

# Tidings



**First-St. Andrew's United Church**



**VOLUME 10 • NUMBER 1**

**LENT, HOLY WEEK, EASTER 2000**

## FIFTY YEARS OF SERVICE

*By Elaine Wilton*

If you look around the church on a Sunday morning, you may not see Lee and Russ Gonder, but they are almost certainly in attendance. Try checking the balcony, their favourite location for worship, and you will find them seated with several other balcony regulars. From this vantage point they are able to see the organ and the choir, as well as the chancel area.



*Elaine Wilton*

The Gonders have been associated with FSA for over fifty years, Russ joining Lee here after their marriage in 1948. They have been involved in most facets of church life during those years and have seen many changes.

When their children were young, Lee worked in the nursery for twelve years and Russ helped with Cubs and Scouts, eventually taking over as leader at FSA. Russ served as an elder for many years and also joined the Property Committee, bringing with him the skills he had used in his career with buildings at Western.

In answer to complaints about lack of accessibility to FSA, Russ joined Bill Minion and Russ Scorgie in drafting a proposal for an access addition. It was an exciting and challenging task, and since it involved substantial expenditure, one to be considered carefully. Given the choice of providing a merely adequate new entrance, or spending a little more to create a first-rate addition, the committee chose quality, and produced the functional and beautiful addition of which we are so proud.

Russ is now a member of the Board of Trustees, involved in managing funds left to the church through estates, and establishing the Vision Fund as a vehicle for donations. His work is not confined to the area of finance however. Russ has willingly served meals at Out of the Cold, taken photos of the sanctuary renovation and helped out at the Holly Bazaar.

Likewise, Lee's activities over the years have been wide-ranging.

She and Connie Murray teamed up to organize all the food served at Out of the Cold during its early years. As well, Lee has been known to wash and mend jeans for some of the guests on those Monday nights. In earlier years, Lee worked with the Junior Choir helping with makeup or costumes for such musicals as *Noye's Fludde* and *The Friendly Giant*. As a member of the music committee she provided food for receptions after Senior Choir concerts. She goes where she is needed, whether it be to arrange flowers for the sanctuary, assist with the Rummage Sale and Bazaar, assemble layettes for new mothers, or light candles for the Christmas Eve service. Lee is a long-term member of the Thursday evening UCW unit.

Both Lee and Russ mention the wonderful people they have met at FSA and express appreciation for the support they have provided over the years. Russ is especially impressed with the way FSA adapts to challenging situations, often providing developmental programs as a healthy means of dealing with issues.

For their long and committed service to the smooth running of FSA, we sincerely thank Lee and Russ Gonder.



*Russ and Lee Gonder*

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## FAVOURITE HYMNS - REPORT

By Jack Hillier

We have put up the *sold out* sign on this project. Those of us who have been involved in making and selling the CD have been overwhelmed at the response of the congregation and the public at large in their support. We knew from the outset that our outstanding choir, under the director of music Paul Merritt, would come through with a powerful and spiritually uplifting performance. Little did we know just how successful it would become.

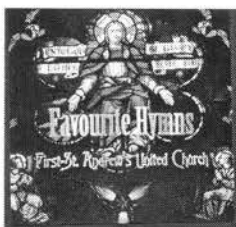
All of us will continue to enjoy this CD for years to come as we relax in our homes or drive in our cars.

Let us say thank you to those who worked so hard for the success of your *Favourite Hymns*.



Jack Hillier

- ⊙ your choir members
- ⊙ Paul Merritt - organist and director
- ⊙ Lionel Morise - graphic design
- ⊙ Bob Slater - editor
- ⊙ Paul Pergau - photography
- ⊙ Victoria Meredith - adjudicator
- ⊙ Pat Sole & Diane Macpherson - office support
- ⊙ Dennis Pellarin - sales



When we began this project we did not know a great deal about the CD business. We learned quickly and had great trust and faith in the quality of our team. The results have been exciting. After all expenses have been paid, we will be able to turn over to the treasurer in excess of \$3,000.

Thank you one more time for your great support. God Bless!

### Tidings

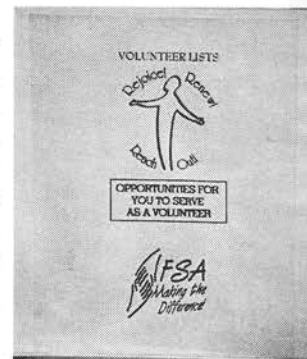
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Printer	Stat Communications
Publisher	First-St. Andrew's United Church 350 Queens Avenue, London, Ontario N6B 1X6 Tel:(519) 679-8182 Fax:(519) 439-6838 <a href="http://www.fsaunited.on.ca">www.fsaunited.on.ca</a>

Four issues yearly. News Deadline for next issue: May 2, 2000  
Distribution of next issue: May 28, 2000

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

## FSA VOLUNTEER LISTS

This binder of FSA Volunteer Lists is located in the Church Library on the shelf to the right of the photocopier. Committee chairs have been given yellow duo-tang binders of their updated lists so that their needs can be met by the offers of volunteer service given by the FSA family.



### Info-Line

#### UCW DOES IT AGAIN

A highly successful Holly Bazaar involved a great many FSA men, women and youth producing wonderful Christmas gifts and treats. Income for UCW projects totalled about \$8,000

#### LOVED ONES REMEMBERED

Flowers may be placed in the Chapel/Sanctuary in memory of loved ones. For available dates, please refer to the flower calendar in the Atrium Lobby. Call the church office by Monday, April 10 if you wish to place Easter lilies in memory.

#### LAST CHANCE TO

#### WALK IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF ST. PAUL

Join Frank for a rewarding experience in Western Turkey and Greece - **September 29 to October 21, 2000**. See all the major sites of the Epistles and the Acts of the Apostles, many of the Churches of the Revelation and enjoy a Greek Island Cruise. Contact Frank today (679-8182) or Roger Snyder (672-5664).

#### APRIL 29 UCW RECYCLING PROJECT

UCW Spring Rummage Sale offers us the opportunity to recycle items we are no longer using

#### OBSERVER - NEW & RENEWAL - APRIL 2000

No price increase. \$12 for the year. Cheques payable to FSA and marked Observer.

#### HEARING IN CHURCH DIFFICULT?

Individually adjustable walkman-type receiver sets are available to help. Ask your usher.

#### CABARET HELPED "BELLS" ON THEIR WAY

A wonderful evening of fun, music and silent auction was enjoyed and provided more than \$7,400 towards their trip expenses. Thanks to all for your support.

#### JUNE 10 - CELEBRATION OF FRANK'S FSA MINISTRY

A celebration will take place at the home of Jean Comfort on Saturday **June 10** between the hours of 2 pm and 7 pm. Everyone is invited.

#### LARGE PRINT HYMN BOOKS AVAILABLE

Ask your usher for a copy (words only) if this would help you.

## FROM THE PARISH NURSE

By Heather Bedford

This is the first in a series of articles that will appear in Tidings with the goal of further educating the congregation regarding the role of the Parish Nurse and also doing some health teaching on my part. When I first became the Parish Nurse the focus seemed to be on the elderly and shut-in population; however, gradually members of all ages have come to me with concerns either with their own health or that of a family member. I want to hear from anyone, any age with concerns. If I do not have the answer, I will get information for you or point you to where you can find the information. If you have topics you would like featured in my column, please let me know.

Since January was Alzheimer Awareness Month I wanted to touch on that subject and Caregiver stress that goes hand in hand with

Alzheimer's. The Alzheimer Society of London and Middlesex publishes quarterly newsletters, which have valuable information about various aspects of Alzheimer's. I have a copy of one if you would like to see it. The Alzheimer Society is working with the city of London to develop a "Memory Lane" in Springbank Park that will include a commemorative wall. This wall will mark "brick by brick" the engraved names of community members who wish to show support or remember a loved one.

*From the Alzheimer's newsletter comes this poignant article:*



Heather Bedford

### TEN REQUESTS FROM A PERSON WITH ALZHEIMER DISEASE

1. Be patient with me – remember I am the helpless victim of an organic brain disease which is out of control.
2. Talk to me – even though I cannot always answer you, I can hear your voice and sometimes I can comprehend your words.
3. Be kind to me – for each day of my life is a long and desperate struggle. Your kindness may be the most special event of the day.
4. Consider my feelings – for they are still very much alive within me.
5. Treat me with human dignity and respect – as I would have gladly treated you if you had been the victim lying in this bed.
6. Remember my past – for I was once a healthy, vibrant person full of life, love and laughter, with abilities and intelligence.
7. Remember my present – I am a fearful person, a loving husband, wife, father, mother, grandfather, grandmother, aunt, uncle or dear friend who misses my home and family very much.
8. Remember my future – though it may seem bleak to you, I am always filled with the hope of tomorrow.
9. Pray for me – for I am the person who lingers in the mists that drift between time and eternity. Your presence may do more for me than any other outreach of compassion you could extend to me.
10. Love me – and the gifts of love you give will be a blessing from which we will fill both our lives with light forever.

I know there are caregivers who are stressed for a variety of reasons. I would like to form a small group for caregivers but I need to know you are interested. If you are a caregiver who has found an appropriate support group I would like to hear from you as well, as the more resources I know of, the more I can help others. Thanks!

## FRIENDS OF MUSIC

By *Barrie Evans*

"Friends of Music" are a special group of people in our church who sponsor and support the concert series. The concert series is a "signature" event of FSA, a unique offering not only to the members of our congregation but also to the whole community. We are known far and wide for the high quality and diversity of our music. It is no surprise that in a recent column about the St. Lawrence String Quartet concert a London Free Press columnist referred to the FSA music program as "the finest in the city." The program draws people into the church and to a deeper appreciation of God's gift of music.

For this millennium year, our esteemed Music Director, Paul Merritt, has planned a program which is even more spectacular than ever. I will not go into details here; I will simply mention one of the upcoming concerts. It will be a great honour for FSA to host



Barrie Evans

one of the world's best known contemporary composers and conductors of church music, John Rutter, in a concert at the end of March. Please see the flyer for details of this and the other concerts.

I would like to thank all "Friends of Music" for their generous support to date. The "Friends" allow the concert series to operate on a self-supporting basis and help keep the ticket prices as low as possible. If you appreciate music and would like to become a "Friend", this is easy. You can simply enclose a cheque in an envelope marked "Friends of Music" and place it on the offering plate or you can mail it in to the church office.

Contributions in any amount will be gratefully received and they are tax deductible. Your name will appear with the other "Friends of Music" on the Concert Series flyer in recognition of your support.

