The Call

A Publication Of
Spirit of Peace Lutheran Church

August 2008

Spirit of Peace
Lutheran Church

Worship Location::
349 E. North Shore Dr.
Big Bear City, Calif. 92315
(Seventh Day
Adventist Church)

Office location:
41619 Big Bear Blvd
Suite 1A
Big Bear Lake, Calif 92315

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 2997
Big Bear City, Calif 92314

Phone: (909) 878-2650
Fax: (909) 878-2643
Email:
spiritofpeacelutheran@verizon.net

www.spiritofpeacebigbear.org
Webmasters: Rick Holden, Dale Webber

STAFF

Timothy Edmondson
Pastor

KJ Barto
Director of Music

VOLUNTEER STAFF

Grace Beyer, Neal Hertzmann,
Florence Nesland,
Pat Crain, Sandy Groon,
Dale & Janet Webber
Office

Pat Crain

Deadline for
September Newsletter
August 26, 2008

OUR 1st WINE TASTING

FUNDRAISER

SAT SEPT 6th

4 P.M. TO 7 P.M.

TO BENEFIT

SPIRIT OF PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH'S COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROJECTS

LOCATION: 780 RALEIGH DR

BIG BEAR CITY, CA

PHONE: (909) 585-5813

CARPOOLING ADVISABLE

PLEASE BRING 2 BOTTLES OF THE SAME WINE. ONE WILL BE OPEN FOR TASTING THE OTHER AUCTIONED FOR PLEASURE.

YOU MAY ALSO BRING AN APPETIZER OR DESSERT TO SHARE.

TASTING BEGINS PROMPTLY AT 4 P.M.

AUCTION AT 5 P.M. MININUM BID IS $10.00

NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES WILL BE AVAILABLE

INVITE FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS WHO ENJOY WINE TO HELP US WITH OUR "FUNDRAISER"

SO BRING YOUR CHECKBOOK OR CASH, SORRY NO CREDIT CARDS

PLEASE RSVP BY SEPTEMBER 3RD

RSVP: JANET & DALE WEBBER 585-5486
OR CHURCH OFFICE 878-2650

RAFFLE PRIZES AND SILENT AUCTION TOO

"Unless you become like a little child, you can never enter the Kingdom of Heaven."

(Matthew 18:3)

Dear Friends —

A first-grade teacher gave her students the first half of a proverb and asked them to come up with the rest. Here are just a few of the responses she received:

Better to be safe than . . .punch a fifth grader.

Strike while the . . .bug is close.

It's always darkest before. . .daylight savings time.

Never underestimate the power of. . .termites.

You can lead a horse to water but. . . how?

Don't bite the hand that . . .looks dirty.

No news is. . .impossible.

A miss is as good as a . . .mister.

You can't teach an old dog. . .arithmetic.

If you lie down with dogs, you. . .stink in the morning.

The pen is mightier than. . .the pigs.

An idle mind is. . .a good way to sleep.

Where there's smoke, there's . . .lung cancer.

A penny saved is. . .not very much.

Two's company, three's . . .the Musketeers.

Children should be seen and not. . .spanked.

If at first you don't succeed . . .get new batteries.

You get out of something what you . . .see pictured on the box.

When the blind lead the blind . . .get out of the way.

Laugh and the whole world laughs with you, cry and . . .you have to blow your nose.

Kids do say the darndest things and when they do we all smile and remind ourselves of the precious gift they are to us. Along with the sometimes formidable challenge they present as we do our best to teach them, raise them, and nurture them, they, on the other hand, teach us and shape us as adults.

We don't have many children in our congregation. The few that we do have are amazing and wonderful, as well as their families. But we've all said that it would be a good thing if we could attract more young families with children. Now why is this so important?

Well, first of all, we have something to offer. While there are plenty of other churches in the valley doing ministry to and with children, none of them have the uniquely "Lutheran" voice that we have. Our Lutheran way and our Lutheran understandings speak a message that is different (sometimes only slightly, but different nonetheless) than what other churches in the Bear Valley have to offer, and it's a great message of grace and love and hope. Children need us.

