

Passings

We recently lost two of our flock. We uplift the souls of Pat Willis and Lena Bobier to our Lord. May the Lord bless them and keep them forever in everlasting life.

Our prayers and support go out for the families and friends of the departed, may they find comfort their loved ones are at peace. Our loss is heaven's gain.

Happenings

Happenings around the parish.

- **Parish Council Meetings** – Sept. 24th and Oct. 14th.
- **Keenagers** – 2nd and 4th
Tuesdays, every month at 10 to 11 a.m. – Civitan Hall.
- **Pray K7A** – Oct. 26 @ 7:00 p.m.
Location Free Methodist Church
- **Community Games Night** –
October 3rd, Food @ 5:30,
Games start 6:30.
- **Fall Bazaar** – October 18th,
Details forthcoming.

If you have any events you would like to have posted here you can drop us a line at:

stjohns.smithsfalls@gmail.com

"Events" in the title.



New Children's Ministry

On Sunday, September 7th, St. John's launched its new Children's ministry – 4DFK. It's a new approach to children's ministries offering safe, responsible, learning and exploration.

What is 4DFK? It is helping our kids be **Devoted Disciples who Delight in Devotion** as they grow in their **Faith**.

Kids love to learn and to explore new ideas. Through play, story, videos, and instruction, 4DF kids will have a ton of chances to grow in their understanding of our faith and practices, and in their relationship with God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

It's a new comprehensive approach to a child's discovery and understanding of their faith. It is way beyond the traditional Sunday School, embracing both in church and in-class participation.

The Sunday morning sessions flow through a series of steps. The kids are still welcome to participate in the processional, bringing items up to the altar at the start of the service. Shortly after the service begins

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Seasonal Music Series

As a component of our continuing effort to engage with the broader community at large and as a taste of the evolution in music for St. John's, we are introducing our Fall and Winter musical entertainment program. The program will consist of several concerts and events spread throughout the seasons. These events are open to all who are interested in attending.

The first event, Music Series, Part I, will have St. John's hosting the first of two, Autumn, music concerts, the first featuring Stephen Palmer. It will be held on Saturday, October 4th at 7 p.m.

Stephen Palmer will perform original and traditional folk songs interspersed with gospel sing-alongs. Steve has toured extensively, produced 5 albums, and has been inducted into the Edmonton Music Hall of Fame.

For more see: spmusic.ca

This promises to be an enjoyable, intimate evening engaging up close with Stephen. Come and bring your singing voice. Or just come along, relax and take it all in.

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Musical Evolution

As many are already aware, the parish found out last Fall that our organ console is in dire need of repair. Kudos go out to our amazing musicians who have worked wonders with this instrument that is in distress.

While each individual issue with the organ is not a showstopper, collectively they present a growing problem. Over time these issues will not go away. They will only worsen. It is not a matter of if it will fail. It is a matter of when.

Given this situation an adhoc committee was formed with representation from the music ministry team and parish council. Their task has been one of information gathering to understand what the options and the prospective costs of those options are in this situation.

Another consideration in this data gathering is the ongoing evolution of what St. John's does in its music ministry. While the traditional roots of this ministry run deep into the last century and beyond, the parish is living in the twenty first century. Our recent effort at establishing our parish mission, goals and drivers reflect this and are a factor. Our recent Musical Finale for the 175th Anniversary celebrations exemplified this evolution, successfully embracing both traditional and contemporary music alike.

On Sunday, September 14th, a Town Hall meeting was held to communicate early findings from the adhoc team and to collect input from the congregation regarding this musical evolution. All of these inputs are being collected and collate the results will be presented to Vestry for a decision, Oct 5th after 10 a.m. service. Stay tuned! (D. Willis)



Stephen Palmer, Coming Oct. 4th



Justin, Kyle, & Susan, Coming Dec. 6th

Seasonal Music

(continued from page 1 – Music Series)

Tickets are \$20 in advance from the church office or Karen Bryan and will be available for \$25 at the door. Free admission for children under 13 years of age! Please join us for this joyful, family-friendly event.

A portion of the proceeds will go towards our organ replacement fund. Light refreshments at a nominal cost (because it's a fundraiser!) will be available.

Get your tickets soon for this event. Its coming up fast.

For further information, contact Karen Bryan or Trish Warren.

The second event in this series is scheduled for early in December. Confirmed for Saturday,

December 6th is a Celtic Christmas Concert. The show will feature the musical trio of Justin Theriault, Kyle Burghout, and Susan Toman. They will perform a collection of contemporary and traditional Celtic music from Ireland, Scotland and Canada.

Justin brings to life the whistles, flutes and pipes. Kyle is a North American fiddle champion. Susan will be on the Celtic Harp.

For more info see: www.justinkylesusan.ca.

As with our October concert, proceeds go towards our organ replacement fund.

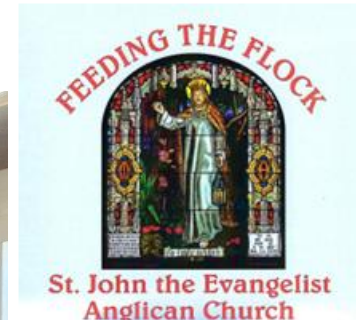
(K. Bryan, D. Willis)

Harvest Potluck

It promises to be a very busy Autumn here at St. John's. Music in October and December, the Bazaar in October, and in November we will be hosting our Fall Harvest Potluck Feast.

In the early evening of November 15th, the Parish Hall will be filled with the sounds of conversation and fellowship and the aromas of everyone's signature dishes and comfort foods. It will indeed be a feast for the senses.

