

# THANK YOU NOTES



## Stories of Connectional Giving

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### New Hispanic Ministry, Oakland United Methodist Church

A new Hispanic ministry was initiated on September 18, 2011, at the United Methodist Church in Oakland, Iowa. This effort developed out of several meetings with leaders in the congregation and the Southwest District, including members of the Hispanic community in Oakland.

Ruben Mendoza, associate pastor of Broadway United Methodist Church in Council Bluffs, writes, "The Oakland United Methodist Church has received this community in a special way with a great deal of love. Every Sunday, a group of church members

united to offer coffee, juice, cookies, and other things to bring Hispanic people into the Spanish service. Several members also offered to provide childcare for the Hispanic children of those attending the services each Sunday."

Worship includes time for prayer, both to offer thanksgiving to God as well as to pray for persons in need. Music and a Biblical message meant to strengthen the Hispanic community are also central to each service.

Gifts from United Methodist churches through apportionments help to support this expansion of Hispanic ministry in Iowa for the glory of God.



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