



Knox United Methodist Church

January 2023

Volume 23 Issue 1



NEW BEGINNINGS

New Year's Day Isn't a church holiday for Christians, and that's surprising. This is an instance when, unfortunately, we didn't follow the example of our Jewish forebears. For the Jew, Rosh Hashanah, or New Year's Day, is one of the high holy days. On that day, according to Jewish tradition, all the inhabitants of the world file before God for judgment. But his is seen as merciful judgment, not a sealed one. The purpose of this yearly review on Rosh Hashanah is that our "sins may not grow too numerous." What the rabbis taught as a fact of the universe I think many of us feel as a truth of the psyche. Obviously, the Jewish sense of awe is missing from our popular celebration of the New Year. All of us feel the need for a new start, and-----as much as possible-----with a clean slate. Theologically, there's little need to make the point, and yet it's worth recalling the word of a great pastor who was president of New York's Union Theological Seminary when he once wrote that there is probably not "a more comforting text in the entire Bible that this: "Our God is a consuming fire." What a guarantee this gives us for a clean earth. And maybe just a small need inside for a clean slate and have a new beginning. The garbage of life weighs us down, and the regrets of a fruitless past cause us to be cynical. We all need encouragements for beginning again and New Year's Day provides such a mood and opportunity. We all need God who gives us a very profound sense of forgiveness and grace. And we find the roots for these feelings grounded in Scripture. So Resolutions come and go and so do hopeful affirmations and gimmicks of positive thinking. As we start this New Year and this new beginning as a church family, let us approach this time with gratitude and anticipation. Gratitude, because the day makes so many persons more sensitive to the possibility of new commitments for doing ministry anew. Anticipation because so many good things can happen when we listen to God's will and work together with love and grace. This really is a strategic opportunity to begin anew as a church that has been transformed by the love, joy, peace and hope of Christmas with the birth of our Savior Jesus. I look forward to doing ministry together.



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Church Office Hours

Mon 1:00 - 4:30 pm
Tue 1:00 - 4:30 pm
Wed 1:00 - 4:30 pm
Thu 1:00 - 4:30 pm

Pastor Dee Miller

219-531-9109
219-916-1650
deemiller@gmail.com

Altar Flowers

You are encouraged to consider purchasing altar flowers in memory or in honor of loved ones or in honor of a special occasion. Even at the **new price of \$15.00** (effective 1-1-23) they are a terrific value. A sign up sheet is available in the church office.



Altar Flowers

Knox Knumbers for December

ATTENDANCE

12/4/22.....	47
12/11/22.....	40
12/18/22.....	41
12/24/22 (6:30).....	
12/24/22 (11:45).....	
12/25/22.....	

OFFERINGS

12/4/22.....	\$2196.00
12/11/22.....	\$ 856.00
12/18/22.....	\$
12/25/22.....	\$

Approximately \$1870 is needed per week to meet our annual budget.

**Knox United Methodist
Church Council 2023**

- Pastor** - Pr. Dee Miller
- Church Council Chair** - Jack Miller
- Church Council Vice-Chair** - vacant
- Lay Member to Annual Conference** - Debbie Mix
- Reserve Lay Member to AC** - vacant
- Lay Leader** - Debbie Mix
- Staff/Parish Chair** - Mitch Martinkus
- Finance Chair** - Shirley Fosler
- Treasurer** - Lisa Nichols
- Trustee Chair** - Lee McIntire
- Trustee Treasurer** - Sally Oliverius
- Lay Leadership Vice Chair** - vacant
- Education Chair** - Debbie Mix
- Education Assistant** - Georgia Pope
- Recording Secretary** - Shirley Fosler
- At-Large Member** - Melba Shilling

Ex Officio Members with vote:

- Historian** - Dan Miller
- Men's Group** - Jack Miller, Mitch Martinkus
- Missions & Outreach Chair** - Sandy Miller
- Prayer Coordinator** - Sandy Miller
- Women's Group** - Shirley Fosler, Lisa Nichols
- Youth Representative** - vacant

Ex Officio Members with no vote:

- Financial Secretary** - Cheryl Tellman



GET TO KNOW YOUR NEW PASTOR

Grace and Peace to each of you. It is with great joy and anticipation that I begin my appointment to Knox UMC and Hamlet UMC on January 1, 2023. My hope is that together we can openly discern the direction God is leading us forward in the new year. I grew up in Hamburg, New York which is located south of Buffalo. I went to Syracuse University for nursing and worked as a nurse in the ER and ICU for over 10 years. I still hold a license and occasionally do some care of the elderly in their homes. I was happily married for over 24 years, and we had four sons who currently live all over the United States. I have 4 grandchildren who keep me smiling all the time. I have been a widow for over 18 years and an empty nester for over 7 years. My house is hardly empty though because I have 4 miniature dachshunds who keep me active and loved with all their antics.

