FEB 2023

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Contents

FROM THE MINISTER'S DESK	3
SESSION NOTES	5
MUSIC MOMENT	6
HOW DO I BEGIN TO THANK ALL OF YOU?	6
WMS CAMPBELL AUXILIARY	7
WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2023	7
KITCHEN CREW	7
LYCA MHONE AND THE CALL OF GOD	8
VOTE OF THANKS TO KNOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH	9
MISSION COMMITTEE	10
HUNGER CRISIS DONATIONS	10
LANGUISHING FOR LACK OF A RIDE?	10
KNOX DISCING CLUB	11
KNIT, PURL, CROCHET – QUILT?	12
OUR CHURCH FAMILY	12
COFFEE'S ON, WHERE'S THE TEA?	13
KNOX WALKS: Walking for the Coldest Night of the Year	14
WORD SEARCH	15
COLOURING PAGE	16
A-MAZE-ING FUN!	17
CROSSWORD	18
FUNNIES	19
FEBRUARY 2023 CALENDAR	20
Have you considered switching to Pre-Authorized Remittance (Direct Dehit) for your offering?	21

Love each other deeply with all your heart.

FROM THE MINISTER'S DESK

"The Story of God – The Story of Generosity"



In a bookshelf in my den sits a little black notebook containing a collection of memoires and stories encountered over time. These are largely accounts of exceptional/unusual human propensity and possibilities in life. One story stands out; it is something that I wish to share with you. But first, I wish to thank *Christy Somos*, the hard-working journalist who first reported this account for the CTV News channel back in the summer of 2019.

The story is that a carpenter from Iowa secretly saved up a fortune of millions, gifting the money after his death to fund 33 college scholarships for students unable to afford post-secondary education. Dale Schroeder was his name.

Apparently, Dale worked 67 years at the same carpentry business, never married, and had no living descendants. He was described as a 'blue-collar', lunch-pail kind of guy 'who had two pairs of jeans, one for work and one for church.' It was Dale's dream to one day set up a scholarship fund since he hadn't had the opportunity to go to college and wanted other young lowans to get a chance they would miss out on due to financial woes.

In the end, Dale had managed to set aside an amount just shy of 3 million dollars for this purpose. And since his death, 33 students are said to have received a scholarship to fulfill their dreams. In honor of the man who gave them the chance he never had, these young scholars now call themselves 'Dale's Kids.'

This incredible story has garnished many thoughts from across the world, all drawn towards a life of countercultural living, an almost incomprehensible form of generosity. And no doubt this story has gone on to inspire others.

This story, for me, bears witness to the life of God in Jesus, one characterized by suffering, death on the cross, and resurrection of Jesus for the world, that we may discover a new way of life - one of unimaginable generosity. And God only knows how the story of the 'cross' may have served to inspire Dale to have lived out such life – a life empowered by self-giving practice.

For Christians, even as we honor those in our world who are like Dale, we continue to be reminded of such life every time we gather to *break bread and drink from the cup offered to us by our Lord Jesus*. For in the breaking of bread, we give thanks for Jesus who was broken and given to us all. At the same time, we are called to offer ourselves to one another and for the sake of the world, broken and given. In the sharing of the cup, we give thanks for Jesus, whose own life was poured out for the sake of the world. At the same time, we say that we will pour out our lives for one another and for the sake of the world.

If much of this sounds like a preamble from the times when we celebrate the Sacrament of Communion, well, it is. It is an inseparable component of this sacrament; it is also an inseparable component of our journey in faith. It is an important mandate for each of us, those who are recipients of the love of God made known in Jesus, and continues to unfold in our midst today, to live as such.

Thank you for taking the time to read through this and other articles shared by members of the Knox Presbyterian Church, Woodstock, ON.

May God bless each of you.

Respectfully shared,

Rev. Kim



Dale Schroeder



"God only knows how the story of the 'cross' may have served to inspire Dale to have lived out such life – a life empowered by self-giving practice."



