

Tidings

First- St. Andrew's United Church

VOLUME 3 • NUMBER 4

ADVENT, CHRISTMAS, EPIPHANY 93/94



Corinne King

WITH LOVE FROM FSA

By Sue Scorgie, Social Action Committee

Sitting in Corinne King's living room one afternoon, I listened as she excitedly displayed the contents of a baby hamper. The hamper would soon be given to a young, London mother with a new baby. What she showed me represented many hours of thought, effort and expertise. It also represented a labour of love.

First-St. Andrew's has sent over one hundred baby hampers to young families through St. Paul's Daily Bread over the past five years. Many of us have heard them mentioned over the years, but few of us really know what is involved in producing one.

Each hamper contains a handmade blanket; a knitted hat, sweater and booties set; cloth diapers; rubber pants; pins; receiving blankets; vests; bibs; sleepers; bottles; and a baby pack of products. All of this is assembled in a large, plastic laundry basket.

Corinne sews the blankets. Other items she purchases, making use of half-price sales and senior discounts. In the early stages Corinne knit all of the sweater sets herself as well as sewing quilts, diapers, nighties and stuffed animals. As the demand for the baby hampers grew, she requested help from knitters in our congregation. There have been many over the years Corinne tells me. These ladies keep Corinne supplied with hand knit sweater sets in a rainbow of colours.

Thanks to FSA mothers, a bag of used clothing is given with each hamper. To top the layette is a soft stuffed animal. The completed hamper is appealing and goes a long way toward meeting the needs of a newborn.

When asked what the congregation can do to help, Corinne responded with a request for more knitters and contributions of used baby clothes. Money donations should be earmarked "Baby Hamper Project". ..Continued over

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The baby hampers and our collection of baby food for St. Paul's Daily Bread (2nd Sunday of the month) are truly examples of First-St. Andrew's reaching out to the community. Corinne's devotion to this project is obvious and her energy must be applauded.

ECHOES:

By Louise Wyatt

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



Louise Wyatt

Emily Brontë's novel Wuthering Heights answers the clues given in the last issue.

For smiles: Beneath the word Ichabods on the Richmond Street restaurant/bar sign appears "the Legend Returns". I wonder if the management and patrons have made the connection with I Samuel 4:21 and 14:3?

Ed. - This concludes the current series of Echoes. Our thanks to Louise for the challenges she has prepared for us. Watch for a new series on the Marian Keith Club which celebrates the 80th anniversary of its founding in 1994.

Tidings

Chairperson	Bob Slater
Editor	Janis Hillman
Photographers	Jeff Carroll, Bill Guthrie, Spencer Inch, Emily Woods
Layout Artist	Bill Minion
Typist	Pat Sole
UCW Rep	Margaret Wonfor
Stewardship	Howard Capes
Distribution	Bob Slater and Team
Publisher	Claire Galbraith, Alton Ross and Team The Education Committee of Stewardship, First-St. Andrew's United Church, 350 Queens Avenue, London, Ontario N6B 1X6 Tel: (519) 679-8182 Fax: (519) 439-6838

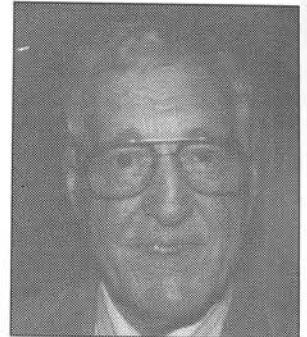
Four issues yearly. News deadline for next issue: January 4, 1994

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 Church.

KERYGMA BIBLE STUDY - WHAT AN EXPERIENCE!

By Kenneth Bray

Think of a bright Sunday morning; the time is just after 9:00 o'clock. Our destination is the Kerygma Room where a study group meets weekly under the watchful eye of Dr. Jo Ann Silcox. Our group is rather small (and not always consistent in personnel) which means that there is much more individual responsibility both in the readings and the ensuing discussions. However, it also means more personal soul-searching and more intimate disclosure.



Ken Bray

We accept that the Bible offers a series of verbal snapshots reflecting various historical periods and various cultures, all quite different from ours, but it also reveals many fundamental truths as it deals with basic universal problems. Drawing background material from our own limited experiences, from reference books, and Jo Ann's careful preparation and seemingly limitless knowledge, we attempt to come to grips with Christian fundamentals as well as the different ways in which these are presented by the teachers and writers of the gospel to their contemporaries. The study is in depth.

