

San Jose Christian Reformed Church

“God’s love to us, God’s love through us...”

May the Lord bless us all as we worship Him here this morning.

Bradley Smith will be preaching for us today,

We extend a warm welcome to all our visitors!

Lectionary Day: Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

Worship and Celebration Sunday: February 4, 2007

Coming Together to Praise our Awesome God

Prelude: Please enjoy this time of preparation for worship in quiet reflection.

Welcome and Greetings Elder Randy M.

Time of Praise: *“Holy, Holy, Holy”*

A Call to Worship – Responsive Reading – Isaiah 55

“The Trees of the Field”

Prayer

“Here I am to Worship”

Special Music: “Blessed Be Your Name” Andrea V. & Myron K.

Offering our Faith and Commitment to God

Congregational Prayer Elder Randy M.

Song Response: *“Immortal, Invisible”*

Children ages 3 to grade 6 leave us for “Kid’s Life”

Deacon’s Prayer

Offering: Church Ministry Fund

Special Offering: Faith Promise

Opening Ourselves to the Word of God

Scripture Reading: Matthew 5:14-16

Message: **“Bringing Out the God-Colors”**

Prayer

Song of Response: *“Come, Shine in the Darkness”*

God’s Blessing

Closing Hymn: *“All Creatures of our God & King”*

If you are a first time visitor today, please complete a “Communication Card” and stop by the welcome table in the back of the sanctuary for a gift and information packet. Please join us for “Coffee Time” at 10:40. Classes for children and youth at 11:00 am.

Next Sunday at SJCRC...

February 11, 9:30 am: Worship Service: Bruce Persenaire will be preaching; Special Offering: Ministry Shares. Please join us for “Coffee Time” after the morning service. A Congregational Town Hall Meeting and classes for children and youth will begin at 11am.

From the Missions Team and the Deacons...

The Faith Promise offering for today and March 4 will be designated funds for John and Brenda D. to go to The Dominican Republic the last week of March. They plan to help Gary Van Veen put a second story on a medical building that churches in the area rent to a doctor who works with the poor.

Elder-Deacon Care Groupings

Elder/Deacon phone numbers are in the church directory. ***Please inform them directly*** of any need you might have.

<u>Last Name Beginning</u>	<u>Elder</u>	<u>Deacon</u>
A-B	Doug P.	Mark L.
C-F	Jake B.	Steve S.
G-Ki	Harvey V.	Dan M.
Ko-L	Steve B.	Bruce G.
M-O	Bryan P.	Doug B.
P-S	Jeff B.	Steve M.
T-Z	Randy M.	Gert B.

Please contact Harvey V. if your primary elder is unable or unavailable to provide care.

Council Officers: Bryan P., Council President
Harvey V., Vice President
Randy M., Clerk

Preaching Schedule for February and March, 2007:

February 11: Bruce Persenaire	March 4: Don Hammond (Communion)
February 18: George Ebbers	March 11: Larry Fryling
February 25: Lambert Sikkema	March 18:
	March 25: Kevin Adams

Coming in February - Mark Your Calendars!

February 10: GEMS Valentine’s Day Event
February 11: Town Hall Meeting
February 23-25: JJs and Sonlife Ski Trip

Church News and Events

Next Sunday (February 11) there will be a Congregational Town Hall Meeting after the morning worship service. Please come for a discussion of the structural reorganization of the Council which was recently approved. Also on the agenda for the town hall meeting is an update from the Search team, a report by the Worship and Arts team, and other items of interest.

Immediate Need: Teachers for Kids' Life III (grades 4-6) - We're so glad to have such a big group of eager, lively young people at our 10:00 am Sunday morning class! But class size requires us to split this group and offer another class, and so *we need more teachers immediately!* If you decide to teach you will have 6 or fewer students and you will teach about once every three weeks. PLEASE consider serving in this important position: contact Grace.

