

Tidings



First-St. Andrew's United Church



VOLUME 1 · NUMBER 1

ADVENT, CHRISTMAS and EPIPHANY - 1991/92

Child Poverty Action Group

Members of First-St. Andrew's are joining the battle against child poverty. "I know that this may sound pie in the sky, but our goal is the elimination of child poverty by the year 2000," says Barb Plante, chairperson and founder of the Child Poverty Action Group (CPAG) of London. "In the past three years the number of children in Ontario living in poverty has doubled to 403,000. Children are our biggest natural resource, and they deserve much better."

Barb explained that her inspiration for this major undertaking came from the visioning process our congregation has been dedicated to. Committees were challenged to dream big, imaging projects in keeping with our motto "Renew, Rejoice, Reach Out!"

Barb, Deborah Carter, Sue Scorgie with important help from Dr. Barry Evans, brought together London's agencies serving children. The new group is dedicated to addressing the fundamental issue of poverty in our community. Rather than to run a food program in one of our schools, they want to affect municipal, provincial and federal programs to combat the root causes poverty....p.2

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Tidings Renewed

Welcome to the first issue of *Tidings*, a newsletter service of the Stewardship Education Committee to the community of First-St. Andrew's. Five times yearly, *Tidings* will bring you up to date. Births, Marriages and Deaths. Committee News. You will meet new faces and find out what oldtimers are up to. We'll post opportunities to get involved, try to explain how things work around First-St. Andrew's, and much more. We will all get to know each other better. We hope you like it.

New Image for the 90's

As soon as it is officially adopted by the congregation, a new logo will be used on all of our stationery, bulletins and other documents. It represents our Mission Statement: "First-St. Andrew's United Church: a Christian ministry nurturing spiritual growth through worship, fellowship, learning and action." The new, contemporary logo incorporates the motto which summarizes the essence of that vision: "Rejoice! Renew! Reach Out!"

Designer Leah Morise describes it as "a symbol open to many interpretations that is personalized by the individual observer." "Some may have the feeling of the Christ figure reaching out to the people. Others may perceive themselves praising the Lord. The image is genderless and could represent any age, thereby reaching everyone. The simple flowing style has a peaceful impression, both timeless and contemporary. Reaching out with open arms shows acceptance of others and the support of your neighbours. This symbol is a culmination of my feelings and beliefs."

Our thanks to Leah and runner-up Larry Kinch for their dedicated efforts. Leah and Larry will both receive awards from Rising Sun Books (608 Princess St.).



(Child Poverty Cont'd from p. 1)

This fall 150 people attended a public workshop in our lower hall, representing a broad spectrum of the London community and community representatives. The Honourable Ed Broadbent and other notables addressed the gathering. Many new members joined the Action group.

If you are interested in participating in some way in this exciting venture please call Barb Plante at 472-4586.

New Visiting Minister

Reverend Herb Wonfor loves his work visiting members of our congregation whose health makes it difficult or impossible to get to church. "Visiting for First-St. Andrew's, I meet so many interesting people. We often share stories from our experience."

Herb has a long history as a minister, having been ordained in 1952. He has served in small towns and large cities in many parts of Canada. His first charge was in Peace River, Alberta, close to the border of Northwest Territories. Montreal-Ottawa, Toronto and London Conferences have at various times had his service. Now, two days a week, Reverend Wonfor visits some of the over 70 people in our congregation who need a visit. Visits vary in length according to the desires of the individual, often lasting about half an hour. It is planned that communion will be available in the New Year to those requesting it. "These are people who have preceded us to build and maintain the traditions of First-St. Andrew's. They deserve our care."

Visits can be arranged by calling Reverend Wonfor at 645-1884, or by calling Pat Soles at the church office 679-8182.

Tidings

Newsletter Committee: David deWeerd, Ernie Lee, Leah Morise, Joanne Silcox, Bob Slater, Mary Vandenburg-Taylor

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Submissions are accepted only from members of First-St. Andrew's. Contact the Chairperson of your committee, David deWeerd or Mary Vandenburg-Taylor regarding your submission.

