

November, 2010
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As We Anticipate Advent

Dear Friends;

As I write these words on a Tuesday morning it is warm enough to walk down the street in a light jacket, or even shirtsleeves, in the middle of November no less. This has certainly been a fall to remember in terms of warmth, sunshine and the pleasant days and nights that result. A by-product though, of this most welcome but unseasonable weather, is that it's hard to accept that Advent will be upon us in only several days by the time you read these thoughts.



For some weeks now off and on we have been talking about **Hope**.

Hope in the face of the catastrophic death and destruction that war brings,
Hope in the face of personal loss, **Hope** in the face of the human condition.

And now with the advent of Advent, I offer you a few more thoughts along the same line.

Christ involves himself in human life. He involves himself in your life if you let him. He offers an eternal quality of life, not a quality that begins after death, but one that carries us through all of life. That life begins when we look at LIFE through our Jesus eyes, when we try to reflect in our lives what we see in his,

and when we see how his Gospel offers us a lens through which we come to see meaning in our human experience.

It is the birth of **Hope** that we celebrate at Christmas;

Hope that is always immanent,

Hope that is an always dependable promise.

Advent sets the stage for Christmas and celebrates our feelings of expectancy. Advent celebrates that moment when we know that we are on the cusp of **Hope**. Advent celebrates that tingling feeling that we get when we know Hope is about to burst forth. God's promise to be with us always is the foundation of our **Hope**.

It is a promise that we have learned to trust, believe in and therefore have faith in. God's promise to be with us always, was revealed to us in Jesus birth, life, death, and resurrection, and in the face of Christ that we find all around us, everywhere we look.

It is my fond wish that you all enjoy **Hope**, **Peace**, **Joy**, and **Love**, during this Christmas Season; that you find fulfilling the message that God sends us in Jesus arrival; and that **Hope** is your constant companion. From Donna, Mary, Julia, and I, God bless you all.

Yours Faithfully;

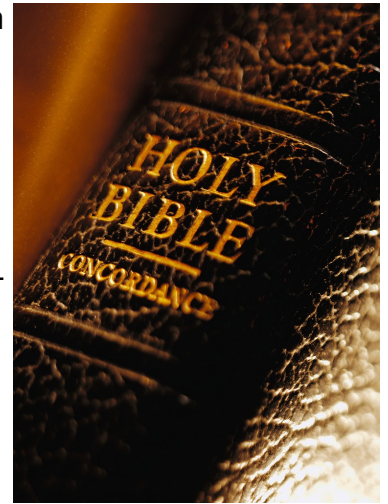
Wayne

Devotional - Receive Our King

In reading about the Kings of Israel and Judah, as recorded in the Old Testament, there is an excitement about the Advent Season. It ushers in the time to reflect about the coming of the Highest King in the world – and that is Jesus Christ. As the Advent Season approaches, we focus on the qualities of hope, peace, joy and love. The true King, Jesus displayed them all.

When the Israelites entered the Promised Land – they wanted a king like the nations around them. By doing so, they rejected God as their authority. They disobeyed His Laws. They stopped listening to the High Priests and Prophets who instructed them in God's ways and messages.

Are you looking for a great leader to follow? Are you disappointed in those who are leading nations around this world? God has a plan. The Majestic, Sovereign, All Loving God, who is Full of Grace created a King to save the world. It is His Son, Jesus Christ. He has already come. He will come again. He will come today and reign in your heart, if you ask Him. This Christmas Season, let us follow Jesus. He is the true King of all nations. Start today by reading about Him in Matthew Chapter One. May God Bless You. Amen.



An Evening in France, sponsored by Kindred Spirits, was enjoyed by all...without the plane flight.



Meet Your Neighbours

Ian and Leah Cochrane welcomed a new daughter on September 30th, Vanessa Lynn. A new sister for Arly and a granddaughter for Ron and Christine Cochrane.

Heather and Kris Raby welcomed a new son on November 10th, Kyle Garry. A brother for Sean and a grandson for Darlene and Garry Bears.

Janet and Ron Furlong welcomed Alison into their family when she married their son Adam on October 16th. Congratulations!

