

BROOKFIELD PASTORAL CHARGE

Knox United Church ~ Middle Stewiacke United

November 2022

Message from the Minister . . .

November 7, 2022

Greetings Friends,

As I write this note in the interim between Remembrance Sunday and Remembrance Day I can't help but reflect on how blessed we are to live in Canada. That's not to say things are perfect, but nonetheless I am thankful I live here.

I have also been reflecting on the church's mission. I strongly believe that when the Church takes care of its mission, God take cares of the church. I believe this so strongly because I have seen it happen. I believe we need to clarify our mission and to reflect on it often, to ensure that the decisions we make as a church are faithful to our mission. Will we mess up some-times? Of course, but the good news is that the church is not called to be perfect, it's called to be faithful.

Sometimes people hesitate taking on a leadership role in church because they feel they don't have anything to offer, or they're afraid they won't do a good job. But when you consider how your gifts and skills can help, remember that perfection is not the goal. We are called to be disciples, to live abundantly, and to learn from our mistakes. So, what is our mission, and how can we best live this out? I'm interested to hear your thoughts, so let me know.

Blessings,

Rev. Michael Henderson

Contact Information: Rev. Michael Henderson 902-305-4620

mikewahenderson@gmail.com

Rev. Mike's usual office hours

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday mornings at Knox

Tuesdays - hospital visits/Knox

Friday - day off

If you know of someone connected to our church family that has been admitted to hospital, please let Rev. Mike know.

Pastoral Charge Office: 902-673-3363 brookfieldunitedchurch@gmail.com

Address: P.O. Box 83, 53 Highway 289, Brookfield, N.S. B0N 1C0



Calendar of Services . . .

Sunday services:

- Knox United, Brookfield, 9:30 a.m.
(Food Bank Sunday is the 2nd Sunday of each month. The bin is across from the main office.)
- Middle Stewiacke United, 11:15 a.m.
(Foodbank Sunday is the 1st Sunday of each month.)
- **2nd Sunday of Advent, December 4 - White Gift Services**
(bring a gift in plain wrapping to be donated to Christmas Index Program.)

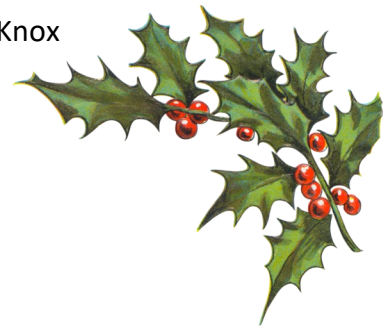
Christmas Eve Services – Saturday, December 24

6 p.m. - Knox United Church

8 p.m. - Middle Stewiacke United Church

Sunday, December 25, 7 p.m. - Christmas Day combined service at Knox

Sunday, January 1, 7 p.m. – Combined service at Middle Stewiacke



Links to Knox's livestream services are below.

<https://www.facebook.com/knoxunitedbrookfield>

<http://knoxunitedbrookfield.ca/worship-service/sunday-service/>

The audio of the service is uploaded in the afternoon to our worship phone number. Call 902-920-0335 to listen.

To book a room at Knox for your meeting or event, please contact Joanne at the office. Booking ensures that cleaning of the areas used can be scheduled, if need be. We are pleased to have the facility busy with our meetings, groups, events, Nox Nook and rentals.

Colchester Food Bank Reverse Advent Calendar –

Copies available at the churches.

Nox Nook

Thrift Shop

Open Hours

Wednesdays, 10 a.m. - 12 noon; 1 - 3 p.m.; Thursdays, 10 a.m. - 12 noon; Fridays & Saturdays, 1 - 3 p.m.
Donations of good used items gratefully accepted.

Please bring donations to the Nook area in the basement of the church. If you need help to do this, please ask a volunteer. Thank You!

The Nursery at Knox -

We invite families with young children to join us for our services. Childcare is available in the nursery located in the lower level of the church. If your little one would like to stay for children's time during the first part of the service, we'd love to have them. Afterwards they may be brought to the nursery.

