KNOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 160 KING STREET, SOUTH ALLISTON, ONTARIO L9R 1B9

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2020



Annual Meeting - Sunday, March 7, 2021



Rev. Tobey Boyer Minister



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MINUTES Sunday, March 1st, 2020

1. Open meeting - Scripture & Prayer

- Service of Remembrance - Ralph Braden

- 2. Election of Secretary
 - a. Tracy Hill nominates Lori Knox as secretary, seconded by Vicki Mackareth and carried
- Motion to adopt the 2019 Minutes of Annual Congregational Meeting as printed Motion to accept the minutes with the correction of thanking Elaine (spelling) for teaching yoga, moved by Barb Lawson, seconded by Barb Knox and carried
- 4. Motion to receive and consider the 2019 Annual Report as printed (Not including financial reports and budget)

Motion to receive and consider the reports moved by Frank Friesen, seconded by Laurie McCracken and carried.

- 5. Consideration of reports
 - a. No questions or comments
- 6. Motion to adopt Annual Report as printed (Not including financial reports and budget)a. Motion to accept by Dave Wilson, seconded by Rae Gill and carried
- 7. Presbyterians Sharing:

Session Proposal: "That Knox Church accepts a Presbyterians Sharing Allocation of \$21,000 for 2020."

- a. Motion to accept by Mike Hill, seconded by Frank Friesen and carried
- 8. Salaries:
 - a. Music Director
 - i. Motion to accept an extra week of holidays taking her to six weeks, moved by Barb Knox, seconded by Jean Robertson and carried
 - b. Stipend: Minister
 - i. No motion required as we are following the Presbytery increases
- 9. Honoraria 2019: Treasurer: \$700, Back-up Treasurer \$300, Assistant \$200 *"That the honoraria remain the same for the year 2020."*

Motion to accept the listed Honoraria as listed moved by Angelica Carter, seconded by Bert Hoferichter and carried

- 10. Financial Reports 2019
 - a. We moved 50,000 to the Trustees to allow it to be invested and interest gathered. Due to this it shows the final account on page 6 as 24,000 in the red but it is not a fact. There are many cost centers (ex General, Friendship Circle ..) that gather into one actual back account.

- b. Motion to accept the Financial Reports as written moved by Grant Dunstan, seconded by Sandra Dunstan and Carried
- 11. Proposed Budget for 2020
 - a. Question if we are still paying for the lease and the answer is yes the printer needs
 - b. Motion to accept as presented moved by Jean Robertson, seconded by Frank Friesen and carried
- 12. Auditor for 2020
 - a. Motion to continue to have Keith Shier as our auditor, moved by Laurie McCracken, seconded by Jean Robertson and carried
- 13. New Business:
 - a. Sound System
 - i. We are now ready to move forward with this project. We have a vendor we are prepared to work with. Recommendation from Session is to ask the congregation to approve expenditure up to a maximum of \$30,000.
 - ii. Motion moved by Dave Wilson, seconded by Angelica Carter and carried
 - b. Refugee Support
 - i. Last year we support the CPR refugee program and over the year we gave approximately \$8,000
 - ii. We have a couple options to continue a refugee support
 - 1. Continue with the CPR refugee program
 - 2. Assist with Living Faith of Baxter's through the Presbyterian Church of Canada. Presentation shown
 - 3. Motion to move our support to Living Faith for one year at a minimum of \$200, moved by Dave Wilson, seconded by Audrey Mawdsley and carried. This is from 1-March on until the next Annual meeting
 - c. Congregational Workshop Re. Remits
 - i. There will be 2 remits (rules) to Same sex marriage allowed through the Presbyterian church and the second that a LGBQ minister that is married be allowed. This is not voted at the church level but it is important for the congregation to understand what it will mean. We will offer a workshop led by Rev Boyer (Tobey's Father)

14. Moment of Appreciation

- a. Tobey stated her thanks
- 15. Date of next Annual Meeting March 7th, 2021
- 16. Motion to adjourn
 - a. Motion to adjourn by Frank Friesen and carried
- 17. Meeting closed with prayer

