



3111 Benton Street
Santa Clara, CA 95051
Phone: 408-241-7635

Our Mission: What are we here for?

The purpose of Santa Clara First Baptist Church is to evangelize and disciple the people of the Santa Clara Valley.
Matthew 28:19, 20

March Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays

7th Barbara McLenegan
10th Mary Ann Fairall
11th Joan Friesen
11th Chelsea Trigg
12th Christine Robbins
12th Clara Gazzano
17th Jerry Cintas
17th Cristina Jackson
17th Virginia Ruiz
18th Tina Mulford
26th Ron Willcox
28th Debbie Reiley
31st Isabel Jackson
31st Fred Marshall
31st David Smithson

Anniversaries

4th Greg & Christine Robbins

The Celebrate

Santa Clara First Baptist Church

March 2008

HOLY WEEK at SCFBC

Journey to the Cross



*Good Friday Prayer Walk
March 21st 10am—9pm
Experience the journey of Christ from the
Last Supper to the tomb.*

EASTER CELEBRATION

**9am Breakfast
10:30am & 5:30pm
Worship**

Holy Week at SCFBC

Most of us know that there's more to Easter than eggs and chocolate bunnies. But did you know that there's even more to Easter than celebration of Christ's resurrection? To comprehend the full impact of Easter, we need to reflect on all of the events of what we call Holy Week. Beginning with Palm Sunday, Holy Week takes us through the journey of Christ in his final days and hours before his death.

As we journey with Christ, remembering and reflecting on the last events of his human life, the celebration of Easter will mean so much more. It is in the sadness of Maundy Thursday and the suffering of Good Friday that we find our reason to celebrate on Resurrection Sunday. We hope that you will join us each step of the way in our journey this year, as we walk side by side with Christ through his final days.

Palm Sunday – March 16th

Palm Sunday marks the triumphal entry of Jesus into the city of Jerusalem. Join us in our morning service as the children lead us in a processional with Palm Branches. Join us in at EDGE, as we reflect on the aftermath of the celebratory parade in Christ's honor.

Maundy Thursday Remembrance – Week of March 17th-20th

Maundy Thursday is when we reflect on the Last Supper, when Jesus shared his last Passover meal with his disciples. This first celebration of the Lord's Supper has become a very meaningful way for believers today to remember and reflect on the ultimate sacrifice Jesus made for us. During this week, we encourage Life Groups and families to have their own Maundy Thursday celebrations as a part of their meeting times.

Good Friday – March 21st

In only a few days the same people who greeted Christ with cheering and praise, would demand his death. On Good Friday we remember and reflect on the brutal death of our Savior. Once again we will set up an interactive Prayer Walk based on Christ's journey to the cross, and then the tomb. The Prayer Walk will be open from 10am to 9pm for all those who wish to come and pray through the suffering of Christ.

Easter Celebration – March 23rd

Come and celebrate the resurrection of our Lord! This entire day will be filled with the celebration of Christ's victory over sin and death. We will begin the day with an All-Church Family Breakfast at 9:00am. Our Celebration Services will be held at 10:30am and 5:30pm. Our 10:30am service will be a special family service, including the whole church family for the entire service. Childcare will be provided for Nursery and Preschool children. Childcare will also be provided for Kindergarten and 1st grade children who may not be ready yet to stay throughout the entire service. This family service will include special music, a children's choir, interactive family moments, and a feeling of celebration and joy for all ages. An Egg Hunt will follow the morning service and during the EDGE service.

Egg Hunt Donations Needed!

As always we need your donations for our annual Easter Egg Hunt for the children. You can donate candy and plastic eggs in the large tubs in the Narthex labeled "Easter Egg Hunt." Contact Tammy Catterton for any information.



Prayer Requests



For Billie McPherson's grandson, Joel who has multiple health issues and is in Santa Theresa Hospital.

For Ruth Porspakka, due to a fall has sustained a back injury causing a compression fracture and will undergo surgery on March 5th. Please pray for skill for the doctors and comfort and full recovery for Ruth.

For Helen Hawkins upcoming cataract surgery on 3/21.

The growth of God's kingdom.

Wisdom in moving toward the Church Vision.

The Renovation Project progress.

Praise Reports

Michelle Ramer's surgery and subsequent complications are solved and she's at home recuperating.

