



March 2010

# 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](http://www.gbgm-umc.org/sunnyhills)

## A Perfect Christian

You could count on a perfect Christian to always be gentle and humble,  
To be immune to sin, and never, ever stumble.  
He'd study and remember all of God's commands; He'd be trustworthy, moral and honest;  
You'd know just where he stands.

With others, she'd be in harmony; she'd never lose her cool;  
Forgiving and forgetting, following the Golden Rule.

He'd surrender his life to God, full of joy and peace,  
free of stress and worry...perfect, pure release.

She'd lift up everyone, full of sweet compassion,  
Free of worldly wants, ignoring worldly fashion.  
But we can't ever be perfect, so we always need to pray  
For the strength to do our best to love God and obey.

*By Joanna Fuchs*  
[www.poemsource.com](http://www.poemsource.com)



### Notes from the editor:

The next **Community Breakfast**, featuring the **Milpitas Post** is scheduled for **Saturday, March 6, 2010** at **8:00 a.m.**

The next **SPRC meeting** will be **Monday, March 8, 2010** at **7:00 p.m.**

The next **Trustees' meeting** will be **Saturday, March 13, 2010** at **9:30 a.m.**

**BEACON DEADLINE:** For the **April** issue –**Wednesday morning, March 17, 2010**

**March 28<sup>th</sup>** is **Change-over Sunday**.

## Something to Do for Lent

At the 2009 annual conference in June, the formation of circuits was decided. Within a district, churches within ten miles radius come together to form a circuit. Our church belongs to a circuit with seven other United Methodist churches. Since September 2009, the pastors from the circuit member churches have met almost once every month.

The circuit meeting usually begins at 10 a.m. and ends by 1 p.m. with having lunch together. During the meeting, we share joys and concerns relating to families and congregations; and we pray for one another. Also, we discuss different topics and issues and share our views on ministries. So basically through circuit meetings we give mutual support and learn from one another. For instance, at the last meeting which Sunnyhills hosted, I was asked to present what our congregation is doing in terms of mission. After my presentation there was time for questions and answers. Sifa is the pastor at Genesis UMC and his comment during the discussion kind of stuck in my mind. He is a mover and his leadership is doing things. I find myself at the opposite end; I tend to think, perhaps think too much and end up being unable to do what I thought I would. I clearly understood where Sifa was coming from and I agree with him.

If we understand Jesus as a reformer, his teachings and work were rooted in the prophetic tradition of the Old Testament. It was there already before the time of Jesus. In other words, it was not Jesus alone who adapted this tradition, and there were others too. But it was Jesus who “did it.” He carried out his work being informed by the tradition with clear sense of purpose and commitment.

Congregational growth is a major concern for almost every church I know, including our own church. I have tried to understand how our church got to where we are now by analyzing the social history of the congregation. I believe I have a good grasp in this regard. But this is perhaps only half of the answer. Understanding alone cannot provide power to change, move, and grow.

Our mission is “to build a community of faith welcoming to all, as we journey together with Jesus for the transformation of the world.” And I have explained that transformation of the world begins with the transformation of self. And now how about seeing us as a reformer? In other words, what we need to accomplish our mission is already there for us. The requirement is just to do what we already know, our tradition, which is the tradition of discipleship.

Mission gives a sense of purpose and help us set specific objectives. And discipleship is a means to achieve our mission; for it is a requirement. And the discipleship essentially involves raising the level of our commitment.\* At the same time we should not be preoccupied with the performance of our work, rather concentrate on engagement.\*\* I say, church growth is not a goal, but an outcome of discipleship.

Concerning discipleship, I want to suggest the following for this Lent. As you read the gospel, try to answer what enabled Jesus to keep his sense of purpose and maintain his commitment? And, what prevented his disciples from keeping their sense of purpose and maintaining their commitment? Where the disciples fell away from Jesus and why?

Peace,

Chansoo Lee

Note: I learned \* and \*\* from Eric Rainer who was the keynote speaker at one-day church conference held at San Ramon Valley UMC on Feb 4, 2010.



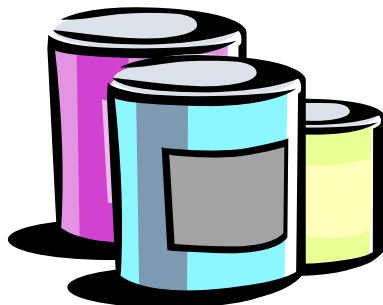


► **Choir**

Stop on by the **Sanctuary** on **Thursday nights** and join the choir as they prepare for Easter. They gather at **6:30 p.m.** and would love to add a few more voices to their heavenly sound.



