

## First Baptist Church

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**Mission:** First Baptist Church on RIDGE exists to reach people and develop them into fully devoted followers of Christ.

**R**each the un-churched

**I**ncorporate believers into the church body

**D**evelop members into fully devoted followers of Christ

**G**uide members into meaningful ministry

**E**xpress joyful worship to God

We are on the web!  
[www.firstbaptistgv.com](http://www.firstbaptistgv.com)



## Brazil Mission Trip — July 2nd to 13th

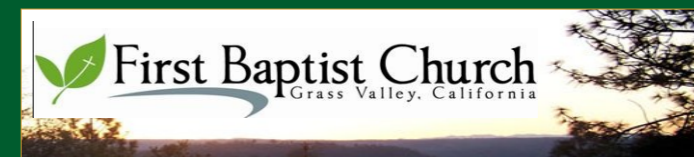
FBC is sponsoring a mission team to go to Sao Paulo, Brazil in July of 2009. We will be holding a fundraising event on **February 15th, 2009** at First Baptist Church in Grass Valley, following the 11:00 AM service that includes a Brazilian style dinner and silent auction. We would greatly appreciate any kind of support for the silent auction portion of this event that you could purchase, or give (in "new-like" condition) that would help us raise needed funds. The following is a list of ideas, but certainly *not* exhaustive!

Gift Certificates from local merchants  
Gift Baskets  
Fine Jewelry (Retail Value Included)  
Golf Packages  
Auto Detailing  
Dinners for 2  
Blockbuster gift certificate  
Set of children's books  
Set of children's toys  
Set of children's DVDs  
Playhouse (outdoor)  
Toy store gift certificates  
Gift certificate for a visit from Santa at your home  
Gift certificate for a clown at a birthday party  
Gift certificate for a pony at a birthday party  
Bicycle  
Gift certificate from a local nursery

Gift certificate from a local florist (could be a single certificate or for a flower/plant a month)  
Tote of garden tools  
Garden bench  
Garden boot cleaner  
Copper fire pit  
Garden sculpture  
Bird feeder and bird feed  
Gift certificate from a local landscaper  
Gift certificate for dirt, rock, mulch  
Gift certificate from a lawn service  
Use of a piece of heavy landscape equipment for a weekend  
Porch swing  
Patio furniture  
Lawn mower  
Snow blower  
BBQ grill  
Handmade jewelry  
Gift certificate for manicure, pedicure, massage, haircut.  
Sports Equipment  
Tickets for a professional or college game.  
Signed Sports memorabilia

Please contact Brad Chaney with Questions at 530-274-8322 or deliver your items to the church office Monday –Thurs or, Sundays after service. Thank you.

WINTER EDITION  
2008



FBC

# NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

From The Pastor's Heart



## From The Pastor's Heart

Pastor Mark Rindels

My Dear Church Family,

Can you believe we are welcoming in another new year? **2008 was a challenging year for many of us** but I can testify that God is faithful! He has been with our church through many new transitions. The development of the Contemporary Service has helped us reach new families while at the same time see new families attend our Blended Service. The launching of KidZone has been a blessing for the children's ministry and we will continue to reach new families through this ministry. The establishment of the Acts 1:8 Team has helped take missions ministry to a new level as we try and reach people all the way from Grass Valley to the ends of the earth. For this and many other ways in which God is working in our church, we give Him thanks for His faithfulness. **My family and I saw God's faithfulness this year** in taking care of our daughter while in Costa Rica, our son Ryan while on a mission trip to Jordan, and Yvette, Matt, and I while living with her folks as caregivers during the transition. It truly was a year of change but again we thank God for His faithfulness!

**What about 2009?** God will be faithful again but He will challenge us to go deeper in our walk with Him. Why? Because He "is able to do immeasurably more than all

*we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us . . . (Eph. 3:20a).* Our God is a BIG God and He wants to do BIG things through us! I am starting off the New Year with a sermon series titled, "Going Deeper." We will let God's Word speak to us and challenge us to go deeper in many different ways including servanthood, stewardship, and witnessing. God wants to do ". . . *immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine . . .*" so that there might be ". . . *glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations . . .*" (Eph. 3:20-21). **Are you ready for the ride of a lifetime?**

One of the vision statements we adopted this church year was to have **every member and regular-attender connected in a vital relationship with other believers through their weekly involvement in a Sunday School class or Small Group.** Why is this important? Because we need to be accountable for our spiritual growth, we need to allow others to sharpen us spiritually (Prov. 27:17), and we need to minister to one another so that all members are properly cared for. **Are you in a small group or Sunday School class?** If not, please take the challenge to go deeper this year by getting enrolled in one of the many opportunities we have. Call our church office and speak to Sue, Pastor Mike or myself for more details.

On a personal note, **January 5th is going to be bitter sweet for us as we see our son, Ryan, going on a 2-year mission to Suriname.** We are so proud of him and his following Christ. Ryan knows this is God's calling for him at this time in his life. I hope you will be at the 11 AM Service on January 4th as we commission him for his mission. **Please pick up one of his prayer cards at the Welcome Center** and keep him in your prayers daily. Missionaries know that it is the power of prayer that sustains them in the field!

Happy New Year! May God pour out His spirit on each and every one of you in 2009!

**Pastor Mark**

*Loving God and loving you,  
1 Cor 15:58*



## Adam's Apple...Pastor Adam Click



Youth Pastor  
Adam Click

I don't know if you know what the Polar Bear Club is. Each year a group from this church heads over to the McKinney's house and prepares for the plunge. At the stroke of midnight on New Years Eve these few, brave (crazy?) souls will jump from the frosty air into an ice cold pool. I know the record temperature for December in Grass Valley is in the 70's but on December 31<sup>st</sup> 2007 the temperature of the air was 41 degrees. The pool was 42. Let's just say it is a shocking experience. These few brave (insane?) people will do this each year leaving some to question them... why?

The Christian life can be like this from an outside perspective. We take the plunge into seemingly different (crazy?) stances and perspectives on life. Think about Jesus' example. He told us to love our enemies, to serve the lowly people with no thought of what we can get out of it. And we are to do this every year. Day after day after day, we are to continue to serve God, be honest, work hard, look out for others above ourselves, give a glass of water or spare clothes. God has repeatedly called us into actions that don't make sense (goes against the grain) to the world, but it gets their attention... in a good way. God loves

us and he wants us to serve people and get their attention. Not for our own glory but for his. We need to get the youth of America's attention and point them to Christ. We don't need to change the message of Christ to reach them. We need to give them a jacket, glass of cold water, chocolate chip cookies, a visit when they are sick.. We need to show them we care for them no matter what they look like, dress like, talk like, even if we wouldn't behave that way ourselves. Please pray for our youth in America that they will see Christ and want to take the plunge for Him.

*Pastor Adam*



Worship Pastor  
Curt Jarboe

## Music Ministry...Pastor Curt Jarboe

One of my favorite hymns is "To God Be The Glory." The first line says, "To God be the glory great things He hath done..." and we can see God blessing the ministry of worship and music in many ways. He is using it to build His church and bring glory to His name.



What a beautiful job the Worship Choir did this past Sunday on their cantata, "The Winter Rose." Thank you to all who were involved and especially, Candy Neeley for all of her planning, hard work, and

directing of the choir. **To God be the glory!**

Both of our worship services continue to grow and bring people both into God's presence and into the Body of Believers. Two families recently joined from each of our services, and at least two more are looking at joining because of our contemporary service. **To God be the glory!**

The greatest gift, of course, is the gift of God's Son whose birth we celebrate right now during this Christmas season. He desires that we reflect His

glory in a dark and needy world. Let's be reminded that our worship is not just what we do when we come together on Sunday mornings. No, it's much more. The way we live our lives everyday for His glory is the true offering of worship we can bring to Him. As the last line of that great hymn says, let's **"give Him the glory, great things He has done."**

Because of Him,

*Curt*

## Pastor Mike Sanchez—From My Perspective

**Dormant Doesn't Mean Dead, Just Resting...** I have an awesome privilege of having an office with a window that looks out on some pretty amazing stuff. During the early spring I can look out the window and watch as the first blush of spring causes the swelling of the buds on the trees and plants that soon become flowers and the greenest leaves on the trees outside my window. As the

summer progresses I always appreciate the shade and beauty that they bring as the days grow long and hot and the sun shines into my office often bringing an uncomfortable heat.

All too soon it seems that summer slips away and the leaves begin to turn. It's a bitter sweet time because I know that, in spite of the beauty that the fall brings, the warmth of summer is gone and winter is coming. The leaves

fall and the trees look bear, almost as though they were dead.

