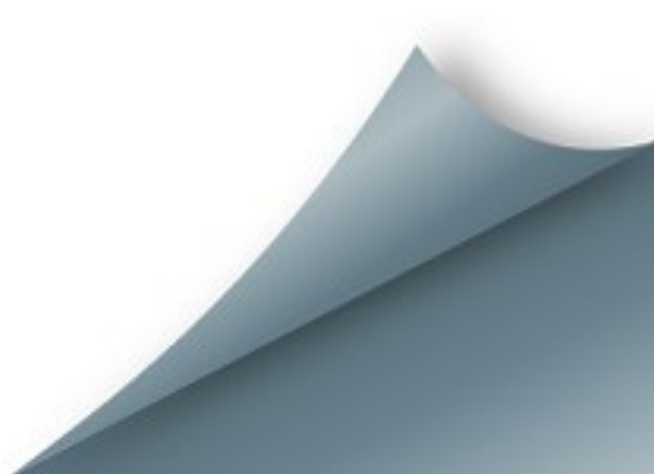




**Santa Clara
First Baptist**

2013 Annual Report

turning
a **NEW**
page



Introduction

We give thanks to God for what He has accomplished in and through us in 2013. It has been a significant year of change and transition as SCFBC has embarked in a new chapter in its history. Founded in 1851 our church has experienced ongoing changes throughout this 163 year stretch of time.

In 2013 SCFBC voted to break out of its cyclical programing stance and take on a goal-based vision for the year. For the first time in recent memory the church took on the challenge of meeting specific goals in key areas of its Ministry and Mission.

Our 2013 SCFBC Goals

- Baptize a minimum of 15 new adult & youth conversions
- A minimum of 90 people involved in Life Groups
- A minimum of 65% of the people involved in some on-going form of ministry or mission
- Increase giving to a minimum of 6% of congregational household income (This would amount to an increase in overall giving of 20% over last year's amount.)
- A minimum of 45 people being instrumental in helping someone come to faith
- Strengthen the existing systems for:
 - Assimilation
 - Leader Development
 - Communication
- Streamline and modernize our leadership and governance system
- Enter into an intentional transition phase

In the pages that follow the outgoing Chairman's report, you'll read how well we did and learn what our goal-based vision is for 2014.

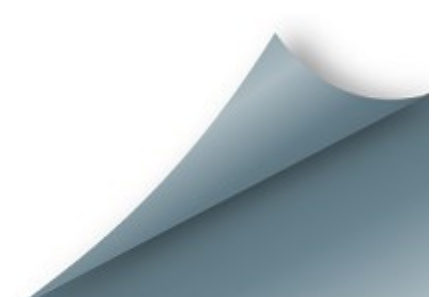
The order of pages is based on our new **Ministry Principles** as outlined in our Bylaws. These Principles give us our marching orders— what we are to focus on as a church committed to the advancement of Christ's Kingdom. They are:

We are a Sharing Church

We are a Growing Church

We are a Serving Church

Happy Reading!



Chairman's Report

"For I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and hope." Jeremiah 29:11

We trust that God has a plan for our church, a plan that gives us a future and a hope. We need to work together and to pray that God will guide Santa Clara First Baptist Church; that we may follow the plan He has for us, as we serve Him and as we minister to people in our church and in our community.

Our theme for 2013 was "Moving Forward." The Board in 2013 sought to follow God's lead as He richly blessed us. I thank God for all the people who serve and who give of their resources to the church. We have had as our motto for the last few years: "Here to Serve."

This past year has been a busy one for the Board of Deacons as we worked with Pastor Rich to fulfill the prescriptions given to us by Dr. Hoyt. These had been accepted by the congregation in 2012. We did quite well in some areas, but not so good in others. There is still work to be done, especially in the number of baptisms of new believers and in leader development. The board met several times during the year with Dr. Hoyt. In January he was at the annual board retreat at Redwood Glen where he helped us in our planning for the year ahead.

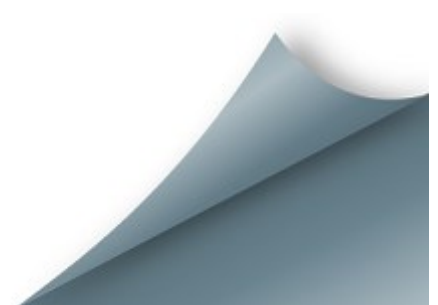
One of the biggest accomplishments was writing the new Bylaws. These were accepted by the congregation at a special business meeting in October. Earlier in the year the deacons had developed, over a period of several months, a set of Guiding Principles for the church which, with the Bylaws, forms the new governance system of the church.

