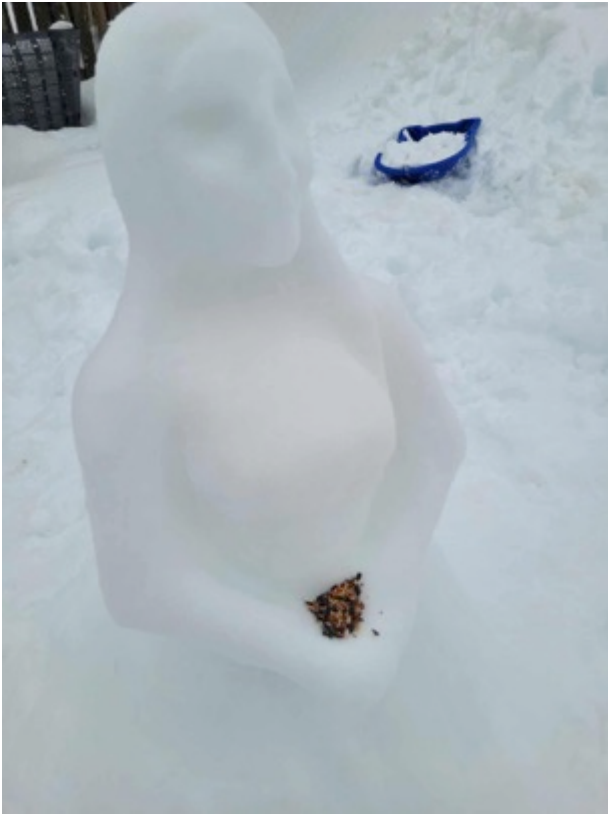




News from the Pews – Sunday, February 18th, 2024

“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” page(s), this will have little stories and pictures of happenings at St. David’s.

Minister's Message



After a wonderful Pancake Supper on Tuesday, we returned to our homes to rest with full bellies and woke up to a snow storm that kept the schools closed for two days.

It's a perk of my job that I am able to do a lot of my work from home when the need arises, and on my own schedule. This snow storm was bad enough that even Michelle's work at the cafe was put on hold, as they didn't open for Wednesday or Thursday. We were both able to take some time to really enjoy the weather with our kids, building snow forts, throwing snowballs, and building the snowman and snowwoman you can see above (Michelle's artistic talent shows through, although I myself am proud of the work that went into my snowman's nose).

During the COVID-19 lockdowns, there was a lot of support and care that went towards essential workers, and I found myself thinking about them again these last few days. *I* could take the time to shovel us out over a couple days, taking breaks from the heavy work, but there are many people who had much more demanding timelines.

So this week I wanted to remind us all to pray for and appreciate those in less flexible work situations, those who don't get to build snowmen and have to wake up at 5 AM to shovel all the snow at once. Some are in this position by choice, and can take pride in the importance of their work. Some don't have other options, or work for employers who just don't care about the difficulties they may face in getting to work. It is a reality of modern life that none of us are truly self-sufficient, we all are blessed by the hard work of others around us; whether it be the electricity continuing to flow to my house, the roads being cleared of snow, or the grocery store cashiers being at work so I can buy what I need, I have been blessed by those who had to work extra hard these last few days, and I give thanks for them.

May we never forget to be grateful for those who work hard for us, and may God Bless our essential service workers!

Our Fooduary Events Schedule:

Today, Sunday February 18th:

Today, after the service please join us in the hall for an International Potluck ~ "A Taste of Home", please bring a dish that reminds you of home, wherever home may be.

All are welcome, and there will be cake!

Please join us next Sunday, February 25th for a special presentation made by Jody Williams, Executive Director of Bridges to Hope food bank in our morning service. Let's show him our generosity and finish Fooduary with a mountain of donations for the hungry!

To finish off “Food-uary” at St. David’s and we are encouraging everyone to contribute non-perishable food items for Bridges to Hope.

Wondering what to bring? Below is a list of the contents of a Full Hamper for 1-2 people which might help!

HAMPER CONTENTS – FULL (1 or 2 People)

Milk (Canned)	Beans (Canned)	Vegetables (Canned or fresh)
Soup (Canned or homemade)	Meat /Fish(Canned)	Pasta (Canned)
Fruit (Canned or fresh)	Juice (if available)	Dry Pasta/Rice
Pasta Sauce (1 can/bottle)	Cereal (1 box/bag)	Bread Product (1 loaf)
Margarine (113g block - 1/2 cup)	Tea/Coffee (1 portion)	Sugar (1 portion)
Eggs	Crackers	Kraft Dinner (1 pkg.)

HAMPER CONTENTS – EMERGENCY (1 or 2 People)

Milk (Canned)	Beans (Canned)	Soup (Canned or homemade)
Meat /Fish(Canned)	Pasta (Canned)	Kraft Dinner
Fruit (Canned or fresh) cup)	Buns or rolls (1 pkg.)	Margarine (113g block - 1/2
Crackers	Oatmeal	Tea/Coffee (1 portion)
Sugar (1 portion)	Snack items	

Families with children also get “School Kits” for each child, made up of juice boxes (4) granola bars (2) fruit bars (2) and Goldfish crackers. Cheese strings and two (2) pieces of fresh fruit are added at time of distribution.

