

Tidings

First-St. Andrew's United Church

VOLUME 2 · NUMBER 1



LENT, HOLY WEEK and EASTER - 1992

Shining Your Light

By Bob Slater

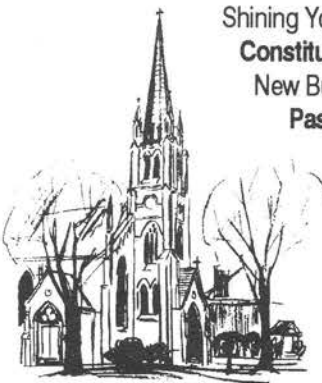
The brightly-coloured sheet in the centre of this issue of Tidings has a story to tell. Many people who were able to take part in the visioning process recommended the use of more coordination of effort in every way possible. At last year's Annual General Meeting, a motion passed to coordinate the need for volunteers with the time and talents of FSA people.

This direction is complementary to the fall financial campaign which asked us to commit some of our money to the Church.

This brightly-coloured sheet is inviting us now to commit our time and talent to the Church by choosing some of the tasks listed. In this way, we all have the opportunity to be the Church in action.

Aggie Ramsden and I are assembling a team to help realize this vision. A team member may be calling you about that brightly-coloured sheet hoping you will remember its story and will agree to share your time and talent.

Look for the Time and Talent Table at Coffee and Conversation during the month of March.



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Church considers the Council system of government for 1993

By John J. Eberhard, Chair, Official Board

Existing Structure

Since 1925 First-St. Andrew's United Church has functioned under the "Official Board" system: an Official Board is recognized as the court of the pastoral charge. Its duties and accountability to the congregation are those established in the United Church *Manual*.

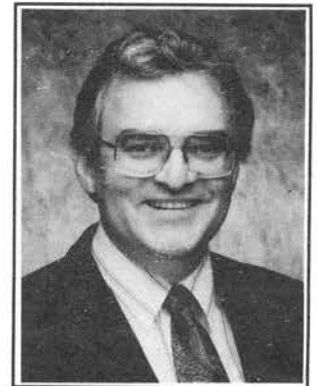


PHOTO: JEFF CARROLL

Visioning Process

During 1990-1991, the congregation evaluated our spiritual and temporal objectives. The Visioning Committee made these positive recommendations: a) a new mission and strategy; b) the congregation have ultimate authority over all committees; c) an improved process of choosing leaders; d) more efficient and effective reporting and communication.

At our 1991 annual general meeting, the congregation passed a motion calling for review of our structure.

The Recommendation

To implement this motion for structural review, a Restructuring Committee composed of members of the Official Board Executive and members at large spent the last year studying our present committee system and alternatives. **We now recommend that First-St. Andrew's adopt a Church Council style of self-government.**

This recommendation and principle will be subject to an evaluation process culminating at the annual meeting in January, 1993. During this year of education, the Official Board Executive should ensure: participation and review by the entire congregation and each of its committees, and that an implementation and transition strategy be developed.

.... cont'd page 5)

In the Office

By David de Weerd

Mrs. Susan Brown is our new Business Manager. Susan came to London 2 years ago and joined us in September of last year: "I applied to work at First-St. Andrew's because I like to work with people in a Christian setting." Born in P.E.I., Susan has lived in many parts of Canada including Nova Scotia, Quebec, Ontario and Manitoba. She brings a depth of management experience to her new role with us.

Overseeing the day to day business operations of the church, Susan has many responsibilities. When officially authorized, she pays the bills. She supervises Pat Sole, secretary, keeps the church census, collects fees for parking and for rental of the sanctuary for marriages. She fills out many a government form, and prepares tax receipts for members' givings. When asked how we can help her efforts to improve efficiency, Susan suggested we keep her informed when we change addresses and provide separate cheques for each fund we give to in the offering plate. Susan and her husband George have two girls, aged 9 and 12.



PHOTO: JEFF CARROLL

Pastoral Role

By David de Weerd

Many of us know Joan Bancroft, who will serve as our Minister of Pastoral Care until June 30 this year. Born and raised in Winnipeg, Joan and her husband Michael have two children, David, 21, and Catherine, 19. Mrs. Bancroft has been a member at First-St. Andrew's since 1971, when she and her family returned to Canada from a few years' stay in Cambridge, England. As so many others, Joan was drawn to FSA by its excellent music, and stayed.

As Minister of Pastoral Care, Joan is the primary leader and advisor of all our visitors of the ill and housebound. Her responsibility includes work with the membership committee and new members, and the organization of baptisms. She does much visitation herself, a role in which she is experienced and comfortable. "God speaks with us most profoundly through other

people. Not a day goes by in pastoral ministry when, even in casual contacts, the uniqueness, courage and sensitivity in others does not touch me," she said.

In 1986 Mrs. Bancroft was searching for a change. She began studies with the Canadian Association for Pastoral Education (CAPE), taking 400 hours of clinical and group counselling courses, an opportunity normally reserved for clergy.



PHOTO: JEFF CARROLL

With her BA and her teaching certificate, Joan was accepted into part-time study in the Master of Divinity program. In 1987, Dundas Centre United contracted her to serve in its pastoral ministry. In the years since, Joan has also been the United Church Hospital Visitor at St. Joseph's and University Hospitals.

Joan works Monday, Tuesday and Thursday each week. If you or a member you know need a visit, call Joan at the church (679-8182) or at home (472-4661).

Session Supports Decade

In a motion at the December Session meeting, elders endorsed the aims of the Ecumenical Decade of Churches in Solidarity with Women ("the Decade").

FSA members Don and Bernice Santor and Allana Shore introduced the issues of the Decade to the Session in a skit dramatizing the issues many women have with the church and patriarchal society. The short drama served to stir the elders' subsequent small group discussions on how they feel about women's roles in the church and society.

Tidings

Mary Taylor - **Chairperson**

Janis Hillman - **Editor**

Bob Slater - **Distribution Coordinator**

Jeff Carroll - **Photographer**

Leah Morise - **Layout Artist**

Bob Lindsay - **Printing Consultant**

David deWeerd - **Stewardship Representative**

Staff - Ernie Lee, Joyce Meadows, Jo Ann Silcox, Deborah Roberts

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Submissions are accepted only from members of First-St. Andrew's. Contact the Chairperson of your committee, or Mary Taylor. The views expressed in this publication are those of the authors, not necessarily of First-St. Andrew's United Church.

Did You Know?

By Mary Vandenburg-Taylor

Several years ago, I found myself in search of a new church. The little country church I had attended since childhood no longer proved practical. I was drawn to our "grand lady," her beauty and by the warmth and friendship inside. Seven years have passed and I am constantly amazed by the stories and changes connected with First-St. Andrew's. I would like to share with you a condensed version of some of my discoveries.

Did you know....

