

# ST. JOHN'S NEWS

## FALL 2021 EDITION

Standing in the hallway of the church as people gathered for worship with the doors open to allow for better ventilation; there was a definite chill in the air. Fall has returned. In many of our homes, camping equipment and luggage has been put away for another summer – or soon will be – and fall jackets are starting to be moved from the back of the closet to the front. As people of faith, we look at the regular and dependable return of the seasons as a sign of the dependability of God. While we are wistful for the warm days of summer-past, in the changing seasons we see the orderliness of the divine plan unfolding all around us.

Similarly, here at St. John's, as in many congregations, the past month has seen all the busyness of another year starting: selecting church school curriculum and recruiting teachers and leaders to guide our young people along their journey of faith; laying plans for another fall/winter; and this year, finding new ways to respond to the needs of a congregation still in the midst of a world-wide pandemic.

While the pandemic has been a challenge in many different aspects of our lives, it has also been a catalyst for us to examine what we have been doing; to identify the purpose behind our activities, to refocus, and to explore new opportunities to embody the love of Christ in the world.

Fall is also that time of year when we focus on the stewardship of the church. Part of it has to do with the changing calendar; as people catch up with missed offerings from the summer, or as we look toward the year end and hope to reach the finish in good financial health. For all of you, who are giving thought to where you are in your givings or considering an extra gift, we are grateful. Which moves us into the other reason we focus on stewardship during the fall. In just two weeks Thanksgiving will be upon us, and we will once more be reminded of the abundance with which God blesses the earth - and us. In family and feast, we rejoice in the goodness of the Lord. May God's blessing be with you as we move through another season of the year, and may faith grow in the fertile soil of gratitude.

With God's richest blessing.

*Robert*





## *September and October Birthday Wishes*

Happy birthday to those who celebrate in September: Ross Chapin, Aaron Vivarais, Ayden Grant, Joan Gibson, Charles Eadie, Brian Markell, William Hope, Betty Eadie, Eleni Fourkiotis, Terry Kuhn, Marjorie McLaren, Maria Wolff, Jeffrey Newton, Anna Huizinga, and Fred Rennie.

We wish all of those celebrating in October a very happy birthday as well: Art MacRae, Libbey Adams, Merna Esdale, Gail Watson, Morgan Woods, Phyllis Evans, Clement Gwanyama, Cynthia Seguin, Lise Beauregard, Ron Coleman, Keppel Bharath, Clarence Adams, Freida McDonell, Kaitlyn MacLennan, Michele Alexis, Ralph Anderson, Laura Kuhn, Margaret Grindlay, Carol Ann Macfarlane, and Ryan Mullin, and Andrea Hum.

We also send very happy birthday greetings to all those wishing to remain anonymous.

If we have made an error in your birthdate, or missed it entirely, please advise us so that we can update our records.



Join us in person or online for  
World Communion Sunday on  
October 3<sup>rd</sup>.

## *Prayer Chain*



I am happy to announce that the prayer chain is back in action once again. We invite you to join us as we pray for others in our congregation and our community, both near and far. If you know of someone who needs pastoral care, and would possibly like us to pray them, please contact Reverend Adams at 613-932-8693 or by email at [minister@stjohnscornwall.ca](mailto:minister@stjohnscornwall.ca).

It is very important that we demonstrate empathy and compassion for all those who may be experiencing difficulty.

Submitted by Brenda Aikman, Pastoral Care Chair



# Happy Retirement!

We bid a fond farewell to Lisa and Dale on Sunday, September 26th and thanked them for their many years of dedicated service to St. John's. They will always be a part of our family! It was wonderful to have them join us at a service of recognition and a time of celebration afterwards with cake!







## Hey Jessica and Barry!

We are so pleased to introduce you to our new team members Jessica Hollingsworth and Barry LeClair.

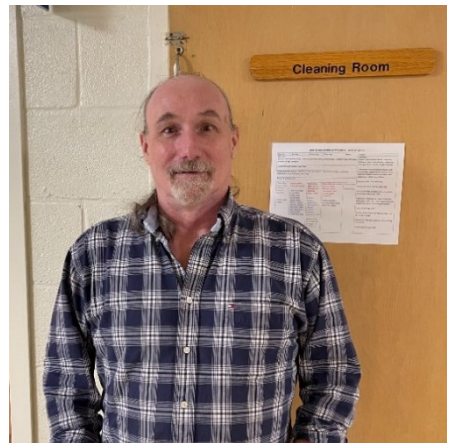


Jessica was born and raised in Cornwall. She attended St. Lawrence and CCVS, when CCVS was only Grade 11 and 12. She is the youngest of three girls, and she loves spending time with her niece and nephews. In 2014 Jessica moved to Halifax, where she worked in the retail industry for 2 and a half years. On returning to Cornwall, she held various jobs, including Hallmark, DAVIDsTEA, and Freedom Mobile.

Jessica enjoys crocheting, journaling, and all things artsy, in addition to video gaming. She finds gaming a great way to unwind, and she has met many friends in that on-line community. She also loves to travel, particularly to the United States, where she has friends, but she is more of a homebody.

