

Knox News

December, 2021



It's About 'Worship'

Rev. Dr. Dong-Ha Kim, Minister of Word and Sacrament

I fondly remember a lecture that was once given to a group of lay students at Knox College. My supervisor in studies was lecturing on the meditative practices of the Medieval Monks; I was assisting him on that occasion. Evidently, scholars have learned that even during what would be considered mundane practices, like gardening and cooking, those Monks were offering prayers of Thanksgiving to their Creator, Provider, and Sustainer! Put another way, these Medieval Monks looked upon any and every task as means and opportunity to praise God.

Fascinating piece of church history aside, for me, this bit of church history speaks volumes about our understanding of 'worship' as Christians. As a new minister commencing work at Knox Presbyterian Church, Woodstock, I wish to share, first and foremost, my passion for worshipping God, not just on Sundays but in every aspect of our collective faith journey.

Attending and leading committees are but some of the duties before me. As we speak, I've had the great pleasure of participating in several such meetings. The conveners of each respective committee have been most gracious in extending invitations. Being no stranger to committees and their respective meetings in my previous line of work, I understand the importance of such for an organization like the church. Being a clergy person, I am no stranger to seeing committee meetings unfold in a prayerful manner. And I did witness that, amply, here at Knox Presbyterian Church, Woodstock.

I do see each gathering and event unfolding within and in the name of Knox Presbyterian Church as something we do to worship God. If the ethos behind Medieval Monks worshipping God through each chopping action of meal preparations has anything to teach us, I believe it is precisely this, *that we worship and glorify God in and through all that we do and speak!* On that note, no event, action, or word can be spared from this noble task.

I like to believe that it is as a result of such understanding that activities/tasks we undertake at the church are put to such scrutiny and diligence; for we take to heart our Lord's commandment:

"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength... [and] love your neighbor as yourself." (Mark 12:30-31, NIV).

As we approach the Season of Advent, I pray that each of us will encounter the immeasurable love of our Triune God, one who first demonstrated the meaning of this commandment by sending His Son for our sake.

~Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Dr. Dong-Ha Kim



Session Notes

November 9, 2021

Josie Miller, Clerk of Session



We met in person with 11 elders present. The Rev. Dr. Dong-Ha Kim was welcomed as our new moderator.

There was correspondence from: General Assembly; Evangel Hall Mission; Southgate Centre – thanking us for the donation from the Isabel Johnson funds; Ross MacDonald - thanking us for the donation to Presbyterian Connections; and John Ault - requesting the dismissal of the search committee. Session decided that the search committee be dissolved and the members be thanked in worship.

Ministry Reports

Leading With Care

- Police checks for staff and volunteers are being monitored to make sure they are current.
- Staff vaccination for COVID-19 – it has been checked that all have received two doses.
- Fire Safety - New members of staff have been trained. There has been a delay in holding a fire drill due to COVID-19.

Mission

- Knox Kids Camp 2021 – Financial 2021 – Income of \$8,215 and expenses of \$25,343. This gives a deficit of \$17,128. We budgeted \$10,000, leaving \$7,128 which we will ask the Trustees to cover. Knox Kids Camp Mission Project money will go to Evangel Hall - \$158.65.
- KAOS - Has resumed meetings Friday evenings, 7-9:00 pm, for ages 10-17. Terry Weatherbee has retired as a Youth leader.
- Canadian Bible Society, Woodstock Branch – On September 27, 2021, members of the Woodstock Branch of the CBS decided to disband. Used stamps will still be collected. Elaine Stevens will put CBS info in the Knox News periodically and invite donations.
- Adelaide Soup Bowl – has been inactive since March 2020 and the feeling is that it should remain so until January 2022 to see where the virus is going.
- Coats for Kids & Adults – Knox will support this initiative again this year.
- The Christmas Place – Cash donations are invited for the purchase of gift cards.
- The “Gifts of Change” booklet - will be promoted in December.

Board of Stewards

- The new secretary is Kim Kenny.
- All of the locks on the outside doors will be changed.

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Session Notes (cont'd)

Board of Stewards (cont'd)

- Handicap parking – signs are needed at the designated spots.

Worship

- We have supplies for the next two communion services.
- Telephone ministry – With a couple more people listening over the phone every Sunday we would receive a discounted rate. The committee is still meeting remotely.

Trustees Bequests

- We have received \$29,000 + from the estate of Sondra Turner. It has been added to Trustee funds until the congregation makes a decision about it.
- There will be a gift from Audrey Steele of \$1,000.

Minister's Report

- Rev. Kim is appreciative of the people who came from all over the presbytery to support him and the congregation at his induction to this ministry. His door is always open and he can be reached through the office for pastoral care .

New Business

- New members are needed for Session, Mission and Christian Education committees.



This year for Christmas, please consider choosing a gift from the 2021-2022 **Gifts of Change** catalogue to help change the lives of women, men and children living in the most vulnerable parts of the world. Your gifts will provide much-needed support—emergency relief, clean water and food to sustain families—for many in need.

The booklets listing the items in this gift catalogue are available in the vestibules. If you are unable to come to the church to get a copy, call the office and we'll make sure you get one.

Used Stamp Program - Elaine Stevens

Please save the cancelled stamps from your envelopes. Saving used stamps is one of the ways the Canadian Bible Society earns money. Stamp collectors are always looking to purchase used stamps and the CBS can earn as much as \$3,000 per year by selling them the used stamps.

Please leave the stamp attached to the envelope and cut a ¼ inch border around the entire stamp. These can be put in the CBS stamp collection box at the Hunter Street entrance. Your continued support of the Canadian Bible Society will help to change lives. Thank you.



Covid Update... Anne Miller



It is so wonderful to see more of you at worship and to be able to lift our voices together in song! And it is wonderful that our worship leaders at the front can now be unmasked as long as they are behind the plexiglass and also more than six feet away from anyone else. These changes to Public Health guidelines were a great way to welcome Rev. Kim among us.

As I write this, we appear to be in another wave of the pandemic in our area. Also as I write this, I note that we have had no known cases of Covid within our worshiping congregation. Following the guidelines and protocols from Public Health has been working. We just need to keep on doing the things we know that we should do – pre-screening for Covid before coming to the church, wearing a mask, sanitizing or thoroughly washing our hands, and physically distancing. That last one is the hardest for many of us, but it is important.

The question has been asked as to whether we will require proof of full vaccination to attend worship. At our meeting November 17th we discussed this at length as a team and have decided that we will not go this route for a few reasons. Unless mandated by Public Health, we will welcome everyone to worship who follows the above protocols because:

1. the protocols are working
2. it is God's house and all are welcome – we don't want to turn away anyone seeking to worship
3. we recognize that some people cannot be vaccinated for health reasons
4. everyone having to be fully vaccinated could give us a false sense of security and tempt us to loosen protocols, but we can still have Covid in a milder form and pass it on to others

Thank you once again to our faithful greeters and ushers, and to everyone who is doing what they can to keep all of us safe in the building. We show our care for each other by following the guidelines, even if it means we don't get to sit where we would choose for the sake of someone else's safety or comfort. We show our care for each other by completing the sign-in log through the week, distancing from staff and others in the building, and sanitizing washrooms after use with a wipe. These may seem strange ways of loving our neighbour, but they truly matter.

A few updates from our latest meeting:

We will continue to monitor the pandemic's impact and all public health and government updates. You will be kept informed if anything needs to change as we continue to journey through this time together.

With the pulpit now in the middle of the platform, we have opened up more seating in the balcony. If you choose to sit upstairs to free up more room on the main floor, please sit in a pew with a pink post-it sticker. Bibles and hymnbooks are at these spots and they are distanced from the other seats.

If you arrive to worship late, come in at the ramp door and someone will assist you. The parking lot and Hunter Street doors are locked when worship begins.

Thank you for caring for each other and everyone coming into Knox. If you do have any questions, please contact one of the members of the Covid team: Dr. Kim, Nick Hardeman, Anne or Josie Miller, Gord Taylor or Mikayla Voortman.



Get Your Flu Shot!!

Be sure to get your flu vaccination from your family doctor or health care professional, or at participating pharmacies. Because the virus changes *every year*, it is very important to get the vaccination *every year*!



Janet vanderSpek, Music Director

Blessings to you and yours at Advent and Christmas. May you experience much joy and peace as you reflect on our Saviour's birth.

"Silent Night" is a well-loved Christmas song and there is a wonderful image on the front cover of the current "Today" devotional booklet. On December 10th, the writer Pastor Brian Kuypers, shares a beautiful reflection. Brian states that the last verse specifically, is like a birth announcement. "This is the greatest birth announcement ever. The baby born in Bethlehem has significance for the whole world. He is the Saviour, the one who saves us from our sins. He is the Messiah, the 'anointed one' promised through the prophets. And He is the Lord. God sent His Son, who is himself fully God, to become human and live among us."

Author and parish priest Franz Joseph Mohr wrote the beautiful words. The traditional version of the "Silent Night" story has mice eating through the cables of the church organ. The poor priest then had to come up with a Christmas Eve hymn that could be sung without the dilapidated old instrument. Mohr took a poem he had written to his friend Franz Gruber, and together they came up with a song that could be accompanied by a guitar.