- ❖ the first cornerstone was laid by the Rev. John Scott, May 25, 1868
- ❖ this same cornerstone contains a "time capsule" -- a tin-encased bottle filled with coins, newspaper clippings and a history of the church.
- ❖ the actual cost of the church was \$25,000.00
- ❖ the Sunday School Building was erected in 1905
- ❖ the Rev. Willam Proudfoot was the first official minister, preaching his first sermon November 11, 1832.
- ❖ Proudfoot rests in Oakland cemetery on Oxford Street West.
- ❖ 1938 heralded the joining of St. Andrew's and First United churches.

My curiosity grew as I questioned the history of FSA. Here are some of the cosmetic changes she has undergone:

- ❖ the original chancel consisted of rough-hewn boards, no windows, and organ pipes arranged in an arch
- ❖ the choir covered the entire chancel area from the left door to the right door.
- ❖ to the left of the chancel (where the stairs now exist) stood a small vestry (office), its purpose unknown, and another larger vestry to the right.
- ❖ the gallery was strictly used for seating however the balcony stretched in a horseshoe formation to the front of the sanctuary. It seated approximately 900 people.
- ❖ renovation took place when the two congregations amalgamated in 1938.
- ❖ the horseshoe balcony was renovated, reducing the church's seating capacity to an estimated 1100 (presently 600-700).
- ❖ the gallery contained pews stretching from the back wall in a tiered assemblage; these original pews still remain.
- ❖ the organ and choir remained in the chancel but the pipes were hidden behind curtains where the artificial windows exist.

- ❖ our present organ was built in 1969 by Casavant Frères of Quebec.
- ❖ the gallery had to be reinforced to hold the twenty-one ton organ.
- ❖ in 1938, the beautiful stained glass window in the chancel was donated by Edward Reid, a former president of London Life, and his brother Thomas in memory of their parents.
- ❖ 1955 A.C. Silverwood, donated several of the other windows which grace our sanctuary.
- ❖ the late seventies brought the realization a new ceiling was desperately needed after a large chunk of plaster fell to the floor.

This leads me into a present mystery. The original ceiling of the sanctuary was beautifully painted with spiritual symbols. The painter came from New York.

Prior to the present ceiling being installed, one of our members, Ernie Lee, photographed these symbols. The photographs have since mysteriously disappeared. The newsletter committee welcomes any information concerning these photographs. Once obtained, the pictures will be gladly shared with all of you.

November 15, 1992 marks the 160th anniversary of FSA. Our beloved former minister, the Very Reverend Angus MacQueen, will help us celebrate.

Many people have come and gone and the political, spiritual and economic challenges have helped to mould us into congregation we are today. Perhaps the words of the Rev Robert Johnston, pastor from 1895 - 1903, best sum it all up: "What changes the years bring."

Gifts Of Enlightenment

By Bob Slater

The Church parking lot is now flooded with light at night. Barb Bain, chairperson of the Memorials Committee, is pleased to tell you that Bill Johnston and his family have given this gift of light to the First-St. Andrew's family in memory of Maureen Johnston. Maureen was a popular member of the congregation who gave us much of her time and talent.

Also, the committee has placed on the lectern a large New Revised Standard Version of the Bible. Irene Snider has inscribed it in loving remembrance of the faithful service of William and Eleanor Cossey.

Marjorie Smith Reaches Out

By Deborah Roberts

Marjorie Smith usually has a car load of clothes, a box of baby food or a trunk of chairs and curtains. She's usually on her way to the Food Bank or St. Paul's Daily Bread or delivering items to those in need. She is First-St. Andrew's representative on the Daily Bread board and takes food from our church every Monday. As a member of the Social Action committee, Marjorie gets involved in every project.

What motivates someone like Marjorie to devote so much of herself to the care of others?

"It is a strong desire that comes from within. From the time I was four I wanted to be a nurse. I wanted to help people. I was awarded a scholarship to study music, but nothing could sway me from my desire to be a nurse. I also was interested in doing missionary work in China, but the war prevented that dream from happening."

As a child, Marjorie accompanied her father, a minister in Old Barnes Nova Scotia, on visits to the sick and elderly.

"In the winter, we would take the sleigh and put hot bricks under our feet to keep us warm."

Her parents set an example of giving. "My father and mother had a deep faith, believing that God was always there, and no matter what happened the difficult times would be resolved through faith.

"When I was ten, I remember one Christmas when my parents sat at the kitchen table, so dejected because they had no money. I said to them 'I don't know why you are worried, where is your faith?, we are going to have Christmas, something will happen.' That day a very dear man who was the treasurer of our church arrived with a cheque.

"When I remember that story I think 'the faith of a child shall lead them'.

"When I think back on my father's small salary it is amazing that I didn't feel poor. Even during the depression we always had enough food to feed ourselves and the hungry who came to our home. Our door was always open. Our community was rich in spirit."

Outreach can no longer be done with an open front door, but the giving spirit is still alive.

"It is too bad we need the food banks today. Our society has changed in such a way that we can no longer open our door to the stranger who knocks, so we give in other ways, like the food banks.

"During my time there, [the food banks], I came in contact with many of our new immigrants, most of whom

were from Vietnam and Central America. During our conversations I discovered that they had arrived without personal belongings and needed the bare necessities of life. Through requests made within our church we were able to provide beds, furniture, clothing etc. and helped them to establish their homes.

"Through our Social Action committee this work has continued and grown. Our immigrants need more than furniture, they need our friendship in helping them to adjust to a new way of life and learning. Human connection is so important."

Marjorie believes First-St. Andrew's can help make the connection. "Through our visions the church is changing. We are reaching out and we are responsible as a congregation to put our thoughts into action.

"Together we can and are making a difference."

Out Of Retirement

By Bob Slater

During the search for a new minister, each one of the retired ministers who worships at First-St. Andrew's, will assist the Rev. Frank Meadows. They will take turns leaving the pews to help conduct the worship service. Our thanks go to the Revs. Phyllis Barnes, Ruth Johnson-Kemp, Ralph King, Fred Lloyd, Augie Meacham, Reid Vipond and Herb Wonfor.

The Pastoral Relations (Search) Committee is hard at work with Roger Gustafson, chairperson and Aggie Ramsden, secretary. Please share your ideas with them or any of the fifteen members.

Clowns were singing at the February Youth Retreat

By Bev Lindsay

The teen retreat was held this past weekend, February 14 to 16, with about twenty-five teens taking part at Pearce Williams Christian Centre near Dutton.

Most of the time was spent rehearsing for the *Clowns* musical to be presented May 2nd and 3rd. Thanks to those teens who took part, and to the leaders who gave the teens a marvellous weekend: Catherine Bancroft, Helen Mahabir, Maggie Montgomery, Glenda Pennington, George Jolink, Ted Kostecki and Emily Woods.

