



St. John's Newsletter

November 2017

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

**Please join us on Sunday,
November 26th at 10:00 a.m.**



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

Newsletter

Susan MacDonald
Cynthia Seguin
Carol Esdale
John Adams
Martha Woods



Madison Wolff, daughter of Dave Wolff and granddaughter of Carolyn and Bud Wolff, is the 2017 recipient of the Clifford MacRae Bursary. Madison is a graduate of C.C.V.S. and is presently enrolled in the Business Administration course at St. Lawrence College. Heather Arthur, daughter of the late Clifford MacRae, presented the award and plaque to Madison at St. John's on October 8th.

Clifford MacRae Bursary

The Changing of the Seasons and Soon, the Calendar

THE PRESENT KINGDOM OF GOD IS CHARACTERIZED BY GROWTH. IT BEGAN WITH A FEW DISCIPLES AND HAS GROWN THROUGHOUT HISTORY. (Matthew 13:24-43)

2017 has been a year of celebrations which have been part of our liturgical and worship life here in St. John's. We hosted the Christian community of Cornwall and celebrated Canada's 150th anniversary, followed by the celebration of St. John's 230th anniversary. A few weeks ago, we shared the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. Some of the liturgy we used in our worship was used in nearly every Reformed Catholic Church across Canada and in every country around the world. In a few weeks we will again be celebrating, the birth of Jesus Christ. Celebration has been a focal point in our worship. The Christian community celebrates the joys of God's gifts. During Pentecost, which we are now concluding, we celebrated the gift of the Holy Spirit that has invigorated generations to live as Christians fulfilling the ministry Jesus commanded believers to deliver to the furthest corners of the earth. Advent, which we are about to begin, celebrates God's wonderful gift of Jesus, heaven come to dwell on earth with the people of God.

For many people in church families, every anniversary or special season is a time to look back and glory in "*the good old days*." Who hasn't heard a sermon on 'Moses and the Burning Bush', with an explanation of 'Nec tamen consumebatur' (noting the passive voice in verb form)? Who hasn't attended a tea or a banquet with former members visiting and lots of old photographs present? For many people, a church time of celebration time can be likened to a high school or university homecoming, years on. "You haven't changed a bit!", or "I'd recognize you anywhere", or "I haven't seen you for so long", or "You used to sit in that pew over there! are expressions *de rigueur*. So being a contrarian, at least some of the time, I want to argue that that **the real focus for church celebrations and anniversaries is the Call to look forward in the hope God has provided us in Christ.**

Joshua, who assumed leadership from Moses, knew God's forward calling (Joshua 24:14-15).

The prophet Jeremiah knew God's forward calling (Jeremiah 29:11).

The apostle Paul knew God's forward calling (Philippians 3:10-14).

The evangelist reported it right from Jesus (John 15:1-8).

You and I really do know it. *Really. We do.* We don't necessarily want to learn and sing new hymns that we didn't learn in Sunday School. We don't necessarily *like* to hear prophetic passages of scripture which are clearly not part of our comfort zone. And we are, after all, so busy (and we know God knows that of us, because we have told him!).

I once preached an anniversary sermon about *biding* and *abiding*. Two mythical congregations: one trying always to be comfortable in its illustrious past; the other, trying always to abide in Christ, and therefore, doing all sorts of different things the outside world noticed, and trying to be faithful to the Call of being Christians. The church can't just *bide* its time; that's too much like straddling a fence – and that's downright uncomfortable. The church must remain faithful, *and* look ahead.

I also preached an anniversary sermon referring to the *Aflac Duck*, whom you may remember from a comical television commercial a few years ago. The point was that although the duck kept reminding people about the insurance being advertised, the church is to be constant in reminding people of the Call to live in Christ as God's world continues. People didn't understand the mutterings of the duck; the world still doesn't get the breadth and height and length and depth of the love Christ (Ephesians 3:18).

The message is the same throughout the Bible and needs to be the same throughout life: God is leading us ahead, certainly remembering the story and telling the story, but always running the abundant and eternal race that lies ahead.

Enjoy the celebration that is a small part of the big pilgrimage!

Blessings to each of you as you celebrate Advent and in a few weeks, Christmas.

Rev. Ian K. Johnston

Meet Our New Elders

Paul Hickey: I am happy to have returned to St. John's after being away for twenty years. I have great memories of St. John's Presbyterian Church from my youth, and I hope to help create new memories for the generations that follow. I have recently retired and have time and an eagerness to serve St. John's. I have previously served on the Board of Managers and am looking forward to working with my fellow Elders on Session. I hope to meet the people of my district and serve the congregation of St. John's.

