



KNOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, TIVERTON, ONTARIO

# Knox News

## Advent and Christmas 2018

### Famous Cookie Walk

Dec. 1 - 10 a.m. to noon, in Church Fellowship Hall. An easy and fun way to stock up on homemade baking for the holidays!

### 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Advent

Dec. 2nd - 10:00 a.m. Knox

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Advent

Dec. 9th - 10:00 a.m. at Knox. White Gift Sunday. Bring your gifts wrapped in white bags or paper. A lunch and a visit from Santa will follow the service.

### Christmas Mini Music Concert

Dec. 13 at 7 PM  
Donations at the door.

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Advent and Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Dec. 16 – 10:00 a.m.

### 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Advent

Dec. 23 - 10:00 a.m. Hymn and Carol Service

### Candlelight Service – St. Paul's Glamis

Dec. 23 - 7:00 p.m.

St. Paul's extends a warm welcome to Knox to attend their Christmas Candlelight Service.

### Christmas Eve Candlelight Service - Knox

Dec. 24 6:30 p.m.

### Grocery Sunday

Dec. 30 –Donations to Kincardine Food Bank. Fellowship after service.



1st CANDLE – (purple) **THE PROPHECY CANDLE or CANDLE OF HOPE** – We can have hope because God is faithful and will keep the promises made to us. Our hope comes from God. (Romans 15:12-13)

2nd CANDLE – (purple) **THE BETHLEHEM CANDLE or THE CANDLE OF PREPARATION** – God kept his promise of a Savior who would be born in Bethlehem. Preparation means to "get ready". Help us to be ready to welcome YOU, O GOD! (Luke 3:4-6)

3rd CANDLE – (pink) **THE SHEPHERD CANDLE or THE CANDLE OF JOY** – The angels sang a message of JOY! (Luke 2:7-15)

4th CANDLE – (purple) **THE ANGEL CANDLE or THE CANDLE OF LOVE** – The angles announced the good news of a Savior. God sent his only Son to earth to save us, because he loves us! (John 3:16-17)

5th CANDLE – (white) **"CHRIST CANDLE"** – The white candle reminds us that Jesus is the spotless lamb of God, sent to wash away our sins! His birth was for his death, his death was for our birth! (John 1:29)

# Christmas Message from Rev. David's Desk

This is the time of year for caroling. On the radio, at home or in the car, in the mall, and at school concerts, we are likely to hear songs about the birth of Jesus Christ playing in the background. We call the songs "Christmas carols," but most of our old favorite Christmas carols are just Christian hymns celebrating the coming of our Lord and Savior. Although many old Christmas carols have been replaced by festive, but somewhat meaningless, songs such as "Rocking Around the Christmas Tree," the old favorites are still loved by many people regardless of their age.

Caroling provides us with a unique opportunity to share the gospel. Singing religious songs publicly nowadays seems to be no longer pleasant or acceptable to our society. Yet, for a few weeks each December, nobody would complain about caroling anywhere. December is the perfect month to explain the meaning of the songs, not only to those who don't know, or care about the true meaning of Christmas, but also to those who need to be reminded. We are familiar with the tunes of Christmas carols since we have heard them every winter season. But we might have never stopped to consider the lyrics. Let's consider one of the old Christmas carols: "Angels from the Realms of Glory." Because I have never thought about the lyrics deeply, I was amazed when I took a deep look at the words of the first verse:

