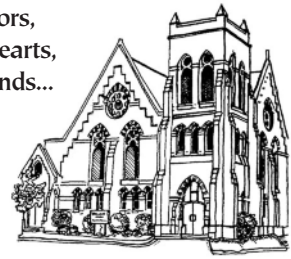


The Kindred Spirit Connection

Open doors,
Open hearts,
Open minds...



Wesley-Knox United Church • 91 Askin Street, London, Ontario N6C 1E7 • 673-4803 • www.wesleyknox.org

Late Spring and Pentecost 2013

The Oh, Jonah Musical!

Some 350 were in the pews on Sunday, April 28, when the **Wesley-Knox Junior Choir** presented its rollicking musical, Oh, Jonah! Everyone knew, of course, that in the story, Jonah would be swallowed by a whale, but they soon found out there was much more to the story than that!

This story comes to us from a time when people still thought of God as a god of requirements and rewards, granting good health and prosperity to the righteous and sending misfortune to those falling short of God's mark. In the story, God asks Jonah to go to Nineveh, the "city of sin", to warn its people of God's unhappiness and get them to repent. Jonah balks, gets on a ship and heads for Tarshish instead. When a storm hits the ship, Jonah accepts the blame and lets the crew throw him overboard. God saves Jonah by sending a whale (actually the Bible says "a big fish") that swallows him and later coughs him up onto dry land.

In part two of the story, Jonah reluctantly goes to Nineveh to warn the Ninevites of God's impending wrath. He calls on them to repent. Surprisingly, they do so. But Jonah is not happy. He would rather God had punished them and he sits under a tree and pouts. God then has a few words with him and he comes around to God's way of thinking. At least, he does in the musical! In the Bible, the story actually ends a bit abruptly here...

It's a great story of course, and very much about our human stubbornness, irresponsibility, and tendency to be more concerned with being right than being compassionate. But mostly, it's about our inability—try hard as we might—to run away from God and God's love for all people including those who are different from us.

That certainly came through in the musical! Congratulations to the leads: **Christian Haworth** (Jonah), **Owen Spicer** (the captain), and **Book Kimber-Johnson** (the king). Also to the six angels (Did anyone notice a resemblance to Charlie's Angels of 1970s television fame?), apprentice angel **Rev. Tracy** who came in at the end, and to **Karen Pincombe** who directed the show, **Karen Schuessler** who directed the music, **Mary-Bee Haworth and choir parents** who looked after costumes and a dozen other things, **Brian Ratcliffe** who played the piano, **Linda Imrie** who designed and created the set, and **all the members of the Junior Choir** who sang and acted with such energy and beauty. A real Wesley-Knox team effort!—HJM



This week, as we went to press, **Rev. Tracy** was in Nashville, Tennessee, at the **Festival of Homiletics** preaching conference. Tracy was hoping to send us a report, and if we receive it before the weekend, we will print it separately and include it inside this KSC.—HJM

From the Music Department



When Barb or I conduct our several choirs on Sunday morning, it can easily look like we and our accompanists are the only ones who are involved with these ensembles. This is absolutely not the case! A strong and vibrant music program such as we enjoy at Wesley-Knox is only possible because of the many people who give of their time and talent freely and competently.

For this KSC article, I would like to list and heartily thank all the generous and amazing volunteers whom we have relied upon all year. They are listed alphabetically by first name. And, the great fear of doing this is, of course, that I forget somebody! Please forgive me if I have! And now, be amazed...

