



News from the Pews for Communion Sunday, June 4th, 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...

Please note we will be celebrating Holy Communion during worship this Sunday, June 4th.

Minister's Message



The picture I have this week is from a CBC news article, taken by Marion Gillespie, a Halifax-area woman who took this picture from her car window as her and her husband made a desperate attempt to escape from their home neighbourhood earlier this week. The article says:

'Gillespie said when they reached their subdivision they were turned back by an RCMP officer, and within minutes found themselves flanked by flames as they drove away. She said they couldn't see in front of them and could feel the heat coming into the car .

"There were a couple of times ... we thought for sure we were going to go in the ditch, but we were able just to pull it back," Gillespie said.

"It was just terrifying to think that this is going to just devour our car and it's going to catch on fire and we're not going to survive."

Peter Gillespie [her husband] said driving out beyond the smoke and flames was the "best moment" of his life.'

On Sunday afternoon, I'll be flying out for the annual meeting of the Presbyterian Church's General Assembly, a national gathering of ministers and elders from all across Canada that just so happens to be in Halifax this year. Mercifully, the weather in Halifax is predicted to be turning to a cool drizzle for the next week or so, which must be a relief for the fire crews working tirelessly to contain the fires.

Images and stories like these, though, always remind me how important it is to appreciate what we have and how quickly our circumstances can change. The Gillespies came back from an afternoon out on their boat to be turned around before they could even reach their home. Thankfully, a friend had already rescued their dog and cat.

Our lives can be changed in the blink of an eye, and it reminds us to take stock of what truly matters. Friends who would house us if we lost our homes, neighbours who watch out for us, the love of family and the support of our church community, these are real treasures. We are used to viewing ourselves as self-sufficient and independent, and we work hard to not be a burden, but the reality is that independence can too easily turn into a fear that no-one will support us when we need help. As we pray for the people of Halifax, and those elsewhere in Canada and around the world who are facing disasters like wildfires, may we also remember with thanks the community around us who would joyfully help us if we were in need. And may we not wait until the flames are at our doorstep to reach out and ask for help!

Please pray for me and for our General Assembly in the coming week, that travel plans would go smoothly for all, and that we would have the most miserable weather possible. Pray for our deliberations and our fellowship. And may God bless the people of Halifax with the redeeming power of His grace in this time of struggle, grace that can transform even the flames of Pentecost into a sign of unexpected changes and new life.

Treasurer's Update for this Week

The current state of our finances has hovered around the “dire” state for some time. With the end-month and month-start cheques we will again dip into the Line of Credit (LOC) for another \$2,000. This will mean that we have used \$6,000 of our \$10,000 LOC. This is not sustainable.

If you are wondering what I'm not paying, basically those are PCC related charges. There are two things in that category which I should be paying. Those are the stipend related charges – pension and group insurance – which are under federal legislation and which should be paid if at all possible. This month we have six months worth of outstanding charges and we did get a slightly higher income, so those cheques will be going in the mail next week. While this will mean using the LOC, we will be meeting federal and PCC expectations of when this expenditure is due.

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.

The June 4th version of what would you do for your Church?

Let's get real for a couple of minutes!

What I'd really like to find this week are between two to four people to paint!

Un-oh. Sounds like work.

Back in February St. David's Futures Committee started. This committee is a follow-up to last year's Radical Change Committee. One thing, so far, is Allison Crawford-Hawco's idea, make the hall's entrance look better. The plan is simple – brighten it up, add church and user posters, “You are welcome here” signs in different languages, and include a large map of the world showing where people come from and where the PSWD operates. The Women's Auxiliary (WA) have come on board and are funding the plans. What's happened so far? The re-cycling

moved to the old kitchen, the old sofa and coat rack disappeared, new pot lights are in place, and a new paint color is chosen. What's missing?

Painters.

And thanks to everyone who's gotten us this far!

If you'd like to help beautify (paint) our hall's entrance, please contact the church office, all ten digits (709) 722-2382.

