

## “SOLE” AMONGST THE SOULS

By Elaine Wilton



Pat Sole

Need to book a wedding? Inquire about a meeting time? Arrange to have a notice printed in next Sunday's announcements? Usually the first person you will speak to when you call the church office is Pat Sole, and she will almost certainly be able to answer your question or fulfil your request.

Patience and flexibility are characteristics Pat practices as she goes about the varied tasks involved in her job. Besides the usual duties of typing bulletins and answering the telephone, she has to keep an eye on the door and be ready to buzz it open for visitors. And on occasion she is called on to do such things as lock up the dumpster, turn on the oven downstairs, and assist visitors who are touring the church.

Pat and her husband, Wes, grew up in Sarnia, having first met in grade two. It wasn't until they had both enrolled in a Special Commercial course after high school that they began dating. Pat's first job upon graduation was as secretary in the Guidance office at her high school. Wes joined the R. C. A. F. and after completing his training in electronics, they were married in 1958, and were transferred to Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan. Three years later, they were posted overseas to France. They have two married daughters – Tracie, born in France, and Dawn, born in Germany.

By 1970, Wes had taken his discharge from the Air Force and entered the field of computers, working at U. W. O., Information Systems. Pat worked at Proudfoot House where she found that one half of the Board of Directors were from F. S. A. As a result Pat and Wes, attended a few services at this church, and enjoyed them so much that they joined the congregation themselves.

In the late 1980's Wes' work took them to Bermuda for a brief time, and in 1989 they returned to London, and Pat started working in the church office the following year. Pat says that one of the best things about her job is the people - the terrific staff team and all the members of the church. She and Wes usually attend both the 9:15 and Alternative Worship services and they took part in the drum-making workshop this fall.

Most recently Wes has become licensed by DDAI (the Davis Dyslexia Association, International), as a Davis Dyslexia Correction<sup>SM</sup> Facilitator. Currently he is the only Davis Dyslexia Correction<sup>SM</sup> Facilitator in Canada. A dyslexic himself, he is well aware of the many frustrations experienced by those with learning disabilities.

Participation in volunteer activities at the church is important to Pat and Wes. Pat helps with knitting for baby layettes and Bazaar, assists at OOTC and rang with the Mixed Pealers, and is a substitute ringer with the Laudamus Bells. Wes helps to keep the A/V equipment in working order as well as assisting with maintenance of the computer system. Pat and Wes both enjoy the fellowship and caring they experience at F. S. A.



Elaine Wilton

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## THE SUNDAY 9:15 SERVICE

By Cynthia Simpson



Cynthia Simpson

For many of you, the thought of getting up for a 9:15 Sunday service is a bit daunting. However, if you have young children, you know that every day begins at 6:00! We started attending this service after our oldest was born four years ago. For us, the early service is more convenient since the 11:00 service begins shortly before my children start demanding lunch.

The first thing people ask me when I sing the praises of the 9:15 service is "don't you miss out on the great music

and choir pieces?" I am pleased to inform you that FSA's strong tradition of excellent musical talent is present at every 9:15 service. There is a small organ in the chapel and we always have at least one soloist at every service. We are not limited to enjoying only the vocalists, either. The handbell choir makes regular appearances as do many of the fine musicians of which our congregation can boast.

Sunday School and child care are both capably provided for the children. Preschoolers are cared for by Judy Cull, and I can personally vouch for the excellent care she has provided for my children. My oldest daughter started Sunday School this Fall, and although it is a small group, the children still have their story time in church and then religious instruction in class.

Come join us!



Our FSA Chapel

## Info-Line

### FSA MAKING THE DIFFERENCE

Thanks to each person who pledged gifts of time, talent, energy and money during the fall Stewardship Campaign. Special thanks to Herb Wonfor, Diane Macpherson and all the volunteers who planned and carried out this program.

### UCW OCTOBER RUMMAGE SALE

The Friday evening and Saturday morning events produced about \$2000 for UCW projects. Thanks to all who helped.

### PICTORIAL DIRECTORY SUPPLEMENT

Joni Pypka and her helpers are to be commended for arranging for the addition of 70 photos to our Pictorial Directory. Everyone who has a directory will receive the additional pages ready to stick in.

### 1999 OFFERING ENVELOPES AVAILABLE DEC. 6

Convenient pick-up available in the Access Lobby.

### 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, November 30.

### PEACE WINDOW HASTI-NOTES

### AS CHRISTMAS CARDS?

Why not? Packages of 10 for \$6.50 are available at the church office.

### CHRISTMAS GREETINGS TO YOUR FSA FRIENDS

They may be left in the mail slots just inside the Access door.

### FSA TO MAKE PILGRIMAGE TO HOLY LAND

This "Spiritual Journey in Preparation for the Millennium" (Feb. 22-Mar. 7/99) will be led by Frank Meadows. To receive a detailed brochure, call Roger Snyder (679-4885) or Pat Sole (679-8182)

### OBSERVER - NEW & RENEWAL-APRIL 1999

To comply with new federal government regulations for postal subsidies, our group subscription rate will be increased from \$10 to \$12.

## Tidings

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

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## Series: God's Stewards

### DOUG BOCKING

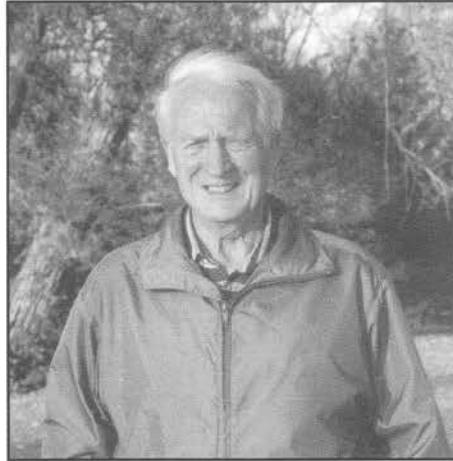
By Winifred Wake

Behind Doug Bocking's quiet and unassuming demeanour lies a man of many accomplishments. Perhaps his greatest talent is a unique combination of vision and the ability to translate vision into reality through leadership, diplomacy, commitment and sheer hard work. A quick glance over a list of Doug's extensive volunteer and professional involvements over many years give many examples.

Raised in St. Thomas, Doug graduated from the University of Western Ontario in medicine in 1943. After a brief stint in the navy and further professional training, he set up a medical practice in London in 1953. He served as Dean of Medicine at UWO from 1965 to 1978, then as vice-president Health Sciences until his retirement from UWO in 1987.

In addition to his professional career, Doug has donated leadership and administrative skills to many community causes, largely in the areas of health, education, social services and the environment. His record of service includes stints on numerous boards, often in a founding or presidential capacity. Among these are Fanshawe College, Westminster Institute, Boy Scouts, YM/YWCA, health-related agencies, Canoe Club and Upper Thames River Conservation Authority. Over the years Doug and his wife Vivian raised a family of six children. Vivian also has a long history of volunteer community service.

Doug has a long-standing love of the outdoors. Among his pastimes he lists birdwatching, nature study, hiking, canoeing and taking his border collie for outdoor romps. Locally, his favourite natural haunts are Komoka Park and Warbler Woods.



*Doug Bocking*

Back in 1942 Doug and a college friend canoed the Thames River from London to its mouth, then paddled across Lake St. Clair and down the Detroit River to Windsor. After their family grew up, Doug and Vivian enjoyed many lake trips by canoe. Later Doug moved on to the challenge of white-water canoeing expeditions through some of Canada's finest and most remote wilderness areas. While canoeing rivers such as the Nahanni, Churchill, Missinaibi and French, Doug became familiar with a number of Canadian Heritage Rivers.

Back in London, he envisioned the Thames River as part of that great system. In 1996, he initiated a process that brought together some 70 amateurs and professionals to assemble the background documentation to support the nomination of the Thames. The nomination was accepted in February of 1998. Now Doug continues to chair the co-ordinating committee while management strategies for the river are developed. The hope is that the Thames will be officially designated as a Canadian Heritage River in the year 2000. In the meantime, the Canadian Heritage Rivers board has presented Doug with an award of merit, in recognition of the outstanding quality of the submission prepared by Doug and his committee on behalf of the Thames. The London proposal is now accepted as the Canadian standard for such matters.

In summing up the countless contributions of time and talent that he and Vivian have made to worthy causes over the years, Doug commented with characteristic humility, "We just felt we should be doing something to help the community."

First-St. Andrew's is proud to have Doug and Vivian as members and we thank them both for the many visions they have translated into realities.

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## FSA ON THE WEB

By Paul Pergau

Do you have access to the Internet? If so be sure you save the First-St. Andrew's URL in your list of favourite sites and refer to it often. We are at:

[www.fsaunited.london.on.ca](http://www.fsaunited.london.on.ca)

First-St. Andrew's United Church has had a presence on the Internet since 1996. We were one of the first churches in London to do so. This year we are putting a lot of effort into renovating our site, making it something all groups within the church can use to their advantage.

Today you can use our Web Site to see what the text will be for next Sunday's service and what special music you can look forward to. You can check out what's happening at FSA as both the Tidings and Program Guide are on-line. If you missed one of Frank's sermons, not to worry, copies of the past few month's sermons are all there for you to read at your convenience.



*Paul Pergau*

Before the end of 1998 we expect to have a new looking Internet Site up and running. The new site will have everything it has today plus pages for each and every committee and social group within the church. We plan to introduce pictures and sound to help illustrate all aspects of our church to the community and beyond. We don't expect initially that each page will be complete but as time goes by each group within the church will be adding their information to our site either doing it themselves or preparing it and having us do it for them.

If you would like to help sponsor our Web Site please see Frank. There is a wide range of options available from \$50 to \$200 each. At the top end of the scale, we'll even help you build your own page and link to it from our site. The sponsorship program is being limited to members of FSA. As our site is available to anyone in the world that is surfing the net this is an excellent source of contacts for our church, for you and your business.

