



News from the Pews for Sunday September 3rd 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, Session and Board of Managers (BoM) Updates

Treasurer's Report

The month of August was like the weather, there were ups and downs. We had three successful concerts which helped our finances, we had our normal bills including one from our auditor. Our finances are stable, we have not used any more of our Line of Credit (LOC). In September I expect we will use some of our alternative financial sources, either the Memorial Fund or the Line of Credit. While we still owe monies, we are increasing our rentals, the concert series is 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.

The fall season is starting off with four upcoming meetings of groups who all work hard for your church.

Session Report

The Session will be meeting on September 19th their normal monthly meeting.

Board of Managers

The Board consists of Ken Templeton, Anne Calver, Jill Bruneau, Neena Offia, Barbara Ellis, Heather Steele-Morrissey and Keegan Allen. The Board may meet in September, either in person or by Zoom.

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!

Futures Committee

The Futures Committee met in August in preparation for the forthcoming meetings in September. The committee will report to Session on its deliberations and any proposals which may arise. They also have a meeting scheduled on September 20th after Presbytery.

A subset of the Futures Committee took on the Brian Way and Friends Concert series and what work BUT what results. The series has built to a climax with the last two outstanding concerts with David Pomeroy, Melanie Jardine and (may I say) our own Noelle Slaney with Brian on the piano. This concert was sold out almost immediately and Brian managed a second sold-out concert the following night while everyone was still in town. Dare I say we could have easily sold out another! My thanks to the Futures team: Heather Steele-Morrissey, Allison Crawford, Janet Calver, and Anne Calver. The team needed much appreciated extra help from Brian Gamberg, Lillian Crawford, Kathy MacKay, Don MacKay, Ed VanderKloet and everyone who bought tickets and came to all the shows. Thanks everyone!

To remind you, the St. David's Futures Committee was established by the Session on March 21, 2023. Its mandate is to consider and explore any and all changes which are or may be required, recommended, suggested or considered useful or desirable to St. David's Church to improve our sustainability.

Presbytery

Presbytery meets three times a year. This time the meeting will be held at St. David's (it alternates between the Kirk and St. David's) on the afternoon of September 20th.

The September 3rd version of What Would you do for your Church?

As you can see, we will have meetings to report upon and we need some input on what you want or would like us to accomplish, please get back to the Board or call the office.

For those of you who have not been in the hall for a while, I suggest you drop by to see what it looks like now. Where have all the tables gone? Where are some of the chairs going? In the past two weeks, the area under the stage was cleaned out (Thanks - Janet and Brian), several dump runs took place (more thanks to Janet, Brian and Anne) and new trollies have been built to house all the gear! We are getting complements from some of the renters already!

Meanwhile I have already received a to-do list, everything from the cobwebs in the hall to a suggestion for a garage sale. We have received quotes on the paving in front of the church. And at the last Futures committee we looked at the possibilities for gender neutral and accessible washrooms, and by the way, the WA are equally interested in that project. 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.

You are Welcome Here

Many people rent our facility and a number of people, many new to the church attend concerts, come in for celebrations and get to know us. We have heard such comments as "You have a lovely venue." and "This concert was excellent." We have also heard people tell us they used to come here for the Saturday afternoon movies, including one man whose uncle supplied the projector.

We welcome all types of participation, big and small, from everyone. 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 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.

Driveway and Front Entrance Repairs

Repairs have been started on the front entranceway... We are in the process of getting quotes for further restorative work that will be happening in the near future. We ask for your patience during this time.

The side entrance into the Narthex is always available on Sundays as a means to enter the Sanctuary. Thank you!

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.

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 (September 4 – September 10)

Happy Birthday to Adam Kearsey who will be celebrating his birthday on September 4th. Adam is the son of Judy Woolridge. Happy Birthday Adam from everyone here at St. David's! Hope you have a wonderful birthday!

Congratulations to Heather and Brad Burness who will be celebrating their Silver (25th) wedding anniversary on September 5th ! (Heather is the daughter of Edith Peach and Brad the son of Brenda Burness.) Best wishes to you both from all your friends here at St. David's and may there be many more happy years ahead!

Happy 33rd wedding anniversary to Jacqueline and Maxwell Brockerville who were married on September 8, 1990! Congratulations from all your friends here at St. David's. Jacqueline and Maxwell will be celebrating the special day with family and friends, including Jacqueline's mom and dad, Jean and Clayton Collins, and her two sisters, Jennifer and Janet, and their families. Best wishes and much happiness!

