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The
Sonshiner
Monthly Publication
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Minister: Rev. Hal A. Lingerman

July
2008

Return Service Requested

YOUTH NITE
Thursday, July 24, at 5:30 pm

MOVIE -- "ICE AGE 2"

PIZZA
and

**build your own ice cream sundae,
just like you always wanted it!**

HOPE YOU CAN MAKE IT !
(We promise, no tornados !)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY AMERICA
July 4, 1776 - July 4, 2008

The signers of the Declaration of Independence valued freedom and God's will more than they valued their properties and their lives. Standing tall, straight and unwavering, they pledged for the support of this declaration, a firm reliance on the protection of the divine providence of Almighty God.

GAME NIGHT
and **CHICKEN DINNER**

Thursday, July 17, at 5:00 pm
in the Library.

Please join us for an
evening of fun and fellowship.

Tickets on sale
after worship service.
\$5.00 per person

PLEASE NOTE:

Pastor Hal will be away in July, he will be taking 1-month of his sabbatical. He is scheduled to return on Tuesday, August 5.

Pastor Doree Evanoff will be available as needed. Some excellent speakers will be present to assist in each weekly Sunday morning Worship Service.



Recreating Yourself in God

“Strive to live in PEACE with everybody and pursue that consecration and holiness, without which one will not see the Lord.” (Hebrews 12: 14)

“For the Lamb (the living Lord Christ) Who is in the midst of the Holy Presence and Power will be their shepherd, and He will guide them to the springs of the waters of life; and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.” (Revelation 7: 17)

“See! I make all things NEW.” (Revelation 21: 5a)

Our journey in God through Earth is a continuous shedding of the old in the breath of new awakening. Something lesser in us is always giving way, so that something finer might find expression.

As we advance into our later years, it is always helpful to keep some new irons in the fire. What once served its purpose in our life may need to yield so that God can RE-CREATE us anew.

Let us always be passionately interested in life, learning and caring for others. Let us look at each day's end to see where we have deepened in character, creativity, compassion and connection.

Let us keep up with advances in the sciences so that our bodies can age wisely and more healthily. Remember, your body might age, but the **spirit** is always youthful and will refresh the body.

The garment may wear out, but the wearer **never** does. **We** are forever! We eventually outgrow our physical vestments, so that we can better “suit” God with new garments of light. A day will come in another lifetime when even our body might not age at all.

Likewise, whatever we have loved is never lost; it continues itself as energy in new forms of visibility. Persons and pets whom we have taken into our heart are a part of us forever, no matter where either of us may reside. Every life that we have touched with love and caring is woven consciously into the fabric of our own soul. Whatever we have learned is awakened forever in our soul essence and is an activated part of who we are.

As we age, every minute counts. Time and health become our greatest gifts to explore. Don't go defeated into God's good night. Age courageously, lovingly and creatively in the Light. Keep current on Earth and acquaint yourself with the “many mansions of Light” and the Company of Heaven near you. **Make every minute count**; use every part of yourself—physically, emotionally, mentally and soulfully, to reach out to others and the needs and suffering around you. Do what you can to lighten others' load.

Notice the small moments, like “eyes of beauty” - present all around you and reaching out to bless you. Enjoy the small **miracles** in each day: a smile, a helpful deed, a conversation, a flower, beautiful objects, Grace upon grace.

Take time daily this summer to **thank God** for all your blessings, and send a short note or call to thank **all** those, here and in the next dimension, for the ways they have enriched you.

Send out healing blessings continuously, especially to those in need whom you may NOT personally know.

Go to sleep each night with a heart emptied out each day, so that it might be refilled upon your awakening.

Blessings to All, Pastor Hal

Moderator's Report

On Sunday, June 1st, we attended a Student Showcase, Open House Program at our church, sponsored by Eckart Seeber. Approximately 100 people were in attendance and enjoyed a wonderful program of music and performers. Eckart is teaching all types of music, to students, Vocal, both solo and group singers, guitar, piano, trumpet, and he involves the students in a concert-performing atmosphere. What a meaningful program, which we hope will awaken enough interest in our Menifee community for him to start a new group at our church.

Art Peterson, our Vice-Moderator, and I will be meeting within the next few weeks to discuss chairperson or officers in our church during 2009. If you are willing to serve on a committee, Board of Trustees or Church Council, please let either Art or me know about your interest to volunteer.

