



Each of us is God's servant with certain things to do

by Rev. Louis L. Pabor, President
Texas District, LCMS

This is the first time there has been an opportunity to write a few words to you folks out there scattered all over the state of Texas. My prayers are with you—you constitute the Church that we know as the Texas District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

When I think of all the changes that have taken place recently, I am reminded of what Paul says to the congregation in Corinth. Paul likes to point out that we are all God's servants . . . each of us in a particular place in His Kingdom . . . and each of us with certain things to do. He says that it was his job to plant, and it was the work of Apollos to water . . . but he says that it was God who made the garden grow in their hearts. A lot of time has gone by since then, but we are all still working as a team for our Lord.

While I write these words, the front door of the district office building is quickly opening and closing as several dozen people are arriving from all over the state to participate in district board meetings. These people are making plans to further the Kingdom in many different ways . . . ways that will affect you and your homes and your congregations . . . and in some cases will extend far beyond Texas.

These are people who, in the due process of things, you elected. In every case, they are devoted to the Lord who has saved them



Rev. Louis Pabor

and to the mission to which He has sent them.

In the meantime, you are in your homes, at work, at school, at play . . . worshipping your Lord and serving Him with gladness.

Presidents and board members come and go; people in congregations may be called home to their Lord and replaced by others; the work goes on. Paul, Apollos and their other helpers were a team—working with the same aim. And now, we are God's co-workers. One plants the seed; another waters; it is God who gives the increase.

As these words are written, we are preparing for

another holiday season. When you read these words, we will have celebrated our Lord's birthday.

Every year during this season there are so many things in the world that need to be remembered. This time it's Hugo, the earthquake, the uprisings behind the Iron Curtain, El Salvador . . . as well as the homeless, the sick, the needy . . . and the many concerns and blessings in your own lives.

As we celebrate in our churches and with our families and friends, let's be mindful of all these things . . . and share and give thanks.

As we close the old year, we look back with gratitude for forgiveness and all good things. Then we turn confidently to the '90s. We take a deep breath and know that the same Lord will be with us every step of the way. Let's make it a good decade . . . in our personal lives, in our communities, in the world . . . and in the Lord's Kingdom!



ALL IN THE FAMILY—These are three generations participating in the nursery-kindergarten Sunday school of Mount Calvary Lutheran Church, San Antonio. Ruth Crucius is flanked by her granddaughters, Linda Gutierrez and Karen Sanchez, as they hold her great-grandsons. The other children are students.

History lives at Trinity: 115 years and still going strong

One must have felt a keen sense of history as Trinity Lutheran Church of Klein observed its 115th birthday Nov. 12.

Consider: On the day of Trinity's birth, it was just 98 years after this nation declared its independence and the Reconstruction Period was underway after the Civil War.

In its beginning, Trinity was surrounded by a German-speaking agricultural community where folks went to church in horse and buggy. There were dirt roads and only small family stores.

Trinity is now in its third house of worship, using its third building devoted to Christian education, and has been served by 15 pastors and 65 teachers.



FIRST FAMILIES—Honored at a reception after the Oct. 30 Texas District Board of Directors meeting were the outgoing and incoming district presidents and their wives. At right are Dr. Glenn and Sandra O'Shoney. He resigned as district president to become executive director of the Missouri Synod's Board for Mission Services. At left are Rev. Louis and Dolores Pabor. He was elevated by the board from first vice president to district president.

Paul Hartfield new district veep; Gruell on Texas staff

Rev. Paul Hartfield, pastor of St. Paul Lutheran Church, Serbin, was elected a vice president of the Texas District. He fills the position left vacant by former First Vice President Louis Pabor, who became district president upon the resignation of Dr. Glenn O'Shoney.

Hartfield was elected by the district board of directors and will represent the district's Area C.

The directors, meeting Oct. 30, also adjusted the ranking of the vice presidents to this order: Revs. Eugene Heckmann, Houston, first vice president; David Joeckel, Arlington, second vice president; Carroll Kohl, Big Spring, third vice president; and Hartfield, fourth vice president.

Hartfield had received the second highest number of votes for Area C vice president at the 1988 dis-



Rev. Paul Hartfield

trict convention in San Antonio, behind Pabor.

He has been at St. Paul in Serbin since 1977. Previous pastorates include Bethlehem at William Penn in Washington County and several congregations in Alberta, Canada. He has been circuit counselor and zone advisor for Youth Fellowship and Lutheran Laymen's League. He is a member of the Synod's Lutheran Heritage Committee and has received the *Servus Ecclesiae Christi* honor

from Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, Ind., for effective ministry.

He is a fireman with the South Lee County Volunteer Fire Department. Texas A&M University awarded him a certificate of merit in recognition of outstanding contributions to the community and congregation.

In other action, the directors authorized the employment of Rev. Eugene Gruell as administrative assistant to President Pabor.

In addition, Gruell will serve as coordinator for the district Board of Mission Administration, which currently is without an executive director. He formerly served the district as mission director.

Gruell will continue as coordinator of the Commissioned Pastoral Assistant Program. He recently retired as pastor of Good Shepherd, McAllen, and lives in Austin. His activities will be on a part-time basis.

During the meeting, Pabor officially assumed the district presidency. He was installed Nov. 26 at Redeemer Lutheran in Austin, where he is pastor emeritus. His pastor, Rev. David Schroder, performed the installation.

O'Shoney left the Texas District to become executive director of the Board for Mission Services for The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. He assumed his new duties Nov. 1 in St. Louis, Mo.

In his farewell remarks to the directors, O'Shoney praised Texas as "a district eager to be in mission, and



Rev. Eugene Gruell

one led by people of vision."

He described his new ministry as one to help plan mission strategy to bring the Good News of Christ to all people.

"It is a God-given opportunity for me," he said, "to do what I can to help lift high the cross around the world."

He will direct the Synod's world-wide mission effort.

Hear our prayer

Members of Redeemer, Fort Worth, seeking to fill their pastoral vacancy, followed the advice of the old gospel hymn, "Take it to the Lord in Prayer."

Redeemer's Board of Evangelism put together a prayer rally Nov. 3 and used the occasion to lift up the calling of a pastor.

The rally began with praise singing followed by congregational prayers by lay leaders. The congregation then broke into small groups for sharing and prayer requests.

Those attending called it a time of renewal, encouragement, mutual ministry and fellowship.



CHARTER MEMBERS—Pastor Wayne Hamit reads the names of the charter members of Lord of Life in Corpus Christi as each signs the charter articles.

Lord pumps mission zeal into this new Texas congregation

There is no doubt about it, says Pastor Wayne Hamit, "The Lord is using this new congregation to reach the unchurched."

The congregation is Lord of Life on South Padre Island Drive in Corpus Christi, where Hamit is pastor. The congregation was chartered Nov. 12 with 92 communicants and 47 baptized members.

The former mission became the sixth new church in the Texas District in 1989.

In the last 12 months before chartering as a congregation, Lord of Life recorded 32 baptisms—only three of them infants!

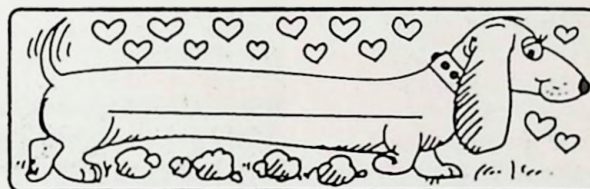
There were 38 adults confirmed; another 27 made reaffirmations of faith. Others from all over the country have transferred. There were 144 in attendance at the charter day service.

"It is truly exciting to watch as people's lives are transformed as they come to faith in Jesus Christ," said Hamit. "Faith is indeed a precious gift from God. The Lord is blessing the ministry of these people. They are reaching their friends and neighbors with the Gospel."

The congregation is now striving to increase its building fund. "It would be nice to have property and a building of our own," Hamit said. "We are confident that in God's time this will all be accomplished."



BAPTIZED—A mother and her four children were brought to the embrace of Jesus through baptism on Charter Sunday at Lord of Life Lutheran Church in Corpus Christi. Shown with Pastor Wayne Hamit are Mrs. D. Harris and her children: Dixie Alexander, John Alexander, Michelle Harris and Tiffanie Harris.



About going to the dogs

Does Renah Gerstenberg have a kind heart or what?

Recently, while on her way to Sunday school at Ascension Lutheran, Cleburne, with her children, Gerstenberg saw a man abandon eight puppies by the roadside.

What did Gerstenberg do? She picked them all up and took them home to care for them.

Then she came on to Sunday school.

Hey, it's me!

In an art activity at Our Redeemer Lutheran School of Dallas, the third-graders were asked to look at themselves in a mirror and find that God had made each one special and different.

The assignment was to draw themselves. Then the class tried to guess whose picture each drawing showed.

Teacher said they all did a great job.

'2x2 Plan' is Salem's next-century commitment

Rising to the challenge to pass on the gifts of God's grace to future generations, members of Salem Lutheran Church in rural Tomball have committed themselves and their offerings to a building program for a new education center and new worship center.

With a goal to build debt-free, the membership committed \$2.4 million to the fund appeal, *The Life Goes On*.

According to Wayne Graumann, senior pastor, "Salem is building ministry, not just buildings, geared for the next century."

Recently, Graumann challenged Salem's members to the "2x2 Plan." As a congregation endeavoring to further the Gospel message, the "2x2 Plan" will mean (at least) 2,000 people *in worship* on Sunday mornings by the year 2000.

Salem, 138 years old, is the oldest congregation affiliated with The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod in Texas. It has reached capacity at the present school site and at the worship center.

Salem is now building a new Christian day school on a forested 30-acre tract across the street from its present worship facility in Rosehill. Planning for a new worship center will begin soon. The school will provide Christian education for children in kindergarten through eighth grade.



SALEM—At age 92, Herbert Buescher, teacher emeritus of Salem Christian Day School, Tomball (Rosehill), broke ground for a new educational facility Oct. 29. Now retired, Buescher began his teaching career at Salem in 1917. From the left front are Gus Jacob, building committee; Mary

Beth Heath, building committee; P. Jackie Moon, architect; Buescher; Rev. Wayne E. Graumann; Martin Paluch, headmaster; Rev. Frank "Chip" Winter; Todd Downing, acolyte, Dean Gaertner, building committee; Billy Stephenson, building committee; Rev. Doug Dommer.

LifeLight™ training workshops set

The following training workshops have been set for the LifeLight™ Bible study series:

Jan. 13, Charity Lutheran Church, Burleson, 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Jan. 14, Trinity Lutheran Church, Riesel (Waco area), 1-6 p.m.

Feb. 3, St. Paul Lutheran Church, Big Spring 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Feb. 10, Peace Lutheran Church, Texas City, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Feb. 11, Memorial Lutheran Church, Katy, 1-6 p.m.

For more information contact Doris McKay, 209 Pintail, Rockport, TX 78382, (512) 729-4651; or the district office, (512) 926-4272.

72 pastors wives at retreat

Seventy-two pastors wives attended the Texas District Clergy Wives Retreat last October at Camp Lone Star.

The retreat was designed for the wives "to praise God and get to know themselves and each other better."

Theme of the retreat was *Called to Be You*. The large-group discussion, led by Janine Pfanstiel of Humble, was based on the calling of the wives as children of God. Small-group discussions centered on the callings of a pastor's wife. Rev. Eugene Gruell led the Sunday worship and Bible study.

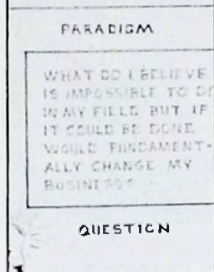
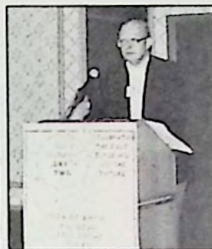
The next wives' retreat will be held Sept. 28-30. Congregations are re-

quested to encourage their pastor's wife to attend and to help by paying the retreat registration and perhaps offering babysitting help that weekend.

Heritage display

A display of items from Salem Lutheran Church of Rosehill (Tomball) has been placed in the North Harris County College Learning Resource Center (library).

Since 138-year-old Salem is the oldest institution in northwest Harris County, it was selected to present a display of early area history at the Learning Resource Center.



FACES OF CEF—Clockwise, from left, Wes Krueger, Houston, explains the proper way to fill out investment form. Ernie Balke, Region 10 director, Houston, shares insights from regional meeting. Dan Lindner, McKinney, describes his vision of the CEF ministry. Dan Cowan, Arlington, was spokesman for Metroplex area. Milburn Schubert, CEF executive director and chief fiscal officer for Texas District, gives 1989 report and projections for 1990. Helen Konz, Houston, discusses children's investments like Tracky Stamps. Conrad and Dorothy Wright, San Antonio, were discussion participants as CEF circuit directors.



BANQUET—At the Saturday evening banquet, the representatives enjoyed several guest speakers. Shown here are Juergen Koetter, left, chairman of the Board for Church Extension; Vic Bryant, LCEF vice president, St. Louis, and Pam Siegrist, St. Paul, Austin.

180 attend CEF conference

by Bill Siegrist
Director of Development
Church Extension Fund

"Celebrating the Past . . . Focusing on the Future" was the theme for the second annual CEF district conference. More than 180 CEF congregational representatives, circuit and regional directors and their spouses came together in Austin the weekend of Nov. 3-5.

Several topics dealt with joy in serving, leadership skills and effective presentation techniques. The



Bill Siegrist

Texas District Board for Church Extension made the commitment to provide and equip CEF congregational representatives with professional-quality training programs.

If you would like to take an active part in this exciting ministry of our church as a CEF congregational representative or as an investor, please contact your pastor or the district office.

Texas District
Church Extension Fund
Bill Siegrist

7900 U.S. 290 East
Austin, TX 78724
(512) 926-4272



COMMUNICATING—During this training segment, at the second annual CEF district conference, CEF representatives had fun practicing effective communication techniques. They had the

opportunity to discuss "how to bathe a zebra" with a partner. Leadership skills and presentation techniques were emphasized at the conference.

+ In memoriam +

Raymond Herbert Lange

Although he had been in poor health for the past year, Raymond H. Lange was a servant of the Lord to the end. He played the organ and taught Bible class the Sunday before his death Oct. 20.

A Lutheran educator for 27 years, he served 21 of those years in the Texas District. His first call was to St. Paul Lutheran School in Harlingen. He also served the Lord as teacher, organist, choir director and principal at Emmaus Lutheran School, St. Louis; St. John Lutheran School, Corpus Christi; and Lutheran High School North, Houston.

According to his wife, Lillian, his last concern was that she call and make sure there would be an organist for services the next Sunday at St. Luke Lutheran Church, Houston.

He was especially gifted in making church banners, and growing and arranging flowers. He was a Master Judge for the American Violet Society.

Survivors, besides his wife, are four children, two grandchildren and a brother.

A service of Christian victory was held at St. Luke's and interment was in Houston National Cemetery. He was a veteran of the Korean War and served six years in the Army Reserve.

Rev. Herbert L. Wiederaenders

The Lord called to Him-



OUR SAVIOR—Groundbreaking was held Sept. 10 for Our Savior's new church on its hilltop site at Dessau Road and Yager Lane in Austin. Rev.

Gordon Albers shovels the first soil. The new facility will be a sanctuary and also provide school and child-care space.

self Rev. Herbert L. Wiederaenders Oct. 28 in San Antonio. Wiederaenders had lived in retirement in San Antonio since 1966.

He is survived by his wife, Viola, a daughter, brother and two sisters.

He was born in Serbin and served all his ministry in Texas. His parishes included St. John, San Benito; Zion, Abilene; Grace, Smithville; and Trinity, Alice.

Services were held Oct. 30 at Crown of Life Lutheran in San Antonio.

Rev. Vernold W. Aurich

After battling cancer for several years, Rev. Vernold W. Aurich was taken to his Lord last Oct. 26. Survivors include his wife, Lois, and four children.

Aurich had served Zion Lutheran Church in Dallas since 1983. Before coming to the Texas District, he had been at Our Redeemer in Hutchinson, Kan., for eight years.

The funeral service was held Oct. 30 at Zion.

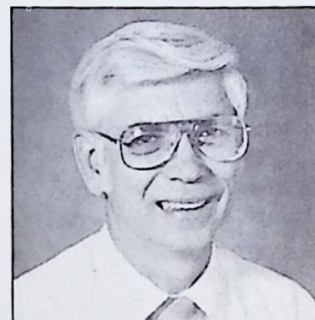
Leimbach educator of year

William Leimbach, fourth grade teacher at Zion Lutheran School, Pasadena, was named Educator of the Year in the Texas District.

Selected by the district Board of Parish Services, the honor was announced at the Professional Workers Conference in October in Fort Worth.

Leimbach came to Zion in 1957 when the school was two years old. A graduate of Concordia, River Forest, Ill., he taught a variety of grades at Zion until 1967 when he became principal, a position he held until 1982 when he returned full time to the classroom.

Now in his 33rd year on the Zion faculty, he was described in his Educator of the Year citation as living a life of total Christian commitment, dedication and loving service to Christ and His church, with a vital concern for the spiritual and educational development of the children under his care.



William Leimbach

Send your news to Bill

Send your news releases, photos, newsletters and bulletins for the LUTHERAN WITNESS to:

Bill Wagner, editor
7900 U.S. 290 East
Austin, TX 78724

About photos: Color photos are OK if the contrast is good. Black and white photos are best.



Out front

It's said that everybody loves a parade, but Kristin Ficken leads them.

A member of Bethel Lutheran, Dallas, Kristin is a lieutenant on her high school drill team and was a top award winner at SMU drill team camp.

Because of this, she was invited to membership in a superstar drill team that led Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade in New York City.

Our bright kids . . .

Stacking up the honors is Shannon Dicke, Trinity, Uvalde, who is a Sabinal High homecoming queen candidate, FFA sweetheart, president of the FHA and band, and vice president of the student council.

Kim Daniels, Zion, Fort Worth, is vice president of her high school's student council.

What a young woman! Kelli Alsup, St. Paul, The Grove, was named an Outstanding High School Student of America at Temple High School. She's in the National Honor Society, sings with the Meistersingers and with a pop group, *Melody*.

Kelli made the all-region girls' choir, belongs to the German Club and is treasurer of the Texas Association of Future Educators. She is an officer of her 4-H Club. At St. Paul, she's treasurer of the LYF group and a zone LYF director.



TOGETHERNESS—Loren Long and Kris Daniels, both members of Zion Lutheran, Fort Worth, attended Zion school through seventh grade. This year they are seniors in separate Fort Worth high schools. Both are their school's student body president. Both are officers in the United High School Council, made up of 12 Fort Worth high school student councils.

She works two nights a week at Immanuel Lutheran in Temple for the LifeLight™ Bible study.

Bright kid honors at Our Savior, McKinney, go to Matthew Hoewisch, Stacy Schroeter, Stephanie Schroeter, Amy Sentlingar, Amy Whalen and Andrea Williams, all inducted into

the National Honor Society.

The school of Good Shepherd, Cedar Park, has a computer lab with five terminals. Each class—kindergarten through fifth grade—gets at least a half-hour a week of hands-on computer time, achieving computer literacy skills.

By virtue of being selected as a National Merit Scholarship semi-finalist, Clinton Midgett, Mount Calvary, La Grange, is among the top 15,000 high school students in America. He is past president of the church's youth group.

Congratulations to two bright young men of Christ Redeemer, Deer Park. They are high school students Tim Petersen, a National Merit Scholarship semifinalist, and Steven Shepard, inducted into the National Honor Society.

The accomplishments just keep stacking up for Melissa Walker, St. Paul, The Grove, who is one of five Bell County students to re-



FREE—These youth of Salem Lutheran of Malone participated in the church's Reformation Festival. The festival theme was "The Chains of Freedom." The young people are holding a chain that symbolizes both how the Bible was bound in Luther's time and how as disciples of Jesus "ye shall know the truth and the truth shall set you free." In front are Kelly Strauch and June McNary. In the back are David Westmoreland and Robert Strauch. Not shown are Michael Degner, Justin and Lynn Lewis and Kristy Boortz.

ceive the Gold Star Award from the Texas Agricultural Extension Service. Projects earning this honor include food and nutrition, clothing, swine, fashion review, leadership and community service.

Melissa is secretary of her Spanish Club, vice president of her junior class and member of the student council. She belongs to Students Against Drunk Drivers (SADD) and Future Teachers of America. She's active in Lutheran Youth Fellowship, vice president of LYF at St. Paul and zone secretary. She teaches kindergarten Sunday school at St. Paul, and sings in the choir. And oh, yes, she helps tend the church grounds.



GROWING IN FAITH—At Grace Lutheran in Brownwood, members use Sunday School Celebration Sunday to emphasize the importance of studying God's Word. Bibles are awarded to the young people when they are promoted to the next Sunday school class. Proudly displaying their new Bibles are, from left, Franki James, Heather Goodrich, Sara Tischler and Debbie Maggart.

THE LORD ADDED ...



RICHARDSON—On Oct. 15, Messiah Lutheran of Richardson welcomed 12 new members into its fellowship. Pastor is Michael Harding.



SAN BENITO—St. John, San Benito, joyfully received 14 new members into its family of faith on Reformation Sunday, Oct. 29. The new members joined by confirmation, profession of faith and transfer. Their reception was a highlight of the congregation's 70th anniversary. Pastor is Marcus R. Mueller.



CONFIRMED—On Oct. 15, Redeemer Lutheran of Austin took 10 new members from the adult information class into its forever family. They are

shown here with their families and Pastor David Schroder.

The three months of August, September and October saw 28 new members join the forever family of Good Shepherd, Cedar Park. The new members came into fellowship by confirmation, reaffirmation of faith and transfer.

By profession of faith and transfer, 10 new members have joined the fellowship of Our Savior, McKinney.

On Nov. 26, Trinity, Uvalde, had a special recognition service for all new

members received in the past church year. Totalling 28, the new members were received by confirmation, transfer, baptism and profession and reaffirmation of faith.

A joyous Oct. 15 saw the reception of 36 new members at Faith, Georgetown. Fifteen came by adult confirmation. Also, there were four baptisms in October.

Nine people joined Our Savior, Rockwall, Oct. 15.

The members of Prince of Peace, Carrollton, heard the confession of faith of 20 new members Oct. 29.

During an eight-week period, mid-August to mid-October, Trinity, Waco, received 16 into membership through adult confirmation, baptism and transfer.

"We give thanks to the Lord," said the congregation of St. Paul, San Antonio, after receiving 12 new

members Oct. 22.

Our Redeemer, Irving, welcomed 10 new members to its family of believers Oct. 29.

It was the privilege of St. John, San Benito, to receive 14 new members Oct. 29 by confirmation, profession of faith and transfer.

With joy and delight, the congregation of Redeemer, Odessa, welcomed 13 new members into its forever family Nov. 12.



AUSTIN—These 21 members shown in the photograph at the right were received into the fellowship of Redeemer Lutheran of Austin Sept. 24. Pastors are David Schroder and Paul Bohot.



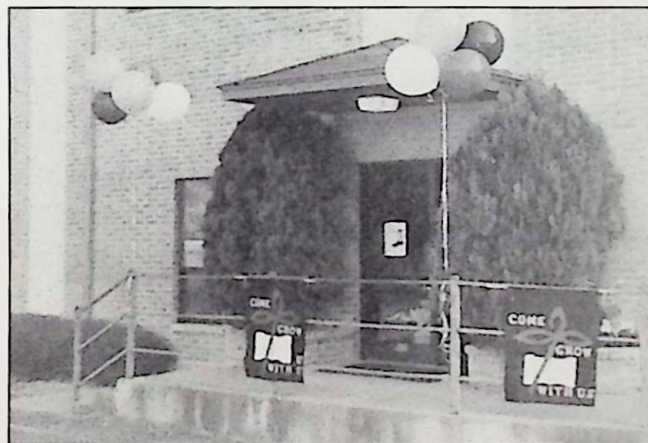
CANYON—Rev. Daniel Jones was installed Sept. 17 as pastor of St. Paul, Canyon. Participating, from left rear, were Revs. Mac Bearss; Daniel Jones, the new pastor; Robert Jones, the new pastor's father, Ron Jones, new pastor's cousin. Front row, same order, Robert Kuhlman, Fred Kelm, Gerald Pelsch and Jack Bower.



MINERAL WELLS—During the 25th anniversary celebration of St. Mark, Mineral Wells, the congregation had the privilege of receiving into membership Dr. Paul and Beverly Duesterheft and Shannon Williams by reaffirmation of faith and Teri Letz by transfer. Also, Paul Jr. and Noel Duesterheft were brought into membership by Holy Baptism. Pastor is Phil Schamehorn.



SEM STUDENTS—These four future pastors are students at Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, Ind.—and all four belong to the same congregation: Faith Lutheran of Plano. Top left is Faith's Senior Pastor Robert W. Hill and next to him is Mike Kettner. Others are Roger Abernathy, Wayne Schwiesow and John Hill. David Oberdieck, who was a member of Faith until leaving for college when his parents moved, is attending Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Mo.



GOOD NEWS HERE—In October, balloons and banners marked the entrance to the Sunday school building of Resurrection Lutheran of Spring as the church observed "Spreading and Sharing the Good News" month. Students brought friends and neighbors to achieve an all-time high monthly attendance. Dorothy O'Neal is superintendent; Margie Cude, assistant; and pastor is Al Franzmeier.

NEWS

These kneeling pillows are just sew, sew

Trinity Lutheran Church of San Angelo has new altar kneeling pillows.

The work was done in needlepoint and took eight people three years to complete. Approximately (who was counting?) 1,025,000 stitches went into the making of the 20 pillows.

Five of the pillows include Bible verses, scenes and symbols for each of the major Christian festivals. One set depicts the evangelical heritage of the church based on Matt. 28:19-20.

The basic colors are red, blue and gold, the dominant colors of the sanctuary's stained glass windows.

All the designing and needlework was done by members of the congregation. The Trinity Evening Guild paid for the materials.

Now, this makes sense

Members of Grace Lutheran, Arlington, have the opportunity to empty their pockets of pennies when they come to church.

There is a penny collection bottle in the narthex that is the Sunday school's "Pennies for Bibles" mission project.

Pennies collected each Sunday will be used to purchase Bibles, first for Grace's Sunday school classes and later for missionaries overseas.



GOLDEN—Walter and Clara Vahrenkamp of Immanuel Lutheran of Giddings were honored Nov. 18 with a special service and dinner, hosted by their children on the occasion of their golden wedding anniversary. U.S. President George Bush and Texas Governor Clements sent congratulations.



WED 50—Mr. and Mrs. Charles R. Ganske of Whitney celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary Nov. 11. The couple's three children and spouses hosted a reception. The Ganskes have five grandchildren and one great-grandchild. They are members of Immanuel, Clifton.

It's a fact

The number of people in the United States over 65 years of age now exceeds those under 18. This trend will continue in the future.



60th—Mr. and Mrs. Fred Jahns celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary Nov. 3. They are charter members of Grace Lutheran of Arlington.

Anniversaries

The following Texas Lutheran couples recently celebrated 50 or more years of marriage:

St. Michael, Houston: Mr. and Mrs. Albert Sitzs, 58 years, Nov. 3.

St. Paul, Fort Worth: Rev. Edwin and Alma Pieplow, 55 years, Nov. 5; Ralph and Eunice Eckert, 53 years, Nov. 10; A.H. and Mildred Boehm, 54 years, Nov. 22.

Charity, Burleson: Joe and Mary Cell, 50 years.

St. Mark, Houston: Joe and Lillian Brennan, 50 years, Nov. 17; John and Rose Hayes, 51 years, Nov. 26.

St. John, Hamilton: Mr. and Mrs. Fred Gromatzky, 60 years, Oct. 16. They have attended St. John for 49 years.

Grace, Arlington: Mr. and Mrs. Fred Jahns, 60 years, Nov. 3; Mr. and Mrs. E.O. Voge, 50 years, Nov. 11.

St. Luke, Olney: Karl and Esther Kunkel, 67 years, Nov. 5.

Trinity, Sealy: Dennis and Vera Mae Remmert, 51 years, Nov. 20; Alfred and Clara Strauss, 55 years, Nov. 27; Reese and Elfrieda Kveton, 61 years, Nov. 14.

Faith, Sugar Land: Oswin and Leola Steglich, 50 years, Nov. 16.



50th—Martin and Lorine Schneider, front, marked their 50th wedding anniversary Oct. 1. Standing behind them are their children, from left, Gracie Cargill, Kilton Schneider and Angie Becker. All are active members of St. Paul, Thorn-dale. Martin has been Sunday school superintendent for 40 years.



Giving comes from learning, gratitude, enjoyment, love

by E.L. Van Laningham
Vice President for
Agency Advancement

Over the past 30 years, I (along with many others in the work of the church) have been involved in various stewardship programs. I doubt if there are any of those involved who have not asked the question, "Why do some respond so generously with their financial resources and others give so little?"

If you have ever been involved in the donations that are given, that question will surely arise.

There are many fine books on Christian stewardship and these brief comments will not attempt to cover the subject in depth. These thoughts are based on the privilege of talking with those who are—by their own giving—exceptional stewards.

In our development work, I have asked the question about giving and heard reasons for giving generously. Remembering that good stewardship is giving in proportion to what resources we have, these points seem to be made:

1. *They learned how to give from someone else.*

I have yet to meet anyone who was not influenced by a father, mother, pastor, friend or someone else in learning that giving is not just a responsibility, but an enjoyable experience! Some may be shy or reluctant to talk about it, but what a blessing it can

be for others when they share the joy they get out of giving! They can be an effective witness from whom others can learn.

2. *They are grateful for having something to give.*

A good steward once said, "I thank God that I have something to give." This wasn't the remark of a braggart. It was the humble acknowledgment that God had given him the resources that allowed him to give. Good stewards seem willing to acknowledge that their resources are God's resources to manage because they first were gifts from Him.

3. *They really do enjoy giving!*

This is not determined by the amount of wealth or resources. Many are not blessed with great resources, yet they know the joy of giving. There are also those with great resources who haven't yet experienced this joy.

After all, from a human perspective, it doesn't really make sense to give. It does "make sense," however, to those who have learned to give. True, we do want to give to a worthy cause. That, however, makes giving all the more enjoyable.

In stewardship programs, I have never seen much joy in those who gave little when they could easily have given much more—even when there is a very worthy cause. Who was it that said, "Never give till it hurts—give till it feels



E.L. Van Laningham
good."

4. *It is a loving response to a God who first loved us.*

Which of us ever hesitates to give to someone we love? And who loves us more than our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ?

There may be other reasons why people give, but these four seem to be evident among those whom God the Holy Spirit has blessed with the spiritual gift of giving (re: Rom. 12:1-8).

When one is involved in a church ministry so greatly affected by the giving of others, he is reminded that God's grace can also teach us how to give. Thank you, you who give, and praise Him from whom all blessings flow!

Cookbook is available

Trinity Lutheran Home in Shiner will soon have a cookbook available that contains more than 500 delicious recipes.

The German-Czech community of Shiner is known for its good cooking. The residents, their families, employees, volunteers and friends of Trinity Lutheran Home, as well as local businesses, have worked together on this project to make it a reality.

C Club charter membership open

LSST's first annual giving program has been introduced. The C Club was established to provide a consistent support base on which LSST may continue to serve in the lives of individuals in need.

Members may invest a level of financial support beginning at \$10 a month. Payment is optional from monthly to annually.

A special gift, Dr. Peter L. Steinke's recently published book, *Dealing with Your Discontent*, will be given to charter members. This book helps one discover the sources of discontent, how discontent can be useful and how to achieve contentment.

Most importantly, C Club members will invest in a precious commodity of life—people.

For more information about becoming a C Club member, please contact the LSST office at (512) 459-1000. There is no obligation in requesting the information.

This is the second cookbook project undertaken here. We are sure you will find the recipes in this book absolutely scrumptious.

The recipes were submitted to the publishers in November and the books are scheduled to arrive in February. For more information, contact Trinity Lutheran Home, Route 3, Box 19, Shiner, TX 77984; (512) 594-3353.

CONCORDIA

Concordia Council honors former Texas pastors

When the Concordia Council established the Dedicated Servant Award in 1989, the group chose not to specify written criteria for the selection of those to be honored. Instead, two men were chosen whose lives of the highest service would set a standard for future honorees: Rev. John Socha and Rev. Martin Ramming.

Concordia's president, Dr. Ray F. Martens, presented the awards to the widows of the two men at the fall Concordia Council meeting.

- Rev. John Socha served the Lord in both the teaching and pastoral ministries. He received a bachelor's degree in education from Concordia College in River Forest, Ill. He then taught in Lutheran schools in Forest Park, Ill.; Austin,

Texas; Wellston, Mo.; Page-dale, Mo.; and Giddings, Texas.

After completing the pastoral colloquy program in 1966 at Concordia Theological Seminary in Springfield, Ill., Socha accepted his first call to Grace, Freeport, and St. Luke, Sweeny, where he served until 1971.

Next he served Zion, Fort Worth, until accepting a call to Trinity, Dime Box, in 1980. He died in December 1988.

In addition to his two ministries, Socha was active in civic and charitable endeavors wherever he lived. He had a special interest in history, which led to his leadership role in the Concordia Historical Research Committee.

He and his wife, Elsie (Kerestes), had six children: Jonathan, Robert, Janet (Kasper), Dorothy

(Placke), Suzanne (Mueller) and Margot (Foster). Three of his daughters—Janet, Dorothy and Suzanne—attended Concordia.

- Rev. Martin Ramming received his seminary training at Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, Mo. He served as pastor of these Lutheran churches: Grace, Denison (1941-43); Holy Cross, Wichita, Kan. (1946-48); Calvary, Buffalo, N.Y. (1948-55); Trinity, Austin (1955-64); and Trinity, Port Arthur (1964-78).

From 1943 to 1946 he served as a military chaplain. He then joined the U.S. Army Reserves and retired as a lieutenant colonel in 1976.

Upon his retirement from the pastoral ministry, Ramming and his wife, Connie (Ebert), moved back to Austin. From 1979 until his death in 1982, Ramming worked to organize and direct the Concordia Council, the chief advisory group for Concordia Lutheran Col-

lege.

Like Socha, Ramming extended his area of service beyond the congregations to which he ministered. He was active in Texas District concerns and held several district offices, including pastoral advisor for the district Lutheran Laymen's League and district vice president. He also made arrangements for Texas District conventions for 20 years.

Martin and Connie Ramming had three children—Douglas, Michael and Anna Marie (Jennings)—all of whom attended Concordia.

- Beginning in 1990, the Concordia Council will present the Dedicated Servant Award each year to a man or woman whose life provides an example for others.

To make a nomination for the award, write Dr. Thomas Krueger, Chairperson—Dedicated Servant Award, Concordia Lutheran College, 3400 IH 35 N., Austin, TX 78705.



DEDICATED SERVANT AWARDS—Elsie Socha (left photo) and Connie Ramming accepted Dedicated Servant Awards honoring



their husbands. The awards, presented by CLC's President Ray Martens, are in the shape of Concordia's cruciform logo.



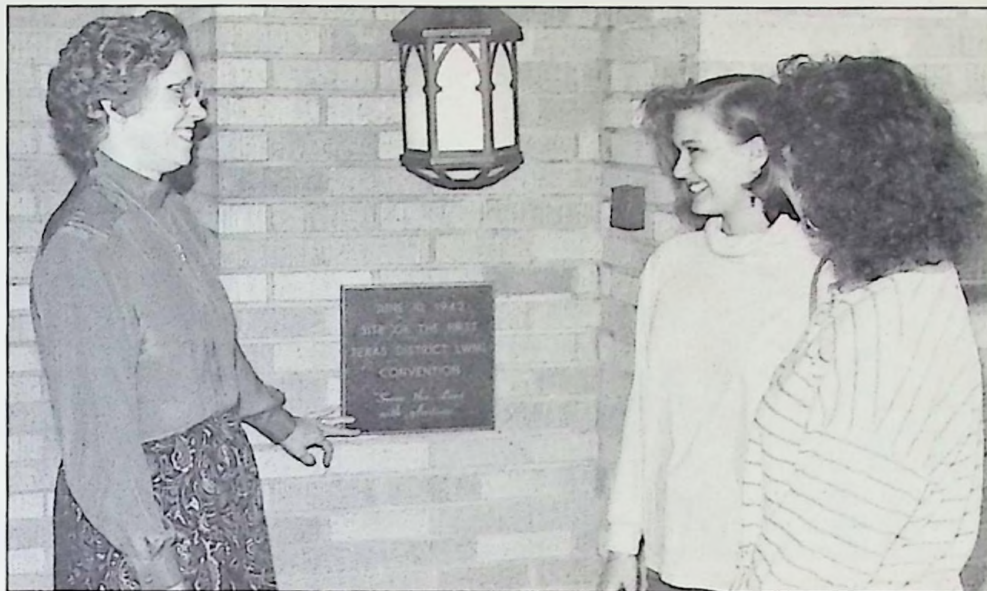
Lutheran Woman of the Year provides an example

Concordia Lutheran College honored Dorothy Hunger of Rockwall, the 1989 Lutheran Woman of the Year, as part of the annual Fall Festival activities. Dr. Ray F. Martens, college president, read the following citation:

Mrs. Dorothy Hunger, upon nomination of many who know and love her, has been selected by the Board of Regents of Concordia Lutheran College of Texas to be Lutheran Woman of the Year 1989.

Especially noteworthy in her quiet but effective Christian service are:

- the credit she brings to her Savior in her role as wife, mother and grandmother;
- her professional competencies as educator in the classrooms, organizations and administration of Rockwall Middle School;
- her tireless work in her congregation through teaching, board membership, artistic contributions and every form of appropriate service;
- her extraordinary commitment to the Lutheran Women's Missionary League in the local society, zone and district, not only to the organization and its leadership (where her roles abound), but also specifically to the mission projects, Bible study and service opportunities which it fosters;
- her positive attitude and leadership by example, by which she illustrates our



CLC AND THE LWML—Dorothy Hunger, 1989 Lutheran Woman of the Year, tells Concordia students Kathy Meissner, center, and Cherri

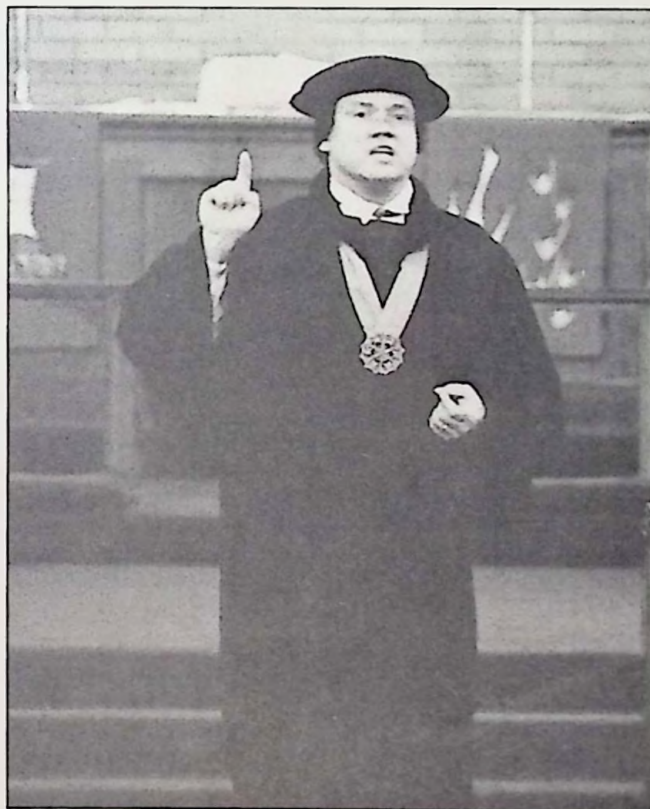
Graf of the long relationship between the college and the Texas District LWML.

Lord's principle of greatness through service.

Mrs. Dorothy Hunger serves us all as a positive witness that those who give most extensively of their time and energy for the work of the Lord do not do that because they have more time and energy, but because they have learned that these gifts are bestowed by a gracious God to equip us to serve Him with joy and diligence.

Because in all these ways she is a very special person among us, she is LUTHERAN WOMAN OF THE YEAR 1989.

Each year, the Concordia Board of Regents selects a Lutheran Woman of the Year from nominations submitted by LWML societies. The woman chosen serves as an example to Concordia students of how faith in Christ may be translated into love and service for others.



MARTIN LUTHER IN CHAPEL—Martin Luther's words were heard on Reformation Day in a Concordia chapel service. The words were spoken by Everett Lunning, an Austin high school teacher who dramatizes many of Luther's speeches and sermons.

MISSIONS



FIRST WORSHIP—A standing room only crowd of 186 people overflowed the 140 chairs set up for the first worship service of Fishers of Men Lutheran Church in First Colony (near Sugar

Land). Many people were there as a result of telephone calls. It took much "soil preparation" for this event to occur.

Planting a church is like farming; dig the ground, plant the seed, watch it grow

by Rev. Tom Van Duzer
Fishers of Men
Lutheran Church

There was a time when you could start a farm with "40 acres and a mule." Dig the ground, plant the seed, watch it grow.

Getting the cotton to market has changed. The farming industry now demands a knowledge of chemistry, mechanics, economics and banking. One thing is the same: dig the ground, plant the seed, watch it grow.

There was a time when you could start a church in a town of 40 people with a preacher on a mule. Meet the people, preach the Word, watch it grow.

Church planting today is an industry that demands a knowledge of marketing, demographics and finance as well as theology. One

thing has remained the same: *meet the people, preach the Word, watch it grow.*

Church planting methods differ according to the situation just as farming differs by soil and seed type. I am a suburban church planter. My first "plant" was in suburban Milwaukee, Wis. Now I have the privilege to plant Fishers of Men Lutheran Church in southwest Houston.

Though the climate is warmer, the planting methods are similar because they both are churches serving American suburban middle class communities.

A mission church's first worship service is the result of a long period of "soil preparation" by many people. The district mission executive has been in contact with area circuit churches.

They examine the area's growth patterns.

Is development anticipated? Are land prices escalating? Is the area "under-churched?" Preparing for a new congregation, the Church Extension Fund may purchase land 10 years in advance to ensure a lower price for the budding group. Site studies are done. Demographics are checked. Will there be roads, schools and a McDonalds (they always know where the people are)?

• When the area begins to grow, the district (or a local "mother church") calls a church planter. When he arrives on the scene, Sunday morning worship services are still a long way off. He will first meet with local pastors (both Lutheran and non-Lutheran), city officials, Chamber of

Commerce and others to get to know his community. For example, other Houston-area pastors referred members who have moved into our area.

Occasionally there is a core group that has prayed for a church in their locale for some time. If these people are available, they will form the team that plants the church.

In our situation, the district called me to the growing, master-planned community of 25,000 called First Colony (near Sugar Land) that had not existed 10 years earlier. Five acres were purchased during the economic "crunch." But there was no one to greet our family when the moving van pulled up. We were on our own.

• Names come from everywhere, but they don't grow on trees! "Do you have a church home? Do you have a friend I can visit?" I asked this of the real estate agent and the printer we do business with, among others.

We began a vacation Bible school in our apartment complex that drew 30 kids. Many afternoons were spent "door-knocking." For the first six months, the church planter visits families every day and evening, sharing the Gospel and getting families excited about God's new addition that is now giving birth!

As work continues, steam builds. Bible studies are started in homes. A few teens are gathered for confirmation class. A "big meeting" draws five or 10 families, most of whom are just curious. For every 100
(Continued on Page 12P.)



Continuing education is urged for church workers

by Rev. Mark Barz,
Pastor

Crown of Life Lutheran Church, San Antonio

How is your pastor prepared to serve the people of God in your congregation? Most of us know something about the three years of classroom instruction and the year of vicarage our seminaries provide to train future pastors.

But any pastor (from Fort Wayne or St. Louis) will tell you that he learns the "nuts and bolts" when he is called by and to a congregation. And that learning happens whether the congregation is small or large, rural or urban, in the Panhandle, the Metroplex, the Valley, or the Piney Woods.

But does it end here? Should pastors only have their final degrees and the sometimes frightening, sometimes stimulating experiences of on-the-job training? Are these enough to equip pastors, teachers, directors of Christian education, deaconesses and other professional church workers for their vocations for our Lord and among His people?

The Texas District answers all three questions, "No." That's why a Task Force for Continuing Education was formed. This task force has been meeting since November 1988 in order to evaluate, plan and encourage continuing education for our church's (Continued on next page.)



Traditionally, most Lutheran congregations provide effective Christian education programs for their children. This can be seen in the many Sunday school programs and in the large number of Lutheran elementary schools across the nation.

In the past, the Christian education programs in most congregations began with 5- and 6-year-olds. This was adequate, because congregations recognized that their infants and very young children were usually cared for within large families, extended families and supportive communities. Beyond that, there was little need for formal care or programs for little children or for their parents.

- Recently, many Lutheran congregations, recognizing that children are indeed important members of the congregation, have established and operate Lutheran preschools. Congregations have discovered that their preschools are effective agencies of inreach, serving the congregation's children and parents, and outreach, serving non-member families with young children.

More and more Lutheran congregations are providing programs directed to the care of very young children—infants and toddlers. These programs, while providing a critically important service to children and their parents, also open doors for ministry to the congregation's young adults, the dads and moms who appreciate and grow in the Christian fellowship of the congregation.

Preschool provides churches authentic mission field, care ministry

- Congregations also discover that as the infant/toddler programs are offered to children and parents in the community, new doors for outreach are opened. As a result, congregations have discovered a new, authentic mission field. When congregations coordinate childcare and community mission, dramatic results in congregational membership growth may be experienced. This phenomenon has been experienced for generations by congregations that provide Lutheran school services to the community.

A word of caution: Too often childcare centers and ministries are started without significant congregational understanding or support. When this occurs, the success of these ministries is often limited, and the congregation and its members are robbed of significant joy and experience.

If time is taken and responsible preparation is made for involving congregation members, more congregations will be ready and willing to become active participants in the Christian ministry to infants, toddlers, young children and their parents and to embrace that ministry as a congregational mission—a *new mission frontier*.

The above article was taken from "In Ministry: Infants, Toddlers and Their Families," produced by the Board for Parish Services, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. This resource is available free from Keith A. Loomans at the Texas District office.

1990 Glorybound date set Nov. 23-25

The 1990 Glorybound Texas District youth gathering will be held Nov. 23-25 in Austin with the theme "Handle With Care."

Participants will learn

and experience care for themselves, their environment and others as God's people.

Activities will include worship, presentations, workshops, mini-servant

events, recreation and special events. Cost is \$75 per person. Participants must be 15 or in the 10th grade.

Glorybound takes place every three years.



HONORED—The Sunday school staff of Trinity Lutheran, Taylor, was honored recently by the congregation with a banquet. Special recognition and a plaque went to Mrs. Willie Kuhl, who has been Sunday school secretary for 44 years. From left are Keith Loomans, district director of parish services, who was the speaker; Rev. E. George Becker, pastor; Mrs. Kuhl; and Marilyn and Jessie Safarik, Sunday school co-superintendents.

EDUCATION

(Continued from previous page.)

professional workers who are serving in the Texas District.

Presently, most of the discussion and planning has focused on pastors. However, the vision is larger. Members of the task force are convinced that continued growth is necessary and desirable for each professional church worker so that all may be more effective servants of Jesus Christ.

In practical terms, what does this mean for pastors and congregations? The task force is optimistic that a partnership can develop, that pastors will take responsibility and initiative, and that congregations will offer encouragement and support.

A personal plan for learning and growth will be developed and pursued. The options are diverse: Some pastors will choose a series of seminars on teenage behavior disorders offered by a nearby mental health organization; others will find partners and develop a guided study of specific books and readings; some pastors will seek out a "mentor" with experience and knowledge in a certain area; still others will determine that two weeks of graduate study each summer will be of highest value.

Whatever the choice for continuing education, there is only one goal: better equipped and nurtured workers for the harvest, so that the Gospel may be shared more effectively and the saints will be prepared for their "works of service."

PLANTING

(Continued from Page 12N.)

contacts, only one or two will remain as members.

- Where will we worship? Gone are the days of farmers raising a one-room building. Gone also are the days when public schools will allow churches free use on Sunday mornings. In our area, renting a school would cost \$150 each Sunday. But we would still need office space for our duplicator, meetings, confirmation and the like. So our budding group decided to rent space in a strip mall that would give us visibility, permanence, advertising and a \$2,000 per month rent bill. All this without anybody guaranteed to show up at the first worship!

Call 11,000 people? It sounded impossible, but it worked! We tried a new concept in church planting. Volunteers from our group and other churches dialed every home in our area and asked families if they had a church home.

If they did not, we asked, "May we put you on our mailing list to keep you informed on our progress?" I was amazed to see one of every 10 dial-ups say, "Yes, send us your material!" These 1,100 people received five mailings each.

- 186 people? My wife, Mary, and I had never expected so many people at our first service. Some were well-wishers from sister churches. About 40 were from the core group. And the rest from the many visits, telephone calls and invitations sent.

There were only 140 chairs for the crowd, construction dust coated the floor, but excitement charged the air! Some who were only known by phone even came early to help usher! We knew that we wouldn't see all these people next week, but at last the congregation was on its way with public worship.

The cost of developing a mission congregation is about \$40,000 per year. Most of that is the pastor's salary. But Texas missions are taught to give 20 percent of all receipts back to "missions." Financially, starting new churches is an investment in the future. Spiritually, starting new churches is an investment in the future. We are training new evangelists and church planters.

- Since that Sunday of Dec. 6, 1988, God has brought us a long way. Many who came that day did not know Christ as Savior, more needed to be instructed in their faith and families required baptism. All the "normal" church programs that fall in place so easily after years of practice (such as Sunday school, fellowships, etc.) take extra thought and effort to get started.

But God has seen us solidify to a worshiping group of 100. Our store-front sanctuary will be holding two services in January. Plans have started to build our first building. But we have not forgotten that our job remains the same as it was from the beginning.

- Meet the people, preach the Word, watch it grow!



SERVANT EVENT—These young Lutherans are participating in a servant event at Texoma Lutheran Camp. Pictured during a break in their work, the young people helped in cleanup efforts at the camp after massive flooding at Lake Texoma. It's all spic and span now.



HOLD ON!—This brave young camper at Lone Star (photo at left) takes on the camp challenge course—blindfolded, yet. One of the most treasured times in a young person's life can be a session at summer camp. The Texas District has two of the most outstanding camps found anywhere: Camp Lone Star and Texoma Lutheran Camp. The happy campers find much to do, including hiking, swimming, campfires, camp chores, singing, arts and crafts, sports, nature study, campouts, worship and Bible study.

Summer camp: an affair of the heart

by Rev. Karl Petzke,
Executive Director,
Lutheran Outdoors
Ministry of Texas

Only five months remain before our youth experience some of the most treasured times in their lives through summer camp. The 1990 summer schedule will especially be filled with "heartfelt" and "heart uplifting" times because of the Bible studies that will focus on the theme "*Heart to Heart*" and that will emphasize God's love in Christ as it is recorded in the apostle Paul's first letter to the Corinthians.

Without a doubt, summer camp is an amazing place for ministry with people. Camp takes place in God's classroom, which is as big as all outdoors.

• LOMT is determined to help every camper understand that God has sent each one of us on an adventure called "life" and that He wants us to live it fully. God challenges us to take the risk of living our lives as His sons and daughters; to share with and to care for others and the environment because He loves us. God also promises that in the midst of these "adventures," He will always be with us.

Within such a "heart to heart" experience, campers vividly reflect upon their treasured times in camp with words like these from one camper:

"At camp we learn neat songs and a lot about Christ. Also we go canoe-



Rev. Karl Petzke

ing, have archery and swimming. At night we go to round up and do skits. The skits are about our Bible study. Then we go to devotions and pray. It's real fun here and you learn a lot. I had my doubts about it, but I was wrong. You may get a little homesick at night, but during the day you have so much to do you forget about it."

• Yes, there's rarely a dull moment at camp—hiking, swimming, Bible studies, campfires, camp chores, singing, arts and crafts, worship, sports, campouts and other activities provide a living "heart to heart" experience within our Christian faith—an opportunity to grow!

The 1990 LOMT summer programs brochure, illustrating a wide variety of offerings at both Texoma Lutheran Camp and Camp Lone Star, is now available at your church or through the LOMT office, 7900 U.S. 290 E., Austin, TX 78724; (512) 926-4272.



LUTHERAN OUTDOORS MINISTRY OF TEXAS

Remembering God's blessings on birthdays, anniversaries

by Rev. Jerry Kieschnick,
Executive Director,
Lutheran Foundation
of Texas

On Jan. 29, 1989, I had the pleasure of being married to my lovely wife for exactly one-half of my life. Such a non-complicated, mathematical calculation is exceptionally simple in our case, since we chose my 23rd birthday as our wedding date.

• Having a birthday and a wedding anniversary on the same date each year is both good news and bad news.

The bad news is that I prefer to celebrate our anniversary on the actual date of our wedding, while my beloved wife wants to set aside that day for my birthday festivities. We always strike some sort of agreement which, being translated, means she usually prevails!

The good news is that in the almost 24 years of our marriage, I've never forgotten our anniversary!

• Years ago, we used to be absolutely certain that people who had been married 25 years were ancient, if not petrified. Now we're equally certain that such folks are really just getting started.

It's truly amazing how more than two decades together can pass so quickly! In our situation, those decades have taken us through seven relocations, two children, challenging seminary years, three congregations, literally

hundreds of friends, a few sleepless nights, more than a few tears, our share of anxieties, more than our share of joys, the pain of the death of an immediate family member and of several close friends.

• Like most Christians, we try to take one day at a time, being unable to change what happened yesterday and not knowing what tomorrow might bring.

Birthdays and anniversaries are opportune occasions for reflection and renewal, for thoughtfulness and thanksgiving, for repentance and commitment. To be able to celebrate both events on the same day, in spite of the inherent logistical concerns, is a unique blessing, but a relatively minor one in comparison with the multitude of major blessings we've received.

We count those blessings as what they are—gifts from the benevolent hand of a gracious God who "so



Rev. Jerry Kieschnick

loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son. . . ."

• A God who gives with such liberality, generosity, compassion and genuine love is a God worthy of our whole-hearted thanks, praise, worship and service. Our response to His blessings is almost microscopic in relation to His outpouring thereof.

We talk about returning to Him a proportionate amount of His gifts to us. That's easy to calculate when we're dealing with money and other measurable blessings. But how about the immeasurables of life: health, peace, joy, fam-

ily unity, faith and eternal salvation? How do we give a portion of *these* blessings back to God?

• Rom. 12:1 comes to mind: "*I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.*" That kind of *total* response to God's love is what Christian living is all about.

Birthdays and anniversaries! Marvelous occasions for remembering God's grace and blessings! The Lutheran Foundation of Texas encourages you to engage in such a spiritual exercise every day of your life. We pledge our time and assistance in helping you discover the possibilities for your response to God's great love!

Texas organist tours Germany

Melvin Schiwart, minister of music at Trinity Lutheran Church, Klein, was in West Germany during November on an organ tour.

He was the guest of the organ building firm of Ludwig Eisenbarth in Passau, near the Austrian border in Bavaria.

Schiwart played organs built by the Eisenbarth company. The organ in the cathedral at Passau is an Eisenbarth and is believed to be one of the world's largest.

Trinity is being considered by Eisenbarth for its first organ installation in the United States.



Yes, I want to know more. Clip and mail to

Lutheran Foundation of Texas

7900 U.S. 290 E. Austin, TX 78724 (512) 926-4272

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

() _____

ZIP _____

Telephone Number _____

1



Ruby Thorne



Jean Faszholz

Two Texas women honored for Good Samaritan service

Bethesda's Christian Service Award for Lutheran volunteers was presented to Jean Faszholz and Ruby Thorne, both of Houston, at the Nov. 12 annual meeting of the Bethesda Lutheran Home corporation.

The two women were honored for their efforts in starting Good Samaritan Lutheran Home, Cypress, now a campus of Bethesda.

When Faszholz's 6-month-old son was stricken with spinal meningitis and left profoundly retarded in 1958, she began dreaming of a home in Texas like Good Shepherd Lutheran Home of the West. Faszholz had grown up in Terra Bella, Calif., where that facility is located.

As she worked toward that goal, Faszholz was joined by Ruby Thorne, a professional singer and an excellent public speaker. The two spoke to women's groups throughout Texas, formed an auxiliary, organized thrift stores, helped get the Good Samaritan corporation chartered and helped with a fund drive.

In 1974, a 40-bed facility was opened on 30 acres in Cypress.

Both women have served on the Good Samaritan corporate board of directors and have held numerous auxiliary offices.

Each year, Christian Service awards are given to recognize outstanding and dedicated service in the field of mental retardation by Lutheran professionals and/or volunteers at the local, state, regional or denominational level.

Thrift store opens in Austin in January

More than 80 volunteers have already signed up to help at the new thrift store that will open this month at 5111 Burnet Road, Austin.

Benefiting the Bethesda/Good Samaritan Campus, the store will sell used clothing, household items, toys, books and furniture.

Advance planning has been coordinated by Mr. and Mrs. Reinhold Teinert of Austin.

Auxiliary seeks new chapters

by Jean Kuhlmann,
Past President,
Bethesda/Good Samaritan
Women's Auxiliary

In the early 1960s, a group of Texas women were actively supporting Good Shepherd Lutheran Home in California. The group hoped that a branch facility could be established in Texas.

When it became apparent that would not happen, the group decided to start a facility themselves. In November 1968 an organizational meeting was held to establish the Good Samaritan Lutheran Home Women's Auxiliary.

They began to publish a newsletter, "The Helping Hand," that was sent to all members and to people interested in this mission of helping handicapped and retarded individuals.

In June 1974, their prayers and dreams became

a reality when the Good Samaritan Lutheran Home in Cypress was dedicated.

In 1988, Good Samaritan joined the Bethesda Lutheran Home organization for economic and management reasons. This will help the auxiliary further its work.

The auxiliary's purpose is to give spiritual and material aid to the residents, create interest and enthusiasm for this service among women, and carry out the auxiliary's policies and projects.

There are now six chapters: two in Houston and one each in Dallas, the Panhandle, the High Plains and Louisiana. **We encourage new chapters to form.** We also have members-at-large where no chapter exists.

Service is rendered in many ways. Most chapters have fund-raising projects and some also operate thrift stores.

Members regularly pray that all we do may be to the glory of God and the benefit of the residents.

