

KNOX eNews: LIFE & WORK OF THE CHURCH

For more information www.kucparksville.ca

December 20, 2020 edition

WORSHIP AND ARTS MINISTRY

Here is the Knox Advent Christmas Schedule:

Sun, Dec. 20, 10:00 AM I Believe in Love

Thu. Dec. 24, 7:00 PM Christmas Eve

A Very Special Christmas Eve celebration – will be an evening filled with music, light, and dance! With Sarah-Lynne Plumley; a Mothers & Daughters Quartet; Violinist Rheana Slack; and Trumpeter Ed Wasiak. For Christmas Eve you are asked to prepare your own communion celebration at home with candlelight. Remember to print the Order of Worship so that you may sing along with the carols.

Participation via **Zoom** is limited to 100 people.

Check our website for Zoom link

information www.kucparksville.ca/events



ZOOM WORSHIP INFO: Meeting ID: 812 7823 4982, Passcode: 261349 Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81278234982?pwd=WG1NVTJyMngxa3pKzgyV0hBeTJ3QT09>

SOCIAL JUSTICE & OUTREACH MINISTRY

GREEN TEAM CANDLE RECYCLING PROJECT - Once again this year, the Green Team is collecting your old and unused candles which there are usually plenty of at this time of year! These will be delivered to The L'Arche Centre in Comox Valley where they are recycled and turned into unique new candle designs for sale. A Collection Box can be found in the Knox Narthex. Thank You.

ZATOUN PRODUCTS – Robert Massoud, the founder of Zatoun, has become a member of the Ottawa Forum on Israel/Palestine. The Forum states that Zatoun has given a total of \$500, 000 for olive trees and to support recreational and educational programmes for youth living in refugee camps. There are still 5 bottles of oil to purchase!

FUN, FAMILY, FRIENDS & FOOD MINISTRY

THE VIRTUAL GATHERING PLACE–If you're missing connecting with others, join us at the Virtual Gathering Place on Zoom, Tuesdays from 10:00 am to 11:00 am. Get your coffee or tea ready and join in casual conversation and maybe a few laughs. Come for the whole hour or any part of it. If you've never been on Zoom, email Anne W. for help. **PLEASE CHECK THE KNOX PHOTO DIRECTORY FOR CONTACT INFORMATION**

Meeting ID: 820 6760 6176, Passcode: 522446

Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82067606176?pwd=SEtRUUZxZDQyYmVXYU5zMUk3VUE4Zz09>

SUNSHINE LADY RETIRES; NEW SUNSHINE CONTACT: Many thanks to MARTHA POW who has been the Knox Sunshine Lady for several years, sending Get Well, Thinking of You, Birthday, Golden Wedding Anniversary, and Sympathy cards for several years on behalf of Knox. Martha is retiring from this position; and thankfully, MARY ALLISON BELL has volunteered to fill her shoes! Thank you, Mary Allison! Over the years, U.C.W. has recognized 80th and 90th birthdays, and 50th or 60th wedding anniversaries; along with sending cards of sympathy to the bereaved, and while U.C.W. no longer exists, sending these cards and recognizing these special occasions, we are grateful Mary Allison is willing to carry on this tradition. However, she will need everyone's help. If you know of someone celebrating a special birthday or anniversary; or if you know of someone who is hospitalized; or passed on to their next life, please contact Mary Allison Bell by phone or email. **PLEASE CHECK THE KNOX PHOTO DIRECTORY FOR CONTACT INFORMATION**

STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE MINISTRY

CONCERT UPDATES – For those of you that are missing our live concerts at Knox Hermann's Jazz Club in Victoria are hosting a few virtual performances and you can watch them online for a donation. Many of the performers have previously performed at Knox. [Access Hermann's Jazz Club here](#) Note: You will need to click on history to see all the past performances that are available for online viewing. Enjoy!

HEALING AND PASTORAL CARE MINISTRY

KNOX PRAYER SHAWL GROUP – To all our amazing crafters out there please keep knitting or crocheting. Due to COVID, our church will be closed unless you have an appointment to enter, so I would suggest that you use yarn that you have at home. The staff need to be kept safe. Please keep in mind that although we could use a couple of shawls we would also like to get a head start on hats, mitts, scarves for all our next winter projects. Thank you!

