

Lutheran Latino Ministries

Ministerios Latinos Luteranos

Spring 2025

Christ for all...
Cristo para todos

Celebrating 20 years of Spanish Worship at Trinity and Ascension, Portland,
and 22 years at Hope, Woodburn!

Yakima Ministry – Monthly Services at Mt. Olive Lutheran Church



Re-establishing ministry among the Hispanic/Latino people in the Yakima Valley is a mission of Hope Lutheran Church, Woodburn, in partnership with the congregations in Yakima. We are grateful to missionary Mo Garcia for keeping the Hispanic/Latino group together over the past 40 years.

Monthly worship services are conducted in a bilingual format. Pastor Lopez and Paster Peter Knutson take turns preaching. Lectors are from the congregation. Pastor Lopez seeks to draw laymen into helping with the service. Pr. Peter's daughter, Rory, teaches Sunday School during the sermon of the monthly worship services. They share a meal before the service, and celebrations for special days

When asked about various aspects of the growing relationship with the Latino worshipers, Pr. Peter notes: "A couple of families sometimes attend Sunday morning services. One family has come to Christmas Eve services since we've met, and they also joined for Ash Wednesday last year. One of the children wanted her mom to come to Movie Night. Our youth catechism class has one of the young people from the bilingual service, and we've had a couple conversations about adult confirmation as well.

When a member of Mt. Olive was talking about the bi-lingual ministry, she said "I can't imagine continued ministry without some level of the Spanish language present in our congregation." Pr. Peter also said, "We need to have good incorporation between English and Spanish speakers, so that our church reflects our community."

Pr. Peter includes Spanish scripture translations in his personal study, both to expand his vocabulary and to slow down his eyes in sermon/study preparation. He also introduces occasional Spanish words or concepts in studies or sermons for my English-speaking congregation (i.e. learning that "Ay" was the word for "woe," and wondering at how natural/universal that sound is in expressing our woes).

Speaking of Strengths, Weaknesses, Obstacles, and Threats in the Latino ministry, Pr. Peter notes:

- Strengths of the ministry currently: Having people return, and want the Bible taught for their children. And even more simply, the fact that this [monthly worship service and outreach] exists is a strength I never want to forget.
- Weaknesses: The frequency and time of our services makes it vulnerable to people's busy schedules, or just something that's easily forgotten.
- Threats: Fear, of division based on differences, of losing out on opportunities, and the uncertain future for faithful Christians who are either inside or outside our walls.

Prayer: Lord and Father of all, we ask Your guidance and blessing on the ministry in Yakima. Kindle the desire for Word and Sacrament among the people. Strengthen Mt. Olive congregation and Pr. Peter to receive and serve the people You bring into fellowship with them, to the praise and glory of Your holy name. Amen.

TPDX Friday nights – Youth and Prayer at Trinity, Portland

Friday evenings in the gym at Trinity, Portland, Steven Burgos meets with young people for Bible study and basketball. Currently they are studying a program that asks, “How Good Do I Have to Be?”. Steven says, “It reveals to us and explains the way mankind deserves punishment and condemnation and how Jesus Christ takes that place for us and how our hope for eternal life and true peace can only come through Jesus.” He adds, “So many times we just study and don’t play basketball at all.” At the same time, in Trinity’s sanctuary Steven’s dad, Edgar Burgos, with Santos and Angelica Ek, facilitate an evening of prayer and praise attended by a number of Trinity’s Hispanic/Latino members and friends. Praying together strengthens both individuals and the church.

Prayer: Holy Spirit, thank you for raising up the leaders at Trinity. Please draw people into these opportunities for study and prayer and richly bless all who participate. Amen.

Fun and Fellowship at Ascension, Portland



LLM’s Deaconess intern Hana Brandt worked with others from Ascension, Portland to initiate monthly Family nights. The third Friday of the month is an evening of games, music, fellowship, devotion and crafts that draws families from both the Anglo and Latino cultures. The group has enjoyed preparing eggs for the Easter Egg Hunt, and painting music boxes for homebound members, and other craft projects. Building relationships is the first step in making disciples and strengthening bonds between believers. Deaconess Intern Hana says, “There’s more to come!”

Growing Fellowship at Redeemer, Salem

Inviting people, serving natural needs (food, medicine, diapers, rides to appointments, etc.) and presenting fellowship events at the church are some of the ways Deaconess Marta is working to bring people into fellowship at Redeemer, Salem. Weekly Bible studies and devotions at every event strengthen the faith of the people and help them feel at home in the church. When a non-English speaker attends worship, Deaconess Marta takes them out during the sermon and studies the readings of the day, then rejoins the service so people get accustomed to the liturgy. Building a congregation can take years. In 2024 three young people were confirmed. Enthusiastic young people enjoy going with Deaconess Marta to hand out invitations. In 2024 three Evangelists in training!



Hope, Woodburn – Families and Fellowship



Weekly Family Nights and special holiday events like La Posada and the Valentine Dinner keep people in touch and serve the community. Hundreds come to the Harvest Festival and Easter Egg Hunt. About 120 people enjoyed La Posada in December and about 50 people came to the Valentine Dinner that included games, prizes, great food, and devotion. In the Tuesday evening

language class Pr. Zabdi Lopez and his wife, Elizabeth, teach both English and Spanish while preparing a meal in the kitchen – the best place to learn! The youth group is active with weekly Bible study and monthly outings, including making cookies and caroling at all the local care centers and to Hope’s homebound members. The teens are raising funds to send several young people to the National Youth Gathering this summer.

Prayer: Father in heaven, prosper the work of these ministries. Guard our young people and keep them in Your way. Help every member and friend of these congregations to speak the Gospel, drawing people into Your kingdom. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

GIVING DAY MARCH 31! You're invited to celebrate the anniversary of the first Spanish worship service in Oregon with a gift of \$31 or more.

We thank all our champions for financial support so far in 2025!

Please note: This list includes donors to the Family Fund

Impact Partners/Major Donors

Fred & Pam Bridgehouse
Mark Hoelter
Nora Lueck
Rev. Ken Ollek
Ruth Petersen
Rev. George & Terry Putnam
Beverly Schumacher
Wayne Tonack

Harvest Partners/Recurring Donors

Connie Adams
Barry & Becky Boe
Bruce & Susanne Dennis
Rev. Paul & Susan Doellinger
Lisa Fogg
René Grier
Rev. Herb Hoefler
Rev. Dan & Ella Kunkel
Joyce & Carl Matthey
Rev. Terry & Peggy Merrill
Darrel & Carmen Nagel
Eunice Porter
Carolyn Stucky
Jeff Travis

Champions/Individual Donors

Bethany Hesemann

Groups and Organizations

Grace Women, Molalla, OR
Holy Cross LWML, Portland, OR
Living Way Bible Study

In Memory of. . .

Carol Hoefler

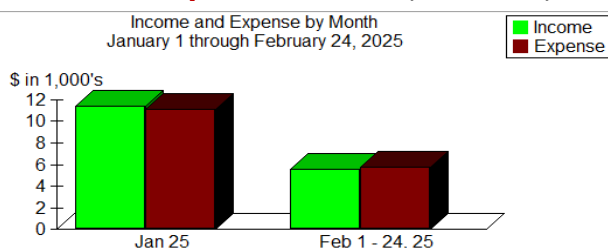
Grants

Northwest District LCMS

Congregations

Ascension Lutheran Church, Portland, OR
Faith Lutheran Church, Monmouth, OR
Grace Lutheran Church, Molalla, OR
Hope Lutheran Church, Woodburn, OR
Peace Lutheran Church, Salem, OR
Redeemer Lutheran Church, Salem, OR
St. John Lutheran Church, Salem, OR
Trinity Lutheran Church, Portland, OR
Trinity Lutheran Church, Oregon City, OR

Income and Expenses January – February 2025



In October 2024 Lutheran Latino Ministries launched our Awareness Campaign

The goal is to communicate the existence and work of Lutheran Latino Ministries to 50 congregations in the Northwest District LCMS over the next five years by visiting 10 congregations a year to introduce them to the possibilities for ministry in their area and provide them with a way to get resources for outreach and discipling with and among their Hispanic/Latino neighbors.

We hope you will –

- Invite us to visit your congregation to tell our story
- Pray often for the ministry
- Make friends with Latino people in your neighborhood
- Tell others why you support LLM and encourage them to give
- Organize fundraisers
- Encourage your congregation to support LLM
- Visit our website to make your donation recurring

You can participate in carrying Christ into hearts and homes!

Sponsor a week of ministry \$1500

or

a month's stipend for deaconess intern \$900

Donate online or mail a check to

Lutheran Latino Ministries

PO Box 293 Mt. Angel, OR 97362

We can put your gifts and talents to work!

Do you like working with computers? Writing letters?

Making phone calls? Taking pictures?

Email us at lutheranlatinoministries@gmail.com

Lutheran Latino Ministries is a Recognized Service Organization with the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod and a tax-exempt non-profit organization.
EIN: 38-367424

All officers are unpaid volunteers: President: Pam Bridgehouse Vice President: Sara Cardona Secretary: Hana Laughton Treasurer: Janet Ellis Pastoral Advisor: Rev. Zabdi Lopez

Lutheran Latino Ministries

PO Box 293

Mt. Angel, OR 97362

<https://lutheranlatinoministries.org>

email: lutheranlatinoministries@gmail.com

**Mission
Updates!**

Use the QR Code to access the LLM website and donate today!



You are invited to join us. . .

Saturday May 3

Trinity Lutheran
16000 S Henrici Road
Oregon City, OR 97045

Show your support by attending

Spanish worship services:

Hope, Woodburn Sunday 11:30 am

Trinity, Portland Sunday 1:00 pm

Ascension, Portland Sunday 5:00 pm

Mt. Olive, Yakima 3rd Sunday 7:00 pm

See our website for bilingual service places and times.

Please pray ...

- Awareness Campaign – that more people will learn about LLM’s mission and ministry
- That God will raise up workers to serve in the Yakima Valley
- That congregations will reach out to youth and their Hispanic/Latino neighbors
- For all who worship at the Spanish services, and all who benefit from the ministry; that they will be active making disciples
- For all our champions who generously support the work by their prayers and financial gifts

**We need volunteers to work with social media,
finance committee, fundraising team,
and strategic ministry planning.**

***“Let the favor of the LORD be upon us
and establish the work of our hands. . .”***

Psalm 90:24