



May 2013

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

WHO IS MOTHER?

Mother is half of the Father/Mother team, the one who gave birth to you as a child. When she first held you in her arms, she fell madly in love with you! She is the one that changed your diaper, gave you your bottle, bathed and dressed you. She is the one who tended to you when you were sick, wishes she could have bore your pain, but unable to even share it with you. There is none like a Mother.

If you have children, then you know what it's like to be a Mother. Often, it's a tough job, with unruly children, and many heart-aches before they are grown. Sometimes a Mother is lucky that she has well-disciplined children, but only because she has done her best in order for them to be well-adjusted teenagers and later adults.

Mother is a human being, capable of making mistakes. She is not perfect, just as none of us are perfect. But she is the one that we picture as being perfect during our childhood. As we become older, we realize that Mothers are capable of right and wrong ways of doing things, missing the mark, just as much as the next person. But she is still Mother. The thing that sets her apart is her everlasting love for her children.

Not until we become adults, do we really begin to appreciate WHO Mother really is. She has nurtured you through your childhood, put up with your sassy ways and times of being lazy during your teenage years, and cried through your becoming an adult. But Mother was always there to encourage you when you made a mistake, although sometimes it's hard not to show disappointment {I am sure I've done that}.

As we grow older and have our own children, we realize that Mother was a very strong person, and we begin to wonder can we ever fit into her shoes. No, we wear our 'own shoes'.....we can never do things the same as our Mother, although she has given us the pattern from which to build. IF we have a Godly Mother {I did!}, then we can bring up our children in the ways of God, so that when they grow older we have the assurance that some day they will live for God. After all, Proverbs 22:6 says "Train up a child in the ways he should go, and when he is old, he will not depart from it."

Sometimes we get busy doing the usual things in life, and lose sight of the most important aspects - loving our family. And Mother happens to be where that 'family' began. Without Mother, there would never have been a family. You might also tell Daddy that you are so happy that he chose Mother to be his wife. Make his eyes light up as well!! *(excerpts from A Tribute to Mothers by Barbara Sanders)*

Note from the editor:

- The next **Community Breakfast** will be **Saturday – May 4, 2013 at 8:00 a.m.**
- **The Trustees'** will meet next at **Karen Schreifels' house, Wednesday – May 8, 2013 at 7:30PM.**
- The next **Ad Council** meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday May 15, 2013 at 7:00PM in Jones Hall.**
- **BEACON DEADLINE:** For the **June** issue – **Wednesday morning, May 22, 2013.**

(See Page 3 for further calendar details)





Dear Friends,

By the time you read this I will have started a month-long Renewal Leave. Our Book of Discipline for the United Methodist Church recommends that pastors take “four weeks every four years for spiritual renewal and continuing education.” I’ll start my twelfth year under appointment in July; this is my first leave – which as it turns out, is about par for the course for pastors in our Conference.

While I am gone, the Rev. Emil Sazon is in charge. He is preaching, or arranging for preachers, and will handle any pastoral care needs that arise while I’m gone. Call the office and Rhonda will relay the message if you need to speak with him. Among the joys of Sunnyhills is having Emil in the congregation, as well as several well trained and experienced lay speakers. I know you all will be in good hands!

In case you are wondering, I start my month in Edinburgh, Scotland. After a day or so in Edinburgh, I’ll drive through the southern Highlands then on to the Isle of Iona, the birthplace of Celtic Christianity. The Iona Community is home to the Wild Goose Worship Group, who’s liturgies we use often. Living in community there is part retreat, part worship exploration, part pilgrimage, and part chores! I’m looking forward to it.

After my week on Iona, I head for Dublin, Ireland (via rental car and ferry), to pick up my daughter Rebecca. We then head for the West of Ireland, where we will spend a week in County Donegal on a horseback riding adventure. While riding unguided, but with maps and specific destinations, we will take in some of the pre-Christian and Christian spiritual centers of Ireland, spending each night in a Bed and Breakfast, caring for our horses (and stretching out our tired muscles!) After the riding adventure we’ll be off to Dublin again for a bit of sightseeing, and the plane home. I’ll be back in the pulpit on June 2, ready to share with you so much that I’ve learned and experienced.

You will all be in my prayers while I’m gone.

Blessings,

Pastor Shirley



The Sunnyhills United Methodist Church Choir

Spring has sprung and the bell has rung, so why don't ya all come on down to the **Sanctuary** at **6:30 p.m., Thursdays**, to join the choir as they continue to bring beautiful music to worship each Sunday.

The Trustees

The **Trustees'** are scheduled to meet next, **Wednesday, May 8th** at **Karen Schreifels'** house at **7:30PM**. Be sure to drop by the Butterfly Garden and see what's going on there. It's simply "Gorgeous Dah'ling". Please see page 6 for further information from your Trustees.



