

LAKESHORE LINES

October 2007

Free and worth every cent!

Rain Couldn't Dampen Spirits

Cultus Lake Campout 2007

by Pat Y

Did we have fun and fellowship...you betcha. Did it rain...of course, but there was enough sunshine on Friday and Saturday to see the campsite at its best, with many new improvements.

Here are some memories of the weekend:

- Kennedy, Maxine and Mikayla up to their elbows in soap suds, washing dishes and loving it.
- Jean and Don, playing guitar and leading the Saturday night sing-along.
- Tempo, Marilyn's guide dog, off leash and racing around the beach like a little kid.
- About 10 young kids on a raft, 2 feet from the beach, pretending they were adrift at sea.
- Ken rocking the raft and making the kids squeal, kids loved it, but Tempo wasn't impressed.
- Mallory and Madeline bravely trying out the water for a swim, but chickened out.
- Cole tucking himself up in the huge tire in the new kids' playground.
- Greg and Darlene taking a quiet walk together, knowing that their kids were well taken care of.
- Claire, leading about 10 little ones in creating wonderful crafts including bird houses, sun shades and friendship bracelets.
- Marie facilitating a Godly Play resource of the Creation Story with adults and older kids.

(Continued on page 2)



Rustic but comfortable cabin



Kennedy Neumann just loves washing dishes

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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Cultus Lake Still Has Magic



- Dana, carefully painting a straight line between night and day.
- Tommy welcoming Rev. Bruce Cameron into his trailer. After not seeing him for about 15 years, they became buddies again.
- Edna and Arnie parking their 97-foot Winnebago
- Curtis and Ethan falling in the mud and getting black from head to toe.
- Scott teaching his son how to spit apparently to clean the mud out his mouth.
- Janice leading a terrific scavenger hunt helping us appreciate our natural surroundings.
- Sally and her sister Susan running around after little Tor...I wonder who tired out faster?
- Debra and Annalise from West Burnaby UC joining in and having fun with us all.
- 1 year old Carter McL smiling from ear to ear all weekend.
- Jen and Claire getting to know each other, cleaning out the bathroom on Sunday.
- Joanne dutifully moping out the huge dining hall.

- Scott, leading a very meaningful intergenerational worship service, where we honoured our God given gifts and the children played a central part.
- The evaluation at the end of the weekend left no doubt that a great time was had by all. Would we do it all again? Absolutely! In a heartbeat. See you there next year.

More than a Few Words from Chairman Garry

by Garry F

As I write this, the rain is teeming down outside my window. It's a good day to be inside, and another indication that summer really is over and we're back into our normal routines again.

One of the things that struck me this past summer was how vibrant Deer Lake was. We had many more worshipers in the sanctuary than in past years. Perhaps the less-than-ideal July weather had to something to do with it. I suspect, however, that the excellent line-up of guest worship leaders and music leadership helped.

The fact that Scott and the Worship Committee published the summer schedule in the June issue of the Communication Committee's *Lakeshore Lines* probably didn't hurt, either.

Although the pace of church business slowed as it does every summer, the work of the other committees continued in the background, too.

The Wedding and Funeral Coordinators and the Pastoral Care Committee continued their vital work.

Pat Y ; a Welcoming Committee of one, organized the Cultus Lake Camp-out.

Elizabeth C and the Christian Education Committee prepared for the autumn with a new curriculum for the Sunday School classes.

Marilyn R and the Ministry and Personnel Committee formed a hiring committee to replace Gerald Paul who resigned as our Caretaker this summer.

They had a very good response to their newspaper ads and, after interviewing a handful of top candidates, were happy to announce the successful candidate: Ellen J .

Bruce D and the Trustees kept an eye on our investment portfolio, and Cathy Milne and the Finance Committee kept on top our income and expenses.

Offerings and rents were collected and cheques were written. Despite higher than normal summer attendance at Sunday services, our offerings are down and we now

find ourselves in a deficit situation. You can see the current status of our finances in the back of the Sunday bulletin.

Please consider if you can help us achieve the goal of a 5% increase in offerings that we set ourselves at the last AGM.

Bill H appealed to the congregation for people to form a new Outreach Committee and was rewarded with several immediate offers of help. Thank you to those of you who volunteered to continue our good work in the community. I am sure we will hear more about this in the coming months.

Last, but certainly not least, Steve Mac and the Stewards kept the building standing, the plumbing and lights working, the shrubs pruned and the tenants happy.

This small team often seems to get busier during the summer months as maintenance projects are scheduled to take advantage of good weather and reduced attendance. They work in the background without recognition, but without them the building and our rental income would be in sad shape indeed.

I, for one, would like to thank them for their continued dedication to the health and vitality of Deer Lake United Church.

