

LAKESHORE LINES

March, 2012

Free and worth every cent!

The Journey of a Lifetime

By Rev. G. Scott Turnbrook

On January 18th, I embarked on my first pilgrimage to the Holy Land of Israel. It was, for me, a journey of a lifetime. Some had asked me how long it took to plan a trip like this. In some ways, this trip had been in the planning for the better part of two decades. As most know, I am a second generation pastor. My father

had led a number of tours to Israel during his ministry. We had dreamed of jointly leading a tour together; however, both trips that we had planned occurred during times of increased tension in the Middle East and they were cancelled under the advisement of Canadian Consulate. So, I was delighted that my 2012 trip was a "go". While I never had the chance to co-lead a trip with my father, it seemed fortuitous to step on Israeli soil on the third anniversary of his death. I felt his presence with me during the trip.

ceeded at a busy pace. Following our morning arrival into Ben Gurion airport, we toured the city of Tel Aviv and visited the Port of Joppa,

We continued along the Mediterranean up to Caesarea, to Tel Dor and out to Mt. Carmel. We next moved to a Kibbutz on the southern shore of the Sea of Galilee and toured Tel Dan, Caesarea Philippi, and the Golan Heights.

The following day, we drove along the Shores of the Sea of Galilee to Tiberias and visited Capernaum, the Mt. of Beatitudes, Tabgha, Kursi, Bethsaida, Korazin and Hazor. We next went to some of the places of Jesus' childhood: Nazareth and Bet Shean. As the journey continued, we visited Massada, Ein Gedi, Qumran, and the Dead Sea.

After packing up from the kibbutz, we relocated to a hotel in Jerusalem where we prepared to visit many of the Holy Week sites such as the Jewish Quarter, Cardo Maxima, Herodian Quarter, Western Wall, the Virtual Jerusalem Presentation, Mt. Zion, Upper Room, David's City and the Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial. It was a very rich and full 10 days!

I was delighted to travel with the tour company Christian Journeys (www.christianjourneys.com) and its president Brian Watt. They are a small Christian tour company from Ontario who specialize in Christian pilgrimages both through Israel as well as through the early expansion of the church into Europe during St. Paul's ministry.

I was blessed to share the journey with a unique group of pilgrims. My travel mates were all ordained clergy from the Baptist Fellowship denomination and a few brought their spouse. They made for some wonderful travel companions by day and some fun theological discussion partners by night.

Our trip lasted for 10 days and pro-

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Christ Carrying the Cross by El Greco

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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I was truly blessed to experience such a tapestry of our history as a Christian person. Since my return, a number of people asked me what my favourite stop was. I was thinking about that question even as I found myself reviewing my pictures on the plane ride home.

What did each stop mean to me? I cannot honestly say that one site was more profound or meaningful than any other. I enjoyed them all in different and wonderful ways. For me, my favourite part of the trip was not a particular trip. It was the people and their passion for their faith, their history and their tradition.

To walk in Israel is to truly walk on holy ground. It is a place where the heart beat of faith is palpable. It is a place where faith is truly alive in the people and in the land. I gained a much deeper understanding into the nature of the conflict between different cultures and religions and found some of that fire to be re-ignited in my soul as well.

As I returned home from this journey of a lifetime, I feel changed, renewed and blessed. For me, to experience the places

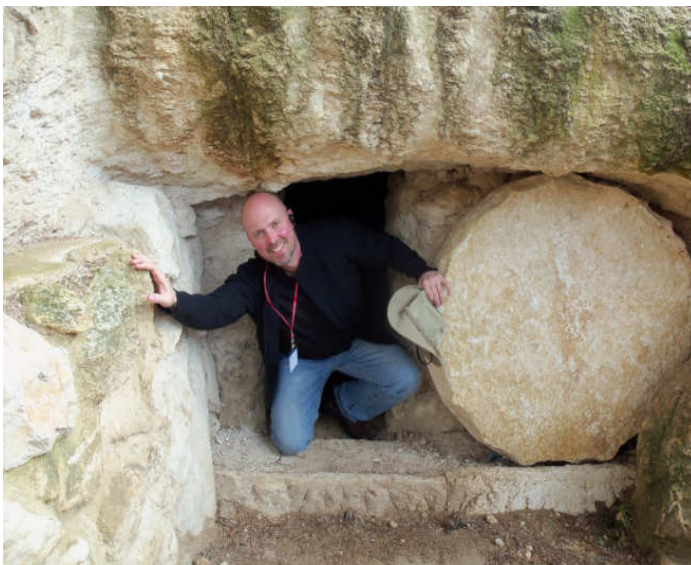
where our faith story occurred caused everything to move to a new level me. I told a colleague that the Bible had become “3-D” as a result of this trip. Everything has come alive in a new way for me.

