



## New Life in California

<http://www.mtwsa.net/people/ngutierrez.htm>

July 2006

Dear family and friends,

*“Hi Nathaniel, this is Kathy with Mision Vida Nueva Church. I heard you arrived yesterday, welcome to San Diego! Would you be able to lead worship for our service tomorrow?”*

*And that is how we were introduced to the church Nathaniel will be interning with during his seminary years.*

*Started by New Life Presbyterian Church in Escondido, CA, Mission Vida Nueva is a small Hispanic church, humble on the outside, but filled with solid preaching and a faithful congregation. As with many small churches, this one is a family, each member taking on responsibilities without hesitation and welcoming new members with open arms and a list of ways for them to get involved as well.*

*That is exactly the mentality that makes us so excited to be a part of this church! Not only are we warmly welcomed, but we are handed a shovel and told to dig right in! Already Nathaniel is being asked to lead worship every Sunday, and I am being called upon to start teaching Sunday school. Because the church is so new, we will not only be leading, but starting a youth group, bible studies, and prayer groups within the next few months – we couldn't be more excited!*

*Nathaniel also started seminary this week. Already he is being challenged and stretched in ways he was not in college. Thankfully, there are several friends he knew from Covenant College, and they are quickly forming a strong bond. (I guess summer Greek will do that to a cluster of men.)*

*Please pray for us as we are settling into our new life here in San Diego. In only a few weeks we have seen how the Lord has richly blessed us with a lovely apartment, and a wonderful church to be a part of. Everyone we meet who is connected with the church or seminary has welcomed us warmly, making us feel right at home. We also ask for prayers for this small mission church, which is so faithfully reaching out to the Hispanic community down here, and prayer for the programs we are going to start while working with this church.*

*During our seminary years, we will continue to work with Mission to the World in helping this church plant get on its feet, which will facilitate our transition into full time missions in the near future.*

*As we work with Mision Vida Nueva, we can do nothing but praise the Lord for giving us the chance to use our gifts in the place they fit. We also especially thank you who have supported us through prayers and finances, because the Lord has used you powerfully in this ministry that we are so passionate about. Please continue to work together with us by supporting our ministry, as we seek to bring the gospel into this community.*

With love,

Nathaniel and Alicia Gutierrez



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