed or bagged Stuffing Mix  
Canned Gravy  
Boxed Potatoes  
Cake Mixes & Frosting



Canned Green Beans & Corn  
Cream of Mushroom Soup  
Canned Pumpkin & Cranberry Sauce  
Egg Noodles  
Canned Fruit  
Jell-O & Pudding Mixes

Financial support of the food pantry is appreciated as well. New family enrollments are up 30% in just 1 year. For just \$20, a fraction of what we would spend at the grocery store, Loaves & Fishes can provide a complete holiday meal for 8.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION



# EVENTS & WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

## KNOX FALL BLOOD DRIVE



**November 28, 3:30-7:30 p.m.** A great way to start the Holiday Season of giving! Look for registration material in the Commons, schedule appointment by contacting Neil Goltermann @ [ntgoltermann@aol.com](mailto:ntgoltermann@aol.com) or 630-369-0563, or register online at [http://www.heartlandbc.org/donating\\_online\\_appt.html](http://www.heartlandbc.org/donating_online_appt.html).

## HALL OF FAMERS LUNCHEON

**December 1**

**Noon**

**Lehman Hall**

Friends in Harmony, a Latter Day Saints group of young ladies who love to sing, is returning to Knox to present Christmas Memories. This program consists of mostly familiar secular & religious Christmas songs. A worship service at 11:30 a.m. in the Chapel will precede the luncheon. Please R.S.V.P. to Edna Shepherd by November 28.

## PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

- **Mary/Martha Circle** will meet **Tuesday, December 13**, at 9:00 a.m. at Beth Ryser's home, 610 Heritage Ct. All are welcome. Contact person is Ineke Pelella 630-357-3350.
- **Rachel-Rebekah Circle** will meet on **Tuesday, December 13**, at 10:30 a.m. in Lehman Hall. Each member should bring a salad to share. Contact Rose Smilgys 630-851-4652 or [rose.smilgys@gmail.com](mailto:rose.smilgys@gmail.com) or Ruth Feightner 630-355-6451 or [rafeightner@earthlink.net](mailto:rafeightner@earthlink.net) for more information.
- **Deborah Circle** Next meeting date is yet to be determined. Contact person is Donna Christopherson at 815-372-1424.
- **Ruth Circle** will meet on **Thursday, December 15**, at 7:30 p.m. in Rev. Deb's office. Contact persons are Pam Williams 630-470-5199 or Bev Mayer at 630-615-4325.

## MEN'S MONTHLY BREAKFAST

**December 10**

**8:00 a.m.**

**Fellowship Hall**

Our speaker, Steve Hullfish, will give a behind the scenes account of the making of the feature film, "Courageous." This will include stories from the set as well as a look at the deeply faith-based purpose and passion behind the making of this film and how its message can transform generation of families. Steve was an editor on the movie and has worked on other Christian films and media products, including working as a producer for Veggie Tales. Will you answer the call to become a Courageous father? Donation \$5. Contact Frank Mayer, [fjmayerxge@comcast.net](mailto:fjmayerxge@comcast.net).

## EVENING BOOK CLUB

**December 13**

**7:30 p.m.**

**Parlor**

Our discussion will be about *Major Pettigrew's Last Stand: A Novel* by Helen Simonson. It will be available in paperback or at the local libraries. Please bring ideas for our 2012 reads. Newcomers are always welcome. Please feel free to join us for friendly discussions. Any questions? Call Janice Wiles at 630-416-9537.



## EMPTY NESTERS

Empty Nesters, let's gather for dinner first at Walker's Charhouse, across the street from Knox. Then let's attend Carols and Candlelight and support many of the empty nesters who will be in the service. Finally, let's gather for dessert and coffee with other Knox friends in our Coffee Bar, following this beautiful service.

- 5:30 p.m. Dinner at Walkers Charhouse  
(10% discount for Knox members & friends)  
Reservations due by December 4  
R.S.V.P. to Bev Mayer 630-615-4325
- 7:00 p.m. Carols and Candlelight in the Knox Sanctuary
- 8:15 p.m. Dessert and Coffee in the Knox Coffee Bar

## CHILIMANIA 2012

**Sunday, January 22**, after the 9 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. services

SAVE THE DATE! The Deacons of Knox invite you to one of the finest gastronomic experiences of your life: CHILIMANIA 2012. You will have the chance to sample over 30 wonderful chili recipes prepared by the Great Chili Chefs/Dacons of Knox.



