Objective
This project documents the early history of San Martín de Porres Catholic Mission in the Willamette Valley. The mission was founded by Father Frank Kennard in 1973. Its central location for parishioners around the Willamette Valley allows San Martín de Porres to provide all of its services solely in Spanish. The mission was not only a space for religious practice but also a community gathering place.

Methods
Early parishioners and remaining founders of the mission were contacted for participation in in-depth interviews, about the early history of San Martín de Porres. A total of nine individuals chose to be interviewed, either at the church or at their homes. Some of the interviews were conducted in Spanish and others in English. The majority of the participants worked directly with Father Frank Kennard to found the mission. The remaining individuals joined soon after the purchase of the second building and joined to become active members for decades to follow. (Pseudonyms have been used to protect the anonymity of the respondents.)

Results
San Martín de Porres is not only a space for religious practice but it also serves as a second home to many Latinos living in the Willamette Valley. It is a place that has been built with the work of the Latino community over 30 years ago and it continues to be strong and united. The parishioners hope to celebrate cultural and religious ceremonies for years to come.

Results (Cont.)
Father Frank Kennard worked along side the Latino community to create a safe and permanent place to practice religious and cultural ceremonies.

Purchase and Reconstruction of the Buildings
Father Frank Kennard purchases an old blacksmith shop with his personal savings. The building is used as a gathering place for migrant farm workers to celebrate mass in Spanish. As the congregation grows the need for a bigger place grows as well, leading to organized fundraising events when parishioners learn that the adjacent building is for sale. Once the building is purchased, parishioners begin work on the reconstruction with their own hands.

Results (Cont.)

San Martín as place for Cultural Expression
San Martín serves as a place to celebrate the Mexican culture of the parishioners. Special celebrations such as El Día de la Virgen de Guadalupe (Celebration of the Virgin of Guadalupe), El Día del Divino Niño (Celebration of the Divine Child), Posadas and many more are celebrated annually to preserve the traditions.

Conclusions
San Martín de Porres is not only a space for religious practice but it also serves as a second home to many Latinos living in the Willamette Valley. It is a place that has been built with the work of the Latino community over 30 years ago and it continues to be strong and united. The parishioners hope to celebrate cultural and religious ceremonies for years to come.

Acknowledgement and References
We would like to thank the community of San Martín de Porres for opening the doors to their mission and allowing us to complete this project. We are especially thankful to the individuals who participated in our interviews, it is through them that we learned about the early history of the mission. We also thank the Archdiocese of Portland for sharing their documents. Lastly, we would like to thank our advisor Professor Jeff D. Peterson for his guidance and support, as well as the Linfield Center for the Northwest and the Faculty/Student Collaborative Research Grant from Linfield College for providing funding for this project.

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