



EL BUEN PASTOR
LATINO COMMUNITY SERVICES

4637 Tim Road
Winston-Salem, NC 27106

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Mary Bolton

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EL BUEN PASTOR

LATINO COMMUNITY SERVICES

strengthening families ... fortaleciendo familias

The Mission of El Buen Pastor Latino Community Services is
to strengthen Latino families in the Old Town area and
help them adapt to their new lives in Winston-Salem.

WINTER 2010

THE IMMIGRANTS' HOLIDAY

At its roots, Thanksgiving—the only uniquely American holiday—is a celebration of immigration. When the Plymouth Colony pilgrims invited the Native Americans to join them for the first Thanksgiving feast in 1621 they celebrated not only the successful harvest that would feed them for the next year, but also their gratitude to God for safe passage to a new land. Those who celebrated were the fortunate ones...the few who had survived the journey and the harsh winter.

In 2007 folks from several Presbyterian congregations in Winston-Salem joined forces at El Buen Pastor to serve Thanksgiving dinner to immigrants from Latin America. That first year the families were a bit shy—not quite sure what to expect, but they arrived expectantly at noon sharp, dressed in their best clothes in recognition of the fact that they were the honored guests. Unaccustomed to coming empty-handed to a meal, the women in particular had a hard time being served rather than doing the serving. Indeed, it was a strange twist in this city of many popular Mexican restaurants to see the tables turned, so to speak, as the immigrants were waited on by the native-born.

Three years later we have an established tradition, already familiar and predictable. Thanksgiving at El Buen Pastor begins with a time of prayer, Scripture, and song in the sanctuary, along with a dramatic rendition of that first Plymouth Thanksgiving—in Spanish and English. Then everyone files into the fellowship hall for a turkey dinner. After the pie is served, the men and children head outside, weather permitting, to play *fútbol Americano* while the women divide up the leftovers and the little ones finish constructing their paper hats.

This year we'll be adding something new to the menu, and the *muchachas* won't be coming empty-handed. They'll be bringing jalapeños and salsa to have with the turkey instead of gravy. What a great picture of our evolving American culture—holding on to the best traditions, while always being open to new developments.

—Mary Bolton, Executive Director

WAYS TO GIVE

✦ Holiday Wish List

- If your group or Sunday school class would like to help provide Christmas gifts for children, email Mary@ElBuenPastorLCS.org.
- Remember that charitable gifts must be postmarked by December 31 in order to receive a tax deduction for this calendar year.

✦ Our Annual Yard Sale is December 3 and December 4:

- *Donations Needed!* Bring your items to El Buen Pastor the week after Thanksgiving, Monday-Thursday, 11/29-12/2, 1:00-7:00pm. *Volunteers needed to sort and display merchandise, 1:00-7:00 Monday - Thursday, 9:00-noon Friday.* Donations received at other times (after 11/25) by appointment... call the LCS office to make arrangements.
- *Items needed:* Household goods, tools, kitchen items, working appliances, linens, blankets, rugs, furniture, toys, baby and sports equipment, bikes, skates, skateboards, scooters, play equipment, winter clothing in good condition and on hangers, please: jeans, coats and jackets, work and school clothes - especially children's clothing, and shoes and boots in like-new condition only. *Please, no books, jewelry, baskets, lamps, or seasonal decorations... we have found that they just don't sell here.*

VISION STATEMENT
We seek to offer Latino families hope for a positive future, and to build bridges between the Latino community and the greater community as we facilitate relationships that bring new understandings and benefits to all involved.

*Incorporated in 2006,
El Buen Pastor
Latino Community Services
is a 501(c)(3) organization
and a member of the
N.C. Center for Nonprofits.*



WE'RE PROUD OF OUR MIDDLE SCHOOLERS

Youth Tutoring Director Martha Lowry reports that 5 out of 7 of our eighth graders made the honor roll for the first quarter, two of them for the first time ever in their middle school careers! After two years of working with Ms. Martha and her volunteers, these students are reaping the benefits of their dedication to their studies. Congratulations to these students!

