

LAKESHORE LINES

Free with every cent!

The Search Continues

What's happening with the Search for a new minister and what is the "Church Hub"?

In June the search committee made an offer of employment to their choice of candidate for our new minister and after much thought by the candidate it was declined. The search team are back at work and are very hopeful! Some may find it difficult to be patient with a process that they can not be an active part of. Knowing a bit more about the search process might make the wait a bit easier.

The recommended and primary way for the search team to advertise our vacancy is via the "Church Hub". This is a new online website that connects every United Church congregation with United Church clergy across Canada. The search team posts its vacancy and job description and can then be confident that information regarding our position is available across the entire national United Church. Deer Lake's Search Process has unfortunately overlapped with the launch of the Church Hub, and our team has identified a variety of "short comings" that are a natural part of starting and tweaking a new platform such as this. Although predictable, these glitches in the system have been challenging. The Church Hub Website also has a list of United Church clergy seeking new positions and this enables the Search Committee to peruse those looking for a new placement and see if there might be a good match with Deer Lake. The network of United Church people is extensive and can be effective. If you wish to read more about the Hub, follow the link below.

<https://www.united-church.ca/leadership/supporting-ministry/churchhub>

The confidentiality that the Search Team must maintain is required to protect the privacy of those applying or expressing interest. The applicant's home congregation may not know of their plans and candidates should not be privy to the identity of others who have applied, so confidentiality is a must. The search team is able to, and has been, sharing information about the process itself and will continue to do so.

Deer Lake is fortunate to have a strong search team in place with support at the regional level through the United Church Pacific Mountain Region (formerly B.C. Conference). One of the individuals assisting them

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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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Welcome Back BBQ



September 6th turned out sunny and warm for Deer Lake's annual Welcome Back BBQ. Once again the men's group did a stellar job of setting up, cooking and serving a traditional BBQ meal of hamburgers and hot dogs. Thanks to the weather we were able to eat al fresco with 54 in attendance – including 13 of Tony and Peggy's brood!



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through the wider church is Kathy Davies who is a wealth of knowledge and knows Deer Lake well. The United Church has printed resources that clearly outline the steps to be taken. There are sample interview questions and tools to evaluate what is discussed. Modern technology allows for the option to interview long distance and to view videos of sermons with many ministers posting their sermons online.

The Deer Lake posting was removed at the expiration date of August 15, as there was only one applicant to that point. The Search Committee is presently freshening up the job description and will repost in early September with the hope of attracting a new set of interested candidates. In the meantime, we are so very fortunate to have Brian Burke at the helm which has provided such continuity and piece of mind (not to mention thought provoking worship services!). Next time you see him be sure to say thank you. He works very hard for and with us. We are Blessed.

We at Deer Lake will continue to prayerfully and positively do what we do well, knowing that between God and our team, the task is in good hands. You will continue to receive updates via the bulletin, announcement time, Lakeshore Lines newsletter and the What's Up email news. A short monthly report will also be available through the Board Minutes each month. These are posted in the library for your information.

Onward and Upward!!

Search Committee Dana J, Ellen J, Paul A, Sharon H, Bruce VL, Trish S.



We say farewell and thank you to Scott

A Medal of Distinction

By Janice C

On May 2nd, Becky A was recognized for her outstanding service at UBC's School of Nursing. She was awarded the special Centenary Medal of Distinction at a very special event. UBC's School of Nursing is currently celebrating its 100th year and awarded 100 medals to people who have contributed enormously to the School, of which Becky was one. Congratulations, Becky!

Where does our Scripture lead us?

By Ellen J



As we head into Fall and Winter, we would like to introduce a new exercise which has the potential to build our faith and bring us together as a congregation. Rev. Brian has a 12-volume set of books called "Feasting on the Word" that covers the entire three years of the church Lectionary cycle. He has generously donated these books to our congregation. Each month, Brian will select a scripture reading from scripture readings for that month. For the passage chosen, there will be a few paragraphs written by a variety of authors giving their personal interpretations.

The hope is that everyone will read the material and then engage in conversation about it with other members of the congregation throughout the month. The objective is to draw connections between Scripture and the Ministry of our congregation.

