

The Call

A Publication of
Spirit of Peace Lutheran Church
Big Bear City

October 2011

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,
Neal Hertzmann, Sandy Groom

Copy Editor
Jack Kunz



Sunday, November 20th
(after worship)

Chili Contest * Children's Activities * Entertainment
Donations will help support the mission and ministry of
our congregation.

*Deadline for
November Newsletter
October 27, 2011*

From The Pastor

Timothy Edmondson

Dear Friends—

As a ninth grader, Dave was the smallest kid in his high school. But at five feet tall and ninety pounds, he was the perfect candidate for the lightest weight class on the school's wrestling team. Dave started out as the JV lightweight, but moved up to the varsity position when the boy at that spot moved away. Unfortunately, Dave's first year was not one for the record books. Of the six varsity matches he wrestled, he was pinned six times.

Dave had a dream of someday being a good enough wrestler to receive a letter in his sport, awarded to those athletes who demonstrate exceptional performance in their sports. Those who were fortunate enough to receive a letter proudly wore it on their school letterman jackets. Whenever Dave shared his dream of "lettering" in wrestling, most of his teammates and friends just laughed. Those who did offer encouragement to Dave usually said something like, "Well, it's not whether you win or lose..." or "It's not really important whether you letter or not..." Even so, Dave was determined to work hard and keep improving as a wrestler. Every day after school, Dave was in the weight room trying to build up his strength, or running the stadium bleachers trying to increase his endurance, or in the wrestling room trying to improve his technique.

The one person who continually believed in Dave was his grandmother. Every time she saw him, she reminded him of what could be done through prayer and hard work. She told him to keep focused on his goal. Over and over again, she quoted Scripture verses to him, like "I can do all things through Christ who gives me strength!"

The day before the next season began, Dave's grandmother died. He was heartbroken. If he ever did reach his goal of someday getting a high school letter, his grandmother would never know. That season Dave's opponents faced a new person. What they expected was an easy victory. What they got instead was a ferocious battle. Dave won nine of his first ten matches that year. Midway through the season, Dave's coach called him into his office to inform him that he would be receiving his high school letter. Dave was ecstatic. The only thing that could have made him feel better was to be able to share it with his grandmother. If only she knew! Just then the

coach smiled as he presented Dave with an envelope. The envelope had Dave's name written on it in his grandmother's handwriting. He opened it and read:

Dear Dave,

I knew you could do it! I set aside \$100 to buy you a school jacket to put your letter on. I hope you'll wear it proudly, and remember, "You can do all things through Christ who gives you strength!"

*Congratulations,
Grandma*

After Dave finished reading the letter, his coach reached behind his desk and pulled out a brand new jacket with the school letter attached and Dave's name embroidered on the front. Dave realized then that his grandmother did know after all.

It's always nice to have someone in our corner who believes in us, sometimes beyond our own ability to believe in ourselves. Dave had Grandma who reminded him that "through Christ" he could accomplish his goal. It didn't make it any easier of a challenge, but it was the one thing that encouraged him through the challenge, that gave him strength to persevere in the face of that challenge—the one thing that made all the difference!

Yes, we need Christ for through Him things impossible suddenly become possible. We are dependent on God for everything. But faith in God is a two-way street. I think as Christians, we do very well at times to believe in God. We trust God to do what God has promise to do; after all, God has a perfect track record. What we forget though is that God believes in us, just like Dave's grandmother believed in him. Life is full of challenges; so is ministry. And God has blessed us with the "where-with-all" to be able to meet those challenges head on. God says, "Stay focused. You can do it; I know you can! I've already purchased the letterman's jacket!"

Remember, God believes in you! God believes in us! Let us be encouraged by this God who not only appreciates our gestures of faith in Him; but who also returns those gestures by placing His faith in us. We've got work to do. Let's get to it!

Deep Peace,
Pastor Tim

"I can
do all
things
through
Christ
who
strength-
ens me."