Factual information from the stories and parables inundate us; realising that much of this information is open to varied interpretations only adds to the confusion. Is it any wonder that there are so many religions in the world! However, reflection and the insight provided by scholarly biblical commentaries help to increase our clarity and understanding, and soon we find that our horizons have been extended. New interpretations of passages we have known since childhood have been provocative, and a re-examination of fundamentals has been stimulating. We are comforted and become more tolerant. We realise that various translations of the several original biblical languages, as well as varying interpretations of these writings, often reflect newly discovered archaeological information. In any case, basic truths are not significantly altered. Surely church activities like Kerygma represent some of the "green patches of spirituality" mentioned by sociologist Reginald Bibby in his latest book.

This study is a most enlightening experience. We are grateful for the opportunity of participating, especially under the guidance of a learned and patient leader like Jo Ann.

A TEAM OF 37 PLANNED THE 93/94 CHRISTIAN DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

By Dorothy McPhedran

The Christian Development Committee's role is to facilitate the spiritual growth of all persons in the congregation; this role means that the committee has a responsibility to provide opportunities for all for involvement in groups and programs, for study and discussion of issues of concern and interest, for interaction with others, and for making available current resources focusing on matters of the spirit. In short, it is the committee's hope that the activities and resources provided, and available to all, will deepen and further the spiritual growth of us all.

For children, there are the Gone Fishing, Religion-in-Life, Pop 'n Popcorn groups, as well as the Church School programs - programs with variety and learning.

For youth and young adults there are the CGIT, the Confirmation Class, the Twentysomething group and the Youth Group - programs with lots of action and thought.

For adults, there are the Men's Group, the Lectionary Bible Study Groups, and the Kerygma Study Group. As well, there is a group focusing on activities in relation to the Ecumenical Decade 1988-1998 - Churches in Solidarity with Women. Among programs for adults there will be a series on Parenting, and an Advent series, and a Lenten series.

In addition to groups and activities for children, youth and adults, there are congregational gatherings to celebrate important occasions in the church year; for example, the Christmas Eve Family Service, the Pancake Supper, the Gethsemane Vigil, and the Easter Sunrise Service.

All Christian Development programs are planned to stimulate thought, to raise questions, and invite a personal search for truth - and, of course, for enjoyment and friendship. Look carefully at the opportunities listed in the FSA Program Guide. Consider participating.

SHARING GRACES

This is the fourth in a series of graces given to Tidings for sharing with FSA family members:

Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest,
and let these gifts to us be blessed.

Amen.



L to R: Paul Pergau, Helen Mahabir, Maggie Montgomery, Carol Beynon, Dorothy McPhedran, Shelley Kostecki, Leah Morise, Sharon Lunau, Christina Lindsay, Marion Jackson Tyler, Bev Lindsay, Wes Sole

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Emily Woods and Marion Jackson Tyler, C.D. Directors

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Audio Visual Team

Wes Sole, Acting Chair, Andrew Kilpatrick, Alton Ross

ENVIRONMENT TIP

Avoid buying products in excess packaging such as individually wrapped and sized products. Buy products that come in returnable and recyclable packages.

ACCESSIBILITY - A PERSONAL VIEW

By Judith O'Brien

Just after joining First-St. Andrew's United Church in 1979, I was diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis. This disease, throughout its progression, would lead to significant changes in my life. My ability to access things that I was used to doing would undergo many changes. At first I was able to use a cane, then after a few years a walker became a necessity, in fact I am still using this for short distances. I have used an electric wheelchair for about seven years now. This enables me to maintain my independence as much as possible.



Judy O'Brien

My being able to attend the church of my choice, First-St. Andrew's, is becoming more difficult with each passing year. Since 1988, I have been using the chair lift at the northwest corner of the Church. Without the use of this lift it would not have been possible for me to attend services in the Sanctuary. When the subject of Access came up again in earnest, I became excited and optimistic about being able to continue at First-St. Andrew's, the church I came to know and appreciate. Up until this time, accessibility had only been a dream; now I am seeing the possibility of a dream becoming a reality.

