



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.gbkm-umc.org/sunnyhills

January 2009

Recipe for a Happy New Year. Anonymous

Take twelve fine, full-grown months; see that these are thoroughly free from old memories of bitterness, rancor and hate, cleanse them completely from every clinging spite; pick off all specks of pettiness and littleness; in short, see that these months are freed from all the past—have them fresh and clean as when they first came from the great storehouse of Time. Cut these months into thirty or thirty-one equal parts. Do not attempt to make up the whole batch at one time (so many persons spoil the entire lot this way) but prepare one day at a time.

Into each day put equal parts of faith, patience, courage, work (some people omit this ingredient and so spoil the flavor of the rest), hope, fidelity, liberality, kindness, rest (leaving this out is like leaving the oil out of the salad dressing— don't do it), prayer, meditation, and one well-selected resolution. Put in about one teaspoonful of good spirits, a dash of fun, a pinch of folly, a sprinkling of play, and a heaping cupful of good humor.



Note from the editor:

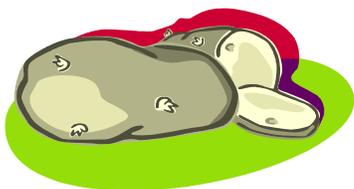
On **January 4, 2009 at 7:00 a.m.** there will be a community Breakfast hosted by the **Traffic Reduction Committee**, before church, in **Jones Hall**.

The next **WRAP Meeting** will be **Saturday, January 10, 2009 at 9:00 a.m.**

BEACON DEADLINE: For the February issue – Wednesday morning, **January 21, 2009.**

January 25th is **Change-over Sunday.**

(See Page 3 for further calendar details)



Dear Friends and Members,

For a long time, I had the idea of “diversity” in my mind and wanted to apply it to our local church ministry, which to me means culturally diverse in terms of membership and its community—I use the concept of culture in the most inclusive sense. I was well aware of the relevance of this concept to our local church situation; but I was not able to make a concrete connection between this concept and our ministry at Sunnyhills.

Over this year’s Thanksgiving, I was reading *Indian Giver* by Jack Weatherford who teaches anthropology at Macalester College. In this book, Weatherford explains various contributions that American Indians have made to the rest of the world. And, particularly caught my attention was the way Peruvian Indians grew potatoes centuries ago in an environment which few farming experts in our time would find fitting for growing anything other than trees and plants native to that environment. Peruvian Indians figured out to cultivate potatoes in the high mountainous regions:

Starting thousands of years before the Incas, the natives ascertained how to produce extremely high yields of potatoes from small plots of land. In the modern world, producing high yields has come about primarily through developing plants that can grow in different types of environments and, when necessary, through the manipulation of the immediate environment of the plant to have ensure that it has just the right amount of moisture, nitrogen, and other requirements for maximum growth. Peruvians seem to have approached the problem in the opposite way. They sought to develop a different kind of plant for every type of soil, sun, and moisture condition. They prized diversity. They wanted potatoes in a variety of sizes, textures, and colors, from whites and yellows through purples, reds, oranges, and browns. Some tasted sweet and others too bitter for humans to eat, but the latter were useful as animal fodder.

They did not seek this diversity merely for the aesthetic pleasure of having so many shapes, colors, and textures, but rather for the practical reasons that such variations in appearance also meant variation in other, less noticeable properties. Some potatoes mature fast and some slowly, an important consideration in a country where the growing season varies with the altitude. Some potatoes required a lot of water and some required very little, which made one variety or another more adaptable to the highly variable rainfalls of different valleys. Some potatoes stored easily for long periods of time, others made excellent food for livestock.

As I plan our ministry for the coming year, I want to use this farming method to inform our plan. In fact, I want to treat it like a parable in the gospels. The parables do not tell you exactly what they mean; and yet they tell you something very important and every time you reflect on them you come up with something new.

If you have not read this book, I encourage you to do so. I hope I will hear from you new insights and ideas as we develop our ministry.

God bless you and Happy New Year!

Chansoo Lee





► **Trustees** The next Trustee's meeting will be held Saturday January 3, 2009 in the church office at 9:00AM.

