

# Tidings

*First-St Andrew's*  
**UNITED CHURCH**

Where liberal theology meets the best of tradition



Vol. 21 - No. 3  
Pentecost/Fall 2011



## *Lemonade on the Lawn* A Summertime Tradition

### INSIDE

<a href="#">The Editors' Desk</a> .....	2
<a href="#">Announcements</a> .....	3
<a href="#">Changes</a> .....	3
<a href="#">Council Report</a> .....	3
<a href="#">Note from Tom</a> .....	4
<a href="#">View from the Pew</a> .....	4
<a href="#">Remembering</a> .....	5
<a href="#">Our Chimney Swifts</a> .....	5
<a href="#">Profile</a> .....	6

<a href="#">Getting to Know</a> .....	7
<a href="#">Vignettes</a> .....	8
<a href="#">The Building</a> .....	8
<a href="#">Past Events</a> .....	9
<a href="#">Committee Reports</a> .....	10-14
<a href="#">First-St. Andrew's Ministry</a> .....	14
<a href="#">Advertisements</a> .....	2, 15, 16
<a href="#">Calling All Detectives</a> .....	16

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**MANAGING EDITOR'S MESSAGE**

David Flynn

Again, we are separating the *Programme Guide*, published only in the fall, from *Tidings*. The PG lists most of the programmes in our very diverse congregation, many of which begin again after a summer hiatus.

This year the front cover of the PG is in colour, as it now is for the outside pages of all four issues of *Tidings*. We can afford this because of the income from business card ads and subscriptions from people who have moved away. The ads and subscriptions now cover two-thirds of our annual budget.

To go with the brighter look, Jim Silcox and Pat McGregor have rewritten and reorganized the PG in a sprightlier manner based on the committee descriptions on the FSA website ([fsaunited.com](http://fsaunited.com)). Jim, of course, as well as doing the layout of the PG and *Tidings* is also the FSA webmaster.

Pat and I have divided the editing tasks. I am responsible for the over-all direction but Pat is doing the bulk of the requests, editing and follow-up. This is especially difficult over the summer with people away, but in the end she obtained all material requested by the *Tidings* Team—or at least promises to write the article for the next issue.

A new section of Vignettes in the summer issue and this one, were written by Mary McKim. Last issue she wrote about a lost diamond, and this time about the cruise she and husband, Doug, took recently on the St. Lawrence.

We would like more such articles, a bit briefer (under 300 words), and a bit less serious than our usual items. We hope that with the addition of colour and different kinds of articles, *Tidings* will become more of a magazine than a newsletter, always a goal of the late Ted Kosteci when he was in charge of *Tidings*.

We have our usual range of items on people and events of the past three months, in particular, "Getting to Know" our new interim minister, Tom Hiscock. With Kate away on study and holiday leave, Tom has also written the "Note from...."

Welcome to a new year of activity.

[pdflynn@rogers.com](mailto:pdflynn@rogers.com)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### PROUDFOOT LECTURE

Don't miss Bishop Spong (Proudfoot Lecture) on Sunday, October 23, 2:00pm—"Beyond Heaven and Hell: A New Vision of Eternal Life." Tickets (\$20.00) available on Sundays in September.

### STAMPS

The Bible Society is no longer taking used stamps. Thank you for supporting this initiative in the past.

### MARATHON BRIDGE WINNERS FOR 2010-2011

1st: Paul and Lesley Pergau

2nd: Joni Pypka and Sally Smith

3rd: Jim and Nancy Hutchinson

### PROGRAMME GUIDE

Programme Guide 2011-2012: Now available on the tables in the narthex and atrium and [on our website](#).

### GROW-A-ROW

Corn Roast and all the trimmings after church on Sunday, September 11th.

## CHANGES

### DEATHS

Vivian Bocking: May 10, 2011

J. Douglas MacKenzie: May 27, 2011

Derk Pleiter: June 14, 2011

Truss Barker: June 16, 2011

Margaret Leonard: August 16, 2011

### MARRIAGES

Jen and Allen Jackson: July 2, 2011

Laura Hall and John Rozeluk: July 16, 2011



A standing ovation for Fred McLarty acknowledging years of service to FSA

## COUNCIL REPORT



George Jolink

On behalf of Council let me welcome each of you back from wherever life's journey has taken you over the past few months. As you read these pages it means that fall is upon us and a new church year has begun, filled with the excitement that comes from new beginnings. I hope all of you have had time over the summer to rest, relax with loved ones and reflect on what FSA means to you. This is a time when we can renew our commitment to this church community and to each other.

