

THE FRONT PAGE



THE GIFT

By David McKane

I came across it while culling my library in anticipation of my retirement. It was a copy of a book by Harry Emerson Fosdick, the American Baptist preacher for whom John D. Rockefeller, Jr. built Riverside Church in New York City. At the beginning of the last century Fosdick championed what was then called Modernist theology, what is now called Progressive or liberal theology. It was a gift from my then minister Ken Jull when I answered the call to ministry almost fifty years ago. He felt that it would ease my transition from math and science to philosophy and theology, which it did. But it did something else. It introduced me to liberal theology, to a questioning mind and a questing Spirit. Nine years later, on my seven-point settlement charge in Brooklyn, Nova Scotia, a member of one of those little congregations, upon learning of my love of Fosdick gifted me with several hundred of Fosdick’s sermons. She had “gone up to New York,” as they say in the Maritimes, to train as a nurse, stayed on to work, and worshipped under Fosdick at Riverside. Years later she had returned home to look after her aging and ailing parents and gifted me with her treasured collection. They, too, fueled the fire that was already steadily burning.

The gift of a questioning mind is a great gift, perhaps the greatest gift that we can give our children, a questioning mind and a questing Spirit. It’s a great gift to possess but an even better gift to pass along to the generations that follow after us. Do not be afraid, Jesus counsels his disciples at the end of his earthly ministry. Do not be afraid to ask questions. Do not be afraid to trust the Spirit, your own hunches. Do not be afraid to walk the valleys. Do not be afraid of the wilderness. Do not be afraid of Gethsemane moments. Do not be afraid of death. Oh, I know that we all wish to avoid death or push it away but do not be afraid, says Jesus, for love was with us in the beginning. Love wrapped us around when we were born. Love accompanied us or followed after us all the days of our lives and love will be there at the end.

Do you remember L. Frank Baum and his Oz books? In *The Prince of Pingaree* there is a white pearl that says, “Never question the truth of what you fail to understand for the world is filled with wonders.” Frederick Buechner in *The Sacred Journey* says, “To journey for the sake of our own lives is little by little to cease to live in any sense that really matters, even to ourselves, because it is only by journeying for the world’s sake, even when the world bores and sickens and scares you half to death, that little by little we start to come alive. It was not a conclusion that I came to in time. It was a conclusion from beyond time that came to me. God knows I have never been any good at following the road it pointed to, but at least, by grace, I glimpsed the road and saw it. It is the only one worth travelling.”

Throughout my ministry among you, in my preaching and in my person, through the Proudfoot lectures and in casual conversations I have shared that gift, the gift of a questioning mind and a questing Spirit that draws us deeper into life and thus deeper into God. Thank you for letting me sing *my* song as one of your ministers. 🌿

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

EDITOR'S MESSAGE

By David Flynn



Marshall McLuhan notwithstanding, the medium does not replace the message. The message of FSA is our worship, work and fellowship, the essence of who we are. Still, it is useful to review how the medium of *Tidings* conveys that message.

Each Easter copy cost \$2.75. Possibly because it featured our new minister, Kate Crawford, the 200 original copies were gone before the service was over. Turns out some people picked up several copies to send to others—including Kate—or to take them to shut-ins—as well they should have. To meet the demand, Maureen ran off 100 more copies without colour.

FSA budgets \$1700 to publish four issues. The business card ads contribute \$540, the cost of one issue, but we cannot afford to print more copies at \$2.75 each.

We could do our own printing, as we did in the past, instead of contracting out, but we still pay for that. Also, it was complicated and required constant outside technical support. The results were okay but not as good as professional printing.

We could eliminate the colour for the four outside pages—*Tidings* is printed on folded 8½x17 sheets producing four pages per sheet. Using colour is striking, we believe, but we could go back to b&w at a dollar per copy, or use colour only for Christmas and Easter.

We could reduce the number of pages to 16 and print a separate b&w Programme Guide only in the fall.

Maureen mails several copies, mostly to former out-of-town members, at an additional dollar per copy. A \$15 subscription would cover the cost of mailed copies.

The cheapest solution is to read *Tidings* online, all in vivid colour, but not everyone has Internet access.

Tidings and the Website are now part of the Communications and Marketing Committee which has submitted recommendations to Council, including some of these suggestions. What do you think?

In the end, content still matters—the people profiles, the reflections and poetry, the reports. The question is, what affordable form best enhances that content?

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

I have just finished reading the very informative and attractive Lent/Easter issue of *Tidings*. Each of the contributors has done a superb job in highlighting the events at FSA in a concise and winsome way. I love the colour! Thank you for your efforts.

