

LAKESHORE LINES

Free – and worth every cent!

Faith, Truth and Reconciliation

Greetings to all,

As I write, we are part way through the Season of Creation; by the time you read this we will have moved on to a series of sermons looking at several popular wisdom sayings which many people assume originate in the Bible, but actually do not. While most of us might think we are largely immune when it comes to discerning truth, lies, “fake news” and “alternative facts,” we live in a time when knowing the truth and doing what is right is increasingly complicated.

The commons – the area of public interaction, debate, and problem solving – is giving way to a variety of siloed groups which seem to exist in their own echo chambers, speaking only to their own constituencies. When it comes to the environment, our Christian faith, the Muslim faith of our neighbours across Canada Way at the Masjid, politics, or any other number of examples, we live in a time of eroding “middle ground.”

All the more reason for us as a community of faith to work toward building trust, love, forgiveness and reconciliation with one another. On October 13, the Transition Team and the Board co-sponsored a workshop on how to speak up when we witness unwelcome comments or behaviour anywhere we find ourselves. The Board retreat in November will focus on creating a behavioural covenant for Board members and, by extension, for the congregation. As we move from focusing on the Interim Ministry goals to selecting new ministry personnel for the next phase in DLUC’s life, how we are with each other within and beyond the church forms an important part of the foundation for how we will face the world together.

Whether it is the valued work we are already doing in and through this congregation, or potentially engaging new paths such as connecting with our neighbourhood or reconciliation with First Nations, the church in general, and DLUC in particular, has as part of its heritage a commitment to the common good and to serving the community. At our best we exist for the world, not for ourselves. The world seems to need us now more than ever.

Grace and peace,



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 Note from the Editor

Autumn is upon us and for a variety of reasons this edition of Lakeshore Lines is unfortunately late. I apologize to those contributors who submitted time-sensitive content. I have edited some items and omitted one as necessary.

However, as you flip through the pages you’ll still find much of interest related, not only to life at Deer Lake United and the wider church, but also to the travel adventures of some of our members.

A Wee Change to our Board Structure

By Ellen J

As summer has come to an end here is a review of the changes to our governance model which were approved at June's Board meeting. The purpose of restructuring the governance model is to carve out more time for other meaningful work rather than spending so much time on administrative tasks.

Beginning September 2018:

We now have an Executive consisting of Board chair/vice or past Board chair/ treasurer/secretary/minister/possibly two others from the congregation.

The executive will meet each month to take care of administrative tasks. All executive meetings are open to Board members but attendance is not required. A summary of each executive meeting will be circulated to all Board Members each month

We continue to have a Full Board consisting of the executive and every committee member and Chair.

Full Board meetings will occur approximately every other month and would be theme-related or educational in nature. The Executive will meet a half hour before the Full Board meeting to take care of any business that has arisen. A minimum of one member from each committee is *required* to attend. ALL committee members are strongly urged to attend.

The next FULL BOARD MEETING will be October 23rd at 7:00 pm, preceded by the Board Executive at 6:30.

June Worship in the Park



"Fake News" – A Sermon Series you won't want to miss!

The historical connection between western culture and Christianity (what we call *Christendom*) has led many people to consider certain popular phrases or ways of thinking as biblical, when they're not. Join us for this 3-week series focusing on things the Bible doesn't say, comparing them to what the Bible actually *does* say! Don't miss this interesting series at Deer Lake! October 14, 28, November 4.

“People Like Us”

I heard this statement during a meeting with the Deer Lake Board Exec and the Transition Team in late August, and I have been thinking about it ever since.

In the context of the meeting, it was a positive statement. Why have I been thinking about it since then? I guess because, under different circumstances and historically, the phrase “People Like Us” has been used to exclude, discriminate and oppress. Clearly that was not the intention in the discussion, but it got me thinking about what “People Like Us” means, both in our church community and in the wider community and world. And what it means to me as an individual and member of Deer Lake United Church.

So, the question to be asked is “Who are we?” How can we figure out who the “People Like Us” are until we know who we are at Deer Lake United? This is the heavy lifting part – the piece of the puzzle that the Transition Team have been working on for a year now. There is no simple answer, because it’s not about gender, race, ethnic background, language(s) spoken, economic circumstances or other identifiers that we use in our daily lives. I think that it’s about what is important to our congregation. Yes, we’re back to the “Why?” of Deer Lake. There will be as many answers to this as there are members/adherents in the congregation, but I think that there is a common thread that binds us together.

