

FALL  
2008

# KNOX NEWSLETTER



## THE SOUND OF MUSIC

### INTRODUCING KNOX'S CHURCH MUSICIAN

**Connie Dunwoody** started playing piano when she was 8, and at age 12, added the flute to her repertoire. She says she didn't sing in public until she was well into her 30s, and she now performs around Victoria with her duo, mc<sup>2</sup> (mc-squared). She and her music partner, Marlon Narciso, also write and record Christian contemporary music through their music company, BASIC Music Productions. They have released two CDs and are close to completing a third.



In her spare time, Connie is an avid cook, runner, cyclist and swimmer (the latter three designed to counteract the first). She is currently writing a cookbook (and always looking for volunteers to test her original recipes!).

Originally from Illinois, Connie now resides in View Royal with her husband, Peter, her large and lovable dog, Micaiah, and one small and lovely cat, Nikki.

### KNOX SINGERS

About 15 singers gathered together to sing "Rain Down", based on Psalm 33, for the service on August 21. All had a wonderful time rehearsing and the result was well received by the congregation. Thunderous applause nearly brought down the roof; at least I'm sure that's what everyone was thinking. We get together next with our new church musician, Connie Dunwoody, to rehearse a piece for the service on October 5, Connie's official first Sunday with Knox congregation.



## UPCOMING MUSICAL EVENTS AT KNOX

**BENEFIT CONCERT** with Arne Sahlen on Saturday, October 18th - 7:30 pm - proceeds to "Cambodia Support Group". Arne's concert will feature: "A Tribute to Chopin". There's information about this group at: [www.cambodiacsg.org](http://www.cambodiacsg.org)

**PAUL RUMBOLT** concert on Saturday, November 15th - 7:30 pm. Paul is an accomplished musician and arranger, gifted songwriter, and captivating performer. When writing songs for his new album, SongSmith, Paul traveled coast to coast and south of the border in search of experiences that would ultimately become songs. A native of Newfoundland and a 15-year resident of the Alberta Foothills area, There's information about him at [www.paulrumbolt.com/](http://www.paulrumbolt.com/).



## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- |                                 |   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Sunday, October 5               | - World Communion Sunday                          |
| Saturday, October 11 - 10 am    | - Book Club at the Manse                          |
| Sunday, October 12              | - Fresh Fruit Sunday—Thanksgiving                 |
| Tuesday, October 14             | - Election Day— our building is a polling station |
| Saturday, October 18 - 7:30 pm  | - Arne Sahlen's Benefit Concert for Cambodia      |
| Saturday, November 15 - 7:30 pm | - Paul Rumbolt in concert at Knox                 |
| Sunday, November 16             | - Paul Rumbolt participating in the service       |
| Sunday, November 30             | - Combined Service with Grace Church—Advent 1     |
| Sunday, November 30 - 2:30 pm   | - Oak Bay Lodge Service                           |

### Transitions Support Group: A Journey through Grief and Loss

**Thursdays, October 9 – December 11, 10:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.**

Knox Presbyterian Church, Victoria

Whether you are currently grieving, or have experienced a loss some time ago and have not given yourself time to grieve, this 10-week program will provide insight, hope and prayerful support as you journey through the painful times of grief and loss in your life.

Loss or anticipated loss of spouse or family member, loss of good health in yourself or someone you love, loss of a job, retirement from a much-loved career and the end of a marriage are some of the life experiences that bring people to Transitions.

**Facilitator: Sarah Donnelly, B.A, M. Div.**

**Cost is \$150 or \$15 per week.**

Financial assistance may be available for those in need.

For more information and to register please call Sarah at 250-715-1616  
or the church office at 250-592-6323.

Ten participants are needed to run this course – *registration deadline is Tuesday, October 7th.*



### LADIES LUNCH at ROMEO'S on HILLSIDE

Come join the women of Knox for lunch at Romeo's on Hillside. Monday, October 6 at noon. These gatherings have proven to be a fun time for everyone. There is a sign-up sheet on the table in the Narthex.

### RALLY SUNDAY

Thank you to everyone who took part in Rally Sunday. The displays in the hall were well presented and very informative. It was also interesting to see the some of the other groups that use Knox regularly for their events.



# BOOK REPORT

## *Having a Mary Spirit*

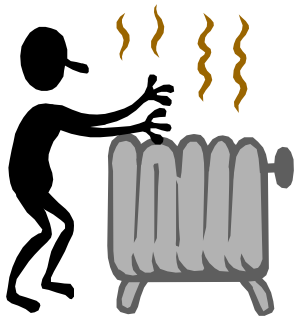


Contrary to the old adage, "you can't tell a book by its cover", I often find my best reads in this way. While browsing in the Knox Church Library, I discovered the very attractive book," Having a Mary Spirit."

The book referenced Mary of Bethany and since I regret to admit, I identify too much as a Martha, it appealed to me. I was wrong because Joanna Weaver uses the lives of Mary the mother of Jesus, Mary Magdalene, Mary of Bethany and others to illustrate how these women allowed God to transform their lives. This is not a self help book as is evidenced by the subtitle," Allowing God to Change Us From the Inside Out"

Targeted at Christian women, Joanna, who is a pastor's wife, writes in a conversational manner with spirituality and humour about the everyday problems we deal with in our battle between the flesh and the Spirit. I would like to have this book in my personal library and I'm excited to recommend it to you.

