

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

December Birthdays

1 st	Bennet Barife	12 th	Duane Esquibel
1 st	Hayden Gregorie	14 th	Pat Graham
3 rd	Bebe Barife	18 th	Irmgard Ciarlo
5 th	Michael Reiley	21 st	Vera Masters
8 th	Unice Chang	22 nd	Steve McLenegan
10 th	Jim Lovelace	25 th	Harold Trathen
10 th	Carola Jeyaraj	30 th	Lucy Oliveira
		31 st	Tammy Catterton

The Celebrate

Santa Clara First Baptist Church

December 2008

Christmas Eve



Candlelight Family Service 6:00PM

Come celebrate the birth of Jesus at our Christmas Eve Service on December 24th at 6:00pm. This worship gathering will be a time of reflection and gratitude with familiar carols, Scripture readings, and candlelight.

Nursery care provided.

Congregational Updates:

Quarterly Family Gathering

Last Sunday our church family met to consider our budget/ministry goals for 2009. We also presented those people who will assume the leadership. Both the budget and leadership candidates were approved as presented.

You can pick up an abbreviated copy of the 2009 budget on the Information Table in the Lobby. The church Diaconate and Officer slate is posted on the Deacon Board, also in the Lobby. A more complete church budget is available in the church office.

Giving Back to God

As we approach Christmas it's time for the giving of gifts. Please consider what gifts you will give to God through His Kingdom mission at SCFBC.

Give God a financial commitment for 2009. You can write that amount on the Commitment Card that is available in the pew racks and either mail it to the church office or place it in the offering plate.

Give God an increasing amount of your heart by taking one of the four discipleship steps indicated on that same Commitment Card.

Give God a special financial gift on Christmas Sunday (December 21st). This will help our church end the year with a solid financial base as we look forward to a new year of service.

God has accomplished great ministry through Santa Clara First Baptist in this past year. God has been good to us and through us. Ultimately it's all for God's glory. May Paul's words to the Corinthian church be true of us:

This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of God's people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God. Because of the service by which you have proved yourselves, men will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the gospel of Christ, and for your generosity in sharing with them and with everyone else. And in their prayers for you their hearts will go out to you, because of the surpassing grace God has given you. Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

2 Corinthians 9:12-15 (NIV)

DECEMBER Calendar Events

Wednesday Dec. 3

10am White Cross – Narthex – Virginia N.
7p – Capital Fundraising Team – Library
7:30pm The Upper Room Prayer – Rm 29

Friday Dec. 5

Tentative Bethlehem Workday - Jerry

Saturday Dec. 6

9am – Bethlehem workday – Jerry 615-1690
10am Prayer Quilt Ministry – Rm 19

Sunday Dec 7

9:15am Life Group Leaders Mtg – Rm 19/20
12 noon - Bethlehem Lunch – FH –Jerry
12pm Solfegge/Piano Class – Sue 741-8757

Monday Dec. 8

7pm Finance Committee Mtg – Library Allyson

Tuesday Dec. 9

12:30pm Bethell Circle – Ellen – 730-1150
7pm - Bethlehem Tech Rehearsal – Jerry

Wednesday Dec. 10

12:30pm Baits/Turley Circle – Mimi's in Campbell
7pm – Bethlehem Dress Rehearsal – Jerry

Thursday Dec. 11

10am Prayer Quilt Ministry – Rm 19

Thursday – Monday, Dec. 11-15

5:30p Bethlehem – All Church event – Jerry

Sunday Dec. 14

12pm Choir Practice – choir room – Sue

Wednesday Dec. 17

11:45am Sr. & Birthday Lunch Bunch - Carrows
6pm- CityTeam Outreach – Jonathan
7pm – Capital Fundraising Team - Library
7:45pm Choir Practice –Sue 741-8757

