

*Back to...*



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

### September 2011

Dear Lord,

As our children leave for school, or college I pray that you will keep them in your care.

Send your Spirit to open their minds to all that is true and beautiful and good.  
Help them to see the gifts and talents you have given them and to use them well.  
Help them to grow in knowledge and wisdom. Help them to be kind to others and lead others to be kind to them.

Give their teachers and professors patience and understanding and help them teach what is just and true. Please guide and guard our children and keep them from all harm. Open their hearts to your presence and enfold them in your peace and protection.

Hold them in the palm of your hand as they make important decisions and good choices. Bring them home safely at day's end and return them to their classroom with your Spirit and Peace another day.

In Christ's name we pray, Amen.

Excerpts and variations from: [ConcordPastor.blogspot.com](http://ConcordPastor.blogspot.com)

#### Note from the editor:

The next **Community Breakfast** will be **Saturday - September 10, 2011 at 8:00 a.m..**

**Lunch Bunch** will gather again, Sunday - **September 18<sup>th</sup> @ 11:30 a.m.** at the **Black Bear Diner** on **Calaveras Boulevard** in **Milpitas.**

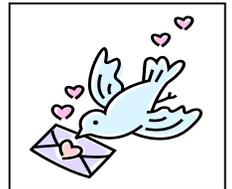
**Trustees** will meet again, **Wednesday, September 14<sup>th</sup> - 7:30PM** at **Karen Schreifels'** house.

**BEACON DEADLINE:** For the October issue - **Thursday morning, September 15, 2011.**

**September 25<sup>th</sup>** is **Change-over Sunday.**

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(See Page 3 for further calendar details)





Dear Friends:

I'm writing this sitting at the desk in the Director's Cabin, at Camp Lodestar, in Wilseyville (Gold Country). Out the window are acres and acres of pine, redwood and other native trees.

Just out of site is the amazing meadow. It is brown now, but thanks to late rains, the meadow was green and flowering until just a few weeks ago. This is the week I set aside each year to do longer range worship planning.

A new feature of the Director's Cabin is Internet access. I'm still on the fence as to whether or not I think this is a good thing. I was grateful last night when my daughter was able to send me pictures of a wound that Bailey, my Paint horse has sustained.

Somehow he always manages to get hurt when I'm out of town. The pictures let me see how serious (or in this case, not serious) the wound is. And I've been grateful to be able to easily look up a reference, worship elements, and the like that aren't in the library I brought with me.

But the downside is that I've also gotten involved (via email) with several issues that really could have waited until next week. And I've been able to do some wander shopping that really could have waited... you get the picture. Instant messaging makes finding and responding to distractions on a retreat – way too easy.

You may wonder why I am regaling you with the litany of distractions during my week of retreat. You are hearing about them because each of you has those same temptations and distractions that take you away from quality time. Yours may not be computer or internet based. Maybe yours is one more game of solitaire, one more ball game on TV, or one more episode of whatever your favorite TV program is. Now, don't get me wrong. In and of themselves these are not necessarily bad ways to spend time. But you also need retreat time... Sabbath time as scripture calls it. And time at the computer, on the internet, or playing cards is probably not filling that need.

That is the need to spend some quality time with God: Listening, pondering, questioning, complaining, working out the stuff of our lives and our relationships.

So I urge you to find your own retreat time or Sabbath time. Put aside an hour (or several), and make your time with the Holy Spirit a priority for that time. Our relationship with God only grows when we show up to that relationship.

Blessings,

*Pastor Shirley*



► **The Sunnyhills United Methodist Church Choir Is Coming Soon!!!** Starting **Thursday September 15, 2011** the **Choir** will resume practicing on **Thursdays** and performing **Sundays** during **Worship**. Come on by the **Sanctuary** at **7:00 p.m.** on **Thursday**. New voices are always welcome to join **Gwen** and the choir as they have some fun and make some great music together.

