



# The Beacon

Sunnyhills United Methodist Church  
355 Dixon Road, Milpitas CA 95035

**Pastor Chansoo Lee**

Cel  
Church Office

(510) 325-4907  
(408) 262-1486

*Visit us on the Web!*

*www.gbgm-umc.org/sunnyhills*

May 2008

## A Mother's Love

There are times when only a Mother's love  
Can understand our tears,  
Can soothe our disappoints  
And calm all of our fears.

There are times when only a Mother's love  
Can share the joy we feel  
When something we've dreamed about  
Quite suddenly is real.

There are times when only a Mother's faith  
Can help us on life's way  
And inspire in us the confidence  
We need from day to day.

For a Mother's heart and a Mother's faith  
And a Mother's steadfast love  
Were fashioned by the Angels  
And sent from God above.

*~anonymous*

### Note from the editor:

Our **Choir practices Thursdays at 7:00 p.m.** in the Sanctuary. On **May 4**, there will be a **Community Breakfast** before church, hosted by the **Executive Lion's Club**.

**WRAP** is scheduled for **June 1<sup>st</sup>** at **11:15 a.m.**

**BEACON DEADLINE:** For the June issue – Wednesday morning, **May 20, 2008**.

**May 25<sup>th</sup>** is **Change-over Sunday**.

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(See Page 3 for further calendar details)





## Moving forward with Confidence

I want to revisit the question that I had to answer: How can I move our ministry at Sunnyhills forward with confidence? In my last letter, my answer was to reacquaint our ministry with our knowledge regarding the life of Jesus accounted for in the gospels. So in this letter I want to show what this means by using the gospel according to Mark.

I used to have difficulty in explaining the notion of the Holy Spirit and our experience of this difficulty stems from the way I was taught in the church: the Holy Spirit is a reality, experienced as power, emerging from some place “out there”, - usually “above.” For instance, in the gospel, we are told that the Holy Spirit descended upon Jesus like a dove as he was coming out of the water after receiving the baptism by John the Baptist. Another place in the New Testament that presents a similar picture is from the Book of Acts. When the first Christians gathered in the upper room and prayed “divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them.” This is how Luke described the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

If you think of it as an event that you can observe with your eyes, then the Holy Spirit operates from some place out there, appearing in the form of a dove or a flame of tongue. But, is it also possible to think of it as an event within. In other words, it is a description of an inner event. And when we think this way, the baptism story makes much more sense and we can relate to it even today in our own experience. And this is how.

We experience the power of the Holy Spirit when we make a concrete act of commitment in response to the message regarding the kingdom of God. That is, the vision of a new world under God’s reign who is just and compassionate. Jesus heard the message from John the Baptist and he responded by committing himself to the vision of the new world that John was proclaiming. When he made this commitment Jesus experienced the power of the Holy Spirit. In other words, without the act of commitment, experiencing the power of the Holy Spirit was not possible.

If this view is sound enough, then what does this mean for us today? Christian life expressed in the ministry of a local church is characterized by its commitment to the vision that we hear today in the message regarding the God’s reign for our world today. That is to say, the vision it has is the source of its empowerment, i.e., experiencing the power of the Holy Spirit. Then the question, what is our vision of this new world? Are we committed to this vision? If not, then we need to be informed by the vision that Jesus had as explained in the gospel, and commit ourselves. And this is my understanding of how we move forward with confidence as a church.

Peace to You All,

*Chansoo*



► **"Make a Joyful Noise..."**

Choir rehearsals continue **Thursday evenings** in May at **6:30 p.m.**. Our last choir rehearsal of the season will be June 5. During the summer anyone interested, may gather around the piano at 9:00 a.m. before worship, to practice the harmony on a favorite hymn.



► **The Trustees**

The Trustees are planning a workday next month. Please mark your calendars to come lend a hand on **Saturday, June 21<sup>st</sup>**. The day will begin at **9:00AM**. The work crew will be focusing on the outside fascia boards, trim, and posts along with cleaning and painting the bathrooms. There is plenty of work to go around and your participation is much needed. We accomplish sooo much when everyone pitches in. Lunch will be provided. We hope to see you all there.