Johneen Rennie: I have been associated with St. John's since January 1975 when my husband, Fred, was called to minister to this congregation. I have taught Sunday School, served on the Pastoral Care Committee of Session and am a member of the Women of the Church, presently as their Secretary. When approached to let my name stand for Elder I was led to say yes. I have a special interest in Pastoral Care and look forward to developing new relationships with people I don't know by name. I look forward to working as part of the Session team.

Katalin Kennedy: I moved to Cornwall from Ottawa when I retired in 2003, with my husband, the Rev. Duncan Scott Kennedy. After losing the love of my life to death, my life path shifted. I gratefully joined St. John's Church because I needed to feel I belonged. I became an Elder a decade ago for a term of five years, where I was fortunate to learn from and appreciate the many caring folk who continue to make me feel welcomed and at home. My life path also led me to be a writer; and now, the path has again brought me back to serve as an Elder. I am in awe and honour all those whose dedication in this congregation continues to be immeasurable.

Dan Plant: I have been a member of St. John's for almost 30 years, during which time I have been involved with the sound system, singing in the choir and other behind the scenes work at the church. My father was an Elder and Clerk of Session at my home church for many years, and now I am looking forward to following in his footsteps and serving the church as an Elder. St. John's has a wonderful church family and although challenges lie ahead, I feel confident that the Lord can use the gifts He gave me with the other members of the Session to help the church grow spiritually.

Barbara Mason: I grew up attending St. John's and participating in many of the offered activities like Junior Choir, Brownies, Guides and, of course, Sunday School. Since moving back to Cornwall three years ago I have renewed my connection to St. John's. I am interested in helping to see that St. John's remains a vibrant church. Having a background in education and in artistic fields, I am hoping to put my skills and talents to work in any way that will benefit the church. I am particularly interested in helping to expand our horizons and welcome new people into the St. John's family.

Karen Blanchard: I am very excited to be joining the Session. St. John's has been my church since I was born. In the past I have served on the Board of Managers. I also helped with the tape cassette ministry, and my mother and brother both served as Elders in the past. I was raised in Cornwall and have worked at the Ford Dealership in Cornwall for over 28 years. I look forward to this new chapter in my life, serving as an Elder, meeting my district and building new relationships.

Nick Cox: I have been associated with St. John's since 1978 when I married my wife Colleen, a long-time member of this congregation. With an engineering degree from Queen's University in Kingston, I spent most of my working life at Domtar here in Cornwall. I have served on and off the Board of Managers for the last 30 years where my focus has been on the operation and the maintenance of the church building. I am also on the archives committee. I have accepted the call as an Elder to invoke the changes at St. John's necessary to deliver the word of God to our congregation and our community in the future. I am looking forward to working with all the groups at St. John's to reach this goal

Marcia McQuaig: I am pleased to have been nominated to the Session at St. John's. I have attended my church since the early 70's, and have been a member since 2005. I was a top real estate agent around the city of Cornwall and area for over 30 years helping families to find their new home. Since Doug and I have retired we travel to the southwestern states to spend most of the winter there. The members in my district will have to understand this, but we can communicate by email and in the summer when I return to Long Sault where we live.

Kerry Adams: I am glad to be joining the Session at St. John's. I grew up in St. John's Church and my family have been long standing members starting with my Grandparents in 1932. My Grandfather Adams was ordained as an elder in 1948 and my father John in 1979.

My wife Katherine is a teacher at Glengarry District High School and I work as a Financial Planner. We have three children, Ellie (14), Innes (12) and Libbey (8) and have resided in Avonmore since being married in 1998. Having three young children keeps us busy with hockey, dance and basketball practices!

I have previously served on the Board of Managers and look forward to this new challenge as we call a new Minister to take care of our congregation. I am excited at the number of members who have accepted the call to this ministry and look forward to working closely with them.

Wes Libbey: As one grows older, one finds oneself drawn more to the church. Perhaps this comes as no surprise—my grandfather who was the local one room school teacher, also held service in the matching one room church next door. Forefathers before him ministered as well. I believe that values like genes can be passed from generation to generation. My mother sat with her hands folded in her lap every Sunday afternoon in the parlour in Edinburgh before emigrating to Canada after the Great War. She attended St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Quebec where my 95-year-old aunt is an Elder. But alas I was baptized an Anglican in Saint John during the war, the church being at the end of the street. My Sunday School days were in the same rural church in which my grandfather preached although I attended St. Andrews' Presbyterian Church in Fredericton as well. Carole and I got married in that church and we left for Toronto where I became a faculty member at Ryerson. Coming to Cornwall with the opening of St. Lawrence College, we joined St. John's with Andrew, James and Heather all baptized and attending Sunday School here. I taught Sunday school as many parents did during the time their children were attending, I have been a Trustee for many years and an Elder serving on the Mission and Stewardship Committee when I was too busy to really settle into the role.

I have felt called to be an Elder again. My experience in Saint Lucia, Ethiopia, Yemen, and Malaysia have given me a greater understanding and appreciation of others – I find myself very accepting and supportive of our Canadian values found in our Charter of Rights and Freedoms. Our church is transitioning (albeit slowly) and I want to be there to help it along.

John McMartin (Jack) I remain a lifetime member of St. John's and a retired educator. I wanted to re-join the active eldership because I am persuaded that the word of God needs to continue resounding from our pulpit long into the future. I want to remain part of the rich, caring, and social aspect of our people and its community outreach. I have served in many capacities over the years and most recently was chairperson of the 225th Anniversary Committee. I believe we are blessed by God, and surrounded by people who continue to work in his service.

The Election Process

The above-mentioned men and woman have been **nominated by you**, the congregation of St. John's, their peers, to become our **next Ruling Elders**. The Session has examined the nominations and has now agreed that they should join the Session. The **congregation was advised** of this decision on Sunday, October 22nd, Sunday, October 29th and Sunday, November 5th. John, Wes, and Katalin have previously been ordained to this Spiritual Office within this congregation, and will be **reinstalled**. The others will be newly **ordained**. All will answer the prescribed questions for Ordination and/or Installation.

Our new Elders elect were encouraged to attend the **Elder Training Workshop**, on Saturday, November 4th at St. Matthews Presbyterian Church in Ingleside. Elder training also takes place at Session meetings to help provide tools and understanding of what is expected of one who holds this Office.

New Districts and Elders

In the last year, the **Roll Committee** and the Session have been diligently examining the St. John's membership. Families who have **not attended** for a long time and who have not contributed to the life and work of our congregation were **removed** from the roll. We have **realigned and produced new districts**. All members, adherents and children will have an Elder. The goal is to support building **strong relationships** between Elders and their flocks, encouraging members to deeper spirituality and church family connection, and to bring those who do not attend back to our St. John's community. Many of the districts are geographical, but there are exceptions. The goal is for an Elder to make a **meaningful contact** with a family at least once a year, but this will be flexible, depending on the circumstances.

Service of Ordination and/or Installation

The service of Ordination and/or Installation will be held **this Sunday, November 26th**, just before the Service of Holy Communion. It is with much joy and thanksgiving prayer that we welcome these members to the Session at St. John's and look forward to having them share the work of ministry here in our church.

Your Session

The Trustees' Gala

The **3rd Trustees' Gala** was held on October 14th with the appropriate theme of 'Vibrant Fall Colours'. The duties for organization and planning were split amongst the Trustees at St. John's. The whole team banded together to advertise, get tickets printed, submit articles for the silent auction, and organize the band, the food and the beverages. The **WOC** assisted in providing the tablecloths, the decorations and especially the desserts. We had over a 100 people in Caldwell Hall who were wined, dined and danced to the driving rhythms of the **Nepean Pan Harmonics Steel Band**. The event was fun filled and all present were thumping their feet and dancing to the beat. Thanks to Barry Brown and Trish Brown who organized students from CCVS to assist in serving and clean up. Their work and young legs were well appreciated. Our 'dry servers' were Sandra Jordan, Martha Jordan and Angela Matthews. And a very special **THANK YOU** to Carolyn Colquhoun and Jamie McEwen, the mother and son duo, for their diligent help in the kitchen and on the dishwasher. When all was said and done we realized a **profit of \$3,996.33**. Bravo to all, on a job well done.

By Keppel Bharath

Our Sponsors:

Rona Hardware

Canadian Tire

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Fred and Johnneen Rennie

TSC

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Mytek Power Tools (Ottawa)

Sue and Gary MacNeil

Truffles Restaurant

Pommier Jewelers

Love Love Foods

Schulman's Mens and Ladies Clothing

Roy's Florist

Knot By Design



Board of Managers Report

On behalf of the Board, I would like to **thank** the entire congregation, and the various church committees for their **continued support** in 2017.

The Board of Managers is now meeting on the 3rd Monday of each month. We are a small group, and **do require additional members**. Hopefully our new meeting date will work for someone's schedule. Even if you are unable make every meeting, we would appreciate the additional help and fresh ideas.

In **September, the income** from all sources was \$25,635 and expenses were \$20,869. for a net surplus of \$4766. Comparing with August – we had a net loss of \$2421. and the board had to borrow \$5,000. from the Trustees to cover September's anticipated expenses. Just a reminder if you want to start donating through **pre-authorized debit**, please see a board member, or Lisa in the office during the week. The pre-authorized debit donations allow the board to easily track our expected givings each month. **Colleen Jones** has been volunteering to track envelope data and post monthly bills to the accounting program to help reduce the cost of our outside accounting firm. We are paying this accounting firm roughly \$500/month plus HST. **THANK YOU** to Colleen for your continued help.

