

The Celebrate!

July 2013

Worship in the Park

Sunday, August 25th

**at the Pavilion in Central Park
Santa Clara**

10:30am—Family Games

12:00pm—BBQ Lunch

1:30pm—Worship

Hosted by Santa Clara First Baptist

We're taking Jesus to the park!

Invite cards are available at the Information Table in the lobby.

Note: This will be our one worship service for the day.

We will not be meeting on the SCFBC Campus

Moving Forward- Next Steps for Getting Involved

In order for newcomers to become more fully involved in the life and ministry of SCFBC we are providing an expanded list of opportunities for them to meet others and learn about the church.

Newcomers Desserts

- These informal gatherings at Pastor Rich & Susi's home are usually held on a Saturday evening at 7:00pm.
- Their purpose is to provide a place where those newer to our church can meet each other.
- They are held about every 6 weeks.
- It's perfectly fine to attend these gatherings more than once.

“I'd Like to Know” classes

- This is a one-session class held at the church in the Pastor's office at 9:00am on a Sunday before worship.
- Its purpose is to give some basic information about our church, as well as provide another opportunity for newcomers to mingle and ask questions they may have about SCFBC.
- They are held about every 6 weeks.
- Again, it's fine to attend these classes more than once.

Membership classes

- This is another one-session class also held in the Pastor's office at 9:00am on Sunday morning.
- It presents information about the vision and ministry of our church, explains why membership is important and reviews the SCFBC membership covenant.
- These are held approximately every 8 weeks.

Check your bulletin for the upcoming dates of these opportunities. You can also check the church calendar by going to our website at www.scfbc.org/calendar.cfm.

Missions/Outreach



Redwood Glen Workday

Thanks to those who participated in Redwood Glen Camp and Conference Center's annual workday on June 1st. Our people were part of a larger contingent from many supportive churches to get Redwood Glen ready for another summer of camps.

Global and Local Church Outreaches

By the time you read this, our Mexico VBS youth group headed by Andrew & Mary Wong will have returned from a week of VBS in the Ensenada area (21-28 June) AND our participation in the Silicon Valley BBQ Championship (28-

29 June) as well as our Independence Day/4th of July hospitality outreach will be completed. Thanks to all who hosted, served, and/or provided bottle water in those special outreach events.

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

Discipleship- Are We Selling Cheap Grace?

When we share our faith, we can easily fall into the trap of relying on catchphrases—expressions that have become so overused, that the true meaning is blurred. Sometimes, a phrase gets so overused that its words are taken as gospel itself. In relying so heavily on Christian buzzwords and phrases, could we

be guilty of dumbing down biblical truth in order to simplify the gospel and make it more palatable for nonbelievers?

AMEN!				
Saved	Your walk	Salvation	Favor	Glory
Accept Christ	Prayer Life	Spiritual Gifts	Prosper	The Fall
Ask Jesus into your heart	Thought Life	FREE SPACE	Blessed	Fallen World
Saved by grace	Abomination	Quiet Time	Sin	Prophecy
Lord and Savior Jesus Christ	Born Again	Deliver	Idol	In the world but not of it

Surprising to some, the phrase, “accept Jesus”, or “ask Jesus into your heart”, is not found in the Bible. There is, however, a whole lot about denying ourselves and following Jesus. In the evangelical community, the goal seems to be to get a person to commit (pray the prayer, or seal the deal), and hit them with the “fine print” about being a dedicated follower later.

But passage after passage attests to the truth that Jesus invites us to live our lives in the kingdom of God, following him 24/7. He does not invite us to “pray a prayer of salvation”, and then fit church into our busy schedules for the rest of our lives.

Grace Alone?

