



# 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)

**January 2011**

*Did you know....*

**The New Year has not always been celebrated on January 1.** Starting around the year 2000 B.C., the Babylonians observed the beginning of spring as the start of a new year.

**Julius Caesar established January 1 as the start of a New Year.** He did so when he created the Julian calendar. *Auld Lang Syne*, written by Robert Burns in the 1700s, is Scottish for "old long ago."

**The Babylonians established the tradition of setting New Year's resolutions.** Their most common resolution was to return borrowed farm equipment.

**The most popular New Year's resolution in the United States today is to lose weight.**

**The city to host the first major New Year's Eve celebration each year is Sydney Australia.**

**The first year the first New Year's Eve ball dropped in Times Square was 1907.**

**Since its inaugural descent in 1907, the New Year's Eve Ball has dropped every year except two.** The Ball didn't drop in 1942 and 1943, due to wartime restrictions in New York City

Dear Lord,

In the New Year, we pray that You will guide us each new day in paths that are pleasing to You. Lord, the new year gives us another chance to rededicate our lives to You, to study Your Word. Thank You for the sense of direction, purpose and peace we get from aligning our lives with Your Holy will. We pray for the strength and the will to obey You each and every day of the new year, and when we fail, we pray for Your mercy, Your compassion, Your grace and Your love. Help us in the new year to be Your faithful servants. In Jesus' name we pray, **Amen.** *By Joanna Fuchs poemsource.com*

## Note from the editor:

The next **Community Breakfast** will be **Saturday – January 8, 2011 at 8:00 a.m..**

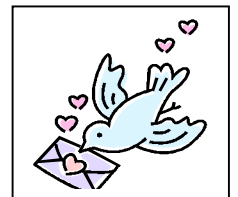
**Lunch Bunch** will gather again, Sunday - **January 23, 2011 @ 11:30 a.m..**

**BEACON DEADLINE:** For the February issue – **Tuesday morning, January 25, 2010.**

**Ad Council** will meet again, **Sunday, January 9, 2011** after worship in the **church office.**

**January 31<sup>st</sup>** is the next **Change-over Sunday.**

(See Page 3 for further calendar details)



Dear Friends,

As you know, 2010 presented some challenges for Sunnyhills: pastoral change is always disrupting, no matter how well it is received; the congregational giving that was up a bit when a Korean Language ministry was being served fell as that ministry was discontinued and several other members chose to worship elsewhere. Finally, our income from rent donations has been impacted by economic factors that have in turn affected our tenants finances.

Steps have been and are continuing to be taken to ease our financial woes including small but appropriate increases in our tenants' rental donations, closely scrutinizing all office and reimbursable spending, and reaching out to those members who have not yet returned.

These steps have moved us in the right direction. September's payroll wasn't met until October, but since that time, faithful giving and rental catch up have kept us in the black.

Unfortunately, the steps taken haven't been able to turn around one situation that brings me great pain: our fair share of our Denominational giving, our Apportionments. This will be the first time in more than 10 years that Sunnyhills has not met 100% of this giving. There are actually very few years over the last 50 that Sunnyhills has not been in the 100% column.

Apportionments are the funds used to do ministry and mission in the Conference and around the world, as well as fund the pastoral pension plan. Our Apportionments break down this way:

	<b>2010</b>	<b>Given YTD</b>	<b>Remaining. due</b>
<b>Annual Conference Ministries</b>	\$7,937	\$3,584	\$4,352

Including camping, youth and young people's programs, administration of the Conference, DS, Bishop and Conference staff salaries and benefits, Campus ministry, Annual Conference expenses, to name a few.

<b>Clergy Pension and Benefits</b>	\$4,727	\$4,727	0
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Deposited to the fund from which retired clergy pension and benefits are paid.

**There are seven apportioned funds approved by General Conference:** These Funds provide the basic support for most of the general agencies of The United Methodist Church to work with missionaries, children and youth, persons with disabilities, leader training, and interdenominational and ecumenical work, including Bishop's pension and salaries, judicial council. Parts of these monies are sent on for the work of the General Conference; the remainder is used in our own conference.

<b>1. World Service</b>	\$1,452	\$363	\$1,089
<b>2. Africa University</b>	\$44	\$11	\$33
<b>3. Black College Fund</b>	\$198	\$50	\$148
<b>4. Episcopal Fund</b>	\$400	\$100	\$300
<b>5. General Administration</b>	\$157	\$40	\$117
<b>5. Interdenominational cooperation</b>	\$39	10	29
<b>6. Ministerial Education</b>	\$497	\$124	\$373

**Jurisdictional Conference Administration and Jurisdictional Korean mission**

	\$72	\$18	\$54
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These apportioned at less than \$50 each, support in the Jurisdiction (Western US).

I'd like to challenge you to prayerfully consider "adopting" all or a portion of a line of our apportionment budget for 2010; and consider if you would do the same for 2011. (apportionments are different for 2011, and available in the office or from Bob Roll or Pastor Shirley). 2010 apportionments must be received in Sacramento by January 20, so must be in our Sunnyhills office by Jan 16. I'm increasing my year end gift, directed toward a portion of our Annual Conference Ministries. What can you do?

Blessings,

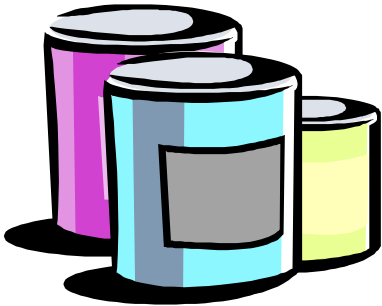
*Pastor Shirley*





► **The Sunnyhills United Methodist Church Choir** continues rehearsing **Thursdays** beginning at **6:30 p.m.** in the **Sanctuary**. Come on by and lend your voice to add to a **GREAT SOUND**. New voices in a New Year can only increase the volume and joy as Gwen and the choir put together some heavenly chords and have a ton of fun.

