

The Call

A Publication of
Spirit of Peace Lutheran Church
Big Bear City

October 2010

Spirit of Peace Lutheran Church (ELCA)

Worship Location:
349 E. North Shore Dr.
Big Bear City, Calif. 92314
(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

Email:
spiritofpeacelutheran@verizon.net

www.spiritofpeacebigbear.org

STAFF

Timothy Edmondson
Pastor

KJ Barto
Director of Music

OFFICE VOLUNTEER STAFF

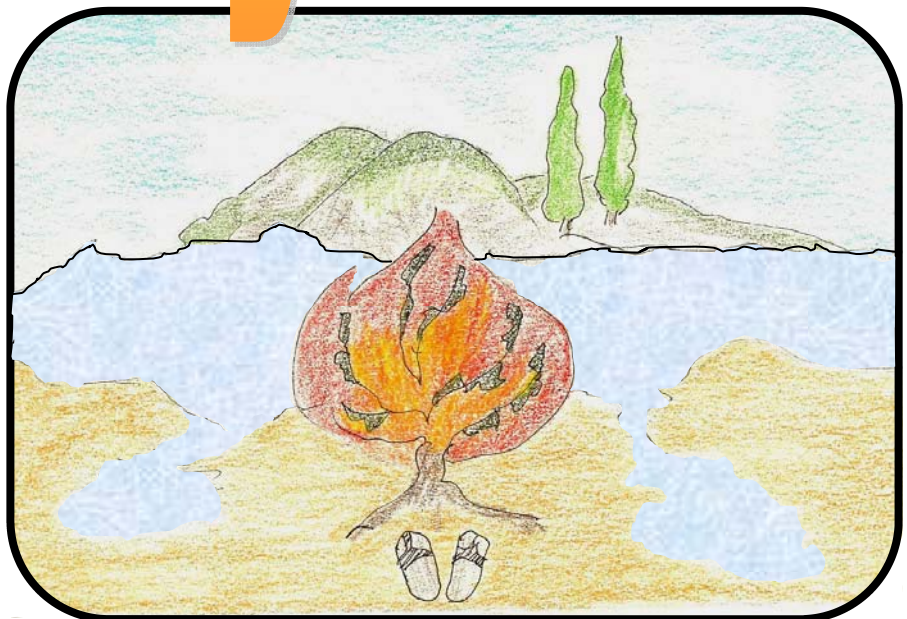
Sandra Mullins, Linda Griffith, Judi
Hollander, Neal Hertzmann,
Sandy Groon

Copy Editor
Jack Kunz

HOLY GROUND

October is
Stewardship
Month

Where are the burning bushes
in our midst?



Then the Lord said to Moses, "Remove your sandals
from your feet, for the place on which you are
standing is holy ground." Exodus 3:5

*Deadline for
October Newsletter
October 24, 2010*

From The Pastor

Timothy Edmondson

Dear Friends—

It was a burning bush that caught his attention. Moses was minding his own business, tending the flock of his father-in-law, when suddenly he saw a fire. Slightly alarmed and aware that there was plenty of dry brush nearby for the fire to spread, his first reaction was to protect his sheep. . .to find a way to put the fire out.

But this was no ordinary fire, for Moses noticed that while the bush was well ignited, there was no black smoke indicating that the bush was being consumed. There was no crackling of dry twigs being snapped under the intense pressure of heat. The bush, while fully engulfed, seemed no worse for the wear.

“Hmmm, now that is a strange sight,” Moses thought, “I have to get a better look at this!” And he climbed up the embankment. “Fascinating,” he said to himself as he stood before this marvelous display of pyrotechnics.

But even more amazing, or should I say, startling, than this bush just being on fire without burning up, was that it could talk; and furthermore, it knew his name. “Moses, Moses!” And without even thinking, Moses found himself talking back, “Here I am.” He could barely get the words out. “Am I dreaming?” he wondered.

Before he could answer his own question, the fiery shrub spoke again, this time with an instruction: “Do not come near!” OK. . .no problem there, for Moses was definitely intending to keep his distance. And then it said, “Remove your sandals from your feet. You’re standing in a special place. . .a holy place.” And Moses did as he was instructed to do. . .after all, it was a talking bush on fire that had told him to do so.

