



News from the Pews for Sunday, August 6th, 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...

Minister's Message

Rev. David Sturtevant

Minister at St. David's Presbyterian

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David is on a study leave and vacation, so we thought what to do?



David, your vacation is coming, really, it is! But now it's time to hit the books, "David, wake up!!!!"

Several Bible references relate to the study of the law as given to Moses. One of these is Joshua 1:8, where Joshua has just been given the task, after the death of Moses, to lead the people into the Promised Land. The task will be successful if he learns and follows the laws, as laid down.

"Study this Book of Instruction continually. Meditate on it day and night so you will be sure to obey everything written in it. Only then will you prosper and succeed in all you do."

We study for many reasons, for work, as part of an education program, and for fun. When we find something that interests us, we want to learn more. It is also one way in which we grow as a person and as a people.

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

Treasurer's Report

The month of July was a very good month for us. We welcomed members of the Kirk who worshipped with us this month, we had the first of the Brian Way and Friends concerts, and we had a rental agreement signed with Pope Productions for the filming of a Hudson and Rex show. We are hanging in there. I am managing our the new \$80,000 deficit, this month, to a greater extent.

There are several opportunities coming our way: the concert series (Brian Way and Friends) will pick up again on August 10th with vocalist Karla Pilgrim and violinist Dominic Greene.

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 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

The June meeting was the last before summer. Session did have one special meeting over the Summer, their next scheduled meeting is in September.

Board of Managers

The Board consists of Ken Templeton, Anne Calver, Jill Bruneau, Neena Offia, Barbara Ellis, Heather Steele-Morrissey and Keegan Allen. The June meeting was also their last before summer, although if required, virtual meetings may occur as the situation warrants.

The Board is hoping to add new members as a family group or individuals, please get in touch with any member of the Board if you are interested. We would be pleased to hear from you!

The August 6th version of What Would you do for your Church?

During the summer, activities at the church wind down, somewhat. So this is more about what we have done and continue to do.

Throughout the summer: we have church every Sunday, someone will be in the office, various rentals are continuing, and a few new ones are starting, the grass is still growing, the plants may need some water and dead-heading, the trees and hedges may need a brush cut, and so on.

We have a hardy group of gardeners who take care of the lawns and flowers each week. My thanks to them and suggest that you take a look at the flora at the front of the church, especially the roses! They are just gorgeous and the smell, it's worth wandering over to a look. My thanks to everyone who continues to ensure the church looks bright, fresh, and inviting.

While the three main meetings (Session, BOM, and Futures) have concluded for the summer, they retain the ability to meet if, and when, necessary.

You are Welcome Here

The past two weekends we rented our hall for two separate baptism or christening celebrations. Each week our hall was decorated and the families welcomed their relatives and friends to a party for two little boys who were each welcomed into their community. There was plenty of great food, music and inter-generational bonding. It was nice to see everyone in such happy welcoming moods.

Would you like to attend one of our concerts with Brian's Friends?

Our next concert, with guests Karla Pilgrim and Dominic Green, is set for Thursday August 10th at 8 pm. This concert will feature a variety of styles, everything from country, gospel to rock. Tickets will be available next week, please contact the office. Our line-up is changing slightly, the third concert in late August will feature tenor David Pomeroy and soprano Melanie Jardine, for a concert with classical overtones. We are working on a line-up of concerts into the fall, please stay tuned. Yes, we may have special guests for some seasonal events too.

Would you like to congratulate Rev. Dr. Jonathan Dent on his retirement?

Several weeks ago, we included the letter from Linda Clarke from Grace Church, in Orleans, Ontario about Johnathan's retirement. If you're in the Ottawa area, you are invited to join them on September 9th.

We will be looking at ways in which we can send along congratulations to Jonathan for his retirement. We do extend an invitation for **"Messages for Jonathan and Lynn"**. If you would like to send along congratulations, add your name to a card, or take part in a YouTube greeting, please contact the church. If you have any ideas on what we may do, give the office a call. We would welcome suggestions from Session and the BOM.

May your gardens grow really well, may there be a plentiful harvest of the wild berries and , if you're lucky enough to get to go fishing (cod – I mean), may you have tight lines!

