

MAY 2022

TIDINGS

INSIDE THIS MONTH'S ISSUE:

- **Communion/Food on the First - May 1**
- **Prime Timers - May 3**
- **Mother's Day - May 8**
- **Celebrate Our Graduates - May 22**
- **Margaret Wilson Scholarship Application Deadline - May 23**
- **Race Weekend Worship - May 28**

Come discover how you
can get involved and serve at John Knox!

JOHN KNOX | OPEN. CARING.
PRESBYTERIAN | COMMUNITY.

3000 North High School Road + Indianapolis, IN 46224
317.291.0308 (phone) + 317.291.0442 (fax)

9 am Traditional Service + 10 am Sunday School +
11 am Contemporary Service

JOHNKNOX.ORG

THE TRANSITIONAL DANCE

Six months ago, I “blew” in on a westerly wind, and our transitional dance began. It has been a delightful, welcoming start. You have welcomed my family and I with open arms. We have spent some time getting to know each other and have moved from Christmas to Easter in these few short months. Now it is time to move into the heart of our transition. During the next several months the transitional team (that will be named shortly) and I will be leading a Mission Study (which is required by the Presbytery) and then we will be ready to elect a Pastor Nominating Committee.

While all this is going on, we will continue to be the church, worshipping, fellowshiping, working to be the hands, feet, and voice of Christ. Stay tuned for an opportunity to join the Pastor for Pasta as we do several small focus groups and May Coffeeshop office hours shift to MOTW Coffee and Pastries, 4873 W 38th St, Indianapolis Located in Lafayette Square next to Uncle Bill’s Pet Store. Join me as we continue to dance the Transitional Dance at John Knox.

Pastor Beth

EASTER FESTIVAL THANK YOU

THANKS to all who helped with donations and assistance to celebrate Easter with our children during our festival. We hosted a total of seventy-five guests with twenty-five people serving in helping roles! We consider this to be a huge success since we have not done this in three years!

Tidings is published monthly by John Knox Presbyterian Church,
3000 N. High School Rd, Indianapolis, IN 46224
Interim Pastor: Rev. Beth Wagner, pastrb7@gmail.com
Phone: 317-291-0308, johnknox.org
Editor: Linda Bourne jkpctidings@gmail.com
Editor reserves the right to edit for content and space.

SUNDAY - MAY 1

COMMUNION: Sunday, May 1, the Sacrament of Holy Communion will be celebrated. Plan to be in church on that day to share this meal with the people of God. If you will be joining us online, please have your forms of bread and juice available at home!

FOOD ON THE FIRST: Food items (non-perishable) are collected on the first Sunday of the month and then taken to The Storehouse Food Pantry. Bring your items on Sunday, May 1, or during office hours the week before.

RACE WEEKEND SERVICE SATURDAY - MAY 28 - 7 PM

Due to the Indianapolis 500 Race, there will be no activities at the church on Sunday, May 29. But we are going to have a meal and worship in a comfortable way the day before! We will gather for a pitch-in picnic in the Fellowship Hall on Saturday, May 28, at 6:00pm. The Worship Team will provide drinks and table service - you are asked to bring a dish to share. There will be a sign up sheet on the bulletin board outside the church office. Please sign up if you plan to attend the pitch in and indicate what type of dish you will bring.

Then, we will stay in the Fellowship Hall for worship starting around 7:00pm. The service will be informal and will not be live streamed or recorded.

Come and join us for this special opportunity to worship God other than on Sunday morning!!

MOTHER'S DAY

MOTHERS DAY IS MAY 8th - HONOR THY MOTHER THIS YEAR with a donation of a NEWLY PURCHASED Robe, Slippers and/or Nightgown to the Mission Team's Mothers Day project. These items will be collected in a box placed in the hallway near the Mission bulletin board and hand delivered to Coburn Place Safe Haven (a shelter for women and children who have been victims of domestic violence). Here is a chance to show your Mother and our neighbors in need some love. Thank you for donating.

CELEBRATE OUR GRADUATES - SUNDAY, MAY 22

We will celebrate our graduates on Sunday, May 22. If you or a family member has or will be graduating this year, please contact Lisa Crismore (jkpcce@comcast.net; 317-291-0308) with the name of the graduate, the school/program, date of graduation, and what they plan to do after graduation. This information will be shared in the bulletin the day of the celebration and the June Tidings.