If you would like to join the Youth Group, come out and see who's there! If you would like to be a leader, there is room for you too. Tuesday, March 3rd, 5:30 (pm!) in the Lower Hall, all the teens are serving a Pancake Supper. *Everyone* is welcome, and that means you!

PROGRAM GUIDE

For the Seasons of Lent, Holy Week, Easter

Dear Friends,

We on the staff of First-St. Andrew's are excited about the programs and activities that we have planned for the next three months. On the following pages we have listed Worship Services, Christian Development activities for all ages, special musical events, and many outreach projects in which you can participate. Please take some time to read these pages carefully so that you can make plans for your involvement in the life and work of our congregation.

On March 4th, we begin the season of Lent. This day is known as Ash Wednesday in the Church and we will follow the ancient custom of having an evening service in the chancel with the imposition of ashes and the sacrament of Holy Communion. Lent is a season of 40 days duration. The 40 days remind us of the time Jesus spent in the wilderness, overcoming temptation and preparing for the work that would be his as God's son on earth. For Christians, it is a season of sober reflection on our own lives and for deepening our commitment to God's will for us.

Palm Sunday, April 12th, is the beginning of Holy Week. In Holy Week, we remember the events of the first week of Jesus' life, from His triumphal entry into Jerusalem to His death on the Cross. At First-St. Andrew's, Holy Week is marked by a number of special services and events reminding us that though we fall short of what God requires of us, we are nonetheless forgiven and empowered by God for better things.

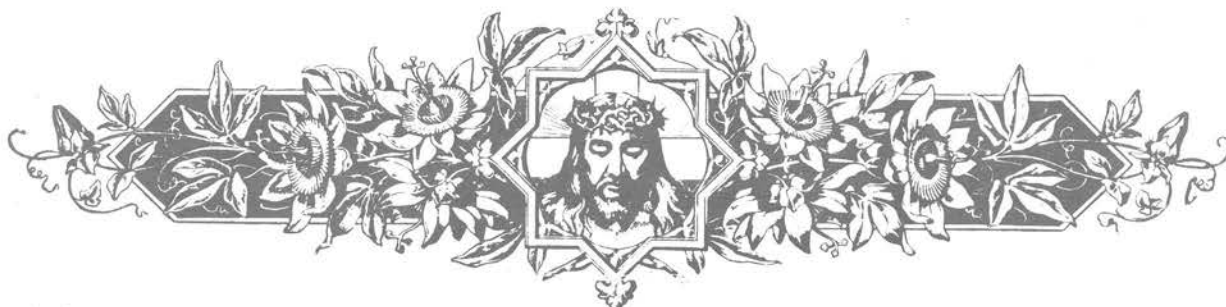
Easter Sunday is on April 19th this year. On this very special day, we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. The season of Easter continues the mood of celebration for the next 50 days, culminating in the great Festival of Pentecost on June 7th. On this day, God gave the gift of the Holy Spirit to the Church. This year at First-St. Andrew's we will have a service of Confirmation and Holy Communion on the Day of Pentecost.

It is our hope that all of these services and activities will help you to rejoice in your Christian faith, to be renewed in your Christian understanding, and to reach out to others in Christian love.

Yours in Christ

*Frank
Joan*

*Paul
Emily*





REJOICE!

"Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here. He has risen."

Luke 24:5.

OUR WORSHIP SERVICES

LENT



HOLY WEEK

EASTER



- March 1 Guest Preacher - Dr. Douglas Ross, Executive Secretary London Conference
- March 4 Ash Wednesday Service - Holy Communion 7:30 p.m. in the Chancel of the main Sanctuary
- March 8 First Sunday in Lent, Sacrament of Baptism. The Rev. Frank Meadows preaches.
- March 15 Second Sunday in Lent. The Rev. Frank Meadows preaches.
- March 22 Third Sunday in Lent. The Rev. Frank Meadows preaches.
- March 29 Fourth Sunday in Lent. The Rev. Frank Meadows preaches.
- April 5 Fifth Sunday in Lent. The Rev. Frank Meadows preaches.
The Reception of New Members by Certificate of Transfer and Re-Affirmation of Faith.
- April 12 Palm Sunday - Intergenerational service of worship with the Celebration of the Sacrament of Holy Communion.
Guest Preacher - The Rev. Beth Chapman
- April 16 Maundy Thursday. At 7:00 p.m. in the Chapel and the Lower Hall, a Tenebrae Service, the extinguishing of light and gathering of shadow. Sacrament of Holy Communion.
- April 17 Good Friday. Worship jointly with Metropolitan United Church at 11:00 a.m. in Metropolitan Sanctuary.
- April 19 Easter Sunday - Worship in Celebration of the Resurrection. The Rev. Frank Meadows preaches.
- April 26 Easter II - The Gone Fishing Musical, *The Troubbable of Zerubbabel*
- May 3 Easter III - Recognition of the Vocation to Ministry and Dedication of the Herb Farrow Fund for Candidates for Ministry
ANN CORBET will preach.
- May 10 Christian Family Sunday/Mother's Day. The Sacrament of Baptism. The Rev. Frank Meadows will preach.
- May 17 Easter V
- May 24 Easter VI - London Conference Meeting.
Dr. John McKim will preach.
- May 31 Easter VII - Earth Stewardship Sunday. The Rev. Frank Meadows will preach.
- June 7 The Day of Pentecost - The Reception of New Members by Profession of Faith and Confirmation. The Sacrament of Holy Communion.

Come and worship at First-St. Andrew's during the solemn days of Lent and Holy Week and the days of Easter joy. Our regular worship times are 9:15 a.m. in the Chapel and 11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary. Also, on the first Sunday of every month, we celebrate early Communion at 8:30 a.m. in the Chapel. All are welcome.

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 the many opportunities to Rejoice with us at First-St. Andrew's in 1992.



THE SENIOR CHOIR

After a wonderful Christmas Season, the Senior Choir is hard at work again preparing music for worship services and for our concert on Saturday, April 11 under the English conductor, Stephen Cleobury. Mr. Cleobury, the director of the world famous King's College choir of Cambridge, will lead the choir through a varied program of works by Mozart, Purcell and Handel.

THE TEEN CHOIR

At present, the Teen Choir is occupied in learning the musical *Clowns* which will be performed on the weekend of May 2nd and 3rd. We are very pleased that Glenda Pennington has agreed to direct the staging of *Clowns* with the help of George Jolink. There is still time for Teens to become involved in this exciting production.



THE GONE FISHING CHOIR

As always at this time of year, the Gone Fishing Choir is working diligently, preparing a musical for presentation at term's end. This year's musical is entitled *The Troubbable Of Zerubbabel* and if you want to find out what that means you'll have to join us on Sunday, April 26 at the 11:00 a.m. service!

