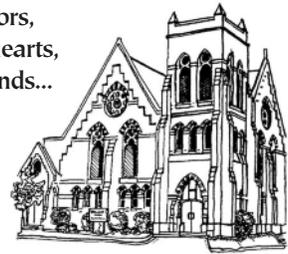


# The Kindred Spirit Connection

Open doors,  
Open hearts,  
Open minds...



Wesley-Knox United Church • 91 Askin Street, London, Ontario N6C 1E7 • 673-4803 • [www.wesleyknox.com](http://www.wesleyknox.com)

## Autumn - Thanksgiving 2014

From Rev. Tracy



On my Sunday morning drive to worship I travel by a church that worships at an earlier time. I often notice the folks that go into that church, especially those greeting one another. It's always a welcoming, festive feeling. On one particular Sunday, I noticed a woman getting out of her car in the parking lot, taking time to change her shoes before going into church. I laughed to myself, recognizing that it's often difficult to drive in heels, and how easy it is to scuff the backs of a nice pair of shoes while driving. I loved the familiarity of someone putting on their Sunday shoes to go into church.

But as I drove along I began to wonder. What would happen if instead of changing into our Sunday shoes for an hour once each week, we put them on at the beginning of each day? What if we took what we do, think, hear and pray on Sunday morning, into the world with us? What if we walked around in shoes of faith everywhere we went?

It is easy for many of us to separate what we do on a Sunday morning from how we live our lives each day. We are unsure about how the two relate. Yet Christianity is about more than worship. It is about actively living out our faith in

the world, making what we have come to learn, know and experience about Jesus a part of how we live. It is about being part of a community that intentionally reaches out to share the love of God through words, actions and interactions with others. Christianity is not just a Sunday morning experience, but a choice to live each day as a follower of Christ.

At Wesley-Knox we are blessed with a community that gathers to worship in many dynamic and heartfelt ways. Everyone is welcome in this place—no “Sunday shoes” are required here! We also have rich and life-giving programs for people of all ages, and are growing those programs in response to ideas and requests that come from you.

As we begin a new church year, we will continue to look at ways of allowing what we do together on Sunday mornings—and what we do in our many programs—to transform and inspire us to go into the world and live out our faith as followers of Christ. It will be a journey of deepening relationships, growing faith and serving the One who invites us to follow. Peace and a Happy Thanksgiving to all.—Rev. Tracy Crick-Butler



A sampling of photos from a busy summer (l-r): Lunch at this year's Family Camp, Pearce-Williams Christian Centre near Iona; Debbi and Richard at the Wesley-Knox tent at the June 7 Gathering on the Green; Wesley-Knox members join other United Church members to march in the July 27 London Pride Parade. More on the Wesley-Knox website.

## In Memoriam

We thank God for the life and witness of

Evelyn Summers  
July 2

Helen Pratt  
July 23

Evelyn Clark  
August 23

## Our New Antependium

This year, you were invited to create an antependium for the Wesley-Knox sanctuary. Antependium is the liturgical term for the fabric hangings you see on the pulpit every Sunday. Colours often coincide with seasons of the church year (blue for Advent, purple for Lent, green for Ordinary Time, etc.) or with the theme of a service. They add a beautiful, visual dimension to worship.

A new antependium will appear for the first time at Worldwide Communion, Sunday, October 5. Notice the beauty of this hand-stitched work depicting Fruits of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23). What makes this piece of art unique is that the words are written in nine different languages:

Love – Chinese  
Joy – Arabic  
Peace – Hebrew  
Patience – Spanish  
Kindness – Sign Language  
Goodness – Korean  
Faithfulness – German  
Gentleness – English  
Self-control – French

What a wonderful way to visually say that all are welcome at Wesley-Knox!



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## From our Music Director



Here we go with another wonderful year of music-making at Wesley-Knox! In this KSC, rather than just sharing my thoughts, I'd like to share what other people think about our children's choir program. Barb and Mary Bee put together a survey. I was a little nervous to find out what the parents might say, but I needn't have been. Here's what they said when we asked...

