

KNOX CHURCH

love faith outreach community justice

KNOX LIFE

November 2017

Knox Church Complex

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Visit us on the internet at www.knoxchurch.co.nz

On Facebook search: Knox Church Christchurch

The second photo

Easter: a story concerning a person being taken from death, into life. Although a lot of us are familiar with the story, I wonder how often we long to see “Easter” as an active element in our experience. So here’s a story, redolent with Easter, of a real life person making the transition (with photos attached) from death to life, totally by grace.

-ooOoo-

Peruvian shepherd boy, Eduardo Ramos, was nine when his parents trusted him to take their twelve sheep from here to there. The flock was their livelihood, so young Eduardo took to his duty with great seriousness. Half way through his journey, out of nowhere, a speeding taxi crashed through his flock, killing half the sheep, and then driving off.

It just so happened that a photographer from the National Geographic magazine, William Albert Allard, was close by, and caught the aftermath on camera. The photo of a crying Eduardo, with dead sheep in the background, was an excellent piece of photography.



Allard confessed, later, to having felt guilty about the photo. At the time of its taking, he noted that Eduardo was distressed, but Allard, himself, had no comfort to offer, no gift to give, no money in his pocket to ease the boy’s pain. He **did**, however, have a plane to catch. Driving out to the airport, he remembered having eaten an apple earlier in the day, and wished that he

hadn't, so could at least have offered Eduardo a piece of fruit. With Eduardo sitting awkwardly in his conscience, Allard flew off to America.

Some time later, when the photo of Eduardo was published, and the back-story with it, American people were moved. Offers of help started coming in. Before long, finance bubbled up, and Eduardo's sheep were replaced. With the money left over, a well was built in Eduardo's village, and an education fund was established for Andean children. On the occasion of the presentation of the sheep, a second photo was taken.



Although the second photo never became as famous as the first, the two together speak of the transition from death to life.

Perhaps the church, at Easter, often thinks about a two thousand year old mystery. I wonder what might happen for us if we were to begin to look for that same Easter miracle in the things that are happening all around us - and in seeking to support it. What would it mean if we were to become resurrection-sensitive people?

Did a child's sheep get run over today? What does resurrection say? Did someone feel guilty about a lost opportunity today? What does resurrection say? Did someone hear about a need today? What does resurrection say?

With resurrection greetings, Matthew.

Holy Week and Easter Services

25 March, Palm Sunday

10:00am - morning service with Palm Procession
shared with Durham Street Methodist Church

29 March, Maundy Thursday

7:30pm - Tenebrae – Service of the Shadows
shared with Durham Street Methodist Church

30 March, Good Friday

10:00am – a solemn service commemorating the death of Jesus
- this may not be a suitable service for young ones -

1 April, Easter Day

10:00am – a celebratory communion service

Mission Discernment – Update



On Sunday afternoon, 11 March, the Knox Council conducted a special meeting to consider the material gathered through the five mission discernment forums held last year. From the start, Council affirmed “broad participation” as essential, and was delighted at the wide involvement of many Knox people.

Council considers it important that Knox reaffirm, with confidence and no apology, its liberal, socially progressive theological stance. A lot of

conversation went into how that stance should be projected to the wider community. It's fair to say that much of our conversation centered on matters of communication. A TV screen, publically viewable, was affirmed. Further ways of communicating also were affirmed.

We talked about our relationships with our strategic partners – acknowledging that relationship do not strengthen unless nurtured over considerable time. One or two particular relationships were identified as early priorities.

We've identified our building as being a great place for live events - art exhibitions, live installations, living nativities, and we wish to develop these. Increased public access to the building was discussed, as was the matter of developing a sermon-response community.

Voices for the earth: a climate change initiative

On 1 February, last month, Dunedin experienced heavy rain and flooding, while Christchurch, only a few hours up North, had two wild fires and ferociously high temperatures. The ministers of Knox, Christchurch, and Opoho, Dunedin, found themselves talking shortly thereafter, about weather extremes and climate change. A collaborative series of events has arisen.

Matthew Jack and Margaret Garland (Knox and Opoho, respectively) are preparing a special, cross-city service themed around climate change, to be held at Opoho on Sunday 29 April and at Knox on Sunday 6 May. Each service will be followed by a discussion group on Bronwyn Hayward's book "Sea Change: Climate Politics and New Zealand" with the author present. Bronwyn, lecturer in politics at Canterbury University, observer at all the most recent international climate change conferences, and highly respected "go to" person for our national media's coverage of climate change events, is well worth conversing with. We are fortunate that she is available. Details on how to access her book are coming.

It is envisaged that a panel discussion, with local environmentalists, artists, politicians, and community leaders, will be held also in each city. Details of this (participants included) will come.

Knox plans to hire a vehicle and take interested people down to the Dunedin events for the 29th. Opoho will do the equivalent the following week for the 6th. Once we have an idea about how many people wish to travel South and North, we will call for billets.

This is a good opportunity for two communities, having experienced contrasting severe weather events, to talk, and to form together some community-facing statement about caring for the planet we share.

