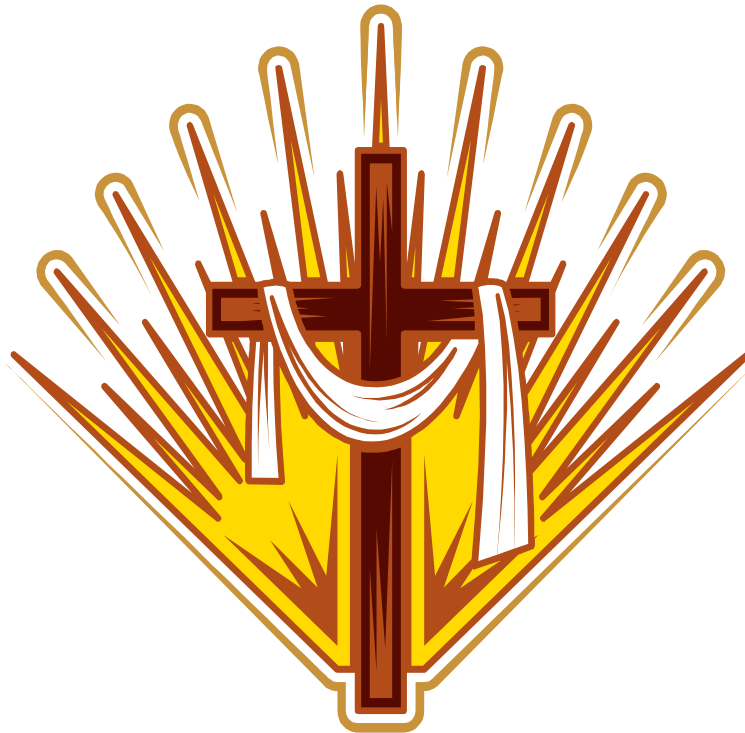


KNOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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KNOX

“FRONT PAGE”

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LEADERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE

(Adapted from an article by The Rev. Dr. John Carr)

This information is provided in order that you may better understand the leadership and governance of our Church. If, after reading this material, you have questions, please contact Laura Kavanagh. There will be an explanation of the committee structure at Knox in future issues of our newsletter.

1. Our inducted Minister, in consequence of the Call of the Congregation and the appointment of Presbytery is Pastor, Moderator of Session, Ruling Elder, and Teaching Elder. She is accountable to Presbytery (not to the Session or Congregation) for the exercise of her office, although she is bound by decisions of the Session that are appropriate to the functions of Session. She is the Executive Officer of Presbytery in the Congregation. In that role, she has direct access to all decision-making processes of the Session and Congregation and ought not to be excluded from any of those decision-making processes.
2. If Knox had a Diaconal Minister, s/he, in consequence of the Call of a Congregation and the appointment of Presbytery, would be a member of Session, called to exercise a ministry within the Congregation that is defined in terms of the particular Call. S/he would relate to relevant committees of the Congregation as **staff support**. S/he would be accountable to Presbytery, although s/he would be bound by decisions of Session that are appropriate to the functions of Session.
3. A Ruling Elder, in consequence of the Call of a Congregation, serves as a Member of Session in providing Leadership and Pastoral Care within the Congregation (and within the Presbytery if appointed by Session and/or Presbytery). S/he is accountable to Session and/or Presbytery for the exercise of office. Elders participate in the Congregation's committee structure as liaison to Session. If they serve as Convener of a standing or ad hoc committee, they do so as a member of the congregation, not as an Elder (i.e. serving as a committee convener is not a function of Eldership).
4. A Programs Staff Person (Parish Nurse, Youth Director, Music Director) is appointed by Session, the position and budget (although not the person) having been approved by the Congregation. Program Staff persons are accountable to Session through the Committee structures appropriate to their role (i.e. Music Director through Worship Committee).
5. In Knox Church, it is normative for Elders currently serving on Session to participate in the serving of Communion. **However, one does not have to be an Elder to serve Communion.**

Editorial

One day, a few years ago, I watched a television programme showing the apathy of people exposed to situations requiring their immediate involvement. A lady's bag was snatched in front of people sitting on a bench and they sat while the thief ran past them. A man feigned a heart attack on a street in New York, and people stepped over him. No one wanted to get involved. Well - the beat goes on!



