



KNOX FALL NEWSLETTER

Knox Presbyterian Church, 2964 Richmond Road , Victoria, BC V8R 4V1

Tel: 250-592-6323 Fax: 250-592-6310

Email: knoxpcvic@telus.net Website: www.knoxpcvictoria.org

Minister: The Rev. Laura T. Kavanagh

NOVEMBER 2005



Minister's Corner:

During the past year we have enjoyed the company of several young adults within our community of faith. These young people came to Knox while attending school or while participating in military or other career training programs. We have been blessed to share in worship with them but you will notice that some have not returned this fall. It is the way of young people in society today to move from place to place for a time before settling down and so it is with some of these individuals. What has impressed me is the commitment and enthusiasm of so many people at Knox in welcoming and including these somewhat more transient members of our worshipping community. Sometimes our ministry is only for a moment and we are called to be fully present in that moment. The supportive Christian community of Knox Church has been a safe haven for many people over the years whether they are with us for a day, a month, a year, or a lifetime. We often do not know how important a smile, a kind word, an invitation to coffee time, or an expression of interest is to those who come and go from our congregation. Each of us is a vital thread in another person's tapestry; our lives are woven together for a reason. It is my prayer that we will continue to be blessed by those who come among us even for a brief time. It is also my prayer that we will continue to embrace with Christian love all who venture through our doors.

May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. [Revelation 15: 5-7] Laura

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

Congregational Life has several categories, one of which is visiting the sick and shut-ins. We have 3 teams who each visit for 1 month, 4 times a year. We also have a lady who takes her dog (which has been designated a 'visiting dog') to visit patients. She walks to the Jubilee and the nursing homes in her area. Our teams discuss visits with each other, keeping ourselves up to date with our members. A report on these visits is given to Session. The brothers and sisters in Christ whom we visit are so happy to see us that we in turn feel blessed. If you are interested in this important and worthwhile endeavour, please contact me.

— *Emily Campbell*



B A Z A A R



Saturday, November 12 , 10 am - 2 pm

Don't forget to mark your calendar and get your tickets for the luncheon for our annual bazaar. Lots of interesting stalls. Baking, crafts, toys, books, attic treasures, jewelry and collectibles.

SOCIAL EVENTS AT KNOX

A Pot Luck hosted by the Social Events Committee and a Silent Auction organized by Mary Carroll was held October 1st. This enjoyable evening raised \$245 for the general fund.



The Afternoon group served a delicious lunch for the Bridge Party held at Knox on October 16. The amount of \$500 raised at this event will go to Camp VIP. It takes a lot of effort and hard work to make these events successful—the organizing, the setting up the taking down and serving food. Well done everyone!

The Greening of Knox & Pizza Supper will be held **Friday, Nov 25**. Decorating the church starts at 4:00 pm with pizza being served for supper at 6 pm. Come and enjoy the fun!



KNOX YOUTH IN ACTION - Rachel Lawrance

It's been about a month since I've joined Knox, and I'm amazed at how quickly the congregation has accepted and welcomed me.

Although I'm still trying to remember all the new names and faces, it's nice for me to walk into church on Sundays and have people greet me by name. For those of you who I have not yet had the chance to get to know, let me introduce myself a bit more.

I've lived in Victoria for about 17 years and I've attended Lambrick Park Church with my family for most of those years. LPC had a strong youth group which I attended as a teenager. I then had the opportunity to be a leader at the youth group.

I know that having a youth group is very important for any church. I am currently a Uvic student in my last year in the Elementary Education program. I'm looking forward to completing my degree and finding a teaching job, although where that will be is yet to be determined.

At the moment I'm still getting to know the Knox youth. I can tell that they are a diverse group with a tremendous amount of energy.

In the coming weeks I hope to get to know them a bit better as a group and individually. I want to build a sense of trust within the group, making sure that the youth really feel that it is "their" youth group.

