NOVEMBER 2026

TIDINGS

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

JOHN KNOX PRESBYTERIAN | OPEN. CARING. COMMUNITY.

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

10 am Worship Service +
11:15 am Christian Education for All

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REPAYING GOD'S GENEROSITY

"But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your alms may be done in secret, and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.
- Matthew 6:3-4 NRSVue

Dear Church,

With the changing leaves and (hopefully soon) cooler temperatures upon us, we know what season the church is in: Stewardship. And while stewardship is a year-round endeavor and we certainly think and talk about money more often than just the fall, it is the time of year where we take seriously our call to be generous in the light of a generous God.

It is also the time of year where we encounter a long-held tradition in the church of filling out our pledge cards and committing ourselves to financially support the church's mission for the next year. Our committees have been diligently working on their budgets and Session will soon begin to look at first drafts of the 2027 budget. All this work is done with seriousness and care because we know that you give with seriousness and care too.

Sometimes filling out a pledge card can feel like an outdated practice or, worse, an IOU to the church. But, as Karl B. Travis writes in God's Gifts of Generosity, "A pledge card symbolizes a person's – or an entire household's – promise to be generous with God. It is a token of hope, a talisman of intention, that lifts before the disciple a specific plan for personal spiritual evolution….Pledge cards are the only promissory notes I know of that are purely voluntary, that are not legally binding nor transactional, yet carry within themselves possibilities for personal transformation."

The practice of pledging should remind us not only of our own ability to be generous, but it should also point us back to the ultimate giver of generosity: God. Lest we forget the spiritual aspect of our giving, we can be reminded as we watch the church's faithful work and witness in the world.

In the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus reminds his followers that almsgiving (and prayer and fasting) should be done "in secret." The left hand should not know what the right hand is doing! Beyond this call to piety and humility, Jesus is reminding people that the motivation of giving should come from the heart. Travis reminds us, "Jesus wants us on guard against our self-promoting instincts, hopes our religious practices will be driven by our desire to glorify God, not to glorify ourselves."

As we look forward to Commitment Sunday, when we will bring forward our pledge cards and make commitments to the church in the year to come, I know you will do so with a humble heart. But I hope you will also do so with the right motivation: to reach out with generosity in response to the ways that God has been generous to you.

If you'd like to have any conversations about your pledging, the church budget, our shared goals and hopes for 2027, and anything at all, please do reach out.

See you in church,
Pastor Kelley

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3000 N. High School Rd, Indianapolis, IN 46224
Pastor: Rev. Kelley Jepsen
Phone: 317-291-0308, johnknox.org
Editor: Linda Bourne
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SUNDAY - NOVEMBER 1

COMMUNION: Sunday, November 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, November 1, or during office hours the week before.

ALL SAINTS DAY - NOVEMBER 1

All Saints Day is November 1st and will be celebrated with ringing of the bells and a special anthem.

HERITAGE (CELTIC) SUNDAY - NOVEMBER 15

Heritage (Celtic) Sunday is November 15th and there may be a bagpiper for the worship service and an all-church picture.

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS SUNDAY - NOVEMBER 1

Don't forget to set your clocks **BACK** one hour when you go to bed on Saturday, October 31, as that is when Daylight Savings ends. We would hate for you to be an hour early to church on Sunday, November 1.

HAT & MITTEN TREE

The Hat & Mitten tree is set up in the main hallway and you can begin "decorating" it with your donations of new hats, mittens, scarves and socks. As always, we distribute your donations to three neighborhood Wayne Township schools in Mid November. The children look forward to these warm gifts of love from us each year. The exact distribution date will be posted in future bulletins.

Thank you for your donations!

STOREHOUSE TURKEYS & HAMS

We will be collecting monetary donations for the purchase of Turkeys & Hams for the Storehouse Annual Thanksgiving Holiday Food Distribution. The Storehouse has asked for our help in purchasing turkeys and hams. A table has been set up outside the Sanctuary with envelopes for your donations of $10.00 per turkey or ham. We will accept your donations until November 22, 2026. Please donate as often as you can. The cost of providing these meats to the Storehouse guests increases every year.

