

A LETTER FROM REVS CLINTON & DEB

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

"Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God our Father, who loved us and gave us eternal comfort and good hope through grace, comfort your hearts and establish them in every good work and word."

2 Thessalonians 2:16-17

We greet you with good hope on the threshold of a brand new year--and we pray fervently that God's good plans for your future may bring you heavenly gifts of love, joy and peace in the coming days ahead.

Life calls us forward. 2017 has now passed into the history books, carrying with it our own experiences as well as the world events of another year. Often we look back as a way of looking forward with a renewed perspective. What have we learned? How are we called forward differently? What will remain in your heart and mind as sign posts of Christ presence and guidance? We give thanks that we share with billions of other Christians who worship him and live by his love, for we share this great and good hope for life going forward.

Going forward, we shall remain in prayer for continued divisions and disregard that have been observed around our world, at home and far away. We remember that Christ came to seek and save the lost. By his spirit let us humbly undertake the practice of justice and mercy, of truth and grace, of forgiveness and the Golden Rule, so that we may become a part of his saving work in the world. It is what Jesus meant when he called us to be salt and light and to speak truth in the service of love.

Our prayer for 2018 is this-

As 2018 calls to us like a continent unexplored, may we walk forward bravely as light bearers and salt givers, holding fast to Christ and to each other. May you be courageous and undismayed in the assurance of your hope, knowing that our sovereign Lord still "rules this world with truth and grace". Unlike the King Herod of his birth or any others that preceded or followed him, our true Lord and King will not fail in his saving work of reconciliation. He is the source and finisher of our faith, hope and love. (Hebrews 12:3)

We thank you for the shared journey of 2017 - the blessings and kindnesses you have extended to us, to one another and beyond. We are ever grateful for so many kind remembrances during the holiday season and send our good hope and thanks back to you!

Blessings upon this new year through Christ,
Clint & Deb Roberts

January Worship Themes

Blessing the New Year - The first two Sundays of January we invite folks forward at the close of the worship service to receive personal blessing and prayer for the New Year by the pastors.

January 7 Epiphany Sunday - Receive your 2018 Stars
Installation of New Officers



January 14 Day of Baptism Celebration and Renewal
In remembering Jesus baptism
January 21 Grit and Grace for the New Year
January 28 All Things Bright and Beautiful

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Mocktails Anyone?

Calling all Ladies of Knox

Mark your calendars now for Friday, February 9, 2018 from 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. (childcare will be available). Our guest speaker, Madeline Holstrom, will inspire us to "Laugh our Way to Health and Happiness." Please bring an appetizer or dessert to share. Sign-ups will take place in January & online.



PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN

The Coordinating Team Meeting for Knox Presbyterian Women will meet **January 8, 2018**, in the church parlor at 7:00 pm for refreshments and fellowship. The meeting will begin promptly at 7:30. All women of Knox are invited to attend. Contact Linda Adcock (lindaadcock7@hotmail.com or [630.278.9894](tel:630.278.9894)) for more information or questions.

Circles

Mary Martha Circle will meet at 9.30 am Tuesday, Jan. 9. For more information, contact suejohnpeter@gmail.com.

Ruth Circle will meet on Thursday, January 18 at 7:00 p.m. in the church parlor. With the New Year beginning, please consider coming to this evening circle to meet others who are unable to be part of a circle during the day. We'd love to have you join us. Any questions, please contact Bev Mayer at 630-615-4325 or bmayer@knoxpres.org.



Rachel-Rebecca Circle will meet on January 9, 2018 at at 9:30 AM in the home of Nancy Davis, 725 Willow Road, Naperville.

If you want more information about joining a circle, contact Linda Adcock. ([630-278-9894](tel:630-278-9894) or lindaadcock7@hotmail.com)



Women on Wednesdays

Women on Wednesdays starts up again on Jan 10 with a new study of Liz Curtis Higgs's "Bad Girls of the Bible: And What We Can

Learn from Them". In looking at what we can learn from biblical women gone bad through her "novel approach to Bible study," Liz brings to life ancient stories and unforgettably reveals how timeless truths of the Bible apply to today's woman. WOW meets on Wednesday mornings from 9:15-11:15 with coffee and fellowship, DVD presentations, large and small group discussions and prayer. WOW is for women of all ages and Bible knowledge and also includes childcare for little ones from birth to age 5. **We welcome newcomers!** Questions? Contact Robin Kolar at skolar7227@aol.com or Margaret Lambka at mlambka2@gmail.com.