Today, more than ever it seems as if we are being tested and threatened by every minority group, and true to form, we are our usual apathetic beings. We bask in our indulgencies and complacency. We have our enshrined rights and all that is great within our democratic system. But do you honestly believe that the way we are is what we should be? In my opinion we are not. Who is responsible??

To answer that, I believe one has to understand the roles of those to whom there must be voluntary subservience within our great society. We have our government and our judiciary. We have ourselves as entities given the opportunity to regulate the society in which we live, based upon our faith. Our government and judiciary direct policy and legality respectively. Then there is the Church, which directs our harmony, and our morality, and our theology.

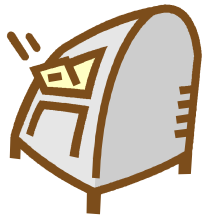
I believe God has revealed more of his wishes in the Bible than by any other means - and if changes are to be made, it should be with the people not the Bible. God does not have to change to suit us; we are His people and we should honour that!!!



Many of the moral issues of today are noted in the biblical text. Just think of the way things are in today's society. In my opinion, freedom without voluntary discipline and control breeds anarchy. The disintegration of the "family unit" (Father & Mother in the "honourable estate" of marriage), the acceptance of "free living" standards and standards of living which do not permit proper "parenting" do not provide the necessary role models for children. Children who are then forced into adult situations beyond their years to the detriment of what they could and should become. And the beat goes on! I submit that the trials and tribulations of contemporary life are in direct relationship to the ignorance of people to the precepts and interwoven requirements of the Bible. The moral standards of society should be confirmed in oration from the pulpits of our churches to the benefit of applied convention. Then, with full churches, the world would indeed be a better place for all.

Perhaps Easter will remind us of all past sacrifice, the way we should attempt to be and the way we should act accordingly. See II Timothy, chapters 3 and 4.

"Ed"



Letters To/From "Ed"

Dear All:

I must apologize for the delay in publishing the "FRONT PAGE"; however, here it is with love and best wishes for a happy and prosperous New Year, Easter and Tax Return!

Geri and I will be away during May and June and as we intend to continue with our travelling, we are reducing commitments.

Edition No. 1 of the Knox "FRONT PAGE" was published in September 2001. The time has come for me to retire from the editorial team. I do so with many thanks for the privilege of being able to serve in this capacity. So, any volunteers??



Best wishes to all,

Peter Berry

FROM: Oak Bay Lodge (370-6600)

As you know, we depend heavily on our volunteers in our efforts to provide programs for our residents. One of our new programs that we are hoping to offer is to have a host/hostess in each of the dining rooms. These volunteers would be responsible for providing a pleasant welcome to the residents, and assist them when needed. We are providing a farm facecloth for each resident at the beginning and end of the meal for wiping hands. The volunteer would be responsible for giving these out and putting them away in the laundry bin.

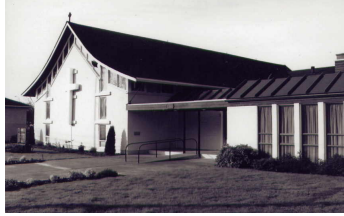


We have several other programs that require volunteers and those needs are continually updated on our website www.freewebs.com/oakbaylodge

Blessings!

Ruth McCowan
Coordinator of Volunteer Services and Pastoral Care

Changes in our Church Family



We record with deep regret the death of the following friends since our last newsletter: -

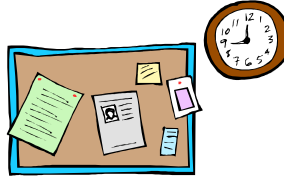
Mr. James Brown
Miss Margaret Robb
Mrs. Enid Sutherland
Mrs. Jean McLachlan
Mrs. Laura Hopkins
Mrs. Marion Crockett

We welcomed the following new members during the past several months: -

Mr. Albert / Mrs. Kay Bishop
Mrs. Vera Doutaz
Mrs. Cora Offer
Ms. Angela Hope
Mrs. Laura Hopkins
Mrs. Esther Mitchell

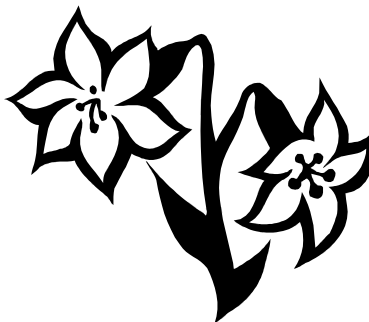
There have been many additions to our photo directory in the entrance hall - take a look and see if there's someone you haven't met yet!