► **Lay Speakers**

The Lay Speakers for the next three months are:  
Emil Sazon - June 29, 2008  
Daislyn Pease – July 27, 2008

Thanks to Erik Larsen for speaking in April.

► **Lunch Bunch is Real This Time**

Lunch Bunch will gather after Worship service at **Liou's House**, 1245 Jacklin Road, Milpitas – **May 18, 2008**.



► **Peace and Justice Sunday** is May 18, 2008. There will be a special offering during worship service.

**Happy Birthday  
Wishes to...**

05/05 Sarah Chow  
 05/12 Leah Marcus  
 05/14 Gwen Freeman  
 05/15 Jo Roll  
 05/18 Jack Spilman  
 05/28 Vilma Ware



**Church Anniversary**

05/04 Katherine and Ole Twite  
 05/21 Laurie and Rolf Haas  
 05/25 Jess and Lelaine Tanciango

**Income and Expenses  
March 2008**

**INCOME**

	<i>March</i>
Offerings	\$ 4,736.00
Bldg. Use, etc.	\$6,193.48
Special Giving	\$ 386.47
<b>TOTAL</b>	\$11,315.95

**EXPENSES**

	<i>March</i>
Mission & Outreach	\$ 1,828.35
Operating Expense	\$ 2,270.01
Pastor and Staff	\$ 5,858.34
<b>TOTAL</b>	\$ 9,956.70

**FUND BALANCES**

Cash on hand	\$34,830.77
Designated funds	\$16,252.43



**Change-Over Sunday** occurs on **May 25<sup>th</sup>** this month. This ministry has been going very well and we have been able to make a difference for many who need it. This collection benefits the **Milpitas Food Pantry** and the **San Jose Family Shelter**. **Thank you** for your contributions. Each one of you truly make a difference!

## Community Breakfast Schedule

The following is the Community Breakfast Schedule of the Sunnyhills Neighborhood Association for the 2007-2008 season.

May 4, 2008

Executive Lion's Club

***Don't miss this one!*** *They will be previewing the upcoming political election.*

June 1, 2008

Milpitas Parks and Recreation

Bonnie Greiner

\* The Sunnyhills Neighborhood Association meets the first Wednesday of each month, in Jones Hall of the Sunnyhills United Methodist Church at 355 Dixon Road, 7:00 p.m..

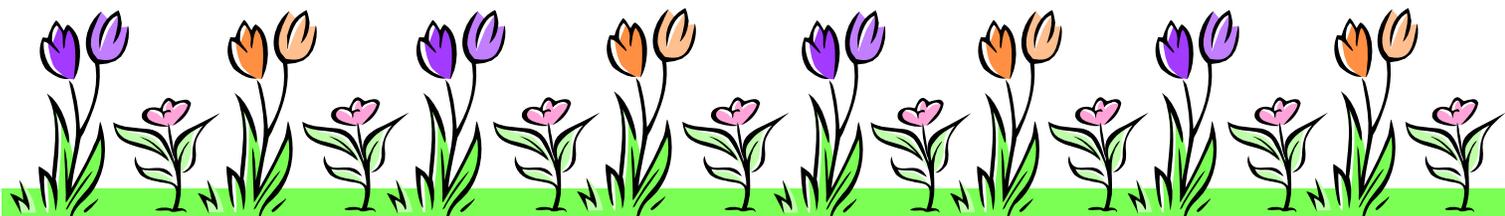
\*Each Sunday Breakfast time is 7:00 a.m. to 8:30 a.m..

\*All participants are responsible for food and paper items, you will be notified in advance.

\*June 1st will be the last breakfast before summer break.