Although the summer is a time when church business typically slows down, your committees have continued working on your behalf. You will see evidence of repair work being done on the steeple, which is the first of the Avis projects

*"I can't help but be excited and optimistic about where we will be heading over the course of this next year."*

undertaken by the Property Committee and funded by your generous donations to the Capital Campaign. M&P has been looking for a new church administrator as Sue Scorgie prepares for retirement. MOE has been busy with Grow-a-Row and the Hospitality Meal teams have worked each week to serve those less fortunate. Stewardship has been planning the fall campaign and the music programme is ready to resume. A new stove

has been installed in the kitchen and our custodial team has been polishing up the place. Two new committees, the Accessibility Committee and the Joint Needs Committee have been struck and are ready to start their work.

I can't help but be excited and optimistic about where we will be heading over the course of this next year. I feel as though we are poised and ready to take the leap of faith that sustains us. We have a rich history to draw from and a future filled with possibilities. Thanks for all you do.

## NOTE FROM TOM



**M**y earliest memories of the Methodist church my family attended were Communion Sundays when I had to stay alone in the pew as my parents went forward to receive the elements at the rail. It probably did not hurt me as I was almost five. I could see them the whole time and more importantly I knew they could see me. It was the feeling of being left out, excluded for some unknown reason that sticks with me now. The memory resurfaced this summer as we discussed having another time when children come into church for communion. In the United Church we have in most congregations included children whenever they are present in worship in Holy Communion. It was the right thing to do and I recall the conversations in two different churches as we moved to include children. At one pivotal moment in the debate one person comments "But the children don't know what they are doing." One of the wise women in

the congregation responded "Do you know what you're doing when you take communion?" The conversation ended and the vote was overwhelmingly in favour of opening communion to children.

The problem with our practice has been that communion is served when children are absent from worship. Again this fall FSA is planning a time when children will come back into the service for communion. It takes a little organization to insure they are back in time for the whole liturgy. Depending on when they come in there will be a little commotion—after all they are children. For me it will deepen my worship experience because I will be able to reflect back to a time I was excluded and see how the church has changed for the better. This is an excellent time for Sunday School teachers and parents to have conversations with children about communion. Don't worry, none of us fully understand communion, it's why we call it Holy. ✂



## VIEW FROM THE PEW



### ORIGINS

Steve Elson

**W**e are all created by someone else: our parents, who came from someone else and so on and so on. It defines where we have come from. But we can step back and take a broader perspective. When I visited the Ontario Science Centre this summer with some of my children and grandchildren we saw a timeframe of the world set out in a long line of rocks millions and billions years old. In this context human beings are relative newcomers. We also saw the Hubble space telescope show on the IMAX screen and saw images of billions of galaxies and stars. At the same time I was reading *The Origin of Species by Means of Natural Selection* by Charles Darwin and his theory of the survival and evolution of species, so for me it all fit together under the general theme of origins.

We have not only come from someone else personally, but as a species we have come from

something else, and as a planet we have come from something else as well.

With our growing understanding of ourselves, our world and the universe, we need to think about our spiritual origins in a new way; in a way that 'fits with' rather than opposes or runs counter to our current and evolving knowledge.

For example, I do not think we need 'God' to explain the origins of the physical world (or worlds): what we need is to understand that the origins of our spiritual life and journey transcend temporal time and space—it comes to us and is in us but is not of us. Our spiritual experience, like our physical lives, is a thin slice of something much larger and more profound. It may always be shrouded in mystery and be beyond the full grasp of our understanding—but like space travel the journey unlocks new discoveries and brings new insights and drives us to keep exploring, not knowing what will lie around the next corner.

At least that's the way I see it, from the pew. ✂

[steveelson@primus.ca](mailto:steveelson@primus.ca)

## REMEMBERING

### BEV AND JOHN FOWLER

Clarice Giffen

**M**y particular friendship with Bev and Jack began when they, along with my late husband Jim and me, attended UWO in the early 1950's. Our friendship developed beyond graduation and into marriage after we all entered the real world of jobs and babies.

To describe Bev is to call forth words like trustworthy, practical, caring and creative. She had a frivolous side to her which nicely balanced Jack's own zany brand of humour. She loved her husband and three beautiful daughters, Jennifer and the twins, Kim and Karen.

Her passion was her love of flowers and flower arranging. For years at every Sunday service and for Christmas, Easter and Thanksgiving, the sanctuary was graced with her exquisite floral arrangements. Photos of those arrangements are still used for planning current displays.

Golf was another of Bev's passions and one she shared with Jack. They were both exceptionally good golfers and loved the times playing at the London Hunt Club.

Jack was an athlete of significance—he was a star player on the UWO Mustangs—whose competitive nature and articulate prowess lent distinction to his

successful professional career with London Life. He applied those skills on the FSA Communications & Marketing Committee.

