

## A LETTER FROM REV DEB

### Joy - For the World!

Dear Friends,

Our theme for Advent 2017 is Joy!

It was and is a joy meant for the whole world. This joy comes to us in Jesus, the Christ.

If it strikes you as a strange theme in a strained time, remember Jesus words in the Gospel of John -

"I have said these things to you so that my joy will be in you and your joy will be complete." John 15:11

Hearing these words calls us to find our solace, our trust and our hope in the One who is the immeasurable gift of God, God - With - us, God who will never leave us. Our joy is trusting God

to be with us in the midst of great wonder as well as in the midst of great sorrow as well as in all our days. We are called forward with the gift of each new day. In uncertain times, our joy finds its source in Jesus, who entered this world to offer peace and presence, consolation, healing and to embody a living hope for the whole world.

Over 2000 years ago the first advent occurred. This was also a time of great uncertainty and anxiety. It was a Roman world of taxation, census taking, despots and rumors of war. I often think of the challenges and struggles of our time calling us to a new focus; a focus much needed in that first advent. We look not toward worldly hopes or powers, but to the joy discovered in Him who is the source of relationship and love.

This Advent season, take time to see the joy of our Lord at work in your midst. This Advent, take time to pray and rejoice in the gifts of the one who is with us and will never leave us - never. He is the very one who helps us to offer the world a picture of joy which is priceless and immeasurable. Our lasting joy is life in Christ, a life with Christ, and a life for Christ. Because of Christ, let us rejoice in the good news of the season.

The beautiful benediction below was written by the late Professor Hal Warheim on his retirement and for use at Louisville Presbyterian Seminary in 1955. May it serve as a prayer and a guide for this season of joy.

Because the world is poor and starving, go with bread...  
Because the world is filled with fear, go with courage..  
Because the world is in despair, go with hope...  
Because the world is living lies, go with truth...  
Because the world is sick with sorrow, go with joy...  
Because the world is weary of wars, go with peace...  
Because the world is seldom fair, go with justice...  
Because the world is under judgment, go with mercy...  
Because the world will die without it, go with love...



May the gracious God of our Lord Jesus Christ go with us all to guide us with the light of the Gospel and to gather us into community, both now and forever. Amen.

Your sister in Christ,  
Deb

## Christmas Eve Services Sunday, December 24



- 9 am Morning Worship service (one service only)
- 3 pm Children's Service with Blessed Ones
- 5 pm Children's Service with Children's Christmas Choir

### Candlelight & Communion Services:

- 7 pm Contemporary Service with Praise Team
- 9 pm Traditional Service with Chancel Choir

# PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

## Circles

**Mary Martha Circle** will meet at 9.30 am on Tuesday, Dec. 12.  
Contact [suejohnpeter@gmail.com](mailto:suejohnpeter@gmail.com) for more information.

**Ruth Circle** will not meet on December 21 but instead will have a holiday gathering at the home of Bev Mayer (3924 Sarazen Ct., Woodridge) on Tuesday, December 5 at 6:30 pm.

If you want more information about joining a circle, contact Linda Adcock.  
([630-278-9894](tel:630-278-9894) or [lindaadcock7@hotmail.com](mailto:lindaadcock7@hotmail.com))



## Women on Wednesdays

Women on Wednesdays will conclude our study of 1 & 2 Thessalonians on Dec 6th with Brunch. We will then break for Christmas and resume in January with a new study. Watch the newsletter and website for our starting date and plan to join us on

Wednesday mornings. WOW meets from 9:15 - 11:15 each Wednesday morning. We welcome women of all ages and Bible knowledge and childcare for little ones from birth through age 5 is included. Hope to see you in January. Questions? Contact Robin Kolar at [skolar7227@aol.com](mailto:skolar7227@aol.com) or Margaret Lambka at [mllambka2@gmail.com](mailto:mllambka2@gmail.com).