Dorothy Depew is doing well at home.

Nancy Gregoire's exploratory surgery was negative but keep her in prayer as she recuperates.

Awana participants need your prayers!

Four clubbers will participate in the Truth & Training Bible Quiz March 15 in Los Altos. They are busily trying to make themselves very familiar with the first four discoveries and Start Zone of the Truth & Training curriculum. Pray that their studies might be fruitful and that they would feel God's peace and confidence going into competition. In addition, clubbers have started attending practices for the Awana Games April 12. Our Game Time is also geared toward that event. Because our overall emphasis is on God's Word, the kids must have passed 10 handbook sections in order to attend. Please pray that they will make the commitment to complete their book work and come to practice so that we can be part of this regional event.



Recently we had "missionary night" at Awana. The Weavers, who spent 36 years as missionaries in the Congo, paid us a visit, along with Tim Chapman, son of Rita and Glen Chapman who have visited our congregation and who are presently missionaries in the Congo. They showed the kids African artifacts and gave them a taste of what it is like to live in the remote African forest, far away from modern amenities. The clubbers enjoyed hearing about what it was like growing up with no electricity and only the local bugs for toys (and occasional snacks!). They have a better understanding now of the importance of telling other people in far away countries about Jesus.

The Awana pledge asks kids to honor the Awana flag, which stands for the Awana clubs, whose goal is to reach boys and girls with the gospel of Christ and train them to serve Him. Every week they hear the message of God's great love and how He sent His Son to die for us. Pray that they will internalize this message, share it with other kids around them in their schools and neighborhoods in this (Silicon) Valley of darkness. Even the little Cubbies can do this! Pray that more kids will come to our Awana clubs and become part of the "action." Finally, pray for wisdom, growth and patience for the Awana leaders in their efforts to serve God through serving these kids.



In Christ,

Commander Cathryn

Slocum Garden

As most may know Glen & Bonnie Williams are retiring and will soon be moving to Oregon to bask in the wonderful life of nothing to do. Well, that may not be completely true as there are grandchildren to take care of and gardening which both have done a great job around the church and we all appreciate their labor. Additionally, Christine Raines has taken care of planting our Vegetable Garden each year and she too is having to step down to take care of an aging parent and is becoming a full-time student.

As the planting season is quickly approaching, someone or a combination of Ministries is needed to take care of the garden and landscaping in front of the church and just outside of the Library. All of us have enjoyed fresh vegetables from the garden and the beauty that flowers bring.

If you are interested in helping to maintain these areas around the church please contact the church Office at 241-7635, Monday - Thursday from 8am - 6pm.

Costa Rica 2008

Are you ready for the adventure?

Preparations are being made for our 8th team to head to Limon, Costa Rica, to partner with our sister church in their ministry at the Baptist School of the Caribbean. *Is this your year?*

A team from New Hope Baptist Church will come up from Costa Rica in July to help us with Vacation Bible School. Our team will travel with them as they return to Costa Rica around July 21st. We'll be gone for approximately nine days, including travel.

The cost of \$1300.00 includes air travel, all expenses while in Costa Rica, and an overnight excursion to Tortuguero National Park. Applications and more information are available from group leader Joan Friesen via e-mail, joan@redwoodglen.com, or by phone at (650) 879-9469.



Gladys Ethel McFarland



I was born the second daughter into a Christian family. All of my growing up years we attended Sunday AM, PM and Wednesday night prayer meetings. Our life was centered in the Methodist church. I accepted the Lord as my Savior when I was eight years old. Momma played piano for choir and all the services. Pa taught the Junior High and High School boys Sunday school classes. He organized church picnics, sunrise service, camping, fishing trips and hot dog roasts at the river. Life was great pre-war (WWII) in a small town in the Sacramento Valley.

In my teen years we moved to Oakland, California. What a change from a four year high school of about 200 kids to a three year high school of about 2,000. Upon graduation I worked in an office for a year between high school and college. Then I attended what is now SJSU, (it was called San Jose State College at that time) and graduated in 1951 with my teaching credentials. The highlight of that summer was a two-car caravan of young people from SJ Grace Baptist Church driving to attend a BYU Youth Convention in Greenlake, Wisconsin. The conference was very inspirational and the trip to and from

Wisconsin wet my appetite for travel. We spent time at the Grand Teton and Yellowstone National Parks.