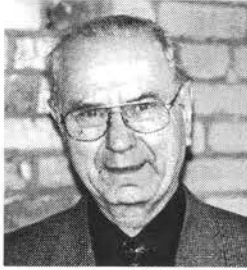
## COUNCIL REPORTS TO YOU

By Bill Watson

Chair of Council (471-6049)

A lot has happened since the last report.

The Joint Needs Assessment Committee (JNAC), which was formed to initiate the process of finding Frank Meadows' successor, held its first meeting on January 17, met frequently thereafter, received oral and written submissions, and considered carefully their import. Its report, with recommendations, has been presented to Council for approval, and will be presented to the Congregation for its endorsement, with the goal of submitting it to the M.P.&E. Committee of Presbytery at its meeting on April 12. The expectation is that the report will be received and a vacancy declared. Meanwhile, in anticipation of this outcome, the Nominating Committee at FSA is working on the creation of a Search Committee and will come to the congregation for endorsement as soon as this is procedurally permissible.



Bill Watson

The decision to hold congregational meetings in the lower hall has proven to be a wise one. It is evident that this fosters free and frank discussion, partly because participants feel less inhibited and partly because the sound system is more compliant. This practice will be continued.

Ken Wright's budget presentation at the Annual General Meeting was clearly outlined and well received, in spite of the fact that the bottom line indicated a deficit. To my mind what this represents is a faith congregation willing to take risks, particularly with respect to the appointment of a Community Development Coordinator. It is a great pleasure to announce that Ted Kostecki, one of our own members, has been chosen and will start on May 1. Jean Wright, Russ Knight and the selection committee deserve our warm thanks and appreciation for the diligence and care they brought to their task.

The questionnaire regarding the timing of worship services, which had been circulated as a 'feeler', generated a response which warranted a more in-depth study. This is being undertaken by the Worship Committee which will report its findings, with recommendations, to the April meeting of Council.

On February 29, Heather, Frank and I participated as invited speakers at a Town Hall meeting on Parish Nursing held at St. Joseph's Hospital. The timeliness and success of this ministry at FSA is clearly creating considerable interest.

Finally, a word of thanks and acknowledgement to Ed Ellis, our industrious and devoted gardener and groundskeeper, who for reasons of time and distance needs to modify his services. An illuminated certificate of appreciation was presented to him at the 11 a.m. service on March 12.

### ENVIRONMENTAL TIPS

From the Earth Stewardship Committee

Thawing foods in the refrigerator saves energy - remember it takes longer!

## ENGLAND 2000 - WE'RE ON OUR WAY

By Barbara Plante

For the past year the Laudamus Bells have been fundraising in order to attend the Ninth International Handbell Symposium in Birmingham, England, in August. As our thermometer - on display in the Lower Hall - indicates, the ringers themselves contributed over \$12,000. And we have been wonderfully supported by the congregation in all our projects: the Option-L Clothing event, our after-Church Luncheon, the sale of Hot Cross Buns, Mother's Day Flowers, the Nostalgic Theatre, Christmas ornaments, the photograph of our church, and recently, the Silent Auction. Many of you have made personal donations as well. We are very grateful.

The Silent Auction was a resounding success. We went into it having raised nearly \$23,000, and it was our hope that we might realize \$3,000 from the auction. Instead, thanks to the generosity of our donors and the folks who attended and bid, we raised over \$7,400! Our host, Bevin Palmateer, saw to it that everyone had a great time. It was an evening of music and fun, and of course, bidding.



Barbara Plante



The Laudamus Bells want to heartily thank everyone who has helped us reach our goal. We certainly couldn't have done it without you, and we are overwhelmed by your generosity. With the proceeds from the Silent Auction we have reached our goal of \$30,000, and, although there are one or two "unknowns" such as the value of the dollar when we have to make our final payment late in April, we feel confident that we will be able to get all of us and our equipment there - and back!

Thank you all - for your generosity, and your support and encouragement. This has been a huge undertaking for our small group of 16, and, thanks to you, it is also a huge success. Now you can look forward to hearing the music as we prepare to join the other hundreds of ringers from around the world, in Birmingham, England, from August 2-6, 2000.

## MAKING THE DIFFERENCE

By Nancy Howard

The theme of this year's stewardship campaign was *Thank You for Making the Difference*. Perhaps you were fortunate to catch the minute for mission series with reflections from Nikki Attwell, Jean Comfort, Betty Anne Younker, Ted Kosteck, and Kevin Johnston. Some of you will not have had the opportunity to capture the heartfelt enthusiasm generated in the testimonies of individuals, who themselves make a profound difference at FSA. Space restrictions in Tidings do not allow us to share their words in entirety, but we hope to reach a wider audience with excerpts of their messages.

As Ted points out, the campaign was "designed to recognize what each of us here has done in developing and nurturing the success of the church." The individuals giving the minutes were of all ages and came to FSA at different stages in their lives. At one extreme, Jean came 60+ years ago, Ted was married in our sanctuary 25 years prior, while Nikki arrived only 5 years ago. Yet there is a common thread in their reflections of what makes FSA an inviting church.

God is with us everywhere, not just at church, but how fortunate we are to have this beautiful building to worship and praise God. Jean has been here long enough to remember the sanctuary back to its first major renovation. Ted does not forget to remind us "how grateful we need to be to those who preceded us and whose gifts provided the stained glass and renovations."