Brian Larose will once again return on Sundays as our **Relief Custodian**. More volunteer hours by the church members may be required to cover the absence of a Relief Custodian. **Lisa Angus** continues to work efficiently in the church office. She is our first responder to visitors and callers to our church property. Her office hours are Tuesday to Friday, from 12 to 4 pm.

The **St. John's property** continues to be maintained and beautified, through the diligent efforts of Dale, Doug and Nick. There has been a huge effort to upgrade systems, to **remove accumulated debris in the basement** and **beautify all areas of the property**. This has been made possible by directed donations and the annual maintenance budget. Here are **a few highlights of the jobs completed**: new LED lights installed in Caldwell hall; ceiling tiles replaced; obsolete audio equipment replaced; Caldwell hall floor stripped, sealed and finished; plumbing fixtures removed and replaced; cleanup of several rooms throughout the church; 3 pickleball courts now available; regular grass cutting; 6th St. Cemetery Cairn safely removed; 230th Anniversary banner hung at front; **and Presbyterian Creed banners hung in Caldwell Hall** under the watchful eye of Rev. Fred Rennie.

Respectfully submitted, Laurel Adams, Chairperson, Board of Managers.

2017 Fall Lunch and Bazaar



The **Women of the Church** wish to express their deep appreciation to so many of our people for your splendid assistance at our Fall Tea & Bazaar. It represented to us and our community, the opportunity to gather, socialize and re-acquaint with one another.

Special thanks are extended to Diane at Marlin's Orchards for donating many seasonal plants and accessories; and to Bruce Wickham for his assistance with lighting, etc. We changed our theme, and the hall was warm and welcoming.

Collectively, we achieved increased numbers from last year and extended a much-anticipated, time-honoured tradition at St. John's.

From a financial perspective, we achieved the following:

Luncheon	\$ 2,620.00
Bake Table	667.25
Knitting Table	348.50
Jams & Jellies	390.50
Donations	490.00
Sale of Food	69.00
Special Treasures	404.75

Total \$ 4,990.00

THANK YOU !

THANK YOU !

THANK YOU !

Women of the Church

Photos from the Bazaar



FUNDSCRIP

A lot of people are beginning to pick up Christmas gifts for their sons, daughters, grandchildren and/or friends. We're asking the congregation for their continued support and trust that you will think of Fundscrip when making your Christmas list, if gift cards are being considered.

There are many stores from which to order, such as Toys R'Us, Home Sense, Pier 1 Imports, Bath and Body Works, Banana Republic, PetSmart, American Eagle, La Senza and many, many more. We can provide you with a list, if needed. We do not have orders going in every week, so we would ask that you order well enough in advance to ensure delivery well before Christmas. Orders sent in on any Tuesday will be delivered to us by Friday. We have never had any back-orders with Fundscrip.

This is an important time of the year for Fundscrip, because we make the greatest percentage of profits in the next two months. It doesn't cost you anything extra out-of-pocket to buy these gift cards, and it gives us a return of at least 3%, sometimes up to 5% and more, depending on the retailer. Remember especially our Tim Horton supplier that gives us a 5% return year-round.

We are appealing to the congregation to consider stopping at our table downstairs after church to buy or to order these cards. It is such an easy way to raise funds to put towards any of our current debts —and at no additional cost to you.

We thank you so much for helping us achieve a worthwhile goal.

Connie Gaucher & Gail MacDougall, FUNDSCRIP Conveners

A LETTER OF ETERNAL GRATITUDE

To the congregation of St. John's,

I would like to begin by expressing my eternal gratitude to each and every one of you for your spiritual and financial support over the years, and especially over this past year. I must admit that adjusting to life at Presbyterian College in Montreal is both easier and harder than I anticipated. Having just experienced four years at the University of Ottawa, the academic side of college life is certainly different from what I am used to.

The classes overall are fascinating and informative. While I have no difficulty with the formatting and research components of writing papers, the subject material is vastly different from what I am used to. However, I am enjoying the change of subject, and there are still elements of history in the lectures. Currently, I am taking five courses for the fall semester.

"Ancient Israel Literature" looks at the historical development of the Old Testament, critically analyzing literary styles and historical writing. "New Testament Studies" looks at Paul's letters and what the various recipients of those letters were facing, as well as analyzing historical thought on the authentic Pauline letters (letters that we know were written by Paul) and those that are in dispute (letters where we aren't too sure who wrote them). "New Testament Greek" is my required ancient language course. It involves much memorization, especially with the various endings and cases of each word. "Church History Part I" looks at the first 1300 years of the Christian Church, specifically at the various counsels and historical events, which shaped church doctrine to what it is today. "Hinduism and Buddhism" are my external religion requirements. The first half of the course deals exclusively with Hinduism, learning the various terms and texts used, and understanding their rituals and belief systems.

