

Announcements – June 15, 2025

Welcome to today's worship service. We are grateful that you have joined us!

Highland Group welcomes young children into **the nursery**, outside the west doors of the Sanctuary.

Please join us following worship for **refreshments and fellowship** in New St. James Hall.

This summer, New St. James is offering **Vacation Bible Camp!** This ministry will be under the direction of Jenna Smith, who will be working with Rev. David's support. The dates are July 7-11, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. For more details and to register, please visit: www.newstjames.ca/VBC

Friendship Communion, Luncheon, and Strawberry Social. All are welcome to join us Thursday, June 19 from 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Please RSVP on the signup sheet in NSJ Hall. If you are unable to sign the sheet, please contact Cathy Taylor (519.433.4095).

We will be taking **photos** this Thursday, June 19, at the Friendship Communion and Strawberry Social. The photos may be posted on our website, on social media, or in other print publications. If you prefer that your picture or that of your child (less than 18) not be taken, please contact the Church Office to be added to the "Do Not Photo List."

Do you have an hour or two to spare this summer? We are looking for **volunteers** to mow the lawn at NSJ. If you could help with this one or more times, please contact Rob McGugan at rgmcgugan@gmail.com or 226.235.0374.

MARKETPLACE 2025: Women's Council is excited to announce that this year's Marketplace will take place on Saturday, November 8. Rhubarb is ready and strawberries will be ready very soon so time to make some jam for our Preserve Table. We have some jars available if you would like some. If anyone has half pint or pint jars that they will not be using and would be willing to donate, please leave them in the lower kitchen. It will be difficult to match the amazing results from last year's sale but with your help making merchandise for us to sell, we will try our best and hopefully do even better! Please help us to help our church! For any further information, please contact Karen Buchwald at 519.642.6742 or karenbuchwald@hotmail.com.

In 2022, the Session of NSJ sent the following **Overture** to the General Assembly of the PCC:

WHEREAS God does not break God's promises; and

WHEREAS God has promised that Israel shall be God's beloved people forever; and

WHEREAS in Christ God has included the Gentile nations into God's covenantal care by expansion—not abrogation—of God's covenantal faithfulness to Israel; and

WHEREAS the Presbyterian Church in Canada accordingly affirms "that Jews have not been supplanted and replaced by Christians in the one covenant" (A&P 2011, p. 43); and

WHEREAS the exclusivist definition of the church as "the new Israel" (*Living Faith* 1.2) fails to reflect these vital features of God's faithfulness; and

WHEREAS the supersessionist implications of defining the church as "the new Israel" risk undermining efforts to oppose antisemitism; and

WHEREAS "the church, in obedience to Scripture and under the promised guidance of the Holy Spirit" must seek to be faithful in its "continuing function of reformulating the faith" (*Book of Forms*, sections 447, 449, 450, and 451);

THEREFORE, the Session of New St. James (London) humbly overtures the Venerable, the 148th General Assembly to delete, emend, or qualify the definition of the church as "the new Israel" in *Living Faith*, or to do otherwise as the General Assembly, in its wisdom, may deem best.

After lengthy of discussion, the PCC has added a note to *Living Faith*, reaffirming that "the church does not replace Israel as the chosen people of God." New copies of *Living Faith* will include this revision.

What began as a discussion at NSJ has changed one of the Subordinate Standards of the PCC.