

Our Mission:

Inviting people to
faith in God,

Equipping people to
follow Jesus,

Serving others
through the power
of the Holy Spirit.

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April 2007



Whoever you are and wherever you are on your journey of faith, please know that you are most welcome here.

Calendar of Events

F2FN Picnic Lunch & Lake Walk April 1 1:00PM Almaden Lake Park

Good Friday Service April 6 7:00PM The Front Room

Easter Breakfast & Worship April 8 9:30AM The Front Room

CommUnity Meetings with Kibbie Ruth April 1 & 15 Following Service The Front Room

Family Fun Night April 10 6-8PM The Front Room

Council Meeting April 19 7:00PM The Front Room

Power Prayer Alert Reminder Wednesdays 1:00PM For 1 Minute

www.NexGenChurch.com

408.225.3565

On The Journey Together



I am so excited to be joining you on this journey! I have served in 4 different interim settings in the last 4 years, but being here at Next Generation is the most exciting. Being with some of you who have known me for many years, from my supply at St. Andrew, and meeting many new people has been so

spirit filled.

I have found the Holy Spirit dwelling within this community. Armed with the power of the Spirit, you possess a strong spirit for the infinite possibilities which lie ahead.

You will be hearing more over the next months about our "spiritual web". My hope is for each of you to be a part in some way of my spiritual web. To this end, I would like to hear your stories-the ups and the downs, the thorns and the roses. I may call you, if I do not see you at worship, OR you could call me! I love to "do" lunch, coffee, or whatever.

Remember that we are not alone on this journey. It is an exciting time of reflection and discernment of God's will for Next Generation. See you Sunday!

Pastor Debbie

CommUnity Meetings

April 1 & 15

As our community continues to heal and grow and works towards the future, please join us at The Front Room for facilitated discussions on where we've been, where we are, and where we're going. Kibbie Ruth, a counselor from our synod, will be leading these discussions on April 1 and April 15, following the regular Sunday service.



He is not here; he has risen! Remember how he told you, while he was still with you in Galilee: The Son of Man must be delivered into the hand of sinful men, be crucified and on the third day be raised again. Luke 24: 6-7



Join us for worship services this Easter season

- Good Friday Service, April 6 at 7:00 PM
- Easter Morning—Begins at 9:30 AM with a continental breakfast and time for fellowship. Worship to celebrate the Risen Lord will start at 10:15. Special treats will be offered for the children in our community, including an Easter egg hunt and piñata.

**All services and events take place at
The Front Room
5754-A Santa Teresa Blvd.**

The Lenten Soup Supper was a great success! Approximately 30 members of the congregation attended. Four different, delicious soups were served and Ros and Ray set up a salad bar that would make Fresh Choice green with envy. The real hit of the night was Mickie's apple cake. The next potluck is Wednesday, April 25. We will be celebrating Cinco de Mayo a little early, so bring your favorite Mexican dish and join us between 6 and 8 PM in the Front Room. See Sheila Gibbons for more information.



**Save the Date!
April 25 @ 6:00
Fiesta Potluck
The Front Room**



A small body making a difference in a BIG way—

Crop Walk Against Hunger

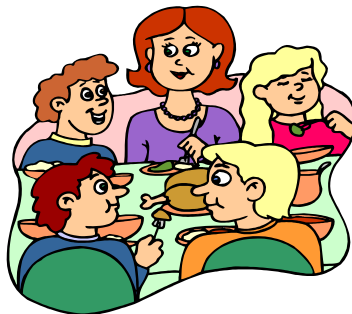
Sunday, April 29, 2007

Registration 12:30

Lincoln High School, San Jose

To wrap up our month-long focus on healthy living, Next Generation will participate in the San Jose area Crop Walk against hunger. Even our small church is committed to making a huge contribution to help alleviate hunger.

We hope to gain the commitment of ten of our families to raise \$100 each in the fight against hunger. Asking for sponsors is easier than ever with the online option of sending email requests to family and friends. Stop by the office or talk to Cristina, our ministries coordinator, to pick up a registration packet.



Family Fun Night

April 10

6-8PM

The Front Room

Come join us for a night of family fun! Eat a meal; play some games; gather with friends. These events have been a huge success in the past, and we want to keep it up. We just need you here!

Food Provided
Games & Activities
All Families Welcome





Mission Partner's Page Working for the Lord



By: Leo Astillero

Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men. Colossians 3:23

I found this scripture passage several years ago when I was involved in a bible study. At that time, I was working in retail and believed that I was content with my life. I guess this passage was a justification for working in a low paying industry with bad hours—believing that I was working for the glory of the Lord, and not for the money. I guess the manual work was also part of the Christian ethic about the value of work. I also believed that the Lord put me in that situation for a purpose. The Lord then intervened and removed me from that situation, because I was fired from that job. This was the only job from which I was ever terminated.

