

# SEPTEMBER 2018

# TIDINGS

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

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**PRESBYTERIAN** | **COMMUNITY.**

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3000 North High School Road + Indianapolis, IN 46224  
9 am Traditional Service + 10 am Sunday School +  
11 am Contemporary Service

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Frank Mansell, Pastor

Lisa Crismore, Commissioned Ruling Elder

# A LETTER FROM TOM MARKEY

To My Dear and Beloved Friends of  
John Knox Presbyterian Church,

Where do I even begin? Over the last five years, our journey together in ministry has been so inspiring, so engaging, and so very life-giving. I never could have imagined my time at John Knox would be such a deeply and profoundly transformative time in my life.

Yet, after five years of wonderful and fruitful ministry together, I am now faced with the overwhelmingly bittersweet task of sharing the news that my time at John Knox will soon be coming to an end.

I have accepted a full-time position at Second Presbyterian Church (Indianapolis) to be the Coordinator of Middle School Ministries as a member of their youth ministry team. After multiple conversations with many individuals from Second Presbyterian, it became evident to me that this position was one in which I felt a strong call to and one that I feel confident God has called me to pursue as the next chapter in my journey of ministry. Though I do feel confident in God's call to accept this new position, it is not a decision that I made lightly, nor was it an easy one to make.

For the past five years, John Knox has been my home and my family. In so many ways it has been you - John Knox Presbyterian Church - that has raised me and cultivated me in the faith. You have taught me what it means to be a faithful and committed disciple, providing me with a definitive blueprint of how to love God and how to love one another. I am so inspired by all of you. Since the moment I arrived, I have been in awe. John Knox is not just a congregation, it is a family. It is a place where folks give generously, serve selflessly, extend loving hospitality, offer radical acceptance, operate with incredible patience, and are guided by grace in all that you do. You have modeled for me - time and time again - just what it means to be a truly Open. Caring. Community.

Thank you for welcoming me with open arms and an open heart. Thank you for giving me an opportunity to explore my sense of call and for journeying alongside me. Thank you for pushing me, for challenging me, and for never letting me settle. Thank you for your unwavering love, guidance, wisdom, and support. Thank you for loving Abbie. Thank you for loving Ella and Eden as if they were your own. Thank you for providing me with a safe and supportive place to grow both personally and professionally. Thank you for being my biggest cheerleaders (even when it meant sitting through some really bad sermons!). Thank you for sharing your lives with me in so many remarkable and sacred ways.

From the bottom of my heart and the deepest depths of my soul, thank you. My heart and my life have been forever transformed by John Knox Presbyterian Church.

My final Sunday at John Knox will be Sunday, September 23. In the weeks that follow, I look forward to continuing to work and serve alongside each of you as we continue to strive to be an open and caring community in all that we do. I also look forward to getting to spend time sharing fond memories, dreaming about the future, hugging each of you a bit tighter, and, undoubtedly, crying with one another.

Finally, knowing that change and transition is never easy, I pray that these words - which have given me so much comfort and peace when our choir sings them on Sunday mornings - might give us all comfort and peace, "The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace."

I thank God for each of you. I thank God for this truly Open. Caring. Community. I love you.

### ***Love and Peace, Tom***

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Tidings is published monthly by John Knox Presbyterian Church,  
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Editor reserves the right to edit for content and space.

## SUNDAY - SEPTEMBER 2

**COMMUNION:** Sunday, September 2, 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.

**FOOD ON THE FIRST:** Food items (non-perishable) are collected on the first Sunday of the month and then taken to St. John's Storehouse Food Pantry. Bring your items on Sunday, September 2, or during office hours the week before.

## PYOCA ALL CHURCH RETREAT SEPTEMBER 28 - 30

How do we listen for God amid all the noise and demands we face in life? How can our own stories of faith help us listen more closely to others and to God? What stories from the Bible help give guidance as we seek to live faithful lives of discipleship? These will be some of the questions we center ourselves on at our All Church Retreat at Pyoca in September. Frank Mansell will be our leader, as we "Listen for God" in our own faith stories, and in the stories others have to share. There will also be activities for children, as well as intergenerational activities for us throughout the weekend.

