



Amigos en Cristo

A Ministry of the Southwest Florida Outreach Council: LCMS

January 2007, Newsletter #106

www.amigoscenter.org



Amigos Center Banquet 2007

On Friday, March 12, 2007 we celebrate the Fourth Annual Amigos Center Fundraising Banquet. It will be held at the Broadway Palm Theater, Fort Myers. Our goal is to raise \$75,000 to support the operating expenses of our ministry. Tickets will be on sale beginning January 14.

Our Honoree this year is Matthew Spielman, Constituent Services Representative with U.S. Congressman Connie Mack. Matthew has worked closely with the Amigos Center to resolve a number of very difficult cases. Without his expertise and tenacity, these cases would not have been settled in a just manner.

Christmas Thank You

Merry Christmas and a special thank you to all the people of God who helped us provide Christmas gifts to more than 400 children. We were able to provide a holiday gift to children in all four of our ministry areas: Fort Myers, Bonita Springs, Golden Gate and Immokalee. A blessed thanks in the Lord Jesus for our donors:

- St. Michael's Lutheran School 4th grade classes
- Lexington Ladies Nine Hole Golf Association
- Peace Lutheran (ELCA): Fort Myers
- Peace Lutheran (LCMS): Naples
- Faith Lutheran: Punta Gorda
- Faith Lutheran: Naples
- Zion Lutheran Woman's Group: Fort Myers
- Bonita Bay Group: Estero

Thrivent Financial Grant

Good News. Thrivent Financial for Lutherans Foundation has awarded a \$75,000 grant (over a 3-year period) for the development of our Immokalee Lutheran Church. Our project includes both Spanish and Creole worship services as well as a variety of crucial social service programs.

Telephone: (239) 437-6727, Rev. Robert and Donna Selle, DCE Sarah Paganos

Our project meets the "life needs of the working poor" criteria of the Thrivent Foundation.

Immokalee Cottage Meeting

In December we hosted our first Immokalee cottage meeting with five guest families from Grace Lutheran Church, Naples. Our staff shared both the vision and the mission of our work in Immokalee along with a traditional Mexican meal. Dennis Eisch of the LCMS Foundation explained possible charitable gifting opportunities. During 2007 we will host other meetings with area churches. Call Pastor Selle if interested ([239] 437-6727)

Sarah Says....

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come! (2 Corinthians 5:17)

Happy New Year! One more year is completed and over and another new year is just beginning. Many are wondering where the year went while others rejoice at a new fresh start with new goals and resolutions. May this year be for you a year of continual fresh starts. In Christ, we are made new. Each day, each hour, each moment is a new one. No matter what lies in the past, we rejoice in knowing Him who holds our future and we are made new in the grace and forgiveness He gives us. My prayer is that you will live in His love and forgiveness and will reflect that love to everyone you meet, changing lives, and changing communities.

Thanks for all your giving and caring the past year and we hope and pray for continued and increased support and prayers as we further God's mission and ministry to the Immigrant community here in Southwest Florida. (DCE: Sarah Willig)

Give thanks to God for . . .

- Our generous donors.

Pray for . . .

- Opportunities to boldly proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ.