



# The Grapevine



The Newsletter of Shaughnessy Heights United Church

Vol. 4; Issue 7: May 2004

## Summer's Comin'

Post-Easter, there's always this feeling in the church year that the slow down time is coming. Usually it's wishful thinking. After a busy year with challenges and joyous occasions, we desire quiet and relaxation.

May and June, however, have their own rhythms. We honour Queen Victoria (sort of!), but do a better job of honouring parents on Mother's Day and Father's Day. How will we honour those who gave us birth?

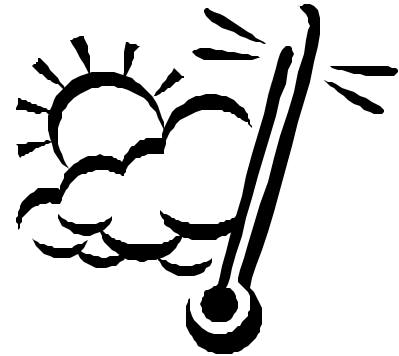
*"[Y]ou have touched me; you have cradled me in your security, until I found my own; given me words, when they were unknown to me; tenderly you have held my heart in your hand; your firmness has given me strength; life itself wrapped in love was your first gift to me; to love you is to love myself; to love myself is to love you."*

Mary Eleonore Rice

At the end of May, we celebrate Pentecost – that birthday of the Christian church (see *Acts 2*). That same Spirit of Christ, who gathered together those first Christians still works among us today. Do we know ourselves rooted in that early Christian experience?

During June, the congregation meets to give thanks for the work of so many people – leading, teaching, caring, serving. What amazing generosity from all who have given of themselves to help the congregation be "the Body of Christ" in this community! New leaders are elected and plans for the new church year are formed. And this year's Worship & Music Forum promises to help clarify directions for the core "celebration" ministries.

July and August are quieter. The summer worship series takes place in the Hall – a less formal and cooler place to worship. Lay leaders share their testimony (Will you? See information on page 8). Programs for infants and children are provided every Sunday.



The M.A.D. camp is for children and youth – music, arts, and drama to connect our story with The Story. It takes place July 26-30. (Can you help? Contact Cathy Cryder. Information on page 4.)

This summer, Glenys and I will be vacationing in more familiar settings. Last year's Yukon and Alaska venture opened up a whole new world to us. This year, the cottage near Bancroft, Ontario beckons – the lake with its loons, the tamaracks, and the household mice!! Glenys begins a six-month sabbatical leave in July – a fallow time for renewal from VST's busy academics.

Time to rest, time to play, to vegetate, to just be (and take a break from much doing) – Sabbath time – that's what the summer season offers. It is God's gift and in trusting gratitude we can enjoy the time to renew the soul and deepen the pool of faith.

During that time, pray, worship, meditate, read, love self (while continuing to love others) and love God above all. May it be so.

In peace,  
Harry Oussoren

## Whistler Worship

When in Whistler, worship at the ecumenical service. Call 604-935-8450 and talk to Steve Hershey, the United Church minister, serving the joint ministry.

# Mission Development: Celebrating



"I assume we get time-and-a-half for working Sundays."

## Les Belles Lettres

We're so happy Betty Ann Knickerbocker returned to the handbell choir after her surgery and convalescence. Listen for those high G's - they're her specialty!

I recently attended the annual workshop of the British Columbia Handbell Ringers Association and was amazed at the number of handbell choirs active in BC. These groups are based in schools, churches, universities and even hospitals - they often are the core of music therapy programs. Original compositions and arrangements of classical works are more numerous in recent years. This otherwise cost-prohibitive music can be had at quite a discount at online resources such as E-Bay (one must always exercise restraint!).

The most exciting news is rehearsals have already begun for a youth handbell choir formed and directed by Shan Shan (Sandy) Chen. The group played for the morning service on Mother's Day, May 9th. Shan Shan brings a lot of enthusiasm and experience to leading this group of bell ringers, having rung extensively while a student at Northwestern University. Anyone interested in joining this talented group of bellringers, please contact Shan Shan at (604)-263-8198.

