



October 2015

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 Pumpkin Parable

Sometimes I feel like I'm a pumpkin. Please don't think it's odd.
I'm growing in a pumpkin patch that's planted there by God.

God picks me from the pumpkin patch and washes off the dirt;
Scoops out the seeds of sin and hate and anger, greed and hurt.

And then, to show how much I'm loved, God marks me with a sign
And opens up my eyes and mouth: all part of God's design.

Then filled with light God sets me out for everyone to see,
So all the pumpkins in the patch can see God's love through me.

You are the light of the world.

Matthew 5:14

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Note from the editor:

- The next **Community Breakfast** will be **Saturday, October 3, 2015 at 8:00 a.m.**
- **Trustees** will meet on **Wednesday, October 14, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.** at Karen's
- **Ad Council** will meet again, **Wednesday, October 21, 2015 p.m. at 7:00 p.m.** in **Jones Hall.**
- **BEACON DEADLINE:** For the **November** issue – **Tuesday afternoon, October 27, 2015.**

(See Page 3 for further calendar details)

Dear Friends,

This week my head is completely full of Miracle Sunday. As you know, October 4 is miracle Sunday. All the congregations, not for profits and community groups that meet on our campus are invited to join us for worship that morning. Rev. Staci Current, our new District Superintendent is preaching, Sylvia, Marjorie and Mike Halloran are providing special music, and the service will be co-led by all the pastors of Sunnyhills. Potluck luncheon follows. It is a big celebration of who we are, and also an opportunity to fund our last roof. We need \$22,000 to make it a reality. With this winters forecast (and badly needed rains) we need to get this roof done! I hope you will be there! Worship starts at 10:00. If you are able-bodied, please find a parking place on the street to leave our lots for less-frequent attendees and those who cannot walk that far.

Choir begins this week, and though we're not singing on Miracle Sunday, I expect the choir to be back to usual Sunday anthems in October. If you've ever had a hankering to sing, now is the time to join us! Check the weekly schedule to confirm which Thursday nights we are meeting (in the Sanctuary at 6:30).

And finally, please keep our Sunnyhills community in prayer. Our UMC attendance has fallen again, as has our giving. Although our community congregations and services that meet at Sunnyhills provide enough funding to keep our lights, power, and water on, we teeter on the edge of being forced to make some hard decisions on the future of our congregation. This is Scott Zeise's last edition of the Beacon. His work in the office has been invaluable, but we simply cannot afford an administrative assistant at this time.

Our situation is much more than just finance: As an aging congregation, the spirit may be willing, but the bodies may not have "willing" time or energy to give to rebuilding our community as we have done several times in the past. If we can no longer sustain ministry in its current incarnation, what do we want to do with our spiritual lives? Join with another congregation? Federate with one of our Sunnyhills tenant communities?

I am sure that you want to make the decisions about our future, not leaving them up to the Conference or District Superintendent. I don't want to leave you with the impression that these decisions will be made in the next 2-3 months, but I believe they must be addressed in the next 6-8 months. Pray, talk, think, respond to me, Bob Roll as Ad Council chair, or Guy Haas as Staff-parish Chair.

Blessings,

Pastor Shirley



The Sunnyhills United Methodist Church
Choir

Rehearsals have resumed! Starting October 1, 2015.
Please contact Gwen for future meeting days.

Ad Council

The **Administrative Council** will meet at
7:00PM on Wednesday, October 21, 2015 in
Jones Hall.

Please contact Bob Roll for additional
information.



Change-Over Sunday

It's looking like rain!

The demand for help from the Milpitas Food Pantry is just
as thirsty.

The next **Change-Over Sunday is October 25.**

Your continued spare change and support is very greatly
appreciated.

The Trustees

The Trustees will meet again, **Wednesday,**
October 14, 2015 at 7:00PM, at Karen
Schreifels'.



