

## PSWR Miracle on 43<sup>rd</sup> Street Highlights



**Professional Volunteers** – Nasario Orozco and brother Jorge are professional painters and they transformed the Sanctuary at United! Nasario is also the Pastor at Iglesia Cristiana Encuentro con Dios CC in Fontana.



**Neighborhood volunteer workers** – Josh and DeShawn.... Living the faith they may not have even known they had! Wang, a single Filipino woman who has no family, came and worked cleaning in the Fellowship hall and kitchen until 6pm two days – she is a friend of United and has no church home – she goes where she is invited and needed. And we invited and needed her. Donna and daughter live across the street, and they helped clean bathrooms, paint, and more.

**Ernie “The “Holy” Mud Man” from Wilshire CC** – had registered for Wed, asked if he could come back TH and FR, which ended up happening. He worked tirelessly filling holes in structures throughout the sanctuary, narthex and fellowship hall

**Youth, Youth, Youth.** “They are the Church of Today – not just Tomorrow!”



**One Church** – all came together to make miracles happen. Left all differences of theology, class, race... and came to share miracles. (Philippians 4:13 “I/We can do all things through Christ who strengthens me/us.”)



**Cross of Color, beauty and brightness** – an abandoned wooden cross in the back of the church was found by a youth and redesigned, transformed and decorated by all youth to grace the UCC gardens as a reminder of the Miracle



### Ice Cream Truck...



**Hazmat Room** - not only about the clearing of harmful debris, but more importantly the clearing of a deathly smell that permeated the sacred space used for perhaps the most significant ministry and mission of United – the weekly feeding of the community.



**Elton Penn's 6 year old daughter** – witnessing her dad and the Church creating miracles – this is now part of her DNA and her association of the Disciples Church.

**Marimba player** in Sunday worship (Robert Ball) – his extraordinary sense of worship, flow and Spirit. Along with all the musicians, Tom Perring, James Bishop...

**PSWR youth being open and available** to move wherever and whenever there was work to be done: Madison, Christian, Jessica, Olivia, Hannah, and many others...



**Church is not the Building – Church is the People**



**Throwing away Stuff - Our Stuff and our Clutter is not our Church, nor is it Ministry, nor is it Mission**



**Simplicity is our gift, it is our ability to move, to see, to breathe a new breath!**



**Old refrigerators/freezers/heaters/wiring/clothing.** Random people from the community showed up and asked if they could take items we were throwing away. They were so grateful for our permission to take these discarded items that for them were life-giving gifts and means to place food on a table, clothes on a family and hope

for a future. So much we take for granted that others take for necessity. Humility was learned from the simplest of gestures. I/we learned it when we helped Juan load 700 pounds of refrigerators and freezers onto his already loaded pickup truck. He was so grateful for these gifts and we knew it even though he didn't speak a word of English.

**Body Aches and Pains strengthen the Spirit** – So many People (the Church) exercised muscles this week that we didn't even know we had. There were miracles in each of these muscles and the more we exercised them the healthier we all became.

**Simple “Thank You” offered and received kept the miracles flowing!**

**A time to worship and praise our great God of miracles!**



**Quotable:**

Drive-by Affirmations (rather than drive-by shootings, MW became a setting for drive-by shouting's of “Good Job”, “Thank You” and “Praise God”... from random members of the neighborhood and community. ~ Dan Oliver

What an amazing week! The volunteers were stupendous! The sanctuary, fellowship hall and grounds look spectacular. We have gone two days and two nights with no new graffiti. ~ Cathy Perring

I believe the folks at United were overwhelmed by the people, the work and the love that encompassed their campus. Facilities as well as lives were transformed.

Our/my dream for MO43 is that the breath of God has instilled renewed hope to a church whose ministry is about serving the needs of the community. ~ Martha Causey

### **MW Work Highlights**

- Sanctuary – painting, lights, bathroom fixtures, water fountain, pew removal and cleaning, new flooring and carpet
- Office area – new lights
- Landscaping – new irrigation, plants, cross, mulch...
- Fellowship Hall – prepped, cleaned, organized and painted hall, lounge, 2 kitchens and storage rooms, hauled 5 loads of clothing to Goodwill and neighborhood Clothing thrift store, hauled off furniture and debris, gutted Hazmat Room, installed curtains
- Exterior clean up – painting walls, new stairs, cleaning alley, parking lots and exterior surfaces

**Special Thanks** (in no particular order – as long as God, Cathy & Martha are on top!):

- **God!**
- MW Chairs – Cathy Perring and Martha Causey
- MW Committee

MW Work Coordinators – Dick Shelton, Tom Perring, Dan Oliver, Don Dewey, Stan Smith, Ron Causey, Craig Vail, Edgar Wilson, Susan Carter and a special thanks to our professional plumbers from the OC and LA unions, and electricians (Ron from Orange and Kate from Bakersfield)

- MW Special Contributors – All those listed on sponsor banner
- United CC Pastor Mildred and members
- PSWR Disciples Women (Disciples Men)
- General Church Participants/Supporters: DHM – Ron Degges, OGMP – Timothy James
- General Youth Coordinators – Lee Yates, Nadine Burton, Kortni Ingebrigtsen
- General Youth and beyond – Kansas, Illinois, Oregon, Korea, Sweden...

### **Number Estimates:**

- 175 – 200 involved throughout Miracle Week
  - o 70 General Youth and Sponsors
  - o 75 attended Pastors Summit (25 worked at least one day, 50 non-workers)
  - o 55 PSWR Workers at least one day
  - o 7 Neighborhood workers at least one day
  - o 2 General Church reps
- 170 Estimated for worship attendance 7/1 at United CC
- 26 Congregations involved (MW and Pastors Summit)

**Churches Involved:**

Orange  
Vista La Mesa  
Bakersfield  
Downey Memorial  
Abundant Life  
Antioch  
Torrey Pines  
United  
105th  
Lynwood  
Fuente de Vida  
Burbank  
Pacific Beach  
Orange  
Vista La Mesa  
Bakersfield  
Downey Memorial  
Abundant Life  
Antioch  
Torrey Pines  
United  
105th  
Lynwood  
Fuente de Vida  
Burbank  
Pacific Beach  
Church of the Chimes  
Returning to the lord  
Wahiawa CC  
Faith Christian  
All Peoples  
Wilshire  
McCarty  
Harbor  
North Hollywood  
Church of the Foothills  
Whittier FCC  
Iglesia Cristiana Arbol de Vida  
San Bernardino FCC