

The Grapevine



The Newsletter of Shaughnessy Heights United Church

Vol 3; Issue 9: September 2003

Expecting New Things

“Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. I am about to do a new thing, now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?” (Isaiah 43:18-19)

The key question facing today’s people of faith is: do you really believe that God can make things of old into new things?

The increasingly audible answer across the United Church is “yes, we believe God can renew us and our church.”

But this can only happen when we find space and time in our personal lives and in all aspects of congregational life for God – for the Spirit, who breathes life and energy into our being and doing.

Prayer, community worship, Bible reading and study, caring relationships that nurture faith in God, shared vision for the transformed world God intends – these are the ingredients of personal renewal in a transforming congregation.

In a world where the vast majority of people are still searching for spiritual meaning and yearning for communion with God, the church – you and I in community – has good news to share. Do we dare share?

In the coming church year, I invite every one of us in the SHUC household to go beyond what seemed good enough in our past. Instead let us open ourselves to God’s newness and risk being led where we had no idea we might be led.

Do we trust God? We have every reason to do so because God has been and still is faithful. Thanks be to God!

*Blessings,
Harry Oussoren
Lead Minister*

Thank You to

- Norm Barr for his perseverance in clearing out and cleaning up storage spaces in the church – a real process of transformation with the help of Len Sawyer, Norm Roaf, and other hands
- The volunteer coffee preparers and host after worship during the summer season.
- The adults leading the summer Children’s Friendship Circle in the Lounge during Sunday worship and the nursery caregivers when infants and toddlers arrived.
- Shan Shan Chen for playing the piano for Sunday worship. Roy Campbell spent the summer in his home province P.E.I. Thanks to the willing singers who worked with Cathy Pedersen on summer Sundays as a “pick up” choir, practicing just before worship.
- Philip Francis, Katherine Paton, and Barbara Wadman – all three part of the summer Lay Preacher series; and to Edith McLellan for presiding at communion in August along with Cathy Cryder.
- Pat Sexsmith, Bob Dickson, and Norm Barr ensuring that the church gardens are well maintained and watered during the summer heat.
- Gwen Olson for her devoted work with couples being married at SHUC this summer ensuring that every detail is attended to! And to Harold MacKay for backing up Ross White and Harry Oussoren in officiating at weddings during their vacation.
- Dawna Claxton for quarterbacking the Nominating process. Since there was not enough time for a Nominating report at the June 8th Congregational Meeting, the aim is to put a slate before the congregation on October 5th.

“Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.” (Hebrews 13:8)

Mission Development: Celebrating

Music Notes

The end of another summer is upon us, and the scent of a new year is in the air! This summer has been a school-child's dream-endless beautiful sunny days. I have enjoyed it as much as any child...

The new season of music at SHUC will begin with the return of Roy Campbell, who has spent two months away. It will be good to see him again and hear how his Eastern summer worked out.

Music programs during the summer were casual and drop-in with some regular attendees. Gwen, Les, Barbara, Gayle and I were joined on occasion by Katherine and Ge-en. It was fun to come together on Sunday morning and make music together. Thank you to all who participated!

Fall music programs will start during the first two weeks of September. The Sanctuary Choir will sing on Sunday September 7 and will meet that morning at 9:15 to prepare. Their first Thursday night will be September 11, 7:30 in the lounge. Sign-up will be after church on September 7. Songsters and Youth Choir will start on Sunday September 14. Please watch for news on Youth Choir rehearsal times. Songsters will meet at 11:20 am in the Sanctuary.

For anyone interested in our programs, there are many to choose from. The Sanctuary Choir is for adults and they rehearse on Thursdays from 7:30-9:30 p.m. in the lounge. We sing almost every Sunday and will participate in the Christmas Carol service on December 14. Songsters is a group for children ages 5 - 10. They sing several times during the year and they also participate in the Christmas Carol service and the Christmas Eve Family service. They practice on Sundays from 11:20 to noon in the Sanctuary.

The Youth Choir is for children and youth ages 10 and up. Their rehearsal time is to be determined, but please make sure you sign up and let us know your preferences. Another option is the Handbell Choir. If you are interested in "ringing", please talk to Roy or sign up on Sunday the 7th.