And there in that place, fascinated, intrigued, slightly nervous, and barefoot, Moses’ life took quite a turn. The bush, still burning, had more to say: “I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, the God of Jacob.” And at that moment, Moses covered his face for he was afraid that the very flames of that bush would burn his corneas; for who could even look at God and not go blind! “It’s OK, Mo. . .uncover your face and look at me. . .I haven’t gone to all this trouble to produce such a special effect for

nothing!” God said gently.

God began to explain that He was upset because his people, now slaves in Egypt, were suffering. And the more God talked of His passion for His people, the brighter the bush burned, the more intense the heat. God told Moses that he had a special mission for him and that the rest of his life would be spent in carrying it out. It was to be Moses’ job to rescue God’s people!

From that moment on, Moses never again put his sandals back on. . .ok, literally he did, I mean after all, he was in the wilderness and there were sharp stones and brush needles and snakes and stuff, but metaphorically speaking, Moses spent the rest of his life, walking barefooted, aware that everywhere he went, God went with him, God was with him, making holy his work, making holy his life.

On the front cover of this newsletter is some artwork done by our own resident artist (her initials are A.W.). A burning bush on the side of a lake. . .I suppose it could even be Big Bear Lake. Now, something on fire in Big Bear means only one thing. . .DISASTER! Call the fire department. Put it out! We know what will happen if it gets out of control. Our initial human reactions would put an end to such a catastrophe ASAP!

But if we took a moment to notice as Moses did that this fire is different. It is not the kind that intends to consume the landscape of our beautiful surroundings but rather it’s intention is to consume the inner landscape of our souls. It intends to set ablaze our very lives for that mission God has in mind for you and me. . .for our ministry together.

You’ll notice one other thing about the picture on the front. . .a pair of sandals that someone has left behind. . .that person now walking barefoot through life, aware of the holy ground on which they move and breathe and have their being. Whose sandals are they? Might they be yours?

Deep Peace,
Pastor Tim



“Remove your sandals, for the place on which you stand is Holy Ground.”
Exodus 3

Sundays in October. . .



We Don't Know Where. . .
And We Don't Know When. . .

But We're Moving!

As part of our Stewardship emphasis during the month of October, a weekly forum will be held after worship to talk about getting ready for our upcoming moving day. What do we need to do to be ready for this important transition in our congregation's young history?

Come and hear personal testimony from those who pioneered this ministry called Spirit of Peace. Come and hear the call God placed in their hearts—a call that still blazes like a burning bush in our midst. Come and hear about the passion that overcame the huge hurdles of starting a brand new ministry—a passion that will carry us into our next adventure of ministry together.

Come and be inspired as we look forward to and plan for a moving day somewhere in our future!

“Now the Lord said to Abram, Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. . . So Abram went, as the Lord had told him.”



Congregational Quarterly Meeting
Sunday, October 24th after Worship

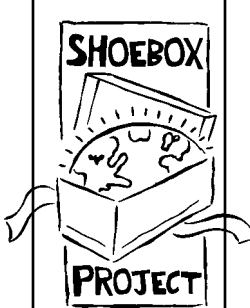
Reformation Sunday. . .

On October 31st, we'll celebrate our rich Lutheran Heritage with festival worship. Our church has a wonderful history centered in God's Word with a beautiful understanding that we are "saved by grace through faith" (Romans). Plan to wear red on this special observance.

All Saints' Sunday. . .

The first Sunday in November brings a special opportunity to remember those who have died in the faith and to give thanks for their lives. It is also a day to remember that we are all saints by virtue of our baptism. There will be an insert in the Sunday bulletin that will invite you to submit the name(s) of your loved ones you would like remembered in the prayers.





Operation Shoebox —We have received \$800 from Thrivent to help purchase supplies for the shoeboxes. Also we have 250 Operation Shoebox shoeboxes so we don't need to collect and wrap our own. Please help by collecting (donating) small stuffed animals, hygiene items such as wash cloths, small soap, toothpaste and toothbrushes (see your local dentist), and small toys for boys and girls. The boxes will be assembled early in November. For more information, contact Pat Elbert.



Simple Suppers —Thanks to all of you who help on the 2nd Thursday of each month. Your help is greatly appreciated by our coordinator, Sandy Groom, and by all those we serve. We do have a need for plastic containers to send food home with those at our suppers. The containers may be butter tubs, sour cream or cheese, etc.

Kids Make Blankets for Doves —Did you know that the children of our Vacation Bible School made fleece blankets that were donated to the community? The children tied the edges of these blankets and then wrote and attached a special note of encouragement. These blankets were given to "Doves" —an organization that assists victims of domestic violence. May the gift of our children warm not just the bodies of those in need, but also the hearts of those God calls us to care for.