I 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.

Board of Managers

The BOM is now a Board of seven!!

Ken Templeton, Anne Calver, Jill Bruneau, Nnenna Offia, Barbara Ellis, Heather Steele-Morrissey and Keegan Allen. We are delighted that Keegan has volunteered to be on the Board of Managers ~ welcome Keegan!

As mentioned before, we are still hoping to add to this number – so if you are curious about what is involved, please contact any member of the Board to discuss. We would be pleased to hear from you. Thank you!

Sunday School


It's June! We are approaching the last few regular Sunday school classes for this season.

This week the children will learn about Holy Communion in class and will be invited to join their families in worship for this sacred celebration.

Next week, June 11, will be our last class. We invite all children and volunteers who have participated in our classes and activities since October to attend worship for special surprises and treats!

Then, on June 18, the summer kicks off with our friends from St. Andrew's at Sunshine Rotary Park for an open air worship service, weather permitting, or if rainy, in the Lodge there, followed by a BBQ picnic! Please join us!

During the summer, children will worship with their families, and while classes will pause, we hope to provide a special bulletin for the children each Sunday.

Wishing all the children, their families and our wonderful volunteers, many blessings of sunshine, rest, safety in travel and summer fun! 

Birthdays and Anniversaries (June 5 through June 11)

Happy Birthday to Ian Bruneau who will be celebrating his birthday on June 9th with family and friends near and far. Ian's family – wife, Jill, and children, Alexander, Samantha and Timothy, along with brother, Stephen, and his family and of course, his mom, Jean Bruneau – will ensure a special day is in store. Ian is a long-serving elder here at St. David's along with being our Envelope Secretary. Happy Birthday Ian from all your friends here at St. David's! Best wishes for a great day!

Birthday wishes go out to Joseph Craig who will be celebrating his birthday on June 9th! Joseph will be enjoying his big day with family and friends, including his wife, Michelle and their daughter, Julia. Best wishes Joe from your St. David's family and we wish you many more birthdays to come!

Happy Birthday to Anne Calver, who will be celebrating her birthday on June 9th as well! Anne will be celebrating her birthday with family – Janet and Brian – and friends, near and far, including the “crowd” from Lady Cove. (Anne is the Treasurer here at St. David’s and keeps our financial affairs running smoothly.) Happy Birthday Anne from everyone here at St. David’s! We hope you have a great day and may your chickens behave themselves and lay spectacular eggs in honour of the day!

Happy Birthday to Marilyn Reardon who will be celebrating her birthday on June 11th! Joining in the festivities will be her family, including her daughter, Aimee, her grand-children, her siblings, Mildred, Nowell, Jerry and their families, along with numerous cousins and of course all her friends. Your St. David’s family joins in wishing you a wonderful birthday Marilyn! May there be many more!

Happy Birthday wishes go to Mila Pike who will be celebrating her 15th birthday on June 10th! Mila is the daughter of Krysta and Keith Pike and the grand-daughter of Judy and Dave Rudofsky. Your St. David’s family wishes you a very Happy Birthday Mila! Best wishes for the coming year!

Happy Birthday to Mavis Owusu-Damprane will be celebrating her birthday on June 10th! Mavis will be joined in the festivities by her husband, Collins Bekoe and her son, Calvin along with many other family and friends near and far. Your St. David's family wishes you a very Happy Birthday, Mavis and best wishes for the the year ahead!

Just a word of congratulations to all our 2023 graduates – from Kindergarten through to University. Your accomplishments are a great thing to celebrate. Congratulations to each and every one of you as you continue to explore and seek your path in life! Please feel free to share your graduation pictures with us – we would love to share your accomplishments with all your friends here at St. David’s!