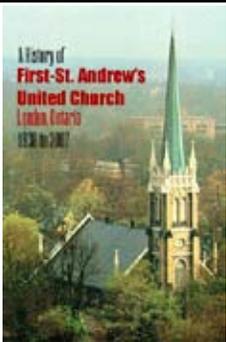
— June McKay

It was so nice to take part in the Maytime Communion at the church on Wednesday, May 12, 2010. It seems like every year that goes by, more people come to enjoy this service. It was especially nice as this was David's last time. After the service we all went into the parlour for

tea, coffee and a small bite to eat. It was very informal and a good chance to meet new people. I remember back when the Accessibility Project was nothing more than a seed in the ground and now it has flourished into something that I was proud to be a part of. It enables people of all ages and abilities to attend this service with the elevator available. We all owe Russ Gonder and Russ Scorgie a huge vote of thanks for making this such a lovely addition. I will look forward to many more years of using this facility.

— Judy O'Brien

ANNOUNCEMENTS



FSA ARCHIVES PUBLICATION

A History of First-St. Andrew's United Church 1938–2007 will arrive shortly. There are 114 pages, with most of the more than 130 pictures in colour, in a convenient 6x9 size with a 'perfect binding' cover. If you missed ordering a copy at the coffee hour after services, they will be available

for \$20 from the church office or the Archives Committee members.

ECO SUMMER CAMP

This summer, FSA is offering a summer day camp for children 5–12 years old from July 19–23. Join us for a

week of music, fun, and games, and learn to become better stewards of the earth. This camp is organized by the Environment Subcommittee of MOE and aims to encourage children to experience the beauty and wonder of nature and become better informed about what they can do to protect God's creation within the context of a Christian community. For more information pick up a flier from Lisa in the nursery.

—

ANTIQUE SALE NEXT YEAR

Saturday, April 9, 2011, will be our third Collectibles and Antiques Sale. We will need donations of hankies, linens, jewellery, pewter, silver, toys, dolls, chinaware, books, glassware and "odd-ball" items which are true collectibles in excellent condition. Do not bring items to the church until next spring. Lots of volunteers needed. Call June McKay 519-471-5668.

COUNCIL REPORTS



by Jackie Williams, Chair

As we approach the summer months, there is just one more Council meeting before we break until September. However, far from slowing down, members of Council have started to develop a new Strategic Plan for FSA. Producing a new Strategic Plan will enable us to revisit and clarify our goals as a congregation and help us develop strategies to achieve those goals. Acting as Facilitator, Susan Shelstad is helping to guide us through this process, which will continue for several months so that our new Minister of Worship and Administration, Kate Crawford, will also be able to participate. This process will incorporate much of the work undertaken at FSA over the past two years, such as the Avis Building Assessment Report and the Joint Needs Assessment

Report. In addition, you will remember the formation of Transition Teams which began a year ago. After many hours of meetings, most of those teams have submitted their own reports to Council with their recommendations. The hard work represented in all these ventures will help us develop FSA's Strategic Plan to help us plan for the future.

On June 13th we will celebrate the ministry of David McKane and his wife Susan. Their vibrant presence in the church will be missed but they have made an indelible mark on the fabric of FSA and will not be forgotten.

I had the great privilege of meeting Kate Crawford in March at a dinner given by members of the Joint Search Committee. Kate's enthusiasm and happiness are infectious and I look forward to her presence at Council as we begin another year. ☺



DAVID MCKANE

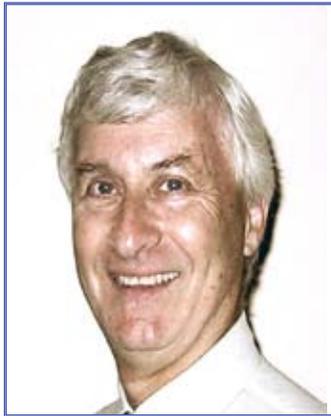
by Barbara Plante

When William Proudfoot, in 1832, started the congregation that would one day become First-St. Andrew's, I wonder if he, in his wildest imaginings, dreamed he

would still be a vital part of the church in the 21st century. Or that his fellow countryman, Robbie Burns, would be immortalised annually in our Proudfoot Hall.

David McKane arrived in 2002, and found FSA to be a large, healthy, active and vibrant congregation, thanks to his predecessor Frank Meadows, his colleague Susan Shelstad, and others before them. David soon grasped the strengths of our congregation and the successes of our past, and has led us through eight exciting years of challenge and change.

Rooted in solid Christianity, David has encouraged us to question our traditional beliefs and has led us to theological interpretations that a decade ago would have been not only unthought of, but unthinkable. Through the Proudfoot lecture series, Susan Shelstad's midweek study programmemes, his invitations to speakers of



other faiths, and his own inspiring sermons, David has led us in living out our slogan, "Where Liberal Theology Meets the Best of Tradition"; and through his work with the Jewish and Muslim communities, he has encouraged us to respect and embrace other faiths and faith traditions. All this has led us to a more thoughtful, meaningful Christianity.

David has been an exceptional staff team leader, and a wonderful minister. He has inspired us, sung to us, visited us. He has seen us through times of great joy, and he has seen many of us through times of darkness and despair.

He will be remembered for all of this. But he will also be remembered for his great sense of fun. For the jokes. For keeping the spirit of William Proudfoot alive (arriving on a horse!). For the wonderful Burns' nights.

David leaves his successor a healthy and vibrant congregation. It is our hope that he and his wife, Susan, will soon be back to be part of this congregation perhaps sitting together in the pews, or maybe we will see David singing in the choir.

Thanks David—for everything. And "Will ye no' come back again?" 🌿

REFLECTION



VIEW FROM THE PEW

by Steve Elson

EVOLUTION

I think most people take evolution for granted. After all, we're surrounded by it: from the plants and animals we

see, to the earth as a planet in space, to the universe itself. And if it seems like things are not evolving it's probably because we haven't looked at them long or closely enough.

As a human being, we each evolve from being tiny specks to fully developed people who, in time, die; as does everything else.

But culturally we have also evolved in our thinking and the way we look at the world. People used to believe that the world was flat, that it was the centre of the universe, and now we know we're on a planet that revolves around the sun, along with other planets, and that our sun is one of many, in a galaxy that is also one of many.

And when we turn our attention to the idea of God, we

can also see an evolution: from a belief in spirits, to many gods, to one God, something that from a Judeo-Christian perspective began about 3,000 years ago.

Since that insight, the concept of God has evolved from that of a supernatural force with a physical presence who could punish enemies and reward friends, to something less defined as 'out there' and omnipresent, to a more mystical experience of the Divine within ourselves.

As our own understanding of our physical world increases and evolves, we might consider the possibility that the Divine or whatever God means to us, is entirely spiritual in nature and comes from within, from the evolution of our own personal experience and understanding.

So, as we cast off old or outgrown concepts of God, we come to live without knowing where our experience and understanding will take us, to accept the uncertainty of not knowing what will happen next. It's the nature of evolution. It's the nature of being on a spiritual journey.

At least that's my view from the pew. 🌿

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LUCILLE AND JOHN MCCLURE

by Ellen McKim

John McClure believes in renting summer cottages. Why? Because that is where he met the love of his life in 1939.

Lucille is from Detroit, Michigan, and her teacher took her and five classmates to Port Stanley where the McClure family had rented the cottage next door. And John wasted no time in getting to know Lucille. Love blossomed, and for three years they corresponded while John served overseas in World War II. Lucille took nursing at Deaconess Hospital, graduating in 1945, followed by marriage that year. John, flight commander of a fighter squadron, was awarded the DSO, becoming aide-de-camp to the governor-general of Canada, the Earl of Athlone, and Princess Alice.

He retired in 1970, after postings in London, England, and Metz, France. John is a founding member and past president of 614 Royal Canadian Air Cadet Squadron.



His next career was at UWO where he was director of Student Financial Aid, retiring again in 1983.

Lucille and John joined FSA in 1970. John served on the Board of Stewards, responsible for rebuilding the youth kitchen.

Lucille is renowned for her never-ending dedication to the annual rummage Sale where her treasure table was always a success, and for which she credits her volunteers.

Within the community, they were extensively involved with the CNIB, where John co-chaired the financial campaign for the new offices on Base Line Road.

Lucille worked with Dr. Bondy at University Hospital on a special research project for 12 years, along with delivering Meals on Wheels which she has done for the past 39 years with no intention of giving it up.

They have been blessed with two children, a daughter in California, and a son in Ottawa, three grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

And a lifetime of memories, with more to come. 

VOLUNTEERS



LORRAINE AND BEV MACDONALD

By David Flynn

On Wednesdays you'll find Lorraine coordinating the Isabel Getliffe Sewing Group. Bev will be somewhere in the church, repairing, painting, working on our inspiring but aging building.

Bev and Lorraine, originally from Owen Sound, came from Thunder Bay to London in 1971. They checked two churches near them but chose FSA because Margaret Leonard welcomed them when they arrived, telephoned them on Monday, followed by a visit from Rev. Alex Farquhar on Tuesday. Also, they were looking for a Sunday School for their daughters. They've met some of their closest friends at FSA.

Lorraine was in the Banner group, is a member of the UCW, and plays UCW Marathon Bridge. Outside church, she belongs to a book club and works on her computer. Bev was an elder and helped organize home visitation



by elders. He continues to help Fred McLarty sort and count the Sunday offering, and deposit it at the bank.

Both were in the FSA Couples' Club. They like to travel and attend musical events. They are avid curlers, although only Bev curls now, at the Ilderton Curling Club. He also does stained glass, and has recently started donating glass doves to welcome newly baptized children.

They find spiritual strength at FSA but Bev, especially, appreciates God in nature. His opportunity comes in his unofficial role in their neighbourhood—as at FSA—helping others in the upkeep of their homes and yards.

So, if you see something which needs fixing in our church, let the church office know and you'll soon see Bev working on it. When you attend the bazaar in the fall, you'll see Lorraine at the sewing table, making her contribution to FSA.

Bev and Lorraine are carrying on a tradition of volunteer work which has kept FSA going for 178 years. We cannot survive without such people. Thank you from all of us!





JANE GLAVES

by Nancy Howard

On May 2, 2010, FSA welcomed Jane Glaves into our community of faith. Jane recently moved to London to join her daughter Katie Moeller and family. She will be missed

at St. Andrew's, Brantford, for her leadership and friendship, serving on just about every committee, including chair of the Board, and president of the national UCW.

