

SEPTEMBER 2025

TIDINGS

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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)

10 am Worship Service +
11 am Christian Education for All

JOHNKNOX.ORG

GOD IS DOING A NEW THING AT JOHN KNOX!

*I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth;
do you not perceive it?
- Isaiah 43:19*

What delightful news I have to share in this month's Tidings! The Session has approved the hiring of a Parish Associate here at John Knox! Before I tell you a little more about what this position entails and who will be filling it, I wanted to share how this decision came about.

Back in April, I did nine hospital visits and planned three memorial services, all while juggling my first Holy Week, leading confirmation, hiring Elijah, and the daily tasks of being your pastor. Do not get me wrong, I love it and I especially enjoy being busy! But it is the emotional work that wears me down and by the end of the month, I was worn down. My prayers were fervent: O Lord, please send some help!

You may have noticed some new faces around JKPC during that time, that of the Rev. Melodie Wager, her husband David, along with their two adult daughters Marissa and Sarah. Melodie, I quickly learned, was a PCUSA pastor who retired 15 years ago after serving most recently at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Muncie. She felt called to look for a new worshipping community with her family and landed here at John Knox, finding it a place of welcome and warmth.

Little did I know, the Spirit was working on Melodie as well. During our first meeting, I asked her what she missed most about being a Pastor. "The people" she answered, quickly, "I miss the people." I resonate with that: it is the people that truly make this job so wonderful and also, at times, so hard. When Melodie expressed want-

ing to serve at John Knox, we quickly worked out a plan to create a role of Parish Associate to make the relationship more formal.

The Parish Associate role, which Melodie has accepted (pending presbytery approval!), includes making home visits, care calls, long-term care facility visits, and providing home communion for those unable to come to church. She will help with the secondary level of pastoral care, so still expect to see me for emergencies, hospitalizations, surgeries and immediate needs. It is the great honor of my work to walk with you in these moments!

What a joy it has been to be a part of this Spirit-led process. I hope you will celebrate with us on **September 7** as we recognize and welcome Rev. Melodie to this role formally during worship. God is doing a new thing at John Knox, it is about to spring forth, I hope you can perceive it!

With care,
Pastor Kelley

SUNDAY - SEPTEMBER 7

COMMUNION: Sunday, September 7, 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, September 7, or during office hours the week before.

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3000 N. High School Rd, Indianapolis, IN 46224

Pastor: Rev. Kelley Jepsen, pastorkelley@johnknox.org

Phone: 317-291-0308, johnknox.org

Editor: Linda Bourne JKPCTidings@gmail.com

Editor reserves the right to edit for content and space.

WORSHIP ON THE LAWN SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14- 10 a.m.

Please join us for “Worship on the Lawn”, Sunday, September 14. We will gather on the lawn just outside the south entrance. There will be chairs available but you might be more comfortable in your own lawn chair, so plan to bring it if you wish. We ask that you leave the sidewalk areas open for those folks with mobility issues. After the service we will gather for a pitchin luncheon and there will be tables both outside on the driveway and inside the Fellowship Hall. Of course all of this is weather dependent, which as you know is not controlled by the Worship Team. The Worship Team will provide Fried Chicken, Drinks and Table Service. We asked that everyone else bring a side dish to share, salad, vegetables or dessert.

Also, great news, Teresa Gorrell and Jim Williams have joined the Worship Team!

Questions: Contact anyone on the Worship Team - Teresa Gorrell, Carol McKeown, Susan Roberts, Diane Whitaker or Jim Williams

ADULT EDUCATION FOR SEPTEMBER

Starting August 31st and going through September, our Adult Education class will provide an opportunity to explore the loving ways God transforms what seem to be hopeless causes into something renewed. Exploring the story of Saul and the radical way Jesus transformed him, we'll search for ways we too can be transformed. Together we will seek to discover how our experiences— good or bad — can fit together into a renewed view of God at work in our lives and world. We hope you will join Pastor Melodie on Sunday mornings for this class, in the parlor from 11:15-12:00. Each class will stand alone, so no need to prepare or worry if you miss one, you are always welcome.