I was hired to teach First grade in the old Fremont School located where the new Santa Clara Senior Center is now. New schools were being built to accommodate all the World War II “war babies” so I transferred over to C.W. Hamen School at Homestead and Los Padres to continue teaching First Grade. I taught there for 34 years teaching First, Second, Junior First and Kindergarten. I actually taught some of the members of this church or their brothers and sisters!

Art McFarland and I were married at SJ Grace Baptist Church in 1953. When we established our home in Santa Clara, we moved our church membership to Santa Clara First Baptist Church located on Catherine Street. I taught Sunday school and co-directed VBS and joined a Women’s Circle. Art and I traveled a lot and we were blessed with 48 years of marriage. Having over **50 years membership in Santa Clara First Baptist Church** has given me the blessing of a church family that I can always depend on for prayer and comfort all the time.

Note: Gladys stays young by showing slide presentations of her travels to people in convalescent homes, assisting in American Baptist Women events and by delivering books to shut-ins for the Santa Clara Library. And she loves to be on the winning team of a challenging game of Chicken Leg or Mexican Train Dominos!

Missions Update

“For I was hungry...I was thirsty....I was a stranger...I needed clothes...I was sick...I was in prison...I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.” Matt. 25:35 -36;40

Missionaries are not only those people that go to a foreign country. We are all missionaries. It is every one of us as Jesus uses each of us to be a light to those that cross our path everyday. Please remember that we are not Christians only at church, but at work, the grocery store, school, driving your car, or anywhere that you find yourself. I ask you to challenge yourself to ask God how you can show Jesus to someone everyday. We would like to hear your stories about reaching out to someone to share about Jesus. Please send a note to the church office to Pastor Rich and Pastor Jenny. If you would like to be anonymous please just let them know as they may want to use your story in service one Sunday. Thank you for your partnership in fulfilling the Great Commission.

This is a reminder of what’s new in 2008.

EHC – We will no longer be organizing teams to serve breakfast at EHC each month. However, if some of you would like to still volunteer individually you can do that but you will need to have a current TB test when you go there to volunteer.

Habitat for Humanity – We plan to not only support financially this year but to organize some groups to go work on some houses.

Fourth of July Outreach project - We are planning an outreach project at the church this year as many of neighbors utilize our facility on that date. More information will be coming to put this together.

Missions Trips

Mexico Outreach - Reflect Missions Trip is forming. The dates are June 20th — 28th. If you have any questions please contact Mary Wong 408-858-7558.

Costa Rica – The dates are from July 21st—31st. Recruitment for a mission team to Costa Rica has started. There will be more information coming in the bulletin or you can contact Joan Friesen.

Outflow- How full is your fountain?



For the past number of weeks our church family has been examining the concept of “*Outflow: outward-focused living in a self-focused world*”.

What have you been learning concerning your relationship with God?

- Have you found new ways to meet with Him in meaningful ways?
- Have you unmasked some of Satan’s lies to you which are trying to prevent God’s love from reaching you?
- Have you deepened your understanding of how much God loves you?
- Are you more equipped to share God’s love with others around you?

These issues relate to the core of our Christian experience. Christianity is not a religion. It’s a personal relationship between an individual and the God who made him/her. This relationship is supposed to encompass the foundation of our life’s experience. Without it we lack meaning, purpose, a sense of worth, a future hope.

Regrettably many of us proceed through life without ever fully engaging with our creator God. I’ve been personally convicted throughout this emphasis concerning how little time I spend with the One who loves me more than everyone else I know. I find it easier to work for God instead of relating to God. How sad!

I’m praying to be freed from the false notion that I can live life without His constant presence. I’m praying for a conviction that life is more than just the run-of-the-mill rat race I see in so many of us. I’m praying I’ll come to the place of being simply overwhelmed with God’s love and graciousness to me.

Will you commit with me in praying these prayers? Will you make deepening your relationship with God the number one priority of your life?

Blessings,
Pastor Rich

Children's Ministry

We have had many new visitors this past month. The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. (Matthew 9:37) We need you! There are still opportunities available for those of you with a heart for children that are willing to invest a few hours per week in the lives of our little ones. Our next Children's Ministry Meeting will be March 16th after the morning service in the Fellowship Hall. Dessert and drinks are provided. Welcome to Doonu Barife and Megan Swartzwelder who have recently joined the Children's Ministry Team!