I am pleased to be a member of the Access Committee. I am also serving on the London Paratransit Advisory Committee. It oversees the service of providing transportation to physically challenged individuals in the City of London. It has indeed opened my eyes to the varied physical challenges that many people have to deal with from day to day. We first seem to look at the obvious: a white cane, a walking device, a wheelchair, etc. We have some members of our congregation who are in wheelchairs now, and are managing to use the lift. It is necessary to transfer to the lift, then have someone carry the wheelchair up the steps where you get out of the lift and back into the wheelchair and then proceed into the Sanctuary.

There are many other individuals in our congregation who would benefit greatly from this Access Project: the elderly, who because of their years are not as agile as they used to be; those with heart and lung problems; the blind; those who have arthritic and rheumatic problems; and those who have walking problems due to an injury or disease. It gives us the opportunity to use with dignity a facility that was meant to be used by all, not just the healthy. There will be other areas that this new addition will assist; the ability to move

equipment from one level to another, the general flow of traffic within the church will certainly be improved and good security will be more easily achieved. This new access will give all the opportunity of making a choice in which activities they would like to participate. It will open up the church to new members, and also make it possible for our shut-ins to attend services as they are able.

For me personally it will mean again having the opportunity to make choices, whether it would be to attend the Holly Bazaar, a musical in the Lower Hall, a meeting in the parlour, a service in the Chapel, any number of the various activities that are available in this beautiful church.

Indeed with the new Access Project it will mean that First-St. Andrew's will be living out to its new motto **REJOICE, RENEW, REACH OUT.**

Info-Line

OUR PLEDGE FOR 1994

Recently we received our brown envelope kits with Stewardship Booklet and pledge card. Please return completed pledge card by Sunday, November 21st.

POINSETTIAS WILL DECORATE SANCTUARY

If you would like to have a poinsettia placed in memory of a loved one for the Christmas season, please call the church office (679-8182) by Monday, December 6th.

UCW OCTOBER RUMMAGE SALE

\$1,350. was added to the UCW treasury in support of its projects. Thanks to the contributors, workers and patrons in this recycling project. Your next opportunity will come in April.

MEN AND WOMEN TO JOIN WORKSHOP JANUARY 22 WITH LOIS WILSON TO SEE WOMEN IN THE BIBLE IN A NEW LIGHT.

Organized by our Decade Committee, the workshop in the Lower Hall begins at 9:00 and ends at 3:30, on Saturday, January 22, 1994. Information from Marie Sande (474-0506) or Charlotte Ann Bell (434-2400).

WHAT'S AN FSA ECOTEAM?

Bring your lunch to the parlour at 12:30 p.m. on Sunday, November 28 to hear Diane Szoller explain how small groups of FSA members arrange to meet and plan their approach for the problem of the month. Guidance comes from the Household Ecoteam Workbook. This Global Action Plan is an international project. More information from Helen or Spencer Inch. (471-0826)

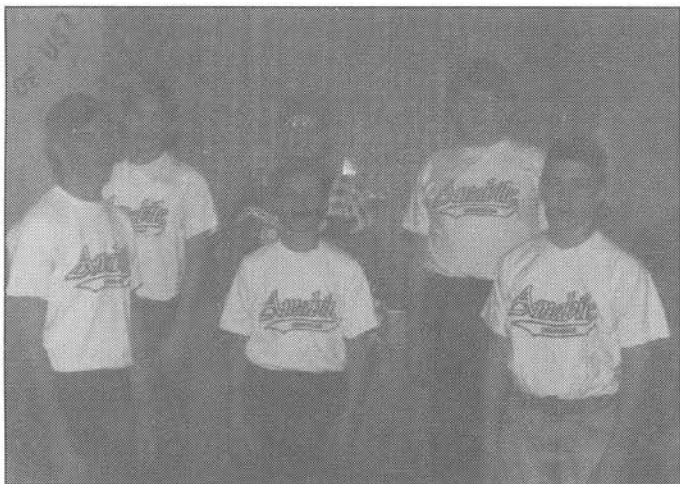
THE AMABILE BOYS CHOIRS

By Carol Beynon

Sixty-five young men ranging in age from eight to twenty-three make up the two ensembles of the Amabile Boys Choirs. The goals of the choirs, founded in 1990 by directors Carol Beynon and Bevin Keating, are to provide musical training of the highest possible standard for the young male singers and to develop the individual musical talent of each member to its highest potential. The singers are encouraged to help and support one another, to develop their own social skills, and to develop a sense of community welfare.

Since its beginning three years ago, the choirs have had a rigorous and successful performance schedule. Performances have included church services, and community outreach services for the CNIB, the Women's Canadian Club, Children's Hospital, and the International Children's Festival. The choirs won three first place awards in the London Kiwanis Music Festival. This past summer the choirs competed in the prestigious Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod in Wales. The treble choir placed ninth out of thirty-three choirs from around the world and the tenor/bass choir placed fourth out of twenty-five youth and adult choirs. While in Britain they also embarked on a demanding concert tour, performing in Westminster Abbey, St. Martin-in-the-Fields, Canterbury Cathedral and Great St. Mary's in Cambridge. Again the choirs received impressive reviews from their adjudicators and audiences: "Splendid choirs with extremely fine blend, clarity of words and tones, excellent musicianship!"

The members of the choirs come from London and Middlesex, Elgin, Kent and Oxford Counties. First-St. Andrew's proudly salutes its members.



L to R: Mark Schram, Brinn Norman, John Schram, Carol Beynon, Conductor, Adam Guthrie, Jeffery Beynon

VOICES UNITED: RESPONSE TO A NEED

By Betty Sangster

Many times recently, I have heard the lament from our staff at First-St. Andrew's, as well as elsewhere, that in the planning of worship, it is becoming increasingly difficult to find enough variety of language, theology and hymnody that speaks to all of our contemporary spiritual needs. Voices United is a response to that need as it is being expressed throughout the wider church.



Betty Sangster

The new Hymn and Worship Resource of the United Church is on its way. I am extremely honoured to be a member of this committee of 25 Theologians, Musicians, and Lay People from all geographical areas of our church. The thought that has struck me since our first meeting has been the intensity with which everyone is continually endeavouring to seek and find a Christian meaning to life within the United Church context. We honestly feel that our worship is crucially significant in that search.

As a member of a leading congregation within the wider church, I have come to realize more than ever the importance of our Christian hymnody. Our singing of hymns provides us with the opportunity, collectively or privately, to experience our faith within our hearts, as well as our heads. The lyrics, rhythms, tunes and harmonies can speak to our whole being. Each one of us has his/her own worship history: different parts or modes of worship speak differently to us. We're hoping that as our church grows into the late nineties and the year 2000, that our new Worship Resource, Voices United, will have something for everyone: traditional, children's, youth and new selections that will cover many of our needs for inspiration, comfort, celebration, and praise.

We are continuing to endeavour to achieve quality and cohesiveness, so that all congregations of our diverse church will say, "This is what we need to be a nurturing Christian church within a constantly changing and developing world."

It is an exciting time within the United Church as we all seek to **Renew! Rejoice! and Reach Out!**

Ed. - Call Betty (660-0968) with your thoughts and questions.

Changes...

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

Baptisms

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

Alexandra May Ballantyne
 Brittani Michelle Ballantyne
 Jennifer Elizabeth Hill
 Carolyn Patricia Ilnyckyj
 Dylan Matthew Knight
 Craig Travis Springer
 Cole Lyndon Stewardson

Next Baptism: January 9th

Deaths

"Well done, good and faithful servant."

Emma Ludella Armstrong, September 12
 Timothy Ralph Ashford, September 16
 Ella Gibson McIrvine, September 22



Mission Sunday's Don Langford at Coffee & Conversation

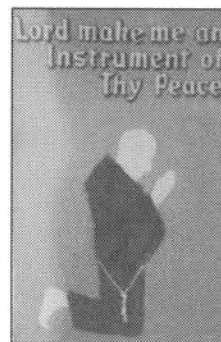


Gillian Weir meets us after her organ recital

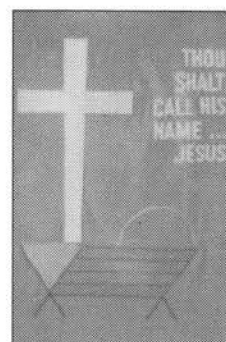
Marriages

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

- | | |
|--------------|---|
| August 28 | Heather Ann Eaman
Michael William Feeney |
| August 28 | Lori Anne Speare
Ronald Maurice O'Malley |
| August 29 | Lesley Anne MacDonald
John Robert Burnett |
| September 4 | Rose-Ann Petracca
Shawn Patrick Dixon |
| September 17 | Kathryn Elizabeth McLeod
Gordon Creighton Patton |
| September 17 | Sarah Louise Bell
James Ronald Long |
| September 25 | Catherine Anna Schaefer
William Vincent Shepard |
| October 9 | Cherie Elizabeth Young
John Patrick Fleet |
| October 9 | Lisa Lynn Melnychyn
Robert Marcus Djurfeldt |
| October 10 | Kelly Patricia Ahern
David Frederick Shaw |



Remembrance Day Banner



Christmas Banner

AT WOMEN IN THE BIBLE

A workshop opportunity for both men and women to share a day of creative study using feminist methodology. Workshop facilitated by Lois Wilson, past Moderator of the United Church. Saturday, January 22 at the Church. Registration limited to 100. Contact: Charlotte Ann Bell (434-2400).

PASTORAL CARE AND OUTREACH

In addition to the hospital visiting and crisis counselling done by the full-time paid accountable ministers on staff, pastoral care is offered in a variety of ways:

PASTORAL CARE TEAM

At present our team consists of about twenty members who offer additional care and support to our shut-ins, to those who are ill or bereaved or in a special kind of need. They visit approximately every month to two months. If you know of anyone who needs extra support or if you are one who could offer the support, please call Catherine Moore, 679-8182.

OUR SENIORS AND THOSE WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

The Rev. Herb Wonfor visits our seniors and others on a regular basis. There are approximately 90 people with whom Herb keeps in touch.

COUNSELLING TEAM

Under the direction of the Ministerial Staff who provide individual spiritual direction to those seeking help where requested, the Counselling Service is staffed voluntarily by three members of the congregation whose professional training and daily work experience is in the counselling context. Mr. Kerry Hill, a management consultant and career counsellor, provides personal counselling and detailed vocational assessment. Mrs. Ardath Finnobogason-Hill, a nurse-educator with considerable experience in personal counselling, and Dr. Jo Ann Silcox, a psychiatrist, work as a team to provide initial assessment and follow-through counselling for individuals, couples, families or groups facing personal transitional crises. This service is offered monthly on the third Tuesday evening, in the church offices, from 6:00-10:00 p.m. to members of the community as well as to the members of First-St. Andrew's as we attempt to reach out in Christ's name as well as to renew our commitment to Him. Referrals may be made through Ardath Hill at 657-3116 or 657-3000. Please feel free to contact the Ministerial staff for further details or speak to any of the counsellors directly.

DIAL-A-PRAYER

For a moment of meditation in a busy or a quiet day, please call our Dial-A-Prayer at 439-6838. Anyone who can contribute prayers or a devotional message is asked to call Jim Hendry, 471-8492.

RIDES FOR SENIORS

Al and Grace MacIntosh have taken on the responsibility of arranging rides to church for seniors who would otherwise not be able to join us on Sunday morning. Call them at 472-2408 if you are a senior or know a senior in need of Sunday transportation, or if you would be prepared to drive.

BENEVOLENT FUND DONATIONS

Social Action invites donations to Benevolent Fund to assist in our Christmas projects. Donations may be put on the offering plate in an envelope marked "Benevolent Fund" or given to one of the ministers. The Social Action Committee will be sponsoring Christmas parties for children in the two East London United Church Outreach communities. The Benevolent fund also assists people in our church community and those known to us.

FOOD BANK DONATIONS

Please keep in mind the Social Action Committee's food collection for St. Paul's DAILY BREAD Food Bank. Baby food is collected on the second Sunday of the month and "every-day" food items on the fourth Sunday. Non-perishable food may be left at any time in the permanent white box under The Christ of the Breadlines mural in the Lower Hall. Financial contributions are also welcome. Thank you for helping others!

CHRISTMAS DAY VOLUNTEERS

are needed to prepare or serve the Christmas Day meal at Ark Aid. Please contact Kerry Stover (472-2590)

FURNITURE DONATIONS

People with excess furniture are invited to call Tom Magee, 432-6719, to arrange for pick up. This furniture would be distributed to needy families such as refugees.

CHRISTIAN DEVT SCHOLARSHIP FUND

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

We have heard it said that our church library is one of the finest in Canada! Someone else said that it is one of the best kept secrets in our church! Do you know where it is? Are you a book borrower? For meetings, programs or personal reading, it's a great place to browse and borrow.

LIBRARY

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

Two opportunities; two approaches

1. 9:15 in the Parlour
This group tackles the real, identified faith issues of the participants. Topics may range from sin to stewardship of the earth. An ideal opportunity to do some real searching and spiritual stretching in a supportive and challenging community. Facilitators: Phyllis Barnes and August Meacham.



KERYGMA "DISCOVERING THE BIBLE"

An introduction to the whole Bible which offers both a helpful "door opening" to Bible study beginners and overview which is useful to those who have studied Scripture in pieces. A group which meets once a month - November 3 and December 1 at 7:30 p.m. with leadership Jean Comfort and Moira Stewart.



ADVENT SERIES
with Anne Beattie-Stokes giving guidance in deepening our experience of Advent through prayer and spirituality. Wednesdays, December 1 and 8 at 7:30 p.m.



"HAVA/JAVA & JUICE"
An informal group for parents and preschoolers offering networking and support. Wednesday mornings at 10:00 a.m. Contact Liz Galbraith (471-3439), Nancy Stanlick (451-9491), or Marlon Johnson Denny (433-0319).



MEN'S RETREAT
with Gord Lang, Sunday, December 5 at Medaille House. Contact: Paul Pennington for more details. (672-4231)

share with others.

CONFIRMATION CLASS

As a service to the church, the CGIT are selling the United Church calendars. Available from the group and the church office. The highlight of the CGIT year is the Annual Candle Lighting Service. We invite you to celebrate the Christmas season with us as we lead in worship at the 9:15 a.m. service on Sunday, December 12.

This year's class has begun to explore what it means to be a Christian and to be a member of this church. All members of the staff, parents and sponsors will share this learning experience with the group. From time to time, members of the Pastoral Care Team and others will be involved so that the preparation for membership can be concrete and participatory.

During worship on Sunday, November 21, the teens will be presented with a new Bible - a Christian's most valuable resource.

Please take opportunity to offer support and encouragement to these young people.

PANCAKE SUPPER

Tuesday, February 15.
Plan now to celebrate Shrove Tuesday by attending the Pancake Supper at the church, sponsored by our young people.



THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

9:15 a.m. in the Parlour.
Sounds pretty formal but we're really a friendly, caring group who would be delighted to have you join us on any Thursday morning. We begin with coffee and refreshments, then get into the scriptures which will be the basis of the Sunday sermon. Of course we learn a lot, but what really helps is the reflection on life in the world around us. Why not give us a try!



ADULT DEVELOPMENT

GONE FISHING
Music and Christian Development for
Grades 1 - 6

This fall, under the theme "Made in God's Image", we explore several Biblical images of God, some teachings of Jesus which help us to understand more about who God is and who we are as children of God. Music from several countries encourages us to understand that God is God of all people and a recognition of our differences gives us a glimpse into the complexity of the God who created us all "in his image".

In December, our focus will turn to preparation for Christmas and participation in the Christmas Eve Family Service.

Winter/Spring Term January 12 - May 4

Cost (for food only)

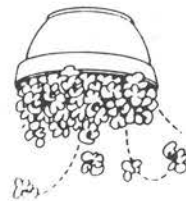
1 child	\$28.00
2 children in one family	\$26.50
3 children in one family	\$25.00

Registration Forms will be available at the Church Office or on the first gathering, January 12th.

POP 'N' POPCORN

A group for Grades 5 & 6 to just have fun and make friends! There will be carolling on December 10 and skating on January 14.

Coordinators: Virginia & Bob Rogan, Sharon & Dennis Lunan, Janice & Jim Elliott



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, including Choir, Sunday Morning Group, Canadian Girls In Training, Confirmation Class (Grade 9 up), Teen Handbells, Retreats, Musical, Church service (helping with Church School, Nurseries, Ushering, etc.)

WINTER RETREAT

The Year's Favourite Big Event!

Friday, January 28-30, 1994 at Pearce Williams Christian Centre, Fingal, Ont.

The weekend includes theme topic and discussion, games, music, food, indoor/outdoor activities, morning watch, vespers, worship and free time! Will there be lots of snow this year?

Registration forms will be available from Youth Leaders and the Church office.

Deadline: January 23. Probably \$40.00

TOC ALPHA CHRISTMAS CONFERENCE

December 27-30, 1993

Airport Marriott Hotel, Toronto Bus Service available

Cost: \$160.00 plus transportation plus meals.

TOC Alpha is an organization for young people ages 14 to 24. TOC Alpha means "Taking On Concerns About Life, People and Human Achievement" and enhances leadership development in an alcohol and drug free environment. The Christmas Conference is their biggest event of the year. Registration forms and more information available from Youth Leaders and the Church office.

SUNDAY MORNING YOUTH GROUP

9:30 a.m. Snack and "TALK" \$1.00

Come on up to the Upper Room and join in the talk about concerns and issues important to today's Teens. There's also table tennis and games and activities and..... We'll attend the CGIT Candle Lighting Service on Sunday, Dec. 12 at the 9:15 a.m. Service in the Chapel.

CANADIAN GIRLS IN TRAINING

for GIRLS ages 12-17

Purpose: To Cherish Health, Seek Truth, Know God and Service Others. C.G.I.T. is a place where a girl can be herself and



Gone Fishing



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

CRADLE ROLL

So far this year, we have 10 new babies, 8 boys and 2 girls. Do peek into the Infant Nursery where you can see a lovely hanging with the babies' names, assembled by Nancy Stanlick.



CHURCH SCHOOL AND NURSERIES

The Nurseries are open for the 11 a.m. Worship Service each Sunday for the full time of the service. The children in Kindergarten to Grade Six attend the early part of the service with their families, then go to their groups.

Our curriculum, *The Whole People Of God*, is divided into six Units. Unit III, *Preparing and Celebrating*, takes us through Advent, Christmas and into Epiphany, from November 28 to January 9, 1994. Unit IV, *Called by God*, continues with Epiphany, ending with Shrove Tuesday (and the Pancake Supper!)

The Unit III and IV *At Home* Paks are included in this mailing for all families with children. There are wonderful ideas for families to share.



Secret Pals are being arranged for Grades 3 to 6 with adults in the congregation. Correspondence through code names will introduce the Secret Pals and help them to give clues to each other. In the spring, we'll have a Secret Pal Unmasking Event!

Christmas Holiday Sundays, December 26 and January 2, will have a Church School program during the 11 a.m. Service.

Hymns and Songs. One of our goals this year is to learn and sing some new hymns as well as old favourites. We're looking for pianists to help us.

THE GONE FISHING CHOIR

As well as singing at the Advent Lessons and Carols Service, the Gone Fishing Choir will provide musical leadership at the 7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Family Service.

THE HANDBELL CHOIRS

All of our handbell choirs will be participating in worship services during the season. The Laudamus Bells will ring on Nov. 28 and Dec. 19. The Mixed Pealers will play on Dec. 5 and the Teen Ringers on Dec. 12. The Laudamus Handbell Choir will perform the first of our Advent Noon Recitals on December 3.

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

Our services will continue to be enriched with the sounds of many different instruments during the season including brass on Dec. 19.

THE "MUSIC AT FIRST-ST. ANDREW'S" CONCERT SERIES

Through the generous support of "Friends of Music", First-St. Andrew's sponsors an excellent Concert Series which presents a wide variety of musical programs as an outreach to the community. We will continue to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the installation of our organ during this time.

Friday, November 26 at 8:00 p.m.

The University of Western Ontario Symphony Orchestra, James McKay Conductor

Paul Merritt, Organ

will perform CAMILLE SAINT-SAËNS SYMPHONY #3

known as the 'Organ Symphony'. This wonderful work is not often heard in London as it requires a large orchestra and a pipe organ. Don't miss this opportunity to hear one of the most exciting works for orchestra and organ.

Friday Advent Noon Recitals

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

December 3 The Laudamus Handbell Choir

Barbara Plante, Conductor

December 10 Central Secondary School Chamber Orchestra

Bruce Richardson, Conductor

December 17 Elizabeth Van Doorne, Contralto

Alto Soloist, FSA Senior Choir

Sunday, February 6, 1994 at 4:00 p.m.

A HYMN FESTIVAL WITH EIGHT LOCAL CHURCH CHOIRS, BRASS AND ORGAN

Plan now to come and sing some of the great hymns of faith with us.

Come and worship at First-St. Andrew's as we begin to prepare for Christ's coming into the world, as we celebrate his birth, and rejoice that he is a light for the whole world. Our regular worship times are 9:15 a.m. in the Chapel and 11:00 a.m. in the main Sanctuary. On the first Sunday of the month we celebrate the sacrament of Holy Communion at 8:30 a.m. in the chapel. Everyone is welcome.

Worship Schedule:

November 28 Advent I Lighting of First Advent Candle 9:15 & 11:00 A special service of scripture and music to begin the Advent season.

