

The Celebrate!

Santa Clara First Baptist Church

May 2013

Don't miss out on sign ups for Life Groups beginning today, April 28th and will continue until Sunday, May 19th.



Pick up a Life Group brochure from the information desk in the Lobby to see all of the listings available for the upcoming Trimester.

Moving Forward

Last month Pastor Richard reported in the Celebrate the results of the Envisioning Team's weekend with Dr. Hoyt in early March. If you have not done so already, I encourage you to read this article and prayerfully meditate on the "Therefore we will..." statements, considering how we as God's church can actually live out our beliefs.

In fulfillment of one of the prescriptions we voted to accept last October, a team is looking at the constitution and bylaws of other churches in our area as we consider rewriting our constitution. We are working on a first draft and will be refining it in order to have a proposed document ready for congregational discussion by the early fall. Then we plan to have a final version ready to be voted on by the church members at the November family gathering. The new constitution will then go into effect on January 1, 2014. If you have any questions about the process, please give me a call at 408 739-2935 or email me at bchicks55@comcast.net.

Barbara Chicks, Chairman of Deacons

We are in the midst of a defining message series: ***High Stakes Faith***. As I stated in last week's opening sermon, *What you believe really matters. What you believe about the final destination of all of humanity couldn't be more important to us and our loved ones. Your eternal destiny literally hangs in the balance.*

Each of the five messages in this series deals with a critical belief that Christ's disciples must live by if they are to be effective in God's Kingdom. Here are the five topics:

- #1 *Because of God's righteous judgment of evil, we are all headed for eternal condemnation.*
- #2 *Salvation is found through Christ alone.*
- #3 *Disciples of Jesus share the gospel out of a desire to reach lost people, not to fill pews.*
- #4 *Effective evangelism is personal, relational, and incarnational.*
- #5 *Effective evangelism draws upon the extended resources of the local church.*

If we take each of these core beliefs seriously, it will deeply influence how we interact with those around us. We will have a great concern for their eternal destiny. We will be doing whatever we can to conduct ourselves in a manner that honors Christ. We will be asking God for opportunities to provide a positive influence in their lives.

I am asking each of us in the next few weeks to:

- Make a list of everyone in your personal circle of relationships who are not yet believers.
- Begin to pray that God would show you the 3-4 individuals that He wants to influence through your life and witness to come to salvation in Christ.
- On the last week of this series submit the names of those 3-4 people so that the staff and deacons can begin to pray for you.

Then prayerfully seek out the ways God will create to provide a spiritual influence in their lives.

We are a church who is committed to fulfilling the Great Commission. Our mission statement reads as follows:

The Mission of Santa Clara First Baptist Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ who love God, obey God, serve God and help others become Jesus followers.

This series will provide a much-needed stimulus to making this Mission a reality.

Blessings,
Pastor Rich

Property Corner

Decorative Stone Tile Accents

I would like to thank Joe Lasher for installing the new stone tile accents located at our Baptistry and rear stage wall on the right side! You are quite the craftsman, Joe --"GREAT JOB!" I would also like to thank Sharon Cintas, for this was her idea that became a beautiful reality.

Campus Signage

Thanks also to Jerry Cintas for updating the Giving Room & Prayer Room signs as well as the directory board outside the Fellowship Hall. Other signs were also updated around our campus.

Maintenance & Remodeling Matrix

The Property Department is starting assemble and work on a matrix that will look into prioritizing a project list throughout our campus. Part of this process involves the creation of a team of construction-minded professionals to help study both the short, medium and long term needs of our campus and property. More details will be released in the coming months.

Architectural Study

Stucco Project to replace the exterior wood siding located on our Sanctuary eaves

Replace the exterior wood siding of the Sanctuary with stucco and tile/stone accents. We have received two estimates for this repair work. We still need to get a couple of sheet metal estimates to replace the top cap flashing in order to complete the project properly. Conceptual sketches are being drafted so we can plan and detail the scope for the exact locations and details of the tile/stone accents.

Security

The Property Department is also looking into how to help improve our campus and building security. These needs frequently change and are always discussed and evaluated to help protect our facilities and assets. Part of building security is keeping track of the issuance of keys to past, current and future church leaders. This process and associated policy is currently being evaluated to help determine, establish and assure a safe environment with adequate asset protection.

