

November, 2011
Volume 3, Issue 3

The New Life to Come

Dear Friends;

It has only been recently that I have seen frost on the pumpkin as I awoke in the morning (actually it was on my car). We have had a fine autumn; a wonderful season during which we were able to give thanks for the Harvest and all that we are blessed with.

It will be mid November by the time you read this. Advent will almost be upon us as I take my last stroll down the lane at Knox's "Road Ahead". We have been together for just over two years, and as the report on this Interim Ministry says "It has been a delight, a privilege, and enormously fulfilling to serve Knox United Church in Ayr these past almost two years. I have become close to many of the congregants and have a deep respect for the spiritual will that has carried them through their darker times. There is a broad array of very healthy signs in evidence at Knox as they have taken ownership of their own health and begun very deliberate steps to bring about healing."

"The years 2009, 2010 and 2011 have been more than just a couple of years to remember. They have been a period of healing, new beginnings, a period to give thanks for, a time to relish, and to build upon, years to learn lessons from, years to be proud of, and a time that has helped form the foundation of all that is to come."

The sense of thankfulness we focus upon in the autumn sets the stage perfectly for Advent if we think in terms of the three central issues of Jesus ministry; the true nature of Love, the true nature of giving, and the true nature of the life to come (God's Kingdom).

To love God and to love neighbour as yourself, the true nature of love, was the most important teaching that Jesus was to leave with his disciples. It is also central to our lives. It is what we need to live a life worth living and it is what the world most needs at any given time.

That God came to earth in human form, is what we celebrate with such exuberance at Christmas. God broke through into Human consciousness in Jesus to talk about the ways in which God's Kingdom can be present for all of us, to stand and say that love is the most powerful force in our lives



and our world, and that peace and justice can be real, and are not just vague ideals.

Our need to give is written in our hearts. As Christians we cannot help but give in gratitude for what we have been given. It is part of our conversion to Christ's way of life.

However, true giving is a total way of life. Along with love it demands our heart, soul, mind and strength. It includes how we manage all that we are and all that we have in this world.

Love and giving are about discipleship, they're about purpose in life, and they're about having a reason to get up out of bed in the morning that goes beyond your own survival but links you with the body of Christ and the heartbeat of humanity. They are about successfully putting yourself in perspective and realizing that humility and a giving out of that understanding is one of the most satisfying, fulfilling senses that a human can experience.

The new life to come is a life centered in the Resurrection.

Because we know the Resurrection, we know that even though we may be living through a Black Friday experience, Sunday is coming.

We know that the power of love cannot be defeated.

We know that our lives can change and that God has given a gift in Jesus that allows us to understand how to begin again.

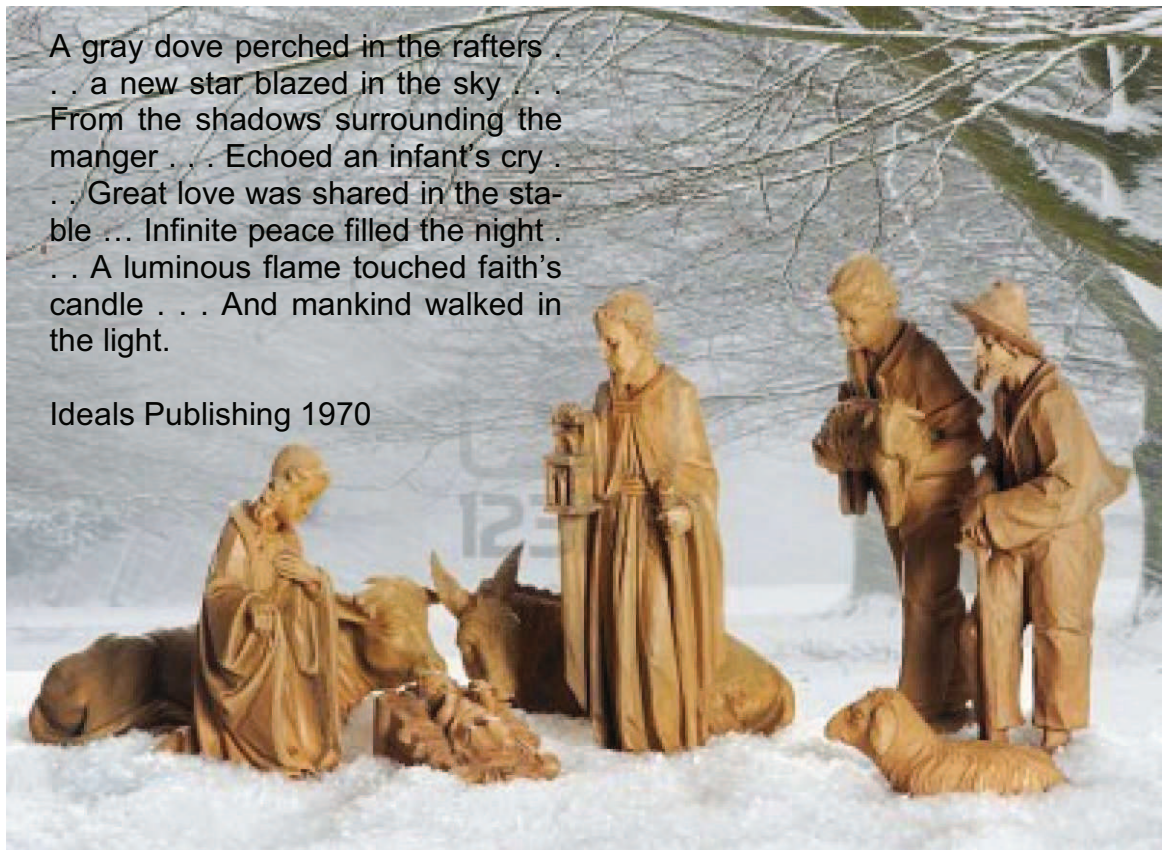
On behalf of Mary, Donna, and Julia I wish everyone a joyful and fulfilling Christmas and may God Bless you all.

