

St. John's Newsletter

July 2016

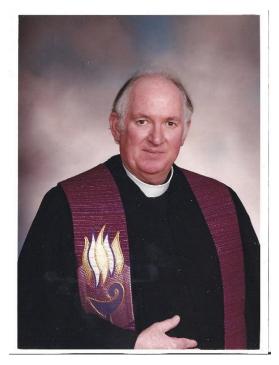
Reverend Ian K. Johnston

St. John's Presbyterian Church 28 2nd Street East Cornwall, ON, K6H 1Y3

(613) 932-8693



"Knowing, Enjoying and Sharing Christ's Love With All"



The Reverend Ian K. Johnston is not a stranger to St. John's Presbyterian Church, having led worship here in the past. Reverend Johnston is a graduate of the Presbyterian College, McGill University, Montreal, Quebec and has completed postgraduate studies at Andersonville Seminary in Camilla, Georgia. He is trained as an Intentional Interim Minister and Transition Consultant. Reverend Johnston is a "semi-retired" minister of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, having served the Church in both Canada and the United States as an Intentional Interim Minister Specialist and Transition Consultant. He is also a Strategic Planning Consultant and Facilitator.

Ian has standing with the Presbyterian Church (USA) and is a member of the International Interim Ministry Network.

Ian is on the Appendix of the Roll of the Seaway-Glengarry Presbytery and, when he is not preaching or assisting other congregations, he and June worship at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Prescott, where he is Minister in Association. Ian participates with several Presbyteries, helping congregations through transition changes and challenges.

Reverend Ian is a member of the Board of Directors for Gracefield Christian Camp, Gracefield, Quebec, a Presbyterian ministry of the Presbytery of Ottawa and the Synod of Quebec and Eastern Ontario.

Ian has been a field supervisor for several ministers during their Interim Ministry training. He has also taught Interim Minister Basics at Rochester-Colgate-Crozier School of Divinity in Rochester, New York.

The following group of pictures is a collage of the Service of Recognition held for Rev. Johnston on Sunday, July 10, 2016.



The Trustees' Gala

By: Keppel Bharath

The Trustees' Gala was conceived in the parking lot of SJPC. We thought that our St John's Church Congregation needed a celebration with an evening of dance, music, food and even some wine. Session was quite accommodating and granted the approval for our gala evening. We also aligned a music group, namely, Mr. Ashton Hughes and the Nepean Pan Harmonics Steel Orchestra. Naturally the Trustees and their wives were embraced for help, as were some members of the Board of Manager, and their wives. The WOC graciously volunteered to supply the desserts. The SJPC youth and other students were also engaged to make the gala happen.

In addition to a fine gourmet meal, the Trustees also planned a 50:50 draw and a silent auction. Our generous contributors are listed below and we are greatly thankful for their generous support of our evening. Wes Libbey printed the tickets and 140 were sold. The cost was \$25.00, but the purchaser received a \$15.00 tax receipt. What a deal for this event!



On June 11, 2016, the Trustees, BOM, and members of the congregation got together and the meal was prepared in the kitchen. The tables were already arranged and set and the final touches were put in place.

Cooking in the kitchen was organized by Keppel, ably assisted by Susane, Gary and Bryce MacNeil. Cedric and Tristen Martin operated the dishwasher. Our 'dry servers' were Lori Greer and Angela Matthews. Thanks to Trish Brown who organized a few students from CCVS to assist. Ellie and Innes Adams, Ashley Mullin, Lauren Thomas, and Bella Gwanyama, some of St. John's youth were servers.

At 6:15 as the evening began we took the opportunity to celebrate the Queen's 90th birthday and also launch Doug Carpenters book <u>"A Royal Career – Conversations with Doug Carpenter".</u>

All who attended were most impressed with a fantastic evening and \$4041.56 was raised for our Church. All enjoyed the food, but the Caribbean steel band was a hit with the infectious rhythm of their music. There was much laughter in the hall and many couples danced. Thanks to all who participated.

The trustees were overwhelmed by the success of our event. For many months our Church has been in a state of flux with individuals focused in many different directions. This was one way to help with the unification of our congregation. We have an opportunity to move forward. As in the past, adversity marks a turning point which allows us to pursue new avenues for ministry and relationship building. By prayerfully working together reconciliation occurs, and we started the reconciliation process on June 11 2016. Thanks to all who made this event happen.

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Coming This Fall...