In addition, you could participate by helping to lead some of the groups. Particularly if you have an interest in working with children and/or youth, it would be great to have some other resources available. Talk to Cathy Pedersen or Roy if you think that this would interest you.

Finally, there will be an option for those who might want to sing, but are reluctant to join the Sanctuary Choir because of a lack of experience in group singing. Again, please talk to Cathy, who will be offering a session, or sessions,

to familiarize would-be choir singers with basic choral skills. Scheduling will be flexible to fit the needs of the group.

So, make this your year to try music at SHUC-we will welcome you warmly and the congregation will make sure that you know you are appreciated.

Cathy Pedersen

Worship Schedule

Summer worship in the Church Hall concludes on August 31st. Worship in the sanctuary resumes on Sunday, September 7 at 10 a.m. with "Start Up Sunday" – an opportunity for children and youth to register in all programs.

Regular Wednesday evening worship continues at 6:45 p.m. in the Chapel – silent and spoken prayers, scripture and communion.

On Monday evenings meditation takes place in the Chapel from 7:45 p.m.

The **Labyrinth** in the gym is available for prayer and meditation daily from 8:30 a.m. to 10 a.m. and Sundays from 8 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. and **new, extended hours on Wednesdays from 8 p.m. to 9:45 p.m.**

Sunday Worship 10 a.m.:

- Sept. 7: Communion; "Start Up" Sunday – registration for children & youth programs; recognition of Disciple Bible Program graduates.
4 p.m. Worship at Little Mountain Lodge
- Sept. 14: Morning Worship; Children & Youth Sunday Friendship Circles
2 p.m. SHUC leads worship at Crofton Manor
- Sept. 21: Worship for All Ages
- Sept. 28: Morning Worship at SHUC
Congregational Retreat at Chehalis Centre
- Oct. 5: WorldWide Communion Sunday
4 p.m. Worship at Little Mountain Lodge
- Oct. 12: Thanksgiving Sunday
- Oct. 19: Morning Worship (World Food Day)
- Oct. 26: Baptism Sunday – Worship for all ages

Mission Development: Reaching Out

Having Fun Together

Everyone in the room was laughing--all fourteen children, four youth, two young adults and three staff, out-doing each other's chortles. Why? They were pretending to be Jesus as he downplayed the disciple's complaint about unsuccessful fishing. Jesus had noticed that Simon was ready for a bigger challenge and did not know it. Perhaps someone has humorously pointed out to you recently that you may be casting your net in the wrong place?

Our minister for Children and Families Cathy Cryder, mounted a successful M.A.D. vacation bible camp this year because she laughed in the face of impending defeat. Resource leaders, funding, registrations were evaporating. Yet, a strong team emerged in spite of it all, with a sense of purpose and a spirit of hope.

There is a strong leader team this year as we head into the fall with the senior teens. Co-leaders Nancy Christie and Kathryn Beblow together with myself are envisioning a vibrant fall with member-generated ideas and a fun Beach Kickoff on September 7, 4-6 p.m.

A new design for our Fall Retreat program (Sept. 26-28) will focus on having fun as we learn and play together. All the sessions will be for all-ages activities (children youth and grown-ups) but participants can choose whatever you like including, some 'self-guided' experiences.

Ross White

Senior Youth Group

Several items of good news here:

1. Celebrate! If you are 13-18 years old there is a group especially for you in this church to make friends, and be yourself.
2. There are willing leaders open to hear your ideas about group activities and develop a plan. There are ways to get involved in making a difference in the world around you.
3. Plus . . .you get to paint a silhouette of yourself on the wall in the Youth centre.

Important Shock Dates!!!

- Go-Karting and Pizza Kick Off
Wednesday, **Sept. 10th** from 5:30 to 8:30 pm
Cost \$15.00
Sign up deadline: Sunday, September 7th
- An Evening for SHOCK Members and Parents
September 17th from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Bring a potluck supper offering and enjoy an evening of games and information sharing.

For more information about SHOCK or other programs for children and families, please contact Cathy Cryder at 604-261-6377.

