

The Call

A Publication of
Spirit of Peace Lutheran Church

August 2010

Spirit of Peace Lutheran Church (ELCA)

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*Deadline for
September Newsletter
August 22, 2010*



August is "Ketchup" Month

The Numbers

Current Projected Budget Deficit at Year End	\$17,300
Adjusted Projected Budget Deficit at Year End	\$14,500
Anticipated Year End Gift	\$10,000
Remaining Deficit	\$ 4,500

Goal To finish the year without using any reserve funds.

Plan To make up half of the budget deficit
now and half at the end of the year.



Our \$4500 projected year-end deficit can be annihilated without much sacrifice!

Join the "Ketchup Campaign" by making one extra week of offering now and one at the end of the year. Mark your offering "ketchup."

Thank you for your faithfulness to the work God is calling us to do!

The above numbers come from a slide in a presentation made at our recent congregational meeting.

- As of 6 months into the year, our current rate of income and spending would have left us \$17,300 in the hole at the end of the year, using a substantial amount of reserve funds.
- Adjustments have been made in spending, reducing staff salaries and benevolence to lower that projected deficit figure to \$14,500.
- We're anticipating a year-end gift of \$10,000.
- That leaves a remaining deficit of \$4,500.

Help Keep Our Ministry Strong!

From The Pastor

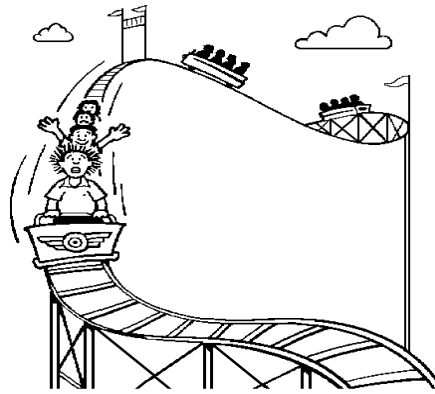
Timothy Edmondson

Dear Friends—

Everybody has a good excuse for not attending church. If you take those excuses and apply them to other things we do (or don't do), like eating, they might look like this list:

I don't eat any more because. . .

1. *I was forced to eat as a child.*
2. *People who eat all the time are hypocrites; they aren't really hungry.*
3. *There are so many different kinds of food, I can't decide what to eat.*
4. *I used to eat, but I got bored and stopped.*
5. *I only eat on special occasions, like Christmas and Easter.*
6. *None of my friends will eat with me.*
7. *I'll start eating when I get older.*
8. *I don't really have time to eat.*
9. *I don't believe that eating does anybody any good. It's just a crutch.*
10. *Restaurants and grocery stores are only after your money!*



1 Peter 2:2 likens each of us to newborn babies that “long for the pure milk of the Word.” The Message Bible paraphrases it this way: “You’ve had a taste of God. Now, like infants at the breast, drink deep of God’s pure kindness. Then you’ll grow up mature and whole in God.”

The point is this: we all have plenty of excuses for not getting involved in ministry. . .and yet, Scripture reminds us that being involved, attending church is how we receive our spiritual nourishment and how we maintain our spiritual health.

Beyond that, it is the way we serve and bless others in response to all that we have received from God. Going to church, being active in ministry is the natural by-product of faith, the sign that we know we are loved and forgiven. In that state of grace, we respond by offering our lives in service to God and one another.

This newsletter is different. The front page speaks the truth about our finances and places before us all a challenge to finish this year in the black without using any reserve funds. This financial solvency will prepare us for the next two

years of weaning ourselves from synod and churchwide grants. The planned goal is to become financially independent by January 2013.

And yet, please look beyond the front page to other pages that speak of the ministry that we do in the name of Jesus. Front page numbers are about those things. People will give reluctantly to a budget; but they will open their hearts to further God’s kingdom and to make a difference in the lives of those who need to know Jesus.

Notice the article on the Wine Auction —what a great success! And what a symbol of what happens as we join hands together in a project —a symbol of the “spirit” of the people of this congregation. . .ok, a little ‘tongue & cheek’ there.

Notice the new ministry of “Campfire Church.” Will it work? Who knows for sure. And yet, ministry is all about trying new things and looking for one more way to be effective communicators of Christ’s love.

An article on inviting people to church is included in this edition —the #1 effective means of growing a congregation.

And finally, as always, a list of people —their birthdays, anniversaries, prayer concerns, joys, and needs —reminding us that this ministry is an “incarnate” ministry. It is placed by God in flesh and bone, in you and me, in hopes and dreams, in struggles and heartache, in successes and failures. As we are alive and always changing, so will the ministry that God works through us, reflect that nature.

