



News from the Pews for Sunday, October 8th, 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.....

Treasurer's Report

At the end of September 2023, we had expenses of \$210,228.71 and our income was \$203,693.66. This year started out with a small bank balance and to date we have used \$4,000 of our Line of Credit (LOC). Our deficit has dropped from \$110,000 to approximately \$67,000, still a considerable deficit. Meanwhile we are keeping up with our normal bills with the exception of some PCC invoices and commitments. Currently we owe the PCC around \$18,000 and by the end of the year that number may be as high as \$26,000. Does that concern me, yes. However we generally get some 23% of our donations in the last 6 to 8 weeks of the year. I am concerned, aside from that, for the moment, our finances are relatively stable. While we still owe monies, we are increasing our rentals, the concert series is very popular, and people are coming back to their pews and hopefully will be ready to help us with any number of initiatives!

I'd like to give you a snapshot of our oil bills:

Bill for	fuel for the Month of	Fuel Costs	Balance Outstand- ing	Pay- ments
Jan-23	Dec	\$3,295.93	\$2,216.90	\$2,597.00
Feb-23	Jan	\$4,840.45	\$4,460.35	\$2,597.00
Mar-23	Feb	\$5,139.59	\$7,002.94	\$2,597.00
Apr-23	Mar	\$4,720.60	\$9,126.54	\$2,597.00
May-23	Apr	\$3,276.40	\$9,805.94	\$2,597.00
Jun-23	May	\$1,932.31	\$9,141.25	\$2,597.00
Jul-23	Jun	\$681.78	\$7,226.03	\$2,597.00
Aug-23	Jul	\$1,214.98	\$5,844.01	\$2,597.00
Sep-23	Aug	\$418.76	\$3,665.77	\$2,597.00
Oct-23	Sep	\$0.00	\$1,068.77	\$2,597.00
Nov-23	Oct	\$624.08	-\$904.15	\$2,597.00
Dec-23	Nov			for 2023/4

In May I was very concerned that we could owe Irving a lot of money at the end of our 12-month balanced payment plan as, at that time, we owed a staggering \$9800 in overage fuel charges. However, summer happened, and the heat was turned off for a large part of July, August and September. So far we have run up \$624 in oil charged for October and I expect one more large fill-up or two this month. As long as that comes to less than \$3,400 we won't owe any monies at the

end of our year. If that happens it's been a good year and Irving got our usage and the price of fuel correct! I will know for sure with our next invoice and I will also learn what our next year's monthly charges will be. Stay tuned!

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.

Board of Managers

The BOM met on Thursday evening, September 28th. During the meeting, discussions surrounding various improvements, maintenance, upgrades and general "to-dos" took place. Over the next few weeks we will be taking a closer look at budgeting and asking for volunteers to assist with some of the items. If you would like to discuss your concerns, add to the list OR volunteer!! We would be delighted to hear from you!

The current members of the Board are: Ken Templeton (convener), Heather Steele-Morrissey (secretary), Keegan Allen, Jill Bruneau, Anne Calver (treasurer), Barb Ellis, and Nnenna Offia.

Condolences - Robert (Rob) McKay

The heartfelt sympathy of the congregation goes out to Kathy and Don McKay on the passing of Don's only brother, Robert (Rob) who passed away peacefully at home on Monday, October 2, 2023 after a lengthy illness. Both Kathy and Don were staying with Rob in his final days with Don providing hospice care throughout. Our thoughts and prayers are with you both.

Birthdays and Anniversaries (October 9 - October 15)

Happy Birthday to Clayton Collins who will be celebrating his birthday on October 14th with family and friends including his wife, Jean, and daughters Jacqueline, Jennifer and Janet and their families. Best wishes Clayton from your St. David's family! We hope you have a great day and may there be many more birthdays to come!

Happy Birthday to Margo Noseworthy who will be celebrating her birthday on October 15th! Margo is the daughter of Elizabeth (and the late David) Thistle. Margo currently lives in Corner Brook with her family, including her mom, Elizabeth (now living in Mountain View Retirement Home). Best wishes Margo from everyone here at St. David's!

Happy Birthday wishes to Matthew St. Croix who will be celebrating his birthday October 11th. He will be celebrating with his family including his mom and dad, Susan and Frank St. Croix, siblings, Samantha, Luke and Ashley, and of course, proud grandmother, Barbara Ellis, and many friends. Your St. David's family wishes you a very Happy Birthday!

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

Our normal activities of the fall are starting to firm up with dates and times. Please read on!

Sunday School

We're excited to be starting Sunday school!

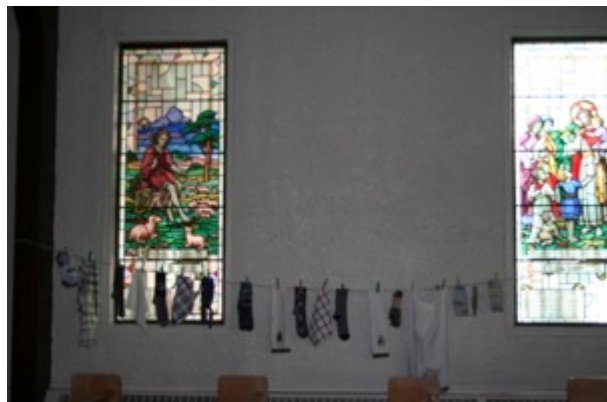
This year we'll be focusing on learning songs along with the weekly lesson. This week's lesson: The 10 Commandments keep us in line, but do you know what they all are?

If you have any suggestions for songs please email:
sarah_mcmeekin@hotmail.com

AMS

Socktober Has Begun

The Socktober 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 such as towels, bedding, tea towels, dish cloths and small, gently-used appliances - all very useful for our newcomers to Canada. Many thanks to everyone who has donated already. It really does make a difference!



If you have any questions, please speak with Penny or Heather in the office@ 709-722-2382. Thank you!

One item of note: if anyone has a set of bunk-beds, we know of a new-comer family that would be interested in them ~ please call Heather in the office 709-722-2382.

Bible Study

“Sandwich and Scriptures”, St. David’s Bible Study, will resume meeting in the Armour Room on Wednesday, October 11th at 12:30 pm.

The first topic for study will be; Jesus – talking to strangers?

So bring your lunch and we will make the tea (or coffee!), we would be delighted to have you join us!

Good Companions

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, maybe a friendly game of scrabble ... please join us on Thursday afternoons **from 2:00 to 4:00pm.**

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

Prayer Shawl Ministry (Knitter's Group)

This past week, members of the Prayer Shawl Ministry (affectionately called the "Knit-Wits") met for the first time since the summer break. It was good to see everyone again! There was a table of knitted goods - the result of a busy summer - and of course, much chatter, laughter and tea!! We welcome one and all to join us (the first Tuesday of every month @10:00) - no knitting experience is required, only the desire to learn!! Below are a couple of pictures from Tuesday.



The Prayer Shawl Knitters will be holding their monthly meeting on the first **Tuesday of every month 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.

Pickleball for our congregation

The fall pickleball 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 would like to get some education on the rules and instruction on how to play, please contact the office.

St David's Bridge Lunches

St David's Lunch/Bridge season starts again in the Church Hall on Tuesday, October 17, 2023. This event is held once a month and a schedule for the full season (October to June) has been established.

Doors open at 12 Noon; Lunch is served at 12:30 P. M., followed by Bridge until 3:30 P. M. Cost is \$20.00 per person and tables of four (4) must be booked in advance.

To book a table, please call the Church Office (709 722-2382) or Lillian Crawford (709 754-2362). Space is limited to a maximum of twenty (20) tables! We expect a Full House, and perhaps a waitlist, so call soon if you're interested.

Lunch offered is a choice of one (1) of three (3) soups, rolls; choice of one (1) of three (3) decadent desserts, tea/coffee.

Prizes are given for high score, second high score and low score! We look forward to seeing you there!

