

TRINITY 2024



NEWS FROM THE PEWS

Knox-Elora & St Andrew's Alma



Our Events May-June 2024

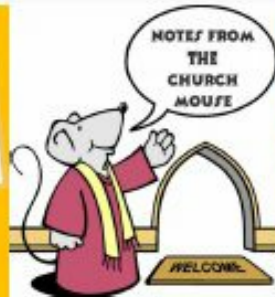
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| May 19 | Day of Pentecost |
| May 20 | Victoria Day |
| May 26 | Trinity Sunday
Rev Linda Ashfield
Healing & Reconciliation
Sunday |
| June 2 | General Assembly Sunday
Communion—Alma & Elora |
| June 9 | Baptisms @ St Andrews |
| June 16 | Baptisms @ St Andrews |
| June 16 | Father's Day
Indigenous Peoples Sunday |
| June 20 | World Refugee Day |
| June 21 | National Indigenous Peoples
Day |
| June 30 | St Andrews Alma worships
on the Church Lawn
followed by pot luck lunch |

Summer Schedule

Summer will be here before you know it. We will continue our tradition of shared services with Hope Springs United. For the month of July, we will be closed and join for worship with Hope Springs



Summer Worship
July @ Hope Springs
August @ Knox Elora



On Sunday, May 26 Rev. Linda Ashfield will lead the service of worship. Her daughter Laura and Hannah Carter (both members at Knox) will share their experiences of a Mission trip they took to Israel, the West Bank and Gaza with the PCC.

Each year the Presbyterian Church in Canada organizes Mission Trips to various areas of the world and Canada where our denomination has a presence. The trips are open to anyone who would be interested in learning more about our Mission partners. Destinations vary from year to year. The PCC offers both Youth and Adult designated experiences.

Michael House Baby Bottle Drive

(Knox) For more than 20 years Michael House has held a Baby Bottle Fundraiser beginning at Mother's Day and concluding at Father's Day. People are asked to fill a Baby Bottle with change to assist with their program. They are also accepting donations by cheque or on line. Bottles will be available at the entrance to the Knox sanctuary. For more information, please speak to Shelley. If anyone from the Alma congregation would like to participate, please let Rev. Clarke know. Be happy to drop one off for you.



Michael House Pregnancy and Parenting Support Services dedicates itself as a home and resource for women in parenting and pregnancy crisis situations. With community support and partnerships, they provide Residential, Supportive Housing, and Aftercare programs based in Guelph. They provide the help the mothers need for the betterment of themselves, their children, and their circumstances.

You Can Make A Difference

GET INVOLVED . . . IT'S YOUR CHURCH!



Churches grow warmer through fellowship.
Churches grow deeper through discipleship.
Churches grow stronger through worship.
Churches grow broader through ministry.
Churches grow larger through evangelism.

Please consider signing up as a volunteer for Knox or St Andrews. You will reap many physical, mental, and spiritual benefits from sharing your spiritual gifts. We know that you are busy and we will adjust to your schedule. If you are nervous and feel uncomfortable with the challenge, we are here to support you.

Now you are the body of Christ, and members individually. And God has appointed these in the church: first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, administrations, varieties of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Are all workers of miracles? Do all have gifts of healings? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret? But earnestly desire best gifts. And yet I show you a more excellent way. 1 Corinthians 12:27-31 (NKJV)

No matter the task the part you play in the life of your church your contribution is vital to the church's health. We are so thankful for your presence and ministry in our Knox and St Andrews families. As you know, our churches values offer meaningful times of worship, outreach and fellowship. As we welcome visitors as well as long time members, we desire to build a team of faithful volunteers who will share our vision, heart and values.

We ask you to prayerfully consider offering your gifts and time by volunteering. We are happy to talk further with you about the opportunities listed below and to direct you to the leaders for specific details.

Greeters: The volunteers who make up the greeter team are the first impression and face of our church communities each week. *Contact Rev Susan*

Ushers: Now that COVID appears to be waning in severity your session recently decided to return to the traditional collection and blessing of your gift's. *Contact Rev Susan*

Elevator Operators: The church elevator, although it is very simple to operate, is not classified as a self-service elevator and requires an operator. Any current operator will gladly show you the ropes.

