

Explore Faith, Experience Community, Love and Serve Others

A NOTE FROM PETER: Hello! It is exciting to send out this newsletter to shares with you all the great things God has been doing with Explore in the past two years. This is a celebration of His faithfulness and an appreciation for all of you who have prayed for us and helped support the work of Explore in the South Bay. Please enjoy this letter and join us as we praise God and thank our supporters—YOU! We look forward to 2017 and how He will use us in the surrounding communities to connect with each other and find faith in God.

Serving together,
Peter Thomas

2015 & 2016 in Review!

WE'RE EXPANDING ...BY GOD'S GRACE!

*"Enlarge the place of your tent, and let them stretch out the curtains of your dwellings; do not spare; lengthen our cords, and strengthen your stakes."
Isaiah 54:2*

We are excited to share that we have finally opened up our new location! Many of you know that the process took us two years, but we praise God we are finally in and enjoying the blessing of growth—the opportunity to invite others and offer a variety of services and ministries.

We celebrated our first Sunday in our new building on Feb. 14th,

followed by our Grand Opening in March, on Easter. It was awesome to see the many new faces that joined us and continue to come each week to check out what we're doing at Explore.

I cannot thank our team enough for their perseverance and continued hard work, setting up and breaking down each week for the past three years that we were at Hilltop Middle School. It's exciting to show up and have our building ready for serving others and connecting with God through prayer, small groups and the weekend services we are able to offer now.



OUR MISSION: We are committed to **calling (inviting)** disconnected individuals into a life changing relationship with Jesus Christ, **creating (building)** strong Christ followers through the study of God's Word and various learning opportunities, and are committed to **cultivating (developing)** an ethnically diverse community of believers that will live out God's purpose and values for their lives in the world through loving and serving others.

Small Group Connection



Women's Connection Group launched it's second year in February 2016. What began as a group of eight, in February 2015, has been growing to close to 20 women now—meeting twice a month to share community, learn how to study the Bible on their

own (with an eagerness to get to know God more intimately) and learn how His Word is lived out in our daily lives.

Men's Group launched it's first year in August 2016, bringing together men to grow in a relationship with Jesus Christ through prayer, Bible study, ministry, fellowship and accountability. ▶ ▶ ▶

OPPORTUNITIES TO VOLUNTEER/SERVE:

- Children's Ministry (fingerprinting and background check required).
- Hospitality
- Ushers and Greeters
- Worship & Production Team
- Prayer Team
- Men's Group
- Women's Connection Group

If you would like to get involved in the life at Explore, please email info@explorecommunity.org with your contact info and which area you're interested in.

I would like to ask for your help/support in what we believe and plan for 2017 by donating to Explore!

- ♦ You can mail your donation(s) to
PO Box 122017
Chula Vista, CA 91912
- ♦ You may also visit our website and donate through paypal at explorecommunitychurch.com

You can find us on twitter, instagram, and facebook:

-  @ExploreCC
-  @explorecommunitychurch
-  @ExploreCommunityChurch

Written by: Rikah Thomas
Edited by: Jessica Sanchez

MEET OUR TEAM:

We want to introduce you to our amazing staff and volunteer team; we could not accomplish all that we do here at Explore without them!

Pastor: Peter Thomas

Worship Leader:
Julian Del Castillo

Pastoral Support and Men's Group Leader: Art Ramos

Children's Ministry Leader:
Phyllis Alexander

Administrative Support:
Gail Dunn

A/V & Technical Support:
James Turbeville

Facility Maintenance Leader:
Juan Carlos Robledo

Ushers & Greeters Team Lead:
Daniel Hall

Women's Connection Group Leader: Rikah Thomas

Graphic Designer: Jessica Sanchez

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY:

Our mission is to partner with parents to help them teach, equip, and lead their children to become firmly rooted in faith at an early age. This year, of 2016, we were able to rent the Jujutsu room (suite D) for our growing Children's Ministry, giving them a place to learn the Bible in a fun and creative way while creating a safe environment for them to thrive in!



LOOKING AHEAD IN 2017

Our goal in moving forward is to keep growing as a church staff and an organization that offers weekend services for adults and youth, discipleship groups and opportunities to our community through training. This upcoming year we hope to:

- ✓ continue meeting the needs of individuals and families throughout the community with practical assistance and spiritual guidance

- ✓ getting a Pastor/Leader to help in expanding our children's ministry

- ✓ continue raising funds to support the church and ministries that exist

- ✓ expand our outreaches to various areas and communities

A special thank you to our team, volunteers, supporters, and church communities that continue to recommend us to your friends and family! We appreciate you! Blessings to you and yours.