

## MINISTER'S MESSAGE

A little boy was offered the opportunity to select a puppy dog for his Christmas present. At the pet store, the youngster was shown a number of puppies. From them he picked one whose tail was wagging furiously. When he was asked why he selected that particular dog, the little boy replied, "I wanted the one with the happy ending."

The Christmas story comes to us with a truly happy ending. Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour, has come into the world. But the Christmas story also comes to us as a happy beginning --- with its promise of new life, now and for all eternity.

When Christmas comes around, we are attracted to the Light of Christ. We find comfort in the sunshine of Christmas good will. But when the Holy Day is over, we tend to put the Christmas Spirit back on "hold" again. And, in so doing, we thwart the very purpose of Christmas. In giving his Son, "as the Light of the World", God's purpose is to transform us into Children of Light, giving us the power to radiate his Love, moment-to-moment, and for a lifetime.

Why not begin today to journey step-by-step to where the Light of the World is leading you? Why not begin today to light up the world with the Love of God that is flowing into every corner of your soul?

A daughter, back home from university for Christmas break, was standing with her mother at the checkout counter of a large department store. The mother had selected a toy for the dog, an artificial wreath for the door and a box of pre-fab logs for the fireplace. "Do you realize what you're doing?" the daughter asked. "You are buying a false bone, a fake wreath and some fake logs." And, as the mother presented the clerk with a credit card, the daughter added, "But that's all right Mom, since you're paying for them with plastic money."

The wonderful thing about our Christmas awareness is that everything takes on new meaning --- even the false logs and the plastic money. We can see the Christ presence in every sparkling ornament on every tree; in every flicker of every candle; in every sprig of holly; in every poinsettia bloom; in every note of beautiful Christmas music; in every "Merry Christmas" wish, in every pair of hands offering and receiving gifts. May your Christmas season have a happy ending, and may your Christmas season be a happy beginning, both.

*Rick Taylor – Minister*

*Suzi Petersen – Office Secretary*

*Irene Huan – Director of Music*

*Manuel Goncalves - Custodian*

*Joan Crick – Wedding Coordinator*



November 2003

*Worship Services / Special Events*

**ADVENT / CHRISTMAS / EPIPHANY 2003 / 2004**

**Sunday, November 30, 2003 – 10:00 a.m.**

*First Sunday of Advent*

Readings: Jeremiah 33:14-16, Psalm 25:1-10, 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13, Luke 21:25-36

Sermon: The Unforgettable Message – Rev. Rick Taylor

*We will light the Candle of Hope.*



**A SPECIAL THANK YOU**

goes out to Nora Medenwaldt and Betty Tasaka  
for the decoration of our altar rail  
and Christmas boughs on our sanctuary lights.

Your efforts to give our worship space a festive spirit are greatly appreciated.

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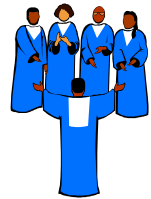
**RICHMOND UNITED CHURCHES**

**Advent Choral Service**

Sunday, November 30, 7:00 p.m.

A Mass Choir Anthem

An Offering will be taken.



RICHMOND UNITED CHURCH

8711 Cambie Road

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**Sunday, December 07, 2003 – 10:00 a.m.**

*Second Sunday of Advent*

Readings: Malachi 3:1-4, Luke 1:68-79, Philippians 1:3-11, Luke 3:1-6

Sermon: Hop Right In! – Rev. Rick Taylor

*We will light the Candle of Peace / The Sacrament of Holy Communion will be celebrated.*



**CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS**

**in the Sanctuary**

.....Many of you bring poinsettias to decorate our sanctuary.

Please bring them for Sunday, December 14 & 21.

If you would like to dedicate your plant to a loved one --- please get that information to the office before Thursday, December 11.



**WHITE GIFT SUNDAY – SUNDAY, DECEMBER 07<sup>th</sup>**

You are asked to bring an unwrapped gift for a boy or girl.

Your White Gifts will be distributed through the Richmond Christmas Bureau.

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**Sunday, December 14, 2003 – 10:00 a.m.**

*Third Sunday of Advent / Children's Choir / Pageant*



Readings: Zephaniah 3:14-20, Isaiah 12:2-6, Philippians 4:4-7, Luke 3:7-18  
Sermon: Going "Cold Turkey" – Rev. Rick Taylor  
*We will light the Candle of Joy.*  
*You are reminded to bring non-perishable food items for the Richmond Food Bank.*  
*Fill our chart to overflowing!*

*Congregational Christmas Pot-Luck Luncheon*

follows our December 14<sup>th</sup> service.  
Please prepare a dish for you and your family and one to share.  
The luncheon will take place in the church hall. Spread the joy!



**Sunday, December 21, 2003 – 10:00 a.m.**

*Fourth Sunday of Advent*

Readings: Micah 5:2-5(a), Luke 1:47-55, Hebrews 10:5-10, Luke 1:39-45  
Sermon: Spirit of Advent – Rev. Rick Taylor  
*We will light the Candle of Love.*  
*The Sacrament of Baptism / Reception of New Members*



**CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE**

at  
Steveston United Church

Wednesday, December 24 at 7:30 p.m.  
**A service of carols and readings.**  
**We will light the CHRIST CANDLE.**

**Invite a friend to this community service – celebrate with us!**

**Sunday, December 28, 2003 – 10:00 a.m.**

*First Sunday of The Christmas Season*

Readings: 1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26, Psalm 148, Colossians 3:12-17, Luke 2:41-52  
Pulpit Guest: Rev. Tom Miles Guest Organist: Tyler Fleming  
*The last Sunday of 2003. Come and reflect on the past year and welcome the new year!*

**Rev. Taylor will be taking a week's vacation  
beginning Saturday, December 27, 2003.**

He will be returning to the church office on Saturday, January 03, 2004.  
In his absence, pastoral emergencies can be directed to Rev. Anna Christie  
at Gilmore Park United church, (office) 604-277-5377, (home) 604-241-7545.



**DECEMBER 2003 / JANUARY 2004**

~ Holiday Office Hours ~

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
21	22 open 9 – 1 p.m.	23 open 1 – 5 p.m.	24 closed	25 closed	26 closed	27 closed
28	29 open 9 – 1 p.m.	30 open 1 – 5 p.m.	31 closed	01 closed	02 closed	03 closed

**Sunday, January 04, 2004 – 10:00 a.m.**

*The Sunday Closest to Epiphany*

Readings: Isaiah 60:1-6, Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14, Ephesians 3:1-12, Matthew 2:1-12

Sermon: The Coming of the Magi – Rev. Rick Taylor

*The Sacrament of Holy Communion will be celebrated.*

**Sunday, January 11, 2004 – 10:00 a.m.**

*The Baptism of Jesus*

Readings: Isaiah 43:1-7, Psalm 29, Acts 8:14-17, Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

Sermon: The Voice of God – Rev. Rick Taylor

*A Moment for Christian Mission will be shared.*

*Please remember to bring non-perishable food items in support of the Richmond Food Bank – fill our chart!*



**Sunday, January 18, 2004 – 10:00 a.m.**

*Second Sunday After Epiphany*

Readings: Isaiah 62:1-5, Psalm 36:5-10, 1 Corinthians 12:1-11, John 2:1-11

Sermon: Filled To the Brim – Rev. Rick Taylor

*The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Begins.*



**ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BAZAAR WRAP-UP/REVIEW MEETING**  
**Monday, January 19, 2004 at 7:00 p.m. in the Church Hall**

**Sunday, January 25, 2004 – 10:00 a.m.**

*Third Sunday After Epiphany*

Readings: Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10, Psalm 19, 1 Corinthians 12:12-31(a), Luke 4:14-21

Sermon: Again, For the First Time – Rev. Rick Taylor

*The Sacrament of Baptism / Reception of New Members*



**SATURDAY, JANUARY 31, 2004**  
**DEADLINE for submissions to the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.**  
**Submissions may be left at the church office.**

**Sunday, February 01, 2004 – 10:00 a.m.**

*Fourth Sunday After Epiphany*

Readings: Jeremiah 1:4-10, Psalm 71:1-6, 1 Corinthians 13:1-13, Luke 4:21-30

Sermon: Known by God – Rev. Rick Taylor

*The Sacrament of Holy Communion will be celebrated.*

**Sunday, February 08, 2004 – 10:00 a.m.**

*Fifth Sunday After Epiphany*

Readings: Isaiah 6:1-8, Psalm 138, 1 Corinthians 15:1-11, Luke 5:1-11

Sermon: Rev. Rick Taylor

*A Moment for Christian Mission will be shared.*

*It is Richmond Food Bank Rally Sunday. Please bring non-perishable food items – fill our chart.*

**Sunday, February 15, 2004 – 10:00 a.m.**

*Sixth Sunday After Epiphany*

Readings: Jeremiah 17:5-10, Psalm 1, 1 Corinthians 15:12-20, Luke 6:17-26

Sermon: On The Level – Rev. Rick Taylor

*It is Theological Education Sunday. A student from the Vancouver School of Theology will be joining us.*



Following the service on February 15<sup>th</sup> we will be hosted by our WAIL Ladies.

Join us for our

**ANNUAL VALENTINE'S DAY TEA.**

(The cost t.b.a.)

**Sunday, February 22, 2004 – 10:00 a.m.**

*Transfiguration Sunday*

Readings: Exodus 34:29-35, Psalm 99, 2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2, Luke 9:28-36

Sermon: Bedazzled! – Rev. Rick Taylor

*The Sacrament of Baptism / Reception of New Members will be celebrated.*

*The Annual Report will be available.*

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**Tuesday, February 24, 2004  
SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER  
5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.  
Steveston United Church Hall**

Adults: \$6.00 Children 10 & under: \$3.50 Dessert, Coffee, Tea & Juice  
Invite a friend!



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**Wednesday, February 25, 2004  
ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP SERVICE  
7:00 p.m. at Gilmore Park United**

Join us as we begin the journey to Easter.  
40 days.....and 40 nights.

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**Sunday, February 29, 2004 – 10:00 a.m.**

*Lent I*

Readings: Deuteronomy 26:1-11, Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16, Romans 10:8(b) – 13, Luke 4:1-13

Sermon: Rev. Rick Taylor




**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 29, 2004 at 11:15 a.m.**  
**Church Hall**  
**THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
**of the congregation**

Please bring your copy of the Annual Report to this very important meeting.

**Friday, March 05, 2003 at 2:00 p.m.**

**Steveston United Church will host THE WORLD DAY OF PRAYER SERVICE written by the women of Panama.**

**Theme: "In Faith, Women Shape the Future". An offering will be taken.**



**Sunday, March 07, 2004 – 10:00 a.m.**

*Lent II*

Readings: Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18, Psalm 27, Philippians 3:17-4:1, Luke 13:31-35

Sermon: Rev. Rick Taylor

**Sunday, March 14, 2004 – 10:00 a.m.**

*Lent III*

Readings: Isaiah 55:1-9, Psalm 63:1-8, 1 Corinthians 10:1-13, Luke 13:1-9

Sermon: Rev. Rick Taylor

*A Moment for Christian Mission will be shared.*

*Please remember to bring non-perishable food items. It is Richmond Food Bank Rally Sunday – fill our charts!*




Following the service today, join us for special refreshments in the church hall. We're celebrating Rev. Taylor's 53<sup>rd</sup> birthday.

**MONDAY, MARCH 15, 2004**

**DEADLINE for submissions to the EASTER NEWSLETTER.**

**Please leave your submissions at the church office.**



**Sunday, March 21, 2004 – 10:00 a.m.**

*Lent IV – Happy Spring!*

Readings: Joshua 5:9-12, Psalm 32, 2 Corinthians 5:16-21, Luke 15:1-3, 11(b) – 32

Sermon: Rev. Rick Taylor

**Sunday, March 28, 2004 – 10:00 a.m.**

*Lent V*

Readings: Isaiah 43:16-21, Psalm 67, Philippians 3:4(b) – 14, John 12:1-8

Sermon: Rev. Rick Taylor

*The Sacrament of Baptism / Reception of New Members will be celebrated.*

*The Easter Newsletter will be available.*

**Statement to Official Board of Steveston United Church  
by Acting Chair  
at Meeting of November 19, 2003**

**Maintenance of Buildings & Premises**

We have been living in a dream world for far too long. To my knowledge we have never had a Capital Plan for the maintenance of Buildings and systems associated therewith, such as heating, electrical, gas, and water, nor for the roof, walls, doors and windows.