Chick Flick



chick flick
DINNER & A MOVIE



The perfect antidote for post holiday winter blahs!
Where film, faith and fellowship comes together.

Join us **Friday January 12** for the all-time wonderful classic "The African Queen" starring Katherine Hepburn and Humphrey Bogart.

Dinner and a movie \$10, just a movie free. 6:15, movie 7:00 pm in the comfy of the basement Sr. High room. We are serving everyone's

favorite Chinese from Yen Ching!

Register Online

MISSIONS AT KNOX

Loaves & Fishes

The next Hunger Sunday is **January 7**. Donations can be left on the cart in front of the Commons or in the bin next to the Mission Council table. Thank you!

Most Needed Items: pasta, crackers, dry cereal



Go & Serve 2018



Mark your calendars for Wednesday, February 1, 5:00-9:00pm, when Knox night returns to bd's Mongolian Grill (221 S. Washington St.) If you missed the last few years, make sure you don't miss out on the fun this year!! Come "grill" your favorite Go and Serve Grillers, enjoy a good dinner with friends and family, and support Go and Serve 2018. Mention Knox Go and Serve to the hostess, and we will receive \$3 per dining guest, and all the grilling tips placed in the Knox Tip Jars located at the grill. Invite friends, family, neighbors, and come in out of the cold for a great night out!

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

Music and Monet!

Children's Day Out invites you to attend our open house and experience an exciting show by Leonardo Music, a Parent's Choice award- winning family musician.

Sunday, February 11, 2018 at 3:00 pm-5:00 pm

Children's Day Out will exhibit the children's art work in the classrooms from 3-3:30 then Leonardo Music will bring his high-energy, interactive concert that is a celebration of the possibilities through music and movement. Leonardo's music entertains, engages and empowers the entire family. Following the show there will be ice cream for everyone!



Looking for a preschool experience for your child?

Children's Day Out is the perfect fit! Through imagination and exploration children will learn about themselves and their world in a loving and nurturing setting. Our days from 9:00 am-1:00 pm include, crafts, circle time and music as well as story time, outdoor play and lunch. Our PreK classes help prepare children for kindergarten. Registration for new families begins in February. Please call our office to schedule a tour, 630.355.7544 or contact Beth Burner at bburner@knoxpres.org

Fitness Play Group

Is your only form of exercise chasing after your preschooler and you wish you could do more?! Well now you can! Come and join us at Knox for some good fellowship and a hardy workout as the kids play. Please bring a mat and water. For questions please contact Julia Dana at juliadriscoll2003@yahoo.com

January 13 10:00 am-11:00

January 27 10:00 am-11:00



Godly Play Children's Worship

Begins January 6 @ Saturdays at 5:00

Godly Play Children's Worship for ages 3 to Grade 5 will begin on Saturday, January 6. Children who attend the Saturdays at 5:00 worship service will begin worship with their parents. They will then have the opportunity to move to a worship space with sacred story boxes where they will continue in prayer, song, and response to God's message. A sensorimotor style of storytelling is used, and children learn the language of worship and theology. They experience the awe and wonder of God's stories and of God's presence as they participate in a worship service where we together reflect on the mystery of God.

If you would be willing to assist with this worship service, please contact Jenny Hubbard or Kim Lynn.



Family Movie Night

January 27 after Saturday @ 5

We will enjoy some pizza and popcorn while we snuggle up on the couches and watch. "Sing"! Come to worship @ 5 and stay for a movie and fellowship time with other families.

MIDDLE SCHOOL MINISTRIES



G3 – Middle School Fellowship

Friday/Saturday, Jan 12/13 – Lock In @ Knox

8:30 pm – 7:00 am

Cost – Bring a snack to share

Register Online

HIGH SCHOOL MINISTRIES

Whirlyball

MLK Day - Mon, Jan. 15

More info & sign up @ knoxblog.org.

Whirlyball Lombard 800 E. Roosevelt Road Lombard, IL 60148



Youth Fellowship Resumes

Sunday night worship and bible study will begin again January 7, 7-8:30

Wednesday nights resume January 10 with dinner at 6:00

Wednesday Youth Fellowship Dinner Payment

The easiest way to pay for the meals is to click the link below and pay online. We meet 22 times this semester so even if your student misses a few weeks this is the easiest and most economical way. Otherwise, please make sure they put \$5 in the basket each time.

The cost is only \$50 per semester OR \$5 per meal.

Click **HERE** to pay \$50 for the semester online.

Wednesday Night youth fellowship dinners are an important time where our youth group spends half an hour breaking bread together each week. We highly encourage you to have your youth be involved in these meals. Please let us know if there are any dietary needs to



better serve you.

