



**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.

See Matthew 28:19, 20

November

Birthdays

2nd Len Walz
 2nd Leslie Turley - Japan Missionary
 7th Jean Rund
 10th Chuck Chicks
 10th Diana Dodson Lee
 11th Emily Ramer
 12th Jesse Hawkins
 13th Peggy Shalloe
 13th Grace Robbins
 16th Lisa Robinson
 16th Patti Victorson
 20th Michelle Ramer
 20th Monica Ott
 26th Mike Ramer
 26th Laura Gregg
 27th Micah Robinson

Anniversaries

4th Jim & Lois Lovelace
 7th Yongbom & Diana Dodson Lee
 25th Gary & Pat White

The Celebrate!

November 2012

Bethlehem

December 6-10
6:30-9:00pm



Going Forward



On October 7th SCFBC voted to accept (i.e. Prescription #5) the first four prescriptions presented by Dr. William Hoyt to our church. The vote was 64 in favor, and 1 opposed. We have a lot of work to do as we go forward! Please be praying, asking God what He would have you to do to help fulfill these prescriptions. We must all work together to make SCFBC a more effective church in reaching out to the community and helping people to grow as disciples of Christ.

The Board of Deacons will be meeting with Dr. Hoyt on November 8th at 7 p.m. He will work with us as we

make plans on how we can fulfill these prescriptions. On November 10th at 10 a.m. the Board will vote on Prescription #6 and determine if Pastor Rich will be our transitional pastor. Please be praying for the Board to make the decision God would have us make.

Barbara Chicks, Diaconate Chairperson

Thank you, Barbara, for bringing us up to date regarding SCFBC's current status with respect to Dr. Hoyt's prescriptions.

This church has now embarked on a new journey. This journey will challenge each of us to consider where our hearts really are. How much do we really believe people need Jesus and the salvation He provides? How much do we really care about their eternal fate if they reject Christ? How much are we really willing to do to help our friends, family, and neighbors find Jesus and become His disciples?

This journey will challenge us to grow deeper in our relationship to Jesus, more discerning in our perception of the world around us, and more selfless in our love for others.

The current sermon series, "The Father Jesus Knows", is designed to help us understand who our Father in heaven really is. We must accurately discern His true characteristics if we are to serve Him faithfully and represent Him properly to others.

Our Advent sermon series will answer the question "Why did He come?" Why did Jesus come to our earth at all and why as a new-born baby? These messages will help us understand the basics of our faith in Christ and why He is the only answer to humanity's deepest needs.

Both of these series are not just for us, however. By inviting those you know who are unchurched/unsaved, you can use these messages as discussion starters to dialogue about the true nature of God and the unique mission of His Son.

Blessings to you as we all seek to discover and implement God's future plans for SCFBC.

Pastor Rich

Youth Event

Spaghetti Dinner

Come enjoy a spaghetti dinner served by the jr. high and high school youth. Join us for a night of food and singing and support the youth snow camp trips!

When:

Saturday, November 3rd

Where:

6:00pm

Santa Clara First Baptist Fellowship Hall

Tickets:

\$10

Purchase in the lobby or from a student.

All proceeds benefit
SCFBC Youth



Youth News

Reflect High School Group

In October we continued our series on the book of Hosea. In this study we are learning how the prophecy of Hosea applied to the Israelites, but also predicted the coming of Christ.

In October we joined with the Jr. High group and attended the annual Rescue 2012 Conference. Francis Chan spoke and challenged us to be bold and share our faith on our campuses.

We also participated in the "See You at the Pole" event and met at the flag pole in front of Santa Clara High School at 7am one day and prayed for the school with other students.

The Element Jr. High Group

We had a great time at Rescue 2012 and enjoyed the speaking from Josh Shipp and Francis Chan. Donald and Brandan got autographs from the rapper Saylah.

We are almost done with our Fruit of the Spirit lessons and are finally putting together the fact that having a growing relationship with Jesus Christ is what helps us have: Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Gentleness, Goodness, Faithfulness, and Self Control.

Pastor Jenny introduced us to a new game called Mission Impossible and now the kids can't stop talking about it. The great thing is that they are inviting their friends to come to church whenever we play it.

Committed

Our Sunday morning group which meets at 9:15am in the youth room is currently going through the book of Acts.

Raising Teens

Our October Raising Teens workshop presented a wonderful opportunity for parents to share with each other their concerns, fears and joys of raising a teen. The parents left with great information and resources on how to deal with teens and eating disorders. Most importantly, we are creating a partnership of support and guidance for parents who are in the midst of what is often the most difficult parenting stage. On November 8th the discussion topic will be "Communicating with Your Teenager".

Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser

On Saturday November 3rd at 6pm we are hosting our Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser to earn money for snow camp in January. Make sure you set aside that date for your kids to participate and receive financial assistance for camp.

Youth Staff - Danijela, Mary, Andrew, Fion, Kimberly, Jerry, Les, Matt, Jenny



Upcoming EVENTS

Nov 3rd - Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser
Nov 8th - Raising Teens Parent Workshop
"Communicating with Your Teenager"
Nov 21st - No Reflect
Nov 22nd - No Element
Events at scfbc.org/element & scfbc.org/reflect

The Heart of Evangelism

Evangelism has taken many forms over the centuries, from Paul preaching in the synagogues to televangelists reaching people through the TV, from huge tent revivals to individual Christians walking door to door in their neighborhood to spread the Good News. Besides a few dishonest people who used the Gospel for their own gain, the heart of evangelism in all these forms has always been the same - the knowledge that God loves all people and wants every person to know Him as Lord and Savior. It was this knowledge of God's love that gave the early Christians the courage to share Christ with others even while under persecution. It was this heart of evangelism that fueled the spiritual fire of the tent revivals and encouraged those who knocked on door after door to share God's love. It is this same heart of God that will inspire, encourage, and motivate us as well, as we seek to share Christ in this place and in this time.

While the heart of evangelism may be the same as those who came before us, our approach to outreach has changed. We've found that people in the Bay Area don't want to get into a debate about who Jesus is. In fact, most people don't want to talk about religion at all with someone they don't know and don't trust. What people do want is for others to care about them. This is where we come in. In caring for others, we develop relationships that build trust. When people understand that we care about them, and as they learn to trust us, then God will provide opportunities for those spiritual conversations. These relationships are not about trying to convert someone as soon as possible. These relationships are about others. These people are dearly loved by God, and therefore dearly loved by us. It's in love and relationship that they will come to understand the truth of who Christ is.

Therefore, we will pray. We will pray for people in our lives who do not know Christ, that God will open doors for us to begin sharing that love. We will pray that God will open our eyes to these opportunities so that we can see them, and that He will give us the courage to act. Perhaps most importantly, we will pray for God's heart to be our heart. What kind of spiritual fire would light up among us if we hurt for those who don't know Christ, as God hurts for them? Imagine what would happen in our lives, in our church, in our city if we shared Christ's heart for the lost.

Imagine....and keep praying.
Pastor Jenny

Missions Update

Thanks to all who participated in the Mexico House Build project. This was a worth while effort for a family in need and may have set the young husband/father on the right path. It was an exercise in faith and works by all involved. It had potential (at least partially realized) for evangelism on both ends (here and in Mexico) as we got people from outside our church involved in the effort.

As we wrestle with how to make our outreach efforts more locally focused and more evangelistic, your input is desired. This will need to be a whole church effort, not just a Missions Committee effort. All ideas are welcome. Not all will be implemented; but, all are welcome. The upcoming Trunk or Treat (October 31st) and Scott Lane Carnival (November 2nd) are excellent examples of local outreach with evangelistic possibilities. Our premier example, Bethlehem, is coming soon with build days starting November 3rd.

Thanks for your gifts to the World Mission Offering in support of more than 100 American Baptist missionaries around the world.

Jim Garvey, Missions Deacon, garveyjim@sbcglobal.net 408-250-4040

Rummage Sale Results

Thank you to all who donated items for our recent rummage sale. It takes a lot of work by many people to have a successful sale. - tables... donations unpacked, cleaned, organized and priced... advertisements... and many signs. Then of course, what we put up we must take down including cleaning up the Fellowship Hall for Sunday morning.

Thanks to "Impact" who came Tuesday night to set up tables and put out the items which had already been donated. Also, thank you to all the other volunteers who helped on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Without the help of the American Baptist Women (ABW) members, it would be very difficult to have a successful sale.

All of the above efforts brought in \$2400.00 after expenses:

Bethlehem	\$2160.00
Women's Ministries (ABW),	\$240.00

The rummage sale not only helps the church but is another way we reach out to the community. People love to come and shop. We handed out flyers for Bethlehem, answered questions about our church and invited people to come.

We didn't have as much "stuff" this time, so please start putting items aside to donate for our next sale in the spring to benefit the Mexico missions trip!

Maxine Darknell, Coordinator

Collection Drive November & December Aluminum Can/Plastic Bottle

For the months of September and October recycling earned \$40.20 for the SCFBC Library from the donated recycled cans and bottles. Our collection drive is continuing, during the months of November and December and the proceeds will benefit **Bethlehem**.

Thank you to Peggy Shalloe for coordinating this project.

Cut-N-Paste Life Group Update and Thank you

Thank you for your generous paper and card supply contributions to the Cut-N-Paste Life Group. We held an outreach Card Making Event and potluck on Saturday, October 13th where 26 people participated and made 819 cards and given to Kards4Soldiers.

This year they have sent boxes of cards monthly to various overseas locations sending almost 50,000 already in 2012. Christmas cards for overseas have to be mailed by mid-November so we have been working on them on Thursdays at 2pm in the Lobby.

They also distribute cards to bay area hospitals and thank you cards to many of the bay area police and fire departments thanking the 'first responders' for their dedication and service.

It has been a joy for us to partner with "kards4soldiers" in making cards for our military men and women overseas.

Cut-N-Paste Life Group

Property Corner

Church Work Day:

This past month our property received some much needed "tender loving care" from our church family. I thank the following people who helped contribute to a wonderful church work day:

Larry Van Groningen : Roof Cleaning, Door locks inspected & lubed, and the jasmine trimmed.

Larry Trigg: Painting of the boys' restroom located in the Fellowship Hall, upper roof cleaning of the sanctuary building.

Brandan Thompson: Painting of the boys' restroom located in the Fellowship Hall, roof cleaning.

Steve McLenegan: Light bulbs checked and replaced throughout our campus.

Other Work Day Items Completed: Lawns fertilized, Furnace filters changed in the Fellowship Hall, Roof patching.

Weekly Grass Mowing & Edging:

I am happy to announce that starting December 1st, Jim Powell will be doing our weekly mowing and trimming of our grass and landscaping. Jim will be bringing many years of expert experience and will also be lowering our monthly/yearly expenses in doing so. Welcome, Jim, and thanks for stepping up and being a great example to us all.

I would also like to give a big THANKS Larry Van Groningen for his generous donation of an almost new lawn edger made by Stihl. This is a professional piece of equipment which will help Jim trim our lawns. Thanks, Larry, for this gift!!!

In Closing:

Our church family and property is very blessed to have so many talented and dedicated volunteers who give of their time and talents to keep it looking good. Thanks to everyone for all that you do day in and day out!

If you happen to see something that needs repair please let me or Dave Wilson, Jr. in the church office know.

Michael Depew
Deacon of Property

Senior and Birthday Lunch Bunch

Everyone is cordially invited to attend the November Lunch Bunch on Thursday, November 15th at 11:30am. Lunch will be at Mimi's on Campbell Ave near Saratoga Avenue. Please call Betty Downing at 408-244-5949 to confirm your attendance. It is good time of fellowshiping by celebrating birthdays and to kicking-off the holiday season together.

Don't Wait Until January to Blow the Dust Off!

If someone asked you right now to see your Bible, would you have to think about where it might be? Would quite a few of the crisp, clean pages stick together? Or maybe your Bible is proudly well-worn and highlighted in a rainbow of colors- but would you have to quickly wipe the dust off of it before you let anyone see it? Fear not! If we are honest, we have all been there (or are there now).

I always groan, though, when leaders tell me to read my Bible more, **more isn't always better!** If I just slog my way robotically through Genesis on my way to Revelation while I am half asleep or my mind is really on other things, it doesn't help me, and it certainly doesn't do much for God. There are ways to make your Bible encounters the best part of your day (honest!).

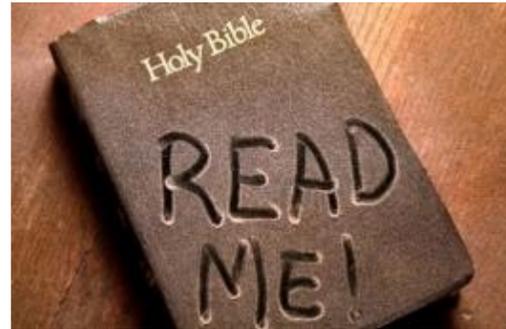
Practical Ways to Jumpstart Your Bible Encounters

Everyone's experience may be different, but there are a few things that I have noticed over the years about reading the Bible:

Getting started is the hardest part - it gets easier once you get going into a routine.

Having a plan helps enormously - the "flip-open-the-Bible-and-read-whatever-you-find" method may work occasionally, but is pretty unreliable (and you are likely to give up).

Using some creative practices for enhancing your time in God's word amplifies the experience.



A Do-able Daily Reading Plan

The plan that changed my spiritual life was years ago when I bought and used the *One Year Bible*. Because the daily readings are divided into manageable chunks (much smaller than those required for a 90-day plan), I was able to keep it up. And because each reading includes both Old and New Testament, plus a little from Psalms and Proverbs, there is always interesting parts to balance the difficult parts.

Now the *One Year Bible* plan is offered free online (<http://www.oneyearbibleonline.com/>). What makes this beautiful is that you can set whatever start date you like (how about today?!), and whatever version you like. There are plenty of reading plans out there, but don't spend all your time "shopping for a plan" or you'll never getting to the actual reading! I do highly recommend this one if you want to give it a try.

Memorize Scripture!

Break out your 3x5s and make some flashcards! God speaks most often through scripture, so the more scripture you know the more He will be able to communicate to you! Knowing key passages also allows you to share the gospel with others, and to defend your faith when necessary. And before you say, "I'm not good at memorizing," remember that like any exercise, the more you do it, the easier it gets. (and it's good for the brain, too!).

First Things First...

In our enthusiasm to serve God and fulfill the solutions that have been prescribed for SCFBC, it's imperative that we don't rush out impulsively like Peter slashing off a man's ear in an effort to "save" Jesus from arrest. As counter intuitive as it sounds, we know that God wants us to come to Him, and spend time listening to Him through His word - the Bible. Only then can He direct our course of action.

We cannot make disciples unless we are disciples. And one of the defining characteristics of a disciple is one who spends time with Jesus, listening to Him, and getting to know Him. That, my brothers and sisters, is our number one prescription!

Jenny Gregg, Deacon of Maturity



SPEEDway

Taking Time to be Thankful

I love this time of year. I really do. I like dressing up for Halloween, and even though I can't go trick or treating without being creepy – I do enjoy "sharing" my kids' candy haul. Then comes the Christmas season with the lights, the trees, the music, the cookies, and the celebration of Jesus' birth. It's a great time of year.

Oops! I forgot about Thanksgiving.

In the midst of the Halloween and Christmas excitement, how do we encourage thankfulness in our children – and ourselves? I don't have the magical answer, but here are some of my thoughts.

Create Thankful Time - Whether it's before eating dinner, or before bedtime, or in the car on the way to school – set aside a specific time to talk with your kids about what they are thankful for. I find many of our conversations are usually about things that are going wrong – a friend being mean, a bad grade, a video game they absolutely must have or else they'll die! Imagine how great it would be to start or end the day with simply listing all that we have to be thankful for.

Give Thanks – After you and your child share what you are thankful for – give thanks to God who gives us every good gift in our lives. This is a wonderful opportunity to pray with your child. Even those who are shy about praying with others are often comfortable when they are simply saying "Thank you God for..."

Be a Blessing – You know that God has blessed you – now go and be blessing to someone else! We all love to receive good gifts, but we also know how wonderful it is to be that gift to someone else. Give your child the chance to learn this wonderful lesson. Help your child think of ways that they can bless someone else – playing with a new kid, making a card for a friend, inviting a lonely child for a playdate, calling a grandparent on the phone, helping mom clean the house (hint, hint!) – the possibilities are endless!

Be Thankful for Your Child – You are already thankful for your child. Does your child know that? I've noticed that no matter how many toys and awesome gadgets our children have, what they crave most is our love and attention. Tell your child every day how thankful you are for them. Yes, they'll act embarrassed (that's part of the fun), but their hearts will soak it up.

As a parting thought, I want you to know that your children are a blessing to Jon to and me. Every week we are welcomed with big hugs and smiles. We spent the entire morning surrounded by giggles and great questions. In the midst of the silliness and games, we are thankful for the eagerness of the kids to learn about the love of Jesus. What better calling than to nurture the faith of a child?

In Christ's Love,

Pastor Jenny

Calendar of Events

NOVEMBER

Mission Emphases:

Bethlehem Saturday Workdays

Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes

Cold Weather Clothing Drive for SF Homeless

2 – 11:30am-3:30pm Scott Lane Carnival

3 – 8:00am Oakland Seafarer's ditty bag packing - Lobby

3 – 8:30am Diaconate Mtg - Library

3 – 9:00am-3:00pm Start Saturday Bethlehem set up

3 – 6:00pm Spaghetti Dinner Fund Raiser - FH

4 – 12:30-2:00pm Sunday Friends Workday with XFactor

4 – 6:00pm 1st Sunday Praise & Prayer Service - Sanctuary

6 – Presidential Election Day

7 – 10:00am White Cross - Room 19

8 – 10:00am Prayer Quilting - Room 19

8 – 6:30pm Raising Teens Mtg - Choir Room

8 – 7:00pm Diaconate Mtg with Dr. Hoyt - Parlor

10 – 8:30am Men's Breakfast - FH

10 – 9:00am Special Diaconate Mtg - Library

11 – 12:15pm Mission/Schools Committee Mtg - Library

13 – 1:00pm Bethell Circle

14 – 12:30pm Baits/Turley Circle - Parlor

15 – 11:30am SR/BD Lunch Bunch

16 – 8:30am Shoe box packing prep - Lobby

17 – 10:00am-3:00pm Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Packing - Lobby

17 – 10:00am-2:00pm Manna food prep - Kitchen

18 – 12:00pm- Quarterly Family Gathering/Lunch - FH

18 – 4:00pm SF Homeless Outreach

19 – 7:00pm Finance Committee Mtg - Library

21 – 6:00pm CityTeam Outreach

22 – **Thanksgiving Holiday – Office Closed**

26 – *December Celebrate articles due to Dave*

5 – 9:00am Bethlehem Saturday cleanups begin

17 – 7:00pm Finance Committee Mtg - Library

17 – *January Celebrate articles due to Dave*

19 – 6:00pm CityTeam Outreach/cold weather gear distribution

20 – 11:30am SR/BD Lunch Bunch

24 – 6:00pm - Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

25 – **Merry Christmas – Office Closed**

JANUARY 2013

1 – **New Year's Day Holiday– Office Closed**

2 – 10:00am White Cross - Room 19

5 – 10:00am Prayer Quilting - Room 19

6 – 6:00pm 1st Sunday Praise & Prayer Service - Sanctuary

8 – 1:00pm Bethell Circle

9 – 12:30pm Baits/Turley Circle - Parlor

10 – 10:00am Prayer Quilting - Room 19

10 – 6:30pm Raising Teens Mtg- Choir Room

11-13 – Leaders/Diaconate Retreat - Redwood Glen

11-13 – JH Element Winter Retreat

12 – 8:30am Men's Breakfast - FH

16 – 6:00pm CityTeam Shelter Outreach

17 – 11:30am SR/BD Lunch Bunch

20 – 12:15pm Mission/Schools Team Mtg-Library

21 – *February Celebrate articles due to Dave*

21 – **Martin Luther King Holiday – Office Closed**

21 – 7:00pm Finance Committee Mtg - Library

25-27 – HS Reflect Winter Retreat

DECEMBER

Mission Emphases:

Retired Ministers & Missionaries Offering

Bethlehem Community Outreach

Cold Weather Clothing Drive for SJ CityTeam

1 – 8:30am Diaconate Mtg– Library

1 – 10:00am – Bethlehem Costume Fitting– Bldg B

2 – 12:00pm - Bethlehem Lunch/walk through – FH

2 – 1:00pm – Bethlehem Costume Fitting– Bldg B

2 – 6:00pm 1st Sunday Praise & Prayer Service - Sanctuary

4-5 – 7:00pm - Bethlehem Rehearsals

6-10 – 6:30-9:00pm Bethlehem Events

9 – 12:15pm - Mission/Schools Mtg - Library

10 – 11:30am Bethell Circle Christmas lunch

11 – Bethlehem clean-up all week

12 – 12:30pm Baits/Turley Circle - Parlor

13 – 6:30pm Raising Teens Mtg - Choir Room

Book Nook and Library Corner

Library Purpose Statement:

"The purpose of the Santa Clara First Baptist Church Library is to glorify God by providing resources in a variety of formats that uphold the mission of the church, strengthen and promote the spiritual growth and maturity of our congregation and leaders, and be a resource to the surrounding community."

The look of the library is still changing. Thank you for everyone who is making labels, helping catalogue the books and reorganizing them in a usable order. **New labels** and book organization is happening and the new look is stunning! When you notice a **Gold star** on a book binding near the label of a book, it means that it is one of the books bought from a Leadership Summit. We used to have them in a separate location but have decided to put them in their proper category. OH, and some of the sections changed also - - you can find the changes on the category list on the wall when you are looking for a book. Section 1 is still Fiction while many of the rest are being changed. Some sections have sub-categories which is on the list as well.

Website access: Just a reminder that you can look at the contents of the library from the comfort of your own home computer. Go onto the **www.scfbc.org website and locate the *Resource tab***. With the cursor over it a *drop down* menu will appear. Click on *Church Library*, then click on *on-line catalogue here*, choose Title, Author or Subject from the drop down menu in first box, then in the second box enter *the name of the title or author or subject of the material* you are looking for, then click *Search*

- If the material is in the library it will show how many copies are available, and give a call number to help you locate the item on the shelves. An added feature to some of the materials is the *Google Preview* tab. When you click on that, you will get a brief description of the material and possibly even reviews from previous users.
- If the material is not in the library a note will appear saying "*Sorry, no records found.*"
- If it is an item you think the library should carry, please put a note on the back of your Registration card and we will try to find it or you can purchase a copy and donate it to the library.

Go ahead, give it a try from your home computer; it works from any place you can access the website.

Book Nook - The books displayed this month coordinate with Pastor Rich's sermon series and may also include many interesting and fun Thanksgiving and Christmas DVD's. **Returning library materials:** Thank you for returning materials in a timely manner to the red box in the Sanctuary Lobby so that others can enjoy the books and movies, too!

Recyclables: Thank you to everyone who contributed cans and bottles for recycling these last two months and thank you for the \$40.20 for the Library fund.

Please enjoy the materials from the library - happy reading and viewing from the Library Committee.