

December 2006

# The Beacon

Sunnyhills United Methodist Church  
355 Dixon Road, Milpitas CA 95035  
Pastor Chansoo Lee

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*Visit us on the Web!* [www.gbgm-umc.org/sunnyhills](http://www.gbgm-umc.org/sunnyhills)

## *Happy Birthday Jesus*

Happy Birthday to You, Jesus Christ! I'm so happy that You were born.  
You are the Light of the World. I pray that this year I and many others will follow You and listen to You.  
Thanks for all the beauty You put in our lives. Amen.

*--Jessica Steinmetz*

## *Manger Blessing*

Thank you God for allowing Jesus to be born. Help us care for all your creations especially the poor. Help us understand Jesus' path and what you want us to do. We pray for this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

*--Jessica Steinmetz*

## *New Prince, New Pomp*

Behold a silly tender Babe, in freezing winter night; in homely manger trembling lies, alas a piteous sight:  
The inns are full, no man will yield this little Pilgrim bed, but forced He is with silly beasts, in crib to shroud  
His head.

Despise Him not for lying there, first what He is enquire: An orient pearl is often found, in depth of dirty mire;  
Weigh not His crib, His wooden dish, nor beasts that by Him feed: Weigh not His mother's poor attire, nor  
Joseph's simple weed.

This stable is a Prince's court, the crib His chair of state: The beasts are parcel of His pomp, the wooden dish  
His plate.

The persons in that poor attire, His royal liveries wear, the Prince Himself is come from heaven, this pomp is  
prized there.

With joy approach, O Christian go forth, do homage to thy King, and highly prize this humble pomp, which He  
from heaven doth bring.

*--Robert Southwell*

### Notes from the editor:

The last **game nite** for 2006 will be held on Friday, **December 1<sup>st</sup> at 6:30 p.m.**

Our **Choir practices Thursdays at 7:00 p.m.** There will be **no Choir practice December 28<sup>th</sup>.**

On **December 3**, there will be a **Community Breakfast at 7:00 a.m.** before church.

**WRAP -- Next WRAP** is scheduled for **December 10**, at **11:15 a.m.**

**BEACON DEADLINE:** For the January issue – Wednesday morning, **December 20, 2006.**



Dear Friends:

### **Advent Is a Time of Hope**

It would be about fifteen years if I were to add up my years in local church ministry. One of my discoveries during these years was: Life is a challenge for every person. Of course, we all have occasions to celebrate and things to enjoy in life. But the more I got to know the members of my congregations, the more I became convinced that we live with unanswered questions and unresolved issues. Such challenges may arise in personal situations, or in the world situations that we commonly share; they may range from problems in relationships to wars.

In the midst of all such challenges, we are beginning another Christian year, starting with the Advent. The word Advent, a word of Latin origin, means "to come toward, to draw near, to approach." This is the time when we remember and celebrate God's drawing near to us in Jesus Christ, in the past, in the present, and in the age to come. (Book of Worship)

As we begin another year, we know the challenges we face may continue to be there. But we also know nothing will change for the better unless we act. And, I believe to hope is a concrete act that we can take. We must not allow ourselves to give in to doubt, and believe that something good is in store for us.

I believe the accounts regarding the birth of Jesus in the Bible, are the stories of hope. The stories are credible to me because they were given by those who faced challenges, perhaps more difficult and demanding challenges than we may face at the moment, and claimed that God drew near to them.

I sincerely wish that during this Advent these stories will come alive for you once again in a new way.

In Peace,

Chansoo Lee



**Do... Re..., Mi...**

Choir rehearsals continue Thursday evenings in December at 7:00 p.m.. However, there will be **no choir rehearsal on December 28** due to the holidays. Any one interested in joining the choir, don't be shy, just drop on by. (The church that is, on Thursday nights). Just follow the sound of a joyful noise being made unto the Lord. (We have tons of fun too.)



**Caroling, Caroling We Will Go....**

Sunnyhills UMC will be caroling this year at the Mt. Pleasant Nursing Facility on December 16<sup>th</sup>. We will gather at the church at 2:30 p.m., and leave for the Nursing Center to carol at 3:00 p.m.. The Nursing Facility is located at 1355 Clayton Road (Near Story and White Road) in San Jose. We will be caroling there as a group from 3:30 to 4:00 p.m. at which time we will break up into smaller groups and continue caroling at the homes of shut-ins.

