



Psalm 29:11

The LORD gives strength to his people; the LORD blesses his people with peace.

June 26, 2020

Greetings from your friends at St. Andrew's, Alma and Knox, Elora

The hot weather we wished for last winter is finally here. I hope that you have found lots of ways to enjoy the heat while social distancing.

Even though we cannot meet together, the elders of both congregations are endeavoring to keep in touch with everyone. Should you need assistance or just want to chat, please email me at revsvclarke@yahoo.ca or call me 226 369 0131.

When will Services resume?

As you are aware, the government of Ontario has changed the guidelines regarding the number of people allowed to gather for public worship. The number has been calculated as 30% of the capacity of the building. The Session of St. Andrew's and the Session of Knox met on June 11th to discuss plans for resuming services. Both groups agreed that there are a number of things which need to be in place before we can consider worshipping together.

St. Andrew's has set up a committee of Session to create a reopening plan. They are working towards a possible resumption of in-person worship in September.

Knox is following a similar plan with a three person committee working towards a September opening date. Both Sessions are moving forward cautiously. We are consulting with other congregations who are opening during the summer.

Services

Weekly sermons and children's stories continue to be available online at www.knoxelora.ca (link to Facebook page) and on the Knox Elora Facebook page.

During the month of **July**, we will be joining with **Elora United** and Rev. Greg Smith Young will be taking the lead on those services. There will be a change in our format, as the United Church uses Zoom for part of their services. The service is recorded and will be available on line after 12 for those who do not wish to join the service by Zoom. Worship begins at 10:30am

If you are joining by **computer**:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/762539878?pwd=SGx0Q3VGOG5HaXFZbGFtQWx3NnMvdz09>

If you are using the **Zoom app**: Meeting ID: 762 539 878 Password: 030393

You can join by **phone**. No visuals, but you can hear everything

+1 647 374 4685 (long distance) Meeting ID: 762 539 878 Password: 030393

During the month of **August**, I will be leading the services of worship. Loretta will resume posting services on August 1.

We are grateful to many talented people in our congregations who have shared the gift of music. Special thanks to John, Malcolm, Jim Y, Christine, Jane, Jim M., Brenda, Carol, Dave, and Erik for assisting with music, to Willy, Malcolm, Bob, Linda and Jeff for reading the

scripture passages and to Loretta and Malcolm for their assistance with the production of each week's service.

Ralph Whitelaw

It is with sadness that we received word of the passing of Ralph Whitelaw, longtime member of Knox. Ralph passed into the presence of our Lord on June 10, 2020 and a graveside service was held on June 15. Our condolences to Ralph's family.

Happiness File

Happy 30th Wedding Anniversary to Suzanne and Randy

Hootenanny

No decision has been made in regard to the Hootenanny on the Manse Lawn. It is scheduled for August 2, 2020. The decision will be made in July

Knox Box

Always looking for books to replenish our supply. If you have books or grab and go food to donate for the box and are not able to put them in the Box, please call me to make arrangements for drop off or pick up.

Michael House Baby Bottle Campaign

Over the past few years, Knox has supported Michael House's Baby Bottle Campaign. It, like so many other annual campaigns, has been deeply effected by COVID 19. Below is an excerpt from their latest e-newsletter.

"COVID-19 has impacted our world in huge ways the past few weeks and our annual Baby Bottle Campaign is no exception. As we wait for things to open up, we decided that we would still love to run this annual campaign and have decided on two approaches for this most unusual 2020 year...The campaign will once again run between Mother's Day (Sunday, May 10th) and Father's Day (Sunday, June 21st), 2020. (Editor's note these dates have been extended) We will offer a baby bottle update on our website for those who look forward to this campaign and would like to participate in filling our virtual baby bottle!

Or, for those that love having a physical baby bottle to fill with loose change, we have some willing helpers who would be happy to do a porch drop (locally in Guelph) to anyone who may like to have a baby bottle to fill! We can be reached via email to office@michaelhouse.ca or contact the office at 519-766-7675.

Thank you for your wonderful support of this annual fundraiser for Michael House!"

Givings

A reminder, that both St. Andrew's (8 Peel Street, Alma) and Knox (51 Church St. E, Elora), are able to accept donations by cheque or Knox also accepts e-transfers via email and online donations through our website at www.knoxelora.ca.

And finally, the funny

One day the zoo-keeper noticed that the monkey was reading two books - the Bible and Darwin's The Origin of Species. In surprise he asked the ape, "Why are you reading both those books"? "Well," said the monkey, "I just wanted to know if I was my brother's keeper or my keeper's brother."

If you have anything you would like to include in an upcoming newsletter, please contact me through by phone or email as previously shared. Our next newsletter will be August and will include updates regarding the resumption of in person services of worship.
Susan