Anniversary Dinner—Grandma’s Gourmet...a Tasty Fall Buffet

Saturday, October 23rd was a night for celebrating Knox’s 176th anniversary. Once again, we did it with food, fellowship and laughter. Over 90 people feasted on a roast beef and ham supper complete with homemade pie.

Many hands working together helped to make this delicious meal a reality from the 4 grandmas, Kate Cressman, Betty Butcher, Chris Cochrane and Linda Davidson to all those who donated food, helped serve and clean up. It was great to have the help of several enthusiastic young people from the Youth Group serving too. The evening was topped off by a light hearted but profitable live auction made possible by generous donors, enthusiastic bidders and our very own auctioneer, Norm Perriman.

Funds raised from the meal will go to the General fund while those from the auction have been used to purchase 12 new 6 foot rectangular tables and tablecloths. What a welcome addition for anyone setting up for events in the fellowship hall.

“They were joyful and humble as they ate at each other’s homes and shared their food. At the same time, they praised God and had the good will of all people.”

Acts 2:46,47



Book Review

Left Behind by Tim LaHaye – A novel of the earth’s last days.

Sanity Secrets for Stressed-Out Women by Sue Augustine – Energize and Renew Your Life

The Unshakable Truth by Josh McDowell and Sean McDowell – How You Can Experience The 12 Essentials Of A Relevant Faith

Blue Like Jazz by Donald Miller – Nonreligious Thoughts on Christian Spirituality



Knox Connection

Hands joined in service can renew humanity

November 13th is World Kindness Day. The movie Pay It Forward released in the year 2000 brought the idea of Random Acts of Kindness to the mainstream. However, we can look back to the Parable of the Good Samaritan to see the same message.

In our hurried lives, we often forget how much a smile, a kind word, a helping hand or even a listening ear can make a difference in someone else's life. We move quickly, with our heads looking forward to where we have to get to not seeing others around us. However, every day there is an opportunity to help another. We are all connected to each other as we live our lives on this earth.

Knox Connection would like you to Share the Connection – show the same kindness shown by the Samaritan to the beaten and injured Jewish traveller as he lay on the side of the road. It can be as simple as holding open a door, helping someone carry their groceries, paying for some else's coffee in the Tim Horton's drive through, bringing in a neighbour's garbage/blue bins from the road or smiling at the cashier who looks tired after a long day.

There will be Share the Connection cards distributed through Knox. We ask that you pass on these cards as you show others kindness in hopes that they pass it on. The hope is to have our connection move outside of our church, into our community and beyond.

We also hope that using the card will start a habit that will become a part of your everyday life.

On a Musical



On behalf of the choir, handbells and Kids Kreation I would like to thank Mike & Merry Schmidt very much for all their work over the last few years. We realize how busy their lives are and appreciate them taking the time to work with us. Great job!

I would also like to thank Marcia Wright and Bob Marshall – our stand-by organists. Hopefully, they won't be strangers.

We would like to wish a heartfelt welcome to Mary Coling who has taken on the job of Music Director. We hope you will enjoy Knox United in Ayr.

Youth Group—Christmas Breakfast



Knox Youth will be hosting a Christmas Breakfast on Sunday, December 12, 2010 from 9:30 a.m. until worship.

Donations for the breakfast will be put towards youth events for the upcoming year.

Habitat for Humanity Build



It was sunny but cold as four enthusiastic members of Knox signed up for a day's work on the Habitat for Humanity build off Westmount road in Kitchener. After donning our safety shoes, hat and T shirt we watched a video about safety on the site and were then asked to choose a job for the day—siding or painting. The ladies decided on the painting and the young gentleman in our group climbed up to the roof to complete the siding. Coffee and lunch were served to all.

We learned how one had to qualify to own a house. You have to have lived in Waterloo County for at least three years and have a job that enables you to cover the payments with 25% of your income.

The houses are "sold" for current market value with no interest on the mortgage. Habitat for Humanity holds the mortgage and if the owner chooses to move, in less than 5 years, the house returns to the charity. There is a sliding scale of ownership, with part of the payment returning to Habitat for Humanity up to 20 years. At this point the house will then be wholly owned by the occupant.

We learned how to work as a team, to enjoy manual labour and that it is in giving of our time and our talents that we receive the peace of God that passes all understanding. We look forward to the build next year and hope that you can join us.

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