

LAKESHORE LINES

March, 2007

Free and worth every cent!

Deer Lake Gets Grand Piano

by JY

O.K. I'll admit it...I'm not the most qualified person to introduce our new "grand" piano. My knowledge of things musical is severely limited. I do know that it takes more wind to sing a hollow note than a solid one with a stick. I also know that to sing high notes it helps to stand on one's toes and stretch the neck.

I have no idea what a suspension is, nor the difference between a C sharp and an F minor. (I do know what a klangfarbenmelodie is, however.)

Sometimes when singing with the choir, I'll get the note pretty close, but the lyric wrong or visa versa. I've also been known to sing an unrehearsed solo.

(The above attests to the patience and understanding of our four choir directors who by now make allowances for this old guy.)

I can't beat a drum (I have no rhythm) or play Chopsticks on a piano and I have trouble with my iPod.

On top of that, my hearing isn't what it used to be. So, when DW indicated a couple of years ago that our growing choir needed a better piano than the small one that resided at the front of the sanctuary, I secretly questioned his judgment. Part of my reasoning was reinforced by DP's incredible ability to play any piece of music, skipping those keys not pitched correctly. (Is that the right term?)

When D pitched his proposal for a replacement piano at the December Board meeting, I wondered to myself how much support he had from the Board, the choir, the congregation and Tempo. He had it all figured out...how much our current piano cost to keep tuned, how much money the church could earn renting the facility for recitals and how a good grand piano has a life-



DP finally has a piano worthy of her talent

span of at least 100 years (I'll be 133 years old when this one gives up the ghost).

Most importantly was that Donna's ability deserved a better instrument. (Who could argue that!?!)

At the end of his presentation, Don explained that most of the purchase price had already been committed by anonymous contributors.

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Vision Statement

Deer Lake United Church welcomes you into a Christian community for all ages that explores and expresses spirituality through:

- Worship and Music
- Fun and Fellowship
- Caring and Outreach
- Involvement and Growth

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Journeys Around the Lake

by Rev. G. S.T.

On Wednesday February 21st, Christians across the globe received ashes upon their foreheads and began the journey called Lent. As we have been journeying through this season, my observation is that this is a journey filled with incredible depth and possibilities. I have been struck by the range of people's journeys this year and take a moment to lift a few up for your consideration.

Departing a few days after the first Sunday in Lent, EW, one of the young adults in our congregation, began a year long trek through Australia. Seven of our teenagers began the process of confirmation. Chali, the young man in Lusaka, Africa whom our congregation has committed to sponsor nears his education.

NJ, our student minister nears the conclusion of his two year placement with Deer Lake. Finally, fourteen members from our church gathered at the newly opened Burnaby Mosque to honour our neighbours and attend their first public lecture on February 21st. The journeys 'around the lake' are quite remarkable indeed.

The season of Lent is one which generally focuses our attention on an inner journey. It is a reflective time where we 'weed the garden' of our spirituality and come to find a deeper and richer understanding of God's presence in our life.

If we were to list the myriad of ways people have been walking

their spiritual journeys 'around the lake', this would be a very long article! Perhaps you might pause for a moment now and consider what your journey has been focusing your attention on.

Having considered what your journey has been, we might reflect on the effects of the journey process. What I find most intriguing about a journey is the implicit sense of risk involved in the process. A journey is an intentional practice of leaving one place or way of being and wandering in a new one.

There may be a specific destination in mind or a specific direction that your journey is pointed towards; however, the presence of risk is always present. There is uncertainty for we know that things will happen between the departure and the arrival. Unforeseen events will occur serving to challenge and support, or perhaps these events may serve to renew and change us.

The common dynamic is that we will be changed by the time we reach the arrival. A different person will arrive at the destination. In consideration of this dynamic, I regularly take the week following Easter as a time for a silent retreat to consider how transformation and change has occurred in me and in the church that I serve.

In the journey, the possibility for growth is profound. American novelist Don Williams puts it well "The road of life twists and turns and no two directions are ever the same. Yet our lessons come from the journey, not the destination". As the journey unfolds around the lake, I feel blessed and excited to share it with you. May our journeys continue to surprise, amaze and change us as we wander towards the oasis we call "Easter".

May God bless each of our journeys!

Shalom/ Salaam/ Peace,

Scott

2007 Men's Retreat (May 25, 26 & 27)

Approximately 20 men representing a cross section of young and older alike will engage in a meaningful weekend of fellowship at beautiful Cascade Bay on Harrison Lake at B and JD's "Paradise".

The stimulating and thought-provoking weekend theme this year is "What is Success"? The subject will be explored from its routes through to what "success" really means to each of us in today's fast paced world.

As always, the group will look forward to 'Bob's Barbecue' on Saturday night, some recreational water sport, hiking, cards, nap attacks and much more followed by Sunday morning worship and a chance to get to know fellow congregants in a relaxed enjoyable atmosphere surrounded by nature at its best.

A sign up sheet for this event will be posted in the Fellowship Hall in early April. Space is limited so sign up early to not be disappointed.



Crucifixion by Michelangelo

Marguerite Dolsen...Musician and Story Teller Remembered



Clara Marguerite Dolsen (1913 – 2006)

On November 28, 2006, Deer Lake United Church said goodbye to a well-loved member of the congregation – Marguerite Dolsen. How does one summarize a life of 93 years?

Born on a farm in Saskatchewan, Marguerite was blessed with a gift for words as well as a gift for music. An accomplished violinist, her love of music and children took her from South Carolina where, as a college student, she would spend her summers teaching music and being a camp counselor, back to Saskatchewan to teach violin and piano, and, after her marriage to George Dolsen in 1942, to Vancouver to be a kindergarten teacher.

While raising a family and long after her family was grown, Marguerite was always involved in music – playing violin for various chamber music groups, for the Victoria Symphony, the Vancouver Philharmonic Orchestra and the New Westminster Symphony (with which she was still playing at the age of 91.) In recent years, as a member of DLUC, she occasionally played her violin in church. DP well remembers the time that Marguerite, with no previous word about it, started playing a violin accompaniment to the Christmas carols Donna was playing on the organ.

