

ST JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH - HISPANIC MINISTRY

Iglesia Cristiana de la Comunidad, Napa, CA

A year has passed since Rev. Luis Alvarado was installed as Hispanic Ministry pastor for the Saint John's Lutheran Church in Napa, CA. A core group of people was established in order to develop programs and provide a primary organization and leadership to our Hispanic Mission Church.

When Rev. Alvarado arrived in Napa, a group of 20 people gathered together on Sunday mornings for worship and fellowship. All of these people came from a charismatic-Pentecostal background and worshiped the Lord only through their emotions without any clear doctrine. When Rev. Alvarado started to preach the word of God, there was conflict, and as a consequence of this, many of the initial people left. Soon we were 10, but through the struggle our Precious Lord was at work, and he started to add more people to our church. Today we have an attendance of 50 to 60 worshipers every Sunday.

We are currently concentrating on raising leaders, and planning fellowship within the Hispanic community. We are having fellowship every Sunday after service because we want to accelerate the process of integration, and growing friendship, love, and confidence in each other. This will better prepare us to reach out in the community with the word of God and grow.

We have been preparing our sanctuary for receiving the new comers and visitors. The original sanctuary was just a dark place built of concrete blocks, with no paint or finish work. We have done a lot of work in it, plastering all the walls and painting them, and we are still in the process of remodeling the altar and all the decoration like using lights, plants and flowers. We want to offer a comfortable sanctuary where we will be able to give people the Word of salvation in Jesus Christ. Right now our sanctuary is still small but it looks beautiful.

Our mission is still in the first stage to become a mission church; since we are in the process of establishing our teachings and organizing every area of our ministry. We pray to our Gracious Lord to bless us with commitment, dedication and enthusiasm and everything we need to work in his kingdom and do His will, which is to reach everybody with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

