



**Santa Clara  
First Baptist**

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

**Our Mission:  
Why are we here?**

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

*October Birthdays & Anniversaries*

*Birthdays*

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Nicole Agustin
- 4<sup>th</sup> Victoria McGinnis
- 6<sup>th</sup> Amy Victorson
- 6<sup>th</sup> Bert Wendel
- 6<sup>th</sup> Antonio Rangel
- 7<sup>th</sup> Fran Van Groningen
- 9<sup>th</sup> Betty Downing
- 10<sup>th</sup> Winnie Kam
- 13<sup>th</sup> ETC Marty Fairall (Coast Guard)
- 16<sup>th</sup> Hannah Lageschulte
- 17<sup>th</sup> Robert Wilser
- 17<sup>th</sup> Athena Coral
- 18<sup>th</sup> Jim Wilson
- 20<sup>th</sup> Gloria Connor
- 20<sup>th</sup> L/Cpl Rudy DuBord IV (Marine Corp)
- 24<sup>th</sup> Beth Kroll
- 26<sup>th</sup> Sue Nguyen
- 27<sup>th</sup> Rosemarie Esquibel
- 27<sup>th</sup> Jack Ratcliff

*Anniversaries*

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Joel & Lisa Robinson
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Jonathan & Allison Fung
- 12<sup>th</sup> Mike & Michelle Ramer

# *The Celebrate!*

*Santa Clara First Baptist Church*

*October 2010*

## Halloween Carnival

**Sunday, October 31st  
5-7pm in the Fellowship Hall**

**FREE event!  
EVERYONE Welcome!**

*All the fun of Halloween in a safe place for families  
to enjoy the holiday together.*

**Candy! Costume Contest! Prizes! Food! Inflatable  
Funhouses! Trick-or-Treat Alley! Carnival Games!  
Special Toddler Activities!**

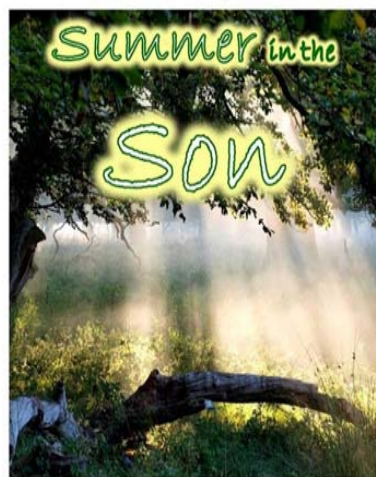


# Summer in the Son

As we continue to seek the Lord's vision for our future a number of truths have become evident to us. The information below was shared at the last Quarterly Family Gathering.

## Background

A number of years ago an envisioning team we commissioned determined that the future of our church involved church planting. We were to become a



Lord, what would you have us do?

“church that planted churches.” This was predicated on the belief that as we fulfilled the Great Commission to evangelize and disciple the people of the Santa Clara Valley we would experience such substantial growth in people and resources that we could give some away to begin a new congregation.

To fulfill this dream we realized we would need to achieve two foundational goals: Enlarge our leadership base and learn how to invest ourselves in others.

Since then we have attempted to build on these two foundational pillars. Recently as a study group met to determine our next steps for church planting we determined the foundation is simply not present. We are not yet ready to begin the process of planting a new church. As one deacon put it recently, “You have to fix your own house before you can build another one.”

## Why “Staying here” is not acceptable

EDGE issues

Attendance on slow decline

Energy observed to also be in decline:

participation, response, and singing

Youth stopped attending

No consistent preacher available since Pastor

Jenny returned to Children's ministries

EDGE staff burning out

EDGE cliques not open to outsiders/newcomers

EDGE never attracted our target group-

“the emergent generation”

Other:

AM worship service has plateaued

Neither congregation inviting others to come

Needed entire congregation to deal with lack of church vision

This situation led us to our “Summer in the Son” emphasis. Throughout the summer the entire congregation has been asked to seek the Lord's face in determining what He has for us now.

## Where we are now

As the staff has continued to pray and seek God's face concerning the future ministry directions of SCFBC one “whisper of God” has been loud and clear. We must get serious about investing ourselves in the lives of others. We need to become a church that is more invested in ministry/mission to our local community.