Happy Anniversary to Penny and Stewart Gillies who will be celebrating their 47th wedding anniversary on September 8th! Penny and Stewart will be celebrating with family and friends, near and far, including their 3 daughters – Allison, Joanna, and Kirsty and their families – and of course, Cleo! Much happiness now and in the coming years from everyone here at St. David's! Best wishes and our love to you both!

Happy Anniversary to Judith (Judy) and Frank Woolridge. Judy and Frank were married on September 9, 2013 and will be celebrating their 10th wedding anniversary with family and friends. Best wishes for many happy years to come and congratulations from everyone here at St. David's!

Happy Anniversary to April and Tom Kennedy who will be celebrating their 27th wedding anniversary on September 5th! Congratulations from all your friends here at St. David's. We wish you a wonderful day and many more years of happiness 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.

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. This week, I'd like some suggestions in what we can send to them for inclusion in the next edition, the winter one. They take pictures of people and activities. Yes, we do have a couple of pictures, you saw them last week, Sheena and the chick and one of the new chicks reading (or looking closely at) the Spring 2023 edition of the Connection. Your suggestions are welcome.

St. David's Upcoming Events and Notices

Sunday School

Until Sunday School is operating again, the children will worship with their families. Until Sunday School starts up, we will provide a special bulletin for the children each Sunday.

Brian Way and Friends Concert Series

This past week we had the third in this series of concerts with David Pomeroy, Melaine Jardine, and Noelle Slaney. It went out one Facebook Friday night and by Sunday afternoon we had 155 requests for tickets. Discussions ensued between Brian and the vocalists and a second concert was set for the following night. These two concerts were full houses with a wait list for each evening. More on this below and pictures below!

St David's Bridge Luncheons

Fall is coming with the return of the successful series of Bridge Lunches! The first one is on September 26th 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!

Fall Concert Series

We are pleased and excited to announce the tentative next three events in the “Brian Way and Friends Concert Series”. **This is the suggested line-up and time frames.**

Concert Series #4

Saturday, September 16 at 8 pm **Bob MacDonald, with Doug White and Brian Way.** Bob will be performing material from artists such as Willie Nelson, Roy Orbison, Merle Haggard, Glen Campbell and others!

Concert Series #5

Friday, September 29 at 8 pm **Kiersten Noel and Tim Madsen, accompanied by Brian Way** This husband- wife duo will perform contemporary selections from the world of Broadway.

Concert Series #6

Saturday, October 14 at 8 pm - **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.

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!

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

Bridges to Hope:

Weekly "Flyer" Specials: Useful items for Bridges To Hope; Aug 31 – Sept 6

Dominion: Oceans Tuna - \$1.29
Oasis/Allen's Juice Boxes (8 pack) - \$2.99

No Frills: No Name Evaporated Milk - \$0.99
No Name Canned Beans - \$0.99
Colgate Toothpaste/Toothbrush - \$1.00

Walmart: Mr. Noodles Instant Noodles - \$0.27
Palmolive Dishwashing Liquid – 3/\$5.00
Crest/Colgate Toothpaste - \$0.88
Kraft Dinner (KD) – 12 pack - \$9.47

Colemans: Favorite Apricot Halves – 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 - Third Concert (August 30 and 31, 2023)

This past week, the third "Brian Way and Friends" concert took place at St. David's Church Hall. Brian's "friends" this week were tenor, David Pomeroy, and sopranos, Melanie Jardine and Noelle Slaney! It was truly a magical experience. Those in attendance were treated to two beautiful evenings of classical and musical theatre classics performed by four of the best. Many thanks to Brian for making this possible!

Even though we had a full house for both evenings, we were still able to maintain our relaxed, cafe style of seating thanks to the hard work and creativity of the "behind-the-scenes-working-group". Kudos to all involved!

Below is a picture of "The Four Friends" - David, Melanie, Noelle and Brian!



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, September 3rd, 2023



Parbati Damai lives in Nepal with a spinal cord injury she endured after falling down a hill three years ago. During that time, her family took her to the local hospital for emergency treatment, where she underwent multiple surgeries and started using a wheelchair. However, with her husband and sons working during the day, she was often left at home in her wheelchair for 10 to 14 hours daily, causing pressure sores to develop on her body. Parbati's local health facility couldn't provide her with the help she needed, so they referred her to the Green Pastures Hospital for further treatment. There, with the support of PWS&D's partner, she received treatment and counselling free of charge. Parbati hopes to complete her treatment and return home soon.