THE HANDBELL CHOIRS

All of our handbell choirs are actively rehearsing music for worship services and various Festivals and concerts in which they will be participating. The Teen Ringers will join with the St. Mary's Children's Choir in a Spring Concert at Siloam United Church on Sunday, April 12 at 3:00 p.m. The Ladies Handbell Choir and the Mixed Pealers will take part in a Handbell Festival in St. Mary's on April 24 and 25.

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

Our First-St. Andrew's String Orchestra has resumed its activities and we look forward to hearing from the group in the near future. Please contact Bruce Richardson, 473-1023 for more information.

SPECIAL EVENT

Please mark Sunday, June 14 on your calendars because on that day the St. Mary's Children's Choir will sing for us at the 11:00 a.m. service. The choir is embarking on a Scandinavian trip shortly after their visit here.



RENEW!

"Yet even now, says the Lord, return to me with all your heart, for God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love."

Joel 2:12-13

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

CRADLE ROLL

Each family in the congregation with a child from birth to age three should receive our "Growing in God's Love" mail with several messages during the three years. If you are not receiving these mailings, please call Jan Jones 472-0713 or Emily Woods at the Church 679-8182. We would be delighted to update our list!



CHURCH SCHOOL

For all the children of the church, from the Infant Nursery to Grade 6.

The focus of the Church School program is the Whole People of God curriculum, based on the weekly lectionary so that parents and children are learning from the same Biblical texts each week. A Parent's Pak (for family discussion and activities) is sent or given to families at the beginning of each new Unit.



Unit V: *Journeying Together to Easter: March 8 - April 12.* We join Christians around the world on a journey towards Easter, accompanying Jesus into the desert, through his ministry and into Jerusalem to his death and resurrection. The logo shows the great company of believers following Jesus through Lent to the cross of Good Friday and the sunrise of Easter Day.



Unit VI: *A Season for Celebration: April 19 - June 7.* The logo for this season reminds us that Easter is not just a single day but a whole season in which to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus. The butterfly symbolizes new life in a changed form. The sun gives warmth and strength to the butterfly just as the fire and winds of Pentecost filled the disciples with the Holy Spirit. As an Easter people, we celebrate the new life which God gives us in Jesus.



Junior Congregation, an open session instead of classes, will be held on Easter Sunday April 19, May 24 and Pentecost Sunday June 7.

A WARM AND COMMITTED STAFF WELCOMES ALL CHILDREN!

Coordinator: Karen Procnier

Resource Coordinator: Nancy Hutchinson

GONE FISHING

A unique program of Christian Development and music for children Grades 1-6. The WINTER/SPRING TERM currently underway will conclude April 29, 1992. Meeting on Wednesdays 4-7 p.m., the children are welcomed with a snack and game time. Following the choir and programs, everyone gathers for supper, then closing worship in the chapel.



The Christian Development program is based on special themes and the Seasons of the Church year. The United Church Mission Study for this year "Being All God

The Christian Development program is based on special themes and the Seasons of the Church year. The United Church Mission Study for this year "Being All God Wants Us To Be" is helping children to be aware of traditional and changing roles for girls and boys, hoping for freedom to make choices that are right for them and good for the world as well. The theme, "Children of the Bible", will include the story of Zerubbabel upon which this spring's musical is based. During Lent and Easter, the symbols and significance will be explored, including the imposition of ashes on Ash Wednesday.

The Music program offers choir, currently rehearsing for *The Trubbable Zerubbabel* to be shared in worship with the congregation on Sunday, April 26. In small groups, the Handbells, Handchimes and Primary Music are studied.

Special Events this term include a Monks' Meal, Games Night with Fran Eberhard, Pinatas given by Corinne and Ralph King and a Talent Night. A high-spirited crew welcomes ALL children on board! Fee for supper. Coordinators: Paul Merritt, Emily Woods

YOUTH MINISTRY

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; Sunday Morning Youth Group, Choir, CGIT, Confirmation Class, Handbells and Socials.

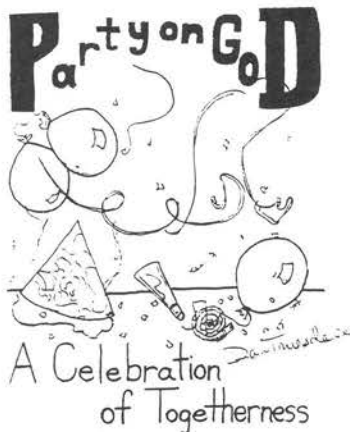


SUNDAY MORNING YOUTH GROUP AND CHOIR

From now until early May, most Sundays from 9 a.m. will focus on preparation for the BIG MUSICAL, *CLOWNS* to be presented in early May. Refreshments for \$1.00 will be served each week. There is still time to sign up and be a part of transforming the Lower Hall into the BIG TOP!

SOCIALS

Our goal aims to have a Social once each month. February is the Winter Retreat at Pearce Williams, February 14-16. In April we will attend West Side Story to cheer and support our Teens who are in this famous production at Oakridge High School.



YOUTH FORUM

Youth of our congregation ages 16-21 (16 by Jan.1/92) are invited to apply to be one of nine Middlesex Presbytery delegates to the London Conference Annual Meeting May 21-24, 1992, Alma College, St. Thomas. The theme "Party on God" will encourage fun, fellowship, growth and new awareness of the Church. There will be discussions, singing, recreation and time with the whole Conference. Application deadline March 20, 1992. Application forms are available from Emily and the Church office.

ADULT DEVELOPMENT

SUNDAY MORNING AT THE CHURCH

THE VISION of our congregation meeting in small groups before Church on Sunday mornings has become reality! We are delighted to welcome everyone for refreshments, then discussion on the weekly lectionary scripture readings in preparation for the worship service at 11:00 a.m.



Through friendship, support and learning, we can help each other to celebrate the joys, absorb the sorrows and meet the challenges of daily living. We want you to join in every Sunday that is possible for you! The Bible provides **LIFELONG** learning for us.

While the Youth Group and Choir are preparing for the *CLOWNS* musical, some changes have been made in meeting places. As well, the "short" group which finishes by 10:20 a.m. for those in choir, reception, nursery or teaching, etc. would like to begin at 9:30 a.m. so refreshments are now ready by 9:15.

9:15 a.m. Refreshments in the Youth Room \$1.00

9:30 a.m. The "Short" group in the Youth Room, finishing at 10:20 a.m.

9:45 a.m. The "Parlour" group in the Parlour, finishing at 10:45 a.m.

We invite you to suggest more creative names for these groups! Give your ideas to leaders Jo Ann Silcox or Barry Moore or to Emily Woods.

Some "Special Interest" topics will be available some Sundays, as arranged through groups or committees in the congregation

Thursday Morning Bible Study

9:15 A.M. - 11:30 a.m. Winter/Spring sessions continue into May, 1992.

