

Tidings

First-St. Andrew's United Church

VOLUME 6 ● NUMBER 1

LENT, HOLY WEEK, EASTER 1996



MARGARET WATERS, A LADY OF DISTINCTION

By Ann Denny

As Margaret Waters sat in church, she thought to herself how beautiful the chancel window was. Her husband, Moir, had been responsible for overseeing the design and installation of this window. The fact that she came to be sitting in church one Sunday, able to enjoy its beauty, is the result of some excellent changes that were made to the church. With the new access addition, Margaret is once again able to enter the building.

Much of the history of First-St. Andrew's, from its foundation to the recent access addition, is connected with Margaret Waters' life. Born in Kitchener, Ontario, she had a mother who was very active in the church as President of the Women's Missionary Society and in many other areas. The family later moved to Winnipeg, and when Margaret was 16, to London, becoming part of the First Church congregation.

In 1940, Margaret Waters married the Rev. Moir A. J. Waters, a minister at the newly formed and newly renovated First-St. Andrew's United Church. The story of their courtship has a fairy tale quality. With the joining of the two churches, First and St. Andrew's, in 1938, there were two ministers for the new congregation. An arrangement was formed in which the ministers would take turns preaching, one on Sunday morning and the other Sunday evening, alternating each week. Margaret found herself going to church in the morning one week, and the evening the next week, depending on which service A. J. Waters was doing. They kept their courting a secret, driving out to St. Thomas and back after the Sunday evening service so as to get to know each other. The announcement of their engagement was a wonderful surprise to the congregation! A mere ten days after the wedding, the couple set off via a Pacific oceanliner for their medical missionary placement in India. Following in the footsteps of Moir's parents, a doctor and a nurse who had been living in India since before Moir's birth, the newlyweds spent the next

five years abroad. They travelled through Japan, stopping in Hong Kong and other places on their way to India. All this travel is somewhat miraculous considering it was right in the middle of World War II. In fact, the repatriation vessel which took Margaret and Moir back to Canada in 1945 - with their children, four year old Jim and four month old Heather - was the first passenger ship to return to Canada after the war. They returned via the Atlantic Ocean, so the Waters family had literally travelled around the world!



Margaret Waters

Their son, Jim, had been quite ill while in India, and doctors advised against his return. After 1945, the Waters family stayed in Canada, starting at a new church in Toronto. Mrs. Waters says she and her children felt the pressure of being "the minister's family" - their behaviour set the standard. "Moir was a good preacher," says Margaret with quiet pride, "so people liked him" and by extension, his family.

Margaret is described by her daughter, Heather, with whom Margaret now resides, as the quieter one of the couple. Her father, A.J., was more outgoing, with "a great sense of humour". The impression I received is that of a devoted couple who complemented each other's strengths and gave a lot to whatever community they were in. In 1948 the family moved to Victoria, B.C. where they remained for the next 7 years. Margaret did a lot of cooking during this period, and Christmas photos always show one or more strangers who were invited to join the family dinner. "Sometimes being a minister's wife was fun" she says with a twinkle in her eye. "I would put the roast in the oven before church and then tell my husband that he could only preach for so long, so it wouldn't be overdone! I'd ask him 'how many potatoes?' on the way out."

Margaret has a degree in nursing from U.W.O. As a minister's wife during the 1950's, she sometimes felt that she was required to choose between her husband and her job. However, she did not want to see her nursing abilities wasted and eventually took several jobs as health nurse educator in the schools.

Margaret sits in the atrium Sunday morning, waiting for her daughter to park the car and join her. She enjoys the chance to observe all the people who use the access doors; "it is a wonderful welcoming environment." Welcome back, Margaret!

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THE "NEW" CHURCH PARLOUR

By Gertrude Bergey

The United Church Women have refurbished the parlour, after some twenty years of hard use. Many people have expressed pleasure and admiration for the "new look".

The parlour is no longer the "Ladies Parlour". It is the "Church Parlour". Why then did the U.C.W. assume the redecoration costs? Simply said, it provided us with an opportunity to assume responsibility for a share of the ongoing costs of maintaining the fabric of our church building.

The U.C.W. is very grateful to the Property Committee for the replacement of the ceiling. While awaiting the ceiling repair and the completion of the Access, our funds earned interest and enabled us to do a better job.

No new furniture was purchased. Repairs and re-upholstery were the order of the day. Thus we were pleased that the repairs and renewals provided work for local tradespeople.

The committee which achieved such a fine result included Jane Ebbs, Lu McLean, Trudy Valentine and Lorna Kilb. Congratulations are surely in order!

The Church Parlour is a very versatile room, much used by a variety of groups for receptions, unit meetings, committees, study groups, Rainbows, classes, rehearsals, etc.

So, the U.C.W. offers this room to the congregation. Use it! Respect it! Enjoy it!



Thursday Morning Bible Study Group enjoys the "new" parlour

Info-Line

INCOME TAX RECEIPT **MAY** BE ENCLOSED

Please check your *Tidings* envelope for a sealed envelope containing your tax receipt

ANNUAL MEETING - FEBRUARY 18 - 1 PM

Enjoy and sandwich lunch after church. Hear and see the good news of 1995. Participate in decisions affecting our future.

