

*First-St Andrew's*  
UNITED CHURCH

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# Tidings

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Pentecost/Fall 2018

*Live Your  
Faith*  
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# Tidings

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Pat McGregor

I know I said that the last issue would be my swan song as editor, but I lied because here I am again! However, I know you will all be pleased to learn that David Wardlaw has agreed to become the next editor of our newsletter, commencing with the December issue—and I didn't even have to twist his arm! David brings considerable experience to this position, and we can look forward to his guidance from that point on.

You will find the usual interesting articles in this issue—getting to know Stacey Anne and Sarai Fonesca and their son Walter, and remembering Fred Lloyd, a stalwart of our congregation for a long time, who often kept us co-back benchers amused or groaning with his pithy comments during sermons. Also, we are starting a new column with this issue: Our Neighbours, where we can learn more about the people and organizations who share our space in the downtown core.

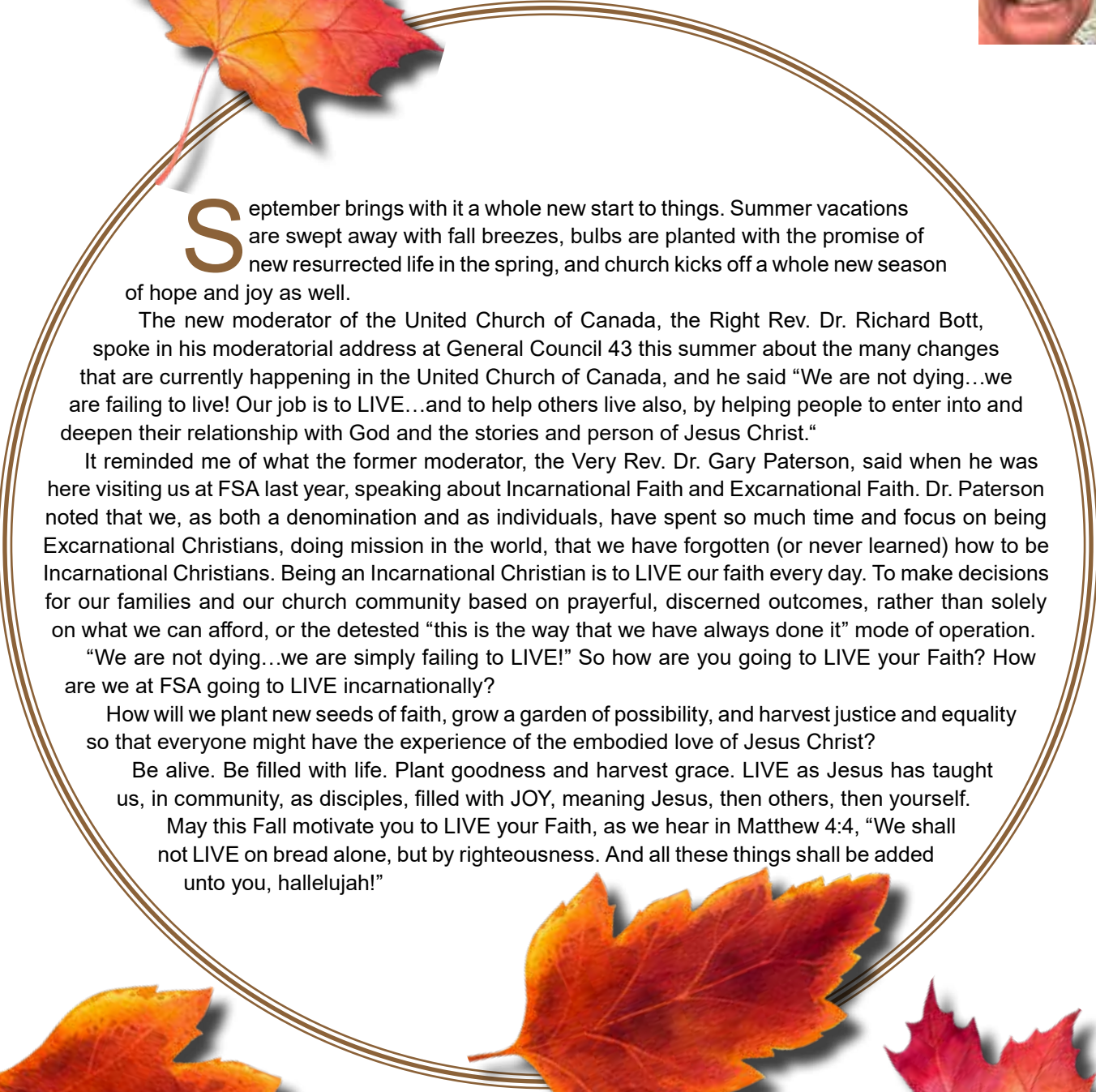
Take a copy of *Tidings* home, put your feet up with a cup of tea, or whatever, and enjoy reading about some of the people and events that make up the fabric of FSA.

Over to you David....



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**S**eptember brings with it a whole new start to things. Summer vacations are swept away with fall breezes, bulbs are planted with the promise of new resurrected life in the spring, and church kicks off a whole new season of hope and joy as well.

The new moderator of the United Church of Canada, the Right Rev. Dr. Richard Bott, spoke in his moderatorial address at General Council 43 this summer about the many changes that are currently happening in the United Church of Canada, and he said “We are not dying...we are failing to live! Our job is to LIVE...and to help others live also, by helping people to enter into and deepen their relationship with God and the stories and person of Jesus Christ.”