The Board of Deacons, as it has existed for many years, has been replaced by a new board. Two members of the old board will be on the new board, so there will be some continuity. The Board consists of 6 elected members plus Pastor Rich. The new Board will have the responsibility of holding the pastor accountable as he guides the church. He will set new goals for the year which are to be approved by the Board.

We have seen an increase in giving to the church. We have been able to paint the exterior of the church and we expect to have enough money left in the general fund at the end of 2013 to repay the money borrowed from the Clevenger Fund a few years ago. The Life Groups continue and have seen increased attendance. The mission department has been very busy this year as we have increased our involvement in the community. Pastor Jenny plus many volunteers have worked with the youth and the children's ministries of the church. These ministries are doing quite well.

Pastor Rich continues to lead us as our transitional pastor as we go into 2014. Please continue to pray for him and the new board. This is new territory to be explored.

Barbara Chicks –
Outgoing Chairman, Board of Deacons



Sharing

We are a sharing church. Our church's highest priority is sharing the gospel and bringing unbelieving people into a relationship with Jesus. Therefore we will seek to influence others to accept Christ's claim upon their lives and be baptized as a witness to others of their decision.

CALL FOR COMMITMENT

In 2013 SCFBC began to put its primary focus once again on fulfilling the Great Commission given to us by Jesus after His resurrection. We are to *"go into all the world and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit."*

To highlight the value of personal evangelism, Pastor Rich presented a 5 week message theme **"High Stakes Faith."** The fundamental truths of living a reality with and without Christ were highlighted.

The series ended with a challenge to prayerfully consider who God was pointing to in our personal lives whom we should influence towards Jesus. **Eighty** people turned in written cards with the names of **257** people on them.

These people became the focus of our loving prayer and attention. Our staff and deacon board then began to pray for the rest of the congregation as they prayed for opportunities to have spiritual conversations with those in their areas of influence.

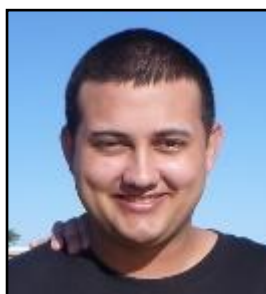


DECISIONS

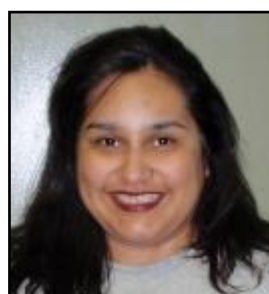
God blessed our efforts. We saw 11 people baptized in 2013, the highest number in recent memory. Most of these were already believers who wished to declare their faith in God publicly for the first time. But God used our efforts to lead three individuals to come to faith in Christ through our prayers and influence this year. We thank God for each of their decisions.



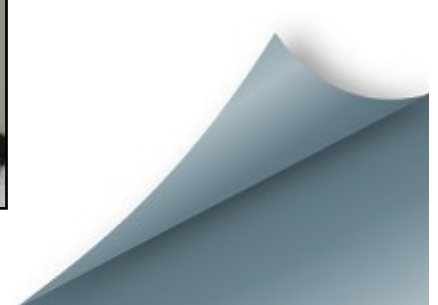
Louis Vanesste



Michael Rawson



Melinda Lutz



Sharing Continued...

REACHING OUT TO OUR COMMUNITY

2013 was a year of renewed passion for SCFBC, especially in the area of outreach. We had some wonderful events which were designed specifically for us to invite friends and neighbors to attend. These events also gave us a wonderful opportunity to interact with our community and collect contact information for follow-up conversations.

Outreach Events for 2013:

- *Worship in the Park*
- *Trunk or Treat*
- *Art and Wine Festival*
- *Summer Kick-Off BBQ*



Summer Kick-Off BBQ
Gold Panning



Worship in the Park



Santa Clara Art & Wine Festival
Lego Booth



Trunk or Treat Outreach Event

Sharing Continued...

BETHLEHEM

The Bethlehem program has come a long way since it started in 1998 as an idea by Jerry and Sharon Cintas to move our annual Christmas presentations out of the sanctuary and into our parking lot. The idea was to create an event that shared the story of Jesus, was family-friendly, more accessible to large groups, less threatening, and so spectacular that families would want to come year after year. Since those modest beginnings we have had 16 years of experience on perfecting the message of Jesus Christ's birth from a very private and humble story to an experience where people who have never understood the Christmas Story leave the event more fully understanding who Jesus is and how His love and message can change our lives. Personal testimonies given by members of our church of how Jesus Christ has impacted their lives end each performance and provide the rest of the story of Jesus' amazing journey.