TAMALE TAKE-OUT A SUCCESS!

"The best tamales I've had in town!" A happy customer called with this endorsement of the food from our first fund-raising event. Almost 1700 tamales were prepared by the women of El Buen Pastor, along with 60 quarts of pozole--Mexican chicken soup. Keep checking our web site to find out about future opportunities to sample the superior cooking skills of our ladies!

MUCHAS GRACIAS

- ☞ To all who responded to our fall appeal.
- ☞ To our 100 wonderful weekly tutors.
- ☞ To the women of First Presbyterian Church for sponsoring the El Buen Pastor Women's Retreat.
- ☞ To our Girls on the Run Coaches – Jen Henson, Molly Tuttle and Kelly Motycka.
- ☞ To Fred Patterson and volunteers Delana Vickers, Richard Harrington, George Lucia, and Frank Neely for organizing our new Latino Community Services Cub Scout Pack 904.
- ☞ To Emma and Helen Robinson for donating their birthday gifts in the form of school supplies and playground toys to the children of El Buen Pastor Latino Community Services.
- ☞ To students of Wake Forest University for hosting our children at Project Pumpkin.
- ☞ To First Presbyterian Church for inviting our preschoolers to *Veggie Tales Live!*
- ☞ To the Kate B. Reynolds Charitable Trust and the Stephenson Pope Babcock Foundation for their generous support of our programs.

☞ GIVE A LITTLE PIECE OF EL BUEN PASTOR THIS CHRISTMAS

Remember your loved ones and colleagues in a special way this Christmas with a gift to El Buen Pastor Latino Community Services. Your gift will help support the programs and services we provide to immigrant families in our community.

For each name you give us, we will send a Christmas card with a group photo of the kids of El Buen Pastor and an acknowledgement card telling your honorees that you have given a gift in their names.

Complete the information below and return this list with your check in the envelope provided. We'll take care of the rest and put the cards in the mail for you! Thank you for supporting the work God is doing through El Buen Pastor Latino Community Services.

A minimum gift of \$20 per address will cover our costs and support our programs.

ABOUT YOU...

Your name as you would like it to appear on the card: _____

Mailing address: _____

City/St/Zip: _____

ABOUT THOSE YOU ARE HONORING...

1) Honoree's name: _____

Mailing address: _____

City/St/Zip: _____

2) Honoree's name: _____

Mailing address: _____

City/St/Zip: _____

3) Honoree's name: _____

Mailing address: _____

City/St/Zip: _____

4) Honoree's name: _____

Mailing address: _____

City/St/Zip: _____

5) Honoree's name: _____

Mailing address: _____

City/St/Zip: _____

List additional names on a separate sheet

☞ VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT ON THE PARENTS—*LOS PADRES*



After several years of running our after school programs, we realized that unless their parents were involved at El Buen Pastor in some way, the children would not have consistent attendance and would eventually drop out of the program. This fall we introduced a new requirement for parents—two hours of volunteer service a week per family. Although there has been a solid core of adult volunteers who take care of the building

and grounds and prepare food for celebrations, this is the first time we have required that parents participate in children's programming. Parents prepare and serve the after school snack, manage sign-in and sign-out procedures, monitor the playground, assist in the preschool rooms, and direct traffic in the parking lot.

After two months of schedule adjustments, Director of Family Life Programs Enrique Rodriguez-Pastor is pleased with the results, saying, "An unexpected benefit of the family volunteer program is that parents who have been less involved in the past are developing relationships with other parents and adding to the feeling of community."

One of the family volunteers told us "It's the least I can do! I am grateful for all the tutors who come every week to help my children in a way that I am not able to help them." The children love it when their parents are here, and the parents gain new insights into what their children are learning and an added sense of ownership in our programs, as well as the confidence to volunteer at their children's schools.

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