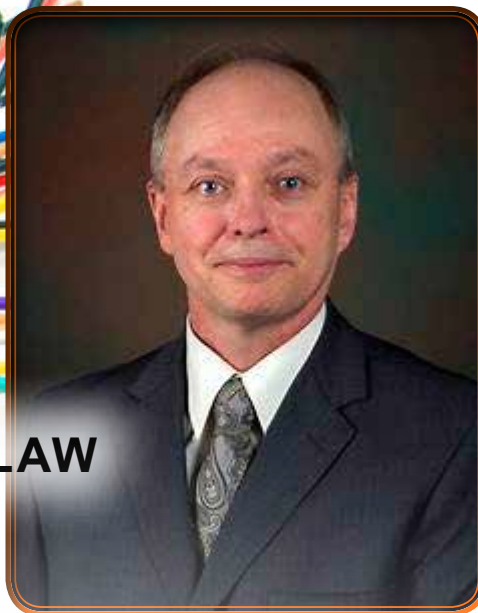
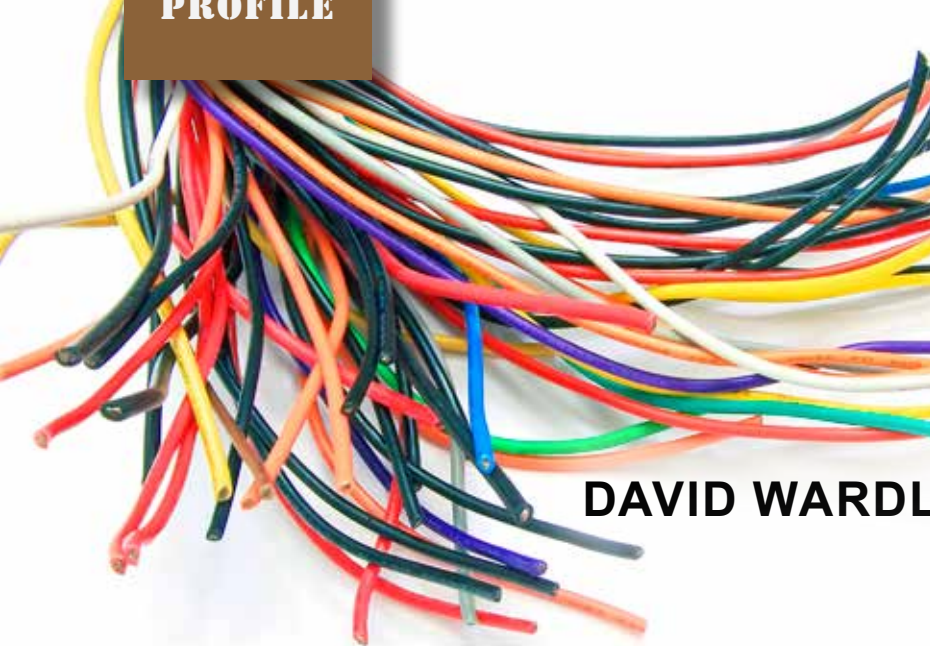
It reminded me of what the former moderator, the Very Rev. Dr. Gary Paterson, said when he was here visiting us at FSA last year, speaking about Incarnational Faith and Excarnational Faith. Dr. Paterson noted that we, as both a denomination and as individuals, have spent so much time and focus on being Excarnational Christians, doing mission in the world, that we have forgotten (or never learned) how to be Incarnational Christians. Being an Incarnational Christian is to LIVE our faith every day. To make decisions for our families and our church community based on prayerful, discerned outcomes, rather than solely on what we can afford, or the detested “this is the way that we have always done it” mode of operation.

“We are not dying...we are simply failing to LIVE!” So how are you going to LIVE your Faith? How are we at FSA going to LIVE incarnationally?

How will we plant new seeds of faith, grow a garden of possibility, and harvest justice and equality so that everyone might have the experience of the embodied love of Jesus Christ?

Be alive. Be filled with life. Plant goodness and harvest grace. LIVE as Jesus has taught us, in community, as disciples, filled with JOY, meaning Jesus, then others, then yourself.

May this Fall motivate you to LIVE your Faith, as we hear in Matthew 4:4, “We shall not LIVE on bread alone, but by righteousness. And all these things shall be added unto you, hallelujah!”



DAVID WARDLAW



Jean Wright

## MAKING A NEW CONNECTION

About 15 years ago at Coffee and Conversation I went up to a man I hadn't seen before at First-St. Andrew's. I welcomed him and asked him if he were visiting, and he answered that he was at Western University. "Oh, what course are you in?" He gave me a little smile and said, "I'm Dean of the Faculty of Science." And that was my first meeting with Dr. David Wardlaw, past head of Chemistry at Queen's University, and since then, Provost and Vice-President Academic of Memorial University in Newfoundland, and now retired.

Now this modest, friendly man is back in London, and back at First-St. Andrew's singing in the choir, and serving on committees. Why did he and his wife Margaret decide to retire in London—why not Kingston where they had lived for over 20 years? Well, their daughter, her husband and three children are here. Furthermore, David says they made good friends in London, plus a strong connection to First-St. Andrew's. Also he grew up in Southwestern Ontario, where his father was a teacher at Waterford District High School.

When David and Margaret initially came to FSA, it was on a recommendation from their director of music at Chalmers United in Kingston, who knew of David's strong interest in church music. David joined the choir, then under the direction of Paul Merritt, and when he returned he told Terry Head that he had been in the choir some years ago, and Terry welcomed him back.

The United Church of Canada has always been an important part of David's life. His parents were active members of Waterford United Church. He was raised in that church, and has been involved in the United Church in all the cities in which he has lived, with one exception: while a postdoctoral fellow at Caltech in California he attended a Presbyterian church, and it was there that he met Margaret.

His affection for FSA is clear. He talks enthusiastically about the building, the music and the people, and he is committed to serving the church.

In his unassuming way he describes himself as a "handyman" who likes to do odd jobs, make repairs, and improve homes. This encompasses projects large and small. He loves woodworking. He helps family and friends with home improvements, including electrical wiring. Electrical wiring? The way David tells it, that ability comes directly from his academic background in theoretical chemistry and physics. Currently he is building a pergola at his daughter's house in London.