LOVED ONES REMEMBERED

Flowers may be placed in the chapel/sanctuary in memory of loved ones. For available dates, please refer to the flower calendar in the Access Lobby. Call the church office (679-8182) by Monday April 1st if you wish to place Easter Lilies.

HOLLY BAZAAR

UCW Community Outreach Projects were assured when the profits from the Holly Bazaar were counted. \$8300! Many people worked together for this result. Thanks to all.

OBSERVER RENEWAL TIME HAS ARRIVED

To start or renew monthly home delivery of *The Observer*, place \$10 in an envelope. Print "*Observer*" and "*your name*" on it before placing it on the offering plate or getting it to the church office.

APRIL 20 UCW RECYCLING PROJECT

UCW Spring rummage sale offers us the opportunity to recycle items we are no longer using.

ENVIRONMENTAL TIPS

From the Earth Stewardship Committee

Try to avoid buying products in aerosol cans. Many aerosol cans still contain CFC's that harm the ozone layer

Tidings

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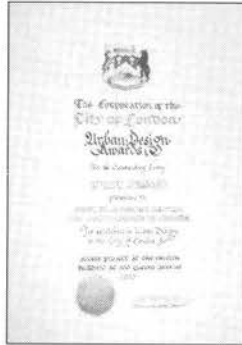
Submissions are accepted only from members of the First-St. Andrew's Family. The *Tidings* Team reserves the right to select and edit submissions. Obtain information from Group and Committee Secretaries or members of the *Tidings* Team. The views expressed in this publication are those of the authors,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

FSA RECEIVES CITY OF LONDON AWARD

By Russ Gonder

On Monday evening, December 4th, 19 members from First-St. Andrew's attended a London City Council meeting for the presentation of the Urban Design Awards for 1995. Our Access Addition was the recipient of the First Award for the outstanding entry in all categories!

These awards are made each year to architectural firms and their clients, by the City of London in conjunction with the London Society of Architects to recognize outstanding architectural achievements. A total of five awards are given, four for distinct classes of projects and a fifth, the First Award, to recognize an outstanding entry from all submissions.



The Certificate



Ross McMullen, Frank Meadows, Russ Scorgie, Russ Gonder

Russ Scorgie's firm, the architects for the Access Addition, were the recipients of another award for the Gainsborough Seniors' Residence, under the "new residential/domestic buildings" classification.

The award received by FSA consisted of a brass plaque which will be mounted on the exterior of the building and a certificate which will be displayed inside.

The reasons cited for the award were:

"Preserving the character and replicating the craft of the original Church building this new "accessible entrance" is cleverly oriented on a 45 degree angle so as not to detract from the "ceremonial" front entrance and facade. A functional hallmark of the design, the almost concealed glass atrium that unites the brick structure to the existing east wall of the sanctuary preserves an unimpeded flow of light to the gothic windows of the original building."

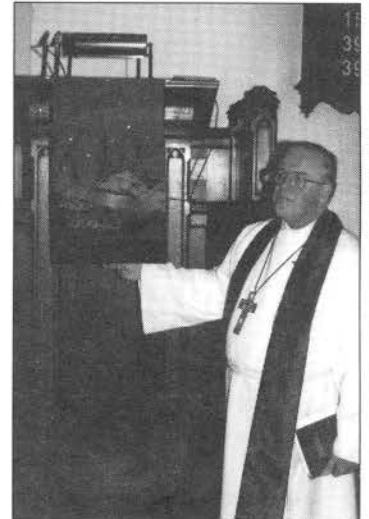


Mayor Dianne Haskett with Russ Gonder

This award is a welcome endorsement of our addition by design professionals in the community. It is consistent with the praise the project has received from many others in the church and community. We are the proud recipient of an addition to our church that is not only outstanding in appearance, but also one which functionally supports and enhances the worth of all other areas of the church as well.

CAPTURED ON FILM AT FSA

Frank Meadows wearing the new stole and admiring the matching antependium crafted by our United Church Women



Blessed are our youth for they are the future of our church



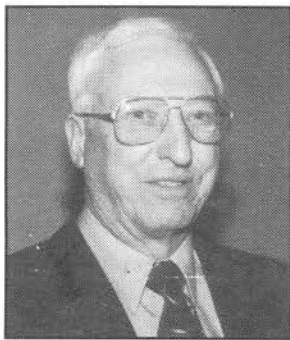
Fran Eberhard and Helen Eberhard shopping at the Holly Bazaar



Don and Marg Parsons - Anniversary Sunday November 19

COUNCIL REPORTS TO YOU

By Ross McMullen
Chair of Council (438-0668)



Ross McMullen

During the Fall, many things have happened:

- Charlotte Ann Bell was made a corresponding member of Council as she studies for the Diaconal Ministry, currently under the supervision of Marion;

- the need for portable

staging has long been understood, and now it is within sight as the Trustees have allocated \$6,000, and the Music Committee \$2,000 towards its purchase;

- the Foodgrains Project is complete, making \$67,000 available for food for hungry people.

The Stewardship campaign has come and gone, providing updated information to Volunteer Management and Finance.

Every Sunday we have a warm worship environment with excellent preaching and wonderful music. Our warmest thanks to all of our staff and many volunteers who help to make all of these things, and much more, happen in our Congregation.

