

Knox Parish Newsletter

March 2025

Proverbs 3:3-4

Let love and faithfulness never leave you:
bind them around your neck,
write them on the tablet of your heart.
Then you will win favour and a good name
in the sight of man and God.

Prayer

May our love and faithfulness towards You
and each other be a constant source of joy
to You and to us. May our love and
faithfulness continue to grow and become
a witness to all.
In Jesus name Amen.

March Services

02	Clive Thomson	
09	Joe Beattie	Communion
16	Steve McRobie	Bible Soc
23	Joseph Bateson	Mission Luncheon
30	Clive Thomson	Baptism

March Duties

Morning Tea Roster

02	Felicity Wilson & Glenys Middlemiss
09	Brian & Gwen Weightman
16	Rhonda Grey & Margaret Sherwood
23	John & Bev Reid
30	Rena Bill & Fatima Lock

Door Duty

02 & 09	Fatima Lock
16 & 23	Rena Bill & Vicki smith
30	Mary Discombe

Church Cleaning

02	Glenys Middlemiss
16	Martin & Philo van de Haar
30	Bev & John Reid

Flower Roster

02 & 09	Bev Seales
16 & 23	Jackie Cantley
30	Clare Walters

Duty Elder Glenys Middlemiss

Session meets on the 18th March @ 3pm in the Meeting room.

Session News

Session would like to thank everyone who contributed in any way to our recent City to city investigation by David Rietveld. Thank you for filling out the surveys and talking to David in person, it was all very helpful to him to gain a clearer picture of who and what our church is. David will be back in late May/early June to discuss his report and look at where to from here.

Easter

We will be part of the Easter programme this year, on the 18th April (Good Friday).

We are to be the last stop for the Procession of the Cross.

We are looking for ideas for what we should do for the Crucifixion and also looking for volunteers to provide and serve the Hot Cross Buns and Tea & Coffee.

Please see one of the Elders if you are able to help in any way.

Testimonies

Please contact an Elder if you feel inspired by God to bring a testimony during a service.

This can be in the form of a sermon or a short message.

Board of Managers meets on the 10th March @ 7pm at Martins place.

Board of managers News

- The tree at the side of the church has now been trimmed and is looking much tidier
- Martin van der Haar has attended to the spider webs in the church
- The Kafe@Knox patron is being contacted with regard to replacing the damaged panels around the sinks in the kitchen
- Jennifer, Rena and Frances have been meeting regularly to draft the Job Description for the proposed Administrator. Managers have agreed to the final draft and the position will be advertised in the church prior to being advertised publicly.

The advert is on the next page.

Contacts



Church Office 889 7997
Please leave a message
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:

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/KnoxMorrinsville/>

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.

KNOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

We are looking for an Intermediate Office Administrator

Must have excellent communication and interpersonal skills
Confident dealing with a varied day without becoming flustered
The ability to work independently

Part time 16 hours per week

For Job Description please email: middleteam@xtra.co.nz

To apply, please submit CV and covering letter to –
Jennifer Bills 43 George Street Morrinsville

Closing Date 26 March

Bible Study Group

Mets at Jennifer's place on Tuesday mornings at 10:15am.
During the school term, All are welcome

Mission Group News

Please note that a person from the Bible Society will be preaching on the 16th March. Please consider supporting them at this services.

Knox Kafe

This is held each fourth Thursday of the month at 10am in the church foyer.

Please think about who of your friends, family or neighbours you would like to invite for a cuppa.

Everybody's Op Shop

Apart from two days during the school holidays which are filled, our first stint at the Op Shop will be the week beginning Monday 24 through to Friday 28 February.

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 is 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.



Autumnal Letting-Go

After a late burst of summer weather, we are beginning to feel the turn of the season. Mornings have begun to feel quite autumnal. I love that word! And I have to say that autumn is my favourite season. There is something about the softer days, the sense of gathering in, the changing colours of the trees (brilliant in the South), the feeling of a different season with its own uniqueness and vibe.

Autumn also coincides with our season of Lent. The time of the year where we journey towards Good Friday. A time for reflection, repentance and spiritual preparation. A time where many Christians engage in practices such as fasting, prayer, penance, and self-denial to grow closer to God and reflect on the significance of Jesus's sacrificial giving and death on the cross.

So, we have these two seasons of autumn and Lent occurring in parallel. We often hear of people giving something up for Lent; a bit like a shortened (or maybe elongated) New Year's resolution – that for six weeks they will give up, say, chocolate, or social media, or a habit that is not helpful. And we reflect on how the trees 'give up' their leaves in this season. How might we respond, how might we take this seasonal opportunity to reflect more deeply on our faith commitment?

Perhaps we need to think about what our motivation is. If we give up something just to prove that we can, or that we 'should', it may well be an undertaking that brings a hollow sense of victory at the end. So what, we've proved we've got will power! Rather, if we give up something as a way of helping us grow closer to God, how much more meaningful and satisfying our 'letting go' will be.

I have found that with much travelling and a very different routine to my life as I carry out my role as Moderator, and also as parish minister, it has been more difficult for me to maintain a sense of a regular rhythm in my devotional life. For me, this season of Lent is going to provide an opportunity to 'let go' of that sense of dislocation, to claim new ways of incorporating that rhythm into my life.

For those of us who attend Ash Wednesday services and have the sign of the cross in ash placed on our foreheads, hear the words 'Remember you are dust, and to dust you shall return' and 'Repent, and believe in the Gospel', this is both sobering and resonates deeply. This Lenten time offers an opportunity to grow in our Christian faith.

At a time when there is so much uncertainty, prejudice, violence and hatred in our world, it may seem counter-intuitive to turn inwards and reflect in this way. And yet growing in our faith, knowing to whom we belong, reflecting on his self-giving and loving ways, enables us to live more fully in this world that is crying out for hope and justice.

Just as the trees let go of their leaves and stand bare for a season, we too can let go of the things that may distract or mis-shape us, so that we too, like the trees, can be renewed and refreshed for the next season.

"From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised".

[Matthew 16: 21]

Rose

Right Rev Rose Luxford

Moderator Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand

moderator@presbyterian.org.nz