It is important that we are studying things *they* want to talk about and we're doing activities *they* want to do.

I'm confident that this will be a great year for the youth group.

The group meets weekly on Sunday evenings from 7-9 and once a month there will be some social activity.

We will be discussing trusting others and trusting God and preparing the youth for their profession of faith.

Congratulations to Lilian and Dennis Sutherland in becoming Canadian



MISSION AND OUTREACH

Mission & Outreach would like to highlight one of Knox's outreach programmes by helping to fill the container in the Narthex marked 'BAR CODES'. On every 1,000 received by Island Farms, a cheque is given for \$30.00 towards GAP. Your support of this mission is always gratefully received in helping to maintain the breakfast programme.

DADDY'S EMPTY CHAIR

A man's daughter had asked the local minister to come and pray with her father.

When the minister arrived, he found the man lying in bed with his head propped up on two pillows.

An empty chair sat beside his bed. The minister assumed that the old fellow had been informed of his visit.

"I guess you were expecting me, he said. 'No, who are you?' said the father. The minister told him his name and then remarked,

"I saw the empty chair and I figured you knew I was going to show up," "Oh yeah, the chair," said the bedridden man. "Would you mind closing the door?" Puzzled, the minister shut the door.

"I have never told anyone this, not even my daughter," said the man. "But all of my life I have never known how to pray.

At church I used to hear the pastor talk about prayer, but it went right over my head." I abandoned any attempt at prayer," the old man continued, "until one day four years ago, my best friend said to me, "Johnny, prayer is just a simple matter of having a conversation with Jesus. Here is what I suggest."

"Sit down in a chair; place an empty chair in front of you, and in faith see Jesus on the chair. It's not spooky because he promised, 'I will be with you always'. "Then just speak to him in the same way you're doing with me right now."

"So, I tried it and I've liked it so much that I do it a couple of hours every day. I'm careful though If my daughter saw me talking to an empty chair, she'd either have a nervous breakdown or send me off to the funny farm."

The minister was deeply moved by the story and encouraged the old man to continue on the journey Then he prayed with him, anointed him with oil, and returned to the church.

Two nights later the daughter called to tell the minister that her daddy had died that afternoon. Did he die in peace?" he asked.

Yes, when I left the house about two o'clock, he called me over to his bedside, told me he loved me and kissed me on the cheek. When I got back from the store an hour later, I found him dead. But there was something strange about his death.

Apparently, just before Daddy died, he leaned over and rested his head on the chair beside the bed. What do you make of that?" The minister wiped a tear from his eye and said, "I wish we could all go like that."

Prayer is one of the best free gifts we receive.

If God brings you to it, He will bring you through it.

Happy moments, praise God.

Difficult moments, seek God.

Quiet moments, worship God.

Painful moments, trust God.

Every moment, thank God.



♪ ADULT CHOIR

Here we are into the Fall Season already, wondering where our summer went! Back to regular choir practice on Wednesdays at 7pm and Sundays at 10 am, excitedly chattering away about our summer activities and travels.

With this, the camaraderie returns, under the most capable direction of Mr. Robert Gordy, B. Mus., M.A.. We now learn of the music selected for future Sunday Services and set about serious practice.

We will also be presenting you with a **Christmas Cantata** this year, which we are very excited about! "**Silent Was The Night**" by **Lani Smith**. This Cantata will be presented in the regular service on **Sunday, December 18th at 11:00 am**. Bring your friends along and enjoy this beautiful work of music coupled with short Cantata readings. There are also places where you will be able to sing Christmas Carols along with us.

On another note, I had the pleasure of meeting Anne Kim for lunch and what a good feeling to see each other again. What laughter! She and husband Yoon Choi miss being part of our choir, and still feel connected to our Church Family while trying to find work back in Victoria.

Their request –"don't forget us please".

Another valued choir member abroad temporarily, is Victor Hsu whom we had the joy of seeing again a couple Sundays ago. Hurry back, Victor!

