

IN SEARCH OF A NEW MINISTER

by Dennis Pellarin (Chair, Search Committee)



The search for a new minister to replace the Reverend Dr. David McKane began at the first meeting of the Search Committee on June 28th. Members of the Search Committee—selected by a sub-committee of Council's Nominating Committee—are: Stephen Adams, Linda Badke, Joan Bancroft, Cherry Bulmer, Catherine Charlton, Brian Cram, Wendy Eaman, John Eberhard, Susan Fullerton, Mark Hill (Treasurer), Mary Ann Hodge, George Jolink, Dennis Pellarin (Chair), Jason Tufts, Michelle Bouck, Bob Schram, Jo Ann Silcox (Secretary), Geoff Vogt, David Wardlaw and Amanda Williams. Jan Barnwell and Val Hodgins from Presbytery serve on the Committee to provide necessary guidance and to ensure we follow appropriate and established methods as set out by The United Church of Canada.

We have already publicized our forthcoming vacancy using direct mail to UC Ministers in Canada, our own FSA website, the Observer's Website, advertising in the Observer, and through the General Council meeting in Kelowna in August. We are pleased to report that we have already received several applications from interested candidates.

We welcome your suggestions for candidates! We encourage you to visit other United Churches when you are travelling and bring to our attention any candidates you believe would be of interest. Please email the Search Committee Secretary, Dr. Jo Ann Silcox at silcox3@sympatico.ca or by confidential traditional mail to her at 30

Mohawk Road, London, Ontario,
N6G 2P5.



Our Committee is now busy outlining the process we will follow to evaluate and choose the new minister, preparing a budget for our 2010 operations to present to Council, and establishing a grading scheme that will ensure that the recommendations from the recent Joint Needs Assessment Committee Report are adhered to when making this

important selection. We will be providing the congregation with regular updates on our progress in a manner that is transparent while maintaining confidentiality.

We ask for your trust and confidence in us and to keep us in your thoughts and prayers as we engage in this important work. ☸

INSIDE

Tidings

In Search	1	Profile - The Mansells	6
The Editor's Message	2	Pride & Persistence	6
Letters to the Editor	3	Changes in Ministry	7
Changes	3	Down the Mountain	7
Council Reports	3	Farewell to Wynnes	7
Ron Chatterson	4	Announcements	7
Helen Eberhard	4	Coffee Chicks	8
In Rwanda	5	Care for the Caregivers	8
Chelsea Grealis	5	Noteworthy	9
		View from the Pew	9

Program Guide

Worship	11
Pastoral Care	13
Christian Development	13
Music	15
United Church Women	16
Mission Outreach Environment	17
Friendship Learning	19

TIDINGS STAFF

Chair & Editor David Flynn

Layout Artist Jim Silcox

Photographers. Willis Buckingham
Don Jones
Ted Kostecki

Staff Rep Ted Kostecki

Team Members Willis Buckingham
Barb Dalrymple
David Flynn
Nancy Howard
Ted Kostecki
Ellen McKim
Mary McKim
Valerie Moretti
Jim Silcox
Margaret Wonfor

Typist. Maureen Scarborough



Publisher:

First-St. Andrew's United Church
350 Queens Avenue
London, Ontario N6B 1X6
Tel: 519-679-8182 Fax: 519-439-6838
Web Address: www.fsaunited.com
Printed by Sterling Marking Products

Four issues yearly on the first Sunday in December, March, June and September. Submission deadline: three weeks before the publication date. Submissions are accepted only from members of First-St. Andrew's. 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.

EDITOR'S MESSAGE

David Flynn



The theme for the Fall Issue of Tidings is *The End and the Beginning*. Although fall ends the Church year, for church activities it is when most programs restart. From Christian Development to Music to Mission and Outreach, along with the Friendship and Learning groups,

the *Program Guide* in the second half is abuzz with enthusiasm.

Although summer is a time to relax with a book in a hammock, Susan Shelstad found on her recent Sabbatical Leave that reading and meditating can be a mountain-top experience, preparing us for the everyday slogging through the valley.

David McKane points out that change is inevitable in congregations but especially so when staff changes. First, we are searching for a replacement for David himself. In addition, as recommended by the Joint Needs Assessment Committee—the required precursor of the Search Committee—Council decided to eliminate by the end of December, the position occupied by Ted Kostecki. Ted's leaving represents the end of an era for *Tidings*. Ted almost single handedly kept *Tidings* going for several years, doing not only layout but also much of the writing and editing. When I began as Editor four years ago, I desperately needed Ted with his journalism background to gently guide me as I learned through mistakes.

At the same time as *Tidings* loses Ted, Jim Silcox has replaced Don Jones on Tidings' layout. Don moved us from an archaic version of *PageMaker* to the ultra-sophisticated world of *InDesign*. Fortunately, InDesign is part of the package Jim uses as FSA Webmaster so his learning curve was relatively easy—good thing since we made the transition while he was in Rwanda (see his article.) So, thank you Ted and thank you Don—expect some frantic phone calls as we make the transition.

Note the display of “business card” advertisements in the centre. The income from these will enable us to occasionally print the front and back pages in color.

Help provide content for the next issue by sending us a letter with your reactions to all these changes.

pdflynn@rogers.com

LETTERS TO EDITOR

David, I just wanted to let you and your TIDINGS crew know that I think the recent issues have been just excellent. Good Work !!!

— Barry Moore

I just wanted to tell you what a wonderful Tidings you published this time [Summer Issue]. Of course, they are all good but this one is full of the Church's doings, with so many people mentioned and interesting stories of the Church. You have a lot of people contributing to it.

— Muriel Parsons

Just wanted you to know I thought it was a super [Summer] issue of Tidings. Lots of info about people, events, and organizations. Exactly the sort of communication we need. You deserve a lot of thanks.

— Jean Wright

CHANGES . . .

DEATHS

Dolena May Phillips	June 1, 2009
Susan Alvaro	June 3, 2009
James (Jim) Williamson	July 6, 2009
Margaret Ruth Fraser	July 21, 2009
Ella Mary Johnston	July 25, 2009
Jessie Vosper	August 4, 2009

MARRIAGES

Heather Godelie & Michael Brendon Westmorland	June 20, 2009
Jessica Lea & Corey Blair	July 18, 2009
Laura Jewitt & Adam Carapella	August 15, 2009
Katie-Lynn Malouin & Jason Mellow	August 22, 2009
Peri Deacon & Mike Burgoyne	August 29, 2009

Please contact the Church Office (519-679-8182) for marriage, baptism or funeral arrangements

COUNCIL REPORTS



by Jackie Williams, Chair

I hope all of you have enjoyed our rather rainy summer—I know my garden has. The past few months have been a busy time to be Chair of Council at FSA. We are entering a period of change in the church with the coming retirement of Rev. Dr. David McKane in July 2010. Our FSA Search Committee has been working diligently through the summer months to find a new Minister of Worship and Administration. Another change is the formation of Transition Teams, a recommendation from the Joint Needs Assessment Committee's (JNAC) Report, which was accepted by Council and then by the congregation at the Annual Meeting in February, 2009.

It was suggested that I explain more about the Transition Teams in this Council Report, as there seems to be some confusion about their role. I understand the confusion, because this is a new concept for us all, and each Transition Team will decide how best to organize themselves.

