

Our Mission:

*Inviting people to
faith in God,*

*Equipping people to
follow Jesus,*

*Serving others
through the power
of the Holy Spirit.*



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

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Calendar of Events

Congregational Meeting—Election of New Council Sunday May 6 Following Service Front Room

F2FN Sponsored Farewell Party for Erin Sunday May 6 Following Meeting Cristina's Home

Congregational Meeting—Revised Budget Sunday May 20 Following Service Front Room

Italian Potluck & Service Ministry Wednesday May 23 6:00-8:00PM Front Room

Habitat for Humanity Work Day Saturday May 26 7:30AM-4:00PM

Reno's Last Day—Party TBD Sunday May 27 Following Service

Small Group Study- Discovering God's Will Monday Mornings 9:30-11:00AM Astillero Home

www.NexGenChurch.com

408.225.3565

Listening to God's Will

By: Maureen Astillero



I was planning this month's newsletter and making notes about what articles would go where, whom I could ask to write, what I could write about if I needed to. I just wrote the phrase, "listening to God's will" on the paper.

It's an idea that has been kicking around recently in my head. I've noticed that when I don't feel God's presence as directly in my life as I would like, I'm pulled toward the question, "what is God's will for my life?" That's where the question stayed—on my paper, until the first meeting of our current small group study. This is another Andy Stanley study (by the way, if you haven't heard him, you **need** to check him out), and amazingly enough is called *Discovering God's Will*. Ok, I get it! God has been trying to tell me something!

What I am brought back to, time and time again, is "active, not passive". When I'm feeling unsure or just empty in my heart, I know it's because I've just been sitting around, waiting for the feeling of God's love to come to me. I haven't actively been doing anything to feel connected to Him.

Prayer, scripture, worship; do they make a difference? Absolutely! It is so easy to get caught up in the hectic chaos of life and let the disciplines of a Christian life fall away. It is so easy to find myself feeling unfilled when I let that happen. And then God shows the way, this time by means of a small group study.

I learned, once again, that staying in line with His desire for me to live a joyous, love-filled life reveals the path to His will. Proverbs 3:6 tells me, "in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight."

- Prayer—recognizing God's grace and strength in my life and that I need His intercession
- Scripture—working through the Word to find connections to my own life
- Worship—praising God and following a community of God's body on the journey

Active participation, rather than passive anticipation will shine a bright light on and reveal God's will for my daily life.

Community Outreach Update

By: Ros Maynik

Every time you cross my mind, I break out in exclamations of thanks to God.

Phil. 1:3

I give thanks every time I think of the sixteen families who have come together to support our "Sponsor a Child" in Rwanda for 2007. This opportunity, called the "Child Development Program", comes to us through the "Food for the Hungry Program". This program is not only a blessing to the boy, Uwihoreye Theoneste, but to his family and community. We just received his 2006 report card. Thanks be to God and for all your prayers—he did well in school this year and was promoted to the 5th grade! He asks for our continued prayers that he might be healthy and to continue to progress well in school.

I'm rejoicing for all the walkers and sponsors who participated in the South Bay CROP Walk on April 29. Our small church had a total of ten walkers who raised over \$1,300 for the hungry. A significant percentage will go directly to 2nd Harvest Food Bank and Sacred Heart Ministries, right here in San Jose. Additionally, we have been blessed by Thrivent in the form of matching funds, up to \$1300. Thank you, one and all, for your efforts and prayers. May the Lord continue to bless us all and the work we do on behalf of Next Generation.



Congregational Meetings

May 6 & 20

Following Sunday Service at

The Front Room

We need you on these two very important days! As we continue on the road to rebuilding, we need all members to participate.

- May 6 meeting—electing new council members—these are the people who will be leading us as we continue this journey.
- May 20 meeting—approval of revised budget of the one passed in January.

Habitat for Humanity Work Day

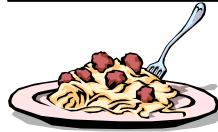
Saturday, May 26, 2007

7:30AM--4:00PM

Next Generation Church has the opportunity to partner with Thrivent Financial Services for Lutherans and work on a Habitat for Humanity home. Building experience is **not** required! Sign up is available at Sunday service, or contact Jeff Dobles at (408)806-5872 if you have any questions.

The work team will meet at the church office at 7:30AM.

- Bring a sack lunch and drinks for the day
- Water and coffee will be provided
- Wear long sleeves, long pants, hard-soled shoes, and bring work gloves
- Must be 14 years old to participate



Monthly Potluck- Italian Dinner

May 23, 6pm-8pm

The Front Room

Gathering together once a month for a meal and fellowship has been a huge success the last two months. We want to keep it up for May. Join us this month—our theme is *Italiano*. There will be a sign-up sheet on Sunday mornings.

This month's potluck will highlight a community service project.

