

Tidings

First St. Andrew's United Church

VOLUME 5 • NUMBER 1

LENT, HOLY WEEK, EASTER 1995



ACCESS OFFICIALLY OPENED AND DEDICATED JANUARY 8



Doug McGregor, Frank Meadows and Catherine Moore after four Sunday School students have unwrapped the new doors.



Russ Gonder presents Doug McGregor with the key to the new Access entrance. Looking on are Jim Coates, contractor, Russ Scorgie, architect, Frank Meadows and (behind the antependium) Catherine Moore.



John Simpson, David Miller, Laurena Woods, Gladys Erskine and Marlene Patterson share a ride on the new elevator.

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Beautiful new doors welcome all to our Sanctuary.

OUR TEENS ARE UNIQUE!

By Paul Pergau



Uniquely Yours - a memorable experience for us all.

Did you see our play, *Uniquely Yours*? Wasn't it great? I thought Stats would never get around to asking Laurie out on that date!

Last fall our Teens and Youth and Young Adult Committee members dedicated their time together to preparing for this play. After much hard work, mixed in with some fun of course, we put on two very successful performances in November. George, Greg, Paul, Anthony, Andrew and Debbie did an outstanding job helping us. The committee members showed us once again their fine ability to produce. And how about those teens! Wow, we are so lucky to have such a terrific group. They are truly *unique*!

Tidings

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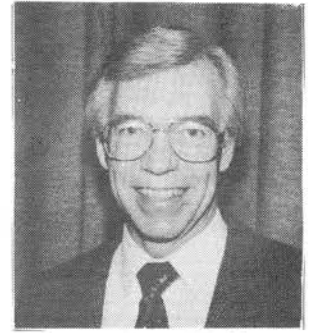
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Submissions are accepted only from members of the First-St. Andrew's family. Obtain information from Group and Committee Secretaries or members of the Tidings Team. The views expressed in this publication are those of the authors, not necessarily those of First-St. Andrew's Church.

COUNCIL REPORTS TO YOU

By Doug McGregor, Chair of Council

The *Tidings* staff suggested I provide this column as a perspective from 2 years as Chair of Council and I am pleased to do so. Have you ever gone "AARGH!!!, Too many changes! Stop!!!" I've sometimes said "This stupid church! Why so many changes? Why not just enjoy Sunday services for a while?!!!" I found one answer. About 4 years ago some people dreamed of a better way of governing our church and of improving access for all and these changes have been wonderful.



Doug McGregor

We've been using the Council model for 1 year in transition and 1 year officially. It works so well and feels so right that I have to consciously remember what it was like "before". Though the access addition has only been used since Christmas Eve, it feels natural already. These changes seem so simple and common sense, so inevitable now that they are done. I've started to forget how insecure I felt at first; how difficult the decisions were; how hard it was to have faith that things could work out.

After all the struggle and work and disruption, we've achieved our goals. Now I can't even imagine going back to the "old way". So the next time someone comes up with a bright new idea, I'll probably say "This stupid church...". But I'll listen.



Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service.

ENVIRONMENTAL TIPS

From the Earth Stewardship Committee

In vehicles, smooth acceleration pollutes less than rapid starts. Drive at moderate speeds. Combine errands and trips to reduce driving. Use buses or carpools when possible.

LAURENA WOODS REMEMBERS

By John McKim

Can you imagine knowing someone who had seen seventeen Prime Ministers come and go and hopes to see one or two more? Someone who was immersed in the throes of church union? Come to the 11:00 am service any Sunday and meet Mrs. Laurena Woods at coffee and conversation.

Born on Aug. 30, 1901 in Weston, Ontario, she later grew up in Toronto, living above the general store operated by her father on Queen Street, a colourful area then as well as now. The older of two sisters, she insists that she was "the rebel" in the family. Her job as secretary to Principal Gandier of Knox College gave her an inside view of the not-always-Christian struggle for power and property at the time of church union (1925). She reports that Knox College was given to the Presbyterians who did not join the union. Victoria, the Methodist College, gave over the top floors for the new United Church theological training, until Emmanuel College was constructed. With a rebellious glint in her eye she tells of the ingenious prank of the U.C. theologs who purloined the front door key of Knox College and had it cemented in the historic cornerstone of the new college.

While working at the college she met her future mate, a theolog by the name of John Norval Woods, whose namesake was John Norval Proudfoot, the missionary founder of our congregation. Laurena and Norval were married and began their ministry in 1931, serving exclusively in London Conference. A long, sometimes stimulating, sometimes dreary series of rural three point charges took them first to Dawn Mills, a tiny village near Dresden - also serving Wabash and Lindsay Rd. Further moves followed, to Louisville, Providence, Sparta, Exeter, Thedford and finally Sarnia where Norval retired. There were times when she spiritedly refused to be the submissive pastor's wife and would not agree to a request from the Church women to "cook two chickens, bake two cakes and bring two jars of pickles." I first met Laurena and Norval at the village of Louisville in the 1930's. "The worst manse we ever had. The previous minister kept chickens in the pantry and you can imagine what we had to clean up." Those days at Louisville United Church offer precious memories for me in many ways. One of the loveliest is that Mrs. Woods is about the only living person who remembers me as a little boy. She even recalls how we used to pump up the gasoline lamps, light them and hang them from the church ceilings for the evening service.

