



!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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Juan, Elda, Vijay (child, not confirmed), Clarrisa, Marina, and Aurelia (Confirmed on Jan. 24)

CONFIRMATIONS IN DES MOINES:

Our new Hispanic outreach in Des Moines has produced wonderful spiritual fruits. They are the three adults and two youth who were Confirmed into the Christian faith on January 24. We had been studying for the past three months following our worship service at Our Saviour Lutheran in northeast Des Moines. We meet every Sunday at 5 pm for worship and then Sunday School.

Juan & Elda Calderon are from El Salvador. They have two children: Vijay (in 7th grade) & Clarissa (a 10th grader). They have lived in Des Moines for 10 years after living in California. Juan works at the Marizetta Pasta plant and Elba works for a chemical company in Des Moines as a supervisor. They are a wonderful family! Recently, Juan spoke at our District Outreach Workshop at Gloria Dei.

Aurelia Mejicanos is from Honduras. She has lived in the U.S. for over 20 years. She is retired and cares for children in her home. She has two grown children and her youngest daughter, Marina, is 13 and attends high school in Des Moines. Aurelia lost her husband two years ago and credits her faith for her strength to live with the struggles of life.

God bless our new brothers and sisters in Christ!

NEW ESL CLASS IN STORM LAKE

Thanks to Pastor Craig Cummins of St. Paul in Alta we have been able to offer a new English class in Storm Lake. Pastor Craig is learning to speak Spanish and is anxious to learn more and practice it. We are so pleased that he has been willing to be the teacher for this new class. It is a great opportunity for him to improve his language skills. He has also brought some of his members from St. Paul to help. Other volunteers from Grace are also helping. So far we have had 16 Hispanics attending the class. The picture at the right is one of our evening classes with volunteers working with the Hispanic students. The class meets every Tuesday and Thursday at 6 pm. It is a free class with the only expense being the workbook at \$16.00 for those who want to buy it and keep it. We also provide child care, and again members of

St. Paul's in Alta are volunteering to work with the children. This is so helpful as most of our students are moms with small children. This is a good example of how our congregations of English and Spanish speakers can work together to serve the community and the Lord's Kingdom. Our hope is that we will also be able to serve the students spiritual needs as well, and we have invited them to Bible Class and Sunday worship.



Volunteers and students learning English together at Grace in Storm Lake.



PANCAKES FOR MISSIONS

Like everyone else, Hispanics like pancakes. Once again this year we partnered with Our Savior Lutheran Church in Denison to raise funds for scholarships for our Hispanic children to attend our Lutheran school in Denison and for other mission projects. We had a great evening and made some new friends. We thank Our Savior for their mission spirit as they continue to support our ministry. This is just one of the special events that we hold during the year for mission outreach. It's a great way to work together!

SENDING OUR HELP TO HAITI

On February 7 our three congregations in Denison, Storm Lake and Des Moines took a special offering to help the Haitians recovering from the earthquake last month. The total was \$351.00 and that will be sent to Lutheran World Relief. At right Lissette Duque, our treasurer in Storm Lake, is presenting me with the check from our congregation there. Many of our Hispanics have come to the U.S. as a result of war, poverty, and natural disasters in their own countries and so they can relate to the suffering in Haiti. We have even had a young person in Denison volunteer to go to Haiti with a relief team. As of now Lutheran World Relief is sending only medical teams.



MY TYSON CHAPLAINCY AT THE BEEF PLANT IN DENISON

Sharing our faith in our Lord Jesus is to be a part of our daily life and work. Sharing our faith in the workplace has been going on for centuries, even before St. Paul shared his faith as he worked with fellow tent makers, Aquila and Priscilla, in Acts 18. Today as Chaplain I don't quite have the opportunities to preach in the workplace as St. Paul did, but the Holy Spirit certainly opens many doors to counsel, to respond with the Gospel to the cares and trouble, the joys and the celebrations that our team members experience each day and week.



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*** Please forward this newsletter to a friend, from www.idwlcms.org**



PLEASE PRAY

+ In thanksgiving for our new members in Des Moines: Juan, Elba, Clarissa, Aurelia and Marina.
 + For the success of our new English classes in Storm Lake and Carroll that they will help us to make new friends in these communities. Especially for new contacts, Yara and kids and Alejandro.
 + For the Mission in Mercy Outpost, a storefront counseling site in downtown Carroll that is serving those struggling in life. + For protection and safety as we travel the wintry roads. + For the support of Our Savior, Denison in partnering with our Denison group to offer our annual Pancake Supper. + For the many individuals and congregations of Iowa District West who are so supportive of this ministry and the many other opportunities for outreach.