

## **Groundbreaking for Fourth Local Habitat House Sponsored by Thrivent Financial for Lutherans**

*Habitat for Humanity® International and Thrivent Financial for Lutherans® join forces to increase capacity for building affordable housing. The community is invited to a Groundbreaking to mark the beginning of a bright new chapter in the life of a local family.*

**Mason City, IA (5/15/09)** –The fourth local Habitat for Humanity home sponsored by Thrivent Financial for Lutherans will begin construction with a celebration of Groundbreaking next Tuesday, May 19<sup>th</sup>. To be located at 1636 North Pennsylvania, this home will be constructed for Melissa Rick and her four children. A short program will be held at 5:30pm with local Habitat for Humanity representatives, Thrivent Financial members, and community supporters.

Worldwide, Thrivent Financial for Lutherans® has made a \$125 million commitment to Habitat for Humanity® International—joining forces in an unprecedented alliance to not only build walls, but to build communities as well. Locally, three other families in Mason City have become homeowners through this program. Thrivent Financial will contribute two-thirds of the funding to construct this home, and the remaining funds will be raised by the Cerro Gordo County Chapter of Thrivent, area Lutheran churches, and Habitat for Humanity North Central Iowa.

“We feel very blessed to be able to be able to help with this project for the Rick family,” said Steve Meyer, Thrivent Builds Chapter Specialist for the Cerro Gordo County Chapter. “It is always exciting and fun to work on these homes.”

Melissa Rick is originally from Mason City and has been renting a very small house with her four children for over two years. Their current residence has a growing mold problem and her kids suffer from asthma and allergies, a dangerous combination resulting in continuous breathing problems for her children, as well as increased medical expenses for Melissa.

“I am so thankful to Thrivent Financial and Habitat for Humanity for the opportunity for my family to live in a home with clean air,” said Rick. “I look forward to this new chapter in our lives and hope this home will be a happy and healthy place for the kids to grow.”

Please call the Habitat office at (641)424-8978 or Thrivent at (641)420-7952 to support this project or for further information.

### ***About Habitat for Humanity of North Central Iowa***

Habitat for Humanity is a not-for-profit ecumenical, Christian housing ministry that utilizes volunteer labor and donations to build simple, decent, affordable houses for families who would otherwise be unable to afford home ownership. The homes are sold to qualified families with 0% interest loans. **1411 South Taft Ave., Mason City, Iowa 50401, 641-424-8978, [www.habitatnci.org](http://www.habitatnci.org)** Now serving: Cerro Gordo, Franklin, Hancock, Winnebago, Worth and Wright counties.

### ***About Thrivent Financial for Lutherans***

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans is a not-for-profit membership organization helping nearly 3 million members achieve their financial goals and give back to their communities. As a not-for-profit fraternal benefit society, Thrivent Financial sponsors national outreach programs and activities that support congregations, schools, charitable organizations and individuals in need. Thrivent Financial has main offices in Minneapolis, Min., and Appleton, Wis. For more information, visit [www.thrivent.com](http://www.thrivent.com)