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## San Diego church to hand out 10,000 toys Saturday

BY [MATTHEW T. HALL](#)

ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED DECEMBER 10, 2010 AT 2:44 P.M., UPDATED DECEMBER 10, 2010 AT 3:06 P.M.

In an annual event that attracts thousands of people, the Rock Church plans to give away 10,000 toys and 60,000 pounds of food Saturday at Lincoln [High School](#) in Lincoln Park.

The campaign, called Toys for Joy, was founded by pastor [Miles McPherson](#) in 1996 to partner with local churches and community businesses and serve the needs of people in southeastern San Diego.

The event takes place from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 4777 Imperial Avenue in San Diego. Parking near the event is limited to street parking, so guests



EARNIE GRAFTON

Miles McPherson, pastor of The Rock Church.

are being encouraged to take the trolley or bus to the 47th and Imperial Avenue station.

[McPherson told the Christian Post](#), "People in the community that we hold it in will stand in line for hours and hours, all day to get a toy and they have their kid out there. Last year it was 8,300 people standing in line and it was a slow walk."

He also told the publication, "More than ever, people need to step up and help those who are in need this year. Christmas is a time when God showed His love for us, and we're ready to show God's love in the communities where we live and serve. That's the purpose of the church."

[The Christian Post](#) noted that the event has an evangelism component, "with people in line being offered the opportunity to engage in a one-on-one Gospel sharing time and to visit an on-site prayer tent and sanctuary."

[The Rock Church](#) is a megachurch located in the [Liberty Station](#) community of [Point Loma](#). It was in [the news earlier this month because of a neighborhood dispute](#).

Saturday, it expects 2,500 volunteers to be on hand to distribute food and toys in what is being billed as one of San Diego's largest and longest-running community outreach events.

The distribution is being done in partnership with the [San Diego Padres](#), the Marines, the Navy, Macys, Mattel, the San Diego Unified School District, the San Diego Food Bank and others.

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**sanantoniotexas** 12/11/2010 09:35 PM

Reminds me of the song by Carly Simon: "Nobody Does It Better". Thanks, Reverand McPherson and company. You're truly a gift to San Diego.

Like Reply



**sdgman** 12/11/2010 10:07 AM

That's a very nice and generous thing for the church members to do!

2 people liked this. Like Reply



**fireking** 12/11/2010 10:25 AM in reply to sdgman

How come the Rock Church isn't located in a less affluent area than Point Loma? They care about minorities like they care about the gay population they so demonize.

Like Reply



**rationalmind** 12/11/2010 12:51 PM in reply to fireking

You've obviously never been to a Rock Church service... it's more reflective of various minorities than any place in San Diego. And where they choose to locate is really none of your business... unless you like to just pass judgment on everything without any real wisdom (as it seems you like to do on your posts).

Like Reply



**fireking** 12/11/2010 01:33 PM in reply to rationalmind

You have 30 posts here and you judge my posts based on what. I will try to adress your posts here in one fell swoop. Obviously you have never been to churches in less affluent areas like parts of Chula Vista, SOuth San Diego, or any place with high percentage of lower income or even medim-high income minorties. In most of these CATHOLIC churches it is very common to have the only white person in attendance being the priest. These churches are more reflective of minorities than Rock would ever be. I actually was at Liberty Station recently and fought the church traffic and it loooked like a Tea Party meeting to me, old fat white people. I have seen McPherson on Fox nonnews on several occasions including the highly political Greta and Hannity show so your claim of nonpolitical is wrong. The Mormon church is being investigated by the IRS right now for taking a POLITICAL fundraising stand against Pop 8. Unless you are talking about religion and social justice then how could you not be political. Rock and Miles are nothing but born again hypocrites who are NOT minding their own business and their political motives outweigh any good you think they accomplsih. I provide a link of MILES deposition which removes any doubts about his anti-gay agenda

<http://holybulliesandheadlessm...>

By theway I tried to have a polite conversation with Garlow about his antigay agenda in front of a convenience store and he literally ran away from me.

Like Reply



**rationalmind** 12/11/2010 01:59 PM in reply to fireking

I have attended church in less affluent areas... like Guatemala, Jamaica, Mexico, and in San Diego. (Wisdomless judgment - #1). I will, however, amend my previous post to state - the Rock Church is one of the most INTEGRATED churches I have ever seen, with black, white, Filipino, Hispanic, low-income, high-income, no-income worshipers in attendance. Really... Tea Party = Old Fat White People? (Wisdomless judgment #2). Your hate filled diatribe is very telling.

Like Reply



**fireking** 12/11/2010 02:42 PM in reply to rationalmind

Au contraire. As I said I was jammed while visiting Liberty Staion whlie ther church exited and all I saw were white folks and it looked like a Tea Party convention. As far as integration goes compared to the Holy Trinities, Santa Sophias and Precious Blood etc. it isn't even clos. AND what do foreign churches have to do with anything. The only thing I hate is homophobes, xenophobes, racists, bullies and their ilk who pray on those who can't deend themselves. Now why didn't you respond to the unimpeachable quote from Miles that expounds his anti gay rhetoric to the public and his flock? Do you still want to discuss what is political for church. Didn't think so.

