



# St. John's on the Lake Chapel

*Founded as an Episcopal chapel in 1927, St. John's on the Lake became an Association in 1954 and provides non-denominational religious services for worshippers of all faiths.*

*Bear Island  
Lake Winnepesaukee  
P.O. Box 1012  
Meredith NH 03253*

December 1, 2007

Dear Friend of St. John's on the Lake,

Eighty years ago our simple stone chapel was constructed on the highest point of Lake Winnepesaukee's Bear Island. Last summer at a special service to recognize this anniversary, a number of St. John's friends reflected on the idea that no matter how much has changed on the Lake our Chapel continues to thrive in serving the spiritual needs of the summer island community. Today St. John's on the Lake stands as a living memorial to past and future generations of islanders who see summer time not as a respite from their faith but an opportunity to harmonize their spiritual lives with the natural, God-given beauty that is all around us.

The primary responsibility of the St. John's on the Lake Association is to protect and maintain our unique Chapel. St. John's is an 80 year old structure constructed to surround an observation tower built around 1900. The financial demands of maintaining such a structure have become increasingly costly.

Next summer you will notice we have completed major repairs to remove and replace the observation tower sills which were seriously damaged by years of exposure to punishing winter snow and water. The steps entering the church have been restored and a new step added to make it easier for our less agile members to enter the chapel. The deteriorating portico roof has been replaced. Pictures of the completed work can be seen on our web site at [www.stjohnsonthelake.com](http://www.stjohnsonthelake.com).

The repairs have cost over \$11,000, which is in addition to our regular expenses to organize services and maintain a dock at Deep Cove. Fortunately, we were prepared to undertake these repairs because of your past generosity but I am writing you today to ask that we make an extra effort at this time to restore our Chapel Improvement Fund. Looking to the future we must be prepared to quickly address structural, maintenance and restoration issues when they arise.

As we approach the Christmas season, please consider a special end of year gift to St. John's on the Lake. I look forward to seeing you at church next summer and thank you for your support of the St. John's Chapel Improvement Fund.

Merry Christmas,

*Ripley Forbes*

President, St. John's on the Lake Association

## **St. John's on the Lake Association 2007-2008 Officers and Board Members**

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