At our December meeting, attended by members of our Congregation, the Strategic Planning Marketing Committee presented its final report. Because of the "change" that it represents, we followed up at the January meeting with two presentations. The first was by Frank Meadows discussing the paradigm changes that the church has undergone and is undergoing. This was followed by a presentation on "Managing Change" by Wendell Davidson. Wendell is an Education Consultant with London Life Insurance. These presentations resulted in very positive feedback from Council members.

I am sure we are all delighted that our new Access won first place in the 1995 Urban Design Awards. The certificate and plaque are on view in the Atrium.

There is a need for a Mail Centre in our church. At a recent Council meeting, we were delighted to hear from the U.C.W. that they would fund this centre to be placed in the Atrium. Communications are vital to our congregation and this gift will strengthen this aspect of our Congregational Life.

Our financial picture for 1995 is very gratifying. We have achieved a surplus which means that we met our original Mission and Service target and have funds to start us off in 1996. Many people made special contributions in time and money to achieve this result. We're grateful to you.

Now we all look forward to the Annual Meeting on **February 18** after church. I hope you will be there. It is important to participate and we appreciate your input.



Elaine Wilson and Jack Hillier present the Marketing Committee Report to Council

VIDEOS IN LIBRARY APPEAL TO CHILDREN

By Emily Woods

In an age where TV has become an incredible influence on kids, it's exciting to have quality entertainment that kids love and with biblical values that parents applaud.

Our Church Library has added several new videos to the children's collection in five different series.

QUIGLEY'S VILLAGE Welcome to Quigley's Village, a delightful place where children learn such Christian values as patience and obedience.

CHARLIE WANDERMOUSE Wonderful adventures in Hot Air Balloons, a Candy Factory, Flash Flood etc., new stories based on parables.

BIBLE OXFORD SERIES Animated stories of Creation, Adam and Eve, Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob etc., as well as The First Christmas and The First Easter.

MCGEE AND ME Good fun and live action in the world of Nicholas and his cartoon friend McGee who get into adventures and not-so-normal situations.

THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA These classic fantasy adventures travel into a magical world where animals speak, mythical creatures roam and children fight an epic battle between good and evil.

COME and BORROW! ENJOY and LEARN!



MAKING A DIFFERENCE

From the M & S Committee

Bringing the Church into our homes and daily lives is an important and ongoing task. Each one of us is in ministry, and resources like Mandate, Exchange, and The United Church Observer, inform, equip, and challenge us to be the People of God in Canada and the world. The Mission and Service fund support makes the publication of these resources possible

A LOOK AT THE PROPERTY COMMITTEE

By Ed Ellis

Ever find yourself sitting in the church before the service wondering who looks after the multitude of repairs and maintenance issues connected with a building and property of this magnitude? Ever ponder what changes you would make if this were your responsibility? How would you set priorities for the seemingly endless list of repairs, alterations and additions needed to keep it in the excellent condition that a church of this historic and personal magnitude deserves for all who worship here?

Needless to say, this is a very tall order but one well within the capabilities of the dedicated members of the Property Committee. Under the creative and dynamic leadership of chairperson **Robin Procnier**, members **Al Taylor**, **Gib Cole**, **Ed Ellis**, **Bob Vosper**, **John Jardine**, **Jim Hendry**, and **Russ Scorgie** pool their energy and personal skills to accomplish the jobs of property management. **Susan Brown**, **Paul Huston** and **Lu McLean** are also members in an ex-officio capacity.

As Robin is quick to point out, we are blessed with an enormous wealth of time, talent and resources in the congregation and within this committee. An examination of what brings us to this great church would certainly include the excellent leadership in worship, children's programs, the music program, mission and service, just to mention a few. But there is also a shared passion for this 126 year old structure that makes us all work that extra bit harder to maintain this magnificent building for ourselves and all those who come after us. In the past year, the property Committee has overseen the restoration of the "Ross memorial" stained glass window, the replacement of stained glass in the main entrance, the removal and installation of the parlour ceiling, the decorating of the fireside hallway, installation of new carpet in Frank's office, airconditioning and lighting repairs to Catherine's office, replacement waterlines and sewer connections, landscaping, restoration to parapet walls and the illumination of the stained glass window at the front of the sanctuary ... just to mention a few of the tasks completed in '95. The list for 1996 has not yet been finalized but we do know we need immediate replacement of a major portion of the roof over the Sunday school building for a start.

As a group, the property committee members all share an interest in the challenges of a historic building. Collectively this committee has an abundance of interest, experience and passion for solving problems to get the work done in the most cost efficient manner. For example, Gib Cole brings to the committee over forty years of mechanical expertise and familiarity with systems within the church. He has seen many changes over the years including the moving of the organ, the removal of the side balconies, the installation of the chair lift and the replacement of the old boiler. Gib enjoys the challenges of tackling problems in an old building for there are always "lots of surprises". Of all the changes Gib has seen over the years, he feels that Access has been our finest improvement to the functioning of FSA.

Al Taylor is also a long time member of our church who has

witnessed many changes and helped provide us with the continuity that is so valuable. Presently, he oversees the repair and management needs of Farquhar House.

Jim Hendry, a more recent member to FSA, brings his experience in construction and manufacturing technology to the committee. Like the others, he also feels that maintaining the magnificence of our Church should be our first priority. He is awed by the construction of the sanctuary with its massive roof timbers, steeple and structural features. It is the character and integrity of the building that he feels is necessary to maintain as we go about repairing, up-dating and re-structuring some of its space and functions.

John Jardine also shares this belief in maintaining the character and integrity of the building. John brings his experience in engineering, construction methods and utilities services to the committee. He feels that the warmth and character of our church far exceeds any of the many structural or mechanical concerns it presents. Some might argue that the endless nooks and crannies give it more charm than practical efficiency.

Ed Ellis joined the Property Committee under Russ Gonder's leadership and quickly felt that this was the place where he could be of service to the church. He enjoys the camaraderie of this group and also respects their diligence and hard work. Ed enjoys tackling the practical jobs that this group undertakes and doesn't mind getting a bit dirty doing so. At this time he and Bill Davidson of the congregation are busy revitalizing the cracked pews with a "special wood finish enhancer".



Back: Bob Vosper, Robin Procnier, Susan Brown, Ed Ellis
Front: John Jardine, Jim Hendry, Russ Scorgie

Bob Vosper is another member who has served this church in almost every capacity for over forty years. If you know what to look for, you will see his handiwork in almost every area of FSA. A talented craftsman and woodworker, Bob enjoys building cabinets, shelving units and bulletin boards, as well as fixing stoves, overseeing waterline and other repairs.

Russ Scorgie wears many hats around FSA. Prior to being a member of this committee, he served on the long-range planning committee that resulted in his role on the Access Committee. He was the architect who directed the Access project, overseeing the design phase, the working drawings and much of the construction. From his perspective, he feels that this committee has an enormous responsibility for maintaining the Church's integrity while keeping in mind its age and historical significance. As Russ remarked, "we need a master plan when approaching the repairs and changes to our building. We cannot just tackle things a room at a time without an integrating theme. *There must be a concern for continuity throughout the building as we take a long-term approach to the preservation of the church.*". Russ also made the point that our church is constantly evolving as it meets the current needs of the congregation and as repairs and renovations are undertaken. Although he feels that it is important that the building evolve to meet the present needs of the congregation, it must be brought about so that the overall integrity of the original architectural structure is kept. I guess this rules out vinyl siding and other low maintenance products!

This is a great committee and new members are warmly welcomed and, as I found out, quickly put to work.

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"

Arlene Rowe Coffin

Next Baptisms - April 7 & May 12, 1996

DEATHS

"Well done good and faithful servant!"

Helen Elizabeth Rowat	August 12, 1995
Helen Marlowe Silverwood	October 26, 1995
A. Stuart Robb	January 16, 1996

GOODBYE & GODSPEED

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

Donna Crinklaw Wiancko
David McMurray
John Reid

MARRIAGES

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

November 4 Tara Elizabeth MacDonald
Hugh William Getliffe

NEW MEMBERS

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

New Members Received November 26, 1995:



*Back: Carol Eyre, Don Hambly, *Dawn Travis
Front: *Amy Freeman, Pamela Cottingham, Elaine Russell
Not pictured: Catherine Bentley, *Carolyn Herrington,
Earl Orser, Marion Orser*

**Received by Confirmation*

Next Reception of New Members: May 5, 1996

WILL YOU BECOME A FRIEND OF MUSIC AT FSA?

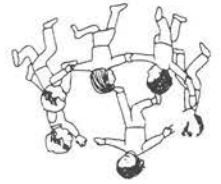
By Bruce Moor, Chair of Music Committee

This is the eighteenth season for the **Music at First-St. Andrew's** Concert Series. This series is co-ordinated and managed by Paul Merritt who reports to the Music Committee. The Concert Series continues to be self-supporting and operates independently of the Church Council, and is entirely funded by the Friends of Music.

Friends of Music at First-St. Andrew's are people in our church and community who contribute financially to enable our Christian witness in the community to continue to flourish and provide the benefits of quality music to London and beyond. With this financial help the series is able to continue on a non-profit basis, keeping ticket prices as low as possible. Our Concert Series presents a wide variety of musical programs including organ recitals, vocal concerts, choral/orchestral programs and instrumental recitals as a musical outreach to the community.

While our 1995/96 series has already featured many wonderful events the culmination of the season will be the Canadian première of the musical morality *Jonah* by British composer William Mathias. This major work featuring our own choir, soloists, orchestra and the St. Marys Children's Choir is not to be missed!

Will you become a *Friend of Music* at First-St. Andrew's? Enclose your cheque in an envelope marked *Friends of Music* and place it on the offering plate or mail it to the church office. Your contributions are tax deductible and we will know that we have your support in this special ministry.



HAVA JAVA 'N' JUICE

An informal group for parents and pre-schoolers offering networking and support. Tuesday mornings, 9:30-11:00. Contact: Liz Galbraith (471-3439).

Co-ordinators: Isabel & Howard Moffatt (439-2960), Kathleen Larson (439-8391), Gloria Wiebe (472-2670).

make and serve coffee, and to clean up. Volunteers are needed to share person to welcome newcomers and to share his/her journey as a valued individual within our community of faith. Volunteers are needed to after service for refreshment and the deepening of friendship. This is an opportunity for each worship, the congregation is invited to remain Every Sunday, following our 11:00 a.m.