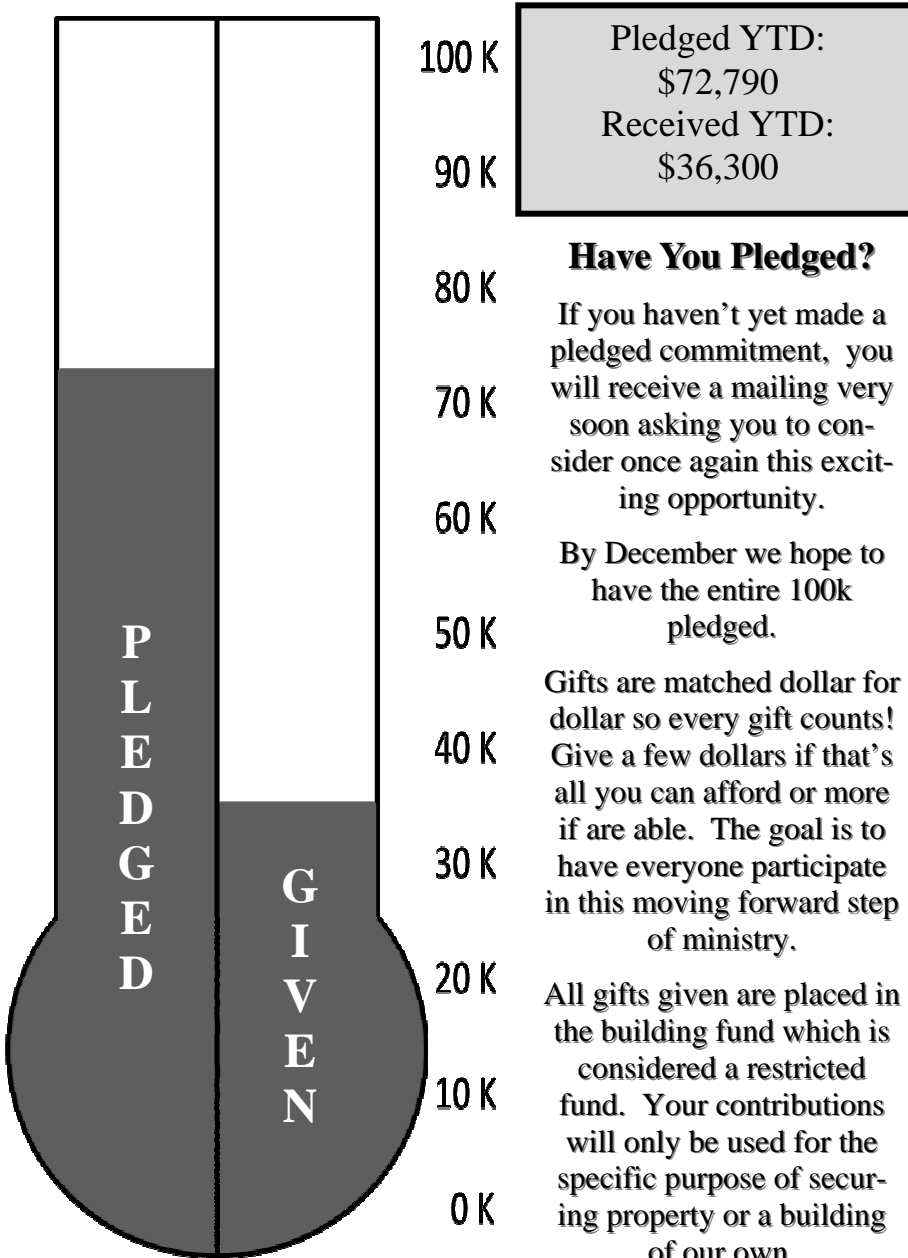
Philippians
4:13

“Build Us Up!”

Getting Ready for the Future God Has Planned

Goal: Raise the Building Fund Balance to \$100,000

This will enable us to enter into a lease option, loan process, or other space possibilities that might become available down the road of ministry. When we reach our goal we will be better prepared to move forward with a strong financial foundation. This is the next step of faith we take together as a young mission congregation. “Build us up, Lord!” Amen!



