

PRESBYTERIAN LATINO ALLIANCE NORTHEAST 'PLAN' UPDATE  
JUNE, 2009

ESL -- DESAROLLO HISPANO: The ESL 2009 classes at Calvary-Third and Grace churches will end in early June. This has been a very successful program, serving more and more people as the time has passed. Today, over seventy five students are enrolled and nearly forty children are involved in Kids Club. The volunteer teaching staff members are to be commended for keeping interest high and motivating students to achieve personal successes. According to Site Director, Emily Brinneman, a record number of graduates is expected this semester. Graduation celebrations are planned for both sites in July. Ms Brinneman and Leonel Pech are planning and organizing a month long intensive ESL program for the month of July. The program will be held at Calvary Third four days a week for two hours each evening. Sign-up for this intensive session has been strong, and classes are nearing capacity at this time.

SUPPORT GROUP ACTIVITIES: This monthly activity continues to be an important part of the lives of a growing number of families and individuals. The May Support Group meeting was held at the offices of El Mexicano Newspaper on 5/30. Luncheon was followed by a discussion of the economic conditions so many of our members and friends are facing and many names were lifted up in prayer by those in attendance.

AMISTAD CHRISTIANA: The Sunday morning worship service is expanding in size and in spiritual energy. Average total attendance is 38. Morning services include music by the Neo Genesis band and singers. A growing number of Amistad congregants participate in the service by reading scriptures and prayers. The growing participation in open discussion of the selected message for the day is becoming an inspirational time of sharing. Children participating in the Sunday School program often return to the sanctuary with a Bible verse to share with the adults.

The supportive churches of PLAN have been invited to attend and participate in the scheduled Amistad bimonthly communion services. Each church is asked to send at least one elder or minister to participate and provide the Cup and Bread plate for the service of the Sacraments. On April 19th, Amistad congregants celebrated the Lord's Supper with two elders from United Faith Presbyterian church.

In an effort to express appreciation and give back to Calvary Third Presbyterian church for their support and to build a stronger relationship with members of the host church, congregants of Amistad Christiana has recently taken part in two special events. On Saturday, April 25th, the day of the annual spring cleanup day at Calvary-Third Presbyterian church, 21 ESL students and Amistad congregants worked alongside Calvary-Third members to give both the building and grounds a good cleaning. Amistad Christiana hosted the fellowship hour following the first service at Calvary-Third by providing the refreshments, decoration and music on Sunday, May 31st.

Beginning Sunday, April 5th, the Presentation of Tithes and Offerings has been a part of the weekly Amistad worship service. Accounts for Amistad funds have been set up through the Calvary-Third bookkeeping system. The Amistad Christiana church planting team has decided to send a quarterly tithe to the Whitewater Presbytery and give a portion to Calvary Third from these offerings in addition to financially supporting other local missions.

Upcoming Events include:

Sunday June 7th Amistad Christiana Communion Sunday

June 9: Last ESL semester classes at Calvary-Third

June 13: Last ESL semester classes at Grace

June 20: Festiva Latina 2009 in Foster Park

July 1 - 30: ESL Intensive Session at Calvary-Third

July 7: ESL Graduation Program at Calvary-Third

July 11: ESL Graduation Program at Grace

August 9: Amistad Christiana Anniversary Celebration.

For additional information regarding the Presbyterian Latino Alliance Northeast (PLAN), Amistad Christiana or the ESL programs, please contact your church office or Rev. Leonel Pech at 486 - 6679.