Thanks to Christine Raines for supplying snacks for the month of February. We appreciate your generosity to this ministry.

As you have already noticed, we have instituted a Worship Time at the end of the Worship Hour when all the children come together in the Fellowship Hall to enjoy a time of singing and learning children's songs that they will remember for the rest of their lives. For those adults who grew up in church and went to Sunday School, I am sure you have fond memories of the songs you learned as a child. Children love to sing and God commands us to make a joyful noise to Him! (Psalm 95:1)

As a result, all children will be checked out from the Fellowship Hall. Please enter through the large double doors and the kids can exit into the lobby area of the Fellowship Hall. Please tell the worker there who you are picking up and wait for them to sign your child/children out before leaving. We want to be sure all children are reunited with their caregivers before exiting the building.

Thanks to all of you for your patience during this time of transition. Your continued support and prayers are greatly appreciated as we seek God's direction for our children.

In Christ,

Tammy Altizer Catterton
tamcatbc@yahoo.com
408-348-3271

New Youth Director And ???

Dear Church Family,

As "Deacon of Maturity," it is my desire to give you some information about the discussion and efforts that are taking place regarding the hiring of a Youth Director. There may be additional information and I will be available for questions at the morning and evening Church Business Meeting on Sunday, March 9th.

As you may know, our present youth leaders and mentors have seen their efforts grow tremendous fruit in the number of youth who have been participating in the many activities planned for middle and high school students. They continue to ask for additional helpers in these ministries. In addition, the youth program staff have requested that a *full-time* Youth Director be hired by the Church, and the Diaconate has agreed. At the February Diaconate Meeting, it was decided to move \$35,000 from the church's checking account to a CD account to have the money set aside for 2008, to hire the right person. If you have questions about church finances, you can speak to Allyson Lageschulte.

Both before and as this effort moves forward, there are a number of points we need the church congregation to keep in mind and to pray about:

1. In addition to overseeing/coordinating the Youth Program and its staff, what else will the "Youth Director" do as a full-time member of the Church staff?
2. There are many implications for church finances as we want to hire a Youth Director who can afford to live in the Silicon Valley and who will stay with us. We will need on-going Church budget commitment. At the same time, we need to make sure that our present pastors' salaries/benefits are commensurate with their positions.
3. There is a desire that the new Youth Director have the educational background/experience (seminary training?) to be able to strengthen the youth ministry spiritually and to be able to build with the Church toward the Church's vision to establish an additional church in the Valley.
4. Youth ministries do not "make" money. They cost money. We are investing in the lives of our youth and our future, the returns for which we may not immediately, or ever, know.

These are exciting times in our Church as we look forward to God's leading. I look forward to your involvement in this great effort.

