

The Upward Way – a letter from Rev Clinton

I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection... Not that I have already attained this...but I press on to make it my own because Christ Jesus had made me his own...Beloved...this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the prize of the upward call of God in Christ.

-St. Paul (Phil. 3:10-14)

Dear Members & Friends:

For a Christian, there can be no higher calling than “to know Christ and the power of his resurrection.” Here is the lifetime goal of everyone who believes in Him who said, “I am the resurrection and the life.” Even like Paul, that colossus of faith, most of us cannot say we have attained this goal. What then must we do (or become) to know Christ better?

1. ***“Knowledge Implies a Relationship.”***

When Paul speaks of “knowing” Christ, he isn’t speaking about memorizing bible verses or taking a bunch of seminary courses in Christology. He’s speaking of a living, personal and intimate relationship with Jesus Christ, more intimate even than that between a husband and wife. The only way to pursue such “knowing” is to open your heart and mind and invite Christ to enter in. He will never force Himself upon you~~He respects your integrity too much ever to do that. But when He is freely and sincerely invited to do so, His Presence will dwell within you, renewing your mind and transforming your life. The spiritual discipline which brings this about is constancy in prayer.

2. ***Forget What Lies Behind.***

Yesterday is over, except within memory. You may revisit the past, but you can never re-live it. The past is filled with regrets and endless “might-have-beens.” These things are behind you now, if you will only release them. You can’t “forget” them! You can reject their power over you. What’s done may be done~~but God is with you right away! You seek new life in the power of Christ’s resurrection. This is something already accomplished that does not lie behind but ahead. Think about that.

3. ***Strain Forward to What Lies Ahead.***

What an adventure life is! Paul envisioned it like a great footrace, where runners pressed mind and body to the utmost limit for the sake of winning the crown of laurel - the ultimate prize. Your Creator calls you to worship and live with all your heart, mind, strength and will. None of us, of course, can do this on our own. But Christ has made you His own, by calling you His friend and laying down His life for you. His living Presence within you now will enable you to finish your race and win your own starry crown.

4. ***Know the Power of His Resurrection.***

God did not raise Jesus on the third day only for Christ’s sake. He did it for you. God did this thing “to fulfill all righteousness,” to demonstrate once and for all time that Jesus Christ truly is the way and the

truth and the life. Following His life and teaching is "the Way" into a life of full communion with God. As such, his resurrection forms the fulfillment of God's will for your own life as well. Jesus' resurrection was an event of consummate power - the power of life itself over death and hell. The benefits of such a divine yet human event are meant for you. The power of Jesus' resurrection can bring about a resurrection in your own life today no less than in the hour of your death. For death and life are already at war within you. This is why it is so important to understand that the power of his resurrection is the power of love.

This summer, I invite you to take "the upward way" toward your high calling in God, knowing that full communion awaits you when the race is finished and your crown is won.

In Christ's love,
Clinton

Adult Education

A Divorce Workshop will be held for 7 weeks, beginning Thursdays, June 25 - August 6, 2015, 7:30 pm. We will use the workbook entitled: Fresh Start. Please contact Rev. Cindy if you are interested in attending or know someone who would like to attend 630-615-4308 or ckaris@knoxpres.org.

All classes welcome newcomers of all ages and biblical knowledge.

Sunday

10:30 am - In June we will finish the "Wholly Human, Wholly Divine" unit with two presentations.

6/7 The Council of Nicea

6/14 Wholly Human/Wholly Divine

The last two Sundays we will consider some issues on orthodoxy, heresy and toleration that have come up during this offering. Jumping off points will be two lectures by Luke Timothy Johnson.

6/21 Mysticism among Protestant Reformers

6/28 20th Century Mystics

Facilitated by Jim Clinton in Room 202.

Tuesday

9:00 am - Men's study of "Why? Making Sense of God's Will" by Adam Hamilton; facilitated by Frank Mayer in the Middle School Room.

