

The Call

A Publication of
Spirit of Peace Lutheran Church

July 2010

Spirit of Peace Lutheran Church (ELCA)

Worship Location:
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Pastor

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*Deadline for
August Newsletter
July 25, 2010*



Wine Auction

Saturday, July 24th

5:00 to 8:00 p.m.

*Graciously hosted at the home of
Illa and Lyn Manor
452 Salem, Big Bear City*

*Please bring 2 bottles of the same wine.
One will be opened for tasting; the other auctioned for
pleasure. Or you may prefer to pay \$10 per person
at the door.*

*Cash and checks only please.
Non-alcoholic beverages also available.*

*The festivities include exquisite hors d'oeuvres, fabulous
desserts and a silent auction and 50/50 drawing
For more information, call Linda at (909) 585-6026.*

*A Benefit Fundraiser
for the Outreach Ministries of
Spirit of Peace Lutheran Church
Big Bear City*



From The Pastor

Timothy Edmondson

Dear Friends—

Consider the dramatic difference one's perspective makes:

• *Hold a color photograph right in front of your nose. All you see is a blur of colors. As you move the picture away, however, you can distinguish the people in the picture, the buildings, and the background.*

You perceive events in your life the same way. As time passes and the event is further away from your present, your understanding of the experience becomes clearer. Perspective is severely limited when you're too close to an event. All you see is a blur.

• *Jason took a trip to New York with some college friends during spring break. One afternoon they all piled into a cab and headed for the Empire State Building. Accelerating into traffic, the driver honked his horn incessantly and careened around corners. To Jason, jammed into the back seat, the ride seemed chaotic and dangerous. A couple times he felt sure they were all going to die in a head-on collision.*

To his relief the wild ride brought them safely to the Empire State Building. Easing out of the cab on wobbly legs, the friends paid the driver and headed inside the building that used to be the tallest in New York. They endured a long elevator ride and a long flight of steps before reaching the observation deck high above the city.

Dazzled by the expansive view from the deck, Jason paused to take it in. Moving to the fence railing, he finally looked straight down to the city streets from which he had just come. To his amazement he saw order and design where, only a few minutes before, he had feared for his life. Dozens of yellow taxis moved together, stopping at red lights and going at green ones. He could hear no horns at all. It all looked so orderly, peaceful, and safe.

Jason was struck with the difference in perspective. Jammed in the cab and immersed in the traffic, he had one view of life. But looking down from the top of one of the world's tallest buildings, he had another.

• *A group of men sat playing cards in a warehouse on the edge of town. Some had been dealt pretty good hands, and they were deciding whether to bluff and stay in that hand or to fold. One man, sat calmly, looking at his hand. It was unbeatable—he knew that if he could remain calm and keep his poker-faced expression, in a few moments he would win it all and be rich. Unknown to the card players, however, a few moments earlier a jet pilot had ejected from the plane, and the abandoned plane was hurtling toward the warehouse. The man with the unbeatable hand wouldn't even get to play it.*

When your life seems chaotic and out of control, remember that God sees it all from "higher up."

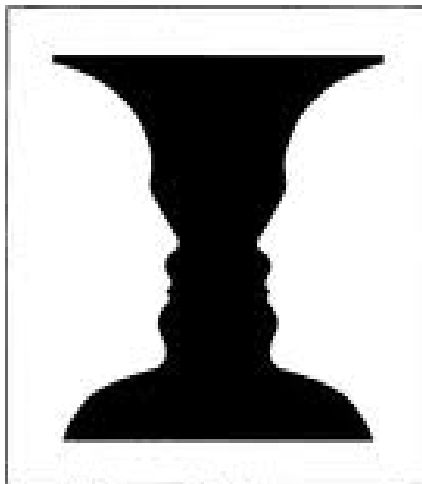
What you see of your little world is too limited to give you the true perspective of an event.

Consider that the Kingdom of God encompasses the entire universe for all eternity. That's why we try to see things from God's point of view instead of just our own, because He can see what we aren't able to see. And so the Bible says, "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth. . .but seek first God's kingdom" (Matthew 6:19, 33). In

other words, what we see as important, priority, of value. . .is often because we can't see the bigger picture. And that's why we seek first and foremost, the Kingdom of God. When we live life from that perspective, when we live in that perspective, everything looks different.

The same is true in the ministry we do together. So often we look at it from a limited perspective, a tunnel-vision. . .even a narrow-mindedness or a closed heartedness. When we seek first God's Kingdom, when we try to see through God's heart and through God's eyes, suddenly everything changes because of a different perspective. Seek first the Kingdom of God. . .I wonder exactly what that means not only for our personal lives but in our community of faith.

Deep Peace,
Pastor Tim



"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth. . .but seek first God's Kingdom."

Matthew
6:19, 33

“What We Obtain Too Cheap, We Esteem Too Lightly”

At one of our Budget Committee’s meetings, I did raise my hand when Pastor Tim suggested ways for us to communicate our concerns to you, the congregation about dealing with SOP’s budget. I am one of those fortunate enough to be retired with an income that most certainly has not grown over the years, but has allowed me to live without any great struggle. That is a great blessing!