Following God's call, Jane dedicated herself to providing better opportunities for children in need. Even before raising her own six children, Jane and her husband became foster parents, knowing it was something she had always wanted to do. She worked in foster care for thirty-four years, supporting children and parents. With strong attachment to the children, it wasn't easy saying good-bye to them, especially the times she wasn't sure that where they were going was a good thing.

Jane's call to live out the mission and ministry of the church extends near and far. After retirement,



Jane travelled to Mchinji, Malawi to meet the child she sponsored through World Vision, and committed herself to Home of Hope orphanage, returning sixteen times between 2000–2008. Jane spent three month intervals at the home, providing support and trying to bring together the worlds of education and parenting. It was hard work, and at times she felt alone, becoming a stranger even back home, with loss of continuity with friends. Many of the children died and it taught her a lot about letting go.

Jane continues to advocate for children, and even brought back to Canada three children, who since have been adopted. She does public speaking at various organizations, generating donations of \$50,000–\$75,000 per year. She says she is blown away by the generosity of people who hear the stories—but, get Jane on the subject of children at the orphanage and it will tug at your heartstrings , too.

In her spare(?) time, Jane enjoys expressing her creativity in scrapbooking, card-making, and quilting. If you haven't yet met, you will enjoy getting to know Jane. You will see her with her precious foster baby Hailey—she just couldn't stay in retirement! Welcome to First-St. Andrew's, Jane.



THE NEXT GENERATION



CLAIRE LATOSINSKY

by Valerie Moretti

The Joyful Singers' newest member, Claire Latosinsky, let our congregation know exactly what is meant by "It don't mean a thing if it ain't got that swing" when she and the choir delivered their sermon in song, *The Tale of the Three Trees*, on April 25th.

The Latosinsky family moved to London from Winnipeg last year. Having met Bronwyn Tufts at school, Claire was invited to the Church school and the choir at FSA. In grade 5, Claire likes to read and write—and notes she'd "like to get rid of cursive ... It's too time consuming!" Currently reading *The Lord of the Rings* at school, Claire has already finished *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* and is now engrossed in *The Golden Compass* at home. She explained the impact of C.S. Lewis' Christianity on his famous series and told me how Philip Pullman's atheism, in turn, informs his *Compass* trilogy.

Claire states that she is "allowed to watch TV but doesn't" because she's "too busy with homework, piano



and singing practice. But [I] dedicate Friday nights to watching TV." This bright 11-year-old studies both piano and voice, and this year earned a gold medal at the Kiwanis Festival singing *Sun Twinkles*. Claire handles solo pressures well, but "prefers group choral work because it's a lot easier." Her favourite song currently is *The Lonely Goatherd* and Claire says her "little bit of yodelling" helps make this piece "so much fun to perform ... it's sort of theatre!" Claire sometimes plays duets with her younger sister Katherine.

The Latosinsky family also includes Claire's youngest sibling, John. They are all keen cyclists and Claire recounted memorable moments from cycling trips through Europe. Claire would like to tour Canada's east coast "as soon as [I] turn eighteen!" Not interested in becoming a doctor like her parents, Claire said she'd be "too sad if [she] lost a patient." Claire shared that she had once wanted to be a writer or children's librarian "but then I started singing and now I might be a musician." Wherever life takes her, Claire's effervescence will keep her in the spotlight!

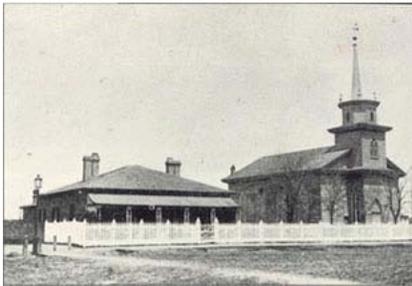




THE BUILDING OF FSA THE MAIN STRUCTURE

by Jim Hutchinson

Above the arch facing Queen's Ave. on the tower's south face, is inscribed "St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, 1869." The original congregation was a group that had separated from Rev. Proudfoot's United Presbyterian Church to become part of the Established Church of Scotland. From 1833 they worshiped in various locations, including the Congregational Church, the Grammar School and even in the Court House. Services were infrequent until 1842 when Duncan McKenzie laid the foundation stone for a frame building, 45x60 feet at the corner of Colborne and Queen's (North Street then). The official opening was the first Sunday of

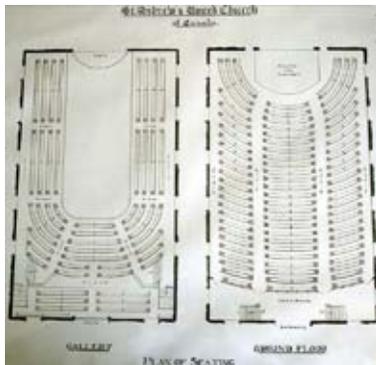


September, 1843. In later years the building was moved to Springbank Park to act as a landing stage and pavilion for picnickers.