► **Lunch Bunch** will have their next outing, **January 23, 2011 at 11:30 a.m.**, to the **Omega Restaurant**. Omega is located at 90 South Park Victoria. Come along and join in the fun as we celebrate the New Year.



► **Change-Over Sunday** is **January 30, 2011**. Thank you all again for digging just a little deeper these cold rainy months to help provide for our neighbors here in Milpitas. I know the holidays were a struggle for many but your generous hearts truly made a difference. May God Bless you all in the **New Year!!**

► **Ad Council**  
The **Administrative Council for SUMC** will meet at **11:00 a.m.** on **Sunday, January 8, 2011** in the church office. For further information, please contact Guy Haas.



**Happy Birthday Wishes to...**

- 01/01 Emil Sazon
- 01/10 Don Egbert
- 01/16 Vennie Holloway
- 01/16 Joyce Johnson
- 01/17 Eugenia Allen Egbert
- 01/17 Rebecca Marcus
- 01/22 Laurie Haas
- 01/23 Guy Haas



**Church Anniversary**

01/19 Anita and Reuben Valderrama



**Income and Expenses  
November 2010**

**INCOME**

	<i>August</i>
Offerings	\$3,817.19
Bldg. Use, etc.	\$2,727.07
Special Giving	\$ 170.38
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 6,714.64</b>

**EXPENSES**

	<i>August</i>
Mission & Outreach	\$ 1,128.99
Operating Expense	\$ 1,173.18
Pastor and Staff	\$ 4,696.88
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 6,999.05</b>

**FUND BALANCES**

Cash on hand	\$43,008.65
Designated funds	\$22,784.22



# Community Breakfast Schedule

The following is the Community Breakfast Schedule for January 2011.

January 8, 2011

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

## Two Mission Trips Recruiting Team Members

### Swaziland, Africa – August 2011

(See complete flyer in the Church office)

Organized by: Boulder Creek UMC

The Kingdom/Country of Swaziland, located in Southern Africa shares its borders with South Africa and Mozambique. It is approximately the size of New Jersey with the population of 1.3 million. This small country of vibrant people and culture is at great risk of extinction.

Over 30% of the population are orphaned and vulnerable children due to the AIDS crisis and according to UNICEF, many are at risk of missing out on schooling, live in households with less food security, suffer anxiety and depression, and are at greater danger of exposure of HIV.

Ministry Description: † Connectional Ministry

VBS at Lomngeletjane Methodist Primary School

† Assistance to those in local communities

† Light manual labor, painting and school maintenance

† Fellowship with local Methodist Women

† Visit Bulembu in northern Swaziland, the City of Hope, orphan ministries

Trip size: 12 adults (18 years and older)

First team meeting: January 29, 2011

For further information, please see the flyer in the church office or contact Becky Perry at [perry95006@yahoo.com](mailto:perry95006@yahoo.com) or (831) 338-4998



### Building Hope

#### Mission Trip to Mexico

Willow Glen UMC,  
Almaden Hills UMC &  
Cambrian Park UMC

July 30-August 6, 2011

In one week, we will travel to Mexico, build a two-room house with Amor Ministries and travel back home. We will sleep in tents pitched in a basic campground, work full days in the Mexican sun, rain or wind and shower with a bucket of water warmed only by the sun. This trip will change your life as you get to know and fall in love with the people of Mexico who live in these conditions every day. Amor Ministries has been building in Mexico for 30 years. Find out more about their work at [www.amor.org](http://www.amor.org)

The cost of the mission trip includes all mission expenses including the cost of the building materials (\$675 for adults, \$400 for children under 10). Your deposit of \$200/adult and \$100/child is due by March 20, 2011.

#### Interested?

Informational meetings will be held at all three churches in January:

January 9	Almaden Hills UMC, 11:45am
January 23	Willow Glen UMC, 12:15pm
January 30	Cambrian Park UMC, 11:15am

See photos from the 2009 trip and hear about our experiences first-hand. Find out more about the mission trip including the daily schedule and building plan. Discuss trip safety and finances. Ask all of your questions, and have them answered by folks who have taken this trip before and want you to join the team for 2011.

Contact Pastor Susan Smith ([susan@wgumc.org](mailto:susan@wgumc.org)) or Lisa Jacobs ([lisa3cyouth@gmail.com](mailto:lisa3cyouth@gmail.com)) for more information.

**Learn Skills, Make Friends, Change Lives**

# Calendar

## January

- 2 Worship
- 3 Centering Prayer
- 6 Choir
- 8 Community Breakfast
- 9 Worship
- 10 Ad Council
- 10 Centering Prayer
- 13 Choir
- 16 Worship
- 17 Centering Prayer
- 19 Trustees' Meeting
- 20 Choir
- 23 Worship
- 24 Lunch Bunch at Omega Restaurant
- 24 Centering Prayer
- 25 Beacon *Deadline*
- 27 Choir Practice
- 30 Worship – Change Over Sunday
- 31 Centering Prayer

## February

- 3 Choir
- 5 Community Breakfast
- 6 Worship
- 6 Ad Council
- 7 Centering Prayer
- 10 Choir Practice
- 13 Worship
- 14 Centering Prayer
- 17 Choir Practice
- 20 Worship
- 21 Lunch Bunch at Fresh Choice
- 21 Centering Prayer
- 24 Choir Practice
- 27 Worship Change-over Sunday
- 28 Centering Prayer

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Milpitas, CA 95035

FIRST CLASS MAIL

# LIGHT FOR LIVING AND GROWING