A participatory Bible Study for women and men, based on The Whole People of God curriculum. The study of the lectionary passages for each week helps one to prepare for the Sunday Worship. It is a wonderful way to learn from the Bible, a few verses at a time - and it's a fun and supportive group.



Gethsemane Vigil

"Keep awake with me", asks our Lord.

Maundy Thursday, April 16, 8:00 p.m. to Good Friday, April 16, 11:00 a.m. Chapel.

On this night, the prayers and agony of Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane are remembered. In the same time that reflects the period between the Last Supper and the Crucifixion, individuals, pairs or groups are invited to keep vigil for an hour at a time in the chapel. Please sign up on the poster in front of the chapel. An overnight attendant will open the parking lot door and provide security. Resources for prayer and reading will be available for your meditation and prayer during the vigil. For more information, contact Jo Ann Silcox or Emily Woods.





Women's Ministry

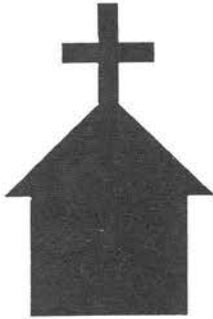
The U.C.W. Units continue to meet monthly as follows: First Thursday evening, second Wednesday morning, third Tuesday evening. We meet for study, witness, fellowship and service. All women of the congregation are invited! Contact the UCW President, Lorene Young for more details. The Spring Rummage Sale will be held Saturday, April 25, 1992. Your help and contributions are encouraged!

Twenty Something Spiritual Growth Group

This group meets twice monthly on the second and fourth Tuesday evenings for support and to make connections between one's inner and outer life. Contact: Maggie Montgomery 472-0713 or the church office.

The Men's Breakfast Club

This group meets the third Sunday morning at 8:30 a.m. in the Youth Room for fellowship and an interesting program. For further information please contact Ernie Lee (471-2248), Elmer Butt (473-1084) or Jack Wallace (657-5582).



The Men's Study Group

Meetings take place every Thursday evening at 7:30 p.m. in the Upper Room. The group provides an opportunity for men to share their concerns and to find support from one another. For further information please contact Richard Treleaven (673-5699) or Tom Freeman (657-5597).

Ecumenical Decade—Churches in Solidarity with Women 1988-98

Several programs have been held in our congregation and others are planned to learn about the issues of this Decade study. The United Church has provided excellent materials for children and youth which the Gone Fishing and CGIT groups are using. Adult groups including the UCW are taking advantage of the Special Mandate, audio-visuals and other resources listed in our Library. We encourage you to learn more about the issues.
Coordinator: Allana Shore

Adult Confirmation Classes

Open to all adults who want to explore the essentials of faith, and what it means to be a member of the church. Some come for a refresher, others to prepare for Confirmation or Re-Affirmation of faith. The course, called Basic Christian Beliefs, will be held on Wednesdays, May 6th through June 3rd at 7:30 p.m. in the church parlour. Facilitator: Frank Meadows. For more information please contact the minister or call the church office.

Marriage Preparation

Preparation for marriage is important because marriage is important – to the persons involved, to society in general, and to God. There will be a marriage preparation seminar at First-St. Andrew's on April 3rd and 4th, beginning Friday evening at 7:30 p.m. in the Youth Room. The Saturday session will begin at 9:30 a.m. and conclude at 4:00 p.m.. Lunch will be served to the participants. Leadership will be given by Frank Meadows and the Rev. Jim Izawa, United Church Chaplain at U.W.O. and Westminster College. Other resource people include Dr. Margaret Merryfield and Dr. Jack Russell, both from U.W.O.. For more information, or to receive a brochure, please call the church office.

Being in Community Reflections on Seeking Justice

This Lenten resource, prepared by the Division of Mission in Canada, offers daily readings, meditations and prayers for Lent. Edited by Betty Marlin, Being in Community looks at issues of justice in our own communities. The readings help to give us the strength to challenge unjust systems and assumptions. Available in the Church office. Cost including GST: \$7.50.

Groups for Friendship and Learning

Twenty Something

Ages 18 to 30. All are welcome! This fun-loving, food-loving group meets the 3rd Monday of most months, a great way to get to know others in the Church. Contact: Leah Morise 438-8109.

- February 17 Ice skating at Victoria Park 7:00 p.m. followed by a "fondue" at the church.
- March 16 Movie night 7:00 p.m. at the home of Leah & Lionel Morise
- April 12 Serving dinner at Ark Aid Mission 697 Dundas Street, 2:30 p.m. (be there earlier)
- May 11 Bar-B-Q 7:00 p.m.
- June 15 Miniature Golf at North London Golf Centre, 7:00 p.m. with trip to Merla Mae Ice Cream to follow.



Thirty Something

A group for the thirty-something folk is up and running! We are a friendly bunch, rather loosely organized, so that our time and energies are well put to fun and renewal! Newcomers are always welcome. To date we have enjoyed a play, skating at Victoria Park, an educational presentation and several good dinners together. If you're looking for fun and fellowship consider this your invitation to join us on the first Friday of each month. Mark your calendar for March 6, games night. Call Brenda Gummeson 641-2619.

Kumjoinus

Five times a year, old and new friends and potential members gather in a social setting for fun, entertainment and companionship.

NEXT EVENT MAY 9 - Wine and Cheese at the home of Jeannette and Stuart Eberhard, 1120 the Parkway, 8 p.m. Coordinators: Jan and Jim Hendry 471-8492

Bifocals

This popular "arranged pot-luck" dinner group meets on the fourth Tuesday of the month for a tempting array of delicious food, singsong with Paul Merritt and a program.

- March 24 Speaker: Heather Vosper. Topic: Cholesterol and Pharmacy
- April 28 Speaker: Anne Reinhart. Topic: What You Need to Know About Wills, Power of Attorney and Estate Planning
- May 26 Entertainment: The Thesbians
- Coordinators: Barb and Glen Bain (679-0002)





Reach Out!

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." Acts 1:8

SOCIAL ACTION

The Social Action Committee wants to remind the congregation that the second Sunday of every month is our collection of baby food. We invite you to bring in jars of baby food or formula to support the Daily Bread project at St. Paul's Cathedral. The fourth Sunday of each month is our regular food drive to fill our emergency food cupboard. We are always in need of non-perishable foods such as cereals, peanut butter and canned goods. Our new boxes will be set up in the Narthex and under the mural in the Lower Hall. There is also a basket outside the Chapel. Your help is always appreciated. The Ark Aid Soup Kitchen is also an outreach ministry of our congregation.