With numerous tenants using the hall, kitchen and other rooms we are leaving ourselves vulnerable to liability claims should any event result in injury or death occur as a result of lack of maintenance.

We must make a decision as to whether:

- (a) we want this congregation to remain in this location.
- (b) we can afford to remain here given our present sources of income and the repairs/maintenance that are required and;

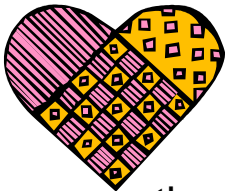
If we can't afford to remain here with our present sources of income, what options do we have to allow us to remain here.

Regardless of the outcome of our deliberations on this matter, I believe it must be resolved within the next six months, that is no later than May 15, 2004.

J. Bowers  
Acting Chairman  
Steveston United Church Official Board

**We invite your feedback. You can direct your comments to any member of the Unified Board or to the Acting Chair.**

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**A Heartfelt Thank You**

to the Christmas Bazaar Committee for their countless hours of hard work in planning & organizing another successful fundraiser. We appreciate the local merchants for their ongoing support with donations and the friends & family who faithfully come out to enjoy our annual event.

(For a summary, please see page 12.)

# P R E A C H I N G

The minister just had all of his remaining teeth pulled out and new dentures were being made. The first Sunday, he only preached ten minutes. The second Sunday, he preached only 20 minutes. But on the third Sunday, he preached one hour, 25 minutes. When asked about this by some of the congregation, he responded this way, “The first Sunday, my gums were so sore it hurt to talk. The second Sunday, my dentures were hurting a lot. The third Sunday, I accidentally grabbed my wife’s dentures and I could not stop talking.”



## Refining

Some women met to study the Bible. While reading the third chapter of Malachi, they came upon a remarkable expression in the third verse: “He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver.” (Malachi 3:3)

One lady decided to visit a silversmith and report to the others on what he said about the subject. She went accordingly, and without telling him the reason of her visit, begging the silversmith to tell her about the process of refining silver.

After he had fully described it to her, she asked, “Sir, do you sit while the work of refining is going on?” “Oh, yes ma’am,” replied the silversmith. “I must sit and watch the furnace constantly for, if the time necessary for refining is exceeded in the slightest degree, the silver will be injured.”



The lady at once saw the beauty and comfort of the expression, “He shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver.” God sees it necessary to put His children into the furnace; but His eyes are steadily intent on the work of purifying, and His wisdom and love are both engaged in the best manner for us. Our trials do not come at random, and He will not let us be tested beyond what we can endure.

Before she left, the lady asked one final question, “How do you know when the process is complete?” “That is quite simple,” replied the silversmith. “When I can see my own image in the silver, the refining process is complete.”

## Storms

Did you know that an eagle knows when a storm is approaching long before it breaks? The eagle will fly to some high spot and wait for the winds to come, when the storm hits, it sets its wings so that the wind will pick it up and lift it above the storm. While the storm rages below, the eagle is soaring above it. The eagle does not escape the storm. It simply uses the storm to lift it higher. It rises on the winds that bring the storm.



When the storms of life come upon us --- and all of us will experience them --- we can rise above them by setting our minds and our belief toward God. The storms do not have to overcome us. We can allow God’s power to lift us above them.

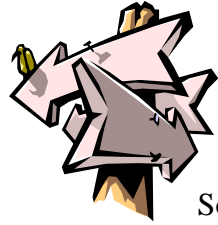
God enables us to ride the winds of the storm that bring sickness, tragedy, failure and disappointment in our lives. We can soar above the storm.

Remember, it is not the burdens of life that weigh us down, it is how we handle them.