A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR

Secondly, while children need us, we also need them. We cannot underestimate their power to influence us as adults and to shape the future of our ministry. Jesus said, "Unless you become like a child, you cannot enter the Kingdom of Heaven." In other words, children have a unique perspective that makes them more receptive and available to Jesus in a way we sophisticated adults have lost. How can we become like children unless we're involved with them?

Finally, children and their families bring energy. Many senior members will report that one reason they join a particular congregation is because of the youth program there. They don't have kids in the program; nor do they intend to participate directly in the program, but they know, as do we all, that a church with lots of kids and young families is a lively and exciting place to be.

In this newsletter you'll see information for a new "pilot" program we're trying —a midweek evening program for kids. Much of this program has already taken shape with several individuals who have stepped forward to take significant leadership. But we need helpers and volunteers. It doesn't matter how old you are or whether or not you've ever been involved in a children's ministry. All you need is a couple hours for a couple Tuesday evenings and a heart for kids.

Can we give this a try and see what new adventure God might have in store for us? I hope so. Speak to Sandy Groon or Nancy McCormick or myself —and say "yes" to this opportunity to make a difference in the lives of kids and in the mission and ministry of our congregation.

Deep Peace,
Pastor Tim

We Welcome the Following New Members and Associate Members

Members/Associate Members Received Sunday, July 20th

Paul & Jeanne Schremp
8841 Palos Verdes
Westminster, CA 92683

Cary & Kathleen Kerr
P.O. Box 476
1132 Mt. Doble
Big Bear City, CA 92314
(909) 584-2267

Anna Weiner
P.O. Box 1813
1088 Hugo
Big Bear City, CA 92314
(909) 585-4745

John & Sharon Bartley
39607 Forest Rd.
Big Bear Lake, CA 92315
(909) 866-6262

Joe & Beth Hammond
Eileen, Adamm
8711 Salish Ave.
Garden Grove, CA 92841

John & Marianne Hamilton
3819 Larkstone
Orange, CA 92869

WANTED!!! CREATIVE THINKERS

Outside the box? Inside the box? The Stewardship Committee is recruiting people with creative ideas on stewardship. Wacky ideas or conventional ideas, all are welcome! Please come to our breakfast meeting at IHOP on Wednesday August 13th at 8:00am. To participate please contact Bill and Linda Griffith. Home phone (909) 585-6026. Cell phone (562) 884-4477. E-mail: griffi55@aol.com

A Very Special Thanks to Alan Leutloff and the East San Bernardino Chapter of Thrivent. . .

. . .for a wonderful evening at the ballpark! The 66er's may have lost (a good close game though) but the event was a winner! A delicious BBQ was served before the game. About 15 of our folks from Spirit of Peace attended. The evening was free for us —a gift from Thrivent. And besides all that, the evening's event raised money to provide dental care for children whose families can't afford it. How's that for a home run!

We Need Your Help—

We are looking for things . . .nice things . . .all wrapped and pretty for the silent auction of the wine fundraiser. So, if you can put together, let's say, an Italian basket, or a sports basket, or a snack basket for something like a day of hiking; or provide a day pass at the ski lift, or something like movie tickets, a gift certificate to the PAC theater . . .something along those lines, that would be great! We have this whole month of August to come up with some nice things to donate. Suggest you ask vendors to donate these items to benefit the community. Please contact the church office and/or Janet Webber (584-5486) when you think of something and have it ready for pick up IF you cannot deliver it to the office. Many, many thanks!

Our Ice Cream Social. . .

. .was enjoyed by our church family and Garret Turney's family under the rainy skies of Big Bear. The service for Garret's baptism was touching as we all gathered around the font to celebrate him as a Child of God. His sister, Gretchen, held his baptismal birthday candle and a sense of God's presence filled the room. After worship, everyone went outdoors to build sundaes. Welcome, little Garret Daniel, to the family of God!

Eucharistic Minister Training

Interested in taking communion to our shut-ins and others in special circumstances? There will be a training session on Tuesday, August 12, 5:30 p.m. at the church.