Notable Future Events



Sunday, March 20	11 am	Palm / Passion Service
Thursday, March 24	7 pm	Maundy Thursday Communion
Friday, March 25	9 am	Good Friday Breakfast
	10:30 am	Good Friday Service
Sunday, March 27	11 am	Easter Service
Friday & Saturday, April 1 & 2		WMS Synodical AGM in Parksville
Sunday, April 3	11 am	Communion & Fresh Fruit Sunday
Thursday, April 7	6 pm	ALPHA begins
Sunday, April 10	12 noon	Toonie Lunch
Saturday, April 23	9 am	Leadership Meeting
Friday & Saturday, May 6 & 7		Pottery Show (rental of our building)
Friday & Saturday, May 13 & 14		ALPHA Holy Spirit Weekend
Tuesday, May 17	all day	Polling Station for Provincial Election
Saturday, May 28	10 am	Garage Sale
Sunday, May 29	2:30 pm	Service at Oak Bay Lodge with Knox Choir

Check the bulletin each Sunday for further details
(dates subject to change - check the bulletin each week)



Articles!!

FROM THE LIBRARY: A book report, by Hope Stenton



Julian's Cell

This is the fiction telling of the life of Julian of Norwich, who lived from 1342 - 1416?

Ralph Milton visited Norwich, England and saw where Julian had lived, and was moved to write this story. He is the co-founder of Wood Lake Books, and lives in Kelowna.

We know little of Julian's early life, and Milton imagines what it might have been like. When she was 30 years old, she fell grievously ill and was not expected to live. Then she had visions, or what she called, her "showings" of the Passion of Christ. She became an anchoress, a person who has retired to a solitary place for a life of religious seclusion. In her small hut, attached to the church of St. Julian, she led a life devoted to prayer and counselled the people who came to her window. Julian learned to read and write in Latin, in spite of the church's belief that the common folk, and especially women, did not need to read the Bible for themselves. She translated scripture into the English language, and was the first woman to write a book in the English language, when she wrote her "*Revelation of Divine Love*".



Julian believed in a God of love, not vengeance. The church in that time believed in a vindictive God who punished humans for their sins. Julian wrote of God's love for us as both father and mother. She gives us hope for our times with the saying,

"that all shall be well, and all shall be well, and all manner of thing shall be well."

This book, as a work of fiction was easy to read, but it encouraged me to learn more of this remarkable woman. The contemplative monk, Thomas Merton wrote, "There is no doubt that the Lady Julian is the greatest of English mystics. Not only that, but she is one of the greatest English theologians in the ancient sense of the word."



THE POWER OF MUSIC by Edyta Sahlen

The power of music is most clearly evident in worship. We find it supporting the spoken word; inspiring us to a deeper understanding of our faith; the wonderful blend of poetry and melody in a hymn; the joyful crescendo of the choir's anthem; the quiet reverence of a soloist's prayer; the excitement of the organ postlude. Each, carefully chosen, brings us closer to God through a clearer appreciation of the service theme.

As we consider the importance of music in worship, we salute the talent and commitment of those who participate in its leadership. Their countless hours of study and preparation enable us to enjoy a rich musical heritage, and find expression for those feelings which would have been forgotten. ♪ ♪ ♪

Thank you for that beautifully worded insight! - "Ed"



THE MAYONNAISE JAR AND COFFEE

When things in your life seem almost too much to handle, when 24 hours in a day are not enough, remember the mayonnaise jar and the coffee . . .

A professor stood before his philosophy class and had some items in front of him. When the class began, wordlessly, he picked up a very large and empty mayonnaise jar and proceeded to fill it with golf balls. He then asked the students if the jar was full. They agreed that it was.



