

A LETTER FROM REV DEB

Dear Friends,

Each year as we approach Lent, it becomes annually clear why this season received its name. People say with zeal, "Have you noticed? The days are getting longer?" Or, there is this statement, "Look at that! 5:00 pm and there's still a little light outside!" I never cease to take it in with amazement! And so I look forward to Lent and the 'lengthening' of days and the inherent hope this brings.

Yes my friends, the days are 'lengthening' and our hearts take stock. With anticipation, we count the added seconds and minutes of daylight. Our spirits know what's around the corner-Easter, spring and the world coming alive once again. There are winter months ahead and the challenges of storm, plunging temps and eternal grayness the weather can bring, but we know!

We know the hopefulness that carries us toward Christ's Resurrection. We know the deep meaning of reading and hearing once again the stories of his healing ministry and teaching. Each year during the slow lengthening of days, we hear something different, understand his promises anew and experience the refreshment of his grace.

Whatever you take on or give up during Lent, may it draw you nearer to our Lord. May you know the profound riches of his mercy and grace. Together, let us brighten the days of others around us.

"Not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others. In your relationships with

one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness."

- Philippians 2:4-7

Blessings in Christ, Deb

"He fasted for forty days and forty nights

February Worship

Feb 3 and 4	Communion
	Happy Super Bowl!
Feb 10 & 11	Annual Congregational Meeting- 11:30
February 14	Lent 2018 begins- "kNOw Mercy"
	Ash Wednesday
February 17	"From Ashes to Glorified Dust"
February 18	Chancel Choir Cantata - "I Am the Lord of the Dance"
February 24 & 25	"Whose Mercy?" - Jonah Chapter 4, Ephesians 2:4-8

Lent 2018 - "kNOw Mercy"

l Peter 1:3 - Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

The word mercy is central to our understanding of God. Throughout scripture mercy is of God and from God. In fact, Pope Francis wrote a book recently entitled, "God's Name is Mercy". God is merciful through his compassion, forgiveness and steadfast love. Lamentations 3:23 reminds us that God's mercies are new every morning, extended to one and all. This reality empowers us to receive God's gift of hope and change. We are then able to extend it to others, as we follow in the merciful footsteps of Jesus.

Matt 5: 7 - Blessed are the merciful for they shall receive mercy...

This Lent we turn to mercy because it is desperately needed in our world today. It is the great uniting force between people and enables us to carry and lighten one another's burdens.

Great is your mercy O Lord! Ps. 119:156



Ash Wednesday Service 7:00 pm – Feb 14

As we enter Lent we come together as a community to worship together, to be still and to recognize our own humanity. Begin this season by reflecting with thanksgiving the gift that God has given us in his son Jesus Christ. Resources will be available at this service and throughout Lent to aid in your own discovery of walking in the footsteps of Christ.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Mocktail Party

Friday, February 9 6:00-8:00 p.m. Fellowship Hall Signup online or in the Commons

"Laugh our Way to Health and Happiness"

with Guest Speaker, Madeline Holstrom

Register Here



Bring an appetizer or dessert to share. Childcare is available. Any questions, contact Bev Mayer at 630-615-4325 or bmayer@knoxpres.org



Circles

Mary Martha Circle will meet at 9.30 am Tuesday, Feb. 13. For more information, contact <u>suejohnpeter@gmail.com</u>.

Ruth Circle will meet on Thursday, February 15 at 7:00 p.m. in the church parlor. We hope that this evening circle will offer you an opportunity to be part of a circle. We'd love to have you come and join us to learn more. Any questions, please contact Bev Mayer at <u>630-615-4325</u> or <u>bmayer@knoxpres.org</u>.

Rachel-Rebecca Circle will meet February 13 at 9:30 am at the home of Dotty Mobley, co-hostesses are Bonnie Poole and Sallie Kenaston. Study leader is Marti Schmidt. Please RSVP to Dottie at rambly@aol.com or 630-357-6625.

