



The Grapevine



The Newsletter of Shaughnessy Heights United Church

Vol. 9 No. 1 Easter 2008

Easter Message from the Minister

Greetings. I am writing this message for The Grapevine in California whilst on a 2 week break. Natural California is a land of vineyards, Golden Gates, orange grooves, seascapes, high mountains, tall trees, deserts and Monarch butterflies! The dainty brown and orange wings of this incredible creature work to send it on its way from Pacific Grove, CA, to the Yucatan Peninsula in Mexico. So fragile, yet persistent, indomitable, triumphant, the butterfly is a perfect symbol of Easter!

What a superb example of resurrection, as the drab chrysalis yields to the magic of the butterfly's wings. Then... A long journey awaits to its homeland tree. I've always wondered why the butterfly hasn't found a more prominent place amongst the most powerful symbols of the Christian faith.

God has made us by God's own design, to be an Easter people; not made for despair or desolation or death, (as in cocooned and lifeless). God has made us for hope, for the upward climb, for life and life eternal. As we beat our fragile wings against the wings that blow over us, both personal and societal - may we be grounded in the Easter confidence that in all life we belong to God.

May the colourful joy and mystery of our faith, and the flapping of our fragile wings, lift us to new heights and joys this Easter.
Sincerely,
Rev. Gordon How



Notes from the SHUC Council

Thank you to all those who participated at Congregational meeting and especially Bob Turner for his first budget in his new capacity as treasurer. It was very evident we are on our own path to renewal with the overwhelming endorsement of the kitchen renovations. Many thanks to Brian McGavin, Mark Monroe and others for their input and consultation, and of course to the congregation who said "Get on with it". We are putting together a fund raising plan which we hope will be presented to the congregation in March and we already have individuals who have indicated a substantial level of support, but it will take some effort to reach our goal of \$60,000.00.

And thanks to Margaret Brooke for her presentation on the organ upgrades and this committee will have more information as they work through the technical and architectural detail during the next few months.

Other agenda items included a celebration event honouring the **80th Anniversary of SHUC**, the need to add council members for 2008-2009 and to plan for future pastoral leadership. I know the thought of Gordon ever leaving us is one we would rather not contemplate, but we have to consider the all the factors that will impact SHUC over the next five years.

So, as Easter approaches, I want to give thanks for the blessings we receive from being part of a caring community at SHUC.
On behalf of Council,

Allan Cunningham, Chair

Shaughnessy Heights United Church

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

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Ultimate Concern

*By Roy Campbell,
Music Director & Organist*



One evening, asked how he spent his day, Brahms replied: "I was working on my symphony. In the morning I added an eighth note. In the afternoon, I took it out."

Spurious as this anecdote may be, it's a good example of the care with which Brahms fashioned his music. Webster tells us that the verb 'to fashion' comes from the Latin root *facere* (to make) and is defined as *the way in which something is made or done*. As the great theologian Paul Tillich has famously noted, "how something is made or done is of our ultimate concern: it defines who we are and our relationship to the ground of being....this manner of doing things fashions the outcome of our place in the world - our personal development as well as our spiritual growth." How crucial then that we, like Brahms, take the time to faithfully fashion our music and thus respond authentically to the wide-ranging depth of emotion that is particularly the season of Easter and beyond.

Speaking of fashioning our music, the **Sanctuary Choir** is thrilled to announce that due to much hard work and diligence, it has made it to the next step of the CBC National Competition for Amateur Choirs!!! It is one of only two church choirs to be forwarded by the BC Regional Jury and now moves on to the National Quarter Finals. Prayers and candles will be much appreciated until the end of March, at which time we will know whether we move on to the semi-finals. We will keep you posted on developments.

We were blessed on Sunday, March 9 with the participation in our worship of the **Amabilis Singers** conducted by our own Ramona Luengen. This choir of 55 singers lifted our spirits with movingly rendered Lenten music. (The next goal of the Sanctuary Choir is to

grow to 55 members as well!). We have also been blessed by the contributions of our two bell choirs, the **Spirit Ringers**, and the **Bells of Shaughnessy** conducted by Shan Shan Chen.