In fact, I found more than a third dimension in my faith, I was blessed to experience some of the smells, tastes and other sensations of the origins of our faith. The coordinator of the tour, a wonderful retired Baptist pastor named Gordon Reeves told me that this was his 25th tour to Israel. He told me that throughout his entire ministry the most powerful component of transformation in people’s faith has occurred through the various pilgrimages he has led. “God transforms people here” Gord told me. I guess it hasn’t changed over these many millennia. God is alive in the Holy Land and to experience that life is to be forever transformed.

I pray that this trip will continue to enhance my ministry as I seek to faithfully work as your spiritual leader in our church.

Shalom, Salaam, Peace

Rev. Scott



Coming out of one of the preserved tombs



One of the last original stones on the gateway to Jerusalem (Jesus would have walked along this path)



Tour group on the steps leading to Jerusalem City

Family Movie Night

The children of Deer Lake Park are helping children around the world. They are organizing a Family Movie Night for April 20th at 6 pm in the chapel.

Donations gathered from water and popcorn sales will go toward Free the Children (www.freethechildren.com).

Mark your calendar. The movie will be for all ages!

Deer Lake Says Au Revoir to Mary B.

(Submitted by Janice C. on behalf of the former Deer Lake UCW members.)

On February 11, 2012 we said good-bye to our beloved Mary B. Mary passed away on January 30th, one day following her 91st birthday..

Mary was a long time member of Deer Lake and participated in the life of the church in so many ways doing any job that a woman could do.

She spent a great deal of time in the nursery and taught Sunday School. She is well remembered by the Pinto "boys" who loved having her with them in the nursery so many years ago.

Most importantly, Mary was a proud UCW member becoming the President for several years.

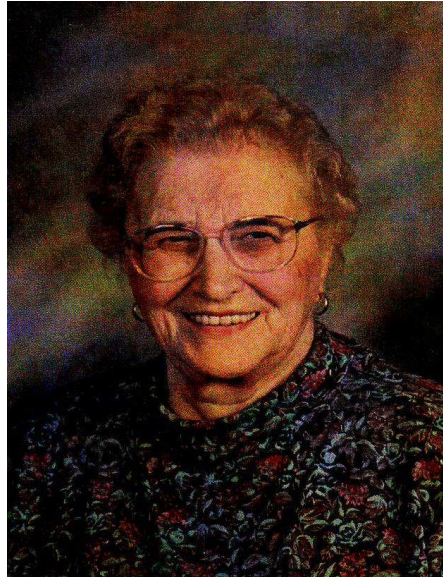
Mary was very influential to many of us and set an amazing example for us to follow. She was generous and caring and taught the rest of us the value of "doing it right".

She taught us respect and tolerance and was filled with a wonderful grace while doing so.

She taught us that providing a memorial tea was a great privilege and that we should always feel honoured to be able to carry out this task.

Mary loved to bake and was famous for her cinnamon buns. In reading old UCW meeting minutes, it quickly became evident that this was a long standing talent!

In 1974 it was first noted that "a



Mary Benson (1921-2012)

beautiful tea was provided by Mary Benson" and she was thanked for her delicious treats.

Again in 1987, the very last entry for the Riverdale Unit, Mary was once again thanked for her "delicious cinnamon buns". She continued to bake treats until moving into a senior's residence. She taught me that baking was not something that you had to do, it was something that you should love to do.

She told me that there was never an excuse to feel lonely or bored because that is when you baked and then you would always feel better. Mary always had cookies and buns in her freezer "just

in case they were needed".

Mary often declared that growing old was not for sissies. She always carried a poem in her purse called "The Golden Years". She felt that this poem told it how it was. The poem ends with: "*The golden years have come at last ... the golden years can kiss my ***!!*"

She loved to read this and then would giggle and laugh. She made us all laugh, she was so very special.

Mary was a care ringer in her later years and would always call saying "It's your ring-a-ling ding-a-ling calling and then she would ask "Do I have to tell you everything?"

I always made her tell me everything and again we would laugh.

In the last few years Mary began to suffer from memory loss and then progressed into dementia.

She no longer remembered who we were or where Deer Lake was. There is no doubt however, that we will always remember our Mary, who worshipped with us, worked with us, laughed with us, cried with us and who loved us all unconditionally.

