



The Easter Edition of News from the Pews for Sunday, April 9th, 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...

Holy Week Schedule:

- **Maundy Thursday Communion Service, April 6th at 7:00pm**
- **Good Friday Service, April 7th at 11:00am**

We are grateful to have Heather Kao leading the music for Worship this morning. Thank you Heather.

- **Easter Sunday Service, April 9th at 11:00am**
(Holy Communion will be celebrated)

We welcome The TSO who are joining us to celebrate the joy of Easter ~ Thank you!!

Minister's Message



One treasured memory I have is going to the Farmer's Co-op store here in town one spring to pick up a bale of hay for Michelle's rabbit (After the service last week, I keep trying to tell her how much easier Rocky my pet rock is to feed, but she insists on real animals). When I went into the store, I could hear a faint, but constant sound of little chirps and cheeps echoing around. It sounded a bit muffled, so I thought maybe there were birds nesting in the roof of their large warehouse area somewhere, but it turned out to be something a lot more fun than that: there was a shipment of baby chicks that had just hatched, and they were currently sitting in the store waiting to be picked up. They were all crammed into a little box for transport, what seemed like a hundred chicks in a box only about two feet by two feet. They were crowding together and seemed to like the close company of their friends, and to my great joy the people working at the store asked if I wanted to pet them. I remember reaching into that mass of downy feathers and tiny squeaking beaks and petting them, feeling dozens of them nuzzle me and climb over my hand, and looking at the variety of different patterns they all had on their soft fluffy bodies.

This Easter season, many of us will be enjoying a chocolate egg or two. Some of us may enjoy a real egg for breakfast, too. Chocolate or not, we think of eggs as predictable: a chocolate egg is solid all the way through, and a normal egg has a golden yolk and a smooth white every time. But that's not always the way eggs are, a fact we've lost touch with a bit with the modern convenience of supermarkets. I've never had the opportunity to incubate eggs myself, but I know people who have, and I've heard their excitement when the hatching starts, and I think of how fun it must have been to watch that whole box full of chicks come out of their shells. Easter is a time of surprises. It is a time when new life shocks us by breaking through. The signs of that promise are all around us, from eggs hatching to flowers pushing up through the snow, to rivers beginning to burble and rush again after months of frozen silence. All of creation has joyful surprises to share in celebration.

So may you remember the promise of this season: new life is in store for us. It may be strange and unpredictable, you can't always tell what colour feathers it will wear, but new life is pecking away at the inside of the stony tomb of our hearts. May you enjoy the sweet reminders on these beautiful warming days, and may you recognize that like creation around us, we too can be renewed and restored. My friends, that is Good News!

Treasurer's Update for this Week

Easter is almost upon us and spring may be ready to spring, that's by looking at the temperatures coming next week.

At St. David's, I'd like to thank those people who prepared for the three services this week: Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter. Thanks to David for developing the services and updating the website with the access information for these services. To Heather for preparing and printing the orders of service. To Brian Way for inviting Heather Kao to the Good Friday service, for combining with the TSO on the music selections for the Easter Sunday service, and providing joyful music every week.

The new Board of Managers (BOM) have been having a look at the 2023 budget and it will soon be on its way to Session. Our St. David's Futures Committee and Session will meet soon and are working diligently on your behalf. The WA are continuing to work hard and smartly to fundraise. Thanks to all the people serving on these groups.

While our finances are not good, we do get regular monthly donations (PAD, on Sundays, E-transfers) and from increasing rentals. 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.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Happy Birthday greetings go out to Rebecca Hodder who will be celebrating her birthday on April 10th with family and friends, including her mom and dad, Daphne and Jeffrey Hodder and brother, Stephen. Best wishes Rebecca from everyone here at St. David's. We hope you have a wonderful day!

Happy Birthday greetings to Nnene Offia who will be celebrating her birthday on April 13th, with family and friends, including her mom, Nnenna and sister, Harriet! Best wishes Nnene from your St. David's family. We hope you have a terrific day full of fun and special surprises!

Happy Birthday greetings go out to Madelyn Froude who will be celebrating her 14th birthday on April 11th! Madelyn will be celebrating with her classmates, friends and family including Karen, Paul, Jayce, Drayton, Scarlett and Carrie and of course her grandparents, Sue and Ken. A big day for sure! Your St. David's family wishes you a fun-filled birthday Madelyn! All our love.