The **Bessborough Brass Quintet** will be our guests on Easter Sunday, March 23. They will join with the Sanctuary Choir and congregation in festive hymns, anthems and solo selections.

We are honoured to have **Phoenix Chamber Choir**, SHUC's *Choir-in-Residence*, take part in our morning worship on Sunday April 13. Under Ramona's leadership they will present a variety of pieces from the sacred repertoire, two of which will be stunning arrangements of the spiritual *Steal Away* and the well-known hymn *Blessed Assurance*. What a musical feast in store!

Looking ahead, we can look forward to another visit by Vancouver's newest children's choir, **Zing!** They will be taking part in the intergenerational service on Sunday May 4. Pentecost, the final Sunday of the Easter season and Mother's Day, is the following week on May 11. It will be a music oriented service with the **Sanctuary Choir** presenting Handel's best known coronation anthem *Zadok the Priest* as the core musical offering. A lot to look forward to indeed! We hope you can join us for this spiritual journey during Easter and beyond as through music we plumb the depths of ultimate concern.

* * *



Tsawwassen Golf

Sign-Up Tournament will be held on Friday July 25th, 2008. A suggested Tee Off time of 12:30 p.m. Calling all Non Golfers and Golfers! Shaughnessy Heights United Church knows how to have fun!

This is an all ages Event! Whether you want to Golf or just enjoy the beautiful scenery! We want the kids to come and hit a Bucket of Balls, and to learn the basics of a good Swing with the Golf Pro. Supervision for the kids, while Mom and Dad get on the Course, or just hit a Bucket of Balls themselves!

A wonderful Dinner Buffet will be held at 5:00 p.m. with a Side Grill for the Kids. They can dine on Grilled Cheese, French Fries, Veggie or All Beef Dogs and a “Make your own Sundae”, for Desert. Kids Awards for the longest Slice to the Right and the Longest Slice to the Left, and the Longest Straight down the Middle!

We want to have fun and involve everyone in this special Fund Raising Event.

If you don't want to Golf, please join us for Dinner. Tickets are available for Golf only, Dinner only, Buckets of Balls and Pro Lesson, or all of the above. Car Pools can be arranged.

Please support our Summer Fund Raising Event, for our Church! I look forward to working with Brian Forster, his style and experience will ensure that everyone has a great day. For more information contact Brian Forster (604-739-9486) or Alison MacLean.

Alison MacLean
Stewardship Chair
tomboy_productions@yahoo.ca
604-874-8174

Quite often, at coffee hour, we enjoy cookies or a cake. With a few exceptions these are donated by the coffee servers and occasionally by others in the congregation. There is no budget for refreshments. If you would like to donate baked goods, packaged snacks or a contribution to cover same, would you please phone Margaret Perry at 604-261-9669 so that these donations can be coordinated.



Baptism Classes - Sunday, April 6th, 2008 will be the next Baptismal Sunday. If you are interested in finding out more about the sacrament of Baptism here at Shaughnessy Heights United, we invite you to participate in a information session on **Tuesday, April 1, 2008 from 6:30 - 8:00 pm.** Childcare is available. Please speak to Gordon or Pamela if interested.



Seniors and Friends

Mark your calendars:

April 9th The Daffodil Tea

April 30th Seniors' Lunch

May 28th Seniors' Lunch

Come for Soup, Sandwich and Dessert - \$7.00

Rides will be available upon request.

For further information, call **Pat Mitchell (604) 948 4894.**

Looking forward to seeing you.

In Remembrance of Peter Wing



The Wing families have been an important part of our congregation. Below, you see a letter from the Moderator of the United Church of Canada to Jim and June Wing regarding the death of Peter Wing.

Although Peter lived most of his life in Kamloops, two of his brothers, Jim and John, and their families have been associated with our congregation for several decades. Jim and June continue to be active here as does Peter's sister-in-law, Betty Wing. Her late husband, the Reverend John Wing, was a minister of this church in the late 1960s. After that time of ministry, Betty and John continued to be worshipping members of Shaughnessy Heights United Church.

