

June 5, 2007

Hello Students and Parents,

I want to inform you about some exciting opportunities coming for our whole church body and some changes coming to our current High School Ministry. As a result of a long season of prayer I have concluded that the Lord has clearly and specifically called me to lead a new ministry at Santa Cruz Bible Church. I approached the Elders with this sense of a new calling. The Lord had also placed it on the hearts of Pastor Dean, Mark Schwenne and the Elders to look into offering some other worship service options for our body and the community. My vision and deep sense of calling and their desire to expand our services to reach out to even more types of people have converged in a wonderful way.

I will be starting an exciting new Sunday night ministry next fall. We will be building on the relationships we have formed over the last five years to start a new expression of church that we know will be a great addition to the weekend services we offer here at SCBC. This new expression will not be a church plant that would move off campus, nor would it be a separate church-within-a-church, it will be an ongoing part of the whole church here at SCBC. The new expression will be focused towards people primarily in the 18-40 age range, but will likely fit many people of all ages. This will **not** be a youth service, a generational service or college ministry. This new expression will be an alternative service of SCBC. This new arm of the church will provide a unique place for our younger people to worship as they graduate out of high school ministry as well as being an alternative service for people of all ages who would enjoy a high energy, contemporary, multimedia, Bible teaching and worship environment.

Because of this fresh call from God I will be changing from my role as Pastor of Student Ministries to a new role, leading, engineering and preaching at this new ministry of SCBC. In regard to high school ministry I will be very active all summer with Wakefest, Denmark Mission Trip, Mexico Mission trip and teaching on Sundays at High School Insight. Importantly, I will not be leaving my role as Youth Pastor until we have located and hired the new person that God has ordained for this ministry. I will assist the search committee in locating God's best choice for the position of Senior High Pastor. We will start the search immediately. Again, I love our students and will make certain that there is great ministry happening from now until the new man for the job sits comfortably in the chair I now sit in. This means there will not be a gap without someone shepherding our high schoolers.

This is a big decision for Andrea and I after a wonderful 23 years of serving high school students; the last five of those years have been here at our beloved Santa Cruz Bible Church. We still LOVE high school ministry, especially our group here.

You probably have lots of questions. **At 11:00 this Sunday, June 10** I'll spend time with our high school group discussing the coming changes and we'll take time to answer questions. Parents: You are invited to join us immediately after the main services at 12:20 to ask questions and hear more about what's to come. Meet us in the Student Center. I hope you'll all join us.

Andrea and I feel the strong clarion Call of God to serve Him in this new direction. Please understand that this is wasn't an easy decision for us because of our true, deep and abiding love for our high schoolers –they mean the world to us. Come Sunday to find out more. God is up to great things!

With Great Love,
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