

# SCC NEWS

Spreading the Good News from  
Santiago Community Church

May 2012

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## WORDS FROM THE PASTOR

I remember memorizing the Ten Commandments, the 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm, and the names of all 66 books of the Bible when I was a boy attending Sunday School. That information has served me well over the years. I am more likely to stumble through these items now than I did then. However, if we study the Bible only for these kinds of lists of information, or for historical records, I think we miss the point. I tell my classes regularly what one of my professors told us - the Bible is **not** just for **Information** but also for **Transformation**.

For Christians, the Bible becomes **sacramental**, in the sense that it is through reading, reflecting, studying and mediating on the scriptures that we encounter the God we know in Jesus Christ. As we listen for the word of God to us, the message of God's love and grace and salvation becomes part of our lives and we are transformed. As Paul writes in Philippians 2:5 "In your relationships with one another have the **same attitude of mind Christ Jesus had.**" Or again in Romans 8: 29 we are "to be conformed to the image of his Son..."

Part of our calling as a community of faith is to communicate the Good News we discover in the Bible and in our lives. In 2011 our focus as a congregation was to read the Bible through in a year. Many of you read the entire Bible. Most of you read at least some, including the hard to understand, challenging parts. In the Bible's flow from creation in Genesis to the Consummation in Revelation, we find ourselves in **the period of the Church**. The Church's task, our task, much like the task of the Bible itself, is to communicate or **share the message of God's love** to others by our words and our deeds. Therefore, let me add an additional phase. I would suggest we are to move from **information to transformation to communication**.

At our Annual General Meeting I used the following analogy of the Bible to point to our individual and collective calling to communicate the Good News to others. The Bible contains 66

books written by a wide range of people—some of the authors are well known like Paul and David, but many other contributors we will never know by name. Each book of the Bible in some ways stands alone, but is also part of a whole. Each book has a story to tell, but each book is also part of a bigger story. The Bible would be weaker if any single book was left out. So it is with SCC. **We each have stories to tell**. We each have faith perspectives to communicate. We, like the Bible, are made of people from many places and backgrounds, which make the church richer. The sum is greater than the parts. We lose much if any one withdraws, either literally or figuratively. Each of us has a story to tell of God's working in our life. We each do this in our own way and place.

Just as some books are letters and others are Gospels, and others are strange to us like the Apocalypse (Revelation), each one of us has a unique message to share—whether it is the message of **the struggle of our faith like Job**; or the message of how beautiful and wonderful is God's world like the Psalmist declares; or the message of how we have experienced the spread of the love of God like we find in the book of Acts—each of us has a story to tell. We as a church are the poorer if we fail to tell our story.

Indeed, the world is poorer if we fail to tell the story of God in our lives. This is part of our challenge as a church. As SCC we have the **double story to share**—where we have seen the risen Christ in our lives **generally** and how this congregation **in particular** has been a community where we can share and grow in our faith. Some will begin the process of communicating the Good News with a simple invitation to come to a church service. Others will share more personally their faith perspectives. Still others will embody the message as they reach out to care for those in need. We as a community communicate the love of God by providing a place **where all are welcome**, where questions are valued, where the Good News is preached, lived and shared.

Though we have finished our Grand Sweep series reading through the whole Bible, we will continue to study from its pages. More importantly, we will seek to move from the words on the pages as **information**, to the encounter with the Living Word so that we will continue to be **transformed** and better able to **communicate** the love of God in Christ.

Grace and Peace,  
David

## FALL IS IN FULL SWING!!

Our church programming continues as we move into the colder months. Please mark your calendars for the following:

### “Discovering the Psalms: Passion, Promise and Praise”

**Tuesday evening at 7:30pm starting May 15**

**Wednesday lunch at 12:45pm starting May 16 (\$2.000 for lunch – childcare available**

**Sunday morning at 9:15am starting May 20  
childcare available**

Our pastor David Bubb will help us to explore several different kinds of psalms and how they speak to our lives today. The study will last for five weeks. Choose the time best for you, and sign up in the church or by calling the church office!

### Pentecost Worship

**Sunday, May 27 10:30am**

Our children and youth will be leading this worship celebration of the coming of the Holy Spirit to the church.

