

Knox News

God is Here for Everyone

Please visit us at: www.knoxunited.ab.ca

Fall 2008 Edition - October

We are an *affirming* community
within the United Church of Canada
506 - 4th Street SW, Calgary, AB
Office (403) 269-8382

Services

Sundays at 11:00 a.m.

Wednesdays Communion at 12:10 p.m.

Nursery & Youth Programs during service

Message from Knox Communications

HELP!

The Knox Communications & Marketing Committee is in desperate need of a few new members.

We need a committee chair and two other people.

The committee designs and publishes this wonderful newsletter you are reading plus many other things related to the internal and external promotion of the church.

We update the Knox web site, prepare brochures, place ads in the media, take photos at church events and get those window murals up and down from the 4th Street windows.

We meet once a month at the most, and much of our work is done via email.

Please contact Grant Dawson if you are interested in helping out with this committee.

No experience necessary except for your enthusiastic willingness to take on a few tasks.

In Flanders Fields

In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved, and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders Fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders Fields.

- John McCrae



Congratulations to Joan and Allan Thomson on celebrating their 66th Wedding Anniversary on August 22nd.



They welcomed their first great grandchild Benjamin David James Tindall on September 24th.



Nostalgia

Submitted by: William Brindley

One of the more pleasant tasks of summer is to go outside and pick flowers for the table, or perhaps to give a friend who has no garden. Did you know I even managed to pick flowers last year in the middle of November?!

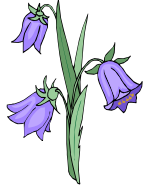
I had gone to bed one cold wintery night around my usual time of nearly midnight and suddenly for no reason at all I recalled an afternoon in my boyhood. A young friend and I were going for a long walk. We were used to life's simple pleasures in those days.

It was a lovely summer day and we soon left the town behind with it's very busy traffic and started to walk down country lanes. We passed through a village, crossing some fields and climbing a stile or two, finally coming to the woods. The ground there was thickly covered with vivid bluebells, washed over with April showers.

They smelled so lovely. We eagerly ran and picked flowers by the handful. The beauty of all those flowers was really breathtaking, together with the larks singing overhead in the many trees around us. I took lots of flowers home for my mother to place in a jar on the kitchen window sill.

Thinking back, they were indeed happy days and time seemed to stand still. Well, it didn't really because that experience has lived with me for over 50 years.

How wonderful to be gathering bluebells near midnight on a cold November night. Memories can enrich us anytime – one of the most precious of all our possessions.



Knox Centre Theatre Collective

Submitted by: Helen Young

KNOX CENTRE THEATRE COLLECTIVE PRESENTS

Well...

A new play by Wade Liffon

Two youth. A conversation.

Faith. Water. Life.

**NOVEMBER 7 AND 8/08
LOWER THEATRE 7:30PM**

Tickets \$10 at the door.

THE SECOND SHEPHERDS PLAY

And Other Festivities

Join us for a night of Christmas Celebrations

DECEMBER 14 @ 7 PM

KNOX UNITED CHURCH

Inn from the Cold

What's going on at the Knox Inn?

It has always been a dream of the people at Knox to be "out of business" one day. That is, that we would no longer be needed because people would no longer be homeless. Thanks to the Inn's new Emergency Family Shelter and many other community activities we are getting closer to realizing that dream.

This year the Knox Inn volunteers have been asked by the Society to cut back on the number of Inns we provide at the church and look at volunteering at the new Emergency Family Shelter.

So, rather than providing 3 Inns per month at Knox we have scaled back to only one per month. This has given many of our long-serving volunteers other options. We're still fortunate to have a strong team of 30+ to provide temporary shelter and care to our homeless guests on the first Sunday of each month. With the help of volunteers from the Unitarian church and the Korean Presbyterian church we have a strong complement of teams performing coordination, set up, cooking dinner, hospitality, overnight, breakfast and clean up duties. We are very blessed.

Dave Mackidd is putting together teams to cook dinner at the Emergency Family Shelter this fall. If you're interested in joining Dave on this important and rewarding mission, please contact him after Sunday services or at david.mackidd@encana.com

Inn from the Cold will open its doors in the next few days to as many as 80 individuals who are part of a family. We applaud their work to ensure that children, in particular, will have the stability they need and enjoy having the same place to stay each and every night.

**See the complete Inn from the Cold press release on the Knox Web site.
"Calgary's First Emergency Family Shelter. A Place Where Hope Begins"**

Knox Centre Theatre Collective is looking for actors to form *The Knox Players*

The group will work together to create theatre pieces to enhance the worship service. The plan is to meet twice a month to work on short plays, monologues and skits that will be part of worship on Sundays. We will be using the following techniques:

- Improvisation
- Theatre games
- Play Creation

When: 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month 7-9 pm.

The group will start in November to prepare for Christmas.

Where: Knox United Church 506-4th St. SW

Contact: Helen Young @ kctc@nucleus.com or call (403) 281-7065.

Helen Young
Artistic Director
Knox Centre Theatre Collective

Mission & Outreach

Submitted by: Pat Desaulniers

Mission and Service of the United Church of Canada receives 60% of our Mission Fund. Mission and Service is asking that we increase our givings to the M&S Fund. It supports ministries and chaplaincies across Canada, ethnic ministries, ecumenical and interfaith partners, overseas ministries, theological education, campus ministry, administration, magazines and publications, resource production and distribution, ecumenical relationships, global mission, and social justice advocacy. The M&S Fund is the largest contributor to the United Church's General Operating Funds. About half of the income for the work of the Church each year comes through the Mission and Service Fund. Fewer than half of UC members contribute to the Mission Fund. We ask that you consider pledging at least 10% of your Knox givings to the Mission Fund. Only those amounts pledged or donated to the Mission Fund are directed there.