All five of my classes are going well. Although the readings are extensive, and Greek requires constant vigilance, I am confident the semester will go well. McGill University offers high quality education; the professors are experts in their fields and a true joy to learn from. The overall student body is quite diverse. There are arts and science students and theology students who are taking the same courses I am. Many students come from different countries and offer unique perspectives on faith in class discussions.

Adjusting to Presbyterian College life is not as difficult as I had anticipated. Being one of the younger students, I was not exactly sure what to expect, especially with my lack of life experience. However, the college community has been extremely welcoming and kind to my addition to the college. We have chapel service every Wednesday, and I have started taking on a more musical role in service. The organist and I are currently planning special music for service, and I look forward to the opportunity.

I am still currently searching for a congregation in Montreal to call home while at Presbyterian College. With most of my September being previously booked, I have only had the opportunity to visit two church congregations, with plans on visiting two more before making a decision. Although it could never replace St. John's, I look forward to contributing to a congregation while in Montreal.

I have also had the wonderful opportunity to take part in a Truth and Reconciliation gathering hosted by the Presbyterian Church in Canada in Pickering, Ontario. I officially represented Gracefield Christian Camp and Retreat Centre as a member of the camping community, and of course, I also represent Presbyterian College and St. John's. I was humbled to listen to the stories of Residential School survivors, and the other participants in the event. The sharing circle we had lasted over five hours, and had a lasting impact on my understanding of the role the Presbyterian Church must play in this critical healing process. Understanding the injustices that both happened and are still happening to this day. Reserves that live next to hydroelectric dams yet have no access to electricity, or communities that have absolutely no access to fresh drinking water. Communities that feel the pain of high suicide rates among the younger generation, or the missing and murdered indigenous women and girls. I know that the church will step up and do the right thing, listening to their stories of struggle and working with them to make a plan moving forward.

Being at Presbyterian College has allowed me to take on more opportunities within the Presbyterian Church, to get involved in its initiatives, and to meet so many wonderful and interesting people along the way. Clergy from across the country, the Moderator of the 2017 General Assembly, and the men and women of this church that work tirelessly developing the church for the 21st century.

I am humbled and honoured to be given the chance to be a part of the larger church community, and it is because of your love and support of me and my family over not just the 7 years of me being a member of St. John's, but these past 23 years of my life. Many of you have known me since I was an infant, and to have such loving people in my life is a true blessing. 45 years have passed between the last student St. John's sponsored from within its own congregation and myself. I am honoured to become a part of reviving this tradition and legacy, taking on the responsibilities of seminary, and representing St. John's wherever I go. I pursue my education and my involvement in the church knowing that the community of St. John's will always be there to love and support me when I need it most. Without this community, it would not be possible for me to pursue ministry.

If anyone is interested in writing to me, I can be reached at the Presbyterian College address (3495 University Street, Apartment 407, Montreal, Quebec, H3A-2A8). I hope to give regular updates as my journey to ministry continues. Again, I am eternally grateful for all the love and support you have given me over the years, and I will keep St. John's in my prayers. I ask that you keep me in your prayers, and that you continue to support the St. John's community that means so much to me and my journey into ministry.

(This was already printed in the bulletin.)

Blessings,
Alexander Plant

Ryan Gosling has a Connection to St. John's!

In a recent article in Cornwall Living, Ryan Gosling was featured. It said that his great grandfather had emigrated from England in the late 1800s and came to Cornwall, where he played the organ in several churches. That led your Archivist, The Rev. Dr. Fred Rennie, to search St. John's records, and he came up with the following information.

George Gosling 1867 – 1948

Mr. Gosling was engaged as Organist of St. John's Presbyterian Church in 1890, soon after the opening of "the new St. John's", in March 1889. He maintained this position until he retired in 1897. He became a Communicant Member of St. John's on October 19, 1894. It was a dual position - Organist and Director of the Choir.

His Salary was \$25 a quarter, or \$100 a year; there was no increase in this sum through all his years of serving as Organist and Choir Director.

He was related to Mr. Ken Gosling, member of the congregation and local Photographer. Ken passed away on December 24, 2008 in his 82nd year. His Spring Burial took place in Woodlawn Cemetery. Cornwall. ON. Ken took many pictures of St. John's and Church activities during his years of connection with the congregation.

A new Organ was included in the construction of "the new" St. John's and paid for by the Ladies Association of the congregation, over 6 years. It was built by S.R. Warren & Sons, Montreal at a cost of approximately \$2500 and was powered by water drawn off from the Cornwall Canal at the time, although the Annual Report for 1889 notes that 2 men, William Hall and George Clark, were engaged for "pumping the organ". Possibly it was converted from "human pumping" to water power in its first year of use.