Rev. Gordon How

January 23, 2008

Dear Jim and June Wing,

On behalf of the people of the United Church of Canada, I wish to extend to Kim Wing and family my sympathy on the death of Peter Wing on December 27, 2007.

I wish also to extend deep appreciation for a lifetime of service to his church and community. Peter Wing served his community with passion and wisdom. His stature as Mayor of Kamloops, his leadership and strong Christian faith in helping others will be a remembered legacy. As generations pass, those of us who remain are aware that our church and

community have been richly blessed by his presence.

We are thankful that his witness continues in many ways to form us as a church and a community and that in God's grace, his life, though lost from us, continues on in God's sight. Blessings and strength in this time of remembering.

Peace be with you,

David Giuliano (The Right Reverend)
Moderator

Easter Worship Services at SHUC

- Palm Sunday - **March 16th** at 10 am.
- Good Friday - **March 21st** at 11 am.
(Ryerson United joins us at SHUC)
- Easter Sunday – **March 23rd** at 10 am.



Daffodil Tea

April 9th
at 1:30 p.m.

Entertainment & Sing-a-Long
followed by the Tea.

RSVP to the Church Office
9 am. - 1 pm.

or For further information, call
Pat Mitchell (604) 948 - 4894.

Before the Sunday Service...

Before the Sunday Service the microphones are checked, the bible, candles and matches placed, and the welcome table set up.

The ushers arrive, taking up their positions in the narthex, to hand out the bulletins and look after the welcome table.

The offering arrangements are made. The choir practices. The friendly forms are distributed up and down the aisles.

And besides all that we have been fortunate to have a few dedicated members, who week after week take the responsibility of head usher for their allotted week. As there have been some changes following long periods of dedicated head usher service, now would be an appropriate time to say thanks.

Thanks go to Mary and Chuck Lew who looked after week One for a given month, Margaret Walker who looked after week Four and to Norman Roaf who looked after months with a fifth week. Norman also acted as a spare before he decided that he could sing and was welcomed by the choir.

Thanks go to Robin and Rosemary Leckie who left for a while but are now back in their regular spot at week Three.

For a while Tony Weall filled the Week One spot prior to our welcoming Len and Beryl Sawyer into this position.

Taking over from Margaret who was always open to an exchange week or an extra week, we are pleased to have Gordon and Irene

Dungate on board. If you have noticed Chuck Lew directing the morning arrangements that's because he has kindly agreed to take any fifth Sunday and act as a spare as sometimes head ushers are allowed to take vacations.

Although the purpose of this note is to let you know of the head usher changes, it would be remiss not to mention the stellar work of Pat Cryder who continues to contact and arrange for ushers each week. Many thanks to all that participate "before the Sunday Service".

Brian Forster
Acting for Congregational Life
And "Week Two"

Hello, from Thomas Saxon!

Hello, Shaughnessy! My mother tells me some of you have been inquiring as to my wellbeing at school in Waterloo, so — a bit of an update. I'm in rez [residence] out here, living with three other guys. We each have our own little room, and a living room/kitchen common to the four of us. Pretty luxurious digs, really! The guys I live with are loads of fun; we all get along great. I'm currently taking Italian, Accounting for Managers, an intro-level Computer Science course, as well two sociology courses: Introduction to Classical Theory and Mass Media Communications. Courses are going well, though midterms brought a few surprises. I'm working at a café in downtown Kitchener, "Matter of Taste", still making excellent coffee. I *hope* to be home over the summer, if I can find a Co-Op job in Vancouver.