CHURCH NEWS

Curious Christians: Art Institute of Chicago

The Curious Christians will visit the Art Institute of Chicago for a docent-led tour of Art of the Reformation.

Date: Saturday, February 3, 2018

Time: 10:45 – 12:00 (Tour begins promptly at 11.)

Meet: Monroe Wing Lobby (modern Art) of the Art Institute of Chicago

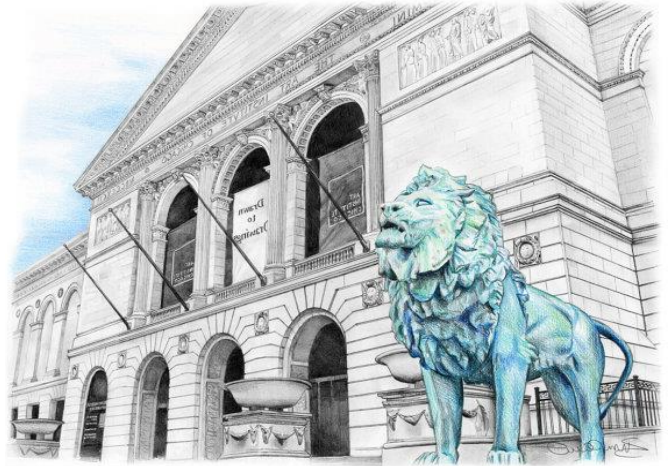
Transportation: Not provided. We plan to take the 9:25 express train from Naperville which arrives at Union Station at 10:13. Return trains are on the “40’s”.

Cost: \$35 adult per person; \$29 senior (65 and older); \$25 students (including college)

Deadline to sign up: Wednesday, January 17, 2018

How to sign up: knoxpres.org website, under Events

Questions: Contact Sue Pollard, 630-301-8450, swpollard1973@gmail.com



ManKIND Men's Smoker

February 17, 2018

ManKIND Men's Ministry invites the men of Knox to our first-ever men's smoker (i.e., an informal gathering of men)! Connect with your brothers in Christ at Knox on Saturday, February 17, for an evening of fellowship. You will enjoy a mouth-watering steak dinner and the opportunity to buddy-up with a friend, old or new, to compete in our corn-hole toss and/or euchre tournaments.

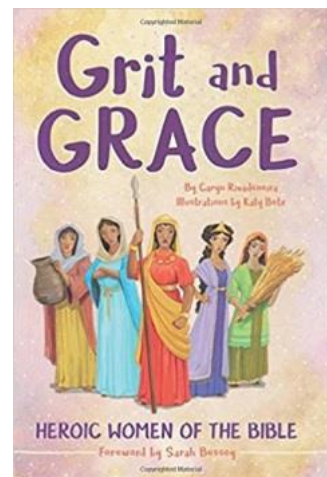


To join us and sign up your team(s) by February 10, go to the Knox Presbyterian Event Registration website page. Or, if you need a buddy, we will pair you up! Details to come. There is no ManKIND membership, so all men are welcome. If you have questions, contact us at mankind@knoxpres.org.

Grit & Grace Luncheon

- January 21
- Lunch and Learn
- 11:30 am Lunch with speaker to follow
- Free event and lunch
- Sign ups for event and option to purchase book online
- Speaker: Caryn Rivadeneira
- Topic: Grit & Grace: Women of the Bible

Register Online





Faithfully Fit 2018

"So God created humankind in God's image, in the image of God he created them; male and female God created them..." Genesis 1:27

"Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God..." 1 Corinthians 6:19

I have both loved and struggled with these descriptions of humankind. It is a gift to know that God intends well-being and beauty for each of us. It is a tad overwhelming to think of being an image of God, let alone a temple?! Humanly, we are so imperfect and that's usually what we focus on.

Yet, who doesn't come to the New Year and want to have a goal of greater physical wellbeing and beauty? And what better way to honor God's intention for each of us? There are always ways for most of us to improve what we do for increased health benefits.

This New Year 2018 Knox wants to partner together with you!

We want to help make this happen for all interested folks. There is a reason that having a "buddy system" works.

Here is the way to get started: (Beginning January 2)

1. Follow the weekly encouragement on our website which will include bible verses and a prayer for the week.
2. Share your loss of poundage anonymously each week so that we can add together how much the Knox congregation is losing. Watch the weight thermometer grow! How much can we lose together by Easter 2018 to be "worth our weight in spiritual gold"?
3. Share your tips and encouragements with "on-line adviser" Rev Deb.
4. Attend the monthly accountability, tips and treasures, encouragement meeting the last Tuesday of the month at 7 pm - Jan 30, Feb. 27, Mar 27, April 24.
5. Participate in one of the Knox's Fitness Opportunities

Let's see what we can do together!