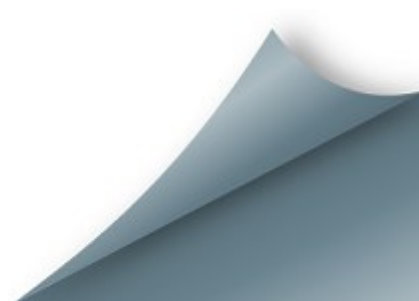
How wonderful is it to hear testimony after testimony of guests saying, *"Wow. I never knew that was what Christmas was about."* *"Jesus came to Earth to save us all?"*, *"I've never heard of such a one..... Do you think it could really be true?"*



In 2013, once again over 13,000 from the Santa Clara Valley were brought by their children and friends who looked forward all year to experiencing what it was like over 2000 years ago. We stopped advertising the event 6 years ago and are amazed at how many people in Santa Clara have made this Christmas Story a tradition to experience every year with their family and friends. When you ask some families how long they have been coming, they typically have a huge smile on their face and relate their first time visiting to the age of one of their children. One family said, *"We first came when my child was 2 years old and we were pushing her in a stroller through the sand. And we remember her loving the animals and also being afraid of the Roman guards. And now she is 12 years old and still begs us to come visit ever year."*

It is also amazing how a small church can come together and put on such a wonderful free event. Everyone who comes thinks our church must have thousands of members to create such an historic environment. They are repeatedly blown away when we tell them that we only have around 140 attenders at the church, but are able to create Bethlehem every year because almost the entire church gets involved in some way or another.

The community of Santa Clara is extremely thankful for all of the efforts that so many at Santa Clara First Baptist has given. The local Santa Clara newspaper has named SCFBC a "pillar in the community" because of the Bethlehem experience and the many other ways the church has touched the people of Santa Clara.



Growing

We are a growing church. We will seek to grow in numbers and in our understanding and practice of the Christian faith. We will reach people in the community, welcome them into the body of Christ, and provide environments and opportunities which promote Christian growth and a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

Therefore we will seek to increase the number of people engaged in Sunday worship, connect more people into the various aspects of our church's life and ministry, expand the number of those involved in our Life Groups and encourage a fuller stewardship of one's time, talent, and treasure.

WELCOME TO THE FAMILY

New Members

To achieve our 2013 goal of an improved assimilation system, we scheduled a record eight Newcomers Desserts at Pastor Rich and Susi's home. Altogether 49 newcomers to the church attended these get-togethers where the guests shared some of their personal histories, built new relationships and ate some great desserts!

We also increased the number of Intro to Membership classes we offered in 2013.

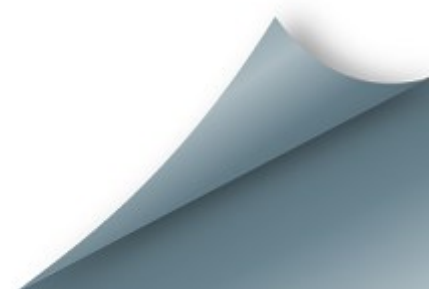
All told, 17 new members were added to the SCFBC family in 2013, the greatest increase in the past 10 years! These new members are:

Rui Cardoso, Irving Cordova, Julie Garvey, Mona Grillo, Melinda Lutz, Mark and Kirsten McGaffee, Maria Molina, Andrei Olaes, Noreen Pasion, Rich Rogers, Carl and Linda Sweet, Rita Thella, Derek Yan, Sergey and Dasha Zhuravlev.

Communication

To address our 2013 goal of improving our communication system, we changed our **Celebrate** monthly newsletter to a web-based format. While people can still receive a hard copy, having it available on-line improve its ease of use and saves paper. We also began using selected email "blasts" to our congregation to alert them to special events and emphases.

We thank Jerry Cintas for putting together a **church database** by which we can keep current attendance as well as demographic data (addresses, phone numbers, e-mail addresses, etc.) for both church members and attenders. Through this effort, the staff has done a better job of contacting new attenders, as well following up on absentee members and regular attenders.



Growing Continued...

WORSHIP MINISTRIES

God has brought much life and growth into the worship services in 2013. Worship services are both an entry point for people coming into the life of the church as well as an outgrowth of God moving in all other areas of the church.

In 2013 we saw an increase in attendance of 9% over 2012 (from 127 in 2012 to 139 in 2013). When informally polling all newcomers to the church at the monthly dessert socials, the majority of newcomers cite the worship service as being the thing most influential in their decision to attend our church. We've also started to see more ownership from individuals in the congregation reaching out to newcomers and people they don't know to offer a friendly greeting each Sunday.



To create an environment of fellowship and conversation after the worship service, Pastor Rich re-envisioned and recruited a new hospitality team to help foster a friendly atmosphere. These new attendees have brought their gifts, passions and talents into the life of the church. The worship service itself has benefitted from this growth as we've added new members to the worship and tech teams bringing different sounds, skills and flavors of music to the services each week.

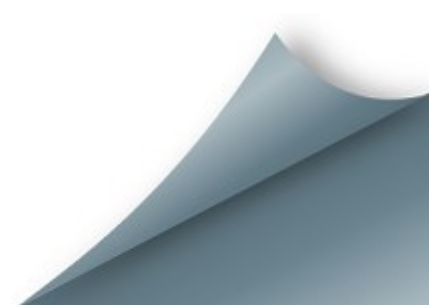


The worship environment has also changed in 2013. In continuing to improve the campus as a part of the renovation of the facilities,

low-energy, digital LED colored lighting was added to enhance the worship experience.

Most importantly, we've seen growth not just in numbers, but in participation in the worship services. As God moves in our hearts He begins to change us to be more outwardly focused and we can see the evidence of God's hand and blessing in our church. This leads to more passion and gratefulness in our hearts as we gather together to worship our amazing God.

*Praise the Lord! Sing to the LORD a new song.
Sing His praises in the assembly of the faithful. Psalm 149:1*



Growing Continued...

LIFE GROUPS

Our goal at the start of 2013 was for Life Groups to attain a minimum of 90 participants. We quickly reached and surpassed that goal, and currently have 143 people signed up for the Winter/Spring 2014 Trimester. Many newcomers to SCFBC have joined a Life Group, making this an excellent opportunity for them to make new friendships and to connect with the church family.

Growing

Life Groups are uniquely equipped to help people to grow in their faith, whatever their level of spiritual maturity may be. A primary goal of Life Groups is to help people to grow in their faith and to help them become active followers of Jesus Christ. Life Groups offer everything from in-depth Bible study to simple devotion and prayer. Much of the spiritual growth results from the encouragement of other people.

Sharing

Some of the Life Groups are called activity groups—Life Groups that are centered on a common interest, whether it is a sport, hobby, recreation, or common interest. These activity Life Groups provide an exceptional opportunity for inviting friends and family who aren't a part of a church family. Activity groups offered during 2013 include: Smokin' Aces (barbeque and card games); SPLASH! (swimming); New Leaf (recovery); A Time to Dance; Financial Freedom; Beginning Genealogy; Family Adventures; Pinteresting People; Hearts of Gold (gold panning), Boot Camp for Jesus; and Laugh Your Way to a Better Marriage.

Serving

All Life Groups try to fulfill at least one service project during the course of a trimester. This experience not only does great good for our community, but doing the work together helps the group to bond and build friendships.

We are already beginning to plan for the Summer 2014 Trimester, and are on the lookout for good ideas for Life Groups, and leaders willing to serve for the trimester. If you have ideas about how to make Life Groups better, are interested in leading a Life Group, or just want to know more, please contact Jenny Gregg at jgregg@scfbc.org, or 408-244-0985.

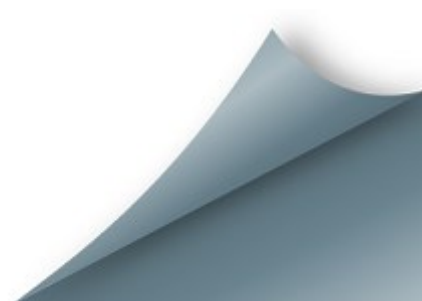
LIBRARY

The SCFBC Library offers many resources to equip individuals, and leaders in both growing as disciples and in making disciples. It consists of more than 4,000 books, DVDs and other resources. Using an Internet-based library cataloging service (Library World), the library is now fully automated. It is easy to search the library's collection from ones

personal computer or mobile device (yes, there's an app for that!).

A link to the library's catalog is located on the church's website.

For more information on how you can use and help support the library, contact Jenny Gregg at jgregg@scfbc.org.



Growing Continued...

GENEROSITY/STEWARDSHIP



One 2013 goal was to see a 20% increase in our General Fund giving. At year's end our church family gave \$403,304 a 13% increase over last year. Although we fell short of this goal, this past year ended with a surplus of funds for the second year in a row.

Because of your generous giving we could apply over \$33,000 of this surplus to completely refund our Clevenger Memorial Fund. This fund has been used over the years to provide below-market loans for our ordained staff to use in purchasing a home.

A number of years ago we had to borrow against this fund to pay for an extensive redo of our back fence area ordered by the City of Santa

Clara. Now we have over \$125,000 available for our next pastor to use.

