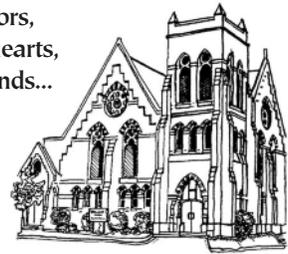


The Kindred Spirit Connection

Open doors,
Open hearts,
Open minds...



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

Spring - Pentecost 2014

From Rev. Tracy



My grandmother always taught me “Take care of the pennies and the dollars will take care of themselves.” It was a constant reminder to me that little things do make a big difference and that every little bit counts. It was also a lesson in the importance of my role in that—to actively

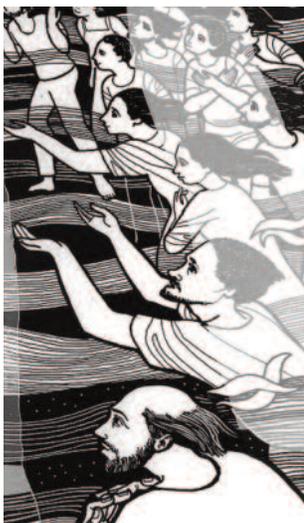
care for what I have and to make wise decisions about it. You may remember Jesus’ story of the three servants (Matthew 25:14-30). A landowner is going away and he entrusts three of his servants with some of his money. To one he gives five talents, to another two, and to the third, a single talent. The first two servants invest it wisely and realize a profit for their boss. The third, out of fear, buries it in the ground and only returns the one original talent. The boss is not happy. What a waste of opportunity, of blessing, of gifts. The story reminds us that we are called to take what we have been entrusted with and multiply it for the mission and ministry of Jesus Christ.

The Stewardship Committee at Wesley-Knox is inviting you to multiply our mission and ministry. In May and June the Stewardship committee will be handing out \$5 to all those who want it. Through “Mission Possible” they are

investing in you, the people of Wesley-Knox, and look forward to learning what you do with this \$5 to grow the mission and ministry of Jesus. You may choose to spend your \$5 reaching out to someone who needs to know you are there. You might take the \$5 and plant a garden and the produce will go to the Food Bank. You might use it to buy gas for the lawn-mower and cut people’s lawns, returning your profit to the church so that we might grow the ministry of this place. Your gifts, creativity and faithfulness will lead you to discover a wonderful way of participating in this ministry. With God, the possibilities are endless!

While the committee looks forward to seeing a return on their investments, they also are excited about learning how you, the people of Wesley-Knox used the gifts you were given to be the hands and feet of Christ in the world. On Dedication Sunday, October 26, we will celebrate the many ways you used your \$5 to grow the mission and ministry of Wesley-Knox and continue to be the Church is this place.

I encourage you to get involved, be creative and enjoy using the gifts with which you have been entrusted. Wesley-Knox is a community that is continuing to grow in faith, in mission and in love. May we all invest in it in life-giving and God-inspired ways. Peace.—*Rev. Tracy Crick-Butler*



The Holy Spirit Comes at Pentecost

When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven. When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard their own language being spoken. Utterly amazed, they asked, “Aren’t all these who are speaking Galileans? Then how is it that each of us hears them in our native language? Parthians, Medes and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome (both Jews and converts to Judaism), Cretans and Arabs—we hear them declaring the wonders of God in [their] own tongues!” Amazed and perplexed, they asked one another, “What does this mean?” Some, however, made fun of them and said, “They have had too much new wine.”—Acts 2:1-13, NIV

In Memoriam

We thank God for the life and witness of

Dawn Mundy
March 23

Baptisms

Amanda Lynn Stublely

Jacob Gabriel Felix Horak
Oliver Maxx Ernest Horak
sons of
Amanda Lynn Stublely
and Martin Horak

Workshop of Wonders!



- An energetic, fun-filled, interactive day camp for children entering Senior Kindergarten to those entering Grade 6!
- Monday to Friday, July 14-18, 9 am-3 pm. Extended hours care 8:30-9 am and 3-4:30 pm available.
- Explore, experience and discover the wonders of God's work in our world with interactive Bible fun, music, science, crafts, hands-on outreach projects, global games and much, much more!
- Registration deadline: July 1.
- Cost: First child \$65. Each additional sibling \$45. Cash or cheque payable to Wesley-Knox United Church. Extended-hours care an additional \$15 per child.
- For more information, contact Barb McGill, 519.438.4556, mcgill4556@gmail.com.