COFFEE AND CONVERSATION

Volunteers, suggestions, are welcome.

The Good Neighbour Team is in the process of being developed.

- Driving
- Hands-on help
- Linking
- Post-hospital support

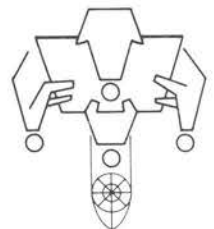
Team will offer support to people needing:

This is a new venture in caring for our congregation being developed by Membership and Nurture, under the leadership of Louise Slater. (642-7949) and Gertrude Bergey, (675-1207). The

GOOD NEIGHBOURS TEAM

monthly by appointment.

details or speak to any of the counsellors directly. Meetings are (657-3000). Please feel free to contact the ministerial staff for further crises. Referrals may be made through Ardath Hill at (657-3116) or individuals, couples, families or groups facing personal counselling for provide initial assessment and follow-through counselling for counselling, and Dr. Jo Ann Slicox, a psychiatrist, work as a team to Hill, a nurse-educator with considerable experience in personal appointment when mutually convenient. Mrs. Ardath Finnbogason- personal counselling and detailed vocational assessment by Kerry Hill, a management consultant and career counsellor, provides



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.



Workshop day - April 13 - 8:30-3:30 FROM DEEP WITHIN Feminist Spirituality and the Arts Workshops: Choose 2 Literature Quilting Music Dance Drumming Story Telling Information: Dorothy McPhedran (471-9662)

WOMEN'S DECADE GROUP

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, in the Church Parlour. New members are always welcome. Information UCW president, Lorna Kilb, (432-9938).

UNITED CHURCH WOMEN

Come and enjoy good food, warm fellowship and varied programmes on Tuesdays, March 26, April 23 and May 28 at 6:30 p.m. in the Lower Hall. Interested? Call Ralph & Corinne King, (471-0139).

BIFOCALS

Are you, or have you ever been, thirtysomething? Do you enjoy an informal, fun-loving atmosphere? Do you need to unwind on a Friday evening or perhaps find an outlet for your creative energies? Do you enjoy variety in recreational activities and, in particular, do you enjoy festive meals? If so, it sounds like Thirtysomething is the group for you! Contact Richard Dimmen, (438-4485), or Ann MacPhail, (645-8867), for the details of our next gathering.

THIRTYSOMETHING

GROUPS FOR FRIENDSHIP & LEARNING

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

FURNITURE DONATIONS

Please keep in mind the Social Action Committee's food collection for St. Paul's DAILY BREAD Food Bank. Baskets are provided to collect food every Sunday. Baby food is also a special need. Baskets are placed at front entrances of the chapel and sanctuary on Sunday mornings. There is a permanent box in the Lower Hall under *The Christ of the Breadline* mural in the Lower Hall. Financial contributions are also welcome. Thank you for helping others!

FOOD BANK CONTRIBUTIONS

Social Action invites donations to 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.

BENEVOLENT FUND DONATIONS

IS INVOLVED IN...preparing baby layettes, organizing food collection for the Youth Action Centre and St. Paul's Daily Bread Food Bank, maintaining a furniture cupboard in Farguhar House 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.....

SOCIAL ACTION



ADULT DEVELOPMENT

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

9:15 in the Kerygma Room with leadership offered by JoAnn Sileox. This is serious Bible Study, but laughing from the lively voices and the outbursts of laughter that come from this room, it is not boring. The current focus -- The Revelation of John -- that mysterious and bizarre last book of the Bible. What meanings are hidden in the messages of angels and creatures, letters and visions?

THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

SPRING SET

4 weeks **Apr. 11-May 2** plus a closing time on **May 9, 9:30 a.m.** in the Parlor

Our Purpose: To look to the Bible to inform and strengthen us for daily living and to get to know others in the congregation.

WE HOPE YOU WILL JOIN US!

Current Co-ordinator: Anne Pattison, (433-0898)

Especially for Lent

"WE WERE THERE" (For those who like to do their Lenten study from their favourite easy chair)

Six contemporary dramas of the events of Easter Week.

Tuesdays 8 - 8:30; Wednesdays 1:30 am and 11:30 am

on Spirit Connection -- Vision TV

February 6

Amnas and Cataphas

13 Simon Peter

20 Pilate and Procula

27 Judas

5 Nicodemus and Thomas

12 Mary Magdalene and Joanna

HALLELUJAH!

A Lenten Bible study based on Handel's *Messiah*. (The choir will be singing many of these in worship through Lent and Easter.) Leadership: Stephen Adams and Charlotte Ann Bell. For more information call Charlotte Ann at (434-2400) - evenings. For your convenience, these six sessions will be held Sundays, beginning **February 25**, right after church 12:30 - 2. Bring a sandwich to share for lunch; beverage provided.

PRAYER ? We are hearing some

requests for support in learning how to pray? where to start? how to establish and nurture that relationship with God? how to keep going? ...

If you have interest or ideas, call Marion Jackson Tyler (679-8182).

IN SEARCH OF THE CHURCH

Continuing from *The Once and Future Church* studied in the fall. Frank Meadows wants to invite a group to explore a vision for the future of the church. Information: Frank Meadows (679-8182).

Information Augie Meacham (472-2641).