General Repairs

If you see something that is broken or not working correctly, please contact Dave Wilson in the church office (408-241-7635) or contact me directly so it can be repaired.

Michael Depew, Property Deacon

mwdepew@sbcglobal.net

Community Outreach Opportunity

Come join your church family and friends in outreach as we help fill 800 bags of food for Sunnyvale Community Services Monthly Food Program. It's on Thursday, May 16th from 6 to 8 pm. We need a crew of 25 to 30 people to make this happen. Please call Adam Burdick

at

(408) 230-6848 if you would like to help.





Highlights from the *SPEED*way

Special Delivery! — Our new Kids' Worship theme is "*Special Delivery!*" In coordination with the sermon series, the children are also learning about the importance of sharing Jesus with others.

Children's Sunday — Children's Sunday is set for Sunday, June 2nd at 10:30am. The kids will lead us in worship through testimonies, videos, music and dance. Our theme this year is "Joyful Noise!" We've already begun to prepare, so please make sure to have your kids at church every Sunday. Also—invite friends and family to come!

Summer Spectacular—Our summer program kicks off on Sunday, June 9th and runs through the end of August. This year's theme is "By Sea, By Land, By Air." June will include water games. In July we'll make race cars to race! August is all about things that fly — helicopters, planes and water balloons! In the midst of all the fun, the kids will be learning Bible stories about people exploring the love of God. How big is God's love? We'll find out as we explore God's love — by sea, by land and by air.

Join the Adventure — Working with children is a blessing and an adventure. If you would like to be a part of this great team, here are some opportunities to get involved and make a difference:

- Snack Providers for Kids' Worship — on rotation, provide snacks for the kids
- Craft Zone Leader — We provide the lesson and supplies. You lead the kids in their craft project.
- Nursery Volunteer — Provide loving arms for our littlest members.
- Registration Team — On rotation, assist our families with check-in/out and welcome new friends.



Youth News

Reflect High School Group

In April we continued a series on the Sermon on the Mount, hoping to answer questions we have about Jesus and his teachings. We completed the Beatitudes, and spent a few weeks learning about words that Christians use and what they actually mean. We are starting a series on High Stakes Faith, and will be learning with the rest of the church how we should be sharing our faith with others.

The Element Jr. High Group

We just finished up our series on Basics and Pastor Jenny did a special lesson on the End Times. The students had lots of questions and we took two weeks to read over Scripture and address questions.



Ande Burns decided to become a fully devoted follower of Christ by committing her life to following Jesus during one of our Thursday night small group times as part of our Basics series. Way to go, Ande!!

Committed

Our Sunday morning group which meets at 9:15am in the youth room began a series called **BE**. We are learning how to be thankful, be forgiving, be compassionate, be loving, be trusting, be prayerful, be bold, and be changed. This group is for Jr High and High School students before the 10:30 worship service.



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



The Element Worship Band

Upcoming EVENTS

May 18th - Mountain Thrash Hike

May 25th - Mexico Outreach Meeting #3 10AM - 4PM

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

Outreach Department

Missions (+ Missions to Schools & Students) + Evangelism = Outreach

Because of duplication of efforts and communications overlaps, we've combined the Missions and Evangelism teams into Outreach. We don't have a monopoly on outreach – hopefully your Life Group(s) and sports teams and daily life all contribute to outreach. Combining these groups was done to streamline and coordinate their efforts.

Upcoming events for Outreach: Rummage Sale (May 3-4)

As an example of how this outreach thing works: If you let your friends/co-workers know about the Rummage Sale and that they can donate from their closets and cupboards (and get a tax write-off), we'll have more to sell to the many who visit the Rummage Sale. This event will also provide the shoppers opportunity to find out about SCFBC and lose their fear of "those Jesus people". The funds we raise can then be used for summer camps, winter camps, Mexico missions, etc. – all of which are outreach opportunities in themselves.

Volunteers are desired to stock and sell goods.

Maxine Darknell (408-241-7567, maxine@darknell.com) is in charge, supported by ABW and others.

Please have donations brought to the church between 28 April and 2 May.

Scott Lane Carnival (Friday, May 24 from about 11:45 until shortly after 4 pm)

Opportunities for as many as 30 volunteers.