Carol Lyons, Group Lead	tclyons@shaw.ca	250-586-3842
Ronine Sharp	memorynurse@shaw.ca	250-586-6972
Marg Conn	muggins46@shaw.ca	250-594-1244

HEALING MINISTRY- The Healing ministry is **not** taking appointments until further notice. This decision was made to protect our clients and practitioners at this uncertain time. However, if anyone requires a healing treatment during the shut-down they can call Bruce Mcl. and he will be willing to provide you with a modified distance prayerful healing session. **PLEASE CHECK THE KNOX PHOTO DIRECTORY FOR CONTACT INFORMATION**

MINISTRY & PERSONNEL MINISTRY

Rev. Jennifer Ferguson: Monday-Friday, days off are Friday & Saturday. (If you would like to meet with her for pastoral care via phone call or FaceTime, please call her to make an appointment at **250.927.6061** or email minister@kucparksville.ca

Knox United Church Staff Email Addresses Follow this link to the Knox Website: www.kucparksville.ca/pages/contact-us

Knox United Church Council 2018-19 For a list of Council Members and Team Leaders, <https://www.kucparksville.ca/about/our-leadership--13>

FROM THE CHURCH OFFICES

CHURCH HOURS Please note that the Knox United Church Offices will be closed for the Minister and staff holidays from Monday, December 28th to Sunday, January 3rd inclusive. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause but our very committed staff are owed time in lieu and are taking a well-deserved rest from a very busy Advent and Christmas season. For life and death pastoral emergencies only, you may call Jennifer at 250-927-6061 over the holiday. We wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

CHURCH CLOSURE-JANUARY 4TH Due to our church's current financial challenges, at the recommendation of the Stewardship and Finance and the Ministry and Personnel Team in consultation with the staff, the Council has had to make the difficult decision to reduce the hours for both our Office Administrator and Facility Coordinator to 15 hours per week which is almost a cut in half of their current hours. We are grateful to Jane and Karen for their understanding, cooperation, grace, and sacrifice. To allow them time to do their work and to ensure their continued health and safety, as we did earlier in the COVID-19 crisis, the Church Offices will be closed effective January 4. Our staff will continue to be available through email, phone calls and pre-scheduled appointments but on a more limited basis. Staff are primarily working a combination of hours both remotely and on-site. We ask for your understanding when waiting for a response and we thank you for your patience. We all look forward to the time when we can resume the usual office hours.

Please note Jennifer makes her own appointments. (If you would like to meet with her for pastoral care via phone call or FaceTime, please call her to make an appointment at **250.927.6061** or email minister@kucparksville.ca.

If you have any questions concerning facility bookings or zoom meetings contact Karen Freeman directly at facility@kucparksville.ca

STRICT SAFETY PROTOCOL -EVERYONE WHO ENTERS

Will be required to:

- wear a mask (your mask must be in place before entering)
- use hand sanitizer and sign-in (for contact tracing purposes)
- Always maintain social distance
- limit the areas you access in the church *check with the staff first*

Commented [CW1]:

FROM THE CHURCH OFFICES

WASHROOMS

- Only the washrooms in the kitchen wing are to be used

IN-PERSON WORSHIP, CONCERTS AND RENTALS

Given the current Government of BC COVID-19 restrictions, the church is no longer allowed to offer in-person worship services, concerts, or rentals for external meetings, other than our local support groups (OA and AA). We are also recommending that our own internal meeting groups use Zoom meetings whenever possible. Please contact Karen Freeman at facility@kucparksville.ca to schedule your zoom meetings. Stay safe!

FROM THE FACILITY COORDINATOR - Although we are going through difficult times right now, I just wanted to take a moment to say thank-you to all who have helped me out over the course of the past year. A big thank-you to Jane and Jennifer as without their support and good humour my job would be much more difficult. Also, a huge thank-you to Sandy Machan for all her work at the concerts in the tech booth, she has been so helpful and has volunteered her time to help keep our in-house costs down which is very much appreciated. I would also like to thank Colleen Welsh for her assistance with the website and lastly, a big thanks to all the volunteers who have helped at concerts and other events. Looking forward to hearing some great music at Knox again, hopefully soon. Best wishes for the Holiday Season and 2021!

