

KNOX eNews: LIFE & WORK OF THE CHURCH

For more information www.kucparksville.ca
December 27, 2020 edition

WORSHIP AND ARTS MINISTRY

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.

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



Link:

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

NOTE: There will not be a Sunday, **December 27th** Order of Worship but you are free to enjoy other online services wherever you choose.

SOCIAL JUSTICE & OUTREACH MINISTRY

HAPPY BACKPACK UPDATE – The 45 water-proof backpacks for the Homeless have been filled with necessities as well as some Christmas treats and beautiful cards containing messages of love for those living rough. Heartfelt thanks to the congregation for your generous donations and the gift of your time and love, you are too many to name. Much gratitude to the GMO's who packed and delivered the backpacks. Special mention to Shane and Marg C. for their extraordinary assistance. This project was generously supported by our local businesses: Parksville Pharmasave, Nurse Next Door, Ocean's Edge Orthodontics, Shoppers Drug Mart, Parksville & the PGOSA folks.



Merry Christmas

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.

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, contact Anne 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=SEtRUUZxZDgyYmVXYU5zMUK3VUE4Zz09>

FUN, FAMILY, FRIENDS & FOOD MINISTRY

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, 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.

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 Mc. 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!

KNOX eNEWS

- There will **not** be a **December 31st edition.**
- **NEW SUBMISSIONS DEADLINE** will be **12:00 pm Wednesdays**

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.

FROM THE CHURCH OFFICES

PASTORAL CARE - 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.)

ROOM or ZOOM BOOKINGS - 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*

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!

FROM THE CHURCH OFFICES

VIDEO And now, time for some Christmas Cheer!
Courtesy of Clyde McPhatter and The Drifters – White Christmas



HAPPY NEW YEAR! Auld Lang Syne Courtesy of Maeve MacKinnon featuring Pipers of the World.



COMMUNICATIONS

Watch this space for future updates!

SPIRITUAL FORMATION MINISTRY

BIBLE STUDY VIA ZOOM – Wednesdays 10:30-12. Meeting ID: 844 1018 3121, Passcode: 957519 Meeting Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84410183121?pwd=957519MjRlZjZGJhR4NSfEupBY71TBPD3>

There will not be a bible study on December 30th. Bible study will resume on Wednesday, January 6, 2021.

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

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 27, 2020 – January 4, 2021

Sunday, Dec 27	Church Closed	
* No Worship Service		
Monday, Dec. 28	Church Closed	
Tuesday, Dec 29	Church Closed	
Wednesday, Dec 30	Church Closed	
Thursday, Dec 31	Church Closed	New Year's Eve
Friday, Jan 1	Church Closed	New Year's Day
Saturday, Jan 2	Church Closed	
Sunday, Jan 3	Zoom Worship Service	10:00 am – 11:00 am Zoom
Monday, Jan 4	Stewardship & Finance Meeting	9:00 am – 10:30 am Zoom
	Tai Chi	9:15 am – 11:45 am Sanctuary
	Staff Meeting	11:00 am – 12:00 pm Zoom
Tuesday, Jan 5	Tai Chi	9:15 am – 11:45 am Sanctuary
	Gathering Place	10:00 am – 11:00 am Zoom
Wednesday, Jan 6	Bible Study	10:30 am – 12:00 pm Zoom
	Membership Class	2:30 pm – 4:00 pm Zoom
Thursday, Jan 7	Tai Chi	9:15 am – 11:45 am Sanctuary
Friday, Jan 8	Church Closed	
Saturday, Jan 9	Church Closed	
Sunday, January 10	Zoom Worship Service	10:00 am – 11:00 am Zoom

[For the monthly calendar click here](#)