We have a special offer this year and this year only, which we hope will encourage more people to attend the All Church Retreat. **John Knox has received a financial gift from the Center for Congregations which will allow us to offer the retreat at half the normal cost!** We are grateful for this opportunity provided by the Center for Congregations. Pick up a registration brochure on the table outside the office or in the literature rack in the main hallway, or download it from the church's website. Don't miss out on this wonderful weekend of spiritual fellowship, nurture, and most importantly - in a truly beautiful place amidst God's creation!

## INVITE A FRIEND SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 16

The mark of the Christian faith is sharing the good news with others, and telling the world of God's love in Jesus Christ. What better way to embody that calling than to personally invite someone new to John Knox? On Sunday, September 16, you are asked to invite a friend, family member, neighbor, or stranger to come to worship. **We will have a special combined worship service at 10:30am, with Church School beginning at 9:30am. The Worship Team will host a luncheon following worship in the Fellowship Hall.** Prayerfully consider inviting someone new to John Knox this week, and may we all be amazed by the work of God's Spirit when we take such a leap of faith!

## LUNCHEON TO CELEBRATE TOM MARKEY - SEPTEMBER 23

As he has shared in his letter to the congregation on pages 2-3, Tom will be leaving us as Director of Youth Ministries to become the Coordinator of Middle School Ministries at Second Presbyterian Church in Indianapolis. Tom has brought our youth, their families, and our congregation great joy, energy, comfort, and care these past five years, and we want to take an opportunity to thank him and his family for all he has meant to us.

Join us on **Sunday, September 23, as we will have a catered luncheon at 12:15pm**, after our normal schedule of worship (9 & 11am) and church school (10am) that morning. **Also, if you would like to make a donation toward a gift for Tom from the church, please make your check out to John Knox and mark it "Markey Gift."** Please look in the weekly emails and Sunday bulletins for other ways you can say "thank you" to Tom for his service here. Please sign-up outside the office if you plan to attend the luncheon. And we hope you can join us as we give thanks for Tom's ministry here, and look ahead to what God has in store for him and for us in the future!

## RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE DINNER SUNDAY - SEPTEMBER 2

Ready for a different kind of Labor Day Weekend celebration? Join us by serving dinner to the residents of Ronald McDonald House on **Sunday, September 2**. We will meet at the church at 5:00pm, carpool to the Ronald McDonald House to serve dinner, and then help clean up. We will arrive back at church by 8:30pm. Can't come in person? You can still donate homemade food to help. Sign up to help or donate food on the board outside the church office. Questions? Contact Patty McKinnon, 317-686-1900, ext #231.

## COMMUNITY PICNIC - A HUGE THANKS!

Thanks to everyone for making this day a big success and welcoming our community. At the time of this article, we had over \$1000 donated so that our neighbors could have free food and entertainment. The Deacons are grateful for your generosity in giving of your time, talent and treasure. Thanks to the picnic planning committee, who put all the details into place so that we were prepared. Thanks to all the people who helped before the picnic and those who served the day of the event. By the time the September Tidings is published, another picnic will be in the books, whether rain or shine, we continue to strive to be an Open. Caring. Community by being the face, voice, feet and hands of Christ to our neighbors!

## JKPC DINES TOGETHER

We will gather at 12:00pm on **Monday, September 24**, for lunch with our members at **Westside Garden Plaza**. Come for a meal, communion and fellowship with our members. Please RSVP to the Church Office (317-291-0308).

## PRIME TIMERS - SEPTEMBER 11

Prime Timers will return to Illinois Street Emporium on September 11, meeting at the church at 11am. For those of you who could not be with us last month, the restaurant's refrigeration system broke down and could not serve food. So, the group wanted to go back in September and try again. We will plan to carpool because of limited parking. Everyone is welcome. For those with a sweet tooth, you won't want to miss their desserts! Yum! Questions? Please see Lisa Crismore or RSVP to the church office (317-291-0308).