Everyone who knew Marguerite will have their own memories of her. Here are a few of mine. I became acquainted with Marguerite only in the last few years of her life, when I was asked if I would drive her to and from church. Those short 5-minute drives were always a pleasure. She always had a smile on her face and some brief story to tell me — stories from her own life, or about other musicians she had known, or tales of one or the other of the great composers. She took an interest in the musicals I was involved in and sometimes we would sing bits of songs from the ones we both knew.

Fiercely independent, Marguerite would hardly allow me to help her in and out of the car, or to see her safely to her door, even when she needed a cane to get around. She did allow me, however, to carry the bags of cards that she collected and which she used to make picture storybooks for young children.

Her gift with words was evidenced in the many books of poetry and short stories that she published and which she would

sometimes sell after church, to aid the building fund. She gave me a copy of several of them, not allowing me to pay for them, saying they were a “Thank you” for driving her. Much better than my few words can, her stories and poems certainly give a delightful glimpse into the person that Marguerite was.

It is a rare and precious thing to have known someone who took such a lively interest in life as did Marguerite. She is certainly missed.

— KS

The Touch of the Master's Hand

’Twas battered and scarred, and the old auctioneer
Thought it scarcely worth his while
To waste much time on the old violin,
But held it up with a smile.
“What am I bidden, good folks,” he cried,
“Who’ll start the bidding for me?”
“A dollar, a dollar. Then two! Only two?
Two dollars, and who’ll make it three?”

“Three dollars, once; three dollars, twice;
Going for three ...” But no,
From the room far back, a gray-haired man
Came forward and picked up the bow;
Then, wiping the dust from the old violin,
And tightening the loosened strings,
He played a melody pure and sweet,
As a caroling angel sings.

The music ceased, and the auctioneer,
With a voice that was quiet and low,
Said; “What am I bidden for the old violin?”
And he held it up with the bow.
“A thousand dollars, and who’ll make it two?
Two thousand! And who’ll make it three?
Three thousand, once, three thousand, twice,
And going, and gone,” said he.

The people cheered, but some of them cried,
“We do not quite understand.
What changed its worth.” Swift came the reply:
“The touch of the Master’s hand.”
And many a man with life out of tune,
And battered and scarred with sin,
Is auctioned cheap to the thoughtless crowd,
Much like this old violin.

A “mess of pottage,” a glass of wine,
A game — and he travels on.
He is “going” once, “going” twice,
He’s “going” and almost “gone.”
But the Master comes, and the foolish crowd
Never can quite understand
The worth of a soul and the change that’s wrought
By the touch of the Master’s hand.

— Myra Brooks Welch

AGM: Our Vision Statement Report Card

by PY

The AGM included a segment of the work accomplished in 2006 around our Vision Statement.

We began with a table competition fun time, as each table had to complete our Vision Statement without looking. This is shown every week in the bulletin, on the overhead, in the Newsletter and throughout the Board Meetings. Kathryn Small's table won a box of Timbits as they were the first to complete the following:

Deer Lake United **welcomes** you into a Christian Community for **all ages** that explores and expresses spirituality through:

Worship and Music

Fun and fellowship

Caring and outreach

Involvement and growth

Each table then used coloured stickies onto report where we saw each part of that Vision Statement being addressed during the year. There were dozens of stickies, giving positive feedback in all areas. Here is just a sampling:

Welcomes:

- The 5 minute Rule works!
- Young people handing out bulletins
- Sharing the peace
- People talk to one another and to new people.

All Ages:

- Family Pew at the back of the church
- Growing Sunday School, Nursery and Youth Group
- Excellent KidZ band
- Men's Group, Women's Group
- Respect for seniors.

Worship and Music:

- Good fit of hymns and anthems to the scripture reading
- Variety of music
- Creative approach to worship from Scott and others
- Many people involved in different parts of the service
- The choir welcomes new members and provides friendly fellowship

Fun and Fellowship:

All women who volunteered to make Easter banners, given a large degree of autonomy with little direction.

- Wednesday Women's group
- Lunch on the Run
- Staff BBQ and dessert party
- Men's Retreat
- Church Picnic, Men's and Ladies breakfasts

Caring and Outreach:

- Care-ringers
- Project Chali and Bill's sharing of his correspondence
- Supporting First United Church monthly
- Supporting Dixon House
- Church Mice (gifts of cookies at Christmas time)
- Supporting Edmonds Youth through Lunch on the Run
- Christmas at Retirement home

We then addressed the Critical Challenges laid out by the Board at the beginning of the year. There were three areas we had been asked to work on this time last year.

1. Connecting long-time members with newer folk
2. Resourcing Christian Education
3. Outreach

Each of those areas did very well, receiving very positive feedback.

We were then given the opportunity for developing a wish list for the 2007 Board. Stickies helped us again.

The wish list covered everything from updating the kitchen and Fellowship Hall to finding a new way of getting coffee makers for Sunday mornings.

Each one of these ideas will be looked at by the Board over the next year and will be considered for action.

A complete summary of all of the AGM Evaluations was typed and included in the following Sunday's bulletin. A few are still available from the church office.

Playgroup Proposed for DLUC

The CE committee is interested in organizing a Playgroup for Moms and Dads (with children from 0 - 5yrs or are expecting a wee one!), and would like to get together with other Moms and Dads with young children for some laughs and fun! (And adult conversation☺)

Playgroup would meet bi-weekly from 9:30- 11:00am.

We would have a chance to chat, play and sing, do crafts and have morning tea. This is very much in the early stages ... meeting times, dates, etc. are very flexible.

If you have any ideas or thoughts about such a group, please contact EC at 604-XXX-XXXX. A sign-up sheet has been posted sheet is on the Hall bulletin board and in the Nursery if you are interested.