ELCA International Disaster Response
Floods and Tornadoes Hit the U.S.

Flooding in the Midwest. Devastating storms have flooded the Midwest. The states of Illinois, Iowa, Nebraska, and Wisconsin are among the hardest hit by these floods. Homes, businesses, schools, churches, farms, and summer camps across the region are under water. Tens of thousands of people have been evacuated, dozens of counties have been declared disaster areas, and water is still on the rise. The damage from this flooding is widespread and will touch communities far beyond the flood water's reach. The loss of crops, disruption of transportation and health care services, and unemployment related to the disaster are all of great concern. As in any disaster, those who were marginalized and vulnerable prior to the flooding will face even greater hardship after the flood waters recede.
2008 Tornado Season. Already this year, more tornadoes have been reported than in all of 2007. These violent storms have uprooted the lives of neighbors across the country, destroying hundreds of buildings and claiming the lives of loved ones. As some communities journey on the road to recovery after spring tornadoes, others are just now reeling from recent storms. "Tornado alley" communities know all too well that several months of severe weather may still be ahead.

ELCA Domestic Disaster Response is at the forefront when disaster strikes, mobilizing care in those early crucial hours. We make a commitment to be there for the long haul, providing emotional and spiritual care, helping with clean-up, providing hardship grants, and participating in rebuilding efforts. Your gift designated in this year's floods and tornadoes will be used in full-100 percent-to walk with disaster survivors on the road to recovery. The wounds these floods and tornadoes have inflicted are deep; thank you for your generous gifts and prayers for healing.

"God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble." Psalm 46.1

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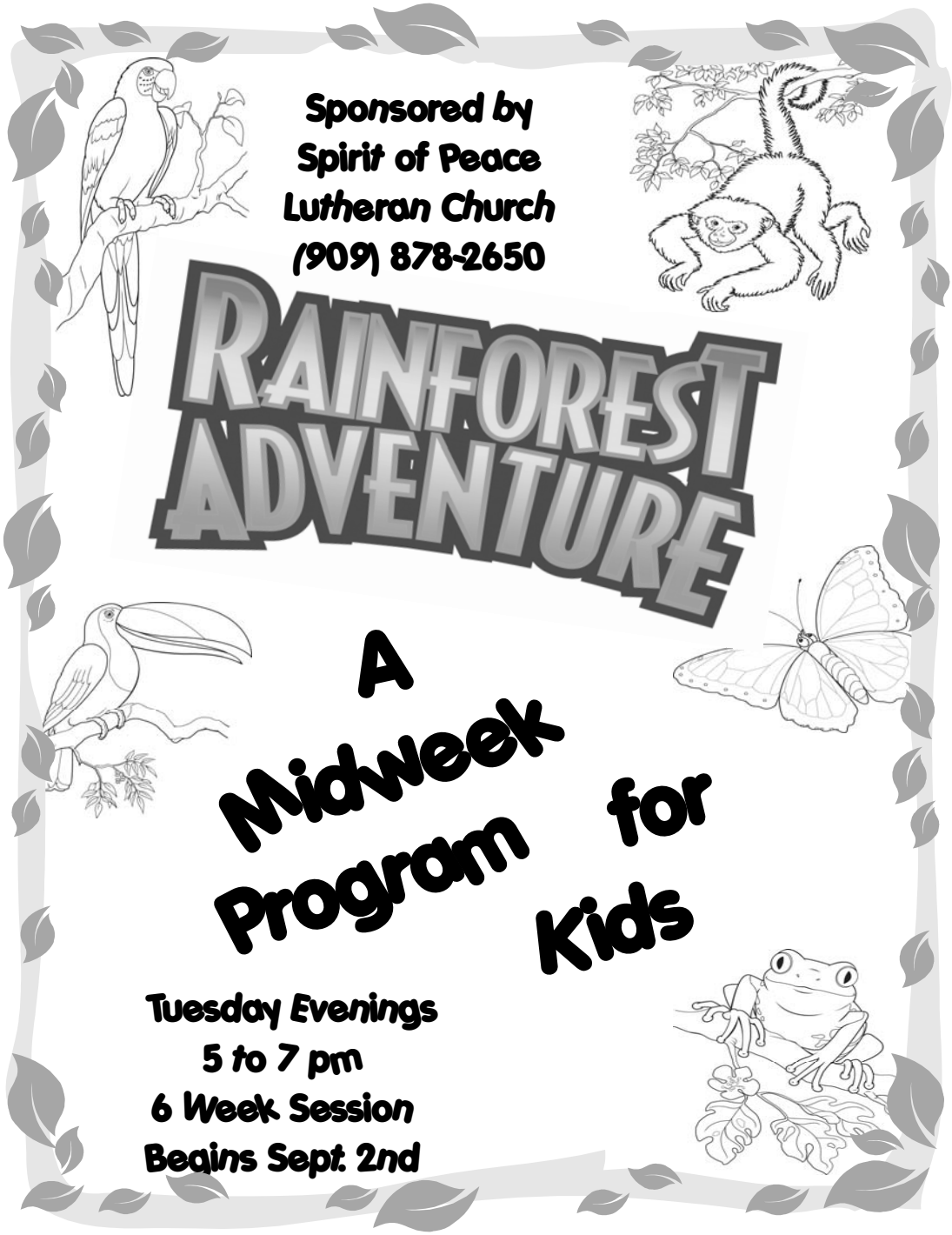
CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Lots of Volunteers are needed to make this ministry happen. Most of the major positions are filled but lots of helpers and assistants are still needed. Speak to Sandy Groon or Nancy McCormick or Pastor Tim and let them know that you want to help!