PARABLES Augie Meacham has a mind-bending, spirit-opening approach to the truths Jesus tucked into those stories. Suitable for a first look or a fresh look at some of the Parables of Jesus.



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-four 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 every month or two. 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).



RAINBOWS

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 co-operation with Robinson Memorial and Colborne Street United Churches, sharing facilitators, resources and space. Three adult groups and two children's groups meet during Fall and Winter. If you know someone who would benefit from such a programme, please contact Catherine about the 1996/97 series beginning in October. (679-8182)

SENIORS AND THOSE WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

The Rev. Jack McKay visits our seniors and others on a regular basis. There are approximately 80 people with whom Jack keeps in touch.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION

Preparation for marriage is important because marriage is important - to the persons involved, to society in general, and to God. First-St. Andrew's works in co-operation with Westminster College to offer classes. The next marriage preparation sessions will be held **February 23-24/96** and **April 26-27/96** (Friday night and Saturday) at Westminster College. Call the church office or speak to one of the ministers for details (679-8182).



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 celebrated on **On April 7, at 9:15** and **May 9 at 11:00** (Mother's Day). Call the church office (679-8182).

DIAL-A-PRAYER

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



Gone Fishing will begin the Lenten season with a Monk's Meal, simple and silent. In the time of worship, we will learn why this day is called Ash Wednesday and will be marked with the sign of the Cross in ashes. Throughout Lent we will focus on learning the Lord's Prayer and exploring its meaning. By Easter, we want to be able to say the Lord's Prayer and know what we are praying. Our March Break will be two weeks; there will be no Gone Fishing on March 6 or 13. Our program will conclude on **Wednesday, April 24** with a Penny Carnival and a Family Potluck Supper which features good food and includes the recognition of leaders, graduates and all participants.

POP N' POPCORN

About once a month, girls and boys in Grades 5, 6 and 7 get together on a Friday evening for FUN! Upcoming outings are **April 19** - Games; **May 17** - Bowling or Mini Golf; and **June 14** - Barbeque at Wally World. Co-ordinators: Janice & Jim Elliott, (657-7183); Sharon & Dennis Lunau, (472-2099); and Virginia & Bob Rogan, (472-4137).

POLKA DOT DAYS

On most school Professional Development Days Circles are symbols of God's never ending love and of community. Polka Dots are fun circles! These days are planned to be active, creative fun experiences of Christian community. We use a statement of Jesus as a focus for each day.

Friday February 16 - "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life"

Bowling, basketweaving, games, ... the importance of honesty, ...

Friday May 10 - "I am the Resurrection and the Life"

A clowning workshop, polka dot plants, ...

We ask the children to bring their own lunch; we provide snacks. **Cost:** \$20 per child for one day \$35 per child for both Polka Dot Days

TEEN CAMPING WEEKEND

May 31 - June 2. Cost: probably \$25. Contact Emily Woods, (679-8182).

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 (Gr. 9 up), Teen Handbells, Retreats, Musical, Church service (helping with Church School, Nurseries, Ushering, etc.)



THE SUNDAY MORNING GROUP

will focus on discussions of issues which they have chosen: Substance Abuse, Homosexuality, Teen Pregnancy, Teens On The Street, Stress Management, How To Be Happy In The 90's, Prejudice, etc. We hope for a better understanding through discussion, guest speakers and Biblical reflection. All Teens welcome.

Sundays, 9:30 a.m. in the Upper Room

PANCAKE SUPPER

SHROVE TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1996, 6:00 P.M.

Shrove Tuesday became known as Pancake Day because pancakes and other rich foods were prepared on this day in order to use up forbidden Lenten foods such as fats, eggs and butter. The next day is Ash Wednesday, the beginning of fasting. Be ready for the Season of Lent! Come and enjoy our Pancake & Sausage Supper! Entertainment, too! Sponsored by the Youth of the Church. **Cost:** Adults \$4.00; Children \$3.00.

TEEN CONFIRMATION CLASS

This group of 10 teens began in the fall and will continue their learning about Christian beliefs and church membership. They and their sponsors will read the Gospel of Mark. They are encouraged to read it as much like a biography as they can so that the story of Jesus' life and the difficulties leading to his death are one piece.

On **Saturday April 13, 9:30 to 4**, we will be at Westminster College for a Retreat. Learning, fellowship, fun and banner making will fill our day together. The classes and experiences of church life offered in the Confirmation process are preparation for decision-making about confirming their Baptism. It is an important step in a Christian's life -- a step to be made thoughtfully and with reasonable commitment. We have plans to celebrate Confirmation on **Sunday May 5**. Adults will also be confirmed and join the church by transfer of membership. As well, the Teen Choir has a special musical presentation planned for that festival day.

CANADIAN GIRLS IN TRAINING

for GIRLS ages 12-17

Wednesday, 7 p.m., Upper Room

Purpose: To Cherish Health, Seek Truth, Know God, Serve Others. C.G.I.T. is a place where a girl can be herself and share with others. Contact Heather Carter, (657-8759).



NEW VENTURES FOR TEENS IN GRADES 7 & 8

March 28 10 a.m. A special gathering of Teens in Grades 7 & 8 and Parents of Kids in Grades 6, 7 & 8 **Purpose:** To talk about new programs and activities at the church, what parents and young people want or expect; how parents and kids might get on board.

