



# Amigos en Cristo

A Ministry of the Southwest Florida Outreach Council: LCMS

September 2005, Newsletter #90

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

## Golden Gate Office

As of July our new Amigos Center in Golden Gate has been open two days a week. Monday and Thursday our Immigration Specialist, Eulalia, and Case Worker, Marisol, are available from 10 AM to 6 PM. Messiah Lutheran Church makes office space available free of charge. Our social service ministry compliments the Spanish Word and sacrament ministry of Messiah under the direction of J. R. Pagan. The combination of social services and Word and sacrament is the same strategy we follow at Hope Lutheran, Bonita Springs and St. Michael's Lutheran, Fort Myers.

## Cross Cultural Ministry

Amigos en Cristo together with other Lutheran cross-cultural ministries across the State of Florida are preparing a two day seminar that will help churches begin cross-cultural ministries of their own. Amigos Center, Lutheran Services Florida, Hispanic Institute of Theology, LCMS Florida-Georgia District and others will offer topics such as Immigration Law, Latin Music and Worship, Theological Education, Hispanic Youth Ministry, Funding the Mission, ESOL and many other topics. Mark September 23 and 24 on your calendars. The event will be held at Hope Lutheran Church, Bonita Springs, Florida. You are invited. Call Pastor Selle for more information (239) 437-6727.

## New Language Courses

The week of September 12 will begin a new 13-week semester of Spanish Classes and English as a Second Language Classes. We are planning on holding classes in Cape Coral, Fort Myers, Bonita Springs and Golden Gate. See you then.

## 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.

Telephone: (239) 437-6727, Rev. Robert and Donna Selle, DCE Sarah Paganes

## Sarah Says

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

Seven weeks in the Dominican Republic flew by quickly. The first and last weeks were spent with two different missions groups that came down to help the schools and the community. During these two weeks we had a VBS, did painting on the Genesis school in Santiago and the Lutheran school in Palmar Arriba, and mingled with the community through handing out Bibles, showing the Jesus video, playing baseball, hosting a feast, and more. The rest of my time was spent in Spanish tutoring and learning a lot about their language and culture. I stayed with Diamela Pascasio, the founder and director of the schools, and her family. Through observing their work and helping where I could, I saw the great love they have for Jesus and the way they let Him work through them to change the lives of so many children. I couldn't have asked for a better language training experience.

Now I am back in the States learning more about the Amigos ministry, my fellow co-workers, and what exciting paths may lie ahead for me. I look forward to all the new exciting challenges, to getting to know the people with whom I will be working, and to being a part of God's ministry to Southwest Florida. I am continuously amazed at the work He is doing here and grateful He is allowing me to join in. Please keep me and the mission in your prayers. Thank you.

## Give thanks to God for . . .

- Safe return of our DCE from language studies in the Dominican Republic

## Pray for . . .

- Sarah Paganes and her new duties with Amigos en Cristo
- Our ministry in the Golden Gate area of Collier County.