



News from the Pews for Sunday November 26, 2023

“News from the Pews”, contains stories, pictures and happenings from, by and for the members of the congregation. It also contains Birthdays and Anniversaries, a Treasurer’s Update, News from other Church Groups, Boards and Committees, special requests from Bridges to Hope, News from the Presbyterian Church in Canada, and of course Special Events happening at St. David’s. There is also the Features with Pictures with happenings and pictures of happenings at St. David’s.

We hope you enjoy.....

Minister's Message



This week, we had our first snowfall that stayed on the ground. Thankfully, I'd already done my outside "clean up" and made sure all the toys scattered in our back yard had made it away into the shed before they were buried for the winter. Nevertheless, as I pulled out the shovels and realized the one that broke at the end of last winter still needed fixing, I looked out at the snow with a bit of trepidation. Here comes another winter, more shoveling, icy roads, and so on.

My boys' reaction was very different, of course. They were out throwing snowballs, and back in after two minutes when they realized they should have listened to their wise parents warnings that they would need mittens to play in the snow. They are thrilled to have the days getting dark so early, and have started already asking if we can drive around the block every time we come home in the dark, just in case neighbours have started putting up their Christmas lights early. On our mantle is a countdown to Christmas decoration that Oliver has been faithfully updating every day.

May we not lose the anticipation of this season. May we not lose our joy in the beauty of a snowflake or a blanket of freshly fallen snow. May we recognize that as the seasons change, we can always find something new to celebrate.

For so it is with our lives. Although our circumstances may change, and what was familiar may be replaced by something unfamiliar, we have faith in a God who loves us and leads us into the future. By the grace of God, our lives will always be worth celebrating. That's Good News!

Treasurer's Report

I have been using the word deficit a lot this year. What does that actually mean? We do not have enough money to pay everyone and everything as it now stands. We also used the full \$10,000 Line of Credit to pay everything that was due at the end of October.

The Board and Session are well aware of this and back on November 5th I listed our outstanding debts in that week's News from the Pews. Our debt at year's end is \$50,474. That is how much I should write out cheques for and cannot.

The Board and Session will have a joint meeting very early in December to discuss this and look at all options available to us. Meanwhile, I watch all upcoming automatic withdrawals, to ensure sufficient funds are in our account. When I have sufficient funds to pay people and businesses, I do.

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.

Birthdays and Anniversaries (November 27 to December 3, 2023)

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 Bob Patey who will be celebrating his birthday on November 30th with family and friends - near and far - including his wife, Heather, daughters El and Jean and in-laws - Sylvia and Bob Taylor. Best wishes, Bob, from all your friends here at St. David's!

Happy birthday to Drayton Froude who will be turning 13 years old on November 30th! Drayton will be celebrating his big day with his mom and dad, Karen and Paul, siblings, Madelyn, Jayce, Scarlett and Carrie and 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 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.

Belated anniversary wishes to Jane and John Green who celebrated their 57th wedding anniversary last Sunday, November 19th! We know you celebrated in fine style with family and friends. Congratulations and much happiness from all your friends here at St. David's and may there be many happy years ahead for you both!

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

CHRISTMAS HAMPERS 2023

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

The proposed preparation date is Saturday, **December 16, 2023**

With proposed delivery date Wednesday, December 20, 2023

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!

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

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)

N.B. An item with a strikethrough indicates that we already have at least forty (40) of that item – our initial goal. We will do more if funds permit!

Sunday School

Each week the Sunday School will have an item to share with the church community. This week Sunday School's thoughts: "Come join Tilley for tea. Tilley will answer the questions "What is hospitality?" The Memory Verse for November is The Beatitudes Matthew 5:1-12.

AMS - November is Winter Coats Month

The month of November is dedicated to collecting "lovingly used" Winter Coats. Please ensure that all closures; zippers, snaps, buttons, etc. are in good working order. A coat rack is set up in the reception area just outside the offices for the collection of donated coats.

Our December meeting will be on **December 3rd** and it will be a **joint meeting with the AMS members of St. Andrew's (the Kirk)**. It will take place at 12:30 in the Armour Room.

WA (Women's Auxiliary)

The November St. David's Bridge Party took place this past Tuesday, to see the worker bees and the happy bridge players, check out the Features with Pictures article!

WA Meeting

The next WA meeting will be held Tuesday, November 28th, 2023. This is the Christmas meeting of the group and will be held at **noon in the Armour Room**. If you would like to join this vibrant group, drop by and get to meet the ladies. There is a great lunch, a short devotion, and a business meeting where the plans for the next activities will take place.

Good Companions

The **Good Companions** is a seniors group that meets once a week in the church hall and Armour Room to share in some activities. If you would like to try your hand at carpet bowling, join a game of bridge or 120's or maybe a friendly game of Scrabble, please join us on **Thursday afternoons from 2 pm to 4 pm**. All are welcome!