A Sunday School building to the east, 22x100 feet, preceded that first church building. It was known as the Gaelic Church since there were occasional services in the ancient Scottish language.

The cornerstone for our current building was laid on Victoria Day, 1868, in the presence of a large crowd. Dignitaries included the Prime Minister, Sir John A. MacDonald, other local and provincial politicians, and clergy of various denominations. William Robinson, the architect, was also the city engineer and responsible for many attractive buildings in the area.

The first service was held October 31, 1869, with a large congregation present. The pulpit occupied the central position on the north wall, and galleries extended down both sides, across the back and over the narthex to the rear wall. The original windows were stenciled glass, several of which were later installed in the tower, at the back of the narthex.



The spire of the tower was clad in tin, and was visible from most points in the city. The choir occupied the front rows of the rear gallery, and the only musical instrument

was the precentor's tuning fork. Seating 1200, St. Andrew's was the largest church in London at the time. Stoves were used for heating and electric lights were far in the future. Sheds at the rear accommodated horses for those coming from a distance but most members

was the precentor's tuning fork. Seating 1200, St. Andrew's was the largest church in London at the time. Stoves were used for heating and electric lights were far in the future. Sheds at the rear accommodated horses for those coming from a distance but most members



TIDINGS—THE ARRIVAL

by Bob Slater

"It won't last a year!" a long-time member predicted when *Tidings* joined the FSA family in 1991. His prediction was based on previous experience. The newsletter/programme guide *Fellowship* was published at least three times beginning in 1969. The *FSA Herald* appeared in 1981 for our 150th anniversary. So when an interested group developed the *Tidings* concept, careful long-range planning was done. Howard Capes, representing the Stewardship Committee—which was *Tidings*' initial sponsor—became an active member of the *Tidings* team. This team met once before each quarterly issue to determine its content and who in the congregation would be invited to write the articles. With each article was a small photo of the writer for identification by readers. Limits were placed on article length to hold interest and keep within the small budget which replaced money previously allocated for a monthly mailing of activity flyers. In contrast, *Tidings* initially was distributed by volunteers on Sunday. Unclaimed copies were grouped by area and hand-delivered.

Photos cost about \$7 each, then, so our budget limited their number. Graphics, though, could be used liberally and the Programme Guide did. For some years the Programme Guide, which replaced the mailed flyers, occupied the back six pages. To make programmes more prominent, these pages were printed upside down, allowing the Guide to have its own cover.

To supplement the regular features in *Tidings*, there were other items offered: *Environmental Tips*, *Sharing Graces*, *Reach Out Ideas*, *Mission Ed Capsules*, *Guess Who's Having Fun at FSA? What is it? Where is it at FSA?* The main thrust was to inform the readers about the church family at work.

Bill Watson captured much of those early days of *Tidings* in his article, "*Tidings of Great Joy*" (*Tidings*, Easter, 2005). If you examine the early issues of *Tidings* on file in the church library, and compare them to recent issues, you will see how wonderfully the publication has evolved since its first arrival—and in less than twenty years!



BAPTISMS



May 2: Charlie Olivia Kyte,
daughter of Brooke and Peter Kyte



May 2: Maddox Christopher Silcox
son of Monique and Christopher Silcox



May 2: Charles Allan Cousins
son of Bethany and David Cousins



April 25: Lucas Alan Way
son of Elisa (Salmoni) and David Way



May 2: Jaxon Nielsen MacInnis
son of Liisa and John McInnis

CONFIRMATION CLASS - 2010



Front Row: (Left to right) Andrea Holstein, Megan Bereznick, Olivia Carapella

Back Row: Joshua Baldwin, Lucas Howard, Alexander Robinson, Jacob Feeney

NEW MEMBERS



Jerry Austin



Brooke Kyte



John MacDonald



Jane Graves

DEATHS

Jean McColl	February 6, 2010
Rhianon Haldan	February 24, 2010
Margaret Hamilton	April 24, 2010

LABYRINTH

Round and round and round I go
step by step, breathing slow,
while the music of the harp
and the stirrings of my heart
weave their labyrinthine ways
down the cycle of my days;
children dancing with delight
faces lit by candlelight,
saints below and saints above
who have walked this pilgrim way,
some have carried, some have led,
some have danced and some have bled.
Round and round and round we go
step by step and breathing slow,
as the harpist strums her strings
while the Spirit round me sings,
weaving in her wondrous ways
a labyrinth of all my days.

— David McKane

THE GOLDEN RULES FOR LIVING (ALSO APPLY TO A CHURCH)

1. If you open it, close it.
2. If you turn it on, turn it off.
3. If you unlock it, lock it up.
4. If you break it, admit it.
5. If you can't fix it, call in someone who can.
6. If you borrow it, return it.
7. If you make a mess, clean it up.
9. If you move it, put it back.
10. If it's someone else's, get permission to use it.
11. If you don't know how to operate it, leave it alone.
12. If it's none of your business, don't ask questions.