Brian Way and Friends Fall Concert Series

The third concert in the Fall series is on **Saturday, October 14 at 8 pm featuring Darrin Martin and Amanda Dawe, accompanied by Brian Way** These two accomplished performers will bring an evening of Classical music in addition to Traditional, Spiritual, and Musical Theatre favourites.

Darrin Martin is a well-known performer and musician throughout Newfoundland and Nova Scotia. These days he can be seen (and heard!) performing with Spirit of Newfoundland Productions (since 2004!), Sheila Williams Productions and at a variety of events throughout our beautiful province. Darrin is also a full-time visual artist! He and his wife, Georgina, operate the studio and gallery known as NorthSide Studios NL. Together they homeschool their three daughters, Grace, Faith and Hope. Add in a zoo of pets, and you have the formula for a very colourful life!

Amanda Dawe completed her Bachelor of Music degree at Memorial University of Newfoundland and her Masters in Music at the University of Manitoba. Amanda has performed with the Vancouver International Song Institute and The Opera Project in Vancouver. She has participated in the AIMS (American Institute of Musical Studies) in Graz, Austria and has performed with the Pacific Baroque Orchestra. She was the soprano soloist in Schubert's Mass in E Flat Major with the Quintessential Vocal Ensemble. She has also been involved in many musical theatre productions. On the main stage of the Arts and Culture Centre and with Spirit of Newfoundland Productions. These days you can find her teaching at St. John Bosco and St. George's Elementary or spending time with her girls, Grace and Charlotte.

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.

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."

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.

Please see the bulletin board in the Tower entrance for other Community Announcements!

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. For more information, and to sign up for an audition: www.feldenkraisforsingers.com/spiritososingers

BRIDGES TO HOPE

Weekly "Flyer" Specials – Useful items for Bridges To Hope – October 5 – 11, 2023

- | | |
|------------|---|
| Colemans - | Jello powder - \$0.88 |
| Walmart - | Primo Pasta or Pasta Sauce - \$0.97 |
| | Green Giant Canned Vegetables - \$0.97 |
| | Dole Canned Fruit - \$1.25 |
| Lawtons - | Compliments Smooth Peanut Butter - \$3.99 |

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.

Food Drive for Bridges to Hope

On Saturday, September 30th, St. David's held a food drive for Bridges to Hope. We had lots of great volunteers, including the Bruneau Team and the Fleming Team (see pictures below)! It was a great time and we got to meet some lovely people including some who saw our sign and made a special trip to the grocery store just for the food drive. We collected cartons of food (see pictures below) along with over \$200.00 in cash donations. Thanks to everyone who came out to help!



Concert Series - Fall Concert Series #2 (September 29, 2023)

Last Friday evening, we were delighted to have Kiersten Noel and Timothy Matson join our own Brain Way in the Church Hall for another Fall Concert Series. Kiersten and Timothy are a talented husband-wife couple. Each is a talented performer on their own with many performances on stage and theatre, but together they shine! We were treated to a beautiful evening of songs from classic Disney movies and unforgettable Broadway shows. Many thanks to Brian again for making this possible - he's our star - 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 October 14th!

Below is a picture of Kiersten, Brian and Timothy!



Much to be Thankful For

Though the days are getting cooler and the number of sunlight hours shorter, nature always has something beautiful to show us if we just take the time to look around. This week, I happened to find these beautiful sights right in front of our Church doors! Happy Thanksgiving everyone!

(Janet)



Mission Moment – Presbyterian World Service & Development

Sunday, October 8th, 2023



In the book of Acts, the disciples traveled far and wide to share the good news of Christ. The Rural and Remote Ministry Fund offers seminary students the opportunity to gain practical ministry experience in rural communities across the country. This summer, Nehemia Neuhisa and Howard Tuwaidan, both seminary students, served as student ministers for the Synod of Saskatchewan. Through the experience, Nehemia and Howard were able to lead worship at 10 different congregations, support Vacation Bible School programs, serve as chaplains at Camp Christopher, and volunteer at Saskatoon Native Circle Ministry. Like the early disciples, their commitment to mission and outreach was a blessing to many.