



July 2018

**Western Jurisdiction
Immigration Task Force
Statement in Support of
Ministry with Detained &
Separated Families**

**Call to Prayer
on the 4th of July,**
an invitation for all United
Methodists of the jurisdiction to
join our hearts, minds, and voices
in prayer for our immigrant and
migrant neighbors.

At the southern border of our jurisdiction, families are being detained and broken apart in pursuit of an immigration policy that United Methodist denominational leaders have named to be cruel and unjust.

The Western Jurisdiction Immigration Task Force uncompromisingly rejects the forced separation of children from their families. United Methodists are called to mourn, and to act, when we encounter a child being taken away from their family.

Find more information at
<https://www.cnumc.org/>

The Beacon

Sunnyhills United Methodist Church
355 Dixon Road, Milpitas CA 95035

Pastor Emil Sazon

Church Office (408) 262-1486
Visit us on the Web! www.sunnyhillsumc.org

**Traveling Mercies
&
Have a Great Trip!!**

Pastor Emil and the Sazon family are on vacation the first two weeks in July. We wish them the very best on their trip to the Philippines.

Pastor Shirley Macemon will preach and lead the services on July 1st and July 8th.

Please help us welcome her as our friend and a very special guest preacher. We are deeply blessed to have such wonderful support in our church family.

Remember
*Your presence in worship
is a blessing for us!*



Dear brothers and sisters, friends and family of Sunnyhills UMC,



July 1st is the beginning of the conference year 2018-2019 of our church, which means another opportunity for all of us to testify to the love of Jesus Christ our Lord by doing good in all places for the transformation our lives and the world we live in. I thank God for another year of privilege to serve in our church through Sunnyhills United Methodist Church. Please continue to pray for me and my family as I continue to pray for all of you in doing the ministry together for God's glory.

This month we are visiting our family and friends in the Philippines. We will take this time to reconnect with our roots and witness the amazing work of God on this part of the world. Please pray for traveling mercies and God's guidance in all that we do. Please do the same thing: Take time to visit your family and friends and have some fun!

In celebrating the Independence Day of our country, let us remember our brothers and sisters who sacrificed their very own lives for us to enjoy our freedom—Freedom to show love and justice. I remain hopeful even though we constantly hear news about injustice and violation of basic human rights happening within our land such as separation of undocumented parents and children. I do know God is listening to our prayers and that something good will come out of this tragic situation. God is not dead! He is alive! He is with us!

Finally, "Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up." (Galatians 6:12)
No boundaries in God's love!

No boundaries in God's love!

Pastor Emil

<p>Annual Conference Offering Rebuilding Puerto Rico</p>	
	<p>Our SUMC conference offering, collected in June, joined offerings brought to the worship service from the other 370+ United Methodist Churches and Fellowships in the California-Nevada Conference. The total offering to help the UMC effort to rebuild Puerto Rico was over \$80,000!</p>
<p>DOING ALL THE GOOD WE CAN!</p>	



7/8 Cliveden & Guy Haas
 7/26 Cathy Deppe & Alex Walker



7/5 Shirley Macemon
 7/6 Alex Rovere
 7/10 Cliveden Chew Haas
 7/22 Lalaine Tanciango
 7/26 Marites Lazatin
 7/27 Leila Feldman

Board of Trustees

NO Trustees meeting in July.

If there are any problems with buildings, property, or maintenance, or if you have any concerns about these areas, please contact one of the Board members:

- Karen Schreifels, President
- Jack Freeman, Vice-President
- Cliveden Chew Haas
- Guy K. Haas
- Daislyn Pease
- Laine Sazon

Administrative Council

NO AdCouncil meeting in July.

Bob Roll, AdCouncil Chair, Ria Feldman, the AdCouncil Secretary, or Pastor Emil will be glad to help you with any administrative, program, or mission concerns you may have.

AdCouncil will meet in August in order to plan the fall program.

HAVE A GREAT SUMMER!



The Advance of the General Board of Global Ministries awarded our Conference three awards for being one of the top 10 annual conferences in the following areas: **Supporters of International Disaster Response, Supporters of Mission Initiatives, and Supporters of Missionaries.**

Open Letter to California-Nevada Conference Concerning Glide Memorial UMC

6/23/2018



Open Letter to the Pastors and Churches of the California-Nevada Conference of The United Methodist Church Concerning Glide Memorial United Methodist Church

The California-Nevada Conference of The United Methodist Church has a long-standing commitment of support for Glide Memorial United Methodist Church's work with the poor and vulnerable of the Tenderloin District and the greater San Francisco community. The Conference's commitment of support for this work stands today. The concerns that I and the leadership of the California-Nevada Conference have are related to the church life of this congregation.

While there is a remnant of those who claim to be United Methodist and thus Christian, the great majority of the participants at Glide's Sunday Celebrations claim other faiths such as Jewish, Buddhist, Muslim and Wiccan. Atheists and Agnostics, comprise another segment of the Glide community. Leaders from these constituencies are quick to publicly state that they do not want the Celebrations, or the church, to be United Methodist or Christian in any form. Sunday Celebrations are uplifting concerts, but lack the fundamentals of Christian worship. Baptisms are conducted periodically but in the name of the people rather than from a Christian understanding of Baptism. Holy Communion was done away with some time ago and only introduced back into the life of the congregation this past Spring, but outside of the Celebration gatherings and with much resistance. We seek to be in good and loving relationship with persons of other faiths and beliefs, and those who claim no faith. However, this should never cause us to lose our own faith.