PROPERTY

In 2013 we continued to upgrade the appearance and functionality of our physical campus. To match the beautiful renovation completed in the Sanctuary building in 2012 we wanted to extend the color scheme outside. We launched our second renovation fundraiser with the theme "Because It's Needed." The goal was \$36,000. This would supply the funding for the upgrade of the outside of the sanctuary. Anything above that would be applied to painting the Ed Wing and Fellowship Hall.

The giving to this project was phenomenal! By the beginning of 2014 we had exceeded \$40,000, giving us the ability to not only paint the entire campus but add new gutters to the Fellowship Hall, and new signage on all the doors.

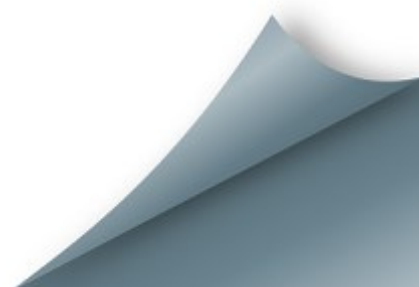


In the next couple of weeks you will see our new signage letters saying "Santa Clara First Baptist" placed on



the new rock wall and the tearing down of our old "school like" church sign. There are also plans in the works to improve the landscaping in front of the Fellowship Hall to tie in all of these improvements.

All of these improvements have given a huge boost to our curb appeal. We have heard comment after comment about how great it looks from people who don't even attend our church.



Growing Continued...

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

2013 was a great year at the **SPEEDway**. Whether in the Nursery, the Preschool Ministry, or participating in Kids' Worship - the **SPEEDway** Children's Ministry is a place where kids learn about God's love while having ridiculous amounts of fun. Enjoy some of our 2013 highlights below.



Easter Morning egg decorating! (with LOTS of glitter)



Children's Sunday 2013



Elianna's baptism



Summer Spectacular water play!



Palm Sunday



Preschool Ministry



Nursery Ministry



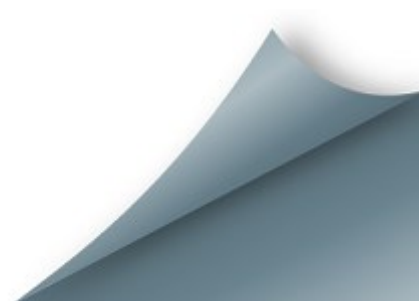
Crafts!



Snacks!



Games!



Growing Continued...

YOUTH MINISTRY

2013 was another fun-filled year for the mentors and students. The High School group was directed by **Andrew Wong**. The rest of the high school staff included **Mary Wong, Danijela Tomic, Kimberly Stephens**, and **Matt Stephens**. Additionally, we added two new volunteers, **Mark** and **Kirsten McGaffee**. The Junior High group was directed by **Jerry Cintas**. The Jr. High staff included **Les Hawkins, Danijela Tomic, Karena Bertos, Fion Cheng** and **Pastor Jenny**. **Kim Stephens** taught the youth Sunday School class.

Some of our fun events of 2013 include winter camps at Camp Sugar Pine, summer camping retreats, Planet Wisdom, corn maze, Rescue Conference, laser tag, ice skating, Big Buddy Day, Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser, and Mountain Thrash.

Serving others continues to be an important focus of the youth ministry. For the 8th year, Reflect went on their **Mexico Outreach Mission Trip**. Six youth (**Ciena Bringuel, Camille Cintas, Carmen Cintas, Laura Gregg, Hannah Lageschulte, and Emily Ramer**) challenged themselves by traveling to Ensenada, Mexico to host a Vacation Bible School with a small church in Colonia Libertad. These students, along with the high school mentors and other adults, had an experience of a lifetime, running a VBS completely in Spanish.



Another great serving opportunity was our *30 Hour Famine* event through which the students raised over \$6,000 for World Vision! As part of this event, our students and staff went without food for 30 hours, fed the homeless in San Jose (while we were hungry) and collected food for 2nd Harvest Food Bank.

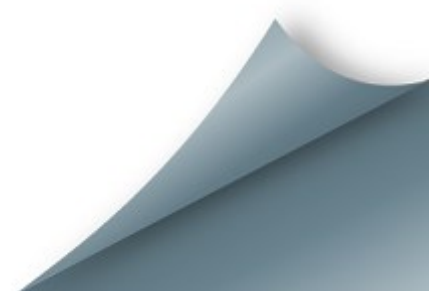
In August we had the joy of witnessing the baptisms of high school students **Laura Gregg, Ashley Harrell, Michael Rawson** and **Chrysta Rangel** in the ocean at Twin Lakes

Beach. It was a beautiful day and one we will always remember.

Our High School group averages 15 students, and our Junior High School group averages over 10. We'd like to see both of these numbers increase next year, and see more students baptized into life-long ministry. As Youth Mentors, we praise God often for this opportunity you have



entrusted to us. It is sheer joy to be here and a privilege to work with your youth and their friends.