Jack was a man of many moods, abilities, pursuits and interests including golf, poker and football. Although a person who relished his solitude, he was a compassionate caregiver with a listening ear and a strong shoulder.

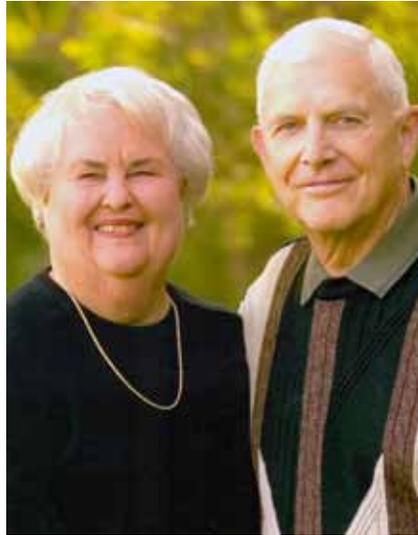
His faith developed in his later years. Members of the FSA Brown Bag lunch group can attest to this—they still quote his way of opening up a discussion, "As I was shaving this morning, I looked in the mirror and I asked myself...."

Jack and Bev had settled into a calm and companionable pace of life until cancer invaded their household. Jack was the first to succumb to this dreaded disease. After Jack's demise, Bev's own precarious health began to falter. Without Jack's steady rhythm to sustain her, Bev's own physical and emotional centre started to crumble.

Alas, she too was taken.

Farewell dear friends. Know that you are loved. 🌹

*[Clarice Giffen now lives in Toronto. During her time at FSA she was a member of the Laudamus Bells. Ed.]*



### OUR CHIMNEY SWIFTS

Two chimneys on the FSA premises each provide a summer home for a family of chimney swifts. On May 8, FSA served as the starting point for a community walk led by Winnie Wake. The purpose was to point out neighbourhood chimneys used by the chimney swift, a threatened species in Canada. As the walk got underway, swifts foraging for insects in the skies above FSA put on an exuberant display of chattering and swooping.





*Evidence: little hands and ... a big hand at FSA*

PROFILE



**MURIEL PARSONS**

Ellen McKim

**T**here are three qualities that describe Muriel Parsons: she is a survivor, inventive and organized.

In 1970 she left The Pas, Manitoba, with four young children, no support and moved to London. Muriel claims there are two women in her life to whom she owes a great deal. One is her sister, who was a minister along with her husband, at Robinson United Church, and the other a teacher at Fanshawe College. Her sister told her if she were free to choose a church, it should be FSA, and her teacher encouraged her to apply for a job she knew was coming up. She did and found herself teaching the students who were in her class. This led to full-time teaching in the Adult Education programme, allowing her sufficient funds to raise her family.



Muriel joined FSA in 1986, along with her mother who had moved east to be with her. Quickly becoming part of the church community, she became Chair of Volunteer Management. Her inventive side came to the fore when she produced a brochure listing all the volunteer

opportunities available, simplifying the process for attracting new people, resulting in many new faces volunteering in a wide range of choices.

Muriel then co-chaired with Annabelle Logan the Membership and Nurture Committee, responsible for new members joining FSA. Together they did an excellent job which involved a great deal of time and energy. On the Thursday evening before Induction Sunday, they hosted a dinner for the prospective members and their sponsors, welcoming them and making them feel at home. Due to the onset of fibromyalgia Muriel reluctantly had to leave this position.

Muriel became narthex co-ordinator, which requires six people to be greeters and ushers every Sunday for 12 months. She streamlined this by making one person responsible for a month, eliminating last minute stresses. Muriel is in the narthex every Sunday making sure all runs smoothly, and security is in place.

Muriel has made a great contribution to the church, and continues to do so. We can thank her sister for leading her to FSA, and to Muriel for all she has done.

*EM*

GETTING TO KNOW



**THE REV. TOM HISCOCK, B.S. (IN EDUCATION), M.DIV.**

Herb Wonfor

It has been the tradition at First-St. Andrew's to have two ordained ministers on its staff. To fill the present vacancy the Joint Needs Assessment Committee has been busy in drawing up a job description to satisfy the present needs of the congregation before seeking the necessary person. In the meantime it was decided to appoint a supply minister for the vacancy period to work with the minister of worship and administration.

To this end we have been fortunate in acquiring the services of the recently retired Rev. Tom Hiscock. As a sage once said: "Retired ministers don't stop working, they just go out to pastor." Tom was raised in Cadillac, Michigan, and attended Central Michigan University in Mount Pleasant where he obtained a bachelor of science in education. He not only gained his degree there but also his wife, Connie, who was successfully completing her degree in home economics. After graduation Tom taught machine shop

for one year. Then becoming disillusioned with the American government position on foreign affairs they immigrated to Canada settling in Sudbury, where Tom worked for two years using his machine shop expertise, and attended St. Stephen's-on-the-Hill church. It was there that he was inspired by the missionary work of the United Church and decided to become a minister.