**Q:** • **What did you appreciate most about the choir program?**

- A:** • The fun and professionalism offered to my child over the years.
- Chorister says it's FUN! Mom says chorister keeps singing and singing.
  - The quality of music teaching was very high! I wasn't expecting our child to learn so much theory, but am thrilled that she did and impressed that Barb taught it so well.
  - That it exists! That is it so economical! That it is faith-centred.
  - Enthusiasm, expertise of teachers, church based.
  - Karen selects such beautiful pieces—they always sound so beautiful.
  - My daughter was very pleased with the choir. I really appreciated the high quality of instruction Karen provided. When my daughter auditioned for her school musical, she ended up getting a part because they could tell she had some vocal training. Thank you for the experience. She will be back in September.
  - I appreciate the fostering and care that goes into not only the choir but the whole team and I am impressed every week with the development that my son has gained through the fostering and care of Wesley-Knox.
  - Barb, Richard and Barb's helpers are wonderful with the children.
  - It really helped my son this year. He made strong ties with other teens and has recognized the importance of vocal training and reading music.
  - I appreciated the well-organized Thursdays. The added person at the door provided peace of mind for safety. I liked the e-mails in advance.
  - The professional experience and the enthusiasm from the teachers.
  - The fun and encouraging environment for my kids, and the warm welcome for the parents.
  - Barb and Karen sharing their talents so freely in such a kind and fun manner.
  - The program is of good quality and gives the children musical training that can be used in other areas (discipline, teamwork, adaptability).
  - The instruction is top-notch, extremely professional and educational, and also warm and fun. A real sense of community lives there. My daughter has benefitted greatly from being a member of the W-K choir.
  - The quality of instruction and creation of community in the choir. The price!
  - The skill level of the leaders and their ability to work patiently with the young children in Barb, and the ability to get so much out of teenagers and preteens in Karen. Great work!
  - Strengthens my children's sense of belonging, community, and commitment to Wesley-Knox and church-life.
  - That my child loved what she learned there. She always was excited about going to choir.
  - "Seeing my friends", singing at events, being a teen, being awesome...
  - The vocal lesson for my child, the community the choir brings to our family and the socializing with other children and parents.

This is every answer to the question. I left none of them out. Barb and I were pretty moved when Mary Bee read them to us. In the flurry that is Thursdays, the qualities and skills that Barb, Mary Bee and I are trying to teach are getting through. Thank you, God!—Karen Schuessler, director of music

## From our Director of Children's and Youth Ministry



A big thank-you to our summer students, Mackenzie, Emma, Maggie, Mallory and Jonathon for keeping our children, church and community connected and growing in faith this summer. Our Workshop of Wonders day camp ran five full days from July 14 to 18 with 32 campers and ten junior leaders. Each day was filled with prayer, Bible stories, songs, crafts, science, cooking and outings.

Highlights included trips to Thames Pool and Belvedere Park, and a visit from the Dynamic Dozen dance team. The camp's success was due to the great work of these students and our wonderful volunteer support. Volunteers helped us with outings, story-telling, yummy homemade goodies and generous donations that made camp financially accessible for all. New this summer was a weekly drop-in program. The students received positive feedback and look forward to growing these programs in the future.

If you visit the second floor you will notice some changes to the Nursery. We received a generous donation of toys from a choir family and the Nursery is looking refreshed. We also have some beautiful new board books from the Resource Centre paired with engaging age-appropriate craft kits. The Sunday school will continue to operate in a Workshop Rotation Model and we start this year focussing on Exodus. Grade 7 and 8 will again meet in the church library and YouthQuest will meet in the Chapel—bursting at the seams!

A reminder to all that we have dedicated volunteers teaching our children and youth and our time spent with the students is precious. If you would like to involve children or youth in worship please consult the schedule first. At Wesley-Knox our Sunday morning programs are as follows:

- Nursery: birth to three years of age
- Sunday school: JK–grade 2, grades 3/4, and grades 5/6
- Teens: grades 7/8, and grades 9–12
- Confirmation classes for those in grade 8 or older begin in January

We also have choirs, youth group, and wonderful intergenerational events that run all year. If you have any questions, please contact me at the church, 519.673.4803, or e-mail [mcgill4556@gmail.com](mailto:mcgill4556@gmail.com). If you have not yet done so, please make sure that your child or young person is registered in our programs and that all registration information is up-to-date. You can find registration forms outside the Sunday school office on the second floor or on the church website.

A reminder that we do take a loose change collection in the Sunday School. The children use their money to support community outreach and the operation of the church. Last year, through Bean Soup sales and loose change collection, the children made a donation to aid survivors of Typhoon Haiyan, a donation to the Unity Project, and \$70 to the church. If you wish to receive a tax receipt for any child's offering please place the donation in an envelope and write your family church envelope number on the outside. Again, please contact me if you have any questions!