— Anonymous



THE CHURCH SCHOOL

by Chris Silcox

The children's time and the parade of children out the atrium doors each week is one of the most pleasurable times of the service for many. The children are seeking community—with energy, curiosity, and even some reservations. They go into the care of a team of volunteers from our congregation. Leaving the sanctuary, the children descend to the Fireside Room for 'Big Circle' Time. It is a time for sharing at multiple levels where our older students mentor the younger ones by modeling respect and patience in our learning community. This time is often spent considering the big theme of the week through questioning, games, and symbolic activities led weekly by Monique and myself. Our son Harrison recalls the time we had kids crawling through a tunnel to represent coming into God's light whenever we feel alone. This imprinting is what we strive to do.

Students then move to developmentally-appropriate

classroom sessions. Using a framework curriculum and their own ingenuity, our outstanding teachers prepare 20- to 30-minute lessons on their own time. There are three classes: pre-school to senior kindergarten, grades one to three, and grades four to six. Children beyond grade six, not part of the Church School, meet in the TNT and Impact groups upstairs. Through stories, songs, role-play, crafts, and open discussion teachers encourage the children to 'unpack' the theme. They strive to make each child feel welcome and do so beautifully given the transient nature of the weekly cohort that comes to church.

The Church School offers a unique window on the life of a Christian community. The children in our care bring the gospel to us. They challenge us and interact with us in a way that keeps the message alive. This is a wonderful place to volunteer for a season or for a couple of weeks. We are heavily dependent upon the generosity of a small group of volunteers. They are our servant leaders. We know there are more of you out there—we invite you to consider serving in this community too. ☸



ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT



by Mary Ann Hodge

As a society, we have been convinced that the 'American dream' is being able to have anything you want. Being rich is the ultimate goal. The *Awakening the Dreamer* symposium, Saturday, April 10, awakened in us a new dream. It showed us how we are all connected, and that the traditional 'American dream' comes at a huge cost—to those in developing countries, to our spirit that continually searches for something to satisfy it, and to the environment that cannot support 6 billion humans who all want to live as we do. The new dream is built on sustainability, spiritual fulfillment and social justice. Over 80 people joined together to learn how we can create this new dream. One of those 80 people will hopefully touch your life, and give you cause to pause and re-evaluate some of your current practices. I

hope you are open to listen to their message. It is at this level that we can make lasting change—one person influencing another. Let it be true that 'By our actions they will know we are Christians.'

The mandate of the Environment Subcommittee of MOE is to raise awareness. We have done this in several ways. Terry Peters and Mike Bancroft gave a presentation on climate change at the January Supper Club. We showed the movies *The Greening of Faith* and *Going Green* as part of the Earth Week activities before the Symposium. Guest speakers included Jay Stanford from the City of London, and Hans Shreff from London Hydro who provided visions for a greener future. The highlight of the week was the solar expo, where four vendors came to share their knowledge, enthusiasm and expertise on solar energy.

Our native plant sale the weekend of May 7-v9, highlighted the need for food and habitat for butterflies and birds. ☸



Mothers' Day Cherubs

UPCOMING WORSHIP SERVICES

DATE	SERVICE	PREACHER	DETAILS
June 6	10:30am	Dr. Shelstad	2nd Sunday after Pentecost, 85th Anniversary of the United Church
June 13	10:30am	Dr. Shelstad	3rd Sunday after Pentecost
June 20	10:30am	Dr. Shelstad	4th Sunday after Pentecost
June 27	10:30am	Archdeacon Anderson	5th Sunday after Pentecost, services move to Proudfoot Hall for summer
July 4	10:30am	Rev. Sangster	6th Sunday after Pentecost
July 11	10:30am	Dr. Meadows	7th Sunday after Pentecost
July 18	10:30am	Rev. Silcox-Smith	8th Sunday after Pentecost
July 25	10:30am	Dr. Melamphy	9th Sunday after Pentecost
Aug. 1	10:30am	Dr. Shelstad	10th Sunday after Pentecost
Aug. 8	10:30am	Dr. Shelstad	11th Sunday after Pentecost
Aug. 15	10:30am	Dr. Shelstad	12th Sunday after Pentecost
Aug. 22	10:30am	Dr. Shelstad	13th Sunday after Pentecost
Aug. 29	10:30am	Dr. Shelstad	14th Sunday after Pentecost
Sept. 5	10:30am	Dr. Crawford	15th Sunday after Pentecost, services return to the Sanctuary



The Rev. Ralph King (right) baptizing great-great-granddaughter, Charlie Kyte, May 9

NOTEWORTHY

In January our own **Lesley Munteer** was given an *Award of Excellence* by the University of Western Ontario. These awards are announced once a year and are designed to honour staff who have been exemplary in the service which they have provided to students, administration and faculty of the University. Lesley's official title is Associate Director (External Services) in the Faculty of Engineering and the scope of her job includes both undergraduate and graduate recruitment, career services, communications, alumni relations and development, as well as research. It's a wonder that she ever gets to go home at night!