Ad Council

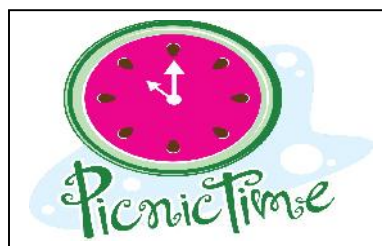
The next **Administrative Council** is scheduled for Wednesday, **May 15, 2013** at **7:00PM** in **Jones Hall**. Please see page 7 for further details.

Change-Over Sunday – May 26, 2013

Every penny you contribute to this fund goes toward putting food on the table of those in need. Thank you for your generosity and your commitment to helping your brothers and sisters in Milpitas.



Keep Sunday June 9 in your sites for our annual end-of-season Barbeque'
More information to come!



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 to:

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

**Income and Expenses
March 2013**

INCOME	<i>March</i>
Offerings	\$5,323.76
Bldg. Use, etc.	\$5,461.84
Special Giving	\$ 208.97
<i>TOTAL</i>	\$10,994.57

EXPENSES	<i>March</i>
Ministry & Outreach	\$ 2,606.49
Operating Expense	\$ 4,649.44
Pastor and Staff	\$ 6,959.45
<i>TOTAL</i>	\$14,215.38

FUND BALANCE

Cash on hand	\$32,055.37
Designated funds	\$16,271.60



I read this column on the United Methodist “Ministry Matters” website just after the March Beacon went to press. I think it is important – but perhaps for a reason that you won’t predict. These are all amazing ways to support me and the guest preachers that come to our pulpit, but it prompts me to ask a different question: *How can I (we, including guest pastors) best support YOU on Sunday mornings? Let me know, OK?*

7 Ways to Support Your Pastor on Sunday

By Ron Edmondson, www.MinistryMatters.com

Sunday mornings are a stressful time for pastors. My ministry includes interacting with dozens of pastors each week. It appears to me that there are some common experiences on Sunday morning for many of us. I also know most people who love their church...and love their pastor...want to help any way they can to make the Sunday morning experience the best it can be. That’s what this post is about.

Here are 7 ways you can help your pastor on Sunday:

Pray. – Pray for your pastor. Ask God to open the ears of the people, to guide your pastor’s heart and to bless the services with His Spirit.

Don’t critique. – Sunday morning is not the best time to bring complaints. It is very distracting when the pastor is about to speak to hear criticism that will have to be dealt with later. It weighs very heavy on the mind and gets in the way of focusing on the message. Hold those until Monday, but even then, ask yourself if sharing it is personal to you or genuinely helpful to the entire body.

Don’t share something you want us to remember. – Most likely we will forget what you told us by the time Sunday is done. Send us an email later or call us Monday morning. If it must be shared on Sunday, please write it down for us so we can remember the details. Our minds are so clouded on Sunday thinking about a million different things. And, we try hard to make our focus about a message we hope God will use.

Be Kingdom-minded. – Think of others interests even ahead of your own. Keep in mind the temperature in the room may not be your ideal temperature, but it may be exactly the right temperature for someone else. Your song may not be sung today, but it could be the song that leads another to the throne of grace. The message may not address what you’re dealing with right now, but for someone else, it might be life-changing. Be a part of the crowd that says, “I love what helps another” and you’ll help your pastor and the church greatly on Sunday mornings.

Volunteer. – The work of the church can’t function with only a few people. I’ve never met the church that had too many people volunteering in preschool ministry, too many greeters, or too many people willing to do whatever it takes.

Introduce us to visitors. – We love to meet visitors, especially those seeking a church home. It is comforting when the church is bringing people with them or meeting new visitors as they arrive.

Pray. – It really does begin and end with prayer. More than anything, we want your prayer support. The Spirit of God seems to respond when you do.

Pastor, how else can people help you on Sunday?

Ministry Matters supports ministry leaders with resources, community, and inspiration.



Kairos Crafters in May

We’ve been off to a great start, meeting on Thursdays from 3-5 in the Sanctuary. During the month of May, the Crafters will meet on the 16th and 30th. Invite your friends! Bring something to work on and join the informal discussion.

Milpitas Community Breakfast - Saturday, May 4, 2013 - 8:00 a.m.

The Milpitas Police Department will be hosting the Community Breakfast this coming Saturday. Milpitas Police Department Chief Steve Pangelinan will outline the crime trends in Milpitas and beyond. He will also offer tips on keeping your home and community safe and secure.