Effective Groups, Happy People

Leader: Ross White

Three sessions on Leadership Development during the **Second Hour**.

Dates: September 21, October 12,
November 16

11:30 – 12:45 p.m. including lunch

What are people saying about this program?

“Just what I’ve been looking for.”

“It’s the way to make more effective use of our gifts.”

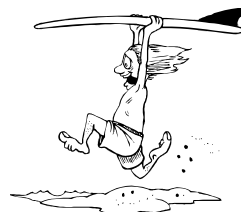
SHOCK Moves To A New Night!

For those of you who missed the buzz last year, the Jr. Youth Group is going by a new name. The group decided to rename itself SHOCK, which stands for Shaughnessy Heights Outrageous Christian Kids. SHOCK is a group for folks between the ages of 10 and 12.

This year, our meetings are on **Wednesday** evenings from 7 to 9 pm. We start with games in the gym and then head to the SHUC Youth Center for program, snack and prayers.

Newcomers and “oldtimers” will be welcomed by the ALL NEW leadership team of Cathy Cryder, Kevin Arbogast and Ashley Carmody. Kevin and Ashley are both former members of SHUC's Jr. Youth Group and they will bring a wealth of expertise, energy and fun to this year's program.

Annual YOUTH GROUP Beach BBQ Sunday September 7th from 12 to 4 pm



TIME TO celebrate the coming together of old friends and new with fun, food and festivities.

All are welcome...Meet in the Youth Centre Down Stairs
(Drivers needed.)

Mission Development: Learning

SHUC Goes MAD for Music, Art and Drama

The hall was alive with the sound of music on Sunday, August 17th. It was also alive with the sights and sounds of drama and the wonderful spectacle of abundant art. Fourteen children gathered at SHUC the week prior to the 17th at the second annual SHUC MAD Camp.

From August 11th to 15, the group sang, drew, painted, dyed, acted and played as they prepared 3 skits and musical pieces for the Sunday morning worship. Leaders and children alike will admit that by Sunday afternoon, they were all ready for a great big nap! The hard work paid off as most folks present at the August 17th worship service left feeling joyful, inspired, moved and thankful for the gift of children in our midst!

The success of the week was due, in large part, to the strong and dedicated team of leaders. Cathy Pedersen, SHUC's music director lead the music portion of the program. The magnitude of the work or learning 3 songs for Sunday was only apparent after Cathy P. was heard telling one of the group (with a big smile on her face, of course) "O.K., no more Mrs. Nice Guy!" Art sessions were led by Gayle Ansley (tie dying), Cathy Cryder (silhouettes), Teri Taylor and Susan Jung (flowers, butterflies, lots of fish, doves, rocks & crowns). Drama Sessions were led by Wade Lifton and Ross White. Ross also shared his wonderful gift for storytelling each morning.

The highlight of the leadership team for the children was the volunteer counselors whose job description included accompanying children to workshops; leading games and grace; serving snack and being leapt on and climbed all over! The team of counselors included: Meghan Pritchard, Jennifer Lindsay, Melvin So and Katelyn Harris. Lauren Cumming proved to be a true renaissance woman as she performed all the tasks of the counselors as well as acting as registrar and volunteer coordinator.

Finally, a special thanks to all those folks who helped out in "behind the scenes ways". Thanks to Norman Barr, Len Sawyer, Ian Paterson, Norm Roaf and James Fraser for setting up the stage. Thanks to Ann Moir for baking muffins. And, thanks to Pat Sexsmith,

Cathy Lew, Margie Langston and Carol Whaley for providing the all important and popular snack!

It is events like the MAD Camp that help me to remember what a wonderful gift we have been blessed with at SHUC...people and space to achieve amazing things. God's blessings in this place are abundant and to be able to share them is truly reason to rejoice. If you know of someone who might like to attend next years MAD Camp OR if you would like to volunteer for next camp, please contact Cathy Cryder at 604-261-6377.

