

December 2010

# **The Beacon**

Sunnyhills United Methodist Church 355 Dixon Road, Milpitas CA 95035 **Pastor Shirley Macemon** 

Church Office Visit us on the Web! (408) 262-1486 www.gbgm-umc.org/sunnyhills

## A Christmas Prayer

Jesus, the Light of the World, as we celebrate your birth . . . . may we begin to see the world in the light of the understanding you give us. As you chose the lowly, the outcasts, and the poor to receive the greatest news the world had ever known, so may *we* worship you in meekness of heart. May we also remember our brothers and sisters less fortunate than ourselves in this season of

giving.

#### THANK YOU, LORD,

for the gift of Your love. May I be a shining example of that love to others. Amen.

Notes from the editor:

\*The next Community Breakfast will be Saturday, December 4, 2010 at 8:00 a.m. in Jones Hall

\*The next **Ad Council** will be **December 5, 2010** after worship.

\*BEACON DEADLINE: For the January issue Wednesday - morning, December 15, 2010.

\*December 26th is Change-over Sunday.

# Faith...



Dear Friends,

By the time your read this, your Thanksgiving feast will be just left-overs, Black Friday will have come and gone, and Advent will have begun. When my girls were young, they would pester us to put up a Christmas tree from the moment Thanksgiving was over until some weeks later we finally had things – well, not under control, but as close as my family gets. This year, I've delegated the whole tree to – you guessed it, my daughters!

This is shaping up to be an unusual holiday. As many of you know, both my parents passed away two days ago, on November 20. They were in the hospital for less than twelve hours, for different maladies, and were in adjoining rooms. As Dad took his last breath, Mom became unresponsive, after spending the morning, uncomfortable but talking and responding. She died less than an hour later. Their deaths are an affirmation of their strong faith. When Dad was diagnosed with Alzheimer's more than twelve years ago, he and Mom lived out his disease as a witness to their faith. Dad was sweet and gentle; Mom arranged her life to be caretaker, relying on friends, family, and her church for backup and support. When they moved to Oklahoma three years ago, their new church welcomed them warmly, not only because their son has been Music Director for many years, but on their own account as well.

You may be wondering where this is going. I don't yet understand how my reaction and grief will affect me or my ministry. But I do know several things to be true: That God was and is at work in the lives of my parents and their children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. The celebration of their lives is an affirmation of the faithfulness of God at work over the years, and despite my own grief, I know that God is with us, and with them: We are not walking alone.

Christmas was my mother's favorite holiday, by far. It might have been because, as a child of the depression, being able to give and receive gifts was always a delight. But more than that, Christmas is a time to ready our hearts again. Christmas is a time to welcome Jesus into our hearts and lives again. No matter how many times we welcome Jesus, there are always new discoveries to be made about ourselves, and our relationship with God.

I wish you a blessed Advent. Read a little. Rest a little. Decide on your priorities and do what you can to stick to them. And most of all, remember *why* it is a blessed season!

Blessings,

Pastor Shirley



► <u>Ad Council</u> will have their next meeting, **Sunday**, **December 5**, 2010 after Worship in the **Church Office**. All are welcome. We hope to see you there.

#### ▶ "<u>O Come, All Ye Faithful..."</u>

as our Choir rehearses like Angels We Have Heard on High and they urge us to proclaim Joy to the World in witness of the Infant Holy, Infant Lowly. Since Love Came Down at Christmas, we all recognize There's a Song in the Air so drop on into the sanctuary on Thursday evenings at 6:45PM. and join the throng as we Good Christian Friends, Rejoice the birth of the blessed baby Jesus Away in a Manager.





#### ► <u>Trustees</u>

There will be no more Trustees' meetings in 2010. Please keep your eye on the weekly Broadcast emails for the next scheduled meeting. Have a very, MERRY Christmas and a sane New Year. ► *Thank you all again,* for the quick response for the request of Jello for Thanksgiving. Helping these wonderful organizations provide for families especially this time of year, is so necessary to assure everyone gets at least one nutritious meal a day. When we go to get in our cars in the morning and find frost on them is a good time to remember how important our gifts are. **Thank you again for your continued generosity.** Change over **Sunday** is **December 26, 2010**.