Faithfully; *Wayne*

Come to the Manger

A gray dove perched in the rafters . . .
. . . a new star blazed in the sky . . .
From the shadows surrounding the manger . . . Echoed an infant's cry . . .
. . . Great love was shared in the stable . . . Infinite peace filled the night . . .
. . . A luminous flame touched faith's candle . . . And mankind walked in the light.

Ideals Publishing 1970





Used Stamp Program

Have you ever wondered what happens to the stamps you put in the box at church?

The Canadian Bible Society has been receiving used stamps for many years (mostly from churches and other charitable groups). A volunteer inspects the stamps and removes damaged and unwanted items. Next they are put in 5 or 10 pound bags. These bags are sold to Canadian and foreign stamp dealers who in turn sell them to collectors in smaller lots. The proceeds from these sales are used to purchase bibles: 12 pounds of stamps covers the cost of one bible.

This is a worthwhile program. Start saving your stamps now!

Bring them to church and put them in the box located in the Communication Room. We have a contact person that will take them to the Hamilton office of the Canadian Bible Society to save the cost of shipping. Stamps should be on single paper with a 1/4" border left around the stamp.

Worship Services

Sunday November 27 **Hope**

Watching and waiting

Membership Committee lunch

Sunday December 4 **Peace**

Lessons and Carols

Sunday December 11 **Joy**

Sunday School Celebration

Sunday December 18 **Love**

Official Last service for Rev Wayne Beamer

Wednesday, December 21

Longest Night Service

Saturday December 24 7pm

Traditional Christmas Eve

Sunday December 25 10.30am

Agape Meal

Sunday January 1 10.30am

Carols and Cookies

Sunday January 8

Welcome Peter and Elizabeth Moffat



Bless, O God, The Little Things

This Christmastide...
All the little wild things
That live outside.

*Little cold robins and
Rabbits in the snow...
Give them good faring,
A warm place to go.*

Bless the little things who in
The forest abide...
He, too, was just a little one,
At Christmastide.

Author unknown



Celebrations

Oliver Grant Butcher, born September 1, 2011. Son of Jason and Jessica Butcher; baby brother for Katie; grandson of Betty and Brent Butcher

Wedding - Beth Bartle and Mark Bradbury in Cornerbrook, Newfoundland October 8th, daughter of Diane and Paul Bartle.

Wedding - Adam Kocher and Laura Bender on October 15th, son of Pauline and Nick Kocher.



Upcoming Events Schedule



November 26 Cookie Walk and Tea Room

November 27 Knox Choir at Choirs and Carols at Wesley United Church in Cambridge

November 28 Seniors' Time Out luncheon

December 2 Knox Youth Group Swimming Christmas Party

December 5 Kindred Spirits Christmas Dinner chez Cressman's

December 16 Knox Youth Group Babysitting Night - Friday night drop zone 6pm to 9pm. We are giving parents with young children the opportunity for a night out!

Breakfast with Wayne



Please join us for breakfast with Rev. Beamer on Sunday, December 18th, 2011 from 9-10:00 am in the Fellowship Hall.

This is our chance to officially say Good-bye and thank him for all his spiritual and compassionate leadership as our Interim Minister for the past two years. We all wish him well as he begins a new session with a new congregation.

The breakfast will be supplied by the Congregational Life Committee of Knox.

Christmas Focus

Peace came down on Christmas Day to fill the hearts of men with all the sweet tranquility each Christmas brings again.

Joy came down on Christmas Day as angels came to earth heralding the miracle of our Messiah's birth.



Light a Christmas candle,
Enjoy its warmth and flame;
Today is born the Prince of light,
To a darkened world He came.

Light a Christmas candle,
Sharing its warmth and flame
With those possessing less of
love,
As the supreme gift He came.
Julia K. Sincak

Christmas is a
Whispering candle
Heard all over the world...
Whose fragile and flickering
Light touched men
Everywhere,
Leading them through
The night...in prayer
And understanding,
So that all men might share
The sacredness of the sea-
son,
And walk and talk together
With the Prince of Peace.
Annette Victorin

177th Anniversary Celebration Photos



Knox United Church

92 Northumberland St.
Ayr, Ontario
N0B 1E0

Office Phone: 519-632-
7461

Webpage: knoxuayr.com

Email

admin@knoxuayr.com

To connect people to Christ
as we discover, rejoice and
serve...Together.