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, want, 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, and hopes. If you are interested in how St. David's moves forward, please contact the church at 722-2382 or email us at stdavids@nfld.com.

News from the Presbyterian Church in Canada (PCC)

The PCC issues the Connection four (4) times a year. It is available on-line and we get several hard copies which are found on the ledge outside Rev. Sturtevant's office. A couple of weeks ago, the PCC sent out its "Latest News from the PCC: Summer Edition". It contains a list of current and past webinars, one of which is "Climate Justice and Why Churches Should Care".

It's description: Perhaps you've heard the phrase "climate justice" in the news or from a friend. But what is climate justice and why is it important? Come to a webinar hosted by Justice Ministries to find out. It will cover:

- A very brief tour through some history of the environmental movement, why some of the language has shifted from talking about the environment to talking more about climate specifically, and two different ways to think about defining climate justice.
- Some theological reflection on why climate justice is important for Christians generally and for the church.
- Some of the PCC's involvement as well as what some of our ecumenical interfaith, or civic partners are doing, and different ways to become involved. well as what some of our ecumenical, interfaith, or civic partners are doing, and different ways to become involved.

Sunday School

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. We hope all the children, their families and our volunteers have a happy, healthy summer with sunny days, safe travels, plenty of rest and all kinds of summer fun!

Birthdays and Anniversaries and Graduations (August 7 – August 13)

Happy Birthday to Oliver Sturtevant on his 6th birthday, August 7th. Oliver will be celebrating his big day with his family and friends, near and far, including his mom (Michelle) and dad (David) and his younger brother, Orson – and all his favourite pets. Happy Birthday from your St. David's family! All our love!

Happy Birthday to Grace Artiss! Grace will be celebrating her special day on August 8th with family and friends, near and far, including her husband, David, and best little friend, Caspar. Best wishes Grace from your St. David's family and all your "Good Companion buddies"! We're thinking of you and hope you enjoy your day!

Birthday greetings to Nathan Ennis who will be celebrating his birthday on August 13th. Nathan is the son of Karen Bonnell and grand-son of Judy and Dave Bonnell. Happy Birthday Nathan – hope you have a great day!

Happy Birthday to Rory Rooney who will be celebrating his 7th birthday on August 9th! Rory is the son of Jonathan and Erin Rooney and younger brother of Frederick. Everyone here at St. David's wishes you a wonderful birthday Rory! Enjoy your special day!

And more birthday wishes for the Rooney family – these go out to **Jonathan Rooney who will be celebrating his birthday on August 10th**, one day after Rory's birthday! Jonathan will be celebrating his birthday with wife, Erin (Berghuis) and sons, Frederick and Rory and other family and friends. Best wishes Jonathan from everyone here at St. David's and may there be many more birthdays to come!

Happy Birthday to Laura Reddick, who will be celebrating with family and friends on August 11th! Laura is the daughter of Helen and Brian Reddick and grand-daughter of Pam Bruce. Best wishes Laura from your St. David's family and we hope you enjoy your day!

Happy Anniversary to Joanna and Gordon Lo who will be celebrating their 19th wedding anniversary on August 13th! Joanna is the daughter of Penny and Stewart Gillies. Everyone at St. David's wishes you warm wishes as you celebrate your special day and we hope you have many more wonderful years to come!

Happy Anniversary to Jill (Slater) and Tom Crosbie! Jill and Tom were married on August 13th, 2011. Congratulations to you both and best wishes from all your St. David's friends! Tom is the son of Suzanne Brake and David Crosbie and Andrea Crosbie's nephew.

Happy Anniversary wishes to Jean and Clayton Collins who will be celebrating their 62nd wedding anniversary on August 11th! Jean and Clayton will be celebrating this special day with their three daughters – Jacqueline, Jennifer and Janet – and their families, along with other family and friends. Congratulations from your St. David's family and cheers to many more wonderful years ahead!

Happy Wedding Anniversary to Vanessa and Alex Templeton who will be celebrating on August 7th! Vanessa and Alex were married in 2004. We hope you enjoy this special day. Congratulations from everyone here at St. David's and we wish you many years of happiness!