Barbara McGill	Harry MacLean	Linda Olson	MJ Cooper
Brenda Lausanne	Helen Campbell	Mallory Brennan	Neil Eadie
Brian Ratcliffe	Irla Stewart	Marcia Gibson	Richard Yake
Cathie Banks	Jane Fenwick	Margaret Johns	Shawn Spicer
Christine Montgomery	Karen Pincombe	Margaret Ryan	Sheila Carson
Cindy Milne-Wren	Kelly Webb	Marilynne McNeil	Susan Marshall
Dave Lumley	Kennedy Kimber-Johnson	Mary Bee Haworth	
Dave Semple	Kimberley Gillespie	Matthew Hahn	
Emma Semple	Linda Imrie	Mike Ryan	

In gratitude to the Holy Spirit who moves hearts to give and not count the cost.—*Karen Schuessler, director of music*

From our Sunday School Director



Exciting things have been happening with our children and youth at the London Conference level. On the weekend of April 12–14, 155 teens and their adult leaders descended on Pearce-Williams Christian Centre near Iona for Youth Forum, and registration for the May 24–26 Children at Conference event closed early when its registration reached capacity well before deadline. Ninety children from all over London Conference will now be camping at Kee-Mo-Kee on the last weekend in May while organizers scout out larger facilities for next year!

This year Middlesex Presbytery compiled a comprehensive list of day camps and discovered that children could go to a United Church day camp in the London area every week this summer! Wesley-Knox is staffing two of those programs. On the week of July 15-19 we will host the Everywhere Fun Fair summer day camp. The program, for children entering senior kindergarten to those entering grade six, will feature drama, storytelling, crafts, science, snacks, and even a trip to Thames Pool. Rev. Tracy and I are excited to offer this program along with an exceptional group of youth and adult volunteers, and with our three summer students provided by Canada Summer Jobs! Rev. Tracy is also collaborating for the third year in a row to offer a Middlesex Presbytery youth event, FaithQuest, on the week of July 29–August 2. This is a program for youth entering grade 8 and up. It will be held at Siloam United Church, which is both air-conditioned and on a bus route!

On the home front, it is hard to believe that we are almost finished our second combined confirmation class. We benefit greatly from joining with the Calvary United Church ministry team and their youth. Believe me, there are days when it takes more than one ordained adult to grapple with questions that come up! I hope you will all attend our Confirmation Service on Heritage Sunday, June 2.

Wesley-Knox Family Camp takes place at Pearce-Williams Christian Centre on the weekend of June 21–23. Offerings of all kinds are needed to make this summer camp successful. If you would like to donate to help offset registration fees that would ensure that more families could participate. Or you could donate snacks or your time! Contact Barb if you can help.

I hope all families will take the opportunity to say thank you to our Sunday children's and youth program leaders. This year, many people have given their time and shared their faith with consistency and dedication. As a result, our young people are growing in their own faith, in their relationships with one another, and with God. Thank you, leaders, for all you are and all you do.—*Barbara McGill, Sunday School director*

A Social Media Bible Study? Yes!

For thirty days this June, thirty United Church leaders and over one dozen special guests (Shane Claiborne, Lois Wilson, Donna Sinclair, our moderator and more) will offer a **free social media-based Bible study**. Join spiritual seekers coast to coast to rock the Bible from various perspectives and have a rockin' time doing it! Get ready! See the colour poster on the

2 Wesley-Knox website, www.wesleyknox.com and join the Facebook "Rock The Bible" group today!—*Karlene Kimber*

May 26: Come to an Evening with Dr. David Galston

Ever wonder what Jesus was like as a person? On Sunday, May 26, at 7:30 pm, come and hear **Dr. David Galston** who will be speaking on his new book, **Embracing the Human Jesus**. David, ecumenical chaplain at Brock University in St. Catharines, Jesus scholar and member of the Jesus Seminar, is one of North America's foremost authorities on the historical Jesus.

A few notes on David's thinking about Jesus. David is pretty sure that, whatever else Jesus was or became in the minds of his followers, Jesus at least started out as a wisdom teacher. And he was a lot edgier than most of us think. Consider the Beatitudes. In the King James Bible and most translations that followed, the Greek is usually rendered as "Blessed are..." or "Fortunate are...". But scholars like David have discovered, among the rich set meanings of the original Greek, that "Congratulations to..." is a much more accurate translation. Try reading the Beatitudes this way: "Congratulations to the poor in spirit! Heavens's domain belongs to them! Congratulations to those who grieve! They will be consoled! Congratulations to the gentle! They will inherit the earth! Congratulations to those who hunger and thirst for justice! They will have a feast!" Much edgier!



