



# The St. John's Light

...let it shine!

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June 2026

## Bloom Where You Are Planted

Years ago, I was visiting a pastor friend who was encouraging me to go into the ministry. At the time I was thinking of attending a US seminary. He was not a fan. “Bloom where you are planted!” was what he kept saying.

We live in an increasingly mobile culture. Former Prime Minister Stephen Harper wrote about the growing number of Canadians who are “Anywheres”, who move around and can call any place “home”. In contrast are the “Somewheres”. Those are the folks for whom a sense of place – of country, of town or township – still matter to who they are.

Seminaries have long wanted pastors who can be “Anywheres”. Graduates’ families used to go to the placement service with a road atlas to look up where God was sending them. Many of these calls, however, don’t last long. Ministry is very hard, and for a Saskatchewan kid to minister in Mississauga is little different than being sent to a foreign mission field. It is much easier, it turns out, to bloom where we were first planted.

This is why we plant our children, from birth, in Christ Jesus. We tell them of the God who created the world in the beginning; who is distraught by our violence and immorality; who sought to heal us and restore us by becoming one of us; who now lives in us by his Spirit who causes his gifts

to grow in our hearts. We are God's garden, planted in the Word that gives life and purpose and hope in a dark world and in our dark lives.

God plants his Spirit in us that we might grow into the shape of Jesus. The Spirit of God causes us to grow in the kind of love that God showed us in Jesus: patient, humble, sympathetic and faithful (1 Corinthians 13:4-6, Galatians 5:22-23). Rooted in Christ who is the Word, the Spirit urges us, leads us, pulling and pushing us, to grow in love (Romans 8:14, Hebrews 12:6).

What does the love of Christ look like at St. John's, for us as a congregation? Work such as Grief Share, Vacation Bible School, and support of local organizations are part of that. We could form a Lutheran Early Response Team to help with disasters. We could partner more intentionally and long-term in mission work with a group like the Puerto Rico FORO or LAMP. Our Synod has a tool called CADDs that can help congregations like ours see where the Spirit is leading us and how He may want us to grow in love.

Let us continue to be rooted in Christ, that the Spirit of our Father may cause us to grow ever more in love.

*Charles McOnge*



Greetings Brothers and Sisters in Christ at St. John's Lutheran Church Pembroke!

As we move into spring we are reminded that it is a time for renewal and growth. That holds true as well when it comes to council positions at our church! This year there are 2 "Executive Positions" and 4 "Director Positions" that will be opening up for voting at our upcoming congregation meeting in June. The positions opening up for election are:

**EXECUTIVE POSITIONS** - Congregational member must be voted in for this specific position and can hold no other during their term.

Treasurer - This is a one-year commitment and is up for election each year. Ron Lean has mentioned he would allow his name to stand as the treasurer, but is also happy if someone else would like the position. He has also indicated he would assist/coach the new member as needed.

Vice-Chair - This is a two-year commitment. Karl Hammel is not eligible to continue on council this year as vice-chair as he would exceed the maximum number of consecutive years (six) any member is allowed to consecutively serve as a council member. St. John's thanks you for your years of service on council, and hopes you continue to find joy in serving God through the church in fulfilling other roles!

**DIRECTORS** - All director positions serve a two-year commitment. Congregational members are voted in as general directors, and then positions (committee representations) are assigned at the first council meeting in August/September. Directors act as a liaison between the committee they have been assigned to and church council, bringing regular reports to council from their committee, and acting on voting issues at the council level. While the following Director positions are chosen at the August/September meeting, the following committee directors are the ones that are 'up for' election this year:

Worship and Music - Director Pamela Furgoch-Payne is stepping down from council to help fulfill another role in the church.

Learning and Growth - Sarah Biggs is ineligible for re-election this year as she has reached the six consecutive year maximum for service on church council. St. John's thanks you for your years of service on council, and hopes you continue to find joy in serving God through the church in fulfilling other roles!

Fellowship and Hospitality - Lori Daoust is ineligible for re-election this year as she has reached the six consecutive year maximum for service on church council. St. John's thanks you for your years of service on council, and hopes you continue to find joy in serving God through the church in fulfilling other roles!

Stewardship and Finance - Marcel Daoust will allow his name to stand to continue as a director for this upcoming election.