And the next accomplishment in this stellar career of scientist, researcher, academic? He is the incoming editor of *Tidings*.

†





Steve Elson

We all worry—don't we?

- “Worry, why do I let myself worry, wonderin’ ‘what in the world did I do?’” From the song *Crazy* by Willie Nelson, 1961.
- “What, me worry?”—famous saying by Alfred E. Newman, *MAD Magazine*.
- “We humans have lost the wisdom of genuinely resting and relaxing. We worry too much. We don’t allow our bodies to heal, and we don’t allow our minds and hearts to heal.” Thich Nhat Hanh.
- “Meditation can help us embrace our worries, our fear, our anger; and that is very healing. We let our own natural capacity of healing do the work.” Thich Nhat Hanh.

It’s natural to worry even though we might realize it’s unproductive, time consuming and in extreme cases debilitating. Worry might come from external forces that are impacting on our lives—think of the mothers and fathers who live in Syria; think of their children. Worry might come from personal relationships that are sources of conflict; fears about what “might” happen to our children or loved ones. Worry might come from stories we tell ourselves that are based on our own internal psychological dynamics—not from what is happening with others or in the larger environment.

Regardless of its source, we can all benefit from being able to acknowledge it to ourselves, i.e. “I’m worried ...” and taking steps to deal with it. Sometimes we can not only identify the source of our worry but can take direct steps to address it thereby removing the target of our worry. In other situations direct action might not be so simple or even possible; in which case we need to consider how we are thinking about the issue. As noted through the quotes from Thich Nhat Hanh above, resting, relaxing and meditation can help us acknowledge and process our worries in a productive way. Having a space and place to relax and find peace is important to all of us, for our physical, emotional and spiritual well-being.

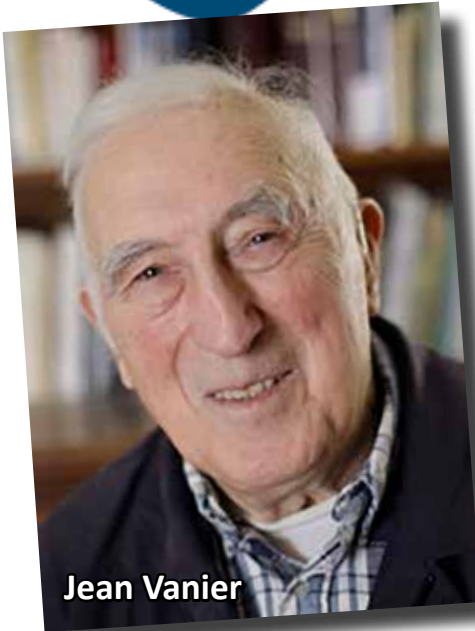
Sunday mornings at church can provide such a healing environment as it offers a safe place in which to be quiet and reflective. We cannot expect to be worry-free but we can learn how to shift our attention to others and consider how to live in ways that are kind, thoughtful and positive.

At least that’s the way I see it, from the pew.

†



# L'ARCHE®



Jean Vanier

PHOTO: TEMPLETON PRIZE/JOHN MORRISON



David McKane

Jean Vanier founded L'Arche in 1964 with two young men, Raphael Simi and Phillippe Seux, who were developmentally challenged. Vanier had purchased a small house in the town of Trosly-Breuil, and called it L'Arche, French for ark, as in Noah's Ark. 54 years later L'Arche communities can be found in 41 countries around the world. In London we have three homes in Byron and a community Gathering Place in Lambeth. L'Arche homes and programmes operate according to a not-for-profit community model as distinct from "client-centred," "medical" or "social service" models of care. In L'Arche communities people with disabilities and those caring for them live together sharing life with one another and building community. The hope is to develop long term, mutual, interdependent relationships while maintaining a stable, life-giving home environment. While rooted in Christianity, L'Arche is open to people of different faiths or

people with no religious affiliation, believing that a truly just and compassionate society is one that welcomes the most vulnerable, providing them with opportunities to contribute in meaningful ways to the communities in which they live. As the L'Arche charter says; "In a divided world, L'Arche wants to be a sign of hope. Its communities, founded on covenant relationships between people of differing intellectual capacities, social origins, religion and cultures, seek to be signs of unity, faithfulness and reconciliation."

On October 11 Sonia and Arthur Labatt, honorary chairs of the L'Arche London Campaign for the Gathering Place in Lambeth, will be in town to help us celebrate the conclusion of our fundraising drive for \$2.5 million. The Gathering Place operates a café on Thursday mornings, provides programmes in music, art, drumming circles, adaptive cooking, song writing and ceramics. The Gathering Place and its 60 volunteers serve about 140 clients each week with a waiting list of 400 more. Local citizens with intellectual disabilities have a lot to share. In Vanier's words, "When the strong and the weak live together a compassionate love is born: mutual love passes through weakened bodies ... the strong help the weak ... the weak awaken tenderness ... so each person, weak or strong, becomes someone uniquely valuable." †





# A Day at the Zoo



Pat McGregor

This tale went the rounds in my family for quite a while: As a child in England, aged approximately five or six, I was taken on a family outing to Whipsnade, the large zoo in Dunstable, Bedfordshire. Once home at the end of the day I was asked “What animal did you like the best?”

“The Dang-ger-rooses.”

“The Dangeroses?” Puzzled looks and head scratching.

“Yes.”

“What did they look like?”

“Brown, with lots of hair.”

“How did you know they were called dangeroses?”

“Because the sign said so.”

(More head scratching, until they realized that I was referring to the sign attached to the lions’ cage which read “These animals are dangerous.”)

See, I was right—dangeroses.

