



The Beacon

Sunnyhills United Methodist Church
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Visit us on the Web!

www.gbgm-umc.org/sunnyhills

February 2010

The Great Love of God

The love of God...it is true and it lasts forever.

And no one can change God's feelings of love for His children, no never.

The love of God...which sent His only Son, Jesus Christ, to die for fallen man,
Which fulfilled His free and eternal salvation plan.

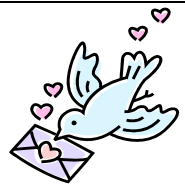
The love of God...which can make His children feel encouraged in their troubling times,
And gives them strength, courage, and great peace of mind.

The love of God...which never changes nor stops, even when we do something wrong,
And it keeps us singing, while keeping our spirits strong.

The love of God...which gives joy to all who believe in the Lord Jesus Christ,
A joy that will continue all through their everlasting lives.

The love of God...which will never die, for God will forever live in heaven above.
Do you know this God? Who for you has such great love?

by [Raymond Sides](#)



Notes from the editor:

The next **Community Breakfast**, featuring the **Milpitas Black Caucus** and **Flame Keepers** is scheduled for **Saturday, February 6, 2010 at 8:00a.m.**

BEACON DEADLINE: For the **March** issue –**Tuesday morning, February 16, 2010**

The next **WRAP meeting** will be **February 21, 2010** after worship.

February 28th is **Change-over Sunday**.



Let us Pray...

The story about the baptism of Jesus appears in all three gospels, but with variations. It marks the beginning of Jesus' ministry; and gaining a special sense of mission lies in the background of this story as common themes. However, Luke adds, unlike in Matthew and Mark, Jesus prayed after receiving the water baptism. According to Luke, while praying the Holy Spirit descended upon Jesus and the heaven became split open and a voice was heard saying, "You are my beloved son; I am pleased with you." So, Luke is trying to remind us that there is something very important about prayer that we need to understand.

Prayer is an act of petition, to begin with. When we pray we pray to someone who has power and means to attain what we want. In other words, there is no need to pray when we have power and means to attain what we want without any help. So, for instance, we pray to God believing that God will make into reality what we can only hope for.

Now here is an important fact that we sometimes overlook. That is, when we pray we believe God is real, for instance. This seems too obvious to state. In fact it is. But, we need to understand an important implication of this.

When we believe God is real, our experience of that "realness" is no different from our experience, for instance, of our friends in our everyday life. Let us say, I meet a person for the first time in my life and have decided to enter a special friendship with that person. This means as a result of this new relationship my personal world is different now. My own personal world has changed because of the place that I have given to that relationship.

So, if we really reflect on the implication of the very act of praying as a petition, prayer is an act of invitation. And when you invite someone into your life you need to anticipate that your personal world will change as result. Likewise, when Jesus prayed, he invited God into his world and began to understand his life with a sense of purpose. Jesus was not just "praying to" God, but also he chose to accept the mission that he understood.

When we pray to God, or when we pray in Jesus' name, there is a place for God and of Jesus in our own personal world. That very act of praying means we have invited God and Jesus into our own personal world. According to Luke, when Jesus prayed, the heaven was split and he heard a voice; he felt empowered and gained of mission. Now, the question for you and me is this: when we pray next time, what do we anticipate to happen?

Peace

Chansoo Lee

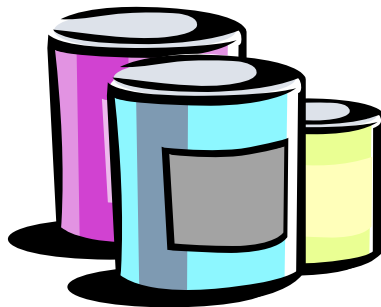


► **Choir**

Do you **love** to sing? Does your **love** of good music overshadow your **love** of a good book or video games? **Loving** what you are good at is an actual double blessing. Well lets not let those **lovely** double blessings go to waste. Bring your **loving** voices on down to Choir Rehearsal on Thursday nights at 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary and share the **love**. (of music that is)



► **WRAP** will have their next meeting, **Sunday, February 21, 2010** after Worship in the **Church Office**. All are welcome. We hope to see you there.



► **Change-Over Sunday** is **February 28, 2010**.

As the winter months go by and the rainy season drags on, your contributions to this much-needed ministry are so important to your less fortunate neighbors. **Thanks to all of you for the continued support.**



► **San Jose District Quarterly Conference** will be held at the Korean UMC of Santa Clara Valley, Saturday **February 13, 2010** beginning at **8:30 a.m.**. This quarter's topic is "As we rethink church, what is the role of lay leadership?" Please see the enclosed insert for more details.

► **Trustees**

The next Trustees' meeting will be Saturday, February 13, 2010 at 9:30 a.m. in the church office.

Happy Birthday Wishes to...

02/01 Jeremy Mark Westover
02/02 Jess Tanciango
02/18 Pamela J. Bini
02/21 Robert Roll
02/23 Sharon Fall



Happy Anniversary!

02/14 Jo and Bob Roll

**Income and Expenses
December 2009**

INCOME

	<i>December</i>
Offerings	\$ 3,353.50
Bldg. Use, etc.	\$4,671.08
Special Giving	\$174.12
TOTAL	\$8,198.70

EXPENSES

	<i>December</i>
Mission & Outreach	\$ 1,326.03
Operating Expense	\$ 4,037.84
Pastor and Staff	\$ 5,386.80
TOTAL	\$10,750.67

FUND BALANCES

Cash on hand	\$34,657.99
Designated funds	\$22,762.16

**Income and Expenses
2009**

INCOME

	<i>December</i>
Offerings	\$42,749.72
Bldg. Use, etc.	\$62,197.86
Special Giving	\$1,989.62
TOTAL	\$106,937.20

EXPENSES

	<i>December</i>
Mission & Outreach	\$ 14,280.00
Operating Expense	\$ 32,829.60
Pastor and Staff	\$ 63,055.23
TOTAL	\$110,164.83

FUND BALANCES

Cash on hand	\$34,657.99
Designated funds	\$22,762.16