If you want to put your name forward or nominate someone for the position of director please see the Chairman (Jon Hammel) or Vice-Chair (Karl Hammel) so we can submit your name on a ballot if a voting situation is required.

We encourage all of our congregants to take on an active role in some aspect of service in the church. Please consider joining a committee or speaking to members on a committee to see how you might be able to serve our Lord through the church. Thank you to all of our church members who have taken on the many responsibilities it requires to run a church of this size - without you we would not be able to function as effectively as we do now.

Thank you,

Chairman Jonathan Hammel

# SUNDAY SCHOOL

## Is Sunday School Important?

Those 45 minutes before church each Sunday teach lessons and offer guidance beyond our understanding. These lessons are not only applicable to young students but to adults too!

1. "Scripture guides wise decision-making and helps God's people stay strong and faithful when life is difficult." Life lessons and wisdom that you can always turn to.
2. It teaches students how to read and understand God's word, developing a more sound theology. Kids are less susceptible to the skewed beliefs of the world today.
3. Those who attend Sunday School are more likely to serve their community, which statistically leads to happier and healthier lives.
4. Provides meaningful connections and a place where young and old can feel heard.
5. Children who attend Sunday School are more likely to be attending church 5 years later.

**Is Sunday School worth it? YES!! Invest in your children.**

## Dates to Remember

June 1	Registration Opens for VBS
June 26-27	Youth Lock-In
June 28	VBS Meeting after church service
July 27-31	Tropical Trek VBS



## JUNE MEMORY VERSE

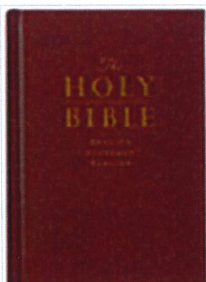
"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever." (*Hebrews 13:8*)



## June Baptismal Birthdays:



**Landon Hammel  
Avery Timm  
Dylin Raglin  
Esther Zadow  
Chloe Anderson**



This year the Sunday School supported **Canadian Bible Society** as their mission project. Together with monetary donations to our MISSION VORTEX as well as pop can tab contributions, the Sunday School raised ....

[www.biblesociety.ca](http://www.biblesociety.ca)

**\$221.70**

# In the know; VBS

## Tropical Trek 2026



### Donations

Over the years, the VBS budget has shrunk to under \$1,000. This year, we hope to welcome 60–70 children, bringing the estimated program cost to more than double our current budget. In past years, volunteers have generously helped cover expenses out of their own pockets to ensure the program's success. Monetary donations are greatly appreciated. The approximate cost to sponsor one child is \$30.

### Next meeting

Sunday June 28th after service

### Volunteers

We are seeking volunteers for VBS. Helpers are needed for everything! From supporting in groups to supplying snacks for the volunteers. See Dania Daoust if you're interested.

### VBS Fundraiser

Join us for a bake sale in the church basement on Father's Day. Buy your dad a treat and support a great cause!





**UPCOMING DATES:**

**June 26<sup>th</sup>** – Sleepover at the church!

**August 29<sup>th</sup>** – Splash Valley Waterpark!

*I will be sending out emails closer to the dates, with more information to follow*

A special thank you goes out to Ron & Linda Pedersen, and Jake & Debbie Bernard for signing up for our Spring Clean-Up!



# COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

Jesus is a friend who walks in when the world has walked out.

*"These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye shall have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation, but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world." (John 16:33)*

St. John's has a new church website, stjohns pembroke.org. A good website is an effective communications and outreach tool. The website was designed to improve it's functionality. Work is ongoing, but the site is flexible enough for the pastor and the office manager to manage updates. They hope to add a weekly podcast, regular announcements, a revamped YouTube channel, and improved social media connectivity over the coming months.

## VENISON STEW

1 1/2 lbs VENISON

5 POTATOES

2 CUPS DICED CARROTS

2 CUPS DICED CELERY

1 CUP CHOPPED ONION

1 28oz DICED SEASONED STEWED TOMATOES

1 PKG ONION SOUP MIX

1 CUP WATER

1/2 CUP MINUTE TAPIOCA

1 TSPN DASH ORIGINAL

COOK IN SLOW COOKER 6HR OR BAKE AT 250°F 5 TO 6HR

WHILE YOUR SWEET HEART IS DICING POTATOES

CARROTS, CELERY + ONIONS YOU CAN

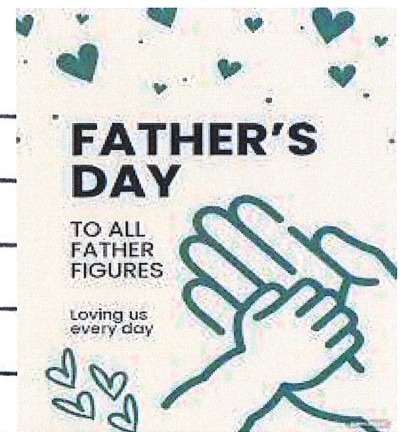
SEASON MEAT WITH BASIL + OREGANO + BROWN