Membership is open to Christian women who are interested in the welfare of mentally retarded and handicapped people. Annual dues are \$5; a lifetime membership is \$100. To join, please contact Elaine Kurz, Bethesda/Good Samaritan Auxiliary Membership Officer, 2319 Cheshire, Houston, TX 77018.

Thrill your pastor

Say to him: "I'll be willing to help in any way I can."



OPEN HOUSE—King's Court residents welcomed Rev. John Kah III to the open house following the Nov. 5 dedication of their new Cypress group home. Kah is associate pastor of St. John Lutheran Church, the sponsoring parish. Rev. Alvin Musgrove is the senior pastor.

HAPPENINGS IN TEXAS

PEOPLE, PLACES, & EVENTS

Lon and Sue Thompson had a special appreciation for being in the adult information class at **Charity Lutheran, Burleson**. They donated the 22-volume *Family Bible Encyclopedia* to the church. Sunday school teachers are finding the encyclopedias especially helpful.

Rev. Rolf E. Larsen was installed Oct. 29 as the new pastor of **Holy Cross Lutheran, Kerrville**.

Good for Stan Moerbe, member of **Trinity, Uvalde**. As a member of the Farm Bureau, he helped distribute East Texas hay to local ranchers who were hurt by the drought.

Several Houston-area Lutheran pastors will provide devotions to be aired from 6 to 6:30 a.m. on Sundays by Channel 13 in Houston. Participants include Revs. Douglas Barnett, St. Philip; Donald Black, Trinity; and Eugene Heckmann, Gethsemane.

At its first meeting, the voters assembly of the new mission in Pearland chose **Epiphany Lutheran Church** as its name. Missionary pastor is Rev. Jon Salminen.

A special 25th anniversary service was held Nov. 12 at **Our Redeemer, Irving**. Keynote speaker was Rev. John Kieschnick, a former pastor of Our Redeemer.

Dedication services for the new **Lutheran Student Center** building at UT-Arlington were held Nov. 5. Texas Laborers For Christ were instrumental in construction.

Congratulations to Dennis Jones, **King of Kings, San Antonio**, who was nominated by the Live Oak City Council to serve on the Parks and Recreation Commission.

The congregation of **Immanuel, Hereford**, celebrated its 75th anniversary Nov. 5. Rev. E.W. Lichtsinn, who was pastor of Immanuel when the present building was dedicated, was special speaker.

An offering was taken at the communion service during the October meeting of the Texas District professional church workers in Fort Worth. The offering went to a special project—Glenn O'Shoney. The former Texas District president is to use it for a world mission project of his choice. He is the new executive director of the Synod's Board for Mission Services in St. Louis.

Lutheran talent is busy enhancing civic affairs in Uvalde. Members of **Trinity, Uvalde**, received these appointments: Larry Mathys, appeals board for plumbing and area development foundation; Joyce Thomas, tree board, chamber of commerce beautifica-



PUPPETS—This young member of Peace Lutheran of Texas City gets acquainted with the stars of the puppet ministry at Peace. Voices and string-pullers behind the puppets are Stephanie Goebel and Jennifer Tripp. This project is a direct result of interest generated by the 14 people of Peace who attended last summer's national youth gathering in Denver.

tion committee and hotel/motel tax committee; Randy Scheide, volunteer fire department board.

Trinity, Klein, celebrated its 110th anniversary Nov. 12. DeWyth Beltz has been pastor for 23 years.

A special worship service was held Wednesday night, Nov. 1, at **Zion, Tomball**, for those who were scattering the following weekend to the boondocks of Texas for opening of deer season.

Congratulations to Dan Klostermann, **Mount Calvary, Raymondville**, who was elected president of the Farm Bureau.

Grace, Midland, will cel-

brate the congregation's 60th anniversary Feb. 4.

A celebration of Christian education was held Nov. 19 at **Immanuel, Giddings**, to recognize its school's 100th year of constant operation. The school actually began in 1882 as a financially independent private school with religion included as one of the subjects.

The Texas District Board of Directors appointed Regina Henderson, Austin, to the district Recruitment Committee; Rev. David Hintze, Arlington, to the Stewardship Committee; Rev. John Fritz, circuit counselor of Circuit 37; and Rev. E. George Becker, Taylor, Older Adult Ministry Committee.

Congratulations to Jeanette Thompson, **Grace, Orange**, who was selected for Phi Theta Kappa, National Honor Society at Lamar University.

Ruby Sultemier, **Faith, Lampasas**, won second place statewide in the morning glory quilt division at the Texas State Fair.

Linda Piel, **Our Savior, Abilene** was chosen by local Optimists as an honor student, based on her character, leadership, scholarship and community involvement. She attends McMurry College.

Think about this

We ought to be grateful that we are living in a country where folks can say what they think without thinking.



LUBBOCK—Dedication service for new first-unit sanctuary at Hope Lutheran Church in Lubbock was held Sept. 17 (photo at right). Pastor Earl Pierce is at left with members of Texas Laborers For Christ who participated in the construction and who were honored at the dedication service.



CELEBRATION—St. John Lutheran, Houston, celebrated its 67th anniversary Oct. 15. Members of the congregation (photo at left) gathered outside the sanctuary for this photo after the celebration service.

40th anniversary coming

Trinity Lutheran Church, Taylor, will celebrate its 40th anniversary April 29 and dedicate its new fellowship hall.

Rev. Norman Stoppenhagen will preach at the 10 a.m. service and another former pastor, Rev. Reinhard Wuensche Jr., will be

guest speaker at the 2:30 p.m. service. Rev. Gary Stolle, a son of the congregation, will be liturgist and the Trinity Church and Concordia College choirs will provide special music.

A celebration lunch will be served and tours of the new hall will be available.



TAYLOR—Trinity Lutheran of Taylor broke ground Sept. 24 for an education/activity center. Pastor E. George Becker leads officers and building committee members in the spadework. The \$178,000 building will include classrooms, conference room, fellowship and dining area with kitchen, and a gymnasium.



RECOGNITION—Kevin Nelson, center, got a lot of attention at Redeemer Lutheran of Beaumont when he posted a year of perfect Sunday school attendance. From the left with Kevin are Cecil Ward, Board of Education chairman; Glenn Budewig, pastor; and Kevin's parents, the Gary Nelsons.

Walk-a-thon proves success

It took months for the pledges to come in, but now that they have it is revealed that more than \$700 was raised for Lutheran World Relief by the walk-a-thon sponsored by San Pedro Lutheran Church of Houston.

According to Pastor J.M. Gonzales, more than 50 participants walked and

many others helped with registration, water booths and preparing and serving barbecue.

San Pablo and San Juan Lutheran churches also participated in the walk.

In addition to the world relief money, \$300 for their activities was made by women of the church through the barbecue.

LONE STAR DISTRICT LLL



NEW CLUB—Trinity, Klein, has chartered a new LLL club. Club President Ed Sharp, left, receives charter from Erich Klenk, president of the Tall Pine Zone. Benny Mitschke, right, is assistant league service chairman of the Lone Star District.

Lumpe accepts LLL position

Laurence E. Lumpe, a long-time leader in the International Lutheran Laymen's League, accepted the position of executive director of the organization for one year, replacing John F. Schoedel.

"I really appreciate the opportunity to serve the league in this way," Lumpe told the board of governors, "and I pledge my very best. I'm looking forward to working with President Roy Schmidt, the board and the staff of the Int'l LLL as we seek to do God's work through this organization."

Lumpe, 61, is a St. Louis area resident and was working for the Missouri District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod as director of development. He began working at the league office Nov. 1. At the convention in Little Rock, he had completed four years of service to the league as vice president.

Lumpe and his wife, Carol, live in Grantwood Village. They are the parents of three grown children.

MEMBERSHIP

Christians . . . United in Mission 1989-90 Int'l LLL Membership Campaign has reached one-third of its \$1,800 goal. The average gift for this year is \$20.22 compared to the average gift of \$16.99 for 1988. Personal follow-up by congregational representatives began in November.

It's wonderful to see that our members have picked up the torch and have continued the momentum our leaders began. Most encouraging is the influx of new members which means that under God's blessing the Int'l LLL is being enriched with new sources of vision and strength for the future of this ministry.

"This is a building year in which our Int'l LLL is linking arms and hearts in an attempt to strengthen one of the most powerful lay Gospel ministries our Lord has given to a church," says Jerry Stirtz, chairman of Christians . . . United in Mission.

"This 1989 campaign gives our people the chance to encourage each other to increase membership com-



RALLY—Pictured at the fall rally of the Capitol Zone are, from left, Charles Byrne Jr., district president; Ted Wolfram, zone president; Dr. Dale A. Meyer (with Western hat, gift of the zone); and Redeemer LLL President Forest Saemrow.

mitments so that the league's ministries can meet the new opportunities our Lord is giving us at home and around the world," Stirtz continued.

For the first time, membership gifts will extend membership to a full 12 months from the time membership remittance was made. Previously, memberships operated on a fixed calendar, expiring on May 31.

The campaign asks members to grow in giving with goals such as "Member Plus," \$60; "Bringing Christ to the Nations" (BCTN) member, \$100; "BCTN Plus," \$240; and "Mission Builder," \$1,200.

To be a part of this important ministry select one of the above for your support and send it to Int'l LLL, 2185 Hampton Ave., St. Louis, MO 63139.

DISTRICT MEMBERSHIP

Orville Helberg, director of development, reports that 163 congregational representatives have accepted the challenge of Christians . . . United in Mission. A total of 1,854

members have responded with \$23,000-plus in support of the Int'l LLL's ministries.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

The 1990 Lone Star District convention will be May 4-6 in Wichita Falls.

Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, is the location for the 1990 Int'l LLL convention July 21-25.

CHARTER PRESENTED

On Oct. 29 a charter was presented to a new club at Trinity, Klein. This club is known as "Trinity Y'LL Club LLL." The new club is the second LLL club at this congregation.

RALLY IN AUSTIN

Some 90 leaguers attended the Nov. 18 Fall Rally of the Capitol Zone at Redeemer. Dr. Dale A. Meyer was the speaker and motivator.

LLL news should be sent to:

Irene Teinert
Information Coord.
1501 Barbara St.
Austin, TX 78757





Beginning with God

In our lives there are many little beginnings and endings. We also experience some disastrous beginnings and endings. It is often during this time of year that we pause to focus on those situations and their meaning for us.

New Year's resolutions are beginnings. They prime us for the hoped for improvement of our station, but they are only little beginnings. The loss of a fingernail because it broke off into the quick or was hit with a hammer is just a small ending on the scale of things.

The beginnings and endings that loom big in our lives are also those which we use as demarcations of where our life has gone and where it will be going.

The birth of a first child or the death of a parent mark irreversible change for each of us. We know "it" will never be the same again. We rejoice or mourn, celebrate or grieve and then adapt.

"Our life under God is just the same" you may think, some beginnings and endings, some big, some small. But there is good news. Our life under God is vastly different.

The beginning we have in holy baptism impacts our daily life. Daily we come forth as new creatures, prepared and enabled to live as God's children. We have the promise that the life we live today under God, redeemed by Jesus' blood, will never have an ending. As Christians we

are given a most significant beginning and we see no ending.

With the reassurance given in baptism and in the resurrection, a new beginning and no ending, you and I are empowered to venture into the starts and stops of everyday living with a new and undaunted zest. We can even approach the new year with renewed zeal because we can look the future in the eye and see there the eyes of Jesus Christ, the smile of His face, the warmth of His everlasting arms.

A blessed new year to all.

*Rev. Ralph Hobratschk
Counselor*



Prayers for Projects

HOPE, LUBBOCK

Heavenly Father, You have provided a pastor and members for this mission congregation who are becoming more securely anchored in Christ through Bible study and worship and are willing to cast their nets to bring others to Christ. We pray for Your continued blessing on their mission commitment and on our mites that have provided some furnishings for their church facility. In Christ's name, Amen.

CALL TO CONVENTION

Texas District of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League will meet in convention June 19-22, 1990, in Austin, Texas.



LOVE

The Capitol Zone of the Texas District LWML is looking for the women of the Texas District to beautify God's creation as we "Blossom With Love."

All events will take place at the convention headquarters: The Marriott-Capitol Hotel in downtown Austin.

The keynote speaker will be Joyce Landorf Heatherly, noted author and pub-

lic speaker.

The convention registration fee is \$12. Watch for future publications and mailings with information on housing registration, Christian Growth registration and meal tickets.

Plan now to be in Austin, Texas, Tuesday through Friday, June 19-22, 1990.

TEXAS MITE PROJECTS UPDATE

1988-90 district goal	\$200,000	
Received November	\$8,837	
Received to date	\$157,180	
Still needed	\$42,820	
PROJECT	PAID	BALANCE
Scholarships for Seminarians	\$9,000	\$3,000
La Santisima Trinidad Church, Matamoros, Mexico	3,000	7,000
Texas Prison Ministry	1,000	1,000
Lutheran Bible Translators, Sierra Leone	2,500	2,500
LSST Pregnancy Services	5,000	5,000
Lutheran Association of Missionaries and Pilots	1,500	-0-
Concordia College, Austin	5,000	5,000
St. John Lutheran Church, Corpus Christi	11,250	6,750
Seamen's Center, Corpus Christi	12,000	-0-
University of Texas, Arlington, Lutheran Student Center	10,000	5,000
Lutheran Outdoors Ministry of Texas	15,000	-0-
Hope Lutheran Church, Lubbock	300	-0-
Mission Projects Goal		\$113,300
Paid-to-date		\$78,050
Sent to International LWML		\$2,333
To International to-date		\$11,692

Send ALL contributions to Eudoris Weiser, Route 1, Box 46, Copperas Cove, 76522. MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO TEXAS DISTRICT LWML.

Blossom with love for special needs

The 1990 mission service ingathering will culminate with a dedication at the Texas District convention in Austin.

Each society is challenged to select at least one special needs project for its own community and at least one Lutheran World Relief project.

Special needs suggestions include assistance for unwed mothers, abused women and children, homeless, hungry, elderly, mentally ill; prison ministry kits; hospice services for terminally ill; lap robes for nursing homes; volunteer at hospitals, nursing homes, rehabilitation facilities.

Lutheran World Relief needs light- to medium-weight clothing for men and children; sweaters of all kinds for men, women and children; school uniforms; pieces of fabric; blankets and quilts; layettes; school, health and sewing kits; and soap.

Plan to distribute your own special needs items. Collect LWR items and send them during the annual drive.

It is important that records are kept of all projects until May 1990, including volunteer hours. Societies are to report to zone mission service chairman, and

LWML news

LWML news should be sent to Shirley Baumgartner, LWML District Editor, 5018 Risada, San Antonio, TX 78233.

zones should report to district mission service chairman.

For more information write Helen Mitschke, 10718 Timbergrove, Corpus Christi 78410.



Attention, songwriters

Songwriters are being sought by the 50th Anniversary Committee to submit entries for use at the 1991 International LWML Convention June 26-30 in Cleveland, Ohio. The song/hymn should reflect the convention theme: "Celebrate the Jubilee! Glorify His Name!"

It can be: 1) new words to new music; 2) new words to existing music (if using existing music, copyright approval must be obtained); 3) traditional hymnody, spiritual song, or contemporary style; 4) no more than five verses may be submitted.

The committee is also asking for entries for an official LWML song/hymn to add to those already in use, and to be introduced at the 1991 convention. These entries should reflect the league's mission statement (found on the back page of the *Quarterly*) focusing on the work and vision of the organization.

The same criteria as listed above applies to

these entries. Deadline for all entries is April 1, 1990. Send them to Mary Helen Kelly, 64-619 Fairway Drive, Palm Desert, CA 92260. Please include your name, address, phone number and congregation.

Here and there around the district

Women of the two LWML societies of Zion in Dallas participated in both services on LWML Sunday this year. Worship was enhanced by special music provided by women instrumentalists and women of the senior choir.

Jan Allman, president of the day group, played the organ for both services.

LWML literature and mite boxes were distributed, and information about LWML was shared after each service. This group of servants also furnished the doughnuts for the Sunday school adult classes coffee time.

BE ALL
YOU CAN BE
AS A
SERVANT



For information on how to improve society programs and plan inspirational devotions, come to the Servanthood workshop in your area.

• JANUARY 27—CAMP ZEPHYR in Mathis for the Coastal Bend, Rio Grande and South Alamo zones.

Don't forget to bring a small decorated towel for a prayer-partner exchange.

• FEBRUARY 16-17—ANGELINA JR. COLLEGE in Lufkin for the East Texas, New Horizon, Channel and Golden Triangle Zones.



LWML SUNDAY—Virginia Giese, left, explains the Mount Calvary, San Antonio, bulletin board display to LWML President Barbara Rablee. The display portrays the work of the LWML for all the church members.



A familiar journey

While the children of Israel were traveling through the wilderness on their way to the Promised Land, God told Moses to instruct them, "Teach these things diligently unto your children."

God didn't want them to forget everything that had happened to them while they were traveling this hard, yet blessed road . . . as they were becoming that nation from whom the Messiah should come. To this day, many Jews continue to tell these things to their children since they are still waiting for their messiah to come.

We have no divine command to tell the story of the Passion of Jesus during Lent. But there is good reason. The four Gospels have a total of 89 chapters: fully 30 of them tell the story of the last days of Jesus—from when He tells them that they will now go to Jerusalem and all things will be brought to pass . . . on to the end of His ministry here on earth.

If these days are important enough to God that by inspiration He caused one-third of the Gospels to be written about them, then I don't think we are out of place to devote a full season every year to the review of this story.

We humans are prone to the observance of days and times and seasons. How did Lent begin? No one knows, but can't you just imagine how during the next spring some Christian somewhere said, "You know, it was just about a year ago that

Jesus was crucified . . . and, praise God, it was just about a year ago that He rose from the dead!"

No, the first Christian festival was not Christmas . . . but Easter!

But, why Easter? Paul puts it beautifully in the resurrection chapter (1 Corinthians 15): If Christ be not raised, your faith is vain . . . if Christ be not raised, we are still in our sins and we have no hope . . . we are of all men most miserable . . . if Christ be not raised, we have become false witnesses . . . let's close our churches and go home and do the best we can. But now then *is* Christ raised from the dead and He has become the first-fruits of all those that believe! And he tells us that because He lives, we shall live also!

So that's why we observe Lent . . . because the forgiveness that we have through faith in the suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus makes all the difference in the world . . . because Lent offers a proper preparation for Easter as we follow Jesus on His Way of Sorrows.

No, we can't trace the actual history of Lent. But we know that in early observances there were 40 hours . . . from the time of Jesus' death about 3 p.m. Friday until the time of His resurrection at about 7 a.m. Sunday. From there it went to a few days . . . then a week . . . and now for the last number of centuries to the seven-week observance that we are fa-



Rev. Louis Pabor

miliar with.

For most of us, the primary features of Lent are worship, repentance and meditation. But for others there has also been fasting, alms-giving and many other observances and customs. Whoever does any of these things should do them only for the purpose of subduing the flesh as we remember the Passion of the Lord Jesus and its meaning.

Many of us have nostalgic memories. I remember how during late winter every year my Mom and Dad, older brothers and I would put on our darker clothing and walk the three blocks to our little church. We'd quietly take our place inside the church with the little group of people who we knew so well. There was something about the whole thing that would cause a hush. Then came the familiar hymns . . . the pastor intoning the Passion Story as compiled from the four Gospels . . . reciting a story that became more and more familiar as the years went by. I can remember him shouting, "Crucify Him" as though we were there.

I sort of miss that story now, when and if it is not used. Lenten services were more predictable then.

They followed practically the same pattern, with variations only in trying to pick a new theme: "What shall I do with Jesus?" . . . "The seven words of Jesus" . . . "Places of the Passion" . . .

Today we have more freedom in our Lenten presentations . . . dialogues, dramatizations, audiovisuals . . . and all this is good. The bottom line is that we tell the story.

No rule says that we must go to Lenten services . . . or even have Lent. But if it is worthwhile to observe this season, then I especially encourage our professionals to be faithful and set an example so that children and families and everyone might be moved to join in following Him on that most amazing Way of Sorrows.

We recognize that the ultimate objective is not just the observance of a season. But through this season, with its repentance, meditation and worship, we can experience a deepening of our faith and appreciation for the tremendous things Jesus has done for us.

Have a blessed Lenten season . . . from the Upper Room . . . to the Garden . . . to the courtyard . . . to the Mount and the grave . . . and finally to the open tomb! "O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, have mercy upon us . . . and grant us thy peace." Alleluia . . . He is risen!

Bring to church

Bring with you to church a holy reverence for both God and His house.

Loving those who know no love

by Pastor Jerry
Kieschnick, Executive
Director, Lutheran
Foundation of Texas

Last night I finished reading *Sometimes God Has A Kid's Face*, by Bruce Ritter, a Christian clergyman who developed the Covenant House as a home for homeless young people. As I read, I was reminded over and over again how truly blessed most of the people in our country really are, yet how much work we, as Christian people, still have to do.

The book tells of 10 youngsters, all under 16 years of age, who had been living as a "family" in an abandoned building on the Lower East Side of Manhattan, N.Y. They knocked on Ritter's door at 2 a.m. one snowy night in February 1969. Ritter took them in, fed them, gave them a place to sleep and, unsuccessfully, attempted to find a place for them to live.

He writes: "I remember another scruffy kid they brought to me. They said 'Bruce, this is Ernie. He's 12. We found him sleeping in a garbage can.' And then they looked at me. What could I do? What could anybody do? What would you have done? You would have taken him in, of course. I didn't do anything special."

It's those words, "What would you have done? You would have taken him in, of course," that haunt me.

Our family is quite comfortable and, on good days, rather content with our responsibilities and with the

quality of our lives. The thought that there are many people, especially many children who have no place to live, who have no food to eat, who have no apparent reason for living, who have no one to love and who have no one who seems to love them is an upsetting thought! It disturbs my comfortable Christianity! It gnaws at my conscience! It causes great distress!

The temptation is to shrug the shoulders and blow it all off, dismissing my sense of responsibility with the supposition that these children are not my problem. Where are their parents? Where are their grandparents? I don't know. It really doesn't seem to matter.

What matters is that there are people in our world, lots of people, who know no love.

What matters is God's Word that says, "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

What matters are the other words of Jesus, "Inasmuch as ye have done this unto the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto Me." That's the basis of the title of this book, *Sometimes God Has A Kid's Face*.

It would be easy to say that my life is going to take on a new dimension of concern and love for those who know no love. I hope that

will be true.

But I know that the routines, the challenges, the pressures, the responsibilities my life has already assumed will turn my head toward the matters closer at hand. Yet, I have resolved to help, as best I can—in ways yet to be discovered—to bring some love to those who know no love.

All the talking, all the writing, all the working on the subjects of Christian stewardship, estate planning and charitable giving are empty and meaningless until seen in the context of their purpose, which is to bring light to those in darkness, faith to those in unbelief, hope to those in de-



Pastor Jerry Kieschnick

spair, love to those who know no love.

That, my dear Christian friends, is the exciting and challenging ministry of the Lutheran Foundation of Texas! We have our work cut out for us! We cherish your support and invite your partnership!

Prayer power seminars

Do Lutherans need help and encouragement in their prayer lives?

A prayer seminar, sponsored by the Texas District Board of Parish Services, was held Nov. 18 at St. John, Wharton. The presenter was Rev. Schiefelbein of Our Savior, Corpus Christi.

Forty-four church workers and laypeople attended the seminar. An evaluation completed by participants listed these things they found helpful in their prayer lives:

- How to pray.
- The role of the congregation in uplifting the pastor.
- The vision of effective prayer.
- Increasing prayer

within the family.

- Help the church become a church that reaches out and not only is concerned about itself.
 - Emphasis on the value of prayer.
 - Letting me know that I am not alone in my lack of prayer knowledge.
 - We don't walk by sight but by faith.
 - To find out that I personally need a closer walk with God through prayer.
 - To learn more about praying for the needs of others.
 - Made me aware of my need to establish personal prayer time.
- Parish services is planning other prayer seminars in the district.



Service links will benefit the entire church

by Rev. Martin Doering,
Consultant for Lutheran
Service Ministry

Picture two scenes, not too far apart. In the first scene, a member enters a pastor's office and explains a need: The home needs cleaning and remodeling, but there doesn't seem to be money or laborers available.

In a second scene, a couple stare at each other. They have some time on their hands, they want to be productive, they want to do something for someone, but they don't know what to do or who to turn to for direction.

In situations like these, a linking system is needed so a care-giver can minister to a person with needs, and the care-receiver can provide an outlet for frustrated compassion.

A group of women and men in the Texas District have taken steps toward establishing care-links in a system they hope can be duplicated in hundreds of communities.

Through the efforts of Keith Loomans in the district office and Rev. Earl Bleke, pastor of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Austin, funding grants have been secured from Lutheran World Relief and the Wheat Ridge Foundation.

Darwin Casler, a retired CPA and professor of business administration, tells about his experience:

Wanting to help somehow, he visited the Texas District office and asked

how he could be put to work serving the church. Neither ready possibilities nor an accessible structure were available for him to "plug in" his talents to an appropriate situation. But he was asked to be part of the care-link group, which began to call itself Lutheran Service Ministry.

Casler was appointed to serve on the council that wrote the Lutheran Service Ministry's mission statement: "People experience Christ through the service of His followers."

The group recognizes the Lord's wisdom in the ministry of both care-receiver and care-giver.

"That's how people grow in faith," explained Rev. Walt Waiser, a pastor from Peace, Hurst. "They use their skills to serve others, and are served by being able to give of themselves."

Waiser has been on several service projects with other congregation members, who have even traveled to Honduras to give of themselves. On those journeys, it was hard to determine who benefited most: The Hondurans who were helped or the Texans whose faith grew through serving.

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod sponsors several Servant Events each year. This year, many groups of youth and adults will come to Texas to serve. Claire Jackson, one Servant Event coordinator, is a deaconess in San Antonio and a member of the

Lutheran Service Ministry Council.

"The care-links of Lutheran Service Ministry will be similar," she explained, "but with some significant differences. The service projects might be more specific in terms of required skills, might include senior citizens as well as youth or college-age students, and will not necessarily be limited to a summer time-frame."

The project includes two goals, notes Rev. Tim Stahlke, pastor of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, McAllen, and a secretary of the council. The first goal is motivational: People will grow in the love of Christ as they are involved in caring experiences as part of their ongoing faith growth.

The second goal is programmatic: A dynamic process is established whereby individuals or groups of the The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod are involved in responding to human needs.

Jan Thomson, a social worker with Trinity Lutheran Church in Dallas, expressed the need to alert potential servants to the possibilities. Working with volunteers first means that volunteers are located and recruited.

Another crucial need is time, emphasized Rev. Michael King of Jesus Lutheran Church of the Deaf in Austin. It will take a great deal of time and effort to coordinate such activities.

Lori Bachmann, the other district staff person working with the council,

shared her experiences in planning and coordinating some of the Servant Events scheduled for Texas.

In this project the committee is formulating a job description for a project director who can provide the hours needed to help Lutheran Service Ministry succeed in establishing the care-links.

The initial tasks of the Lutheran Service Ministry Council involve discovering the care-giving models already being used and identifying the individuals or agencies to use as contact bases.

If you would like more information, please contact Keith Loomans at the Texas District Office, (512) 926-4272.

Send your news to Bill

Send your news releases, photos, newsletters and bulletins for the LUTHERAN WITNESS to:

Bill Wagner, Editor
7900 U.S. 290 East
Austin, TX 78724

About photos: color photos are OK if the contrast is good. Black and white photos are best.

Bible twos

TWO COMMANDMENTS: Love to God and love to man (Matt. 22:40).

TWO THRONES: The highest heaven and the lowest heart (Is. 57:15).

YOUTH

Our bright kids . . .

Peter Landrey, **Our Redeemer, Irving**, graduated from the UTA School of Liberal Arts on Dec. 16, 1989.

Congratulations to Susan Stoffregen of **Grace, Denison**, who graduated from Texas Women's University School of Physical Therapy Dec. 16, 1989.

Angela Mash, **St. Paul, Fort Worth**, was recently elected Homecoming Queen at Polytechnic High School.

The "God and Me" award through the Cub Scouts of America was awarded to Jeffrey Brasier, **Our Savior, Rockwall**.

Congratulations to Amy Williamson, **Hope, Austin**, on being selected to represent Reagan High School at a statewide leadership seminar put on by the Hugh O'Brian Youth Foundation.

John Prather, son of Mike and Patricia Prather and member at Redeemer, **Austin**, received the UT 1989 Mile Wacker Award in November. The Wacker Award is given to students

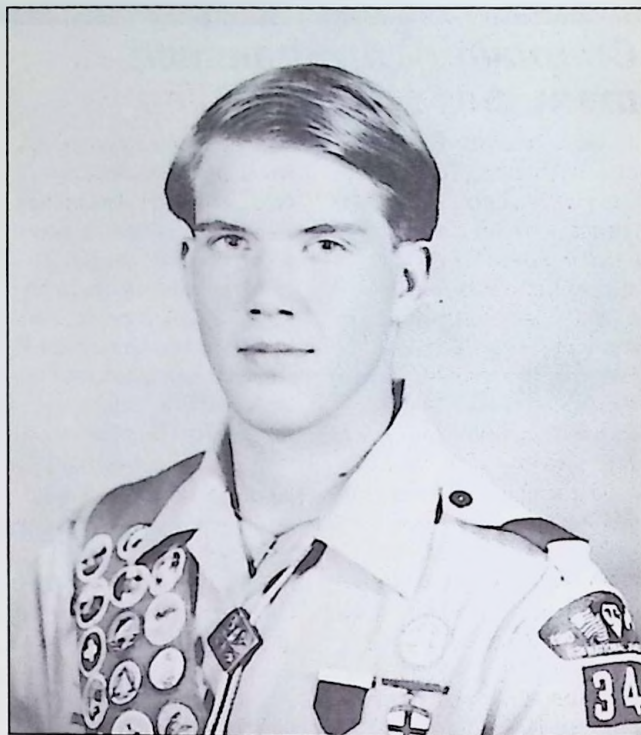
who exemplify achievement in the face of adversity. Prather's struggle with cancer did not keep him from maintaining high grades while being a dedicated member of the Longhorn baseball team.

Congratulations to Kristie Kulow for winning Grand Champion Rabbit at the Fort Bend County Fair and to Jason Knesek for his recent induction into the National Honors Society at Clements High School. Both Kristie and Jason are members at **Faith, Sugar Land**.

Congratulations to Kristi Hencye, **Trinity, Corpus Christi**, who was accepted into the Outstanding High School Students of America.

Phil Duhon, **Trinity, Tyler**, was named a commended student in the 1990 National Merit Scholarship program.

Lori Stubbs, a seventh grader from **Trinity, Livingston**, qualified to participate in Duke University's talent identification program for mathematically and verbally brilliant students.



Loren McKinley Long—Eagle Scout

Soar like an eagle

Loren McKinley Long earned the Eagle Scout award, which was presented at his Eagle Court of Honor, held Nov. 18, 1989, at **Zion, Fort Worth**.

As a service project, Long provided leadership for several tasks that benefited Zion's church and school. These projects included the installation of smoke detectors throughout the facilities, removal of tree limbs around the school's flagpole, application of water sealant on the playground equipment and the construction of a covered bench for the teachers during recess.

Long graduated from Zion Lutheran School and is the first son of Zion to attain the Eagle rank. He is currently a senior in the

Magnet Program at Dunbar High School, where he serves as Student Council president, Debate Club president and vice president of the Fort Worth United High School Council. Long is also co-captain of the varsity soccer team at Dunbar.

Long, the son of Wilburn and Mary Ann Long, hopes to attend the U.S. Military Academy at West Point.



Handle with Care

The Youth Committee of the Texas District of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod invites YOUTH to a statewide gathering

Glorybound VII:

Handle with Care

Thanksgiving Weekend, 1990, in Austin

Look for posters & details in the mail



Chaplaincy program serves many people at McAllen

As the result of an overture from the M.D. Anderson Hospital and Tumor Institute, the Rio Grande Cancer Treatment Center in McAllen began in 1972. Its purpose was to provide services to cancer patients who live along the Texas-Mexico border. Actual occupancy occurred in 1977, with the latest equipment available for Valley residents.

Originally designed to handle an average of 10,000 patient visits per year, the center now handles about 14,000 visits every year. Obviously, the demands on the facility showed the need for more space and equipment to meet the ever-increasing number of cancer patients.

The Hospital Corporation of America donated 1.3 acres next to the McAllen facility. In 1984 groundbreaking took place for a building twice the size of the original.

A name change for the center was prompted by the death of Vannie E. Cook Jr. One of the strongest supporters of the Foundation and the center since

its inception, Vannie Cook was chairman of the Rio Grande Cancer Treatment Board at the time of his death in 1988.

Like the M.D. Anderson Hospital, after which it was modeled, the Vannie Cook Center recognized the importance of a chaplaincy program to provide a strong spiritual ministry to its patients. Instrumental in this effort was Rev. Edward J. Mahnke, head chaplain at M.D. Anderson.

A chaplain was employed on a part-time basis and a volunteer program was started. At first, volunteers were clergy who ministered half a day each week. Later, laypeople took over this area of ministry. In 1987 Rev. Ernesto Garcia was named full-time chaplain at the center.

Garcia or a volunteer sees the patients daily, trying to be supportive, positive and spiritually uplifting. Garcia also calls on patients when they are interned in area hospitals, when they have returned home or when they are confined to nursing homes.

Patients suffer from

more than 100 types of cancer. "Some come to the center with their cancer already at a very advanced stage and with very little hope of recovery," says Garcia. "We spend quite a bit of time with them, encouraging and praying for them. At times we spend moments of silence, just holding their hand. Touch comes to be a very strong therapy. With others whose cancer has been found early, we visit and thank God for their good fortune."

"Chaplaincy experiences aren't always pleasant, but they are rewarding," says Garcia. "There is, for instance, the case of Homer, a 12-year-old boy who underwent chemotherapy. He spent some very nauseating days after each treatment, then underwent radiation therapy five times a week for seven weeks. Homer seemed to be coming along."

"He always kept his courage up; had a good outlook—then he had a relapse. We talked about death, heaven and eternal life. He knew Jesus as his Savior and that comforted him. He passed away four months after the doctors had told his parents there was no more effort that could be made for him, but he died a Christian."

"You can go the other way. There is the case of Ann, in her 60s, who suffered a mastectomy, underwent radiation therapy and everything went well for her. Ann now serves as a chaplaincy volunteer and a CanSurmount volunteer, enjoying life and sharing

her faith and experiences in support of others.

"Many think of our setting as being one of gloom and doom, but in reality it is one where much joy, laughter, encouragement and sociability are experienced—where much support is given, where courage and strength are acquired, and where faith is shared."

In addition to overseeing the chaplaincy volunteer program, Garcia supports two other programs: Dialogue and CanSurmount. Dialogue allows patients and families to gather for a topic presentation and sharing of questions and concerns.

CanSurmount uses those who have survived cancer. They visit homes and hospitals, telling those who are in the process of treatment that, "You too Can-Surmount."

Along with these programs, Garcia participates in the hospice program, which is designed to support patients whose physicians have indicated they have less than six months to live. Garcia observes, "Some of my most satisfying moments have been spent with patients such as these. They know their time is limited, that they will soon depart, but they are encouraged because their faith assures them that they are going to be with their Savior soon."

The ministry of Garcia and his volunteers is to share Christ's love and to impart to these patients the message that in Christ there is hope for this life and for eternity.



Chaplain Ernesto Garcia and chaplaincy volunteers visit with cancer patients.

HAPPENINGS IN TEXAS

People, places and events

Congratulations to Paul and Millie Spikes, **Our Redeemer, Irving**, who celebrated 45 years of marriage Dec. 12, 1989.

The Lord has also blessed Mr. and Mrs. Lonnie Meyer and Mr. and Mrs. Hubert Burell, **Trinity, Uvalde**, who both celebrated 50th wedding anniversaries this past December.

Members of **Gethsemane, Houston**, Charles and Lorraine Motl, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary Jan. 14.

"Free to Serve!" **St. Paul, Wichita Falls**, chose this theme to celebrate the 75th anniversary of its parochial school. Congratulations to St. Paul's in reaching out to several generations as members celebrate their diamond anniversary!

Rejoice with Rudolph and Ruby Preece, **Redeemer, Austin**, who celebrated their 63rd wedding anniversary Dec. 1, 1989.

Special thanks to God was given for two couples at **St. Paul, Fort Worth**, George and Lorena Buschmaum and John and Ellyn Jarvis, who both recently marked 47 years of Christian marriage.

Congratulations to **Rev. Robert L. Hartfield**, chaplain in the U.S. Armed Forces, who will receive the Bronze St. Martin of Tours Medal at the Spring Regional Pastoral Conference. Hartfield's brother, **Rev. Paul Hartfield**, fourth

vice president of the Texas District, will present the award.

On Nov. 26, 1989, **Gethsemane, Houston**, was featured on *Morning Devotions* on Channel 13. Proclaiming the Gospel to the Houston-area viewers were both pastors, the choir, Judy Hudson on the piano, and Maria Keeling and Steve Ford singing solos.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Milton Simon, who celebrated their 56th anniversary, and to Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Borman, who celebrated their 43rd anniversary in December. Both couples are members of **Hope, Austin**.

Marty and Pat Zanotti, **Faith, Houston**, gave praise and thanks to God on Dec. 17 for their 50 years of blessed marriage.

Family and friends celebrated the 50th wedding anniversary of Edwin and Zena Brandl on Oct. 1, 1989. The Brandls are faithful members at **Christ, Houston**.

Charter members of **St. Mark, Conroe**, gathered at Conroe City Hall with their founding pastor, Rev. Ronald Reinhardt, on Jan. 12, 1959. St. Mark held special services last month to praise the Lord for 30 years of service.

Thanks be to God for faithful couples joined in Christian marriage. **St. Mark, Conroe**, recognized three such couples in November: Ed and Doloras Schmidt—47 years; Jack and Cleo Nelso—50 years;

and John and Mrytle Wetts—65 years.

Congratulations to members of Mount Calvary Lutheran Ladies Society, **Mount Calvary, Ramondville**, on their selection as ARA Living Centers Group Volunteer of the Year from the Valley Region. Each month these faithful volunteers present a devotional program at Retama Manor, complete with the singing of many well-known hymns. Children sometimes accompany their mothers—the elderly residents enjoy visiting with the children.

Three couples from **Trinity, Sealy**, celebrated special wedding anniversaries in December: W.R. and Dolores Hildebrandt—61st; Herbert and Mabel Schroeter—55th; and Eddie and Shirley Svinky—45th.

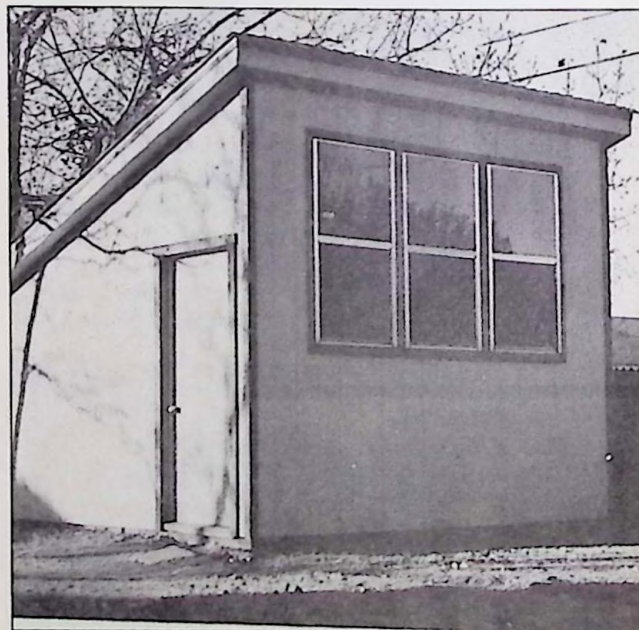
Congratulations to Beth Bielefeldt, church organist and member at **Immanuel,**

San Antonio, for receiving a master of social work degree Dec. 9 from Our Lady of the Lake University.

Loretta Patschke, of **Trinity, Taylor**, was presented the Professional Excellence Award from the Texas Society of Associate Executives. Patschke is the director of governmental affairs for the Texas Society of Certified Public Accountants, a volunteer organization with more than 30,000 members.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Richard Boriacks of **St. Michael, Houston**, who celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary Dec. 27.

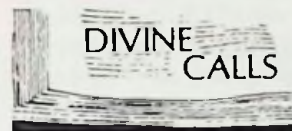
The Lord has blessed Mr. and Mrs. Harry Col-dewey of **Grace, Brownwood**, with 55 years of holy matrimony. They celebrated their anniversary Dec. 26.



ZION, PAMPA—Members really know how to honor their pastor, Rev. Art Hill. Congregation members built this art studio at the parsonage for Hill's wife, Kim. The entire project was a surprise to her—work was done while the Hills were on vacation.



DIME BOX—Members of Trinity, Dime Box, are indeed happy to have a resident pastor once again. Since the death of Rev. John J. Socha, the congregation has been served by Rev. Ewald Recks, pastor emeritus of Manheim. Rev. Jason Menagh was installed Sunday, Aug. 20, 1989. Pictured from left are Rev. Ewald Recks (vacancy pastor and speaker at the service), Rev. T. Michalk, Rev. Rolf Larson, Rev. Dennis Karius, Rev. Robert Koenig, Rev. Brian Sullivan (circuit counselor), Rev. Jason Menagh, Rev. Wayne Schueler, Rev. Robert Boyce, Rev. O.H. Kretzmann and Rev. Roger Holopp.



ZION, PASADENA—Rev. David L. Sawhill was installed Sept. 17, 1989, as associate pastor at Zion, Pasadena. Sawhill was born in Rochester, Minn., into a pastor's family. Before coming to Zion, he served parishes in Missouri, Iowa, Minnesota and Nebraska. Sawhill and his wife, Julie, have two daughters, Becky and Jenny. Pictured front center. Rev. David Sawhill; also pictured, from left: Revs. Otto Naumann, Alfred Scholz, Louis Konz, Eugene Heckmann and Gerhard Dobbertuhl.



TRINITY INSTALLATION—Rev. Andrew Simcak Jr. was installed at Trinity, Shamrock, and Trinity, Childress, on Sept. 24, 1989. From left: Revs. Donald Gerlach, Robert Kuhlmann (circuit counselor), Art Hill, Andrew Simcak, Daniel Jones, Gerald Petsch. Simcak's installation marks a homecoming of sorts: before his recent service in Connecticut, Simcak had served congregations in Texas for 28 years.



Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Forsh, members at St. John, Lincoln, for 41 years, celebrated their 63rd wedding anniversary on Oct. 31, 1989.



Understanding the 'baby boomer' generation

by Bill Siegrist,
Director of Development,
Church Extension Fund

Recently my wife and I were invited to a neighborhood dinner. When we arrived, there were 14 couples (everyone had left their children with babysitters) ranging in age from mid-20s to early 40s. Since Pam and I are "30 something," actually mid-30s, we fit right in with the group.

During the evening we met most of the couples. After we got home that night, we talked about how much we had enjoyed the evening and about the similarities of the group. One interesting similarity was that more than half the men were employed in a computer-related job.

William Shakespeare once said, "Know your audience." As we in the church consider our ministry to the "baby boomer" generation, it is vital to know our audience. What are some of the factors or common similarities of this growing segment in our society?

The "baby boomers" were born between 1947 and 1964, which puts them in the age range of 26 to 43. They make up close to 50 percent of our adult population. This group of 76 million people will always dominate our social and economic life simply because it will always be the largest segment in our society. There probably will never again be a generation of Americans this numerous.

Other similarities . . . 70 percent of "baby boomer" wives work outside the home; the national overall average is 50 percent. They are the best educated group—more than 25 percent are college graduates.

They want a more "balanced" lifestyle. They have heard their parents say, "When I retire . . ." but unfortunately they have seen their dads die too young. In my own case, when I was 32, my father died. He was 57.

Why are the "baby boomers" willing to volunteer their time? Many of them are under-employed! Unfortunately, millions of "baby boomers" have evaluated the Christian church and are now exploring other options: New Age . . . Mormons. These cults address their unmet needs, like lack of fulfillment and meaningful, relevant involvement. Since one out of five of these households change location yearly, their biggest need is significant relationships with other people.

Your Texas District Church Extension Fund, in its mission statement, affirms its commitment to the church, ". . . to make funds available in support of the Great Commission (Matthew 28) through The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod."

As a ministry of our church, CEF seeks to be aware of its various "audiences" and also recognizes their specific needs. These 76 million "baby boomers"



Bill Siegrist

have been characterized as being, "on a journey looking for help."

Thirty years from now our neighborhood group will probably come together for mortgage-burning parties. Hopefully, during the coming years, we as a church will be committed to, "Knowing our audience," recognizing their needs, equipping them for service and providing meaningful involvement.

Texas District
Church Extension Fund
Bill Siegrist
7900 U.S. 290 East
Austin, TX 78724
(512) 926-4272

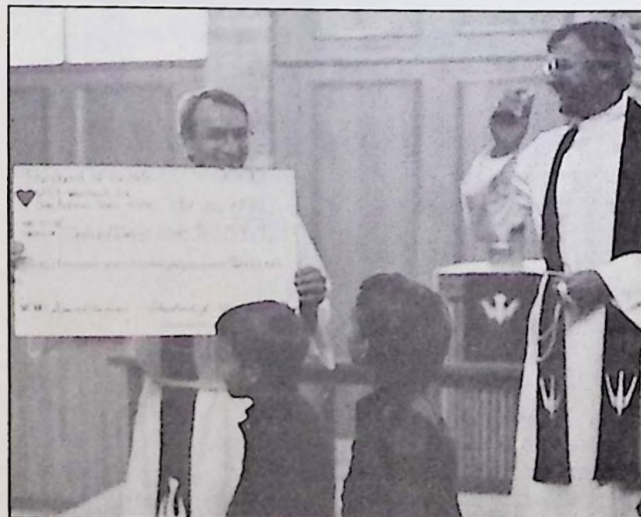
The flock celebrates

Shepherd of the Hills, San Antonio, celebrated its 20th anniversary Oct. 22, 1989. In one of his last official acts as president of the Texas District, Dr. Glenn O'Shoney preached at the service.

During the service, the children of the congregation presented O'Shoney with a special mission gift of \$2,749, representing the last gift of a year-long project that collected more than \$8,000 for special mission projects.

Two emotional highlights of the service included: 1—the dedication of a new stained glass window in memory of former member Gordon Goodpaster, and 2—the dedication of a new set of handbells in memory of former members Joyce Moore and Joe Brown.

The entire service centered around the theme: "Blessings Then, Now and Always!"



Some of the children who helped collect the congregation's special mission offering at Shepherd of the Hills, San Antonio, present the gift to former Texas District President Glenn O'Shoney on Oct. 22, 1989.



Open your doors of friendship

Take a look at your liturgical calendar. What special day is next Sunday? Is it the umpteenth Sunday after . . . ?

Well, it could very well be "Friendship Sunday." This is definitely not a high feast day on the liturgical calendar, but it is a wonderful way to open the doors of God's church to our unchurched friends.

On Oct. 22, 1989, Concordia, San Antonio, was blessed to share Christ's Gospel with more than 200 visiting friends! The day was publicized two months in advance in Sunday announcements and bulletin inserts.

Members were encouraged and taught how to be casual, yet intentional, evangelists by identifying some of their closest unchurched friends. The next move was to actually invite a friend (or several) to come with them to worship on "Friendship Sunday."

The week before Friendship Sunday, a banner was placed over the street next to the church; phone calls were made to offer rides; and ads were run in local papers.

On the actual day, the friends came pouring in from all directions. The church grounds were decorated with balloons and banners welcoming the new friends. Members, wearing "WELCOME" sashes and name tags, walked around the parking lot and the church to answer questions and provide directions.

In Bible class, coffee,

tea, doughnut holes and breakfast tacos were served.

During the service, visitors were asked to fill out a brief information card with their address and the name of the friend who invited them to church.

The friends were later asked to bring these cards forward while the congregation sang some hymns. At this time, the "friendship visitors" were given a

gift packet from Concordia: two tapes of sermons, a book written by Dr. Guido Merkens, a statement of Lutheran beliefs, a "Friendship Sunday" lapel pin, information on adult instructional classes and a variety of information about the church.

After "Friendship Sunday" the real work began—follow up. Each visitor received a letter and many received personal calls from

the pastors. The definite prospects were then contacted by laypeople from the congregation's mission board. The church members who extended the initial invitations were also encouraged to maintain contact.

"Friendship Sunday"—casual evangelism. A simple invitation to unchurched friends is proclaiming God's Word. God gives the growth; we are the laborers called to proclaim Christ and share the same gifts He has first given to us.



FRIENDSHIP SUNDAY—The new friends of Concordia, San Antonio, gather for Bible study, fellowship and refreshments on Oct. 22, 1989.



A TEXAS WELCOME was given to the many visitors at Concordia on Friendship Sunday. Here the visitors come forward to receive their special gifts.

CONCORDIA

A college quiz: Can you get 100?

Knowing the right answers to college financial assistance questions can help young people and their parents receive valuable help with college expenses.

True or False: State colleges are always cheaper than church-related colleges.

Answer: False. Although state-supported colleges may have lower tuitions because they use tax dollars, church-related colleges like Concordia usually offer more financial assistance.

For example, Concordia is able to award scholarships to outstanding students because of scholarship endowments established by individuals and families who support Christ-centered higher education for tomorrow's leaders.

True or False: Not many students actually qualify for financial assistance.

Answer: False. Last year about 70 percent of Concordia's students received financial assistance. Family income is only one of the factors taken into account in awarding financial assistance.

True or False: There are no guarantees when it comes to financial assistance.

Answer: False. When a student is admitted to Concordia in good standing as a full-time, degree-seeking student, and has all financial-assistance paperwork completed and on file by July 1 before fall enrollment, Concordia guaran-

tees to meet 100 percent of documented financial need through a combination of grants, scholarships, college work-study and low-interest loans.

The purpose of financial assistance is to help eliminate cost as a factor when young people make college decisions. Every year, some freshmen choose to attend state or community colleges because they believe Concordia is too expensive.

By taking advantage of financial assistance, our youth can attend Concordia at a cost comparable to that of public institutions.

To receive information about financial assistance at Concordia, call the admissions office toll-free at 1-800-735-3232. Now is the time to begin the financial assistance application process for fall 1990.

A very good year!

The year 1976 was exceptionally productive for Concordia Lutheran College of Texas and the Texas District: 14 of the 1976 associate of arts graduates later completed seminary studies and 10 of those are presently serving Texas congregations.

The class of '76 included: Dennis Bragdon, Mount Calvary, LaGrange; Glenn Budewig, Redeemer, Beaumont; Karl Galik, Peace, Hurst; Randall Haedge, Bethel, Dallas; Douglas Kabell, Trinity, Iowa Park; Stewart Marshall, Christ, Jacksonville; Paul Donald Neumann, Zion, Dallas; Billy Sager, Faith, Woodville; Charles Snow, Beautiful Savior, Houston; and Thomas Waynick, King of Kings, Round Rock.

These four members of the class serve in other states: Randy Bolt, Emanuel, Milbank, S.D.; Allen Doering, Faith, Craig, Colo.; Daniel Jones, St. Paul, Potter, Neb.; and Ricky Mensing, Good Shepherd, Midwest City, Okla.

Throughout its 64-year history, Concordia of Texas has prepared many young men for seminary studies. About 35 percent of Texas pastors are graduates of the high school, junior college or four year college. However, few Concordia graduating classes have returned so many for service in Texas congregations.

Remember this

There is always free cheese in a mousetrap.



LIVING PRAISE—Concordia's contemporary Christian music group, "Living Praise," is now accepting invitations for spring events. The group's music is particularly appropriate for ac-

tivities involving young people. Call Kevin Pieper for more information: 1-800-735-3232. (Pieper is pictured fourth from the left.)



Attention, church musicians!

Concordia Lutheran College announces its annual **Summer Church Music Workshop**, June 11-15.

Dr. Bernard Gastler and Professor Harold Rutz of the Concordia music faculty will lead the workshop. This year's guest instructor will be Dr. Donald Rotermund, minister of music at Zion Lutheran Church in Dallas.

Rotermund composes both choral and organ music, and was the editor of *Children Sing His Praise*.

The workshop will include choral reading sessions, instruction in choral directing and organ performance, handbell techniques, assistance in planning music for worship and suggestions for working with children's choirs.

Room and board on the Concordia campus will be available for workshop participants. For more information, contact Professor Harold Rutz at Concordia Lutheran College, 3400 IH 35 N., Austin, TX 78705; 1-800-735-3232.

Sneak a peek at CLC

High school students are invited to get acquainted with Concordia Lutheran College of Texas on **Sneak a Peek Days—Saturday, Feb. 17, or Saturday, April 7.**

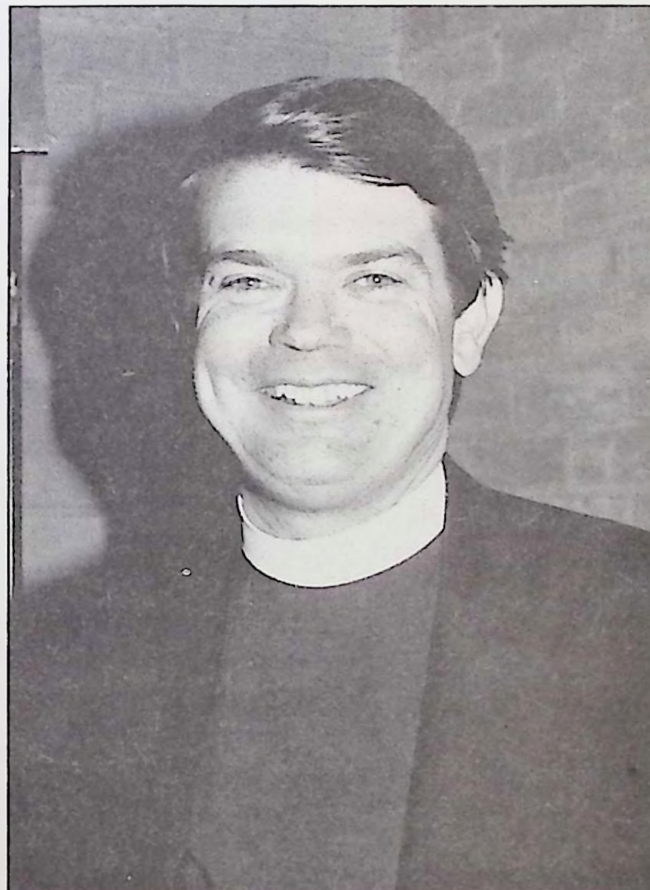
Parents and group sponsors are also invited to attend. Sneak a Peek Days include information sessions on programs of study and financial assistance, as well

as recreational activities with Concordia students.

"I was considering several colleges, but once I visited Concordia I knew it was where I had to be," wrote a 1989 freshman to the CLC Admissions Office.

So if you know a young person who should consider a Christ-centered college education, encourage him or her to attend Sneak a Peek Day. Congregation youth leaders are especially encouraged to bring groups.

For more information and to make reservations, call the Concordia Admissions Office toll-free at 1-800-735-3232.



DR. DALE MEYER, Lutheran Hour speaker, was guest preacher for a Concordia chapel service in December. He also spoke in several communication classes.

CLC play examines life values

The spring drama presentation at Concordia Lutheran College will be Arthur Miller's "Death of a Salesman," a classic of the American theater. Performances will be at 8 p.m. on March 1, 2 and 3.

"Death of a Salesman" revolves around Willy Loman, an aging salesman. As he nears the end of his career, he struggles with his level of success and the apparent failure of his sons. The audience will be challenged to examine life values as Willy's dream of ma-

terial success and desire to be "well liked" unravel.

Advance reservations are advised. Special rates are offered to church and school groups. Call Raye Green at (512) 452-7661 for information and reservations.



Sometimes Bigger Isn't Better

The dinosaur was big and attracted a lot of attention—but it's extinct now. Maybe it was *too* big.

Some colleges are like that.

But not Concordia. At Concordia the average class size is 20. And the professors are available when you need them.

Because when it comes to colleges, smaller is best.

452-7661

or

800-735-3232

Concordia 
Lutheran College

SPREADING THE WORD—The advertisement above appeared last fall in Austin Magazine in connection with an article about Concordia. The article stressed that the college is just the right size to provide quality education.

NEWS

The Lord added . . .

Concordia, Garland, welcomed four new members to its flock in November by transfer.

Three new souls were added to the fold at St. Andrew, Houston, in November.

Through baptism, transfer and profession of faith, Redeemer, Baytown, received 11 new people in November.

In November, Trinity, Rosenberg, opened its doors and heart to two new families.

By affirmation of faith, two members joined the flock at Bethlehem, Palestine, on Nov. 26.

Redeemer, Odessa, welcomed five new members to its fold in December.

On Dec. 3, 1989, Our Savior, Austin, added five families to its growing congregation.



TRINITY, BORGER—On Nov. 12, 1989, 20 souls were added to God's family at Trinity. They were received through baptism, adult confirmation, reaffirmation of faith and transfer.

On Nov. 19, Prince of Peace, Belton, added nine new members to its forever family by transfer and affirmation of faith.

Words of praise and thanks resounded at Trinity, San Angelo, as it received 38 new members.

Members of Grace, Seguin, opened their arms to embrace nine new souls to their midst.

In November the flock at Mount Olive, Corpus Christi, welcomed 16 new members via transfer.

Bethel, Dallas, extended its forever family by adding 21 new souls in November.

Nine new members were added to the Lord's kingdom of believers at Good Shepherd, Pasadena, during November.

St. Mark, Conroe, welcomed three new souls into its Christian fold in November.

The Lord's house increased at Lord of Life, Dallas, as eight new members joined the congregation.

On Dec. 3, 1989, 31 people pledged their lives to our Lord Jesus Christ as they joined the flock at Zion, Pasadena.

Five new members were added to Concordia, Houston, through baptism and transfer of membership this past fall.

In December Hope, Austin, opened its arms to welcome 12 new members.

By transfer, Memorial, Katy, welcomed 14 new souls in November.

On Dec. 5, it was Prince of Peace, Carrollton's privilege to hear the confession of faith from its 15 new members.



BETHEL, DALLAS—Pictured are some of the 22 new members received during services at Bethel in November. Pastor Randall Haedge serves as the outreach pastor.