Tom attended Queen's Theological College in Kingston for the necessary three years and was ordained in 1976. After ordination he was settled in Marathon, Ontario, and served there for three years. He then spent a year in a team ministry position at St. Andrew's Church in Sault Ste. Marie. After that he had successful pastorates at Mandaumin in exurban Samia for five years and for six years at St. Paul's Church in Tillsonburg. From there he was called to Wesley-Knox church here in London from where he "officially" retired.



He is looking forward to his ministry at First-St. Andrew's working with Kate and the congregation as a sort of "jack of all trades," especially in leading worship, preaching when needed, visiting and meeting with the children of the Sunday School. ☪



... smiling at summer church school



... rehearsing at the organ console



... marching in the Pride Parade

## VIGNETTES



### **CALM WATER CRUISING: THE ST. LAWRENCE RIVER**

Mary McKim

As experienced world travellers, we opted in June for a St. Lawrence Seaway cruise from Kingston to Ottawa, via Montreal. On June 4<sup>th</sup> we boarded the *Canadian Empress*, built in 1981 to resemble a Mississippi paddle wheeler. Thirty-three companionable fellow passengers, mainly seniors, hailed from Washington, Oregon, New England, Saskatchewan and Ontario. Sunday we cruised through the 1000 Islands, past Millionaires Row, and viewed all from the Skydeck at Rockport. At Prescott we toured Historic Fort Wellington, built to protect Upper Canada from the Americans. Passing through the Iroquois Lock, we docked overnight near Upper Canada Village.

Our conveyance to this 1950's heritage site was by horse-drawn carriage. Many buildings were relocated from villages submerged during the Seaway construction. Staff in period costumes demonstrated at the schoolhouse, cheese factory and bakery. We traversed two more locks with the biggest lift drop, to overnight at Coteau Landing. Few ocean-going vessels

were encountered as freight now goes by container ships which offload at each coast. The upper and lower Beauharnois locks drop forty feet each where rapids used to be, and lead into Lake St. Louis approaching Montreal Island. We tied up at Lachine, finding a park instead of the ugly warehouses I had anticipated. Missing a Montreal bus tour, friends drove us along the south shore to Ste. Anne de Bellevue, visiting en route an ancient parish church, St. Joachim de Pointe Claire (1712). A stone convent (1784) and a stone windmill stood nearby.

En route to the Ottawa we traversed Lake of Two Mountains, then the Carillon Quebec Hydro dam, where the lock raised us 62 feet! Overnight at Montebello we visited a nature preserve with beaver, bear, wolves, arctic foxes and numerous elk and reindeer. Too soon we arrived at our destination, Hull.

Perfect weather, spectacular scenery, excellent meals, delightful staff and nightly entertainment guaranteed a good time. A special dinner/dance marked our last evening, when wedding anniversaries and my 85<sup>th</sup> birthday were celebrated. The cruise director gallantly danced with me while Doug toured the bridge! Sadly this ship is not wheelchair accessible. ✍️

## THE BUILDING



### **DIGGING**

Jim Hutchinson

With the completion of St. Andrew's Hall in 1905, the Sunday School no longer needed the church

basement for classes. In 1917 the decision to deepen the west side of the area meant another summer of digging. By fall, however, the young people had a basketball court there and could finally participate in the inter-church basketball league. Our ancestors obviously placed high priority on their children and youth. ✍️



**Your Property Committee in Action: Brickwork Repair**



# WHITE SQUIRREL GOLF TOURNAMENT

JUNE 11



## Farewell Dinner for Susan Shelstad June 4





**WORSHIP**  
**Sizzling Summer!!!**

Jo Ann Silcox

**H**aving elected to try a return to the sanctuary for summer services during the hottest summer in recent records, our hearts were further warmed by the musical gifts of Linda and Bob Kennedy, Paul Merritt, Valerie DeJong Richard, Tim Richard, Grace MacPhail-Wagner, Jordan Baldwin and a host of other musicians. Our souls burned within us as we were challenged by Kate Crawford to take seriously the promises of the Book of Romans and by Tom Hiscock to put feet to our faith in Christian action. Congregational participation in the form of lay liturgists and scripture readers, greeters and ushers, lemonade on the lawn providers, Sunday School teachers and our wonderful

children and grandchildren, ensured that our summer services sizzled!