At this point, some might be feeling a little defensive and wanting to point out that the Bible says grace, not works, is what saves us. This is absolutely true, and the verse they probably have in mind is Ephesians 2:8-9: “*For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast.*”

Unfortunately, most stop there and don’t pay attention to the next verse 10: “*For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.*”

Grace and good works are inseparable. It is grace that saves us, and it saves us for the purpose of serving God actively for the rest of our lives. In *Not a Fan*, Kyle Idleman writes, “We tend to define belief as the acceptance of something as real or true. But biblical belief is more than just an intellectual acceptance or a heartfelt acknowledgment; it is a commitment to follow.”

So What has God Done for You?

It is too easy to rely on lingo and buzzwords when we try to share our faith. Jesus repeatedly encouraged people to share their own stories of what God has done for them. This takes some soul-searching and a little effort, but the results are far more effective for introducing not-yet-believers to the wonderful life God want them to experience.

Jenny Gregg
Deacon of Maturity

“Costly grace is the gospel which must be sought again and again and again, the gift which must be asked for, the door at which a man must knock. Such grace is costly because it calls us to follow, and it is grace because it calls us to follow Jesus Christ. It is costly because it costs a man his life, and it is grace because it gives a man the only true life. It is costly because it condemns sin, and grace because it justifies the sinner. Above all, it is costly because it cost God the life of his Son.”

Dietrich Bonhoeffer



Highlights from the *SPEED*way



CHILDREN'S SUNDAY

On June 2nd, the children did a wonderful job leading us in worship. The kids brought their *Joyful Noise!* theme to life through wonderful music, fun videos and an awesome dance! Great job kids!

We also had the honor of celebrating the baptisms of **Elianna Lageschulte** and **Louis Vanneste**.

Thank you once more to the wonderful volunteers who are the heart of *SPEED*way Children's Ministry. Your loving service is making an eternal impact.



SUMMER SPECTACULAR 2013

This year's summer theme is:

Exploring God's Love: By Sea, By Land, By Air!



In June the kids have learned about the importance of obedience to God through the stories of Jonah, Noah, Paul and Naaman. Below are some fun pics from their water-themed lessons.



Youth News

Reflect High School Group

A lot of our High School students are just returning from spending a week in Ensenada, Mexico once again helping the small church, Rayo Del Luz. Seven youth and four mentors conducted a children's VBS ministry for the kids in the neighborhood. There will be more information in the August Celebrate article about this trip.

Two of our youth mentors, **Matt Stephens** and **Kimberly Barnett** were married in June. It was an awesome celebration and we wish the best for them as they continue to grow in Christ's love. They will continue to work with our high school youth on Wednesday nights.

We also had a great event last month called "Minute to Win It" where we had a whole bunch of mini-games for the kids to play. It was great to see them invite their friends to join in the fun.

The day after our 8th graders graduated from middle school, the youth mentors kidnapped them from their beds at 5:30am for our annual "Freshman Wakeup" and took them to Denny's to celebrate their accomplishment and officially welcome them into the high school group. They were very surprised to see us in their bedrooms!

The Element Jr. High Group

We have started our summer series and will be meeting at different locations throughout the summer. We started off with a great pool party at Jerry's with pizza and s'mores. Our series is called "Amazing God" and explores the many amazing miracles God did for his people that we find in the Bible. We are also sharing how God has done amazing things in our lives.

Our group joined the Men's Ministry one night at Betty Downing's home and cleaned up her backyard of ivy from the fence and branches that the men cut down. The backyard looks a lot better now.