More information will be shared as it comes to hand.

A much-loved window



One of the sad things about the 2011 earthquake was the total destruction of the beautiful Graham Stewart stained glass windows that had been installed in Knox in 1995. Graham's post-quake excursion into the rubble, looking for window fragments, provided him only with a barrel full of lead. The glass was completely gone.

Just lately, John and Ann Hercus, remembering fondly some previous Hercuses who had enjoyed a close relationship with Knox, found themselves wanting to provide a new Graham Stewart window to Knox, revisiting the “mountain and river” theme of the destroyed windows. On Wednesday 21 February, Knox Council was pleased to accept their generous offer.

We are grateful to John and Ann, and we are enjoying Graham’s delight not so much in recreating the old windows, but using them as an inspiration for a wonderful new work with new more vibrant materials.

A recent photo of the window’s “coming to be” has the top left frame throwing some light upon the ground beneath it, and features on the Knox Life title page.

It is expected that the window, to be installed in the large window above the Victoria Street door, will be complete by the end of May, with a thanksgiving function being held in June.

This is a most generous gift.

EASTER DAY BREAKFAST AT KNOX

Easter Day, Sunday 1 April, will begin with breakfast at Knox. It will be served from 8.30am -9am in the Knox lounge and will consist of cereal and fruit, scrambled eggs and bacon, toast and spreads, tea and coffee. Cost is \$5 per person, with children allowed in free. Durham Street folk will be joining us. St Luke’s will be at the Transitional Cathedral that morning so unable to come to Knox for breakfast.

Please put your name on the list if you intend coming - lists at each door of the church - or phone Jane in the Knox office to register your name. We need approximate numbers by Sunday 25 March for catering purposes but we will have enough food for extras on the day.

OTHER EVENTS AT KNOX

Afternoon communion on Wednesday 11 April at 2pm in the Knox chapel. This is a short service especially for people who find it difficult to get to Sunday services, but anyone is welcome to attend. The service will be followed by afternoon tea.

APW/MWF service to support their annual appeal - Sunday 17 June

Book group.	25 March	11.15am
	29 April.	11.15am
	20 May.	11.15am
	24 June.	11.15am
Film group.	15 April.	4pm
	13 May.	4pm
	10 June.	4Pm

NOTES FROM RECENT CHURCH COUNCIL MEETINGS

At the end of 2017 Graeme Swinney retired from the council after many years of service, especially on the Finance Committee and Kim Bathgate has recently retired from the Worship Committee. The service and commitment of these two men has been greatly appreciated.

Naomi and John Suresh have joined the Finance Committee. As both have financial training and experience, their willingness to serve Knox in this way is welcomed. Council has approved in principle the formation of a small work-group to help organise social events at Knox. This group will work under the supervision of the Pastoral Committee.

We sent congratulations and good wishes to Jim and Maxine Cunningham as they celebrated their Golden Wedding recently. We also sent good wishes to Jenny Wilkins who has retired as vicar of St Luke's Anglican congregation and also congratulated St Paul's Trinity Pacific as they opened their new church in Fitzgerald Avenue. Congratulations were also sent to Daniel Cooper who has achieved his Bachelor of Music degree and is now working towards his Honours qualification.

The most exciting news from council is the wonderful offer by Dame Ann and John Hercus to give Knox a new stained glass window. The Hercuses, together with Graham Stewart, the artist who created our earlier stained glass window, attended the February meeting of council and gave us details of the remarkable gift. Graham showed us samples of the vibrant glass he will be using for the new version of the design and said that he would like to com-

plete the window around the end of May. A special service marking the occasion is likely to be held in June.

The Knox townhouse tenancy is continuing. The car parks are currently all leased and shortly two more car parks, previously used by Presbyterian Support, will be available for us to lease out. The car parks provide us with vital income. We also continue to rent out two offices upstairs to community groups and our property income is slightly above budget at this stage of the year. Our funds deposited with PCANZ are receiving 3 1/2% Interest instead of the budgeted 3% so we are also receiving a small increased amount in interest. However, with insurance premiums 42% above last year's total, we need to find an extra \$10,400 for insurance, as well as coping with increased costs in other areas.

Our Christmas baking fundraiser brought us \$2325 profit and our first annual Re-birthday appeal has reached \$4225.00. A big thank you to all who contributed in any way to these pleasing results.

We have a number of bookings for weddings in our church but the Knox Centre is hired more frequently than the church. The City Council has notified us that under government regulations we have 15 years to strengthen the Centre to higher earthquake standards.

Our small but dedicated team of Sunday School leaders is not available this year and as attendance of children is extremely variable we will not be providing a special children's programme this year. Activities for children are always available at the back of the church and families are always very welcome. Council will be considering other ways to involve families at Knox.

An interesting pulpit exchange with Opoho Church, Dunedin, is being organised for the end of April, centred around the issue of climate change. A panel discussion will also be held on this topic.