WATCH FOR AN INVITATION IN THE MAIL



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 becoming a part of our music program in 1996.

THE SENIOR CHOIR

Handel's *Messiah* is without doubt the most widely-known and loved choral work in the repertoire. In the next few months we will have a rare opportunity to both learn about and hear some of the wonderful music from this oratorio. To coincide with the Kerygma study group's examination of *Messiah* our Senior Choir and the First-St. Andrew's Strings will use various choruses from Parts II and III during Lenten services culminating on Easter Sunday with the 'Hallelujah' chorus!

THE TEEN CHOIR

Following the success of their musical *Lightshine*, the teens are beginning work on a chancel musical *A Season To Celebrate* which they will present on Sunday, **May 5** at the 11:00 a.m. service. All teens are encouraged to join us for the work and fun this presentation will involve.

AT FIRST-ST. ANDREW'S
Music

WITH VOICE, PIPE AND STRING

Sunday, February 11, 1996, 3:00 p.m. (\$8, \$6)

SIXTH ANNUAL AMABILE FESTIVAL

Sunday, March 3, 2:30 & 7:30 p.m.

WINDSWEEP IVORIES

Wednesday, March 27 at 8:00 p.m. (\$12, \$8)
The Aeolian Winds with Angela Cheng, Piano

FRIDAY LENTEN NOON RECITALS

12-12:30 p.m. (Free-will Offering)
Luncheon (\$4.50) is served following

March 15 David Jones, Piano

March 22 Paul Merritt, Organ

March 29 Bruce Richardson, Conductor



Central Secondary School Chamber Orchestra.

This concert, featuring the soloists of First-St. Andrew's and flute virtuoso Fiona Wilkinson, will give you an opportunity to hear music for voice and flute not often heard. There will be a wide variety of music performed and this combination of singers and instrumentalists should add up to a delightful afternoon of music.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

JONAH by William Mathias
A Canadian Premiere
Saturday, April 27 at 8:00 p.m.
The Choir of First-St. Andrew's United Church
The St. Marys Children's Choir
with Orchestra
Paul Merritt, Conductor
Ross Dodington - *Jonah*
Darryl Edwards - *Narrator*
John Tessier - *Shipmaster*

CRADLE ROLL



We are delighted to welcome each new baby into the church family with our *Growing in God's Love* mailings. Be sure to let the church know when your new baby arrives. There were 11 babies enrolled in 1995. Since the last *TIDINGS*, we have greeted Joshua Fuller, Andrew John MacDonald, Holly Hilborn, James Brzas, Lauren Madinger, Stephanie Shepard and Danielle Stewardson.

NURSERY

For infants, one and two year olds. Open for both 9:15 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Sunday worship. Co-ordinators: Judy Cull, Donna Fraleigh, (672-61116) and Mary Gonder, (451-0992).

CHURCH SCHOOL



Continuing with *The Whole People of God* curriculum, **Unit V Tree of Faith**, helps us to prepare for the celebration of Easter by exploring our relationship with God through the stories of Adam & Eve, Abraham & Sarah, Moses, David, the Valley of the Dry Bones, the Palm Parade, February 25 to March 31.

Unit VI, Moving With the Spirit

celebrates the joy of the resurrection throughout the Great 50 Days of Easter. We hear the stories of the early Christians through Peter, Paul, Stephen, Esther and Simon, ending with the festival of Pentecost. April 7 to May 26.



The *At Home Faks* for Units V & VI are included in this mailing for all families with children. They contain great ideas and information for people of all ages.

SECRET PALS

Several sets of children and adults are corresponding through the Secret Pal Mailbox. Identities will be revealed in the spring.



April 4-5
8 pm - 9 am

From 8 o'clock this evening until 9 o'clock tomorrow morning we invite members of the congregation to participate in a vigil. We remember that Christ asked the disciples to watch with him while he prayed. You will have an opportunity to sign up for an hour at any time during the night which you may observe in your own home.

April 5 10:15 am
Good Friday. We are invited to join with the congregation of Metropolitan United Church in their sanctuary for this special service.

April 7 8:00 am
Easter Sunday.
The Day of Resurrection Sunrise Service.
The joyful worship of Easter. We will celebrate the sacrament of Baptism at the 9:15 service. At 11 o'clock the choir will sing music from the Easter section of Handel's *Messiah*.
Preacher - Frank Meadows

April 14 9:15 & 11:00
The Second Sunday of Easter
The services will be conducted by the Committee for the Ecumenical Decade : Churches in Solidarity with Women.

April 21 9:15 & 11:00
The Third Sunday of Easter/Earth Day.
The services will be conducted by members of the Earth Stewardship Committee.
Preacher - Frank Meadows

April 28 9:15 & 11:00
The Fourth Sunday of Easter
Preacher - Frank Meadows

May 5 9:15 & 11:00
The Fifth Sunday of Easter. On this Sunday we will be receiving new members at the 1:00 a.m. service. Young people and adults will be confirmed, and we will welcome those who are transferring their membership to our congregation. The Teen Choir will have a special part to play in leading this service of worship.