DuBOIS INSTALLATION—Pictured from left at Rev. Loren DuBois' installation at Redeemer, Cisco, are Revs. Charles Mangone, Robert Hagemann, Dubois, Carroll Kohl, Russ Kinser and Thomas Maggart.



CROSS OF CHRIST youth groups and day school participate in DeSoto's Christmas parade under the theme "Christmas—Past, Present and Future" with their float titled "The First Christmas."



GETHSEMANE, HOUSTON—Pictured are many of the 45 people added to the forever family at Gethsemane, Houston, on Dec. 10, 1989. Nine

adults were received by confirmation; the others were received by profession of faith and transfer.

SAIL: Seniors Alive in the Lord

Seniors Alive In the Lord—SAIL—looks at the gifts of older adults, as well as their needs.

On Oct. 23 and 24, Verna Brindley, Florence Kasper and Rev. Richard Wagner of **Trinity, Houston**, participated in the Church Growth Through Older Adult Ministry Workshop sponsored by the Synod's Board for Social Ministry Services. Keith Loomans, director of parish services for the Texas District, also attended.

The day and a half workshop focused on older adult ministry in worship, witness, nurture, service, fellowship, health and stewardship. Ideas were shared about a ministry by, for and with older adults in the context of ministry expressions.

So, what are some of the special gifts of older adults?

• **Time:** Most older people

choose early retirement, and thus, may spend one-third or more of their lives in retirement.

• **Health:** Older adults are healthier than ever before in history, despite chronic problems of arthritis, diabetes or hypertension. In fact, older adults are 10 or more years younger than previous generations at the same age because of better health habits.

• **Talents:** Today's adults are better educated and have skills, abilities, joys and blessings. Christians are able to see how God guided and nurtured them as they review their lives.

• **Spiritual Maturity:** Later in life, people experience greater insights because of life-long experiences with adversities, joys and blessings. Christians are able to see how God guided and nurtured them as they review their lives.

Just as God has given gifts to millions of older adult Christians, which can be invested in the work of evangelism, the challenge of the church is to help provide opportunities for them to use these gifts and to challenge them to do so.

(The gifts of older adults is an excerpt from *Evangelism and Older Adults* by Shirley Bergmann, Board for Evangelism Services, LCMS, 1989.)

Wish I'd said

"How" busy is not so important as "why" busy. The bee is praised; the mosquito is swatted.

Multiple options available through LOMT

by Rev. Karl Petzke,
Executive Director,
Lutheran Outdoors
Ministry of Texas

So often our camps are seen only as places that provide enjoyable, memorable times for our children and youth. However, increased versatility in serving the needs of all ages and population groups is the rule rather than the exception at LOMT sites.

Here are some possibilities:

- In their extensive travels, Lutheran executives often read about courses, seminars, workshops or other programs that are designed to increase productivity and effectiveness and then lean toward providing such experiences for their staffs.

How about considering a ropes course session that focuses on communication, stress management, team building and leadership styles?

Did you know that

LOMT can meet many such executive level management needs through a ropes course experience, at a greatly reduced cost in comparison to many national programs—with the added plus of times together in a Christ-centered setting? Such needs can be dealt with at both Camp Lone Star and Texoma Lutheran Camp.

- Branches of Lutheran General Hospital use Camp Lone Star for a variety of programs. The camp is ready to service hospitals, clinics and private medical practices. High-comfort retreat center facilities and air-conditioned cabins are available to meet the needs of such groups.

- The attraction of “getting away to secluded spots without normal disruptions” can certainly be met through Texoma Lutheran Camp with its primitive flavor.

How about using a RV-tent camping site, with or



Rev. Karl Petzke

without electricity, to soak up the great natural surroundings God has provided for our benefit?

Did you know that Texoma has a well-defined nature trail and a printed trail guide available?

Wouldn't you like to experience orienteering (using a map and a compass) on the “trim course” at Texoma, with its permanent markers and self-guided instructions? And then there's the “scriptrail” with seven superb meditation sites in breathtaking surroundings where you can use prepared devotional materials or just reflect upon God's creative magnificence.

- Enrichment, growth, practice, solitude, celebration are all outcomes of gatherings at LOMT sites including family reunions, choir outings, church council sessions, etc. LOMT is equipped to help secure resource people or provide established programs that will result in meaningful experiences.

- The options are endless, the potential is limitless. Won't you give LOMT a try? You'll surely enjoy the superb times and benefit immensely.

Contact LOMT, 7900 U.S. 290 E., Austin, TX 78724; (512) 926-4272.

LOMT focuses upon the family

From June 10 through Aug. 17 (Sunday through Thursday nights while regular summer camp is in session), families are encouraged to be campers at Texoma Lutheran Camp or Lone Star:

—For one day or up to one full camp week.

—With access to regular activity areas and equipment.

—To join other families in organizing Bible study and recreational games (camp host will be available for assistance).

—To just come as individual families or at the same time their children participate in summer camp programs.

—To participate with summer youth campers in morning and evening devotions, at campfires and in attending evening programs.

Various options are available at both Texoma Lutheran Camp and Camp Lone Star.

Contact the LOMT office for such program possibilities or secure a copy of the LOMT summer camp brochure from your church or congregation representative.

About flattery

Flattery is like fertilizer; the right amount does wonders, but too much is fatal.



At last summer's annual Klapper family reunion at Camp Lone Star, Joel Klapper, grandson of the Eric Klappers from McAllen and son of the Kenneth Klappers of Rosenberg, was baptized by Rev. Steve Klapper of Redeemer, San Diego, Calif.

TEXAS DISTRICT



ART CHRISTIANSEN, a parental volunteer with a participant from St. Paul, Austin, provides communication assistance during the annual orienteering meet at Texoma Lutheran Camp.



The Bokenkamp Retreat's new dining facilities provide for the needs of our pastors at their circuit counselors meeting.



Amidst the unique setting at the Bokenkamp Retreat, pastors gather for fellowship and dinner.



CIRCUIT COUNSELORS gather at the beverage bar at the Bokenkamp Pastoral Retreat as they break from their meetings.

A marvelous success story!

Two years ago, when Gloria Dei Lutheran Church in Nassau Bay looked at its future, it saw phenomenal possibilities for growth. In order to reach its God-given potential in the rapidly growing Clear Lake-NASA area south of Houston, members determined that both facilities and staff were needed.

Because of limited facilities, the worship attendance had plateaued at 750 per Sunday, and the average Sunday school/adult Bible class attendance leveled off at about 500.

In response to the pressing needs and challenges before the church, the congregation leaders decided to take two major steps. First, the parish embarked on a \$2 million building program.

A new Life Center,

which includes 15 classrooms and a large assembly area capable of seating 600 people, was planned. The congregation plans to dedicate this new ministry area in the spring of 1990.

Second, the voters assembly adopted a special resolution requesting that the district's Board of Mission Administration consider helping fund a new "Minister of Outreach and Assimilation" as a pilot project.

The primary tasks of the new staff member would be to increase the congregation's evangelism ministry and to help assimilate all members into the life of the church.

The request was made to the district because the congregation was not able to fully fund the position without reducing its high

level of support for the work of the church-at-large. The district Board of Mission Administration decided to "take the risk" and agreed to partially fund the position for three years.

John Kaster, a lay minister at Messiah Lutheran Church in Sterling, Ill., was called to the new position in the spring of 1989. He accepted the call and was installed into service on July 30.

Has the "pilot project" worked? On the first Sunday in December, Gloria Dei welcomed 105 new members into its fellowship! (This is a record reception for the congregation.) Of these, 29 were received by adult baptism or confirmation.

On the same Sunday, the congregation began offering once again three worship services. That attendance for the day? 939! Moreover, on the same day, another

new member class was offered and more than 50 adults attended the first session.

"The members of Gloria Dei have been strong supporters of the world-wide mission of the church over the years," comments John H. Kieschnick, senior pastor of the 1,500-member church.

"Annually, they have increased their percentage of support. They have been especially supportive of the mission and ministry of the Texas District and Synod. In 1989, approximately \$150,000 was given to district and Synod for our work together," Kieschnick said.

He adds, "It's nice to know that the district was willing to take the risk to support this unique mission opportunity." All members agree, "The best is yet to come!"



GLORIA DEI, NASSAU BAY, welcomes many new members to its fold on Dec. 3, 1989, as a result of its new evangelism program.



Mission study for children

The Lone Star District LLL is making an all-out effort to promote Resolution 89.02, the "Coins for Jesus" program, passed at the May 1989 convention.

This program is an opportunity for children to learn about mission ministry in countries where "The Lutheran Hour" is broadcast. It is designed to be used primarily in Christian day schools, but may also be used in Sunday schools and Bible classes.

This program is planned to be used around the six weeks of Lent, but it may be adjusted if necessary.

The LCMS Texas District Board of Parish Services passed the following resolution: "That the Board of Parish Services of the Texas District cooperate with the Lone Star District LLL in a special emphasis of the *Lutheran Hour* ministry or *This Is The Life* ministry among the children of the Christian day schools of the Texas District during Lent 1990. The School Committee would be involved in implementing the program."

The Int'l LLL will send a free premiere copy of the soon-to-be-released *First Valentine*, a moving story about the early Christians in Rome and how valentines originated, to each participating school.

Coins for Jesus kits have been mailed to all district schools.

A program like this was conducted in a kindergarten class at Grace, Arlington. The children studied about

the Chinese people and responded by bringing coins in boxes provided by Int'l LLL so that Chinese children could hear God's Word. More than \$64 was collected. Their teacher, Terri Bielefelt, encourages all teachers to enter their classes in this exciting program.

TRINITY, LIVINGSTON

The Trinity Lay Evangelist Group distributed materials furnished by Int'l LLL at a fair booth during the Polk County Pine Cone Festival.

This group also had a bake sale to raise money for a scholarship fund. The fund provides assistance to students who wish to become full-time church workers. One student, presently enrolled at Concordia, Austin, receives this support.

In September the group went to Conroe to attend a fish fry sponsored by the Tall Pine Zone LLL.

Financial assistance was



also given to Missionary Rev. John Fiebelkorn in Colombo, Sri Lanka.

Other activities include the donation of food to the Polk County Mission Center, outfitting the church's mission festival and sponsoring a Christmas fellowship dinner at a local restaurant.

REDEEMER, AUSTIN

Once each year Redeemer's LLL members set aside an evening to show appreciation to their pastors and wives. This year's celebration took place Dec. 3 at the River Place Country Club.

The pastors and wives honored were Rev. Dave and Sandy Schroder, Rev. Paul and Lois Bohot and Pastor Emeritus Louis and

Dolores Pabor. The 90 members present enjoyed a ham dinner. Several club members presented a comedy skit that recalled memories of voters meetings from years past.

REGIONAL MEETING

Oklahoma leaguers will meet with Texas leaguers for a Region 10 meeting Feb. 23-25 at Trinity Lutheran Church in Tyler, Texas. Rick Krueger will be the representative from the Int'l LLL office in St. Louis.

DISTRICT CONVENTION

Continue making plans to attend the Lone Star District LLL convention May 4-6 in Wichita Falls. Details should appear next month.

CONCORDIA COLLEGE

Plans are in place to feature the Concordia, Austin, choir on the *Lutheran Hour* during Lent.

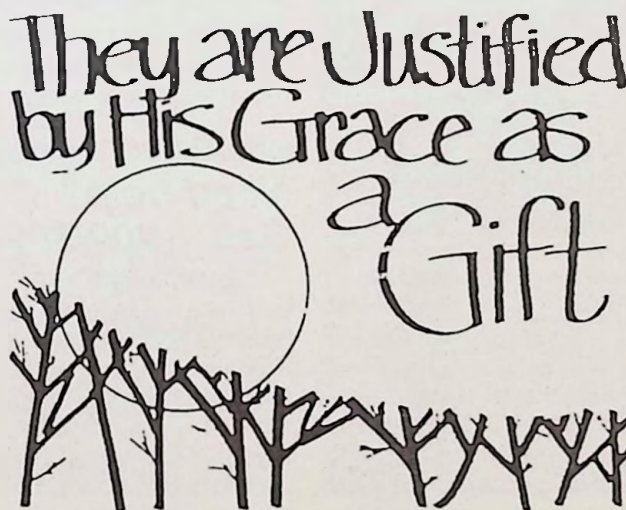
JUTZI HONORED

Ben Jutzi, an executive director of the Int'l LLL in the 1970s, was presented with a plaque by LLLers in the Lone Star District on Oct. 6 for more than 50 years of LLL leadership on the staff and in the field.

Jutzi was the speaker at a meeting of Houston area pastors and laity during which the presentation was made. He encouraged their continued service to Christ and the church. The Houston Zone XII-South hosted the event.

They need it

Be kind to unkind people—they probably need it the most!



GOOD SAMARITAN LUTHERAN HOME

Introducing . . . Richard Risley, Good Samaritan administrator

As Richard Risley approaches his second anniversary of service as administrator of Bethesda Lutheran Home's Good Samaritan Campus, he can look back on two years of challenge and change: renovating the main campus facility, remodeling two group homes, purchasing and refurbishing three more units, and constructing two more units.

For the Risley family, returning to Texas fulfilled a long-time desire. From 1971 to 1973, they enjoyed living in Texas while Risley served at the Army Medical Training Center at Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio.

Film wins award

"You're Not Alone," one of two 85th anniversary films produced by Bethesda Lutheran Home, won the prestigious Chris Award at the Columbus, Ohio, International Film Festival.

The movie shares the feelings of parents who have a mentally retarded child and focuses on services available to them through Bethesda. Scenes from the Good Samaritan campus appear in this film and in "Just a Touch of Love," which shows the daily care offered in these facilities.

To reserve either movie or video, please contact the Public Relations Department, P.O. Box 729, Cypress, TX 77429; (713) 351-4911.

There he was awarded the Army Commendation Medal for Exemplary Service.

A 1970 graduate of Lincoln Christian College (Ill.), Risley planned a career in Christian education until he took a part-time job as an aide at Lincoln State School in his senior year. After that experience, he knew his calling was to serve mentally retarded people.

He received his nursing home administrator's license in 1976 and his master's degree in social work in 1987 from the University of Illinois.

Before joining Bethesda's staff, Risley did clinical social work and program development in out-patient services at Logan/Mason



LABELS—Good Samaritan residents and staff proudly display a new typewriter received through the Campbell Soup "Labels for Education" program. Labels are cut and counted by volunteers. Over the years, the home has received books, puzzles, clocks, record players, a color television set and recreation equipment through the program.



JOY—For Administrator Richard Risley, one of the special joys at Good Samaritan has been "seeing the growth resulting from residents moving into smaller homes."

Mental Health Center in Lincoln, Ill.

He also was administrator of Lincoln House, a 15-bed intermediate-care facility, and administrator of the 40-bed Elmhurst Cottage at the Lincoln Development Center.

Risley and his wife, Vicky, have been married 21 years and have two children, Jennifer and Jason.

That's all

When you are through changing, you are through.

Need help? Call 1-800-369-INFO!

"With six million mentally retarded people in this country, congregations must reach out to those in their communities," says A.L. Napolitano, Bethesda's executive director.

To help parishes in this ministry, Bethesda has es-

Goldie Fund plans 'shower'

"You are invited to a *You Don't Have to Shop* shower." That's the message of this winter's Goldie Fund of the Bethesda/Good Samaritan Auxiliary.

With two new group homes under construction (one on the main campus and one a mile away on K-Z Road), the auxiliary will help furnish these homes through fund contributions.

Individuals and organizations are encouraged to select the gift they wish to contribute from a list that includes everything from mops to grills, lamps to clothes hampers, dishes to telephones. No shopping is necessary! The staff will purchase the items as the money is received.

To obtain a copy of the list or to send in your contribution, contact: The Goldie Fund, 3614 Aberdeen Way, Houston, TX 77025.

Last year the fund raised \$3,251 for the new septic system on the main campus; the previous year's \$2,545 was used to replace the dormitory carpeting with tile and to purchase special adaptive eating equipment.



1990 is still new—a time for new and fresh beginnings! Now is the time to make those special plans for upcoming events—and February marks just five more months until the 1990 Texas District LWML Convention in Austin.

Plan now to be part of this spiritual as well as informative event. The hosting Capitol Zone is busy preparing to welcome you as their guest.

The following information may be helpful to you in making those convention plans.

- All events will be held at the Marriott-Capitol Hotel.
- The room rate is a flat \$65 per room (up to four people per room).
- The convention registration is \$12.
- The convention speaker is Joyce Landorf Heatherley.
- "The Discipling Woman Seminar" is the name of the Christian Growth workshop.
- A tour of Austin's main attractions is being planned for you.
- Plus, you will be able to renew those special friendships and add new ones to your list.

One thing needs to be stressed! There have been some changes made in housing registration. Please

watch all future publications and read them carefully.

We encourage everyone to come to Austin June 19-22 to "Blossom with Love."

The gift of love

by Helen Mitschke,
Mission Service Chairman

This month, love is a popular topic. The greatest gift of love was given to us from God when He gave us His Son. "For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life" (John 3:16).

Through the Scriptures, God shows us His love and how we are to love others. Our sinful nature and the world around us make it difficult to use the fruit of love given to us. "But the fruit of the Spirit is love" (Gal. 5:22a).

We have to nurture this gift of the Spirit by studying God's Word to learn ways to love others. Some ways we show love is to share a smile with those around us, care for the ill, clothe the poor, feed the hungry, comfort the lonely and respect the elderly.

Love is giving; giving is doing. What better way to show love to others and share His Word!



Christian growth seminar in June

Don't miss the "Discipling Woman Seminar," to be held June 19-20 before the Texas District LWML convention in Austin. The \$5 registration fee includes lunch and all seminar materials.

Guest presenters are Dr. Erwin Kolb, former executive director of the Synod's Board for Evangelism Services and co-author of the "Discipling Woman Seminar"; and Jean Prochnow of Seward, Neb., the 1984 Texas LWML convention speaker.

The seminar goal: "To provide opportunities for women to grow in faith and share that faith with others; that each woman of the church might truly live as a spiritually equipped believer ready to be a sharing and caring disciple of Jesus Christ to all of God's people."

Look for registration forms in the mail and also in the next issue of the *District News*.

"And now I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. If you have love for one another, then everyone will know that you are my disciples" (John 13:34, 35 TEV).

Around the district

FAITH LUTHERAN WOMEN OF HUNTSVILLE celebrated the Reformation at their October meeting with a skit titled "I Knew the Man Luther" (available from the LWML office).

IN AUGUST, THE **HOLY CROSS LWML, NEDERLAND**, was privileged to host a special dinner for more than 85 women from the Golden Triangle Zone. Erma Bombeck, alias Lucille Campbell, president of the White Oak Zone, gave a book review of Erma Bombeck's newest book. The video, "Women on God's Mission," was also shown.



Lucille Campbell

District help

• **PROGRAM IDEAS**—The LWML video "Women on God's Mission" and the LWML puppets are available from Shirley Baumgartner, 5018 Risada, San Antonio, TX 78233.

• **LOAN LIBRARY**—Bible studies, program and retreat ideas are only a few of the program resources available from Sherry Torbert, 5810 Lodge Creek, Houston, TX 77066.

BE ALL
YOU CAN BE
AS A
SERVANT



Two more great "servanthood" workshops are coming your way—one for women in the Dallas area and the other for those in East Texas. Don't miss the opportunity to gather and grow as servants of the Lord Jesus Christ!

• **EAST TEXAS AREA**—Women in the Channel, East Texas, Golden Triangle and New Horizon Zones will meet Feb. 17 at Angelina Junior College in Lufkin to develop their servanthood skills. If you wish to spend the night before the workshop, join the evening fellowship on Feb. 16 at the Lufkin Inn. Make all reservations with Shannon Baron, 1609 Springdale, Longview, TX 75604.

Seminar presenters will

be district leaders Sherry Torbert, Catherine Burkhard, Jan Scales and Dolores Bruncke.

• **DALLAS AREA**—Women in the Dal-North, Metropolitan and Northeast Texas Zones will be able to enjoy and take part in their servanthood sessions March 24 at Zion Lutheran Church in Dallas. Make reservations through Dorothy Hunger, Route 2, 10 Northcrest, Rockwall, TX 75087. Presenters will be Sherry Torbert, Catherine Burkhard and Dolores Bruncke.

Each woman attending is asked to bring a small handcrafted towel for a prayer-partner exchange. Decorate your towel however you wish and wrap it in white tissue paper. A card with your name and address should be attached to the package.

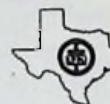
Not handy with your hands? Ask a talented friend to help you! But don't let the lack of a towel prevent you from attending a workshop that could change your outlook on the joys of servanthood.



CAN YOU SAY SERVANT? Texas' "Mrs. Rogers," Carol Young of Austin, illustrates a servanthood lesson from a recent workshop.

TEXAS MITE PROJECTS UPDATE

1988-90 District goal	\$200,000
Received December	\$9,516
Received to date	\$166,697
Still needed	\$33,303



PROJECT	PAID	BALANCE
Scholarships for Seminarians	\$9,000	\$3,000
La Santisima Trinidad Church, Matamoros, Mexico	6,000	4,000
Texas Prison Ministry	2,000	1,000
Lutheran Bible Translators, Sierra Leone	2,500	2,500
LSST Pregnancy Services	5,000	5,000
Lutheran Association of Missionaries and Pilots	3,000	-0-
Concordia College, Austin	5,000	5,000
St. John Lutheran Church, Corpus Christi	11,250	6,750
Seaman's Center, Corpus Christi	12,000	-0-
University of Texas, Arlington, Lutheran Student Center	10,000	5,000
Lutheran Outdoors Ministry of Texas	15,000	-0-
Hope Lutheran Church, Lubbock	300	-0-
Mission Projects Goal		\$113,300
Paid-to-date		\$81,050
Sent to International LWML		\$2,230
To International to-date		\$13,922

Send ALL contributions to Eudoris Weiser, Route 1, Box 46, Copperas Cove, TX 76522. MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO TEXAS DISTRICT LWML.

Attention!

• **SOCIETY PRESIDENTS**—Look for a packet of registration materials for the LWML convention coming up in June. It should arrive about mid-February. Convention information, registration forms (for delegates, guests and Christian Growth seminar) will be included, as well as hotel reservation cards.

If you do not receive this large envelope of materials by March 1, contact Member Development Chairman Catherine Burkhard, 6660

Santa Anita Drive, Dallas, TX 75214.

• If you are shipping items for the annual Lutheran World Relief Drive, send them to Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, 7611 Park Lane, Dallas, TX 75225, the week of April 16-20. Items shipped before or after that week will not be accepted.

LWML news

LWML news should be sent to Shirley Baumgartner, LWML District Editor, 5018 Risada, San Antonio, TX 78233.



District leadership vital issue facing Texas Lutherans at next year's convention

by Rev. Louis L. Pabor, President
Texas District, LCMS

Suddenly we can say that the district convention is next year! 1990 will be a time of accelerating preparations until, by this time next year, we will be in the last hectic months. As time goes by, we will keep you informed about your part in these preparations.

When I accepted this position, I said that one of my primary reasons in doing so was to provide an interim as we prepare to elect a new district president under our new system. In less than a year, our 350 congregations will be invited to make nominations . . . and from among those who receive the most votes, five will be listed as candidates.

Under God, if I am still in office at that time, it should make for a "wide open" election. The person elected could possibly lead the Texas District into the 21st century.

- This is a very important matter and one we should take to the Lord in fervent prayer. It's certainly not too early to begin looking around for someone you would like to nominate. The man elected will represent the president of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod in this area. He is expected to report regularly to the Synod president and work with the other district presidents to promote God's Kingdom through the Missouri Synod.

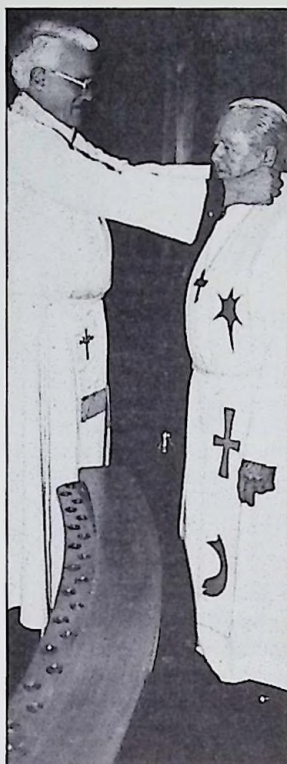
- He should be committed to the Word of God and the Lutheran Confessions

and the constitutions and bylaws of the Synod and the Texas District. He should have a loving concern for the spiritual, physical and mental well-being and the Christian lives of our more than 1,000 professionals (pastors, teachers, etc.).

He should be concerned about the well-being of our 350 congregations and the proclamation of the Word as the primary function of our existence. He should supervise discipline in love.

- He should authorize all ordinations and installations and see to it that the official roster of pastors and teachers and others be constantly revised as needed. He should make visits when invited and needed whether it be with individuals or congregations. He should be responsible for the administration of the district whether it be in relation to boards, committees, executives, conferences or the district conventions. He should work in close relationship with his circuit counselors and vice presidents. And much more. . . .

Somewhere out there is the person to whom the Lord will lead us. It's excit-



TAKES OFFICE—Missouri Synod President Ralph Bohlmann, left, places cross on Rev. Louis Pabor at Pabor's installation as president of the Texas District. The specially designed cross is authorized by the Synod for use by district presidents. Pabor was installed at his home congregation, Redeemer of Austin, where he also is pastor emeritus.

ing . . . and you have a part in the search. We ask your personal prayers and meditations with regard to this matter. Under God, let's have a blessed 1990 in our personal Christian lives, in our congregations and in our district.

Rock-a-bye

Worry is like a rocking chair. It will give you something to do, but it won't get you anywhere.

Church worker recruitment plan can work

Can a church worker recruitment committee in your congregation produce any results?

Consider these projections:

We have about 6,000 Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod congregations in the United States. If only half of our churches form a committee, and only one-third of these are active, and if only one-fourth of those active committees actually recruit a church work student each year, that would mean 500 students a year for the church work programs of our colleges.

The Synod's 1986 convention delegates adopted a resolution encouraging each congregation to form a committee for recruiting men and women into church careers.

Kevin Pieper of Concordia Lutheran College of Austin is the Texas District's contact person for church worker recruitment. A packet of materials is available to help you get the ball rolling. Contact Pieper at the college, 3400 N. Interstate 35, Austin, TX 78705.

Heaven? For sure!

A worship questionnaire at Our Redeemer, Wichita Falls, asked members this question:

If you died today, are you sure you'd go to heaven?

Fifty-six members responded. All but two said yes.



AUSTIN—Twenty-five Austin-area clergymen participated in the Jan. 14 installation of Rev. James R. Linderman as pastor of Christ Lutheran, Austin. From left front are Revs. Dave Schroder; Thomas Waynick; Curtis Schneider; Louis Pabor, district president, preacher and installer; Linderman; Gary Piepkorn; Wayne Pafk; Ray Schkade; and John Ellwanger, circuit counselor and lector. From left, center, Revs. M.J. Meyer, Martin Doering, Paul

Pulle, Paul Bohot, Michael King, Gordon Albers, Leonard Stahlke and Mr. Bill Siegrist. Back row, from left, Rev. Bill Knippa, who was vacancy pastor and liturgist, Revs. Gerhard Naumann, Ray Martens; Paul Meyer; Earl Bleeke; Lorman Petersen; Luther Koepke; Walter Harms; and Tim Rosenthal. (Photo by Tim Zoch, courtesy Concordia Lutheran College.)

James Linderman installed

Rev. James R. Linderman was installed Jan. 14 as pastor of Christ Lutheran Church of Austin. More than 350 people attended and 25 Austin-area clergymen participated in the service.

Texas District President Louis Pabor was preacher and installer. Liturgist was Rev. Bill Knippa, vacancy pastor; lector was Rev. John Ellwanger, circuit counselor.

Linderman, a native Texan, accepted the call to Christ from his previous pastorate at St. John in Athens, where he had served for three years.

He retired in 1986 as a chaplain in the U.S. Army with the rank of colonel. His military service included both the Vietnam and Korean conflicts, and he was stationed at various times in Texas, North Carolina, Hawaii, New York and Germany. He was chief of chaplains at Fort Hood when he retired.

He graduated from Con-

cordia Seminary, St. Louis, in 1957. His wife is Jean (nee Horn), daughter of Rev. August Horn, emeritus.

The Lindermans have two children: Lisa Delong and Jeffery, a college senior.

Gifts that will wash

During Advent and Christmas, more than 100 washcloths were placed under the "Angel Tree" by the children of Wednesday Alleluia and Sunday school classes at Christ Lutheran, Amarillo.

The "Angel Tree" was decorated with white washcloths made in the form of angels.

The washcloths are gifts for the residents of Bethesda Lutheran Home at Good Samaritan Campus in Cypress, Texas. Bethesda uses more than 3,000 washcloths a day.



THEATER—Members of Our Redeemer Lutheran, Longview, presented "In Bethlehem Inn" Dec. 16 as a dinner theater drama for the Longview community. The production involved 75 members. Standing, from left, are Bernt Larson, Judy Larson, Jeff Porter, Paul Hooge, D. Schym-

ick, Ryan Waldo, David Schymick; kneeling, from left, are Lacey Ross, William Smolter, Cindie Porter, Kyle Porter and Doug Coughlin. Diane Ross was director. Linda Powell was coordinator.



FOR RUSSIAN KIDS—Prince of Peace, Carrollton, secretaries Kathy Settimi, Jeanne Alguire, Kim Schroeder and Senior Pastor Steve Wagner put Russian language Bibles in canvas bags for Soviet children who were visiting Dallas for medical treatment. As a "going home" gift, the congregation gave each child a Christmas remembrance, including a Bible.

Russian children return home with gifts of Lutheran love

Twelve Soviet children and a nurse spent November and December in Dallas. The children came to Texas to receive medical treatment unavailable to them in the Soviet Union.

Through local newscasts, the Prince of Peace Lutheran congregation of Carrollton became aware of these special visitors and determined to reach out to them at Christmas.

"We were sure they would appreciate any overtures of love. They were thousands of miles from home and family undergoing major cranial surgeries and recovery time. We wanted each to know that they were loved. We wanted to witness to them about Jesus Christ," said Rev. Steve Wagner, senior pastor of Prince of Peace.

Although congregation members were not allowed to see the children personally, they were informed of the need for warm clothing and simple cosmetics. The congregation decided to put these in Prince of Peace tote bags and include Russian Bibles.

"When we located the Russian language Bibles we had to have them specially shipped to arrive in time to give the children," said Wagner. The Bibles arrived the morning the gifts were to be delivered.

The children now are back in the Soviet Union. The last remembrance of their stay in the United States came from the congregation at Prince of Peace.

He's easily the most far-out Lutheran we have in Texas

The space shuttle Columbia, which plucked a deteriorating satellite from orbit and returned it to earth, was commanded by a Missouri Synod Lutheran, U.S. Navy Captain Dan Brandenstein. He is a member of Gloria Dei Lutheran Church of Houston.

"Dan is highly respected by his peers and is a faithful member of the church," said Rev. John Kieschnick, pastor at Gloria Dei.

Brandenstein and his wife, Jane, have one daughter, Adelle. The Columbia mission was Brandenstein's third space flight.

The January flight also deployed a communications satellite and became the longest-ever shuttle mission—11 days—when it was



Daniel C. Brandenstein

forced to extend one day because of bad weather at the landing site.



SALEM SIGN—Salem Lutheran Church, three miles north of Malone, received this hand-painted sign through the efforts of the Youth Fellowship and the Sunday school, with matching Lutheran Brotherhood funds. Putting up the sign are Justin and Dwain Lewis and Buster Maass. Salem is celebrating its 104th year—it was founded in the 1880s by German Lutheran immigrants who were seeking religious freedom and rich farming soil. "Salem was organized June 6, 1886," Pastor David Jeske said, "and continues to provide a strong witness to the Gospel in Hill County."

'Where've you been?'

by Pastor Jerry Kieschnick
Executive Director
Lutheran Foundation of Texas

In the world of country and western music, some songs focus on broken homes, frustrated romances, marital infidelity and excessive drinking.

Fortunately, other songs extol the virtues of marital faithfulness, family cohesiveness, honest work and Christian values.

Of the latter variety, one song introduced after the first of the year is titled, "Where've You Been?" This song speaks of a young man and a young woman who discover one another, fall in love and marry. She asks the question, "Where've you been? I've looked for you forever and a day. Where've you been? I'm just not myself when you're away."

• These words, the chorus, are repeated after a verse that tells about the husband finally coming home late one night after being delayed by a severe storm.

His wife asks, "Where've you been? I've looked for you forever and a day.

Where've you been? I'm just not myself when you're away."

The third verse speaks of the couple, after never having been apart during 60 years of marriage, being in a hospital in separate beds on different floors. She's lost her memory, forgotten the names of family and hasn't spoken for days.

The hospital personnel wheel him into her room. He quietly and lovingly strokes her hair and she says, "Where've you been? I've looked for you forever and a day. Where've you been? I'm just not myself when you're away."

• It's a moving song that highlights the importance of love and faithfulness between husband and wife.

Such love and faithfulness are equally important in other relationships, as well. Parent and child,



Rev. Jerry Kieschnick

brother and sister, employer and employee, friend and friend—all these relationships are built and maintained on the foundation of mutual love and faithfulness.

An even more significant and lasting relationship than that between people is the relationship between each person and God. We know of God's great love for us as demonstrated in the life, death and resurrection of His Son, Jesus Christ.

Sometimes, when it seems to us that God is far away, but then returns, we probably feel like asking Him, "Where've you been? I've looked for you forever and a day. Where've you been? I'm just not myself when you're away."

• Of course, His answer is, "I will *never* leave you nor forsake you." And even though He has every right to ask, "Where've *you* been?" the wonder of it all is that God simply says, "I'm just so glad you're back!"

This is the God for whom our love and faithfulness are expressed through our gifts of love, of time, of energy, of money. What a joy it is for the Lutheran Foundation of Texas to help peo-

ple just like you across this great state of Texas to express their love and faithfulness to the God who loves them and you with an everlasting love.

• Your desire to express your thanksgiving is the first and most important step. How to do so is where we can help.

We promise we won't say, "Where've you been?" We'll just say, "We're so glad you're here!"

Texas Lutherans make imprint on higher education

Sheri Deterling, Bethel, Dallas, received her doctor of jurisprudence degree from the University of Texas Law School.

Sue Baumbach, St. Mark, Mineral Wells, graduated *summa cum laude* from the University of North Texas and addressed graduates and guests at winter commencement as class valedictorian. She received a bachelor of business administration degree in economics with a minor in finance.

Keith Whitfield, King of Kings, San Antonio, received his doctorate degree in psychology from Texas Tech.

Rosemary Thornton, St. Mark, Conroe, graduated from Sam Houston State Dec. 16 *magna cum laude*.

True, true

There is one thing for which you should be thankful. Only you and God have all the facts about yourself.



Yes, I want to know more. Clip and mail to

Lutheran Foundation of Texas

7900 U.S. 290 E. Austin, TX 78724 (512) 926-4272

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

() _____

ZIP _____

Telephone Number _____

3



Our bright kids

When Justin Ellis speaks, people listen! Justin, a member of King of Kings, San Antonio, participated in four speech contest events of the North East School District and received Outstanding Performer award in three of them. His PTA named him Student of the Month.

Marla Rosier, Bethlehem, Palestine, is included in the new edition of *Who's Who Among American High School Students*.

Congratulations to Christel Gary, St. Paul, Groves, who is in the High Achievers Program at her middle school and was selected for the National Junior Honor Society. She also was chosen for Duke University's talent identification program.

Cody Jones, Charity, Burleson, is the envy of all his peers. He won a computer and a trip to Disneyland for winning the ticket-selling contest of the Boy Scout Longhorn Council.

Misty Eary, St. Paul, Hamilton (Aleman), is included in *Who's Who Among American High School Students*.

Carrie Bowden, Faith, Gainesville, was chosen in December as girl of the month by the Soroptimist Club. She's a three-year member of the Senior Honor Society.

The Vernon chapter of the American Association of University Women selected Jeanne Streit, Zion



FRIENDS—Fifth graders at Prince of Peace Lutheran in Carrollton pose with some of the Carrollton police officers they pray for every day.

Lutheran students in Carrollton offer to pray for police; they like the idea

More than 30 officers in the Carrollton Police Department attended a "dessert fellowship" at Prince of Peace Lutheran School in Carrollton to meet the fifth grade students who pray for their safety and well-being every day.

The prayer ministry began when the students posted a letter at the police department offering daily prayer by name for any officer signing the list.

Fifty-eight police officers put their names on the list, indicating their desire

for intercessory prayers by the students.

In addition, more than 30 officers came to school Nov. 28 for an appreciation dessert hosted by the fifth-graders.

Each officer met the child(ren) who pray for him or her daily.

The officers attended in uniform, under-cover clothes and business suits, giving the students an understanding for the various aspects of their work.

Marci Dittmer is teacher of the class. Gabe Flicker is principal.

Lutheran, Vernon, as its first Girl of the Month. Jeanne, a high school senior, has taken honors classes throughout her school years. She plays varsity basketball and volleyball and is an officer of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

Jean Ann Cooper and Lottman Shudde were inducted into the National Honor Society at Uvalde High School. They are

members of Trinity, Uvalde. Lottman also is district singles tennis champion and on the all-district football team.

Rebecca Hutchings, member of Our Savior, Abilene, and a middle school student, was selected *Girl of the Month* in December by the Abilene Women's Club.

Cheers for Kristin Pertulla, Redeemer, Austin,

who was named her school's top chemistry student, awarded the school district's Trustee Award and inducted into the National Honor Society.

Christel Gary, St. Paul, Groves, has been inducted into the National Junior Honor Society, is in the High Achievers Program and qualified to participate in Duke University's talent identification program.

THE LORD ADDED . . .

New Members

Welcomed into the forever family in December at **Mount Olive, Corpus Christi**, were six new members by adult confirmation, two by adult baptism, two by transfer and three by child baptism.

December also saw the reception of 23 new members at **Christ, Houston**. Five were child baptisms and 18 were received by adult baptism, confirmation, profession of faith and transfer.

King of Kings, San Antonio, has added to its fellowship three by confirmation, one by profession of faith, three by transfer and one by infant baptism.

In December, **Redeemer, Fort Worth**, added eight



PASTORS-TO-BE—These four young men are students at Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, Ind., and they also are all members of the same Texas congregation: Faith Lutheran

of Plano. They are Roger Abernathy, John Hill, Mike Keltner and Wayne Schwiesow. Roger, Mike and Wayne will receive their vicarage assignments in April. John will receive his call.

members by profession of faith and transfer.

God's grace has added five adults to the family at **Zion, Abilene**, by adult confirmation, one by adult baptism, two by child baptism and five by transfer.

Rejoicing over the addition of nine new members is the congregation of **Concordia, Garland**, three received by adult confirmation and six by transfer.

By profession of faith, confirmation and transfer, **St. John, San Benito**, added seven members in

December.

It was a joyous Jan. 17 at **Grace, Arlington**, as the Lord increased its fellowship with four additions by adult confirmation, seven by profession of faith, 37 by transfer.

December was bright at **Resurrection Lutheran, Spring**, as 41 people enlarged the Christian community there. Five children were baptized, six adults were confirmed, 16 transferred with 13 children, and one adult was received by reaffirmation of faith.

On Dec. 17, **Concordia, Houston**, received five new members into its congregation.

By profession of faith, transfer, adult confirmation and adult baptism, 33 people were received into the fellowship of **St. Mark, Houston**, Dec. 10.

Members of **Good Shepherd, Pasadena**, added 13 people to their fellowship Dec. 17 through profession of faith, rite of confirmation and transfer.

Unforgettable

You may forget with whom you laughed, but you'll never forget with whom you wept.

Just look around

If you have nothing to be thankful for, make up your mind that there is something wrong with you.



HOUSTON—These new members were received Dec. 10 at Christ Lutheran, Houston, by baptism, confirmation, profession of faith and transfer. Pastor is Todd A. Dittloff.



SHAMROCK—Praise God for six new members received into membership Dec. 17 at Trinity Lutheran, Shamrock. Three were confirmed and the two children baptized. Pastor is Andrew Simcak Jr.



RICHARDSON—Rev. Michael Harding (photo at right) was installed Jan. 7 as senior pastor of Messiah Lutheran, Richardson. Participating in the installation service, were, from left front, Revs. Richard Turner, Charles Houska, Harding, Paul Neumann. From left back, Carl Gaertner, Tom Sorensen, John Ellington, Broderick Hathaway, Robert Hill and David Joeckel. Harding served as Messiah's associate pastor for the past 2-1/2 years.



SAN ANTONIO—On Jan. 14, King of Kings, San Antonio, (photo at left) added to its numbers: eight children baptized, one adult confirmed and nine people transferred. Henry H. Biar is pastor.

LARIAT—Sharing the Gospel bears fruit and God's Kingdom grows even in farming communities that are not growing, stated Pastor Mac L. Bearss after the people in photo at right were received into membership at St. John in Lariat, a small congregation in the Panhandle of West Texas. "To God be the glory and thanks for His active and effective ministry in our rural farm communities," says Bearss.



TEMPLE—Rev. Alan Struckmeyer was installed as associate pastor Oct. 22 at Immanuel Lutheran, Temple. A 1986 graduate of the St. Louis seminary, he comes to Temple from Oklahoma. He is shown with his wife, Linda, and son, Andrew. Struckmeyer, a native Texan, spent his early years in Brenham and Navasota.

Rev. Cliff Larson retires at Corpus Christi

Pastor Clifford Larson, who served Trinity Lutheran of Corpus Christi for nearly nine years, preached his farewell sermon there Jan. 7. He retired after 38 years in the full-time ministry.

Before coming to Corpus Christi, Larson served congregations in Kansas and Massachusetts. He was director of public relations in both the Kansas and New England Districts and a district counselor in Kansas and Texas.

During his tenure in Hutchinson, Kan., his congregation telecast its church services for seven years. Larson also conducted a two-hour religious music program each Sunday on a local FM station.



Rev. Clifford Larson

A Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, graduate, Larson served with the Sixth Armored Division as a combat infantryman in Europe in World War II. He received the Combat Infantryman's Badge, the Purple Heart, a battle star and is eligible for the Bronze Star.

He and wife, Dorothy, have four children and plan

to remain in Corpus Christi.

The Larsons were honored during a luncheon after the Jan. 7 service.

Send your news to Bill

Send your news releases, photos, newsletters and bulletins for the LUTHERAN WITNESS to:

Bill Wagner, editor
7900 U.S. 290 East
Austin, TX 78724

About photos: Color photos are OK if the contrast is good. Black and white photos are best.

Texas District disaster relief totals \$25,280

Texas District congregations provided \$25,280.94 for victims of Hurricane Hugo and the San Francisco earthquake, District President Louis Pabor announced.

The money was collected through door offerings in Texas District churches and totaled \$8,438.38 for the hurricane victims and \$16,842.56 for victims of the California quake.

The money was distributed by the LCMS World Relief.

"We thank you for your caring support and prayers in behalf of LCMS World Relief," Dr. Melvin Witt, World Relief counselor, wrote to President Pabor.

Postal Service honors Lutheran from Kerrville

Only two Texans were invited to attend the Universal Postal Congress held Nov. 13 in Washington. One was George Herbert Walker Bush. The other was R.L. "Bob" Rosenthal of Kerrville.

Bush lives in Washington and was speaker at the Congress. Rosenthal is from Kerrville, where he is a member of Holy Cross Lutheran Church.

The Universal Postal Congress is an organization represented by postal officials from 170 countries. Its purpose is to facilitate delivery of mail among countries (including during wartime), and establish routes, rates and laws governing the handling of international mails.

President Abraham Lincoln's postmaster general suggested the first meeting—it was held in Paris, France.

The full Congress meets every five years. This was the second time the group met in the United States, the other time was in 1897.

Rosenthal was invited to the meeting by Postmaster General Anthony Frank. Rosenthal has held several management positions in the postal service, including serving on a committee of four to develop and implement ZIP codes. He also has been postal inspector in the Chicago, Fort Worth, Atlanta and Rio Grande Valley divisions, and was a district manager in Memphis and Deputy Regional Operations Manager in Chi-



R.L. "Bob" Rosenthal

cago.

He retired in 1965. His son, Rev. Tim Rosenthal, is pastor of the dual parish of Brady and Menard.

Anniversaries

The following Lutheran couples of Texas District congregations have recently observed 50 or more years of marriage:

St. Mark, Houston: W.J. and Irma Zwerne-mann, 57 years, Jan. 1; John and Helen Tedens, 51 years, Jan. 18; John and Mathilda Hohle, 63 years, Jan. 23.

Zion, Pasadena: Wilfred and Marguerite Brandt, 50 years, Dec. 31.

Trinity, Sealy: Jones and Edna Finke, 52 years, Jan. 1.

Trinity, Uvalde: Hubert and Ella Burell, 50 years, Jan. 6.

St. Paul, Edna: Lillian and Marvin Wiede, 50 years, Oct. 27; Geradine and Herbert Boening, 52 years, Nov. 4; Erna and Herbert Atzenhoffer, 58 years, Nov. 11; Jewel and Francis Koop, 58 years, Dec. 2.

Congratulations and may God's richest blessings continue to be yours.



PEOPLE, PLACES, & EVENTS

Each week, members of the **Bethlehem, Palestine**, congregation volunteer to clean the sanctuary for worship. They are called the *Happy Dusters*.

Special services Feb. 4 marked the 60th anniversary of **Grace, Midland**.

Rev. Phillip Reed was installed Dec. 31 as pastor of **Living Christ, Ennis**. He is a former evangelistic missionary in Panama.

Rev. William Holzer was installed at **King of Kings, San Antonio**, Jan. 7 as assistant pastor.

Congratulations to Rita Lingnau, who was recognized as an "Outstanding Woman in Texas Government." The program sponsor, the Governor's Commission on Women, honors state employees who "have helped shape Texas by contributing their talents and skills to state government." Lingnau works for the De-

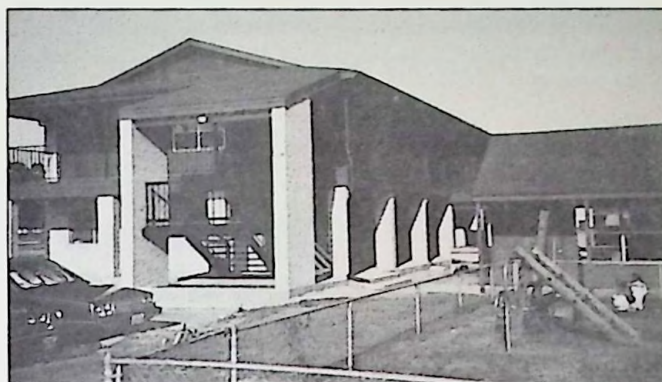
partment of Highways and Public Transportation in Vernon and was invited to the awards ceremony in the Governor's Mansion. She is a member of **Zion Lutheran, Vernon**.

Rev. Douglas Barnett was installed Jan. 7 at **St. Philip, Houston**, as senior administrative pastor.

Grace, Arlington, now broadcasts its 8 a.m. Sunday service on Telecable Channel 49 from 9:30 to 10 a.m. Sundays, followed by *This Is The Life*.

Rev. M. Erich Knippa was installed Dec. 17 at **Faith, Sweetwater**. Knippa, who recently retired, will serve Faith on a part-time basis.

Congratulations to Rev. Ray Schkade, executive director of Parish Services for the **Texas District**, who was re-elected to the Synod's Stewardship Council.



NEW BUILDING—Christ Memorial of Houston dedicated this new educational building recently. Pastors are John D. Fritz and Robert Grothe Jr. Dorinda Werner is DCE and Audrey Peterson is preschool director. John Ruser and Ron Hard represented the building committee at the ribbon-cutting.

Missouri Synod clergyman Dr. Edward J. Mahnke, Houston, former University of Texas M.D. Anderson Hospital director of chaplaincy, received the Distinguished Service Award for 1989 from the Association for Clinical Pastoral Education.

George Moldenauer, **King of Kings, San Antonio**, is a pigeon racing enthusiast. Among his many awards is a single bird flying record and a spot in the Pigeon Hall of Fame

for this bird.

Congratulations to David Coston, **Prince of Peace, Belton**, who graduated as an honor recruit in Marine Corps basic training and was the top marksman in his unit of 850 recruits.

Rev. Paul Neumann was installed Feb. 4 as pastor of the Lutheran churches of Palestine and Jacksonville.

The mayor of Shamrock, Texas, is Douglas O.V. Rives. He's also a member of **Trinity, Shamrock**.



LOVE A PARADE—This is the float of **Grace Lutheran School of Arlington**, which was entered in a recent community holiday parade. The Service Committee of the Parent-Teacher League spon-

sored the float, titled "Hearts, Hands and Voices of Tomorrow." It reflected the role of Lutheran schools in providing leaders for the future.

Errors in LOMT summer camp brochure

Two errors have been discovered in Lutheran Outdoors Ministries of Texas 1990 summer camp brochure.

Alpha Plus weekends at Lone Star will cost \$68; not \$163 as listed.

The asterisk (*) on the Texoma schedule applies to Archway events for families.

Please help LOMT by sharing this information with others.

LUTHERAN OUTDOORS MINISTRY OF TEXAS

1990 summer camp theme: Heart To Heart

UP A CREEK—Water sports are an integral part of summer camp at Texoma and Lone Star Lutheran camps. Here a young camper and a canoe learn teamwork at a summer camp session.



Summer camp is . . .

. . . meeting new people, having fun, experiencing togetherness through a wide variety of activities including Bible study and sharing at campfire devotions, and just growing as Christians under the guidance of quality, dedicated leadership. It's having one of the most treasured times of your life in a fine Christ-centered atmosphere geared to the outdoors.

—Rev. Karl Petzke, Executive Director,
Lutheran Outdoors Ministry of Texas

1990 Schedule: CAMP LONE STAR

DATE	SESSION	AGES	RATES
June 10-15	Conquest I	8-18	\$163
	* Pioneer I	8-18	\$153
June 15-17	Expedition I	5-8	\$ 68
	Sports Spree I	8-18	\$ 68
	Adventure Quest I	10-14	\$ 68
June 17-22	Conquest II	8-18	\$163
	* Pioneer II	8-18	\$153
June 24-29	Alpha I	8-12	\$163
June 29-July 1	Expedition II	5-8	\$ 68
	Alpha Plus I	8-12	\$ 68
July 1-6	Alpha II	8-12	\$163
July 8-13	Alpha III	8-12	\$163
July 13-15	Expedition III	5-8	\$ 68
	Alpha Plus II	8-12	\$ 68
July 15-20	Alpha IV	8-12	\$163
July 22-27	Discovery	13-18	\$163
	* Pioneer III	13-18	\$153
July 22-28	Beach Camp, No. Padre	13-18	\$215
July 29-Aug. 3	Conquest III	8-18	\$163
Aug. 3-5	Expedition IV	5-8	\$ 68
	Sports Spree II	8-18	\$ 68
	Adventure Quest II	10-14	\$ 68
Aug. 5-10	Conquest IV	8-18	\$163
	* Pioneer IV	8-18	\$153
June-Aug. 17	Non-Directed "Open" Camp for Families		
	*Group registration only		

1990 Schedule: TEXOMA LUTHERAN CAMP

DATE	SESSION	AGES	RATES
June 10-15	Operation Outpost	12-18	\$150
June 17-22	Skyway I	9-13	\$150
	Fish Camp	12-18	\$160
June 22-24	Skyway Plus I	9-13	\$ 58
June 24-29	Skyway II	9-13	\$150
June 24-26	Pathway I	5-7	\$ 58
July 1-6	Music Camp	7-12	\$150
	Archway I	Families	
July 8-13	Trailway I	7-9	\$150
July 15-20	Waterway	11-18	\$198
July 22-27	Skyway III	9-13	\$150
July 22-28	Beach Camp, No. Padre	13-18	\$215
July 27-29	Skyway Plus II	9-13	\$ 58
July 29-Aug. 3	Skyway IV	9-13	\$150
	Archway II	Families	
Aug. 3-5	Pathway II	5-7	\$ 58
Aug. 5-10	Trailway II	7-9	\$150
	Texoma Trek	12-18	\$150
Aug. 12-17	Trailway III	7-9	\$150
	Skyway V	9-13	\$150

INFORMATION REQUEST

Mail details related to LOMT Programs/Events to:

Names: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: () _____ Church: _____

LOMT, 7900 U.S. 290 East, Austin, TX 78724 (512) 926-4272

- | | |
|--|--|
| ☐ PTL (Prime Time Lutherans)
Lone Star—April 23-26 | ☐ RV TENT CAMPING
Huntsville State Park
April 21-23 |
| ☐ DEEP SEA FISHING TRIP
Port Aransas—July 21 | ☐ Non-Directed "Open"
Camp for Families |
| ☐ CONFIRMATION WEEKENDS
Texoma-Jubilation
March 30-April 1
Lone Star-Lifquest
May 18-20 | ☐ ARCHWAY CAMPS
for Families |
| | ☐ Summer Camp Brochure |

Other _____



GARLAND—Tree of Life Lutheran Church, Garland, received these 35 members into membership Dec. 10. Thirteen are adult confirmands, one child was baptized, and 21 others were received by transfer and reprofession of faith. Donald R. Hefta is pastor.

Pupils offer coins for Jesus

"Coins for Jesus," a Lenten ministry emphasis in Texas District Lutheran schools, will support a variety of International Lutheran Laymen's League ministries. The "Coins for Jesus" program is a cooperative effort of the Texas District Board for Parish Services and the LLL's Lone Star District.

In this program, a school

concentrates on any one of several LLL ministries—like television ministry, Lutheran Hour radio ministry or the LLL's international ministry.

Materials are provided to help students learn about the specific LLL ministry chosen.

The students will support this ministry with their individual Lenten offerings.



WALLIS—Three adults and two children received the Sacrament of Holy Baptism Dec. 11 at St. Paul, Wallis. From left are Ben Parker and daughter, Meggan; Pastor Ray Spitzenberger; member Beth Parker with infant son, Ryan; Bill Hein, elders chairman; and Jill Krause and her son, Shawn.

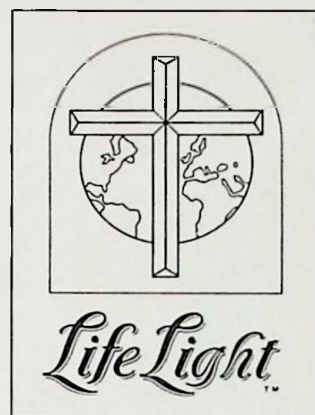
LifeLight™ in-depth Bible study encouraged for your congregation

LifeLight™, a five-year in-depth study of selected books of the Bible, is being conducted throughout The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. More than 21,000 LCMS members nationwide are enrolled in this unique Bible study program, which was developed through a grant from the International Lutheran Women's Missionary League and published by Concordia Publishing House.

The purpose of LifeLight™ is to involve every adult in God's Word daily "so more Christians will grow in their personal faith in Jesus Christ, enjoy fellowship with members of His body, and reach out to others in witness and service."

Lessons are conducted in nine-week sessions, with a break between each session. Students spend approximately 20 minutes per day in personal study, answering questions from a prepared study guide. They then meet once a week in small groups to share what they learned. An informative recap of the lesson is presented to the assembled groups and members are given a summary review leaflet.

"The program does take commitment," a participant states, "but it definitely makes a difference in my understanding and growth as a Christian. In addition



to learning through detailed personal study, I've found that the small discussion groups have helped our members bond into more of a church family. I'm so thankful my church is involved in LifeLight™ study!"

For more information about the LifeLight™ program and training workshops, contact your pastor, Texas District program coordinator Keith Loomans at the Texas District LCMS office in Austin, or workshop coordinator Doris McKay, (512) 729-4651.

Congregations involved in LifeLight™ are encouraged to budget time and funds now to send their leadership team to a special "training/retraining experience" planned for Nov. 2-4 at Camp Lone Star. Sessions will be conducted for congregations enrolled in the program and for those interested in beginning this exciting journey into God's Word.

Leonard F. Schroeder Performance Hall



Leonard Schroeder (center, between doors) was joined for the performance hall dedication by members of his congregation, Pilgrim Lutheran

Church in Houston. Included were his pastor, Rev. Donald Peymann (far right) and Schroeder's mother, Elizabeth Schroeder (on his right).

Schroeder Performance Hall is dedicated at Concordia

During its 64-year history, Concordia Lutheran College of Texas has been blessed by God with many good friends who have given time, talents and funds to see that the college flourished.

Recently, Leonard F. Schroeder of Houston has been counted among those on whom Concordia could depend. So, in January, the performance hall in the Louise T. Peter Center was dedicated as the Leonard F. Schroeder Performance Hall.

A leading Lutheran layman and businessman, Schroeder was elected to Concordia's Board of Regents at the 1975 LCMS convention and served until September 1989.

When Concordia received

authorization in 1979 to expand to four year status, Schroeder served as a member of the three-person Executive Committee for Founding 4, which helped raise more than \$3 million toward the college's building programs.

"Leonard Schroeder has been a leader in making the college right and making it last," said Concordia's president, Dr. Ray F. Martens, during the dedicatory service. Martens challenged the audience to devote themselves to Christian higher education as Schroeder has done.

For the dedicatory homily, Martens used Gen. 28:10-22, the recounting of Jacob's visionary experience on the road from Beersheba to Haran. In

verse 16, we are told that Jacob said, "Surely the Lord is in this place."

Martens said that, like Jacob, we assign prominence to certain places where God has revealed Himself to many. "Concordia Lutheran College is a place where God is seen as He is and heaven is open," he said.

The commitment of concerned Christians like Leonard Schroeder allows Concordia to fulfill its mission. The dedicatory plaque placed outside the Schroeder Performance Hall door says of Schroeder, "May his service and support be a witness and testimony to others. 'Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the Lord of hosts (Zechariah 4:6b KJV).'"

Music workshop designed for organists and choir directors

Registration is now open for this summer's Church Music Workshop sponsored by Concordia Lutheran College. Housing on the campus will be available for the June 11-15 workshop.

Church organists and choral directors will study under the leadership of Professor Harold Rutz and Dr. Bernard Gastler, both of Concordia's music faculty. This year's guest instructor will be Dr. Donald Rotermond, minister of music at Zion Lutheran Church in Dallas. Rotermond is a well known composer of organ and choral music.

The workshop will include choral reading sessions, instruction in choral directing and/or organ performance, techniques for working with handbell choirs, plus more.