I have been in ministry for over 20 years and have served over 5 different churches. When my 94-year-old father began to suffer from dementia, he came to live with me. I left parish ministry during COVID to work in extension ministry as a board-certified chaplain. The work was easier to schedule around my father's care. My dad passed away a little over a year ago and my brother and I are still in the process of working through their house and property.

I have been a United Methodist my entire life. As a teenager and young adult I tried many different denominations but eventually found that our theological statement and our Wesleyan interpretation of grace are cornerstones of my faith. All pastors have different natural gifts and we work hard to fulfill the expectations of different churches. My primary gift is pastoral care and building visitation teams of lay members to help keep the homebound connected to their church family. My preaching is Biblically based, and I usually follow the lectionary with an occasional month of sermons around a theme utilized. The polity and structure of the UMC is also important for the each local church to understand and utilize. Are we perfect? No. But it is the structure that we work with to accomplish God's will in ministry to our communities. With God's abundant grace, I hope to work with all of you to continue ministry in your communities and beyond.

Self-care is important to everyone who wants to be fulfilled and happy in life. In my free time, I spend a lot of time reading and quilting. I always have 2 quilts in different states of completion. Daily devotion and meditation is a cornerstone of my early morning time. That keeps me centered in God's Word. Sudoku and Wordle are daily adventures that often frustrate me as I try to keep my mind sharp. I love to hike and spend time in nature and feel blessed to live close to the dunes and great places to explore. Since my sons live in many different states, I love to travel to spend quality time with them and support their lives and accomplishments.

My prayer is that we will continue to listen to each other as we work together to discern God's will for the future ministry of Knox UMC and Hamlet UMC.

Pastor Dee

HOURS FOR PASTOR DEE

Since the appointment to the church is only quarter time, I will be prioritizing the time that I spend in the office. With my work at the hospital changing each week, I will be posting which day I will be in the office in the bulletin. In saying that I want to be available to all of you for emergencies, hospital calls, and any other situations that you need pastoral care for. I am used to answering the phone at any time of day or night and want to know if you are in the emergency room or have an emergency. Please feel free to call me at home 219-531-9109 or on my cell 219-916-1650. If I don't answer immediately, leave a message because I may be in the hospital already working and cannot answer my phone. I will call you back shortly. If you were not in a position to call please have someone else call me but be sure that you tell me that you have their permission to talk with me because I will be asking. I work in a world where HIPPA is the law.

If you have other concerns please make an appointment to come to the church or meet me for coffee by emailing me at deelmiller@gmail.com. Together we can make this work. Thank you Pastor Dee

A NEW YEAR AND A NEW PASTOR

On December 12 the Church Council/S-PPRC, along with the Hamlet Church, met with Rev. Dr. Marti Lundy, our Conference Superintendent. At that Take-In meeting we were introduced to our newly appointed 1/4 time pastor, Deborah Dee Miller. Just for the record, she would like to be called Pastor Dee. She comes to us from Valparaiso where she resides. A little background, she is a fully ordained Elder of the UMC, she is a mother of 4, has been a RN, she is a part time Chaplain at Porter County hospitals and used to do children ministries. Her plans for being here at the church are, here Sundays, of course, and one day during the week along with adjusting her hours for visitations and other needs. Her first day as our pastor and in the pulpit is January 1, 2023.

For those of you who are wondering why she is 1/4 time:

On November 15 when Bishop Trimble and his cabinet ended Pastor Curtis's appointment here at the KUMC. The Church Council met with Rev. Dr. Marti Lundy to discuss this matter on November 19. After a long and painfully enduring discussion, the Council decided to reconsider our options and needs for our next pastor appointment. At a specially called meeting of the Council on November 28, we prayerfully considered our finances, outreach ministries, etc. It was decided to change our 3/4 time position for a pastor to a 1/4 time pastor position. The pastor we have will also be the pastor of the Hamlet UMC. With a 1/4 time pastor you are saving on the expenses of their pension, health insurance and housing. It has been considered to rent or sell the parsonage as a source of revenue. As we move forward, the Council will be looking at the possibility of increasing our pastor time of service. Also we hired Pastor Curtis as our Director of Outreach Ministries to help us through this transitional time here at your church, the KUMC.

If you have any questions, please contact me or any of the Church Council members.

Mitch Martinkus

S/PPRC Chairman

Church Council Minutes

December 12, 2022

Members Present: Jack Miller Marshall Garlick Lee McIntire Sally Oliverius
Shirley Fosler Pastor Curtis Mitch Martinkus Deb Mix
Melba Shilling (virtually) Georgia Pope Guest: Lisa Nichols

Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Jack Miller with a prayer.

