



The St. John's Light

...let it shine!

357 Miller Street, Pembroke, ON K8A 5Y8 office@stjohnspembroke.ca stjohnspembroke.org (613)735-6332

July/August 2026

It's finally summer! Warm days, time at the lake, family gatherings around the campfire, trips to see friends in distant places. Shorts, t-shirts, cool drinks and BBQ. It's the season that gets many of us through the long stretch from November to May.

Many of our most beloved hymns are about finding God in creation's splendour. "When through the woods and forest glades I wander, and hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees, then sings my soul..." "Fair is the sunshine; fair are the woodlands, robed in flowers of blooming spring..." "You, Lord, have come down to the lakeshore..." When the skies are sunny or the moon shines bright, it's easy to say "How great thou art!"

But then the tick bite brings Lyme's disease. The mosquitoes start their buzzing. The tornado comes and brings a tree crashing down on your car, or your beloved cottage. I remember getting hives from parasites after spending too much time in Round Lake one summer. The world is beautiful, but it is also fallen. We can see the Lord of creation in His created world, but sometimes only through a mirror, dimly.

Christians know that the Lord of creation is good, mosquitoes, parasites and all, because of Jesus. The Son of God has taken up a place in creation by becoming a human being. He saw both the beauty and the fallenness of the world. He felt the joy of life, and tasted the sting of death. In his resurrection we have the promise that the brokenness of the world will be healed forever on the great Last Day.

The apostle Paul wrote that "against its will, all creation was subjected to God's curse. But with eager hope, the creation looks forward to the day when it will join God's children in glorious freedom from death and decay." (Romans 8:20-21, New Living Translation).

Enjoy the summer and time in the great outdoors. Whisper to the trees and birds, "your time is coming – your Saviour has not forgotten you." Enjoy the good of creation and, when the bad comes, remember the Good News. Jesus has saved us sinful people. And not only us - he also came to redeem and heal the fallen creation as well (Mark 16:15).

Charles McOngle





**OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
AND BISHOP**

June 2, 2026

Dear brother pastors of our Canadian Circuits,

With a heavy heart I am forwarding you a letter that I wrote to St. John's Germanicus in Golden Lake, Ontario earlier this week. In summary, they have twice voted overwhelmingly to leave our Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod and therefore the English District. In response to their request, I have removed them from our roster, and they are no longer in altar/pulpit fellowship with us.

Their former pastor, Rev. Paul Douglas will be applying for candidate status and is available for a call in the LCMS. Please keep him and his family in prayer as they have been through a difficult trial concerning the decisions of St. John's.

The congregation has not told us if/where they intend to go and have declined the offer of reconciliation with Rev. Douglas (he was willing), preferring to 'go their own way'.

Please pray for the members of St. John's, some of whom have left and gone to neighboring congregations.

There are few congregations in our district that have received as much care and attention as St. John's Germanicus over the past 10 years. While I was a Vice President, and as Bishop, I visited them numerous times for both joyful and difficult occasions. The same can be said of our faithful Circuit Visitors.

The official news posting will be included in The Reporter in the July issue; however, I wanted you to know right away as this might directly impact your congregation, members, and their families.

We pray God's Holy Spirit would draw St. John's back into our fellowship and that they would one day see the error of their decision to leave the faithful oversight of the Missouri Synod.

Your servant in Christ,
Rev. Jeffrey Miskus
Bishop/President LCMS English District



We are always looking for part-time teachers and helpers to join our Sunday School team.

Join us August 16 to learn more!

Sunday School 2026-2027 Year

- | | |
|--------------|--|
| August 16 | Teacher's Meeting (in basement following the church service) |
| September 13 | Homecoming Sunday
First Day of Sunday School (9:00 – 9:50 a.m.) |
| September 13 | Bible Presentation to Grade 3 students during church service. |

We look forward to seeing everyone back in September!

A Summer Blessing

May you walk with God this summer in whatever you do and wherever you go. May you talk to God this summer and every day and in every situation. May you talk with God every day.



On the last Sunday of each month we celebrate the baptismal birthdays of our Sunday School children.

Ensure we have your child's baptismal date so they don't get missed!

