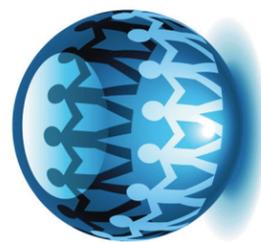


# UPCOMING EVENTS



**Love. Grow. Serve.**

### Services

Nov 12	9am and 11am
Nov 19	9am and 11am
Nov 26	9am and 11am (Salvation Sounds at 9am Service)
Dec 3	9am and 11am Communion & Advent 1
Dec 10	9am and 11am - Advent 2
Dec 17	9am and 11am - Advent 3
Dec 24	10 am (Advent 4) and Christmas Eve at 7pm
Dec 31	10am Single Service
Jan 7	10am Single Service - Communion and Baptism

### Upcoming Events

Nov 14	JOY Group
Nov 15	Community Bible Study
Nov 22	Community Bible Study (Last One)
Nov.25	Conference on "Physician Assisted Death: What is the Christian view?" with Rev. Dr. Christine O'Reilly (free event)
Dec 12	JOY Group—Christmas Lunch

*The Kortright Kronicles is published four times per year. It is created to tell the stories of Kortright Presbyterian Church.*

*For the next issue, please submit articles to Dale in the office by **Feb 20th** Articles will be edited to accommodate space (250 to 300 word) requirements. Photos are encouraged to be included with articles. A photo of the author or associated committees should also be submitted.*



# The Kronicles

of Kortright Presbyterian Church, Guelph, Ontario



THE JOY SENIORS GROUP ASSEMBLED FOR THEIR GROUP PHOTO IN FALL 2017.

### IN THIS ISSUE:

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# SESSION UPDATE



**John Fletcher**  
Clerk of Session

As I sit down to write this update for Kronicles, I know that I am behind schedule. This has been the tone for me with our farming operation since seeding time. This year has given me an opportunity to reflect on how our timing and God’s timing, don’t always line up. Instead of fretting over those things that we cannot control, we need to bring them before God and ask the Holy Spirit for help and guidance. I guess this year has been good practice for me personally on that front. **God wants a relationship with us where we realize that we can come to Him with everything in our lives, both struggles and successes.** It seems that we woeful humans have to be reminded of this truth every so often.

This fall has been very busy with exciting activities at KPC. I recently had the opportunity to begin attending the **Community Bible Study**, and must say that I am amazed to see the results of God’s handiwork. I have had a neat vantage point in Session to witness the work of the Holy Spirit among us. About 2 years ago, early discussion about the addition of a new staff position at KPC began. In the following months, there was much discernment and prayer at Session regarding the greatest area of need and how far Church finances could be stretched. The Holy Spirit inclined us to get back to basics, with a more intentional focus on discipleship. The Lord sent us Allison Pinches for this new half-time position. Last June 10<sup>th</sup>, there was a joint retreat with Session and staff, which produced our current goal:

***By October 2018, have 80% of the congregation growing in a deeper relationship with Christ with means of a regular commitment to studying God’s word and praying together in our small groups.***

The Community Bible Study has been an exciting and well attended first step toward achieving this goal. The congregation and others have overwhelmingly participated in this “good old fashioned” Bible Study. It is our hope and prayer at Session that this event be a seed that grows among the congregation so that recommit ourselves to studying God’s word and prayer as a daily routine. When we lean towards God, good things happen. This fall, Session has also made Bible Study/ Devotional time as a regular event in our monthly meetings. Praise be to God!

Other happenings at Session include the review of the **KPC fundraising policy** from past Sessions and tweaking it for today’s current situation at KPC. The main thrust of the policy, still retains a focus on fundraising for “short-term” missions and relying on “free will offerings”. As part of the updated policy, groups wishing to fundraise within KPC will have to come to Session with their fundraising plan, for guidance in advance. We will be coming along side existing fundraising groups to help with the transition that may be required.

