



July 2023

Volume 126

KNOX NEWS

Dear John Knox Family and Friends,

This summer we are focusing on the theme of “Belonging” in our series “Getting Plugged In” with the passage from Matthew 11:28-30 at the center of our theme.

“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.”

This all begins with Jesus’ invitation to “Come to me.” Jesus’ voice is one of love and welcome. It encourages us and comforts us when we respond, but we must respond. Staying in one place is not an option; we need to move toward Jesus.

One of the ways that John Knox is responding to Jesus’ invitation to “Come to me” is to deepen our connection to our community by taking our worship service to a new location. We are not staying in one place. On August 6th, our normal Sunday morning worship service will not be in the Sanctuary, but at Sycamore Shelter in the Rocky River Reservation in Fairview Park. Here we will find God, celebrating beyond our church doors new ways of “belonging”, connecting with nature and neighborhood. We do not know what this will bring or who we will meet, yet we do know that God has created us for community and connection. Let us live into our calling with courage and love as we respond to Jesus’ invitation.

“Come to me.”

John Knox Worship Staff

You're not alone.
God cares about you. So do we.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JULY CALENDAR

July 1

Grounds Cleanup
9am

July 2

Annual Churchwide Picnic
11am—South Lawn

July 3

Nancy Roberts Memorial Service
11am—Sanctuary

July 4—Independence Day

Office Closed

July 5-7

Youth Mission

July 10

Oxcart Pantry Produce Pickup
2pm—North Lot

New Officer Training
5:30pm—Trinity Hall

Session
7pm—Lounge

July 11

Health & Fitness Workshop
6pm—Trinity Hall

July 12

Walking With Jesus
7pm—Lounge

July 23

Mortgage To Ministry Event
11am—Trinity Hall

July 25

Community Meal
5:30—Drive-thru

Stephen Minister's Meeting
7pm—Lounge

JULY HYBRID WORSHIP

July 2

VBS Sunday

July 9

Communion

Healing Prayer

Rev. Dr. Tom MacMillan
Matthew 11:28-30 & Matthew 23:1-4
Carrying Heavy Burdens

July 16

Rev. Dr. Tom MacMillan
Matthew 11:28-30 & Isaiah 30:15-18
I will Give You Rest

July 23

Rev. Dr. Tom MacMillan
Matthew 11:28-30 & James 4:5-10
Walk With Me and Work With Me

July 30

Youth Mission Sunday

Rev. Susanne Bendoraitis

JULY COMMUNION

Due to the July 4th holiday, communion will be served on Sunday, July 9.

COMMUNION SERVERS

You may have noticed that we are serving communion in a different manner: we are coming up to receive the elements rather than plates being passed in the pews. This allows for a more intimate experience during communion. Another change is that now anyone can assist with communion. If you would be interesting in participating, please reach out to Dave Knox at (440) 915-4015, or drkdvm@yahoo.com. No communion teams, no regular scheduling - we will simply call people a week or two in advance and ask if you are available and willing.

COMMUNION INFORMATION

HAPPY RETIREMENT JUSTINE!

Please join us in celebrating Justine Tinline as she leaves her position as Children's Ministry Director here at John Knox Church. Justine has been working with our children since 2006. We will have a gratitude event for her on Sunday, July 9, in Trinity Hall after worship. Please help us celebrate and honor her!



SUPER SUPPER SCRAMBLE

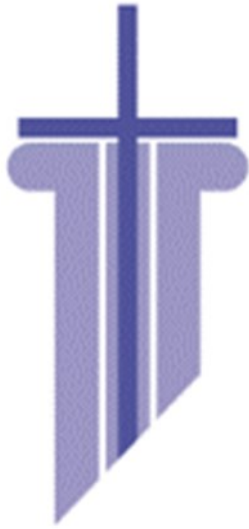
SUPER SUPPER SCRAMBLE - PATIO EDITION

The JKPC Super Supper Scramble is back- Patio Edition! Let's connect with one another. Spiritual Growth Committee invites you to this unique small-group dinner experience! Have dinner with a small group of people from John Knox, enjoy and get to know each other! These dinners are for all ages, for singles, couples and families. We will "scramble" you for a social supper where you will get to spend time with people in our John Knox family. Please sign up by July 9 to either host or attend.

Spiritual Growth will then randomly assign you to a group to have dinner together on the night you have selected. These dinners will comprise of 8- 12 people that will take place Saturday, July 15, and Sunday, July 16, at 6:00 PM. Then you will be given an item to bring (main, side, salad or dessert.) Dinners will happen simultaneously at different locations hosted by those who sign up. Even if you put that you are available on both nights, you will only be assigned to one dinner. You will receive your assigned location and meal to bring prior to the event.

Sign up here: <https://forms.gle/nw9zu4TX9xBhkh3XA> or email the office at info@johnknoxpc.org.

Super
Supper
Scramble



MORTGAGE TO MINISTRY

On May 7th, we launched the Mortgage to Ministry Campaign, a 3-year plan to eliminate the church's \$600,000 mortgage debt by 2026. As of June 29, we have received Commitments from among members and friends of the church totaling \$451,415. When taking into account available matching funds from unrestricted endowments, we have clearly reached our \$600,000 goal. What a wonderful blessing and reason for celebration!