This Organ was later replaced in 1927 by the acquisition of a new instrument - an electrified Franklin-Legge model. In 1993 this instrument was upgraded, and additional pipes put in place at a cost of just over \$93,000, a sum raised entirely by the Congregation for this purpose. The present organ still contains some pipes from the Organ first used in 1889.

The first instrument used in public worship by the Congregation was a Melodeon, acquired in 1867, when the Congregation was meeting in the white, frame church located on the east side of Pitt St., between 1st and 2nd Streets. After much discussion and earnest request from the Congregation to the Session (which in a Presbyterian Church has the authority over the music/instruments used in worship) its purchase was sanctioned by the Session, but the cost would have to be covered by individual subscription! It was easily paid for in a short time. There was an earnest desire for a more supportive and seemly place for such an instrument in weekly worship. Prior to its acquisition, music in worship had been led by Precentors, although in the 1860s there was a movement to form a Choir, and space set apart for such in the gallery.

There have been 22 organists employed by the congregation, since 1889, whose names are recorded in the Annual Reports of the Congregation.

Prepared by The Rev. Dr. Fred Rennie

Thoughts for November

Recipe of the Month

Pumpkin Bas

4 eggs
1 2/3 cups sugar
1 cup vegetable oil
1 can pumpkin (16 ounces)
2 cups all-purpose flour
2 teaspoons cinnamon
2 teaspoons baking powder
1 teaspoon baking soda
1 teaspoon salt
Icing:
One package (3 ounces) cream cheese
2 cups confectioner's sugar
¼ cup butter softened
1 teaspoon vanilla
1 to 2 tablespoons milk

1. In a mixing bowl beat eggs, sugar, oil and pumpkin
2. Combine flour, cinnamon, baking powder, baking soda and salt
3. Gradually add to pumpkin mixture and mix well.
4. Pour into an ungreased 15"x10" baking dish
5. Bake at 350 for 35 minutes
6. Cool completely
7. Beat together cream cheese, sugar, butter and vanilla in a small bowl. Add enough milk to achieve desired spreading consistency.
8. Spread over bars

Yield: 2 dozen

Poetry

John Buxton was one of the first prisoners of war in World War II. He was in Norway when captured, then sent to a German POW camp.

Landfall

(written in Norway)

What right has any man
Ever to break this peace?
Here's no fit place
For our fierce rowdy farce to be performed.
Could men not leave this land unharmed?
O you indifferent mountains, ice and snow
Forgive us where we go,
Pardon our sinfulness in bearing arms
Against this land, The let us come again
When peace shall end this pain
Here to atone for all our sacrilege.

The Prisoner to the Singing Bird

(written in Germany)

Sing on, sing on beyond the walls
That I within may know
Spring is in the woods gain
Where you may go.

Sing on, song on; then in my cage
I shall delight to hear
That you are glad and free out there –
So near, so near!

Thought of the Month

**The sacrifice they made was their entire future. Ours on November 11
only lasted only two minutes. Remember.**

Upcoming Dates for your Calendar

White Gift Sunday

White Gift Sunday is planned for December 10th. Items that would assist the residents of Baldwin House include hair conditioner, slippers for women and children, journals, hygiene products, and fun foods such as hot chocolate and popcorn. The Agape Centre is always in need of non-perishable food items such as salmon, meat (ham), coffee, tea, juice and vegetables. We need the help of our children that day to collect the gifts and to place them under the trees. Please mark your calendar and come and join this special event.



COMMUNION SUNDAY

November 26th – 10:00 a.m.

Ordination of New Elders Elect

Classiqu'Arts Christmas Concert

To be held at St. John's
On December 9th at 7:00 p.m.
Cost: \$25.00
Tickets can be purchased at the Church Office
or online: www.classiqarts.ca

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24TH

6:00 P.M. FOR YOUNG FAMILIES
8:00 P.M. TRADITIONAL CHRISTMAS
SERVICE

Sunday, December 17th Star Wars Christmas Pageant Presented by The Youth of St. John's

Christmas in Canada

As part of our Mission and Outreach, the Session has approved that we ask, the congregation, to contribute money as a Christmas present for our refugee family. This collection is separate from our commitment to the Presbytery for support. We would like the families to have "spending money" to be able to purchase Christmas gifts or other items that Canadians enjoy at this special time of year.
If your heart is calling you to make someone's Christmas a little happier, please donate to our coffee hour freewill offering, or through your envelope under "specials", and marking it "Christmas Present". Thank You for your continued generosity.