# MISSIONS AT KNOX



## Dakota Partnership Christmas Angels

The Christmas forms are coming in from the families. The families are so appreciate of our efforts so help make Christmas wonderful for their kids. The Angels are Knox's way to show Native American children that they are cherished by God and Dakota Partnership.

To participate:

1. Wait until Sunday, November 19 or call Julie Milldrum if you have a specific age or child you would like to do.
2. Go to the Commons on Nov 19, select an Angel, fill out the back of the angel with information, leave that Angel on the counter.
3. Then pick up the direction sheets for that specific child.
4. Purchase the gifts, wrap them.

5. Drop them off at the Church Office or on December 17 by 9:00 to Lehman Hall. There will be someone by the tree before and after services after the tree is up to show you how to do it or call Julie Milldrum [630-717-8240](tel:630-717-8240) / [630-470-7044](tel:630-470-7044).

6. **Presents must be back no later than December 17** before the 9 am service to Lehman Hall. We need to sort and pack them into the truck.

## Want to Help Pack Presents?

We always need help sorting and loading on December 17th. Any amount of time you or your family can give us we would be appreciated. It is a great way to get the kids involved in mission. Call Julie Milldrum 630-7178240 or 630-470-7044 Or just show up

## Interested in joining us on the Christmas adventure?

We always need help. Call or contact Julie Milldrum 630-717-8240 630-470-7044 Or Randy Johnson 630-851-2511.

## Things needed for our Christmas Sisseton adventure:

- Coats, blankets, sheets and towels
- Gently used or new toys that we can give to a family. There always seems to be someone who did not make the list.
- You can also donate money to help with the transportation costs.

**The most important part of the Christmas Angels are prayers that we have a flawless trip and these presents give the children joy and the knowledge that God is there with them all the time.**

If you have any questions feel free to call Julie Milldrum [630-717-8240](tel:630-717-8240) [630-470-7044](tel:630-470-7044)

## Young Adult Mission Trip to Belize

We truly appreciate your prayers for our Young Adult Mission Trip this Dec. 30-Jan. 4. Sixteen of us will be serving at a church in Orange Walk Town in northern Belize, building a set of outdoor stairs to the second story their church, meeting with the pastor and other leaders at the church, worshipping with the congregation, and running a VBS. We are excited for this opportunity to serve God by serving our neighbor and we look forward to sharing our experience with Knox in January!





## Loaves & Fishes

The next Hunger Sunday is **December 3**. Donations can be left on the cart in front of the Commons or in the bin next to the Mission Council table. Thank you!

### Most Needed Items

## Hesed House

### Volunteer as a Family for Hesed House

New Schedule for Serving meals:

Young Families (Middle School)

1st Shift: 6:00p – 9:30p

10-12 volunteers – serve the food/assist with check-in, kitchen clean-up

Older Families (High School)

Short 3rd Shift: 5:00a - 7:00a

(6-8 volunteers – serve the food/staff the store)



### Adult Volunteering for Hesed House

Dinner Preparation in Advance: Casseroles can be prepared and delivered to Knox anytime the week prior to the 4th Saturday of each month

Lunch Preparation

2nd Shift: 9:30p – 11:30p

(4-6 volunteers – perfect for a fellowship group, making about 140 lunches)

Breakfast Preparation

Long 3rd Shift: 3:00a – 7:00a

(3-4 volunteers – prepare the egg bakes, oatmeal, juice and coffee in preparation for arrival of the serving team)

### Shopping for Groceries

Afternoon of 4th Saturday of the month (2-3 hours)

(2 volunteers – pickup the pre-ordered groceries from Sam's Club, shop at Aldi for select items and deliver to Hesed House)



### Shift Leaders/Shift Volunteers

1st Shift (6:00p – 9:30p)

Short 3rd Shift: 5:00a – 7:00a

You don't have to let the families have all the fun!