In a recent *Western News* article honouring her, she was described as "Western's Engineering ambassador to the external community . . . her network of both personal and professional contacts is staggering. Her dedication, enthusiasm and professionalism are evident as she promotes Western Engineering to the world." Among the consistent accolades, the attribute of humility was repeated many times. Many stated that her work was often in the background so that others might shine. We at First-St. Andrew's who have known Lesley over the years know that this is indeed her style but today we are proud to see her in the limelight, receiving some much

deserved recognition for all that she has accomplished.

Congratulations to **Bob and Debbie Schram** who were honoured at a "Salute to Laudable Londoners" evening presented by Participation House-Foundation London.

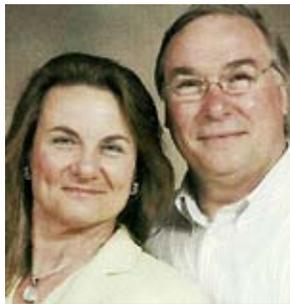
Congratulations to **Jim Silcox** who will receive an honorary doctorate from Western on June 17th.

March 19th was a special birthday party for seven-year old **Jocelyn Doolittle**. She asked her guests not to bring a gift for her but to bring non-perishable food for the St. Paul's Daily Bread Food Bank. The photo shows some of the boxes and bags of food piled behind her. Other older folks have done this in the past but it is wonderful to see our young people aware of the needs of others.

Dr. Ken Wright has been honoured by the Ontario Dental Society with the Community Service Recognition Award for his organization of the "DOCS" programme (Dental Outreach Community Service). Volunteers provide free dental care to clients of seven social service agencies using mobile equipment set up at the agencies on clinic nights.



Lesley
Munteer



Debbie & Bob Schram



Jim Silcox



Jocelyn
Doolittle



Ken Wright

SUPPER CLUB SERVICINGS



by June McKay

Our group of 60 to 80 members continues to thrive, and we all enjoy the fact that this is one activity which is not a fund-raiser! We get together each month except during the summer for a potluck supper and programme, and each donates a Toonie for dishwashing, which makes an inexpensive and fun evening.

In March, 85 of us experienced a thrilling evening of music provided by three well-known and respected organists. Peter Clements, Angus Sinclair, and Steve Holowitz performed on three keyboards in the sanctuary. The theme was a Spring one, and the glorious music

left us wishing that it didn't have to end.

In April we tried a new venture. Seven hosts/hostesses opened their homes to a group of 6 to 10 members for dinner, and it was a unique chance to get to know each other better. Most of our members participated, and the feeling is that we would like to repeat it next year.

In May we were treated to *A Little Night Music*, arranged by Laurel Kenney. This was a very memorable evening of musical treats presented by FSA members and friends Kerry Stover, Dennis Pellarin, Thomas Samson-Williams, Sarah Richardson, Leah Morise, Mike Bourgelaut, and Nancy Quinn.

Everyone is welcome to attend our gatherings. Watch for the Fall schedule and plan to join us!



Music

AT FIRST-ST. ANDREW'S

by Paul E. Cooper
Chair, Music Committee

Spring at FSA has been musically busy. The Senior Choir worked very hard to prepare for their concert on April 17th entitled *We're Goin' to Sing!* The event was well-supported by the congregation and the community at large. One of the exciting aspects of the concert was that it was recorded live and portions of that recording will form part of a CD featuring music at FSA, to be released in time for Christmas. The evening was a "light" and a very joyful musical start to Spring. It featured a number of familiar spirituals and gospel pieces as well as a performance of Bob Chilcott's *Jazz Mass*—a choir favourite. The Music Committee, in its ongoing efforts to

support the work of the congregation, will be donating the proceeds from the concert to the general operating fund of the church and will do the same with the profits from sales of the CD.

On Sunday, April 25th, *The Joyful Singers* did a superb job of performing the cantata, *The Tale of the Three Trees*. This wonderful story, told musically with enthusiasm and a professionalism well beyond their years, made for an especially moving morning. Paul and Enid Merritt are to be congratulated heartily for the work they do with this group of talented young people.

On Sunday, May 30th—David McKane's last day of preaching as our Minister of Worship and Administration—the service was filled with special music in David's honour and in celebration of his ministry with us. After the service, the congregation enjoyed a luncheon and a musical celebration of David's ministry put on by the Laudamus Bells and FSA Strings. It was fitting, in the light of David's own musical talent, that music helped celebrate his ministry with us.



CHRISTIAN DEVELOPMENT HIGHLIGHTS

by Susan Shelstad

Impact Youth Camp at Kee-Mo-Kee, June 4th to 6th.

Church School Spirit Games, Sunday June 6th, 13th, and 20th. A fun way to end the regular church school year.

Eco summer camp, July 19th to 23rd.

Church School continues throughout the rest of the summer in a group format. Volunteer teachers are needed. Please contact Chris and Monique Silcox.



MAKING CONNECTIONS

by Susan Shelstad

Celebrating an anniversary is often an opportunity to make connections, renew friendships, and sometimes even build new relationships. How many times have you attended family gatherings where distant relatives met for the first time and discovered a shared history? The bonds become stronger when we celebrate and honour our interconnectedness.