So the professor then picked up a box of pebbles and poured them into the jar. He shook the jar lightly. The pebbles rolled into the open areas between the golf balls. He then asked the students again if the jar was full. They agreed it was.

The professor next picked up a box of sand and poured it into the jar. Of course, the sand filled up everything else. He asked once more if the jar was full. The students responded with a unanimous "yes".

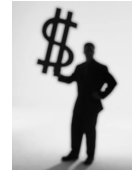
The professor then produced two cups of coffee from under the table the poured the entire contents into the jar, effectively filling the empty space between the sand. The students laughed. "Now," said the professor, as the laughter subsided, "I want you to recognize that this jar represents your life. The golf balls are the important things - your God, family, your children, your health, your friends, and your favourite passions - things that if everything else was lost and only they remained, your life would still be full. The pebbles are the other things that matter, like your jobs, your house, and your car. The sand is everything else - the small stuff. If you put the sand into the jar first," he continued, "there is no room for the pebbles or the golf balls. The same goes for life. If you spend all your time and energy on the small stuff, you will never have room for the things that are important to you. Pay attention to the things that are critical to your happiness. Play with your children. Take time to get medical checkups. Take your partner out to dinner. There will always be time to clean the house and fix the disposal. Take care of the golf balls first, the things that really matter. Set your priorities. The rest is just sand."

One of the students raised her hand and inquired what the coffee represented. The professor smiled. "I'm glad you asked. It just goes to show you that no matter how full your life may seem, there's always room for a couple of cups of coffee with a friend."



SOMETHING TO PONDER FROM THE PLANNED GIVING OFFICE . . .

by Herb Gale - Assistant Secretary for Planned Giving - Presbyterian Church in Canada



Two Pockets . . . One Lord

Those people involved in planned giving are fond of saying that potential donors have two separate pockets from which to make their gifts to the church and other charities:

- ⇒ **Pocket 1: Regular monthly income**
(from monthly earnings, pension payments, etc.)
- ⇒ **Pocket 2: Accumulated resources**
(real estate, stocks, bonds, RRSPs, savings, etc.)

As we know from our own experience, often our monthly income pocket can be threadbare and barely meeting our expenses (it may even feel like we have a hole in our pocket!), but our accumulated resources pocket can be quite deep and full (the old “house rich, cash poor” syndrome). Most stewardship programs such as “Consecrating Stewards” and “Dessert First,” as effective as they are, focus only on Pocket 1 and completely ignore Pocket 2. Yet surely as stewards of God’s abundant grace, we are called to be faithful with what we find in *both* pockets.

Jesus’ parable of the talents in Matthew 25 is interesting because it focuses primarily on Pocket 2. Presumably, the three servants’ daily needs are already provided for (Pocket 1); it is the wealth they are bequeathed in Pocket 2 and what they do with it that becomes the central issue in the parable. Like Jesus’ parable of the talents, Planned Giving focuses on the second pocket (i.e. accumulated resources). Far from competing for dollars (someone who decides to include the church in their will does not start giving less through their weekly offering envelopes), it encourages people to think about how they will be good and faithful stewards of the treasure contained in Pocket 2. The questions Planned Giving asks individuals and congregations are profoundly spiritual and reach to the heart of our deepest values and beliefs:

For individuals:

- ⇒ What legacy do I want to bequeath to future generations? How do I want to be remembered?
- ⇒ Do my last will and testament truly *testify* to my love for the church and my belief that God has a vibrant future planned for my congregation and The Presbyterian Church in Canada?
- ⇒ Am I planning properly, not only for my retirement, but also for that day when I will meet Christ face-to-face and be called to give an account of what I have done with the wealth God has given me?

Featured People!!



Christie Gibson - Janet Gibson's granddaughter

*Christie is taking her Grade 12 in India at the United World College there.
Here are excerpts from her first letter:*

Hello western world people! I am now in India! I arrived safely after almost 24 hours of flying and layovers. My first day here was absolutely incredible. I could not believe how different India was from anything I had ever known. Because I flew into Mumbai (known as Bombay during the British rule) we had to take a bus (hired by the school) to drive us from Mumbai to campus, which is near Pune (Se of Mumbai). Although the distance is very short (about 250 km) it took us nearly 6 hours to travel. This is mainly because of the poor roads and driving here. We swerved around cows and other cars paying no attention to the traffic lines, but we did make it here safely.

