



News from the Pews – Sunday, June 23rd, 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.

Please note:

Mission Sunday will be next Sunday, June 30th and AMS will be leading the Worship Service.

Rev. David's Message



"Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the LORD your God. In it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates. For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy."

I think that it is very important for us, as Christians, to know how to talk to people about our faith and the practices it demands of us, even if they aren't Christian themselves. Over the last few months, the importance of the Sabbath has been growing in my mind, and although it may seem like a profoundly faith-based concept, it is something that I think we can share with everyone in our lives.

Jesus was constantly struggling with people who wanted to make checklists for how to properly "do" Sabbath. For them, it was rules about what actions were allowed, and they watched Jesus closely to judge him for healing on the Sabbath day (as if God would ever be opposed to healing!)

For many of us, there is a tradition of not shopping on Sundays, or having a meal with family, or something else.

But really, Sabbath is about rest. Not rules, but the concept. It is permission to set down your burdens and enjoy what God has given you in the day.

What that means varies: For one person, helping at the food bank is work and should be avoided when participating in a Sabbath. For another, the same actions are not something they would consider work, and they should not be denied.

Remind those around you that they are worth a break, that life is given to be enjoyed, and how many of our tasks are not really so desperate as they may seem. Ask them how they rest, and if they succeed at resting.

And you yourselves, take time to do nothing but enjoy the life God has given you and think well of God for what you have received. Truly, that is the best way to keep the Sabbath. That is the rest and worship that make the day holy, and it grows an attitude with the power to change this weary world. That is the rest that so many around us need and crave. Let us leave our burdens to Christ and live lives abundantly full, so that others may see and wonder.

May this summer be a blessing to you and those around you. May you find Sabbath rest in this, the most beautiful corner of God's creation. Hallelujah, and Amen!

Birthdays and Anniversaries (June 24 – June 30)

Happy Birthday to Violet Aylward who will be celebrating her birthday on June 28th! Violet is a long-time and much loved member of St. David's. Violet is a great supporter of our Church. This past year, she has brought her enthusiasm for bowling to our Good Companions Group and through her past participation in the WA, she has helped out with the many suppers, afternoon teas and dinners that have been held in our hall. Violet will be celebrating her big day with her family and friends, near and far. Best wishes Violet from everyone here at St. David's!

Birthday wishes go out to Aubrey Bonnell who will be celebrating his birthday on June 30th! Aubrey is an elder at St. David's and a long-time member of our Church family. Aubrey is a great worker and supporter of our Church and always has a steady and reassuring presence in all Church-related discussions. Aubrey will be celebrating his birthday with family and friends near and far, including his wife, Eleanor, sons, Steve and Scott (both currently living in the United States) and their families, and brothers, Dave, Chris and Paul and their families. Happy Birthday, Aubrey from everyone here at St. David's and best wishes for the year ahead!

Happy Birthday to Don McKay, who will be celebrating his birthday on June 30th! Don is long-time supporter of St. David's. He has given his time and expertise to many initiatives within our Church and has held several different positions on the Board of Mangers throughout the years. He was a participant and supporter of the Church choir and is always ready to lend a hand when needed. Don will be celebrating his birthday with family and friends, including his wife, Kathy, and children (all currently living away) – Kirsten, Cameron and Neil and their families. Best wishes, Don for a wonderful birthday from all your friends here at St. David's!

Happy Birthday wishes to David Carmichael who will be celebrating his big day on June 25th with family and friends, near and far. Dave is a long-time member of the Church and a retired elder and he and his family have always been ready to help out with all our fund-raisers, events and group activities. Helping him celebrate on the 25th will be his wife, Pat, and daughters, Jill, Judy, Janet and Joy and their families. Best wishes Dave from your St. David's family! We hope you have a wonderful day and many more birthdays to come!

Happy Birthday to Emily Hudson who will be celebrating her birthday on June 24th. Emily is the daughter of Tracey and Douglas Hudson and granddaughter of Sylvia and Dave Hudson. Everyone here at St. David's wishes you a very Happy Birthday, Emily and we hope you have a great day!

Happy Anniversary wishes to Sarah and Wesley King who will be celebrating their 8th wedding anniversary on June 25th with family and friends, here and abroad. Sarah is our Sunday School coordinator and a great friend to many in our congregation. Sarah and Wesley will be sharing their big day with their son, Dean, and other family and friends near and far. Best wishes and congratulations to you both from everyone here at St. David's. We wish you many wonderful years to come!

And on Saturday, June 29th, a very special Happy Birthday to our Janet Calver !!! Janet volunteers with: AMS, our Archives, Futures Committee, the Gardening Committee, Good Companions, News from the Pews, Pickle Ball, Prayer Shawl Knitters, Sunday School, W.A. and she is an Elder on Session... this is just to name a "few"!!! We are all the better for – her warmth and caring, her steadfast support ... and the devotion she shows St. David's... she is truly an inspiration!

Janet will be celebrating the day with her husband Brian, sister Anne and many friends and family. **Happy Birthday Janet – with love and best wishes from our grateful hearts!**

Just a word of congratulations to all our 2024 graduates – from Kindergarten through to University. Your accomplishments are a great thing to celebrate. Congratulations to each and every one of you as you continue to explore and seek your path in life! Please feel free to share your graduation pictures with us – we would love to share your accomplishments with all your friends here at St. David’s!