I would like to think that the “People Like Us” are generous, respectful of each other, caring of the environment and all it’s

creatures, reaching beyond their communities to share Jesus’ message, whether by words or action. That social justice and truth are part of their consciousness. That they are actively listening for God’s grace and guidance, and that they do what they can, when they can, as God calls them.

Does this describe Deer Lake, or me? From my perspective, sometimes. And that’s the point – this is my perspective. Unless we all communicate and participate in the discussions, how are we going to know others’ perspective, or honestly answer the “Why?” of Deer Lake, “Who are we?” or who are the “People Like Us”? The answers will help shape the future life of Deer Lake United.

With this in mind, there is an amazing opportunity for each of you to participate in a congregational event that will introduce you to the skills needed for “Active Witnessing” - valuable skills for every aspect of your life. This event is presented by the Transition Team and supported by the Deer Lake Board, as we believe this to be important work, both for our church community, and for the communities we find ourselves in outside of Deer Lake United. Set aside Saturday October 13th, 9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m., and come with an open mind and heart.

I think it is what “People Like Us” would do...

Peace be with you.

Dana J., Deer Lake United Board Chair



THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

L'ÉGLISE UNIE DU CANADA

Remit Enactment Means Major Structural Changes for the Church

On the afternoon of July 22nd GC43 enacted [seven remits](#) that originated at GC42 three years ago. Remit enactment represents one of the biggest structural changes in the history of The United Church of Canada. Before reaching the floor of GC43, a strong majority of pastoral charges and presbyteries voted in favour of the remits. The full news piece is available [here](#).

“Now the stage is set for a new structure that will take us into the years ahead,” says David Allen, Remit Implementation Project Leader with the United Church. “We can look forward to how the new structures will reflect our faithfulness to God in the future.”

Still have questions? Please contact remits@united-church.ca. Anyone can also sign up to receive the Remit Implementation newsletter [here](#).

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A Trip to Oberammergau

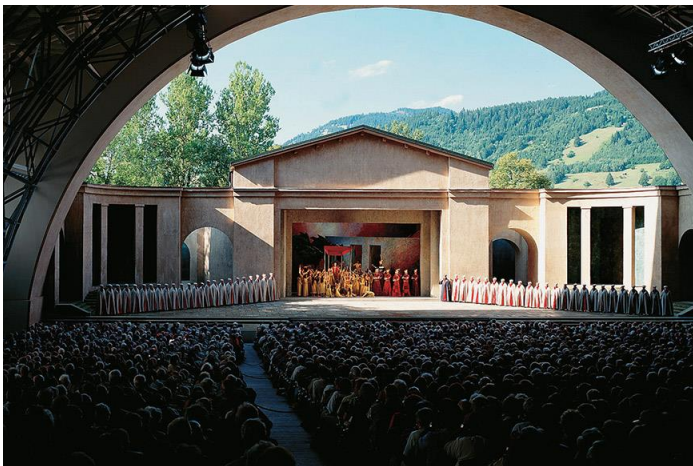
By Shirley McG

The Passion Play in Oberammergau is next being performed in 2020. This is an account of Carol P's and my visit to it the last time it was offered.

On September 3, 2010 Carol and I flew to Toronto, where we met up with the rest of the tour group and two guides. From there we flew to Munich and arrived on September 4th. A bus and our tour guide (Heidi) were there to greet us. From there we went through the Lake District of Salzkammergut and passed Chemsee Lake where part of "The Sound of Music" was filmed. On we went to Salzburg and Hellbrunn Castle where more of "The Sound of Music" was filmed.

We spent two nights and a day in Salzburg, visiting the Hohen Salzburg Fortress, the cathedral, churches and Mozart's home. The first evening we had dinner at the Hotel Unterberg where we were staying. We took the venicula up to the restaurant. There was a beautiful view from there. The next day, September 5th, we explored more of Salzburg and went inside the Kollengienkirche (church), visited the catacombs and cemetery and Mirabelle Gardens. That evening we were taken to a Mozart concert and dinner.

The bus left Salzburg at 9:00 AM the next morning and made its way to Innsbruck where we stopped and had a tour around the city – more churches with lots of history. Then on to Oberammergau where we spent two nights and a day. This was the highlight of the tour. The town is beautiful, with its Bavarian style buildings and lovely well-tended colourful window boxes. Some of the buildings had paintings and murals on them.