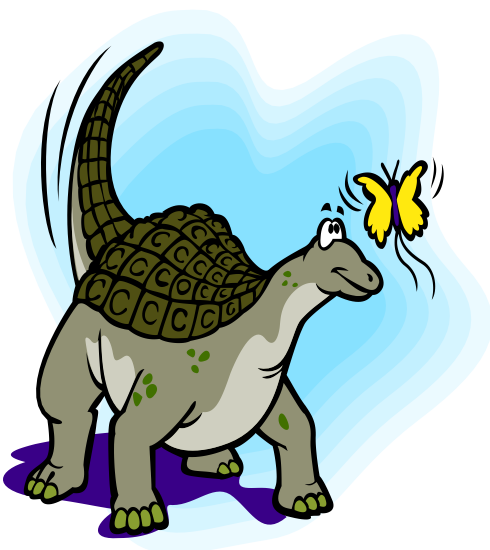
The breakfast, a 50-year old tradition in Milpitas, is sponsored by the Sunnyhills United Methodist Church. Breakfast is free (donations requested). All Milpitas residents and business owners are invited to attend and participate. Breakfasts run from 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. at Jones Hall, SUMC, 355 Dixon 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 May 4, 2013. For more information, call 263-8942.

Mother's Day will soon be here. What ya gonna do for your mom this year? If you need ideas, how about scrip? Take her to a nice dinner at one of the restaurants on the scrip form, give her a gift card for Bed Bath and Beyond, T.J. Max/Marshalls, get her a box of candy from See's, using a scrip card. Or maybe she likes books - There's scrip for Barnes and Noble, or there's scrip to take her to a movie at an AMC theater. Or, don't forget Best Buy, where you can get her all sorts of stuff, or where she can get it herself if you just want to give her the card.

So happy shopping. There are scrip forms at the back of the sanctuary, or just ask Daislyn for one.

Daislyn Pease

cell: 408-656-6023



Butterfly Garden Workdays

**Tuesday Evenings
6:00 – 8:00 p.m.**

*Plenty of chores
big and small
to spruce up the garden!*

**More information:
Cliveden & Guy Haas
(408) 262-5250**



Helping Hands

Many, many thanks to Marley and Jack Spilman who gave a “new” working refrigerator for Jones Hall. (Former pastor Marley sends her love and remembrances to everyone.) Guy Haas, Ralph Nikolaus, and Karen Schreifels kindly took Karen’s truck down to San Jose, loaded up the fridge, and brought it back to Jones Hall. A friend of Ralph’s took our old stalwart for recycling. Thank you, one and all!

Administrative Council

Wednesday, May 15th
7:00 p.m. in Jones Hall



Administrative Council guides the church’s program (what we do), calendar (when we do it), mission (answering God’s call), and finances (dollars and cents). AdCouncil’s goal is to empower our Sunnyhills UMC members to grow in stature and in wisdom and to help the congregation live creatively as God’s hands and voice in the world. Whew! That’s a BIG responsibility!

It takes a whole village to raise a child, and it truly takes the whole church to get the work done. Everyone is welcome at AdCouncil meetings. Your input and ideas will help us all do a better job of putting together the church’s year.

Please—don’t be shy—Come join the conversation!

Our Community Labyrinth

If you have taken the opportunity to walk out to the front of the Sanctuary since Easter, you will have noticed our budding labyrinth. As a work-in-progress, some of our border stones have been installed, some are just lying on the surface of the grass waiting to be “planted” at grass level (so they can be mowed over). Come, bring your trowel and plant a few stones! Bring a stone or brick that may have significance to you to add to the border. And of course, take an opportunity to walk the labyrinth. It can be peaceful, energizing, rewarding, challenging.

Calendar

May

- 2 Choir
- 4 Community Breakfast
- 5 Worship
- 6 Centering Prayer
- 7 Gardening in the Evenings
- 8 Trustees' meeting at Karen Schreifels'
- 9 Choir Rehearsal
- 12 Worship - *Happy Mother's Day!!*
- 13 Centering Prayer
- 14 Gardening in the Evening
- 15 Ad Council
- 16 Kairos Crafters
- Choir
- 19 Worship
- Lunch Bunch
- 20 Centering Prayer
- 21 Gardening in the Evening
- 23 *BEACON Deadline*
- Choir Rehearsal
- 26 Worship—Change Over Sunday
- 27 Memorial Day. Centering Prayer will not meet today.
- 28 Gardening in the Evenings
- 30 Kairos Crafters
- Choir

June

- 2 Worship
- 3 Centering Prayer
- 4 Gardening in the Evenings
- 6 Kairos Crafters
- Choir
- 9 Worship
- 10 Centering Prayer
- 11 Gardening in the Evenings
- 12 Ad Council
- 13 Kairos Crafters
- Choir – AnnZeise's House

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