“It was suggested that I explain more about the Transition Teams in this Council Report”

As you know, an enormous amount of work was performed by the JNAC to synthesize the excellent comments and suggestions from the congregation into their final report. Recommendations from any report, however, tend to lose their impetus over time, and the role of the Transition Teams is to try to make sure that the recommendations that will be beneficial to FSA are carried through. The seven Transition Teams are: Worship, Visitation & Pastoral Care, Governance Structure, Transportation & Access, Marketing, Youth, and Family. The teams will be temporary and will not replace the standing committees. The hope, in fact, is that standing committee members will volunteer to be on the Transition Team of their choice, along with any interested members of the congregation who wish to add their ideas and expertise.

I feel a great sense of excitement about the future of FSA, and know that our wonderful congregation will face the challenges ahead with its usual grace and dedication to the church and its members. ☸

PEOPLE OF GOD

MUSIC VOLUNTEER



RON CHATTERSON

by Anne Cummings

At the Choir Open House June 14, the Choir honoured Ron Chatterson for 25 years of volunteer service as the Senior Choir Mascot. In this position, Ron has learned all of our names and greets us each Sunday morning as we arrive for rehearsal. He holds open the back door for us—especially appreciated in cold weather. He also attends our morning rehearsal, all of our concerts, and our parties. Besides this volunteer work with the Senior Choir, he is at the church every Friday to empty all the wastebaskets.

In recognition of his anniversary, Paul Cooper, Choir President, presented Ron with a 25-year pin which he wears on his tie above his Choir Mascot pin. He also received a framed certificate in appreciation of his faithful service to the Senior Choir. If you have not met Ron, you can always find him in the balcony near the Choir, where he sometimes collects the offering. Ron is a good example of how FSA members open their hearts and make a special place for all who are part of our church family. 🌸



also in the community.

As a “preacher’s kid”, she was always moving, and became very adept at making new friends wherever her father was posted. Consequently, later in life when newcomers arrived in London, she made it a priority to welcome them, and it was not long before they felt at home and eager to put down roots.

In 1940, Helen married Rudy, a long time member of FSA. They had four children: Dr. Stuart Eberhard, John Eberhard Q.C, Elizabeth Jane, and The Honourable Peggy Eberhard. There are 11 grandchildren and 9 great grandchildren. Four generations of Eberhards have belonged to FSA.

Helen devoted much time and energy to the UCW, Sunday School, the Mission Band, Bifocals and the choir—where she was a member for over 50 years. She continued to attend church when she could until her death in 2006.



Her civic volunteering included Parkwood Hospital Auxiliary, The Rotary Club of London, the IODE, and the London Council of Women.

Helen and Rudy were forward thinking people and at FSA belonged to both a study group as well as a bridge club, keeping involved and up to date, and always encouraging others to join in and widen their horizons. Together, Helen and Rudy founded the Eberhard Music Scholarship Fund which enables FSA to have a professional soloist. The Eberhards were very fond of music and this legacy is one we can all appreciate and enjoy. The Fund has contributed to the fine musical reputation of FSA. Additional contributions to the Eberhard Music Scholarship Fund are welcomed.

In remembering Helen, she was a role model for us all. She never aspired to be the chair of whatever committees into which she put her efforts but did what was needed, quietly, and with dedication.

The world needs more Helen Eberhards, people giving of themselves, not for recognition but because it comes from the heart. 🌸

REMEMBERING...



HELEN EBERHARD

by Ellen McKim

Helen Eberhard was a people person. She was never more alive or happier than when she was engaged with others, enjoying their fellowship—not only in her church life but

FACES OF CHRIST...



IN RWANDA

by *Jim Silcox*

Rwanda is a small land-locked country in the very centre of Africa, just below the equator. With a population of just over eight million, it has the dubious distinctions of

being not only the most densely populated country in Africa but also of having the continent's lowest per capital income. As a result of the genocide in 1994—when over 800,000 Tutsis were massacred—a country already struggling with the problems of independence suffered an enormous cultural and economic setback. To help, several faculties at UWO have signed on with the Rwandan government and the National University of Rwanda to partner on key developmental priorities. As part of that commitment, I have gone to Rwanda three times to work on health/education related issues.

What have I learned? There are now approximately 250 doctors practising in the country, with more desperately



Twelve-Bed Labour Ward

needed. The Ministry of Health has developed a state controlled health care delivery system with about 400 health clinics, thirty district hospitals and five big urban teaching hospitals. While there is an adequate supply of nurses, the government's goal is to upgrade their skills to meet the demands of modern medicine. Hospital beds are at a premium especially in infectious disease wards. It is not uncommon for three or more patients to be assigned to a single bed. Families take care of all patient housekeeping requirements such as linen washing and food provision. Consequently, wards are crowded with both professional and non-professional personnel—to say nothing of the many patients and students. Although HIV/AIDS is prevalent, it is not as common as in most other East African countries. The big killer in Rwanda is malaria. After the novelty of sleeping under a mosquito net wore off—read: after one night!—I found the experience claustrophobic and the least pleasant aspect of my sojourn.

Needless to say, I feel a kinship with this beautiful country that goes beyond words. After my retirement from medical practice, it has been a privilege to participate in this worthwhile venture. 🌿

THE NEXT GENERATION



CHELSEA GREALIS

by *Valerie Moretti*

Eight year old Chelsea is a budding lepidopterist and knows many things about bugs, birds, and the natural world.

This delightful girl has always attended FSA, where her mum, Kathleen, teaches Sunday School. Chelsea's quiet demeanour disappears when she's at home. "Other people think I'm shy—I don't think I am". She likes to fly on aeroplanes and most recently travelled to B.C. where she saw a pod of orcas with a baby—Chelsea can distinguish between a humpback and an orca. She talked of the outgoing tide and the small sand islands left behind—between which she could leap. Chelsea's father, Clint, held a palm-sized crab in his hand but his normally brave daughter had concerns that "crabs might be pinchy".

Chelsea talks about rhinoceroses, auklets, capibaras and koatis, and is aware, already, of how various exotic pets are at risk. She has visited a parrot refuge in Western Canada, and has been in the rain forests

of Panama and Costa Rica. It is not a surprise to learn that Chelsea's future dreams include becoming a veterinarian—and a pet shop owner!

Like other girls her age, Chelsea has Hannah Montana and High School Musical posters in her room. She's reading Harry Potter with her parents. Her favourite books are the funny and stylized Geronimo Stilton series—about a clever mouse and his varied adventures. Chelsea's last birthday party featured a Pokemon themed cake which she helped her mum to make. BUT...how many children have their own leprechauns and fairies brought from a trip to Ireland? Chelsea's former teacher at Jeanne Sauvé did just that for each of her pupils! Chelsea's favourite movie and TV series are not the norm either. She prefers Zoo Diary to typical kid fare, and her favourite film is the late Australian adventurer Steve Irwin's Crocodile Hunter.

Named for a memorable region in Australia, Chelsea is just as unique as her namesake town. She babysits other's pets, raises her own butterflies just to set them free...and when last seen, had a snail slowly slithering across her nose! 🌿



PROFILE



MARY LYNN AND PAUL MANSELL

by Mary McKim

It was delightful interviewing the Mansells in a sunny kitchen, watching grandchildren splashing in the pool!

High-school sweethearts, Mary Lynn and Paul met at a Key Club Convention in Sarnia; Paul attending from London. Local hostess, Mary Lynn, requested a dance! Twice weekly letters and weekend visits followed. Their delight in each other has not dimmed. Married after Mary Lynn's graduation from Huron College, she taught school here. Paul joined EMCO after graduating from Beck. They were transferred to Regina where the eldest of three daughters, Jennifer, was born. Jennifer, Kim and Sara, all UWO graduates, are engaged in challenging professions.