What does the passage say to you about your ministry; about Deer Lake congregation's ministry?

The interpretations from four different authors will provide a wide range of ideas to ponder. The Board and the committees will dedicate a portion of their meeting time to discussion. All other congregational groups and members are invited and encouraged to engage in conversations related to the passage. Opportunities that come to mind are the bulletin folders, men's breakfast, women's breakfast, sandwich making, conversation during coffee time, working in the garden, walking with a friend.

This program will be launched in November and everyone in the congregation is encouraged to participate. We will attach the readings to 'What's Up', post them in the Fellowship Hall, and will have printed copies for those of you that don't receive the weekly emails. Each month there will be a new scripture reading with a selection of interpretations.

There is so much to learn, to grow from, and so many ways to challenge our beliefs and to live a life of ministry and faith. This is a way to share the journey with others in our church family. Keep your eyes open for the first instalment in November!

Please direct any questions you have to Dana, Ellen, Gary H, Trish S, Linda P or reply to your 'What's Up' email.

My God Moment

By Glenn Lans

Every week at church our minister asks the congregation if anyone has had a "God" moment in the last week. Every week several people get up and share their "moments". Usually they talk about a serene moment while out in nature or about someone having recovered from a serious illness. I had a special moment a few weeks ago.

It was a hot day during the 5 pm rush hour when our car died at a busy intersection, in the left turn lane, about one kilometre from home. The electrical system totally shut down. Many honkies. Many helpers tried to assist. Try as we did, after an hour, we were still holding up traffic. My tow-truck company call went to voice mail. My garage said they couldn't take me for three days. I suggested to Audrey to walk home - I might be here for a while. Next the 911 person transferred me to the police. They said they would come but didn't.

After an hour, I tried the starter of the car and it started! Hallelujah! I slammed down the hood (bonnet for my Aussie friends) and made a beeline for home. Audrey was wiped out from the walk and I was hooped from the stress. The next day I tried starting the car, and it started. Hallelujah again! We drove to the garage, pulled into the service bay, where the electrical system crashed again. But I was in the right place.

The next day the garage people hooked up their diagnostic equipment, tightened a electrical connection, changed the oil, and vacuumed the car and soaked me \$344.00. I had worried that it might be over one thousand. Even the tattooed woman cashier with an attitude problem did not dampen my joy! Hallelujah! And Hallelujah again! That was my "God moment", which on the next Sunday I didn't share.

DLUC's Himalayan Singing Prayer Bowl

By Ernie C



Rev. Scott Swanson, in the first days of his interim ministry, introduced his Call to Worship with three strokes to the rim of his personal prayer bowl. The congregation's response and feedback was very positive. During this past Spring the Worship Committee discussed continuing with the prayer bowl Call to Worship, and the decision was made to purchase a bowl, knowing that when Scott left, so did his bowl.

Visiting specialty shops in Fort Langley, Granville Island and Vancouver, we learned about an American website that provided the complete range of singing prayer bowls— sizes and pitches. Worship Committee members visited and revisited the site, listening to literally hundreds of bowls. We were fortunate during the summer, while this research was in progress, that Rev. Brian Burke let us use his small, personal bowl to open our worship services.

We subsequently learned that a local firm was a major importer, and purchased our chosen bowl from them. It was dedicated by Rev. Brian during Sunday worship on September 1st and has been used every Sunday since then. While a bit larger than Scott's, its pitch, timbre and resonance has drawn us closer in the Call to Worship.



Best Practices at Deer Lake (a Behavioural Covenant)

By Ellen J

If you were at the last Annual Congregational Meeting, you heard about the Behavioural Covenant. You were told that members of the Board are expected to abide by its principles. The hope is that the entire congregation will eventually embrace them.

There was some confusion about what the Behavioural Covenant was and where it came from. To address the confusion, a very short background follows below. More information will be forthcoming in future newsletters. To further clarify its meaning and intended purpose, the Board is also considering renaming the Behavioural Covenant. The top contender for the new name is currently *Communication Guidelines (pathways to enhancing community engagement)*. A copy of the Behavioural Covenant appears to the right.