### “Parental Parameters: Helping Families Set Boundaries”

**Saturday, June 2 9:30 – Noon**

This free workshop is for parents and grandparents, especially of preschool children. Childcare will be available onsite. Sign up on the form in the back of church or emailing [office@santiagochurch.org](mailto:office@santiagochurch.org)

### Inquirer's Class

**Sunday, June 3 Noon – 1:15 pm**

David Bubb leads this opportunity to find out more about the work and mission of SCC. The meeting is in the church house, and childcare is available upon request. Please sign up by calling the church office.

### Ladies Guild Winter Sale

**Saturday, June 9 10:00 a.m.**

Join us in the church hall for a sale of used books, woollies, baked goods, marmalade, chutney and more!!! If you have books to get rid of, we'll gladly take them. We also appreciate donations of baked goods!!

## LOOKING AHEAD

### International Dinner

**Saturday, August 11 7:30pm**

It's always a fun evening – plan now to join us!

### ALL-CHURCH RETREAT

**October 19 – 21, 2012**

Yes, it's looking WAY ahead, but put it on your calendar before anything else gets there!!!

## SUNDAY SCHOOL UPDATE

We continue to have seven Sunday School classes (five that meet weekly, two older classes that meet less often). The younger children sing every week before going to class, while the older children sing on the first and third Sundays. Upcoming themes that we will be talking about include the early church, Pentecost and Paul. Parents receive information each week through email on the theme for the week. If you are not receiving it and would like to, please let Kathi know!! [Kathi@santiagochurch.org](mailto:Kathi@santiagochurch.org) or 233-7557

A Sunday School Teacher and Helper Training Luncheon will be held on **Friday, May 25 at 12:30pm**. If you would like to find out more about our Sunday School program, or are interested in teaching or being a Sunday School helper, you are welcome to come!!

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## GOODBYE TO SHANA

This Sunday, May 6 we say goodbye to our dear friend Shana Harrison, who moves back to the US after 14 years in Chile. Shana was the founder and Executive Director of Fundacion Crescendo (formerly known as Esperanza). At SCC Shana served at various times as preacher, service reader, Council chair, Sunday School teacher, Discipleship Team member, TP Club leader, Personnel Committee member... the list goes on.

Our prayers and best wishes go with Shana as she starts a new chapter of her life starting in Arkansas. Please join us after the service to celebrate her ministry with us.

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## NEW CHURCH OFFICERS

Congratulations to our new members of the Church Council who were elected at our Annual General Meeting in April:

Victor Hawkins, Bunny Yeomans, Ailsa Shaw, Laura Griffith, Richard Collingwood-Selby, Anne McLean, Janis Fuentes, Dimas Lopez, Janet Hamilton, Arina Lewis, Andrew Chadwick

Members of the Auditing Commission are:

Brendan Cooper  
Peter Walbaum  
Gordon Yorston

Thanks to all of these church members for serving the church in this way. Please keep them in your prayers.

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## SCRIPTURE VERSES OF THE MONTH

May: Psalm 139:14 - I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.

June – Ephesians 5:8 - For you were once in darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light.

July - I Thessalonians 5:11 - Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.

Be sure to post the verse where you see it daily. Say it together with family members at prayers, meals, etc. Memorize the location of the verse in the Bible, as well.

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## NEWS FROM THE PEWS

### Births

April - Calista to Paul and Kelli Smith  
April - Ian to Jane Friesen and Ulises Cocino

### Weddings:

11.02.2012 Ricardo López Nualart and Silvia Flores Dañobeytia  
25.02.2012 Jason Barratt Valencia and Grace Hallyburton  
10.03.2012 Felipe García Lopez and Mirtha Jara Chicahuel  
17.03.2012 Claudio Garrido Sepúlveda and Dafne Carreño Henriquez  
21.04.2012 Charles Holmes and María-Inés Barrales Villegas

### Funerals:

07.02.2012 Joyce Mongard Williams  
24.02.2012 John McRostie Tarbotton  
17.03.2012 Graciela Román Silva  
09.04.2012 George David Cranmer Kenrick Lyon  
23.04.2012 Bertie Miranda (in Columbia)

### Farewells:

Cyd and Cameo Mills – to the US  
Bob Myers – to the US

### Prayer Concerns:

Jean Giesen  
Betty Scott  
June Mackenzie  
Philippa McLean  
Peter Goulden  
Emma Wilkey  
Mosea Grander  
Eduardo (son of Virginia Lorca)

## YOUTH PROGRAMS

Our next TP Club will meet on Sunday, May 27 from 12:15 – 3:00pm at the church. This group is for our third to fifth graders (and those who have turned 8 by March 1) and will meet every other month for lunch, games and activities.

