



# The Grapevine

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## Greetings To All In Our Congregation!



Our fall term is underway and there is much for which to be thankful around our congregation and church.

I am particularly blessed by two things: the warmth of welcome I have received in the past few weeks and the strength of my staff colleagues. Without both of these blessings, my new beginning in your midst would have been much more challenging.

As I look to the coming months as your minister, I want to emphasize in word and in deed the caring nature of congregational life. We are in community – one with the other. This is our great joy and strength. I also want to be positive and hopeful about our congregation's future – while at the same time calling upon us to live in the present in our faithfulness. Each Sunday as we gather, we are affirming our faith, affirming each other in witness and mission, and celebrating the presence of God in our midst. I look forward to our Sunday worship together.

There are many activities in our congregation – and I wish that I had the energy and time to share in all of them. However, I am limited in both and hence won't be able to be involved in all our important programs and activities. My appointment is part time (80%). Be assured, however, that I will be as helpful as my energy allows. I'll be in my office Monday through Thursday mornings and, of course, see Sunday morning worship as the most important aspect of our congregation's life together. I'll also participate in some evening meetings and some program groups.

It is wonderful to be here with you. It makes my Thanksgiving 2006 quite special!  
Sincerely, Rev. Gordon How



**Thanksgiving Worship  
on Sunday, Oct. 8  
at 10 AM**

## A Thanksgiving Prayer

**“We come to join in the banquet of love. Let it open our hearts  
and break down the fears that keep us from loving each other.”**

*~ sung by the Dominican nuns*

Shaughnessy Heights United Church

*A Christian faith community welcoming people at various stages in their faith journey*

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# Ministry Leadership

## Fall Fair Saturday October 28

By Elizabeth Kerklaan, Fair Coordinator

All sorts of great items for the Fair have been arriving daily. We still could use more. Please ask your friends if they have anything they would like to donate. Donations can be dropped off anytime the church is open. Please mark your bags and boxes Fall Fair and put them behind the Reception Desk.

### What will make the Fair a huge success?

Lots of advertising and spreading the word. Book clubs, bridge clubs, Daycare facilities, Preschools, your email address book, etc are good places to get the word out. We will have small flyers and posters ready for pick up Oct 1<sup>st</sup>. Lawn signs will be available mid October.

The Silent Auction table is a big source of revenue for us. If you have any sport or theatre tickets that you are not planning on using please consider donating them to the Silent Auction. Vacation property weekends are popular items as are 'theme' gift baskets. Any other suggestions you have please call Margaret and Treymane Perry @ 604 261 9669.

The Bake Table is always a popular spot for Fair patrons. If you are doing any baking in the next several weeks please keep the Fall Fair in mind and double up on what you are baking.

Volunteers! . . .

**Thursday and Friday, October 26 & 27**, we will be sorting and setting up for the Fair in the Hall. If you have a spare hour or two on either of those days please just show up and lend a hand. Of course we will need lots of help on the day of the Fair. If you are able to be volunteer on the 28th please call **Elizabeth Kerklaan at 604 – 266 - 0776**.

We could use volunteers to help in the following areas:

- small electrical items
- toys and games
- clothing
- sporting goods
- house wares
- linens
- silent auction
- bake table
- security
- set up & clean up

Thanks!

Ps: Please remember to talk up our Halloween festivities (see boxed ad on next page)

## Musings From The Congregational Meeting

By Allan Cunningham, Chair of SHUC Council

The comments below were delivered by Allan Cunningham as incoming Chair of Council at the Congregational Meeting on Sept. 17/06.

First I would like to honour those who have been active on council for the last few years and thank them for the progress we have made. It takes a lot of time, effort and commitment. So to Cheryl and John: thank you for leading the congregation.



I would also welcome new council members and thank them for the time they have committed for the ensuing year. We have an abundance of talent with the help of Gordon, Tom, Jacinto, Roy, Ramona, Christine, Harold, and Janet; and should have a productive and exciting year.

I don't know why, but it seems we have a reputation for being somewhat obstinate and in need of correction. I don't know about you, but I have always felt there are so many accomplished members of this community, that if you just got out of their way, anything is possible. Now may be a little therapy is good, but doing God's work is much more beneficial. And that is why we are here. If we ask the question "is what I'm doing furthering the well-being of our church and its members" then the answer will always be clear. And yes, we will always have conflict, arguments, problems, etc. But council wants this sacred place to be a sanctuary of lightness, learning, spiritual growth, and warm community.

