

## Leadership Team Chair Update - August 2018

On August 5th I welcomed everyone back to worship - granted it wasn't in the space we had expected to meet in when we came back together. However, as well all know we are not the first Christians to worship, pray together and plan for a bright future in a place and space that is not our own. The Bible is filled with stories of people finding ways to hear the Spirit and do the work of the Church during times of trial and displacement. I take comfort in the fact these stories tell us of people who were unsure, didn't always understand what God was asking them to do and or why, but with faith in God, an open heart, trust in themselves, and support from others, they forged ahead and came out on top.

THANK YOU from the bottom of our hearts to all those who are involved in this huge undertaking - Tom Hallas, Cathy Zroback, Alex Coates, Peter Fox, Richard Shodin, Ruth Girard, Brenda Shodin, Charlotte Caron, Bruce Ormiston... just to name a few. I am grateful for everyone's contribution of their time and talent toward our end goal - worshipping together at Knox, welcoming our user groups and doing the work of the Church in our home.

Tom, Cathy and myself met with representatives from KDSB, Kenon and David Nelson Architecture on August 16, 2018 to discuss the current state of construction on both Knox and KDSB sides, clearly outline Knox priorities and agree on timelines and communication moving forward.

Priority #1 for us is regaining unhindered access to the Knox space that is not a construction zone for designated key-holders, with a review for broader occupancy to be reviewed in September. This will be achieved by appropriately hoarding off (2x4 walls with plywood) any construction zones, clearly identifying areas that are under construction and ensuring emergency exits are clearly identified. We expect to receive a timeline on completion of this work this week. Note that the balcony will remain off-limits until all exits are restored.

Priority #2 is having a professional and qualified cleaner attend Knox to safely and completely rid the non-construction Knox space of any construction dust/debris that has circulated and landed since construction started. This is a KDSB/Kenon responsibility. Once this is done, we will be able to maintain our own space (and the hoarding will effectively prevent any further major accumulation of dust).

Priority #3 is getting ready to return to Knox for worship. There are a number of factors for Worship Interest Group, Building Committee and Leadership Team to consider in this regard not the least of which is ensuring appropriate occupancy permits are obtained, ensuring the safety of all congregants and sustainability of our return. We are expecting construction timelines by next week from Kenon, which will allow these internal discussions to happen and planning to start.

We will be receiving bi-weekly communication updates from KDSB which will allow us to effectively communicate with all of you as progress moves along.

I cannot thank Cathy and Tom enough for their continued efforts on behalf of Knox! We are so blessed to have these two individuals share their time, talent and expertise with us on this important project.

We look forward to returning home soon and we need to continue to trust that God is with us, guiding us with his loving hand and creative Spirit to move forward down this path that will likely have a few more twists and turns in it. We know this all leads to an amazing development for some of Kenora's most vulnerable people, that we will see a renewed sense of community come out of this and that we will be proud of the work of Knox.

See you on Sunday!

Louise Marston (knoxLTchair@gmail.com)