



News from the Pews for the Third Sunday of Lent, March 12th, 2023

“News from the Pews”, contains stories, pictures and happenings from, by and for the members of the congregation. It also contains the “Minister’s Message”, Birthdays and Anniversaries, a Treasurer’s Update, special requests from Bridges to Hope, and of course Special Events happening at St. David’s. Also, from time to time, there will be archival pictures, trivia and stories.

We hope you enjoy...

****Important Reminder...**

Clocks “spring” forward as we begin Daylight Saving Time.

Minister's Message



This week, a shorter message from the minister, but hopefully the pictures give you a chuckle! Michelle has been back in Ontario visiting family, so I've been flying solo with the boys. Normally, this wouldn't be a problem, and for the first half of the week all was well, but then disaster struck in the form of a fever for me. Such is the life of a parent with kids in kindergarten and daycare, where kids share everything including germs!

I sent Michelle these two pictures, because I saw the photo of the cat online and both the message and the hairdo matched me so perfectly. If you're looking for the secret to this look, it was waking up at 2:00 AM with a body that was simultaneously too hot and too cold, taking a hot shower and then crawling right back into bed.

I'm feeling better each day and should be fine by Sunday, and Michelle should be coming home Saturday, but perhaps the message for this week is that it is OK for you to admit you are struggling. Grand theological messages are beyond my brain today! May you stay healthy and safe, may you find humor in your bad hair days, and may you admit to those around you when you are not up to the task and need grace. Now I'm back to bed!

Treasurer's Update for this Week

Annual reports are now due! Remember, if the reports are slow to come in, I will offer to do up one for you or your group. A decision on the date for the Annual Congregational Meeting (ACM) will be made at the next Session meeting (scheduled for March 14th).

Our \$10,000 Line of Credit (LOC) was used this month for the first time in a long time. We are at the point where some invoices and commitments will not be paid when due. Salaries, contracts, and local invoices will continue to be paid when possible.

While our finances are still not good, we do get regular monthly donations through the PAD, on Sundays, from increasing rentals and by e-Transfers. Please consider

this as you make choices about your donations to the church. Thank you to all those who have made donations and continue to do so.

What would you do for your Church? And did you know.....

That's a question I hope many of you are asking yourselves. Some people are actively thinking about it, while others are actively doing things.

We all know of the Women's Auxiliary (WA) and everything they have done and continue to do for the church. We are seeing more men getting involved. "The Three Guys" (not the Five Guys) were the ones who made all those pancakes on Pancake Night.

Did you know that every couple of months our minister travels to Grand Falls - Windsor to take the service at St. Matthew's? Now, here's one opportunity for a Men's Group to take part in our church. One such group, the RI Men's Fellowship, meet once a month for a couple of hours, sing some songs and hymns, have a light snack, and prepare for their next appearance in church where they take the service and lead the congregation in singing instead of the regular choir. They have several guitar players and can they sing! This is an opportunity where the St. David's Five (or more) Guys could come in!

We do welcome all types of participation, big and small, from everyone. I'm renewing my call: if there are any things that you'd like, or hope, to see happen, if you see a need we can undertake, or if you would just like to talk about our finances or the church and its outreach programs, please get in touch! We'd welcome your ideas, proposals, thoughts, or hopes.

If you are interested in how St. David's moves forward, if you have any thoughts, concerns, suggestions or want to be part of the discussion, please contact the church at 722-2382 or email us at stdavids@nfld.com.

Did you know that as a registered charity: and a non-profit, we are required to complete an annual report complete with a full audited financial statement. It is due six months after our normal yearend. In our case it's due at the end of June

each year. Once completed, it is available on-line, along with the reports of all charities across Canada. It contains a description of who we are, what we do, and a summary financial picture, with a more detailed financial statement at another level of detail.

If you are interested in how St. David's moves forward, if you have any thoughts, concerns, suggestions or want to be part of the discussion, please contact the church at 722-2382 or email us at stdavids@nfld.com.

From The Board of Managers

We are hoping to expand the number of members to reduce the number of persons who already have other duties at the Church.

One of the ways we are hoping to do this is to embrace the family and group member concept. This permits families and other groups to agree to join as a single board member. The Board simply requests a commitment, that the group will have one of its members attend each meeting and report back to all group participants. All group members will receive minutes of meetings directly from the Board. The benefit of a "group membership" is many more hands are available to share the work.

In the past, one of the less desirable aspects of being on the Board was the long and frequent meetings. We are seriously trying to change this... great technology links allowing us to have email conversations. As a result, the Board anticipates only needing quarterly meetings for the purpose of voting on recommendations the Board will be suggesting to Session to then be reported to the congregation. (At the Board meetings multiple members of a group would be welcomed to attend in person but that group would only have 1 vote.)

