!AMIGOS EN CRISTO!

News from IDW Hispanic Ministry in Denison, Storm Lake, & Des Moines: **Missionary/Pastor Daniel Vogel**

Iowa District West , LCMS

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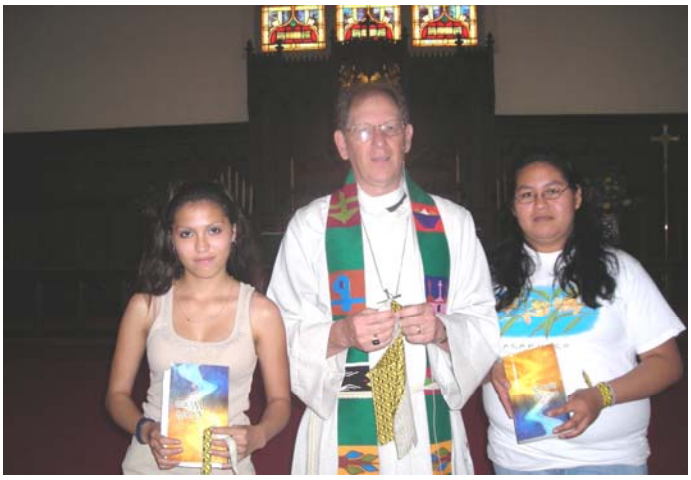
Confirmation with Jessica, Emilia and Loli in Storm Lake.



Adriana and Claudia receiving a special Bible on their Send Off in Denison.

Kevin, Denise & Kelsey in front of the VBS Truth Train.

JUNE, A MONTH OF BLESSINGS

The past month has been a blessing with lots of activities in all our churches in order to serve the Lord and the area communities in which we work.

The month of June started with a busy Garage Sale in Denison on **June 4-5.** The goal was to raise money for school scholarships and our summer family retreat. We also had one at the end of the month.

On **June 19** we were happy to receive the good news that the LWML at their summer District convention approved our grant for a Hispanic worker for our District ministry. I look forward to working with that special worker, hopefully in Des Moines. We are so thankful for all the support of the LWML over the years!

On **June 20** we had a special Confirmation in Storm Lake. Jessica (from Mexico), Emilia, and Loli (from El Salvador) were confirmed into the Christian faith. They have been so faithful. They and their families continue to be a real blessing to our ministry. These talented women of faith have served our congregation faithfully for a number of years. We are so happy that they have taken the step to publicly affirm their Christian faith in our congregation.

Also on Sunday, **June 20** we started a special bilingual VBS with Zion in Denison. We are using the District family VBS, "The Truth Train," every Sunday afternoon over a 5 week period.

The next day **June 21** I left for Kearney, Nebraska where I took a continuing education class for the week from the Seminary in Fort Wayne on "Lutheran Missions." It was very interesting!

On Sunday **June 28** we had a "Send Off" for two of our teenagers in Denison. Claudia and Adriana went with the IOWAY District mission group to Los Angeles. Claudia went last year with her sister Alma and really enjoyed sharing her faith and working with the inner city kids.

On **June 29** our summer worker, John Redlin arrived. We received an *Ablaze* grant to bring a bilingual worker to Iowa District West to make visits and contacts in the community. (See page 2 for more details.)

NEW SIGNS OF MINISTRY: We ordered new signs in front of the churches in Denison and in Des Moines announcing our ministry, our worship time. and my phone number. Mike Segebart, head Elder at Zion, Denison (and a great helper in our Hispanic mission) worked real hard to design and have the signs printed and so I thank him for his work. They are 3'x6' printed on vinyl and designed to be moved or used temporarily. While we know that signs don't bring people to church, our prayer is that the Holy Spirit will use these instruments to announce to the community that we are here to serve them!

SUMMER WORKER COMMISSIONING:

John Redlin was commissioned in Storm Lake on July 4. He is from North Carolina, speaks great Spanish and just finished a special course in Mexico. He had visited our ministries for a few days in the past summers. He is my nephew. This summer as a result of the *Ablaze* grant he will be with us for a month. He is living with a Hispanic young man in Storm Lake for two weeks where he has already been busy making visits and practicing his Spanish and reconnecting with our Hispanic ministry. Later he will spend two weeks in Des Moines where he will do much the same. In Des Moines we presently have very few contacts. John has already started researching the Hispanic community and how we can better serve this large community. God bless John and his work!

John at left with me and my mom at Zion, Denison.

MY TYSON CHAPLAINCY AT THE BEEF PLANT IN DENISON

Summer time is a difficult time for workers at the plant especially on the 'kill floor' where the temperature rises with the outdoor temps. Air conditioning is not possible, for contamination reasons. The plant takes special measures to prevent heat stress. Yet the workers are good sports and take it all in stride. I am impressed with their attitudes under challenging conditions. The environment also give me an opportunity to visit with them to check on their health. When you eat that hamburger remember the worker who worked to put it on your plate and say a special prayer for them.

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PLEASE PRAY: + In thanksgiving for our three new members, Emilia, Loli and Jessica in Storm Lake, and for our students still studying in Denison. + For the blessing of a grant from LWML for a future Hispanic worker. + For our summer worker, John, as he works in Storm Lake and Des Moines. + For the blessing of work projects in our congregation in Denison. + For plans for our annual Family Retreat at Camp Okoboji in August. + For our bilingual VBS together with Zion, Denison. + In thanksgiving for the many individuals and congregations of Iowa District West who are so supportive of this ministry and the many other opportunities for outreach in their own communities.