Our current level of mission commitment is good. We've done mission trips to Mexico and Costa Rica. We've sent clean up teams to Louisiana and Texas. We've financially supported our national American Baptist work serving around the world and our nation. We've packed hundreds of shoeboxes for children and now those in the military.

Closer to home we've financially supported a number of projects such as Seafarer's Mission, CityTeams, EHC, and the chaplaincy program at the county and city jails. Right now we do have a few personal outreaches sponsored by groups such as X Factor, Impact and the EDGE band.

With all this going on one might think that it's enough. But we don't think so. The Spirit continues to whisper that our church needs to be known throughout Santa Clara as a church that exists to serve its community. “Here to Serve” needs to be what we stands for.

## What are our next steps?

The staff proposes that supporting our local schools/students would be a key way our entire church could become personally involved in community mission. Pastor Jenny's article gives us some concrete ways we can accomplish this.

## Calendar Events

### OCTOBER

- 30-4** - Youth Conference - San Diego - Erik
- 2** – 8:30am Oct Diaconate Mtg – Lib– Steve 249-4621
- 2** -10am Prayer Quilt Ministry–Rm 19–Rhonda 246-2242
- 3** – 9am Adult Bible *Mere Christianity*– Choir Rm Sue
- 3** – 9am *Keeping Your Child Safe #4*– Parlor-Pastor Jenny
- 3** – 12 noon Life Grp Leaders Mtg–Rm 19– Pastor Rich
- 3** - 6pm 1st Sunday Praise & Prayer Service– Sanctuary – Pastor Rich
- 4** - 7pm Apprenticeship–Parlor–Jenny G/Pastor Rich
- 6** – 10am White Cross – Lobby – Virginia N. 266-1734
- 7** - 10am Prayer Quilt Ministry – Rm 19 – Rhonda
- 9** - 8:30am Men's Breakfast–Kitchen –Adam 230-6848
- 10** – 9am Adult Bible *Mere Christianity*– Choir Rm – Sue N
- 10** – 9am *Keeping Your Child Safe*– Parlor - Pastor Jenny
- 10** - 12p Mission Team Mtg – Lib – Karen – 242-2984
- 11** – 7pm Apprenticeship Class –Parlor–Jenny G/ Pastor Rich
- 12** - 1:00pm Bethell Circle - Vera Master's hosting
- 13** - 12:30pm Baits/Turley Circle – Parlor
- 16**– 9-2pm - ABW Event – FH – Barbara C. 739-2935
- 16** - 2-4pm ABW Conference Planning Mtg—Rm 19/20
- 18** - 7pm Apprenticeship Class –Parlor–Jenny G/Pastor Rich
- 18**-7:30pm Finance Comm Mtg– Lib– Steve 243-7255
- 20** - 2pm ABW Games - Lobby - Barbara C. 739-2935
- 20** – 6pm CityTeam Outreach – Jonathan 813-2505
- 20-21**- 10am Rummage Sale set up – FH – Maxine
- 22-23** –8:30am Rummage Sale – FH – Maxine
- 23** – 10– 4pm All Church Work Day – Mike 691-1441
- 25** -7pmApprenticeship Class–Parlor–Jenny G/Pastor Rich
- 28** -11:45am SR Lunch Bunch – Betty 244-5949
- 31** – 5-7pm Halloween Carnival 2010 – FH/Ed wing – Pastor Jenny

Up-coming Events

### NOVEMBER

**Saturday Bethlehem work-day emphasis**

- 1** - 7pm Apprenticeship Class–Parlor–Jenny G/Pastor Rich
- 3** - 10am White Cross – Lobby – Virginia N. 266-1734
- 6**– Bethlehem workdays – Jerry C. 615-1690
- 6** – 10:30am Bethlehem Costumes – Rhonda 246-2242