The next day, after lunch, we wound our way to the theatre where we were to see the "Passion Play of our Lord". The play starts with a scene set on Palm Sunday and climaxes with the events of Easter Sunday. The theatre and stage were huge! We were seated in the thirteenth row from the stage. The play progressed for two and a half hours, followed by a break for dinner. At 8:00 PM the play resumed for three more hours. Even though it was in German, we could follow the dialogue quite well with a translation book we were given.

The whole town takes part in this play, which takes place every ten years from May to October, five days a week – and it is always sold out! There are two people who share the role of each of the main characters so that when they are not acting they can look after their businesses. A decree is passed in January a year ahead of the play that anyone who will be on stage may not cut their hair or beards until after the play is finished. There are hundreds of women, men and children involved who play the townspeople. There can be a thousand people on stage at times! It's mind-boggling to see them all on the stage along with fifty live animals, including camels, goats, sheep, chickens and horses. In addition to the actors and animals there is also a full orchestra and a large choir. Those taking part in the play, including the choir and orchestra, must either have been born in the town or had to be living there for twenty years. The manager of our hotel played Kaifus, and he signed the books we bought. It is a once-in-a-lifetime experience and I am so glad we had the chance to go.



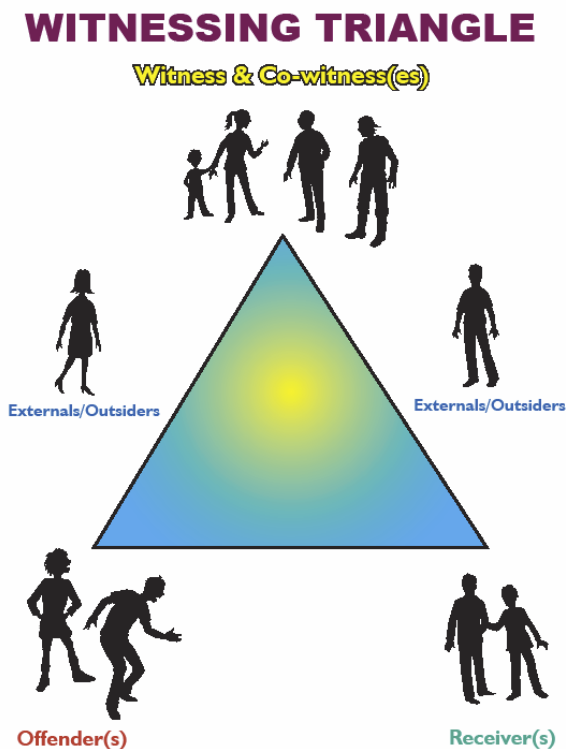
The Passion Play was the highlight of the trip, but we weren't finished yet. The next day we went to Regensburg which has a beautiful cathedral, and then on to Prague where we spent three nights and two days. There we saw many more cathedrals and churches and had a boat tour on the river. On the third day we said goodbye to the tour group, most of whom were going home. We went on to Denmark where Carol had an aunt, uncle and cousins. We had a lovely week with them, and Carol's aunt gave us a guided tour of the region. She took us to Legoland, the town where Hans Christian Anderson lived, and Egeskov Castle. At the end of the week we took the train to Copenhagen where we spent three nights and two days. We took a canal tour on the first day and toured the city on foot the rest of our time, seeing museums, castles and the Royal Palace, amongst many other things. Then, finally, home.

I would highly recommend that you mark your calendar for 2020, which is when the Passion Play will happen next. If you are interested in seeing it I advise you to book early. Craig Travel based in Ontario is a great tour company to travel with and they offer a number of different Passion Play itineraries May through October, some longer than others. I believe there is a Craig Travel brochure in the Narthex that you can browse through if you are interested.

Breaking the Silence – the Power of Active Witnessing

By Dana J & Linda P

On Saturday, October 13th, 24 members of our congregation attended a day long workshop presented by Angela Brown, to build awareness and skills for recognizing and addressing discrimination. The morning was spent on definitions, diversity awareness and a “witness centered” approach to being Active Witnesses. The afternoon session provided opportunities to identify and respond to discriminatory remarks and situations with concrete action. With the use of video stories, we were able to practice ways to respond depending on the circumstances and our comfort level.



The “participants” in an offensive situation are depicted in the diagram above. As an “Active Witness”, you have several ways to respond – directly to the “Offender” (diffuse the situation when possible, perhaps confront the behaviour), directly to the “Receiver” (provide support, let them know they are not alone), speaking with a co-witness for support and perhaps action, and/or going to an “Outsider” for help. This doesn’t have to happen in the moment – it’s never too late to speak up. And of course, safety for all involved is important.