†



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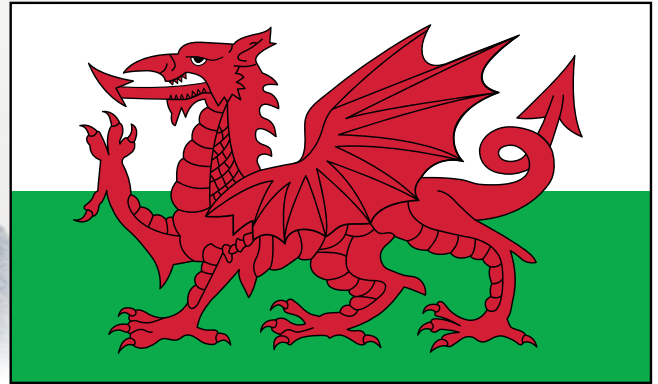


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**FRED LLOYD**  
**DECEMBER 18, 1913—MAY 31, 2018.**



David McKane

The Rev. Fred Lloyd was born in Ty Back, Wales, attending “chapel” with the other boys in the village and leaving school to work as a window cleaner. At age 18 he was conscripted into the army and stationed in Italy. Since he did not smoke he traded his cigarettes for Italian lessons and opera tickets. By the time the war ended he could speak Italian and had developed a life-long love of opera.

In 1949 Fred felt a call to the ministry and entered Paton Congregational College within Nottingham University. His first church was in Lincoln. At a meeting of the London Missionary Conference in Derbyshire he met and fell in love with Barbara Linsdell. They were married in 1953 and moved to Bunyon Meeting Congregational Church in Bedford where son Glyn and daughter Meryl were born. Interested in the United Church of Canada’s vision of a united and uniting church, Fred and family emigrated and joined The United Church of Canada, serving pastorates in Malpeque and Cornwall, P.E.I., Sault Ste. Marie and Tupperville in Ontario.

Retiring to London in 1989 Fred and Barbara bought a house on Denlaw Road, joined FSA, enjoyed gardening and caring for his beloved rose trees, family visits and travels abroad, especially back to Wales. In 2003 Fred and Barbara celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary, a year before his beloved Barbara’s death.

Fred loved a good argument, the give and take of it, often taking the opposing view to stimulate a good discussion. Some saw him as cantankerous and bristly, but behind his crusty exterior there was a warm and compassionate heart. Possessed of a deep love for God and most especially the grace of God, Fred was an unapologetic preacher in the style of his contemporaries Leslie Weatherhead and Lord Donald Soper. If there’s a soap box in heaven or a Hyde Park corner that’s where you’ll find Fred, extolling the virtues of the gospel and the profoundly amazing grace of God. That is, when he is not engaged in conversations with Puccini or Verdi, in Italian of course! †



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Sarai, Stacey and Walter Fonesca



Pat  
McGregor

When Sarai and Stacey were seeking to join an accepting church, Stacey's co-worker, our own Ken Whatman, suggested they take a look at FSA. Right from the start they say, "We love the feeling we get when we enter the doors, how everyone is always so kind and welcoming."

Stacey was born and raised in Chatham, but spent a few years in Peterborough while completing college. Sarai was born in Costa Rica, but has lived in London since the age of six. Their family comprises the two of them and their son, Walter, who is almost 14-months old, plus Chandler, their five-year-old dog.

Stacey is a tobacco cessation specialist, working with referred clients whom she helps to quit smoking, and Sarai, a crisis outreach worker. One would think that jobs like theirs must be somewhat high stress, so it isn't surprising that for relaxation they love being outdoors, especially going for walks together; also spending time with extended family. When it comes to food, Sarai likes sushi and "anything my mom or oldest sister make." More adventuresome, Stacey says that her favourites are candy or popcorn!!

Their tastes in reading appear eclectic: Stacey says she doesn't have much time to read for leisure, and usually reads books about pregnancy and parenthood, whereas Sarai says the most recent book she has read was *The Last Juror* by John Grisham.

When asked what feeds them spiritually they both say, "Family, and all the amazing nature God has created for us."

And then there's our last tricky question: If you had the last question, what would it be? Sarai wonders, "Why can't all humanity be humble and kind?" Stacey turns the tables and asks "If you could be any animal, what would it be?"

Sarai, Stacey and Walter became members of FSA last September, and we are indeed blessed to have them within FSA's family.




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## Confessions of a Communion Clerk



*Jim Silcox*

When Bob Vosper came to me in 2003 to see if I would take over from him as Communion Clerk, I little thought that I would still be doing the job fifteen years later. In Bob's era communion was a sacrament conducted by a cadre of elders who served the wine in little glass cups slotted into silver trays, and passed the trays laden with bread cut into small pieces as they moved sedately from pew to pew. However, I inherited the "new-fangled" way of serving by way of "intinction," whereby the communicant must dip the host in the chalice so that, by necessity, the congregation circulates to the front of the church to receive the elements. Intinction was an expedient innovation since we had recently abandoned the elder system, which defined one of the duties and obligations of elders as serving communion. Congregants were still getting used to this change when I took over and there was much grumbling about the "olden" days being better. Remnants of that adjustment still surface when we have services where a lot of "unchurched" join us for special services such as Christmas Eve and Easter. It is not uncommon for people to pull the communion cup from the surprised server's hands and take a healthy gulp of wine. Whereas this maneuver is appropriate in Roman Catholic and Anglican churches, where the priest is prepared with a cloth to wipe the lip of the chalice, we are not so equipped. Instead we always set up an extra chalice on the communion table which allows the server to make a discreet switch for a clean vessel when the need arises.