Another focus at Session pertains to KPC’s approach and style of the sacrament of **Communion**. With major input from the Worship Planning Committee and former KPC Clerk of Session, Tom Bolton (a.k.a. Martin Luther), Session is finalizing guidelines for the Duty Elder and participants with respect to reverence of this sacred event.

May all the praise, honour, and glory, be yours Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

## Financials

# Q3 FINANCIAL UPDATE

### BUDGET SUMMARY

Area of Expenses	Budget Sep 2017	Actual Sep 2017
Human Resources	\$ 233,056	\$ 230,998
Missions	40,706	38,820
Maintenance	33,638	32,029
Finance Admin	36,874	36,656
Office Admin	2,888	3,569
IT Costs	5,251	4,966
Children Ministry	4,126	2,469
Youth Ministry	9,000	6,704
Adult Ministries	10,163	3,428
Pastor/Session	5,663	1,197
Music Ministry	1,126	-
Worship Planning	525	369
Short Term Ministry Team	15,000	7,586
Syrian Refugee Fund	6,400	7,184
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 404,416</b>	<b>\$ 375,976</b>
Capital expenses	\$ 18,750	\$ 29,833
<b>Grand Total All Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 423,166</b>	<b>\$ 405,808</b>
Building Rental Income	37,875	39,252
Grants Received	-	-
Church Givings	318,000	308,718
<b>Grand Total Church Receipts</b>	<b>\$ 355,875</b>	<b>\$ 347,971</b>

Actual expenses are below that of the budget and most areas are tracking at or below budget. At any given time, though, there are expenses still to be submitted or reimbursed and there is seasonality to the budget with respect to the fall activities and expenses that take place.

- Church Giving in Q3 was above average for the summer months (July and August), but weaker than expected for September. We are 2.9% (about \$9300) behind target for this time of the year.
- We are just over \$500 ahead of where we were in Church Giving at this time last year. The target for all of 2017 is \$454,635, which is around \$5000 higher than the year-end result from last year; so in order to reach that target, we plan for, and need, a strong last quarter.

- With that in mind, we pray that our members and adherents will respond generously in the final quarter of the year and we encourage you to keep KPC’s needs in mind as you consider your year-end giving plans.



**Dennis Giesbrecht**

On behalf of the KPC Finance Committee – including Maggie Grift, Mark Outerbridge, Ross McKenzie, David Clayton (Treasurer), and Andrew Isaak (Session rep)

## History

# KORTRIGHT ANNIVERSARY BANNER

There has been some interest recently in the banner which hangs in the KPC front entrance-way. It is the banner that was created especially for our 25th anniversary and I have been trying to track down its history. I finally managed to do that! I was surprised to learn that the "old rugged wooden cross" that stands in the sanctuary is all part of the banner, which was created especially for the banner to hang from!

This insert was in the bulletin for **KPC's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary service on September 18, 2005**. Recently, further information was received from Margaret Jones, who explained some more of the actual creation and how it came to be.



Sally Witty

**Kortright Church's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Banner**

A few short weeks ago, a group of Kortrighters came together to create a new banner to commemorate our Church's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. We prayed and sensed that this banner was to be an abstract, artistic piece that would allow for individual interpretation as the Spirit led.

Our theme was "Creation, Restoration, Re-creation, Transformation". We also felt two Scripture verses to be significant for the project: Isa.55:1, "Come, all you who are thirsty, come to the waters..." and John 15:5, "I am the Vine, you are the branches."

Our design includes a tree image, partly to remember two special trees that grow on the Scottsdale Property. These are an oak tree (planted in memory of Scott Nelles, who introduced the concept of Small Group Bible Studies to kpc) and a flowering crabapple tree (planted in memory of "Little Graham" Oughton, son of Graham & Sharon Oughton, who passed on just before his third birthday.)

