



The St. John's Light

...let it shine!

357 Miller Street, Pembroke, ON K8A 5Y8

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stjohnspembroke.org

(613)735-6332

May 2026

Rooted in the Truth... who is Christ

It's always good to have an "elevator speech" for your church. That's what you say when someone asks, "What's St. John's all about?" We have the beginning of a good answer in our vision statement, that St. John's is where we are "rooted in truth and growing in love." I am, however, proposing a small modification to this statement. Rather than saying "rooted in truth," I suggest we say "rooted in Christ." How come?

Jesus said he was "the way, the *truth*, and the life" (John 14:6). He told Pilate that "for this purpose I have come into the world – to bear witness to the truth" and that "everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice" (John 18:37). But we also know Pilate's response to that statement: "What is truth?"

Many folks in our town hear the word "truth" and think "Bible, judgment, and moralism." I haven't been here that long, but it's what I'm already hearing. People do not hear "truth" and think "salvation, healing, forgiveness, and life." They're very much like the Jews in Jesus time, who when they heard Jesus say "you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free," responded "we are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, 'You will become free'?" (John 8:33).

To be "rooted in Christ" means we build our foundation on the Gospel: that God, in Christ, through the cross, has made peace with sinners and is restoring our fallen world (Colossians 1:19-20, Mark 16:15). We feel the effects of sin in our lives, in our families, in our community and in our world. But we know that these effects are not eternal: those who build on Christ can withstand any storm and walk through any fire unscathed (Matthew 7:24-27, Isaiah 43:2).

How does the Spirit root us in Christ? In our worship services, where we hear and take comfort in the Good News and where Jesus feeds us; in our Bible studies and Sunday School classes, where we dive deeply into Christ's work in our lives; in a weekly email and podcast devotion coming this fall, and in many other ways old and new.

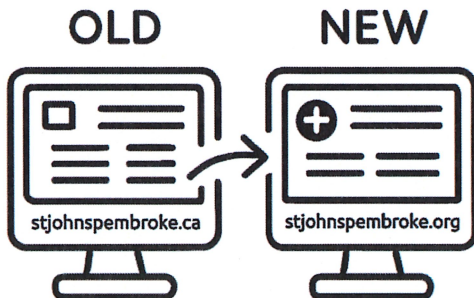
When our roots are sunk deep into Christ's promises, we grow up in hope rather than in fear and bitterness. That enables us to grow in love, which we'll talk about next month!

Old Roots, New Growth



You know when you go to the optometrist and they do your eye test? They put one lens in front of your eye, then another, and ask “better or worse”? This is like that. The comms committee is working with the pastor to simplify our logo. That will make it more useable on the website, social media, signs and elsewhere. To help us narrow down some options, do you prefer option 1 or option 2? Let Pastor, Barbara Dupuis, Doreen Phinney, Sherry Crone or Debbie Bernard know!

New Website



One of the first steps in improving communication amongst ourselves and to our community has been building a new website. We have not been able to contact the company that registers our old address, stjohnspembroke.ca. As a result, we have had to create a new address for the new site: stjohnspembroke.org. The church’s emails have not changed and you can access the new site from the old via a link. The new website includes podcasts of sermons, the church’s full calendar via Google, the ability to book a visit with the pastor, a link to donate to St. John’s, and much more: check it out! There will be new features added over the weeks and months ahead, including a weekly announcement post with links to our bulletin and full worship service, and a built-in player for our online worship services.

Charles McOuge

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



Volunteers Needed

VBS Registration Opens June 1st



VBS is an exciting way for children to learn about the goodness of God through stories, games, snacks, crafts, songs and Bible challenges.