Perhaps this group is from a biased sample, with music programs being their first drawing card to the church. Still I dare say no one will dispute Nikki's comment that "our ministry of music is without equal in this city." Betty Anne adds that "Through music we are able to delve into a part of our being that may result in a musical experience, a spiritual experience, or a mixture of both, intertwined and connected, and extremely powerful."

Christians bring to church a set of spiritual and social needs that must be met. While music was the admittance ticket, it was a combination of other gifts offered in this congregation that influenced the decision to return and to share in this church home. Her thoughts echoed by the others, Jean summarizes, "It was the



Nancy Howard

opportunity for growth and enrichment through participation, and under excellent leadership that kept me here."

FSA offers a wide selection of programs that encourage spiritual growth and fellowship. Nikki and Betty Anne mentioned all of the music programs. Kevin, Ted and Jean spoke of church school, youth retreats, social groups, study groups, and membership on committees. "And from each of these moments that you and I have shared," reflects Ted, "we've all taken something away from each other."

No church could hold its membership without strong leadership. Nikki and Kevin both appreciate that "We don't shy away from the tough questions" and, "Often we have taken risks and walked new and different paths."

Most agree that "strong pulpit presence is necessary in leadership." But the demands on the clergy don't stop there. They must prepare sermons with dynamic preaching style, content and doctrinal teaching. In addition, they must generate enthusiasm, show compassion, and demonstrate and encourage spiritual depth. They must balance the needs of the congregation with the ministry of outreach. They alone are held accountable for everything associated with the name of their church. Only God could fill the expectations we create. In spite of that, strong leadership is evident at FSA. "The vision of faith is projected in sermons with skillful weave of storytelling," as Ted and Nikki attest. Kevin declares, "We have been blessed with very gifted clergy who have inspired and challenged us." That is the true role of the clergy.

FSA has much to offer to help individuals experience God's presence. When all is said and done, nothing will substitute for the enthusiasm members have for Christian faith. Despite its large size, everyone agreed, "This congregation offers warmth and nurturing in an inclusive community," and atmosphere that can only arise from the excitement of the Spirit working in us. A recent sermon ended, "Perhaps the best thing we can do then, is to receive God's gifts, all of them, and use them in God's service." Making the difference.



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## UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA - 75 YEARS YOUNG

By Katie Pickering

This year marks the 75th anniversary of church union, which included Congregational, Methodist and Presbyterian churches. Wanting to gain a little more insight into this event I had a visit with Jean Gorwill, a long-time member of First-St. Andrew's. Jean was very helpful in filling me in on how things changed and how people felt about the changes.

Before church union, two women's organizations existed, each of which had distinctly different responsibilities in the church. The Ladies' Aid, after church union, became the Women's Association and in 1962 joined with the Women's Missionary Society to create the United Church Women,



Katie Pickering



Jean Gorwill

with a great variety of duties. When the church union was in progress, Jean was attending university, but she remembers her parents' attending the large service at Mutual St. Arena in Toronto. Many Presbyterian churches, about 34%, were not in favour of the union. Six members of session at New St. James Presbyterian Church withdrew to St. Andrew's and became members there in 1926. In many cases, between the Presbyterian and now United churches, unpleasant situations arose between friends and neighbours which took a considerable time to amend.

When sharing her thoughts with me, this quotation from the Wesley Memorial in Westminster Abbey came to mind: "The best of all is God is with us. I look upon all the world as my parish."

# Changes...

**First-St. Andrew's United Church:**  
*a Christian Family encouraging spiritual  
 growth through worship, friendship,  
 learning and action*

## BAPTISMS

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

Fraser Johnson Eaman Feeney  
 Abigail Logan Mackenzie Israels  
 Harrison Michael Joseph Israels  
 Thomas Hedd Samson-Williams  
*Next Baptism: May 14, 2000*

## GOODBYE & GODSPEED

*"May kindness and peace be yours from Jesus Christ,  
 the faithful witness."*  
 Carol Latter

## NEW ELDERS

*Elected at the Annual Congregational Meeting  
 February 6, 2000*

Karen Blachford	Lu McLean
Jan Hendry	Dennis Pellarin
Kerry Hill	Thelma Pleiter
Kay Hillier	Jim Silcox
Jim Hutchinson	Fred Tipple
Barbara Kavanagh	Susan Wark
Dan MacLean	Betty Ann Younker
Tom McLarty	

## DEATHS

*"Well done good and faithful servant."*

Edward Alexander Bartram	November 6
Irene Welsh	November 15
Margaret Jean Pergau	December 4
Janice Anne Dawkins	December 6
Christopher David King	December 7
Jean LeMaistre Hill	December 12
Edward James Shewan	December 16
Bertha Eleen Murray	December 20
M. Irene Snider	January 27
Mark Donald William Vanderpost	February 1
Winston Ross Cunningham	February 2
Mary Louise Wyatt	February 3
Harold E. Woodruff	February 16
William Henry (Harry) Gemmill	February 23
David W. Murray	February 26
Edward Stokes Gale	March 8

## 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 21, 1999  
 (\* By Confirmation)*



**Next Reception of New Members**  
**May 7, 2000**

Back: Dan MacLean, Jacalyn Walters, Ron White, Debbie Maund  
 Centre: Kim Carter\*, Jill Blakeney, Amanda Williams  
 Front: John Schiffer\*, Naomi Prevost, Cheryl Samson  
 Not Pictured: Susan Hogarth, Dennis Pellarin, Sam Shelstad