## COME SING WITH THE CHOIR! REHEARSALS ON THURSDAYS

CHOIR is resuming for the fall! Everyone is welcome to join if you are high school age and up! We rehearse Thursday evenings from 7-8:30pm, beginning August 30. We sing during the 9am worship service, and our first Sunday singing in worship will be September 9. If you have questions, contact Jeff Gillespie or any current choir member!

## IN SYMPATHY

We share the sorrow of the family of **Lora Coats**, who died on August 1. A service to celebrate her life was held at Flanner and Buchanan Funeral Home, Speedway, on August 6.

## SUNDAY - SEPTEMBER 30 WORSHIP AT 9AM

On Sunday, September 30, we will have a special Sunday morning schedule. Because some will be at Pyoca that morning for the All Church Retreat, **we will only have a traditional worship service at 9am. We will have Church School for all ages at 10am. There will be no 11am worship service at John Knox that day.**

## MISSION TRIP TO THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC - NOVEMBER 8-14

We had postponed the trip in February due to pastor, Elsa Thomas (the minister at the IED church in Tamayo), having a difficult pregnancy. Elsa and Jairo welcomed a healthy baby boy, Eliseo, on June 11. Eliseo is Elisha in Spanish. He weighed 8½ pounds. Both first-time parents are adapting to having a baby in their lives. Elsa shares that God is showing her everyday how to be a good mother and that she loves her son very much! They, as well as the IED church in Tamayo, are excited to have us visit on November 8-14. We are committed in taking this mission trip, but have had a couple of people drop out due to the change in the date. ***If you are interested in going to learn about a different culture and to meet the lovely people of Tamayo, Dominican Republic, to see what God is doing there, please talk to Lisa Crismore.*** The Mission and Education Teams are planning a Bingo/Silent Dessert Auction on October 5 from 6:30-8:30pm to raise funds for our partnership in the Dominican Republic. There will also be a dining fundraiser at Chipotle in October. Save the date and look for more details in next month's Tidings and the weekly bulletins!

## NEW BEGINNINGS UPDATE

EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE: There were requests for assistance in the last month during regular office hours. Requests included the need for food, clothing, rent, and gas. We were able to help one family with food, and referrals to other agencies that could offer further assistance. We were also able to give "work assistance" to another neighbor. Thank you for your continued support of "New Beginnings"!

## MISSION UPDATES

**FOOD ON THE FIRST** - Every month, we are invited to bring donations of non-perishable food on the first Sunday to support The Storehouse Food Pantry at St. John's Episcopal Church. This ministry feeds hundreds of people in our community every month, and is reliant on donations such as ours to help people meet their hunger needs. Please consider making this a part of your routine each month, by bringing your canned and boxed food with you to church on the first Sunday. Thank you for your generosity!

**LION'S EYEGLASS DONATIONS** - Did you know that your donations of old, unused eyeglasses help others around the world to see? The Lion's Club has a donation box outside the church office, where you can donate eyeglasses of all types. Please consider this when you are cleaning out unused glasses - for it helps others to see!

## CHANGE OF ADDRESS/PHONE

**Bob Denny** no longer has a land line. His cell number is 317-349-4396.

**Jami Phillippe**  
2602 Baneberry Lane 814  
Indianapolis, IN 46268

Mailing:

**Erin Mansell**  
Box 6804  
Davidson, NC 28035-6804

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**Erin Mansell** (Box 6804)  
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Kuhlman Hall 429  
3824 St. Francis Xavier Way  
Cincinnati, OH 45207

**Kelsey Merrill**  
MacGregor House E324  
450 Memorial Drive  
Cambridge, MA 02139

# DEBT RETIREMENT FUNDRAISING

**TRASH BAG SALES:** Trash bags will not be sold in September but will be sold in October. The date for October sales will be in the October Tidings. They are \$13 per roll and are available in 3 sizes. If you should need trash bags at another time, see Dick Herman or Judy Ricketts on Sunday, or they may be purchased in the church office during the week during office hours. Proceeds from sales go to Debt Retirement. Thanks for your support!

**DINING EVENT REPORT -** You raised \$79.79 at Grindstone Charley's in May and \$60.40 at BJ's Restaurant and Brewhouse in June for the Debt Retirement Fund. Thanks for your support!

