



Sunday November 27th, First Sunday of Advent

The service is at 11 am and we are grateful to be meeting in person. While you are not required to wear masks we respectfully ask that you continue to wear your masks while in our building. The service is available on Zoom in real time and is also available via YouTube.

Church Office Hours: The church office is open from 9 am to 1 pm weekdays with the exception of statutory holidays.

For pastoral care or to contact the Minister, please phone 699-3661. You can always leave a message on the church's phone number (722-2382) or email us at stdavids@nfld.com.

Mission Moment – Sunday, November 27th

Raamia fled to Pakistan with her daughter after divorcing her abusive husband in Afghanistan. As a single mother, Raamia made and sold handicrafts to support herself and her daughter, Zainab. On their way to the city of Lahore, she and her daughter got into an accident. Her daughter was unharmed, but Raamia was severely injured, resulting in her arm having to be amputated. After the accident, she could not continue working on her handicrafts. Raamia and her daughter were selected to receive cash support from a project by Community World Service Asia, a Presbyterian World Service & Development partner. “I was able to buy some food supplies with the money I received,” she said. **This project is helping refugee families who have fled Afghanistan since the Taliban takeover.**

From St. David's Auxiliary (Atlantic Mission Society)

Comforter of all, many people around the world experience violence in their homes. In too many instances, what should be a place of safety is instead one of fear. May your hand of protection provide care and comfort, we pray. Amen.

Prayer No. 35 – Taken from OVERFLOWING - Prayers for a More Sustainable, Compassionate and Just World, published in recognition of PWS&D's 75th anniversary!

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, November 27 (First Sunday of Advent) Nourish our hope during this season of waiting, O God, as we prepare to receive Christ among us again.

Monday, November 28 We pray for the safety of all those whose lives have been uprooted by the Taliban takeover in Afghanistan, and we give thanks for the emergency support that Presbyterians in Canada are helping to provide through Presbyterian World Service & Development.

Tuesday, November 29 We pray for congregations participating in the PCC's New Beginnings Renewal Program as they work to discern God's call for their future and plan a way forward.

Wednesday, November 30 We pray for theological students who are graduating this winter and beginning to seek a call to a congregation.

Thursday, December 1 (World AIDS Day) We pray for the millions of people affected by HIV and AIDS. We give thanks for Presbyterian World Service & Development partners who provide vital support to those living with HIV/AIDS and also pray for improved access to health care and life-saving treatments.

Friday, December 2 We pray for the people who gather and serve at the Anamiewigummig Fellowship Centre in Kenora, Ontario, and we give thanks for their ministry.

Saturday, December 3 On the **International Day of Persons with Disabilities**, we pray for the empowerment of differences in gifts and abilities, along with the removal of barriers that keep people from participating fully in community and church life.

Minister's Message

"Hope" is the thing with feathers

BY EMILY DICKINSON

*'"Hope" is the thing with feathers -
That perches in the soul -
And sings the tune without the words -
And never stops - at all -*

*And sweetest - in the Gale - is heard -
And sore must be the storm -
That could abash the little Bird
That kept so many warm -*

*I've heard it in the chillest land -
And on the strangest Sea -
Yet - never - in Extremity,
It asked a crumb - of me.'*



On this week leading up to the first Sunday of Advent, the Sunday of Hope, I wanted to share a story of hope that I first heard many years ago. Like most stories of hope, it begins in an unexpected place, in this case at a funeral! An elderly lady had died, and had left behind a document outlining her funeral wishes for her family. They were glad to have the help and certainty that such a document can bring, but there was one particular item that confused them. She had asked that she be buried with a fork in her hand! "A fork?" they wondered when they read the strange request, "What on earth for?" But the instructions were clear, and as they read on they learned the reason.

"Many times in my life" she wrote, "I have eaten a lovely meal and thanked my host as they cleared the plates and cutlery from the table. The best meals, though, are the ones where the busy host tells me to keep my fork, because the best is yet to come, before returning from the kitchen with a marvelous dessert."

Just as she kept her fork at those meals because "the best is yet to come", she wanted to proclaim even in her death that something better was coming for her, the resurrection life promised by Jesus Christ!

