



# First Edition December 2014



First Baptist Church of San Mateo 2801 Alameda de las Pulgas San Mateo, CA 94403 650-345-1965 [www.fbcsanmateo.org](http://www.fbcsanmateo.org)

## ***“The Most Wonderful Time of the Year”***

***By Pastor Marc Heinz***

For as long as I can remember, Christmas has been my favorite time of the year! I love everything about it! Enjoying special times with family and friends. The wonderful sights and smells, the beautiful music, the great food and of course all the smiles and laughter!

When I consider Christmas, a million memories begin flooding my mind. Good ones! Going shopping for my mom with my dad. Caroling through the neighborhood or at local nursing homes. Driving around with my family looking at Christmas lights and displays. Going out into the woods in search of the perfect family Christmas tree. Drinking hot chocolate with my sister as we watched our mom meticulously decorate the tree. Attending the Living Christmas Tree. Every Christmas that Candace and I have spent together. And on and on it goes!

While all those memories are very precious to me, there is one that is even more precious. That is realizing afresh just how much God loves you and me! God loves us so very much that He sent His only begotten Son to save us. Therefore I cannot think about Christmas without affectionately remembering that:

***The Word of God became flesh and dwelt among us.***

***The law was given through Moses: grace and truth were realized through Jesus.***

***The Lord of all emptied Himself and became a servant.***

***The Beloved One became the forsaken One.***

***The Righteous One was made sin.***

***The Richest of all became poor.***

***The Revered One became the rejected One***

***The Eternal One tasted death***

***The Risen One now lives in His people***

***The Exalted One is coming again!***

Yes, Christmas is a special time of the year. It's a good time to remember and reflect on treasured memories. But most of all it is a time to celebrate Jesus! In Jesus, the Father sent His love wrapped beautifully in a package that we could all receive and if He hadn't done that there would be nothing to celebrate.

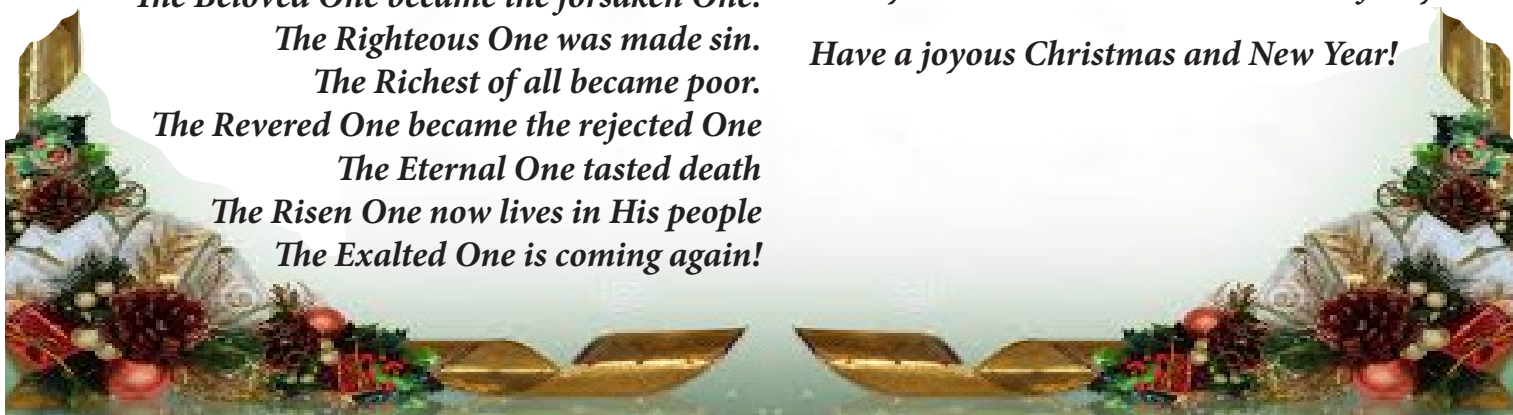
Fortunately, He did come, bringing hope and help to our fallen and broken world. Jesus came to remove our alienation and to take our place, paying the debt we owed and could never repay in order that we might become part of the family of God. Thanks be unto God for His indescribable gift!