COMMUNION SERVERS UPDATE

The Worship team would like for you to know that starting in October, we will go back to passing the communion trays. I have recently joined the team and I have been asked to make sure there are servers and everyone knows what they are doing. Servers who have signed up ahead of time will receive a reminder email from me. If something comes up and you can't be there, I will need to know so I can get a replacement. Communion is very important and we all want it to go smoothly. I am excited about being on the team.

Teresa Gorrell

OPPORTUNITY FOR YOU

Boy! Do we have an opportunity for you! We would love to have you consider being a Deacon or Elder! Taking one of these positions is a great way to get to know other wonderful people and to serve your church. On **Sunday, September 7th**, there will be an insert in the bulletin. We are hoping you will give us your name or suggest someone you think would make a good Elder or Deacon. Watch for a decorated box around the south end doors. You can place your suggestions in there. You will find this calling very rewarding!

Thank you.

Church Nominating Committee

TIDINGS DEADLINE

Articles for the **OCTOBER 2025** issue of the John Knox Tidings are due by **WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17**.

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.

PYOCA ALL CHURCH RETREAT SEPTEMBER 26-28

Lisa Prince will be our speaker at this year's retreat! Lisa is director and founder of Gloria Dei Community, a non-profit resource for spiritual directors. Lisa has been a spiritual director for 25 years. She will be sharing with us the Enneagram a personality profile with ancient roots which is popular and useful for its ability to point out the importance of understanding our particular core beliefs, motivations and fears and how they affect our lives, our relationships and our world view.

The enclosed registration brochure provides additional information on this Theme/topic. There will also be activities for children and youth, as well as intergenerational activities for us throughout the weekend. Don't miss out on this wonderful weekend of spiritual fellowship, and nurture, in a truly beautiful place, amidst God's creation. **Deadline to register is September 14.**

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

	10 a.m. Worship	Online
July 20	78	10
July 27	68	10
Aug 3	83	10
Aug 10	90	10
Aug 17	83	10

ELL DINNERS START - SEPT 9

Welcome back ELL Students! JKPC will welcome back the teachers from Wayne Township School Corp. and their students as they begin another school year of English Language Learning class. The first semester starts with registration on Tuesday, Sept. 2nd and Thursday, Sept. 4th, and classes will begin on Tuesday, Sept. 9th, 2025. We will begin serving dinner to the students on **Sept. 9th** and volunteers for hosting (2 hosts each Tuesday. and Thursday) are needed. Elaine will hang a signup sheet on the bulletin board outside the office for hosting.

The format is the same as last year. Make sandwiches in the Fellowship Hall after Sunday services. Anyone is welcome to make sandwiches. On each school night the hosts arrive at church in time to set out the food and drinks to be served from 5:00 to 6:00 PM. Hosts will cleanup and repack snacks and sweets baskets for the next school night before leaving. If you've never hosted before, a member of the Mission team would be glad to give you a simple training session, or, simply sign up to host with someone who's hosted before and you'll learn quickly. It's easy and fun and the students are so grateful.

Please sign up to host and do your part to keep this community service thriving. It's a fact, students learn and retain more when they have food in their stomachs, and some love from JKPC always helps.

Thank you,
The Mission Team

PRIME TIMERS - UPCOMING EVENTS

Sept. 16th (Tuesday) – 12 NOON - Lunch Out Together at Mayberry Café (Danville)

Mayberry Café, 78 West Main Street, Danville, IN 46122

We had such a grand time together last year, we plan to return for lunch at this quaint local restaurant again. Famous for their fried chicken, many other items are listed on their menu of favorite country farm foods. Menu items are moderately priced with generous portions.

Need a Ride? Meet at the church between 11:00 – 11:20 pm, so we can ride/caravan together. Request a pick-up by contacting Julia Pratt, #317 430-1701.

Beasley's Orchard Farm Market, 2304 E Main Street, Danville, IN 46122

If everyone is in agreement, a special stop on the way home is planned after lunch at Beasley's Orchard Farm Market Store.

