



News from the Pews for Sunday October 22, 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. Also, from time to time, there will be archival pictures, trivia and stories.

We hope you enjoy.....

Minister's Message



This week was the annual meeting of the Presbyterian Synod of the Atlantic Provinces. The location rotates around, but this year we met in New Glasgow, NS, and were hosted by First Presbyterian Church. As is the norm in the courts of the Presbyterian church, this meeting of around 80 people was made up half of ministers and half of elders, sharing meals together, doing workshops, and worshipping together.

Newfoundland was represented by myself, Lynne Allen from the church in Grand Falls-Windsor, Mike Gillan from St. Andrew's, and Rev. Ian Wishart as well. Most of the business of synod, which is light, has to do with the various church camps that run in the Maritimes. If you know a young person who might be interested in attending camp as a camper or staff person, let me know and I can put you in touch with the right people. Funding for travel may be available.

The real benefit of Synod has always been more than the business we do. This year, we had a wonderful speaker in the Rev. Dr. Patricia Dutcher-Walls, the recently retired Dean and Professor of Hebrew Bible at Vancouver

School of Theology. She put us to work in small groups studying stories from all across the scriptures, and then brought us back together to ask what common themes we could learn about God. We heard the stories of Naaman being cured of leprosy, Ruth the Moabite becoming King David's great-grandmother, Jesus healing untouchable people, Philip baptizing a foreign eunuch, and Peter baptizing a Roman centurion. All of these stories tell of God's love of diverse people, and the ways that God will even break or change His own laws to include them. This method of study and looking for overarching themes in scripture was excellent, and is an approach I will be trying to adapt for us to use somehow here at St. David's.

I was also glad for the opportunity to walk around down by the river and take some less-than-serious pictures as a tourist. It is a beautiful time of year to be out and walking.

May God bless you with refreshment this week, whether it come from conversation with new friends or old ones, whether it come from walking in creation or sitting in prayer. For God cares for us, and has good things in store. That's Good News!

Treasurer's Report

Happily, our Line of Credit (LOC) did not change as a result of the mid-month payments, it still stands at \$4,000 used from our \$10,000 LOC. We are keeping up with our local invoices and payments, while owing some significant amounts to the PCC.

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 (October 23 - October 29)

Happy Birthday to Shemsadin Hamid who will be turning 10 years old on October 24th. Even though Shemsadin and his family have moved to Calgary, we still think about them all and know that his mom and dad, Rukiya and Thomas Hamid, and his siblings, Solomon and little sister, Beli, will be there to help with the birthday celebrations. Everyone here at St. David's wishes you a wonderful birthday Shemsadin! Have fun!

Happy Birthday greetings to Emily McLean who will be celebrating her birthday on October 28th with family and friends – near and far. Emily (living in Halifax) is the daughter of Christine and John McLean (Hammonds Falls, Nova Scotia). Her brother, Jackson, is living here in St. John's. Best wishes Emily for a wonderful birthday from all your friends here at St. David's!

A very Happy Birthday to Michelle Sturtevant who is celebrating her birthday on October 25th! It will be a happy day with family and friends from Ontario to Newfoundland joining the celebration. Making it very special day will be husband, David, and her two little boys, Oliver and Orson, and all her adorable pets. Best wishes Michelle from everyone here at St. David's! We wish you a wonderful birthday!

Happy Birthday wishes to Evelyn Melendy who will celebrate her birthday on October 24th! Evelyn will share her big day with her husband, Nowell, and children, Roxanne and Sheldon and their families, along with other close family and friends. All the folks here at St. David's hope you have a wonderful day, Evelyn, and all the best in the year ahead!

Happy Birthday to Ernst Rollmann who will be celebrating his birthday on October 25th with family and friends – near and far! Ernst will be sharing his special day with his mom and dad, Marcella and Hans Rollmann, and his brothers, Peter and Hans Jr.. Best wishes from all your friends here at St. David's, Ernst, and we hope you have a wonderful day!

Happy Birthday greetings to Ethan Quinton who will celebrate his 4th birthday on October 24th! Ethan is the son of Melissa Smallwood and Josh Quinton and grandson of Becky and Leith Quinton. All the folks here at St. David's hope you have a great birthday Ethan, and may there be many, many more to come!

Happy Birthday wishes to Penny Stansbury who will celebrate her 3rd birthday on October 24th! Penny is the daughter of Phoebe and Nick Stansbury, grand-daughter of Lori and Fuat Sezer and the great-grand-daughter of Edith Peach! The Stansbury and Sezer families live in Texas. Best wishes Penny from everyone here at St. David's. We know you will have a very special birthday!

Happy Birthday to Nicholas Lowery who will be celebrating his birthday on October 28th! Nicholas will be celebrating his special day with family and friends far and wide including his mom and dad, Susan and Travis Lowery, sister, Jane (all living in the States), grand-parents, Lillian and Harry Crawford, and many aunts, uncles and cousins. Your St. David's family hope you have a great day!

Happy Birthday to Harry Crawford who will be celebrating his birthday on Monday, October 23rd! Harry will be sharing his special day with family and friends, near and far – including wife, Lillian, and daughters Allison and Susan and their families. Best wishes from everyone here at St. David's, Harry! We hope you have a great day with many more to come!