Serving

We are a serving church. We will equip and send out each believer for service by helping them discover and use their God-given gifts, talents, experiences and abilities in the ministries of our church family, and in caring for the needs of those in our wider community.

Therefore we will seek to involve more individuals in our ministries, mission endeavors, and leadership opportunities.

LOVE ONE ANOTHER

Jesus called His followers to “love one another.” Here are some of the ways we live out this command.

Fellowship Fund: Your generous gifts to the “Fellowship Fund” have provided funds for those in need for unexpected medical bills, bereavement expenses, counseling needs and emergency expenses for housing or car repairs. While the needs for counseling and other expenses were great during 2013, your contributions have continued to resupply this vital resource for those needing it.

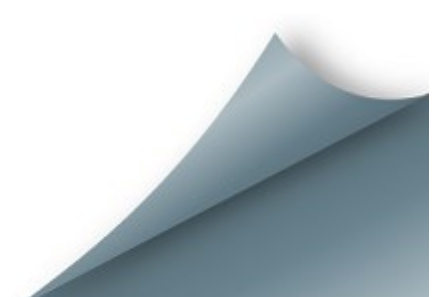
Prayer Chains: Maxine Darknell continues to coordinate the telephone prayer chain with Betty Hastings for those without a computer. Trudy Kroll coordinates the e-mail prayer chain, sent to over 100 addresses. Contact Trudy at krollgirls@sbcglobal.net if you would like your name added to the email prayer chain.

Food Pantry: We have continued to keep food in the food pantry for food needs when asked. The church office handed out about 80 food bags to people who came to the church requesting food. Thank you for your non-perishable food and monetary donations to the food pantry.

Good Samaritans: Maxine Darknell coordinates the Good Samaritans who help others by giving rides, assisting with home projects they might not be able to do, and providing meals for those going through medical treatments or bereavement.

After Service Fellowship Refreshments: Maxine Darknell and Doris Smith coordinate the fellowship refreshments with life groups participating the first Sunday of the month. The hospitality team, composed of Bonnie Brenner, Karen and John Pusateri, Harvey Fong, Helena Evora, and Fran VanGroningen, serve the other Sundays. Fellowship time gives us an opportunity to welcome our new guests.

Manna: co-coordinators, Adam Burdick and his daughter Amanda Morris, led the teams that provided a variety of delicious meals during the year. Thank you to all those who participate!



Serving Continued...

HERE TO SERVE

SCFBC is a church with a servant's heart. This year we had multiple opportunities to reach out and bless our community. Service opportunities ranged from building houses for a family in Mexico to tying prayer quilts for loved ones in need, from serving dinner at JW House to running game booths at Scott Lane's Fall Festival, from handing out warm jackets to the homeless in San Francisco to collecting food on Easter morning. All ages were encouraged to roll their sleeves up and be the hands of Christ to our neighbors.

2013 Service Opportunities included:

- Scott Lane Elementary Outreach
- JW House
- Second Harvest Food Bank Collection
- BBQ Championship
- CityTeam Chapel
- SF Homeless Outreach
- Mexico House Build
- Prayer Quilts
- Sunnyvale Community Services
- Seafarers Ministry

Thank you to all who gave their time, talents, donations and love so that more people would understand the reality of God's love.



SF Homeless Outreach



Mexico House Build



BBQ Championship



Sunnyvale Community Services Outreach



JW House



Scott Lane Fall Festival

Serving Continued...

GENEROSITY WITHOUT BORDERS

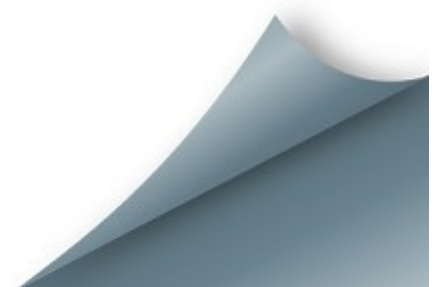
Our goal this year in Mission Giving was to match the 20% increase we sought in General Fund giving. Our total giving listed below increased by 18.4% over last year's gifts. But, as in past years, these figures don't include giving for 30-Hour Famine, New Hope Baptist Church, Mexico House building, Scott Lane events, cold weather clothing, Seafarers ditty bags, Trunk or Treat, Bethlehem or bottled water for the hot weather events we hosted. Thanks for being generous with your time and money. We are a giving church! May God continue to bless our efforts to spread His kingdom.

