



November 2011

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

THANKSGIVING PRAYER

by Tom Zart

When the weather turns cooler and nature's colors change
The landscape reminds us God is in control.
As family and friends gather to feast on turkey
The calories we consume take their toll.

For those of us who follow Christ as our Savior
Giving thanks should be our daily prayer.
Each morning as we rise to face the new day
And at bedtime to express the love we share.

We should thank God for Christ's death and resurrection
And for the beauty of His wonderment and love.
For our delivery from the powers of sin
To God's glorious blessings of purpose from above.

Always remember by prayer we're never truly alone
God is aware of all we must overcome, fear and endure.
When we live to serve Him and follow His word
Our passage to Heaven becomes definite, justified and secure.

AMEN.

Note from the editor:

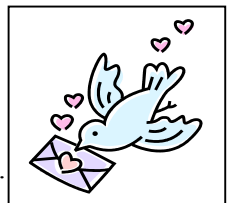
The next **Community Breakfast** will be **Saturday – November 5, 2011 at 8:00 a.m..**

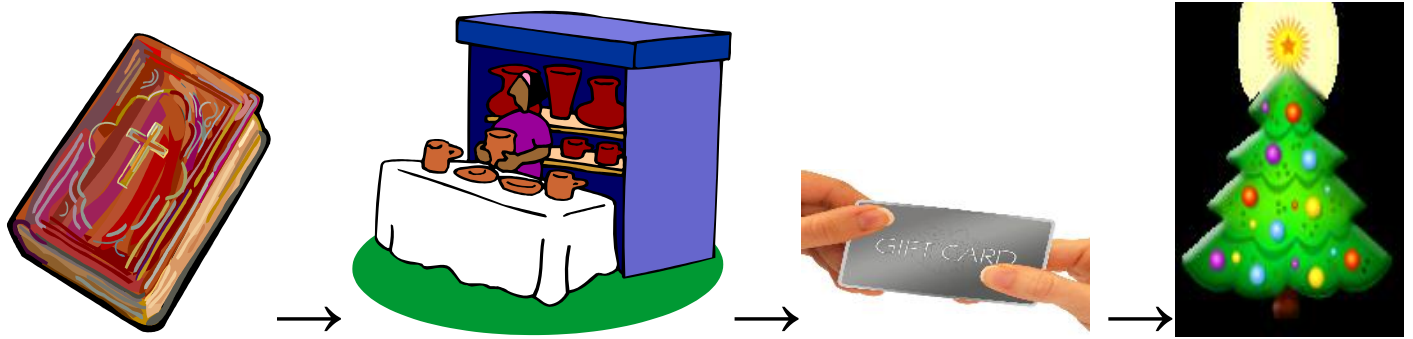
Ad Council will meet again, **Wednesday, November 16, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in Jones Hall.**

BEACON DEADLINE: For the **December** issue – **Thursday morning, November 17, 2011.**

Trustees will meet again, **November 30 at 7:30 p.m. at Karen Schreifels' house.**

(See Page 3 for further calendar details)





Dear Friends,

Last evening was the first of the *Letter of James* classes that I'm leading over the next 4 weeks. The *Letter of James*, one of the New Testament epistles, is a short book filled with amazing advice and instruction on how to live as a Christian in the world. I am always struck at how this 2000 year old letter really speaks to where I am in my faith walk.

Perhaps the instruction that speaks to me most directly right now is James 1:22: *Be doers of the word, and not merely hearers*. Or, as I'm like to paraphrase, "Just do it!" Over the next weeks, we've got many opportunities to "Just do it!" that take us into God's work in addition to our Sunday morning worship.

It has been our tradition for many years to help the Milpitas Food Pantry with their Thanksgiving baskets. In year's past, we've scoured the community for good buys on Jello. This year we're going in a different way. The Food Pantry needs many, many, \$5.00 gift cards for grocery stores. These allow the recipient to purchase the fresh meat they'd like to have for Thanksgiving. You will soon find a display on the wall of the sanctuary: Envelopes in which to put your \$5.00 bill, check or a gift card. (Don't worry, we'll empty the display on a regular basis). Our goal is to fund 100 gift cards between now and November 20. I invite you to give generously to help those in our community who will receive these baskets.