SESSION NOTES

By Steve McInnis

The Session met on Tuesday, January 9, 2022, @ 7 pm. Ten elders attended, including the moderator, Rev. Dr. Kim. The meeting opened with prayer and a reflection from Colossians 1:15-20.

Correspondence: We received a letter of resignation from session from Joan Willsie, which was accepted with regret. Also, WDDS offered some volunteer workers to do something for us at the church on Tuesday afternoons.

Updates: Scholarship support for a theological student in Malawi will be transferred this week. More information will be in the Knox News.

Session discussed the state of Knox Presbyterian Church in Woodstock. Some ideas were shared to improve Sunday attendance: a pot-luck community meal; weekly coffee fellowship after services; visiting people in the sanctuary before the service; use of Kendall Cab service; an ad in the Sentinel Review.

Ministry Reports:

Christian Education Committee – No meeting, but Sunday School and nursery have started.

Leading With Care – Exterior doors will be numbered in the spring when the doors are refurbished. First Aid training will be arranged. A fire drill will be planned in the spring.

Pastoral Care - In lieu of a January Knox News, an insert of the December information sheet will be delivered with February Knox News.

Worship – The committee planned the Christmas Eve service. The communion schedule is planned for 2023 with four traditional and two come-forward serving methods. Phone Live Streaming is being used by one or two listeners. The lay readers' schedule was set for January and February.

Minister's Report – Dr. Kim prepared a thank-you letter to be mailed to the congregation. Renewed COVID restrictions are complicating visits to retirement and nursing homes.

New Business:

- Annual General Meeting will be March 5th, to be held as part of the worship service.
- Good Friday service to be held, possibly with First and Beachville Baptist Churches.
- We will invite nominations for elder election for February's session meeting. The session will decide on one individual and develop a schedule to hold an election.

Other Business - Nora Martin agreed to be on the committee to start the work of a photo directory for the fall.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, February 7, 2023, @ 7 pm

MUSIC MOMENT

By Janet vanderSpek



The Praise Song "You Are My All in All" has an interesting background. The words and music were written by Dennis Jernigan.

He was born in Oklahoma, in 1959. In Dennis' early years, his father led the singing in the First Baptist Church in Boynton. Playing the piano came very easily for him and by age nine, he was regularly playing for the worship

services at the church. He played by ear and as a child spent hours practicing at his grandmother's house. She taught him how to play chords on the piano, and was a great spiritual influence in his life.

While at university his musical studies were enhanced and through training, he excelled in writing music.

One morning in 1989, Dennis was focusing on prayer for other people in general and remembering what the Lord had done for him, particularly. As he thought on those things, a melody began to form in his mind and he played it on the piano. Lyrics came at the same time, and Dennis began to sing, "You are my strength when I am weak..." and so on. The lyrics came so quickly for Dennis that he continued playing the melody with his left hand while he put the song on manuscript paper with his right hand. He continued until he had written the complete song, just as it exists today!

The season of Lent begins on February 22nd. May you experience meaningful times of reflection during the forty days.

HOW DO I BEGIN TO THANK ALL OF YOU?



On Christmas Eve, I was presented with a most generous gift from the choir, the session, and the congregation. Thirty years of music ministry has been an amazing journey and a true privilege.

Thank you to Loralee Benner, Michael Conte, Joyce Hunter, Kim Kenny, Rev. Kim, Wilma Molinaro, George Seggewiss, Mikayla & Alex Voortman, and Gwen Wilson, as we continue in shared ministry at Knox Church.

"Soli Deo gloria" are the Latin words J.S. Bach wrote on all of his compositions. "Glory to God alone" is the English translation.

Janet vanderSpek

WMS CAMPBELL AUXILIARY

There will be no meeting in January, February, or March 2023.

The WMS and Knox Woodstock are the host congregation for the 2023 World Day of Prayer service.