Twenty Something will prepare and serve a meal April 12. Our committee is also serving the meal on July 12. Please contact Kerry Stover (471-2890) if you can assist in any way. We would welcome having new members on our committee. If you are interested in the committee, call Linda Badke (432-5420)

PERSONAL COUNSELLING AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICE

Our volunteer counselling service is available on Tuesday evenings, 6:00 - 10:00 p.m. at First-St. Andrew's. Three members of our congregation continue to offer their professional services, without cost, to the congregation and the community.

Kerry Hill offers direction regarding career choices, personal goal-setting, and time management. Ardath Finnbogason-Hill and Dr. Jo Ann Silcox provide personal counselling, using a team approach, directed towards emotional health and relationship issues for individuals, couples or families of all age groups.

To arrange an appointment, please call Ardath at 657-3116 or 657-3000.

DIAL-A-PRAYER

First-St. Andrew's has a special telephone line called Dial-A-Prayer. Each day one of our member's voices can be heard offering a prayer or a short meditation. Many of our folk begin their day by calling Dial-A-Prayer. For a brief interlude of prayer in a busy day, please call 439-6838. If you could tape some daily prayers for us, please call Debbie Roberts at 245-1724.



PASTORAL TEAM

During Rev. Piercey MacLean's period of ministry with us, he established a pastoral team. The team consisted of volunteers who visited a few of our members who were shut in or needed special support at a difficult time in their lives. Joan Bancroft is now revitalizing this valuable method of pastoral support. Each volunteer will be encouraged to visit approximately four people every month to two months. An orientation session for all volunteers will be held March 15th after church. If you could help this valuable outreach ministry, please call Joan at the Church on Monday, Tuesday or Thursday, or at home at 472-4661. Members of Session can serve on the Pastoral Team as their Committee of Session.

CHRISTIAN DEVELOPMENT SCHOLARSHIP FUND

You are invited to give a money gift to this scholarship fund which assists some of our children and youth to participate in programs such as Gone Fishing, CGIT, Youth Retreat and other events requiring funding. Your help is much appreciated. Gifts of money may be directed to the church office or placed on the offering plate in an envelope marked CD Scholarship Fund. Thank you.

LENTEN FOLDERS

Lenten coin folders will be available for our use during Lent, a time when we reflect on the hurts in this world and in our own lives. It is also a time to work on reconciliation. The Lenten coin folders help us to recognize that our "worship and work must be one". Beginning on Ash Wednesday, a coin is added each day toward a special Mission Easter Offering. Available February 23 and March 1 in the Narthex, at Coffee and Conversation and through the Church School.

The Music At First—St. Andrew's Concert Series

FRIDAY LENTEN NOON RECITALS

12:00 to 12:30 p.m. A luncheon is served following the recital (\$4.00)

- March 27 A Vocal Recital
 Wendy Ewert, Soprano
- April 3 Musical Pastimes
 Joan Hysen, Baroque Violin
 Sandra Mangsen, Harpsichord
- April 10 **Ian Franklin**, Oboe
 Principal, Orchestra London
 Paul Merritt, Organ
 Organist, First-St. Andrew's

A CHORAL CELEBRATION

- April 11 **Stephen Celobury**, *Director of Music and Choirmaster,*
 King's College, Cambridge, England
 conducting:
 The Choir of First-St. Andrew's United Church with
 Orchestra.
 Program to include works of Pergolesi, Mozart, Purcell
 and Handel
 Reception to Follow.
 Admission \$12.00
 Saturday, April 11, 1992 at 8:00 p.m.

CALLING ALL "FRIENDS OF MUSIC"

Will you become a "Friend of Music" at First-St. Andrew's?

This is the fifteenth session 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 Board of Stewards, 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. These Friends allow this Series to continue on a non-profit basis, keeping ticket prices at cost, which enables us to offer everyone the lowest possible price. Our Concert Series presents a wide variety of musical programs including Organ recitals, vocal concerts, choral/orchestral concerts and instrumental recitals as a musical outreach to the community.

Stephen Cleobury, King's College, Cambridge, England: We are extremely proud to present Mr. Cleobury for the first time in Canada conducting a Choir other than his own at King's College. In 1982 Mr. Cleobury moved with his family to Cambridge, where, in addition to his post at King's College, he is also conductor of the University Musical Society. Under his guidance the Chapel Choir continues its many and varied activities. Since 1985, the Choir has toured the United States, Germany, Finland, Spain and Japan. Three CD's are made each year with various soloists and orchestras. Please try to attend our Concert Saturday, April 11, 1992 at 8 p.m.

Looking Ahead... 25th ANNIVERSARY OF OUR CASAVANT PIPE ORGAN The 1993-94 Concert Season will be a musical milestone in our Church as we celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the installation of our fabulous organ. Some events already in the works:

- A Concert with Organ and Orchestra
- A Concert with Organ and Choir
- Commissioning of a Composition by Barrie Cabena for Organ and Choir
- ... more to be announced

Will you become a "Friend of Music" at First-St. Andrew's? Your contributions are fully tax deductible plus we will know that we have your support in this special ministry.

Sincerely,

Paul Merritt
Director of Music

Susan Carscadden-Mifsud
Chairperson, Music Committee

What might we expect to see?

- a) The transition will reflect the results of the visioning process and recommendation of the Restructuring Committee.
- b) Objectives and strategies will be established for each working committee within the church.
- c) Aberrations of the Official Board system which have unwittingly been implemented over the years will be removed.
- d) Definition will be given to the currently ambiguous FSA characteristics, ie: "Shared Ministry," "Temporal Matters," "Trustee Functions" etc..
- e) Two types of committees will be established within the congregation: i) Standing Committees of the Pastoral Charge; ii) Committees of the Congregation.
- f) A Nomination Committee will work in conjunction with Membership, Volunteer Management, the ministers and the Session electoral process to ensure that individuals from the congregation are given the opportunity to serve on committees for which they are uniquely suited and interested.
- g) The individual committees of the church will appoint representatives (Chairperson) to the Church Council. The Church Council will represent the umbrella organization through which all information will pass; act on and process and process reports; and, thus become the 'court' of the pastoral charge.
- h) The Council system will be put in place a system of democratically elected leaders in all aspects of church life.
- i) Committees will be empowered with the confidence and trust of the congregation and a clear job description of the actual responsibilities assumed and the decision-making process expected. Relevant committees with known and understood policies of accountability and responsibility will report to the Church Council on the success of the implementation of their individual missions.
- j) There will be no ambiguity about who is responsible for what function within the congregation - specific terms of reference will be given to each committee.
- k) The Council system will provide checks and balances for the tasks that are left undone or tasks assigned to people who have resigned, died or moved with a clear mechanism in place to fill vacancies.
- l) The Council is ultimately accountable to the congregation for: roles set out in the *Manual*, organization, membership, care and oversight of the spiritual and temporal interests of the congregation, defining the roles of the ministers, defining the roles of

Guidelines for Structural Renewal

Following many meetings of the restructuring committee constituted to carry out the structural review, some general principles came into focus. These include:

☪ Change should come about only after the entire congregation and all committees and those affected by the change had a full and candid opportunity to review, evaluate, and participate in the process of change and the ultimate recommendation;

☪ The unity of congregational purpose found in our mission statement would be recognized in a new unified Board;

☪ The new structure should bridge the spiritual and temporal activities of the church within a single unified congregational council - the symbol of community!