- 6** - 8:30am Nov Diaconate Mtg – Lib – Steve 249-4621
- 7** – 12 noon Life Grp Leaders Mtg–Rm 19– Pastor Rich
- 7** - 6pm 1st Sunday Praise & Prayer Service– Sanctuary – Pastor Rich
- 8** - 7pm Apprenticeship Class–Parlor–Jenny G/Pastor Rich
- 9** – 1:00pm Bethell Circle– Maxine Darknell's home
- 10** - 12:30pm Baits/Turley Circle – Parlor
- 11** – **Veteran's Day Holiday – Office Closed**
- 11** – 10:30am Prayer Quilt Ministry – Rm 19 - Rhonda
- 13**- 8:30am Men's Breakfast–Kitchen– Adam 230-6848
- 13** – 10–5pm Christmas Shop Party–FH–Pastor Jenny
- 14**-12p Mission Team Mtg – Lib – Karen – 246-6253
- 15** - 7pm Apprenticeship Class–Parlor–Jenny G/Pastor Rich
- 15**- 7:30pm Finance Comm Mtg–Lib– Steve E.
- 17** - 2pm ABW Games - Lobby - Barbara C. 739-2935
- 17** – 6pm CityTeam Outreach – Jonathan 813-2505
- 18** – 11:30am SR/BD Lunch Bunch – Betty 244-5949
- 21** – 12pm-Quarterly Business Mtg – budget vote/ lunch
- 21** – 5pm SF Homeless Outreach – Jerry 615-1690
- 25/26** - **Thanksgiving Holidays – Office Closed**

### DECEMBER

**Retired Missionaries & Ministers Giving emphasis**

- 1** - 10am White Cross – Lobby – Virginia N. 266-1734
- 4** - 8:30am December Diaconate– Lib– Steve 249-4621
- 5** – 12 noon - Bethlehem Lunch/walk thru–FH–Jerry 615-1690
- 5** - 6pm 1st Sunday Praise & Prayer Service– Sanctuary – Pastor Rich
- 7** – 7pm - Bethlehem Tech Rehearsals– Jerry 615-1690
- 8** - 7pm Bethlehem Full Rehearsal - Jerry 615-1690
- 8** -12:30pm Baits/Turley Circle – Parlor
- 9-13** -5:30-9:30pm Bethlehem – All Church event – Jerry -615-1690
- 12** - 9a Life Group Leaders Mtg–Rm 19– Pastor Rich
- 14** – 1:00pm Bethell Circle—Ellen Imhof's home
- 15** - 2pm ABW Games - Lobby - Barbara C. 739-2935
- 15** – 6pm CityTeam Outreach – Jonathan 813-2505
- 16** – 11:45am SR/BD Lunch Bunch – Betty 244-5949
- 18** – Bethlehem cleanup starts & every Sat until done
- 19** –12-2pm Christmas Cookie Party– FH– Pastor Jenny
- 20**-7:30pm Finance Comm Mtg–Lib–Steve E. 243-7255
- 24** – 6pm - Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
- 25** – **Christmas Holiday – Office Closed**



# Pastor Jenny's Tenth Anniversary Celebration

We're not sure who was more surprised, Pastor Jenny, or the Pastoral Relations Committee (PRC). We had lofty expectations of keeping the dinner and the gift cruise a secret as long as possible. **Everyone kept it a secret** until that evening! We've all seen those MasterCard commercials about "priceless" moments. That was the look on Pastor Jenny's face—priceless surprise.

Several members of the Youth Group served as waiters and waitresses ( thanks, Andrew Wong) as everyone enjoyed Armadillo Willy's BBQ and fixin's. Just over 100 of Pastor Jenny's supporters were served that evening, including Jenny's parents, in-laws and other family members.

It was a fun evening of sharing, laughter and tears as we heard testimonies of Jenny's devotion to the church and the youth of Santa Clara. Pastor Rich thanked her for the years of service and looked ahead to the next ten years having her minister to the Santa Clara Valley.

We will continue to accept donations to offset the costs of sending Pastor Jenny and Jon on the Mexico cruise in mid-December. All dinner and love gift donations paid first for the dinner celebration and then for their Princess cruise. *You can still make donations, payable to SCFBC with "Pastor Jenny" in the memo line.*

This event to honor our beloved Pastor Jenny was organized by the Pastoral Relations Committee: Michelle Ramer, Greg Robbins, Doris Smith and & Jess Stephens. With special assistance from Denise Stephens.