I spent some time volunteering at the Mother Theresa's Home in downtown Pune. It was a VERY eye opening experience. There were about 40 women there and they were all very crippled or disabled in some manner. We spent the first hour washing clothes by hand in huge buckets of filthy water, and then we sat with the women and danced with the younger girls. Because I do not know much Hindi it was very difficult to communicate with them. Nonetheless, we held their hands and helped them walk around. I absolutely loved the experience and plan to continue as a regular volunteer routine there.



India is like living in National Geographic. The people of India, the architecture, the weather, and the country itself are all quite colourful and vibrant, and at times I ask myself if it is possible that India and Canada are on the same planet. I am very happy to be here in India though and love it more and more each day!

My roommates are from the Maldives, Russia, India and Swaziland, which makes for interesting night-time conversations comparing the countries!



Fun stuff!!

PHILOSOPHY 101

- Why do we press harder on a remote control when we know the batteries are getting weak?
- Why do banks charge a fee on “insufficient funds” when they know there is not enough?
- Why does someone believe you when you say there are four billion stars, but check when you say the paint is wet?
- Why doesn't glue stick to the bottle?
- Why do they use sterilized needles for death by lethal injection?
- Why doesn't Tarzan have a beard?
- Why does Superman stop bullets with his chest, but ducks when you throw a revolver at him?
- Why do Kamikaze pilots wear helmets?
- If people evolved from apes, why are there still apes?
- Does a clean house indicate that there is a broken computer in it?
- Why is it that no matter what colour bubble bath you use the bubbles are always white?
- Is there ever a day that mattresses are not on sale?
- Why do people constantly return to the refrigerator with hopes that something new to eat will have materialized?
- Why do people keep running over a string a dozen times with their vacuum cleaner, then reach down, pick it up, examine it, then put it down to give the vacuum one more chance?
- Why is it that no plastic bag will open from the end you first try?
- How do those dead bugs get into those closed light fixtures?
- Why is it that whenever you attempt to catch something that's falling off the table you always manage to knock something else over?
- In winter why do we try to keep the house as warm as it was in summer when we complained about the heat?
- How come you never hear father-in-law jokes?
- If at first you don't succeed, shouldn't you try doing it like your wife told you to do it? And obviously if at first you don't succeed, then don't take up sky diving!
- And my FAVOURITE . . . The statistics on sanity are that one out of every four persons is suffering from some sort of mental illness. Think of your three best friends; if they're okay, then it's you!!



THE BETTER WAY

I'd rather see a sermon than hear one any day;
I'd rather one should walk with me than merely show the way.
The eye's a better pupil and more willing than the ear;
Fine counsel is confusing but example's always clear;
And the best of all the teachers are the men who live in deeds,
For to see the good in action is what everybody needs.

I can soon LEARN how to do it if you'll let me see it done.
I can watch your hands in action, but your tongue too fast may run;
And the lectures you deliver may be very wise and true,
But I'd rather get my lesson by observing what you do.
For I may misunderstand you and the high advice you give.

But THERE'S NO MISUNDERSTANDING
HOW YOU ACT AND HOW YOU LIVE.

Anon.

These are good! "Ed"

Some are funny some very wise

- ❖ Don't let your worries get the best of you, remember, Moses started out as a basket case.
- ❖ Some people are kind, polite, and sweet-spirited - until you try to sit in their pews.
- ❖ Many folks want to serve God, but only as **advisers**.
- ❖ It is easier to preach ten sermons than it is to live one.
- ❖ The good Lord didn't create anything without a purpose, but **mosquitoes** come close.
- ❖ When you get to your wit's end, you'll find God lives there.
- ❖ People are funny; they want the front of the bus, the middle of the road, and the back of the church.
- ❖ Opportunity may knock once, but temptation bangs on your front door forever.
- ❖ Quit griping about your church; if it was perfect, you couldn't belong.
- ❖ If the church wants a better pastor, it only needs to pray for the one it has.
- ❖ Some minds are like concrete, thoroughly mixed up and permanently set.
- ❖ Peace starts with a smile. 😊

