

Mr. & Mrs. James Hutchinson
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Tidings



First-St. Andrew's United Church



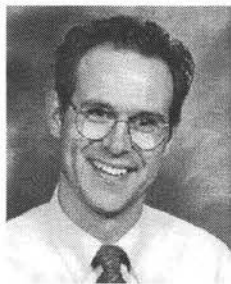
VOLUME 9 ● NUMBER 2

PENTECOST 1999

MODERN PIONEERS

By George Jolink

Throughout our long history First-St. Andrew's has developed a rich tradition of accomplishment and innovations because of the energy and efforts of its members. In fact, in many ways our church has been built on a pioneer spirit. One need only to recall the play, *The Proudfoot Papers*, commissioned by our church for the 150th Anniversary celebration, to realize that from our very beginnings we were pioneers and leaders in this community. It seems logical then that First-St. Andrew's would continue to draw people who exemplify this spirit. People who are adventurous, risk takers, and confident leaders. People who are generous, selfless, and who are motivated through faith to do good works for others. We are a blessed community.



George Jolink

In 1969, our congregation was further blessed by the arrival of an immigrant family which typify the pioneer qualities and characteristics on which our church was built. Bill and Elspeth Watson and their four young children came to London when Bill accepted a position at Victoria Hospital to set up its Gastroenterology department. They quickly made FSA their church home and immediately became an integral part of its growth and development. Many of you have had opportunities to meet and work with either Bill or Elspeth in a variety of capacities and can appreciate the gifts they have brought to us. Let us learn more about the story that is behind the lives of these pioneers.

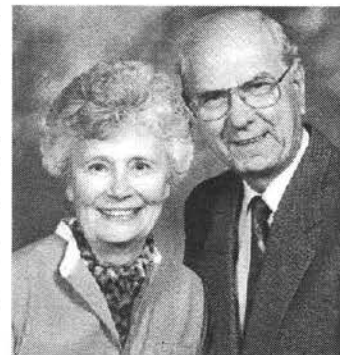
Elspeth was born and raised in London, England in a Christian home, and participated in a wide variety of worship experiences. As a member of the Girl Crusaders Union, she developed an early love for scripture which has continued throughout her life. Educated in a multiethnic school, Elspeth had early exposure to, and gained an appreciation for people from a number of different cultural backgrounds. As a young student, she pursued interests in singing, drama and speech. Elspeth acted in French language plays as a child and took part in speech festivals as a teenager. Her strong love for language led Elspeth to Kings College at the University of London where she studied French. At this point in her life she met Bill.

Bill was an active lad raised in the east end of Glasgow in Scotland. He, too, came from a Christian home which influenced his involvements as a boy. Bill belonged to the YMCA, the Boys

Brigade, the Band of Hope and the Scripture Union. During the war, when Glasgow was bombed, Bill was evacuated to Lanark Grammar School where he lived with the headmaster. "These people were very good to me" says Bill, when remembering this time in his life. From a working class family, his love for adventure and challenge took Bill to University in Glasgow where he studied medicine. Shortly after a surgical residency, he entered national service in the Royal Army Medical Corps. Again in search of a new experience, Bill volunteered to go to Hong Kong for two years to provide medical care for British soldiers and families. Following this time, back in Britain, Bill began post graduate work in medical research.

An early interest in ministry inspired Bill to become a licensed lay preacher as a young man. His church involvement was significant as a representative to the Glasgow Presbytery and the General Assembly. This spirituality and strong faith was further developed at a Young People Christian Holiday Conference Centre. As coincidence would have it, there too was Elspeth.

Their life together began through a love of music. Bill with his violin and Elspeth on the piano would practice duets. Eventually they married and lived in Glasgow. As a young footloose family, the Watsons were drawn by challenges and as a result they shared many wonderful and exciting experiences.



Elspeth and Bill Watson

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By now Bill's medical career was taking off and the Watsons, with three young children, moved to Washington. After a year with the national Institute of Health, the family went back to Glasgow (with a fourth child on the way) where Bill resumed teaching and clinical practice. As a highly regarded medical professional, Bill was asked to set up the first department of Gastroenterology in Glasgow. This was a true testament to his abilities and his willingness to take risks since his previous specialty experience had been in cardiology. Following this project, and again seeking a new adventure, in 1966 the family moved to Kenya for one year. Here Bill participated in the creation of the first medical school in Kenya. The time in Africa is fondly remembered by Elspeth as she spoke of the children being schooled in Nairobi and the ecumenical church to which they belonged.