Please consider forming a group to be a member. If this is acceptable to you, please let us know who your group may be. If you have any questions, please give Heather a call at the office 722-2382 or email us at: stdavids@nfld.com

A Note from our Sunday School

The Light of Love continues as we ask the Sunday School students to bring non-perishable food items to help replenish the pantry shelves at Bridges to Hope.

Sunday School lesson for this week: “The Thirst Quenchers”!!!

Curious?? See you Sunday!

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Happy Birthday greetings to Rev. David Sturtevant who will be celebrating his birthday on March 13th! Helping to celebrate his big day will be family and friends – near and far – including his wife, Michelle, and two little sons – Oliver and Orson, and all his family and friends in Ontario. Best wishes David from your St. David’s family! Best wishes and we hope you have a great day and enjoy every minute!

Happy Birthday greetings to Sylvia Hudson who will be celebrating her birthday on March 18th! Sylvia will be celebrating her birthday with family and friends, near and far, including her husband, Dave, and children, Douglas, Geoffrey and Kathryn and their families and her sister, Sandra Hamlyn, currently living in Ontario. Sylvia is a great friend to many within St. David's and a great inspiration – a tireless worker, a super organizer and a great supporter for many of the events and activities within the Church. Everyone here at St. David’s wishes you a very Happy Birthday, Sylvia! We hope you have a wonderful day and enjoy every minute – much love and happiness!

Happy Birthday wishes to Daley Johnson who will be celebrating his 2nd birthday on March 15th! Daley will be celebrating his big day with his mom and dad, Samantha and Cecil Johnson, big brother, Leo, grand-parents, Tracey and Doug Hudson and proud great-grand-parents, Sylvia and Dave Hudson, not to mention many other family members, near and far! Everyone here at St. David’s wishes you a very happy birthday Daley. Enjoy your day and have 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.

Upcoming Events and Activities

AMS – March 12th

Did you know there are roughly 1000 Ukrainian People still living in hotels around St. John's... would you like to find out how we may be able to help?

One possible way is to assist with language skills. Please join us for a little lunch **after worship this Sunday, March 12th** to learn about this idea and how we may be able to offer some assistance. Thank you.

Prayer Shawl Knitters

Prayer Shawl Knitters will be meeting on **Tuesday, March 14th at 10:00am**. Please plan to attend a relaxing morning of knitting with this warm and welcoming group. No experience is necessary ~ guidance will be provided.

Bible Study

Our long standing Bible Study, under the guidance of Sheena Findlay, has resumed for 2023 and we are trying something new, "Sandwich and Scriptures"! Bible Study meets in the Armour Room on **Wednesdays at 12:30 pm** ~ so bring your lunch and we will make the tea (or coffee!).

Good Companions

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.

The Thursday, March 16th, meeting will begin at 12:30 with a St. Paddy's Day dinner!! This will be followed by the regular activities.

Fellowship Lunch – March 19th

A special invitation to everyone from Rev. Sturtevant...

There will be a Fellowship Lunch – **March 19th following the service.** All are welcome ~ on the menu: Homemade Turkey Soup!!

Muffin Making Mondays

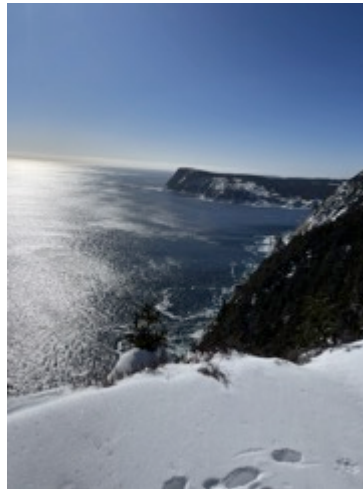
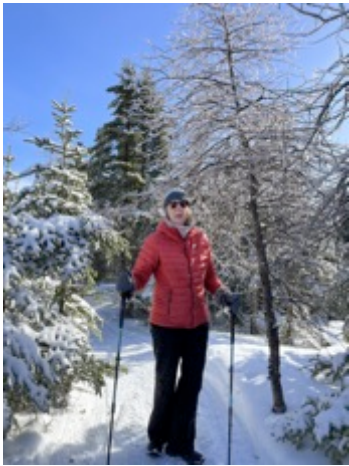
Looking for volunteers to make muffins for Bridges to Hope...

On Monday mornings here in the church kitchen, volunteers gather to make muffins, to offer a little something sweet as an addition to the food hampers at Bridges to Hope.

Please consider giving a couple of hours of your time to assist ~ all supplies are provided. Call Heather in the office to put your name on the sign up sheet.

You just never know who you might meet on the trail...