Folks, we shouldn't need a holiday to remind us of God's great gift, especially when we recognize that this is a never-ending gift. If we live in the reality of God's gift and His love we can find great joy wherever we are and whatever we do.

***As we gather during this special season, it is my prayer that each of you will be encouraged by God's love and reminded of the true meaning of Christmas. During this season my thoughts and prayers will be with each of you!***

***May the One who is worthy of all our praise, Bless your Christmas in a multitude of ways!***

***Have a joyous Christmas and New Year!***



# Celebrate Christ in Christmas



*A Night of Worship, Featuring Dave Irish  
December 6th, 7:00 p.m.*

## HOW YOU CAN HELP:

We all enjoyed your desserts after the Thanksgiving Eve service, and now you have opportunity to share again!

A reception after "Celebrate Christ in Christmas" concert will give all of us a chance to share, not only our desserts, but our sincere welcome to those who attend the concert.

### Can we count on you?

Contact Doris Waddell at the church office by phone (650-345-1965) on this Tuesday or Thursday or email to [dwaddell@fbcsanmateo.org](mailto:dwaddell@fbcsanmateo.org)

**THANKS!**



*Bring your family,  
friends and neighbors  
to enjoy this concert of  
praise and worship for  
God's gift of His Son.*



## About Dave

Dave Irish has a heart for the hurting. His songs are thoughtful and reflective, communicating a message of hope restored, of burdens lifted, of a bright eternity promised for those who follow Jesus Christ.

Dave has led worship or performed concerts in more than 100 churches of all sizes and denominations, mostly along the entire West Coast and as far east as Washington D.C.

Dave writes virtually all of his music, with the exception of the occasional hymn that he arranges in a style uniquely his own. He is equally comfortable performing alone-just him and his piano-with another accent instrument like a cello, or with his full band. His goal is to work in the ministry context to which his host is accustomed. Dave's music can be utilized in a variety of ways, here are a few:

- ◆Concerts
- ◆Guest Worship Leader
- ◆Special music that reinforces the theme of a church service
- ◆Special Events-Retreats

Having recorded one CD per year since 1994, Dave hopes to continue recording and exploring new avenues in his music. He is committed to excellence, without sacrificing heart centered ministry. Dave and his wife Nancy were married in 1983 and have two daughters, Breanna and Jess.

### A life of worship

Dave uses his music to express his life's devotion of giving respect and honor to God through His Son, Jesus Christ. His unique expression has touched thousands of lives around the world. His divinely inspired songs are refreshingly honest and transparent, born from a life-long effort to forge a truth-filled relationship with his Savior, Lord, and Friend. Just as King David's music brought praise to God and comfort to troubled hearts, so the music of Dave Irish has proven to do the same (1 Samuel 16:22-23)

### Financial Policy

Full-time support for Dave's family comes from his ministry. It's set up as a nonprofit 501-c3. He has a board of directors who have determined his salary. He's chosen not to charge a fee for his services. Instead, his compensation for an event is at the discretion of the church or sponsor featuring him.

## Celebrations

By Doug Andrews

When it comes to birthdays, graduations, weddings, or anniversaries, how do we typically celebrate these events? We celebrate the events with the loved one who achieved the particular milestone. Though in some cases, where distance or even time separates, we still manage to reach out to express our love, appreciation, thanks, or whatever is appropriate. It wouldn't be really proper to celebrate someone's birthday, and then to never invite or include the very one whom we are celebrating in the activity. Yet, all over the world this Christmas season, people will celebrate the birth of someone they do not know, nor do they desire to know. However, we should be very much different.

We know exactly Who it is we are celebrating. And not only that, we know Him personally and know that He is ever-present with us through all the days of our lives. We should know Him intimately and should be so in love with Him, that we live each moment of our lives in deep relationship with Him. We should understand just how magnificent and wonderful is our Friend, our Savior, our God.... our Jesus. That celebrating His birth is an act of love, devotion, reverence, exuberance, rejoicing, and true celebration.