At this point the family journey came to London and First-St. Andrew's. Following a recommendation from Ramsay Gunton and after checking three churches (on one Sunday), the strength of Alex Farquhar's ministry influenced their choice to make FSA home. Since then Bill's leadership and foresight have been felt in many areas. Elspeth is self described as a perpetual volunteer and has served our congregation widely. It is because of their pioneer spirit that we have enjoyed such developments as a Church Drama Group and Out of the Cold.

Although there is much more that could be said about the accomplishments of these people, behind it all lies a deep faith and a motivation born of the spirit, two qualities which are so much a part of the fabric of FSA. With Bill as the current chair of the Council and with Elspeth's continuous presence, we will all enjoy new adventures.

Reach Out! Idea

Ask a young person to tell you about
a fun time experienced



Tidings

| | |
|----------------------|--|
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Four issues yearly. News Deadline for next issue: June 22, 1999

Distribution of next issue: August 22, 1999

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.

Info-Line

Maytime Communion & Afternoon Tea

Wednesday, May 12 - 2 p.m. Homebound members are invited to come with their pastoral visitors.

Hilarious Show - Songs & Skits+Home Made Desserts

Thursday, May 27 - 7:30

TNT-The Nostalgic Theatre - familiar faces of young at heart seniors. Presented by our Choir, Music & Worship Committees. Tickets \$8. Proceeds to Voices United Fund

Our UCW will hold its General Meeting

Luncheon at Westminster College, Thursday, June 3 at 11 a.m. Tickets available \$10. Call Laurel Kenney (439-9300)

UCW Westminster Weekend - Recipes for Renewal

Friday to Sunday, June 4-6. Information: Laurel Kenney (439-9300)

UCW Summer Workshop: Future Beckons

Saturday, July 17 - 9:00-3:30 - at Siloam United Church. Information: Lois Scott (268-7890)

Reducing Colour in Tidings Brings Savings

The Tidings Team recommended this change as a good stewardship action. It will be tried for five issues and will save about 40% of the cost.

Out-of-Towners Can Receive Tidings By Mail

FSA Alumni and Friends can be in on the FSA family news with an annual payment of \$10 to the church office.

Fill A Bag of Books For The Summer

Our well-stocked church library, next to the Chapel, offers many resources for pleasure, meditation or learning. Books! Videos! Magazines! Return them in September.

Holly Bazaar Set For November 6

Summer days offer you the chance to put your talent to work and make this annual event the best ever.

Sanctuary Closed for Refurbishing

Repainting, new lighting and new flooring requires the Sanctuary to be closed from May 17 to September 11. Plan to attend the reopening on Sunday, September 12. In the meantime, Sunday morning worship will be held in the Lower Hall, 10:30 a.m., beginning May 23.

Pictorial Directory Supplement

Did you receive the directory supplement in your mailbox? It contains the new photographs and roster ready to stick in the back of your current directory. Thanks to Joni Pypka and Team for a job well done!

More than \$2000 for UCW projects

Thanks to the Thursday Evening Unit and volunteers, the April Rummage Sale was a great success. Congratulations!

Hearing in Church Difficult?

Help is on the way thanks to the Property Committee. Very soon, individually adjustable walkman-type receiver sets will be available to assist worshippers having difficulty hearing.

Choir to Make CD of FSA Favourite Hymns

Place your suggestions in the special box in the atrium. New CD will be available in late fall for gift giving.

ENVIRONMENTAL TIP

Avoid using hazardous chemicals in your garden. Get rid of slugs by placing flat boards near your plants. Later, lift the boards and destroy the slugs which have gathered there to avoid the sunlight.