## KNOX SEASONED CITIZENS

Save the Date ~ **Saturday, February 18, 2012**

Our next outing will be a trip to Starved Rock for eagle watching. We will drive over in the morning in order to get there in time for lunch, and then take the trolley eagle tour. Watch for more details in January!

## INDIAN PRAIRIE GREAT BANQUETS

The next set of Indian Prairie Great Banquets are quickly approaching. The men's banquet is February 23-26, 2012, and the women's banquet is March 1-4, 2012. The Great Banquet is a ministry that provides a three-day spiritual renewal experience. The banquet offers an opportunity to step away for three days of worship, talks, discussion, table fellowship and sharing of life experiences. Each banquet weekend encourages attendees in their faith and in their relationship with the church. Everyone is welcome to attend, regardless of church affiliation. This is a non-denominational ministry representing and supported by more than a dozen churches in the Chicagoland area. Knox will be hosting the next set of weekends!



Save the date for yourself and consider gifting this wonderful experience to someone in your life who could use a chance to step away from the chaos of life, and devote a weekend to spiritual affirmation and renewal. If you are interested in learning more about the Great Banquet, please contact Pastors Deb Roberts, Clint Roberts, Cindy Karis or Robert Thomas Quiring. More information can also be found at [www.ipgb.org](http://www.ipgb.org).



# CHURCH NEWS

## **KNOX CONNECTIONS**

Knox Connections is almost here! This exciting web-based program will soon allow members to sign up for small groups, use an on-line member director, update personal information, register for events, and even make payments to Knox online. We began a pilot program with Elders and Deacons in November and will make certain features available to all members soon. We are rolling out this program in phases, and one of the first phases will allow you to set up automated payments toward your 2012 pledge. Please contact Rev. Eric Heinekamp at [ejkamp@aol.com](mailto:ejkamp@aol.com) with any questions or if you would be interested in being part of our next pilot test phase.

## **FUND FOR THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION (FTE)**

We will share more about this grant and developing program in the January newsletter. Knox was one among a dozen programs to receive a grant from this ecumenical foundation.

The first phase of our grant development was to involve the congregation as a whole in understanding God's call and God's gifts for each and every Christian. This was done through our 'Serving From the Heart' church-wide study. This study included a sermon series and involved over 400 individuals in small-group study, which included all ages of our congregation, from the youngest through middle school, high school, young adult and upwards.

The second phase will be to develop a mentoring process for seniors in High School in order that relationships with their home church will be strengthened and guiding as they make the significant transition to college.

## **KNOX JEWELRY, NOTE CARDS AND ORNAMENTS**

Knox jewelry, note cards and ornaments will be available to purchase at the sign-up tables through December 11, or through Bev Mayer at 630-615-4325. Please contact her if you are interested.



## **THANK YOU KNOX CROP WALKERS**

On October 16, 34 walkers from Knox participated in the 29th annual Naperville Area CROP Walk to fight hunger locally and globally. We walked 1K & 5K routes in beautiful fall weather.





Thank you very much Knox CROP Walkers and Donors for being part of this year's walk in which you raised more than \$3,850. The fundraiser event at Noodles & Co. in September raised an additional \$247. All of the money raised will be used to help people in need. 25% will stay in our community, whereas the remaining 75% will be used worldwide. This will include helping to relieve hunger due to the drought in the Horn of Africa and assisting victims of flooding in Thailand with food, survival packs, & shelter assistance.

Knox CROP Walk Recruiting Team  
Rachel Koritala & Ineke Pelella



## LIBRARY CORNER

Thank you Knox!

-  to everyone who visited the Knox Library Open Houses
-  To Debbie Russell for organizing the Anderson's/CDO Book Fair
-  To all who purchased books and donated books to the Knox Library—we will be able to purchase more now from Anderson's!
-  To the Knox Library Committee for getting the Library up and running.