We have recently agreed to provide a venue for a display of historical material about Canterbury people who were conscientious objectors during World War 1. This material was prepared with the assistance of Canterbury University and was previously displayed elsewhere during Heritage Week in 2016. Details yet to be arranged.

On the afternoon of Sunday 11 March the council held a special meeting to discuss ideas which arose from the mission discernment discussions held last year.

It is looking like 2018 will be a year full of interesting developments at Knox.

Induction Loop Systems

While some of you may already know about induction loop systems we still find some people don't necessarily get told about them by their audiologist if the right questions don't get asked. The loop system has been around since 1937 when it was first patented for the telephone and called a telephone coil. This has since been shorted to telecoil or just T coil. While it may be an old technology it still works extremely well for hearing aid users.

While hearing aids can work well for up-close conversation the sound often becomes unclear when the sound source is more distant, such as the TV or in an auditorium, or when the room acoustics reverberate sound. An induction loop system can help you to hear better if you have telecoil (T-coil) technology installed in your hearing aid. A T-coil is a tiny, relatively inexpensive receiver that is often built into hearing aids and it is simply a case of getting your audiologist to programme it. A T-coil can also be added to a hearing aid in retrospect but it tends to be more expensive this way so it's a good idea to get it included right from the start. The very tiniest hearing aids may not have sufficient physical room for a loop. Talk to your audiologist to find out if you have a T-coil or can get one added to your hearing aid.

Loop systems can be found in many churches, theatres and public buildings. Look for this symbol to indicate when a loop system is available. Overseas you will find them in airports and in London; even taxis have loop systems. In New Zealand, under building code regulations any new or renovated public building with meeting spaces where a sound system is installed, must have technology to make it accessible to the hearing impaired with appropriate signage. This applies to buildings with space for at least 250 people, and assembly spaces in retirement homes occupied by more than 20 people. The Christchurch Hospital rebuild will incorporate loop systems at the Acute Services Building receptions and ward clerk stations as well as for the Outpatients Building. Burwood Hospital has plans underway for similar facilities.



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A loop system consists of a microphone to pick up the sound, an amplifier to process the signal which is then sent through the loop cable which acts as an antenna that radiates the magnetic signal directly to your hearing aids (if you have a T-coil installed). This means you can instantly hear what is being said through the public address or sound system straight into the microphone in your hearing aids. The loop wire may be permanently installed around the room, often under the carpet or in the wall, at service counters, or it can even be small enough to hang around your neck (a portable neck loop). It pays to ask where to be seated for best reception as sometimes it may be just certain seating area that is looped or it may be the whole room. Many hearing aid compatible phones also have loop technology in the handset too. The advantage of a T-coil programme is that when it is switched on you don't hear all the noises and distractions around you – you only hear what is coming from the sound source making it easier to concentrate. However if you do still want to hear conversation, your audiologist can set up an M/T (microphone/telecoil) programme so you can hear through the loop system as well as have a chat with the person next to you. Some hearing aids require you to manually switch your hearing aid to this setting and others automatically detect when you are in the vicinity of an induction loop and switch over to this programme without you having to do anything.

Many hearing aids now have Bluetooth technology which can be very useful but is not a total replacement for loop technology. Bluetooth technology is a wireless method of exchanging and transferring data between two electronic devices that are in close proximity to each other. It is designed to be paired with **one** other device at a time for privacy so nobody can overhear you. This makes mobile phone calls much easier and private. Bluetooth technology for hearing aids require you to wear a streaming device

(which can be expensive) around your neck that transmits the signal to your hearing aid, enabling you to answer calls without picking up the phone. However it does have a high drain on hearing aid battery life whereas T-coils don't use any extra power. Bluetooth is not a good solution for public buildings because of its limited range and only one person at a time would be able to hear the speaker. It is possible use Bluetooth via a Wi-Fi hotspot but this requires you to have a smart phone or tablet.

Portable loop and room loop systems are also available to help you hear the TV better. Contact Hearing Support Christchurch on 341 6705 or hearingchch@xtra.co.nz if you would like to arrange a free demonstration to see how this could work for you.

In addition to Knox, the following buildings had Hearing Technology to assist the hearing impaired as at the end of 2017.

Christchurch Art Gallery Philip Carter Family Auditorium	loop system
The Piano	2 loop systems (one in auditorium & one in front foyer)
Academy Gold (at The Colombo)	Infra-red wireless headphones Ultra phonic Link system (sit in certain part of theatre)
Reading (at The Palms)	Infra-red wireless headphones
Hoyts (Riccarton Westfield Mall & Northlands Mall)	Captiview system
Burnside High School – Aurora Centre	Loop System
Rangi Ruru – Merivale Lane Theatre	Loop system for all 126 seats
St Margaret's Charles Luney Auditorium & Chapel	Loop system
Court Theatre	Loop System for some seating
Also NB. Headsets are also provided in the Court theatre for non-looped areas	
Isaac Theatre Royal	Loops on all 3 levels of auditorium
St Marks Church	Loop
Cardboard Cathedral	Univox loop
Christchurch Airport	Landside waiting area & departure gate waiting lounges – Ampetronic phased array loop system