May we, too, be people who believe that the best is yet to come. As the Psalmist says, "*weeping may stay for the night, but rejoicing comes in the morning.*" (*Psalm 30:5*). We look forward to the morning, we believe in it, and we have a hope that can never be taken away from us. No matter how dark things may get, how stormy the seas or how strong the gale may blow, we have Hope that the best is yet to come, a reality of hope, peace, joy and love. That is the world we hope for, that is the world God promises, and that is Good News.

The St. John's and Area Council of Churches request congregations be made aware of:

The World Day of Prayer for Christian Unity

To be celebrated at The Baptist Crossing Church

314 Topsail Road

St. John's

On January 22nd 2023 at 2.30 pm.

Sermon will be delivered by Anglican Bishop Sam Rose.

Information from the Treasurer

This week's thanks

Earlier this week the WA had a successful Bridge party with a team of eight making soup, baking those goodies, setting up, serving, and cleaning up afterwards. The lunch was delicious and set the players up for a good game of bridge. The WA is going to be doing this again and may be looking for another team of eight.

Our Advent wreath is also in place now and my thanks go out to Penny Gillis and Pam Bruce who dropped by the church on Thursday with all kinds of greenery. If you look further down in this bulletin, you'll see the pictures and read a bit more about it.

Fiscal Updates

You've been reading about some of the challenges this church now faces and some of the things we can all do to help.

This week I'm taking a second look at the budget for next year and trying to come up with a number for our furnace oil costs. This week's announcement that we're moving to the federal carbon tax does have implications for us. The calculations continue.

Our problem with the heat on the stage continues, it is difficult to get parts for several reasons, the age of our equipment, shortages caused by downtime in factories and supply line disruptions. The renters have moved to other locales in the building and I'm trying to keep the fans moving in the hall. Should you ever see them off, please call the office so we can get them going again. They are designed to move the hot air aloft down towards the floor.

To everyone who wonders about the heat in the hall, how does it work: there are two thermostats which control the heat in the hall. The one on the east wall outside the “old” kitchen manages the radiators on the north wall while the thermostat in the Armour Room warms that room AND the radiators on the south side of the hall.

My Thanks

As treasurer I’d certainly like to thank everyone who continues to donate to St. David’s through your envelopes on Sunday mornings, by e-transfers, or through your monthly PAD contributions. If you would like to donate monthly by PAD, contact 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. We accept donations through Canada Helps, via Canada Post, or you may drop it off at the church, or call the church and someone would be pleased to pick it up for you.

The sole email address we are using to accept donations is through stdavidsnfld@gmail.com . It is linked to our bank account and automatically accepts all donations.

St. David's Church Announcements

Church Service and Coffee Hour

We'd like to welcome everyone back to church and to the Sunday Coffee Hour after church. The services will continue to be streamed live over Zoom and placed on YouTube for later viewing. We look forward to seeing those we haven't seen for a long time.

Coffee Hour Volunteers needed...

We are looking for volunteers to:

- * make coffee & tea
- * do set up and clean up
- * set table and lay out plates of cookies, biscuits, etc (this will be provided)

There is a sign up sheet on the kitchen door OR you can call Heather in the office. Your help would be appreciated. Thank you ever so much!

Sunday School

This Sunday during Children's Time, we will be taking a moment to introduce and acknowledge the generous support of our Sunday School volunteers. We are so grateful for the time they have given to deliver the program to the children in our congregation. It is such important work ~ to all our volunteer teachers, our sincerest appreciation.

Janet Calver, Brian Gamberg, Yasmin Krunys, Sarah King, Nnenia Offia, Christian Asare-Darko, Christina Shalaby, Anci and Csongor Matyas, Evan Fleming, Jennifer Waterman-Fleming and Sue Templeton (our facilitator extraordinaire!).

If you would like to find out what is involved to assist with Sunday School, please contact Heather at the church office or Sue Templeton anytime ... Or, please join us one Sunday as our guest to observe the children's program in action!

Our sign up sheet for the New Year will be posted in early December.
Thank you!

Food For Thought (from Ernst Rollmann)

The Food for Thought fellowship, prayer, and discussion group for young adults met weekly this year on Zoom from January 18 through August 8. After a short summer break, we started meeting again on September 29. The meeting time, Zoom link, and discussion topic or Bible passage is sent out in a weekly email. We are currently meeting on Thursdays at 7pm. We are discussing the Pastoral Epistles (1 & 2 Timothy, Titus). Anyone interested in participating should email me at ernstrollmann12 at [gmail.com](mailto:ernstrollmann12@gmail.com). New folks are always welcome!