### Register Online



## 2017 Naperville Area CROP Hunger Walk

All the \$\$ donated to Knox CROP Hunger Walk Team have been processed. We are very happy to report that for the first time since 2007 Knox has surpassed the \$4000 mark!! A total of \$4201 was donated to help end hunger Around the Block and Around the World. Thank you again to the 24 Knox walkers and sponsors for all your efforts and support.



Besides at Loaves & Fishes and the Northern Illinois Food Bank, your CROP \$\$ are put to work in Haiti and Vietnam. These are just 2 of the 30 locations where Church World Service (CWS) is active. With the help of local volunteers CWS organizes the 1000+ CROP Hunger Walks in the US. The funds in Haiti are used to build 81 sturdy, structurally sound homes and to rebuild an elementary school, all In the northwestern part of this country. In Vietnam CROP \$\$ are used for much needed sanitation programs and to improve water management. Also, families in the Vietnamese communities assisted by CWS receive the gift of one rooster and 4 hens. After one year, this family needs to return 1 rooster and 4 hens to CWS which in turn will donate these 5 to another local family. A gift that keeps on giving.

Knox CROP Hunger Walk Recruiters

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

### Christmas Fest

**Saturday, Dec 2 – 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm**

Fun for the whole family!

Come enjoy dinner with friends, Christmas Crafts, a visit from Santa and much much more. Santa will read a story to the children and your child can talk to him in a relaxed setting. Bring your camera! Sign up online or in the Commons Sunday, November - 26. Families will contribute to the dinner according to their last names.

A-M : dessert

N-Z: fruit or a salad

This is a wonderful family tradition for you with your entire church family!

**Register Online**



### Need Time to Christmas Shop?

G3 Pay It Forward Middle School Fundraiser -  
Babysitting Services



The Middle School kids and adult advisors will be providing a fundraiser to raise money for the young adults participating in the Young Adult Mission Trip that takes place after Christmas. We will be providing babysitting for infants to age 10. Parents can drop off their kids and go Christmas Shopping, go on a date, or just relax. Structured activities will be planned.

When: Friday, Dec 8

Time: 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Cost: \$10.00/child or \$30.00/family

**Register Online**

Questions, please contact Jenny Hubbard at [630-615-4318](tel:630-615-4318) or [jhubbard@knoxpres.org](mailto:jhubbard@knoxpres.org)

## Blessed Ones Dance & Music Ministry

Blessed Ones are adorable children ages 3-Kindergarten who meet Sundays after the second service from 11:30 am – 12:00 pm

- Session 2 – Nov 26 – Dec 10 and performing on Sunday, Dec 17 at the 10:30 am service and on Christmas Eve at the 3:00 pm Children's Service.

**Register Online**

Contact [Jenny Hubbard](mailto:jenny.hubbard@knoxpres.org) with questions at [630-615-4318](tel:630-615-4318), [jhubbard@knoxpres.org](mailto:jhubbard@knoxpres.org)



## MIDDLE SCHOOL MINISTRIES

### G3 – Middle School Fellowship

**Friday, Dec 8** – Pay It Forward/Christmas Party/Silly Sock Exchange, @ Knox  
7:00 pm – 9:00 pm – Pay It Forward Babysitting Fundraiser  
9:00 pm – 10:30 pm – Christmas Party/Silly Sock Exchange  
Cost – Bring a pair of silly socks for the grab bag

**Register Online**

**Friday/Saturday, Jan 12/13** – Lock In, @ Knox, 8:30 pm – 7:00 am, Cost – Bring a snack to share

**Friday, Feb 9** – Feed My Starving Children, 555 Exchange Ct, Aurora, 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm, Cost – donations to FMSC appreciated

**Friday, Mar 9** – All church games, @ Knox, 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm, Cost – Free

**Friday, Apr 13** – Chaser's Laser Tag, 1811 High Grove Lane. Suite 115, Naperville, 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm  
Cost - \$20



**Give God Glory**

## HIGH SCHOOL MINISTRIES

### High School White Elephant Gift Exchange & Christmas Party

Wednesday Night, Dec. 6

Dinner 6-6:30; 6:30-7:30, in the Knox Basement

Bring a wrapped present from home. Don't buy anything, find something not being used at home any more that you think people would enjoy or would want to "steal" during the game (ask your parents if you can take it). Don't bring anything that cost you more than \$10 when you originally bought it. Everyone is encouraged to dress in their tackiest Christmas sweater OR tackiest Christmas socks, hat, etc.!



