

SPIRIT BREEZE

WIND OF THE SPIRIT MINISTRIES Newsletter

JULY 2015

WHERE IS THERE A SAFE PLACE?

Is there no safe place anymore? A sanctuary is set aside as a place of refuge, a safe place. In ancient times, certain cities were set apart by God as places of refuge where a person who had killed someone accidentally, could go to be protected from those who might seek to avenge the death. [Numbers 35:6-15]

For the Christian the sanctuary is a sacred and holy place where people gather to worship the God and Father of the Lord, Jesus Christ. It is a place where we study the Word of God and hear the Good News of God's Love proclaimed.

It was into just such a place in South Carolina that a young man walked where church members had gathered to seek God's presence in the peace and quiet of their sanctuary—their sacred and safe place.

They welcomed him, even though his skin was of a different color. In their welcoming presence he pulled out a gun and killed several of them. His heart was filled with hatred for people of their color.

He invaded and desecrated their refuge, their safe place, by taking the lives of some of those gathered there for prayer and Bible study.

Is there no safe place? The truth is, as long as we humans succumb to the idea that evil does not exist and believe that we have the innate ability to determine our own destiny, there is and will be no safe place. Our hearts are too hard. Apart from the work of God's Spirit to change the human heart, we will continue doing those things that destroy ourselves and each other.

This is not negative thinking. It is simply the truth. Apart from the redemptive work of God in Christ, the human heart cannot be changed from doing the wicked things it has been doing since the Fall that happened with Adam and Eve. Even our righteous and good acts, apart from Jesus, are described in God's Word as "filthy rags." [Isaiah 64:6]

When Jesus taught the disciples how to pray, he made it very specific—and we pray it wrongfully just

about every time we repeat it. We pray, "... deliver us from evil." Very general! Jesus taught, "...deliver us from the evil **ONE**." He identified the enemy.

It is the evil **one**, that confronted Jesus in the wilderness and tried to derail him from the mission he was to accomplish. It was the evil **one**, who entered the heart of Judas and led him to betray Jesus. It was the evil **one**, who worked in the lives of the religious leaders of the day to get Jesus crucified. It is still the evil **one** who works in the human heart to kill and destroy.

Jesus describes the Devil [Satan]: "**He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language for he is a liar and the father of lies.**" [John 8:44; 10:10] The Apostle Paul describes him as a "**deceiver who masquerades as a angel of light and his servants masquerade as servants of righteousness.**" [II Corinthians 11:14, 15] The name Lucifer means "angel of light." The Apostle Peter describes him as one that "**prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.**" [I Peter 5:8]

How to deal with the evil one? God's word tells us the way in which to do it: "**Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.**" [James 4:7]

Our brothers and sisters in the South Carolina AME church show us how: forgive the perpetrator, as Jesus forgave those—and us, who deny and crucify him. This is God's way of dealing with the hard heart.

When we submit ourselves to God; when we surrender our prideful and willful selves to him who is the **Only One** able to change the human heart, then, and only then can we find a safe place where the evil one no longer has the power to destroy.

There is one truly safe place God has provided. It is in that sanctuary - that place of refuge, not made with human hands, eternal in the heavens. It is the place to which Jesus went in order to prepare it for those who love him. Our eternally safe place is heaven. He

Wind of the Spirit Ministries

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JESUS HAD SEMINARS ON HEALING

Jesus sent out his disciples with specific instructions on what they were to do. He had been discipling [training] them for about three years before he released them to do what they had been taught to do and to say what they had been taught to say.

They were instructed to *“preach the gospel, heal the sick, forgive sins and to drive out demons.”* He gave them the power and authority to do that ministry. [Luke 9:1-6]

The ministry of healing and wholeness has been an integral part of the Christian ministry and mission from the very time that Jesus sent those disciples out with that job description. They were to be focused entirely on that assignment.

When he later sent out seventy additional disciples to go into the various villages where Jesus himself intended to go, he gave them the same instructions: *“cure the sick, and say to them, the Kingdom of God has come near to you.”* [Luke 10:8, 9] They, too, were to preach the Kingdom and heal the sick.

Jesus' life and ministry was 100% focused on preaching the good news of the Kingdom of God, healing the sick, forgiving sins and driving out demons. A major part of his ministry involved physical healing. Those healings served as a great tool of Kingdom evangelism for they demonstrated God's real presence in powerful ways.

Through the years the church has been instrumental in establishing healing institutions like hospitals, care facilities, rehabilitation centers and other places that help people experience restoration and wholeness. Few other groups have taken the initiative to make that effort to help people become whole in spirit, soul and body.

There is a tendency in the contemporary church to turn the healing ministry over to the medical professionals. We praise God for those dedicated men and women who are gifted medical people and who work tirelessly to help people come into healing and wholeness. They are the ones who run the hospitals, the homes, the rehabilitation centers and other facilities.

Nevertheless, our Lord Jesus did not tell the disciples to preach the gospel and heal the sick until he raised up professionals who would be taking over the assignment. There were doctors

present in Jesus' day when he told the disciples to heal the sick.

The church must continue to preach the gospel. It must also demonstrate, as did Jesus, how the gospel brings healing and wholeness to those who hear it. That includes praying for the sick.