We hope that many of our members will attend this inspiring service prepared by the women of Taiwan.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan McLennan

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2023



Please join us here at Knox for the Community-Wide World Day of Prayer on Friday, March 3rd at 2:00 pm.

The World Day of Prayer is a prayer movement that invites us to enrich our faith experience with the experience of Christians from other countries and cultures and to bring hope to women touched by injustice.

This year's theme, "I Have Heard About Your Faith", was written by the World Day of Prayer Committee of Taiwan.

KITCHEN CREW

The Kitchen Family would like to wish you a Happy Family Day!



Family Pie

(by Pearl Murray)

One handful of forgiveness

1 heaping cupful of love

A full pound of unselfishness

Mix together smoothly with complete faith in God

Add 2 teaspoonfuls of wisdom, 1 teaspoonful of good nature and flavour

Then sprinkle generously with thoughtfulness

This makes a wonderful Family Pie.

From Rose, Carol & Alice

LYCA MHONE AND THE CALL OF GOD

By Nora Martin



Lyca at one of the prisons

I'd like to introduce my friend Lyca Mhone from Malawi. We met when Steve and I were in Malawi, all too briefly, to teach in the prison school in Blantyre's Chichiri Prison. Lyca is one of the key volunteers with an organization called Friends of Prisons, a group of volunteers supported by the Presbyterian Church in Canada who faithfully visit many different prisons throughout the southern part of Malawi. Lyca spends a significant amount of her time each week visiting prisons, talking with inmates, either individually or in groups, leading Bible studies, and sometimes preaching, not to mention distributing material supplies. She, along with the other volunteers, feels a strong sense of the call of God to this work and has said that when she feels the call, she has no rest in her heart until she answers it by going out to do the work.

Lyca was very kind to me when I was in Malawi with Steve, one day taking me along with her to two of the prisons she regularly visits. I had the privilege of watching her interact with the inmates and prison staff all of whom clearly like and respect her. It was a wonderful experience, one that I always treasure in my heart.

When Steve and I returned to Canada due to COVID-19, it was with heavy hearts that we said good-bye to Lyca, as well as to the other wonderful people we had met. However, Lyca did not give up on me just because I was gone. We have been in regular touch via WhatsApp ever since I've been back home. It's great to hear from her about what is going on with her and her family, and among the inmates.

Last June or so Lyca mentioned that she was starting studies to become a qualified minister. She felt the call of God to increase her usefulness in her ministry. Keep in mind that she is a middle-aged woman with a family and a small business, as well as a very busy volunteer schedule, and that she lives in a very poor country. She assured me that she was getting help with the tuition, but that she needed help with the day-to-day expenses of travelling to Zomba Theological University and sometimes staying overnight, as well as numerous incidental expenses on top of tuition. As I pondered Lyca's situation, it occurred to me that we as a congregation might find it in our hearts to help her out.

I asked at Session, explaining the situation, and found out that our church has a Bursary Fund for supporting people who are engaged in theological studies for the ministry. It took very little on my part to persuade the elders that Lyca would qualify for this support. Lyca has now received the first installment of support in her endeavours.



Lyca going to Domasi Prison on a motorcycle taxi

Going forward, the plan is to continue our support of Lyca through her time of study (a total of three years, four semesters after this one). This is where you can get involved and show your support for this woman who feels the call of God so strongly. Although the Bursary Fund has some money in it, it won't last unless it gets topped up with new donations. If you feel led to support Lyca, I know she would appreciate first of all your prayers, and secondly, donations to top up the Bursary Fund. You can contribute to the Fund through your offering, by writing "Bursary Fund" on the "Other" line on your envelope.

Lyca has already indicated her gratitude to the church with a brief letter of thanks. While the money is not that much in our terms, it is a life-changing gift to Lyca, meaning that she can concentrate on her studies, her business, her family, and her volunteer work without worrying about finding the money to make it work. And she feels the love and support of her calling from you. If you have any questions, I would welcome a phone call or an email, or you can see me Sunday morning at church.

