

Spring  
2007

# KNOX NEWSLETTER



## SUMMER STUDY



### Amos & Hosea: Boundaries, Tough Love, Amazing Grace

This study challenges us to join the prophets in being boundary-crossers; to cross the boundary between religion and politics, or that boundary between “us” and “them”. Amos’ and Hosea’s message is surely relevant for a society such as ours, divided on issues of theology, politics, economics, government, and morality. We need to hear about God’s tough love and amazing grace which are extended by the Lord to a people who have often broken the divine heart.

Ruth McCowan and Laura Kavanagh will lead the study during **June and July** – eight sessions on **Mondays from 1:00 – 3:00 pm at Knox Presbyterian Church**, 2964 Richmond Road. Call 592-6323 or email [knoxpcvic@telus.net](mailto:knoxpcvic@telus.net) to register. Cost for materials is \$25.00.

## ACROSS THE MILES

### MALAWI FARM PROJECT (P.W.S. & D)



Mission & Outreach recently received a letter from the Program Manager of The Naming’azi Demonstration unit in Malawi sending thanks and blessings to our congregation at Knox for our generous donation of seeds.

In a country with a precarious climate from droughts to heavy rainfalls, the Farmers strive to grow seeds not only to support the Farm project, but have had the opportunity of growing a variety of seeds of their choice, which has introduced them to local markets.

We hope to extend our support in the future by sending recommended types of seeds, such as strawberries, okra, spinach, onions, carrots, cauliflower, garlic and mustard.

As times are difficult for them in maintaining a staff of 4 at the Unit, please remember them in your prayers that they will continue to carry out this essential work.

## GETTING TOGETHER



The ladies of the congregation meet twice a year for lunch at Romeo’s on Hillside Avenue. This event takes place in February and June. A long table is set up, rather than in separate booths, allowing everyone to gather together. We enjoy the luncheon but more importantly, the fellowship. No one is in a hurry to leave as we linger for some time afterwards enjoying each other’s company. Thank you to Marianne Mortimer and Karen Pokipala for organizing this event.

## SMILE


*Give me a sense of humour, Lord.  
Give me the grace to see a joke  
To get some humour out of life  
And pass it on to other folk.*




A little boy opened the big family Bible. He was fascinated as he fingered through the old pages. Suddenly, something fell out of the Bible. He picked up the object and looked at it. What he saw was an old leaf that had been pressed between the pages. “Mama, look what I found,” the boy called out. “What have you got there, dear?” With surprise in the young boy’s voice, he answered, “I think it’s Adam’s underwear!”

CAMP VIP has three camps this summer. The first one begins in July. Check out their updated web page at [www.campvip.org](http://www.campvip.org)

# AFTERNOON GROUP UPCOMING EVENTS




**A** Coffee morning and Bake Sale is planned for Saturday, **May 26**. In the past, this has been a very popular event, giving the congregation an opportunity to visit with each other and to bring along a friend. Contributions for the bake table are very much appreciated. There will be a charge of \$3.00 for refreshments.




**T**he Annual Strawberry Tea, will be held on Saturday, **June 16** from 2 - 4. Our local strawberries are delicious so come along, bring a friend and enjoy a generous serving of strawberry shortcake accompanied by tea or coffee. Tickets will be available in June for \$5.00.

**I**n the past the Afternoon Group has organized a Garage sale in the spring. As this event will not take place this year, we ask that you save your attic treasures, books, toys and collectibles for the annual bazaar in the fall. There will also be a Silent Auction in October where your donation of items is always appreciated. So find some room to tuck away your treasures until later in the year.



**MUSIC SWAP** - Information about an upcoming event that will take place in the fall will be coming soon. This is open to other churches in Victoria and on the Island. It is an opportunity to SWAP music, thus enlarging choices without overshooting the budget.




## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

May 26	Coffee morning & bake sale
May 26	Youth Open Mic Night
May 27	Pentecost - Grace / Knox Combined Service
June 2	Youth car wash
June 3	Youth Job Fair & Pasta Lunch
June 10	Worship and Dessert service
June 16	Strawberry tea
June 24	Ordination of Elders
June 24	Potluck Lunch (A-L)
July 2	Junior Camp @ Camp VIP
August 3	Family Pot-Luck Camp
August 13 - 17	Vacation Bible School
August 27	Teen Camp

ORDINATION OF ELDERS JUNE 24



The Thursday morning Bible study has been examining *LIVING FAITH: A Statement of Christian Belief* over the past several months. This publication is rooted in the biblical witness and is true to

the reformed tradition. We have talked about God, Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit, the Bible, faith, the church, sacraments, worship, discipleship, mission and evangelism. We completed our study at the end of April discussing "Our Hope in God".