Kathy McKay sent along some beautiful pictures of some recent winter snowshoeing/hikes. As you will see in the pictures below, the weather was perfect and the scenery in Pippy Park, the coast along the Red Cliff trail and The Spout, just breath-taking! You'll recognize Penny, Jenny, Jane and Rob Steneker, and Kathy in the pictures below. (Jenny and Kathy unexpectedly met Jane and Rob at The Spout!! What are the chances!)



Best Pals...

Everyone has a "best buddy" and it seems that Penny and Stewart's dog, Cleo, has one too. This sweet picture was taken last week when Cleo (on the left) was enjoying a "doggie day-care afternoon". She was sharing some play-time in the snow with her best buddy - Maggie McIntyre!

Thanks Penny for sharing!



A wee note from Penny...

Last Saturday afternoon I met Jean and Clayton Collins in Tim Hortons so had a grand chat.

They shared with me that Jean had received the Queen Elizabeth Platinum Jubilee Pin for her many years of voluntary service.

Clayton was also awarded with an Honorary Life Membership of the Air Force Association of Canada. This was for 55 years of volunteering with Air Cadets and his ongoing involvement with the Air Force Association.

Congratulations from St David's.

Penny



WA Hosted Bridge Party – March 7, 2023

The WA hosted another bridge party this past week and it was a great afternoon for all those who participated. The bridge players not only enjoy our spacious venue with a relaxed atmosphere but also the FOOD! The WA ladies offer a choice of 1 of 3 homemade soups with rolls followed by 1 of 3 delectable desserts. All in all, it's a fun time. After lunch and some lively chit-chat, the players settle down for their bridge game for the rest of the afternoon.

Many thanks from the WA to all those who volunteer to make these afternoons a great success – our set-up and take-down crews, our "souper" cooks and "delectable dessert" bakers, our dessert "plater", our kitchen staff and servers, and our dirty dishes cleanup team. We couldn't do it without you! Thank-you all!

Here are just a few of the pictures from Tuesday....



Good to go!!!



Preparing the Menu...

Soups on!



Coffee break



Full House!!!

Bridges to Hope:

Weekly “**Specials**” March 9-15. 2023 - Useful items for Bridges To Hope:

Walmart – Primo Pasta or Pasta Sauce - \$0.97

Dominion – **Graves Apple Juice - \$0.99 ***

Lawtons – Compliments Evaporated Milk – 4/\$5.00

Heinz Beans or Pasta – 4/\$5.00

Pipers – Cheez Whiz – 450g - \$3.99

* Bridges To Hope are asking their partner churches to contribute a specific item each month and the item for **MARCH is 1L Juice**. Of course, other non-perishable food items are always welcome and appreciated!

Bridges to Hope Benefit Concert

A Songwriters Circle Benefit Show in support of Bridges to Hope will take place on Thursday, March 16th at 7 pm at Gower Street United Church. The show will feature Alan Doyle, Rachel Cousins, Kelly McMichael and Nick Earle. Tickets are \$35 and can be purchased through the Bridges to Hope web site at www.bridgestohope.ca, or by calling 709-722-9225.

CFUW St. John's BIG Used Book Sale

We are collecting gently used books for the sale from March 2 to March 22, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m., 7 days a week!

Collection site: the former Bouclair store (between the Golden Phoenix Restaurant and Globo shoes, Avalon Mall Parking lot.)

We **DO ACCEPT** fiction and non-fiction in good condition, for all ages and interests.

We **DO NOT** take encyclopedias, textbooks, Readers Digest condensed books, magazines, outdated technology manuals, and VHS tapes.

SALE DAYS: March 30th 1:00-9:00 pm., March 31st 10:00 am - 9:00 pm., and April 1st 10:00 am -1:00 pm (Half price day)

Masks are required at the sale

The book sale funds CFUW scholarships and community outreach projects. Thank you for your interest and support!

MASTERWORKS 4: THE ARMED MAN

A descent into war, moments of reflection, and the hope of peace in a new millennium – this is Karl Jenkins' incredible mass dedicated to the victims of the Kosovo crisis, *The Armed Man: A Mass for Peace*. In addition to extracts from the Ordinary of the Mass, the text incorporates words from other religious and historical sources, including the Islamic call to prayer, the Bible, and the Mahabharata. Join the Newfoundland Symphony Orchestra under the direction of Marc David together with the Philharmonic Choir of the NSO for this moving and important work. Soloists include Krista Howe-Croke, soprano; Abra Whitney, alto; Jeffrey Taylor, tenor; and Colin Mackey, baritone.

Masterworks 4 takes place on Friday March 24, 2023 at the Arts & Culture Centre St. John's, and is presented by Wedgwood Insurance. Tickets are available at the ACC Box Office (729-3900), online at www.artsandculturecentre.com, and at the door.