*Angels from the realms of glory, Wing your flight o'er all the earth;*

*Ye who sang creation's story, now proclaim Messiah's birth.*

*Come and worship, come and worship, Worship Christ, the newborn King.*

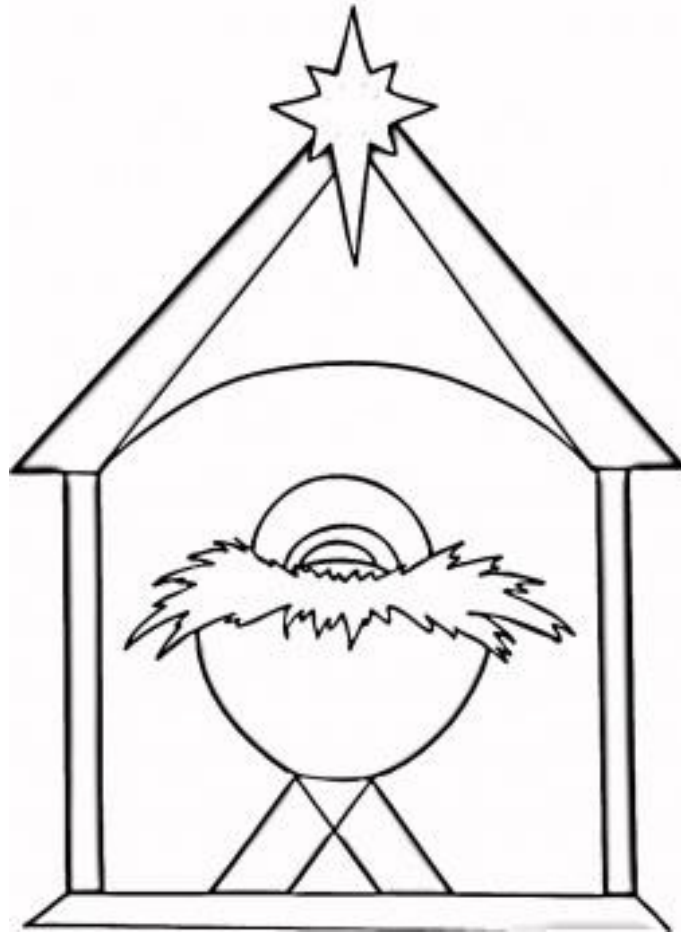
The lyrics embrace the key messages of the Old and New Testaments: Creation and Salvation, the reasons why we praise and worship God. As we sing the carol, we join the angels who sing creation's story and proclaim the birth of Christ, who is our Lord and King; we gather and come together to worship Christ.

Will we sing Christmas carols, thinking about the words? Will we invite our loved ones to our caroling that they may join us to worship Christ the newborn King? Will we embrace Christ as just a little baby born in a manger in Bethlehem, or as the One who participated in God's creating work and came to save the world? May God the Creator and Redeemer be with us and remind us of hope, peace, joy, and love in Christ as we sing and hear Christmas carols: "*Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!*" (Luke 2:14, NLT)

In Christ,

Rev. David

A little colouring fun for the young and young-at-heart



*Be*  
**1. BUY PRESENTS**

**2. WRAP GIFTS** *someone in a hug*

**3. SEND GIFTS** *love*

*Donate*  
**4. SHOP FOR FOOD**

**5. MAKE COOKIES** *memories*

*Be*  
**6. SEE THE LIGHTS**

SIMPLEASTHATBLOG.COM

## A Message from Session *Clerk of Session, George Potter*

Greetings from the Session of Knox Church Tiverton.

Wow – where did the year 2018 go? They say that time marches on. But this last year seems more like a sprint.

Knox Tiverton is a very busy hard-working Church and that is especially true in the fall. In comparing religious denominations I have heard it said that Presbyterians attempt to work their way to heaven. From inside experience, I can tell you that the members of Knox Presbyterian Church actually have a deeper understanding of the Christian experience than that. At least on a spiritual level we understand that our ticket to heaven is a free gift through Jesus Christ and not something that we have to earn. But from the outside looking in, I can understand where someone watching the activities of a Presbyterian church might think we were trying to work our way to the Pearly Gates.

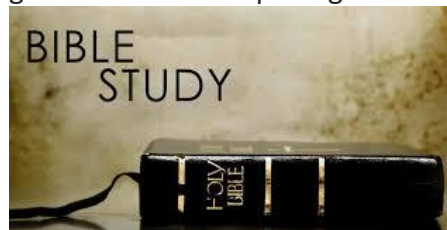
On a denominational comparison we do spend a lot of time working as compared to those who spend much of their time in Bible study and prayer. And of course that runs the risk of being so heavenly minded that we are of no earthly good. The answer is to somehow find a magic balance between doing all the good things that are needed and at the same time tending to the spiritual side of Christianity. Maybe we should follow the lead of the snack food

industry. They spend a lot of time and energy trying to find the “Sweet Spot”. That perfect combination of salt and sugar that appeals to the taste buds of most people.

In 2018 Knox Church went through the process of electing new Elders. We were successful in the election of Blair Kempers to our Session. We are very pleased to have Blair as a part of the Session, working for the spiritual welfare of our church.