Herbert Holloway, Chair

(408) 262-2734



**Child Caregiver Selected**

Dear Sunnyhills Parents,

Sunnyhills UMC now has a new child care person. Her name is Aliyah Mohammed. Aliyah comes to us with considerable experience, and has provided childcare for congregation members. She lives close to Milpitas High School. Aliyah's mother runs a daycare in town. She is a senior in High School and will be graduating shortly. She plans to stay local and go to community college, so we hope to have her with us for a couple more years. Please take the time to meet her, and bring your children to her if they'd like to play in the playground or just in the preschool rooms.

Grace and Peace,

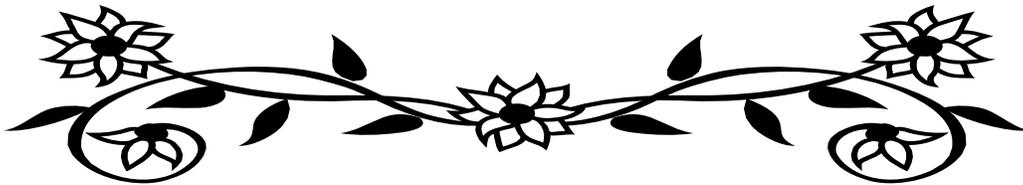
Daislyn

***Thank you for the opportunity to share....***

***By Mrs. Eugenia Allen Egbert***

*Julia Jones has been a long time friend, since 1968, when we became members of Sunnyhills United Methodist Church. Her story, which she shared recently with Yollette Merrit who wrote that beautiful article published recently in the Milpitas Post, reminded us of many events we shared through the SUMC family. Most recently we were reminded of her dedication to our community and SUMC. At this time we give thanks and celebrate her life as a friend who walked in Peace while on the earth.*

*She is at rest now with her beloved husband, Oliver. They will be waiting with smiles and open arms when our journey here is over and we go home forever.*



**Special Presentation – June 8<sup>th</sup>**

There will be a special presentation given by Yolette Merit on Sunday, June 8<sup>th</sup> showcasing the history, legacy and gifts of SUMC. Please plan to attend this barbeque/potluck directly after Worship service where we also will be welcoming our newcomers. Summer's finally here. Let's have a party!

# Calendar

## May

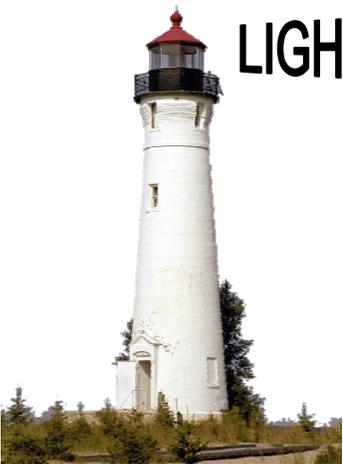
- 1 Choir Practice
- 3 Confirmation Class
- 4 Community Breakfast in Jones Hall
- 4 Korean Bible Study at 11:30 AM
- 5 Filipino Bible Study at 6:00 PM
- 5 Centering Prayer
- 8 Choir Practice
- 10 Confirmation Class
- 11 *Mother's Day*
- 12 Korean Bible Study at 11:30 AM
- 12 Filipino Bible Study at 6:00 PM
- 15 Centering Prayer
- 15 Choir Practice
- 17 Confirmation Class
- 18 Peace and Justice Sunday
- 18 Lunch Bunch at Lion's House
- 19 Korean Bible Study at 11:30 AM
- 19 Filipino Bible Study at 6:00 PM
- 19 Centering Prayer
- 20 *BEACON DEADLINE*
- 22 Choir Practice
- 24 Confirmation Class
- 25 Change-over Sunday
- 25 Korean Bible Study at 11:30 AM
- 25 Filipino Bible Study at 6:00 PM
- 26 *Memorial Day*
- 29 Choir Practice
- 31 Confirmation Class

\* June 1 WRAP after Worship

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 355 Dixon Road  
 Milpitas, CA 95035

FIRST CLASS MAIL



# LIGHT FOR LIVING AND GROWING