



Sunday December 12th 2021 – Third Sunday in Advent

Our Sunday service is at 11 am with in-person worship, we also stream the service live and record it for later viewing. The recording of the service will be available on Sunday and can be found our YouTube channel by typing “St. David's Presbyterian Message for December 12 2021” into Google. Copies of the hymns and scripture readings are included in the email sent out each Friday.

Church Office Hours: Rev. Sturtevant is in the office Tuesdays through Fridays from 10 am to 2 pm, if you need to drop off or pick up something. For pastoral care, please contact him at 699-3661. To contact the office, please leave a message on the church’s phone number (722-2382) or email us at stdavids@nfld.com.

Prayer Partnership: The Presbyterian Church in Canada offers a prayer partnership that may form part of a daily devotional, please consider these prayer partnerships:

Sunday, December 12 (Third Sunday of Advent) We pray for a sense of joy at the dawn of a new day that is initiated by the birth of the Christ child among us.

Monday, December 13 We pray for the people, ministries and mission of the Presbytery of Pictou in Nova Scotia.

Tuesday, December 14 We pray for the Indigenous community of Nazko in British Columbia. We pray that hope will abound and lives will be healed through relationships with the Creator's son, Jesus.

Wednesday, December 15 We pray for members of the Canadian Armed Forces who are deployed and may face loneliness and hardship.

Thursday, December 16 We pray for support for local food banks as staff and volunteers strive to provide food, toiletries and other essential items this winter.

Friday, December 17 We pray that parents and caregivers of children and youth are blessed with wisdom and patience.

Saturday, December 18 (International Migrants Day) We pray for the safety and well-being of all migrant workers and their families and encourage governments to protect the rights of migrant workers.



Orson Sturtevant on a windy walk with his Dad

Message From the Minister

When I was a kid, my Dad used to tell me that the first rule in the book that tells you how to be a parent is “Never let your children have any fun”. That’s why I wasn’t allowed to play with hammers, or fire, or knives. You know, the fun stuff!

Now that I have kids, I realize how often I feel as a parent that I have to follow that same rule. Truly, kids have the most fun before adults notice what they’re up to.

But as much as I try to stomp out their fun and stop them from enjoying themselves, I never seem able to live up to the first rule in the parent’s book. Despite my best

efforts, my children do have fun, often, and loudly.

That is the secret of joy they are teaching me. Go for a walk with a two-year-old at their own pace, and you will realize the joy they can find from everything around them. The lights, the wind, the bugs, what their bodies can do, they never miss a chance to rejoice.

This Sunday in Advent is the Sunday of Joy. May you take time this week to celebrate all the goodness that surrounds you, and may you be open to how many things there really are that are worth celebrating.

“Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.” (Phillipians 4:4-7)

From the Board, Session and Treasurer

In-person Church Services

St. David's would like to welcome you back to our in-person church service. We use QR codes to verify vaccination status and each week we do better at this new process. We still ask for your assessment status as we have since we started in-person services.

Our morning worship is at 11 am. We also live-stream the service, or you can access it later. Please wear your masks especially during singing and respect social distancing norms.

For those members of St. David's unable to participate in virtual worship for one reason or another, we invite you to attend in person. Those of you who join us virtually via Zoom may certainly continue to follow us that way or if you are comfortable joining us in person, we'd certainly welcome you back.

Getting the Service and Bulletin using our website

This bulletin is placed on our website as soon as the Rollmann family a copy on Friday morning. The website is **stdavids.nf.ca** and if you type this in as your search, our website will be right there. At the top of the main page is a "Sunday Service" which will take you to this week's service link and bulletin. Since our Sunday services are now live-streamed, the link is already posted so people can experience the Sunday service at home live beginning at 11 am on Sunday. If you click on Video Service for Dec 12th you will see the screen and the note: live in "a number" of hours. After the fact, you can see the YouTube video of the service. If you would like to catch up on previous services all are available, simply scroll through the services and choose the Sunday service or bulletin that you would like to see or read.

Can We Help? Do you need help getting your QR code or getting it in the format you want (on your phone, a paper copy or a wallet size copy)? Do you need help with any small jobs around the house? Do you need any help getting groceries perhaps? Or maybe you would just like to have a chat with the minister or an elder? If so, give the church a call at 722-2382 or email us at stdavids@nfld.com and we'll see what we can do to help. If you'd like to drop by the church to see David or to drop something off, he's in his office from 10 am to 2 pm Tuesday through Friday.

Treasurer's Report, Session and Board of Managers (BoM) Update

Treasurer's Notes

The Christmas Hamper project depends on your support both financially and by helping out with deliveries. Our budget for this project is \$2,000 and with some help from the Community Food Sharing Association we are able to deliver over 40 hampers each year. To ensure your donation goes to this project, please designate it as **"Christmas Hamper Project"** on your e-transfers or envelopes.