As a council, we have no other agenda but to do what is right for the benefit of all.

And so, on behalf of council, I thank you for your time and let's get on with the rest of the agenda.

Allan Cunningham may be reached through email at [chair@shuc.ca](mailto:chair@shuc.ca)

# What's Happening: Events & News

## FALL FAIR Saturday, Oct. 28

10 am - 2 pm



TREASURES, BOOKS,  
HOUSEHOLD ITEMS, TOYS,  
GAMES, CLOTHES, SPORTING  
GOODS, SILENT AUCTION

**Kids & Goblin Friendly!**  
**Dare to walk the HAUNTED  
HALLWAY**  
**Or decorate cookies with the  
WITCHES!**



An event to raise funds for the OPEN DOORS campaign

## Seniors Lunch & Programme Wed., Oct. 25 at Noon Come! Enjoy!

\$6.00 for soup, sandwich & dessert. Programme: Ian Paterson speaks on the topic "Aboriginal's use of rocks and metals before 1800". Rides available. All welcome! To sign up, call the reception desk (604-261-6377) on weekdays between 9am-1pm, or leave a message for Pat Mitchell, Coordinator, at 604-948-4894.



## Shaughnessy Theatre Night Wednesday, Nov. 29

A wonderful opportunity to enjoy a musical adaption of *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens has been arranged for Wed., Nov. 29 at the Vancouver Playhouse. Simple, moving and imaginative, this Christmas Carol will weave a theatrical spell and bring warmth to this Christmas season as we dwell on seasons past.

Only 20 tickets have been booked and they will be allocated on a first come basis at \$48 each. Don't be disappointed! Email Brian Forster today at [brianforster@lightspeed.ca](mailto:brianforster@lightspeed.ca) or phone 604-739-9486. *This is a Congregational Life event.*

## Buy An Entertainment Book: Support Your Bell Choir!

Once again this year Entertainment Books are for sale at a price of \$46 (includes taxes). Without fund-raising efforts such as this, *The Spirit Ringers* will have to resort to improvisation like the choir members in the cartoon on the left! Entertainment Books may be purchased from the church office or any member of the bell choir. Please make cheques payable to SHUC. Thanks for your support!



# What's Happened: Reviews & News



Children of MADD Camp this summer in the Hall

## MADD Camp In Review

by Jacinto Baybay, MADD Camp Leader

The week of August 28-September 1, thirty children descended on the hall for MADD (Music, Arts, Dance & Drama) Camp. Each were eager to learn and sail away with Paul. They created beautiful artwork, sang songs, played and most of all had great fellowship. The week ended with a day out to Watermania and the leading of the Sunday Morning service. Each child had fun and hoped that they could do it again. Here are some quotes:

*"I liked MADD Camp because we learned about Church, and had fun at same time. I like singing and having donuts. I would like to do it again."* . . . Mikaela Kroeker

*"It was fun and we had good games. We watched a movie. I liked the cookies and corn. Good Bible stories. Enjoyed being a junior leader, perhaps I could do it again."* . . . Emily Cho

## Congratulations!



The Sanctuary Choir recently celebrated with **Ramona Luengen** the world premier of her piano concerto that was held at the Orpheum on Sept. 20th with the CBC Radio Orchestra and Jane Coop as soloist.

We also congratulate **Bob Pritchard** whose recent compositions were performed at a sold-out concert in the UBC Telus Studio, Chan Centre, on Sept 15.

## Deborah – Lydia Circle Disbands After 60 Years

By Denise MacLachlan

The Deborah-Lydia circle recently voted to disband, after some 6 decades. Our circle was originally named the "Lothian Circle" and was one of 12 circles under the auspice of the Women's organizations of our church.

Our membership had declined to such small number that we decided it was time to "fold our tent". We hope to keep in touch with our fellow members by meeting informally from time to time.

Our meetings were usually held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month from September to May or June. We started with a social half hour or so, then proceeded with a devotional and prayers, a short business to cover financial matters, including our monthly offerings, and then, most importantly, a study session covering various religious topics.