Attendance, involvement. . . “drinking deeply of God’s pure kindness.” I am grateful for the holy privilege of being your pastor. What a joy to be part of something that is alive and changing, that is becoming more and more of what God has called it to be. . .even though we sometimes cannot see what that is. I remain with you in the joy and the challenges of mission congregation ministry —a rollercoaster for sure. So let us fasten tightly our seat belts and shoulder restraints and hold on for dear life, trusting in God who has not and never will let us down!

Deep Peace,
Pastor Tim

“You’ve had a taste of God. . . now drink deep of God’s pure kindness.”

1 Peter 2:2

Here's a Great Way to Invite Someone to Church. . .

Wouldn't it be nice when having that serendipitous conversation with the barista at Starbuck's or the checker at Vons, and the subject of church comes up to be able to invite them to join us for worship?

The only problem is it's hard to describe where we're located and that we're really the Lutheran church (the other Lutheran church), not the Seventh Day Adventist Church and the facility we use isn't our's. . .uggghhh!

Solution: We now have "business cards" that you can carry with you in your purse or in your wallet... ready to hand to that person who might be looking for a new church home. These cards will be available to pick up on Sunday,

Campfire Church

Aspen Glen
Picnic Area
on
Mill
Creek
Rd.

An
Alternative
Worship
Experience



Saturday Evenings
in September at 6:30 pm

Informal worship around the campfire with praise songs and Bible Study. The evening concludes with s'mores and hot chocolate.

Sunday, August 29th, 9:30 am

Worship as a congregation at Aspen Glen to introduce us to this new ministry. Bring lawn chairs for seating and your adventure pass for parking or purchase a pass there.

Go West on Big Bear Blvd. Just pass Magic Mountain, Mill Creek Road veers off to the left. Picnic area is 1 mile on Mill Creek Road.



We're looking for a few folks who could really get excited about Campfire Church and become leaders for this new and exciting ministry! Most of the work will be in getting the word out in the community and at places where people vacation that CAMPFIRE CHURCH is taking place. The preparation for the service will be minimum. Really, we're just looking for someone to be in charge of getting the fire going and putting it out, and someone to bring hot chocolate and things for s'mores. If this sounds like something you get excited about . . . pray and see if God might be asking you to help lead the way.





Wine Auction Raises \$6500



Spirit of Peace Wine Tasting Auction and Silent Auction 2010

It takes a village to raise a child. It takes a whole church family to make a fundraising event successful. Congratulate yourselves. Because each person was willing to share his or her special gifts, this year's fundraiser was a tremendous success! It was truly a blessing the way our congregation worked together to contribute to another success. There are so many in the congregation who deserve recognition for their support. I would especially like to thank the people who served on the committee. Lyn and Ella Manor again provided a lovely setting and were gracious hosts for the evening. The other committee members were: Sandy Groon, Diane and Alan Clark, Kay and Ed Cedergreen, Betty Cummins and Earl Gentry, John and Sharen Bartley, Judi Hollander, K J Barto and Ron Barto, Linda Wilson, Warren Wasson, Carol Wood, John McCutcheon, Doris Angerhoffer, Tom Elbert, Keith and Joyce Adams, Jason Brown and Danessa Barto, Dick and Loene Whitter, and Pastor Tim and Sharon Edmondson. There were also many people who solicited donations from the community, made their own baskets or donated wine, food, and cash to our event. We had 56 donations from businesses in the community and many personal baskets and items from members of our congregation and friends. A special thanks to Cassara Vineyards for donating a case of wine for our event. We had 82 people attend the event and made \$6,500.00.

Thank you so much for your wonderful support of this event
God Bless
Linda Griffith

We Wish to Thank Thrivent . . .

for it's wonderful support of our wine auction fundraiser. Thrivent contributed \$800 in matching funds to bring our grand total to \$6500.

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans is a Fortune 500 financial services membership organization that helps nearly 3 million members achieve their financial goals. As a fraternal organization, Thrivent has several programs that benefit the church.

Pat Elbert is our "go to gal" when it comes to accessing these programs. Pat has raised literally thousands of dollars for our congregation's ministries through the generosity of Thrivent.



Meals for the Hungry

Simple Suppers . . .

This is our ministry to those in the community that are either homeless or in financial distress and can benefit from a well balanced, provided meal. Set-up begins at 3 pm and takes place at the Methodist Church in Big Bear City. We take care of the second Thursday of every month and the Methodists cover the 4th Thursday. This is a wonderful ministry that benefits not just the 30 to 60 folks that come to eat, but also those who serve. Speak to Sandy Groon (584-8023) if you'd like to help.