PRIME TIMERS TUESDAY, MAY 3 AT 11:30

On Tuesday, May 3 at 11:30 meet at the church to go to Beech Grove to eat at one of our favorite places, The Rustic Root. We have reservations for 15 at noon. Please sign-up on the bulletin board if you plan to attend so we can make sure we have enough spots and drivers. Everyone is invited to join us and you won't want to miss this delicious place to eat. Oh, save room for dessert!!

HELP WANTED - COUNTERS

Our counter group is seeking 1-2 individuals to join our group.

The counter group is responsible for recording & depositing money received during the week and on Sunday mornings.

When: Sunday mornings

Time Commitment: 60-90 minutes

How Often: Once a month

You would need to be available to start counting at 10:00 and stay until the counting is finished.

You **WILL** receive detailed training by one of our seasoned counters.

If you're a member of John Knox and at least 15 years of age
YOU Qualify

If you're a household member of one of our current counters
YOU Qualify...you just can't count on the same Sunday.

Thank you for considering becoming a part of this important group!

TIDINGS DEADLINE

Articles for the **JUNE 2022** issue of the John Knox Tidings are **due by WEDNESDAY, MAY 18.**

The preferred way to turn in your articles is to email them directly to the editor: **jkpctidings@gmail.com** or place them in the **TIDINGS mailbox** in the Church Office.

THE HEART OF WORSHIP

Matt Redman is one of the most respected worship leaders and musicians serving the church today. One of his best-loved worship songs is “The Heart of Worship,” and there is a powerful story behind it.

A few years back in the church where he was serving, Matt explains, there was a time when some of the things that were supposed to be helping in worship were actually hindering the people. They had a top-notch, professional worship band, elaborate sound system, and other things to provide “quality” worship. However, people began to arrive for worship, waiting to see what the band was like, how good the sound was, or what the songs or hymns were for the service, before choosing to enter into worship. All the fancy “enhancements” to worship had become the focus.

The pastor decided on a drastic course of action, and stripped everything away – the band, the sound system, and other things – until there were none of the trappings left. His question to the congregation was, “When you come through the doors of the church on Sunday, what are you bringing as your offering to God? What are you going to sacrifice today?”

At first, the worship meetings were awkward, and no one knew what to do. There was no bulletin, no plan. There was a lot of silence and very little singing. Soon they began to bring heart offerings to God.... A prayer, a song, a testimony. They began to rediscover the heart of worship. After awhile, the musicians and sound system reappeared, but things were different. The songs of their hearts were emerging from their lips.

The song that Matt Redman wrote from this experience, “The Heart of Worship,” has these lyrics:

When the music fades, and all is stripped away, and I simply come,
Longing just to bring something that's of worship that will bless
Your heart.

I'll bring You more than a song,
For a song in itself is not what You have required.
You search much deeper within
Through the way things appear;
You're looking into my heart.

I'm coming back to the heart of worship,
And it's all about You, all about You, Jesus.
I'm sorry, Lord, for the thing I've made it,
When it's all about You, All about You, Jesus.

At John Knox Presbyterian Church, as with any church, there are trappings. We expected all the “necessary” things to be in place, in proper worship order, so that worship can run smoothly. If something isn't right with the sound system, if a microphone isn't working, if the room temperature isn't the way we like, if too many unfamiliar songs are sung, if the organ or band is too loud, or if the service is too long (or too short), our ability to worship and focus on God can be hindered. We can all relate to this, right? We can even make that list of gripes a lot longer.

Imagine what our worship would be like if we removed all the potential trappings for awhile – the sound system, the power point screens, the choir, organ, band, hymnals, printed bulletin, specific order of worship, worship leaders, pastor. All we would know would be that worship would begin at 9 am (or 11 am) on Sunday morning and that we were instructed to enter into the sanctuary to present our offerings to God. What would you bring? How would you worship? There would be nothing between you and God. It should be an easy thing to do, right? Anywhere. Anytime.

I encourage you to think about the story behind Matt Redman's song and consider how you might open your heart in a new and fresh way as a worshipper, free from the usual distractions that interfere with worship.

YOUTH UPDATE

Blessings to all,

At this time we hope everyone was able to share either in person or virtual the Holy Week experiences through our theme Good Enough. We enjoyed being part of the Easter Festival and thank you for your participation and support. We are preparing for our summer activities that will bring opportunities to serve and share our time, energy and God's love with our community.

A little update about the Triennium. This was taken directly from their official page: "New 'PYT Beyond' will now be before rather than after the 2025 Triennium".

The Summer program for Pyoca Camp this year is available on line. Please complete your registration and plans early and enjoy camp. Registration is already open.