Session is considering a Sunday for a short meeting immediately following the service to discuss and approve the 2020 Financial Reports. We hope to have that soon. Meanwhile if you did not get a copy of those statements, please contact the office and a copy will be emailed or sent to you. Copies are also available at the office.

Thank you to all who are continuing to donate to your church through your envelopes on Sunday mornings, by e-transfers, or through your monthly PAD contributions. My thanks go out to elders and friends who happily and gladly pick-up envelopes from those not able to get out and help by dropping them off at the church office.

By the way, the sole email address we are using to accept donations is stdavidsnfld@gmail.com and this one is linked to our bank account and it will automatically accept all donations.

Session Report

Christmas Decorations at St. David's

Session would like to thank all those who helped give our church a very festive air. This includes those who provided Christmas decorations and to those who came in and helped decorate the sanctuary. Stories and pictures of these activities are contained later in this bulletin. Thanks to all!

Services and Activities this Holiday Season

Session has identified the following list of services and seasonal activities taking place during the Christmas season:

Third Sunday in Advent	Sunday December 12 th at 11 am
Fourth Sunday in Advent	Sunday December 19 th at 11 am
All Ages Christmas Eve Service	Friday December 24 th at 6 pm
Boxing Day Service	Sunday December 26 th at 11 am
First service in 2022	Sunday January 2 nd at 11 am

Christmas Hamper Project Dates and activities

Preparing the hall	Friday December 17 th
Packing and delivering hampers	Saturday December 18 th

Board of Managers Update

After the Board meeting on December 9th and after consultation with our COVID Best Practices Committee (CBPC), we are pleased to announce several changes to the sanctuary. The red ribbons separating off some pews have been removed. We will be re-installing a couple of rows of pews. A coffee hour is also in the offing provided we are still trending in a good direction Covid-wise. Stay tuned for upcoming news on how the coffee time will work.

The Board and Session will also be looking for a new church administrator. A job description is being prepared by David Sturtevant and Anne Calver. Once it is reviewed and approved, it will be distributed and we will be asking for applicants to apply.

Bridges to Hope - Next week is Hamper Week!

We'll be putting the final touches to our Hamper preparations so that we'll be ready to go on **Saturday, December 18th**!

But we could still use your help! Here are some ways that you can assist with this project over the next few days:

Help us by:

- Making a cash donation ... to purchase perishable food items – milk, bread, fruit, etc.
- Donating a gift card ... can be used to purchase food items for hampers
- Donating non-perishable food item(s) ... see Hamper contents below for suggestions
- Volunteering to help with advance preparation – assembling boxes, phone calls, etc.

Each Hamper has a value of \$75 - \$100 and contains

<i>Turkey (10-12 lb.)</i>	<i>Vegetables - Cabbage, Carrot, Turnip, Potatoes</i>	
<i>Flour (2.5 kg)</i>	<i>Sugar (2 kg) *</i>	<i>Onions (2-3 lb.)</i>
<i>Oranges (3-5 lb.)</i>	<i>Apples (3-5 lb.)</i>	<i>Tuna (170 g tin)</i>
<i>Green Peas (tin) *</i>	<i>Corn (tin) *</i>	<i>Evaporated Milk (tin)</i>
<i>Cheese Whiz</i>	<i>Peanut Butter *</i>	<i>Juice (1 Litre) *</i>
<i>Milk (2L 2%)</i>	<i>Cranberry sauce (tin)</i>	<i>Cereal (Box) *</i>
<i>Teabags (72/144)</i>	<i>Coffee (Instant) *</i>	<i>Margarine (454 g)</i>
<i>Eggs (1 dozen)</i>	<i>Bread (1 white)</i>	<i>Bread (1 w/wheat)</i>
<i>Bread Crumbs (1 pkg.)</i>	<i>Savoury (18 g)</i>	<i>Cheese (block)</i>
<i>Crackers</i>	<i>Cookies</i>	<i>Beans (tin) *</i>

N.B. Items with a strikethrough indicate that we have enough of that item for forty (40) hampers – our initial goal. Items with an * mean we need more!

Weekly Specials for you to Buy:

STORE	ITEM	PRICE
Lawtons	Heinz Beans or Pasta	4/\$5.00
	Hunt's Pasta Sauce or	4/\$5.00
	Barilla Pasta	
Dominion	Graves Apple Juice	\$0.99
Sobeys	Sugar	\$1.88

Further Hamper info/questions?

