



New Life Community Church Annual Report 2004

Summary

Jesus said: *"I will build my church, and the gates of Hell will not overcome it."* This past year has been one of transition for New Life Community Church. We have grown spiritually and been established as a body and moved into a church facility. We had no idea of what the Lord would do in and through our fellowship as we began 2004. It has been an exciting, challenging road as we have followed His direction. This report is designed to give a general overview of what the Lord has been up to at New Life Community Church. The stage has been set for great things and we are grateful to God for His faithfulness to us.

Our Ministries

Property

One of our greatest concerns as we began 2004 was a new facility to worship in. A property taskforce was established to address our short-term and long-term needs. In late January we were approached by the leadership of First Baptist Church of Las Lomas regarding joining with them at their property. After several exploratory meetings and discussion of various approaches, we began "joint ministry" with FBCLL on Mother's Day, May 9th at their church facility on Sill Road. What a blessing to have a church building to conduct worship services in and be the center of other ministries throughout the week.

We have received many contributions to enhance the church. A baby grand piano was donated and reconditioned by **Fenton Murray**. A Hammond B-3 organ has also been donated and will be installed in the coming year. **Chet & Bonnie Wong** donated a projector for the worship center, computers and monitors for the worship team and the expertise to make it all work. Other contributions included a desk for the pastor's office, bookshelves built by **Kirk House**, an office credenza, combination printer/scanner and computer with a large screen monitor. Many helped in the renovation of the baptistry, repair and upgrading of the church and the rental houses on the property. **Marvin**

Swaithe, Kirk House and Ron Piper and many others contributed countless hours in labor on the church property. We are grateful for all that has been accomplished in repairing and restoring the church.

Music

Jim Miller continues to lead our church in wonderful worship. The worship team has been enlarged with the addition of **Frank Cardini** and we have enjoyed the music ministry of **Pablo & Keri Barrick, Joey Silva, Jessica Holland and Sid Morris** at various times throughout the year. Our pastor even led the worship with a guitar on a number of occasions and the Elder quartet sang at the Christmas Eve Service. Our worship continues to be one of our defining distinctives as a church.

Youth

The youth group now has their own room with a foosball table and adopted a new name: “**No Fear**” (perfect love casts out fear), and the NO FEAR clothing outlet in Gilroy offered us a 30% discount on all their apparel. **Kathryn Meyers, Kirk House and Frank & Andrea Cardini** have provided leadership for the group throughout the year. The group was a key part of the initial cleaning the church and with decorating for Christmas. Their pool party in September at the RV Park introduced new friends to the fellowship.

Women’s

Under the leadership of a women’s council consisting of **Karen Matheson, Billye Heath, Jane Swaithe and Barbara Holley**, the women have been very active this past year. **Jeannie Rainwater** hosted a “Deli On The Deck” at her home in Prunedale, they organized a “Slough Safari” at Elkhorn Slough in July, and a walk through the historical gardens in Monterey, followed by lunch during the summer. All of these were opportunities to get to know the women from First Baptist and invite new friends. The women also had book “reads” accompanied by dinner. They also enjoyed a special Christmas Tea in Hollister and a cookie exchange at **Kathryn Meyers’** house.

Children’s

We are grateful for a proper nursery for our little ones in the new church facility. **Rhonda Murray** continues to give leadership to this ministry assisted by **Karen Matheson** and **Linda Sereno**.

Men’s

Marvin Swaithe has led a men’s breakfast meeting on Saturday mornings studying Patrick Morley’s The Man In The Mirror throughout the year at Sarita’s in Prunedale. The men have grown spiritually and relationally through the accountability of this time together.

Missions

This year we undertook ongoing support of our first missionary. **Lunkholal Kipgen (“Kip”)** is a pastor from Manipur, India who is involved in evangelistic ministries and pastor training throughout northern India. It is great to be able to partner with a national in reaching his country with the gospel. NLCC also provided 30 shoeboxes for needy children in war torn and ravaged countries through Samaritan’s Purse **Operation Christmas Child**.

Outreach

After we moved into our new facility we held a “Friend Raiser” car wash in Prunedale to let people know about our new location. We were able to touch many families through this effort. We held two Easter Sunday services and met new friends on that special Sunday.

Projects

One of the most enjoyable projects undertaken by NLCC this year was the painting of the Miller’s house in Aromas. **K.C. Mullaney** coordinated this effort over the span of two weekends as we prepped, primed and painted the house. It was a great time of fellowship and blessing to the Miller family. Cleaning the church, mounting the projector in the worship center and fixing up the rental houses were other projects that involved many of our folks; men and women, young and old.

Special Events

On July 11 we celebrated the first anniversary of New Life Community Church with a special “**Celebration Sunday**”. It was a great time of thanksgiving and **Billye Heath** and **Marvin Swaites** coordinated a barbeque following the service that was outstanding. Our **Christmas party** on December 12th was a special time we will long remember. The pot luck dinner was great and the “white elephant” gift exchange was priceless! Our **Christmas Eve Service** was a wonderful way to celebrate our Savior’s birth. **Jim & Becky Miller** provided moving special music and the candle lighting during “Silent Night” pointed to Jesus as the Light of the World. In October we had 24 people participate in our first **Leadership Training** going over ministry and leadership principles and philosophy.

The Numbers

Attendance

During the first four months of 2004 before the move to the new building our Sunday Worship attendance averaged 47 people. On our first Sunday in the new facility many friends joined us for an attendance of 76. At our two services on Easter Sunday we had 63 join us for worship. There were 59 in attendance at our “Celebration Sunday” service marking our first anniversary as a church. We said “goodbye” to **Chet & Bonnie Wong** as they moved to Arizona; **Dennis &**

Phyllis O'Dell who moved to Rhode Island and **Kristi & Sophia Petralia** who moved to Paso Robles. Our average Sunday morning attendance for December was 43. There were 31 in attendance at the Christmas Eve Service.

Membership

Two new members were added to New Life Community Church in 2004; **Kirk House** and **Kathryn Meyers**.

Decisions for Christ

There were four recorded decisions to accept Christ as Savior during 2004.

Baptisms

There were two people baptized by New Life Community Church in 2004, **Jeff Friesell** and **Concha Salas**.

Finances

New Life Community Church has been committed from the beginning to operate on faith in God's provision for our finances. We do not have any kind of program committing people to give certain amounts. We trust God to supply our needs through His people. Our general fund giving has averaged \$6,906/month against a budget of \$8,600/month. (Profit & Loss Statement for 2004 and projected budget for 2005 are attached) We praise the Lord for the generous giving of the people of NLCC and their friends.

The Future

Church Development

During the coming year NLCC will be exploring a merger with FBCLL so we will be one united church. We are confident that this is the path the Lord is leading us on and pray for it to be accomplished according to His will and perfect timing.

Youth/Children's

We realize that one of the greatest resources of our church is our young people. Lord willing, we would like to add a part-time staff person to our church to be responsible for leading the Youth Group and coordinating the Children's Ministry. This will certainly be a step of faith but a necessary one as we reach out to the community around us.

Outreach

We are committed to developing our Missions focus and support as the right opportunities present themselves. We believe this is an important part of "being the church" ... not just focusing our efforts locally but around the world as well.

Conclusion

We stand in awe of the many blessings the Lord has bestowed on us this past year. He has provided and done things that we never would have dreamed of. We are committed to faithfully following His lead for our future in the vineyard which He has placed us. We are excited about the adventure of faith that has become New Life Community Church.

Your servants for Jesus' sake,

The elders of NLCC