

Thrivent Financial & Habitat for Humanity – Building a Great Team

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans and Habitat for Humanity have been working together for the past five years in an alliance to help further Habitat's goal of eliminating inadequate housing throughout the world. **Thrivent Builds combines the building and project management talents of Habitat, with the volunteer support and financial resources of Thrivent and Lutheran church members.** Thrivent has recently announced a commitment of an additional \$10.4 million to Thrivent Builds with Habitat for Humanity for 2011 (for a total of over \$150 million) and its homebuilding program, continuing its support of Habitat's mission for a sixth year. This funding will make the construction of 164 additional homes in 33 states possible.

In the past 5 years, over 2500 Thrivent Builds homes have been built worldwide! More than 100,000 Thrivent members have participated, with thousands of additional members traveling on Thrivent Builds Worldwide trips. **Locally, our Loveland Habitat Affiliate will team up with our Thrivent Chapter to build our sixth house!** This is both a great honor, and a great responsibility, as it will take a commitment of time, resources, and money to get the job done.

The program has various components that I will list here (for more details, feel free to visit <http://www.thriventbuilds.com>):

- Thrivent provides 55% of the cost of the house
- Loveland Habitat will provide 35% of the cost
- Fundraising through Lutheran churches and In Kind donations make up the final 10%
- In Kind donations can include labor that Habitat would normally pay for, including electrical, plumbing, and blown in insulation work; as well as specific donations of materials, including roofing supplies, lumber, doors, windows, paint, plumbing and electrical supplies, landscaping, concrete, and various other supplies
- At least 50% of the volunteers on site (whether doing construction, providing meals, conducting devotions, cleaning up, or landscaping) will be Lutheran
- At least 25% of the volunteers will be Thrivent Financial for Lutheran members
- Specific volunteers include a Congregation Champion for each church. This person helps coordinate volunteers and fundraising activities in their church

Our plan is for each church to be responsible for providing volunteers for one or two weekends (Fri/Sat) during the upcoming year. Our Front Range Thrivent Community, backed by financial representatives Gene Elder and Jeff Losh, and our Chapter Board, represented by Steve Nelson, will also be heavily involved. Look for a sign up sheet in the atrium once Immanuel's weekends are confirmed. There will also be many opportunities for individuals to come in on Tuesdays & Thursdays throughout the build time.

If you would like to share in this great project, please look for additional announcements in the bulletin and/or call our Congregation Champion Tom Scheller at 663-4017. If you would like to make a specific donation of labor or materials, or volunteer individually, please contact Marjie in the Habitat office at 669-9769, and mention Thrivent Builds. I look forward to working with you!

Tom Aberle (225-2939)
Thrivent Builds Chapter Specialist