

One Matters Award Belvidere: Mision Cristina Emerge

Pastor Cris Ramirez was assigned to the community of Belvidere in 2011 as a youth pastor with the vision to start a new faith community.

Without any experience, people's doubts and just the instructions from the Northern Illinois Conference Laity Academy led by Reverend Lee and the full trust from God, Ramirez stepped out as a church planter in 2013 with just him and his wife Melissa.



The faithfulness and hard work of pastor Cris and the passion for evangelism, has given tremendous fruits, because a few years later the new faith community grew up to 120 congregants and lots of new converts.

"We have had a lot of new people professing their faith and commitment to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ," said Ramirez. "As I'm writing this paragraph, I'm preparing a group of 20 new believers about to be baptized and others to remember their baptism."

Ramirez says they feel honored by God to have been trusted with such a beautiful calling to make disciples of Christ. He thanks for The United Methodist church for recognizing their efforts with the One Matters Award.

Please keep us in your prayers and all those immigrants and their families that are being deported by our government.