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



Women on Wednesdays

Women on Wednesdays has begun a new study of Liz Curtis Higg's "Bad Girls of the Bible: And What We Can Learn from Them" and it's not too late to come! In looking at what we can learn

from Biblical women gone bad through her "novel approach to Bible study," Liz brings to life ancient stories and unforgettably reveals how timeless truths of the Bible apply to today's woman. WOW meets on Wednesday mornings from 9:15-11:15 with coffee and fellowship, DVD presentations, large and small group discussions and prayer. WOW is for women of all ages and Bible knowledge and also includes childcare for little ones from birth to age 5. We welcome newcomers! Questions? Contact Robin Kolar at skolar7227@aol.com or Margaret Lambka at mllambka2@gmail.com.



Women's Retreat: April 27, Friday 6:00PM - Sunday April 29, 11:00 am Renew & Refresh, with Caryn Rivadeneira.

MISSIONS AT KNOX

Teen Parent Connection

Last month, several members of Knox Mission Council loaded up their cars with diapers and wipes, which were purchased on behalf of the congregation of Knox. 3030 diapers and 2400 wipes were donated to Teen Parent Connection. In response, TPC sent a message of thanks, "We cannot thank the Mission council of Knox enough for your continued support! Last year we went through over 22,000 diapers, 1,600 ounces of formula & over 2,800 baby items such as personal hygiene products, clothing, blankets & equipment! " The diapers and wipes were purchased with funds donated by the Legacy Committee of Knox.



Loaves & Fishes

The next Hunger Sunday is **February 4**. 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: pasta, crackers, dry cereal**



Go & Serve 2018

The Go & Serve location will be announced at the Informational Meeting on Tuesday, February 13 at 7:00 pm!! We will meet in the Sanctuary.

Important Go & Serve Dates:

February 13 February 19 March 15 March 30 Informational Meeting for ALL Go & Servers and their parents – 7:00PM Online registration opens - \$360 Early registration ends – cost increases to \$410 **LAST DAY to register for Go & Serve**



Mark your calendars for Thursday, February 1, 5:00-9:00pm, when Knox night returns to bd's Mongolian Grill (221 S. Washington St.) If you missed the last few years, make sure you don't miss out on the fun this year!! Come "grill" your favorite Go and Serve Grillers, enjoy a good dinner with friends and family, and support Go and Serve 2018. Mention Knox Go and Serve to the hostess, and we will receive \$3 per dining guest, and all the grilling tips placed in the Knox Tip Jars located at the grill. Invite friends, family, neighbors, and come in out of the cold for a great night out!

Pasta Dinner Fundraiser

Our annual Pasta Dinner Fundraiser will be held in Lehman Hall at Knox on Wednesday, March 7th from 5:30PM – 7:30PM. Please come out and support our youth mission trip this year. Cost is \$8 per person or \$25 per family. Sign-ups will be taken in the Commons after services on February 18 and 25, and March 4. Gluten Free options will be available. Not able to sit down with us that night? Take out is available! Contact Ginger Ovens (gingerovens@gmail.com) or Greta Williams (gretawms@aol.com) to pre-order!





Support G&S at Hopvine Brewing Co.

Every third Thursday of each month (all year!) join other members of Knox at Hopvine Brewing Co (4030 Fox Valley Center Drive, Aurora) for lunch or dinner. Mention Knox Go & Serve and provide the coupon available in the Commons to your server and Knox Go & Serve will receive 10% of your dining bill. Friends and family welcome!

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

Music and Monet!

Children's Day Out invites you to attend our open house and experience an exciting show by Leonardo Music, a Parent's Choice award- winning family musician.

Sunday, February 11, 2018 at 3:00 pm-5:00 pm Children's Day Out will exhibit the children's art work in the classrooms from 3-3:30 then Leonardo Music will bring his highenergy, interactive concert that is a celebration of the possibilities through music and movement. Leonardo's music entertains, engages and empowers the entire family. Following the show there will be ice cream for everyone!





