



# !AMIGOS EN CRISTO!

News from IDW Hispanic Ministry in Denison & Storm Lake  
Missionary/Pastor Daniel Vogel

Iowa District  
West, LCMS

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## CINCO DE MAYO CELEBRATION:



On Sunday May 3 our Hispanic Ministry in Denison in partnership with Zion Lutheran Church and School hosted a Cinco de Mayo Hispanic celebration in the school gym. With Mexican music, food, decorations, piñatas, and folk dancing we invited the community to celebrate a special day. We also involved our Hispanic congregation from Storm Lake as the band of one of our families played the music. It was great to see our Hispanic members working side by side with Zion teachers, parents and members. Everyone did a great job and we had a wonderful time together. The event was a fund-raiser for missions and school scholarships. Everyone felt that it went so well that we plan to make it an annual event.



## NEW LEADERS INSTALLED IN DENISON:



From left to right: **Domingo Mendoza (Elder), Isidro Baltazar (President), me, Irma Ardon (Representative for Women), Maria Eugenia Rizo (Treasurer)**. This special and talented group was installed last month. We have begun meeting monthly to guide our congregation in the future. I am encouraged by their comments, concerns, and dedication.



**District Missionaries Meet at Mission Central:** On May 7 our District Mission Executive, Mark Gerken and District Staff led this special gathering of more than 8 missionaries. What a diverse group of talented servants of the Lord! We spent the morning in Bible Study and the afternoon learning to share the mission story.



**MOTHER'S DAY BLESSINGS:** Mother's Day is a special holiday in Hispanic countries just like it is here in the U.S. This year Mother's Day in the U.S. coincided with Mother's Day in Mexico and Latin American countries which is always set on May 10. Again this year we had a special celebration, especially in Denison. In the pictures below our ladies from Denison (left) and Storm Lake (right) represent the countries of Mexico, El Salvador and Honduras. In Denison following the worship service the children gave their mothers a special flower gift package, and we had a special lunch which the men prepared. It was a very tasty seafood salad and cheese cake for desert (who said men can't cook?). Mothers represent the spiritual stability in the Hispanic families in our congregations. We have a number of single moms who attend church, either because their husbands don't come, or marriage struggles have left them alone to raise their children. We praise God for faithful moms! To encourage our Dads, next month we will celebrate Father's Day.



### CHAPLAINCY AT THE TYSON BEEF PLANT IN DENISON:

In the last six months or so handwritten signs have sprung up all over the plant. Scott is our new supervisor on the production floor, and he has been a one-man information center. Each day he writes and translates into Spanish signs on cardboard to inform the workers of their progress or struggles. Each area has a simple sign explaining gains or loss of the products as well as signs about goals and safety. Every day we have a safety slogan to read and think about. Safety is a very big issue as each day accidents and injuries are recorded. Even the slightest pain is noted and analyzed. Scott reminds me how one person can make such a big difference. He certainly has at the plant, especially as he demonstrates care for each worker.



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**Ministry  
Prayers**

**PLEASE PRAY:** + In Thanksgiving for a special opportunity to speak to the LWML Rally in rural Ocheyedan and, for our successful Cinco de Mayo dinner at Zion School in Denison. + For Juan, Victor and Cali, new contacts in Storm Lake. + For newly elected leaders in Denison and Storm Lake and for their leadership. + For plans to begin a new session of English studies in Carroll with a new leader and for outreach there. + In thanksgiving for the many individuals, congregations and Circuits of the Iowa District West who are so supportive of this ministry as they see the need to reach out to their own communities.