



Your love, LORD, reaches to the heavens,
your faithfulness to the skies.

Psalm 36: 5

February 1, 2021

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

It seems that the good Lord has his own ideas about keeping us home. Between the snow and the bitter cold, he is making the decision to stay at home an easy one. I hope that you have indeed been staying home and staying safe.

Worship Update

As the Shut Down passes into its second month, we continue to follow the Pandemic protocols that the Ontario Government has laid out. This means that all Session meetings and worship services continue to be suspended until further notice. This does not mean that nothing is going on. Both Sessions continue to consult and make decisions by phone and internet. A big thank you goes out to our Clerks of Session Jo-Anne (St. Andrew's) and Shelley (Knox) for co-coordinating communication between elders.

The Happiness File

Happy 50th Anniversary wishes to Brian and Joan A.

The Passing of Don Hodgson

We are deeply saddened by the passing of Don Hodgson on January 26. Don was a dedicated elder, member of the Board of Managers, key organizer of the Pastoral Care Team and worship services at Highland Manor and Wellington Terrace and lone male member of the Thursday morning Bible Study. We will miss his sage wisdom, his keen wit and his love of butter tarts. Our sympathy and prayers are extended to his family. A private family service is scheduled for February 6th with tentative plans for a larger gathering when restrictions allow.

Annual Meetings and Reports

We are not sure when our Annual meetings will be this year. Until we at least see an end date for the current Shut Down there is no point in even setting a tentative date. As always, our prime concern is making sure it is safe for us to meet. Regardless, Knox members, you can get your Annual Reports by calling the Knox office after Feb 5.

Our Daily Bread

Copies of the March-May, Our Daily Bread devotional guide are now available. You can pick up your copy in the Knox Box drawer. For other pick up options, or to have your copy mailed, call the Knox Office or email me. Copies for St. Andrew's members are being distributed by Jo-Anne and Barb. Thank you ladies.

Winter Bible Study

Coming in March on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m., a four week Study based on the book "Virus as a Summons to Faith: Biblical Reflections in a Time of Loss, Grief and Anxiety" by Walter Brueggemann. We used his Advent Study: Celebrating Abundance in 2019. If we are open for in-person activities by then, I am going to attempt a combination of Zoom and in-person. If not, it will be by Zoom with material available for those who are not on line.

Prayer Chain

Thank you to the generous people who have agreed to be part of our new Prayer Chain. As part of this endeavor, we will include a list of first names only in our upcoming newsletters. We want to respect the privacy of others, so only first names with as little identifying material as possible such as which congregation or what concern. If you want to add a prayer request, please let me know.

Prayer List

Don's family	Brian	Bob	Bob's family
Jeff	Bill's family	Nora	All those living in seniors' buildings
Robert	Chris	Alma United	
Stephen	Elora United	Families	

Presbytery Pandemic Grant Money

The Presbytery of Waterloo Wellington, at their January meeting, created a new Covid project fund. Up to \$10,000 in grant money is available to congregations to assist with pandemic projects. The money cannot be used for ongoing expenses like hydro and salaries. It can be used for equipment upgrades, if we can show that they were used to assist our congregation during the pandemic. This could be used for a new outreach program if it assists our community in coping with Covid 19. Both congregations are eligible for the grant. The Sessions of Knox and St. Andrew's are looking for your suggestions. We have until December 31 to apply. For more information on the guidelines, please contact me and I will make sure you get a copy. Please direct your ideas to Jo-Anne, Shelley, or myself.

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. Knox also accepts e-transfers via email and online donations through our website at www.knoxelora.ca and CanadaHelps.

And finally, the funny

After she woke up, a woman told her husband, "I just dreamed you gave me a diamond necklace for Valentine's Day. What do you think it means?"

"You'll know tonight," he said.

That evening the husband came home with a small package and gave it to his wife. Delighted, she opened it--to find a book entitled "The Meaning of Dreams."

If you have anything you would like to include in an upcoming newsletter, please contact me at revsvclarke@yahoo.ca/minister@wightman.ca or call 226 369 0131. Our next newsletter will be March 1, 2021.

Susan V Clarke

St. Valentine's Day Word Search

F	N	K	T	T	T	G	K	I	E
G	O	T	K	N	R	T	M	N	L
L	L	R	R	I	M	U	I	G	D
Y	O	U	R	A	L	T	S	F	H
P	R	A	Y	S	N	T	S	T	E
T	B	N	G	E	R	E	I	E	V
R	C	O	L	U	M	W	R	V	O
A	D	A	E	O	L	Q	U	O	B
E	V	T	C	W	B	N	S	L	A
H	C	T	F	R	O	M	A	L	L

Trust
in
God
with
All
Your
Heart

Saint Valentine, Pray for Us.

True
Love
Comes
from
Above

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Simple Valentine Decoration.

You need coloured paper, tape/glue and thread/string.

Make the hearts as shown in the pictures from strips of coloured paper approximately an inch wide. Tape or glue the string to the center of the heart. Either tape the string to the bottom of the heart or make a hole in the bottom of the heart and pass the string through.