Happy Birthday Wishes to:

- 10/16 Anita Valderrama
- 10/12 Lynn Pope
- 10/25 Johanne Larsen
- 10/25 Ralph Nikolaus
- 10/31 Aida Cruz



Income and Expenses
August 2015

INCOME	<i>August</i>
Offerings	\$ 2,542.00
Bldg. Use, etc.	\$ 6,812.47
Special Giving	\$ 0.00
TOTAL	\$ 9,354.47

EXPENSES	<i>August</i>
Ministry & Outreach	\$ 1,462.62
Operating Expense	\$ 3,623.85
Pastor and Staff	\$ 4,465.91
TOTAL	\$ 9,552.38

FUND BALANCE

Cash on hand	\$24,641.78
Designated funds	\$10,467.14



Be Here for Miracle Sunday! 10:00 am Sunday October 4, 2015

We've invited all the congregations and community service groups that call Sunnyhills home to join us for remarkable and inspiring worship that morning.

The Rev. Staci Current will preach - and that alone is a reason for being with us. She is our new District Superintendent, and an amazing preacher to boot!

You'll have a chance to get to know many of the folks that also find our campus a big part of their lives: St Joseph and Holy Child Episcopal Churches, Santa Maria Old Catholic, St. Mary's Independent Philippine, Success Learning Center, Milpitas Parents Preschool, the Family Resource Center, and our 12-step groups and community committees.

And, a potluck luncheon: think about the wide range of food that will be brought!

Finally, we will take up a collection - a one time gift or short term pledge so that we may begin work replacing the Jones Hall roof. We need about \$22,000 to begin this project. The first 10% of that offering will go to the Milpitas Food Pantry - so our generosity not only keeps the rain out, but works in the community as well.

Note the change in time for this worship service

Contact Pastor Shirley at the office (408-262-1486) or via email (smacemon@gmail.com) if you have questions or would like to help plan and organize.

"An Act of Love" World Premiere

This film is a documentary about Rev. Frank Schaefer, who was put on trial in the United Methodist Church for officiating his son's same-sex wedding.

October 9th (5:45PM)

The Christopher B. Smith Rafael Film Center

1118 Fourth Street, San Rafael, CA. 94901

October 12th (2:45PM)

The Throckmorton Theatre

142 Throckmorton Ave, Mill Valley, CA. 94941

Website: <http://www.anactoflovetfilm.com/>

Milpitas Community Breakfast

Saturday, October 3, 2015, 8:00am in Jones Hall

Milpitas Unified School District is considering how to prepare for enrollment increases above today's 3,100 students at Milpitas High School. The Sunnyhills Neighborhood Association has invited Cary Matsuoka, superintendent, to present at its monthly breakfast on the topic of school growth.

Grounds Work Day

Saturday, October 24th, 9:00am – Noon.

Bring gloves, clippers, shears, saws, brooms, rakes, and other tools for clean-up, trimming, and weeding.

Our main task is removing junipers around Jones Hall posts to prepare for the new roof and building repair.

We will also work on general clean-up and trimming around the campus.

Everyone is welcome! Come enjoy some coffee, donuts, great company, and help neaten up the campus

Many hands make light work!



The Beacon

Sunnyhills United Methodist Church
355 Dixon Road
Milpitas, CA 95035

FIRST CLASS MAIL



Calendar

Every Monday @ 11:00AM, Centering Prayer
Every Sunday @ 9:30AM, U.M. Worship

Sunday, October 4 10:00am **Miracle Sunday**

Join all the Sunnyhills-based congregations for an amazing celebration of our ministries, preaching by our new district Superintendent, pot luck luncheon, and the Miracle offering that will pay for our new Jones Hall roof and help support the Milpitas Food Bank.

October

Saturday, October 3

8:00am

Community Breakfast

Wednesday, October 14

7:00pm

Trustees @ Karen's

Wednesday, October 21

7:00pm

Ad Council

Saturday, October 24

9:00am

Grounds Work Day

November

Wednesday, November 11

7:00pm

Trustees @ Karen's

Wednesday, November 18

7:00pm

Ad Council

Sunday, November 29

9:30am

U.M. worship
Special Offering:
UM College Fund