Two more previous choir members, Bernice McAllister and Gordon Taylor have also communicated how much they miss singing with our choir and hope to return.

Our choir enjoys taking part in Sunday Worship and we thank the congregation for their continued support of our preparations in music. New choir members always welcome. ♪

Ben Lyftogt - Choir President

Sylvia Cassidy - Secretary/Treasurer



TOONIE LUNCH

The next TOONIE lunch will be held
November 20.

Book Review

Sounds From Heaven

by Colin and Mary Peckham



Look up Acts Chapter 2 verses 1 and 2 and you will recognize the source of the title for this book and get an impression of the theme of the subject matter – Revival. What a Revival it turned out to be, lasting from 1949 to 1952. The Lewis Awakening, as the Revival came to be called, centered in the beginning in the villages of Barvas and Shader, but spread to the other parishes on the island and into the Isle of Harris.

The Isle of Lewis, the most northerly island in the Outer Hebrides chain, off the West Coast of Scotland, experienced a major revival in the late 1930's to early 1940's. My memories of that Revival, the memories of a ten year old, were described in an article that appeared in the newsletter in either June or September 2002. The concluding paragraph of the article concludes:-

"In years following there were some who came to know the Lord as He had started the work of salvation in their heart at the revival of 1940. "Where the Lord starts the good work He will bring it to a conclusion". This was the background, no doubt, for the later revival in 1949. Maybe more about that at a later date

This book does a far better job of that follow-up than any article I could write. It is a heart warming, readable book and there is a copy in the Knox library for all to read.

The principal preacher and leader during this Revival was the Rev. Duncan Campbell, a Gaelic speaking Faith Mission worker. His reports to the Faith Mission headquarters in Edinburgh are given in the book. The booklet he wrote about this revival is a good introduction to "Sounds From Heaven". Talk to Murdo Smith if you would like a copy.

I know, knew and grew up with many of the people whose testimony is given in the book, so I may stand accused, tried, convicted and sentenced for being biased, but the truth still remains that it was a Revival that produced enduring results. Back-sliding did not occur.

The Isle of Lewis of fifty five years ago is well removed from the present day, non the less, the state of our society today and the church that bears the name of Jesus Christ should drive us to pray with the Psalmist:- "Will you not revive us again O Lord"

I hope this book prompts all its readers to pray that prayer and start another Revival.

Food for thought: You are GLAD



Be glad in the Lord and rejoice, you righteous: And shout for joy, all you upright in heart! Psalms 32:11
In the bottom drawer of the kitchen cabinet is a handy box of polyethylene better known as **Glad Cling Wrap** Good stuff this. The box proudly proclaims all the benefits of being GLAD.

Glad Is Easy to Handle. I couldn't agree more. Give me a glad person to work with any day. Not overly sensitive or demanding, they are just glad to be alive and easy to get along with.

Glad Keeps things Fresh. Nothing like a new perspective to make life interesting. People who are glad are fun to be around - refreshing in fact.

Glad Is Transparent. And that's just what it takes to reflect God's imagine: a see-through, crystal-clear Life." You is what you is" and we're glad too.

Glad is great for All Uses. Don't you love those flexible folks who are glad to be useful and can do anything you ask without complaining?

Glad Is Tough and Durable. Just because you're flexible and see-through doesn't mean you're not tough. Even when your life is turned upside down, stuff doesn't fall out when your covered with gladness.

Glad Forms a Tight Seal. Tighter than the love of earthly family is the love between the Lord and His beloved children. He bonds us like a seal upon His heart. You see glad is a handy thing to be in God's kingdom. Those who are glad are able to rejoice and shout for joy with an exclamation point!!

Lord I know being glad is a decision of my will, not an expression of my emotions. Help me be tough, durable, see-through and sealed with your love.

Taken in part from " Reflecting His Image" by Liz Curtis Higgs