



Bala United Church

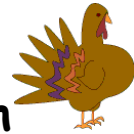
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Issue 44

Newsletter October, 2010

Celebrating the life and work of our Church



Rev. Sue Woods, Minister

Minister's Chat:

The Wooden Bowl: A frail old man went to live with his son, daughter-in-law, and 4 year old grandson. The old man's hands trembled, his eyesight was blurred, and his step faltered. The family ate together at the table. The elderly grandfather's shaky hands and failing sight made eating difficult. Peas rolled off his spoon onto the floor. When he grasped a glass, milk spilled on the tablecloth.

The son and daughter-in-law became irritated with the mess. "We must do something about father," said the son. So they set a small table in the corner. There, Grandfather ate alone while the rest of the family enjoyed dinner. Since Grandfather had broken a dish or two, his food was served in a wooden bowl. When the family glanced in Grandfather's direction, sometimes he had a tear in his eye as he sat alone. Still, the only words the couple had for him were scoldings when he dropped a fork or spilled food. The 4 year old watched in silence.

One evening after supper, the father noticed the son playing with wood scraps on the floor. He asked the child "What are you making?" The son responded, "Oh, I am making a little bowl for you and Mom to eat your food in when I grown up." The 4 year old went back to work.

The words so struck the parents that they were speechless. The tears started to stream down their cheeks. Though no word was spoken, both knew what must be done. That evening the husband took Grandfather's hand and gently let him back to the family table. For the

remainder of his days he ate every meal with the family. For some reason, neither the husband nor wife seemed to care any longer when a fork was dropped, milk spilled, or the tablecloth soiled.

Two Sundays ago, I received a gift from the Port Carling Sunday school. It was a decorated mason jar and in it were notes of appreciation from the class. I was touched, blessed, and humbled by what the children and youth wrote. We can learn a great deal from children, -- their openness to explore, their innocence, and their willingness to share a smile. This month let each of us find that childlike spirit and reach out and touch someone with a smile, a card, a hug or a pat on the back.

Enjoy the fall colours with a childlike wonder.

Blessings Rev. Sue

Chairman's Corner

Thanksgiving, Cranberry Festival, Fall leaves; these are all upon us as we inch closer to the Winter months. Recently, it seems, we have celebrated a number of significant Birthdays and Anniversaries. Congratulations to all of you!

Thirty-eight people braved a noisy and wet thunder storm on September 21 to hear Sue Gurr and her "Just Eight" group sing us through the evening. Over \$200. was collected by donation for the church building fund. The generosity of those who attended is much appreciated.

Both Howard Ruttan and Olive Lawrence have attended service recently and we are so happy to see both of them back with us!

Many fix-up and painting projects continue around the church under the leadership of our Property Chair, Bill Niess. Many thanks to Bill and his team of volunteers.

I can almost smell Chili in the halls as the ladies gear up for the Festival, and I'm sure more information is available in the UCW section of this Newsletter. I do want to remind all of you that our Church Service on the Cranberry Festival weekend ; Sunday, October 17 will start at 11A.M. and end at 11:30 A.M. to accommodate "Chili at the Church".

As previously reported, our church is heavily involved in the Habitat for Humanity build project in town as it moves ever closer to completion. We should all be very proud of the significant contributions our congregation is making on many levels!

Thanks to Marilyn Niess for the terrific job she did on coordinating our pictorial directory. This required a great deal of coordination and her perserverence is greatly appreciated. This is something we will all enjoy having in our homes.

Hope this Newsletter finds you well!
See you in Church.

Steve Burdick, Chair

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

October 3

World Communion Sunday

11 am

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Bala United Church Council Meeting

Thursday, October 7, 9:30 am

Jackson CE Wing

Bala/Port Carling

Ministry and Personnel Committee Mtg.

October 14, 2010 at 7 pm

Port Carling United Church

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The Official Board of our Pastoral Charge

Meeting

Tuesday, October 26, 2010

Port Carling United Church

7:30 pm

A DIME A DAY FOR MISSION AND SERVICE



If each person in the congregation collected a dime a day for a year, \$36.50 from each person would go to Mission and Service. Dimes can be collected down south, out west, or up north! Let the collection of Dimes Begin!

The jar will be in the back of the church beginning Thanksgiving Sunday!

Marilyn Niess, Mission & Service

"UCW Chili at the Church"



BALA'S CRANBERRY FESTIVAL

October 15, 16, 17,

Schedule of Church Activities

Friday

Chili at the Church 11:30 am - 2:30 pm.

Gift Shop Open 11:30 am - 2:30 pm

Saturday

Coffee sold outside 8:00 am - 2:00 pm,
Chili at the Church 11:30 am - 2:30 pm
Gift Shop Open 11:30 am - 2:30 pm

Sunday

Coffee served outside 8:00 am - 2:00 pm,

Church Service 11 am - 11:30 am
Chili at the Church 11:30 am - 2:30 pm
Gift Shop Open 11:30 am - 2:30 pm

Be sure and browse through our Woolens and Gift Shop. Our "Knitting Group" has been busy preparing some new and beautiful items for our shop - come see!



The Bala United Church Gift Shop . . .

The shop is open Mondays from 10 am to 12 noon or by appointment. Call Helen at 762-2625 or Cecilia at 762-2323.

Happy Thanksgiving Monday, October 11, 2010



The native peoples of the Americas held ceremonies and festivals to celebrate the completion and bounty of the harvest long before European explorers and settlers arrived in what is now Canada. Early European thanksgivings were held to give thanks for some special fortune. An

early example is the ceremony the explorer Martin Frobisher held in 1578 after he had survived the long journey in his quest to find a northern passage from Europe to Asia.



Saturday, October 9

5:30 - 7:30 pm

Port Carling Lion's Club

Annual "Turkey Dinner"

Port Carling Community Centre

Adults \$18 Children under 10 \$8

For further information call Ted at 765-0330



Tuesday, October 5

Port Carling United Church Women

A Bridge & Euchre Fundraiser

Make up a table of Bridge or Euchre and enjoy an afternoon of fellowship and fun including lunch.

Registration/Payment 11:30 am - 12 noon

Lunch 12 noon - Cards 1pm

Port Carling Community Centre

\$12 per person

Please pre-register by Oct 1 by calling

Hylda Coker 765-5807

The Last Word: The greatest gift you can give another is the purity of your attention.

R. Moss