Fourth Grade Service

During the Wednesday Evening Program Pastor Clint and Jenny Hubbard work with the 4th Grade Bible Study class to prepare a worship service for the congregation. The service will be on Apr 15 at the 9:00 am Worship Service. You do not need to be registered on Wednesday Evenings to participate. If your fourth grader is interested in being a part of the worship service, please contact Jenny Hubbard at <u>630.615.4318</u> or jhubbard@knoxpres.org.

Preschool Playgroup & Brunch

We're all in this together! Parenting preschoolers can be hard but you don't have to do it alone. Come and take a load off with us at Knox Presbyterian Church Feb 3 at 10 am. Have a small brunch and fellowship with other like-minded parents while the kids play. Receive encouragement, joy, and strength for the journey. Knox is hosting the brunch, so no need to bring anything!



MIDDLE SCHOOL MINISTRIES



G3 – Middle School Fellowship

Friday, Feb 9 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm Feed My Starving Children **Register Here**

Confirmation Service Project <u>Ronald McDonald Family Room Care Packages</u>

The Confirmation Class of 2018 is collecting small items to place in Care Packages for Children in the Ronald McDonald Family Room at Edward Hospital.

Our goal is to provide 20 Valentine's Day Themed packages for **Children ages 13-18**. These will contain general good wishes cards from us and items the children can take back with them to their rooms.

Would you please consider a donation of 1-5 of any of the following:

Decks of Cards or Uno Journals & Pens GooglePlay or iTunes Gift Cards Teen Coloring Books & Colored Pencils Fuzzy Socks Stress/Fidget Toys Silly Putty Ear Buds *Young Adult Fiction Books Markers Brain teasers Phone Chargers



*Gently used YA Books are fine.

There is a box in the Entryway in which items may be placed until **Sunday, Feb 11**.

HIGH SCHOOL MINISTRIES



Winter Lock-In

Saturday, Feb. 3 @ 7 pm –Feb. 4 @ 7 AM We will be locked in at Knox with games, movies, food, a midnight worship service and general fun, all with an Olympic theme! Come dressed to show support for your favorite country or winter sport. Friends are welcome! Go to **knoxblog.org** for more details.

Register Here

Senior Prom at Tabor Hills

What: Our Knox youth group is throwing a Senior Prom at Tabor Hills Retirement Home for their residents!

When: Friday, February 23 - 6:15 PM-8:30 PM

Where: Tabor Hills – 1439 McDowell Rd, Naperville, IL 60563 (Drop off and pick up there) What Will We Do: We will spend the night dancing, chatting, and raffling off prizes with the residents!





Wednesday Youth Fellowship Dinner Payment

The cost is only \$50 per semester OR \$5 per meal. The easiest way to pay for the meals is to click the link below and pay online. We meet 21 times February thru mid-June (that is over 50% savings if paid online!). Otherwise, please make sure they put \$5 in the basket each time.

Click **HERE** to pay the low, low, bargain price of \$50 for the semester online!

Wednesday Night Youth Fellowship Dinners are an important time where our youth group spends half an hour breaking bread together each week. We highly encourage you to have your youth be involved in these meals. Please let us know if there are any dietary needs to better serve you.

CHURCH NEWS



Sanctuary Flowers

You can purchase Sanctuary flowers to adorn our chancel at any time during the year. There are sign-up sheets for each month of 2018, for your convenience, by the elevator in the common area of the church. If it is easier, you can email me at maribeth88@gmail.com or call me at 630-822-0988 to place your order.

The cost is \$45 for a lovely flower arrangement that is usually somewhat

seasonal. Along with your order, your personal dedication will be printed in the applicable Sunday bulletin, as well. Following the Sunday services, you may either take your arrangement home with you to further enjoy or leave for the deacons and/or pastors. This is a great way to celebrate an anniversary, birthday or in remembrance of loved ones and a multitude of other important occasions.

