



# First Edition



## January 2018

First Baptist Church of San Mateo 2801 Alameda de las Pulgas San Mateo, CA 94403 650-345-1965 www.fbcsanmateo.org

### New Year Greetings

● We hope this New Year is not only a time of transformation and unparalleled growth in your life we pray that each of us will be filled up with all the fullness of God! Together may we learn to live like Christ and reach out to others in His name! May God bless you and fill you! Love in Christ,

Pastor Marc & Candace

● "Therefore, it was necessary for Him to be made in every respect like us, His brothers and sisters, so that He could be our merciful and faithful High Priest before God. Then He could offer a sacrifice that would take away the sins of the people. Since He himself has gone through suffering and testing, He is able to help us when we are being tested." Hebrews 2:7-18

All glory, thanks and praise to Jesus for His love and power to redeem us and transform our lives. I am so thankful for all He is and has done in and through us here at First Baptist. Looking forward to growing deeper in Him with all of my church family.  
Happy New Year!  
Doug Andrews

● May the God of hope fill you with His joy and peace. May the amazing grace of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, and the affectionate love of God the Father, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all (2 Cor 13:14).

May the Lord Jesus grant us a new generation of man and woman after His heart and fulfill His dreams for FBC San Mateo. "  
Mara Prieto

I pray that you will grow in wisdom, understanding and love of the Lord!  
Blessings, Stenya Strang

● "But those who trust in the Lord  
Will renew their strength;  
They will soar on wings like eagles;  
They will run and not grow weary;  
They will walk and not faint."

Isaiah 40:31

In 2018, I wish you all renewal and strength in the Lord. Sheryn Cockett

● May you grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. May you experience all the Lord has for you in this coming year.

Sandy Murray

● A great New Year to all my brothers and sisters in Christ. May you all find the peace that our Lord and Savior Jesus offers all.

Clay Minter

● For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. 2 Corinthians 4:6

May you reflect the light of Jesus every moment as you live for Him! May this coming year bring a deeper knowledge of our Savior as you seek His presence.  
Janet White

● It's easy to get anxious and overwhelmed when going through Christmas and the New Year. My new year's resolution? Philippians 4:6-7 "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your request to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."  
Krystal Kotter

● And they were bringing children to Him that He might touch them, and the disciples rebuked them. But when Jesus saw it, He was indignant and said to them, "Let the children come to Me; do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God. Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it." And he took them in his arms and blessed them, laying his hands on them. (Mark 1:13-16) May God bless you at Christmas and may you grow to love and trust Him more in 2018. Cathy Thomas

● As I look back and reflect on 2017, I see how blessed I have been. I had the blessings of my family, lots of laughter, reminiscing of years passed and loved ones not here with us, some tears and the joy of making new memories! I have also been blessed by my friends and reminded that I am NOT alone, HE is with me and my family and friends are with me too! God is good, God does answer prayer, and when we have our eyes, hearts and ears open and make ourselves available GREAT blessings will follow. I can't wait to see what God has in store for us in 2018. Janine Dufficy

● A resolution for all time - not just 2018: I pray we remember how far God has brought us, all He has done for us. "How blessed are the people who are so situated; How blessed are the people whose God is the LORD." Psalm 144:15

We are "situated" with loving pastors, amazing fellowship, and God's word continuing to be taught. We are truly blessed.  
Doris Waddell

# A New Year - a Good Time to Consider Our Ways

By Pastor Marc Heinz

As this year draws to a close, and the New Year begins, I find myself filled with curiosity, excitement and great expectations for the coming year. I keep wondering; what does God have in store for us, individually & corporately? How does He desire to use His church on the corner of 28th & Alameda? Where does He want to take us? Will we be faithful to God and His leading, or will we miss out on His best? What kind of Body are we going to be? One that functions in dependence, integrity, and obedience, or will we settle for the status quo?

Will we take a stand for Christ or seek to keep a low profile and fly under the radar? You know, it is so easy to settle, to accept the way things are. It's easy to get in a rut and allow life your life in Christ to become far less than God intended or desires. It is also possible for people who love the Lord, to lose sight of the fact that He expects all of His people to stand out and shine in this present darkness.

In Matthew 5: 14-16 Jesus said: "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden; nor does anyone light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. "Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven."

When we studied this passage a few months ago we learned that light is a common theme in scripture, and its function is to make reality or truth visible, thereby giving direction and guidance by what is seen. Jesus said we are to be like a lighted lamp set on a lampstand, in a prominent place so that it gives light to the whole house and not stuck under a bucket, where it does no good. In other words, as Christians we are intended to influence and impact the world around us for good, making Christ visible through our lives and through our actions. Are we doing that? Will it be our goal, corporately and individually to be light in this community and wherever else God may choose to send us in the New Year?