Hidden in the banner design are several symbols...two very familiar ones, and one less familiar. See if you can find them! Here is the less familiar one for you to look for...it is the Hebrew letters for the word for "Jeshua" or Jesus:



Our thanks to the banner creation team (which included Judy Witty, Beth Morris, Sylvia Quinn, Andrea Moyer and Margaret Jones) to Judy Lynch, who interceded for the project, and to Phil English, our pastoral consultant.

Special thanks to Bob Acheson, who not only donated materials, but also built, an "old rugged cross" for us, to serve as a unique stand for the Anniversary banner.



Phil English [KPC's Worship Director at the time] asked me to put a team together to create the 25th Anniversary banner. I mostly facilitated the project and let the textile artists create!

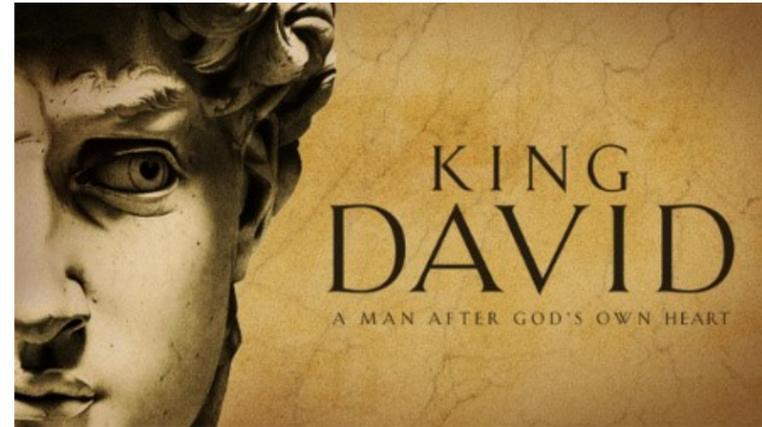
We met at Beth Morris's house, prayed about what design or theme to pursue, then set to work. Beth, Judy Witty, Sylvia Quinn and Andrea Moyer were the artisans. (Henny Huiskamp had volunteered but couldn't manage the steps at Beth's house on Rosewood so didn't continue).

There are Scriptures on the back that inspired us with the design. We felt the banner was to be draped on an old wooden cross, so I asked Bob Acheson (husband of Judy Acheson who attended KPC in the 80's and worked on Janet Wright-Smit's farm - now deceased) if he would make us a cross - and he gladly did so, out of posts from Janet's farm, and constructed it solidly on the bottom so it wouldn't fall over. He wasn't a church attender, but touchingly stated after it was done, "Jesus likes it!". I replied that without a doubt Jesus did like it.

We processed the banner in during the 25th anniversary service outdoors in the fall of /05 and hung it on the cross at the front. (Email from Margaret Jones June 19, 2017)

## Worship

# David: A Man After God's Own Heart



Sean O'Leary  
Worship Director

We have a lot to learn about worship and King David offers us a model of biblical worship. David was a humble shepherd boy, Israel's greatest king, and Scripture's most prolific worshipper. What was distinctive about how David worshipped?

*Davidic worship is zealous for God's glory.* Goliath's mocking of the Lord and His people filled David with righteous indignation: "You come to me with a sword, with a spear, and with a javelin. But I come to you in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied ... that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel." (1 Sam. 17:45-46).

*Davidic worship is liberated and uninhibited.* As the ark of the covenant was finally and properly returned to Jerusalem, "David danced before the LORD with all his might ... leaping and twirling before the LORD," despite Michal's despising. "I will play music before the LORD. And I will be even more undignified than this ..." (2 Sam. 6:14, 16, 21-22).

*Davidic worship flows from brokenness and contrition.* Guilty of covetousness, adultery and murder, David repented: "Have mercy on me, O God, according to your lovingkindness; according to the multitude of Your tender mercies, blot out my transgressions ... create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me ... The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit, a broken and a contrite heart - these, O God, You will not despise" (Ps. 51).