In the fall we look forward to the continuing team ministry of Kate and Tom, the Proudfoot Lectures with Bishop John Spong on October 23<sup>rd</sup>, a joint workshop with Metropolitan United in November to hear John Dominic Crossan, and our Anniversary Sunday on November 20<sup>th</sup> with the Rev. Ann Corbett and the Salvation Army Band—as well as a shared Longest Night service with Metropolitan United in December.

As we enter the second year of Kate Crawford's ministry with us and anticipate the results of the new JNAC study, may all of us, with one voice, give God thanks for the amazing gift of grace which allows us to worship in this space, to serve in this community, and to live with the questions of our faith without fear. ✠



**MUSIC**

Paul Cooper

**O**ne of the musical highlights in the spring of 2011 was the *Eternal Light* concert by the senior choir on Sunday, April 10<sup>th</sup>—sponsored through generous donations from The Friends of Music at First-St. Andrew's. In the first half of the programme, we heard plainsong, and selections by Gerald Near and Marcel Dupré. Some of the music was performed by Paul Merritt on the organ. Terese Sirek Ng (alto) and Tim Richard (baritone) treated us to lovely solos. In the second half, the senior choir presented Howard Goodall's *Eternal Light: A Requiem*. The requiem is a stirring work, written in 2008, blending traditional Latin text from the requiem with modern text from hymns and poems and is truly inspirational music. The requiem featured the solo work of Sonja Gustafson (soprano), Ross Dodington (bass) and guest soloist Darryl Edwards (tenor). The concert closed with two other works by Goodall, the first, *The Lord is My*

*Shepherd (Psalm 23)* 1994 (used as the theme song for the BBC series *The Vicar of Dibley*) and featuring Valerie De Jong Richard (soprano) and the second, *Love Divine* (2000).

Sunday, May 1<sup>st</sup> saw our youth choir—The Joyful Singers—present a musical production as part of the service entitled *A Technicolor Promise*. It was wonderful to see these talented young people, under the very able leadership and direction of Paul and Enid Merritt, performing, having fun, and creating fun for others.

Both of our junior choirs—The Junior Joyfuls and The Joyful Singers took part in the farewell for Susan Shelstad in June, and their participation underscored Susan's service and love of Christian education during her time at First-St. Andrew's.

With the arrival of September, all of our musical groups—The Junior Joyfuls, The Joyful Singers, The Laudamus Bells, The FSA Strings and The Senior Choir look forward to another year of making music together and praising God. ✠



**PROPERTY**

Mary Ann Hodge

**I**t has been a busy summer. If you have been around during the summer, you may have noticed that the parking lot has been under construction again as the drains have been properly repaired now (the previous repair was a temporary emergency fix). Thanks to our volunteers, especially Audrey Coultard and Harv Taylor who have ensured that the trees and flowers have survived the lack of rain in July.

After many years of planning and fundraising, work has started on implementing the restoration projects as outlined in the Avis Report, which this year focuses on repairing masonry in the most deteriorated places, which are generally up high. This work also includes some painting of the weathered elements high on the tower and the parapets of St. Andrew's Hall.

Check out our monthly newsletters (available on the FSA website) to see photos and descriptions of what has been done. ✠

## BANNERS AND ANTEPENDIA

Willis Buckingham and Nancy Hutchinson have been gathering pictures and information for inclusion in an album which will document the banners and antependia of FSA. Unfortunately some of the information is incomplete and other banners have disappeared ([see back cover](#)). If anyone can fill in the blank spots or has other relevant information or pictures, Nancy would appreciate hearing from you. Contact Nancy Hutchinson (519-471-4267).



Kate with Nancy Hutchinson during the service on June 12 when the new Pentecost banner, shown on the right, was dedicated.

## COMMUNICATIONS & MARKETING



Jim Silcox

Have you noticed anything different lately? Following Council's recent endorsement of a new church logo and icon, these items have been gradually appearing in various church publications, including our website, *Tidings* and the *Programme Guide*. The new look was also used in an announcement for our Easter services in the *London Free Press* and is currently to be found in our ad in the *Observer*. The C & M Committee's motivation for proposing the change was to get away from the confusion of a variety of graphics currently being used, and establish one consistent look and feel to everything we put out. We want First-St. Andrew's to be instantly and easily recognizable to all of our communities.

However, the process of making the switch has not been easy technically and has been of concern to some. We know that many liked the old "At the Heart"

logo (shown in this article) which was developed for our 175th anniversary. We liked it too and purposely put forward our new logo and its related new "At the Heart" icon based on that beautiful graphic that was so well designed in 2006 by Lionel Morise.