To keep things interesting, this potluck has a bit of twist. Attendees are encouraged to bring their signature favorites, but the recipe must come from the parish cookbook, **Feeding the Flock**. Published in 2018, this



cookbook has over 200 pages of delicious recipes; from antipasto to zucchini.

Don't have one yet? They are available through the office. Proceeds support the organ fund.

(D. Willis)



Townhall on The Organ Replacement



Photo - L. Porter

(from page 1 – Children's Ministry) the Children's Talk by the service leader is the first segment of the teaching curriculum. It will be the primary "instruction" for the morning. Following the Children's Talk, they will depart for the Parish Hall where the sessions continue. Some of the time the service leader may join them for an extended segment, opening it up for inquiring minds. Most of the time, the Parish Hall sessions will be led by

our Highschool students and supported by adult aides and helpers.

Each month there will be a biblical theme and passage to focus on. Each week will unpack one part of that theme and

***Devoted Disciples
Delighting in
Devotion!***

passage. There will be unique learnings, activities, challenges and rewards surrounding the theme.

Rewards will be in the form of collectible, customizable 4DF Kids Koins. The Koins can be coloured by the kids and collected to trade up for bigger prizes.



Rewards can be earned for attendance, bringing a friend, memorizing the verse for the month, home Bible reading, and many other activities and challenges. (T. Brauer)

Fall Bazaar

The Parish of St. John's is ready to welcome you with open arms. This year our Fall Bazaar will be on Oct 18th in the Parish Hall.

The Bazaar will run from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. on the Saturday.

In advance, donations for the Bazaar can be dropped off at the Parish Hall during regular office hours. Monday through Wednesday, and Friday between 9 a.m. and noon and Thursdays from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Perishable donations for the Bazaar can be dropped off the day of the event at the Parish Hall after 9 a.m.

The proceeds from this event will go to support our outreach and community efforts.

As you can see from the photo above, St. John's is ready to welcome you with open arms. Come on in and find that next hidden treasure.

(D. Willis)

WindstoneBeckwith.com:

A place-specific nonprofit rooted in the social and natural history of rural Ottawa Valley.

A website of renown and interest.

Cultivating community through theology, ecology, and the arts.

"I would especially recommend the *"Seasons"* link. Each image is truly worth a thousand words and are well worth taking the time to look at.

Find it at: www.windstonebeckwith.com

(T. Brauer)



Scholarships

Each year St. John's honours a deserving graduate of S.F.D.C.I. moving on to post-secondary studies. The honouree receives a recurring scholarship of \$5,000 per year. The scholarship renews for up to a total of four years so long as the candidate continues with post-secondary studies and maintains at least a "C" average.

This year's honouree from S.F.D.C.I. was Abby Levac of Smiths Falls. Abby is now in post secondary at an Ontario university.

In addition, this year an additional scholarship was granted to a graduate of T.R. Leger, Toyin Awoyemi who will be pursuing a career in Nursing through Algonquin College.

(D. Willis)



4DF kids

[Find out what its all about!](#)

Upcoming Events

- **Parish Council Meetings.**
Next council meeting is Wednesday, October 15th at 7 p.m. in the Parish Hall. In November, the meeting will be on Wednesday, November 19th at 7 p.m. in the Parish Hall.
- **Food Bank Baskets.**
Every third Sunday of the month, we will be collecting donations of non-perishable food items for the food bank. Please leave your contributions in the baskets at the base of the chancel steps.
- **Keenagers.**
Hosted by the First Baptist Church, this is a fellowship time of prayer, scripture reading, music and guest speakers for individuals 55+. The Smiths Falls Civitan Club. Every 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month from 10 a.m.-11am. All are welcome. Anyone needing a ride may contact Eric Wills 613-283-7007.
- **Pray K7A.**
On the last Sunday of each month, the local Christian community gathers together for shared fellowship and prayers. It will be held on October 26th starting at 7 p.m. at the Free Methodist Church – 573 County Rd. 29, Smiths Falls.
- **Games Night.**
Games nights happen regularly each month, starting at 5:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall. The next games night is on Friday, October 3rd, starting with food at 5:30 and games at 6:30 p.m.
- **Musical Concert.**
Fall Music Series Part I: Stephen Palmer. On Saturday, October 4th, at the Parish Hall, starting at 7:00 p.m.
- **Fall Bazaar.**
The Fall Bazaar is here. October 18, 2025. As our storage space in the Hall is limited this year. But the Bazaar team is now taking donations in the Parish Hall. Thank you.
- **Girls Night Out.**
The Girls Night Out Tour: Let's Glow Girls – the Fall 2025 tour presented by Fun & Faith. A fun-filled evening of comedy, stories, and encouragement. At Smiths Falls Free Methodist Church, County Rd. 29. For tickets see: funandfaith.com.
- **Upcoming Events – Fall Harvest Thanksgiving Potluck.**
Save the date: The Fall Harvest Potluck dinner. November 15th, 2025. This one is with a twist. All dishes brought to the dinner must be from recipes from the parish cookbook: **Feeding the Flock**. A friendly trivia contest will follow.

Times of Worship:

Sundays:

- 8 a.m. spoken eucharist.
- 10 a.m. sung eucharist.

Wednesdays:

- 10:30 a.m. spoken eucharist.

Parish Office:

- 9 a.m. to noon, weekdays; excepting Thursday. On Thursdays, 1 to 3 p.m. (613)283-1261

St. Johns Today Issue 015 September 2025

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Disclaimer: The thoughts and opinions expressed herein are those of the contributors and are not meant to represent the views or positions of the Parish of St. Johns or the Anglican Church of Canada.