Kimberly Barnett (805-698-0064, kimberly.124@cox.net) will be taking names of volunteers and time slots (setup from 11:45 to 1pm, games and food booths from 1 to 3:30 pm, cleanup from 3:30 until after 4 pm).

If you have an SCFBC t-shirt, please wear it.

Redwood Glen workday (June 1)

At first glance, since this is a bunch of Christians doing work at a Christian camp, it's not apparent how this is outreach. Well – invite your unchurched friends for a wonderful day in the "wilderness".

Giving them an opportunity to share time with believers is outreach.

Jerry Cintas (408-615-1690, jerry@scfbc.org) will drive the church van there. Sign up with him.

Summer Kickoff BBQ (aka Church Picnic) (June 9)

Potluck with meat courses provided by Men's Ministry, Invite your friends (outreach).

There will be games for kids of all ages.

Umbrellas/sun shades are desired.

Scott Lane End of Year "pack-out" (June 10 to 14)

Unknown number of volunteer opportunities. If you'd like your name "on call" if assistance is required, please see Kimberly Barnett (kimberly.124@cox.net).

Volunteers, please wear your SCFBC t-shirts.

Donations Desired:

We need **Legos** for the Art & Wine festival. If you know of anyone with Legos they no longer need, please ask for their donations.

We need **bottled water** by the case (for Scott Lane EOY pack-out, for Silicon Valley BBQ Championship, and for Santa Clara Art & Wine Festival). What isn't donated, we'll have to buy as a church.

If you have any **Winter Jackets** that you aren't going to use next winter, please bring them to the church. We collect cold weather gear all year round for the outreach to the homeless in SF.

Future events to be thinking about where "intentionality" could/should lead to "new believers"

Softball Season (May-July) - Youth Mexico Mission Trip-VBS (June 21-29) - Silicon Valley BBQ Championship (June 28-29) - Worship in the Park (August 25) - Santa Clara Art & Wine (September 14-15) - Mexico House Build (September 20-21 here and September 26-29 in Ensenada) - Trunk or Treat (October 31?) - Bethlehem construction (November-December) - Bethlehem (December 5-9)

T-shirts (S – XL) and **hoodies** (S – XXL) are still available after every service. T-shirts are \$10 each and hoodies are \$20. This is the actual cost – this is not a money-making effort by the church.

Jim Garvey,

Deacon of Missions

408-250-4040, garveyjim@sbcglobal.net

SHAPE Tool is Now Online!

If you have not yet discovered your S-H-A-P-E for Ministry (or it has been awhile), I would encourage you to check out the newly created SHAPE tool online. This online tool will assist you identifying your **S**piritual gifts, **H**earth for service, **A**bilities, **P**ersonality, and **E**xperiences for service in ministry. This tool references scripture and uses the Wagner-Modified Houts questionnaire, Keirsey Temperament Sorter, along with past experiences to learn more about yourself and determine where you can best serve in ministry.

To get started, please go to: www.scfbc.org/shape or more information contact Rudy DuBord at (408) 496-6393 or via email at radubord@aol.com.

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 May, we'll meet on the 23rd at Mimi's located on Campbell Ave. in the city of Campbell at 11:45 AM. For more information contact Betty Downing at 408-244-5949.

White Cross

Notice: White Cross will not meet during the month of May as all the volunteers will be supporting the Spring Rummage Sale set up & Sales activities. Our project for June will be to make cloth bags for Christmas at Sea. We will be working on the first Wednesday of each month at 10:00am in the Parlor or Room 19. Please join us! It is fun to get together and work on these significant mission projects.

See you there! If you have questions, please call Virginia Newcomb at 408-266-1734.

COLLECTING LEGOS

Our church is going to be participating at the Santa Clara Art and Wine festival in September by hosting a booth about our church. At the booth we will have information on our church ministries and will have a unique interactive Lego display built by the Art and Wine guests. The theme is Building our Community and guests will be handed a box of Legos and asked to build a Lego creation that represents how they see themselves in the community of Santa Clara. Each creation will be added to our booth centerpiece display throughout the two day event and it will evolve and change as guests add their own artistic contributions.



Please help by donating any Legos you have into the box in the church lobby.