We are in the process of getting the history of handbells in this congregation updated before archiving them. Contributions from Pat McKenzie, Ruth Dakin and Jocelyn Pritchard have been already received. Folk with remembrances of handbell concerts, events or anecdotes are requested to pass them on to me at (604) 261-6377.

*Roy Campbell*

## Worship Schedule

### *Meditation Group*

In the Chapel, Mondays, 7:45 – 8:30 p.m. All welcome.

### *Labyrinth...in the Gym*

8:30-10 a.m. daily. Sundays 8-9:45 a.m. and Wednesdays from 8:00 to 9:45 p.m. or by appointment via the office: 604-261-6377

### *Mid-Week Worship...in the Chapel*

Every Wednesday at 6:45 p.m. Prayer (silent & spoken), Scripture, Communion - to renew and strengthen.

### *Sunday Worship...in the Sanctuary*

**Sun. May 16**, 10 a.m. Interfaith Conversation – Islam. Islamic Youth Choir

**Sun. May 23**, 10 a.m. Victoria Day Weekend

**Sun. May 30**, 10 a.m. Pentecost – The Spirit Births the Church

Baptism of Adults and Transfer of Membership  
**Congregational Picnic (afternoon) at Jericho Beach**

**Sun. June 6**, 10 a.m. Communion  
Recognition of Elders Circle  
Stewardship Lunch  
Congregational Meeting

### *Worship & Music Forum – June 11-13*

**Fri. June 11**, 7:15 p.m. Special Worship in Taize style

**Sat. June 12**, 8:30 – 12:30

Focus on Worship styles; Music in Worship

### **Sun. June 13**

9:00 a.m. Worship Forum –  
Singing, Preparing Worship Workshops

10 a.m. “Catching the Spirit” worship service

11:30 a.m. 2nd Hour: focus on worship & music

**Sun. June 20** – Father’s Day–10 a.m. service - all ages

11:30 a.m. – 2 p.m. Children & Youth Ministry  
Leaders’ Appreciation Lunch

**Sun. June 27**, 10 a.m.

Ontario Presbyterian Chorus as guests

**Sun. July 4, 10 a.m. to Sun. September 5**

Summer Worship Series in the Church Hall

**Sun. Sept. 12**, 10 a.m. Communion Sunday in the Sanctuary

**Sun. Sept. 19**, 10 a.m. Welcome Back Sunday  
11 a.m. - 2 p.m. OPEN HOUSE  
hosted by all building users

# Mission Development: Reaching Out

## Grace-Full Vision

Throughout Lent, nine people gathered to study the thoughts of Parker Palmer in his book, Let Your Life Speak. On the surface the goal was to deepen our understanding of leadership. Deep down however my vision was discipleship...supporting each other to become our truest selves. But in the process I tried too hard. I used gimmicks, exercises, mini-lectures etc. during each session. The group knew what I was trying to do, so on a week I could not be there the members met anyway.

In the language of the trade, the group began 'storming'. That is, as one member put it, '...when someone or several start bucking authority or some conflict emerges'. But get this. The same member goes on to say that I had "...created space which enabled the group to take more responsibility for itself and care for each other." *That's Grace Full!*

The season of Lent is over now, but the group duration has exceeded my limited vision. Now the group continues, using the *lectio divina* method, in which a short passage is read multiple times. The stillness that emerges from this method sometimes brings tears, sometimes laughter, but always-deeper awareness of God's grace and presence. Lent becomes Easter and, if we let go, becomes Pentecost. Openness and inclusion are hallmarks now of this lay-led ministry. Taste and See!