David also believes that Jesus had a wicked sense of humour. The Parable of the Lost Sheep seems simple enough. A shepherd leaves his ninety-nine sheep to search for the one sheep that is lost. Upon finding his lost sheep, he brings his friends together and throws a party. It's just like God rejoicing when a lost soul returns to God. But the party is a kicker. These are shepherds and in Jesus' culture, party meant food. What do you suppose would be the first item on their menu? So now, what does this parable actually mean? Or consider Jesus' suggestion that, if someone takes your coat, you should give him your shirt as well. Jesus lived in a two-garment society. That's all they wore in Jesus' time and place—a coat and a long undershirt. None of this would have been lost on Jesus' audience. We're sure you get the picture too!

Again, come and hear David. In 2011, he was the highest-rated speaker at the Widen the Embrace Progressive Christianity Conference. He is a wonderful teacher and an engaging, entertaining speaker with nothing but the utmost admiration and respect for Jesus. **You will learn much.** Freewill offering only.—HJM

Laurie O'Leary Ordination

Plan to be at **Metropolitan United Church**, London, 7 pm on **Saturday, May 25**, when London Conference will ordain Wesley-Knox candidate for ministry **Laurie O'Leary**. For several years now, as she prepared for ordained ministry, Laurie has been serving Frome and Bethany United churches just west of St. Thomas. On **Sunday, June 16**, we will welcome Laurie and members of her two congregations to Wesley-Knox and **Laurie will lead Sunday worship**. A celebration of Laurie's new ministry will follow.

Tribute—Back to the Future Handbell Festival!

Wesley-Knox Ringers continue to gear up for their upcoming handbell festival! Seven ringers from Wesley-Knox will take part in the three-day festival offered on **May 23-25** at Western University (UWO). **Tribute—Back to the Future** is a musical tribute to the guest conductors that have led the Ontario Guild of English Handbell Ringers at festivals over the past 28 years. Both massed and sectional ringing plus numerous workshops will inspire our Wesley-Knox ringers to improve their skills, teach them relaxation techniques and improve their sight-reading abilities. To find out more about this weekend, see the posters on the back page of this KSC or visit www.tribute2013.ca.

Two Festival concerts are open to the general public:

- Thursday, May 23, 8 pm at Metropolitan United Church—**Raleigh Ringers in Concert**. This is the Canadian debut of this dynamic American handbell ensemble. You will be "wowed" in every sense of the word. Check them out at www.raleighringers.com. Tickets are \$20 and only 500 are available.
- Saturday, May 25, 8 pm at Alumni Hall, Western University—**Back to the Future Concert** with 450+ handbell ringers. This final concert of the festival directed by David Harris of the Raleigh Ringers will feature works inspired by past clinicians. **Wesley-Knox's own Karen Schuessler will be MC for this concert.** Free parking is available across from Alumni Hall and tickets are only \$15. Purchase tickets for either concert from Cathie Banks or Margaret Johns.—Cathie Banks

UNITED CHURCH WOMEN

UCW is winding down for the summer, ready to start fresh in September. We will have a busy fall making apple pies and getting ready for our Harvest to Holiday Festival in November.

The Garage Sale was a great success raising nearly \$3000 towards new and much needed tables and chairs for the downstairs Social Hall.

We will have had our High Tea on Saturday, May 11. Details may be found elsewhere in this KSC.

There are three units in UCW.

- Unit 1 meets on the first Monday evening of every month.
- Unit 2 meets on the first Tuesday afternoon of every month.
- Unit 4 meets on the second Tuesday evening of every month.