## Mission to Schools & Students

*"Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world." James 1:27*

At the Quarterly Business Meeting on September 19th, we discussed our plan to move forward with a



concentrated focus on outreach to our local community. Specifically, we're looking at how our church can make a significant impact on the local schools.

Whether by choice or circumstance, our church has consistently participated in mission work affecting schools and students. An emphasis on schools gives us the opportunity to provide basic physical needs for education, as well as the opportunity to invest in the family lives of individual students as relationships are formed and trust is built. Below is the information relayed at the meeting, along with the proposed next steps and opportunities for involvement.

As the staff discussed how we can focus mission efforts on local schools, the following ideas came out:

- 1) Assigning volunteer "liaisons" to specific schools to create a relationship with their school and determine what their needs are.
  - A. Volunteer needs
  - B. Supply needs
  - C. Service projects on the campus grounds
- 2) As trust is built with the schools over time, we hope to see the liaisons coming back with specific family needs that the church can help with.

- 3) Creating a School Supply Locker on campus filled with backpacks, folders and other school supplies where families can come and get what their children need for the school year.
- 4) People assigned to pray for specific schools throughout the year
- 5) After school programs (Kid's Club, etc) begun on Elementary campuses

Just how large the scope of this *Mission to Schools and Students* will be has yet to be determined. Will we focus only on Santa Clara High School, and the

after-school program already put in place by our Youth Department, or will we extend the care to other schools in the area as well? Your voice and input will make these decisions.

We hope you will prayerfully consider being a part of the vision, direction and implementation of this outreach to our local schools and its students.

### Next Steps:

#### 1) Prayer

- Please be in prayer about this. We will all continue to seek God's heart on what He would have us do. Please prayerfully consider your personal role in this outreach focus

#### 2) First Planning Meeting

- Sunday, October 17th at 12pm in the Library (lunch provided).

- This meeting is for those who want to be a part of the vision, direction and implementation of our *Mission to Schools and Students*. We will begin discussions on how big the scope of this mission focus should be for now, and what our first steps will be. Come with your additional ideas regarding how we can most effectively bless our local schools and their students.

If you have any questions, would like to discuss this further, or if you want to be a part of planning team please contact Pastor Jennifer Hammar at (408) 248-2078 or [jennifer@scfbc.org](mailto:jennifer@scfbc.org).





Come be a part  
of the difference!



I couldn't be more proud of the elementary children for their presentation of "O Me, O My, O Nehemiah!" They were wonderful! The children had just fun showing off their hard work for you all, and your applause and cheering made such a difference. They all felt like stars! It was so wonderful to see them shine. Thanks again to all those who helped make this special day possible.



### **Paid Nursery Position**

We have a paid position available in our Nursery. We are looking for a Nursery worker to provide childcare during our "1st Sunday" prayer and worship services each month. The hours would be from 5:45-7:15pm on the first Sunday of each month. If you are interested, please contact the Nursery Coordinators Rebecca Ebel (rdebel@mybox.org) or Meredith Lanier (meredith@laniers.org).

### **Loving Arms Needed**

If you have a pair of open, loving arms—our Nursery needs you! During the worship hour, our Toddlers enjoy a special lesson just for them. During this time, we need some loving arms to hold and snuggle the babies so the teachers are free to work with the toddlers. Volunteers will serve during the Worship Hour on a rotating basis. If you'd like to help out in this special way, caring for our littlest members, contact Rebecca Ebel and Meredith Lanier at the contact information listed above.

### **Kids' Worship Assistant**

Kids' Worship is where the K-5 children learn about the Bible through interactive, multi-sensory lessons. It's high-energy and a lot of fun. We need adult assistants to make the experience as safe and effective as possible. Can you give once a month during the worship hour to help out? Contact Pastor Jenny at jennifer@scfbc.org or 248-2078 for more information.

## **MISSION TRIP TO MEXICO,**

Ten of us representing Santa Clara First Baptist Church made the long trip from Santa Clara to Rancho El Refugio (Sanctuary Ranch), Ensenada, Baja California, Mexico. This was definitely a working trip that inspired all who went to give more of himself or herself. Friday and Saturday were two long days of physical work, with clearly evident results on the "barn" which is becoming a school complex.