Celebrating in July:

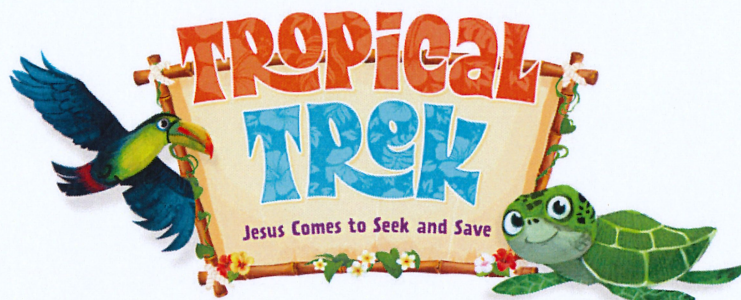
Paige Hampel
Dorothea Zadow
Ava Hampel
Owen Turcotte
Isabelle Majaralie

Celebrating in August:

Jonathan Mask
Georgia Tourangeau
Audrey Hammel



If you have any questions about Sunday School or wish to register your child, please contact Sarah at 613-639-1382 or call the church office at 613-735-6332.



UBS is this month!

Sign up today!!

Throughout this program, we will go on a Tropical Trek and along the way be guided by our saviour, Jesus who is the way, the truth, and the life! Let's go on an unforgettable journey!

Date? Monday July 27th-Friday July 31st

Time? 8:30am-12pm

Location? 357 Miller St.

Cost? FREE

Invite your friends!!



Have you completed your vulnerable sector check yet?

It is an essential part of the volunteer process. Please abide and get it done! See the church office for the required letter.



Please bring your school's page for volunteer hours. We will sign off for your help at the end of the week.



Thank you!

The bake sale was a huge success!

We raised \$370.35 for VBS! Thank you to everyone who baked and purchased goodies.

Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labour is not in vain.

1 Corinthians 15:58

Learn about our UBS mission project

Goal!
Let's raise \$350!

<https://www.lcms.org/neuendorf>



Rev. James and Deaconess Christel Neuendorf **Serving the Lord in Puerto Rico - Bio**

The Rev. James and Deaconess Christel Neuendorf serve the Lord through The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) in Puerto Rico. Both have served as missionaries in this region since 2008, in Panama and the Dominican Republic.

James is a missionary pastor in the city of Ponce, Puerto Rico. His focus is on establishing a strong Lutheran presence in this city that will boldly proclaim the Gospel and meet the physical and spiritual needs of a community that is hungry for the Gospel and for hope.

As a deaconess, Christel works to establish a presence of Christ's mercy through the Casa de Amparo y Respuesta al Desastre (House of Refuge and Disaster Response) mercy houses and through congregational activities. She is also engaged in assessing needs in the community and coordinating efforts to meet those needs as a congregation and mission.

James and Christel both grew up in Michigan and finished their studies at Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Ind.

Choir Notes

Here we are ... at the end of another choir season!
I'm always sad to see the end of our choir practices.
But, summer is a good time for me to polish up our choir music for the fall
and for our Choir's Christmas Concert. That part is always exciting!

I'd like to thank each of our Choir members for their ongoing dedication and
commitment to our Music Ministry here at St. John's.

Coming out to practice every Tuesday evening in sunshine, rain, or snow.
When the weather is scorching hot or when it is freezing cold. Singing most
Sundays, at special services when called upon, as well as practicing extra to
do our annual Christmas Concert, shows how much you love to sing and
give glory to our Lord, serving Him with your music.

To quote Martin Luther, *"Next to the Word of God, music deserves the
highest praise."* This quote highlights Luther's belief in the profound
significance of music, placing it just after scripture in terms of importance.

On behalf of the Choir, I'd like to thank the many others who so generously
give their time to participate in our Music Ministry. Carson Bramburger,
Mikaela & Logan Roach, our weekly Psalm Cantors, Fred Zadow (substitute
organist), our sound technicians Richard Kramer & Brian Schroeder, Susan
Schalo for her assistance with a variety of choir items, and Pastor Charles,
whom we greatly appreciate, and whose support, knowledge and interest
are an invaluable gift to us.

I'd like to close with the final verse of the Choir's most favorite anthem,
"I Will Serve the Lord All My Days" ...

*"Each day I live, I will sing to the Lord!
I will lift my voice to glorify His name.
Singing clear and strong, I will raise my song.
His wondrous love, I'll proclaim!
Alleluia! Alleluia!
My heart sings with glory and with praise!
Alleluia! Alleluia!
I will serve the Lord, all my days!"*

Debbie Bernard
Choir Director/Organist



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, September 10, 2026 – Time: 2:00PM

ENTERTAINMENT

A Game afternoon of cards, Crokinole, Dominoes, dice etc . . .