Please see one of the following for further information about our Internet Site: Adam Guthrie Frank Meadows, Lionel Morise, Paul Pergau, Terry Peters, John Whitehead, and Jackie Williams.

## COUNCIL REPORTS TO YOU

By Annabelle Logan  
Chair of Council (471-2518)



Annabelle Logan

All Council members and staff gathered in the Fireside Room, October 13 at 7:30 p.m. for the first regular meeting of Council after the summer holidays. Heather Bedford and Diane Macpherson were warmly welcomed. Barbara Plante gave an informative presentation on Mission & Service and how many groups are helped locally.

Frank Meadows updated us on the new website being developed and asked for sponsorships of this project.

Terry Peters and Lesley Pergau presented the Needs Assessment Committee format. This committee meets every Wednesday night and will be asking for congregational input. Please check your mail boxes for questionnaires. This committee is looking at the needs of First-St. Andrew's over the next five to seven years.

Have you all looked at our beautiful steeple at night? All the outside lights have been rewired and hooked up, and the outside painting and refurbishing is almost completed. Thanks go to Robin Procnier and Bob Vosper and the dedicated Property Committee members.

Council regretfully accepted the resignation of Scott Snelgrove, chair of the Finance Committee. Scott has done yeoman's service and we will miss him.

The Stewardship Campaign is well under way, thanks to Herb Wonfor and the Stewardship Committee. To keep this church and its programs fully healthy and alive, we need close to \$600,000 each year. This is a princely sum to be sure, but one that can be achieved.

Council voted unanimously on Sept. 24 to support the Middlesex Presbytery's challenge of the United Church's General Secretary's opinion as it applies to payment of short-term disability. A letter was circulated to council members for their approval before it is sent.

Doug McGregor and the Nominating Committee are diligently working towards filling all spaces on committees before the Annual Meeting on Sunday, Feb. 7, 1999.

By the time you read this, we will all have enjoyed "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat." Congratulations to all!

Thank you to all for the continued support to the life and work of First-St. Andrew's.

## OUR NEW OFFICE COORDINATOR DIANE MACPHERSON

By Nancy Howard



Nancy Howard

Diane Macpherson spent thirteen years as "Office Manager" at Pearce Williams Christian Centre, where she teamed with her husband, Don, until a year ago when he accepted a position as a minister with the Oakdale Pastoral Charge. With strong conviction that family remain the top priority, living and working at Pearce Williams allowed Diane to still be

there for her girls, Heather (19 years) and Beth (16 years) when they arrived home from school.

Having been hired as a team, Diane felt it was time to move on, and First-St. Andrew's offered the perfect opportunity with the opening of the Office Coordinator position.

Diane grew up on a farm in Elgin County near St. Thomas, and has returned to that area now. The drive into London doesn't seem like much to her, and it's all worth it to be part of the FSA staff. The staff is a wonderful family atmosphere, where individuals pull together to work as a team.

She has been in the United Church environment all her life, and is warmed by how welcome she has been made and impressed by what goes on in our very active congregation.

Welcome, Diane, to the FSA family!



Diane Macpherson

### Reach Out! Idea

Find a person you do not know and introduce yourself. You could ask how they came to FSA. (Call them by name when you see them next!)



### DID YOU KNOW?

- Michael Cornelissen has been recognized with the Achievers Award of Excellence by Junior Achievement
- Ron Logan has been inducted into the London Business Hall of Fame
- Gord Patton has been inducted into the London Business Hall of Fame
- Ken Wright has been named Volunteer of the Year by Community Living London

## HEATHER BEDFORD, MINISTRY OF PASTORAL CARE AND VISITATION

By Howard Capes



Heather Bedford

If you have had a pastoral visit from Heather recently, you will acknowledge that she has a warm and friendly manner that is so important in her new role. This should not come as a big surprise, considering a background that is steeped in family Christian service. Her father was a missionary in India, and her grandfather was a medical missionary in the same country. Heather

was born in the hospital that was constructed in response to her grandfather's vision for such a facility.

When Heather was four months old, she arrived in Canada with her older brother, Jim, and her parents, Moir and Margaret Waters. Members at First-St. Andrew's will recall the excellent preaching and pastoral leadership provided by Moir Waters during the years 1938-40 and 1969-73.

With her parents on the move, Heather completed her formal education in Victoria, Burlington and London. The family moved to London when she entered Grade 10 at Central Secondary School. During this period, Heather established close ties with Robinson Memorial United Church where her father was the minister. She graduated from Victoria Hospital School of Nursing in 1966 and has worked in Emergency and Community nursing. 1966 must have been a vintage year, because she married a Dresden native, Allan Bedford, who was completing his accountancy program.

Allan's job opportunities took the family to Chatham and then to Woodstock. They returned to London in 1986 where he established his own bookkeeping business, and Heather was able to continue her nursing career, most recently with ComCare Health Services. She assumed her responsibilities at First-St. Andrew's on Sept. 1, 1998. Heather and Allan have two grown children - Allan and Holly. They are both married and currently live in London. Heather is an avid reader, and you may want to discuss the intricacies of cross-stitching and knitting with her.

