

The Road Ahead

Knox United Church

June, 2009

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Believe in spiritual power to bring healing and justice to our lives and to this earth – Jim Wallis in *The Soul of Politics*



One Door Closes and Another Door Opens...

Reverend Fred Hagle is retiring June 30th, 2009 from Knox United Church after serving the congregation for over 15 years.

In looking at the time that has passed, Fred is most pleased with the development of small group ministries and the spiritual excitement that he sees and feels in the Worship service, which has God at the center. Personally, his spiritual growth has been in a deeper appreciation of God's working in everyone's lives and he has felt God in times of trouble supporting him. Fred has had time to laugh at his mistakes and finds joy in the lives of the children that have grown up in the Knox congregation.

There have also been sad times and relationships have been broken. During Fred's medical leave he had time to discern his new path "when one door closes another opens" and both Fred and Carol are sad at leaving but looking forward to a future where he can continue in his chosen goal as outlined in Matthew 28: 19. In describing the Knox congregation Fred used the words searching, excitement and anticipation.

Sunday June 28th will be the last service that Reverend Fred Hagle will participate in as the covenanted Minister of Knox United Church Ayr. He is planning for it to be a celebration of closure and of ministry over the past 15 years.

Spiritual Practice—Journaling Suggestions

This is a great journaling exercise during Lent or any season of the year. You might want to start journaling during your summer vacation.

Name Blessings: Every day write five things for which you are grateful. Decide whether you will allow yourself to repeat blessings.

CAROL'S GIFTS TO KNOX

Over the years, Carol has touched each of our lives here at Knox. Her deep faith is a gift that she has shared freely and without hesitation. Because of her faith, Carol set about to instill in us the importance and the blessing of talking to each other about our faith. She began by initiating the idea of both feeding the body while feeding our spiritual needs and so the Body and Soul events began. For those of us who were on the committee, this was a very innovative idea and a good challenge as we set about to prepare nourishing suppers and to recruit devoted Christians who would share their faith journey. Carol made sure that both these areas were duly covered. But this was just the beginning as she introduced the idea of small group ministries to our congregation. What a concept! What a blessing! For the past five years, Carol has led the afternoon study group, Mustard Seeds, reaching out to all and especially encouraging young moms to participate as Carol's helpers provided child care.



Whether it was small group ministry, committee work or times with the Friendship Group, Carol always made sure that whatever needed to be done, got done. Her ability to be adaptable has made it possible for Carol to relate to all ages in our congregation.

This desire to share with everyone has had its challenges along the way. Although we know that Carol has a love for music, she has had to overcome some obstacles in order to share this gift with us. Always up for a challenge, she has pushed through and we are glad that she has been with us in choir, hand bells and the praise band.

One final and very important gift which Carol has given Knox is helping Fred with faithful pastoral care. Many have received a concerned phone call and a welcome visit. She demonstrates her care with attention to detail. Nancy Kyle mentioned how impressed George was when he noticed Carol bringing her own teapot when she came for tea and a visit. There was no need for Nancy to lift a finger.

We could continue with memories of all you have given, Carol, but just let us say thank you. We have been blessed by your faithfulness and are glad that you and Fred will be staying in Ayr to continue on the many friendships you have made.

May God bless you.

Linda, Joni and thoughts given by others of the congregation

Thanks for the memories, Carol Hagle.

Next Steps for the Transition Team

As we head into the fall and a new church season, the Transition Team will be working with small groups and church committees to make our Knox VISION come to life.

To connect people to Christ as we discover, rejoice and serve... Together.

We will guide a process for each group to develop strategic objectives and action plans that will fulfill our MISSION.

We will provide opportunities for spiritual development and growth;

We will offer a variety of ways to worship and belong;

We will build support, friendship and fellowship in our community and beyond.

Each group is important to our Mission at Knox, but it is also important to work together. The Transition Team will help groups to share their plans and develop an overall plan that will work toward our Vision, and that will help communication within the church. Members of the Transition Team will be meeting with each group and facilitating the coordination of a collective plan.

We are looking forward to this next step in our journey.



Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Mathew 28: 19

Upcoming Events

Seniors: Thursday, June 25th Walters Family Dinner Theatre
Driving Miss Daisy
For more information, contact Carol Kopp

Joint Community Worship at Knox: Sunday, June 30th Rev. Hagle's last Sunday

Worship in the Park: Sunday, August 2nd (Christ Church Anglican led)

Habitat for Humanity Build: August 14th. For more information contact Sandra Dance at sdance@sympatico.ca or 519.632.8808.

Vacation Bible School: Week of August 17—21. For more information contact Cindy Kopp-Diebold

Worship in the Park: Sunday, August 30th (Calvary Church led)

Doors Open Waterloo Region: Knox is participating September 19, 2009. For more information contact Sandra Dance.

Shades of Knox II: Saturday, October 24th. For more information contact Eleanor Perriman.

KID'S CORNER**What Are Spiritual Gifts?**

You are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it. 1 Corinthians 12:27

If you have trusted the Lord Jesus as your Saviour, you are part of the Body (family) of Christ. The Bible says, "You are the Body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it" (1 Corinthians 12:27). Each member of God's family is special. He has given each one at least one special gift. It is not a natural talent, like the ability to play an instrument or be a star athlete. It is a spiritual gift. This gift is given to you by God to help you serve Him and others in the Body of Christ. We all have times when we need help. Sometimes we feel sad or discouraged or have physical problems. As members of the Body of Christ, we all need to work together and look after each other. We can use our spiritual gifts in many ways to meet each others' needs.

Some of the spiritual gifts God gives are helping, giving, showing mercy, teaching and leading. In the next few devotionals, you will learn more about these spiritual gifts. You'll also learn how to discover what your gifts are and how to use them for God.

Congratulations goes out to Little Jimmy Sommers of Ayr, who created 65 words from the phrase "You Are Forgiven" – he wins a prize package of CD's, compliments of Warner Music Canada!

Oh, and don't forget about Vacation Bible School at Calvary Church, August 17-21. The theme for this year is tropical, Outrigger Island. Have a WONDERFUL SUMMER!!

Meet Your Neighbours

Welcome to the newest little ones at Knox.
On Sunday, June 21st the baptism of the following children was celebrated:

Tyler Campbell McLinchy, son of Lisa and Bill McLinchy

Grant Edward Smith, son of Sonja and Randy Smith

Madelyn Isabel Kyle, daughter of Jennifer and Carman Kyle

IT'S A GIRL!! (finally), congratulations to Jim and Joyce Sommers on the safe arrival of their FIRST grand-daughter, **Maehalia Bamberry**.

Maehalia was born 4 weeks early, much to everyone's surprise, but is now at her home in Vancouver BC with Mom, Dad and 4 older brothers.

Jim and Joyce now have 8 grandchildren, 7 boys and little Maehalia!

Recent Newlyweds

Our congratulations to:

Amy and Marty Fraser who were married in December 2008 in Aruba. Amy is the daughter of Mary O'Connor and John Gillespie. The Frasers have recently purchased a new house in Cambridge.

Bronwen and Ronni Bharadwaj who were married on February 7, 2009. Bronwen is the daughter of Bonnie and Bob Edgar. The newlyweds have a home in Toronto.

Sarah and Adam Cochrane who were married on June 20, 2009. Adam is the son of Christine and Ron Cochrane.

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SUBJECT: Newsletter

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serve... Together.