THE TRIP TO ISRAEL

A Personal Reflection by Jean Wright

*“Jerusalem, Jerusalem,
Lift up your gates and sing
Hosanna in the highest,
Hosanna to our King.”*

This old song blared from the stereo on the bus, and the twenty-seven travellers on the Israel Tour joined in with gusto. It was a rousing finish to the nine days we had spent in Israel. We were returning after a Bedouin dinner in a tent beside the Dead Sea. There we sat on carpets on the ground, eating the Middle East food from low tables. There was the usual hum of conversation, bursts of laughter, and that sad/happy feeling that accompanies the end of a wonderful experience. It was Barb Williamson's birthday, and Chaim, our Israeli driver, led her into the centre of the tent to dance. As we drifted out of the tent to go back on the bus, we caught our breath at the setting: the Dead Sea reflecting the full moon which lit up the desert sand of the Judean Hills.

There had been many such moments since we landed at Ben Gurion airport in Tel Aviv the previous week. Moments when you wanted time to stop so that the picture

and the emotions could be engraved on your mind forever, like the outdoor communion service at Capernaum, and the re-affirmation of our baptism at the River Jordan.

There was the moment in the church, *Dominus Flevit*. We had walked down the Mount of Olives, and sat in the church looking through the clear window behind the altar at the city of Jerusalem. Then Don Jones led us in song. The hymn singing we did in various churches and open air settings turned out to be one of the great blessings of the trip. Who would have thought that a group of twenty-seven would have so many altos, tenors, basses, who could supply harmony to those singing the tune. *Dominus Flevit* Church rang with the Crimond setting of the 23rd Psalm. A priest who had quietly entered the back of the church, thanked us and blessed us as we filed out.

One early morning we boarded a replica of the boats used 2,000 years ago, and we sailed across the Sea of Galilee from Tiberias to Capernaum. Halfway across the sailor stopped the boat, and cast

his net upon the sea. As Stephen Adams read the passage about Jesus calling his followers to be fishers of men, the emotion of where we were, surrounded by the hills of Galilee, filled us with awe.

At each stop we took turns reading appropriate Biblical



Jean Wright



The Holy Land Pilgrims

passages and in the ruins of the old synagogue where Jesus worshipped, Frank asked me to read. I had with me my Grandfather's Bible - not with great forethought, but simply because it was the smallest and easiest to pack. As I stood there, I thought about my Grandfather, Clerk of the Session of St. Andrew's Church, Sudbury, for whom a trip to Toronto was a big adventure, and here I was, in the Holy Land, reading from his Bible.

The purple bus with our Israeli guide, Paul, took us the length and breadth of this tiny country to places we've known from Sunday School days. Some were just as we had imagined: the crowded streets of Nazareth, the caves in the desert. Some were quite different. Bethlehem was no longer a "little town", and it certainly wasn't "still." Yet being there in the Church of the Nativity, singing and reading the Christmas story, moved us deeply.

One thing was unexpected, and that was the amount of joy and laughter. Before we left on our trip, Roger Snyder, who was the organizer, asked us what our expectations were. No one answered that he/she thought it would be a lot of fun, but it was. Many of us from First-St. Andrew's knew each other, but the people from other churches enriched our group, and the emotions we shared of laughter as well as deep spiritual feelings gave us a wonderful cohesiveness and closeness.

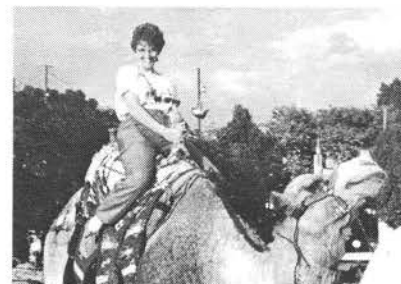
The experience which profoundly moved us all was Yad Vashem, the Holocaust Memorial Museum. Could anything have prepared us for that? Books, movies, documentaries, we've seen all those, but to enter the darkness of the Children's Memorial where a million tiny lights flickered, each one representing a child killed by the Nazis, while a voice intoned the children's names and ages, laid bare our emotions. When we got back on the bus, after our time at Yad Vashem, there was total silence.