**All are welcome each Thursday 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. in the Library.**

Ross White

### Advertisement:

	<p>Frustrated with your PC? Need hardware / software fixed? Need a home network? Cabling or Wireless? Need software training? Install a new hard drive? <b>Virus cleansing &amp; prevention</b> Call: <b>Tony Weall</b> <a href="mailto:tony.weall@telus.net">tony.weall@telus.net</a> (604) 261 2144 Personal Service, one-on-one training. Professionally Delivered</p>
--	---

## Visit of the Dalai Lama & Interfaith Conversations

The Dalai Lama graced Shaughnessy Heights Church with a visit on Saturday, April 17 during the "Inner Peace: Active Love" retreat sponsored by the MultiFaith Action Society. It involved about 275 people from various faith traditions. Sharing gifts of poetry, music and movement was a key part of the activity, along with time for interfaith meditation and prayer. Whirling dervishes from the Sufi tradition, drummers from aboriginal first nations, chants from Christian, Sikh, and Hindu traditions, and reflection of "Sabbath spirituality" were some highlights.

The Dalai Lama spoke for about 25 minutes on his now well-known theme of loving compassion and then led the gathering in about 15 minutes of silent meditation.

For more information about the MultiFaith Action Society (producers of the interfaith Calendar every year) contact: Barry Cooke, Executive Director at [bcooke@multifaithaction.org](mailto:bcooke@multifaithaction.org) or visit the website at [www.multifaithaction.org](http://www.multifaithaction.org).



(photo by Steven Ansley)

## Disciple Bible Study – January's New Group

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Disciple Bible Study group is in the last third of the 34-week program. Although the group won't conclude till fall, plans are underway for a new group to start in January. If you want to (finally) read the Bible and get to know about this foundational document of the Church, plan to be part of its start up in January. The rewards are great – it could renew your faith.

# Mission Development: Learning

## Shaughnessy Heights United Church Congregational Picnic

When: Sunday, May 30th, 2004  
 12:30pm to 3:30pm  
 Where: Jericho Beach (By the east parking lot at the cluster of tables closest to the path separating the beach from the park)  
 Food: Bring something for the BBQ and something for the table (e.g. salad, appetizer, dessert)

## Extended Family Cluster Pizza, Salad and Sundae Night

When: Sunday, June 13th, 2004  
 5:00pm to 7:30pm  
 Where: The SHUC Hall  
 Cost: \$7 per adult; \$5 per child

\*\*\*For this event folks must sign up in **advance!!!** Watch for the sign up table in the hall on the Sundays of May 30th and June 5th. Or, contact Cathy Cryder at 604-261-6377.

## Children and Youth Ministry Leaders Appreciation Luncheon

When: Sunday, June 20th, 2004  
 11:30am to 2:00pm  
 Where: The SHUC Hall

This is an afternoon to celebrate and appreciate the wonderful gifts offered by the folks who have volunteered over the year with the programs for children and youth at Shaughnessy Heights United Church.

## Mom's Day Out!

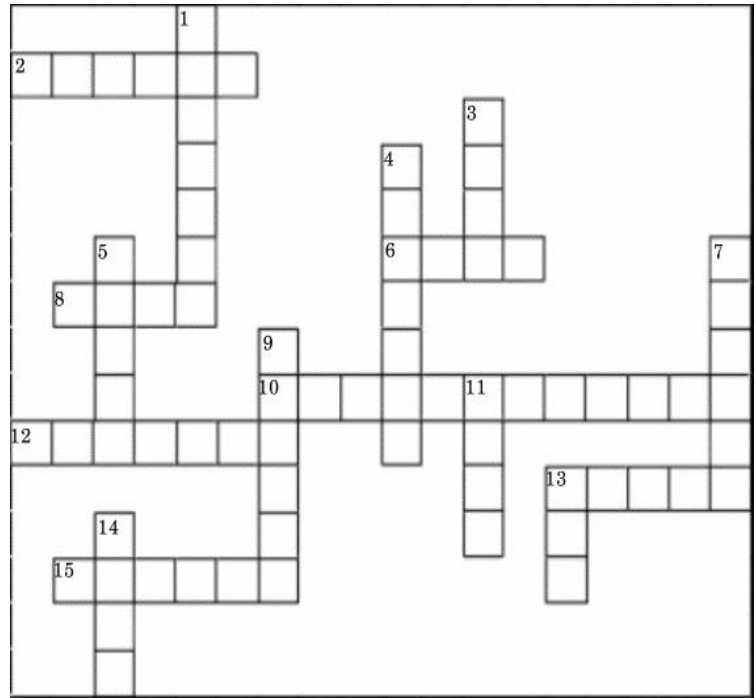
Calling All Moms!!! Block off Saturday, June 19th from 9am to 3:30pm for a day of pampering and self-care. A number of creative and caring folks are working hard to put together a day of learning, worshipping, celebrating, caring, dancing, eating and fun for moms.