► **Trustees** will meet next at **Karen Schreifels'** house, **Wednesday September 14<sup>th</sup>** at **7:30 p.m.**.

► **Ad Council**

The **Administrative Council** for **SUMC** will meet at **7:00PM** on **Wednesday, September 21, 2011** in **Jones Hall**. All are welcome and encouraged to attend. For further information, please contact **Guy Haas**.



► **The Lunch Bunch** will have their next outing at **Noon, September 18<sup>th</sup>** to the **Black Bear Diner**. The **Black Bear Diner** is located at **173 W. Calaveras Blvd., Milpitas, 95035**. Mark your calendars! You don't want to miss this one!



► **Change-Over Sunday – September 25**

As the school year begins, we are reminded that some children in **Milpitas** may only receive one complete meal a day, solely because of the **Milpitas Food Bank**. Thank you so much for your continued support to this ministry. It makes a difference to many.



**Happy Birthday Wishes to...**

- 9/5 Eric Cruz
- 9/14 Ria Feldman
- 9/15 Erin Cruz
- 9/15 Rolf Haas
- 9/17 Anna Phan
- 9/21 Karen Schreifels
- 9/22 Warren Scott
- 9/25 Isak Larsen



**Church Anniversary**

- 09/15 Ann and Fred Zeise
- 09/21 Aida and Pablo Cruz
- 09/23 Emil and Laine Sazon

And... a hearty apology and a Great Big *Happy Belated Birthday* goes out to Mary Lincoln. Mary celebrated her birthday on August 9<sup>th</sup> and we missed it in the Beacon last month. We sure hope it was a *Blast*.

**Income and Expenses  
July 2011**

**INCOME**

	<i>July</i>
Offerings	\$4,544.50
Bldg. Use, etc.	\$6,544.04
Special Giving	\$832.91
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$11,647.45</b>

**EXPENSES**

	<i>July</i>
Mission & Outreach	\$ 3,462.10
Operating Expense	\$ 2,443.19
Pastor and Staff	\$ 5,742.16
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 11,647.45</b>

**FUND BALANCES**

Cash on hand	\$45,247.63
Designated funds	\$22,090.23





## **Fall Kick Off**

September 25 will be a special Sunday in the life of our congregation!

First, the Stargeezers, the 4 person country/oldie favorites/gospel group (they are hard to describe!) will grace us with special music throughout worship.

Then, after worship we'll eat together: a potluck Barbeque. Sunnyhills will provide the main-course; bring what you'd like to share.

Finally, we will kick off photography for a new Picture Directory for the congregation. Look for more information on the new Directory elsewhere in the Beacon.



## **Sunnyhills Picture Directory**

Have you ever tried to remember a name when all you can see is the face?

Or the phone number and contact information of someone you've met at worship and can't figure out who they are?

Beginning On September 25 and continuing through mid-October, our youthful team of photographers will be taking and collecting photographs of YOU!

Unlike those expensive and time-consuming picture directories the big churches have, we're making this one ourselves.

Candid and semi-candid photos will be taken for several Sundays. Or, if you've got a snap shot you'd like us to include, send the digital image to Pastor Shirley.

You'll also be receiving a note in the next couple of weeks to verify your contact information so that we're sure everyone is up to date.

If you live out-of-town, or haven't been to worship in awhile, we want to include you too, so you may be getting a special call or letter to send us a photo or digital negative.

If you'd like to help in this project, contact Pastor Shirley at the church office.





## Blessing of the Animals: October 2



Our household, companion and large animals are an important part of our lives, and for many of us, an important part of our spiritual

journey.



In coordination with the several other congregations that meet at Sunnyhills, we will host a Community Blessing of the Animals, beginning at 11:00 on Sunday October 2 on the

front lawn.



Invite your friends and neighbors, your dogs, cats, hamsters, snake, horses, and whoever you like to be

blessed.



