



November 2018

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

All Saints Day

November 1st

November 1 is All Saints Day, a sometimes-overlooked holy day in United Methodist congregations. It is not nearly as well known as the day before, All Hallows' (Saints') Eve, better known as Halloween, but it is far more important in the life of the church.

John Wesley, founder of the Methodist movement, enjoyed and celebrated All Saints Day. In a journal entry from November 1, 1767, Wesley calls it "a festival I truly love." On the same day in 1788, he writes, "I always find this a comfortable day." The following year he calls it "a day that I peculiarly love."

Historically, the Methodist Church has confessed a belief in
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SUMC Church Conference

*Friday November 30th
7:30-9:15 p.m.*

Our **Church Conference** is an important event each year. It is a time to remember and celebrate the year we have accomplished, goals met, missions fulfilled, lives enriched, and a time to look to the future and where God is leading us.

Rev. Shinya Goto, our District Superintendent, will preside at the business portion of our evening. This is a chance for us to meet Rev. Goto, welcome him to our community, and share with him a bit of our church life here at Sunnyhills.

We greatly appreciate his willingness to make time in his busy schedule to spend this
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Dear friends, brothers, and sisters in Christ,

Greetings in the Spirit of Thanksgiving and Honor as we celebrate Thanksgiving and Veterans' Holidays!

I would like to invite you personally to come to our **Annual Church Conference on Friday, November 30th at 7:30 PM in our sanctuary (Staff Parish Relations Committee meets at 7 PM)**. Each of you has a special place in God's kingdom. Your presence at this event will be a blessing as we serve and encourage one another in sharing the love of our Lord Jesus Christ. Let us affirm the values that we share over the years by extending our tables with everyone regardless of our different cultural background, race, sexual orientation, etc. Our District Superintendent of El Camino Real, Rev. Shinya Goto, will preside our meeting.

This year, something new that our conference requires, we are to report as a church our strategies in carrying out our missions including strategies and goals for Discipleship processes, creating new places for new people, participation in the Conference tithe and Extra Mile Giving, etc. Come and let us work together for His glory. Do great things for God! Expect great things from God!

Finally, I ask you to keep in your thoughts and prayers the family of Margaret Scott who joined all the saints earlier this month. Her daughter, Jane Ellen Scott, is so kind to let us know and would like to thank her family in Sunnyhills UMC. Margaret and her family joined our church in June 1962. Her faith and love to God motivated her to serve others. This church remembers Margaret as a woman with an open heart and mind for everyone! Join me in thanking God for the life and ministry of Margaret.

No boundaries in God's love!

Pastor Emil Sazon



So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

*Ephesians 4:11-13
New International Version*



SUMC Church Conference *Friday November 30th, 7:30-9:15 p.m.*

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evening with us, and we want to make sure he feels welcome!

The Staff-Parish Relations Committee will meet with the D.S. before the conference at 7:00 p.m. Church members and friends should gather in the sanctuary at 7:30 p.m. Please bring snacks and desserts to share if you like; if it's not convenient, don't worry, we always have plenty of food!

Business items include approving the Pastor's salary package and electing church officers for 2019. We'll also enjoy singing, a multi-media retrospective of 2018 courtesy of Laine and Pastor Emil Sazon, discussion of where we are and where we're going, and fellowship in God's house.

Everyone is welcome and expected! Please save the date and join us for this very special evening.

Rev. Shinya Goto

District Superintendent, El Camino Real District

The Rev. Shinya Goto, 40, was born in Tokyo, Japan and immigrated to the United States at the age of 12. He has lived in Southern California, the Bay Area, and Seattle.

Rev. Goto earned a B.A. in Anthropology from the University of Washington in Seattle, and a M.Div. from the Pacific School of Religion (PSR) in Berkeley.

Prior to being appointed D.S. in July 2017, he served as the Pastor of San Jose First UMC, Wesley UMC in San Jose, and Madera UMC.

Shinya is married to the Rev. Jennifer Goto, pastor of St. Paul's UMC San Jose. The couple met while studying at PSR and married 14 years ago. They are the proud parents of two children, a son Dakota who is 12, and a daughter Reina who is six.