Keep your eyes and ears open for more information about this wonderful event! For more information, contact: Lois Saad 604-731-5558; Pat Sexsmith 604-261-8293 or Cathy Cryder 604-261-6377.

## MAD Camp

When: July 26th to August 1st  
 9am to 12pm  
 Where: SHUC  
 What: A week of Music, Art and Drama for Children between the ages of 5 and 12 years old.  
 Cost: \$50 per child (max \$125 per household)  
 Please speak to Cathy Cryder about financial assistance (604-261-6377)

## Mother's & Father's Day Kids Crossword



### Clues:

Across	
2	Day after Saturday.
6	To do as you are told.
8	A peck on the cheek.
10	Gratitude.
12	To value and admire the self worth of another.
13	Hold in high regard.
15	Mom.
Down	
1	Your folks, Mama and Papa.
3	When you more than like someone.
4	Roses or daisies.
5	Presents.
7	Evening meal.
9	Dad.
11	A greeting or note you send expressing your thoughts.
13	When you wrap your arms around another to show caring
14	Where you live.

(Answers on back page)

# Mission Development: Council & Stewardship

---

## Notes From the Council

As you know, revitalization of our worship and music programs was identified as a priority as early as the Town Hall meeting of January, 2003. The Stepping Stones Team report, which was welcomed by the congregation in February, noted “some fresh thinking would be welcomed” in our music program.

The Worship and Music Committee and the Council have given intensive consideration to the implications of that recommendation. In light of the recommendation to rethink the form and content of the music program and its leadership, our two current music professionals have recently tendered their resignations. Cathy Pedersen, Director of Music, will continue her work through June 13. We value all of the contributions Cathy has made over her many years of service, and we are especially appreciative of Cathy’s work with the children’s choirs, as well as her lovely voice which has graced many a SHUC occasion. We will be planning a farewell for Cathy in order to express our appreciation for her work at Shaughnessy Heights.

Roy Campbell will continue as organist through September. As he will be giving concerts in the East for a good part of the summer, he has assured us that he will arrange for substitute musicians for weddings and Sunday services in his absence.

All of us will have a part in helping to define the kind of music program we want to have in the future. A Worship and Music Forum is being planned for June 11-13 with a second hour for discussion on the 13th. Watch for details and plan to attend. Following the Forum the Worship and Music Committee will continue its work on a staffing plan for the revitalized music program. Roy Campbell has indicated that he is willing to consider a role in that new program.

We know that music is central to our life together and together it will continue to be so.

If you have questions or concerns contact a member of the choir executive (Janet Loudon or Gale Walker), or a member of the Worship and Music Committee or Church Council.

Other Council news includes some upcoming events. June 6th promises to be a gala luncheon to conclude our spring Stewardship of Gifts events. The whole SHUC family is specially invited to attend the luncheon and the congregational meeting on that day. The day will include election of new Council and Committee members.

There will be a golfing fundraiser and dinner in the summer coordinated by Brian Forster. Pat Mitchell will organize a Welcome Back event on Sunday, September 19th to which we

and all users of our facility will be invited. Phyllis Hayter and her team promises an exciting Fall Extravaganza on October 30th.

