



The Beacon

Sunnyhills United Methodist Church
355 Dixon Road, Milpitas CA 95035

Pastor Shirley Macemon

Church Office

(408) 262-1486

Visit us on the Web!

www.gbkm-umc.org/sunnyhills

May 2011

What Would We Do Without Mothers?

What would we do without mothers? Throughout history, mothers have been celebrated for giving us life and taking care of us until we are ready to go out into the world on our own. Mothers dry our tears when we're hurt and love us unconditionally. In Canada and the U.S., every year on the 2nd Sunday in May we celebrate [Mother's Day](#)! This year it was on May 8th. It's a day to thank our moms for everything they have done for us. People spend so much money on phone calls and gifts on Mother's Day that it's the second biggest holiday next to Christmas in terms of how much money is spent! Can you believe that?

I always thought Mother's Day was invented by Hallmark to sell more cards, but actually it was invented by an American woman named Anna Jarvis. In 1907, she decided to have a ceremony to honor her mother who had died a couple years earlier. It probably would have been better if Ms. Jarvis had honored her mother while she was still alive, but [better late than never](#)! They'd had an argument and Ms. Jarvis felt guilty that she was not able to make up with her mother before she died.

She later campaigned tirelessly for the day to be recognized across America, and in 1914 American President Wilson declared Mother's Day a national holiday on the 2nd Sunday in May! The funny thing is, Ms. Jarvis never became a mother herself! At some point in history, Canada decided to observe Mother's Day on this day too.

May is the perfect time for Mother's Day – it's in the middle of spring so the weather is beautiful, and flowers are in full bloom everywhere! That's why one of the most common things to do on Mother's Day is to bring your mother some flowers! When I was a kid, we would always make something special for our mothers at school. Handmade gifts are always the best kind!

Last year for Christmas, my son recorded and mixed a CD for me of his and his sister's singing, and him playing piano, drums and guitar. It is truly one of the best gifts I have ever received. Happy Mother's Day to all of you Mothers, Moms and Mommies out there. And also to all of those who have shared your "maternal" gifts with someone special in your lives. Oh and **Thanks** for being **Great Moms**. (excerpts from teachermelanie.com)

Note from the editor:

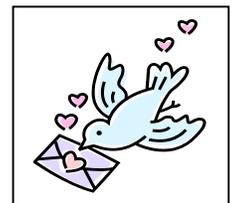
The next **Community Breakfast** will be **Saturday – May 7, 2011 at 8:00 a.m.**

Ad Council will meet again, **Sunday, May 1, 2011** after worship in the **church office**.

Lunch Bunch will gather again, **Sunday - May 15, 2011, 11:30 a.m. at Denny's**.

BEACON DEADLINE: For the **June** issue – **Wednesday morning, May 18, 2011**.

Trustees will meet again, **Wednesday, May 18, 2011 at 7:00PM at Karen Schreifels' house**.



Easter 2011: Time to Join the Movement of God's Mission

Some Conference staff members were sitting around a table several weeks ago. The talk shifted from the immediate program matters and they began to pour out their hearts about the desire they have for a renewal of vitality within The United Methodist Church and this Conference.

One of them said, rather wistfully, that she wished there were a formula we could call upon, similar to what a fast-food chain famously advertised a few years ago. You remember: "two all-beef patties, special sauce, lettuce, cheese ..."

They all laughed, and agreed that while it would be nice if vitality could be created or measured so simply, the fact is that vitality exhibits itself in different ways for different churches and communities. Size, style of worship, theological leanings and ethnic traditions are not in and of themselves leading indicators of a church's vitality.



On the heels of that discussion, District Superintendent Kristie Olah, made a thoughtful observation: "Movements do not read like recipes: take two portions of Bible study and add in one reorganized church council and a teaspoon of young adult ministry," she wrote. "But," she added, "movements can be noticed in the things to which we pay attention, the efforts we make toward our goal, in the flow of things."