The views expressed in this publication are those of the authors, not necessarily of First-St. Andrew's United Church.

Restructuring Our Church Government

John J. Eberhard, Chair, Official Board

In 1984, the General Council of our national church released a study describing several effective structures of church government. Over time, the roles of many churches' members, officers, ministers and committees had departed from their traditional functions in the Official Board Structure outlined at Union in 1925. New standard structures needed to be defined.

We, too, have deviated from the old Official Board structure. At the annual meeting this year we agreed to an ad-hoc structure for a new Finance Committee. Our Memorials Committee, along with some others, does not fit the traditional Official Board description.

There are signs that our current structure is problematic both for members at large and for officers of the church. The visioning process found that members at large desire more openness in church government. Many of our volunteer church officers are frustrated by the repetitious meeting and reporting at various levels of the committee structure. The efficiency and effectiveness of our present system is indeed questionable.

The Official Board executive believes it timely to review the options and seriously consider structural change. Not change for the sake of change, but rather, to greatly improve our present level of effectiveness.

I believe it is important to gather the leadership of the church into a singular Unified Board or Council. This would symbolize the unity of the congregation, improve efficiency, ensure confidentiality and provide the desired simplicity of organizations.

If these changes appear desirable, at the same time we must: find an acceptable way of preserving the time-tested concept of "eldership"; address the roles of our full time staff (our clear expectations, a well articulated personnel policy); maintain the functions designated traditionally for Session, Stewards, Stewardship, Ministry & Personnel and Trustees; be guided by the articulated vision now manifest in our mission strategy.

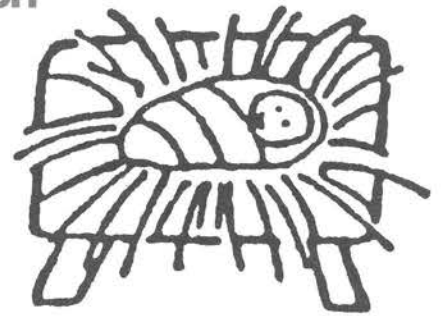
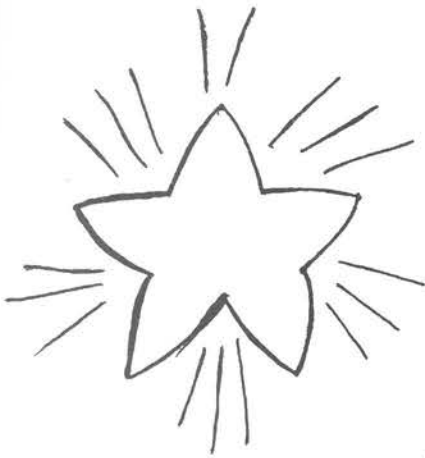
It is hoped that a recommendation for structural change can be made at the Annual Meeting in January. Perhaps a period of experimentation will give us a sense for the viability of the new structure? In any event, the congregation will be kept informed of our progress and naturally, will have the final say on any change to be implemented. In the meantime, any observations or recommendations by any member would be most welcome.

First-St. Andrew's United Church

Program Guide

for the seasons of

Advent, Christmas, Epiphany



Dear Friends,

Here is your program guide of activities for the next few months at First St. Andrew's. With the reception of new members on November 24th we come to the end of the long season of Pentecost, the final season in the church year.

On December 1st we begin all over again as we enter the season of Advent. Advent means "coming". It is a time of preparation, four weeks in which to prepare our hearts and souls for the coming of Christ at Christmas. With all the busyness of getting ready to celebrate this festive season the church invites you to prepare your heart for the coming of the Christ child.

Christmas, of course, is the season of celebration in the church. Coming as it does when days are short and nights are long it reminds us that Christ is the light of the world. "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness does not overcome it". (John 1:15).