Knox Presbyterian Church

Personnel		
Minister	Rev. Tobey Boyer	
Minister of Music	Louise Gallaugher	
Church Secretary	Samantha Kamminga	
Church Caretaker	Wendy Simpson	
Treasurer	Jean Robertson	
Christian Education Coordinator	Samantha Kamminga	

	The Session	
Term Expires 2022	Term Expires 2024	Term Expires 2026
Anne Ritchie	Jean Robertson	Paul Wales
Barb Knox	Marianne Edward	Barbara Lawson
		Allison Stumpo
		Lisa Nicol
		David Wilson

Term Expires Annual Meeting 2021	Term Expires Annual Meeting 2022	Term Expires Annual Meeting 2023
Allison Stumpo		
Grant Dunstan		
Dave McCormick		
Sandra Dunstan		
Lori Knox		
Barb Knox		
Ardean McCormick		
Brian Allen		
Norm McCracken		

Trustees
Barbara Lawson, Laurie McCracken, Mary Margaret Parsons

CONGREGATIONAL STATISTICS

BAPTISMS AT KNOX IN 2020

Logan Yoon-Laranjeira - February 9, 2020 Caleb Lee Poremba – November 15, 2020

MARRIAGES AT KNOX IN 2020

DEATHS OF MEMBERS AND ADHERENTS OF KNOX IN 2020

Mary Kathleen (Kay) Lowe – February 2, 2020 Lorne Burbidge – April 20, 2020 Robert (Bob) Linton – May 7, 2020 Ethel Peterson (A)– May 1, 2020 Richard (Dick) Mawdsley – May 17, 2020 Patricia Friesen – June 3, 2020 Jack Thomas (Jack) MacMurchy – June 1, 2020 Norbert Richard (Bert) Hoferichter – December 6, 2020 Earl Lowe – December 28, 2020

MEMBERSHIP AT KNOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, ALLISTON

Total Membership as of January 1, 2019		166
Transferred In		
New Members		
Total Additions		
Total with Additions		
Transferred Out		
Removed by Death	9	
Total Removals		9
Revision (+ or -)		
Total Membership as of December 31, 2020		157

Adherents as of December 31, 2020

70

From the Minister...

"I lift up my eyes to the hills— from where will my help come? My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth." Psalm 121: 1-2

What a year 2020 has been! It was not a year any of us expected and it changed the way we have lived, worked, and worshiped. We have needed the words of Psalm 121 more than ever.

The year began well with a baptism and a great team of walkers, well-supported by the congregation, for the Coldest Night of the Year in support of the Alliston Out of the Cold program. We had our Annual Meeting and had just begun a Lenten series called 'The Grace of Les Miserables' when everything came to a standstill.

We found ourselves in a global pandemic and were told to stay home to stop the spread of Covid-19. I think we all thought things would get back to normal within a month, but as the weeks went on, it became apparent we would have to adapt the way we lived and the way we worshiped.

In collaboration with Living Faith in Baxter, we began producing videos for each Sunday which were uploaded to YouTube and on our website. We found new ways to connect using technology like Zoom for online meetings. As we quarantined at home, we all tried to cope the best we could. Maybe you tried new recipes, maybe you completed puzzles, maybe you read books you hadn't had time for before, maybe you learned how to 'do school' from home, maybe you tried online shopping for the first time.

As time passed, we had to cancel all the usual events of the church like our suppers, the annual picnic, and the Christmas bazaar. When restrictions eased in the fall, we worked out a plan to safely worship in-person with distanced seating, masks on, and no singing in worship. It was strange, but nice to finally see each other again. As it became apparent the second wave of the virus was worsening, we went to online worship again including Christmas Eve.

I give thanks for our Session and Board of Managers, and our staff who have all had to adjust and try new ways of doing things. Financially, the church has stayed in a solid position thanks to your amazing generosity and with the help of government subsidies.