Fellowship Hour: There is a time of fellowship following the service of worship in Elora. There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board next to the coffee maker if you are available to host.

Knox Box: The Knox Box is in desperate need of supplies. We are running low on books for all ages, food and magazines.

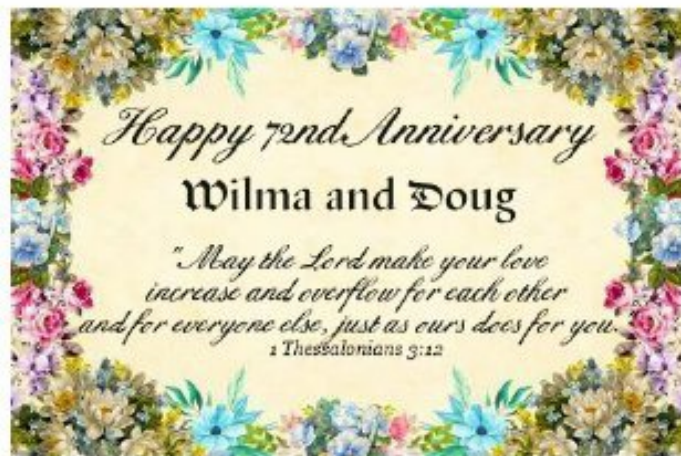
Meat Pies: The Futures Group have Turkey pies for sale in the freezer outside the office door. They can be purchased by calling the Knox Office 519-846 0680 or speaking with Jean Jackson following the service of worship at Knox. They are a 5 inch turkey pie for \$7

Knox Treasurer: After a number of years of faithful service Jean Jackson has tendered her resignation and we accepted it with both regret and appreciation for her dedicated service. Alan Israel has agreed to assume that ministry at Knox.



St. Andrew's Tart's Galore Butter Tart Festival on May 11th raised \$800 for St Andrew's in Alma. The festival attracted a large crowd to sample the tarts provided by ten groups—five churches and five individuals. Refreshments were made available by the Alma Optimists' food truck.

Sincere thanks to all who supported the festival you are a blessing. Mark May 10, 2025 on your calendar for next year. Thanks to Susan C, Grace B and Beth A for organizing this event.



Baptisms

St Andrew's will celebrate the Sacrament of Baptism on June 9th and June 16th. We are excited to formally welcome Finn, Edie, Nora, Dawson and Mack into the family of St. Andrew's.

Glen Jackson Memorial Golf Tournament

We had a successful golf tournament on the 11th of May. The weather turned out to be better than forecast with only a few sprinkles to keep us honest. We had 35 golfers. We are in the process of determining how much we raised towards our ministries. All proceeds support KnECT in our local and international project. We would like to thank all those who participated or donated prizes. (Jim Marfleet)

Communion

On June 2, St. Andrew's and Knox will celebrate the Sacrament of the Lord's Table. We will take a moment during the service of worship to acknowledge Jo-Anne and Shelley's new designation as Sacramental Elders. This is a rare occasion within the Presbyterian Church in Canada and a very special one for our congregations.

The John. A Davidson Letters, Part 2

Postal Service & Horticulture in Bon Accord, 1839-1845

This is the second of a series of brief historical articles on two founding families of Presbyterianism in Bon Accord based on John Davidson's letters and Stephen Thorning's commentary. Thorning's comments appear in quotations and Davidson's indented.

Postal Services: Limited & Costly:

Samuel Cunard, a Haligonian steamship company, contracted mail delivery service between England and North American in 1830 with the first ship arriving in Halifax in 1840.

