

**FALL
2007**

KNOX NEWSLETTER

KNOX CALENDAR EVENTS FOR DECEMBER & JANUARY

DECEMBER

Bazaar set up
Knox Bazaar
Warm Toes
Blue Christmas
Family Service
Communion Service
Oak Bay Lodge Service
December 24 - January 2

Friday, December 7
Saturday, December 8, 11 am-3 pm
Sunday, December 9
Sunday, December 16, 7 pm
Monday, December 24, 4 pm
Monday, December 24, 11 pm
Sunday, December 30, 2:30 pm
Office is closed

JANUARY

ALPHA start up
Book Club - "The Poisonwood Bible"
WMS Presbyterial
Knox will be hosting this event

Thursday, January 10, 5:45 pm
Saturday, January 12
Tuesday, January 29

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Our Christmas Bazaar is this Saturday, December 8 from 11 - 3. Items can be dropped off this week during office hours or all day Friday during set up.

- Jewelry
- Collectibles (your finer items only—no junk)
- Sewing and Crafts
Christmas crafts would be appreciated
- Baked goods
- Preserves
- Books (hardcover and novels),
- Plants and toys.

Lunch will be served at a cost of \$5.00, \$3.00 for kids.

Thank you all for your support.

Convener Marianne Mortimer

Once, All Honoured A Hero

Once, all honoured a hero.
Relieved that war was over, the lost were
foremost to those who survived.
Stories told of those not long gone whose
heroic deeds moved hearts.
But now, the heroes are gone too, forgotten
through time and disuse.
What their deeds secured, we squander in so
many childish ways, breaking faith with
those who died.
How many more hearts need be broken before
we put childish ways behind us and see face
to face with those heroes?



I have faith, I have hope, I have love.

Steve Sturgess

Woman's Missionary Society – Update

In May, I was very privileged to be selected as the delegate to represent Vancouver Island Presbyterial to attend the Annual Council Meeting held at Crieff Hills Community, Ontario. The facility hosting the council meeting had an open and welcoming feel to it which accented the friendly atmosphere generated by delegates attending to share their fellowship, knowledge and focus toward the goals of the Missionary Society. The fact that delegates came together from all communities and congregations across this great country made it a very special and uplifting experience. In groups, we were encouraged to share experiences, stories and individual congregational goals. This fostered a sense of community amongst delegates, and stimulated discussions on a wide variety of Christian ideals. The main speakers were missionaries from India, Ukraine and Nigeria. They were as follows:

- Pauline Brown from India emphasized the Jobat Christian School and the training/support of the nurses toward the Bhil people.
- Rev. Arlene Onuoha from Lagos, Nigeria centered in on reaching the goal set out by operation 'plant a church' whose aim is to create a functional parish within a year.
- David and Anna Pandy- Szekeres from Ukraine, which also incorporates other Eastern European countries, focused on the necessity to educate the young particularly the gypsy children who are often ostracized in that culture.

I found these reports to be interesting, eye opening as well as thought provoking. The mission is doing incredible work globally, on an individual, parish, and Synodical level. It is amazing to see what these people can do with what we would consider next to nothing. On our worst days, we are very blessed and should reflect on our abundance.

If you are interested in supporting this worthwhile society ask me about it. This year the Afternoon Group is studying Guatemala.

Anna Davidson—Afternoon Group President

MISSION AND OUTREACH

We would like to thank everyone at Knox for their generous support in making our outreach programs so successful during the year. Please note that Laurel House has been given an extension prior to its closure at the end of March 2008. If you are collecting small items of toiletries, please watch the bulletin for details of our next Think Small Sunday which we are planning for February 2008.

SMILE CORNER

A father was at the beach with his children when the four-year-old son ran up to him grabbed his hand, and led him to the shore where a seagull lay dead in the sand. "Daddy, what happened to him?" the son asked. "He died and went to Heaven," the Dad replied. The boy thought a moment and then said, "Did God throw him back down?"



ALPHA JANUARY 10, 2008

An opportunity to experience the meaning of life. Registration forms are now available in the church narthex. You can also leave your name with the church office, telephone 592-6323 or email: knoxpcvic@telus.net or ahduke@telus.net

See you in the new year.



OPERATION CHRISTMAS SHOEBOX

Knox donated 36 shoe boxes this year toward this project.

Thank you!

KNOX CONCERT SERIES

Our music concert series continues in 2008 with two very popular events planned for February and one in May, 2008. Any or all of these very attractively priced concerts will give months of pleasure and make excellent presents for those Christmas lists!

THE GOLDEN VIOLIN

Friday, February 8 at 7:30 pm & Saturday, February 9 at 2:00 pm

Travel through time and place as **Calvin Dyck** violin journeys from its birthplace in Holland in 1807 via Asterdam, Dusseldorf, Paris, Venice and New York to present day Canada. Calvin has traveled around the world with various musical ensembles and enjoys a wide variety of engagements. Currently he is the Concertmaster for the Vancouver Island Symphony in Nanaimo and the director of the Abbotsford Youth Orchestra.