Most regular FSA attendees are familiar with the pageantry that makes up communion. Behind that lies the necessity of procurement and preparation. About 10 years ago we switched from cutting up bread into small morsels to



using pre-baked wafers. Our source for those is the Sister Adorers of the Precious Blood. My first visit to pick up their "home-made" wafers was an interesting experience. Their monastery sits on property behind Brescia College. Thanks to my GPS, I found them and followed a sign directing me to use the back door where an inviting "come right in" sign was located. It turned out the coming right in was not quite that. The entrance led to a little eight by twelve entry room with a second more imposing steel door. Upon ringing the bell, the door was opened a crack by a nun in full habit who enquired my intentions. Through the crack in the door she proffered a "menu" of all the different kinds of wafers they made, big, little, whole grain and gluten free. Once I submitted the order, the door closed again and I waited fifteen minutes in the anteroom wondering if they had forgotten all about me. Eventually the door opened a crack again and the wafers in a little brown bag were thrust out. Payment was by cash only and had to be immediate. Nowadays the door opens a little wider and the encounter is friendlier. I guess they have figured out that I'm rather harmless.

Procurement of "wine" is less intriguing. Loblaws is our source of grape juice. As you may know, there are many kinds of juice on the shelves these days. On one occasion a couple of years ago, your humble clerk made a major faux pas: instead of purchasing grape juice I purchased cranberry juice, and did not discover my mistake until Sunday morning rolled around and I was filling the chalices. Did you notice the substitution? Needless to say, I am very careful now to make sure I pick up the right bottle at the grocery store.

As ministers come and go, the ritual of communion changes, but I have become used to the prep and panoply that it entails. The time will soon come when I will want to pass the job down to a new clerk. Why not consider this interesting role and get in touch with me? †



# WHAT'S PERKING AT THE LONDON ARTS COUNCIL?



Nancy Quinn

**T**idings is excited to present this new column, Our Neighbours, as a venue for getting to know organizations near our church. On Thursday, June 7th, First-St. Andrew's United Church's Lunch Bunch and United Church Women (UCW) were inspired by Andrea Halwa (nee Hibbert), president of the London Arts Council (LAC), at Growing Chefs. The event was organized by the Lunch Bunch's Bob Swartman, also past chair of Council; here is a synopsis of Andrea's presentation:

If you have attended any of the following events, then you have been touched by LAC: London Fringe Festival, Sunfest, Home County, or Culture Days (up-coming September 28-30). Culture City, an exciting artists-in-residence programme, involves 29 classrooms across the city. An exciting example involved students from a public school visiting Ark Aid Mission and other areas of the city. The students then chose ten places and did a reflective paragraph, a poem, and a story about each place. The Belong to Song Recording Project, which started at My Sister's Place, helps participants celebrate courage, resiliency and hope, as they learn vocal technique and re-engage with life. LAC works with many health and government



organizations including McCormick Home, Parkwood, and the Healing through the Arts programme. This year, LAC is thrilled to be working on projects with L'Arche (see our Spiritual Dimensions article) Hutton House, and Participation House. LAC is enthusiastically involved in FSA's Art after Five programme, whereby FSA encourages artistic collaborations and use of our wonderful spaces for concerts and gatherings.

Created in 2000 with Andrea at the helm, LAC worked out of a closet-like room at the London Public Library with an annual budget of \$225,000.00. In their present office at 201 King Street, they are a major artistic incubator for the city, with a budget of \$1,600,000.00—most of which goes to programming. LAC has many partnerships, including Old East Village Business Area,

The City of London Community Investment Funds, the Provincial and Federal Governments, London Community Foundation, and Trillium Foundation. Funding sources also include corporate sponsors such as London Life. Visit their website at <https://www.londonarts.ca/> to see what new culture projects are perking. LAC invites inquiries about volunteer opportunities at 519-439-0013. †



August 19th  
 Laurel and former student  
 Jordan Borsseau and family  
 Celebrating her 90th Birthday

# Laurel Kenney: FSA'S WONDER WOMAN!



Nancy Quinn

“If you had to choose two words to describe Laurel they would be dependability and integrity,” says David McKane, our minister emeritus and visitation minister. Laurel has been at FSA for 51 years, since joining us in 1967. On Sunday, August 19th, Laurel hosted a 90th birthday Celebration Tea in Proudfoot Hall. What a day of FSA grace and elegance! Those of us there will remember Margo Christodoulo’s magnificent hors d’oeuvres and desserts, the fantastical, rococo FSA silver tea and coffee services, the lovely music—and the overall feeling of church family bliss pervading the proceedings.

As a FSA matriarch, promoting peace, harmony and growth are what Laurel does best. She has given to many FSA organizations over the years. Paul Merritt, our long-serving, past music director, reminisces “I was so fortunate to benefit from Laurel’s involvement in the music program. She was a long time faithful choir member in the alto section, and she volunteered as a leader, teaching music to the younger children, in the *Gone Fishin’* program. Long time friend Louise

Slater says, “Laurel keeps re-inventing herself according to the needs around her ... and nothing stops her. Her biggest contribution is that she stayed on as president of the UCW. She has hope and vision.”

Laurel is one of FSA’s longest serving United Church Women’s (UCW’s) presidents. As a Charter Member of the UCW of Canada, and with a Life UCW Membership in the Avon Women’s Missionary Society (WMS was UCW’s predecessor) given as a wedding gift, Laurel’s UCW roots go deep. She remembers joining the UCW’s Wednesday Morning Unit in 1967, and growing into a leadership role there, and as a representative on Presbytery. In 2009, she assumed leadership of our FSA UCW, and was our companion guide through an ensuing time of great doubt and turmoil. She “learned to listen.” Her strong, nurturing presence both in the UCW and on Council helped us to grow as a congregation, welcoming diversity and embracing positive change. She considers her capping accomplishment to be the Bread not Stones project, which has successfully focused national attention on the issues of child poverty. Through the beautiful rag dolls presented to MPPs and MPs across Canada, a House of Commons oral presentation, and other media events, important

(Cont’d. on page 18)

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Jim Silcox

Our own Mason Robichaud is one of two local youth to have been awarded this year's Rainbow Youth Leadership Bursary, from the London Community Foundation and the Pride London Festival. The bursary recognizes local high school graduates for their contributions to the LGBTQ2+ community, specifically those that support tolerance and acceptance of London area LGBTQ2+ people and their allies. "They're really showing leadership, but at the same time they're maintaining their grades, doing well in school, and sometimes they've had to overcome personal challenges," said Lori Runciman, director of grants at the London Community Foundation. We offer our sincere congratulations to Mason and also our encouragement as he goes forward in life. †



Courtesy of  
London Free Press

COMMITTEE REPORTS



**COUNCIL**

George Jolink, Chair

It is an exciting time as we look forward with anticipation to resuming our regular schedule of activities. What will this next year bring?