On Nov. 2 at coffeetime we will show the DVD entitled "Called to be the Church," which gives a brief history of the United Church and describes the mission work of the Church and how it has often been a leader in social justice causes. It is 20 minutes long. We hope to see you there.

On October 26th, Stewardship Sunday, we are holding a Mission Fair. We have invited agencies and ministries that we supported with year-end and Thanksgiving disbursements last year to provide information and answer questions during coffeetime. This will give an opportunity for members of the congregation to see how their Outreach Fund has been disbursed and help us in making decisions for this year's stewardship campaign. The Outreach Fund receives 40% of the Mission Fund.

There are some on-going Outreach activities. United Church Day at Habitat for Humanity continues on the second Wednesday of each month at the Mayland Heights site or the Evanston site. Members of all United Church ministries in Calgary are invited to volunteer on that day. Jason Semeniuk is our co-ordinator and volunteers can sign up with him at the M&O table at coffeetime.

Sandwich Sunday is the last Sunday of each month. Members of the congregation are asked to bring a loaf of sandwiches which are delivered to the Calgary Drop-In and Rehab Centre for their guests.

Operation Eyesight receives money from recycled beverage containers thanks to the efforts of Michael White, Gord McRae, Jean Reid and Ron Matthews. By the end of August, a total for the year of \$1,000 had been given to Operation Eyesight.

The Thanksgiving Offering has been designated for the Family Caregiver Centre, an initiative of the Calgary Health Region in partnership with the Calgary Health Trust, which was developed in response to needs identified by family caregivers who wanted information and support to enable them in their caregiving role. The Caregiver Centre enhances existing services and identifies and implements new programs to support family caregivers. Some services provided are respite referrals, information resources, support groups, workshops and social programs.

We thank you for your support for Mission and Outreach.

2008 Stewardship Update

Submitted by: Chuck Curry

Sunday, October 26 is Stewardship Sunday. On that day we will have your information packages available for pick up. This package will provide the projected expenditures to the end of 2008, and the proposed budget for 2009. It is important for everyone to be here that day

Stewardship facts: It costs \$1700 a day to run Knox. Sixty-two percent of this pays the ministers' salaries. Ten percent are fixed operating costs for heat, light, water and sewer. Caretaking and security cost 15%, and administration and supplies cost 10%. Other minor expenditures account for three percent of the budget. Think about what you and your household can do to support these operating costs to the end of 2008 and make a commitment toward them in 2009

In your package will be the Special Donation 2008 form. We encourage everyone to make additional donations for 2008 if they can. Here is the reason. At Knox we always propose tight budgets with little or no fat for extra projects. But unforeseen expenditures arise. Here are a few that have come up this summer and fall. Three weeks ago one of the main organ blower motors faulted (with worn bushings) and it had to be rebuilt. The cost was \$2,200. In June we received an insurance appraisal for replacement of the building and its contents. The appraisal was for \$24,000,000, but we are currently paying insurance based on an appraisal of \$12,000,000 so the price of the policy is going up! Third, we have to replace the dimming system for the sanctuary lights. The original system was installed in 1979 and is worn out, but for concerts and special events we are expected to be able to control the lights. \$8,000 is the amount beyond the budget that will be needed. If you can help, we might end the year with a balanced budget.

Knox United Church Upcoming Concerts & Events

October 26

- Knox Stewardship Campaign
- Mount Royal Children and Youth Choirs – Harvest and Song @ 3 pm. Tickets at the door

November 2

- David Lindley @ 8:00. Tickets at Ticketmaster

November 9

- Mount Royal Kantorei @ 3 pm celebrating Remembrance Day with veterans. Tickets at the door

November 10

- Jaydee Bixby @ 7:30. Tickets at Ticketmaster

November 12

- Tariq Ali public lecture @ 7:30. Donation

November 14

- The New Christianity: The Social Gospel Movement in Canada with Prof Douglas Francis @ 7:30 in the Parlor. \$10
- Jill Barber @ 8:00. Tickets at Ticketmaster

November 22

- Rhythm of the Rockies (Sweet Adelines) @ 7:30 Tickets at the door

November 26

- Barra McNeils @ 8:00 Tickets at Ticketmaster

Nov. 29, 30, Dec 1

- Knox-CBC Carol Festival @ 7:00. Food Bank donations at the door

December 6

- Welcome Yule – Celebrating holiday works from past 50 seasons by Festival Chorus @ 8:00. Tickets from Ticketmaster and at door

December 7

- Knox Christmas Bake Sale
- Richard Thompson @ 8:00. Tickets at Ticketmaster

December 11

- Dr. Draw @ 8:00 pm. Tickets at Ticketmaster

December 13

- Cantare Children's Choir @ 7:30. Tickets at the door.

December 14

- Second Shepherd's Play – A Medieval Christmas Pageant; A Child's Christmas in Wales @ 7 pm

December 20

- VoiceScapes Sing-a-long Messiah @ 2:30. Tickets at the door

If you are interested in volunteering for front-of-house staff for any of these concerts, contact Chuck Curry @ (403) 270-0742