

Happy 1 Year, REVIVE Family!

Believe it or not, we launched almost a year ago on January 26th, 2020! Through a year unlike no other, we had to discern and pivot to move in creativity and God's newness. As a congregation, we continued to share, grow, and foster a safe space of authenticity, intentionality, belonging, and freedom! For this week's devotional, our core team will recap and reflect on how our core values were experienced. In this handout please read and reflect on Isaiah 61 and highlights from the year. Then reflect with the Lord to set goals for yourself in 2021...

See you this Saturday at 2:00 p.m., via zoom!

HOW IT ALL STARTED:

Fun fact: Everything about REVIVE was based off of years of prayers and petition, as well as the Holy Spirit's prompting that birthed 2019's Kingdom Overflow Ministry. From this year-long ministry and training ground, the idea of a 3rd service was developed. We made some big transitions this year with moving online, but it has been so gratifying and Spirit-led!

Our mission is to bring life into dead places, and our vision is to gain more of God's heart for ourselves and others. Our goal is to create a safe atmosphere so that people can feel comfortable enough to leave shame at the door. The unchurched and de-churched were our target demographic when we launched. With all that we do, we try and embody our core values of authenticity, intentionality, belonging and freedom. When these things take place, our hope is that there will be a spiritual shift that goes from "REVIVE-ing," to "REVIVAL." Our theme verse is from Isaiah 61, which God put on Tammy Kido's heart weeks before we launched!

I thank God for our REVIVE core team who all work with such unity, intentionality, and creativity.

Big thanks to Michael Ohno (content creator), Lyndsay Ogawa (graphic designer and prayer team lead), Carina Ogawa (hospitality and in-reach coordinator), and Derek Wong (worship director) who have been planning, praying, and petitioning for this dream to become a reality!

5 weeks before our launch, Joy Toguchi had the idea for our core team and other leaders to gather every Sunday night for intimate times of prayer and worship. We wrote down words, pictures, prayers, hopes, and dreams on a huge sheet of butcher paper (which I still have framed in my office)! We met at the hypothetical start time of REVIVE, and spent these special weeks on

Isaiah 61: The Year of the Lord's Favor

1 The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is on me, because the LORD has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners, 2 to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor and the day of vengeance of our God, to comfort all who mourn, 3 and provide for those who grieve in Zion— to bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of joy instead of mourning, and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair. They will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the LORD for the display of his splendor. 4 They will rebuild the ancient ruins and restore the places long devastated;

they will renew the ruined cities that have been devastated for generations. 5 Strangers will shepherd your flocks; foreigners will work your fields and vineyards. 6 And you will be called priests of the LORD, you will be named ministers of our God. You will feed on the wealth of nations, and in their riches you will boast. 7 Instead of your shame you will receive a double portion, and instead of disgrace you will rejoice in your inheritance. And so you will inherit a double portion in your land, and everlasting joy will be yours. 8 "For I, the LORD, love justice; I hate robbery and wrongdoing. In my faithfulness I will reward my people and make an everlasting covenant with them. 9 Their descendants will be known among the nations and their offspring among the peoples. All who see them will acknowledge that they are a people the LORD has blessed." 10 I delight greatly in the LORD; my soul rejoices in my God. For he has clothed me with garments of salvation and arrayed me in a robe of his righteousness, as a bridegroom adorns his head like a priest, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. 11 For as the soil makes the sprout come up and a garden causes seeds to grow, so the Sovereign LORD will make righteousness and praise spring up before all nations.

REFLECTION QUESTIONS:

- 1. What were the priorities of the Lord from Isaiah 61? Circle or highlight. Note his characteristic traits too.
- 2. Reflect on 2020- What do you think the Lord taught you? Note some life changing events and how they shaped you.
- 3. For 2021, where or to whom is God calling you to? Write down some goals, dreams and hopes for this year.

2020 ANNUAL REPORT FOR REVIVE, 3rd SERVICE

Submitted by: Pastor Lauren Fukuzawa Wong

LAUNCH & IN-PERSON SERVICES:

Praise God, REVIVE successfully launched on Jan. 26th of 2020. The launch was an incredible celebration of God's goodness, and we had over 120 people in attendance! Praise God, there were people who haven't been to church in years, and even some who had never stepped foot in a church before! On that day I sensed the word, "homecoming."

Up until mid-March we met in-person every Sunday after, minus the last Sunday of the month. We purposely wanted to take the last Sunday of the month to remember to live outside of our "church bubble" and to be mindful to still spend time with family and non-Christian friends.

Every in-person REVIVE service consisted of worship, a message, a prayer team to intercede for people, and a response time at the cross. While meeting in-person, we also had "community time," where we had refreshments before every service. Big thanks to Noreen Ozawa, Cathy Azama, Lisa Wada, Pearl Ikeda, Katie Fukuzawa, and many others for donating such delicious food and for helping with set up and tear down! Derek, Lyndsay, and Carina also diligently met with their perspective worship, greeting, and prayer teams before service and did a wonderful job empowering and equipping others. In person meetings ranged from about 50-60 people.

For in-person services, I was able to kick off our launch, and preach 3 other times. Big thanks to Michael Ohno and Bob Morita for also sharing the preaching responsibilities! Our sermon series for in-person meetings were called "On Earth, as it is in Heaven" (based off of our core values), and "Breaking Chains" (based on letting go and allowing God to set us free).

ONLINE CONTENT:

Our online community times take place about twice a month. During these weeks we publish a devotional, handout, and email. We also started a blog, Revivingbeautyfromashes.com. Our meetings have been nothing short of amazing, and I praise God for the depth in teaching and sharing. It's always a life giving and healing time, and we even have people from different churches who join us too!

For REVIVE online, I headed up 5 devotional videos, and the rest were done by our amazing REVIVE core team (Michael, Lyndsay, Carina, and Derek), as well as special guest appearances by Ciara Nagao, Timo Sumida, and James Mizuki. Some of the topics taught were on kingdom leadership, prayer, mourning, worship, communication, family dynamics, and more.

We now have 27 devotional videos up on our YouTube channel, with views upwards of a few hundred! God is good and truly wastes nothing!

OTHER:

For the December meal deliveries we created over 100 senior "blessing bags," filled with a devotional, a reusable face mask, and an encouraging note. Our core also personally delivered bags to our REVIVE congregation and prayed for people at their door.

As the prayer lead, Lyndsay made an online prayer sign-up and we even did a few inner healing prayer appointments (via zoom).

Thank you for the prayers, love, and support in this new journey! Even though we were only able to meet in-person for a few months, we are still thankful for all that God has done and all that he is yet to do! He is so good and so faithful. May we continue to declare his faithfulness and love over our lives, and live out our core values of authenticity, intentionality, belonging and freedom!