This Jesus, whom we deeply know, has rescued us from the depths of eternal hell and despair, and brought us into His marvelous Kingdom of eternal light. He has given us meaning and eternal purpose in this life and in the life to come. And He has adopted us as His own dearly beloved children, never again to be forsaken or allowed to wander aimlessly. We have new hope and a beautiful future before us.

What's more, He is right here with us. He is not dead for He lives evermore. So this Christmas season lets come together and seek Him. It's His birthday! So lets ask Him what He wants. What kind of celebration does He want for us to plan, what kind of remembrance has He led us to arrange.

Come join us this Christmas season for all of our worshipful and celebratory events that cause us to seek Him, and give Him what He most wants.... our hearts!!!

# Christmas on North B Street

## Sunday December 7th, 2014

### 4:00 - 7:00 PM at the Downtown Transit Center

Presented by the  
Downtown San Mateo  
Association and the  
San Mateo Firefighters  
Association

Crafts, jump houses, holiday music, snacks, and face-painting at the Transit Center

Visit the live nativity hosted by the merchants of North B Street!

Tree lighting with Santa Claus on the old-fashioned fire truck - starts at 5:45.

**Holiday Train arrives at 6:20 PM**



This event will benefit the families at First Step For Families, a shelter for homeless families in San Mateo.



Do you want to share the Christmas Story with others? First Baptist Church is part of this celebration down town, San Mateo, featuring Dave Irish and the FBC choir. Talk to Doug Andrews or Alba Kellejian to see how you can help.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

- ◆ Celebrate Christ in Christmas Concert, with Dave Irish  
December 6th -7:00 pm
- ◆ San Mateo City Tree Lighting Event  
December 7th, volunteer to help 2-7pm
- ◆ Wednesday Night Services  
Dec 10 and 17th
- ◆ Christmas Eve Service - Dec 24 at 11:00 pm

### Sunday Advent Services

- ◆ Nov. 30 - 9:30 and 11:00 am
- ◆ Dec. 7- 8:45 Fellowship breakfast and 10:00 am Combined Service
- ◆ Dec. 14 - 9:30 and 11:00 am
- ◆ Dec. 21 - 9:30 and 11:00 am



## Women's Ministry Fall Brunch

by Sandy Murray

On Saturday, November 15, the women of FBC and several guests gathered in the chapel for a time of food, fellowship, worship and the hearing of God's Word. We opened with brunch prepared by our own Tim Dufficy. He was helped by a crew of men from the Men's Ministry. We really appreciate their willingness to help out whenever we have an event.

After brunch, we were blessed with a time of worship. Our own Betty Camp played for us a selection of hymns that were some of her personal favorites. Tami and Candace lead the singing. We are praising God for his provision of a talented piano player to our ministry. It really adds to our worship.

Having been led into God's presence, we were now ready for the main speaker. We were blessed to have Libby de Juan, who for seven years was teaching leader of the Bible Study Fellowship group that met here at FBC. She spoke on Romans 8. Libby led us through the entire chapter one verse at a time. She began in verse 8:1 and told us that if we were in Christ Jesus, there is no condemnation, not now, not ever. Jesus, who became sin for us freed us from all condemnation.

She went on to tell us that as believers we are indwelt by the Holy Spirit, giving us new life. We are to respond to the Spirit within, rather than the sin nature which also remains in us. We are to walk by the Spirit, not by the flesh. She said that as Christians, we have an obligation to live by the Spirit rather than the flesh. A Spirit filled life will spill over in love to others. God's love will shine through us! A spirit filled life is a life of prayer, a continual conversation with God. A spirit filled life means dependence on the Spirit for help in times of need. A Spirit filled life means growth in holiness.

Libby challenged us with the question: "Are you growing in holiness?" She ended her talk with the fact that through the Spirit, the Christian is more than a conqueror. There will be battles, but Christ has won the victory for us. No matter how hard the battle, nothing can separate us from God's love.