ON A BED OF DICED ONIONS

CUT INTO BITE SIZE PIECES + PUT IN SLOW COOKER

STIR SEVERAL TIMES + CHECK LIQUID + ADD

WATER OR VEGETABLE JUICE IF NECESSARY



# HAPPY QUILTERS

## Interested in learning the Art of Quilting?

If quilting interests you, come out Wednesday mornings at 9:30am. All are welcome. Experience is not required. We will teach you. There is something for everyone to do.

You'll have a fun new hobby and make new friendships quilting together.

\* \* \* \* \*

Are you looking for a special gift? How about a hand-crafted quilt?

The Happy Quilters at St. John's have a large selection available.

If you are interested in a quilt, contact any of the following people:

Joyce Marcuccio (613)732-7440

Helen Kramer (613)687-2993

Paulette Behm (613)732-7394

*Note: Quilts are not sold at a fixed price for a profit. They are available by donation.*

~ **The Happy Quilters**





# St. John's Lutheran Seenagers Corner

*St. John's Seenagers . . . where we make new friends  
and get to know our old friends better  
All Seniors are welcome!*

## **NEXT SEENAGER MEETING**

THURSDAY, JUNE 11, 2026 – TIME: 2:00PM

## **SPECIAL MUSICAL/FUN ENTERTAINMENT BY THE INTERMITTENTS**

### **COLD FOOD POTLUCK SUPPER at 4:30PM**

Contact: Paulette Behm, President (613)732-7394

### Upcoming Events Hosted by the Seenagers

Contact: Debbie Bernard (613)-638-3722

1. Thursday, September 24-25, 2026 – "COME FROM AWAY" Gananoque & Kingston Senior's Trip – see this world-famous play "COME FROM AWAY" at the 1000 Island Playhouse, Gananoque. This is an overnight trip with exciting activities planned for you. Hosted by St. John's Seenagers with Ottawa Valley Tours. **NOTE:** You must register with Ottawa Valley Tours. SEE THE POSTER FOR DETAILS.
2. Thursday, October 22, 2026 – LEISA WAY'S "GET DOWN TONIGHT" – ULTIMATE 70's SOUNDTRACK Upper Canada Playhouse, Morrisburg – \$135 per person. Includes: coach transportation, lunch, and show ticket. See poster for details. Sign-up sheet located at back of Church. Payment is due by Sunday, September 13, 2026.
3. Thursday, December 10, 2026 – SEENAGER CHRISTMAS PARTY! All Seniors are welcome to attend. Details to be announced.

### Kingston & Gananoque - 2026

September 24-25

2 Days



#### Day 1: Kingston | Gananoque, ON

Today our journey brings us to the beautiful waterfront city of **Kingston**, proudly known as the Gateway to the 1000 Islands. Rich in history and charm, Kingston welcomes us with limestone architecture, scenic harbour views, and stories from Canada's early days. Upon arrival, enjoy a **one-hour guided city tour** led by a knowledgeable local guide who will bring the city's fascinating past and vibrant present to life. Following our tour, we check in at the welcoming **DoubleTree by Hilton Kingston**, where warm hospitality awaits. Take some time to relax before gathering with the group for an early dinner at the hotel. This evening, the excitement continues as we travel to the charming riverside town of **Gananoque**. Here, reserved seats await us at the renowned **Thousand Islands Playhouse – Springer Theatre** for the spectacular musical **"Come From Away."** This acclaimed production tells the remarkable true story of compassion, resilience, and the extraordinary kindness shown to thousands of stranded travellers in a small Newfoundland town. It promises to be a heartwarming and unforgettable evening of music, storytelling, and theatre. (D)

