



SteepleTalk

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

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Celebrating the New Season

Last Sunday's celebrations at John Knox were especially rich. Our Homecoming marked the anniversary of our founding in 1956 through rich worship with the Lord's Supper and festive fellowship in our lunch afterward. Notably, this year's Homecoming not only looked back, but also looked forward, as we elected our new Associate Pastor for Discipleship, David Howell.

This week I have fielded a number of thoughtful comments from church members, along these lines: "You of all people must be pleased that David will be on board soon!" These are kind thoughts that express care for me, and I am grateful. Truth is, I *am* excited about David's impending ministry at John Knox. I welcome him as a trusted colleague to share in the ministry of worship, teaching, and caring. I am eager to serve with David, enjoy his gifts, and deepen our spiritual connection in mutual service to this church.

But as excited as I am personally about David's arrival, I am more excited for John Knox. The process of calling our Associate Pastor began over a year ago. In August 2016 our Session approved a vision for a pastoral staff member whose primary programmatic focus is discipleship for adults. The Session envisioned a pastor "helping the congregation to develop practices that invite others to consider and claim Christian identity, adopt Christian practices, and encourage deeper life in Christ." This position complements our staffing for children, youth, and young adults, all focused on growing followers of Jesus Christ.

As David begins and grows into his new ministry at John Knox, I expect a growing number of people—both within and beyond our current membership—to discover guidance, resources, and encouragement for the bold work of following Jesus. I expect God to use David's gifts and experience, along with his innate energy and enthusiasm, to guide our church into a new season of rich growth, deeper faith, and greater service.

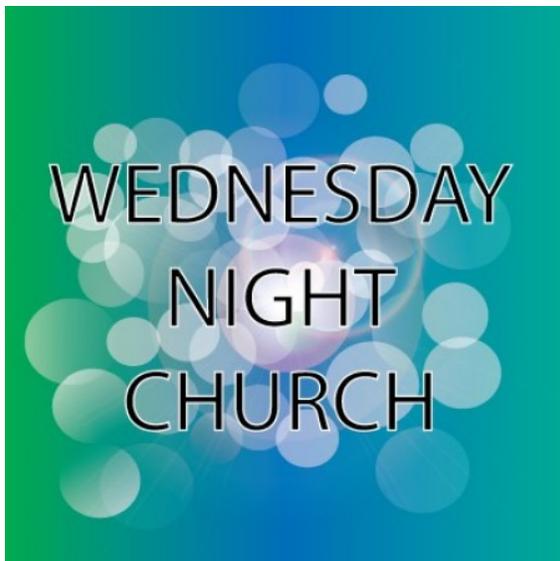
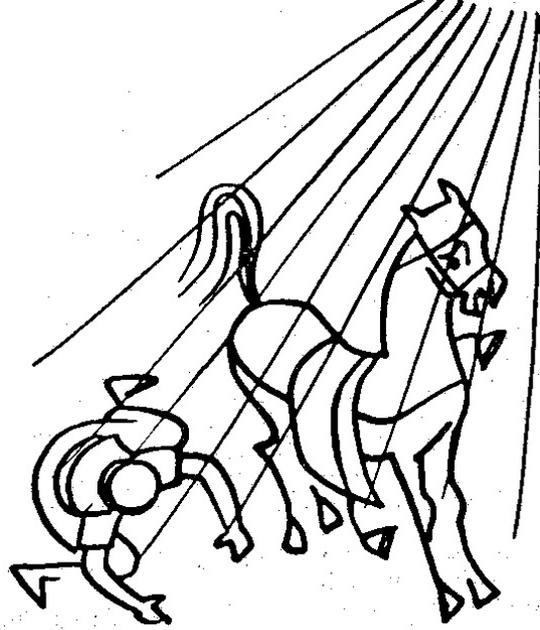
Through the decades God has been faithful to bless our church. I am eager to see God's faithfulness revealed in this new season ahead.

Faithfully,
Gordon

This Sunday's Worship

"God's Life-Changing Work"

Acts 9:1-22
Ephesians 2:1-10



Wednesday Program

Join us this Wednesday for an interactive program for all ages. Dinner will be served at 5:45 and the program begins at 6:15. The menu will be pork loin, wild rice, veggies, rolls, dessert, and salad bar.

First Love, First Fruits: A First Look

Last Sunday's dedication of 2018 financial pledges yielded 115 pledges for a total of \$518,398. We are off to a good start, with plenty of work still ahead for us! Our monetary goal for pledges is \$972,000. If we can reach that amount, our Session can confidently budget for the ambitious ministry to which we believe God is calling us all.

If you have not yet offered a pledge, we invite and encourage you to do so soon. Pledge cards are available in the office and on the tables outside the Chapel and Sanctuary.

Thanks to all for your faithful discernment. Please join us in praying for a wholehearted response from our congregation and for the life and ministry of our church.



Joining **together** to transform lives.

Interfaith Host Week is November 26 - December 3 Volunteers needed!

Our next week to host homeless families is November 26-December 3. It is important to check your calendar and sign up early! Please see the list below of volunteer opportunities available and contact Chris Mathews to sign up to share your gifts in this ministry of Interfaith Hospitality (in cooperation with Aldersgate United Methodist Church & First Christian Church). Sunday school classes or small groups may Adopt-a-Day and staff all positions for that day. Where applicable, please note which days volunteers are needed – Sunday, Monday, or Friday.