Thank you for donating.

SPEEDWAY CHURCHES GATHER FOR THANKSGIVING - NOVEMBER 22

This year's combined Speedway Thanksgiving Worship will be held at Speedway Christian (5110 W 14th Street) on Sunday, November 22. We will gather at 5:00 for worship and community (and dessert!). Please watch the church bulletin for more information.

HANGING OF THE GREENS

Saturday, November 28 at 10:00 a.m. we will need help getting the Advent items out of the loft, garage, etc. and in place for the Sunday Hanging of the Greens. Please let any of the Worship Team members know if you are available. Those members are:
Carol McKeown, Diane Whitaker, Jim Williams, Susan Roberts or Teresa Gorrell.

Sunday, November 29 after the church service Hanging of the Greens will take place. A chili lunch will be provided. Please plan to stay and help the Worship Team get our church adorned for the Advent Season.

HOSPITALITY TABLE

The following is the schedule for the Hospitality Table for month of November.

November 1	Mission & Worship
November 8	PW
November 15	Deacons
November 22	Building & Grounds
November 29	Finance & Personnel

Groups hosting hospitality are responsible for setting up with plates, cups, napkins and plastic ware if needed. Also responsible for snacks and cleaning up after the hospitality hour.

Coffee will be taken care of.

PRIME TIMERS MONTHLY LUNCH TOGETHER

Nov. 10th (2nd Tues) – Annual Thanksgiving Pitch-in (Parlor Room)
What will you bring to our Thanksgiving pitch-in? We'll provide the turkey, dressing, mashed potatoes, and gravy. Traditional sides, salads, and desserts are welcome. Between 10:00 am – 12:00 noon set-up and prep help is needed. For lunch only, arrive around 11:30 am and we'll plan to have grace at noon to begin our Thanksgiving meal. Invite a friend or neighbor to join us (A sign-up list will be posted on the bulletin board). For extra festivities, we might enjoy some holiday games. As always, please let us know if you'll need a pick-up.

Save the Date:

Dec. 15th (3rd Tues) 12:00 pm reservations – L.S. Ayres Tearoom Indiana State Museum, 650 West Washington Street, Indianapolis, IN 46204
A favorite Christmas holiday outing is our Prime Timers lunch at the L.S. Ayres Tearoom inside the Indiana State Museum. For those who are interested, please let us know as soon as possible so we can prepare for the correct number of reservations. Meet at the church at 11:15 am to caravan together. Or will you need a pick-up? Some may prefer driving directly to the museum. Please gather together at the Christmas tree for a group picture before lunch. We'll have a festive time together**!**

What's Happening in 2027? What ideas have you thought about? Consider suggesting new possibilities for dining out locations or other interesting activities for our Prime Timers group. We will not meet in January 2027 due to cold weather restrictions. We'll review possibilities for lunch outings in February and March, but it will depend on the weather.

ANNUAL PW CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

Winter will be here before we know it, so please mark your calendars for the Annual PW Christmas Celebration. On **December 13, 2026**, the Circle City Ringers will perform at 3:30 pm in the Sanctuary. The concert is FREE! At 4:30 pm, a catered dinner will be served and you MUST HAVE A TICKET for the dinner. **Ticket sales will start on Sunday, November 29, 2026, and end on December 6, 2026**. Adult tickets are $15.00 each. Children ages 6 - 12 are $10.00; and children below 6 are free.

Gift card and candy baskets will also be raffled at the dinner and you can purchase raffle tickets for $1.00 each from Sunday, November 29 through Sunday, December 13.

If you would like to donate gift cards for the baskets, please give them to Sandy Jordan or anyone on the PWCT. We can accept them through Sunday, November 15, 2026. The more gift cards the better. It allows us to make more baskets which means more to raffle! Your donations are greatly appreciated!

Don't miss this evening of music, food, fellowship and joy!

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

	10 a.m. Worship	Online
Sep 20	80	10
Sep 27	59	10
Oct 4	82	10
Oct 11	64	10

YOUTH WREATH PROJECT

It may still be hot outside, but it is time to start thinking about the holidays. This winter the youth will once again be selling Christmas wreaths to decorate the church and our homes. However, there will be a twist as this year the youth will be decorating and designing the wreaths. If you would like to help with this project by going through your craft supplies at home, the youth are now accepting donations of supplies for this craft project (ribbon, bows, bells, twine). Please leave all items with the church office and mark them as "Youth Wreath Project". We look forward to hanging greens that were hand crafted by the young Presbyterians in our church.

THANK YOU

Thank you, thank you, thank you, very much to Pastor Kelley and my church family for celebrating my 99th birthday with me. I appreciate the well wishes, cards, gifts, cake and beautiful flower arrangement.

Alberta Montgomery

CONGRATULATIONS!

Congrats to Shayla Van Hall, our former JKPC organist who recently received her Ph.D. from IU Bloomington.

TIDINGS DEADLINE

Articles for the **DECEMBER 2026** issue of the John Knox Tidings are **due by Wednesday, NOVEMBER 18.**
The preferred way to turn in your articles is to email them directly to the editor or place them in the **TIDINGS mailbox** in the Church Office.

DONATIONS & RECYCLE

"Pop Tabs" for Henry – Ronald McDonald House (RMH)

We collect pop tabs in containers marked "Pop Tabs for Henry". These containers are strategically placed around John Knox (outside church office, Fellowship Hall, church kitchen, etc.). All tabs are donated to support the Ronald McDonald House activities directed to children and their family members while receiving medical treatment in Indianapolis. Several can-types provide pop tabs (vegetables, soup, pet food, soda). Please add your pop tabs to our collection containers. Thank you!

Recycling (Cans/Metal for Ca$h) – John Knox General Fund

We are grateful for all that has been donated in 2026. We have been fortunate to surpass our projected annual goal of $100. Thank you for your ongoing recycling donations. Please remember to wash all cans! We need cans clean of all liquid and food to avoid attracting unwanted bugs in our kitchen areas. This helps us keep a healthier and cleaner kitchen for everyone! Also, please separate soda from other types of cans because OmniSource pays differently for soda cans vs. aluminum/steel metal. This saves us time and energy in preparing cans to be recycled. Thank you for supporting this effort!

Public Recycling at OmniSource – John Knox General Fund

As a Public recycling facility, please consider recycling on your own at OmniSource located at 2115 South West Street, Indpls., 46206. Friendly staff offer assistance and guidance with all the recycling activities (e.g., unloading & weighing cans). A driver's license, picture, & signature are required to complete the process. To retrieve cash, take your paper receipt inside to the automated cash machine. To donate back to the church, share your "recycle monies" by giving them to Cindy Hiday with a note. [Hours: M-F 8-4; Sat. 8-1; Closed last weekend of every month & holidays]

Supplies for The Storehouse – (Food, plastic bags, egg cartons)

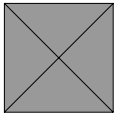
Please donate food items in the boxes near the church office. We also ask for donations of clean plastic grocery bags and empty one dozen size egg cartons. These items are picked up weekly to deliver to our local food pantry, The Storehouse. More volunteers are always needed to work at The Storehouse, especially on designated "Distribution Days". To volunteer, please reach out to Dan Bourne. To donate financially, simply write a check and place "Food Pantry or The Storehouse" in the memo line. Place in the offering collection on Sunday mornings, drop off in the office, or give personally to Cindy Hiday.

Bottle lids for furniture

We have a new collection activity for you to try out. Bottle lids (e.g., water, soda bottles, other) are being collected. A labeled collection container can be found near the fellowship hall for this purpose. Thanks!

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Judy Ricketts	Nov 1	Caitlin Whitaker	Nov 13
Mariah Bixler	Nov 2	Sharon Flannery	Nov 18
Braydon Nshom	Nov 3	Jonathan Barnhouse	Nov 20
Pam Whitehouse	Nov 3	Assurance Nshom	Nov 20
Claudene Sullivan	Nov 8	Cheryl Morrell	Nov 21
Madelin Cattet	Nov 12	Destiny Abuwoa	Nov 25
Lora Spargur	Nov 12	Jeffrey Orme	Nov 25



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