



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

October 2009

Autumn Blessings

See the goodness of our Father
in the Autumn season fair,
In the colors that delight us
When there's beauty everywhere.

In the gold and crimson hillsides,
In each maple tree ablaze,
In bright goldenrod and asters
Lining rustic country ways.

See the goodness of our Father
In the sky of sapphire-blue,
In the Autumn sun enhancing
Every lovely thing in view.

See the goodness of our Father
In the beauty of the land,
In the lavish yield we gather,
All provided by His hand.

See the goodness of our Father
In the Autumn season fair;
For this wealth of Autumn blessings,
We lift thankful hearts in prayer.

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Note from the editor:

The next **WRAP Meeting** will be **November 1, 2009** at **11:30 a.m.**.

BEACON DEADLINE: For the **November** issue -**Tuesday** morning,
October 20, 2009.

Trustees will meet again on **Saturday, October 3, 2009** at **9:00 a.m.** for a **½ Workday!**

October 25th is **Change-over Sunday.** 1

(See Page 3 for further calendar details)





Dear Friends,

Last Monday morning when I came to the church I saw a homeless person next to one of the sheds that we use for outdoor storage. This person must have stayed on the church property the night before and was getting out of her sleeping bag. And this was the first time I have encountered a homeless person on the church campus since I came to Sunnyhills four years ago.

I understand this is indicative of the worsening economy and harder times ahead. But at the same time, this forced me to re-examine what is really involved in expressing the purpose of our ministry in a mission statement.

Our congregation is currently working on a mission statement for our church and we are going to adapt a finalized version of it at the church conference in November. For now, it says:

We strive to build a faith community welcoming to all as we journey together with Christ for the transformation of world.

When I saw this homeless person on the church campus, I did not know how to react. And the first thought was “What if this person does not leave voluntarily?” I knew I was not ready to ask this person to leave. She must have felt safe on our church campus last night. I was not going to open our church building for this person either. I was forced to admit that I was not ready to come to terms with the situation. I acted as if I did not see this person and walked into my office. Apparently she left later.

This “small incident” said a lot to me. If we want to transform our world, we need to transform ourselves first. As I saw for myself, I was such a person who was incapable of making an ethical decision in the presence of this homeless person. That is to say, I got so used to myself that I stopped questioning myself and failed to see who I was.

But I know I want to prepare myself for next time when I encounter a homeless person on the church campus. For that, I must answer the following questions. What do I mean by “striving to build a faith community welcoming all”? Whom am I going to include in this “all”? And what do I mean by “welcoming”?

Sincerely,

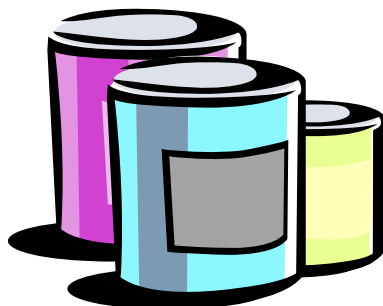
Chansoo Lee

► ***Trustees*** will have an important Workday on **Saturday, October 3, 2009 at 9:30 a.m.** ANY ASSISTANCE IS APPRECIATED!!!



► ***WRAP***

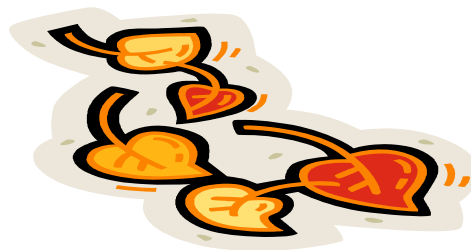
The next **WRAP** meeting will be **November 1, 2009 at 11:30 a.m.** We have a lot of activities between now and the end of the year. Lets work on the details together. Come join in the fun.



► ***SPRC*** will have their next meeting, **Tuesday October 20, at 7:00 p.m.** Committee members, mark your calendars.

► ***All Church Conference***

SUMC will be holding its Annual Conference early in **November**. The exact date and time has not been determined. Please keep your eyes on your bulletins and weekly emails for the announcement of the day and time. Thank you.



► ***Choir*** Choir is back in full swing and having some fun. They've got some great voices, but the more the merrier. Come on over to the **Sanctuary** on the **Thursdays at 6:30 p.m.** and we'll have a real good time practicing some old and new music together.



► ***Change-Over Sunday*** is **October 25, 2009**. The Milpitas Food Pantry will be providing even more food as the colder months approach. Please dig deep to help provide wholesome food for our less fortunate neighbors. **Thank you for being there!!**

► ***“There’s Always Room For Jello”***,

so put a few boxes in a bag and bring them on down to the church to donate to the Milpitas Food Pantry for their Thanksgiving feast. We have offered to provide 100 boxes of various flavors so please remember Jello on your next trip to the grocery store. Please bring them with you to worship, the first two Sundays of November. Thanks, Jo Roll

Happy Birthday Wishes to...