*Davidic worship drives away demonic forces.* His music caused the evil spirits tormenting Saul to depart, refreshing the king (1 Sam. 16:14-23). He wrote half of the Psalms, sung in myriad languages across millennia (Ps. 3-9, 11-41, 51-65, 68-70, 86, 101, 103, 108-110, 122, 124, 131, 133, 138-145).

Search us and know us, O God, and lead us in the way everlasting. Amen.

## Discipleship

# Community Bible Study - So Many Fish!



**Allison Pinches**  
Director of Discipleship

Our first night at Community Bible Study, we realized Jesus was speaking the language of the fishermen. Even though Simon, James and John happened to be at the shore while Jesus was speaking they were not really engaged till Jesus came over and got into their boat. Even then they seemed to be bystanders till Jesus spoke the language of the fishermen – fish. Fish. SO MANY FISH! Fish caught at a strange time, in a scary place – Fish. More fish than they had ever caught before; empty nets to bursting seams, nothing to sell to sinking boats – so many fish. Now he has their attention and they see something of who Jesus is. And then he says “from now on you will catch people.” He takes all of who they are and offers them a bigger vision for their life than they could have imagined and he does so in a way that has meaning for them.

Right after this we see the Leper falling face down in front of Jesus and saying “if you choose, you can make me clean.” Jesus offers him such dignity, such honour when he says back to him in exactly the way the Leper had asked “I do choose, be made clean.” Then he tells the leper to follow the purification rules (to speak the language of the culture) and be restored to the community.

Jesus is still doing this, he speaks to us today and speaks in our own language. I'd been talking and studying the Bible with a student for years, but it was one day while reading her physics textbook that she finally realized she believed in God. Just today, as I had this article half written, I was having a hard day and ended up having a couple significant conversations with very dear friends. I thought back on this half written article and realized that even today, Jesus has been speaking in my language, words of wisdom from friends in meaningful conversations.



As I have spoken with many of you at Kortright I have heard longings for a common vision and ways to be more united as an intergenerational congregation. I wonder if perhaps Jesus is speaking “our language” at KPC; speaking in our desire for unity and depth by offering us this incredible experience of being together in Scripture with people of all ages. With so many people studying Luke he is certainly getting our attention, as we pay attention and listen I wonder what more He will say...



## The Library

# CHILDREN'S BOOK REVIEW



**Bonnie Neil**  
Book Reviewer

### Brave Girls Bible Stories-Celebrating Great Women of the Bible

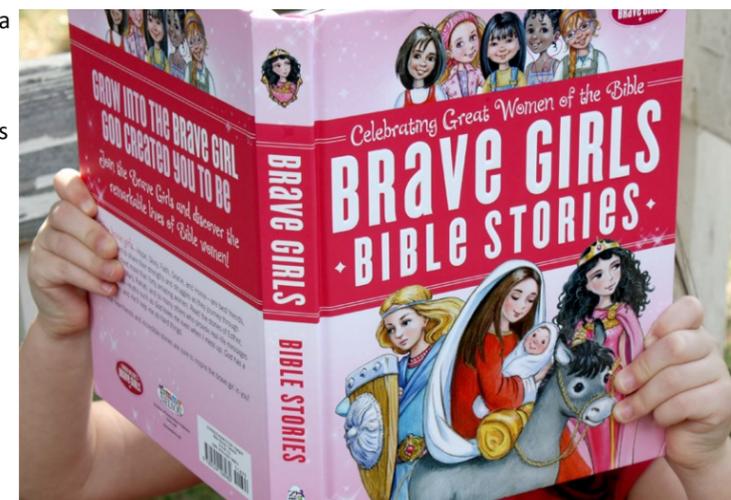
A wonderful Bible story book for girls to read themselves at age 10 or younger if Mom and Dad read it for them.

Join Hope, Honor, Glory, Faith and Gracie are just ordinary little girls that God used to do amazing things for his kingdom. They direct the stories in the book starting with the Old Testament and finishing in the New Testament.