Our offerings were donated to various charitable organizations, such as the "WISH" centre, and also to First United Church. A special "thank you" to Janet Livingstone for looking after our banking and the distributing of our funds.

Members of the Deborah-Lydia Circle included Irene Catford, Kathleen Emery, Denise MacLachlan, Rev. Edith McLellan, Janet Markle, Attie Muller, Helen Templeton, and Elizabeth Walsh.



## Transitions

### Deaths

- *John Whyte (Jack) Millar* on March 18, 2006
- *Dorothy Eva Drape Dawson* on May 30, 2006
- *Edward Marvin Strang* on June 7, 2006
- *Norman Hyland* on September 24, 2006
- *Janet Lola Markle* on September 25, 2006

### Weddings

- *Jeannie Chang & Wayne Lau* on June 24, 2006
- *Joanne Kent & Andrew MacNeil* on August 12, 2006
- *Priscilla Ko & David Seeram* on August 26, 2006
- *Renee Kuan & Bobby Tam* on September 16, 2006

# Learning

## Travelling Together on SHUC's Spiritual Journey

By Andrew Lew, Ministry & Personnel Committee



A spiritual journey can be like a road trip. In getting from point A to point B, along the way the travellers will likely experience some highs and some lows. Shared moments can be exhilarating, frustrating, happy, aggravating, embarrassing, stressful, sad or all of the above. A really good road trip may bless you with unforgettable memories and leave you inspired for the future long after the physical destination is reached. But what is the difference between a great journey and a forgettable one, or even worse, a dismal one?

For a spiritual journey, Jacinto might say that a big part of the answer might be found in the presence of a heart-centered community. It does not matter whether you are on the road or in a church sanctuary, a heart-centered community is one based on acceptance, where people can be free to be who they are, where people feel safe, where people can openly share their ideas and feelings and are encouraged to do so.

Jacinto's belief in the importance of a heart-centered community stems from his experience with "family ministry", not in the sense of ministering to families, but in the sense that everyone in our church is "family" related by faith. With willing commitment to a heart-centered community, faith can unite us in times of challenge and uncertainty, making our spiritual journey worthwhile and fulfilling.

Jacinto's goals for his ministry at SHUC and for the church school reflect his heart-centered community philosophy. His vision is for our church school to be a place of inspired learning. Rather than use labels like "teacher", which implies a one-way transfer of information from teacher to student, Jacinto prefers to call adults in our Sunday school "elders". In a heart-centered community everyone has something to contribute. Children and youth can challenge us with their ideas and their questions.

Jacinto believes that if we all keep an open mind and are willing to listen, people will talk, and by listening, adults and children alike, can learn. That is, we are never too old to

learn or too young to teach. A good example of this is Jacinto's plans for regular MAD Sundays, where the children and youth will use music, arts, and drama to tell stories from or inspired by the bible. Jacinto hopes to bring fun, laughter and fellowship to our children and youth through creative and engaging programs such as MAD Sundays, and more original plays, like "The Prelude to Hope" which was presented last Christmas. New plays are planned for this Christmas and spring.



Jacinto's personal spiritual journey has been marked by many influences. The first was when Jacinto was only 16 years old and having one of the worst days of his life. He had been late getting to school, he felt like he had not done well on his French exam and his girlfriend broke up with him. After school it was raining, his umbrella broke and he was soaking wet by the time he got home. (Play the country music now.) When he stepped into the house, his father

asked him if he wanted to serve as a youth rep for the Vancouver Burrard presbytery on the Youth and Young Adults (YAYA) Committee for B.C. Conference. Jacinto accepted the position and now looks back on that day with fondness. Getting more involved with the work of the church through YAYA was very fulfilling and a life-changing experience. Three years later Jacinto became Chair of YAYA.

The second memorable influence that we discussed happened more recently, just this past summer. Jacinto was acting as one of the facilitators for an interfaith gathering in Whistler of a group called Leadership for Youth with Faith for the Environment. Over several days this group met with Christians and people of all different faiths. Each was asked what their faith was doing for the environment.

During this program that there was an oil spill affecting the coastline near Squamish. The youths went to the contaminated area where they could see the effect of the spill, witnessing in person the terrible impact it had on the environment. They felt frustrated and powerless to help with the clean up because only people with special training were allowed to help.