I know it has been a difficult year not to worship and fellowship together, but I have no doubt that God is with us, has been with us every day and will continue to be with us. As we carry on in these challenging times in 2021, we look forward to the day when we can worship and praise God together. In the meantime, stay safe, stay connected to each other, and seek help from "the Lord who made heaven and earth."

Your friend and minister, Rev. Tobey Boyer

SESSION REPORT

As I start to write this report, may we try to look forward and not back. The year 2020 was a really hard time for us all. It was something I have never experienced and I hope it will soon be over.

Even though things were different this year, we still continued as a congregation.

Communion was held February 2nd and November 29th, with members, adherents and children taking part. Logan, son of Angela Yoon and Pedro Laranjeira and Caleb, son of Danielle (Daughter of Dan Jones) and Matthew Poremba were baptized in 2020.

At our Annual Meeting, Knox congregation accepted \$21,000.00 to Presbyterians Sharing. We installed a new sound system and also purchased a new camera to help with the online worship services. Through ballots, the congregation voted in favour of paving the church parking lot.

The church was closed in March due to the pandemic. In July, protocols were set up to re-open the church. Sunday, September 6th was the first Sunday back and Rev. Tobey sent out a letter to congregation by mail and email to let everyone know. There were many rules that we, as a congregation, had to follow to keep safe.

There was no special Anniversary Speaker this year and our Christmas Eve Service was online in 2020.

Our Christmas projects were a little different this year and we gave \$1,000.00 to The Lions Club, Out of the Cold, and The Food Bank as well as gift cards to My Sister's Place for three sponsored families.

Barbara Hustler retired as Knox Secretary with her last day being December 31, 2020. She will be missed but we hope she enjoys her retirement. Samantha Kamminga, our CE Coordinator, has taken on the responsibility of secretary as well.

We have lost nine of our members in 2020: Ethel Petersen, Kay and Earl Lowe, Lorne Burbidge, Pat Friesen, Bert Hoferichter, Jack MacMurchy, Bob Linton and Dick Mawdsley. They will be missed so much and because of Covid 19, many of us couldn't even give our condolences to their families in person. As we begin a new year, our church is closed again as we continue watching our services Online. I hope you are all able to watch the services. Rev. Tobey is working hard to keep us together and is doing a great job. So my prayer is that you all stay healthy and safe. If anyone needs help, please reach out to anyone of us. May God be with you all.

Barb Knox, Clerk of Session

TRUSTEE REPORT

Again this year the income from the solar panels outdid the interest gained on all our other investments on deposit. This will certainly be the story for the 2020 year and near future. Money has been set aside for paving the parking lot which will be done early in the spring. More details will be given at the General Meeting regarding the effect on the remainder of the solar investment.

The Trustees continue to monitor the insurance needs of the church and church activities. We insure our building and contents are properly insured and that our liability policy is sufficient to cover any claims.

Thanks to the generous financial support from our Church family and the government assistance we received through the CEWS (Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy) program, we have not needed to access money from the Trustee account to support the General Fund account to cover church costs. Thanks also to our Board of Managers for their continuing efforts to control expenses.

We ask God's blessing and direction as we proceed in the new year.

Yours in Christ, The Trustees

BOARD OF MANAGERS

Wow what a year. I must say I miss you all so much. I hope you are all staying well. You are all in my prayers.

This has been a very different year for the Board to say the least. We have not held a dinner this year and aren't likely to hold one in 2021 either. We do miss spending this social time with our congregation and community friends.

We have used the down time to have all of our rugs cleaned professionally.

We postponed having the parking lot re-done in the fall. We have selected a company and they are holding their price for us so we can take care of this in the spring.

On the subject of the parking lot, we had signed with last year's plowing company but due to extreme insurance costs he could now longer offer his services. After talking to all plowing companies in the area, we found only one that was willing to take on our contract. We quickly discovered that with the new pressures of insurance we could not afford all the salting services required while the church was not being used. We thus altered the contract and have closed off our parking lot to all but our staff for the moment. We are sorry for any inconvenience this causes. We will begin researching future options.