Our day ended with table discussions based on Libby's talk and a time of sharing. It was truly a time of blessing in the Lord centered around His Word.

## Celebrating CHRISTmas Together

By Alba Kellejian

We are in the mist of an exciting time of year. There are so many activities and parties to enjoy and people to see we that sometimes stopping to remember and celebrate the true reason we celebrate Christmas gets moved to an isolated evening at the end of the month and then we are off looking forward to a new year. This year can be different! If we are intentional about celebrating the arrival of the promised Messiah, I know this will be a year like no other.

Advent begins this Sunday, November 30th. Advent means "arrival" and it refers to the time of expectant waiting we observe from late November or early December to the day we celebrate Jesus' birth. There are many devotionals and reading plans on line (see links below) to help you focus your heart and fill it with wonder, awe and joy this CHRISTmas season.

I also want to invite you all to pick up a copy of this months HOMEFRONT magazine in the Narthex and outside my office door. It is filled with creative ways for your family to wait for Christmas together. You may choose do the short daily readings that tell the Nativity story throughout the month, or maybe the week before Christmas your family might be blessed to spend daily time praying through an Advent acrostic poem. There are also holiday recipes and games. Please take some time to read through this great resource, I know you will be blessed.



**New Class --  
Coming Soon**

## “Building a Firm Foundation in the Faith”

**Open to  
Men and Women**

**Sundays, at 11:00 a.m.**

**To sign up  
(if you haven't already) or  
get information,  
call the church office at 650-  
345-1965.**

**Be Rooted in the Faith.**

**To know God is not just  
to know the facts about  
Him, but to stand in awe  
of Him, and have a  
RELATIONSHIP  
with Him.**



### **Additional resources:**

<http://www.focusonthefamily.com/parenting/holidays/making-meaningful-christmas-memories/celebrate-advent>

<https://www.rca.org/resources/advent>

<http://corycenter.org/uploads/24-Days-of-Advent.pdf>

# LIFE OF THE CHURCH December 2014

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
		7pm AI-Anon 7pm C.A.D.	6:30pm Midweek Service 8pm Worship Rehearsal	3pm Youth Band Reh. 7pm TNT		8:30am Men's Breakfast 2pm Scout Eagle Court of Honor 7pm Celebrate Christ in Christmas Concert in Reception Following
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
8:45am Breakfast 10am Combined Worship Communion 4-7pm Christmas Outreach 5pm Scouts Court of Honor	7pm Scouts 7pm AI-Anon 7pm C.A.D.	6:30pm Midweek Service 7pm Scouts Leaders Meeting 8pm Worship Rehearsal	3pm Youth Band Reh. 7pm TNT			
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
8:45am Prayer Meeting in the Hospitality Room 12:30 Children's Ministry Lunch	7pm Scouts 7pm C.A.D.	6:30pm Midweek Service 7pm Scouts Leaders Meeting 8pm Worship Rehearsal	3pm Youth Band Reh. 7pm TNT			
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
8:45am Prayer Meeting in the Hospitality Room 12:30pm Women's Ministry Team Meeting	7pm Scouts 7pm AI-Anon 7pm C.A.D.	11:00pm Christmas Eve Service 		Church Office Closed		
28	29	30	31	SUNDAY MORNINGS: 9:30am Bible Studies for Children and Adults Contemporary Style Worship 11:00am Bible Studies for Adults and All Youth Classical Style Worship		
8:45am Prayer Meeting in the Hospitality Room	7pm AI-Anon 7pm C.A.D.	Church Office Closed		All Events Are Subject to Change.		

## Daily Bible Readings - November

The following Bible reading schedule was compiled by Robert Murray McCheyne in 1842. Using this Bible reading schedule you will read four portions of Scripture each day (two in the morning with "family" or individually and two in the evening in "secret" or privately), and read through the Old Testament once and the New Testament and Psalms twice in a year.