Learning to Care for God's Awesome Creation And Each Other Too!
Arts & Crafts, Music & Recreation, Kid Friendly Dinners.

This Adventure is open to all children in the Bear Valley Community, Kindergarten through 6th Grade and takes place at 349 E. North Shore Dr, Big Bear City (Seventh Day Adventist Church). Qualified Adult Teachers lead the program. Your child(ren) will be in a safe, nurturing, fun environment. Week 6 includes parents with a closing celebration program. For more info and registration form, call 878-2650.

They Were Sent Out 2 x 2

We plan to send out missionaries from our congregation to other churches within/ without of our Synod. The purpose of this effort is to recruit mission partners to assist in the growth of Spirit of Peace and our mission in Big Bear Valley. We will supply a DVD and training. Do you know of any congregations that are candidates for this kind of partnership? If you would be interested in participating in this missionary effort please plan to come to the meeting. It will be held on Sunday, September 14th during the education hour. We would like to start sending out our missionaries in October.

Interested? Contact Bill and Linda Griffith
Home phone (909) 585-6026. Cell phone (562) 884-4477.
E-mail: griffi55@aol.com

Did You Know You Can Read This Newsletter Online?

A new feature of our website includes a link to our newsletters. This link will feature the current month's newsletter as well an archive of past newsletters. For those who like to surf the web, there's a possibility in the future of saving some postage and not snail-mailing a newsletter. We'll see how that one goes; but for the meantime. . .this is a great resource and an awesome way to share our ministry with others. Tell your friends and neighbors about Spirit of Peace and direct them to our website where they can find out all about us! **spiritofpeacebigbear.org.**

Special Music

Music at the Zoo. . .

Just a reminder that on August 9th at 5:30 pm, Moonridge Zoo will host an evening of music. Last year several families gathered from our church to share in fellowship as well as listen to the relaxing and enjoyable music played by several different groups. Visit the animals too. . .including the new Grizzly Bears. Entry is about $5 unless you happen to be a member of the Zoo Association.

The 5th Annual Christian Women's Gathering. . .

. . and weekend respite is scheduled for Friday through Sunday, September 12 through 14th at Cedar Lake Christian Camp located in Big Bear Lake. This inter-denominational Gathering plays an integral part in the unifying of our area churches, while providing an excellent outreach opportunity to those who are seeking the Lord.