**KROGER COMMUNITY REWARDS:** You raised \$178.97 in the second quarter of 2018. We now have 75 households enrolled in the program. Last quarter, we had 55 households participating. Thanks to all of you who enrolled or arranged for others to be enrolled. This is a great increase in participation! However, according to Kroger only 61 households participated in the program during the second quarter. **Every time you shop at Kroger, you must show your Kroger Plus card in order for the church to get credit for your purchase.** If you wish to enroll in the program, instructions are on the table by the church office. If you have questions or need help enrolling, please contact Judy Ricketts at 317-272-2533 or 317-840-7794. Thanks so much for participating in this program!

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## TIDINGS DEADLINE

Articles for the **OCTOBER 2018** issue of the John Knox Tidings are **due by WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19.**

The preferred way to turn in your articles is to email them directly to the editor: **[JKPCTidings@gmail.com](mailto:JKPCTidings@gmail.com)** or place them in the **TIDINGS mailbox** in the Church Office.

## **DINING EVENT BJ'S RESTAURANT & BREWHOUSE TUESDAY - SEPTEMBER 25**

On Tuesday, September 25, if you eat at BJ's Restaurant and Brewhouse on Rockville Road in Avon (in front of the Target Shopping Center) between 11am-11pm, 20% of your total food purchases (alcohol purchases are not included) will be donated to Debt Retirement. You present a flyer to your server, and a flyer is required for each check. Flyers are available on the table underneath the bulletin board by the church office and on the church website on the home page under service projects. You may give flyers to your relatives, friends, neighbors, co-workers, etc. However, flyers may not be distributed in the restaurant or in the parking lot of the restaurant on the day of the event. Take-out orders are included in the program. This is a great opportunity to help the church and to eat out. Thanks for your support!

## **UPCOMING DATES**

**October 5 - Fundraiser for the Dominican Republic Mission Partnership - 6:30-8:30pm**

**October 21 - Stewardship Sunday - One Service at 10:30am**

**October 27 - Fall Festival - 12-2pm**

**October 28 - Children's Sabbath Services & Third Grade Bible Distribution**

**November 8-14 - Mission Trip to Dominican Republic**

**November 18 - Community Thanksgiving Service**

**December 2 - Intergenerational Christmas Program - 6:30pm**

**December 15 & 16 - Nativity Open House - 1-5pm (Saturday) & 9am-12pm (Sunday)**

# BETHANY CRISMORE & RICHARD ARREDONDO'S WEDDING NOVEMBER 3 - 1:30PM

Jim and I would like to invite you to share in our joy at our daughter's wedding on Saturday, November 3, at 1:30pm. The service and reception will be at St. Andrew Presbyterian Church, located at 3535 N. Kessler Blvd. North Dr., Indianapolis, Indiana, 46222. There will be a light cake and punch reception following the wedding, to which you are invited, as well. We are grateful to God for the love that Bethany and Richard share. I have prayed for this day since my daughter was born. I continue to pray that their love will blossom and grow as God sees them through the challenges and blessings throughout their lives together. Bethany is a member at St. Andrew, and she and Richard are active in serving in the church. This church is also very special to me and Jim, because we met each other at St. Andrew during our time in youth group (the 1970s). We were married in this place 34 years ago and both of our daughters were baptized there. We hope you can join us for this special celebration. There will be a sign-up on the bulletin board so I have an idea of how many will be attending.

*Blessings,  
Lisa*

## WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

	9 a.m. Worship	C o m b i n e d Worship	11 a.m. Worship
<b>July 29</b>		103	
<b>Aug 5</b>	88		44
<b>Aug 12</b>	94		33
<b>Aug 19</b>	79		37

## THANK YOU

On behalf of my Mother, Alice McGinnis, I would like to thank all who sent birthday cards and well wishes for her 102nd birthday. Thank you for welcoming her into our church family. Attending John Knox is a joy to her and is a good replacement for the church family she left in her home town.

**-- Mary Carter**

Thank you so much for the platter of cheese and veggies during the visitation for Mom. I know Mom enjoyed all of her time she was able to spend at John Knox. Thank you again for your thoughtfulness.