Years later, after a ten year educational journey, I am working as a social worker in child welfare, and somehow this passage is more relevant today. The criticism of my work is that we have “godly” powers over children and families. As social workers we take children away from their families; we reunify them at our discretion; and we decide some children’s futures through adoption. It can be argued that there are guidelines for these decisions, such as a code of ethics and the judicial system, but some of the decisions that social workers make are objective. I often struggle with these decisions. And when I do, I give up my decision-making ability to God. This takes the weight off my shoulders, and I do not feel as though I have to have all the answers. My joy comes from working with parents who place their faith on the Lord for the outcomes. Somehow I feel some affinity with them, and this makes the scripture even truer.



The Living Word

Be imitators of God, therefore, as dearly loved children and live a life of love just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us. Ephesians 5:1-2

YOUTH & FAMILY NEWS

Healthy Bodies: Healthy Spirits

By: Erin Pearson

Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body. -1 Corinthians 6:19-20

Next Generation Church is dedicating the month of April to the practice of physical health! As we prepare to get ready for this year's annual CROP walk for hunger we are reminded of God's command to take care of our physical bodies.

As Americans, we have a cultural predisposition to lust after things that we don't already have and waste what we have been given. In our society, we are taught that more, new, and bigger is better. We are taught that everything is dispensable and when we want something else, we should just throw the old one away. Unfortunately, this lust for what we want, teamed with a weak sense of managing our Godly possessions (our bodies and souls), can lead us into poor physical health habits.

Here is what I mean: We are upset. We know that we want something more than this feeling. We consume to make ourselves feel better rather than taking care of ourselves physically, emotionally, or spiritually. We don't feel better, but we keep consuming. We are caught in a vicious consumer cycle and aren't acting in alignment with Godly stewardship.

The good news? When we ask Him, God will provide us everything we need emotionally, physically, and spiritually. You and your family can break this cycle of rampant consumerism by learning to be stewards of what you have been given.

Let's start this month by taking care of our bodies, since we only get one! You and your family can make decisions to get out and walk, start eating smaller portions of food, reduce your intake of processed or sugary foods, drink more water, and above all approach each day with an attitude that is grateful to God for all that you have been given. God gave us each one body to take care of. This month, let's each be a steward of that body and treat it as a cherished gift with every breath of every day.



**Family2FamilyNetwork
April Event,
Sunday, April 1 @1:00
All Are Welcome!**

This month will find our families gathering at Almaden Lake Park with their own picnic lunches for community fellowship and a walk around the lake. F2FN invites all church members to join us. This walk will prepare us for the Crop Walk for Hunger that the church will be participating in later this month. If you have any questions, please contact Erin Pearson at (408) 225-3565.



Weekly Events

New youth leader Verlin Russell has committed to hangin' with us for the rest of the school year. We have really cool stuff planned that you will not want to miss! See you there~

Middle School Group—Tuesday Nights, 7:00-8:30

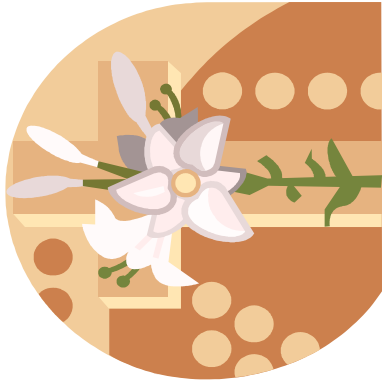
Events take place @ The Front Room, 5754-A Santa Teresa Blvd.

THIS JUST IN—YOUTH NEWS

We need you because you can make a difference.

- Remember to check out the youth website and our Daily Bread Youth Devotions. Click on the youth link once you open the church's main page at www.nexgenchurch.com.
- Remember to put the CROP WALK on your calendar— Sunday April 29 at 1:00. You can register on our website at www.nexgenchurch.com under Church Events.
- We still need teachers for the Sunday morning “kids in a tent” program. These are simple lessons and require a limited commitment, but the effort is really appreciated by our youth. Submit your youth devotions to be included on the website. Contact Erin at (408) 225-3565 for more information about any of the above.

Next Generation Church
Administrative Offices/The Front Room
5754-A Santa Teresa Blvd
San Jose, CA 95123



Sunday Worship
10:15am
5754-A Santa Teresa Blvd.
The Front Room



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