



## SteepleTalk

*Find out what's going on and what's coming up  
in the life and ministry at John Knox Presbyterian Church.*

Visit our Website

### This Sunday's Worship

A banner for a worship service. The background is a dark brown color with silhouettes of camels and people. The text is white and centered. At the top, it says 'Worship' and 'Sunday, January 6'. Below that, in a larger font, is 'The Gift of Revelation'. At the bottom, there are two references: 'Isaiah 60:1-6' on the left and 'Ephesians 3:1-12' on the right.

Worship  
Sunday, January 6

# The Gift of Revelation

Isaiah 60:1-6

Ephesians 3:1-12

[Click here to access this week's bulletin.](#)

# TOGETHER

## MIDWEEK GATHERING

### Generations 1-2-3: A Bible Study

Our Wednesdays Together begin January 9 with a three-week Bible study, "Generations 1-2-3." Led by Gordon Turnbull, this series will engage us in the stories of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, the first three generations of the historical people of Israel. What do these stories teach us about Israel's understanding of itself as God's chosen? And what do they teach us about being the people of God? Join us this Wednesday to share in the learning and fellowship from God's Word.

The menu will be chicken fajita bar, salad bar, dessert.

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## Offering Envelopes

IF YOU PLEDGED,  
PLEASE PICK UP YOUR OFFERING ENVELOPES  
OUTSIDE OF THE SERVICE YOU ATTEND.

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## Faithfully Creative

A WOMAN'S RETREAT

## Women's Retreat

Creativity and self-care is important to our spiritual growth. As women, our thoughts and actions are almost solely focused on those around us. We nurture, care take, plan and stress over our loved ones. We are the task master, counselor and rock for which everything and everyone relies on. But without care and attention, even the strongest of foundations will crack.

Join us for our "Faithfully Creative" women's retreat on Saturday, February 23 where we'll connect with our inner artisan as we learn the importance of creativity and self-care as a spiritual discipline. Through breakout sessions and small group discussion you'll have the opportunity to learn new techniques to inspire and feed your soul in ways that bring you closer to God.

Retreat brochures for registration are available in the church office and in the Narthex or you can register online [here](#).

*"I praise you  
because I am  
fearfully and  
wonderfully  
made; your works  
are wonderful, I  
know that full  
well."*

*Psalm 139:4*



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## YOUNG AT HEART News:

The annual YAH/Youth Lasagna lunch will be Sunday, January 13, in the Fellowship Hall after the 11:00 AM service. This is always an enjoyable way to begin the New Year! Tell Bessie/Bill Lee that you plan to come.

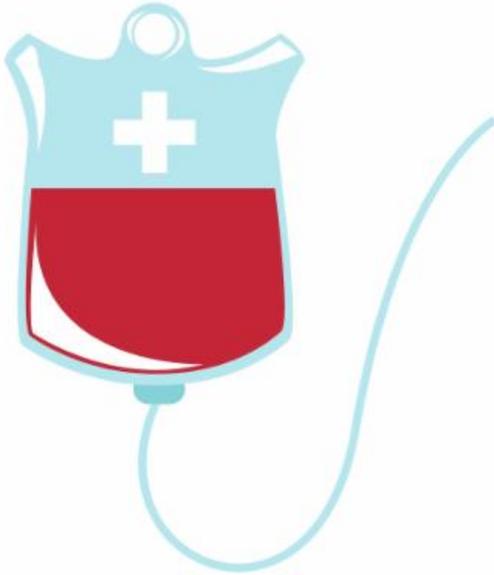
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BLOOD DRIVE

**WEDNESDAY,  
JANUARY 16**

3:45 - 7:30 PM

Contact the church office  
to sign up



NEWS

**Spring 2019 Calendar**

It's a new year and we have a lot of awesome things planned for John Knox Youth Ministry! Be sure to check out the new Spring 2019 Calendars, pick up a copy from Jessica's office or the Youth Center, and mark your calendars to be sure you don't miss out on any of the excitement. We can't wait to experience 2019 alongside you and see what the Lord will do in and through our time together this year!



# Spring 2019 Calendar

## Sunday School

9:45 in the Youth Center  
for Bible Study and  
Fellowship

## Youth Group Sunday Nights

Jr. Highs: 4:30-6  
Sr. Highs: 5:30-7

## Wednesday Nights

5:45 Dinner in Fellowship Hall  
6:15-7:15 Programs

## Big Dates to Know

Jr. Highs @  
Triune  
JANUARY 20

Summer Trip  
Registration Due  
FEBRUARY 24

Sr. High  
Mini-Montreat  
MARCH 15-17

Lock-In  
@ John Knox  
MAY 17

## Spring 2019 Dates

### January

6: Youth Group is Back!  
13: Youth & YAHs Lunch  
Confirmation Starts  
No Youth Group  
20: Jr. Highs @ Triune  
Sr. High Youth Group  
27: Youth Group

### February

3: Super Bowl Party  
10: Youth Group  
17: No Youth Group  
24: Jr. High Presbytery Event  
Sr. High Youth Group  
Summer Registration Due

### March

3: Youth Group  
10: Youth Group  
15-17: Mini Montreat  
17: No Youth Group  
24: Youth Group  
31: Youth Group

### April

7: Youth Group  
14: No Youth Group  
21: Happy Easter!  
No Youth Group  
26-28: Confirmation Retreat  
28: Youth Group

### May

5: LAST Youth Group!  
12: Confirmation Sunday  
Happy Mother's Day!  
17: Lock-In @ JK  
19: Grad Sunday  
Senior Dinner

## A Grateful and Hopeful New Year

Welcome to the New Year! Even though many are still officially on vacation, each year this first week seems full of activity. Some of our work deals with the aftermath of our Christmas celebrations—putting away decorations, enjoying our new gifts, updating our address lists, and resolving to eat more wisely! Other tasks relate to the time ahead of us, like setting up new calendars and planning our schedules into 2019.