Laurena Woods is very proud of her three children who have all had interesting and contributory careers of their own. Her two daughters once came to her to report a firm decision they had made. Both Louise and Marian said "When we are old enough

to be married we are not going to marry ministers". "What's wrong with your dad?" countered Laurena. "He's never home and always on call" was their reply.

Naturally as one might guess, they both married ministers. Louise met Peter Rolston, a fellow student at U.B.C. who worked part-time on our U.C. mission boat Thomas Crosby. Marian met Jim Kirkwood at U of T. Their work and mission drew them to extended service in Africa and later Jim served in the office of World Outreach at United Church head office in Toronto.

Ken became a teacher but did not forego the call for service to missions. He was a Crossroads volunteer under the charismatic leadership of Bishop Robinson, the black pastor with the vision

to start Crossroads. Jim worked along with other North American and African volunteers building an amphitheatre in Kitui, Kenya. His unselfish service brought an unexpected reward when he met, fell in love and married another Crossroader, Jan Panebaker. Ken is retired, living in Midland and very involved in working for "Atlantic Challenge", a movement sponsoring international aquatic competitions for young people.

When the Woods made their last change of residence they chose to move to London where Norval began treatment for cancer of the lung. Laurena became very committed to the care of cancer patients so that after Norval died she continued to work as a volunteer in Dr. Ivan Smith's clinic. After many years as a volunteer she received a small salary as coordinator

of drivers; her first paid job since leaving Emmanuel College in 1931.

The first years in London might have broken a less stubborn, (read rebellious), determined woman. She had the care of her very ill husband, Louise a teacher at South Secondary School, Ken at Teacher's College, her own aged and cantankerous mother, all in one small cottage. When she was finally living on her own she had to choose a church home. From 728 Chester St. where she still lives, she had to take a bus downtown and another back south to get to Calvary, the closest United Church. A downtown church would require only one bus ride. She attended church every Sunday at one of Calvary, Metropolitan or First-St. Andrew's. One day she ran into Rev. Alex Farquhar at the hospital. He greeted her warmly and said "It's nice to see you attending church once in a while". He arranged to have her membership transferred. Two weeks later she was confronted by Rev. George Goth who insisted she should have joined Metropolitan. Laurena giggled and simply and firmly replied "No, because I decided to join First-St. Andrew's." This is the kind of rebel you like to have on our side.

At First-St. Andrew's, Laurena became a loyal supporter and



Laurena Woods

worker with the Thursday night U.C.W. Sundays, she enjoyed the music and usually the sermons.

Asked if she would choose the life of a minister's wife if she could start over, she agreed it had been a rewarding and interesting career. Her only regret was that they had been stuck in London Conference and never experienced life in a pioneer ministry out west.

"Would you like to make it to your 100th birthday?"

"Heavens no."

But she will if she wants to.

A PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL LEADERS

I pray, dear God, for our spiritual leaders.

*Increase in them the gift of **faith** that they might preach the word of God with boldness.*

*Increase in them the gift of **wisdom** that they might guide us into the Way.*

*Increase in them the gift of **pastor** that they might always lead us with compassion and strength.*

I intercede, O Lord, for our spiritual leaders.

*Grow in them the fruit of **gentleness** that they might understand our frailty.*

*Grow in them the fruit of **peace** that they might be free of manipulation.*

*Grow in them the fruit of **love** that they might always serve out of a divine well spring.*

I plead, gracious Father, for our spiritual leaders.

*Protect them from the **attacks** of the evil One.*

*Protect them from the **distractions** that render their work ineffective.*

*Protect them from the **criticism** of well-meaning people.*

All these things I ask in the name of Jesus Christ

Amen.



UCW Holly Bazaar was a great success.

Info-Line

OBSERVER RENEWAL TIME HAS ARRIVED

An envelope is enclosed for those who wish to start or renew home delivery of the *Observer*. Please place \$10 in the envelope and place on offering plate or give it to the church office.

LIBRARY OPEN HOUSE - SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26

On your way to Coffee and Conversation, please drop in to the Library (located beside the chapel) to see what is new, especially the expanded children's area. Look for the weekly books and tapes display at Coffee and Conversation.

LOVED ONES REMEMBERED

Flowers may be placed in the Chapel/Sanctuary in memory of a loved one. For available dates please refer to the flower calendar in the Access lobby.

FEMINIST MOTHERS' POETRY CIRCLE

A new weekly support group for women whose work (however defined) is based in the home began Thursday February 2 from 1:30 pm to 3:00 pm in the Nursery. Herbal tea and stimulating conversation on the arts (or other topics) are enjoyed. Preschoolers welcome. Information from Marion Johnson, (433-0319).

WHAT IS A PHANTOM TEA?

Find the answer in an enclosed flyer and matching envelope.

