



November 2012

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
sunnyhillsumc.org

A Thanksgiving Day Prayer

Lord, so often times, as any other day
When we sit down to our meal and pray

We hurry along and make fast the blessing
Thanks, amen. Now please pass the dressing

We're slaves to the olfactory overload
We must rush our prayer before the food gets cold

But Lord, I'd like to take a few minute more
To really give thanks to what I'm thankful for

For my family, my health, a nice soft bed
My friends, my freedom, a roof over my head

I'm thankful right now to be surrounded by those
Whose lives touch me more than they'll ever possibly know

Thankful Lord, that You've blessed me beyond measure
Thankful that in my heart lives life's greatest treasure

That You, dear Jesus, reside in that place
And I'm ever so grateful for Your unending grace

So please, heavenly Father, bless this food You've provided
And bless each and every person invited. Amen!

Note from the editor:

DON'T FORGET. Daylight Saving Time ends November 4, 2012. Please set your clocks BACK one hour.



- The next **Community Breakfast** will be **Saturday – November 3, 2012 at 8:00 a.m..**
- The next **Trustees' meeting** will be at **Karen Schreifels', November 7th at 7:30PM.**
- **Ad Council** will meet again, **Wednesday, November 14, 2012 at 7:00PM in Jones Hall.**
- **There will be a Lay Leadership meeting in the office Wednesday, November 7, 2012 at 6:00PM.**
- **BEACON DEADLINE:** For the **December issue – Thursday morning, November 15, 2012.**



Dear Friends,

I want to thank all those who turned out for our recent work day at Sunnyhills. All of our tenant congregations were represented and great work was done by all. Special thanks to Cliveden Chew Haas who organizes our work days and keeps us moving on campus projects all around!

We're into November. In addition to finally turning on the heat in the house, my household has already begun the annual Thanksgiving Dinner discussions: Will the turkey be roasted over charcoal, smoked, or some other preparation? What side dishes are mandatory (sweet potatoes!) which are nice to have, and what's new this year that we want to try out?

It dawns on me that it is somewhat arrogant to spend quite so much time, energy and money on one meal, no matter how memorable it is. We'd have a fine meal on the third Thursday in November whether the calendar called it Thanksgiving or not. We have heat that can be turned on any time we get a chill, and more "amenities" than more than 90% of the world's population enjoy.

So, along with our meal planning, I'm trying to be intentional about several aspects of the season. Thankfulness is at the top of the list – but not just making a list or thinking about what I'm thankful for. Perhaps picking up the phone and telling someone how thankful I am for their impact in my life. Remembering abundance – what my family has, and also sharing that abundance with others. The Milpitas Food Pantry is an obvious choice, but also extending generosity and sharing abundance in other areas. Remembering how blessed we are to live where we do – and the responsibilities that come with those blessings. Be involved in finding truth in the current political campaigns, and especially voting.

We can and do make a difference in so many arenas. God bless you all!

Happy Thanksgiving,

Pastor Shirley

Daylight Saving Time

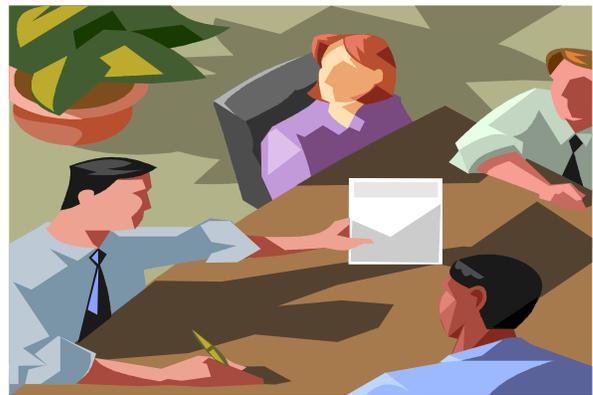
Daylight Saving Time ends **NOVEMBER 4, 2012**. Please remember to set your clocks **BACK** one hour before you retire on Saturday, November 3rd. (Happy sleeping in an extra hour.)



Ad Council

The **Administrative Council** will meet at **7:00PM** on **Wednesday, November 14, 2012** in Jones Hall. Please contact Bob Roll for additional information. All are welcome.

The Sunnyhills United Methodist Church
Choir continues with practices **Thursdays** at **6:30PM**. It won't be long before they begin rehearsing for the season of Advent. Stop on by, share your voice and join in the fun!



Change-Over Sunday

The next **Change-Over Sunday** is **November 25, 2012**. Your prayers, generosity and support make all the difference. Thank you again for pitching in for our brothers and sisters in our community.

The Trustees

The next **Trustees'** will be at **Karen Schreifels'** house at **7:30PM** on **Wednesday, November 7, 2012**.



Worship November 4th Will Observe All Saints Day

As a way to remember and honor the saints of our lives who have gone on, please bring pictures, mementos, or memorabilia to place on the altar during the service.

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 Tanciangco



Happy Anniversary!!

11/16 Eric Larsen and Jennifer Touchton

**Income and Expenses
September 2012**

INCOME	<i>September</i>
Offerings	\$6,061.93
Bldg. Use, etc.	\$7,372.14
Special Giving	\$ 18.04
TOTAL	\$13,452.11

EXPENSES	<i>September</i>
Ministry & Outreach	\$ 1,274.30
Operating Expense	\$ 1,737.95
Pastor and Staff	\$ 5,174.10
TOTAL	\$ 8,186.35

FUND BALANCE

Cash on hand	\$34,015.25
Designated funds	\$17,365.48



Milpitas Community Breakfast - Saturday, November 3, 2012, 8:00 a.m.

