



December 2018

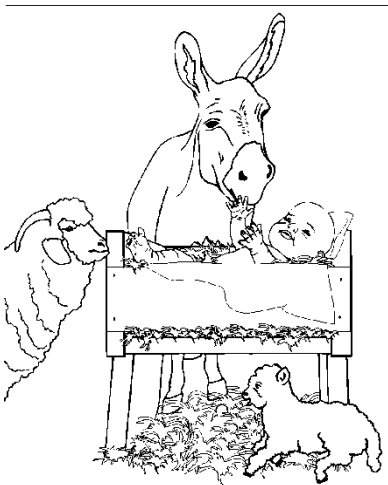
Christmas Eve Service

*Monday, December 24
7:00 p.m.*

Our Christmas Eve service of readings and carols will begin at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, December 24th. This family-friendly celebration of the birth of the Christ child is always one of the high points of our church year.

We are inviting the community to join us and hope to welcome many new friends and old to worship with us.

Volunteers and extra hands for set-up, decoration, and refreshments are always needed. Please contact Jo Roll or Laine Sazon if you can help.



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*

Christmas Institute

*December 26-30
Sonora, CA*

The Christmas Institute, begun and run for many years by Filipino congregations, has now been adopted by the California-Nevada Conference. This gathering of youth and young adults focuses on studying the word of God and encouraging young people to participate in the life and ministries of the church.

Pastor Emil is one of the speakers this year and will be attending the conference during the five days after Christmas.

To find out more about the annual retreat and registration, please speak with Pastor Emil or visit <https://www.norcalci.org/our-mission/>





Dear friends, brothers, and sisters in Christ,

The True Light is coming to the world! The world God created is so beautiful and it is a reflection of His goodness. We are expected to take good care of all co-creations to become productive (and even more productive) to sustain the needs of everyone. Unfortunately, we destroy the world knowingly and unknowingly; and now, the nature turns to destroy us in return. The world is becoming darker and we can no longer see the beauty of the earth. Christmas is a timely celebration and a timely message for all of us. The True light is coming to overcome the power of darkness.

Jesus is the True light. Jesus indeed came and helps us to see the way that leads to a peaceful and joyful life. Jesus is the only hope for all of us and for the world we live in. What a wonderful sight when every single child of God shines in the darkness as we shout Alleluia! Alleluia! to Jesus, the True Light of the World!

As we begin to celebrate Christ in the season of Advent, I invite you to join other faith communities and various organizations on Saturday, December 8th, at 6:00 p.m., in celebrating the International Human Rights Day in our sanctuary and remembering those who fought peacefully for others' freedom, welfare, and justice. Just as Christ showed His love by serving others, we are called to do the same with others.

Lastly, come to our Christmas Eve's celebration on December 24th at 7:00 p.m. in celebrating the most wonderful story of God's great love to all humankind! Come and enjoy the music, the food, and the fellowship with one another. Share the message of hope, love, joy, and peace to all the people that we meet; hoping they will see the True Light in our hearts. Thanks be to God!

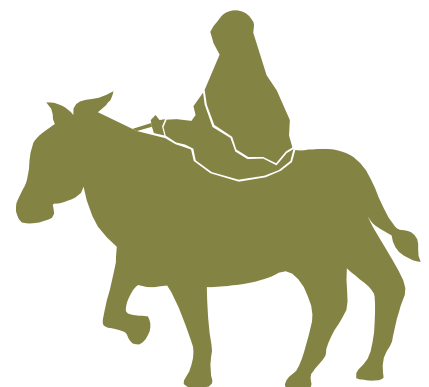
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all!

No boundaries in God's love!

Pastor Emil Sazon

In the depths of who I am
I rejoice in God my savior

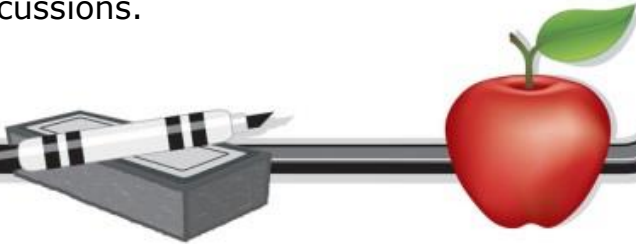
Luke 1:47
Common English Bible



Administrative Council

*Sunday December 16th
11:00 a.m. in the Office*

The AdCouncil administers the church, sets the budget, and plans program our church! Everyone is welcome to join the discussions.



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

2/24 Vilma & Winnie Ware
12/31 Myra & Ralph Nikolaus



BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH

Ring Out the Old, Ring in the New at Sunnyhills Community Breakfast

*Saturday December 1st
8:00 a.m. in Jones Hall*

12/02 Virginia Mathiesen
12/11 Juanita Whetstone
12/21 F.J. Lazatin
12/23 Kitty Pascual
12/25 Jack Freeman
12/25 Mark Pereyra
12/27 Robert Pease

Get a jump on New Years on December 1 with a New Year's breakfast celebration! The community is invited to attend the Sunnyhills Neighborhood Association annual meeting and share in a festive breakfast to end 2018 and consider 2019. What topics would you like future breakfasts to address? What special events would you enjoy? What should be our focus in 2019? Who will step up to be on our board? Join us for a free breakfast including some holiday classics. (Panettone anyone? Sparkling cider, tea, and coffee will definitely be served.) Contact Allysson McDonald (allyssonmcdonald@gmail.com) if you'd like to contribute your favorite holiday food.