Bible Study

Our long standing Bible Study, under the guidance of Sheena Findlay, meets every Wednesday morning in the Armour Room from 10:30am to 12:00 noon.

The topic, “Money – having it and not having it. What it means to Christians.” We will look mainly at the gospels for what Jesus said and the implications for ourselves.

All are welcome!

Women’s Bible Study

This Bible Study program is being offered by Christina Shalaby on Friday evenings from 6:30 to 8:30pm in the Armour Room.

Christina’s contact information is as follows:

Phone: 709-770-0217 and email: christinashalaby@outlook.com

A.M.S.

The Presbyterian Message subscriptions are up for renewal in November. The cost is \$15.00/annually for either electronic or paper versions. Please contact Kathy McKay (circulation manager) or the church office to renew or start a subscription. Thank you.

CHRISTMAS HAMPERS 2022

We are hoping to do at least forty-five (45) hampers, or more, this year!

The proposed **delivery date is Saturday, December 17, 2022.**

More information/details will come later but we are starting to stockpile some of the non-perishable items **now** so that there will be less to purchase when December arrives. Here's how you can help!

From the list below, select one or more items and donate it, placing it on the Food Trolley on Sunday or dropping it off at the Office during the week (Hours 9 AM – 1 PM daily).

Watch the Flyer “specials” to get the best deals possible!

Thank you for your support!

Non-perishable food items we generally need to purchase:

Sugar	Flour	Tuna
Green peas	Corn	Evaporated milk
Cheese Whiz	Peanut butter	Juice (1 L)
Cereal (box)	Teabags	Coffee (Instant)
Crackers	Cookies	Beans (tin)

P. S. Monetary donations or gift cards are always helpful and appreciated!

Bridges To Hope

Jody Williams, Executive Director at Bridges To Hope, has given the Board of Directors a list of items that are always in short supply and which should be considered 'staples' in our hampers.

The Board has decided to designate the *first Sunday of each month* when a special appeal will be sent to participating churches to ask their congregations to provide these items – **a different item each month**. The hope is that a unified appeal from our two Presbyterian and seven United churches will supply many hampers. These items may be brought to the churches or to Bridges to Hope.

The first Sunday of December is designated as "**Cereal/Oatmeal Sunday**". Thank you for your co-operation and support.

Weekly "Specials"

November 24– December 1, 2022

Good Suggestions for the Food Trolley

Colemans	Kraft Dinner	4/\$5.00
	Jello Jelly Powder	\$0.88
Sobeys	Lantic Sugar	\$1.79
Dominion	Graves Apple Juice	\$0.99
	Unico Tomatoes	\$0.99
	Primo Pasta Sauce	\$0.99
Walmart	Maxwell House Instant Coffee	\$2.47
Shoppers Drug Mart	No Name Peanut Butter	\$2.99

The Advent wreath...

For many years now, our beautiful Advent wreath has been thoughtfully made by Pam Bruce. And this year is no exception. Greenery from the church beds and hedges and from Pam's own garden, have been creatively woven together to make the wreath that adorn the Advent candles.

Thank you Pam for continuing this special Christmas tradition for St. David's.



Birthdays and Anniversaries and Graduations

Happy Birthday to Josh Quinton who will be celebrating his birthday on November 28th with family and friends including his wife, Melissa Smallwood, son, Ethan, daughter, Lila, and parents, Becky and Leith Quinton, and siblings, Cassidy and Luke and their families. Best wishes Josh from your St. David's family and we hope you have a great day!

Happy Birthday greetings go out to Allison Crawford who will be celebrating her birthday on December 2nd with family and friends – near and far, including husband, Steve, and her mom and dad, Lillian and Harry Crawford. All your friends here at St. David's wish you a wonderful birthday Allison, with many more to come!

Happy birthday to Drayton Froude who will be turning 12 years old on November 30th! Drayton will be celebrating his big day with his mom, Karen, siblings, Madelyn and Jayce, along with his proud grand-parents, Sue and Ken Templeton. From everyone here at St. David's, a big Happy Birthday wish Drayton! We hope you have a fun-filled day!

Happy Birthday wishes go out to Doug Hudson who has a birthday coming up on December 4th. Doug will be celebrating with family and friends, including his parents, Sylvia and Dave Hudson. Everyone here at St. David's wishes you a great day Doug! Enjoy!

