



New Life Community Church Annual Report 2006

Summary

2006 was a year of transition for New Life Community Church. At the end of 2005 we knew that God was leading us back to Prunedale as the focus of our ministry. We didn't know where we would meet or when we would move, but He did! In response to our faith, He led us very clearly and has blessed our ministry in ways we could have never imagined. This report is designed to give a general overview of what the Lord has been up to this past year at New Life Community Church. We praise Him for His faithfulness to us and give Him all the glory!

Our Ministries

Teaching

This year we began by looking at: "Facing the Challenges of 2006", followed by a study of Philippians: "The Road to Joy". We spent the summer studying Acts 12-18 on: "Paul's World Tour" and after moving to our new home in Prunedale reviewed our core values with the series: "What Are We Doing Here Anyway?" followed by "Exploring the Wonders of God" and finished the year with "Recapturing the Spirit of Christmas." Wednesday nights we studied the life of Christ and "Discovering the Church." It has been encouraging to see people grow in their faith and make spiritual decisions through the teaching of God's Word at NLCC.

Music

Jim Miller continues to lead our outstanding worship team. We appreciate so much the faithful ministry of **Dave & Deanne Smith** along with **Becky & Mary Miller**. We also appreciate **Joey Silva** filling in on drums, **John Miller** on bass and **Barbara Holley** on vocals from time to time. Others have expressed interest in participating in the worship team and we hope to expand it this year. Our worship continues to be one of our defining distinctives as a church.

Property

At the end of last year we shared that we had been led by God to investigate finding a place in Prunedale for New Life Community to meet. A property taskforce, headed by **Marvin Swaites** and including **Paula Gallego** and **Hank**

Holley was formed to search for a new church site. We had no budget but knew we needed a place to call home and have available to use 24/7.

After considering many sites the Lord led us to the “old barn” up the hill above Ace Hardware at the Prunedale Shopping Center. It is a great location with excellent visibility. By faith we signed a three year lease for a gross rent (including utilities, etc.) of \$1,500/month for the 1,450 square foot space.

The whole church was involved in renovating the space to take out an office and remove a commercial kitchen chase that ran through the main room to vent the ovens from the restaurant that had been below us. With the help of **Kirk House**, we built a platform, installed a screen and projector, wired all the music and computer equipment and turned two rooms into a nursery and children’s classroom. Special thanks to **Marvin Swaites** who took care of all the electrical rewiring and coordinated the entire project. Thanks also go to **Pat Strader, Billye Heath, Barbara Sanchez, Dave Smith, Jane Swaites** and **others** who all spent considerable time converting the space to a worship center, lobby and children’s rooms. We had our last Sunday worship service in Las Lomas on June 25 (27 attendance) and our first service in Prunedale the following Sunday, July 2 (37 attendance).

With new space to meet in we needed to find additional chairs to add to the 22 we already owned. The congregation contributed to buy chairs for themselves as we designated the ones we already owned for “**our new friends**” who would find us in Prunedale. Thanks to the generosity of our people we now have 80 chairs which is enough to fill the worship center.

Youth

At the beginning of the year we were excitedly anticipating **Dan Houtsinger**, from Oregon, Wisconsin, joining our staff as Youth/Children’s Director. He arrived on Easter but because of personal problems he left the church in June and moved to Fresno. We were able to have a significant ministry in this young man’s life during his brief time with us. The youth did enjoy a beach party with 15 teens in attendance. ***One of our top priorities this year will be to find the right people to rebuild our Youth Ministry.*** Our teens continue to participate in Young Life or other area youth groups. Please pray that the Lord will send the right laborers to the harvest field here in Prunedale to revive this crucial ministry.

Women’s

Billye Heath and **Barbara Holley** have given outstanding leadership to the women’s ministry this past year. Some of the activities this past year included three Ladies Lunches, a “Deli on the Deck” hosted by **Jeanne Rainwater** and the Christmas Tea in Gilroy in December. All of these were opportunities to introduce ladies to the fellowship of New Life Community Church. **Barbara Sanchez** and **Pat Strader** coordinated a rummage sale at the new church site where we had an opportunity to meet many of our neighbors.

Children's

Billye Heath and **Linda Sereno** have combined in supplying consistent leadership in our children's ministry. Along with **Amy Sereno**, **Jean Miller**, **Pat Strader** and **Paula Gallego** they have been developing a significant ministry to our growing number of children during the worship services.

Missions

Our missionary, that we support monthly, in Manipur, India; **Lunkholal Kipgen** ("**Kip**") got married this year. He e-mailed **Jim Miller** recently: *"Dearest Jim, Happy new year greetings to beloved family and all of our church members. As I have told you by the grace of God our Holy matrimonial ceremony was running smoothly, I praise the Lord for the wonderful things He has done to us. It is because of your love and concern for the Lord ministry in India. Thank you for your token of love as a cheque I have received. I'm sending the details of ministry report and wedding pictures by post. I hope you will received soon. May the good Lord continued to bless your family and sponsoring church members. Your's loving brother L.kipgen and wife"*. We also participated in Samaritan's Purse "**Operation Christmas Child**" and gathered gift boxes to be sent to disadvantaged children around the world.