Choir has begun again! Please join us on Thursday evenings for practice- we are beginning to prepare music for Lent and Easter.

Mount Hermon – Great Hymns of Faith: A hymn sing and lunch on February 8 at 10:00 am - \$11 per person. No van will be provided.

Volunteers needed for the Family Shelter Breakfast on February 10: We have three spaces open. Please consider serving the poor through this important ministry: sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board between the serving windows in the Social Hall.

Ladies: You are Invited... to a Valentine's Day Luncheon and Wedding Shower hosted by the GEMS! Next Saturday, February 10 at 12 noon please help us celebrate our two wonderful counselors who also happen to be brides-to-be: Liz F. and Andrea V.! Bright pink invitations with all the information you need are in the social hall by the GEMS bulletin board, or talk to Tonya M. or Grace M. if you have any questions.

Boys and Girls in grades one through six: Would you like to sing in church on February 11? We are forming a kids' praise team, and we welcome you to sing with us! Please come to rehearsal this Wednesday, Feb. 7 at 6:45 before GEMS and Cadets and also to rehearsal next Sunday morning, Feb. 11, at 8:30. Please talk to Tonya M., Grace M or Andrea Van W. if you have any questions.

JJs (Junior High) and Sonlife (High School): Save these dates for a ski trip- Friday through Sunday, February 23 through 25. Please see John and Brenda De Jong and get ready for this fun annual event!

JJs and Sonlife, please save the afternoon of Sunday, March 11: Please mark your calendars now and plan to get involved! The Palo Alto CRC and our church's youth groups are planning a combined youth service project. There will be more details about this service project at the February 11 Town Hall Meeting.

The February 2007 "Prayer Guides", the January/February 2007 "Today" devotionals and the December/January/February "Our Daily Bread" devotionals are available in the information racks. Please pick up your copies.

Church Bulletin: Miss a service? Current and archived bulletins are online at www.sjrc.org. Please have any bulletin announcements for this coming Sunday into the office **this week by Thursday evening** at the latest.

CRC Denominational News

World Missions- Prayer Support: The most vital support we can provide, and the foundation of the World Missions ministry is prayer. We invite and encourage you to sign up for our bi-weekly "e-pray" – an email newsletter for prayer items of praise and petition. To receive weekly electronic prayer updates from World Missions send an email to thornbub@crcna.org and put 'e-pray' in the subject line.

Good Enough For God? One question constantly nags the human mind. Am I good enough? Each stage of life has its own trials that cause us to question our abilities. Am I good enough? If you aren't good enough by human standards, is it possible to be good enough by God's standards? Find out more on the February 11th Back to God Hour. Go to www.BacktoGod.net for local stations and times. The Back to God Hour® is the electronic media ministry of the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

The Christian Reformed Church is One Hundred and Fifty Years Old! Did you know that our denomination is celebrating its 150th anniversary? Look for regional celebrations that are being planned throughout the coming year.

An Opportunity to Serve with the CRWRC

Palo Alto CRC and our church are planning a service trip to Alaska this summer. We will be working with CRWRC and Eaglecrest Ministries in Sutton, Alaska, August 4-14. Sutton is a small town about 70 miles NE of Anchorage and is very poor. We will be doing home repairs as well as VBS for the children. We will also have a chance to hike, sightsee and visit Anchorage and Seward. All generations are invited to participate (ages 15 and below should be accompanied by a parent or a guardian). The cost for the trip is expected to be about \$500 per person plus airfare (the airfare will be arranged through a travel agent so as to get favorable group rates). For further information about this ministry, visit the website, Alaskachallenge.com.

A \$200 per person deposit is due to Eaglecrest Ministries by Sunday, February 25 along with a registration form (still coming).