Glow

The Centennial Choir of Cornwall will present Glow!
A Christmas Concert at Aultsville Theatre, Friday December 8th at 7:30 p.m.
We hope to leave you glowing with memories of all Christmas means.
Tickets are available at the following locations:
Home Hardware, 10 Thirteenth St. E., The Lottery Kiosk, Cornwall Square
Choir Members Cost: Adults \$20.00 and Children 12 and under \$10.00

Shower for Nouida

On Sunday, October 21st the congregation at St. John's gathered in Caldwell Hall after worship for a 'Shower' for Nouida, who the Presbytery of Seaway Glengarry is sponsoring as a Syrian Refugee. Nouida was overjoyed by the number of people present and by the generous outpouring of gifts. She gratefully thanks those who gave her gifts and donations. She will think fondly of the St. John's people as she settles into her new home in Canada. Actually, her new apartment is right on the main street in Brockville. She is on the third floor (lots of exercise) in a neat, bright two-bedroom apartment, which overlooks the St. Lawrence River at the rear. It has been painted and cleaned and on Saturday, October 28th the last of her furniture was moved by the sponsorship committee. A very special thank you is extended to the following people who helped make the shower a great success:

Transportation—John and Jennifer Adams and Rev. Mark and Corrine Bourgon

Desserts—Carolyn Colquhoun, Fleur Eenkhoorn, Bev Hope, June Johnston, Johnneen Rennie, Carolyn Wolff --- They were delicious and enjoyed by all.

Decorations—The Ferguson family for loaning us the pumpkins and Barb Mason for decorating the gift table. It was beautiful.

Serving and clean-up - A special expression of gratitude for the help provided by Carolyn Colquhoun, Carol MacMillan and Jennifer Vipond.



Nouida with all her gifts



June & Rev. Johnston, Nouida & Jennifer Adams, Refugee Rep

Nahhas Family Update

With respect to the **Nahhas family in Kemptville**, Joud is back in school at Kemptville Public School. **Hiba is continuing to volunteer at a local pharmacy** to obtain some local work experience, and perhaps even start working as a pharmacy assistant while she works towards her recertification as a pharmacist. While **Tamy continues to update her engineering qualifications**, she has secured a job working as a **supervisor at the Walmart in Kemptville**. Walid and Dalal, the senior parents, are practicing English and learning quickly!

With their own savings and generous support from St. Paul's in Kemptville, Tamy and Hiba were able to **purchase a used 2008 Kia Rondo**. Hiba has her G2 and Tamy is working towards hers as well. Having a vehicle will give them greater flexibility as they continue to upgrade their educational qualifications, as well as continue to work to support their family.

Nouida moved into her apartment in Brockville at the end of October. Thanks so much to everyone who made donations to furnish her new home, and to help her move in! Nouida has met with our local Employment and Education Centre, as well as meeting with Fulford Academy, a private international day and boarding school in Brockville, as she continues her job search.

She is also **volunteering with other Syrian refugees** to host and prepare, Syrian food for our local YMCA, which holds community lunches as a fundraising effort for the Strong Kids Campaign. Their luncheon is on December 6, so if you are in Brockville, stop by and pick up some delicious food! Nouida is also acting as a volunteer translator for other newcomers in the community.

Marilyn Leach-Duck, from Ingleside PC advises that **fundraising is continuing**, although the Presbytery has done very well to date. Please do continue to encourage your congregations to support the Syrian Refugee Fund! Thank you, Marilyn, for your faithfulness and hard work!

Please let me know if you have any questions. Blessings to you all in the upcoming Advent and Christmas seasons, as we remember that our Lord and Saviour and his parents were also refugees!

Respectfully submitted, Rev. Marianne Emig Carr, Brockville

A Little Humour



Wrong Angle: I started wearing a fitness tracker to count my daily steps, and for the first time I made it to 9,989 in one day, I proudly shared my achievement with my grandson. "Not bad, Grandpa, he said, but you better keep walking. You're looking at it upside down."

My husband gave me a beautiful Anniversary card that had lovely art and heartfelt verses. Wiping away a tear, I said, "This is the sweetest card I've ever received." "Really," he said, grinning broadly, "What does it say?"

News from Our Youth Group

Youth Group has resumed each Monday evening at the church, and we welcomed **three new girls** to the group – Eleni Fourkiotis, Erin Libbey and Aliya Sauve, but we were already friends with all of them as they have been in our Pageants in years past.

Although only a few months into the “new year”, we have been to **Gracefield Christian Camp & Retreat Centre** for a weekend Confirmation Retreat, an **Ottawa Fury Game** at TD Place and just recently, we were at **Pumpkinferno** at Upper Canada Village. Our trip to **Gracefield** had us take over Beaver Lodge and complete Confirmation studies for the Youth to become members of our St. John’s Congregation. We also had time for nature hikes, music, movies and getting to know one another better.

As the Christmas Season approaches, we were asked by some of the Congregation (who were not able to get out of their homes very often), if the Youth could fill the **Operation Christmas Child Boxes**. On the 13th of November, we took the money given to us and ventured off to the Dollar Store.

