

LAKESHORE LINES EXTRA

April 1, 2007

Free and worth every cent!

Treasurer Sacrifices for Lent

As Lent has arrived many of us have given up chocolate, T.V. or a favourite magazine. This is generally done in order to further develop our spiritual selves and to nurture our relationship with God.

As a moving example of true grit and sacrifice our own treasurer, Cathy M. has approached Lent from an impressive self-sacrificing angle. "God gave me the right side of my brain, I guess I'd better start using it!" she stated over coffee earlier this week.

"Sure giving up the left side of my brain for Lent has been hard. The Toasty Almond Cranberry Squares I bake each March don't taste the same because I'm

trying not to measure the dash of salt the recipe calls for. I just throw it in now and try not to worry about it.

"I've been crumpling up my receipts the past week. Of course I still file and cross reference them but they're crumpled and that's hard. Really hard.

"As part of my quest to develop the right side of my brain, I have joined choir. I try to show up a minute or two late and I intentionally leave my three spare pencils in the car.

"It's difficult being the only one who knows what a hemiola is but I act like I don't because I want to fit in. Sometimes I sing a wrong note just to see what it feels like. It feels scary and out of control...that's what it feels like!"

When asked how giving up her left brain has given her a new perspective on things she explained, "My life has changed enormously since giving up the left side of my brain. I haven't logged on to my online banking in days and I've been trying to talk to Rick about boats and stuff.

I don't even know the mileage on the car. The kids keep playing jokes on me like sitting in the wrong chairs at supper, or switching the pillows on the couch. It's fun for them so I try not to say anything and switch the pillows back after they go to bed.

I do make them sit in their own chairs though. Some things you just shouldn't joke about. It's a line I don't think we need to cross."

When asked if she'll return to her old ways once Lent is over Cathy chuckled "Hopefully I'll keep a bit of both sides



Our esteemed treasurer, Cathy M. enjoys a pre-Lent glass of wine

working. Maybe I'll balance my check-book on Thursdays instead of Saturdays, and I can definitely picture myself sitting in a different pew at church once in a while.

"I might also miss a deadline ... just once ... to see if the world explodes or anything. Ellen wants me to 'live on the right', that's how she says it, but I think I'll just lean over there once in a while...Maybe the first Friday of each month..."

Cathy kindly offered to calculate the tip for our coffee and then visited the ladies' room "just in case" before heading home to make Monday meatloaf in her Pyrex loaf pan.

For further information on how you can "take a walk on the wild side" Cathy can be reached in front of her computer, working on an allowance spread sheet for her three children and Rick.

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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

“Certain Impropriety” Being Investigated

It has come to the Board’s attention that a certain impropriety has been occurring Sunday mornings in the narthex.

Although the Board has hesitated to name the perpetrator and offending behavior the Lakeshore Lines has learned that a wide assortment of our congregants have been charged admission to attend the Sunday worship service.

Upon arrival it seems a bulletin has been offered in exchange for a “donation” to the “M.C.R. Fund”. When asked for the new “attendance fee” newer congregants have generally complied, being unfamiliar with the United Church’s policies and often returning home to check the web site for further information.

When asked for information Riley P. [redacted] claimed “I don’t know” as he nervously hopped from foot to foot while clutching his pants. “Ask Mary.”

Approached by the investigation team’s sub-committee Mary C. [redacted] laughed nervously as she quickly closed the cupboard behind the hymn numbers and swiftly scurried toward her coat and keys, Maverick Coach Tours to Reno pamphlets scattering out behind her.

The investigation will continue as the interview committee works in conjunction with the “Narthex Welcoming” and “Say No to Gambling” committees to return any and all monies to their rightful owners.

Mary’s offer to “invest” the money next time she heads down south was politely declined.

Board Approves Queue Dispenser

Tuesday night’s extraordinary Board Meeting saw approval and funding for the installation of a new queue ticket dispenser sometime in mid-to-late Spring ’07.

The dispenser, similar to those used in bakeries and deli counters will be mounted in the narthex, to the right of the Sanctuary entrance. The initiative touched a raw nerve with attending Board members. Cost, tastefulness and recycling were cited as the main sticking points. Following extended discussion, the final deciding vote was cast by acting chairperson, Bob C. [redacted]

Once the machine is installed, all members wishing to make an announcement at the start of Service will be required to take a ticket and line up, *in order* as our Minister opens the Service with congregational announcements.

The new program has been put in place to facilitate the orderly processing of the large number of service announcements and to ensure a systematic and fair process in accordance with *Rules of Conduct and Practice* as laid out in the *United Church of Canada Handbook on Protocol*.

Special care will be taken in the placement and colouration of the machine to ensure its functionality and to make certain that it complements the existing design scheme.

Any concerns or kudos should be directed to the acting chair in the absence of Board Chairperson, Garry F. [redacted]

Old Geezers Remember Past...Cope with New

by Bill H. [redacted]

Us old folk are very serious in our determination of what should be and what will be.

Often we are not in favour of change because, “That ain’t the way it used to be” or “It was good enough for us way back when, or you guys are always changing things around.” “I remember when.”

“What is it that I am trying to remember anyhow?” “Oh, yes, the roof is leaking, get some pails. Oh, plink, plunk, plink plunk. plunk, a different accompaniment to the music.”

“Oh yes, when they were repairing the roof and the roofer’s torch set fire to the building, new decor for the sanctuary, everything coated with black.”

Still we go on. “Why is the pulpit moved to that side? Since the Middle Ages

and the Reformation the pulpit has been over there. Why is it moved?”

And when the minister calls for the young and the young at heart to come and join him at the front.

Our old bodies sometimes scream out but I remember one time just before our present leader came that a group of us brave ones went forward because although our bodies were growing older our spirits were still young at heart.

Will that happen again? Time will tell if the Spirit moves us. Will you join us?

We gather each Sunday to worship. Do material things really matter? Surely not, only if they interfere with the moving of God’s Spirit within us.

It has been fun being part of the Deer Lake Family for over 35 years and I hope, God willing, for many more. God bless everyone who has helped make the passage of time a privilege and a joy.



Bill H. [redacted]...fond memories of past

Bulletin Folders "Enjoy" Their Work



Apparently the bread didn't taste so good

A widely-held myth that the Thursday morning bulletin folders only congregate to enjoy the delicious baking of Janice C. [redacted] was dispelled recently when a boycott took place.

Scott Turnbrook can be seen above suffering heartburn. "I think a suitable penance will be an extra long sermon next Sunday... something along the lines of feeding 50,000 with four loaves of bread.

Presbytery Update

You may have read an article in a recent issue of the Observer about a large evangelical church in the United States (Willow Creek) and how successful it's been in attracting members. The article suggested that the United Church might learn something from how they approach their church and services.

Presbytery executive took the challenge and at our last meeting passed the following motion:

WHEREAS attendance at most churches in our Presbytery has been falling, and

WHEREAS budgets at most churches in our Presbytery have been operating at a deficit, and

WHEREAS maintaining eighteen church buildings has become a burden, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that we will sell all church properties in our Presbytery and use the finances generated to build a large "destination" United Church in a location central to all pastoral charges.

The motion was carried and the executive is very excited about the possibilities for the United Church in our area.

Jean MacLeod

Chair, Westminster Presbytery

Important Rules for Wedding Hostess

by Shirley S. [redacted]

When I was being trained for my position as Wedding Hostess by #1 wedding honcho Carol Pettigrew she had some very strict rules that she insisted I follow:

1. Under no circumstances is it permissible to refer to a nervous bride as Bridzilla. She knows that she is acting like an overindulged princess, she **wants** to act like an over indulged princess, so the only thing you can do is reminder her that she may be the princess, but you are the Queen.
2. On the same note – she has paid "big bucks" to get married in a tranquil Christian environment so she can not be referred to as "the bride from hell" even though she may well be!!
3. When the mom insists the bride walk down the aisle with a veil over her face do not tell her that it is a biblical sign of ownership, and has the groom paid to see if the sister he paid for is the one he is getting, or is it the old ugly one under the veil.
4. If someone parks in the "wedding party only stalls" do not slash their tires.
5. We have a lot of requests for celebrity weddings – the bride should be told that underwear is mandatory, but hair is optional.
6. Other than that have fun and make sure the fee has been paid before the father of the bride leaves the church. (A football tackle may be necessary.)

April Fools Carol!

Communion Supply Volunteer Found

Many thanks to Tony W. [redacted] for sharing his gifts by offering to supply the elements on Communion Sundays.

Tony will be bringing much of himself to the sacraments as he has asked to serve a long, intense and balanced Chardonnay with good acidity and a creamy, citrus apple finish to the west pews, and a concentrated, stylish, yet not overly sweet Shiraz with peppery, vanilla, blackberry jam and smoky, meaty coriander notes to the east.

"It's the gewürztraminer in the balcony I'm really looking forward to!" beamed Tony. Peggy could not be reached for comment. She was said to be busy baking gorgonzola bread sticks in the kitchen when this newsletter went to press.

No Need to Sign-up for Coffee

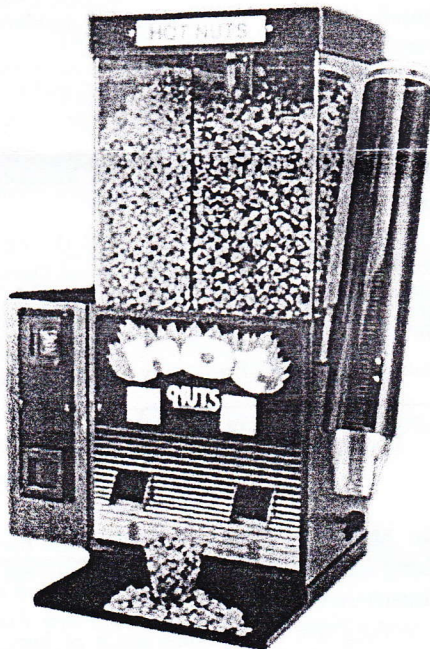
How many times have you heard Shirley McC[redacted] or Mary C[redacted] make the announcement that we need volunteers to sign up for coffee?

We at DLUC seem to value our after-service coffee time more than most, yet finding volunteers to make and serve the coffee and then wash up has been a constant problem.

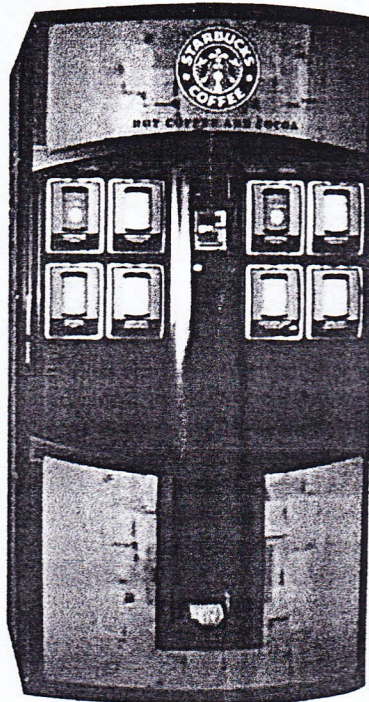
The board recently studied the coffee situation and found the solution to a problem that has plagued the church for years.

Within the next few weeks, a company called Olaf Spirol Vending will begin installing vending machines in the Fellowship Hall.

This means that hot and cold beverages and snacks will be available in the hall, without the need of volunteers to make



A snack is as good as a snooze



"Better than Tim Horton's"

them. And even better, no one will have to stay late to clean up the mess.

You might expect that the vending machines would be a strain on our budget. Fortunately our Board negotiated a great deal. Olaf Spirol has agreed to provide the vending machines to us for free and will keep the machines stocked; their only payment will be the revenues from the machines.

The only decision yet to be made is about what products we will have in our vending machines.

The Board would like your input on this. Please take a few minutes during the service to complete the survey below. After the service, hand your completed survey to Marilyn Rushton for processing.

New Tenant for Deer Lake

The stewards are pleased to announce that Deer Lake has secured a new tenant.

Several pieces of furniture have been moved into the storage locker downstairs as well as a coffee maker and what appears to be a newer model waffle iron.

Reading material has been placed surreptitiously in various tiled areas of rest and reflection and there is an added air of warmth and hominess throughout the building.

Pizza delivery is being made to the basement door only to prevent any disruption to the services held in the sanctuary and as the tenant has insisted on abiding by a self enforced "slippers only" policy our hard wood floors will sustain minimal damage from the new Tuesday afternoon line dancing activities.

"It's obviously a good match" stated Joanne A[redacted] from the stewards committee. "We all hope Gerald will be very comfortable here for years to come."



Gerald F[redacted] said to be very happy

Check the boxes next to those items you would like to see in our new vending machines:

- Pop, sports drinks, water, juice
- Coffee and tea
- Chocolate bars, candy, and salted snacks, gum balls
- Fancy coffees such as lattes (to be sold at a premium price)
- Baked goods such as brownies, butter tarts, and cookies