From Knox Mission & Outreach

As the Christmas Season approaches we are once again pleased to support the Christmas Index program. We are just waiting for information on the families. Please watch the weekly announcements for details on what is needed and how to donate.

Message from Knox Council Chairperson

Hello it's Erin Jamieson and I bring greetings from Knox Council. Can you believe 2022 is coming to a close!? I am pretty well at the half way mark of the 2 year term of being your Council Chair (2022-2024). We've welcomed Leah Roop to our Vice Chair role this year and what a pleasure that has been. Knox Council meets about 8 times a year and we have remained steadfast at carrying out the duties and stewardship roles that our church and its committees require.

We are in need of more people joining us on Council committee. The more voices we have to add to discussions and to serve out God's missions, the better our church family and our community in general will be. Worship and Fundraising committees both very much need new members. They are very valuable assets to us here at Knox but they are limited to what can be achieved with only a few members. If you feel the call to volunteer your time and talents we would love to have you. We would gladly find a place for your talents; however big or small they are! I am proud that we are a giving, community-spirited church. We want to continue being able to offer functions and activities outside Sunday service. Sadly, we are struggling with getting helpers and volunteers to organize and lead.

We do have so much to be thankful for here at Knox United and to see volunteers back in the nursery room welcoming our younger members each Sunday is certainly a blessing! The return of the very popular Thursday morning pickle ball is exciting, too! Our hall is now being rented to provide evening Kung Fu classes twice a week—did you know that?! Those are a few exciting things going on at Knox. The 'oven less' turkey dinner has been a success, even though initially it was disappointing not to have an in person meal together.

If you would like to reach out to me and have a chat please feel free! I can be contacted at erinjamieson83@gmail.com or you can email the church directly at brookfieldunitedchurch@gmail.com.

Thank you for your loyal and continued support of Knox United Church and God bless!

Let's Talk Church Support . . .

Come join us at Knox United, we'd love to see you!! Sitting in the pews on Sunday morning not for you? How about coming to one of our suppers, joining our choir, helping do property repairs, if that's your talent. Be part of a dinner theatre production, play some Pickleball, join a Kung Fu class, work with youth to give them a safe, fun place to be. Do you have creative ideas about how our building could be of service to our community? Pass them along, be a part of it - Game nights, crafting, exercise, information sessions, musical events – the sky is the limit, we'd love to hear from you.

Knox has always been an active part of Brookfield and surrounding area. You don't have to be a member of the church to come through our doors. You don't have to be a church member to join in and be part of the activities. You don't have to be a member of the church to give a donation so we can continue to thrive and provide services and activities in a safe, non-judgmental and inclusive space for everyone. All are welcome.

Did you know Knox United is registered as a Charitable Organization? Tax Receipts are given for all donations over \$20. It's so easy to give to well known charities throughout the year, why not make Knox United Church your choice this year? There are a few ways to give. We accept e-transfers by emailing knoxbrookfieldtreasurer@gmail.com. Please provide your name and address in the notes for tax receipt purposes. You can donate through Canada Helps.Org and choose Knox United Church from their extensive list of charities. We also provide PAR (Preauthorized Remittance) which enables you to give a monthly donation, in an amount of your choosing, directly to the church. It's as simple as sending a note to the email address listed above to inform the Treasurer of your interest in joining and I'll take it from there.

For those who are already on PAR, perhaps you would consider increasing your monthly contributions. Or, if you've been thinking about joining PAR, but keep putting it off, why not do it now? It's really simple, I'll do the leg work and get you set up, how and when you want. It's been proven that consistent giving benefits everyone and there isn't a more convenient way to achieve that than with PAR. When making any changes to your existing PAR payments, please do so by email, so there is written documentation of your request.

Another way to support the church is to consider giving a legacy gift, or bequest. These are gifts given to the church through your will. It can provide considerable tax benefits to your estate and be a great gift for the continuation of good work done in the church for future generations. I encourage everyone to have a look at the United Church of Canada website regarding legacy giving. The easiest way to get there is by typing United Church of Canada Legacy Gifts in your Google search bar. It takes you directly to the information you are looking for and provides wonderful explanations of what gifts can be given and how they benefit both the church and your estate. Please take a few minutes to check this out, you'll be glad you did.

If you ever have any questions about any financial aspect of Know United, please feel free to reach out to me at loritish@hotmail.com. If I don't have the answer, I'll find someone who does. My email door is always open. Thanks for reading and considering Knox as a place of value for your time, talents and dollars.

Lori Nielsen

Treasurer, Knox United Church



Knox Property Report

We have finished a fabulous summer season with Robert Matheson doing a wonderful job of caring for the church grounds. Hurricane Fiona spared us from major damage yet we did receive some minor damage. Sanctuary roof had 2 large sections of shingles blown off, about 10 % of the tabs blown off, flashing out of place, rope for the bell blown off the pulley and various siding, soffit and fascia blown off or out of place, attic door of hall blown open and one tree blown over.

Some of the outstanding items completed over the last few months include: sanctuary roof shingles, flashing between the sanctuary and the new building, flashing around furnace chimney, hall soffit put back in place, rope for bell threaded back on the pulley, blow over tree cut down, eaves troughs cleaned out, 2 downspouts repaired, name changed on sign on front lawn, replaced sanctuary flood lights, repaired front sanctuary door and painted the exterior panels.

Items needing attention from recent inspection: obtain quotes to replace sanctuary roof, steeple roof and front door. Insulate open gap between sanctuary balcony ceiling and attic, insulate the attic door of the hall, repair the flashing on the bell tower, replace missing or damaged screen from hall attic vents, repair or replace multiple siding pieces, soffit and fascia. Replace rotten windows in the sanctuary entry, paint rear outside door by the kitchen, repair basement wall in furnace room that is leaking, rust coat the bell, remove bird crap from bell tower, replace or remove rotten steeple points, replace lighting with LED fixtures or bulbs in the hall, wash exterior of hall, obtain gravel for parking lot and paint hall entry to the sanctuary.

Regards,
Rod Nielsen, Property Chairperson



**Sunday, Nov. 20 after church at Knox
We'll be decorating the sanctuary.
Stay and help if you can!**

Christmas in Brookfield & Middle Stewiacke

25th Tour

Fri. Nov. 25 & Sat. Nov. 26, 2022 —6 - 9 pm

\$15.00

Tour includes Knox United Church, the Station, 2 Homes, Middle Stewiacke United Church (with a Bake Sale), and an Outdoor Light Display in Middle Stewiacke Craft Sale, Refreshments

FREE Transportation provided from Knox

Sponsored by Unit 3

For tickets call Betty Dickie 902-673-2582



In conjunction with the Tours, the Brookfield Railway Station and Historical Society will once again be holding the:

‘Festival of Trees & Stockings’

Businesses, Groups and/or Individuals are invited to decorate a tree and/or fill a stocking for the Christmas Index Program.

These will be on display at Knox Church during the Tour.

A Chicken Burger Christmas Supper

at Knox Church

Both nights of the Tour

5 pm

Cost \$10.00

Limited tickets available.....call Muriel 902-673-2333

Sponsored by the Station Committee

Craft Sale at Knox will be open for extended hours.....watch for times!

(Crafters are welcome at no charge...to reserve your spot call 902-673-2489)

For more information call Judy 902-673-2427 or Donna 902-673-2812

At Middle Stewiacke

**Middle Stewiacke
Hymn Sing
November 27th, 7PM**

With a donation of \$20 a hymn will be dedicated to a loved one (past or present)
Please provide 3 choices

Open to everyone regardless of denomination

Free will offering at the door

Music provide by
**Tim Ross
and Friends**

Contact Doris
902-673-2551
dekflbηnncweb.ca or
Linda 902-671-2314
quiltlindaηhotmail.com
To make your song choices and donation



The tree at Middle Stewiacke United will be lit in conjunction with the hymn sing.

The Christmas Soldier is in the entry of Middle Stewiacke United Church collecting mittens, scarves, slippers, socks, etc., until December 4. Items will be delivered to the Christmas Index Program.