

Knox Parish Newsletter

August 2025

From Ron's Desk



Greetings. It continues to be a joy working at Knox Morrinsville and starting to get to know the people of this church ... I have also been getting to know others in the community (e.g. the knitting ladies who gather each Tuesday morning plus some of the Ministers/Pastors of other churches) ... it is my heart to bless the whole Body of Christ in any town/city I serve in ... so let's keep praying for all the followers of Jesus in Morrinsville and the surrounding districts.

Talking of praying ... I look forward to both the Wednesday 2pm and the Sunday Pre-Service prayer groups ... others are welcome to join us.

Blessings to you and your families, Rev Ron

August Services

- 03 Clive Thomson
- 10 Rev Ron Communion & AGM
- 17 Joe Beattie
- 24 Clive Thomson Mission Luncheon
- 31 Rev Ron

August Duties

Morning Tea Roster

- 03 Rae & Bev Seales
- 10 Mary Discombe & Sharon Alexander AGM
- 17 Rhonda Grey & Vicki Smith
- 24 Elaine Ralph & Glenys Middlemiss Mission Luncheon
- 31 Brian & Gwen Weightman

Door Duty

- 03 & 10 Brian & Gwen Weightman
- 17 & 24 David & Dyan Robins
- 31 Glenys Middlemiss

Church Cleaning

- 03 Glenys Middlemiss
- 17 Martin & Philo van de Haar
- 31 Bev & John Reid

Flower Roster

- 03 & 10 Lorraine Candy
- 17 & 24 Bev Reid
- 31 Clare Walters

Duty Elder Joe Beattie

Ph: 027 236 8810

Session meets on the 19th August @3pm in the Meeting room.

Session News

Session would like to encourage you to give serious consideration to putting your name forward to become a member of the Board of Managers if God is prompting you.

Please speak to an Elder or Rev Ron if you would like to know more about the workings of the Board of Managers.

Session is continuing to look at ways we can develop some of the ideas that came out of the City to city Revision. Please feel free to bring any suggestions to the elders.

We encourage you all to join us on the 30th August when David Rietveld will be at Knox to hold a workshop on Mission and reach out to our community.

We welcome and look forward to working with Bronnie as she fills in for Helen while she is away. Enjoy your holiday, Helen.

Session Prayer

Ecclesiastes 3:1 *"There is an appointed time for everything. And there is a time for every event under heaven."*

Pray, that as we as a church move into a new season with God, that we will grow as He wants us to grow, that we will prosper as He wants us to prosper, and that we will be woven together in total peace and unity.

Board of Managers meets on the 11th August @7pm in the Meeting Room.

Board of Managers News

Audio Visual System – The new Audio/Visual system is now in use. Thanks to BB Communications for the installation.

Kitchen – The quotation from Innovant for the repairs to the central island has been received and accepted.

Manse Fence – The work on the Manse fence has now been completed.

Lawns & Grounds – The Olive Tree has been weeded and it is planned to put a concrete ring around it, filled with stones to help keep the weeds down. The Canada Street garden has been weeded of large weeds and the smaller ones will be sprayed once the weather improves. The succulent garden will be weeded, and more succulents will be planted.

Front Door – It has been suggested that the Front Door be kept open on Sundays, but this not practical in winter as we are trying to keep the foyer warm. In view of this, signage is being investigated that could also be used for other functions e.g. Kafe@Knox.

Office – Helen will be overseas from 12 August till the end of September. Bronnie Bennett has been approached and has agreed to fill in while Helen is away.

Contacts



Church Office 889 7997
(Please leave a message)
Office hours Tues—Fri, 9am to 1pm
admin@knoxmorrinsville.org.nz



Session Clerk

Glenys Middlemiss 027 4533 956

Tuesday Home Group



Jennifer Bills 889 4199

Finances

If you would like to go on the envelope system for Offerings, please contact Glenys. She will give you a number and you can use that for online giving, or envelopes for this purpose. You are welcome to make online payments to:

Account Name:

Morrinsville Presbyterian Church

use this name for all accounts

General Account

01– 0367-0007970 –00

(use this for normal church offerings)

Mission Account

01-0367-0007970-01

(use this for Mission giving)

Building fund Account 01-0367-0007970-050

(for donations towards Building projects)

PARISH FACEBOOK AND WEBSITE

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/Knox-Morrinsville/>

Website:

<http://www.knoxmorrinsville.org.nz/index.htm?d=50217>

Personal and Property Safety

We would like to remind people to keep a close eye on your valuables while in church. There have been recent thefts from churches during Sunday services. Unfortunately there are some in society that do not respect others and their property.

Bible Study Group

Meets at Jennifer's place on Tuesday mornings at 10:15am during the school term, All are welcome

Mission Group News

Life in Asia (Nick, Georgia & family, WEC) at the moment is extremely hot (often 40 degrees). A visit to the waterpark gives great relief and enjoyment to the family.

Prayer points

- Our landlady has asked again for rent early, we said no, so she said she has no choice but to sell the apartment. So we have started looking at places this week. Please pray for His leading and for us to trust.
- N's language helper is a leader in a local community. He asked N if he would be keen to lead a course with their youth about "sharing the good news with others." Please pray for this.
- We have some big news: G is pregnant. It is still very early days. G has peace about giving birth here in this country, but we will keep following Him step by step. Please pray for us.

