

Circuit Rider

1001 Holden Avenue PO Box 2590 Big Bear City, CA 92314 (909) 585-4089

Nov/Dec 2013

Volume 5 issue 6

Inside this issue:

| | |
|--|----|
| Pastor Nancy's News | 1 |
| GriefShare & "Fun" Raising Committee | 2 |
| Prayer & Praise & UMW | 3 |
| SPRC Report & Happy Birthdays | 4 |
| News from N.S.C.P.S. & Witness Committee | 5 |
| Food Pantry News | 6 |
| November Calendar | 7 |
| December Calendar | 8 |
| Finance Committee Report | 9 |
| Nurture & Trustees Report | 10 |
| Outreach & Simple Supper News | 11 |
| | |
| | |



Bi-Monthly Newsletter of
Big Bear United Methodist Church

Rev. Nancy Carlson
Pastor

Robert Ludecke
Lay Leader

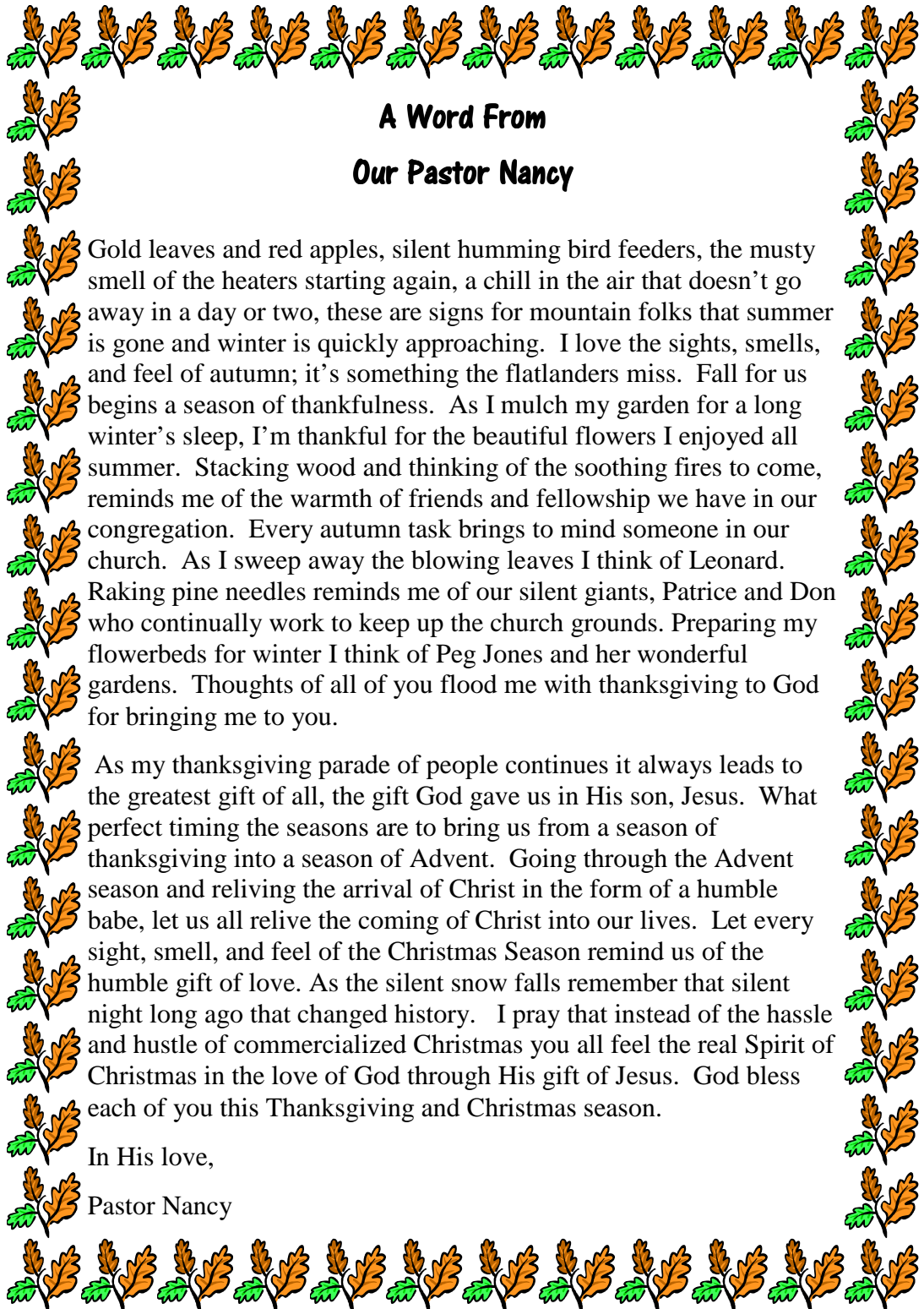
Pat Hubby
Secretary

A Word From Our Pastor Nancy

Gold leaves and red apples, silent humming bird feeders, the musty smell of the heaters starting again, a chill in the air that doesn't go away in a day or two, these are signs for mountain folks that summer is gone and winter is quickly approaching. I love the sights, smells, and feel of autumn; it's something the flatlanders miss. Fall for us begins a season of thankfulness. As I mulch my garden for a long winter's sleep, I'm thankful for the beautiful flowers I enjoyed all summer. Stacking wood and thinking of the soothing fires to come, reminds me of the warmth of friends and fellowship we have in our congregation. Every autumn task brings to mind someone in our church. As I sweep away the blowing leaves I think of Leonard. Raking pine needles reminds me of our silent giants, Patrice and Don who continually work to keep up the church grounds. Preparing my flowerbeds for winter I think of Peg Jones and her wonderful gardens. Thoughts of all of you flood me with thanksgiving to God for bringing me to you.

As my thanksgiving parade of people continues it always leads to the greatest gift of all, the gift God gave us in His son, Jesus. What perfect timing the seasons are to bring us from a season of thanksgiving into a season of Advent. Going through the Advent season and reliving the arrival of Christ in the form of a humble babe, let us all relive the coming of Christ into our lives. Let every sight, smell, and feel of the Christmas Season remind us of the humble gift of love. As the silent snow falls remember that silent night long ago that changed history. I pray that instead of the hassle and hustle of commercialized Christmas you all feel the real Spirit of Christmas in the love of God through His gift of Jesus. God bless each of you this Thanksgiving and Christmas season.