At the invitation of the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association in February, pastor **Hank** and **Barbara** spent 11 days in Manila, Philippines helping out with the **Franklin Graham Festival** there. There was a great outpouring of God's Spirit and many decisions for Christ. While there **Hank** and **Barbara** were able to visit Manila General Hospital and distribute "**Operation Christmas Child**" shoe boxes to the children in the cancer ward and other parts of the hospital. What a joy it was as a church to be part of this international outreach. **Jim Miller** preached for the two Sundays they were gone and did an excellent job.

Outreach

After moving into our new church site in July we had a car wash on Saturday, August 19. The worship service was followed the next day by an "Open House" and luncheon. We were able to meet many of our Prunedale neighbors and have a lot of new friends in the church now due to these outreaches and the permanent signs we have put up on the building, the Shopping Center Directories and at the Moro Road entrance. Prunedale has been blanketed with flyers inviting people to come and many have responded to make NLCC their church home.

At Christmas we adopted a single mom **Ann Christensen** and her family, **Mac** and **Carly** in Watsonville. **Bonnie Caudill** coordinated the effort as we provided the family with a Christmas tree, decorations, presents and a complete turkey dinner.

Mary Stice has done a wonderful job of coordinating people in our church to provide meals for families in need and for the families of those that have spent time in the hospital this year.

Projects

Thanks to **Joey Silva** we have a totally renovated and up-to-date web site for the church: www.NewLifeCommunity.net. Our new sound engineer is **John Miller** who has been a tremendous help in monitoring the sound and setting up the recording equipment each Sunday. This year we will be converting all the recordings of the Sunday messages to CD's. **Greg Von Lortz** will be coordinating this transition and distribution. We will also have streaming audio of the messages available on the web site. We are grateful to **Marvin Swaites** for his past work in preparing and mailing message tapes.

Special Events

Our **Christmas party** on December 10th was a special time for many new folks to "connect" with our church family. The pot luck dinner coordinated by **Mary Stice, Barbara Sanchez** and **Billye Heath** was great and the "white elephant" gift exchange was a lot of fun. Our **Christmas Eve Service** was a wonderful time to reach out into the community. 47 people attended and **three people received Christ** that evening. What a wonderful way to celebrate Christmas!

The Numbers

Attendance

During 2006 our Sunday Worship attendance averaged 35 people each week. On Easter Sunday we had 40 join us for worship and one person received Christ. Our attendance has increased significantly since our relocation to Prunedale.

Membership

Two new members were added to NLCC in 2006; **Concha Salas** and **Rich Bryant**.

Decisions for Christ

There were **seven recorded decisions to accept Christ as Savior** during 2006.

Other Transitions

On March 8 **Earl Feucht** went home to be with the Lord after a lengthy illness. Then on October 8 **Luther Burbank** passed on to his heavenly reward. There were over 70 people in attendance at his memorial at the church following the worship service on October 20. We miss our dear brothers in the Lord.

Finances

New Life Community Church has always been committed to operate on faith in God's provision for our finances. We do not have any kind of pledge program asking people to commit to give certain amounts. We trust God to supply our needs through His people and operate within that budget by faith. It was a huge step to commit to a three year lease at \$1,500/month additional expense but we have seen the Lord graciously supply our needs. Our general fund giving for the **first six months** of 2006 averaged **\$4,946/month** toward a budget of \$7,710/month. After moving to Prunedale our giving for the **last six months** of 2006 averaged **\$7,920/month** toward a budget of \$9,310/month (Profit & Loss Statement and Balance Sheet for 2006 is attached). Since the move to Prunedale our income has not only covered our additional rental expense but risen overall as well. We praise the Lord for the generous giving of the people of NLCC and their friends.

The Future

Church Development

Now that we have a permanent location and are becoming well known in Prunedale we have **two major goals for 2007: 1) to develop and implement a strategy to reach the Prunedale area with the gospel. 2) to develop and implement opportunities to connect people who come to NLCC into the fellowship of the church.**

Youth/Children's

We are also committed to prayerfully **finding the right people to lead our Youth/Children's ministry.** We believe the development of these ministries is vital to our growth as a church.

Conclusion

At the end of 2005 we were facing an uncertain future, but there were encouraging signs of God's hand being on us. We knew we that we were being lead back to Prunedale but had no idea as to the location God had prepared for us. He has supplied in so many ways and we have a great field of harvest before us. Our path ahead and mission that God has given us is clear. Thank you for your partnership in this incredible faith adventure God is leading us on!

Your servants for Jesus' sake,

The elders of NLCC