Pastor Shirley Macemon To Preach

Help us welcome Pastor Shirley Macemon in our pulpit on Sunday, December 30th, while Pastor Emil is speaking at the Christmas Institute in Sonora. It's always great to welcome old friends home again!





Special Offering
Milpitas Food Pantry
Sunday December 23rd
& Christmas Eve

Our Christmas Eve special offering will benefit the Milpitas Food Pantry. Funds are used to provide emergency food and food assistance for residents of Milpitas and Alviso.

Sunnyhills UMC was one of the founders of the Milpitas Food Pantry, a faith-based 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that relies on community support to distribute food to more than 3,500 low- and fixed-income people. The majority of clients are families with children, followed by seniors. The Pantry also serves the homeless in our area.

In addition to food, the Pantry also runs a clothes closet which offers a wide variety of garments and household items donated by the community. It includes sections for school uniforms and a Career Closet along with clothing for all ages and sizes.

For more information or to volunteer your time, visit <http://milpitasfoodpantry.org/>.

Special Offering
United Methodist Student Day
Sunday December 2nd

**Together, we educate students so they
can make a difference in the world.**

Across the country, the people of the United Methodist Church are serving the people God loves in Jesus' name.

Right now there are UMC young people—who might not have had the resources to attend a school of their choice—who've been sent by you into the world God loves because of your giving to UM Student Day. When you give generously you are supporting these students as they prepare for a life that unites faith with knowledge.

What no one person or congregation can do alone, we're doing together.





International Human Rights Interfaith Event

Saturday December 8th

6:00-8:00 p.m.

In the Sanctuary

Stand up for equality, justice, and human dignity

Anakbayan Silicon Valley joins with other faith communities (including St. Mary's PIC here on the SUMC campus) to invite the community to a celebration of Human Rights Day and the continuing fight for equality, justice, and human dignity for all.

Human Rights Day is observed every year on 10 December – the day the United Nations General Assembly adopted, in 1948, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. This year, Human Rights Day marks the 70th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, a milestone document that proclaimed the inalienable rights which everyone is inherently entitled to as a human being -- regardless of race, color, religion, sex, language, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status. It is the most translated document in the world, available in more than 500 languages.

Everyone is welcome! Come learn more about struggles for justice and equality in our area and around the world.

"Where, after all, do universal human rights begin? In small places, close to home -- so close and so small that they cannot be seen on any maps of the world. [...] Unless these rights have meaning there, they have little meaning anywhere. Without concerted citizen action to uphold them close to home, we shall look in vain for progress in the larger world." -- Eleanor Roosevelt

During the four Sundays of Advent, our services will include lighting the Advent candles and a simple reading. Pastor Shirley is looking for families, couples, and individuals who would be willing to help.

Please contact her for more information.

Shirley Macemon (408) 505-6462



CALENDAR



Sat. 12/1	7:00 a.m.	Morning Devotion in Sanctuary
	8:00 a.m.	Community Breakfast
Sun. 12/2		Special Offering: United Methodist Student Day
Mon. 12/3	11:00 a.m.	Centering Prayer in the Sanctuary
Fri. 12/7	7:00 p.m.	NO Choir Rehearsal
Sat. 12/8	7:00 a.m.	Morning Devotion in Sanctuary (every Saturday)
	6:00-8:00 p.m.	Interfaith Young Adult Fellowship: International Human Rights
Mon. 12/10	11:00 a.m.	Centering Prayer in the Sanctuary (every Monday)
Fri. 12/14	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal in the Sanctuary (every Friday)
Sat. 12/15	7:00 a.m.	Morning Devotion in Sanctuary (every Saturday)
Sun. 12/16	11:00 a.m.	Administrative Council meets in Church Office
Mon. 12/17	11:00 a.m.	Centering Prayer in the Sanctuary (every Monday)
Tues. 12/18	6:30 p.m.	Young Adult Ministries: Anakbayan Silicon Valley meets in Office
Fri. 12/21	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal in the Sanctuary (every Friday)
Sat. 12/22	7:00 a.m.	Morning Devotion in Sanctuary (every Saturday)
Sun. 12/23		Special Offering: Milpitas Food Pantry
Mon. 12/24	7:00 p.m.	Christmas Eve Service in the Sanctuary
		Special Offering: Milpitas Food Pantry
Fri. 12/28	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal in the Sanctuary (every Friday)
Sun. 12/30	11:30 a.m.	<i>Your spare change helps the hungry and homeless</i> — Changeover Sunday
Mon. 12/31	11:00 a.m.	Centering Prayer in the Sanctuary (every Monday)

The Beacon

Sunnyhills United Methodist Church
355 Dixon Road
Milpitas CA 95035

first class



LIGHT FOR LIVING AND GROWING