The Bible says, “Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles.” (Isaiah 40:31)

## I Will Let You Choose

There are times when God sends thunder to stir us. There are times when God sends blessings to lure us. But then there are times when God sends nothing but silence as he honours us with the freedom to choose where we spend eternity.



And what an honour it is! In so many areas of life we have no choice. Think about it. You didn't choose your gender. You didn't choose your siblings. You didn't choose your race or place of birth.

Sometimes our lack of choices angers us. "It's not fair," we say. It's not fair that I was born in poverty or that I sing so poorly or that I run so slowly. But the scales of life were forever tipped on the side of fairness when God planted a tree in the Garden of Eden. All complaints were silenced when Adam and his descendants were given free will, the freedom to make whatever eternal choices we desire. Any injustice in this life is offset by the honour of choosing our destiny in the next.

Wouldn't you agree? Would you have wanted otherwise? Would you have preferred the opposite? You choose everything in this life, and He chooses where you spend the next? You choose the size of your nose, the colour of your hair, and your DNA structure, and He chooses where you spend eternity? Is that what you would prefer?

It would have been nice if God had let us order life like we order a meal. I'll take good health and a high IQ. I'll pass on the music skills, but give me a fast metabolism..... Would've been nice. But it didn't happen. When it came to your life on earth, you weren't given a voice or a vote. But when it comes to life after death, you were. That seems like a good deal. Wouldn't you agree?

You've made some bad choices in life, haven't you? You've chosen the wrong friends, maybe the wrong career, even the wrong spouse. You look back over your life and say, "If only.....if only I could make up for those bad choices." You can. One good choice for eternity offsets a thousand bad ones on earth.

The choice is yours.

Submitted by Irene Huan

## **From Arthur Paul Boers, "Never Call Them Jerks" - Healthy Responses to Difficult Behaviour 1999 Alban Institute ISBN 156699-218-4**



In 1995, the General Conferences Mennonite Church and the Mennonite Church General Assembly adopted a helpful document: "Agreeing and Disagreeing in Love: Commitments for Mennonites in Times of Disagreement." It could assist congregations by helping establish fair and healthy norms and guidelines.

"Making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace" (Ephesians 4:3), as both individual members and the body of Christ, we pledge that we shall:

### *In Thought*

1. Accept conflict: Acknowledge together that conflict is a normal part of our life in the church. Romans 14:1-8, 10-12, 17-19; 15:1-7.

2. Affirm hope: Affirm that as God walks with us in conflict we can work through to growth. Ephesians 4:15-16.
3. Commit to prayer: Admit our needs and commit ourselves to pray for a mutually satisfactory solution (no prayers for my success or for the other to change but to find a joint way). James 5:16.

#### *In Action*

4. Go to the other.....: Go directly to those with whom we disagree; avoid behind-the-back criticism. (Go directly if you are European-North American; in other cultures disagreements are often addressed through a trusted go-between.) Matthew 5:23-24; 18:15-20.
5. ....In the spirit of humility: Go in gentleness, patience, and humility. Place the problem between us at neither doorstep and own our part in the conflict instead of pointing out the other's. Galatians 6:1-5.
6. Be quick to listen: Listen carefully, summarize and check out what is heard before responding. Seek as much to understand as to be understood. James 1:19; Proverbs 18:13.
7. Be slow to judge: Suspend judgments, avoid labeling, end name calling, discard threats, and act in a nondefensive, nonreactive way. Romans 2:1-4; Galatians 5:22-26.
8. Be willing to negotiate: Work through the disagreements constructively. Acts 15; Philippians 2:1-11.
  - Identify issues, interests, and needs of both (rather than take positions).
  - Generate a variety of options for meeting both parties' needs (rather than defending one's own way).
  - Evaluate options by how they meet the needs and satisfy the interests of all sides (not one side's values).
  - Collaborate in working out a joint solution (so both sides gain, both grow and win).
  - Cooperate with the emerging agreement (accept the possible, not demand your ideal).
  - Reward each other for each step forward toward agreement (celebrate mutuality).

