



PILGRIM CONGREGATIONALIST

Sharing the Good News of Mission Hills United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming (ONA) Congregation

God
is still
speaking,

March 2, 2010



One GREAT Hour of Sharing

Having returned to the website again, I learned a few more things about One Great Hour of Sharing. It is part of Our Churches Wider Mission and is the special mission offering that carries God's message of love and hope to people in more than eighty countries. To accomplish this, UCC works with international partners to provide sources of clean water and food, education and health care, small

business micro-credit, emergency relief, and advocacy and resettlement for refugees and displaced persons. OGHS also supports domestic and international ministries for disaster preparedness and response.

I also discovered that nine Christian denominations and Church World Service work together to develop common promotional materials but individually, each receives and manages its respective OGHS offerings. They, like us, share a commitment to faithful service.

You know that's all quite wonderful and altruist but I was still concerned where the actual funds are going? So I was relieved to find out that 94 cents out of every donated dollar is available to do this work as only 6 cents goes to administration. Also, over 70% of all UCC congregations participate and the annual average giving totals around \$3 million dollars. So my gift becomes more effective as it is joined with many others.

Lastly, I was curious about how the funding decisions were made. The website was again resourceful. "Funding decisions are made by asking our worldwide mission partners, "What would you have us do with you?" UCC responds as a member of ecumenical organizations such as Church World Service and Action by Churches Together, International. We also support the direct mission efforts of churches and church-based organizations with which the UCC and the Disciples of Christ have direct partnerships through Global Ministries. Nearly one-third of the UCC's offering is shared through Church World Service to support refugee, disaster, development, and advocacy programs."

So the deeper I dig, the more amazed I became at the life-changing ways we impact folks in need. I never realized the global presence of UCC nor the affirming effect we continue to make on this great planet.

----Suzi Faith, *Work in Progress*

SOUPer Bowl Sunday - March 7



After the church service on **Sunday, March 7**, the Mission & Outreach Commission is sponsoring a soup fundraising benefit for Uptown Service Center called **SOUPer Bowl Sunday**. Various groups within the church will be in a friendly competition cook-off to win your votes with their delicious soup offerings. And **you** will be the judge with your free will offering of any denomination (checks or cash) in the collection "pot" of your favorite soup. The group generating the highest amount of free will offerings will be judged the winner.

So please plan on having a **SOUPer** lunch after the church service on Sunday, March 7. The food will definitely be delicious, the event will be lots of fun and you will be supporting a wonderful organization, Uptown Service Center, that our church has strongly supported since its inception.

For more information, please contact M&O member **Suzi Faith** at 858-717-5518 or hunterLsantafe@yahoo.com.

Please remember to come and join us after worship on Sunday, March 7.

Wanted: *Your free hour to do food sorting for Special Delivery on Thursday mornings. Anyone who can do it should contact Roger Goodson at 619-294-5865.*

Mission Hills United Church of Christ

4070 Jackdaw Street
San Diego, CA 92103
(619) 296-2169

Pastor	Rev. Dr. M. Scott Landis
Pastor Emeritus	Rev. Dr. Joe Sandven
Pastor Emeritus	Chaplain E.V. Lyons, Jr.
Pastoral Intern	Luke Williams
Minister of Christian Education	Santina Poor
Youth Leader	Keith Warrick
Director of Music	Max Chodos
Organist	Rick Parks
Office Manager / Bookkeeper	Charlotte Wilder

www.missionhillsucc.org
missionhillsucc@sbcglobal.net

ATTENDANCE:
February 28, 2010 - 169

REGULAR CHURCH OFFICE HOURS
Monday - Friday, 9 am to 3 pm

JOIN A COMMISSION - BE THE CHURCH -

Now is your chance to be an active part of our dynamic church life. Wherever your interests and/or skills lie, there is a place for you on one of the nine church commissions or on the Church Council. On **March 21st and 28th**, members of the Nominating Committee will be in Fellowship Hall after worship to provide information on what it means to be a commission member and to answer your questions.

In the meantime, here are the nine commissions of the church: Mission & Outreach, Christian Education, Worship Arts & Music, Diaconate, Personnel, Stewardship & Investment, Membership & Growth, Fellowship, Property & Administration

Where do you see yourself serving? And don't overlook the side benefits of really getting to know your fellow members of the church and to making things happen!

Sheets, Pillowcases & Stuffed Animals

The Alpha Project's Winter Shelter Program will continue at least until the end of March. During the time of this program, the homeless have a bed to sleep in sheltered from our colder, and sometimes rainy, nights. Items that the shelter has indicated they could use during this time are new or gently used clean, pillowcases and single bed sheets, and stuffed animals (12" long or larger).

If you have any of these items that you would like to donate, please bring them to church on **Sunday, March 7**. A table will be set up in Fellowship Hall where you can deposit your donation. Thank you for your support.

Advance Notice for Your Calendar – Make Sure your Voice is Heard

During the month of April, we invite all members to attend one of the Strategic Goals Cottage meetings to provide your ideas and feedback on our church's 3-5 year Strategic Plan. Cottage Meetings will be held in members' homes throughout the county as well as before and after worship services on a Sunday. Feedback gathered at these meetings will be incorporated into the final recommendations of the Strategic Plan, which will be presented at the June Ecclesiastical Meeting.

Look for announcements and Cottage Meeting sign up opportunities in March. Your ideas are important – make sure your voice is heard!

~Walter Borschel
Moderator

MHUC CALENDAR



Every Sunday: Facets of Faith - 9 am
Worship - 10 am
Youth Forum - 10am
Children's Choir Rehearsal - 11:30am
Every Thursday: Choir Rehearsal - 7:30pm

This week

Tuesday, March 2

Christian Education Comm. - 7pm

Wednesday, March 3

Worship Arts Music Comm. - 6pm

Heart of Christianity - 7pm

Thursday, March 4

Mission & Outreach Comm. - 6:30pm

Sunday, March 7

SOUPer Bowl Sunday - 11:30am

Monday, March 8

Material Aid - 10am

Biblical Literacy - 7pm

Tuesday, March 9

Stewardship & Invest. Comm. - 5:30pm

Church Council - 6:30pm

Young Adults Group - 7pm

SCHOLARSHIPS



Now is the time to prepare your application for the Women's Fellowship Scholarship and the Margaret E. Finch Memorial Scholarship.

You must be a member of Mission Hills UCC and plan to start college (or continue your education) in the fall. Guidelines are posted on the hallway bulletin board or contact Amy Brunton at amy-larry-brunton@earthlink.net for more information. Applications must be received by Amy Brunton or the Church office by May 1, 2010.



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www.missionhillsucc.org

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If you wish to be removed from this mailing,
please contact the church office.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

ALL ARE WELCOME AT MISSION HILLS UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Our Church is a church without dogma where people are free to explore and deepen their faith in an environment open to questioning in the richness of our strong Christian heritage.

The United Church of Christ (UCC) is a progressive, inclusive Protestant denomination that celebrates diversity and community action.

UCC churches seek to unite people from all ethnic, racial and social backgrounds. Our churches and ministries are active worldwide, working in communities to promote social justice and better living standards.

***No Matter Who You Are
Or Where You Are On Life's Journey
You Are Welcome Here!***

Open and Affirming (ONA)



United Church of Christ