Like Reply



**rationalmind** 12/11/2010 04:08 PM in reply to fireking

You are the one spouting hate - as evidenced by the above quote.... As I said, very telling.

Like Reply



**LaRaza** 12/11/2010 08:29 AM

Like a good neighbor, I can't find parking in my McMillan development!

Like Reply



**DarkS** 12/11/2010 03:30 PM in reply to LaRaza

La Raza is a racist organization.

Like Reply



**Godistakengoddamnit** 12/11/2010 07:53 AM

Why the hell are comments being deleted? I simply asked someone who said their daughter wouldn't be able to get a present for her boy if they could not buy the boy a present. I asked so I could follow-up and offer to send a toy. If that person sees this respond.

Quit deleting comments!!!!!! This isn't North Korea or China for Christ's sake!!!!!!!!!!!!

1 person liked this. Like Reply



**fireking** 12/11/2010 10:27 AM in reply to Godistakengoddamnit

It's their site and their rules and they deleted what they feel is necessary. If you knew the terms of commenting they specifically forbid gaining personal knowledge of ANYONE who posts here. Why woud you send a toy if she can get one from the church. Why don't you clean up your title too.

[Like](#) [Reply](#)**Gail Powell** 12/11/2010 07:31 AM

All nay-sayers have the devil working their tongue. This is what God would want churches to do today. God Bless Pastor Miles and The Rock Church!

3 people liked this. [Like](#) [Reply](#)**KennyFreakinPowers** 12/11/2010 02:03 AM

Most of these churches never miss an opportunity to let everyone know the good deeds that they do. Although they don't want the public to know that they actually take in several times more than they give away each year, which I believe goes against their core principals. Why would their god want another multi-million dollar church or temple built when the money could be used to relieve a lot of the human suffering that exists in the world today? Sounds like a cruel and unjust god to me.

[Like](#) [Reply](#)**satbgirl** 12/13/2010 08:37 AM in reply to KennyFreakinPowers

It's really too bad that the secular media only reports when churches do charitable works. I never get to hear about what the local atheist community is doing to feed the homeless, help the poverty stricken, etc.

[Like](#) [Reply](#)**fireking** 12/11/2010 10:29 AM in reply to KennyFreakinPowers

Wanna take bets on which kind of luxury car Miles drives.

1 person liked this. [Like](#) [Reply](#)**DJL.** 12/11/2010 09:40 AM in reply to KennyFreakinPowers

God is not unjust and cruel, people are.

1 person liked this. [Like](#) [Reply](#)**KennyFreakinPowers** 12/11/2010 12:20 PM in reply to DJL.

You're right. Something that doesn't exist cannot be cruel and unjust.

[Like](#) [Reply](#)**SCforG92028** 12/11/2010 07:24 AM in reply to KennyFreakinPowers

So you are a church auditor? Back up your accusations with facts.

4 people liked this.

Like

Reply

**YOSEMITEBC** 12/11/2010 01:20 AM

May God bless this out reach, both the children, homeless, volunteers, neighbors, police, everyone involved. And may no one get hurt or aggravated with vehicle or foot traffic. May it be a blessing to our City and an example.

4 people liked this.

Like

Reply

**fireking** 12/11/2010 10:30 AM in reply to YOSEMITEBC

The poor need assistance all year, not just during high profile days like Christmas

Like

Reply

**sanantoniotexas** 12/11/2010 12:41 AM

Remember the debacle with (?) Prejean and her position against homosexuality and contention that marriage should only be between a man and a woman? McPherson traveled around the country acting as her "spiritual advisor"; I wonder if one of his followers of lesser celebrity status would get the same attention.

Like

Reply

**fireking** 12/11/2010 02:44 PM in reply to sanantoniotexas

For awhile I thought Miles was a FOX employee.

Like

Reply

**Monte53** 12/11/2010 09:21 AM in reply to sanantoniotexas

First, we follow Jesus, not Miles. Next, why in the world would I be in the Miss USA pageant? Your comment suggests that because a 30 something man can't get into the pageant and get national attention, something is wrong with Miles.

When you are alone, ask God to show you who He really is. He claims to be all powerful, all knowing, and every where at once. He can and will provide an answer. Do you have as much passion to find the truth as you do to spread your hate?

2 people liked this.

Like

Reply

**fireking** 12/11/2010 10:32 AM in reply to Monte53

If I remember correctly the Rock and Miles spread alot of hate against gays during the Prop 8 fiasco. It seem far from Christian to me. I haver to laugh becasueRock Church hates Catholics and Mormons yet they they were huge contributors to rop 8.

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