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Hispanic focus

FALL 2016



Hispanic Mission



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δόκιμον παραστήσαι τῷ θεῷ, ἐργάτην

Vicar Edmundo Rosales

Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved

In the text of St. Paul (2 Timothy 2:15) to his beloved disciple there is a connection between being a pastor, a worker approved and rightly distinguishing Law and Gospel in the Word of God. According to our confessions, correctly distinguishing between Law and Gospel is linked to preaching and teaching God's inspired Word.

Vicar Edmundo Rosales, a native of Oaxaca, Mexico, is in the process of pastoral formation. He is being equipped with the necessary preparation at Concordia Seminary (Center for Hispanic Studies), St Louis, MO. The Center for Hispanic Studies has recommended to the President of SWD-LCMS, Rev. John Wille, that he begin his vicarage training, an important theological preparation that will be completed in two years. Rosales is the product of the SWD-LCMS missions and evangelism

outreach to Hispanics. Edmundo, with his wife Beatriz and their four children, have been part of "Santa Cruz" Lutheran Church for about 12 years. The city of Racine and neighboring areas have shown a significant growth in the Hispanic population. Vicar Rosales preaches and teaches in Spanish, but also has skills in English. The plan is that in two years we will have a worker approved to preach the Word of God in English and Spanish. During his vicarage, Edmundo Rosales is being supervised by the Rev. Douglas Groll and Rev. Germán Novelli Sr, as well as other pastors in the area.

We are working in partnership with other congregations to support him as a full-time vicar beginning in January 2017. This effort involves the SWD-LCMS, CPTLN and the congregations of Santa Cruz, Racine; Holy Cross, Racine and Our Savior, Burlington.



**If you would like to support this ministry please make checks payable to:
South Wisconsin District—LCMS Memo: CPTLN-Hispanic Lutheran Ministry Wisconsin**



On September 20, 2013, St. Martini Lutheran Church and School, welcomed the arrival of a new pastor who came from Venezuela to serve as Missionary at Large under the direction of the SWD. Since that time Pastor Alfonso Prada began his first steps in establishing a Hispanic Service in this community.

We Advance with the Gospel

Joining forces with St. Martini Lutheran School, LUMIN, SWD and CPTLN, the congregation has accomplished this goal. They now have Spanish services every Sunday with an average attendance of 60. During these past three years, there have been many activities supported by the above mentioned groups to bring the Word of God into the hearts of the participants. Some of these activities were Friday Family Nights, Ash Wednesday services, Christmas programs, ESL classes, VBS, School for Families activities, picnics, Chapel services, Bible Studies, youth activities. The purpose of these activities

was to involve as many families as possible from the school in Church activities and thus bring the message of salvation through faith in Christ Jesus to more households. These activities made it possible for the congregation to invite the families to bring their children to the waters of baptism, First Communion classes, confirmation instruction, Sunday school and much more.

One of the future goals is to identify leaders who have the gifts to bring God's Word to new families. This would be done through home visits, Bible studies, etc. Much remains to be done, but with the guidance of the Holy Spirit and working as a team, St. Martini will continue to bring the Good News of Salvation to our community all for the Glory of God.

St. Martini in Numbers:

Baptisms: 18 children and young adults
First Communions: 27 children and young adults
Confirmations: 21 persons
VBS: An average of 50 children per year
School for Parents: 16 activities.
Friday Family Night: 16 activities (Average of 150 persons)
Families who have been attending regularly: 60

CPTLN Programs Available 2016 - 2017

Workshops for Congregations to assist them in outreach to Hispanic families

- **Building a Healthy Families**

- An 8 hour workshop.
- A full day is recommended, preferably a Saturday with lunch and snacks .
- Childcare with age appropriate activities.
- Parents of young children should provide appropriate food.

- **Controlling Your Emotions (Stress)**

- This workshop is presented in four one-hour sessions over four weeks.
- Childcare offered with age-appropriate activities.
- Parents of young children should provide appropriate food.

- **The Five Love Languages
(A Biblical view of marriage)**

- This workshop is presented in two sessions of one hour each.
- Childcare offered with age appropriate activities.
- Parents of young children should provide appropriate food.

- **How to Reach Hispanics
(Strategies, methods, programs, activities)**

- For congregations with Hispanic ministries or for those interested in starting Hispanic outreach.
- This workshop lasts 4 hours. Lunch and snacks would be offered.

- **Leadership Training Course**

For Hispanics showing leadership qualities, in order to train them to assist their local congregation in Hispanic outreach.



**All of our programs are available to
congregations in both English and Spanish**

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Send to: SWD/CPTLN, 8100 W. Capitol Dr. Milwaukee, WI 53222 . Memo: CPTLN-Hispanic Lutheran Ministry Wisconsin
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BELOIT. German to Spanish, St. John to San Juan



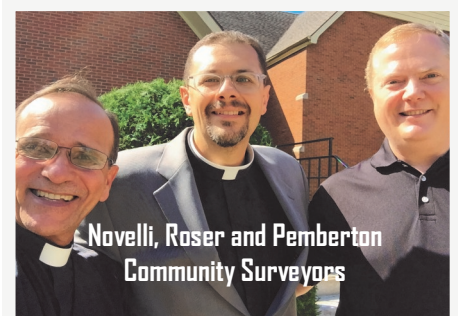
The city of Beloit, where St. John's Lutheran Church is located is home to a growing number of Hispanic residents. Of the 37,000 people who live in Beloit, at least 17% of them are Hispanic. The mission statement of St. John's is "sharing the good news of forgiveness and eternal life through Jesus Christ." The congregation has been sharing this good news in Beloit since 1895.

First in German, then in English, and hopefully very soon in Spanish as well. As the German immigrants who gathered originally at St. John's to hear God's Word provided for their children to learn English, the need for the Divine Service to be held in German gradually came to an end. During the years in which English was spoken almost exclusively by their Beloit neighbors, there was no need for St. John's to offer worship or religious instruction in

any language but English. As more and more of our neighbors are Spanish-speaking only, we recognize our need for assistance in reaching these neighbors also with the saving Gospel of Jesus. The picture above is of one of the Hispanic stores located in Beloit. These businesses not only serve the needs of Hispanic residents living in Beloit, but also those living in our adjoining town of South Beloit, IL. South Beloit, in which there is no LCMS congregation, is also home to many immigrants from Latin America. While most of our Hispanic neighbors are from Mexico, we also have neighbors from Puerto Rico, Cuba, and other countries in Latin

America.

The congregation of St. John's is very eager to discover mission approaches that will enable us to bless our Spanish-speaking neighbors with the precious gift of Salvation through Christ alone. We are hopeful that with the help and leadership of our friends of CPTLN that St. John's Lutheran Church - Iglesia Luterana San Juan will become a place where language is not a barrier to coming to know the Lord Jesus.



**Novelli, Roser and Pemberton
Community Surveyors**

We Can Help

The Hispanic community is growing in our nation. Now there are more and more Hispanic families that are coming into our neighborhoods, communities, schools, and churches. They are our colleagues, our neighbors, our children's friends, and in some cases our government representatives. According to recent statistics, Hispanics are the largest minority in Wisconsin.

That is why it is no surprise that in recent months, CPTLN has been receiving calls from churches and schools asking for help in reaching

our Hispanic neighbors, as it is now more common to see Hispanics everywhere we go. Therefore, we are offering workshops and training opportunities for churches, schools, and community groups that will assist us in understanding cultural differences, challenges, and the great contributions Hispanics have made in our society. At the same time, we want to help develop new ministries among Hispanic families in our state.

Motivated by the love of God for us all, and guided by the Holy Spirit, we are called to

respond with the love of Christ our Savior who gives us eternal life regardless of our race or ethnic group.

Jesus also calls us to welcome, love, and protect the stranger and to share with them the message of salvation in the cross, where He paid for the sins of all nations and all people, in order that we might have life, life in abundance.



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