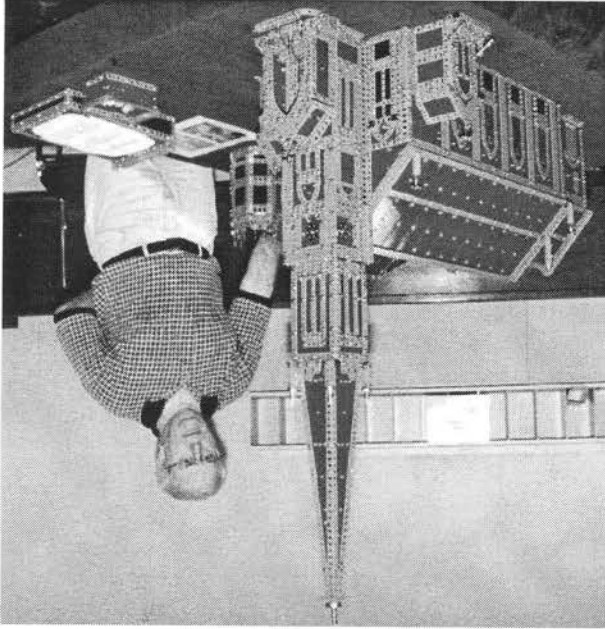
## DID YOU KNOW?

- Heather Bedford has completed her studies of Parish Nursing at Concordia University College of Alberta with a 95% mark.
- Karen Blachford has been awarded London's Sportsperson of the Year.

- Heather Bedford has been selected as a speaker at the 6th Annual Canadian Parish Nurse Conference in Calgary, May 4-5.
- John Wiebe has identified new hormones that may lead to new breast cancer treatments.
- Gordon Wield has been honoured by The Royal Canadian legion with a 50 year medal and pin.

WATCH FOR THIS STORY IN A FUTURE ISSUE OF Tidings

Allan Bedford



**Reach Out! Idea**  
 Thank one or more FSA  
 Volunteers in person or  
 with notes in their  
 mailboxes.

**GUESS WHO'S HAVING FUN NOW AT  
 FIRST-ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH**

**ED ELLIS**

**TOM MAGEE**

How did you do? **?**

Now can you guess who is pictured here-->

**R**

**E**

**WHAT IS IT?  
 WHERE IS IT AT FSA?**

Answer in next issue of Tidings

From last Issue - What is it? Where is it at FSA?  
 The visible organ pipes located in the Chapel

If you are of bifocal age - single or a couple - you are invited to be a guest or new member at our evening get-togethers starting with a pot luck dinner like no other. A sing song with Paul Merritt and an interesting program follows. [6:30 - 9:00 pm]

**Tuesday April 25** - Ron Elliott "Inside our Medicine Chests"  
**Tuesday May 23** - Lori Harper - "Grey Power - "Defending Yourself" Call June & Jack McKay (471-5668)

**BIFOCALS**

Sat. May 13 - Nature Walk Info: Pat Tripp (432-7497)  
 Sat. April 15 - Spiritual Journey Info: Kevin and Roger (672-5664)

**CIRCLE OF FRIENDS**

Singles and marrieds who enjoy fun are invited to join with the Circle of Friends. Children welcome.

**HAVA JAVA, N' JUICE**

An informal group for parents and preschoolers offering networking and support. Tuesday mornings, 10-11:30. Contact Sandra Dwyer (438-6546)

The purpose of the UCW is to unite women of the congregation for the total mission of the church and to provide a medium through which we may express our loyalty and devotion to Jesus Christ in Christian witness, study, fellowship and service. First-St. Andrew's has three units meeting monthly as follows:

- The first Thursday at 7:00 p.m. in the church parlour
- The second Wednesday at 9:30 a.m. at 1 Grosvenor Gate
- The third Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. in the church parlour.

New members are always welcome. Contact the UCW president, Laurel Kenney (439-9300) for more information.



**UNITED CHURCH WOMEN**

**FRIENDSHIP & LEARNING GROUPS**

you for helping others! Financial contributions are also welcome. Thank

Please keep in mind the Community Outreach Committee's food collection for St. Paul's DAILY BREAD. Baby food is also a special need and may be left at any time. Baskets are placed at the entrance of the Chapel, and Narthex and Atrium entrances of the Sanctuary where you may leave your donations.



**FOOD BANK CONTRIBUTIONS**

Clip leaving 1/4 inch envelope paper showing. One pound of stamps equals one bible which will be distributed somewhere in the world through the Canadian Bible Society. Please deposit cancelled stamps in the right hand bin below the mailboxes next to the elevator.

**SAVE CANCELLED STAMPS**

CIDA'S 4:1 matching policy means \$285,000 has been provided for the Canadian Food Grains Program through the efforts of St. Marys and FSA over the past five years. Watch for GROW-A-ROW VI so you can participate and help alleviate hunger in the developing world.

