



**March 2019**

## **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](http://www.sunnyhillsumc.org)*

### **Bishop Carcaño Speaks on General Conference**

*Los Altos UMC \* 2:30-5:00 p.m.*

As your Bishop, I have scheduled a series of Post-General Conference Visits to inform our clergy and congregations about the actions of the General Conference and the implications for our conference and denomination.

With the help of conference leaders, we will work to outline what unfolded in St. Louis and what those actions mean, followed by discussion with opportunity for questions. These visits will also be times of prayer and seeking God's way forward for our ministry in the California-Nevada Conference.

The first visit will take place on March 3rd at Los Altos UMC, 655 Magdalena Ave., Los Altos.

Each of these visits is open to all our clergy and lay members from all the United Methodist churches of our conference. We hope that as many of you as possible will take advantage of one of these opportunities to receive important information and insight into church process and the

outcome of the actions of the historic special session of the General Conference.

May the love of God who makes us one be with all the delegates of the General Conference, The United Methodist Church worldwide, and the members of the California-Nevada Annual Conference.

Your Sister in Christ,

Bishop Minerva G. Carcaño



*Bishop Minerva Garza Carcaño is the Resident Bishop of the California-Nevada Conference in the Western Jurisdiction of The United Methodist Church.*

## Pastoral Letter for March



Dear friends, brothers, and sisters in Christ,

I feel that it's not too long ago we were preparing for the birth of our King; and here we are, the Season of Lent is upon us! I look forward to offering the imposition of ashes in the form of a cross on one's forehead beginning at 7 A.M. on Ash Wednesday, March 6, outside our church and on the street. I pray that this ministry will remind the people of the suffering and death of Jesus for the forgiveness of our sins. Please join as we conclude this ministry at the sanctuary from 5 P.M. to 7 P.M.

Lent is all about the cross where Jesus died. It is the cross of hate, of love, of rejection and of redemption. It is the cross of punishment and of freedom. Above all, it is the cross of a new beginning.

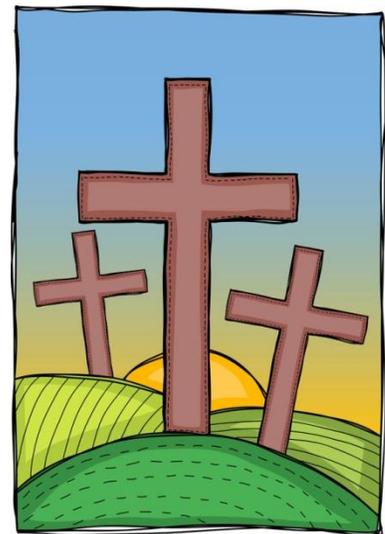
By the time you read this letter, the Special Session of the General Conference will have ended and, however things turned out, we can now move forward to a new journey together. It is my prayer that this Season of Lent may bring healing in our church, around the world, and strength amongst us in responding to the needs of others. Let us mourn together until the Lord has healed our brokenness. God bless you all!

**No boundaries in God's love!**

*Pastor Emil Sazon*  
Sunnyhills UMC

*"Indeed I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as refuse, in order that I may gain Christ".*

*(Philippians 3:8 RSV)*





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3/5 Gwen & Jack Freeman

3/5 Dolly Soriano  
3/6 Daislyn Pease  
3/6 Kyler Tanciangco

### **Black Colleges Special Offering** *Sunday March 3rd*

This fund provides financial support to maintain solid and challenging academic programs, strong faculties and well-equipped facilities at the 11 United Methodist-related historically black colleges and universities. For more information:  
<http://www.umcsgiving.org/question-articles/black-college-fund-faq>



### **Time to Spring Ahead!** *Sunday March 10th*

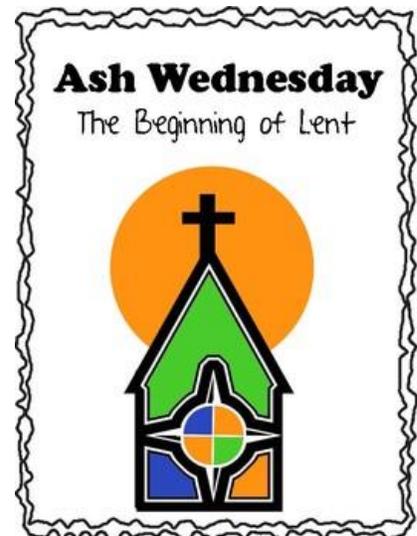
Daylight savings time begins soon! Remember to set your clocks ahead one hour on Saturday evening 3/9.

### **Ash Wednesday**

*March 6th*

*Imposition of Ashes  
At the Sanctuary  
Opens at 5 PM to 7 PM*

*Please come anytime between these hours  
for prayer, reflection, and imposition of ashes*



## **UMCOR Sunday Special Offering** *Sunday March 31st*

*“But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting.” — John 5:36, NRSV*

Clean water is life. One in five children who die under age 5 die from diseases related to contaminated water sources. One in nine people do not have access to clean water every day.