Here's how it all began:

WHAT:

Definition: "A solemn agreement between members of a church to act together in harmony within the precepts of the Gospel."

WHEN:

It was developed and accepted unanimously during a six-hour Board retreat (November 2018) attended by fifteen members of the congregation and led by Scott Swanson. The retreat was open to all Board members.

WHY:

It was/is our hope that it be received as encouragement to lift up best practises and to roughly outline what we are all trying to live up to. It ensures that everyone is provided with the freedom to communicate and express themselves knowing they will be heard, both respectfully and fully. It is a promise to do our best while engaging in Gods work.

WHERE:

It did not come out of a book. It came out of our hearts as a vehicle to express our faith and our desire to live a Christ centred life.

You are encouraged to direct any questions to the members of the congregation that attended or to Brian. Feel free to ask about how it came to be and what the purpose of it is. You may wish to ask them for a copy of an informative article that inspired the process.

WHO:

Here are some of our members who attended the retreat:

Dana J, Ellen J, Ernie C, Garry F, Gary H, Gloria F, Larry J, Linda P, Peggy W, Sharon H



Behavioural Covenant

As a member of the Board of Deer Lake United Church,

- I will use these practices in doing God's work, using Jesus Christ as a model for my actions.
- I will treat this guideline as a living document and will refer to it often, base my demeanor within its parameters, and review it regularly to keep it pertinent and reflective of the values of Deer Lake United Church.
- I will acknowledge the importance of the Holy work each member of the Board engages in and the positive outcomes that result when consistent participation, full involvement and accountability is practiced by that member.
- I will fulfill the responsibilities of my position to the best of my ability and complete the tasks I agree to in a timely manner.
- I will be respectful to all others and will listen patiently and respectfully to any feedback or complaints they may offer. I will direct them to the appropriate person or group, as needed.
- I will have an open, non-judgmental mind and show interest in learning from those with opposing points of view.
- I will accept that differences of opinion are healthy and expected and I will discuss, debate and disagree openly and respectfully, assuming that others have the best intentions and the good of the Whole Church Body in mind.
- I will accept and support final Board decisions reached by consensus even if they do not reflect my personal point of view.
- I will be respectful and care for all other church members, avoiding gossip and divisive interactions.
- I will fully support our Clergy and Staff and strive to enable them to do their job without hinderance or second-guessing.
- I promise to treat our time on the Board as an opportunity to offer an important gift to our church

"What you say to one another is eternal," Mathew 18: 20



A musical offering from the youth

Look Who's our Local Hero!

By Peggy W



Many congratulations to Kathy Richardson for her recent award as a Burnaby Local Hero. Every year since 2007, the City of Burnaby has identified and recognized Local Heroes. These individuals, of diverse interests and backgrounds, have given back to their community in a wide variety of ways.

As many of us know, Kathy has spent her life giving to others. Since 2011, Kathy has been very active with BASES-Burnaby Association for the South East Side. Kathy's served on the Board for many years and was instrumental in the opening of the BASES Family Thrift Store on Edmonds Street. By opening the thrift store, BASES has been able to fund an enormous number of programs and activities for children and families in the southeast sector of Burnaby, which is the area of Burnaby where many new immigrants, refugees, and low-income families call home. This part of Burnaby was named as the most ethnically diverse community in all of Canada a couple of years ago. At some of the schools in the neighbourhood, more than 50 languages are spoken by children and families. Since 2012, over \$375,000 has been given to support over 75 out-of-school programs for vulnerable children and youth. Recently, BASES is also supporting initiatives in New Westminster.

Kathy has volunteered at our church for over 40 years. Kathy has served on most committees, knitted prayer shawls, cooked dinners, taught Sunday School, sung in the choir, played the piano, etc. etc. All her efforts have helped Deer Lake United Church become a strong, vibrant, and caring community.

The list is long of other volunteer activities Kathy has participated in from organizing a fundraiser for a potential Olympic athlete to being on the board for Naramata. The City of Burnaby focuses on those volunteer activities in Burnaby, but Kathy's big heart stretches in all sorts of directions.

Kathy will receive this recognition at the Burnaby City Council meeting on October 28th, 2019. She will be honoured with a plaque and a pat on the back from Mayor Mike Hurley.