We are very fortunate to have Heather on "our team."



Howard Capes

### ENVIRONMENTAL TIPS

From the Earth Stewardship Committee

Reuse old Christmas wrapping paper on this year's gifts. Save this year's wrappings for use next Christmas.

## WRAPPING UP THE DECADE

By Phyllis Barnes



Phyllis Barnes

Is it all over? Has the final curtain dropped on the work of the *Ecumenical Decade: Churches in Solidarity with Women*, putting women's issues back behind past walls of silence and unconcern? Not if the energy and richness of the closing celebration in Guelph is an indicator. "Daring Hope" drew women from across Canada, some high-profile international guests, and a few men, into deep discussion about the roots of poverty, unemployment

and racism. About the challenges of raising children in an increasingly violent and heartless society. About women's role in reversing the terrible destruction of the Earth. About theology from a woman's perspective. And more.

Appropriately, some theological study was done in the context of quilt-making, guided by Bernice Santor, who many readers will know from her leadership while a member of FSA. We applaud her selection as one of Canada's 50 delegates to the Decade's international finale in Harare, Zimbabwe, in November.

The open Festival Day concluding the celebration, with many outstanding women present - church leaders, artists, writers, ritual-makers, musicians, dramatists, drummers, story-tellers, and more ... plus a marketplace spilling over with beautiful and intriguing handcrafts, gave the 800 or so attendees just a taste of women's contributions to our society and the world's life.



"The Decade", dreamed up by Senator and Very Rev. Lois Wilson and proclaimed by the World Council of Churches in 1988, took on reality at FSA in 1992, with a group formed on the initiative of Dorothy McPhedran and Emily Woods. Small in number, strong in spirit, the Decade Group produced a wonderfully moving feminist church service (recommended for use on Conference Sunday, 1993), two events on feminist methodology in bible study (the first led by Lois Wilson, the second by Bernice Santor), and one on feminine spirituality and the arts, before uniting with Anglican and Lutheran women in 1997 to form an inter-church committee. A video day at FSA, and this year's event, "Celebrating the Future", with speakers on women in politics, church, and society, concluded this group's active life. Some of its members will continue as a branch of the Women's Inter-Church Council, which is focussing currently on the "Year of Jubilee."

No, the work is not over. It will not be finished until there is no place in the world where women are subjugated, restricted, or given inferior status simply because they are women. More than that, it will not be over until the feminine spirit is given her full place in our lives; until emotional depth and expressiveness are recognized as intrinsic to all human nature; until we embrace Earth-life and our bodies as the hands-on work of a Creating God in whose face I, too, am reflected, as woman.

# Changes...

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

## BAPTISMS

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

Matthew Peter Robert Burns  
Natalie Joann Rothwell

*Next Baptism: January 10, 1999*

## GOODBYE & GODSPEED

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

Jan & Rick Ashall  
Carol Mason  
Illoana Smith & Steve Blair

## MARRIAGES

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

July 11 Mona Gupta, David John Wright  
Aug. 22 Laura Yvonne Luft, Christopher Ian Wood  
Aug. 29 Karen Katherine Douglas, Michael Richard Gorza  
Sept. 12 Angela Jean Middleton, Donald George Searles  
Sept. 19 Catherine Jeanne Keates, David Edward Tell  
Oct. 17 Gwendolyn Vanderheyden, Douglas Lloyd Jones

## DEATHS

*"Well done good and faithful servant."*

Jessie Elizabeth Pearl Case	July 12
Doris Selina Gale	July 31
Archibald Ewart Munro	Aug. 10
Katherine May MacEachern	Aug. 13
Roy Spence Hamilton	Aug. 15
Robert Spencer Inch	Aug. 28
Gladys Marian Ruth Erskine	Sept. 2
Russell Clifton Parker	Sept. 26
Hannah Chelsea Patterson	Oct. 6

## A SPIRE POINTING UPWARD

By Bob Vosper



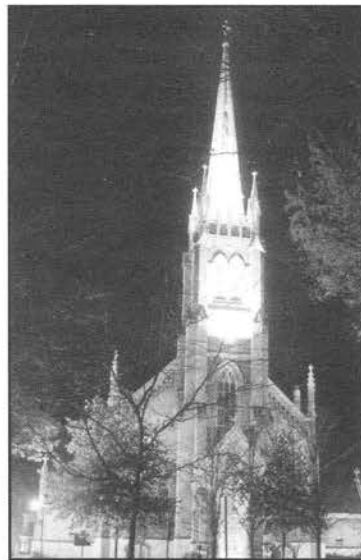
Bob Vosper

*"A spire pointing upward  
Draws us to worship here  
To lift our hearts and voices  
In songs of faith and cheer  
Within these walls have echoed  
The prayers and hymns of praise  
Of those who went before us:  
Today our voice we raise."*

The words of the hymn "A Spire Pointing Upward", written by the Rev. Moir A. J. Waters, immediately come to mind when one reflects on the restoration work which was done on the exterior of First-St. Andrew's this past summer. This was the first step in the plan developed by the Property Committee to prepare FSA for the next millennium. Scaffolding was put up to the base of the steeple to provide the workmen safe access to the tower for painting and other requirements. The lighting in the tower, which had not been working for several years, was replaced. The steeple of First-St. Andrew's is now visible from as far away as south London!