Annual Lenten Cantata

February 18, 2018 at both 9:00 and 10:30 services CHANCEL CHOIR PRESENTS *"I am the Lord of the Dance"*

To begin our Lenten season, the Chancel Choir will present "I am the Lord of the Dance", a cantata composed and arranged by Joel Raney.

"Sydney Carter's classic hymn, 'Lord of the Dance', is a metaphor of the life of Christ. In beautiful, poetic language, Carter describes Jesus as The Piper, calling His followers to the dance of life." It will retell the story from John 3:16, "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life."



Come and let the music and poetry speak to your heart, as we look to Christ's life and the miracle of his walk with us.



Family Camp

Knox is offering a Family Camp weekend on Sept 21 - 23 at <u>Covenant</u> <u>Harbor, Lake Geneva, WI</u>. We only have 16 rooms so register by June. **Register Here**

The weekend will include many fun activities provided by the camp as well as Bible Study, games for the kids and Sunday morning worship led by Rev. Clint and Jenny Hubbard. Downtown Lake Geneva is a 15 minute walk away along the lake shore which also offers many fun opportunities. Check out the picture display at the Kid's Oasis in

Fellowship Hall to see pictures from last year.

If you would like to help us plan group activities for the weekend please contact Jenny!

Room and pricing details:

Room description: each room has a queen bed and a twin bed. All mattresses are Temper-Pedic and very comfortable. Two additional rollaway mattresses can be added for a total of 4 mattresses per room. Each room has 2 arm chairs that can be taken out if rollaways are needed. Family maximum occupancy per room is 6 or max of 4 adults. Adults are ages 12&up.

- Adult Fees: One Adult in room \$400.00
- Two adults in room \$450.00
- Three adults in room \$500.00
- Four adults in room \$550.00
- Cost for children 4-11 \$30 per child

There are many opportunities for fun and fellowship at Family Camp. Don't miss out! Questions – contact Jenny Hubbard at <u>jhubbard@knoxpres.org</u> or <u>630.615.4318</u>



Muslims – Christians & Jesus

Everyone is invited to join our on-going study of Jesus and the outreach to establish new relationships to area Muslims through developing new friendships. Last year a group from Knox studied the Book <u>Muslims, Christians,</u> <u>and Jesus</u>, and discovered that both of our faiths believe in One God and that Jesus was sent by Him to all the world. This, and many other facts, enlightened us, and as we discovered many new views about the Islamic faith, as we studied for 9 months together.

This month of February, we will be gathering again to expand our understanding and start reaching out to

members of our local mosque to share fellowship in an attempt to better understand and support each other. As Jesus showed Mercy to the Samaritan women at the well (John 4), we too hope to show Mercy to others of different faiths, through **kindness** and **acceptance**. Presbyterians at other churches have found these gatherings rewarding.

Pat Warren will review much of what we have learned and share new ideas on **Thursday, February 22, 2018, in Room 203, at 7:00 PM.** We encourage anyone who would like – to join us as we begin 2018. We will also have copies of a different book for anyone who attends, which we will be studying as a group this year. In **March**, we are already making plans for a time of fellowship and food with our neighboring Muslims as we attempt to make new friendships.



ManKIND Men's Smoker

February 17, 2018

ManKIND Men's Ministry invites the men of Knox to our firstever men's smoker (i.e., an informal gathering of men)! Connect with your brothers in Christ at Knox on Saturday, February 17, for an evening of fellowship. You will enjoy a mouth-watering steak dinner and the opportunity to buddy-up with a friend, old or new, to compete in our cornhole toss and/or euchre tournaments. For questions contact Jim Burner at james.burner@icloud.com.

To join us and sign up your team(s) by February 10, go to the Knox Presbyterian Event Registration website page. Or, if you need a buddy, we will pair you up! Details to come. There is no ManKIND membership, so all men are welcome. If you have questions, contact us at mankind@knoxpres.org.

Register Here

Faithfully Fit 2018

<u>Yoga</u>

Knox member Sherry Harter continues another 8-week session of yoga. 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: 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.



<u>Tai Chi</u>

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: 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.



Cure Your Cabin Fever, Come Save 3 Lives!

The next Knox Blood Drive is February 5, 2018, 3:30 pm - 7:30 pm. Register online at heartland.org or in the Commons. Contact Neil Goltermann with any questions (ngoltermann@aol.com; 640-750-5863)

Evening Book Club will have a change of date, for February only, due to Ash Wednesday. We will meet the following Wednesday, Feb. 21, in the Knox parlor at 7:30 p.m. This month's book is <u>Lilac Girls</u> by Martha Hall Kelly. Join us for discussion and fellowship. Our reading list for future months can be found on the Knox website, under 'Groups'. Please contact Janice Wiles with any questions at <u>630.416.9537</u> or <u>wilesjan@gmail.com</u>.





Dr. Anne T. Sherren Scholarship

Applications are now being accepted for the 2018 Dr. Anne T. Sherren Scholarship. Deadline for applications is March 15, 2018. Contact the Church Office for an application form. Applicants should be persons pursuing a full-time career in Christian Service. If you have questions please contact Anne Sherren at 630-932-.0481 or atsherren@noctrl.edu.

One Great Hour of Sharing Offering

Around the world, millions of people lack access to sustainable food sources, clean water, sanitation, education, and opportunity. Each gift to One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) helps to improve the lives of people in these challenging situations. The offering provides us a way to share God's love with our neighbors in need. In fact, OGHS is the single, largest way that Presbyterians come together every year to work for a better world.

One Great Hour of Sharing, received during the season of Lent (February14 -March 25), makes a difference in the world through three impactful programs:

- Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) works alongside communities as they recover and find hope after the devastation of natural or human caused disasters.
- Presbyterian Hunger Program (PHP) takes action to alleviate hunger and the systemic causes of poverty so all may be fed.
- Self Development of People (SDOP) invests in communities responding to their experience of racism, oppression, poverty and injustice and educates Presbyterians about the impact of these societal ills.



Knox has participated in this Presbyterian Denominational Wide Offering for its History. The amount of our contribution to this Offering has varied from \$6,000 to \$10,000. For our newer members we may think of this offering as the Lenten Offering.

This offering gives us a chance to give something extra to areas that are truly in need. The Presbyterian Church (USA) along with other denominations, make a great impact in helping put our gifts to good service. For more information, read the bulletin inserts during Lent. There are envelopes in the pews for your generous contributions. If you have additional questions, contact one of your pastors, Mission Council members or Anne Sherren 630-932-0481.

Knox will collect the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering each Sunday during Lent, beginning Ash Wednesday (February 14) with the culmination on Palm Sunday (March 25)

Cub Scouts – Girls Allowed Meeting

On February 7 at 7:30 pm Cub Scout Pack 105 is holding a town-hall meeting as part of its review and implementation of the new BSA policy allowing for girls to participate in Cub Scouts. Knox is the chartering organization for Pack 105 and many of the Pack's activities take place at Knox. This meeting is open to families who may be exploring the opportunity for a daughter (K – 5th grade) interested in joining Cub Scouts. Let Neil Goltermann know if you are interested (ngoltermann@aol.com; 630-750-5863).



MINISTRY TO SENIORS



Hall of Famers Lunch Thursday, February 8 "Looking Out for Current Scams"

Presentation by Julie Smith, Naperville Police Department Crime Prevention Specialist Please join us for worship in the chapel at 11:30 am before lunch at noon. Cost: \$7 For reservations, please call: Diane Heintz at <u>630.615.4324</u> by Monday, February 5.

THANK YOU

Many thanks for who donated to the **Christmas Card Fund** which totaled \$5,310. To those that also donated to the **Christmas Joy Offering** totaling \$5,843. Your generosity to both of these Missions is greatly appreciated. Thank you Knox for helping.