Pastor Hal gave an interesting report about a major need to our Board of Trustees at our last meeting. The number of homeless persons around the church has risen noticeably. A contingency of 6 persons is now sleeping, drinking and camping out with shopping baskets of clothing and bedrolls next to our church (the front of Fellowship Hall). An altercation between two of them was broken up by the Pastor's intervention last week when one accused the other of stealing a bike. It is dangerous for Cheryl, our Office manager or anyone, should someone be hurt on our property. They have been asked to leave, to no avail, and even when they do leave, they are back the next evening. We have no police in Sun City, Perris is the nearest station to call. We are also having some vandalism of people taking concrete water pipe covers off our building to sell. Pastor Hal, our Trustees and Council, are recommending that we enclose this area and make two new and much needed meeting rooms for the (4) churches that operate on our campus.

Art Peterson had a wonderful idea on how our church could finance this building room cost. Art is suggesting that we all take 10% of our ("Windfall" \$600 to \$1,200), which would equal \$60 - \$120 we received from our US Government, and donate it towards this unbudgeted but much needed building improvement. It's a wonderful idea because we won't miss the money and it will improve our church for future needs to keep it safe. Its also tax deductible and a win-win situation! Art and Jim Wilson will be discussing this more in the next few weeks. I am only giving you a heads background information discussed at the Trustees and Council Meetings. Please let us know your interest and write a check to our UCC Church for Room Enclosure.

Gary Tidwell,
Moderator

HOW DO YOU DECIDE WHO TO MARRY?

You got to find somebody who likes the same stuff. Like, if you like sports, she should like it that you like sports, and she should keep the chips and dip coming. - - Alan, age 10

No person really decides before they grow up who they're going to marry. God decides it all way before, and you get to find out later who you're stuck with. - - Kristen, age 10

WHAT IS THE RIGHT AGE TO MARRY?

Twenty-three is the best age because you know the person FOREVER by then. - - Camille, age 8

HOW CAN A STRANGER TELL IF TWO PEOPLE ARE MARRIED?

You might have to guess, based on whether they seem to be yelling at the same kids. - - Derrick, age 8

WHAT DO YOU THINK YOUR MOM AND DAD HAVE IN COMMON?

Both don't want any more kids. Lori, age 8

WHAT DO MOST PEOPLE DO ON A DATE?

Dates are for having fun, and people should use them to get to know each other. Even boys have something to say if you listen long enough. - - Lynn, age 8

On the first date, they just tell each other lies and that usually gets them interested enough to go out for a second date. - - Martin, age 10

WHEN IS IT OKAY TO KISS SOMEONE?

When they're rich. - - Pam, age 7

The law says you have to be eighteen, so I would want to mess with that. - - Curt, age 7

The rule goes like this: If you kiss someone, then you should marry them and have kids with them. It's the right thing to do. -- Howard, age 8

IS IT BETTER TO BE SINGLE OR MARRIED?

It's better for girls to be single but not for boys. Boys need someone to clean up after them. - - Anita, age 9

HOW WOULD THE WORL BE DIFFERENT IF PEOPLE DIDN'T GET MARRIED?

There sure would be a lot of kids to explain, would there? - - Kelvin, age 8

HOW WOULD YOU MAKE A MARRIAGE WORK?

Tell your wife that she looks pretty, even if looks like a dump truck. - - Rick, age 10



The Birds

Summertime is upon us. Save your stamps for the birds. We get busy, especially during vacations, so please remember to save your stamps. Cut 1/4" around the stamp, and place in the boxes in the Narthex & Office. Thank you !

Blessings, Irene Evans

SCRIP

We will continue to offer SCRIP sales throughout the summer. Right now sales are down but we hope to maintain enough to be able to pay the church \$500 per quarter. In order to do this, we need your support. We know you still buy groceries and eat out during the summer. Why not use SCRIP? Now is also a good time to begin purchasing SCRIP cards for Christmas presents. Spread the cost of your gifts throughout the year so the end of the year pinch isn't so tight ! Net profit for May was \$89.50. As of June 16, our net for June was \$46.15. Keep shopping with SCRIP. Please call **Becky** at 679-6525 or **Eleta** at 301-6503, if you have any questions concerning SCRIP, or see after worship service on Sundays.

I feel so grateful to have so many wonderful friends who care. You are all appreciated more than you know, and I thank you for your prayers and good thoughts. I truly feel so Blessed !

Love, Jo Pohl

HUMAN RESOURCES

Human Resources met on June 3, 2008, and gave its recommendations to the Budget Committee for the 2009 Budget.

Eleanor Sorenson,
Human Resources Chair

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
FOR THE SECURITY DEPARTMENT**

This is not a hard job. You just need to monitor the church in the evenings to ensure the doors are locked and everything around the church is ok. You are scheduled for approximately two weeks out of the month, and mostly evenings. Please contact Wally Hutchison at 672-2047, if interested.



