



Rocky Moretti

When First-St. Andrew's United Church welcomed the Rev. Dr. Kate Crawford in September as its new Minister of Worship and Administration, it joined two other major downtown London churches in introducing new pastors to the London area this year. Hailing from the Atlantic and Pacific coasts, as well as Canada's largest urban area, the three ministers have made an immediate impression on the region with their tremendous vitality and commitment to addressing regional challenges, particularly poverty.



Kevin Dixon, Jeff Crittenden, Kate Crawford

In addition to Kate, who joined FSA from St. John's, Newfoundland, Jeff Crittenden came to Metropolitan United Church as its senior minister from Oakville, Ontario, and Kevin Dixon arrived at St. Paul's Anglican Cathedral as Dean and Rector from Vancouver.

Since starting their new ministries in the region, Kate, Jeff and Kevin have quickly struck up a strong friendship, which includes regular visits over coffee and which has quickly blossomed into a working partnership.

The simultaneous arrival of new ministers at three of London's most prominent downtown churches has not gone unnoticed by the local media, with a front-page article on the three carried by the *London Free Press* in early November, and a significant story on them airing on the A-Channel evening news programme.

All three ministers share tremendous excitement and passion for their work and are very thankful for the strong bond that has so swiftly formed between them. "Having three long-standing congregations working together to serve this community is truly remarkable," said Jeff. Kevin believes that the ability of the three churches to be effective in addressing poverty and other challenging social issues in the London area will be greatly enhanced by their willingness to work collectively. "I believe it is so important that we cooperate," Kevin said. "We can accomplish so much more working together than working apart."

For Kate, the immediate fellowship that she has found with Kevin and Jeff is proving to be a wonderful asset to her ministry. "What a blessing it has been to come to a new place and find brothers," she said.



INSIDE

The Front Page	1	The Next Generation	6
The Editor's Desk	2	Profile	7
Announcements	3	The Building	7
Letters to the Editor	3	Past Events	8
Council Report	3	Committee Reports	9
Note from Kate and Susan	4	Changes	14
View from the Pew	5	Advertisements	15
Remembering	5	Windows on FSA	16
Getting to Know	6	FSA Ministry	16

TIDINGS STAFF

Chair & Editor David Flynn

Layout Jim Silcox

Photographers Willis Buckingham
..... Dave Wake

Staff Rep Paul Merritt

Team Members Willis Buckingham
..... Barb Dalrymple
..... David Flynn
..... Nancy Howard
..... Paul Merritt
..... Ellen McKim
..... Pat McGregor
..... Valerie Moretti
..... Jim Silcox
..... Margaret Wonfor

Proofreader Pat McGregor

Typist Maureen Scarborough

Publisher:

First-St. Andrew's United Church
350 Queens Avenue
London, Ontario N6B 1X6
Tel: 519-679-8182 Fax: 519-439-6838
Web Address: www.fsaunited.com
Printed by Sterling Marking Products

Four issues are published yearly, on the first Sunday in December, March, June and September. Submission deadline is three weeks before the publication date. Submissions, **under 350 words**, are accepted only from members of First-St. Andrew's. 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.



EDITOR'S MESSAGE

by David Flynn

Advent, Christmas, Epiphany—all are seasons of celebration. A special reason for First-St. Andrew's to celebrate, I believe, is our increasing ecumenical ties to other churches. We have a long history of such links, beginning with the coming together of the two founding churches of First and St. Andrew's, with their Presbyterian origins—one reflecting the more established Presbyterian church in Scotland, and the other, the more independent branches.

We have, however, always had members from many other churches. We could do a separate story on current members with a Baptist background, and with a Roman Catholic one. Valerie Moretti's poignant account of the 'Smith' family with Islamic roots and the threats they face if they are identified, reminds us of a period in Christian history when believers faced similar dangers.

But our links are not just through membership. Many of our programmes attract people who are neither members nor adherents, including music, Out of the Cold, youth, and from time to time, Christian Development workshops.

Our joint programmes will probably increase with the informal contacts among Kate Crawford, Jeff Crittenden and Kevin Dixon, all new downtown ministers featured on our Front Page for this issue. Jeff, of course, was our Anniversary speaker on November 21. We will have a joint Blue Christmas service with Metropolitan. Earlier this summer the Knit Wits and the Eco-Camp were also combined with Metropolitan. Other joint programmes are ELUCO with several downtown churches, Daily Bread with St. Paul's Anglican, and Grow-a-Row with St. Mary's UC.

As well, of course, are the countless activities many of us are involved in throughout the community, from Ken Wright's dental outreach, to quilters who are part of programmes at Westview Baptist Church and New St. James Presbyterian.