Plan to attend as many of these special events as you are able. There should be something for everyone!

*Noralyn Smiley  
Council Chair*

---

---

## An Invitation to Lunch

June 6<sup>th</sup> after Sunday worship is a time to celebrate the achievements, blessings, and joys of the SHUC community in a lunch sponsored by the Stewardship of Gifts Team led by Dawna Claxton and hosted by Bobbie Heenan and Jean Campbell. You are invited and welcome. A shortened Congregational Meeting will follow the lunch. RSVP invited at [admin@shuc.ca](mailto:admin@shuc.ca) or 604-261-6377, Monday to Friday, 9 am to 1 pm.

The lunch is the conclusion of the spring stewardship focus during which the congregation’s various ministries and activities have been profiled. As well, a special effort is being made to engage SHUC folks who have had little contact with the congregation for some time.

The special stewardship newsletter “Fruit of the Vine” was distributed on Sunday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>, with about 34 contact persons making personal connection with other SHUC members and adherents and to invite them to lunch on June 6<sup>th</sup>.

No financial commitments are being sought in this spring initiative – just information sharing and relationship building! Please mark the June 6<sup>th</sup> lunch on your calendar.

## A “Moving” Note of Thanks

Moving from a large house to one just over half its size is a challenge – and we survived. With help from some friends, moral support from many, some handyman labour from a brother-in-law, and a trusty crew of movers with two trucks – we made it.

Already the house is beginning to look like our home and the challenge of commuting is being worked through. Femmy our four-legged friend is finding the right pieces of grass and hydrants along the Fraser – SE Marine and Elliot area. All is right! Thanks for your support.

*Harry Oussoren & Glenys Huws*

# Mission Resources

---

## Presbytery

I am writing to encourage one (or more) of you to take up the role of lay presbyter. It has been my pleasure for the last six years to serve as one of SHUC's lay presbyters (along with Paul Saxon). Next year, instead, I will be working more closely with our Council.

I think many will find Presbytery an interesting and exciting place to work for the mission of the United Church. One key role you could fulfill is to serve on the Finance committee or as its Treasurer. The presbytery performs diligent book keeping so its financial affairs are well organized. However, now fresh faces are needed to take over. Those of you with this skill set can do much for the wider church by taking on this role.

My own passion has been to work as a member on the Planning Division. I take the liberty of thanking Harry Oussoren for his gifted leadership in seeking to discover and renew the mission of the churches in our presbytery. Harry is also stepping down from this Division this year, so there is something of a SHUC tradition to maintain.

As the excitement of the recent Re-Vive event demonstrated, the combined expertise of all the United Churches in Van South (and the four Lower Mainland presbyteries) is valuable for all congregations who work with challenges of the church mission today. Personal highlights include the development of the Chinese mission in the Lower Mainland, and working with our neighbouring churches such as Wilson Heights, Oakridge, Knox, Ryerson and Dunbar.

The presbytery provides a place of mutual support, encouragement, education, excitement and significance through worship, reflection and the prayerful administration of the business of the church. Presbytery meets most months.

Vancouver South Presbytery is the home presbytery to 21 congregations between Boundary on the East and running north-south from 16<sup>th</sup> Ave to the border. I would be happy to discuss presbytery with any of you who might consider this interesting and often exciting role.

*Clif Prowse*

## Books in the SHUC Library

### Soul Survivor by Philip Yancey

The author in his preface associates this book with the events of September 11, 2001, as seen through the eyes of Eddie the cab driver, and Yancey's own search for answers to two questions: who am I?; what do I want to be?

He was affected by the lives of thirteen people who he calls his "Spiritual Directors". Many of the thirteen will be familiar figures from history. All helped him to better understand his own faith. The book ends with a Reading Group Companion.

Yancey's writings are well represented in your library.