Mon.	1	1Chr..29	2Pet. 3	Micah 6	Luke 15
Tues.	2	2Chr.1	1John 1	Micah 7	Luke 16
Wed.	3	2Chr.2	1John 2	Nahum 1	Luke 17
Thurs.	4	2Chr.3,4	1John 3	Nahum 2	Luke 18
Fri.	5	2Chr.5-6:11	1John 4	Nahum 3	Luke 19
Sat.	6	2Chr.6:12-42	1John 5	Hab. 1	Luke 20
Sun.	7	2Chr.7	2John 1	Hab. 2	Luke 21
Mon.	8	2Chr.8	3John 1	Hab. 3	Luke 22
Tues.	9	2Chr.9	Jude 1	Zeph. 1	Luke 23
Wed.	10	2Chr.10	Rev. 1	Zeph. 2	Luke 24
Thurs.	11	2Chr.11,12	Rev. 2	Zeph. 3	John 1
Fri.	12	2Chr.13	Rev. 3	Haggai 1	John 2
Sat.	13	2Chr.14,15	Rev. 4	Haggai 2	John 3
Sun.	14	2Chr.16	Rev. 5	Zech. 1	John 4
Mon.	15	2Chr.17	Rev. 6	Zech. 2	John 5
Tues.	16	2Chr.18	Rev. 7	Zech. 3	John 6
Wed.	17	2Chr.19,20	Rev. 8	Zech. 4	John 7
Thurs.	18	2Chr.21	Rev. 9	Zech. 5	John 8
Fri.	19	2Chr.22,23	Rev. 10	Zech. 6	John 9
Sat.	20	2Chr.24	Rev. 11	Zech. 7	John 10
Sun.	21	2Chr.25	Rev. 12	Zech. 8	John 11
Mon.	22	2Chr.26	Rev. 13	Zech. 9	John 12
Tues.	23	2Chr.27,28	Rev. 14	Zech. 10	John 13
Wed.	24	2Chr.29	Rev. 15	Zech. 11	John 14
Thurs.	25	2Chr.30	Rev. 16	Zech.12-13:1	John 15
Fri.	26	2Chr.31	Rev. 17	Zech.13:2-9	John 16
Sat.	27	2Chr.32	Rev. 18	Zech.14	John 17
Sun.	28	2Chr.33	Rev. 19	Malachi 1	John 18
Mon.	29	2Chr.34	Rev. 20	Malachi 2	John 19
Tues.	30	2Chr.35	Rev. 21	Malachi 3	John 20
Wed.	31	2Chr.36	Rev. 22	Malachi 4	John 21

### Special Offerings

For the month of November will go to Western Seminary.



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.

### Looking Ahead!

On Sunday, January 4, First Baptist Church will Kick-Off the New Year with a breakfast at 8:45 a.m. followed by a Combined Service at 10:00 a.m. Join us to anticipate and celebrate what 2015 will bring - what God has in store for us!

*Do you have a prayer request?  
The Prayer Box is available  
in the narthex. The Pastoral  
staff will pray for you.*



**F  
B  
C** Consummate  
Man



### ATTENTION ALL MEN:

#### Men's Ministry Monthly Breakfast

Saturday, Dec. 6, 8:30 a.m. in the Chapel.

#### AND:

On Every Sunday morning at 11:00 a.m. in Room 250, the Men are studying Dr. Charles Stanley's lessons on "Listening to God."

All men are invited to listen and discuss the truths about hearing God's voice.

The Word of God  
- for instruction in  
righteousness.  
2 Timothy 3:16

**Listening  
to  
God**

Dr. Charles Stanley

In Touch Ministries, P.O. Box 7900, Atlanta, GA 30357

**HAPPY  
BIRTHDAY**

Dec. 4: Regina Coffey  
Dec. 10: Stenya Strang  
Tami Strang  
Dec. 11: Sarah Dufficy  
Dec. 14: Javier Morales  
Dec. 17: Lucretia-del Broussard



Happy Anniversary

Dec. 24: Daniel & Lucretia Broussard  
Dec. 30: Jose & Brenda Corzantes