

REAL ESTATE ROUNDUP

Projects, developments and other activity in cities in and around San Diego County

Compiled by Kristen "Ace" Newner

Kid-Friendly Education Building Opens at Church

The Village Community Presbyterian Church in Rancho Santa Fe was scheduled to unveil its new education building Sept. 12, when members and guests of the prominent church celebrated a grand opening of the "Kids Village."

The original structure built in the 1960s was redesigned by the **domusstudio LLC** architectural firm to integrate with the church's recently completed Lilian Rice architectural-style sanctuary. The Kids Village incorporates new energy-efficient windows and lighting and mechanical systems, while reinforcing a fun learning environment. Bright colors blend with more traditional building materials found in the Spanish-style architecture.

"The new Kids Village is an efficient use of our church resources designed to address the Christian education needs of our church, especially Sunday school classes," said the Rev. Dr. Jack Baca, senior pastor. "An old building has been transformed into a fun, welcoming space."

Built by **Roel Construction Inc.**, the \$675,000 remodel has five classrooms, plus a workroom and a new nursery, serving as the church's Sunday school for nursery through elementary school children. The toddler room includes an entrance door in proportion to a child's height and a low, round view window that make the arrival and departure of children fun and memorable.

"The old building was totally gutted to the studs, then we added insulation, new windows, a new roof and new walls that better reconfigure the space to meet the church's needs," said domusstudio Associate David Keitel. "For example, the nursery room is much closer to the sanctuary now. This makes it easier for parents dropping off children before services and psychologically keeps them close."

The new education building represents another phase of the master plan by domusstudio architecture. A place of worship for more than 50 years, The Village Community Presbyterian Church began reconstruction in September 2008 when demolition crews arrived. The two-story, 25,420-square-foot main sanctuary and administration building was completed in early April.

The church also added a new roof to The Village Nursery School and a new playground for children ages 5 to 12.

Founded in 1986 as **Dominy + Associates Architects**, the award-winning domusstudio architecture specializes in religious facilities, fire stations, libraries, educational buildings, senior housing and custom residential projects.



A redesigned education building at The Village Community Presbyterian Church in Rancho Santa Fe incorporates bright colors that blend with the traditional Spanish-style architecture. Photo courtesy of domusstudio



A view window and small entrance door to the toddler room at the Kids Village is designed to make the arrival and departure of children fun and memorable. Photo courtesy of domusstudio