### Summer Meditations by Vaclav Havel

This was the first book written by Havel as President of the then Czech and Slovak Federal Republic in 1992. The author describes this volume as a "...[s]eries of spontaneously written comments on how I see this country and its problems to-day, and how I see its future"

## For The Children

Reviewed by Chris Burns

### Fascinating Bible Facts For Children

This engaging book is full of explanations, facts, and above all pictures, designed to appeal to children ages 7 to 14. Perfect for the child who is already reading, there are titles to guide the eye, and child-orientated chapters: Heroes of the Bible, Religious Customs, Miracle Stories, Everyday and Family Life, Parables, and Animals in the Bible. Here is an example of the succinct, instructive style of this book: Magnificat, which means "my soul magnifies the Lord" is the song many sang to thank God for the important task he was entrusting to Mary. It expresses the joy she felt after receiving the angel's tidings.

*Pat Hudson*

# Mission Development

## Kiwanis at SHUC

Did you know that from April 1 until April 3, the sounds of young people's voices raised the roof here at SHUC? Over 60 choirs from the Lower Mainland, Whistler, and Washington State performed in our Gym, Hall and Sanctuary.

What an amazing sight it was to witness such an event! Over the course of the 3 days, we were told often by performers, adjudicators, and parents of the beauty of our church, the acoustics of our Hall and Sanctuary, and words of Thanks for allowing them to perform in such an inspirational location. So a BIG THANK YOU from Kiwanis Choral Festival and all its participants to the community of SHUC.

We personally wish to thank a whole list of people without which the Festival would not have been such a huge success.

First off: thanks to Harry, Ross, Cathy, Christine, the SHUC Sanctuary Choir and the Korean Congregation for opening the doors of SHUC for the Festival.

Secondly, we thank all of the SHUC members who volunteered for the Festival. They were Ward Allen, Lee & Terry McKimm, Margot Arbogast, Betty Snodgrass, Brian Forester, Pat Mitchell, Margaret Walker, Dorothy Cumming, Gayle Ansley, Beth McNairn, Jan Fay, Marion Gillett, Esther Carter, Lucile Fraser, Charlie Carpenter and Gordon Dungate!

We also say THANK YOU to the SHUC members who stepped up to the plate and helped by volunteering at Kerrisdale Presbyterian Church for the Main Festival. Those great folk were: Beth McNairn, Jo Chataway, Gordon Dungate, Norm Barr, Mary Allen, Margaret Walker, Pat Cryder, Ward Allen and Jan Fay!

We are proud to be part of a congregation that values their outreach efforts to help our community by offering our buildings for a wonderful and memorable cause. We encourage you all to come and witness the beautiful sounds of next year's Kiwanis Music Festival at SHUC.

*Fiona & Darcy Daubaras*



## Worship & Music Forum: June 11, 12, 13

“The Joy of Worship & Music” is the theme of the Worship and Music Forum being planned for the weekend of June 11-13 by the Worship & Music Committee. The Forum is follow up to the recommendations of the Stepping Stones Report urging a gathering of SHUC folks to consider ways of revitalizing this key area of the congregation's life.

On Friday evening (7:15 p.m.), a special worship service in the “Taize style” will be held. Taize is the name of the French village where a Protestant order of monks have developed a special style of worship involving simple chants, meditation, prayer, and scripture reading.

On Saturday morning (8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.), resource people will lead in focusing on “The Joy of Worship” – where is common worship headed? The joy of music will be second focus for the morning.

On Sunday morning (9:00 – 9:45 a.m.) before worship, “preparing for worship” is the theme, with opportunities to learn about and walk the labyrinth; “tune up” by singing hymns; and how worship planning is carried out.

In the worship service at 10 a.m. “Catching the Spirit” will be with theme, followed by a Second Hour at 11:30 a.m. to gather up learnings, identify possibilities, and chart courses.