Instead of the usual Latin hymns, "Silent Night" was sung in German, the language of Mohr's parishioners in Austria, December 1818. Since then it has been sung in at least forty-five languages!

At Knox Church, there continues to be transitions. Rev. Kim and his wife Kyoungmi are being welcomed into our midst. Anne Miller has been thanked for her devoted work as Interim Worship Leader. Nancy Wright will be retiring on December 17th of this year. Many changes in a short amount of time. I wish to express my deep gratitude for Nancy's excellent work and for her friendship over the years.

Campbell-Afternoon Auxiliary WMS

December, 2021

Susan McLennan, Secretary

This month we will finally be able to gather and celebrate Christmas together. This will be our first meeting since COVID began.

We are delighted to invite Rev. Dr. Kim and Mrs. Kim to join us in the Cheyne Room as we follow a Christmas service prepared by Rev. Theresa McDonald-Lee entitled *“At the Feet of Jesus”*.

Last year I quoted a beautiful Christmas song by Cape Breton singer Rita MacNeil called “Now The Bells Ring” as the world prepared to ring church bells on Christmas Eve.

**Now the bells ring, now the bells ring
The goods news has come
The message is clear now
The world is reborn.**

**Now hear the children singing His praise
All of the world will remember this day
While all through the ages
This story has been told
And down through the pages the miracle unfolds.**

**Now the bells ring, now the bells ring
The goods news has come
The message is clear now
The world is reborn.**

The celebration at Christmas brings Hope, Peace, Joy and Love to us all as we honour the day the world is reborn.

The service prepared by Rev Theresa McDonald-Lee includes these words:

“We want to be part of this story, and glory be, there is enough room for us all. Shepherds and magi, saints and sinners, donkeys and camels, mothers and fathers, those from nearby and those from afar – we are all gathered to see Jesus. Gathered and now made family by the child. Together, for this sweet time, at the feet of Jesus.”



Seasons Greetings from Knox Kitchen Crew!



This is the time of year to prepare for your Christmas feast. We thought you would like some tips and recipes.

To start prepping your turkey, let it soak in a salted water bath for half an hour. Pat dry with paper towel inside and out. Next, take softened butter or margarine and with your hand place it under the skin on the breast – this will help keep the turkey moist and brown the skin. Cook unstuffed bird at 350 degrees 13 minutes for every pound. Cook stuffed bird at 350 degrees 1/2 hr for every pound. Baste every 1/2 hr and when done let sit 15 minutes covered before cutting. Your vegetables such as turnip or squash can be made ahead and heated that day.

Now here is a recipe for an old favourite dessert which can be made ahead also.

Christmas Carrot Pudding and Sauce



Mix all together:

- 1 1/2 cups flour
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 cup suet
- 1 1/2 cups raisins
- 1 cup ground potato
- 1 cup ground carrots
- 1/2 cup mixed peel
- 1 tsp baking soda

Mix together and steam for 3 hrs

Pudding Sauce

- 1 cup brown sugar
- 1/4 cup butter
- 1 tablespoon flour

Mix together and brown over heat,
add water until slightly thickened

Have a Loving and Merry Christmas... The Kitchen Crew, Rosie, Carol and Alice





Prayer Shawl Group

Marg McCurdy

The Prayer Shawl Group, headed by Nora Martin, is a fun, caring group of individuals who meet once a month to knit prayer shawls for those we know who are going through a rough time and could use our prayers.

Knowing how to knit is a plus, but by no means a prerequisite. There are plenty of skilled knitters who are more than willing to help you learn this age-old skill.

All Covid 19 safety protocols are followed when we meet in person, but we also meet by ZOOM as well, every other month. If you are interested, please contact Nora Martin at 519-536-0789 or stevenora331@gmail.com.

Karl's Elephant & Cow Jokes... Karl Harris



Karl: What is a cow wearing a Santa hat called?
Daisy: Santa Cow!

Karl: What is an elephant wearing a Santa hat called?
Wrinkles: Santa Elephant!