Newsletter Submissions

Lakeshore Lines will be published four times per year. Submissions may be made to one of the Communication Committee members (preferably by e-mail):

GF: gf@telus.net

JY: jy@shaw.ca

Next Issue: June, 2007

Submission Deadline: May 27th, 2007

AGM “Deer Lake Style” Hums Along In Time-ly Fashion

by EC

AGM Sunday...the DREADED A-G-M SUNDAY!! You’ve likely experienced one at some time. You remember the drill: usually starting about 1:00pm, a marathon agenda with some hurriedly written (and sometimes missing) committee reports, semantic wrangling over the wording of a motion, some doom and gloom reports that the building is falling apart, and usually last on the agenda—the budget that can’t be balanced!

Aha—you do remember!! And because there is no resolution in sight and it’s approaching 6:00pm—many Sunday plans and dinners already in ruin—a motion is passed to reconvene after service the following week!! You’re smiling!! You have been there!!

And you’re probably still smiling as you reflect on the brilliant Forwood-Turnbrook DLUC design that slips the AGM into the

middle of the worship service held at tables in the Fellowship Hall—from which no one can really slip out unnoticed—but then who would want to leave the service half-way through, before singing The Lord’s Prayer, a rousing closing hymn, coffee and lunch?

After all, we’ve had two full weeks to read and digest the beautifully-produced Annual Report (thanks Wendy!), the thorough and thoughtful committee reports and a treasurer’s report that includes balance sheets that really do add up, current and proposed budgets that can be readily understood (thanks Cathy!), and yes, a challenge to all of us to increase our envelope offerings.

So while DLUC must address ongoing building maintenance and roof replacement as other churches do, and yes, a \$2716 projected deficit this year too, the manner in which the AGM business meeting addresses such items is very positive and optimistic: these are things we need to do and we will do them.

And DLUC AGMs are more than just one-way business meetings. Table group discussions and brainstorming focused first on our church ministry: what are we actively doing to meet the tenets of our mission statement, how are we meeting the critical challenges in Christian education, in connecting long-time members with newer families in meaningful ways, and in determining what we are best able to do with the huge challenges in outreach. The second group task asked us to provide suggestions and concerns for the incoming Board to consider over the next several months.

And then the pizza arrived (thanks S), the meeting was finished, the worship service completed—it was lunch time, visiting time, fun and fellowship time. It was all wrapped up by 12:30 p.m. Thanks G, S., AGM planners and Deer Lakers!



A number of the assembled at the annual general meeting

Deer Lake United Youth News

Our amazing youth have been the focus of all sorts of activities around the church.

The KidZ Band continues to sparkle under the masterful direction of DW, where 11 of our youth continue to provide music that makes most of us smile.

The end of February, Rev. Scott started Youth Confirmation Classes for eight of our enthusiastic youth.

Sunday January 14th tubing on Mount Seymour, arranged by Youth Group Leader, SC, was great! Hope everyone had a great time and thanks to Rev. Sand daughter, M, for joining us!

Once a month the youth have been serving coffee after the church service as a service activity as well as a fundraiser to help support our other activities.

Sunday, February 18th, JT led a discussion entitled Risk-taking and Decision-making. JT works with youth dealing with drugs and alcohol abuse. We explored how folks end up needing the help of First United, how to help friends, and received answers to all those other questions. To top off the evening, we all made our own colossal ice cream sundaes!

Our next big community service project is serving lunch for 150 at First United March 11. Watch for a full report in the next newsletter.



Who will roll away the stone...
By Hanna Cheriyan Varghese

Medical Eye Mission To Myanmar (Burma)

by PS

On October 19th, 2006 a group of adventurous, talented, flexible people of all ages and backgrounds left North America for a small city in the state of Kayin, called H'pa An, in the country of Myanmar, (formerly Burma). They were on their way to this city to put on a Medical Clinic for Eye Care.

A group of 7 ophthalmologists, 1 optometrist, 1 physician, 4 RN's, 1 LPN, 2 project directors, 1 medical director, 2 tech assistants, 2 teens, 16 general helpers and myself PS, optician, for a total of 38 warm, fun and caring souls. They came from the Vernon area (19), Sante Fe, New Mexico, Lisle, IL, Oakville, On, Winnipeg, MB, Trimble, TN, Little Rock, AR, Oak Harbor, WA, Dundas, ON, Ottawa, ON, Balzac, AB and the Dominican Republic.

The trip was put on by Medical Ministry International. (mmits@mmint.org for more information). Medical Ministry is a Christian, multi-faith organization whose credo is "I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you. (John 13:15)". Besides medical, dental and optometric personnel, anyone with the time and willingness to share their love and concern for the less fortunate are welcome to assist on either 2 or 3 week outreach clinics.

From Canada we flew 13½ hours to Hong Kong. Had a 2 hour layover. Time to change planes to the remarkable Thai Air for the 2 hour flight to Bangkok. At Bangkok we had a 6 hour rest at the outstanding, brand new, Suvarnabhumi Airport and hotel, and then flew 1 hour to Yangon (formerly Rangoon) arriving at 8:55 am. We then travelled 316 miles. We took a old tour bus to H'pa arriving at 6 pm to a formal dinner with the Assistant Minister of Health. Although an outstanding feast, this was the last thing we wanted in our condition of exhaustion. All we wanted at this stage was a non-moving bed.

Our trip going east and south, through the countryside of Myanmar, was amazing. From the delta area of Yangon and the rice paddies, to the hillsides of sugar cane, to the mountain sides covered with rubber tree plants. On every corner was either a temple or a wat to honour Buddha. The country is 85% Buddhist, 5% Christian, 4% Muslim, 4% Hindi and 2% Animist. Kayin State borders Thailand and has 1.5 million people. Mon State, with 3 million people, is on the other side along the Andaman Sea.

The next morning we had a quick breakfast, and then headed off to work. Each of us had brought either a hockey bag of glasses, or some sort of equipment to use on the clinic or for gifts, so we all packed light. We jumped into the back of 3 small trucks (no benches or seat belts here) and drove to the Buddhist temple compound. As we neared it was like a fair was on, and as we entered the compound we were stunned by the thousands of people we saw there. We learned later that some had walked 2 days to be helped. From what we had seen, packed buses, overloaded motorcycles and bicycles, water buffalo and carts, and a weird homemade truck from rototiller parts were the only other means of transportation.

