

# The Dove



## ***“Beyond Ourselves”***

*“These were all commended for their faith, yet none of them received what had been promised.”  
(Hebrews 11:39)*

Dear Brothers and Sister in Christ,

As part of Pastoral Leadership Institute, we are assigned books on the topic of leadership. One such book is **Good to Great** by Jim Collins. In one chapter, Collins discusses “Level 5 Leadership”. One of the characteristics of such leadership is the person “sets up successors for even greater success in the next generation” (page 36).

The way my mind works, I was led to the book of Hebrews, chapter 11. You know the chapter. It begins with these words: “Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see. This is what the ancients were commended for.” (Hebrews 11:1-2). It is one of those “feel good” verses in the bible. It seems to me we like to use it in the church with the idea if we have enough faith, good things will happen.

Yet, if one read the chapter, it does not take long before one see the chapter is not about good things happening to these individuals. The chapter is about generations of individuals trusting God so much that they were able to devote there lives to a hope that would not be realized in their own generation. In the middle of the chapter the author of Hebrews writes:

*“All these people were still living by faith when they died. They did not receive the things promised; they only saw them and welcomed them from a distance. And they admitted that they were aliens and strangers on earth. People who say such things show that they are looking for a country of their own. If they had been thinking of the country they had left, they would have had opportunity to return. Instead, they were longing for a better country—a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them.” (Hebrews 11:13-16)*

Look at what these few verses say. First, these people died and did not receive the things promised. Second, they all left their previous homes and did not look back. Think of what that is saying. These people did not look back and say, “Remember the good ole’ days when the Forty-Niners had a good team...” or “Back in Pittsburgh they really know their football”. Instead, these generations of people of faith trusted God for something better, something in the future, and something beyond themselves. Finally, the in the next to last verse of Hebrews 11, it states, “These were all commended for their faith, yet none of them received what had been promised.” (Hebrews 11:39)

**PEACE  
LUTHERAN  
CHURCH**

**205 Tennessee  
Valley Road  
Mill Valley, CA  
94941**


peacelutheranchurch  
@email.com  
<http://peacelutheranchurch.net>

**Sunday Service  
9:30am  
Fellowship  
10:30am  
Sunday School  
11:00am  
Adult Bible  
Class  
11:10am**

***“To help all  
people know,  
believe in, and  
follow Jesus  
Christ.”***

It seems to me, these people of Faith lived that the next generation might have it better. How is our faith? Are we living that the next generation will have things better?

Christ's Peace



### BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

1/3 Dorlane Krausse  
1/4 Billie Zepp  
1/9 Maxine Seifert  
1/18 Roger Steiner  
1/19 Mike Clark

     
 1/1 Warren & Vicki McGowan  
 1/8 Don & Heidi Rosevear

### ADDRESS ADDITIONS/CHANGES

**Russ Wischow**  
400 Deer Valley Rd. #4E  
San Rafael, CA 94903  
  
415-342-7905

**Bob Atkins/Nancy deVillers**  
545 Hart Ln.  
Sebastopol, CA 95472

Bob Cell: 415-306-6984  
H: 707-824-1817

**August Reader**  
1002 Lovell Ave.  
Mill Valley, CA 94941  
  
H: 888-8012

The Mill Valley Rotary Club, Village Relief Foundation and Peace Lutheran Church have been providing support to the King George School for the Physically Disabled for several years.

The school has an incredible 12 piece jazz band, Liyana.

The John Lennon is sponsoring Liyana on a U.S. tour, including performances at Mac World in San Francisco.

***Liyana has offered to do a special concert for us to say thanks.***

Where: Peace Lutheran Church,  
205 Tennessee Valley Road,  
Mill Valley, California

When: Sunday, January 4, 2009 at 3:00 p.m.

Admission: \$15 for adults; \$10 for seniors and children under 12.

The church holds about 200 people, so seating is limited, but let's pack the place for these incredible musicians.

	November 2008	Year To Date
<b>APPROVED BUDGET</b>		
<b>INCOME:</b>	\$21,527	\$ 183,700
Income	14,705.	174,137
Less Total Expenses	<u>-13,648.</u>	<u>-167,311.</u>
<b>NET GAIN/LOSS</b>	\$ 1,057.	\$ 6,826.
Jim Sides, Treasure		

Please remember to bring  
non-perishable food items  
for the **Southern Marin Food Pantry.**

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If you would like to help serve or donate a dish  
for our homeless hot meal program **PEACE  
MEAL** please contact Lee Rosevear. Our time  
to serve is the second Thursday of each month at  
12n at West Minister Presbyterian Church in  
Tiburon.

### **OFFICE HOURS**

Our church office is open Monday thru Friday,  
from 9 a.m. – 12 noon. Mondays are Pastor  
Adams day off. He is available in his study  
Tuesday thru Fridays from 9 a.m. –12 noon and  
also by appointment. Sally is in the office  
Monday thru Thursday. If you are in need of  
ministry please stop by or call the church office  
at 388-2065.

### **HOME PHONE**

You may also reach Pastor Adams at home. His  
number is: (415) 388-7190. Please feel free to  
call him as you like.

### **Supporters of My Faith**

Peace is doing such a wonderful job of reaching out into our community. You know what they are, but I shall list them anyway. The Farmers Market in our front parking lot which I guess will start again in the Spring, our well attended fair with many fun activities, food and prizes, feeding the hungry of southern Marin, the Real School, piano, violin and Italian lessons, participating in parades when we can with bubbles and candy, supporting the Pantry, sponsoring a Little League team and going to the games and cheering for the kids. It's quite a list isn't it?

We should add one more thing to that list and we have the talented people to do it. Every one is so busy welcoming the Baby Jesus to earth in December it is not the month to start something. But in January we can. We can plan our Story Telling support of Christ's Great Commission. It's a fun way to approach this vital job.

God Bless you all and Merry Christmas, Bill Kerr

THE EXPERIENCE OF PRAYER  
ANONYMOUS AUTHOR

"I ASKED GOD TO TAKE AWAY MY PRIDE, AND GOD SAID "NO, IT WAS NOT FOR  
GOD TO TAKE IT AWAY, BUT FOR ME TO GIVE IT UP."

I ASKED GOD TO HEAL MY HANDICAPPED CHILD, BUT GOD SAID, "NO, HER  
SPIRIT IS ALREADY WHOLE, AND HER BODY IS ONLY TEMPORARY ANYWAY."

I ASKED GOD TO GRANT ME PATIENCE AND GOD SAID "NO, PATIENCE IS NOT  
GRANTED BUT IS A BY-PRODUCT OF TRIBULATION."

I ASKED GOD TO GIVE ME HAPPINESS AND GOD SAID, "NO, I GIVE BLESSINGS;  
HAPPINESS IS UP TO YOU."

I ASKED GOD TO SPARE ME PAIN AND GOD SAID "NO, SUFFERING HELPS YOU TO  
CLARIFY WHAT IS REAL, AND IT CAN BRING YOU CLOSER TO ME."

I ASKED GOD TO MAKE MY SPIRIT GROW AND GOD SAID "NO, YOU MUST LEARN  
TO DO THOSE THINGS THAT PROMOTE THE GROWTH OF THE SPIRIT."

I ASKED GOD TO HELP ME LOVE OTHERS WITH THE SAME KIND OF COMPASSION  
WITH WHICH GOD NOW LOVES ME AND GOD SAID  
"YES, NOW YOU ARE GETTING THE HANG OF IT."