Over the summer committees and staff have been working hard to prepare for the year ahead. There are many exciting initiatives which will unfold as fall progresses. Be sure to read announcements and the weekly blast to stay informed. Of note:

- A new up-to-date church directory;
- Work will begin soon on the Eco Meditation Garden which will enhance our property and invite the community to enjoy our grounds;
- Music is launching a jazz series to support the work of FSA.

All of this serves to remind us and the community at large

that First-St. Andrew's is a dynamic and active congregation at the heart of London.

Council has been looking at our future with a focus on our resources, both membership and finances, to determine a course of action that will ensure our ongoing health. In these uncertain times of limited resources and changing needs we will be faced with important decisions that will carry us into the future. Your Council will continue to discern the way forward with care and with congregational input. Although our future is yet to be written, our past is a solid foundation on which to build. Like the generations before us we are the current caretakers of this great congregation. What we do now will be our legacy for future generations.

Let me take a moment on behalf of Council to thank you for your commitment to First-St. Andrew's. Together, when we share our time, talent and resources, we will accomplish great things. Together we will maintain our legacy and build on our past. †

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## MUSIC

*Merran Neville*

The New Year brings with it exciting plans for music in worship and concerts, including the junior choirs, the senior choir, The Laudamus Bells and visiting artists.

Our Casavant Frères tracker organ was installed in the sanctuary in 1968 when Barrie Cabena was the director of music. This year marks the 50th anniversary of the organ, and we will be marking this milestone with special concerts. Music Director Terry Head, has planned five one-hour Sunday organ recitals following church from 1:00–2:00pm on Sept. 30, Oct. 21, Nov. 18, Jan. 20 and Feb. 17. The series includes organists Terry Head, Paul Merritt and Graeme Shields. Isabelle Demers will give an organ recital on Saturday, March 2, 2019. Isabelle Demers, who is referred to as the “diminutive dynamo,” is organ professor and head of the organ programme at Baylor University in Texas, where she teaches organ and courses in the organ curriculum. A

native of Québec, she is rapidly becoming recognized as one of North America’s most virtuosic organists. In 2010, she won the Grammy Award for Best Instrumental Soloist Performance (without orchestra). This recital, offered in conjunction with the RCCO, is not to be missed!

Music at FSA is presenting the Woodfield Jazz Series. Organized by Sonja Gustafson and George Jolink, performances are Sept. 28—featuring Sonja Gustafson, Nov. 23—featuring the Ariel Kaswe Quartet, Feb. 15—Denise Pelley, and May 24—the Charlie Rallo Quartet.

On May 4, The Senior Choir will be performing Karl Jenkins’ *The Peacemakers*, with words drawn from texts by Martin Luther King Jr., Nelson Mandela, the Dalai Lama, Mother Teresa and Mahatma Gandhi. And we continue with our annual Advent and Lenten concert and lunch series. Watch for the new 2018–2019 Music at FSA brochure, which will detail all these events.

With such an array of wonderful concerts, who cannot be thrilled with the prospect of beautiful music at FSA this year!†



## PROPERTY

*George Jolink*

As you read this, summer has drawn to a close and we are gearing up to resume our regular activities for the fall season at First-St. Andrew’s. We are a busy church in the heart of London, and your Property Committee works hard to ensure that our “home” is in good repair and able to meet the needs of both ourselves and the broader community.

Over the summer work has been completed to address ongoing maintenance issues and improvements. The primary focus is to keep our building and grounds in excellent shape

and look for ways to reduce costs in the long run. Current priorities include: exterior video surveillance system, lighting upgrades in the building, asbestos removal and front entrance repairs. Also you will notice our grounds are well maintained by volunteer David Beach. We thank him for his ongoing commitment.

As always, special thanks to Tim Miedema for his attention to the needs of our property. As the facilities manager, Tim addresses issues when they arise, ensures cleanliness, deals with contractors and helps to establish priorities.

The Property Committee consists of me, Heather Vouvalidis, Willis Buckingham, Ron Bradley, Bill Guthrie, Tim Miedema, Peter Ross and Bob Swartman. †



**MISSION/OUTREACH**  
**12th Annual White Squirrel**  
**Golf Tournament—June 9th, 2018**



Pat Pettit



Allyson Watson



Kerry Stover

This year over \$11,000 was raised and will be donated to St. Paul's Social Services, East London United Church Outreach (ELUCO), Los Quinchos school in Nicaragua and Camp Kee-Mo-Kee.

Congratulations to our tournament winners:

- Closest to the Hole: Rebecca Caverly and John Gillespie;
- Longest Drive: Rebecca Caverly and Bruce McLennan;
- Lowest scoring group, actually the lowest ever for this tournament at 10 below par: Bruce McLennan, Bill McIntosh, John Schattmann and David McKane (the yellow shirt group).

Warm thanks go to our Corporate Sponsor, Bob Schram/ Sterling Marking Products, our 31-hole sponsors and the donors of over 80 silent and live auction items. Heartfelt gratitude is extended to Allyson's father, John Gillespie, who was our enthusiastic, talented auctioneer.