The committee wants to know which signature piece you prefer. You can find the new version of the logo in the

banner on the front page of the current issue of *Tidings* or the *Programme Guide*. You can also see the new "At the Heart" icon at the bottom of each page of this publication. The new logo and the icon are meant to be used together whenever possible. Contact Jim Silcox, [silcox@sympatico.ca](mailto:silcox@sympatico.ca) or place a note in his mailbox at the church with your thoughts.

We are also currently looking at how the bulletin boards of the church

can be used more effectively to get the message out regarding both internal and external events. We will be polling the various committees to get their reaction to our proposals in this regard. Stay tuned for further developments.

JS



Old "At the Heart" logo



## MISSION OUTREACH ENVIRONMENT

Jean Knowles

### GROW-A-ROW—Canadian Food Grains Bank

As you have been seeing in the media this summer, East Africa and its 10 million people have been affected by the worst drought in ten years. Since May, the CGFB (a partnership of 15 church denominations and agencies) have committed \$2.1 million to this disaster. Some examples: in Ethiopia's Coro District, wheat, beans, oil, etc. are being supplied. Water sources have dried up and damaged crops and dying animals are the result.

In pastoralist communities in Kenya, the people are being supplied with staple crop seeds and food support. The communities are encouraged to work together on drought mitigation. Goat restocking to community groups will benefit 2000 vulnerable households.

Monitoring of these drought situations and strategic help continues to be done by the CFGB.

So you can see that your donations to the CFGB Grow-A-Row helps where it is needed most—on a timely basis. At the 4-1 ratio supported by CIDA, every dollar equals \$5.00 to help our Third World neighbours. There is still time to help in this year's 16th annual campaign with St. Mary's United Church, and, of course, you can join us Sunday, September 11th after church in Proudfoot Hall for our annual Corn Roast (with all the trimmings). The money raised that day is also matched on the 4-1 ratio. The Mayberry's from the CFGB will again be our special guests.

The 2010 campaign raised well over \$7,000—let's try to beat that number to continue to help these folks and others.

### Hospitality Meals

We were able to run all summer thanks to the many volunteers who signed up. To support environmentally friendly efforts, we are switching from styrofoam cups to reusable cups and glasses, and a new energy-efficient freezer was purchased. Thanks to the support of the UCW and our Council, there is a brand-new commercial stove in the kitchen.

### St. Paul's Daily Bread Food Bank

The bank continues to meet the year-round needs of London's less fortunate—numbers of which continue to grow in this economy, and high unemployment here in London certainly adds to that number. Contributions of money, non-perishable food and personal hygiene

items are always needed. These can be placed in the shopping cart in the atrium or in the white baskets. There are also envelopes for cheques/money. 



### FIFTH ANNUAL FSA WHITE SQUIRREL GOLF TOURNAMENT—JUNE 11, 2011

David Wake

Proving that golf is exciting even when Tiger Woods isn't playing, the 2011 FSA White Squirrel Golf Tournament ended in a 3-way sudden death playoff: Dave Bancroft, Jonathan Rogan and Bob Kennedy representing their teams. On the second playoff hole, Bob Kennedy sank a 15-foot putt to win! His team members were John Eberhard, Ivana Klouda and David Manness.

Once again, the tournament was held at the beautiful Ironwood Golf Course in Exeter. This event is the major MOE Committee fundraiser and is more than a golf tournament; it is intended for both golfers and non-golfers. Winnie Wake led a group on a nature walk along the Ausable River, and many more came just for the dinner and silent and live auctions. There were 64 people at the evening activities, led by master of ceremonies (and auctioneer) Stan Hill. "The minister's wife," aka June McKay, made a special appearance. Kate Crawford won the prize for "best minister golfer."

Close to \$7,000 was raised, through the Golf Tournament and Hot Dog Day, to support the work of the MOE Committee.

Over 60 silent and live auction items were donated and there were 18 hole sponsors, including Sterling Marking Products Inc., the tournament's corporate sponsor.

The hole sponsors this year were: Michael McDonald/The McDonald Financial Group, Brainworks, Ken Somerville/RBC Dominion Securities, A Friend of First-St. Andrew's, Christopher Liddiard /Investors Group, Tricar, Bob Schram/Sterling Marking Products, Austin & Taylor Home Furnishings, Ian Wright & Wendy Thompson, State Farm Insurance/Jane Hill, Remark Fresh Markets, Swish Maintenance Ltd., Zavitz Insurance Inc., Margo Christodoulou/Mortgage Wise Financial, Kevin S. Thomas /CIBC Wood Gundy, Solcan—We Harness the Sun!, Adrian Plante/Fanshawe Motors Ltd., Las Chicas Del Café.

THANK YOU to everyone who supported the tournament—golfers, walkers, diners and those who donated time, money or auction items.

Next year's tournament will be held on Saturday, June 9th. Mark your calendar! 



