

## **Groundbreaking is good news for affordable housing in Luck**

*Habitat for Humanity® International and Thrivent Financial for Lutherans® join together to increase affordable housing in Luck. Community is invited to a Groundbreaking to celebrate.*

Luck – Times are tough and the construction of new homes has slowed considerably across the country. But here in Luck the Christensen family will mark an important milestone in the construction of their new home—and the community is invited to join in on the fun! The celebration begins on Friday, July 22 at 3 p.m. at the construction site at 803 East Park Ave. Meet the Christensen family, and local Habitat for Humanity and Thrivent Financial representatives, after a short program.

This new home is a result of a partnership between Habitat for Humanity International and Thrivent Financial for Lutherans. Called Thrivent Builds with Habitat for Humanity, this partnership has resulted in more than 2,500 decent, affordable homes across the country and around the world since 2005. Thanks to its 2.6 million members who own financial products with the organization, Thrivent Financial for Lutherans is able to contribute to the improvement of communities like Luck. Thrivent Financial will contribute 55 percent of the house costs—a total of \$52,250—and is also engaging local volunteers who are members of Thrivent Financial, members of area Lutheran churches and members of the community at large, to donate additional funds and volunteer their time to work alongside the partner families to build these homes.

This groundbreaking celebration is a new beginning for the Christensens, who have been through so much recently,” said Eric Kube, Executive Director of Wild Rivers Habitat for Humanity. “This decent, affordable home will not only give the Christensen family a strong foundation, it will strengthen our community, as well.”

“The Christensen family is more than a little eager to help build their new home. They will complete at least 300 hours of “sweat equity” working on it, a basic tenet of Habitat for Humanity. They will also repay the no-profit mortgage over a period of 25 - 30 years, illustrating Habitat for Humanity’s objective to give families a “hand up” rather than a “hand out.”

“Being able to help provide a family with a home means so much to Thrivent members,” added Cris Moore. “Volunteering is important to them, and this gives them a great way to personally support our community by helping families achieve financial security.” To learn more, visit [www.thriventbuilds.com](http://www.thriventbuilds.com).

### About Wild Rivers Habitat for Humanity

Wild Rivers Habitat for Humanity, located in St. Croix Falls, is an affiliate of Habitat for Humanity International. WRHFH serves Polk and Burnett counties and this year is building its 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> homes since its inception in 1997. Habitat raises funds and donated building materials, organizes volunteers, selects a family, and builds a home. Habitat doesn’t give anything away. The family is required to help build the home, and they buy it from Habitat with a no- or low-interest mortgage when it is complete. For more information, call [715-483-2700](tel:715-483-2700) or visit [www.wildrivershabitat.org](http://www.wildrivershabitat.org).

Thrivent Builds with Habitat for Humanity is a multi-year, multi-million dollar partnership between Thrivent Financial for Lutherans and Habitat for Humanity International. Thrivent Builds is designed to involve Thrivent members and Lutherans in helping provide a “hand up” to people who lack decent shelter, offering them a path to greater economic independence. Excluding government funding, Thrivent Builds with Habitat for Humanity is Habitat's largest single source of funding, constructing nearly 2,500 homes in the U.S. and around the world since 2005. For more information, visit [ThriventBuilds.com](http://ThriventBuilds.com).

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans is a not-for-profit, Fortune 500 financial services membership organization helping approximately 2.6 million members achieve financial security and give back to their communities. Thrivent Financial and its affiliates offer a broad range of financial products and services including life insurance, annuities, mutual funds, disability income insurance, bank products and more. As a not-for-profit organization, Thrivent Financial creates and supports national outreach programs and activities that help congregations, schools, charitable organizations and individuals in need. For more information, visit [Thrivent.com](http://Thrivent.com). Also, you can find us on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/thrivent) and [Twitter](https://twitter.com/thrivent).

Habitat for Humanity International is an ecumenical Christian ministry that welcomes to its work all people dedicated to the cause of eliminating poverty housing. Since its founding in 1976, Habitat has built, rehabilitated, repaired or improved more than 350,000 houses worldwide, providing simple, decent and affordable shelter for more than 1.75 million people. For more information, or to donate or volunteer, visit [Habitat.org](http://Habitat.org).