When you next see Kathy, shake her hand and say 'thanks'!

News from Outreach

Harvest for the Homeless:

Now that the warm days of Summer have passed, it time we remember those less fortunate, the many homeless of our community. In keeping up our tradition that began with the late Bill Hilliard, we have placed the orange horn of plenty (cornucopia for the classical scholars) in the narthex. Please remember to bring new socks, gloves, toques and underwear (size small) to donate over the next few weeks. The donations will be gathered up after Thanksgiving for distribution to the homeless through the Society to End Homelessness in Burnaby.



Hope for Families:

Thanks to generous contributions last year, we were able to send several children to summer camp this past summer as part of the support we provide to Edmonds School for Burnaby's disadvantaged youth.

Following the arrangements made last year with Dixon House and Edmonds School, we will be collecting donations and gifts for some local families again this Christmas season. Announcements will be made in November with more details and dates.



Gogos:

Look for the **CRAFT SALE** organized by the **Burnaby GoGos** following the service on **Sunday, November 24**. DLUC continues to support the Burnaby Gogos which provides much needed aid and support to African Grandmothers through the Steven Lewis Foundation initiative. Please contact any member of the Outreach Committee if you would like more information on the Gogos or their upcoming events.

“Fear knocked at the door; Faith answered; no one was there...”

A simple phrase that I cross stitched years ago, and it has always stuck with me. It sounds so easy! If we only have faith, all will be well! Perhaps that hasn't always been your experience – it certainly hasn't always been mine. How much faith is required? Did something bad happen because I didn't have *enough* faith? If I have faith will I always get what I want? Interesting questions that I do not pretend to have the answers for.

What I want to talk about is “Fear” – also described as anxiety, despair, dismay, doubt, suspicion, worry. These are pretty strong words, which I suppose is appropriate given what a powerful emotion fear can be. My thoughts are that a little bit of fear, as with a little bit of stress, can be a powerful motivator by heightening our awareness, of ourselves as well as our circumstances. By forcing us to look at a situation perhaps with more clarity and conscious attention, alerting us to something that needs to be recognized, approached and attended to. I think a little bit of fear can be a catalyst for pushing us forward and stimulating new ideas and new ways of being.

But go beyond the first twinges of “fear”, and you can become paralyzed, indifferent, apathetic, uninspired, perhaps even uninterested. Have you felt some fear around the search for our new Minister? Feel dismay and anxiety about what the future brings for Deer Lake United? If you have, I hope that you will take a deep breath and step back a bit – call on your faith for strength and support. And of course each other – we say we are a community of faith so let's lean on each other and provide encouragement and reassurance, reminding us that we are not alone, we live in God's world. We can be each other's consolation and inspiration – all at the table are valued. And when Fear comes knocking, I ask that we all answer with Faith (with confidence in God, in each other), so that we can open the door to new hope and opportunities for our amazing congregation at Deer Lake United Church.

With Blessings,

Dana J, Board Chair

Meet Burnaby Gogos

Grandmothers Campaign enriches lives on two sides of the World

Grandmothers are at the heart of a movement that spans two continents. **Burnaby Gogos** are among more than 8,000 Canadian grandmothers and grandmothers who are dedicated to this unique fundraising campaign which is based on social justice. Our members are able to use our wisdom and experience to support grandmothers in Africa who have stepped in to raise an estimated 14 million children orphaned by AIDS. We are inclusive and welcome women of all skills, talents and abilities.

In the beginning, African grandmothers, experiencing profound loss, had little time to grieve. They struggled to earn money, to deal with their own deteriorating health and to bridge the generation gap and help their grandchildren work through the trauma of losing their parents. Canadian grandmothers developed a renewed sense of sisterhood through volunteering for the Grandmothers to Grandmothers Campaign, started by the Stephen Lewis Foundation in 2006.

It has become clear that by working with community-based organizations directly helping grandmothers and orphans in sub-Saharan Africa, the tide is turning. African grandmothers have gone from mourning to belonging to a movement! **Burnaby Gogos** are proud to be part of this movement that has raised more than \$36 million, 90% of which is sent directly to the grassroots organizations. In 15 African countries, our fundraising helps children stay in school, grandmothers to be self-sufficient, families to gain access to nutrition, health care and counselling, and provides hope for a healthy future. But the need is still urgent if the orphans of Africa are to lead the continent out of the AIDS pandemic.