Matt, Kim, Jerry, Karena, Andrew, Mary, Les, Jenny, Danijela

Upcoming EVENTS

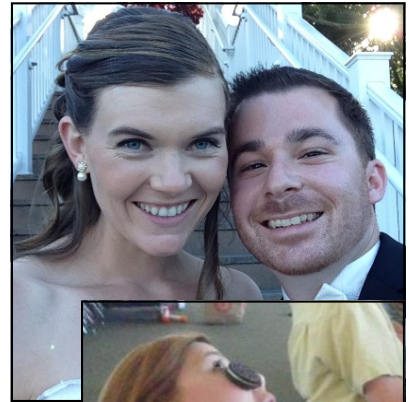
July 7th - Youth Sunday

July 20th - Big Buddy Day

July 25th-28th - Reflect Lake Berryessa Retreat

Aug 2nd-4th - Element Retreat

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



Membership Department Notes

Do you know what the FELLOWSHIP FUND is? Many people want to give to those in need, those who have experienced some kind of situation that leaves them without resources to cover their bills. We experience appeals daily, if not hourly about some “worthy cause.” In the early Christian church, the church of Acts 2:44-45, the members of that church took care of others in need. In the same spirit, SCFBC has a Fellowship Fund to take care of financial needs within our congregation, and sometimes outside it. This money does not come from the general offering. To contribute over and above your general giving, you specifically add the notation “Fellowship Fund,” on your giving envelope.

Members of the congregation have made this fund possible to help others with food, housing, rent, apartment deposits, car insurance and the like. There have been so many needs within the last year within the congregation that the fund is now quite limited.

Several members of our congregation also saw a need for professional counseling and provided very generous donations that are still paying to provide this needed service to some of our congregants. If this is a place you would like to put your hard-earned money, you can donate to “Fellowship Fund: Counseling.”

Additionally, the Fellowship Fund keeps a supply of food staples to give to congregants and others as the need arises. We can all thank Jerri Cooper for maintaining the “Food Pantry” and for her donating much of the food.

The Fellowship Fund is overseen by the Deacon of Membership, with input/oversight of our pastors. If you have any questions about this ministry, you can call Denise Stephens at 408-926-9433, or e-mail her at denise_stephens@comcast.net.

Coming in next month’s CELEBRATE, an SCFBC new members welcome to Rich Rogers, Rita Thella and Derek Yan.

Global Leadership Summit August 8 & 9

“A Leader is anyone with influence.”

Grow in your ability to lead and influence others for eternity! Experience input from renown leaders in the church and business world, including Mark Burnett, Dr. Henry Cloud, Colin Powell, Andy Stanley, and Patrick Lencioni.

Register for this amazing event for only \$169; the student and college faculty rate is \$75. To register, contact Susi Reaves at the info table after worship or call the church office at 408-241-7635.



Property Corner

The Property Department will be having its first team “kickoff” meeting next month, to discuss, prioritize, and plan future projects on our campus. The new team consists of Steve Erling, Jerry Cintas, Dave Wilson and current Property Deacon Mike Depew.

Thank You

I would like to thank David Lageschulte for helping put up the summer banner signs. I would also like to thank all the other volunteers who help keep our facilities and campus in good condition.



New “Church Family Work Day”

I would like to announce that we are changing the way we view, promote and run our work days. Please plan on attending the next “Church Family Work Day” on July 20, 2013 from 9 am to 3:30 pm. Since we are a growing part of God’s family, it only seems appropriate that we work as a family around our campus. There will be projects for everyone to help with, and if you can only stay for a few hours this is ok as well. Lunch will be served. Please contact Dave Wilson at the Church Office or Mike Depew to confirm your family’s attendance.

Lawn Updates

The Property Department met with a consultant to discuss the current lawn conditions. Some of the suggestions that were given included:

- Changing and adjusting sprinkler heads
- Removing and/or relocating some sprinkler heads
- Adjusting the watering schedules
- Aerating and fertilizing the lawns this fall.

General Repairs



If you see something that is broken or not working correctly, please let Dave Wilson (408-241-7635) and me know so that we can schedule the work.