☪ The concept of eldership should be preserved;

☪ All functions required to be undertaken by a United Church Pastoral Charge pursuant to the terms of the *Manual* must be recognized;

☪ Individual 'working' committees should not be tampered with in the functions they perform unless by their initiative;

☪ There would be no deviation from the doctrines of The United Church of Canada.

related groups and activities within the church, and providing a mechanism for recognition.

Committee Structure

- a) The congregation elects a Nominating Committee and Board of Trustees
- b) The Nominating Committee consults widely within the church and recommends the election of specific individuals to specific committees
- c) Related committees are aligned under an Umbrella Committee which elects a Chairperson representing it on the Church Council
- d) Reporting and accountable to the congregation, the Church Council acts as the ultimate authority, incorporating the former authority of bodies such as the Session, Stewardship, Stewards, Memorials, Ministry and Personnel. The net result is one congregation - one Ministry. The work of the Council will bring together the work of the committees within the congregation.

ADDING ACCESSIBILITY

By Janis Hillman

Anyone who has renovated knows how a small idea can grow into a major project. When the dust and clamor settles, the result can cause homeowners to wonder how they coped before and why it wasn't done sooner.

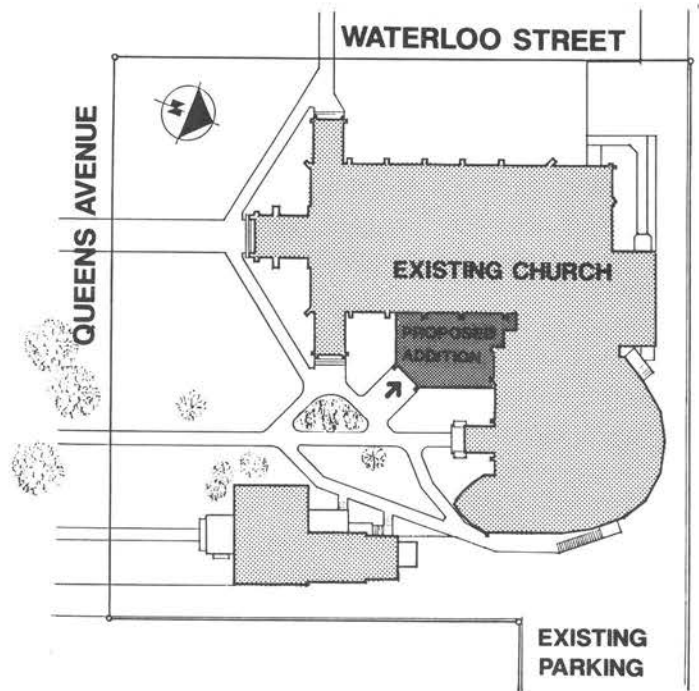
The congregation is in a similar position. After several studies, it was clear that a more accessible entry was needed.

"The idea has been a recurring one at the church over the years," said Russ Gonder. "It came forward to Stewards as a major item to be addressed. As a consequence of that, a plan was put into place to develop a specific and concrete plan."

An ad hoc committee within Stewards approached Russ Scorgie to consult with an elevator supplier. He also reviewed the responses to questionnaires filed for John Eberhard, to get a feel for all the needs.

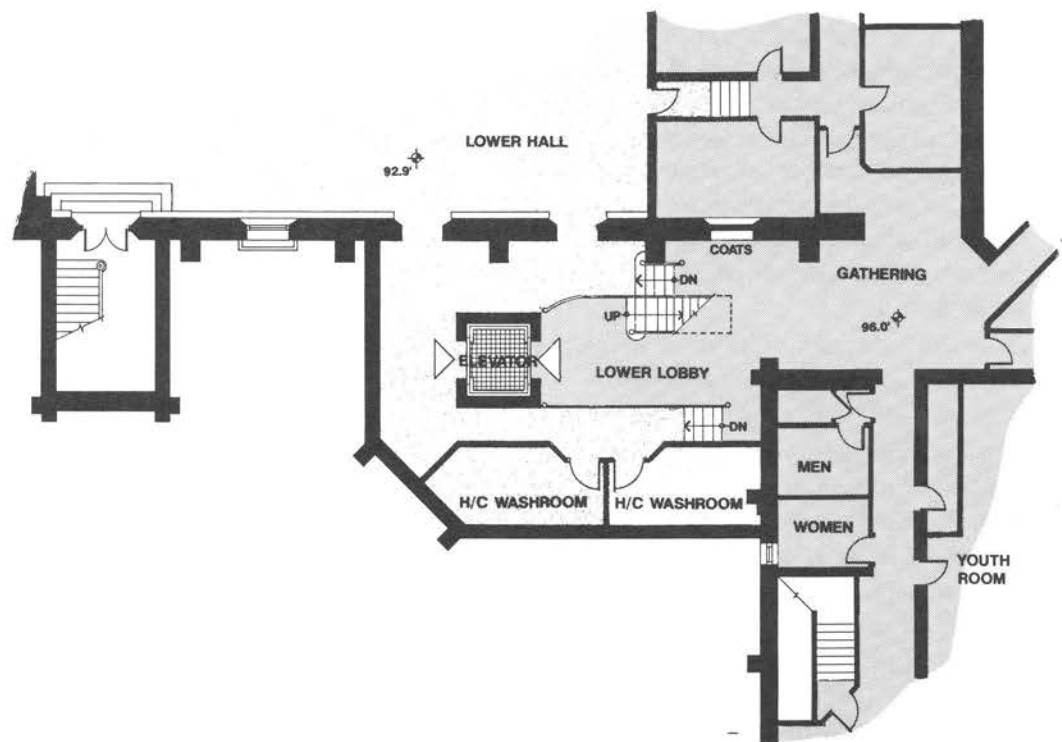
"It started off as strictly accessibility," said Scorgie. But he realized congestion and poor security could also be addressed.

Installing a new entrance where the two buildings join solves several problems. Security would improve because the door would be within sight of the office. The bottleneck of levels and stairs could be relieved and the location is central.