But, that is my personal budget situation. However, unless one lives in a cave somewhere, you have to deal with lots of other budgets. I recall in a Temple Talk last year that I listed some of the service organizations I try to support in some way, and who constantly send pleas for funds. The list I gave was not to impress anyone about my generosity, but to share our common concerns about who we can best help. I am sure you also process your mail and sometimes painfully decide who needs your support the most. Sometime I feel like sending back a picture with the caption, “This is me; do I look like a millionaire?”

Where I am headed with this is to share what I myself have to do when I respond to others needs. I simply have to prioritize my giving. I feel most blessed that I belong to a congregation so concerned with helping others. This has made our church budget meetings at times quite painful. Believe me, we have examined and reexamined the budget trying to reduce every possible expense without simply folding up and moving into a maintenance mode. Pastor Tim is determined that with God’s will we will be able to fund this year’s budget without tapping into our reserves. So, our choices boil down to prayerfully asking you, the congregation, for just a bit more funding as outlined at our quarterly assembly.

I know it may hurt a little, and I wish it didn’t. But, we need your help in this battle, and it is a battle. While I realize we aren’t sitting at Valley Forge in the winter, and I am being over dramatic, but pardon me for ending with a quote from Thomas Paine’s, “Common Sense”, “The harder the conflict, the more glorious the triumph. What we obtain too cheap, we esteem too lightly.” Wow! That is a bit much, but I’ll leave it in anyway.

Yours in Christ, Warren Wasson

Congregational Meeting Sunday, July 18th

Agenda to Include:

**Financial Update
Adjusted Spending Plan
“Ketchup” Appeal**



Budget Meeting





Your Help is Needed!



ANNUAL WINE TASTING & AUCTION FUNDRAISER

This year's auction will take place on July 18th at Ella Mae and Lyn Manor's home.

Several areas are needing to be coordinated. Please sign up below.

I would like to help in the following areas:

- ___ **Coordinate Gift Baskets**
- ___ **Solicit Items for Gift Baskets**
- ___ **Coordinate the Silent Auction**
- ___ **Solicit Community Donations for Silent Auction**
- ___ **Assist with Food by making hor'dourves**
- ___ **Assist with Food Preparation/Serving**
- ___ **Host Wine Bar**
- ___ **Coordinate 50/50 drawing**
- ___ **Set-Up**
- ___ **Clean-Up**

Your Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

**PLEASE RETURN TO LINDA/BILL
GRIFFITH, AUCTION COORDINATORS**

Please Solicit Vendors for Silent Auction Items...

Visit your favorite restaurant or specialty shop in the valley and ask the owner/manager to support our outreach ministries to the community. Most vendors are happy to do so. On Sunday mornings, you'll find available a flyer and a letter you can take with you. The letter provides all the information needed including our tax exempt ID number.

There is also a "vendor" board at church where you can pick up cards of those who have donated in the past.

Remember, this is a major part of a successful fundraiser. Last year we had over 75 vendors represented in donated items/services.

Let's make this year's Wine Auction fundraiser the best ever!

See Linda Griffith or Diane Clark if you have any questions.



Meals for the Hungry

Simple Suppers Hosts Summer Picnic Meal...

... on Thursday, July 8th, 5 to 7 pm. 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 Tuesday of every month and the Methodists cover the 4th Tuesday. 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 Groom (584-8023) if you'd like to help.



Healing

Sharon Edmondson —recovery from surgery
 Elizabeth (granddaughter of Linda Wilson) —worsening mental condition
 Renee (manager at Barnstorm restaurant) —recurrence of cancer
 Shane (friend of Merrilee's) —thanksgiving for healing
 Christy Goss (Jason Brown's Mom) —congestive heart failure
 Dan Ploch —recovering from surgery
 Marianne Hamilton —health issues
 Ronnie Keyson (son) —advanced stages of cancer
 Christy Goss (Jason Brown's Mother) —Congestive Heart Failure
 Georgia Cashman (friend of Warren Wasson's) —breast cancer
 Juanita (friend of Linda Wilson's) —aortic aneurysm
 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 Ruth (Doris Angerhofer's mother) —chronic pain

Strength, Comfort, Guidance, Peace, Direction—

Family of Chelsea Brown
 Jason Brown & Danessa Barto —guidance & strength
 Devin Ragsdale
 Caregivers
 Christine/Anthony (Janet Webber's daughter/grandson)

Those Who Travel— Owen Hilliard, Emma Hilliard and group; The Devin Ragsdale Family and Ruth

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 (Colorado Springs), 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."*



Safe Travel—

La Versa (Ron Barto's Mom)
 Judi Hollander
 The Ragsdale Family



	7/3	Kay Cedergreen
	7/4	Jeanne Schremp
	7/5	Betty Smedberg
	7/11	Bill Griffith
	7/12	Bryan Edmondson
7/21	Linda Griffith	
7/23	Eileen Hammond	
7/27	Paul Bauer	
7/27	Rick Holden	



7/7	Doc & Nancy Hilliard
7/12	Tom & Pat Elbert
7/18	Dale & Janet Webber
7/30	Alan & Donna Leutloff

Spirit of Peace Lutheran Church
Evangelical Lutheran Church In America
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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)

Weekly Worship
on Sundays, at 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School & Bible Study
at 10:45 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
July 6th

***If you pause
to think,
you'll have cause
to thank!***