For more information, contact Professor Harold Rutz at Concordia Lutheran College, 3400 IH 35 N., Austin, TX 78705; 1-800-735 3232.

Last chance to Sneak a Peek

Saturday, April 7, will be the last chance this spring for prospective students to spend the day with CLC faculty and students, getting acquainted with the college.

Call the admissions office, 1-800-735-3232, to make reservations.



Concordia honors leaders—present and future

"Our God is a God of surprises," said Concordia senior Julie Barlow Schroeder as she spoke about some of the circumstances God prepared for her and her husband, Bobby, on the road to their upcoming ministries as Lutheran teachers.

Schroeder spoke at the annual Concordia Honors Convocation Banquet and represented students who receive scholarship assistance. She thanked the donors who established scholarship endowments and "named" scholarships, using her life story as an example of how scholarships open doors for those preparing for ministries of leadership in God's kingdom.

"God uses your first fruits to accomplish miracles in the lives of students," she told the donors.

Ernest Bolland of Bishop spoke as a representative of scholarship donors. He urged those attending to emulate the Sea of Galilee, which supports life because

it both receives and gives water, rather than the Dead Sea, which is stagnant and brackish because it does not have an outlet.

Concordia currently receives the earnings from almost \$2 million in scholarship endowments. The interest from \$50,000 in endowment funds allows one student to attend Concordia at a cost comparable to that of a state-supported college.

Many current endowments were given in memory of beloved family members. Generally, endowments are established at \$5,000 or more.

In addition to the earnings from permanent endowments, more than \$150,000 each year is given to students through Concordia's general scholarship program, which consists of the Professional Church Work Scholarship Fund and the General Scholarship Fund. Contributions to these funds may be made in any amount.

With an annual gift of \$500 or more, a donor may establish a "named" scholarship whereby the scholarship is identified as coming from a specific scholarship fund. The principal of such a scholarship is expended each year.

The Honors Convocation Banquet presents an opportunity for CLC scholarship students to thank those who make their scholarships possible, and for the donors to meet the young people who have received the benefit of their generosity.

It also gives Concordia an opportunity to honor both groups—those who provide leadership in Christian education and those who will lead us in years to come.

Spring 1990 enrollment

The spring enrollment at Concordia Lutheran College of Texas is 597, up from 520 in the spring of 1989. The projected enrollment for the fall of 1990 is 700.

The Concordia College Choir—on the radio and on tour

The College Choir of Concordia Lutheran College will be heard on "The Lutheran Hour" broadcasts March 18 and March 25. Check local radio listings for stations and times.

The choir can be heard and seen during its annual spring tour at the following Texas Lutheran churches: Wednesday, March 28, Lenten service at Living Word, The Woodlands; Saturday, March 31, concert at Lamb of God, Humble; Sunday, April 1, morning worship service at Pilgrim, Houston; Sunday, April 1, evening concert at King of Kings, San Antonio.

Contact each church for service and concert times.

The 35-member College Choir is directed by Professor Harold Rutz. Admissions counselors will travel with the choir on tour to speak with prospective students and their parents.



The Concordia College Choir presented two concerts to a total of more than 800 people at Christmas. In March, the choir will ex-

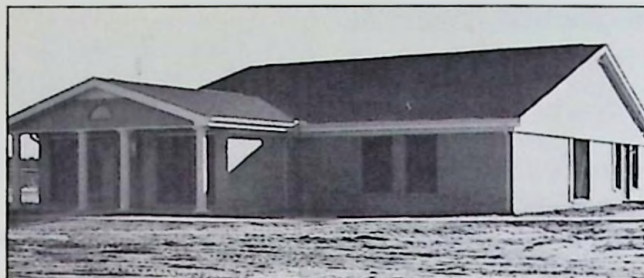
tend its audience through guest appearances on "The Lutheran Hour" and by touring.

BETHESDA LUTHERAN HOME GOOD SAMARITAN CAMPUS

Volunteer Tea planned for April 22

Good Samaritan volunteers and family members are invited to the second annual Volunteer Tea from 2 to 4 p.m. on Sunday, April 22, at the Cypress campus.

Entertainment, refreshments and good fellowship are planned, according to Wayne Ritchie, regional development director.



NEW GROUP HOME—Located on Good Samaritan's main campus, this new intermediate care facility (in addition to another new home one mile east on K-Z Road) will serve mentally retarded adults who are also physically handicapped. When fully occupied, these homes will bring the Good Samaritan population to 44 residents. They live in six ICFMRs and one eight-bed group home.

Mental retardation workshop focus: being friends

Thirty-eight people attended the first workshop on mental retardation sponsored by Salem Lutheran Church, Tomball, in conjunction with Bethesda Lutheran Home's National Christian Resource Center.

"Mental Retardation: Meeting Needs, Being Friends" was the theme of the Jan. 6 event. Rev. Wayne Graumann, Salem's pastor, was the local coordinator.

Sectional subjects included: "Parish Advocacy," "Teaching Techniques versus Learning Styles," "Community Resources,"

"Social-Sexual Education" and "Basics in Behavior Management."

Among the presenters were Rev. Frederick Stiemke, religious life administrator; Kathleen McGwin, human resources administrator; and David Morstad, director of training, all from Bethesda. Eileen Cross and Nora Bowles, both with Partnerships for Assisting Texas with Handicaps, Beaumont, also gave presentations.

Congregations wishing to host a similar workshop should contact Linda Sires at Bethesda's National

Christian Resource Center in Watertown, Wis., 1-800-369-INFO, or Chaplain Erwin Metz at Good Samaritan Campus, Cypress, Texas, (713) 351-4911.

One in every 33 youngsters is born mentally retarded. "That means there are more than 6 million mentally retarded people in the United States—a vast mission field," says A.L. Napolitano, Bethesda's executive director. "We stand ready to help local parishes reach out to persons with mental retardation in their community."

Two group homes under construction

Continuing its commitment to expand services to mentally retarded people in Texas, Bethesda Lutheran Home built two new group homes this winter near the Good Samaritan main campus.

One home is located next to the chapel and the other is one mile east on K-Z Road.

Six residents will move into each facility as soon as certification is approved by the State of Texas.

Texas regulations require that services to people with mental retardation be provided in homes no larger than six beds, and they must be located at least one mile apart.

Since the main campus dorm cannot be certified under these rules, all residents are being moved into group homes. The dorm will then be remodeled for a respite center. The education unit is used for day activities.

Respite applications will be accepted when remodeling is completed.



RESOURCES—Workshop participants had an opportunity to examine an array of new Christian education materials for use with persons with mental retardation.



TECHNIQUES—During the Tomball workshop, Kathleen McGwin, Bethesda's human resources administrator, shared techniques for working with people who are mentally retarded.



+ In memoriam +

Rev. Ronald Damerow
Brian Richard Damerow, son of Paul and Belinda Damerow, was baptized Christmas Eve by his grandfather, Rev. Ronald Damerow of Faith Lutheran of Houston. On Christmas Day, Pastor Damerow died of a heart attack.

Damerow is survived by his wife, Clara Jean, and three children.

Rev. Edwin E. Pieplow
The Lord called to Himself Rev. Edwin E. Pieplow Jan. 2. Pieplow was a former pastor of St. Paul, Fort Worth, where funeral services were held. He had served several pastorates in Texas since his retirement in 1973.

He was on the Synod's Board for Mission Services for several years, and had been guest speaker on *The Lutheran Hour*.

Survivors are his wife, Alma, and a son and daughter.

Theodore Bethke

Theodore Bethke, a retired educator living in Austin, died Christmas Eve.

He had served as teacher, principal, organist and choir director for 42 years in seven Texas District congregations. He is survived by three daughters.

Rev. Carl E. Kasper

Rev. Carl E. Kasper died Jan. 8. Services were held at Trinity Lutheran in Houston.

He had been in the Texas District a long time, coming to Texarkana in 1928 from

the seminary. He then served in Brady, Kingsville and Houston. Since his retirement, he had served many congregations in their vacancies.

He is survived by his wife.

Prayer power is reviewed

Do Lutherans need help and encouragement in their prayer lives?

A prayer seminar, sponsored by the Texas District Board of Parish Services, was held Nov. 18 at St. John, Wharton. The presenter was Rev. Schiefelbein of Our Savior, Corpus Christi.

The seminar was attended by 44 church workers and laypeople. An evaluation done by those attending listed the things they found helpful in their prayer lives:

- How to pray.
- The role of the congregation in uplifting the pastor.
- The vision of effective prayer.
- Increasing prayer within the family.
- Help the church become a church that reaches out and not only is concerned about itself.
- Emphasis on the value of prayer.
- Letting me know that I am not alone in my lack of prayer knowledge.
- We don't walk by sight but by faith.
- To find out that I personally need a closer walk with God through prayer.
- To learn more about praying for the needs of others.



ORDAINED 50 YEARS—Rev. Herman Hiebert, center, was honored Dec. 10 at St. James Lutheran Church, Honey Grove, on his 50th anniversary of ordination. At left is Rev. Robert Hill, preacher for the service. At right is Rev. Rudy C. Herbrich, circuit counselor and service liturgist. On that same day, Hiebert, who had been serving as vacancy pastor at St. James, received a call to be pastor at St. James.

Pastor marks 50 years in pulpit; gets call same day

It was quite a day Dec. 10 for Rev. Herman Hiebert, who was honored at St. James Lutheran Church of Honey Grove on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of his ordination.

Later in the day, the St. James congregation called him to be its pastor.

Hiebert had been serving as vacancy pastor at St. James. He retired there as a full-time pastor in 1983 and since then had been serving vacancies at Peace, Garland; St. Peter, Bowie; Trinity, Bridgeport; Our Savior, McKinney; Grace, Denison; and Honey Grove.

After the anniversary service Dec. 10, the St. James voters assembly met to discuss calling another pastor, since Rev. Tom Olson had left Honey Grove to serve a congregation in Indiana. The congregation's first call had been declined.

At the meeting, the call was issued to Hiebert. He accepted, and has changed status from vacancy pastor to pastor of the congregation he previously served from 1977 to 1983.

- Made me aware of my need to establish personal, daily prayer time.

Parish services is planning other prayer seminars in the district.

TEXAS CHURCH EXTENSION FUND

Meet the CEF board members

If you ever have a question about the Texas District Church Extension Fund, there are a variety of resource people available to provide answers. Your CEF congregational representative and pastor are excellent resource people.

There might be an occasion when you would like to talk personally with one of the Board for Church Extension members. Here is a summary of each board member:

- **Hardy Schneider** retired from Shell Pipeline Corporation in 1980 after 45 years of service. He has been a member of Trinity Lutheran Church in downtown Houston since 1940 and has held a number of positions, including congregational president.

Since his retirement, he has been the editor of the "Houston Lutheran." He served the Church Extension Fund as a circuit director and regional director before his appointment to the board in 1989. He and his wife, Vera, are active investors in the fund because, "it is the most direct and personal way to be a part of the mission ministry of our church and our district."

- **Ruth Stacey** is a professional associate real estate broker. She is an active member of King of Kings Lutheran Church in San Antonio. Her community activities include serving as a lecturer for San Antonio College. Stacey said, "The ministry of CEF is, to me, the epitome of



CEF BOARD—These are the members of the Texas District Church Extension Fund board. From the left are Hardy Schneider, Ruth Stacey,

Juergen Koetter, Karl Young, Milburn Schubert, Ed Gallmeier, Rev. Jay Simonsen, Wilson Whiteside and Bill Siegrist.

God's unceasing love, the building of new missions to house His Kingdom's growth."

- **Juergen Koetter** formerly owned a contracting firm. In addition, he keeps busy by serving as chairman of Christ Lutheran Church, Houston. He's also an adult Bible class leader in his congregation and is chairman of the Houston Lutheran banquet. He also currently serves as Christ Lutheran's CEF congregational representative.

As chairman of the Board for Church Extension, he says, "Of the many blessings the Lord has showered on me, the most gratifying is that He allows me to be a part of the fine, productive group of people known as the Board of Directors of the Church Extension Fund."

- For the last 18 years **Karl Young** has worked as a private investor in the securities, real estate, oil and gas. He is a life-long member of Zion in Dallas, where he has served as president and as a board chairman. He currently serves as Zion's CEF congregational representative.

He and his wife, Gloria, have five adult children. Young stated, "The opportunity of serving the Lord by working on this board has been a special blessing

to me. Working with really dedicated Lutherans, both on this board and CEF members throughout the state, has given me a special type of Christian fellowship that is quite unique and wonderful."

- For the past 16 years **Milburn Schubert** has served as the executive director of the Church Extension Fund and also as the chief fiscal officer for the Texas District. He has 25 years prior experience in corporate accounting, finance and management. He and his wife, Virginia, and son, Mark, are members of Hope Lutheran Church in Austin.

- **Ed Gallmeier** is a member of Trinity Lutheran Church and serves as principal of Trinity-Messiah Lutheran School in Houston. He has served there for 28 years: 14 years as seventh grade teacher and youth director and 14 years as principal.

Gallmeier stated, "It is a privilege and joy to serve on the Texas District Church Extension Board and watch our Lord's work grow through building churches and schools with money invested by His people."

- **Rev. Jay Simonsen** is a native of Austin. He has been in ministry in the

Texas District for 12 years. He founded a congregation in the Dallas area, served as a pastor in Midland and now serves at St. Paul in Groves. CEF became a reality for Simonsen when he began a mission in Rowlett. He then became an active worker in CEF as a congregational representative.

- **Wilson Whiteside** is retired from the Brunswick Corporation. He is now a district representative with Lutheran Brotherhood and LB Securities Corporation. He and his wife, Marilyn, have five children and eight grandchildren. He is president of Our Redeemer Church in Dallas.

- For the last two years **Bill Siegrist** has been director of development for the Church Extension Fund. He was formerly a national training consultant with the Zig Zigar Corporation. He has served two congregations as a director of Christian education. He and his wife, Pam, have two daughters, Emily and Carrie. He is a LifeLight™ group leader in his congregation, St. Paul in Austin.

**Texas District
Church Extension Fund
Bill Siegrist
7900 U.S. 290 East
Austin, TX 78724
(512) 926-4272**



CLEBURNE—A special effort at Ascension Lutheran Church, Cleburne, has retired the church indebtedness. Robert Frost, congregation chairman, burns the note. Rev. Ben Rathgeber is at right. From left, back row at right, are Jeffrey Kandt and Robert Kandt. Middle row, Edward

Jacobs, Bill Schick, Kenneth Lunsford, Shirley Kandt, Rebecca Kandt Roe. Front, Norma Schaefer, Hilda Lunsford, Frost, Sally Kaschke, Margaret Schick and Pastor Rathgeber. All were members of Ascension when the first unit was constructed in 1966.

CEF Celebration Sunday set

by Bill Siegrist, Director of Development
Church Extension Fund

Why should there be a special "CEF Celebration Sunday" throughout the Texas District? Our Lord Jesus Christ often answered a question with a question. He knew that it was important to get the other person involved in the solution.

Here is an answer (a question) to the previously mentioned question. What Texas financial institution has an 80-year-history of stability and service to churches throughout our district like the Church Extension Fund?

More than 80 percent of the congregations in the Texas District have benefited from low interest CEF. We really do have something to celebrate about!

On April 29, our Texas District congregations will celebrate the past and focus on the future of the CEF ministry. Come join us in carrying out Christ's Great Commission through your investments and savings in the ministry of the Church Extension Fund.

Remember, mark your calendar: April 29 is "CEF Celebration Sunday" in the Texas District.

For more information about CEF, please talk with your congregational representative, your pastor, or contact the district office.

**It's
April
29th**

Texas District
Church Extension Fund
Bill Siegrist
7900 U.S. 290 East
Austin, TX 78724
(512) 926-4272

It is finished— (the debt) at Ascension

During 1989, members of Ascension Lutheran Church in Cleburne participated in a concerted effort to retire the remaining indebtedness on the church facility and property.

The program was organized around the word, *te-tele sati*, our Lord's pronouncement from the cross—"It is finished!" (paid in full).

The effort was completed in a note-burning ceremony Dec. 10 dedicated to the praise and honor of the Lord of the Church.

Thrill your pastor

Say to him: Of course I'll accept that responsibility. It will be a privilege.

1990 district budget is \$5.3 million

A budget for 1990 of \$5,340,000 was adopted by the Texas District Board of Directors.

Meeting Jan. 23, the directors allocated 44 percent of the budget—or \$2,349,600—to the Missouri Synod for its worldwide mission effort and other programs of education and parish support.

Last year, Texas sent 43 percent of its budget to the Synod. The district, in convention, urged Texas to strive for a goal of 45 percent of its resources to send to the Synod for world missions.

Of the remaining \$2,990,400 that the Texas District will use, \$1,695,298 will be used for district missions and ministry, \$346,179 for parish services, \$319,363 for special services and projects, \$16,000 for general assemblies, and \$589,060 for administration that includes support for the district's boards and committees.

The 1990 district budget is a 5.6 percent increase over 1989.

In other action, board members were told by Rev. Ray Schkade, executive director of Texas Board of Parish Services, that results of the 1989 every-congregation visits were "very favorable," with approximately 60 percent of the congregations returning caucus report forms that indicated a recommended increase in world missions of \$300,000.

What do churches need for infant/toddler ministry?

In past issues of the *Texas Messenger*, this column addressed congregational ministry to young children and their families—Infant/Toddler Ministry: A New Mission Frontier.

In this article we address the question of what congregations need in this area. Each parish's needs are different; therefore, the action plan and resulting programs will vary.

- Congregations interested in developing an infant/toddler ministry should first organize a study committee. This committee would serve a congregational need, analyze results and begin to lay the foundation for infant/toddler ministry.

The next step is to establish a planning committee, appointed by the Board of Education or other appropriate governing board. Its membership should represent all ages of the congre-

gation and all levels of enthusiasm for early childhood ministry.

Some members should have expertise in early childhood development. Others should have ability in financial planning and data analysis. The committee should include members of the church professional staff and, if possible, the pastor.

- The tasks of the study committee: Determine what is happening in infant/toddler ministry in area congregations; check for both printed and people resources; obtain copies of the Synod's materials on ministry to infants, toddlers and their families; obtain or develop a survey instrument.

The committee should gather information that will give a broad picture of the needs of families with very young children. Having a broad picture will give the committee a better oppor-



CONFEREES—Doris McKay, left, and Barbara Bradfield chat with Synod President Ralph Bohlmann. The two women represented the Texas District at the Synod's Women's Conference.

tunity to ascertain the true needs of the people. Surveys may be conducted by telephone interviews, congregational mailings, community mailings and direct distribution in the neighborhood.

The committee will then analyze the survey results. On the basis of the findings, the committee would prepare recommendations for the Board of Education or other appropriate body for further action.

- For sample survey material as well as information on the establishment of infant/toddler ministry in the congregation, contact the district office. Keith Loomans can provide you with a copy of "In Ministry: Infants, Toddlers and Their Families."

The information in this article was excerpted from that document by Dr. Barbara Morton, Concordia College, Austin. Morton is a member of the Texas District Task Force on Infant/Toddler Ministry.

Expansion of women's ministries eyed

Doris McKay and Barbara Bradfield, representing the Texas District, were among 66 women who attended the LCMS Women's Conference in St. Louis Dec. 1-3.

Presented by the LCMS President's Commission on Women, the conference was attended by representatives of each of Synod's 35 districts nationwide. It was intended to help attendees become familiar with existing resources for women; gain insights from other commission members; and discuss how women's ministries can be expanded within the parameters of the Synod's doctrinal position.

Those who attended will conduct local forums to attempt to identify new ministries for women as well as existing ministries that can be used more fully by women.



GIFT—Elroy Domaschk, left, receives thanks from Pastor Jay Simonsen after he presented a new grand piano to St. Paul Lutheran, Groves. The piano was given in memory of Domaschk's wife, Kay, whom the Lord took to her heavenly home in 1988. James Ranka, pianist/organist, is at left.



Emergency response can be life-saver

Recently, a 90-year-old widow who lives alone was referred to the Lutheran Social Service of Texas, Inc., Emergency Response System. Her daughter-in-law and grandchildren are not frequently in touch with her because they live on the other side of Dallas. She receives regular weekly visits from her congregation's Stephen Ministers and pastor.

During the past year, she fell several times due to vertigo. When she fell, she had to crawl some distance to the telephone to get help. She needed 24-hour in-home assistance but did not need someone to live with her.

The LSST Emergency Response Service provides 24-hour in-home assistance through a remote communicator that allows her to call for help from any room in the house. Now if she should fall, all she has to do is push the button on the small necklace unit to get help. The Emergency Response System has helped fulfill her desire to live independently and yet have the 24-hour support she needs.

The Emergency Response System is a state-wide service of LSST. For more information, contact the LSST area service office nearest you.



Meet Janis: one of the fortunate ones who found a loving home

Janis, a Down's syndrome child, was born 17 years ago. Since at that time there was little hope for adoption, she spent most of her life in an institution with children who had similar disabilities.

Janis, however, was one of the fortunate ones. When Janis was 15, a woman contacted Lutheran Social Service of Texas, Inc., and wanted to adopt a child nobody else wanted. Her children were grown and her major responsibility centered around the care of her invalid husband and a small daycare program she operated in her house.

She felt that she had been blessed throughout her life and wanted to share her blessings with someone less fortunate.

That phone call and another call received about the same time from a student intern who had taken a special interest in Janis provided the impetus for Janis' acquiring a secure, loving home and family for the first time in her life. Janis has grown richly in her new environment and is progressing rapidly toward higher levels of independence. And what about Janis' new parents? They are back, eager to adopt again.

"There are many 'special needs' children available for adoption at LSST," said Janie Cravens, director for adoption services. "We are always looking for families who will consider these special children. For more information about these adoption opportunities, please contact your nearest LSST area service office."

Educational opportunities for chaplains will broaden their sense of mission

Lutheran Social Service of Texas, Inc., will be able to serve the needs of elderly citizens more effectively with the help of a \$1,000 grant from AAL.

According to Rev. Robert C. Greene, LSST president, the grant will help provide educational opportunities for the agency's 34 chaplains. The focus will be

on enhanced leadership skills, which will broaden their sense of vision and mission in serving the needs of elderly individuals.

"A possible outcome will be to help the Lutheran chaplains sensitize the staff and administration of their ministry site to the special opportunities and needs of ministry with elderly per-

sons," said Rev. Calvin O. Goerdel, vice president for programs of LSST.

The LSST chaplains minister in 34 locations like hospitals, prisons, rehabilitation centers, nursing homes and counseling centers. The Lutheran church in Texas (ELCA and LCMS) provides approximately \$175,000 for this vital ministry.

**Lone Star
convention
in Wichita Falls
May 3-5**

The 1990 Lone Star District Lutheran Laymen's League convention will take place May 3-5 at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in Wichita Falls. Chairman John Lensch and his committees are planning an inspirational weekend. Watch for lodging information in our next month's issue.

Laurence E. ("Larry") Lumpe from the St. Louis office will attend the sessions and will be the Saturday evening banquet speaker. Lumpe has been executive director of the Int'l LLL since Oct. 16, 1989.

Lumpe was a member of the Int'l LLL Board of Governors from 1974 to 1988, serving as vice president, treasurer and financial secretary. He has been a member of various committees and subcommittees of the board, including the Finance Committee, Development Committee and the League Services Committee.

Lumpe and his wife, Carol, live in Grantwood Village in suburban St. Louis. They have three grown children.

**LUTHERAN HOUR
BRIEF**

Through radio industry promotional mailing by the St. Louis office, a number of radio stations are now airing "The Lutheran Hour," "Crosswalk" and



Laurence E. Lumpe

"Ayer, Hoy y Siempre" on a public service arrangement.

The marketing of "The Lutheran Hour" Christmas special, "Christmas Wrappings," was very successful. More than 500 stations aired this broadcast during Christmas 1989. Also marketed was the "Ayer, Hoy y Siempre" special "Simeon the Visionary." It was broadcast by 140 stations.

This year more attention was given in the Lutheran Hour promotion to areas where LCMS congregations are located. In the telephone follow-up after Christmas it is hoped to gain new public service outlets there. The same is being done for the Spanish Christmas special.

Looking ahead to Easter, there will be a special interview with Dave Dravecky, who recently retired from the San Francisco Giants.



Dr. Dale Meyer will talk to Dravecky about his experience with cancer and also his experience of being in Candlestick Park when the earthquake struck during the World Series.

By mid-December, 126 orders for this special had been received. This is a result of the marketing effort of the Christmas special. By the middle of January, requests for the Easter special were well over 200.

These stations are in addition to those already broadcasting "The Lutheran Hour."

**CONCORDIA CHOIR
ON LUTHERAN HOUR**

The choir of Concordia College, Austin, will be featured on "The Lutheran Hour" during Lent. On March 18 the choir will sing "Come Let Us Adore" and "Follow Me." The anthem on March 25 will be "The Agnus Dei." Our thanks to these young folks and their director, Dr. Harold Rutz.

ON AUSTIN TV

James Arldt, a student at Concordia College, Austin, produced a commercial that is appearing frequently in Austin on ACTV 32. In order to fulfill a class requirement, he produced this 60-second "Blurb" promoting the "This Is The Life" production. A local LLLer, Gus Kieschnick, is the narrator.

Arldt holds a behavioral science degree from Concordia College and is continuing his education in the Department of Communication. He is the son of Judy



James Arldt

and Franklin Arldt and is a member of Redeemer, Austin.

**GERMAN "HOUR"
GAVE HOPE
TO REFUGEES**

Masses of Germans are streaming into West Germany, leaving everything behind in their former homes in the Soviet Union, Poland, Romania and East Germany.

Last year resettlers from the Soviet Union numbered 47,488—of whom 33 percent were Lutheran. Those who came from Poland numbered 140,226 and those who came from Romania numbered 12,902.

They had waited for exit visas for years and even decades. Some reported, "Our only contact with our faith was the German Lutheran Hour," which is broadcast from Radio Luxembourg.

LLL news should be sent to:

**Irene Teinert
Information Coord.
1501 Barbara St.
Austin, TX 78757**



BE ALL
YOU CAN BE
AS A
SERVANT



By washing His disciples' feet, our Lord Jesus showed Himself as the perfect example of a loving servant. Through our district "servanthood" seminars, the Texas LWML can help you show that same love through service to others.

Every woman has the opportunity to attend a regional workshop to learn to "Be All You Can Be as a Servant."

Our last workshop will be held May 5 in Big Spring. If you were unable to attend a seminar in your area, take advantage of these last few opportunities to learn, share and rejoice in the role of a servant for the King of Creation!

• **MARCH 24**—Zion, Dallas—to include the Dallas North, Metropolitan and Northeast Texas zones. District presenters will be Sherry Torbert, Catherine Burkhard and Dolores Bruncke. Make reservations with Dorothy Hunger, Rt. 2, #10 Northcrest, Rockwall 75087.

• **APRIL 7**—St. Paul, Plainview—will include the High Plains, Panhandle and South Plains zones. District

presenters will be Sherry Torbert, Catherine Burkhard and Ruby Young. Contact Betty Kirklen, 303 Western, Hereford 79045.

• **APRIL 28**—St. Paul, Fort Worth—includes the Central Texas, Red River and Trinity zones. District servants will be Sherry Torbert, Catherine Burkhard, Jan Scales, Pearl Biar and Dolores Bruncke. Contact Florence Jesmain, 4012 Dawn Drive, Fort Worth 76116.

As a symbolic reminder of Christ's loving action, each woman is asked to bring a small handcrafted towel for a prayer-partner exchange. Decorate the towel any way you wish and wrap it in white tissue paper. A card with your name and address should be attached to the package.

If you aren't handy, ask a talented friend to help you. Don't let the lack of a towel prevent you from attending a workshop that could change your outlook on the joys of servanthood.



SERVANTHOOD prayer-partners exchange towels, prayer needs, laughter, tears and friendship.



Jubilee theme from God's Word

"Celebrate the Jubilee! Glorify His Name!" based on Lev. 25:9-11 is the theme of the 1991 International LWML Convention.

"Then shalt thou cause the trumpet of the jubilee to sound . . . and yes shall hallow the fiftieth year and proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof" (KJV).

God gave Moses detailed instructions for celebrating the 50th or jubilee years of freedom that gave temporary reprieve from poverty, bondage and oppression. The Israelites' jubilee joy was a foretaste of the greater, everlasting liberty attained through Christ.

The Lutheran Women's Missionary League has proclaimed this message of Christ's liberation for 50 years and will continue to spread His Good News throughout the world.

In our jubilee year we celebrate the message and the ministry first and foremost as we "give unto the Lord the glory due unto His name . . ." (KJV).

This is not to merely say, "Thank you, Lord." To give God glory is to acknowledge His power, His mercy, His love; He is the Giver of all our blessings, and we place complete trust in Him to multiply all that will yet be accomplished for His Kingdom.

With such acknowledgment, praise, thanksgiving and trust, the LWML not only celebrates the 50 completed years of ministry, but joyously looks forward to more . . . more growth, more workers, more souls won, more service.

Lots of talented servants will be needed for our 50th birthday celebration.

• Trumpeters will add a festive touch to the Cleveland jubilee convention. If you are a trumpeter, or know one who is going to the convention and would be willing to use her talent to God's glory, send her name and address to Marie Biesenthal, address below.

• Calligraphers are needed to print more than 6,000 charters that will be reissued for presentation at the convention. Calligraphers willing to write names and dates on charters should contact Marie Biesenthal, 2137 Mason Green Drive, Ballwin, MO 63011.

CONVENTION GUEST REGISTRATION

26th Biennial Convention
Texas District Lutheran Women's Missionary League
June 20-22, 1990 - Austin, Texas

Instructions:

- 1) Observe deadlines noted below.
- 2) Complete form in full where applicable. **PLEASE PRINT.**
- 3) Mail with fees to: Convention Registrar, Peggy Turnipseed, 1302 March, Austin 78753.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Home Phone () _____ Business Phone () _____

Society _____ Church _____

Church City _____ Zone _____

Convention Choir: ☐ Yes ☐ No Deal Signing Needed: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Transportation: Car ☐ Air ☐ Charter Bus ☐ Bus ☐ Arrival Time: _____

Convention Registration Fee (through May 15)	@	\$12.00	\$ _____
Convention Registration Fee (after May 15)	@	\$17.00	\$ _____
Thursday (June 21) Buffet Lunch	@	\$10.50	\$ _____
Thursday (June 21) Evening Banquet/Entertainment	@	\$14.00	\$ _____
Post Convention Tour	@	\$17.50	\$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____
(Checks payable to "Texas District LWML 1990 Convention")

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: May 15 (\$5 Late Fee Due Thereafter)
DEADLINE FOR REFUNDS: June 1
DEADLINE FOR RETURN REGISTRATION CONFIRMATION: June 10

NOTE: Registrants are responsible for making own hotel reservations, unless the District LWML President has given notification to Registrant that she is handling. Hotel reservation forms for Austin Marriott at the Capitol are provided. Hotel confirmations will not be mailed after June 1.

How to register

• **GUEST CONVENTION REGISTRATION**—Complete the guest registration form following the printed instructions. Mail form with appropriate fees to Convention Registrar Peggy Turnipseed, 1302 March, Austin 78753.

• **SEMINAR REGISTRATION**—Complete the seminar registration form and mail the form and appropriate fee to Marje Hahn, 5914 Foresthaven, Houston 77066.

• **HOUSING REGISTRATION**—Complete the reservation form in full. Use one reservation form for each room. List all roommates on that one form. (Do not use 800 number for reservation.) Mail the form to the Austin Marriott-Capitol Hotel, 701 E. 11th St., Austin 78701.

All registration deadlines are May 15!

AUSTIN Marriott
AT THE CAPITOL

701 E. 11th ST.
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78701
(512) 478-1111

Reservations must be received by May 15, 1990. Reservations received after this date will be subject to rate and space availability.

PLEASE NOTE THAT OUR CHECK-OUT TIME IS 12 P.M. WE WOULD ASK THAT YOU PLAN YOUR ARRIVAL AFTER 4 P.M.

LUTHERAN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY LEAGUE June 17(23), 1990
Trpl: \$65.00 QUAD: \$65.00 Fl# S-213

NAME _____ PHONE() _____

ORGANIZATION/FIRM _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

WILL ARRIVE _____ DATE _____
DAY DATE

WILL DEPART _____ DATE _____
DAY DATE

PLEASE RESERVE _____ ROOM(S) FOR _____ PERSON(S)

____ SINGLE (1 BED) ____ DOUBLE (1 BED) ____ DOUBLE (2 BEDS) ____ TRIPLE (2 BEDS) ____ QUADRUPLE (2 BEDS)
Circle One: Desire Roommate yes or no. Age 25-35 35-50

GUARANTEED RESERVATIONS

To hold a room past 6:00 pm, we request advanced deposit, American Express or Diners Club Credit Card Guarantee (card number and expiration date), or a company guarantee of payment. If you fail to arrive, you will be liable for 1 night's room charge plus tax.

- ☐ 6:00 PM Arrival
☐ Guarantee To
☐ Deposit ☐ Company

AMX# _____ EXP _____

D. Club # _____ EXP _____

NAME OF PERSONS SHARING ACCOMMODATIONS

Smoking/Non-Smoking _____



Here it is—the information you've been waiting for. In these pages you will find registration forms and instructions that tell you exactly how to register for the 1990 Texas District LWML Convention.

It is very important that you remember that May 15 is the deadline date for all registrations.

- All events will take place at the Marriott Capitol Hotel in downtown Austin. The hotel is easily accessible from Interstate 35 by taking the Capitol Exit.

- "Discipling Woman," the Christian Growth seminar, will begin at 7 p.m., Tuesday, June 19, and continue throughout the day Wednesday, June 20. A box lunch is included in your \$5 registration fee. You won't want to miss this inspiring workshop presented by Dr. Erwin Kolb and Jean Prochnow.

- Opening communion service is 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, June 20, Rev. Paul Bohot, proclaimer.

- Choir director is Diane Bleke, who also directed the choir at the Fort Worth International convention.

- A banquet is planned for Thursday evening, June 21, with entertainment provided by Front Row Center, an established, versatile group of young Austin-

area entertainers.

- The post-convention tour will include Concordia Lutheran College, the Capitol, the LBJ library and a look at the Gutenberg Bible in the Ransom Center. Tour bus will leave the Marriott Capitol at 12:30 p.m. and return at 5:30 p.m. A delicious lunch will be served at St. Paul Lutheran Church, Austin.

- All delegate or alternate changes must be reported to Catherine Burkhard, 6660 Santa Anita Drive, Dallas 75214.

- Questions about housing registrations should be directed to Barbara Matthys, Rt. 6, Box 869-G, Leander,

SEMINAR REGISTRATION

Christian Growth Seminar
"Discipling Woman to Woman"
 Texas District Lutheran Women's Missionary League
 June 19-20, 1990

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Society _____ Church _____

Church City _____ Zone _____

Seminar Registration Fee - \$5.00 (includes materials and lunch)

Amount enclosed: \$ _____

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:
 "LWML Christian Growth Seminar"

SEND TO:
 Marje Hahn, 5914 Foresthaven, Houston, TX 77066 (713/444-1304)

REGISTRATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY MAY 15

TX 78641. Contact Barbara for information about housing registration only.

Don't forget the deadline for all registrations: May 15, 1990.



Paul Bohot

Bohot named proclaimer

Proclaimer for the Texas District LWML Convention June 19-22 is Rev. Paul Bohot, associate pastor of Redeemer Lutheran Church in Austin.

Bohot is a past LWML district counselor and was pastoral advisor for the Fort Worth International convention. He presently serves on the Board of Regents of Concordia Lutheran College. His story, "The Christmas Angel," was published in the December 1989 issue of the LUTHERAN WITNESS.



SPEAKER BLOSSOMS WITH LOVE—Joyce Landorf Heatherley, nationally known author, public speaker and recording artist, will be the keynote speaker at the 1990 Texas District LWML Convention in Austin. Don't miss hearing this gifted communicator who has endeared herself to thousands of men and women and who is able to convey Biblical principles with relevance, humor and conviction.

LifeLight™

Does your congregation know about LifeLight™? The study of God's Word is essential for our spiritual growth. We are to make disciples of every nation.

In order to do this, we need to know as much as possible about the Word we are to share.

LifeLight™ is an excellent in-depth Bible study—a wonderful way to equip the people of God for their most important work.

If you would like to know more about LifeLight™ and how to get started in your church, contact Doris McKay, 209 Pintail, Rockport 78382.

Lutheran World Relief drive nears

April is right around the corner. Don't forget to collect your items for Lutheran World Relief.

Needed items include light-medium weight clothing for men and children; sweaters of all kinds for men, women and children; school uniforms; pieces of fabric; blankets and quilts; layettes; school, health and sewing kits; and soap.

Send your items for LWR to Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, 7611 Park Lane, Dallas 75225, the week of April 16-20. Items shipped before or after that week will not be accepted.

LWML news

LWML news should be sent to Shirley Baumgartner, LWML District Editor, 5018 Risada, San Antonio, TX 78233.

Around the district

• The evening Ladies Circle of Grace Lutheran Church in Brenham quilted a wall hanging that depicted the church. Circle members spent six weeks putting together and quilting this project.

• Women of the Metropolitan Zone came together for their fall rally. The film "The Least of These" was shown and new officers, Edna Klover, Christian growth, and Vera Hall, secretary, were elected and installed.

• Texas Star Zone elected

TEXAS MITE PROJECTS UPDATE

1988-90 District goal	\$200,000
Received January	\$11,417
Received to-date	\$178,114
Still needed	\$21,886



PROJECT	PAID	BALANCE
Scholarships for seminarians	\$12,000	-0-
La Santisima Trinidad Church, Matamoros, Mexico	10,000	-0-
Texas Prison Ministry	2,000	1,000
Lutheran Bible Translators, Sierra Leone	2,500	2,500
LSST Pregnancy Services	7,500	2,500
Lutheran Association of Missionaries and Pilots	3,000	-0-
Concordia College, Austin	5,000	5,000
St. John Lutheran church, Corpus Christi	13,500	4,500
Seamen's Center, Corpus Christi	12,000	-0-
University of Texas, Arlington, Lutheran Student Center	10,000	5,000
Lutheran Outdoors Ministry of Texas	15,000	-0-
Hope Lutheran Church, Lubbock	300	-0-
Mission Projects Goal		\$113,300
Paid-to-date		\$92,800
Sent to International LWML		\$2,149
To International to-date		\$16,071

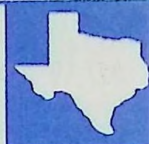
Send ALL contributions to Eudoris Weiser, Route 1, Box 46, Copperas Cove, 76522. MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO TEXAS DISTRICT LWML.

two officers at its fall rally: Elenor Pankonein, newly-elected treasurer, and

Grace Hanssen, re-elected vice president/Christian growth.



TEXAS ZONE OFFICERS—From the left: Secretary Jackie Peters, President Dorothy Hunger, Counselor Rev. Melvin Symmank, Treasurer Elenor Pankonein, Vice President Grace Hanssen.



Unlike IRS tax form 1040, our April 15 Day of Reckoning is one of joy and rejoicing

by Rev. Eugene Heckmann
First Vice President
Texas District, LCMS



Rev. Heckmann

The Day of Reckoning is upon us!

This time of year, many would think that is the day the federal government calls for our income tax forms to be in—April 15.

This year, April 15 takes on a different significance. It is the celebration of the Day of the Resurrection of our Lord—Easter.

For us Christians, who live in the certainty of the message of the resurrection, the "Day of Reckoning" brings the opposite message. It's no longer filled with fear, but is a day of joy and rejoicing.

- The Day of Reckoning was Good Friday. We were not the ones involved. Our Champion—Jesus—stood in for us. "God made Him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God" (2 Cor. 5:21).

That message is not just a historical fact, gathering dust in some forgotten past. It takes on life and meaning in our individual lives as God comes to us in Holy Baptism. In some mysterious way, God's Spirit brought us into that death and life experience.

- "Don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? We were therefore buried with Him through baptism into death in or-

der that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life" (Rom. 6:3-4).

Because of our baptism, we are "in Christ." He is in us. We are still sinners, but we are not just sinners. "Because of His great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved. God raised us up with Christ and seated us with Him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus" (Eph. 2:4-6).

Occasionally, Texas District President Louis Pabor will offer his president's column space to other district officials. Vice President Eugene Heckmann, Gethsemane Lutheran of Houston, is this month's contributor.



Rev. Louis Pabor

- We have a **PEACE** that can only be ours as a gift from God. We have forgiveness of all our sins. Even though we still sin, our record always is clear because the Risen Christ has wiped the record clean.

We have a new **POSITION**. He has placed us in His Church, the Body of Christ. There we have fellowship with other Christians. There, in the Word and Sacrament, we nurture other members and are nurtured by them.

- We have a God-given **PURPOSE** as Easter Christians. We worship this God, who makes all the difference in our life. We serve Him in our life

as Christians—in the life of the Christian congregation, as well as in our everyday life. We are people on a mission—to take the message of salvation to the whole world, beginning with the person next to us.

In the spirit of Easter at work in us we can say with Peter, "Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In His great mercy He has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade—kept in heaven for you, who through faith are shielded by God's power" (1 Peter 1:3-5a).

St. Paul, Thorndale, to celebrate centennial

St. Paul Lutheran Church of Thorndale will celebrate its 100th year June 24.

Theme for the event is "Alive in His Grace." The program includes special Sunday school and Bible classes at 9 a.m.; the worship service at 10; a barbecue dinner at noon at the Fireman's Hall; a pre-service rally of song and remembrance at 2 p.m.; and a centennial worship service at 3 p.m. with Rev. Louis Pabor, president of the Texas District, LCMS, as speaker.

School and church memorabilia, like confirmation pictures, will be displayed. If you have pictures to share for the day, contact Jeanne Hengst, Rt. 1, Thorndale, TX 76577; (512) 862-3386.

If you have names and addresses of children, relatives, friends, past teachers or others who would be interested in knowing about the centennial, please contact Jennifer Fisher, P.O. Box 81, Thorndale, TX 76577; (512) 898-2616.

LUTHERAN OUTDOORS MINISTRY OF TEXAS

Petzke leaves Texas ministry

Rev. Karl Petzke recently left the Texas District for Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, where he accepted a call as executive director of Inland Empire Lutheran Outdoor Ministries.

He leaves the position of executive director of Lutheran Outdoors Ministry of Texas, an office he established in the Texas District office seven years ago.

Under his leadership, LOMT achieved significant growth in outdoors ministries. The Lutheran camp facilities at both Lone Star and Texoma have been greatly upgraded. Many district groups and individuals are discovering that both sites are well-suited to meetings and outdoor recreation and worship.

RV and tent-camping programs have been started and LOMT ski and deep-sea fishing trips are offered.

The Bokenkamp Pastoral Retreat Center was also established.

In his announcement to Texas Lutherans, Petzke said, "Your input, concern and prayers have been and continue to be appreciated. We are truly thankful for your friendship and partnership in Christ's service."



Rev. Karl Petzke



CAMP SITE—This is the newly completed Bethlehem Center at Texoma Lutheran Camp. The center, which will be dedicated May 5 at the annual camp barbecue, is ideally constructed as a meeting and fellowship facility.

Bethlehem Center: a new dimension at Texoma

Excitement filled the air along the shores of Lake Texoma from mid-fall through mid-winter as the Texas Laborers For Christ completed a long hoped-for project. A superb meeting/fellowship facility is ready and will be dedicated at the annual **Texoma Lutheran Camp Barbecue** on May 5.

Texoma's new Bethlehem Center has 2,800 square feet of meeting space and will seat 90 participants for a group workshop or presentation.

The building can be divided into several arrangements to accommodate a variety of uses. The main room can be divided by a folding curtain to create a smaller meeting room with space for 20-30 people and a larger room with space for up to 60. Separate interior doors allow for privacy during use.

- The entrance hall contains a beverage bar with sink for coffee and hot drinks with ice storage be-

low for cold beverages.

Two restrooms are located next to the hallway. The floor plan includes two outside deck areas: one, a southwest exposure wrap-around, and the other, a covered screened deck to the north side.

The meeting space has video outlets for multiple monitors and a PA system for larger groups. Windows (6-by-6 foot), which line the lake side of the meeting room, provide views of the Texoma landscape. Both meeting rooms are carpeted, and the entire building is equipped with central heat and air conditioning.

- Bethlehem is located at the 645-foot elevation that puts it as close to the water as allowed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Selective clearing gives an excellent view of Clear Creek to the west and Mill Creek Marina to the north.

A short path connects the Bethlehem area to the existing Scriptrail with its

meditation pamphlets and stations.

This building can be reserved by a group using the cabin, shelter or campground space at Texoma Lutheran Camp or can be used on a day basis for a meeting or workshop. Contact the Texoma office for rates and availability.

- The invitation also goes out to you to come and celebrate with fellow Christians to praise God for the blessing of this new addition to LOMT's mission and ministry.

The May 5 annual barbecue, **Texoma Challenge '90**, will feature a host of events and opportunities for great fun, food and sharing. The day's activities will reach a climax at the 7 p.m. worship service and dedication. Y'all come!

About prayer

When we bend our knees to pray, God bends His head to listen.



31 years a church officer



Jacob Mohr

For the first time in 31 years, Jacob Mohr was not elected to a congregational office at Mount Calvary in Brady. As outgoing president, he ended his term in January.

A special service Jan. 28 recognized his 31 consecutive years of service. Pastor Tim Rosenthal presented a special message that focused on Mohr's leadership.

Letters of appreciation for Mohr from former pastors were read during the service and he was given a plaque.

It's not that there will be no more Mohr presence. His wife, Margaret, is one of the church's organists.

Adult Bible class supports church students

Members of the adult Bible class of St. Paul Lutheran Church of Bishop consider themselves "special partners" with the young men and women studying for full-time church careers.

Last year, the class awarded 12 scholarships of \$200 each to seminary and college students.

Said Frances Moerbe, secretary-treasurer of the class, "We need to keep the colleges and students in our prayers for the important work they are doing in preparing young men and women for service to their Lord, and the students as they prepare for leadership roles in our church and society.

"We truly are special

These kids are life-savers

Looking for someone to get your heart pumping? Think about the sixth, seventh and eighth graders of Zion Lutheran School of Pasadena.

Sixty-three of these 68 students have completed cardio-pulmonary resuscitation certification. The remaining five will be tested at a future date.

There's likely to be a real life-saver among them at some future time.

partners with them."

Students at both the St. Louis and Fort Wayne seminaries and at Concordia Lutheran College, Austin, were included in the scholarship awards.



GOOD SCOUT—James Weichman receives the Boy Scouts National Certificate of Merit from Troop Committee Chairman Jim Hughes. James saved his younger sister from drowning in the family's swimming pool. He's a member of St. Paul Lutheran, Wichita Falls.

Scout motto is 'Be prepared,' and James Weichman, 13, was

Last summer, 13-year-old James Weichman earned his Boy Scout merit badge in swimming.

Two weeks later, he plunged into the family swimming pool and saved his 4-year-old sister from drowning.

Last December, James received the National Certificate of Merit from the Boy Scouts of America, only the second person in the Scouts' 75-year history in his area to receive it.

James lives in Wichita Falls. He and his family are members of St. Paul Lutheran Church there.

The family had just come home from church when the incident happened. James' sister, Jana, was riding a bicycle near the pool when a training wheel caught on the edge of the pool. She lost her balance and fell into the water, her bicycle on top of her.

Although there were adults near, James (still in his Sunday clothes) plunged into the pool and brought his sister to the surface.

He says he's glad he was there to save his sister, "even though we always fight."

But he's not sure how to handle the accolades that included not only the Boy Scout honor, but also citations from his state senator and the Wichita Falls mayor, and stories in the local newspaper.

"I'm not sure whether I'm happy or embarrassed," James says. "It's not like I saved the world or anything."

El Calvario: A complex Hispanic mission, ministry along the Mexican border

by Rev. Steven Morfitt

First, let me introduce myself: My name is Steven Morfitt and I'm pastor of El Calvario Lutheran Church, Brownsville. El Calvario is one of the Texas District's five "Hispanic missions" (in our case, "Spanish-speaking missions") in the Rio Grande Valley.

I have been the pastor here for more than seven years. El Calvario has been an enabled, funding-assisted congregation of the Texas District for 53 years. Yes, you read that correctly—53 years!

What possible explanation can there be for this long-term financial dependency? Is a commitment on the part of the district to support any mission for what appears to be forever wise stewardship? How does one account for this failure to achieve congregational solvency and financial independence?

- There are many possible, even probable, answers. But even the probable causes point out the very complex nature of mission and ministry along the Mexican border. They remain hard questions; and, to some degree, appropriate questions.

There are other important questions. Much more is at stake here, principally our abiding commitment to the Great Commission—even where *"the pick bites hard at the stone."*

El Calvario does not



work in a spiritual vacuum; it is located in the deepest shadows of monolithic Roman Catholicism—a very conservative brand from Mexico, a brand frequently tainted with "Liberation Theology" on this side.

All things considered, it still might call into question our presence here. As Hermann Sasse writes, "Our church has never denied the presence of the church of Christ in the established church of . . . Spain and Italy. It has not tried, therefore, to conduct missions for the Lutheran confessional church in these countries, just as it has avoided the 'evangelization' of Catholic territories in Germany" (Hermann Sasse, *Here We Stand*, Adelaide: Lutheran Publishing House, 1979, p.182).

But had Sasse seen the mixture of slight truth and heavy error that exists here, even he would have been convinced of the significance of our presence.

- Luther said, "The instigator of a sect is converted to the truth either with the greatest difficulty or not at all" (LW 18, p. 394). We do not work with "instigators of sects" at El Calvario but we constantly encounter

MINISTRIES AMONG US

those who have been so conditioned by distortions and half-truths that only with the greatest difficulty and the greatest patience are they delivered from their "cloudy" condition by the persistent proclamation of the Gospel.

At stake, we repeat, is the clarion call of the Gospel in all its beauty and power.

- There are many social and cultural factors that explain why individuals do not freely, openly identify themselves with evangelical Christianity, much less with our Lutheran confessionalism. Should they therefore be denied the proclamation of the *Sola Gratia, Sola Fide, Sola Scriptura*, the *Propter Christum* of our salvation?

I believe we must continue to "swing the pick." If we can find a spiritual pneumatic hammer, so much the better. We must be open to a variety of mission strategies, but only strategies that also take seriously our Scriptural-confessional position that where the Gospel is proclaimed and the Sacraments properly administered, there the Holy Spirit is at work building the Church, one "living stone" at a time.

Can the church afford to expend pastors in the ecclesiastical backwaters of cross-cultural ministry? Whether we can financially,

I do not know. That we must, some way, maintain an evangelistic, confessional, pastoral presence is beyond any dispute.

- I thank God for the long-term commitment of the Texas District to this and similar mission enterprises and to cross-cultural ministry in general. May He give us much creative wisdom, a spirit of courage and daring, as we pursue the fulfillment of the Great Commission among all people in this our day.

St. Luke's marks 40th anniversary

St. Luke's Lutheran of Houston will celebrate its 40th anniversary April 22. All former members and friends of the congregation are invited to the praise and thanksgiving service.

Worship times will be 8 and 10:45 a.m. A barbecue dinner will be served at noon.

A be-attitude

Blessed are those who are intelligent enough not to take themselves seriously; they will be appreciated by those around them.

Bring to church

Bring with you to church a kind word for your church, its program and its leadership.



The game of the name

When Rev. Louis Pabor became president of the Texas District last fall, he said he would continue calling the president's monthly newsletter to church professionals *Minister to Minister*—unless someone came up with a better title.

Names suggested so far are *Louie to Youie* and *Pabor to Neighbor*.

For now, it remains *Minister to Minister*.



OUTSTANDING—Jim and Barbara Grove, members of St. Paul Lutheran, Wichita Falls, were chosen "Outstanding Optimists of the Year for North Texas" for exhibiting commitment to Optimism and service to youth. They list their priorities, in order, as life in Jesus Christ; family that includes immediate, church and Optimist, and Optimist life.

Shake on it

The newsletter of Holy Cross Lutheran Church of Arlington describes the early Saturday morning men's breakfast at the church this way:

"... attended by men who tremble at God's Word and shake until they have had a cup of coffee."

Clergy wives' retreat set for September

"He Will Lift You Up," based on Is. 40:28-31, will be the theme for the fourth annual Pastors Wives Retreat.

The retreat will be the weekend of Sept. 28-30 at Camp Lone Star in La-Grange. Rev. Pete Steinke of Lutheran Social Service of Texas will be the weekend topic leader.

In June, a brochure with registration information will be mailed to all Texas District clergy wives.

Congregations are asked to help their pastor's wife attend the retreat by paying the registration fee and travel costs, or perhaps by offering babysitting help that weekend.



NEW TERM—Edwin Trapp, right, is congratulated by Dr. August Mennicke, first vice president of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, as Trapp was installed in St. Louis to his second three-year term as a member of Synod's Board for Social Ministry Services. Trapp is a Texan.

Send your news to Bill

Send your news releases, photos, newsletters and bulletins for the **LUTHERAN WITNESS** to:

Bill Wagner, editor
7900 U.S. 290 East
Austin, TX 78724

About photos: color photos are OK if the contrast is good. Black and white photos are best.

New term for Ed Trapp on synodical board

Edwin A. Trapp Jr. of Dallas has started his second three-year term as a member of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod's Board for Social Ministry Services.

Trapp is a member of the board of directors of the Texas District and of Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in Dallas.

Trapp was reappointed to the seven-member board by LCMS President Ralph Bohlmann with the concurrence of the Synod's Board of Directors.

The Board for Social Ministry Services is responsible for meeting the social and spiritual needs of people worldwide through LCMS World Relief, and helping congregations deal with contemporary problems like substance abuse.

Theological convocation set

The Texas District's second annual theological convocation will be held April 17-19 at the Red Lion (formerly Marriott) Hotel in Austin.

Primary presenters will be Dr. J.A.O. Preus, former Synod president; Rev. Louis Brighton, St. Louis seminary; Dr. Samuel Nafzger, executive director of the Synod's Commission on Theology and Church Relations; Dr. John Saleska, Fort Wayne seminary; and Professor Arthur A. Just Jr., Fort Wayne seminary.

It's a throw-away world, or is it? Not with endowment

by Pastor Jerry Kieschnick, Executive Director, Lutheran Foundation of Texas

The conversation I overheard was quite disturbing. At a restaurant where I had stopped for lunch one day, a man and a woman sat at a nearby table. He was talking loudly, audible to virtually everyone in the building.

• What caught my ear was his description of his early years as a night club musician. One particular night, during his break, he saw a beautiful woman whom he described to his lunch partner in rather graphic terms. He asked this woman to dance. And then, said he, "I divorced my wife and married her (the new woman)."

His words were so matter-of-fact, so nonchalant, so void of feeling or emotion. The nasty thought ran through my mind, "If that's all marriage meant to you, your first wife probably had a miserable existence." Apparently, there must have been other wives, for he referred to his new wife as his "second" and, later, to someone else as his "third" spouse.

• We live in a throw-away world. Many containers are disposable, some are recyclable, most are rather convenient. Throw-away is all around us.

Professional athletes produce what they can in their virile youth for mega-buck contracts and signing bo-



Pastor Jerry Kieschnick

nuses. Then they fade into oblivion, tossed aside like a worn-out shoe when some younger, stronger, faster, bigger athlete comes along.

The "liberated" society we live in espouses the new-found freedom of those who are no longer chained to a bad marriage, but are now free to be single again, often leaving in their wake the scarred victims of rejected spouse and dejected children.

• Whatever happened to the concept of a lifetime commitment between people, a covenant, a promise, never to be broken, regardless of the circumstances of the lives of the people who make that mutual promise? Thank God that many of those promises are kept through thick and thin. Thank God that even broken promises are subject to His love and forgiveness.

The throw-away world has an effect on Christian giving. Many of our gifts, while not thrown away, are spent entirely. The average length of time required for those who inherit to spend



Yes, I want to know more. Clip and mail to

Lutheran Foundation of Texas

7900 U.S. 290 E. Austin, TX 78724 (512) 926-4272

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

() _____

ZIP _____

Telephone Number _____

4

the inheritance is 22 months. The gifts we give to children and to church are used, consumed, spent—wisely, we hope, with value received for dollars spent.

• Many in the church are discovering the unique joy of giving gifts that will not be consumed or spent, even in our throw-away world. Those gifts are in the form of endowment funds that permanently invest the gift's principal, making only the interest available for expenditure.

Thus, an endowment gift keeps on giving—for the purpose designated by the donor—until the end of time, thus multiplying the economic benefit of the original gift.

• The Lutheran Foundation of Texas encourages, facilitates and administers endowment funds for Lutheran individuals, families, congregations, agencies and institutions in Texas. We would be pleased to help you discover the benefits of an endowment fund that will never disappear, but will keep on giving, even in our throw-away world.

Remember?

There was a time when a juvenile delinquent was the kid down the block who owed six cents on an overdue library book.

Controversy

Be considerate with the feelings of others. There usually are three sides to a controversy: yours, the other fellow's and the right one.



TRINITY—Doug Weise, left, president of Trinity Lutheran congregation of Houston, welcomes Donald Christian to the Trinity staff as Minister to Young Adults. Christian, who began his work Jan. 21, has been an active member of Trinity for several years.



Infant/toddler ministry aids are available

by Liz Landfried, Our Savior Lutheran Church, Austin

The Texas District Task Force on Infant/Toddler Ministry supports congregations in ministry to infants, toddlers and their families. The task force is making a synodically developed resource, *In Ministry: Infants, Toddlers and Their Families*, available to Texas District congregations.

The packet includes a list of resources on topics like child development, programs, how to get started, activities for children and parent education.

For more resources, write the National Association for the Education of Young Children, 1834 Connecticut Ave., N.W., Washington, DC 20009.

Contact the Texas District office for your copy of *In Ministry: Infants, Toddlers and Their Families*. A list of videotapes and printed materials is also available from the district office.

(Liz Landfried is an early childhood educator at Our Savior Lutheran Church, Austin, Texas, and a member of the Texas District Task Force on Infant/Toddler Ministry).

Now hear this

One good thing about talking to yourself is that you always have a rapt audience.

Get yourself bound for Glorybound '90

In just seven months, high school youth from across the state will travel to Austin for Glorybound VII, scheduled for Nov. 23-25 at the Doubletree and Red Lion hotels. The cost is \$75 per participant.