According to Christian tradition the three wise men arrived twelve days after Christ was born. In our church, this signals the end of the Christmas season and the beginning of the season of Epiphany. Epiphany means "to show forth". In this season we remember and celebrate how God's light spreads out and shines in every part of the world.

On behalf of all of the staff at First St. Andrew's I invite you to join with us in celebrating these three special seasons of the church year. All of the activities listed below are designed to help you in doing that. We look forward to being with you and sharing with you in the weeks and months ahead.

Yours in Christ,

Frank
Paul

Deborah
Emily



REJOICE!



"And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God..."

(Luke 2:13)

OUR WORSHIP SERVICES

- November 24: The Reign of Christ
Reception of new members, The Rev. Deborah Carter preaches.
- Advent** December 1: Advent 1, Lessons and Carols
(Also special evening services of Lessons and Carols at Metropolitan United (RCCO) and St. Paul's Anglican Cathedral (LIFT))
- December 8: 9:15 a.m. Chapel, CGIT Candlelighting Service
11:00 a.m. Advent II, The Rev. Frank Meadows preaches
- December 15: Advent III, The Rev. Frank Meadows preaches
- December 22: Advent IV Christmas Sunday, Deborah preaches
(This will be The Rev. Deborah Carter's last Sunday with us)

Christmas

- December 24: Christmas Eve Family Service 7 p.m.
Candlelight Communion 10 p.m.
- December 29: Christmas I, 11:00 a.m. only
Guest speaker: Dr. Barry Moore

Epiphany

- January 5: Epiphany Sunday
- January 12: First After Epiphany, Baptism Sunday
- January 19: Second After Epiphany, Communion Sunday
4 p.m. Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, a LIFT Service at F.S.A.
- January 26: Third After Epiphany
- February 2: Fourth After Epiphany
- February 9: Fifth After Epiphany
- February 16: Sixth After Epiphany
- February 23: Seventh After Epiphany
- March 1: Eighth After Epiphany, Transfiguration The Sacrament of Baptism
- March 4: Ash Wednesday Service
7:30 p.m. in the Chancel

Come and worship at First-St.Andrew's as we make ready for, and celebrate, the birth of Christ. Our regular worship times are 9:15 a.m. in the Chapel and 11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary. Remember also, the first Sunday of every month we celebrate early communion at 8:30 a.m. in the Chapel! All are welcome!

MUSIC

The Music Ministry puts faith into action as it serves the congregation, reaches out to the community, and develops a bond of love and spiritual growth among its participants. Consider the many opportunities to Rejoice with us at First-St. Andrew's in 1991/1992.

There's nothing that expresses the joy of Christmastide better than the music of the season. All of the musical groups in our church are already preparing for the services in Advent, Christmas and Epiphany.



The Senior Choir

The Advent Service of Lessons and Carols is always a highlight for the choir and congregation. The Senior Choir will sing a variety of carols and other selections at this service and during December. On Sunday, December 22, we will sing a wonderful contemporary work, David Pinkham's "Christmas Cantata" accompanied by a brass quartet. At the Christmas Eve Communion Service we plan to repeat last year's premiere of Stephen Adams' "Christmas Mass," written especially for us.

The Teen Choir

The Teen Choir, under the direction of Heather Shadgett our vocal scholar, will participate in the Advent Lessons and Carols Service and will provide music for the CGIT Candlelighting Service at 9:15 a.m. on December 8.

Beginning in January, the choir will begin preparing the musical "Clowns" for performance sometime in May. Participation in this musical is open to all the youth of the church and it's our hope to get as many of our young people involved as possible.

The Gone Fishing Choir

As well as singing at the Advent Lessons and Carol Service, the Gone Fishing Choir will provide the musical leadership at the 7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Family Service. When activities begin in January, work will commence on the annual musical which has become a highlight of the program's activities.

