



“FOR I KNOW THE PLANS I HAVE FOR YOU,” DECLARES THE LORD, “PLANS TO PROSPER YOU AND NOT TO HARM YOU, PLANS TO GIVE YOU HOPE AND A FUTURE.” JEREMIAH 29:11

NEW CITY PARISH

DID YOU KNOW?

From unrest and despair came a vision of **hope, healing and rebuilding**; a vision to change lives by providing the Word, the Sacraments and Service ministries of the church. In 1992, guided by the Holy Spirit, months of prayer and discussion among Pastors and Lay Leaders resulted in the creation of **New City Parish**. Soon to be celebrating thirty years of ministry and outreach in their communities, the nine congregations of our SWCA Synod that are collectively New City Parish continue in their mission to manifest the presences of Jesus Christ through ministries enhancing spiritual growth, multicultural understanding, education, as well as social and economic well-being.

New City Parish is located within ninety-eight square miles of the Los Angeles metro area reaching neighborhoods in Los Angeles, Inglewood and Compton. New City Parish serves with a culturally integrated, linguistically complex and ethnically diverse population to bring about change.

New City Parish Ministries Fight Hunger...

Starting with 4 locations in 1992, the food ministries of New City Parish now serve over **30,000 guests each year** at Angelica Lutheran Church, Ascension Lutheran Church, Community Lutheran Church, Chapel of Peace Lutheran Church, Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, First Lutheran Church and Pueblo de Dios. **Each grocery distribution averages between 75-175 people** (individuals and families) per distribution. The number of clients served is dependent on the time of the month and frequency of services offered at each location. Each community meal normally serves **between 100-150 people** with the exception of specially designated holiday meals, such as Thanksgiving or Christmas in which the average is between 500 and 1,500 meals depending on the location.



New City Parish Ministries Support Youth in Faith Formation and Education...

The New City Parish youth scholarship program helps youth manage the burden of paying for college. Many of the households within New City Parish congregations are working class and paying for college can be difficult. **During 2020, the New City Parish scholarship program was able to award scholarships to 20 youth.** These scholarships assisted youth in paying for tuition, books, housing and school associated fees. In addition to college scholarships, New City Parish is working to provide youth with the ability to attend the ELCA Lutheran Youth Gathering in Minnesota. Some New City Parish congregations provide after-school tutoring, mentoring and computer labs.

New City Parish Ministries Support Job Training and Development ...

New City Parish has a sewing ministry run by congregants from Pueblo de Dios Lutheran Church in Compton. This ministry gives the women an opportunity to showcase their talents and skills, build business skills and enjoy fellowship with one another. The sewing ministry makes many beautiful garments including beautiful chair coverings and clergy shirts featured at New City Parish fund-raising events and at SWCA Synod Assembly gatherings. New City Parish congregations provide a variety of programs, including child care, to help working parents.



On God's Work. Our Hands Sunday, Bishop Eaton joined the congregation of St. Mark's, Los Angeles, as they toured "The Nest," an early childhood education center and preschool for low-income families.

WHAT DOES YOUR GIFT OF HOPE DO?

Many in the neighborhoods and communities served by New City Parish face food insecurity and hunger every day. Bagged groceries of food to feed a family of four include healthy options. Sharing gifts of nourishing food is also a first step for many to connect with services and ministries of New City Parish and its partners. Youth Ministries connect youth from New City Parish and congregations from throughout California in learning, fellowship and service opportunities. Education and training for youth and adults is essential. Fighting hunger, encouraging youth in faith, education and fellowship, and providing job development and training – all are Gifts of Hope as we partner with New City Parish in continuing the mission to bring about transformative change to the lives of many.