

July 2007

The Beacon

Sunnyhills United Methodist Church
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Pastor Chansoo Lee

Cel
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Visit us on the Web!

www.gbgm-umc.org/sunnyhills

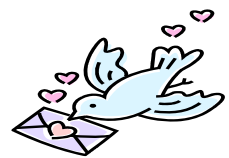
September 1785

The Boston convention provided the following collect to be used during every session of the General Court:

Most Gracious God, we humbly beseech thee, as for this Commonwealth in general, so especially for the General Court at this time assembled, that thou would'st be pleased to direct and prosper all their consultations to the advancement of thy glory, the good of thy Church, the safety, honor and welfare of thy people, that all things may be so ordered and settled by their endeavors, upon the best and surest foundations, that peace and happiness, truth and justice, religion and piety, may be established among us for all generations.

These, and all other necessities, for them, for us and thy whole Church, we humbly beg in the name and mediation, O Jesus Christ, our most blessed Lord and Saviour. *Amen.*

(Food for thought...*Happy 4th of July!*)



Note from the editor:

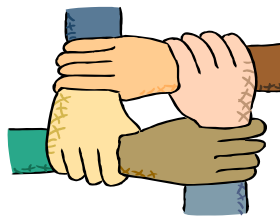
There will be **no** Choir practice on **July 5th**. The last Choir practice of the Summer will be **July 12th** at **7:00PM**. Choir practices will resume in September.

50th Anniversary Celebration – Saturday, July 14th – 10:00AM

BEACON DEADLINE: For the August issue – Wednesday morning, **July 18, 2007**.

July 29th is Change-over Sunday.

(See Page 3 for further calendar details)



Annual Conference After-Thoughts

“Celebrating Diversity and Unity in Christ” was the conference theme of the 2007 annual conference that ended last week. I had been looking forward to attending the conference because I was particularly interested in how the theme was incorporated into this four day event.

Participants of the annual conference were divided into two groups; clergy members made up one group and lay members the other. These two groups met separately before they began the conference together. These meetings are called sessions. During the clergy session new ordination candidates are introduced and voted in. Before the vote each candidate is asked to give his/her “three minute sermon” before the body of clergy members. One of the candidates clarified in her “three minute sermon” the meaning of diversity for me. The idea of diversity emerged, in my opinion, as a result of the recognition that the make up of local congregations have become increasingly diverse in terms of race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, age, etc. However, this candidate went beyond this apparent reality. For her, meaning of diversity is found in what a local church does rather than in the congregational make up. For instance, regardless of the make up of a particular local congregation, diversity means working cooperatively with other diverse groups in the community to address issues that they face together in the community.

During a clergy session break I went through the packet that I picked up at the registration and I found the idea of diversity was incorporated into the new Roll Call Card. Every clergy member is required to fill out Roll Call Card. The Roll Call card is a way to update clergy information for the coming year regarding the new local church appointments. Something new this year was that clergy was required to identify his/her ethnicity, and pre-determined classifications were given. These included for example, African-American, Asian, Caucasian, Chinese, Indian, Japanese, Korean, Vietnamese, etc. I wrote in Korean. But I wondered whether this would accurately describe who I am. I felt “Korean American” would describe who I am more accurately.

Basically there are two dimensions as far as I understand identity. On the one hand, there is how others see me, and on the other hand, how I see myself. Here, seeing is an act of defining. This means classification is defining. For instance, I am defined as Korean, but I define myself Korean-American. Recognition of this discrepancy is critical. I prefer Korean-American as my self-definition. This is how I experience myself and how I feel real about myself.

Culturally speaking, it has become increasingly ambiguous for me to talk about who I am. I left Korea and came to the United States in 1974. “Korea” that I know is the Korea that I used to know more than thirty years ago. And the Korea proper has changed so much in so many ways that I would feel I am a foreigner if I returned to Korea today. There I want to define myself Korean, but I would be defined Korean-American.

I decided to share these thoughts to illustrate how this issue of diversity is related to a person individually as well as to a congregation collectively. In other words, it is both pervasive and complex issue that does not have an easy solution. Thus affirming cultural diversity and finding unity in a local church will continue to be a challenge that cannot be avoided.

Peace to You All,

Chansoo



► **"Make a JOYFUL noise ..."**

Choir rehearsal is **cancelled** for Thursday **July 5**, and the Choir will have its last rehearsal of the Summer on **Thursday, July 12th at 7:00 p.m.** Heartfelt **THANKS** to everyone who lent a voice this year and have a **GREAT** rest of the Summer!!!



► **The 50th Anniversary Celebration**
is Almost Here!!

But let's begin with **Friday, July 13th**. **Set-up** for the anniversary the next day will begin on **Friday at 6:00PM**. There's lots to do and we need lots of people to help. Please come.

Then, the long-awaited day is here...final preparations begin at **8:00AM** with the actual celebration starting at **10:00AM**. So many of you have devoted your time, talent and resources to make this day a success and now is the time to sit back and enjoy it. If you were unable to help with the preparations or planning, please help with the clean-up. Your help is sooo appreciated!!

► **The Office**

Rhonda McDonald is Baaacckkk!

► **Souvenir Anniversary Program**

If you were unable to have your picture taken previously after church service, Laine Sazon will be taking pictures again on July 1st and July 8th. Please see her after Worship. A minimum \$5.00 donation is appreciated to defray the cost of printing.



► **Youth and Children Musical Presentation**

The Youth and Children will practice for their Musical Presentation at the 50th Anniversary Celebration on **Friday, July 6th** and **Thursday, July 12th at 6:00PM** in the **Sanctuary**.

► **Youth Confirmation Classes**

Youth Confirmation Classes continue in July, Monday thru Friday, **July 2nd – 6th** and **July 9th – 13th** at **10:00AM** in the **Sanctuary**.

**Happy Birthday
Wishes to...**

- 07/2 George Chow
- 07/5 Shirley Macemon
- 07/6 Alex Rovere
- 07/8 Stacey Anderson
- 07/10 Cliveden Haas
- 07/18 John Babbel
- 07/18 Kristen Middleton
- 07/20 Sue Babbel
- 07/22 Lelaine Tanciango
- 07/31 William Middleton
- 07/31 Bill, Jr. Middleton



Happy Anniversary!

- 07/08 Cliveden and Guy Haas
- 07/16 Vennie and Herbert Holloway
- 07/16 Evelyn and William Middleton
- 07/26 Alex Walker and
Catherine Deppe

**Income and Expenses
May 2007**

INCOME

	<i>May</i>
Offerings	\$3,721.09
Bldg. Use, etc.	\$ 4,168.85
Special Giving	\$634.47
TOTAL	\$ 8,524.41

EXPENSES

	<i>May</i>
Mission & Outreach	\$ 1,235.99
Operating Expense	\$ 2,258.01
Pastor and Staff	\$ 4,942.76
TOTAL	\$ 8,436.76

FUND BALANCES

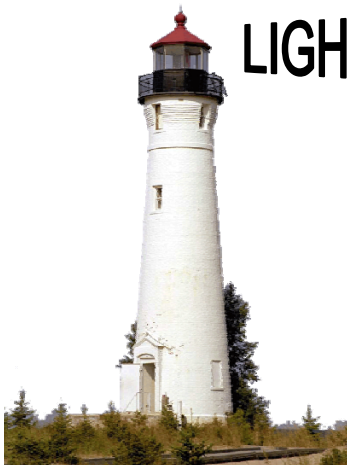
Cash on hand	\$35,574.18
Designated funds	\$10,525.39



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