



The Wesley-Knox Kindred Spirit Connection

Moving in the Spirit...

Epiphany-Winter 2016

From Rev. Tracy



Dear Friends,

Last week I broke down and bought a cauliflower. For those of you who do the grocery shopping for your home, you know what that means. The cost of most fruits and vegetables has risen drastically, and the price of cauliflower has been especially high. It became a topic of conversation in our home, with me boldly declaring, "I guess we won't be eating THAT this winter!" avowing that the cost was just too prohibitive.

So as I walked by the cauliflower counter yet again, I couldn't help but think that buying that cauliflower would be a much better way to spend my grocery money than spending it on other things. Cauliflower is healthy, tastes great, is versatile and all of my children will eat it! It has been a staple in our home for many meals. I finally bought the cauliflower, knowing that I would need to scrimp on other things, but also knowing that sometimes we need to invest in things that are important, that are good for us and that we value.

I carry that reflection with me as I think about Wesley-Knox's "Building Our Future" growth campaign. The congregation has set a very ambitious goal of \$850,000 to be raised over the next five years, so we can grow into the future and be God's Church in this place. For some the very idea is prohibitive. "How can we raise that much money?" However, to date, we have pledges totalling \$208,735 which is 24.6% of our goal. And we are just beginning!

There are so many who value our Wesley-Knox faith community. The ministry and mission of this church has and will continue to transform lives and reach out to people for years to come. We see possibilities for growth and many are listening to where God is calling them into new ministries within the church and in the world. We are blessed with people who love this church and love to serve God. They are motivated, passionate and creative.

The Building Our Future growth campaign will invite you to consider how you might be able to support Wesley-Knox into the future through your ideas and your financial contributions. I recognize that this might be difficult for some. Some will make pledges that are intentional choices but require sacrificing elsewhere. I also know that some will feel what they are able to offer might not make that much difference. Please know that every gift of money, ideas and prayers is an important part of how we serve God together.

As with buying the cauliflower, we each need to make decisions about how to invest our resources. My prayer is that, if Wesley-Knox is a community important and life-giving to you, if it enhances your life and the lives of those you love, and if you believe that God is calling us to serve in transformative ways, you will become involved in Building Our Future. I trust that we are on a faith-filled journey as the Spirit calls us to move out into the world in new ways.

Peace and New Year's blessing to you and your family.
—Rev. Tracy Crick-Butler

Notes from All Over

- This edition of the KSC follows close on the heels of the Advent-Christmas KSC, so we've kept it down to four pages. Easter is very early this year, so deadline for the next KSC is **Sunday, February 28**, only about one month away. If you sent us a long report for this KSC, we will publish it then. Whatever, do send us lots of stuff!—*Harry MacLean, editor*
- Once again, our annual **Christmas concert and Christmas Eve services** were very well attended with just over 500 at the concert and the early Christmas Eve service, and nearly 100 at the late Christmas Eve service.
- This year, Shrove Tuesday falls on February 9. Why cook that night? Instead, head over to Wesley-Knox where the Community Breakfast Team will offer its annual **Pancake Supper**: all-you-can-eat pancakes, ham, chuckwagon beans, choice of beverage, and a do-it-yourself sundae for dessert, all for only \$6, kids 12 and under only \$3. Proceeds will support the Community Breakfast program. **Notes** continued on page 3 ►

Baptisms

Lewis Stanley Watson
son of
Martha and Robert

Maggie Marie Hodgson
daughter of
Rachel and William

Noah Hodgson
son of
Rachel and William

Winter Movie Festival

Movies are shown in the Centennial Parlour on Fridays at 7:30 pm. Free popcorn and soft drinks plus decaf and dessert after the movie, and often a second feature for night owls. A great way to spend a Friday evening and make new friends! Here's the 2016 Winter schedule for this popular program.



January 29 • **The Age of Adaline** with Blake Lively and Michiel Huisman



February 12 • **Still Alice** with Julianne Moore and Alec Baldwin



February 26 • **The Intern** with Robert De Niro and Anne Hathaway



March 11 • **Jersey Boys** with John Lloyd Young and Erich Bergen

Also **Family Movie Night**
March 4, 7 pm, title and date TBA

More information on all movies on church bulletin boards and the home page of the church website,
www.wesleyknox.com

From our Music Director



Happy Epiphany, everyone! After a splendid Advent and Christmas season and a relaxing holiday, the musical life of Wesley-Knox is back in full swing. The first special event of this year is our very first Jam Session, Sunday, January 31, 2 pm in the parlour, led by folk-song expert and experienced jam leader, Amanda-Lynn Stublely. This will be a great opportunity for folks to come out, bring an instrument, and play or sing along with whoever shows up! The goal is to get everybody grooving and having a great time with music. Relatively unstructured, it should be a great afternoon. Personally, I can't wait. I am busy practicing all of six chords I know on the guitar! Amanda-Lynn has also scheduled a second Jam Session for March 6, so if you miss the first one, no worries. These will be ongoing events!

On Saturday, February 6, 7 pm, our wonderful Junior Girls' Choir will sing "O Canada" at a London Lightning basketball game at Budweiser Gardens. Buy a \$15 ticket, come to support our girls and enjoy a great family night out! This is a major fundraiser for our phenomenal children's choir program.

Mysterium has been asked to perform at the L'Arche Banquet and Silent Auction, Friday, February 26 at the DoubleTree Hotel. Mysterium has a history of involvement with L'Arche. It is the choir's intentional charity partner and the choir is thrilled to participate in this worthy event.

Sing On, Sisters! Sunday will be February 28. This is when all the girls and women of the Junior, Mysterium and Senior Choirs sing in the choir loft together. No boys allowed! Sing On, Brothers! Sunday is March 6 when the boys and men of the Junior, Mysterium and Senior Choirs sing together. No girls allowed! Lots of fun!

Lastly, a new men's quartet has formed—spontaneously! They were a hit two Sundays ago and, at our last choir rehearsal, I saw them in deep conference so my guess is you can expect to hear from this lively group again very soon. Enjoy!

—Karen Schuessler, director of music

From our Director of Children's and Youth Ministry



Sunday School is back in session after a full and fulfilling Advent and Christmas season. Our youngest classes are exploring the Vineyard Parable (Matt 20:1-16) and our leaders are witness to wonderful discussion. Sharing and fairness are hot topics with this age group and this parable turns this topic upside down. Our next parable is The Great Banquet (Luke 14:15-24). YouthQuest is celebrating the return of Glen Pearson from Sudan (one of their four fearless leaders) and will continue with their study of the Beatitudes (Matt 5:1-12). Our grade 6–8 class is pondering "We trust in God..." from the United Church New Creed and are gearing up for their annual sleepover on Saturday, February 27. Confirmation classes are scheduled—no easy task!—and we will begin with a double session on Saturday, February 20, 3–7 pm. Faith partners are included and dinner is provided.

On February 5–7, our Youth Group is off to Worshiplude in Ottawa. Brian Mackinnon puts his heart and soul into arranging this for all London Conference youth and it is a well attended and much loved faith-formation event. Registration is now open for LoCo Youth Forum (YF, grades 9-12)—an amazing annual conference-wide retreat held at Pearce-Williams Christian Centre. This year it runs Thursday, April 7 to Sunday, April 10. Registration information is available at www.londonconference.ca/content/youth-forum. Fast on the heels of YF is the April 23–24 YouthQuest retreat and the March 25 Good Friday Swell. Plans are underway for many events in June. More in the next KSC.—Barbara McGill, director, CYM

The Building our Future Growth Campaign

The Building our Future Growth Campaign was officially launched October 25. This campaign is about making a financial commitment towards our congregation's future. While the \$850,000 goal is ambitious, it offers a path that will create opportunities for Wesley-Knox to expand its outreach as well as strengthen its position as a vibrant faith community. In a few short months, we have already received pledges totalling \$208,735—24.6% of our goal. Imagine what we will be able to raise when fundraising activities and events begin!

At this time, we need all of you to be a part of the campaign. Take a look below at the schedule of upcoming "Imagine the Possibilities" gatherings and sign up for one. Signup sheets can be found in the Social Hall.

- Each gathering is a social event open to members, adherents and all who love Wesley-Knox. In other words, everyone is welcome!
- These events are being hosted by a number of different people. Many of them have opened their homes and are excited to have you join them as their guests. We also have hosts who have kindly agreed to hold an event here at the church where there may be easier access.
- Each gathering has many purposes. You'll be able to learn more about the growth campaign in a more intimate setting. It will be a great opportunity for you to ask questions. It will also give everyone a chance to share ideas and visions of the future. Last, but not least, it will be a great way to socialize and have fun.

Here is the most current list of scheduled gatherings:

Date	Time	Host(s)
Monday, February 1	1 pm	Sue Mennill (at Wesley-Knox)
Wednesday, February 3	7 pm	Virginia Ford and Carl & Marion Hearn
Friday, February 12	7 pm	Chris Nichols and Melissa Page-Nichols
	7:30 pm	Trevor Johnson and Karlene Kimber-Johnson
Friday, February 19	7 pm	Jane Walker
Monday, February 22	7 pm	Tony and Mary Bee Haworth
Sunday, April 3	2 pm	Carl and Marion Hearn
Friday, April 8	7 pm	Glenn and Linda Wilcox
Saturday, April 9	7 pm	Chris and Liz Mortlock
Wednesday, April 20	1 pm	John and Ruth Rushton (at Wesley-Knox)
Sunday, April 24	2 pm	Marcia Gibson (at Wesley-Knox)



We need you to help Build our Future. Please join us on this journey!—Sheila LeClair, chair, Building our Future

