

# The Call

A Publication Of  
Spirit of Peace Lutheran Church

January 2009

## Spirit of Peace Lutheran Church

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

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### STAFF

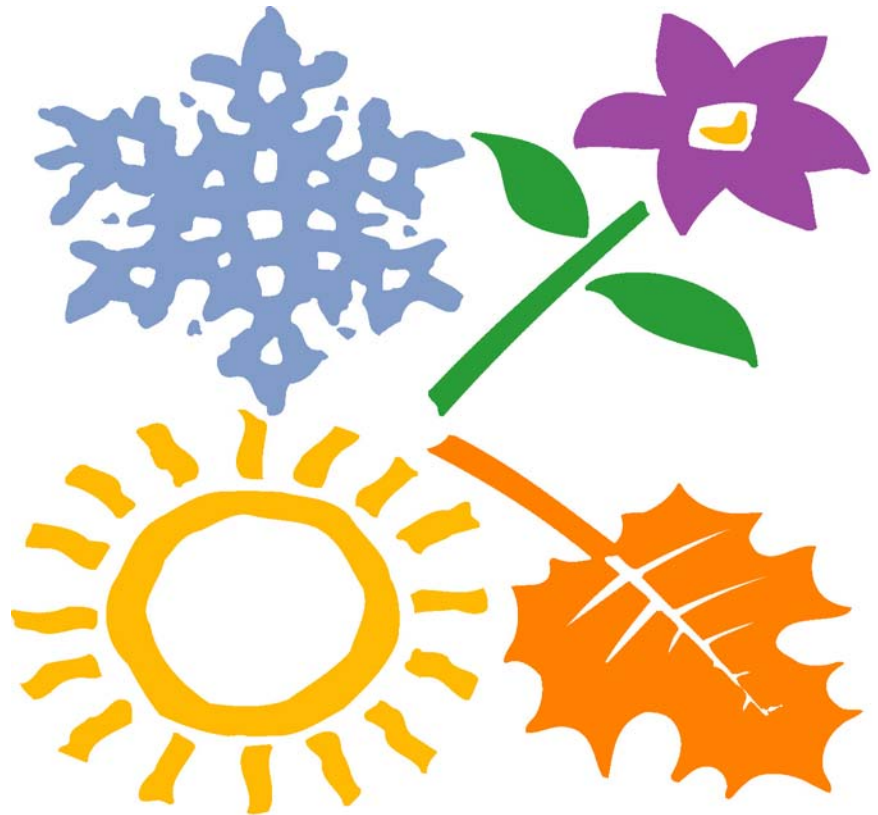
Timothy Edmondson  
Pastor

KJ Barto  
Director of Music

### VOLUNTEER STAFF

Danessa Barto, Judi Hollander, Pat  
Crain, Neal Hertzmann, Sandy  
Groon, Dale & Janet Webber  
Office

Pat Crain  
Newsletter Editor



# ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday, January 25th, After Worship  
(Lite Lunch to be Served)

Agenda to include Annual Reports, Election  
of Officers, and Approval of 2009 Budget

*Deadline for  
February Newsletter  
January 25, 2009*

## From The Pastor

Timothy Edmondson

Dear Friends—

*There once was a sorcerer who fell into disfavor with the king and was sentenced to death. On the day of his scheduled execution, the sorcerer told the king that if the king would allow him to live for one more year, he would make the king world-famous. The sorcerer guaranteed to make the king's horse talk, and in so doing give the king worldwide fame. If the sorcerer failed, the king could kill him and the sorcerer wouldn't object.*

*The king agreed to this and the sorcerer was spared for one year and placed in the palace dungeon. A duke, who was a friend of the sorcerer, sneaked into the dungeon and said, "You are indeed a fool. I know and you know that you don't have the power to make the king's horse talk. You have no hope at all of success. You will surely die!"*

*"But," the sorcerer replied, "I have one year to live. Many things can happen in one year. Perhaps the king will die. Or I may die. Or I may even teach a horse to talk. Regardless, I still have one more year!"*

We've been given another year, at least according to the calendar. 2009. A lot can happen in one year.