Last month's Meetings Minutes were read by Shirley. Mitch moved to approve the minutes. Deb seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Marshall reported that bills were paid. Balance in checking is going down. Will have to keep an eye on it. Need to encourage everyone to keep giving to support the missions of your church. For the yearly budget, we need \$1870 a month.

Encourage everyone to use black ink to cut down on expenses. Reduce printing cost with reducing the number of copies. Have to check to and see what our printer contact is for. Marshall will check to see what is the years cost to date with the copier company.

Everyone is going to have to jump in and help with what is needed in the church and God's work.

Finance Committee: Budget Review: Lisa redid the budget based on the new pastor. The church will not be paying for pension for the new pastor. Insurance costs went up for 2022. Tithes are paid to the conference from what is donated to the general fund. A person may give monetarily to a particular line item on the dedicated accounts.

Mitch moved that the fruitful congregation dedicated funds be moved to the general fund since we have many missions project our church is working on. Deb seconded. Motion passed.

2023 Budget needs to be passed so it can be set up for the new year.

Trustee's Report: Do we go ahead with the project with the cameras and TVs for the sanctuary? Sally moved to use \$3000 to get the video outreach mission up and running from the Memorial Funds. Second by Shirley. Motion passed.

Have to discuss what to do with the parsonage, to rent or sell? Will charge the pet deposit and do a home inspection.

Sally moved to rent and that the rent will go to the trustee's funds. It is due at the first of the month. The rent for the parsonage \$1200 now per month. Utility bills payments are due seven days before the date the bill

the bill is due. The utilities will be kept in the church's name since the rent is month to month. Reevaluate what to do at the end of the February. Seconded by Lisa. Motion passed. The parsonage will be rented now to Curtis Bond family for now.

Sally asked that both Pastor Dee and consultant Curtis will feel comfortable with the way the church board has hired people to work together for the benefit of the Knox United Methodist Church.

We can use the paid consultant an unlimited number of hours per week. Everyone please volunteer to get trained in the various mission fields.

Lay Leadership: Deb will remain as Lay Leader for 2023.

Missions: Food give away is Tuesday, December 13, 2022, 9-12. All are welcome to come and help.

Food and coats given away at the Community Dinner.

Lay Leadership Vice Chair: Lynn Allen will be stepping down from this position.

Methodist Men's Group: Men's Group met Dec. 11th. Six attended. Discussed Holiday Basket Give Aways. Spent over \$900 in gift cards for local stores. More cards are being purchased. The next meeting will be Jan. 8, 2023. 7:30am. The men and women's groups will meet together Jan. 8, 2022 at 7:30.

Women's Group: The woman's group will meet on December 4th at 8:00 am. They enjoyed breakfast, message to reflect and good fellowship at the meeting. Volunteers will purchase the donut holes and orange slices for the early Christmas Eve. Service. The men and women's groups will meet together Jan. 8, 2022 at 7:30.

Worship: Two Christmas Eve Services 6:30 and 11:00. Christmas Services are being covered by volunteers. Cheryl needs information on the Christmas Eve and Christmas Services so she can do bulletins.

New Business: The council needs to prepare a letter to let the congregation know what is going on. Items for the news letter needs to be to Cheryl by Dec. 15th.

- Letter read by Deb Mix from a person who is asking to clothing assistance. The Methodist men will be making the donation.
- There will be an announcement made in church on Dec. 18th by Mitch introducing the new pastor.
- Shirley moved that we create a fitting room at the church for the kids closet. Second by Deb. Motion passed. Lisa will organize.
- The church council will meet on January 9, 2022 at 5:00 pm. Everyone is welcome.
- Motion to adjourn Mitch second by Deb. Motion passed. Lisa closed in prayer.

OUTREACH MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

Come join our outreach ministries which include the following: Radio Program, Website, Facebook, Media Shout Program and Presentations, PA system and Worship Videos and Slides. Your church needs volunteers to learn these programs so we can continue to reach out in various ways to spread the good word of God's Love and Jesus our Savior. Volunteers need to be trained to operate and work these programs. Please leave your name with Cheryl in the office.

food bank
OF NORTHERN INDIANA

will be at:



Knox United Methodist Church
201 S Shield St, Knox

Wednesday, January 18

9:00 am - 11:00 am CT
(or until supplies last)