Betty Suderman, piano accompanist is noted for her sensitive musicianship and is especially in demand as a performer of Lieder and chamber music. She has given concerts in several continents, participated in numerous European vocal competitions and been heard on various CBC programs.

TICKETS \$20 in advance \$25 at the door

PAVEL EGOROV

Concert Pianist

Friday, February 22 at 7:30 pm

Pavel Egorov is a Professor of St. Petersburg Conservatory and a member of the St. Petersburg's Philharmonic Society. He is a recipient of the highest national distinction, People's Artist of the Russian Federation. Pavel has toured most of the World during his career and has performed in more than 3000 solo, symphonic and chamber concerts. For this concert, he has selected a program of romantic classical music from such composers as, Beethoven, Franck, Chopin and Glinka, which is sure to appeal to all tastes.

Pavel will be vacationing in Canada during the month of February and will be performing at four locations on the Island and Lower Mainland.

TICKETS \$20 in advance \$25 at the door

THE SCOTT WOODS BAND

Saturday, May 31 at 7:30 pm

This 5 piece band of multitalented musicians will play old time fiddle music as well as traditional country and gospel. Scott plays several instruments as do others in this band which was featured in the October 2006 edition of the Presbyterian Record. However his favorite instrument is the fiddle which he has been playing since age four from classical to big band, Celtic to country. Scott has captured all the major Canadian fiddling titles. For seven years he was the musical director and played the part of Don Messer in 'Memories of Don Messer's Jubilee', a tribute show which toured across the country. His father Mervyn was an original Don Messer fiddler. His mother Caroline on piano, brother Bruce-fiddle and drums are also mainstays of this band. Guitarist/vocalist Ivan Felker and Karl Watson- bass player, complete the basic unit. Sister Kendra Norris-fiddle joins them as able.

The Scott Woods Band which has performed to enthusiastic crowds across Canada, the USA and Holland is accustomed to sell out performances. Plan early and don't miss this upbeat and uplifting concert!!

TICKETS \$15 in advance \$20 at the door

A reception following each concert will provide a welcome opportunity for our audience members to sample good food, meet our guest artists and browse through CDs and Tapes.

INSIGHTS FROM THE STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

The Stewardship Committee of Knox Church has learned amazing things in the two years since its formation. We would like to share some of what we have discovered with each of you.

- We have learned to look at giving in a different way and to understand why it is we give.
Therefore, each member of the committee is a regular, intentional and generous giver.
- We have learned that there is a philosophical gap between our committee and some of the leaders at Knox.
Therefore, we have had to rethink our methods of promoting financial stewardship within the congregation.
- We have learned that people give to people and that everyone in the congregation needs to have a sense of community.
Therefore, we would like to promote relationships within the congregation, beginning with the Elder groups, to work toward ensuring that everyone has a feeling of belonging.
- We have learned that growth in community will come about only through strong leadership.
Therefore, we would encourage the leadership of Knox to be in regular and intentional contact with those in their Elder group and to promote contact within that group.
- We have learned that growing community leads to growth in worship – something more important than growing membership - worshipping people give.
Therefore, we would encourage the leadership of Knox to be in regular and intentional attendance at worship service.
- We have learned that giving is our response to God's abundant gifts to us.
Therefore, we encourage the leadership of Knox to personally and prayerfully consider God's abundant gifts and to consider what his or her appropriate response should be.
- We have learned the importance of providing different opportunities for people to give.
Therefore, we encourage and support:
 - *Annual giving through the envelope and PAR systems, that provide methods of giving regularly and intentionally;*
 - *Spontaneous gifts, such as the offerings at the evening services, offerings that are allocated for specific purposes;*
 - *Major projects, such as the offerings for the piano;*
 - *Planned gifts, such as the annuity received from Eileen Mossop in 2006.*

In cooperation with Knox Session and the Board of Managers, members of the Stewardship committee are committed to building on Knox's strengths and to encouraging the motivations of compassion, community and hope. We are committed to the goal of having the congregation of Knox living as a family, a movement, a true Christian congregation. We look forward to your continued support and participation.

2007.04.30

The Stewardship Committee

As Christians we are a people living in advent—always waiting, living the in-between time. We live during the time of promises yet to be completely fulfilled—between Christ's first and second coming. Christ is God made flesh—God who comes to earth—experiences hunger, thirst, weariness, loneliness, grief, and joy—God who sees and responds to the needs of those all around. Because we serve a God who walked among us, who befriended sinners and healed the sick, we can and must seek to address the concerns of our world today. We are a people of advent—a people of hope. God bless you all on the journey!