*Geri Berry*



## KNOX IS HEATING UP

Working with Jim Reynolds as consultant, the Board of Managers, is moving ahead with plans for a new heating system at Knox. Plans include:

- installing new ductwork and redirecting old;
- upgrading the return air system;
- removing the 50 year old underground oil storage tank;
- replacing the oil furnaces with four staged gas burner units.

Following authorization at the special congregational meeting in June, the first steps of the project have been contracted at a cost of \$9,500 plus taxes. The return air grill will be enlarged, the glass panels in the main sanctuary will be replaced with new transfer grills and two new hot water coils will be mounted into the existing plenums. These coils will operate with both oil and gas furnaces.

It is estimated that the project will cost up to \$100,000. \$16,700 is in the furnace fund thanks to the generosity of the congregation and we will continue to fundraise within Knox.

We have applied for two grants, one of \$25,000 from the Chisholm Fund, administered by the Presbyterian Church in Canada, and one of \$10,000 from the Jean Woodrow Estate, administered by the Synod of British Columbia.

In addition, we are seeking a \$20,000 loan through Synod. We will apply to the Lending Fund of the Presbyterian Church in Canada to cover any funds we are unable to raise from the sources mentioned above.

On completion of the project we should enjoy significant savings in energy costs because of the efficient new system and the lower cost of natural gas. We will have moved ahead environmentally as well, using cleaner burning gas and having removed the potential for soil contamination inherent in the underground oil tank.

This is an enormous project for Knox and we thank Bob Hosie and Jim Reynolds for the many hours they have spent to date – and for the many more they will spend in completing the task.

# MISSION THOUGHTS

In our world there are so many opportunities to give. We are bombarded by appeals on the television and in the mail. These appeals increase as we approach the Christmas season. We want to give. And through giving, we really want to know that we have made a difference in the lives of those we are asked to support, especially when an appeal is in aid of children whose lives need brightening.

If you are considering a response to an appeal, here are some questions that might help you to decide if the requested response is the best way to make a difference to a person in need.

-- Does the response address the root causes of the suffering or need of the child or other person on whose behalf the appeal is being made?

-- Is the response designed to make a long-lasting difference or to present a momentary delight? Have we considered alternate ways to make a longer-lasting difference?

-- In the case of gifts (rather than money), are those gifts culturally appropriate or do they reflect our western culture? In the case of Christmas gifts, is the giving of gifts a part of the recipient's Christmas tradition or are we imposing our materialistic values

on those who have not the means to continue such a tradition? Similarly, do these gifts respect other faiths as we state in our statement of belief, *Living Faith* 9.2.1?

-- Are there more suitable gifts available within the recipient's country that would support industry in that place?

-- Are the costs for distribution of the gifts proportionate to the value of the gifts themselves?

The Presbyterian Church in Canada provides us with opportunities to support many programs throughout the world through both *Presbyterians Sharing* and Presbyterian World Service and Development. As a denomination, we hold strongly to the value of partnership with others. These partners in other countries are consulted to determine the needs in that area of the world and the appropriateness of any proposed program or gift. If you are looking for long-lasting effects, consider that \$50 provides a month of schooling to a child from an urban slum in Kenya, Nicaragua or India. \$15 buys annual school supplies for one elementary school student and \$25 buys annual school supplies for one secondary school student, as the Reformed Church in eastern Europe works to re-establish the school system, lost in the communist era. You can

send a youth to camp in Guyana for \$40; there the young people swim, play games, study the Bible, learn leadership skills and take first aid training. In Canada your help is needed as well. In Montreal, Tyndale St Georges educational development program helps vulnerable children see how education links to their future. \$7.50 provides ten erasers; \$25, a text book. The Cariboo Ministry has one of the largest children's ministries among Presbyterian churches here in our own province. Bible classes, vacation Bible school and a 'Talking Circle' for teen girls all need our support. \$25 purchases snacks and supplies for one week of Bible class or buys pizza and juice for the 'Talking Circle'. \$300 covers the cost for one week of vacation Bible school.

If you would like to contribute to any of these programs, put your donation with your regular offering into your envelope and mark the amount and the name or description of the program in the 'Special Donation' section in the middle of the envelope.

If you would like more information on these or other programs sponsored by The Presbyterian Church in Canada, talk to Nan Zorn.

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**This is "the last word".** That's all I get this time! I got me thinking about what it means to have the last word in any situation—in fact what I would choose as my last word in life. We have that opportunity in our funeral or memorial service but few of us plan ahead for it. I want God to have the last word. What scripture text is the last word that I would choose? What would you pick? What hymn or sacred song captures the gift that a life of faith has been for me and what words would I use to share that with others after I die? I am going to choose the hymns and passages of scripture that I want as my "last word" in this life by completing a form available in the rack in the narthex and handing it into the office. I invite you to do the same so that you too can have the last word—amen!

**Laura**