Looking backward, looking forward. January is that kind of month. The Romans named this month on their calendar after Janus, the god of transitions, gates, and doorways, and they often depict Janus with two faces—one looking backward, the other forward. Though we do not believe in this so-called god of thresholds, we who follow Jesus Christ trust that our God leads us and cares for us in each of life's transitions.

Trusting in God's redeeming love, we can look back gratefully over the preceding year. Where we have experienced blessing, we can proclaim God's astounding goodness and love. Where we have erred,

we can confess our fault and claim God's forgiveness. Because God rules the past, we can relinquish it freely.

Trusting in God's providence, we can look forward hopefully into the coming year. We can pray for wisdom in discerning and following God's guidance, and we can pray for encouragement about prospects that make us anxious. Because God rules the future, we can go forward boldly.

As our church enters 2019, may we claim the overarching love of our faithful God, who entered our world in the birth of a baby, who redeemed this world through the life of this Son, and who continues to rule us through the life-giving presence and power of Christ's Spirit.

A blessed new year for you all. May the joy of the Lord be your strength!

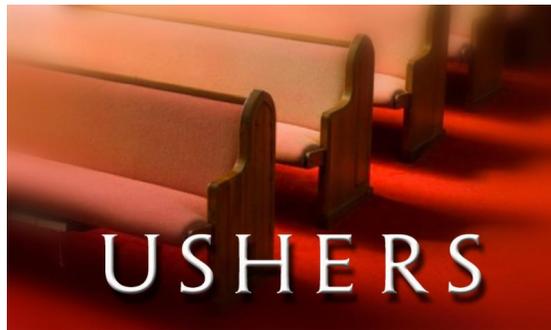
Gordon Turnbull

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## Mailbox

Dear John Knox Family,  
Thank you so much for the cards, prayers, and many kind words on the recent death of my brother. Our family greatly appreciates your kindness and sympathy. David's sons and wife were so appreciative of the warm welcome and wonderful service in the Chapel.

Gratefully,  
Nancy & Jim Grigsby and Ralph Waddell



## January Ushers

8:30  
Amy Leidheiser

11:00  
Head Usher: Jim Grigsby  
Leaders: Paul Smith and Jennifer Littrell

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## Clerk's Report

The Session of John Knox Presbyterian Church met on Sunday, December 16, 2018 at 6:00 PM, in the Kirk Room for their regular monthly meeting. The following are some of the items discussed:

- The Session examined the new Class of Elders and approved them on their readiness to serve.
- Cecil Kelley advised that the Communion Servers are all lined up for Christmas Eve.
- There have been lots of compliments on the Hanging of the Greens service.
- They are working on the logistics and financing for the repair of the hand bells.
- Kitty Olson reported that Nurture is publishing information about the In-Home Communion program, Stephen Ministries, and the Transportation Ministry.
- They will have 2 or 3 folks going to Montgomery, AL in February for a training opportunity on Respite Care.
- The Care Companions are all in place and training will be early next year.
- Miller McClintock advised that the trees and other vegetation have been removed to help with drainage on the Lake Forest Elementary side of the property. They still need to do some stump removal and grading.
- Rich Falasco is working with other committees on updating the facility rental policies and rates.
- P&O is working on several repairs, including floor coverings downstairs, sanctuary gutter cleaning, a water leak in the Kitchen, touch-up painting, and HVAC repairs in the Gym, Admin, and S/S Building.
- Kenneth Cates reviewed the November financial report and advised the carry-over was not as much as planned.
- Stewardship pledges are slow. A reminder letter was sent out.
- Kenneth gave a brief explanation of the proposed 2019 compensation plan for Staff and Clergy.
- They gave an update on the Director of Music Ministry search process.
- The Session approved the new "Vision for the Position of Director of Music Ministry".

- The Session authorized the Administrative Committee to proceed with forming a Director of Music Ministry search committee.
- Jessica Meggs – Youth Ministries
  - a. They wrapped up the year with the Christmas Party tonight.
  - b. Folks were invited to go downstairs after the meeting to vote on the Gingerbread Houses.
- Susan Felton – Children’s Ministries
  - a. Parents Night Out was a great success with 26 kids in attendance.
  - b. The Children’s Pageant this morning was wonderful. Thanks to all who helped with the sewing, etc.
  - c. 25 children sang Carols to Jimmy Barnett in his bedroom this morning.

Dick Powers  
Clerk of Session

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

## January

- 3 - Kathryn Ferguson, Ella McCall, Heidi Carter
- 4 - David Renegar
- 5 - Cole Smith
- 6 - Dot Childs
- 7 - David Rogers, Sam Campbell
- 9 - Lynne Granger-Walter

## By the Numbers

Attendance on Sunday, December 30  
8:30- 59  
11:00- 103

Weekly Offering Received: \$15,300.70  
Weekly Budgeted Offering: \$17,211.31  
YTD Offering Received: \$823,411.85  
YTD Budgeted Offering: \$894,988.12

2019 Pledge Cards Received: 181  
2019 Pledge Card Value: \$776,658



Please email all submissions for Steepletalk to [msscott@johnknoxpres.org](mailto:msscott@johnknoxpres.org). For Thursday publication, information must be received by Tuesday at 12 PM.

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