Please contact: Lillian Crawford (754-2362/691-3057)

Anne Calver (682-4329) Church Office (722-2382)

Birthdays and Anniversaries and Graduations

A very Happy Birthday to Beatrice Quinton who will turn 4 years old on December 15th! Beatrice will be celebrating her birthday with friends and family, including her mom and dad, Nina and Luke Quinton and proud grandparents, Becky and Leith Quinton. (Word is that the family is hoping for good weather so they can visit Bannerman Park for some birthday fun, including play-time and hot chocolate!) Sun or snow Beatrice, your Church family wishes you a fun-filled day!

Happy Birthday wishes to Ivy Fleming, daughter of Jennifer Waterman and Derek Fleming. Ivy will be celebrating her 7th birthday on December 14th with family and friends, including her mom and dad, and her brothers, Evan and Marcus. Happy Birthday Ivy from your St. David's family! We hope you have a great birthday and lots of fun!

If you know of someone who is going to have a birthday or an anniversary in the coming days or weeks, please call or email the church.

Announcements

Coming Soon

In upcoming issues of this bulletin will be three new crossword puzzles, one on the current and past members of this congregation, one for kids all about animals and one about all things Christmas. Sharpen your pencils!

News from the Pews

Update from Pearl Clouston

I had a lovely visit earlier this week with Pearl, Peter and Cindy. Pearl is doing really well after her hip-replacement surgery. She is up and around with the help of a walker and is looking forward to continued progress. Good news indeed!

Gerhard Bassler's Book

Gerhard sent a little note saying that since the announcement of his latest book appeared in the bulletin, a number of people have expressed a desire to purchase the book. Gerhard reports that he has had a shipment from the publisher and he would be delighted to offer potential purchasers the "author's discount" (Purchase Price, \$35.00). If you would like to order a copy, please contact Gerhard at gbassler@hotmail.ca

AMS Christmas Service

The AMS held their annual Christmas Service after the regular service on December 5th. Many thanks to Penny and Kathy for putting together a beautiful service and for providing many delicious snacks and homemade goodies for our cup of tea in the hall. It was a very special time shared with good friends and a lovely way to usher in the Advent Season.

We were delighted to have Netta Ryan, Betty Barrett and Rev. Wishart, all from St. Andrew's, join us for the service and the cup of tea, along with Michelle and David, Oliver and Orson. We love having the two boys join us – they exude so much energy and happiness – you can't help but feel good when they're around! (Also, Oliver has become my official picture-taker. You can see a couple of pictures, below, that he took at the lunch! Thank-you Oliver!)



Prayer Shawl (Knitting) Group

The Knitting Group met in the Armour Room on Tuesday, December 7th for the last time this year. This is a very special fellowship time but a very productive time as well – all you have to do is look at the pictures below! These ladies turn out a tremendous number of handmade knitted goods. For them it's a gift of love and over the next couple of weeks, this love in the form of caps, mitts, scarfs, shawls, etc., will find good homes and provide warmth to many hands, heads and hearts. Thank-you so much for your talents and for caring. Here are just a few pictures from Tuesday, compliments of Penny – thank-you Penny!

Please consider joining us in the new year – we'd love to see you!



Barbara And Kay share a chat



Lillian, Mary, and Kathy enjoy this time together



Lillian and Mary knitting



LOTS of knitted goods!

This note just in from Penny.....



Gifts under the tree

Stella's Circle were absolutely delighted to be offered some of the wonderful knitted goods that have been produced by lots of willing busy hands.

They support many programs including Emmanuel House, Naomi House, Counselling and Employment Services so this is a good fit for us!

Decorating the Church for Christmas – Thank-you!

If you joined us for the in-person Church service last Sunday, you will have noticed that the sanctuary has been beautifully decorated for Christmas. We have many people to thank for their generosity and for their gift of time. Even though families are especially busy this time of year and schedules are tight, we had many “willing hands”.



A big thank-you to the McKenzie family who graciously donated the beautiful Christmas wreath over the front door of the Church and for the lovely swag over the door from the sanctuary to the Church Hall.



Many thanks to Pam Bruce who created our Advent wreath. Lighting the different candles (Hope, Peace, Joy, Love, and then the Christ candle) during Advent is something we look forward to every week. Thank-you Pam for your gift!



Debbie Wells along with her daughter, Heidi (O'Grady), and her two grand-daughters, Claire and Grace did a fabulous job with decorating the tree. They took special care with the angels making sure that each one was placed on just the right branch! Many thanks for all your hard work – the tree looks great! (Our angels are the gift from Grace Artiss's mother, who lives in South Africa. Last year after Christmas, Grace gave all the angels a thorough wash and re-starched them all. They look great!) Thanks Debbie for all the pictures!





Our hand-made banners depicting the Christmas story have been part of the St. David's Christmas tradition for many years now. Kyle Sampson and his two sons, Tyler and Barrett, came by and got them organized and hung in no time. They then offered to hang the big Christmas wreath and swag that had just arrived earlier in the day! What a great job! Thank you so much!