If you are interested in this ministry, please contact Rose Smilgys at [rose.smilgys@gmail.com](mailto:rose.smilgys@gmail.com) or 630-851-4652. If you are interested in helping the Library grow, check out the Knox website and discover the Knox Library Book Wish List.

### BOOK REVIEW

One of the new books that has been donated to the library is *Heaven is for Real: A Little Boy's Astounding Story of his Trip to Heaven and Back* by Todd Burpo. This is a great glimpse of how a little boy's story rolls out in a small child's way to shock his parents and give a real glimpse of heaven and the details that he could not possibly have known or read since he did not know how to read. He describes angels and Jesus and God as "really, really big." *Heaven is for Real* will forever change the way you think of eternity, offering the chance to see, and believe, like a child. Look for this book coming soon to the Knox Library.

## KNOX WELCOMES NEW INTERNS

### Katie Hartwell

Katie joins us from McCormick Theological Seminary as a second year student studying for her Master's of Divinity degree. She will be serving in the newly created internship provided for by the grant Knox received from the Fund for Theological Education. Katie will be serving in a leadership role with the newly formed Knox College Mentoring Committee, moderated by Rudi Tanck. She comes to us from Bowling Green University and from 4 years as a Chicago inner city teacher. Her previous experience honed the skills for developing a mentoring program for seniors in high school as they become college freshmen.

### Tyler Odem

Tyler also joins us from McCormick Seminary in Chicago. He is a first year student there. Tyler Odem has taken the position of Middle School Leader and will work with the G3 (Give God Glory) middle schoolers on Wednesday Evenings and during all Middle School Fellowship events. Tyler is a first year seminary student at McCormick Theological Seminary with a double undergrad degree from Notre Dame in Classics and Theology. He comes to us with a wealth of experience including volunteering for a year in Kerala, India, where he worked with destitute elderly and children. He hopes to engage and challenge the youth so that faith becomes that exciting aspect of life which informs the struggles, tough decisions, and activities faced on a daily basis by their generation. Please join the kids in giving him a warm welcome.



# CARE MINISTRIES

## **Nursing Home/Home Bound:**

*Pick up a weekly prayer concerns card in the Narthex for a list of our members who are in nursing homes & home bound.*

## **Illness/Health Concerns:**

Marge Adey (Beth Ryser's mother)  
Helen Aiken  
John Bailey  
Roger Bergland (Joan Tanck's cousin)  
Cindy & Bessie (co-workers of Norm Canfield)  
Helen Brassington  
Andrew Bratsos  
Don Clouston  
Marshall Cornell (Cathy Lemke's father)  
Neels de Coning  
Star Downs (friend of Jo Banta)  
Samilana Dragan (Larisa Vujic's aunt)  
Nancy Elmgren (Pete's sister-in-law)  
Viki Fareno (Jeanne & Max Adams' daughter)  
Pearl Foote (Shirley McDonald's mother)  
Jadon Fry (Alan & Nancy Fry's grandson)  
Gerry Geers (Cathy Geers' father)  
Mildred Hasner  
Carl Haworth  
Mary Ann Hill (Patty Reed's mother)  
Helen Hollenbeck (Lynn Bednar's mother)  
Colleen Horek (Mary Horek's sister-in-law)  
Walt Jenkins  
Paul Jones  
Wayne Kozlowski (friend of Marilee Slick)  
Sara Laker (friend of Rita Eagleson)  
Patty Legaspi (Judy Ancona's friend)  
Jerry Marshall  
Kristina Mastrino's brother Rick & his family  
Debbie Meeks (Andy's mother)  
Laura Merchak (Dave Rahn's sister)  
Doris Moss  
Arlene Parker  
Stewart Pattison (friend of Janet Hyde)  
Doral Pavlicek  
Doug Riley (neighbor of Barcheskis)  
Mary Rudnick (former MDO teacher & Marilee

Slick's friend)  
Carol Schaible (Anne Mair's friend)  
Bob Sleep (Tim's father)  
Marilee Slick  
Helen Souta  
Jerry & Mary Souta (Helene Schaefer's brother & sister-in-law)  
Justin Souta (Helen's grandson)  
Andrew Stormer (Mary Horek's brother)  
Patti Thompson  
Daisy Trimnell  
Ann Vanderschaff (Ellen Dickinson's sister)  
Jenn Visser  
Dominick Vujic  
Phyllis Walker (Merle Ann Moore's cousin)  
MaryLin Werring (Nancy Fry's sister)

## **Grieving:**

The Hall family on the death of Dot's sister, Lois Derrek, on November 1.