*Continued on page 7*

# Worship & Celebrating

## The Heavens are Telling!

By Roy Campbell, Minister of Music

There is nothing more comforting when visiting a rural community anywhere in the Maritimes than being drawn by the spire of the local church, quietly anchored in the village as a symbol of faith and thanksgiving. For the generations who have entered its doors and sat in its pews, and for the families close by whose livelihood on the land or sea has often been unpredictable and cruel, these churches invariably represent the triumph of light over dark.

Victoria-by-the-Sea on the south shore of PEI is one such charming village whose landscape can boast the silhouette of a church and its steeple. Built in 1877 as a Methodist Church, you can see in the photo that it's a handsome Georgian style structure enhanced by Italianate detailing. The building's near pristine condition clearly reflects the pride these townsfolk have for their church and the important role it has played in their lives.

However, because of dwindling memberships and declining attendance, the United Church of Canada has decided to close at least seven rural churches on PEI this year: in fact, they are for sale and sad to say, the church in Victoria is one of them. Speaking with one of the older members on how the congregation felt about its closure and imminent sale, I was told they felt grateful to have had this place of worship for so long and were happy that the congregation was being welcomed by another church 'down the road.' As this gentleman was quick to remind me, "you can't be unhappy and grateful at the same time."

Among the various family plaques on display in the porch of the Victoria church is one that begins with the inscription 'The Heavens are telling the Glory of God'. This paraphrase from Psalm 19 is also the title of a well-known chorus from Franz Joseph Haydn's oratorio *The Creation* (the Sanctuary Choir will be singing this exciting work on Thanksgiving Sunday). *The Creation*, considered to be Haydn's greatest masterpiece, depicts and celebrates the creation of the world as told in Genesis and the Book of Psalms. *The Heavens are Telling*, with its transition from a minor to major key, clearly shows Haydn's depiction of the triumph of light over dark.

In an obvious act of faith; this deeply religious composer appended the phrase 'In nomine Domini' (in the name of the Lord) and 'Soli Deo gloria' (Praise to God) to every completed page of the manuscript. Revealing too is a comment by one of his biographers stating that "a natural consequence of Haydn's religiosity was his modesty; for his talent was not his own doing but rather a gracious gift from the Almighty, to whom he believed he must show himself thankful."

We too have received many gracious musical gifts at SHUC, and none more appreciated than the wonderful, dedicated volunteers who make the Sanctuary Choir, Songsters, the Bells of Shaughnessy and Spirit Ringers what they are today. They show that our music can be for us the triumph of light over dark: music can be our gratitude for all which God has given us. And if we are truly grateful for these many good things, joy will be in our hearts.



United Church in Victoria-by-the-Sea, P.E.I.  
(Yes that's Roy's car out front!)

# Worship & Celebrating

## Five Sundays In July

By Clif Prowse, Worship & Music Committee Chair

### Mother Teresa's . . . "The Fruit of Prayer"-

The fruit of silence is prayer  
The fruit of prayer is faith  
The fruit of faith is love  
The fruit of love is service  
The fruit of service is peace

With these words, Lee McKimm brought to a conclusion 5 remarkable Sundays of worship in July. If you were away, read them on the web (or ask for a copy from the office).

In the June 2005 Annual Report, the Worship & Music Committee asked: Is effective worship "indigenous"? Does it grow out of the intentional involvement of all worshippers and their talents, not the style of a particular worship service? What do we know about what is indigenous to SHUC now? About what we hope it will look like in the years ahead?

The answer to what is indigenous must be found in the words on those 5 Sundays. The web doesn't record Gayle Ansley's introduction and prayer on July 9 (when I gave the sermon). The other 4 sermons each need to be read as a whole. They included:

- Ramon Luengen's reflections on the power of music, and a call to the "collective heart" of our congregation to move together with joy and enthusiasm
- Stephen Ansley's challenge to us to deal with "what you don't see" at SHUC— teenagers. The future is in our hands. We must be seen to rebut the image of conservative oppressive religion by standing up publicly for change in our society
- Heather Clarke's 3 stories calling for us to be passionate about being SHUC's future. Harmony in shared leadership –many people doing different things to make SHUC the church God meant it to –making a difference.
- Lee McKimm's call to discover the love of God through worship, prayer, and meditation, citing examples of growing congregations that have come together to pray, to study scripture, and to seek ways to discern how God desired them to grow in love and in service.