If the time ever comes when, for financial or other reasons, we wish to consider more formal links to nearby congregations, we will find familiar friends and co-workers.



pdflynn@rogers.com

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SPECIAL SERVICES OF THE SEASON

1. The Children's Pageant: a Family Christmas Eve Service at 7:00pm on December 24th
2. The Christmas Eve Communion and Worship Service at 10:00pm
3. The Blue Christmas Service, shared with Metropolitan, on December 15th at 7:00pm

GREAT CHRISTMAS GIFT IDEAS

"The Hope Book" is an alternative gift catalogue published by the London Conference. Choose gifts to support the United Church Mission & Service Fund projects both locally and overseas. Copies of the catalogue are available at the church or you may order on-line. Go to the FSA website at www.fsaunited.com, click "LINKS," choose "London Conference" and then "The Hope Book."

Mission Services of London also has an online Christmas catalogue at www.missionservices.giving-hope.org.

Fair Trade Nicaraguan coffee and Fair Trade chocolate are available at Coffee and Conversation.

COUNCIL REPORTS



Jackie Williams, Chair

As we approach Advent and Christmas this year, I would like to express grateful thanks to the special Stewardship Group who came together during the Fall to mount our recent Stewardship Campaign. Hats off to Stan Hill, Harold Jackson, David Manness, Sue Scorgie, Susan Shelstad, Judith Walker and Krista Vogt, who responded so quickly to organize this important event.

Although finances have been an area of concern within FSA, I can tell you that thanks to the hard work and vision of the Finance Committee and the above-mentioned people, FSA has a balanced budget for the first time in many years. Another bright spot is that the Board of Trustees Long-Term Giving Sub-Committee has been mandated to look at revenue

... thanks to the hard work and vision of the Finance Committee ... FSA has a balanced budget for the first time in many years."

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Thanks for your letter advising of the subscription fee for *Tidings*. In the interest of saving trees, we will get *Tidings* from the website. It's nice to keep in touch with what's happening at FSA.

— Nikki Atwell



FSA makes the news! See the story on our "Front Page."

generation and the creation of a plan to meet short- and long-term operational and capital needs. They and the Finance Committee are working together to plan for the financial future of FSA. It is easy to become overly preoccupied and worried about the finances of the church, but we are in good hands and any fundraising efforts should be fun and joyful activities that bring our congregation together.

As I write this report, the 2010 Holly Bazaar is almost upon us. This is my all-time favourite FSA event that never fails to raise my holiday spirit and kick-start the Advent season. Thank you to all who work so hard to make this event so festive and seem so effortless—the sure sign of excellent planning! In closing, I would like to take the opportunity to wish everyone a blessed and peaceful Christmas this year. 🌿

NOTE FROM KATE AND SUSAN

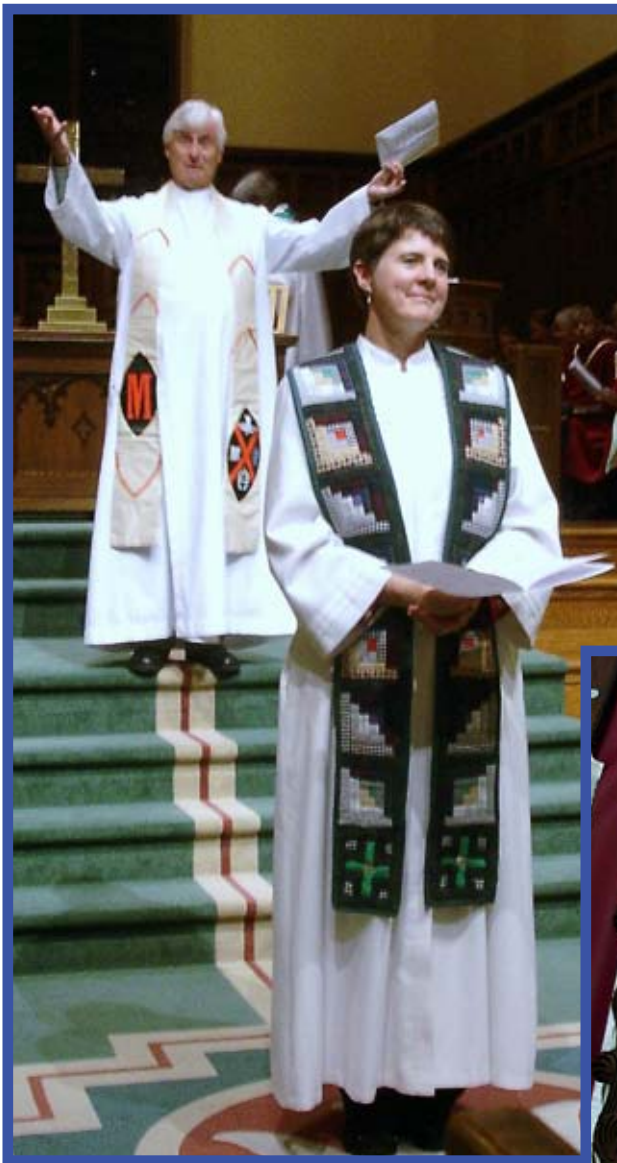
Do you know the old song about ten in a bed? When the little one said “Roll over! Roll over!” everybody had to relocate—whether they wanted to or not! It feels a little bit like that at First-St. Andrew’s this Fall, except that as far as we know, no-one has fallen out of bed yet.