The ONE-DAY Gathering is scheduled for Saturday, September 13th from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. The theme is "Pathway to God's Presence. . .In Every Season of Life!" Carol Hopson, national and international speaker, author and counselor, will share personal insights and Biblical truths on developing and maintaining a true relationship with God in all seasons of life. The day-fee which includes a full lunch is $49 per person if registration is received by July 1st; $59 if received by August 1st, and $69 at the door.

The Christian Women's Gathering has expanded to include the "Weekend Respite". Gathering attendees can enjoy two nights lodging, a total of five meals, and additional special activities for the low fee of: $149 per person if received by June 10th, $170 if received by August 1st, and $190 if received by Sept. 1st. (No registrations can be received after that date.) This includes the day fee for the Gathering! For further information, contact Janet Webber.

AUGUST

08/06 Ed Cedergreen

08/06 Laren McKinley

08/13 Keith Adams

08//14 Devin Barto

08/17 Neal Hertzmann

08/21 Florence Nesland

08/21 Gretchen Turney

08/23 Jack Kunz

08/26 Bill Crain

8/16 Bill & Linda Griffith

8/17 Pastor Tim & Sharon Edmondson

8/20 Bill & Pat Crain

8/24 Richard & Anita Holden

8/26 Jim & Patricia Ryan

8/27 Charlie & Robin Gehrke

Healing—
Kelly (Rick & Penny Coehlo's daughter) —cancer
Bob Carlson (Don's brother)—strokes
Lacy Shaffer —difficult pregnancy
Juanita Cummins —heart problems/surgery
John Mikkalson (friend of Keith & Joyce Adams) —kidney problems
Jill Barto
Ron Seymour —surgery
Chani —serious car accident
Mac McAlister
Patti Ryan —severe arthritis
Rosie Jay —healing after surgery
Merrilee Seidel
Steven Adams —undergoing cancer treatment
Christine Race (Janet Webber's daughter) —in critical condition
Alma Bauer (Paul's mom)
Glenn Beyer
Betty Adams —cancer & Alzheimers
Sierra Meadows —Crohn's disease
Michelle (Neal Hertzmann's niece) —breast cancer
Bruce Wilson —(Linda Wilson's brother-in-law) prostate cancer
Joe LaMura (friend of Judy Hollander) —cancer
Herb Bauer (Paul's father) —Parkinson's disease
Anni Ruther (Doris Angerhofer's mother) —chronic pain
Norb Hesch —Parkinson's disease
Jim Ryan —ongoing back pain
Sue Griffith (Bill's mother) —Alzheimers; in assisted living

Strength, Comfort, Guidance, Peace, Direction—
Family of Rachel Campanelli at her death (friend of Neal & Sandy)
Danessa
Andy
Rev. Kent Tuohino —seeking call
Ceara Gehrke
Caregivers
Vonnie Lassen (83 year old neighbor of Janet Webber's)
Central Lutheran/Van Nuys —as they call a new pastor
Christ Lutheran/Orange —as they call a new pastor

Safety & Protection—
Those who travel: Kay & Ed Cedergreen; Rick & Anita Holden; Pastor Tim & Family
Those in the military: Sam McCullar (Navy); Tim Lauer (Navy Submarine); Scott (Rick Coehlo's friend), LCpl Tyler Craig (Wendy Craig's son in Angola, Africa), Cory Amelsberg (Iraq), Sean Parrish (deployed); Sgt. William VanSickle (Iraq), Marc DiConti and Son; Jeff Taylor (Keyson's Son serving in Iraq), 2nd Lt. Michael Nguyen (Air Force); Devin Barto (basic training in South Carolina)

Help keep our prayer list up-to-date. Use the Sunday morning prayer card to add or remove someone from the list; or call the church office.

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FAX: (909) 878-2643

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 2997
Big Bear City, 92314

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)

9:30 a.m. Worship
A Unique and Wonderful Blend of Liturgical and Praise Styles.
10:45 a.m. Education Hour
for Adults and Children

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:
Monday, July 28th

Exciting New Children's Ministry Coming In September!