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:

Church Office Hours:

The church office is open Tuesday thru Friday from **9 am to 1 pm**. Mondays the church administrator works remotely, but checks and returns church office emails and phone messages regularly.

For pastoral care ~ Please contact our minister, Rev David Sturtevant at 709-699-3661.

Sunday School

This is our last Sunday School until the fall.
This week: David and Goliath

Bible Study

Bible Study will be taking a break for the summer and will resume regular Wednesday meetings in September.

Pickle Ball games for our congregation

Pickle Ball will not be meeting regularly in the summer ~ however, if you are interested in a game, please do call the office as they may get together for a game from time to time. The Office # 709-722-2382 ~ thank you!

Notice to the Congregation...

If you have some spare time over the summer, why not come by your church and do an odd job or two?

We have a “wish list” (to-do list ;) and would so appreciate any & all help! (You can find the list on the bulletin board between the offices.)

Please contact the office at 709-722-2382 or drop by to see the list and what may be of interest to you. It would really be appreciated.

Thank you and enjoy the summer months!

Bridges to Hope:

The suggested item(s) for **June 2024**, especially useful for Bridges To Hope – **Cereal**. Other non-perishable food items are always welcome and appreciated!

While Bridges to Hope always has an ample supply of dog food, they have a shortage of cat food. Your help in this area would be appreciated too.
Thank you.

St. David’s “Music in the Hall” Concert Series.

We are pleased to announce the next in our series – this time featuring Karla Pilgrim, Leanne Kean and Natalie Noseworthy, accompanied by Sandy Morris, Scott Mansfield and Brian Way to perform the music from “The Trio” ~ Linda Ronstadt, Emily Lou Harris and Dolly Parton

The concert will take place at St. David’s Hall, 98 Elizabeth Avenue on

Thursday, June 27th at 8pm ~ Tickets are \$25 per person.

Please call or email the office for more information and to reserve tickets, 709-722-2382 and stdavids@nfld.com ~ thank you!

Advance Notice – Flower Service Dates

The General Protestant Cemetery Board has announced the following dates for the Flower Services for this coming July.

*** Mount Pleasant Cemetery, Hamilton Avenue Extension**

Monday, July 8, 2024 at 7 PM.

*** General Protestant Cemetery, Topsail Road**

Monday, July 22, 2024 at 7 PM.

*** Memorial Gardens Cemetery, 25 Beaumont Hamel Way**

Monday, July 29, 2024 at 7 PM.

Please note:

In the event of inclement weather, the services will move ahead to 7 PM the next evening.

Good Companions – Season Closing Luncheon and Celebration

On Thursday, June 13, the Good Companions got together to celebrate the season closing. We can hardly believe that June is here and that we are breaking for the Summer! We had a great turnout. The Good Companions volunteers prepared a hot luncheon – complete with dessert of course.

After the luncheon, the dishes and tables were quickly cleared away and it was down to the serious business of carpet bowling and bridge.

A special thank-you to all those who helped make this a memorable day: our set-up and take-down crews, clean-up crew, kitchen worker-bees, and really everyone who just pitches in when they see something that needs to be done! You are such a blessing! And a special thank-you to our Good Companions who bought non-perishable food items for Bridges to Hope.

Our Good Companions are an inspiration to all of us who have the honour of helping out. They celebrate each day and enjoy their time together to the fullest. The photos below say it all – there's nothing better than being together and sharing a smile and a laugh or two with your friends!

We hope to see everyone back again in September!

We hope you enjoy the pictures below.







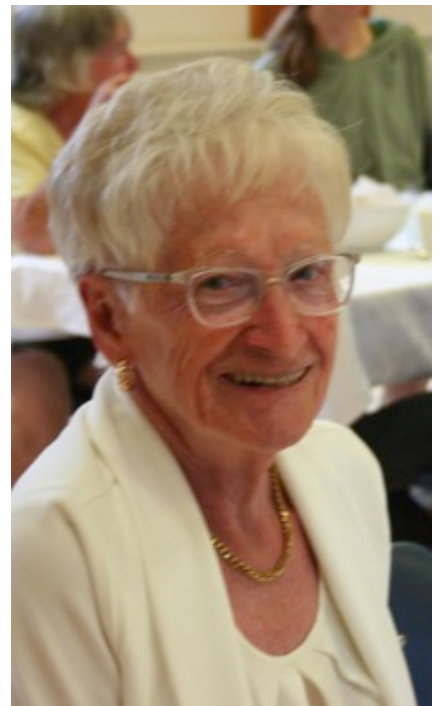
WA Closing Luncheon for Volunteers – June 18, 2024

On Tuesday, June 18, the WA prepared a special “Thank-You Lunch for all our volunteers who helped make all our initiatives and events such a success this year. Everything from cleaning out the Armour Room bookcases to finishing off some hand-made quilts to taking part in our numerous Bridge Parties – you were always there to lend a hand when asked. Special thanks go to: our super shoppers, 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!

We hope everyone has a wonderful “restful” summer – you deserve it! We look forward to seeing everyone again in September!

We hope you enjoy the pictures!







Thanks...

To Don McKay for mowing the grass and trimming the edges. It's big job and we are very grateful!

To Frank for sweeping up the breezeway area and moving all our receptacles to the alcove so they can be tucked away ~ thanks to you we can also have a little seating area by the Tower door!