On May 13 we celebrated the baptism of Tatum Evans, the son of Catherine and Tim Evans. It is always a joy to have a child baptized in our church. By the way Tatum is the grandson of JD Campbell.

During February and March the Reverend David set up a successful Bible study. Setting up a Bible study that works for a wide range of people is no easy task. Some are content with the general intent of a passage.



Others want to take a Bible verse and pick it to tiny little pieces in order to find the nugget of truth. Still others want to cross reference it and slice and dice the intent through the glass of history and culture of the day. Rev. David managed to skirt most of these issues by using a series of short videos. The videos covered the concept of living out our Christian faith even under trying circumstances. It was titled “When God Doesn’t Fix it.” After

the short video the group was divided into discussion cells to study the related Bible passages and answer a few questions. The discussion cells then presented their answers to the main group. In general it worked well.

A community Church like Knox Tiverton should have a few things that we are recognized for. At Knox we have at least four services and activities that engage the community, Vacation Bible School, Our Church Suppers, The Service of Memories and Our Christmas Eve Candlelight Service.

This summer the Reverend David and the volunteers from Knox worked with Pastor Martin and volunteers from Chalmers Church to put together a Vacation Bible School program. In this joint effort the VBS ran from August 13 through 17. With the pooled resources and ideas from both congregations we had a great time with more than 40 children participating. Next year’s VBS is still in the planning stages.

This year we have had two great Church Suppers. Church suppers are a wonderful opportunity for the members of Knox Church to work side-by-side with so many volunteers from the community who willingly help us put together these great meals. In 2018 the members of Knox Auxiliary (the Church supper planning group) felt the need for additional members on that committee. The request for additional members received a wonderful response. Six additional people volunteered to work on this committee. The new people brought a surge of energy and new ideas to the group. One of the most



noteworthy results was, "THE RETURN OF THE TURNIP"!



At the end of last year our Music Director, Liz Dadson, resigned after years of faithful service. If you think that replacing a Music Director is an easy task – think again. We spent the first six months of 2018 in limbo searching for a Music Director to fit our congregation. We are really pleased that Yoomi Kim has accepted the position of Music Director. We look forward to a great experience working together.

On October 7 we took part in the multi-Church Community Worship Service at the Whitney Crawford Community Centre. We had expected that the multi-Church service in conjunction with the Tiverton Fall Fair would not take place, since when this service falls on Thanksgiving weekend most churches would rather hold the Thanksgiving Service at their home church rather than at the Community Centre. In any case with some quick last-minute planning it all came together nicely. It is great when fellow Christians of slightly different stripes are able to find enough common ground to worship together.

At our 159th Anniversary Service October 21 Nicole Reid provided special music and song. Nicole Reid is the great-granddaughter

of Lillian McKay who was the organist at Knox Tiverton for over forty years. Nicole played her violin and sang for us. 'Aye and it was a fine lot of Scottish folk songs we heard.' After the service Nicole kept playing and the congregation was in no hurry to go downstairs for lunch.

During the past year our sanctuary has been updated with a new sound system. We are just beginning to find the advantages of better acoustic equipment capable of picking up voices from greater distances.

We look forward to the other two services at Knox Church that engage our community in a special way. Our Service of Memories is set for November 18. In this Service we celebrate the lives of those in our community who have recently passed away. It is a touching service where family members or friends light a candle and accepted a rose in memory of a loved one.

December 24<sup>th</sup> is our Christmas Eve Candlelight Service. Many families in our community come to this service as a prelude to the holiday season. It is a wonderful time to reflect on the true meaning of Christmas.

As we look forward to 2019 we have great expectations. During 2019 St. Paul's Glammis will worship with Knox Tiverton except for a few special services like baptisms, Mother's Day and Christmas. We hope and pray that this trial arrangement will be mutually acceptable and will lead to the two churches uniting in 2020.

In the past Knox Church has received some minor criticism for our less than perfect website. We realize that a website is important since members of the younger generation are more likely to look at a website than a newspaper. During the past year our website has been overhauled and updated. Have a look at <http://pccweb.ca/knoxpctiverton>

I wish each of you a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

If you have a chance drop into Knox Church any Sunday and pick out a suitable pew. Like Amazon, we have three left (and when they're gone we have a few more).



**...and from our Women's Missionary Society**  
*President, Alberta Smith*

Our summer lunch in July and our visit to Tiverton Park Manor in September were both cancelled because of a conflict of dates. We always enjoyed sharing our meeting with the residents, and the food and fellowship that followed.