Happy Birthday greetings to Eleanor Cummings who will be celebrating her 90th birthday on April 10th! Eleanor has become a special part of our Church family. She has started to come to some of our groups and events including the Prayer Shawl group, WA events, and our Good Companions group where she has demonstrated her carpet bowling skills! Eleanor's birthday will be extra special this year because her son, Peter, is able to be with her, along with her stepsons, Jeff and John and his family. Best wishes Eleanor from all your friends here at St. David's. We hope you have a wonderful day!

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

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!).

Food For Thought

The Food for Thought fellowship, prayer, and discussion group for young adults holds weekly meetings by Zoom. For information contact Ernst Rollmann at ernstrollmann12@gmail.com.

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 next date for Good Companions is: **Thursday, April 12th**.

AMS

Please note, the April meeting of the AMS will be held following worship on **Sunday, April 16th**. All are welcome to join us for a light lunch and fellowship.

Notice: Sarah King is hoping to help a friend looking for a cat friendly apartment. If you know of anyone with an apartment for rent please email Sarah at: sarah_mcmeekin@hotmail.com

Bridges to Hope:



Weekly “Flyer” Specials – Useful items for Bridges To Hope – April 6-12, 2023:

Sobeys: Green Giant Vegetables - 4/\$5.00

Dominion: Clover Leaf Tuna - \$1.49

No Frills: Colgate/Crest Toothpaste - \$1.00

Colemans: Kellogg’s Corn Flakes - \$2.99

Favorite Mandarin Oranges – 4/\$5.00

Walmart: Cheez Whiz - \$3.97

* Bridges To Hope are asking their partner churches to contribute a specific item each month and the item for **APRIL** is **Canned Pasta – Ravioli, SpaghettiOs, etc.** Other non-perishable food items are always welcome and appreciated!

* Bridges to Hope are looking for a volunteer (s) to bake bread on Wednesday mornings from 10:00am – 1:00pm. If you can help, or know someone who would be willing to volunteer, please call Bridges to Hope at 709 722 9225 to speak with Lesley Burgess. You can also email Lesley at info@bridgestohope.ca

Mission Moment – Presbyterian World Service & Development



Like many in Somalia, Farhan, his parents and younger sibling live in a camp for internally displaced people, having been forced from their home due to ongoing drought. At eight months old, Farhan became severely dehydrated and his life was seriously threatened. He was admitted to a hospital and received urgent treatment. After two weeks of monitoring and treatment, **Farhan was discharged from the hospital and admitted to an outpatient clinic supported by Presbyterian World Service & Development, where he receives weekly health assessments and therapeutic and supplementary food as he makes his way to a full recovery.**

An update on the Kennedy Family...

You may have noticed that Alex Kennedy hasn't been with the contemporary band for the last two months. Alex accepted a permanent position with CBC in Corner Brook and moved out to the west coast in mid March. He has been working with the CBC for over three years now writing mostly stories for the website, with some appearances on Here and Now. He is excited to start this newest chapter and hopes to have more exposure to the West Coast of our province. Alex and his younger brother Jack travelled to Prince Edward Island in February to compete in the Canada Winter Games! They competed in wheelchair basketball, which is a fast paced, fierce game that is closely watched by many athletes from other sports. There is usually a large crowd that attends the games as Wheelchair Ball is one of the "must see" sports during the games. They had an amazing week with parents April and Tom who were lucky enough to attend Games for the week and cheer loudly from the stands! Cameron, Alex's twin, is currently employed with Verafin in St. John's and is enjoying the IT sector very much. (Alex, Cameron and Jack are the grandsons of Hugh and Laureen Cumming.)

April and Tom's handsome boys;

Left to right – Jack, Alex and Cameron





Can't you just feel the energy??!! Sooo exciting!!!



Proud parents! And someone, who looks vaguely familiar...



Bouwina's Birthday Celebration (cont.)

Well, last week we told you about Bouwina Fogwill's big 93rd birthday celebration that took place in the Church Hall on Sunday, March 26th after our Church service. Judy Cumby took some wonderful pictures of some of the people that made it so special and they are definitely worth sharing! Hope you enjoy! Thanks so much Judy!