UCW membership is open to any woman who supports UCW's statement of purpose and is willing to contribute her prayers, gifts, and service for the work of the church in the world. Come one, come all women, and join us for a great and fun time.—*Lynda Laskey, UCW president*

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

It has been a very busy season through Lent, Easter and early spring. Looking back through the calendar shows an assortment of faith and community events. This season we have had Harry MacLean and Samantha Brennan bring us Living the Questions 2. They were quite excited to have a wonderfully diverse crowd come out for this series. On Sunday, May 26 at 7:30 pm their activities continue with Dr. David Galston presenting a public lecture entitled "Embracing the Human Jesus".

In late February, we offered a Family Movie Night with our feature film being "Rio". Families gathering together is always an exciting, joyful event. For those who missed that evening, Rev. Tracy performed a wonderful followup at children's time the following Sunday morning, discussing the film with our young people. Also in late

February, we had a Monopolython after church. Special thanks to Kathleen Brennan for seeing that lunch was prepared for all the gamers that day.

Movie nights continue to be popular throughout the year. Usually we offer 16 to 18 of these every year starting in the fall and continuing until late May or early June. Schedules are posted on the Wesley-Knox website and announcements are printed in the Sunday worship bulletins. Major thanks to the Communications Committee for maintaining our wonderful website. Check it often to keep up to date.

At the March 29 Good Friday Swell, several hundred London Conference youth descended on Wesley-Knox. Thank you from all the youth who participated and to all those involved in bringing this service to life. Special thanks to Pat Morrison, Rev. Brad Morrison, and their entourage from Grace United Church in Sarnia who come to us twice a year with their energy and desire to share the Good News. Pat and Brad also pass along their thanks to us for our commitment to the Swell and the support we continue to give them.

On April 21, the youth of our church led the Sunday worship service. Amazing is perhaps the best word to describe the talents and faith of our young people—listening and watching as they prepared the prayers and sermon, selected the songs, and participated in every part of the service from greeting and ushering to singing and speaking.

Preparations are well under way for Family Camp weekend at Pearce-Williams Christian Centre near Iona—this year from Friday, June 21 to Sunday, June 23. Choices are 1) coming out Friday night and staying until Sunday noon, 2) just coming out on Saturday or 3) coming out Saturday and staying over until Sunday. Please register and let us know your choice early so we can plan food and lodging. Your camp committee is Jane Walker,

Cindy Stewart and Dave Lumley.

Leading up to camp, we will be hosting a Camp Barbecue on Sunday, June 2 after church. This will help offset the cost of camp. Join our church family for this meal and welcome our newest members following confirmation and Holy Communion on that day.

The Christian Education Committee appreciates all that our volunteers have accomplished this past year. Thank you to all who assisted with the events that keep our church such a dynamic and wonderful place to call home. It is wonderful to see strong friendships grow as people take on new tasks.

This brings us to summer. We sincerely hope that you will have a safe and faith-filled summer wherever the days of July and August lead you. —*Dave Lumley, chair*

MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Members of our committee have been working with Rev. Tracy Crick-Butler and those who asked to join our church and it all came together a few weeks ago when we welcomed eight new members to Wesley-Knox. It was a lovely service followed by a reception with cake and coffee where everyone was able to welcome them into the fold.

Last month, our committee met with members of the Stewardship and District Visitors committees to plan the May 1 Colour Your Congregation workshop. Thank you, Trevor Johnson, for conducting this fine workshop. It was both entertaining and instructive to see what colour we were when we took the word test, and then learn our personality traits, not only in leadership roles, but in all aspects of our lives. Thanks also to Marilynne McNeil who helped organize this workshop.