## FINANCE

Harold Jackson

### How Are We Doing?

By the time you will be reading this, exterior mortar repairs to our historic facility will have been underway for more than a month. This \$100,000 capital facility renovation, approved by Council at its June 2011 meeting, begins to place into action recommendations contained in the 2008 Avis Report commissioned by First-St. Andrew's United Church (FSA). Financing comes from the Capital Building Campaign begun in 2009 and so generously supported by the congregation. This significant stewardship step toward 'Sustaining the Heartbeat' of this great congregation is but one of many to come, with the continued support of everyone.

As of June 30th, 2011 our stewardship revenues continue to exceed our expenses. However, envelope revenue, our single most significant source of income, is 9% (\$23,800) behind the 2011 budget and 6.5% behind the previous year-to-date. Gains in rental, special project and miscellaneous/donation revenue almost offset this decline.

Stewardship expenses are positively impacted from personnel cost savings reflected from the vacancy in

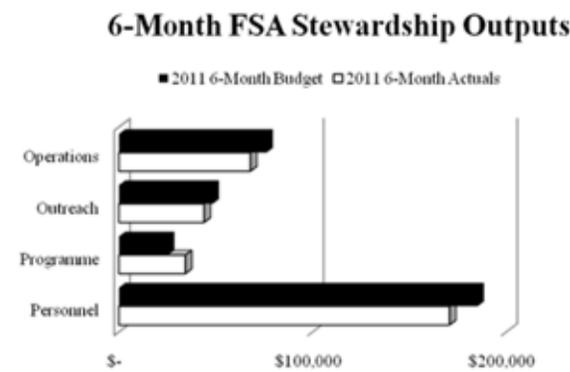
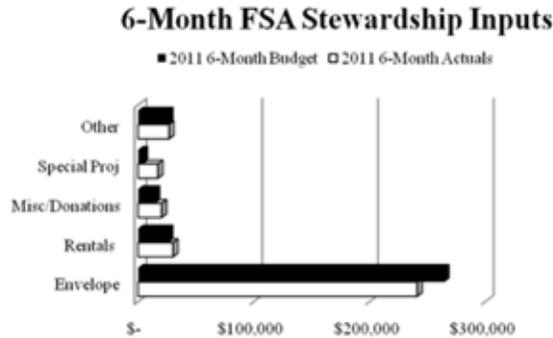
full-time ministry, currently filled by a supply minister. Defined outreach commitments are behind budget as a result of reduced envelope givings, but other outreach

activity is augmented by almost \$35,000 raised through various designated fundraising efforts of the congregation. Operations expense is 11% behind forecast as of the end of June.

Our plan to be operationally deficit free for 2011 remains an attainable goal. Importantly, we must continue to operate with a balanced budget as we move forward with 2012 operational plans and financial stewardship aspirations. Your support and generosity will assure this great

congregation continues to deliver the promise of being 'At the Heart.'

JSA



## STEWARDSHIP

Judith Walker

Your Stewardship Committee has focused its work on developing a sustainable plan for funding the operations and capital needs of FSA. This work has been supported by a group of committed volunteers: Harold Jackson helped us to understand the sources of revenue available to the church; David Manness provided guidance from the Trustees; Debbie Schram shared her experience with raising capital funds; Katherine Wonfor educated us on the role of generating information for planning purposes, and Kate Crawford provided wisdom and advice as it applies to the administrative end of stewardship.

We are indebted to the patience of the Property Committee as they answered our many questions about the plan and process for addressing capital needs, and to Communications & Marketing as they shared their vision for promoting FSA.

At our August meeting we agreed that while a sustainable plan was still in the future, we had a much better idea of how it might be achieved. Above you will find an excellent report from the Finance Committee detailing our stewardship revenues.

We continue in a positive operating position and funds raised from the Capital Campaign are already at work. In our annual appeal, **Sustaining the Heartbeat**, to be launched at our Thanksgiving service on October 9<sup>th</sup>, you will note that we have returned to the traditional form of funding programme that respectfully requests your support for both operating and capital. In the following six weeks, ending November 13<sup>th</sup>, we will provide many reminders as to the value added to your life through your membership in this great congregation!

Please, take some time now to consider what FSA means to you and to your family and think on the role that you wish to play in **Sustaining the Heartbeat** of this historic church.