Yoga

Knox member Sherry Harter will hold another 8-week session beginning January 8th. It is an hour of stretching and strength geared toward new or beginner participants. If you have ever wanted to try Yoga, this is a great introduction.

When: Mondays, 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm

Dates: January 8, 15, 22, 29, February 5, 12, 19, 26.

Location: The Senior High Room

Cost: One time donation of \$10 for the ENTIRE eight week session. You can bring cash or a check made to Knox when you come the first time.

What to Bring: Yoga mat, towel, water bottle, and wear comfortable clothing. A fitted shirt is recommended. Sherry does have a few mats for those trying Yoga for the first time.

Tai Chi

Sherry Harter is continuing Tai Chi as well. Learn about moving meditation, how to breath for relaxation, challenge your brain and improve balance. This slow moving, 8 thousand year old martial art continues to be done by the novice to 99 year old because of its complex simplicity Give it a try!

When: Tuesdays, 8:00 am – 8:45 am

Dates: January 9, 16, 23, 30, February 6, 13, 20, 27.

Location: The Senior High Room

Cost: One time donation of \$10 for the ENTIRE eight week session. You can bring cash or a check made to Knox when you attend your first time.

What to Bring: water bottle, and wear loose, comfortable clothing.



Cure Your Cabin Fever, Come Save 3 Lives!

The next Knox Blood Drive is February 5, 2018, 3:30 pm - 7:30 pm.

Register online at heartland.org or in the Commons. Contact Neil Goltermann with any questions (ngoltermann@aol.com; 640-750-5863)



2018 World Peace Day Prayer Service

This years' service will take place on Sunday, January 7 at the Wentz Concert Hall on the campus of North Central College. It will begin at 2:00 pm.

Evening Book Club welcomes all who love to read! Join us for discussion and fellowship. We will discuss *News of the World* by Paulette Jiles at our next meeting, Wednesday, January 10. If you are interested in participating, please join us in the Knox Parlor, 7:30 p.m. Our reading list for future months can be found on the Knox website, under 'Groups'. Please contact Janice Wiles with any questions at 630.416.9537 or wilesjan@gmail.com.



Sandwich Generation Workshop

As our parents age, many of us are called to reverse our roles and become care givers. As you navigate this new normal, we invite you to participate in a five week workshop that will hopefully provide you with new resources, answers to some of those more difficult questions, and a community of support.

The workshop will run for five consecutive Thursday evenings starting January 11th, from 7:30 to 9:00 pm. The first workshop will be held in the Middle School Room at the church. For further information or questions, or to RSVP for the workshop, please contact Karen Elmgren @ kgelmgren@comcast.net or Cindy Karis at 630-615-4308.

Register Online



Cream or Sugar?

Do you enjoy a cup of coffee in between services? Church Life is in need of people willing to host coffee hour. If you are interested, please contact Diane Noreen at 630-253-4851 or dnoreen@lisle202.org. Thank you.



A New Book by Knox's Own Barbara Brabec!

Marcella's Secret Dreams and Stories

~ A Mother's Legacy ~

by Barbara Brabec & Marcella Eliza Schaumburg

THIS NEW BOOK by Barbara Brabec—*posthumously co-authored by her Mother through recorded conversations and writing done decades ago*—tells what happened when Barbara sat her Mother down for a nostalgic chat when she was near the end of her life.

Marcella wrote her last words 25 years ago, but they live on in this book and illustrate the sacrifices mothers everywhere make to help their children bloom and grow and succeed in life. This book is not only for the sons and daughters who love their mother or the memory of her, but for every mother who has a little-known story to tell about her family's history and her own life journey.

Available here on [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com)

MINISTRY TO SENIORS

Hall of Famers will not meet in January!

Please plan to join us again
on Thursday, February 8, 2018

THANK YOU

To the Knox Congregation: Thank you got your prayers for Earl & the family.

Bobbie Britton & the Burgher family (sister, brother-in-law, and nephews)

Thanks to all! The Deacons would like to thank all who helped to make our third annual **Cookie Walk** a huge success!

- The bakers who gave their time, ingredients and love in preparing the cookies
- Those who came out and purchased our cookies, candies and gifts
- The Knox staff and custodians for their time and efforts to support the Cookie Walk
- Countless volunteers who helped in ways too many to list
- Those who placed lawn and window signs to help promote Cookie Walk around town

Thank you, thank you, thank you! Your generous support of our Cookie Walk which provides funds for the Knox Deacons' ministries is much appreciated by all.