**GROW-A-ROW PROJECT**

the church office (679-8182). Contact Andy Hunter (471-3659) or Joanne Girvan (637-2211) or period? September to December; January to April; May to August. of them from other churches. Could you help out for 4 month persons. One hundred or more volunteers have been involved, many meals for about 100

This program runs year round on Mondays, 5:30 p.m. providing hospitality

**OUT OF THE GOLD (OOTC)**

Community Outreach is involved in .. Out of the Gold, preparing baby layettes, organizing food collection for the youth action centre and St. Paul's Daily Bread, actively supporting the ELUCC in special projects, working with St. Marys United Church in support of the Canadian Food Grains Bank, and occupying a chair on their board, sending two members to the LIFT Council meetings and more...

**COMMUNITY OUTREACH**

Preparation for marriage is important because marriage is important - to the persons involved, to society in general, and to God. First-St. Andrew's works in cooperation with Westminster College to offer classes. Call Westminster College (673-0040) as soon as possible.

Next events: March 21, 22 and 23, 7-9 pm, April 7 & 8 or May 12 & 13, 7-10 pm and 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.



**MARRIAGE PREPARATION**

Call the church office if interested. (679-8182)

A Baptismal preparation session is held prior to every Baptism (usually the Thursday evening) to further prepare the parents who are bring their children for Baptism. We explore the meaning of Baptism, and prepare for the Sunday service. The Sacrament of Baptism will be administered May 14.



**BAPTISMAL PREPARATION**

If you need a ride to and from church and/or church events, please call Louise Slater (642-7949)



**RIDES**

Every Sunday, following our 9:15 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. worship services, the congregation is invited to remain after service for refreshment and the deepening of friendship. This is an opportunity for each person to make contact and share his/her journey as a valued individual within our community of faith. Volunteers are needed to make and serve coffee and to clean up. If you can help, please call Shirley Peel (439-1698).



**COFFEE AND CONVERSATION**

For a moment of meditation in a busy or a quiet day, please call our Dial-A-Prayer Coordinators: Donna Ellis (782-7084) and Deanne Pederson (432-1583)



**DIAL-A-PRAYER 439-6838**

Robinson Memorial and Colborne Street United Churches, sharing facilitators, resources and space. If you know someone who would benefit from such a programme, please contact Heather Bedford (679-8182) or Mary Vernon (657-7568).



**RAINBOWS**

Members of our team are prepared to come and pray with you in your home or hospital room. Two people will be sent in response to your call. Phone the church office (679-8182) and someone will get back to you.



**HEALING PRAYER TEAM**



## YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

### SUNDAY MORNING YOUTH GROUP

Grade 7 and up! Come join the group in the Upper Room on Sundays at 9:30 a.m. after youth Choir.  
 Leader: Lionel Morise (438-8109)



### TEENS IN TRANSIT

For young people in grades 7 and 8. This group meets on Sunday mornings at 11:00 a.m. in the Upper Room.  
 Leaders: Katie Pickering, (432-4288)  
 Emily Cavers and Laura Cavers (642-4166)



### TEEN CONFIRMATION CLASS

Ten young people are meeting in preparation for confirmation on Sunday, May 7, 2000.



### YOUTH RETREAT

June 2-4 at Pearce-Williams. Mark your calendars now!

### CD SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The Christian Development Committee invites gifts of money to this fund, so that children and young people of our congregation may be assured of participation in programs or events requiring funding, such as Youth Retreats, Leadership Training events, Camps, Conference events. Your help is always appreciated.

### LIBRARY (NEXT TO CHAPEL)

The Church Library has Lenten and Easter books and videos for your personal reflection or to share at a meeting or gathering. Watch for displays in the Atrium on Sunday mornings, or come browse in the Library.



## ADULT DEVELOPMENT

### BIBLE STUDY

### THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

10:00 a.m. in the Parlour, using the *Whole People of God* adult study material. Everyone welcome.  
 Leader: Susan Shelstad (679-8182)

### SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

9:15 a.m. in the Kerygma Room. Come for coffee, warm fellowship and learning.  
 Leader: Jo Ann Silcox (642-2152)



### LENTEEN SERIES

"Be Still, And Know That I Am God."  
 Each Wednesday in Lent, beginning March 15 to April 19 (6 sessions).  
 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary.  
 Experience the joy of contemplation! Learn about...Meditation techniques, Contemplative prayer, and Journaling as we make spiritual preparations for the celebration of Easter.  
 Leader: Susan Shelstad - Register (679-8182)



### DREAM GROUP

Last Friday of the month at 7:30 p.m.  
 For more information, call Anne Cunningham (433-9663) or Susan Shelstad (679-8182)

### DRUMMING CIRCLE

Second Friday of the month at 7 p.m.  
 Information, call Susan Shelstad (679-8182)



## PASTORAL CARE

*Heather Bedford is responsible for the Ministry of Pastoral Care and Visitation.*

### CONGREGATIONAL VISITING TEAM

This group works at meeting both short and long term needs of the members of our congregation. The men and women of this group visit approximately 70 shut-ins on a regular basis, and also around birthday and holiday times. If you or anyone you know has need of support through visits, please call Heather Bedford (679-8182).



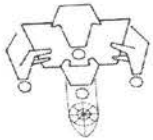
### SHUT-INS SPRING COMMUNION

The shut-ins annual Communion service is Wednesday, May 17 at 2 p.m. Invitations will be extended and the Congregational Visiting Team will be calling to arrange transportation. The UCW will once again be providing a wheelchair van. In the meantime, mark your calendars. This service is always very meaningful for all those who take part. The reception following the service is a time for renewing friendships.