Returning to London Paul changed companies, ending in his buyout of their London distributor, Robert Gordon, in 1979. Mary Lynn returned to work, contributing to their firm's success. They sold the company twenty years later to Swish Maintenance.

Neither Maitland Baptist nor the Salvation Army of Mary Lynn's childhood, met new liberal beliefs. Alex Farquhar's welcome at FSA convinced them, and in September, 1975, the whole family was baptised here—

the parents at the early service, the girls at the later one.

Mary Lynn's rheumatoid arthritis began at 41. Despite painful, difficult treatments, she has needed a wheelchair since 2003. They had already moved to a one-story home but I noticed the counters have not been lowered—Paul does the cooking!

Mary Lynn was a member of our choir and the Young Mothers' Unit of the UCW.

She attends Bible study and other study groups, is an avid reader, and has been a member of May Court for 23 years. Both of them regularly attend Sunday services, Supper Club and the Music Program. They enjoy Stratford's theatre and music programmes.



Paul has long been involved with Amnesty's "Write-a-thons". He is MOE chair, supporting Los Quinchos with the "White Squirrel Golf Tournament". He fundraised for LIFT and is acting coordinator for our Hospitality Meals. He was on the board of Mission Services, London where he chaired their Planning Committee, and is Past President of their Foundation.

We owe much to this dedicated couple! 🌸

PRIDE AND PERSISTENCE



by Gavin McGregor

In March 1833 Proudfoot, in keeping with secessionist principles, requested his new congregation to elect a board of management. William Robertson, its treasurer, applied for and received a half acre lot on York Street. Getting the land

had a bittersweet taste when Colonel Talbot notified Proudfoot it was intended for all Presbyterians in London, including the ECS adherents; a decision based on misleading information provided by Mr. Robertson, a former ECS adherent.

While a legal dispute over ownership ran its course, a church gradually took shape. Proudfoot wrote: "*This day [April 3, 1834] the framework of the roof has been put up. The business proceeds very slowly. What it will come to, I cannot tell, but appearances are not very smiling.*" The court ruled in favour of Proudfoot's congregation who opened the United Presbyterian (UP) church for public service on April 17th, 1836.

Although difficult, leaders of the ECS adherents

managed to keep focused on building their own church. In 1841 an application made on behalf of *Presbyterians of the Church of Scotland in London UC* for three acres on the east side of Waterloo, between Duke (Dufferin) and North St. (Queens Ave.), was approved by the Crown.

The invigorated congregation opened North St. Presbyterian Church in 1843. In 1844 a majority voted to join the Canadian Synod of the Free Church of Scotland and became St. Andrew's Presbyterian (Free Church). The minority, loyal to the Church of Scotland, separated and formed the congregation of St. James Presbyterian.

The principles of the Canadian Synods of the Free Church and the United Presbyterian Church were so similar that in 1861 they merged to become the *Canada Presbyterian Church (CPC)*. At that particular time, the UP congregation was in the process of building a church to replace the York Street church destroyed by fire in 1859. The new church named First Presbyterian, located at the corner of Dufferin and Clarence, opened in 1862.

St. Andrew's Presbyterian and First Presbyterian now shared a common religious philosophy. Check www.fsaunited.com to see how they became one church. 🌸

CHANGES IN MINISTRY



by David McKane

Changes in ministry happen for many reasons. The most obvious are retirement or a “call” to another congregation. But sometimes a congregation chooses to re-configure its ministry. With the elimination of Ted KostECKi’s position in December there will be one fewer ministers and a redistribution of responsibilities.

Ted’s work with Stewardship, Property, and MOE Committees was crucial. As well, he coordinated rentals, supervised custodians, and organized contractors. He and I have worked with the Trustees on the promotion of the Proudfoot Legacy, which has raised more than one million dollars for our future. All of this and more will change when Ted leaves.

Loren Mead of The Alban Institute notes that congregations are living organisms which change over time. When there is a change in ministry, she says, congregations need to look at three critical areas: program, process and direction.

Program, Mead says, refers to those activities which, while important, are not the totality of the ministry although they are sometimes perceived to be.

Process represents the bones and muscles that enable programming, and involves a complex amalgam of communication, facilitation, enabling and oversight—by the ministers and by the congregation. It is the “system” by which the congregation works, and congregations, like families, are systems.

Direction, set by the Board or Council, involves both past and future. What is it about FSA that we want to affirm and what is it about FSA that we would like to change? These two conversations, says Mead, involve the heart of who we are and are not always easy. Mead underscores what all spiritual counselors know, that, as with individuals so with congregations, the better you own your history the freer you are to choose your future. We will miss Ted but we also want to celebrate his ministry and all that he has enabled us to accomplish. Perhaps his greatest legacy is the Proudfoot Tree that graces the Atrium and, more importantly, the leaves already upon it along with those yet to be placed, leaves that will keep us green and growing into the future.

Thank you Ted! 🌿

DOWN THE MOUNTAIN



by Susan Shelstad

I was away on sabbatical for May and June of 2009, a time of rest and renewal in preparation for the busy time of transition ahead at FSA. It was a wonderful experience to have that time to read and think and meditate. I am very grateful to the M&P committee and the congregation for the opportunity. More information is in the sermon of August 2nd, 2009, *She’ll Be Coming Down the Mountain*. You can access it on our FSA website

<http://www.fsaunited.com/Service%20Archive.html>

FARE THEE WELL SHIRLEY AND TOM

by Paul Mansell

FSA has been fortunate to have the hard working Tom and Shirley Wynne in our congregation for many years. At their going away party June 10, jointly organized by the UCW and MOE committees, many members and friends gathered to wish them well in their new home in Milton. The appreciation and love we all feel for them was expressed in the poems and songs composed in their honour. Here are some excerpts from the three paeans.

*What will we do without the Wynnes?
I guess we’ll have to open tins.
They’ll make you soup, they’ll cook you cutlets,
They do the work of a set of octuplets.*

by Mary Lynn Mansell

*Shirley thinks she’s old Mother Hubbard,
She keeps wanting to clean out the cupboard,
“What good are these things?” To the garbage she
flings!
Makes some of the people quite flubbered.*

by Margo Christodoulou

*Property matters get Tom’s special insight,
Thoughtful and patient and always polite.
Shirley’s good nature makes Supper Club fun,
She and June make sure that everything’s done.*

by Jean Wright

Good luck Tom and Shirley--- We will miss you ! 🌿

ANNOUNCEMENTS

September 13	Carol Langford, Guest preacher Corn Roast after Sunday Service
November 2, 7:30 pm	Proudfoot Lecture: Amy Jill Levine
November 22	Diane Butler Bass, Guest Preacher plus 2 pm lecture

BEHIND THE SCENE



COFFEE CHICKS

by Mary Vernon

There is a valuable story behind the coffee that our MOE Committee sells in church on Sundays. In 2005, Maria Fiallos and Val Fiallos-Soliman opened *Las Chicas Del Cafe*, which is Spanish for *The Coffee Chicks*. The name pays tribute to Nicaraguan women involved in coffee production as they fulfill an important part in coffee quality. They pick the cherries and are excellent bean sorters. Proceeds from our sales help support Los Quinchos School for street children in Nicaragua and fund a charity called *Frutos Del Café*, where \$1.00 from every pound of coffee sold goes to projects in their Nicaraguan community.



Maria Fiallos & Val Fiallos-Soliman

Maria and Val and two younger sisters grew up on their grandfather's coffee plantation in Nicaragua. At one point, due to political unrest during the Civil War, they and their parents fled their homeland and lived in Honduras. They eventually moved to Toronto and then settled in London. Their grandmother fought legally to get their plantation back and finally won. In 1996, Maria and Val's parents returned to Nicaragua to work on the plantation.