VOTE OF THANKS TO KNOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Your generosity amazes me. I and my family thank you so much for the financial support that is helping me to focus and work hard on my studies at Zomba Theological University.

Whenever I am travelling to and from the university, having food, accommodation, internet bundles, and printing assignments, I see and feel your unwavering love.

Thank you and God bless you all,

Lyca Mhone



I give thanks to my God always for you. 1 Corinthians 1:4a

MISSION COMMITTEE

By Elaine Stevens



SOUP KITCHEN

The **Adelaide Soup Bowl** at First Baptist Church is open on Monday and Friday at noon, offering a free meal to those in need. The meals are prepared by volunteers from local churches and other groups.

Knox will be preparing the meals on Monday, February 20^{th,} and Friday, February 24th.

During February we are collecting canned food – vegetables, gravy, fruit – for the Adelaide Soup Bowl. If desired, monetary donations may also be given to help with the purchase of meat, etc., for the two days that Knox is on duty.

HUNGER CRISIS DONATIONS



YOU HELPED FIGHT HUNGER!

\$266.50 was raised for Operation Sharing!

Thank you so much for your donations of change to help with the Hunger Crisis in Woodstock. Because of your generosity, we were able to raise \$266.50 to go to Operation Sharing!

LANGUISHING FOR LACK OF A RIDE?

By Nora Martin



Are you staying home because you don't have a ride to church? Your life just got better. Knox has an account with Kendall Cab, which means that if you order a cab to go to church on Sunday morning, they will gladly bill it to Knox Church. There are funds set aside for that purpose, especially, that are not being used at present because people are sitting at home instead of going to church. And if you are worried about getting back home again, you can ask the cab to pick you up again after church. Or you can ask someone who is in church for a ride. Steve and Nora would be happy to take you, and there are others around who would be glad to do it too. Please do not stay home on account of lacking a ride.

If you need help, let Kendall Cab know in advance so that they can provide the appropriate cab for you. Walkers are no problem. And here is the phone number to call for Kendall Cab: 519-537-2345.

Hope to see you at church!

KNOX DISCING CLUB

By Don Stevens



When COVID hit in 2020, all activities at Knox stopped, including the "Men's Monday Night Discing". Knox has had discing for over 50+ years with many long-time members still participating today.

Earl Yungblut and Bruce Hawkins ran the discing prior to 2020 but now both are retired or passed on.

Gord Taylor, Don Stevens, and Brian Hawkins are now running the club, which started up again in October 2022.

Regular Schedule – Knox has ten teams of 3-4 players each and play 2 twelve-week schedules per season. We start the first Monday after Thanksgiving in October and run until mid-January. The 2nd schedule starts end of January through to late April. New team members are selected for each schedule and everyone gets to play. Monetary prizes are given to the top 3 teams each schedule as an incentive to do their best.

Tournaments – Between schedules, we hold a tournament – The first one in January is the "Gord Breckenridge Memorial Plaque" and the second one in April is the "Bill Wright Family Trophy", sponsored by Bill's daughter, Judy, and husband, Dave Mattson. Gift card prizes are given for the sole winning team of each tournament. A turkey supper banquet precedes the Bill Wright Tournament put on by the Knox Kitchen Crew. Prizes are given out for the two regular schedule winners at this time.



Joe Coles, & Louis Yungblut



Discing is a fun, friendly time and provides some exercise and fellowship for all. We are always looking for new members, so if you are interested contact Gord, Don, or Brian. Included are a few photos of our activity on Monday night.

There is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.

Proverbs 18:24b

KNIT, PURL, CROCHET – QUILT?