PARKING LOT DOOR BECOMES AN EXIT

The new Access entrance takes over the entrance responsibilities previously handled by the parking lot door. After pressing the new call button and identifying yourself, stand back and the door will swing open automatically for you!

UCW SUCCESSFUL AGAIN

When the profits were counted after the Holly Bazaar, the total passed seven thousand dollars. This money will be used in funding UCW community outreach projects. Congratulations to all who contributed their time, talent and treasure.

DECADE GROUP INVITES WOMEN

Women who are interested in learning about women's place in both the early church and today's church are invited to meet in the church library at 7:30 pm on Thursday March 2.

PROUDFOOT HOUSE 15TH ANNIVERSARY

Ian MacKay will be our guest preacher on Sunday March 19 as we celebrate the 15th anniversary of the opening of Proudfoot house community resource centre for women in conflict with the law. FSA was instrumental in its founding and has provided support ever since.

COMING APRIL 8

UCW Spring rummage sale offers us the opportunity to recycle items from home we are no longer using.

MAYTIME COMMUNION SET FOR MAY 31

Our seniors look forward to being driven to this annual event for communion and reunions with friends. Using the new Access doors and elevator, they will be surprised how easy it is for them to enter and take part.

MISSION EDUCATION SUNDAY WITH THE FETTERS

By Reid Vipond

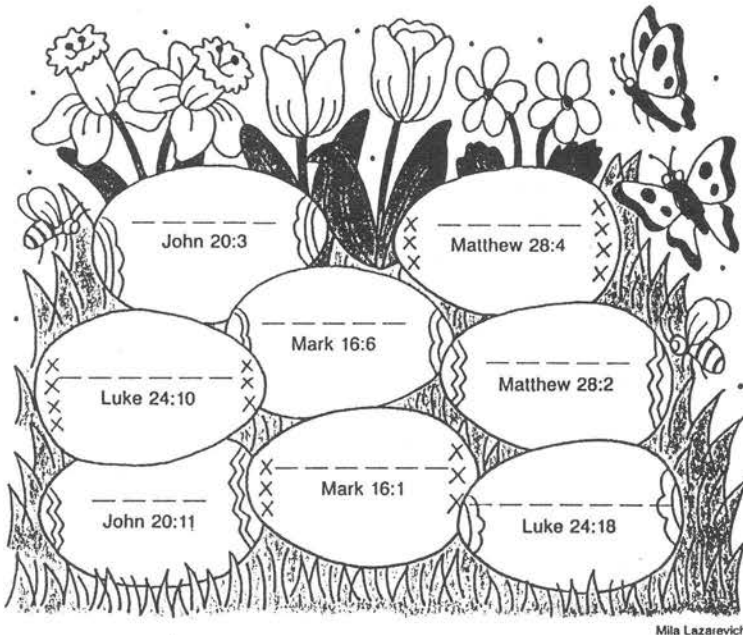
Oct. 16, 1994 was a highlight Sunday at First-St. Andrew's when Rev. Lawrie and Mrs. Judy Fetter were guest speakers for our Mission Education Sunday. Recently returned from Brazil where they served with our partner Methodist Church for seven years, the Fetters touched many bases with our congregation. At the 9:15 am service in the Chapel, they did a dialogue sermon. At the 11:00 am service, Judy told the children's story, and then went into the Sunday School to talk further with the children there, while Lawrie spoke to the congregation about the religious, social and political life in Brazil.



Judy and Lawrie Fetter.

CHILDREN'S CORNER

Search the scriptures found on each of these eggs and discover eight people who were a part of that first Easter.



Mila Lazarevich

Answers:

Matthew 28:2, ANGEL; Matthew 28:4, GUARD; Mark 16:1, SALOME; Mark 16:6, JESUS; Luke 24:10, JOANNA; Luke 24:18, CLEOPAS; John 20:3, PETER; John 20:11, MARY.

Following coffee and conversation, some 50 to 60 people went to the Fireside Room where the TwentySomething group served a luncheon of typical Brazilian food. Once again Judy and Lawrie, backed by an excellent display of maps, posters, banners and Brazilian artifacts spoke briefly, and then answered many questions posed by a keenly interested audience.

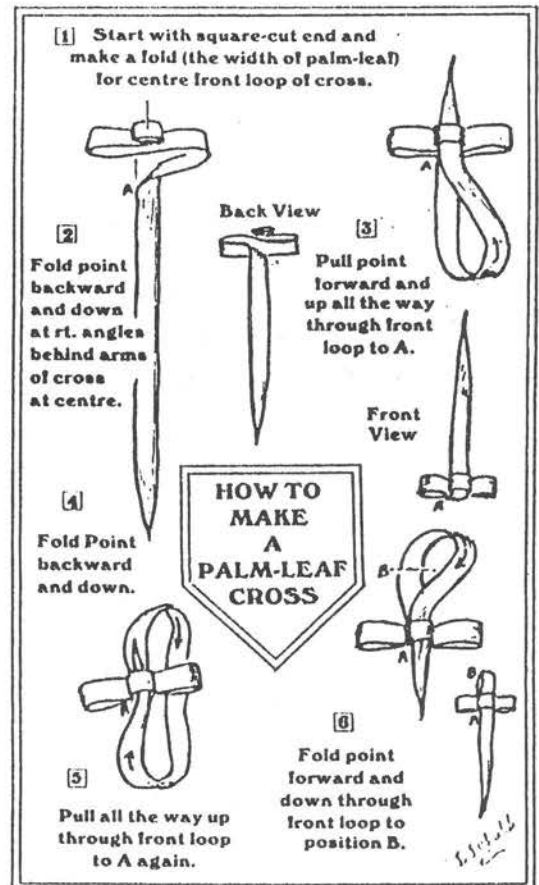
For the Fetters, it was a double-duty weekend. On Saturday they had been leaders of a Presbytery Mission Festival held at Siloam United Church.

