

## ***Harbor House to Oaks to New Hope: A Timeline (draft)***

*I started collecting this information from various folks in response to a couple questions people asked me about this history. This history focuses primarily on the development of New Hope as it intersects with people involved in Harbor House and Oaks in the early 1990's. There are still many unanswered questions so if you know anything new please send me more information. I've included a few key unanswered questions throughout the timeline. – Josh - josh@missionyear.org*

Early sixties – Olive Freeman taught ill-clothed and hungry students at nearby Lazear Elementary School in Oakland and responded by distributing donations of food and clothing from the trunk of her car.

1971 – Harbor House was incorporated as a nonprofit.

1972, February 6 – Harbor House opened its doors, serving families by providing emergency food and clothing, housing and job referrals, and tutoring. The current Harbor House mission statement is:

*Providing opportunities for low-income people to become self-sufficient through spiritual, economic, and educational programs so that, together, we become all that God intends us to be.*

1984, Summer – Bill Squires begins work with the Good News Club.

1986 – Barbara Franzen begins working with Bill.

1989 – Dan Schmitz volunteers at Harbor House and moves into the Oak Park Apartments.

1992, Summer – Russell Jeung, Suzy Kim (Tran), Helen Shor, Rob Swift, Scott Loo, John Shou, Sharon Lane serve as interns at Harbor House and begin to meet together for support. Russell moves in with Dan at Oak Park and other move in to the area around Harbor House.

1993 – The group of folks meeting together grows rapidly and by the end of the year some are encouraging the selection of a leadership team and a group name.

1994 – Early in the year the group chooses the name “Oaks”, a leadership team consisting of Nic Bekaert, Brian Campbell, Helen Shor, and Scott Loo is chosen (their first meeting may have been 1/18/94 and the Oaks mission statement is developed:

*Recognizing the need for restoration in the city and desiring to obey God, Oaks is a community of Christians with a commitment to THRIVE IN THE INNER CITY. We will understand the relevance of the gospel to urban issues and encourage one another through the power of the Holy Spirit. Through worship, training, and prayer God's vision will be realized in our lives and in Oakland.”*

One (undated) list of Oaks folks included Albert Hong, Alice Wu (Cardona), Angela Aquino, Brian Campbell, Carlos (Leung) Flores, Chris Jones, Christine Ma, Dana Lundblad, Dan Schmitz, Diana Medina, Greg Hendsch, Greg Mills, Heidi Hershberger, Helen Shor, John Shou, Josh (Kaufman) Horner, Kim Wells, Linda Leung (Flores), Lou (Kim) Tran, Maria Mitchell, Nic Bekaert, Randy Ontiveras, Rick Frey, Rich Weber, Rob Swift, Scott Loo, Sharon & Vincent Williams, Suzy Kim (Tran), Tung Leong, Will Haas, Yoka Sims, Yuko Suzuki, Yung Ouyang.

1994, December – The Oaks leadership team decides not to continue in their role and Oaks effectively dissolves. Some smaller groups of people continue to meet together.

1994, Winter – A group of people begin meeting to pray together about forming a church primarily designed to disciple Harbor House youth. The members of the group are Olive Freeman, Bill and Cathy Squires, Barbara Franzen, Yung Ouyang, and Nic Bekaert. Olive is the founder of Harbor House, Bill, Cathy, and Barbara have had long relationships with Harbor House, and Yung and Nic connect both Harbor House and Oaks. The group develops this Mission Statement:

- *In order to respond to God's love, and to share the healing, forgiveness, peace and joy that He offers us through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, we will build a church gathered into basic Christian communities, or cells, rooted in evangelistic outreach, discipleship, and leadership development.*
- *We will grow into Christian maturity and obedience through personal spiritual development, worship, prayer, Bible study, discovering and using gifts, and intimate sharing.*
- *We will strengthen families and households, celebrate one another's culture, strive for excellence in education, and pursue meaningful employment.*
- *We will focus initially on East Oakland young adults. Our priority is to serve the indigenous population of inner-city Oakland.*

1995, November 29 – Josh (Kaufman) Horner is asked to join the prayer group by Cathy Squires and Nic Bekaert. After meeting with the group for seven weeks Josh (Kaufman) Horner writes a letter to the prayer group expressing willingness to guide the team in initiating a fledgling church plant.

1995, February – The Squires become the first to buy a house near Oak Park

1996, February 25 – The first formal event of New Hope (East Oakland Fellowship) was primarily a time for supporters to pray for us. Those committing to participate in New Hope at this time are: Yung Ouyang, Nic Bekaert, Viet Tran, Allen Mack III, Barbara Franzen, Bill, Cathy, and Sarah Squires, Maurine Hart (Bekaert), Susan Song (Campbell), Dan Schmitz, Carlos (Leung) Flores, Josh (Kaufman) Horner (and one illegible name?). Many of these folks are involved in various forms of youth discipleship in the neighborhood.

1996, Fall – New Hope's first baptisms! Sarah Squires, Viet Tran, Ky Luu

? Carlos comes up with the name "New Hope" – adopted at a retreat

1997, January 19 – Those formally committing to participation in New Hope at this time of this retreat are: Yung Ouyang, Nic Bekaert, Viet Tran, Allen Mack III, Barbara Franzen, Bill, Cathy, and Sarah Squires, Maurine Hart (Bekaert), Susan Song (Campbell), Dan Schmitz, Carlos (Leung) Flores, Josh (Kaufman) Horner, John Shou, Rob Swift, Ky Luu, Nai Pou Saelee, Celia Yeh, Linda Leung (Flores), Rich Weber, Elaine Chan, Muang Saechao, Teresa Lee (one illegible name?).

1997, December 31 – Nic and Maurine (Hart) Bekaert celebrate the first New Hope wedding!

1998, January – Dan Schmitz and Bill Squires become New Hope's co-pastors when Josh (Kaufman) Horner transitions out of the lead pastor role to focus on the initial Mission Year (and on Annette!).

1998, Spring – Oak Park lawsuit begins.

1998, May 23 – Brian and Susan (Song) Campbell married.

1998, July 18 – Cameron and Alice Wu Cardona married.

1998, September 11 – Lou and Suzy Kim Tran married.

1998, December 20 – Josh and Annette married.

1999, June – New Hope becomes an Evangelical Covenant Church

2000, August 5 – Carlos and Linda Leung Flores married.

2000, October - Oak Park lawsuit won.

2001, June 30 – Carl and Celia (Yeh) Pascual married.

2001, July 28 – Dan and Jan (Jensen) Schmitz married.

2002, April 6 – Russell and Joan Jeung married.

2002, December 21 – Albert and Shauna Olson Hong married.

2003, March – Dedication of the New Hope building.

2003, June 7 – Rob and Ahn Dao Swift married.

? other dates, baptisms, etc