



Port Carling United Church

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Newsletter October 2009

Celebrating the life and work of our Church Rev. Sue Woods, Minister



Minister's Chat

In mid September my sermon title was "Thank God." In a more secular term it might have read "don't forget to smell the roses." Here is a story that was sent to me that puts it all in perspective!

Washington, D.C. Metro Station on a cold January morning in 2007. The man with a violin played six Bach pieces for about 45 minutes. During that time approx. two thousand people went through the station, most of them on their way to work. After three minutes, a middle aged man noticed there was a musician playing. He slowed his pace and stopped for a few seconds and then hurried to meet his schedule.

Four minutes later, the violinist received his first dollar: a woman threw the money in the hat and, without stopping, continued to walk.

Six minutes: A young man leaned against the wall to listen to him, then looked at his watch and started to walk again.

Ten minutes: A 3-year old boy stopped but his mother tugged him along hurriedly. The kid stopped to look at the violinist again, but the mother pushed hard and the child continued to walk, turning his head all the time. This action was repeated by several other children. Every parent, without exception, forced their children to move on quickly.

Forty-five minutes: The musician played continuously. Only 6 people stopped and listened for a short while. About 20 gave money but continued to walk at their normal pace. The man collected a total of \$32.

One hour: He finished playing and silence took over. No one noticed. No one applauded, nor was there any recognition.

No one knew this, but the violinist was Joshua Bell, one of the greatest musicians in the world. He played

one of the most intricate pieces ever written, with a violin worth \$3.5 million dollars. Two days before, Joshua Bell sold out a theatre in Boston where the seats averaged \$100.

This is a true story. Joshua Bell playing incognito in the metro station was organized by the Washington Post as part of a social experiment about **perception, taste and people's priorities**. The questions raised: in a common place environment at an inappropriate hour, do we perceive beauty? Do we stop to appreciate it? Do we recognize talent in an unexpected context?

One possible conclusion reached from this experiment could be this: If we do not have a moment to stop and listen to one of the best musicians in the world, playing some of the finest music ever written, with one of the most beautiful instruments ever made.... How many other things are we missing?

In this month of October take time to "Thank God"

Blessing
Rev. Sue

Port Carling United Church Council 2009/2010

Our Church would not be so vibrant if it were not for our enthusiastic volunteers, both council members and others who dedicate many hours per week to church life.

Dawn Stephen, *Chair* Rev. Sue Woods, *Minister*
Committee Members

Hilda Brown	Hylde Coker
Byron Coker	Ted Daghish
Jan Douglas	Neena Evans
Catherine Dedrick	Karen Finlay
Lyn Ingram	Mike Ingram
Patti Irving	Lane Hazlewood
Ron Sargeant	Ruth Veitch
Joan Wallace	

Official Board

Council is pleased to announce that Kathryn Hazlewood has agreed to be the new Chairperson of the Official Board. We are delighted with her decision to take on this important position.

Kathryn replaces the late George Woodward .

Thursday, October 1 9:30 am – 1:30 p.m.

**Port Carling United Church
“Women’s Retreat”**

at Dawn Stephen’s Cottage
12 Silver Lane, Port Carling

Bring your favourite Mug, Pen/Pencil,
Notebook/Paper, Bible, Potluck Lunch.

Come prepared to Sing, Laugh, Eat and Discover
Contact Dawn if you would like to attend

Sunday, October 4 at 9:30 a.m.

**Port Carling United Church
World Wide Communion**

Featuring breads from around the world

Wednesday, October 7 at 7:00 p.m.

**Port Carling United Church
Council Meeting in Hanna Hall**

Sunday, October 11 at 9:30 a.m.

**Port Carling United Church
Intergenerational Family Thanksgiving Service**

Staying in Touch with Par

It is usually with great sadness that we say goodbye to our “summer church” at Port Carling United. A couple of years ago, however, we decided to use the PAR system (Pre-authorized Remittance) to stay in touch with, and contribute to the ongoing expenses of the church we love and look forward to attending each spring through until fall. We do the same with the church we worship with in Mississauga during the winter months. We consider ourselves participating “members” at both churches this way. Perhaps some of the other “seasonal” folks would think about starting up a PAR commitment so the church is supported while they are away. PAR is a system where your account is debited each month and the funds forwarded to the congregation you have committed to. *Lynda and Trevor Appleby*

Staying in Touch via “The Newsletter”

Please let us know if you would like to be on our mailing/email list to receive the newsletter all year round. If you have a new mailing address, telephone number, or email address, we need to know that too. Place the written information in the offering plate or call Catherine Dedrick at (705) 765-0536.

Bala Cranberry Festival

is turning 25 this year and you’re invited

Free Water Ski Show

Free Fireworks

Free Concert with Muskoka Roads

2009 Festival Hours

Friday, October 16th 11 am – 5 pm

Saturday, October 17th 9 am – 5 pm

Sunday, October 18th 9 am – 4 pm

Admission:

Adults \$6.00 Children 7 – 12 \$3.00
6 and under Free

Church Social

Thank you to Patti and Gary Irving for hosting our Church “Social” at “Cranberry Green,” their vintage farmhouse on Highway 169. Approximately forty guests enjoyed their hospitality along with a delicious dinner of Beef on a Bun, Patti’s famous Caesar Salad and more... The excitement of the fans cheering at the Bocce Ball tournament was overwhelming; and the enthusiasm of the guests playing billiards and golf was awe-inspiring. We had lots of fun!

Thank you to all who helped, especially Jim Haller who cooked the onions to perfection.

Volunteers for October

Ushers: Hylda and Byron Coker

Kitchen Helpers:

October 4th Gayle Mitchell 11th Lynne Schroth
18th Dawn Stephen 25th Erika Harris

Saturday, October 31 “Hallowe’en”



The Last Word:

On Hallowe’en the thing
You must do
Is pretend that nothing
Can frighten you
An’ if somethin’ scares you
And you want to run
Jus’ let on like
It’s Hallowe’en fun.

From an Early nineteenth Century Hallowe’en Postcard