In His love,
Pastor Nancy



GriefShare Support by Lillian Hart

The current session of GriefShare started September 5th and will continue through December 12th. It will break over the Thanksgiving holiday with a one day "Surviving The Holidays " seminar on November 21st. There will not be a session on Thursday, the 28th, Thanksgiving Day.

Surviving the Holidays is for people who are facing the Holidays while grieving the death of a loved one. Lillian Hart will present a 40 minute video featuring many personal testimonies. Each Participant will receive a booklet which has a note-taking section, 30+ daily devotions and other sources to minister to a hurting person during the holidays. The fee is \$5.-. Please contact Lillian Hart for reservations at [909-584-2456](tel:909-584-2456).

GriefShare will not meet during Christmas holidays, December 19, 26, 2013 and January 2nd, 2014. A 6-week study on Heaven will begin January 9, 2014. Those interested in this study are those who are planning to go to Heaven and would like to know more about it. The study is based on Randy Alcorn's book on Heaven. The cost of the participant's book is \$8.-. Reservations for this class will need to be made with Lillian Hart, 584-2456 in order to order the necessary number of books.

God Bless you and keep you 'til we meet again. ~ Lillian



"Fun" Raising Committee does it again!!!

Wow, do we have an awesome church or what!!

Our first "Seeds of Faith" fund raiser was a huge success! We raised \$1,149.47!! People are still turning in their ongoing harvests!!

Bob Ludecke and company was our top fund raiser! What started out as a "cuss jar" was soon used to hold donations for the church, in return for "small jobs" done by Ludecke Electrical Service.

Shirley Hartwick made yummy pumpkin rolls which placed her a close second in funds raised.

The most original "Seeds of Faith" were grown by **Joan Wolcott**, who ate at home rather than dining out. The thing I thought was really cute was Stan didn't realize they were going without!!

Many, many thanks to Bob, Shirley, Joan, Donna, Evalyn, Al, Arlene, Pat, Patrice, Sherry, Pastor Nancy, Steve and Rusty who all helped to make this fund raiser a success.

Remember, it's never to late to sow "Seeds of Faith"!



We meet the 1st Monday of the month at 8am. Come join us for fun, fellowship & possible donut or two.

PRAYER NEEDS & PRAISE REPORTS

"It is a privilege to "stand" in the gap for someone in intercession." - Bettie's nuggets



Health needs:

~Sherry Drury & Sons, Robert & John.

~Steve Walker

~Scott Stevenson

~Leonard Chaidez

~Pat Hutchens

~Chuck Rose

~Fred Jones

~Jane Gaghagen

~Jerry McGill

Other needs:

~Church Finances.

~God's Peace for Karrissa Costilow.

~Nick Carlson away at college.

~Our local Hospital & its Employees.

Praises:

~God's provision with Fund Raising efforts.

~Answered prayer.

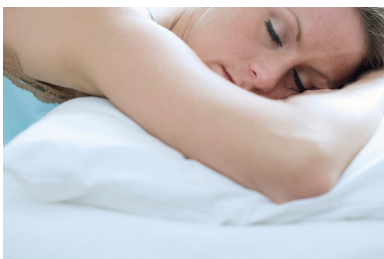
~God's ever-abiding Love for us all.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Sandy Clark, Chair

UMW will be taking a break from November to April.

Have a Merry Christmas & Blessed New Year!



POINSETTIA SALES BEGINS NOVEMBER 17 !

Order a poinsettia to honor or memorialize a loved one and decorate the church altar for Christmas at the same time.

It's a special way to kill two birds with one stone. 😊

They may be taken home after the Christmas Eve Service. The cost is \$9.00 each. The deadline to order is Dec. 8.



REPORT OF THE SPRC

The Staff Parish Relations Committee has experienced a less dramatic year than it has in past seasons. Our year began with renewed hope as we welcomed our part time secretary and enjoyed the sounds coming from our choir when our outdoor accompanist became our new music director. Both have worked hard to breathe new life into their positions as paid staff. We are also fortunate, that despite her pleas to retire, our Treasurer continued to provide another year of service. We are definitely seeking help for her as she has expressed her desire to relinquish her position.

Our Church could never have accomplished what it has without the dedication of all our volunteers, these wonderful people who have blessed us with their support and spiritual gifts. Through the Grace of God, we have continued to accomplish the goals we have set for ourselves.

The Policies and Procedures Manual for Employees is complete. A revised mini edition needs to be created. The job descriptions have been revisited to more accurately reflect what our employees complete on a part time basis. Annual evaluations should be initiated or completed by the time of our Conference. We're all working on "paper trails", knowing our committees need better documentation of all activities and property.

This year is the beginning. We are looking forward to learn from where we have been and improve our vision. We have a better idea of what the committee needs to accomplish; with knowledge, comes growth and with our determination, we can only improve.

Respectfully submitted,
Margaret de Guereña, SPRC Chair



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU, HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU..., HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ALL OF YOU....., HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU.....!

| | | | |
|--------|------------------|--------|-------------------|
| Nov 1 | Gail Jacoby | Dec 1 | Evalyn Ellis |
| Nov 9 | Trudy Tarras | Dec 6 | Charlene Everhart |
| Nov 10 | Troy Bemisdarfer | Dec 9 | Bonnie Snell |
| Nov 12 | Rachel Kramer | Dec 31 | Patrice Carlisle |
| Nov 22 | Dale Opper | | |
| Nov 30 | Peggy Jones | | |



AND MANY MORE!!!!!!!!!!!!



News from North Shore Christian Preschool

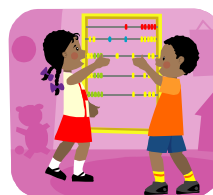


I find this time of year a whirlwind; we go from one holiday to another. One of my favorite celebrations is our Stone Soup Day. Prior to this special day the children decorate grocery bags and they take them home to be filled with non-perishable items for the church food pantry. I read the book "Stone Soup" and discuss how we can help those who may not have as much as we do. Every student helps with the making of the soup by providing an item to place in the cooking pot. We then gather with the children's families and enjoy a meal fit for a King (you have to read the book to understand). The children love helping and I love teaching about caring for others.



The last celebration is the most important; our Christmas program. I love being allowed to teach the children about Jesus' birthday! I doesn't get any better than that! After all of the whirlwind, we take our winter break and then we start a new year. I wonder what 2014 will have in store for our school? One thing I know is it will be full of blessings!

May your holidays be full of joy!
Peace on earth,
Patrice



Witness Committee by Sandy Clark

Witness is trying to gather new ideas in ways to serve. We want to plan on regular hospital visits to bring encouragement to those that are sick. We continue to prepare Communion on the 1st of each month and place the appropriate Banners in the church for the season. Our next meeting will be on Thursday, November 14 at 1:00.