A beautiful, colourful hard cover book full of wonderful pictures. Each chapter involves the reading of the Bible story followed with a thought on the passage. The back few pages have further questions to ask and Bible verses that can be memorized on bravery.

Our grand daughter, age 6, just loves this book and Mom and Dad read a chapter each night.

This book is one of 3 books available in this series. Brave Girls Devotionals (two in the series) and a Brave Girl Bible.



A wonderful book to check out for our young girls in the church.

## Library Introduction

KPC library has a new home and a new look. Some older under-used books have been weeded out and we are now vibrant and updated. We are located in the East Pod area and share space with one of the Sunday School rooms. We've gone back to the original “sign-in” / “sign-out” system and are hopeful that this honour system will serve us well. Please stop by and check out our new space and browse our selection of books and DVDs. And of course, READ A BOOK.

Meilanie Sharpe-Berges  
Betty Schuett  
Library Volunteers

## Community Outreach

# AT THE MANOR

Last Friday at noon I found myself sitting at the bar at The Manor sharing a Coke and conversation with D, a man who struggles with alcoholism. My friend Jen and I learned about his grandkids and a bit more about his life. Why did I go to the bar and sit and listen to him? Because I believe that if D invited Jesus to come and sit and visit with him over a Coke, Jesus would join him. Jesus would show interest in this man and would show him that he is worth someone's time, even as he struggles with alcoholism.

This is one of the people that I meet at the Manor.

Why do I go?

**If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person? Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.**

**1 John 3:17-18**

**What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save them? Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and well fed," but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it? In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.**

**1 James 2:14-17**

- I go because I believe that every person is a child of God and that everyone is loved by our Father, even before they know Him.
- I go to show love in a practical way to the people that live there.
- I go because the people that live there are people just like me...and I have become friends with them, despite the different places that we come from.
- I go to be reminded of how much God has blessed me in my life.
- I go to be reminded of Jesus' call to us to care for the hungry, the lonely, the imprisoned.

Sometimes I go to visit and spend a bit of time with them. Other times I bring food, knowing that they are hungry. At other times we do a grocery run together since vehicles are scarce. There are many lonely people who live at The Manor. I only do as much as I can which doesn't feel like much sometimes. We are always looking for a few good men to come alongside someone like D, to give them some time, some friendship... some of that *practical love* that the Bible talks about.



Kristen Rekker

## Discipleship

# What is the JOY Group?



Bonnie Neil

JOY Group Committee

"Welcome to JOY" is a common refrain heard by those who attend the JOY meeting once a month. The JOY group started in January 2010 with a planning committee of 5 couples. We have seen some changes since that time but the core planning committee is the same.

We love meeting together once a month over a hot pot luck lunch. Our numbers have grown from 30 to approximately 50 or more and Christmas we usually serve over 60 for our annual turkey dinner. We still manage to squeeze into the Community Room (formerly the library) each month with the tables set with white clothes and pretty table centers and sometimes a treat for each member.

We have various speakers each month on differing topics from the director of Prayer ministry on Parliament hill to self help topics on sight and sounds for seniors. All our meetings are planned with seniors in mind and any topics that might brighten their day or inform them of services and aids in the community to assist their daily living. The Kortright JOY group has a very active membership. Many of the members are involved not only in other ministries at Kortright but volunteering in the community and doing ministry outside the church walls.



Each month we have a devotional from one of our members and sometimes an interview of one of the attendees to help us get to know our members better. Singing the old hymns is always a highlight and the sound of the singing is something to behold as harmony is belted out and joy on the faces from the encouraging words of the written hymn.

It is indeed a pleasure to be apart of the group ranging in ages from 57 to early 90's. We wouldn't think of missing the opportunity to meet together and enjoy each other's company. Always sharing a prayer for the meal and prayer for members struggling with a challenge in their life is a common occurrence at our meetings. Jesus holds this group in his hand and it is so evident as the planning committee meets to plan each meeting.