She will always be sitting on our shoulders whenever we are in the kitchen. She will be missed and we will continue to strive to "do it right" as Mary taught us.

We loved her and we will miss her.



The Deer Lake Church Choir

Proudly presents

"Art and Soul"

An exciting evening of entertainment and silent auction.

Friday, March 30th, 7 p.m.

Deer Lake United Church (5135 Sperling Avenue)

Tickets: \$15, Seniors & Pre-teens \$10, Family of 2 adults & children \$40.

(Please contact a choir member for tickets.)

Proceeds to Outreach and Deer Lake Church Building Fund

Epiphany Explorations 2012

by Pat Y.

It was with excited anticipation that again I journeyed to First Metropolitan Church in downtown Victoria, for four days retreat and rejuvenation. I was not disappointed, as every workshop, worship service, musical event and lecture exceeded my expectations.

Marcus Borg and Richard Rohrbaugh were the keynote speakers, explaining away all questions on ancient biblical language in a modern society, and making it all so easy to understand.

To interpret the word Righteousness with the word Justice, and Mercy with the word Compassion makes reading the bible easier. Check out on-line Marcus Borg, "Speaking Christian" or "Reclaiming Christian Language".

David Giuliano, former moderator, had a family emergency, so was not able to attend. However two members of his congregation did an excellent job of reading his notes and presenting his workshop "Small is Beautiful...Small Church Ministry". They conveyed eloquently how their small church had a big impact on their community.

To become a small church with a strong voice, without burning out its few members, takes careful planning. They suggested we begin by taking a good look at our Core Ministry.

What are we best at doing, what are we known for, which ministry has the most support from our membership. Try to find a focus. We cannot spread ourselves so thin as to not be effective in our core area.

It was suggested that if we are diligent and consistent with

our core ministry, relationship building emerges in response to our gifts.

We are attractive to those who are searching for a church with those very gifts, and we can be a consistent blessing in the community. Besides, we all know we do better at what we are good at, and enjoy doing it for a longer period.

So begin by writing down a list of passions, and find one that gets the biggest vote.

This doesn't mean that we give up on everything else we do, but our Core Ministry is where we should spend the most energy, and money.

There were wonderful ministries discussed, and I could have said "yes, let's do that" to half a dozen. To concentrate on just one takes commitment.

If we find what our neighbourhood is missing, but is present in our faith community and it is our passion, our small church will grow by attracting those we can serve best.

The Sunday morning worship was filled with exquisite music, singing, prayers and Gary Patterson, masterfully retelling the Jonah story.

The worship service touched our hearts, stirred longing for wholeness, advance understanding of our lives, helped find hope for the week ahead, and was less of a theological lecture and more of a learning experience.

However, the small church workshop, on that cold wet weekend in January, was my Epiphany



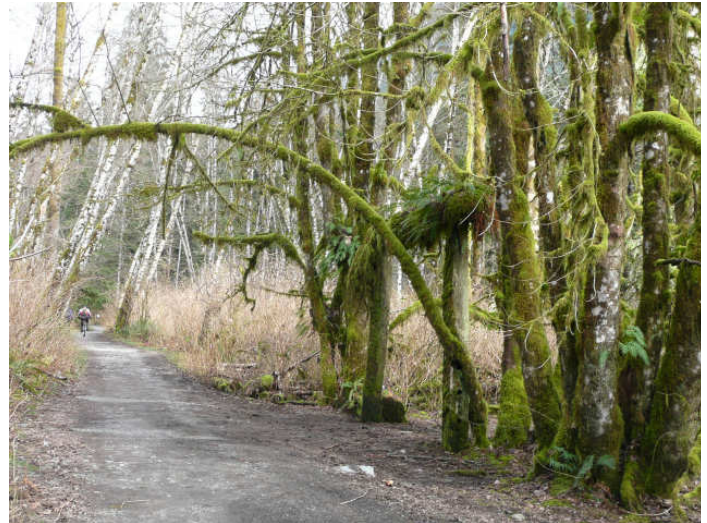
Crucifixion by Pieter Bruegel the Elder

Lent opens

And we're off again
with forehead freshly smeared
and spirit seared anew by
memories of dust, rumors of all
or nothing up ahead.
These frigid days and weeks lean
inward, huddling for warmth, and
disciplines attempt in vain
to shape them toward value, meaning,
promise. Warmth will, of course,
return bearing its customary,
temporary, blossoming.
But all remains a stay of execution
till the stone is rolled, those sentries flee,
and startled women run with aching
news.