The centerpiece of 2009 will be the celebration of our congregation's 5th Anniversary. What a huge milestone and accomplishment for a mission congregation such as ours! By God's grace and your faithfulness, we have become a viable congregation. No longer do others look at us wondering if we will survive. The Bear Valley has come to know us as a major player in the Christian community. Our Pacifica Synod is excited about our Lutheran presence in the mountains and recognizes our partnership with them in ministry. At ELCA headquarters, there is a large national map hanging on the wall some-

where, with a little colored stick-pin in Big Bear, California that represents God's work in us and through us.

Congratulations! Look what you've accomplished for the Kingdom of God! Look what God has done through you!

Funny thing though. . .with every milestone in life comes added responsibility. You remember. . .we taught it to our children: "Now that you're another year older, Johnny, there are more responsibilities we'd like you to assume." And with those

added responsibilities, added privileges . . . "We've extended your bedtime." "We're increasing your allowance."

It would be very easy to slip into maintenance ministry where we simply continue the good thing we have going without doing the hard work of further developing the ministry God has placed in us. Or we could ask God to use our new identity as a "five year old congregation" to shape in us a broader vision that sends us

forward into an exciting future.

At the very least, the calendar, God willing, has credited us with another 12 months. A lot can happen in 12 months. Who knows, we might even "teach a horse to talk." Regardless, we still have one more year. It rolls toward us from the very hand of God. It is a gift. . .and with every gift, the question: What will you do with it?

One more year. . .

Deep Peace,  
Pastor Tim

Sharon, Erin, Bryan and I would like to thank you for your overwhelming kindness at Christmas. The cards, the gifts, and the generous financial gift were tremendous blessings and added significantly to our Christmas joy. We continue to be grateful for your presence in our lives!

One more  
year. . .  
we may  
even  
teach a  
horse  
to talk!



# DISCOVERY CANYON

Explore the Wonders  
of the Word!

Five Week Session Begins February 10th, 2009

kids and parents for our last session! Let's build on that excitement and make Discovery Canyon a wonderful learning experience for kids!

## Become an Official Part of Our Church Family . . .



. . .by joining us as a member or associate member. An orientation session will be held on Tuesday, January 20th at 6:00 pm. Reception Sunday will be January 25th during worship. Speak to Pastor Tim if you may be interested.

## The Christian Daily Survival Kit

Items Needed: Toothpick, Rubber Band, Band Aid, Pencil Eraser, Chewing Gum, Mint, Candy Kiss, and Tea Bag.

Toothpick: to remind you to pick out the good qualities in others. (Matthew 7:1)

Rubber Band: to remind you to be flexible. Things might not always go the way you want, but it will work out. (Romans 8:28)

Band Aid: to remind you to heal hurt feelings, yours or someone else's. (Colossians 3:12-14)

Pencil: to remind you to list your blessings everyday. (Ephesians 1:3)

Eraser: to remind you that everyone makes mistakes, and it is okay. (Genesis 50:15-21)

Chewing Gum: to remind you to stick with it, and you can accomplish anything. (Philippians 4:13)

Mint: to remind you that you are worth a mint. (John 3:16-17)

Candy Kiss: to remind you that everyone needs a kiss or a hug everyday. (1 John 4:7)

Tea Bag: to remind you to relax daily and go over your list of blessings. (1 Thessalonians 5:18)

Your Survival Kit . . .DON'T LEAVE HOME WITHOUT IT!

## Our Children's Program. . .

Rainforest Adventure was a great experience for those who participated. Our next session promises the same kind of excitement!

Many helpers are needed to staff Discovery Canyon — teachers, helpers, cooks, craft persons, music person, recreation person. This is a unique program in the valley that uses VBS material, only it is offered on Tuesday evenings for 5 weeks. What a great response we had from



## Annual Report

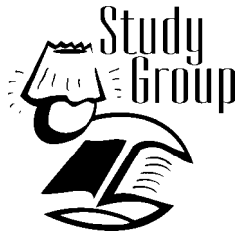


Due by  
Sunday,  
January 18th.  
You may give  
your report to  
any of our  
office staff or Pastor Tim.

Copies of these reports will be available at the Congregational Meeting or in the Church Office following the meeting.