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

Sunday School

Each week the Sunday School will have an item to share with the church community. This week it is: "Asking questions is how we learn, and it's ok to ask God questions too. Sometimes it's scary to ask the people in charge, like teachers or our parents, a question. Since we might think they may get mad. But like our teachers and parents who care for us, God loves us no matter what. "

AMS

Socktober: The clothesline has been hung and donations have already started to arrive! We are looking for socks, mitts, personal hygiene items along with some small household items like towels, bedding, tea towels, dish cloths, and small gently-used appliances which are very useful for newcomers to Canada.

St. David's Choir

Last week we were all very excited to have the choir back! This is a small but mighty group. If you would like to join, they will be meeting in the **Sanctuary at 9:30 am on the third Sunday of the month** for a practice. Then they'll take a small break before the 11 am service. **Do you like to sing?** If you are interested in joining this choir, please contact the church office at (709) 722-2382.

WA (Women's Auxiliary)

The first St. David's Bridge Party took place this past Wednesday with a fine bunch of well-fed and happy bridge players. Check out the story in Features with Pictures.

The next meeting of the WA will be held **Tuesday October 31st at 11:30 am 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 meet 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 2pm to 4 pm**. All are welcome!

Prayer Shawl Ministry/Knitters

The Prayer Shawl Knitters will be holding their next monthly meeting on **Tuesday, November 7th 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 for the members of our congregation will be starting soon, possibly even this coming week. In the spring, pickleball took place on **Wednesday afternoons 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.

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: Saturday, Oct 14th to Dec 2nd, from 10:30 am to 12:30 pm, here at St. David’s, with a Christmas concert on Dec. 3rd. A portion of the proceeds of the concert will go to The Spear Fund, a charity that works to end child trafficking worldwide. Very friendly auditions will be held on Saturday, September 30th. For more information, and to sign up for an audition:

www.feldenkraisforsingers.com/spiritososingers

Brian Way and Friends – The Fall Concert Series

The fourth concert in the Fall series is on **Saturday, October 28 at 8 pm** featuring **Fergus O'Byrne, his son, Fergus Jr and Brian Way** performing an evening of Traditional music.



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

Fergus O'Byrne is widely acclaimed for his musical legacy, as a member of Ryan's Fancy, Tickle Harbour, a solo artist or as a duo with Jim Payne. He proudly celebrates the songs of Ireland, England, Scotland, and Newfoundland and Labrador's past in his performances.

His son, **Fergus Brown-O'Byrne**, carries on that rich musical legacy, one of the finest traditional instrumentalists you will ever encounter. Seeing father and son together is a perfect blend and a treat for traditional lovers."

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Bridges to Hope

Weekly "Flyer" Specials – Useful items for Bridges To Hope – October 19 – 25, 2023

Walmart -	Aylmer Soup - \$0.77
Colemans -	Tetley Tea (72) - \$2.99
No Frills -	KD (Kraft Dinner) - \$0.99
	Colgate/Crest Toothpaste - \$0.89
	Mario's Corned Beef - \$2.49
Sobeys -	KD (Kraft Dinner) – 12 pack - \$9.88

Bridges To Hope are asking their partner churches to contribute a specific item each month and the item for **OCTOBER** is **Canned Milk**. 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.

Features with Pictures

St. Davids Bridge Party

The first St. David's Bridge Party took place this past Wednesday with a fine bunch of well-fed and happy bridge players. They have all signed up for the next Bridge Day on November 14th. The WA would like to thank all those who made soup, baked the yummy and delicious desserts, helped with the set-up and take-down, and who helped serve.

WA Hosted Bridge Party – October 17, 2023

This past week, the WA hosted its first bridge party since last May. There was much anticipation and excitement in the air for both the WA members and our loyal bridge players! It was a great time had by all. The homemade soups and desserts were enjoyed by our guests and the lively chit-chat and laughter made for a fun afternoon. The next bridge party will be on **November 14th!**

Many thanks from the WA to all those who volunteered to make this afternoon 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 this past Tuesday.





Lighthouse VOAR-FM Christian Family Radio,
heard coast to coast in NL,
invites you to join us for our annual
Sharathon Fund-Raiser Celebrations Nov 6-8th !

Feel free to call with your pledge, clergy vote, and prayers of encouragement, as the non-profit station raises the much-needed funds for the year ahead.

Donations are tax deductible. Call toll free at
1-888-740-8627, locally at 709-745-8627
or donate securely online at www.lighthousefm.org.

Thank you for supporting Christian Radio ministry in your community!

Mission Moments – PWS & D: Sunday, October 22nd, 2023



World hunger is a more pressing global challenge than ever. An increasing number of people around the world suffer from worsening and chronic food insecurity and malnutrition. Climate change, conflict, and poverty exacerbated by global inflation are key factors worsening this crisis. Hunger threatens physical and mental well-being and hinders social and economic development. Through its partners, PWS&D is responding to the hunger crisis in East Africa, where millions of people are suffering from increased food insecurity. Conflicts, such as those in Sudan and the Democratic Republic of Congo, are forcing hundreds of thousands of families from their homes. Furthermore, extreme climate weather events across the Horn of Africa have created high hunger levels. Through PWS&D, we are helping to provide emergency support to people affected by the food crisis.