Healing

- Pat Elbert —upcoming surgery
- Diana Guillen —non-responsive after severe stroke
- Pr Margaret —continued healing
- Pat (Merrilee's Mom) —recovering from surgery
- Emily (daughter of Jill Lavinger) —continued healing
- Sue Melchor —brain tumor
- Bill (Earl's nephew) —prostate cancer
- Trudy —stroke
- Shaina (Jason Brown's sister) —healing
- Elizabeth (granddaughter of Linda Wilson) —worsening mental condition
- Christy Goss (Jason Brown's Mom) —congestive heart failure
- Ronnie Keyson (son) —advanced stages of cancer
- Georgia Cashman (friend of Warren Wasson's) —breast cancer
- Ron Keyson —undergoing another round of chemo
- Marta Upward (friend of Linda and KJ) —fibromyalgia
- Janice Schlieder —several autoimmune disorders
- Pastor Marcia Hartsock —undergoing chemo for lung cancer
- Linda Ward (friend of Kathy Kerr's) —breast cancer
- Louise Walker (friend of Kathy Kerr's) —breast cancer
- Gaelin —cancer
- Virginia Mitchell (Linda Wilson's Mom) —osteoporosis
- Roger Frost (friend of Adams') —cancer
- Fran Palmer (friend of Clarks) —cancer
- Marilyn Vecchio —Leukemia
- Renee Marquez (friend of Cyndi Bauer) —Leukemia
- Betty Owens (friend of Warren's) —Alzheimer's/cancer
- Danny (son of Doris Angerhofer's friend) —Parkinson's
- Marian Bacon (friend of Linda Wilson's) —brain cancer
- Andy Mearse (friend of Bartos) —chronic pain
- Candy Seimers (family member of Sandy Groon) —cancer
- Lori Baltus (Linda Wilson's friend) —severe cancer
- Alma Bauer (Paul's mom)
- Glenn Beyer
- Joe LaMura (friend of Judi Hollander) —cancer
- Anni Ruther (Doris Angerhofer's mother) —chronic pain

Strength, Comfort, Guidance, Peace, Direction—

- Families of Chelsea Brown & Amber DuBois
- Bedoe & Trainor Families at the loss of a loved one
- Devin Ragsdale
- Caregivers
- Christine/Anthony (Janet Webber's daughter/grandson)

Safety & Protection —

Those in the military: Nick Caretto (Army); Peter Caretto (Marines); Sam McCullar (Navy); Tim Lauer (Navy Submarine); Scott (Rick Coehlo's friend), LCpl Tyler Craig (Wendy Craig's son in Angola, Africa), Cory Amelsberg (Army), Austin Amelsberg (Army), Sean Parrish; Sgt. William VanSickle, Marc DiConti and Son; 2nd Lt. Michael Nguyen (Air Force); Prvt 1st Class Devin Barto (Basrah, Iraq); Prvt 2nd Class Davin Barto (Afghanistan), Brian McCoy (basic training/Texas); Tom Hastin (Jr Navy Seal); Travis Hastin (Army Ranger); Chelsea Liuzzo (Afghanistan)

Prayer and Praise Page

"If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for in prayer."



	8/6	Ed Cedergreen
	8/6	Lauren McKinley
	8/8	Merrilee Ragsdale
	8/13	Keith Adams
	8/14	Devin Barto



8/17	Neal Hertzmann
8/21	Florence Nesland
8/23	Jack Kunz
8/28	Beth Hammond
8/29	John Bartley

Our apologies to Jason Brown who had a birthday on July 28th and was not listed in last month's newsletter. Happy Belated Jason!

8/17	Pastor Tim & Sharon
8/24	Rick & Anita Holden
8/27	Jim & Patty Ryan
8/27	Charlie & Robin Gehrke

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Office Location and Hours:
41619 Big Bear Blvd. Suite 1A
Big Bear Lake
9 am—12 Noon Mon.—Wed.
9 am—12 pm Fri.

Worship Location:
349 E. North Shore Dr.
Big Bear City, CA 92314
(The Seventh Day Adventist Church)

Check out Campfire Church
Saturday Evenings
(6:30 pm) in September at
Aspen Glen Picnic Area

A Little About Us:

We are a Christ-centered, Bible-based community of faith that welcomes all people and serves God by serving the needs of those in the Bear Valley.

We are part of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

"The Call" is published monthly by

**Spirit of Peace Lutheran Church
P.O. Box 2997
Big Bear City, California 92314**

**RETURN SERVICE
REQUESTED**

Mailed on
August 9th

**Sunday Worship
at 9:30 a.m.
ALL, ALL, ALL,
are welcome!**