

THANK YOU NOTES



Stories of Connectional Giving

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San Marcos United Methodist Church, Iowa City

One year ago a new worship service was begun in Spanish on Sundays at 5 PM at St. Mark's United Methodist Church in Iowa City. The initiative was a joint effort of Fellowship United Methodist Church in Muscatine, the Latino Task Force of the Southeast District, the East Central District, and the people of St. Mark's UMC.

In the last 12 months more outreach developed from this new community of faith, such as children's ministries, music lessons, and visits to a low-income trailer court on the city's southeast side.

Another example: A few women from

St. Mark's met with a few women from San Marcos recently to learn how to knit prayer shawls. The excitement grew and more joined in, including some of the young girls. Soon there were more more knitters than available teachers or supplies.

Almost all of the new knitters were from very low income families. They were learning a skill to make something for their family and others in their community. Kevin Cary-Grimm, the chair of the local Hispanic Ministries team, summarized it well, "Sometimes what seems like a simple thing God will turn into an important mission for others."

Apportionment gifts from local churches helped this ministry begin.



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