Thanks also to everyone who helped with the event and those who golfed, walked or dined with us on June 9th. Once again, the staff of the Ironwood Golf Club in Exeter provided excellent service and accommodated our special requests.

The 13th Annual White Squirrel Golf Tournament will be held on June 8th, 2019 at Ironwood. Ivana Klouda has agreed to assist Allyson Watson with chairing the Golf Committee. Co-ordinators are needed to look after the auctions, marketing, hole sponsors and registration. One or two people could take on each role. Details about what is involved and support

will be available.

The White Squirrel event is truly a time of fun and fellowship as well as fundraising. More than half of those who attend are not golfers; they simply enjoy spending time with other FSAers and friends. This event has become vital to the work of the Mission and Outreach Committee; without it we would not be able to provide the same support to the organizations listed.

Please contact Barb Dalrymple or Pat Pettit if you can help in any way.

**Letter of Appreciation**

*Below is the text of a letter received by the Mission/ Outreach Committee during the summer.*

*On behalf of all of us here at St. Paul's Social Services, I want to express our profound gratitude for your very generous donation to St. Paul's Social Services! This past year we have been making a special effort to make home-made and extra nutritious meals in the Fellowship Centre and on June 25, we fed 137 people a pre Canada Day celebratory lunch. Our Food Bank continues to see large numbers of families, especially in the summer months when children are at home and the school breakfast programs are closed. Thankfully, in the summer we are blessed to receive donations of fresh produce to supplement the non-perishable food we distribute.*

*Thanks to the generosity of the Mission Outreach Committee and to your White Squirrel Golf Tournament, we will continue to be able purchase the fresh eggs and milk powder that are such important components of our food baskets.*

*The work that you do in our Lord's Name to help the most vulnerable in our Community is much appreciated!*

*Sincerely*

*Barbara Symington*

*Manager, St. Paul's Social Services, St. Paul's Cathedral*



June 8th  
 White Squirrel Memories





## PLANNING Recent Developments and Next Steps

Steve Elson

The Ad Hoc Planning Committee continues to meet on a monthly basis fueled by the active participation of Rev. Michelle Down, Steve Elson, Barrie Evans, Kerry Hill, Kathryn Patton and Bob Swartman. Nancy Johnson has been unable to participate of late due to her husband's recent illness. We miss and mourn Bob Slater's loss from the committee.

### Music and the Arts

Merran Neville is providing excellent leadership to this active working group. As a follow-up to last October's Community Round Table on Music and the Arts, a Wine and Cheer reception called "Arts after 5" was held in the FSA Atrium on Tuesday May 8th. Rebekah Morrison-Wize from the London Arts Council and Cory Crossman from the City of London spoke about their work in the arts community. The next "Arts after 5" gathering will be held on September 11th.

### FSA Outdoor Garden Project

Under the leadership of Barrie Evans, this working group has been meeting frequently to move this exciting project forward. A final design has been developed and it is now being translated into specifications that can be used by landscaping firms to bid on a specific proposal.

The initial phase will include a staging area near the front entrance of FSA facing Queens Avenue, a labyrinth, seating spaces and plantings, and an Indigenous medicine garden. The plan is to begin implementing this phase in June.

### Nurturing Spiritual Growth

On a very blustery Wednesday, April 4th, the Planning Committee welcomed to FSA representatives from 12 different United Church congregations in Middlesex Presbytery to participate in our second Community Round Table—focusing on nurturing spiritual growth. Approximately 25 people participated. Most of the time was spent in small discussion groups and two topics were addressed: what is happening to nurture spiritual growth; and, how can we foster collaboration.

As a follow-up, FSA has taken the lead by setting up a shared web-based calendar space for all United Churches in the Middlesex Presbytery to post upcoming events and programmes. To date 14 churches have signed on.

### Under discussion—Appreciative Inquiry—a creative approach to congregational engagement

Appreciative Inquiry is a structured approach to investigating what people find of value and appreciate about a situation or organization. A number of churches have used this approach to connect with their members in a more personal and meaningful way. The results are then used to help foster greater involvement and participation in church life—building on people's talents, skills and interests. Steps are being taken to explore how this approach could be used by FSA. †



Scenes from  
the Pride Day Picnic



  
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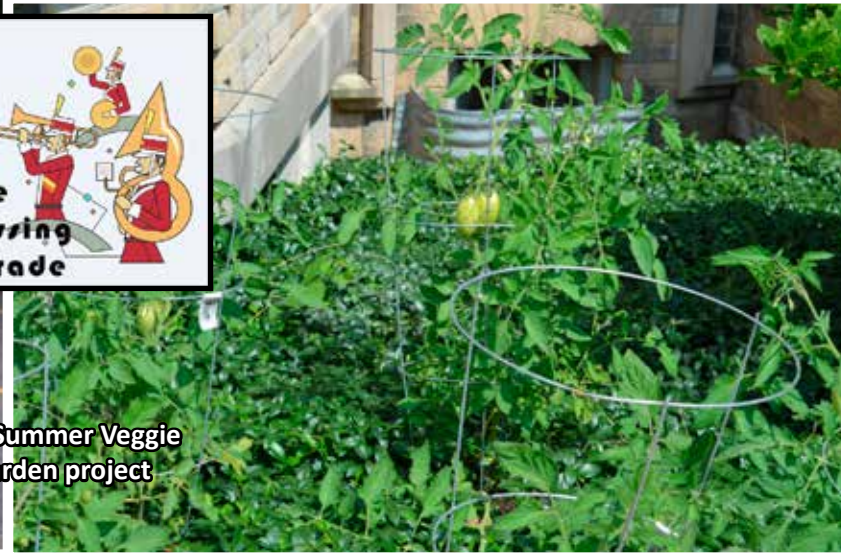
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Our Summer Veggie Garden project



July 1st  
We worship on the lawn



June 24th  
Water Slide  
(Spirit Games)





## UNITED CHURCH WOMEN

Nancy Quinn

### Retrospective:

On Thursday, June 7th at 12 noon, Andre Halwa, executive director of the London Arts Council, gave an exciting presentation for a combined audience of the UCW and the Lunch Bunch. The ever-industrious Bob Swartman organized this informative event, featuring a delicious lunch catered by Growing Chefs. For more information see: <https://www.londonarts.ca/> and <http://growingchefsontario.ca/>. Please also see our new column "Our Neighbour" for an in-depth introduction to The London Arts Council.