#### *In Life*

9. Be steadfast in love: Be firm in our commitment to seek a mutual solution; be stubborn in holding to our common foundations in Christ; be steadfast in love. Colossians 3:12-15.
10. Be open to mediation: Be open to accept skilled help. If we cannot reach agreement among ourselves, we will use those with gifts and training in mediation in the larger church. Philippians 4:1-3.
11. Trust the community: We will trust the community and if we cannot reach agreement or experience reconciliation, we will turn the decision over to others in the congregation or from the broader church. Acts 15.
  - In one-to-one or small group disputes, this may mean allowing others to arbitrate.
  - In congregational, conference, district or denominational disputes, this may mean allowing others to arbitrate or implementing constitutional decision-making processes, insuring that they are done in the spirit of these guidelines, and abiding by whatever decision is made.

12. Be the Body of Christ: Believe in and rely on the solidarity of the Body of Christ and its commitment to peace and justice, rather than resort to the courts of law. I Corinthians 6:1-6.

All such lists are suggestive, neither exhaustive nor prescriptive. Obviously many factors influence which guidelines are embraced.

Identify and develop guidelines that encourage fair fighting, and hold the group to this standard when dealing with differences. Sticking to such guidelines will go far in limiting the damage that difficult behaviour can do.

## ONE PERSON'S OPINION

We earned a lot of money at this year's Christmas Bazaar. Everyone was amazed that we did so well. Nearly \$11,000 in our coffers! Well, I must say that for me, the residual benefits were far, far greater than the financial benefits.

How wonderful it was to have church members bring their sons, daughters, grandchildren, sisters, brothers, cousins, other relatives and friends to this marvelous event. We enjoy seeing so many of them once a year. What never ceases to amaze me is the sincerely good relationships we have all formed within our church family and it is never more evident than at our Annual Christmas Bazaar. We laugh a lot, tease a bit, joke with each other, and we enjoy the rush of an exciting event. There is a very comfortable, good feeling when we work together for our Church. We are totally "pooped" when it is over, but we go home with the knowledge that we really had a wonderful time! The camaraderie and warmth of the volunteers toward each other brings out a true meaning of Christianity within us. I feel truly blessed to be a member of this incredible, little United Church in the Village of Steveston.

We appreciate the many people within the wider community who join us year after year to help on this day, with good humour while providing arduous labour. We love having them with us! We also appreciate our Minister. He works so very hard before, during and after the Bazaar. He is a Good Man.

I love the Annual Christmas Bazaar!!

(Anonymous)



**TALLY SHEET – ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BAZAAR – 2003**  
**The Bazaar was held Saturday, November 22, 2003.**

39ers Craft Group	\$ 400.10
Home Baking	\$ 398.00
Country Store	\$ 566.00
Christmas Crafts	\$ 468.00
Jewellery	\$ 286.00
No. 9 Game	\$ 87.00
Japanese Food	\$ 1,069.00
Chow Mein Noodles	\$ 126.00
Dessert Table	\$ 185.00
Children's Games	\$ 15.40
Art Cards / Calendars / Stationary	\$ 257.51
Door Prizes	\$ 276.00
Chow Mein Lunch	\$ 2,209.15
Silent Auction	\$ 3,195.00
Musical Requests	\$ 16.55
Hot Dogs	\$ 37.75
Bicycle Raffle	\$ 462.00
Donations	\$ 200.00
<b>TOTAL DEPOSITED SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22</b>	<b>\$10,256.70</b>
Additional Sunday, November 23	
Christmas Crafts	\$ 68.50
Silent Auction	\$ 820.00
Art Cards / Calendars	\$ 30.00
<b>NEW TOTAL TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2003</b>	<b>\$ 11,175.20</b>

and there's more to come.....