Come join us and see what blessings await you.



Food Panty News

By Chris Smith

Once a month, our church opens its doors to members of the community who need a little help obtaining some groceries. It isn't just a bag of food they take with them. It comes with kind words and sometimes a heart felt hug. Many of you have donated food supplies and with each bag distributed, your prayers and warm wishes are included. Bless you all.

For those who come out on the second Tuesday of the month to help distribute the bags of food, I would like to thank you for donating your time unselfishly. You bring joy to many who have been in a less fortunate situation:



Al Woodward

Jacqueline Mangione

Sue Burness

(if I have forgotten anyone, please forgive me)

Please continue to bring food supplies. After all, this is what Jesus wants us to do --- share the love. Here is a current list of needs for our food pantry:

God Bless You All,

Chris Smith



Cereal
Pancake mix & other breakfast items
Vegetables & Fruit
Peanut Butter & Jelly
Pasta & Sauce
Soups
Potatoes
Tuna or canned Chicken
Macaroni & Cheese
Meal in Can i.e. Spaghetti O's

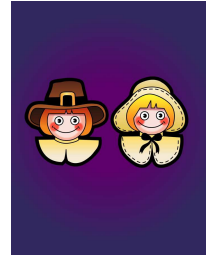
"And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose." Rom. 8:28

"All" includes the hard, bitter testings. They have been the best for us. Sorrow leaves us where it found us. It either drives us from God or to God...a turning point. God is at work! Trust Him in the dark & when morning comes, the black clouds will roll away and we will see God has been at work.

~ With Love, Bettie's Nuggets



November 2013



Big Bear United Methodist Church

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----|--|---|--|
| | | | | | 1 Craft Fair 8-4pm  | 2 Craft Fair 8-4pm |
| 3 | 4 "Fun" Raising meeting at 8am | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 Holiday Giving Collaborative 1-4 pm @ BBUMC |
| 10 | 11 | 12 Trustees Meeting at 7pm | 13 | 14 Simple Supper 4-6pm Witness Comm. @ 1:00 | 15 | 16 Holiday Giving Collaborative 1-4 pm @ BBUMC |
| 17 Poinsettia sales begin  | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 Finance Committee Meeting at 5pm | 22 | 23 Holiday Giving Collaborative 1-4 pm @ BBUMC |
| 24 Church Council Meeting after service | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28  | 29 | 30 |

Big Bear United Methodist Church

1001 Holden Avenue
PO Box 2590
Big Bear City, CA 92314

Happy Thanksgiving
And God's Blessings!

Phone: 909-585-4089
E-mail:
contact.bigbearumc@gmail.com





December 2013

Big Bear United Methodist Church

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|---|---------------------------------|--|--|-----|---|
| 1 | 2 "Fun" Raising meeting at 8am | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 Holiday Giving Collaborative 1-4 pm @ BBUMC |
| 8  Poinsettia Orders due today | 9 | 10 Trustees Meeting at 7pm | 11 | 12 SIMPLE SUPPER 4-5 PM Witness Comm. @ 1:00 | 13 | 14 Holiday Giving Collaborative 1-4 pm @ BBUMC |
| 15 | 16  Gifts for DOVES SHELTER DUE AT CHURCH BY 3PM. | 17 | 18 | 19 Finance Committee Meeting at 5pm | 20 | 21 |
| 22  All Church Christmas Party after church at the Parsonage! | 23 | 24 Christmas Eve Service 7pm | 25  | 26 No Simple Supper | 27 | 28 |
| 29 | 30 | 31 |  Jan 1, 2014 HAPPY NEW YEAR BBUMC FAMILY!!  | | | |

MERRY CHRISTMAS

1001 Holden Avenue
 PO Box 2590
 Big Bear City, CA 92314

Phone: 909-585-4089
 E-mail:
contact.bigbearumc@gmail.com



From the Finance Committee



As we get into the fall season most of us are looking forward to the holidays and all of the work, fun, celebration and chaos that comes with it.

The Church Finance Committee is working on next year's budget; you all know what that means!

Yep! It's about time for the annual stewardship campaign!! Whoopee!!!