Have You Pledged?

If you haven't yet made a pledged commitment, you will receive a mailing very soon asking you to consider once again this exciting opportunity.

By December we hope to have the entire 100k pledged.

Gifts are matched dollar for dollar so every gift counts! Give a few dollars if that's all you can afford or more if are able. The goal is to have everyone participate in this moving forward step of ministry.

All gifts given are placed in the building fund which is considered a restricted fund. Your contributions will only be used for the specific purpose of securing property or a building of our own.

Reformation Sunday. . .

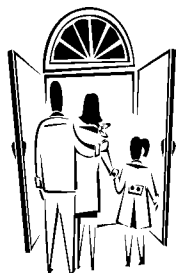
On October 30th, we'll celebrate our rich Lutheran heritage with festival worship. Our church has a wonderful history centered in God's Word with a beautiful understanding that we are "saved by grace through faith" (Romans). Plan to wear red on this special observance.

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.



Congregational Quarterly Meeting
Sunday, October 23rd after Worship



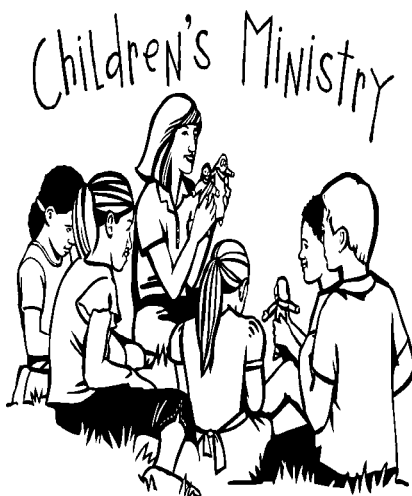
WELCOME
to Our Newest Members!

A "Welcome Place"

We're updating our name badges. It's important to wear your name badge on Sunday morning because it helps our new members to get to know everyone and helps us to get to know our new members. If you've lost/misplaced your name badge or it's disappeared, which does happen in the transferring of things to and from the shed, please let the office know. We'll make you a new one. Let's be a "welcome place!"

Women's Bible Study . . .

meets weekly on Mondays from 1:00 to 3:00 pm in the home of Sandy Groom (location sometimes varies). The group has just begun studying the book of John and is always excited to receive new participants. Come and grow in your walk with the Lord and enjoy some great fellowship with your sisters in Christ. Contact Linda Griffith for more information (909) 585-6026 or Sandy Groom (909) 584-8023 to confirm location.



SPARK: Our New Children's Ministry. . .

is a Sunday school faith formation program designed to activate faith in kids age 2 to grade 6. Each lesson gets kids opening the Bible and exploring God's Word. We'll be using the "lectionary" series which centers each lesson on the Sunday morning Bible readings that we hear in worship. Since the pastor's sermon/message is generally geared to adults, this program will give our kids their own opportunity to hear the Word of God at a learning level appropriate to their age. Children are dismissed from worship at the choir anthem and return later to share communion with their church family. If you'd like to be part of the teaching rotation, contact Emily Turney or Amy Szabo.

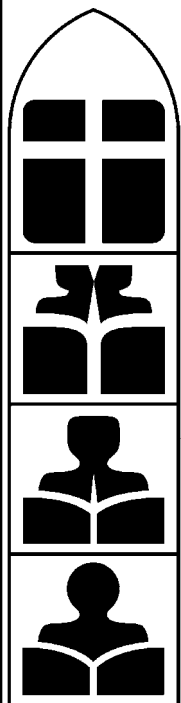
Islam. . .What Non-Muslims Should Know

Six week Sunday morning book study to begin soon. The title of the book: *Islam: What Non-Muslims Should Know* by John Kaltner.

Recent events have focused attention on Islam, the often-misunderstood faith of one billion people. Westerners are showing a new openness to learning about Islam and other religions, in part perhaps because religion is arguably the single most important and volatile factor in geopolitics today. Islam needs to be understood on its own terms, apart from extreme expressions, John Kaltner argues.

This little book offers the most basic information about Islam in an accessible and sympathetic presentation. Kaltner presents Islam as first and foremost a religion of orthopraxis, a set of prescribed practices – the five pillars of Islam. Showing the deep humanism of Islam and its most cherished commitments, Kaltner presents Islam through assertions that counter frequent misconceptions of the faith:

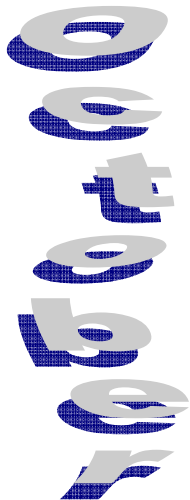
1. Islam is a diverse and complex religion.
2. Islam is a religion of orthopraxy.
3. Muslims respect Judaism and Christianity.
4. There is no separation of religion and politics.
5. There is no institutional hierarchy.
6. Jihad does not mean "holy war."



**Learn
&
Grow**



Our Prayer Chain... continues in loving memory of Jane Kunz. Make your prayer request by contacting Nancy McCormick at (909) 585-6053. Of course, Pastor Tim welcomes your calls when there is need of pastoral care (714) 598-8623. If you would like to be part of the prayer chain, please contact Nancy as well. Our prayer chain is a group of folks in our congregation who receive the needs of serious situations and commit themselves to pray for those involved.



Healing

- Garret Turney —undergoing tests
- Carol Barnett (Merrilee's aunt)
- Joseph Adams
- Andrew (friend of Shirley Giesking's)
- Jennifer —pneumonia
- Baby Smith —surgery for hole in the heart
- Samantha —tests
- John McCutcheon —upcoming gall bladder surgery
- Richard Johnston (Warren's brother-in-law) —healing from cancer surgery
- Daphne Mitchell (family of Linda Wilson) —brain stem cancer
- Dan Ploch —stomach cancer
- Dean Angerhofer —shoulder
- Dan's 3 year old friend —cancer
- Linda Brady (friend of Kathy Kerr) —breast cancer
- Phyllis (friend of Kathy Kerr) —melanoma
- Hobie (friend of Jim Lyon's) -cancer
- Carole (daughter-in-law of Jane & Jack) —chemo/radiation
- Carlos Noyola (friend of Linda Wilson) —lung cancer
- Sue Melchor —brain tumor
- Elizabeth (granddaughter of Linda Wilson) —worsening mental condition
- Gaelin —cancer
- Virginia Mitchell (Linda Wilson's Mom) —osteoporosis
- Roger Frost (friend of Adams') —cancer
- Fran Palmer (friend of Clarks) —cancer
- Renee Marquez (friend of Cyndi Bauer) —Leukemia
- Marian Bacon (friend of Linda Wilson's) —brain cancer
- Andy Mearse (friend of Bartos) —chronic pain
- Candy Seimers (family member of Sandy Groom) —cancer
- Lori Baltus (Linda Wilson's friend) —severe cancer
- Alma Bauer (Paul's mom)
- Joe LaMura (friend of Judi Hollander) —cancer
- Anni Ruther (Doris Angerhofer's mother) —chronic pain

Strength, Comfort, Guidance, Peace, Direction—

- Carol Wood at the death of husband, Bill
- Warren Wasson & Family of Zena Zaha at her death
- Ron & Jacquie (KJ's brother/sis-in-law)
- Caregivers
- Christine/Anthony (Janet Webber's daughter/grandson)

Safety & Protection —

- Travel: Bill & Linda Griffith, Ed & Kay Cedergreen
- Those in the military: Anthony Pierce (going to Marine bootcamp); 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 (back from Iraq); Prvt 2nd Class Davin Barto, Brian McCoy; Tom Hastin

Prayer and Praise Page

"If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for In prayer."
Matthew 21:22



Look Whose Birthday!	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: spiritofpeaceclutheran@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
Children's Program during Worship

Fellowship followed by
Adult Bible Study after Worship

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 10th

**Autumn leaves—
Jesus doesn't!**