Youth in grades nine through 12 and their counselors will be treated to a beach party at Concordia Lutheran College on Friday night with limbo, volleyball and video surfing among the planned activities. Participants are asked to bring non-perishable food items so that a "mountain of food" can be built at the hotel. The youth groups are asked to bring a "quilt patch" for the gathering quilts.

For more information, contact the district office. Pre-gathering materials, written by Rev. Marty Doering, will be mailed soon. Registration opens in July.



Who gains when you help others? Mostly you

"My care for you will help you grow" is a common assumption, right? We naturally expect that what we do for others will make a difference in their lives. Lutheran Social Ministries works with a different perspective: "My care for you helps *me* grow."

Walt Waiser, an LSM council member, reports that those who have been involved in physical, spiritual, or social care for another person experience a wonderful benefit: Their lives were enriched and blessed by the work. The servants gain as much, if not more, than those being served!

• Perhaps that's not amazing for Christians, notes Claire Jackson, who is involved in social ministry in San Antonio. Jesus' words ring in our ears: "If you seek to save your life, you'll lose it; if you lose your life for me, you'll gain

life."

Sunday school teachers tell us again and again: "The way to have JOY is to put Jesus first, others second and yourself last."

The implications are far-reaching. Individuals and congregations grow when they are involved in service to others! To get out of spiritual stagnation, get intentionally involved in exercising your faith.

• For Mike King, who is a chaplain in the U.S. Army Reserves, this means ministering to the men and women who are building roads in Honduras. "They will be able to see the results of their hard and dangerous work. I'll be there to remind them of building roads for the Messiah, and building bridges in their lives."

Jan Thompson works with a day care center in Dallas. She also works with the Lutheran Service Min-

istries Council because of her desire to encourage the spiritual and emotional growth that comes from volunteering to help another.

• Lori Bachmann, participant and planner for the Synod's Servant Events, agrees that the caring relationship benefits everyone. "Those being served have something to give to those who are volunteering: an opportunity to let faith move into action."

LSM is now working to identify situations in which people can grow by enacting their faith. If you can help others by providing a situation where others can serve, please contact Martin Doering, who has been contracted as project director.

Ministries operates from the Texas District offices, 7900 U.S. 290 E., Austin, (512) 926-4272.

THE LORD ADDED . . .



A joyous inclusion service followed by a potluck welcoming dinner was held Jan. 21 at **Pilgrim, Houston**, to receive 36 new members into fellowship.

Joining the church family at **St. John, Cypress**, in January were 15 people received by reaffirmation of faith, adult confirmation, baptism and transfer.

Fourteen new members were welcomed at **Redeemer, Austin**, in January.

Twenty-two new members were received into fellowship at **Bethany, Houston**, Dec. 10. Ten adults confirmed their faith, three adults declared their membership by transfer, five children were baptized and four children, already baptized, were received along with their parents.

It was the privilege of **Prince of Peace, Carrollton**, to hear the confession of faith of 15 new members who joined its fellowship Jan. 28.

Twenty-six new members were received at **Good Shepherd, Cedar Park**.

Five people were welcomed into the family of **Concordia, Houston**, Dec. 17.

During the last four months of 1989, **Zion, Walburg**, received 39 into membership through adult confirmation, baptism and transfer.



SAN ANTONIO—King of Kings Lutheran in San Antonio added these folks to its fellowship Jan.

14: eight by baptism, one by confirmation and four by transfer.



LITTLEFIELD—Emmanuel Lutheran Church of Littlefield welcomed these new members Jan. 28. They are Richard and Cindy Nations and their children, Amanda, Benjamin and Daniel, with Pastor Gary Archbold.



BURLESON—Seventeen new members were welcomed into the fellowship of Charity Lutheran of Burleson. Nine came by adult confirmation, five by baptism and three by transfer.

A reception held after church services Jan. 14 at **Grace, Seguin**, honored 11 new members.

By profession of faith and transfer, **St. John, San Benito**, added 11 new members into its family of faith Dec. 31.

It's true

Most things too good to be true aren't.



BRYAN—Twenty members were received into fellowship Feb. 11 at Bethel Lutheran in Bryan. Neil Bockelmann is pastor.



MAGNOLIA—St. Paul Lutheran of Magnolia welcomed six new members Dec. 3 by confirmation, profession of faith and transfer. They are Diane Holliday, Kelly Schatte, Elaine and Bob Hammond and Frances and Bob Karcher. Rev. Barry Hildebrandt is pastor.

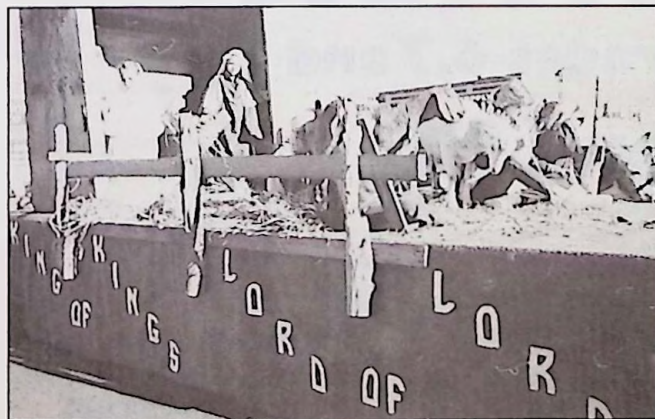
Two Texas congregations get grants for social ministries

The Missouri Synod's Board for Social Ministry Services awarded two World Relief grants to Texas congregations.

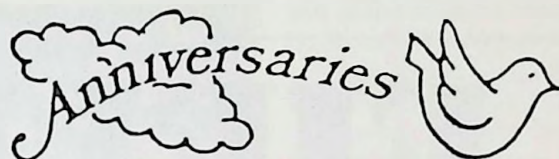
Mount Calvary Lutheran Church of Houston received \$6,000 to help its project of converting its parish hall into a day care center for low income minority students. This day care will provide high quality, low cost educational, spiritual and social training for chil-

dren in the Acres Homes section of Houston.

Trinity Lutheran of Dallas received a \$4,500 grant for an outreach ministry to provide educational, nutritional, recreational, social and spiritual enrichment in an effort to relieve human suffering and meet the needs of the East Dallas community. Programs and services focus primarily on social welfare and child care needs.



WINNER—This float entered by Redeemer Lutheran Sunday School of Cisco won first prize in the city's Christmas parade. The float was titled "King of Kings, Lord of Lords." The Sunday school students sang religious Christmas songs as the float followed the parade route.



The following Lutheran couples in the Texas District recently celebrated wedding anniversaries of 50 years or more:

Grace, Arlington: William and Clara Pederson, 52 years, Feb. 2.

St. Mark, Houston: Otto and Gertrude Fritsche, 55 years, Feb. 9.

St. Paul, San Antonio: Gilbert and Eleanor Torres, 58 years, Feb. 8.

Trinity, Sealy: G.A. and

Lillie Mae Remmert, 51 years, Feb. 26.

Christ, Houston: Carl and Della Kriegel, 50 years, Feb. 4.

Trinity, Uvalde: Hubert and Ella Burell, 50 years, Jan. 6.



56 YEARS—Clarence and Belva Rearick celebrated their 56th wedding anniversary Jan. 20. They are members of Redeemer Lutheran of Nacogdoches and former members of Our Redeemer, Houston.

Friendship Day huge success at Redeemer

Congregation members at Redeemer Lutheran, San Antonio, were overjoyed Feb. 11 when the Lord provided 97 visitors on the church's *Be A Friend Sunday*.

Suggested invitations had been provided for members the Sunday before. Members were urged to bring an unchurched friend or neighbor to the service.

The service had a strong outreach emphasis. On Monday, evangelism committee members began calls on the visitors.

Here's the key

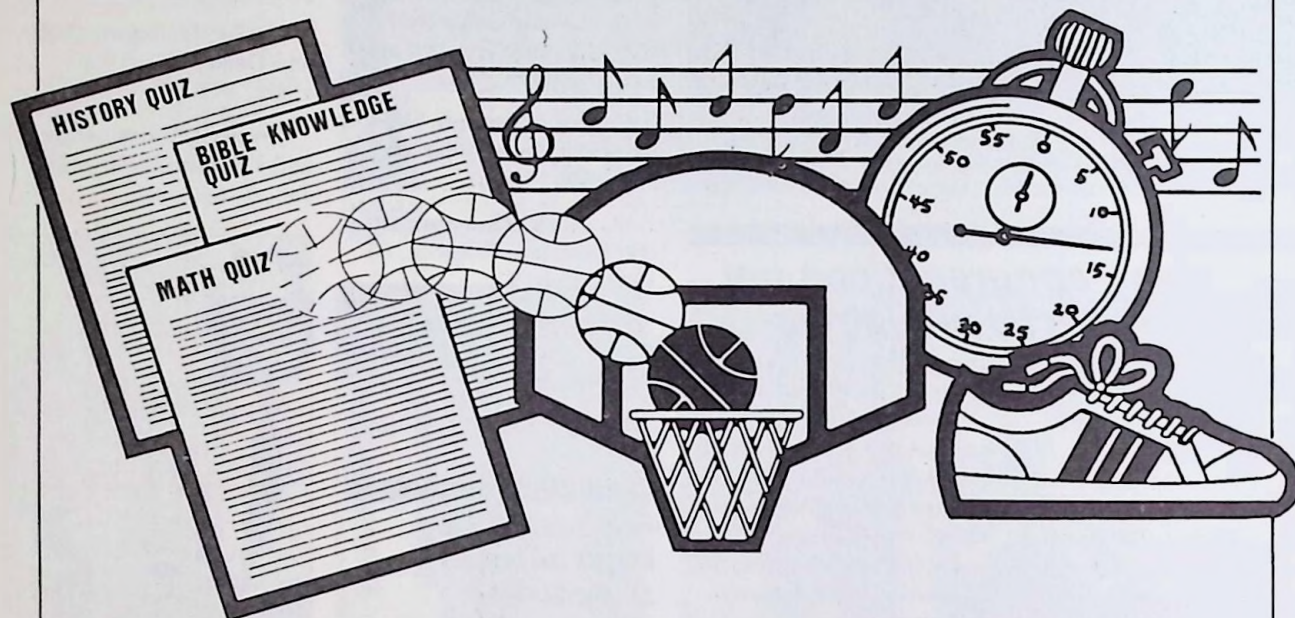
Christians are like pianos—grand, square, upright and no good unless in tune.



GOLDEN—Mr. and Mrs. Walter DeBruyne celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary Oct. 14. They are members of St. Peter Lutheran of Gun Barrel City.

CONCORDIA

CONCORDIA FIELD DAY



Academics

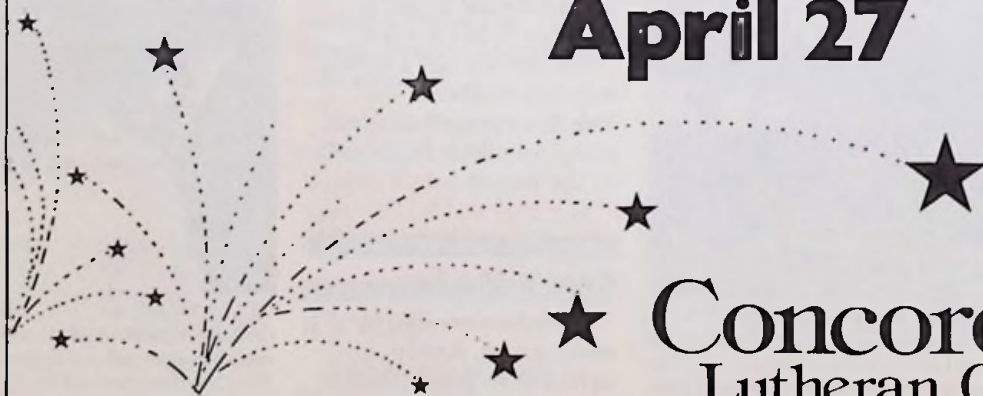
Fine Arts

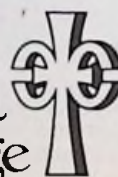
Athletics

COMPETITION

for students in grades 6,7 and 8

April 27



Concordia 
Lutheran College
Austin, Texas



Field Day is April 27

Concordia Field Day . . .

- competition in athletics, academics and fine arts, like those sponsored for public school students by the interscholastic league;
- "just for fun" activities, where every participant is a winner;
- worship with young people from across Texas.

Most participants are enrolled in Lutheran schools, but every year more and more congregations without schools bring groups of students.

Why do congregations take students out of their public school classrooms? Obviously they believe the Field Day experience has a unique value. Perhaps it's the spirit of Christian fellowship or the fact that a large number of Concordia's current and former students became acquainted with the college at Field Day.

Lutheran schools have already received Field Day information and registration packets. If you or your church has not received a packet, call Suzanne Mueller, Concordia Field Day coordinator, at 1-800-735-3232.

Preregistration is necessary for all competitive events. Students may compete in one event—the writing contest—without being present.

Sneak-a-Peek in 1990-91

Prospective students are especially invited on Nov. 10, 1990; and Feb. 16, and April 6, 1991.



Pastor Keith Schweitzer (he's the tall one!) brought parents and students to the February Sneak-a-Peek Day.

Concordia alumnus comes home . . . and brings guests

When Concordia Lutheran College alumnus Keith Schweitzer became pastor of Grace Lutheran Church in Burkburnett, he was surprised to find that some members of the congregation were only slightly acquainted with the college.

"They knew The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod had a college in Texas, but that's really all they knew," he says.

Schweitzer saw a situation that needed to be remedied. "Concordia belongs to us, as Lutherans," he says. "I think it's important that our people know what the college does, what it's like."

For this reason he took the opportunity on one of Concordia's Sneak-a-Peek Days to bring 11 members of his congregation to the campus. Sneak-a-Peek days are opportunities for prospective students and their parents to get acquainted with the college.

Seven members of the group were adults and four were freshmen and sophomores in high school. Even though the young people are not yet actively involved in making college decisions, Schweitzer feels that an early exposure to the LCMS college in Texas can only be beneficial.

His own introduction to Concordia was in the eighth grade on the annual Field Day for sixth, seventh and eighth grades. The college made a lasting impression—years later he returned to the campus to complete his undergraduate education, receiving a bachelor of arts degree in business management in December 1984.

While a Concordia student, Schweitzer was yearbook editor and was one of the leaders of the class project committee. He believes that those experiences, along with his studies in business management, gave him an excel-

lent preparation for ministry in a small congregation.

"In addition to delivering sermons, I do some of the bookkeeping and purchasing, and of course I use many of the organizational skills I learned at Concordia," he says. "In many ways a small congregation is very much like a small business."

Schweitzer has many fond memories of his Concordia years—professors, friends, and at least one "classic prank"—so he gives a second reason for leading a group on the six-hour trip to Austin: "The campus of Concordia has grown and changed since I left. I wanted to come see for myself."

Dr. G. Beto to speak at commencement

Dr. George Beto, president of Concordia Lutheran College from 1949 to 1959, will speak at the commencement ceremony. Under Beto's leadership, Concordia added the junior college and co-education, and greatly expanded the campus facilities. Beto Hall, the science building, is named in his honor.

After his presidency at Concordia, Beto headed the Texas prison system for many years. He became nationally recognized as an authority on criminology concerns.

All friends of the college are invited to attend the commencement ceremony at 10:30 a.m., Saturday, May 12, in Woltman Activities Center.

LSST receives grants to fight abuse and neglect of children



Rev. Greene

Lutheran Social Service of Texas has received two contracts from the Texas Department of Human Services to provide in-home case work and case management services.

According to Rev. Robert C. Greene, LSST president, the grants will provide additional LSST services to Nueces and Hidalgo counties. The programs will focus on the provision of crisis intervention, information and referral, family and individual counseling and supportive casework.

Dr. Bernard Scrogin, LSST's director of family services, states, "We will provide parenting skill classes, child safety instruction and self support group counseling sessions to individuals who have been identified by the Department of Human Services as at risk of child abuse and neglect."

The Nueces County program will serve 112 families through the Corpus Christi LSST office. In Hidalgo County, 50 families will be served from the McAllen LSST office.

LaVerne Reinhardt honored

LaVerne Reinhardt, who served Trinity Lutheran Home Round Rock for more than 20 years in various staff positions and as administrator during its time of fastest growth, was honored Jan. 21 with the designation of the LaVerne Reinhardt Activity and Recreation Room in the Trapp Wing of Trinity Lutheran Home in Round Rock.

"We are proud of the tradition developed by LaVerne," said Peter Porras, LSST's director of residential services and current Trinity Home administrator. "Her commitment to caring provided the foundation for Trinity's tradition

to continue, a tradition of Commitment to Caring."

The activity area is central to the additional 60 beds of nursing care at the Trinity Home.

The Scott Memorial Chapel at Trinity Home was also rededicated. The chapel area was remodeled and expanded to provide space for the home's additional residents.

Dr. Scott was instrumental in helping form various ministries through Texas, including Trinity Lutheran Home. He served as pastor of the New Sweden Lutheran Church and the Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Lund.

Edwin and Marianne Trapp Trinity Home wing dedicated

The Edwin and Marianne Trapp wing of Lutheran Social Service of Texas' Trinity Lutheran Home in Round Rock was dedicated Jan. 21.

• More than 300 people attended the celebration and heard Congressman J.J. "Jake" Pickle give the keynote address. He said, "We have a sacred trust to care for those who have cared for us."

"More than 60 years ago, our very first dream began at Trinity," said Priscilla Hammer, LSST's vice president for elderly services. "In another 60 years, dreams will still be coming true. . . . Today you join us in celebration and dedication of being able to provide a dream for not only Trinity and LSST but a dream for those entrusted to our care. Through the years Trinity has been able to continue in its commitment to caring, maintaining a high level of integrity in its caregiving. We continue our dream—a dream to provide a safe, caring and dignified home to those people who come to us at a time of need as they begin to age or have alternate needs."

• The wing is named in honor of the parents of Edwin Trapp Jr. and Mrs. Marianne Trapp Bayley. Edwin Trapp Jr. was a member of the LSST Board of Directors for eight years and was chairman for two years.

Trapp currently serves as chairman of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod's Board for Social Ministry Services and World Relief.

He also is a member of the board of directors of the Synod's Texas District.

• In his response at the dedication Trapp said, "My parents showed their love to us when we were children, a love that taught us to share love with others. I know my parents would be proud of this facility which provides love in so many ways to so many persons."

The dedication was performed by Rev. Robert C. Greene, president of Lutheran Social Service of Texas, Inc. LSST now provides care to more than 400 people through its homes in Round Rock, Shiner and Lubbock. The additional 60 beds at Trinity Round Rock will allow this facility to serve 180 residents.



Edwin Trapp Jr.



Lutherans for Life offer audiovisuals

Two excellent audiovisuals produced by Texas Lutherans for Life (TeLL) to help congregations teach children and young teens about fetal development and the sanctity of all human life are now available.

You Are Special is a slide presentation (51 slides and about eight minutes long) accompanied by an audiocassette and script for children 5 to 8.

How God Made You Grow is a 10-minute film-strip with audiocassette and script for children and younger teens ages 9 to 13.

To order either presentation, send \$25 for *You Are Special* or \$35 for *How God Made You Grow* to:

Texas Lutherans for Life, 109 Susan Carroll, San Antonio, TX 78216.

Limited copies of both audiovisuals are available for loan.



Bill Siegrist

+ In memoriam +

The Lord called to Himself Rev. Richard Loomis on Feb. 13. Loomis, 42, had been ill with cancer for several years.

A memorial service was held Feb. 17 at Memorial Lutheran Church in Katy.

He had served Memorial from June 1974 until December 1988, when illness forced his retirement.

He is survived by his wife, Linda.

You can help grow a mighty mission oak

by Bill Siegrist, Director of Development, Church Extension Fund

"From little acorns, mighty oaks grow." If you ask 10 people how this old saying goes, you will receive 10 different answers. The message stays the same: "Mighty oaks do grow from tiny acorns."

For more than 80 years, your Church Extension Fund investments have made it possible for mission growth in the Texas District. The "seeds" of your investment have produced fruit you may never realize this side of heaven.

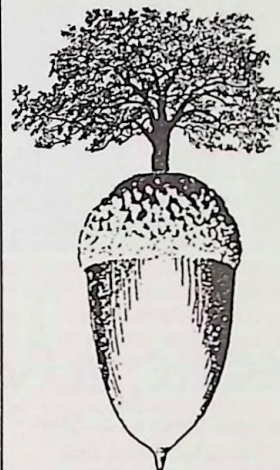
The Texas District Board of Directors authorized Sunday, April 29, as CEF Celebration Sunday. Our 1990 theme is "Come Grow With Us!"

Our Board for Mission Administration has targeted a number of special ministry needs. CEF seeks to generate \$4 million in new investments to meet these projected needs. For this vital ministry's activity to continue, a goal to increase the number of investors by 1,210 was adopted.

We have prepared an information packet titled "Come Grow With Us!" that outlines our mission needs. This packet will either be mailed directly to you or will be available April 29, CEF Celebration Sunday, at your congregation.

There also will be an updated CEF and missions poster that will give you an overview of the mission

Come Grow
With Us!



CEF CELEBRATION
SUNDAY
April 29

needs and opportunities in the Texas District for 1990.

• Oaks grow slowly, and usually do not bear acorns until they are about 20 years old. But these trees live a long time—usually from 200 to 400 years. Indeed, that is a long time, but consider what one long-time CEF investor had to say, "There will be people in heaven because of our investments in CEF."

"Come Grow With Us!" April 29 as we celebrate and give thanks to our Lord for His blessings upon the ministry of the Church Extension Fund.

Texas District
Church Extension Fund
Bill Siegrist
7900 U.S. 290 E.
Austin, TX 78724
(512) 926-4272



DUMAS—Rev. Aubrey Morrison was installed Jan. 21 as pastor of St. John Lutheran Church, Dumas. Morrison is a graduate of Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, Ind., and was a pastor in El Paso five years before coming to Dumas. He and his wife, Ellen, have five children. Participating in the installation were, from left, back row: Revs. Art Hill, Pampa; Fred Kelm, Borger; Mark Friedrich, Dalhart. Front, from left, Revs. Ken Burkhard, Canyon; Morrison; Don Kirklen, Hereford, and Robert Kuhlmann, Amarillo.

HAPPENINGS IN TEXAS



CAREER ENDS—Ruben Rudolph, third from right, worked for all these men during his 25 years as head custodian at Redeemer Lutheran of Austin. He retired at the end of the year and was honored at a special worship service Jan. 14 that was followed by a congregational barbe-

cue. From the left are Norman Stuemke, Redeemer school principal; the others are present or past pastors of Redeemer, David Schroder, Ray Schkade, Rudolph, Paul Bohot and Louis Pabor.

and programs.

And in other Valpo news, Al Meitz, Messiah, Richardson, was elected to the Valparaiso University board of directors. He is a '58 VU grad and has been a member of Valpo President's Advisory Council since 1985.

Rev. Timothy J. Carr was installed Feb. 11 as pastor of **St. John, Hamilton**. He returns to Texas from a pastorate in Ontario, Calif. He was a member of St. Paul, Groves, and attended Concordia College, Austin.

Congratulations to Muriel Roll, **St. Paul, Groves**, who the Port Arthur Business and Professional Women's Club chose as Woman of the Year.

High honors were received by faculty members of **Zion Lutheran School, Pasadena**. Susan Robbins, third grade teacher, received the Lutheran High School Association Service to School Award. Principal James Hutter received the association's Service to Lutheran Education Award.

A concert of sacred music was held Feb. 18 at **Grace, Elgin**, to dedicate the congregation's new Hoffman pipe organ. Professor Harold Rutz of Concordia College, Austin, was organist. The Concordia choir also sang.

If I wanted to . . .

I could show more devotion in worship services and receive much more good from them myself.

PEOPLE, PLACES, & EVENTS

Congratulations to Martha Warnasch, who has given four gallons in blood drives at **St. John, Cypress**. No, not all at one time.

Melissa Knippa, **Bethany, Austin**, was elected Feb. 18 to the Board of Trustees of the Austin Independent School District. Knippa is active in community and school affairs. She is the wife of Dr. Bill Knippa, a Bethany pastor.

A special worship and celebration Feb. 4 at **Grace, Midland**, marked the congregation's 60th anniversary. Grace's first resident pastor, Gilbert C. Becker, and Rev. T.H. Graalman, Grace's pastor from 1935 to 1940, were preachers at the two services.

Three cheers for Karla Jones, **Holy Cross, Nederland**, who was chosen Secretary of the Year by the Beaumont Chapter of Professional Secretaries In-

ternational.

Members of **St. Mark, Conroe**, held a special observance Feb. 11, celebrating a pair of 45s: the 45th anniversary of Pastor (emeritus) Arnold Mueller's ordination into the ministry, and the 45th anniversary of his marriage to Ruby Mueller.

The new sanctuary and facilities built in the Kingwood area of Houston by Laborers For Christ for **Christ the King Lutheran Church** were dedicated March 2. The new mission, presently served by Pastors John Miller and Barry Pfanstiel of Lamb of God, Humble, is in the process of calling its first pastor.

Rev. Reinhard H. Wuensche, **Texas District** archivist, was elected chairman of the Conference on Archives and History.

Congratulations to Jenel McGrath, **Grace, Denison**, on receiving an award from

the Texas Association of Realtors. The "Award of Excellence in Education" was presented for McGrath's work on a realtor education video.

It wasn't the Super Bowl, but it was super bowling on the part of Jimmy Land, **St. Paul, Wichita Falls**, who bowled a perfect 300 game in league play. The night before, he almost did the same thing, chopping the 6-10 in his first frame and then following that open frame with 11 straight strikes for a 279 game.

Rev. Wayne M. Schardt retired in January as assistant pastor of **Christ Lutheran, Houston**. A special retirement program and luncheon was held Jan. 28.

Rev. Rudy C. Herbrich was installed Jan. 28 at **Grace, Arlington**, as associate pastor.

Valparaiso University in Indiana presented Betty Crofford, **Our Redeemer, Dallas**, with its Alumni Service Award for outstanding service and participation in alumni activities



Two dedications, open houses set for May 20

After more than a year of planning, construction and approvals, two new Bethesda/Good Samaritan group homes for mentally retarded adults are ready for occupancy on K-Z Road in Cypress, according to A.L. Napolitano, executive director.

Dedications will be held during the morning services Sunday, May 20, at the host congregations, Salem in Tomball and St. Timothy, Houston.

Open houses will be held at both homes—one on the Good Samaritan campus and the other one mile south—from 2 to 4 p.m. Refreshments will be served. Tours of the main campus also will be available.

Each home contains six bedrooms, a kitchen, dining room, living room, recreation room, office and two baths.

Designed to accommodate non-ambulatory people, the homes are single story and barrier free. Each has a shower adapted for people in wheelchairs.



AUXILIARY BOARD—During a recent meeting of the Good Samaritan Auxiliary Governing Board, members toured the new group home being built on the main campus. From the left are Eunice Metz, secretary, Houston; Diane Oehelers, North Louisiana chapter representative, Shreveport; Hilda Boerger, executive secretary, Houston chapter; Dorothy Kalich, president, Houston;

Mary Helen Gohlke, High Plains chapter representative, Farwell; Judy Bartz, executive secretary, North Louisiana chapter, Shreveport; Marion Lundstrom, treasurer, Houston; Dru Fugate, vice president, Shreveport; Elaine Kurz, membership officer, Houston; and Viola Brohlin, executive secretary, Panhandle chapter, Amarillo.

Panhandle women offer favorite recipes in four books

"Secrets from Panhandle Cupboards," "Berry-good Recipes," "Butter-n-Love Recipes" and "Breads and Desserts" are the tempting titles of four cookbooks produced by the Panhandle Chapter of the Good Samaritan Auxiliary.

For copies, send \$5 per book to Jeannie Kuhlmann, Rt. 2, Box 312, Canyon, TX 79015.

Seeking a project?

To learn how you can help Good Samaritan's ministry to mentally retarded people, contact us at P.O. Box 729, Cypress, TX 77429; (713) 351-4911.



BUILDING WALL—No one was too young to help when Lutheran Brotherhood volunteers recently built a wall to create two classrooms at Good Samaritan Campus. Above, Preston Holecek measures a board. Left, Bob and Phyllis Behrend put the framework in place. Other helpers included Walter Meyer, Dale Holecek, Len Demmers, Dick and Ruth Staley, Judith Stone and Jean Hansen.

LB branch #8004 funds, builds classroom wall

By separating a large classroom into two smaller ones, Bethesda/Good Samaritan has gained space for more individualized training at its main campus on K-Z Road in Cypress.

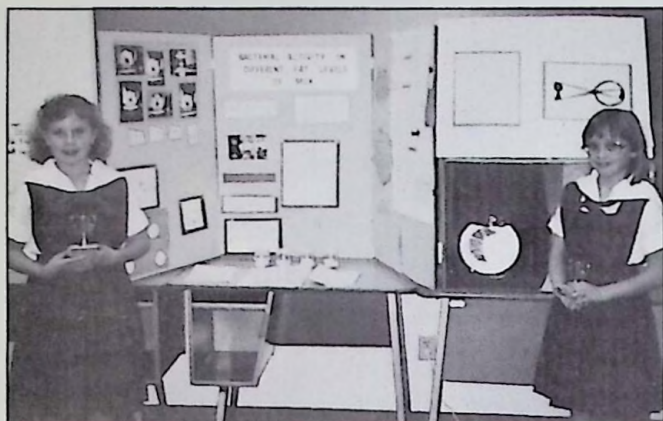
Money, materials and labor to construct and paint the wall were provided by Lutheran Brotherhood Gulf Coast Branch #8004.

In addition to its large activities room, the main campus educational building now has four classrooms as well as a chapel/multi-purpose room for programming.

The classrooms are used to teach self care and job readiness skills in groups of six to eight to residents of Good Samaritan group homes.



YOUTH



SCIENTISTS—Fourth grader Anisa Young and second grader Nicole Hoppe were chosen to represent Cross of Christ Lutheran School of DeSoto at the Dallas Morning News Science Fair. One of the science projects was "Bacterial activity in different fat levels of milk."

Our bright Lutheran kids

Congratulations to Marlene Warnasch and Heather Heartwell, **St. John, Cypress**, for their awards at Cy-Fair High School. Marlene won first and Heather second in a historical writing competition.

Membership in the Bright Kid Club goes to Tiffany Rogers, **St. Paul, San Antonio**, who made all A's at her school the last semester.

There is a gaggle of bright kids at **Faith, Lampasas**, including Clayton Tischler and Sam Watkins, who played their way into the district band; Peter Insall, who received a three-year Navy scholarship to Texas A&M; and Shawn Lockett, who won second place in the Lometa Stock Show for her market-level wool.

Laurie Rector, **Grace, Smithville**, is the state winner of the Lions Clubs of Texas in its peace poster contest. She's now in international competition.

Maybe you saw them on television. These young members of **Zion, Abilene**, marched with the Cooper High School Band in the Rose Bowl Parade at Pasadena, Calif.:

Mary Gaston, Joshua Krause, Sean Mackiewicz and Philip Riewe.

Also from **Zion** is Rebecca Hankins, who made the all-region choir.

Entrants in the Uvalde County Livestock Show included these **Trinity, Uvalde**, young people: Shannon Dicke (sheep), Christy and Zack Moerbe (goats), and Brian and Guy Trees (sheep).

Congratulations to Matt Chambers, **Gloria Dei, Houston**, who was ranked No. 1 among high school tenors in all-state competition.

Bright kid Ted Mueller, **St. John, San Benito**, is only in the second grade but his "sparkle specks" creation won a first place



EAGLE—Chris Reimer, member of King of Kings Lutheran of San Antonio, was awarded the rank of Eagle Scout at a Court of Honor in December. Chris, the son of Dave and Judi Reimer, is shown here with his mother.

trophy in the San Benito Invention Fair.

Congratulations to Lisa Bittner, **Redeemer, Austin**, who was elected president of the Future Business Leaders of America in an area extending from San Marcos to Waco.

And applause, please, for Mary Ann Hifler, **Faith, Gainesville**, who was a winner in the Gainesville Optimist Club's essay contest, *Freedom—Our Most Precious Heritage*.

Achievers in higher education

Paul Varney, **Trinity, Weatherford**, has a 4.0 grade point average at Weatherford College. That's as good as it gets.

Heather Arp, **Redeemer, Austin**, is on the President's Honor List at Concordia Lutheran College of Austin. Students must achieve a 3.50 or above semester grade point average to be included.

Kevin Stahl, **Holy Cross, Nederland**, was named to *Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges*. He's a junior student at Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine.

Tonia Heine, **Zion, Abilene**, was named to the 3.5-



4.0 honor roll at Angelo State University.

Congratulations to Heidi Kroll, **St. John, San Benito**, daughter of Rev. Donald Kroll, who graduated *cum laude* from Texas A&M with a degree in civil engineering.

Now's the time

Today, tackle your biggest problem.

Memories

God gave us memories so we could have roses in winter.



Rudy Herbrich new associate at Arlington

Rev. Rudy Herbrich was installed Jan. 28 as associate pastor of Grace Lutheran, Arlington. He comes to Grace from Faith Lutheran of Gainesville, where he served more than nine years.

The installation service was conducted by Dr. David Joeckel of Grace. Rev. Kenneth Henning was the preacher and Rev. Benjamin Rathgeber, circuit counselor, conducted the Ceremony of Installation.

Herbrich and his wife, Karen, have three children.



ARLINGTON—Present at the Jan. 28 installation of Rev. Rudy Herbrich as associate pastor at Grace Lutheran, Arlington, were: front, from left, Revs. Benjamin Rathgeber, David Joeckel, Her-

brich, Jerry Nichols, Michael Chaffee. Back row, Rev. Tom Sorensen, Jack Schneider, Kenneth Henning, Harold Hein, David Heintze and Carl Gaertner.

Houston to host 1991 LFL convention

The November 1991 national Lutherans For Life convention will be held in Houston. Enthusiasm for this convention is already starting to build among LFL members in Texas, since this will be the first LFL convention to convene outside the Midwest.

Texas Lutherans for Life and all LFL chapters in Texas will cooperate to host this event.

Last January, the 1991 convention committee met for the first time at Our Savior Lutheran in Houston. Jane Almquist, member of Our Savior and the Houston LFL chapter, is convention chairman. Representatives from Dallas, Fort Worth, Southwest Houston and San Antonio LFL chapters attended the organizational meeting.

Seven synodical Servant Events to be in Texas

Seven of the 47 Servant Events sponsored by the Missouri Synod's Board for Youth Services during 1990 will be held in the Texas District.

Servant Events are designed for Christian young people and adults to do something significant for others, being the kind of loving person you want to be, all in the name of Jesus.

Servant Events in Texas:

- June 11-18, Mount Calvary Lutheran, Houston. Participants will build a creative playground for preschool children from low-income families.

- June 29-July 8, Good Shepherd Lutheran, McAllen. Servants will help build simple furniture and interior walls, and work with carpeting and tiling at the Family Caring Center.

- July 5-14, Texoma Lutheran Camp, Pottsboro. Servants will lead a morning VBS program and develop a devotional site for lake users.

- July 27-Aug. 5, St. Paul Lutheran, San Antonio. Servants will help lead a five-evening VBS, work with children in a community service center, help with daily devotions for day-care children and help with minor building repairs.

- June 21-24, Trinity Lutheran Church Community Center, Dallas. Servants will improve living conditions of elderly residents by providing home repairs, personal services and visits.

- Dec. 14-18, Trinity Lutheran Church Community Center, Dallas. Servants will gather food offerings,

make food baskets and wrap gifts to be distributed to needy families.

- Three months, no specific starting date, Camp Lone Star, LaGrange, and Texoma Lutheran Camp, Pottsboro. One or more people willing to help full-time staff in recreation events, program support and leadership training.

- Two spring break weeks, Our Savior Lutheran, Corpus Christi. Participants will help with landscaping projects, painting and minor repairs at the church. Servants also will provide home repairs for widows and distribute Easter invitations in the community.

If you wish to participate in a Servant Event, contact Lori Bachmann at the Texas District office in Austin.

You're invited to Wichita Falls

The 47th Annual Lone Star District LLL Convention will be held May 4-6 at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in Wichita Falls.

The Wichita Sheraton is the convention hotel. There is RV parking nearby, just off the access road. All meetings and official functions will be at the church. The convention's inspirational messages and worship will be based on this year's theme: "Build on the Rock" (Matt. 7:24).

Registration will be from 1 to 5 p.m. Friday and will resume on Saturday morning.

The 7:30 p.m. Friday Service of Praise will be conducted by the host pastor, Rev. Charles Paulson. A special highlight will be guest soloist James Higginbotham, who will perform his very inspiring version of "Watch the Lamb," the story of Simon of Cyrene and his two sons, Alexander and Rufus (Mark 15:21).

Breakfast will be served from 7 to 8 a.m. Saturday in the fellowship hall.

• At 8:30 a.m., the convention session will be called to order. Rev. Charles Paulson will conduct the opening devotion. The Int'l LLL report will be given by Executive Director Larry Lumpe of St. Louis.

A \$3 lunch will be served in the fellowship hall.

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES

A 10 a.m. historical tour is planned for the women. The \$15 charge includes a 1 p.m. lunch at the hotel.

A tour of Sheppard Air Force Base is planned for the youth. There is no charge for the tour, but there is a \$5 charge for the noon meal at the dining hall of one of the base's 1,000-man dormitories.

Child care will be provided from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday. The \$15 charge includes lunch.

• A banquet at 7 p.m. with Larry Lumpe as the speaker ends the day's activities. The banquet cost is \$6.

Sunday's worship services are at 8 and 10:30 a.m. Sunday school and Bible study are at 9:15 a.m.

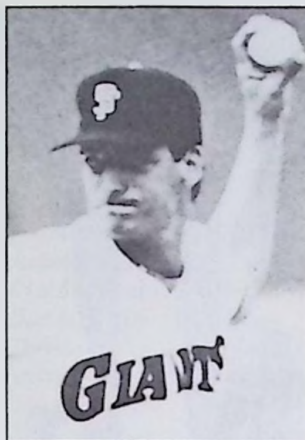
REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Registration with \$10 is due by April 15, late or on-site is \$11. Please list the events each person will attend, the name (for name tags), the cost and number of persons per event. Make check payable to "90 Lone Star LLL Convention" and mail c/o Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, 4605 Cypress, Wichita Falls, TX 76310. If you have questions, call John Lensch, Convention Chairman, (817) 322-7814 (work) or (817) 691-0078 (home).

HOTELS/MOTELS

Please make reservations for lodging at one of the hotels or motels by April 15 to receive the quoted rates. When making your reservation, state that you are with the LLL:

Wichita Falls Sheraton, 100 Central Freeway, (817) 761-6000, \$42.



SPEAKER—Former major leaguer Dave Dravecky will be featured on the Lutheran Hour's Easter special. He will relate how faith in God sustained him during his fight with cancer in his pitching arm.

Wichita Falls Hilton, 401 Broad St., (817) 766-6000, \$42.

LaQuinta Motor Inn, 1128 Central Freeway, (817) 322-6971, \$37.

Hampton Inn-Wichita Falls, 1317 Kenly Ave., (817) 766-3300, \$38.

MESSAGE FROM THE DEVELOPMENT CHAIRMAN, LONE STAR DISTRICT

Greetings in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, the Light to lighten the Gentiles, the Glory of His people Israel!

Let us show forth praise to Him who called us out of the darkness of sin, unresolved guilt and superstitious fears, called us into His marvelous light of grace, mercy and peace through the forgiveness of all our sins!

Knowing that, and holding the Lord close in faith, many of us can profit by taking this opportunity to support the Int'l Lutheran

Laymen's League by enrolling as a member. The Roll Call Membership drive, Christians—United in Mission, is the league's lifeblood. Without this support, the league cannot operate.

Thanks to those who have already enrolled. **It is not too late to still enroll for this year.**

Today an estimated 40 million people listen to "The Lutheran Hour" and hear, perhaps for the first time, that they have a Friend and Savior in Jesus. As an Int'l LLL member, you can help make this powerful Christian outreach possible.

Please note the Int'l LLL receives no support from The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. The Int'l LLL depends solely on your membership support.

The suggested membership gift is \$20 per person. With your gift, please list the name of your congregation. Mail your gift to the Int'l LLL, P.O. Box 790096, St. Louis, MO 63179-0096.

In His service, Orville F. Helbert, Development Chairman, Lone Star District.

RALLY NOTICE

The Spring Rally of Zone 61 will be held April 22 at Trinity in San Angelo. You're welcome.

LLL news should be sent to:

**Irene Teinert
Information Coord.
1501 Barbara St.
Austin, TX 78757**



Iris Franke



Eloise Kuhlmann



Catherine Burkhard



Dorothy Moerbe

Candidates for district office

The Nominating Committee submits the following slate of officers for election at the 26th Biennial Convention of the Texas District LWML, June 19-22, in Austin:

• SECOND VICE PRESIDENT:

Iris Franke, Smithville (Post Oak Zone)
Eloise Kuhlmann, Amarillo (Panhandle Zone)

• FOURTH VICE PRESIDENT:

Catherine Burkhard, Dallas (Texas Star Zone)
Dorothy Moerbe, LaGrange (Post Oak Zone)

• TREASURER:

Shirley Beum, Katy (Mid-Coast Zone)
Janet Hurta, Waco (Central Texas Zone)

• RECORDING SECRETARY:

Evelyn Berry, Lufkin (East Texas Zone)

Charlotte Hughes, Roanoke (Dal-North Zone)

• PASTORAL COUNSELOR:

Rev. Don Kirklen, Hereford (High Plains Zone)

Rev. David Rohde, Wilson (South Plains Zone)

• NOMINATING COMMITTEE:

(Pictured on next page)
Ruth Doering, Galveston (Gulf Coast Zone)

Betty Kirklen, Hereford (High Plains Zone)

Martha Lostroh, Dumas (Panhandle Zone)

Marie Mitchell, Sweetwater (Mesquite Zone)

Beverly Morris, Hamshire (Golden Triangle Zone)

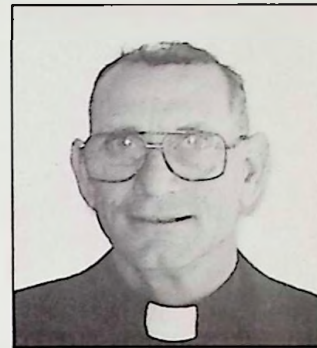
Ann Schueler, Winchester (Post Oak Zone)

Peggy Turnipseed, Austin (Capitol Zone)

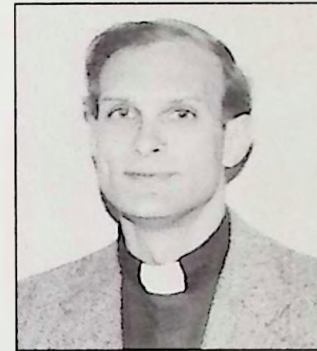
Debbie Schkade, Chairman

Evelyn Berry

Candy Schoppa



Rev. Don Kirklen



Rev. David Rohde



Shirley Beum



Evelyn Berry



Janet Hurta



Charlotte Hughes

Convention reminders:

- Everyone is encouraged to attend the convention in Austin! Guest registration, seminar and housing forms were in the March *District News*. Return the forms before May 15.
- Learn how to be a "Discipling Woman" at the Christian Growth Seminar June 19-20.
- Hear Joyce Landorf Heatherly, noted author and speaker.
- The Convention Prayer Committee encourages all women to be united every Monday in prayer using Scripture verses in the Mustard Seed on prayer. Pray for the executive committee, projects, speakers, planners and that we "Blossom with Love" for Christ and others.



Ruth Doering



Beverly Morris



Betty Kirklen



Ann Schueler



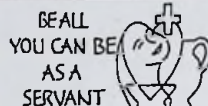
Martha Loslroh



Peggy Turnipseed



Marie Mitchell



Last 'Servanthood' workshops scheduled

Only two more opportunities remain for you to learn how to "Be All You Can Be as a Servant" through our Texas LWML Servanthood workshops.

Hundreds of women have already been stimulated and trained for Christian service through the workshops that focus on service through mission education, mission inspiration, mission service and mission news and public relations.

These workshops are open to all women:

- APRIL 28—St. Paul, Fort Worth—includes Central Texas, Red River and Trinity zones. District presenters will be Sherry Torbert, Catherine Burkhard, Jan Scales, Dolores Bruncke.

Make reservations through Florence Jesmain, 4012 Dawn Drive, Fort Worth 76116; (817) 244-0763.

- MAY 5—St. Paul, Big Spring—includes Heart of Texas, Mesquite and West Texas zones. Presenters will be Sherry Torbert, Catherine Burkhard, Jan Scales, Carol Young. Make reservations through Virginia Evers, 2766 Brentwood, Abilene 79605; (915) 629-1108.

Please bring a small handcrafted towel for a prayer-partner exchange. A card with your name and address should be attached to the outside of the package.

District bylaws

Proposed amendments to the Texas District LWML bylaws will be voted on at the district convention in June. Watch for them in the District LWML Newsletter.

Each delegate should carefully read and discuss with her society these proposals. Then, delegates should discuss the proposed amendments at zone caucus meetings which will be called by zone presidents after arrival at the convention hotel. Be informed and vote wisely!

Any questions should be directed to Jan Scales, 7 Williamsburg Circle, Galveston 77551; (409) 744-2797.

Lutheran World Relief drive

The time is drawing near for the LWR drive. Plan to participate and experience the joy that comes from helping LWR bring Christian aid to millions who need it so badly. A list of needed items was published in the January issue of the *District News*.

Send items to Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, 7611 Park Lane, Dallas 75225, the week of April 16-20. Items shipped before or after that week will not be accepted.

Mite report

February 1990

1988-90 Goal	\$200,000
February total	\$9,244
Total to date	\$187,358
Sent to LWML	\$2,319
To-date	\$20,690
Send ALL contributions to Eudoris Weiser, Rt. 1, Box 46, Copperas Cove, 76522. MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO Texas District LWML.	

LWML news

LWML news should be sent to Shirley Baumgartner, LWML District Editor, 5018 Risada, San Antonio, TX 78233.



The home should be a citadel of Christian faith and love

by Rev. Louis Pabor
President, Texas District, LCMS

Since the beginning of time, the family has been basic to society. Adam and Eve left the garden as husband and wife. Before long, the Lord blessed them with many children. When the children of Israel began growing as a nation, they were divided into tribes . . . groups of families. It has generally continued this way throughout time—the husband as the breadwinner . . . the wife as the homemaker . . . children clustering around their parents—until very recently.

It is obvious that family and home life have changed. It is also good that we periodically remind ourselves of these things. The 1990 census is going to bring many things to light.

There are more single people; more single parents with children, many of them forced by finances to live at home with their own parents; many finding it difficult to be married because of the cost of providing a home; many young couples choosing not to have children; more people choosing to live together without the benefit of marriage; more working mothers. Only one out of 20 families today following the old pattern.

There are more poverty-stricken young people; more elderly people . . . the fastest growing population group in this country right now is people over 85; deterioration of small towns; the increased need for child care; child abuse; drug and alcohol abuse; teen pregnancy; AIDS. You could go on and on.

Many new cultures surround us . . . we are becoming a multi-cultural and multi-racial society.

All of this affects our home and family life. It happens more and more that father, mother and children go their own ways. Many of the younger members of our families are "latch-key" children.

All these things present problems and challenges that we should be aware of and be willing to make an effort to combat.

Even with these changes, many of us still nostalgically remember and crave the old ways. This is shown by the widespread observance of Mother's Day. We remember her with flowers and expressions of love and appreciation. This is good. It shows us that it is still worthwhile to do whatever we can to keep our homes as citadels of Christian faith and love.

There are many directions that could be taken. I am going to suggest three. The first two might seem rather trite . . . but think about them.

- First I am going to suggest that you encourage your family to take an interest in its roots. Today there is a renewed interest in genealogy.

To know where you came



Rev. Louis Pabor

from can reveal many surprises . . . but it can also be a source of becoming more and more appreciative of your heritage. To realize one's heritage can make one's family more dear.

Something new: A Lutheran Genealogical Society is being organized in Texas. The Mormons have one of the greatest sources of genealogical information. Our group is brand new . . . but you have to start somewhere and sometime.

- The second direction I want to mention is family reunions. When our family moved to Austin in the late 1960s and I saw how common family reunions were here in the Central Texas area, I lined up my children and said to them . . . you marry a Schubert, you marry a Teinert, you marry a Kokel, you marry a . . . and we will go to family reunions all summer!

Needless to say, I had my tongue in my cheek when I was telling them this . . . and none of them followed instructions. But I think the fact that I tell this story indicates that I have a deep-seated respect for the faith and love I have seen demonstrated in these family gatherings.

Some of you may have recently come to this great

state pretty much all alone from Yankee-land or some other place and consequently there may not be many of you for a reunion . . . but you can begin on your own. Dolores and I came to Texas as two individuals quite a few years ago and now we are 26.

The richness of a family gathering is unique. Passing on a sense of heritage is something only you can do. It takes time . . . it takes planning and work but it's worth it. Start small . . . invite everyone to write down names and addresses . . . build a list . . . visit old family homes and farm areas and gravesites.

Offer activities for everyone . . . bring food . . . you will be so pleased if it catches hold and you actually start to grow.

- In the face of a changing family and way of life and attitudes, the third thing I want to point out is actually one that permeates it all . . . *"let the Word of God dwell in you richly."*

Stress family ideals as they are outlined in both the Old and the New Testament—*"God set them into families."*

Remember that we are all members of that greater family . . . sons and daughters of God through Jesus. But remember, too, that if we can do anything at all to strengthen the ties of our earthly families, it is effort well spent.

Time brings changes also to family life. But how wonderful to preserve a partnership in your family heritage that is not just a record of your common past, but a gift for the future.

Serving others can move us from stagnant to vibrant

There are times in our Christian lives when we seem to be going nowhere. Daily routines appear lackluster. We question the wisdom of what we're doing. We can hear redundancy in our prayers, and our creeds sound hollow. At those times, the words of the apostle James become hauntingly pointed: "Faith without works is dead."

There is no denying the truth that Jesus Christ died to give us forgiveness of sins, deliverance from death and the devil, and the promise of life everlasting. And praise be to God for all goodness and mercy!

- One of the gifts God gives us is the presence and power of the Holy Spirit. The Spirit, which calls and gathers Christians into the Body of Christ, also works to enlighten and

sanctify us. How can we use that enlightening in our lives, especially when our days seem overcast and clouded, or when we wonder if our faith is stagnant or lifeless?

The Spirit enables and empowers us. With the Spirit, we can put our faith into action and renew the joy of our salvation as we extend ourselves in service to others. The process of sanctification is one of cooperation: We use the Spirit's guidance and power to cast aside the selfish and self-centered works of darkness, to clothe ourselves with Christ.

Our lives, redeemed and revitalized by Christ in the Spirit, can be lived for our Lord.

- Which comes first, the actions or the attitudes? That question will be debated until we attain per-

fect knowledge in heaven.

This is how it often works in this life: We hear a call to serve; we decide to put ourselves on the line; we give to others from what God has given us; and we are blessed.

- The blessings are three-fold. We realize that God will always be with us. We gain the joy of having served another in Jesus' name. We move from stagnant to vibrant.

What's the first step? God has already taken it by coming to us through Word and Sacrament. God has started putting words into actions.

- What's the bottom line? God has already provided that, too! We have the promise that whatever we spend for others will not begin to measure up to the rewards that are ours in heaven through Jesus Christ.

What's in it for me? Growth in faith and the knowledge of how God can

use us in blessing others: This is what we can expect.

- Lutheran Service Ministries is recruiting volunteers to give time and talents in service to others. Are you ready?

Rev. Martin Doering is project director. Contact Lutheran Service Ministries, 7900 E. Highway 290, Austin, TX 78724-2499; (512) 926-4272.

Game of the name

What if Bill Pastor, who is chairman of the Board of Parish Education at Trinity Lutheran Church in Klein, had decided to become a clergyman?

He would be Pastor Pastor.

South Padre vacationers note

St. John Lutheran Church of San Benito sponsors a preaching station at Port Isabel for winter Texans—our Yankee visitors fleeing the snow and cold.

The congregation, led by Rev. Marcus Mueller, voted to continue the Lutheran worship services for summer Texans.

If you are planning a vacation to the South Padre Island area, Lutheran worship is held at 606 S. Garcia St. in Port Isabel on Sunday mornings.

Call 943-2005 (399-3422, if no answer) for worship time.

Try this

Change your thoughts and the whole world will change around you.



CORPUS CHRISTI—Rev. C. Wayne Hamit was installed Feb. 11 as pastor of Lord of Life Lutheran Church in Corpus Christi. He had been serving as mission developer and was called as pastor when the congregation was chartered. From the left at the installation were

Revs. Kelly Crabbe; Eugene Gruell, who was preacher; Al Stuckwisch; Richard Goodwill; Paul Johnson; Hamit; Bill Schuster; Eldor Mickan; Dave Symm; Jerry Brown; and Steve Rynearson. Worship attendance averages 120 in the growing congregation.



The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want;

He makes me lie down in green pastures.

Volunteers bring God's word to special people: the blind

by Theckla A. Bleeke

Braille volunteer, Zion Lutheran, Walburg

Being a volunteer for Lutheran Braille Workers is such a worthwhile "occupation." We truly help people far and near as we send God's message of love to the blind and visually handicapped in places as close as Georgetown, Texas, and to the far corners of the world. What higher calling is there than to work or volunteer for the Lord and His special people, the blind?

Lutheran Braille Workers, Inc., is based in California and is a not-for-profit agency. It produces Christian braille and large-print materials in 41 languages for the blind and visually handicapped in 110 countries. Last year, some 7,000 volunteers across the country produced more than 1

million books and pamphlets.

Lutheran Braille Workers was started by five Lutherans shortly after World War II to replace the braille Bibles in Germany that had been destroyed by the Nazis.

There are 196 work centers, including this one and others in Texas, where volunteers carry out the mission of "Bringing Christ to Those in Darkness."

In the Zion, Walburg, work center, we need volunteers to help print braille books in Galatians and Colossians. We do this every Monday from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.

Feel free to stop in for a tour and see if volunteering here appeals to you. The center is located at Zion Lutheran Church in Walburg. Our mailing address is Rt. 2, Box 76, Georgetown, TX 78626.

Neva Odell, distinguished district educator, retires

A distinguished, long-time educator in the Texas District has retired.

She is Mrs. Neva Odell, who served Concordia Lutheran School of San Antonio for 34 years.

Odell began her career at Concordia as a kindergarten teacher. She continued in that role for 18 years. Next, she taught first grade, then fourth grade, then fifth grade for 14 years. She became principal in 1977, still teaching fifth grade half a day.

She held many congregational positions in the Sunday school and VBS.

In addition, she conducted kindergarten workshops and was kindergarten curriculum consultant and developer for The Lutheran

Church—Missouri Synod's Texas District.

On the synodical level, she reviewed education material for Concordia Publishing House and held VBS workshops.

Concordia school's Parent-Teacher League hosted a surprise retirement reception for Mrs. Odell, who will be moving with her husband to Devine.

Concordia's senior pastor, Dr. Guido Merkens, said, "Students and teachers alike note her compassion, dedication, discipline and Christian witness. She was a teacher/administrator at her best, admired, respected and emulated. She leaves a marvelous legacy. Praise God for the years she served our school."



Neva Odell

Don't sell the kids short

People who sometimes tend to sell the young generation short need to consider the sixth graders of Resurrection Lutheran Church of Spring.

All 11 students made 100 on their sixth-grade confirmation test during mid-week school.

On Wednesday evenings, the young people study a series of Bible stories and relate them to their lives today.

In Sunday school, they studied Martin Luther and how the Lutheran church began and the Lutheran way of worship.

Teachers are Annet Riley and Rose Mary Turner.

Family insight

Fathers and daughters start fights more than mothers and sons because fathers are more likely to direct arguments against daughters than sons.

Biting courage

It must have taken a lot of courage to discover that frog legs are edible.

This church had story-like beginning: born under a tree

by Rev. Roosevelt Gray

It happened that one day, Rev. Roland Wiederaenders, president of the Texas District, who lived in Bammel, Texas (north of Houston), was driving along the streets of Bammel when he noticed a group of men sitting under a large tree. He stopped to talk to them and asked if they would mind if he came and preached to them. The oldest man in the group was Pa West Livingston, who remarked, "For free?" At that moment a church was born!

The newly found congregation held services under the same tree for a while, then in a local school building, until a site was purchased and a worship building erected.

The congregation continued to grow in Bammel for several years. By the end of the year (December 1941 Christmas service), 23 members were taken into fellowship through baptism and confirmation by Vicar Gerhard Lang.

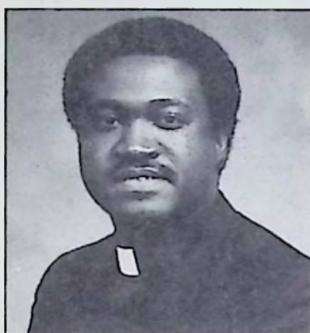
THE FIRST PASTOR

In 1947, Rev. Walter Lang, Gerhard Lang's brother, came to Bammel to help his brother serve the growing congregation. In 1943, the congregation extended a call to Rev. Walter Lang to be Mount Calvary's first full-time pastor.

THE MOVE TO HOUSTON

By 1947, Mount Calvary was a fast-growing congregation, but the economy in Bammel was slowing down. Houston, to the south, was coming of age economically. Many members moved to Houston—taking the congregation with them.

In Houston, Mount Cal-



Rev. Roosevelt Gray Jr.

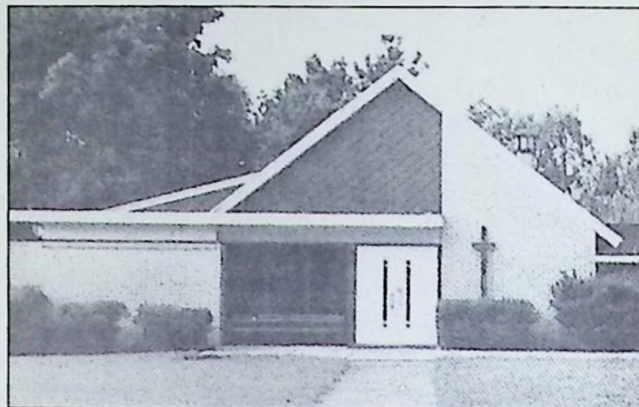
vary began growing again, from a weekend school in a member's home to its present location at Acres Homes.

