First-St. Andrew's Huited Church

VOLUME 3 • NUMBER 1

Lent, Holy Week, Easter - 1993

Access Project Moves Ahead

By Russ Gonder

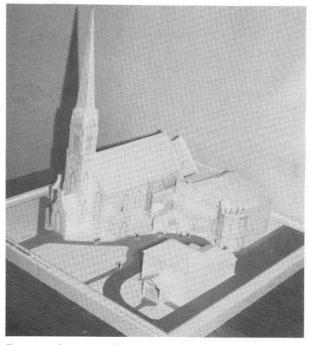
A capital campaign to raise \$300,000 from the congregation was approved at the Annual meeting of Feb. 1st. This amount will be matched by monies held by the Trustees, to provide the estimated total amount of \$600,000. The financing program which was approved, authorized the Access Committee to proceed with the completion of drawings and specifications and to call tenders for construction work when \$225,000 of the \$300,000 funds to be raised have been committed. Thus the option is open to complete construction in 1993, if the required funding is committed by April 30th!

The approved motion also included a recommendation to launch an estate giving program to restore Trust funds to meet future needs of the church.

No commitment to proceed with construction will be undertaken without the approval of the congregation.

The challenge of raising \$300,000 is seen to be an achievable one, given that the target is roughly equivalent to the present annual givings and can be spread over 5 years. Thus a commitment from each member that is equal to 1992 giving will launch this program to enhance our facilities for all who use them.

The program to undertake alterations to improve access to First-St. Andrew's was initiated at the January 19th 1992 Annual meeting through motions: to approve the concept; completion of a



Proposed Access Project

design and cost estimate at a cost not to exceed \$22,000; appointment of architects; that total cost of the project not exceed \$700,000; that further actions beyond the development of the design be subject to approval of the congregation, and that project planning and finance committees be established.

During the past year, the Access Committee has worked diligently to develop a plan which best meets the needs of the congregation and those who

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It's Official: Your New Church Council

By David deWeerdt

At this year's annual Congregational Meeting, John Eberhard retired as Chairperson of the Official Board. He will not likely ever be succeeded by another in that role. Our new chief executive officer is Doug McGregor. who will serve as the first Chairperson of First-St. Andrew's Church Council. On legal grounds, our newly minted Council remains "transitional", meaning that it must be approved as our church's system of selfgovernment at next year's Annual Congregational Meeting.

Responding to the Visioning Report, our new Council involves "bottom-up" election rather than "top-down" appointment of its representatives. It also blends the spiritual court (formerly the Session), and the temporal court (formerly Stewards) into one — the Church Council. The result should be more representative and more efficient government. Congratulations to our new Councillors!



Doug McGregor, First Chairperson, FSA Council

THE INAUGURAL 1993 CHURCH COUNCIL:

Linda Badke	Chair of Outreach
Gertrude Bergey	President of UCW
John Eberhard	Chair of Nominating Committee
Russ Gonder	Chair of Property
Brenda Gummeson.	Chair of Growth & Nurture
Jan Hendry	Chair of Ministry & Personnel
Paul Huston	Treasurer & Chair of Finance
Peter Kirkwood	Chair of Trustees
Bev Lindsay	Chair of Christian Development
Doug McGregor	Chairperson of Council

Bill Minion	Chair of Stewardship
	Co-Chair of Volunteer Management
	Chair of Music
Joni Pypka	Co-Chair of Volunteer Management
	Chair of Worship
Ev.Officio	3. A

The Rev. Frank Meadows (Min. of Worship & Administration) The Rev. Catherine Moore (Min. of Pastoral Care& Outreach) Paul Merritt (Director of Christian Development) Emily Woods (Director of Christian Development

Co-Chairs: and Bob Slater

Editor: Janis Hillman

Photographers: Jeff Carroll, Louise Carroll, Bill Minion, Spencer Inch, Andrew Kilpatrick, Elaine Wilton

Layout Artists: David deWeerdt, Stephen Gaebel Typists: Wilma Evans, Susan Carscadden-Mifsud

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First-St. Andrew's United Church, 350 Queen's Avenue,

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Four issues yearly.

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

Moving Ahead (continued)

are obstructed from participating in the life of the church. Five alternatives were developed and estimated as a part of the program to examine all appropriate options. Advice and comments were received from many members of the congregation. Other churches were visited to gain from their experience. The recommended plan was presented at a congregational meeting held on November 23rd 1992. This plan at an estimated cost of \$600,000 was approved, and a further \$10,000 provided to advance the design to a more complete state. Details of the approved plan were included in a report distributed to all members of the congregation with the last mailing of Tidings. A model has been constructed to help illustrate the proposed addition which is on display in the library.

The launching of the capital campaign is the final step toward the fulfilment of a desire that has resided in this congregation for many years. Enthusiasm for the project has been growing steadily and is evident from the generous donations which have been received prior to the start of the fund raising program, and already total more than \$36,000. \square

FSA Finances in Review

By Rick Ashall

Financial planning for church expenses is always a challenge. The needs are many. Whether it be for local outreach, mission and service contributions, ministerial and staff compensation or just heating the building, the total expense comes to over half a million dollars.

You will be pleased to know that Stewards, the Office Manager and the various committees take this responsibility seriously. In a spirit of partnership expenses are prudently managed. Under the newly approved Council structure we believe this partnership will be even more effective in the future.

Many of you may not realize that 85% of our expenses are committed to mission and services givings, compensation, presbytery fees and local outreach. FSA contributes more than any other church in London Conference to mission and service givings. We are in the top five supporters at the national level with our commitment of \$128,000. FSA sends just less than \$10,000 to Presbytery to support their needs, especially at a time when there has been less national funding.

Our Ministry and Personnel committee has a challenging job to ensure an effective working relationship with all staff and recommend overall compensation for ministers and staff that is fair and reflects market conditions. We spend just under \$300,000 on compensation and benefits.

All other expenses total approximately \$94,000. This includes our Music programs, Christian Development, advertising, mailings, heating and repairs and upkeep. It is a challenge to balance the priorities and needs and stay within the fiscal plan.

How do you fit in? Well, it starts with the pledge



Rick Ashall

you make to the church. Without your pledge we would not be able to plan nearly as effectively. This provides a good indication of what income we are likely to receive to support all the demands. The chart below provides an overview of the contributions received and the number giving in 1992.

As you can see, we have well over 500 contributors to FSA. The 1993 budget shows a \$12,000 deficit. We will continue to manage expenses prudently, but it is your continued givings that are essential for us to continue with the quality and level of the programs and outreach we enjoy. I am confident that with your support we will continue to maintain a history of balancing our finances.

The commitment of your TIME, TALENT and TREASURES allows FSA to continue to fulfil our vision of REJOICE! RENEW! and REACH OUT! □

<u>Range</u>	Number & % of Contributors		Amount & % of Total	
\$0 — \$500	289	52%	\$58,000	13%
\$500 — \$1,000	125	22%	\$84,000	18%
\$1,000 — \$2,000	104	18%	\$135,000	30%
\$2,000 — \$3,000	20	4%	\$47,000	10%
\$3,000 — +	27	4%	\$132,000	29%
Total	565		\$456,000	

Info-Line

Thanks to all FSA family members for their commitment to FSA committee work and projects AND also for their volunteer work in so many community organizations in London during 1992.

The communion offering for overseas relief collected at FSA on Jan. 24th provided a \$1,017.00 boost for the Ethiopian Self-Help Project of the London Conference of the United Church of Canada.

Communication with FSA is easy! During office hours (9-5, Monday to Friday) call 679-8182. After hours, if you wish to leave a message, the answering machine will accept it. Our new FAX machine can receive your written copy at 439-6838. To reach someone in the building after office hours, call 679-8234.

Miss Sunday's Service? During the week, drop in to the church. On the pulpit floor is a box marked OUT and it contains tapes of last Sunday's Service. Please return your borrowed tape to the IN box as soon as possible.

Interested in seeing all the rooms in FSA? Soon the Membership Committee will announce dates for two half-hour tours which are planned to follow 11:00 services.

Consider placing flowers in the sanctuary in recognition of significant family celebrations or in memory of a loved one. For available dates, refer to Flower Calendar in narthex.

Deadline for submissions to the next issue of Tidings is April 20, 1993

9:15 AM Service at FSA

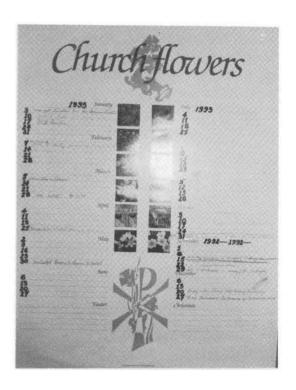
By Marion and George Mackie

For many, Sunday worship at First-St. Andrew's means the 11:00 AM service in the main sanctuary. An alternative, which a number of us find highly satisfying, is the early service held in the Chapel of First-St. Andrew's.

Some come for the convenience of the time (and parking). The service starts at 9:15 and is usually finished shortly after 10:00. Others attend because they appreciate the simplicity of the format, the contact with the minister and their sense of close personal involvement in the service.

Of course, we uphold the strong musical tradition of First-St. Andrew's. We sing enthusiastically and are joined from time to time by guest soloists, vocal or instrumental. We also participate in sacraments such as communion or baptism which in these intimate surroundings convey a special meaning to all who attend. The ambience is that of a small church with the difference that we enjoy the resources of a large congregation.

Do make a point to attend the 9:15 service for a change of pace—you may find it habit-forming. □



Church Flowers Calendar in the narthex.

More Lois Wilson

by Louise Wyatt



Has hearing her in person left you wanting more? Fortunately, more is available in her three books—Miriam, Mary and Me; Telling Her Story: Theology Out of Women's Struggles; and Turning the World Upside Down.

Lois Wilson, Guest Preacher on December 6, 1992

Miriam, Mary and Me offers, among others, the requested current retelling, (from Numbers chapters 27 and 36) as her sermon mentioned, of The Daughters of Zelophehad. Our church library has a copy (220.92) already in demand. Emily Woods has intriguing details of the book's contents: children's stories by various tellers "encouraging us to re-examine our ideas about women in the Bible"...each story with an introductory preface for adults. \$19.95. Woodlake Books. It is available at the Resource Centre and FSA Library.

A smaller 1992 book, Telling Her Story: Theology Out of Women's Struggles is one of a series on growing interpretations. Reading it is like having a series of private talks with its writer on Why Bible Stories through the Lens of Women's Struggles are Necessary; the past, present and future developments of this approach; and, as examples of how it works, two stories, one of Miriam and the escape from slavery and one of the woman with the precious ointment.

The book has grown from the author's forty years of experience. She works with knowledge, depth, enhancement of realization and interaction with present living. It includes discussionary practical advice and lists source books, some from Africa and Asia. \$7.95

And, good news, Wilson's autobiography (1989)

Turning the World Upside Down is now in FSA's Library and in bookstores at \$12.95, in paperback, very personally informative - a record of living leadership. □



Catherine Moore (left) and Frank Meadows with Lois during her visit at FSA.

Interview with PAUL MERRITT

By Jean Wright

Q Tell us about your background - musical and spiritual, growing up in Thunder Bay.

A I grew up in a strict Baptist family, where on Sunday we went to a morning and evening service plus Sunday School. My mother insisted that I take piano lessons, and like many children I would willingly have stopped at any time. When I got my Grade 8 piano, which was the deal we had made, I was all set to quit, and then found out my mother had enrolled me in organ lessons. Well that was a completely different world: there were so many more colours involved. I was so fortunate that my first organ teacher was Lawrence Ritchey, an American who had studied with Dupré in Paris, and then I had another fine teacher, Susan Marrier. Subsequently, in high school I was the organist at the Baptist church and then at the United Church.

Q How did you decide that your career would be in church music?

A I took first year English at Lakehead University, and I realized it wasn't the course for me. A friend, who had gone to Western, spoke highly of Larry Cortner, organ teacher at the music faculty, and so I transferred to U.W.O. in music. At Western, I was strongly influenced by Deral Johnson in choral directing, and so with the combination of my love for the organ and my interest in choral music, the decision really was made for me. I realized right away when I went to Moncton in my first position, how very fortunate and lucky I was to be in exactly the right job.

Q If you weren't a church musician, what would you like to do?

A In my teen years I was very involved in athletics, and I thought I would like to be a Physical Education teacher. Also I loved to read, so I thought, naively, that if I worked in a library, I could read all the time.



Paul Merritt at the organ.

Q Some people have difficulty seeing the Director of Music position at a church as a full-time job. Tell us about a typical week.

A large part of my time is spent in preparation and practice for Sunday Worship. I have to work very hard when I'm practising. At FSA, the quality of the musical literature is very high, and I feel I must spend at least three hours a day at the organ.

Preparing for the rehearsals of the Senior Choir, Gone Fishing and Teen Choir is also an important part of my time, particularly the selection of the repertoire. As well, considerable time is required to plan and look after the details of the Concert Series.

There are staff meetings every Tuesday to plan for the Sunday services, as well as committee meetings. Then, of course, there are the actual rehearsals and services of worship.

Q Describe the planning that goes into the choice of music for a Sunday service.

A Most importantly, the music ties in with the theme set out in the lectionary. Ideally, the music should be based on the scripture passages read. We plan the hymns in the same way, and we do it months in advance so that I can arrange descants, and any other special music like a prelude based on one of the hymns. The anthems, in addition to supporting the theme of the service, should also reflect a spectrum of

styles - Renaissance, Contemporary, fast, slow, loud, soft.

There is a special relationship that exists between you and the Senior Choir. Describe it.

A Maybe you should ask them! It's a wonderful group musically, but there is an 'esprit de corps' that I have never experienced before in any choir. When I hear other directors complain, I realize the unique closeness that I have with this choir. They are so responsive, and they put forward such tremendous effort. I try very hard to make everyone feel important, because each one IS important to the group, to our church, and to me.

What is the role for music in the Gone Fishing and Teen Programs.

A I think music is such a part of young people's lives. It is a language everyone can relate to. You often get a message across through music that you can't in any other way. We try to coordinate the music with the rest of the programme.

With the teens especially, music is so important. Also there is such a strong music programme in the schools that many of the teens at FSA come with a solid background, not just in choir but also in instrumental music.

What people have influenced your musical career?

A My mother, who is a musician herself, my organ teachers, workshop choral directors like Robert Shaw and David Willcocks were all significant influences. Deral Johnson who had tremendous influence on countless choral people, must be mentioned especially. I went to Western as an organist. He turned me on to choral music.

What do you wish you had more time for?

A Composing. Also I wish I had more time to practise and increase my repertoire. More time to listen to music, not just for pleasure but to learn. I wish I could take in more of the other musical events

in London - the Symphony, other choirs. And I certainly wish I had more time to read.

What do you do when you're not at the church?

A I love the outdoors. My father was a high school science teacher, and as a family we spent a lot of time observing nature and bird watching (although I would never admit to that as a teen). Bird watching is something that has stuck, and Enid and I love to go to Point Pelee and other locations.

What has been your "highest" moment in the almost ten years you have been at FSA?

A The first John Rutter concert. The choir had worked so hard. We were full of trepidation, and then, in front of a packed church, many of the audience musicians, to acquit ourselves so well, to have Rutter pleased...as a choir we moved to a new plateau after that.

What are your goals for the future?

A In the immediate future, the 93/94 Concert Series will celebrate the 25th anniversary of the installation of the organ. We are trying to arrange an exciting year that will capture people's imaginations. Also I'd like to get more people involved in the music - more teens, children, handbell ringers, senior choir. We want to encourage more congregational involvement during worship services like the responses to the Psalms.

Q Your title is Director, Ministry of Music. How do you see the music at FSA as a "ministry."

A If "ministry" is reaching out to people, then music can touch people at a very deep level. People have said to me, "That anthem touched me today." We try to minister not only to our own congregation, but to the wider community through our concert series. There is a long tradition of ministry through fine music at FSA, and Enid and I are happy to be here, and a part of that.

Tom Magee—Where is he?

By Marjorie Smith, Social Action Committee

One can see Tom Magee in his deep red station wagon all over the city — likely as not, with a bed, mattress or sofa tied on top of the car. His wagon is not a large one but it seems to grow with each load. A one man mover (I do believe he moves mountains), Tom will be found wherever there is a need.

He has been employed by Kingsway Transport Company for the past ten years. His nightly runs could take him to Windsor, Sarnia, North Bay, Toronto or Ottawa. I would call him at 8 a.m. to pick up or deliver furniture to someone in need, and his reply would always be the same. "Of course, I'll be there within the hour!" He is always cheerful, gracious and willing to carry out his task joyfully. The word difficult is not part of his vocabulary.

Many calls come either to First-St. Andrew's or to Tom requesting furniture and help for delivery. I wonder how many realize just how far we do reach out in the community? Tom is involved with the following organizations:

Middlesex Health Unit
St. Paul's Daily Bread Food Bank
Dundas St. Centre United Church
Good Samaritan Cupboard (a reciprocal project)
John Howard Society
Cross Cultural Learner's Centre
Ark Aid
Proudfoot House
Women's Community House



Tom Magee

Sister Maria of "Joseph's House" for non-sponsored refugees, works closely with Tom. This is a matter of giving and sharing in goods and space at Farquhar House.

Tom's hope is to set up a network amongst all the churches in the city, with one Central depot – a truly ecumenical endeavour.

What makes Tom tick? He says that to help someone in need was always part of his upbringing. His motto – "You never pass a neighbour who needs help." Who is your neighbour?

Godspeed Tom!

OBSERVER RENEWALS

Since last June, First-St. Andrew's has made copies of the United Church's Observer magazine available to the congregation in the narthex and outside the chapel. Direct home delivery has still been available to shut-ins who request it, and to individual members of the congregation who pay the group subscription rate each year.

Although our renewal does not come due until June of this year, you have the opportunity to renew now and beat the upcoming rate increase. Subscription renewals received in the church office by February 28, 1993 will qualify for the current group subscription rate of \$8.50. Subscriptions after that date will cost \$10.00, and the renewal deadline for them will be April 30, 1993.

An Observer envelope is enclosed for your convenience, but remember that the \$8.50 rate is only good until February 28th.

Echoes:

By Louise Wyatt

A bite-sized, one-per-issue investigative pastime of biblical references currently encountered.

For example. The restaurant sign across from the bus stop says Ichabods. Does this ring a biblical bell with you? An encyclopedia, concordance, some dictionaries, or a family bible listing Hebrew names will direct you to I Samuel 4, 21; 14, 3 for both the occasion and the meaning. "The glory has departed," for example, when the ark of the covenant had been lost. But why on the restaurant sign here and now? Maybe it refers to Washington Irving's or Ichabod Crane.

In ECHOES, Sherlock Holmes Wyatt invites you to share the pleasure of noticing, locating, discovering and reporting on such linkages. Herewith we offer you one for the next issue.

If someone says to you, "Call me Ishmael" what is implied? (When you check the name as well as the source you may be surprised to discover a sort of double-edged answer.)

If you give the reference and your answer well



Louise Wyatt

and briefly - say about 30 words - above, we used 50 - and get them in writing to ECHOES in the church office or by telephone to Louise at 434-2427 on or before April 4 we may be able to use them in the next issue of Tidings.

Watch for it and happy playtime! \square

Toc Alpha

By Sean Jones

Between Christmas and New Year's three teens from our church travelled to Toronto to participate in a leadership development seminar called Toc Alpha. Jenn Cull, Johanna MacDonald, and I took part in four fun-filled, action-packed days of challenges, hugs, laughs and tears, not to mention friends.

We all came out feeling well rewarded and also challenged to bring back other teens next year for new laughs, new friends and new experiences.

We are grateful to the Christian Development Committee for assisting us with transportation costs.

If anyone is interested in finding out more about $Toc\ Alpha$, please get in touch with Jenn, Johanna, or $me!\ \Box$

Sharing Graces

This is the second in a series of graces given to TIDINGS for sharing with FSA family members.

From Paul Merritt:

Bless the food upon these dishes, As Thou didst bless the loaves and fishes, And like the sugar in our tea, May our spirits, Lord, be stirred by Thee.

~ Amen

UCW Report

Holly Bazaar update:

Thanks to many hands, both of women and men, a successful sale realized \$9966.24, less expenses \$1784.78 for a profit of \$8181.46. These funds allow us to continue our support to such Charities as East London UC Outreach Cluster, Women's Community House, Mission Services of London, Sexual Assault, Camp Kee-mo-Kee as well as many others too numerous to mention.

Edna Robb Remembered

By Barbara Bain, Chairperson, Memorials Committee

Touches of beauty were added to the Chapel on January 31st when Stuart Robb presented antependia in memory of his wife, Edna V. Robb. They were in place on the pulpit and lectern as they were received and dedicated by the Rev. Frank Meadows. The Robbs attended the 9:15 Service regularly, and Stuart was on reception most Sundays.

Drop into the Chapel as soon as possible and look at these memorial gifts at close range.



Gertrude Bergey, UCW President, presents a cheque for \$11,000.00 to Frank Meadows for the Access Fund.

INSTALLATION OF NEW UCW EXECUTIVE, JANUARY 17



Back: Marjorie Smith, Ann Pinchin, Shirley Peel, Jean Comfort, Millie Bates.

Middle: Jessie Vosper, Marg Wonfor, Gerry Meacham, Lorna Kilb, Debbie Schram.

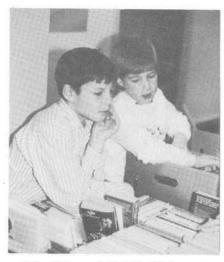
Front: Jean Hill, Grace MacIntosh, Gertrude Bergey, May Meadows.

Absent: Marg Hickman, Connie Murray, Marnie Parsons, Louise Slater, Mary Ellen Whaley.

Holly Bazaar '92...



...Enid Merritt & Mary Jane McMullen



...John Schram & Robbie Kirkwood review the books.



...Herb Wonfor & Bill Peel at the Men's Craft Table.



...Laura Adams, Karen Pergau, and Jenn Cull at the CGIT Table.

"HOLLY BAZAAR 93" Saturday, Nov. 6, 1993 10 AM - 1 PM

We need interested persons with project ideas suitable for HOLLY BAZAAR

> Call Debbie Schram, Convenor, 434-8189 or Gertrude Bergey, UCW President 686-9307



...Anne Boyd at the Sewing Table.



...Jean Comfort and Paul Merritt at the Gourmet Table.

Changes...

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

New Members

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



Received November 22:

Back: Alan McDonald, Joan McDonald, Rennie Keates, Mary Sue Furtney, Lesley Mounteer, Dave Mounteer, Jim Hendry.

Middle: Doug Bocking, Diane Knoppert, David Knoppert, Ed Ellis, Donna Ellis, Ruth Coghill, Vikki Paquette.

Front: Vivian Bocking, Carol Dawson, Jeanette Morgan, Cherie Young, Lori Gonsalves, Anne-Marie Favreau, Lori & Julia Chacon, Gwen Gunn, Joe & Michael Chacon.

Missing: Robert Coghill, John Fleet, Kim Harrison, Anita O'Brien, Mike Ruttan, Madeline Slimman, Kay Snider.

Next Reception of New Members:

By Transfer:

May 16

By Confirmation:

May 30

Baptisms

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

Paige Victoria Bastow John Patrick Fleet Tristan Thomas Cordiner Hill Thomas Robert Cynan Hughes William Ross Merritt Cherie Elizabeth Young

Next Baptism: March 28

Marriages

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

Richard Douglas Byers Andrea Sarah Baldwin November 28

Ronald James Warren Lori Anne Fraleigh December 19

Deaths

"Well done, good and faithful servant."

George Oliver AustinNov.	14
James HaldaneJan.	25
Penny Louise HanfordOct.	28
Amy Carrothers McArthurJan.	25
Wilson Lockwood MillerNov.	7
Ada Alberta MilroyNov.	12
Bramwell Silver Moore Dec.	14
Clarence "Biff" George Plested Nov.	16
Donald West Scott Dec.	4
Ethel Virginia Smith Dec.	9
Mary Emmeline StuartJan.	19
Mary Matilda Stuart Nov.	22

