



*St. John's on-the-Lake Chapel Association
12 Loch Eden Shores Road
Meredith, NH 03253*

May, 2023

Dear Friends of the Chapel,

Our island church community welcomes you to another season. Currently, the lake water is high and so are our spirits as we anticipate the 96th year at the chapel.

This year, our services begin on July 2 and continue through August 27. Last year our attendance ranged from 25 to a high of 80 and we know many of you receiving this letter joined our group in worship; we thank you for making St. John's part of your Sunday. Please know that there is always room for more and we hope to see you often! If you have trouble finding space at the church dock, please alert us; we have ways to fix that problem for a subsequent visit. If you are a mainlander and need transportation to the services, email our ferry boat at: [**bear.island.church.ferry@gmail.com**](mailto:bear.island.church.ferry@gmail.com). We depart from Cattle Landing at 9:15. If you and your boat wish to join in this outreach ministry, please email us as well.

Our popular island outreach, Yoga at the Chapel with Linda Hopper, is moving to Tuesday mornings at 10:00 am.

We value your continued support; we use these funds to support our ministry and to make both small and large improvements to the property. This past year we joined with the Bear Island Association to place an AED at the church and will have people trained in its use. You may also notice on your walk up the hill that new benches have been placed to allow further enjoyment of the chapel property. We thank each of you as these projects were funded entirely through your donations. We are ever grateful for your generosity! We now ask for your continued support as we strive to keep the Chapel ministry strong and have enclosed a donation card for this purpose. Alternatively, you can respond electronically by visiting our website, [**www.stjohnsonthelake.org**](http://www.stjohnsonthelake.org) and opening the tab "Donations and Bequests".

This winter, a wind storm regrettably did significant damage to many homes on Bear Island; fortunately, the chapel was not impacted by the storm. One of our goals is to have a **Preservation Fund** sufficient to fund the replacement cost of the chapel in the event of a catastrophic loss. Currently, we pay annual insurance for partial replacement, the maximum our carrier will allow. We welcome support for the **Preservation Fund** through personal legacies, bequests, and planned gifts. This is a wonderful, long-term way to honor our past and keep the Chapel alive for generations to come. Details about these initiatives can be also be found on our website.

This year we welcomed three members to the Board, Suzanne Eaton, a Bear Islander who is new to the Board, and Karin Lyon and Carmel Hanson, both Bear Islanders, returning to the Board. We continue to expand our Board membership with individuals who share our vision for the Chapel. If you have an interest in joining our Board, please do not hesitate to reach out.

As we prepare to clear the paths and open the doors, we thank you again for supporting St. John's. Please be aware that you are always part of our island church community and we hope we will be privileged to welcome you to visit and worship with us there this summer.

For the entire Board,

Paul Nelson

plmnelson@icloud.com

Ellen Nelson

ejan0516@optonline.net

Co-presidents