This is also true for the family we call the United Church of Canada. Congregations and diverse community ministries span this country from coast to coast to coast. Our global partners and overseas personnel extend our family ties around the world. From urban centres to small towns to rural and remote communities, we are all connected.

This June 10th, the United Church celebrates 85 years. We are invited to participate in a special anniversary initiative called *Making Connections*, to initiate and nurture a new relationship with a “distant relative” in the United Church. We have been randomly paired with two congregations: Athabasca United Church in Athabasca, Alberta, <http://www.ile.ab.ca/united/> and the Kilsyth-Keady-North Derby Pastoral Charge near Owen Sound, Ontario (PO Box 16, RR3 Owen Sound ON N4K 5N5). We have already had some communication from Athabasca, and I have sent a letter to Kilsyth-Keady-North Derby to initiate some communication. Ideas for making connections, including emails, letters, photos, exchanging church school artwork—and visits to one another’s websites.

MISSION, OUTREACH, ENVIRONMENT



by Barbara Dalrymple

The MOE Committee continues to be a very vibrant and busy committee. The *Amnesty Write-a-thon*, March 7, was well-attended. In April, we focused on our environment mandate. Congratulations to Mary Ann Hodge and her committee for raising our awareness. She has written a separate article in this issue about FSA environment initiatives. Grow-a-Row Sunday, April 4, coincided with Easter this year. Thus far we have raised \$3520 which will be matched 4 to 1 by CIDA for the Canadian Foodgrains Bank. Please join us for the Grow-a-Row windup—ham, corn and beans—after church on September 12th.

May 2 was our annual hotdog lunch to kick off our White Squirrel Golf Tournament, June 12th. The proceeds from

the Golf Tournament are for the work of MOE, including St. Paul’s Daily Bread and ELUCO both of which need our continued support.

Hospitality Meals continue on Mondays throughout the summer. Please consider volunteering to cover for those on holidays. Contact Paul Mansell (519-472-4078) or the church office. Riverside United Church has donated \$2000 to assist us with this worthy project serving an average of 140 guests each week.

Remember to stock up on coffee and chocolate bars to take to your cottage. Proceeds go to Los Quinchos School in Nicaragua which was featured in the May issue of the *Observer*.

UCW AT WORK



by Margaret Wonfor

The service component of the UCW never rests. So far in 2010, UCW funds have gone to ELUCO, the Limberlost and Southdale Chaplaincies, Rotholme Women’s and Family Centre, My Sister’s Place, and St. Paul’s Daily Bread.

May 7, the UCW served desserts to patrons of the *Nostalgic Theatre* presentation sponsored by ELUCO. We are again sponsoring two children from the Marconi community to attend Camp Kee-Mo-Kee. It is encouraging to know that a girl we sponsored before will be a counselor-in-training at Kee-Mo-Kee.

As well, we support the UCC M&S fund each quarter. Copies of *The Upper Room* devotional booklet are provided for the use of congregational members. It is also used for discussion in the Impact Group. Check it out on the table outside the Chapel.

The UCW underwrote the cost of wheelchair transportation for those requiring it to attend the May 12 Wednesday afternoon Maytime Communion for shut-ins. Afterward, we served tea so guests could socialize with their friends. Each guest went home with a flower, a smile, and a host of pleasant memories.

The generosity of our members and the supporters of our projects make it possible to fund needs that arise. We appreciate, as well, your generous support through our Phantom Tea appeal.

Members of the Isabelle Getliffe Sewing Group meet weekly to provide the merchandise for their table at the November 13 Holly Bazaar. In addition, as the harvest of fruits and vegetables comes along, many women prepare jams, jellies and pickles for the bazaar’s gourmet table.

On June 1, the general UCW met to do necessary

business before the summer break and to enjoy the fellowship of a meal together. As well, some of our local thespians entertained us with humorous skits. Prior to supper our guest, Pamela Dietrich, led the group through the NIA dance and rhythmic programme.

To all who help make UCW an instrument of service to church and community, may you enjoy days of rest and relaxation during the summer and be recharged with fresh enthusiasm to live out our purpose when September comes.

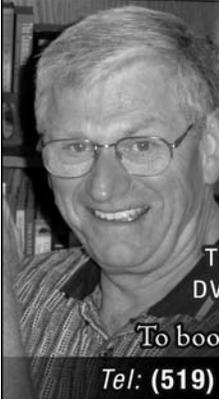
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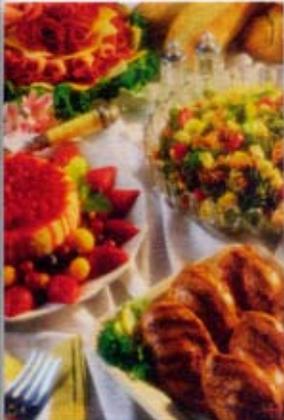
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The Rev. Dr. Susan Shelstad

Minister Emeritus
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