All Saints Day

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the "communion of the saints," which includes not only all living believers, but also all who have gone before us. When we celebrate Holy Communion, we experience the communion of saints, feasting with believers past, present and future. The author of Hebrews (Chapter 12) reminds us that these saints, a "great cloud of witnesses," surround us and cheer us on.



On All Saints Day, United Methodists publicly remember and honor those who have passed away. Celebrated on the first Sunday in November, many congregations light candles, ring bells of remembrance, and call the names of those lost in the previous year as a way of honoring the impact their lives have had on us.

When we gather for worship, mission, or fellowship, we experience the communion of saints, the community of believers--living and dead. This faith community stretches beyond space and time. We commune with Christians around the world, believers who came before us, and believers who will come after us. We believe that the church is the communion of saints, and as a believer, **you** belong to the communion of saints.

United Methodists understand saints to be believers who exemplify the Christian life. Hence, all Christians strive to be saints in how we live our faith. United Methodists recognize early followers of Jesus to be saints. For example, you may know many United Methodist churches named St. Paul, St. Andrew, or St. Peter. United Methodists do not pray to or worship saints. We also do not think of saints as those who serve as mediators to God on our behalf. All believers enjoy unmediated access to God. The United Methodist Church has no canonization process for sainthood. The church does not set saints apart as a separate group of specialized believers. Rather, it calls all believers saints.

Learn more: <http://www.umc.org/what-we-believe/all-saints-day-a-holy-day-john-wesley-loved>
<https://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/4400/communion-of-saints>



*Daylight Saving
Time Ends*

*Remember to set your clocks back one hour
on Saturday night November 3rd!*

Community Breakfast

Saturday November 3rd

8:00 a.m. in Jones Hall



Last year a local nonprofit purchased the land next to the Library for a Historical Park. Join the Sunnyhills Neighborhood Association for a free breakfast and an update from the Milpitas Historical Society and the Milpitas Museum Society to learn what they have in store! Let them know what's important about Milpitas history to you. Sunnyhills has an interesting past that should be preserved. Bring your ideas!



Board of Trustees

Wednesday November 14th

7:30 p.m. in Jones Hall

Trustees are responsible for buildings, property, and maintenance, and they also administer rental agreements and room assignments. We are always seeking good ideas for repairing roofs, mowing the lawns, keeping ahead of the weeds, and preparing our buildings for many years of service.

Administrative Council

Sunday November 18th

11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary

The AdCouncil administers the church, sets the budget, and plans program and mission events. Everyone is welcome—Come help us organize the life of our church!



BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH

11/08 Lee Scott

11/12 Rueben Marcos Valderrama

11/20 Kristel Tanciango

Do not those who plot evil go astray?
But those who plan what is good find
love and faithfulness.

Book of Proverbs 14:22

New International Version

CALENDAR

November



Fri. 11/2	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal in the Sanctuary (every Friday)
Sat. 11/3	7:00 a.m.	Morning Devotion in Sanctuary (every Saturday)
	8:00 a.m.	Community Breakfast: Plans for Historical Park
Mon. 11/5	11:00 a.m.	Centering Prayer in the Sanctuary (every Monday)
Fri. 11/9	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal in the Sanctuary (every Friday)
Sat. 11/10	7:00 a.m.	Morning Devotion in Sanctuary (every Saturday)
Sun. 11/11	11:30 a.m.	Lunch Bunch at La Milpa
Mon. 11/12	11:00 a.m.	Centering Prayer in the Sanctuary (every Monday)
Wed. 11/14	7:30 p.m.	Board of Trustees meets in Jones Hall
Fri. 11/16	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal in the Sanctuary (every Friday)
Sat. 11/17	7:00 a.m.	Morning Devotion in Sanctuary (every Saturday)
Sun. 11/18	11:00 a.m.	Administrative Council meets in Church Office
Mon. 11/19	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. 11/23	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal in the Sanctuary (every Friday)
Sat. 11/24	7:00 a.m.	Morning Devotion in Sanctuary (every Saturday)
Sun. 11/25	11:30 a.m.	Special Offering: UM Student Day <i>Your spare change helps the hungry and homeless—Changeover Sunday</i>
Mon. 11/26	11:00 a.m.	Centering Prayer in the Sanctuary (every Monday)
Fri. 11/30	7:30 p.m.	Annual Church Conference in Sanctuary

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LIGHT FOR LIVING AND GROWING

first class