



News from the Pews for Sunday September 24th 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

We are keeping up with our normal bills with the exception of some PCC invoices and commitments. For the moment, our finances are stable, we have not used any more of our Line of Credit (LOC). In September \$6,400 from the Memorial Fund (with prior Session approval) was used to get through the August month-end and September's month-start expenses. Except for the month of April, our income has been just below the expenses each month. At the end of August that deficit was \$7,374.91 and I used the Memorial Fund to balance our account. One alternative financial source has been used; we still have \$6,000 remaining in the Line of Credit. While we still owe monies, we are increasing our rentals, the concert series are very popular, and people will be coming back from their summer vacations and cottages to fill our pews and hopefully be ready to help us with any number of initiatives!

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 Board will be meeting on September 27 at 7:00 pm in the Armour Room. If you have any projects or interests that you would like to have the Board entertain, please contact any member of the Board, or get in touch with the office. The current members of the Board are Ken Templeton (convener), Heather Steele-Morrissey (secretary), Keegan Allen, Jill Bruneau, Anne Calver, Barb Ellis, and Nnenna Offia.

If you would consider joining the Board or helping the Board on any of its projects, please contact any member or the church office. We'd love to have you!

The September 24th version of “What Would you do for your Church? “

In the upcoming weeks, there will be meetings to report upon. We do need some input on what you want or would like us to accomplish, please get in touch by calling the office.

The church hall certainly looks different, more spacious. Are we finished yet, of course not! The stage is the next challenge, work on it is about to begin.

Meanwhile the to-do list is growing, and I am happy to reiterate that the cobwebs have been taken care of! The Board will take action on the quotes for the paving in front of the church. The Futures committee and WA are looking at the possibilities for gender neutral and accessible washrooms. Expect the Board to also get involved in that project. We have gotten quotes on sound system gear for use in the hall. I'm equally sure we will have other projects to consider. We have decisions to make. What priorities do you have?

If you have any suggestions on what you'd like to see included in that list, please get on touch with the office or any member of the Board.

Your participation is welcomed

We welcome all types of participation, and we will be asking for help as well as input. The Board is looking for people to take on some of the areas under its auspices. We believe we have found someone to help out with our website. That person will be contacting the minister to find out what is required in the way of access and what the site looks like, the space requirements and other techie details. We hope to have a more vibrant active website. Meanwhile our Facebook page is being updated as congregational activities and forthcoming events are scheduled.

Big Thanks to a dedicated group of volunteers

I'd also like to take this opportunity to say a big thanks to all those who took part in the revitalization of the hall and its lobby over the summer. The lobby is now complete and looks just gorgeous. The old chairs under the stage disappeared to the dump (metal recycling), many other items stored under there (some for

decades), also took a one-way trip to the dump, the trollies used to store the tables were turned into trollies for storage of tables or blue chairs, and those are now residing - you guessed it - under the stage! The stage itself is the next item needing some TLC (tender loving care). Some of the Ukrainian women did a deep clean of the kitchens and those kitchens started the season sparkling! The first attack on the “rising damp” or mold on the back wall of the storage room has taken place, and products for its removal have been purchased. Thanks to all those involved in what took a lot of work and effort.

So, 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, the church, or its outreach programs, please get in touch! 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.

Birthdays and Anniversaries (September 25 - October 1)

Happy Birthday wishes to Patsy Carmichael who will be celebrating her birthday on September 30th! Patsy will be celebrating with family and friends near and far, including her husband, David and daughters, Janet, Joy and Judy and their families. As many of you know, Patsy is a long-time member and supporter of St. David’s and is very active in many of the groups here at St. David's, especially the WA and Good Companions. Everyone here at St. David’s will be thinking of you on Saturday, Patsy! Enjoy your day!

Also celebrating a birthday on September 30th is Jim Mullowney. Jim will be celebrating his birthday with family and friends, including his mom and dad, Jean and Bob Mullowney, brothers, Robert Jr. and David and their families and his aunt and uncle, Patsy and Dave Carmichael. Best wishes Jim from your St. David’s family and we hope you have a great birthday!

Happy Birthday wishes to Calvin Bekoe, who will be celebrating his third birthday on September 27th! Calvin will be celebrating his big day with his mom, Mavis, and dad, Collins, along with other family and friends. Best wishes Calvin from your St. David's family and we hope you have a great birthday!

A very Happy Birthday to Annie Rae Crosbie who will be celebrating her 11th birthday on September 28th. Annie Rae will be celebrating with her mom and dad, Jill Slater and Tom Crosbie, her great-aunt, Andrea Crosbie, and all her little friends. Happy Birthday Annie Rae, from your St. David's family and we hope you have a wonderful day!

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

Until Sunday School is operating again, the children will worship with their families. We will provide a special bulletin for the children each Sunday. If you are interested in helping out with the Sunday School program this year, please get in touch with the office. We'd welcome you're interest.

AMS

The AMS will meet following worship, on Presbyterian Sharing Sunday, September 24th, in the Armour Room. Refreshments will be served followed by the meeting. All are welcome.

The **Atlantic AMS** met in Nova Scotia on September 15th through September 17th. Lillian Crawford and Barb Ellis attended from St. David's and will share their news from that weekend.

Also to be discussed at this meeting: **Sock-tober-Plus!!!**

The Sock-tober clothesline will start again in the Sanctuary next Sunday, October 1st. This is always a fun event and is perfectly timed for the Fall-Thanksgiving time of year.