Christian Christmas Word Find



Jesus Is The Reason

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

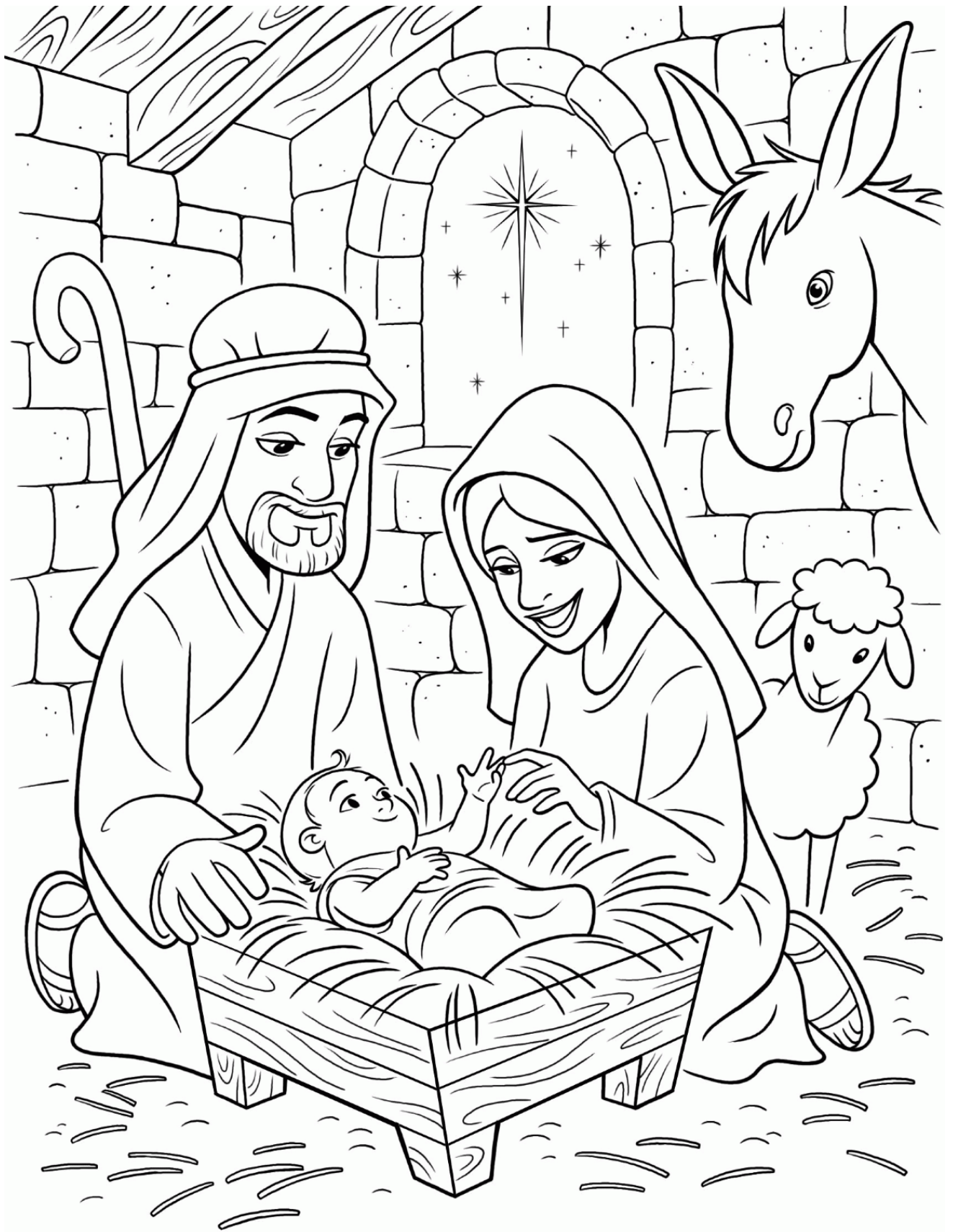
Jesus
Angel
Rejoice
Magi
Messiah
Stable

Manger
Noel
Joseph
Savior
Incense
King

Gold
Worship
Myrrh
Mary
Emmanuel
Christ

Prophecy
Bethlehem
Good News
Shepherds
Great Joy
Eastern Star

He Is Christ The Lord
Glory To God On High
Town Of David
Peace On Earth
Good Will To All
For All People





Christmas Poinsettias

If you would like to place a red poinsettia in the sanctuary or make a monetary donation towards the purchase of one, perhaps in memory of a loved one, ***please call the office, 519 537-2962, by Monday, December 13th.*** An announcement acknowledging donors and loved ones will be in the Christmas Eve bulletin.

“Such Sweet Sorrow”... Nancy Wright

William Shakespeare caused me a lot of headaches in high school. He was the bane of my existence (he probably coined that phrase) as I plodded through essay after essay on his plays. I was so thrilled to leave him behind upon graduation. It’s so ironic, then, that one of his most well-known lines, “Parting is such sweet sorrow”, has been constantly on my mind and evoking emotional havoc these past several weeks.

How can I possibly encapsulate thirty-four years of my time with you in a few short paragraphs? Just can’t be done. So I’ll summarize and hope you will know I want to say so much more.