Following their day with us at First-St. Andrew's, it was on to Toronto to prepare for the United Church's four day Division of World Outreach Annual Meeting. On returning to their home in Victoria they will be doing Mission Deputation work in British Columbia until Lawrie's official retirement in March of this year. But we can be very certain that for this enthusiastic and dedicated couple, retirement will simply mean a new opportunity to continue the ministry which they have so capably exercised in Ontario, Manitoba, British Columbia and Brazil.

The words of the hymn written by Judy Fetter, which we sang as part of our Mission Education Sunday service, very clearly express the optimism and the faith which we must feel at First-St. Andrew's following the Fetters' visit:

*We of this generation on whom God's hand is laid,
can journey to the future secure and unafraid,
rejoicing in God's goodness and trusting in this word:
"that you shall be my people and I will be your God."*

(No. 116 in Songs for a Gospel People)



Changes...

First-St. Andrew's United Church: a Christian Ministry nurturing spiritual growth through worship, fellowship, learning and action.

BAPTISMS

"I will be with you always, even until the end of the world."

Andrew Kowall Bow
Christopher Jay Engel
Andrea Louisa Holstein
Kyle Blaine Springer

Next Baptism: May 14, 1995

DEATHS

"Well done, good and faithful servant."

Michael Roy Geoffrey Best	November 24
Herbert Cocker	December 9
Albert Lewis Gonder	December 12
Margaret Beatrice Inman	January 21
Florence May	January 12
Agnes Alice Underell	January 22

GOODBYE & GODSPEED

"May kindness and peace be yours from Jesus Christ the faithful witness."

Edna Catherwood
Brenda Gummeson & Gary Mount
Ruth Johnston Kemp
Heather Ross
Allana Shore & David de Weerd
Mary Ellen Whaley Jasper

MARRIAGES

"Love is always supportive, loyal, helpful and trusting. Love never fails!"

December 30 Katherine Anne Miner
Garret George Simon Fagan

NEW MEMBERS

"We pray for God's power to help you do all the good things that you hope to do and that your faith makes you want to do."

Members received on November 13



Back: Roger Holstein, Jack McKay, Janet McKay, Dorothy Keddie.
Front: Cynthia Simpson, June McKay, April Smith, Monika Lee.
Missing: Nancy Green

Next reception of new members; May 7, 1995.

Music
AT FIRST-ST. ANDREW'S

FRIENDS OF MUSIC APPEAL

Will you become a Friend of Music at FSA?

By Bruce Moor, Chair of Music Committee

This is the seventeenth season for the **Music at First-St. Andrew's** Concert Series. This series is coordinated and managed by Paul Merritt who reports to the Music Committee. The Concert Series continues to be self-supporting and operates independently of the Church Council, and is entirely funded by the *Friends of Music*.

Friends of Music at First-St. Andrew's are people in our church and community who contribute financially to enable our Christian witness in the community to continue to flourish and provide the benefits of quality music to London and beyond. With this financial help the series is able to continue on a non-profit basis, keeping ticket prices as low as possible. Our Concert Series presents a wide variety of musical programs including organ recitals, vocal concerts, choral/orchestral programs and instrumental recitals as a musical outreach to the community.

Our 1994/95 series has already featured such wonderful events as the concert on January 15 given by the St. Lawrence String Quartet which was attended by over 600 people. We look forward to our Senior Choir's performance of Handel's oratorio SAMSON on April 30 with Orchestra London.

Will you become a *Friend of Music* at First-St. Andrew's? Enclose your cheque in an envelope marked *Friends of Music* and place it on the offering plate or mail it to the church office. Your contributions are tax deductible and we will know that we have your support in this special ministry.

GROUPS FOR FRIENDSHIP AND LEARNING

TWENTYSOMETHING
If you are between the ages of 18 and 29 (or feel like it!), this is a group for you. We have prepared food for the Mission Festival celebrations, played football with the Youth Group and had a spaghetti supper. Join us! Contact persons: Rob Lindsay (657-7007) or Bruce Dawson (641-2286).

