



# Amigos en Cristo

A Ministry of the Southwest Florida Outreach Council: LCMS

May 2005, Newsletter #87

[www.amigoscenter.org](http://www.amigoscenter.org)

## Holy Week Events

Our Lutheran Hispanic worship communities in Fort Myers and Bonita Springs joined together to celebrate the death and resurrection of our Savior Jesus with two special events. About sixty members and guests gathered for a fun day of Bar-B-Q fajitas, games, fellowship and a devotional centered on the events of Holy Week. Several visitors to that event have continued worshipping with us on Sundays.

After Easter 28 of us visited the Holy Land Experience in Orlando. The trip was done together with 11 members of the new mission group Light of the Glades Lutheran Church.

## Our Easter Baptisms

The Cuban family we baptized on Easter Sunday has been struggling with cancer. The week before their baptism, Marcela, the mother of the three small children, was diagnosed with Cervical Cancer. The baptisms of the father/husband and the two youngest children was a bitter/sweet experience. However, the Gospel we proclaim is of immense comfort. Marcela has found a clinic in Miami that is willing to treat her.

## Amigos Center Fundraiser

Fort Myers Mexican Restaurant Cantina Laredo will celebrate the traditional Mexican holiday of "5 de Mayo" with live music and authentic Mexican food as part of a special fund raising event for the Amigos Center. Located at 5200 Big Pine Way, next to the Bell Tower Shops. Thursday, May 5.



## New Staff Training

During April Eulalia "Lala" Troncoso, our new Immigration Specialist Trainee, continued her training period with a special three day training course in Lansing, Michigan. The course, offered a survey of family based Immigration laws aimed at

people who are new to the practice of immigration field. Fifty people are expected to participate in this training seminar sponsored by Catholic Charities. She has already begun attending to clients in need of work permit extensions, petition for citizenship and renewal of Temporary Protected Status (TPS).

## Spanish Newcomer's Guide

One of our most popular services is the Spanish language Newcomer's Guide that we publish each year. We distributed 10,000 copies of the 70-page 2004 edition. The 2005 edition will expand to include all of Collier County as well as Lee County. Collier resident Emely Pagan has graciously accepted the position as editor of our 2005 Spanish Newcomer's Guide. She will oversee the research, updating, printing and distribution of 15,000 copies of this year's edition. Emely has been a resident of Collier County for over 18 years, is fluent in both Spanish and English and has experience in publishing. She is a member of Messiah Lutheran Church – Hispanic in Golden Gate. We go to print in August.

## SW FL Community Foundation

We are proud to announce that the Board of Trustees of the Southwest Florida Community Foundation recently awarded our Amigos Center a \$5,000 grant. This money will be used to help pay the printing costs of our 2005 Spanish Newcomer's Guide. The grant is made available through the Leonard Santini Fund.

## Give thanks to God for . . .

- Fundraising event sponsored by Cantina Laredo
- Grant from SW FL Community Foundation

## Pray for . . .

- Marcela and her cancer treatments
- Lala and her training as immigration specialist.