*"A lighted spire glowing  
Across the dark night sky  
A beacon in the darkness"*

All the woodwork around the windows was repainted after extensive scraping and burning. In most cases three to four layers of paint were removed, down to the bare wood, true witness to



*The "lighted spire glowing"*

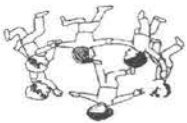
those who went before us! New storm windows were installed on all windows, which were previously without, and all existing storm windows were removed before painting and repaired as necessary. The east and west entrances now are graced with new exterior doors. The brickwork of the building required extensive repair, especially on both side entrances and all chimneys.

We are indebted to E. Kellenberger and all subcontractors who worked on this project with so much heart and dedication. As you look at FSA, it is hoped that it truly "lifts your heart and spirits high." The Property Committee hopes to keep FSA on a "sure foundation rising" so that it will truly stand the test of years to come. Exciting plans to enhance the interior of FSA are currently on the agenda for the summer of 1999.

*"A spire pointing upward  
Stands at the city's heart.  
Reminding us of duty  
Calls us to play our part."*

# FSA Making the Difference!

## FRIENDSHIP & LEARNING GROUPS



**HAVA JAVA 'N' JUICE**  
An informal group for parents and preschoolers offering networking and support. Tuesday mornings 9:30-11:00. Contact Sandra Dwyer (438-6546).

### CIRCLE OF FRIENDS

Singles and marrieds who enjoy fun are invited to join with the Circle of Friends. Call Ann MacPhail (645-8867).



### BIFOCALS

Come and enjoy good food, warm fellowship, a sing song and varied programs. Save Tuesdays, Nov. 24 (Doug Bocking on the Thames as a heritage river) and Jan. 26 (Travel with Gib Cole) at 6:00 p.m. for the next gathering in the Lower Hall. New members and guests are always welcome. Call June & Jack McKay (471-5668).



### UNITED CHURCH WOMEN

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

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

New members are always welcome. Contact the UCW president, Louise McLarty (451-8067) for more information.

## FOOD BANK CONTRIBUTIONS



Please keep in mind the food collection for St. Paul's DAILY BREAD. Baskets are provided to collect food every Sunday. Baby food is also a special need and may be left at any time. Baskets are placed at entrances of the Chapel and Sanctuary, and in the Atrium.

Community Outreach invites donations to the Benevolent Fund to be used at the discretion of the ministers. Donations may be put on the offering plate in an envelope marked **Benevolent Fund**, or given to one of the ministers.

### MITTEN TREE

Once again we will set up a Christmas Tree in the Atrium to be decorated with offerings of mittens, scarves, toques, of all sizes. These will be distributed to young people through ELUCC and Women's Community House.

### WHITE GIFT SUNDAY

**December 6.** Community Outreach invites the young people of the Church School and Gone Fishing to bring unwrapped gifts of non-perishable food, non-violent toys, and clothes (used are fine as long as they are suitable as gifts). There will be baskets in the narthex and Atrium on **December 6** for collection.



## Guess who's having fun now at First-St. Andrew's United Church

How did you do?



**LEAH MORRISE**

— C —  
— I — I — R



**LIONEL MORRISE**

Now can you guess who is pictured here-->



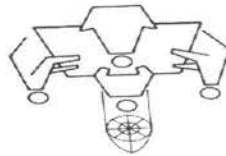
For a moment of meditation in a busy or a quiet day, please call our Dial-A-Prayer at Donna Ellis (782-7084) and Deanne Pederson (432-1583).



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

Referrals may be made through Ardath Hill at 657-3000. Please feel free to contact the Ministerial staff for further details or speak to any of the counsellors directly.

Kerry Hill, a management consultant and career counsellor, provides personal counselling and detailed vocational assessment by appointment when mutually convenient. Ardath Finnboogason-Hill, a nurse-educator with considerable experience in personal counselling, and JoAnn 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.



Under the direction of the Ministerial Staff who provide individual

**COUNSELLING TEAM**

benefit from such a program, please contact Heather Bedford (679-8182) or Mary Vernon (657-7568).

Rainbows is effective support programmes for children and adults who have experienced death, divorce, separation or abandonment. First-St. Andrew's is currently working in cooperation with Robinson Memorial and Colborne Street United Churches, sharing facilities, resources and space. If you know someone who would



**RAINBOWS**

This group is the former Pastoral Care Team and Good Neighbours Team. They have been combined and given a new title. This group will work at meeting both short and long term needs of the members of our congregation. The men and women of this group visit approximately 70 shut-ins on a regular basis, and also around birthday and holiday times. If you or anyone you know has need of extra help, support or visits, please call Heather Bedford (679-8182).

**CONGREGATIONAL VISITING TEAM**

Presently, Heather Bedford is responsible for the Ministry of Pastoral Care and Visitation. Thanks to Herb Wonfor for his visits to our ill and shut-ins for the past two years. They are missing you, Herbi!

**PASTORAL CARE**

**COFFEE AND CONVERSATION**



Every Sunday, following our 9:15 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. worship services, the congregation is invited to remain after service for refreshment and the deepening of friendship. This is an opportunity for each person to make contact and share his/her journey as a valued individual within our community of faith. Volunteers are needed to make and serve coffee and to clean up. If you can help, please call Eileen Pypers (471-4058) or Shirley Peel (439-1698).

**RIDES**

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

**BAPTISMAL PREPARATION**

A Baptismal preparation session is held prior to every Baptism (usually the Thursday evening) to further prepare the parents who are bringing their children for Baptism. We explore the meaning of Baptism, and prepare for the Sunday service. The Sacrament of Baptism will be administered **January 10**. Call the church office if interested. (679-8182)



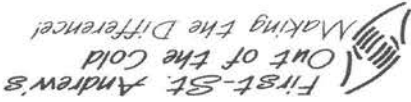
**MARRIAGE PREPARATION**

Preparation for marriage is important because marriage is important to God. First-St. Andrew's works in cooperation with Westminster College to offer classes. Call Westminster College (673-0040) as soon as possible. Next event: Friday/Saturday, February 26 & 27



**COMMUNITY OUTREACH**

IS INVOLVED IN... Out of the Cold, preparing baby layettes, organizing food collections for the Youth Action Centre and St. Paul's Daily Bread, maintaining a furniture cupboard for the use of refugees and the impoverished, actively supports ELUCOC in special projects, works with St. Marys United Church in support of the Canadian Foodgrains Bank, and occupies a chair on their board, sends two members to the LIFT Council meetings and more....



**OUT OF THE COLD (OOTC)**

This program runs year round on Mondays, 5:30-6:30 p.m., providing hospitality meals for about 100 persons. One hundred or more volunteers have been involved, many of them from other churches. Could you help out for a 4 month period? September to December; January to April; May to August. Contact Andy Hunter (471-3659) or Joanne Girvan (473-3814) or the church office (679-8182).





Leader: Susan Shelstad (679-8182)

10 a.m. Thursdays in the Parlour, using "The Whole People of God" adult study material. Everyone welcome.

**THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY**

Leaders: Susan Shelstad and Frank Meadows (679-8182)

Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. in the Parlour.

We are continuing to work our way through Ched Myer's book on the gospel of Mark, *Say To This Mountain*. We meet

**SUBVERSIVE BIBLE STUDY**

Leader: JoAnn Silcox (642-2152)

and learning.

9:15 a.m. in the Keygma Room. Come for coffee, warm fellowship

**SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY**

**ADULT DEVELOPMENT**

THANK YOU!

Can be phoned into or left in the church office. (679-8182)

mail, address.

If you have someone in your family who is a post-high school person, up to age 25 or so, who is at school or otherwise engaged, in London or out-of-town, please let us have a postal mailing, or e-

familiar faces.

We always try to contact our Post-High Young Adults early in December. We want to let them know that their church continues to think about them in their Post-High experiences and we want to let them know what is happening at their church in the Christmas season. Christmas at the church is a time for those away and those in London to see each other again in this familiar place and among

**POST-HIGH/YOUNG ADULTS GREETINGS TO OUR GREETINGS TO OUR POST-HIGH/YOUNG ADULTS**

Postal and e-mail addresses needed!

be available closer to the date. Christian Centre. Detailed information and registration forms will

**WINTER YOUTH RETREAT**

Fri. Jan. 29 to Sun. Jan. 31 at Pearce-Williams United Church

covers the cost of food. Susan Shelstad, Marton Jackson Tyler (Gone Fishing 20th Anniversary) at 7 p.m. The cost is \$45 per child (\$60 for 2 children) which



The Fall term ends on Wed. Dec. 16. The children will be participating in the Family Christmas Eve service at 7 p.m. on Dec. 24.

The next term begins on Wed. Jan. 13. Registration will take place that night.

Coordinators: Susan Shelstad and Paul Merritt (679-8182)

**POP 'N' POPCORN**

Just for fun and friendship! Girls and boys in grade 5, 6 and 7 get together on Friday evenings about once a month.

Coordinators: Janice and Jim Elliott

(657-7183), Jeannette and Stuart Eberhard (672-8400)

**YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY**

**SUNDAY MORNING YOUTH GROUP**

Grade 7 and up! Come join the group in the Upper Room on Sundays at 9:30 a.m. after Youth Choir.

Leaders: Lionel Morise (438-8109); Peter Welch; Jen Cull

**TEENS IN TRANSIT**

Grade 7 and 8. This lively group meets at 11:00 a.m. in their own room off the Upper Room.

Leader: Chris Silcox (642-2152)

**CONFIRMATION CLASS**

This group of 16 young people in grade 9 and up are meeting in preparation for confirmation next spring.



