

Saint Peter's Parish Summer Magazine

August 2026



Photo: Shane the bus driver

August 22nd, A Special Day with Special People

Saint Peter's Road Trip to the Annapolis Valley

Super Summer 26' is almost in the history books. Before you know it, we'll be back at our fall routines. Welcome back to Church Sunday, September 20th, is just three weeks away. Our Parish Magazine – August 2026 edition - contains information about, and photos taken on, our recent parish road trip to the Annapolis Valley and on the installation of our restored ' Good Shepherd ' window. That's right; our ' above the altar' window has been restored, returned and reinstalled. You'll also find some ideas for fun in HRM this coming September and an overview of some of the opportunities at Saint Peter's that are happening next month. As well, some final thoughts on where the parish might focus next year, after our 75th anniversary year has ended, are included.

Ideas for Fun in HRM in September

Sept. 3 –30 Foreshaw Day Exhibit at the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia (free entry Thurs. nights)

September 3-13 – Halifax Fringe Festival

September 10-12 – Festa Italiano – Italian Canadian Cultural Assoc. Agricola Street

September 11 – Dahlia Show with Neville MacKay at the Public Gardens (1 PM)

September 13-14 – Maritime Heritage Festival @ Maritime Museum of the Atlantic

September 16-23 – Atlantic Film Festival at Cineplex Spring Garden Road

September 17-21 – Oktoberfest @ Harbour Boardwalk

September 27 – East Coast Ukrainian Festival @ Steel Wheels

Saint Peter's Special September Programmes

September 14 - **Seniors Home Safety** – sponsored by the Halifax Regional Police- a trained senior citizen will provide information on property crime prevention, elder abuse, falls prevention, fire safety and more – no cost @ the church-10 AM

September 28 – **Seniors & Frauds and Scams** – sponsored by the Halifax Regional Police – a trained senior citizen will present on scams targeting seniors, social media and internet safety, preventing identity theft and online shopping theft and fraud – no cost @ the church – 10AM

September 29 – **Women's Health - Aging with Grace** – an IWK Breast Cancer presentation – no cost - @ the church in the lounge – 10:30 – 11:30

A Special Day with Special People

It was only a matter of time before the parishioners at Saint Peter's, who have been celebrating the church's 75th anniversary under the theme 'The Pilgrimage Continues' became pilgrims themselves. On August 22nd, a cohort of parishioners, their friends and relatives, including Bishop Sandra Fyfe and her husband Jim, took off on a wonderful one day pilgrimage to the Annapolis Valley. The day's programme organized by Heidi Jury and Glenn Taylor unfolded flawlessly.



The Hantsport Philharmonic Orchestra at Avon United Church (photo : Peggy Taylor)

By 9 AM the motorcoach was winding its way along the Bedford Highway towards Hantsport. First stop was at Avon United Church. By 10:15 Heidi was introducing a gifted group of musicians to a very appreciative audience. The musicians, dubbed the Hantsport Philharmonic Orchestra by Glenn, included : Heidi Jury pianist, Keigan Richard violinist, Elizabeth Sircom cellist, Kory Bayer Bass, Marilyn Manzer recorder and Kimiko Suzuki violist. The concert came in two parts. The first half contained a delightful variety of pieces including: " Maple Sugar", " Lill Liza Jane", " She's Like a Swallow", " Greensleeves", " Mockingbird Hill" and " The Tennessee Waltz". Several of the pieces were arranged by Marilyn Manzer and several of the pieces were popular songs in 1951 the year Saint Peter's was born. The second half of the concert saw

Keigan Richard, Kimiko Suzuki, Libby Sircom, Kory Bayer and Heidi Jury perform “ The Trout Quintet” by Franz Schubert.



Happy Pilgrims enjoying lunch at St. Andrews Anglican

Following the incredible concert at Avon United, the pilgrims moved on to Saint Andrew’s Anglican for lunch. The folks at Saint Andrew’s served up a delicious lunch of chili and roll followed by a scrumptious blueberry buckle dessert with tea and coffee. By 12:30 the bus was on its way to the UNESCO Grand Pre World Heritage Park for a short stop and group photo (see front cover). Then it was a short drive to and through Wolfville to Port Williams and Saint John’s Church.