Marilyn Reardon and her granddaughter, Emma, came by and organized our nativity scene. As with the banners, our "stable" is an important part of our celebration and everyone looks forward to checking it out. Many thanks to Emma who arranged all the figurines – with great care I may add!



Reflection from Eric Cumby

Eric sent along this little prose, titled "Impact". Hope you enjoy it....

impact

You never really know the true impact you have on those around you. You never know how much someone needed that smile you gave them. You never know how much your kindness turned someone's entire life around. You never know how much someone needed that long hug or deep talk. So don't wait to be kind. Don't wait for someone else to be kind first. Don't wait for better circumstances or for someone to change. Just be kind, because you never know how much someone needs it.

Archival Moment

This week we have another great picture from the Good Companions. This picture shows just some of the Good Companions at their Christmas lunch held at the Battery Hotel. The picture is from 1995. Who do you recognize? Thanks to Pam Bruce and Kay Scott for keeping these pictures safe and sound for us to share with you.



Church Trivia Questions

Way back when:

Last week the question was: The church had a new minister in 1824, who was he and how did the little church prosper?

The answer is: Rev Daniel Spenser Ward was appointed minister. He and his wife arrived in St. John's on June 14, 1824. The meeting house called the Congregational Chapel could seat 600 people however numbers had dwindled to just 40. He started re-building the congregation and his wife started the Dorcas Society and within three years the numbers had swelled and at one service the church was described as crowded.

This week the question is: What was the Dorcas Society and when did it crease operations? This may surprise a number of people!

Recent History:

Last week the question was: What two gentlemen were guests for many of our candle-lit Christmas Eve services?

The answer is: Kay Scott came up with the answer from last week:

"... The two men who were at the midnight service on Christmas Eve were two firemen usually sitting right at the back on the left hand side. I used to sit near the firemen so how could I forget!"

This week the question is: What were the reasons to have two services on Christmas Eve?

Do you have any ideas for some church trivia? Email or call the church!

Offerings Your church donations can take many forms including using the Pre-Authorized Donation (PAD), if you'd like to have your donations made using PAD, please consider signing up. Simply email the church and we will put you in touch with Ian Bruneau, our Envelope Secretary. He will answer any questions you may have. Alternately, you can donate via e-transfer to stdavidsnfld@gmail.com. Using your bank's comment section, you can specify information like your envelope number and how you would like your money distributed; to Current, Presbyterian Sharing, or any of our outreach programs. You may also donate through Canada Helps. You may also mail your donation, drop it off at the church, or call the church and someone would be pleased to pick it up for you.

How can we help you at this time? Do you need any help getting groceries, having something picked up, or having something dropped off (like this bulletin or the minister's weekly sermons)? Would you just like to have a chat with the minister or your elder? Please call the church at 722-2382 or email us at stdavids@nfld.com and we'll see what we can do to help.

Ideas to keep in touch Do you have any ideas how we can keep in touch with one another or what you'd like to see us do now that things are re-opening. Call and let us know! Please keep in touch!

Web Site We'd like you to visit our web site, which is the place to find past services and any number of interesting things. The Sunday services are found on the web site and the text of the sermon is also available in the comment section. Our web site is **stdavids.nf.ca**

Once there, choose ministries and look for the service you'd like to see or hear. There are over 600 services on-line too listen to or see.

How to reach us:

Minister: Rev. David Sturtevant – Cell phone: 699-3661

Church Administrator: Vacant

Church Office: (709) 722-2382

Church email: stdavids@nfld.com

Facebook page: <http://www.facebook.com/stdavidsstjohns>

Groups:

Women's Auxiliary – Lillian Crawford

Good Companions (Seniors) – Kay Scott

Bible Study Group – Sheena Findlay

Atlantic Mission Society – Kathy McKay

Session – Lillian Crawford

Board of Managers – Ken Templeton (Session rep)

Prayer Shawl (Knitters) – Bouwina Fogwill

Willing Hands (Quilter Group) – Patsy Carmichael

Food For Thought (University and Early Career) – The Rollmanns

Session: the elders are:

Lillian Crawford	Jim Steele	Ken Templeton
Sue Templeton	Janet Calver	Kathy McKay
Penny Gillies	Steve Bruneau	Ian Bruneau
Aubrey Bonnell	Eleanor Bonnell	Jenny Griffioen
Jennifer Waterman	Ed Vanderkloet	Tanya Shalaby

Board of Managers: the members of the Board are:

Ken Templeton Ed Vanderkloet Steve Bruneau
Andem Effiong

Treasurer: Anne Calver

Envelope Secretary: Ian Bruneau