Jerry Cintas

Book Nook and Library Corner

Book Nook - The books and DVD's displayed this month coordinate with the sermon series with the emphasis on evangelism.

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!

Check out one of the NEW books in the Library:

Velvet Elvis, Repainting the Christian Faith by Rob Bell

Dancing with My Father by Sally Clarkson

Multiply by Francis Chan

Getting Past What You will Never Get Over by John F Westfall

Loving People, How to Love and Be Loved by Dr. John Townsend

If you are interested in helping out in the Library Ministry, please let Jenny Gregg know at jgregg@scfbc.org. 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!

Cut-N-Paste Update & Thank you

Saturday April 20th, we met for the fourth time this year and were able to deliver an additional 1405 "Thank you" and "Thinking of you" cards to Ruth Cormier from Kards4Soldiers from people at SCFBC. We have delivered almost 4,200 cards in 2013 already, during 2012 we made and delivered 8,550 total cards to kards4soldiers.

Thank you so much for all your support in supplying the group with used cards, new cards, card stock, stickers and other tools for making cards. We will be taking a break during the summer trimester and hopefully begin holding additional Card Making Events in September. Although if you still want to continue making cards at home during the summer, you can do that and I will see that they are periodically delivered to Ruth and Kards4Soldiers. She has many events where there will be opportunity to assist her in other card making events or disbursing cards in the area. Please email Jerri Cooper at jerri@scfbc.org if you have cards to be picked up or if you would like to be included in the communication about future card making events.

Is This as Good as It Gets?

The life of a Christian can be compared in many ways to a marriage. Whether you have ever been married or not, you have probably observed the pattern—the initial attraction, the flirting, the realization of the love involved, the wedding, and oh, the blissful honeymoon. That honeymoon phase which can be quite brief or for a lucky few, stretch into years. All too common, however, is a relationship that after a couple years of passion cools off into “peaceful coexistence”—two people who love each other in theory, but who have little in common and a great distance between them.

When did the honeymoon end?

Many Christians can remember the excitement and passion when they first committed themselves to Jesus. No one had to tell them to share their love story—like many young lovebirds, they wouldn’t shut up extolling the virtues of their Beloved. But it seems the norm for most Christians in America is to have only a nostalgic remembrance of that initial mountain-top feeling of love for God.



With “tepid” being the common experience for so many in the church, we greatly risk accepting this as normal and to be expected in our relationship with God. We can say authoritatively of ourselves and others, “Oh yes, I remember being all excited when I first accepted Christ as my Savior—that will go away in time.” Really?!

Is Jesus stuck in an unhappy relationship with you?

In many relationships, one partner loves more than the other. In fact, God loves us with a deep and fervent passion, and He longs to be loved in return. Perhaps because we repeatedly hear that God loves us unconditionally, we forget that He also has feelings. He just wants to lavish us with His love (1 John 3:10) and when we rebuff his love, we hurt Him.

Just because God loves us unconditionally, does not mean that He will settle for “peaceful coexistence” in His relationship with us. He fights to save the union, but a relationship by definition is a two-way street—we have the power to reject Him. We have the option to give Him the cold shoulder. But we are warned repeatedly in the Bible—God will not settle for lukewarm love! (Rev. 3:15-21).

Can this relationship be saved?

The decision to restore our relationship with Jesus rests with us. The Holy Spirit longs to rekindle the fire that once burned in us. By repenting (changing our thinking), and humbly asking God to renew our vows, we will experience happiness, passion and contentment more deeply than ever before.

Right here, right now, before you turn away from these words, please ask God to show you how to truly experience and reciprocate His lavish love. God bless you.



*Jenny Gregg
Deacon of Maturity*

THIS IS FABULOUS!!!

It was written by an 8-year-old named Danny Dutton, who lives in Chula Vista , CA . He wrote it for his third grade homework assignment, to 'explain **God**.' I wonder if any of us could have done as well? (and he had such an assignment, in California , and someone published it -- I guess miracles do happen!)

EXPLANATION OF GOD:

'One of **God's** main jobs is making people. He makes them to replace the ones that die, so there will be enough people to take care of things on earth. He doesn't make grownups, just babies. I think because they are smaller and easier to make. That way he doesn't have to take up his valuable time teaching them to talk and walk. He can just leave that to mothers and fathers.'