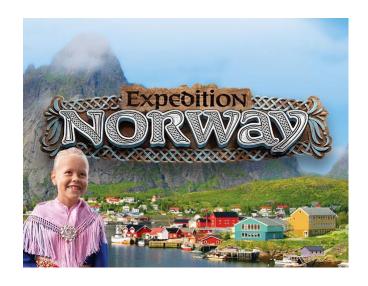
Anyone wishing to be confirmed or welcomed into the family of Faith here at St. John's, Reverend Johnston will be offering a course this fall. For information regarding this opportunity please speak with Reverend Johnston at your convenience.

We are seeking fun-loving, enthusiastic volunteers, willing to share their ideas or organize activities that involve our children, youth and families. If you feel God is calling you to play a part in growing St. John's, please contact Debbie Plant at deb-stjohnyouth@cogeco.ca or Sarah-Jane Woods at sarah_jwoods@hotmail.com.

Adult Bible Study If you would like to enhance your knowledge or gain a deeper understanding of the stories in the Bible, Reverend Johnston would like to hold an adult Bible study this fall. If you are interested in participating, please call the church. Office hours are The answering machine is available 24 hours a day. Please leave your name and the day of the week and time that is most suitable for you (e.g., Tuesdays at 1:00 p.m.).



Vacation Bible School



Get your passports ready, we're travelling to Norway on July 25^{th} , 26^{th} and 27^{th} from 9:00 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.

Come and join leader Jane MacMillan and her team on a cross cultural Vacation Bible School at St. John's. This is a free program open to all children ages 4 - 12.

Each morning, the children will gather to listen to the stories of Daniel, play fun games, eat delicious snacks and enjoy creating arts and crafts.

Be sure to bring a friend!

Call the office to register. (613-932-8693)

Vacation Bible School

Colouring Page



Introducing Our New Clerk of Session at St. John's

If, after reading this account of our present Clerk of Session you think it is a biased account - you are absolutely right! She is my daughter. After all, a Dad can be excused sometimes for sending objectivity packing, especially when it is his only daughter!

Johneen was born in Toronto, and baptized in Dovercourt Road Presbyterian Church, while I was serving as Student Assistant to the Minister, during my years of theological study at Knox College. She was adored by this congregation that had not had a baby baptized for some years, so she had many substitute grammas and poppas! She will not recall how spoiled she was, because upon completing my studies in 1966, she found herself in St. Catharine's and St. David's, Ontario, where I was serving my required 3 year appointment as an "Ordained Missionary". I was fortunate in persuading "the powers that be" that I had to be near libraries to finish my Master's degree – something not likely to be found in the middle of Saskatchewan, or Newfoundland!

Her next move found her back in Toronto where her Dad was now Minister of Melrose Park PC, and herself enrolled in John Wanless Public School about 2 blocks from our Manse where she attended from her kindergarten years until Grade 3. It's hard to believe now, but she cried a few days before starting to school, because she didn't want to go, and she shed many more tears when we left Toronto on Boxing Day 1974, over some good friends now left behind! The Rennies were on their way to Cornwall – a place we had never heard of – on what turned out to be a one-way trip. By this time Johneen had 2 younger brothers to contend with John and Jeremy, but against both she was, and still is, able to "hold her own"!

Johneen attended Sunday school at Melrose Park and at St. John's, and as she grew older she was involved in many Church based activities – Children of the Church, Explorers, Brownies, Guides, the Youth Group, and my Communicant Classes for teens. She was less critical of her Dad's Children's Stories, than her brothers! Reading, cycling, watching TV – when time permits – were and are activities she still enjoys. She enjoys riding in the MS bike-a-thon each year.

After graduating from CCVS she followed her mom in choosing teaching for a career, enrolling in Queen's University to receive her B. Ed. degree in I988. In such an historic place of learning, she also met Tom Everson, and it was Dad's pleasure and privilege to marry them in St. John's in 1990. Tom is my wife's favorite son-in-law! Ha! She was fortunate that there was still a need for elementary teachers when she graduated, and thus she obtained employment with our local School Board. Bob Wilkes, a former elder, was the principal of her first employment in Maxville Public School. As of this past June she has completed 28 years in her chosen profession, and although she would qualify for retirement in a few years, she cannot picture herself doing so! She is often heard saying "I love what I do!!"

She and Tom are the proud parents of Philip, set to graduate from the University of Waterloo next year, and Rebecca, presently attending Nipissing University in North Bay, Ontario, intent on being a teacher also - like her mom!

I am proud to note that Johneen takes her faith, and life's responsibilities, very seriously. She loves teaching and her students love her also. Thank you, Johneen, for your contributions to our Church, and society!

By Dr. Rev. Dr. Fred Rennie

Johneen agreed to be our new Clerk of Session back in May of this year. Now you have some background information for your file.