

MEET VENTURE'S STAFF

Who is Lance Witt?



Lance Witt serves as one of the key players of Venture's Teaching Team. Prior to founding Replenish (a ministry to refresh and refocus the inner lives of pastors), Lance served as Executive/

Teaching Pastor at Saddleback Church. He led Saddleback's Spiritual Growth Campaigns, such as 40 Days of Purpose and 40 Days of Community. His broad spectrum of ministry experience, his strategic thinking gifts, and his passion for spiritual formation give him a unique ability to peer into the soul of a leader and the soul of a church. Lance has been married to his wife, Connie, for 30 years and they have two married children.

"GOD TALK" AT THE MALL



Have you ever been walking through the mall, weaving in and out of all those busy shoppers, then

paused and thought, "I wonder how many of these people know God?" What a great place for outreach! That's why the "God Talk" kiosk will be up all the month of August for

"back to school" shoppers...and we're looking for *you* to help us run it. Sign up for a two or three hour shift today. Contact Rich and Charlene Sevcik (408.354.3966).

BECOME A SMALL GROUP HOST

Break through the clutter in your spiritual life. Take time this fall to concentrate on what really matters. Become a small group host. At Venture,



we believe that life change happens in community. That's why we want to give you the opportunity to host a small group this fall. If you've never facilitated a group before, don't worry! We have all the tools and coaching you need to get started. If you have a willing heart, DVD player and coffee pot, you'll be prepared to host a small group this fall with *The Miracle of Life Change* DVD series by Chip Ingram.

Interested? Then simply pick one of the following six host training dates:

- Saturdays, August 15 or 22 at 6:45pm
 - Sundays, August 16 or 23 at 12:45pm
 - Tuesdays, August 18 or 25 at 7:00pm
- (All host training will take place at Venture in Common Ground.)

Reserve your spot today by contacting Sharon Stonehouse (408.997.4644 or sstonehouse@venturechristian.org).

ADULT MINISTRIES

Life Community Focus of the Week—Sundays at 9:15am: *Early Risers* (Room 214). Leaders: Carl Schultz and Jim Staehs. Start your day of worship and fellowship sharing the Word with one another in an open forum. The class will be starting a study of Peter 1 and 2 this Sunday, August 2.

Life Community Focus of the Week—Sundays at 11:00am: *Focus - Singles 50+* (Room 217). Leaders: LeRoy Eikanas. Teacher: Bert Dollahite. The focus of this group is single adults (never married, divorced, widowed), but all adults (including married couples) are welcome to attend the class. We are currently studying Romans.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Parenting from the Trenches:



Saturday, August 15,
9:00am–1:00pm.
Have you wondered what is behind your child's oppositional behavior and feelings? Do you want to restore essential discipline strategies but fear losing the bond with your

child? *Help One Child* presents national parent educator Katharine Leslie, PhD, who specializes in child development, parenting education, parent-child relationships and abnormal socio-emotional development. This seminar will help you to reframe children's behavior problems such as control issues or defiance and learn sure-fire methods to tame the negative behaviors while encouraging positive ones. The seminar will be held at Union Presbyterian Church, 858 University Ave, Los Altos (\$40/person or \$70/couple). For registration

and child care information, visit [www.helponechild.org/Dr. Leslie Seminar](http://www.helponechild.org/Dr.LeslieSeminar) or call Cari (650.917.1210).

GLOBAL MINISTRIES

The August Global Ministries prayer calendar is available in the lower foyer. Please pick one up and pray for our missionary families.

India Short-Term Mission Meeting:

Interested in a life-changing experience? Then join us for an information meeting Sunday, August 30 at 1:00pm in Common Ground to learn about a short-term trip to India in February 2010 to serve the poorest of the poor. Contact Cheryl Bencala (309-3941) for more information.

HEALING MINISTRIES

GriefShare: GriefShare is a special seminar/support group for people grieving the death of a loved one. There is a \$15 registration fee which includes a workbook. To register or for more information, contact Anne Jones (408.997.0713 or annej47@sbcglobal.net) or Eva Smith (408.972.1729, 408.605.6708 or evas@pacbell.net).

Celebrate Recovery: Join us and discover how God uses this program to heal us from our "hurts, habits, and hang-ups." We meet every Friday night beginning with a barbecue at 6:00pm in the parking lot. At 7:00pm, we begin our large group time of teaching and/or testimony; at 8:00pm, we have our issue and gender-specific small groups.

CR 12 Step Studies: Celebrate Recovery is offering 12 Step Studies this fall for men and women. Experience a healthier and more whole life as you encounter Biblical truth and grace-filled support for

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your hurts, hang-ups and habits. This study requires a nine-month commitment. The Men's 12 Step Study begins Wednesday, August 26 at 7:00pm in Room 237 and the Women's 12 Step Study begins on Wednesday, September 23. Come join us for this life-changing adventure! Stop by the CR table after the services for more information or contact CR (408.997.4641 or CR@venturechristian.org).