It’s obvious to all that we have a new minister—and that’s a change. But that’s not the only change. When you change one part in an integrated system, the whole system changes ... so you may have been noticing change in your corner of the church community, and wondering: where did that come from? It came from all of us rolling over—taking a new position, relieving the

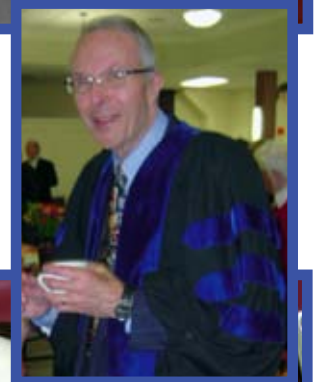
pressure, stepping forward, or stepping back. A system that isn’t changing is dead ... and we sure aren’t dead!

We are excited to be a team, and happy to be joining our voices together in this, our first joint column from the ministers. Together we wish you an Advent season of expectant waiting, a Christmas season of joyous wonder, and an Epiphany season of awakening to new possibilities. May God bless you and your family in these seasons of hope and peace. ☼

Kate Crawford.....Susan Shelstad



Covenanting Service
October 3, 2010





THERE ARE MANY PATHS ...

Steve Elson

On October 18th there was a programme on TVO's *The Agenda* called "The Sacred and the Profane: How are religious texts around the world used for good or for ill?" The guests were Karen Hamilton, general secretary of the Canadian Council of Churches, Stephen Scharper, professor of anthropology at the University of Toronto, and a member of the Department and Centre for the Study of Religion, Tammi Schneider, professor of religion in the School of Religion at Claremont Graduate University, and Hamid Slimi, chair of the Canadian Council of Imams.

It was an interesting show as the guests talked about the misreading of texts and their manipulation for political ends across all faiths both today and in the past. For me it also reinforced the importance of being able to accept different faith traditions as equally legitimate as our own, without prejudice.

This is a significant challenge since our own Protestant faith tradition was established in opposition to the Roman Catholicism. The language that is often used in our religious texts uses the concept of waging battle: if not against sin or evil then against others who do not share our perspective. Our hymns often suggest that Christianity or Jesus belongs to the whole world, yet we know that runs directly counter to being respectful of other faiths that see Jesus as a prophet but not more than that.

How can we believe that our faith is true and at the same time value and respect others who do not share that belief? I think the answer lies in recognizing that what works for me only works for me, and that if others follow another path in their spiritual journey, that path is equally valuable and true for them. In fact, the diversity of faiths is a strength when we can sit down, share and learn about our differences: it's a valuable way to grow as a person and spiritually.

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

steveelson@primus.ca

REMEMBERING



MARJORIE NALDA IRVING SMITH

— FAITH IN ACTION

Glenda Pennington

From her earliest days, visiting parishioners with her father the Rev. William Irving of Clifton United Church, Old Barnes, Nova Scotia, Marjorie spread love, joy and friendship to all. She continued this caring ministry throughout life. Her radiant smile communicated her unconditional love for every human being; words, deeds, and steadfast friendships made her an angel to many. Reading scripture to a blind friend every night for years, enabling immigrant families to succeed, volunteering at food banks and numerous charities, driving, visiting, caring, all while living an active family life as "Mom" to five children, "Nana" to eight grandchildren and "GiGi" to six great-grandchildren—that was Marjorie!




An accomplished piano player, Marjorie also had a beautiful singing voice which in her youth brought her lead roles in *La Bohème*, *The Mikado*, and *Pirates of Penzance*. Offered a music scholarship yet wanting to

pursue her lifetime dream of becoming a nurse, Marjorie studied both music and nursing at McGill and The Royal Vic. As a young bride, with physician husband, Ken, she practised medicine in British Guiana. His early work on asbestosis took them to conferences throughout Europe and Asia. After Ken's death, Marjorie visited the Holy Land. However, trips to visit children and grandchildren she treasured most!

Being first to take the sled down a winter slope for her children, surfing to help her daughters overcome their fear, rollerblading in her eighties just because—all epitomized Marjorie's joie de vivre!

Son Eric best summarized this remarkable woman with the words: "gracious, open-minded, inclusive, giving and forgiving, open, warm, great smile, kind, generous, family-oriented, proper but not prudish, sharing, loving." What a wonderful ninety-one years she shared with us!

First-St. Andrew's can not say "good-bye," just "au revoir" to Marjorie who planted seeds of love, caring, thoughtfulness and zest for life in the hearts of all of us who knew her. Her spirit lives as we continue to spread her goodness—her faith in action. 