As you read these sermons (and others by Carmen Lansdowne, Brenda Miller, and two by Gordon How, starting the new year by tackling 9-11 and the Dawson campus shooting) ask yourself: What did you hear in the sermon? (content), How did the sermon make you feel (emotion), Could you relate to the sermon?(Connection) Does it inspire you to do anything Specific (Action).



## Sunday Worship Schedule

Sunday morning worship services begin at 10:00 am

(Child care, children & youth programs provided)

Sundays of note:

OCT. 8 - Thanksgiving Sunday & MADD Sunday for the youth

NOV. 5 - Remembrance Ceremony at beginning of the service

NOV. 12 - Communion & Baptism Service

*"Travelling Together" ...continued from page 5*

Instead, this group was inspired to take action in ways that they, as youths, could be effective in standing up for the environment, finding practical ways for them to be empowered to make a difference. They set up projects, starting with achievable goals like recycling and making people aware of how their choices affect the environment.

In the end, this experience affirmed Jacinto's beliefs that people of all ages can be empowered to find ways to make a difference if the people are passionate about their faith and believe in themselves.

We are lucky to have Jacinto travelling with us on our spiritual journey, bringing his philosophy of a heart-centered community and his gifts of creativity, energy, and dedication to SHUC. Now in his second year at SHUC, Jacinto is looking forward to getting to know us better as we share the same path for another year. Like a tiny mustard seed, he hopes that together we can plant seeds that will grow into something bigger, nurtured not only by the gifts that he brings, but by all of the gifts that we share as a heart-centered community.

# Learning

## The Year Ahead . . .

By Jacinto Baybay, Minister for Children, Youth and Families

The weather is a little cold; the rain has started to pour. This only means one thing; the new church year has begun. The Christian Education committee and I met and planned the upcoming year and have set three goals:



### Goals for Christian Education Committee

1. The Sunday school space here at Shaughnessy continues to be a place of inspired learning.
2. To integrate art/drama as part of a “spiritual journey” for children participating in programs such as Sunday school and MADD Sunday.
3. Programs at Shaughnessy must be based on creativity and resonate with a sense of fun, laughter, and fellowship.

We have a lot in store for everyone. Starting with the introduction of MADD Sundays (that’s **M**usic, **A**rts, **D**ance, and **D**rama). This is a new Sunday school program that happens once a month that uses arts to help the children to experience the stories in Bible.

The Youth and Shock group will still have their weekly gatherings, along with monthly outings that include two day retreat out at Cultus Lake.

We also have a couple of family nights starting in November with SingFest 2006, and the annual Hanging of the Greens on December 2, 2006.

For the adults, Evlyn (the new chair of CE) has proposed the start up again of the discipleship program and many more adult education programs. So keep you ears close to the ground. And Get Active.

Looking back at the year that passed, all I can say is what a journey we have taken together. God Bless.

## Book Marks

By Pat Hudson, Librarian



One of my favourite quotes, one that I uncovered this summer, is from a book by Elizabeth Gilbert entitled “Eat, Pray, Love.” The author, recalling the first time that she attempted to speak directly to God, said “It was all I could do to stop myself from saying, “I’VE ALWAYS BEEN A BIG FAN OF YOUR WORK !”

We in the library have similar feelings, as we browse each fall through the many publications that continue to interpret the Words of God.

This will be a year to remove from our shelves some of the old thoughts, and refresh our minds with new ideas. The area of Bible Study will be the focus of our interest as we pick the brains of Gordon How, and Pat Gilmore at the United Church Resource Center, to find the best new interpretative series available. We will start by purchasing the books of the New Testament. Memorial donations will cover the bulk of the cost. If any member of the Congregation would like to donate to this fund in memory of or celebration of the life of a member of their family we would be pleased to speak with you. Just call Pat Hudson at 604-733-2643. You too, can be a “Fan of the Word of God.”



## **The Grapevine**

*The newsletter of*  
Shaughnessy Heights United Church

Editors: Christine Ackermann, Olivia Edwards, John Banfield  
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### **Grapevine Submissions:**

Please keep submissions to a **maximum of 200 words or less.** The editors reserve the right to edit for length. We endeavor to keep the Grapevine to a reasonable length, as increased postage for editions with more pages is costly. Thank you for your submissions.