Mission Giving in 2013

<u>Name</u>	<u>Annual Goal</u>	<u>2013 Actual</u>	<u>% of Goal</u>
Correctional Institution Chaplaincy Ministries	\$2,000	\$1,795	90%
CityTeam (San Jose)	\$3,100	\$2,882	93%
Rancho el Refugio	\$2,600	\$2,358	91%
Global outreach (fund)	\$4,000	\$3,589	90%
Sacred Heart	\$2,600	\$2,333	90%
Redwood Glen Camp	\$2,600	\$2,458	95%
Local outreach & evangelism (fund)	\$3,000	\$2,772	92%
Regions Ministries	\$3,500	\$3,141	90%
International Ministries	\$3,500	\$3,141	90%
National Ministries	\$3,500	\$3,141	90%
Seafarers Ministry	\$2,600	\$2,333	90%
ABSW Operating Budget	\$1,400	\$1,256	90%
Gary & Mylinda Baits	\$2,500	\$2,243	90%
Lauran Bethell	\$2,500	\$2,483	99%
Glen & Rita Chapman	\$2,500	\$2,243	90%
Subtotal	\$41,900	\$38,170	91%

Special offerings

America For Christ	\$2,200	\$1,525	69%
One Great Hour of Sharing	\$3,000	\$5,440	181%
World Mission Offering	\$3,400	\$1,485	44%
Retired Ministers & Missionaries	\$1,000	\$525	53%
Subtotal	\$9,600	\$8,975	93%
TOTAL	\$51,500	\$47,145	92%



Serving Continued...

THE GIVING ROOM

Because of the serving heart of SCFBC, we found ourselves in need of a room to collect donation supplies. *The Giving Room* was set up as a place to store items collected for various service projects including the SF homeless outreach, Seafarers ditty bags, and Scott Lane school supply drives. Many hours were given to the organization of this room, and we want to give a big thanks to Peggy Shalloe and Michelle Lasher who made this room a reality.

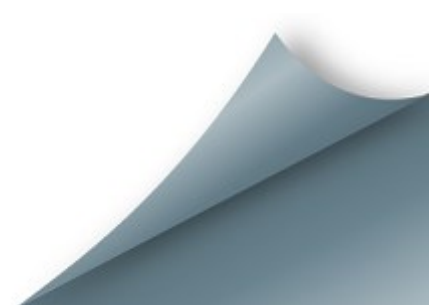


SHAPED FOR MINISTRY



Our 2013 goal for ministry and mission involvement was 65%. We wanted to see 65% of the regular attendants of our church involved in some form of ministry and/or mission. After a lot of leg work by a number of volunteers (especially Jerri Cooper) we determined that we had 124 of our 188 regular attenders involved in either a ministry or mission (many were involved in both). This amounted to 66% involvement rate, thus surpassing our goal! Thank you to all who give faithfully of their time and energy to “get in the game” and make a needed contribution to the work of Christ.

Wondering where you fit in? How are you best equipped to serve? One way to discover your place of service is to take the church’s **SHAPE Course**. It was developed by Rudy DuBord as Deacon of Ministry (with the help of Tim McLenegan) in 2013 and is available on the church website. Go to <http://www.scfbc.org/shape> and begin your journey to significant ministry and mission.



Turning the Page

WRITING THE NEXT CHAPTER

One of the most challenging 2013 goals we took on was the restructuring of our church leadership model. Dr. Hoyt immediately determined that a new, more streamlined approach was needed if we were to capitalize on the strengths of our staff and laity.

The 2013 Board should be proud of its efforts to see the need for this restructuring and work together to fashion the new model. The church can be proud that it took the bold step to adopt the model and birth it into being.

With this new staff-led approach, the Senior Pastor will lead the rest of the staff (paid and volunteer) in accomplishing the day-to-day tasks of ministry and mission. The Board now concerns itself with the overall health of the church, planning for the future direction of SCFBC, and holding the Senior Pastor accountable for the fulfilling of the church's ministry goals. We pray that God will bless our new approach with increased ministry effectiveness by all.

WELCOMING THE NEW BOARD



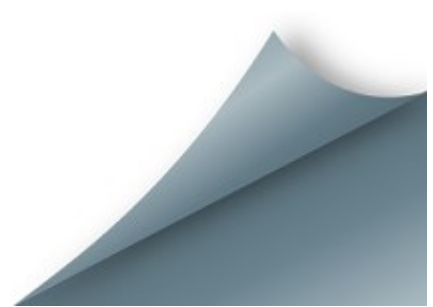
As it was announced during the January 26th morning worship, I am serving as the 2014 Chairperson of your new Leadership Board. I am humbled by this role, and excited by the prospects of this new Board structure. I believe that this structure will allow our church greater flexibility to carry out ministry and respond more quickly to needs in the church while also providing oversight and the ability to plan for the future—something we were not as well positioned to do previously. Not only has this model of governance worked well in other organizations with which I am familiar, but the early church demonstrated this model as well.