Kafe@Knox

Kafe@Knox is held on the 4th Thursday of the month from 10.00am so, if you haven't been before, come along, bring a friend and enjoy a time of fellowship and a lovely morning tea. This month it will be: Thursday 28th August 2025

Everybody's Op Shop

The new Everybody's Shop is doing well after the move to Ron Ladd Place and we have just had another payout, 50% of which will be distributed to local Charities. At the last Executive meeting it was agreed that two volunteers will cover the lunch period 11.30 – 1.30pm plus one for Saturday morning 10am – 1pm. Previously, this was only required during school holidays. In effect, this means that 21 volunteers are required to cover our duty week. If anyone feels they can spare a couple of hours every seven weeks to help please let Frances know (Ph 021 0239 2538). Our next turn is Monday 18 August to 23 August.

Prayer Chain

We have an email prayer chain outreach for intercessory prayer.

If you would like to have a prayer included, please contact Jackie Cantley, at jacall@xtra.co.nz. Please include Prayer request in the subject line, if the prayer is urgent please indicate. Or ring Jackie on 0272275012. If I am unavailable please leave your contact name and number.

If you would like to be an email intercessor please contact Jackie.

Knox Presbyterian Church, Morrinsville History

Have you noticed this artwork hanging behind the door leading from the foyer to the back door.



Here is the story of the 'Busy Bees' banner.

During the ministry of the late Rev. J.H. Starnes,[1926 - 1935] his wife, Mrs Starnes in addition to her many other parish duties, founded in Knox Church Sunday School an organisation for junior girls known as 'Busy Bees' which could be described as a youthful Ladies Guild.

This banner depicting a bee in flight was painted by her from a sketch drawn for her at the time by a teenage Sunday School teacher, Colin C. McLeod.

The banner was handed to the minister the Rev. Chris Bedford by Colin McLeod of Mount Maunganui, during the weekend of the last service held in the original Knox Church building Morrinsville.

November 11th 1984.



Opportunity for Making a Love Offering

Rilee Wright is the 10 year old great granddaughter of our church member Gordon Wright.

She (supported by her parents) is currently in a battle for her life due to a form of blood cancer.

Residents of Nelson they are currently having to stay in Christchurch, but they will be bringing Riley to 'Starship' in Auckland for Cancer treatment as soon as she is over the pneumonia and 'Hospital Bug' she currently has.

Due to this situation her parents are in a very difficult financial situation, having had to resign from their employment.

Church leadership has agreed to invite our congregation to give financially as they feel led to support this family.

Contributions can be given to the church in the usual way, but importantly marked 'Rilee'.

Please continue to keep Rilee and the family in prayer for God's provision and healing.



An expression of
love & support



MODERATOR'S
MESSAGE 2025
3 AUGUST

PEACE SUNDAY

Peace Sunday, 3 August

About 10 years ago I sat in a hotel in Waimate having lunch with my mother who had worked in the town during the war years. She told me that this particular hotel had been at the centre of the street party celebrations when the end of WW2 was announced. She described the day and how they could hardly believe it, and the outpouring of relief and joy that came as that small town at the bottom of the world reacted to the thought of peace, after so many years of war and the devastation and grief that came with it. And we can only try and imagine how the news reverberated the world over, especially in the lands in which war and horror were a daily experience.

Peace...

Of course, not long before that, on 6 August, there was the atomic bombing of Hiroshima, with tens of thousands of people killed and then thousands more dying later of radiation poisoning. Horrific. Devastating. Unprecedented. And this Peace Sunday date is intentionally chosen to coincide with this anniversary.

Peace...at what cost...

In essence, Peace Sunday serves as a powerful reminder of the devastating consequences of war and violence, and a call to action for individuals and communities to work towards a more peaceful and just world. We also acknowledge the inter-generational trauma that comes for those who have experienced such horror, and how the effects of it continue to impact families and our societies. At this time in the life of our world, when we look at the carnage, inhumanity and violence all around, how desperately we need peace... a just peace.

We run with longing to embrace peace - yet maintaining a true and just peace is no soft option.

Today we are no longer reliant on radio and newspapers as my mother was, our many devices and social media bring war zones and sites of conflict before us wherever we are switched on and at any time of the day - we hear and see terrible accounts of death and suffering. It can be overwhelming, yet we do not want to turn our backs on those enduring horrors in the Israel-Hamas war; Russia Ukraine war; Thailand Cambodia conflict; civil wars in Myanmar; Sudan; Ethiopia; Syria; Yemen and many other places across the globe. It is confronting, but we can and do find ways to seek out the truth, to be informed and aware, and help in whatever small way we can to promote peace.

I am reminded of the words of the Trappist monk, Thomas Merton:

*"Peace demands the most heroic labour
and the most difficult sacrifice
It demands greater heroism than war
It demands greater fidelity to the truth and
a much more perfect purity of conscience."
[From *The Nonviolent Alternative*.]*

We speak of Jesus as the 'prince of peace' and also recall his words from John 14: 27:

"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid."

As followers of Jesus, we are called to walk in the ways of peace. To be bearers of that peace that Jesus gives. This is necessary, demanding, challenging and ongoing.

Let us take up the challenge to work towards peace, not just on Peace Sunday, but always.

Grace and peace

Rose

Right Rev Rose Luxford

Moderator Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand