

New Hope Community Church



New Hope at 100

A Message from Rev. John Smyser Senior Pastor September 2001 to Present

We are looking forward to celebrating the 100 years and the saints who have gone before us. All who have been faithful to live the life and share the truth of a life lived in Jesus made this celebration possible. We stand on their shoulders as we look toward the future life and ministry of this Church. The Centennial Celebration of the work in Sunland is on May 21-23, 2010. First Baptist Church of Sunland, now New Hope Community Church of Sunland is still in the business for which it was started; lifting up the name of Jesus Christ and the new hope he gives everyone who chooses to follow him.

It was Jesus Christ who called his followers to be witnesses; "even to the ends of the earth" Acts 1:8. Sunland and the surrounding area is the place Jesus has called the Christ followers who attend New Hope Community Church to be a witness for him. We know that there is a lot that has taken place between the time Christ first called the disciples to be his witnesses in Jerusalem and where we are today.

Many faithful followers have told the story of Jesus and what he has done in their lives. They have been faithful to God and his Word when teaching and preaching the gospel. There have been many who have found new hope for their lives and become a part of the work that has moved from generation to generation.

We invite you to join us to celebrate this Church. Make plans to join us.

Love

Pastor John

In This Issue

- *A Message from Pastor John*
- *Blast from the Past Photo Collage*
- *Greeting from Helen Lane*
- *A Legacy of Hope*

"Save The Dates."

100th Anniversary

Celebration Weekend

May 21-23

2010

First Baptist

Church of Sunland

10438 Oro Vista Ave
Sunland CA 91040
(818) 353-8555

www.newhopesunland.com

New Hope Memories



The adjoining lot south of the church building was purchased in November, 1926, while Rev. James Abbott was pastor. Rev. Abbott remained only until October of the following year, having felt led to return to his former denomination, Free Methodist, as minister, in Covina.
 Student Pastor J. A. Brillhart filled the pulpit from March, 1928, to November of the same year. Sometime during his stay he was ordained as minister.
 In 1929 the church decided to build a parsonage on the lot adjoining the sanctuary. Rev. E. K. Masterson, now deceased, was pastor at that time. He resigned in April, 1935, due to ill health. Mrs. Masterson is still living, however, and is at Atherton Baptist Home in Atherton, which is for retired Southern California Baptist Convention ministers and missionaries and their companions.
 Rev. Orbie Clem followed Rev. Masterson as pastor and remained until 1937.
 More people were moving into our little valley and by 1936 the Sunday School classrooms were overcrowded and more space was needed. The Sunday School Superintendent recommended that a two-room bungalow be built for Beginners and Primary classes. And the church treasury showed a deficit! But "Faith is the substance of things hoped for—", and the members of Sunland First Baptist Church were rich in faith! At a business meeting in August, 1938.



First Row: From the 1960 50th Anniversary Celebration Event Program
 Second Row: Church Choir during 1954 New Sanctuary Construction 1926 Eldora Ave
 Sanctuary

New Hope Legacy

Dear Friends and Family of New Hope

What a joy it is to share with you what the Lord has done and is doing here within the body of believers at New Hope. Whether it's teaching a new generation of school kids to sing Deep and Wide, providing a hot meal to the hungry, or teaching the gospel to a new believer, our small flock remains active and vibrant in our desire to help fulfill the Great Commission. God's faithfulness is ever present as so many of us can testify to, and it is that faith that we have in Him and His Word that makes the challenges each day brings a little easier to handle. As the years have gone by, while our faith has indeed grown, our numbers in the pews has continued to fall. With the passage of time some head off to college, some into retirement in other cities. Newly married couples seek affordable housing in other parts of the state. Some the Lord has called to other churches, other ministries, and others he has simply called Home.

In the early 1990's our church family prayed for the Lord's Will on a very special concern which we felt his leading on. In the fall of 1993 we began the God's Challenge Our Choice Capital Funds Campaign. With the call for *Not Equal Giving But Equal Sacrifice* we secured the commitments and raised the initial funds needed to build a very special building.

