

“And she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.”



Luke 2:7

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 19, 2010

New Life Church of the Nazarene

10650 Reseda Blvd, Porter Ranch, CA 91326-3131

818-368-0700 www.northridgenaz.com

New Life Pre-School - 818-368-1023



CHURCH STAFF

(Church 818-368-0700)

(FAX 818-368-3075)

Senior Pastor

Dr. Chuck Smith

(Cell 818-489-8995;

chucks717@aol.com)

Minister of Music

Rev. J.D. Hansen

(Cell 805-338-0285;

jdanddonniehansen@yahoo.com)

New Life Pre-School

Jennifer Najera, Director

(School 818-368-1023)

Armenian Ministry

Rev. Nerses Boyadjian

(626-864-2525; info@windsorpro.com)

Retirement Centers Worship

Rev. Harry & Esther Tripp

(818-734-5979; hetripp1@juno.com)

Associate Pastor/Bus Ministry

Rev. Jim Real

(Cell 805-404-2265;

real.real@hotmail.com)

Associate Pastor/Spanish Ministry

Rev. Maria Eriksson

(Cell 818-831-0797; 818-269-6957;

mxe4322@lausd.net)

Sunday School Superintendent

Pam Montes

(818-734-5979; prtripp@juno.com)

Prime Time Ministry Director

Ann Phillips

(cell 818-675-7250)

Youth Ministries Co-Directors

Jacob King (College/Sports)

(818-368-7676; Cell 818-939-4882;

jiggaj10@hotmail.com)

Doug Lucas (Jr./Sr. High)

(818-366-1354; Cell 618-2893

dougiewougie71@aol.com)

Visit our web page

www.NorthridgeNaz.com

THIS WEEK

Today –SUNDAY

8:30 AM Retirement Center Worship West Hills

9:30 AM Adult Sunday School

10:30 AM Armenian Worship Service

10:45 AM Morning Worship Service

Nursery provided

Children's Church/Sunday School

4:00 PM Retirement Center Worship – Aegis

6:00 PM Combined New Life Church & New

Life Pre-School Christmas program

Wednesday

1:30 PM Retirement Center Worship Evergreen

6:00 PM All Church Chili Dinner and

Christmas Caroling to retirement

centers and to our shut-ins.

Thursday – Friday – NL Pre-School Closed

Thursday – No Senior Adult Bible Study

Saturday – Merry Christmas!

Sunday

10:30 AM Armenian Worship Service

10:45 AM Morning Worship Service

Needing Prayer? prayer@northridgenaz.com

Contact the New Life Prayer Chain. Our prayer circle is a way to become a prayer partner and pray for the needs of our church family. Pray for our military personnel and an end to terrorism world-wide.

† Prayer for Healing: Arlene Denby, Martha Evensen, Tu & Aleka Lutu, Linda Schleich (Debbie Rubin mom), Esther Tripp.



Friendship In Worship

Date December 19, 2010

Mr. /Mrs. /Ms.

(Please circle)

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Check if new address.

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

I am a member of the \_\_\_\_\_ Church.

Please check:

I am new in the community

I am visiting from out of town

I am interested in finding a new church home

I am visiting with friends: \_\_\_\_\_

Approximate ages in our family:

0-2 \_\_\_\_\_ 20's \_\_\_\_\_

3-5 \_\_\_\_\_ 30's \_\_\_\_\_

6-8 \_\_\_\_\_ 40's \_\_\_\_\_

9-11 \_\_\_\_\_ 50's \_\_\_\_\_

Jr. Hi. \_\_\_\_\_ 60's \_\_\_\_\_

Sr. Hi. \_\_\_\_\_ Retired \_\_\_\_\_

# Welcome to New Life Church

**We are glad that you came to worship with us today!**

We hope you will feel right at home. Please take a minute and fill out the Friendship In Worship section for us, thank you!



Welcome to the  
**Church of the Nazarene**  
Our Church Can Be Your Home

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



## Morning Worship – December 19, 2010

Lectionary Readings: Isaiah 35:1-10; Psalm 146:5-10;  
James 5:7-10; Matthew 11:2-11

Message: **"Christmas or Xmas?"** - Luke 2:8-15



We encourage you to subscribe to **HOLINESS TODAY**. 1 year - \$12 (6 issues); 2 years \$20 (12 issues) Holiness Today is a 40-page bimonthly web (www.HolinessToday.org) and print magazine with articles geared to enhance holiness living by connecting Nazarenes with our heritage, vision, and mission through real life stories of God at work in the world. Articles are written by pastors, lay experts in various fields of study, and denominational leaders. Ushers have order blanks.