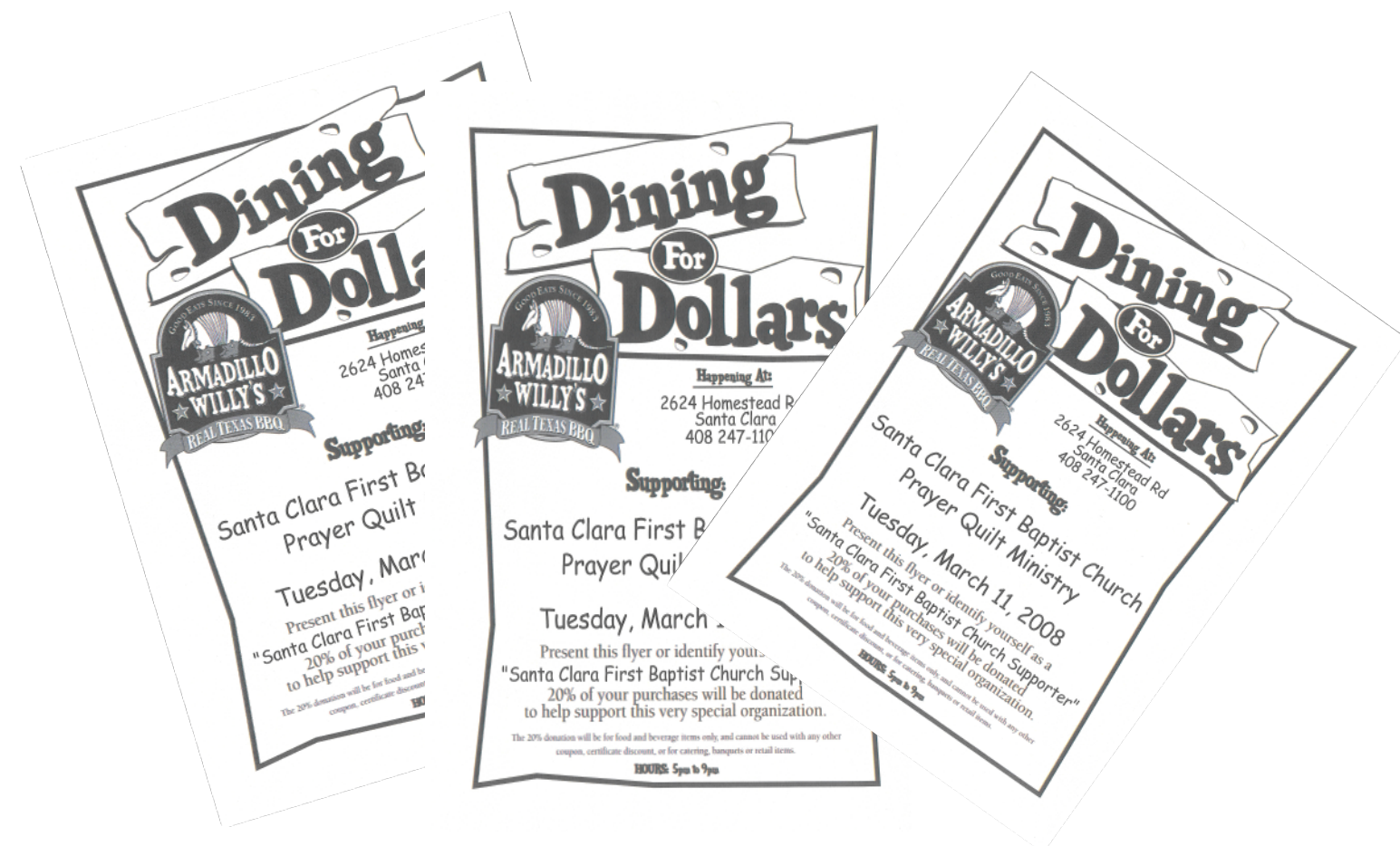
Denise Stephens
Deacon of Maturity

The Prayer Quilt Ministry

The Prayer Quilt Ministry has been very busy this last month! Most of you have already received handy cards to keep in your wallets, explaining how easy it is to sponsor someone in need of prayers in the form of a quilt. We want to spread our Ministry to the community! In order to do this we need each of you to OUTFLOW with this ministry, remember your co-workers, neighbors, family and friends!

There is a National Convention of Prayers & Squares in Texas. By attending this conference we will gain inspiration and guidance that will benefit our congregation and community. It is a chance for us to connect with other ladies currently serving in this ministry from all across the nation. The approximate cost per person is \$655.00. We hope to earn money for this by holding a fundraiser night at Armadillo Willy's on Tuesday, March 11th, from 5pm - 9pm. Please come out and help support the Prayer Quilt Ministry! If you are unable to attend and would like to donate, you may do so by placing your contribution in the offering envelopes and write "Prayer Quilt Ministry" on it.

Thank you,
The Prayer Quilt Ministry



Flyers are available at the information table and in the Sunday Bulletin.



Ministry Fair and International Food Court is Coming!

Next month on Sunday April 13th, Santa Clara First Baptist will be holding two ministry fairs in the Fellowship Hall; one after morning worship and one following the EDGE evening service. These fairs are being held together with an International Food Court all-church potluck to celebrate the ethnic diversity of our members. Members will be given the opportunity to learn more about the many ministries available to them and be provided an opportunity to serve in a ministry while enjoying dishes prepared by our membership.

Look for sign-ups for bringing a dish to share at the International Food Court in the next few weeks and continuing through April 6th in the Narthex after the morning worship and following EDGE. If you have any questions or just can't wait to sign-up, please contact me at RADuBord@aol.com or (408) 496-6393.

Rudy DuBord
Deacon of Ministries

SCFBC Family Camp 2008

Date: May 30—June 1

Location: Redwood Glen Camp & Conference Center

Cost: \$142/adult; \$127/ages 4-12; FREE for ages 0-3.