**To volunteer see Sandy Miller or
call the church office!
574-772-4228**



FINANCIAL REPORT 11/30/2022**SUBMITTED BY MARSHALL GARLACH**

Account #	Account Name	Period Activity	YTD Balance	Budget YTD
Income				
4.10.140	Tithing by Envelope & Checks	5,015.00	65,366.00	92,854.00
4.10.141	Loose Offering	101.00	2,020.66	
4.10.142	Use of Building	90.00	830.00	
4.10.143	Misc. Other Offering	0.00	15.00	
	Total Income	\$5,206.00	\$68,231.66	\$92,854.00
Expenses				
5.10.150	Conference Tithes	1,123.40	6,738.67	6,875.00
5.10.151	District Tithes	112.34	673.86	693.00
5.10.152	Annual Conference Expense	0.00	0.00	550.00
5.10.155	Pastor Salary	2,830.58	31,957.22	32,417.00
5.10.156	Custodial Salary	97.50	1,567.50	2,750.00
5.10.157	Musician Salary	400.00	4,000.00	4,763.00
5.10.158	Travel Reimbursement/Prof. Expense	0.00	1,460.75	1,837.00
5.10.159	Administrative Assistant	916.30	9,721.11*	9,441.00
5.10.160	Pastor Pension Expense	0.00	5,487.26*	5,316.00
5.10.170	Supplies (Alter & Communion)	84.00	84.00*	74.00
5.10.171	Pulpit Supplies	0.00	0.00	47.00
5.10.172	Music (Copyright License, etc)	0.00	278.25*	229.00
5.10.180	Church Utilities - Gas/Electric	568.00	5,893.00*	5,041.00
5.10.181	Church Utilities - Water/Trash	469.08	2,822.95*	2,750.00
5.10.182	Church Utilities - Telephone	112.09	1,339.62*	1,329.00
5.10.185	Parsonage Utilities - Telephone	322.26	2,007.51*	1,650.00
5.10.186	Parsonage Utilities - Water/Trash	168.06	1,022.09*	913.00
5.10.187	Parsonage Utilities - Gas/Electric	161.20	2,031.29	2,247.00
5.10.188	Insurance Church/Parsonage	0.00	9,517.00*	8,663.00
5.10.190	Office Supplies	35.19	480.84*	366.00
5.10.191	Postage	0.00	176.00	322.00
5.10.193	Cleaning Supplies	103.83	138.43	229.00
5.10.200	Computer Programs/Updates	0.00	345.00	413.00
5.10.205	Equipment Maintenance	0.00	0.00	1,650.00
5.10.207	Office Equipment Purchases	0.00	0.00	462.00
5.10.210	WKVI	200.00	1,440.00	1,834.00
	Total Expenses	\$7,703.83	\$89,182.35	\$92,861.00
	Difference	(\$2,497.83)	(\$20,950.69)	(\$7.00)

* = Income/Expense exceeds amount budgeted to date



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



1	Dorothy Britton
1	Jordan Bulick
3	Gary Reedy
4	Bobby Elsea
11	Peter Knutel
12	M B McIntire
13	Mitch Martinkus
14	Susie Keeker

14	Kason Richard
16	Allison Matinkus
21	Tori Bulick
25	Susan Lucas
26	Connie Marsh
29	Cara Hasnerl
30	Angie Owens



11	Paul & Rhonda Brust
24	Ted & Marcia Hayes

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY



PUZZLE PAGE



EPIPHANY

B E T H L E H E M D H C T Z U Y
 A C O P O S K R R I P H E I G N
 V J M D Y F U E W G E I H C O A
 D O R E H G A S N S S L P D L H
 E U H M Z M E I E N O D O Q D P
 J O J R A L K A C J J M R X V I
 K I H P R R G U E M A A P S N P
 T S A E V Y Y C E O M T R K I E
 U A G M B G M S O Q N T L D S P
 M A G I O I S V L O K H A C I M
 W O D S F I B E L W D E R D A R
 C R P O A T G L W G F W K O A Z
 B E H H W N S Y E P Q J J T I K
 L Z F R A N K I N C E N S E D W
 W O R S H I P W F N D I K M G X
 C T L N O J B A C D M R J H C F

ANGEL BETHLEHEM BIBLE CHILD DREAM EAST EGYPT
 EPIPHANY FRANKINCENSE GIFTS GOLD GOSPEL HEROD
 JESUS JOSEPH KING MAGI MARY MATTHEW MESSIAH
 MICAH MYRRH PROPHET STAR WORSHIP



Knox United Methodist Church

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email knoxmethodist@gmail.com

facebook @knoxumc

radio Sundays @ 7:30am on
99.3fm WKVI

**Empowering people to be disciples of Jesus Christ
with love and positive support.**



KNOX KNEWS

JANUARY 2023

Next month's submission deadline: January

If you no longer wish to receive this publication in print, or if you are able and willing to receive it via e-mail please let us know. Thank you!



Knox United Methodist Church

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