The coordinators, Dan and Ivey, work for Azusa Pacific College, overseeing the site efforts. The "barn" would be an outstanding complex in the United States, built in a kind of wood and stucco "mission style." In Ensenada, it is truly an unexpected building by look and by quality, considering that all materials have to be brought up a twisting paved road that rises above the port city of Ensenada and then up a three mile dirt road just wide enough for one truck! The barn is a modern complex with an auditorium, theatrical stage and greenroom, three classrooms, living quarters for teachers, and many restrooms. Almost all of the work on the complex has been accomplished by volunteer work groups like ours from SCFBC.

Jerry and Sharon Cintas headed up this effort. Jerry was our incredible driver to/from Mexico, displaying both skill, patience and tenacity. We appreciated being able to travel together in the church van. Sharon oversaw all the food planning and preparation for the trip, which we all appreciated. Jerry spent most of the two workdays on a number of electrical projects. Sharon painted and cleaned. Taylor Rogers and Tim McLenegan assisted Jerry Cintas installing electrical plug boxes and switch covers; that gives you an idea of the size of the complex! Victor Macias and Justin Fraser did mudding, painting, and prep for final painting. Peggy Shalloe, Fion Cheng and Taylor Rogers learned how to install floor tiles. Denise Stephens varnished doors and door frames, Jerri Cooper her granddaughter Taylor Rogers and Peggy Shalloe installed recessed lighting and we all cleaned and cleaned, organizing the work site so that the spaces were ready for the next workers.

By January, it is hoped the Rancho El Refugio School will be opened to local children who do not have the means to attend another school. All expenses for the school are paid by donation. The work team donated \$400 cash to the school and building effort. In order to open the school, \$100,000 is needed to pay on-going expenses. The SCFBC Library Committee has adopted the school as its mission outreach. If you would like to give to that cause, you can mark "Mexico School" on your offering envelope. You can talk to Jerri Cooper or Peggy Shalloe about the Library Committee's support of the school.

Or, if you would like to sign up for a couple of days of hard physical labor that will give you the satisfaction of literally building for God's Kingdom, talk to Jerry Cintas so you can be a part of the next trip!

Submitted by Denise Stephens







**Sundays, 4:00-5:30pm**

**AWANA has begun!** AWANA kicked off its new ministry year on September 12th, welcoming both returning students and lots of new friends as well. If you're unfamiliar with AWANA here are some reasons to try the AWANA experience:

### “Just Right” Classes

AWANA has age-group classes that are “just right” for meeting the spiritual and relational needs of the children. **Cubbies** (ages 3-5), **Sparks** (Grades K-2), and **Truth & Training** (Grades 3-6) have lessons, games, and handbooks designed just for them.

### Spiritual Growth

AWANA gives each child the opportunity to grow spiritually, moving forward at their own pace. As kids work through their handbooks with their leaders they take ownership of their faith, having the opportunity to ask questions and explore what they believe.

### AWANA is Fun!

It's not all about work. An important part of AWANA meetings is Game Time. The children look forward to the high-energy AWANA games. These games encourage teamwork, hard work, and reinforce the importance of physical exercise.

### Building Foundations

AWANA emphasizes Scripture memory. This not only teaches the children important passages and lessons of Scripture, it plants the Word of God in the hearts and minds of children, giving them important tools to use as they grow up. The Scriptures the children learn now will be tools for making Godly choices in the future.

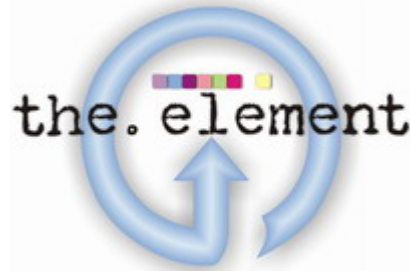
We hope your family will come and join the AWANA adventure! For more information contact Commander Jon Hammar at (408) 981-6962 or visit the website at [www.scfbc.org/AWANA](http://www.scfbc.org/AWANA).



## SCFBC Student Ministries



Reflect is a place for High School students (9th-12th grade) to come and fellowship together. We have a great time growing closer to God and learning more about Him so that we can deepen our faith. We have awesome worship and we love to have a good time. Come check it out from 6:30pm-8:30pm on Wednesday nights!