STEWARDSHIP

“The Origins of Tithing”

The Old Testament contains many references to tithing. It refers to tithing as being required of all.

A tenth of possessions such as animals, grains, etc, were to be set aside and offered to God in thanks for the blessings we were given. The custom of tithing may have started before the 18th century B. C.

“All tithes from the land, whether the seed from the ground or the fruit from the tree, are the Lord’s; they are holy to the Lord.” Leviticus 27:30

According to the New Testament, Jesus affirmed tithing as a form of Stewardship. “Stewardship means using everything God has given us - life, talent, possessions — to serve God with love and gratitude.” Jesus encouraged giving in proportion to what we have received, praising the poor widow for her generous gift. (Luke 21:2)

The Apostle Paul directed his followers to plan their contributions as follows: “On the first day of every week, each of you is to put aside and save whatever extra you earn.” (1 Corinthians 16:2)

(This last paragraph comes to us recommended by our Churches Wider Mission.)

Dorothy Flory,
Stewardship Chair

REFLECTION

From out of the Universe
And into our hearts,
Come quiet words of hope...
And encouragement.
These silent inner promptings
Bring us love and light,
Feeding our spirits longings
With the teachings of The Christ...
And our souls are saved
From emptiness, sending us soaring
Into a greater joyful inspiration.

DE

Youth Night - An Evening to Remember

Remember the tornado sweeping its way through Moreno Valley and Perris on May 22nd ? All we knew that evening as we set up for our Youth Night was that it was starting to rain and the wind had picked up.

Our adventure began like this: After about twenty minutes Krissi's mother arrived, shouting for her child, "a tornado is on its way!" Off Krissi went with her mother as we remained in shocked disbelief. Addis's friend Justin was next; a few minutes later his father came to get him. Frightened and upset he was whisked off in the pouring rain. It is now 5:20 pm and time for my husband, Chuck to go pick up the pizzas. I tried to call parents and tell them to stay home but my cell phone wouldn't work. To my amazement families started to arrive: the Mensah's, the Tutty's, Lisa and Maggie were already here, later Lisa's mother and grandparents, and a few adults and children from His Light on the Hill. It was dark and the rain was pouring. Some people wanted to go home, but it was too dangerous to drive anywhere. Chuck returned safely with the pizzas, and by that time the library was full of people, including the people from HLOTH. After several minutes of nervous excitement and trepidation, we calmed down enough to get a piece of pizza and take a seat. The lights went out: darkness, heavy rain, a tornado somewhere close by, all the ingredients for a scary mystery. Just as Chuck was about to go back out in the rain for his flash light, the lights came back on. Halleluiah ! It turned out to be a fun evening, and the kids and some of the adults played games until 7:30 pm. Thanks to the families that braved the storm.

Pat Hinz

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Memo from God

To: **YOU**
 Date: **TODAY**
 From: **GOD**
 Subject: **YOURSELF**
 Reference: **LIFE**

This is God. Today I will be handling ALL of your problems for you. I do NOT need your help. So, have a nice day. I love you.

P.S. And, remember... If life happens to deliver a situation to you that you cannot handle, do Not attempt to resolve it yourself ! Kindly put it in the SFGTD (something for God to do) box. I will do it in MY TIME. All situations will be resolved, but in My time, not yours.

Once the matter is placed into the box, do not hold onto it by worrying about it. Instead, focus on all the wonderful things that are present in your life now.

Now, you have a nice day. God

ENVIRONMENT

My father was a farmer. He was a husband and nurturer to the land in his care. We rotated crops and applied judicious amounts of manure and other fertilizers to encourage the best growth. He always allowed space in the fence row for critters, but no thistle or morning glory could claim the precious nutrients necessary for the crops. As a small child I spent many hours riding the tractor with my dad while cultivating the corn , or planting soy bean and broadcasting wheat and oats. I remember times in the early spring evening, a few days after planting, we would walk out in the field and gently uncover the seeds, to see if they were sprouted. The animals were treated carefully too. After all, they were also a food crop. Our garden flourished with vegetables each year.

As a true child of the depression era, each winter one of the three farm tractors was overhauled or rebuilt, and the disc, plow, combine and other equipment was cleaned, sharpened and readied for the spring. This care of everything was more than just keeping the "tools of the trade" ready.

My father chose not to attend church, but each Sunday morning hosted many of the neighboring farmers to coffee around our kitchen table. These were the same neighbors who, crops. My father lived his life nurturing his environment, his family, and his neighbors. He made a difference in his own area. He did choose to maintain, recycle and rebuild his equipment and his relationships. He was environmentally responsible.

