

# New Life Community Church // Annual Report

# Looking back with a heart of gratitude.

As we look back on 2021, we are grateful that the Lord has provided for us as we continue to be New Life for the City and Beyond in 2022. Allow me the joy and privilege of sharing a few of the highlights of 2021...



#### Preschool

We are grateful that currently the school is at capacity. Although we had some large hurdles to overcome the last few years, with the combination of our amazing staff and safety measures that were in place, we were able to rebound quickly. Despite last year's closures, we did not have to lay off any employees. Praise God! We were also able to increase the safety for our children by installing a privacy fence.



# Connecting Kids

As with the Preschool, we are grateful that currently our enrollment is doing well. We purchased two new vans to transport our students. The staff continues to step up and 'pivot' to help keep everyone safe. Parents remain excited and grateful to have their children a part of any of our Children's Ministry programs.









### **NLCC Gives**

Our church is another reflection of God's faithfulness, shown through your generous giving.

#### **Global Missions**

Giving was over **\$155,000** to our global mission projects, missionaries, and Covid relief in Indonesia.

#### Change for Christ

Our 5th Sundays' Change for Christ offerings have allowed us to minister alongside numerous ministries for a total of **\$16,702**.

#### **Food Distribution**

Provided food for over **11,000** people, and it involves over **50** volunteers to make it happen.



He answered them, "Whoever has two shirts should share with the person who doesn't have any. Whoever has food should share it too."

- Luke 3:11



#### Children's Ministry

In 2021 we saw our Children's Ministry on Sundays grow to over *60 children*. We are thinking through and praying for discernment to prepare for the future when it comes to teaching our children in a more effective atmosphere. This would include expanding the nursery and renovating part of the B Building to reflect current teaching trends for children.



This update would serve the Connecting Kids and Summer Camp programs as well.

#### **Build New Life**

Our *Build New Life Fund*, which helps with buildings & grounds maintenance and repairs, is at now **\$31,620**.

#### WiFi Tech Needs

Our WiFi Tech Matching Gift fund is at **\$12,935**. We are evaluating needs and hope to start this upgrade in early summer.

Our giving surpassed our expenses (and we were able to take advantage of the government's PPP grants), therefore, we moved \$10,000 into Build New Life as well as \$20,000 into our savings account. Over the last 4 years, we set aside and paid off \$105,000 towards the debt from the original Worship Center remodel (notes), and we are left with a balance of \$60,000 in notes that are scheduled to be paid off in 2026.

#### **Endowment Fund**

Our Endowment Fund is at **\$306,000** with the interest being used for building and ground repairs, therefore we never spend the principal.

Minimum wage laws impact every organization, including us as New Life. Throughout our entire staff we are making wage adjustments to comply with state requirements as well as reviewing all other ministry positions to be sure we are keeping up with the industry standards and our market. We are very fortunate that the 'great resignation' has not happened with our staff.

# Church Generosity

Your faithful giving allowed us to make an unbelievable number of much-needed significant repairs and upgrades around campus, all of which are fully paid for. Some of those projects were:

- Extensive repairs to the fire alarm system
- Repairs to the lower roof on the Worship Center
- We repaired a significant leak in the kitchen ceiling and replaced a major water heater
- Six rooms had carpet replaced, and 7 rooms were painted
- Trees were trimmed and/ or removed to make our campus safer, and we finally replaced the dying landscape and irrigation along the North wall in the parking lot (which has over 500 cars each day drive past it)
- We expanded the play area in front of the worship center so our children would feel welcomed and appreciated

# Worship Center

Changes we have made in the Worship Center include:

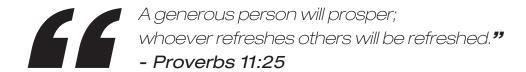
- Replaced our non-functioning sound board
- Repairs to the lower roof on the Worship Center
- Replaced two computers
- Improved lighting for the stage
- Created an audio-production room
- Replaced the 9 moving blinds
- Added two new fully functional cameras along with numerous pieces of audio gear
- Installed the LED wall and replaced the carpet on stage



Your faithfulness in giving and volunteering has helped us to minister to our people through Children's Ministry, Life Groups (almost 200 involved), Student Ministry (30 students in Life Groups), Senior Friends, and our Men's and Women events, which have created more ways to connect. We have been able

to improve dramatically our digital ministry to over 300 people per week. We have also added a streaming option for special occasions (funerals, weddings, worship and prayer nights, etc.). All of this has happened in the midst of an unpredictable worldwide pandemic.

In 2022, we began renting our Worship Center on Sunday afternoons to International Pentecostal Church (IPC) out of Bellflower. They are growing and needed space, and we had an empty building that could meet their needs. They love Jesus deeply and we are honored to be a part of their solution to grow Christ's church. The rental income will help us make up for some lost revenue from almost two years of almost no rental income. The rental money received will help us save for future repairs in our Worship Center (and maybe other areas). It's our desire that most of the rental income will not be used for operating expenses, so your giving will need to remain strong and consistent. *THANK YOU!* 



The Lord accomplished so much through your generous giving in 2021, and we will continue to press forward and prepare for the future of our ministry on our campus. While our digital ministry continues to grow, we are also experiencing more children and adults back on our campus, and together we will continue to 'be the church' to the community God has placed us in.

Also in 2021, our Board unanimously voted to leave the RCA denomination and will be joining the network called LIFT - A group of churches who reflect our traditional *Reformed heritage*. Most of what happens on Sundays will not be impacted by this change. We will continue to love others and preach Jesus. Your prayers are appreciated as we journey through these changes, and remain grounded in the Bible.

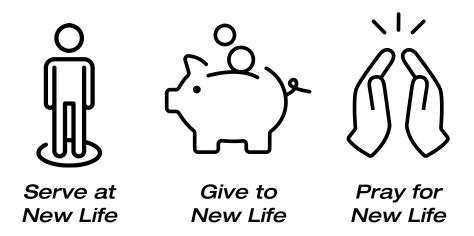
Your faithful and regular giving helps you to be outward focused and allows you to see how God collectively used our giving to make a difference. Your giving helps you grow as a disciple of Jesus. As you know, you can give in many different ways:

- You can give online and even schedule your gifts to happen automatically, which reduces stress and allows us to move when God moves
- You can work with your bank to set up reoccurring gifts (usually with no service fees)
- You can give on Sundays
- You can give by mailing in your donation
- You can also meet with your financial institution and set up 'Planned Giving and Estate Planning' which helps you in numerous ways now, as well as helps New Life prepare for the future as your gift helps to strengthen our Endowment Fund

# Thank You For Being Faithful

Despite the unpredictability of 2020 & 2021, we feel God continues to call each of us not to "hide our light under a bushel". Everything starts with your faithful prayers for our staff, those in your Life Groups, and the families of New Life. As you respond to God's leading to live a life of generosity, we are certain that God will use us to be New Life in the City and Beyond.

How Can You Help? If You...



If you do one of the above, you are already a part of the incredible movement that God is creating here at New Life Community Church.

With a sincere and grateful heart, I give thanks for you and for the privilege of leading New Life Community Church.

Peace, Juno