FROM AN OLD ARMY BARRACK TO A NEW WORSHIP BUILDING

The Texas District purchased an old Army barrack that served as the church and school for many years under Pastor Henry Sorrell.

In 1958, Pastor Samuel Kent was called as pastor. On Easter Sunday 1962 the congregation moved into its present worship facility. Pastor Kent was called home to glory in 1977.

From 1977 through 1988 Mount Calvary was served by a long list of vacancy pastors. Pastor O. William



MOUNT CALVARY—This is Mount Calvary Lutheran in Houston, a growing, self-supporting congregation ministering predominantly to Blacks. A new worship facility is planned along with classrooms and office space. The present fellowship hall will serve as a community center. The Church Extension Fund is enabling the facility growth.

Luecke served from 1982 to 1988.

Today Mount Calvary is served by Pastor Roosevelt Gray Jr.

• Mount Calvary has many plans for the Lord's work in the 1990s. The congregation plans to purchase 2.25 acres across the street from the present church and erect a new worship facility with classrooms and office space.

The present building will be converted into a pre-school and day-care center. The present fellowship hall will serve as a community center. All of this is possible through a Church Extension Fund loan.

Mount Calvary is one of the Texas District's self-supporting congregations; yet, as a congregation serving predominantly Blacks, it works hand-in-hand with the Mission Board to reach God's people where they live.

• Mount Calvary's ministry is reaching out into the community with the love

and compassion of Christ. A Sunday School Kick-Off Sunday (March 4, 1990) saw 48 children in Sunday school. A nursing home ministry allows eight to 12 elderly nursing home patients to participate in Sunday morning worship.

This June 11-18, Mount Calvary is sponsoring a Servant Event that will allow eight to 12 young people to come and help the church build a playground for the day-care and pre-school.

• Mount Calvary's past is filled with many wonderful works done for our Lord. The future is yet to show God's many wonderful blessings.

Rev. Roosevelt Gray Jr., current pastor, is a 1988 graduate of Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Ind.

A be-attitude

Blessed are those who know when to shut up and listen; they will learn new things.



**New church is
major milestone
for congregation**

Christ the King Lutheran Church in Kingwood dedicated its new church building March 4. More than 200 people attended.

The dedication marked a major milestone for the congregation. In 1985, the Texas District was considering opening a mission in the New Caney area.

Pastor John Miller of Lamb of God in Humble helped convince the district to start the mission in Kingwood as a daughter church of Lamb of God in Humble.

Miller, his church staff and key members provided the nucleus of support that got the mission going. Community outreach came through a telemarketing campaign, road signs, door hangers and lots of house calls by Miller on behalf of Christ the King.

The first service was held March 5, 1989. Groundbreaking for the sanctuary came in August and arrangements were made with Laborers For Christ to build the new facility. The Laborers For Christ group worked during the week, and were helped by church members on weekends. Budgeted at \$325,000, the church was built for \$305,000 including furnishings.

Miller is serving as interim pastor pending the congregation's call for a resident pastor.



KINGWOOD—This is the completed sanctuary of Christ the King Lutheran of Kingwood, dedicated March 4. The mission was devel-

oped as a daughter congregation of Lamb of God in Humble.



LINCOLN—Rev. David Ebert, center front, was installed Feb. 11 as pastor of St. John Lutheran of Lincoln. He came to Lincoln from Sealy, where he served since 1977. Rev. Bryan C. Sullivan (on Ebert's left), circuit

counselor, was preacher. Rev. Paul Hartfield (on Ebert's right), district vice president, was officiant. Others pictured are pastors in the region.



HAMILTON—Rev. Timothy Carr was installed Feb. 11 as pastor of St. John, Hamilton. Participating were, from left rear: Revs. Alan Struckmeyer; Melvin Boehlke; District President Louis Pabor, who was the preacher; Chaplain Vic Killian; Cliff Olsen; Victor Winkelman; John Armstrong; John Feierabend;

District Vice President David Joeckel; and Keith DuBois. Front, same order, are Revs. Tim Rosenthal; Paul Uhles; Wayne Pick; James Herzog; Harold Wunderlich, vacancy pastor; Carr; Erich Knippa; Chaplain Christiano Artigas; Albert Wuensche; and Willis Ude, circuit counselor and installer.

**To all those throughout the
Texas District, who have supported
the ministry of the Church
Extension Fund . . .**

**Our Texas District Board for
Church Extension wishes to
express its thanks and
appreciation for your
investment and savings
dollars . . .**

**To God be the glory
for your faithful
participation on . . .**

C.E.F.

**CELEBRATION
SUNDAY**

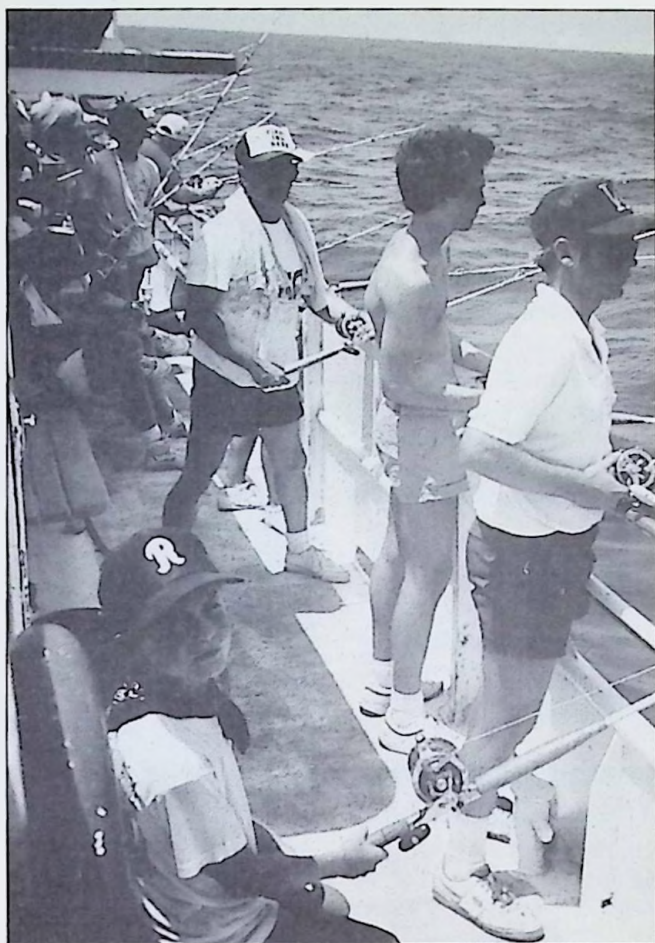
**Come
Grow
With
Us in 1990!**



Bill Siegrist

**For further information
about this exciting ministry of
our church, please contact your
congregational representative,
your pastor or the district office.**

**Texas District
CHURCH EXTENSION FUND
Bill Siegrist
7900 E. Highway 290
Austin, TX 78724-2499
(512) 926-4272**

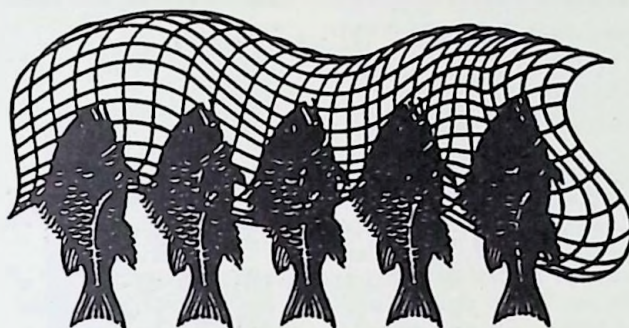


COME ON, FISH—Fishermen on the annual deep-sea fishing trip sponsored by Lutheran Outdoors Ministry of Texas wait for the big ones to grab the bait.



CHAPEL—This is the handsome outdoor chapel that was built at the Bokenkamp Pastoral Retreat Center under the sponsorship of Lutheran Outdoors Ministry of Texas. It provides an ideal setting for family or individual spiritual nourishment.

Annual family fishing trip: There's a real catch to it and you can be the catcher



Bay fishing will be added to the annual excursion to the Gulf Coast Saturday, July 21, sponsored by Lutheran Outdoors Ministry of Texas.

During each of the past three years, about 50 people enjoyed a nine-hour deep sea fishing trip that took them nearly 20 miles into the Gulf waters out of Port Aransas. This year's event will add a spice of variety with the bay fishing option, thus providing another attractive dimension to the already popular fun times and great Christian fellowship inherent in this intergenerational activity through LOMT.

Participants will have a choice of the 60-foot vessel "Dolphin" for deep-sea fishing (both fishermen and spectators) or the "Ocean Island," a smaller craft that will scour the bay waters for about four hours. Besides the kingfish, shark and amberjack that are caught out in the Gulf, the bay could produce trout, redfish, flounder, perch and many other varieties of fish.

A full weekend is planned for July 20-22 beginning with a poolside social hour at "The Courtyard" on Friday evening. After the respective jaunts into the seas on Saturday, a delicious "shrimp boil" meal will be served as a part of the total package at The Courtyard.

On Sunday morning, a worship on the beach will end what promises to be a superb weekend of family enjoyment and Christ-centered togetherness with Christians from a variety of backgrounds.

For more information, contact Lutheran Outdoors Ministry of Texas, 7900 E. Highway 290, Austin, TX 78724-2499; (512) 926-4272.

Friendship Day 'phenomenal success' in this parish

by Rev. Douglas R. Kabell
Trinity Lutheran Church
Iowa Park, Texas

We are a small, rural parish of about 120 baptized souls in north Texas. Last year we had an average worship attendance of 57.

Last Feb. 25, we celebrated Friendship Sunday. We had 103 in church that day! This is an increase of 81 percent over our average worship attendance last year. For us, Friendship Sunday was a phenomenal success. God really blessed it.

I really think that Friendship Sunday is **THE** best evangelism idea that the Synod's Board of Evangelism has come up with and put out. It is so great because it works for any size parish, and without adapting it. It also is the most non-threatening evangelism technique to date.

Most people are afraid of evangelism. Most even are afraid of "witnessing." But with this technique, they don't have to do either. All they have to do is ask a friend to come to church.

Also, the friends are not quite as threatened either. They aren't made to feel as if we are forcing them to join our church. All we are asking them to do is to come and see. Out of this could come a personal knowledge of their Savior and church membership. But it is done on a non-threatening level. I think that it's just great.



Iowa Park

And my members think it is great too. They already are talking about having another Friendship Sunday later in the year.

I don't think I have ever seen this congregation as excited and enthusiastic about something in the four years I have been here, as I have seen them about this Friendship Sunday.

It has really put some new life and spark into our congregation.

Do Friendship Sundays work?

The Lord's blessings are evident in recent Friendship Sundays conducted in Texas District congregations.

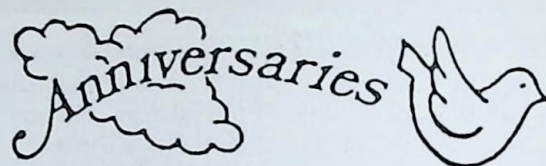
St. Paul, San Antonio, counted 212 in attendance at its special combined, bilingual Friendship Sunday worship service. Of these, 85 were visitors.

Friendship Sunday services at Zion Lutheran, Pasadena, were attended by 491 people, including 103 visitors.

At Concordia Lutheran, San Antonio, where members earlier signed pledge cards to invite a friend, relative or co-worker, more than 200 visitors were there on Friendship Sunday.

At Prince of Peace, Carrollton, 799 attended Friendship Day worship—and there were 89 first-time visitors. Sixty-two visiting families left their names, addresses and telephone numbers.

At St. Andrew in Houston, more than 300 attended Friendship Sunday, 40 of them visitors, and 30 of these first-time visitors.



The following Texas District Lutheran couples recently celebrated wedding anniversaries of 50 years or more:

St. Paul, Fort Worth:
Edith and Woody Foster, 54 years, March 10. Also, Lydia and Haskel Baker, 55 years, March 14.

St. Matthew, Houston:
Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Frank, 60 years, March 2.

St. Peter, Gun Barrel City, Erwin and Irene Kroeplin, 50 years, March 31.

The beat goes on

Gratitude to God should be as regular as our heartbeat.



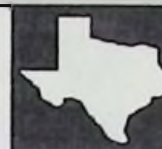
60th—Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Kieschnick recently celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary. They have been members of Ebenezer Lutheran of Manheim all their married life.

Send your news to Bill

Send your newsletters, news releases and photos for the LUTHERAN WITNESS to:

Bill Wagner, editor
7900 E. Highway 290
Austin, TX 78724-2499

About photos: color photos are OK if the contrast is good. Black and white photos are best.



Our bright Lutheran kids . . .

Bright kid honors go to Elizabeth Wilkerson, Zion, Abilene, a high school junior who was selected for *Who's Who in American High Schools*, made National Honor Society with a 95.6 GPA, first chair in All-District Band, All-Region Band and was invited to join the woodwind section of the Abilene Youth Symphony. Wow!

Congratulations to Kendall Barron, Grace, Orange, who received the Arrow of Light, Cub Scouting's highest award.

Melissa Bartels, Christ, Austin, is a member of her high school's Silver Stars drill team which won Best In Texas in international competitions in both San Antonio and Dallas.

Emily Ewing, Holy Cross, Nederland, placed first in the city's Cultural Arts Contest in literature under the title, *Where Does The Sky End?*

Kirsten Butler and Jill Cramer, Our Redeemer, Rockwall, both won first ratings in UIL music competition and the right to compete at the state level. Kirsten plays flute; Jill plays French horn.

Congratulations to Mark Rudolph, Our Redeemer, Wichita Falls, who won second place at the Math Science Center Fair.

J.J. McGrath, Grace, Denison, is in a tuba quartet that won a UIL first place and moved on to state competition.

Winners in UIL competition who are members of Holy Cross, Nederland, include Leslie Ewing, saxophone solo; Casey Hollomon, trombone ensemble; Shandi Schrader, flute solo; and Eric Smith, drum solo.

The *God and Me* award from the Girl Scouts of America was awarded to Connie Seale, Prince of Peace, Carrollton. Congratulations, Connie.

Clint Endsley



Clint Endsley received special attention at First Lutheran, Texarkana, when he posted a year of perfect Sunday school attendance. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. David Endsley.

Bright kid honors for two young people of Grace, Orange. Jeff Cammack was his high school's first place winner from the Distributive Education Club in entrepreneurship. And Jennifer Watters won the Good Citizenship contest sponsored by the DAR of Beaumont. She was judged on dependability, service, leadership, patriotism, and home, community and church involvement. She's in the National Honor Society and belongs to Mu Alpha Theta, the high school math honor society.

Those bright Lutheran kids from Zion, Tomball,

were very much in evidence on the winners' stand at the Montgomery County 4-H Food Show Jan. 27. Marci Schiel won a blue ribbon and Matt Schiel won top display and grand champion awards for his "Camper's Soup." Shelly Grymes received best of category in the snack division with a cheese ball recipe and display.

Congratulations to Jennifer Teer, First Lutheran, Lufkin, who was the subject of a front-page article in the *Lufkin Daily News* as part of the newspaper's "Head of the Class" series about outstanding students. She's a fourth-grader.

A double winner is Jeff Rawe, Holy Cross, Arlington, who won his eighth grade spelling bee and also first place in a science fair.

Mike Evans, a fourth grader at Our Redeemer, Dallas, won second place at the Texas Amateur Wrestling Association's state championship tournament Feb. 16 in Dallas. Mike wrestled in the 9- and 10-year-old division in the 78-pound weight class.

Lisa Dunaway, St. Paul, San Antonio, was chosen to attend Youth Leadership Weekend at Lackland Air Force Base.

Three cheers for two bright kids at St. Paul, Groves. David Satcher and Melissa Girouard were inducted into the National Honor Society. In addition, Melissa made all-district volleyball team and was one of 15 players chosen for all-state.

These kids from Trinity, Rosenberg, really beat the band. Missy Nilsson won two first place medals in band competition and Brady Blasdel and his percussion ensemble won a district first place. Brady also received a \$20,000 scholarship from Texas Lutheran College. In addition to these two, Tiffany Blasdel placed third in impromptu poetry in a speech tournament against 87 contestants.

In the music world at Zion, Tomball, Paul Luedke received a No. 1 rating in regional competition for trumpet solo, as did Nathan Teichmiller with a woodwind ensemble.

Todd Nelson, Trinity, Uvalde, was one of three sophomores to make the all-district basketball team.

Three cheers for three students of St. John, Cypress, who were inducted into the National Honor Society. They are Heather Heartwell, Rebecca McCulley and Marlene War-nasch.

Want to know which batteries last the longest? Ask Eric Rogers, Our Redeemer, Dallas. This fifth-grader won first place in his school's science fair for his research project on the life of a variety of batteries.

Rose Gray, Grace, Smithville, must be a whiz in distributive education. She won district competition with her paper, "Marketing of the Automated Teller Machine." (Continued on next page.)

YOUTH

(Continued from previous page.)

Emmet Polster, Trinity, Amarillo, is a member of the Academic Excellence Club at Amarillo High. He's also on the varsity wrestling team and won second place in both district and regional meets.

Second grader Aaron Galbreath, Christ, Austin, was one of 20 winners from 800 entries in a drawing contest. His creation appeared in the *Austin American Statesman*.

Leimbach scholarship fund established

The congregation of Zion Lutheran of Pasadena has established the Leimbach scholarship fund, designed to provide financial assistance to members of Zion entering studies for church ministries.

The fund honors William Leimbach, the 1989 recipient of the Texas District Educator of the Year award. He has devoted 35 years to the teaching ministry, 33 of which have been on the faculty of Zion.

The fund was started with a gift of \$1,000 from an attorney who wrote in part, "I remember when times were lean and I didn't contribute much, but Zion continued to educate my children. I realize more today what/who true Christian teachers and administrators are."



CADET-TO-BE—Loren Long, member of Zion Lutheran of Fort Worth, accepted an appointment to the U.S. Military Academy Class of 1994. He was nominated by Congressman Pete Geren. He also received four-year Army and three-year Navy ROTC scholarships. He reports to West Point July 2.

Have a heart

In February the Sunday school children of Zion Lutheran, Walburg, created and delivered valentines to congregation members who were ill, hospitalized or shut-in.

The valentines brought much love and many surprises to more than 40 people.

Brad throws himself around—perfectly

The *Fort Worth Star Telegram* named Brad Langley "Player of the Week" after Brad scored a perfect 10 on the parallel bars in recent competition.

Brad and his family attend Concordia Lutheran of Bradford. He is a student at Trinity High School and member of the gymnast team.

He plans to attend UCLA after graduation.

Lutherans score in higher ed

Margaret Schneider, St. John, Cypress, made the Dean's Academic Honor List at Baylor U. A 3.7 GPA is required. This puts her in the top 15 percent of Baylor's juniors and seniors, and she was invited to join the Golden Key National Honor Society.

Rosemary Thornton, St. Mark, Conroe, graduated from Sam Houston State University with a perfect 4.0 GPA in her last semester.

Michael Faglie, Prince of Peace, Belton, received a football scholarship from Southwest Texas State University.

Lutheran: That's the way the ball bounces in Giddings

Two-thirds of the Giddings High School 1989-90 girls' basketball team are members of area Lutheran churches and graduates of their Christian day schools.

Sharon Albrecht is a member of St. Paul, Serbin, while Amy Arldt, Wendy Hendrickson, Rachel Kipp, Abigail Placke and Amy Schultz are members of Immanuel, Giddings.

The team was an area qualifier in district competition.



PALESTINE—Rev. Paul Donald Neumann was installed Feb. 4 as pastor of Bethlehem Lutheran, Palestine. Participating in the service, front row from left, were Revs. Byron Hodson; Phillip Konz; Randy Haedge, who was preacher; Neumann; Gregg Stanton; David Jung, officiant and circuit counselor. From left, back: Revs. Al Walter; Michael Frick; Adrian Bacarisse; Fred Gersch; and Everett Gerdes, emeritus, who was vacancy pastor and service liturgist. Neumann also will serve Christ Lutheran, Jacksonville, during its vacancy.



Meeting your Lord in heaven

One of the few advantages of getting older is the fact that each day you come closer and closer to the time when you meet your Savior, Jesus Christ, face to face in heaven.

• Yes, I know that there are a few good things about temporal life—that is, if you're not sick, have good friends and relatives who love you, and have a few dollars to spend.

In that case, the desire to live on and on to enjoy those advantages is very strong. So much so that even a Christian may not be quite ready to meet the Lord for a while. "Just a minute, Lord, I'm not ready to go just yet, there are a few things I just have to do and a few places I haven't seen yet."

On the other hand, there are those folks for whom life has become a terrible burden. They may be sick, have no friends, are all alone in the world, are poor and do not know where their next meal is coming from, etc. Fortunately, some of those people know Jesus. They cast their cares upon Him and look forward to the end of their trials by meeting Him in heaven.

• As in the case of my own sister Ruth, her faith in her Savior grew stronger in the days before she died of tuberculosis. Others are not so fortunate.

Despite great progress in communications in recent years, some poor souls still do not know of Jesus Christ and eternal life. Others who have heard that there is a God and a Savior reject Him for one reason or another. Of course, this has been going on since the be-

ginning of time.

We Christians, however, are blessed with the knowledge of certain things. We know that we are the church. We are God's chosen whether we are 15 years old or 75. In either case, the Lord has selected us, not for merely this day and time, but for all eternity—which is a very, very long time.

We have things to do that not only enable us to enjoy this life more fully but also to perform those things that He gave us to perform. "Go into all the world and preach the Gospel unto every creature."

What about those older people in our neighborhoods, in hospitals or in nursing homes? They really do not have much time left to learn about eternal life in Jesus.

• With reference to nursing homes, it's been estimated that three out of four people alive today will, at some point, wind up in a nursing home. Some of those places can be quite depressing with a lot of older people sitting around, many in wheelchairs, waiting to die.

A pleasant exception is the Altenheim or Lutheran Home in Round Rock, Texas. I was privileged to attend the dedication of a new 60-bed addition to the home, a gift of the Ed Trapp family of our Texas District. There I noticed something different. The



GIFT—Arthur Lee and Betty Stern stand beside the Allen Organ they gave to Trinity Lutheran Church of Rosenberg. The digital, computerized drive mimics pipes, chimes, reeds and strings and has the capacity to serve the church growth for many years. The two donors cite their gift as being to God's glory and dedicated to enhancing the congregation's worship experience.

nurses and the people there had pleasant, friendly attitudes and smiles on their faces. The obvious reason is that the presence of Christ is very evident among the residents.

• Perhaps the greatest service we older church members, either individually or in groups, can perform would be to visit those places and talk to those people, especially the non-Christians. The objective: To prepare them for the day when they will meet their Lord face to face. We can give them hope, something to look forward to, a brighter tomorrow.

No matter what the present condition of their physical bodies—perhaps painful, crooked, wrinkled, or worn out—their new bodies will be glorified and their real person, their soul remains eternal.

As a member of the Older Adult Ministry Committee of our Texas District, I have a few suggestions.

1. Start a group in your congregation that ministers to the older members.
2. Meet once a month for Bible study and fellowship.
3. Establish a calling group that visits elderly people in your area's hospitals and nursing homes.
4. Prepare for the day when you, yourself will meet your Lord and encourage others to do likewise.

Submitted by Harry Jordan, member, Older Adult Ministry Committee of the Board of Parish Services, Texas District.

Older growing

Persons over 85 years are the fastest growing segment in the country.

HAPPENINGS IN TEXAS



BAT GIRLS—Rachel Kasper, left, and Amy McCown are two of eight students serving as bat girls for the Bulldog baseball team at Texas Lutheran College, Seguin. Rachel, a sophomore psychology major, is the daughter of Rev. Donald and Barbara Kasper, Faith Lutheran Church, Huntsville. Amy is a freshman biology and chemistry major and the daughter of Rev. Chester and Ollie McCown, Grace Lutheran, Victoria. The girls keep the bats in order at the games and supply the umpires with baseballs.

PEOPLE, PLACES, & EVENTS

In a meeting Feb. 13, the congregation of St. John, Beaumont, voted to sell its property and relocate in the western part of Beaumont. It now is in the South Park section of Beaumont and has served in that area for more than 85 years.

A special service and congregational dinner Feb. 25 at Hope, Austin, honored Dee Greer, who retired after 23 years as church and school secretary.

Fifty years of service to

If the hat fits . . .

From the newsletter of Immanuel Lutheran of Giddings:

"If you inadvertently picked up a man's hat last Sunday, please return it to the church.

"Your hat is still up front."

the Lord was observed April 29 by the congregation of Mount Calvary, Raymondville. Walter Pohland is pastor.

As part of its ministry to

older adults, members of Immanuel, Temple, host an activity at the Temple Care Center once a month.

Rev. Wayne M. Schardt has retired as assistant pastor of Christ Lutheran, Houston. He was honored Jan. 28 with a special program and dinner.

Rev. Michael E. Ramming was installed as pastor of Grace, Killeen, March 11.

Congratulations to Rev. Richard Goodwill, St. Paul, Bishop, who received the Outstanding Newcomer Award from the Bishop Chamber of Commerce at its 43rd annual dinner Feb. 22.

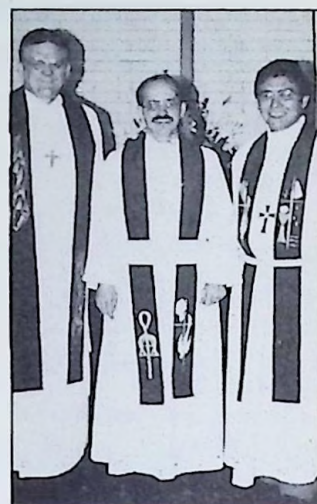
Rev. Robert Preece, accepting a call from Waterloo, Ill., to Zion, Dallas, was installed there as pastor April 1.

A worship of celebration and thanksgiving March 18 marked the 50th anniversary of Bethel Lutheran, Bryan. Former pastors Duane Florschuetz and Gordon Albers participated. Neil Bockelmann is current pastor.

The Synod's fifth vice president, Dr. Walter A. Maier Jr., was guest preacher March 11 as St. Paul Lutheran Parochial School, Wichita Falls, observed its 75th anniversary.

Faith Lutheran, Mexia, ministers to three nursing homes in Mexia, providing a service of song and devotion to one home each month.

Tom Bibb, a member of



INSTALLED—Rev. Wayne M. Braun was installed as pastor of First Lutheran of Texarkana. At the installation were, from left: Revs. David Joeckle, district vice president; Braun; and Francis Schroeder.

Trinity, Uvalde, was a director of Uvalde's United Way campaign that reached its goal of \$38,000.

Congratulations to Amanda Love, Faith, Lampasas, who won a blue ribbon in her first entry in the county 4-H show with her entry of "Dirt Cake."

Congratulations to Susan Robbins, Zion, Pasadena, teacher of grade three, who was selected as the Master Teacher in the intermediate division by the Houston area Lutheran School Association.

Your pastor prays . . .

Ask God to endow me with the Holy Spirit, that I may speak God's Law fearlessly and God's Gospel enthusiastically.



In March, Zion, Tomball, welcomed 23 new members to its forever family, receiving them by affirmation, confirmation and transfer.

Taken into fellowship Feb. 11 at Christ Lutheran, Fort Worth, were seven new members by reaffirmation of faith and transfer.

Welcoming 19 new members in March was the congregation of Trinity, San Angelo. They came by adult confirmation, profession of faith and transfer.

A wonderful March 4 at St. Paul, Bishop, saw six new members brought into fellowship with the Lord by adult confirmation and child baptism. Two of the four adult confirmands also were baptized.

Bethel, Bryan, welcomed 24 new members through adult confirmation, baptism, reaffirmation of faith and transfer.

By baptism and reaffirmation of faith, five new members came to Redeemer, Odessa, Feb. 25.

Welcomed Feb. 25 at Redeemer, Austin, were 18 new members.

Members of Prince of Peace, Carrollton, heard the confession of faith of 24 new members brought into



ST. PHILIP—Twenty-seven members were added to the fellowship Dec. 3 at St. Philip Lutheran of Houston. Four are confirmands, three came by profession of faith and 20 were transfers.

fellowship Feb. 25.

St. Mark, Conroe, welcomed five new members brought into fellowship by confirmation and transfer.

By reaffirmation of faith, profession of faith, adult confirmation and transfer, St. John, Cypress, received 17 new members.

Zion, Dallas, welcomed 30 new members Feb. 18. Five were received through adult confirmation, 23 through transfer and two through reaffirmation of faith.

Welcomed into membership at St. Mark, Conroe, were five new members by confirmation and transfer.

The adult membership class at Concordia, San Antonio, contained 37 people received March 25 into fellowship.

Twelve new members joined the forever family of Grace, Midland, March 11 by profession of faith and transfer.

Get concerned

Every time you draw a breath, four people go into eternity who never heard the name of Jesus. That is almost 200,000 people a day. God help us to become concerned!

Bring to church

An unselfish spirit and an abiding love for your fellow Christians.

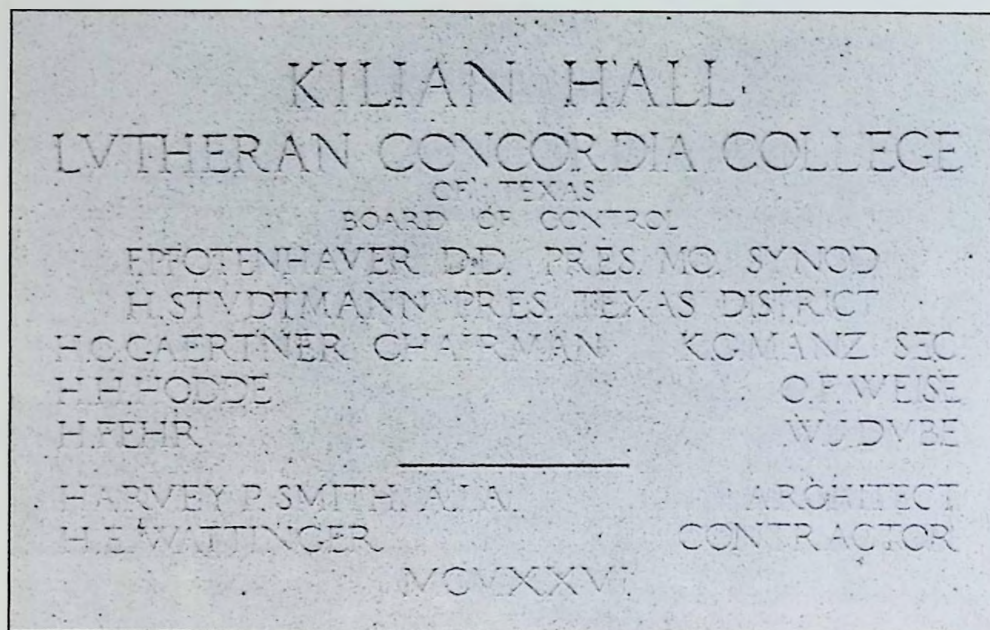
About a smile

There are hundreds of languages in the world, but a smile speaks all of them.



ZION—Twenty-seven new members were welcomed Feb. 18 into the fellowship of believers at Zion Lutheran Church of Dallas. Five were received by adult confirmation. Twenty-two more came by profession of faith or transfer.

CONCORDIA



A SURE FOUNDATION—When the cornerstone for Kilian Hall was laid in 1926, about 1,000 people attended the ceremony. Rev.

George C. Fischer preached the sermon and the Thorndale band accompanied the singing.

Concordia Sunday is May 20 in Texas congregations

May 20 has been designated Concordia Lutheran College Sunday in the Texas District. This Sunday will give congregations the opportunity to highlight Concordia's ministry of higher education.

Worship folders will include informative inserts, and Concordia representatives will read a special message from the college.

Part of the Concordia Sunday message mentions the contents of the cornerstone of Concordia's first building, Kilian Hall. The items sealed in the cornerstone were carefully and prayerfully selected by the college's founders to carry the message of Concordia's mission and ministry from one generation to the following generations.

The most significant

items placed in the cornerstone were copies of the Bible in both German and English, indicating that Concordia was founded on the Word of God. The confessional records of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod were also included, because Martin Luther's concept of vocation was the fundamental element in determining the classes to be taught at the college. The curriculum was designed to prepare young people to proclaim the Gospel in all walks of life.

The other items placed in the cornerstone have significance also, a message from the 1926 founders to Lutherans today. On Concordia Sunday, a complete listing of the cornerstone contents will be presented.

Today's Concordia Lu-

theran College of Texas fulfills the unique vision of its founders. It is a four-year college where men and women prepare for careers in the church, in business, in communication, or in the natural and behavioral sciences. Its curriculum helps young people develop lifestyles consistent with God's will, while also giving them skills and knowledge for Christian vocations in church and society.

In partnership, the congregations of the Texas District and Concordia Lutheran College of Texas preserve the legacy of Christian education bequeathed to us by the college founders, ensuring that our heritage, values and beliefs will live on.

"Behold, I am laying in Zion for a foundation a stone, a tested stone, a precious cornerstone of a sure foundation" (Is. 28:16).

Ministerial youth retreats set

Concordia Lutheran College and the Texas District Recruitment Committee are looking for candidates for church work careers. Two Ministerial Youth Retreats are scheduled this summer on campus to strengthen these students' faith and to acquaint them with career possibilities in the church.

The June 3-7 retreat is for high school freshmen and sophomores; the June 10-14 retreat is for juniors and seniors. Any professional church worker can nominate a young person who seems to have "the makings" for a church service career.

Young people who are not nominated, but who feel a call to serve the church, should speak with their pastors.

The deadline for nominations is May 25. For details, call Kevin Pieper at Concordia: 1-800-735-3232.

Register now for music workshop

May 29 is the deadline for registration for this summer's Church Music Workshop at Concordia Lutheran College, June 11-15.

Professors Harold Rutz and Bernard Gastler of the Concordia music faculty will lead the workshop.

The workshop will include group and individual instruction, as well as suggestions for planning music for worship.

Call Professor Harold Rutz for registration materials: 1-800-735-3232.



Milton and Esther Sweet

An example for others

Milton and Esther Sweet, members of Our Savior in Austin, agreed to be featured in Concordia's section of the LUTHERAN WITNESS only when persuaded that their actions could serve as an example for others.

"We're just everyday people," Mr. Sweet said. "The Lord gave us the modest resources we have and we're trying to use them in the best way."

Mr. and Mrs. Sweet invested their savings with the Church Extension Fund and specified that the interest goes to Concordia for scholarships for future leaders of the church. Their principal remains for their use in case of emergencies.

The Sweets designated Concordia to receive the interest because they believe scholarships can encourage young people preparing to be Lutheran pastors and teachers.

To learn how you can make a gift to Concordia through your CEF account, call Bill Siegrist at the district office, (512) 929-4272, or Mike Linebrink at Concordia, 1-800-735-3232.



FOUR FROM CLC—Rev. Timothy Carr (Concordia '84 graduate) provided this photo that was taken at his installation as pastor of St. John Lutheran Church in Hamilton. He was joined by three other recent Concordia graduates, from left: Rev. Alan Struckmeyer (CLC '82) of Immanuel, Temple; Rev. Timothy Rosenthal (CLC '84) of Mount Calvary, Brady,

and Grace, Menard; Carr; and Rev. Victor Winkelman (CLC '84) of Grace, Mart. Carr wrote, "My hope is that through the use of the photo, the pre-sem program might be enhanced, as others see how four Texans made it through and made it back to Texas. Our prayer is that others like us would heed the call and join us in the ministry."



STUDENT TEACHERS—Concordia teacher education seniors were commissioned at a special chapel service before they began their student teaching. These students are now teaching under the guidance of master teachers in the following schools: (front row, from left) Karen Heckmann—Zion Lutheran School, Dallas; Cindy Miller—Redeemer Lutheran School, Austin; Sherri St. Clair—St. Paul Lutheran School, Austin; Carolyn Favre—Zion Lutheran School, Pasadena; Diana Higgs—Brentwood Elementary, Austin; (middle row) Jackie Shrever—Brentwood Ele-

mentary, Austin; Judy Fritsche—Pilgrim Lutheran School, Houston; Becky Behrend—Elgin Primary, Elgin; Bobby Schroeder—Hope Lutheran School, Austin; (back row) David Birnbaum—St. Paul Lutheran School, Ft. Worth; Julie Schroeder—St. Paul Lutheran School, Austin; Janice Dittmer—Zion Lutheran School, Dallas; Kenneth Menke—St. Paul Lutheran School, Austin. Not pictured: Keith Johnson—Lutheran High South, Houston. Menke and Johnson will be the first secondary education students to graduate from the new program.

Cared for, in Jesus' name

More than 570 people attended the annual Lutheran Social Service of Texas dinner Feb. 16 in Austin.

The theme, "A Celebration of Caring People," focused on the agency's mission and ministry in 1989.

In response to God's love and grace, Lutheran Social Service of Texas ministers to people's spiritual and physical needs by providing social services in Jesus' name. These stories were told by people who received LSST services.

... and lives were changed

Melissa Jones described her search for a nursing home for her adoptive father. When she called homes in Austin, she was asked about finances. "We feel sorry for you," they said to Melissa, but there was no help.

Then a call to the LSST Trinity Lutheran Home in Round Rock and the soft, confident, reassuring voice turned investigative questions into helpful questions. "Truly a response to God's love at a time when I wondered if He loved me," said Melissa.

"The unconditional care expressed by Peter Porras, the administrator, was beyond my understanding at that time. Without their help I would not have had a life of my own. I would have had to quit college, move to Austin and personally care for my father."

• Janie Bolden has a LSST Emergency Response Unit. She is a vibrant and fiercely independent senior citizen who wants to live at home but fears something might happen. Through the Emergency Response Service, she knows help is available 24 hours a day through friends, the base station operator of LSST and her next-door neighbors.

The "Life-Box," as she calls the LSST Lifeline unit, saved her life. "I fell in the bathroom," she said, "and I told my grandson to push the red button. Help came. The Life-Box saved my life. Thank you, Mr. Trapp, for the Life-Box."

The Trapp Emergency Response Service Endowment provides a monthly subsidy to individuals who cannot afford the total cost of their Emergency Response Service.

• Finally, Jill said, "I was single, pregnant and I never thought I'd place my child for adoption. I prayed hard for God's will for me and my child."

She was referred to LSST by an out-of-state agency. When she and her parents moved to Texas, she came to LSST mainly to please her parents. "The LSST counselors gave me space," she said. "Through the counseling, I picked a couple to be the adoptive parents of my child. When I finally delivered, I was so excited, I was holding their son. I wanted to have them called immediately. That little boy was theirs."

"Tonight," she said, "they want me to tell you how happy they are as new parents and I want to thank LSST and tell you how happy I am for the parents of my son."



HONORED—Dick Rathgeber of Austin, left, is congratulated by Rev. Robert C. Greene, president of Lutheran Social Service of Texas, after LSST chose Rathgeber as Man of the Year.

LSST picks Rathgeber as Man of Year

The Lutheran of the Year is Edward R. (Dick) Rathgeber, a member of St. Martin Lutheran Church in Austin and a private land developer. He was influential in developing the Lutheran Foundation of the Southwest.

"They will know we are Christians by our love," said Rathgeber. "It is a privilege to serve with LSST under His banner."

Rathgeber then presented the Dedicated Service Award to Commissioner James Osborne, national commander of the Salvation Army. "It was my work with the Salvation Army that put faces and hands to the people we helped," said Rathgeber. "Together with LSST the commitment to caring is present in many communities across Texas."

Brandes' given LSST award

The Lutheran Social Service of Texas "Helping Hand Award" was given to Luther and Georgie Brandes. Rev. Robert Greene, LSST president, said, "This award is presented to a quiet, humble, generous and positively delightful couple."

"They stop past the home in Lubbock and walk around and share their love. They have been instrumental by assisting in funding the ministries of Lutheran Social Service in Lubbock through the Area Service Office, Emergency Response Service and the Lutheran Home of West Texas. Without these 'helping hands' the Celebration of Caring People would not be complete," Greene said.



HELPERS—Georgie and Luther Brandes of Lubbock received "Helping Hand Award."

LSST honors staff

A "Celebration of Caring People" recognized two and one-half centuries of service by 25 LSST staff members. During the annual dinner, employees who have been with the agency 5, 10, 15, 20 and 25 years received service awards. This year Ruby Vincik received an award for 25 years of service.



Life that was a quiet sermon

by Pastor Jerry Kieschnick
Executive Director

Lutheran Foundation of Texas

He was born in 1901. Always a quiet man—well, almost always. One-on-one he could hold his own in conversation. Basically, he was a man whose most effective communication was through the labors of his hands. A mechanic. A loving husband. A devoted father. A faithful Christian.

His funeral service was conducted in the mighty East Texas metropolis of Lovelady, his home, population written in three figures. The service was preceded by an awesome potluck, attended by many of the local citizenry and most of his family, including a dozen or so of us who came from afar. He was Daddy's Uncle Ed.

- Aunt Clara, their daughter and two granddaughters were in the front pew, together with the surviving siblings, John and Nettie, her brother and his sister. Mother and I were in the second pew with assorted family members.

The service was in the small, but serene sanctuary of another Christian denomination. Not accustomed to worshipping in non-Lutheran services, I tried to be as attentive as possible.

- The preacher was a kind man, a bit on the country side, a good communicator. His words, by his own admission, were more a eulogy than a funeral sermon. He spoke of Uncle Ed, highlighting some of the personal and spiritual attributes that had endeared him to family and friends.

During the eulogy, I kept waiting for what I'm used

to hearing in a Lutheran funeral sermon: "He was a good man, but a sinful human being who, without God's grace, would be lost eternally. But through faith in God's Son, Jesus Christ, who died and rose again that we might have life, our departed loved one is assured of eternal life in heaven." Those words never came in quite that way.

- Yet, in his own style, the preacher wondered what Uncle Ed's favorite Bible passage might be. That puzzle was solved when one of Uncle Ed's granddaughters, in a pre-service visit by the pastor with the family, had related a story from her early childhood.

Her grandfather had



Pastor Jerry Kieschnick

taken her on his knee when she was 5 or 6 years old and had said to her, "No matter what you learn in life, always remember the most important passage in the Bible." My mind quickly scanned the Scriptures. I was kind of expecting a passage dealing with man's responsibility toward God.

- To my joy and relief, the story continued, "The most important passage in the Bible is John 3:16: *'For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.'*"

The Gospel in a nutshell, the Good News of God's

great love for humanity and of the most precious gift of His Son. It had been spoken years ago by a grandfather to his granddaughter and, through her story to his pastor, to each of us at his funeral service.

- Because of the busyness of our lives, we usually don't spend a lot of time thinking about the future funeral service at which we will be the guest of honor. I suppose that's not universally true, depending upon the circumstances of our lives.

But it behooves each and every one of us not to only prepare our spiritual lives for that day by feeding and nourishing our faith and trust in Jesus Christ as our Savior and Lord, but also to prepare every other aspect of our lives for that great day of eternal glory.

- Our family relationships, our financial affairs, our anticipated gifts to the loved ones we call family and to our Lord through His church—all are important decisions to make and steps to take.

The Lutheran Foundation of Texas has the stated objective of helping Lutheran people in Texas make the use and distribution of their assets according to their desires. We're here to help you do what you want to do with whatever the Lord has given to you.

- The reason for our work? That you might effectively express your love for your family in a tangible way before, and after the Lord calls you home. And that the work of His church, through your financial gifts, might continue.



Yes, I want to know more. Clip and mail to

Lutheran Foundation of Texas

7900 US 290 E Austin, Texas 78724 512-926-4272

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____

() _____

Telephone Number _____ 5 _____

BETHESDA LUTHERAN HOME GOOD SAMARITAN CAMPUS



APPRECIATION—Birthdays are celebrated individually at Bethesda/Good Samaritan campus, and residents always enjoy their parties, as Virginia, right, demonstrates with her kiss of appreciation to Belinda Neidigh, activities assistant.

Two K-Z Road homes to be dedicated Sunday, May 20

Dedication of Bethesda/Good Samaritan's two newest intermediate care facilities will take place Sunday, May 20. Open houses will begin with ribbon-cutting at 2 p.m. and continue to 4 p.m. at both homes. The public is invited, according to A.L. Napolitano, Bethesda's executive director.

One home is on the main campus, 18937 K-Z Road, Cypress, and the other is one mile south. Refreshments will be served at both facilities, and tours of the main campus also will be available.

Dedication services will be held at both sponsoring congregations: St. Timothy, Houston, 9 a.m., where District President Louis Pabor will preach; and Salem, Tomball, 8, 9:30 and 11 a.m., where Rev. Gordon Albers, district social ministry committee chairman will serve as dedicant.

Meet Donnie: sports fan and expert can smasher

June 16, 1974, is a date the Steinsiek family will never forget. A packed house shared their excitement as Good Samaritan Lutheran Home of Cypress was dedicated.

Always supportive, their parish, St. Andrew Lutheran Church of Houston, was represented by its choir, which sang with special enthusiasm—for this was the beginning of a brand new life for "Donnie" Steinsiek.

Now he could move to his new home and receive the special training he needed. "Leaving mom, dad, sister and brother was hard," according to Vivian

Steinsiek, Donnie's mother, "but all the loving people at Good Samaritan soon made him feel right at home!"

Now 32 years old, Donnie is in a job readiness training class. He's also learning to do his own laundry and help prepare meals—for recently Donnie moved again. This February he and five other friends from the main campus moved into Bethesda/Good Samaritan's new Cypress group home.

There Donnie has his own room, and the kitchen cabinets are lower so that he can work comfortably in his wheelchair. Weekdays he returns to the main



PRACTICING—Donnie works on his writing skills during his job readiness class.

building for classes, activities and religious instruction.

Always a sports fan, Donnie can be found urging his peers to cheer his favorite teams to victory during the football, baseball and basketball seasons.

He himself participates in Special Olympics. He competes in the baseball throw, Frisbee throw and wheelchair races. When he isn't practicing himself, he's always on hand to encourage his teammates!

During his free time, Donnie developed a hobby into a small "business." He collects, smashes and sells aluminum cans. Not only is this good therapy, but it provides about \$600 a year in spending money.

With his income, he has bought items for himself, ice cream for all the residents, supported special projects and contributed to St. Andrew's Sunday School.

Respected and loved by all the other residents, Donnie says, "Thanks from the bottom of my heart to all who support Bethesda/Good Samaritan with your prayers and gifts."



CRUNCH—Donnie prepares another can for sale to recyclers.

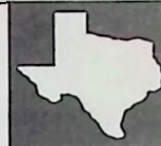
Dates to remember:

Sunday, May 20—Dedication of two new group homes on K-Z Road, Cypress. Open house with refreshments from 2-4 p.m. Ribbon-cutting at each home at 2 p.m. Dedication services at sponsoring congregations: 9 a.m. at St. Timothy, Houston, and 8, 9:30 and 11 a.m. at Salem,

Tomball.

Friday evening, June 8—German dance, sponsored by Houston Chapter Auxiliary.

Sunday afternoon, July 15—Lutheran Day at the Dome, a benefit for Bethesda/Good Samaritan campus.



LLLers in Canada July 21-25

The Edmonton Convention Committee is thrilled to host leaguers from across North America and around the world, to share the light of Christ's love and to exhibit true western hospitality under the theme "Walk In The Light" as they convene in Canada.

Edmonton is a center of activity for the Lutheran Church-Canada. The first Lutheran congregation in western Canada was formed in 1894 at Stony Plain, just 20 miles west of Edmonton.

Today, the Alberta-British Columbia District office of Lutheran Church-Canada, Concordia Lutheran Seminary and Concordia College are situated on the picturesque banks of the North Saskatchewan River in the heart of Edmonton.

• During the last two weeks of July, Edmonton bustles with activity as the entire city participates in Klondike Days. It is imperative that you register early, because the Int'l LLL convention falls right in the midst of these activities. The deadline for hotel registration is June 15.

The Canadian Consulate emphasizes that proof of citizenship is required by adults and children crossing the Canada-United States border. Adults must have in their possession one of the following: passport; copy of birth certificate; or voter's registration card and driver's license. Children must have a passport or copy of birth certificate. A driver's license or Social

Security card by itself is not proof of citizenship and is not acceptable.

For convention registration and hotel reservation forms refer to the March issue of *The Layman*.

LEAGUE SERVICE

Recently, we have seen tremendous changes taking place in Europe, Asia and Africa. Doors are open for us to preach the saving Gospel of Jesus Christ.

What are we as Missouri Synod Lutherans going to do with these opportunities the Lord is giving us? Are we going to reach out to our brothers and sisters in Europe and elsewhere and give a helping hand? We can and must.

How can you help? First, thank God for His wonderful grace and blessings and ask for His guidance and wisdom. Then offer your gifts of money and time to the International Lutheran Laymen's League. Talk to others about what the league is doing through "The Lutheran Hour" and TV programs.

You can also learn more what the league can do for our congregations and how we can organize groups (men's clubs, young adults, youth groups, couples clubs) to garner support for the Int'l LLL.

Saving souls is everyone's business, so always remember that we are the Church. We make the church and its affiliated groups successful because we have our Lord's promise: "Where two or three are gathered in My name there am I in their midst." He will bless our efforts, and to Him be the



glory!

For more information about the Int'l LLL and what it can do for your congregation or how to get a group started in your congregation, contact Don Smith, League Services Chairman, 1700 Ports O'Call, Plano, TX 75075; (214) 596-8434.

NEWS BRIEFS

• King of Kings, San Antonio, recently installed Rev. Howard Holzer as assistant pastor. LLL'ers of the congregation are happy to know he immediately enrolled as an Int'l LLL member.

• Rio Grande Zone (15) had its Spring Rally March 11 at Raymondville. Leonard Weber is zone president.

Lone Star District President Charles Byrnes and his wife, Dorothy, participated in the meeting and reported that about 40 people attended the rally. They finalized plans to again participate with a fair booth at the Rio Grande Valley Stock Show.

Another one of their projects is sponsoring "The Lutheran Hour" broadcast by McAllen Station KVMV-FM at 8 p.m. Sundays.

YOU NEED TO KNOW

"Ayer, Hoy y Siempre" is a weekly, 15-minute Spanish-language radio drama produced by the Lutheran

Laymen's League in Miami, Fla. This program is now in its 12th year.

Rev. Eugene F. Gruell Austin, Texas, generates story ideas for "Ayer" in consultation with the program's Miami-based professional writer. Dr. Gruell also revises the script and assures proper Law and Gospel content. The program is produced by Tele-Pro, Ind., in Miami for \$630 per episode.

"Ayer" is broadcast into Hispanic communities across the United States, its North America home base, and literally worldwide. Encouraged by the professional quality and dramatic intensity of the production, fully 160 of the 170 "Ayer" stations worldwide and 56 of the 65 outlets stateside carry the program without charging for air-time ("sustaining basis").

In our role, our Lord calls us to reach out with the Good News to our Hispanic neighbors and empowers us with His love and wisdom. We welcome your participation in this exciting outreach, and thank you for your support of the league's Hispanic programming "Yesterday, Today and Forever".

"AYER" LISTENER WRITES

TEXAS—"I want you to know what a great blessing your radio programs have been for me. They show us the true situation the world is in, the suffering there is and the problems which exist. I am a seminary student and your program helps give me a panorama of the world."

Proposed projects for 1991-92 biennium

1. Continuing Education Enhancement—\$2,000 to establish a fund for Calvary's school staff to pay a percentage of expenses for teachers to upgrade skills.

2. Deaf outreach: Camp/Computer—\$4,800 to provide scholarship funds for deaf youth and adults to attend Camp Lone Star. To purchase computer hardware for donated computer.

3. First Unit Construction/Beautiful Savior—\$15,000 to assist in the construction of a first unit facility for Beautiful Savior, a new mission in southeast Arlington.

4. Good Samaritan Respite Center—\$10,000 to provide financial aid to remodel a present dorm for use as a respite center.

5. Heartwarmers—\$12,000 to fund the development and production of a new seasonal program to minister to the institutionalized or home-bound.

6. Hispanic Inner-city School Playground/Houston—\$7,500 to fund playground equipment for three Hispanic Lutheran preschools: San Pablo, San Pedro and San Juan.

7. LifeLight™ Assistance—\$7,500 to provide financial aid for materials and workshop training for congregations needing aid to begin LifeLight™ Bible study.

8. Panhandle Children's Services—\$10,000 to establish a service office in Amarillo to serve the Panhandle area of Texas.

9. Roof for Church-Parish Hall/San Pedro/Houston—\$5,400 to provide funds for a new roof for the church and parish hall.

10. Salary Assistance-Bilingual Worker/St. John's in Corpus Christi—\$18,000 to fund a part-time salary for a bilingual worker.

11. Salaries for National Bible Translators and Literacy Workers—\$5,000 to subsidize national workers to help in expediting the Bible translation/literacy ministry, Sierra Leone.

12. Seminary Student Scholarships—\$24,000 to provide four scholarships each year for seminary students from Texas.

13. Transportation for Outreach/Mount Calvary, Houston—\$20,000 to provide a van to go into the community and bring souls to the house of the Lord.

14. Worship—Bible Study—Lutheran Outdoors Ministry of Texas—\$4,500 to purchase copies of NIV Bibles, *Lutheran Worship* and *Songs of Disciples* at LOMT sites.

15. Valley Hispanic Ministries—\$15,000 to help congregations purchase vans for Sunday school and prepare materials in the Spanish language.



Convention notes

The Capitol Zone is busy preparing for you to "Blossom with Love" at the 1990 Texas District LWML convention in Austin.

• The Discipling Woman Seminar will begin at 7 p.m., Tuesday, June 19, and will continue throughout the next day. Presenters are Dr. Erwin Kolb and Jean Prochnow. The \$5 registration fee includes lunch and seminar materials.

• Opening communion service is 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, June 20. Rev. Paul Bohot, associate pastor of Redeemer Lutheran

Church in Austin, will be the proclaimer. Bohot is a past LWML district counselor.

• Convention speaker is Joyce Landorf Heatherly, noted author and public speaker. Some of her best-selling books are *Irregular People* and *Mourning Song*.

• Post-convention tour will include a luncheon and tour of Concordia Lutheran College, the Capitol, LBJ Library and Ransom Center.

• The banquet includes a delicious meal plus entertainment by a versatile Austin group, "Front Row Center."

• All events will take place at the Marriott-Capitol Hotel. The hotel is easily accessible from Interstate 35 by taking the "Capitol" exit.

Read carefully and follow the instructions on all registration forms. Remember the deadline date for all registrations is **May 15, 1990**.



The 1990 LWML District Convention Core Committee welcomes you to Austin June 19-22. Back row, from left, are Birdena Schroeder, Peggy Turnipseed, Carolyn Rivers, Rev. John Selle, Barbara Matthys, Karen Avensen. Front row, from left: Ethel Mickan, Val Jean Mickan, Irena Finn, Candy Bleeke, Gretchen Sump, Doris Randig.



Across the district

• We welcome a brand new society: LWML Christ Our Savior in Coppell, part of the Dal-North Zone. We look forward to working with you for the benefit of God's kingdom.

• St. Peter LWML in Gun Barrel City decided it wanted to increase its mites. The group enlisted the congregation's help in a project called "A Mile of Pennies." The group reasoned that 16 pennies put side by side equaled a foot. From there, they found that 84,480 pennies side by side equaled one mile (\$844.80).

Making this the goal, the LWML group presented the congregation with the plan to try to raise \$844 with the first \$500 to go to LWML mites. By year end \$555 was raised—short of the total goal, but fulfilling the goal of \$500 for mites.

• Members of Rio Grande, South Alamo and Coastal Bend zones attended a regional Servanthood workshop Jan. 26-27 at Camp Zephyr near Mathis. Old friends were greeted and new friends made as spiritual growth and fellowship was shared by these "servants."

• In memoriam—Erna Peters of Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Dallas was called to her eternal

home Feb. 27. Erna was an ardent worker for LWML in Dallas and throughout Texas. For more than 15 years she was known for her love of Good Samaritan/Bethesda Home in Cypress by her untiring efforts to support their cause and many endeavors. Erna's family requested that memorials be sent to Good Samaritan/Bethesda Lutheran Home in Cypress.



New video

"I Feel So Alone" is an exciting, powerful video and Bible study/discussion program that will touch each person who has suffered or who knows someone who is hurting and feels so alone.

The video features "real" people who face AIDS, alcoholism, drug dependency, child abuse, abortion and other serious problems.

Produced and funded by the International Lutheran Women's Missionary League in cooperation with The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, the video package includes the 29-minute VHS videocassette, a reproducible Bible study guide, leader's guide and poster.

"I Feel So Alone" may be purchased for \$29.95 from the LWML office, 3558 S. Jefferson Ave., St. Louis, MO 63118.

TEXAS MITE PROJECTS UPDATE

1988-90 District goal	\$200,000	
Received March	11,573	
Received to-date	198,931	
Still needed	1,069	
PROJECT	PAID	BALANCE
Scholarships for Seminarians	\$12,000	-0-
La Santissima Trinity Church, Matamoros, Mexico	10,000	-0-
Texas Prison Ministry	3,000	-0-
Lutheran Bible Translators, Sierra Leone	5,000	-0-
LSST Pregnancy Services	7,500	2,500
Lutheran Association of Missionaries and Pilots	3,000	-0-
Concordia College, Austin	5,000	5,000
St. John Lutheran Church, Corpus Christi	13,500	4,500
Seamen's Center, Corpus Christi	12,000	-0-
University of Texas, Arlington, Lutheran Student Center	15,000	-0-
Lutheran Outdoors Ministry of Texas	15,000	-0-
Hope Lutheran Church, Lubbock	300	-0-
Mission Projects Goal		\$113,300
Paid-to-date		\$101,300
Sent to International LWML		1,777
To International to-date		22,467

Send ALL contributions to Eudoris Weister, Route 1, Box 46, Copperas Cove, 76522. MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO TEXAS DISTRICT LWML.

BE ALL
YOU CAN BE
AS A
SERVANT



Servanthood binders are available for \$2.50 each including postage. These are sturdy, bright blue, three-ring binders with the Ser-

vanthood logo printed on the front.

A limited supply of binder contents may be purchased for an additional \$2. Order early, there are only a few sets of contents. Contact Catherine Burkhard, 6660 Santa Anita Drive, Dallas 75214.

Name change?

It has been suggested that we be known as something other than Lutheran Women's Missionary League.

If you have an opinion for or against this suggestion, write Betty Duda, 2450 Mikler Road, Oviedo, FL 32765.