Rev. Olah went on to say:

For the last few years, we United Methodists have been exploring ideas as we have tried to faithfully share an old, old story: the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We have read books together, started small groups, and invited ourselves deeper into discipleship and leadership. We have learned the vocabulary of equipping ministry, leadership development, and permission giving. We have lifted up transformational ministry and covenant groups. We have created vision statements, mission plans, and welcoming centers.

While some might see a disjointed mash-up of events and programs and ideas, I see a movement: a flowing stream of effort by Jesus-freed followers. A movement of the Holy Spirit working in and through us to build up the kingdom of God, the kingdom of God's beloved people in community with one another and the world ...

What difference would it make to us at Sunnyhills, and to the Milpitas Community if we at Sunnyhills were a vital part of this movement. If:

- We each made talking about what God has done in our lives a part of our daily conversation
- If we identified a "soul need" of the community, and worked together to meet that need.
- If we made the teachings of Jesus our daily plan, and worked that plan each day.

I invite you to join me in using this resource; opening yourself to the message and seeing where God is leading us.

We **are** an Easter people. We **can** be a movement of people rethinking church, and what it means to be a follower of Christ. We are capable of Catching Fire!

Printed copies of the devotional book are available in the office. Or download it to your computer, phone or tablet from www.catchfirein50days.net/resources/ Subscribe to [E-Fire](http://www.catchfirein50days.net/e-fire) (at www.catchfirein50days.net/e-fire), to receive the study as a daily meditation, sent to your email address. Subscribe to the CatchFire blog (www.catchfirein50days.net)

Whichever one (or more) of these options you choose, make Sunday morning a priority, as we hear scripture and join together to make Jesus' life our own.

Blessings,

Pastor Shirley



► **The Sunnyhills United Methodist Church Choir** Choir rehearsals will resume at their regularly scheduled time of **6:30 p.m.** beginning **Thursday, May 5, 2011**. Come on down to the Sanctuary and let your voice ring out with the rest of the Choir. Making music and having fun. Sounds good doesn't it. (literally)

► **Ad Council**

The **Administrative Council** for SUMC will meet at **11:00 a.m.** on **Sunday, May 1, 2011** in the church office. All are welcome and encouraged to attend. For further information, please contact Guy Haas.



► **Lunch Bunch** will have their next outing, **May 15, 2011 at 11:30 a.m.**, to **Denny's 442 West Calaveras Blvd.**

► **Trustees**

The Trustees will meet next at Karen Schreifels' house, **Wednesday, May 18, 2011 at 7:00PM.**



► **Change-Over Sunday**

Your donations go a long way to fill the bowls of your hungry neighbors, brothers and sisters. Thank you again and the next **Change-Over Sunday** is **May 29, 2011.**

Happy Birthday Wishes to...

- 05/12 Leah Marcus
- 05/14 Gwen Freeman
- 05/15 Jo Roll
- 05/18 Jack Spilman
- 05/28 Vilma Ware



Happy Anniversary!!

- 05/21 Laurie and Rolf Haas
- 05/17 Ria and Joe Feldman
- 05/25 Jess and Lelaine Tanciango

**Income and Expenses
March 2011**

INCOME	<i>March</i>
Offerings	\$3,807.00
Bldg. Use, etc.	\$5,303.38
Special Giving	\$ 481.45
TOTAL	\$ 9,591.83

EXPENSES	<i>March</i>
Mission & Outreach	\$ 1,301.86
Operating Expense	\$ 2,018.09
Pastor and Staff	\$ 6,261.21
TOTAL	\$ 9,581.16

FUND BALANCES

Cash on hand	\$42,883.81
Designated funds	\$22,335.41



Catch Fire in 50 Days



Small Group to begin May 3, 2011

Plan to join Karen Schreifels and Mary Lincoln as they host this small group in their home Tuesdays at 7:00PM.



Community Breakfast Schedule

The following is scheduled for the Milpitas Community Breakfast in May 2011.

Milpitas Community Breakfast - Saturday, May 7, 2011, 8:00 a.m.

