



# Amigos en Cristo

A Ministry of the Southwest Florida Outreach Council: LCMS

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

## Theological Training Continues

We began another training course through our Theological Education by Extension (TEE) program in Bonita Springs. Four students enrolled in "Witness of the Lutheran Faith". This is an in-depth look at the basic catechetical doctrines of the Lutheran Church. Our TEE courses are designed to prepare church members for leadership roles in the church.

## Wheat Ridge Helps Staff

Richard Herman, Chief Operating Officer of Wheat Ridge Ministries, led our Amigos Center staff in a special two day retreat. This staff retreat was especially important since we have grown from four to seven members during the past nine months. Rickard led us in several Healthy Teams Concepts, such as: Giving Each Other Feedback and Managing Conflict. We are very grateful for the continued support of our outreach efforts by Wheat Ridge.



## New Language Courses

Our new language semester has gotten off to a good start. We have 40 students enrolled in the seven different Spanish classes and 33 English students in seven ESOL classes. Volunteer Andrea Smith recently trained five more Amigos Center ESOL tutors using the Laubach Curriculum of the Bonita Springs Literacy Council.

## Sarah Says

(A word from our Director of Christian Education DCE: Sarah Paganes)

These initial weeks back in the states and on the job have been marvelous. A few blessings this month have included meeting new brothers and sisters in Christ, reconnecting with those I know, and learning more about the Amigos ministry and the part I will be able to play in it. I have been blessed in

many ways this month and continue to be excited for what lies ahead.

During this orientation period I have spent quite some time meeting people and attending meetings to network with area organizations to see how we can help each other better impact the community. Visiting homes with Pastor Selle has been another blessing of these past few weeks; it is great to get to know the people and families, hearing their stories and seeing how God is working in their lives. Our spiritual life retreat weekend at Woodlands was another great way for me to get to know the people in our congregations.

We started our fall semester Spanish and English language classes, so I have been able to see how this program is run, learn how to teach the classes and administer tests, and get to know some of the teachers and students. I am looking forward to my future workings with the language classes, our health fair and cross-cultural seminar, visiting our supporting congregations, providing more opportunities for studying the Bible for our congregation members, and many other exciting opportunities to serve in this ministry.

Thank you for your prayers and support and I ask that you will please continue to pray for me and the Amigos ministry. Thanks and God bless.

## Are you a Thrivent Member?

If we can get at least 25 Thrivent households to make a donation to Amigos Center we will receive a bonus gift of thousands of dollars. Let us know if you are a Thrivent member when you send us your donation.

## Give thanks to God for . . .

- Our partnership with other organizations like Wheat Ridge, Bonita Literacy Council, and Thrivent Financial for Lutherans.

## Pray for . . .

- Our theology students in training