We have been working to maintain our building and equipment through this time and are monitoring all the utilities such as water, electricity and heating systems, ensuring we have decreased all usage while things are not required.

The board can't thank Rev. Tobey enough for her leadership and support throughout this time. We pray that we can soon spend time together and these troubles will decrease. May God protect you all until we see each other again.

Yours faithfully, Lori Knox , Board Chairman

NEEDY FUND

Our congregation maintains a Needy Fund which has been available to help those in financial need at the discretion of the minister and the Session.

This year, with the pandemic, we didn't have the same number of requests for help. However, we did provide grocery and gas gift cards for a number of people who called the church looking for immediate assistance.

As well, we financially supported clients of the Meals on Wheels program.

Thank you for your continued support!!

Respectfully submitted, Tobey Boyer

MEMORIAL FUND

The Memorial Fund was created in 1978 to segregate donations in memory of members and adherents who have passed on. This year, we received a generous donation from the Mawdsley Family. The funds were designated to our new sound and video system. This has been greatly appreciated this year in particular as it has allowed us to share our worship service and other information with the congregation.

Family members can request that donations be made to the Memorial Fund as an effective method of ensuring that the memory of a loved one lives on.

Submitted by Barbara Lawson, Trustee.

KNOX CHOIR

No singing. Wear a mask. Keep your distance. How can we possibly have a choir during a pandemic, with so many rules and restrictions? With a virtual choir, of course! Initially, I thought it couldn't be done. There were so many hurdles--many of us have limited familiarity with technology, or we have slow internet, or we don't like to sing alone. But the love of singing won out, and with a lot of help from Rev. Tobey, (a *lot* of help), the "choir" created quite competent performances of music for our Christmas services. The selections we sang were I Believe in the Sun, Come Thou Long expected Jesus, and Silent Night.

Last March we were really enjoying the music from the musical, Les Miserables, as Rev. Tobey began a series of sermons based around the themes in the famous novel. Then the lockdown happened, and we scrambled to figure out how to present services online. I want to acknowledge the work of the musicians from the Presbyterian Church in Baxter, who shared the task of coming up with music for Knox and Baxter, throughout the spring and summer.

When we returned to in-person services in September, we were not allowed to have congregational singing or even choir. Thankfully, our sanctuary is large enough to allow for one person to sing safely, so we at least enjoyed some live music each week. Thank you to every soloist (or duet) who agreed to share your talents with us. You have given great performances and we (Louise, Tobey, the congregation) are so grateful for your contribution!

I wish to acknowledge the passing of two former members of the choir -Pat Friesen and Ethel Petersen. These two women dedicated their voices and considerable musicianship to Knox choir for many years, and they will continue to be missed.

Now it's February 2021, and we are staying at home--still. It's sometimes difficult to stay positive, but we know that music can have great power to lift our spirits, to praise God, and to give meaning to our lives. So, listen to music, make your own music, keep on singing-we *will* be able to sing together again soon!

Sincerely, Louise Gallaugher, Director of Music

AUDIO VISUAL REPORT

Hoping you are all staying healthy. The team is missing assisting Tobey with putting on a successful service for everyone.

For many of you, you might not know that the sound system at the church has been updated dramatically. With the help of Rev. Tobey, Music Pro of Barrie replaced our sound board and our speakers. It is an incredible system that we hope to showcase more in the future.

Thanks to Dan Morris and Dan Jones for taking on this new challenge and sharing the responsibilities of covering our in-person services.

With the retirement of Barbara, our video projection team is now Allison Stumpo, Mary Parsons and myself. It has been fun with the additions of the extra videos that play so well through the new sound board.

The most exciting addition to the Audio-Visual realm is the new video camera that has been installed in the balcony. Once again we can't thank Rev. Tobey enough for working tirelessly with Music Pro who lent us the camera for the first five months until we understood which one we needed. Tobey's entire family has worked to get this camera working and recording so we can enjoy the services online. Thanks to Naomi and Hans for working so hard with Tobey on this new challenge. While we were enjoying our in-person services we were able to have Connor Wager trained up to run this.

The future project for us will be to purchase furniture to store the new equipment but this is not a rush at this point. We have a company in Alliston that is ready to build the furniture when we are ready

Yours faithfully, Lori Knox, Video System Coordinator

THE FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE

The year 2020 began as usual. Our ladies were busy in January preparing funeral lunches and meeting together. February was busy too. When called the ladies of the Knox congregation were ready and willing to provide helping hands as well as a good supply of their excellent baked goods. Cards were sent out to church brothers or sisters who were ill or have lost loved ones. Everything was going along as usual and then in March, suddenly, the whole world was shut down. Our ladies have not met together throughout the rest of the year. Of course, we still sponsor of the two needy children through THE WORLD VISION.

We hope and pray for better days ahead. In the meantime, be safe. Be healthy. May God bless and keep you until we meet again.

Prayerfully submitted by Rosalba Braden

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION & CHURCH SCHOOL

2020 has been one to be remembered in the church. We started off the year with a bang, we were excited to announce that 2 of our youth had planned to join the Christian Reformed Church Mission trip to Mississippi with World Renew. We organized a Soup and Bun Fundraiser to help cover the cost of the trip and the fundraiser was so successful that we were able to cover the entire cost for the youth. We also assisted with the fundraising efforts at the CRC during their Chili Cook-off, and Samantha easily brought home the Second Place Trophy here to Knox.

AND THEN..... COVID came. We learned that the Mission Trip was cancelled. We pray that when the pandemic has passed the youth within our congregation will be given a second chance to experience a mission trip.

As we moved through the unknown that was the beginning of the pandemic, we cancelled any events we had planned including March Break Madness and the Annual Picnic. We tried to offer a virtual VBS as we know that this is a highlight for many families during the summer. However, there were very few interested. I believe that this was due to the Virtual Learning that families had been using in the last part of the school year and that summer was a welcome break from the Screen.

As we moved into the fall, we were allowed to reopen our doors. However, with the appropriate health protocols in place Church School remained closed. We prepared busy bags for the children during the service with colouring pages and fidget toys in them to help keep the little fingers busy during the service. Rev. Tobey has done an amazing job adapting her services to keep even the littlest members of our congregation engaged throughout the service.

As the pandemic has continued, we have learned to adapt through the process. We have family fellowship nights about once a month, we have done things ranging from Pictionary to Trivia. All our welcome to join, and we hope if you haven't you will give one of these nights a go.

As we continue into 2021, we continue to fly by the seat of our pants and look forward to opening our Church School Doors wide open to welcome everyone back.

Samantha Kamminga, CE Coordinator

PRAYER TEAMJAMES 5V. 13THE PRAYER OF FAITH

"Is anyone among you in trouble? Let them pray. Is anyone happy? Let them sing songs of praise. Is anyone among you sick? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord."

These ancient directions have been followed by Christian brothers and sisters for a very long time. Jesus brought his daily concerns before His Father in prayer constantly during the time that he walked this earth seeking the lost. (MARK 1 v. 35) VERY EARLY IN THE MORNING WHILE IT WAS STILL DARK, JESUS GOT UP, LEFT THE HOUSE AND WENT OFF TO A SOLITARY PLACE, WHERE HE PRAYED.

Our Lord often said that he followed the directions of his Heavenly Father. He makes it very clear that we should follow is example. We must not assume that our request will always be granted, however. Our Heavenly Father sees the future. He knows when the timing is right and He knows what is best for us.

During these days of the COVID-19, the Knox prayer team does not meet together, of course. We do, however, continue to pray for the needs of the people and we pray for better days ahead (which will likely be answered when the time is right). In the meantime, we will continue to pray.

Prayerfully submitted by Ralph and Rosalba Braden

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Due to the COVID Pandemic Women's Bible Study did not meet for the 2020 year.

ADULT FELLOWSHIP

Due to the COVID Pandemic Adult Fellowship did not meet for the 2020 year.