JSA



## MEMBERSHIP AND NURTURE

Donna Travis

This committee of Council usually meets three times per year. Over this past year we have met more frequently as we have been reviewing the roles of the caring callers and the congregational visiting team. Kate has been encouraging us to look at the issue of church membership, and Jo

Ann Silcox kindly offered to review and summarize a book written on this topic. The committee now needs to develop an action plan. The committee's most notable presence on a weekly basis is arranging for Coffee and Conversation. As mentioned in a previous report for *Tidings* the cost of this activity was not placed in this year's budget, hoping we would get enough free-will offering at the coffee table to purchase supplies. We will continue with this practice until it is reassessed for the upcoming budget year. JSA



## UCW UPDATE

Margaret Wonfor

A picnic in Proudfoot Hall? No, this is not a misprint. Thanks to the creative ingenuity of Shirley Wynne, who provided the picnic menu, and the good humoured members who dressed in attire suitable for an outdoor setting, the June 1<sup>st</sup> UCW general meeting provided a time of fun, fellowship and food around the table, in addition to the necessary components for a general meeting.

Our guests were a representative group from Teen Challenge for Women based in King City. Teen Challenge is a residential programme for women whose lives have taken a downward spiral by the abuse of alcohol and drugs. Its purpose is to help them overcome their addictions and become productive members of society. Testimonies to the depths to which their lives had fallen, to the assistance the prescribed programme has given them, and to the hope for a fruitful life on their return to society were given. Jewellery making is part of their therapy and they offered samples of their work for sale.

A life membership to the UCW was presented to Dorothy Harrison as she leaves London to reside in Mississauga.

Business consisted of approving funding toward the purchase of a new commercial stove for the main kitchen. The old stove has given yeoman service for more years than most church members can remember. As the writer of Ecclesiastes reminds us "... there is a time for everything ..."—even the replacement of stoves. As well the UCW voted to contribute funds towards the replacement of deteriorated timbers in the chapel area at Camp Kee-Mo-Kee.

Looking ahead, in 2012 the UCW will be celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, marked by a church service on Sunday, January 29<sup>th</sup> at 10:30am. More details will be forthcoming in the next issue of *Tidings*.

We wish to thank the many men, women and youth who have helped to make UCW projects successful during the past year. We trust you had a relaxing and refreshing summer, and look forward to your continued support in the fall. JSA

## FIRST-ST. ANDREW'S MINISTRY

### Minister of Worship and Administration

*The Rev. Dr. Kate Crawford*

### Supply Minister

*The Rev. Tom Hiscock*

### Director of Music

*Paul Merritt*

### Church Administrator

*Sue Scorgie*

### Administrative Assistant/Receptionist

*Maureen Scarborough*

### Custodians

*Geoff Bottomley*

*Valerie DeJong Richard*

## A NOTE ABOUT THE PROGRAMME GUIDE

Following its introduction last year, we are again producing the *Programme Guide* separate from the fall issue of *Tidings* itself. If you are new to the church, or just want a reminder, this is a very useful guide to the many and varied committees working within FSA. If something sparks your interest, you will see the time commitment involved, how often meetings are held, and when, as well as the name of the contact person. There is something here for everyone. Take a look.

*Jim Deacon*  
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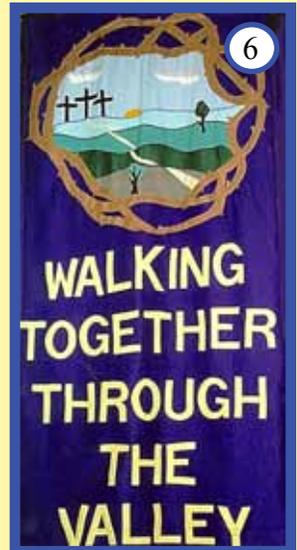




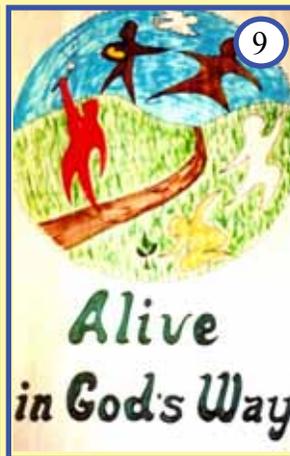
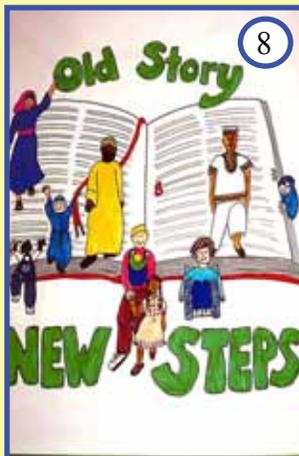
Calling all

# DETECTIVES

We have banners 1-6 but we need information about their history, such as who designed and created them and when. Any other relevant information would be appreciated. ([See also the article on page 11.](#))



Banners 7-11 are missing. Please let us know if you can help to locate them or if you know what happened to them.



Contact Nancy Hutchinson, 519-471-4267

the MET

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