

Living Freely in Hope

On Saturday, October 6, 2012, women from many SoCal churches came to Wintersburg Presbyterian Church for warm fellowship with new and renewed friends, creative fun with eight different crafts, two practical applicable seminars and food that was delicious, homemade and came with recipes. The women emerged from their two ninety minute session times with wearable, usable, “giftable” crafts or they were armed with information from the seminars for practical living.

The highlight of our luncheon was meeting and hearing Nikole Lim, an ambassador of God’s love and grace. Nikole’s personal testimony revealed a journey of God’s orchestration. Who would have ever thought that a Chinese-American would have roots in the Salvation Army for three generations?! In addition to working with inner-city youth, God matched her giftedness in film production (her major at Loyola Marymount University) with opportunities to meet women from around the world who were willing to tell their story. By using photography and film, she seeks to empower women by giving them a voice to share their stories of difficulty and triumph, while fighting stigmas affecting women worldwide.

Nikole is the founder and executive director of *Freely in Hope*, a faith-based nonprofit organization dedicated to restoring justice, dignity and hope by liberating women and their families from the bondages of poverty. *Feely in Hope* operates in Kenya providing micro-business training courses for widows, psychological counseling, vocational courses and scholarships for girls who are survivors of rape, single mothers or living in slum communities.



By obeying God’s call, Nikole has given hope to so many in what seems like hopeless situations. She “talked story” about people she has met and showed a film clip to give “faces” to her stories. As she spoke, we felt God’s heart of compassion and hope for those who are in need and oppressed.

For Nikole, the people in her ministry and for each of us – “May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit” as we read Romans 15:13.