Some important dates for your calendar: Sunday School Mission Fundraiser and Messy Church, November 16; Bethlehem Walk, November 21; Grade 7/8 Christmas Pageant Prep, November 30; Christmas Pageant Rehearsal and Party, December 13; Children's Service and Pageant, December 14.—*Barbara McGill, director, Children's and Youth Ministry*

**Like your KSC newsletters in colour? Visit [www.wesleyknox.com](http://www.wesleyknox.com) and click on KSC Newsletters in the left sidebar. Note that Advent is very early this year. Deadline for materials for the Advent-Christmas Kindred Spirit Connection will be Sunday, November 9.**

## Friday Movie Nights at Wesley-Knox!

A fun way to spend a Friday evening! Movies are shown in the Centennial Parlour at 7:30 pm on selected Fridays. Popcorn and soft drinks are provided free, as are decaf and dessert after the movie. Often, there is a second feature for night owls. Here's the fall schedule for this popular program. More information in the new brochure available at Wesley-Knox and on the Wesley-Knox website.

Friday, October 10

### **The Grand Seduction**

Starring Taylor Kitsch and Brendan Gleeson. A dying Newfoundland fishing village tries to secure a new plant to create jobs, but first they must attract a doctor before the company will consider their town.



Friday, October 24

### **The Fault in Our Stars**

Starring Shailene Woodley and Ansel Elgort. Meeting at a cancer support group, teenagers Hazel and Gus develop a love that bonds them in their journeys. Based on a book by John Green.



Friday, November 7

### **Maleficent**

Starring Angelina Jolie and Elle Fanning. An infant princess is cursed by Maleficent. A vengeful fairy discovers the cursed child may be the only one able to restore peace to their troubled land.



Friday, November 21

### **The Monuments Men**

Starring George Clooney, Matt Damon and Bill Murray. A specialist squad of museum curators from the Allies prepare to go to Europe during WWII to rescue threatened art. Based on a book and a true story.—*David Lumley*

## Group and Committee Reports

### DISTRICT VISITORS

A new church year has begun and many of our activities are starting again. If you are thinking you would like to add to what you already contribute to the life of Wesley-Knox, consider becoming a District Visitor. You may visit only one person or half a dozen—whatever you wish to do. District Visitors, especially those who do not drive, are usually given people to visit who live in their area. Visiting takes place before each Communion Sunday. You say hello and deliver the Kindred Spirit Connection. If you would like to learn more about becoming a District Visitor please call me at 519.685.1714.

A special note: All current District Visitors as well as all new ones need to have a Vulnerable Persons check done. This has become standard procedure for volunteers working with others and many of you have already had your check done through London Police Services. If not, the District Visitors Committee will guide you through the process.—*Heather Bedford, chair*

### WESLEY-KNOX MEN

All men of the congregation are invited to come to our monthly breakfast on the first Sunday of each month, 8:30 am at the Family Circle Restaurant, 147

Wellington at Grey. On that Sunday, we also prepare and serve coffee after morning service.

Our monthly community breakfast for members of the public is served on the second Saturday of each month 8:45–10:30 am. Volunteers, both men and women, and some non-members, shop for food, and prepare and serve a nutritious meal for about 100 people. If you are interested in helping with this community project, please speak to Mike Ryan, Ron Olson or Neil Eadie for details.

Our annual Ham and Scalloped Potato Dinner will be held Saturday evening, November 1, 5–7 pm. As well as being a fundraiser for the community breakfast program, this is an enjoyable evening out for you and your family. Tickets, adult \$10, children 12 and under \$5, available soon.—*Neil Eadie*

### WORSHIP COMMITTEE

Sing to the Lord a new song!—Psalm 149

September always feels like a new beginning, a feeling probably ingrained from many years of starting a new grade at school. After a summer of rest and relaxation we gear up again and plan our fall activities. Such is the case with the Worship Committee which

met early in September to review our summer services and plan for a full and busy autumn season.

We hope you enjoyed our “Welcome Back Sunday” where each Wesley-Knox committee had an opportunity to explain its work. Know that the Worship Committee always welcomes new members. Come and join our team. And come to church this fall for meaningful Christian worship as our many choirs fill our choir loft to capacity and inspire us with their music.

At this time, we would like to thank Doug McCabe who, for some 15 years, served as the go-to-person who organized our weekly scripture readers. Doug has retired from this important position and his dedication and faithfulness in ensuring that scriptures were shared each Sunday morning by readers from the congregation has been most appreciated. Karlene Kimber-Johnson has volunteered to take on this important job and we welcome her. If you are interested in proclaiming the Word of God by reading scripture on a Sunday morning, please contact Karlene. She will need both veteran readers and new readers of all ages to take on this task. Join us in sharing the Bible’s message.—*Sandra Fox, chair*



More photos from a busy summer (l-r): Richard shares a story at this year’s Workshop of Wonders Vacation Bible School. Circle games are always fun! Once again, summer services bring out hidden talent. Irla Stewart on French horn is joined by Karen on piano.

