

The Celebrate!

Santa Clara First Baptist Church

October 2012

Halloween Outreach

2 ways to serve this Halloween Season!

Trunk or Treat

October 31st, 6-8pm

Costumed Cars! Free Food!

Giant Inflatables!

Cardboard Box Maze!



Scott Lane Fall Festival

Friday, November 2 from 1:30-3:30pm

*Volunteers needed for set-up, clean-up
and running festival booths.*



Halloween Outreach Opportunities



This Halloween season we have two wonderful opportunities to serve our community. First, is **Trunk or Treat**. Trunk or Treat will be held October 31st, from 6-8pm in the Fellowship Hall parking lot. In this event, volunteers decorate their car trunks so the children can go “trunk or treating” around the parking lot. Along with the decorated trunks and candy, we’ll also have a giant slide and jumper, a cardboard box maze, and free food!

This event gives us a wonderful chance to meet families from our neighborhood. We need lots of volunteers to make it happen Sign-up sheets, along with decorating ideas for your car, can be found at the Information Table. For more information, contact Pastor Jenny at jennifer@scfbc.org.



Our second outreach opportunity is the **Scott Lane Fall Festival**. This carnival is one of Scott Lane’s main fundraisers, and is a great chance for us to serve the Scott Lane community. The Fall Festival will be held on Friday, November 2nd from 1:30-3:30pm. Volunteers will be needed to help set-up, run carnival booths, and clean-up. This is a great chance for us to serve Scott Lane while getting to know the families and teachers of the school community. Volunteer sign-up sheets will be at the Information Table later in October. For more

information, contact Kimberly Barnett at kim@scfbc.org.

Rummage Sale to Benefit "Bethlehem"

SET UP on October 3 & 4 10:00am to 6:00pm

SALE on Friday, October 5 9:00am to 5:00pm

SALE on Saturday, October 6 9:00am. to 3:00pm

The Fall Rummage Sale that benefits Bethlehem and American Baptist Women’s Missions Projects will take place this weekend. Please bring your clean, usable items to the Fellowship Hall today after worship or on Wednesday or Thursday during our set up times listed above. No clothing please but good, clean shoes and coats/jackets are okay.



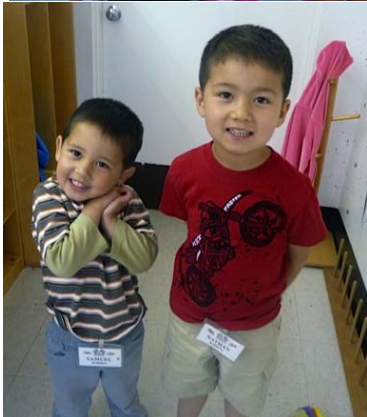
5 amazing reasons to volunteer at the *SPEEDway*:

1. Free hugs given in abundance!
2. Where else are serving and playing the same thing?
3. Smiles, giggles and laughter—and not just from the kids!
4. Yummy snacks come with the job.
5. Making an eternal difference in the life of a child.

Children are a joy, and helping children learn about the love of Jesus is one of the most rewarding experiences someone can have. We are always looking for volunteers to join this important team. If you would like to join the excitement, contact Pastor Jenny at jennifer@scfbc.org.

Here are some current volunteer opportunities at the *SPEEDway*:

- **Registration Team members**—serve on rotation to welcome the families each week.
- **Snack Team members**—serve on rotation to bring snack items for Kids' Worship
- **Nursery Volunteer**—serve on rotating caring for the infants and toddlers in the Nursery.
- **Sunday School Assistant**—Help with the Sunday School class for Grades 2-5.



Missions

Thanks for all the contributions for Seafarers Ministry, Scott Lane School supplies, boxtops for education, and Operation Christmas Child (OCC). ABW at SCFBC has an adequate supply of gifts and funds (for postage and gifts) to complete this year's OCC. Wrapping Christmas gift boxes is one area you can assist. Boxes and wrapping paper are in the lobby.

There was an excellent turnout for the Mexico House building project in our parking lot. An evening of pre-cutting lumber and a morning of hammers and nails was all it took to finish. Please keep the team in your prayers as they assemble the house on-site in Ojos Negros, Mexico. Thanks for all the funding and the house warming gifts.

The storage room for school supplies, food charity, clothes, OCC, Seafarers, ... is now called **"The Giving Room"** following a vote by the congregation at the last business meeting.

We are taking offerings for the World Mission Offering (WMO) in October. This is one of our four annual special offerings. Your giving goes to International Ministries to directly support the 100 American Baptist missionaries around the world (85%). About 15% goes to IM projects which are run by those same missionaries. There are handouts in the bulletins. Please give as you feel led.

Missions is currently wrestling with how to get our outreach more locally-focused and more intentional about evangelism. In particular, what does that mean about currently supported outreach activities, what does it mean about mission giving funds, how do we effectively engage the people around us in Santa Clara, what are the needs or avenues for outreach locally, how do we express that we are serving because "He first loved us" rather than as self-promotion? All of this is quite challenging and your ideas and inputs are not only welcome – they are needed. Please be thinking and praying about this and feed me your answers and inputs. We will be doing a Missions survey (similar to last year's) in the service on October 21st. Please be at the service and give it your best effort.

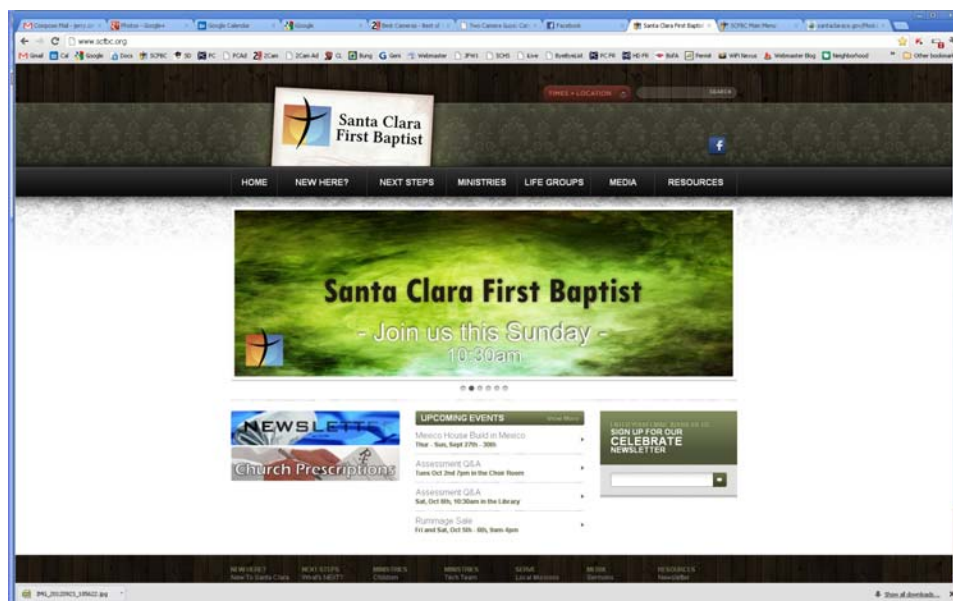
May God bless the fruitfulness of Santa Clara First Baptist Church.

1 John 4:19 "We love because He first loved us."

Missions Deacon,

Jim Garvey

SCFBC Website has a new look!



On September 8th we launched the new Santa Clara First Baptist Church website. It has a whole new look, is on faster servers, and has a more modern and relevant design. Go check it out and stay connected by checking the upcoming events sections, read the Celebrate, look at photos on the youth sites, signup for life groups, listen to sermons, and more. A big thank you goes out to Jerry Cintas for redesigning the site and maintaining it.

Let Go of Your Veto!

How would you feel if someone told you that the grace you enjoy is “cheap grace”? That’s the term that Dietrich Bonhoeffer passionately describes in *The Cost of Discipleship*. He writes that accepting the gift of salvation at no personal cost—no change in lifestyle—is cheap grace. The concept can be confusing. Bonhoeffer isn’t talking about earning salvation, but instead about obeying Jesus’ call to follow him. Shouldn’t accepting the gift of salvation (paid for by Jesus on the cross), result in visible changes?

The accusation of cheap grace strikes deep. I’ve been a Christian for many years, and have loved Jesus and served him to varying degrees throughout that time. When comparing myself to other people (even people in church), I always felt like I measured up pretty well.

But the theme of surrendering all for Jesus and following him wholeheartedly kept coming up. I realized that while I might have been a “good Christian” who prayed, read my Bible, served in church ministries, etc., I was holding out on God.



Veto Power

I held on to my right to decide *how* I would follow him. If he sprang any wild ideas of sending me to some far away country, or having me discuss the gospel with a real live person (instead of just inviting them to church)—well, that was the beauty of the veto!

I became drawn to the description in Exodus 21:2-6 of God’s law demanding that masters of Hebrew slaves must, after seven years, offer those slaves their freedom. However, the freed slave had the option of choosing to stay with the master and remain in his service. A pierced ear sealed the deal, and the relationship became forever. What struck me most was that the relationship between a master and a willing servant is not one-way. Of course the servant must serve and obey the master completely. However, the master also has responsibilities to care for the servant, be fair, and to provide for his needs.

I finally decided that being a “good-enough” Christian was lukewarm and worthless to God—he wants all of me. So I decided to let go, and let him have everything (even *gulp* my veto power).

Right around the time I was meditating on this, I was asked to speak at Bethlehem, and my knee-jerk reaction was, “no way!” Instead, I sensed that God wanted me to do it. It was the first test of the master/servant arrangement. Even though I was terrified to speak in front of such a huge crowd, I told God, “Okay, you got me into this, it’s up to you to get me through it! I am going to trust you.” Guess what—I was completely calm! I knew—*knew*—that God had my back. I have no idea if people listening got anything out of my words that night, but I sure learned from the experience.

The Beautiful Paradox

I run in the
path of your
commands,
for you have
set my heart
free.

Psalm 119:32

It doesn’t make any sense, but since I took the final plunge in faith, I have **never felt so free**. There’s a lightness to my heart—a restful confidence—that I never anticipated. I finally get what Jesus means when he says, “If you want to hang on to your life, you will lose it. But if you give up your life for my sake, you will save it.” (Luke 9:24 NLT).

Jenny Gregg

Deacon of Maturity

<http://fromheretomaturity.blogspot.com/>

Youth News

Reflect High School Group

In September, we began a new 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 September, we joined with the Jr. High group and attended the annual Christian Boardwalk Beach Blitz in Santa Cruz. We enjoyed worship with the Josh Fox band, and were challenged by speaker Jesse West to let God be the author of our story. Of course we enjoyed all of the rides, food, and fun that the Boardwalk has.



The Element Jr. High Group

We have been plowing through the Fruit of the Spirit with the Jr Highers. It is great to see the kids excited to recite the names of the fruit and understand how having Jesus in their lives will cause them to have the Fruit of the Spirit like: Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness, and Self Control. Each week we focus on a different fruit with team teaching by Les, Fion, Jerry, Danijela and Jenny.



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 first 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 train their children to use technology safely. 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.



Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser

On Saturday November 3rd we are having our Spaghetti dinner fundraiser to raise money to send our kids to 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

Oct 11th - Raising Teens Parent Workshop "Eating Disorders"

Oct 19th - 20th - Rescue Conference - \$40

Oct 24th - Reflect Service Project

Oct 27th - Corn Maze - \$20

Oct 31st - Trunk or Treat

Nov 3rd - Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser

Events at scfbc.org/element & scfbc.org/reflect

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



Calendar Of Events

OCTOBER

Mission Emphasis: World Missions Offering

- 3 – 10am White Cross-Lobby-Virginia N 266-1734
- 3-4- 10-6pm Rummage Sale set up – FH – Maxine 241-7567
- 5-6 – Rummage Sale – FH – Maxine 241-7567
- 6 – 8:30am Diaconate Mtg– Lib– Barbara C 739-2935
- 6 - 10am Prayer Quilt Ministry–Rm 19–Rhonda 246-2242
- 7 – 12noon Special Business Mtg for Assessment Vote
- 7 - 6pm 1st Sunday Praise & Prayer Service
- 9 - 1:00pm Bethell Circle
- 10 – 12:30pm Baits/Turley Circle – Parlor
- 11- 10am Prayer Quilt Ministry– Rm 19– Rhonda
- 12-14 - Youth Conference
- 13 – 8:30am Men's Breakfast – Kit – Adam 230-6848
- 13 – 9:30am All church work day – Mike 691-1441
- 14 – 12:15pm– Mission/Schools Comm Mtg– Lib– Jim G
- 15- 7pm Finance Comm Mtg– Lib– Dan 892-8213
- 17 – 6pm CityTeam Outreach– Jonathan 813-2505
- 18 - 11:30am SR/BD Lunch Bunch – Betty 244-5949
- 21 – Begin SF Homeless Cold Weather Gear Collections
- 22 – *November Celebrate articles due to Dave*
- 26 – 11:30-3:30pm Scott Lane Carnival – Kim
- 27 – ABW Coastal Valley Fall Rally at Antioch
- 31 – 6pm “Trunk or Treat” Event

NOVEMBER

Mission Emphasis:

Bethlehem Saturday work days:

Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes

Cold weather clothes for SF Homeless

- 1-2 8am Not For Sale Human Trafficking Conference
- 3 – 8am Oakland Seafarer's Ditty Bag packing
- 3 - 8:30am Diaconate Mtg– Lib– Barbara C 739-2935
- 3 – 10am Bethlehem Costumes work
- 3 - Start Saturday Bethlehem work – Jerry 615-1690
- 4 – 6pm 1st Sunday Praise & Prayer Service– Sanctuary
- 6 – Presidential Election Day
- 7 - 10am White Cross– Lobby– Virginia N.266-1734
- 8 - 10am Prayer Quilt Ministry– Rhonda 246-2242
- 10 – 8:30am Men's Breakfast– Kit– Adam 230-6848
- 11 - 12noon- Mission/Schools Comm Mtg– Lib– Jim G
- 13 – 1:00pm Bethell Circle
- 14– 12:30pm Baits/Turley Circle – Parlor
- 15 - 11:30am SR/BD Lunch Bunch– Betty 244-5949
- 17 – 10am– 2pm Manna food prep– kitchen- Adam
- 18 – 12pm- Quarterly Business Mtg– budget vote/ lunch
- 18 – 4pm SF Homeless Outreach– Jerry 615-1690
- 19- 7pm Finance Comm Mtg– Lib– Dan 892-8213
- 21 – 6pm CityTeam Outreach– Jonathan 813-2505
- 22 - **Thanksgiving Holiday – Office Closed**
- 26 – *December Celebrate articles due to Dave*

Seafarers Ministry

Thank you to all who helped make this happen, the team made 110 Ditty Bags, packed and ready for delivery.

Your kind generosity is appreciated,

Virginia Newcomb





Santa Clara First Baptist

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Santa Clara, CA 95051
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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

October

Birthdays

6th Amy Victorson
6th Bert Wendel
6th Antonio Rangel
7th Fran Van Groningen
8th Dakota Kundo
9th Betty Downing
13th ETC Marty Fairall (Coast Guard)
16th Hannah Lageschulte
17th Athena Coral
20th Gloria Connor
20th Rudy DuBord IV
22nd Kemi Porto
27th Rosemarie Esquibel

Anniversaries

3rd Joel & Lisa Robinson
3rd Jonathan & Allison Fung
12th Mike & Michelle Ramer
13th Larry & Jennifer Trigg