# CHURCH NEWS

## "Carols and Candlelight"

December 10 @ 7:00 pm

We invite you to an evening of music, scripture and Christmas Joy as we present "Carols and Candlelight", a much loved Knox tradition. Experience music of the season performed by a full orchestra, Chancel Choir, Praise Team, and our children's choirs; JAM and Prime Time.

Bring a friend, a neighbor, the family to this free event - December 10th at 7:00 pm in the sanctuary. Refreshments following the service.

## College-Age and Young Adult Christmas Get Together

Tuesday, Dec. 26, 7-9pm

Boxing Day Celebration! We will have a get together in the basement of Knox with snacks, drink, board games, and fellowship. Hope you can come!



## Cookie Walk

December 9 from 9am-2:00pm  
Lehman Hall

Need more information? Please contact Doris Walker at [630-605-6973](tel:630-605-6973) or e-mail her at [elmhustgrad@yahoo.com](mailto:elmhustgrad@yahoo.com)

Sponsored by Deacons...proceeds to go toward Deacons' ministry to the families of Knox

## Christmas Card Fund

Knox members are invited to sign the card in the Commons and make a donation to one of Knox's mission projects at the same time! Some mission choices to consider are: The Pastor's Discretionary Fund, Loaves & Fishes Community Services, The Scott Moreau Fund, The Lehman Foundation Fund, and The Anne Sherren Scholarship Fund. If you sign by December 17, you will be acknowledged in the Christmas Eve bulletin.

Make checks payable to "Knox Presbyterian Church" and mark in the memo section "Christmas Card Fund - your mission choice." You set the amount of your donation and can either place it in the offering plate, give it to our Financial Administrator, Michal Baker or use the envelopes provided on the table in the Commons for your convenience. If you have any questions, please contact Anne Sherren at [630-932-0481](tel:630-932-0481).



# Christmas Joy Offering

Your Gifts Make a Difference - Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow



This Advent season, celebrate the indescribable gift we receive in the birth of Jesus Christ. Share the blessing we have in his grace and love by blessing those who have dedicated their lives to the church - both now and in the future.

Advent is a time of anticipation and promise, of thanksgiving and celebration. Every year, we pour out our gratitude by giving to the Christmas Joy Offering which supports church workers and their families in need and nurtures the promise of our future racial ethnic leaders.

- 50% - provides critical financial assistance to church leaders in need.
- 50% supports opportunities for future leaders at Presbyterian racial ethnic schools.

Knox receives donations to the Christmas Joy Offering during Advent beginning December 3 and culminates in the Christmas Eve offering.

## Christmas Poinsettias

Christmas Poinsettias will be for sale in the Commons between Sunday services, from November 12 to December 17. They will be the traditional red poinsettias, (delivered in foil) and the cost will be \$16 each, which is to be prepaid when ordering. Celidan will be delivering our poinsettias on Saturday, December 23.

- Order between services in the Commons from November 12 to December 17
- Cost is \$16, payable by check or cash
- You are invited to pick up your poinsettia after the 9:00 p.m. service on Christmas Eve.



For questions Contact Maribeth at [maribeth88@gmail.com](mailto:maribeth88@gmail.com) or [630 822-0988](tel:6308220988)



**Evening Book Club** will discuss 44 Scotland Street by Alexander McCall Smith at our next meeting, Dec 13. If you are interested in participating, please join us in the Knox Parlor, 7:30 pm. All are welcome. Our reading list for future months can be found on the Knox website, under 'Groups'. Please contact Janice Wiles with any questions at 630.416.9537 or [wilesjan@gmail.com](mailto:wilesjan@gmail.com).