Everyone is invited to be part of this important opportunity to build on previous experience and imagine new directions for worship at SHUC. Look for the special brochure with detailed information and registration form. Contact: MaryLou Harrigan and other members of the Worship & Music Committee.

## UCC intervention in Same Sex Marriage Issue

The United Church of Canada General Council has been granted intervener status in the Supreme Court hearing on same-sex marriage scheduled for October. The General Council decided to seek this privilege in order to demonstrate to the Court that the decision on same-sex marriage is not a secular vs. religious decision.

“The Supreme Court needed to hear the perspective of a mainline Christian church that sees same-sex and opposite-sex couples as being equal in the eyes of God,” according to the press release from the United Church offices.

The release concluded: “The UC has embraced the challenges that have arisen from issues of sexual orientation over the last twenty years, and can bear witness that issues of sexual orientation can be resolved in a context of respect for different position, with integrity, and can lead to principled decision being made that are based on a commitment to just and law for all.

The UC believes that such decision results in a more inclusive community, where healing of past divisions can occur, and where the total community becomes healthier and more enriched.”

---

---

## Kids' Crossword Answers

**Across:** 2 Sunday; 6 obey; 8 kiss; 10 appreciation; 12 respect; 13 honor; 15 mother **Down:** 1 parents, 3 love; 4 flowers; 5 gifts; 7 dinner; 9 father; 11 card; 13 hug; 14 home.

Advertisement:

*Unwind...let go...relax*

Give yourself or special "other" a renewing gift!  
Try a Relaxing Body treatment, a Shiatsu  
Treatment or a Reflexology treatment enhanced  
With Aromatherapy by

**Nina Matthews**

Call **604-889-5144**

Guaranteed to be "a wonderful experience"

## Transitions

### Deaths

- Ralph Kingsley Lighthouse on March 24, 2004
- John Robert Horner on April 3, 2004
- Patricia Ann Gardiner on April 15, 2004
- George Wright on April 23, 2004
- Harold Kester on May 4, 2004

### Baptisms & New Members on January 25, 2004

- *Madelaine Grace Barwick*, daughter of Carolyn Wing & Geoffrey Barwick, granddaughter of Jim & June Wing.
- *Emma Jean Francis Berringer*, daughter of Ross Berringer & Helen Francis, sister to Owen.
- *Owen Alexander Berringer*, son Ross Berringer & Helen Francis, brother to Emma.
- *Jasmine Rae Robertson*, daughter of Gordon Robertson & Christine Burns, sister to Ben.
- *Ben Jacob Robertson*, son of Gordon Robertson & Christine Burns, brother to Jasmine.
- *Pat Mitchell*, by transfer of membership. Pat is a longtime member who has recently returned to Vancouver, moving from Englewood, Colorado.
- *Noah Mason Powers*, by re-affirmation of the baptismal covenant, son of Ann Thorsteinsson and Kenny Powers, grandson of Marilyn Thorsteinsson.

### Baptism on March 28, 2004

*Mollie Grace Daubaras*, daughter of Darcy & Fiona Daubaras.

---

---

## Summer Worship at SHUC

When did you last preach a sermon? Would you like to preach your first? Starting on July 4<sup>th</sup>, the summer Sunday worship will be held in the Church Hall at the usual 10 a.m. time. You are invited to think about offering leadership in various areas: preaching, singing, ushering, child care and program, etc. Contact the office or one of the ministers if you can help.

---

---

**Next Grapevine Deadline: August 15**  
**Submit articles to [kbhardie@telus.net](mailto:kbhardie@telus.net); copy**  
**[admin@shuc.ca](mailto:admin@shuc.ca)**

Tel: 604 261 6377 Fax: 604 261 3102

Editors: Karen Hardie – [kbhardie@telus.net](mailto:kbhardie@telus.net)

Harry Oussoren – [harry\\_oussoren@shuc.ca](mailto:harry_oussoren@shuc.ca)

Production & Distribution: Christine Ackermann & Pat McKenzie