

# LAKESHORE LINES

Free – and worth every cent!

## Memories of Marlene

By Kathy R

What a lucky day in 1999 for Deer Lake United Church when Ernie and Marlene walked through the doors to join us! I am sharing reflections of mine and others who have shared their thoughts, with thanks, for our dear friend Marlene who is sorely missed.

We have been blessed to have Marlene with us for the past 17 years and she has contributed in so many ways. Marlene was the most positive and caring person, always looking on the bright side and encouraging others in their struggles. I can see her at coffee hour, visiting with a variety of people, laughing and sharing her fabulous sense of humour! Marlene was refreshingly frank and forthright, willing to share her opinion honestly. She was 'real', an authentic human being. Marlene contributed so much to Deer Lake and at the same time always thanked others for their contributions whether providing music, serving coffee or bringing flowers. Always so kind and gracious!

Marlene loved her family and friends deeply and was so happy when she was heading over to Belgium to visit with her daughter and family or when they and her son and his wife were coming to town. Many of us were fortunate to be guests at Ernie and Marlene's table where we were treated to Marlene's culinary delights, good wine and lots of fun.

Marlene was a faithful choir member, singing with joy and enthusiasm, working very hard to always do her best, practicing at home and making sure she knew her part. Her altos will miss her quick wit and steady voice and the tenors will miss her endless teasing!

Over the years, Marlene worked with the Liturgical Arts arm of the Worship Committee, decorating the church for each season with a precise eye, sharing her beautiful flowers and artistic flair. She knew just how things should look and has passed her expertise on to Joanne who has loved working with her these past years.

When there was a need in the kitchen, Marlene was there, working hard, ensuring everything was done at an excellent level, if not perfectly! She always volunteered to bring baking (and it was delicious!) and made sure if there was a special dietary request, it was met. Marlene was so thoughtful, considering everyone's needs.

*Continued on page 2*

## Vision Statement

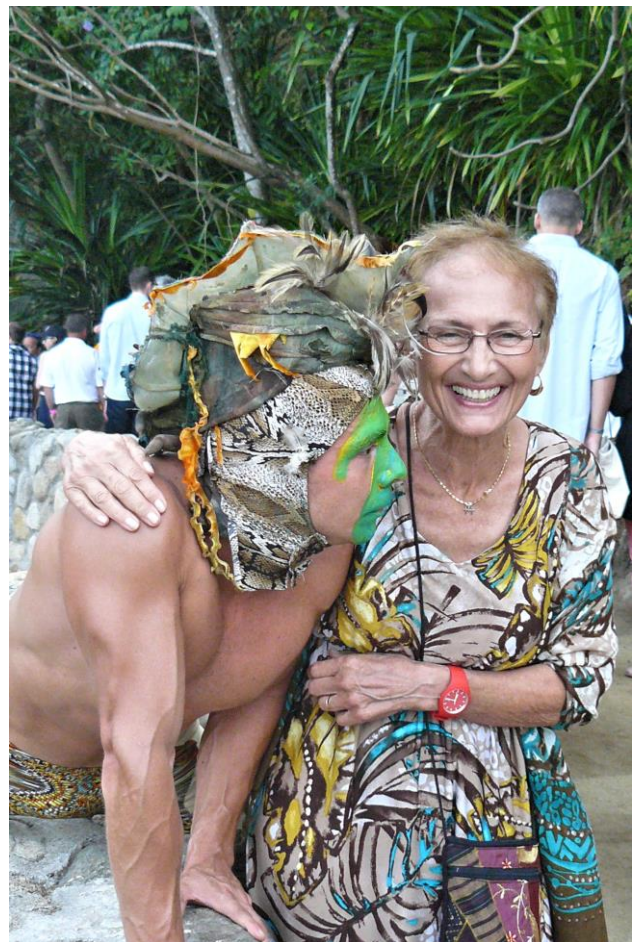
Deer Lake United Church welcomes you into a Christian community for all ages that explores and expresses spirituality through:

- worship and music
- fun and fellowship
- caring and outreach
- involvement and growth

## Inside this issue

Message from the Minister	2
News from Outreach	2
Women's retreat	3
Men's retreat	4
Burnaby GoGos	5
Generational Reflections	6
Deer Lake Turns 75 – Save the Date	8

And much more!



Marlene's friend is green with envy that Ernie proposed first

*Continued from page 1*

The men who attended the Men's Retreats were most grateful for her amazing *homemade* lasagna! Marlene sent along instructions with Ernie and it was cooked and served to perfection. The men also enjoyed a variety of baking over the years - mouth-watering pies, muffins, cookies - they loved it all!

Church was very important to Marlene, and I believe her abiding faith in God, along with her amazing companion Ernie, carried her through a most difficult last three years of her fight with cancer. In the face of this terrible disease, she was brave and fearless, walking tall and living life to the fullest. We remember Marlene with a big, beautiful smile on her face and a twinkle in her eye, often breaking into her wonderful Italian/Friulian accent to share some of her wisdom!

Marlene's death has left a huge void but her warm and loving energy continues to echo through our memories and we cherish them. Once in a very long while a special person comes along to inspire and encourage us. Marlene was one of those people. We are grateful to Ernie for sharing Marlene with us, and caring for her so deeply. We are most thankful for all the gifts she shared and for the bright and loving person she was. We loved her dearly! We will live with her example of love, grace, faith and generosity to lead us in the days ahead.



## Message from the Minister

My friends, as the summer creeps upon us, I am keenly aware of summer vacations, travels that take us elsewhere, and a slower pace of life here in the congregation. I know I'm going to be off for a few weeks here and there, and I hope you'll make some time for Sabbath, and regenerate your soul, your spirit. Having said that, I know that we yearn for wholeness, and healing, and often faith that can help us establish that. When we let God into our lives, even when we're on vacation, or away from home, we can encounter a "thin place" where God is palpable in the most surreal experiences or environments, and this can be a humbling opportunity, but also a very emotional time.

But sometimes we don't want to be emotional, vulnerable, or exposed to others. Several articles have crossed my desk recently that seem to resonate with issues and situations we are facing as a congregation. Below you'll see links to just a couple of them; It's important for me to share them, because it reminds us that "we are not alone". No matter the struggle or situation we face, sadly, they are not unique to us, our church, our community. The struggles we face are easier to bear if we name them openly, lament the pain, and accept that none of us – nor our church – is perfect. We all have faults, we all make mistakes, we have shortcomings, but when we accept that God still loves us, and God is still in "the mess of it all" despite all those flaws, we can then open our hearts to growth, transformation, new birth, hope, advocacy and allies, and solidarity.

<http://www.karenwarejackson.com/blog/top-10-reasons-we-cant-worship-with-kids>

<http://www.karenwarejackson.com/blog/top-10-blessings-of-worship-with-kids>

Blessings on this journey,  
*Rev Tracy Fairfield*

Also see "Comment from a Young Mom" on page 8

## News from Outreach

### Hope for families:

Thanks to your generous contributions to the Hope for Families fund, DLUC is able again this year to assist Edmonds Community School and Burnaby Neighbourhood House in sending several children from low income families in Burnaby to summer camp. The Hope for Families fund was expanded from the Christmas Families initiative several years ago to address the need to support underprivileged families in our community at times other than Christmas.

### Lunchmaking for Burnaby's homeless:

DLUC volunteers meet in the church hall once each month to prepare 70 lunches for Burnaby's homeless. Our lunchmaking dates for this summer are on Wednesday June 22, July 27 and August 24 at 12:00 noon in the hall. If you are able, please consider coming to help at one of these sessions as many of our regular helpers are away during the summer.

In addition to our continuing lunchmaking program, DLUC also makes our upper hall available for the local Rotary Club to prepare lunches for the homeless once each month.

Progressive Housing, the non-profit organization which distributes the lunches once each week appreciates the support we are able to provide for their outreach program.

## 2016 Women's Retreat

By Kathy R

This April 29th - May 1st, 18 women and one baby boy from Deer Lake headed to the Sunshine Coast to enjoy the beauty and generous hospitality of Peggy and Tony. We gathered for a dinner of delicious clam chowder (with a little help from one of our men), salad and bread, with treats made by participants for dessert! Our first evening we enjoyed the movie "Inside Out" and popcorn! The movie introduced us to our theme, The Attitude of Gratitude.

Our program Saturday morning, based on Ann Voscamp's book, "One Thousand Gifts" was ably led by Cathy M and Gloria F. The author's yearning for total fulfillment led her to celebrate grace and recognize the power of gratitude. Throughout the morning Gloria and Cathy presented some of the principles of Anne's work and we then reflected in our Gratitude Journals and shared our thoughts in small groups. The beautiful setting of the Woodruff's home on a sunny day looking for miles out on the glistening ocean is a perfect spot to focus on gratitude and the many blessings in our lives. We began and ended each day with worship and singing using the Songs of a Gospel People books which was enjoyed by all!

We are most thankful for Audrey L's meaningful worship leadership on Sunday, continuing on our theme and reminding us of Voscamp's words saying "when I give thanks I make a place for God to grow in me. Giving thanks awakens me to a God giving himself to me. While I serve Christ he serves me." In giving thanks, we are blessed to give back.

We are thankful to all the participants who brought baking to sustain us, their presence to enrich us, and to the planning committee for their thoughtful preparation for a wonderful weekend! We are most grateful to Peggy and Tony for sharing their amazing home with us and for Peggy for being a most gracious hostess!

We look forward to next Spring when we will head back to Rivendell. Hope to see you there!



# 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Men's Retreat

By Don S

The weekend of May 27th – 29th saw 16 men from Deer Lake ranging in age from 20-something to 70-something make the trek to a little bit of Paradise at the Woodruff's beautiful home in Sechelt. Although this weekend away has become something of a tradition, it is anything but traditional. Great guys and great food, a busy project list, an exceptional Saturday discussion and Sunday Service, and lots of downtime for fun – all in a spectacular setting .. These are just some of the reasons that make the Men's Retreat the real treat that it is.

It is truly a time of renewal, of getting away and of living in the moment. And what moments we did have..!

Friday began with a quick breakfast, then a flurry of hands and feet as we made quick work of the project list. A hike or reading or a nap or bocce rounded out the afternoon.

The weekend *officially* opened with our Friday evening meal, this year courtesy of chef Juba. An appy of fresh crab followed by Larry's super special seafood chowder and to-die-for frozen butter biscuits threw down the gauntlet and set the culinary tone for the weekend.

From the list of projects there was no shortage of burnable trimmings, brambles and bushes that stoked a hugely awesome bonfire courtesy of our resident bonfire aficionados. Seriously..!?! This fire could be seen from Parksville across the strait.

On Saturday morning what could possibly top Barbecue Bob's savoury sausages, highly edible eggs and tremendous toast.

There's just something special about that smell in the outdoors that coerces a person to rise and shine and give thanks for being alive..!

Our Saturday presentation and discussion took a page from the Women's Retreat agenda. Garry presented The Attitude of Gratitude - a purposeful shift in thinking that allows us to enjoy and be grateful for every moment that we have on this earth. By realizing that all that is, and all we are, is a gift from God -- we have a choice. We can choose to be grateful, or, we can choose to take our blessings for granted. The choice we make is determined by our attitude. The choice is ours.

Ultimately by Saturday afternoon we found that this year's weather was anything but boring on the "Sunshine" Coast. What started as sunny and windy quickly turned to an inside-kind-of-day. Which worked out well as we were able to hone our competitive Scrabble and Cribbage skills.

Saturday's evening saw a feast of salmon and chicken that was oh so tasty..!

Our Sunday morning agape service was led by Andrew with a little help from his friends. Scripture and hymns were followed by a sharing of the bread and the wine. This was a deep and meaningful end to a very satisfying time away.

Our heartfelt thanks to Doug, Tony, Garry, Gary, Andrew, Larry, Bob and all those who helped prepare such a brilliant Men's Retreat.



# POWER of 10 - Burnaby Gogos



To commemorate the 10th anniversary of Grandmothers to Grandmothers, Burnaby Gogos are asking 1,000 people to each donate \$10 to raise \$10,000 which will support the inspiring transformation in Africa where community-based organizations, run by and for grandmothers, are working to turn the tide of HIV and AIDS.

Ten Thousand dollars can have a dramatic impact on the lives of African grandmothers and their communities. During the past 10 years, grandmothers who started meeting informally in support groups have developed those groups into formal community-based non profit organizations. Establishing offices and providing stipends for volunteers have given African grandmothers the ability to run support groups for their peers and for people living with HIV and AIDS as well as to orphaned and vulnerable children.

Our support for African grandmothers allows them to put their grandchildren through school, teach HIV prevention, create local savings and loans groups and participate in innovative income-generating programmes. In the face of gender and age discrimination, African grandmothers are leaders and advocates for their human rights, locally and nationally.

We are asking you—our friends, family and colleagues—to help us reach our fundraising goal.

To make a donation to the POWER of 10 please go to <https://slf.akaraisin.com/Common/Participant/Sponsor.aspx?seid=11694&mid=75&tid=108939>. It's simple, fast and totally secure and will make such a difference to the grandmothers of Africa and the children in their care. Of course you're welcome to donate more than \$10! Donations of \$20 or more receive an automatic income tax receipt.

## New Arrivals

Shelley R and Don S welcomed identical twin grandsons on April 20th. Proud parents are Brock and Amber S and big brother is Keaton. The twins are named Wyatt and Logan and weighed in at 5 pounds 6 ounces and 6 pounds.



Caitlin McN graduated on May 27<sup>th</sup> from Cariboo Hill Secondary School. The various scholarships and diplomas she won will help her when she starts a degree in animation at Emily Carr University in September.



You are my sunshine, my only sunshine ...



Tracy visits Pat M

### Mary Turns 90

Mary W celebrated her 90th Birthday with family and friends on Sunday May 29th. She wasn't able to be with us at DLUC, but we celebrated her birthday with a cake. Shirley McG took the remainder of the cake to Mary so that she and her family could enjoy it too. Her family took her to the Boathouse Restaurant in New Westminster. It was a very tiring day for her, but not everyone celebrates a 90th birthday! Happy 90th birthday Mary!



Mary with her children at the Boathouse



Claire with Bennett – once a grandmother, always a grandmother

### 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Book Giveaway at Edmonds School

*By Tony W*

Many years ago, Peggy W read research which showed that children from poor homes often had lower educational outcomes than children from affluent homes. The research showed that if the poorer children had access to books in their home during the long summer holidays, the educational outcomes became much stronger.

This led to her starting the first June book giveaway at Edmonds School. This year's event is the 9<sup>th</sup>, and it has grown to cover 500 children from Edmonds and 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue Schools who choose 10 books each as their very own. This year the giveaway was funded by the BASES Family Thrift store, and it continues to be organized by Peggy W and Kathy R, with the help of several volunteers.

Although the giveaways are exhausting, Peggy says that they are filled with joy and excitement. One child commented "This is the best day of my life!"



Aaron S finds an impressive piece of flotsam during the men's retreat

## Comment from a Deer Lake Young Mom

By Elizabeth W

The two "Top 10" lists about kids in church, which Tracy refers to in her message on page 2 resonate with me. It is sometimes very difficult to keep youngsters from disrupting the service, and I appreciate the congregation's support and tolerance, which I find is very generous.

The Sunday morning service is a different environment for my kids, and I do find it is an opportunity to teach new behaviours around self-control, but this has its limits! I find that if the disruption becomes too much, the best solution for everyone is to take the child out to the nursery or downstairs – well away from the service. This calms everyone down.

I truly believe there is a fine line with kids in church. It's important for them to see how to act, but once they have hit their limit, it's important to recognize it and remove them completely, so we do not disrupt others' sacred time.



### Deer Lake is turning 75 this year.

Save the date – September 24, 2016.

Before you head off for your summer vacation remember to RSVP by June 30<sup>th</sup> so you don't miss out on the fun festivities.

The celebration starts at 2:00pm and goes until 6:00pm. Your options are to come and go as you please. Also if you so choose, come attired in a costume reminiscent of an era from the past 75 years.

September 25<sup>th</sup> will be a worship service to remember. So don't miss it - see you there!



### Upcoming Events At and Around Deer Lake United Church

#### Sunday Worship

Sundays @ 10:30 AM. Sunday School and full choir return Sunday, September 11.

#### Faith in Film

Wednesdays, July 13 through August 17 @ 9:30 AM at Tracy and Penny's

#### Welcome Back BBQ

Friday, September 9 @ 6:00 PM in the parking lot or Fellowship hall, depending upon the weather

#### Deer Lake 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

Saturday, September 24<sup>th</sup> @ 2:00 – 6:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall

## Submissions

**Lakeshore Lines** is published four times each year. Submissions may be made to one of the Communications Committee members (preferably by email):

newsletter@dluc.ca

### Next Issue: September 2016

Submission Deadline Sunday, September 18th, 2016