If this title makes your fingers itch to get at it, you are a likely candidate for joining the Prayer Shawl Group at Knox. Our primary reason for getting together is to make prayer shawls to give out to people who are in need of a bit of extra TLC from the church family. A prayer shawl is just a shawl (or lap robe) that is made with love and prayer and given with love and prayer. They can be knitted or crocheted, and recently one of our members quilted one.

Many people from Knox have received prayer shawls in the fifteen years or so since we started the group and the ministry here. If you have received one (or given one), you will be aware of what a blessing it is for the giver as well as the receiver. As well as making prayer shawls, this group is also responsible for making afghans to be given to those young people from the church who graduate from high school.

At present we have a small group of women who meet once a month at the church to work together on the prayer shawls. We are a welcoming group who are delighted to have new members. If you are interested in joining us or just seeing what we do, you are welcome to come to the next meeting, 7:00 p.m., February 8, in the Cheyne Room. See you then! If you have questions, see anyone you know who is in the group, or phone Nora Martin at 519-536-0789.

OUR CHURCH FAMILY



Susan McLennan	18-Feb
Linda Faulkner	18-Feb
Alice Kern	24-Feb
Ron Gregor	24-Feb
Kathleen Willits	25-Feb



Gerald & Carol Masters	5-Feb
Iohn & Linda Szasz	11-Feb
Don & Rose Izzard	14-Feb

How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!

Psalm 133:1

COFFEE'S ON, WHERE'S THE TEA?



If you've been to church recently, you'll know that coffee hour is back, after a long hiatus. And you now don't have to wait for the last Sunday of the month to enjoy it.

Every Sunday, <u>as long as someone has signed up to take charge</u>, we will have coffee hour in the Friendship Centre after Sunday morning worship.

What do you have to do if you sign up? Come early Sunday morning (10:00 or so is early enough) to set up the coffee urn according to instructions in the kitchenette. The coffee is provided, as are the tea and the sugar. You should bring milk and cream, and if you choose to serve goodies with the drinks, make sure you remember to bring them as well. A cold drink of some sort is also appreciated, particularly as the weather warms up (we live in hope!). I would recommend boiling a kettle of water ahead of time so that you don't have to start from scratch to prepare the tea after the worship service.





The mugs and glasses are in the cupboard that is labelled "coffee hour" in the kitchenette. They need to be put in the dishwasher after use, and the coffee urn needs to be cleaned out after using as well. Someone else will empty the dishwasher Monday morning, so after you start it, you are free to leave.

If this all sounds like something you could do, you can help make it happen by signing up to be in charge. If you need help, ask a friend to help. It's not hard to do.

If you have questions, ask anyone who has already done it, or call Nora Martin at 519-536-0789.

Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

1 Thessalonians 5:11



KNOX WALKS: Walking for the Coldest Night of the Year

People have been asking about the Coldest Night of the Year, whether we are planning to do the walk again, and the answer is YES. We'll be walking on Saturday, February 25th. Lynda Whiteford, Steve McInnis, and Nora Martin are the Knox Walks team thus far. If you are interested in joining the team, feel free to do so. If you wish to donate to one of us, or to the team as a whole, we welcome your support which goes to Operation Sharing.

If you wish to sponsor us online or join the team, control-click on this link: PLEASE SPONSOR Knox walks (e2rm.com). Then follow the instructions for what you want to do. Cheques can be made payable to Coldest Night of the Year and given to one of us, and we will make sure they get to the right place. Or they can be payable to one of the team members, and we can enter the amount online for you, putting it in your name so you get the receipt. Cash can be given to any team member, who will then enter the amount online and have the receipt sent to you.

We've set the bar very high for ourselves this year, hoping to raise three thousand dollars in total. With a little help from our friends (that means you!), we should be able to do it. Even if we don't achieve our goal, we know that every little bit counts, when it comes to being homeless and destitute. Thank you for the support you've given us in the past and any support you can give us this year. Our friends who are in financial difficulties thank you.