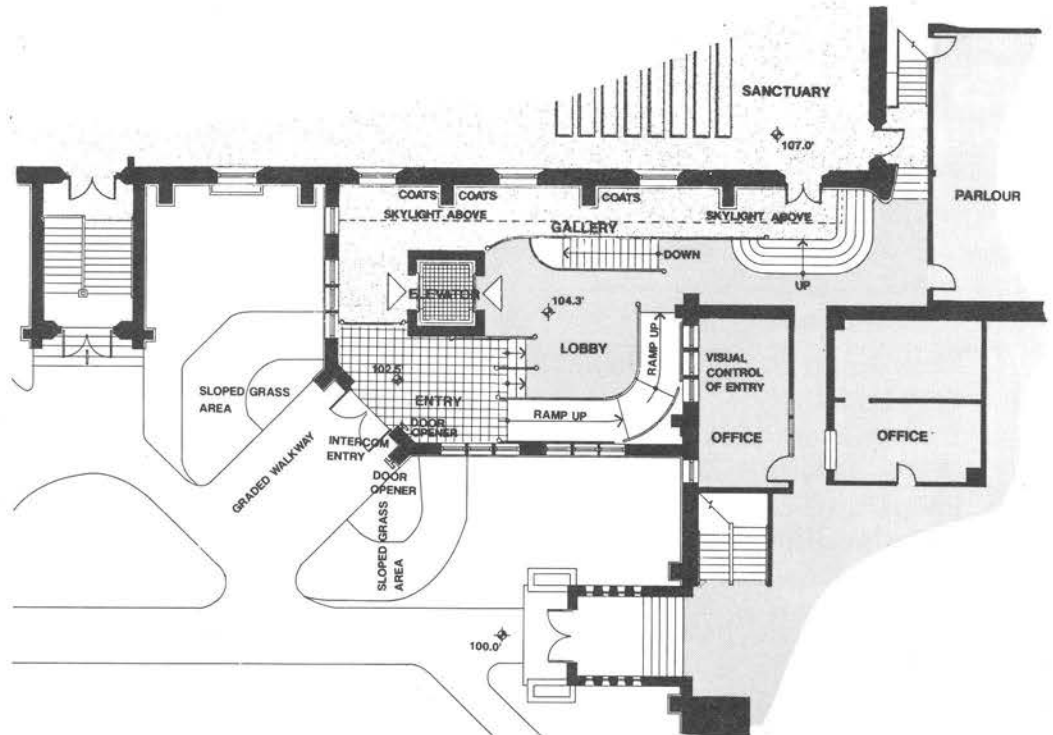
"It will give a business entrance to the church that will be an active entrance," said Gonder. "There will be a sense of arrival."

"We don't want it to feel like a back entrance, but more formal," added Scorgie.



Lower Level

Main Floor



The location provides convenient access to the lower hall, youth room and parlor, as well as the sanctuary. Future development of the property is not limited. "Doing something there doesn't cut off possibilities of doing other things later on," said Scorgie.

"At this point we haven't fully studied everything. We didn't want to go too far with it before going to the congregation."

Congregational approval was given at the annual meeting in January. The project now moves from the concept to design stage. Two committees are to form. An advisory committee is to include three Stewards, three members of Session, one Trustee and two general members, one of whom is physically challenged. The other committee is to head fund-raising.

Treasurer's Report

by Peter Kirkwood, Treasurer

A "balanced" budget was presented and approved at our annual congregational meeting on January 7, 1992, and I would like to thank all who participated in this process.

We finished 1991 almost on budget. Subtle shifts in revenue and expense were noted especially in the area of envelope receipts and a resulting increase in our Mission & Service contribution.

The increase in envelope givings is very encouraging and I believe is a reflection of the quality of ministry, music, education and leadership in our church.

In the year ahead we face many challenges in the finance area. These include development of complete financial statements, recruitment of volunteers for various

projects and coping with the Restructuring Committee. As well, we continue to monitor daily revenues and expense and report monthly to the Board of Stewards.

One area that will receive particular attention is Outreach. Outreach is a strong and vital part of our mission at FSA and considering the magnitude of the dollars involved, I believe it requires direct supervision.

Have faith and support First-St. Andrew's as you are best able.

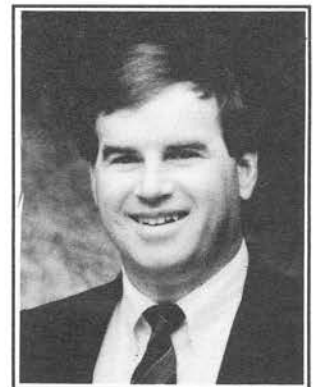


PHOTO: JEFF CARROLL

Changes...

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

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."

Received November 24:

Theresa Antrobus	Muriel Harris
Peter Borland	Stan Harris
Evelyn Brown	Carol Healy
Michael Brown	Ron Healy
Philip Brown	Steve Jarrett
Helen Burkholder	Tracy Jarrett
Elizabeth Burnett	Kevin Johnston
Peter Burns	Kathleen Larson
Jeff Carroll	Janet Ann McLean
Louise Carroll	Julie Mellon
Keith Cartwright	Gary Mount
Linda Cartwright	Linda Persson
Lesley Cornelius	Roger Snyder
Anne Cummings	Pat Tripp
Joanne Girvan	Judy Vyse

Next Reception of new members - April 5th

Marriages

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

Michael Sean Israels
Sarah Maureen Logan
(on November 9th)

David Michael Brown
Julie Marie Mellon
(on December 28th)

Baptisms

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

Sophie Jean Carroll
Stephen Richard Jarrett
Theresa May Jarrett
James Edward Shane Ridgewell
Brea Lynn Sparkes
Derek Christopher Sparkes

Responsibility Changes

Stewards: Rick Ashall succeeds Robin Proconier as Chair of Stewards.

Trustees: John A. MacDonald succeeds Bob Edy as Chair of Trustees.

Dial-A-Prayer: Debbie Roberts succeeds Aggie Ramsden as Coordinator of Dial-A-Prayer.

UCW: Lorene Young succeeds Debbie Schram as President of UCW.

New Elders

(elected at the Annual Meeting, January 27 and inducted during the February 2nd Worship Service)

Lillian Farrow
Moir Stewart-Freeman
Bev Lindsay
Ron Logan
Jo Ann Silcox
Margaret Wonfor

Deaths

"Well done, good and faithful servant."

Mildred Eileen Boake	Nov. 16
Gloria May Brighton	Dec. 18
Thomas Ward Buchner	Nov. 15
Enid F. Chute	Nov. 9
Audrey Bernice Crocker	Dec. 31
Edna Ruby Duffin	Jan. 20
Dorothy Jean Earls	Jan. 12
John Albert Lewis	Dec. 15
Adam Lunn Linton	Jan. 3
Laura May McFarlane	Dec. 9
John Cornelius McGillivray	Dec. 27
Evelyn May McLachlan	Nov. 17
Albert Earl Mowry	Jan. 10
Pirie Beatrice Wilhelmina Munro	Jan. 24
Sarah Lynn Pease	Dec. 7
Edna Vietta Robb	Jan. 11
Margaret Susan Smith	Dec. 23

