

# MARCH 2008

## ADVENT/ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH

Advent St. Nicholas Church in Quito, Ecuador (an English-speaking, Anglican/Lutheran congregation) has been at the heart of the Illinois South Conference (ISC) Ecuador Partnership since the very first exploratory trip in 1999. In fact, the members of Advent/St. Nicholas introduced ISC to many potential partners and facilitated the communication that led to the "Covenant of Mutual Ministry." The Advent/St. Nicholas Church (ASN) serves as our church away from home. Delegations and mission teams have worshiped with this very special group of Christian people regularly. Advent/St. Nicholas folks put ISC in contact with new potential partners and kept us abreast of happenings and conditions in Ecuador. The Pastor and members of the congregation act as the conduit for project funds going to several of our partners. This works so well that funds, both from within ISC and from churches outside our Conference, can be available to our partners within days. For these partners, receiving funds in a timely basis (manor) is crucial to the continuation of their Christian ministry in Ecuador.

This small, energetic and vibrant congregation is itself involved in many projects and programs for the indigenous people of Ecuador. Some of them include outreach programs with the peoples of the Amazon and Andes; as well as programs for abused women, broken families and homeless street children. In 2008 the church will celebrate 50 years of faithful service to the Lord. As part of this celebration ASN is planning to refurbish and update its sanctuary. The present sanctuary is pictured at the bottom left. The estimated cost is \$50,000. It will be a privilege for future ISC delegations and teams to worship in the new setting. The Partnership Committee invites all to share in this joyous celebration.

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### HOW TO DONATE

Make a check out to Illinois South Conference, mark it for Advent St. Nicholas Renovation, drop it in the Sunday offering or mail it to ISC

1312 Broadway  
Highland, IL  
62249