



The Beacon

Sunnyhills United Methodist Church
355 Dixon Road, Milpitas CA 95035

Pastor Chansoo Lee

Cel
Church Office


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Visit us on the Web!

www.gb-gm-umc.org/sunnyhills

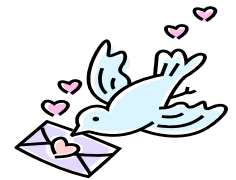
August 2007

Most months of the year are represented by symbols of Christian or Patriotic holidays. Most, but not all. August is about the only month that isn't represented by something other than Summer vacations being taken at last, before school starts. The symbols for that are endless, and I don't have enough room here. So... here are a couple of our common Christian symbols connected with most Holidays just for fun and review. Oh, and by the way... which one of the following four is not a Christian symbol? A) Owl B) Rooster C) Anchor D) Elephant If you think you know the answer, email it to the Church office.

Fish: the fish --  -- ever-watchful with its unblinking eyes -- was one of the most important symbols of Christ to the early Christians. Because of the story of the miracle of the loaves and fishes, the fish symbolized, too, the Eucharist (see stylized fish symbol at left). The earliest literary reference to the fish as a Christian symbol was made by Clement of Alexandria, who advised Christians to use a dove or fish as their seal. Also used as a Christian symbol was the dolphin, most often as a symbol of the Christian himself rather than Christ, though the dolphin was also used as a representation of Christ.



"Latin Cross": the most common form of the Cross and believed to be of the style on which Jesus died. The cross is one of the earliest and most widely used Christian symbol. In most broad sense it symbolizes the religion of Christianity. More specifically represents and memorialized Christ's death. A great variety of crosses has developed, some with special symbolic meaning and others that have simply become culturally associated with certain groups.



Note from the editor:

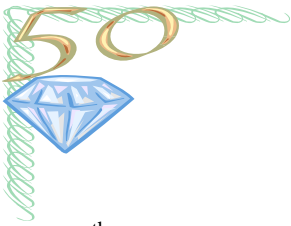
There will be **no** Choir practices in August.

Trustees will meet **Saturday, August 4th at 9:00AM.**

WRAP will meet after Worship on **August 5th**

BEACON DEADLINE: For the September issue – Monday, **August 20, 2007.**

August 26th is Change-over Sunday. 1 (Please see Page 3 for more calendar details.)



The 50th anniversary was a real success; everyone who came for the occasion had a genuine sense of celebration acknowledging the past ministry at Sunnyhills and returned home with a renewed sense of anticipation for the future ministry. This would not have been possible without the combined efforts of many of our members organizing this event.

Before moving on to say anything further I want to thank everyone who worked hard to make the celebration such a meaningful experience. Advanced planning paid off, and I want to recognize your efforts. I want to give special thanks to *Rondeau and Fuego Nuevo* for providing such joyful music and entertainment.

I also want to recognize our own youth choir who sang wonderfully during the service. Our regular choir was larger than usual—thanks to former church members, and the members from Filipino language ministry for joining the choir.

Laurie's dishes were delicious and well prepared, which was expected as usual. The members of the Filipino language ministry sang an offertory song; they also generously came up with "Lechon," a traditional Filipino pork dish. We have also been blessed with such a nicely done program for the 50th anniversary which will also serve as a record of the event. Many thanks to Laine. If I left out anyone, please forgive me.

Mayor Esteves came and on behalf of the city of Milpitas presented a commendation to our church for being a friend of the community. We were honored to have Bishop Shamana preach for this remarkable occasion. Our members had an opportunity to speak with the bishop and get to know her better. She was delighted to receive two gourds that Vilma's garden produced last year—the bishop does art work on gourds as a hobby.

The beautiful display of banners that our congregation has used over the years provided a sense of historical continuity—thanks to Citi, Jo, and Thelma, the committee on visual displays. The added presence of former pastors and members was an important reminder of this continuity—some traveled as far away as Oregon. I want to explain what I mean by this.

Sunnyhills UMC did not suddenly appear yesterday. There were members and pastors who had visions for Sunnyhills; they made conscious efforts to turn those visions into a reality. That is why we were able to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the church. As I had this realization, I felt we needed to take up the responsibility of keeping this continuity alive and well.

Lola Dorsey was asked to share her stories as a historical reflection during the service. She was present at the very beginning of the church as she was only a youth. While I was listening to Lola's stories, I thought to myself: one of our youth today will be present to share his/her stories about Sunnyhills at its 100th anniversary celebration.

With Many Thanks Again To you ALL!

Chansoo

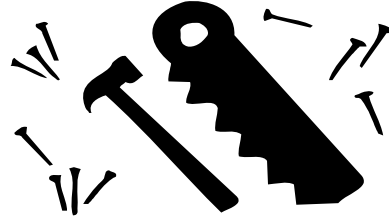
► *Trustees*



► **WRAP it up!**

WRAP will be held directly after worship service, **Sunday, August 5th**.

There will be a Trustees meeting **Saturday, August 4th** at **9:00AM**. We will be discussing our upcoming work parties of August 18th and 25th. Please mark you calendars now to pitch-in at a work party. We get sooo much done and have a **lot** of **FUN** too!!!



► **Youth Confirmation Classes**

Youth Confirmation Class will resume in September 2007 on Saturdays. Time TBD. Thank you parents for all your prayers and encouragement to our children. And thank you Sunnyhills for supporting this ministry.



► **Lunch Bunch**

Lunch Bunch will gather at **Juice City** on **August 12th** at **Noon**. Juice City is located on Jacklin Road in front of Nob Hill Foods.



Thanks for those gorgeous Chairs!

