

Thrivent Builds Worldwide Offers Opportunities to Serve

As part of Thrivent Builds with Habitat for Humanity, a four-year, \$125-million alliance between Thrivent Financial for Lutherans and Habitat for Humanity International, Thrivent Builds Worldwide offers trip participants a unique opportunity to become active partners with people of other cultures and change lives — not only the lives of those we help but also our own!

Although Thrivent Builds Worldwide trips can be taken to many places around the globe, a very critical part of the Thrivent Builds Worldwide effort is right here “at home.” After the devastation of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, the Thrivent Builds Worldwide program was expanded to include helping rebuild the Gulf Coast which will continue for years to come.

Team Leaders needed to help rebuild the Gulf Coast and to lead international trips

There is an immediate need for Team Leaders for volunteer trips to help with the rebuilding both internationally and to the Gulf Coast.

A special program in Biloxi, MS — Thrivent Builds Worldwide Gulf Coast Community — partners Thrivent Financial volunteers with families who have lost homes to build an entire cul-de-sac of up to 40 new homes. The project will include a park, playground and a pavilion where neighbors will be able to gather.

We are not just building homes; we are rebuilding an entire community!



On a recent Thrivent Builds Worldwide trip to Biloxi, Thrivent members from the Florida and Mid-South regions helped build several homes as part of the Thrivent Builds Worldwide Gulf Coast Community program.

Additional information about the Gulf Coast trips as well as other Thrivent Builds Worldwide trips and team leader requirements is available at www.thriventbuilds.com/worldwide. To view the information specific to the Mississippi Gulf Coast trips, click on the “Gulf Coast Community” link. These are basically “package” trips. When your team arrives in Biloxi, all of the “logistics” including housing, meals and evening activity alternatives have been prearranged.

It is NOT necessary to have the team recruited before applying for a trip. To qualify for these trips, half of the team must consist of Thrivent Financial members. A minimum of 10 to 15 people are needed for a team. All volunteers older than age 18, regardless of experience or skill level, are eligible.

If you have a core group in mind, great! If not, consider working with your local Thrivent Financial representatives, congregations and local Thrivent chapter to form a team.

The cost of the Gulf Coast trips is \$249 for Thrivent Financial members (\$349 for nonmembers). This reflects the true cost of the trip. By everyone paying their own way, Thrivent Financial is able to contribute more money directly to rebuilding a community of up to 40 homes.

The Thrivent Florida Region will be taking a Thrivent Builds Worldwide Gulf Coast Community trip to Biloxi from October 6-11. For more information or to register, please contact John Schultz at john.schultz@thrivent.com or 877-682-0370.

Interested in an international Thrivent Builds Worldwide trip?

How about Poland? Mike Wendt of the Thrivent Southeast Region is leading a trip there August 30-September 9. If interested, contact him at mike.wendt@thrivent.com or 919-620-8866.

The Florida Region is considering another international trip this year (you may remember reading about

the Thrivent Builds Worldwide trip to Brazil last March to participate in the Lenten Build). A destination has not been determined. If you and/or some friends are interested, please contact John Schultz at john.schultz@thrivent.com or 877-682-0370 to discuss.

Members of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans receive a discount on trip costs, and a donation is made to the Habitat for Humanity host program on Thrivent members' behalf. It's another very tangible evidence of the power of our Thrivent memberships.

“A Thrivent Builds Worldwide trip is yet another opportunity to help fulfill Thrivent Financial's mission of caring for others and improving lives and communities into other cultures while creating lifelong memories,” said Mary Weibel, Manager of Lutheran Community Services for Thrivent's Florida Region.

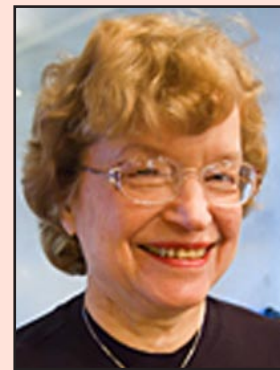
More information on Thrivent Builds Worldwide can be found at www.thriventbuilds.com. For more information on trips from the Southeast Region (Georgia), please contact Mike Wendt at mike.wendt@thrivent.com or 919-620-8866. For more information on trips from the Florida Region, please contact John Schultz at john.schultz@thrivent.com or 877-682-0370. □

Lutherhostel to be a Musical Feast

Lutheran Summer Music (LSM) and Association of Lutheran Older Adults (ALOA) will join together to sponsor the Minnesota Lutherhostel, a five-day musical feast, at Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter, MN, July 16-20.

Lutheran composer Dr. Carl F. Schalk, Distinguished Professor of Church Music Emeritus at Concordia University-Chicago, will present, “Singing the Church's Song.” This three-part workshop will explore the music of the liturgy, the church's hymnody and the music of the choir.

Morning devotions will be led by Rev. Fred Hinz, pastor of Immanuel Lutheran Church-Gaylord, MN. Each day will end with a concert and evening prayer with participants joining the LSM faculty and students.



Phyllis Duesenberg

Other program offerings will highlight presentations about the process of turning corn into fuel, birds of Minnesota and the opening of Minnesota territory to settlers. Phyllis Duesenberg will take participants on a journey from her birthplace in India to how and why she developed her deep love for Bach.

For more information about the event or location of other ALOA Lutherhostels, contact ALOA web, ALOAserves.org to register or contact Walt Schmidt at 623-937-8835 or waltlois@cox.net. □



Dr. Carl F. Schalk

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For additional information on our Thrivent Builds program, contact:

Florida Region
877-682-0370

Southeast Region
866-375-8211

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