Burnaby Gogos welcome women with skills and experience of all kinds and we offer opportunities to learn new skills. New friendships that form from being in a collaborative network of active women are improving lives in Africa and in Canada. Together, we promote the image of grandmothers as dynamic, competent, forward thinking, intelligent, compassionate and creative members of society. And, we have fun! The Campaign operates differently than other charities: Grandmothers in Africa know what they need and direct their own projects. Similarly, grandmothers in Canada form groups and decide on their own fundraising and awareness raising activities.

As we approach our 10th anniversary in 2020, **Burnaby Gogos** appreciate the generous support they've received from Deer Lake United Church.

Greater Van Gogos

Burnaby Gogos belongs to Greater Van Gogos, a network of grandmother groups in Metro Vancouver, the Fraser Valley and the Sunshine Coast. The GVG provides opportunities for members of all groups to meet to discuss common issues and concerns. While each grandmother group has its own culture and conducts its own activities, groups within the GVG network often work together on fundraising and building awareness.

How to Support Us:

Attend our Events:

- Saturday, Oct. 19 – Rockin' for Burnaby Non-Profits dance, Edmonds Community Centre, Tickets \$20
- **Sunday, Nov. 24 – annual Holiday Market, DLUC, doors open 11:30 am.**
- Invite us to sell our crafts at your office, home coffee party, luncheon
- Invite us to speak to an organization you are involved with
- Like us on Facebook – <https://www.facebook.com/burnabygogos/>
- Sign up for our GVG newsletter – www.greatervangogos.org
- Make a direct donation to the Grandmothers to Grandmothers Campaign, Stephen Lewis Foundation. www.stephenlewisfoundation.org

(See picture on opposite page)

Wills and Witchdoctors

By Tony W

Hello! I went back to Uganda in April, visiting water, sanitation and hygiene projects funded by Water School. The programs continue to go from strength to strength, and our team continues to transform lives. People are so grateful for the knowledge we give them to change their communities. I visited some new communities for us last week, high in the mountains of Kanungu District in the southwest of Uganda. People sang and danced to thank our team, and they even gave me fruit and vegetables to take away. In one mountain village, with no road access, the village chief told us that I was the first “Mzungu” (white person) to ever visit their village!

One new aspect to the program we implemented last year is to seek “Open Defecation Free” (ODF) certification for the villages we train. This is a United Nations global initiative, supported by the Ugandan Government, to eliminate human urine and faeces in the environment. This greatly improves groundwater quality and reduces the risk of many diseases. It is very difficult to get this certification. A village has to be audited by 4 different authorities, with the central Ministry of Health eventually granting the certificate. Many charities have tried to do this and almost all fail. But not our partners, Africa Water Solutions (AWS)! So far, 9 of our villages have received Ministry certification, with many more in the pipeline.

So, what about the wills and witchdoctors?

Last week John, Joseph, Henry and I were travelling the long trip from Kabale back to Kampala. We talk about many things to pass the time. We got to families, property and inheritance issues in Uganda and the western world. I mentioned that Peggy and I had sold our house in Canada to our son and daughter in law. “Aiii”, they said, “That couldn’t happen here! Children expect to inherit family property; they will not pay for it. – Can you imagine your children paying you?”

I then asked if they write wills regarding who gets property. They said that yes, educated people in Uganda do write wills. I said that we had written wills some time back, but had shown them to our children before we signed to make sure that they understood what we had written, and agreed that it was fair and they had no issues. They agreed and we signed.



The Burnaby Gogos and their African colleagues

My friends again said “Aiii – that could not happen in Uganda!” “Why?”

“Because in Uganda there is a law that if you have seen a will, you cannot inherit from it.”

“But that is crazy!”

“No it isn’t – if you know that you will benefit from the will you may do bad things to the person to make them to die.”