WORD SEARCH



"Valentine's day"





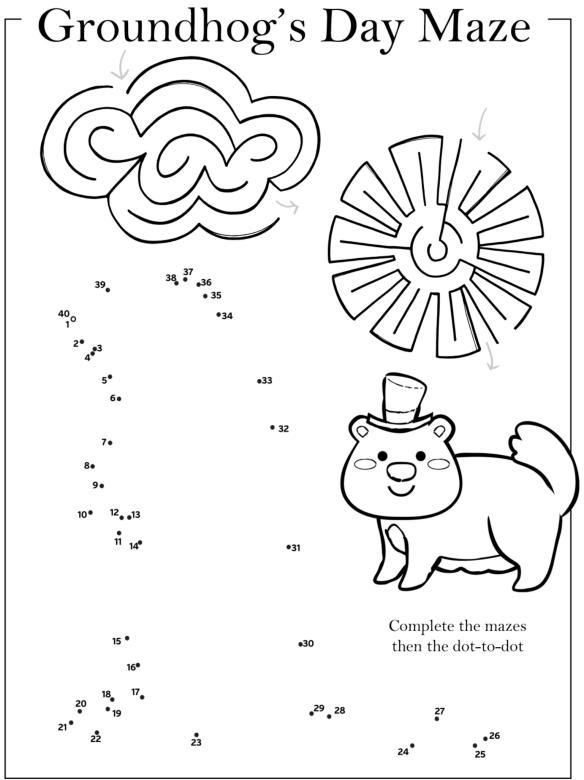
COLOURING PAGE



@@foriPods com

February

A-MAZE-ING FUN!

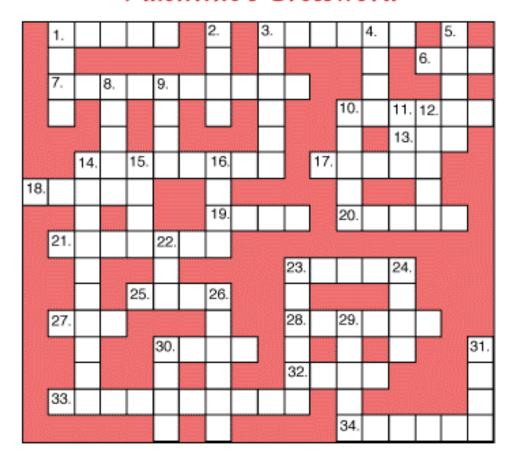


www.BrainyMaze.com

Images (c) TriOriginal's Hidesy's Clipart & Little Red

CROSSWORD

Valentine's Crossword



Across:

- Opposite of boys
- 3. Valentine colour
- goes there?
- 7. St. Day
- The targets of Cupid's arrows
- 13. This little piggy is one
- Valentine month
- Tolls paid
- 18. ____ change,
- pocket money
- 19. Sign above door
- 20. Donald's girlfriend
- 21. Crayon maker
- 23. He shoots love arrows

- Short form for animal doctors
- Valentine's colour
- 28. Cupid shoots these
- 30. Valentine colour
- 32. Choose
- Sweet valentine gifts
- 34. _____ admirer

Down:

- Bestow
- the bottle
- 3. Attractive
- Frilly trim
- Valentine colour
- Mickey _____ Minnie
- 9. Close to
- 10. Listened

- Past tense of eat
- Red flowers
- February ___ is

Valentine's

- 15. ___ valentine.
- 16. Length x width
- 22. Single, __, 2, 3, ...
- 23. Winners
- 24. Opposite of up
- 26. First day of the week
- 29. Speed contests
- 30. Scheme
- Pepper____ candy



FUNNIES





Q: Why are artichokes so loved?

A: Because they're known for their hearts!



Q: What kind of flowers should you not give on Valentine's Day?

A: Cauliflowers!



Q: What do you call someone with a cold on Valentine's Day?