CARE MINISTRIES

Illness/Health Concerns:

Patricia Renggli (mother of Anne Renggli)
 Brent Fry (friend of Carol and Charlie O'Neill)
 Steven Obremski (son of former co-worker of Kevin Williams)
 Shirley Sichel (aunt of Mariette Siczewicz)
 Ryon Degenhart (relative of Pam Guth)
 Dede Gruenberg (sister of Lori Dickens)
 Edgar Eloby (co-worker of Kevin Williams)
 Nancy Carr (aunt of Kelley Brown)
 Debby Hunter (niece of Beverly Aper)
 Steve Macaluso (neighbor of Jeff and Sara Egan)
 Kevin Pierce (former neighbor of de Conings)
 David Hill (brother of Patty Reed)
 Donovan McCoy (Tom and Margo Sieczynski's grandson)
 Holly Delahoussaye (Anne Sherren's cousin's daughter)
 Paula Brady (Becca Hyde Goering's mother-in-law)
 Virginia Burton (Brookdale in Lisle)
 Wayne Zascoda (Shirley McDonald's niece's husband)
 Lois Whitlock
 Mary Zascoda (Shirley McDonald's niece)
 Pat Carter
 Linda Spear (Amanda Hartley's stepmother)
 Marlene Parker
 Julie Eylander (Arlene Beslic's daughter)
 Phyllis Wheeler
 Ron Champagne (Stacey Barrett's father)
 Helen Brassington
 Jenny Craig Rantz (Susan Tokh's niece)
 Steve Williams
 Dave Olson (Kathi Olson's son)
 Mark Bickler
 Nathan Horek (Mary and Barry Horek's son)
 Pat Tweito
 John MacDonald (Tom MacDonald's father)
 Bev Frier
 Pat Norris (Marianjoy) (mother of Natalie Howser)
 Amy Bratsos
 Donnie Willing (Derek Dusenberry's brother-in-law)
 Jinny Clayton
 Pete Johanknecht (Lori Rose's father)
 Theresa Inman
 Jerry Borg (The Springs at Monarch Landing)
 Peg Little
 Marty Boergadine (friend of Joan and Don DuChane)
 Karen Hargis
 Lisa Huerkamp (friend of Sue Goll)
 Nancy Twaddle
 Lou Daddezio (Kristina Matrino's father)
 Jean Donahue
 Pat Daddezio (Kristina Matrino's mother)
 Jim Albrecht
 Kathryn Luco (daughter of Ann Beran and David Bebb Jones)
 Sue Evans (Jan Parry's sister-in-law)
 Susie Tabbert (Jan Parry's aunt)
 John Good (Karen Elmgren's father)

Craig Williams (brother of Kevin Williams)
 John Roberts (brother of Clinton Roberts)
 Lana Levine (Zach Sullivan's mother)
 Marge Nevin (Green Fields of Geneva Rehabilitation)
 Blake Beehler (Ruth Feightner's grandson)
 Theresa Inman (Tabor Hills)
 Shannon Simester (friend of Doris Walker)
 Leanne Rakosnik (co-worker of Diane Gilmer)
 Ruth Tuma (Edward Hospital)

Grieving:

The friends and family of:

Don Nietzel on his death (uncle of Steve Reyes)
Melanie Raczkiewicz on her death (sister of Missy Heitz)
Billy Copenhaver on his death (Bob Copenhaver's nephew)
Mary Louise Hansen on her death (Doug Hansen's mother)
Judy Powell on her death
Mark Smith on his death (John Janke's niece's husband)
Ione Tihlarik on her death (grandmother of Andrew Tihlarik)
Bob Mosborg on his death (Carol Hilton's father)
Esther Kubinski on her death (mother of Barb Dybas)
John Bentley on his death
Jack Mathison on his death (Brent Mathison's father)

Congratulations:

Anna & Josh Williams on the birth of their daughter Amri Robin on December 3. Pam Williams is the proud grandmother.
Amy & Billy Baird on the birth of their son Ewan Barclay on December 7. Proud grandparents are Madeleine & Bill Baird.
Sarah & Joshua Condon on the birth of their daughter Caroline Kay on December 13. Proud grandparents are Dan & Gail Pucci.

Nursing Home/Home Bound:

Pick up a weekly prayer concerns card in the Commons for a list of our members who are in nursing homes & home bound.