December 5 Advent II 8:30 Chapel Communion - Frank Meadows

9:15 & 11:00 Lighting of second Advent Candle

Preacher - Frank Meadows

December 12 Advent III 9:15 C.G.I.T. Candle Lighting Service

Lighting the third Advent Candle

Preacher - Catherine Moore

December 19 Advent IV 9:15 & 11:00

Lighting the fourth Advent Candle

Preacher - Frank Meadows

December 24 Christmas Eve 7:00 Family Service - Lighting the Christ Candle

10:00 Christmas Eve Communion, broadcast on

CFPL-AM, 980 on the dial.

Preacher - Frank Meadows

December 26 First Sunday after Christmas 11:00

Preacher - Rick Bain

January 2/94 Epiphany Sunday 8:30

Chapel Communion - Catherine Moore

Chapel

Sanctuary

Preacher - Catherine Moore

January 9 The Baptism of Jesus 9:15

Chapel

Sacrament of Baptism

Preacher - Frank Meadows

January 16 Epiphany II 9:15

Communion, Chapel

Communion, Sanctuary

Preacher - Frank Meadows

11:00

Preacher - Frank Meadows

WORSHIP

MUSIC

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Communion, Chapel

Communion, Sanctuary

Preacher - Frank Meadows

11:00

Preacher - Frank Meadows

The season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, Feb. 16 with a penitential service of Communion and the imposition of ashes in the chancel of the main Sanctuary.

February 13 Last Sunday in Epiphany 11:00

Sanctuary

Chapel

February 13 Last Sunday in Epiphany 9:15

Sanctuary

Chapel

February 6 Epiphany V 8:30

Chapel Communion - Catherine Moore

Chapel

Sanctuary

February 6 Epiphany V 11:00

Sanctuary

Chapel

January 30 Epiphany IV 9:15

Sanctuary

Chapel

January 23 Epiphany III 11:00

Sanctuary

Chapel

January 23 Epiphany III 9:15

Sanctuary

Chapel

This group will participate in the Advent Lessons and Carols Service and will provide music for the C.G.I.T. Candle Lighting Service at 9:15 a.m. on December 12. This latter service has become an annual tradition and highlight for the choir.

THE YOUTH 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 19 our focus will be on the Magnificat, in scripture and in music. We plan to sing Pachelbel's setting of this text with trumpet accompaniment.

THE SENIOR CHOIR

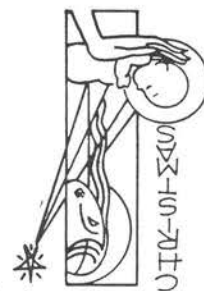
There is nothing that expresses the joy of Christmaside better than the music of the season. All of the musical groups in our church will participate in the services for Advent, Christmas and Epiphany.

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 1993/94.

Emily
 Frank
 Catherine
 Paul
 Thomas

The Peace of Christ to each one of you.

God of Advent,
 You touch our lives with mystery and hope.
 In uncertain times,
 help me to greet each new day
 with hope and expectation.
 May my life become fertile soil
 within which Your Spirit can thrive.
 Like Mary and Joseph
 help me to trust You
 and step into the unknown possibilities
 of the future,
 so that I, like them,
 may act faithfully
 to welcome the presence of Christ with us
 in new and unusual ways. Amen.



As a first step in your preparation for this very special time, we offer you this prayer from the Whole People of God Curriculum:

Christian story!
 Through the Season after Epiphany, we read of Jesus' Baptism, his calling of the disciples, and his ministry of teaching and healing. It is a time of proclamation and growth as the Good News spreads. Traditionally, this is a time when the church has focused on its "call" and mission in the world. We'll conclude this season with a pancake supper signalling a shift into Lent. But that's another part of the

Then comes Christmas, when we celebrate the joy of Jesus' birth - of "God with us". During this wonderful time in the Christian year, we are given a special opportunity to reflect upon the astounding teaching of our Christian faith story which tells us that God comes to us in the form of a tiny, vulnerable baby.

According to the Christian Calendar, we begin a new year with the season of Advent - a time of hope and expectation. We prepare for Jesus' birth and our own renewal. We also look forward to the birth of Shalom, God's realm, at the end time.

Dear Friends:



FSA Program Guide

Advent, Christmas and Epiphany 1993/94