#### Day 2: Kingston, ON | Pembroke, ON

Begin the day with a delicious buffet breakfast at the hotel. Afterwards, enjoy some leisure time in downtown Kingston, where you may wish to stroll through the historic streets and explore the Kingston Public Market. Late morning, we make our way to the waterfront to board the

**Island Star for a delightful three-hour luncheon cruise** through the spectacular 1000 Islands. Relax and take in the breathtaking scenery as we glide past picturesque islands, historic cottages, and grand waterfront estates while enjoying lunch onboard. Later this afternoon, We begin our journey back to Pembroke after the cruise, while sharing many wonderful memories of your 1000 Islands Fall Getaway. (B, L)

#### Your Ultimate Holiday Experience Includes:

- Return Transportation from Pembroke by Deluxe Motorcoach
- 1 night accommodation – Doubletree by Hilton Kingston in Kingston
- 1 breakfast at the hotel
- Luncheon Cruise aboard the Island Star with entertainment
- 1 dinner at the hotel
- Reserved Orchestra Ticket for "Come from Away" at the Springer Theatre
- 1 hour Sightseeing Tour of Kingston
- Services of an Ottawa Valley Tours Director
- All Taxes



#### Cost Per Person:

Twin \$645 Triple \$615  
 Quad \$598 Single \$775



**For more information Contact  
 Debbie Bernard 613.602.7335**

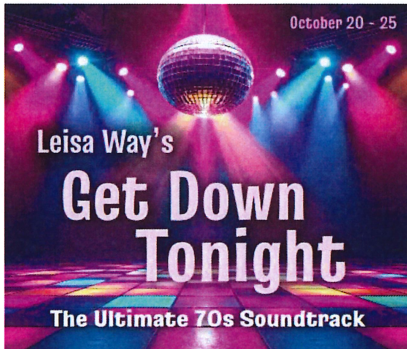
**For Reservations Contact  
 Ottawa Valley Tours  
 613.723.5701/1.800.267.5288**



## **SEENAGER EXCURSION**

Hosted by St. John's Lutheran Church Seenagers

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2026**



**2:00 PM Matinee Show**  
**Upper Canada**  
**Playhouse, Morrisburg**

# **GET DOWN TONIGHT**

## **with Leisa Way**

**(The Ultimate 70s Soundtrack )**

**It's a high energy concert of the greatest hits of the 70's! From DISCO to FOLK, to ROCK, this powerhouse concert features hits from The Eagles, Led Zeppelin, Fleetwood Mac, James Taylor, ABBA, Carole King, Elton John, The Bee Gees, The Rolling Stones, Stevie Wonder, Creedance Clearwater Revival, Joni Mitchell, and more.**

**Departure Time: 8:00 AM from St. John's Lutheran Church Parking Lot**

**Lunch: McIntosh Inn, Morrisburg (included)**

**Price: \$135 per person**

**Contact: Debbie Bernard 613-638-3722**

**Please sign up as soon as possible so that we know if the trip will be a "go".**

## Worship Assistants for June 2026

**Communion Set-Up:** Pam Furgoch-Payne

**Altar Guild:** Joyce Raglin, Shirley Mullen, Kellie Nephin

**Elevator Assistant:** Darrell Raglin

**TV Screens:** Linda Bramburger

**Live Stream Video:** Richard Kramer/Karen, Rachel & Ashlyn Craig

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### June 7<sup>th</sup>

**Elders:** June Carmody/Stephen Schroeder

**Sound System:** Brian Schroeder

**Psalm Cantor:** Grant Bickel

**Communion Assistants:** Marcel Daoust/Jon Hammel

**Hospitality:** Trautrim

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### June 14<sup>th</sup>

**Elders:** Dave Trautrim

**Sound System:** Brian Schroeder

**Psalm Cantor:** Heather Bickel

**Communion Assistants:** Carson Bramburger/Eric Zadow

**Hospitality:** Biggs/Zadow

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### June 21<sup>st</sup>

**Elders:** Jake Bernard/Carson Bramburger

**Sound System:** Richard Kramer

**Psalm Cantor:** Margaret Trautrim

**Communion Assistants:** Nathanael Alles/Dave Trautrim

**Hospitality:**

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### June 28<sup>th</sup>

**Elders:** Eric Zadow/Karl Hammel

**Sound System:** Richard Kramer

**Psalm Cantor:** Esther & Margaret Zadow

**Communion Assistants:** Jon Hammel/Matt Klein

**Hospitality:** Choir



# Church Family News



**CURRENT OFFERINGS** The amount we need each Sunday is \$5,675.00 to cover approved expenses.

April 26	\$3,495.25
April EMT	\$7,230.00
May 3	\$2,994.25
May 10	\$4,162.45
May 17	\$4,193.00



