

F.A.Q. - Frequently Asked Questions:

I. Why are we starting this new ministry?

- A. Churches all across America are seeing significant decline in the 18-35 age range. Surveys also show less young singles and families are returning to churches after “sowing their wild oats in college”. The American church is rapidly aging.**
- B. Along with many churches nationwide, SCBC has seen a decline in the 18-35 age range.**
- C. New Biblically faithful and culturally contextual expressions of church are necessary to better reach and deeply engage the emerging generations.**
- D. Late 20th century forms of the church are not winning unsaved people to Jesus as they once did; new culturally engaging and deeply Biblical expressions are needed to better accomplish the Great Commission.**
- E. There are currently only a 3-4 churches in our entire country that are intentionally focused to reach these emerging generations and there are tens of thousands of people in this age range locally. Santa Cruz needs many more new ministries to reach our community.**
- F. After over a year of prayer, study and seeking God regarding the need for new expressions of church God called Chuckk Gerwig to step into the lead pastoring role of a new expression of church.**
- G. God has also given our Senior Pastor, Executive Pastor and the Elder Board a desire to see a ministry like this at SCBC. There is a “God-timed” convergence of Chuckk’s calling and the leadership of SCBC.**

II. What are the non negotiables?

- A. The new service will be both culturally contextual and founded deep within the principals and teachings of Scripture. The Gospel is unchanging.**
- B. The Doctrinal Statement and Mission Statement of this new service will be the same as the existing statements of Santa Cruz Bible Church.**

III. How will this effect our current High School Ministry?

- A. Chuckk will continue to serve as high school pastor until we locate and hire the new high school pastor. There will always be a pastor shepherding the high school ministry during the transition.**
- B. We have started a process to seek and hire God’s best choice for the new high school pastor.**
- C. We will utilize a search committee that will include some staff and some parents who will seek out and interview applicants. Chuckk will serve as an adjunct to this committee. We desire to have God’s man hired within six months.**
- D. We are committed to excellent high school ministry throughout the process.**
- E. Our ministry values such as small groups, great events, powerful bible teaching, and real relationships will not change.**

IV. Will this be a “youth church”, “college ministry” or “generational service”

- A. No, this will be a worship service and ministry for people of all ages. We do not desire to create a youth church.**
- B. The style of the service will be focused towards people in the 18-40 age range but many people both older and young will find that this service style fits and engages them. It is less about age and more about mindset and personal preference.**

V. How will these changes affect our current Young Adults Ministry?

- A. This new service will not take the place of our current Young Adults Ministry but will provide a Sunday worship service that will be a great addition for all who would like to choose to attend.**
- B. We believe that generational ministries for college career and young adults are still very important. People at different life stages need fellowship and**

growth opportunities with people their own age well beyond what can happen at larger multi-age church services.

C. We will continue to have Cornerstone on Thursday nights. The Amazing Dave Whiting will continue to lead Cornerstone.

D. The new ministry will be an exciting movement and we will be seeking people with passion, creativity and a heart for engineering something epic! Our young adults will be enthusiastically invited and warmly welcomed into the planning and launch teams for the new expression but will not be pressured to take part if they chose not to be.

VI. Will this new expression be a separate church, or a church plant that will be launched?

A. The new service will be one of our Santa Cruz Bible Church services it will not be a separate church or church within a church.

B. The new service is not a church plant and will not be launched out from SCBC it is purposed to be a vital ongoing part of SCBC; “one church, multiple expressions”.

VII. What will this new expression of our church be like?

A. Weekly Scripture-centric, life-change focused teaching

B. New and creative uses of Multisensory / Multimedia teaching, learning and expression

C. Utilization of culturally current forms of music in worship and audio environments

D. A high value on variety: in music, environments, teaching / learning experiences, interaction and service order.

E. Utilization of the arts and a high value on creativity and environments

F. The wide use of technology and the Internet to communicate and spread the impact of the church

G. A high value for joy, humor and encouragement, expect to laugh and be encouraged as well as challenged to grow to be even more like Jesus

H. Authentic, transparent teaching / learning

I. Emphasis on Incarnation as the primary means of reaching people which are not yet Christian, as in Christ’s ministry.

J. A missional focus on the less reached people groups and subcultures in Santa Cruz

K. A passionate focus on the person and work of Jesus

L. Regular, ongoing service to the poor and needy locally and globally

M. Did we mention joy and encouragement?!

VIII. Where and when will the new service take place?

A. We will begin vision casting and team gathering during the summer months, we’ll begin some exciting initial ministry experiences in the fall and we hope to launch full weekly services in January.

B. The service will take place on Sunday evenings in the Student Center.