No wonder it is called "Jerusalem the Golden." It is not just the Temple Mount with its golden dome, famous in all photographs. The actual stones of the city have a golden hue. We saw Jerusalem from all angles, from the top of Mount Scopus, from sitting on the excavated steps of the Temple, from walking through the various gates in the wall, and of course, at the Western (Wailing) Wall itself. It is amazing how something so familiar through photographs is, all of a sudden, real. It was a sensation we had many times in Jerusalem.

Finally, how do we answer the question, "How was your trip to Israel?" Educational? Fun? Interesting? All of those, and more. For many of us scripture passages have new meaning. Hymns speak to us in a different way. Our faith has been deepened. We have been changed by the experience.



Joyce, Ruth and Roger wait as Dorothy exits the Garden Tomb in Jerusalem



Barb Plante having some fun at Jericho

Changes...

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

MARRIAGES

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

February 14 Naomi Rebecca Shelstad, Trevor Paul Prevost

DEATHS

"Well done good and faithful servant."

| | |
|--------------------------|------------|
| Ruth Miller | January 4 |
| Hectorine Hamilton | January 15 |
| Alma Isabella Alton | January 18 |
| Isabel Letts | January 26 |
| Isabella Gray | January 28 |
| Winifred Margaret Calder | February 1 |
| Mary Haslam | March 10 |

GOODBYE & GODSPEED

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

| | |
|----------------------------|---------------------|
| Muriel Black | Barbara Heller |
| Lesley & Michael Cornelius | Nancy & Dan Hilborn |

NEW ELDERS

(elected at the Congregational Meeting, Feb 7, 1999)

| | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------------|
| Nikki Attwell | Barbara Ridgewell | Olga Volkoff-Richardson |
| Heather Bedford | Pam Silcox | Peter Welch |
| Elmer Butt | Marjorie Smith | Ian Wright |
| Lyn Carapella | Patti Tyre | Ken Wright |
| Jenn Cull | Rob Vanderheyden | |

LAUDAMUS BELLS TO ENGLAND

By Barbara Plante



Barbara Plante

The Laudamus Bells have been fortunate enough to have been chosen as one of a very few choirs to represent Canada at the ninth International Handbell Symposium in Birmingham, England, in August of 2000. This is an event which will bring together handbell choirs from all over the world to ring together and learn from each other, as they share ideas, repertoire, and ringing techniques through massed rehearsals, concerts, workshops, and discussions. It is an honour to be selected. It is also a great expense. Definite costs for the Symposium and airfare are not yet available, but we have estimated our minimum cost to be \$30,000.00 which we plan to raise as follows:

- 🎵 \$10,000 from personal contributions of the ringers
- 🎵 \$10,000 from fundraising
- 🎵 \$10,000 from donations from corporations and individuals from the community and congregation.

Our current fundraising projects include an auction in October, and the sale of Rick Bain's beautiful photograph of our church. These photographs will be available in the Fall, in time for Christmas.

We appreciate the support we have always had from the members of the congregation, and in particular, your support during our recent fundraiser. We cleared over \$800 from the sale of Hot Cross Buns.

Our brochure is included with this issue of Tidings. Please read it, and let us know if you would like to become involved with any of our projects. For that, or for further information, please call Barbara Plante (472-4586) or Nikki Attwell (661-3767). If you are interested in making a donation, please use the enclosed envelope. Cheques should be made payable to First-St. Andrew's, and please indicate that your donation is for the handbell trip. Donations are tax deductible.

JOINT NEEDS ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE

By Lesley Pergau and Terry Peters, Co-Chairs

The JNAC was struck, according to United Church process, to assess the needs of First-St. Andrew's in light of the resignation of Catherine Moore and the retirement of Herb Wonfor in mid 1998.

Our weekly Wednesday evening gatherings, guided by the JNAC manual and supported by our two Presbytery Representatives Ed Tufts and Don Keenlside, evaluated the committee's initial questionnaire, input from FSA members and groups through the JNAC questionnaire and group and individual presentations at a open forum.

Without the individual skills of the committee members, Co-Chairs Terry Peters (computers) and Lesley Pergau, John Whitehead, Bill Watson (questionnaire summaries), Karen Procnier (job description), Annabelle Logan and the two Presbytery Reps, the committee may still be meeting.

Our JNAC report and four recommendations were presented and approved at a Congregational meeting on Sunday Feb 28, and subsequently presented to Presbytery. This report is available in our church library.

We are delighted that the search committee, formed after this report, has proceeded in hiring Heather Bedford in the position of Pastoral Nurse (Apr 11). The Church School Coordinator position has been posted and the process has begun. This will open the way for Susan Shelstad to assume a greater degree of participation in the ministry of worship. We hope that the marketing and outreach need identified by the committee will be filled by a Community Development Coordinator as soon as possible.



Terry Peters and Lesley Pergau

Series: God's Stewards

BETH BAILEY

By Elaine Wilton

A recent recipient of the Governor General's *Caring Canadian Award*, Beth Bailey is quick to point out that she is in no way an exceptional volunteer. She insists that she is merely part of a very caring congregation at First-St. Andrew's, doing what dozens of others in this community do on a regular basis.

Beth had always been involved in volunteer work with the church and her children's schools, but about fifteen years ago when the children were becoming more independent, she wanted to volunteer with seniors. A tour of the old Parkwood hospital resulted in her agreeing to be part of a Palliative Care program just being launched. Although she approached this job with some trepidation, she found it to be very rewarding in that it gave her the opportunity to use her nursing background and to offer support and friendship to people who were facing death.

After three years as a volunteer, she was invited to be a member of the board for the new Parkwood Hospital. At that time both Parkwood and the McCormick Home were run by the Women's Christian Association, a group of women for whom Beth had great regard. Impressed by their philosophy of caring and respect for both patients and staff, Beth accepted their invitation.

The nine years she spent on the board were a valuable learning experience. There she met women who always thought of the hospital in relation to the community, their mission being to look after people who couldn't care for themselves. Beth found the position challenging, and more like a job than a volunteer placement. Exciting new programs were being developed in the treatment of brain and spinal injuries and much new research was being done. She headed numerous committees and eventually chaired the board of Parkwood Hospital and McCormick Home. This led to other volunteer positions in the Dearness Home, the Centre for Activity and Aging, and the Parkwood and McCormick Home Foundations, all of which provided her with insight into the business aspect of these organizations.

Today, Beth works as Senior Development Officer in the Parkwood Foundation, the fundraising arm of the hospital. Like FSA's Vision committee, the Foundation provides a vehicle for an individual to leave a monetary legacy to an organization that has had great meaning in his/her life. Beth still devotes time to her volunteer work, sitting on the advisory board for the Dearness Home and working with Community Living London, the Centre for Activity and Aging, and FSA's Vision Committee.

With current financial constraints in social services, Beth sees a great need for volunteers to pick up the slack. She believes it is important for volunteers to find the role that meets their needs and for which they have a passion. The rewards are tremendous, she says. "You get back far more than you give, and you have an opportunity to give of your soul and make a difference in the lives of the people you help." On behalf of those people, the Governor General's Award has been presented to a most worthy recipient.



Beth Bailey



Elaine Wilton

CHILDREN'S VIDEO REVIEW

By Katie Pickering

"Big Ideas" pose for big success. There's never been a show like *Veggitales* - a show that presents well known Biblical stories so that kids understand and learn lessons concerning God, in situations that relate to them. Our church library has recently acquired two of these creative videos whose humour and songs will capture the attention of kids (including me!). *Dave and the Giant Pickle* is a hilarious retelling of the story of David and Goliath, teaching kids that with God, all things are possible. *Where's God When I'm Scared?* gives a Biblical perspective on handling everyday fears through catchy songs and wry humour. *Veggitales* is a great series of videos that will appeal to all ages. Check out our church library - there's something for everybody.



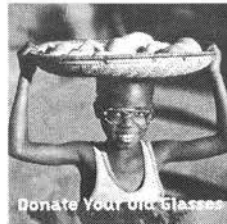
Katie Pickering

EYE-GLASSES FOR THE THIRD WORLD

By Elspeth Watson

"Though I was blind, now I see," said the man in the gospel story. An inexplicable miracle. In 1999 small miracles which can be explained are taking place among the 40 million blind and visually handicapped people in our world. Hundreds of thousands of curably blind children and adults are receiving their sight, not only through surgery and medication, but also, more immediately, through recycled eyeglasses. Several international Christian missions, based in Canada, are involved in this sight-restoring link.