As you know, many of our energetic members and friends have been hard at work restoring our Sanctuary Chairs. Thanks to them and the great direction and hard work of Lola Dorsey, they are really coming along and look **MARVELOUS!** **Donations are now needed** to cover the cost of this restoration. Please sponsor the cost of a chair at **\$20.00 each** to provide the foam, boards and other materials. Please give your donations to Gwen Freeman after worship. *Thank you*



**Happy Birthday
Wishes to...**

- 08/05 Evelyn Middleton
- 08/09 Hoan Phan
- 08/16 Thelma Wilber
- 08/16 Colleen Babbler
- 08/19 Jim Singleton
- 08/22 Terry Johnson
- 08/22 Emily Pease
- 08/29 Jessie Pereyra
- 08/30 Eric Valderrama



Happy Anniversary!

- 08/14 Joyce and Terry Johnson
- 08/22 Malacha and Robert Martin

Income and Expenses
June 2007

INCOME

	<i>June</i>
Offerings	\$3,432.60
Bldg. Use, etc.	\$ 4,649.09
Special Giving	\$471.16
TOTAL	\$ 8,552.85

EXPENSES

	<i>June</i>
Mission & Outreach	\$ 1,340.99
Operating Expense	\$ 1,665.42
Pastor and Staff	\$ 4,093.31
TOTAL	\$ 7,099.72

FUND BALANCES

Cash on hand	\$37,027.31
Designated funds	\$10,881.55



That Fabulous Fiftieth Celebration

On Saturday, July 14, Sunnyhills United Methodist Church celebrated 50 years of serving God and the community in Milpitas.

The weather was clear and breezy, and the banners decorating many faces of the exterior rustled in the breeze. Some 110 persons attended: members, former members from as far away as Grass Valley and Loomis, former pastors from Oregon, Sonoma Valley, and Napa Valley, and assorted friends of Sunnyhills UMC.

Inside the sanctuary building, the interior walls displayed more banners. All the beautiful, colorful, imaginative, banners illustrating the church seasons were made by members and friends of Sunnyhills UMC over the last five decades.

The event began with a 30-minute musical interlude provided by Rondeau, a baroque recorder ensemble from Portola Valley. Then, the service of celebration began, led by the current Pastor, Chansoo Lee.

Former pastors attending were R. Lee Hayward, Pamela D. Cummings, Joanne Tilton Rannells, Marlene (Marley) Spilman, Marilyn Ray, Amy Beth Durward. Some came from Oregon, Sonoma Valley, and Napa Valley. Former pastors unable to attend who sent greetings included Braxton Combs, Glenn Fuller, David Schilling, and Audrey Ward. Many of the attending former pastors shared their memories, and Milpitas Mayor Jose Esteves spoke on behalf of the city, congratulating Sunnyhills UMC for its service.

Pastor Cummings gave the invocation, then Lola Dorsey, a charter member of the congregation, spoke of her memories of the congregation and how she has maintained her membership despite moves to various other communities in the San Francisco Bay area.

After an anthem by the Sunnyhills Youth and Children's Ministry, Pastor Lee introduced Beverly Shamana, Bishop of the California-Nevada Annual Conference. Resident in Sacramento, she is the spiritual and administrative head of some 360 congregations. Pastor Rannells read from the Epistle to the Hebrews, and the Sunnyhills UMC Choir sang an anthem, then Bishop Shamana brought a moving message entitled "A Future With Faith", congratulating Sunnyhills on its first fifty years and challenging it to continue making a difference.

After a special song in Tagalog by members of the Sunnyhills UMC Filipino Language Ministry, Pastor Emil Sazon gave the offertory prayer and Bishop Shamana gave a benediction, bringing the worship service to a close. Everyone then moved their chairs to the perimeter of the sanctuary and the Nuevo Fuego Folklorico Dancers of Santa Maria Virgen Episcopal Church offered a splendid dance performance.

In the days following the event, telephone calls and e-mails have poured in, saying what a beautiful event it was.

The church's website is <http://www.gbgm-umc.org/sunnyhills/>

(The Milpitas Post)

In Loving Memory...

Bob Wilber, who joined Sunnyhills UMC with his family in November 1974, passed away on July 20, 2007. A memorial service was held at Sunnyhills UMC on July 25, 2007. Please send any remembrances of Bob you wish to share to sunnyhillsumc@gmail.com for publication in September's Beacon. *Thank you.*

Calendar

August

- 4 Trustees Meeting
- 5 WRAP after Service
- 6 Centering Prayer
- 12 Lunch Bunch at Juice City (on Jacklin Rd. in front of Nob Hill)
- 13 Centering Prayer
- 16 SPRC Meeting
- 18 Work Party
- 20 Centering Prayer
- 25 *BEACON DEADLINE*
Work Party
- 26 Change-over Sunday
- 27 Centering Prayer

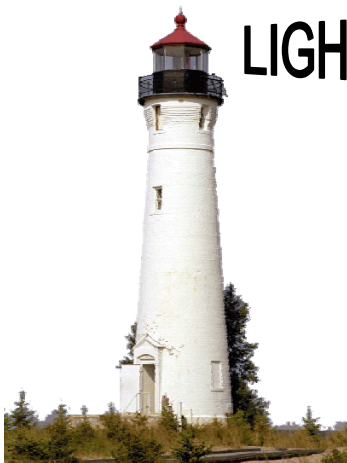
September

- 3 *Labor Day*
- 6 Choir
- 10 Centering Prayer
- 13 Choir
- 17 Centering Prayer
- 20 Choir
- 24 Centering Prayer
- 27 Choir
- 30 Change Over Sunday

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