In this final session we wondered about our images of "the kingdom of God" – what does this mean for us? What is eternal life and how does it call us to change our lives today? How can we continue to share our hope in God with others?

Each person in the group wrote a poem to help in expressing thoughts and feeling about this topic. We followed the pattern of a cinquain – a five line non-rhyming poem that describes a person, place or thing.

- Line 1: one word – noun
- Line 2: two words – describes the noun in line 1
- Line 3: three words – action words/verb phrases
- Line 4: four words – feelings about the noun in line 1
- Line 5: one word – synonym for the noun in line 1

Included are some of the study group's efforts. We hope that this will encourage your reflections and inspire you to write your own poetry to share your faith. The Thursday morning group will be taking a break for about six weeks and then will begin a slightly different look at the 10 commandments – plan to join in!

Laura

Jesus  
 God's son  
 Walking beside me  
 Loving, kind, understanding, forgiving  
 Saviour

Father  
 beginning – end  
 creating – triumphant – eternal  
 destiny of all people  
 God  
 (Anne Krauss)

God,  
 Faithful, eternal  
 Promising, preparing, triumphing  
 Thankful, joyful, trustful, hopeful  
 Redeemer  
 (Nan Zorn)

HOPE  
 JESUS CHRIST  
 SAVES OUR SOULS  
 SOMETHING TO CLING TO  
 FAITH  
 (Jeannine Gleeson)

Life  
 joyfully new  
 sharing with others  
 A heart lovingly full  
 Jesus

hope  
 trust – faith  
 boldly seeking God  
 joyful confidence – expectant yearning  
 Christ

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Just a reminder that Vacation Bible School (VBS) is coming to Knox August 13-17. VBS was a great success last year. We had a small group of children attend, but they had a lot of fun. All those involved in helping out also had a great time. As we start to plan for this year's event, think about how you can become involved. We need people in the following areas:

- Leaders during the mornings (any or all days)
- Prayer team
- Cookie making
- Promotion / flyer delivery
- Crafts
- Supply donation/purchase

Please talk to Rachel Lawrance or anyone from the Christian Education Committee about this important and dynamic ministry. Make sure to invite all of those important children in your life aged 4-9!

### VANCOUVER ISLAND PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S RETREAT



October 19 - 21 at Camp Imadene  
situated on Lake Mesachie

This retreat offers rejuvenation of spirit, soul and mind as we centre our thoughts on spending time alone with God as well as in the company of other Christian women. It is an opportunity to become better acquainted with women in your own church, with women from other Presbyterian churches on the Island and to be refreshed by listening to a world-class speaker, Dorcas Gordon. The theme this year is - 'How do women of the early church inspire us?'

The rural setting is soothing, offering time away from the distraction of everyday living. There are craft activities, a meditative prayer walk, plus quiet time. There's time for interaction, the meals are delicious and we don't have to cook! Sunday church service including communion is an awe-inspiring end to an uplifting and fulfilling weekend spent in God's natural garden beside beautiful Mesachie Lake.

Please give this serious thought and register before the cut-off date - October 1st. More information is available in the brochures in the narthex.

## ALPHA 2007



The 19 audio cassettes for Alpha's "Challenging Lifestyle" appeared a heavy load when presentation began in January. However, with a recess over Lent and Easter, Nicki Gumbel's well received, informative talks restarted in April. The end of the current Alpha series will be June 14. An average of 16 people attended each Thursday. The evening began by listening to the cassette followed by fellowship and refreshments. We then broke into two discussion groups. The theme for this series was based on the Sermon on the Mount.

The decision for a Fall Alpha is still pending.

**PRISON ALPHA** — A diversion from the usual Alpha program was presented to the men at William Head Institute from February to May. Pam Vuckson, Agnes Duke and Kevin, another Alpha colleague, read a book by Dr. Larry Lea, "Wisdom, the Gift Worth Seeking". Dr. Lea's inspired writing style is very easy and informative. The shared 40 minutes of reading left ample time for discussion while refreshments, provided by the Alpha team, were served. The men may be few in number but we feel that those who turn up weekly are worth the effort. If there were just one eager to grow in faith, we would deem it worth while.

*Agnes Duke*

### KNOX YOUTH - OPEN MIC

Music and Coffee Bar  
**Saturday, May 26 - 6:00 - 10 pm**  
Knox Presbyterian Church  
Cover charge: \$5 (includes coffee & tea)  
Modestly priced specialty drinks (non-alcoholic)  
and light snacks at the bar.

All proceeds go to  
The Presbyterian Youth Group of Victoria  
and will be used to help them  
attend Creation Fest this summer!