The Kingdom of God is in your midst.—Luke 17:21

The Kingdom of God is justice and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

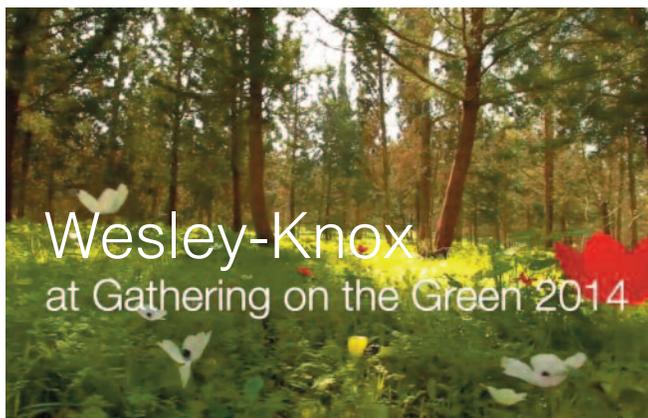
Come Lord, and open in us, the gates of your Kingdom—Taizé chant and prayer

### Sip and Serve

Are you a handyman or a handywoman? Can you offer a little free time on Wednesday mornings on a non-regular basis? The Sip and Serve group meets for only a few hours to serve—hammer, fix, install, paint, polish, rake, trim—as needed. Then we sip—enjoy coffee and goodies. We have a log book in the office where folks can record all the little jobs we might do around the church. When the log shows three or four jobs we plan a work day. In the past two years, we have tackled over 100 jobs. Please consider joining us. Just contact Cathie Banks at 519.471.2351!

### Our Handbell Choir

Ever given thought to ringing handbells? It's a multi-generational activity that definitely requires teamwork! We are looking for a few more ringers, not just adults but also young people in grade 7 and above, who have some musical training and some ability to read music. We meet on Wednesday evenings, 6:15–8:15 pm. Contact director Cathie Banks, 519.471.2351 if you think you might be interested.



If you weren't able to get to this year's Gathering on the Green, catch it on the Wesley-Knox home page by watching Glen Pearson and Jane Roy's excellent video!

### Out-of-the Cold Dinners

On the fourth Sunday of every month, 100–125 folks are offered a hot meal at Wesley-Knox, prepared and served by teams led by Carrol and Ron Tanner and Cathie and Darryl Banks. Some of the folks who volunteer for this outreach program are not members of Wesley-Knox but they enjoy the camaraderie and they believe in the program. We try to divide up the jobs—setup, food preparation, serving and cleanup—so no one needs to commit to an entire day. We can always use extra volunteers, especially for setup and cleanup. To find out how to become part of this hard-working group, contact Cathie Banks at 519.471.2351.

### The Mitten Tree

Let the knitting begin! The famous Mitten Tree will be up by November 1, ready to receive knitted items for the less fortunate who come to our Out-of-the-Cold Dinners and Community Breakfasts. We especially need toques, large mittens and long scarves. Wool will be available at the back of the sanctuary starting on October 1. All donations of wool or knitted items will be greatly appreciated. Again, for information, contact Cathie Banks, 519.471.2351.

### Marcus Borg Weekend Cancelled

Just as we were about to activate our stand-alone website and begin accepting registrations for the Marcus Borg October 17–19 lecture weekend, Marcus advised that he was about to begin six to twelve weeks of intensive medical treatment and would be unable to come as planned. He also advised that, when he was able to travel again, perhaps in the New Year, he would be willing to reschedule. Please keep Marcus and his wife, Marianne, in your thoughts and prayers over the coming months. More information at [www.wkborg.com](http://www.wkborg.com).

### Observer Chat Group

Avid readers of the United Church Observer and those new to the publication are invited to meet for a BYO brown-bag lunch after church on Sunday, October 5. We will transition from the coffee time into our chat group. Topics will be based on the September 2014 Observer with special emphasis on the survey that shows that most of the Canadian general public knows very little about the United Church. Please let

Heather in the office know if you wish to be added to our growing list of hardcopy subscribers, and meanwhile, read the Observer online at [www.ucobserver.org](http://www.ucobserver.org).