Next week is the last Sunday of 2010, we thank Jesus Christ our Lord for his birth in our lives as our personal Savior. What a difference He has made throughout the year. We anticipate His blessings in the year to come. We encourage everyone to give a special Christmas gift for the work of Christ through our congregation at New Life Church.

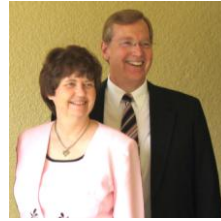
## CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 22**, All Church Chili Dinner and Christmas Caroling to retirement centers and to our shut-ins.

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31**, New Year's Eve game night for all ages in the Fellowship Hall – 6 p.m. - 10 p.m. See Ben (818-268-4533) or Grace Wilkinson (818-393-7906) for what snacks and beverages to bring or for more information.



Christmas Caroling Party



Pastor Chuck & Dixie Smith

## Pastoral Sabbatical

Dixie and I will be away for our first Pastoral Sabbatical in January and February. We have been ministering for over 40 years, and have never before taken a sabbatical. I have pastored New Life church for 10 ½ years and have served as a senior pastor since 1973. This will be a tenure-related sabbatical which serves as a preventative measure to help pastors and their families avoid burn-out. This is an extended time away from job responsibilities for the purpose of reflection, renewal, and revitalization. This intentional ministry was recommended by Jerry Ferguson, District Superintendent, two years ago at the pastoral renewal time. I will be preaching on January 2, and return Sunday, March 6.

### What a Sabbatical Is

- It is a time apart from the pastorate
- It is a time for rest and reflection
- It is a time for renewed focus and vision
- It is a time to "pull things together" mentally & spiritually
- It is a time to be stimulated by new learning
- It is a time to concentrate on family relationships
- It is a time to evaluate the past and envision the future
- It is a time for the local church to grow

A Sabbatical booklet, prepared by PLNU, is available at the church office. You can read it online at:  
[http://www.pointloma.edu/sites/default/files/filemanager/Center\\_for\\_Pastoral\\_Leadership/Sabbatical\\_Booklet\\_Revised\\_2010.pdf](http://www.pointloma.edu/sites/default/files/filemanager/Center_for_Pastoral_Leadership/Sabbatical_Booklet_Revised_2010.pdf)

### Sabbaticals are Biblical

The concept is deeply rooted in Scripture. The term comes from the Old Testament idea of "Sabbath," meaning "rest." In establishing the Sabbath covenant, God stipulated that the people were to work six days and rest on the seventh (Exodus 16:26). God also instituted what was called the "Sabbath year." The people were to work the land for six years and on the seventh they were to rest from their labor in the field (Leviticus 25:3,4). The Sabbath provided a time of recovery for both the people and the land.

Also, as one reflects on the life and ministry of Jesus, it becomes apparent that He was a proponent of the sabbatical concept. On more than one occasion He withdrew from the constraining pressures of ministry, going to the mountains and desert places where he could find rest and spiritual solitude (Matthew 5:1; 14:23). With His encouragement and admonition, His disciples followed the same pattern (Mark 6:31). The idea of sabbatical comes from the Bible.

### Our Plan

The sabbatical will emphasize rest and renewal. There should be a total disconnection from the local church except for periodic exchange of progress reports and contact in case of emergencies. You will be able to call our Associate Pastor Jim Real for day-to-day issues. Much of the sabbatical will be taken away from Porter Ranch. We will drive to Washington, taking time along the way to visit churches and ministries. We will visit with our son and family in Seattle. In February, Jim Real & I will attend the Church of the Nazarene M11 Pastors Conference in Louisville, KY. Rev. Mike Shipman will preach in January, Dr. Robin Smith in February, and Rev. Jim Real on February 27. Please pray for us during this time!

Thank you for turning off cell phones & pagers.

## Communication with the Staff:

### I am interested in the following:

- Sunday Morning Bible Study Group
- Wednesday Bible Study Group
- Thursday Bible Study Small Group
- Armenian Ministry Bible Study/Service
- Women's Group (WINGS)
- Prayer Fellowship Group
- College / Young Adult Group
- Teen Group
- Children's Ministries



### My Decision Today:

- I am committing my life to Christ
- I am renewing my commitment to Christ
- I would like to talk to the Pastor
- I am willing to help where needed

### I'd like information on:

- How to begin a relationship with Christ
- How to become part of this church family
- Being baptized

### Prayer Requests/ Comments:

---



---



---



---



---



---



---

Please note: Your requests are prayed for by our staff and prayer partners. If your request is confidential and only to be seen by the Pastor, please check this box.  Thank you!

### Our Seven-Fold Vision:

We strive to be a prayer-seeking, worship-giving, ministry-reaching, Bible-teaching, fellowship-sharing, soul-winning, & disciple-making church.