There are also serious concerns about the governance and financial administration of the church. The church has no organizational structure to fulfill its responsibilities as per *The Book of Discipline*, and has not had a United Methodist organizational structure for decades. The only body that functions in any leadership capacity is a group of congregational leaders hand-picked by Cecil Williams who have never been elected or recognized by the congregation. The district superintendent and I have worked with this congregational leaders group and have found them on the whole to be thoughtful and helpful, but without authority to act on behalf of the church. The secular Glide Foundation Board makes all decisions related to the work of the Foundation and the church, and now seeks to determine who Glide's pastor(s) will be. There has not been a church conference at Glide on record for many years.

Cecil Williams retired in 2000 yet continues to act as the senior pastor. Since Williams retirement, the following have been appointed as senior pastors of Glide: Doug Fitch, Don Guest, Karen Oliveto, and Jay Williams. In addition, Theon Johnson III and Deacon Angela Brown have served in associate positions. When Karen Oliveto was elected to the episcopacy in 2016, Bishop Warner H. Brown Jr. served as the interim senior pastor through June 30, 2017. No pastor has been allowed to exercise their rightful authority or responsibilities while serving at Glide. To this day, Cecil Williams and his wife, Janice Mirikitani, make all decisions in the background at Glide.

The Glide Foundation runs the business of the Foundation under the church's 501.(c)(3), yet renders no financial reports through United Methodist disciplinary processes. Appointed pastors are left to alone protect the resources of the church yet have no access to the full financial records of the church, nor do they have any say over the use of the church property.

Over the last 9 months the district superintendent and I have worked diligently to build a relationship with the Glide Foundation Board to determine a way forward that would both support the humanitarian work of the Glide Foundation and allow for the reestablishment of a healthy United Methodist Church. The effort has been complex and difficult. What is clear is that the Glide Foundation Board under the guidance of Cecil Williams and Janice Mirikitani, have no interest in allowing Glide to have any United Methodist identity nor to be accountable to The United Methodist Church.

On June 22, 2018, I received a letter from Kaye Foster, Glide Foundation Board Chair, challenging my work in relationship to the Glide Church. It included a number of misinterpreted paragraphs from our *Book of Discipline*. What was most significant, however, was that lawyers Stephanie Petit and Daniel P. Dalton were copied. Daniel P. Dalton is from Dalton and Tomich, a law firm that has been representing conservative United Methodist churches seeking to break away from the denomination because they oppose the full inclusion of LGBTQ persons. According to their own website, they have done similar work with Episcopal and Presbyterian USA churches and now make themselves available to work with United Methodist churches.

My Cabinet and I with the counsel of our Conference Chancellor have decided to conduct an assessment of Glide Memorial United Methodist Church under disciplinary paragraph 213. We ask for your prayers for this process and invite you to fast with us, as you are able, on Sunday mornings till noon during the summer months. May God give us wisdom and love in all things.

Sincerely,



Bishop Minerva G. Carcaño

Looking Ahead

In September we will
Celebrate Thelma Wilber's
very special birthday!

Say good-bye to
Gwen & Jack Freeman

Celebrate Pastor Emil's
continued appointment to
Sunnyhills UMC

Sunday School

Sunday School for children
ages 5-12 meets
every Sunday in July.

The children are enjoying
learning the Lord's Prayer, the
Golden Rule, and other
important teachings of Jesus.

Childcare available every service

CALENDAR

JULY

Mon. 7/2	11:00 a.m.	Centering Prayer in the Sanctuary (every Monday)
Fri. 7/6	7:00 p.m.	NO Choir Rehearsal
Mon. 7/9	11:00 a.m.	Centering Prayer in the Sanctuary (every Monday)
Fri. 7/13	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal in the Sanctuary (every Friday)
Sat. 7/14	7:00 a.m.	Morning Devotion in Sanctuary (every Saturday)
Sun. 7/15		Special Offering for Peace with Justice
Mon. 7/16	11:00 a.m.	Centering Prayer in the Sanctuary (every Monday)
	6:30 p.m.	Young Adult Ministries: Anakbayan Silicon Valley meets in Office
Fri. 7/20	7:00 p.m.	NO Choir Rehearsal
Sat. 7/21	7:00 a.m.	Morning Devotion in Sanctuary (every Saturday)
Mon. 7/23	11:00 a.m.	Centering Prayer in the Sanctuary (every Monday)
Fri. 7/27	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal in the Sanctuary (every Friday)
Sat. 7/28	7:00 a.m.	Morning Devotion in Sanctuary (every Saturday)
Sun. 7/29	9:30 a.m.	<i>Your spare change helps the hungry and homeless</i> —Changeover Sunday
Mon. 7/30	11:00 a.m.	Centering Prayer in the Sanctuary (every Monday)

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LIGHT FOR LIVING AND GROWING

first class