Happy Birthday to Julia Craig who will be celebrating her big day on December 1st. Julia is the daughter of Michelle and Joseph Craig. Enjoy your special day, Julia, and best wishes from your St. David's family.

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.

Upcoming Activities

The W.A. will be holding their last lunch and meeting for 2022, on Tuesday, November 29th at noon.

On-going Activities

The Good Companions group are meeting again!!!

If you would like to try your hand at carpet-bowling, join a game of Bridge or 120's, maybe a friendly game of scrabble ... please join us on Thursday afternoons from 2:00 to 4:00pm in the Church Hall and Armour Room. Call Heather in the office at 722-2382 and she will put you on the list of attendees ~ we look forward to welcoming you back!

Re-cycling

Reduce Reuse Recycle! Yes, St. David's still has an account with Evergreen Recycling! If you would like to donate the proceeds of your recyclables, just enter the Church phone number 722-2382 when you are making a drop-off. Our account will automatically be credited.

Outside Announcements and Activities

Coastal Sounds Choir Association will be holding rehearsals for our Upcoming Christmas Cantata. The rehearsals dates are Nov 5.12.19. 26 and Dec 3 and 10. Cost \$25. Rehearsals will be held at Topsail United Church. from 2 until 4 P.M.

Please register on our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/CoastalSoundsChoir>

Jellybean Row Girl Guides District

As many of you know the Girl Guides have been meeting in our hall for decades!! For years they have held a lovely Christmas Sale and Tea in our hall ... but it has been postponed during Covid until now...

We are delighted to announce that Jellybean Row Girl Guides District will be holding their Christmas Bazaar on Saturday, December 3rd!!

Please see poster for details.

JELLYBEAN ROW DISTRICT



Take a Break Sale

Bazaar for handmade products and
baked goods featuring performances
from our District Girl Guides!

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3
10 AM TO 12 PM
ST. DAVID'S CHURCH
98 ELIZABETH AVE.**



\$2 Single Admission or \$5 per Family

Masks are mandatory for this event

Morning coffee will not be served this year.

Come help us support our Unit Meeting Locations!

From The Archives

This week, we're back to showcasing some of the beautiful quilts from the Millennium Quilting Exhibit back in 2000. It was an exhibit of more than 40 quilts crafted by talented Presbyterians right across the country.

This quilt, titled "From Sea to Sea", was the work of the Banner Group from St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Alberton, Ontario. Hope you like it!

As always, thanks to Pam for taking care of all these great pictures and articles from our past!



Church Trivia Questions

Way back when:

Last week the question was: Who was the minister who served the second shortest time in our history?

The answer is: The minister who was here in 1919 was inducted on Feb 9, 1919, his family arrived in June. In Nov 1919, Rev D. B. Ashford visited the missions in Fortune Bay, caught a severe chill, and went to Boston for medical treatment. The church accepted his resignation on December 14.

This week the question is: Just over 100 years ago in 1920, the church lost two stalwarts. Who were they and what did they do?

Recent History:

Last week the question was: What happens when you work very hard at creating a vegetable garden?

The answer is: Before the snow, I took a walk around the garden, that “yard” has changed, there is no longer a profusion of rocks everywhere! There are terraces for growing those three-foot-long beans, the soil looks dark and rich after being improved the last couple of years with local manure, thanks to Steve Bruneau’s truck. Emad worked diligently and while the greenhouses were all but empty, there were still a couple of tomato vines and a couple of baby tomatoes. By all reports the question was not “How does your garden grow?” Instead, it is “Wow, how your garden grew!”

This week the question is: What are the colors for the candles on the Advent wreath and what do they mean?

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

How to reach us:

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

Music Director: Brian Way

Church Administrator: Heather Steele Morrissey

Church Office: (709) 722-2382 ~ Monday – Friday 9:00 to 1:00

Church email: stdavids@nfld.com

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

Groups:

Women's Auxiliary – Lillian Crawford

Good Companions (Seniors) – call Heather in the office

Bible Study Group – Sheena Findlay

Atlantic Mission Society – Kathy McKay

Session – Lillian Crawford

Prayer Shawl (Knitters) – Bouwina Fogwill

Food For Thought – Ernst Rollmann

Women's Bible Study – Christina Shalaby

Session: the elders are:

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

Treasurer: Anne Calver

Envelope Secretary: Ian Bruneau