**-- Don and Beth Coats**

Thanks JKPC Women and Loved Ones for visiting for our 60th Wedding Anniversary.

**-- Jim and Bonnie Graves**

I want to thank EVERYONE who helped with our hosting of the Assembly Meeting of Whitewater Valley Presbytery on August 4. We welcomed over 120 people that day, and I heard nothing but high praise and compliments for your hospitality. To all who gave of their time and talent in so many ways that day, you're the best!

**-- Frank Mansell**

## SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Cindy Hiday	September 1
David Baker	September 5
Margaret Von Hoven	September 10
Clara Larrick	September 14
Susan Graves	September 16
Marilyn Binkley	September 17
Sam Dunbar	September 17
Ella Markey	September 17
Ann Owen	September 27
Gabriel Lamey	September 29
Mahmooda Pitamber	September 29
Gladys Sangar	September 29

## AN UPDATE FROM OUR SEMINARY STUDENT - JILLIAN FLYNN

Dear John Knox,

It has been a busy but growth-giving summer in the Flynn House. I wanted to update all of you on where my journey to ministry finds me at this time. With the last update I had just completed my first year of theological studies at Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary. I was filled with knowledge and feeling immensely blessed for all of your support and prayers.

I write you again as I complete my summer internship at St. Vincent Hospital. The Presbyterian Church requires all students seeking ordination to complete a unit of Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE). This is a fancy title for “be a student while being a chaplain.” For the past 12 weeks I have had the amazing opportunity to minister to those who are sick and vulnerable in our community. I have prayed with many people before life-threatening surgery, I have stood beside a mother as she lost her baby, and I have listened to many stories from people who have felt unheard for an extended period of time. This is what I consider the “be a chaplain” part of CPE, and it by far is the most rewarding experience I have had in this seminary journey. The other part of CPE is being a student. Little did I know going into the summer that this does not mean reading a book and doing a report. During CPE, individuals are a student of themselves. For the summer I have been on an intense journey of understanding what I believe, why I believe that, how does my story impact my ministry, and how do I interact with others. These questions have helped me to better understand myself, so that I may better serve others. To say the least I am exhausted. CPE is a time of continually outpouring of oneself and being vulnerable in efforts to serve Christ. This means that CPE is also a time to work on self-care.

With this journey of self-care Hayden and I had to think prayerfully about what works for our family while on this journey to ministry. Some of you may know already, but

over the summer I made the decision to transfer to Christian Theological Seminary (CTS). This decision came with both grief and excitement. There was so much I loved about my education and experience at Louisville that I am still grieving as I let go. That being said, there were many things that were not perfect for Hayden and I in regards to Louisville. This by no means was an easy decision or one made overnight, but it was definitely where God was leading us for this stage in our lives. I will begin classes at CTS the last week of August, and will begin my field education placement at St. Andrew Presbyterian Church, Indianapolis, in September.

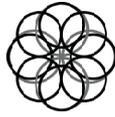
Also, on August 31st, I will make my first attempt at completing an exam required by the Presbytery for ordination. I mention this, as this particular exam is causing me a lot of angst and I would appreciate any prayer you can spare!

Like I said, it has been a busy summer in the Flynn house, but like always the presence of your prayers and support mean the world to both me and Hayden. Feel free to catch me in the hallway and ask any questions - I love to share about this journey!

***God Bless -  
Jillian Flynn***

## SUPPORTING JILLIAN

Would you like to assist Jillian as she continues her preparation for ministry? If so, the Finance Team and Session would invite you to make a financial donation towards her theological education. Simply mark your donation "Flynn Seminary Fund" and make your check out to the church. These monies are separate from our two existing scholarship funds (Margaret Wilson Scholarships and Curtis/Ricketts Scholarships). If you have any questions, please feel free to talk to Frank Mansell ([jkpcpastor@comcast.net](mailto:jkpcpastor@comcast.net); 317-291-0308) or Cindy Hiday (317-388-1280; [cindy.hiday@gmail.com](mailto:cindy.hiday@gmail.com)). And thank you for your generous support of one of our own who is pursuing a call to ministry!



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