## Sandwich Generation Workshop

As our parents age, many of us are called to reverse our roles and become care givers. As you navigate this new normal, we invite you to participate in a five week workshop that will hopefully provide you with new resources, answers to some of those more difficult questions, and a community of support.



The workshop will run for five consecutive Thursday evenings starting January 11th, from 7:30 to 9:00 pm. The first workshop will be held in the Middle School Room at the church. For further information or questions, or to RSVP for the workshop,

please contact Karen Elmgren @ [kgelmgren@comcast.net](mailto:kgelmgren@comcast.net) or Cindy Karis at 630-615-4308.



## Cream or Sugar?

Do you enjoy a cup of coffee in between services? Church Life is in need of people willing to host coffee hour. If you are interested, please contact Diane Noreen at 630-253-4851 or dnoreen@lisle202.org. Thank you.



## Faithful and Fit

**“And let us run with endurance the race God has set before us.”  
Hebrews 12:1**

The church has a lot of work to do to make a positive impact in the world which has been set before us by God. Having a healthy heart and body will help us in our work. Listed below are some opportunities to help you and your family with your fitness efforts.

### Yoga

Knox member Sherry Harter will hold another 8-week session beginning January 8th. It is an hour of stretching and strength geared toward

new or beginner participants. If you have ever wanted to try Yoga, this is a great introduction.

**When:** Mondays, 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm

**Dates:** January 8, 15, 22, 29, February 5, 12, 19, 26.

**Location:** The Senior High Room

**Cost:** One time donation of \$10 for the ENTIRE eight week session. You can bring cash or a check made to Knox when you come the first time.

**What to Bring:** Yoga mat, towel, water bottle, and wear comfortable clothing. A fitted shirt is recommended. Sherry does have a few mats for those trying Yoga for the first time.

### Tai Chi

Sherry Harter is continuing Tai Chi as well. Learn about moving meditation, how to breath for relaxation, challenge your brain and improve balance. This slow moving, 8 thousand year old martial art continues to be done by the novice to 99 year old because of its complex simplicity Give it a try!

**When:** Tuesdays, 8:00 am – 8:45 am

**Dates:** January 9, 16, 23, 30, February 6, 13, 20, 27.

**Location:** The Senior High Room

**Cost:** One time donation of \$10 for the ENTIRE eight week session. You can bring cash or a check made to Knox when you attend your first time.

**What to Bring:** water bottle, and wear loose, comfortable clothing.

# MINISTRY TO SENIORS

## Hall of Famers Lunch

Thursday, December 7

“Singing with Santa”

Featuring: The Summer Place Singers

Come and enjoy a fun-filled Christmas Luncheon in Lehman Hall on **December 7** (scheduled one week earlier than usual.) Worship will be held in the chapel at 11:30 am before lunch at noon. The program will follow lunch.

Cost: \$7

For reservations, please call: Diane Heintz at [630.615.4324](tel:630.615.4324) by Monday, December 4.



