



Knox Presbyterian



June 12, 2024 KNOX ANNOUNCEMENTS

WORSHIP 10:00 AM SUNDAY We hope you will participate in-person. If you are unwell, please access the **live streamed service** on the [Knox YouTube](#) channel or via [Knox website](#).

JUNE LUNCH Let's get together and share a meal at the Apple Tree Restaurant after worship on Sunday, June 30. There is a sign-up sheet in the hallway. Talk to Marianne if you have questions.

June Celebrations

- | | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| 15 Valerie McNabb | 27 Anne Krauss |
| 17 C + J Johnson | 27 A + J Watt |
| 23 Lillian Lin | 29 Keith Elliott |
| 24 Hinata Lam | 29 R + Y Fowler |
| 25 Gary Hall | |

Mission Moment

Am Salama reflects on her life in Sudan before the outbreak of war. Following a political crisis in 2023, she and her family, once prosperous farmers and restaurant owners, were forced to flee their bustling town in East Darfur due to escalating tensions. The war separated Am Salama from her husband, who stayed behind to care for his blind mother. Facing numerous challenges during their journey to South Sudan, including being robbed of the little money and clothing she had managed to bring with her and frequent illness, Am Salama and her children found refuge at the Wedwil Refugee Camp. The safety and food assistance they received at the camp, supported by PWS&D, played a critical role in their survival.

Prayer Meeting

On June 6th members of the St. Andrew's and Knox sessions joined together to pray for God's guidance during the continuing collaboration between the two congregations. We prayed that we listen to the Holy Spirit and that God's will be done and honoured by Knox and St. Andrew's. Would you like to join us? There will be 2 opportunities this coming week. Wednesday at 7:00 pm and Thursday at 2pm.

Wednesday June 12, 2024 at 7:00 pm

- <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/9635818226?pwd=dEcwWnRqTjZGTDNETkh4dDJzcTFyUT09>
- Meeting ID: 963 581 8226
- Passcode: dNi2s3

Thursday June 13, 2024 at 2:00 pm

- <https://us05web.zoom.us/j/87950433530?pwd=9scmgOsFBazZWXbXsU6aqis2x2Lgjp.1>
- Meeting ID: 879 5043 3530
- Passcode: 0X6zFU

If you have any questions please email Sabine Teetzel at steetzel@telus.net.

- Sabine Teetzel Elder from St. Andrew's



Knox is a caring and inclusive community of faith. All are welcome here!

Joys & Concerns

May we experience the healing presence of Christ as we uphold one another in prayer – sharing joys and concerns to draw us together as a community of faith. Please pray for...

Family, friends and colleagues in need... Those within the Knox community of faith who are suffering at this time...

Ina (Martha's friend recovering from surgery); **Richard & Yvonne Fowler; Earl; David; Toa; Neil; Pat & family.**

Congregations / faith groups in Victoria, Vancouver Island Presbytery, The Presbyterian Church in Canada... Trinity, Victoria / Knox, Sooke and the ongoing merger discussions between Victoria congregations - Knox and St. Andrew's. People, places and situations in the world that are broken and besieged... especially Ukraine / Gaza. Consider those struggling with chronic illness, recovery from surgery, addiction, personal loss, and any within our circle of care unable to attend worship each week. Give thanks for the blessings you enjoy - for relationships, comforts and security - for unexpected or long anticipated pleasures - for the amazing beauty of creation.

The crisis is over, but Ken is still struggling. You can take us off the prayer list. I would like to offer praise and thanksgiving for answered prayers. Thanks also go to you all at Knox for making me feel so welcome and cared for during a very difficult time. Blessings and thanks.

- Norma Ashcroft (Campbell River)

Prayer Partnership

Wednesday, June 12 We pray for the work of The Sharing Ministry, a regional ministry initiative in the Presbytery of the Northwest, and for its minister, the Rev. Mark Chiang.

Thursday, June 13 We pray for presbyteries of The Presbyterian Church in Canada, that they have a spirit of cooperation and collegiality as they oversee the work of ministers and congregations.

Friday, June 14 We pray for the people, ministries and mission of the Presbytery Peace River.

Saturday, June 15 We give thanks for those who faithfully serve our theological schools, the administrators, building superintendents, librarians, faculty and staff who attend to the details of the success of each one of our students.

Sunday, June 16 (National Indigenous Peoples Sunday) We pray for the NIMC (National Indigenous Ministries Council) and the leaders and ministers of the eight Indigenous ministries of the PCC. We pray for blessings and healing of the leaders and communities they serve across Canada.

Monday, June 17 We pray for the Presbyterian Church Heritage Centre as they prepare to open their doors with an invitation to view hundreds of artefacts and promote our denomination's heritage.

Tuesday, June 18 We give thanks and ask God's strength, wisdom and joy for the women and men who serve as the Executive of the Atlantic Mission Society.

Sessions Together June 3rd Meeting Notes

Update of the discussion of the meeting of the elders of Knox and St Andrew's on 3 June.

Prior to the 3 June meeting, elders from both congregations compiled and shared information about their congregations. The data included: demographics, people skills and volunteers, finances and budgets, physical assets and missional activities. This information, while not exhaustive, is too extensive to include in this. Below are the important points of the discussion at the meeting. Detailed information can be shared with those interested.

What have we learned about St Andrew's and Knox congregations?

