

# Sabbath Rest

## Broken

What does a picture of a trench through the forest have to do with Shepherd's Refuge? Allow me to explain:

The cable that brings electric power to the Selah Cabin construction site has been installed. An important step in the right direction. I don't believe it is simply because Spring is in the air, with the dead of Winter being shed, that we renew our efforts to complete the cabin project. As a matter of fact, we put things in motion at our board of directors meeting last fall.

The picture below shows the 3-foot trench that was dug through the forest to bury the cable. After I downloaded it from the camera, and looked at it from a distance, it dawned on me that this represents many of the lives we touch through Shepherd's Refuge. We sit together with many "healthy" pastors, missionaries and spiritual leaders. But many come who are broken up, in today's vernacular they are going through a transition. They are not willing to go on as usual, sometimes by their own choice, others are forced by circumstances beyond their doing. Joblessness in their congregation brings reduced tithes and offerings into the storehouse. Or a bank is not renegotiating a mortgage, making it just about impossible for the congregation to meet its obligations, not to speak of meeting the needs of the staff. Missionaries are facing the dilemma of the poor currency exchange, with the value of the dollar diminishing.

The church in America in general has considered itself to be immune to all these issues for far too long, riding on the prosperity doctrine, and becoming more of a social club with programs, rather than what the Lord instructed it to be.

Now He is shaking things up, breaking things apart, but, at the same time, if we allow Him, He will install a new power cable. The one that has been installed here will meet the needs of at least five cabins. They are not built, yet, but preparations have been made to feed power to them.

Is the church ready to tap into what the Lord is supplying? We offer church leaders and missionaries a place to retreat and hear from Him, thus the Lord can speak into their situations, encourage them, give them wisdom and direction.

But most of all, He gives them the peace to go through the tough times, together with Him.

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## Headlines

*Check out our web-site and our Face Book for the latest news and updates. Progress reports are available online, or by sending us an email, or even better, by giving us a call!*







**SHEPHERD'S REFUGE - SELAH  
MINISTRIES**

P.O. Box 1221  
Dahlonega, GA 30533

Phone: 404-474-0686  
Fax: 706-865-6801  
Email:

[info@shepherdsrefuge.org](mailto:info@shepherdsrefuge.org)

A non-profit ministry  
recognized as a 501 (c) 3  
organization.

*Caring for those who care.*

The purpose of Shepherd's Refuge is:  
To strengthen His church in fulfilling its Great Commission  
by caring for its leadership!

The Lord's lovingkindnesses indeed never cease, for His compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness.  
(Lam. 3:22-23)

**Smoke Rise Missions Team**  
[www.smokerisemissions.net](http://www.smokerisemissions.net)

**We are on the Web:**  
[www.shepherdsrefuge.org](http://www.shepherdsrefuge.org)

Let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth.  
(1 John 3:18) (Seen in action!)

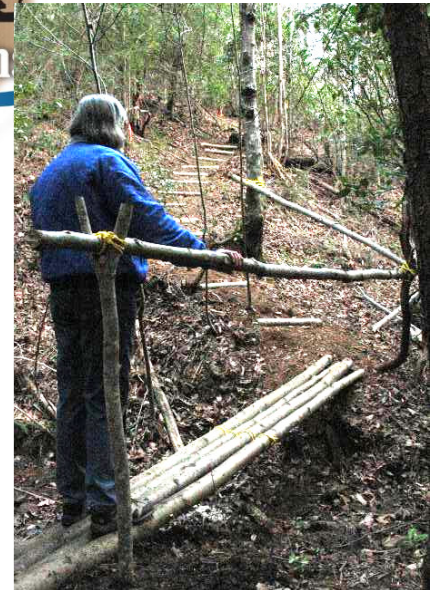
Yes, the Team has been here in November and February. The results:

- More vista pruning done
- HUGE piles of chips (used on the trails and in the orchard)
- 1 bridge and many steps installed on one of the trails
- Brush along the creek cleared, piled up and burnt
- Great fellowship with seasoned and new volunteers



**A recent guest from  
Wisconsin enjoyed the  
Spring-like weather  
and wrote:**

*"I connect with God while  
out in His creation, so I  
loved walking on the trails  
and praying on the  
benches. The peace and  
quiet indoors and numer-  
ous places to sit and read  
and look out your huge  
windows were also a  
blessing."*



You can track the progress of **GoodSearch** and **GoodShop** numbers for Shepherd's Refuge on their web site! Look at February's, and you see we are headed in the right direction, once again.  
Thank you, to all who are participating!

**Words of  
Wisdom**

"My Lord  
knows the way  
through the  
wilderness.

All I have to  
do is follow."

(Author un-  
known)

**Progress report:**

- The building permit for the Selah Cabin has been renewed.
- For those interested in statistics: we counted 294 guest/nights in 2010 (just about the same number as in 2009)
- Since inception guests from 17 States (GA,NH,FL,TX,OH,AL,VA,MS,NC,MO,IL,TN, IN,SC,ME,OR,WI) and pastors or missionaries from 7 countries have been here.
- An Advisory Council has been established to tap into the wisdom of a group of people who don't carry the same responsibilities as the Board of Directors.
- Since we teamed up with [www.goodsearch.com](http://www.goodsearch.com) and [www.goodshop.com](http://www.goodshop.com) the amount of \$247.43 has been generated, enough to host a pastor for almost a week! (see sidebar) THANK YOU to all who are participating. Why don't you join them? It's free!
- We have already received a reservation for a week in February 2012!
- A pond to enhance the visual aspect of the restful surroundings is in the planning stage.