LWML news

LWML news should be sent to Shirley Baumgartner, LWML District Editor, 5018 Risada, San Antonio, TX 78233.

CIRCUIT CONTRIBUTION REPORT

TEXAS DISTRICT - THE LUTHERAN CHURCH - MISSOURI SYNOD CONTRIBUTION REPORT ACCORDING TO CIRCUIT - 1989

(* = 1988 FIGURE)

	COMM MEM.	WORLD MISSIONS	PER COMM.	OTHER BENE.	ALL PURPOSES	PER COMM.
CIRCUIT 01						
01 AMARILLO-CHRIST	217	15,000	69	2,157	99,982	461
03 AMARILLO-TRINITY	669	14,663	22		209,945	314
04 BORGER-TRINITY	183	12,668	69	2,099	101,867	557
05 DUMAS-ST. JOHN	208*	18,907	91			
06 PAMPA-ZION	148	7,825	53	1,157	79,640	538
07 PERRYTON-BETHLEHEM	61	2,000	33		20,783	341
08 SHAMROCK-TRINITY	65	1,305	20	136	31,005	477
09 DALHART-GRACE	105	2,600	25		31,242	298
10 CHILDRESS-TRINITY	11	400	36		3,858	351
11 AMARILLO-PRINCE OF PEACE	187	7,677	41	528	81,252	435
CIRCUIT 02						
01 CANYON-ST. PAUL	130	6,000	46	2,065	44,928	346
04 FRIONA-REDEEMER	20	1,800	90	175	11,798	590
05 HEREFORD-IMMANUEL	104	4,242	41	170	53,178	511
06 LARIAT-ST. JOHN	116*	9,915	85			
07 PLAINVIEW-ST. PAUL	195*	9,000	46			
CIRCUIT 03						
01 LAMESA-GRACE	73	6,056	83	2,561	52,255	716
02 LITTLEFIELD-EMMANUEL	113	4,749	42	1,010	49,854	441
03 LUBBOCK-CHRIST	254	22,447	88	23,781	170,605	672
04 LUBBOCK-HOPE	140	9,294	66		75,365	538
05 LUBBOCK-REDEEMER	336	25,195	75	10,664	170,111	506
06 LUBBOCK-UNIVERSITY	6	1,016	169	3,097	6,002	1,000
07 SEMINOLE-PEACE		4,883				
08 WILSON-ST. PAUL	125	10,075	81	4,343	74,467	596
CIRCUIT 04						
01 ANDREWS-FAITH	60*	4,805	80			
02 KERMIT-ZION	59	2,000	34	522	21,464	364
03 BIG SPRING-ST. PAUL	230	15,042	65	909	122,327	532
04 FORT STOCKTON-FAITH	29			10	7,657	264
05 MIDLAND-GRACE	590	43,754	74	11,028	219,095	371
06 MONAHANS-ST. PAUL	56	250	4	138	26,816	479
07 PECOS-TRINITY	51	4,550	89	70	21,251	417
08 ODESSA-REDEEMER	502*	17,616	35			
09 RANKIN-IMMANUEL	15*	1,255	84			
10 ALPINE-REDEEMER		879				
11 MIDLAND-HOLY CROSS		1,460				
CIRCUIT 05						
01 BALLINGER-BETHEL	25	370	15		10,411	416
02 EDEN-TRINITY	89			378	32,109	361
03 BRADY-MT. CALVARY	75*	2,000	27			
04 MENARD-GRACE	34*	1,200	35			
05 BROWNWOOD-GRACE	181	10,884	60	460	62,465	345
06 EOLA-MT. CALVARY	59	1,737	29	105	26,984	457
07 OZONA-FAITH	15	2,060	137		12,320	821
08 SONORA-HOPE	40*	3,950	99			
09 SAN ANGELO-TRINITY	732	33,379	46	2,527	600,429	820
10 -						
CIRCUIT 06						
01 ABILENE-OUR SAVIOR	225	11,092	49	5,352	124,245	552
02 ABILENE-ZION	408	26,762	66	1,969	162,447	398
03 ALBANY-TRINITY	103	11,036	107	201	59,755	580

CIRCUIT CONTRIBUTION REPORT

TEXAS DISTRICT



	COMM MEM.	WORLD MISSIONS	PER COMM.	OTHER BENE.	ALL PURPOSES	PER COMM.
CIRCUIT 06						
04 CISCO-REDEEMER	209	13,550	65		77,166	369
05 SWEETWATER-FAITH	79	3,112	39		25,579	324
CIRCUIT 07						
01 BOWIE-ST. PETER	130	8,035	62	1,958	48,397	372
02 BURKBURNETT-GRACE	158	9,827	62	311	52,827	334
03 CLARA-TRINITY	89	3,071	35	300	30,770	346
04 HARROLD-IMMANUEL	38	2,413	63		32,000	842
05 OLNEY-ST. LUKE	244	17,978	74	7,892	89,000	365
06 SEYMOUR-TRINITY	43	300	7	300	9,111	212
07 VERNON-ZION	213*	7,000	33			
08 VERNON-ST. PAUL	442	20,595	47	7,785	139,408	315
09 WICHITA FALLS-OUR REDEEMER	364	18,905	52	1,977	211,734	582
10 WICHITA FALLS-ST. PAUL	333	14,820	45	2,116	258,365	776
11 GRAHAM-FAITH	107	2,675	25	498	24,840	232
12 IOWA PARK-GOOD SHEPHERD	35				4,494	128
CIRCUIT 08						
01 BONHAM-ZION	37*	800	22			
02 DENISON-GRACE	224	12,310	55	528	113,546	507
03 DENTON-ST. PAUL	223*	594	3			
04 GAINESVILLE-FAITH	122	6,028	49	350	79,413	651
05 HONEY GROVE-ST. JAMES	68*					
06 MCKINNEY-OUR SAVIOR	216	14,928	69	16	134,032	621
CIRCUIT 09						
01 AZLE-GOOD SHEPHERD	156	7,800	50	1,390	59,758	383
02 BEDFORD-CONCORDIA	315*	1,800	6			
03 FORT WORTH-ST. PAUL	1326	59,028	45	4,175	605,583	457
04 FORT WORTH-ZION	374	9,814	26	370	142,968	382
05 HURST-PEACE	1267	91,737	72		620,838	490
06 KELLER-MESSIAH	187*	5,300	28			
07 MINERAL WELLS-ST. MARK	103	7,300	71	2,522	66,702	648
08 WEATHERFORD-TRINITY	183	3,199	17		58,760	321
09 COLLEYVILLE-CROWN OF LIFE	19*	10,045	529			
10 BRIDGEPORT-TRINITY	89	1,000	11		43,521	489
CIRCUIT 11						
01 CARROLLTON-PRINCE OF PEACE	919	32,250	35	33,661	765,590	833
02 DALLAS-HOLY CROSS	841	55,226	66	18,278	709,409	844
03 DALLAS-JOHN OF BEVERLEY CHAPEL	21	385	18	862	2,661	127
04 DALLAS-OUR REDEEMER	677	38,745	57	17,690	520,246	768
05 GARLAND-CONCORDIA	282	47,734	169	4,827	286,994	1,018
06 LEWISVILLE-LAMB OF GOD	579	21,609	37	1,531	216,080	373
07 PLANO-FAITH	619	28,851	47	40,091	641,844	1,037
08 PLANO-ST. PAUL	241	17,540	73		174,693	725
09 RICHARDSON-MESSIAH	854	67,000	78	9,160	477,358	559
10 DALLAS-LORD OF LIFE	76*	12,465	164			
11 COPPELL-CHRIST OUR SAVIOR	132*	11,740	89			
CIRCUIT 12						
01 DALLAS-BETHEL	582	35,521	61	2,464	379,391	652
02 DALLAS-HOPE	223	21,058	94	4,045	119,948	538
04 DALLAS-TRINITY	415*	3,000	7			
05 DALLAS-ZION	1086	65,316	60	18,266	885,547	815
06 GARLAND-PEACE	321	19,760	62		201,459	628
07 ROCKWALL-OUR SAVIOR	176	18,848	107	2,004	117,242	666
08 ROWLETT-CROWN OF LIFE	81	3,155	39		68,512	846
09 GARLAND-TREE OF LIFE	199	4,000	20	979	99,356	499
CIRCUIT 13						
01 ATLANTA-REDEEMER	40				10,102	253

CIRCUIT CONTRIBUTION REPORT

	COMM MEM.	WORLD MISSIONS	PER COMM.	OTHER BENE.	ALL PURPOSES	PER COMM.
CIRCUIT 13						
02 CLARKSVILLE-ST. JOHN	44	4,500	102		27,345	621
03 COMMERCE-TRINITY	57	2,200	39		19,815	348
04 MT PLEASANT-GOOD SHEPHERD	90	5,301	59	1,012	53,444	594
05 PARIS-GRACE	122*	6,025	49			
06 SULPHUR SPRINGS-OUR SAVIOR	104*	6,300	61			
07 TEXARKANA-FIRST	318	9,276	29		145,473	457
CIRCUIT 14						
01 ATHENS-ST. JOHN	157	8,000	51	49	78,352	499
02 CENTERVILLE-OUR SAVIOR	119	6,478	54	862	60,947	512
03 CORSICANA-FAITH	89	350	4	60	26,726	300
04 CROCKETT-GRACE	71	6,041	85	165	61,748	870
06 GUN BARREL CITY-ST. PETER	151	4,427	29	10,174	85,083	563
07 HENDERSON-PRINCE OF PEACE	51	1,933	38		22,796	447
08 JACKSONVILLE-CHRIST	39*	3,200	82			
09 KILGORE-PILGRIM	52	234	4		9,768	188
10 LONGVIEW-OUR REDEEMER	305	20,724	68	2,414	111,317	365
11 LUFKIN-FIRST	274	12,454	45		83,151	303
12 NACOGDOCHES-REDEEMER	206	4,125	20	635	98,596	479
13 PALESTINE-BETHLEHEM	228	4,571	20	110	63,700	279
14 TYLER-TRINITY	543	27,025	50		270,896	499
15 CARTHAGE-CHRIST OUR SAVIOR		968				
CIRCUIT 15						
01 DALLAS-GRACE	175*	3,299	19			
02 DALLAS-OUR SAVIOR	252	10,180	40	703	132,765	527
03 DALLAS-ST. PAUL	127*	3,150	25			
04 DESOTO-CROSS OF CHRIST	511	28,317	55		338,394	662
05 GRAND PRAIRIE-FAITH	359	24,923	69	2,676	229,278	639
06 IRVING-OUR REDEEMER	303	20,961	69	11,034	223,297	737
07 WAXAHACHIE-CHRIST THE KING	145	100	1		43,762	302
08 ENNIS-LIVING CHRIST	68*	9,090	134			
10 MIDLOTHIAN-MESSIAH		8,703				
CIRCUIT 16						
01 ARLINGTON-GRACE	1395	56,454	40	4,047	609,759	437
02 ARLINGTON-HOLY CROSS	290	14,466	50	1,831	202,377	698
03 ARLINGTON-UNIVERSITY						
04 BURLESON-CHARITY	200	2,487	12	714	124,303	622
05 CLEBURNE-ASCENSION	150	7,903	53	4,794	86,558	577
06 FORT WORTH-CHRIST	356	24,240	68	19,365	198,939	559
07 FORT WORTH-REDEEMER	502	23,264	46	4,389	237,465	473
08 GRANBURY-OUR SAVIOR	198	3,305	17	605	73,073	369
09 MANSFIELD-ST. JOHN	159	7,274	46	387	98,346	619
10 STEPHENVILLE-FAITH	168	8,141	48	1,209	58,876	350
11 ARLINGTON-BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR	92	10,797	117	172	57,352	623
CIRCUIT 17						
01 ALEMAN-ST. PAUL	122	2,954	24		34,767	285
02 COPPERAS COVE-IMMANUEL	227	6,352	28		49,142	216
03 COPPERAS COVE-TRINITY	244	16,154	66	1,230	88,898	364
04 GATESVILLE-FIRST	58	800	14	196	12,751	220
05 HAMILTON-ST. JOHN	358	14,153	40	5,579	85,444	239
06 KILLEEN-GRACE	403	15,861	39	2,084	160,576	398
07 LAMPASAS-FAITH	131	6,050	46	1,235	70,530	538
08 THE GROVE-ST. PAUL	205	15,755	77		99,555	486
CIRCUIT 18						
01 CLIFTON-IMMANUEL	188	12,627	67	4,615	73,371	390
02 HEWITT-PEACE	208	10,920	53	1,515	88,051	423
03 HILLSBORO-CHRIST	185	6,000	32	660	64,542	349

CIRCUIT CONTRIBUTION REPORT

TEXAS DISTRICT



	COMM MEM.	WORLD MISSIONS	PER COMM.	OTHER BENE.	ALL PURPOSES	PER COMM.
CIRCUIT 18						
04 MALONE-SALEM	254	8,083	32	3,612	52,486	207
05 MARLIN-GRACE	248	5,423	22	697	58,718	237
06 MART-GRACE	156	7,165	46	2,074	63,192	405
07 RIESEL-TRINITY	244	10,024	41	8,238	83,463	342
08 ROSEBUD-FIRST	89	5,400	61	600	27,812	312
09 WACO-ST. MARK	402	15,052	37	2,620	116,179	289
10 WACO-ST. PAUL	941	64,604	69		284,968	303
11 WACO-TRINITY	422	19,169	45		209,766	497
12 WHITNEY-OUR SAVIOR	103*	2,400	23			
13 FAIRFIELD-TRINITY	57	3,316	58	89	36,962	648
14 MEXIA-FAITH	26	1,680	65		22,193	854
CIRCUIT 19						
01 BELTON-PRINCE OF PEACE	227	13,091	58	4,085	125,845	554
02 ROCKDALE-GRACE	108*	3,685	34			
03 NOACK-CHRIST	91	5,725	63	816	24,486	269
04 TAYLOR-TRINITY	232	10,460	45	995	125,186	540
05 TEMPLE-IMMANUEL	693	30,000	43	549	339,080	489
06 THORNDALE-ST. PAUL	471	24,026	51	2,157	209,813	445
07 WALBURG-ZION	576	36,738	64	13,833	432,094	750
CIRCUIT 21						
01 AUSTIN-BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR	95*	2,850	30			
02 AUSTIN-BETHANY	943	13,834	15	4,123	489,471	519
03 AUSTIN-CHRIST	450	27,593	61	3,065	248,859	553
04 AUSTIN-HOPE	437	45,211	103	3,412	308,072	705
05 AUSTIN-JESUS CHURCH OF THE DEAF	47*	2,611	56			
06 AUSTIN-MT. OLIVE	241*	5,200	22			
07 AUSTIN-OUR SAVIOR	350	27,231	78	1,183	245,919	703
08 AUSTIN-REDEEMER	2375	86,545	36	21,000	1,291,000	544
09 AUSTIN-ST. PAUL	768	9,697	13	8,937	504,915	657
11 AUSTIN-TRINITY	245*	14,584	60			
12 AUSTIN-UNIVERSITY	31	953	31		3,800	123
13 CEDAR PARK-GOOD SHEPHERD	583	26,930	46		260,851	447
14 GEORGETOWN-FAITH	308	20,499	67	165	162,224	527
15 ROUND ROCK-KING OF KINGS	217	13,783	64	13,106	139,005	641
16 LAGO VISTA-CHRIST OUR SAVIOR	74	5,426	73	474	38,730	523
CIRCUIT 22						
01 DIME BOX-TRINITY	153*	3,155	21			
02 ELGIN-GRACE	278*	2,480	9			
03 FEDOR-TRINITY (FEDOR)	130	7,318	56	584	42,898	330
04 GIDDINGS-IMMANUEL	1262	46,087	37	93,234	712,748	565
05 LEXINGTON-ST. JAMES	277	4,745	17	1,057	67,594	244
06 LINCOLN-ST. JOHN (LINCOLN)	294	5,476	19	634	138,672	472
07 LOEBAU-CHRIST	124	1,275	10	106	22,989	185
08 MANHEIM-EBENEZER	143	8,233	58	1,703	57,761	404
CIRCUIT 23						
01 LA GRANGE-MT. CALVARY	545	29,682	54	11,632	155,077	285
02 SCHULENBURG-ZION	144	9,169	64	200	50,729	352
03 SERBIN-ST. PAUL	448*	39,630	88			
04 SMITHVILLE-GRACE	286	6,695	23	1,625	93,566	327
05 WARDA-HOLY CROSS	260*	9,518	37			
06 WINCHESTER-ST. MICHAEL	225	21,036	93	5,180	89,662	398
CIRCUIT 24						
01 KINGSBURY-EVANGELISTS	97	3,581	37	314	21,934	226
02 NEW BRAUNFELS-CROSS	438	21,179	48	3,500	247,599	565
03 SAN ANTONIO-COMMUNITY	75*					
05 SAN ANTONIO-HOLY CROSS	223	9,714	44		80,000	359

CIRCUIT CONTRIBUTION REPORT

	COMM MEM.	WORLD MISSIONS	PER COMM.	OTHER BENE.	ALL PURPOSES	PER COMM.
CIRCUIT 24						
06 SAN ANTONIO-IMMANUEL	171*	1,855	11			
07 SAN ANTONIO-ST. PAUL	304	6,653	22	1,575	81,275	267
08 SAN MARCOS-GRACE	134	5,000	37	904	58,758	438
09 SEGUIN-GRACE	257	18,043	70	3,344	137,144	534
CIRCUIT 25						
01 KERRVILLE-HOLY CROSS	400*					
02 SAN ANTONIO-CONCORDIA	3306	195,000	59	133,355	2,531,542	766
03 SAN ANTONIO-CROWN OF LIFE	176	10,765	61	451	173,251	984
04 SAN ANTONIO-MT. CALVARY	452	40,000	88	296	213,368	472
05 SAN ANTONIO-KING OF KINGS	532	7,740	15		230,451	433
06 SAN ANTONIO-REDEEMER	542	21,234	39	1,643	372,324	687
07 SAN ANTONIO-ST. MATTHEW	123*	1,430	12			
08 SAN ANTONIO-SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS	342	15,416	45	5,891	229,179	670
09 LEON SPRINGS-MESSIAH		1,917				
10 -						
11 KERRVILLE-HOSANNA		2,855				
12 FREDERICKSBURG-RESURRECTION		2,101				
CIRCUIT 26						
01 DEL RIO-CRISTO EL SALVADOR	58	3,670	63	956	23,190	400
02 DEL RIO-GRACE	129*	6,187	48			
03 DEVINE-DIVINE SAVIOR						
04 LA PRYOR-ST. PAUL	13*					
05 LAREDO-FAITH	84	6,108	73	197	45,626	543
06 PEARSALL-ST. PETER	70*	4,000	57			
07 SAN ANTONIO-MT. OLIVE	351	16,388	47	15,889	133,799	381
08 -	43*	200	5			
09 UVALDE-TRINITY	192	9,858	51	3,921	104,883	546
10 SAN ANTONIO-SAN ESTEBAN		1,300				
CIRCUIT 27						
01 ALICE-TRINITY	45*	125	3			
02 ARANSAS PASS-FAITH	118	6,092	52		42,955	364
03 BISHOP-ST. PAUL	250*	21,607	86			
04 CORPUS CHRISTI-MESSIAH	183	11,000	60		104,006	568
05 CORPUS CHRISTI-MT. OLIVE	320	9,748	30	1,500	130,660	408
06 CORPUS CHRISTI-OUR SAVIOR	138	12,344	89	852	111,773	810
07 CORPUS CHRISTI-ST. JOHN	145	5,568	38	1,598	68,737	474
08 CORPUS CHRISTI-TRINITY	375	1,734	5	356	192,114	512
09 KINGSVILLE-ST. PAUL	178	20,141	113	6,763	96,793	544
10 PREMONT-GRACE	29*					
11 REFUGIO-TRINITY	21	1,200	57		11,575	551
12 ROCKPORT-PEACE	129	9,806	76		55,691	432
13 THREE RIVERS-ST. PAUL	25	400	16	75	5,979	239
14 WEST SINTON-TRINITY	58	11,653	201	288	51,777	893
15 FLOUR BLUFF-LORD OF LIFE		3,554				
CIRCUIT 28						
01 ALAMO-ZION	160	4,859	30	8,180	99,690	623
02 BROWNSVILLE-EL CALVARIO	139	1,200	9	2,000	13,000	94
03 BROWNSVILLE-TRINITY	160	2,500	16	185	77,110	482
04 HARLINGEN-OUR REDEEMER	86				5,692	66
05 HARLINGEN-ST. PAUL	510	9,437	19		197,155	387
06 MCALLEN-EL BUEN PASTOR	120*	1,388	12			
07 MCALLEN-ST. PAUL	780*	38,000	49			
08 MERCEDES-IMMANUEL	175	14,000	80	135,509	172,921	988
09 RAYMONDVILLE-MT. CALVARY	127	13,000	102	1,000	78,364	617
10 SAN BENITO-ST. JOHN	163	5,793	36	7,725	155,703	955
11 ZAPATA-ABIDING SAVIOR	48*	1,574	33			
12 MERCEDES-MISION EMANUEL	2*	1,250	625			

CIRCUIT CONTRIBUTION REPORT

TEXAS DISTRICT



	COMM MEM.	WORLD MISSIONS	PER COMM.	OTHER BENE.	ALL PURPOSES	PER COMM.
CIRCUIT 28						
13 MISSION-						
CIRCUIT 31						
01 BAY CITY-OUR SAVIOR	80*	6,300	79			
02 EDNA-ST. PAUL	193	6,774	35		74,155	384
03 PALACIOS-OUR REDEEMER	34*	800	24			
04 PATTISON-CHRIST	140*	2,073	15			
05 ROSENBERG-TRINITY	249	9,618	39	13,822	103,162	414
06 SEALY-TRINITY	473	20,687	44	5,876	176,060	372
07 SWEENEY-ST. LUKE	110	2,457	22	5,919	64,566	587
08 WALLIS-ST. PAUL	61	3,840	63	481	31,479	516
09 WHARTON-ST. JOHN	287	24,972	87		127,539	444
10 VICTORIA-GRACE	358	25,746	72	5,948	150,488	420
CIRCUIT 32						
01 ANDERSON-ZION	137	6,496	47	812	46,348	338
02 BRENNHAM-GRACE	842	16,181	19	1,030	316,821	376
03 BRYAN-BETHEL	414*	32,028	77			
04 COLLEGE STATION-HOLY CROSS	123	11,704	95		69,529	565
05 COLLEGE STATION-UNIVERSITY	14	1,000	71	1,000	2,200	157
06 LYONS-IMMANUEL	38	2,012	53	599	10,518	277
07 NAVASOTA-TRINITY	379	18,200	48	1,872	113,423	299
08 NORTH ZULCH-BETHLEHEM	157	7,358	47	2,755	63,927	407
09 WHITE HALL-SALEM	178*	4,613	26			
10 WILLIAM PENN-BETHLEHEM	289	11,291	39	2,612	71,997	249
CIRCUIT 33						
01 CLEVELAND-GOOD SHEPHERD	111	5,246	47	664	87,070	784
02 CONROE-ST. MARK	531	17,501	33	5,500	206,590	389
04 HUMBLE-LAMB OF GOD	586	38,933	66	425	326,821	558
05 HUNTSVILLE-FAITH	281	12,001	43	6,703	133,150	474
06 LIVINGSTON-TRINITY	158*	2,350	15			
07 NEW CANEY-GRACE	90	2,398	27		19,376	215
08 THE WOODLANDS-LIVING WORD	220	36,608	166	6,487	271,156	1,233
09 WESTFIELD-ST. MATTHEW	340	17,830	52	3,253	166,549	490
10 KINGWOOD-CHRIST THE KING		10,354				
CIRCUIT 34						
01 BEAUMONT-REDEEMER	445	20,004	45		193,407	435
02 BEAUMONT-ST. JOHN	320	16,103	50	3,251	92,272	288
03 GROVES-ST. PAUL	380	33,278	88	4,040	224,700	591
04 JASPER-ST. PAUL	80	3,123	39	1,134	36,716	459
05 NEDERLAND-HOLY CROSS	401	16,424	41	2,005	185,917	464
06 ORANGE-GRACE	200	9,229	46	130	106,141	531
07 -		75				
08 PORT ARTHUR-ST. MARK	51*	1,800	35			
09 PORT ARTHUR-TRINITY	422	34,723	82	17,550	234,374	555
10 WINNIE-HOPE	181	8,757	48	1,350	70,320	389
11 WOODVILLE-FAITH	75	4,184	56	400	28,842	385
CIRCUIT 35						
01 BAYTOWN-REDEEMER	350	21,781	62	3,330	126,937	363
02 CHANNELVIEW-GRACE	225*	2,450	11			
03 DEER PARK-CHRIST REDEEMER	109*	303	3			
04 GALENA PARK-PEACE	85	2,000	24		26,621	313
05 HOUSTON-CHRIST	476	24,588	52	32,612	225,105	473
06 PASADENA-GOOD SHEPHERD	517	43,120	83	11,923	303,800	588
07 PASADENA-ZION	740	49,920	67	24,462	665,830	900
08 CROSBY-OUR SHEPHERD	268	4,000	15	7,965	109,697	409
CIRCUIT 36						
01 ANGLETON-GOOD SHEPHERD	145	8,973	62		73,089	504

CIRCUIT CONTRIBUTION REPORT

	COMM MEM.	WORLD MISSIONS	PER COMM.	OTHER BENE.	ALL PURPOSES	PER COMM.
CIRCUIT 36						
02 -						
03 FRIENDSWOOD-HOPE	523	27,179	52	6,366	255,982	489
04 GALVESTON-ST. JOHN	249*	3,013	12			
06 HOUSTON-GLORIA DEI	1134	158,979	140	48,499	1,132,843	999
07 HOUSTON-KING OF KINGS	237	9,577	40	1,328	153,518	648
08 HOUSTON-MT. OLIVE	240*	10,509	44			
09 LAKE JACKSON-ST. MARK	294	39,510	134	1,409	97,976	333
10 TEXAS CITY-PEACE	459*	18,905	41			
11 PEARLAND-EPIPHANY						
CIRCUIT 37						
02 HOUSTON-CHRIST MEMORIAL	544	49,718	91	8,461	350,233	644
03 HOUSTON-MEMORIAL	716	50,000	70	24,400	554,405	774
04 HOUSTON-PILGRIM	939*	64,309	68			
05 HOUSTON-ST. MATTHEW	523	18,000	34	22,204	312,112	597
06 HOUSTON-ST. MICHAEL	104	933	9	294	49,649	477
07 HOUSTON-ST. PHILIP	1169	66,731	57	6,579	661,452	566
08 SUGAR LAND-FAITH	362	3,841	11	20,529	310,398	857
09 SUGAR LAND-FISHERS OF MEN		9,417				
CIRCUIT 38						
01 CYPRESS-ST. JOHN	777*	55,220	71			
02 HOUSTON-EPIPHANY	433	24,994	58	4,438	282,176	652
03 HOUSTON-FAITH	241*	11,057	46			
04 HOUSTON-ST. TIMOTHY	365	25,320	69		251,717	690
05 KATY-MEMORIAL	540	34,663	64	4,438	245,175	454
CIRCUIT 39						
01 MAGNOLIA-ST. PAUL	352	5,087	14	860	98,896	281
02 SPRING-RESURRECTION	691	41,747	60	14,954	401,212	581
03 KLEIN-TRINITY	1421	69,640	49	21,336	1,279,801	901
04 TOMBALL-SALEM	1063	28,635	27	21,860	982,441	924
05 TOMBALL-ZION	491	20,365	41	1,488	236,875	482
CIRCUIT 41						
01 HOUSTON-BETHLEHEM	210*	4,644	22			
02 HOUSTON-CONCORDIA	318	30,977	97	7,530	156,567	492
03 HOUSTON-GETHSEMANE	734	57,900	79	17,225	314,882	429
04 HOUSTON-IMMANUEL	748	4,412	6	594	46,735	62
05 HOUSTON-OUR SAVIOR	862*	28,000	32			
06 HOUSTON-ST. ANDREW	503	50,075	100	16,901	283,503	564
07 HOUSTON-ST. MARK	1167	87,027	75	57,020	1,037,744	889
CIRCUIT 42						
01 HOUSTON-BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR	449	7,116	16	7,540	187,949	419
02 HOUSTON-BETHANY	454	21,375	47	24,892	516,222	1,137
03 HOUSTON-CALVARY	73*	2,201	30			
05 HOUSTON-MT. CALVARY	92	3,600	39	600	53,745	584
06 HOUSTON-OUR REDEEMER	404	5,400	13	477	143,522	355
07 HOUSTON-ST. LUKE	190	3,635	19	501	47,021	247
CIRCUIT 43						
01 HOUSTON-HOLY CROSS	56*					
02 HOUSTON-HOLY THREE-IN-ONE	41	1,764	43	594	13,735	335
03 HOUSTON-MESSIAH	255	4,443	17	8,368	230,909	906
04 HOUSTON-ST. JOHN	225	610	3	109	136,593	607
05 HOUSTON-ST. PAUL	161	1,085	7		34,878	217
06 HOUSTON-ST. PETER	160	5,143	32	2,288	39,736	248
07 HOUSTON-SAN PABLO	154*	300	2			
08 HOUSTON-TRINITY	1217	134,520	111	77,600	899,400	739
09 HOUSTON-UNIVERSITY	25*					



Holy Spirit calls, empowers us to be faithful disciples of our Lord, Jesus Christ

by Rev. David B. Joeckel
Second Vice President
Texas District, LCMS

As we gather in our congregations to worship the Lord, we see the color green on the altar. This is the season of Pentecost. The color green symbolizes **GROWTH**. What a joy it was in March and April to see the barren trees blossom and then turn green. The trees are alive and growing.

So, also, we who are God's people are alive and growing! In these Sundays after Pentecost we listen to the Word of God as the Holy Spirit calls and empowers us to be faithful disciples of Jesus.

The Gospel lessons each Lord's Day this church

listening to and hearing and reading the **WORD**. A disciple is a **learner**. We receive the Word of Jesus and learn of Him. Apart from the Word, we find ourselves being shaped and formed by forces and influences other than Jesus.

A disciple is a **follower**.



Rev. Joeckel

Occasionally, Texas District President Louis Pabor will offer his president's column space to other district officials. Vice President David B. Joeckel, pastor of Grace Lutheran of Arlington, is this month's contributor.

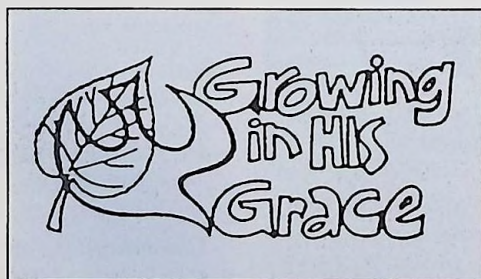


Rev. Louis Pabor

follow Jesus also in His resurrection victory. We do experience the cross of suffering, but there is also joy and hope.

• None of us has "arrived" in discipleship. We're all in the process of **GROWING**. As we gather faithfully each Lord's Day during this Pentecost sea-

son for Word and Sacrament, for prayer and praise, and as we daily meditate on the Word of Jesus, we think of the color green. We think of and pray for the Holy Spirit's power so that together we will be in the process of **GROWING** as faithful disciples of Jesus.



year are taken from Matthew. The great theme of Matthew's Gospel is discipleship. Jesus, our Lord, says to us who are baptized in His name, "**Follow Me.**" And as Jesus calls us, His Word shapes and forms us more and more into His likeness.

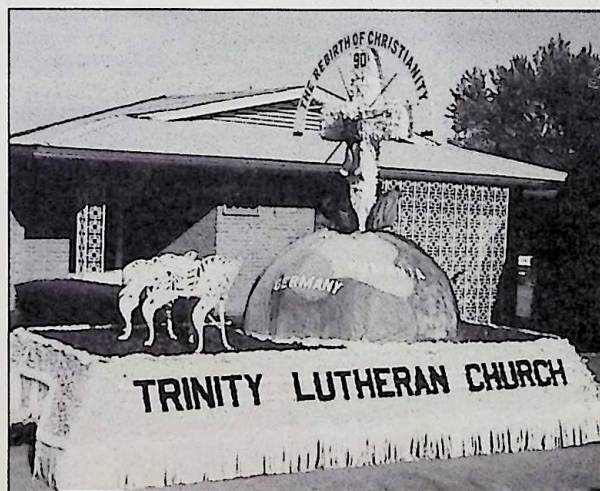
• What does discipleship involve?

Discipleship begins with

We follow Jesus in His mission of sacrificial love.

"Take up your cross daily and follow me," says Jesus.

When we witness for Jesus, when we seek to serve people in Jesus' name, there will be some measure of rejection and pain; but Jesus never forsakes us. Through our faith in Him, He truly dwells in us! He sustains us! And we



SIGN OF THE TIMES—The arch over the cross on this float of Trinity Lutheran Church of Shamrock proclaims "The Rebirth of Christianity." The cross is mounted on a globe showing maps of eastern European countries. As the float passed the reviewing stand in Shamrock's St. Patrick's Day Parade, this proclamation was read: "By God's undeserved love, Christianity has recently blossomed in many countries under atheistic communism. The cross of Jesus Christ, our Savior, will prevail. Lift high the cross!"

PEOPLE, PLACES, & EVENTS



CLASS OF 1940—The 1940 confirmation class of Trinity Lutheran of Fedor celebrated its 50th anniversary March 18 with a worship service and a reunion luncheon. Rev. Adolph F. Michalk confirmed the 15-member class March 17, 1940. Celebrants included, back row, Frances Jatzlau Beauchamp, Doris Schimank Falke, Walter Richter and Bernell Urban Mertink. Front row, Ruth Michalk Doering and Ruth Kappler Schimank. Not pictured are Alice Patschke Proske, Lorine Schneider Melcher and Erwin Schulze. Lovingly remembered were Clarence "Champ" Becker, Lena Schneider Belsert, Evelyn Dube Schroeder, Lorine Dube Tolkmitt, Clarence Handrick, Melvin Urban and Rev. Michalk, who have won heavenly victory.

Three charter members were on hand March 18 when Bethel, Bryan, celebrated its 50th anniversary. They were Minnie Becker and Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Schaefer.

Sixty members at Lamb of God, Humble, pledged to invite a friend or relative

to its first Friendship Sunday. There were 18 first-time visitors in worship March 11.

Members of Our Savior, McKinney, presented a live production of the Last Supper on Maundy Thursday. The portrayal included Jesus and the 12 disciples

fully costumed, with special music and narration.

Congratulations to Terry Wende, Hope, Austin, for being named Bowie High School's *Teacher of the Year* and Junior Achievement *Teacher of the Year* for the State of Texas.

In April, the growing congregation of Our Savior, McKinney, began construction on a new educational building. Laborers For Christ are major contractors. Craig Du Bois is pastor.

Home worship services are held on Sunday evenings at Trinity, Rosenberg. The purpose is to affirm and establish relationships with Christ, with Trinity congregation and with one another.

Beginning in September, Mount Olive, Corpus Christi, will offer a kindergarten program with half-day sessions.

You can't get blood out of a turnip, but you can get blood from members of St. Philip, Houston. Fifty-four members each donated a pint for the church's blood center during their semi-annual blood drive.

Metroplex Lutherans, under the direction of Pastor Ken Hennings of St. Paul Lutheran of Fort Worth, are manning a food concession stand at Arlington Stadium during this season's Ranger games. All

money earned will go to Texoma Lutheran Camp for a family camping facility.

Pastor Steve Wagner, Prince of Peace, Carrollton, has accepted an invitation from the Japan Church Growth Institute to serve as a main speaker at one of its sessions in 1991. He will instruct evangelical Christian Japanese pastors in lifestyle evangelism, in development of small group ministry and in designing worship experiences.

The first worship service of the new mission Epiphany Lutheran, Pearland, was held Palm Sunday. The missionary pastor is Rev. Jon Salminen.

Zion, Tomball, has started to restore the burned-out interior of its sanctuary that was damaged by lightning and a resulting fire Sept. 10.

Congratulations to Dawnett Faucett, Zion, Abilene, who was chosen *Miss Abilene* for 1990.

Lois Rathgeber, Ascension, Cleburne, was voted *Woman of the Year* by the Cleburne chapter of Beta Sigma Phi. She also was volunteer of the month for Meals on Wheels.

King of Kings, Round Rock, will celebrate its 10th anniversary July 15 with a special 10:45 a.m. service followed by a barbecue dinner. Rev. Fred Boden will be guest speaker.



Brought to Jesus

Six children who came to Trinity Lutheran Church of Livingston through its day school were baptized March 11. From left are Mr. and Mrs. Ray Walker with daughter, Rachel and son, Chance; Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Yarbrough and son, Todd. In center is Pastor D.A. Robbins. At his left are Shawn Kimes and his grandmother. Mr. and Mrs. Gaylon Georges with daughter, Kaycee Jo, and son, Mason Dane, are at right.



Lutheran Schools Week observed

A variety of activities and events made National Lutheran Schools Week memorable for the students, parents and staff at Zion Lutheran School in Dallas.

Upper grade students prepared a book of family devotions that were distributed to every school family.

Lower grade students made hallway displays. Kindergarten children made replicas of themselves and told why they enjoyed going to a Lutheran school. Third graders made a quilt showing how a Lutheran school teaches about God.

Fourth graders and their teacher were chapel service worship leaders. Fifth



SCHOOLS WEEK—These cool kids of Zion Lutheran School of Dallas were part of the

presentations that marked National Lutheran Schools Week at Zion.

graders re-enacted scenes from one-room schoolhouses of years gone by.

Students provided entertainment in a "Showcase of Talent" after a taco dinner sponsored by the Parent Teacher League.

Seventh and eighth graders made a videotape of school activities during the week. It was shown at the school and at church on Sunday during Bible class and Sunday school hours.

All 206 school children wrote personal messages to congregational members. They were inserted in the Sunday worship folder.



SPECIAL WEEK—Pasadena's Mayor John Ray Harrison signs a proclamation in honor of National Lutheran Schools Week March 4-9. The principal of Zion Lutheran, Pasadena, James Hutter, is at right. At left is Zion School Committee chairman Scott Sanfaord. The Missouri Synod maintains the largest Protestant school system in the United States: 220,000 students in 1,900 schools.

Hispanic ministry opportunity all over Texas

The 1985 Texas District Convention directed the Board of Mission Administration to set up an Hispanic Action Team.

This team has a two-fold task: 1) to help existing congregations begin Hispanic outreach in their neighborhoods; and 2) to direct and assist congregations with Hispanic ministries to increase their effectiveness. The team is to act as a liaison between the Board of Mission Administration and Hispanic ministries.

Accordingly, the Hispanic Action Team was set up in 1985. Rev. Jesse Gonzales is currently chairman of the team.

- The Hispanic Action Team (also known as the "A-Team" or "HAT") helps congregations consider their possibilities for outreach to the Hispanic community and helps them develop practical steps and appropriate ministry models.

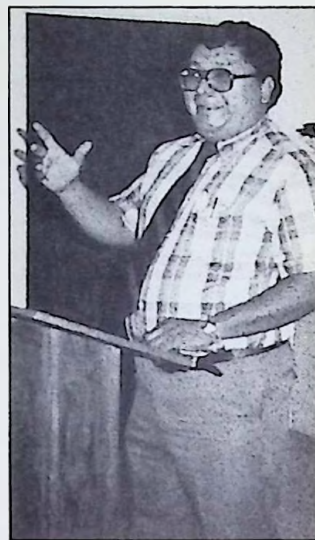
The A-Team also has the task of strengthening existing Hispanic congregations in their outreach effectiveness as well as assisting the district and its circuits in planting new Hispanic ministries.

- The Hispanic Action Team stands ready to send one of its members to meet with congregational leaders concerning specifics of Hispanic outreach in local settings. They have also developed an excellent six-hour seminar for congregations and circuits contemplating Hispanic outreach in Texas.

The last seminar like this was held May 19 at Grace Lutheran Church in Midland. Topics included "A History of the Mexican Experience in Texas," "A Profile of the Texas Hispanic," "The Anglo-Church Doing Hispanic Outreach," "Filling the Need You Have Found" and "Putting It All Together" (some practical steps to get started).

- The 1988 district convention designated the 1990s as the Decade of Ethnic Expansion in Texas. The Hispanic Action Team is an integral part of our district's effort to reach out into Hispanic communities across the entire state of Texas—from Dalhart in the north, to Monahans/Kermit and Midland in the western part of the state, to all our metropolitan areas of Texas (Dallas/Fort Worth, San Antonio, Houston, Austin) and down into the Rio Grande Valley. There are very few congregations within the state that do not have opportunity for Hispanic ministry within their communities.

- If you wish to have a member of the Hispanic Action Team visit your congregation, or if you wish to arrange a six-hour seminar, please contact Rev. Jesse Gonzales at San Pedro Lutheran Church in Houston, (713) 228-2579. Or contact the Texas District Mission Office, (512) 926-4272.



HAT LEADER—This is Rev. Jesse Gonzales, who is chairman of the Texas Hispanic Action Team (HAT). He is shown at a seminar on ministering to Hispanics. The HAT will provide aid to any congregation that wishes to enhance its ministry to Hispanics.

Spring break is more than fun in the sun

Spring break on Padre Island gets a lot of notoriety as college students party and play in the sun and surf.

Some of the young people, however, spent their time helping Lutheran churches of the Corpus Christi area.

Sixty-two students from a dozen or so colleges and universities opted to paint the interior of Nuestro Salvador Lutheran Church

(Our Savior) of Corpus Christi and helped with some construction work.

Nuestro Salvador is one of only two self-supporting Lutheran churches in Texas in mission among Spanish-speaking people. Rev. Dennis Schiefelbein is pastor.

Students also helped canvass more than 1,000 homes on Padre Island and in Flour Bluff for Lord of Life Lutheran where Rev. Wayne Hamit is pastor.

Hamit said that because of the students' efforts, "more people have been made aware of Lord of Life. We understand our community better, and nine new families have given us the opportunity to sow the Gospel message among them."

The Associated Press distributed the story of the students at Nuestro Salvador to newspapers across the nation.

St. Matthew to close school

The voters assembly of St. Matthew Lutheran Church of Houston approved the closing of grades one through six of their school, effective at the end of the term just completed.

A decision was made months ago to discontinue grades seven and eight.

Preschool and kindergarten will be continued.

According to Pastor Reinhard Wuensche Jr., the actions are in keeping with the congregation's wishes to change the direction of its ministry and service to the community.

Voters approved the calling of an assistant pastor.



The Lord added . . .

It was the privilege of **Concordia, San Antonio**, to receive 45 new members into fellowship March 25 by confirmation, reprofession of faith and transfer.

By adult and infant baptism, adult confirmation, profession of faith and transfer, 39 new members were received March 25 at **Zion, Pasadena**.

Rejoicing March 25 was the congregation of **Trinity, Klein**, when 53 people were accepted through baptism, profession of faith, reaffirmation of faith and transfer.

Received into the mission and ministry of **Crown of Life, San Antonio**, were 27 new members March 11.

By baptism, adult confirmation and transfer,

Christ, Amarillo, added six new members.

A joyous welcome was given to 25 new members at **Redeemer, Beaumont**, who entered fellowship through confirmation and transfer.

The parish family of **Redeemer, Fort Worth**, added nine new members.

Twelve people confessed their faith March 25 at **Prince of Peace, Carrollton**, and were received into the congregation's forever family.

Joining the congregation Feb. 25 at **Our Savior, McKinney**, were 10 new members received by adult confirmation and profession of faith.

Seven new members were received in March at **First Lutheran, Lufkin**,

Embraced by Jesus at 85



BAPTIZED—March 25 was a special day for Florence Warren—she was baptized into the Christian faith at Mount Calvary Lutheran, San Antonio, five days before her 85th birthday. Standing with her are her grandchildren, David Warren, Cara Serpico and her daughter-in-law, Joyce Warren.

by profession of faith, adult confirmation and transfer.

March 11 was a joyous day at **St. Mark, Houston**, as 33 new members were

taken into fellowship.

Thirty-one new members recently were added to the fellowship of **Crown of Life, San Antonio**.



LAST CLASS—This is the last confirmation class for Pastor D.A. Robbins of Trinity Lutheran, Livingston. He retired May 27 after 14

years at Trinity. From left are Kerry Georges, Stephanie Dittmar, Hazel Harper, Pastor Robbins, Jane Kisling and Jo McClain.

Reported in the newsletter of **Gloria Dei, Houston**: "We can't give God enough praise for what He is doing here in blessing us with wonderful people to help build the body of believers at Gloria Dei under Christ our Head." On March 4 the congregation received 71 new baptized members. On the same day, another new-member class was started with 55 adults attending.

A mother's love

by Pastor Jerry Kieschnick, Executive Director, Lutheran Foundation of Texas

It was a brief encounter. Actually, no encounter at all. Merely an observation.

The setting was a Circuit Pastors Conference hosted by a pastor in one particular area of our great state of Texas.

I was in the middle of a presentation titled "How to Make a Gift to St. Paul Lutheran Church," discussing current gifts of cash, stocks or real estate and future gifts through a will, life insurance, charitable remainder trust or charitable gift annuity.

- The observation on this Tuesday morning was that of a mother, obviously a member of the host congregation—a neat, attractive, casually dressed, well-groomed mother. Probably a member of the Altar Guild or LWML society coming to do some mid-week work in the church, I thought. It happens in churches across our district every day.

What caught my eye was her companion. A child. A special child. Apparently 8 or 9 years old, chronologically. But this was a very special child. In a very special buggy, resembling a child's stroller, only somewhat larger.

- This child, a boy, was immobile, seemingly unable to speak. He rode in the stroller, pushed adeptly and lovingly through the doors of the church by the woman who I assumed was his mother.



Rev. Jerry Kieschnick

They went into the church office for a period of time. Doing some kind of volunteer clerical work, I presumed.

Then out of the office and into the sanctuary. To change the candles? To replace the paraments? No, neither of these. To play the organ.

- To this day, I don't know if she was the church organist practicing for the Wednesday evening Lenten service or for the Sunday morning worship service. I do know that for what seemed like an hour, she played. With her son by her side.

None of the pastors present said anything about the music. But we all heard it. I've talked to no one about this experience but you, the reader of this article, and to the workers in our Texas District Office.

- What struck me so deeply is that we talk a lot in the church about love—God's great love for us as expressed in the person of His Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord—our love for another, as God has loved us. The mission of the church to communicate His love to the ends of the



Yes, I want to know more. Clip and mail to

Lutheran Foundation of Texas

7900 U.S. 290 E. Austin, TX 78724 (512) 926-4272

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

() _____

ZIP _____

Telephone Number _____

6

earth.

But right there in that sanctuary, with no preaching and no teaching as we normally interpret those words, a mother spoke to her son, she spoke to a group of pastors and now she speaks to a hundred thousand fellow Lutheran Christians of the importance of loving not only those we don't know, but also and especially those we do know.

- The circumstances and daily routines of these two lives remain a mystery to me and to most of you. But I thank this special woman and her special son for re-

minding me of yet another meaning of the words of Paul, *"Meanwhile these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love."*

My everyday work through the Lutheran Foundation of Texas is largely that of helping people make gifts to their loved ones and to their church. We do well to constantly remind ourselves and each other of the importance of love as we give. One man said it this way: *"It is possible to give without loving, but it is impossible to love without giving."*



WELCOMED—These new members were welcomed Feb. 25 by transfer into the fellowship of Redeemer Lutheran of Austin. Pastors are Paul Bohol and David Schroder.



DOCTORATE—Keith Loomans, director of the Texas District Board for Parish Services, received congratulations from the District Board of Directors at its meeting in March. Loomans was awarded an honorary doctor of laws degree from Concordia University, River Forest, Ill. Loomans received both his graduate and undergraduate degrees there.

Panhandle Lutherans in prayer seminar

Seventy-five Lutherans representing eight Panhandle congregations participated in a prayer seminar Feb. 24 sponsored by the Texas District Board of Parish Services at Christ, Amarillo. Rev. Dennis Schiefelbein of Our Savior, Corpus Christi, was the leader.

Eighty-three percent rated the seminar "very helpful;" 17 percent rated it "helpful." All participants recommended the prayer seminar to other circuits.

Participants found these items most helpful to them:

- Actual prayer time.
- Scripture study and insight.
- How to increase prayer in their churches and lives.
- The importance of priorities; setting aside a time for prayer each day.
- Realizing the power of prayer.

Committee authorized to explore more ways to involve women in church work and witness

A Texas District President's Committee on Women was formed by the district board of directors who met March 27 in Austin.

The committee is designed to explore additional ways, which do not compromise Lutheran commitment to God's Word, for transforming patterns of church life to further include women in its vital work and witness.

The request to form the committee came from Doris McKay who, along with Barbara Bradfield, represented the Texas District in December at the Synod's Women's Conference in St. Louis. The conference theme was *The Church of the 1990s: A Challenge for the Priesthood of All Believers*. The conference sub-theme was *to permit what the Bible does not prohibit; to prohibit what the Bible does not permit*.

The committee membership will be approved by the district directors and it will be responsible to the Texas District president.

Goals of the committee include:

- Increasing awareness of the various models of ministry and service opportunities available to LCMS women.
- Fostering linkages among organizations, independent women's ministries and individual congregational efforts that are served by women or directed to women's needs.

- Providing consultation, training and special events speakers on trends in the church and society affecting the service of women.

- Compiling and disseminating information about attitudes, practices, programs and publications in church and society that relate to women's roles in various areas.

- Serving as an encouragement and a sign of hope for those men and women, clergy and laity, who are struggling to expand service opportunities for women.

The district directors approved \$3,000 for the committee's 1990 start-up costs.

In other action, the Board of Directors:

- Appointed Neal Ladwig of Houston as Texas District representative to the Board of Directors of Lutheran Social Service of Texas.

- Reappointed Keith Loomans to the Board of Directors of Lutheran Video Library, Inc.

- Congratulated Loomans, director of the district Board of Parish Services, on the award of an honorary doctorate in May from Concordia University, River Forest, Ill.

- Were told by Bill Siegrist, district director of development, that as of Jan. 15 the Texas Church Extension Fund has a total fund balance of \$33,911,898.82.

- Received reports from Parish Services that *New Horizons in Stewardship—Crown Him the Lord of Life*, the new stewardship program prepared by the Synod's Department of Stewardship, is now available (district parish services executive director Ray Schkade is a member of the Synod's team developing this three-year program); that up to 23 percent of Texas congregations are involved in *LifeLight™* Bible study; that Sept. 27-29, 1991, is the date of the first district convocation for older adults, to be held in Austin; that as one attempt to reach out in Christian love and concern to Lutherans who suffer from chemical dependency, the Texas District and its organizations consider including Alcoholics Anonymous and Al-Anon meetings in conjunction with conference and convention sessions; that a study is being made of the impression the church gives when it uses hotels and motels that provide X-rated pay-TV in their rooms for conventions and conferences; and that a mission education curriculum for Lutheran schools that Texas District educators helped develop will be available in fall 1990.

- Heard from Milburn Schubert, district chief financial officer, that world missions receipts were up 3.5 percent in the first two months of 1990 over last year.

YOUTH

Our bright kids . . .

Congratulations to Tammy Fehr, Concordia, Bedford, who won third place in the Fort Worth Regional Citizen Bee. Fehr, a high school senior, had to answer questions about American history, economics and geography.

St. Paul, San Antonio, is growing a group of super scientists. Denise Jackson, Pam Smotherman, Timothy Boerger and Matthew Boerger won ribbons in their school science fairs with these projects: What Causes Water Pollution? Can Aspirin Kill? Which Household Item Makes the Best Electrolyte? and How Do Different Designs of Paper Airplanes Affect Their Flight?

Congratulations to Michael Evans and Donald Beisert Jr., Our Redeemer, Dallas, who muscled their way into the state championship wrestling tournament.

Matthew Berglund, Trinity, Klein, received the God and Country scouting award. Good going, Matthew!

Heather Poyner, Our Savior, McKinney, competed in the Miss Teen Texas Pageant. She's active in sports and in the National Honor Society.

Bright kids at Memorial, Katy, include Jason Longbotham, first place winner in the Houston School District History Fair; Michelle Hoppe, UIL first rating in clarinet solo and ensemble (she also plays the piano



CHAMPIONS—The Bulldogs of Thorndale High School were 1989 Class A state football champions. Twelve of the players are graduates of St. Paul Lutheran School of Thorndale. They are, from left, front, Gary Thiele, Bradley Beran, Jamie Buzan, Bobby Niemtschk, Kendall Rieger and Micah Merz.

Back row, Daryl Melnardus, Kevin Menzel, Gavin Blar, Lance Betak and Matthew Lescher. Not pictured is Mark Biar. The boys visited St. Paul school to thank the faculty and students for their support during the football season.

superbly); Stephen B. Johnson, first rating in baritone horn solo and ensemble; and Laura Schmidt, first rating in clarinet solo and ensemble.

Brandi Richter, Lamb of God, Humble, knows how to cast a spell. She won second place in the district spelling bee.

Erin Rodrgis, Living Word, The Woodlands, won third place in her category (14 and under) in The Woodlands 10K marathon.

UIL competition winners from St. John, San Benito, included April Spreeman and Tiffani Warren in dictionary skills and Ted Mueller in impromptu

speaking.

Another UIL winner is Harriett Smotherman, St. Paul, San Antonio, in flute solo.

Julie Cox, Trinity, Refugio, was chosen *Outstanding Senior* of Refugio High School by the Refugio County Chamber of Commerce.

Bright kid honors at Redeemer, Odessa, go to Heather Bostick and Marla Wilkins, who were inducted into the Junior National Honor Society; and to Katrina Pritchett and David Unger, who finished first and third respectively out of 150 students in their life science class.

Neal Pratt, King of Kings, San Antonio, was inducted into the Junior National Honor Society.

Kodie Nagy, St. Matthew, Westfield, was on her high school drill team that placed in the top three in national drill team competition in Florida.

Bright kid honors at Hope, Austin, go to Mark Mueller who tied for first in his school science fair's environmental category with his entry on oil spills. And Julie Kokel won second place at the Travis County Livestock Show with her steer. She also was second in showmanship. And Jennifer Ellwanger was se-



lected to sing in the All-City High School Honor Choir.

Kimberly Waltmon, Redeemer, Austin, received the highest award given at her elementary school. She received the Principal's Award for Academic Achievement, Responsible Citizenship and Attendance.

Those bawling calves they turn loose at livestock shows in the calf scramble are elusive little critters but Matt Schiel, Zion, Tomball, caught one at the Houston Livestock Calf Scramble. He'll show an animal at next year's event.

Bright kid honors at Prince of Peace, Belton, go to Sandy Reedy, who was voted all-district in basketball and who carries a 4.6 GPA. And Trevor

Brown tied for eighth place in the American High School Mathematics Test given at Belton High School to identify students with exceptional ability in math.

A future governor? Maybe. Derek Placke, Memorial, Katy, will represent his school in June at Boy's State in Austin where the young men learn the duties, privileges, rights and responsibilities of American leadership.

Congratulations to Kayla Burell, Trinity, Uvalde, who helped raise \$3,000 in the March of Dimes campaign against birth defects. She did it by reading the most books—454—in the South Central Texas region. She won a computer for her school and a set of encyclopedias for herself. She's in third grade.



ACCREDITED—Keith Loomans, right, Texas District director of parish services, presents certificate of accreditation to Hope Lutheran School of Austin March 4. The certificate represents a year of hard work by about 50 people serving on accreditation committees. From left are Evelyn Buchhorn, school board representative; David Glienke, principal; Alvin Ashorn, chairman of the accreditation steering committee; and Hope pastor, John Ellwanger.

Wow, three in a row. Eric Simonen of St. Paul, Groves, won three district high school championships

in two weeks. He won district debate, persuasive speaking and tennis singles.

Congratulations to Carrie Linscott and Derek Placke, Memorial, Katy, who were inducted into the National Honor Society.

Alison Thoene, Redeemer, Austin, made the All-Region Band and performed in concert.



VERNON—Rev. Rusty Leavitt, right, and children of St. Paul Lutheran Church, Vernon, take part Feb. 25 in groundbreaking for an activities and classroom building. The structure will include a gymnasium, four pre-k-

ergarten and kindergarten classrooms, school office, five Sunday school classrooms, a kitchen and youth room. Cost is \$400,000.

Start right

Once you have missed the first buttonhole, you will have difficulty buttoning up.

Being happy

Happiness comes when we stop wailing about the troubles we have and offer thanks for all the troubles we do not have.



GETTING TO KNOW YOU—Friendship Day Feb. 11 at Immanuel Lutheran Church of Mercedes included this get-acquainted social

gathering. Many of the visitors that day were winter Texans who are in the Mercedes area from year to year.

Friendship Day gets winter Texans involved

February was declared "Friendship Month" at Immanuel of Mercedes in the Rio Grande Valley.

Throughout the month, the members and "winter Texans" and other guests wore name tags to get to know one another.

On Feb. 11, there was a special gathering in the social hall to get people acquainted with one another. Refreshments were served by the Evangelism Committee. Hymns were sung, welcomes given and the game "Getting To Know You" was played.

Rev. Dymann L. Jirovec, pastor, said that the idea came about because many members and the winter Texans do not know each other even though they worship together.

"I felt," said Jirovec, "this gave me an opportunity to learn many of the names of the winter Texans who are with us from year to year. Overall, Friendship Month was a success and hopefully will become an annual event."

Sunday night prime time at DeSoto not TV—it's worship

At a time when most churches are evaluating the existence of Sunday evening services, Cross of Christ Lutheran in DeSoto has taken the bold step of establishing one.

A recent telephone survey of 8,000 homes in the south Dallas county area indicated that 12 percent of those contacted would be interested in an evening service.

"Our congregation took a long look at an evening service before deciding to make the move," said Rev. Craig Schinnerer.

The services, which began at 7 p.m., April 8, offer an alternative to the traditional Lutheran liturgy. "There are some who prefer a less formal worship than our two morning services offer," Schinnerer stated, "and it's our responsibility to try to reach everyone with the Gospel."

Although the congregation realizes the service is up against Sunday evening

prime time, they are optimistic. "There are some people, even in our congregation, who work Sundays and can't get to church in the morning," the pastor stated. "This evening service will give them a worship opportunity that they may not have had otherwise."