7:30 pm - A study comparing the world's major religions (Christianity, Judaism, Islam, Hinduism, and Buddhism); Hopvine Brewing Company, 4030 Fox Valley Center Drive; facilitated by Rev. Eric Heinekamp.

Thursday

6:00 am - Men's Daybreakers Group led by Rev. Clint Roberts at the Coffee Bar.



Women on Wednesdays is on break for the summer. Please watch the Knox News or website for information about our fall study to start in early September. Enjoy your summer!

The Knox Book Club

Knox book club will meet Tuesday, June 9, 7:30 pm to discuss The Boys in the Boat: Nine Americans and Their Epic Quest for Gold at the 1936 Berlin Olympics, by Daniel James Brown (rescheduled from March). Please join us in the home of Fran Lukes, 2153 Lancaster Cir., Apt. 101A. For July, we will be reading Three Weeks With My Brother, autobiography of author Nicholas Sparks. We will not meet in August. You may contact Janice Wiles at 630-416-9537 or wilesjan@gmail.com with any questions. Our meetings are for all who love to read! Here is our list for the next several months:



June 9 - The Boys in the Boat
July 14 - Three Weeks With My Brother by Nicholas Sparks
August - Book Club will not meet.
September 8 - A Change of Heart by Jodi Picoult
October 13 - Five Days Left by Julie Lawson Timmer

Missions at Knox



For this year's **Young Adult Mission Trip**, we are returning to Tijuana, Mexico, working with Amor Ministries to again build a home from the ground up (without power tools) for a family in need. Last year in Tijuana, we served a wonderful family, met the entire neighborhood, and lived in intentional Christian community for a week to learn, grow and serve for Christ.

This year's trip is planned for Monday, Dec 28, 2015 to Saturday, Jan 2, 2016, plus or minus a day. We encourage Knox young adults (college age and beyond) to invite friends, and for adults interested in joining us to prayerfully consider serving as an adult sponsor on the trip.

For anyone interested in this trip, please contact the trip coordinator Bruce Burkelman at bmburkelman@yahoo.com or 630-209-1421, and you will be put on the interested e-mail list for trip updates, which will include the trip informational packet (with specific fund raising guidelines) that will be coming out in late May.

The trip informational meeting for participants and their parents/guardians is on **Sunday, June 21st from 11:45 am to 12:30 pm** in the Knox basement, but if you cannot attend this meeting, contact the trip coordinator and we can fill you in separately. The commitment to go, and your completed fundraising plan, can be turned in at any time, but will be required shortly after this meeting. We look forward to hearing from you!

Loaves & Fishes

The next Hunger Sunday is **June 7**. The most needed items this month are:

Tuna, pinto beans, black beans, chili, cereal, pasta, rice, crackers and oatmeal

Donations can be left in or near the Loaves & Fishes bin next to the Mission Council table. Thank you!



"What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if man claims to have faith but has no deeds?"

Summer is finally here, and with the warm weather comes vacations, family outings, summer school, a time to relax and explore, and many activities. It is definitely my favorite time of year. With our busy schedules, it seems even harder for us to volunteer. So I am asking anyone who has been thinking about volunteering for Hesed House, if you have some time during the summer to please consider volunteering at Hesed House during our summer months. We are at Hesed House every 4th Saturday. The months for the summer are: **June 27, July 25, and August 22.** If you have some spare time on these dates, please consider helping the homeless by volunteering. Together, we can make a difference for someone in need. Here are some more reasons to consider volunteering:



- .Fellowship
- .Help others and give back to your community
- . Learn something new about yourself
- .Meet new people
- .Build self esteem and confidence
- .Share talents and have fun

So if you find you have some time to share, please consider the giving of your time and talents. Hesed House is in also need of these items:

- cold medicine
- cough drops
- bath & shower gel
- disposable razors
- baby wipes
- wash cloths
- athletic socks
- multivitamins

If you would like to donate these or any other items, please place them in the Hesed House donation box.