Located atop the site our original 1926 Sanctuary once sat, the new Fellowship Hall and Kitchen was built and appropriately named The Activity Center. Replacing our treasured but collapsing Lancaster Hall, this gymnasium sized edifice has been in constant use since the ribbon cutting in 1996. Whether it's Sports Ministries, Blood Drives, Wedding Receptions, Scouting Events, Church Suppers, Youth Ministries, Los Angeles County Registrars Office Training, or one of the many other groups and or events we have served, the Activity Center has continued to be a light within our church community as well as our greater community of Sunland Tujunga.

As time has gone on, many of the financial commitments made towards this project were fulfilled. Unfortunately many more were not. Our 99th year finds us living amidst and with the financial struggles so many families and fellow churches are going through. While daunting at times, we are not afraid or dismayed and will continue to walk in faith and victory because the Lord Our God is indeed with us. It is that faith which has brought us into our 100th Year and it is that faith that will carry us on as long as the Lord has us in Sunland. As those of us who remain at New Hope are recommitting to leaving a financial clean slate for the next church generation, we would invite those who's lives have been touched by the ministry of this church over the past 99 years to consider this opportunity to join with us in leaving a legacy for the next century.

Blessings

Rick Denogean
Board Member

²⁰Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, ²¹to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.
Ephesians Chapter 3

June Events

Women's Fellowship Thursday
Nights 7:00 pm in
The Garden Room

Men's Saturday Breakfast June
6 Denny's on Foothill 8:00 am

All Church Workday Saturday
June 13 at 8:00 am

Kids Klub
Summer Sayonara Party
Wednesday June 10 6:30 pm

Pre School Graduation
Monday June 8
6:00 pm Sanctuary

Adult Bible Study
Wednesday Nights 6:30 pm
The Garden Room

Countdown to
100th Anniversary
Celebration

11 Months !

A Special Greeting from Helen Lane Wife of Pastor Emeritus Dr. John Lane 1944-1980

Greetings and love from Sparks, Nevada. You are about to experience an exciting time for New Hope Community Church as you plan to celebrate the 100th Anniversary.

It was on July 2, 1944 when John and I began our ministry at The First Baptist Church of Sunland. We were excited to serve our Lord in the Sunland Tujunga valley. Our time at the church holds fond memories of love, devotion, and dedicated service of individual members and friends. Our lives were truly blessed and it is a time that will never be forgotten!

Over the years, the community, buildings, membership, name, and leadership has changed, but the message has remained the same. What New Hope has inherited from the past has provided a good foundation on which to build the future. Longevity and future growth is assured if met with the zeal to follow our Father's directions and members endeavor wholeheartedly to learn and do as Jesus would have us do.

Congratulations on 100 Years and keep your eyes forward, your hearts full of gratitude to Christ for his many blessings. Finally remember to give all the praise and glory to him, praying for continued guidance as he works to use New Hope Community Church in the Sunland Tujunga community for years to come.

Blessings and Love

Helen Lane

Our Vision of a New Hope

We believe that God has invited us into His story of redemption: a story that is about God healing our lives, our communities, and our planet through the work of His people, the Church.

In the beginning, God created everything. The entire world was beautiful and good. But sin entered the world through the rebellion of Adam and Eve. Because of the actions of these two, everyone today is born into sin.

God loved us so much that He sent His Son Jesus as a sacrifice to remove the stain of sin. We believe that all it takes to receive this free gift of salvation is having faith in Jesus Christ as our Lord who died for us and was raised again to life for us.

We believe God has called us as a church to be a place that shares God's new hope with the Sunland-Tujunga community. This includes new hope for healing in our lives, our families, our schools, our communities, and our world.

Thus, our vision is: **To be a ministry of ongoing transformation in our community.**



New Hope Community Church
10438 Oro Vista Ave
Sunland CA
91040



Friend's Name
Street Address
City, State Zip Code