**PANCAKE SUPPER**

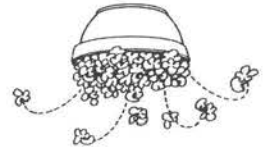
Shrove Tuesday, Feb. 16 at 6 p.m. Sponsored by F.S.A. Youth. Includes music!

**GONE FISHING**

The Fall term ends on Wed. Dec. 16. The children will be participating in the Family Christmas Eve service at 7 p.m. on Dec. 24.



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Coordinators: Janice and Jim Elliott (657-7183), Jeannette and Stuart Eberhard (672-8400)

**YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY**

*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. There is nothing that expresses the joy of Christmaside better than the music of the season.*

**THE CHOIRS**

The Senior, Youth and Gone Fishing choirs will add their "joyous strains" at the Advent Lessons and Carols service on **November 29**. The Senior Choir will sing seasonal music accompanied by the First-St. Andrew's Strings on Christmas Sunday, **December 20**, and Christmas Eve. The Gone Fishing Choir will lead the worship at the 7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Family Service.

**BELLS**

The Laudamus Bells will play during services in Christmaside and at the Advent Noon Recital on **December 18**.



**ADVENT NOON RECITALS**

12-12:30 p.m. (Free will offering)

Luncheon served following (\$5.00)

- December 4**  
Paul Merritt, Organ  
The Amabile Boys Choirs,  
Carol Beynon & Bevan Keating, Conductors
- December 11**  
The Laudamus Bells  
Barbara Plante, Conductor

**CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION**

Sunday, **December 13** at 2:30 pm and 7:30 pm  
The Amabile Youth Singers  
Admission \$10.00, \$8.00 and \$5.00

**NINTH ANNUAL AMABILE FESTIVAL**

Sunday, **February 14, 1999** at 2:30 pm and 7:30 pm  
Amabile Youth Singers, Junior Amabile Singers and Amabile Boys Choir  
Admission \$10.00, \$8.00 and \$5.00

**CHILDREN'S MINISTRY**

**CRADLE ROLL**

Let the church know when your baby arrives so that messages from "Growing In God's Love" package can be sent to celebrate events in your baby's life to age three. Since the last Tidings we have greeted Mathew Burns and Natalie Rothwell.

Coordinator: Nancy Stanlick (451-9491)

**NURSERY**

For infants to two years old - located next to the Chapel on the main floor. Open for 9:15 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. services.

Coordinators: Judy Cull and Mary Gonder

(451-0992)

**CHURCH SCHOOL**

Children are invited to participate in our Church School each Sunday morning using the "Whole People of God" curriculum.

At the 9:15 a.m. service, the children leave for a group class after the children's story.

At 11:00 a.m., the Three Year Nursery is open, across the hall from the infant nursery. Other classes from Kindergarten to Grade 6 go to the sanctuary and leave for classes after the children's story. We have some time

separate into classes.

Unit 3: "Gather 'Round the Child"

covers the period from **Nov. 29 to Jan. 3**. There will be no church school classes on

**Dec. 27 or Jan. 3**. The

children are invited to

attend the regular

worship services on these two dates.

Unit 4: "Paths of the Spirit" goes from **Jan. 10**

to **Feb. 14**.

**SECRET PALS**

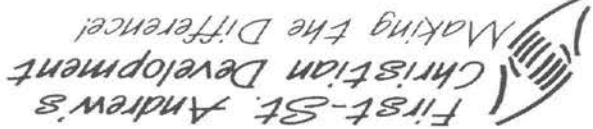
Children in grades 3 to 6 exchange letters

with adults in the congregation on a monthly

basis. Using code names hides your identity until an "unmasking

event" in the spring.

Coordinator: Nancy Howard (289-2352)



**January 10** The Baptism of Jesus **9:15 & 11 am** The Sacrament of Baptism will be administered at the 11 o'clock service

**January 17** The Second Sunday after Epiphany **7:00 pm** Alternative Worship  
 Preacher - Frank Meadows

**9:15 & 11 am** The Sacrament of Communion will be celebrated at both services.

**January 24** The Third Sunday after Epiphany **7:00 pm** Alternative Worship  
 Preacher - Frank Meadows

**9:15 & 11 am** The Service will focus on the outreach work of the church, particularly on ELUCCO [East London United Church Outreach Cluster]  
 Preacher - Susan Eagle

**January 31** The Fourth Sunday after Epiphany **7:00 pm** Alternative Worship  
 Preacher - Susan Eagle

**February 7** The Fifth Sunday after Epiphany **7:00 pm** Alternative Worship  
 Preacher - Frank Meadows

**February 14** The Last Sunday after Epiphany **7:00 pm** Alternative Worship  
 The annual meeting of the congregation will be held after the 11 am service/lunch

**February 17** Ash Wednesday **7:00 pm** Alternative Worship  
 Preacher - Frank Meadows

**February 21** First Sunday in Lent **9:15 & 11 am** Alternative Worship  
 Communion

**February 28** Service in the main sanctuary with the imposition of ashes and the sacrament of Holy Communion

**ALTERNATIVE WORSHIP**

Sunday evenings at 7 pm. We meet first in the Lower Hall for singing, and then choose either Bible Study in the Library with JoAnn Silcox or contemplative worship



At 8 pm we join together again in the Lower Hall for coffee and dessert (pot-luck). Come join us! It's a wonderful way to end or begin a week.