The breakfast, a 50-year old tradition in Milpitas, is sponsored by the Sunnyhills Neighborhood Association and 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. in the Jones Hall at Sunnyhills United Methodist Church. The Milpitas Community Breakfast occurs the first (non-holiday) Saturday of the month except July and August.

November's breakfast will feature the new Milpitas City Manager. Come join us and participate in the discussion following the presentation. For more information, call 263-8942. We hope to see you next Saturday.

Report From Operation Care and Comfort- Packing Event October 14, 2011

Wow!!! Over 200 folks were in attendance & within 2 hours, we filled ONE Army Truck & 85% of the 2nd. The encouraging thing is 50% that participated today were under 20 years old. Now, I did hear a few tell me "I have to do 100 hours of community work for school this year". But most of them enjoyed the event, & will return, credit or not. Its been fun to watch them grow up, from Jr. High & now into college. We finished in 2 and one half hours.

We're seeing more & more Troop returnees volunteering. They received packages & just want to "GIVE BACK" & participate, because they know what it meant to receive!!

Say, do you know what the most #1 requested item is NOW?? (It has been Skittles, Beef Jerky, Cigs "but we can't send", socks, comic books, etc. etc) Well, it is "good Toilet Paper". They get that "bleached newspaper junk" So the Charmin, Northern, etc are worth \$\$\$\$ big time.

We'll focus on TP with the Candy next month. Which will work well as we've shipped socks & underwear in past with candy (can only fill a box 2/3-3/4 with candy as gets too heavy, so add light weight stuff) We try to keep the weight to 45-50 pounds per box.

We've shipped over 100,000 pounds of goodies to our Troops. If you go to the web site, you can see a list of our accomplishments. (I am SOOOO PROUD of our group---WE are TOTALLY volunteers!!!) (We might have to pay our Accountant, I'm not sure) Thank you all for your assistance & participation in any form. It ALL ADDS UP!!!

An additional note: If anyone wants to get rid of Halloween candy they have left over I will be glad to collect it and take it to the next packing event which is **November 11**. If anyone would like to donate a few rolls of toilet paper I will make sure it is delivered.

Jo Roll



“Calling All Shoppers”! Its Here! The busiest shopping season of the year!

One down, two to go. Keep your wallets handy cause it’s the season(s) to spend. Thanksgiving gives us bountiful opportunities to prepare food and decorate our homes and tables. Don’t forget your Tom or Tofurky Scrip spends well at various grocery stores to supplement your table and provide canned goods to the Milpitas Food Pantry, or while “making a difference in so many other arenas”.

And as we are celebrating the reason for the season: Whether you are preparing the tree, house, yard or filling Santa’s sleigh. Or perhaps you are purchasing Toys for Tots, food to help provide the holiday meal at the San Jose Family Shelter, or Toiletries and cards for the Troops.

Whatever your shopping needs, please remember the church with every purchase you make. Purchase Scrip and make your “Buying power” do double duty these seasons.

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

Thanksgiving “food” Drive to Benefit the Milpitas Food Pantry

As our tradition for many years we are going to help the Milpitas Food Pantry with their Thanksgiving baskets.

The purchasing of \$5.00 gift cards was a success last year so we have decided to do it again. These cards allow the recipient to purchase their choice of meat. We met our goal of 100 cards last year so let’s try and meet it again. Suggestions for locations to purchase the cards are Safeway, Lucky and Grocery Outlet.

We’ll be collecting them three Sundays in **November-4th, 11th and 18th**. I would prefer the cards rather than cash. They will be delivered to the Pantry on Monday, November 19th. **Thanks for your support!**

Jo Roll





Bolivian Handcraft Sale



Sundays November 18th and 25th, 11:00 – 5:00 in the office

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

Contact Pastor Shirley for more details.

Please Mark Your Calendar...

Joint Circuit Charge Conference – Saturday December 1, 2012 at the Green Church.

Time is to be determined. Please keep an eye on your bulletins and weekly emails.



A Study for Advent



Monday evenings, November 26, December 3, 10, and 17 join Pastor Shirley exploring the origins of Christmas and Advent, the contemporary observances and ways we might find more meaning and less commercialization during the holiday season.



Calendar

November

- 1 Choir
- 3 Community Breakfast
- DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS! Set your clocks back one hour.**
- 4 Worship – All Saints Day
- 5 Centering Prayer
- 7 Lay-Leadership – Trustees Meeting @ Karen Schreifels
- 8 Choir
- 11 Worship
- 12 Centering Prayer
- 14 Ad Council
- 15 Choir Rehearsal
- 18 Worship Heritage Sunday – Special Offering
- 19 Handcraft Sale in the office
- 19 Centering Prayer
- 22 *Happy Thanksgiving – No Choir*
- 25 Worship
- Handcraft Sale in the office
- Centering Prayer
- 26 Advent Study begins – Sanctuary

December

- 1 Joint Church Conference @ Green Church Time TBD
- Community Breakfast
- 2 Worship
- 3 Centering Prayer
- 6 Choir Rehearsal
- 9 Worship
- 10 Centering Prayer
- 13 Choir
- 16 Worship – Special Offering
- 17 Centering Prayer
- 20 BEACON *Deadline*
- Choir Rehearsal
- 23 Worship

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