KNOX WEB and FACE BOOK PAGES

Many things can be found on the church web page (http://www.knoxalliston.ca). The church calendar is there as well as pictures of various events, general information and much more. Take a look at it! And don't forget our Facebook Page, where you can get reminders for upcoming events or online services.

Samantha Kamminga, Knox Secretary

Proposed Budget – 2021

		Budget 2020	Actual 2020	Budget 2021
INCOME	Envelopes	127,000	116,389	120,000
	Loose Offering	3,500	869	1,500
	Hall Rental	7,000	1,205	1,500
	Grants	0	35,463	3,000
	Fundraiser	12,000	2,520	3,000
	HST Rebate	5,000	6,683	8,000
<u></u> _	Mansfield Church	20,500	15,420	20,000
TOTAL		175,000	178,549	157,000
IOIAL		175,000	170,547	157,000
EXPENSES	Accountant	2,000	1,695	1,700
	Advertising	2,600	3,324	3,400
	Caretaker	9,300	9,246	9,300
	Heating	5,500	4,875	5,000
	Hydro	4,500	4,045	4,000
	Communications	2,000	2,098	2,000
	Repairs	10,000	8,680	4,000
	Water/Sewage	300	310	300
	Christian Ed.	16,700	16,571	16,600
	Ministries	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,		,
	Church Supplies	3,500	2,801	2,00
	Continuing Education	600	0	600
	Conferences	500	125	200
	Guest Organists	350	0	200
	Guest Speakers	2,000	600	1,000
	Health & Dental	4,900	4,862	5,000
	Honoraria	1,200	1,200	1,000
	Licence & Fees	1,900	2,154	2,000
	Landscaping	2,000	840	1,000
	Snowploughing	3,500	5,147	6,000
	Elevator Maintenance	500	110	250
	Photocopier Lease	4,000	1,355	2,200
	Organist	11,500	11,192	11,500
	Pension, Insurance, Cong. Assessment	16,000	16,064	17,000
	Presbytery Dues	3,000	2 100	3,000
	Secretary	9,500	2,498 7,734	6,000
	Service Fees	350	327	350
	Stipend	68,000	68,078	68,600
TOTAL		182,200	175,930	174,400

<u>Annual Meeting Agenda</u> Knox Presbyterian Church, Alliston, Ontario Sunday, March 7th, 2021 at 1pm by Zoom

Zoom Information: Knox Alliston Annual Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89224025914?pwd=VUpLVXY4S2YvUjJzWjJJY2h6OS9zQT09 Phone # 1-647-374-4685 (You can mute and unmute using *6 on your phone.) Meeting ID: 892 2402 5914 Passcode: 494128

- 1. Open meeting Scripture & Prayer with Service of Remembrance
- 2. Motion for Consent Motion for the following items
 - a. Election of Secretary Lori Knox
 - b. Adopt Minutes of 2020 Annual Meeting as printed
 - c. Accept Auditor for 2021 Keith Shier
 - d. Receive and consider 2020 Annual Report (not financial report or budget)
- 3. Consent Motion to adopt items a-d
- 4. Consideration of reports
- 5. Motion to adopt Annual Report as printed (Not including financial reports and budget)
- 6. Appointment to vacant positions: Board of Managers see page Motion "*That the listed Board of Managers be extended for a 3-year term*."
- 7. Presbyterians Sharing: Session Proposal: "That Knox Church accepts a Presbyterians Sharing Allocation of \$21,000 for 2021."
- 8. Salaries: Stipend: Motion "That the Minister's housing/utilities be increased by \$500."
- 9. Honoraria 2019: Treasurer: \$700, Back-up Treasurer \$300, Assistant \$200 Motion "*That the honoraria remain the same for the year 2021*."
- 10. Financial Reports 2020 Motion to adopt Financial Reports as printed
- 11. Proposed Budget for 2021 Motion to adopt Budget
- 12. New Business
- 13. Moment of Appreciation
- 14. Date of next Annual Meeting March 6th, 2022
- 15. Motion to adjourn and Meeting closed with prayer