# CARE MINISTRIES

## **Illness/Health Concerns:**

Patricia Renggli (mother of Anne Renggli)  
Brent Fry (friend of Carol and Charlie O'Neill)  
Steven Obremski (son of former co-worker of Kevin Williams)  
Shirley Sichel (aunt of Mariette Siczewicz)  
Ryon Degenhart (relative of Pam Guth)  
Dede Gruenberg (sister of Lori Dickens)  
Edgar Eloby (co-worker of Kevin Williams)  
Nancy Carr (aunt of Kelley Brown)  
Debby Hunter (niece of Beverly Aper)  
Steve Macaluso (neighbor of Jeff and Sara Egan)  
Kevin Pierce (former neighbor of de Conings)  
David Hill (brother of Patty Reed)  
Donald Nietzel (uncle of Steve Reyes)  
Donovan McCoy (Tom and Margo Siczynski's grandson)  
Holly Delahoussaye (Anne Sherren's cousin's daughter)  
Paula Brady (Becca Hyde Goering's mother-in-law)  
Virginia Burton (Brookdale in Lisle)  
Wayne Zascoda (Shirley McDonald's niece's husband)  
Mary Zascoda (Shirley McDonald's niece)  
Pat Carter  
Linda Spear (Amanda Hartley's stepmother)  
Marlene Parker  
Julie Eylander (Arlene Beslic's daughter)  
Phyllis Wheeler  
Don Nietzel (uncle of Steve Reyes)  
Karen Hargis  
Ron Champagne (Stacey Barrett's father)  
Helen Brassington  
Jenny Craig Rantz (Susan Tokh's niece)  
Steve Williams  
Dave Olson (Kathi Olson's son)  
Mark Bickler  
Nathan Horek (Mary and Barry Horek's son)  
Pat Tweitto  
John MacDonald (Tom MacDonald's father)  
Bev Frier  
Lois Whitlock (Alden on Oxford)  
Jean Donahue  
Pat Norris (Marianjoy) (mother of Natalie Howser)  
Amy Bratsos  
Donnie Willing (Derek Dusenberry's brother-in-law)  
Jinny Clayton  
Pete Johanknecht (Lori Rose's father)  
Theresa Inman  
Jerry Borg (The Springs at Monarch Landing)  
Peg Little  
Marty Boergadine (friend of Joan and Don DuChane)  
Debbie Stonehill (Jan McComb's sister)  
Lisa Huerkamp (friend of Sue Goll)  
Lou Daddezio (Kristina Mastrino's father)  
Pat Daddezio (Kristina Matrino's mother)  
Judy Powell (Brookdale Nursing Facility)  
Kathryn Luco (daughter of Ann Beran and David Bebb Jones)  
Sue Evans (Jan Parry's sister-in-law)  
Susie Tabbert (Jan Parry's aunt)  
John Good (Karen Elmgren's father)  
John Roberts (Rev. Clinton Roberts' brother)

## **Home Recovering:**

Jeff Egan  
Jennifer Spreitzer  
Bob Stout (co-worker of Kevin Williams)  
Jean Donohue  
Jack Parker  
Larry McCoy  
Jon Sadler  
Jon Lim (friend of Nico de Coning) now in rehabilitation facility in Minnesota  
Tom Vosburgh  
Bob Mittelstaedt  
Barb Dybas  
Betty Scheib (Karen George's mother)  
Keith Hoggatt  
Hank Kamrath  
John Bergesen  
Julie Milldrum  
Jean Butterfield (Laurie Pettit's mother)  
Steve Velino  
Hank Mittelhauser (The Springs at Monarch Landing)  
Karen Brigham  
Carol Pogue (Tillers Rehabilitation, Oswego)  
Caitlin Ritenour

## **Grieving:**

### **The friends and family of:**

**Elaine Stednitz** on her death (former WOW participant)  
**Liz Rinkema** on her death  
**Marlene North** on her death (friend of Betty Barcheski)  
**Carl Ramcke** on his death (father of Carl Ramcke, partner of Rita Eagleson)  
**William Smith, Sr.** on his death (Bill Smith's father)  
**Susan Kennedy** on her death (Ben Whitmer's aunt)  
**Sophie Radd** on her death (Billie Liotine's mother)  
**Jack Ekblom** on his death (Amy Bratsos and Ann Kamenjarin's father)  
**Joan Strouse** on her death (Lisa Bonomo's aunt)  
**Michael Aldrich** on his death (Joanne Graham's brother)  
**Hunter Beck** on his death (Greg and Christie Scott's nephew)  
**Earl Britton** on his death  
**Tom Vosburgh** on his death  
**C. J. Simon** on his death (Judy Hunter's second cousin's husband)

## **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.**