

The Call

A Publication Of
Spirit of Peace Lutheran Church

July 2008

Spirit of Peace Lutheran Church

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Big Bear City, Calif. 92315
(Seventh Day
Adventist Church)

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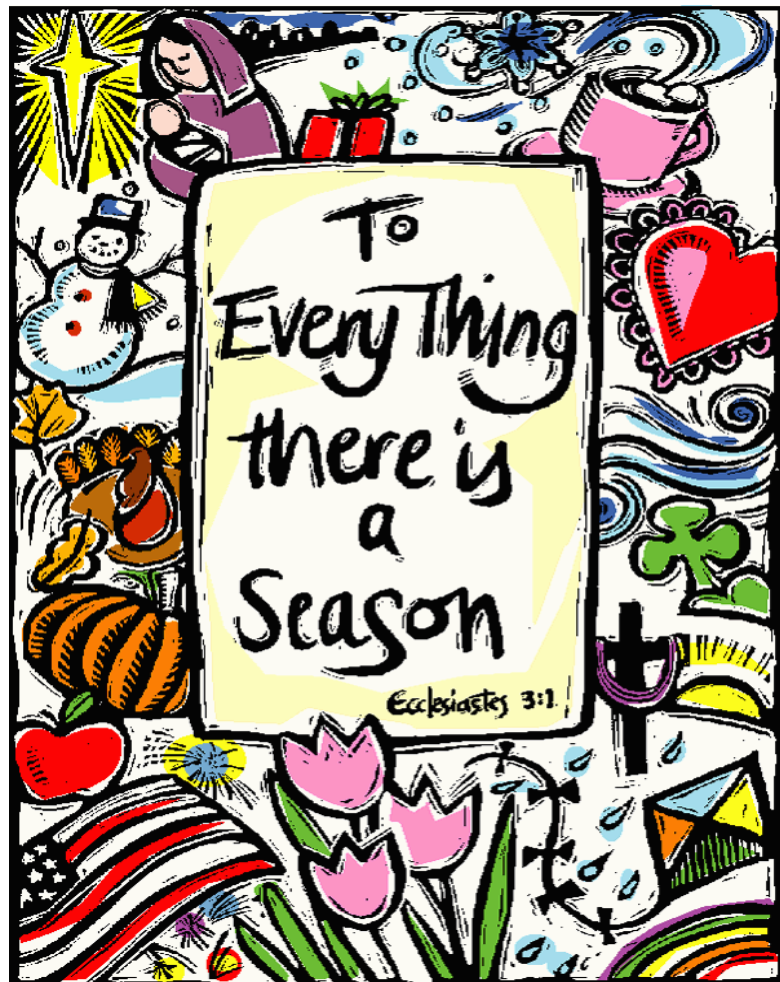
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Pat Crain, Sandy Groom,
Dale & Janet Webber
Office

Pat Crain
Newsletter Editor

**Deadline for
August Newsletter
July 27, 2008**



During this season of Summer. . .
Thank You for
Your Faithfulness
in Worship Attendance
and In Your Offerings!

Dear Friends —

Everybody is gifted in some way. Patrick's gift was the ability to fly. He'd had the gift since he was a toddler. Patrick's mother found him sitting on top of a bookshelf or the fireplace mantle many times and assumed he had climbed up there.

When he was five she found him on the roof of the garage and asked how he'd gotten there.

"Flew," he said.

"Children do not fly," his mother told him.

Patrick didn't know that. After that, he didn't fly anymore. A few times he dreamed of flying and woke up on the front lawn. His parents said he was sleepwalking, and his mother bought him a nice pair of pajamas in case he should do it again and the neighbors should see him.

It was when Patrick woke up on the roof of the house that his parents took him to a doctor.

"Children do not fly," the doctor said when Patrick made the mistake of telling him about the dreams. The doctor gave him some pills to make him sleep better, but Patrick quit taking them because when he did he couldn't remember his dreams the next morning.

When he was 12 he started having the flying dreams every night. He rarely woke up in his bed, but he didn't say anything to his parents about it. He locked the window each night before he went to bed, but sometimes he still woke up outside.

When he was 14 his parents took him to a therapist. The therapist concluded that Patrick's dreams were symbolic of his need to escape from something terrible. He thought that some type of long-term abuse was causing Patrick to suppress his memories and act out his feelings in dreams.

Life at home when from bad to worse. Patrick's mother was horribly embarrassed by the whole thing, and his father simply repeated the phrase he'd used since Patrick's childhood: "Just snap out of it."

When Patrick turned 16 he was removed

from his parents' custody and placed in a special facility for young people with his form of dementia. His first night in the facility he stood at his window and gazed out at

the sky. When the pretty girl he'd met in the dining hall floated past his window you could have knocked him over with a feather.

She smiled at him and waved. Soon she was joined by two more teens who briefly worked the lock on Patrick's window and opened it from the outside.

"Ready?" the pretty girl asked.

Patrick smiled and flew off with them.