► **WRAP** will have their next meeting, **Saturday, April 10, 2010**, in the **Church Office** at **9:30 a.m.**. All are welcome. We hope to see you there.



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

Please give generously to help the Milpitas Food Bank help others. **Special thanks to those of you who dug just a little deeper this month.**

► **SPRC** will meet again on **Monday, March 8, 2010** at **7:00 p.m.** in the **church office**.

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



► **Trustees**

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



**Daylight Savings Time begins March 14<sup>th</sup>.**

**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 2010**

**INCOME**

	<i>January</i>
Offerings	\$4,354.06
Bldg. Use, etc.	\$6,885.50
Special Giving	\$556.24
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$11,795.80</b>

**EXPENSES**

	<i>January</i>
Mission & Outreach	\$ 1,979.67
Operating Expense	\$ 2,508.91
Pastor and Staff	\$ 5,689.02
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$10,177.60</b>

**FUND BALANCES**

Cash on hand	\$36,276.19
Designated funds	\$23,333.58



# Spaghetti Feed



6:00 PM Saturday March 13, 2010  
Jones Hall, Sunnyhills United Methodist Church  
355 Dixon Road, Milpitas, CA

*Sponsored by 9to5, Bay Area, National Association of Working Women*

*Donations: \$10.00 adults; \$2.00 children.*

**9to5** invites the community to an open house "Spaghetti Feed" and program to celebrate our 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, and highlight **Women's History Month** and International Women's Day. Come support our work on behalf of low-income working women, those most affected by these hard economic times.

**7:00 PM:** Special premier screening and discussion of **POTO MITAN** – an award-winning 2009 documentary narrated by Haitian author Edwidge Danticat about Haitian women and their role as pillars of their communities. RSVP for child care available during screening to 408-432-6044 by 3/12. Freewill offering for Haitian women's organizations. Discussion after film.





## *Good Friday Service*

A special service will be offered for **Good Friday** – April 2, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

*Christ the Lord is risen today...*

*Earth and Heaven in chorus say...*



**Easter Sunrise Service  
April 4, 2009 - 7:00 a.m.**

**Easter Worship Service  
April 4, 2009 - 9:30 a.m.**

## Easter

### Easter Sunrise Service

Please bring a Finger Food Breakfast dish to share after this service.

### Easter Service

An Easter Egg Hunt will be held on the lawn right after Worship Service.

(Happy Hunting)





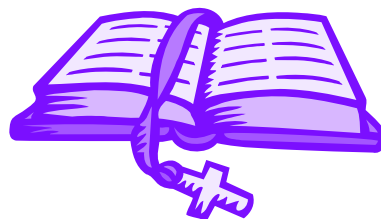
### **Membership Class**

Anyone interested in becoming a member of the church, please attend the membership class, Saturdays at 9:00 a.m. at the church. If you have any questions please call Chansoo or the church office at (408) 262-1486.

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### **Bible Study**

The *Hope and Action* Bible study began on Saturday February 20th. This study has six sessions and will resume in the Sanctuary after Worship through Palm Sunday (March 28, 2010). It's not too late to join this class. If you have any questions, please contact Chansoo at (510) 325-4907.



### **Congregational Workshop**

A congregational workshop will be led by Dale Witherspoon, Pastor of Alum Rock UMC on Saturday, March 27, 2010 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. There will be a sign-up sheet in the back of the Sanctuary beginning March 7<sup>th</sup>.



*Calendar*

<u>March</u> 4	Centering Prayer Choir
6	Community Breakfast
7	Worship
8	SPRC
11	Centering Prayer Choir
13	Trustees' Meeting
14	Women's History Program (Daylight Savings time begins tomorrow at 2:00AM)
14	Worship - <i>Special Offering - One Great Hour of Sharing</i>
17	<i>BEACON Deadline</i>
18	Centering Prayer Choir
21	Worship
25	Centering Prayer Choir Practice
27	Congregational Workshop
28	Worship - <i>Palm/Passion Sunday</i> Change-over Sunday
<u>April</u> 1	Centering Prayer Choir
2	Good Friday Service at 7:00 p.m.
4	Sunrise Service at 7:00 a.m. Worship - <i>EASTER SUNDAY</i>
8	Centering Prayer Choir
10	Community Breakfast WRAP at 9:30 a.m.
11	Worship Lunch at Casa Azteca
15	Centering Prayer Choir
18	Worship
22	Centering Prayer Choir
25	Worship Change-over Sunday

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FIRST CLASS MAIL

**LIGHT FOR LIVING AND GROWING**

