

*Unity
in
Faith*



New Hope
International Church

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Located in Sunnyvale, California, New Hope International Church has been around since its foundation in the Spring of 1921.

Each Sunday, people from all around the Bay Area gather at New Hope for the Sunday worship service. Its attendance is diverse, something that New Hope is immensely proud of and is always trying to expand.





The community at New Hope is a very tight-knit one, although it is also incredibly friendly and inviting. First-time visitors often decide to keep coming back and are immediately welcomed into the family.

The unity of the New Hope community is strongly based off of the church's Christian values. The closeness of the New Hope fellowship is strengthened through the common faith and love for God of its members.





A big focus on the church is on the children and youth. For these two groups, there are the Discovery Kidz Ministry and the Youth and Young Adults Ministry.

The Discovery Kidz ministry is for children between the ages of 3 and high-school age, and it is headed by Pastor Sheba Lagasca. The Youth and Young Adults Ministry members range from highschool age to age 30, and this ministry is run by Pastor Lisette Del Rio.





Throughout the year, both ministries participate in many activities and events. Each year, they participate in and help make the annual New Hope Christmas production a huge success. Being part of these ministries and participating in many of these activities are not only fun for the children, but also teach them valuable skills that will be useful to them later on in life.

Ms. Donna, assistant teacher to Discovery Kidz pastor Sheba Lagasca, enthusiastically mentions, “We have a new manners and etiquette class here.” She expresses, “The children need manners.” Ms. Donna is very excited to be able to bring the manners and etiquette class to the children, as she mentions that manners and etiquette are deeply rooted in respect.



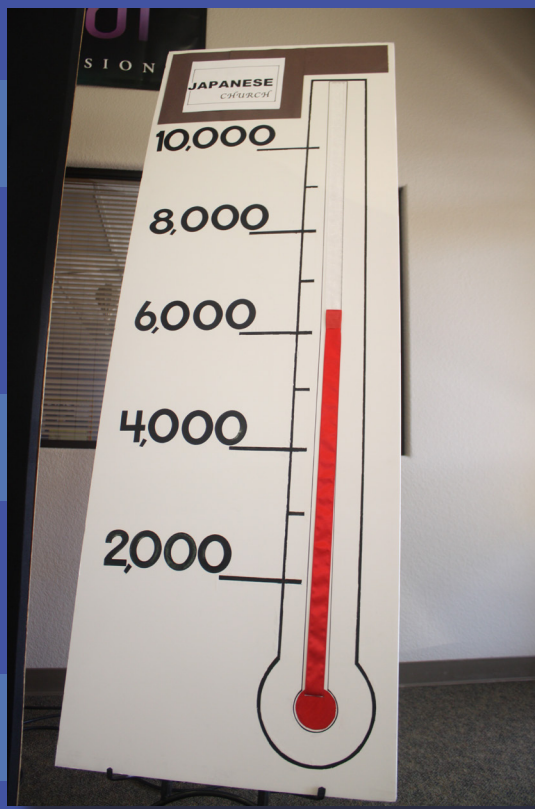


The youth members also get to participate in many enriching activities as well. Last year, many youth members were in the New Hope Co-Ed softball team, which included adults from the fellowship as well. Being on the team provided a good opportunity for the youth members to get to know and to be able to work well with the adult members of the New Hope community.

In the Fall of 2013, the softball team trained hard together. This hard work and teamwork paid off when the team won the Bay Area Community Sports Sunday Co-ed Church Division Championships. Understandably, the team is incredibly proud of this feat.



The trophy holds a softball that was signed by all the members of the winning team, as a pleasant memento of that softball season and the great memories the team made while preparing for it. It is currently on display in the lobby leading into the sanctuary, for all to see. Experiences like this greatly strengthen the already-strong sense of unity in the New Hope family, and the youth members develop great relationships with their teammates while they are involved in the team. Softball is only one of the many activities the youth members participate in.



The youth members also participate in a lot of church outreach programs. Some help by reading scripture to the children from San Miguel Elementary school, which is nearby. When asked how being involved with this program makes him feel, youth ministry member Daniel Russo expresses, *“It makes me feel powerful, I don’t know if that’s the right word to say, but the little kids--they kind of look up to you as a role model and everything, and you know that you influence them in some way. And a lot of the kids that we work with at San Miguel, they don’t come from very good classes or backgrounds and a lot of their parents aren’t there sometimes, so it’s kind of good to know that you’re kind of helping influence their life later on.”*

The youth ministry participates in community service opportunities like this throughout the year. Youth Pastor, Lisette Del Rio, mentions, *“This year we’re actually going to go on a missions trip to the Dream Center in L.A. And the Dream Center is an organization and a church and they reach out to the community around them and they are in the poorest of poors in L.A.”*





These programs not only make a big impact on the kids and students volunteering. It also makes a big impact on the people they are helping and the events they participate in. If the kids and students were not here and willing to participate, the annual New Hope Christmas play would not be possible, and neither would the Trunk-or-Treat at the end of October. These events attract visitors and potential new church members.

The children at the church are just as important to the church as the staff and adult members are. Everyone at the church does their part to make New Hope and its community an amazing thing to be a part of.



Thanks to everyone who helped during
the making of this documentary.



Special thanks to:
Pastor Lisette Del Rio
Pastor Sheba Lagasca
Ms. Donna
Daniel Russo