We have begun our **rehearsals** for this year’s pageant. In the past, we have seen the Christmas story through the eyes of the census takers, the workers at the inn, the shepherds, they angels, and the neighbours of the stable. We have even seen the shepherds go “on trial” for disturbing the peace and causing a riot. This year, we will see it through **the eyes of the Magi**. It has quite a twist to it and you will not want to miss the presentation. So, mark your calendars for the **Pageant on December 17th** during our worship service. Are you a Star Wars fan? Do you know a Star Wars fan? If you answered yes to one of those questions, you definitely need to be at Church on the 17th. This Pageant has a limited number of performers in it, so we will be presenting a mini Pageant in the new year for everyone to be in.

This coming year marks the next **Canada Youth Conference** held every other year at **Brock University**. This started as a Millennium Project, but has grown to be a pivotal point in our young peoples’ lives. This year may be **our biggest group** going from St. John’s, as we have 2 volunteers going to work the first aid/medical area and we have 1 leader (myself) with Lauren Thomas, Amanda Mullin, Bella Gwanyama, Monica Brown, Ellie Adams and Ashley Mullin eligible to attend. The cost for the group to go will be near \$5,000.00 so we will have fundraisers in the new year to try and make this goal. Our first is our **Legion Chicken dinner & Silent Auction** booked for Sunday, February 25th. There will also be the return of a few Youth Luncheons after service.

Through the hustle and bustle of the coming weeks, take time to be with your family and remember the **Reason for the Season**. We have left Thanksgiving in October, but we need to remember to be thankful every day for the gifts that have been given us. From the Youth of St. John’s, **we thank you** for all your support (financially and physically) and wishing you the best of this Holy Season.

P*U*S*H*

Debbie Plant

Youth Coordinator

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Youth in Action



By the Lake



Camp Fire



Evening Camp Fire



Gazebo on the Lake



Gracefield Dock



Confirmation Service



Ottawa Fury Soccer Game



Study Sessions



Pumpkin Inferno



“Night Train Big Band”

An afternoon of seasonal fun

Soloists - Carol Sing & Big Band Christmas Favourites

St. Matthew's Presbyterian Church,



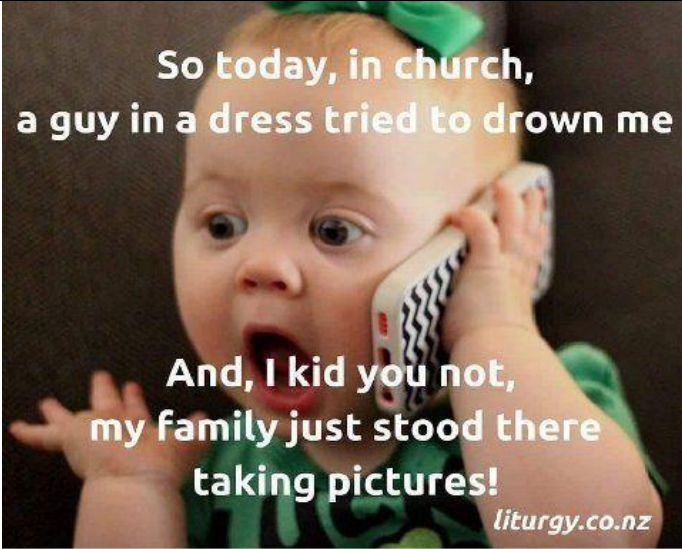
Ingleside

Sunday, December 10th 2:30 pm

In the sanctuary followed by Light Refreshments in Smith Hall

Free Will Offering

A Little More Humour

 <p>So today, in church, a guy in a dress tried to drown me</p> <p>And, I kid you not, my family just stood there taking pictures!</p> <p><i>liturgy.co.nz</i></p>	
<p>I USED TO THINK THAT IF THE ICE CREAM TRUCK WAS PLAYING MUSIC IT MEANT THAT IT WAS OUT OF ICE CREAM! THANKS MOM</p>	<p><u>NOT QUITE READY</u></p> <p>6 YEAR OLD: CAN I HOLD THE BABY? ME: DO YOU PROMISE TO BE REALLY CAREFUL?</p> <p>6 YEAR OLD: (HOLDING A FULL CUP OF JUICE SIDEWAYS AND JUMPING) “YES, I PROMISE!”</p>
<p>Our son on the morning of his prom, “Well, it just occurred to me that I Paid \$130 to go to my school at night.”</p>	<p>And one for the kids:</p> <p>Q: What do you call a bear with no teeth?</p> <p>A: A gummy bear!</p>
<p>I used to think that lightning came from the Flash of a huge camera up in the sky. So, every time I saw lightning, I would smile really big!</p>	<p>A gym is just a PE class that you pay to skip</p>