You have become my extended family, and Knox Church has become my home away from home. I will miss you (and this beautiful old building) more than I can put into words. Not only has your support and friendship been precious to me, but you have affirmed my faith over and over again through the years as I witnessed your faith in action. Your response to need within your church family, your community and abroad is heart-warming to say the least, and it’s been a true privilege to walk this path with you.

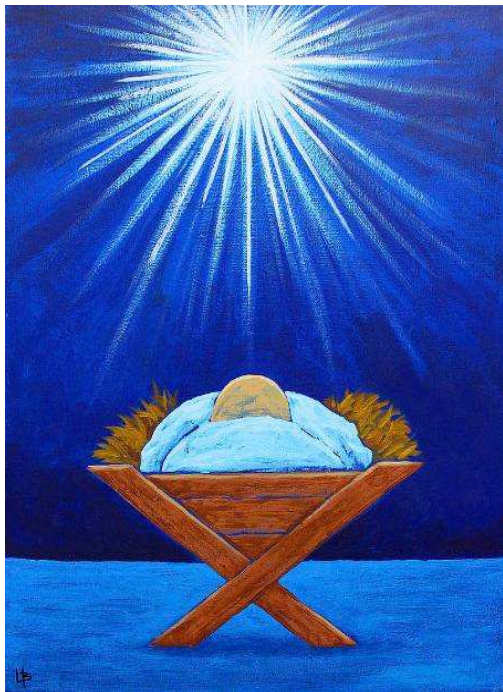
I have been blessed over the years to work with truly dedicated and devout ministers and their families—Rev. Dr. Jan and Ron, Honorary Assoc. Minister Rev. James and Annabelle, Rev. John, Rev. Glenn, Rev. Anne and Rob, Rev. Mark and Susan; and Anne, interim worship leader through the vacancy. A huge regret that I have is that I’ve had such little time to work with and get to know better Rev. Dr. Dong-Ha and Kyoungmi. But I can tell already that you are in very wise, kind, capable and caring hands, and that they will be a very great blessing in your lives.

Co-workers just don’t get any better! It’s been such fun and a pleasure to work over the years with Irene, Susan, Linda, Marg, Anne, Bob, Charlene, Michael, Mikayla and last but certainly not least, Janet. Janet and I have worked together for over thirty years and she has taken the place in my heart of the sister I never had.

Many of you have already met Kim Kenny, who is replacing me as administrative secretary. She is kind, empathetic, and extremely proficient, and she will do an excellent job for you. I have no doubt you will make her feel as welcome as you’ve always made me.

A very wise Knox elder told me that I should be focusing now on what lies ahead rather than on the past. She’s right, of course. It’s going to be wonderful to hop on a plane to Calgary to see my family whenever I’m needed or the whim strikes me. I also look forward to volunteering in our community, meeting other retirees, and developing new friendships to supplement those I’ve made here over the years. I’m sure that George and Sophie, who also are going to miss you very much, will find some way to adapt to having me underfoot.

So, the future looks sweet though the parting is painful. You will always be with me in my heart and in my prayers. May God bless you all and hold you safe in His warm embrace.



Our Church Family

Births



November 16
Everhett Wilf Jacob Bos
son of Rob and Mickayla Bos
great-nephew of Janet vanderSpek

November 18
Maren Seggewiss
daughter of Jess & Graham Seggewiss
granddaughter of George & Paula Seggewiss

Birthday Blessings



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

January 30 - 52 years
Cliffe & Anne Jewlal



Please Let Us Know...

If you know of someone in our church family who is ill or in hospital, please tell Dr. Kim or Kim in the office. Also, if you have good news to share, please pass it along too!

Jacqueline Perry, 70 - December 4
Jennifer Truman, 38 - December 15
Warren Brown, 88- December 16
Kate Wilford, 81 - December 20
Norine Wilson, 95 - December 29
Joan Willsie, 93 - January 3
Margaret Gregor, 93- January 5
Annette Ault, 79 - January 5
Marjorie Gunn, 98 - January 18
Dr. John Szasz, 94- January 18
Marg McCurdy, 72 - January 26
Florence Sutherland, 99 - January 31



*May God
Grant you Comfort
and Peace*

Our Deepest Sympathy

***"Whosoever believeth in Him should not perish
but have eternal life."***

We extend our heartfelt sympathy to Minnie Dean on the death of her niece, Joanne Yade, on November 2nd; and to Carol and George Yungblut and family on the death of Carol's mother, Shirley Sinkowski, on November 18th.


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Youth & Christian Education Leader: Mikayla Voortman
Email: mikaylavoortman@outlook.com

December
2021



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																	
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