The country is very poor. The average household allocates 70% of its expenditure on food. Nearly one quarter of households had expenditures below low minimum subsistence level in 1997. There are also 135 ethnic groups who have trouble speaking to each other, although the official languages are Burmese and English.

For the last 30 years, its people have been ruled by a notoriously repressive military government, the *atmadaw*.

After setting up the clinic, and after a take-out lunch of fried rice with an egg on top, we went to work. The initial examination and diagnosis was held in the hall of the temple, by our people working in barefeet on cement floors. The patients that were assessed for operations were sent over to the local hospital, where 3 ophthalmologists at a time did operations. They were in a small operating theater, with rusty metal operating tables, and only the equipment we had brought with us. The heat and humidity were very palpable and affected us all greatly.

Over the 10 working days we did over 3,800 examinations, dispensed 3,200 eyeglasses, and inserted 18 glass eyes.

Each of us were given 2 interpreters, mostly from the local private high school. Some had very good English and some just starting out, so every conversation was a challenge. Often we had to find other interpreters because the people we were trying to communicate with spoke a different language. The young people who helped us, were wonderful. They worked very hard and were unbelievably polite, warm and welcoming.

At the end of the day we went to the Baptist Church compound for our meals, where we also had our breakfast. The wonderful volunteer women were there at 6 am to prepare the breakfasts, and prepare the take-out hot lunches, and were there again for our dinners at 7:30 pm. They showed us how to volunteer in the very best way.

Our hotels and transportation were provided by the Muslim and Anglican church communities. Also showing us the best way to be with other faith groups.

It was not all work and no play. We had Sat. and Sun. off. Saturday we rode by bus to the Golden Rock compound. A rock balancing for centuries on the edge of a cliff, on the top of a mountain. The rock is huge and covered with gold leaf from the many pilgrims that have traveled there. On Sunday we enjoyed the church service with the Baptist community after a local mountain hike. Then either rested or walked around the main shopping area. We were not allowed to do some of the things we would have liked, because the military wouldn't let us.

We had been warned ahead of time to be very careful with what we said, and not to take any letters or packages back with us from the locals. We could be spies and some of the local people we worked with were. There were signs all through the town in English warning us not to damage the image of the *tamadaw*.

We also had several meals out at restaurants sponsored by various groups. The Buddhist community made us their honored guests at a special feast (eating on a dais with the local sitting and watching us). They also has a special performance evening with a magician and singers and dancers that were unbelievable. There was a wrap-up feast with all our helpers and interpreters, where we shared gifts, took many photos and shared many hugs.

I feel so honoured and humbled to have been a part of this worthwhile project. I certainly received more than I gave, and look forward to attending another trip. Please feel free to ask me more questions. Blessings to all.

Youth Confirmation Classes

by Rev. G. S.T.

Our eight member Confirmation Class commenced during the February 20th "Service of Ashes" that proceeded the Shrove Tuesday Pancake and Sausage feast hosted by our amazing men's group.

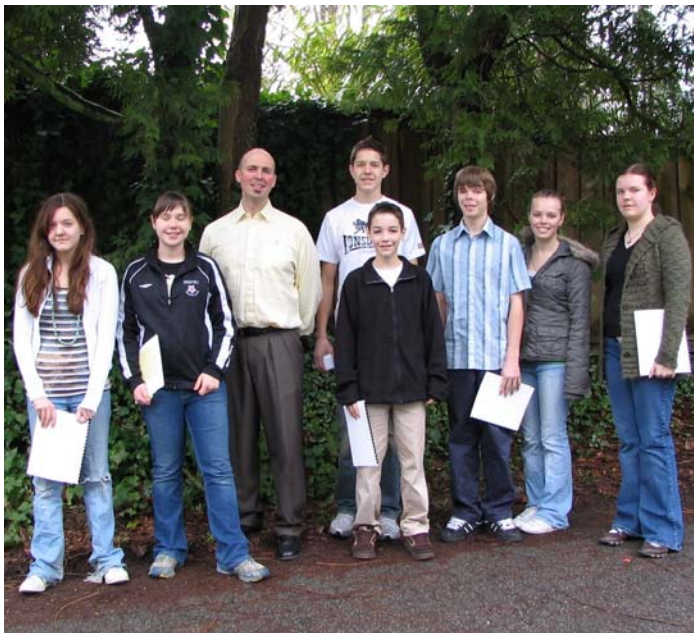
As part of the service leading us into the Lenten season, the confirmands came to the front of the church to receive their course packets and the blessing of the congregation.

Over the six sessions, the participants will explore a spiritual journey examining the faith that their parents shared with them over the years and come to confirm the parts that they now embrace in their own lives.

During the gatherings, Rev. Scott and the class will lead sessions focusing on: God, Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit, the Bible and the Worship experience, the Spiritual Life and one's personal ministry, and death and resurrection.

Participants will also be reading and discussing the entire gospel of Luke throughout the course. Discerning one's spirituality promises to be a daring and fulfilling journey.

The celebration of confirmation will be during the Sunday Service on June 10th. We invite you to remember our Deer Lake confirmation class in your prayers over the coming weeks.



Upcoming DLUC Sunday School Workshop

The CE Committee will be hosting a Sunday School workshop in April lead by Gaye Sharpe.

This workshop is for all SS Teachers, Youth Leaders, or anyone else interested in CE & children.

For details please contact EC at 604-XXX-XXXX CH@shaw.ca.

An **"Incredible"** Children's Experience

by Rev. G. S.T.

"Incredible You" was the theme of the Westminster Presbytery Children's Retreat that ran from February 9-11 at beautiful Camp Capilano in North Vancouver. The gathering united 30 children and 7 leaders from United Churches in Maple Ridge, Pitt Meadows, the Tri-Cities, Burnaby and New Westminster. As your minister, I was blessed to be one of the planners and leaders (and was consequently exhausted by the end of the weekend!).

During the weekend, we considered texts such as Isaiah 43 "You are precious in my sight and I love you". The overall theme explored how we are all uniquely incredible as parts of God's creation. We reflected on how God's creation is "incredible", the parts of Jesus that are "incredible, and how advertising attempts to tell us that we need things in order to be incredible. Saturday night was a 'black-tie' event where leaders wore bow ties and cummerbunds and the children received "Incredible You Awards" which lifted up a characteristic that we observed as being incredible.

For me, the richest experience was the communion service on Sunday morning. As I presided at the Eucharistic prayers, I invited the children and leaders around the circle to share an "Incredible You" moment. It was quite amazing to hear the deep faith of these children. If these children are even vaguely representative of the future of our church, we are deeply blessed as a church!

The evaluations from indicated a high level of enjoyment from the participants. They noted best parts of the camp being: "meeting a whole bunch of new people, hugging my friend, the pretzel fight, seeing Pamela and Scott dressed up as Edna and Mr. Incredible, and the fancy dinner". Items which could have been left out of the retreat were "boys, getting up early, and the rain".

I recognize that my presence as a leader at this camp was a tremendous gift from Deer Lake to the ministry of the larger church as it took me away from regular Sunday leadership responsibilities. I thank you for freeing me up to engage in ministry with some of the fine children of our presbytery.



The participants from the "Incredible You" Conference

Holy Week Services

Palm/ Passion Sunday at Deer Lake United Church Sunday, April 1 at 10:30 a.m.

A gathering commencing with the joy-filled, palm-waving Hosannas of welcome and concluding on a somber tone as we look towards the cross. The Deer Lake choir will be offering musical leadership along with Rev. Scott leading the section of the Word. We will also be having a closing celebration with our student intern, Mr. NJ who concludes his two year placement with Deer Lake.

Maunder Thursday at Deer Lake United Church Thursday, April 5 at 6:30 p.m.

An interactive worship gathering recalling the meal Jesus shared with his disciples in the Upper Room. Worshipers may choose to bring food that would likely have been shared at the meal (especially foods that are reminiscent of the time of Jesus such as bread, figs, grapes, etc). People are welcome to bring wine to this event which remembers Jesus passing the cup (grape juice will also be available).

Good Friday Walk of the Cross Friday April 6 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. (starting at South Burnaby United Church)

The Burnaby Cluster of United Churches will gather at South Burnaby United at 9:30 a.m. to experience a community walk of the cross. Over the course of the walk, the cross will be carried to different meaningful locations. At each stop we will experience a scripture reading and reflection and a reflective prayer. The service will conclude at 12:30 p.m. at South Burnaby with hot cross buns. Please join us for this most meaningful service.

Easter Sunrise Service at Ellesmere United Church

(now on SFU Campus in the Cornerstone Building)

Sunday, April 8

(Time yet to be confirmed at the time of printing)

As the light ushers in a new reality on Easter morning, we gather with our friends from Ellesmere United Church for a celebration of Easter worship and Holy Communion.

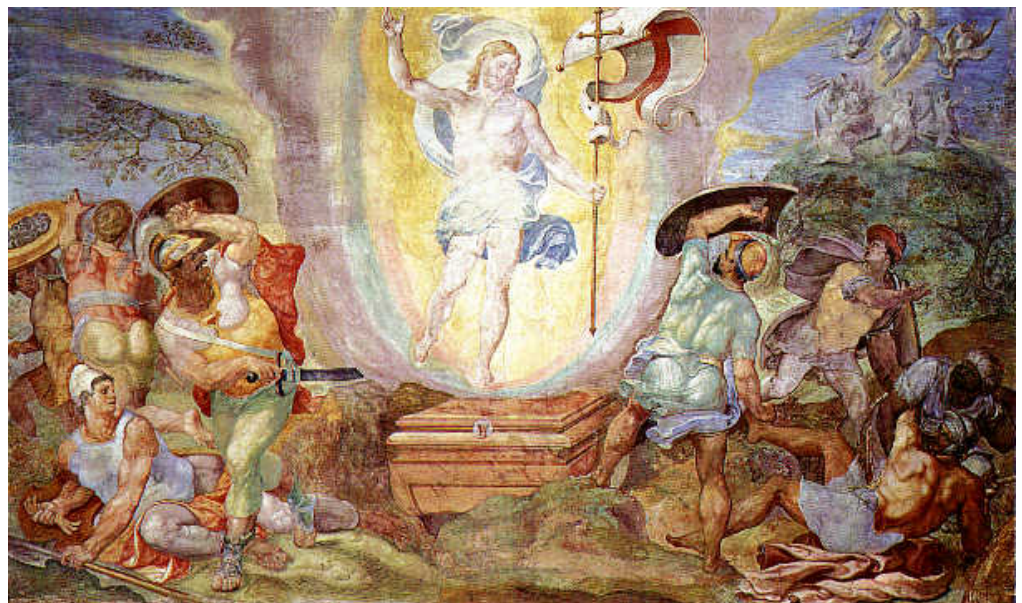
This will be their first worship in their newly completed church building on Simon Fraser campus. Many will recall having shared Sunrise Easter with them during the last two Easter services (2005 was an outside service at the Academic Quadrangle and 2006 was in the concrete shell that was under construction.)

What an exciting time to celebrate and support our neighbouring church's new beginning in the spirit of the Easter message.

Easter Sunday at Deer Lake United Church Sunday, April 8 at 10:30 a.m.

If every Sunday is "a little Easter", then Easter Sunday is truly the peak of our Sunday worship gatherings. Easter Sunday is an opportunity to explore the meaning of new life and the gift of resurrection in word, music and Holy Communion. Please come early and join us for this very well attended, all-ages service.

Resurrection by Michelangelo



Our Visit to the Mosque

(Impressions from B&MM and Rev. S)

Have you met our ‘new neighbours’? After years of construction, the Burnaby Mosque was officially opened last year on Sunday December 3. At this opening ceremony, a number of government officials, along with our own minister Rev. ST, offered words of welcome. Our second opportunity to connect with occurred on February 21st where 14 Deer Lake members along with Rev. SS attended the Mosque’s first public lecture entitled “*The Similarities Between Islam and Christianity*”. We were also able to observe the men at prayer and enjoyed the food that the women provided.

This was a wonderful opportunity to learn and understand some of the basic tenets of Islam. Our main speaker IR, was very knowledgeable and answered many questions from members of the audience in an easy to understand way. He is a professor at Simon Fraser University teaching courses in religion.

He stated the relationship between Allah and God: “Allah is the one true God.” He explained that for Muslims, the prophets are messengers from God, including Jesus and the last prophet, Mohammed. To help us understand Islam better, he showed how Muslims have concepts that are similar to the 10 commandments.

He also highlighted that for Islam, men and women are equal but men (the protectors) are responsible for family decisions. A question was asked about the differences of the Sunni and Shiites, others on women’s rights, rape, and the wearing of the Hijab and Bjerka. He discussed the respect children must show to their parents, that “OoP” or any kind of disrespect was not an option for Muslims. Shariah Law was mentioned as well.

Our second speaker, YT, who is the religious leader at the Mosque, was a gentleman who studied extensively in the U.S. and has been trained to help build relationships between communities.

The importance of our beginning with the similarities shared between our faith traditions was wisely noted by Mr. T. As we further realize the common ground shared, we come to know ourselves in deeper ways and create a solid foundation for a spiritual friendship into the future.

Our next opportunity to connect with our neighbours is an invitation to the Burnaby Mosque Open House and Garage Sale on March 18th from 10-4 p.m. I hope you will take time to ‘visit our neighbours’ following our Sunday Service that day.



B.C. Muslim Association
 Burnaby - New Westminster-Tri-City Branch
 Burnaby Mosque Construction Committee
 Burnaby Women’s Chapter

Invite you to

Open House & Garage Sale

Location	Date/Time
The Burnaby Mosque & Education Center 5060 Canada Way Burnaby, B.C.	Sunday March 18th, 2007 10:00am - 4:00pm



For more information, visit our website
www.bcmaburnaby.org
 Or call

What we prepared for you...

- Guided tour of Burnaby Mosque
- Introduction to Islam
- Get prepared for the spring with our sizzling BBQ
- Huge Garage sale
- Silent auction
- Video Presentation
- Question & Answer Session
- Library tour

OPEN FOR EVERYONE
THIS IS A FREE EVENT

Daud Ali	778-829-7864	Farida Bano Ali	604-525-7194
M. Janif Barka	604-433-8006	Khatoon Zuber	604-524-5197
David Ali	604-525-7194	Nazma Lal	604-205-0040
M.Jakir	604-525-8114	Hazra Ismail	604-294-2824
Azeem Mohd	604-526-6237	Sadrul Buksh	778-371-8086
Ardiel Soeker	604-420-6424	Nuzhat Hafeez	604-522-7912
Salim Buksh	604-341-6639	Zinnat Buksh	604-294-2893
Murtuza Ali	604-451-4093	Fareeda Ali	604-522-6755
Mustafa Focak	604-524-4499	Or leave message @604-524-4499	
Shafiq Koya	604-931-5777		

The Season of Lent...a Good Time To Begin or Restart Praying

Submitted by NJ (VST Theological Student)

We are now well into the season of Lent. Despite the signs of new growth--snowdrops and crocuses, we still feel the coldness of these early days of 2007.

In our Gospel readings, Jesus is on his way to face his destiny in Jerusalem. You may have noticed over the years that Jesus always prays at decisive moments: at least that is what Luke tells his readers. If you were not aware of this feature of the Gospel, take a look sometime at Luke 3:21, 6:12, 9:29, 22:39-46 and 23:46.

Jesus showed himself as one who took time to consult with God and who presumably agonized over what God was calling him to do. Jesus also used prayer as a means to strengthen his resolve to act. Sometimes he took a whole night! This is a very human Jesus—one many of us can identify with.

If we are honest, few of us, and I include myself, find it easy to make time each day to be with God in prayer. But this is just what we are called to do. Lent is a great time to begin or re-start a practice of prayer.

Each day I am using the daily Scripture, reflection, hymn, prayer and ‘to think about’ sections in the new United Church Lenten guide, *Singing a Song of Faith*.

The book uses *written* prayers. Some of us like set prayers, others prefer a conversational style, and yet others like just to be quiet in God’s presence. Some at Deer Lake use *The Upper Room* devotional. There are many ways to pray. We just need to decide to start or re-start.

The church season we are in, calls us into prayer and into relationship with God, for truly these are reliable sources of warmth and new growth.

Sax Among Friends Great Success

by JY

Don Wade has every right to feel proud of the evening. Everything was perfect...the performers, the music selection and the full house. Sax Among Friends is what DW is all about.

To see him sway to the music...his own playing and that of others...with his eyes closed...like he's consumed with the resonance of the horn or human voice.

Patrick Dubois stated that D was retiring, and as disappointing as it will be to the folks of Deer Lake, his legacy will survive long after most of us are toast...and I'm not talking about our new baby grand. What Don has done with our youth is remarkable. He has passed on his love for music which has given our kids confidence and poise.

A very special thanks to all of the performers, especially Karen Farnum Surmani who flew up from L.A. and our very own NS (masterful M.C.) who flew in from Chicago...you did well!

Oh...Deer Lake was the beneficiary of the evening with proceeds of \$2230.



2007 DLUC Committee Member List

BOARD EXECUTIVE

GF – Chairperson
BC - Vice Chairperson
ST – Minister
SS – Board Secretary
CM - Treasurer (Finance)
MC - Envelope Secretary
Committee Chairpersons

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

EC – Chair
HR
PS
PW
PY

FINANCE

CM – Chair
MC
KR
TW

MINISTRY & PERSONNEL

(Board-appointed)

MR – Chair
JY – Past Chair
KM
SA
KR

COMMUNICATIONS

GF – Chair
JY

OUTREACH

MP – Chair
JD
DS
LS

PASTORAL CARE / MEMBERSHIP

SM – Chair
MM
KM
TS – Sunshine Committee

STEWARDS

SM - Chair
JA
AB
JC
EC
LS

TRUSTEES

BD – Chair
Janice Cambuzzi
BC
SM

PRESBYTERY REPRESENTATIVE

MP

WORSHIP *(Chair rotates)*

MC
GF
SM
Liturgical Arts:
CP

LIBRARY, PHOTOGRAPHS & RECORDS

Vacant

NARAMATA REPRESENTATIVE

JM / DW

OBSERVER REPRESENTATIVE

BK

WEDDING COORDINATORS

CP
DA
SS
KR

FUNERAL COORDINATORS

CP
KR
MC

New Website on the Way

by GF

You may be familiar with Deer Lake United Church's current website. CM developed it for us a couple of years ago. It gives us a presence on the web and has been instrumental in bringing new families into our church.

However, two years is a long time in the Internet Age and our website is looking a little tired. It doesn't include our new Mission Statement (Vision Statement) and it always seems to be a bit out of date.

Well, we now have our own domain name (dluc.ca) and a sparkling new website is slowly taking shape. C is using all the techniques she learned in Cap College and some new ones learned on the job at Creative Spirit to give us a more appealing, up-to-date image.

A key feature of the new website is the ability for W, our church secretary, to update the online calendar herself, without involving busy C.

We will be able to similarly upload the sermons and newsletters and update some of the content ourselves. This will ensure that the information is always fresh and current. The entire structure of the website is built around the elements of our Mission Statement, and so closely reflects who we are and what we do.

You can visit our new home page at <http://www.dluc.ca>. Keep in mind that it is still under construction. At the moment the

home page and calendar are operational but most of the sub-pages are non-existent. These will be fleshed out over the next few weeks. If you would like to learn a bit about our excellent web master, C, and her employer, Creative Spirit, you can find her bio under "Out Team" at <http://XXXXXXXXX.bc.ca>.



Considerable interest was shown at the "Committee Fair" at which each committee demonstrated to the congregation its role and responsibility to the church.

Warm & Welcoming Congregations Workshop

by PY

Recently MC, Garry & GF and PY attended a Workshop designed to help congregations focus on being a Warm and Welcoming Congregation.

Of course everyone there thought their church was excellent in this area. We all wondered why we were there and what we could possibly learn. But the ideas that were presented opened our eyes to new possibilities. We came away wondering just how visitors saw us and what we could learn from people who had been coming to DLUC for a year or less.

Here is a brief synopsis of our day:

We began by honoring the miracle, of a person coming to Church for the first time and what brought them to a church instead of lingering over a quiet coffee at home. What were they seeking and were we providing it?

We realized that we are all called here by God, we are not only family, we are the body of Christ. If God has led new people to this place, it is only fitting that as long time members we welcome them.

We moved on to recognizing that it takes a whole congregation to welcome a visitor, but not all at once! I also remembered at this point that our long time members also need to be loved and nurtured. I reflected that this congregation is blessed with many long time members, who are proud of our heritage and would be more than willing to share the love we feel here with newer people.

We were encouraged to view our church with new eyes, with a check list on a walk-about, inside and outside of our property: Outside signage, visibility, parking lot, gardens, our overall building.

We discussed at length the Ministry of Greeting. The fact that a Greeter is not the person handing out the bulletins, it's the person who is purposefully Greeting and welcoming all people.

We moved on to the Worship Experience. How it all is viewed by someone new to church or who has only been here a short while: Before the service begins, the bulletin, the overhead? Then the experience of the worship liturgy, the offering and then finally after the Worship service is over...what then.

I came home with a wealth of new ideas to share with the Board; together with a calling to work with a Hospitality Team; a group who could work with others to ensure that we are fulfilling our obligation to be the best Warm and Welcoming Congregation in Westminster Presbytery.

Only the Soul
that Loves
is Happy

An Evening with Islam

by GF

About a dozen Deer Lakers shared a fascinating evening at the new Mosque at the corner of Canada Way and Sperling on Wednesday, February 21st. The occasion was a lecture by two Islamic leaders entitled "The Similarity Between Christianity and Islam". This, their first public event, was attended by close to 100 people, primarily non-Muslim.

The lectures were very interesting and informative. The first focused on the Ten Commandments and the equivalent scriptures from the Koran. The speaker explained how Judaism, Christianity and Islam share the same roots, and how the Koran builds on and clarifies the Bible.

There are, of course, differences (Jesus to the Muslims is just one of a succession of holy messengers) but, as the second speaker emphasized, we must start by exploring our similarities. Having established our common interests, only then is it wise to discuss our differences. Unfortunately, most media coverage focuses on the differences and ignores the similarities.

Part way through the evening, the Muslims present were called to prayer in the temple adjoining the room in which we were sitting. Although non-Muslims are not permitted in the temple, we were invited to enjoy desserts, coffee and tea while they prayed, and were welcome to observe through the windows separating the two rooms. (The temple, in fact the entire mosque, is beautiful and will only become more so as they complete construction.) The lectures were followed by an opportunity for questions, of which there were many. It made for a fascinating evening of education and dialogue with our new neighbours.

The Burnaby Mosque is having its first open house on Sunday, March 18th between 10:00 am and 4:00 pm, and plans to have future lectures exploring various facets of Islam in Canada. It is so important in the current political climate to build bridges between the Muslim and non-Muslim communities. I encourage you to attend the open house, enjoy their hospitality, see their beautiful building, and perhaps learn a little about Islam.

More information on the open house, the Burnaby Mosque, the BC Muslim Association and Islam in general can be found on their website at <http://www.bcmaburnaby.org>.



Artist's conception of completed mosque

Next Adult Night Out

North Shore Light Opera Society
60th Annual Production
Offenbach's
**ORPHEUS:
GONE TO HELL!**

Directed by:
Peter Jorgensen
Musical Direction:
Dominique Hogan

New Book and Lyrics
by Peter Jorgensen
Based on the original opéra
by Offenbach, Cremieux & Hale

"A hilarious new take on the gods' musical mythadventures from Mt. Olympus to the Underworld."

March 16 - 24 (except Mon. & Tue.) March 28 - April 1
Presentation House Theatre, North Van. Kay Meek Studio Theatre, West Van.
Ticket Info: 604-990-3474 Ticket Info: 604-913-3634
Order on-line at www.phtheatre.org Order on-line at www.kaymeekcentre.com

Friday, March 23rd is our next "Adult Night Out". Tickets purchased from KS by Sunday, March 11th, qualify for a significant discount. This is always a fun event.

Even if you can't join us on the 23rd, the performance runs from March 16th to April 1st. Please see K for more details.

Learn More about Chali Chilimboyi in Coming Months

by BH

Everyone is invited to come and talk with a person who knows our sponsored young man in Zambia probably better than any other person.

You will learn how our sponsorship has given a 'HAND UP' to an orphaned lad and changed his life and world forever.

Although dates are not firm as yet, the most likely time for this visit will be around June 15. More information as it becomes available. Hope you can join us.

Shrove Tuesday

by GF

As six o'clock approached, three dozen or so hungry worshippers drifted into the Fellowship Hall on the evening of Tuesday, February 20th. A much smaller group of enthusiastic men was already hard at work preparing a hearty and delicious supper of pancakes and sausages. The tables had been set and now mouth-watering aromas filled the air.

Patience turned to anticipation. Trays stacked high with pancakes and sausages appeared, voices quieted and Scott said grace. Piles and piles of pancakes and sausages were transferred from trays to plates and, smothered in butter and syrup, quickly disappeared amidst cheerful conversation and laughter. Men circulated offering more, more, more, then changed to clearing dirty dishes as their offers were increasingly rebuffed by sated diners.

At S's prompting, the gatherers finished their tea and coffee and moved into the sanctuary for the Service of the Ashes. A handful of men stayed behind to finish cleaning up. Those in the sanctuary sat, waiting, a murmur of conversation drifting amongst them. S bustled; the people waited some more.

Where was D? S prayed for a miracle and KM hurried in. She hadn't even removed her coat before Scott approached her and she valiantly agreed to play the piano. Half way through the opening hymn, D rushed in, slipped onto the piano bench beside Kellee and seamlessly took over playing the hymn – much to K's relief, I am sure.

The service was extremely spiritual and thought-provoking. Instead of an offering of money, Scott invited us to offer a private message of repentance on a slip of paper. The papers were then burned and the resulting ash was mixed with oil. We were then invited to approach Scott to have an ashen cross drawn on our foreheads. Although I am sure many others felt as foolish as I did, I am also sure we nonetheless shared a deeply humbling sense of the nearness of Christ.

WELCOME TEAM

You are invited to contribute to the vitality of our church by being a member of the Welcome Team. This Team will not be going to monthly meetings, be taking minutes or writing up reports. This Team will be choosing ways to help make DLUC truly welcoming to those whom God leads through our doors.

If you feel called to: Say "Welcome" and shake hands with new people on Sunday • Write a nametag for first timers • Plant a flower garden on the front lawn which will appear welcoming • Plan a pot luck dinner and invite old and new timers • Make a sandwich board to put out on Canada Way on Sundays • Invite someone new to coffee and introduce them to someone else • Create an information brochure telling about DLUC structure and programs • ...Or add a new idea of your own

If you are interested in this initiative, consider adding your name to the Welcome Team. To be a part of this Emerging Spirit in our congregation, speak with PY at 604-XXX-XXXX or e-mail pY@shaw.ca.

This Photo Needs a Caption



A few Sundays ago, DW found himself on his knees in front of AL. SM is standing at the pulpit pleading for folks to sign up for coffee. Allow your creative juices to run wild. Send your caption to GF or JY. Photo and caption will be printed next edition of Lakeshore Lines.

M, T & K Walk to End Cancer



K, T and I want to let you all know that we will be participating in the great "Weekend to End Breast Cancer!"

For those of you who may not be familiar with this fund-raising event, it is a 60-kilometre walk which will take place August 18-19 in Vancouver.

K and I have each pledged to raise \$2000 for breast cancer care, research and education for people in British Columbia. We have several friends who are breast cancer survivors, and I feel quite confident that they would not be in such good health today without the innovative treatments made possible largely by this annual fund-raising event .

If you feel you would like to make a contribution toward efforts to stamp out this terrible and frightening disease, (no amount is too small), here are a couple of easy ways:

1. Visit the main website, www.endcancer.ca and click on the link "sponsor a participant". From there you can enter my name or Ken's and donate online with a credit card. This is a secure site.

2. Ken and I each have pledge forms which you can mail in along with a cheque (please, no cash). We will have them available at church,, or just phone or email either of us to make arrangements for us to drop one off to you.

We thank you in advance for your support and encouragement.

— M, K, T.

Deer Lake Gets Grand Piano

Continued from front page

He suggested that the proceeds from Sax Among Friends would provide the extras needed for a fine instrument: A truck to move the thing on, a dehumidifier (not what D called it, but an electronic thingy that keeps the humidity and temperature constant), a cover and a lock. I was still skeptical.

Then D learned of the Yamaha. He and D and an entourage test drove many pianos but kept on coming back to the Yamaha. In a few short weeks the piano was purchased and delivered.

Of course none of this would have been possible if it weren't for the generosity of a number of folks who believe in our music program and for Don's enthusiasm for this special ministry.

On Sunday, February 25th, D performed the postlude from our proud new possession. I was amazed at the difference in the sound. With the lid up, the music seemed to be much more alive. It was vibrant and clear. It was beautiful. Caused my eye to tear. (A Scott Joplin piece would have reduced me to uncontrollable sobbing.)

For years now you've heard D refer to D as "Magic Fingers"...which of course she is. But she's more than that...much more. She has keen hearing. During choir rehearsal, after singing a few bars, she'll catch my eye and point up, likely not indicating my final destination but to let me know that I'm singing too low (either flat or the wrong octave). She is confident and encouraging...an amazing woman with a great sense of humour.

We are very lucky to have D and the Yamaha. To see her beaming smile reflected on the underside of the lid says to me that it's a perfect marriage.