The Element is an awesome place for 6th-8th grade students! We play awesome games, have great worship, and grow deeper in our relationship with God. Come hang out with us on Thursday from 6:30pm-8:15pm!



Committed is a group of students, grades 6-12, that meet from 9am to 10:15am in the youth room, that are committed to follow Jesus and go and spread the good news. After the lesson, everyone heads over to the sanctuary for morning worship at 10:30am.

Looking for a place to go after school? Come hang out at our after school program on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 2-5:30pm. We have snacks, play games, and even get our homework done! Drop by after school and check it out.

**Check out our website for more information on what we are up to!**

**[www.scfbc.org](http://www.scfbc.org)**

## *People of SCFBC,*

I firmly believe that Santa Clara First Baptist Church has been given a great gift in its location across from Santa Clara High. I feel that God is calling on us to use that gift! We are getting ready to launch an after school program in the fall that will provide a safe place for students to come and do homework and hang out a few days a week. On Wednesdays we will provide dinner for the students who are there and my hope is that they choose to stay for youth group! The program will be open to junior high students but the initial focus will be the students of Santa Clara High. I have met with the principal of Santa Clara High and he said that there is a great need for an after school program, and he will advertise it all over campus!

I believe that God is going to do big things in the lives of students through this program but we need your help in getting it off the ground. There is a familiar quote that says, "If you build it, they will come" well, we need some help building this program!

Below is a list of items needed to keep this ministry running.

**Flat screen televisions (2)** We need a couple of televisions large enough so that multiple people can play video games at once.

**Xbox 360's (1)** Video games, love 'em or hate 'em, attract students! We want to provide a place that is attractive to students and will draw them in and video games can be a great tool to accomplish that!

**Sports Equipment** (Frisbee's, Footballs, Basketballs, etc...)

**Food!** We need snacks (cookies, chips, fruit, etc...) to feed these students. You can donate actual snacks or money to go towards snacks. If you do not have any items to donate we could always use financial support! We are going to need help financially to see this vision come to fruition! There is also always the option of giving of your time as well.

We value your support in our ministry to students and are excited to partner with you to show the love of God to students who desperately need him! Please contact us if you would like to tutor or help us redecorate, I can be reached at 916-671-4676 or email erik@scfbc.org.

*Note: Please indicate in the memo field of your check and/or envelope "After School Program"*

Sincerely,  
Erik Meyer  
Director of Student Ministries

## Mission 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

### **World Missions Offering(WMO)**

The World Missions Offering will be this month. This offering supports our American Baptist missionaries around the world. We will be sharing some interesting stories of a few of our missionaries in service this month such as Glen and Rita Chapman, who are in the Congo and Gary & Melinda Baits who are in Costa Rica. We will hear how God has been working in these countries. Please prayerfully consider how God leads you to support this offering this year.

### **Potential trip to Costa Rica**

We wanted to let you know there are some behind the scenes conversations for a potential trip to Costa Rica in February next year. As more information becomes available we share it. If you have an interest please contact Lisa Robinson or Karen Fong.

We ask you to continue to pray for the missions projects God would like to have SCFBC be a part of locally, nationally, and internationally.

Karen Fong  
SCFBC Missions Deacon

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## *Library Corner and Book Nook*

### **LIBRARY MISSION OUTREACH for Mexico**

**Thank you for the school supplies dropped off in the red bin for** students of the Ensenada Orphanage School at the Ranch. They won't be starting the first class until January 2011 and in October the Mexico Mission Work Team delivered school supplies and made progress in finishing the rooms they will use. We are collecting English/Spanish books for pre-school to First Grade to take down there in April. In addition to books, we are collecting school and craft supplies.

### **LIBRARY HOURS**

The SCFBC library can be visited any time during regular church office hours. Check with the office personnel and some one will unlock it for you. You can browse up to 5:45pm Monday - Thursday and use the self-check to obtain books, just remember to notify the office when you are done.