SCFBC Family Camp is a fun-filled adventure for the entire church family. Married, single, kids or no kids—come and have a blast with us! For more information, find a brochure in the Narthex.



Youth News!!



The Element Jr. High Group

Element finished up a series on 2nd Timothy, learning about how we should behave as young leaders. We are currently going through the all-church emphasis Outflow and learning how to fill ourselves up with the Spirit in order to reach out to others.

Back in January, Element co-hosted the 4th annual Spaghetti

Dinner. We served and entertained over 130 guests. Many thanks to the congregation for your support of over \$2000 that will be used for the upcoming winter retreats.



Reflect High School Group

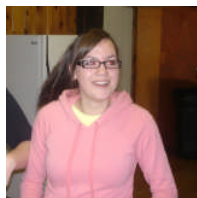


In January, Reflect finished a series studying the book of Jonah.

Though this story is very familiar, we are learning that even when we disobey God, he still can use us to do amazing things. The high school

group also helped out at the 4th Annual Spaghetti Dinner, serenading the guests with "That's Amore".

In mid-February, Reflect went



on their annual winter retreat at Sierra Pines. God truly blessed this trip, as no one from our group had to go to the hospital! We enjoyed a time of sledding, snow, and especially closeness to God. We were challenged to make our "**Vital Signs**" all point to God. As a result of the camp experience, **Victoria McGinnis**, a new member to Reflect, accepted Jesus Christ as her savior the Wednesday after camp. Praise God!!



Sunday Groups

Committed finished a series on Ecclesiastes, learning from Solomon's pursuit of meaning in his life, and how we need to stay focused on the one true meaning in our lives. We have begun a series on the *Nooma* Video series. The **AB Girls** group on Sundays at 4 PM continues to meet and enjoy the *Gilmore Girls* series.

~Youth Staff

Danijela, Sean, Daniel, Christine, Jerry, Jasmine, Mary, Andrew

Upcoming EVENTS

February 29th – March 2nd – Element Winter Retreat

March 7th– Guy's All-Nighter

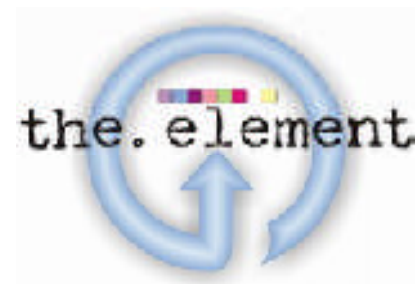
March 21st– Girl's All-Nighter

March 26th– Youth Sunday Practice

March 27th– Youth Sunday Practice

March 30th – Youth Sunday

More events at www.scfbc.org/element &
www.scfbc.org/reflect



***Do you love God and like teenagers?
Be part of the Youth Ministry Team!***

Three ways to be part of this awesome ministry:

Resource Team – Support us by providing much needed supplies. We provide snacks for our students during group on Wednesday and Thursday Nights. Our youth love treats and have bottomless stomachs. We also need supplies for camps and retreats. Lastly, some of our youth need financial assistance for events like snow camp, Mexico Mission, and summer retreat.

Prayer Team - Support our youth by praying for them. We can send you a weekly e-mail of the prayer needs of our students as well as the ministry's.

Minister Team – Support us by being a minister to our youth. Youth of today urgently need God loving adults to guide and mentor them. There are many ways to get involved. You can be part of the midweek meeting (Wednesday or Thursday) – hang out with students, play games, worship and lead a small group. If teaching and bible study is your passion, join us for Committed during the Sunday school hour. Do you like to watch TV or movie shows? Join the discussions in AB Girls and G.U.Y.S. groups on Sundays at 4pm. We are currently discussing the TV shows *Gilmore Girls* and *Lost*. If you don't like large groups, you can minister one-on-one. In addition, there are *exciting monthly events* that you can attend.

How can you get started?

1. Pray about it. Listen for God's calling.
2. Don't make excuses. God can use everyone.

For more information or to sign up, please contact:

Jerry Cintas at jerry@scfbc.org or at (408) 390-4696

Mary Wong at mary@scfbc.org or at (408) 858-7558

Andrew Wong at andrew@scfbc.org or at (408) 858-7572