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

Prayer Shawl Knitters

The Prayer Shawl Knitting Group will hold their last meeting before breaking for the Summer months on **Tuesday, June 6th at The Fogwill Residence: 217 Portugal Cove Road.**

Please plan to come for: **Coffee Time from 10:00am to 12:00noon and then stay for lunch!**

Conversation Club

A new venture for St. David's is taking place on **Wednesday mornings from 11:00am to 12noon...** Members and friends helping our new Ukrainian neighbours learn English. For more information on how you can help, please contact Penny Gillies, or Heather in the office. Thank you.

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, June 8th.**

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.

Upcoming Plant Sale !!

There will be a Plant Sale at St. David's !!!

Saturday, June 10th from 10:00am to noon.

But we will need help... if you would like to help out, we do have a wish list ~ items on that list include:

Pots and containers, people to dig-up, separate and transplant (plants), share seedlings (should you have any started) and plants from your garden, etc. And of course we will need people to help out at the Plant Sale itself.

We have had a lot of positive feedback to the news of a Plant Sale!!! SO please do continue to spread the word!!

Starting Wednesday, June 7th, we will start receiving hardier plants that we can leave outdoors in the covered area just outside the Tower door ~ this area is often referred to as the "Breezeway". Please be sure to identify and label your plants so we know how to group them and are able to give that info to the purchaser. Thank you.

We would be delighted to accept any tender plants, such as vegetables and annuals on Saturday morning prior to the start of the sale – preferably, around 9:00am. Again, please have these plants identified and labelled. Thank you!

The NFLD Presbyterial meeting

The St. Andrew's AMS and St. David's AMS will meet on **Monday, June 12th at The Kirk from 1:30 to 4:30pm.**

The theme is Christmas in June and the guest speaker is Bruce Templeton.

Come for a time of fellowship and lunch. There will be "a bring and buy".

For more info please contact Penny Gillies. Thank you!

The Annual St. Andrews and St. David's Picnic - Sunday, June 18th!!!

Please plan to attend the annual joint congregational picnic with our sister church, The Kirk, on **Sunday, June 18th at 11:00am ~ Rotary Sunshine Park, Thorburn Road.**

The Sunday service and picnic will go ahead rain (inside) **OR** shine (outside)!

The picnic: burgers will be provided and people are encouraged to bring either a side dish (salad, casserole, etc) or dessert as this is a potluck. Please bring your own plates and cutlery. Tea & coffee will be provided.

Every year we look forward to spending time with our friends from St. Andrew's .
See you there!!

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.

Bridges to Hope:

Weekly "Flyer" Specials – Useful items for Bridges To Hope – June 1 – 7, 2023

No Frills: Kraft Peanut Butter - \$5.99

Walmart: Kraft Dinner - \$0.97

Mr. Noodles - \$0.37

Sobeys: Catelli Garden Select Pasta Sauce or Compliments Pasta - \$0.88 **

Lawtons: Heinz Beans or Pasta – 4/\$6.00

** With Scene card

Bridges To Hope are asking their partner churches to contribute a specific item each month and the item for **JUNE** is **personal care items** – *shampoo, soap, deodorant, toothpaste, etc.* Other non-perishable food items are always welcome and appreciated!

Bridges To Hope are also in need of **cat food (hard & soft)**. They don't need dog food as they have a steady supply from the Doghouse store downtown.

Please note:

The Bridges to Hope AGM will take place on Monday, June 5th at 7 pm. The meeting will be held at St. James United Church in the auditorium. All are welcome to attend.





Thank you for your ongoing support of Bridges to Hope! Your generosity made a significant difference in the lives of vulnerable children, families, and seniors in St. John's and the Metro Region.

We're excited to announce our May "Make it Monthly" campaign to grow our Sustainers Circle: a dedicated group of supporters committed to reducing hunger through convenient and impactful monthly giving. With your help, we can provide essential and healthy food to over 1000 people in need each month, turning hunger into hope.