	St. Andrew's	Knox
Online worship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Significant numbers. ● Acknowledge this is an important ministry. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Significant numbers. ● Acknowledge this is an important ministry.
Postal code map	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Congregants equally located in relation to both churches 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Congregants equally located in relation to both churches
Age demographics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ageing: A few volunteers carry the load of multiple tasks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ageing: A few volunteers carry the load of multiple tasks
Missions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mustard Seed ● AA Muffins ● PWS&D ● Soup for Inclusive Christians @ Uvic 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Our Place ● Artemis Place ● PWS&D ● Soup for Inclusive Christians @ Uvic
Regular Income from rental contracts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ballet Victoria 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Grace Presbyterian
Financial vulnerability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Financially vulnerable due to ageing congregations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Financially vulnerable due to ageing congregations

Worship: it is interesting to note similarities (as well as and differences)

	St. Andrew's	Knox
Communion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Quarterly + Easter Sunday 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Monthly
Lay participation in worship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● yes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● yes
Relative conduct in the sanctuary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Quiet and more formal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● More relaxed.
Choir	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● choir + paid students (\$360/week) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No choir. Vocal soloists lead congregational singing

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2...

Worship: it is interesting to note similarities (as well as and differences)

	St. Andrew's	Knox
Visitors	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Many visitors, (annual long-term snowbirds and tourists)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Few visitors, (suburban location)
Occasional variation of worship formats	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Baptism of the Lord Sunday● Meditation focused on 3 hymns	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Increased interactivity from congregation
Music: Prelude & Postlude	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Organ prelude & postlude● Sung Amen	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Prelude and gathering song.● Closing song and postlude
Music	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Organ: 3 pieces, 1 choir anthem, 4 hymns	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● 2 piano/band pieces, 4 or 5 hymns
Order of service	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Paper bulletin	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Screen
Coffee hour	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● weekly	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● monthly
Scriptures	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Clergy follow the lectionary.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Clergy follow the lectionary.

Merger

Elders discussed what we understand by 'merger' and how might a merger benefit both congregations? The Oxford definition of merger is 'combine or cause to combine to form a single entity.'

For a successful merger:

- Two or more parts become one, to build something new; develop a common vision.
- Both parties need to understand each other
- Each of the two parties must be willing to give up everything including our identities (cf parable of the rich man)

For St Andrew's and Knox as we consider a merger:

- First decide on the "What?" of the vision, not the "Where?"
- Encourage all to pray, to let go and follow God's leading. What is God's will for us?
- Take a step of faith in prayer; the Israelites left Egypt, not knowing where God was leading them.

Some of the benefits if Knox and St Andrew's merge to become one church:

- Shared resources
- A larger volunteer team
- New ideas & new energy
- Reduced duplication of tasks
- Diversity of music

Where are we at in the process of decision making?

The St Andrew's session will be meeting on June 17th in order to discuss merger options. Session will then set a date to share their deliberations at a congregational meeting. The Knox session and congregation are ready to move ahead with a merger. With an awareness of an ageing demographic, they want to make a timely and intentional decision before it is too late. A merger with St Andrew's is not their only option.

- *Anne Krauss & Kittie Ure (Knox), Sabine Teetzel and Colina Titus (St Andrew's)*



Join Pride Parade

Join the Inclusive Christians Club at the Victoria Pride Parade this year on Sunday, July 7th, starting at 11 am!

This was such a positive experience last year that the Rev. Laura Kavanagh wants to encourage members of Knox, St. Andrew's and other local Presbyterian congregations to join this year and show their support for the club and the queer community in Victoria. Please email Laura if you are interested or have questions: ltknox@telus.net

Marching in the parade includes a spectrum of participation. People are needed to hold banners, carry pride flags, and hand out stickers to kids and others. We have Presbyterian stickers that affirm "God's love

includes everyone" as well as Inclusive Christian stickers to share.

There will also be opportunities to do crowd work for those who enjoy it. With thousands of people gathered it's a chance to greet people, say hello, and lead a chant.

Mostly it is just walking and enjoying being there with thousands of people who are celebrating queer people's right to exist and be themselves. Together we help build a better and safer society through public expressions like this.

If marching in a parade is not for you, you can also show up and give us a shout out when we pass by. It's wonderful to see familiar faces in the crowd. Victoria's Pride Parade goes right past St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church! Let's celebrate Pride, promoting love, acceptance, and inclusivity for all.

Go [HERE](#) to learn more about what is planned for Pride 2024 in Victoria.

Go [HERE](#) to learn more about Gender, Sexuality & LGBTQI2+ Inclusion in the PCC.

Go [HERE](#) to download the 'Well Chosen Words' brochure, a resource from the PCC on learning to use inclusive language.

A chalkboard-style poster for an event at Knox Café. The text is written in yellow and white chalk. At the top, it says "KNOX CAFÉ". Below that, "Back to Laurel Canyon 1970" and "Thurs, June 20, 7pm" are written. To the right of the date is a drawing of a coffee cup and saucer. Below the date, it says "Admission \$10" and "includes: beverage, snack, and music!". At the bottom, it says "The Café Band" and lists the band members: "Steve Sturgess, Ryan Tandy, Al Sabourin, Jack Funk". At the very bottom, it says "Donations also accepted to support humanitarian work of PWS+D".

KNOX CAFÉ
Back to Laurel Canyon 1970
Thurs, June 20, 7pm
Admission \$10
includes: beverage, snack,
and music!
The Café Band
Steve Sturgess, Ryan Tandy, Al Sabourin, Jack Funk
Donations also accepted to support humanitarian work of PWS+D