Consider your own immediate environment. There are many small ways to be environmentally responsible. Each effort makes a difference to the next generation. Example is still the best teacher.

Becky Miller

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**"The secret of your spiritual search,
 is so near to you, that you overlook it.....
 even God Himself, immediate and universal."**

Margery Eyre



JULY VOLUNTEERS

GREETERS

7/06 - Judith Greene
7/13 - Lucia Gallo
7/20 - Loretta Rozman
7/27 - Kathleen Neal

GUEST BOOK

7/06 - Jo Pohl
7/13 - Ken Dukes
7/20 - Joann Guest
7/27 - Joann Guest

LAY READERS

7/06 - Betty Bryant
7/13 - James Wilson
7/20 - Ken Dukes
7/27 - Eleanor Sorenson

SOUND TECHNICIAN

7/06 & 7/27 - Todd Ross
7/13 & 7/20 - J. Hisel

SECURITY

7/01 - 7/15 - J Hisel
7/16 - 7/31 - Wally Hutchison

JULY Anniversaries

LeRoy & Mary Lou Snider,
(58 years)

John & Johanna Will
(48 years)

* * * * *

JULY Birthdays

Jean Holden, (2nd)
Jackson Joseph Seeber, (3rd)

Big # One

Stacy Baird, (7th)
Helena Bergamin, (7th)
Veronica Dominguez, (9th)
Gwen Mangum, (10th)
Jean Suwyn, (10th)
Shirley Goward, (11th)
Krissi Hughes, (19th)
Betty Bryant, (21st)

Carol Hanks, (22nd)
Mary Lou Pape, (25th)
Barbara Ross, (27th)
Cody Spriggs, (28th)
Elyce Elyra, (31st)

* * * * *

A BLESSING AT SUNSET

Until the sun
Again strengthens you
Have courage.
Be fearless
For the night comes
To bring you peace,
Reflection
and rest.
As you have acted
In faith,
So shall you
Rest in peace.

Rev. F. A. Newhouse

**Lectionary Lessons
for July**

**7/06 - Eighth Sunday after
Pentecost**

Gen 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67
Ps 45:10-17 or Song pf Sol 2: 8-13 or Zech 9:9-12 * Ps 145:8-14
Rom 7:15-25a

Matt 11:16-19, 25-30

SACRED REST

**7/13 - Ninth Sunday after
Pentecost**

Gen 25:19-34 * Ps 119:105-112
or Isa 55:10-13 * Ps 65:(1-8), 9-13 * Rom 8:1-11

Matt 13:1-9, 18-23

ABUNDANT POSSIBILITIES

**7/20 - Tenth Sunday after
Pentecost**

Gen 28:10-19a
Ps 139:1-12, 23-24 or Wisd of Sol 12:13, 16-19 or Isa 44:6-8
Ps 86:11-17 * Rom 8:12-25

Matt 13:24-30, 36-43

*WHEAT AND WEEDS
TOGETHER*

**7/27 - Eleventh Sunday after
Pentecost**

Gen 29:15-28 * Ps 105:1-11, 45b
or 1 Kings 3:5-12 * Ps 128 or
Ps 119:129-136 * Rom 8:26-39

Matt 13:31-33, 44-52

PICTURES OF GOD'S REALM

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CHANGE OF ADDRESS:

Alex & Mary Alice Cochrane
Cherry Hills Club
28333 Valley Blvd # 1037
Sun City, CA 92586
951-672-4776

DEATHS:

David Pugh, June 2, 2008
Elaine Carncross, June 17, 2008

Treasurer's Report

Month Ending May 2008

General Funds Only

<u>April Inc</u>	<u>April Exp</u>	<u>Gain (Loss)</u>
\$13,018.67	\$16,938.77	(\$ 3,920.10)

Year to Date Totals

<u>5 Mo Inc</u>	<u>5 Mo. Exp</u>	<u>Gain (Loss)</u>
\$79,493.39	\$78,112.26	\$ 1,381.13

O beautiful, for spacious skies,
For amber waves of grain,
For purple mountain majesties
Above the fruited plain!
America! America! God shed His grace on thee,
*And crown thy good with brotherhood,
from sea to shining sea!*

O beautiful, for heroes proved
In liberating strife,
Who more than self their country loved
And mercy more than life!
America! America! May God thy gold refine,
*Til all success be nobleness,
And every gain divine!*

Respectfully submitted,
Kenneth W. (Ken) Dukes