CARE MINISTRIES

Illness/Health Concerns:

Patricia Renggli (mother of Anne Renggli) Brent Fry (friend of Carol and Charlie O'Neill) Ryon Degenhart (relative of Pam Guth) Dede Gruenberg (sister of Lori Dickens) Edgar Eloby (co-worker of Kevin Williams) Debby Hunter (niece of Beverly Aper) Steve Macaluso (neighbor of Jeff and Sara Egan) **Amy Bratsos** Kevin Pierce (former neighbor of de Conings) Jim Albrecht David Hill (brother of Patty Reed) Marge Nevin Holly Delahoussaye (Anne Sherren's cousin's daughter) Karen Hargis Paula Brady (Becca Hyde Goering's mother-in-law) Georgette Arnold Wayne Zascoda (Shirley McDonald's niece's husband) Lois Whitlock Mary Zascoda (Shirley McDonald's niece) Pat Carter Linda Spear (Amanda Hartley's stepmother) Marlene Parker Julie Eylander (Arlene Beslic's daughter) Phyllis Wheeler Ron Champagne (Stacey Barrett's father) Helen Brassington Jenny Craig Rantz (Susan Tokh's niece) Marlene Larson Dave Olson (Kathi Olson's son) Mark Bickler Nathan Horek (Mary and Barry Horek's son) Pat Tweito Vince Streff (father of Peg Foltz) Bev Frier Pete Johanknecht (Lori Rose's father) Theresa Inman Lisa Huerkamp (friend of Sue Goll) Jean Donahue Lou Daddezio (Kristina Mastrino's father) Pat Daddezio (Kristina Matrino's mother) Kathryn Luco (daughter of Ann & David Bebb Jones) Susie Tabbert (Jan Parry's aunt) Theresa Inman (Tabor Hills) Rose Smith (mother of Tom Smith) Laura Varney (Doug Varney's mother) Sue Evans (Jan Parry's sister-in-law) Leanne Rakosnik (co-worker of Diane Gilmer) Norman Pfeiffer (Eric Pfeiffer's father) Eleanor Antenen Steve Mazzarella (retired Naperville North teacher) Arlene Parker (Edward Hospital) Jack Parker Larry McCoy Jean Donohue Tom Vosburgh Karen Brigham Dale Colby Carol O'Neill **Rita Eagleson**

Carol Poque Drew Mastrino Will Reishus **Caitlin Ritenour** Hank Mittelhauser (The Springs at Monarch Landing) Lana Levine (Zach Sullivan's mother) John MacDonald (Tom MacDonald's father) Patti Crowley (sister of Bob Pierce) Jon Lim (friend of Nico de Coning) now in rehabilitation facility in Minnesota

Grieving:

The friends and family of: Peter Laper on his death (close friend of Clinton Roberts) **Brenda Barrett** on her death (sister of Brian Smith) Marilyn Garbe on her death (Tim Garbe's mother) Virginia Grant on her death (Caitlin Ritenour's grandmother) Joette Myers on her sudden death (friend of several Knox members) Cathy Plunkett on her death (Jim Sault's sister-inlaw) Ruth Tuma on her death Bette Zenker on her death (Kathy Schulte's mother) Jerry Borg on his death Bob Stout on his death (friend of Kevin and Kim Williams) **Evan Myers** on his death (friend of several Knox members) Scott Stephens on his death (close friend of Scott Elliott) Vince Amoroso on his death (husband of relative of Diane Heintz) Carol Rakowsky on her death (former Knox organist) **Patrick Guest** on his death (cousin of Dotty Mobley) **Leonard Lorenz** on his death (uncle of Ross Lorenz) **Congratulations:** Catherine & Robert Thomas Quiring on the birth of their daughter Emma Joy on December 26. Sarah & Dan Witzigreuter on the birth of their son Kaden Kirby on November 30.

Laura & Nate Ahearn on the birth of their daughter Faith Emma on January 16.

Emily & Aaron Shemon on the birth of their daughter Evelyn Ruby Veronica on January 12.

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.