THIRTYSOMETHING
Are you, or have you ever been, thirtysomething? Do you enjoy an informal, fun-loving atmosphere? Do you need to unwind on a Friday evening or perhaps find an outlet for your creative energies? Do you enjoy variety in recreational activities and, in particular, do you enjoy festive meals? If so, it sounds like thirtysomething is the group for you! Contact Kevin (457-7324) or Ann (645-8867), for the details of our next gathering.

KUMJINUS
Kumjonus is for folks who are somewhere between thirtysomething and Bifocals, single or coupled. This group meets about five times a year in a social setting to enjoy the company of old and new friends.
Coordinators: Donna & Ed Ellis (641-6673), Ted & Shelley Kosteki (657-9522).



BIFOCALS

Come and enjoy good food, warm fellowship and varied programmes on **Tuesdays, March 28, April 25 and May 23 at 6:30 p.m.** in the Lower Hall. Interested? Stan or Muriel Harris, (473-2453).

UNITED CHURCH WOMEN

First-St. Andrew's has three units meeting monthly as follows:

the first Thursday, at 7:30 p.m., in the Church Parlour; the second Wednesday, at 9:30 a.m., at Grosvenor Gate; the third Tuesday, at 7:30 p.m., in the Church Parlour. New members are always welcome. Contact the U.C.W. president, Lorna Kilib (432-9938), for more details.



WOMEN'S DECADE GROUP

The Decade Group welcomes you to join them on **Tuesday, March 2 at 7:30 pm** in the church library to learn about women's place in both the early church and today's church. Information, Dorothy McPhedran (471-9662).



For a moment of meditation in a busy or a quiet day, please call our Dial-A-Prayer at 439-6838. Anyone who can contribute prayers or a devotional message is asked to call Jim Hendry (471-8492).



DIAL-A-PRAYER

COFFEE AND CONVERSATION

Every Sunday, following our 11:00 a.m. worship, the congregation is invited to remain after service for refreshment and the deepening of friendship. This is an opportunity for each person to welcome newcomers and to share his/her journey as a valued individual within our community of faith. Volunteers are needed to make and serve coffee, and to clean up. Contact Deanne Pederson (432-1583), Donna Fraleigh (672-6116)



SOCIAL ACTION

SOCIAL ACTION IS INVOLVED IN... preparing baby layettes, organizing food collection for the Youth Action Centre and St. Paul's Daily Bread Food Bank, maintaining a furniture cupboard in Farguhar House for the use of refugees and the impoverished, actively supports ELUCOC in special projects and occupies a chair on their board, sends two members to the LIFT Council meetings and more...

BENEVOLENT FUND DONATIONS

Social Action invites donations to Benevolent Fund to be used at the discretion of the ministers. Donations may be put on the offering plate in an envelope marked **Benevolent Fund** or given to one of the ministers.

FOOD BANK CONTRIBUTIONS

Please keep in mind the Social Action Committee's food collection for St. Paul's DAILY BREAD Food Bank. Baskets are provided to collect food every Sunday. Baby food is also a special need. Baskets are placed at front entrances of the chapel and sanctuary



Hall under *The Christ of the Breadline* mural in the Lower Hall is a permanent box in the Lower Hall under *The Christ of the Breadline* mural in the Lower Hall. Financial contributions are also welcome. Thank you for helping others!

FURNITURE DONATIONS

People with excess furniture are invited to call Tom Magee, (432-6719), to arrange for pick up. This furniture will be distributed to needy families such as refugees.

Referrals may be made through Ardath Hill at 657-3116 or 657-3000. Please feel free to contact the Ministerial staff for further details or speak to any of the counsellors directly.

Mr. Kerry Hill, a management consultant and career counsellor, provides personal counselling and detailed vocational assessment by appointment when mutually convenient. Mrs. Ardath Finnbogason-Hill, a nurse-educator with considerable experience in personal counselling, and Dr. Jo Ann Silcox, a psychiatrist, work as a team to provide initial assessment and follow-through counselling for individuals, couples, families or groups facing personal transitional crises.

Under the direction of the Ministerial Staff who provide individual spiritual direction to those seeking help where requested, the Counselling Service is staffed voluntarily by three members of the congregation whose professional training and daily work experience is in the counselling context.

COUNSELLING TEAM

A Baptismal preparation session is held prior to every Baptism (usually the Thursday evening) to further prepare the parents who are bringing their children for Baptism. We explore the meaning of Baptism, and prepare for the Sunday service. The Sacrament of Baptism will be celebrated **May 14** (Mother's Day). Call the church office (679-8182).



BAPTISMAL PREPARATION

Preparation for marriage is important because marriage is important - to the persons involved, to society in general, and to God. First-St. Andrew's works in co-operation with Westminster College to offer classes. The next marriage preparation sessions will be held **April 28-29, 1995** (Friday night and Saturday) at Westminster College. Call the church office or speak to one of the ministers for details (679-8182).

MARRIAGE PREPARATION

SENIORS AND THOSE WITH SPECIAL NEEDS
The Rev. Herb Wontor visits our seniors and others on a regular basis. There are approximately 90 people with whom Herb keeps in touch.

If you know or have children who would benefit from Rainbows or Spectrum, please contact Catherine (679-8182).