Saint John’s is one of the oldest churches in Nova Scotia having been founded in 1810! It also has the distinction of being the newest National Historic Site in Canada. We were welcomed to Saint John’s by Ernie Howell, the caretaker of Saint John’s cemetery. Ernie opened up the church for us and provided us with a brief introduction to the church. It was however the cemetery that was the main reason for our visit to this historic Anglican church. In the cemetery is the grave of Florence Daking. Florence donated the land on which Saint Peter’s stands. One year before Florence died, she willed part of her estate in Birch Cove to the Anglican Church. Florence belonged to the Donaldson family which had owned Birch Cove since 1811! We gathered by Florence’s grave where Rev. Arran led us in prayer.



After praying for Florence and recognizing the huge contribution she made to our parish, we boarded the coach for a five minute drive to the Church Street Vineyard and Winery. There we were hosted to a very enjoyable visit by the winery’s owners. Our last stop of the day was back in Wolfville at Hennigar’s Farm Market. It would be difficult to quantify the amount (left Josh Burdett playing a few tunes at the Winery)

of ice cream that was purchased and consumed. Suffice to say the staff at Hennigar's serving the ice cream had earned a well deserved rest by the time we departed for Halifax.

On the way back to the city, we were treated to some impressive poetry recited by Josh Burdett and stories by Warden Art MacDonald. Coach Atlantic driver Shane brought our marvellous outing to a safe conclusion when he pulled the motor coach up into the parking lot at Saint Peter's at 5:45. All in all our pilgrimage to the valley was a very special day with very special people.



Pilgrims enjoying an ice cream treat to end off a great day

Saint Peter's September Calendar

Sept. 6 – **Tickets (\$ 40/per person) for our Oct. 24th Dinner Theatre go on sale**

Sept. 8 - **Quilters Group** meets @ 1 PM in the Lounge

Sept. 12 - **St. George's Hot Meal** Casseroles due by 10:30/ **English Speaking Club** 12-2 in lounge

Sept. 14 – **Police sponsored Senior Home Safety Presentation** in lounge at 10-11 AM

Sept. 17 – **Guild** Meets in lounge at 10 AM

Sept. 19 – **Men's Fellowship Breakfast** at Jim's Restaurant at 8 AM

Sept. 20 – **Back to Church Sunday** 8 & 10 AM)/ **Sunday School** resumes / **Food Bank Sunday**

Sept. 22 – **Parish Council** meets at 7 PM

Sept. 23 – **Alpha** Course begins (6:30-8:30) dinner included

Sept. 26 - **Safer Church Training** Session (8:30- 11:30)

Sept. 28 – **Police Sponsored Presentation** on Seniors Safety (scams and frauds) lounge 10 AM

Sept. 29 –**Women's Health** (IWK presentation on breast cancer) / **Book Club** meets at 1 PM

It's Back!

Ahead of schedule and under budget, it's back! On Thursday August 27th staff from Sattler's Stained Glass Studio Ltd. finished installing our 'Good Shepherd Window' above the altar. It is difficult to refrain from talking in superlatives when it comes to the Good Shepherd Window story. The restoration of the window certainly brought out the best in us. We had the best stained glass craftsmen and craftswomen working on the project. The entire project was completed in less than a year. That included raising the thousands and thousands of dollars necessary to repair the window, finding someone who could undertake the project and get it done in time for our anniversary year's grand finale weekend in October.



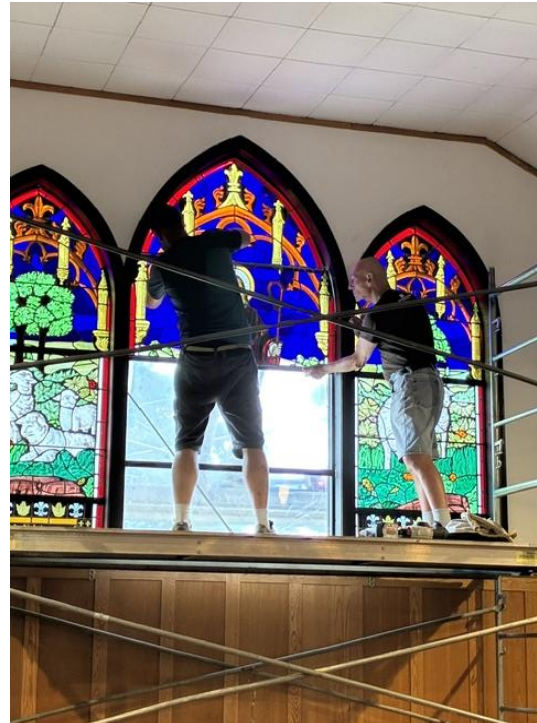
Warden Art MacDonald helping to install the window

