

Brookfield Pastoral Charge

MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER . . .

Dear Friends,

Another church season will soon be upon us, as we prepare to enter Lent. Lent is a bit like the season of Advent, in the sense that it is a time of waiting, self-reflection, and preparation for something big. In the case of Lent, the something big for which we wait is Easter.

I enjoy Christmas, but I must admit that Easter is my favourite holiday. I love how Easter is a time of renewal, freshness, and openness to new things. I love remembering that each new moment is a fresh start, and an opportunity to start over. Most importantly, Christ shows us that no matter how bad our situations are, or how lifeless things appear to be, resurrection comes as surely as does the morning. I believe in resurrection, and that no situation or person is ultimately hopeless.

We will be having a Pastoral Charge Lenten discussion group, featuring the curriculum *Countering Pharaoh*. We will meet at Knox each Wednesday at 7 p.m. beginning on February 21. *Countering Pharaoh* is produced by the same people who produced *Living the Questions*, a progressive alternative to the *Alpha* program. Each week we will watch a short video featuring Dr. Walter Brueggemann, who is a renowned scholar of the Hebrew Scriptures, as well as a United Church of Christ minister. Dr. Brueggemann will pose a question, from which our discussion will evolve. I hope you will be able to attend this discussion group, and that it will be of use to you in your Lenten reflections.

I feel very blessed to have been welcomed in to such an open, friendly, and active community of faith. It isn't hard to see that the people of the Brookfield Pastoral Charge have hearts for others, and for service, and that is something I appreciate about you very much.

Your Pastor and Friend,

The Rev. Michael W. A. Henderson





HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SERVICES

Thursday, March 29, 7 p.m. - Maundy Thursday service at Middle Stewiacke

Friday, March 30, 7 p.m. - Good Friday service at Knox

Sunday, April 1, 7:30 a.m. - Sunrise Easter Service followed by breakfast at Middle

9:30 a.m. - Easter service at Knox

11:15 a.m. - Easter service at Middle

Mark your calendars

Saturday, February 10—Valentine’s Extravaganza (see next page for details)

Tuesday, February 13—Pancake & Sausage Supper (see next page for details)

Sunday, February 18—Annual Congregational Meeting at Knox—7 pm

Wednesday, Feb. 21, 7 p.m. - Pastoral Charge Lenten Study Group at Knox

Friday, Feb. 23 – Heart to Home dinners for Middle Stewiacke & Brookfield

Saturday, February 24—The Youth Group will be doing the Coldest Night of the Year Walk in Truro.

Donations are welcome to our BMSUYG team!! Any questions can be directed to Jodie Matheson at 902 890-2988

Friday, March 2 – World Day of Prayer Service in Middle Stewiacke beginning with supper at 6 p.m., followed by service at 7 p.m. This year's service will focus on the country of Suriname in Northern South America bordering the North Atlantic Ocean between French Guiana and Guyana. Everyone Welcome!

Saturday, March 17, 10 a.m. - St. Patrick's Day Coffee Party at Knox

Wednesday, April 11, 12 noon – Soup Luncheon at Knox

April 27, 28 & 29 – Maritime Conference U.C.W. Biennial Meeting to be held in Summerside, P.E.I. Watch the church bulletin for more information.

Project Hope Update

Project Hope wants to thank everyone who has helped in supporting & welcoming the Al Hussein family and the two Al Awar families to our area.

Everyone is settling in to life in Canada; all are working or going to school.

Communications

The Organization Handbook for Knox Council from 2012 was presented to Knox Council and it was agreed this would be updated by the individual committees. The Communications section was updated in 2017.

There are three areas within the church with bulletins boards – in the main entry to the sanctuary; in the hall going into the auditorium and in the entry by the secretary's office (this is a white board). You are invited to post church and community related information on these boards. The most recently approved minutes of Knox Council are posted for reading. Please do not remove any items from these boards.

The Pastoral Charge Newsletters, Knox United Church, Brookfield website and Facebook are valuable sources of information relating to the life and work of our church. If you have any suggestions as to how we could better the communication process at Knox please feel free to contact me.

Dorene Matheson

902-673-3229 rmatheson@bellaliant.net

Valentine's Extravaganza
Saturday, February 10—7:30 pm
At Knox Church
All you can eat dessert, silent auction, door prizes
Music by 'Cherry Lane'
Guest musicians: Kayla Kennedy, Art Peck, Anna Hamilton, Jacob Smith

Pancake & Sausage Supper

Tuesday, February 13—4:30—6:00

At Knox Church Hall

Adults \$10—Children 12 & Under Free

For take out call 902 673-3363 after 4 pm

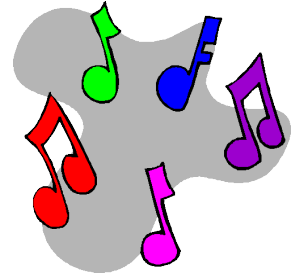
Sponsored by Knox Council—Proceeds for Church Purposes



AT MIDDLE STEWIACKE . . .

Music at Middle Stewiacke

Members of the Middle Stewiacke United Church Music Ministry are looking forward to a busy and rewarding year. Before Monday (Kayla Kennedy, Isabella Johnson, Abby Fisher and Josée Ross) and the Senior Choir (Jack Dickey, Bev Fisher, Trudi O'Connell and Winnie Matheson) continue to offer their talents by enhancing the weekly church service with a variety of music.



On February 24th, Tim Ross, Isabella Johnson and Josée Ross will perform two hours of instrumental music for a banquet at the Hilden Fire Hall honouring the guests of Women That Hunt. The event will end with a 30 minute concert with the entire band.

Come out on March 3rd for the 3rd Annual Winter Variety Concert in Middle Stewiacke to raise funds for the church. Free will offering at the door. There will also be baked goods for sale by the Middle Stewiacke Sunday School. Concert time is 7 p.m. Before Monday will be releasing their 2nd CD, hopefully in time for this concert.

The band has been invited to perform at First United Church in Truro for youth groups in Truro. The date will be in March.

Before Monday now has a Facebook page! Videos will be posted weekly and you can keep up-to-date on the group's upcoming performances and projects. Watch for news on their upcoming Gospel CD to be recorded in March. The group hopes for a release before the summer begins.

As always, we welcome anyone who is interested in joining the music scene here at the Middle Stewiacke United Church. If you wish to join our team or have a song that you would like to hear in church, please feel free to reach out to me anytime or send me an email!

Best Regards,

Tim Ross
Music Ministry Director
902-240-9772

Mark your calendars

Wednesday, February 14, 10 a.m. - Valentine's Day Coffee Party at Middle Stewiacke United Church. Free will offering.

Sunday, Feb. 18 after church – Annual Congregational Meeting at Middle

Saturday, March 3, 7 p.m. - Variety Concert and bake sale at Middle Stewiacke.