POTLUCK SUPPER at 4:30PM

Information or Questions? Contact Paulette Behm, President (613)732-7394

Upcoming Events Hosted by the Seenagers

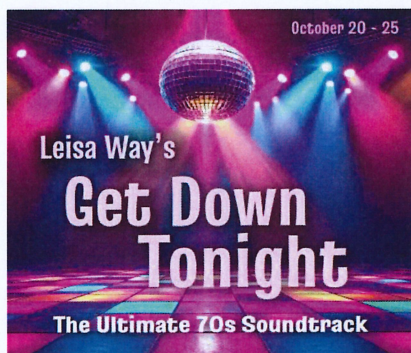
Contact: Debbie Bernard (613)-638-3722

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! Christmas Dinner will be catered by Schmidt's Catering. More details to follow.

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

Interested in learning the Art of Quilting?

There is no better time to learn the special art of quilting than this summer!

The Happy Quilters continue quilting every Wednesday at 9:30am throughout July and August with two exceptions, July 1st and July 29th.

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.

* * * * *

Looking for a special gift? How about a hand-crafted quilt?

The Happy Quilters 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**



COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

Included in the newsletter is an email that we received from Bishop Miskus regarding St. John's Lutheran Church, Germanicus. Please include in your prayers comfort for the church and guidance with future decisions.

SUMMER THOUGHT!

"Do not forsake wisdom, and she will protect you. When you walk your steps will not be hampered. When you run you will not stumble." (*Proverbs 4:6-7*)

"A mother walked into the living room to see her six children huddled in a circle. In the middle of the circle were a number of baby skunks. The mother yelled "Run, run! Out, out, out!" Each child grabbed a skunk and ran out. The screaming and movement caused the skunks to use their special defense weapon. The resulting skunk aroma stayed in the house for a long time."



Take time to think about a response to a negative situation. An inappropriate action or response could make the situation worse.

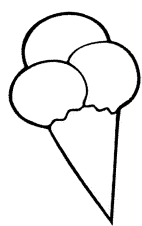
SAVE THE DATE

Homecoming Sunday (formerly Rally Sunday)
Sunday, September 13, 2026

Enjoy a potluck luncheon following the service with the introduction of fall programs, Council members and more!

Church donations by e-transfer can be allocated to current, missions etc by indicating the desired location for the funds in the comments section of the e-transfer

The decision to sell or retain the Murray Street house is being given serious consideration. There are a number of future events which may be beneficial if the house is available. More information will be available at a later date.



SUMMER WORDSEARCH



T B W A R M S T E N N I S R W
W S U M M E R J C O O K O U T
H T H U B A E K W D O A N F Y
S G E M A T I I W Z S S Y M B
A Y A R R P L T G I U D J Z P
I M T T B Y M E N P X C B L I
L M W F E T M A I N J O Y E C
I Q A M C T W D K T R K D V N
N Y V E U I M T I J D X C A I
G P E B E Z W Y H F T V B R C
C O B C U L L A B E S A B T L
W O Z A H O T F I K H C A E B
Z L E M O N A D E D I M U H Z
H N K P N O C S A N D H Q W D
O C E A N F D J R G A H A U K

WORD LIST

BARBECUE
BASEBALL
BEACH
CAMP
COOKOUT

HEATWAVE
HIKING
HOT
HUMID
KITE

LEMONADE
OCEAN
PICNIC
POOL
SAILING

SAND
SUMMER
TENNIS
TRAVEL
WARM

Church Family News



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

May 24	\$3,885.00
May 31	\$3,561.50
May EMT	\$9,405.00
June 7	\$3,886.80
June 14	\$3,715.55
June 21	\$2,861.50



FOUR SCORE OR MORE BIRTHDAYS

July 17	Merideth Spurr (82)
July 23	Rose Makinen (81)
July 24	Clarence Romhild (83)
August 10	Dick Provost (87)
August 14	Robert Edwards (80)
August 15	Bev Stresman (85)
August 26	Bev Smith (89)
August 26	Don Stresman (93)
August 31	Karl Ziebell (82)

NOTABLE ANNIVERSARIES

July 16	Shane & Amanda Heieck (15)
July 17	Jim & Ruth Karau (50)
July 23	Richard & Helen Kramer (60)
July 25	Brian & Beverly Veaudry (45)
July 30	Andrew & Ashley Providenti (10)
Aug 11	Joanne & Michael Instance (25)

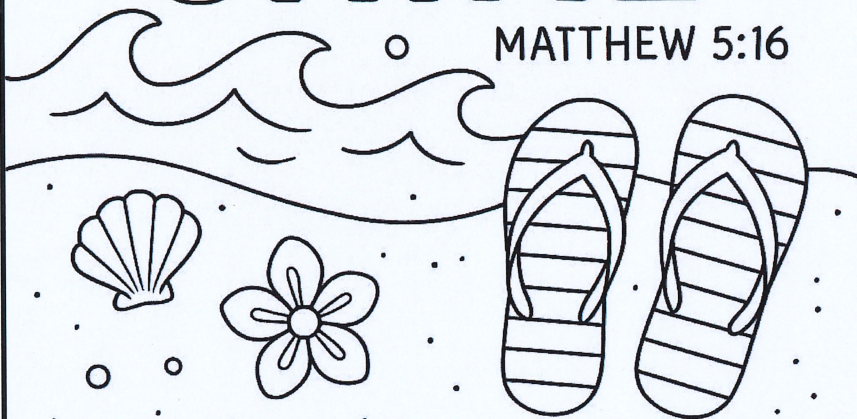
LIGHT LUNCH Please join Richard & Helen Kramer in celebrating their 60th Anniversary, and attending a light lunch after the service on July 5th.

PLEASE LET US KNOW

- ✦ If anyone is sick or in hospital, so Pastor can visit them
- ✦ If anyone is in need of prayer for ANY reason. Every reason is important!
- ✦ If anyone would like a visit from Pastor
- ✦ If you are homebound and would like communion at your home
- ✦ If you get a new phone number
- ✦ If you move and have a new address
- ✦ If you are on one of the positions to serve on Sunday and switch dates



MATTHEW 5:16



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.

Worship Assistants for July 2026

Communion Set-Up: Darlene Couette

Altar Guild: Sherry Heubner, Gail Romhild

Elevator Assistant: Fred Zadow

TV Screens: Shallas

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

July 5th

Elders: June Carmody/Stephen Schroeder

Sound System: Brian Schroeder

Psalm Cantor: Sherry Heubner

Communion Assistants: Marcel Daoust/Dave Trautrim

Hospitality: Daoust

July 12th

Elders: Dave Trautrim

Sound System: Brian Schroeder

Psalm Cantor: Heather Bickel

Communion Assistants: Carson Bramburger/Eric Zadow

Hospitality: Anderson/Hammel

July 19th

Elders: Jake Bernard/Carson Bramburger

Sound System: Richard Kramer

Psalm Cantor: Grant Bickel

Communion Assistants: Nathanael Alles/Matt Klein

Hospitality:

July 26th

Elders: Eric Zadow/Karl Hammel

Sound System: Richard Kramer

Psalm Cantor: Margaret Trautrim

Communion Assistants: Dave Trautrim/Marcel Daoust

Hospitality: Covell/Shalla



Worship Assistants for August 2026

Communion Set-Up: Linda Bramburger

Altar Guild: Linda Bramburger, Debbie Lance

Elevator Assistant: Andrew Anderson

TV Screens: Grant & Heather Bickel

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

August 2nd

Elders: June Carmody/Stephen Schroeder

Sound System: Brian Schroeder

Psalm Cantor: Esther & Margaret Zadow

Communion Assistants: Jon Hammel/Eric Zadow

Hospitality: Trautrim

August 9th

Elders: Dave Trautrim

Sound System: Brian Schroeder

Psalm Cantor: Sherry Heubner

Communion Assistants: Nathanael Alles/Carson Bramburger

Hospitality: Biggs/Zadow

August 16th

Elders: Jake Bernard/Carson Bramburger

Sound System: Richard Kramer

Psalm Cantor: Grant Bickel

Communion Assistants: Marcel Daoust/Jon Hammel

Hospitality: Provost/Schalo/Guest

August 23rd

Elders: Eric Zadow/Karl Hammel

Sound System: Richard Kramer

Psalm Cantor: Heather Bickel

Communion Assistants: Carson Bramburger/Dave Trautrim

Hospitality:

August 30th

Elders: June Carmody/Stephen Schroeder

Sound System: Brian Schroeder

Psalm Cantor: Margaret Trautrim

Communion Assistants: Nathanael Alles/Eric Zadow

Hospitality: Daoust



JULY BIRTHDAYS

July 1	Katherine Hoffman	Deborah Lance	Logan Roach
July 2	Brielle Daoust	Dorothea Zadow	
July 6	Jenna Kraft		
July 8	Tracy Behm	Mary Ramsay	Kristy Phinney
	Debbie Zyla		
July 9	Lori Duchrow	Steven Wilson	
July 10	Brian Chippure		
July 11	Diane Dament	Kristin Behm	
July 12	Louis Loewen		
July 13	Sherry Heubner	Benjamin Raglin	Liam Young
July 14	Linda Bramburger		
July 15	June Carmody	Jessica Yemen	Brian Veaudry
July 16	Nancy Priebe		
July 17	Carolyn Nagle	Meredith Spurr	
July 18	Adilyn Schalo	Darrell Raglin	
July 20	Lori Daoust		
July 21	Marion O'Brien		
July 23	Philip Krueger	Rose Makinen	
July 24	Clarence Romhild	Cindy Yemen	
July 25	Darrell Stuber		
July 26	Greg Hoffman	Rebecca Chippure	Krista Wells
July 27	Derek Schroeder	Judith Rabishaw	
July 28	Emma Young		
July 30	Mason Behm	Patsy Lafontaine	



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

August 1	Nicole Hammel	Andrew Buske	
August 2	Henry Townshend		
August 6	Hank Vaillancourt		
August 8	Shane Heieck		
August 9	Gillian Craig	Olivia St-Onge	
August 10	Dick Provost	Susanne Hammel	
August 11	Jason Mau		
August 12	Ruth Karau	Katelyn Rideout	Briannah Keddy
August 13	Liam Turcotte		
August 14	Robert Edwards	Denise Wolfgram	Caleb Young
August 15	Beverly Stresman	Diana Lemieux	Heidi Duchrow
	Joe Hall		
August 17	Norah Hammel	Kaleb Keddy	
August 20	Chris Bramburger	Terry Shalla	Brailyn Price
August 21	Karen Craig	Keith Roach	Kellie Nephin
August 22	Connie Chippure		
August 23	Caitlyn Loewen		
August 26	Angela Anderson	Bev Smith	Don Stresman
August 27	Remi Leroux	Joanne Wodtke	
August 28	Aubree Providenti	Diane Gonu	
August 29	Daniel Rideout		
August 31	Karl Ziebell	Hazel Duchrow	Tim Phinney
	Emma Turcotte		



JULY 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
NOTES: Please check for updates to the calendar on our website stjohnspembroke.org			1	2	3	4
			*PASTOR AWAY 9:30 Quilters	*PASTOR AWAY	*PASTOR AWAY	*PASTOR AWAY
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
10:00 Divine Worship/Holy Communion 11:30 60 th Anniversary Light Lunch – Richard & Helen Kramer 1:00 Doris Smith Interment		7:30 AA	9:30 Quilters 5:00 Worship Service 6:30 Bible Study	7:00 Upper Ottawa Valley Historical Centre Service		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
10:00 Divine Worship/Holy Communion 11:30 Fellowship/Tea & Coffee		7:30 AA	9:30 Quilters 5:00 Worship Service 6:30 Bible Study			
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
10:00 Divine Worship/Holy Communion 11:30 Fellowship/Tea & Coffee		7:30 AA	9:30 Quilters 5:00 Worship Service 6:30 Bible Study	1:30 Miramichi Service		
26	27	28	29	30	31	
10:00 Divine Worship/Holy Communion 11:30 Fellowship/Tea & Coffee	8:30 VBS	8:30 VBS 7:30 AA	8:30 VBS	8:30 VBS	8:30 VBS	

August 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
NOTES:						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
10:00 Divine Worship/Holy Communion 11:30 Fellowship/Tea & Coffee	*PASTOR AWAY	*PASTOR AWAY 7:30 AA	*PASTOR AWAY 9:30 Quilters	*PASTOR AWAY	*PASTOR AWAY	*PASTOR AWAY
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
*PASTOR AWAY 10:00 Divine Worship/Holy Communion 11:30 Fellowship/Tea & Coffee	*PASTOR AWAY	*PASTOR AWAY 7:30 AA	*PASTOR AWAY 9:30 Quilters	*PASTOR AWAY	*PASTOR AWAY	*PASTOR AWAY
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
*PASTOR AWAY 10:00 Divine Worship/Holy Communion 11:30 Fellowship/Tea & Coffee	*PASTOR AWAY	*PASTOR AWAY 7:30 AA	*PASTOR AWAY 9:30 Quilters	*PASTOR AWAY 4:00 Deadline for Parish Paper submissions 6:30 Church Council	*PASTOR AWAY	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
10:00 Divine Worship/Holy Communion 11:30 Fellowship/Tea & Coffee		7:30 AA	9:30 Quilters	1:30 Miramichi Service		
30	31	NOTES: Please check for updates to the calendar on our website stjohnspembroke.org				
10:00 Divine Worship/Holy Communion 11:30 Fellowship/Tea & Coffee						