In the coming months, we look forward to promoting greater involvement in our church, encouraging newcomers to participate in all of the activities and events we offer at Wesley-Knox. Once again, at the end of August or early in September, we will

be delivering flyers to homes in Old South London. This will help promote Wesley-Knox and the Welcome Back Barbecue that will be held in September to coincide with Sunday School registration. We would really like to establish a list of dedicated volunteers who will commit to helping us with our flyers next year. We do this only three times each year, in the fall, and just before Advent and Holy Week. This is an important task and it is actually showing results: People are checking us out and attendance is up. Karen Schuessler said she especially noticed this at the Christmas concert and our Advent services.

In this, we are trying to appeal to all ages. If you can help us, please let one of our committee members know. Members are Kathleen Brennan, Debbi Jarvis, Trevor Johnson, Harry MacLean, Sue Mennill and Jane Walker—*Debbi Jarvis, chair*

MIDDLESEX PRESBYTERY

I didn't really know what to expect last June when I was invited to attend a Presbytery meeting as guest. In fact I wasn't really sure what this whole "Presbytery thing" was all about. I knew I would learn some new things about this United Church of ours and I hoped to meet some new church friends. I was also hoping to see if being a Presbytery rep was a good role for me and whether or not it was a commitment I could fit into my schedule and my life.

By the time the meeting was over I was energized, engaged and excited! This is the wider church! What an amazing, awesome surprise! I knew Wesley-Knox was a special place but what I didn't realize was how much my admiration of our church went beyond our walls. Over the past year, my appreciation of how we, as a church, "conduct our business" has deepened.

The Presbytery Guide to Membership reminds us that "The United Church of Canada is a conciliar church. Authority and responsibility are shared by all members." I don't think it's ever easy to share authority and responsibility, especially in a community

as diverse as the United Church. Yet, as part of our church, we are intentionally invited again and again, by our procedures, our leaders, the community and one another to "be the church"—informed and involved.

At this time, the Comprehensive Review Task Group formed at the 41st General Council is leading a church-wide conversation about the future of our United Church of Canada. Congregations are being invited to "share their dreams, frustrations, wisdom and prayers for our church." You can read more about this work on the United Church website, www.united-church.ca.

If you are interested in learning more about the work of Presbytery or in attending a meeting, please contact Debbi Jarvis or myself.—*Karlene Kimber, Middlesex Presbytery representative*

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!" Philippians 4:4 NIV

Wesley-Knox United Church has lots to rejoice about this season. Our sanctuary resounded with the voices of children throughout the month of April with the youth of the church taking responsibility for our service on April 21, including the greeting and ushering. Thanks for their youthful enthusiasm and dedicated leadership. Our young people further inspired the congregation when the religious musical "Oh, Jonah!" was performed on April 28. What a talented group of singers, musicians, directors and helpers! Our thanks goes out to the parents who got their children to rehearsals too. We love having your children in church with us.

The church also literally rang out as the Bell Choir enhanced our worship with music earlier in April. We welcomed new members and have been blessed with baptism after baptism this spring. We share in the joy of all of these families.

Environmental Sunday kicked off the month of May with the Mission and Services Committee again taking responsibility for this service with an

important message about reducing our footprint on the earth. Other special services are planned. Rev. Tracy Crick-Butler will be away for two Sundays in May. David Burghardt will take over the pulpit on May 19 and our former ministerial student, now Rev. Jim McKean, will be preaching on May 26.

On June 2, Rev. Tracy will be back to help us celebrate communion and confirm our young people on Heritage Sunday. Children will remain in the sanctuary for this intergenerational service. Please join us on June 16 when Wesley-Knox member, newly ordained Rev. Laurie O'Leary, will bring members of her congregations to Wesley-Knox to hear her preach. A celebration of her new ministry will follow. Sunday, June 23 falls on Family Camp weekend and Rev. Doug Ross will preach at Wesley-Knox while Rev. Tracy will be with those at Pearce-Williams Christian Centre. Hope to see you at all these wonderful services.—*Sandra Fox, chair*

DISTRICT VISITORS

If you attended Worship at Wesley-Knox on April 14, you were a part of a service full of energy with a baptism, the welcoming of new members, great music and an inspiring sermon. The church was so alive that day, thanks to Rev. Tracy's message and her leadership, as well as the leadership of countless others who contributed.