The Handbell Choirs

All of our handbell choirs will be participating in worship services during the season. The Mixed Pealers will ring on November 24 and the Teen Ringers on December 22. The Ladies Handbell Choir will ring at the Advent Lessons and Carols Service and with the help of the Teen Ringers will perform the second of our Advent Noon Recitals on December 6. A special event these groups have undertaken is a concert in Dorchester on Sunday, November 24 for the Mossley Heritage Society.

Instrumental Music

A number of instrumentalists from the congregation will share their talents with us during December and January. We are especially looking forward to the music the brass quartet will play on December 22.

An exciting new group has been started by Bruce Richardson in the last few weeks. Bruce is directing a string orchestra open to all teens and adults who play an orchestral string instrument. Although a "pilot project" at the moment, it is our hope that this group will flourish and become a regular part of the music program of FSA. Please call Bruce (473-1023) if you need more information..



RENEW!



“...The angel said to them, ‘Do not be afraid; for see -- I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people; to you is born this day, in the city of David a Savior’...”

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Church School

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

The focus of the Church School program is the Whole People of God curriculum, based on the weekly lectionary so that parents and children are learning from the same Biblical texts each week. Unit III: A New Beginnings takes us through the Seasons of Advent and Christmas into the Season of Epiphany. Unit IV: God's Call/Our Response completes the Season of Epiphany with our response to God's gift at Christmas.

Church School Buttons will be given to the children to symbolize their belonging in the Church School. Designed by Nancy Hutchinson to be worn each Sunday, you'll be able to ask the children for a closer look.

A WARM AND COMMITTED STAFF WELCOMES ALL CHILDREN!

Co-ordinator: Karen Procnier

Resource Co-ordinator: Nancy Hutchinson

Gone Fishing

A unique program of Christian Development and Music for girls and boys Grades 1-6.

WINTER TERM: JANUARY 8 - MAY 6 WEDNESDAYS 4:00 - 7:00 p.m.

The children are welcomed at 4 p.m. with a snack and gametime. Following the Choir and programs, everyone gathers for supper, then closing worship in the Chapel.

The Christian Development program is based on special themes and the Seasons of the church year. On November 20 we will conclude our theme Food In a Hungry World with a Banquet to which each child will imaginatively invite a guest who does not have a fair share of food. In our worship we will offer our UNICEF boxes for children of the world and our food gifts for children of London. The next three themes will be: 1. Advent and Christmas. 2. Being All God Wants Us To Be. 3. Children of the Bible.

The Music program offers Choir for all ages with participation in the church service plus the annual Musical. In small groups, the Handbells, Handchimes and Kindermusic Program are studied.

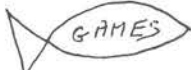
Cost (for the meal only) 1 child \$30.00 Winter/Spring Term
2 children in one family \$28.50 each
3 children in one family, \$27.00 each

Christian Development Scholarship Fund available.

Registration Forms: at the Church Office and in the Unit III Family mailing.

A high-spirited crew welcomes ALL children on board!

Co-ordinators: Paul Merritt, Emily Woods



YOUTH MINISTRY

CALLING ALL YOUTH GRADES 7-13!!

All young people of the church are invited to participate in as many of the YOUTH ACTIVITIES as possible.



Sunday Morning Youth Group

- Dec. 1 No breakfast or Youth Group. The Youth Choir will sing in the 11 a.m. Worship Service.
- Dec. 8 8:30 a.m. Breakfast.
9:15 a.m. CGIT Candlelighting Service in the Chapel with the Youth Choir.
- Dec. 15 9:00 a.m. Breakfast and Youth Group
- Dec. 22 - Jan. 5 No Youth Group
- Jan. 12 9:30 a.m. Youth Group starts again
All welcome! Meet friends! Plan the retreat!



Winter Retreat

February 14 - 16, 1992 – Pearce-Williams Christian Centre – Cost: \$45.00
Registration Forms will be available in the Church Office. All youth welcome!
(Christian Development Scholarship Fund available)

Canadian Girls in Training: CGIT (for girls ages 12 - 17.)

A place where a girl can be herself and share with others. The traditional CGIT Candlelighting service will be held at the 9:15 a.m. Worship Service in the Chapel on Sunday, Dec. 8. Meets every second Wednesday 7 - 8:30 p.m. Come and join with us.



Youth Choir

All Youth of the congregation, grades 7 and up, are invited to sing in the Youth Choir. The Choir will participate in the 11:00 a.m. Advent Lessons and Carols Service on December 1 and the CGIT Candlelighting Service on December 8 at the 9:15 a.m. Service.

In January, sign up for the BIG MUSICAL, "CLOWNS"! to be presented in May.



Teen Handbells

These youth rehearse on Thursdays at 6:00 p.m.. All teens are welcome to become Ringers!

ADULT DEVELOPMENT

"New Sunday Morning Program"

** Starting January 12 **

The Vision

We have a vision of inviting and welcoming each and every one in the congregation into a small SUNDAY MORNING CHURCH GROUP! The Whole People of God, gathered and learning together, would provide a unified focus for the church family worship at 11 a.m.

Your small group will be a warm and friendly gathering which offers fellowship, nurture and support.

Your small group will inspire loyalty where you can really belong! You'll be missed when you can't make it! WHAT you learn may be less important than being together, but what YOU learn will help to celebrate the joys, absorb the sorrows and meet the challenges of daily living.

The Offer

We hope to offer at least 3 kinds of groups and who knows what other possibilities may develop: YOUTH, ADULT and SPECIAL INTEREST Groups.

1. YOUTH GROUPS - Relevant youth topics.
2. ADULT GROUPS - Exploration of each Sunday's Scripture readings.
3. ADULT GROUPS - Special Interest Topics such as Earth Stewardship, Sacred Dance, Child Poverty, Ecumenical Decade of Churches in Solidarity with Women, Kerygma Bible Study, our Church Library etc.

The Plan

9:30 a.m. Meet in the Lower Hall for refreshments.

9:45 a.m. Meet with your group.

11:00 a.m. Worship in the sanctuary.

What Do You Do To Belong?

1. Plan to be at the church at 9:30 a.m. Jan. 12 and every Sunday you can attend.
2. Watch for posters, announcements, invitations.
3. Get more information from the church staff and the Adult Development Committee.
4. Inform others and invite them!
5. We welcome your ideas and assistance!

Thursday Morning Bible Study

9:15 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Fall Session will conclude on Dec. 12.; Winter Session will begin on Jan. 9, 1992.

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

Advent Study

December 4 & 11, 7:30 p.m. Parlour

What is Advent Anyway? We offer two evenings of exploration, taken separately, or together on the topic, "What is Advent Anyway?" On Wednesday, December 4, Roger Gustafson will help us look at something of the history and the literature of Advent - what Advent used to be; why Advent?; how Advent has changed. On Wednesday, December 11, we will view the video "Preparing for Christmas" and Emily Woods will help us explore the meaning of each of the four Sundays in Advent.

Join us in this informal renewal time, 7:30 p.m. in the parlour. All welcome!

Church Library -- Christmas Books

Something Old, Something New! Come into the church library and browse through our special display of Christmas books. You'll find some interesting new books as well as many old favourites. We have a good selection of Children's Christmas classics including illustrated versions of the Christmas Story. Parents and leaders will find useful resources for children's Advent and Christmas activities.

For inquiring adults, we recommend *The First Christmas: What Really Happened* and the nostalgic *Memory of a Large Christmas* as well as beautiful volumes about Christmas and the art through the centuries such as *The Child Jesus*. And if you feel caught in a whirlwind of festive preparations, a new book, *Unplug the Christmas Machine*, may provide welcome relief!

Women's Ministry Ongoing

U.C.W. units continue to meet the 3rd Tuesday (eve.), 2nd Wednesday (am) and 1st Thursday (eve.) of each month. We meet for study, witness, fellowship and service. Contact the U.C.W. President, Debbie Schram, for more details.



Women's Spirituality Group

A Women's Spirituality Group continues to meet every other Wednesday, 7:30 p.m. in the parlour. Deborah will continue to facilitate this group until the end of February as we complete the book *Women At the Well*.

The Men's Breakfast Club

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

The Men's Study Group

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

The Practice of Prayer Continues

Join us in the Kindergarten Room (up from Deb's office) on Sunday Nov. 17, Dec. 1 and Dec. 15 (from 9:15 - 10:15 a.m.) for the last three sessions of "The Practice of Prayer". Bringing the whole person to prayer, we are exploring and practising ways of praying with our heart and soul and mind and strength. Facilitated by Deborah.

Ecumenical Decade - Churches In Solidarity With Women 1988/98

Our Mission Education Committee has brought together a sub-committee to encourage the "Decade" study in our congregation. Already some UCW Units have begun to look at the issues and there are plans for children and youth programs. We challenge all in the congregation to begin the reading and to focus on the issues. Our church library has a resource section. Co-ordinator: Allana Shore



Groups for Friendship and Learning

Twentysomething

Ages 18 to 30, all are welcome. This fun-loving, food-loving group meets the 3rd Monday of each month. On December 16 we plan to "Carol" at Parkwood Hospital, then indulge in Christmas goodies. Contact: Leah Morise 438-8109. We welcome you and your ideas!



Thirtysomething

A group for the thirtysomething folk is up and running! We are a friendly bunch, rather loosely organized, so that our time and energies are well put to fun and renewal! Newcomers are always welcome. In September we had great conversation and food, in October we enjoyed Playin' the Palace (& food). You don't have to like food to join us, but it helps... because on December 6, we will gather at the church for a pot-luck supper (food!, carolling, etc.) at 6:30 p.m. in the youth room. Calling all Thirtysomething persons! Consider this your invitation to be there! Contact Rev. Deb (679-8182) or Linda Badke (432-5420) for more info or to R.S.V.P. Also, reserve Friday, January 10 for our next gathering (hopefully in the snow).

Kumjoinus

The next dates are Saturday, December 7, 7:30 p.m. for Christmas dinner at Martha and Peter Kirkwoods, 15 Cherokee Rd. (642-2519) and Saturday, February 8, 8:00 p.m. for Sports Night, RR#3 Komoka, Fran and John Eberhard.

Bifocals (at least 40!)

Will meet for dinner on the fourth Tuesday of January 6:30 p.m. Includes singsong with Paul Merritt and a program. Co-ordinators Barbara and Glen Bain.



REACH OUT!



"So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they say this, they made known what had been told them about this child..."
(Luke 2:16, 17)

Social Action

The Social Action Committee wants to remind the congregation that the second Sunday of every month is our collection of baby food. We invite you to bring in jars of baby food or formula to support the Daily Bread project at St. Paul's Cathedral. The fourth Sunday of each month is our regular food drive to fill our emergency food cupboard. We are always in need of non-perishable foods such as cereals, peanut butter and canned goods. Our new boxes will be set up in the Narthex and under the mural in the Lower Hall. There is also a basket outside the Chapel. Your help is always appreciated. The Ark Aid Soup Kitchen is also an outreach ministry of our congregation. We are planning to prepare and serve a Christmas meal on December 25 at 2 p.m., and we welcome your help! Some of the food could be prepared the day before and warmed. Please contact Kerry Stover (472-2590) or Sue Scorgie (685-0084) if you can assist in any way. Sunday, January 12 (2 p.m.) is our next regularly scheduled meal at Ark Aid. Please consider helping to prepare and/or serve the meal that day.

Personal Counselling and Development Service

Our volunteer counselling service is available on Tuesdays, 6:00 - 10:00 p.m. at First-St. Andrew's. Three members of our congregation continue to offer their professional services, without cost, to the congregation and others. Dr. JoAnn Silcox provides personal counselling directed toward emotional health and relationship concerns. Ardath Findbogasan-Hill is available for young adults to discuss any concerns, and Kerry Hill will offer direction regarding career choices, personal goal-setting and time management. To arrange an appointment, please contact Pat Sole at 679-8182.

The Music at First-St. Andrew's Concert Series

Through the generous support of "Friends of Music" FSA sponsors an excellent Concert Series which presents a wide variety of musical programs including organ recitals, vocal concerts, vocal/orchestral concerts and instrumental recitals, as a musical outreach to the community.

Sunday, November 24 8:00 p.m. **Aeolian Winds:** Fiona Wilkinson (flute), Ian Franklin (oboe), Ross Edwards (clarinet), David Haward (bassoon), Derek Conrod (french horn)
Admission \$8.00 and \$6.00

Friday Advent Noon Recitals

12:00 - 12:30 p.m. Luncheon (\$4.00) served following

November 29 The Corelli Chamber Ensemble, Pat Burrows (conductor)
December 6 The Ladies Handbell Choir, Barbara Plante (conductor)
December 13 John Marett of Guelph reading "A Child's Christmas in Wales"
by Dylan Thomas

From England with Love

Saturday, February 15 at 8:00 p.m. A concert of English vocal music featuring the soloists of FSA choir: Mary Ellen Gustafson (soprano) Elizabeth Van Doorne (contralto) Kevin Kossatz (tenor) Ross Dodington (bass)

Admission \$8.00 and \$6.00



The Ecumenical Decade of Churches in Solidarity with Women

MISSION STUDY
THEME
1991-1992

What is this Decade everyone is referring to?

The Ecumenical Decade of Churches in Solidarity with Women. The World Council of Churches has declared 1988-1998 as the Decade, and our National Church has determined that this topic will be the focus of our Mission study for the next two years. Churches need to address the issues which continue to keep women from full participation in church and society.

Don't you think a "Decade" makes too much of the situation of women in our society?

No. Lets look at some statistics:

1 out of every 10 women in Canada is physically abused by her partner -- some feel this is a conservative estimate and that 1 in 6 reflects a more accurate number.

In 1987, 59% of Canadian adults living in poverty were women -- despite the increased participation of women in the labour force. 57% of single-parent families headed by women in 1987, lived below the poverty line.

Worldwide, women do 70% of the manual labour but only own 1% of the world's property.

What can we do here at First-St.Andrew's?

First of all, we must improve our awareness of the issues which impact on the lives of women both within our church, and within our society. We must be willing to educate ourselves both individually and collectively.

A few ideas to start with:

- ☛ go to the church library and look for the section on Decade Resources. Try: the mission study on how media affect our perceptions of women, *Women In Transition*, a women's bible study; the list of Decade resources. There is much more!
- ☛ are you inclusive in your own use of language?
- ☛ learn about women's issues and how they effect both men and women.

The Mission Education Committee and The Ecumenical Decade Committee request that you spend some time contemplating the issues affecting the lives of millions of women in Canada and abroad. We can make changes for the better.

Did Jesus Set the Example?

Bob Slater

Jesus probably used his skill as a carpenter to help others by repairing and building things. Russ Gonder, who chairs the church's property committee, is hoping that many of the First-St. Andrew's family with fixit skills (or who would work along with someone who does) will become part of the new **Tackle-a-Task** program. Russ has collected ideas for repairs and improvements which will be listed in the next issue of Tidings along with a list of skills needed. Please tell family members/friends who can work with wood, metal, concrete, paint, electricity or plumbing to watch for these opportunities to RENEW parts of the church that need fixing. REACH OUT, call Russ at 438-8467, and leave a message that they will help.

Deaths

"Well done, good and faithful servant."

