

LAKESHORE LINES

October, 2008

Free and worth every cent!

Cultus Lake Campout “Best Ever”



The gift of warmth and sunshine went a long way to put smiles on the faces of these very happy Deer Lake campers.

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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Weird or Generous?

by Rev. G. Scott Turnbrook

Pub talk among clergy can be very revealing. At a recent conference I attended, a group of pastors were speaking on the subject of leadership perspectives they held. Over pints of pale ale, carafes of cabernet, and glasses of club soda many varied approaches were bandied about.

One minister chimed in: "*Families are just plain weird.* This is my mantra of coping with the far-ranging complexities of my own family as well as with the families that I minister to.

If you start with this description as your baseline, you will be able to laugh at the absurdities as they continue to arise. Instead of becoming frustrated by hoping against hope that they will act reasonably and even charitably toward each other, this stance will allow you to laugh"

As some of us were sitting rather uncomfortably with the direction of the conversation, another voice added to the conversation: "*Be generous.* Generosity is a phrase we lift up at weddings and funerals: when in doubt, be generous. When angry or frustrated or irritated, be generous.

When your self-interest or pride is being attacked, be generous. When longstanding sibling rivalries erupt, when

sacrifices need to be made, when there's an opportunity for hospitality, be generous." I liked the way our conversation had shifted.

Generosity, of course, is not a spiritual concept we had prophetically derived that night. Paul lists generosity as one of the nine fruits of the spirit in Galatians 5.

Generosity is to be cultivated alongside love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. 1 Timothy 6 connects generosity to the discovery of "the life that really is life".

In my ministry at Deer Lake (as well as in other faith communities), I have been wonderfully blessed to witness and experience tremendous generosity. Generosity can be found in the sharing of resources as well as in the sharing of one's spirit.

While these are both distinct forms of generosity, I continue to find these varieties to be inextricably linked. Those who are generous with their time and talents inevitably have huge hearts and hospitable spirits. This can be one of the most magnificent blessings to be found in church life.

One might wonder what we should do to encourage this virtue. How can we

help people to continue being generous? One key practice is by intentionally living, supporting and teaching this virtue.

This past summer my kids decided to run a lemonade stand (on one of the few nice days we had). They decided that they would donate the proceeds from their lemonade sales to Children's Hospital. "Ice cold lemonade for Children's Hospital" they enthusiastically shouted.

Through their generosity of time and spirit, and the generosity of our thirsty neighbours, they earned over \$40 dollars! That was a profound lesson in generosity.

I would invite you to consider that if we can learn how to be generous in the small day-to-day actions, we will continue on to develop habits that will sustain us in the challenging times as well.

Such a virtue lives out the resurrection of Christ for it sets the stage for forgiveness, healing and hope into the future.

May we continue to be generous people of faith following the one whose generosity changed the world forever.

Shalom, Salaam, Peace,

Rev. Scott

Congratulations to Sharon A and Iz G



Sharon was the proud 'Mother of the Groom' as her son Brendan married Selena C on Saturday September 6th. Rev. Scott was honoured to officiate at the wonderfully appointed Newlands Golf and Country Club in Langley. Congratulations!

Coming Soon to the Library

by Sue B.

Some of you may have noticed that sections of books suddenly disappeared from the shelves of our library this summer. No it wasn't a crazed Deer Lake church member overcome by the need to read large sections of books at a single time. It was I who began the process of entering our library books into an online cataloguing system called LibraryThing.

When complete we will have a current inventory of all our books and, best of all, we will be able to search for books that interest us quickly and easily on-line. Searches can be made by author, subject, title, or any of the other fields in the system inventory like Dewey Decimal number, publication date, ISBN etc. Other features include book reviews and ratings, numbers of other users that have the same books, blogs on book related topics and links to used book sellers.

For those of you who do not have access to the internet or who are not comfortable with it, I will be happy to do the searching for you. The book entering process has allowed me to become more familiar with what is available and it would be nice to get the circulation up in the library. This new system does not include a sign-out procedure so that will remain unchanged.