Prayer Shawl Ministry/Knitters

The Prayer Shawl Knitters will be holding their next monthly meeting on **Tuesday, December 5th at 10:00am in the Armour Room**. No knitting experience is required ~ please join us for a friendly and fun group for a morning of knitting and fellowship.

Bible Study

"Sandwich and Scriptures", the St. David's Bible Study group takes place in the **Armour Room every Wednesday at 12:30 pm** ~ so bring your lunch and we will make the tea (or coffee!), we would be delighted to have you join us!

Pickleball games for our congregation

The fall pickleball games are well underway. Pickleball takes place every **Wednesday afternoon from 2 to 4 pm**. If you'd like more information, or if you would like to get some education on the rules and instruction on how to play, please contact the office.

St David's Bridge Lunches for December

The December Bridge Lunch is **Tuesday December 12th 2023 in the Church Hall**. The doors open at noon for those early comers! We can accommodate between 20 to 22 tables, if you haven't booked your table, please contact Heather or Lillian. Remember the lunch will be a hearty meal which includes the surprise and delicious "mystery" soup, the regular array of favorite soups, plus those very decadent desserts. There will be prizes plus an enjoyable game of bridge for everyone. See you there!

Other Community Announcements

Costal Sounds Concert and Canata

Coastal Sounds Choir Association are thrilled to announce, A CELTIC CHRISTMAS, Choral Concert and 10th Anniversary Cantata, on **Sunday Dec. 3 at 7 P.M. at All Saints Anglican Church, Foxtrap**, with Special Guests Matthew Byrne and local Members of NLESD. Tickets are \$ 25 and are available by our website: www.coastalsoundschoir.com Donations for the Community Food Sharing Association Greatly Appreciated.

New Choir – Spiritoso Singers

Would you like to join a fun choir this fall? Join the Spiritoso Singers!

We are a brand new, Christian-based, SATB choir, led by Sarah Templeton and Chris Morano. If you are aged 13 to 103 and have a little bit (or, a lot) of singing experience, this is for you!

Rehearsal dates are every Saturday up to December 2nd from 10:30 am to 12:30 pm in the St. David's sanctuary. There will be a Christmas Concert on December 3rd. A portion of the proceeds of the concert will go to the Spear Fund, a charity that works to end child trafficking worldwide. For more information or to sign up, go to:

www.feldenkraisforsingers.com/spiritososingers

Bridges to Hope

The Weekly "Flyer" Specials – Useful items for Bridges to Hope – November 23 to November 29

Sobeys - Heinz Beans or Pasta - \$0.97

No Frills - Campbell's Soup - \$0.99

Dominion - Graves Apple Juice - \$0.99

Walmart - KD (Kraft Dinner) – 6 for \$6.00

Pipers - Purity Cream Crisps - \$2.

Bridges To Hope are asking their partner churches to contribute a specific item each month and the item for November is **Crackers**. 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 – Food Drive at St. John's Farmers Market (SJFM) – Festive Market

As part of the SJFM this year, **Bridges to Hope will be collecting donations** at the **"Festive Market" from November 24 to 26**. You are invited to drop by for some amazing local vendors, food, and music. For more details see the SJFM site:

[SJFM Festive Market 2023 - St. John's Farmers' Market](#)

Alex Taylor is raising funds for Bridges to Hope

Youth musician Alex Taylor is hosting his annual "Merry & Bright" Christmas fundraiser on **Saturday November 25th at 7 pm at St. Mary's Church**, 80 Craigmiller Ave. For tickets, please call (709) 691-4020. Alex is donating all proceeds to **Bridges to Hope**.

Features with Pictures

Concert Series - Fall Concert Series #4 (November 17, 2023)

Last Friday evening, we were delighted to have Kelly-Ann Evans and Scott Mansfield join our own Brain Way in the Church Hall for another Fall Concert Series. It was a magical evening of song and music. Kelly-Ann charmed us with her renditions of familiar, and some not-so-familiar, songs with Scott and Brian complementing her voice and going solo a few times - much to the delight of the audience. The standing ovation at the end of the evening said it all! We hope to see Kelly-Ann and Scott back again in the not to distant future.

Many thanks to Brian again for making this possible and to our "behind-the-scenes-working-group". Kudos to all involved!

Stay tuned for more information on Brian's next concert coming up on December 16th! You won't want to miss this one!

Below is a picture of Brain, Kelly-Ann and Scott!



Mission Moment for November 26th



Over the past two years, Canadian aid organizations advocated to remove legal barriers to much-needed aid in Afghanistan. The barriers prevented aid organizations, including PWS&D, from providing urgent humanitarian assistance since the Taliban took control in August 2021. The recent parliamentary adoption of Bill C-41 now enables Canadian aid organizations to provide crucial aid in Afghanistan safely and effectively. Bill C-41 is vital to improving access to health care, ensuring access to food, water and sanitation, education, and protecting human dignity. As winter approaches, the needs are even greater. PWS&D will now support work in Afghanistan once again—an important step in coping with political, economic and climate adversity for many in the country