## FOUR SCORE OR MORE BIRTHDAYS

June 17	Jack Stresman (89)
June 21	Linda Pedersen (81)
June 22	Garry Scheer (80)
June 22	Michael Hodgins (83)
June 23	Flora Duchrow (82)

## NOTABLE ANNIVERSARIES

June 1	Heather & Andrew Hamilton (35)
June 8	Gerald & Jayne deRoy (30)
June 18	Barrie & Arlene Hartwick (60)

**60<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY** Everyone is invited to a light lunch and fellowship following the service on July 5<sup>TH</sup> to celebrate Richard & Helen Kramer's 60<sup>TH</sup> Wedding Anniversary.

## Birthdays of the Month

June 1	Yvon Villeneuve	
June 3	Poppy Loewen	
June 4	Julie Johnstone	
June 7	Stephen Alles	Ian Karau
	Helene Coburn	Jessie Kraft
June 8	Sheila Doering	
June 9	Georgia Tourangeau	
June 10	Colleen Ternapolski	
June 12	Aidan Young	
June 13	Eric Zadow	
June 15	Jonathan Mask	Ashlyn Craig
June 16	Marcel Daoust	
June 17	Katie Zadow	Idalee Shalla
	Jack Stresman	Mildred Thrun
	Mandy Paplinskie	
June 18	Ava Hampel	Ryan Rattenbury
	Kelly Lewis	
June 19	Frederich Zadow	Zachary Wilson
June 20	Caleb Hall	
June 21	Linda Pedersen	
June 22	Lauren Biggs	Nicole Priebe
	Michael Hodgins	Garry Scheer
June 23	Flora Duchrow	Lloyd Nieman
June 24	Nancy Cochrane	Rianna Clarke
June 25	Kathy Schroeder	April Priebe
June 26	Alex Biggs	Mark Limlaw
	Michael Witt	Jessica Lisk
June 29	Shelly Kutchaw	Brodie Schultz

Hope your special day  
has your heart smiling—  
feeling blessed to be a dad,  
feeling appreciated and loved,  
and being reminded that  
the things you do...  
the ways you invest...  
the love you show...  
make a world of difference.

Happy  
**FATHER'S**  
Day

**PLEASE NOTE** that submissions for the next Parish Paper will be for July **AND** August for our Summer addition. Please include any dates for all activities for both summer months. Thank you so much!



**DEADLINE!** Parish paper submissions **MUST** be in by the **20<sup>th</sup>** of each month. If they are not, they will not be included that month. Thank you! ☺ Please note that items submitted may be edited before printing.

# June 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	6:00 Embers  <b>VBS Registration Starts</b>	7:30 AA	9:30 Quilters 5:00 Worship Service 6:30 Bible Study			11:00 Jim Mau Committal
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
9:00 Bible Study 10:00 Divine Worship/Holy Communion 11:30 Fellowship/Tea & Coffee 11:30 Congregation Meeting	6:00 Embers	7:00 Choir 7:30 AA	9:30 Quilters 5:00 Worship Service 6:30 Bible Study	2:00 Seenagers		2:00 Private Event
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
9:00 Bible Study 10:00 Divine Worship/Holy Communion 11:30 Fellowship/Tea & Coffee 11:30 Worship & Music Meeting	6:00 Embers	7:00 Choir 7:30 AA	9:30 Quilters 5:00 Worship Service 6:30 Bible Study			9:00 Compassionate Care Seminar
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
9:00 Bible Study 10:00 Divine Worship/Holy Communion 11:30 Fellowship/Tea & Coffee	6:00 Embers	7:00 Choir 7:30 AA	9:30 Quilters 5:00 Worship Service 6:30 Bible Study	1:30 Miramichi Service	Youth Lock-in	Youth Lock-in
28	29	30	<b>NOTES:</b>			
9:00 Bible Study 10:00 Divine Worship/Holy Communion 11:30 Fellowship/Tea & Coffee 11:30 VBS Meeting	6:00 Embers	7:00 Choir 7:30 AA				