After, we will return to the church for a soup supper. This is a wonderful event with no singing experience required. Just bring a song in your heart and a smile on your face. Don't hesitate to invite a friend, the more the merrier.

**Salvation Army Bell Ringing**

Sunnyhills UMC members will be ringing the bells to collect donations for the Salvation Army on Saturday, December 9, 2006 in front of Big Lots (near Calaveras and Abel).

Sign-ups are needed for one hour increments between 9:00 a.m., and 8:00 p.m.. Please contact Cliveden Chew Haas at (408) 262-5250 or Gwen Freeman at (408) 263-8942 to add your name to the list. You can also sign up after Worship on December 3, 2006 in the back of the Sanctuary.

Children and Teens also enjoy ringing the bells and wishing folks a "Merry Christmas". Sign up with a friend and experience the spirit of "giving" together, or bring the family together for an hour (or more) of sharing the Christmas spirit.



**Happy Birthday  
Wishes to...**

12/05 Katherine Twite  
 12/09 Alex Walker  
 12/11 Juanita Whetstone  
 12/17 Miles Crawford  
 12/22 Malacha Martin  
 12/25 Jack Freeman  
 12/25 Mark Pereyra  
 12/27 Robert Pease  
 12/27 Simon Chow



12/31 Helen Phan  
 12/31 Huy Phan

**Church Anniversary**

12/16 Margaret and Warren Scott

**Income and Expenses  
October 2006**

**INCOME**

	<i>October</i>
Offerings	\$ 3,743.70
Bldg. Use, etc.	\$ 3,330.07
Special Giving	\$163.02
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 7,236.79</b>

**EXPENSES**

	<i>October</i>
Mission & Outreach	\$ 1,026.89
Operating Expense	\$ 2,126.41
Pastor and Staff	\$ 5,222.89
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 8,376.19</b>

**FUND BALANCES**

Cash on hand	\$39,064.27
Designated funds	\$44,522.60



♥♥♥♥♥A Great Big Heartfelt **THANKS** for everyone who donated and collected Jell-O for the Milpitas Food Pantry last month. Especially those who stepped up and sent emails to bring in more donations. We not only fulfilled our commitment of 150 boxes, we exceeded it by far with a grand total of **238 boxes** collected.

**GREAT JOB!!**



## Christmas Eve Worship Services



Our Sunday morning worship service will begin on December 24, 2006, - at the regular time of 9:30 a.m..



Our evening Christmas Eve service will begin at 7:00 p.m.. Please come and enjoy a beautiful evening of music and candlelight as we prepare to welcome the Christ Child.



### Think Scrip for Christmas

There are new vendors on our Scrip list, so take a look and consider Scrip as stocking stuffers or gifts. You can give in the holiday spirit both to your loved ones, and to Sunnyhills.

Barnes and Noble (\$25)	7%	Crate & Barrel (\$25)	6%
Lowe's (\$100)	3%	Office Max (\$25)	3%
Smart & Final (\$100)	3%	Honey Baked Ham (\$10)	10%
Chipotle (\$10)	5%	Johnny Rocket's (\$5)	6%
Quizno's (\$5)	6%	Wendy's (\$10)	7%
Savemart (\$100)	2%	Border's (\$25)	6%

Our provider will be closed from 12/16 to January 1. Orders placed after December 14th will not be processed until after January 2. Call Daislyn or tell her at church if you would like to purchase some Scrip for Christmas. (408) 262-4236.



*Calendar*

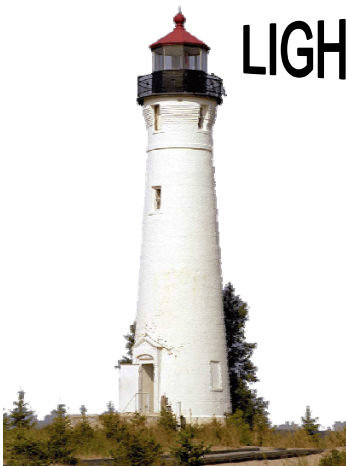
December

- 1 Game Nite
- 3 Community Breakfast in Jones Hall
- 7 Choir Practice
- 9 Ring the Bells for The Salvation Army
- 10 WRAP after Service
- 14 Choir Practice
- 16 Caroling at Mt. Pleasant
- 21 Choir Practice
- 24 Christmas Eve Service

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