As I mentioned in the last newsletter our collection is a bit on the older side but considering that the subject matter of many of the books is eternal, don't let this stop you from checking it out (no pun intended). For example I found an excellent book on the Holy Spirit written by Catherine Marshall that was published in 1978 called "The Helper".

The information in the book is as applicable today as when it was written and the book answered several questions that I had on this intriguing member of the Trinity. At the end of each chapter she includes a prayer; the following is at the end of the chapter on how the Spirit teaches us to pray:

Lord, I have come to You as a beggar believing myself poverty-stricken, lacking, when the fact is I am a child of the King, heir to all Your riches – including every insight and revelation I need for each prayer request. How foolish I must seem to You, Lord! And how my spiritual poverty-complex must grieve You.

I want so much to sit at the Helper's feet in the School of Prayer and be taught by him. Show me now how to apply these glorious truths in my own life. And make me a good pupil!

In thy name. Amen

At this point in time, more than half of the current books have been entered into the system and likely the job will be complete within a few months. At that time I will provide further information on the system and its use which I have found to be straight forward. Newly purchased and donated material will also be included. Thank you to all the people who have donated material to the library.

I have joined the Congregational Libraries Association of British Columbia which was founded in 1971 "to help people to grow in faith, understanding and witness". The association has over one hundred members from various denominations. Members receive information in the form of a quarterly newsletter on all aspects of running a congregational library and there is also an annual conference. In addition members receive discounts on purchases of books and supplies.

Our newly purchased material was based on the recommendations of the association, Rev. Scott, and myself. If anyone has a particular item they would like to see in the Library, please let me know. Please note that some of the books in the library have changed location and I ask for your patience until things are finally sorted.

The "Rev's" Reading Recommendations

I received such an overwhelming response to my summer reading list published in the last newsletter, that I am happy to provide some new suggestions of great books to continue to feed the hungry soul. Happy reading everyone!

Rev. Scott

"Brokenness and Blessing: Towards a Biblical Spirituality" by Frances M Young. Drawing on the early church's example of stitching scripture and spirituality together, this book argues for the reclaiming of this practice in present day. This counters the 'spiritual but not religious' movement where we are called not to just talk about the Bible but to live into it.

"Living When a Loved One has Died" by Earl Grollman. This renowned author, who recently spoke in Vancouver, offers wisdom and hope for the person of faith to continue living after the loss of a loved one.

"The Power of Enough" by Lynn Miller. Miller is the Mennonite Mutual Aid's stewardship theologian. She approaches the subject of economic stewardship from a unique

perspective – around our sense of contentment. In a scarcity mindset culture, this is a refreshing read that reminds us of a God of abundance.

"World Scriptures: Guiding Principles for an Awakening World" by Leland Stewart. This interesting book contains comparisons and quotations of 16 major religions and contemporary spiritual movements. This is an enlightening read as we consider our responsibility to be corporate citizens with neighbours of other faiths.

"The First Christmas: What the Gospels Really Teach About Jesus' Birth" by Marcus J. Borg and John Dominic Crossan. This wonderfully accessible text is an excellent tool which reclaims the original birth story before 2,000 years of history and interpretation shaped it. .

"Unplug the Christmas Machine Book: a complete guide to putting love & warmth back into the season" by Jo Robinson and Jean C. Staeheli This thoughtful book offers practical suggestions at reclaiming the true meaning of the season in our present day practice. What a great concept!

Naramata Centre ... Have You Heard?

Naramata Centre is 60 years old and it needs our help!

by Ellen J

Naramata Centre has embarked on a major capital campaign to maintain, repair and update many of the facilities on this Okanagan site.

It is nearly thirty-five years since the centre launched a major project such as this. Aging facilities need both substantial maintenance and improvements that cannot be undertaken through operating income. As faithful stewards we are called to join together and commit to renew and sustain Naramata Centre's vibrant ministry. Individuals, congregations, businesses and organizations will create the Centre's future, so it is here for our children to bring their children to.



Naramata Centre has been a part of my life since I was fourteen. (Maybe even earlier, because I know my parents attended as young adults!) I went on United Church youth retreats there and they played an integral part in my decision to spend my sixteenth summer volunteering with the United Church air ministry outside of Alert Bay.

Naramata inspired and challenged me then and it still does. At different stages of my life it has met my different needs. Since its beginning in 1947, the centre has equipped people to provide leadership in the United Church, and it has led the way in experiential learning.

People and congregations throughout western Canada are supported and nurtured through programs in leadership development, spiritual nurture and healing, inspiring worship and music, and through the experience of Christian community life. It's a magical place. It's our place...and it needs our help.

Deer Lake will be raising funds this year to support Naramata Centre's Capital Campaign. We will have information along with donation envelopes and pledge forms and a thermometer with an indication of funds raised to date available in the hall after church on a regular basis. We plan to embark on other fundraising as well.

Please keep your eyes open in the months to come. Give what you're able to and share stories and experiences about Naramata with other members of the congregation. Maybe an article for the newsletter?

We hope to write a substantial cheque to Naramata on behalf of the people of Deer Lake United Church in June. Naramata Centre has served us very, very well over the past sixty years. It's time to return the favour. Please contribute.



A few Naramata photos from years gone by

Sanctuary Decoration Party

Join us on **Friday November 28th at 7 p.m.** as we prepare our sanctuary for the Advent of Christmas. There are trees to be decorated, banners to be hung, and decorations to be placed throughout the sanctuary. There will also be crafts and goodies for the kids. Come one, come all and prepare for the coming of the Christ Child!

Upcoming Services at Deer Lake

Sunday October 19th

The **River City Gospel Jazz Band** returns to Deer Lake by popular demand. This well received group had the congregation's soul singing with the gospel jazz message for weeks.

Sunday November 2nd

Deer Lake has become very active in a ministry to the homeless in Burnaby by providing bag lunches now on a monthly basis for the Thursday drop in program. (Please speak to the Outreach Committee if you would like to get involved) This Sunday service will include a brief presentation from a representative from the **Burnaby Task Force on Homelessness**. Come and learn more about this important ministry of outreach and caring.

Sunday November 16th

Bill H will be providing some of the leadership on this service which focuses on the spirituality and teachings of the **Lord's Prayer**.

Sunday November 23rd

Rev. Dr. Gordon Turner (the father of our minister) will be returning to lead worship at Deer Lake. During his retirement, Gordon has been keeping busy helping the Whistler Shared Ministry Parish as well as working on his golf game.

Deer Lake 'Night at the Theatre'

'A Night at the Theatre' is an opportunity to gather with friends at the theatre and enjoy a spiritual message at the same time. Now in their 25th year, the Pacific Theatre (www.pacifictheatre.org) is part of the unique ministry of Holy Trinity Anglican Church.

Many may be familiar with this wonderful church located at 12th and Hemlock which was formerly the site of Chalmer's United Church.

The next performance, "*Jesus, My Boy*", is described as a chance to meet "one of history's forgotten characters – Joseph, stepfather to the Son of God – in a gently comic reminiscence about parenthood, carpentry and the coming of the Messiah. The evocative music of Sheree Plett and Jeremy Eisenhauer add mystery to this earthy, plain-spoken "gospel according to Joseph" that's played around the world, from London's West End to Tel Aviv"

We hope you will join us for this wonderful production on **Friday December 5th at 8 p.m.** Please **sign up by Sunday November 2nd** to ensure that we can sit as a group. The cost for tickets are \$34 (adults) and \$24 (students and seniors).

East Burnaby United Church Memories Passed on to DLUC

I would like to take this opportunity to express the deepest of thanks to East Burnaby United Church. As you are reading this, and think of members from this congregation, can you please pass my message of thanks onto them?

It was with mixed emotions that I attended their Garage Sale this summer, as the Church is disbanding. Many years of memories and love were being organized and given away.

When I arrived at the Garage Sale, on behalf of DLUC, I was welcomed with open arms and happiness as the items I collected would be appreciated and well used at another Church.

I gathered many beautiful, hand stitched nativity costumes, art and craft supplies, music, candles and much more (two trips and two very FULL trunk loads!). These items will live on and be well loved at Deer Lake with our growing and exciting Sunday School.

Thank you again East Burnaby United Church, and may God bless you at this time of transition.

Elizabeth C (CE Committee)

Deer Lake Gets New Minister for Children and Youth

Our Christian Education Committee is delighted to announce the addition of Melissa Taylor to our ministry team. In her current position at the BC Conference Office of the United Church of Canada, Melissa serves as the administrative support person for the Conference Youth Minister.

She is also a part-time student at Douglas College with interests in history, leadership and psychology. At Deer Lake, Melissa will be dividing her time between Sunday Night Youth Group and the Grade 3-6 Sunday School.

Welcome Melissa. We look forward to your sharing in ministry with us!

2009 DLUC Women's Retreat

SAVE THIS DATE if you are a woman in the congregation. The date of the women's retreat is **MAY 1-3, 2009**. The retreat will be held on Bowen Island at the Rivendell Retreat Centre.

This is a fabulous centre – new, modern, accessible by everyone, a view of Horseshoe Bay and the water, fabulous program, great leadership, new outdoor labyrinth and very reasonable for cost. The program will run from early Friday evening to after lunch on Sunday. Sign up will begin in January.

There will be a \$50 fee to cover food and materials and some of that will be refunded depending on costs. The accommodation is on a sliding scale of \$20 to \$50 per night. Watch the bulletin board in the hall for detail to be posted.

Challenging Ourselves to Improve

by Garry F

At the Annual General Meeting in February, you were asked to identify what you considered to be the most important challenges to be addressed during the coming year. Your input was gathered, sorted and analyzed, and in May the Board reviewed the results. There was no lack of ideas, but three clear priorities bubbled to the top of the list. They are:

- Stewardship - In this case, we are not talking about looking after just our building. More importantly we see the need to nurture the health of our congregation. This encompasses how we support our DLUC community by volunteering our time and talents, participating in programmes and events, and (of course!) contributing financially.
- Outreach - This challenge was carried over from the previous year. We clearly see a need to continue and expand our outreach to those in need. Our rejuvenated Outreach Committee is hard at work, but volunteers for specific initiatives are always needed.
- Sunday School - Staffing our Sunday School with volunteer teachers is always a challenge. In May, the Christian Education Committee recommended, and the Board approved, the creation of a new Children's Ministry Worker position. C.E. was busy over the summer advertising for and interviewing candidates. They have just announced the hiring of our new part-time Children's Ministry Worker.

The Board reviews these challenges every month to ensure we are working on those items you identified as needing most attention. Please keep these priorities in mind, and if any of them particularly resonate with you, consider what you can do to help address them.

We are very grateful to Mike Kyer, owner of METRO PRINTERS, for once again donating the printing of this full colour edition of Lakeshore Lines.

**Visit METRO PRINTERS at
<http://www.metroprinters.net>
or call them at 604-685-2927**

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: g.forwood@yahoo.ca

Jim Young: jimyoung@shaw.ca

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Submission Deadline: November 30th, 2008

Deer Lake Choir Christmas in July

For a number of years, Ken and Marilyn R have hosted a "Christmas in July" party at their home. It is always a lot of fun, and it provides a means of the choir keeping in touch over the summer months.

There are the usual goodies and "interesting" gift exchange, but the highlight is always the singing of Christmas Carols, with Marilyn performing a very popular rendition of "Six White Boomers".

It's hard to believe that Christmas is only 10 weeks away.



Colleen K is obviously ecstatic with her gift

Congratulations to Allison M

Allison completed her ARCT Performer's piano exam in June with first class honours.

Her 45-minute performance recital included works by Bach, Beethoven, Brahms, Chopin, Debussy and Bartok.

She is currently working on the required theory courses, and hopes to become an Associate of the Royal Conservatory of Music in 2009.

Crafts, Campfires, Canoes and Kayaks

by Wendy K

A good time was had by all at this year's Deer Lake United Church Cultus Lake Camping trip. There was great weather, warm fellowship, a wide variety of excellent food, and the kids had a blast!

The community effort of all was outstanding and ensured a fun weekend. Everyone had a chance to appreciate the beauty of the environment, both from the land and the lake, as many of the campers went either kayaking or canoeing.

Reverend Scott held an inspiring service, incorporating the children's craft of a Noah's Ark into his sermon. His message of loving one another and taking care of our world was intensified by the pristine beauty of the surroundings. The service was supported by the amazing piano playing of Marilyn Rushon, deeply touching at times and playful at others.

Sports enthusiasts played volley ball, football, basketball and bocci. There was even some "extreme" hiking going on.

Quote of the week:

"I am looking forward to going to church now because seeing everyone will remind me of Cultus Lake."

— Kennedy N

The days wound down with popcorn, hot chocolate, marshmallow roasting and smores, around a crackling campfire. Saturday night's fun included a sing a long around the campfire, led by Marilyn.

Claire Stegen kept the children busy with games and crafts. The best part of the weekend for me, was to see the kids able to run freely in the safety of the campground. Tempo shared the freedom that the children enjoyed, frolicking to and fro, as well.

Being relatively new to the church, the camping weekend provided an opportunity for my family to get to know some of the other families. Deer Lake United Church has always felt like one big happy community and this weekend it felt like one big happy family.



BBQ Kings ... Andrew H, Mike K and Ken R



Flaming Smores!- Caitlin, Erica and Brian McN and Maxine N



Darlene A looking very comfortable



Bruce C and Susan G risk a smooch

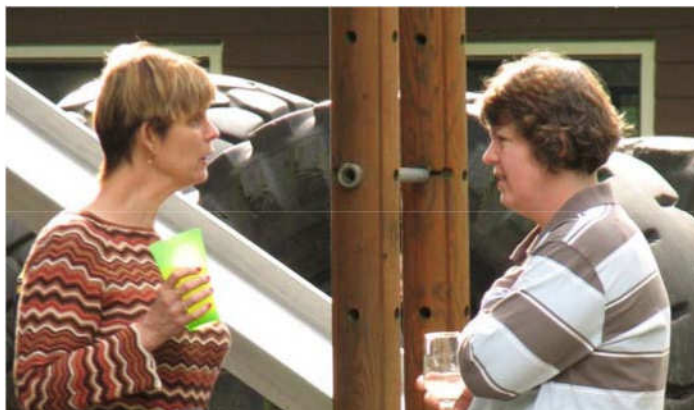


A cute Naomi C at the craft table

Canoeing and Kayaking Were Very Popular



Pocahontas, Hiawatha, Mikayla and Ethan



Marilyn R and Dana J seeing eye to eye



Mike K, Paul G, Sean K, Ethan T and Rai-Ann L



Kennedy N



Cheryl G (Claire S's daughter)

Some Children's Comments Regarding the Campout

I liked all of it!

Playing around and having a good time!

Super- kayaking and the games were awesome!

It was fun with all the kids, kayaking was the best and we saw a beaver dam!

We went swimming and it was fun!

I liked the campout. I liked the Piñata. I liked the candies and going in the canoe with my dad and mom.

I liked the crafts, roasting marshmallows and playing in the park. I kayaked for the first time. It was cool!

Hi I'm Sean.

I went to Cultus Lake Camp with my church and my mom and dad and I had so much fun.

We roasted marshmallows and made smores and my dad pushed me on a tire swing and he made me hit bumps. Another fun thing was going kayaking. And we enjoyed the nice scenery.

The cabin was very nice too. But the best thing was having breakfast, lunch and dinner. I loved the piñata but I didn't like the scavenger hunt because I never got my medal. The scavenger hunt was too hard. I liked church and Reverend Scott's story about Noah's ark was the best.