More Change for SHUC's Sunday Morning Children's Program

September 7th, Start Up Sunday, is coming soon and with it comes the excitement of starting a new season of Sunday Morning Programs. With the blessing of growth in programs comes the opportunity to try new things. So, this year we will be adding a new age group to our program roster. We will be taking the grade sixes from the grade 4,5,6 Friendship Circle and the grade sevens from the Jr. Quest group. The new group will be a grade 6-7 group. The group will run a lot like the Jr. and Sr. Quest programs. The Bible Quest curriculum for grades 6-8 will be used and donuts will be provided each Sunday. The group will also be taking on one of the cubby spaces and setting it up as its own space.

There will continue to be programs offered for children of all ages. The Nursery will welcome babies and toddlers, while the Preschool Friendship Circle welcomes 3 and 4 year olds. There will also be a K-1 Friendship Circle, Grade 2-3 Friendship Circle and a Grade 4-5 Friendship Circle. There continues to be a dedicated group of program leaders but we can always use more.

If you would be interested in doing some teaching with the Preschool Friendship Circle, K-1 Friendship Circle, Grade 4-5 or 6-8 groups, please contact Cathy Cryder at 604-261-6377. If you would like to volunteer in the Nursery, contact Joyce MacKay at 604-224-3084.

Cathy Cryder

Mission Development: Caring

Our Welcoming on Sundays ...

Your Congregational Life Committee has been using Welcome forms every Sunday for two years now when we worship in the Sanctuary.

These forms are used to make contact with all who come through the Church doors. The forms can be found along the aisle pews. Please fill them out during the announcement time in the service.

Please print your name and any other information requested and pass the form along. Yes, even if you do it every Sunday; it encourages others who sit in your pew to do so. If you are the last person in your pew, please pass the form back to the aisle. In this way we can learn the names of our neighbours, and collect the forms more easily after the service.

This action helps us get to know one another and introduces us to new folk and visitors. The forms are a way also to meet any needs or answer questions a new or regular attending person might have.

For some time the forms have been used both intermittently and regularly. First time visitors are written while others are contacted by telephone. We will attend to your requests.

This fall we will continue with the forms that were printed last year. Any suggestions for changes or improvements might be directed to myself, Ann Moir, or any other member of Congregational Life. We thank you for your faithful assistance.

Ann Moir

Seniors' Lunches

Put these dates onto your calendar: September 24, October 29, January 28, February 25, April 28, May 26. That's when the Seniors' Lunches will be held in the Church Hall in the coming year. Lunch (\$7) starts at noon and is professionally prepared by Amica organization's chef.

Hosted by Charlotte Burns with members of the Pastoral Care team, the events are designed to get SHUC's senior members in touch with each other.

Plan to be part of these special opportunities – guest speakers or entertainment are usually part of the event!

Baptism Bulletin

The sacrament of baptism will be celebrated in the Sunday morning service on October 26th. Parents or adults wishing to participate are invited to contact the church office or speak to Pat McKenzie prior to the 26th for a preparation seminar.

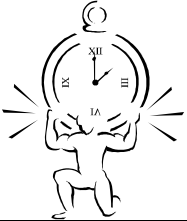
Second Disciple Bible Program Starts

This 34-week intensive Bible study program begins on September 8th with Gayle Ansley and Harry Oussoren providing leadership. Last year 9 SHUC participants will receive their completion certificates on Sunday, September 7. In conversations the readings were plumbed and insights shared, leading to deepened understanding and growth of faith. Contact Gayle Ansley at 263-3827.

Stitch & Chat

I have been asked to have a display of our work in the hall on Sunday, September 7th. We have quilts (for First United & Catherine Collective for Afghanistan) and cloth books, bears, clowns, dinosaurs, etc. (for sale). Please come and see.

On September 10th our group will meet again - Wednesday 10AM - 2PM. We will be glad to welcome anyone who would like to join us. For information - 604-266-9365.



Grapevine October Submission Deadline:
September 21 – hardcopy
September 28 – electronic version
...To the Church Office

Mission Resources: Ministry & Personnel

Nina Matthews

The final day of August marked the conclusion of Nina Matthews' role as the Church Secretary and Administrator. Appointed in 1999, Nina has served the congregation well with her welcoming personality and attention to details in the church office.