Set up Guest Rooms - Sunday, Nov. 26 @ 3pm
Reset Guest Rooms -Sunday, Dec. 3 @ 7am
Greeter/Server – 5:00 – 7:00 pm – S M F
Fellowship host – 7:00 – 9:00 pm – S M F
Overnight host – 9:00pm – 7:30am – S M F
Evening Meal Prep - S M F
Chris Mathews 270-1328 or bmathews0@charter.net

Glenda Wickstrom Serving John Knox

Glenda Wickstrom, a member of our church in the process of preparation for ministry, has begun to share in the pastoral ministry of our church. A student at Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur, GA, Glenda is working in Greenville the next few months for Clinical Pastoral Education through Greenville Health System. As a part of her CPE training, Glenda has elected to spend approximately five hours per week serving John Knox under the supervision of Gordon Turnbull. In addition, Glenda will be pursuing a research project related to the church's care. Look for Glenda in Sunday School and worship, as well as in visits in hospitals, homes, and care facilities.



Come one, come all!

We need YOU to be a part of our Hanging of the Greens Choir on Sunday, December 3! We will be helping to begin our joyous Advent season with traditional Christmas favorites in a combined choir directed by Elizabeth Guest Martin. You don't have to be in one of our current choirs to be a part of this special group! Please come to as many of the rehearsals as you can and you will be ready to go! We will have the following rehearsals to prepare:

Sunday, November 19 from 3:00-4:30
Sunday, December 3 from 9:45-10:30
Sunday, December 3:30-4:30
Please contact Elizabeth with any questions at 864-



Youth Ministry News

Sunday Night Youth Group

Junior Highs: Join us at 4:30 for a night of fellowship, dinner, games, and study as we continue our series on Grace through the lens of Matthew 11:28-30. We will finish the night with dinner and students can be picked up at 6!

Senior Highs: It's Christmas Play Season!! Join us at 5:30 for dinner and fellowship followed by preparation and practice for this year's Christmas Play. We will finish practice at 7pm!

Christmas Play

It's that time of year and our high school students have begun working on their annual Christmas Play! This year's Christmas Play will take place on Wednesday, December 6th! If your student would like to participate, make sure they are here THIS SUNDAY to receive their part and script. We will gather for practices on 11/12, 11/19, and dress rehearsal after Hanging of the Greens on 12/3!



2018 Summer Trips

While it may only be November, we've already started making plans for our youth summer trips! Each youth family should have received a letter in the mail detailing those options for middle and high school students. If you have not received a letter and are in need of more information, email Jessica at jmeggs@johnknoxpres.org. It may be a long way away, but we can't wait for all of the fun trips we have planned and we hope you'll join us!



Children's Ministry News

Sunday School

Our *Jesus Storybook Bible* lesson this week is "A New Way to See", which tells the story of the conversion of Paul from the book of Acts. Our children will learn how Paul worked to spread the news of Jesus, and helped the family of God's children continue to grow and grow! We only have one more story to read after this, so please enjoy reading these last few stories with your family!

Children's Music Program

Our children are singing in church this Sunday, November 12! The children will be singing at the beginning of both worship services. If your family attends the 8:30 service, please have your child meet Mrs. Martin in the hallway outside the Chapel at 8:25. If your family attends the 11:00 service, we will pick up the children from Sunday School a few minutes early for practice, and

then walk them to the Sanctuary to sing. At both services, the children will come sit with their parents after they sing. We would love to have your children sing at both services so that we have lots of their beautiful voices singing together! If you have any questions, please contact Elizabeth Martin or Susan Felton.



Our next "musical burst" of Sunday afternoon rehearsals has begun! We had a great time last Sunday practicing some of our Christmas songs. Thank you to those children who were here with us. If you didn't make it last time, you are welcome to join us for the next two weeks! Our next two rehearsals will be on Sunday, November 12 and November 19. Rehearsals will be from 4:30-5:15 each of these days. We will practice in the Children's Choir Room. The Narthex doors near the Sanctuary and the doors under the covered entrance leading to the Kindergarten Hall (across from the church offices) will be open for your convenience. Just meet us in the Choir Room! The children will be practicing for several holiday performances, including Hanging of the Greens on December 3, the children's Christmas program on Wednesday, December 6, and Christmas Eve. Stay tuned to your Children's Ministry Newsletter for more details!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

November

- 9 - David Wright, Erin Nichols
- 10 - Betty Bailey, Jamie Harvey, Jom Livingston, Joy Hoyle
- 12 - Jessica Allender, Valerie Webber, Linda Hamrick, Jo Carson, Julie Schaaf
- 13 - Sue Auld, Mollie Pelletier, Robert Mullis
- 14 - Kathryn Payne, Taylor Gardner, Woods Heflin
- 15 - Dotty Ginn, Emily Heflin

By the Numbers

Attendance on Sunday, November 5

10:30 - 273

Weekly Offering Received: \$19,060.70
Weekly Budgeted Offering: \$16,336.85
YTD Offering Received: \$695,413.07
YTD Budgeted Offering: \$735,158.25



Please email all submissions for Steepetalk to mScott@johnknoxpres.org. For Thursday publication, information must be received by Tuesday at 12 PM.

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