When: July 27-31 from 8:30-12:00

Where: Right here at St. John's

Who: Children ages 3-12

Cost: FREE

How: Online registration is available through our church website:

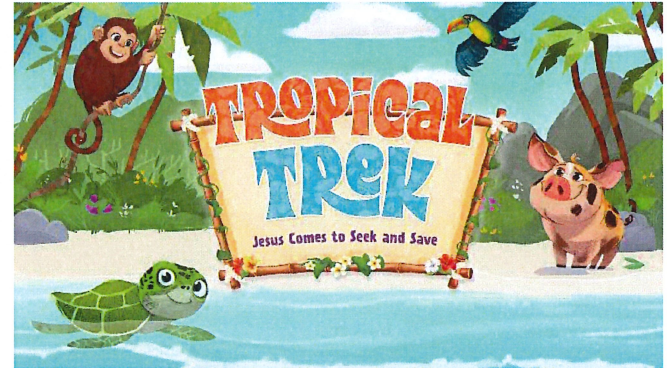
www.stjohnspembroke.org

Paper registration also available.

****Registration is limited to 60 children.**

WANT TO DONATE?

Sponsor a student for \$30. This will cover the cost of snacks, crafts and supplies for one student.



TROPICAL TREK

VBS 2026

We need volunteers to:

- Decorate
- Provide snack for volunteers.
- Lead children from station to station
- Donate food or craft items
- Work at or Lead a Station (games, snacks, Missions, music, Bible stories)
- Help with Registration
- Spread the good word about our VBS
- Pray for our Leaders and children

Contact Dania Daoust for more information.

Next VBS volunteer meeting:
May 17



This year our Mission Project is supporting the LCMS Mission to Puerto Rico with team lead Rev. James Neuendorf.

Our goal is to raise \$350.



SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School's
OUT
for summer
(Well, for part of it)

Final Month of Sunday School

As another year of Sunday School comes to a close, we wish to **THANK** all the teachers and helpers who taught over the past 9 months. Christian education is so important for our young members at St. John's and your commitment to our youth is essential for their spiritual growth. Thank you also for the support of parents and grandparents who help to nourish the faith of our kids. And **THANK YOU** to Pastor Charles for your guidance. **We look forward to seeing everyone at VBS!**

Dates to Remember

May 7	Learning & Growth Meeting (6:00pm)
May 17	VBS Meeting (after church)
May 31	Baptismal Birthdays & Last Day of Class
May 31	Church Picnic at Alice & Fraser Rec Centre
June 1	Registration Opens for VBS
July 27-31	Tropical Trek VBS



MAY MEMORY VERSE

Blessed are those who have not
seen and yet have believed.
John 20:29



May Baptismal Birthdays:

Nicholas Daoust
Charlotte Zadow

CHURCH PICNIC 2026!

May 31st at Alice & Fraser Rec Centre

Don't miss out on St. John's Church Picnic. We'll have lots to eat and drink with games for the children afterwards. **Win tokens to purchase items at the prize table!** The Centre has baseball diamond, pickle ball courts, a large play apparatus and more!



Bring comfortable and weather-appropriate clothing, running shoes, water bottle, hat and sunscreen. In case of rain, games will be held indoors.





May 17th – It's time for a Spring Clean Up!
The Youth Group is wanting to get their hands dirty!!
(If this date gets rained out, our back-up date will be on May 24th)



Do you live in town and go to our church?
Do you need a little extra help with your yard work?
There will be a sign-up sheet located at the back of our sanctuary as well as downstairs on the bulletin board.

A special thank you goes out to Pastor St-Onge for hosting our Youth Pizza Party!





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, May 14, 2026 at 2:00PM

SPECIAL ENTERTAINMENT BY

GILLAN RUTZ

Ottawa Valley Singer and Story-Teller

POTLUCK DINNER at 4:30PM

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

Upcoming Events Hosted by the Seenagers

1. Thursday, June 11, 2026 – SEENAGER MEETING at 2:00 PM – SPECIAL ENTERTAINMENT BY “THE INTERMITTENTS” “Cold Food” Potluck Supper. All Seniors are welcome.
2. Thursday, September 24-25, 2026 – “COME FROM AWAY” Gananoque & Kingston – 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. SEE THE POSTER FOR DETAILS.
3. 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. Contact: Debbie Bernard (613)638-3722
1. Thursday, December 10, 2026 – SEENAGER CHRISTMAS PARTY! All Seniors are welcome to attend.

