

Answered prayers!

- ✝ We have been praying for several years for new opportunities for ministry in Missaukee County in the Spanish language. God has been answering our prayers!
- ✝ Our English as a Second Language ministry (ESL) has been going well!
- ✝ Vogel Center CRC's Council has approved a three-month ministry trial for a Spanish-speaking pastor, Rev, Yordanys Diaz, to serve in our community two days each week from now through the end of August with the possibility to extend beyond this trial if ministry is going well.
- ✝ Funding for this ministry has generously been provided through Classis Northern Michigan and the CRC Denomination's missions agency, Resonate.

Pastor Yordanys Diaz

- ✝ Pastor Diaz was formerly the executive director of our sister denomination in Cuba, The Christian Reformed Church of Cuba. He is also an experienced pastor who has planted seven churches.
- ✝ The communist government of Cuba has been cracking down on churches that are not under government control. After being imprisoned for four months and experiencing threats on his safety, Pastor Diaz left Cuba and came to Michigan in 2022 as a refugee. He is now a permanent resident of the US, together with his wife and three sons.
- ✝ He has been working half-time for Lee Street CRC in Grand Rapids. He has also been teaching 4th grade Spanish immersion in a Christian School. He is interested in focusing on ministry rather than teaching if possible.

Spanish language Ministry this summer in Missaukee County

- ✝ Pastor Diaz will be driving up each Wednesday morning and returning home each Thursday night after ESL classes at Vogel Center. Prosper CRC has generously allowed him to stay in their parsonage each Wednesday night at no cost.
- ✝ He will spend much of his time at various farms and businesses that have Spanish-speaking employees. He will lead Bible studies and spend time building relationships. He will also meet with individuals to provide spiritual care and direction.
- ✝ The goals are **sharing the Gospel** with those who don't know Jesus as Saviour and **discipling believers** and developing future leaders.
- ✝ His work is part of Vogel Center CRC's ministry and under the authority of our Council. He will also receive direction and encouragement from an informal, 6-member board specific to this project.

English Language Tutoring at Vogel Center CRC

- ✝ Our English as a Second Language ministry (ESL) has been going well since it resumed in March.
- ✝ We have been meeting each Thursday evening from 5:00 – 7:00pm in the Vogel Center CRC narthex. We begin with a light meal and then break up into tutoring groups. Childcare is provided.
- ✝ We have been averaging about 12-15 learners and about 6-8 volunteers.
- ✝ It has been beautiful to see not only language skills improve, but also relationships and friendships form.
- ✝ Please prayerfully consider learning more about this wonderful ministry!

How to get involved...

- ✝ If you have Spanish speaking employees or co-workers, please talk to Pastor Adam to learn more about having Pastor Yordanys visit your workplace.
- ✝ If you would like to get involved in our ESL ministry on Thursday evenings, please talk to Pastor Adam. There are opportunities to help with food, childcare, or as a tutor.
- ✝ Prayer requests
 - Please pray for fruitful ministry through evangelism and discipleship. This is the work of grace through the Holy Spirit, and we are asking God to bless.
 - Please pray for this ministry to maintain its clear, compelling and contagious vision to love and serve **all** our neighbors

“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest commandment.

And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’”

Jesus in Matthew 22