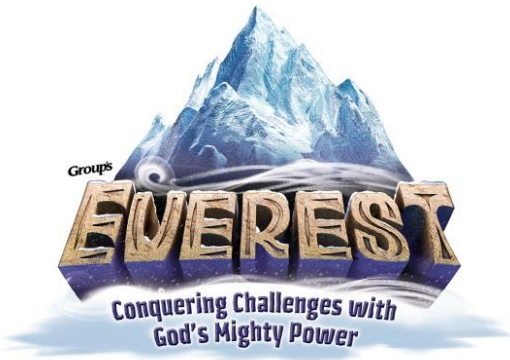
If you would like more information about volunteering or about Hesed House, please go to the Knox Presbyterian Church web site and click on volunteer donation opportunities, and then click on Hesed House, OR, you can email Diana Oshiro at ddoshiro@hotmail.com or Janet Gravel at janetgravel@gmail.com, and they would be happy to answer any questions you might have.

Next Volunteer Night: June 27

Please sign up in the Commons to bring food or to work one of the three shifts:

6:00 pm 11:00 pm 3:00 am

Children's Ministries



Vacation Bible School

June 22 - June 26

9:00 am - 11:30 a.m.

Activities include - singing, Bible story time, recreation, crafts, snacks, and time with Chadder the Chipmunk.

Registration available online.

VBS Program for Kids with Special Needs

June 23 - June 25

1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Activities will be similar to the morning VBS program but will be adapted to fit the needs of the kids. A team of professionals with experience working with kids with Special Needs will be planning and leading this VBS. Those interested in helping should contact Jenny.

Save the Date
Arts Camp
July 6 - 10
10:00 am - 11:30 am



Church News

Cash Management Council is looking for an individual to join our team to count the weekly offering. You and a partner will serve once every 6 weeks. If you're interested or want more information, please contact Susan Morgan at 630-420-2423 or orsnbmorgan@wideopenwest.com



Knox Welcomes Ron Mobley as Facilities Manager

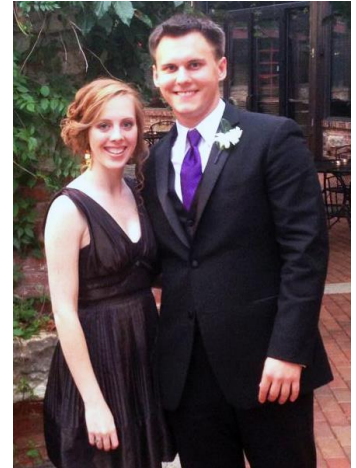


Ron Mobley has been hired to serve as Facilities Manager beginning June 1st. Ron holds a M.S.E. in Chemical Engineering and is retiring as Senior Project Manager for Ambitech Engineering Corporation after nine years of service. Ron has served 8 years on building & Grounds Council, served 6 years on Session and has, with his wife Dotty, been a member of Knox since 2004. Ron says, "I feel very confident and excited to have the opportunity to fill this position...our family is dedicated to serving Knox and I personally cannot think of any better means of sharing my abilities than through the Facilities Manager position."

Please welcome Ron warmly as he assumes his new duties among us!

Brian Tanck and Micaiah Thomas To be Married and Serve Christ Together

Brian Tanck and Micaiah Thomas will be married in Princeton, NJ on May 30 where they met as divinity students at Princeton Theological Seminary. Brian, son of Rudi and Joan Tanck of Knox, will join his wife in pastoral leadership to the Presbyterian Church of Scottsboro, Alabama beginning July 1, 2015. The couple will be ordained into ministry in the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, where Micaiah's father served as a pastor and missionary in Columbia. Brian and Micaiah are excited about serving one congregation together and have received much free advice from Revs. Clint and Deb ☺. Please congratulate Brian and Micaiah at Knox on Sunday, June 28 after the 10:30 am service !



A Note of Thanks

A big "Thank-You" to the **Boy Scouts** who worked hard in beautifying our campus on Saturday, May 9, 2015. Also thank you to Eagle Scout, Nathan Hu for the lovely garden by the sign project that adds so much! We are grateful to all who came out and helped on the workday!