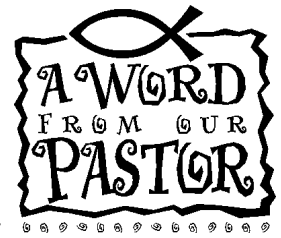
When God created you, He gave you gifts, talents, and abilities that are uniquely for you. They may not include the ability to fly, but they are very special and to be used. Of course, many of us have had those unique abilities squashed and sadly, some of us have even come to believe that we have nothing special to offer.

The third focus our Church Council has chosen for us is "Gift-Based Ministry." A church that is strong in gift-based ministry is wise in how people are helped to discover their gifts; encourages people to use their gifts in ministries that match their gifts, passions, and skills; and is expectant about the impact the use of gifts will have as member rely on the Holy Spirit to make these gifts effective.

The challenge is simple: if you know what your unique gifts are, then offer them. Don't wait for someone to design a ministry and then ask you to be part of it. Step forward and say, "Here's a talent God has blessed me with and I want to use that gift by starting a leading a new ministry!" If you don't know what those gifts are, then figure it out. Trust that you are God's special creation and He has big plans for your life and wants to use those plans to build His kingdom.

Let's soar together!

Deep Peace,
Pastor Tim



We have
different gifts,
according
to the grace
given us. . .
If it is serving,
let him serve;
if it is teaching,
let him teach;
if it is
encouraging,
let him
encourage;
if it is
contributing to
the needs of
others,
let him give
generously;
if it is leadership,
let him govern
diligently;
if it is showing
mercy,
let him do it
cheerfully.

(Romans 12:6-8)

Should I Become a Member or An Associate Member?

Question #1: Aren't we all equal in Christ's Church?

Answer: By virtue of our baptism into Christ's death and resurrection, we are united with Him and become part of His Body which is the Church. Regardless of whether one belongs to a particular congregation, the family of God includes all who believe in Him and call Him Lord and Savior. You can be Lutheran, Presbyterian, Episcopalian, or non-denominational and still belong to the same family of Christians.

Question #2: Why is membership in a particular congregation important? Answer:

Along with being the Body of Christ on earth, the Church is also an organization that involves membership. The goal of membership is not to separate those who belong from those who don't but rather as a way to make an investment in a particular place of ministry within the larger Church. A congregational member receives all the privileges of participation including holding office and voting on congregational issues. Membership is a sign of investment and commitment to ministry in a particular place with a particular people who share a particular mission.

Question #3: How is associate membership different from a regular membership? Answer:

Associate members are persons holding membership in other Lutheran congregations who wish to retain such membership but desire to participate in the life and mission of this congregation while being members of other congregations. They have all the privileges and duties of membership except voting rights and eligibility for elected offices or membership on the Congregation Council.

Question #4: If I don't want to become a member or associate member, am I still welcomed? Answer:

Absolutely! Your participation in worship and other programs of this congregation is welcomed with the exception of voting rights and eligibility for elected offices (such as Church Council). Nonetheless, you are still welcomed to voice your opinion and influence congregation decisions through participation in discussions. As a gifted and valued child of God, you are a blessing to us and a brother/sister in Christ (see Question #1). If there are issues preventing you from becoming a member or associate member, it is a good thing to discuss these with the pastor in an effort to resolve them.

Question #5: How does the congregation benefit through my membership/associate membership? Answer:

Besides being blessed by your commitment to ministry, you are included in the total number of members and associate members — a number which is important to maintain financial mission support from the ELCA. This mission support by way of a grant is renewable for 3 years with the expectation that we will be developing as a congregation. One of the ways development is measured is through the number of folks on our church roster.



So...you want to become a member or an associate member?
Speak to Pastor Tim or to Grace Beyer and join us for our next
"Partner in Ministry" Orientation, July 15th, 6:00 p.m.

Members/Associate Members

Received

Sunday, July 20th



Summary of Church Council Minutes from June Meeting—

- Voted to fill Church Secretary Council position with Sandra Groon, pending her acceptance.
- Computer thanks to Tom, Pat, William Elbert and Mike Chatham for installation of new office computer.
- Church Signage is still being requested through the Seventh Day Adventist Board. We are asking for semi-permanent sign or for permission to display SOP banner on Saturday afternoon/evening.
- Pastor Tim working on covering Sunday morning vacancies when he'll be on vacation.
- Discussion of “Shepherding Program” and “resistance to change” in regards to our (council's) own leadership styles and habits.
- Approval of money spent for training DVD's for Shepherd's Staff computer program.
- Approval of KJ's 4 weeks of vacation.
- Affirmation of children's program idea to be launched in the fall. Details still being worked out.
- Encouragement to attend “The Tribute to America and Our Veterans” program.
- Fall fundraiser possibilities discussed. Decision to host a wine auction, September 6th.
- Pastor's Report: Woven Image Concert after expenses raised \$400 for the sewing center in India. Pr. Gordon Peterson, Pacifica Synod staff, will be on the hill beginning of July to learn more about our mission situation.

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.

New Address/Phone Numbers—

Florence Nesland
13342 Del Monte Dr. #5C
Seal Beach, CA 90740
(562) 598-1384

Please change Anna Weiner's phone to
(909) 585-4745.