As a past donor, we believe you share our passion for fighting hunger and empowering our community. By joining our Sustainers Circle, you can make an even more significant impact:

- Your monthly gifts allow us to budget for fresh fruits and vegetables, healthy snacks for kids, homemade bread and soups, and other nutritious foods.
- Scheduled donations help you budget your contributions and ensure we can provide healthy food throughout the year, even in lean months.
- Monthly giving reduces administration costs, meaning more money goes directly to purchasing food.
- Enjoy hassle-free automatic deductions, easy account

management, and receive an annual gift statement for tax preparation.

We know how to leverage your dollar. Check out what impact your kindness will have:

- **\$10/month: Feed a family of 4 for 4 days**
- **\$20/month: Provide 4 kids with healthy snacks**
- **\$50/month: Pay for 100 bowls of homemade soup**
- **\$100/month: Provide fresh fruits and vegetables to 50 people**

We invite you to join the Sustainers Circle today and help us turn hunger into hope! Visit bridgestohope.ca/sustainers-circle to learn more about the program or enroll.


Throughout May, we'll share impact stories and more information about the Sustainers Circle via email and our social media channels. Be sure to follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#) to stay updated!

Thank you for considering monthly giving and being a vital part of the Bridges to Hope community.

With gratitude,

Jody Williams

Executive Director, Bridges to Hope



St. Andrew's Church is thrilled to announce that the

47th Annual Kirk Lobster Dinner!

Will be held on:

Wednesday, June 7th and Thursday, June 8th 2023

As past supporters of this great event, we are reaching out to you first to let you know!

We would love to add you to our list again for this year.

As always, each *Signature* Kirk Lobster Dinner Box will include:

2 full cooked and split lobsters,
3 freshly made salads,
dinner rolls,
homemade dessert,
condiments,
and a "refreshment".

Take-Out Boxes will be \$75.00 Each!

We hope that we can count on your generous support once again this year.

To place your order, or if you have any questions,
please reply to this email address or call 726-5385.

Tell your friends, tell your family, tell your neighbours, tell your colleagues!
Spread the word, share the joy of this Amazing Event & get your orders in!

Sincerely, ***The Lobster Dinner Team, St. Andrew's Church (The Kirk)***

Mission Moment – Presbyterian World Service & Development
Sunday, June 4th, 2023



In Haiti’s Artibonite region, two-year-old Gloria lives with her parents and three siblings. One day, Gloria’s parents noticed that their daughter would not eat, and that her breathing was laboured. They rushed Gloria to St. Marc Hospital, supported by Presbyterian World Service & Development and its local partner. There, Gloria was diagnosed with acute malnutrition, as well as tuberculosis and edema. Her treatment consisted of a regimen of antibiotics and therapeutic milk, administered over the course of a few weeks until she was deemed healthy enough to begin outpatient care. Not long after, Gloria had gained enough weight to assure the doctors that she had made a full recovery, both from malnutrition and tuberculosis.

An Old Map of St. John's From 1932

It's amazing what you discover in the most unlikely places. Here I was, going for a doctor's appointment a couple of weeks ago and on my way into his office, I spied a large map of St. John's on the wall. It was a map of old St. John's from 1932 from actual plans and official surveys of W. P. Ryan. I didn't have time to have a good look at it on the way in, but I certainly did on the way out! And of course, I had to take a few pictures. I thought you might be interested in some of them.

Remember, this was before the Churchill Park area was developed. Can you recognize any streets? Can you see the land owned by the Congregational Church? (check out the area between Long Pond Road and Stoneyhouse Lane.) Can you find the old Newfoundland Hotel? the War Memorial? Fort Townshend? Newtown Road, Mayor Avenue, Duckworth and Water Streets?



It is with sadness that we announce the passing of a dear member and friend of St. David's, Lynn Tuck, on Wednesday, May 24th at the Martha's Vineyard Hospital. She was 79.

Lynn was a co-founder of our Quilters Group, member of the WA, AMS Good Companions, Senior Choir, Junior Choir co-leader (pictured below, Lynn on the right), and many other groups and organizations.

The congregation of St. David's send their sincere condolences to her children; Jim, Mike, Robyn and Laura.