10/16 Anita Valderrama
10/25 Joanne Larsen
10/25 Bob Martin
10/31 Aida Cruz



Happy Anniversary!

10/20 Sue and John Babel
10/23 Hylasue Mercurio and
Pam Bini

**Income and Expenses
August 2009**

INCOME

	<i>August</i>
Offerings	\$ 3,968.00
Bldg. Use, etc.	\$3,729.72
Special Giving	\$94.19
TOTAL	\$7,790.91

EXPENSES

	<i>August</i>
Mission & Outreach	\$ 180.48
Operating Expense	\$ 2,676.81
Pastor and Staff	\$ 4,234.72
TOTAL	\$ 7,092.01

FUND BALANCES

Cash on hand	\$37,183.34
Designated funds	\$22,684.74



WOW!! Its Almost Here!!!

Make Difference in Your Community!

On Saturday, October 24, 2009, Sunnyhills United Methodist Church (SUMC) and the Sunnyhills Neighborhood Association (SNA) will co-sponsor Make-A-Difference Day activities in the Sunnyhills area. Make A Difference Day is an encompassing national day of helping others -- a celebration of neighbors helping neighbors. Created by USA WEEKEND Magazine, Make A Difference Day is an annual event that takes place on the fourth Saturday of every October. We are excited about being a part of it this year.

SUMC has agreed to host a Stanford blood drive in the church sanctuary and to make a list of home owners in the neighborhood who would like to have help with home repairs and yard work on the day of the event. We are also planning to have collection trucks available for donations to charitable organizations (arrangements are still being made).

Put the date on your calendars! Contact SUMC at (408) 262-1486 if you would like to sign up to be on the list of home-owners who could use a hand to spruce up your place that day. If you know an elderly neighbor or person with a disability who could use a hand, please let them know about this project and how to contact us.



SCRIP Reminder

Here come all those holidays again. Just think, you could use Scrip for each and every one and everyone. Please be reminded to order your scrip from Daislyn on Sundays or via email at daislyn@sbcglobal.net. Scrip is the easy fundraiser - you only get things you really need and use, and the church gets a small profit from each transaction.

Don't forget, they make great gifts too! Halloween is up first and it always brings Trick or Treaters. Then the "Holidays" sneak up right behind Halloween. Wouldn't it be great if the church benefited from all that buying power. It's just about the easiest fundraiser ever!

Thanks,

Daislyn



You are Invited... Mark your Calendar!!

SUMC will be holding a Progressive Dinner.

The first course will begin at the Church with

Salad and Appetizers at 5:00 p.m.



The next stop will be the main course at



***The Touchton-Larsen Home at
753 Kizer Street – Milpitas***

Then off to the home of Bob and Jo Roll for DESSERT!! YUM!

(Bob and Jo's Address is: 3671 Tunis Avenue, San Jose, CA 95132)



So come one and ALL, for some GREAT company, GOOD eating and

***An ALL-ROUND GREAT TIME on the road with your fellow
church family.***

You don't want to miss THIS!!

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact Erik at (408) 786-8133

Calendar

October

- 1 Choir
 - 3 Community Breakfast
 - 4 Worship- World Communion Sunday
 - 5 Centering Prayer
 - 8 Choir
 - 11 Worship
 - 12 Progressive Dinner
 - 12 Centering Prayer
 - 15 Choir
 - 18 Worship
 - 19 Centering Prayer
 - 20 BEACON *Deadline*
 - 20 SPRC
 - 22 Choir
 - 24 SNA event
 - 25 Worship – Change-Over Sunday
 - 26 Centering Prayer
 - 29 Choir
- ## November
- 1 Worship
 - 2 WRAP – 11:30 a.m.
 - 2 Centering Prayer
 - 5 Choir
 - 7 Community Breakfast
 - 8 Worship
 - 12 Lunch Bunch at Casa Azteca – 11:45 a.m.
 - 12 Choir
 - 13 Sing-a-long at 7:00 p.m.
 - 15 Worship
 - 16 Centering Prayer
 - 17 BEACON *Deadline*
 - 19 Choir
 - 22 Worship
 - 23 Centering Prayer
 - 26 Thanksgiving – No Choir Practice
 - 29 Worship – Change Over Sunday

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FIRST CLASS MAIL

LIGHT FOR LIVING AND GROWING