The Iverson family on the death of Dan's grandmother on October 18.

## **Celebrating:**

Melissa & Joe Bitsky on the birth of their daughter, Ansley Deeds, on September 29.

Christopher & Dana King on the birth of their son, Caleb James King, on October 20. Proud grandmother is Doris Walker. Proud grandparents are Phillip & Pam Booth.

Anne & Tom Smith on the birth of their daughter Victoria Rose Smith, on November 9.



### REMINDER TO MEDICARE BENEFICIARIES

Knox offers free one-on-one assistance to older adults on Medicare. Need help choosing a Medicare Part D Prescription Drug Plan? Confused about Medicare Supplements? Call the Church Office to make an appointment, or contact Isabella Holden at 630-369-0632 or [i\\_holden@comcast.net](mailto:i_holden@comcast.net).

### SEEKING EMPLOYMENT



Success: Arthur Badillo, Mary Ekin, Rosalie Gartner, & John Hite  
Those still looking: Don Clouston, Tim Cox, Eun Crowcroft, Harry Crowcroft, Joy Hudson, Lynne Jelle, Becky Kedzie, Matt Kelly, Marilyn McCormick, Merrill Miller, Rick Skinner, Davida Smith, Joe Sova, Anne Swanson, Steve Tompkins.

### SEASONAL JOB OPPORTUNITIES

If anyone knows of seasonal job openings, please forward them to Tom Ekin of the A.S.K. group at [tom.ekin@yahoo.com](mailto:tom.ekin@yahoo.com) or Peg Foltz at [pfoltz@att.net](mailto:pfoltz@att.net).

### GLUTEN FREE COMMUNION TRAY

There is a **gluten free communion tray at the 10:30 a.m. service**. The gluten free bread will always be served at the right rear position. If you have gluten sensitivity/allergy, check with the server to make sure you go to the correct tray. (Even though the bread is prepared in an offsite gluten-free kitchen, we cannot be responsible for any cross contamination that might occur.)



*Holiday Greetings*  
*to all of our Knox Family*  
*from the Knox Staff*



**KNOX Presbyterian Church**  
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TEL 630.355.8181 FAX 630.355.8194

Rev. Clinton Roberts, Senior Co-Pastor	Ext. 304
Rev. Deb Roberts, Senior Co-Pastor	Ext. 306
Rev. Cindy Karis, Associate Pastor	Ext. 308
Rev. Robert Thomas Quiring, Associate Pastor	Ext. 328
Curt & Jan Parry, Directors of Music Ministries	Ext. 317
Jane Burkelman, Co-Director of Children's Ministries	Ext. 303
Jenny Hubbard, Co-Director of Children's Ministries	Ext. 318
Beth Burner, Director of Children's Day Out and Childcare Coordinator	Ext. 307
June Hershey, Office Coordinator	Ext. 309
Bev Mayer, Pastors' Assistant	Ext. 325
Rita Eagleson, Financial Secretary	Ext. 301
Dick Wheeler, Facilities Manager	Ext. 305
Linda Pekala, Secretary/Receptionist	Ext. 300
Beth Ryser, Secretary/Receptionist	Ext. 300
Rev. Eric Heinekamp, Parish Associate	
Rev. David Bebb Jones, Parish Associate	
Rev. Jim Whitlock, Parish Associate	
Rev. Kenneth Lehman, Pastor Emeritus	

**SANCTUARY  
CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS**  
**Saturday, November 26**  
**8:30 a.m.—1:00 p.m.**



**SAVE THE DATE!**  
**PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S  
RETREAT**  
**April 13-15, 2012**