We thank the **Chancel Choir, the Praise Team, and additional soloists** for their dedication and devotion in leading us into God's presence with tenderness, joy and passion. We are deeply grateful.

Psalm 150: 3-6

Praise Him with the sounding trumpet. Praise Him the harp and lyre, praise Him with tambourine and dancing, praise Him with the strings and flute, praise Him with the clash of cymbals, praise him with resounding cymbals. Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!

Chancel Choir:

Alan Fry
Alice Snelgrove
Bill Langham
Bob Casper
Bob Ellig
Brienne Smith
Carol Boals
Carol Brand
Connie Janke
Curt Parry
Dave Findling
Dick Wheeler
Ed Wiles
Gordon Friday
Harriet Friday
Janice Wiles
Jerry Johnson
Jill Poskin
Jim Clinton

Jim Snelgrove

Jo Ann Sault
Joanne Hsu
Joyce McClure
Judy Loftus
Karen Van Iten
Kim Lynn
Maggie Nelson
Margaret Lambka
Mary Ellen Neumeister
Mike Loftus
Nancy Fry
Patte Tweito
Phyllis Wheeler
Ruth Browne
Sally Lambert
Sue Pollard
Susan Weiner
Tim Sleep
Wayne Bunker

Praise Team:

Candice Sunblade
Corey Richier
Curt Parry
Jeff Foltz
Julia Dunne
Karen Elmgren
Lenny Richier
Lisa Bennett
Matt Sunblade
Pete Elmgren
Scott Solenberger
Sue Goll
Taylor Hubbard
Tim Sleep

Special Music Participants:

Andrew Reed
Annie Miers
Bailea Pakkebier
Camille Liotine
Casey Ancona
Cathy Eyberger
Christie Miller
Dan Moore
Dave Pakkebier
Erik Elmgren
Erin Williams
Hanna Elmgren
Joe Liotine
Judy Ancona
Kay Moore
Kaylor Smith
Marilyn Wilgocki
Nick Parry
Nora Foltz
Ruth Foltz
Sam Parry
Thomas Parry



TPC (Teen Parent Connection) celebrated the end of the year with a Pizza Party on May 19.

We are pleased to say that it was another successful year for teen age participants (both moms and dads) and their young families who enjoyed a meal together along with group discussions and educational programs. The participants and TPC staff often comment about the generosity and hospitality of our congregation! Many Knox organizations and individuals have contributed their time, food and love to these young people each Tuesday evening and we wish to give a HUGE THANKS to all of you. We are also sincerely grateful for the support and guidance of Pastor Cindy, The Mission Council, Rob Biggs and his staff, and our wonderful office personnel.

In Christian Service,
Barb Ebling, Dotty Mobley, Bonnie Olson & Heidi Paulius
TPC Hosts

On Sunday, April 26, Knox hosted the 7th annual **Fill-A-Truck Sunday** from 8:30-Noon, THANK YOU all for helping with this wonderful mission! Again the event was successful and much appreciated by Wayside Cross Ministries. The truck is rather large and difficult to fully fill, but we were able to load to full 2/3rds of the space. Knox members were very generous donating many items of clothing along with some small furniture items, appliances and children's toys. We look forward to doing it again in 2016.



In His Service, Gary McGregor

To our Knox Church Family: The love and support that Reverend Clint and Reverend Deb, Pastor Cindy, the Deacons, Jan Parry and Tim Sleep, and the rest of the staff have shown us during the recent death of our wife, mother and grandmother Peggy Komma has been overwhelming. You have embraced our family with loving arms even though we were new members, and Peggy and I knew from the moment we first visited Knox back in January that we had found a church home to worship God and find fellowship. We are blessed to have found such a loving, caring community, and we look forward to increased involvement from our local family in the coming months. Thank you for everything that you have done, and we look forward to the opportunity to serve Knox as well. In Christ's Love.