Sunday Dec. 21

12pm Solfegge/Piano Class – Sue 741-8757

Wednesday Dec. 24

6pm - Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Thursday Dec.25

Christmas Holiday – Office Closed

Saturday Dec. 27

8am – Brothers in Christ - kitchen

3–10am Prayer Quilt Ministry–Rm 19
3-9am-Bethlehem Workday – Jerry 615-1690
7–10am White Cross – Narthex – Virginia N
7-7:30p – The Upper Room Prayer – Sanctuary
8-10am Prayer Quilt Ministry–Rm 19
10-9am -Bethlehem workday – Jerry 615-1690
13–12:30pm Bethell Circle – Barbara Chick's
14–12:30pm Baits/Turley Circle – Parlor
14- 6pm City Team Rescue Shelter Outreach
14-7pm -Capital Fundraising Team – Library
15–11:45am Sr./Birthday Lunch Bunch – Betty
19-Martin Luther King Day–Office Closed
21-6pm–CityTeam Rescue Shelter Outreach
24 – 8am Brothers In Christ–Kitchen–Adam
24 – 6pm Bethlehem banquet-Jerry 615-1690
25 – AWANA Drive-in Movie night – Jon
28 - 7pm -Capital Fundraising Team – Lib
31- 8:30am February Diaconate Meeting – Lib
31 -10am Leadership training –MaryAnn
31 – 6pm Youth Spaghetti Dinner – FH

FEBRUARY

4 - 10am White Cross – Narthex – Virginia N.
4 - 7:30p–The Upper Room Prayer – Sanctuary
5-7 – EHC homeless housing–Karen 246-6253
7 – 10am Prayer Quilt Ministry – Rm 19
10 - 12:30pm Bethell Circle
11- 12:30pm Baits/Turley Circle – Parlor
11 -7pm -Capital Fundraising Team – Library
12– 10am Prayer Quilt Ministry – Rm 19
13-16– Reflect Winter Retreat – Andrew
15 – Lenten Series Starts
15 - 12-3p Capital Fundraising Team – Lib
16 - President's Day Holiday – Office Closed
18 – 6pm -CityTeam Outreach–Jonathan
19– 11:45am Sr. & Birthday Lunch Bunch
22–12pmQuarterly Business Meeting report
22–6:30pmQuarterly Business Meeting report
25- 7pm -Capital Fundraising Team – Library
27-3/1– Element Winter Retreat-Jerry
28 - 8-10am Brothers in Christ–Kitchen–Adam
28- 8:30am March Diaconate Meeting – Library
28 - 10am Leadership training MaryAnn

Up-coming Events

JANUARY 2009

1 – New Year's Day – Office Closed

3–8:30am January Diaconate Meeting–Library

3 - 10am Leadership training MaryAnn–Parlor

Children's Ministry

Thanks to all who participated in Hallelujah Night. We saw many new faces and a good time was had by all.

As you may have noticed, there are quite a few new bundles of joy being toted around these days and many new ones on the way! If you would be interested in spoiling one of these little blessings for a couple of hours and take a rotation in the nursery every once in a while, please contact me. We need to have more workers in the nursery to meet the needs and make sure we are providing a safe and healthy environment.

During this holiday season, I just to take the opportunity to remind us all that we have so much to be thankful for, even in such an uncertain and chaotic world. Always remember that God is still in control and is faithful to those who are faithful to Him

God bless you as we celebrate the true meaning of Christmas.

Tammy Altizer Catterton
Children's Ministry Director
tamcatbc@yahoo.com

The Upper Room & CityTeam

You are invited to join the **The Upper Room** monthly church-wide prayer gathering at SCFBC sanctuary on **Wednesday, December 3rd from 7:30 to 8:30 pm**. This time of reflection is to pray for our church and our congregation, community, and the nations. Come expecting the power of the Holy Spirit to pour out! Contact Jonathan Fung at 408.813.2505 for more details.
(We meet the 1st Wednesday of every month.)

CityTeam Outreach

Please join us on **Wednesday, December 17th from 6:00-7:15pm** at the CityTeam Rescue Shelter. The address is 580 Charles St. in San Jose, off Hwy 101 and Oakland Rd. Meet in the CityTeam lobby at 6:00 pm to pray before we reach out to the men. This is a chapel service. So come ready to serve and watch the Spirit of the Lord bring hope, encouragement and transformation. Please bring new or used clothing.
(We meet the 3rd Wednesday of every month.)