In October, our roll call "An interesting fact about Evangel Hall" made us aware of the many ways that Evangel Hall is helping the needy and street people in that area of Toronto. We also brought articles to be sent to Evangel Hall. We thank the congregation for their donations of socks and personal items, etc., that were gratefully received by the E. H. Staff.

Lori Alexander was a special guest who told us of a project in which she participates. She explained what they do and brought samples of the articles they make. They are personal items for the women of Haiti. There are sewn by the ladies and packaged, to be sent to Haiti by an organization who visits Haiti, where they are thankfully received.

Our Christmas meeting is on Dec. 12 at 2 p.m. and all are welcome. You might even get a cookie or two, if you wear your Christmas hat.



**Service of Memories  
On Sunday November 18<sup>th</sup>**

*Rosemary Grover*

Knox Church held a Service of Memories to remember the loved

ones of the church family and the community that have passed away in the previous year. Those who were remembered were: Anne Brockway, Bob McMann , John Kidd , Louie Armour, Louise Hammond , Olive Jermyn, Sandra Hendry , Janet MacKenzie, Marlene Campbell, Beth MacLennan , Ernie Young, Katherine Currie- Ruetz, and John David Dickson. Each person mentioned had a candle lite in their memory by a family member.

*"Those who are righteous will be long remembered."*

*Palm 112: 6*



**Life's Clock (Author Unknown)**

The clock of life is round but once  
And no man has the power  
To tell just where the hands will  
stop  
At late or early hour.

To lose one's wealth is sad indeed  
To lose one's health is more  
To lose one's soul is such a loss  
As no man can restore.

The present only is our own  
Live, love, toil with a will;  
Place no faith in "tomorrow"  
For the clock may then be still.



**Board of Managers  
Carolyn Hamilton,  
Chairperson**

Wow hard to believe that it is November already and time to gear up for the Christmas Season. The Board has completed installing the new sound system in the Sanctuary and it has made a difference in being able to hear people speak. Even those with soft voices. We thank David Ballagh for operating the system and teaching the rest of us about it. Thanks to everyone who helped make the barbeques, this summer, a reality and those who attended, supporting this new system.

We have had some snow already, and we are looking to hire someone to shovel the walkway at the church. If you are interested or know someone who might be, please give me a call.



The Board and Session had their annual breakfast meeting on November 24. This meeting is a great way for both the Session & the Board to share ideas and bring everyone up to date on happenings within the church, and a chance to set the budget for the upcoming year.

The Board of Managers wishes everyone a very Merry Christmas as we celebrate Jesus's birth. We look forward to seeing everyone at the special events planned for December.



**The Men's Group**  
*George Potter*

The Men's Group completed the final Soup and a Bun for 2018 on November 19. Because December is very busy, we don't prepare a lunch that month. But we do plan to be back the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday in January 2019. The members of the Men's Group meeting at about 9:30 AM on the day of the lunch. We have fun preparing the meal under the expert direction and watchful eye of Chuck.

Chuck picks out the menu and the rest of the guys do the best we can to follow instructions and cover the details of preparation. Chuck has initiated several tests and has determined beyond a

reasonable doubt that 6 men are less useful than a \$2 timer when it comes to remembering when to take the Apple crisp out of the oven!

We often have Rev. David help with the preparations. It seems that carrots and onions in Korea are very similar to our home grown Canadian ones. Though as mentioned in a previous issue Rev. David has his own way of dealing with onions.

Unless Chuck has found a very intricate soup recipe we usually find plenty of time to have coffee and chat while the soup is cooking. We are very fortunate in having a number of men who come out regularly to prepare and serve these lunches. But we are always looking for new members.

We (The Men's Group) continue to discuss the problems of the world and resolve the ones we can.

We believe that the extreme heat and drought of a few months ago has been fully resolved.

But we've come up with a few things that we are still working on:

- NAFTA ..... We have decided to rename it.
- US midterm elections
- Life on Mars
- Plastics in the ocean
- Canadian pipelines
- Long distance electric cars
- Earthquakes on the West Coast
- Zebra mussels in the Great Lakes

We are currently looking for input on these and other important issues. If you are a gentleman with opinions on matters similar to these we would certainly appreciate your help. Just show up at 9:30 AM on the third Monday of the month – and by the way, bring your potato peeler, if you have one.