— by J. Barrie Shepherd

Cycling by the Seymour



Do you enjoy cycling? Garry F. is organizing a group mountain bike outing along the Seymour River in mid-May or early June. The ride will be a picturesque 25 km round trip with a gradual 500 ft altitude gain (< 2% grade on average). It is suitable for anyone who is comfortable riding on easy to moderate unpaved trails. If you have a mountain bike in good condition and would like to join us, please watch for the poster and sign-up

sheet in the hall. In the meantime, please talk to Garry if you have any questions.

Holy Week Services at Deer Lake United Church

Palm Sunday (Sunday April 1 at 10:30 a.m.)

Join us for the most paradoxical Sunday in the Christian year as we gather considering the Royal Palm welcome offered to Jesus alongside the imminent Passion of his suffering.

Maundy Thursday (Thursday April 5 at 6 p.m.)

An interactive pot luck meal reenacting the disciples' Last Supper with Jesus. If possible, please bring some 'finger food' items to share that are reminiscent of early first century (figs, dates, bread, cheese, etc) In the tradition of Jesus sharing the cup, wine is welcomed at this service.

Good Friday April 6 at 10 a.m.

This year, all the United Churches in Burnaby will be joining together for one united service at Deer Lake United Church. We invite one and all to gather for a morning of worship and fellowship. A walk of the cross will follow the service.

10:00 a.m. Good Friday event at Deer Lake United Church
12:00 Walk of the cross.

Easter Sunday (Sunday April 8 at 10:30 a.m.)

Dietrich Bonhoeffer suggests every Sunday to be a 'little Easter'. As such, this Sunday becomes the foundation for our theology of Sunday worship. This well-attended service includes Holy Communion. Come early!

NORTH SHORE LIGHT OPERA SOCIETY
 presents
Gilbert & Sullivan's
Opening April 20
 April 19-21, 26-28
 & May 2-5 8pm
 April 22 & 29 2pm
 May 2 Singalong Mikado

THE MIKADO

Presentation House Theatre
 333 Chesterfield Ave. N Van

Adults \$30
 Seniors \$25
 Students \$20

stage director:
 Matthew Bissett
 music director:
 Edette Gagné

A comedic 'Mikado' for the 21st century
 Tickets: 604.990.3474 phtheatre.org nslos.com

This performance of "The Mikado" is a hilarious, not to be missed, non-traditional version. Also note something new this year - one "sing-a-long" performance". Should be fun! Contact Kathryn S. for further information about possible discounts on tickets and to purchase tickets for any of the performances.

A Gentle Beginning to Lent



Scott and Rev. Kimiko Karpoff

The men’s group hosted a wonderful pancake supper with 70 in attendance followed by the service led by Rev. Kimiko and Scott.

The participants were encouraged to make a “Lenten Commitment” (i.e. what they would like to give up and/or take on over the season of Lent) and record that commitment on the sticky note. Towards the end of the service participants placed the sticky on the cross.

Deer Lake 2012 Committee List

BOARD EXECUTIVE

- Janice C. – Chair
- Garry F. – Past Chair
- Rev. Scott Turnbrook – Minister
- Becky A. – Board Secretary
- Cathy M. - Treasurer (Finance)
- Mary C. - Envelope Secretary
- *Plus one representative from each ministry committee

STEWARDS

- Laurie S.– Chair
- Joanne A.
- Arnie B.
- Janice C.
- Steve McL.

MINISTRY & PERSONNEL (Board-appointed)

- Greg N. – Chair
- Ruth S.
- Brian McN.
- Don S.

PASTORAL CARE

- Shirley McG. – Chair
- Marg M.
- Kellee M.
- Trish S. – Sunshine Committee
- Pat Y. – Welcome Initiative

TRUSTEES (Board-appointed)

- Janice C.
- Bob C.
- Steve McL.
- Laurie S.

COMMUNICATIONS

- Garry F. – Chair
- Jim Y.

WORSHIP (Chair rotates)

- Mary C.
- Colleen K.
- Mike K.
- Mary L.
- Shirley McG.
- Beth R.
- Rev. Scott Turnbrook
- Marie P. - Liturgical Arts

FINANCE

- Cathy M. – Chair
- Mary C.
- Tony W.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

- Gloria F.
- Sharon H.
- Kathy R.
- Phyllis S.
- Claire S.
- Peggy W.
- Elizabeth W.

OUTREACH

- Linda W. (Chair)
- Paul A.
- Barb D.
- Pat M.
- Marj R.
- Phyllis S.
- Claire S.

LIBRARY, PHOTOS & RECORDS

- Ruth S.

PRESBYTERY REPS

- Laurie S. & Jean J.

NARAMATA REPS

- Jean MacL. / Don W.



Deer Lake United Church well represented at the AGM



The Pieta by Giorgio Vasari

Pot Luck Lunch and Estate Planning Seminar

April 24th at 12 p.m.
at Deer Lake United Church

In the course of my funeral ministry, I have dealt with many families during times of grief. One consistent observation I find is that preplanning one's affairs can provide a lot of comfort and clarity to those left behind. To clearly articulate one's wishes about all the many things that occur following one's death is a tremendous comfort to one's family and friends.

I am pleased to invite you to attend this no-cost seminar which will provide you with some of the tools that you may find helpful. I hope you will consider attending. We will gather for a pot-luck luncheon at noon in the fellowship hall followed by a presentation from Jason Probyn at 1 p.m.

Rev. Scott

In my information session, you will learn about the physical, financial and emotional benefits that come with planning your estate and outlining your final wishes. You will receive answers to questions such as: What is the importance of a will? Will insurance dollars be enough? What decisions need to be made and what are the timelines involved when a death occurs? What do I do next?

We can never be prepared emotionally for the loss of a loved one. But when your wishes are spelled out in detail, you will leave your family with a blueprint and provide them with a great deal of comfort. At the seminar, you will receive a complimentary copy of our Estate Planning Kit and find out how our company-sponsored programs can assist you. This will be an informative and engaging session. I look forward to seeing you there! Please join us in the fellowship hall

Jason Probyn

Greetings from Saskatchewan

It has been an amazingly mild winter! We have only had three weeks of cold and they were well separated by warm, sunny days. When I woke today it was blowing, snowing, but a mild -4C. There is a winter storm warning for the area so I didn't hop in the car for the 1.5 hour drive to the Presbytery meeting. The wind has persisted but by 8am the snow quit falling. Hoping it holds that way so service tomorrow is possible. It's been 22 years since I experienced a prairie winter; coping with the weather has probably been my greatest challenge.

The church here did not tempt anyone with pancakes this week. I enjoyed some at home as I contemplated the Lenten Study. Prayer writing is the topic. Here a group gathers and plans the bulletins for the next couple of months. They have great resources but would like to write some of their own prayers so we will gather to see what we can learn from the bible, each other and the foot high pile of books I have on prayer.

I have two baptisms booked; one in March before seeding starts and one on Easter Sunday, a long weekend so family can gather. This is exciting as babies in the local church are few and far between. I am privileged to have this opportunity to minister to these young families.

When I review my activities there are church services, funerals, visiting, services in the extended care home and meals. The major source of fundraising for local services –the ice rink, curling, school, fifty-plus clubs etc. is meals. I have been to Christmas dinners, rink suppers, fifty plus lunches and more in four communities! Cyd, my puppy, gets lots of walking in an effort to maintain some balance.

I was in Vancouver late in January and successfully completed the Readiness for Ministry interview. I have chosen the 'Call' route so am in the process of searching for one.

May your Lenten observance draw you closer to the Author and Giver of Life, life in abundance, Amen.

Pamela Scott



Scott, Janice and Becky officiate at AGM



The Way of the Cross by Giovanni Battista

Working in Kisoro, Uganda

(The following excerpt is from Tony W's diary: Working in Kisoro, Uganda)

We are up in the Virunga Mountains, where Uganda meets Rwanda and Congo, and the nights are pitch black, absolutely silent and quite cool. Early in the morning it is about 12°C, so my cold shower on Tuesday (January 24th) morning felt very cold. After a simple breakfast, we headed to the Water School office in Kisoro town, about 1 km from the Noah's Ark Inn. There we had a short meeting with the local staff, Herbert, the leader, and Annet, Moses and Elisha. We did introductions, and then headed to meet the key government officials who run Kisoro District, a densely populated (in a rural way), steeply hilly area of 320,000 people.



Taxi rank in Kisoro, Uganda

Government officials are important here. There is no real industry apart from intense agriculture (the land is very fertile, with lots of rain), except a bit of local construction, and a small but growing tourist business, focused on mountain gorilla trekking (This is "Gorillas in the Mist" country).

As we heard, there are many serious health issues here, and the provision of health services and schools and infrastructure is very important. Many of the health issues are caused by the land formation. It is a rocky place, with not much topsoil. To be safe, people need to have pit latrines – holes in the ground with a cover (usually cement), with walls and a roof. It's like a "squatty" in a provincial park in BC. Ideally these are 20 feet deep or more, so that there is no chance of them filling up and overflowing in the heavy rains.

If this happens, then human waste flows across the ground, and there is high likelihood of contaminating drinking sources. Then diseases, like cholera, typhoid, acute diarrhea, and other intestinal infections occur. These can kill people. So the basic problem is that digging safe pit latrines is hard and often it is not possible to do it properly, and drinking water becomes contaminated and dangerous.

So, water contamination is a very serious problem. I vol-

unteer as African Program Director, for a Canadian charity called the Water School. The purpose of the Water School is to provide simple, inexpensive techniques to make sure that the water people drink is safe, and that they stop getting sick or dying from water borne diseases. We teach people several things to make their lives safer:

- Use solar disinfection (SODIS) to kill all the bacteria and viruses in their local water. (This requires putting their normal drinking water in plastic water bottles and placing them in the sun for a day. This makes their water safe to drink, and is certified by the World Health Organization. I drank Sodis water for 2 weeks and had no problems.)
- Make and use proper, safe pit latrines
- Set up "tippy taps" which are simple hand washing stations, made from available local materials, so that they do not recontaminate their water bottles with dirty hands
- Dig garbage pits in their home compounds
- Make simple, private bath houses, so that they wash regularly, and the water doesn't flow around their houses
- Make simple drying racks for household utensils, so that these stay clean after washing
- Make sure that their compounds are clean from rubbish

All these things can be done from readily available local materials, like sticks, string, plastic jerry cans, regular plastic water bottles, and stones.

The day went well, and we met with many local civil servants, education and health officials, and the chief politician in the district. All of them knew about our work and were very appreciative of the impact we have made reducing the incidence of water borne diseases, especially acute diarrhea in young children. The district education inspector said our work was "Godly given". Our day concluded with some preparations for the following day's events, which was to feature a training session for 30 VHT volunteers in the complete water school program.

(Continued on Page 9)



Graduation from Water School training

Working in Kisoro, Uganda (Cont.)

(Continued from Page 8)

Wednesday was a FULL day. After breakfast, we went to the office. Ignatius and the team worked on setting up the Village Health Team training session, while Joseph, James, Herbert and I went to see Gideon, the District Health Inspector, who organizes the volunteer Village Health Teams.

Gideon was a very impressive guy and when asked, gave the exact number of typhoid cases they had confirmed in a recent outbreak – 230 in the period from July 2011 to November 2011. The actual number was probably some degree more. Information like this is carefully guarded because it can be used by political opposition against incumbents, and he only told us when we said we were working with him, and had no business talking with journalists. He also confirmed that several people had died, and that the outbreak was both in the rural areas and the town where there was piped water.

We returned to the community school building where we were doing the VHT training. Ignatius was using a power point presentation, but a difference from doing this in the west, was that we needed a diesel generator to provide our power. Everything is just a bit more complicated in a place like rural Uganda. The 30 people gradually drifted in. Some had walked up to 15 kms to get there – even while carrying babies!

The training was in the local language, Lufumbira, because not everyone's English is great (this is also the language of Rwanda). All the team took different parts in it, and they were really able to get these subsistence farmers engaged. Although it started out pretty quietly, after a few minutes the questions started coming and also a few ideas for improving the program.

We then had lunch of meat, beans, matoke (mashed, un-sweet bananas), and potatoes, with groundnut sauce. I'm not sure if I have ever seen people eat so much. Even though we had an enormous amount of food, we just about ran out. After lunch, we all walked a km to a farmer's home, where we were to do a transformation of their compound. From cutting down a few small trees and splitting them, and a few other local materials, in a couple of hours the farmers, with the guidance of the Water School team, had:

- Built a working tippy tap hand washing station
- Improved a private bath house
- Dug a rubbish pit
- Built a drying rack for dishes and household utensils
- Swept the compound clean

It was quite a transformation, and cleverly reinforced everything we had talked about in the morning.

Finally we went back to the school and gave each person a summary of the program and a "Burnaby, British Columbia" pin, kindly donated by my friend, Gary Begin. They were very pleased and started their long journeys home.

Elisha had invited Dan, a young guy from the local radio station to attend the training and workshop, and Dan asked if he

could do an interview with me for their English language channel. Of course, I said yes, and I got to do a 3 minute plug for our program of Sodis, proper latrines and hand washing and sanitation. I asked if we could also do it in Lufumbira, and Joseph got to do the same for that channel. We listened to the broadcast the following day, and it worked out pretty well. These broadcasts went out to the whole district.



Building a tippy tap hand washing station

This story covers just 2 days in my recent 3 week trip to Uganda and Kenya with the Water School. There were so many stories and interesting people I met.

Someone said to me recently "Oh, Africa is so hopeless!" I totally disagree! Most westerners would be absolutely shocked at the wisdom, knowledge and most of all humour, of African people – not just officials, but the peasant farmers too. These are materially very poor countries, but I strongly believe that people living there are no more or less happy than our community in Burnaby.

Of course we ARE much richer, and we can do a lot to help them develop faster. I am very proud of the Water School. Unlike many charities, we have no paid staff outside our target countries, but do have paid staff in the field. We don't just write cheques to other organizations – our money goes directly into teaching better habits in villages and schools.

If you would like to know more, please visit www.waterschool.com. A monthly donation, however small, is the most valuable support for us, because we can plan around regular income.

Notes from the Outreach Committee

(Deer Lake United Church continues to reach out to both the local and global community.)



Hope for Families hampers and helpers Phyllis Slater and Marj Reilly

This past Christmas, through the Burnaby Christmas Bureau, Deer Lake Church sponsored four families and two senior couples.

The generous donations from the congregation allowed us to provide them with gifts, groceries and other needed items.

Many thanks to Phyllis S., who coordinated everything, as well as to those who hosted the Christmas families: Scott and Jennifer T., Arnie and Edna B., Barbara D. and Morgan R., Brian McN. and Marie P. and Don and Shelley S.

- Youth Hub: The Burnaby Youth Hub, formerly known as Edmonds Youth Centre, was very appreciative of the Christmas dinner prepared by members of DLUC on Dec. 17th. Special thanks to Andrew Hull, Peggy Woodruff and all others who contributed.
- Also during the Christmas season, Deer Lake members clothed the Naked Tree in the narthex with three bagsful of socks, underwear, gloves and scarves, which were delivered to the Progressive Housing Society for distribution to the homeless of Burnaby. We are very grateful to Pat M. and Ruth S. for doing such a great job of managing the Naked Tree this year.
- We continue to receive and distribute clothing donations for Dixon House and the homeless people of Burnaby.
- On the Wednesday preceding the fourth Thursday of each month, Deer Lake pro-



The (not so) Naked Tree

vides 70 bag lunches to homeless people in Burnaby. Helpers are always needed to prepare these lunches. Upcoming lunch-making sessions will be at 1:00 pm on Wednesday March 21 and on Wednesday April 25.

- Outreach held a Soup Lunch following the service on March 11 as a fundraiser for our Hope for Families fund. (\$375 was raised.) This fund is used for Christmas families as well as for other community projects throughout the year that support families in need.



"People of the Hub" gather for their Christmas dinner

Burnaby United Church Conversations

Lakeshore Lines has sought to keep people updated on the monthly conversations that have occurred between our seven United Churches in Burnaby.

Rev. Scott, Janice C. and Ernie C. have continued to serve as the Deer Lake representatives to these conversations.

We are next moving towards a 'town hall' concept which will seek to gather a larger grouping of people into conversation.

At the core of our conversations on April 14th will be questions like: What do we envision as being a faithful, sustainable and vital model to serve to communities in Burnaby? How shall we best utilize our assets in these challenging times? How do you envision the future of the church in Burnaby?

We need your participation at the April meeting.

The United Churches of Burnaby are hosting an open workshop concerning the unification of the seven United Churches in Burnaby. This will be facilitated by an outside consultant. The discussion will include:

- Time to articulate a clear identity statement
- Discussion around the struggles facing each church
- Exploring if our values and visions are compatible
- Start to discern a process of finding, what God is calling the Burnaby United Churches to be in the future
- To create a plan for future talks

Saturday, April 14th

9:00 a.m. till 3:30 p.m. (lunch will be provided)

**Mountainview Room
at Fair Haven Burnaby
4383 Rumble Avenue**

Facilitator: The Rev. Dr. Brian Fraser

Cost: **No Charge**

Register by email to cowburn1@telus.net

Some documents you may wish to review before attending are: A Regional Vision for the United Church in the Lougheed Corridor; Truro Presbytery Future Directions Guide; Good News for a Change; Is Church Merger Right for Us?; and the Minutes of the Planning Team.

To obtain a PDF copy, email cowburn1@telus.net with your request.



Memorial Service

For anyone who is grieving
the loss of a loved one ...

The Burnaby Hospice Society warmly invites you to this annual public memorial service — an event that provides a meaningful ritual and compassionate support to anyone who has suffered the loss of a loved one. Join us for a half-hour of music, reflections, readings, and a commemorative candle-lighting. People of all ages, faiths, and spiritual practices are welcome. Information on additional support services will be on hand.

1 p.m., Wednesday, March 28, 2012

**at Deer Lake United Church
5135 Sperling Avenue, Burnaby**

1 p.m. service, 1:30 p.m. refreshments and fellowship

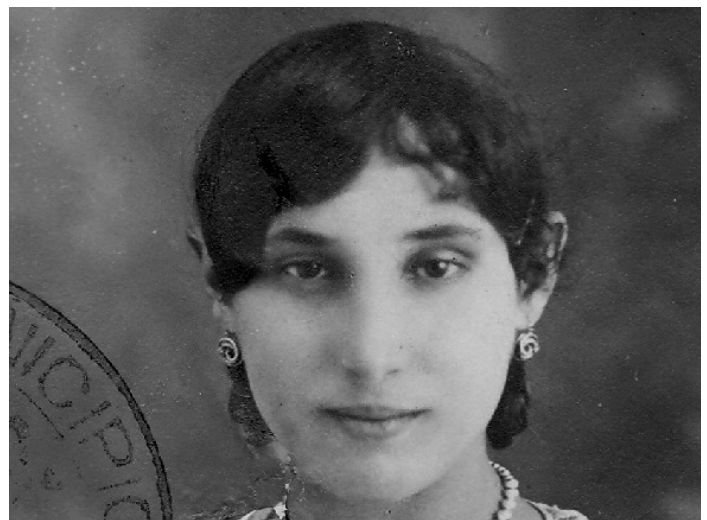
To have the name of your loved one included in the printed program, please contact the Burnaby Hospice Society, 604-520-5024 by March 23rd.

RSVPs by March 23rd are appreciated.

Drop-ins are also welcome.

Phone: 604-520-5024

email: info@burnabyhospice.org



Marlene C's grandmother

Peggy & Tony Host Women's and Men's 2012 Retreats

Women's Retreat May 4 to May 6

This year's Women's Retreat will take a different path into the direction of moving into a simpler, more rustic approach to life and community. Join women of the church for "Living with Less" at dinnertime on Friday, May 4rd - lunchtime on Sunday, May 6th.

The retreat will be conducted in the style of a rather glorified camping atmosphere with meals being created by participants and sleeping in either shared beds or floor mattresses with your own sleeping bags at Peggy & Tony's cabins in Sechelt.

The cost is \$50 per person. Please be aware that the cabins are down a steep bank along a rather rugged path from the parking area and most participants will need to be able to hike this incline daily. There is a sign-up sheet in the hall and there is a maximum of 20.

Our time in Sechelt will include social time, thoughtful programming, a walk somewhere around lazy Sechelt, a bonfire on the beach with Sunday morning church at the amazing St John's United Church in Davis Bay. Bring your book, enjoy the seaside, hunt for clams and just relax. Don't forget a sleeping bag and towel.

If a more rustic retreat is not your preference, the Women's Retreat next year will, again, be held on Bowen Island at Rivendell.



Men's Retreat May 24 to May 27

The men's retreat is at our place in Sechelt May 24th - 27th (5197 Sunshine coast highway 101). We leave Thursday morning and return Sunday afternoon. Arriving later is OK. Saturday morning consists of discussions around a chosen topic.

The theme this year is "Rights, Privileges and Expectations". There will be a service on Sunday morning.

All male church adherents, grade 12 or older, are welcome, especially younger folk. We do our own cooking and cleaning up, communally. Food is pre bought and organized by the Men's Group.

Newcomers should expect to sleep on a floor, or mattress on a floor. Bring sleeping bag, foamy underlay if you have one, towel, pillow, beverages of choice, humour, and ideas.

Bring swimmers if you are brave, although our beach has been known to go clothing optional.

Leave behind hang ups, grouchiness, privacy, and any requirement to leave the toilet seat down. If you are a light sleeper, bring ear plugs, because Bob Chapman snores. Cost for the weekend is generally less than \$100.

When George used to come, we were guaranteed fresh crab through his special relationships, now we just hope to catch them.



The Crucifixion
Drawn by Sue when she was six.



Women of Deer Lake gather for a pre-Christmas breakfast at Janice C's