SAVE THE FOLLOWING DATES:

Oct. 14th (Tues.) Lunch Together: Location TBD

A sign-up list will be posted on the office bulletin board.
Please bring a friend to join us,

Nov 11th (Tues.) Thanksgiving Pitch-In Location: John Knox Parlor

10:00 - 11:30 am – Set-up & prepare for Thanksgiving meal together. Please bring a side or dessert. 12 Noon – Prayer & Lunch Together.

Dec 9th (Tues.) Christmas Lunch at L.S. Ayres Tearoom at Indiana State Museum

11:00 am Meet at Church to ride/caravan together. Reservations for 12:00 Noon

Come join us for this special time of fellowship with a holiday lunch downtown (Cost TBD).

KROGER COMMUNITY REWARDS PROGRAM

You earned \$86.90 during the 2nd quarter of this year. Since the 20/20 Fund no longer exists, money raised from the Kroger program now goes into the Camp Pyoca Scholarship Fund. We now have 40 participating households which is an increase of 1 from the last quarter. Thanks to the new participant. If you are not participating in the program, instructions on how to sign-up are on the table under the bulletin board by the church office. The instructions are copied on blue paper. The program is free. All you need is a Kroger Plus card which you can get by going to the Customer Service Desk at any Kroger store. Every time you make a purchase at Kroger, you are supporting the youth in our church. If you have questions, contact Judy Ricketts at 317-272-2533. She will be happy to walk you through the process to sign-up. Thanks for your support.

NEEDLE WORK ANYONE?

Do you like to do needle work? The Deacons are looking for individuals who like to knit, crochet, or cross stitch to make prayer quilts and crosses for the visitors bags. If interested please contact Clara Larrick at 317-617-3519.

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Cindy Hiday	Sept. 1	Sam Dunbar	Sept. 17
Faith Tita	Sept. 3	Eric Neba	Sept. 18
Nelson Tita	Sept. 6	Jamil Orazco	Sept. 18
Kelley Jepsen	Sept. 14	Griffin Flynn	Sept. 22
Clara Larrick	Sept. 14	Jacqueline Hensley	Sept. 28
William Whitaker	Sept. 14	Mahmooda Pitamber	Sept. 29
Susan Graves	Sept. 16	Gladys Sangar	Sept. 29

THANK YOU

Danny and I would like to thank all who have lifted up prayers, sent cards and visited us during this very trying time in our lives. We never thought we would experience so many health concerns in such a short time.

Things are looking up. I finish my IV antibiotic on August 21st. Shortly after that, I should be discharged from the nursing home. I will probably have at home wound care and therapy for awhile.

Danny is getting better after his ulcer surgery. He had trouble with his legs as well which seem to have gotten better.

Danny's other trying thing has been the accident with our car. No one was hurt, but the cars were damaged. Now, we are waiting on help from our insurance company.

Thanks again for all the prayers!
We feel blessed by your concern for us.

God bless you all!
Cheryl & Danny Fultz

IN SYMPATHY

We share in the sorrow of the family of **Wanda Stanley**. Wanda passed away on August 10. A Celebration of Life service was held on Friday, August 15, at John Knox Presbyterian Church.

If we live, we live for the Lord, and if we die, we die for the Lord. Therefore, whether we live or die, we belong to God. (Romans 14:8 CEB)

DONATIONS REQUESTED

Supplies for The Storehouse (Food, clean plastic bags, & empty egg cartons)

We ask for donations to our local food pantry, The Storehouse. Besides food items, they also need clean plastic grocery bags and empty egg cartons (1 dozen size) to pack for their twice monthly distribution days. All donations can be placed in marked boxes under the table near the John Knox office bulletin board. The Storehouse also appreciates financial donations too. Write your check to “John Knox Presbyterian Church” with a notation of “The Storehouse” in the memo line. We’ll make sure it reaches them. Thank you!

Can Recycling (Trash for Ca\$h) – John Knox General Fund

Thank you to everyone who regularly donates to our recycling effort at John Knox. We appreciate anything metal, including aluminum, steel, and soda cans.