**Knox is in search of a Sunday School Superintendent**

- Must love children
- Must have plenty of faith (comes in particularly handy at Sunday School Pageant time)
- Must recognize that you'll get much more out of the job than you put into it, because Knox kids are awesome!

Please speak to Rev. David if you are interested in taking on this important role.



**White Gift Sunday**  
*Rosemary Grover*

**Why do we call it White Gift Sunday?**

There is a Chinese tradition, where all the people gave their king a gift wrapped in plain white paper so that every gift would look the same and no one would



know which was an expensive gift, and which was a more modest gift. No one would be embarrassed of their gift and everyone would share in the joy of giving.

### **What can you give for a White Gift?**

Gloves, scarves, toques, socks, gift cards, money, gifts for teens (personal care products) and non-perishable food items. Please keep in mind to check the best before date on any food products. If donating something that needs batteries please include them in the gift.

The White Gifts will be collected on Sunday December 9th and will be given to The Tiverton and District Lions Club to be distributed on Saturday December 15 to those families in our area who are in need of a Christmas Hamper. All families are given all the necessary items to prepare a Christmas dinner, (turkey or ham, potatoes, turnip etc.,) plus other food products such as peanut butter, cereal, pasta and sauces, jams, canned vegetables, soup, cereal, dessert cups, canned meats and juice.

*It is more blessed to give than receive. Acts 20:35*

### **A Note from Your Editor...**

*Cheryl Cottrill*

The Christmas season is upon us again. As I've admitted many times it is hands down my favourite time of the year and it seems to come quicker with every passing birthday. For me it is a joyous time to spend with family and friends and time to reflect on

the baby born in a manger so many years ago.

Joe & I travelled through Scotland in October and one of the highlights of Edinburgh was St. Giles' Cathedral. As many of you know it is the birthplace of Presbyterianism, with John Knox leading the Church to convert from Catholic to Protestant in 1559. In 1560 Scotland became a Protestant country and inside the church the stained windows were removed and the silver was melted down and sold to raise funds for redecoration. Thankfully the beautiful stained glass has since returned.

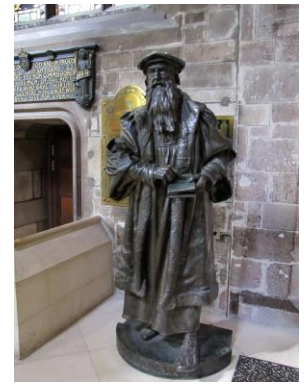
It was an honour to visit and learn of our Church's history and name sake.

Please don't forget to rip off the calendar on the back page and put it on your fridge so you can stay connected to your Knox Church family over the Christmas season. We are so blessed with a dedicated congregation doing great work to make Christmas extra special for all of us.

This Christmas I hope you make time to reflect on the true meaning of the season and that your hearts are filled with peace, hope and love.



Thistle Chapel in St. Giles' Cathedral



John Knox statue in St. Giles' Cathedral, Edinburgh, Scotland



#### **Church Tiverton**

P.O. Box 35, 75 King Street  
Tiverton, ON

519-368-7235

<http://pccweb.ca/knoxpctiverton>

Rev. David Chang

Office: 519-368-7235

Home: 519-368-0330

[knoxtiverton@bmts.com](mailto:knoxtiverton@bmts.com)

Music Director – Yoomi Kim

Clerk of Session – George Potter

519-368-7859

Board of Manager – Carolyn

Hamilton

To book fellowship hall contact

Heather Hunter

519-368-7476



God's Work in the Church...(a little Christmas gift for your fridge door)

# December 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Cookie Walk 10-12
2 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday in Advent	3	4	5	6	7	8
9 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Advent White Gift Sunday	10	11	12	13 Mini- Christmas Concert 7 p.m. Donations at door	14	15
16 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Advent	17	18	19	20	21	22
23 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Advent Christmas Eve Service at St. Paul's 7:00 p.m.	24 Christmas Eve Service at Knox 6:30 p.m.	25 Christmas Day	26 Boxing Day	27	28	29
30 Grocery Sunday Fellowship following service	31 New Year's Eve					

**2019**

**Sunday, January 13** – Communion

**Sunday, February 10** – Winterfest

**Sunday, February 17** – Annual Meeting. Lunch after service followed by the meeting.