GETTING TO KNOW



THE 'SMITHS'

Valerie Moretti

Imagine not being permitted to worship or work or live as you wish. FSA is the church home of a family I shall call the 'Smiths,' from a country which can't be named, who can no longer bring their youngest child to worship for fear she mentions Sunday school teachings to other acquaintances in this city who don't know that the Smiths are Christian. I cannot use their surname because the lives of their many relatives still back home would be imperilled if the online edition of *Tidings* were to be seen by the wrong eyes.

The couple has been married a long while. They have as many children as does this writer. In their youths, Mr. and Mrs. Smith enjoyed the freedoms fostered by modernization which occurred in their country in a former century. Following the rise of a fundamentalist religious government though, Mr. S.'s education, religion, and

his public work life placed him at odds with powerful people. Even now, despite being Canadian citizens, the family takes immense risks if they talk about their religious affiliations with people born in their own land. And here, as there, if a person from their homeland is asked his religion, one must always answer "Muslim" to be safe. The Smiths emphasized the great diversity of belief and practice under the Muslim 'banner.' One man's Islam is not necessarily another's.

The 'Smiths' miss their large extended family in their home country. It is shocking to hear of a relative there who is married to a man who forbids her to work and their female children to be educated. Mr. and Mrs. S. note that religious indoctrination in their homeland's schools now begins in nursery school. Both Mr. and Mrs. S. are educated people whose fifth language is English. They should be able to use their formidable skills, education and insight, but fear the repercussions for their loved ones 'back home.' So, as they assert, they continue to live like "birds in a cage," able to watch the world but incapable of being free in it. 🌸

THE NEXT GENERATION



JEREMY BEACH

Nancy Howard

Perhaps what sets Jeremy Beach apart from some of his teenaged peers is the enthusiasm with which he tackles both work and leisure. A member of this year's confirmation class, discerning his beliefs and considering membership to FSA, Jeremy is already part of our family. Attending since he was quite young, Jeremy has always demonstrated dedication to participating and giving back to the community. Jeremy's fun-loving spirit radiates in his cheerful smile and greeting, whether he is volunteering at Coffee and Conversation, the Rummage Sale, Yard Cleanup, or the Holly Bazaar, or having fun hanging out, or participating in youth events. He surprises some with his quick wit unexpectedly injected into his otherwise quiet demeanour. Jeremy's spiritual nature is evident in worship, lighting the Christ candle, and walking the labyrinth.

Outside of church, Jeremy is equally active. Admittedly both nervous and excited about attending



Medway High School this Fall, Jeremy settled right in. He plays clarinet and alto saxophone and states that Music is his favourite subject, so he is looking forward to that next semester. His dad is quick to ask, "What about Phys. Ed.?" proudly announcing that Jeremy has earned 99% this term! Jeremy is interested in becoming a naturalist. You could feel the love in his eyes when he demonstrated how he would hold a snake protectively close to his heart, whereas others are either too afraid or hold them far from themselves. He enjoys camping in a tent with his family, or shelter camping in winter. As well, some of his love of nature may have been nurtured through his participation with Scouts Canada. Currently in the Venture programme, Jeremy earned the Chief's Scout Award, the top award, given for participation, community and leadership. Jeremy enjoys curling with the London Curling Club, reading lots of books, video games and TV.

Jeremy is respectful and loving to everyone, but nothing seems more important than his family. The closeness between David and Marilyn, brother Ryan, and himself, only increased with his father's recent health challenges and healing. What a delightful young man to know. 🌸

PROFILE



NANCY HOWARD

Ellen McKim

Nancy Howard's life has been filled with many experiences and challenges, which she has met with enthusiasm and success. While married she did research in the Zoology Department at UWO, and when son Colin was born she began searching for a church that would be nurturing and welcoming. One of the churches she called was FSA, and after speaking with then minister Frank Meadows on a Tuesday, she made an immediate decision to join, and two-month-old Colin was baptized the following Sunday in 1992. It was important to her that any children she may have would be raised in a Christian community.




Nancy and her husband moved to a hobby farm outside Appin four years later, and eventually Nancy and sons Colin and Lucas moved to a home nearby. In between moving to the country and separation, she worked on a horse farm, breeding and raising foals. Meanwhile she attended Huron University College in the Divinity programme. Though

she was challenged and fed by the theology courses, she discontinued her studies, knowing in her heart she may someday return. She enrolled in the child youth worker course at Fanshawe involving young people and families, finding a sense of accomplishment and fulfillment.

All the while a single mother raising two boys, Nancy was and is an active member of the church, teaching grades 7 and 8 Sunday School, being a member of the Christian Development Committee, the Laudamus Bells, the *Tidings* team, Bible study, and partaking in the Lecture Series, movies and labyrinth walks.

Recently Nancy was engaged to work with ELUCO (East London United Church Outreach) which advocates for families in the Marconi Community, as well as to develop programmes that will enrich their lives, and assist our most vulnerable to become self-reliant and independent. Nancy is excited about the possibilities of this important ministry.

Whatever the future holds for Nancy in the coming years, she will answer the call with grace and dedication. She is a unique person. 