First-St. Andrew's, through the UCW, has supported this enterprise over the past ten years by collecting some 500 pairs of used eyeglasses. These have been forwarded to national headquarters to be classified and indexed. Several times a year, teams of trained volunteers travel to Third World countries to set up temporary clinics for their distribution, matching each pair of glasses to individual need. In thousands of cases this is the only treatment required to "cure blindness." The line-ups at these clinics can be a mile long, but the astonished smiles on the faces of the newly-sighted are almost as wide!



Eye-glasses collected at FSA used to be sent to the Christian Blind Mission International. Currently we are linked to Operation Eyesight Universal whose London agent is Lens Crafters, Whiteoaks Mall. The number of eye-glasses collected by Lens Crafters throughout North America has risen to an annual 2,000,000 - but that still falls short of the need.

So, we would encourage everyone to turn in those discarded specs. (which tend to lie forgotten at the back of drawers), and to keep them coming. Our collection point is in the Atrium, below the mail slots. A big thank-you to past, present and future contributors. Each pair of eye-glasses has the potential for bringing new sight to someone who is "blind": a miracle in which we can all share.

PLEASE NOTE: As of 1999 this project has been transferred from the UCW to the Community Outreach Committee, c/o David Knoppert, (668-4063).

COUNCIL REPORTS TO YOU

By Bill Watson

Chair of Council (471-6049)

This was an action packed meeting, only some of the highlights of which are reported here. We begin with some of the powerful words from Frank's sermon of last Sunday: *The world says "Unless I thrust my hand into the church and find real wounds, wounds that the church has received in its fight against evil in its ministry to the poor and the oppressed, we will not believe." And the church has to be able to show its hands and its side and say 'Here are the wounds, the scars of battle.' A church without scars is a contradiction in terms.*

1. Barbara Plante showed a video on The Healing Fund which explains the reasons for the United Church's response to the abuses suffered by the children of the Native Peoples in the Residential Schools. FSA has a commitment to contribute to this fund.

2. The Property Committee, informed us that all funds approved for the current program of maintenance, renovation and restructuring are fully committed, and that while there are other important issues to be considered, these have to be set aside for the time being.

3. The Community Outreach Committee informed us of the possibly imminent arrival in London of two refugee families whose support has been guaranteed by a group of 9 churches, which includes FSA, and is called the London Ecumenical Refugee Settlement Alliance. Our immediate financial obligation is \$2000 of which about \$1300 is covered. If the balance is needed urgently, Council agreed to resort to the Contingency fund.

4. At the Congregational Meeting on February 28th, approval was given for the creation of the position of Community Development Coordinator and Presbytery endorsed this recommendation. A Steering Committee has been created which will advise Council on June 8th how and when to proceed with an appointment.

5. On behalf of the UCW, Laurel Kenney reported on the progress of the Task Force on 'Women United: Widening Circles' which will deliver in the summer of 2000 for implementation in September, 2001.

6. Susan Shelstad presented a proposal for a Healing Ministry at FSA, details of which will be circulated in the near future.

7. Council unanimously agreed to invite a Youth Representative to be a regular member at its meetings.

A TASTE OF JUDAISM

By Liz Mignotte



Liz Mignotte

This winter, approximately forty people gathered in the parlour for a truly enlightening experience. Rabbi Joel Wittstein, from the Temple Beth Israel, led us through three lively sessions culminating with an invitation to join his congregation Friday evening for the Shabbat (Sabbath).

The first session was spent learning and discussing the basic Jewish Beliefs, the holy books of Judaism, and the Jewish cycles, i.e. the life cycle and the holiday cycle. Rabbi Wittstein would read a Hebrew passage from the Torah, translate it for us, and then read the Midrash that pertained to the passage. The Midrash is a collection of ancient Jewish commentaries by learned Rabbis over the centuries that elaborate on the specific sections of the Torah.