Thorning prefaces his discussion of Davidson's 1838 letter to William Robson, an Aberdonian friend, brought to him by his future father-in-law, James Middleton, with a précis of mail services in Canada:

"The primitive state of the post office at the time did not aid such long distance communication. Scheduled mail packets were in service between New York and, Bon Accord but there were plenty of opportunities for delays between Bon Accord and New York. Post offices were not opened in Fergus until 1836 and in Elora until 1839, and even then, service was only once per week. Compounding difficulties was the cost of postage: the rate for a single letter represented about a half day's wages for a labourer: a transatlantic letter cost 1 shilling 4 pence, or about 35 cents; labour, when paid for in cash, varied with the season, but averaged about 75 cents per day. Most letters were paid for on receipt." (Stephen Thorning)

Beginnings of Horticulture in Bon Accord

All but one of Davidson's letters speak of flowers and his role in planting, importing, cataloguing the local wild ones, and sharing them and seeds.

1838 Letter: Davidson to Robson

"The extent of Davidson's horticultural activities, given the primitive state of the Bon Accord settlement, is somewhat surprising. It appears that Davidson devoted more time to growing flowers and wandering in the woods than he did to clearing land." (Stephen Thorning)

Davidson writes, I have this spring laid out a little garden in which roses, tulips and anemones that formerly actually grew at Barkmill and accompanied their owner across the Atlantic, bid fair to thrive. Some others I raised from seed. I would like to get a few crocuses and romibius from you if this letter could but reach you before the fall ships sail for Quebec. Apply at 137 Union Street to Mr George Brown, auctioneer, who could inform you of any opportunity of getting them sent to the Bon Accord settlement in Upper Canada. Dog tooth violets, hepaticas, lobelias, trilliums, martagons, monardas, irises, columbines, anemones of many varieties, and a number of other flowers to which I cannot give names grow wild here and amongst the many shrubs I may mention the Guelder rose and hydrangea.



John A Davidson



Postal Mark on a letter mailed from Elora in 1842
(WCMA, A2015.106.10)



Guelder rose is a spreading, deciduous, upright shrub. It can reach up to 4m high and can spread from 2–5m. It has greyish, hairless stems. Its common names include guelder rose, dogberry, water elder, cramp bark, snowball tree, European cranberry bush and its scientific name is *Viburnum opulus*.

1839 Letter: Davidson to Charles Mickle, a pioneer near Guelph

"I embrace the opportunity of Mr Watt's coming down to Guelph to forward a few roses to Mrs. Mickle, being offsets from plants I brought with me from Scotland. Also a few pumpkin seeds."

Letter #3 – 1843 Davidson to Robson

Davidson's interest in flowers has grown, and that other members of the Bon Accord settlement have taken up the hobby;

"I was duly favoured with your epistle about a month ago containing your welcome present of flower seeds. It reached at the very time I was engaged putting my little garden in order so the seeds were all into the ground in course of a day or two. I have sown the dahlias amongst native vegetable mould in two boxes and one of them has come up..."

I may state that after a long and severe winter the snow went away about the 24th April and the crocus began to show itself. I had about 15 yellow, 2 or 3 white and 1 blue. Next came the hyacinths (rose coloured). These have propagated well next the yellow daffodil and at present the lovely white narcissus in flower while the gladiolus is rapidly advancing. These were sent me by you about 2 years ago. My little garden cannot boast of many flowers but in addition to the above I have 6 different kinds of roses, plenty of sweet williams, 2 plants scarlet lychnis, 4 plants of a kind of fibrous rooted iris, 2 small plants of tulips, southern wood and thyme, double white narcissus, a very common kind of pinks, and last although not least valued, a plant of gowans!

*Such is the inventory of the perennial plants in my garden. I got some wallflower seeds from Mr Tyler last year but the long winter killed them all. If the daisy would give you seed I would thank you for some as I feel confident they would stand the winter and would make a pretty edging for here we have no edging to our walks.

* "Lychnis is popularly known as campion; southern wood is a variety of wormwood, popular in herb gardens of the time; gowan is a common Scottish term for daisy"

1845 letter: Davidson to Robson

As I am removed from my little garden the weeds are getting more headway than I could wish, but upon the whole I have a very pretty display of flowers at present. Your seeds have come up in most cases, and some of them coming into flower. I have a goodly number of double white narcissus but I can never get them to flower. They set for flowering in great numbers.