(submitted by Martha McKinley)



## Study on Sexuality

In August 2009, our ELCA Church wide Assembly will consider adopting a broad social statement on sexuality, including, but not limited to, the areas of pre-marital sex and homosexuality. A social statement within our church is not necessarily policy but rather a teaching tool used to explore real life issues in light of our Christian faith. In today's culture we wrestle, as God's people, on all sides of serious topics such as gay marriage and pre-marital sex.

Neal Hertzmann is discussion leader for this 4 week study through the month of January. Participants receive the latest copy of the sexuality draft to be considered at the ELCA Assembly.

Additional copies of this document are available for those who are unable to participate in the study. To receive a copy, contact the church office of Neal Hertzmann.



## Photos of Spirit of Christmas Available...

online at [www.louisgweiner.com](http://www.louisgweiner.com). Louis Weiner is a local photographer and Anna Weiner's son. We appreciate his willingness to photograph our event and his artistic eye. The photos are quite

## Extra LARGE Print...

versions of our Sunday morning worship folder are now available. Simply see an usher and ask for your copy. Special thanks to Jack Kunz who copies not only these but all of our Sunday morning worship folders!



## From Partners in Our Ministry...

Dear Pastor Tim & the Members of Spirit of Peace Lutheran Church,

Christmas Greetings!

On Sunday, December 21st, our WELCA board (Women of the ELCA) hosted a Cookie Table. Members from our seven Circles donated home made cookies, packaged into baker's dozens. We then sold them for \$3.00 each.

We had 48 dozens of cookies donated and made \$250.

It is our joy to present this money to Spirit of Peace Lutheran Church so that you may share God's Word in Big Bear.

May God continue to bless Pastor Tim, your congregation and your mission to spread the Word of Jesus Christ!

Your Sister in Christ,  
WELCA Board  
of Our Redeemer Lutheran Church,  
Garden Grove

**NEWS**  
& Notes

**LOOK** Whose **Birthday!**

**January**

- 1/2 *Sharen Bartley*
- 1/3 *Norbert Hesch*
- 1/5 *Bary Schlieder*
- 1/7 *Judith Hollander*
- 1/7 *William Elbert*
- 1/9 *Warren Wasson*
- 1/12 *Terry Baudot*
- 1/13 *John Allen*
- 1/15 *Sharon Gerdes*
- 1/16 *Rebecca Girvin*
- 1/22 *Rick Coehlo*
- 1/24 *Lance Fowler*
- 1/26 *KJ Barto*
- 1/29 *Addam Hammond*



Our Church Family

**Healing**

- Shan —recovery from surgery
- Bill & Linda Griffith —recovery after car accident
- Gerri Bray (friend of Jane Kunz) —undergoing chemo therapy/slight stroke
- Danny (son of Doris Angerhoffer's friend) Parkinson's
- Lynn Buele —undergoing tests
- Jane Grimson —acute leukemia
- Marian Bacon (friend of Linda Wilson's) —brain cancer
- Lynn Thompson (friend of Kathy Kerr's) —brain tumors
- Andy Mearse (friend of Bartos) —chronic pain
- Candy Seimers (family member of Sandy Groon) —cancer
- Lori Baltus (Linda Wilson's friend) —blood cancer
- Ken Root (inlaw of Leon & Terry Baudot) —severe heart condition
- Janice Schlieder —lupus and knee problems
- Kelly Pflieger (Rick & Penny Coehlo's daughter) —cancer
- Jill Barto
- Merrilee Seidel —upcoming back surgery
- Steven Adams —undergoing cancer treatment
- Christine Race (Janet Webber's daughter) —stability of health
- 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
- Sue Griffith (Bill's mother) —Alzheimers; in assisted living



**Strength, Comfort, Guidance, Peace, Direction—**

- Chatham Family —death of son, David
- Elbert Family
- Warren Wasson —death of friend, Wally
- Ceara Gehrke
- Caregivers
- Vonnie Lassen (83 year old neighbor of Janet Webber's)

**Safety & Protection**

- 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 (AIT Training, Kentucky); Davin Barto (leaves for basic training in Fort Knox this week)

Spirit of Peace Lutheran Church

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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)

Sunday Morning Worship

9:30 a.m.

Sexuality Study

11:00 a.m.

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  
January 12**

**2009: A  
Challenging  
and Exciting  
Year of Ministry!**