Jessica has always been interested in transitioning from retail into office work, which is what drew her to St. John's. She thinks St. John's is a beautiful church, and she is looking forward to becoming a part of our community, as well as reaching out to the broader Cornwall area. She believes that the work we do here is valuable and rewarding – it is a “feel good” helping position. St. John's has a great reputation, and she had heard good things about us. Her connections to St. John's are deep – her grandparents were married here! An added bonus is that she lives only a few blocks away and can enjoy the walk to and from work.

Barry was born and raised in the Chesterville area. As one of 6 children on the farm, working with his hands was something he took interest in from a young age. His dad also worked with his hands, doing maintenance at Nestle. One of Barry's uncles was a carpenter who did work for various churches, and another uncle was a blacksmith. As a result, Barry learned a great deal about blacksmithing, carpentry and churches. As a youngster he played hockey, baseball and basketball. He also played the drums in a rock band in his earlier years. He has one daughter, Kylee.



Barry's work history includes various trades, including flooring, sheet metal, and building houses. It was during that time that he discovered a love for locksmithing, and he became certified in that area. A health concern 10 years ago slowed him down, but now he is feeling better and looks forward to part-time work here at St. John's. He has always loved the history of old buildings and likes the combination of cleaning and maintenance that the position offers.

In his spare time Barry restores antique grandfather clocks, muskets, and flint lock shotguns. If you have been to a battle re-enactment at Upper Canada Village, you have probably seen a musket Barry restored! He has a passion for Renaissance art, and enjoys playing darts, working at various projects in his shop, and going to music concerts.

## Kids' (and the young at heart) Corner Challenge

Calling all people of any age! We challenge you to complete the crossword puzzle. The first person to correctly finish it and return it to Susan at: [susan.macdonald5@sympatico.ca](mailto:susan.macdonald5@sympatico.ca) or drop it off at the church office will receive a prize. We will publish the name of the winner in the next newsletter.

### BIBLE WORD SEARCH!

BASIC WORDS OF THE BIBLE

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

JESUS CHRIST  
SALVATION  
JEW  
GENTILE  
HOLY SPIRIT  
GOD THE FATHER  
PERSECUTE

PRAY  
TITHE  
MINISTRY  
BIBLE  
HOLY  
SACRIFICE  
FAITH

MIRACLE  
NAZARETH  
BETHLEHEM  
JERUSALEM  
BAPTIZE  
TEMPTATION  
SIN

# Gathering Together



Over the summer months, we were able to enjoy a cold beverage and fellowship on the front lawn. While we miss coffee hour in the MacLellan Room, we were still able to get together following the service and catch up with friends.



## Sunday School Has Begun!

Calling all kids! Our new curriculum, called Dwell, is ready for you. Check out our new curriculum for Grades 1 - 6 at [DWELL Children's Ministry Curriculum - Home \(faithaliveresources.org\)](http://DWELL Children's Ministry Curriculum - Home (faithaliveresources.org)). DWELL children's ministry and Sunday school curriculum actively engages kids in God's story using interactive games, reflective wondering, and dramatic storytelling. Sunday School teachers Trish Brown, Laura McFadzen and Keppel Bharath want you to join them for a whole lot of fun!



Our nursery team of Carol Ann Macfarlane, Shari King and Susan Poirier are in the nursery every Sunday for toddlers under the age of 5. Hope to see you soon!

# Your chuckle for today...

An atheist was walking through the woods. 'What majestic trees! What powerful rivers! What beautiful animals!' he said to himself.

As he was walking alongside the river, he heard a rustling in the bushes behind him. He turned to look and saw a seven-foot grizzly bear charge towards him. He ran as fast as he could up the path. He looked over his shoulder and saw that the bear was closing in on him. He looked over his shoulder again, and the bear was even closer. He tripped and fell on the ground. He rolled over to pick himself up but saw that the bear was right on top of him, reaching for him with his left paw and raising his right paw to strike him.

At that instant the atheist cried out 'Oh my God!'  
Time stopped.  
The bear froze.  
The forest was silent.



As a bright light shone upon the man, a voice came out of the sky. 'You deny my existence for all these years, teach others I don't exist and even credit creation to a cosmic accident. Do you expect me to help you out of this predicament? Am I to count you as a believer?' The atheist looked directly into the light: 'It would be hypocritical of me to suddenly ask you to treat me as a Christian now, but perhaps you could make the bear a Christian?'

'Very well,' said the voice.  
The light went out.  
The sounds of the forest resumed.

And the bear dropped his right paw, brought both paws together, bowed his head and spoke: 'Lord bless this food, which I am about to receive from thy bounty through Christ our Lord, Amen.'

Thank you to Debbie Plant for sharing our chuckle for the newsletter!

Got a good joke, poem, or a funny Covid-19 or isolation story? Please share it with us. We will not reveal any names unless you give us permission to do so. Send your submission to: [susan.macdonald5@sympatico.ca](mailto:susan.macdonald5@sympatico.ca).