Enjoy the convenience of electronic giving

Our church offers electronic giving, which allows you to make donations on a scheduled, automatic basis. If you are writing checks and preparing envelopes every week, you will especially appreciate electronic giving. It is convenient for you and provides much-needed donation consistency for our church.

How to get started

To set up electronic donations, simply complete the authorization form on the right and return it to the church office. Donations can be debited automatically from either a checking or savings account.

AUTHORIZATION FORM

Church name:	
Your name:	
Address:	
City, State, Zip:	
Email address:	
I would like to make the following contribution(s):	
<input type="checkbox"/> General Operating Fund	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Building Fund	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	\$ _____
Total	\$ _____
Date of first contribution: ___/___/___	
Frequency of contribution (check one):	
<input type="checkbox"/> Weekly - Mondays	
<input type="checkbox"/> Semi-monthly - 1 st and 15 th	
<input type="checkbox"/> Monthly on the 1 st	
<input type="checkbox"/> Monthly on the 15 th	

CHECKING / SAVINGS Complete this section if using your checking or savings account	
Please debit my (check one):	
<input type="checkbox"/> Checking account—attach voided check <input type="checkbox"/> Savings account—attach voided deposit slip	
Routing #	Account #
Valid routing # must start with 0, 1, 2 or 3	
I authorize the above organization and Vanco Services to process debit entries to the above account. I understand that this authority will remain in effect until I provide reasonable notification to terminate the authorization.	
Authorized signature: _____	Date: / /



Dear Friends— Sharon, Erin, Bryan, and I thank you for the way you so beautifully surrounded us these past weeks/ months as Sharon underwent her surgeries. You held us in prayer as we waited for pathology reports. You hugged us physically and embraced Sharon with cards and notes of encouragement. You brought grace to our lives and were the presence of Christ to us in a difficult time. We are grateful to the surgeon and others for being part of God’s plan of healing. We are overjoyed that the large tumor was benign. And we are blessed beyond words to belong to such an incredible church family. With much love and affection to you. . . Pastor Tim



Healing

- Leslie Wilson —blood clots
- Julie Grandi —recovering from surgery
- Kristen Cameron —auto accident
- Carlos Noyola (friend of Linda Wilson) —lung cancer
- Pastor Margaret Duttera —recovering from surgery
- Sharon Edmondson —recovering from surgery
- Dennis (friend of Leon Baudot) —tumor
- Doug Laube —4th stage Leukemia
- Devin Ragsdale —undergoing tests
- Dan Ploch —stomach cancer
- Pat Elbert —continued healing
- Diana Guillen —severe stroke
- Pat (Merrilee’s Mom) —continued healing
- Sue Melchor —brain tumor
- Bill (Earl’s nephew) —prostate cancer
- Elizabeth (granddaughter of Linda Wilson) —worsening mental condition
- Christy Goss (Jason Brown’s Mom) —congestive heart failure
- Georgia Cashman (friend of Warren Wasson’s) —breast cancer
- Marta Upward (friend of Linda and KJ) —fibromyalgia
- 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
- 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—

- Ron & Jacquie (KJ’s brother/sis-in-law)
- Nick Carlson
- Caregivers
- Christine/Anthony (Janet Webber’s daughter/grandson)

Safety & Protection Those who travel: Betty & Earl, Linda & Bill, Tom Williams

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), 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.”
Matthew 21:22



Look <i>Whose Birthdays?</i>	10/5	Dale Webber
	10/8	Erin Edmondson
	10/10	Karen Denneson
	10/12	Sharon Shipley
	10/17	Jordan Bauer



10/19	Karsten Lundring
10/21	Anita Holden
10/23	Matthew Hollander
10/24	Penny Coelho
10/26	Ron Barto
10/28	Doc Hilliard

10/3	Robert & Sheila Wenzel
10/18	Paul & Cyndi Bauer
10/22	Barry & Betty Smedberg

Spirit of Peace Lutheran Church
Evangelical Lutheran Church In America
www.spiritofpeacebigbear.org
Email: spiritofpeacelutheran@verizon.net

Office: (909) 878-2650

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.

Informal Worship
With Communion
Followed by fellowship/Bible Study

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
October 4th

**Service is
Love in
Overalls!**