

Knox Youth Group



Wisdom's children

A Manitoba mission participant startled me recently by saying she didn't feel "spiritually ready." This prompted me to put in place the June prayer and past trip seminars. How wonderful that this young person can express there's a spiritual dimension of self that has to be made ready or better prepared. That, my friends, is a testament to the good grounding that youth have received here at Knox!

Working with youth - whether planning rah rah events like mission trips or simpler things like a downtown spring cleaning effort - takes us beyond our comfort zones. You never know what you might find in the woodlot at the heart of town that has become the unofficial downtown dump. You might end up taking a few risks, like publishing a book, hosting a fundraising dinner, or a seminar on the mechanics of prayer. All this - and the mission team hasn't even left the ground!

There's an essay/sermon by Canadian writer and scholar Northrop Frye that I feel drawn to this time of year, called "Baccalaureate Sermon." His point: the end result of higher education is something that cannot be directly taught. It is really a vision of society, a vision derived from the best that humanity has done: the concepts of

philosophy, the imagination of the arts, the accuracy and discoveries of the sciences. This vision is not itself knowledge but a practical wisdom, which you take with you into society, which you apply as a criterion to society, and which is the source of your own expertise and special abilities. This means what is important about your life is not that you should achieve something, but that you should manifest something...

"And perhaps, as we struggle to apply our education and practical wisdom to society, we may occasionally feel a sense of a Presence which is ourselves yet infinitely bigger than ourselves, which lives with us but will not disappear into death when we do...Whenever they occur, it is in such moments that, as Jesus says, wisdom is justified of her children [Matthew 11.19]."

It's my privilege go on the upcoming mission with wisdom's children. Follow ***KnoxYouthGT*** on Twitter for postings throughout the trip, Aug. 14 - 22. Continuing thanks to our many friends, well wishers, prayer partners and generous contributors at Knox. We hope that what we manifest does you proud.

...*Lisa-Dawn McKenzie, Youth Leader*

As a congregation, we are not aware of all the activities of our Youth. They are an active group, and spend a lot of time working in and for community events. Recently they have participated in the Mama Mia pasta supper; Bowl for Kids' Sake (bowlathon for Big Bros & Sisters, Halton); sorting at the Georgetown Breadbasket; the Downtown 20 Minute makeover/litter pickup; Community Unity Day; musical presentation prior to worship service May 30th; hosting the Lord teach us to pray seminar, open to all, with Sarah Pinnell; and will be helping with prep for Highland Games; playing/selling poetry books, Knox Doors Open; their mission work with Winnipeg Inner City Missions and ongoing is their work with prayer partner Kevin Knight of Servants to Asia's Urban Poor in Cambodia, working on collaborative youth poetry book.

They are not an idle group!!