In fact, I would like to take this opportunity to express my appreciation to *all* those individuals who work in the background to make Deer Lake a very special place indeed.

On Sunday mornings you see the greeters in the narthex, Scott at the pulpit, Donna at the piano. You see the choir directors and choir, the candle lighters, the scripture readers, the Sunday School teachers, the offering counters and the coffee makers.

All visibly valuable, appreciated people these, but they are just the tip of the iceberg. Those you don't see on Sunday mornings are our paid staff: church secretary Wendy and caretaker Ellen (OK, I guess you do see her most Sundays, but you don't see her vacuuming and mopping).

You don't normally see the chairpersons and members of the committees mentioned above, the men's and women's groups, the bulletin folders and all the individuals who from time to time help those committees and groups with their invaluable contributions.

Take just a moment to consider what Deer Lake would be like without their time and energy.

Buddy, can you spare some time?

You may not have time to be on the Outreach Committee, but here's a way to spend less than two hours a month helping our less fortunate neighbours in the downtown eastside:

Every week, generous Deer Lakers drop off clothes at the church to be donated to First United. Unfortunately, the clothes tend to stack up for weeks and weeks, until someone is able to deliver them. The people downtown need those clothes and shoes now not six weeks from now. It would be really nice if we could set up a regular monthly clothing pick-up and drop-off.

This would require less than two hours month. Drop-offs can be made Monday to Friday. 8:30 am to 3:30 pm at the receiving dock in the northeast corner of the First United underground parking lot off Gore Street. If you have a vehicle and could drop the collected items off once a month during those hours, you would be doing Deer Lake, First United and the needy people of downtown eastside a huge favour.

Please call our church secretary Wendy at 604-299-4211 if you can help. God bless you.

The Gospel According to Weight Watchers

by the Rev. G. Scott Turubrook

As a teenager, I benefited from my membership in the Weight Watchers program. While it didn't lead me towards my dream of becoming a swimsuit model, I did learn that jelly beans are not a member of the legume family and adopted a balanced approach towards eating based on the Canada Food Guide.

Recently, a friend was sharing with me how he had joined Weight Watchers this fall. As I listened to the changes in his lifestyle habits, I began to wonder if these principles might also be applied to the living of our faith. From my observations, there are several WW principles worthy of consideration:

- **Consistency:** WW emphasizes a commitment to attending weekly weight management meetings. Week after week, a supportive group of people gather and welcome newcomers to a 'weigh-in meeting'.

If they miss a meeting or are traveling, they are encouraged to attend one on another day. Imagine if all Christians were that committed to weekly worship and daily meditation/ prayer.

The practice of worship (either private or corporate) is referred to as a practice because it is only through consistent application that one deepens their relationship with the divine.

It is also called practice, I believe, because we will likely never get it perfect. *Your spirit thanks you for your commitment to a consistent faith practice.*

- **Support:** WW members feel accountable to themselves and their group. The entire group celebrates if you lose weight; they supportively share in your struggle if you gain weight; they allow you to share your story when weight loss goals are achieved.

One of the things which makes Deer Lake such a vibrant church is contained in this principle. The depth and levels of care shown to one another are truly remarkable. Who among us have not experienced the care and support from others at the church?

We have been welcomed when we are new; we have found compassion when we are struggling; we have found a place of celebration when we experience joy. It is truly renewing to find communal support through the ups and downs of life. *Thank you for your ways of caring and support that enrich the community of Deer Lake.*

- **Sharing:** WW leaders are enthusiastic, well informed, and articulate. Staff members have personally experienced weight loss on the program and regularly share their experiences with others. In the church, we are blessed with the leadership of many different people who express their faith through their work at the church.



Such cooperatively shared leadership is what adds to the depth and richness of our church's expression. The length of our newsletter makes it impossible to record the myriad of ways faith is expressed. Each expression is the blessing of one's spiritual gifts within the communal body of Christ.

All gifts are valued and essential in order for the church to fulfill its mission. *Thank you for richly blessing the community of Deer Lake through the many spiritual gifts that you share.*

- **Patience:** WW members are encouraged to be patient and realistic in the process of reaching their goals.

One of the benefits of our visioning process led by the Rev. Dr. Brian Fraser was focusing our ministry. It has helped us be realistic about what is achievable and what is not.

These are challenging times for any or-

ganization that is powered primarily by volunteers. It is made even more challenging in an era of post-Christendom.

As demands placed upon a small church increase, levels of frustration, stress, and burnout can reach an all-time high. *Your spirit thanks you for being patient and realistic in your ministry at the church.*

- **Activity:** WW members are encouraged to engage in physical activity as part of their approach to weight loss. Members are encouraged to walk, swim, jog, and do whatever they enjoy to help get fit.

At Deer Lake, outreach or 'walking of the talk' is a very important part of our spiritual expression. Examples of outreach include Project Chali (Zambia, Africa), Marguerite Dixon Transition House (women and children), Edmonds Drop-in Centre (youth), First United Church Mission (homelessness), and the Burnaby Homelessness Task Force serve to highlight our ongoing commitment to actively living out our faith.

We continue to make a difference both locally as well as globally as we actively engage in our faith callings. *Thank you for the ways that you help us live our faith as a church that reaches out with the heart of Christ.*

- **Fun:** WW meetings are gatherings that are filled with fun, friendship and support. There is a humorous element to the gatherings that make participants eagerly anticipate attending their next meeting.

Fun was such an important part of the communal identity at Deer Lake, that it was named in the vision statement: "fun and fellowship".

While we engage in a very sacred journey during our work and worship, there is a commitment to experiencing the joys and ironies throughout the journey. *Thank you for being part of the joy that makes Deer Lake such a vibrant place of faith!*

May our souls grow faster than our waistlines in our walk with the Lord.

Shalom, Salaam, Peace,

Rev. Scott

Special Services at Deer Lake United Church

The River City Jazz Band

Sunday, October 28 at 10:30 a.m.

We eagerly await the arrival of this popular group. Several of these talented jazz musicians are retired United Church ministers whose ministry is to visit a church and share the gospel in word, music and prayer. (See www.rivercitygospeljazz.com) This lively service will be a unique experience that they describe as "upbeat on the downbeat".

Children and Youth Service:

"To Live with Respect in Creation"

Sunday, November 18 at 10:30 a.m.

The children and youth will be taking a large portion of the leadership in this special service focusing on God's sacred presence in creation. Musical leadership will be provided by Don W and the Deer Lake Kidz' Band. This service promises to be a meaningful expression of many of our younger members' gifts.

Old Doug Really Is...Old!



Hoads of guests gathered to help celebrate Doug R's maturity. It was held at the Centennial Lodge in Queen's Park and had a western theme which was appropriate because he's 60% on his way to being 100!

Too bad his cowboy boots were cropped from the photo.

The First Sermon

From the Anglican Digest – Pentecost 2006

The first sermon preached each Sunday is not by the priest, but by you:

- You preach a message of good cheer when you say "Good morning" to those you meet as you are parking, or in the hallways, or classrooms.
- You preach a message of welcome when you slide over in the pew instead of forcing others to squeeze in front of you.
- You preach a message of hope and joy when you sing the hymns and service music.
- You preach a message about the power of prayer when you help a visitor find his (or her) place in the Prayer Book.
- You preach a message of respect when you listen attentively while the anthem is sung.
- You preach a message of love when you smile and say "Hello" and introduce yourself to a visitor.
- You preach a message about the importance of the scriptures when you listen carefully to the day's texts.

Many messages are preached before the priest stands to share the sermon. If your message is positive, faithful and consistent, then the message from the pulpit will be more effective. Come to Church this Sunday and every Sunday, prepared to preach your best sermon.

Attention All Youth!



Naramata Centre will be hosting the Senior and Junior B.C. Youth Conferences in November, 2007. The theme for the two conferences is "Who do you say that I am?" The Senior conference dates are November 9-12, and the Junior conference dates are November 2-5. If you are interested in attending please contact Elizabeth C or Rev. Scott for more information or a registration form. (Monies are available to help with registration fees and the registration deadline is October 25, 2007.)

Summer Love

The summer months continue to be a favourite time for couples to celebrate their wedding at the church. This important component of our ministry provides an opportunity to both prepare couples for their wedding day as well as help lay a good foundation for a healthy married life.

Three of our summer wedding couples have deep connections to Deer Lake, so we take an opportunity to celebrate their special day by sharing a picture from their wedding.

God's blessings upon all the special couples who chose to celebrate their special day with us.



Nikki (nee H) and Jeremy P married July 27th



Samantha (nee B) and Isaac M married August 4th



Rev. Teri Meyer and her partner Ellen married this summer in their home church of St. Andrew's Quesnel, where Teri is the minister. A student minister from Deer Lake, Teri was ordained 3 years ago and was settled in this congregation in the Cariboo.

Beth (M) R and Pat Y attended the very moving wedding ceremony and the happy celebration afterwards. It was wonderful to see so many other United Church ministers attend this event to support this happy couple.



Dawn Marie (nee McS) and Ben A married July 7th

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):

Garry Forwood: gforwood@telus.net

Jim Young: jimyoung@shaw.ca

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Submission Deadline: December 1st, 2007

Congregational BBQ and Staff Dinner Kick Start Church Life

M&P Committee Welcomes Staff



Marilyn R thanks staff for their hard work

Burgers, Hot Dogs Feed Masses



Bob C, King of the Patties, smokes the place out

With summer almost history, about 40 members of the congregation gathered for a BBQ dinner. Bob C, without his chef's hat, showed why he owns the job of searing the beef.

Those who attended enjoyed the meal and getting caught up on the comings and goings that summertime brought.



Scott and Marilyn relax with coffee and cake

Each September, the M&P Committee (Chair Marilyn R, Jim Y, Kellee M, Sharon A and Ken R ton) hosts a dinner for all Deer Lake staff and their partners.

This year it was held at Kellee's home. This is an opportunity for the committee to officially recognize (on behalf of the church) the fine work our staff performs.

Marilyn was very eloquent in her address, explaining the Deer Lake must be unique with the quality of staff we have.

Each staff member (paid and unpaid) is a valued asset to our church. The minister, church secretary, pianist, custodian, choir directors, treasurer, funeral and wedding coordinators, intern minister and board chair (though not officially staff), run the business of the church like a well-oiled machine.

Dinner consisted of barbequed salmon, roast turkey, veggies and salads. The starter was a plate of various cheeses and crackers and desert was a lovely chocolate cake.

Our next staff gathering will be a coffee and dessert in the spring.

Help Wanted



Two responsible people are needed to collect and count the Sunday offering five times over the next twelve months.

Hours: 1 hour five times per year. Pay: Non-existent

Benefits: A little respect from your friends

Satisfaction: Priceless

Training and assistance are available

Please contact Mary C if you can help or if you need more information

Old residential school now resort**St. Eugene Mission...a Place of Beauty***by Jim Y*

A few months ago, while channel surfing on TV, I happened upon a program that described the history of St. Eugene Mission. I was really impressed by what I heard, and I thought if I was ever in the neighbourhood (within four hours' drive), I'd pay the mission a visit.

This summer saw Pat and me and friends from England spend a week at Christina Lake, close enough to be "in the neighbourhood", so we decided to check it out.

I think what makes this place special isn't because it's set against the Rocky Mountains, or that it boasts an incredible golf course, or that the dining and staff are excellent. It's all these for sure, but it's how it got to be the place that it is.

St. Eugene Mission was not always beautiful. The following was written by Dorothy Alpine of the Ktunaxa people.

"Pre-Contact life was serene and uninterrupted by family separation. The family unit was consistent of a mother, father and grandparents, both maternal and paternal. In many cases, there was also the presence of great-grandparents.

"Everyday living was routine and focused on social issues, recreation and survival. Survival skills were taught to the children right from birth and carried on into adolescence through construction of survival weaponry, picking baskets and tools.

"Upon contact there was a dramatic change in social, political and leisure structure. The federal Government systematically erected Residential schools from Nova Scotia to Vancouver Island and hired the Churches to run them.

"Families were torn apart by Social laws that did not recognize the existing Ktunaxa system in the name of The Church and English Education.

"When this building was erected in 1910 as an Industrial School, Federal Law dictated that every Native child be admit-



Cranbrook's St. Eugene Mission with the Rocky Mountains in the background

ted, despite the wishes of the parents who lived just a few miles across the river.

"The children enrolled were basically labor for the maintenance of the farm and all the chores necessary to run a dairy farm, a grist mill, including haying, threshing and milking cows, churning butter.

"It was later in the 50's when it became a Residential school. The three R's were taught, as well as Religion and the typical school day was a full five hours. The children were also taught basic housework by engaging in dishwashing, dusting, floor sweeping, laundry and sewing duties.

"Ktunaxa Government honoured the Hereditary System until 1952 when the Electoral system was forced upon us by the Federal Government. This was the beginning of Social and Political dismemberment that worked for the Ktunaxa for centuries.

"Today we, the Ktunaxa, are striving to take back control of our lives and have entered into a tripartite agreement with two other first Nations to operate this building. We urge you to look only at our Economical accomplishments and enjoy the comforts of this beautiful establishment."

Initially St. Eugene Mission, operated by the Oblates, was the first comprehensive Indian "Industrial and Residential" school to be built in the Canadian West. At the time, it was the largest building in the B.C. Interior.

The Mission instructed 5000 children from the Okanagan, Shuswap and Blackfoot Nations in addition to the area's Ktunaxa Nation Council. The school was closed in 1970 when government policy changed to encourage public education for Indian children.

In 1973, the B.C. Government leased the Mission with the intent of turning it into a facility for the mentally handicapped. The building was stripped of historic fixtures and artifacts, and after spending \$750,000 on renovations, the project was abandoned. The following winter the pipes burst and the building suffered severe damage from internal flooding. For the next twenty years the building remained empty.

In the late 1990s, the Ktunaxa, Mnjikaning and Samson Cree raised \$40 million to transform this very sad and painful past into a bright and exciting future.

If you're ever in the neighbourhood, you owe it to yourself to spend a day or two there. It's beautiful...simply beautiful!