Joyful Rebounders: This group is for women who are "alone again" after a divorce or the death of a spouse. For details, contact Sybil Ruggles (408.356.8860).

HELPING HAND MINISTRY

The Venture Helping Hand volunteer ministry assists our Venture widows, seniors, and single moms with various maintenance tasks inside and outside their personal residences, such as repairing electrical fixtures and leaking faucets, various gardening tasks, unsticking doors, window and fence repair, and more. Advice and counsel on home maintenance issues are also provided. To request assistance or to volunteer as a Helping Hand, call the Ministry Coordinator, John Spangberg (408.356.5224) or the Volunteer Coordinator, Don Stuff (408.268.0875).

MEN'S MINISTRY

New to the church? Want to get involved in Men's Ministry? Check out The Herd's website at VentureChristian.org.

Men On The Move: Looking for a men's class on Sunday mornings? Then look no further. Join us at 11:00am in Room 219. This popular class has been helping men improve their marriages and their employment for almost two decades. The class is taught by Ron

Canty and some of the materials used include information gathered from the weekend sermons and professional marriage counselors. Refreshments are provided.

SECURITY TEAM VOLUNTEERS

Anyone interested in joining the Venture Christian Security team please contact Don Dequine Sr. (408.997.4655). Those with current or prior law enforcement experience are especially encouraged.

SPORTS MINISTRY (YOUTH)

Fall youth soccer: It's not too late to register for Venture's fall soccer league. Register online VentureChristianSports.org or stop by the church office.

- ▶ Mini Kickers ages 2-4 years old – limited space!!
- ▶ Coed League for U6 (ages 5-6)
- ▶ Separate Boys and Girls Leagues for U8 (ages 7-8) and U10 (ages 9-10)

The season runs from September 12 – November 7, and there is a mandatory Rating Camp for U8 and U10 Boys and Girls August 17-19 at Kring Field. Interested in coaching? E-mail Donny Dequine (dcdequine@venturechristian.org).

STUDENT MINISTRIES

(VentureStudents.org)

Middle School (678)

Summer Midweek: Join us Tuesday nights this summer for "Red Letters" as we journal through the four Gospels (7:00-8:30pm; Room 305).

High School (V3)

Summer Midweek: Join us every Tuesday night this summer from 7:00 to 8:30pm for crazy games,

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worship, and teaching ...and since it's summer, you can hang out with your friends at the "Afterhouse" from 8:30-10:30pm (each week at a different house selected by the V3 staff). For more details, contact Dave Molchan (408.997.4661 or dmolchan@venturechristian.org).

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers)

Are you a mom with little ones who is looking to meet other moms with little ones? MOPS is a great way to get connected with moms with kids

from infancy through kindergarten. Join us for summer park days and/or register now for fall 2009. For more information, call Kristi (408.266.0404) or Darcy (408.362.9712).

Venture Women's Ministry Summer

Theme: Be still and know...be filled and go! This summer we've asked you to "dig deeper roots" with God so that you can be filled with all of His goodness. Then you're ready to share God's goodness with others. Let us know about your experiences this summer (WomensMinistry@VentureChristian.org).

Church News

AMERICAN TROOPS PROJECT

Throughout the year we send shipments of care packages to our troops serving away from home. We'd like to keep our shipping lists current, so please be sure to keep us updated when your loved ones come home ... and let us know if you would like to add new names to our list. For more details on what items to donate, please contact John and Millie Evans (408.267.2363) or stop by our table after most weekend services.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL DIG



Have a penchant for antiquity?

The Tall el-Hammam Excavation Project is in

need of volunteers to dig with them on this site. Among other possibilities, the site could be the location of the ancient Biblical city of Sodom. The cost for the trip is tax deductible and college credit is available. For more information, contact Thomas Winder, PhD (505.220.3263) or visit www.TallelHammam.com.

BLOOD DRIVE

Give the Gift of Life! The next VCC Blood Drive will be Monday, August 10, from 1:00-7:00pm in Common Ground. Sign up at the table this weekend or online at <http://bloodcenter.stanford.edu>. Click on "FIND A BLOOD DRIVE," then on "Los Gatos," and then the date of August 10. For more details, contact Rosemary Mikulencak (997-4664).

DAILY E-MAIL PRAYER CHAIN

If you would like to submit a prayer request for yourself or a loved one, please call or e-mail Tammy Quigley in the church office (408.997.4636 or tquigley@venturechristian.org).

Intercessor Prayer Lists for our church family are available at the Information Center or join our e-mail Prayer Chain by contacting Audrey Stirm (astirm@venturechristian.org).

PRAYER FOR OUR COUNTRY

Join the Thursday Prayer Team from 12:00-12:30pm in Common Ground. Each week we pray about timely issues regarding our country and its leaders.