So, along with all of the other things you are working on, please try and spend time in careful thought and prayer about what you will be able to pledge to the church financially next year. In the past several years we have worked diligently to cut expenses and run the church as efficiently as possible. With all of this we still are falling short in our efforts to pay all of the bills and meet all of our obligations as well as reaching out in our community and the world to spread the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Also, we still are in need of someone to conduct the annual audit and someone to take over the reins as church treasurer. The treasurer is a paid position so if you are looking for a very part-time job which will also help out the church please contact me at 909-633-7790 or bkludecke@msn.com

Taking good care of our finances is our duty to the church and its members. And helping to relieve the burden on our hard workers is our Christian duty to each other.

Shalom,
Bob Ludecke



Nurture Committee News

By Julie Chatham



Nurture Committee is making some changes in plans for the fall and winter. We need to be flexible and adjust with the times. The community of Big Bear has many great opportunities for our children and, upon evaluation and careful consideration; we have decided that our Halloween Carnival and breakfast With Santa activities have outlived their practicality. There are so many activities that are similar and at the same times, our attendance for both in recent years has dropped significantly. Therefore we have decided to not hold them this year.

To replace these events we are investigating other options that are not offered in the valley. One such opportunity is called Messy Church. This would be a once a month service offered on a week night with activities and lessons geared toward families with children. We will be receiving training in order to facilitate the start up of this activity as soon as possible in the new year of 2014. We will need your support and participation - so watch for more information soon!

We joined forces with the Spirit of Peace Lutheran Church to pack shoeboxes with hygiene and toy items to be sent through Samaritan's Purse to children overseas who would otherwise not hear the message of Christmas or receive anything for the holiday. The packing was done here at the Methodist Church on Saturday, November 2, starting at 5:00 pm. We filled 185 boxes with many items that have been donated or purchased from previous fundraisers. We had a great time with members of both congregations enjoying a fellowship time while giving a disadvantaged child a brighter hope for the future. The pizza was delicious afterwards also - thank you to everyone who helped with music, organizing, packing and clean-up! You are all greatly appreciated.



UMC Board of Trustees Report

Nov. 2013

The trustees are busy getting organized for the long winter season, starting with choosing a new leader now that Mark has abandoned ship for a great work opportunity up in Mammoth of all places! He will be missed while he is gone.

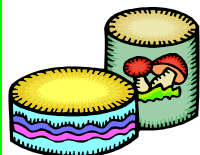
As usual all outdoor projects will be placed on hold until spring and maintenance efforts indoors will be addressed as priorities and funds dictate. When it snows there is never enough help in getting the walkways shoveled and snowmelt spread so if it snows and you have a few minutes, grab a shovel and come on down to help out. Its great exercise, good fellowship and yet another opportunity to help our church. (Pastor Nancy might even appreciate a little help at the parsonage as well).

The trustees will have a more detailed report right after the holidays.
Bob Ludecke, Church Council Chair



Outreach News

















By Tammy Stevenson



Our Good Samaritan food pantry is nearly bare. This winter, more people will be depending on us than ever before. Food stamp allocations have been reduced. The long winter break from school is coming; there will be no school lunches during that time. Rotate the food in your home emergency kit. You know, that two weeks of food you keep on hand in case of earthquake, blizzard, sun spot flares, zombie invasion, etc. Replace it with new food, and give us the unexpired older food.

We will dedicate our offerings of food and funds to purchase food, at Sunday service November 24. We will be giving Christmas gifts to the residents of the local domestic violence shelter, DOVES. Watch for the Christmas tree with the cards on it. It will be up early December. Recommendations for gifts will be inside the cards. We need the gifts to be wrapped, labeled securely and placed under the tree by **December 16**.



Simple Supper

By Sandy Clark

















**With the return to Standard Time, Simple Supper returns to the winter schedule; supper is served from 4:00 to 5:00. Daylight Savings Time hours are 5:00 to 6:00.

**We always can use volunteers. If you are 15 years or older and would like to serve, contact Sandy Clark at 909-584-0187.

**If you don't have a place to go on Thanksgiving Day, Pine Summit is having a Thanksgiving Day dinner from 1:00 to 3:00 pm. Their address is 700 S. Wren, Big Bear Lake. Their phone number is 909-878-0140.

**Simple Supper is always on the 2nd & 4th Thursday of the month, unless specified. In November, Simple Supper will only be on the 14th due to Thanksgiving. In December, Simple Supper will only be on the 12th.

Wishing you and your loved ones a wonderful Thanksgiving and a blessed Christmas.

The Circuit Rider

Big Bear United Methodist Church

1001 Holden Avenue

PO Box 2590

Big Bear City, CA 92314