Our Church Family

Please pray for these personal needs:

- * **Jeff B.:** Jeff will have an appointment at Stanford on Tuesday morning for a consultation with the doctors to be advised on further treatment. He continues with his out patient therapy in Gilroy. Please pray that all treatments used will help heal Jeff from the cancer. Also, pray for continued strength for the B. family.
- * **Estella B.'s mother, Maria C.,** is still in ICU at Good Samaritan Hospital. She is doing better and may be released soon to another room, and then later to a care facility. She is now breathing on her own. Maria is 93 years old and the family asks for prayers that she may again be able to have nourishment by mouth. *The B. family thanks everyone for their ongoing concern and prayers.*
- * **Charlie B., Irvin D., Rein G. and Cobe R.:** Please pray for these members of our church family who have continuing health problems. Remember these friends with your cards and visits: they appreciate your thoughtfulness.
- * **Carl H.:** Continue to pray that Carl's leg will heal completely.
- * **Linda H.** (mother of Jennifer C.): Linda continues with her chemo treatments. Please pray that they will be effective. Jennifer thanks the congregation for your prayers and support!
- * **Pastor Don Hammond's wife, Norma:** Please continue to pray for Norma as she endures her treatment in battling bone cancer.

We extend our Christian sympathy to the V. family in the passing of Judy's mother, Marilyn M. Marilyn passed away Saturday, January 20 and the memorial service was Saturday, January 27 at the Presbyterian Church in Los Gatos. Please pray for the family as they grieve the loss of a much loved mother and grandmother.

Pray for our church while we are without a Pastor.

Please remember:

- our youth (JJs and Sonlife) as they spend time learning and having a great time together.
- our GEMS and Cadets: we continue our partnership with other churches and are seeing wonderful growth and enthusiasm.
- our Sunday children's groups: we experience good attendance and are thankful for a faithful staff.
- our men's and women's Bible studies
- our various teams as they seek God's direction for our church
- God's leading as the Pastoral Search Team continues the process of searching for a new Pastor for our church.

Updates from Our Missionaries, Gary and Pam Van Veen

Gary and Pam request that we remember these events for the year 2007:

- Work teams from Westview CRC and Shawnee Park CRC, MI
- Orientation of new missionaries, Joel and Alison Renkema
- Packing up and leaving the Dominican Republic and our ministry of 17 years
- Visitation of our supporting churches
- Hans entering Kuyper College, MI in August
- Adjusting to North American lifestyle

January Report From Your Church Council

The main focus of this month's Council meeting was the discussion and approval of a structural reorganization of the Council and its relationship to the various church teams. The goal of this reorganization is twofold. First, we want to elevate the Council's focus from the detail-oriented committee work -which is best left to our ministry teams - to that of developing and directing the church's mission and vision, and to leadership development. The second is to increase the effectiveness and accountability of the various ministry teams through periodic performance reviews and discussions with the entire team membership.

Under this new structure, the Executive team will have oversight of the Facilities, Finance, Natural Church Development, and Staffing teams. The Elders will continue their oversight of the Worship and Arts, Missions, Stephen's Ministry, Adult Discipleship, and Children's and Youth Ministry teams with the Deacons maintaining oversight of the Caring and Fellowship team.

Although this change may appear to be a return to the structure recently abolished by Council, it differs in two significant aspects. These are:

- The Council – Elders and Deacons – retain ultimate authority and responsibility over all areas of the church and its ministry.
- The lines of communication, accountability, and authority within this structure are clearly defined and well documented.

This brief overview of the change implemented at the January Council meeting may raise questions. You are encouraged to attend the town hall meeting scheduled for February 11 to hear a more in depth presentation of this change and to voice any questions you may have.

Also on the agenda for the town hall meeting is an update from the Search team and a report by the Worship and Arts team.

At our February meeting we will begin the process of developing a slate of nominees for the offices of Elder and Deacon. This year we anticipate the need to fill three Elder and three Deacon positions. We ask that you prayerfully consider and recommend individuals whom you believe are able to fulfill the requirements of these offices. Names for consideration for Elder and Deacon can be given to any Council member or to the church office.