'**God's** second most important job is listening to prayers. An awful lot of this goes on, since some people, like preachers and things, pray at times beside bedtime. **God** doesn't have time to listen to the radio or TV because of this. Because he hears everything, there must be a terrible lot of noise in his ears, unless he has thought of a way to turn it off.'

'**God** sees everything and hears everything and is everywhere which keeps Him pretty busy. So you shouldn't go wasting his time by going over your mom and dad's head asking for something they said you couldn't have.'

'Atheists are people who don't believe in **God**. I don't think there are any in Chula Vista . At least there aren't any who come to our church.'

'Jesus is **God's** Son. He used to do all the hard work, like walking on water and performing miracles and trying to teach the people who didn't want to learn about **God**. They finally got tired of him preaching to them and they crucified him. But he was good and kind, like his father, and he told his father that they didn't know what they were doing and to forgive them and **God** said O.K.' And **God** did not let **Jesus** stay in the grave, but raised him from the dead and all his hard work on earth so he told him he didn't have to go out on the road anymore. He could stay in heaven. So he did. And now he helps his dad out by listening to prayers and seeing things which are important for **God** to take care of and which ones he can take care of himself without having to bother **God**. Like a secretary, only more important.'

'You can pray anytime you want and they are sure to help you because they got it worked out so one of them is on duty all the time.'

'You should always go to church on Sunday because it makes **God** happy, and if there's anybody you want to make happy, it's **God**!'

Don't skip church to do something you think will be more fun like going to the beach. This is wrong. And besides the sun doesn't come out at the beach until noon anyway.'

'If you don't believe in **God**, besides being an atheist, you will be very lonely, because your parents can't go everywhere with you, like to camp, but **God** can. It is good to know He's around you when you're scared, in the dark or when you can't swim and you get thrown into real deep water by big kids.'

'But...you shouldn't just always think of what **God** can do for you. I figure **God** put me here and he can take me back anytime he pleases.'

And...that's why I believe in **God**.'

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MAY

- 1-2 -10-6:00pm Rummage Sale setup – FH
- 3-4 – 8:30am Rummage Sale – FH
- 3 – **National Day of Prayer**
- 4 - 8:30am Diaconate Mtg – 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 - 8:30am Men's Breakfast – FH
- 11 – 7:00pm - Newcomers Social – Pastor Rich's home
- 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 - 5:45pm SVCC Bagging Food Outreach
- 18 – 9:00am Youth Mountain Thrash – all day
- 18 – 10:00am Manna Prep for QFG meal
- 19 - 9:00am Classes – Evangelism Emphasis
- 19 –12:15pm Mission/Schools Mtg – Library
- 19 – 12:00pm – Quarterly Family Gathering – FH
- 20 – *June Celebrate articles due to Dave by noon*
- 20 – 7:00pm Finance Comm Mtg – Library
- 23- 11:30am SR/BD Lunch Bunch
- 24 – Scott Lane Carnival – set-up and event
- 25 – 10–1:00pm ABW Coastal Valley Bd. Mtg
- 25 – 10-12noon Youth Bowl-a-thon Fund Raiser
- 25 – 12-4pm Mexico Outreach Mtg
- 26- 2nd Trimester Life Groups Begins
- 27 - **Memorial Day Holiday – Office Closed**

JUNE

Mission Emphasis: One Great Hour of Sharing

- 1 - 8:30am Diaconate Mtg – Library
- 1 – Annual Redwood Glen Work Day
- 1- 10:00am Prayer Quilt Ministry – Room 19
- 1 – 9:00am Sanctuary Set-up for Children's Sunday
- 1 – 2:30pm Piano Recital
- 2 – Children's Sunday AM Service
- 2 – 6:00pm 1st Sunday Praise & Prayer Service
- 5 – 10:00am White Cross – Room 19
- 6 – 10:00am Prayer Quilt Ministry – Room 19
- 8 - 8:30am Men's Breakfast – FH
- 8 - 9-11:30am Intro to SCFBC – Parlor
- 8 – 10:00am Mexico Training Mtg – FH
- 9 – Graduation Sunday
- 9 – 12:00pm All Church Picnic on site
- 12– 11:00am ABW Annual Mtg Picnic Potluck Installation
- 16 – 12:15pm - Mission/Schools Mtg. – Library