It's important to understand that in verse 14 Jesus used the emphatic "you" stating, "You are the light of the world." Do you know what that means? It means that if you are a believer, you

are already the light of the world. Jesus clearly makes the point in these verses that it is the very nature of His people to be light in the world. Therefore, a believer who fails to function as light is going against their God given nature as a new creation in Christ. The Greek word *doxasosin* that is translated in verse 16 as glorify, means to praise, honor, or magnify. And the idea here is that when we live righteously, we shine, making visible the character of God the Father. So a believer's life and influence is to be visible and obvious, not secret or hidden. Which means you must not camouflage your devotion to Christ, but humbly do all that you can to allow your faith to be seen.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer had this insight: "A community of Jesus which seeks to hide itself has ceased to follow Him." We must be ourselves, our true Christian selves openly living the life described in the beatitudes and not ashamed of Christ."

These verses in Matthew contain some very powerful truths and provide instruction as to how we ought live in this world. They also make the point that while we have a purpose in the world; we are not to be of the world. As Christians we are to be radically different from those who don't know God. That's why our goal shouldn't be to fit in, maintain a low profile, not offend anyone, we are intended to stand out. Yet many who claim to know the Lord are reluctant to share their faith or let their light shine. There are those who claim to believe, but there seems to be little difference between the way they live and the way unbelievers live. Others want to minimize the differences between believers and unbelievers, but the differences are so great that Jesus illustrated this difference by contrasting light and darkness.

Brothers and sisters, if you are a believer in Jesus Christ then you have not only been set apart, you have been granted the incredible privilege of having a personal relationship with Almighty God. And that not only makes you different, but it demands that you live differently.

John Stott had this tremendous insight: "We serve neither God, nor ourselves, nor the world, by attempting to obliterate or even minimize this difference. Probably the greatest tragedy

of the church throughout its long and checkered history has been its constant tendency to conform to the prevailing culture instead of developing a Christian counter culture."

Jesus wants to use each of us to impact the world, and to bring His light into the darkness. He wants us to spread His truth and show what it means to truly be alive. Which is why it is so very important that we don't hide who and what we are in Christ. We dare not be complacent or disobedient! It is our God given responsibility to live in such a way that makes God visible to a world that is blind to Him. As one New Testament scholar says: the good word without the good walk is of no avail.

As incredible as it may sound, you and I really can be used by God to impact the world. We can make a difference! But it all begins by choosing to live flat out for Him. As we do that, this church and the community will be blessed! But that's not all; you will also become a blessing to other people. And God will use you as His instrument to bring life and hope to a broken world, best of all, God will be glorified.

Let's join together and pray that in this coming year, God will use us and His Church to bring about a dramatic change in the world. Let's make a resolution to not settle for anything less than God's very best! May we seek to let His light shine in and through us! And if we are obedient and do that, this really will be a happy New Year!

*"We have not ceased to pray for you and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding that you will walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, to please Him in all respects, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; strengthened with all power according to His glorious might for the attaining of all steadfastness and patience; joyously giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified us to share in the inheritance of the saints in Light. For He rescued us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins." Colossians 1:9-14*



**Sandy says:**  
**Thank you**  
to all who  
helped mak-  
ing this event  
possible and all  
who  
participated.





# FBC Youth

## Fall Youth Regular Events:

### FBC YOUTH Service- Sunday Mornings 11:00 - 12:15

**pm** Games, fun, worship, and our next teaching direction for our Sunday youth group meeting is going to focus on Exploring God's word and integrating knowing Christ into our daily lives.

### College/Career Fellowship - Sundays 12:30-2:00 pm

**Part 3 of our "True University Series" - Who is Jesus?** As always, we have great discussions together about the topic we are discussing but are relating it to our own personal relationship in knowing Jesus. Lunch provided.

### FBC YOUTH Mid-Week - Combined CAD and TNT (High/Jr. High) - Tuesday Nights 7:15 - 9:00 pm

Our teaching direction for our mid-week youth group meeting focusing on "Walking with the Lord" in our lives.

### Youth Winter Retreat - Jan 3-6 - Cost TBA

Fun in the snow, sledding, ice-skating, snowy adventures, games, and growing in God. This 3-day retreat that will be tons of fun and change your life!!!



## **Men's Breakfast**

**January 6, 8:30 a.m.**

**In the Chapel**

**ALL MEN are welcome.**

## **Mark Your Calendar! Movie Night January 26**

Title will be announced soon in the Sunday bulletin.

Hot dogs, drinks, and popcorn will be provided as usual.

Please bring a salad or dessert to share.