The witchdoctor and her “special clinic”

So what they meant was that the beneficiary would visit a witchdoctor to put a spell on the person writing the will. The person may then get a disease and die. This sounds crazy to a

western person, but in Uganda these beliefs are still strong – even among the educated. The places witchdoctors work from are called “special clinics”. There are many and they advertise in newspapers, the internet and on road signs. They can do many things – they usually advertise that they can cure love issues or impotence or fertility problems. But people know that their spells can be more powerful. The couple of witchdoctors I have met were both old women.

People believe that evil spirits operate more powerfully at night. Consequently, Ugandans are usually afraid of the dark, especially in rural areas. If you want to understand more about these issues, I would suggest reading a book called “The shadow of the sun”, by the Polish writer, Ryszard Kapuscinski.

In one area we operate, people believe that if you leave faeces around your sleeping house, then you are safe from evil spirits. This is one of the objections our team has to overcome when they talk about certifying a village “ODF”.

I have a Canadian friend who told me before he came to visit Uganda that technology would bring Africa up to western standards in 10 years. No, I told him it will take much longer than that. After he visited he understood that there are issues about which we westerners cannot conceive.

John Wesley's Directions for Singing

By Garry F

Linda had *Voices United* open and was chuckling to herself when I sat in the pew next to her. "You've got to read this," she said, "It's hilarious!"

I leaned over. She had the hymnal open to page 720, titled "John Wesley's Directions for Singing". As I started reading I, too, started to laugh. "Directions" was first published in 1761 as an appendix to *Select Hymns: with Tunes Annexed*, a collection of hymns designed for use by Methodist congregations. It is a collection of seven "rules" to be used when singing hymns. I have repeated them below.

John Wesley certainly had an entertaining writing style, as you will see. And I hope you enjoy them as much as Linda and I did. However, they make sense and are good to remember when singing in church. In particular, I encourage you to pay attention to rule IV, while keeping in mind the other six.

- I. Learn these Tunes before you learn any others; afterwards learn as many as you please.
- II. Sing them exactly as they are printed here, without altering or mending them at all; and if you have learned to sing them otherwise, unlearn it as soon as you can.
- III. Sing All. See that you join with the congregation as frequently as you can. Let not a slight degree of weakness or weariness hinder you. If it is a cross to you, take it up and you will find a blessing.
- IV. Sing lustily and with good courage. Beware of singing as if you were half dead, or half asleep; but lift up your voice with strength. Be no more afraid of your voice now, nor more ashamed of its being heard, than when you sung [sic] the songs of Satan.
- V. Sing modestly. Do not bawl, so as to be heard above or distinct from the rest of the congregation, that you may not destroy the harmony; but strive to unite your voices together, so as to make one clear melodious sound.
- VI. Sing in Time: whatever time is sung, be sure to keep with it. Do not run before nor stay behind it; but attend closely to the leading voices, and move therewith as exactly as you can. And take care you sing not too slow. This drawing way naturally steals on all who are lazy; and it is high time to drive it out from among us, and sing all our tunes just as quick as we did at first.
- VII. Above all sing spiritually. Have an eye to God in every word you sing. Aim at pleasing him more than yourself, or any other creature. In order to this attend strictly to the sense of what you sing, and see that your Heart is not carried away with the sound, but offered to God continually; so shall your singing be such as the Lord will approve of here, and reward when he cometh in the clouds of heaven.

Help Wendy Help Local Homeless Men, Women and Children

Wendy K is once again participating in Hockey Helps the Homeless. For information on the impact that past fund raising has had on the local community, please visit <http://www.hockeyhelpsthehomeless.com/HHTH/media/documents/Local%20Story/2019-Vancouver-Impact1Pager-E.pdf>. To support Wendy's fund-raising, please visit her 2019 page at http://tournament.hhth.com/site/TR/HHTHTournament/HHTH-TR-Express-2018?px=1002350&pg=personal&fr_id=1320.





Upcoming Events At and Around Deer Lake United Church

- “Living the Questions study group**
Tuesdays at 7:00 pm - DLUC narthex
- Lunches for the Homeless**
Wednesday, October 23 @ 11:30 am - Fellowship Hall
- Lunch on the Run**
Sunday, October 20 after worship - 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

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Submission Deadline Sunday, Nov 30, 2019