

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 today.
Pastor Brad Smith is preaching for us this morning.
We extend a warm welcome to all our visitors!*

Sunday, December 16, 2007- 9:30 AM
Third Sunday of Advent
Morning Worship

GATHERING

Prelude: Our Time of Preparation for Worship
Welcome / Greetings / Announcements: Elder Jake B.
We Greet One Another

PRaising

Call to Worship: Pastor Brad Smith
Song: *“Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus”*
Lighting of the Third Advent Candle- The Candle of Love:
John and Brenda D.
Faith Story: A Story of Love
Songs of Praise: *“Amazing Love”*
“Power of Your Love”
“Angels We Have Heard on High”

SHARING

Congregational Prayer
Special Music: Kiel H. *“Welcome to Our World”*
Offering: Church Ministry Fund Super Sunday
Deacon’s Prayer
(Children ages 3 through grade 6 leave for “Kid’s Life”)

HEARING AND PROCLAIMING

Scripture Reading: I John 4:7-21
Message: “Motivation Matters”
Prayer
Song of Response: *“O Holy Night”*

SENDING

Blessing
Doxology: *“Hark! The Herald Angles Sing”*
Postlude: Worship Team *“Free to Dance”*

WELCOME!

If you are a first time visitor, 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 and refreshments in the Fellowship Hall following our morning worship service. The classes for preschool through high school meet at 11:00.

Next Sunday at SJCRC

December 23, 9:30 AM: Morning Worship- Third Sunday of Advent. Pastor Brad Smith will be preaching for us. Special offering: Crossroads Bible Institute- Prison Ministry. Please join us for coffee and refreshments after the morning service. At 11:00 AM: JJs meets in “The Gym”, Sonlife meets in “The Loft”.

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.	Scott V.
C-G	Jake B.	Bruce B.
H-L	Harvey V.	Dan M.
M-P	Steve B.	Bruce G.
R-T	Jacob V.	Doug B.
U-Z	Tom B.	Gert B.

Church Officers:

Harvey V., Council President	Dan M., Deacon Chair
Jake B., Council Vice President	Fred R., Treasurer
Randy M., Council Clerk	



Looking Ahead

Monday, December 24, 6 pm: Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
With Communities of Hope
Monday, December 31: New Year’s Eve Worship Service

Our Church Family

Please pray for these personal needs:

- * **Charlie B., Irvin D., Rich M., 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.
- * **Rein G.** is now recovering from pneumonia and a serious bacterial infection at his home at the Hillview Convalescent Home in Morgan Hill. Please continue to pray for a full recovery for Rein.
- * **Our Christian sympathy and love to Harv and Carol V.** in the death of Carol's brother in law, Jerry V. Jerry passed away early Wednesday morning after suffering from cancer. A memorial service was held on Saturday, Dec. 15, at the Crossroads Christian Reformed Church in San Marcos, CA. Please pray for all the family as they grieve the loss of their loving family member.
- * **Our Christian sympathy and love to Tana and Tony G.** in the death of Tana's father early Tuesday morning, December 11, in New York. Tana and Tony left Tuesday evening to be with their family. Please pray for comfort for all the family as they grieve this loss in their lives; also, pray for traveling mercies for Tana and Tony.
- * **Pastor Don Hammond's wife, Norma,** continues her treatment for cancer and is now recovering from pneumonia. Please pray for both Pastor Don and Norma as they go through this very uncertain time.
- * **Linda H.** (mother of Jennifer C.): Linda continues her struggle with cancer. Please pray for Linda and her family as they go through this most difficult and trying time.
- * **Several of our church family have lost loved ones** during this year and also extended family members in recent weeks. It is especially lonely and painful during the Christmas season when families often are together. Please pray for all who feel these losses.
- * **From John V.:** I would like to thank you for your support after my accident and surgeries and then the death of my beloved wife for over fifty years. Your prayers, cards and encouragement during this difficult time have given me strength and I thank God for our church family, you are a blessing! In Christ, John V.

Church News and Announcements

The 2008 Proposed Budget is available in the entry. Please pick up a copy for your review.

Please check out the Community Pregnancy Center (CPC) CHRISTMAS TREE OF LIFE in the Social Hall. There are GIVING CARDS hanging on the tree and by choosing one and gifting to CPC, you could SAVE A LIFE. After making your gift, you are welcome to take a KEEPSAKE ORNAMENT (while supplies last) as CPC's gift to you.

Thanks to all who helped in planning and working to make our GEMS and Cadets Christmas Dinner and Party a great success this past Wednesday evening. The GEMS and Cadets Counselors are very grateful for your support!

Church News and Announcements, continued

Dedication of the new facilities for the New Hope Korean Christian Reformed Church will be held on Sunday, December 16 at 4:00 pm. Our congregation is invited to attend this special service at 2900 Patrick Henry Drive, Santa Clara

Please note! Plan now to attend our *Christmas Eve Candlelight Service* (December 24 at 6 pm) and our *New Year's Eve Worship Service* (December 31, time TBD).

Interested in joining our prayer chain? It's easy to join our Google Prayer List: Please contact Mavis Moon. Those who do not have internet access, please have a contact person who does, to let you know of an emergency, prayer request or concern in our church family.

Church Bulletin: Please have any bulletin announcements for next Sunday's bulletin into the office this week by Thursday evening, at the latest. If you wish to email your announcements, please send them to Grace M.

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

Opportunities for Service and Ministry

The City Team Food Barrels are here and will be here until December 18 for your non perishable food and new, unwrapped Christmas gifts. Thank you for your support of our neighbors!

Urgent need! Hospitality Staff for GEMS and Cadets: We need a few adults to be part of our Hospitality Staff on Wednesday evenings when our GEMS and Cadets meet here at church. Your duties will be to arrive at 6:45 and supervise outdoor play until 7:10, bring or arrange for someone else to bring a light snack and drinks for 40, set up the snacks for the kids and leaders, and then to supervise outside play again from 8:20 until 8:40. There are 9 regular meetings remaining in this season, so if we get three volunteers you will only have to serve three times. Please help us! Contact Grace M.

One more small group training session this Sunday: We are beginning the process of organizing small groups in our congregation for the purpose of studying God's word together and building community. Pastor Brad is looking for individuals who are willing to help with this by leading a group or by opening up their homes. If you are interested in serving our church in this way you can receive training *today, December 16, at 4:30-5:45pm*. Please prayerfully consider how you can help, and contact Pastor Brad if you are interested or would like more information: Pastor Brad's cell phone- 408.410.2581 or email- brad@sjcrc.org.

Family Shelter Breakfast: Five volunteers are needed for the January 12 breakfast. Thank you to all for your faithfulness for serving in the past. This is a great ministry.....we would like to see some new volunteers as well!

Stephen's Ministry- all meetings at 7 pm (contact Brenda Loman):

- Training Classes:

- Monday, Dec. 17: Supervision: A Key to Quality Christian Care: Part 2
- Monday, Jan. 7: How to Make a First Caring Call

From Your Finance Team

Dear SJCRC Congregation:

As the 2007 calendar year comes to a close, we are also in preparation in closing out our fiscal year. During this beautiful season, we should continually reflect on the many blessings we are to be thankful for from family, friendships, health, employment, and most importantly the Lord's gift of salvation through his Son Jesus Christ. It is also clear that the Lord continues to bless our church here in San Jose and the work we shall continue.

Currently the CMF (Church Ministry Fund), receipts with which we fund our ministry here and pay for all our expenses, liabilities, and obligations is on a pace to be short of budget by approximately 20%. The CMF is primarily funded with the offerings and contributions received weekly. It is only with your continued support that the SJCRC can fully meet its commitments to our membership and friends, the local community, staff, our international missionaries and relief efforts, and our denominational responsibilities. And for this, we are truly thankful for your faithfulness, financial support, and prayer.

It is also in this spirit that we are asking for your specific consideration during this opportunity for year end giving. Not only will your faithful gift help to make up this shortfall to our annually committed budget, it will also assist us in making a balanced financial transition from 2007 to 2008 as well as afford you one last opportunity to maximize your tax deductible contribution for 2007.

Please prayerfully consider this opportunity to make good on our congregational commitment to this year's budget. These final 3 Sundays of December (16th, 23rd, & 30th) are your opportunities to help.

Your love, faithfulness, gifts, talents, and dedicated participation are a blessing and a testimonial in His service.

Thank you,
SJCRC Finance Team

Please Note: The 2008 Proposed Budget is available in the entry. Please pick up a copy for your review.



Stories for our Advent Worship

Today, December 16, is the third Sunday in the Advent season. The Worship & Arts team has planned the Advent services to include stories around four different themes for the four Sundays of Advent. Listening to each other's faith stories is an important aspect of faith formation. As Tom Long wrote in his book *Testimony*, "In church we are given words and ways of living that we would never dream of otherwise, not just church words... but words and ways of living that shape our pilgrimage everyday and in every place."

Would you be willing to share your personal story? We're planning to create a little booklet with all the stories that people contribute. We'd love to include yours!

The themes are below. To contribute a story, please give or tell it to Mavis Moon via phone, email or in person. We hope this will be a very meaningful Advent season and, if we get enough stories to make a booklet, it will be a wonderful legacy we can enjoy and share.

Hope – Tell us about a time when you faced a particularly difficult time but through God's grace were able to have hope.

Joy – Tell us about the joy of knowing that you belong to God. This may be a conversion story, or of a particular time when you claimed faith as truly your own.

Love – Tell us about a time of experiencing the love of God through the ministry of other people.

Peace – Tell us about your desire for peace. Is there some place in the world, the city or in life for which you especially long for peace?



San Jose Christian Reformed Church
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Pastor Brad Smith: 408.410.2581 (cell)
Business Office: 408-266-4412
Website: www.sjcrc.org

Helping This Sunday, December 16

Greeter: Gert B., Pat Vr.

Ushers: Bud and Agnes L.

Hospitality: Jake and Faye B.

Audio/Visual: Wendell K., Steve M.

Coffee: Carl and Lucille H., Claudio and Nancy H., Norm B.

Nursery: Lucille H., Trevor P., Dale B.

Kids' Life: Rose S., Alexis S., (Diana B.- aide)

Helping Next Sunday, December 23

Greeter: Bruce and Robin B.

Ushers: Mark M. and Irene P.

Hospitality: Randy and Mavis M

Audio/Visual: Mike K., Mavis M.

Coffee: Wendell and Patty K., Al and Tracie K., Willie K.

Nursery: Willie K., Zach M., Rochelle S.

Kids' Life: Rose S., Alexis S., (Diana B.- aide)

Schedule of Events: December 16– December 23, 2007

This Sunday:

9:30 am – Worship Service followed by coffee

11:00 am – Classes for all through high school

4:30-5:45 pm – Small Group Leadership Training Class

Monday:

7:00 pm – Stephen's Ministry Training Class:

Supervision- A Key to Quality Christian Care- Part 2

Tuesday:

7:00 pm – Elders and Deacons Meeting

Wednesday:

10:00 am – Coffee Break Women's Bible Study

Thursday:

7:30 pm – Praise Team

Next Sunday:

9:30 am – Worship Service followed by coffee

11:00 am – Classes for jr. and sr. high school