Prism is a programme for single parents and stepparents that can help adults get in touch with their own feelings about what has taken place in their family and help rebuild the family unit.

Rainbows is a support programme specifically developed for young adults in high school.

Spectrum is a support programme specifically developed for young adults in high school.

Today, many school age children live in single-parent family homes. In addition, many children live in stepfamilies and have serious difficulties adjusting to their new family situations.

When a change takes place in the family - whether it is death, divorce, separation, or abandonment - it has a profound effect on the whole family. Children as well as adults grieve over the loss of a loved one who was once a part of their everyday lives.



At present our team consists of about twenty-four members who offer additional care and support to our shut-ins, to those who are ill or bereaved or in a special kind of need. They visit every month or two. If you know of anyone who needs extra support or if you are one who could offer the support, please call Catherine Moore, (679-8182).

PASTORAL CARE TEAM

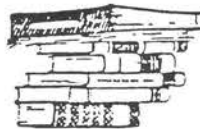
In addition to the hospital visiting and crisis counselling done by the full-time paid accountable ministers on staff, pastoral care is offered in a variety of ways:

PASTORAL CARE AND OUTREACH

All of your wonderful offers of service on the "yellow cards" have been forwarded to groups and committees and have been entered into the church computer. *Thank you* for your overwhelming response, more than **2500 new offers of service!** This spirit of sharing our gifts enables First-St. Andrew's to live out our Mission in this community.

VOLUNTEER MANAGEMENT

OPEN HOUSE SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26. Let the Library Team introduce you to the Church Library. Located beside the Chapel. Check out new books, tapes and videos. Visit the Children's Centre, made possible through the Roy Dilworth estate. We hope you will come, browse and borrow!



LIBRARY

Thursday April 13 beginning at 8 p.m. through to Good Friday, April 14 at 11 a.m. in the Chapel. Security is provided by members of the Youth Group.

By participating in the Gethsemane Vigil, we stay awake and pray with Jesus through the time of his prayerful struggle in the garden, of arrest and trial. We share the time - a sign up sheet will be posted by the chapel; you can sign up for an hour or two.

CALLING ALL YOUTH GRADES 7-13

All young people of the church are invited to participate in as many of the Youth Activities as possible, including Choir, Sunday Morning Group, Senior High Group, Canadian Girls In Training, Confirmation Class (Grade 9 up), Teen Handbells, Retreats, Musical, Church service (helping with Church School, Nurseries, Ushering, etc.)

CONFIRMATION CLASS

A small group of teens are learning about being Christian and being part of the Church. They are doing projects with their sponsors and parents, visiting with members of the Pastoral Care team and participating in classes.

A special day at Westminster College is planned for **Saturday March 25th**. We look forward to Confirmation on May 7th.

PANCAKE SUPPER

SHROVE TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28
1995, 6:00 p.m.

Shrove Tuesday became known as Pancake Day because pancakes and other rich foods were prepared on this day in order to use up forbidden Lenten foods such as fats, eggs and butter. The next day is Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent which traditionally was a time of fasting. Be ready for the Season of Lent! Come and enjoy our Pancake and Sausage Supper! Sponsored by the Youth of the Church. Cost: Adults \$4.00; Children \$3.00.

TEEN CAMPING WEEKEND

June 3 - 5. Cost; probably \$20. Pearce Williams Christian Centre. Contact Emily Woods (679-8182).

SENIOR HIGH GROUP

ages 16 and up.

This group meets occasionally for lunch after church to keep in touch with each other and to talk about the issues, fun and stress of Senior High life. They also usher for *Jean's and Classics* and *Cabaret* at Centennial Hall. Contact Barrie Evans (438-7893) or Shelley Kosticki (657-9522).

CANADIAN GIRLS IN TRAINING

for GIRLS ages 12-17

Purpose: To Cherish Health, Seek Truth, Know God, Serve Others. C.G.I.T. is a place where a girl can be herself and share with others. Contact Helen Mahabir (472-5977).



THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

9:15 a.m. in the Parlour.

How often have you said to yourself, "I wish I knew more about the Bible!" A good place to make a start happens on Thursday mornings in the Parlour. A friendly relaxed group meets over coffee and refreshments as the weekly scripture readings are explored. Not a series. Each week stands on its own, so come as often as you can. We would be delighted to see you. Contact Marjorie Smith (672-1689).

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

9:15 in the Kerygma Room. A systematic walk through a piece of Scripture.

KERYGMA IN DEPTH

A group has just begun this thematic approach to the Bible. Others could probably still join. Tuesday evenings; frequency decided by the group. Contact Jo Ann Silcox (642-2152).

WRESTLING WITH ANGELS

A Lenten series.

On Vision TV beginning Tuesday, February 7 at 8 p.m. Six weekly programs that raise questions of faith to struggle with. A way to study in the comfort of your favourite chair!

February 7 How do I know what to do?
14 God, if you're so good, why are things so awful?
21 Why don't my prayers get answered?
28 How do I forgive and get on with my life?
7 How can I question and still believe?
14 Why is loving so hard?