### Living the Questions

In response to several requests, both from within and outside our church, this 21-part DVD-based study series will resume in October. The group will meet at 3 pm on Sunday afternoons, exact start date TBA. Topics will be:

15. Kingdom without Walls
16. God's Vision: Social Justice
17. Incarnation: Divinely Human
18. Prayer: Intimacy with God
19. Jesus' Ministry of Compassion
20. Creative Transformation
21. Embracing Mystery

Living the Questions is an open-minded alternative to studies that try to give you all the answers. It offers a safe environment where participants can discuss ideas offered by leading theologians—and their faith. Preregistration will allow facilitators to send support materials via e-mail, but walk-ins are always welcome. Contact Harry MacLean, 519.473.1668, e-mail [macve3gro@rogers.com](mailto:macve3gro@rogers.com).



## Autumn 2014 Calendar

### Special Services..

#### Worldwide Communion

Sunday, October 5, 10:30 am

#### Thanksgiving Sunday

Sunday, October 12, 10:30 am

#### Dedication Sunday

Sunday, October 26, 10:30 am

#### Remembrance Sunday

Sunday, November 9, 10:30 am

#### Advent 1 Holy Communion

Sunday, November 30, 10:30 am

### Special Events...

#### Council Retreat

Saturday, October 18, 9 am

#### Annual Ham Supper

Saturday, November 1, 5-7 pm

#### Annual Sudan Concert

Sunday, November 2, 7:30 pm

#### Harvest to Holiday Festival

Saturday, November 15

#### KSS Magnificat Concert

Saturday, November 22, 8 pm

#### Friday Movie Nights

Friday, October 10 and 24,  
November 7 and 21, 7:30 pm

#### Board and Council Meetings

Wednesdays, Board October 15,  
Council November 19, 7 pm

#### Community Breakfasts

Saturday, October 11 and  
November 8, 8:45-10:30 am

#### Out-of-the-Cold Dinners

Sunday, October 26 and  
November 23, 5:30 pm

Saturday, November 1, 5-7 pm

## Ham and Scalloped Potato Supper!

A Fall Favorite!

Includes Chuckwagon Beans,  
Beverage and Dessert!

Wesley-Knox Social Hall

91 Askin Street, London

Adults \$10

Kids 12 and under \$5



Proceeds support the Wesley-Knox Men's Community Breakfast Program

**Harvest to Holiday Festival**

SATURDAY  
NOVEMBER 15

WESLEY-KNOX UNITED CHURCH  
91 ASKIN STREET, LONDON

- ★ Scrumptious Baked Goods
- ★ Vendors
- ★ Tea Room
- ★ Children's Games
- ★ and much more!

**ALL WELCOME!**  
Bring your family,  
friends and neighbours  
and join the celebration!

## Mission Possible – our Stewardship Campaign on our way to Dedication Sunday

This spring, the Stewardship Committee (Martin Horak, Shawn Spicer, Chris Nichols, Donna Goldhawk, Trevor Johnson and Marilynne McNeil) invited our church community to join "Mission Possible".

Mission Possible offered a crisp new five-dollar bill to any individual who would use it to further the mission of Wesley Knox. People could use the money to reach out to our community in any way they wanted, meeting new people, raising money or helping others. All we asked was to share their stories with us, and return any money raised.

Sixty-one people signed up for the challenge! The stories have been both heartwarming and encouraging! We will share the amount of money raised in our year-end report once Mission Possible is all wrapped up. In the meantime we will enjoy hearing people's stories. We will be collecting stories and money throughout the fall. Each week, as we journey toward Dedication Sunday, we will interview someone who will share their story during the Stewardship Story Exchange and tell how it relates to our campaign themes of caring, worshipping, learning and reaching out. Already we have learned about our Board Chair Cathy Grasby's project: knitting dishcloths to raise money to buy the ingredients to make strawberry jam for the Saturday morning community breakfast. If you haven't had an opportunity to start your Mission Possible project or are still wrapping things up, you still have time! When returning your money, please put the funds in a separate envelope with your envelope number on it so we can keep track of you and also make sure you receive a tax receipt.

As in past years, our stewardship campaign will end on Dedication Sunday, this year on Sunday, October 26. On that Sunday, we will distribute and collect estimate-of-givings cards to everyone in the congregation. The card will ask you to estimate your contributions for 2015 in three areas: the general fund for Wesley Knox, the capital improvement fund for Wesley Knox and the Mission and Service Fund of the United Church of Canada. Please consider increasing your givings to help keep Wesley Knox's various ministries strong and growing. After worship everyone will be invited to a celebration downstairs in the Social Hall featuring coffee and tea and a variety of special desserts. Everyone will receive an invitation to attend that Sunday, either in person at September 28 worship or in the mail.

Please let us know if you plan to attend so we can order the correct number of desserts.