Elda Elearnor Cossey	Oct. 31
Herbert Johnston Farrow	July 18
Alma Josephine Jones	Aug 11
Harold William Kemp	Oct 4
Helen Watt MacDougall	Aug 10
Lily Winifred MacRae	July 26
John Alexander Stein	Sept 10
Edith Eleanor Treleaven	Aug 18
Sanford Dolse Valentine	Oct 5
Kelly Lorraine Woodward	July 4

The Reverend Deborah Carter: Our Personal Reflections

Reverend Carter has been called to move on from First-St. Andrew's. Though we have known her only a short time, we have become quite attached to her strong and personal ministry. These are the thoughts of a few who, in the life of the church, have come to know Deborah and her ministry well.

Dr. Jo Ann Silcox, Ardath and Kerry Hill

Deborah Carter emanates a spiritual essence and peacefulness which engulfs those in her presence. She has a warmth and ability to listen from the heart which has awakened the inner spirits of many. Her ministry has been one of action and outreach: providing the spark which has ignited exciting ideas within the congregation and the community. Her support and encouragement allowed the first step toward our vision of a faith-based counselling service to become a reality. Deborah has also provided guidance, wisdom and insight as we have, individually, explored our own spiritual journeys. She has had a profound impact on our lives. Her gift of personal peace and healing is one we on the counselling team each feel called to share with others - a gift that will remain with us and the congregation for as long as we remember to feel it.

Al Taylor

Deborah's influence has been felt by most of us during her brief stay at First-St. Andrew's. In the pulpit, in group meetings and workshops, her spiritual message comes through with unusual sincerity. Those who have sought her counsel have found a most sympathetic listener, and a source of advice and comfort. Her captivating smile and infectious laughter have endeared her to us, just as her love and compassion have comforted the distressed, the sick and the grieving.

Sue Scorgie

Through the Social Action Committee, I have had the opportunity of working closely with Deborah. Over the past year and a half I have discovered that life with Rev. Deb is never dull. Her sense of outreach extends to many areas: from young immigrant families, to aboriginal rights, to children living in poverty. Deborah's enthusiasm and sense of urgency often drew many of us together and provided us with direction and energy. Many of the events, which grew from our discussions, were well orchestrated. For others, we flew on a wing and a prayer (my wing...her prayer!). Deborah has brought to us her special presence, her humour, a strength and a focus. To me she has been a leader, a partner and a friend. She will be missed at First-St. Andrew's, but I sense that there is yet much for her to do.

Baptisms

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

Karsten Pravoslav Babin	Amanda Louise Johnston
Charles Bateman Ballantyne	James Cameron Ballantyne
Kathryn Anne Ballantyne	Killoran
Andrew Robert Belanger	Madeline Marie Lenehan
Timothy John Belanger	Rachel Joanne Macaulay
Matthew Phillip Belanger	Andrea Tara Maznevski
Connor Campbell Frederick Borland	Kathryn Marie Maznevski
Samuel Hearne Colborne	David James Mills
MacKenzie Stuart Connell	Jonathan Derek Rogan
James Weldon Hayward	Andrew Robert Ross
Sarah Anastasia Ilnyckyj	Lindsay Nicole Stanlick
Laura Danielle Irvine	Eric Stephan Stewardson
	Kaitlin Lois Turner

The Search is On

Bob Slater

On November 3rd, the congregation elected a pastoral relations search committee to find the right person to succeed Deborah and to become a part of our shared ministry team at First-St. Andrew's. You are invited to share your ideas with a member or write to the committee at the church. Our thanks to each of the 15 from the FSA family and to Isabel Hill and the Rev. Fred MacKinnon from Middlesex Presbytery for undertaking this difficult assignment.

Meet the committee: Barbara Bain, Charlotte Ann Bell, Madeline Cram, Stuart Eberhard, Mark Farrow, Jan Hendry, Ted Kostecki, Doug McGregor, Ross McMullen, Aggie Ramsden, Heather Reid, Jim Silcox, Kerry Stover, Al Taylor. Consult your church directory for numbers to call.