### **BOOK NOOK**

Please check out the books in the lobby BOOK NOOK each Sunday. During the sanctuary construction it will be on the end of the counter in the lobby. The books and DVD's are frequently refreshed with current sermon themes and Life Class topics. The books from the August Leadership Summit were added to the Book Nook and you are welcome to borrow any of those books. Thank you for returning borrowed books and movies to the lobby red bin in a timely manner.

### **REVIEWS**

- *Leadership Summit DVD's* - watch these and you will see the excellent quality lectures from the summit, a no-cost method to check out what people have been talking about - information that will help you both spiritually and professionally.

The Library Committee  
Barbara McLenegan, Bev Walz, Marlene Goldman and Jerri Cooper

## *Property Corner*

### **Volunteers:**

The Property department is very “grateful” to everyone who gives of their time and talents that often go unnoticed. All that “YOU” do is very much appreciated for helping to keep our expenses to a minimum. Thank You Very Much!

**Renovation Report:** For more information please read the article from Jerry Cintas.

**Church Workday:** Thanks to all that participated in the workday on Saturday, September 25, 2010. Some of the projects were Lawns Fertilized, Kitchen Storage Area Re-organized, New Bulletin Board Installed In Church Office, Roof Cleaned & Patched. Future Project Considerations For 2011: Painting Church Sanctuary (exterior), Fence Repair (Fellowship Hall Parking Lot). 2011 project ideas can be submitted to the church office for consideration.

**Tree Removal:** A tree was removed in the church parking lot by Davey Tree because of some breathing difficulties being experienced by one of our neighbors. I would like to thank Larry Van Groningen for taking care of this. This area is being discussed for future planting needs with non-flowering trees or shrubs.

**Room 13:** Lloyd Darknell and Jerry Cintas completed the electrical wiring so the room will be able to run the new computers for the students. Thank you very much! This room is being set up for the students at Santa Clara High as a room for homework, internet, etc. to help them in the coming school year.

**Bethlehem Storage Building:** After receiving 4 bids from different contractors, we decided to award the foundation contract to Steve Mason Concrete Construction Inc., who completed the rear wall project earlier this year. I expect work to be starting the first or second week of October. The remainder of the work will be completed in the first part of 2011. Stay tuned for more information in future Celebrate articles. Volunteers will be needed for some of the projects, so if you are interested please contact the church office for more details.

**Cargo Containers:** Praise the Lord, the remaining five containers were purchased by one individual.

**Reminder:** Please make sure that when you leave a building, classroom, etc. that all the doors are locked, windows closed, all lights and air/heat turned off. Thanks for helping keep our utility expenses to a minimum.

**General:** Please contact myself or Dave Wilson should you see something that needs to be fixed or is in need of repair!

Your Brother In Christ,

Mike Depew,  
Property Deacon

## *Finance Department Update*

Considering the current times that we live in, it seems that we put a lot of emphasis on those things that we are lacking. It’s easy to dwell on decreased incomes, rising costs related to day-to-day living and the challenges that sometimes seem to be never-ending. Our church also experiences these same challenges. But before I discuss our current challenges, I would like everyone to be reminded of the blessings that have been bestowed to this church. We are very, very fortunate to own our property outright. We have no mortgage. We have no lease. We carry no loans or long-term liabilities. There are many churches that are struggling to keep up with mortgages, leases and loans. Santa Clara First Baptist Church has no such liabilities which could hamper us from doing God’s work.

We are fortunate that our past leaders and membership purchased this property and built when they did. The result is our property taxes are minimal considering the true value of the property. Being positioned in Santa Clara gives us favorable rates related to our utilities.

All of these factors and others positively impact the operations of our church. Although our current financial position is not favorable, if not for these mentioned benefits our condition could be much direr. The reality is we are two-thirds of the way through a very difficult year. As of August 31<sup>st</sup>, our total giving is down by \$19,422.52 in comparison to the same period last year. In relation to our operating expenses, as of August 31<sup>st</sup> we have operated at a loss of \$15,524.49. In simple terms, this means that we have been required to spend \$15K more than we have earned.

This comparison of income relates solely to general operations of the church. These numbers are exclusive from special projects such as the renovation, the improvements to the rear of the church property, the upcoming Bethlehem building, as well as various other designated projects.