We don't think much about the quiet faith that we have that tells us that spring and summer will come again, but we know in our hearts that, in winter, what appears dead is only dormant. It's during this time of cold dreariness that the roots go deeper and the trees prepare to grow taller and stronger. Some even need the winter to produce



Pastor Mike  
Sanchez

## Continued...

sweeter fruit. So, we all look with faith and hope at what God will bring in the spring.

The believer's life is like that. We all go through winters during which God helps us sink our roots more deeply so that we might grow stronger and produce better fruit. We can have faith and hope that, in His plan, spring and summer always come. John 12:24

Think about that.

*Pastor Mike*



During this blessed season, we give thanks for our children's enthusiasm and excitement. At the KidsZone this month, we are talking about Jesus' birth. We started on December 7<sup>th</sup> with the prophets and God's promise given to Isaiah. Our memory verse was Isaiah 9:6, a wonderful promise given to show that a Savior would be sent. On December 14<sup>th</sup>, we learned about the angels who spoke to Mary and Joseph. We talked about God's love and memorized John 3:16. On December 21<sup>st</sup>, we talked about Jesus' birth and memorized Luke 2:11. We made a thank you wall and listed or drew pictures of things for which we were thankful. There were many drawings of families and homes, reminding us that what is important to our children are the same things that are important to us. On December 28<sup>th</sup>, we will talk about the wise men and worship, and we will learn Psalm 95:6. Next month, we go to

the Old Testament, starting with Jericho! Each week, we sing praise songs and watch a video that illustrates our Bible story in modern times. The children in both the 9:00 and 11:00 Sunday School classes are working hard on memory verses this month. If they can memorize December's verse, they will be invited to a pizza party after the first of the year. *Becky Swabeck*

## Choir News!

**CALLING ALL SINGERS...**

Start off the new year by joining choir!  
Our rehearsals are Wednesdays from 6:30 to 8:00pm.

*No experience necessary!*

*Come sing from the heart for the Lord!*

Contact: Candy Neeley 432-3811

## Women's Ministry

It's said that the seeds we plant today determine the kind of fruit we'll reap tomorrow. I believe that's true, and through the many fellowships, Bible Studies and other ministry events, the women of First Baptist Church have really planted many seeds throughout this year! Most recently, on December 6<sup>th</sup>, the **WM's Christmas Party and Secret Sister Revealing** was held with an Hawaiian Christmas theme. We had a great lunch of Hawaiian Hay Stacks and were entertained with a fun skit starring 6 of our ladies. Many were surprised to learn who their Secret Sister had been all year and we all learned how important it is to pray for each other in this ministry. There's still time to sign up to be a Secret Sister for 2009. Deadline

of January and the forms are on the WM table. Step out and pray for someone new! Thanks Sharon Williams for planning this event!

New **Bible Studies** are starting up in January so please check the Women's Ministry table in the foyer and sign up for the one most convenient for you. We are committed to helping all women grow in their relationship to Christ and all our studies are open to all women. We love to have guests come too, so invite a friend to come with you. We also welcome new Bible Study leaders, so if the Lord has been speaking to you about a certain topic, please speak with Candy Neeley, our Bible Study Coordinator—432-3811.

There are 10 families represented this year with our **Love Thy Neighbor Tree**

ministry! Praise God for His provision and His blessings on these families and on our wonderful church family in purchasing all 59 gifts on the tree! We've had some wonderful opportunities to minister to the young mothers of preschoolers in **MOPS Moms Time Out** this year! Twice this year we provided a four hour period of time where we cared for their children while they could get a nap, do some shopping, have a girls day out, or spend some 'kid-free' time with their husbands. November 15<sup>th</sup> from 10am to 2pm was our most recent time where we had a great time caring for 15 children! Other opportunities to minister to these young moms are 1) Be a Mentor Mom, 2) Volunteer to do child care during any of their twice a month meetings, or 3) Donate money to help with MOPS expenses. We are so thankful that God gave us this ministry right in our own facility. Please pray about your participation. (continued below)

## Women's Continued...

The planning meeting for 2009 activities and events for Women's Ministries will be held on Saturday, January 24<sup>th</sup>. Time and place to be announced. If you have a heart to grow in Christ and help other women to do the same, please contact Jayne. We would love to have you join us!

May God bless your Christmas and your New Year!

*Jayne Sanchez*

Women's Ministry Leader



## God's Comfort

• Mary Evans & Family with passing of Neal 11-30th

