

The Celebrate!

Santa Clara First Baptist Church March 2013



JOURNEY To The Cross

March 29, 2013

He Is Risen

EASTER SUNDAY
FAMILY BREAKFAST
March 31, 2013

Moving Forward

We continue to move forward as a church, to fulfill the prescriptions given to us by Dr. Hoyt. An Envisioning Team has been formed, which will meet with Dr. Hoyt for 2 weekends in March to determine our core values as a church and to work on our vision statement and a mission.

The deacons are working on establishing our Guiding Principles, i.e. our Ministry Principles, Boundary Principles and Accountability Principles. We had an extended board meeting on February 2nd, and will also be doing the same on March 2nd to discuss these important issues. We will then work with Dr. Hoyt on setting the final principles which will be presented to the SCFBC family.

Also a small group is working on rewriting our church constitution to fit the way the church is to be governed.

This will be presented to the church for discussion and passage later in the year, probably in the fall.

Please be in prayer regarding what you can do as we work together to fulfill these prescriptions. Also pray for the various committees working on these tasks: the deacons, the envisioning team and the constitution team. If you have any questions about what is happening, feel free to ask me or Pastor Richard.

Barbara Chicks,
Deacon Board Chair

As Barbara has written above, our leadership team (staff and deacons) has been working hard on the challenge of improving the nuts and bolts of our church's governance and organizing documents. Our church family as a whole has been given the greater challenge of bringing the focus of our church's work and energies more into line with God's will.

The Prescription #1 from Dr. Bill Hoyt gives us a **goal-based vision** for our future in 2013. To achieve this vision will require a greater commitment than we have previously made to the work of God's Kingdom. Consider how you can contribute to the fulfillment each of these prescriptions:

Increased evangelistic outreach (15 baptisms) and (45 involved in influencing for decisions)

Who do you know that needs to know Jesus personally?

Increased commitment to sharing/learning together (90 in Life Groups)

How are you involved in our small group ministry?

Increased involvement in ministry/mission (65%)

How are you serving Christ both in and outside our church?

Increased level of financial giving (20% increase in giving)

How can you realign your financial priorities to be able to give more to Christ's work?

If we are to see God "perform amazing things among us" we need to consecrate ourselves to Him and His purposes for us. Only then will we be ready to receive and respond to God's instructions and His empowerment to carry them out.

Pastor Rich

No Spiritual Gift Receipts!

Have you ever given someone a really special gift that you were excited for them to open? Something that you knew was perfect for them and that they could really use? So how would you feel if that person thanked you sincerely, then put your gift away without ever taking it out of the box?

When we give our lives to Jesus, we become part of God's family. The Bible makes it clear that the Holy Spirit gives every believer spiritual gifts—no exceptions (1 Corinthians 12:7). Spiritual gifts come in different shapes and sizes, but the purpose of all the gifts is for the common good of the Church, the Body of Christ. This means that God has given you a unique gift designed especially for you. The big question is: How are you using it? Are you using it at all?

But what's in the box?

Many Christians have no idea how the Holy Spirit has gifted them. While there are quizzes and inventories available to help you identify your gift (or gifts), your experiences and the feedback of others can often be a prime indicator of your spiritual gifts. So if you have never tried certain things, you may have no clear idea of whether you are gifted in that area. If you've never shared your faith, how do you know if you might have the gift of evangelism? If you've never opened your home to others, how do you know whether or not you have the gift of hospitality?

For years, I held the position that I am not gifted to lead a Bible study. It was only a couple of years ago that it finally dawned on me that I had never actually led a small group, so how did I really know? I admitted to myself (and God), that I was actually just scared and uncomfortable at the thought of assuming such a role.

Get your feet wet

In his book, *If You Want to Walk on Water You Have to Get Out of the Boat*, John Ortberg describes the habit that God has of asking us to take the first step before He uses us for His purposes. Ortberg suggests that God helps a person's faith to grow by requiring them to make the first move. In doing so, we trust Him to guide and sustain us come what may. Ortberg writes, "When I risk using my spiritual gift, I can know the joy of being used by God—but I have to get my feet wet first." The act of obediently offering ourselves for God's use, however He sees fit, makes God smile and gives Him the chance to show us His power and faithfulness.

Time to grow up!

There's a saying that a person's spiritual journey is like rowing upstream—if you aren't actively rowing, you are drifting back downstream. There's no such thing as standing still when it comes to spiritual growth. When we listen to God and step out of our comfort zone, we will grow. As for me, I still don't know whether or not I actually have the gift of teaching or leadership. But I do know that agreeing to try it caused a huge spiritual growth spurt for me.

Taking that first step of faith and obedience definitely leads to spiritual growth but frankly, too many people leave their precious gift from God to gather dust—unopened and unused.

So what is it that God nudging you to do or try?



Jenny Gregg,
Deacon of Maturity

Missions

The annual report, which resides on the church's website, now has an updated Missions page containing more of my input. A special thanks to those who gave or assisted with outreach efforts which weren't reflected on the original hardcopy annual report. We're continuing to search for ways to help with the Silicon Valley BBQ Championship (28-29 June in Central Park) and the Santa Clara Art & Wine Festival (14-15 September).

- For the BBQ competition, we've reached out to the Rotary Club/Kansas City Barbeque Society (organizer) and to the city offering whatever volunteer help they need.
- At the Santa Clara Art & Wine Fest, we intend to have a booth. The concept for the booth involves Legos. **If you have any "standard" Lego bricks you are willing to donate to this cause, please do so.** We'll have a large, low table with SCFBC already built on it. We'll issue small boxes of Legos in exchange for contact info and the visitors can build structures and place them in Lego Santa Clara. We've approached the City about volunteer opportunities to help as guides, cleanup, and in the children's areas).

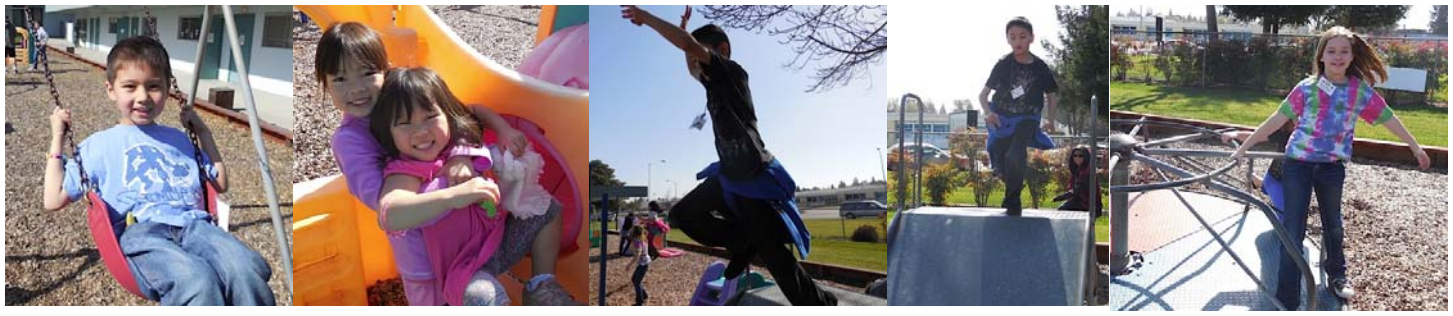
On this year's Missions Giving/Allocation sheet (briefed and approved at the November QFG), there are two new areas of giving. One is a "Local outreach & evangelism" fund and another is a "Mexico mission project" fund. Undesignated giving to missions goes partially to those two line items, as well as all the usual areas (see list below). If you wish to give a designated gift to either of these, please write on your offering envelope under "Other" something like "Missions-Local Outreach" or "Missions-Mexico Project" or "Missions-Global". Funds have been established to receive offerings. Of course, as always, you can give designated gifts to any of the other lines. The Missions line items are:

- Correctional Institution Chaplaincy Ministries (CIC)
- CityTeam (San Jose)
- Rancho el Refugio
- Mexico Mission Project (fund)
- Sacred Heart
- Redwood Glen Camp
- Local outreach & evangelism (fund)
- Regions Ministries
- International Ministries
- National Ministries
- Seafarer's Ministry
- ABSW Operating Budget
- Gary & Mylinda Baits
- Luran Bethell
- Glen & Rita Chapman
- New Hope Baptist Church (Limon) – designated only

Jim Garvey,

Missions Deacon

408-250-4040, garveyjim@sbcglobal.net)



Highlights from the *SPEEDway*

Preschool: Under the leadership of Kari Hana, Michelle Ramer and Monica Ott, the Preschoolers are enjoying their lesson theme: Yippee Ti Yi Yo--Jesus Can Do Anything! Their lessons include Jesus healing the centurion's servant and Jesus stopping the wind and waves. In preparation for Spring, the kids are also making butterflies to decorate their classroom windows.

K/1 Sunday School: Bill Wright and Pat Graham are leading their class in lessons on the incredible ways God worked in the lives of Old Testament characters like Elijah, Elisha, Hannah and Samuel. Along with their lessons, the kids do fun activities like making slushies!

Elementary Sunday School: Ken Leisten and I are leading the older kids in a new series called "Did You Know...?" In this series, the kids will learn lesser known Bible stories. As an added bonus, the kids will also learn little-known facts about our world. (*Did you know hundreds of cats live in Disneyland?*)

Kids' Worship (K-5): During the Worship Hour, the K-5 kids gather together for Kids' Worship. We've begun a new lesson series called *Joyful Noise!* This series is all about worship! The kids are learning that worship is our gift to God and that only God deserves our worship. We'll also explore what it means to worship with your whole body and your whole life. Each week the kids are making instruments that we use in our singing. So far we've made drums and rainsticks. Coming soon will be maracas and tambourines! We're having a fabulous time making a joyful noise each week.

Pastor Jenny



RUMMAGE SALE

Friday, May 3rd 9:00am to 5:00pm
Saturday, May 4th 9:00am to 3:30pm

The Spring Rummage Sale will benefit the Youth Mexico Mission Team, the Mexico House or Mission School Project, and the Women's (ABW) Mission Projects. We accept clean, usable items (no regular clothing please, but clean coats and shoes in good condition are welcomed) to benefit these special ministries. Please ask your friends and neighbors for donations as well. Tax receipts are available upon request.

Items can be brought to the Fellowship Hall after the Morning Service on Sunday, April 28. Since the Fellowship Hall is used for many other functions, we ask that if at all possible you not bring furniture or other large items until our setup/collection days on the Wednesday or Thursday before the sale, May 1 and 2, from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Many volunteers will be needed to help put items on the tables, help run the sale and pack up any unsold items for the Salvation Army. Please contact Maxine Darknell at 408-241-7567 if you have questions or can help with this special benefit!

Birthday Lunch Bunch

Come on out and join with us in celebration of birthdays, good fellowship and food at various locations each month. For the month of March, we'll meet on the 21st at the Elephant Bar on Stevens Creek Blvd.. For more information contact Betty Downing at 408-244-5949.

S.H.A.R.E.S. Report

Recent use of our S.H.A.R.E.S. cards has enabled American Baptist Women's Ministries to send a check of \$250.00 to American Baptist Women's Ministries Special Project, Today's Youth Matter, a Christian organization serving at-risk children in the Bay Area. Another \$300.00 was sent to the ABW Ministries of the West Scholarship Fund.

Our next quarter's check will go to House of Grace, a safe haven for abused women.

Thank you all for using your S.H.A.R.E.S. cards. If you have any requests for future recipients, please let me know. And keep using those S.H.A.R.E.S. cards!

Jean Rund
S.H.A.R.E.S. Coordinator



Youth News

Reflect High School Group

At the end of January, we went on our annual winter retreat at Sugar Pine Christian Camp. We were challenged to not settle for the 'mud pies' that we tend to play in as humans but to strive for the real prize which is Jesus Christ. It was awesome to see the high school students have deep conversations in small groups and support each other in prayer. **Amy Trigg** enjoyed her birthday while on retreat by being covered in silly string.



In February, we continued a series on the Sermon on the Mount, hoping to answer questions we have about Jesus and His teachings. We are taking each Beatitude and breaking it down to define what it really means to be blessed and who will be blessed.



We joined with the Jr. High group for a Mystery Madness night where none of the youth knew what we were doing for the night. We started off with a video scavenger hunt, then had ice cream sundaes, then spent some time at Nickel City, and concluded the evening by bowling a game at Cambrian Bowl. It was awesome to see the heart of our students at work when **Amber Harrell** and **Hayley Trigg** gave away a stuffed animal to a small girl!



During the President's week break eight high school girls went on a whirlwind trip to Southern California to tour seven different colleges. They were able to walk through the campuses, visit classes, and ask questions of the tour guides. Special thanks to Andrew, Mary and Kim for taking time off to accompany the girls.

The Element Jr. High Group

We are starting up our Basics series to reinforce basic Christian principals into our students' lives. We will be studying One God, One Word, One Line, One Church, and One Way with the kids over the next two months.

Committed

Our Sunday morning group which meets at 9:15am in the youth room is continuing its study on the book of Psalms.



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

Upcoming EVENTS

Mar 1st-2nd - 30 Hour Famine

Mar 16th - Mexico Outreach Meeting #1

Apr 26th-27th - Planet Wisdom

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

Property Corner

Spring is almost here and there is much going on around our church property!

Lawn Team:

The new lawn team comprised of Jim Powell and Craig Johnson are doing a very good job of keeping the grounds trimmed and looking great.

Church Work Day:

The first All-Church Work Day in 2013 is set for Saturday, March 23rd. The day will begin at 9:00am and end by 3:00pm. Lunch will be served to all those who give of their time and energies. The various projects will consist of small repairs, routine maintenance and general cleaning. There is something for everyone to do, so mark your calendar and come to help out that day. More details will be disclosed soon.

Roof Repairs:

I would like to thank Craig Johnson for taking care of numerous small leaks around our perimeter low roof located on the Sanctuary Building. Great job Craig!

Window Shades:

Have you noticed the interior stage lighting during our Sunday Morning Service recently? It enhances our worship in great part because of the new window shades. They help to filter the light that comes through the large rear window during the winter and early spring months. Thanks to Jerry Cintas for overseeing this project!

Future Projects:

The Property Department is looking into completing the following projects this year:

Bethlehem Building Painting

Cost study to install Solar Energy Panels on Fellowship Hall & Ed Wing

Playground Modification Study

Fireside Room Renovation Study (Including heating)

General Repairs:

If you see something that is broken or not working correctly, please contact Dave Wilson in the church office or let me know so that the issue can be quickly addressed.

Your Brother In Christ,
Mike Depew
Property Deacon
408-691-1441
mwdepew@sbcglobal.net

Book Nook and Library Corner

Book Nook - The books displayed this month coordinate with the continuing sermon series of “Rooted In Love” about Christ dwelling in us. There will also be books about Easter which is March 31st this year.

Returning library materials: Thank you for returning materials in a timely manner to the red box in the Lobby so that others can enjoy the books and movies, too!

DVD Reviews:

Daniel’s Lot (2009): Ignore the rudimentary style of this movie and see how **it takes many people** to help someone come to the Lord. The movie set-up is maybe longer than it needs to be and it is heartbreaking but you’ll get the point and the rest of the movie is edifying. Also watch the interview in the “Special Features” section - it is helpful and can help SCFBC see how God works through us when we are obedient to God’s plan for our lives.

Amazing Love - the Story of Hosea (2012): This is an interesting mix of modern day scenes and Old Testament day scenes depicting the story of the prophet Hosea. It is a powerful **story of redemption** presented by a church youth leader on a weekend camping trip.

The Perfect Gift (2009): This movie was made by the same producer at *The Perfect Stranger*. What if the world threw you a birthday party and you weren’t invited? Put together a spoiled teenage, an overworked executive mother and a disillusioned young minister, throw in three uplifting messages about faith, tradition and the true meaning of Christmas and you have *The Perfect Gift* story - a year-around message for all ages.

Journey to Grace, The Hansie Cronje Story (2008): How do you start over once you’ve betrayed a nation’s trust? This is a true story—a classical prodigal son story, a journey through South Africa, India and England with the South African Cricket Team. It is an inspiring human drama that people from all walks of life can relate to. As always the Special Features section adds to the story.

Redemption Ride (2011): This is a moving story of forgiveness, love and second chances as a man learns to trust his heavenly Father again. It also shows the awesome ministry that can be accomplished from a hospital bed.

If you are interested in helping out in the Library Ministry, please let Jenny Gregg know at jennygregg@comcast.net. There are many on-going projects that could use your talents.

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.

Please enjoy the materials and the freedom to enjoy them that we have in our Library. Happy reading and viewing from the Library Committee!

CELEBRATING WITH OUR NEW MEMBERS...

Every month we want to celebrate our new members by having them share their lives with the rest of us. We rejoice to begin to know the fascinating and varied people that God has brought to our church.

Denise Stephens, Deacon of Membership

Getting to know Gary Dong... Gary is a native of Sacramento. His interests and hobbies include cars, swimming, audio visual, hiking, camping. Gary was part of a church plant and was a deacon at his church "Reflect" in Sacramento prior to moving to Santa Clara. Gary is married to Karen Fong who he met when he was in high school, and then again when they went on their first missions trip to Mexico a few years later. They remained friends/acquaintances through the years until a couple years ago when they were on a camping trip organized by mutual friends. It was at this camping trip that God touched Gary's heart and mind that Karen was the woman that God had prepared for him. They just celebrated their first wedding anniversary! He moved here last summer after marrying Karen and finding a job here at Lab 126 where he is a packaging engineer.

Gary started visiting SCFBC in 2012. He is looking forward to seeing what God's plan is for him and Karen at SCFBC and is excited to be part of a community that loves God and that wants to share the hope and love of God. You can probably find Gary at the AV booth as he is learning the AV system at SCFBC.



Getting to know John Harrell... I have three sisters named Cassie, Ashley, Amber, and one brother named Zac. I started working at Redwood Glen Camp because Director Jay Nordgaard said I would be great working there for the summer. In 2011 I started working there as a volunteer dining room host. In 2012 they decided to pay me because I did an awesome job in 2011. I lived there for the summer and it has been a great experience for me. This is going to be my fourth summer working at the camp. I love it so much and I love doing God's work.



Getting to know Ben Turk... I was born in Adelaide, South Australia. I completed a Bachelor of Mathematics and Computer Science at the University of Adelaide and worked in Australia. I also played a computer game called World of Warcraft where I met my wife Brandy. I traveled to the US in 2009 and met up with Brandy. We really got along well. I returned to Australia, received some job offers and took them. Brandy came out to Australia after a while and although she liked it she missed her family and her country. We both flew out here in 2011 and I received a job offer in Santa Clara working for a company called Memeo. I am still working there today. We live in Santa Clara. We both come from Baptist backgrounds and attended SCFBC where we were made welcome. We kept coming back as a result and now find ourselves happy members.

Getting to know Brandy Turk... I was born in Ridgecrest, California. I just recently completed my Bachelor's of Social Science with Education Concentration with a minor in Psychology. In the past I was in the Air Force and then in the Navy Reserves where I had the joy of serving my country. I was lucky enough to befriend Ben's mother on an online game called World of Warcraft and she introduced me to her son (Ben). We hit it off really well from the get-go and have been inseparable since. After spending 9 months in Australia I found myself missing my family and my country. Since Ben has always had my best interests at heart, he decided to look for work in California. He got the opportunity to work here in the Silicon Valley. Shortly after moving here I went looking at the churches in the area. I walked into SCFBC's hall and found several people working hard setting up for Cards4Soldiers. I met Peggy and she informed me of some of the nice things SCFBC did. I came from a Baptist background so decided to see if Ben had any interest in trying out SCFBC. We found ourselves warmly welcomed and enjoyed our visits. We eventually decided to stay and make SCFBC our new home.

Getting to know Luba Bodrouk... I was born in the Ukraine, from which my parents, with three children, fled during World War II because of Communist-Russian occupation, oppression, and persecution. We were placed in a Displaced Persons Camp in West Germany for 5 years. In 1949, we came to the "Shore of Liberty," New York and then to Maryland as my father was "bonded" to work for one year on a farm there.

Through correspondence we found the pastor from the Camp who had resettled in New Jersey. In 1951 we migrated there and joined the small Ukrainian Baptist congregation. I was happy, surrounded by familiar people who loved me and loved the Lord. At age 12 I accepted my loving Lord and His forgiving grace into my young heart. At age 15 I was baptized.

After living in Ohio and Toronto, Canada, my husband and children and I came to California in 1966. Since then, I have been able to serve in church in many roles, including a board member of the Good Samaritan Mission, supporting national missionaries in Ukraine.

Now God has led me to SCFBC where I have found a people who love the Lord and serve Him wholeheartedly. At this point in my life, God has spoken to me through Psalm 25:10: "And when we obey Him every path he guides us on is fragrant with His loving-kindness and His truth."



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MARCH

Mission Emphasis: America for Christ Offering

1 – World Day of Prayer

1-2 – Youth 30 Hour Famine Event

2 – 8:30am Diaconate Meeting - Library

2– 10:00am Prayer Quilt Ministry - Room 19

3 – Youth Mexico Outreach Info Meeting - Library

3 – 6:00pm 1st Sunday Praise & Prayer Service

6 – 10:00am White Cross - Room 19

7 – 10:00am Prayer Quilt Ministry - Room 19

8-10 – Envisioning Team Meetings - Parlor/Library

9 – ABW Spring Meeting- Stockton

9 – 8:30am Men's Breakfast - FH

10 – 12:00pm Children's Ministry Meeting - FH

12 – 1:00pm Bethell Circle - Vera Masters' home

13 – 12:30pm Baits/Turley Circle - Parlor

15 – 12:00pm Card Event Prep

15-17 – Envisioning Team Meetings - Parlor/Library

16 – 3:00-8:30pm Card Making Event - FH

17 – 12:15pm Mission/Schools Meeting - Library

18 – 7:00pm Finance Meeting - Library

20 – 6:00pm CityTeam Outreach

21 - 11:30am SR/BD Lunch Bunch

23 – 9:00am All Church Workday

23 – 7:00pm Newcomers Social - Pastor Rich's home

25 – April Celebrate articles due to Dave

29 – 10:00am-9:00pm "Journey To The Cross"

30 – 10:00am-3:00pm Easter Breakfast Prep -

31 – 9:00am EASTER Sunday Family Breakfast -

FH

APRIL

3 – 10:00am White Cross - Room 19

6 – 8:30am Diaconate Meeting - Library

6 – 10:00am Prayer Quilt Ministry - Room 19

7 – 6:00pm 1st Sunday Praise and Prayer Service

9 – 1:00pm Bethell Circle Potluck - Ellen's home

10 – 12:30pm Baits/Turley Circle - Parlor

11 – 10:00am Prayer Quilt Ministry - Room 19

13 – 8:30am Men's Breakfast - FH

15 – 7:00pm Finance Meeting - Library

17 – 6:00pm CityTeam Outreach

18 – 11:30am SR/BD Lunch Bunch

19 – 12:00pm Card Event Prep

20 – 9:00am Back to Basics - Parlor

20 – 3:00-8:30pm Card Making Event - FH

21 – 12:15pm - Mission/Schools Meeting - Library

22 – May Celebrate articles due to Dave

26-27 – Planet Wisdom Youth Conference (away)

27 – Winter Trimester Life Groups End

28 – Evangelism Emphasis Begins

30 – 8:00pm Rummage Sale Set-up

MAY

1 – 10:00am White Cross - Room 19

1-2 – 10:00am-6pm Rummage Sale setup - FH

3-4 – 8:30am Rummage Sale - FH

3 – National Day of Prayer

4 – 8:30am Diaconate Meeting - Library

4 – 10:00am Prayer Quilt Ministry - Room 19

5 – 9:00am Classes - Evangelism Emphasis

5 – 6:00pm 1st Sunday Praise & Prayer Service

8 – 12:30pm Baits/Turley Circle - Parlor

9 – 10:00am Prayer Quilt Ministry - Room 19

11 – 8:30:00am Men's Breakfast - FH

12 – 9:00am Classes - Evangelism Emphasis

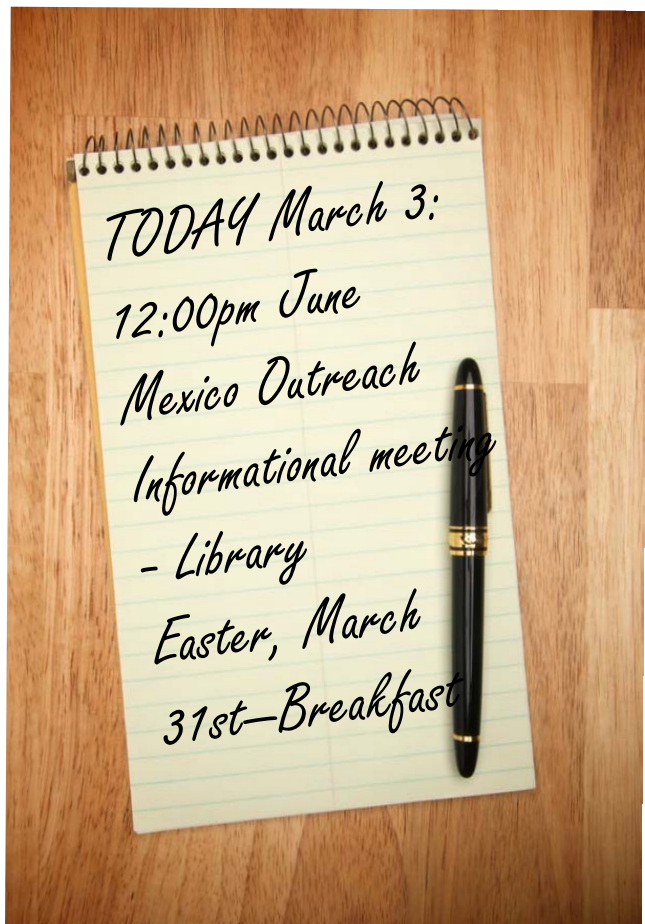
12 – Happy Mother's Day

14 – 1:00pm Bethell Circle - Jean Rund's home

15 – 6:00pm CityTeam Outreach

16 – 11:30am SR/BD Lunch Bunch

18 – 9:00am Youth Mountain Thrash hike





Santa Clara First Baptist

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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

March Birthdays

and

Anniversaries

1 st	Jean Miller
7 th	Barbara McLenegan
10 th	Mary Ann Fairall
11 th	Chelsea Trigg
12 th	Christine Robbins
12 th	Samuel Robbins
17 th	Jerry Cintas
17 th	Cristina Jackson
18 th	Sara Lasher
18 th	Jelena Tomic
18 th	Tina Mulford
18 th	Tom Caldwell
22 nd	John Pusateri
22 nd	CSM Rodney Wionowsky-Army Reserves
23 rd	Amanda Morris
26 th	Ron Willcox
28 th	Debbie Reiley
31 st	Isabel Jackson
31 st	Fred Marshall

3 rd	Ken & Cherron Rangel
4 th	Greg & Christine Robbins
20 th	Tom & Donna Caldwell
21 st	Lloyd & Maxine Darknell