Also in November, we will host a Mission Handicraft Sale. A United Methodist family started this sale many years ago to support a missionary in Guatemala. The sale has grown to support both missions and crafts persons in South and Central America and Africa. I have often done my Christmas Shopping at their display at Annual Conference. We will have their merchandise on Sundays, November 13 and 20. Come and find handcrafted jewelry, Alpaca sweaters and shawls, knick-knacks and ornaments, bags and backpacks, all handcrafted by artisans from many countries. We'll be able to accept your cash and checks, but not credit or debit cards. Our purchase of these wonderful items make a difference in many lives.

Some of you may notice that Jo Roll is absent on a Sunday morning here and there. Jo has a long-standing commitment with a group that collects and sends materials to our deployed troops. Jo makes hand-crafted greeting cards that are sent to troops, so that the troops can send them to their friends and loved ones. The group also packages and sends unused, sample and hotel sized toiletries, new playing cards, and other small and useful things that our service people need. A basket on the information table is waiting for your donations to this program. I'm looking forward to a great place to bring all those hotel toiletries that I somehow can't bear to leave behind, but never quite use!

Finally, an early warning to mark your calendar for Friday evening, December 9. Come to the sanctuary to participate in an intergenerational cookie-exchange-tree-and-sanctuary-decorating-carol-sing. We'll start at 7:00 pm. Bring your favorite cookies to share and exchange; you'll get to take home as many as you bring for the exchange. Bring a dozen, take a dozen assorted of your choice. Enjoy cider or chocolate as we decorate the Sanctuary and the tree. And we'll sing some carols as we work and play!

As the *Letter of James* reminds us: *Be doers of the word not merely hearers!* This is a great time to just do it!

Blessings,

Pastor Shirley



► **The Sunnyhills United Methodist Church Choir** Hey everyone, we're working on the new music. Come on down to the Sanctuary and let your voice ring out with the rest of the Choir. Thursdays at 6:30PM. Making music and having fun. Literally sounds GREAT.

► **Ad Council**

The **Administrative Council** for SUMC will meet at **7:00 p.m.** on **Wednesday, November 16** at Jones Hall. All are welcome and encouraged to attend. For further information, please contact Guy Haas.



► **Joint Circuit Charge Conference**

Our Joint Circuit Charge Conference will be held at **Alum Rock UMC** this year on **Saturday, November 12th**. The festivities will begin at **9:30 a.m.**. Please plan to attend. Alum Rock UMC is located **30 Kirk Avenue, San Jose, 95127**.

► **Trustees**

The Trustees will meet next at Karen Schreifels' house, **Wednesday, November 30, at 7:30PM**.



► **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 **November 27, 2011**.

Happy Birthday Wishes to...

- 11/03 Ann Zeise
- 11/04 Marley Spilman
- 11/06 Rebecca Balarbar
- 11/06 Hien Phan
- 11/08 Lee Scott
- 11/10 Pablo Jun Cruz
- 11/12 Rueben Marcos Valderrama
- 11/14 Margaret Scott
- 11/20 Kristel Tanciango



Happy Anniversary!!

11/16 Eric Larsen and Jennifer Touchton

**Income and Expenses
September 2011**

INCOME	<i>March</i>
Offerings	\$3,978.67
Bldg. Use, etc.	\$5,292.84
Special Giving	\$ 39.01
TOTAL	\$ 9,310.52

EXPENSES	<i>March</i>
Ministry & Outreach	\$ 1,318.86
Operating Expense	\$ 1,713.28
Pastor and Staff	\$ 5,467.82
TOTAL	\$ 8,499.96

FUND BALANCES

Cash on hand	\$44,271.41
Designated funds	\$22,170.77





Bolivian Handcraft Sale

Sundays November 13th and 20th, 11:00 – 5:00 in the office

Proceeds from this sale support missionaries and crafts persons in the Africa, Central and South America. Jewelry, alpaca sweaters, baskets, figurines, bags and backpacks, are just a few items made by local craftspeople, with proceeds to the same cause!

Contact Pastor Shirley for more details.



Community Breakfast Schedule

Milpitas Community Breakfast - Saturday, November 5, 2011, 8:00 a.m.

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, 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 December 3, 2011. For more information, call 263-8942 or Guy Haas at 262-1486.



HEY EVERYBODY!!

Not only does “Time Fly”, but this month, it **FALLS BACK** one hour.

It’s that time of year again. Time to **TURN YOUR CLOCKS BACK ONE HOUR**, before you go to bed, Saturday November 5, 2011.

You don’t want to get up at 2:00AM on Sunday the 6th to do it and you don’t want to be an hour early for church either. So mark your calendar, and turn the clocks back, Saturday night-November 5th and enjoy that extra hour of sleep.

Special Combined Worship, November 6, 2011

We are welcoming a new congregation to Sunnyhills: Holy Child Episcopal Church.

Some of you may recognize their name because it is not exactly a “new” congregation, or even new to us. Holy Child is almost 20 years old, and is an Episcopal mission church serving newly arrived and first generation Filipino individuals and families.

They have held a small early morning service in St Joseph’s sanctuary in Jones Hall for many years. Soon, their late afternoon Sunday service – their larger and main service – will move to our Sanctuary in the late afternoon.

On Sunday, November 6, 10:00 am we will join St Joseph and Holy Child for worship in our own sanctuary, in celebration of international missions work supported by these congregations and their Dioceses. Their bishop will be in attendance, and lunch will follow. Come join the celebration!



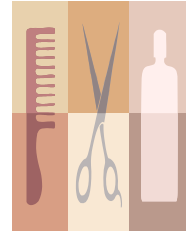
Hold that date...

***Joint Circuit Charge Conference – Saturday November 12, 2011
Alum Rock UMC – 30 Kirk Avenue- San Jose, CA – 95127***

Gathering – 9:30AM

Annual Drive for Milpitas Food Pantry

This year we are collecting and purchasing \$5.00 gift cards for the Food Pantry's Thanksgiving baskets. Find a display on the wall of the sanctuary, where you can help meet our goal of 100 gift cards. Bring your \$5.00 check, cash or a grocery gift card and help us get to the top!



Toiletries for the Troops

Our own Jo Roll has spent many hours making and packing greeting cards for our deployed troops. The same organization that ships the cards overseas, also receives unused, sample and hotel sized toiletries, playing cards and other small items that are useful to our troops so far away from home. A basket is in the Sanctuary on the information table to receive your donations. Lets fill it up!



Scripting for the Holidays:

Getting ready for Thanksgiving or Christmas? Think about scrip. If you're cooking for either of these very important gatherings, consider scrip. You can get your Turkey at your favorite store, Save Mart, Safeway, Nob Hill, Whole Food, Sprouts. If you're one who likes ham at either of these dinners, consider Honey Baked Ham (There's one in Fremont). If you're not cooking, consider dining out for the holidays at Black Angus, Applebee's, the Cheese Cake Factory, Olive Garden, etc.

Holiday gift gifts can be easily gotten through scrip too (plus you're giving to your church as well): Barnes and Noble. Amazon, toys, movie tickets, See's candies or clothes at any one of a number of stores.

Traveling by car for the holidays? Consider Arco or Shell gift cards.

Check out the scrip order form, ask Daislyn to get you one (She can even email it to you).

Calendar

November

- 3 Choir Practice
- 5 Community Breakfast
- 6 Turn your clocks back at bedtime
Combined Worship with St. Joseph and Holy Child
- 7 Centering Prayer
- 10 Bible Study - Epistle of James (Jones Hall)
Choir Practice
- 12 Joint Charge Conference with the Circuit
- 13 Worship – Bolivian Handcraft Sale begins
- 14 Centering Prayer
- 16 Bible Study – Epistle of James (Jones Hall)
Ad Council
- 17 Choir
- 20 *BEACON Deadline*
Worship – Bolivian Handcraft sale continues
- 21 Centering Prayer
- 24 Bible Study – Epistle of James (Jones Hall)
Happy Thanksgiving (Office is Closed)
- 27 Worship – Change –over Sunday
- 28 Centering Prayer
- Bible Study – Epistle of James (Jones Hall)

December

- 1 Choir
- 3 Community Breakfast
- 4 Worship
- 5 Centering Prayer
- 8 Choir
- 9 Cookie swap and Sanctuary Decorating
- 11 Worship
- 12 Centering Prayer
- 15 Choir
- 18 Worship
- 19 Centering Prayer
- 22 Beacon *Deadline*
- 24 Christmas Eve Service
- 25 Christmas Worship Change-Over Sunday

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FIRST CLASS MAIL