These programs will be taped and made available for borrowing from the Church Library.

VISION TV - SPIRIT CONNECTION

The expressly United Church program on VISION TV. Mondays at 7:30 p.m.; repeated Tuesday at 11 a.m. Check your TV Guide for weekly programs. Of particular interest:
Feb. 27/28 Changing The World One Village At A Time
March 13/14 Begins a Prayer series



LENTEN DEVOTIONAL BOOKLET

Along *The Emmaus Road* by Jim Cairney. Available at the Church Office or at the Presbytery Resource Centre. \$8.50.

GETSEMANE VIGIL

Then he said to them, *I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and stay awake with me... Stay awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial...* Matthew 26:38-41

AT FIRST-ST. ANDREW'S

Music

WITH VOICE, PIPE AND STRING
 Sunday, February 19, 1995, 3:00 p.m. (\$8, \$6)

This concert, featuring the soloists of First-St. Andrew's, will give you an opportunity to hear music for voice and various instruments, such as violins and oboe. There will be a wide variety of music performed and this combination of singers and instrumentalists should add up to a delightful afternoon of music.

FIFTH ANNUAL AMABLE FESTIVAL

Sunday, March 5, 2:30 & 7:30 p.m.

FRIDAY LENTEN NOON RECITALS

12 - 12:30 p.m. (Freewill Offering)

Luncheon (\$4.50) is served following

March 24 John Tessier, Tenor Soloist, First-St. Andrew's

March 31 David Jones, Piano

April 7 Larry Larson, Trumpet

Paul Merritt, Organ

SAMSON by G. F. Handel

Sunday, April 30, 8:00 p.m.

(An Oratorio for Soloist, Chorus and Orchestra)

The Choir of First-St. Andrew's United Church

with Orchestra London

Samson - Darryl Edwards

Micah - Elizabeth Van Doorne

Manoah - Charles Baxter

Harapha - Ross Dodington

Israelitish Woman - Mary Ellen Gustafson

Philistine Woman - Michele DeBoer

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

CRADLE ROLL

We are delighted to welcome each new baby into the church family with our *Growing In God's Love* mailing. Be sure to let the church know when your new baby arrives! There were 19 babies enrolled in 1994. Since the last mailing, we have greeted Christopher Jay Engel and Kyle Blaine Springer.



CHURCH SCHOOL AND NURSERIES

Continuing with *The Whole People of God* curriculum, Unit V *The Garden of Lent*, helps Christians to prepare for the great celebration of Easter. Lent encourages us to think about how we live and what tempts us. March 5 to April 9



Unit VI, *Spread God's Love to Everyone*, celebrates the joy of the resurrection throughout the Great 50 Days of Easter. We hear the stories of Jesus' appearance to the disciples and how the early church got started, ending with the festival of Pentecost! April 16 to June 4.



Thank you to Hilary Hove and Christina Lindsay who are playing the piano as we learn and sing new hymns and songs as well as old favourites.

On Palm/Passion Sunday, April 9, we will welcome the children for communion in a multigenerational service.

Secret Pals About sixteen of the children are corresponding with Secret Pals in the congregation through the Secret Pal Mailbox. An Unmasking Party is planned for Sunday, May 7.

GONE FISHING

Music and Christian Development for Grades 1 - 6

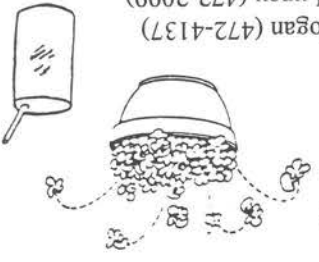
This winter our Christian Development time has focussed on learning about the United Church and our Church. We have explored liturgical colours and seasons, symbols, sacraments, ministers and members, the crest, our logo and creeds. A real mix - all enabling participation and encouraging a sense of belonging to this group of God's people.

Moving toward April 23, we will all be involved in many kinds of preparation for the musical presentation *Barbecue for Ben*. A **Family Potluck Supper** on April 26 concludes our year.

Co-ordinators: Paul Merritt & Marion Jackson Tyler (679-8182)

POP 'N' POPCORN

A group for Grades 5 and 6 to just have fun and make friends!



April 7 Games Night

May 12 Mini Golf

June 16 Barbecue

Co-ordinators: Virginia & Bob Rogan (472-4137)

Sharon & Dennis Lunan (472-2099)

Janice & Jim Elliott (657-7183)

WORSHIP

Come and worship at First-St. Andrew's as we follow Christ in the Lenten journey that takes us to Calvary and beyond, to the empty tomb and the glorious light of resurrection. Our regular worship times are 9:15 a.m. in the Chapel and 11:00 a.m. in the main Sanctuary. On the first Sunday of the month we celebrate the sacrament of Holy Communion at 8:30 a.m. in the Chapel. Everyone is welcome.

March 1 7:30 pm
Ash Wednesday service in the chancel with the imposition of ashes and the sacrament of Holy Communion.
Preacher - the Rev. Frank Meadows.

March 5 9:15 & 11:00
Chapel Communion at 8:30 a.m.
The First Sunday in Lent.
Preacher - the Rev. Frank Meadows.