**WELL DONE!! AND THANKS TO ALL.**



**STATEMENT of INCOME & EXPENDITURES**  
**Steveston United Church – October 31, 2003**

Income from all sources, October 2003	\$ 8,798
Expenses, October 2003	\$ 10,796
Deficit, October 2003	\$ 1,998
Year-to-Date Income from all sources	\$ 91,241
Year-to-Date Expenses (10 months of 2003)	\$111,233
<b>Year-to-Date Deficit</b>	<b><u>\$ 19,992</u></b>

Submitted by: Tracey Sakai, Treasurer

I have been thinking a lot lately about God’s blessings to us at Christmas. And then out of the blue, someone from the congregation asked me the other day if I felt blessed in my calling to serve this congregation. The short answer is, of course, “yes”, because only that sense of being blessed permits the relationship between minister and congregants to grow and change as God leads us. But I need to say more: I feel blessed to be a part of a congregation which is willing to turn itself out and upside down at an event like the Annual Christmas Bazaar --- all in the service of a fellowship that reaches out to the hundreds of people from the community that pass through our doors looking for something to enrich their lives. I feel blessed that I serve a congregation small enough that when one of us enters a crisis, I am free to focus as much time as possible with that person and firmly knowing that whatever else doesn’t get done, isn’t really all that important at that time. Do I feel blessed? Indeed I do! But there’s another part to this “blessing” question. Do you feel blessed?

# VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!



## Ring a bell for The Salvation Army 2003 Christmas Kettle Campaign!

When your family, business, sports team, church or community group adopts a kettle, or you individually donate a few hours of your time, so much more occurs than the opportunity to become part of a century-old Christmas tradition. You personally have a hand in raising funds to finance our community and family services programs **right here in Richmond.**

Emergency Shelter, Job Placement Services, Community Lunch, Fire Victim Assistance, Free legal Advice, Children's Summer Camps, Youth Programs, Seniors Programs, Toy Distribution, Emergency Food Assistance, Clothing Assistance, Memorial Services, Hospital Visitation, Advocacy Services, Christmas Programs, Coats for Kids Program, Eye Glasses Program.

- **Seniors!** do you have an hour or two to spare?
- **Businesses!** want to get involved in your community and increase your visibility?
- **Youth!** volunteering is a great way to get work experience.
- **Parents!** take your child, adopt a Kettle for an hour or so and show them what The Salvation Army is all about. People love to see kids!

**For more information, please contact Arusha at 604-277-1593,  
email: [kettlesa@telus.net](mailto:kettlesa@telus.net) or visit our offices:  
The Salvation Army Resource Center  
205 – 6200 No. 3 Rd., Richmond**

## CHURCH MUSIC SYMPOSIUM '04

for Musicians, Clergy, Worship Leaders, Lay Persons

MARCH 5 & 6, 2004

presents

**DON SALIERS**

Musician, Theologian, Liturgist

**William R. Cannon – Distinguished Professor of Theology and Liturgy  
Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia**

*Worship Matters: Liturgies Come to Life*

**A L S O**

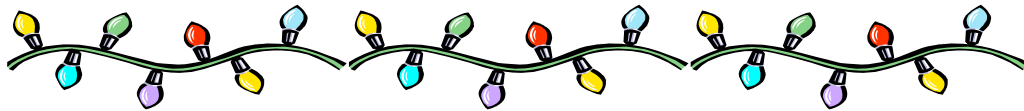
**Keri Wehlander – Liturgical Dance**

**Sheelah Megill – Story Telling**

Watch for more news --- brochures available soon.

For more info: call Gale Walker 604-224-2104

or e-mail: [galewalker@shaw.ca](mailto:galewalker@shaw.ca)



*Take your partner out for a fantastic & romantic*

*Christmas Dinner Date.*

Join Jill & Charlotte Dyck for a

VANCOUVER CHRISTMAS CAROL  
HARBOUR DINNER CRUISE

Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 p.m. – 8:15 p.m.

A "Two for One" Special - \$90 per couple (includes taxes & gratuities)

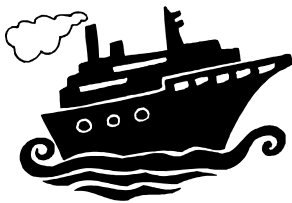
For reservations & more information

Call Cynthia 604-331-8412

Board at Granville Island Pier near Bridges Restaurant  
(under the south end of Granville Bridge)

FREE PARKING

*Sponsored by Pacific Family Life Counselling Inc.*



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