### COUNSELLING TEAM

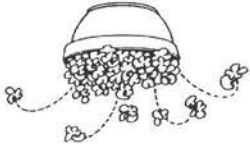
Under the direction of the Ministerial Staff who provide individual spiritual direction to those seeking help where requested, the Counselling Service is staffed voluntarily by three members of the congregation whose professional training and daily work experience is in the counselling context.  
 Kerry Hill, a management consultant and career counsellor, provides personal counselling and detailed vocational assessment by appointment when mutually convenient. Ardath Finnbogason-Hill, a nurse-educator with considerable experience in personal counselling, and Jo Ann Silcox, a psychiatrist, work as a team to provide initial assessment and follow-through counselling for individuals, couples, families or groups facing personal transitional crises.  
 Referrals may be made through Ardath Hill at 657-3000. Please feel free to contact the Ministerial staff for further details or speak to any of the counsellors directly.



### PRAYER CHAIN

Need prayers for yourself or others? Call Pat at the church office (679-8182) and the name or concern will be passed through the prayer chain. First names only will be used unless permission is granted to use their full name. Confidentiality will be respected.

**First-St. Andrew's Christian Development**  
*Making the Difference!*



Girls and boys in Grade 5 and 6 get together for fun on Friday evenings about once a month. Watch weekly *Announcements* for details of time and place.

**POP 'N' POPCORN**

Coordinator: Nancy Howard (289-0540) to reveal each pal's identity. In the spring, we will have an "unmasking event" using mystery code names and deliver through the red Secret Pal mailbox in the Atrium. They are congregation on a monthly basis. Children in grades 3 to 6 are exchanging letters with adults in the



**SECRET PALS**

Coordinator: Kevin Johnson (672-5664) take us from **March 12 to June 11.**

Continuing with the Whole People of God curriculum. Unit 5, *Passion and Promise*, and Unit 6, *Risen Indeed*, will



**CHURCH SCHOOL (9:15 AND 11:00 A.M.)**

Coordinator: Judy Cull 11:00 a.m. services.

For infants to two years old - located next to the Chapel on the main floor. Open for 9:15 a.m. and

**NURSERY**

Coordinator: Nancy Stanlick (451-9491) Samson-Williams.

We are delighted to welcome each new baby into the church family with our Growing in God's Love mailings. Be sure to let the church know when your new baby arrives. Since the last Tidings, we have greeted Fraser Feeney, and Thomas

**CRADLE ROLL**

**CHILDREN'S MINISTRY**

- Sponsored by the Music Committee.
- Call Nikki Atwell (473-0760) to participate.
- Any instrument including voice and any level of achievement.
- Open to all ages including those studying at University.
- Special Recital for FSA children and youth.

*Sunday April 2, 3 p.m. at FSA*

**SALUTE TO MUSIC, TO YOUTH!**

**THE AMABLE YOUTH SINGERS AND THE ELMER ISELER SINGERS**

- Saturday, May 13 at 7:30 p.m.
- Admission \$20.00 and \$8.00

Admission \$10.00 and \$7.00, Children 12 and under \$5.00 Series Price \$25.00 and \$18.00 and \$12.00



**THREE PIANO RECITALS BY DAVID JONES**  
*In aid of the Sanctuary Grand Piano Fund*  
 SATURDAY, MAY 6, 2000 at 7:30 p.m.

Music at First-St. Andrew's Church, 350 Queens Ave., London, Ontario (519) 679-8182

Tickets at the Church Office, Hyson Music and The Madrigal

**TUESDAY, MARCH 28, 2000 AT 8:00 PM**

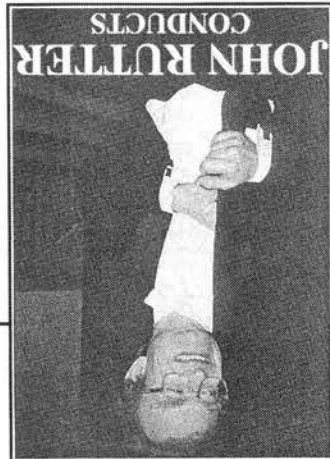
MEMBERS OF UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

Concertmaster, Christl Meyers

THE CHOIR OF FIRST-ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH  
 Director, Paul Merritt

Requiem by John Rutter - Requiem by Gabriel Faure  
*In Memoriam, Ken Brody, Professor Emeritus, U.W.O.*

**REQUIEM**



**JOHN RUTTER**  
 CONDUCTS

**First-St. Andrew's Ministry**  
 All of the people including  
 The Rev. Dr. Frank Meadows  
 The Rev. Dr. Susan Shelstad  
 Heather Bedford  
 Paul Merritt  
 Ted Kosteki  
 Kevin Johnston  
 Diane Macpherson  
 Jim Gagnon  
 Pat Sole

7:00 Alternative Worship  
 Preacher - Frank Meadows  
 received by confirmation and transfer  
 9:15 & 11:00 At the 11:00 service new members will be  
 May 7 The Third Sunday of Easter  
 7:00 Alternative Worship  
 Choir Musical

9:15 & 11:00 At the 11:00 service there will be a Children's  
 April 30 The Second Sunday of Easter  
 9:15 & 11:00 Preacher - Frank Meadows  
 April 23 Easter Sunday  
 10:30 Metropolitan United Church  
 April 21 Good Friday  
 7:30 p.m.