During the second session, Rabbi Wittstein concentrated on the cycle of Jewish life and, showing the year as a circle, placed the ten special holy periods of Judaism throughout the year. The weekly celebration of Shabbat, from sundown Friday to sundown Saturday, is a time for spiritual rest and renewal. The other nine holiday periods, e.g. Rosh Hashanah, Sukkot, Purim, etc., are celebrated at various times during the year.

At the last session, the Jewish community was discussed. Rabbi Wittstein brought some of his religious artifacts and described their significance and use. The differences of the three Jewish communities, (Orthodox, Conservative, and Reform [liberal]) were explained. Rabbi Wittstein lamented the poor attendance at Shabbat for which we had understanding and empathy. One of the papers he distributed had the following statement: "The synagogue is where Jews are made, where the individual soul and the community are joined. It is the place where modernity and eternity cross-fertilize, where the seeds of Jewish identity are sown. All other institutions in Jewish life are created by Jews. Only the synagogue creates Jews, child by child, family by family ---Rabbi Alexander Schindler." For those of us who attended the Shabbat, this was clearly demonstrated through the comradeship, the singing, the joy and the very definite sense of community at Beth Israel.



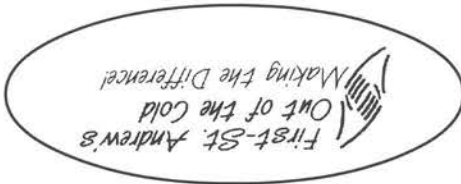
DID YOU KNOW?

- Mike Bancroft was awarded the Hellmuth Prize for research achievements on March 24
- *Variety Is*, Thames Valley School Board's annual Music Event in February at Alumni Hall, was dedicated to Ken Bray
- Dorothy and Alan Garniss celebrated their 60th Wedding Anniversary in April
- Doug Rix will receive his Master of Clinical Dentistry in Orthodontics from U.W.O. in June
- Susan Shelstad will receive her Doctor of Ministry degree in Detroit on June 6



Back: Ron Logan, Bob Vosper, Allan Stinson, Muriel Parsons, Bev Lindsay, Paul Merritt, John Whitehead, Barrie Evans, Susan Shelstad, Brian Cram
Front: Don Jones, Kay Hillier, Shirley Peel, Heather Vosper, Bill Watson, Barbara Plante, Annabelle Logan, Heather Bedford, Diane Macpherson
Not Pictured: David Knoppert, Frank Meadows, Eileen Pypier, Gerry Shaw, Kerry Stover, Barbara Williamson, Ken Wright

First-St. Andrew's Ministry
 All of the people including
 The Rev. Dr. Frank Meadows
 The Rev. Susan Shelstad
 Heather Bedford
 Paul Merritt
 Diane Macpherson
 Jim Gagnon
 Pat Sole



9:15 & 11 am A service of gathering and re-affirming the covenant of our baptism

Sept. 12 The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
 Preacher - Frank Meadows
 10:30 a.m. Labour Day weekend
 The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Sept. 5
 conducted by Susan Shelstad.

10:30 a.m. For the month of August, the services will be
 August 1, 8, 15, 22, 29
 will be the preacher.
 by Frank Meadows. For the final Sunday in July, Barry Moore
 10:30 a.m. For the month of July, the services will be conducted
July 4, 11, 18, 25
 10:30 a.m. Preacher - Frank Meadows

June 27 The Fifth Sunday after Pentecost
 10:30 a.m. Preacher - Frank Meadows
June 20 The Fourth Sunday after Pentecost
 service. There will be games for the children.
 We will have a Picnic and Barbeque on the lawn following the
 10:30 a.m. Preacher - Frank Meadows

June 13 The Third Sunday after Pentecost
 10:30 a.m. Preacher - Frank Meadows
June 6 The Second Sunday after Pentecost
 10:30 a.m. Conference Sunday - Preacher - Susan Shelstad

May 30 The First Sunday after Pentecost
 10:30 a.m. Preacher - Frank Meadows

May 23 The Day of Pentecost
 at www.fsauunited.london.on.ca

Come and worship at First-St. Andrew's as we remember and celebrate the story of the church from its earliest days until now. Our regular worship times are 9:15 in the chapel and 11 o'clock in the main sanctuary. Beginning **May 23** we will have one service only at 10:30 a.m. in the Lower Hall as the main sanctuary undergoes renovations during the summer months. For more detailed information regarding each Sunday service, you can dial 679-8182 after office hours for a recorded message. If you are on-line you will find updated information every week on our web page

OUT OF THE COLD (OOTC)
 Monday Hospitality Suppers continue - 5:30-6:30 p.m. with summer teams helping.

FOOD BANK CONTRIBUTIONS
 Food collection for St. Paul's DAILY BREAD continues. Baby food is a special need. Donation baskets by church entrances.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

For a moment of meditation in a busy or a quiet day, call Dial-a-Prayer.

DIAL-A-PRAYER, 439-6838.
 Please feel free to contact Edna Brown, coordinator, (471-9938) for additional information. All calls will be held in confidence.

Those involved with the organizational and facilitating aspects of the Rainbows programs at Colborne Street, First-St. Andrew's and Robinson Memorial United Churches have recently agreed that all three now be jointly served by one coordinator. As a result, the Rainbows programs at all three locations are now fully integrated and offer a combined service within our church families and within the larger community.

Rainbows peer support groups, for children and adults who have suffered a significant loss, will soon be reaching the completion of their winter sessions. If you are experiencing grief, recent or long-term, please consider whether one of these groups, which we hope to offer again in the Fall, might be useful to you in your healing process.

RAINBOWS

PASTORAL CARE

Spring Youth Retreat at Pearce-Williams Centre from **Friday, June 4 to Sunday, June 6**. Details and registration forms will be available closer to the date. Mark your calendar and plan to attend!

YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

Regular Church School classes end on **May 16th**. We will be having a Congregational B.B.Q picnic with games for the children on Sunday, **June 13**, after church. Church School will continue throughout the summer in a multi-age class format. Nursery will also be available.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

During July and August, our Senior Choir will have a well-deserved break from its busy rehearsal schedule. This will give us an opportunity to hear our soloists as they provide vocal music to enrich our worship. Because our services will be held in the Lower Hall due to the Sanctuary renovations, a number of the pianists of our congregation will lead our hymn singing in these summer months.

MUSIC

WORSHIP

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B.B.Q.-PICNIC-GAMES

CHURCH FAMILY EVENT

→ Sunday June 13
 → 11:30 (After church)
 → Church Lawn

CHURCH FAMILY EVENT
THAT'S ENTERTAINMENT
 (Songs and Skits)
 Thursday May 27, 7:30 PM
 Lower Hall
 \$8 includes Dessert, Beverage
 Proceeds: Voices United Fund

Frank
Althea
Paul
Susan

Dear Family and Friends of First-St. Andrew's,
 This issue of Tidings is the "Pentecost" issue. What is Pentecost? Go to the Internet and you will find 53,200 sites where the word Pentecost is mentioned. In searching through just a few sites, the Day of Pentecost is described as the day to celebrate the first outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon the church. In looking for a definition of "The Season After Pentecost", this definition stood out - "It is essentially the part of the year that is left over after everything has been accounted for." We all love leftovers - makes an easy meal - no work, not much cleanup. Is that what the Season After Pentecost will be for FSA this year? Hardly! We have a busy season ahead of us and the Season After Pentecost will certainly not be a season of leftovers. Since this is the International Year of the Older Person, our Communion on May 12 for Seniors and Shut-ins will have that added dimension and we will continue throughout 1999 to recognize all the gifts and talents our seniors bring to FSA. Susan Shelstad will graduate June 6 and receive a well-deserved Doctor of Ministry designation. We all congratulate her on this accomplishment. July and August - the traditional holiday months - will mean holidays for the church staff, and many members of our congregation who have cottages and vacation plans. Please keep the safety of you and your loved ones first and foremost in your mind while on vacation. We want you back when we return to our newly renovated sanctuary in September. One final word on the Season After Pentecost - it takes care of all the Sundays until Advent begins, so it is a big portion of our year. Not leftovers, but Sundays each having a significant impact on your life, if that is your choice. Here's a good quote for an ending, even though it would probably fit better in the Advent Season - "Angels can fly because they take themselves lightly" from G. K. Chesterton.



FSA Program Guide
Pentecost 1999