In keeping with Jesus' instructions to the early disciples, we of Wind of the Spirit Ministries, are conducting a Healing Seminar at the Silverdale United Methodist Church, Silverdale, WA on the dates of August 6-8, 2015. The Seminar will begin on Thursday evening and conclude at noon on Saturday.

There will be opportunity to learn about some of the important things that are involved in a healing ministry, but also opportunity for the participants to experience healing and wholeness in their own lives. Workshop sessions will give further opportunity to pray for each other, seeking God's direction and then watching the Holy Spirit confirm the truth spoken by God to the Israelites, *“I am the Lord, your God who heals you.”*

Please read the enclosed brochure, call the office at 360-692-9813, Ext. 14, speak with Jean Seelow and register for the Seminar. You will be richly blessed and you will also gain ministry tools with which you can carry out our Lord's directive to, *“Preach the Gospel, heal the sick, forgive sins and drive out demons.”* His Holy Spirit has given the power and authority to do that. It is an exciting part of our Christian walk.

You will not want to miss it!

MINISTRY IN THE PHILIPPINES

Once again God has provided an opportunity for members of Wind of the Spirit Ministries to help provide leadership for our brothers and sisters in the Philippines.

Bishop Rudy Juan of the Manila Episcopal Area continues to lead his Twelve Annual Conferences in the power of the Holy Spirit. He role models for his pastors and laity alike what it is to walk the walk as well as talk the talk. His life and his message are synonymous. He preaches Jesus Christ as he applies the gospel to the work of the church.

Bishop Rudy has invited me [Larry] to speak at his annual Convocation and Worker's Conference, which is scheduled for October 26-29 in Baguio City, Luzon, Philippines. Audrey and I had the privilege of being there in October of 2013 and were richly blessed by the outpouring of God's Spirit upon that gathering.

Wind of the Spirit Ministries has close ties with Rev. David and Josie Sablan in the Philippines who continue to have a healing and wholeness ministry throughout the Islands and beyond. It will be a privilege to be there once again to share in their work.

Our relationship with the Filipino community is made even richer because of the close ties we have with those who now live and worship with us in the Silverdale, WA United Methodist Church. They bring with them a vital and lively spiritual dimension to the life of the church.

WEB-PAGE

Wind of the Spirit Web Page address is

www.wosm-nw.org

A TIME OF PRAYER, PRAISE AND PLANNING

On Saturday, June 20, the Board of Directors and Support Council met for the Annual Meeting of Wind of the Spirit Ministries. It is always a time of seeking God’s Word related to the present and future work that is conducted in and through this Ministry.

Though several of our members were involved in other community activities on that same day, we experienced the joy of the Lord as we gave testimony of how we had seen God working in our individual and corporate lives over the past year.

Mission reports from Jeremy and Joy Ellington in India and David and Josie Sablan in the Philippines gave even more reason to praise God. Their work is expanding and reaching new people with the gospel and the healing power of Jesus.

Wind of the Spirit Ministries has the privilege of being the covering for both teams with opportunity to provide financial support for their work. Those who wish to contribute to either the India or Philippine work are encouraged to do so through this ministry. Everything designated for their work is sent to them.

Our local mission is Georgia’s House, or Georgia Mattson Memorial Shelter, located in West Bremerton. It is “A Safe Place for A Second Chance,” for women and children. Leann and Tom Weaver administer the facility with the help of several volunteers. Wind of the Spirit Ministries is the Faith Based covering for the Shelter. In addition to Tom and Leann, Donna Kirkpatrick and Larry Eddings also serve on the Board of Directors. Over three hundred women and children have been served by the Shelter during this past year.

The Lord continues to open up doors of opportunity for ministry in the months ahead. You may refer to the Ministry Calendar in this newsletter for the presently scheduled events. Others are in the planning stage.

- Officers for the new year are:**
 Donna Kirkpatrick, Chairperson
 Robert Martello, Vice Chairperson
 Secretary, Jane Petter
 Treasurer, Colleen Mey
 Financial Secretary, Jean Seelow



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JULY 2015

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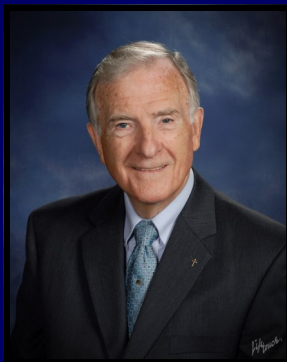


MINISTRY CALENDAR

PLEASE POST AND PRAY FOR THESE EVENTS

OTHER MINISTRY EVENTS ARE IN THE PLANNING STAGES
Eddings Email address: woseddings@msn.com

“The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ.” Ephesians 4:11,12



JULY 9-12	ALDERSGATE CONFERENCE ON THE HOLY SPIRIT, Lexington, KY
AUGUST 6-8	HEALING SEMINAR at the Silverdale United Methodist Church, Silverdale, WA
AUGUST 16-19	“Shine the Light” Revival at Silverdale United Methodist with pastors from the community as preachers.
OCTOBER 26 -29	Bishop’s Convocation and Workers Conference, Baguio, Philippines. Ministry at St. John UMC with Rev. David Sablan
NOVEMBER 13-20	In Racife, Brazil to work with staff of Shores of Grace Ministry, led by Nicolas and Rachel Billman