This year, in addition to our regular requests for: socks, mitts and personal hygiene items ~ we have been asked for some small household items. These items may include: towels, bedding, tea towels, dish cloths, small gently used appliances, etc. If you have any questions, please speak with Penny or Heather in the office. Thank you!

WA (Women's Auxiliary)

The first meeting of the WA after the summer break will be this **Tuesday September, the 26th at noon in the Armour Room**. If you would like to join this vibrant group, drop by to 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. The main money makers now are the Bridge games held once a month. The first of these will be held in October with all the dates being set at this meeting.

Conversation Circles

There has been some interest expressed about stating the Ukrainian Conversation Circles that we offered last Spring on Wednesday mornings in the hall. If you are interested in volunteering with this initiative, please speak with Penny Gillies.

Bible Study

“Sandwich and Scriptures”, St. David’s Bible Study, will resume meeting in the **Armour Room on Wednesday, September 27th 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

The Good Companions (GC) first meeting after the summer took place on Thursday September 21st with bowling in the hall and the cards (bridge) in the Armour Room. There was a good crowd for the meeting and they all enjoyed the activities, including the little lunch, which was a nice break from the hard work of bowling and bridge! **The next meeting will be: Thursday, September 28th, from 2:00 to 4:00pm. All are welcome!**

Prayer Shawl Ministry/Knitters

The Prayer Shawl Knitters will be holding their monthly meeting on **Tuesday, October 3rd 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.

Brian Way and Friends Fall Concert Series

The second concert in this Fall series is on **Friday, September 29 at 8 pm featuring Kiersten Noel and Timothy Matson, accompanied by Brian Way.** This talented husband- wife duo will perform contemporary selections from the world of Broadway.

Kiersten Noel was born and raised in St. John's, she holds Bachelor's degrees from Memorial University in Music Performance and Music Education, as well as a Master's degree in Vocal Performance with a concentration in Music Theatre from New York University. She has performed with many Newfoundland theatre companies including TADA Events, Peter MacDonald Productions, Opera on the Avalon and Best Kind Productions.

Timothy Matson is a performer, writer, director originally from Carroboro, North Carolina who is now calling St. John's home. Timothy has a Bachelor's degree in Music/Drama from the University of North Carolina, a Master's degree from New York University in Music Theatre, and a Bachelor of Education from MUN in Theatre Arts. He appeared in the local (Gander) cast of Come From Away. He has participated and directed several local groups and as a writer wrote several plays. He is currently developing a play based on a true story, centered on the South Coast, the Newfoundland community of Rencontre East.

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.

St David's Bridge Lunches

Fall is coming with the return of the successful series of Bridge Lunches! The first one will be held on **October 17th in the church hall** and tables are going fast! So if you missed your game of Bridge over the summer, please get your request in for a table or sign up for the entire fall, winter and spring sessions! Lillian and Heather will be the ones to call.

Remember the lunch will be a hearty meal including the surprise and delicious "mystery" soup, the regular array of favorite soups, plus those very decadent sweet squares. There will be prizes plus an enjoyable game of bridge for everyone. See you there!

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. Very friendly auditions will be held on Saturday, September 30th. For more information, and to sign up for an audition: www.feldenkraisforsingers.com/spiritososingers

****Please help support a FOOD DRIVE AT ST. DAVID'S!!!**

To benefit our friends at Bridges to Hope Food Aid Centre.

It will be held in the St. David's parking lot on Saturday, September 30th, 2023 from 10:00am to 1:00pm.

Please consider making a donation of non-perishable food items.

Cash Donations are also accepted. We thank you very much for your support.

BRIDGES TO HOPE

Weekly "Flyer" Specials – Useful items for Bridges To Hope – September 21 – 27, 2023

Sobeys -	Hunt;s Thick & Rich Pasta or Tomato Sauce - \$0.97
Dominion -	No Name Evaporated Milk - \$0.99 *** Member price
No Frills -	Kraft Dinner (KD) - \$0.99
	Hereford Corned Beef - \$2.99
Colemans -	Maple Leaf Vienna Sausages – 4/\$5.00

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

Concert Series - Fall Concert Series #1 (September 16, 2023)

Last Saturday evening, we were pleased to present the first of the Fall Concert Series with "Brian Way and Friends" in our Church Hall. Brian's "friends" this week were Bob MacDonald and Doug White. Bob, is a well known singer/songwriter and no stranger to the Newfoundland and Labrador music scene while Doug, is a gifted musician and a brilliant drummer who plays in our contemporary services. The "trio" performed well known material from artists such as Willie Nelson, Roy Orbison, Merle Haggard, Glen Campbell, Gordon Lightfoot and others! And what about their rendition of "Georgia On My Mind"? Such a classic! 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 in the Fall series!

Below is a picture of the dynamic trio - Bob, Doug and Brian!



Mission Moment – Presbyterian World Service & Development Sunday, September 17th, 2023



New church development. Partnership. International mission staff. Theological colleges. Healing and reconciliation. Leadership development. Congregational support. And so much more! Today is Presbyterians Sharing Sunday, a time to celebrate the impact our church's mission and ministry programs are having across Canada and around the world. As we encourage and equip one another and teach about love, faith and hope, we proclaim the good news of the Gospel. Presbyterians Sharing puts faith into action.