Rob Devincenzi, editor and publisher of the Milpitas Post, will present.

The breakfast, a 40-year old tradition in Milpitas, is sponsored by the Sunnyhills United Methodist Church. Breakfast is free (donations requested). All Milpitas residents and business owners are invited to attend and participate. Breakfasts run from 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. at Jones Hall, SUMC, 355 Dixon Road (across from Weller School playground). The Milpitas Community Breakfast occurs the first (non-holiday) Saturday of the month except July and August. The next Breakfast will be May 7, 2011. For more information, call 263-8942.

Special Laity Gatherings and Pre-Conference Orientations

Save the dates: June 4 or June 5. **Castro Valley UMC is the east bay location**

Two similar events to prepare for Annual Conference Session and share ideas with lay persons. Choose the best location for you and mark your calendar today! You are welcome to attend one or both parts of each event.

Please register with Pam by calling [408 295 5341](tel:4082955341) or send email to elcaminorealdist@sbcglboal.net by May 31.

Saturday, June 4 at Los Altos UMC

9 – 10 am **The Role of Laity in Leading the Church into its future:
Ideas, possibilities, sharing.**

For all lay speakers and lay members to Annual Conference

All lay people welcome

Led by District Lay Leaders Nina Klepac and Nia Mateialona and District Coordinator for Lay Speaking, Donna Furuta

10 -10:30 am **Light refreshments**

10:30 to noon **Pre-Conference Orientation**
Open to all lay and clergy of the district

Led by District Superintendent, Rev. Kristie Olah, and lay leaders

Sunday, June 5 at Castro Valley UMC

2 – 3 pm **The Role of Laity in Leading the Church into its future:
Ideas, possibilities, sharing.**

For all lay speakers and lay members to Annual Conference

All lay people welcome

Led by District Lay Leaders Nina Klepac and Nia Mateialona and District Coordinator for Lay Speaking, Donna Furuta

3 - 3:15 pm **Light refreshments**

3:15 - 4:30 pm **Pre-Conference Orientation**
Open to all lay and clergy of the district

Led by District Superintendent, Rev. Kristie Olah, and lay leaders



On June 30, 2011 the District office will officially close.

Along with the closing of the office our wonderful Administrative Assistant, Pam McKee, will be retiring. Pam has worked in the district office for many years. To show our appreciation for all that Pam has done for our district through out the years, we are declaring a

 **to Pam Week**
from May 22nd—28th.

During this week we are asking everyone in the district to

say  to Pam with a call, a card, an email or your own creative way. You could stop by the office and

tell her  and maybe even take her to lunch!

If this week does not work for you, pick another week or day before the end of June to let Pam know how much she has meant to you. Pam's ministry of helping churches and pastors, keeping the district records and always having a pleasant word for anyone who calls or comes by the office has been a valuable gift to all of us.



Fun and Games... Mark your calendars now and join us for **Game Nite, Friday – May 20th at 7:00 p.m.** Bring a dessert or munchie to share and we hope to see you there.

Calendar

<u>May</u>	1	Worship Ad Council
	2	Centering Prayer
	3	<i>Catch Fire in 50 Days</i> Study Group at Karen Schreifels'
	5	Choir
	7	Community Breakfast
	8	Worship <i>Happy Mother's Day!</i>
	12	Choir
	15	Worship
	16	Lunch Bunch @ Denny's
	16	Centering Prayer
	18	<i>Beacon Deadline</i>
	18	Trustees' Meeting at Karen Schreifels'
	19	Choir
	20	Game Nite
	22	Worship
	22	Centering Prayer
	23	Centering Prayer
	26	Choir Practice
	29	Worship – Change Over Sunday
<u>June</u>	4	Community Breakfast
	5	Worship
	6	Centering Prayer
	12	Worship
	13	Centering Prayer
	15-18	Annual Conference
	19	Worship
	20	Centering Prayer
	21	<i>Beacon Deadline</i>
	26	Worship Change-Over Sunday
	27	Centering Prayer

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FIRST CLASS MAIL