One of the rewarding aspects of being a District Visitor is to be able to share the memorable moments of services, concerts and other events with those whom you visit, especially with shut-ins who are no longer able to attend services on Sunday. I have said it before but it is well worth repeating. I share the sentiments of all my fellow District Visitors when I say I get more out of a visit than I give. With families who are busy, my visit may be just a telephone call, but even then the family feels a connection with a District Visitor.

If you would like more information about becoming a District Visitor, please contact Brenda Smith, chair of our committee, at 519.672.5216.

—*Heather Bedford, vice chair*

South Sudan: Next Steps and William Ater

Since the return of the **Journey with South Sudan** mission team at the end of January, our Mission and Service Committee has been working diligently to set priorities and develop further long-term strategies for its ongoing outreach projects involving our Wesley-Knox congregation. On May 5, at a special meeting, members of our committee met with members of the 2013 Journey with South Sudan team to share these strategies and ask for input and ideas. Significant in our discussions: the fact that Canadian Aid for Southern Sudan (CASS) uses all the donations it receives to directly fund projects. Unlike many other overseas-aid organizations, administration in Canada is totally handled by unpaid volunteers. In South Sudan, however, day-to-day oversight and fulfillment of CASS programs is handled by William Ater—a very competent and compassionate citizen of that new country. To those of us who had the honour of meeting William during our visit, it was evident that without his presence there, things would simply not be happening as effectively or efficiently as they do. Given the team's first-hand knowledge, the unanimous consensus was that the outreach project we would recommend to Wesley-Knox for 2013 would be to raise \$3000 to directly support **William Ater** in his role as CASS point person in South Sudan. Please read on so that you too will have an opportunity to know William's story and find out what a truly amazing man he is...



Once you spend time with **William Ater—Canadian Aid for Southern Sudan's point-person on the ground**—you quickly realize you've never met anyone quite like him before. In his 30s, he's dignified with a maturity beyond his years. Listening to his life story, you gain a quick understanding of where the depth of his commitment comes from.

Born during some of the most brutal days of the civil war between northern and southern Sudan, William's father was an officer in the rebel army fighting for its survival. When his father was killed in battle, the conflict being particularly brutal in his area, William was forced to flee with a large number of boys. Thus began his remarkable odyssey.

With his mother dead from starvation, William teamed up with others to seek protection in the only place available at the time—Ethiopia, hundreds of kilometres to the east. The journey was arduous, with many of the boys killed by raiders or lions. Eventually they made it to Ethiopia, where they were forced into the life of child soldiers. As difficult as it was, William was still able to acquire an education.

Eventually William wanted to return to his home in southern Sudan to help his people. He ended up walking all the way back. It was then, in 1999, that Jane Roy and Glen Pearson met William, on their very first trip to what is now South Sudan. Young William was hired as an interpreter in their fight to free slaves and he became an indispensable member of each Canadian team that journeyed to southern Sudan. The war was now raging everywhere and William took many risks to bring women and children back from slavery in the north.

Jane and Glen were asked by southern leaders to assist in educating and rehabilitating former slaves. They launched Canadian Aid for Southern Sudan (CASS) specifically to fulfill that purpose. William became an essential part of their efforts.

Although CASS was funding and supporting numerous programs on the ground in southern Sudan, it soon became clear that hiring a local leader to guide and sustain CASS initiatives would be essential to their success. In the community's mind, William was the obvious choice. Although he had been asked to take the role of local commissioner and was a popular favourite to become the region's Member of Parliament, he turned down each opportunity, saying that he simply wanted to oversee development projects that would directly assist his people. The respect he earned for that decision made him the clear choice to become CASS's person on the ground.