Jesus calls us to give drink to the thirsty. This is the aim of the United Methodist Committee on Relief through the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene or WASH program. UMCOR works in communities and in partnerships to rehabilitate or create new water sources in communities without access to clean water. UMCOR then offers training to ensure that the communities will be able to maintain their own water sources. UMCOR also is involved in global education and training programs that build appropriate toilets and teach proper handwashing practices.

UMCOR recently earned a 4-star rating by Charity Navigator, an organization that rates charities, for its strong financial health and commitment to accountability and transparency. That is in part because of the UMCOR Sunday offering March 31st in which **100 percent of the offering** directly supports the overhead costs of UMCOR.

*God of Grace and Love, give us generous hearts that are open to the stranger, the hungry, the sick and the thirsty. Give us courage to act in ways that demonstrate justice and mercy so that we, your church, will do the work of the harvest that has been prepared for us to do. Amen.*



### **Administrative Council**

*Sunday March 24th  
11:00 a.m. in the Office*

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





**Milpitas Beat  
& Local Journalism  
Sunnyhills Community  
Breakfast**

*Saturday March 2nd  
8:00 a.m. in Jones Hall*

Communities need local journalism. But today more and more local news sources are fading away. Without local journalists to watch and report on what's happening in our communities, democracy is weakened. We need local journalism to help build and empower our communities.

Come to the Sunnyhills Neighborhood Association's next breakfast, and hear Rhoda Shapiro, founder of the community-based newspaper *The Milpitas Beat*, speak about the current state of journalism, and how we as a community can get involved in preserving and strengthening one of our great national treasures.

The free breakfast, at **8:00 am on Saturday, March 2**, is hosted by the Sunnyhills Neighborhood Association and the Sunnyhills United Methodist Church in Jones Hall at 355 Dixon Road. Everyone is welcome. Donations are gratefully accepted. The Community Breakfast occurs the first (non-holiday) Saturday of the month except in summer. For more information call (408) 507-3913.



*District Superintendent  
Roger Eballo  
from the Philippines  
will be visiting our worship service  
on Sunday March 17th.*

*Please help us welcome  
Pastor Emil's friend and colleague who is  
here for the General Conference.*

**Lunch Bunch!**  
*Sunday March 17th*

*Casa Azteca*

*Yum-yum! Good food!*



# CALENDAR



Fri. 3/1	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal in the Sanctuary
Sat. 3/2	7:00 a.m.	<b>Morning Devotion in Sanctuary</b>
	8:00 a.m.	<b>Community Breakfast:</b> The Milpitas Beat
Sun. 3/3		<b>Special Offering: Black College Fund</b>
Mon. 3/4	11:00 a.m.	Centering Prayer in the Sanctuary
Wed. 3/6	5:00 p.m.	Ash Wednesday in the Sanctuary
Fri. 3/8	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal in the Sanctuary (every Friday)
Sat. 3/9	7:00 a.m.	<b>Morning Devotion in Sanctuary</b> (every Saturday)
Mon. 3/11	11:00 a.m.	Centering Prayer in the Sanctuary (every Monday)
Wed. 3/13	7:30 p.m.	Board of Trustees meets in Jones Hall
Fri. 3/15	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal in the Sanctuary (every Friday)
Sat. 3/16	7:00 a.m.	<b>Morning Devotion in Sanctuary</b> (every Saturday)
Sun. 3/17	9:30 a.m.	District Superintendant Roger Eballo visits from the Philippines Lunch Bunch at Casa Azteca
Mon. 3/18	11:30 a.m.	Centering Prayer in the Sanctuary (every Monday)
Tues. 3/19	6:30 p.m.	<b>Young Adult Ministries: Anakbayan Silicon Valley</b> meets in Office
Fri. 3/22	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal in the Sanctuary (every Friday)
Sat. 3/23	7:00 a.m.	<b>Morning Devotion in Sanctuary</b> (every Saturday)
Sun. 3/24	11:00 a.m.	Administrative Council meets in the Sanctuary
Mon. 3/25	11:00 a.m.	Centering Prayer in the Sanctuary (every Monday)
Fri. 3/29	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal in the Sanctuary (every Friday)
Sat. 3/30	7:00 a.m.	<b>Morning Devotion in Sanctuary</b> (every Saturday)
Sun. 3/31		<b>Special Offering: UMCOR Sunday</b> <i>Your spare change helps the hungry and homeless—Changeover Sunday</i>

## The Beacon

Sunnyhills United Methodist Church  
355 Dixon Road  
Milpitas CA 95035

first class



LIGHT FOR LIVING AND GROWING