16– Happy Father's Day Service

17 -7:00pm Finance Comm Mtg – Library

19 – 6:00pm CityTeam Outreach

21-28 – Youth Mexico Mission Trip

24– *July Celebrate articles due to Dave*

27 - 11:30am SR/BD Lunch Bunch

28-29 – SC Community Outreach – Central Park

29– Redwood Glen Open House

29 - 8:30am July Diaconate – Library

JULY

Mission Emphasis: Scott Lane School supply Drive

3 - 10:00am White Cross – Room 19

4 – **Independence Day Holiday – Office closed**

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

7- 6:00pm 1st Sunday Praise & Prayer Service

9 – 1:00pm – Bethell Circle

10 –12:00pm Baits/Turley Circle Potluck – Doris A's home

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

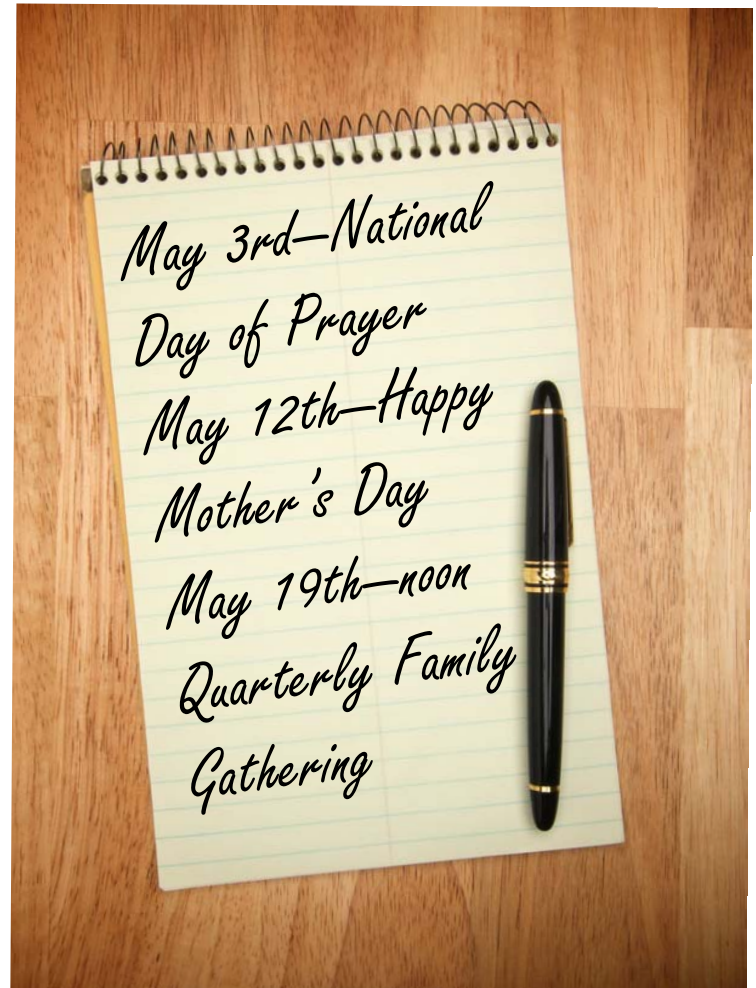
13 – 8:30am Men's Ministry – Kit – Adam

13– 9:30am Tentative All Church Work Day

15 -7:00pm Finance Comm Mtg – Library

17 - 6:00pm CityTeam Outreach

21 – 12:15pm - Mission/Schools Mtg. – Library





Santa Clara First Baptist

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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.
Matthew 28:19, 20

May Birthdays

&

Anniversaries

1st Katrina DuBord Garcia
2nd Elianna Lageschulte
4th Shari Burdick
5th Jasmine Jackson Salvador
6th Tiah Esquibel
8th Joel Robinson
8th Aaron Wong
10th April Starnes
10th Kathy Vazquez
11th Rudy DuBord III
12th Troy Murray
20th Dave Wilson
22nd Larry Trigg
22nd Jerry Brenner
23rd Virginia Newcomb
26th Denise Stephens
26th Timothy Coral
27th Margery Torres
31st Bill Starnes

1st Ron & Cherie Willcox
20th Michael & Dorothy Depew