March 12 9:15 & 11:00
The Second Sunday in Lent
Preacher - the Rev. Catherine Moore.

March 19 9:15 & 11:00
Fifteenth Anniversary of Proudfoot House
Guest Preacher - the Rev. Ian Mackay, a former minister at First-St. Andrew's.

March 26 9:15 & 11:00
The Fourth Sunday in Lent
Preacher - the Rev. Frank Meadows.

April 2 9:15 & 11:00
Chapel Communion at 8:30 a.m.
Earth Stewardship Sunday.
Prof. William Fyfe, a noted environmentalist from the University of Western Ontario will be our guest speaker at both services.

April 9 9:15 & 11:00
Palm Sunday. There will be a special service of worship in which we shall remember the last days of Christ's ministry on earth, and celebrate the sacrament of Holy Communion.

April 13 8 pm
Maundy Thursday. We are invited to join with members of Metropolitan United Church for a service of remembrance of Christ's Last Supper with his disciples on the evening before his death. The Sacrament of Holy Communion will be celebrated.

April 14 11:00
Good Friday. The congregation of Metropolitan United Church will join us in our sanctuary to worship on this special day. The preacher will be the Rev. Dr. Barry Moore, President of Fanshawe College.

April 16 8:00
Easter Sunday.
The Day of Resurrection Sunrise Service
The joyful worship of Easter. Special music for brass and organ.
Preacher - the Rev. Frank Meadows

April 23 9:15

The Second Sunday of Easter
Chapel Service.
Preacher - the Rev. Frank Meadows

11:00

The Gone Fishing Musical Service
Barbecue for Ben - a fresh look at the parable of the Prodigal Son.

April 30 9:15 & 11:00
The Third Sunday of Easter
Preacher - the Rev. Catherine Moore.

May 7 9:15 & 11:00

Chapel Communion - 8:30 am
At the 11:00 o'clock service we shall receive new members by confirmation, certificate of transfer and re-affirmation of faith.
Preacher - the Rev. Frank Meadows.

May 14 9:15 & 11:00
Christian Family Sunday
We shall celebrate the Sacrament of Baptism at the 11:00 o'clock service.
Preacher - the Rev. Frank Meadows.

May 21 9:15 & 11:00
The Sixth Sunday of Easter
Preacher - the Rev. Catherine Moore

May 28 9:15 & 11:00
The Seventh Sunday of Easter. As Catherine and Frank will be away at the annual meeting of London Conference, the preacher will be Mr. Rick Bain, a lay preacher and member of First-St. Andrew's.

June 4

The Day of Pentecost. We remember and celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit to the Church. A very special service of worship will be held outdoors at the Pearce Williams retreat centre near Iona Station.
Transportation will be provided for all who wish to come. For those who are unable to join us at Pearce Williams, a service will be held in the chapel at 9:15 am

MUSIC

The Music Ministry puts faith into action as it serves the congregation, reaches out to the community, and develops a bond of love and spiritual growth among its participants. Consider becoming a part of our music program in 1995.

THE GONE FISHING CHOIR

Each of the Gone Fishing Music groups continues its activities during Lent and Easter but, as always, our main focus is on our annual Musical. This year's presentation is entitled *BARBECUE FOR BEN* and will take place on **Sunday, April 23** during the 11:00 a.m. worship service.

THE HANDBELL CHOIRS

All of our groups will be sharing their talents with us in the coming months and in preparation for the Handbell Festival to be held at the University in late June, will give a concert here on the afternoon of **Sunday, May 7**. Specific details will be available closer to that date.

Family Frank Catherine Paul Mervin

May the faith we share bring peace and joy to us all.

J. Barrie Shepherd

Long before the age of chemical solutions we spread ash and cinders all across the wintry walkways to give traction and security on days of frost and ice. Fairly ruined the place for sliding on the way to school but there was always someone who forgot and left at least one glorious gliding moment to elevate with wings the daily march toward the desert. These ashes we impose upon our later years give traction too, arrest the slide across and down the slippery slope of time, ground us against the earth of "dust thou art" until again we can take off, arms spread akimbo, cap and schoolbag flying, for the moment that will stretch beyond the garden and across the shining river.

In the weeks that lie ahead, during the seasons of Lent and Easter, the church experiences the extremes of emotion and feeling. On the one hand, we remember with shock and dismay the suffering and death of Jesus on the Cross. On the other hand, our hearts are filled with joy and soar with hope as we celebrate Easter's victory, and the gift of the Spirit's power at Pentecost. In worship and music, in study and reflection, First-St. Andrew's offers you the opportunity to connect the highs and lows of your life with the life and death of Jesus. In this way, we can come to see how our life is lived within the warm embrace of God's love for us all. The first service of Lent is on Ash Wednesday, at 7:30 pm in the chancel of the main sanctuary. Those who wish receive the imposition of ashes on their forehead. A poem that I read recently says something of what this is all about...

Dear Friends,



FSA Program Guide Lent, Holy Week, Easter 1995