► **WRAP**

The next **WRAP** meeting will be held on Saturday, January 10, 2009 at 9:00AM.



► **Sunday Afternoon Study Group**

An academic study group meets Sundays at 4:00PM for help with various subjects. Tutoring is available for grades 1-8 in the sanctuary. Please don't hesitate to bring your child in for assistance with their studies.

► **"Should old acquaintance be forgot..."**

Happy New Year!! The Choir has it's first rehearsal of the New Year on Thursday, **January 8, 2009** at **6:30** in the Sanctuary. Please mark your calendar and plan on joining us if you like to sing and have a *good time*.

We'll be practicing new music for 2009 and can always use more voices. Anyone interested in joining the choir, don't hesitate to stop on by the **sanctuary** on any **Thursday evening** at **6:30PM**. Hope to see ya soon.



► **Change-Over Sunday** is **January 25, 2009**.

It was heart-breaking to learn in December that some food banks literally ran out of food. Thanks to folks like you, Milpitas wasn't one of them.

It's cold out and everyone needs a warm meal. **Thank you sooo much**, for continuing this ministry which is sooo needed this time of year. Especially *this year!*

Happy Birthday Wishes to...

01/01 Emil Sazon
 01/10 Don Egbert
 01/16 Vennie Holloway
 01/16 Joyce Johnson
 01/17 Eugenia Allen Egbert
 01/17 Rebecca Marcus
 01/20 Julia Jones
 01/22 Laurie Haas
 01/23 Guy Haas



Happy Anniversary!

01/19 Anita and Reuben
 Valderrama

**Income and Expenses
 November 2008**

INCOME

	<i>November</i>
Offerings	\$ 5,822.32
Bldg. Use, etc.	\$5,301.01
Special Giving	\$ 22.30
TOTAL	\$11,145.65

EXPENSES

	<i>November</i>
Mission & Outreach	\$ 2,088.85
Operating Expense	\$ 1,514.70
Pastor and Staff	\$ 4,938.50
TOTAL	\$ 8,542.05

FUND BALANCES

Cash on hand	\$39,076.35
Designated funds	\$20,164.85



Community Breakfast Schedule

The following is the Community Breakfast Schedule of the Sunnyhills Neighborhood Association for the 2008-2009 season.

January 4, 2009
Traffic Reduction Committee
Allysson and Jim Smith

April 5, 2009
Sikh Foundation
Gurdev Sandhu

February 1, 2009
Black Caucus
Demetress Morris

May 3, 2009
Milpitas Fire Department

March 1, 2009
Milpitas Post
Robert Devincenzi, Editor

June 7, 2009
Milpitas Parks and Recreation
President Bonnie Greiner

* The Sunnyhills Neighborhood Association meet the first Wednesday of each month, in Jones Hall of the Sunnyhills United Methodist Church, 355 Dixon Road, at 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 7th will be the last breakfast before summer break.

Herbert Holloway, Chair
(408) 262-2734

***** Please note, Herb Holloway has been moved to: White Blossom Care Center
1990 Fruitdale Avenue
San Jose, CA 95128**



Calendar

January

- 1 *Happy New Year!* Office Closed
- 3 Trustees Meeting
- 4 Community Breakfast in Jones Hall
Worship
Korean Ministry Service at 11:30 AM
Study Help at 4:00PM
- 5 Centering Prayer
- 8 Choir Practice
- 10 WRAP
- 11 Worship
Korean Ministry Service at 11:30 AM
Study Help at 4:00PM
- 12 Centering Prayer
- 15 Choir Practice
- 18 Worship
Korean Ministry Service at 11:30 AM
Study Help at 4:00PM
- 19 Centering Prayer
- 21 *BEACON Deadline*
- 22 Choir Practice
- 25 Worship – *Change-Over Sunday*
Korean Ministry Service
Study Help at 4:00PM
- 26 Centering Prayer
- 29 Choir

February

- 1 Community Breakfast in Jones Hall
Worship
Korean Ministry Service
Study Help at 4:00PM
- 2 Centering Prayer
- 5 Choir
- 8 Worship
Korean Ministry Service at 11:30 AM
Study Help at 4:00PM
- 9 Centering Prayer

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