The flower pod will burst but then dies off without ever expanding. I wish much you would give me a hint how you and your gardening friends continue to make them flower. I am to lay out another garden for flowers and fruit beside my old house next spring. I have long tried to procure seeds for you here but the cattle destroy the plants for miles around. I shall be always on the outlook for some.

John Davidson and Catherine from the late 1830s laid the bed for the establishment of the Elora & Salem Horticultural Society founded in 1850 and the fourth oldest in Ontario and “the longest-lived volunteer organization in the village.” [S. Thorning, A History: 1850-2000, published in 2000.



James Davidson, son of John & Catherine Davidson of Eramosa Township, circa.1866 who offered his services to the Elora Militia during the Fenian Raids of 1866, and shortly thereafter left for the United States . [WCMA, 17834]

We extend our sincere thanks to Ian Rankine for contributing these historical articles.

The Korean Connection

In the 1840s, pioneers began settling on the Elora Saugeen Road (the main street of Alma now County Rd 7). The newly formed village originally called McCrae's Corners, was located at the junction of Nichol, Peel and Pilkington townships now known as Mapleton Township. In the Fall of 1854, the name was changed to Alma after the battle of Alma which was fought in Crimea, Russia.

Presbyterians among those settlers walked from Alma to Elora to attend services at Knox Church (then located at Bon Accord). It was soon decided that they needed a meeting place of their own and they asked the Rev. John Duff of Knox, Elora if he would come to Alma to conduct Sunday services. They met in the log school house, near the north end of Church Street. Elora and Alma were at this time in the Presbytery of Flamboro West (later Guelph).

The community continued to flourish until it outgrew its current location. Mr. Alexander McCrea sold land on Church Street for a new church building and church yard for the princely sum of 50 cents. The deal was signed December 21, 1865. The church was built on the south side of Church Street on the corner of the McCrea farm and built of white brick made on the Trask farm. (A cairn, constructed by Bill Robinson, was erected in 1993 on the site.).

By the 1880s, the congregation of St. Andrew's had outgrown the Church Street building. In 1892, under the direction of their new minister Rev. Peter Anderson, the present stone church was built across from the manse at 8 Peel Street. Construction of the building was done by John Kempt.

The Rev. Dr. James Gale (1863-1937) was born one mile outside of Alma and his family were members of St. Andrew's. In 1888, he was appointed by the University College branch of the YMCA, Toronto as the first Canadian Missionary to Korea. He served in Korea for 40 years (1888-1928). Dr. Gale was responsible for the translation of the Bible into Korean. Gale was one of the first interpreters of the Korean culture to Western readers. He wrote five books: Vanguard (1904), Korea in Transition (1909), Korean Folk Tale (1913), History of Korea (1926) and English-Korean Dictionary (1897, 1911 and 1930) On June 25th, 1988, the Korean Christian Community from Toronto presented a plaque in honour of Dr. Gale's contributions. It hangs in the sanctuary. Dr. Young-Sik Yoo has written several books on Dr. Gale's work.

Seen below is a group of Korean visitors outside St Andrews Alma just a few days ago. St. Andrew's was pleased to host Dr. Young-Sik Yoo and a group of our Korean brothers and sisters. Thanks to Jim and Lenora for making them welcome. The minister who leads the tours is Dr. Young-Sik Yoo, an expert on James Scarth Gale and has written several books.



“What does an Elder do?”