I am not so bold as to call the new Board an Elder Board, but our task is similar. We are stewards of the spiritual health of this church through the hiring and oversight of a senior pastor and working with the senior pastor to set the direction of Santa Clara First Baptist. The only way that is going to happen is for us to do the same thing the apostles did: devote ourselves to prayer and studying God's Word.

The Board is just starting this journey. As we have recently established goals for this year and begin to discover God's direction for SCFBC, we will continue to keep you informed. If you have any questions about the new Board, its members or its function, please feel free to contact me.

Joel Robinson at joel@scfbc.org.

Joel Robinson, Incoming Board President



Turning the Page Continued...

LOOKING AHEAD– 2014 SCFBC Goals

The song “We’ve Only Just Begun” perfectly describes our current situation. 2013 was a challenging and yet very satisfying year when we see what progress we’ve made. But, there is no looking backwards for too long in God’s Kingdom work. Jesus calls us to move forward into the “new thing” He is creating in our midst.

Therefore our church board has adopted the following goals for this new year. Some are the same as last year’s because there is more work needed to achieve them. Some build upon last year’s as we continue to make further advances in our ministry and mission effectiveness. All of them should drive us to seek the blessing and direction of Jesus. He deserves our best efforts to further His Kingdom work.

SHARING

Goal #1 *Baptize a minimum of 15 new “adult” conversions.*

Goal #2 *See a minimum of 45 people being instrumental in helping someone come to faith.*

GROWING

Goal #3 *Increase Sunday Morning Worship attendance by a minimum of 10%*

*(Since we averaged **139** people in worship in 2013– a 10% increase would lead to an average of **153** people in 2014.)*

Goal #4 *Average a minimum attendance of 100 individuals per week in Life Groups during 2014.*

Goal #5 *Increase congregational giving by 10% over 2013’s amount.*

2013 Contribution Income: \$492,424

This includes giving to General Fund as well as special fund-raising projects, General Missions giving and Specific Missions giving. This does not include other income streams such as special fund raising, cell tower rent, Korean church rent, or miscellaneous sources.

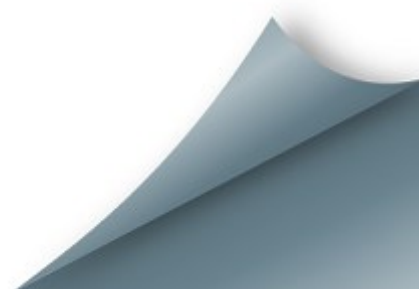
Achieving this goal would mean the SCFBC family would give a total of \$541,666 in 2014.

Goal #6 *Bring in 25 new members in 2014.*

SERVING

Goal #7 *Involve a minimum of 65% of our people in some on-going form of ministry, mission or outreach during 2014.*

Goal #8 *Initiate a System for Leader Development*



Turning the Page Continued...

IN TRANSITION

One of the first tasks the new board tackled was the selection of possible members for the Pastoral Search Team. These men and women will be given the responsibility to prayerfully decide who to recommend to the congregation for consideration as the next senior pastor.

The team will work with and be trained by Dr. Bill Hoyt who continues to serve as our congregational consultant. Dr. Hoyt has proven himself invaluable to us in diagnosing those attitudes, systems, and actions which were holding us back as well as challenging us to focus on true Kingdom values. With his guidance SCFBC is experiencing a great turnaround.



Now he will provide guidance to the Search Team in discerning:

- Who we are as a unique assemblage of believers at SCFBC
- What are our key church values that we live by
- What kind of person would best serve to take the church to new levels of ministry effectiveness
- Who that person might be

This will not be an easy or quick decision. Pastor Richard Reaves will continue in his current role as Transitioning Interim Pastor until the new pastor is selected and ready to come on board. This process will certainly take us deep into this present year and perhaps into 2015.

ONE FINAL THOUGHT

We have a long way to go when it comes to influencing people towards a decision for Christ. We were well below our goal of baptizing 15 new believers in Jesus in 2013. But, as one person put it, "Just because we have a goal doesn't mean non-believing people are going to respond to it."

What people will respond to is our continued love and concern. If we really believe people without Jesus are going to hell, then we're going to do whatever it takes to help them avoid that terrible fate. Our mission as disciples of Jesus is to guide every person we can into the loving arms of God. We'll continue to pray, serve, and look for opportunities to share the good news of the Gospel & Christ.

And it is "good news." We have in our possession the best message the world needs to hear. May we be generous in sharing this message of light and hope through deed and word to this desperately needy world of ours.