Thanks Again.
Your Brother In Christ,
Michael Depew – Property Deacon
408-691-1441
mwdepew@sbcglobal.net

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

July

**Mission Emphasis: July 4th Community
Fireworks Outreach**

3 - 10:00am-White Cross Team

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

4 - **5:00-10:00pm-4th of July Outreach**

7 - **Youth Sunday - AM Service**

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

9 - 1:00pm-Bethell Circle

10 - 12:00pm-Baits/Turley Circle Potluck

11 - 10:00am-Prayer Quilt Ministry Team

13 - 12noon-Men's Grill

13 - **7:00pm-Newcomers Social @ Reaves'**

14 - **9:00am-'I'd Like to Know' Class in
Pastor's Office**

17 - 6:00pm-CityTeam Outreach

20 - 9:30am-Church Family Work Day

21 - **9:00am-Membership Class in Pastor's
Office**

25 - 11:30am-Senior Birthday Lunch Bunch

25-28 - Reflect Summer Retreat

26-29 - Men's Camping Retreat

August

**Mission Emphasis: Seafarers Ministry–
collect toiletries for ditty bags**

3 - 10:00am-Prayer Quilt Ministry Team

4 - 12:00pm-Fall Life Group Leaders Kick-off
Lunch

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

7 - 10:00am-White Cross

8 - 10:00am-Prayer Quilt Ministry Team

8-9 - 9am-5pm-Global Leadership Summit

10 - 12noon-Men's Grill

13 - 1:00pm-Bethell Circle

14 - 6:30pm-Baits/Turley Circle Potluck

18 - **9:00am--'I'd Like to Know' in Pastor's
Office**

18 - 12:15pm-Outreach/Missions Meeting

21 - 6:00pm-CityTeam Outreach

22 - 11:30am-Senior Birthday Lunch Bunch

24 - 7:00pm-Newcomers Social @ Reaves'
home

24 - Manna food prep in Fellowship Hall

25 - **10:30–3:00pm Worship in the Park**

SAVE THE DATES

September

14-15 - Santa Clara Art and Wine Festival
Outreach

15-21 - Fall Trimester Life Groups Begin

21 - Mexico House Build

22 - Quarterly Family Gathering

27-29 - Mexico House Build Delivery

October

19 - Church Family Workday

25-26 - Rummage Sale

31 - Trunk or Treat Outreach

Please refer to the complete on-line calendar at
www.scfbc.org when planning meetings and
prior to requesting rooms with Dave in the
office at 408-241-7635
or email davew@scfbc.org.



Book Nook and Library Corner

Check out one of the following great DVDs in the Book Nook for a movie night:

- *The Radicals* - Early history about breaking away from baby baptisms and the beginning of the Anabaptists
- *Redemption Ride* (2011) - a moving story about forgiveness
- *Last Ounce of Courage* (2012) - a story of family faith and freedom; It's time to take a stand.
- *Reggie's Prayer* - A powerful family film of faith and love; an inspirational testament.

Book Nook - The books and DVDs displayed this month coordinate with the sermon series with the emphasis, "Intersections: Meeting God in the Everyday."

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!

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 help.

Just a reminder - If you want to see what the **Global Leadership Summit** is about, you can check out prior years' DVDs of the presentations at the Book Nook. There is always something helpful to learn from the Summit. (This year's Summit is scheduled for August 8-9.)

If you have suggestions for library materials, please write it on the back of the Connection Card found in the sanctuary chair backs. Please enjoy the Library materials and the freedom to enjoy them. Happy reading and viewing from the Library Committee!



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.

July Birthdays

2 nd	John Harrell	20 th	Chris McLenegan
2 nd	Nathanial Robbins	20 th	Luba Bodrouk
4 th	Adam Burdick	21 st	Evelyn Wendel
6 th	Jonathan Fung	21 st	Harold Wright
6 th	Karen Fong Dong	22 nd	Carolyn Elbert
9 th	Carrie Patterakis	24 th	Dorothy Depew
11 th	Doris Altman	26 th	Donna Caldwell
11 th	Tim McLenegan	28 th	Lizbeth Rogel
15 th	Maryanne Savedra	31 st	Carmen Cintas
16 th	Maxine Darknell	31 st	Camille Cintas