



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

May, 2025

Dear Friends of the Chapel,

Our island church community welcomes you to the 98<sup>th</sup> season at St. John's. As we march toward our **100<sup>th</sup> anniversary**, we continue to build the **Centennial Campaign Fund** for the purpose of completing the work outlined in the Historic Building Report on the St. John's Chapel Tower. After this comprehensive assessment and a detailed application, St. John's, as one of two historic buildings in the Meredith area, received an LCHIP matching grant to help us meet the goals needed to complete this work. Every dollar you have contributed has been matched! And we are ready to begin early non-disruptive phases this June with more extensive work to begin in the fall. It is not too late for you to be part of this project; any contributions earmarked for the Centennial Campaign will be added to these funds. We hope that these legacy donations to the Campaign will offset the remaining costs.

This year, our services begin on June 29 and continue through August 24. The schedule is included in this mailing. Last year we averaged 40 people and 2 dogs per Sunday. We know many of you receiving this letter joined our group in worship; we thank you for making St. John's part of your summer experience at the Lake. We hope to see you often! If you anticipate trouble finding space at the church dock, please alert us; we have ways to fix that problem. 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). Please include a good phone number in your communication so we can contact you easily. 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 scheduled for **Tuesday mornings at 10:00 am beginning July 1<sup>st</sup>**. It is a gentle flow practice suitable for all levels. Please bring your own yoga mat. Payment is by donation.

This winter and spring we have mourned the loss of two former St. John's Board members, John Kreitler and Dave Mernick. Many of you in the Meredith/Laconia area knew John and his wife, Margie. Many on Bear Island knew Dave. Dave and his wife, Cyndy, were married at St. John's by Rev. Sandor Farkas. Both men were long time fixtures at the lake. Please keep their families in your thoughts and prayers.

We value your continued support; we use these funds to support our ministry and to make both small and large improvements to the property. We purchased LED candles which reduce the possibility of fire and discourage the mice from nibbling the wax! We continue to take down trees that present a danger to those using the docks and the paths as well as to the chapel building. We have added additional new benches which make the climb less arduous. We completed a thorough assessment of the architectural needs of the chapel building and used that report to apply for an LCHIP grant to stretch your dollars. We thank each of you as these projects were funded through your annual 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".

One of our ongoing 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. Additionally, all proceeds from purchases of St. John's giclées by local artist Peter Ferber add to the Preservation Fund. Contact Ripley Forbes at [rforbes@aol.com](mailto:rforbes@aol.com) if you have questions about these prints. Details about each of these initiatives can be also be found on our website.

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 once again prepare to remove the shutters and open the doors, we thank you 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*

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Co-presidents