It is not uncommon to hear in August from one of the group "I'm so looking forward to JOY beginning in September, it is a place for me to belong". A wonderful sentiment for sure and one we all can express.

## Junior and Senior Youth

# “Junior Pitch and Praise” Weekend



**Rowena Ridder**  
Director of Family  
(Children and Youth)  
Ministries

Stayner, ON Sept, 2017

It was that time of year again, time for Junior Pitch and Praise. This year we brought a smaller group, giving an opportunity for a few senior youth to attend as leaders. It was amazing how the Sr. youth took on their leadership, leading the Jr. youth in games and activities.

After losing a volleyball game, the youth did not become discouraged, but instead, teamed up and turned into an undefeated power house that not only took the volleyball championship but continued to be undefeated in the dodgeball championship as well. All the youth contributed in these games, from the youngest to the oldest, working together as a team.

The weekend teaching sessions challenged the youth to look at themselves and how they see the world around them. We had the Sr. youth lead the small groups after each session as they reflected on the talk and its relevance in their own lives. It was a privilege to watch the developing leadership skills of the Sr. youth in action as well as the growing faith of the Jr. youth.

All in all it was a weekend of team building, learning and fun.



Back (left to right): Yvonne, Katie, Jonathan, Abi, Kiera, Thea, Callum, Chelsea, Ben  
Middle: Viv, Viv's friend, Lilly  
Front: Alex, Jayden, James, Maddie (absent)

## Community Outreach

# AT THE LIFE CENTRE

God works in amazing ways. “Obvs” the kids would say. But do we expect him to show up at a construction site, before, during and after a project?

Our Setting: The Life Centre, downtown Guelph, century old gothic stone church with gothic old clay pipe plumbing, feeding 100+ people, 6 days a week, with washrooms that may be the only private pit stop the guests see that day. Dishes associated with cooking, serving and consuming a meal that need to be rinsed, washed and sanitized for the next meal.

Cue Drama: First monthly, then weekly, then daily, the main sewer line backs up. Can you smell it? Can you picture what it means to have everything water related come to a complete stop with 100+ people in the house?

Enter God's Provision: During the weeks of daily waste water challenges, our faithful volunteers would “snake the drain” which is literally what it sounds like. The fortitude and openness of spirit to be willing to get into the mess of dealing with kitchen and human waste just to keep things moving is a gift.

Next Provision: According to every contractor, repairs to the waste water line would involve significant demolition and rebuilding estimated at \$45,000-65,000 and 3-6 weeks minimum. God's provision was the contact name of a drainage specialist in Hamilton with the expertise to do the job in one week, on our tight schedule, for less than half the estimate.

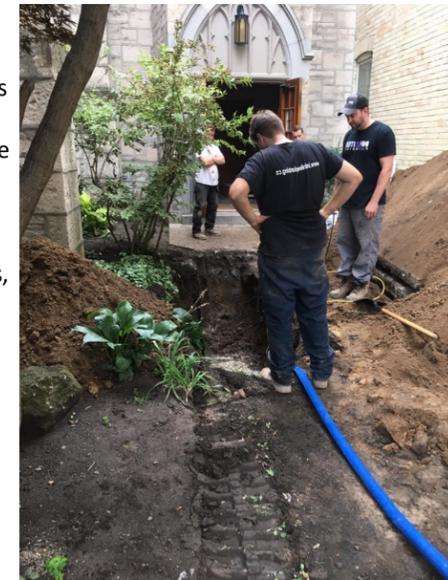
Next Provision: Some of the Life Centre's partner churches, (actively involved in the Saturday Night Supper program), provided emergency funds (Thank you KPC!). These contributions, along with some private donations, have covered 60% of the estimated costs. Those contributions mean the limited funds currently in reserve at the Centre can be used as intended – to provide the programs, at no cost, to the guests at the Centre.

