



Amigos en Cristo

A Ministry of the Southwest Florida Outreach Council: LCMS

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www.amigoscenter.org

Planning for Growth

Leadership in our Fort Myers and Bonita Springs Hispanic churches has met several times to plan and pray for our outreach efforts. The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ is just too good to keep to ourselves. Some ideas that came out of our planning:

- Spiritual Retreat at Woodlands this fall
- Conference on "Dealing with Anxiety"
- Produce & distribute 2nd "Project Jesus" CD
- Distribute information on our ministry at local flea markets.
- Continue to target Linhart neighborhood for door-to-door evangelism effort.
- Offer special prayer opportunity for worshippers to respond to the Gospel message after worship service.
- Church members make special effort to greet and follow-up on visitors to our worship services.

Paint Your Heart Out

Ten members of our Amigos ministry recently participated in the first annual Paint Your Heart Out program. This community effort resulted in over one-hundred volunteers painting ten houses in the Bonita Springs area. Our Amigos team of painters teamed up with a group from Bonita Bay to paint an entire one story house within a four hour period. This kind of event is important because it allows us to serve others, just as Jesus served us.

Congratulations to all of our hard working volunteers. Amigos Center was privileged to win the 2005 Volunteer of the Year award from the Lee County Hispanic Affairs Council.

New Staff

We have extended a divine call to Sarah Paganas, a native of Naples, Florida, to serve as our Director of Christian Education. She graduated from Concordia University, River Forrest, in May. Sarah will help

Pastor Bob with training of Hispanic church leaders and evangelism efforts. She will also work part-time as the Community Outreach Liaison for Amigos Center. As Community Outreach Liaison, Sarah will develop our base of prayer, volunteer and financial support among area churches and community organizations. Sarah will start with us on June 1. Her first task is to continue her language training in the Dominican Republic. She will study Spanish and Dominican culture as a full-time student at the Instituto de Idiomas y Proyectos Culturales in the city of Santiago.

Rummage for Health

Last month I wrote about our efforts to raise funds to help the Romero family. Marcela Romero is recovering from surgery to treat her cervical cancer. Proceeds from our rummage sale, special donations from individuals, \$800 from Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, \$800 from Southwest Florida Community Foundation made it possible for our Amigos Center to provide a \$5,000 gift to the Romero's. To God be the glory.

Thrivent Matching Gift

Thrivent has introduced an incentive to encourage participation in their Giving Plus matching gift program. If we can get at least 25 Thrivent households to make a donation to Amigos Center and have the gift matched by Thrivent, we will receive a bonus gift of thousands of dollars. Deadline is December 1, 2005. So please let us know if you are a Thrivent member when you send us your donation. For more info go to: www.thrivent.com/fraternal/churchcommunity/givingplus

Give thanks to God for . . .

- \$5,000 gift for the Romero family;

Pray for . . .

- Sarah Paganas and her language studies
- Outreach efforts of our Hispanic leaders

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