Elders (also called “ruling elders”) play a key role in the life of the congregation. Through membership on Session, they work closely with the minister (also called the “teaching elder”) in

- supervision and oversight of the congregation
- membership and pastoral care
- worship, including participation in the sacraments
- Christian education
- stewardship and mission
- relating to presbytery, synod and General Assembly

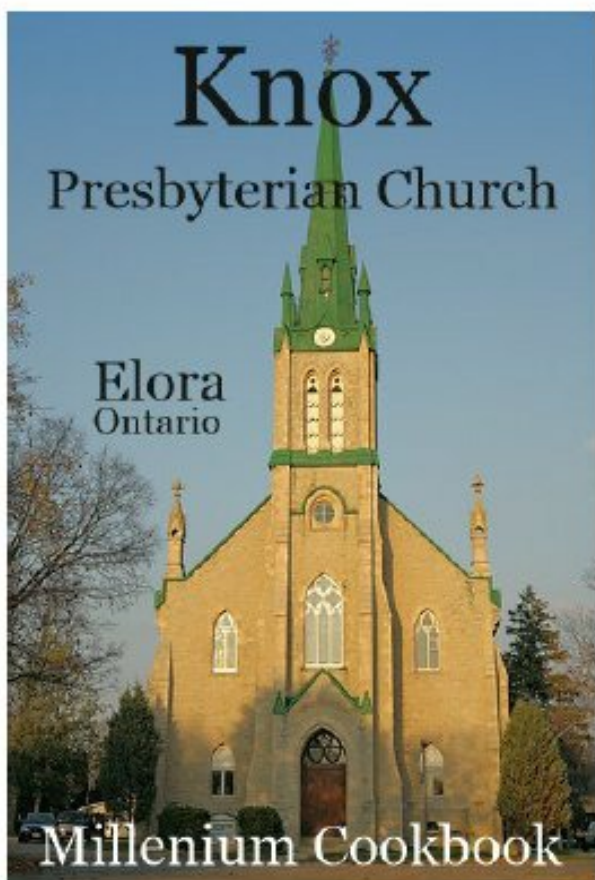
Most decisions about the life and work of the congregation are made by Session. With the minister, who acts as the moderator of Session, elders lead the congregation in its fellowship and mission. Elders seek the will of God for the congregation so they can lead it in the direction they believe Jesus would have it go. By working together and sharing their gifts as a Session and with the minister, elders are able to carry out their many tasks and responsibilities.

Within the Session, elders can be assigned specific tasks or to a committee to help with the work of the congregation. In some cases this may require additional training. For example, at St. Andrew's, Alma some of the members of the Session also serve on the Board of Managers (Jeff and Wilf). Jo-Anne who serves at Clerk of Session also takes care of the church school. Ron, Lenora and Lloyd have projects that they take leadership on.

At Knox, there are two subcommittees Finance (Jean J and Shelley) and Property Maintenance (John, Alan, Bruce, Loretta and Brian). Other elders take the leadership on Church School (Jean J), music (Christine, Dorothy and Erik), pastoral care (everyone but in particular Sylvia and Jean L) or act as a liaison for various groups (Futures Group – Adrena, Service Club Shelley, KnECT – Jim)

We are blessed at Knox and St. Andrew's that have two elders, Jo-Anne and Shelley who have taken the specialized course offered by St. Andrew's Hall, the Vancouver School of Theology to allow them to lead the Sacraments of Communion and Baptism. Elders who have taken this training are called Sacramental Elders.

Taken from Becoming an Elder in the Presbyterian Church in Canada, prepared by Canadian Ministries. © The Presbyterian Church in Canada, 2015 Online courses and resources available through the Elders' Institute at <http://eldersinstitute.ca>



Cranberry Orange Loaf

Pat MacEachern

1 cup white sugar
1/4 cup butter or margarine
1 egg

Beat until smooth. Stir in juice of 1 orange and enough water to make 3/4 cup liquid

In second bowl blend well:

2 cups all purpose flour,
1½ tsp baking powder
1½ tsp baking soda ½ tsp salt

Stir in:

Grated rind of one orange
1½ h cups whole cranberries (chopped, fresh or frozen)
½ cup chopped pecans or walnuts

Empty batter into 2nd bowl and stir until moist.

Bake @ 350 F for 1 hour in 9x5" loaf pan. Cool and enjoy. Freezes well.

Spring Bazaar

The Knox Service Club held their Spring Fling Bazaar recently featuring popular home baked goods, artisan tables and a light lunch of sausage, sauerkraut and other goodies.

Our thanks to all who made this event such a success.