The Canadian side of CASS is entirely volunteer with all funds donated to CASS going directly to on-the-ground programs in South Sudan. But, although the organization takes large teams to South Sudan each January, the need for a full-time employee to guide programs when the teams are not there is paramount. Initiatives like scholarships, water projects, the purchase of goats, and microenterprise efforts would not be possible without William's clear leadership. As CASS's only employee, the role he plays is pivotal, not only to the South Sudanese but also to our Canadian image in the region.

With the Republic of South Sudan now the world's newest nation, a new generation of leadership that will guide that country from war to a strong and lasting peace is essential. William has vowed to be part of the future of South Sudan. In recognition of his key importance to the region, CASS funded William to take university courses in Uganda. He has now graduated—a remarkable accomplishment in an area that hardly has any high schools.

For CASS to be truly effective and for donations to CASS to have their largest reach, supporting William will ensure that CASS projects, funded by the generosity of Canadians, will be well managed, not only in oversight, but in the care and compassion of a people only now learning the blessings of peace.—*Sheila LeClair*

Late Spring and Pentecost 2013 Calendar

Special Services...

Sunday, May 19

10:30 am

David Burghardt, speaker

Saturday, May 25

7 pm

Metropolitan United Church

Laurie O'Leary ordination service

Sunday, May 26

10:30 am

Rev. Jim McKean, speaker

Heritage Sunday, June 2

Confirmation and

Holy Communion

10:30 am

Rev. Tracy Crick-Butler

Sunday, June 16

10:30 am

Welcome Rev. Laurie O'Leary

and her congregations!

Celebration following service!

Up-to-date information on all Wesley-Knox events is always available online at www.wesleyknox.com. Check the calendars on the right sidebar.

Sunday, June 23

10:30 am

Rev. Douglas Ross

Special Events...

Evening with David Galston:

Embracing the Human Jesus

Sunday, May 26, 7 pm

Tribute—Back to the Future

Handbell Festival concerts

Thursday, May 23, 8 pm

Metropolitan United Church

Saturday, May 25, 7:30 pm

Alumni Hall, Western University

See KSC article for details

KSS Tribute to Carousel

and Classic Broadway concert

Saturday, June 1, 8 pm

After-church Camp Barbecue

Sunday, June 2, 11:30 am

Wesley-Knox Family Camp

Weekend Pearce-Williams

Christian Centre near Iona,

Friday, June 21–Sunday, June 23

Community Breakfasts

Saturdays, May 11 and June 8

8:45-10:30 am

Out-of-the-Cold Dinners

Sundays, May 26 and June 30

5:30–6:30 pm

Movie Nights

Fridays, May 17 and 31, June 14

Wesley-Knox Council

Wednesdays, May 15 and July 17

7 pm (subject to change)

Wesley-Knox Official Board

Wednesdays, June 19 and August 21

7 pm (subject to change)

No Community Breakfasts,

Out-of-the-Cold Dinners or

choir rehearsals July and August

Notes from All Over...

- Congratulations to **Richard Yake** for his fine article on the Wesley-Knox Community Choir Program that appeared in the London Conference Bridge section of the May 2013 United Church Observer. Currently, over 120 children and young people are involved in this program. Congratulations also to **Lauren Schmenk** for her equally fine article on Worshiplude in Ottawa. Lauren, who coordinates youth activities for Middlesex Presbytery, attends Wesley-Knox and works with our young people.

- On Wednesday, April 17, 1–5 pm, Wesley-Knox hosted the Kiwanis Music Festival organ classes. Many of us were rooting for **Kennedy Kimber-Johnson** who was featured in a recent London Free Press article about young people and the pipe organ. An update: Kennedy's playing was excellent, on a par with competitors with several more years of study behind them. An announcement regarding distribution of prize money is expected soon.

- Members of the **Wesley-Knox Senior Choir** would like to thank all who came to their 2013 Turkey Dinner. The choir will be using money it has been raising to help with church operating expenses, support Arts for All Kids, support Canadian Aid for Southern Sudan, pay for the timpani and top up its choir gown fund.

