



September 10, 2009

Dear Members and Friends,

On World Communion Sunday, October 4, Sunnyvale Presbyterian Church members and friends will participate in the 2009 Peacemaking Offering. A phrase from Psalm 85:10, "Justice and peace shall kiss each other," is the theme for this year's offering. Peace and justice seem very elusive in this world, but we know that God expects us to persevere in seeking them.

Half of the annual Peacemaking Offering is used by the Presbyterian Church (USA) to pursue a lengthy list of worthy mission-related causes. Specific examples are listed in the enclosed brochure. Twenty-five percent is sent to the Presbytery of San Jose for the Peace and Justice Ministry. Examples of ways those funds are used include supporting programs/conferences on peace and justice issues and funding grants for participation in mission trips. Our church retains the remaining 25% to contribute to causes that the Peacemaking and Social Justice Committee recommends after considering the multitude of societal and humanitarian needs that abound in our community and world.

This year Sunnyvale Presbyterian Church's share of the funds has been designated to serve this congregation as well as a local organization, *Friends Outside* and a national one, *National Alliance on Mental Illness/Veterans*.

Friends Outside <http://www.friendsoutsideinscc.org> is a Santa Clara County organization providing support, family driven education and hope for a brighter future for families, children and individuals impacted by incarceration.

The *National Alliance on Mental Illness/Veterans* www.nami.org/veterans provides resources for veterans and active duty military members, as well as for their families and advocates. These resources address such issues as posttraumatic stress disorder, traumatic brain injury, women veterans, homelessness and suicide prevention.

The remainder will be used at our church to fund the Helen Ramsburg Peace Award, to purchase materials for an adult learning class focused on peacemaking and to support the Martin Luther King Day of Service

Please bring your Peacemaking Offering in the enclosed envelope on October 4. Thank you for your support of the Peacemaking Offering. This year church school children will be participating in this offering and have received special offering banks to bring their gifts.

Peace be with you.

Judi Pogue
Peacemaking and Social Justice Moderator

Steve Harrington, Head of Staff
Sunnyvale Presbyterian Church