It seems ages ago that we held our auction to raise funds for the restoration. It has been so rewarding to see individual parishioners undertake special initiatives to raise funds- remember our 'no guilt chocolate bar campaign.' Then there's the anniversary quilt raffle that has about ten weeks to go. It has been humbling to see so many parishioners donating money to the cause. A special thank you has to be extended to those who rolled up their sleeves and set up staging, painted window frames, removed outdated wiring and lights and facilitated the staff from Sattlers both in their removing the window and then putting it back in.

Sattlers Stained Glass Studio Ltd. was created and is currently guided by Norbert Sattler. Norbert began his apprenticeship in stained glass in Ahrweiler Germany in 1968. While Norbert focuses on windows, his wife Helga manages the office and day to day operations of the studio. Son Frederick is now assuming more and more responsibility for the hands-on part of the business. In fact, it was Frederick Sattler, who was the on-sight crew chief dealing with our

window. Our Good Shepherd Window now joins an impressive list of successfully completed projects by Sattlers Ltd. including those at: St John's Anglican Church, UNESCO World Heritage Site- Lunenburg, The Bishop Strachn School Chapel – Toronto, Christ United Methodist Church – Honolulu. Ninians Cathedral- Antigonish and the University of Augsburg- Augsburg Germany.

Once the three panels of the Good Shepherd Window were carefully removed and transported to Sattler's studio in La Have outside Bridgewater, the glass pieces were separated, the old lead matrix removed. The glass was cleaned on both sides and repairs made as needed, The window was releaded, putty applied, new copper wire and iron support rods attached. This last part of the project was to prevent the windows from buckling again. The wooden frames were inspected and refreshed. Finally, a new protective polycarbonate glazing sheet was installed on the outside of the window. Sattler's has already been paid in full for its time and work. This impressive 75th anniversary project is now finished. Thanks to everyone who made it possible.



Art MacDonald bringing new meaning to 'high church'

What Happens in 2027? (Part3)

Our 75th anniversary year is now two thirds over and it's obvious from looking at the Saint Peter's events calendar that we still have a lot left to accomplish in the last four months of 2026. These observations alone suggest we can't do too much planning for 2027 until we get to 2027. It's not that we have to be super organized; however, if our anniversary year proved anything it's that setting goals helps get things done.

Saint Peter's is doing well. Attendance at services is growing. We are paying our bills. We've shown that we can take on major projects like paying for a new roof and restoring the 'Good Shepherd' window. We've upped our support for the West End Food Bank. The church can boast Alpha, Lent and Advent courses, wonderful music at services, successful outreach commitments and more. If that's the case why do anything different than we're already doing?

The answer to that question is simply, we need younger parishioners. One commentator on the state of Anglican churches says a true mark of revitalized churches should be measured in the number of baptisms rather than how many attend services. Another answer is that as good as we are, we can't expect 88 year old parishioners to climb scaffolding for ever (see previous article). A good place to start in 2027 may be to strike a task force to study the issues and make suggestions to the annual general meeting next spring. How can Saint Peter's reach out to the Gen X and Millennials? Should we offer an alpha course for youth? Should we start a campus ministry for MSVU students? Should we establish one time special events that appeal to young couples? Should we use our live streaming capabilities to produce outreach programmes like Ted Talks? One very simple suggestion found on line is to encourage current parishioners to befriend their younger neighbours about opportunities for them at Saint Peter's. Young families are out there! They're craving to belong to something important but not in the way older generations do. We just have to look at our recent Christmas Eve services to see that. How do we get those young families to become involved at Saint Peter's the other 364 days of the year? Let's make one of our goals for 2027 to find out.

And finally

**Thanks to Dennis and Maureen for hosting
LEMONADE HOUR
after 10 AM services all summer.**