Monday, June 18th, UCW members from across the London area enjoyed a "Fun in the Sun" Day at Camp Kee-Mo-Kee.

Saturday, July 21st, the UCW summer event, We Are One, focused on the stories and wisdom of First Nations' women. Summer Thorp was the speaker in the morning, and Warrior Womyn of Positive Drum performed in the afternoon. A number of FSA UCW members attended, including Laurel Kenney, Joni Pypka, and Sally Smith.

Please see "Spiritual Dimensions" for Rev. David McKa-

ne's article on L'Arche, and their new facility "Gathering Place," in Lambeth, which the UCW toured on Saturday, May 12th. Website: [larchelondon.ca](http://larchelondon.ca).

### Up Coming:

- Wednesday, September 19th, 1:30 pm, at FSA (room TBA): Let your inner artist bloom with our Flower Arranging Workshop.
- Wednesday, October 10th, at 12 noon: Join us for friendship and delicious food as we enjoy a splendid Potluck Luncheon at Annabelle Logan's. Please note that the date has changed, from Tuesday, October 19th.
- Saturday, November 17th, 10am-2pm: Mark the date for our much anticipated Boutique Bazaar. Glenda Robinson, with twenty convenors and over one hundred volunteers, opens FSA's doors to the London community. Delights include the interactive Children's World, the French Café, home preserves, baking, turkey pot pies, sewing artistry, jewellery, and other treasures. Don't miss the unique creations of our twenty-five local artists and artisans. Many thanks to our volunteers, who plan diligently all year to make this event a fun day for the whole FSA community and our many guests. Proceeds from the Bazaar are distributed among local and international charities.
- Wednesday, December 5th: UCW and Friends Surprise Supper. Stay tuned for details. Come and enjoy a Yuletide Evening Supper with entertainment. †

### (Laurel Kenney - Cont'd. from page 12)

work has been initiated on the pressing concerns of food and housing for our most vulnerable.

In her career life, Laurel taught elementary school and music, graduating from high school and then London's Normal School in her early 20's. Laurel states that "my greatest sorrow was not being able to go to university as a young woman." Ever the trail blazer, Laurel attained her Bachelor of Music from Western in mid-life, at a time when it was not yet common to re-enter the education stream. She kept the hearth fires burning and specialized in the Kodaly Method of teaching young children. Kodaly originated in Hungary, where Laurel took training, and it is a philosophy/methodology of music education starting in early childhood and going to adulthood.

In need of some physical exercise, she spied the old university dining hall, and proceeded, with her husband, Ken Kenney (past dean of Althouse College) to disassemble it, in order to use the logs to build their beloved family cottage in Bayfield. Laurel has two sons, raised at FSA, Gregg (married to Cynthia) and Roger (married to Celeste) and she has four grandchildren. In her spare time, Laurel enjoys spending time with her family and friends, relaxing at the cottage, making preserves (including the famed FSA crab apple jelly), and reading. As her church family, we are blessed to have Laurel as a cherished Nana and teacher. Laurel, may the Holy One's face shine upon you, on this earth, for many more blessed years. †







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### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### from Music

Organ Recitals: Sept 30, Oct 21, Nov. 18  
Woodfield Jazz Series: Sept 28, Nov. 23

#### from Mission/Outreach

Corn Roast: Sept. 9

#### from Faith Development

Rally Sunday: Sept. 16  
Communion: Oct. 7  
Remembrance Sunday: Nov. 11

#### from Membership & Nurture

Directory Photograph Weeks  
Sept. 24, Oct. 9, Oct. 15

#### from UCW

Flower Arranging Workshop:  
Sept. 19  
Potluck Luncheon: Oct. 10  
Boutique Bazaar: Nov. 17

#### MILESTONES Deaths

May 31: Fred Lloyd  
June 10: Lucille (Lu) McClure  
June 30: Bob Slater



July 29th  
S.O.U.P. entertains at the PRIDE Picnic



June 3rd  
FSA at Kee-Mo-Kee



June 17th  
Blind /Deaf Awareness  
Greg Barnett



July 1st  
Canada Day Service  
& Picnic



June 24th  
Aboriginal Awareness Sunday



July 8th  
Blessing of the Animals Sunday  
Jane and her daughter



July 29th  
Kerry Marches  
in the Pride Parade



## CHURCH STAFF

**Minister, Worship & Congregational Life**  
The Rev. Michelle Down (Ext. 1)

**Minister Emeritus & Minister of Visitation**  
The Rev. Dr. David McKane

**Designated Pastoral Care Volunteer**  
Jo Ann Silcox

**Director of Music**  
Terry Head (Ext.3)

**Church Administrator**  
Heather Vouvalidis (Ext. 5)

**Youth and Young Family Coordinator**  
Jane Dockrill (Ext. 4)

**Administrative Assistant/Receptionist**  
Kathryn Skelly (Ext. 0)

**Facility & Maintenance Coordinator**  
Tim Miedema (Ext. 6)

**Part-Time Custodian**  
George Jolink

**Atrium Steward**  
Barry Tiffin

**Nursery Care**  
Kendra Shouldice

**Organist Emeritus**  
Paul Merritt

## OUR MISSION STATEMENT

*First-St. Andrew's United Church is an inclusive Christian family encouraging spiritual growth through worship, friendship, learning and action.*