From our Music Director



What a wonderful year this has been! Such rich and spiritual musical experiences, both in worship and outside of it. So many people at Wesley-Knox who give their time, talent and energy to keep things running smoothly so Barb and I can plan the music we enjoy in our worship and give people—young and old—musical experiences.

In this article, I would like to heartily thank all of the generous and amazing volunteers on whom we rely all year. I have listed them alphabetically by first name in the areas in which they volunteer. A few names will be listed more than once. The great fear in doing this, of course, is that I have forgotten someone or have even been unaware of their gifts! Please forgive me if this has happened!

Musicians and Conductors: Amanda Lynn Stublely, Brian Ratcliffe, Cathie Banks, Dave Semple, Irla Stewart, Karen Pincombe, Kelly Webb, Kennedy Kimber-Johnson, Martin Horak, Neil Eadie, Richard Yake and Shawn Spicer.

Cherub and Primary Choirs: Amanda Lynn Stublely, Emma Semple, Kennedy Kimber-Johnson, Mallory Brennan, MJ Cooper, Richard Yake and Sandy O'Neil

Junior Choir and Mysterium: Brian Ratcliffe, Cindy Milne-Wren, Kathy Jenkins, Joanne Sutherland, Kimberley Gillespie, Marcia Gibson and MJ Cooper.

Children's Community Choir Support (door greeters, etc.): Amanda Lynn Stublely, Brian Dalton, Cathie Banks, Eileen Cook, Elaine Forrest, Freda Evans, Gail Bright, Irla and Don Stewart, Karlene Kimber, Kathy Jenkins, Joanne Sutherland, Marilyn and Ron Bratti, Mary Bee Haworth, Ruth and John Rushton, Sue Mennill and Tracy Crick-Butler.

Senior Choir: Al Pauli, Harry MacLean, Helen Campbell, Jane Fenwick, Linda Olson, Maggie Logan, Marg Johns, Margaret Ryan, Marilynne McNeil, Max Brigden, Mike Ryan, Neil Eadie, Richard Yake and Sheila Carson.

Photographers: Brian Dalton and John McFall.

In gratitude to the Holy Spirit who moves hearts to give but not to count the cost.

—Karen Schuessler, director of music

From our Director of Children's and Youth Ministry



A big thank you to all who helped out in the nursery, and with the Sunday School and youth programs this year. In the nursery we had a great roster held together by the organizational skills of Jacqueline Peskett! Thank you, Margaret Eadie, Julie Smith, Jennifer Cline, Cathy Jenkins, Kennedy and Sydney Kimber-Johnson, Andrew Prentice, Patti Helm, Maggie Walker, Marion Hearn and Melissa Arnett-Eckmier. For JK through to Grade 6, thank you Melissa and Chris Page-Nichols, Mallory Brennan, Lisa Morris, Emma Morden, Lauren Schmenck, Patricia McClure, John Koreen, Cindy Milne-Wren, Marcia Gibson and Susan Ackland. Thanks also to Lisa and Susan for making sure that teachers were in place all season! Then there were our specialist teachers as well as our substitutes, hall monitors, prayer partners, shoppers, bakers, and musicians: Dave Cooper, Tony Haworth, John Koreen, Patti Helm, Trevor Johnson, Carl Hearn, Connie Hiscock, Marion Hearn, Pauline Brock, Elizabeth Milne-Wren, Alec Collinwood, Amanda Lynn Stublely, Martin Horak, Joanne Sutherland and Cindy Mackinnon. And for Grade 7-12, Brian Mackinnon, Brad Prentice, Dez Sergeant, Maggie Morden, Karen Pincombe, Mary Bee Haworth and Glen Pearson. Thanks to Karen and Brian for being the backbone of these programs, and thanks to Wendy Hutchinson and Joseph Van de Bor, our dedicated mother and son team

Barb's report continues ►

Women's Retreat

This year's Wesley-Knox Women's Retreat, held on Friday, May 2, was a spirit-filled night of fellowship. About 40 of us met to spend time thinking and learning about the night's theme, "Sabbath Moments". We shared a delicious meal provided by Vivien White, Julie Starling and Cindy Milne who also amused us with a skit about the spiritual and emotional costs of leading busy lives. Melissa Page-Nichols talked about the challenges of "anxious busy-ness," and inspired us to make space for rest and renewal in daily life.