Seniors/Birthday Lunch Bunch

Attention Seniors! The Birthday Bunch meets the third Thursday of each month at 11:45am, at various restaurants in the area. We'd like to invite you to join our fellowship and celebrate the birthdays of the month. We'll be meeting at the Elephant Bar on Stevens Creek Blvd.. Please join us! If you are planning to attend, we need your reservation. Please call Betty Downing at 244-5949.

People of Interest

Harold and Wilma have called Santa Clara First Baptist Church their church home for 44 years. They moved to San Jose in 1964 when Western Electric transferred Harold here. They have two children, Bill and Debbie and two grandsons, Michael and Mark.

Wilma was born in Glasgow, Montana. When she was three, her family moved to a small farm near Spokane. She began her education in a one-room schoolhouse! When her father became employed in Spokane, they moved to the city. She finished her elementary and high school years in Spokane. She always wanted to teach, so she earned her B.A. degree in Home Economics Education at Washington State and taught at Glover Junior High in Spokane.

Harold, a twin, also grew up in Spokane. After his education, he enlisted in the Navy during World War II. He was assigned to a Patrol Craft Sub-chaser and served an 18-month tour in Guam. He finished his tour in the San Francisco area. After the Navy, he returned to his job as an installer for Western Electric.

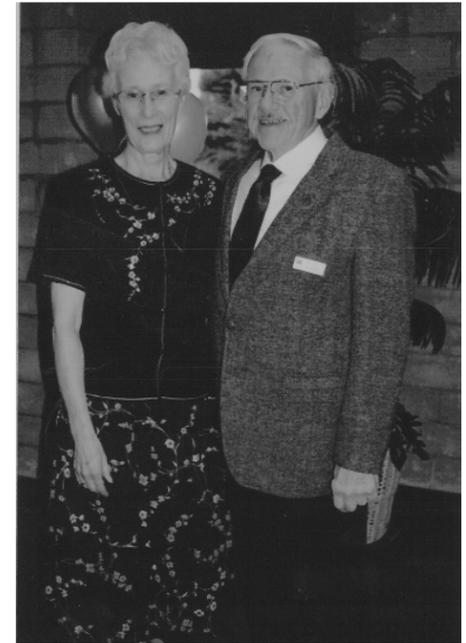
Harold and Wilma both grew up in Christian homes and attended the same church since they were both children. However, they never really met each other until they worked on a church Christmas pageant in 1958. They married in 1960. In 1964, Harold was promoted to an associate engineer, so they left their families and close friends and moved to San Jose.

After arriving here, they soon knew Santa Clara First Baptist Church would be their new church home. They immediately joined the choir and have been singing in it ever since. Wilma also taught the pre-kindergarten class for about 15 years. When the new sanctuary was being built, Dr. Miller approached her to begin a Children's choir for the dedication service. The choir continued for many more years singing for holiday programs.

Harold served on the property Department of Diaconate while the sanctuary was being built. He also assisted in their Opportunity Class for the mentally challenged. When the church began a bus ministry, he drove the bus and would pick up neighborhood children and bring them to Sunday School. He also drove youth to camps and the seniors on field trips. Both have served on numerous church committees.

They are thankful that both children, Bill and Debbie, have grown up in the Lord and serve in this church. Their grandsons, Michael and Mark also attend here. They were thrilled to watch Mark be baptized in the same baptistry where his mother and uncle were baptized.

Harold and Wilma feels God has truly blessed their lives. They treasure the many opportunities and friendships they've made while worshiping at Santa Clara First Baptist Church.



Missions Update

Operation Christmas Child. Thank you for all your support and being a part of Operation Christmas Child. **One hundred and eleven (111)** shoeboxes were collected here at SCFBC and will be sent by Samaritan's Purse to children around the world as a result of your efforts of putting these shoe boxes together.

Hosting the homeless for EHC in 2009. SCFBC will be hosting the homeless at our church on February 5-8 next year. Please get a current TB test and keep a copy of results to be a part of this project to cook or serve meals. There is a requirement that you have a current TB test. We will need a copy of the results to send to EHC. Please consider cooking or serving a meal with your small group as a community project. We will be asking for groups of volunteers as we would like to serve meals when we are hosting at our church.

Please pray for the missions projects that God would like to have SCFBC be a part of locally, nationally, and internationally in 2009.