## **WORDS OF JESUS**

Ninety-nine Plus One

*"What do you think? If any man has a hundred sheep, and one of them has gone astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go and search for the one that is straying? If it turns out that he finds it, truly I say to you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine which have not gone astray. So it is not the will of your Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones perish."*

Matthew 18:12-14



January 5: Debbie Shong  
January 18: Janine Dufficy  
January 22: Mara Prieto  
January 26: Kay Chen  
January 28: Jeff Olson  
January 31: Becky Olson



### **FLOWERS**

Have you ever considered honoring a loved one by providing a bouquet of flowers for the sanctuary? Several dates are available. Sign up in the notebook on the counter in the narthex. We ask and appreciate a \$40 gift for each arrangement.

The office staff will order your bouquet to be delivered -- so convenient, and so appreciated by your loved ones.



# January 2018

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	
	1 <b>New Year</b>	2 7pm FBC Youth	3 6:30pm AWANA	4	5	6 8:30am Men's Breakfast	
Youth Winter Retreat, Jan. 3-6							
7	8	9 7pm FBC Youth	10 6:30pm Bible Study 6:30pm AWANA	11	12	13	
14	15 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day 	16 7pm FBC Youth	17 6:30pm Bible Study 6:30pm AWANA	18	19	20	
21 12:30pm One Word Ministry Meeting	22	23 7pm FBC Youth	24 6:30pm Bible Study 6:30pm AWANA	25	26 6:30pm Movie Night	27	
28	29	30 7pm FBC Youth	31 6:30pm Bible Study 6:30pm AWANA	<b>SUNDAY MORNINGS:</b> 9:30am Bible Studies for Children and Adults Contemporary Style Worship 11:00am Bible Studies for Adults and All Youth Classical Style Worship After Church: College/Career Study & Fellowship			<b>All Events Are Subject to Change.</b>



# FBC Youth in Action

By Doug Andrews

What an amazing year this has been for our youth. We have seen growth in so many ways and I am so proud of many of our kids stepping up to serve and grow in the Lord in the midst of a dark and difficult world. This year we have seen God's glory on display in many powerful ways in His creation. From our winter retreat in January in the mountains where we adventured in the snow, rappelled down a 150' cavern, rode a 1,500' zipline. Then in April, watching the amazing sunrise and worshipping our risen Savior at our Easter sunrise service. Then, again in the mountains for a week at Hume Lake Summer Camp experiencing God's beauty and powerful work in our lives. Then in August, a small group of especially crazy types drove to Oregon for the Total Solar Eclipse. College Weekend camp at Hume Lake in September. In October, serving the Lord at our Harvest Festival outreach, and experiencing celebrating Christmas together through our December events, it was a great year. We grew in so many ways and the Lord had so many unique and incredible things to teach us.

Praying for an even better year in 2018 with more powerful times together in worship, prayer, and bible study. Have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Please continue to pray for our youth and their growth in Jesus in 2018.



## Awana Update

by Ron and Cathy Thomas

The children of Awana were involved in outreach activities this fall. In early November, they collected canned goods for the needy that were delivered to Samaritan House in San Mateo. They also assembled and collected shoeboxes for Samaritan's Purse.

Then in early December, the T and T Boys and Girls met for a party where they enjoyed making crafts, decorating cupcakes, singing Christmas Carols, and having an extra night to recite more verses!

Thank you for your prayers and support of this ministry whose goal is to teach children to know, love and serve our Lord Jesus Christ. We have been on an extended winter break and are glad to have resumed on January 3rd.





First Baptist Church  
2801 Alameda de las Pulgas  
San Mateo, California 94403

## Daily Bible Readings

The following Bible readings are provided by [biblegateway.com](http://biblegateway.com) for our use.

### January

Mon.	01	Genesis 1-3
Tues.	02	Genesis 4-6
Wed.	03	Genesis 7-9
Thurs.	04	Genesis 10-12
Fri.	05	Genesis 13-15
Sat.	06	Genesis 16-18
Sun.	07	Genesis 19-21
Mon.	08	Genesis 22-24
Tues.	09	Genesis 25-27
Wed.	10	Genesis 28-30
Thurs.	11	Genesis 31-33
Fri.	12	Genesis 34-36
Sat.	13	Genesis 37-39
Sun.	14	Genesis 40-42
Mon.	15	Genesis 43-46
Tues.	16	Genesis 47-50
Wed.	17	Exodus 1-3
Thurs.	18	Exodus 4-6
Fri.	19	Exodus 7-9
Sat.	20	Exodus 10-12
Sun.	21	Exodus 13-15
Mon.	22	Exodus 16-18
Tues.	23	Exodus 19-21
Wed.	24	Exodus 22-24
Thurs.	25	Exodus 25-27
Fri.	26	Exodus 28-30
Sat.	27	Exodus 31-33
Sun.	28	Exodus 34-36
Mon.	29	Exodus 37-40
Tues.	30	Leviticus 1-3
Wed.	31	Leviticus 4-6

# Wednesday Night Bible Study Resumes January 10.

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# I SAMUEL

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**6:30 p.m. in the Chapel**