**WORSHIP**

"Let every heart prepare him room." "One of the ways in which we prepare room for the Christ Child is to take part in worship. We invite you to join with us as we worship at First-St. Andrew's. The happy, busy days of advent will help us to be ready when he comes at Christmas. As Winter approaches and the days darken, Christ also approaches and his light shines more brightly within us. Our regular times of worship are 9:15 a.m. in the chapel and 11 o'clock in the main sanctuary. We also have 'Alternative Worship' at 7 p.m. in the lower hall and sanctuary. For more detailed information about our services please telephone the church office at 679-8182. You can also get up to date information at our web site on the internet: <http://www.fsaunited.london.on.ca>

**November 29** First Sunday in Advent **9:15 & 11 am** A Service of Lessons and Carols  
**7:00 pm** Alternative Worship

**December 6** Second Sunday in Advent **9:15 & 11 am** White Gift Sunday  
 Preacher - Frank Meadows

**December 13** Third Sunday in Advent **7:00 pm** Alternative Worship  
 Preacher - Frank Meadows

**December 16** Wednesday Evening in the chapel **7:00 pm** Alternative Worship  
 A Service of Christmas Hope

**December 20** Fourth Sunday in Advent **9:15 & 11 am** At the 11 o'clock service the choir will perform the Fantasia on Christmas Carols by Vaughan Williams with orchestral accompaniment.

**December 24** Christmas Eve **7:00 pm** Alternative Worship  
 Christmas Eve Family Service

**December 27** The Sunday after Christmas **10:00 pm** Candlelight Communion  
 Preacher - Frank Meadows

**January 3** Epiphany Sunday **11 am** Preacher - Barry Moore  
 [There will be one service only]

**First-St. Andrew's Ministry**

- All of the people including
- The Rev. Dr. Frank Meadows
- The Rev Susan Shelstad
- Heather Bedford
- Paul Merritt
- Susan Brown
- Pat Sole
- Jim Gagnon



**ALTERNATIVE WORSHIP**

- ☆ Sundays - 7 pm
- ☆ Worship Choices
- ☆ Dessert and Coffee

**CHURCH FAMILY EVENTS**

- Christmas Eve Family Service  
December 24 - 7 pm - Sanctuary
- Lunch After Church  
February 7, - Noon - Lower Hall
- Pancake Supper  
February 16 - 6 pm - Lower Hall

**INSIDE**

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- 5 Pastoral Care
- 5 Community Outreach
- 6 Friendship & Learning
- 6 Guess who's having fun at FSA

Mr. & Mrs. James Hutchinson  
362 Hazel Avenue  
London, Ontario  
N6H 3R6

Thank  
M. L. L. L. L.

Paul

Others read the written page.  
Help us to live that we may leave  
A goodly heritage.

For not alone we tread this way,  
Once again we need to stop and take time and think of  
the love that surrounds us in First-St. Andrew's and give thanks for all those past members who helped us get to where we  
are today.

Help guide our pen, O God,  
As we write pages new,  
Keep each page from blots and stains  
That what we write reads true;

Taken from "As Thy Days" written in 1977 by Moir A. J. Waters

Dear Family and Friends of First-St. Andrew's  
As the Advent Season is quickly approaching, we need to pause a moment and reflect on the meaning of Advent. It is a time  
of anticipation of what lies ahead. The anticipation in the Advent Season can be as wondrous as the actual Christmas  
celebration. If you have ever been with young children during this time, you know the feeling. Some of us are overwhelmed  
by all we plan to pack into the Advent and Christmas Season, while others can only sit and dream and remember what that  
season once was like for them. They have contributed so much to our church over the years and are now leaving the Christmas  
season once was like for them. We need to include those people in our Christmas plans - a phone call or visit means so much  
to our shut-in population. They have contributed so much to our church over the years and are now leaving the Christmas  
season. This year we are changing the "Blue Christmas" to a service of "Christmas Hope." The purpose of the service  
will be two-fold: We will welcome those feeling burdened by the Christmas season. At the same time we will be sending  
announcements of the service to the families of members of our congregation who have passed away this past year. We  
Christmas at First-St. Andrew's is radiant in so many ways - from the poignant stories of the children's story to the joyful  
candlelight service; from the balcony; from the screeches of delight of young children to the tranquility of the Christmas music  
truly blessed.

With the Epiphany comes the start of our new calendar year and what a year it will be! We will all be preparing for the new  
millennium in our own way with our hopes, plans and dreams. There is so much hype over the year 2000 and concerns that  
technically we will be struggling with it in our computerized world. Once again we need to stop and take time and think of  
the love that surrounds us in First-St. Andrew's and give thanks for all those past members who helped us get to where we  
are today.

Help guide our pen, O God,  
As we write pages new,  
Keep each page from blots and stains  
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**FSA Program Guide**