May we work together and look forward to the adventure Our Lord has for us!

SCFBC Missions Deacon

Missionary Update from the Chapman's

My reason for going to Mbonga Malembe was to be with Pastor Ndungu and his family. Ndungu just graduated in June. This is his first church, and his first "Matondo" or Thanksgiving service. The church has suffered in recent years, so he is in a real rebuilding mode, only trying to put a building up, but also establishing a committee and church leaders. He has one old deaconess. I was pleased that the high school principal is the pastor's right hand man. The two will work well together. I was proud to see another one of our former student families established, in place and at work.



The pastor's wife, and one of Rita's former students has a women's group gathered, and their group was one of the choirs. Speaking of choirs, there were six choirs for the first round who were asked to sing two songs each. Plus, the choirs do an "intro" where they sing on the way up. I was scheduled to preach, so I asked them to have me preach before the second round of choirs. Usually, the slot for the message is after all the choirs sing. By that hour, people are tired and the choir members have begun to leave. I preached on the church at Antioch, using Acts 13:1. I spoke about Simeon, who was "called the black" (Good News Bible) and "Lucius from Cyrene", another African leader in the church. I talked about how Africa and Africans have influenced the Bible, and how God sent his Son for the whole world, and not just for one race or one nationality. My pride is not in being an American, or not in the name that people often call me "Le Blanc" (the white), but my pride is being called a "Christian" as believers first got the title at Antioch- a church that was started by missionaries from Cyprus and Cyrene (Africans) (Acts 11:20).

The service ended after 2 PM. We began before 9 AM. Some of the people told me that their offering wasn't as much as it could have been because they had gotten out too early! Offering time is such an animated time, that they want it to go on and on so that they can keep giving little by little. The offering came to over \$120. That is a big offering for a village and they knew it and were proud of it!

Blessings,

Glen and Rita

Youth News!!

Reflect High School Group



In November, we finished our study on how to become better disciples for Jesus. We learned about the fears that we may face being disciples, the temptations that Satan throws at us to distract us, and about how our self-image is important in keeping our faith. At the end of October, we spent a night at Golf land, enjoying a round of golf and some arcade games. We attended a Skillet concert in November which was awesome!



The Element Jr. High Group



Element also finished the discipleship series, with the self-image lesson being very memorable. Jasmine had **Alaina Hawkins** and **Athena Raymond** "made up" by a blindfolded **John Tomasian** and **Miguel Heynez**. The outcome was predictably hilarious. Element enjoyed a night out in October at a Haunted House, and although it wasn't that well done, we ate ice cream afterwards to make up for it. In November, we had a Mystery Night where the kids had no idea where the Youth Staff was going to take them. They



were all happy when they arrived at the IMAX show at The Tech, went roller blading at San Jose Skate, and played games at Nickel City till midnight. We also attended the Skillet concert and rocked out in the front row.

Church Van

We have also been getting great use out of the new church youth van that was donated by a member in the church. We have been driving it everywhere and the kids love being able to talk to each other. The Impact College/Career group has also been using it for their Sunday night events. Thanks to Andrew and Jerry for finally getting through the DMV testing and getting their commercial driver's licenses.



Sunday Groups

Committed is in the middle of the book of Mark, reading the first teachings of Jesus and how they still apply in our lives today. We have had **Camille Cintas**, **Carmen Cintas**, and **Mark Reiley** lead the discussions on different chapters of Mark. It is awesome to see the youth lead in this way! The **AB Girls** group on Sundays at 4 PM continues to meet in the youth room to watch and discuss the *Gilmore Girls* series.

~**Youth Staff** *Danijela, Sean, Alexandra, Fion, Amy, Christine, Jerry, Jasmine, Mary and Andrew*

Upcoming EVENTS

- Dec 3rd – Reflect to Salinas Bethlehem show
- Dec 4th – Element Ice Skating at Vallco
- Dec 6th – Bethlehem Work Day (every Saturday)
- Dec 10th – Reflect Bethlehem rehearsal
- Dec 11th -15th– Bethlehem
- Dec 17th– Reflect Christmas Party
- Dec 18th– Element Christmas Party
- Dec 24th - Jan 1st – No Groups

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