April 20 Maundy Thursday  
 Preacher - Susan Shelstad  
 9:15 & 11:00 Sacrament of Holy Communion  
 April 16 Palm Sunday  
 9:15 & 11:00 Preacher - Frank Meadows  
 April 9 Fifth Sunday in Lent Volunteer Appreciation Sunday  
 9:15 & 11:00 Preacher - Frank Meadows  
 April 2 Fourth Sunday in Lent

9:15 & 11:00 Preacher - Frank Meadows  
 March 26 Third Sunday in Lent  
 9:15 & 11:00 Preacher - Frank Meadows  
 March 19 Second Sunday in Lent  
 9:15 & 11:00 Preacher - Barry Moore  
 March 12 First Sunday in Lent

*Come and worship at First-St. Andrew's as we follow Christ on the  
 Lenten journey that takes us to Calvary, and beyond to the empty  
 tomb and the glorious light of the resurrection. Our regular worship  
 times are 9:15 a.m. in the chapel and 11:00 a.m. in the main  
 sanctuary. You may want to try Alternative Worship at 7 p.m.,  
 beginning in the Lower Hall. Everyone is welcome. Up to date  
 information regarding each of our services can be had during the  
 week by telephoning the church (679-8182) or by looking at our  
 web site: [www.fsasunited.london.on.ca](http://www.fsasunited.london.on.ca)*

**WORSHIP**

**Music**  
 AT FIRST-ST. ANDREW'S

12:00-12:30  
**FRIDAY LENTEN NOON RECITALS**  
 Luncheon (\$5.00) served following  
 March 31 Paul Merritt, Organ  
 April 7 The Bellissima Ringers  
 April 14 Kevin Love, Guitar and Donna Camp, Flute

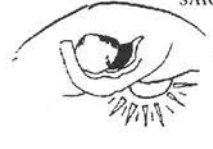
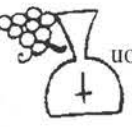
**MUSIC**

**ALTERNATIVE WORSHIP**  
 Sunday evenings at 7 p.m. on April 30 and May 7.  
 We meet first in the Lower Hall for singing and then choose  
 either Bible Study in the Library with Jo Ann Silcox or  
 contemplative worship in the sanctuary with Susan Shelstad.  
 At 8 pm we join together again in the Lower Hall for coffee and  
 pot luck dessert.  
 \* On the last Sunday of the month there is a short service of  
 healing prayer in the Sanctuary at 8 p.m. before we reconvene  
 downstairs for coffee and fellowship.  
 Come join us! It's a wonderful way to end or begin a week.



**MORNING PRAYER IN THE CHAPEL**  
 Tuesday to Friday mornings  
 From 9:10 to 9:30 a.m.

May 14 Christian Family Sunday  
 9:15 & 11:00\*  
 \* Sacrament of Baptism.  
 Preacher - Susan Shelstad  
 May 17 2:00 p.m. May Communion  
 Preacher - Susan Shelstad  
 May 21 The Fifth Sunday of Easter  
 9:15 & 11:00 a.m. Preacher - Frank Meadows  
 May 28 The Sixth Sunday of Easter  
 9:15 & 11:00 a.m. Earth Stewardship Sunday  
 Preacher - Frank Meadows  
 June 4 The Seventh Sunday of Easter  
 9:15 & 11:00 a.m. Preacher - Frank Meadows  
 June 11 The Day of Pentecost  
 9:15 & 11:00 a.m.  
 The 75th Anniversary of the United Church



**NEW**

SEE PAGE 4

**CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER**

Wednesdays in Lent (6)

March 15 - April 19

In the Sanctuary

**CHURCH FAMILY EVENTS**

Celebrate the FSA Ministry of Frank Meadows.

Save Saturday June 10 2-7 pm at Jean Comfort's farm.



**INSIDE**

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*Frank*

*Alzheimer*

*Paul*

*Susan*

United Church.

supportive of one another as we go forward, taking with us the future of First-St Andrew's and changes. Maybe some will be better than others. The main thing is we are together and small part of the history of this great church and we, like our forebears, will go on and make We are facing changes in the next few months with the transition related to Frank's retirement, the ministers and members at that time.

first Presbyterian Church in Canada to sing hymns instead of stinging? Imagine how those changes affected organ was finally introduced in St. Andrew's in 1888. Did you know that First Church was the our church history and makes you think about all the changes they and their congregations survived. There was "lively controversy", including the choir going "on strike" before an Walking past the row of ministers' pictures in the hall by the library takes you way back in Andrew's. She had "the power to see it through".

and choir it all she kept the faith and remained a faithful member of First-St. Andrew's churches in the present UCW in 1962, and the relocation of the organ formation of the United Church of Canada in 1938, the change of the women's groups from was St. Andrew's Presbyterian. Think of all the changes she saw in her lifetime - past, Irene Snider comes to mind. She transferred to our church in 1924 when it hearing those words, it brings our past into the future as well. In thinking of the We are absorbed right now in the present and the picture of our church, and rightly so, but in And both to this bear witness: one church, full clear, on every page.

Our forebears owned your goodness, and we their deeds record;

"Your hand, O God, has guided your flock from age to age;

Dear Friends

Recently we sang the hymn Your Hand O God, Has Guided with these words being the first verse:

