



# SHORELINE TIDINGS



December 2011

Newsletter of SHORELINE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Happy New Year!



I know that it is not January 1<sup>st</sup> yet – but we began our new church year on November 27<sup>th</sup>, the first Sunday of Advent. We begin our new year with the end of the story as we prepare for the return of Jesus.

Why do we start our Christian year with the end of the story? Why not start with the birth of Jesus and move through the year progressively? What difference does it make when you know the end of the story? I know – I am asking more questions than I am offering answers, but Advent is a time when we reflect on what it means to prepare our hearts to receive Jesus.

Often when we think of Advent our minds go directly to little baby Jesus. But Advent and Christmas are actually two different seasons. Advent is about the return of the resurrected Christ. We are reminded to prepare ourselves for that day when Jesus returns. It is easy to prepare ourselves for a little baby who has no expectations other than we will care for them and love them. It is more challenging to receive the risen Christ because we are expected to fulfill our discipleship and engage in the world around us. We begin with the end to remind us as we go through our Christian year who we are, whose we are, and what we are called to do.

I invite you to take time this Advent to stop and listen. What is God saying to you? Then engage the world to prepare for the return of the resurrected Jesus. And who knows, maybe through our hands and feet and voices, the world will know a Risen Christ!

Pastor Michele



## December Calendar

Administrative Council meets Thursday, December 8 at 7PM

There are 2 SPRC meetings this month, the first is Monday, December 12 at 7PM (the committee will be working on pastoral evaluations. The second meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 19 at 7PM. (the committee will meet with Pat Simpson, our District Superintendent.

Shoreline Carolers are invited to the annual Holiday Party for the residents of Fircrest on December 15, from 7 to 8 PM.

Please join us for our combined Candlelight Christmas Eve service on Saturday, December 24 at 6:30PM. You are invited to bring fancy cookies and treats to share for our fellowship time afterwards.

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On Christmas Day December 25, we will have regular Sunday Services. The English beginning at 11 am. Fijian, at 2:pm, and So Asian at 5 pm.



## Fijian Fellowship New Year Celebration!

December 31, 2011

You are all invited to our Worship Service  
Beginning at 10 pm to 12 Midnight

The service will be led by the Matanitu Ko, Kubuna

The Speakers will be;

Peni Vaniqi

Joe Kulavere

Apisai Cagilaba

Melania Vaniqi

Melesiana Kete

Dinner will be served at 7 pm

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From Shoreline UMC

To All of You and Your Families.....

We Pray You Will Have a Very

Blessed Christmas

&

A Prosperous New Year

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**SHORELINE TIDINGS:** A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF Shoreline United Methodist Church  
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Prepared by Sharon Shope with articles furnished by members and information from the wider church family.

**Articles and other items are invited. Deadline: Last week of each month.**