May 12 9:15 & 11:00
Christian Family Sunday/Mothers' Day. We shall celebrate the sacrament of Baptism at the 11:00 service.
Preacher - Frank Meadows

May 19 9:15 & 11:00
The Seventh Sunday of Easter
Preacher - Frank Meadows

May 26 9:15 & 11:00
The Day of Pentecost. As Frank and Catherine will both be at the annual meeting of London Conference our guest preacher will be Charlotte Ann Bell.

June 2
We begin the season of Pentecost with the sacrament of communion. On this special Sunday we shall worship out of doors at the Pearce Williams Retreat Centre near Iona Station. Transportation will be arranged for all who wish to come. For those who are unable to join us at the open air service, communion will be celebrated in the chapel 9:15. Preacher - Frank Meadows.



Come and worship at First-St. Andrew's as we follow Christ on the Lenten journey that takes us to Calvary and beyond, to the empty tomb and the glorious light of the resurrection. Our regular worship times are 9:15 a.m. in the chapel and 11:00 a.m. in the main sanctuary. Everyone is welcome. Up to date information regarding our worship services can be found by dialing the Pressco number, 679-0000, ext. 3905

February 21 7:30 pm
Ash Wednesday service in the main sanctuary with the imposition of ashes and the sacrament of Holy Communion
Preacher - Frank Meadows

February 25 9:15 & 11:00
The First Sunday in Lent. The Choir will sing the first in a series of anthems from the Lenten section of Handel's *Messiah*. [Be sure to see the ADULT DEVELOPMENT section regarding Bible study based on the texts of these anthems.]
Preacher - Frank Meadows

March 3 9:15 & 11:00
The Second Sunday in Lent
Preacher - Frank Meadows

March 10 9:15 & 11:00
The Third Sunday in Lent.
Preacher - Frank Meadows

March 17 9:15 & 11:00
The Fourth Sunday in Lent.
Preacher - Frank Meadows

March 24 9:15 & 11:00
The Fifth Sunday in Lent
Preacher - Frank Meadows

March 31 9:15 & 11:00
Palm/Passion Sunday.
There will be a special service of worship in which we shall remember the last days of Christ's ministry on earth, and celebrate the sacrament of Holy Communion (Children included).
Maundy Thursday. On this night, Christ had his last supper with the disciples. We shall remember that occasion with a simple meal, with the sacrament of Holy Communion, and we shall enter the hours of darkness as we extinguish candles one by one.

April 4 7:00 pm
Preacher - Frank Meadows

First-St. Andrew's Ministry

All of the people and
The Rev. Frank Meadows
The Rev. Catherine Moore
The Rev. Jack McKay
Paul Merritt
Emily Woods Marlon Jackson Tyler
Susan Brown Pat Sole Jim Gagnon

WORSHIP

NEW OPPORTUNITIES

- Bible Study - Handel's Messiah
- Learning How to Pray
- First Look, Fresh Look - Parables
- In Search of the Church
- Feminist Spirituality and the Arts

Church Family Events

- Pancake supper with Entertainment
Tuesday February 20, 6 pm
- Gone Fishing Family Potluck Supper
Wednesday April 24, 6:30 pm
- Outdoor Pentecost Celebration
Sunday June 2, 10:30 am

INSIDE

- 2..... Worship
- 3..... Music
- 3..... Children's Ministry
- 4..... Youth Ministry
- 5..... Adult Development
- 5..... Pastoral Care & Outreach
- 6..... Social Action
- 6..... Friendship & Learning



Dear Friends,

Welcome to Lent - a time to feast. No, that's not a misprint. Lent is a time to feast. Usually we think the opposite. We think of Lent as a time of preparation during which Christians, recalling Jesus' fast in the wilderness, give up some of their favourite things as a form of spiritual discipline. Of course, there is much to be gained by that sort of discipline, and it commends itself to us these days in which so many people are trying to simplify their life to reduce stress.

But here is another way to look at the season of Lent. The season begins with the story of Jesus fasting in the wilderness and being tempted by Satan. [Matthew 4: 1-11] Satan suggests that in order to satisfy his hunger, Jesus should turn the stones on the ground into loaves of bread. Jesus responds by saying, "One does not live by bread alone but by every word that comes from the mouth of God." To live by every word that comes from God, and not on bread alone, is to live on the richness of what God has done and said. It is an invitation to a feast - a feast of life, a feast of justice, a feast of love.

Imagine yourself going to a Sunday brunch after church. You see all of your favourite things on the buffet table, and you see a few things you don't recognize. Most of us will stick with the omelets, the hash browns and the little sausages, and we leave those funny things that look like wrinkled charcoal alone. Until someone offers you one off his plate, and it tastes so good that you go back to get a helping for yourself.

That's the way it tends to be with our approach to God's word. It is such rich fare, with such incredible variety, that we are tempted to stick with the passages and ideas that we already know. But Lent offers us an opportunity to deepen and widen our knowledge and appreciation of every word that comes from the mouth of God. We need to hear the words of reassurance as well as the words of reproof. We need to hear the words which expand our sense of community and enlarge our vision of the family and household of God.

How desperately we need to recover the fullness of Christ's witness in an age when the Bible is often used selectively to justify exclusion and repression. Let us feast together this Lent on every word that comes from the mouth of God, and we will surely discover that Jesus is feasting with us.

FSA Program Guide

Lent, Holy Week & Easter 1996