THE BUILDING

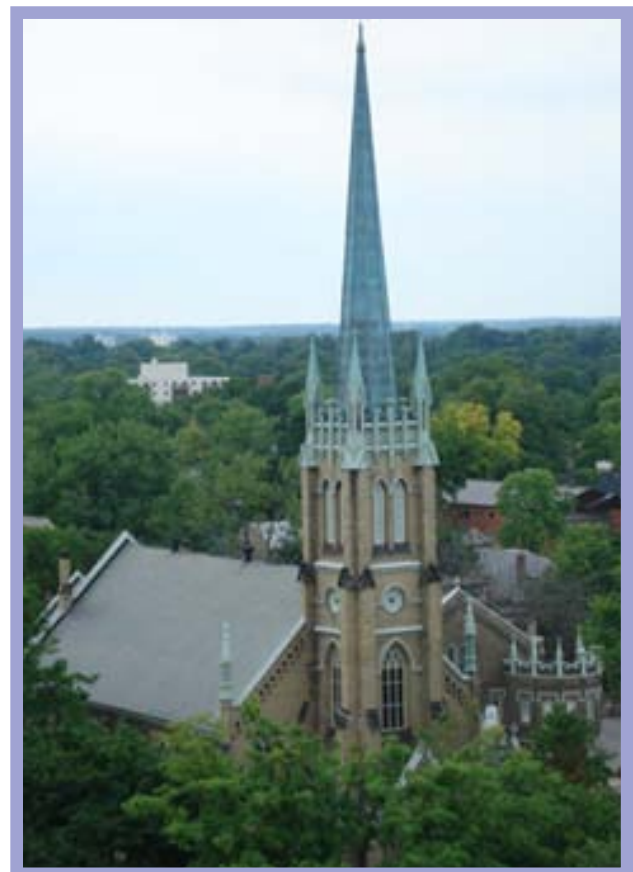


THE CHOIR LOFT

Jim Hutchinson

With the departure in 1875 of Rev. John Scott, the most outspoken antagonist to instrumental music, other voices began to be heard. In 1887, George Durand, an associate of William Robinson, designed an addition to the north end of the sanctuary to house the new Woodstock organ.

He created an arch in the north wall to display the show pipes, and the rest of the organ was located in the room behind. To the east was a meeting room for the Board of Managers and below was a parlour or reading room, which is now the studio of the director of music. In front of the arch a semicircular loft held the choir and organ console. The pulpit was closest to the congregation and was accessed by stairs on both sides. This structure was enclosed by brass railings and other fittings. One visitor was heard to remark that the minister in the pulpit seemed to be speaking from the rear platform of a transcontinental train. 





FALL CLEANUP



WORSHIP

Jo Ann Silcox, Chair

The Worship Committee rejoices with the congregation in our new ministry team's energizing effect on our corporate worship.

Paul Merritt's amazing breadth and depth of musical talents produced a spectacular Music Awareness Sunday on October 31st punctuated by the contagious enthusiasm of the Joyful and Jr. Joyful Singers and the glorious gifts of the Senior Choir, the Laudamus Bells, and the FSA Strings. In our music God is indeed glorified.

Kate's engaging and enlivening preaching style has compelled many first-time visitors to return for subsequent Sundays, and there is an encouraging return of regular attendees. It is a delight to see pews filling right to the back.

The remarkable liturgical duet growing between Susan and Kate represents team ministry at its most blessed and we are grateful for the unique ministry gifts each of these women brings to her role. A fine example of this was their reading from the Qur'an in September,

an event reported across the country.

A variety of changes in worship format are being introduced to facilitate the ministry of the whole people of God and to engage the congregation in participatory responses throughout the service. Baptism has been brought down to the nave for more accessibility, with similar changes for Communion.

By the time you read this, you will have participated on November 21st in our Anniversary and New Members Sunday, and a congregational luncheon with the Rev. Dr. Jeff Crittenden from neighbouring Metropolitan UC as our guest preacher. November 28th was our Service of Lessons and Carols as we marked the beginning of Advent. Still ahead is the Blue Christmas service shared with Metropolitan on December 15th at 7:00pm. The Children's Christmas Pageant at 7:00pm and the Christmas Eve Communion and Worship at 10:00pm are on December 24th—all traditional high marks of the church year.

As we grow together with you into this new ministry the Worship Committee gives thanks not only to Kate, Susan and Paul but to all of you who in so many ways fill this sanctuary with your praise and your talents.

Grace and Peace.





MUSIC AT FSA

Paul E. Cooper, Chair

Full is always a musically busy time at FSA. On Sunday, October 17th the Senior Choir launched the new CD *Feelin' the Spirit*. The CD has 17 tracks—the majority recorded live at the senior choir's spring concert. Twelve of the tracks are by the senior choir and three by the Laudamus Bells. There is one track by our Junior Joyfuls, the great number—*This Little Light of Mine*—and another track is a lovely rendition of *Deep River* by our bass soloist Ross Dodington. At the Music Committee's direction, the profits from the sale of this CD will go directly to the operating budget of the church's many activities. We hope that you will support the sale of the CD. Not only does it provide you with the enjoyment of listening to spirit-lifting music but it can be used to introduce others to the many music programmes at FSA.

During Advent, Paul Merritt, our director of music, has lined up three excellent **Advent Noon Recitals**.

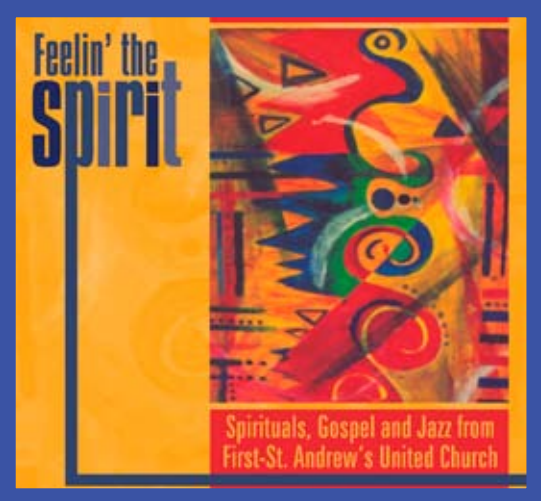
The recitals are held in the sanctuary from noon until 12:30pm after which, for a nominal fee, you can have lunch catered by the Thames Culinary School. The three recitals are:

- Friday, November 26th Central Chamber Strings—Steve Wolsley, conductor
- Friday, December 3rd Organ Concert—Paul Merritt
- Friday, December 10th Laudamus Bells—Barbara Plante, director

By the time you read this, you will have attended our annual Advent service of Lessons and Carols on Sunday, November 28th and can look forward to our Christmas Eve service with wonderful seasonal music and the First-St. Andrew's Strings.

Finally, we hope you were able to attend the presentation on December 3rd and 4th of the opera *Amahl and the Night Visitors*.

On behalf of the Music Committee I want to wish you a spiritually up-lifting holiday season. 🌿





MEMBERSHIP AND NURTURE

Donna Travis, Chair


Since September the Membership and Nurture Committee has met more frequently than usual to get to know Kate and work with her to review our parameters or criteria for the Caring Caller and Congregational Visiting Team lists. This is a work in progress and remains flexible.

The committee is pleased with the congregational support for the publication, *A History of First-St. Andrew's United Church 1938 to 2007*. The Archives Committee members spent many hours preparing this

publication and deserve our thanks for a job well done.

The new members Sunday celebration was combined with Anniversary Sunday on November 21st, 2010.

A thank-you to members of the congregation for their financial support to make Coffee and Conversation a non-budget item for the Membership and Nurture Committee. This is not meant to be a money-making venture and we will only collect to defray the cost of supplies.

The Membership and Nurture Committee would be happy to welcome new members to the committee. Please call Donna Travis if you are interested or would like more details, 519-672-6116. 



Corn Roast, Sunday, Sept. 12



COMMUNICATIONS & MARKETING

by Bob Swartman

The C&M Committee meets monthly to implement our plans. In September we launched an effort to obtain email addresses of the congregation.

We anticipate that more and more communications will be via emails from the church office. The Directory has email addresses but they were obtained by the publisher specifically for inclusion in their publication so we wanted to obtain signed consent forms for the church office to use those addresses.


By mid-November we collected 129 green cards with email addresses to supplement the 205 we already have. At a meeting with the staff it was agreed that Maureen would use all these addresses. There will be a proviso for "opting out" in every email sent out from FSA.

We also discussed with staff how to use our bank of email addresses. If we swamp people with too many

mailings we lessen the impact of sending messages for such features as *Amahl*. Maureen is often asked to send out emails advertising various events related to FSA and finds herself in a difficult position of having to decide which events get promoted. We agreed that priorities will be set at the staff meeting on Tuesdays.

We have met with a marketing consultant who will be making recommendations on colours, typefaces and provide guidelines for the formatting of our "First-St. Andrew's" brand. We are looking for our messages to be presented in a format that is coherent, attractive and consistent. This requires a policy to provide guidance in selecting fonts, colours, text

size, and so on, for all graphics in internal and external communications. In the process we are consulting with appropriate committees such as Membership and Nurture, and, of course, with our ministers, Kate and Susan.

Our work continues! If you are interested in communication and/or marketing, please join us in the New Year for our monthly meetings on the fourth Tuesday at 7:00pm. 

"We are looking for our messages to be presented in a format that is coherent, attractive and consistent."



SUSTAINING THE HEARTBEAT ... STEWARDSHIP 2010

Harold Jackson, Chair Finance


First-St. Andrew's United Church (FSA) has stood "At the Heart" of this community for almost 180 years.

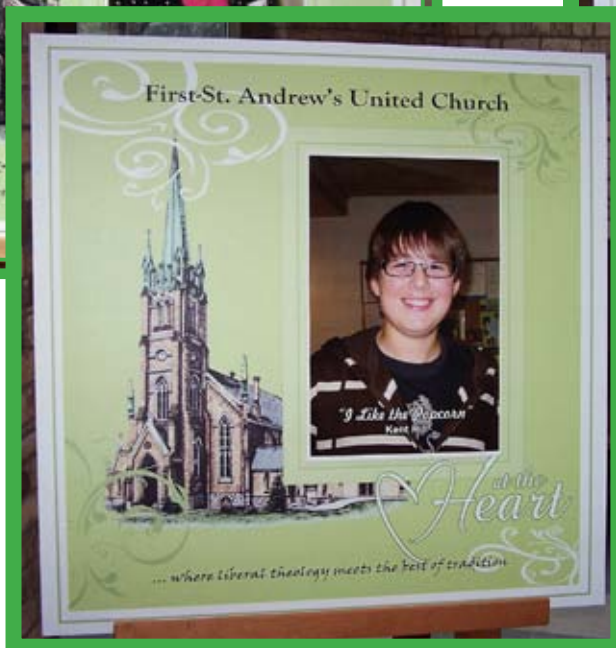
Like the human heart, where nutrition and exercise significantly contribute to heart health, financial nourishment and the exercise of the many opportunities for ministry and outreach from which we can choose, are "At the Heart" of a growing and vibrant congregation. Our major source of financial nourishment (revenue) derives in large part from the generosity of envelope pledges (80%). Our plan to be operationally deficit free for 2010 remains an attainable goal. Importantly, we must continue to operate with a balanced budget in 2011. To do this we have set the goal for 2011 envelope pledges at \$550,000.

The act of stewardship allows us not only to weigh our own needs and desires, but also those of other people and future generations. Stewardship is the privilege

of responding to God's love with thanksgiving and gratitude. We recognize that none of us is a self-made person and that part of what we own is wealth that flows from others through us.

The ability to continue to deliver meaningful ministry and outreach to our community depends on how well we have prepared and planned to provide the nourishment necessary for sustaining the heartbeat, that is so essential for continued health "At the Heart." Sustaining the heartbeat is an imperative whose time has come. **That tomorrow is today!**

As of November 18th, your response to this year's campaign is very encouraging. We have received 182 (45%) responses from the 401 sent out October 5th, 2010. Importantly, of those responses, 80 (44%) are increases over last year. For those who have not already done so, I ask that you prayerfully consider the portion of God's gifts that you will offer to His church. I encourage you to make FSA your favourite charity in 2011, if this is not already the case. Your support and generosity will ensure this great congregation continues to deliver the promise of being "At the Heart." 





UCW AT WORK

Margaret Wonfor

Autumn was a busy season for church organizations as they resumed activities after the summer. UCW members returned to the meeting routine and the discipline of planning meaningful programmes. The caring component of their purpose is turned up a notch to keep members informed about who requires a visit, a drive to appointments, or perhaps a casserole and some home-made soup.

In October the annual Rummage Sale was convened by Jan and Jim Hendry. Tables groaned with saleable merchandise, and customers were well-satisfied with their quality purchases at reasonable prices. Unsold books went to the Public Library's book sale, summer clothing went to Cuba via the "Friends of Cuba" group, and Midtown Mercantile took items to support their work with autism. At the end of the day UCW coffers were enhanced by a total of \$2400. A special thank-you to the many volunteers who made this successful venture possible.

As I write, FSA elves are transforming Proudfoot Hall,

the atrium, the Fireside Room and other corners of the church into a Christmas wonderland in preparation for the Holly Bazaar. Sewers, knitters, Christmas crafters, bakers, and deli artists have worked long hours to prepare merchandise for their tables. As well there are tables with gifts of jewellery, treasures, pet treats, and other surprises. What a shoppers' delight! Hope you took time to relax in Café Noel.

The net profit for the Holly Bazaar was \$9870. Thanks to convenors Barb Williamson and Liz Mignotte, and all the willing volunteers.

December 1st was the UCW general meeting, including fellowship around the table as we enjoyed supper catered by Shirley Wynne. The Joyful Singers and Junior Joyfuls provided musical entertainment. Our special guests were Susan Boddaert, chaplain at Limberlost and her youth worker Yasmin Hussain. Their Angel of Hope campaign raises funds to support the chaplaincy which provides advocacy and support for up to 160 low-income families living in the area. We are pleased that our UCW supports their efforts in a small way. It is a pleasure for us to recognize the contribution of our own Jean Hudson, a member of the Limberlost board of directors.



**Holly Bazaar
November 13**



SUPPER CLUB SERVINGS

June McKay

“What a spectacular buffet!” This is what we hear each month when our group of about 70 FSA friends and guests gather for an evening together.

Our Fall programmes included one by Dr. Toni Swart, a well-known London professor, historian and writer, entitled *The Beck Memorial Sanatorium, 100 Years Later*. Dr. Swart took us on a virtual walking tour of the grounds and property situated on Sanatorium Road, pointing out the different buildings, those to whom they were dedicated, and those which are currently in use by CPRI today. Our guest soloist was Nancy Quinn.

In November our guests were Dr. Pat Sealy and her husband Kevin Webb. Pat is a breast cancer survivor, and has written a moving book *A Family's Resurrection from Breast Cancer*, a very insightful and poignant presentation.

Programme plans for 2011 include *A Visit to Haiti* by a group from Strathroy, led by Don Langford and Cheryl Bolton, who recently spent time there to help those who have met with disaster.

February plans, at the moment, include an old-fashioned sing-song and games and card night, subject to change!

In March Ken and Jean Wright will share a video *Gander, Nfld. 9/11*—a video from friends who were welcomed so warmly by the people of Gander when forced to land there. The relationships have continued through the years.

April plans are under way for another possible Guess Who's Coming to Dinner evening, when we are guests and hosts for an evening at members' homes. Our meeting in May will probably feature a Night of Musical Treats.

We are grateful to our music director Paul Merritt who is always a great sport and leads us in a lusty sing-song.

Feel free to come along and join us for a memorable meal and gathering on the fourth Tuesday of every month. June McKay, 519-471-5668, is willing to answer questions and receive suggestions! 🍷



POEM

Fryka Oostenbrug

The Stillness has fallen all around
a day embraced in the evening.
I found darkness not a hindrance this time.
Ready, gladly, I listen to distant church bells chime.

There is something about Christmas day,
Oh, let it live in my heart I pray;
Let it live with that jubilant glory.
Thus it was told to me in that very old story
when, so many years ago that night,
a star shining so brilliant so bright
among all the others to guide them
who answered the call to go out and find Him.



CHANGES

BAPTISMS

September 19, 2010

Bridget Mary Wood, daughter of Brian and Emily Wood

MARRIAGES

September 25, 2010

Katherine Stevenson and Robert Garen

DEATHS

October 6, 2010

William Boyd Pearson, brother of Susan Shelstad

November 19, 2010

The Rev. August (Augie) Meacham

Jim Deacon
(519) 870-RUGS (7847)

DEACON FLOORING
CARPET, WOOD FLOORS & CERAMIC Inc.

EXCLUSIVE SHOP AT HOME SERVICE

1900 Hyde Park Road
London, Ontario N6H 5L9
Tel: (519) 472-2992 Fax: (519) 472-2998
E-Mail: jim.deacon@deaconflooring.com

Residential Renovations Commercial



PEEL PRODUCTIONS 
Established in 1987

Video Production Services including:
8mm home movie transfers to dvd,
Public Service, Events, Media buying,
TV Programming/Commercials, Corporate,
DVD duplication, Overseas Video Transfers

Bob Peel Website: www.peelvideo.com
Tel: (519) 668-7120 Email: info@peelvideo.com




Hugh Martin
Sales Representative

sutton group - select realty inc., brokerage
INDEPENDENTLY OWNED & OPERATED
250 Wharncliffe Road North
London ON N6H 2B8

Bus: (519) 433-4331 (24 Hr.)
Fax: (519) 433-6894
Cell: (519) 495-HUGH
Email: hughmartin67@yahoo.ca




MORTGAGE WISE FINANCIAL FSCO Lic. # 11781

Margo Christodoulou, AMP
Mortgage Agent
FSCO Lic. # M08001296

PH: (519) 432-3821 FAX: (519) 432-0560
CELL: (519) 319-4489

www.margosmortgages.ca
margo.gmc@bellnet.ca

Home care designed especially for you

Contact us today and find out how a personalized care plan can help you or your loved one live with independence and dignity.

- Nursing
- Personal Care
- Home Support
- Funding Investigations
- Free Assessments
- 24 Hour / 7 Day Service

London 519.438.6313

www.bayshore.ca 



Catering by James Meadows

James Meadows
Executive Chef

519-631-5083

solcan

Solcan – harnessing the sun since 1975
solar water heating and solar electricity
519-473-0501 solarheating@rogers.com

Christmas greetings and best wishes for 2011 from Bob Swartman



Rates for Business Card Ads
\$25 for one issue
\$90 for one year (four issues)

Submit ads to pdflynn@rogers.com by the middle of August, November, February or May. Invoices will be issued after publication dates, the first Sunday in December, March, June & September.

WINDOWS ON FIRST-ST. ANDREW'S



FIRST-ST. ANDREW'S MINISTRY

Minister of Worship and Administration
The Rev. Dr. Kate Crawford

Minister of Christian Development
The Rev. Dr. Susan Shelstad

Minister Emeritus
The Rev. Dr. Frank Meadows

Director of Music
Paul Merritt

Church Administrator
Sue Scorgie

Administrative Assistant/Receptionist
Maureen Scarborough

Custodian
Geoff Bottomley