Other items not listed, such as personal care items – shampoo, soap, deodorant, toothpaste, dish detergent, laundry detergent, toilet tissue, feminine hygiene products, etc. are most welcome and appreciated!

Also, clients often ask for: cooking oil, peanut butter, jam, Cheez Whiz, cookies, cake mix and other baking items,

Simply put, any food item that you would normally purchase/use would be helpful!

Also, the suggested item(s) for February 2024, especially useful for Bridges To Hope – Juice – 1 Litre. Other non-perishable food items are always welcome and appreciated!

Treasurer’s Report

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 (February 19 - February 25)

Happy Birthday to a very special little boy, Orson Sturtevant, who will be celebrating his 5th birthday on February 19th! Orson will be celebrating his special day with his parents, Michelle and David Sturtevant, big brother, Oliver, his grandparents and aunts and uncles in Ontario, and lots of other friends near and far. Let's not forget all your little furry friends who will be there for all the fun! Your St. David's family wishes you a fun-filled day Orson. Much love from everyone!

Happy Birthday to Chelsea Critch who will be celebrating with her family and friends, near and far, on February 22nd. Chelsea is the daughter of Jennifer Critch, and grand-daughter of Jean and Clayton Collins. Best wishes Chelsea from everyone here at St. David's and we hope you have a wonderful day!

Happy Birthday to Stephen Bonnell who will be celebrating his birthday on February 20th! Stephen will be celebrating his special day with family and friends, far and wide, including his wife, Denise, and their children, his mom and dad, Eleanor and Aubrey Bonnell, his brother, Scott and his family, along with many aunts, uncles and cousins. Best wishes Steve from all your friends here at St. David's and we wish you a wonderful year ahead!

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:

St. David's Choir

As this Sunday, February 18th, is the third Sunday of the month, anyone interested in being part of the choir can meet Brian in the **Sanctuary at 9:30 am** for practice before the service.

Sunday School

Don't forget to make/bring something that reminds you of home or is a favourite dish to share with everyone after the service. Today we're talking about the story of Noah.

Session will meet on **Tuesday, Feb. 20th at 7:30pm** in the Armour Room and over Zoom.

The Future's Committee will meet on **Wednesday, Feb 21st at 7:00pm** in the Armour Room and over Zoom.

Looking for Girl Guide Cookies! The chocolate mint variety is now available. If you're interested in purchasing or ordering some, Nnene and Harriet Offia will be happy to help you with that. Cost is \$6.00 per box. See either of the girls on Sunday morning.

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! **Start date for the New Year is Wed. Feb. 21st.**

Pickle Ball games for our congregation

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.

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 afternoon Feb. 22 from 2 to 4 pm**. All are welcome!

Jigsaw Puzzle Exchange

Who doesn't love a good Jigsaw Puzzle?!

Well, the Good Companions Group has started a Jigsaw Puzzle exchange... you will find the Jigsaw Puzzles in the locked grey cabinet just outside the Armour Room. (The key for the cabinet is kept in the office.) Management of the puzzles will be done on an 'Honour System' – anybody can leave a puzzle or take a puzzle. And you can take as long as you like to complete. Should you have any questions, comments or suggestions, you may leave them at the office for Charlie Goobie and he will contact you promptly! 😊

WA (Women's Auxiliary) Meeting

The next meeting of the **WA** will be held on **Tuesday, February 27th, 2024 at noon in the Armour Room** to discuss and plan upcoming events, including the next Bridge Party.

Features with Pictures

Pancake Supper (February 13)

On Shrove Tuesday (February 13th), the WA, with help from some super chefs, sponsored a Pancake Supper at the Church Hall. The supper was open to members from the community as well as from our congregation - and we had a wonderful turnout! There was plenty to eat including pancakes, of course, Halliday sausages (a big hit), baked beans and ice-cream with chocolate fingers for dessert. It was a great time, enjoyed by all who were there.

Many thanks to all who participated: our setup and take-down crews, our dish-washers and our hard-working chefs (Leith Quinton, Stewart Gillies, David Sturtevant, and Ken Templeton) who cooked literally hundreds of pancakes and 45 pounds of Halliday sausages!! (The ladies felt a bit guilty sitting around drinking tea while the men cooked, but the guilt didn't last long!)

Below are a couple of pictures taken by Penny Gillies and Heather Steele Morrissey.



Mission Moment for Sunday, February 18th, 2024



Two-year-old Moriama Safianu has a congenital deformity linked to hydrocephalus. Born into a poor family in northern Ghana, Moriama faced the heavy burden of social stigma, prompting her parents to keep her indoors to shield her from the community’s hurtful judgments. Things changed when she was identified for support during a community survey conducted by a community rehabilitation program. The dedicated staff referred her to the Garu Presbyterian Health Centre for specialized care. The staff at Garu also worked with Moriama’s community to address the stigma she had been facing. Moriama’s mother expressed her profound gratitude: “I am immensely thankful to the CBR program and PWS&D for coming to our aid. Thanks to your intervention, Moriama is no longer subjected to stigma from the community members.”