COMMUNICATIONS

NEW KNOX SIGN - Sending out a BIG THANK YOU to all the people who contributed to the new Knox sign: Myrt Omnes, Jeannette Mossing and 2 others for their generous donations that made this project possible. Shane Conn & Ian Ward for research, Colleen Welsh for design expertise and Ian Ward for shepherding the project through all the stages on behalf of Sacred Spaces as well as the Knox people who guided us with the initial survey. Take a drive-by at night and see it lit up!

SPIRITUAL FORMATION MINISTRY

BIBLE STUDY VIA ZOOM – Wednesdays 10:30-12. Meeting ID: 844 1018 3121, Passcode: 957519 Meeting Link:

https://us02web.zoom.us/join/joinMeeting?z=98tyKuGsjoqG9yWsRuGRpwIBoj4c-vxiHZcjY1rlzjGJhR4NSf_EupBY71TBPD3

GOOD READS - *Gilead* by Maryanne Robinson: A friend gave me this book. I will always be grateful because I doubt I would ever have chosen it for myself. A story in the form of a journal an elderly man is writing for his very young son? Well, that surprising relationship drew me in, and I found a fascinating book. It's an unexpected and tender love story, an unflinching look at fathers and sons, a consideration of good and evil and an exploration of faith. The writing is glorious. I have read this excellent book three times, and each time I discover new and different things to treasure in it. I highly recommend it. The Mulberry Bush Bookstore will be happy to order it for you

COUNCIL NEWS

Watch this space for future updates!



OUR KNOX FAMILY

VIDEO - LITTLE SHEEP STEALS BABY JESUS FROM HIS CRADLE

to watch. Thanks to Jan R. for sharing.

An adorable Nativity Scene in an East Tennessee Church took a hilarious turn when the little girl playing a sheep decided to play with baby Jesus. At the First Baptist Church of White Pine, the kids of their live Nativity scene stole the show, but not for the reason you might think. While the children's choir sang "Away in a Manger" the scene began to unravel.



The sheep, played by Tana Benson's little girl, Teegan, got up, took the baby Jesus out of the manger, and began to play with the doll on stage. Laughter could be heard from parents and audience members as she continued to play and dance with the doll. Yet, it wasn't until the little girl playing Mary decided to take matters into her own hands and take the doll back that the fun started. She and the sheep struggled for a moment before Mary was able to get the doll back in the manger.

VIDEO: Tana Benson [Click here to watch](#)

CRAIG BAY

CHORISTERS - have long performed their seasonal concerts at Knox United Church and when I heard they were planning a virtual **Christmas** concert; I knew we had to share it on the Knox website.



So, here it is. Watch closely - you may even recognize a few faces. Here is the link to our website

<https://www.kucparksville.ca/events/a-craig-bay-christmas-from-our-homes-to-yours/2020-12-11>

Then press on the **WATCH ON VIMEO** link at the bottom of the page and watch this virtual celebration of the season - *enjoy!*

-- Colleen

KNOX CALENDAR December 20, 2020 – January 3, 2021

Sunday, Dec 20	Zoom Worship Service	10:00 am – 11:00 am	Zoom
Monday, Dec 21	Staff Meeting	1:30 – 2:30 pm	Lounge/Zoom
Tuesday, Dec 22	The Gathering Place	10:00 am – 11:00 am	Zoom
Wednesday, Dec. 23	Bible Study	10:30 am – 12:00 pm	Zoom
Thursday, Dec. 24	Christmas Eve		
Friday, Dec. 25	Christmas Day		
Saturday, Dec. 26	Boxing Day		
Sunday, Dec. 27	* No Worship Service		
Monday, Dec. 28	Church Closed		
Tuesday, Dec. 29	Church Closed		
Wednesday, Dec 30	Church Closed		
Thursday, Dec. 31	New Year's Eve		
Friday, January 1,	New Year's Day		
Saturday, January 2	Church Closed		
Sunday, January 3	Zoom Worship Service	10:00 am – 11:00 am	Zoom

[For the monthly calendar click here](#)

* **There will not be a worship service at Knox, but you are free to enjoy other online services wherever you choose.**