Currently the diaconate is in the early stages of calculating a budget for 2011. As I have been reviewing this year’s operating expenses, with the exception of only a few expenses, our expenses are on track to be below budgeted amounts.

Our membership and regular attenders have always responded generously when it has come to urgent matters and projects that have pulled on our heartstrings. Time and time again you have been asked to give, and many have responded despite these challenging times. I am asking the same of you now. Too many times we have heard of organizational collapses and failures. The typical response is to think “had I known I would have helped out”. We are nowhere near a point of eminent collapse, but we are definitely at a stage that requires cautious consideration.

The leadership of this church can and does use much discretion related to expenses, however we have no control over the amounts of all of our tithes and offerings. My prayers ask that our congregation can unite together to strengthen the financial condition of Santa Clara First Baptist Church. I ask that you pray for and consider the same.

Steve Erling  
Deacon of Finance



# American Baptist Women

## Special Event for Women “Piknic”

All women and girls of all ages are invited to attend the fall gathering of AB Women’s Ministries of the West. We’re not a bunch of old fuddy-duddies; we plan to have fun! There will be an old fashioned Cakewalk, a Straw Hat Contest, a Hymn-sing, plus lots of good food. It is here at our church in the fellowship hall, starting at 11 a.m., so you don’t have far to travel. Please come join us for an enjoyable day with other Christian women from our region. For more information or to make a reservation, call Barbara Chicks at 739-2935. We do need reservations by October 9<sup>th</sup>.

## Museum and Mission Tours

You are invited to join the women of ABW on a docent lead tour of the de Saisset Museum and Mission San Clara de Asis on Tuesday, October 26. Tours last approximately 1.5 hours, beginning with a 20-minute slide show that provides a chronological review of California history from the Native American period through the Mission period. After the slideshow, docents lead a half-hour walkthrough of the Museum's California History Exhibit and a half-hour tour of the Mission and Mission grounds. Afterwards we will be going to Neto's Market and Grill for lunch. We will be carpooling from the church parking lot at 9:30 AM. Everyone is welcome!

If you are interested in attending contact Jean Rund at 408-296-5805 or email at [jeanmollie@aol.com](mailto:jeanmollie@aol.com)

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## Prayer Requests & Praise Reports

*Each Sunday after worship the Pastor remains in front to talk with you if you have questions, concerns, or have made a decision.*

## Prayer Requests for...

- **Grace Robbins**, daughter of Greg & Christine Robbins, for successful surgery on September 23<sup>rd</sup> and full recovery afterwards as well as for peace and comfort for her family.
- Wisdom for doctors of **Adam Burdick** to precisely diagnose source of pain in his chest and left side of his body.
- **Michele DuBord**’s complete recovery following surgery.
- Healing for **Jenny Gregg**’s father following vascular surgery.
- **Jim Lovelace**’s complete recovery following back surgery.
- Those currently having chemotherapy: **Dottie Haas**, **Jean Rund** and **Tina Mulford**’s niece, **Carolyn**
- Total healing of **Holly Franco**, **Helen Hawkins**’ granddaughter.
- Praise that **the Mexico Mission Weekend Work Team** returned safely.

## Renovation Prayer Requests

- That we will each seek to answer the question, “**What does Jesus want me to do** for the renovation?”
- That **SCFBC will be a united and stronger church** through this experience **and that our hearts will also be renovated.**
- Pray for **wisdom** for the renovation committee and **safety** for the workers.

## Renovation Update

The sound panels arrived and we have started installing them on the back wall. The sound booth panels are installed and we are working on the Kitchenette wall still. They look nice and the fabric color looks good with our new color scheme.



Bill and Rhonda Starnes also came in and stained the top of the sound booth in a walnut color and it looks great!



We have also been cleaning up storage rooms as Bethlehem has taken over a couple of our renovation rooms for a couple of months. As part of that we also cleaned up the choir room and were able to sell some of our extra Hymnals to a Philippines church called Church of the Highlands in San Bruno. They will be shipping these hymnals to the North Philippines and the lady Kathryn Materum was very excited and appreciative of the Hymnals.



Kathryn Materum, Church of The Highlands - San Bruno, CA

Building Committee  
Jerry Cintas, Lloyd Darknell, Mike Depew, Joe Lasher