Bendiciones,
Pastor William

IN SYMPATHY

We share the sorrow of **Julia Pratt** and her family on the death of her mother, **Norma Pratt**. Norma passed away on Saturday, April 2. A Celebration of Life service was held on Saturday, April 30 at John Knox.

MAY BIRTHDAYS

Mary Carter	May 1	Barbara Austin	May 11
Terence Viefhaus	May 1	Donna Pults	May 14
Jeff Roberts	May 2	Jairo Turcios	May 16
Susan Lindgren	May 5	Felicia Annan	May 28
Nancy Orme	May 5	Cecil Sangar	May 29
Katlin Larrick	May 7	Alexander Larrick	May 30
Vivian Hale	May 10		

MARGARET WILSON SCHOLARSHIP

Just a reminder to our high school seniors and college students, the scholarship applications **are due May 23** by close of business day. The forms can be put in Lisa Crismore's mailbox or mailed to the church office. You should have received a scholarship application in the mail. Please see Lisa Crismore if you need another scholarship form or have any questions.

CURTIS/RICKETTS SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT

We congratulate Maria Baca Vilchar for receiving the Curtis/Ricketts scholarship. She was referred to us by Wayne Township Adult Basic Education. We will be honoring Maria on May 15 at the 9 am service. She is a single mom of four children. Maria attends online classes through Western Governors University based out of Salt Lake City, Utah. Her degree will be in Human Resources Management. Our prayers go with Maria as she seeks to further her education.

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

	9 a.m. Worship	11 a.m. Worship	Online
Mar 20	52	19	47
Mar 27	52	22	19
Apr 3	54	23	26
Apr 10	50	44	56

NEW BEGINNINGS UPDATE

EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE: Did you know that the New Beginnings fund in addition to Kroger gift cards, helps families that are struggling to pay rent, utilities, and even assist with crisis expenses? Receiving calls from families that are about to lose their home or utilities is heart wrenching. It is such a blessing to know that when we receive a call from someone in need/crisis, we are prepared to help, and provide resources for their needs. This month we helped 4 families with food, gas, utilities, and rental assistance. Please continue to lift our community up in your prayers and consider donating to the New Beginnings fund. Each one of the families looking to find assistance at John Knox are thankful for your support of “New Beginnings”!

~ Amy Willis

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL - JUNE 27 - JULY 1

We are making plans for the week of Vacation Bible School. The date has changed due to the Soccer Camp needing to be held June 20-24. **VBS will now be held on June 27-July 1 from 5:30-8:30pm** with dinner provided. Our theme will be “Knights of North Castle.” Come and join us as we seek to finding strength in God by putting on our armor of truth, justice, peace, faith and salvation! You won’t want to miss meeting our puppet mascot Sparky! Iglesia Hermandad Cristiana and Kelly and Jon Simpson have confirmed that they will be joining us for this special event. If you plan to be a part of leading or helping this week, **please plan to attend the training/information meeting on Sunday, May 22 at 12:30pm with lunch provided.**

ADDRESS / TELEPHONE CHANGE

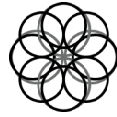
Harlan Rolfson
Brownsburg Meadows
7133 Meadow Trail, Apt. 116
Brownsburg, IN 46112
Tel: (317) 520-5253

WELCOME

A few weeks ago, Galleh Thoronka and Mamudu Bah were introduced to you all during our worship services. They are from Sierra Leone. They are not related but only met through a Presbyterian lay person in Arizona, who called John Knox asking if they could worship with us. Many of you have welcomed them with open arms which they have greatly appreciated. They are both waiting on getting their asylum paperwork processed as they want to be legal in the United States so that they can get jobs and be productive. Asylum Seekers are very different than refugees or those who have entered through the lottery process. It can take a long time to achieve this. We give thanks to God for providing a lawyer through Catholic Charities who will represent their cases for free.

Both have stories to share so take the time to meet with them during coffee fellowship. As with anyone who is new to our country, they have great needs. We are working to get information about a Peace-Making grant through our Presbytery. In the meantime, they both need clothes for the spring and summer. If anyone would like to take them to Good Will or Salvation Army and give them a budget to spend see Beth Wagner or Lisa Crismore. Their roommates are supporting them financially by giving them housing and food. If you would be willing to assist them with either of these to lighten the burden please see Beth or Lisa. Finally, if you would want to invite them over to your home for a meal and fellowship, I know they would love to join you. Waiting can be very difficult especially if everything is so new to you and you don't know a lot of people.

Thanks for being the Open. Caring. Community which is what people know John Knox Presbyterian Church as being.



JOHN KNOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
3000 N. High School Road
Indianapolis, IN 46224-2002