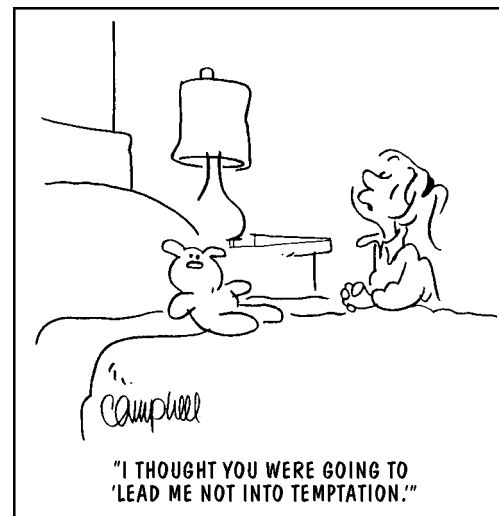
I'm hoping for employment related to the field of marketing or media, (given that's what I hope to go into after I graduate) though any experience at the introductory level within a business environment would be useful. If any of you have any suggestions or know of openings I would like to hear from you.

Co-Op, briefly outlined, is the combination of in-school education and real-world employment; students alternately attend classes one semester and work in a related field the next. This allows students to mix education and real experience throughout their progress towards a degree. Students are required to get paid in order to qualify for their co-op credit, though there is no program-mandated wage. There are no additional costs beyond salary, though. Employers are responsible for providing adequate supervision, and allow-

ing time for a visit from a Co-Op field coordinator some time during the second half of the work term. There are government initiatives to encourage employers to hire co-op students such as tax credits or grants. <http://www.cecs.uwaterloo.ca/employers/prospective/support.php> , <http://www1.servicecanada.gc.ca/en/epb/yi/yep/programs/scpp.shtml>

You can reach me at thsaxon@telus.net if you want to chat, want to know more about the Co-Op program, or happen to know of a potential job. Thanks for the interest, folks, and try and keep my mother out of trouble while I'm not around. Look forward to seeing you soon.

Thomas Saxon



Paul's Chain Letter To The Corinthians

1. The Chain Letter of Paul the Apostle to the Corinthians. With love all things are possible. This epistle comes to you from Philippi. Grace be to you and peace. Spiritual gifts will be delivered unto you within four days of receiving this letter - providing you in turn send it on.

2. This is no joke. Send copies to whomsoever among the Gentiles or superstitious peoples of other denominations you would comfort in all their tribulation. Do not send material things. Love vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up.

3. While visiting the household of Stephanas, a Macedonian proconsul received the epistle and was greeted by his brethren by a holy kiss. But he broke the chain, and now he is become as sounding brass or a tinkling cymbal.

4. Gaius bestowed all his goods to feed the poor, and gave his body to be burned, but it profited him nothing. He failed to circulate the letter. However, before his death, he received the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

5. Do note the following: Crispus had the gift of prophecy, and understood all mysteries, and all knowledge, and had all faith, so that he could remove mountains. But he forgot that the epistle had to leave his hands within 96 hours, and now he is nothing.

6. In AD 37, the epistle was received by a young Galatian woman who put it aside to copy and send out later. She was plagued by various problems: thrice she was beaten with rods, once she was stoned, and thrice suffered shipwreck. On the last day of these occasions, she spent a night and day in the deep. Finally, she copied the letter. A trumpet sounded, and she was raised incorruptible.

7. Remember: Believeth all things, hopeth all things. The chain never faileth.

http://www.gbgm-umc.org/rainierumc/rumc_humor.htm

What is Easter?

A Sunday School teacher was attempting to teach her young students the true meaning of Easter. "Why do we celebrate Easter?" she asked. When the children replied 'because of the Easter bunny,' Easter eggs, candy, spring, etc., she said, "No, those are Easter traditions and symbols, but what is the REASON why we celebrate Easter? What happened at the very first Easter?" A little girl raised her hand and said, "Easter celebrates Jesus coming out of the tomb." "Yes!" said the teacher, excited and relieved that finally the correct answer had surfaced. Encouraged, she prompted, "Jesus arose from the tomb, and what does He do for us?" The youngster replied, "He looks to see if he can see his shadow, and if He can, he goes back in for another six weeks."



Joke

A preacher announced from the pulpit, "I have good news and bad news. The good news is we have enough money to retire the mortgage on the church."

A sigh of relief went through the congregation.

The preacher continued: "the bad news is: the money is still in your pocket."

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