Some of our animals don't travel well, so bring a picture



or other memento for a blessing *in absentia*



**Milpitas Community Breakfast - Saturday, September 10, 2011, 8:00 a.m.**

The following is the Community Breakfast Schedule to kick off the 2011-2012 season.

September 10, 2011

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

The breakfast, a 50-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, Sunnyhills United Methodist Church, The Milpitas Community Breakfast occurs the first (non-holiday) Saturday of the month except July and August. For more information, call 263-8942.

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



**Yipes!**  
**It's time for a  
Lawn Party!**

**Saturday September 17th**

**8:30 a.m.: Gathering, coffee & doughnuts, job assignments**

**9:00-12:00 noon: Grounds clean-up and mowing**

**Remember, many hands make light work!**

**Everyone is welcome!**

**Please bring lawn mowers, weed whackers, clippers, etc.,  
and help us clean up our grounds for fall**

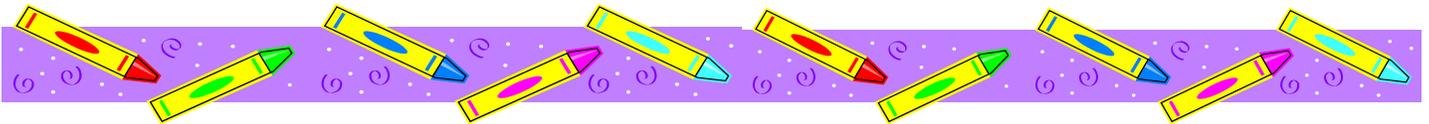


## Butterfly Garden Work Days

*Every Tuesday in September*

*5:30-7:30 p.m.*

Everyone is welcome!  
Bring clippers, trowels, weeding forks, etc.  
Enjoy a few hours outside and help us  
bring our garden back into shape!  
More information: Cliveden & Guy Haas  
(408) 262-5250



Its Here....

Did you get what you needed...

With Scrip?



It's around the corner...

Don't forget the church benefits...

If you use Scrip?

See Daislyn Pease after worship for more details and to purchase scrip.

**NORTHERN SAN JOSE  
CHURCH EXTENSION SOCIETY**

**Sunday September 18, 2011 3:00 p.m.**

**All are welcome to our Annual Open Meeting  
and Celebration of Ministries.**



**Location: Los Gatos  
UMC at 111 High  
School Court in Los  
Gatos, CA**



**Entertainment and  
refreshments  
provided by  
ministries of the  
UMC**



**If you have any questions,  
please call Gwen Freeman  
at (408) 263-8942 or e-mail  
[gwenffreeman@yahoo.com](mailto:gwenffreeman@yahoo.com)**

## Calendar

### September

- 4 Worship
- 5 Labor Day (No Centering Prayer)
- 6 Butterfly Gardening
- 10 Community Breakfast
- 11 Worship
- 12 Centering Prayer
- 13 Butterfly Gardening
- 14 Trustees' meet at Karen Schreffels
- 15 Choir Practice
- 17 Lawn work party
- 18 Worship
- 19 Lunch Bunch at the Black Bear Diner
- 19 Centering Prayer
- 20 *BEACON Deadline*
- 20 Butterfly Gardening
- 21 Ad Council
- 21 Choir Practice
- 22 Worship Change-over Sunday
- 25 Fall Kick-Off
- 26 Centering Prayer
- 27 Butterfly Gardening
- 29 Choir Practice

### October

- 2 Worship – World Communion Sunday
- 3 Blessing of the Animals
- 3 Centering Prayer
- 6 Choir Practice
- 9 Worship
- 10 Centering Prayer
- 13 Choir Practice
- 15 Website and Social Media Event
- 16 Worship
- 16 Lunch Bunch
- 17 Centering Prayer
- 18 *BEACON Deadline*
- 19 Ad Council

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**Milpitas, CA 95035**

**FIRST CLASS MAIL**

# LIGHT FOR LIVING AND GROWING