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**

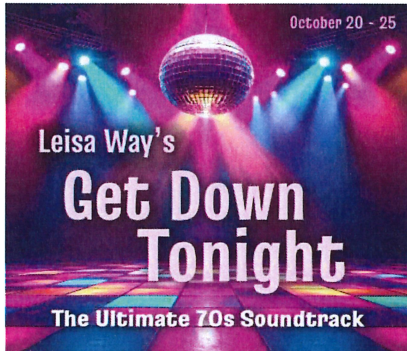
**For Reservations Contact
 Ottawa Valley Tours
 613.723.5701/1.800.267.5288**



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".

HAPPY QUILTERS

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.

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.

~ ***The Happy Quilters***



Communications & Public Relations

“A day hemmed in prayer is less likely to unravel”

Pray about everything, tell God your needs and don't forget to thank him for his answers. If you do this, you will experience God's peace...His peace will keep your thoughts and your hearts quiet and at rest. (Philippians 4:6-7)

The origins of Mother's Day celebration

The modern holiday was first celebrated in 1907, when Anna Jarvis held the first Mother's Day service of worship at Andrews Methodist Episcopal Church in Grafton, West Virginia. Andrew's Methodist Church now holds the International Mother's Day Shrine. Her campaign to make Mother's Day a recognized holiday in the United States began in 1905, the year her mother, Ann Reeves Jarvis, died. Ann Jarvis had been a peace activist who cared for wounded soldiers on both sides of the American Civil War, and created Mother's Day Work Clubs to address public health issues. She and another peace activist and suffragette Julia Ward Howe had been urging for the creation of a "Mother's Day For Peace" where mothers would ask that their husbands and sons were no longer killed in wars. 40 years before it became an official holiday, Ward Howe had made her Mother's Day Proclamation in 1870, which called upon mothers of all nationalities to band together to promote the "amicable settlement of international questions, the great and general interests of peace."

~Wikipedia

MATTEO PANCAKES (GF)

Matteo Providenti

2 Eggs

1 Banana, mashed

1/2 c. Oats (GF)

1/4 c. Applesauce

1 tsp. Vanilla

1/2 tsp. Cinnamon

Blend oats until flour like. We use our Magic Bullet. Add in other ingredients and stir together. Cook on buttered frying pan on medium/low.

We usually double the recipe.

GF = gluten free



Worship Assistants for May 2026

Communion Set-Up: Angela Anderson

Altar Guild: Linda Bramburger, Darlene Couette, Marilyn Hampel

Elevator Assistant: Idalee Shalla

TV Screens: Lauren Biggs

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

May 3rd

Elders: Eric Zadow/Karl Hammel

Acolyte: Nicholas Daoust

Sound System: Richard Kramer

Psalm Cantor: Margaret Trautrim

Communion Assistants: Eric Zadow/Nathanael

Hospitality: Provost/Schalo/Guest

May 10th

Elders: June Carmody/Stephen Schroeder

Acolyte: Landon Hammel

Sound System: Brian Schroeder

Psalm Cantor: Margaret Trautrim

Communion Assistants: Matt Klein/Carson Bramburger

Hospitality: Daoust

May 17th

Elders: Dave Trautrim

Acolyte: Cole Phinney

Sound System: Brian Schroeder

Psalm Cantor: Heather Bickel

Communion Assistants: Marcel Daoust/Dave Trautrim

Hospitality: Anderson/Hammel

May 24th

Elders: Jake Bernard/Carson Bramburger

Acolyte: Dylin Raglin

Sound System: Richard Kramer

Psalm Cantor: Esther & Margaret Zadow

Communion Assistants: Jon Hammel/Eric Zadow

Hospitality:

May 31st

Elders: Eric Zadow/Karl Hammel

Acolyte: Avery Timm

Sound System: Richard Kramer

Psalm Cantor: Esther & Margaret Zadow

Communion Assistants: Nathanael Alles/Matt Klein

Hospitality: Covell/Shalla



Church Family News



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

March 29	\$3,260.25
March EMT	\$6,830.00
April 5	\$8,045.50
April 12	\$3,787.00
April 19	\$2,250.00



