

La Historia de Nuestras Vidas (The Story of Our Lives), will be presented on June 11 at 8:00 p.m. at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. A play written and performed by a group of men affected by the Postville Raid of last year, La Historia powerfully explores the difficult conditions that force people to migrate while providing a tender--sometimes quite funny--perspective on the dreams we all share as humans. This performance is being presented as a thank you to the Decorah and surrounding community who in addition to providing emotional and financial support over the last year, came together to fully fund Project Jubilee--a \$30,000 debt reduction loan project aimed to helping this group of men. In addition, there will be a special opportunity see a preview of a collaborative performance created by women titled "Nuevo amanecer: Weaving a new beginning?". This piece will be performed by Postville residents Alma, Élidea and Judith, and UNI M.A. students of Spanish Elena Dobrila (Romania) and Magda Caicedo (Colombia) and Jennifer Cooley, Associate Professor of Spanish UNI.

This bilingual work-in-process is part of a larger project called Carne viva: Performing Postville, that seeks to create a series of forum theatre pieces that will engage the public in performances that explore issues related to the Postville raid and its aftermath. Each performance will unfold differently, according to who participates. This particular performance will share stories from members of a group of women from Guatemala who sought constructive means to survive the aftermath of the May, 2008 ICE raid in Postville by forming a collective to weave and sew traditional Guatemalan items and new creations. It will begin to reveal how lives are intertwined and how collaborative efforts can result in new beginnings.