Happy Anniversary wishes to Allison (Crawford) and Steve Hawco who will be celebrating their 1st wedding anniversary on August 12th! Allison and Steve will be celebrating this special day with family and friends - near and far - including Allison's mom and dad, Lillian and Harry Crawford. Best wishes and much happiness from 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.

St. David's Upcoming Events and Notices

Summer Concert Series

We are pleased and excited to announce the next events in the "Brian Way and Friends Concert Series". Our next two concerts are:

An Evening with Karla Pilgrim with Dominic Green on violin and Brian Way with Karla performing classic and contemporary country, some gospel selections and pop and rock music. This concert is Thursday August 10th at 8 pm in the church hall, 98 Elizabeth Ave.

An Evening of Classical Music with tenor David Pomeroy and soprano Melanie Jardine This concert is scheduled for the last week of August, so keep a night open!

More concerts have been proposed and details will be forthcoming. Tickets for the concerts are \$25 and will be available from the office, by calling (709) 722-2382 or emailing us at stdavids@nfld.com. More info and the dates to come!

Bridges to Hope:

Weekly "Flyer" Specials – Useful items for Bridges To Hope – August 3 - 9, 2023

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

Sobeys: Kraft Dinner – 4/\$5.00

Colemans: Jade Mandarin Oranges - 2/\$3.00

Shoppers Drug Mart: Colgate Toothpaste/Toothbrush - \$0.99

No Frills: **Campbell's Soup - \$0.79**

Lawtons: Ivory Bar Soap – (10 x 90g) - \$3.99

Compliments Prepared Mustard - \$1.99

Bridges To Hope are asking their partner churches to contribute a specific item each month and the item for **AUGUST is Kid's snacks – applesauce, granola bars, juice boxes, 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.

Bridges To Hope - Bag to School 2023

We have the wonderful opportunity to make a difference in the lives of young students in our community through Bridges to Hope's Bag to School Program, which we have supported for over a decade. Due to the extreme demand and rising costs to provide essential school supplies and equip these children for a successful academic year, they need to raise over \$25,000 this year. Let's come together as a church family to empower these students and demonstrate the true spirit of compassion and care. You can donate directly at www.bridgestohope.ca

Thank you and have a good weekend,

Jody Williams

Executive Director

Bridges to Hope Food Aid Center

Update on our Zoom and YouTube Links

For those of you who view our services on-line via Zoom or YouTube, you may have noticed several things in the past two weeks. We have a new camera operating remotely. It's situated up on the wall of the gallery above the clock and "Boy, does it work well!" We've gotten at least one email saying how great the picture is and the sound has also improved. The camera's settings allow us to have five predefined views (minister's lectern, reader's lectern, front of church view, baptismal font, and church steps) and we can possibly have more "set" views – like the Christmas tree, the plaque for November 11th service, the stained-glass windows, the Memorial Tree or make subtle changes like those. The sound has also improved since it "thinks" about where the sound is coming from (we do have five operational mikes) and it dampens the other mikes = improved sound. The camera has a great zoom feature allowing the operator to zoom onto the person reading the Bible, or speaking with the kids, etc. . The laptop is set-up for the next six weeks, having both the Zoom and six YouTube addresses ready to roll. Using this camera, we can now also record funerals and perhaps, weddings.

By the time you will have read this, David has been busy training people in its use and we will have at least five people who are able to operate the camera.

Mission Moment – Presbyterian World Service & Development
Sunday, August 6th, 2023



In Malawi, Alifonsina Banda, a 26-year-old mother, took part in vocational skills training through the PWS&D-supported Every Girl Empowered project. Despite the long-standing perception in her community that electronics courses are not for girls, Alifonsina challenged herself and enrolled in the electronics course. Since completing the class, she has repaired phones, installed satellite dishes, and worked as an electrician, earning a sustainable income from her business. “After the course, I had the most wonderful festive season in my life. I may not be able to remember how much money I made, but I had a client almost every day,” she shares. In the future, Alifonsina plans to open an electronics shop to sell spare parts and is thankful that the Every Girl Empowered project has given her a lifelong opportunity to improve the financial opportunities for herself and her family.