Please bring 1 or 2 of the following items that we will donate to City Team Ministries: **Hand soap, dish soap, laundry detergent, cleaning supplies, paper towels, kitchen sponges, shampoo/conditioner, dish towels, toothbrush/toothpaste, toilet paper.**

Small Group Meetings Continue

Next Generation continues with small group meetings. The current series is called *Discovering God's Will*, a DVD series from Andy Stanley. Right now, there is a Monday morning group that meets at Maureen Astillero's home from 9:30-11:00AM.



All are welcome! There are seven more sessions, so don't wait to get involved.

This is the perfect opportunity to make and renew important connections. All are welcome at the Monday group, or start a group of your own. It's so easy! All you need is an open heart, a willingness to grow in your relationship with God, and a DVD player. Call the office at (408)225-3565 for more information.



Mission Partner's Page

Healthy Reflection



by Roz Manyik

One year ago, my body was not doing well. I was experiencing chronic fatigue, physically and mentally. My entire body was in starvation mode. It was literally destroying my muscles and organs. As my body weight reached an all time low of 92 pounds, my liver became distressed and my skin turned bright yellow.

Tests revealed a shriveled up, blackened bile duct. This led to painful complications in my pancreas. The condition was so serious that I spent a week in the hospital.

I cried out to the Lord.

Many prayed for me. In His mercy, He heard and answered our prayers—gradually turning things around in the following months.

Now, I'm in a season of recovery as the Lord is renewing and strengthening my body. I've even gained 10 pounds. Thanks be to God for His loving kindness that endures forever. Thanks be to God's people that carried me through this past year.

Along with my physical healing, I have also become aware that the Lord wants to renew my mind. He wants to bring about a life style change by changing the ways that I think and the ways that I act as a result of those thoughts. With this change of the heart, I'll be cooperating with His plan for my body, His temple, by exercising, eating properly, and giving Him control over my thoughts.

I want to encourage this community not to be comforted by this world, but rather transformed by the renewing of our minds. May the Lord prove to us what is good and acceptable and perfect. May we give God the glory in everything we do, remembering that man does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of the Father.

In this day, let us not forget that our daily bread, both for the body and for the spirit, comes from the Lord.

The Living Word

Praise the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits—who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion.

Psalm 103: 1-4

A FOND FAREWELL

There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven. -Ecclesiastes 3

As you all know, I have resigned as youth and family director for Next Generation Church. It is my wholehearted belief that there is a time for everything. As my season at Next Generation comes to a close, I wanted to take this opportunity to say thank you for being an amazing community with the power to love, hope, and endure.

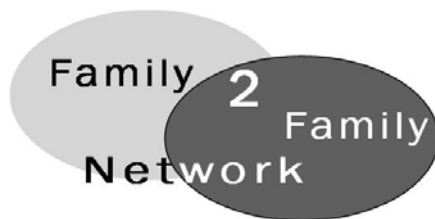
Over the past few years, this community has blessed me. It has been an honor to be a part of your lives. From laughter to tears, each and every one of you has played a huge part in teaching me how to better live and love.

Though I don't know exactly what the future holds for me, this community will remain a part of me and I hope the relationships we have built here will remain strong no matter where separate paths may lead us.

My prayers remain for what I believe to be a promising the future for Next Generation Church. I sincerely thank you for the giving me the opportunity of experiencing the blessing of this community. I truly care for you all and will miss you dearly.

Affectionately Yours,

Erin Pearson



Erin's Farewell Party

May 6, 2007

Following Congregational
Meeting

Family2Family Network is celebrating Erin and the gifts she has given to our community! All are invited to an open house at Cristina's house on May 6 following the congregational meeting. This will be a potluck, so bring a little something to share. There will be activities for the kids and strong fellowship for all. Most of all, don't miss this opportunity to say good-bye and wish Erin well.



Threshold is the middle school organization at Next Generation Church. This program continues to act as a doorway for faith in God to begin in the lives of middle school and high school students in the South Bay. Meeting through end of school year.

Tuesday Nights

7:00-8:30

@ The Front Room

5754-A Santa Teresa Blvd.

Check out our cool new website: www.nexgenchurch.org and click on **Threshold**.

Where are you gonna be this summer?

Next Gen Camp!

Performing Arts Camp

June 25-July 6

Session Cost- \$288 (no camp 7/4)



Adventure Camp

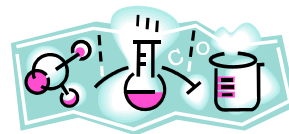
July 9- July 20

Session Cost- \$320

Creative Arts Camp

July 23-August 3

Session Cost- \$320



Science Camp

August 6-August 17

Session Cost- \$320

**Camp location- 1088 Blossom Hill Rd
Next to Toys "R" Us
Register online www.ncalday.org
Call for more details: 408.225.3565**

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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