



March 2009

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.gbgm-umc.org/sunnyhills

The Irish Blessing

May the road rise to meet you,
May the wind be always at your back.
May the sun shine warm upon your face,
The rains fall soft upon your fields.
And until we meet again,
May God hold you in the palm of his hand.

May God be with you and bless you:
May you see your children's children.
May you be poor in misfortune,
Rich in blessings.
May you know nothing but happiness
From this day forward.

May the road rise up to meet you
May the wind be always at your back
May the warm rays of sun fall upon your home
And may the hand of a friend always be near.

May green be the grass you walk on,
May blue be the skies above you,
May pure be the joys that surround you,
May true be the hearts that love you.

Note from the editor:

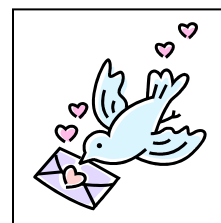
On **March 7, 2009 at 7:00 a.m.** there will be a community Breakfast hosted by the **The Milpitas Post**. Please note this is on a Saturday.

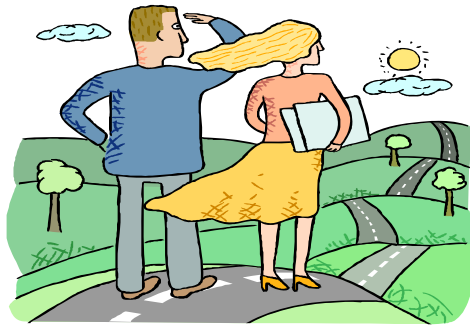
The next **WRAP Meeting** will be **Saturday, March 14, 2009 at 9:00 a.m.**

BEACON DEADLINE: For the February issue – Wednesday morning, **March 18, 2009**.

March 29th is **Change-over Sunday**.

(See Page 3 for further calendar details)





Dear Friends,

I am writing this letter in the context of this year's Lent, a time of reflection. On the one hand, during Lent, we reflect on the life of Jesus, particularly focus on the meaning of his suffering; and on the other hand, we engage in self-reflection, particularly focus on the areas in our own life that needs change; the main purpose the reflection is for us to become more faithful followers of Jesus.

"Vital Signs" is a church growth system that our annual conference is currently using; and we did the key informant survey recommended in the Vital Signs. I want to share the findings of the survey as a self-reflection as a congregation. Our congregation is best described as "retrogressive." This means our membership is declining, but stable. Basically I agree with this description. Our congregation is stable; however Korean language ministry that began in July 2008 actually brought about membership growth. Vital Signs recommends the following for a retrogressive congregation to become a vital congregation. We need to build our ministry on our strengths. And, for the time being, we need to focus on the quality of our ministry rather than quantity (growth).

During a discussion on the survey, "Game Night" was brought up as a concrete example illustrating our "strength." Last year members brought their favorite games and played together one evening. It was a fun event and all age groups participated. If we can creatively expand on this kind of event, it will be a drawing point of our ministry.

Leadership training is scheduled for March 21, Saturday. In the morning session, we will discuss the vision of our church and plan ways to realize our vision; and also we will set short term goals of our ministry. In the afternoon session, Edna Andres, Conference Lay Minister and Youth leader at St. Paul UMC, will share her story of multicultural ministry.

As a way to prepare for this training, I want to share with you some key concepts that have been informing my work at Sunnyhills: diversity, adaptability, flexibility, and mission oriented. Our community has become increasingly diverse, which also reflects the make up of our congregation. Our ministry needs to be adaptable to this new reality. Without flexibility we cannot be adaptable. The history of our congregation clearly shows that from the beginning our church has been mission oriented—mission oriented is an integral part of the identity of our ministry.

I encourage you to start giving thoughts to and praying about the future of our church. Come to the training on March 21 and share your thoughts and ideas; for it will be a concrete way to become faithful followers of Jesus whom we believe as the Christ. And, we will have another reason to celebrate this Easter: A vision for our future.

Peace,

Chansoo Lee



► **WRAP**

The next **WRAP** meeting will be held on Saturday, March 14, 2009 at 9:00AM.

► ***Don't forget to set your clocks AHEAD.***



Daylight Savings Time begins March 8th.

► ***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.

► ***Snap Your Fingers and Tap your Toe...***

The Choir practices every **Thursday 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're practicing new music for Lent and Easter and can always use more voices.



► ***Change-Over Sunday*** is **March 29, 2009**.

Its great to report this ministry continues to be so successful. It is being a difficult year for many.

Thank you sooo much, for continuing this ministry. So much can be accomplished when many show they care.



Happy Birthday Wishes to...

- 03/06 Jamie MacLeod
- 03/06 Daislyn Pease
- 03/06 Tyler Tanciango
- 03/09 David Johnson
- 03/14 Ealasaid Haas
- 03/14 Sonya Chow
- 03/26 Huynh Phan



Happy Anniversary!

03/05 Gwen and Jack Freeman

**Income and Expenses
January 2009**

INCOME

	<i>January</i>
Offerings	\$ 3,082.75
Bldg. Use, etc.	\$4,172.47
Special Giving	\$172.47
TOTAL	\$7,427.69

EXPENSES

	<i>January</i>
Mission & Outreach	\$ 1,209.27
Operating Expense	\$ 2,456.72
Pastor and Staff	\$ 5,368.56
TOTAL	\$ 9,034.55

FUND BALANCES

Cash on hand	\$36,253.34
Designated funds	\$20,614.16



Community Breakfast Schedule

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

March 7, 2009
Milpitas Post
Robert Devincenzi, Editor

April 4, 2009
Sikh Foundation
Gurdev Sandhu

May 2, 2009
Milpitas Fire Department

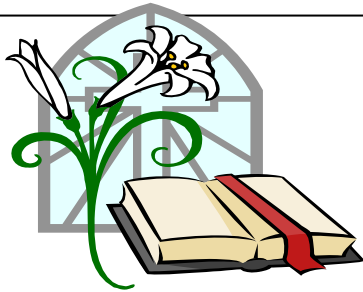
June 6, 2009
Milpitas Parks and Recreation
President Bonnie Greiner

* 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 Saturday 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 6th will be the last breakfast before summer break.



**Easter Sunrise Service
April 12, 2009 - 7:00 a.m.**

**Easter Worship Service
April 12, 2009 - 9:30 a.m.**



Calendar

March

- 1 **Worship**
Korean Ministry Service at 11:30 AM
Study Help at 4:00PM
- 2 **Centering Prayer**
Bible Studies at Karen Schreifels
- 5 **Choir Practice**
Community Breakfast in Jones Hall
- 7 **Worship**
- 8 **Korean Ministry Service at 11:30 AM**
Study Help at 4:00PM
- 9 **Centering Prayer**
Bible Studies at Karen Schreifels
- 12 **Choir Practice**
- 14 **WRAP**
- 15 **Worship**
Korean Ministry Service at 11:30 AM
Study Help at 4:00PM
- 16 **Centering Prayer**
Bible Studies at Karen Schreifels
- 18 ***BEACON Deadline***
- 19 **Choir Practice**
- 22 **Worship**
Korean Ministry Service at 11:30 AM
Study Help at 4:00PM
- 23 **Centering Prayer**
Bible Studies at Karen Schreifels
- 26 **Choir Practice**
- 29 **Worship – *Change-Over Sunday***
Korean Ministry Service
Study Help at 4:00PM
- 30 **Centering Prayer**
- 29 **Choir**

April

- 4 **Community Breakfast in Jones Hall**
- 5 **Worship**
Korean Ministry Service

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FIRST CLASS MAIL

LIGHT FOR LIVING AND GROWING

