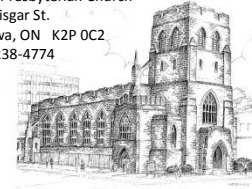




Knox Presbyterian Church
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Knox Connections

I was told, shortly after arriving at Knox, that Ottawa has four seasons: nearly winter, winter, nearly over and construction. I'm sure you've heard that comment before, but as winter has progressed, and despite this not having been a severe winter, I can see how that feeling of "nearly there" starts to take hold.

Although Scotland can suffer from low temperatures, it tends to bounce back into milder weather every few days. The milder weather, of course, brings with it heavy rain and driving winds. Indeed, January 2012 saw Scotland battered by three storms, each bringing gusting winds of over one hundred and sixty kilometres an hour, even across low ground. Yet, here in Ottawa, the winter has stayed locked, bar one or two odd days, below freezing. The snow hasn't melted and the green grass remains hidden by winter's cruel hand.

However, what the comment about Ottawa's four seasons really hints at is not so much the construction season, but the sense of anticipation that something better and brighter is just around the corner. Before we know it, the sandals and shorts will be dug out from the back of the wardrobe, and the barbecue will be fired up once more. Something brighter, something better is just around the corner.

So it is in the church. We are shivering a little with what is "inclement weather" in our congregation. Pews that are not so full, budgets that are harder to balance and sense that, perhaps, we're not quite fulfilling the mission God has given us. Well, something brighter, something better IS merely round the corner. Just as we watch for the first hints of spring that will herald the reawakening of nature and the signs of greening, so are we watching, in the church, for the first shoots of new growth. Joyfully, we can see the shoots of new growth and hope for the future.



This year we must seek anew to grow God's church: to reawaken our mission, re-enliven our service to our God and refocus our outreach to the society God has called us to serve.

We watch and make ready, then, remembering as God said, through Isaiah, "See! I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?"

How is Knox doing?

All members, adherents and supporters of Knox Presbyterian Church are invited to gather in Geneva Hall, adjacent to the sanctuary, after worship on Sunday, February 26, 2012. Over coffee, tea and soup, Church leaders will recap the past year at Knox, including our financial health. The Annual Report and financial statements will be made available before the meeting and your comments and questions will be welcomed. If you need more sustenance, you are welcome to bring a brown bag lunch to this Annual Congregational Meeting.

The time is right. Let's seize this moment and see God's glorious new thing burst forth into His world.

David.

First Sunday in Lent

As always on the first Sunday in Lent, this year February 26, we will be celebrating the Sacrament of Holy Communion at 11 a.m.

For more news please visit the Knox website:
www.knoxottawa.ca

An Invitation

Thinking of joining Knox? Know of anyone who wants to join? I will be running a series of enquirer's classes in the coming weeks, as we explore what Church membership really means. If you're interested, let me know.