A: Love-sick!



Q: What did the stamp say to the envelope on Valentine's Day?

A: I'm stuck on you!



Q: What's the difference between a \$20 steak and a \$55 steak?

A: February 14th!



Q: What do you call a frog born on February 29th?

A: Leap Frog!



Q: What do you call a groundhog who drives in the center of the road?

A: A road-hog!



Q: What does a baseball team and pancakes have in common?

A: They both need a good batter!



Q: What do pancakes wear to the beach?

A: Flip-flops!



Q: What does a man who loves his car do on February 14? A: He gives it a Valenshine!



Q: What is the best outfit for February?

A: A Tu-tu!



Q: What month is the best for coffee?

A: Fe-BREW-ary!



3 young moms were talking about their children. The first one said her son was born on St. George's Day, so they named him George.

The second said their daughter was born on Valentine's Day, so they named her Valentine.

The third one said, "That's incredible! Exactly the same thing happened with my son, Pancake!"

FEBRUARY 2023 CALENDAR

February



**ANNUAL REPORT SUBMISSIONS DUE FEBRUARY 6TH



Have you considered switching to Pre-Authorized Remittance (Direct Debit) for your offering?

	Constitution of the consti
	h our
	Grow with our
	O C

Each payment shall be the same as if I/We had personally issued

of the monthly donation to Knox

Please allocate \$_

Church and S_

for 12 months.

to Presbyterians Sharing.

I/We the above-named customer(s), authorize Knox Church to

Account Number (7 digits):

Postal Code:

Province:_

Fransit Number (5 digits): Bank Number (3 digits):_

Pre-Authorized Payment Authorization Form

To: Knox Presbyterian Church

Address:

Postal Code:

Province:

Name of Financial Institution (bank):

Branch Address:

debit my/our account indicated above, in the amount of

on the 1st / 15th day (circle one) of each month,

a cheque authorizing the Bank to pay Knox Church as indicated

and to debit the amount specified to my/our account.

I/We will notify Knox Church promptly in writing if I/we move the account from one bank or branch to another, or if there is any

other change in the account.

All that we have is Thine alone, "We give thee but Thine own, What e'er the gift may be; A trust, 0 Lord, from Thee.

This authorization may be cancelled at any time upon written

notice by me/us to Knox Church.

I/We understand that the Bank is not responsible to verify whether these payments are properly debited to my/our

account

Any delivery of this authorization to Knox Church constitutes I/We am/are all the persons who are required to sign on the

delivery by me/us to the Bank

above account.

We have received a signed copy of this authorization form. I/We have included a cheque marked "void".

Signature(s):

Knox Presbyterian Church, Woodstock, ON

Preauthorized Offering

(Direct Debit)

knoxwoodstock.ca

What is direct debit?

If you already have automatic cheques going to your account to pay for insurance, taxes, or mortgage, then you are familiar with direct debit. It means, simply, regular contributions debited from your bank account throughout the year.

It is a convenient way to make regular contributions to the church month by month. Your account will be debited each month and Knox's account will be credited with the amount you specify. You will no longer require offering envelopes to fill each Sunday.

Advantages to direct debit:

- 1. Regular support of your church in the amount that you choose.
- Continual support of Knox, even when you are away.
- 3. Avoidance of "catch-up" periods.
- 4. You are able to budget your monthly giving.

Advantages to Knox Presbyterian Church

office.

- 1. Regular, dependable flow of contributions.
- 2. Reduction in bank overdrafts.
- Able to budget with a guaranteed amount of tithes and offerings.

How to sign up for direct debit:

- 1. Decide on the amount you wish to make as your monthly contribution.
- 2. Fill in the Preauthorization Form and attach a sample cheque from your account marked "Void"3. Return the Preauthorization Form and void cheque to the church

For further information about direct debit, please contact Kim Kenny in the office



(519-537-2962

office.knox.woodstock@gmail.com