The first and last exercises of the day were very powerful – the first because it started the conversation around treating people differently and the impact of who is included and/or privileged and what that means on so many levels; the second because it was a physical presentation of where people stand on different questions within our community/congregation. Both provided wonderful opportunities for each attendee to consider their own



Scott introduces Angela Brown

biases, prejudices and thought processes and how that colours how we are in the world. They also helped us to see the similarities and differences in a concrete way. (Each person answered the question by standing somewhere on the continuum from “Strongly Agree” on one side of the room to “Strongly Disagree” on the other.) We ended in a circle and each chose one word that represented how they felt about the day.

The feedback we received from those who attended was very positive. Some of the comments:

- It made me think about how we generalize the negative behavior of an individual to an entire group.
- I wondered when and how I developed some of my own attitudes.
- It was powerful to consider that every individual here has a different experience of being part of our congregation.
- I really appreciated learning other ways to intervene when I’m not willing to speak directly to the offender.
- I encourage everyone to take this type of workshop if they have the opportunity. It was so worthwhile.
- I appreciated that attendees were willing to have a voice – I believe it will be through Courageous Conversations that real change can happen.

This was an exceptional learning experience for all of us. And the food was great, too! Thank you to the Board and the Transition Team for making it happen.

If you were unable to attend the workshop but would like to receive the workshop presentation materials by email, please request them from Linda P.

Two Weeks in Provence

By Garry F

It was a sunny Saturday afternoon and the cicadas were chirping in the trees as the vehicles arrived, one at a time, one couple in each. They crunched up the long gravel driveway, past the vineyard and eased into an empty space under the trees behind the chateau. Each was met by those already arrived until there were ten of us. We were at Chateau Juvenal outside the tiny village of St-Hippolyte-le-Graveyron in Provence, France. And we were ready for two weeks of food, wine and – cycling!



Once all five couples had arrived and were settled into our rooms, we were treated to wine and appies on the patio by the owners, Anne-Marie and Bernard. Anne-Marie runs the chateau and Bernard runs the associated cave (winery to us). They serve only their own wine – and it is delicious! The experts agree: it has won several awards in the few years it has been available. During our two-week stay at the chateau we did our part to support the cave with almost daily visits to replenish our supply.

After a relaxing breakfast the next morning we took two vehicles through Bedoin and up to the top of nearby Mont Ventoux, the windy mountain, Giant of Provence, visible for miles around and one of the most famous climbs of the Tour de France cycling race. The view from the moonscape-like top is magnificent. From there we set out to do some grocery shopping. It being Sunday we had quite some trouble finding a decent store that was open. We persevered, however, and after following our GPS along some very interesting back roads and taking a few wrong turns we finally succeeded in finding provisions. Larry prepared dinner that night, and everyone took a turn over the subsequent evenings.

On the Monday morning we dressed in our cycling gear, climbed into two of our vans and drove the twelve kilometers to Bedoin to collect our rental bikes. We parked on the edge of the village and walked along the main street, stopping at a bakery for fresh croissants, then at a coffee shop where we sat outside to enjoy our pastries with a cup of café crème. This was to become the routine on our many cycling and exploration adventures.

Our nutritional needs taken care of, we continued through town to the bike shop. It was market day, so the merchant stalls and eager shoppers clogging the street made for a slow but interesting walk.

Ten bikes were rolled out, helmets were fitted, water bottles filled, and a few adjustments made. Then we were on our way back to the chateau. As would become the norm, I took the lead and either Gary or Larry rode behind the group, with everyone else between us in single-file. It was a short ride, but a good introduction to cycling on Provençal roads. Everyone arrived safely but we had left two vans in Bedoin. Four of us opted to cycle back rather than take another vehicle to pick them up.

The following days were filled with a combination of sight-seeing trips in the cars and cycling trips of increasing distance and intensity. We combined a shopping trip with a visit to Avignon, known for the Pope's Palace and the bridge about which the children's song "Sur le Pont d'Avignon" was written. Another outing took us to the massive and still intact Roman viaduct, Pont du Gard, and yet another to Isle-sur-la-Sorgue, known as the Venice of Provence. Our final day trip was to Rousillon and its ochre cliffs.



Most of the interesting cycling destinations in that part of Provence seem to be at the top of steep climbs, and I wanted our group to see them all. After the easy ride from Bedoin and another flattish one from Malaucène to Vaison-la-Romaine to see the Medieval city and Roman ruins, I suggested tiny Suzette as our

first real climb. Two of the group chose not to finish the climb but the rest soldiered on and made it to the view point at the top.



To give tired legs a bit of a rest I suggested Gorge-de-la-Nesque for the next day. This is a 19 km gradual 2% climb through a spectacularly rugged canyon to a lookout point, followed by a gentle coast back along the same almost traffic-free road. It is one of my favourite rides anywhere. I think the group preferred it to the previous day's climb! That night we enjoyed Chateau Juvenal's Table d'Hôte outside under the trees with Anne-Marie, Bernard, their daughter and their other guests. The food was delicious, the wine flowed freely and the conversation was animated.

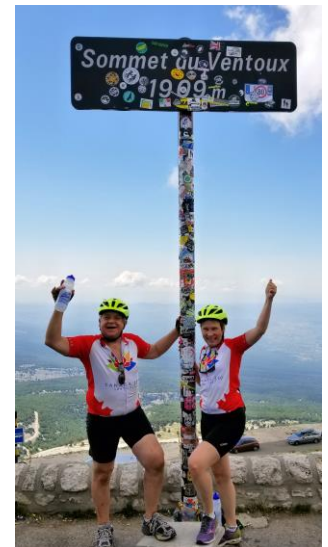
Our next ride, two days later, was an ill-conceived trip to the bike shop for some minor adjustments. It was Sunday and the shop was closed, so we rode instead to Malaucène via Col de la Madeleine – another climb! After a return to the bike shop in Bedoin the next day, we pedaled our way through the vineyards to Venasque. This is a mainly flat ride, but Venasque is a hill town and requires a short, steep climb to the cobble-stoned church square. The reward is a lovely restaurant with a welcoming proprietor and a view over the countryside below. Everyone agreed it was worth the climb.



A day off to shop at the massive market of Vaison-la-Romaine rested everyone's legs for a ride from the town of Sault to Chalet Reynard part way up Mont Ventoux. After some discussion we decided that Cathy, Dana and Gloria would drive the support vehicles while the rest of us rode to Chalet Reynard. From there, Gary, Larry and I would climb to the top of the mountain. Any

others would decide whether or not to do the final climb once they arrived at the chalet. The next morning broke sunny and clear with no wind – perfect conditions. Bernard decided to join us. Off we set with eight bikes and eleven people crammed into two vans and a car.

With the support vehicles keeping tabs on the riders we were all able to ride at our own pace. The three stronger riders got to the parking lot at Chalet Reynard more or less together. After a quick snack we got back on our bikes and started the arduous climb through the eerie white moonscape to the communications tower at the apex. We were each greeted at the top with hearty congratulations, a picture and a welcome snack. Riding back down to the chalet I was shocked and pleasantly surprised to see some of the other riders in our group climbing slowly towards the peak. In the end all but one rider opted to try for the summit and of those all but one finished. I was so impressed. Bernard suggested lunch at the chalet, where we enjoyed a surprising good meal. Bernard and Gary rode down the steep road to Bedoin and back to Chateau Juvenal, while the rest of us coasted down the lovely winding road up which we'd cycled earlier and rendezvoused with the vehicles at the bottom of the hill. Everyone was tired but happy with their part in the adventure.



The next day was our day trip to Rousillon followed by another delightful Table d'Hôte, this time with two wine importers from Belgium. Their presence afforded us the opportunity to do a vertical wine tasting in which we sampled several different vintages of the same Chateau Juvenal wine. And then it was Friday: Time to wash and pack, and return the bikes, and finish the food and wine and beer, and sleep for the last time up a tight spiral staircase, behind thick stone walls and blue wooden shutters.

In the morning we cleaned up, loaded our vehicles, said our French triple-kiss good-byes and drove slowly down that long, dusty, gravel driveway towards further adventures.





Volunteers at the successful Paper Shredding Day, June 2nd



Curries' house starts its journey to its new home



Young and old (and in-between) at the Welcome Back BBQ Sept 7th



Scott blesses pets during October 7th service



Upcoming Events At and Around Deer Lake United Church

Lunch on the Run

Sunday October 21 after worship DLUC sanctuary

Full Board Meeting

Tuesday October 23 at 7:00 pm in the hall downstairs

Study Group with Brian

Tuesdays October 30 onward at 7:00 pm in the narthex

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: December 2018

Submission Deadline Sunday, November 25, 2018