Las Chicas Del Café, which opened in 2005 on Exeter Road, has flourished. Maria and Val have been featured in magazines and on CBC radio and T.V. Maria's own words reflect the family values:

Our family believes that traditional coffee production, the preservation of the environment, and the livelihood of its community are all intertwined. Our sustainable coffee ensures that our trade directly benefits our people, animal and plant communities in our mountains.

The delightful smell of freshly roasted coffee permeates from their business and Maria and Val pride themselves on providing a fresh product. Their two younger sisters, who also reside in London, and their parents, who still live on the plantation, are often working along side them at the Exeter Road facility. It is an upbeat environment

and the family is most sincere.

Las Chicas Del Café is an environmentally responsible family business that provides a great product to our local community and much needed support to Nicaraguan community projects. Everyone involved in this business cycle is a winner. ☘



CARE FOR THE CAREGIVERS

by Jo Ann Silcox

"See these Christians, how they love one another" (Tertullian)

"Bear one another's burdens and so fulfill the law of Christ" (Galatians 6:2)

Greek philosophers and Christian apostles agreed on one thing—the peculiar Christian praxis of self-emptying love was decidedly counter-cultural and definitively transformative. What was true in the nascent days of Christendom, is no less true two millennia later—as we learn again that servanthood trumps conquest every time.

Twelve years ago, in the face of staff losses and a growing pastoral care component within this congregation, we elected to pursue the possibility of care through groups as well as through one-to-one settings—and Care-for-the-Caregivers was born.

Initially posited as a once a month, short-term support group for persons currently dealing with realized or anticipated grief, this remarkable group now is beginning

"...this remarkable group now is beginning its thirteenth year"

its thirteenth year. Twenty-five members strong, it continues to meet on the 4th Monday of each month in the Parlour to share joy and sorrow,

faith and fear, births and deaths—and so much more! At any one time about 1/3 of the group is comprised of persons from outside FSA who have individually approached the church for assistance or have been invited by existing members. New members quickly become old friends.

Monday meetings are the trunk of a tree of love upon which grow the limbs, branches and leaves of a host of other care-giving activities. Daily phone calls, emails,

VIEW FROM THE PEW



NOTHING BUT A BURNING LIGHT

by Steve Elson

I'm going to ask the question.

Please answer if you can.

Is there anybody's children can tell me,

What is the soul of a man?

These are the opening lyrics of the song *Soul of a Man* written by American blues singer Blind Willie Nelson around 1930. It was also recorded in 1991 by Canadian folk singer Bruce Cockburn in his album, *Nothing but a Burning Light*, which I would describe as his “Christian” album. The answer to this question is given in the second verse:

I read the Bible often.

I try to read it right.

As far as I can understand,

It's nothing but a burning light.

Nothing but a burning light—what a beautiful phrase! At the same time as it minimizes the answer through the words *It's nothing but*, it collides with the words *a burning light*, which expresses profound intensity, brightness and a sense of eternity, something everlasting.

The concept of light and its corollary, enlightenment, are central biblical themes—the phrase ‘seeing the light’ expresses understanding, seeing things as they really are, rather than how they seem to be. One of the theological traps that Christianity has often fallen into is the idea that there is one ‘true’ way of seeing things, one light or one path to enlightenment—when there are many diverse paths—expressed not only through the many different religions but also through many variations within each religious tradition. Even within the United Church one can witness different ways in which people are encouraged to come closer to finding their pathway to spiritual growth and maturity. Enlightenment may never be fully understood and it is an elusive concept. Even when experienced, it may be virtually impossible to fully communicate or put into words. However, *Nothing but a burning light*, in my view, comes as close as anything else. Let our search for spiritual understanding be always present in us.

That's my View from the Pew. 🌿

drop-in-visits, lunches, dinners, hospital visits, healing prayer, shawl gifting, home-cooked meals, funeral reception committees, hospital visitation—are but a few of the spontaneous gifts of love which flow from one member to another and then out into the church family itself and the larger community. Wherever pastoral care is provided, one can be confident that one or more care-givers will be present sharing their love and their talents with others.

Our next group meeting will be Monday September 28th at 7:00 pm in the Parlour. If you would like to join us, please feel free to contact Jo Ann Silcox at silcox3@sympatico.ca or at (519-642-2152). 🌿

NOTEWORTHY

DAVE WAKE

OPS AMETHYST AWARD

by David Flynn

The Amethyst Awards were created in 1992 to recognize excellence in the Ontario Public Service. On June 18, Dave Wake was one of 25 individuals and teams to receive the Amethyst award for 2009. In Dave's case he ...was the glue that held together four governments

during a four-year environmental assessment review of the Detroit River international crossing ... As the planning office manager and study team leader in Canada, Dave managed a complex process by providing inspirational leadership, expert environmental

knowledge, skilled internal and external communications, a principled approach and high integrity” (Award ceremony).

This is Dave's second major award. In 2006 Dave and Winifred Wake received the W.W.H. Gunn conservation award from the Federation of Ontario Naturalists for their “outstanding personal service and commitment to nature conservation...” 🌿



Home care designed especially for you

Contact us today and find out how a personalized care plan can help you or your loved one live with independence and dignity.

- Nursing
- Personal Care
- Home Support
- Funding Investigations
- Free Assessments
- 24 Hour / 7 Day Service

London 519.438.6313

www.bayshore.ca

Bayshore
Home Health

- 30 Yrs Experience TV/Video Production
- DVD/CD Duplication
- Home Movie Transfers

Contact Bob Peel - (519) 668-7120
285 King St. Suite 410
email: info@peelvideo.com
www.peelproductions.com

PEELPRODUCTIONS

Jim Deacon
(519) 870-RUGS (7847)

DEACON FLOORING
CARPET, WOOD FLOORS & CERAMIC Inc.

EXCLUSIVE SHOP AT HOME SERVICE

1900 Hyde Park Road
London, Ontario N6H 5L9
Tel: (519) 472-2992 Fax: (519) 472-2998
E-Mail: jim.deacon@deaconflooring.com

Residential Renovations Commercial



**MORTGAGE WISE
FINANCIAL** FSCO Lic. # 11781

Margo Christodoulou, AMP

Mortgage Agent
FSCO Lic. # M08001296

PH: (519) 432-3821 FAX: (519) 432-0560
CELL: (519) 319-4489

www.margosmortgages.ca
margo.gmc@bellnet.ca

Sutton

Hugh Martin

Sales Representative

sutton group - select realty inc., brokerage
INDEPENDENTLY OWNED & OPERATED
250 Wharncliffe Road North
London ON N6H 2B8

Bus: (519) 433-4331 (24 Hr.)

Fax: (519) 433-6894

Cell: (519) 495-HUGH

Email: hughmartin67@yahoo.ca



Rates for Business Card Ads

\$25 for one issue

\$90 for one year (four issues)

Submit ads to

pdflynn@rogers.com

by middle of August, November, February or May

Invoices will be issued after publication dates:
First Sunday in Dec. March, June and September

fSa Program Guide

An inclusive Christian family encouraging spiritual growth through worship, friendship, learning and outreach

WORSHIP



*The Rev. Dr. Barry Moore
Guest Preacher*



*Rishi Sativihari
Guest Preacher*

DATE	SERVICES	PREACHER	DETAILS
Sept. 6	10:30 am	Rev. Dr. Susan Shelstad	Final summer service in Proudfoot Hall
Sept. 13	10:30 am	Carol Langford	Mission Sunday
Sept. 20	9:00 & 10:30 am	Rev. Dr. David McKane	Baptism
Sept. 27	9:00 & 10:30 am	Rev. Dr. David McKane	
Oct. 4	9:00 & 10:30 am	Rev. Dr. David McKane	World Wide Communion
Oct. 11	9:00 & 10:30 am	Rev. Dr. David McKane	Thanksgiving
Oct. 18	10:30 am	Rev. Dr. Susan Shelstad Rev. Dr. David McKane	Celebration Sunday
Oct. 25	9:00 & 10:30 am	Rev. Dr. David McKane	Music Awareness Sunday
Nov. 1	9:00 & 10:30 am	Rev. Dr. David McKane	
Nov. 2	7:30 PM	Rev. Amy Jill Levine	Proudfoot Lecture
Nov. 8	9:00 & 10:30 am	Rev. Dr. David McKane	Remembrance Sunday
Nov. 15	9:00 & 10:30 am	Rev. Dr. Susan Shelstad	New Member Sunday
Nov. 22	10:30 am	Rev. Diana Butler Bass	Anniversary Sunday Plus 2:00 pm Lecture
Nov. 29	9:00 & 10:30 am		Advent I - Service of Lessons & Carols

WORSHIP ACTIVITIES

FLOWERS IN THE SANCTUARY

If you would like to display flowers during the Sunday service in memory of a loved one or in celebration of an event, please sign the Flower Calendar outside the Chapel. Make arrangements for flower delivery on the Friday before and advise the church office (519-679-8182) of the wording you would like in the bulletin, and also if you would be taking the flowers with you or leaving them for distribution.

USHERING AND GREETING

Each month a different Narthex Coordinator chooses six people per Sunday from a list of volunteers willing to usher or greet. Greeters are stationed in the Atrium and Narthex to welcome people as they enter the church. Ushers hand out bulletins and also take up the offering. Contact Muriel Parsons, Coordinator (519-685-5409).

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

The lighting of the Christ Candle at the front of the church early during the service symbolizes the intentionality of the congregation to invite Christ's presence among us, and so prepares us for worship. Contact June McKay (519-471-5668).

SCRIPTURE READINGS

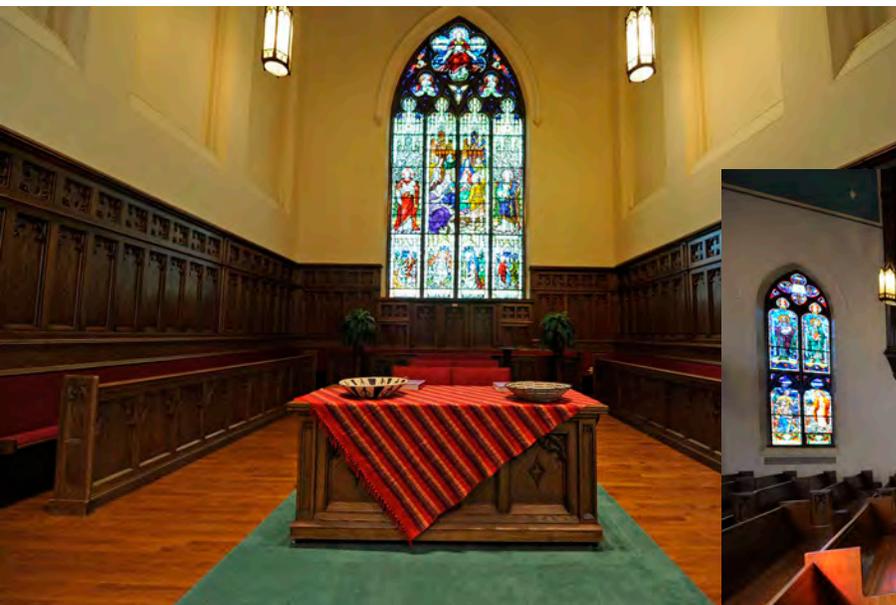
For each Sunday service, different people read the first scripture selection. We believe that the Word is active and living to the extent that it is enunciated and heard through many voices across all generations and abilities. Contact Elspeth Watson.

COFFEE AND CONVERSATION

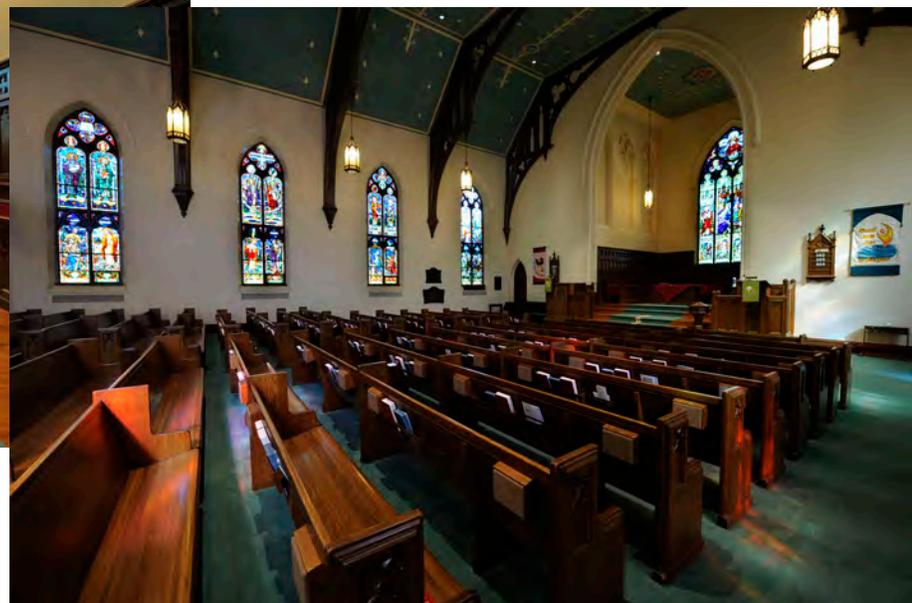
Every Sunday, following our 10:30 am worship service, the congregation is invited to remain for refreshment and the deepening of friendship. During the summer months, this takes the form of lemonade on the lawn and in the fall we move inside to Proudfoot Hall. This is an opportunity for each person to make contact and share his/her journey as a valued individual within our community of faith. Volunteers are needed. Contact Cheryl Samson or Amanda Williams, co-convenors, or the church office (519-679-8182).

BAPTISMAL PREPARATION

A baptismal preparation session is held prior to every baptism (usually the Thursday evening) to prepare the parents who are bringing their children for baptism. We explore the meaning of baptism, and prepare for the Sunday service. Call the church office (519-679-8182).



Photos by Richard Bain



PASTORAL CARE

In addition to the pastoral care provided by David McKane and Susan Shelstad, members of our congregation reach out to others in a variety of ways.

CARE FOR THE CAREGIVER

The 4th Monday evening of each month from 7:00-10:00 pm, in the Parlour, is a time of confidential sharing and caring among those called to give care to others in their personal and professional lives. Contact Dr. Jo Ann Silcox at silcox3@sympatico.ca or (519-642-2152) for details.

CARING CALLERS

Thirty dedicated callers make an average of six calls, four times a year: at the end of August; during Advent; in January; and during the Lenten/Easter season. Not all members are called and some people are called more often, if necessary. Through these calls, shut-ins, young families, pre-operative, post-operative—all those in need of support—are kept up to date on church services, concerts and special activities. The callers are also a very valuable liaison for the ministers and the office regarding illness, moves, and other potentially stressful times. More 'callers' are always needed and if you would like to share in this very special program, call Annabelle Logan (519-471-2518).

CONGREGATIONAL VISITING TEAM

Our Congregational Visiting Team comprises members of our congregation who offer ongoing support to our shut-ins. We have a visiting team of 30 who maintain contact with these members of our congregation on a regular basis, and especially at birthdays and holiday times. If you are interested in becoming involved in this very rewarding experience, call David McKane (519-679-8182).

COUNSELLING TEAM

There is a counselling service available to FSA members that is staffed voluntarily by Jo Ann Silcox, a psychiatrist, who provides initial assessment and follow-through counselling for individuals, couples, families or groups facing personal transitional crises. Referrals may be made through Jo Ann (519-642-2152).

FUNERAL RECEPTIONS

Bereaved FSA families often choose to celebrate the deceased member's life with a funeral or memorial service in the sanctuary or chapel. Many of these families wish to have a reception in Proudfoot Hall, the Church Parlour, Chapel, or Atrium. Our volunteer Funeral Reception Committee works with the family to make the event memorable, attractive and smooth running.

Tea, coffee, juice and water are provided to complement refreshments arranged by the family. As well, personal friends of the family may be invited to assist or offer their services.

The motivation of the Committee is to be helpful to the family, and make all the visitors who attend feel at home as they come together to support them. Contact Louise Slater or the church office (519-679-8182).

PRAYER CHAIN

Do you need prayers for yourself or others? Call Maureen at the church office (519-679-8182) and the name or concern will be passed through the prayer chain. First names only will be used unless permission is granted to use the full name. Confidentiality will be respected.

RIDES FOR SENIORS

If you need a ride to and from church and/or church events, call the church office (519-679-8182).

CHRISTIAN DEVELOPMENT



LIBRARY

Our church library contains many wonderful things—good books for all ages, videos, and periodicals—all for your use. Come in and check us out!

ADULT MINISTRY

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

Meets weekly from 9-10 am in the Sun Room (across from the Nursery). Wheelchair accessible. Lectionary based. Warm fellowship. Coffee pot on. We begin this Fall on Sept. 13th. Facilitator: Dr. Jo Ann Silcox (519-642-2152)

THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

This lively lectionary group will resume on September 10th at 10 am in the Parlour. Everyone welcome. Facilitator: Susan Shelstad (519-679-8182).

DREAM GROUP

Come and discover the amazing world of your dreams. We meet the first Friday of the month at 7:30 pm in the Parlour beginning October 2nd. For more information, contact Anne Cunningham (519-433-9663) or Susan Shelstad (519-679-8182).

SPIRITUALITY ON TAP

7 pm in the Chapel.

An informal evening of a movie and discussion about it from a spiritual perspective. (Popcorn too!)

- Tues. September 29: *Young @ Heart*
- Wed. October 28: *Through the Eastern Gate*
- Wed. November 25: *UP*

FIRST LIGHT



A new series from the people who brought us *Living the Questions*, *Saving Jesus*, and *Eclipsing Empire*.

First Light: Jesus and the Kingdom of God

Featuring John Dominic Crossan and Marcus Borg, First Light is a 12-session DVD and web-based study

of the historical Jesus and the Kingdom of God with two of the world's leading Jesus scholars on location throughout the Galilee and Jerusalem.

First Session - Wednesday, Sept. 30, then, October 7, 14, and 21 at 7 pm in the Chapel.

LABYRINTH WALKS

7 pm in Proudfoot Hall



Sunday, September 20:
Fall Walk

Sunday, November 29:
Advent Walk

YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

TEENS IN TRANSIT (TNT)

For young people in grades 7 and 8, this group meets during the regular church school year on Sunday mornings upstairs in the "Green Room" after the children's time in church. Leader: Nancy Howard (519-289-0540).

TEEN CONFIRMATION CLASS

A new class will be starting this fall for young people in grade 9 & up. Contact Susan Shelstad (519-679-8182).

IMPACT

During the last few months IMPACT has enjoyed numerous activities, including a bicycling trip and a Harry Potter-themed weekend retreat to Camp Kee-Mo-Warts (often referred to as Camp Kee-Mo-Kee by muggles), movie nights and a picnic and swim at Gibbons Park.

The IMPACT group meets every Sunday during church. The group also gets together every Thursday after high school and meets regularly for a variety of other social and service activities.

This Fall, IMPACT is looking forward to the completion of a media room in the upstairs youth area. Activities planned for this Fall include a weekend retreat at Camp Kee-Mo-Kee, a hiking trip, a Rake-A-Thon and several movie nights.

IMPACT has a junior group for young people in grades 6 to 8 and a senior group for young people in high school. The IMPACT program continues to grow and FSA members are encouraged to let other young people know about this dynamic program.

Details on the IMPACT program can be found at www.fsaunited.com by clicking on IMPACT. If you have any questions about the IMPACT program, please call Rocky

Moretti at 519-642-4896 or email him at frankmoretti@hotmail.com.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

CRADLE ROLL

A kit called "Growing in God's Love" is sent to families with a new baby to help celebrate important events until age 3. Coordinator: Martha Bere (519-641-6947).



Spirit Games - June 2009



MUSIC

First-St. Andrew's is committed to a music ministry that is rich in variety, grounded in spiritual integrity and inclusive of all ages. Consider the many opportunities—both choral and instrumental—to rejoice with us in 2009-2010.

THE SENIOR CHOIR

Our Senior Choir sings weekly at the 10:30 am Sunday service and in the Music at First-St. Andrew's Series outreach concerts. Rehearsals are Thursdays from 7:30-9:30 pm. Some music reading ability and prior choral experience are helpful, and regular commitment is essential. Contact Paul Merritt (519-679-8182 or 519-679-9173).

THE CHILDREN'S CHOIRS

The Junior Joyfuls (ages 3-8) led by Terese Sirek Ng, and the Joyful Singers (ages 8 and up) led by Paul and Enid Merritt always welcome members. Both choirs rehearse Wednesdays at 6:30 pm. If your child/children would like to join in the excitement, please call Terese

NURSERY

Our nursery is available at the 10:30 am service each week for infants from babies until two-years old. The nursery room is next door to the Chapel on the main floor. Nursery Staff: Lisa Chevrette and Erin Lovenjak.

CHURCH SCHOOL

Regular Church School classes begin Sunday, September 13th. Teachers and helpers are always needed. If you're interested, please speak to Church School Coordinators: Chris or Monique Silcox (226-663-2048).

Sirek Ng (519-432-2894) or the Merritts (519-679-9173).

THE LAUDAMUS BELLS

Our Laudamus Bell Choir is a friendly group of musicians who rehearse Monday evenings and play in services about once a month. New members are welcome. Prerequisites include an ability to read music, and knowledge of music to approximately the grade 6 level. Specific training on the bells is provided. Contact Barbara Plante, Director (519-472-4586).

THE FIRST-ST. ANDREW'S STRINGS

The FSA Strings is an accomplished performing group that has enjoyed increased exposure over the past years. If you are (or have been) an active string player and are from high school age—to much older—and wish to play with our group, leave both your phone number and e-mail address with Bruce Richardson, Leader (519-473-1023).

THE CONCERT SERIES

First-St. Andrew's is committed to musical outreach in

the London area through year-round concert activity made possible through the generous support of *Friends of Music*. Please see our forthcoming 2009-2010 brochure for details. Highlights of this season will include two concerts by our choir: A Haydn celebration with orchestra in November, and an evening of spirituals and gospel in April.

Music Report
by Anne Cummings

SPRING STRINGS

On June 14 the FSA Strings presented their annual

concert to a very appreciative audience in the Sanctuary. Ably conducted by Bob Kennedy, the concert was a challenging mix of classical and contemporary music, ranging from a Haydn trio to a Kenins Partita for Strings. The concert was enhanced by guest artist, Mel Martin, who gave a thrilling performance of Bach's Concerto in A-minor for Violin and Orchestra. The concert ended with a special treat of four American folk songs by Aaron Copland that were arranged for string orchestra.

It is very impressive to hear how much this fine ensemble has grown in their musicianship over the last few years, due to the leadership of Bruce Richardson. If you missed this concert, be sure to attend next year's concert.

UNITED CHURCH WOMEN

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. The UCW welcomes and encourages all women at FSA to become members of the UCW, and to help keep up the good work in the years ahead. For more information contact Laurel Kenney (519-439-9300).

UCW Report
by Margaret Wonfor

As the leisurely days of summer drift into the more structured routine of autumn, perhaps you are looking at a new focus for the coming year. Why not include UCW on your agenda? UCW offers women a caring warm fellowship out of which may grow deep friendships. Programmes are aimed at stretching your horizons in a variety of ways and may plant a seed which will grow into an opportunity for service to church and community. Each meeting has a brief worship service to remind us of our purpose as Christian women.

FSA has two UCW units. The Tuesday Evening Unit meets the third Tuesday of each month, at 7:00 pm for refreshments and at 7:30 for programme. Contact Louise Slater (519-642-7949).

The Mary and Martha Unit meets the second Wednesday at 2 pm. Contact Margaret Wonfor (519-645-1884).

Twice a year the UCW meets for inspiration and business. Contact Laurel Kenney (519-439-9300).

The Fall Rummage Sale and the Holly Bazaar enable the UCW to support needs within the congregation and within a needy community and world. For details see UCW Programmes in the next column.

UCW PROGRAMMES

ANTIQUE AND COLLECTIBLES SALE

Each spring, FSA holds an Antique and Collectables Sale, featuring a fine selection of silver, glassware, china, linens, jewellery, and other items to kindle memories of times long past. One wall displays a variety of paintings, and the stage features an assortment of quality furniture—which could tell an interesting story if only they could speak!

After the sale, the remaining items are stored for the Fall Holly Bazaar, the Rummage sale or donated to Orchestra London and the Rotary sale. Contact Convenor: June McKay (519-471-5668).

HOLLY BAZAAR

The Holly Bazaar on Saturday, November 14, can use the creative gifts of everyone to stock the gourmet table, the bake table, crafts, Christmas gifts and much more. Co-Convenors: Liz Mignotte and Barbara Williamson (519-435-0777).

ISABEL GETLIFFE SEWING GROUP

The Sewing Group meets Wednesdays from 9:30 am - 2 pm from spring until the Fall Bazaar in November. Everyone who is interested in doing hand work and machine sewing, cutting and stuffing, is welcome. The group prepares items for the Holly Bazaar. Bring a lunch—coffee is provided. Contact Lorraine MacDonald (519-433-8815).

KNIT WITS

This fast-growing, friendly group of beginning and experienced knitters meets on the second Tuesday each month from 1:30-3 pm in the Parlour. Our projects include knitting warm articles of clothing for adults and children in the London community, and prayer shawls

for those in emotional or physical crisis. We welcome all who enjoy knitting or anyone who would like to learn. Contact Marion Wilson (519-434-0530) or Ann MacKenzie (519-659-5055).

RUMMAGE SALE

The Rummage sale, Oct. 17, offers church members a place to recycle clothing, kitchenware, books, etc. which still have use for others. It also offers the community a shopping bonanza for good merchandise at an affordable price. Watch the Church Bulletin for notice

of when to bring sale items to the church.

WOMEN'S MARATHON BRIDGE

The UCW invites interested ladies to join the UCW Marathon Bridge group for the 2009/2010 season. Friendly, non-competitive games are played once a month from October to May, with each partner hostessing twice during the season. WE WELCOME NEW BRIDGE PLAYERS. Join and be part of fun and fellowship with friends. Contact Joni Pypka (519-681-6900) or pagegirl@sympatico.ca

MISSION OUTREACH ENVIRONMENT

This Committee is involved in a wide variety of outreach programs, both here in London and throughout the world. Some of MOE's activities are listed below. If you are interested in being on this very active and energetic Committee please contact Paul Mansell (paulmansell@sympatico.ca).

MISSION AND SERVICE

In particular, MOE is responsible for activities of the United Church's "Mission and Service" Fund at FSA. A few of the M&S programs are described below.

ALTERNATE GIFT CATALOGUE

Your gifts from the Alternate Gift Catalogue produced by London Conference, support Mission & Service Fund projects, both locally and globally. Go to www.londonconference.ca and click "Hope Book" on the left menu or ask Maureen in the church office (519-679-8182) to print you off a hard copy. Catalogue may be used to purchase special gifts for birthdays, anniversaries and Christmas.

COMMON OVERSEAS RELIEF OFFERINGS

Special offerings on some communion Sundays are sent to the United Church to help them respond to urgent humanitarian crises around the world. Contact Barbara Dalrymple (519-433-4460).

LOS QUINCHOS

Los Quinchos is a school for child street vendors in Managua, Nicaragua and is supported by a block grant from the Mission & Service Fund of the United Church. The proceeds from our sales of organic Fair Trade chocolate and coffee from Nicaragua support this project. So does the Sunday School's Big Circle Breakfast on April 5, which raised \$849.25 this past spring. Finally, the White Squirrel Golf Tournament generated over \$6,000 for Los Quinchos (See Paul

Mansell's report below.)

Report on White Squirrel Golf Tournament
by Paul Mansell

Emcee David McKane introduced Minnie Pearl (June McKay) to the 80 dinner guests following MOE's third annual White Squirrel Golf Tournament held in June at Ironwood Golf Course in Exeter. Once again the foursome of David Manness, Ivana Klouda, Bruce McLennan, and John Wittkamp won the title but they will have to practise all winter to defend against David Knoppert's planned foursome for next year consisting of David, Mary Vernon, Bill Knowles and Mike Weir.



It was a fun style best ball tournament. The best "shot" of the day was taken by Susan Fullerton—a digital photo of a groundhog. With the help of our silent auction donors and our Hole Sponsors, over \$6000 was raised to support the work of the MOE Committee with much of it going to Los Quinchos School in Nicaragua.

**Next year's tournament date is Saturday June 12.
Mark your calendars!**

We would like to acknowledge our generous hole sponsors: Brainworks, Las Chicas Del Café, Ian Wright and Wendy Thompson, Ken Somerville/RBC Dominion Securities, David Broad/Siskinds Law Firm, Remark Fresh Markets, Swish Maintenance Limited, Sterling Marking Products, K Thomas/CIBC Wood Gundy, Margo Christodoulou/Mortgage Intelligence, Zavitz Insurance, Jane Hill/State Farm, Michael McDonald/The McDonald Financial Gro, Terry Olver/BMO Nesbitt Burns, Bill McConnell/RBC Dominion Securities, Adrien Plante/Fanshawe Motors, Rob Kelland/Kelland Wealth Management Group, Sherwood Travel.

LONDON OUTREACH

ELUCO (EAST LONDON UNITED CHURCH CLUSTER)

ELUCO is located on Marconi Blvd. in East London and offers counselling, emergency services and support for families in need. We raised about \$1540 for ELUCO with the sale of cinnamon buns at Easter. Contact Linda Badke or the church office (519-679-8182).

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Each summer, houses are built for low-income families under the auspices of Habitat. MOE provides lunch and snacks for the volunteer builders for two days. Contact Bill or Jean Knowles (519-657-9156).

HOSPITALITY MEALS

This program runs year round on Mondays at 5:30 pm in Proudfoot Hall to provide hospitality meals for more than 160 persons. Well over a hundred volunteers have been involved, many of them from other churches. As well, several outside groups provide financial assistance including London Lawyers Feed the Hungry program of the Middlesex Law Association, Thames Road Elimville United church in Exeter, and Riverside United Church Choir. Contact Paul Mansell (519-472-4078) or the church office (519-679-8182) if you can help out.

LIFT (LONDON INTERFAITH TEAM)

Victory House now has 30 happy, secure residents living at 446 King Street. This was part of MOE's "At Home and Away" projects for FSA's 175th Anniversary two years ago, and thanks to the wonderful generosity of FSA and LIFT's other member churches, we raised money beyond our goal and along with the three levels of Government, the attractive building became a reality.

The Official Opening was on June 12th with representatives of the LIFT Council and all levels of Government. It was a very happy occasion to finally see this project completed. Thanks again. Contact Paul Mansell (519-472-4078) or Bill Knowles (519-657-9156).

ST. PAUL'S DAILY BREAD

Each month over 300 needy families visit St. Paul's Cathedral Food Bank. They are allowed to receive food once every three months. If funds are available, and if they show valid proof, they may receive assistance for utility bills. Volunteers also serve lunch to approximately 175 people, five days a week at their Fellowship Centre.

After church on Sundaes Sunday, June 7, the MOE Committee served ice cream sundaes during Coffee and Conversation. Young, old and In-between had a great time choosing from a variety of ice creams, sauces and toppings. As this event coincided with

the Spirit Games, children who were involved with the Spirit Games were given free sundaes. Our committee raised a much needed \$250 for St. Paul's Daily Bread. The remaining ice cream was served at the Monday night Hospitality Meal. Our thanks go to the London Ice Cream Company for donating the ice cream for this event. For more information on St. Paul's Daily Bread, contact: Jean or Bill Knowles (519-657-9156).

OTHER ACTIVITIES OF MOE

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

One small drop of water by itself is rather insignificant. Many drops of water together, however, can create a glass of water, a puddle, a river, an ocean. Water drops combined together have the power to sustain life, irrigate crops, transport goods and people, and produce electricity. Each year we sign postcards and write letters to countries around the world, for example, to Afghanistan to plead for the protection of women's rights; to Paraguay where indigenous people are dying from government inaction; to Mexico, where human rights defenders and their families are in danger; and to the US to encourage a new commitment to human rights. Over 175 letters and postcards were sent by the members of our church this past year. Together we have the power to make a change. Contact Janice Elliott (657-7183) or Jane Westmorland (519-473-1273).

COMFORT QUILTS

The group which meets to make quilts for Canadian Soldiers who are wounded, gets together from 9:30 am to 2:00 on the first Monday of the month in the Fireside Room. When the first Monday is a holiday, we meet the following Monday, so the first fall meeting is on September 14. We welcome anyone who would like to join us to cut, sew or iron—as well as chat. To date, we have contributed 6 quilts, and are working on quilts 7 and 8. Contact: Jane Westmorland (519-473-273).

ENVIRONMENTAL SUNDAY - GREENING OF THE CROSS

ENVIRONMENTAL TIPS

We welcome environmental tips from all congregation members to be printed in the Sunday Bulletin. We would also welcome an "environmentalist" to join MOE.

Contact Paul Mansell (519-472-4078).

GROW-A-ROW CANADIAN FOOD GRAINS BANK

Our 15th Annual Grow-A-Row (Canadian Food Grains

Project)—in conjunction with our partner church, St Mary's United—is continuing to roll along. Thanks to the generosity of Tom and John McLarty our crop is also growing well.

As of July 31st our members donated \$4272 for a CIDA total of \$21,360. So far, FSA is behind last year's total of just over \$6,000. If you wish to contribute, there are envelopes on the tables outside the Narthex, Atrium and Chapel. Our contributions go a long way to helping our neighbours in the Third World. The more we contribute the more CIDA contributes—on a 4 to 1 basis. Contact Bill or Jean Knowles (519-657-9156).

Our annual Corn Roast—with lots of other good food—is on Sunday, September 13 (Mission Sunday) after the 10:30 am service. We hope you will join us that day to help push the total raised closer to last year's.

OBSERVER

The "United Church Observer" is the United Church's national magazine, published 11 times a year. For only \$15 a year you may subscribe through FSA. Contact Mary Vernon (519-657-7568) or Barb Dalrymple (519-433-4460).

FRIENDSHIP LEARNING

THE BRIDGE GROUP

The winners of last year's bridge, announced at the windup session Wednesday evening, June 3, were Jean and Jim Young, with Bob Bass and June Bulloch coming in second. A new session begins this fall, so find a partner and you'll be included in the schedule of who plays whom in whose home for the months of October to May. The four of you set the game day and time for each month to suit your convenience. Players make only complimentary comments about their opponents and partners regardless of playing experience. Hosts provide refreshments (one dessert plus coffee or tea, maybe munchies to chew on as you consider your bid). Cost: \$30 per pair. Contact Jean or Jim Young (519-681-8119).

FAMILY POTLUCK

Jesus understood that people who dine together tend to build relationships with one another. With that as a spiritual springboard, many families at FSA enjoy dinners together in Proudfoot Hall on the last Sunday evening of each month. Contact: Jane Hill (519-641-7199) mark@hilltronics.com or Valerie Moretti (519-642-4896) vmoretti@hotmail.com.

MEN'S BROWNBAG LUNCH

Every Wednesday from 12 noon until 1, September to May, a group of men meet in the parlour over brown bag lunches, washed down with prepared coffee and tea.

David McKane is our facilitator—although we may still meet when he is away.

What do we talk about? —sports, politics (carefully), our work (and play)—and religion.

Religious topics range from FSA itself—the sermons, the music—to more general spiritual questions: how do we understand the varying views of Jesus? what do we say when faced with illness—or death? Contact the church office (519-679-8182).

SUPPER CLUB SERVINGS

We are looking forward to another exciting year at the Supper Club. Our group is open to all, so please feel free to come and bring a friend. We begin in Proudfoot Hall at 6:30 with a fabulous pot-luck Supper, then a sing-song with Paul Merritt, and a program following. We are usually on our way home by 8:30.

The programs have not been set as yet, but we are trying something new, where different members/groups organize the program and arrange for a team to help set up and look after the details for the evening. If you would like to be involved in organizing an evening or event please call convenor June McKay (519-471-566).

The fall meetings are scheduled for October 27th, November 24th, 2009, and for 2010 we have booked January 26, February 23, March 23, April 27 and May 25.

Music for a Summer Sunday



Adam Guthrie



Allison
Graham



Paul Merritt



Lois Cooper



Tom Swartman



Lynda Kennedy



Julie & Scott Kennedy



Valerie De Jong



Helen Guthrie, Anne Cunningham

FIRST-ST. ANDREW'S MINISTRY

Minister of Worship and Administration
The Rev. Dr. David McKane

Minister of Christian Development
The Rev. Dr. Susan Shelstad

Minister Emeritus
The Rev. Dr. Frank Meadows

Director of Music
Paul Merritt

Community Development Coordinator
Ted Kostecki

Church Administrator
Sue Scorgie

Administrative Assistant/Receptionist
Maureen Scarborough

Custodian
Geoff Bottomley