Episcopal/Lutheran Committee

Something very exciting is happening! A small group of our members are meeting with a group from St. Columba's and are talking about more ways that we can do ministry together. We have so much in common and already combine for worship and other events, but what new adventures might the Holy Spirit be leading us to consider?

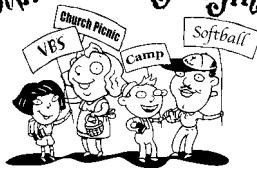


Included in these conversations is discussion of a joint building program —perhaps a sanctuary or a fellowship hall. We would both remain separate congregations but use a similar space for our own worship, etc. This is a huge consideration that is in its very beginning stages of exploration. Your Church Council will keep you informed of the progress of these discussions.

For more information or to voice an opinion, speak to those who are part of this committee: Charlie Gehrke, Neal Hertzmann, Nancy Hilliard, and Pastor Tim.



Summer Highlights



Our picnic at the Sugarloaf Park was a huge success! Forty-seven voices under the

covered picnic area sounded great as we sang familiar songs to enhance the warm and fuzzy feelings in our hearts as we worshipped in God's sanctuary.

Special thanks to Bill and Pat Crain for meeting us there @ 9 am for set up and a thanks to everyone who pitched in for the clean up too. The food was plentiful thanks to chefs Dale and Bill.

There were many great salads and trimmings to go along with the burgers and dogs too. At least ten brave souls tried volleyball in the sand and many others enjoyed the egg toss, water balloons and the pie and watermelon eating contests.

We're thinking about another park next year although this one had plenty of parking. If anyone has other ideas, please let us know early on. Contact anyone on the church council or the Webbers @ (909) 585 -5486. AND a special thanks to all those members down the hill who came up to join in the fellowship too!

Ice Cream Social

July 13th immediately after worship. This tasty fellowship event will help us celebrate Garret Daniel Turney's baptism that same morning.



Wine
Auction
Sept 6th

This Fall Fundraiser will be a very "spirited" event that will raise money for our general fund.

Basically, we ask folks to bring two bottles of wine —one for tasting and one to be auctioned off after the tasting. Both alcoholic and non-alcoholic wines and beverages will be featured.

The event will include food and dessert and other raffles and drawings.

You'll be hearing much more about this wonderful event!



Take a Trip to the Holy Land...

Well, kind of. . . join Don and Lorene Carlson as they share their recent experience in the Holy Land complete with pictures and stories.

It will be almost like you're there!

Sunday, July 20th
during the Education Hour





We Are So Proud of Our Students--

Lauren McKinley

Lauren was promoted from Big Bear Middle School as Valedictorian and was honored by giving the speech at the promotional ceremony. She received the Outstanding Citizenship Award and the Algebra 1 Award (top student). Lauren was also recognized as a Presidential student (President's Education program).

Matthew Hollander

Matt finished his Sophomore year with straight A's. Matt is his Mom's right hand man and always there to help!

Bryan Edmondson

Bryan was promoted from Travis Ranch Middle School and honored as a Presidential student (President's Education program). Bryan finished up his middle school experience on the high honor roll. Bryan received an Excellence Award in band and was recognized as a member of the Jazz Band.

William Elbert

William completed 4th grade with straight A's and had perfect attendance his last semester. He received 1st place in an art contest and was awarded \$30. His entry: a mountain landscape in water colors.

Jordan Bauer —(look for this in next month's newsletter)

Zach Bauer —(look for this in next month's newsletter)



Women's Retreat

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.

Cheers & Prayers



7/03 *Kay Cedergreen*

7/05 *Betty Smedberg*

7/09 *Jack Pavelich*

7/11 *Bill Griffith*

7/12 *Bryan Edmondson*

7/21 *Linda Griffith*

7/27 *Paul Bauer*

7/27 *Rick Holden*



July 7, 1984
Doc & Nancy Hilliard

July 12, 1986
Tom & Pat Elbert

July 18, 2000
Dale & Janet Webber

July 30, 1999
Alan & Donna Leutloff

Healing

Lacy Shaffer
 Juanita Cummins
 Kay Cedergreen
 Jill Barto
 Ron Seymour
 Chani —car accident
 Mac McAlister
 Merrilee Seidel
 Rachel Campanelli
 Patti Ryan
 Jean Groom (Sandy's sister)
 Steven Adams —kidney surgery
 Christine Race (Janet Webber's daughter)
 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
 Charlene Moore (friend of Webber's) —brain tumor
 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



Strength, Comfort, Guidance, Peace, Direction—

Family of Mike Lundon and Community
 Family of Charlene Moore (Janet's friend who died)
 Janet and Dale Webber —death of Janet's Mother
 Andy
 Rev. Kent Tuohino —seeking call
 Gabrielle
 Christine
 Ceara Gehrke
 Caregivers
 Vonnie Lassen (83 year old neighbor of Janet Webber's)
 Central Lutheran/Van Nuys —as they call a new pastor

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)



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Mailing Address:

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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**

**The church that's
hard to find that
worships the Jesus
who isn't!**