

Did You Know:

Los Ranchos Presbytery Has Two Budgets

The Ecclesiastical Budget of \$303,500 covers the administrative cost of running the Presbytery, such as clerical personnel, office supplies, telephones, computers, postage, printing, copiers, rent, insurance, and auditing. The budget is allocated among churches based on \$21.40 per member – the same amount as the past two years

The Basic Mission Budget covers the work of Los Ranchos Presbytery in fulfilling the mission of Jesus Christ as evidenced by our Five Priorities – Partnerships, Congregational Health, Evangelism and Social Justice, Mission (local and global), and Empowering Leaders. The budget of approximately \$1,700,000 is funded by expected pledges from churches in the Presbytery (approximately \$1,000,000) plus investment income and designated gifts.

Each congregation is challenged to designate 10% of its annual budget. Sixty-six percent of those pledges stay in Los Ranchos Presbytery to fund our work guided by the Five Priorities. Six percent goes to the Synod of Southern California for its Mission work. Twenty-eight percent goes to PC (USA) to support the wider ministry and mission of our denomination, domestically and around the world.



Partnerships Build Bridges to the Community *...Continued from page 1*

“We’re providing an alternative to membership in gangs such as the East Side Longos or Rolling 20 Crips.”

The children and youth are mostly African-American and Hispanic. The after-school program provides them a nutritious meal, supervised recreation, one-on-one tutoring, and homework help. Each day a “club” meets on a topic such as cooking, reading, science, or dance. And, of course, there are many opportunities for spiritual development.

Rev. Langworthy’s greatest reward is “watching young lives be saved, transformed.”

First Presbyterian Church of Santa Ana, with less than 300 members, recognized that its community was becoming predominately Hispanic. Pastor Lance Allen wanted to “build bridges” and the congregation looked for help from Daniel Jimenez. Daniel is a native Mexican whose degree was in chemical engineering but felt the call to the ministry.

Santa Ana ordained him to part-time ministry in 2003. Soon First Presbyterian was providing enough food for three days each month to 44 needy families. It started a Sunday Bible class, initially attended by eight people. Jimenez left his well-paying job in February 2005, relying on “God’s goodness to provide for me and my family.”

Several months later, Trinity United Presbyterian Church in the Santa Ana suburbs asked First whether there were opportunities to get involved in the Hispanic ministry. Allen “jokingly” suggested they fund

the balance of Jimenez’s salary. The church agreed, and Jimenez became full-time in September 2005.

The food service ministry now serves 120 families. Every Thursday the church distributes bus passes to 20 homeless people. It hosts a worship service and hot meals on Sunday for the homeless. The Sunday morning Bible study is now a worship service in Spanish at 11 o’clock that attracts 50-70 adults and 20-30 children. There’s a choir for at-risk kids that attracts 140, and the church is reaching out to their parents, most of whom are not members. Jimenez says the church hopes to start a health ministry with the help of Trinity’s parish nurse and to offer health screenings and services from volunteer dentists, opticians, and nurses.

Trinity’s new pastor, Doug Rumford, says he was thrilled when he learned of the partnership. “Because of our location we can’t easily reach the Hispanic community, but we can go along side those who can.” Trinity’s Director of Mission and Community Outreach, Bill Ditewig, says his church became involved because it wanted to do more than write a check for a mission project. He hopes there will be even more direct congregational involvement in 2007.

Santa Ana’s Pastor Allen sums it up by saying, “The face of our nation is changing. The mission field is no longer out there. The mission field has come to us.”



Rev. Daniel Jimenez (standing far left) with the youth of First Presbyterian Church of Santa Ana as they prepare to leave for summer camp.