



Bala United Church

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Issue 42

Newsletter August, 2010

Celebrating the life and work of our Church

Rev. Sue Woods, Minister

Minister's Chat:

This is the month I will see half a century, yes I am turning "50!" I cannot believe in one sense how quickly time has gone by but as I look back I wouldn't change a thing! Yes there have been some very difficult moments and, with time, I have come to accept them and move on. I would love to lose 50 pounds but who is kidding whom? Life *is* good and YES I have had some AWESOME moments and have learned to cherish each one. I was once asked what are the joys of my ministry this summer? So I want to answer by saying first, "Oh what a night!" July 24th was! I was overwhelmed by the fundraiser our church put on. Proceeds will go to maintaining the structure of BUC and Habitat for Humanity. The amount of work and spirit of good hearted people who made the evening such a success were truly amazing!

Another joy was Vacation Bible School at Port Carling United and I anticipate an exciting 3 days of V.B.S. at Bala United. Swinging a hammer with a group of volunteers at the Habitat sight in Bala, sweaty and tired, was certainly very worthwhile and rewarding. Moments that enable me to forget the tough parts of my work include my playing with children, celebrating weddings, walking through beautiful gardens and enjoying an evening out--Real nourishment for the body and soul.

Am I older and wiser at 50? I don't know but this is my prayer:

Jesus, help me to enter into the joyful dimensions of my work. Let me not be so involved and serious about my mission that I miss the many pleasures and joys that are inherent in it. Lighten me up

when I am feeling my work's heaviness. May I remember that I need balance in my life, that laughter and leisure are essential for my total health. Take me to sources of zest and enthusiasm without guilt or hesitation. May my work become one of the playgrounds of my life.

Blessings, Rev. Sue

Notes from Council

Certainly Steeltoes and Sandals was an unprecedented, spirited, and generous coming together of members of our church. A large number of volunteers, including those from other churches, came together to raise funds for Habitat for Humanity and the aging building of Bala United Church. Congratulations go to all involved, beginning with Mary Patterson, Chairperson *extraordinaire*.

The Habitat for Humanity Patty Parsons build goes forward each day fuelled by robust groups of volunteers and led by our own highly capable and competent builder, Howard Ruttan. Many members of our church have already contributed many hours to this worthwhile venture. Indeed workers will be required until the end of the build. Please encourage those you know to lend a hand. They may call Brian McDonald at 762.5178 or e mail him (balamoonscape@yahoo.com) to choose days of work at the site on Burgess Avenue.

All can look forward to a special concert in the church on Saturday, August 21. European trained concert harpist Maria Jacobsson, soprano Kim Sartor, and friends will entertain in a grand style. For tickets (\$15.00), please speak to Marg Couture or Marian McDonald. Tickets are also available at the Chamber of Commerce. The

concert marks the 130th anniversary of our church.

To safeguard the cleanliness of newly shampooed church carpets, your council chose recently to discontinue the gathering of pop cans for Habitat for Humanity through Restore. All members are encouraged to recycle their own tins or to take them directly to Re-Store

Children and moms and dads alike anticipate Vacation Bible School, Saddle Ridge Ranch. The program will take place from 9 - 12 noon on August 10, 11, and 12. Applications are on the website or through Marian McDonald, 762-5178.

There are three trustees who serve Bala United Church and currently we have only two. We are in need of another trustee to provide guidance when appropriate. Individual interested members, please speak to Bill Niess, 762-2870.

Thank you Bill Niess, Marilyn Niess, and Sandy Currie for Co-Chairing the barbecue at the Moon River Property Owners' Association Regatta this long weekend.

Lastly, Marilyn Niess is the new "go to person" and will maintain a calendar of church events and activities. Marilyn will also provide information about the rental of the church and the Jackson C.E. Wing rentals.

Brian McDonald, Vice-chair



We are saddened to notify you of the sudden passing of Isaac Taylor of Bala, a long term licensed Lay Worship Leader for The United Church within the Muskoka area.

At the time of his recent death, Isaac was the Worship Leader with the Mactier - Foot's Bay Pastoral Charge. Previously, he had been the Worship Leader for seven years at Locks United church outside Huntsville and for two years at the United church on the Wahta First Nation Territory. Isaac will be missed by his wife Carol, his daughter Rev. Kathleen Taylor of the Daysland Pastoral Charge of the United church in Alberta,

and his daughter Amy, past Chair of Cranberry Festival.

Coming Events:

Knitting Group

Every **Monday** 10 am - 12 noon
Jackson C.E. Wing - Everyone is welcome
Coffee is served!

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Bala United Church Council Meeting

Thursday, August 5, 7:00 pm
Jackson CE Wing

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Communion

Sunday August 8, 2010

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"Mornings With Sue"

Thursday, August 19, 10 am
Jackson C.E. Wing

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Vacation
Bible School
August 10-12
2010



We have hitched up the wagon and it is pulling into Bala United with lots of cowboys and cowgirls and volunteers ready for an exciting days of games, music, stories, crafts and tasty treats. The fun will happen August 10-12 and so let's fill the wagon and enjoy three mornings of VBS!!!! **Hurry and sign up. Applications are at the church and on the website.**



Bala - Port Carling Pastoral Charge Pictorial Directory.

Dates for church photographs are Friday, August 6, and Saturday, August 7. For more information call Marilyn Niess at 762-2870.



**BALA UNITED CHURCH
CELEBRATES ITS 130 ANNIVERSARY**

WITH

A concert entitled,

"Music for a Summer's Evening,"

at

Bala United Church

Saturday August 21

7:30 pm

Featuring

Concert Harpist Maria Jacobsson,

and

Soprano Soloist, Kim Sartor

Tickets \$15

are available through Marian at 762-5178, Marg at 762-1144, or the Muskoka Lakes Chamber of Commerce.

Refreshments will follow.

and

on Sunday, August 22,

a further opportunity to celebrate the 130th

Anniversary of Bala United church--

A Bala/Port Carling Joint Charge

Church Service and Potluck Picnic at the church!



Bala United Church Women

"Ladies do Lunch"

Thursday, August 19, at 12:15 pm

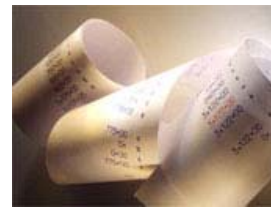
Bala Bay Inn

Cost: \$18 includes tax/gratuity

3 course luncheon

Please call Marilyn Niess 762-2870

to confirm your attendance and select your meal.



Financial Report Update

Second Quarter (Apr 1 -June 30)

Revenues: \$11,724

Expenses \$24,935

Net Income (\$13,211)

Although approximately \$9,000 of our expenses is accounted for in capital improvements, your financial contributions have been greatly appreciated. Your Council endeavours to make your house of worship and its amenities a continued place of comfort.

Pre-Authorized Remittance (PAR) has improved and we encourage your participation.

Role of the Trustee

The three members of Bala United Church's Board of Trustees "hold all the property of the congregation for the use and benefit of the congregation as part of the United Church." Property means all assets -- land, premises, investments, and assets acquired for the use of the congregation.

Trustees meet "as required" but at least once annually to prepare a report for the annual meeting of the congregation.

Primarily, responsibilities in normal times are to ensure that:

- surplus monies are properly invested and managed,
- taxes are paid,
- suitable insurance is in place, including Directors and Officers liability if needed,
- procedures exist to perform necessary maintenance and repair of property.

Occasional responsibilities may include:

approving significant acquisitions or dispositions of property and obtaining permission of the Presbytery as required.