Mike Komma, Apryl Evans, Tammie Stephens, and Families

Care Ministries

Nursing Home/Home Bound:

Pick up a weekly prayer concerns card in the Commons for a list of our members who are in nursing homes & home bound.

Illness/Health Concerns

David O'Leary (uncle of Lin and Pat Carter)
Peter Pfeiffer (Eric Pfeiffer's brother)
Bill Sherren
Chuck Ward (friend of Linda Mast)
Ken Chapek (hospice)
Cari Shanahan (friend of John and Susan Lies)
Bob Casper
Marie Chmelik (cousin of Helen Souta)
Pat Carter
Ed Terry (Anne Sherren's brother)
Theresa Inman
Beth Stolrow (Jack and Judy Ditmar's daughter)
Carol Sieczynski Taff
Donovan McCoy (Tom Sieczynski's grandson)
Kari Erwin
Steven Clinton (Jim Clinton's son)
Betty Bohlander (friend of Diane Charles)
Heidi Morgan (granddaughter of Norah Johnson)
Jeff Jackson (son-in-law of Carol Brand)
Kay Bledsoe (cousin of Janet Schletter)
Jaden Mbadu (age 1 1/2) and mother
Danielle Mbadu (friend of Stacey Barrett)
Barb Stewart and Don Stewart
(friends of Helene Schaefer)
Barb England (Kristy Cortright's mother)
Dave Godwin (Rita Eagleson's daughter's father-in-law)
David Wayne (friend of Mark and Pam Guth)
Robert and Carol DeYoung
(Dawn Pakkebie's parents)
Suelynn Steigmeyer (friend of Anne Mair's daughter)
Carol Mickelson (friend of Diane Charles)
Dan Veitkus (brother-in-law of Ed Crylen)
Jean Banks and Nell Reinert
(cousins of Norah Johnson)
Benny Kilman (son of friends of Jennifer Vollbrecht)
Helen Scheiner (Sarah Carlson's mother)
Barb Jones (Jim Jones' sister)
Kim Smith (Jim Jones' niece)
Chris Stables (Tom Stables' mother)
Anja de Leeuw (friend of Ineke Pelella)
Helen Hollenbeck (Lynn Bednar's mother)
Heinz and Patricia Renggli (parents of Anne Renggli)
Brent Fry (friend of Carol and Charlie O'Neill)
Scott Abrams
(friend of Ann Beran Jones and David Bebb Jones)
Dorothy Charles (Diane Charles' mother-in-law)
Penny Clark (Diane Charles' mother)
Thelma Parry (Curt Parry's mother)

Grieving:

Mourning

The friends and family of Joe Lesnefsky on his death (Rev. Cindy's cousin's husband)
The friends and family of Bob Birkemeier on his death (close friend of Lin and Pat Carter)
The friends and family of Emma Goya on her death (infant relative of Ann and Hayden Heath)
The friends and family of Barbara McCarthy on her death (Susan Weiner's mother)
The friends and family of Peggy Komma on her death
The friends and family of Jerlyn Gilmore on her death (close friend of Nancy Twaddle)
The friends and family of Ed Cox on his death (Beth Schlegel's father)
The friends and family of Dave Spaetzel on his death
The friends and family of Ardyth Davis (Rose Smilgys's mother)

Military:

Jonathan Ballew
Matt Cincotta
Chris Hurford
Matt Krempel
Morgan Plummer
Jenna Hancock
Calvin Warren
Adam Barnes
All military personnel & their families.

Congratulations:

Matt & Candice Sunblade on the birth of their daughter Stephanie Marie on April 23.

Erin & Jeff Hartman on the birth of their daughter Rebecca Lynn on April 20. Proud grandparents are Jeff & Kathy Hartman.

Katie & Nick Bryan on the birth of their son, Cooper Russell on April 28. Proud grandparents are Steve & Cheri Thompkins.

Justin & Ashley Heinekamp on the birth of their daughter Clara Beth on May 11. Proud grandparents are Eric & Patty Heinekamp.