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- Reading this but not yet a member of Wesley-Knox? A **New Members Sunday** is being planned for this spring. Please contact Rev. Tracy if you are interested.
- Mark you calendars and plan to join in the fun! Once again, OSCO, the Old South Community Organization, is holding its annual **Chili Cookoff** at Wesley-Knox, with judging at 6 pm and supper at 7. Come out, help a good cause and cheer on Chris Mortlock as he prepares to defend his title from last year with his "Hotter Than Hell" Chili. Tickets \$10, children \$5 at Tuckey Home Hardware in Wortley Village.
- **Cheese** sales netted some \$625 for the church's Out-of-the-Cold meal program. It does cost about \$200 to fund each Out-of-the-Cold evening. Next fundraiser: a Souper Sunday lunch on Sunday, March 8. Soup, crusty roll, beverage and dessert all for a nominal cost. Tickets available after church throughout February.
- Wesley-Knox knitters outdid themselves this year, filling the **Mitten Cane** with over 200 warm toques, scarves and mitts which were distributed to patrons of our hospitality meals. Thanks to all who knitted and all who donated wool. Some folks have indicated they would like to knit throughout the year. For them, wool will be kept at the back of the church. Knit away!
- Congratulations to Wesley-Knox member **Emma Donoghue** whose critically acclaimed award-winning novel, Room, was made into a movie that has now been nominated for four Academy awards: Best Picture, Best Director, Best Actress and Best Adapted Screenplay. That screenplay was written by Emma herself. Emma, her partner Chris and their two children are spending the year in France but will be returning to London. Time for an Oscar party at Wesley-Knox? Who will step up to organize it?
- A final note: **Neil and Margaret Eadie** have asked us to express their appreciation for the support of the congregation as they faced a number of health challenges last year. They are looking forward to a healthy 2016!

Epiphany - Winter 2016 Calendar

Special Services...

Sunday, February 7
10:30 am
Bread not Stones Service

Wednesday, February 10
7 pm
Ash Wednesday Service

Sunday, February 14
10:30 am
Family Sunday
Intergenerational Worship

Sunday, February 21
10:30 am
Holy Communion | AGM

Sunday, March 20
10:30 am
Palm Sunday | Holy Communion

Maundy Thursday, March 24
5 pm
Potluck and Holy Communion

Good Friday, March 25
10:30 am
Service at Calvary United Church
7 pm
The Swell at Wesley-Knox

Easter Sunday, March 27
7 am
Sunrise in the Sanctuary
10:30 am
We Celebrate Resurrection

Special Events...

Everything About Islam
Friday, February 5, 7 pm

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper
Tuesday, February 9, 5–6:45 pm

Family Potluck and Games Night
Sunday, February 14, 5:30 pm

2015 Annual General Meeting
Sunday, February 21 after service

OSCO Great Chili Cookoff
Saturday, February 27, meal at 7 pm

Wesley-Knox Jam Session 2
Sunday, March 6, 2 pm

UCW Spring Bazaar
Saturday, March 19, 10 am–1 pm

For more information, visit the Google calendars at www.wesleyknox.com

KSS London Composers Concert
Saturday, April 2, 8 pm

Movies at Wesley-Knox
Friday, January 29, February 12 and
26, and March 11, 7:30 pm

Family Movie Night
Friday, March 4, 7 pm

Community Breakfasts
Saturday, February 13 and March
12, 8:45–10:30 am

Out-of-the-Cold Dinners
Sunday, February 28 and March 27,
5:30–6:30 pm

Wesley-Knox Council
Wednesday, February 17, 7 pm,

Wesley-Knox Official Board
Wednesday, March 16, 7 pm

Advance Notices...

Turkey Dinner, Saturday, April 16

It's Your Funeral—Any Questions?
Monday, April 18, 7 pm

A Prayer for Refugees

*Found on the internet, original from the
Presbyterian Church in Canada*

God of life and freedom...

When Abraham's family wandered,
when Moses took refuge in the desert,
when the Hebrew people fled into the
wilderness, when the Israelites lived in
exile, you called them and gave them
words of comfort and promises of
hope.

In Christ you crossed the border.
You put on frail flesh, were born and
lived your life always on the move in a
dangerous world. From your first night
you slept in a bed and a place that
was not your own. You and your
family fled terror and found
refuge in foreign lands.

You were always the guest in the
homes and at the tables of strangers.
You were not always sure of your next
meal.

Today we remember before you those
whose lives are more like yours than
we can imagine or care to
acknowledge: those without homes,
who have been uprooted from their
communities and countries, who have
had to flee for their lives, who have
left families and friends, who live
precarious lives.

We pray for your protection and care
for those who suffer and must take
refuge because of war, politics, natural
disaster, status, race, gender, sexuality,
and faith.

We mourn, we are moved, and we are
angered by the loss that marks the
lives of so many: the loss of dignity, of
respect, of security, of community, of
family, and of stability.

You have called us to be citizens of
your kingdom. We pray for the people
of this country and of the church, that
we may not be indifferent or naïve,
afraid or overwhelmed, discouraged or
blind to hope and options to help, or
silent in the call for justice.

Open our hearts and our doors to the
stranger, to the widow and the orphan
and all that are dear to you, to your
presence that we may encounter in the
foreigner, and strengthen us to witness
to the love of God for all people. Amen