- Our **Wesley-Knox young people** never cease to amaze us! Just before Christmas, we reported their YouTube video of The Cup Song was up to 8000 hits, but sometime during the weekend of April 6, that number actually rolled past **one million!**

- Interested in using the **Wesley-Knox–KSS portable sign**? Sign coordinators Mike Ryan and Jeff Fullerton advise that, starting in September, you must first submit the following information to the church office: 1) name and date of event, 2) duration of advertising, and 3) location: church or Valu-Mart. Use of sign will be on a first-come first-served basis.



Kennedy Kimber-Johnson at the Wesley-Knox organ
—LFPpress photo

Meet our South London Neighbours –AMG Funeral Home

Occasional notes about South London neighbours who have advertised in our new Wesley-Knox photo directory...

Paul J. Mullen is a much-respected member of our Wesley Knox United Church community. His sound sense of business and gifts of leadership have served our church well for many years.

The A. Millard George Funeral Home was established in 1935. The business moved to 190 Wortley Road in 1940 and remained there until 1968 when the present funeral home was constructed and opened at 60 Ridout Street South.

Paul told us, "I joined the firm in 1965 and received my funeral director's licence in 1967. Mr. George and I became business partners in 1971."

Now, the partnership of Paul Mullen and his son David, ensures that the A. Millard George Funeral Home will continue to be family-owned and family-operated.—*Al Pauli*



The Raleigh Ringers
Handbell Ensemble



Canadian Premiere concert of these amazing performers, under the direction of David Harris and part of the Ontario Guild of English Handbell Ringers' 2013 Festival

Thursday, May 23, 2013 at 8:00 pm

Metropolitan United Church
468 Wellington Street, London, ON N6A 3P8

Tickets: \$20.00 each at the door and are available in advance by contacting K.C. Cann at 519.432.5651 or by visiting the Festival Website www.tribute2013.ca



ONTARIO GUILD OF ENGLISH HANDBELL RINGERS



Tribute
Back to the Future
Massed Handbell Concert

OGEHR Festival
WESTERN UNIVERSITY, LONDON

The final concert of the OGEHR 2013 Festival celebrates works inspired by past clinicians and is directed by David Harris of the Raleigh Ringers

Come experience 450+ handbell ringers
Free parking near Alumni Hall

www.ogehr.ca • www.tribute2013.ca

Saturday, May 25, 2013 • 8:00 pm
Alumni Hall, Western University
All tickets \$15 • General admission seating
Available at the door or by contacting registrar@tribute2013.ca



SONGS OF THE TRUE NORTH
KAREN SCHUESSLER SINGERS
20th ANNIVERSARY SEASON



A TRIBUTE TO CAROUSEL & CLASSIC BROADWAY

8 pm
Wesley-Knox United Church
91 Askin Street, London

with soloists Amber Cunningham, Paul Grambe, Gillian Kadiwaj and Kevin Rice

ADULTS \$20 / SENIORS \$18 in advance (\$22 / \$20 at the door)
Students \$10 / Children 6-12 accompanied by an adult, free
Tickets from Tuckey Home Hardware, Lamber Art Gallery, Long & McQuade, Allie Books and Charles North

Information: 519.455.8895 or www.kssingers.com
Tickets may be purchased online at www.kssingers.com



Handbells and KSS! Plan to attend all these great concerts!

A Busy Spring...



Left to right: UCW Garage Sale—almost \$3000 was raised for new tables and chairs for the Wesley-Knox Social Hall; Living the Questions 2; Wesley-Knox High Tea—sandwiches, scones and clotted cream—a great time was had by all!

Deadline for articles, reports and photos for the next Kindred Spirit Connection is Sunday, September 15, three weeks before Worldwide Communion on Sunday, October 6. Late items create production problems. Please be considerate and do not submit your items late.—HJM