The day of Celebration is set for **Sunday, July 23rd** immediately following the church service. A brunch will be served, and a program will be presented as part of the celebration, so please be sure to put July 23rd on your calendar for this event!

A secondary objective of the Campaign has been to seek 100% participation from the congregation. While the Campaign formally concluded on June 25th, we nevertheless encourage you to prayerfully consider your participation in the Campaign. Please remember that no dollar amount is too small, and your Commitment can be paid over a three year period.

The more Commitments the church receives from the congregation, the less matching funds will be needed from the church's endowments. Moreover, we are expecting an increase in interest expense as a result of an upward adjustment of the interest rate on the mortgage loan scheduled for August, so the earlier the church receives funds in fulfillment of your Commitment, the more interest expense the church will save over the next three years.

The congregation's response to the Campaign has truly been an amazing blessing, and we would like to thank you for your support of the Mortgage to Ministry Campaign.

Did you know John Knox accepts gifts of stocks and other securities?

Donating stock or securities is another way you can support the campaign. It could help you avoid paying capital gains tax on appreciated stocks, and John Knox will receive the full value. Making a gift of stock is easy:

1. **Contact your broker** and provide them with the transfer information:

DTC Number: 0164

Charles Schwab Account Number: 9820-3777/John Knox Presbyterian Church

2. **Contact Mindi Schibley** to notify her of the pending transfer: 440-777-3744 x 102, or mschibley@johnknoxpc.org.

3. Once the stock is transferred, Mindi will be notified by the church's broker. **The stock will then be sold**, and the church will receive the proceeds.

4. **You will receive a donation receipt** from John Knox indicating the details of the donation for tax reporting purposes.

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

SPECIAL ELECTION TUESDAY, AUGUST 8

There is only one issue on the August 8 ballot -- State Issue 1.

Every Ohio voter will have the right to vote on this issue, either in person on August 8 or by casting a mail-in ballot.

If passed State Issue 1 would:

- increase the percentage of voters needed to pass amendments to the Constitution from a simple majority to 60 percent.
- require organizers to collect signatures in all of Ohio's 88 counties instead of half.
- abolish a 10-DAY period now in the Constitution in which organizers can get additional signatures if the petitions they file include invalid ones.

Do what it takes to vote August 8.

You can vote:

- at your assigned polling place on August 8 or
- early, in-person at your local county Board of Elections beginning July 11 or
- absentee by mail or
- by dropping off your vote-by-mail ballot at their local vote board's ballot drop box.

The deadline to register to vote in the August 8 election is Monday, July 10.

Go to this link to register or update your voter registration information: <https://olvr.ohiosos.gov/>

Ohio's new photo voter ID election law limits what identification can be used to vote, so plan accordingly. Those identifications are listed here: <https://www.ohiosos.gov/elections/voters/id-requirements/>

You can request a vote-by-mail application for Cuyahoga County now by going to <https://www.ohiosos.gov/elections/voters/id-requirements/> or for Lorain County by going to: <https://www.voteloraincountyohio.gov/primary-absentee-request-reminder>

Your local public library may also have vote-by-mail applications available.

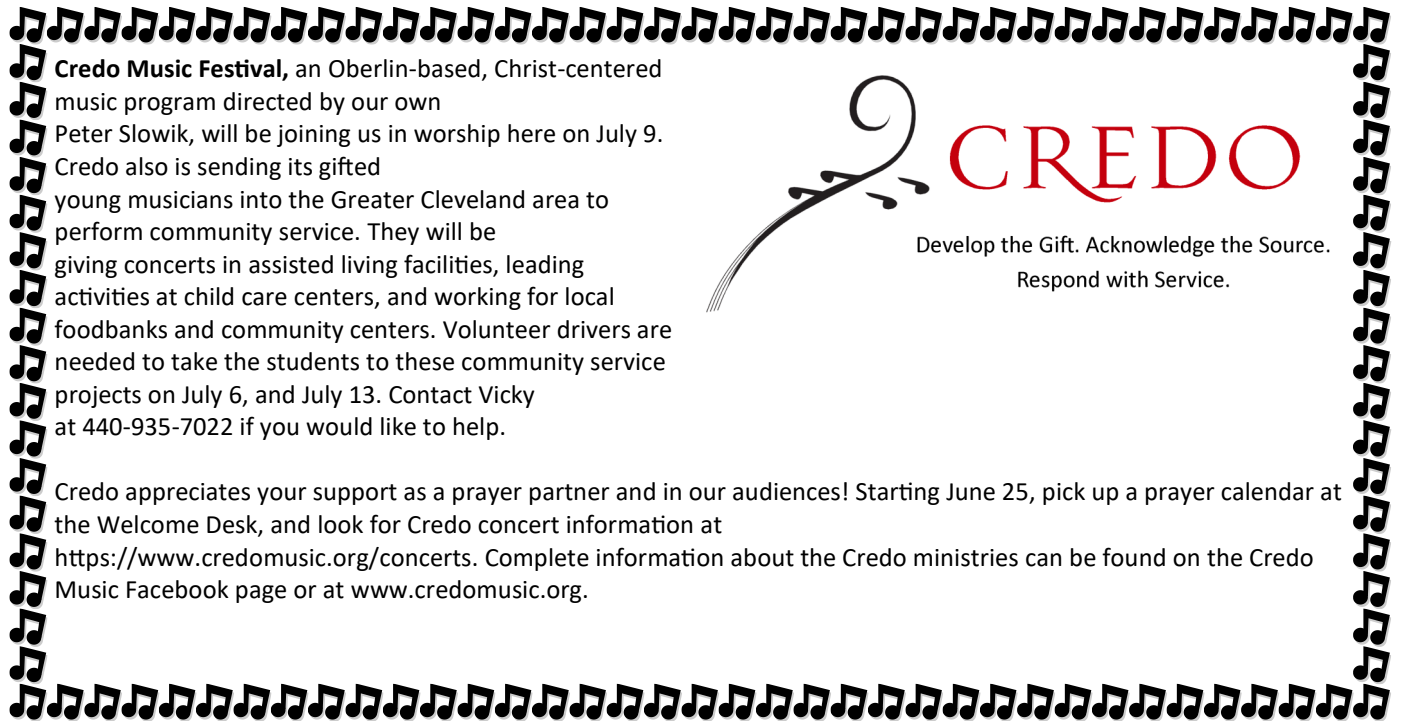
Once you have completed your application it must be mailed to your county Board of Elections. You cannot submit your application online.