To recycle at John Knox, simply donate in our kitchen green bin, marked “recycle”. Please clean any food or drink residue from inside the cans to prevent unwanted critters inside our kitchen. Because different metal types are weighed and priced separately at OmniSource, separating steel vs. soda cans helps to save prep time.

Public Recycling at OmniSource – John Knox General Fund

You can recycle any metal, especially steel and soda cans, at the OmniSource public recycling facility. OmniSource is located south of downtown with the GPS address of 2115 South West Street, Indianapolis, IN 46206. Recycling staff are friendly & often assist with unloading cans, if needed. To recycle at OmniSource, simply follow the public recycling signs, bring a driver’s license, expect a picture, and a signature for their records. The paper receipt provided

is the ticket to retrieve “recycle” cash at the automated window. Open hours: M-F 8:00 am/4:00pm; Sat. 8:00am/1:00 pm. They are closed on the first weekend of every month and on holidays. You can then donate your recycle proceeds back to John Knox (mark the donation, “recycle monies” for Cindy Hiday).

“Pop Tabs” for Henry – Ronald McDonald House (RMH)

Henry, grandson of Sandy & Jack, loves to donate pop tabs to the Ronald McDonald House. Tabs can be found on many can-types (vegetables, soup, pet food, soda, etc.). You can help Henry by donating your tabs to this worthy cause. Our “tab” collection containers are strategically placed around John Knox (kitchen collection can, plastic teddy bear at Fellowship Hall entry, and large container near office bulletin board). Thank you!

(See also Sat, Sept 6, 2025 – 2025 Annual Pop Tab Drop at Sun King Brewery)

MARGARET WILSON SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

On Sunday, July 20, we celebrated the three recipients of the Margaret Wilson Scholarship.

Savannah Gagna (daughter of JoEllen & Dustin Gagna, granddaughter of Dick & Pam Herman) who will be attending University of Southern Indiana.

Ndombi Ndanjem Ulbright (granddaughter of Justine Ndonue, niece of Eric Neba & Jackie Takwih) who attends The College of Wooster.

Bernie Simms (grandson of Dick & Pam Herman) who will be attending Indiana University.

SAVE YOUR POP TABS!

2025 Annual Pop Tab Drop for Ronald McDonald House

Sept. 6, 2025 (Sat.) 11:00 am-1:00 pm

Sun King Brewery, 135 N College Ave, Indianapolis, IN 46202

On Saturday, Sept. 6, 2025, Ronald McDonald House has partnered with Sun King Brewery to host their annual Pop Tab Drop. From 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., turn in your tabs in exchange for Sun King Brewery Gift Cards.

Join the FUN! Sign up list on the office bulletin board to go together to the annual **Pop Tab Drop for Ronald McDonald House**. Meet up for lunch after dropping your pop tabs with Sun King Brewery gift cards. Bring a friend! **To RIDE TOGETHER**, meet at 10:30 am at John Knox. Need a ride? Contact Julia Pratt, #317-430-1701.



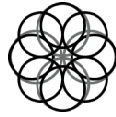
TURN IN YOUR TABS
TO GET SUN KING GIFT CARDS

NEW MEMBER INQUIRY CLASS OCTOBER 12 & OCTOBER 19

Are you new to our community and wanting to learn more? Have you been here for years and are now thinking about taking the step to formalize your membership? Consider yourself invited! Pastor Kelley – along with members of the Session and the Deacons – will be hosting a new member class on Sundays October 12 & October 19, with the plan to join the congregation, formally in worship, on November 9. Attendance at both classes is encouraged. If you are interested, please let Pastor Kelley know (pastorkelley@johnknox.org) and get these important dates onto your calendar.

SAVE THE DATE FALL FESTIVAL - OCTOBER 18

Come join us for an afternoon of fun on October 18 from 2 to 4. There will be pumpkin painting, crafts and games. We will be serving donuts, popcorn, cider, and apple juice. There is no charge. We hope to see you there.



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