FOUR SCORE OR MORE BIRTHDAYS

May 3	Murray Yuill (83)
May 5	Viona Fischer (94)
May 10	Frank Witt (84)
May 11	Arden Pearson (88)
May 19	Berniece Williams (82)
May 30	Helen McGuire (87)

NOTABLE ANNIVERSARIES

May 31	Jeris & Dean Johnston (35)
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Birthdays of the Month

May 2	Angela Clouthier	Stephen Schroeder
May 3	Abrielle Hilts Taylor Schultz	Murray Yuill
May 4	Paulette Behm	Amelia Lemieux
May 5	Viona Fischer	Curtis Phinney
May 6	Sonya Savard	Carl Zieroth
May 7	Chloe Anderson Zoe Johnston	Grace Bingley
May 9	Nathanael Alles	
May 10	Frank Witt	
May 11	Arden Pearson	
May 13	Jaelyn Needham	
May 14	Zoe Daoust	Matt Klein
May 16	Jenna Needham	
May 17	Audrey Hammel	Tim Scheer
May 19	Sandra Huff Berniece Williams	Susan Linton
May 20	Jessie Leavitt	Derek Rabishaw
May 21	Avery Timm	Brittany Priebe
May 22	Charlotte Zadow Jack Leavitt	William Turcotte Greg Zyla
May 24	Esther Zadow	Brea Clarke
May 25	Wendy Biesenthal	
May 27	Mary Ellen Schroeder	
May 29	Darlene Scheuneman	Bonnie Brodofske
May 30	Helen McGuire	Joshua Linton
May 31	Karl Hammel Joanne Instance	Jack Tourangeau

HAPPY

MOTHER'S DAY

I Said a Mother's Prayer for
You By Anonymous

I said a Mother's Day prayer
for you
to thank the Lord above
for blessing me with a
lifetime

of your tenderhearted love.

I thanked God for the caring
you've shown me through the
years,

for the closeness we've
enjoyed
in time of laughter and of
tears.

And so, I thank you from the
heart

for all you've done for me
and I bless the Lord for
giving me
the best mother there could
be!

www.feliciagraves.com



DEADLINE! Parish paper submissions **MUST** be in by the **20th** 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.

May 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
NOTES:					1	2
					Pastor Charles Moving	Pastor Charles Moving
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Pastor Charles Moving 9:00 Sunday School 9:00 Bible Study 10:00 Divine Worship/Holy Communion 11:30 Fellowship/Tea & Coffee	Pastor Charles Moving 1:30 Grief Share 6:00 Embers	6:00 Confirmation 7:00 Choir 7:30 AA	9:30 Quilters 5:00 Worship Service 6:30 Bible Study			10:00 Ruth Zadow Funeral
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
9:00 Sunday School 9:00 Bible Study 10:00 Divine Worship/Holy Communion 11:30 Fellowship/Tea & Coffee	12:00 Grief Share 6:00 Embers	6:00 Confirmation 7:00 Choir 7:30 AA	9:30 Quilters 5:00 Worship Service 6:30 Bible Study	2:00 Seenagers		3:00 Betty Elchuk Committal
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
9:00 Sunday School 9:00 Bible Study 10:00 Divine Worship/Holy Communion 11:30 Fellowship/Tea & Coffee	Pastor Away 6:00 Embers	Pastor Away 7:00 Choir 7:30 AA	Pastor Away 9:30 Quilters 4:00 Deadline for Parish Paper submissions 6:30 Bible Study	Pastor Away	Pastor Away	Pastor Away
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
9:00 Sunday School 9:00 Bible Study 10:00 Divine Worship/Holy Communion 11:30 Fellowship/Tea & Coffee 11:30 Witness & Outreach Meeting 1:00 Music Recital *Debbie Away (Fred Zadow)	6:00 Embers	7:30 AA	9:30 Quilters 10:00 Pastoral Care 5:00 Worship Service 6:30 Bible Study	1:30 Miramichi Service 6:30 Church Council		
31	NOTES:					
9:00 Sunday School 9:00 Bible Study 10:00 Divine Worship/Holy Communion 11:30 Church Picnic *Debbie Away (Fred Zadow)						