Your mail-in ballot will be sent out July 11. Fill it out and mail it in (be sure to use enough postage) or deliver it in person to your Board of Elections.

Early, in-person voting at your county Board of Elections starts July 11.



CREDO MUSIC FESTIVAL



Credo Music Festival, an Oberlin-based, Christ-centered music program directed by our own Peter Slowik, will be joining us in worship here on July 9. Credo also is sending its gifted young musicians into the Greater Cleveland area to perform community service. They will be giving concerts in assisted living facilities, leading activities at child care centers, and working for local foodbanks and community centers. Volunteer drivers are needed to take the students to these community service projects on July 6, and July 13. Contact Vicky at 440-935-7022 if you would like to help.



CREDO

Develop the Gift. Acknowledge the Source.
Respond with Service.

Credo appreciates your support as a prayer partner and in our audiences! Starting June 25, pick up a prayer calendar at the Welcome Desk, and look for Credo concert information at <https://www.credomusic.org/concerts>. Complete information about the Credo ministries can be found on the Credo Music Facebook page or at www.credomusic.org.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

STEPHEN MINISTER OFFERING

Reiki is Japanese healing technique that uses energy to promote relaxation. Cleveland Clinic and University Hospital are both using this holistic treatment option. If you are interested in learning more about reiki, please plan to attend the Stephen Minister's meeting on Tuesday, July 25, at 7:00 PM. Mary Lee Boeswatar will be the speaker.



MONTHLY GROUNDS CLEANUP

God's Gardeners (and our church grounds) are in need of your help on the first Saturday of the month when we will gather as an energetic team from 9:00 AM until 12 noon to make quick progress on such things as picking up litter, weeding/weed wacking, mulching, etc. Urgent need especially on Saturday, July 1, to get the South Lawn ready for the church picnic! For more information, contact Julius at jmirecki@johnknoxpc.org.



John Knox Church

CHILDREN & YOUTH MINISTRY

Stellar VBS was out of this world!

The word Stellar describes something that is the very, very best! Over 50 volunteers and participants had an out-of-this-world, very best time at Stellar VBS. At Stellar, we discovered how we can share the love and hope of Jesus in our everyday lives. Through memorable bible learning activities, catchy songs, team-building games, shared meals, and more we learned to shine Jesus' light no matter the circumstance. A huge thank you to our Stellar participants and volunteers for making this a week to remember. We hope that you join the whole congregation on July 2 at 10:00 AM for Stellar Worship followed by a churchwide picnic.

Please join us in praying for our youth mission expression this summer.

Our Local Mission Week, *Livin' La Vida Local*, will be July 5-7, 2023. There are still a few places left, contact Susanne if you are interested. This year's three day "mission trip" will take place in our own backyard! We'll serve our local community through a variety of projects which may include Good Knights, Building Hope in the City, church projects, and more. This daytime mission experience is for all of those entering 6th grade and above. The cost is \$75 with a \$25 deposit due at registration. Questions? Contact Susanne sbendoraitis@johnknoxpc.org!

August will be all-age worship month.

In August, children and youth will join us in the main worship service as we will have family services for all ages throughout the month. This will include the outdoor service on August 6, a 'Blessing of the Backpacks' service, the Elders of Jazz, the Remix Band, and more. Each Sunday will have a children's sermon and be intentionally intergenerational with more interaction for all ages. There will not be Sunday School in the month of August. We look forward to worshipping together as an intergenerational community.

Thanks!

Susanne, Justine, Laura, and Beckie





JOHN KNOX
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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PLEASE
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