The Ministry & Personnel Committee has launched a search and selection process to ensure that a suitable successor can begin as soon in September as possible. Happily, Nina is available to ensure a smooth transition.

As Nina says: "in hiring a new church secretary, the congregation is gaining a new volunteer as I work more in the program life of the congregation." Thank you, Nina, for your devoted service!

Sascha Kallnik

On July 21st, Sascha Kallnik returned to Germany concluding his four-month overseas internship at SHUC and a three-week tour through British Columbia. Barbara Gaessner, his fiancée, who arrived in Vancouver at the end of June for her vacation period, accompanied Sascha.

On July 20th, Sascha and Barbara were married in the SHUC chapel. The small wedding sets the stage for a larger celebration of their marriage with friends and family in their native town of Spremberg, in southeastern Germany.

Sascha will be working as "vicar"—assistant to the minister, in Reichenbach for six months prior to the "finals" before ordination in his regional church. Barbara plans to work for Ruhr Gas Co. in Essen pending more information about final placements.

SHUC presented Sascha with a Voices United Hymnbook and the UCC's book of worship services as mementos for his internship at SHUC. His gift to us was a copy of Anthony Robinson's Transforming Congregational Culture for the library.

Nominations Update

As most of you are aware the Nominations Report was not given at our June Congregational Meeting.

This important work is always in progress and if any of you are interested in knowing more about the various committees and their mandates, please speak with members or chairs of the various committees, our ministers, council chair Noralyn Smiley or myself. Your talents and gifts of time are always energizing and very much appreciated!

This nominations update will list only those persons willing to join council or committees this fall. The full slate of new and returning members of the committees will be available very early in Sept. for your blessing and approval.

Mission Resources Vice Chair – Ian Paterson
Mission Development Vice Chair - Dawna Claxton
Worship and Music – June Adjey
Christian Education – Janet Pritchard, Anne Walsh
Congregational Life – Bernice Bell
Ministry and Personnel – Elizabeth Kerklaan, Susan Dickson & Anne Dewar - AnnYung – John Banfield, Dola Gilmour
Operations – Nancy Brodie
Grounds/Memorial Garden – Darcy Daubaras
Stewardship – Katherine Paton, Jean Campbell, Marilyn Thorsteinsson & John Banfield

I would like to express appreciation to members who are considering taking on leadership roles within their committees.

My thanks goes out to our Ministerial Team and Noralyn for their input and all our thanks goes out to all of you we have contacted for your very positive support, suggestions, and for those of you agreeing to go on a committee for the first, second, or third time.

There are yet still some conversations to be had and I look forward to seeing everyone in Sept.

Dawna Claxton

Mission Resources: Operations & Finance

PAR – More Than Great Golf

PAR stands for Pre-Authorized Remittance – a SHUC program administered by the United Church of Canada – allowing you to contribute to SHUC through a monthly withdrawal from your bank.

You can designate your gift to local church expenses, to the Mission & Service Fund, or other special purposes. Small PAR cards are available in the church foyer to be put on the offering plate in place of offering envelopes.

Currently, 73 SHUC families contribute through PAR. To join, contact the office 604-261-6377.

Music School Starts

The SHUC building is hosting a new, but well-known occupant! The Shaughnessy Heights Music School, a cooperative effort of Roy Campbell, SHUC's esteemed organist, along with Robert Batt and Marie Cahill, will start individual lessons and group classes in September. The School is occupying two of the offices on the second floor plus the classroom during the afternoon and most evenings.

The arrangement was made possible by the decision of the Bolton Academy of the Spoken Arts to move to a new location on West Broadway. Lee Bolton-Robinson was honoured in worship on July 13th for her work in developing the Academy and the many ways in which she, her colleagues, and pupils have contributed to SHUC worship and other happy occasions.

We wish the Academy well in its new location and rejoice that Lee will continue to offer her many gifts for the SHUC mission.

Did you know?

On average about \$14.8 million is left to the United Church of Canada each year through planned gifts such as bequests, annuities, securities, trusts, and insurance. And local congregations receive about 75-80 percent of these gifts.

Is SHUC in your financial planning?

News from Shaughnessy Daycare

We have enjoyed our fabulous weather and spent as much time as we could outside! Some of the themes we have covered have been Water Play & Safety, Insects and Spiders, Marine Life and Snakes and Reptiles.

Some special events this summer have included a visit from Cinemazoo, a project by James the Carpenter from The Carpenter's Apprentice, and many field trips. Another highlight was a chance to see the dress rehearsal of the SHUC MusicArtsDrama presentation for the Sunday service.

At the end of the summer we sadly say good-bye to many friends who will be going to new schools. We look forward to seeing all of our families at the summer-end barbecue when Domino the Magician will entertain us. We hope everyone enjoyed their summer holidays as much as we did.

We would also like to take a moment to thank Nina for all of her support over the years. We will miss your friendly face each day but we look forward to seeing you on a more casual basis. Thanks Nina for everything!

Current News

2003 SHUC Fall Retreat

Members of the congregation are invited to attend the annual **2003 SHUC Fall Retreat**. It will take place from Friday, September 26 (7 pm) to Sunday, September 28 (2 pm). This will be held at **Chehalis Healing House** near Agassiz, which was the site of last year's gathering.

The weekend offers personal and community renewal, fellowship, and fun. The lodge, operated by the Chehalis First Nations Band, is in a beautiful setting among trees beside the Chehalis River. You will have time for walks, to see salmon running, enjoy campfires, rock wall climbing, and an adventure course for teens and opportunities to get to know each other.

The program is being planned to focus on fun, learning and activities that include all ages. It is going to be an open or optional format so that people can choose activities that best meet their needs. And there will be baby-sitters for the youngest members of our community.

Registration fees have been held at the 2002 levels. For those that want to stay in a tent or recreational vehicle, space is available at lower costs. Call me for details.

Registration forms are at the table outside the church office or on the SHUC website. Go to "What's New" and you can download a form.

*James Fraser
Retreat Registrar*

The Shaughnessy Heights United Church Communications Committee

Invites you, your family and friends to
The premier viewing of

A year in the life of SHUC (75th Anniversary)
featuring the

Silent Auction, Lecture Series, Youth Manger and
Children's Christmas Pageant (approximately 1 hour)
and

The Bach-Schweitzer Concert @ SHUC (condensed –
1 hour)

This family event takes place at Pacific Cinematheque
1131 Howe Street
Sunday, October 26, 2003 – 2:00 p.m.

A reception will be held between the two films
Arts and crafts will be available for the children

Tickets available from the SHUC Administration Office
Suggested Donations: Individuals \$8.00; families \$15.00
All proceeds go to support SHUC's Communications

Transitions

Weddings

Shan Shan Chen and Eddie Pei Tian on June 21
Minta Chan and Mark Sherritt on June 28
Susan Wong and Denis Liew on July 5th
Jennifer Wong and Peter Eng on July 5th
Michele Lau and Bernard Wu on July 12
Julie Jameson and Kevin Tymchuk on July 12
Anna Ho and Eric Shum On July 19
Brenda Kwok and Gerry Lum on August 2
Cindy Huynh and Chris Lee on August 2
Stephanie Yau and Simon Chen on August 3
Jennifer Tso and Allan Chu on August 9
Sharon Hudson and William Bonar on August 9
Katherine Lee and Jeffrey Yee on August 23
Kate Chan and Vi Dang on August 23
Anna Chan and Mike Wong on August 30

60th Wedding Anniversary

Congratulations to Ralph and Daphne Conlin who celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary on September 4!

Deaths

Christina Wales on May 29
Topsey Hacking on June 7
Darlene McWilliams on July 13
Margaret Creelman on July 19
Violet Gray on August 5
Helen Hager on August 17

Push-A-Button; Save-A-Stamp; Save-A-Tree

- Sign up for the *e-Grapevine* by sending your e-mail address to the SHUC Administrator – admin@shuc.ca asking for notification when the latest issue of *Grapevine* is on SHUC's web – www.shuc.ca
- Internet "Newbie"? Ask us for help!!! Leave a message for the Communications Committee at the office; we'll walk you through the process of getting on to the SHUC website and downloading *e-Grapevine*.

The Grapevine

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