God's Most Amazing Provision: God showed up on the job site and healed of one of the men. Seriously! Excavating concrete in a four foot high crawl space was physically taxing. One of the guys developed severe muscle cramps in his upper arm. First his right arm, which seemed to be manageable, and later his left. In a really simplified, pared down telling, after prayer for healing, for a release of the muscles and an end to the seizures, his left arm completely relaxed. Two days later, word came back that the healing held. And we know it was God's work and not simply time passing because his right arm continued to have severe muscle cramping for the entire night following construction. The left arm? Not a twitch.

God works through everything, even a plumbing problem. It seemed overwhelming. It had the potential for a “why us God?” pity party. But it had the effect community connection, financial provision, and of a man healed, purely by God, in a moment and environment no one would ever expect.



**Robyn Ferrier**



## International Outreach

# Missions: Kids Alive in Peru

Over the past few months, I've been reflecting on **Matthew 5-7** and the theme of hungering and thirsting for things to be as they ought to be, as God intended them to be. There is a lot of brokenness in our world and it's clear that so many things are not as God intended; however, there are also moments where that thirst has been satisfied as I've seen something and thought "This is how God intended for it to be!" During my week in Peru with **Hope Story (Kids Alive in Peru)**, I had several moments like this!

Our team worked on various construction and landscape projects in two centers of Kids Alive. One of the centers, Juniper Tree, is a home for children who have been removed from their homes by the Peruvian government as a result of abuse in the home or other circumstances which have made the situation unsafe for children to stay. Juniper Tree has five homes, each with either a house mom or house parents and around 8 children who function as a family. In one home, the boys introduced themselves, and following each introduction their home dad shared something that was unique and special about each boy. It was clear by what he said that he deeply cared for and treasured these boys. In this moment, my heart felt joy and I thought to myself "This is how God intended it to be!" These children, who have been through so much and some of whom came from places where they felt unloved, were being loved and cared for and were given hope of a bright future! God cares for the orphans and the widows and the vulnerable, and I got to see how He is doing that through the missionaries of Kids Alive in Peru.

**Victoria McQuay**



VICTORIA MCQUAY AND DUSTY WEBER LAYING BRICKS FOR A NEW ENTRANCE TO THE OASIS CENTRE IN MANCHAY, PERU.

## Community Outreach

# Hospice - Serving in the Community

**Joan Knox** is a Residential Support Volunteer, who has shared what life is like within Hospice. She was moved to write and share this experience that she had.

*A lady who is 91 had her oldest daughter in one of the rooms. I went down to introduce myself to her when I noticed how beautiful her nails looked. Although she is not able to speak she lifted her hands so I could see them more closely. I commented on the colour being similar to mine and she did her best to smile. There is nothing nicer for a woman than being able to have her nails done. Life while facing dying. As a volunteer for over two years, I didn't know we offered this service! Always learning!*



God's Love in Many Places  
Hospice - A Kortright Members Perspective—**Marlene Mortley**

*Hospice... my visits with a congregational member were my first connection with Hospice Wellington. The presence of several KPC folks who are very involved as volunteers is a testimony to God's grace and love and for this we are so thankful!*

*On August 12, 1994, I arrived in the UK to see my sister Sheila before she died of cancer at age 58. Previously she had worked as a nurse with cancer patients and was instrumental in establishing a hospice in Carlisle, (in the north of England), where she herself became a patient. This experience led me to volunteer at Hospice Wellington where I gladly serve each week in food preparation such as chicken lentil soup, ginger crinkles etc. I enjoy taking the Tea Trolley to each of the ten rooms at hospice, serving tea, juice, cookies, reaching out to residents and families. It is a privilege to be able to chat with them, bringing encouragement and often conveying to people that in this very building blessing and strength can flow to them just as it did recently, when KPC was located there. Every so often I produce a KPC hymn book with which to bless people through piano playing. A line from a good 'servant song' is:*

*If I can help somebody as I pass along, then my living shall not be in vain.*

**Doreen Bier, AKA 'Nana'**