#### Happy Birthday Wishes to...

12/05 Katherine Twite
12/09 Alex Walker
12/11 Juanita Whetstone
12/17 Miles Crawford
12/25 Jack Freeman
12/25 Mark Pereyra
12/27 Robert Pease
12/27 Simon Chow
12/31 Helen Phan
12/31 Huy Phan



#### Happy Anniversary!

12/16 Margaret and Warren Scott

#### Income and Expenses October 2010

INCO	OME
	October
Offerings	\$ 4,057.28
Bldg. Use, etc.	\$ 7,021.39
Special Giving	\$ 25.00
TOTAL	\$11,103.67

#### **EXPENSES**

	October
Mission & Outreach	\$ 2,592.25
Operating Expense	\$ 1,984.69
Pastor and Staff	\$ 7,521.45
TOTAL	\$12,098.39

#### **FUND BALANCES**

Cash on hand	\$43,293.06
Designated funds	\$33,432.97



"Come along and sing a song and join the Jubilee!"



Join us for a sing-along

of Christmas Music

Friday, December 10, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Sunnyhills United Methodist Church 355 Dixon Road Milpitas, CA

All are invited, Bring a yummy dessert to share.

Musicians, please bring your instruments.

If you have questions, please contact Gwen Freeman at (408) 263-8942 or gwenffreeman@yahoo.com



Sunnyhills United Methodist Church Presents...

A Christmas Eve Service

Friday, December 24<sup>th</sup>

Lighting of Luminaries - 6:00 p.m.

Candlelight Service - 7:00 p.m.

For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.



Please join us for this Blessed, Holy night.

### **Community Breakfast Schedule**

The following is the <u>Community Breakfast Schedule</u> for the remainder of 2010 and the beginning of 2011.

December 4, 2010 Milpitas Fire Department

January 8, 2011 County Grand Jury

All participants are responsible for food and paper items for which you will be notified in advance.

Sunnyhills United Methodist Church Guy Haas (408) 262-1486



# Holiday Scrip

The holidays are upon us, but scrip can help. Got one of those, I don't know what she/he wants people on your Christmas list? How about scrip? Maybe you know that person likes books, but not which one is top on their list right now. Borders or Barns & Noble scrip can help with that. Get your holiday decorations thru scrip if you need them this year. Walgreens, or CVS may help there. Treat your friends or loved ones to their choice of a movie with AMC ticket scrip, or pamper them with Bath and Body Works scrip. And don't forget that holiday dinner you're planning to cook. Get scrip for the store of your choice: Nob Hill, Safeway, Savemart, Whole Food, Marina Foods, etc.

Give your church a little Christmas gift by purchasing scrip at the same time as you give presents to your friends and loved ones. Every little bit helps, and you can save yourself a lot of shopping too!

See me at church, call me at 408-656-6023 (cell) or email me at daislyn@sbcglobal.net

Happy Holidays!



The Mid-Peninsula Recorder Orchestra

Frederic Palmer, Director

presents

Holiday Concert

The program will feature the Sonata "La Buscha" by Legrenzi, the Adagio largo from the Oboe Concerto in C minor by Telemann with Nicholas Vigil, oboe soloist, selections from a divertimento by Haydn, two 15th-century English songs, an antiphonal motet by Giovanni Bassano and portions of Bach's Christmas Oratorio.

> Joining the Mid-Peninsula Recorder Orchestra will be the CSU East Bay Singers, directed by Dr. Buddy James.

Saturday, December 4, 2:00 p.m. Grace Lutheran Church 3149 Waverley, Palo Alto

Admission Free

The location of this concert is wheelchair accessible. The Mid-Peninsula Recorder Orchestra is an affiliate of the San Francisco Early Music Society. For further information please call Frederic Palmer at 650-591-3648 or visit our website at www.sfems.org/mpro.

30	27	24		23	20	18	17	16	13	10		9	8	6	ω	2	January	30	27	26		24	20	19	16	15	13	12	10	9	6		J	4	2	Dece	
Worship – Change Over Sunday	Choir Practice	Centering Prayer	Lunch Bunch at Omega Restaurant	Worship	Choir	BEACON Deadline	Centering Prayer	Worship	Choir	Centering Prayer	Ad Council	Worship	Community Breakfast	Choir	Centering Prayer	Worship	ary	Choir	Centering Prayer	Worship– Change-Over Sunday	Luminaries at 6:00 p.m.) <i>Merry Christmas!!</i>	Christmas Eve Service 7:00 p.m.(Lighting the	Centering Prayer	Worship 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent	Choir	BEACON Deadline	Centering Prayer	Worship – 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent	Carols and Desserts in the Sanctuary	Choir	Centering Prayer	Ad Council meeting	Worship - 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent	Community Breakfast	Choir	December	Calendar

# **The Beacon**

Sunnyhills United Methodist Church 355 Dixon Road Milpitas, CA 95035 FIRST CLASS MAIL



# LIGHT FOR LIVING AND GROWING