

# LAKESHORE LINES

Free – and worth every cent!

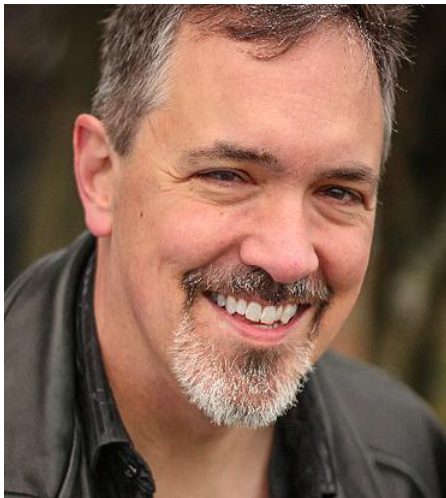
## A Time of Transition

By Garry F

The last several months have been anything but routine at Deer Lake United Church. We have weathered the resignation of Rev Tracy Fairfield, and enjoyed the temporary spiritual leadership of Rev Brian Burke. We have approved our first major deficit budget, and committed to a journey of faith to revitalize our church.

Many of us attended the Circle Way workshops held by Amanda Fenton. The workshops introduced us to a different way of meeting, listening and exploring ideas that we will be using as we consider options for the future. You will have received Dana's email announcing the appointment of Rev. Scott Swanson as our interim minister for the next two years. The Transition Team has already met with Scott a couple of times and now, with great anticipation, we await his arrival on July 1<sup>st</sup>.

To help Scott to get to know each of us, he has requested gatherings in people's homes to meet us in small groups. To that end, the Transition Team has arranged for eight gatherings. You will have received an email with the dates and times of the sessions. Please help us to kick off this crucial transition at Deer Lake by requesting a place in one of the sessions.



Rev. Scott Swanson

2017 certainly is a time of transition for Deer Lake United Church. I already hear murmurs of cautious optimism, even excitement, where I heard only doom and gloom at the beginning of the year. We have a lot of work ahead of us, but with a strong Interim Minister, a capable Transition Team, and an active and involved congregation, I'm confident that Deer Lake has a promising future ahead of it – even if we don't yet know what it will look like.

## 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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And much more!

## A Prayer for Guidance

God of the guiding star, the bush that blazes  
Show us your way

God of the stormy seas, the bread that nourishes  
Teach us your truth

God of the still, small voice, the wind that blows where it chooses  
Fill us with life

God of the elements of our inward and outward journeys  
Set our feet on your road today

*Ruth Burgess*



Thank you, Brian!

# DLUC Circle Workshops Re-cap

By Gary H

In the March newsletter, I wrote about the (then) upcoming Circle Workshops that Amanda Fenton planned to take us through to learn about the Circle Way. I also mentioned that this process reminds us of the origin of how our ancestors relied upon the circle as an efficient means of gathering around a fire – for food, warmth and protection. They quickly discovered that the circle could help design a social order providing a democratic space where each person present was equal to the next. It also allows each of us to look the other in the eye, lean in and listen, and allow all voices to be heard equally.

Well, since then many Deer Lake board members have participated in two three-hour workshops in The Circle Way. The first was hosted on April 22<sup>nd</sup> (Introduction to The Circle Way) and the second on May 8<sup>th</sup> (The Circle Way for Issues, Disagreement and Conflict). The purpose of the workshops was to:

- Discover how the circle process can help us have challenging conversations in a healthy way,
- Deepen our listening skills as well as how we say things,
- Create a space where all voices can be heard,
- Build deeper relationships within our community, and
- Align our Christian values of “welcoming and community” with how we treat each other.

The workshops included some teachings on the components of The Circle Way and the diamond of participation (pattern of divergence, emergence/groan zone and convergence). We also practiced the skills in small group circles, which allowed for rotating leadership, relationship building and hands-on practice with the circle process.

During the first workshop, the small circles focused on personal story-sharing for relationship building and to experience the deeper listening that circle evokes. During the second workshop the small circles focused on questions that explored how church is changing and not changing, to experience how circle can help us hear different perspectives and express difference with respect.

The skills and experience gained in these workshops will help us in many conversations and interactions at DLUC – board meetings, committee meetings, even one on one interactions. Talking to each other with curious, compassionate listening and intentional speaking can be of great use in all our conversations. Some participants expressed “We need to honestly and open discuss perceived problems in a non-confrontational but open and genuinely caring way,” and “We must openly encourage meaningful conversations with an attitude of willingness to listen and acceptance of differing opinions.”

At the end of the workshops, many participants expressed sentiments of hope, encouragement, curiosity and openness to doing things differently, with a desire to strengthen the practice of broad discussions that are inclusive of multiple voices, multitude of ideas, and energy to tackle the ideas that rise to the top.

What’s next? We still have access to Amanda’s skills under the original agreement that Presbytery granted us. Perhaps she will be asked to lead our whole congregation through an exercise to demonstrate how the Circle Way process can be used constructively in ‘tough’ conversations or perhaps the Transition Team will want to use her skills in the work they need to do in the near future.

So, while the specifics of the next steps in circle practice haven’t yet been decided, you are likely to see it ‘in action’ in the near future. I’m looking forward to it! I hope you are too! See you in the circle!

## 2017 BC Community Achievement Award

Last month Gerry J was presented with the 2017 BC Community Achievement Award at Government House in Victoria. This honour was in recognition for his many years of service in the community. Congratulations, Gerry.



**From:** Marlene P  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 9, 2017 6:22 AM  
**To:** minister@dluc.ca  
**Subject:** Thank you

This email is to thank some of your congregation members, and Pam, for "sharing in communion" with me about 2 months ago.

I was struggling with stress related to illness of a family member, so much so that I had to leave work unexpectedly. I felt I was losing my faith at this time of crisis and telephoned Pam, hoping she could take time to meet for support. She was working at your church that day and invited me to join the group that was folding bulletins.

When I arrived, the bulletins were finished but the group was enjoying coffee together and they welcomed me unquestioningly. We spend a good hour talking and actually laughing about happy memories. It was a welcome relief from the stress I was experiencing.

During the discussion, I remember looking around the table and thinking to myself, "This is just what I needed. These are good people, welcoming and accepting me with no questions asked. This is what faith is all about."

Homemade baking was shared with the coffee, and as I tasted the freshly baked cinnamon bun I felt I had received a huge, warm hug. You will never know how much this meant to me.

Thank you for your kindness in welcoming me to join your table. It was a wonderful example of sharing Christ's love with others.

Sincerely,

Marlene P, Cliff Avenue United Church

## Women's Retreat

By Kathy R

Another Women's Retreat has come and sadly gone on May 5 - 7 this year. Twenty-two women of Deer Lake United Church arrived on Bowen Island at the beautiful Rivendell Centre to relax, breathe deeply, rejuvenate and reconnect with one another! Our time together began Friday for a delicious clam chowder made by Claire S accompanied by buns, salad and desserts members contributed! Our theme this weekend was "Seeing Christ in One Another" and we began Friday evening with some interesting and different games led by Gloria F. For example, 'are you more like a horse, a dog or a cat?', and each of the animals grouped together discussing why that animal was chosen. Also, 'a rose, an orchid or a crocus?'; 'a saw, a drill or a screwdriver?' This made for some interesting discussion and a new way of looking at ourselves and others! Each evening we ended with Vespers and off to our comfortable rooms.

Saturday morning our theme presentation was led by Margaret and Kerri, both hosts at Rivendell, who focussed our time on "The Road to Emmaus", the story in Luke



about two people walking to Emmaus and Jesus joins them and they don't recognize him. We spent time in the large group, in groups of three and alone, reflecting and sharing our own thoughts and experiences. The afternoon included hiking, shopping, reading, resting, walking the labyrinth, visiting and singing. We gathered for appetizers and enjoyed dinner and Pictionary together for the evening. Sunday morning we were led in a most meaningful time of worship by Audrey L in the new Chapel in the Round on the premises.

Our time together was refreshing, fun, inspirational and in the words of a participant "built trust and love among us as we got to know one another better" as we studied, talked, shared, cooked and cleaned together!

Seeing Christ in one another is truly a blessing!

## Comments on our Financial Position

To each member of DLUC,

Our congregation has experienced a time of surprise and change over the past several months. Rev Tracy tendered her resignation and said farewell in February. We were so very fortunate to have Rev Brian Burke join us in March, and in July we will welcome our interim minister, Rev Scott Swanson.

These changes have been challenging for our congregation in many ways, but in a practical sense, they have significantly impacted our finances. Tracy received a severance package as negotiated by BC Conference. At the Annual Congregational Meeting the congregation voted to employ a half-time minister for March – May rather than use pulpit supply, which added over \$8,700 of expense and necessitated a move to a new and costlier salary structure more than one year ahead of schedule. We have arrived at mutually agreeable terms with our interim minister, who starts July 1st. All this occurred against a backdrop of low interest rates, a declining investment account balance, and a decision to minimize withdrawals from that account to keep us viable in the long term. The bottom line is that in 2017 we are facing a potential deficit of more than \$34,000.

Despite showing an operating deficit of \$10,652 at the end of March, by April 30 we were in a surplus position. Envelope donations are up, as some members have already made significant contributions beyond their normal givings. It is truly wonderful to see this response. Deep appreciation and gratitude is offered to those who have opened their wallets and hearts.

For those who may not have fully realized our financial situation, or have not yet responded to it - we encourage each of you to mindfully consider your financial commitment at this time. Some are in a position to give at a high level, some less so. But each of us plays a part, according to our ability, in helping sustain our church and carry out God's work in the world. "Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." 2 Corinthians 9:6-7

Over the next two years, our interim minister, Rev Scott, will be assisting us with finding a new and sustainable path forward. Those two years will be financially challenging. But we have long travelled together with a collective generosity and commitment. With cheerful hearts, we can continue our journey through this challenge. If you have not already done so, please consider what gift you may make at this time.

Cathy M, Finance Committee, on behalf of the DLUC Official Board

## Save Tax by Donating Securities

*By Linda P*

### **If you hold securities in a non-registered investment account this message is for you.**

The capital gain earned on stocks, mutual funds and other investments is not taxed when the security is donated to a charity. The United Church of Canada Foundation has an arrangement that allows you to transfer a security to them to be sold. They forward the proceeds of the sale to the charity/charities you choose. You receive a tax receipt from the Foundation and avoid the tax you would pay if you sold the shares yourself. The procedure is called 'gifting securities'. It does not apply to RRSPs or TFSA's.

### **The procedure is simple**

1. Contact Erik Lo Forte, the Program Assistant to establish a name for your 'fund'.  
416-231-5931, ext. 2026; 1-866-340-8223; Fax: 416-231-3103 [eloforte@united-church.ca](mailto:eloforte@united-church.ca)
2. Print a transfer form from their web site; complete it and send it to your investment advisor.
3. Send a copy to Erik so he knows to expect the transfer.
4. Your advisor transfers the security; the Foundation issues your tax receipt for the market value on the day of transfer.
5. The Foundation sells the security and sends a cheque to the charity you name.
6. You advise the charity as to how you wish your contribution to be used.

### **Some things to know:**

You can name more than one charity to receive the gift. At least one charity must be United Church.

The donation to each charity must be at least \$300.

Deer Lake United Church is now receiving contributions through the Foundation.

The only fee is a brokerage charge of \$9.95 to sell the shares. If you donated directly to Deer Lake's investment account, the commission to sell the security would be much higher.

### **Another way this procedure might be useful**

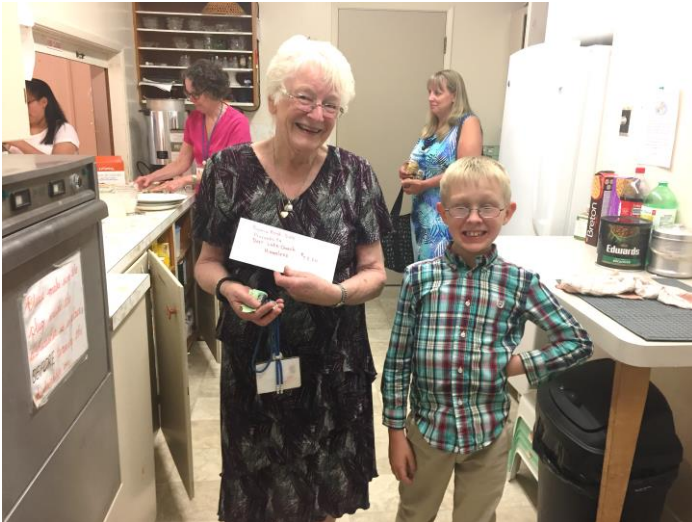
Often individuals who don't have an investment account receive share certificates. These could be an inheritance, a gift from a grandparent, shares from when an insurance company 'de-mutualized' several years ago. Securities can only be sold inside an investment account and it is difficult to open one for only a small sale. Often the amount of capital gain is significant. The same procedure can be used thus avoiding the capital gain tax and the hassle of opening a brokerage account yourself.

### **For more information**

Cathy M and Kathy R are familiar with this procedure. Our family has done this several times so Linda can answer any questions you might have. You can find more information at <http://unitedchurchfoundation.ca/ways-to-give/gifts-of-securities/>.

## Ryan K, Master Fundraiser

Shirley inspired Ryan to have a book sale at the church today, where he raised \$75.50 selling his baby books. He donated the money to support Deer Lake's initiatives for the homeless.



## Fundraising

By Shirley McG

In response to the proposed deficit, a few of us (14) have formed a Fundraising committee. These are the proposed ideas we thought we could do with support from the congregation.

Recycling project:

Don't pocket the money you get from taking your recyclable cans and bottles to the recycling depot. Put that money into a container. On **Thanksgiving Sunday**, bring the money to church in your numbered envelope. (Paper money only please) Write 'fundraising' on the envelope and it will go into local funds.

Book recycling project: Bring any books you've read and anyone who takes a book can donate money. The books are in the Fellowship Hall.

Penny project: If you have any pennies sitting around at home, bring them to church. We will collect them to be rolled and taken to the bank. The money will go towards the deficit.

These simple things could make quite a bit of money

On **November 3rd**, we will be hosting the Langley Ukulele Ensemble at our church. There is a fee to have them perform and everything over and above that fee will go towards our deficit. This ensemble is well worth the money. They are very professional and play all over the world. Everyone will have to get on board and promote and sell tickets. You can have a chance to hear them on **July 6th** at 7pm at the new outdoor amphitheater at the Langley Events Centre for free.

Next year, we propose to partner with the GoGo's for an Art Sale and Shredder event. We will hire a shredding machine and invite the neighborhood to bring any important papers they wish to shred. There will be a fee per box of shredding which will take place in the parking lot. We will be advertising with the GoGo's as they advertise for their Art Sale (which will be held in our Hall) to reach a wider audience.

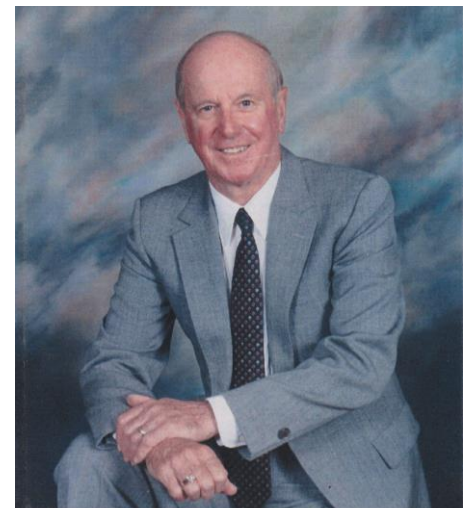
Other ideas being talked about are a Car Boot Sale (aka Garage Sale), Guess who's coming to dinner event, Strawberry Tea, and a Block Party for the neighborhood where we could sell food. If you have any other ideas for fundraising, please talk to Shirley M or Donna P.

## Celebrating the Life of Grant Laphorne

By Garry F

Family, friends and colleagues gathered on May 24<sup>th</sup> to remember and celebrate the life of Grant Laphorne. At Deer Lake, most of us knew Grant only as one of four choir directors for many years. Accordingly, after the prelude was finished and the family took their seats, the choir led off the service with "A Place in the Valley," bravely directed by Terri. But music wasn't all there was to Grant, and those in attendance learned so much more of his life. Outstanding eulogies by Ernie Colledge and son Glen Laphorne described with admiration, tenderness and humour a life well-lived. There were tears aplenty, but even more laughs, as Ernie and Glen described Grant's many accomplishments, his quirks and the occasional misadventure.

It was a celebration to remember for a life worth celebrating.



## GREETINGS FROM OUTREACH

Well, we started the last quarter on a run - and I do mean Run, with Lunch. A great time was had by all and we raised some money (\$278.40) which we put towards our church deficit, as a one-time event.

On April 30 we had great presentation by Evelyn McGowan of the Burnaby Youth Hub. What a wonderful group for our town! As a church we support the Youth Hub in a minor way financially. And we now have a list of their current needs. You can find this list on the next page and also posted in the hall. Everything from soup to nuts with some pots and pans thrown in for fun. Feel free to donate by leaving goods at the church or in their offices at 4750 Imperial St. Please let us know, or mark it clearly, if you are leaving it at the church. Please feel free to stop in and see them in action. Our coffee for that day went to the Youth Hub.

Communion Sunday is a great time for offering food and children's (or even teens') clothing to Dixon House. Dixon House is a transition home for abused women. They house a large number of women and their children, who have found it necessary to leave their homes in a hurry. For many it is necessary to find a safe haven. Counselling and guidance are also given to the families. If you are interested in assisting this great organization, you can contact them online. And of course, you can mark some of your offering to be directed to them.

In the Hope for Families category, we will be sponsoring a few kids from Edmonds Community School to attend summer camp. (What a good bunch we are.) This will give some children a unique experience they may never have had otherwise. This is for Camp Jubilee and/or a day camp subsidy.

We thank you for your continued support for First United, in both the donation bin and with your offering envelopes marked specifically for First United.

**Little known fact:** if you mark just Outreach on your offering envelope, it will go only for Lunches for the Homeless. If you want to support a specific program, please make sure you note that on your envelope.

The Outreach Committee wish you a wonderful summer, and please don't forget your "givin."

### BURNABY YOUTH HUB: CURRENT DONATION NEEDS

#### Furniture

- New/very gently used sofa
- New/very gently used love seat/apartment sofa
- New/very gently used arm chairs
- 4- small kitchen chairs
- small side tables
- small kitchen table
- Comfortable small single dining room/cafe chairs (8-10)

#### Kitchen items

- New or gently used coffee maker (in good working order)
- New or gently used kettle (in good working order)
- Other small kitchen appliances (please contact Hub)
- Cooking utensils (spatulas, whisks, etc.)
- Utensils (forks, knives, spoons)

#### School & Stationery Supplies

- 8.5 x 11" white printer paper
- 8.5 x 11" white lined paper
- Pencils
- Pens
- Pencil crayons
- Coloured markers
- Permanent Markers
- Art supplies (canvases, water colour paints, acrylic paints, paint brushes, etc)
- Post-it Notes/sticky notes

#### Miscellaneous

- New or gently used novels (youth/young adult)
- Clean paint rollers
- New paint (white, egg shell; other colours welcome)
- Clean paint rollers & paint trays

#### Food bank items (non-perishable, not expired)

- Pasta sauce
- Dried pasta
- Canned soup
- Canned stews
- Canned Beans
- Canned vegetables
- Canned fruit
- Packaged oatmeal
- Individually packaged cookies
- Granola bars
- Shelf-stable juice boxes
- Juice powder
- Instant coffee/ground coffee
- Bagged tea
- Packaged snacks
- Applesauce
- Pudding
- Crackers
- Other non-perishable items

This list is not exhaustive. If you have any other items that you would like to donate, please call Evelyn at (604) 569-0951 or [Evelyn.mcgowan@purposesociety.org](mailto:Evelyn.mcgowan@purposesociety.org) to inquire if the Hub can use these items.

**THANK YOU**

## My Lovely Golden Straw Hat

By (Mrs.) Edith F. Fell

It all began with My Lovely Golden Straw Hat with the saucy upturned brim and cute bow. The hat of my dreams which I bought at a hat sale and brought home with such pride and joy. My husband said it had something!

My daughter tried it on and admired it so much that she asked me if she may borrow it to wear on the special occasion of the Church Anniversary Service, at which she was to sing a solo.

Rather grudgingly I consented, but the hat did suit her and made her look really stunning.

So, on the following Sunday evening, off she went early to church, looking as pretty as a picture – wearing my lovely golden straw hat.

Her father and I followed later and on the way he whispered to me, “I thought you bought a new hat – why didn’t you put it on?” – “I like that hat, it really has something!” But never a word did I say about it; and when at the church he saw our daughter wearing the hat he simply said – “Words fail me – but she looks great!”

However, at that Church Anniversary Service, there was a young gentleman with his friend sitting in the congregation and, after the solo had been sung, he turned to his friend and asked him if he knew the name of the young lady wearing the lovely golden straw hat who had sung the solo, as he would very much like to meet her.

It so happened that his friend did know the young lady in question and after the service was over, an introduction was made, that it

was the inevitable turning point in their lives. In fact a hat trick of fate.

After that, my lovely golden straw hat was worn at church service many times – alas, but not by me!

My daughter pledged me to secrecy about that hat – never to let her boy friend know it wasn’t hers, as he had remarked that she had such good taste in millinery.

In due course they were married at the same church at which they had first met and long afterwards, my daughter told me her husband said it was her lovely golden straw hat which made her look so charming as she sang her solo, that first fascinated him when sitting in the congregation at the Church Anniversary Service, on that eventful Sunday evening. (A wonderful place tho’ to meet a life partner!)

They are now living happily with their two children in Canada.

One day I hope I shall make the trip to visit them and, who knows, maybe see once again my lovely golden straw hat that has the saucy upturned brim and cute bow. My lovely hat that I never wore! But my lovely golden straw hat has a symbolic story that tells of a wonderful husband, father and – I may add, a truly fine son-in-law.

What more could one wish from a hat!

*This delightful tale was submitted by a mystery member of the Deer Lake congregation. Can you guess who it is, and what part they play in this wonderful love story?*

## Paul’s Amazing Technicolour Lab Coat and More!

By Tony W

25 degrees, sunny and the lowest tides of the summer – how could we ask for a better men’s retreat? May 25<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> at Jo D’s beautiful beach front home in Parksville took in 16 of us for another (the 43rd) classic getaway.



Doug stickhandled the food, with various help, and Larry made the best clam/salmon/prawn/lingcod chowder we had ever tasted (fish caught by Arnie and Jo). A new addition this year was cheese board and port Friday night, provided by Tony. Bob and Don (Laurel & Hardy?) worked the grill. Our spiritual side was catered for in every way – Bayani led a thoughtful service on Sunday, and whisky tasting was led by Andrew, Larry, Paul and Jo. Demmery provided background music on his guitar. Gary H kept track of finances.

The highlight for most of us was the fantastic Saturday morning presentation by Garry F on the future of the car – both electric and autonomous. This was supported by Paul (with incredible lab coat) explaining, with hands on experiments, how lithium ion batteries work, and Larry who explained the ins and outs of satellite navigation controls. It

*Continued on page 8*

## Communications Committee

By Garry F

The Communications Committee was originally formed in 1998 to relieve Alice Stephenson, the church secretary at the time, of the burden of producing the Deer Lake newsletter, then called “Newsliner”. The committee, varying from one to three members, has produced four issues every year since then. In all that time we have missed only one regular issue and have published the occasional special edition. Members of the committee must have a strong command of the English language and be proficient with Microsoft Word. We don’t write a lot of the content ourselves, though. It is provided primarily by the minister and congregation members. The committee edits and formats submissions and does the newsletter layout using a Word template.

The newsletter, renamed “Lakeshore Lines” in June 1999, was strictly a black and white affair until March 2006 when we introduced the digital edition in colour. At that time the print edition was still in black and white. Then, at the end of 2007, thanks to Mike K and Metro Printers, we published our first colour print edition. Both the print and digital editions have been

in colour ever since. At about that time, email started to be used more frequently for communicating with the Deer Lake community, and the Communications Committee assumed responsibility for maintaining the distribution lists and sending out bulk communications.

In March 2005, Chantel McB developed Deer Lake’s first website. Two years later, Deer Lake got its own domain name (dluc.ca), and Chantel redeveloped the website to modernize it, align it with our vision statement, and enable the Communications Committee to modify some of the content. That website was instrumental in attracting several families to Deer Lake, but after seven years it started to show cracks and eventually became impossible to update.

It was time for something new and so, after a few months of development by Garry F, the current website was launched in January 2015. This version follows the previous design, but features more pictures and is easier to keep up-to-date. It is also designed so various people can be authorized to update select areas of the website.



*Technicolour Lab Coat continued from page 7*

was very much a wakeup call to the technological revolution which is about to hit us. (Buy Tesla stock!)

We built a patio and garden shelves, and fixed toilets to earn our keep. But then we got to find the beach and play horseshoes and bocce. Some of the keener members went mountain bike riding.

Bayani explained that he attended many retreats when he lived in the Philippines, but this was his first in 30 years in Canada. “I have been looking for this for a long time” he said. “Next year I want to bring my sons.



**Chemistry in the kitchen. How’s your insurance, Jo?**



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

#### **Rev Scott Swanson’s First Sunday**

Sunday July 2<sup>nd</sup> at 10.30 am DLUC sanctuary

#### **Welcome Back BBQ**

Friday September 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm – DLUC parking lot or hall

#### **First Board Meeting after Labour Day**

Tuesday September 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm in the sanctuary

## 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: October 2017**

Submission Deadline Sunday, Sept 17, 2017