



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

December 2010

## 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,

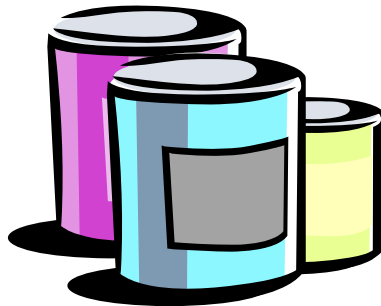
*Pastor Shirley*



► **"O Come, All Ye Faithful..."**

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**.

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



► ***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**.

► **Trustees**  
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.



**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**

**INCOME**

	<i>October</i>
Offerings	\$ 4,057.28
Bldg. Use, etc.	\$ 7,021.39
Special Giving	\$ 25.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$11,103.67</b>

**EXPENSES**

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

**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](mailto: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 Community Breakfast Schedule 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 Barnes & 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](mailto:daislyn@sbcglobal.net)

*Happy Holidays!*





## Calendar

### December

- 2 Choir
- 4 Community Breakfast
- 5 Worship - 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent
- Ad Council meeting
- 6 Centering Prayer
- 9 Choir
- 10 Carols and Desserts in the Sanctuary
- 12 Worship – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent
- 13 Centering Prayer
- 15 BEACON *Deadline*
- 16 Choir
- 19 Worship 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent
- 20 Centering Prayer
- 24 Christmas Eve Service 7:00 p.m.(Lighting the Luminaries at 6:00 p.m.) *Merry Christmas!*
- 26 Worship – Change-Over Sunday
- 27 Centering Prayer
- 30 Choir

### January

- 2 Worship
- 3 Centering Prayer
- 6 Choir
- 8 Community Breakfast
- 9 Worship
- Ad Council
- 10 Centering Prayer
- 13 Choir
- 16 Worship
- 17 Centering Prayer
- 18 BEACON *Deadline*
- 20 Choir
- 23 Worship
- Lunch Bunch at Omega Restaurant
- 24 Centering Prayer
- 27 Choir Practice
- 30 Worship – Change Over Sunday

## The Beacon

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355 Dixon Road  
Milpitas, CA 95035

FIRST CLASS MAIL

# LIGHT FOR LIVING AND GROWING