Cathie Banks then set up hand chimes and, within a short time, everyone was playing together! Another highlight was the candlelight labyrinth set up in the gym. For our last activity, we came together in the sanctuary where Rev. Tracy led us in worship and, with Barb McGill's help, I led us in song. By night's end, many of us left for home feeling renewed in spirit and community. Many thanks to this year's retreat committee: Linda Wilcox, Cindy Stewart, Karlene Kimber and Rev. Tracy Crick-Butler.—*Amanda Lynn Stublely*



"And they will spring up among the grass, like poplars among the streams of water..."—Isaiah 44:4. Earth Sunday Tree Planting at Watson Park. Over 20 from Wesley-Knox took part. Still taken from the Glen Pearson/Jane Roy YouTube video. View it on the web!

Lenten Study Group

This spring, for eight weeks, eight women gathered on Tuesday nights to discuss and ponder the stories offered in this year's United Church Publishing House Lenten study, *Confronted by Jesus: Daily Reflections for Lent*.

In our sessions, we thought about the familiar stories of Jesus in new ways, through the perspectives and reflections of author Rev. Debbie MacMillan, through our own understandings and experiences, and finally, through the thoughts, experiences and stories of our fellow participants. For eight weeks, we studied, sang and prayed together, finishing off with a wonderful potluck dinner on May 5!

For me, a very enriching faith journey and community experience.—*Karlene Kimber*

Wesley-Knox Choir: Giving in Song and Deeds

In a past Kindred Spirit Connection, our Senior Choir president, Richard Yake, offered you a peek into our choir world through his "MusicLeaks from the Loft" article. In that article, Richard highlighted two of our "key performances"—the annual Christmas concert and our annual Turkey Dinner which we prepare and serve with lots of help from our friends!

At our Senior Choir Annual General Meeting, as we

carefully considered where to allocate the monies we raised last year, we thought those of you who support our efforts might like to know where our money actually goes.

Each year we set aside a certain amount for the future purchase of new choir gowns. Then we allocate 25% of what is left to each of the following: church deficit and operating expenses, church capital projects, social outreach projects, and "other". Projects we have supported in the past include the purchase of the main kitchen dishwasher (this was also supported by our UCW), purchase of a new gas range, construction of the new east parking lot entrance, Sudan, and the Arts for all Kids program at London Food Bank.

This year we chose to support the purchase of new ovens for the main kitchen, the newly-created Wesley-Knox Vision Fund, Jessie Read and Mallory Brennan who are both involved in summer outreach projects, and once again, Sudan. We also repaid Karen and Harry in full for the timpani and now, with more than enough money in the Gown Fund, we chose to strengthen the Organ Fund. The condition of the organ matters greatly to our condition!

Thanks to all who help us in our efforts and support our work for the church and our community.—*Margo Bettger-Hahn*

Earth Sunday Watson Park Tree Planting

At our April 27 Earth Sunday service, speaker Glen Pearson invited anyone who might be interested to join him and Jane Roy at a tree and shrub planting event at Watson Park, Wellington Road near the Thames River. Some 20 Wesley-Knox young people—and quite a few of riper years—arrived that afternoon to help Million Tree Challenge and the Upper Thames Valley Conservation Authority by planting over 70 trees and shrubs. In the days that followed, Glen and Jane created an excellent video of this inspired and inspiring event! It can be found both on the Wesley-Knox home page and on YouTube. Take a look at it! God's good earth rejoices!

Anyone for Golf?

Bill Bright and his team—Ross Rowe, Marilynne McNeil, Paul Mullen and Doug Scott—are organizing an annual Wesley-Knox Fun Golf Social, likely for the second or third Saturday of September. For more information or to help, contact Bill at 519.686.0223, e-mail gailandbill@rogers.com.

Spring Photo Album



On Palm Sunday (top-left) adults laid coats in the aisles and children distributed the palms. The 2014 Good Friday Swell (bottom-left) attracted 400 young people from over Southwestern Ontario and beyond. Our Easter service with choirs, organ, brass and timpani (right) ended with the whole church singing Handel's Hallelujah Chorus!—*John McFall photos*



Congratulations to Rev. Dr. Doug Ross who recently celebrated 40 years of association with Wesley-Knox. Doug was our minister 1974–1984. He remained a member during his years at London Conference office and a period of interim ministry. He is now Minister Emeritus and Minister of Visitation.—*Brian Dalton photo*



Here's Karen conducting the Wesley-Knox Junior Choir at St. David's United Church in Woodstock. The choir sang beautifully and received rave reviews. This "field trip" to Woodstock, complete with a Pizza Hut lunch afterwards, was the final activity of another busy, fun-filled year.—*HM photo*



The dumpster was full! Members of the Mission and Service Committee and friends on Electronics Recycling Day. No word yet on tonnage or how much money was raised for Sudan.—*Sheila Carson photo*

- Deadline for materials for the Fall KSC is Sunday, September 14.