Our next Cross Connections, for our sixth to eighth graders (and those who have turned 11 by March 1), will be a combined overnight with our new senior high group on Friday, May 11 – Saturday, May 12 at the church. Leaders include Sofia Gonzalez, Rosana Zamora, Caitlin Farrar and Ophelia Fox.

Our new senior high group (for those who have turned 14 by March 1) has a new name! They have named themselves – The Open Circle. Images include God's endless love, a community open to new people and new ideas, open to God's love and call on our lives. The group is also known as TOC (pronounced "talk" – which is what we do a lot!!) New leaders include Laura Marrin, Janet Hamilton and Keith Jaenke.

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## FINANCIAL UPDATE

Total Expenses through March 2012	23.782.809
Total Income through March 2012	22.121.180
<b>DEFICIT</b>	<b>1.661.629</b>

Stewardship:  
Total pledged for 2012: \$ 56.379.089 PLUS  
US\$ 25.500 (93 pledges)

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## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Many of these folks are familiar faces, but they recently "officially" joined SCC. Make sure they feel welcome!

Arina Lewis  
Janet Giacomini  
George and Patty Bustamante  
Larry and Donna Gregory  
Fred Smith  
David Nelson  
Janet Hamilton  
Andrew Chadwick  
Patricia Leslie

## OUTREACH

In March a small group from the church went to the hogar with Fundacion Crescendo to do some painting. The seven residents (adults with intellectual disabilities) were present and seemed to enjoy having their bedrooms painted!!

At our Annual General Meeting in April, we learned about several community programs that our church supports by providing meeting space at no charge or a minimal charge:

- Alanon - a support group for friends and family of alcoholics
- Casinuevo – a women’s group that makes knitted toys and blankets for the hospital ward at Hospital Calvo Mackenna
- British Commonwealth Society – an organization that offers support to needy individuals from the British community
- CHIMPS (Chilean Musical Playgroup in Santiago) – a parent/child group that offers a fun morning out and support for parents
- Operation Mobilization – a religious group that supports local churches and send out missionaries around the world
- Iglesia Anglicana de Providencia – This church has been renting space from SCC for about 30 years and shares our building for their worship, education and fellowship activities.

There are occasionally other non-profit groups that use our facilities, such as Habitat for Humanity and Fundacion Crescendo, a center and home for adults with intellectual disabilities

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### Prayer of Thomas a Kempis

Grant to me, O Lord, to know what I ought to know, to love what I ought to love, to praise what delights thee most, to value what is precious in thy sight, to hate what is offensive to Thee. Do not suffer me to judge according to the sight of my eyes, nor to pass sentence according to the hearing of the ears of ignorant men; but to discern with true judgment between things visible and spiritual, and above all things to inquire what is the good pleasure of thy will.

## LIGHTHOUSE LIBRARY AND BOOKSTORE

We are delighted that many people have taken advantage of our revamped library in the glass shelves in the church hall! If you have not taken the time to look, here is some of what you’ll find:

- Travel books, including the latest Culture Shock: Chile for newcomers
- Parenting books
- Books on prayer and devotional readings
- Books on religion and science
- Books by authors Max Lucado, Marcus Borg, N.T. Wright, John Ortberg, Harold Kushner, Scott McKnight and many others
- A series for “armchair theologians” (that means they don’t expect you to know much already!) on Barth, Calvin, Augustine, Aquinas and other great theologians

All you have to do to check out a book is to take the card out of the back, write your name and date and put the card in the basket. You can also take a bookmark and put the day’s date on it, reminding yourself to return the book after 30 days. (You can always check it out again if you are not finished!!)

If you have checked out a book from the library that you enjoyed, please write up an overview and why you liked it – we’ll put it in the next SCC News!!

We also have items for sale, including Bibles, hymnals and our very own church cookbook that has recipes from around the world from our church members. There are a few other books for sale, as well as some greeting cards in English.

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## CHURCH INFORMATION

Office hours: 9:00 am-1:00 pm (M-F)  
Office staff: Audrey Wilsdon  
Phone/fax: 232-1113  
Pastor: - David Bubb – 233-7557  
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