Carl Heckmann Foundation offers seminars

The first in a series of annual seminars has been offered by the newly created Carl Heckmann Foundation for Christian Education. The seminar, held Feb. 17 at Hope Lutheran in Austin, focused on chronic illness.

The presenter was Dr. Stephen Schmidt, professor of graduate religious studies at Mundelein College in Chicago, and author of *Living With Chronic Illness*.

According to Jackie Jungemann, chairman of Hope's Board of Education, plans are being made to establish a support group for people dealing with problems of the chronically ill.

Dr. Carl Heckmann, who died last year, was president of the Texas District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod and a member of Hope Lutheran.



AT SEMINAR—Participants at the Chronic Illness Seminar at Hope Lutheran Church in Austin included, from left, Pastor John Ellwanger; Pearl Heckmann, honored guest and member of Hope; Mrs. Stephen Schmidt and Dr. Schmidt, professor and author, who was the presenter.



ANNUAL BARBECUE—This is a photo from last year's annual barbecue, worship celebration and benefit auction at Camp Lone Star in La Grange. This year's event, to be held July 29, will feature a wide variety of items available at auction. (See story at right).

Lone Star is 50 next year

Camp Lone Star will be 50 years old in 1991. Betty Boecker of Memorial, Houston, has accepted chairmanship of the Camp Lone Star's 50th Committee. If you are a former camper with a good story, a previous staffer, or a good friend of Camp Lone Star with old pictures, photo albums, or other memorabilia, contact Betty Boecker, 8332 Burkhart Circle, Houston, TX 77055.

Confirmation-age programs

Each year Camp Lone Star and Texoma Lutheran Camp offer programs for confirmation-age youth. These events were initiated for smaller congregations that did not have large enough confirmation classes to carry out a successful weekend retreat of worship, study and fun on their own.

Weekends, like Lifequest, Jubilation and Pre-Confirmation Retreats, have become an integral part of Lutheran Outdoors Ministry of Texas and its

service to Texas congregations. One junior youth counselor recently commented, "All the children we were with came home with an uplifted heart and new friends."

The Fall Pre-Confirmation Retreats are scheduled for Sept. 21-22 and Sept. 28-29 at Camp Lone Star, and for Sept. 21-22 and Oct. 5-6 at Texoma Lutheran Camp. Consider using one of these events to enrich your youth through games, songs and Bible study.

Summer renewal awaits in Lutheran outdoor activities

That "good ol' summertime" is upon us. School is out and activities continue in full swing at the Lutheran Outdoors Ministry of Texas sites. Youth and adults are served through "renewal and outreach" extended by the caring, full-time summer and volunteer staff.

Lone Star Barbecue

Camp Lone Star's annual barbecue is July 29, with a worship celebration beginning at 11 a.m. Rev. Ray Schkade, executive director for the Board of Parish Services of the Texas District LCMS, will be the featured speaker, and special music will be provided to add to the overall worship experience.

The Camp Lone Star Benefit Auction is at 1 p.m., following the barbecue at 12:15. Each year the benefit auction offers a variety of unique and useful items, not to mention collectibles and exciting weekend vacation opportunities. This year you can bid for hunting and fishing trips, Six Flag tickets, mini-vacations at popular hotels, baseball caps, various pieces of art and more, while helping support outdoors ministry and Camp Lone Star.

Live entertainment, a country store, camp tours, swimming and great fellowship also highlight the Camp Lone Star barbecue day. Take this opportunity to see the camp in action,

meet the staff and show your support.

Family Fishing Trip

LOMT's Family Fishing Trip will shove off from the Dolphin Docks in Port Aransas July 21-22 for a weekend of superb fishing, worship, fun and fellowship. The family event provides an opportunity for swimming and enjoying the beach, with lodging available through "The Courtyard" as well as fellowship with other participants at a group shrimp boil. Call the LOMT office for information on how to join the fun!

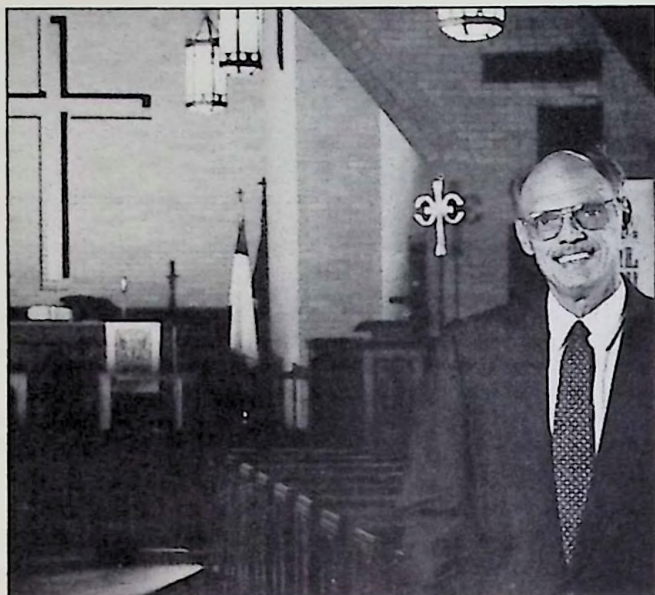
Texas Rangers Baseball

"Special Dogs 308"—If you plan to attend a Texas Rangers baseball game this season, include a stop at Concession Stand #308. A group of North Texas churches has banded together to staff this concession booth for the entire season and will donate the proceeds to Lutheran Outdoors Ministry of Texas to provide much-needed improved cabin space at Texoma Lutheran Camp. The stand carries special hot dogs and toppings as well as pretzels, popcorn and beverages.

The checkout counter

The guy who says he blew a fortune in the market may have just returned from a trip to the grocery store.

CONCORDIA



CONCORDIA'S PRESIDENT—Dr. Ray F. Martens speaks of the connection between the Texas District and Concordia of Texas in the article below.

Concordia of Texas

by Dr. Ray F. Martens

Within its second decade, the Texas District in 1923 petitioned the formation of its Concordia. The twin concerns of the newly organized Lutherans of Texas reflected their frontier orientation. We needed to develop pastors and teachers from among our own to serve our congregations (numbered in dozens). We needed the opportunity for the Christian education of our young people (numbered in hundreds).

Now Texas District congregations are numbered in hundreds and their college-age young people in thousands. And most of our frontier image does not survive. But Concordia continues better than ever as Texas's own. Our Lutheran college, our young people, our future pastors and teachers. An outstanding faculty and staff guiding

our ministry of Christian higher education.

Congregations, urban and rural, continue to encourage their young people to reach for their best at the Concordia. And the "of Texas" in "Concordia Lutheran College of Texas" has never been simply a device to distinguish this college from one of the same name in Minnesota or Michigan. "Of Texas" says whose it is, who drives its development and who prospers by its success.

The Texas District and Concordia of Texas belong together. The concerns of the founding fathers have changed only in scale. We still need to develop pastors and teachers from among our own to serve our congregations. We still need the opportunity for the Christian education of our young people.

Southwestern Bell partners with Concordia

The Southwestern Bell Foundation announced a new scholarship program in partnership with Concordia Lutheran College and 29 other schools associated with the Texas Independent College Fund (TICF).

The foundation will award a \$4,000 scholarship to a student at each of the 30 TICF schools to recognize outstanding minority students in education.

The scholarships are to be used for educational expenses during the junior

and senior years by students planning to pursue careers in education in Texas upon graduation.

"At Southwestern Bell, we believe education is the cornerstone of our future," said Tom Brunner, vice president—public relations.

"We must attract more outstanding minority students to the teaching profession to become role models for others to follow."

Concordia will select a scholarship recipient from student applicants. Students interested in applying for the scholarship should contact Lynette Heckmann, financial assistance officer.



ALUMNI RECRUITMENT—Concordia alumni are some of the best recruiters for the college. Joel Dittmer (BA '87, center front), teacher at Prince of Peace, Carrollton, brought a group of students to high school visitation day.



IN CONCERT—Don Wharton, nationally-known singer and performer, entertained prospective CLC students on high school visitation day.



IBM matches employee gifts to Concordia

The IBM company made a unique offer to Concordia Lutheran College—every dollar an employee gives to Concordia will be matched by IBM with \$5 of computer equipment.

The computers will be used primarily by students enrolled in business management and by accounting majors. In one of the required classes, students team together and “run a business” through computer simulation. As they make decisions based on information furnished by the computer, they receive instantaneous profit and loss statements. New computer equipment will enhance the learning experience for these and other students.

A group of IBM employees recently met on the Concordia campus to lend their support to Concordia through their company's matching gift offer. An Austin IBM employee spoke at the dinner, emphasizing that the matching gift program offers an opportunity to make individual stewardship more effective. He urged his fellow employees to “stretch” themselves when pledging, because by stretching a little extra, “we then ask for the Lord's help in reaching the goal.”

IBM employees can make a significant difference in Concordia students' education. To discuss the program, call Professor Howard Lacey, chairman of the Business Management Division, 1-800-735-3232.



IBM EMPLOYEES—These IBM employees and their spouses gathered for a dinner at Concordia in support of IBM's matching gift offer.



TEXAS LABORERS FOR CHRIST— From left, Mr. and Mrs. Victor Loesch, Norman McAllister, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Buffaloe, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Colba, and Mr. and Mrs. Erich Klenk.

Concordia College thanks Texas Laborers

The small structure that stands at the corner of Concordia Avenue and Interstate Highway 35 has a new look and a new function, thanks to the generous efforts of Texas Laborers For Christ.

Five laborers are remodeling the building to serve as Concordia College administrative offices.

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod purchased the property last year for the college. The previous owner operated a massage parlor there—obviously not a suitable neighbor for a Christian college.

The Laborers For Christ gave their time and talents to transform the building into an attractive addition

to the Concordia campus, one which will be used for the glory of God.

Applications for fall '90

Applications for freshmen for fall '90 should be submitted by Aug. 15.



CERTIFIED—Sue Fuessell, teacher of first and second grades at Trinity Lutheran School, San Angelo, has received certification from the James Williams Memorial Foundation as an academic language therapist after three years of study in multisensory teaching for persons with dyslexia. She is a graduate of Concordia University, River Forest, Ill., with a degree in education.

What children would buy for their parents

In a recent youth confirmation class at Crown of Life Lutheran in San Antonio, the young people were asked to respond to this situation:

Pretend you have enough money to buy three items for your parents. Which ones will you buy?

Eight items were listed for the young people to choose from. This is how they chose:

Fewer worries, 6. More patience, 4. More time with me, 3. More faith in God, 3. More fun, 7. More money, 9. Better jobs, 2. More energy, 5.

There was one other category labeled "other." Answers here included "a farm with cows, horses, ducks and a few chickens." Another answer was "a home on an island in the Caribbean."

Special offer: book on Wendish immigration

The Texas Wendish Heritage Society of Serbin is having a special sale of Dr. George Nielsen's book, *In Search of a Home: Nineteenth Century Wendish Immigration*.

This updated version of his study of the immigration to Australia and Serbin, Texas, by the Wends is recognized as one of the best sources available for research on the Wends.

Sale price is \$17.04 for one book; \$15.98 each for five or more books; \$14.91 each for 10 or more books.

Sales tax is included in the price. However, add postage of \$2 for the first book and \$1 for each additional book. Sale price expires June 30.

Order books from the Texas Wendish Heritage Society, Route 2, Box 155, Giddings, TX 78942.

For more information, call (409) 366-2441.



MINERAL WELLS—St. Mark of Mineral Wells recently had the privilege of bringing into membership Bill and Mary Schwarz and their daughter, Tesia. They came by re-affirmation of faith. Also received were Dan and Marcella Hardles by adult confirmation. Rev. Phil Schamehorn is pastor.



RETREAT—More than 70 youths and adults gathered in Corpus Christi at Nuestro Salvador Lutheran Church for a Hispanic youth retreat. Pictured are some of the participants.

Best new band, 'The Cry,' to perform at Glorybound

"The Cry" will perform a Friday night concert following the beach party at "Glorybound VII, Handle with Care." Voted best new band at the Chicago '89 Cornerstone Festival, this Christian group is similar to "U-2" and "The Alarm."

On Saturday evening, Don Wharton will share God's love in concert. Wharton has performed at a number of synodical youth gatherings and throughout the country.

Major presenters for the gathering include Rev. Peter Steinke, Rev. Eugene

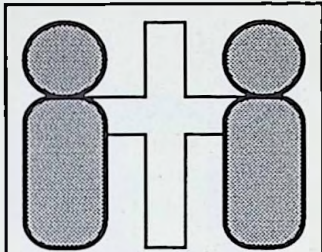
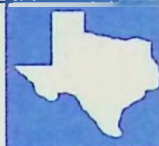


Gruell and Dr. Larry Meisner.

Unlike previous gatherings, this one will offer no sectionals. Instead, stewardship events will be happening throughout the city of Austin. Here's a "hands on" approach to real life opportunities for caring!

Registration for "Glorybound VII, Handle with Care" opens next month. Congregations should receive the first set of pre-gathering materials soon. Glorybound VII takes place Nov. 23-25, at the Doubletree and Red Lion hotels in Austin. It's for high school youth in grades nine through 12, and for adults.

Youth groups, register early to save your spot. Those who postmark their registrations before Oct. 23 pay only \$75 per person while late registrants pay \$90.



Lutheran Service Ministries
Texas District LCMS
7900 E Hwy 290
Austin TX 78724-2499

LSM logo

Logo identifies new district service ministry

The Lutheran Service Ministries Council has selected a logo to identify the new Texas District organization. The design depicts the mission statement of the group.

"People experience Christ in the loving service of His followers." According to Rev. Martin Doering, project director, those words are the basis for the work of Lutheran Service Ministries.

"The truth is," said Doering, "we serve Christ as we serve others (Matt. 25:40), and that others see Christ in our service (John 13:34)."

The logo design of circles and lines represents two persons united by Christ. The cross in the design's center embraces the figures and fills the space between them.

Have you noticed?

It is hard to get lost without everyone telling you where to go.



GERMAN VISITORS—In February, Prince of Peace Lutheran of Carrollton hosted a touring group of German pastors and lay leaders studying church growth among Lutheran churches in America. The tour was spon-

sored by Overseas Crusade. Prince of Peace pastors Steve Wagner, center rear, and Paul Liersemann, fourth from right, are pictured with part of the group.

Do gifts matter? What can a small gift do?

A children's poem related the story of how a kingdom was lost because a nail was not available. We have heard many times that "a chain is as strong as its weakest link." But what about the positive side of those analogies? How much good can a nail or a chain link do? More specifically, what good can come from Christian service?

Lutheran Service Ministries (LSM), the Texas District program for identifying opportunities for Christian service, is benefiting from our service and generosity. The expenses for the first two years of this new program have been underwritten by grants from two organizations. Those two organizations were given the ability to fund such projects by our contributions of time and finances.

One of the grants is from the Wheat Ridge Foundation. Remember the stamps at Christmas? Perhaps this thought occurred: "My contribution to some place far away isn't really going to matter much." But we sent in our contributions, and others sent in theirs. Now the Wheat Ridge Foundation can support such projects as LSM. Our gifts are being returned, in a very real way.

The other grantor is LCMS World Relief. This organization is different from Lutheran World Relief in more than just name. Operated by our Synod, LCMS World Relief directs contributions from individuals and congregations to projects that help people directly. (Lutheran World Relief is the organization through which the ELCA develops and directs support to projects of relief and change.)

Contributions, special offerings and group collections enable LCMS World Relief to assist those who are helping others.

What good can a small gift do? Through such organizations as the Wheat Ridge Foundation and LCMS World Relief, our gifts can begin new ministries and support existing efforts in relief and service. The words of the apostle Paul still ring true: "The rendering of this service not only supplies the wants of the saints but also overflows in many thanksgivings to God" (2 Cor. 9:12 RSV).

Lutheran Service Ministries, and those who are served and serving, are giving thanks to God for the gifts He gives through His people.

Martin Doering, Project Director
Lutheran Service Ministries

TEXAS CHURCH EXTENSION FUND

A partnership to benefit generations to come

by Bill Siegrist, Director
of Development, Church
Extension Fund

Earlier this year, Jim and Hazel Buffaloe of Austin (and beyond, more on that later) received a telephone call from Mike Linebrink, Endowment Gifts Counselor of Concordia College, Austin. Linebrink asked if he could meet with them to discuss Concordia's Jubilee Scholarship Endowment. This endowment fund will provide a permanent scholarship fund for future professional church work students.

After meeting with Linebrink, the Buffaloes decided to participate in this scholarship fund by designating their interest income from their Church Extension Fund note. Investors in CEF select how their interest income will be used: (1) interest paid annually, semi-annually, or quarterly to the investor; (2) interest added to the investment, compounded quarterly; or (3) interest income designated for a specific ministry or purpose.

Here are a few other examples where interest income could be designated:

- For one's home congregation or any other designated church
- Capital Fund of the Texas District Church Extension Fund
- Lutheran Foundation of Texas
- Lutheran Social Service of Texas
- Bethesda Lutheran Home
- Lutheran Outdoors



Bill Siegrist

Ministry of Texas

- Texas District Mission Program
- Seminaries . . . and many others!

The Buffaloes shared these comments: "We appreciated Mike Linebrink coming and visiting with us. We weren't sure what to do. We wanted to help young people get started in ministry."

As mentioned earlier, Austin is their official home, but as a member of the dedicated team known as Texas Laborers For Christ, home can be the next spot our Lord calls them to in His service.

In April, the Laborers remodeled a building at the corner of Concordia Avenue and Interstate Highway 35 in Austin for Concordia College. This building will be used for administrative offices for the college.

As foreman for Laborers For Christ, Buffaloe was involved "bending nails" in this remodeling project. Buffaloe's physical work, along with his and Hazel's financial commitment to the scholarship endowment fund, are a dual partnership that will benefit gener-

ations to come.

Jim also serves as a member of the Texas District Board of Mission Administration.

To God be the glory for faithful servants like Jim and Hazel Buffaloe!

If you are currently an investor with a CEF note and you would like to designate part or all of your interest income to a specific ministry, please contact the district office.

For new investors, come grow with us in the mission and ministry of the Texas District through your invested and savings dollars. For more information, contact

**Texas District
CHURCH EXTENSION
FUND**

Bill Siegrist

7900 E. Highway 290
Austin, TX 78724-2499
(512) 926-4272



LAY MINISTER—Prince of Peace Lutheran, Carrollton, installed C.D. "Mac" Mackay March 18 as lay minister of visitation. From left are Wyman Bess, lay minister of inclusion; Mackay; and Senior Pastor Stephen Wagner.

Home on the range

Choir news is published in the newsletter of Memorial Lutheran of Katy under this heading:
High and Low Notes.

Look what Shelly's cooked up to help youth to Glorybound VII

Someone at Grace Lutheran Church in Denison is going to have a very good time helping the church youth raise money for their trip to Glorybound VII this fall.

Members of the congregation auctioned various services they will perform for the highest bidders.

Here's what Shelly Stoffregen offered to some bidder who is destined for a fantastic evening:

"A romantic wine and candlelight dinner for two, served by Shelly. The menu consists of white Zinfandel, cheese and crackers, French baked chicken with rice pilaf, buttered broccoli spears, hot buttered bread sticks, coffee and cheesecake topped with strawberries. Soft background music will be provided."

The estimated value of the dinner sounded reasonable: \$30.



Game of the name

The men at Our Savior Lutheran Church of Dallas have no problem remembering when their monthly Bible study group meets.

The name of the group is *First Wednesday of the Month Bible Study Group*.

Lutheran youths share talents with others

Two young men of Redeemer Lutheran, Austin, are in for exciting summers.

Christian Jennings will be involved in Project Kenya, sponsored by Club Beyond, a ministry of Military Community Youth Ministries.

Jennings is one of 150 high school youth going to Kenya to work with engineers. They will lay pipe to bring water from a well to a small Masai village. They also will construct a small building to house a teacher for the village and will renovate an orphanage that serves as the only home for more than 140 abandoned children.

Greg Merrell will be involved with Athletes in Action International Baseball Program, an athletic ministry of Campus Crusades for Christ.

Merrell will travel throughout the eastern United States, and also in Venezuela and Brazil, competing in baseball, but he will also share Christ with fans, competing players and coaches.

Texas pastor finds growth opportunity in desert solitude, company of homeless

by Rev. Walt Waiser
Pastor, Peace Lutheran
Hurst, Texas

With the varied demands on a pastor's time and the rapid pace of change in today's world, more men are looking for ways to grow. Yet, what does a parish pastor do if his interests in growth lie outside traditional degree programs, or standard workshops and seminars?

For this Texas pastor, the answer was a one-month sabbatical leave. I structured the leave in the following manner:

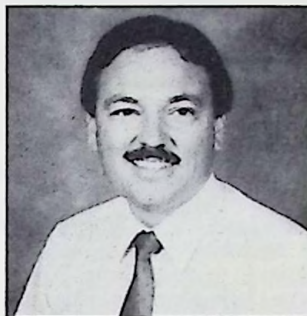
Week One: spent alone in the desert of Big Bend National Park for solitude, Bible reading, prayer, meditation and to write a journal recording the thoughts, feelings and experiences of the leave.

Weeks Two and Three: spent at the Presbyterian Night Shelter in Fort Worth working and moving alongside the homeless in Tarrant County.

Week Four: spent alone again for further devotional time, to review insights gained and to prepare to re-enter ministry.

The total time from the first thought of the leave through its completion was just under a year. It began as this pastor wondered:

(1) What experience outside the context of the present ministry would en-



Pastor Walt Waiser

courage growth and learning?

(2) What might promote spiritual discovery and growth?

(3) How might this experience enrich him both personally and professionally?

(4) How would this experience help him in the present ministry situation?

(5) How might reading, journaling and other worship experiences outside his congregation enrich the learning?

• After several months of brainstorming the possibilities, I presented a written proposal to the elders in September. Since the leave was requested for January, there was ample time for further consideration and discussion at the next meeting. When the elders gave consent for the request, we shared the proposal with the Board of Directors of the congregation.

The congregation had some difficulty understanding this extraordinary re-

quest. An article in the church newsletter helped describe the leave and its purposes. During the leave, two other articles described the specific activities of each week. After returning, the experiences of the month were shared in a Bible class session.

• This model for sabbatical leave is very helpful for growth and learning. The leave described in this article did more than one could imagine to promote the pastor's spiritual discovery and growth. And, through preaching, teaching and ministering after he returned, the congregation also experienced the effects of his time in the desert and among the homeless.

This venture into largely uncharted educational territory led to growth in mind, heart and spirit.

(To be continued.)

Send your news to Bill

Send your photos, news releases, newsletters and bulletins for the LUTHERAN WITNESS to:

Bill Wagner, editor
7900 E. Highway 290
Austin, TX 78724-2499

About photos: color pictures are OK if the contrast is good. Black and white photos are best. No Polaroids, please.

BETHESDA LUTHERAN HOME

Goldie Fund sets record

Just halfway through the year, the Bethesda/Good Samaritan's Goldie Fund has more than doubled its 1988-89 total with gifts of \$7,102.

Last year the fund's \$3,251 donation helped pay for a new septic system.

This year the women planned a "You Don't Have to Shop" shower. Donors select items from a list of furnishings needed for the facility's two new group homes in Cypress.



NEW HOME—Now moved from their main campus to their new group home on K-Z Road, Cypress, residents enjoy learning to prepare their own meals with staff help (above). Below, non-ambulatory residents travel to church and outings in this van with a wheelchair lift.



Lutheran Day at the Dome, July 16, benefits Bethesda

For the 16th annual Lutheran Day at the Dome, the Philadelphia Phillies will face the Houston Astros Sunday afternoon, July 16.

"Our goal is to sell at least 1,500 tickets," says Wayne Ritchie, regional development director. That's 300 more than last year when Bethesda's Good Samaritan Campus received \$1,208 from the event.

Tickets at \$8 each are available from 56 volunteers in Houston area churches or by sending a

check to Bethesda Lutheran Home, P.O. Box 729, Cypress 77429.



Thrift store opens in Austin

After several delays caused by remodeling to meet city requirements for establishing a new store, the Bethesda/Good Samaritan Thrift Store in Austin opens this month.

Located in a 6,000 sq. ft. building at 5111 Burnet, the store will stock used but good clothing, shoes, household items, jewelry, knickknacks, dishes, pots, pans, small furniture and

appliances, books and toys.

Eighty men and women have volunteered to help at the store, which will be open 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday.

Proceeds will support Bethesda's services to retarded people in Texas.

More donations and volunteers are always welcome. For details, call the store at (512) 451-2652.



REMODELED—A workman installed ceiling tile in Bethesda's new Austin thrift store. Volunteers did much of the painting.



FAMILY DAY—(Left) When does a chaplain don an apron? When he's dramatizing a servanthood devotion, as Rev. Erwin Metz did for the annual family day at Bethesda's Cypress campus. (Above) After the devotion, residents, relatives and staff enjoyed croquet, swings, ball games, talking, relaxing—and a barbecue dinner.



**A celebration
of caring people**



**CARING &
SHARING**

"A Celebration of Caring People" focuses on the mission and ministry of Lutheran Social Service of Texas.

The Mission Statement says:

"In response to God's love and grace, Lutheran Social Service of Texas ministers to people's spiritual and physical needs by providing social services in the name of Jesus Christ."

**International
adoptions possible**

Edwin Jose Gutierrez was born Aug. 19, 1982, in Monteria, Colombia. He was mistreated by a woman who took care of him after his mother abandoned him. Due to abuse, his left arm had to be amputated.

Five years ago, his grandfather took Edwin to live with him but died a year later. His grandfather's wife said it was impossible for her to keep Edwin so he was placed in a foster home in Colombia.

The foster family says he is obedient, affectionate

and plays normally for his age. He is careful with his belongings but usually shares with others. The foster family really loves him but economically cannot afford to adopt him. He is a happy child and handles his physical limitations well without being overly affected by what others say or think.

If you have room for Edwin, or children like Edwin, contact the LSST area service office nearest you and ask about the International Adoption Program.

**50 years
of opening doors**

Celebrating 50 years of ministry, Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service (LIRS) is a doorway of the Lutheran Church for uprooted people. In partnership with LSST, the LIRS ministers with refugees, asylum seekers, undocumented people and immigrants. LIRS is the only national Protestant agency active in refugee foster care, helping unaccompanied refugee minors—who are without the protection of parents or guardians—until they reach adulthood.

Since 1939, LIRS has opened the doors of hope and freedom for more than 170,000 refugees fleeing war, persecution and oppression.

LSST has offices of LIRS in Houston, Fort Worth and Lubbock. Find out what you can do to open doors for those seeking safety and refuge in the United States.



**John's story—painful
decisions, times of grace**

John had been living in a nursing home for three years in a small town near Austin. Tests showed cancer, and his doctor recommended a transfer to Austin for further tests and possible surgery.

• With his history of strokes and a condition of mild mental retardation, John found it hard to understand the medical information and make decisions. His only relative, a brother living out of state, could not be present to help.

John's doctor recommended that the court appoint a guardian to help John make decisions about surgery and treatment. Social workers from the hospital, the Texas Department of Human Services and the LSST Guardianship Program conferred and decided to seek a temporary guardianship, which a judge granted.

• Talking with John required patience and care. After two long conversations with him and a call to his brother, the medical release for surgery was signed.

Surgery results were not good: the cancer proved inoperable. John's doctor recommended a series of outpatient che-

motherapy treatments. Here another problem arose: John's hometown was too far away to commute for treatment.

• LSST staff found a nursing home near the outpatient cancer treatment center.

"John moved there and started treatment," said Anne Miller, the LSST program director. "I visited him at least once a week." The treatments progressed satisfactorily and ended the week before Christmas.

• "John's smile was worth a thousand words when I picked him up to take him back to his hometown for Christmas," Miller said. "That was John's best Christmas present, and his hug was my best Christmas present."

This is your ministry through Lutheran Social Service of Texas. We ask you to support your ministry:

*with your prayers,
by telling others who
may need these services,
with your gifts.*

For information contact LSST, P.O. Box 49589, Austin, TX 78765, (512) 459-1000.



STEPHEN MINISTERS—Commissioned as Stephen ministers at Holy Cross, Nederland, were, front from left, Donna Harrell, Helen Tyler, Edna Gloyna, Milissa Lavespere and Judy Sturgis. Back row, from left, Pastor Stanley E. Jones, Louis Blar, Edwin Anderson, Walter Perryman and Joel Plint.

Caring ministry is used to increase lay involvement

When a congregation asks what its most urgent and most important needs are, heading the list or near the top is often "to involve our lay people in ministry."

Holy Cross Lutheran of Nederland found that to be one of its pressing needs and started a program to do something about it.

The congregation recently commissioned nine Stephen Ministers for caring ministry in the congregation. Pastor Stanley E. Jones received training and certification as a Stephen Series leader and provided the training for the nine new Stephen Ministers.

The Stephen Series is a system for training and organizing lay people to do caring ministry in and

around the congregation. Holy Cross members expect to experience a growth in ministry and increased caring. Many people in need will now receive additional care and love because of the new Holy Cross Stephen Ministers.

Jones said that 10 more Stephen Ministers will be trained this fall.

No 'minute' waltz

Niki Aurich, member of Trinity Lutheran of Klein, earned a superior rating in piano competition at Baylor University March 24. Wait—there's more. Her memorized piece was 13 minutes long!

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES



Alvin and Clara Bernstein, both descendants of Wendish Lutheran immigrants who came to Texas in the 1800s, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary March 13. They live in Abilene where they are members of Our Savior Lutheran.

The couple reaffirmed their marriage vows at the March 11 morning worship service. An open house followed at the home of their granddaughter, Lynn Jones.



Alvin and Clara Bernstein

Hosts for the open house were the couple's daughters and their families: Roy and Jenny Sharrock of Garland (Bethel, Dallas); the husband and daughter of Geneva Sharrock (deceased); Margie Loomans and her husband, Keith (Texas District office) and their daughters, Kim Tumulty and her husband, Tim, of Mesquite (Bethel, Dallas), Laura Loomans of Austin (Our Savior) and Michaela Ann Loomans of Dallas (Zion); Georgie Boyce and her husband, Rev. Robert Boyce of Warda (Holy Cross), and their daughter, Lisa Jones and her husband, Lynn, of Abilene (Our Savior).

The Bernsteins are members of the Texas Wendish Heritage Society, and have three great-grandchildren.

Other Anniversaries

The following Lutheran

couples of the Texas District recently celebrated wedding anniversaries of 50 years or more.

Bethlehem, William Penn: Theo and Adeline Boenker, 51 years, Feb. 16.

Hope, Austin: Mr. and Mrs. J.E. Best Sr., 51 years, March 3.

Ascension, Cleburne: Otto and Norma Schaefer, 60 years, April 14.

Trinity, Sealy: Raymond and Irene Schroeder, 53 years, April 8.

St. Mark, Houston: Herbert and Gennie Kurio, 54 years, April 26, and A.A. and Hattie Tucker, 51 years, April 29.

Our Redeemer, Irving: Lee and Marie Johnson, 54 years, April 20.



Salem singles grow in faith and fellowship

by Nevilee Weaver
Salem Lutheran Church

Christian fellowship for singles aged 38 to 100—that's what the older Lutheran singles group at Salem Lutheran Church in Tomball is all about. The organization is a religious support, social and fellowship group for all older singles whether never married, widowed, or divorced.

In September 1988, five singles 38 or older met with Pastor Wayne Graumann of Salem to share their concerns about the lack of a ministry for older singles. After some discussion, these five singles became the organizing committee for an older singles group.

Its primary purpose is to help these singles grow to maturity in Christ Jesus. These singles are urged to use their gifts to serve God and others.

The group's organizers were not fully aware of the tremendous opportunities for Christian service ahead of them. Under the Lord's unfailing guidance, they moved forward. Their enthusiasm was and is contagious. The number of people who attended monthly gatherings increased from 12 to 26 and it continues to grow.

The activities of this singles group are publicized through a newsletter. The group's activities are varied. They include business meetings followed by food and games, an outing to Galveston to see "Okla-



The clown symbol—

- Raises the question of what's *happening* instead of what's being said.
- Understands the white face as the mask of being dead to sin and the colors as the new life in Jesus.
- Believes Jesus when He said: "I have come that you might have life, life in all its fullness."
- Recognizes that "The foolishness of God is *wiser* than men, and the *weakness* of God is *stronger* than men (1 Cor. 1:25).

homa" followed by an early morning breakfast in Salem's fellowship hall, a tour of Mercer Arboretum and a hamburger cookout, an old-fashioned ice cream social with lots of socializing, a western rodeo party and barbecue, a picnic at Washington-on-the-Brazos, a scenic driving tour of the "painted churches" around Schulenburg and so much more. These events take place on the third Saturday of each month. There are daytime and evening events.

The organizers of this group testify that working with this group is a rewarding experience. Seeds of friendship are sown, and members grow in faith as they minister to others and especially to single people who have special needs.



CLOWNING AROUND—These little clowns of Living Word Lutheran Church in The Woodlands bring love and joy to day-care centers and nursing homes.

Little ones in clown ministry find joyful way to share Jesus

by Sherry Clifton
Living Word Lutheran Church

All the world loves a clown, and Living Word Lutheran Church in The Woodlands has developed a clown ministry for children.

Guelda Cullen, ministry director, says that she feels every child has God-given talents to share and feels this is a joyful way to do that. As it says in Psalm 8:2a, "From the lips of children and infants you have ordained praise."

Since the clown is a universal symbol of happiness, what better way for children to share God's love with others than through entertainment offering faith, hope and love. Laughter is powerful medicine and, through it, the clown can transcend the physical and touch the spiritual—souls.

As Christians, these little clowns share the love of Jesus through songs, skits and balloon-animal sculpting. When souls are touched and pleasure is given, these children perform an important and worthwhile ministry. They have entertained at day care centers, nursing homes and senior centers, and they plan to visit hospitals.

Clown ministry is an idea that's time has come. No one seems more ready to do God's work than children.

Come to Canada July 21-25 for an exciting convention

The richness of God's blessings is evident in the blossoms of new growth that become more obvious every spring day!

Plans for the 1990 Int'l LLL convention in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, are blossoming, also. The July 21-25 convention will be an exciting and enlightening time: A kaleidoscope of activities will involve all members of the family, regardless of age or interest.

- Hotel reservations must be made by June 15. Make your hotel reservation through George Weinheimer, 11323 35th Ave., Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T6J 3M9.

For convention information and registration forms, refer to the latest issues of the LAYMAN.

Feel the excitement and enthusiasm as you arrive in Edmonton. The theme, *Walk in the Light*, will come alive as you walk in the light of the long, northern summer days, or see the Aurora Borealis (Northern Lights) dance in the night sky.

- Experience the warmth and splendor of the Light of Christ in the various fellowship activities, in the daily devotions and convention sessions.

Convention attendees will experience the convention theme, *Walk in the Light*, as the Creator's various lights are gloriously displayed. They also can participate in the action of the theme, "walking."

Young Adults in the LLL

When you ask what the

Lutheran Laymen's League is, there may be different answers. My guess is that most people would use the term "older men's group" in their answer. This is not true. The LLL has a great need and room for young adult supporters, both men and women. This support can be prayer, leadership roles or financial gifts.

The LLL's young adult theme is *Ultra Life*. This program aids in the spiritual growth of young adults. It contains a Bible study for groups and individuals. There also is a videotape with a guide that takes a realistic, as well as a humorous, look at the way young adults are perceived in church life.

The LLL is looking for contact people from all areas of the state. When new information comes from St. Louis, it is forwarded to the contact person to share with young adults in his or her area congregations. If you are interested in being a contact person, contact Barry Bielefeldt, 1551 NW 19th #404, Grand Prairie, TX 75050, (214) 641-8251.

District Happenings

PANHANDLE—Lutherans in the Texas Panhandle not only sponsored Lutheran Hour Sunday in morning worship on Feb. 25, but also sponsored their annual LLL Bowling Tournament in the afternoon.

About 60 bowlers participated. The bowlers contributed \$90 to the radio ministry of *Bringing Christ to the Nations*.

Edgar Snow served as chairman for the annual event which brought three Amarillo Lutheran congregations—Trinity, Christ and Prince of Peace—together with Zion, Pampa. Fun, food, fellowship and individual trophies highlighted the day. Christ, Amarillo, was awarded the Traveling Trophy with highest participation, according to Melvin Sachs, zone LLL officer from Farwell, Texas.

RIO GRANDE VALLEY—The 1990 Rio Grande Valley Livestock Show and Fair took place March 14-18 at Mercedes.

Lutheran Laymen Leaguers of Zone 15 sponsored their annual Outreach Ministry at a booth in the Merchants Building display area. About 160,000 people attended the events of the show and fair. Those who viewed the booth were estimated to be about 50,000 or 60,000.

- Thousands of pins, balloons and stick-ons were given to children and adults. Several thousand people picked up materials such as brochures, Testaments and Bibles in either Spanish or English. More than 1,500 pounds of materials were distributed to those who paused to view the display.

A total of 571 registered to win a 3D picture of Jesus and two Bibles. There were 107 people who wanted to learn more about the Lutheran faith. Their names and addresses were

given to LCMS area churches for follow-up.

- Art Post of Linn was the project coordinator. More than 40 volunteers manned the booth during the five-day event. These LLLers were from five congregations of the Rio Grande Zone.

Attendants were praised by hundreds of people for the Christian materials that were distributed and for their witness for Christ.

NEW BRAUNFELS—The Alamo Zone LLL and LWML Zone Rally was held April 1 at Cross Lutheran Church. Rev. John Treude, formerly a missionary in Venezuela, was the speaker for the joint opening. He told the group how materials provided by both the LLL and the LWML were helpful to his ministry.

The following are the newly elected officers: Don Black, president; Alvin Blocker, vice president; Charles Butler, secretary; and J.R. McDowell, treasurer.

SERBIN—A well-attended Capitol Zone Spring Rally was held March 31 at St. Paul, Serbin. Rev. Eugene Gruell inspired listeners to the meaning of the theme *Build on the Rock*.

Newly-elected officers are: Telford Zoch, president, and Bill Pittsford, treasurer.

LLL news should be sent to:

Irene Teinert
Information Coord.
1501 Barbara St.
Austin, TX 78757



Leftovers

Every cook at times has to deal with leftovers. Leftovers are those bits and pieces remaining after a meal that are too good to discard.

The question is how to use them to make a tasty and nutritious meal. Making something good out of leftovers is really the supreme test of a cook. It is far easier to take new, fresh ingredients and come up with a delicious meal. But to start with leftovers and make something good—that takes a real cook.

In life we often deal with leftovers too. Few of us are able to live out our life exactly as we would have chosen. Often we must settle for our second or even our third choice: our location, our career, our income.

It would seem to be far easier to live a worthwhile life if we were given all our first choices. But what do we do with the second choices and leftovers we are so often given?

The apostle Paul with his thorn in the flesh knew



Rev. Kim DeVries

something about leftovers. His first choice was to be healed. That prayer was not answered. Instead God told Paul, "My power is made perfect in weakness . . ." (2 Cor. 12:9). Paul did not give up but went on despite his weakness to become a great missionary for Christ. He took a leftover, made the best of it and brought Christianity to Europe.

As you and I deal with our leftovers, we can become bitter or envious and just give up. Or like Paul we can take what we have, ask God for His guidance and, with His help, make something good out of our life.

In this way leftovers can become the ingredients of a meaningful life of service to Him and others. After all, God's promise is for each of us, that His power will be made perfect in our weakness too.

Rev. Kim DeVries
District Counselor

LWML news

LWML news should be sent to Shirley Baumgartner, LWML District Editor, 5018 Risada, San Antonio, TX 78233.

Mite Report

April 1990

1989-90 Goal \$200,000

April total \$8,523

OVER GOAL! \$7,454

Sent to Int'l LWML \$2,416

Send ALL contributions to Eudoris Weiser, Route 1, Box 46, Copperas Cove, 76522. MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO TEXAS DISTRICT LWML.

Mission project news

• St. John Lutheran Church in Corpus Christi, recipient of \$18,000 in 1988-90, received 87 Hispanic members by transfer, baptism and confirmation, and it expects more to join this year. This ministry by the Lord's grace has grown. The congregation sends thanks to Texas District LWML for the monies received.

• Communication from Dan Heuer, one of our seminarians, reports he passed all required classes so far. He says, "I haven't read so much in my life!"

Heuer sends thanks for LWML's part in the Lord's plan for him.



Every Sunday, Tila, left, and Fermin Hernandez bring seven grandchildren to church and Sunday school at St. John.



Ethel Mickan shows tote bag full of goodies.



Convention schedule

All events will take place in the Marriott-Capitol Hotel.

Tuesday, June 19

7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

Discipling Woman Seminar

Wednesday, June 20

8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Discipling Woman Seminar continues

7:30 p.m. Opening Worship Service with Holy Communion

Thursday, June 21

8:30 a.m. Business session:

Bible study, speaker Joyce Landorf Heatherly, presentation and election of mission projects, bylaws, election of officers, mission service ingathering dedication.

8 p.m. Banquet

Friday, June 22

7:30 a.m. Morning Devotion

8:30 a.m. Business session: Bible study, speaker, installation of officers

12:30 p.m. Post-convention tour: Leave from Marriott for lunch at St. Paul Lutheran Church.



Convention site—Marriott Capitol Hotel, Austin.

'Quarterly' news request

The theme for the winter issue of the *Lutheran Woman's Quarterly* is "What Did You Say?" with emphasis on communication.

Words and actions can be used to build up or tear down. Communication is so important that our heavenly Father gives us an abundance of ways to express ourselves to one another. We speak, sing, shout, move and even stand still!

His communications with us are the life and death of His Son and His inspired Word. We are able to speak to Him through prayer.

Share some of the ways your society uses communication skills for caring, encouragement and growth.

How does your society encourage your pastor, principal, teachers, secretary, choir director? Do you know someone who relates unusually well to teens? What unique and successful communication methods have you used to get the word out about your society and its programs?

Share experiences that call for special communication skills needed for community services like a crisis center, convalescent home, or hospital visits. How does your congregation help stimulate growth through prayer?

Share a "creative listening" experience that helped improve understanding or taught a spiritual lesson.

Share communication experiences that have helped

your relationship and witness with those of different cultures or backgrounds. How do you make the most of computers and television to teach or to communicate God's Word to all generations?

Send news and photos to news editor Dolores Bruncke, 3944 Merriman, Plano, TX 75074, by July 20.



Four elected officers of our district LWML will complete terms of office at the Austin convention.

Our sincere appreciation to Sherry Torbert, Shirley Lorenz, Rosemarie Herring and Rev. Kim DeVries for their service of love and dedication.

We also praise God for the willing service of those who held appointed positions in our league.

These people truly exemplify the LWML motto: *Serve the Lord with gladness!*



Around the district

This spring, zones all over the district planned rallies to revitalize society members and encourage them to work together for mission and growth.

● **NORTH ALAMO ZONE** LWML and Alamo Zone LLL came together for a joint rally at Cross Lutheran in New Braunfels. The theme was "United in Mission." Rev. John Treude presented slides and spoke of his experiences as a missionary in Venezuela.

● **WHITE OAK ZONE** met at St. Andrew Lutheran Church in Houston. A presentation was made by Cynthia Chapa and members of the Houston Chapter of Lutherans For Life. The theme was taken from John 10:10—"... I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full."

● **TEXAS STAR ZONE** rally was held at Hope Lutheran Church in Dallas. Doris McKay, president of the Texas District LWML, spoke on the theme "Seek His Face Always."

● Other news from **SOUTH ALAMO ZONE**: In September, volunteers worked many hours and prayers were said for the rebuilding of the Lutheran Church in Devine. The first service of Devine Savior Lutheran

Mission was conducted Dec. 3 with Rev. Bruce Drees officiating. A group of 17 women are getting ready to apply for official LWML membership; several other women are interested. Praise God for His blessings on this group.

● We welcome: LWML Society of Lord of Life, Corpus Christi; LWML Society of Grace, Del Rio; and LWML Society of St. Mark, Port Arthur. We look forward to working with you in His service.

Texas servants

Several Texans attended the International LWML Board of Directors meeting in January at the Synod's International Center. Margaret Goodson, Houston, former mission service chairman in our district was there to introduce the premiere showing of "I Feel So Alone," the video planned and implemented under her direction.

Also present were Doris McKay, Rockport, Texas District LWML president; Catherine Burkhard, Dallas, chairman Int'l LWML bylaws committee; Pearl Biar, Fort Worth, Int'l LWML vice president for mission service; and Puddin' Krueger, Int'l LWML treasurer.



From left, Margaret Goodson, Doris McKay, Catherine Burkhard, Pearl Biar and Puddin' Krueger.



REJOICE!

Young men and women respond to Lord's call; receive them with joy and anticipation

by Rev. Louis Pabor
President, Texas District, LCMS

When our Synod was organized 143 years ago, two of its basic purposes were education and missions . . . to train professional church workers and, through our mutual prayers and support, to send them out wherever the Lord might open doors. For this reason a seminary was founded . . . Concordia in St. Louis, which today is one of the larger purely theological seminaries in the world. In due time another seminary was founded at Springfield, Ill. . . and it was later moved to Fort Wayne, Ind.

As the decades went by, our Synod also established a whole system of colleges and preparatory schools scattered across our nation . . . also for the training of pastors and educators.

As Texas District President, I recently learned that one of the really thrilling occasions of the year is the privilege of attending the "call night services" for the placement of candidates and vicars from both seminaries.

These placements mark the culmination of many years of study as the men are sent to their first assignments as newly ordained pastors or as interns for the continuation of their study through a year of practical experience. Many are single; others are accompanied by their wives and children.

Six Texas District congregations applied for seminary candidates and one applied for a delayed vicar, a man who has been qualified

through the colloquy program. One congregation did not receive a candidate. Ten Texas District congregations applied for teachers and educators who were assigned as graduates of other of our synodical institutions.

All these students and their individual congregations will correspond with each other as they prepare for their arrival. They will be welcomed and work together for the sake of the Good News of Jesus Christ. They will learn to love and to appreciate each other as they get acquainted and get about the work of the Church. We thank God for these new gifts to His Church.

This year the Council of Presidents (district presidents) had approximately 165 pastoral candidates to place and 202 vicar-interns to assign. There were also 351 teachers and educators. Over the next three years the number of pastoral candi-



Rev. Louis Pabor

dates will remain static. It is estimated that we need more than 200 new pastors each year just to maintain the ministries we presently have. Pray to the Lord of the harvest to send reapers into His harvest!

Give thanks and praise to God for the many young men and women of our congregations who have responded to the call to their Lord and have dedicated themselves in preparation for full-time service to Christ and His Church. Receive them with great joy and anticipation as they take their places in our midst.

Let's rededicate ourselves to the task of recruiting more of our sons and daughters to enter our colleges and seminaries and provide money to help them pay for their education. Let's keep them in our prayers and in our personal words of encouragement through their years away from home in preparation for their future work!

The Texas District is receiving 31 new workers this year. We feel you will be interested in reading who they are and where they are going. In this listing we also wish to add the names of Texans who are going out-

side the state. This listing may not be complete . . . please let us know if you see errors or omissions.

Usually when a called worker leaves, the congregation holds a celebration. Why not hold a celebration when a new worker arrives . . . even when it's a fresh graduate from one of our colleges or seminaries? I hope we have many happy celebrations throughout the district this summer! Thank God for your churchworkers . . . and thank them, too!

Candidates

Guy Bergenthal (Fort Wayne), Emmanuel, Odessa/Holy Cross, Midland; John Burger (St. Louis), Immanuel, Giddings, assistant; Wade E. Butler (Fort Wayne), St. John, Galveston (deferred colloquy vicar); Kent Heimbigner (St. Louis), Grace, Marlin; Ronald Paseur (St. Louis), Grace, Paris; Edmund Weber (Fort Wayne), Central Valley Hispanic, Mercedes (district).

Vicars

Jonathon Blanke (St. Louis), Messiah, Richardson; Christopher Bodley (Fort Wayne), in-service training, Mount Calvary, Houston (district); Kyle Heck (St. Louis), in-service training program, Del Rio (district); James Herrod (Fort Wayne), Hope, Friendswood; Mark Hohbach (St. Louis), Christ, Austin; Richard Meyer (St. Louis), Our Savior, Houston; Irwin Perez-Arche (St. Louis), in-service training, Nuestro Salvador, Corpus

(Continued on next page.)



TEXAS-BOUND—These candidates for the Holy Ministry and vicars from the St. Louis seminary are headed for Texas after assignment day at the seminary. With them are their wives or wives-to-be. The men, from left rear, are Craig Prestegord, Mark Hohback, Kent Helmbigner, Ron Paseur, Erwin Perez-Arche, Jon Blanke, Kyle Heck, John Burger and Rick Meyer. Front row, from left, Mary Prestegord; Sarah Eller; Denise Helmbigner; Rev. Louis Pabor, president of the Texas District, who as a member of the Council of Presidents participated in the assignment process; Tracy Warden; Maria Perez-Arche; Angella Heck; Angie Burger; and DeAnne Meyer.

WORKERS

(Continued from previous page.)

Christi (district); Craig Prestegord (St. Louis), Our Redeemer, Irving; Jeffrey Williams (Fort Wayne), St. Paul, Waco (Bellmead); Jeff Wuertz (St. Louis), Concordia, San Antonio; Frank Zimmerman (Fort Wayne), St. Mark, Conroe.

Educators

Pamela Ahles (RF)*, St. Mark, Houston; Heather Arp (AU), Bethany, Houston; Karen V. Ditzler (RF), Shepherd of the Hills, San Antonio; Chris J. Hahn (SP), Prince of Peace, Carrollton; Joel Krueger (SP), St. Paul, Fort Worth; Jay M. Liebert (RF), Shepherd of the Hills, San Antonio;

Jonathan Mueller (SE), Our Savior, Houston; Bobby Schroeder (AU), Grace, Brenham; Julie Schroeder (AU), Grace, Brenham;

Melissa Schubert (AU), St. Paul, Bishop; Jamie Smith (RF), Shepherd of the Hills, San Antonio; Deloris Ann Smitherman (AU), Zion, Fort Worth.

DCE

Kimberly Charavay (SE), Resurrection, Spring.

Texans—Other Places Candidates

Mark B. Beesley (San Antonio), MAL, Department of Missions, Platte City, Mo.; Joel A. Boyer (Austin), Calvary, Carson City, Mich.; Donald W. Craig Jr., (Houston), St. John, Mexico, Mo.; John E. Hill (Plano), Bethlehem, Forbes, N.D.; Michael P. Moreno (Houston), Trinity, Cheyenne, Wyo. (associate); Donnie L. Pool (Fort Worth), Mount Calvary, Watonga, Okla.

Vicars

Steven Barckholtz (Houston), Holy Trinity, Streator, Ill.; Fred Beck (Houston), Living Christ, Otterbein,

Ind.; Bradley Beckman (San Antonio), Reformation, Affton, Mo.; Henry Biar II (San Antonio), new mission, Detroit, Mich.; Ronald Bogs (San Antonio), Zion, Laramie, Wyo.; John Elser (Dallas), Messiah, Clio, Mich.; Russell Etzel (Houston), Our Savior, Lake Worth, Fla.;

Peter Heckmann (Houston), St. Mark, Milford, Ohio; Mark Joeckel (Arlington), Atonement, Metairie, La.; W. Scott Morrison (Dallas), First, Gainesville, Fla.; Russell Nebhut (Garland), Our Redeemer, Iowa City, Iowa; Scottie Quin (San Antonio), St. John, Sayville, N.Y.; Nathan Ristvedt (Kingsbury), Calvary, Portland, Ore.; Daniel Smith (Dallas), St. Paul, Beatrice, Neb.; Robert Sweet (Seabrook), Trinity, Mountain Lake, Minn.

*Abbreviations are for the following colleges: "RF," River Forest; "AU," Austin; "SP," St. Paul; and "SE," Seward.

Giddings school celebrates 100th birthday

Immanuel Lutheran School of Giddings celebrated its 100th anniversary—May 6 with a worship service and confirmation reunion.

Dr. Ray Martens, president of Concordia Lutheran College of Austin, was guest speaker. Former teachers and present staff were recognized. There was also an historic presentation.

Actually, the school was started in 1882, but celebrating 100 consecutive years in May. (In some of the early years, a teacher couldn't be found.)

The school was founded when parents who spoke German in their homes wanted their children to learn to read and write German. Catechism and Bible study were added.

As the school ended its 100th year this spring, there were 168 children enrolled in kindergarten through eighth grade. An additional 58 youngsters are in preschool and day care. Larry Becker is principal.

Notable events included in the history presentation was the fact that during the depression years of the '30s, the school year opening was delayed several weeks so the children could help get the cotton harvested.

Also, during World War I, the German language was dropped from the curriculum. After the war, it was reinstated—but not as a required subject.



JESUS FRIENDS—These youngsters are "Jesus Friends," an evangelical program of Redeemer Lutheran of Cisco designed for preschool age children of the community. The group meets once a week for Bible stories, music, crafts and treats. There now are 26 "Jesus Friends." Pastor is Rev. Loren DuBois. There is one director of the program and four to six helpers.

Lutheran top nursing graduate

Terri Gersch of Tyler was named Baylor University's outstanding student in the School of Nursing for the past academic year.

She is the daughter of Pastor Fred and Gail Gersch of Trinity Lutheran Church of Tyler.

After her graduation May 19, Gersch took a nursing position with Dallas Children's Hospital.



DEVINE—On April 8, Divine Savior Lutheran of Devine, a new mission, took in five adult confirmands and 32 adults by transfer or reaffirmation of faith. They are shown here with their families and Pastor Bruce Drees. Divine Savior was started Dec. 3, 1989. More than 8,000 calls were made in a telephone program that included Devine, Natalia, LaCoste, Somerset, Big Foot, Moore, Castroville and Hondo, all within a 40-mile radius of Devine. First-service attendance was 102, and average attendance is now more than 50.

Mrs. Texas, a woman of faith

Recently, a member of Grace Lutheran Church of Arlington was selected Mrs. Texas 1990. The "Texas Messenger" asked her to relate her experiences in this event.

by Trish Thompson-Topel

I was recently crowned Mrs. Texas 1990 in Houston. I will go to Moscow in November to compete in the Mrs. America pageant, which is being held in conjunction with the Mrs. Russia pageant.

My family helped settle Texas in the 1820s, so representing Texas is quite an honor.

But the win is only half the story. I'm on the stewardship committee at Grace Lutheran Church of Arlington, and I pledged a certain



Trish Thompson-Topel
Mrs. Texas 1990

amount to a special upcoming project.

My husband, Mark, asked, "Why this amount?"

I said, "I don't know, it just came to me."

A week later I received a phone call asking me to compete in the Mrs. Texas Pageant. I agreed. The prize money was the EXACT amount I pledged.

We went to Houston for the pageant. The hotel assigned room #316 (as in JOHN) to me!

The competition was tough—57 women. I enjoyed it, though. I first made the top 15; then top five; then I won!

Afterward the other contestants told me that when I would walk down that runway I would command all of the attention, I had a "presence" and I was radiant!

But now I know I was walking with Jesus. He gave me the pledge money, the title and we're going to Russia together.

THE LORD ADDED . . .



BAYTOWN—These new members, left, were received Palm Sunday at Redeemer Lutheran in Baytown. Four are junior confirmands, the others came by adult confirmation, reaffirmation of faith and transfer. Pastor is Jon Slemglusz.

TRINITY—Trinity Lutheran of Houston welcomed more than 100 new members in 1989. Many of those are pictured here (right) at Trinity's new-member dinner last Feb. 11. Pastors are Donald Black and Richard Wagner.



FORT WORTH—Zion Lutheran of Fort Worth has welcomed these seven members (photo at right) who were confirmed into membership. From left front are Pat Jury, Peggy Brown, Shelly Stoker, Pat Nimmo and Mary Scott. Back row, Albert Glebler, Pastor Jerry Bagwell and Rinaldo Schlesszus.



MINERAL WELLS—On Palm Sunday, St. Mark Lutheran, Mineral Wells, received into membership (photo at right) Jim McAlpin, Dora Bristow and Terry and Angella Lundy by adult confirmation. Also received as baptized members were Jim's daughters, Melissa and Pam, and Terry and Angella's daughter, Candace. Pastor is Phil Schamehorn.





COPPELL—Christ Our Savior Lutheran of Coppel added six families (photo at left) to its growing congregation March 18. From the left are Mr. and Mrs. Reid Jones, Pastor Richard Mohr, Mr. and Mrs. Glen Cornmann with Scotty and Adrlane; Mr. and Mrs. Marty Schnelder with Chris Wood; Mr. and Mrs. Bob Sanders; Mr. and Mrs. Don Wood with Joseph and Patrick.



REDEEMER—This is the adult information class along with their families brought into membership March 18 at Redeemer Lutheran, Austin. Pastors are Paul Bohot and David Schroder.



BORGER—On Palm Sunday, 12 people were added to God's family at Trinity Lutheran in Borger through adult confirmation and transfer. Fred Kelm is pastor.



OUR SAVIOR—These 15 new members (photo at right) joined Our Savior of Austin by adult confirmation, baptism and transfer April 22. Pastor is Gordon Albers.



District directors into next-century business

The Texas District Board of Directors stepped into the future May 22 during its bi-monthly meeting in Austin.

The directors approved the concept of a funding plan submitted by the Lutheran Foundation of Texas that will be a part of the 100th anniversary celebration of the Texas District in the year 2006.

Directors also approved the recommendation of the district's convention planner, Rev. Fred Gersch of Tyler, that Galveston be the site of the May 1994, district convention. The June 1991 triennial convention will be in Dallas.

In other action, directors:

- Approved a list of names submitted by Doris McKay from which members for the President's Committee on Women will be recruited. This committee was approved by the directors in March and is designed to explore additional ways, which do not compromise Lutheran commitment to God's Word, for transforming patterns of church life to further include women in its vital work and mission.

- Were told by the district's chief fiscal officer, Milburn Schubert, that world mission receipts in the district are up 8.9 percent over the first four months of last year.

- Received the report of the Board for Parish Services from Executive Director Ray Schkade, that included these facts:

A stewardship manual

containing children's sermons and procedures for stewardship emphasis in Christian day schools is ready for printing.

Plans for the 1990, 1991 and 1992 Every Congregation Visit include a mailing with a stewardship brochure to be coordinated with the Synod's brochure in the fall of 1990; an every-congregation visit by district staff in 1991, and a program of area banquets in 1992.

A district survey shows that 17.5 percent of 260 reporting congregations established LifeLight programs in 1989, and 44 percent are expected to have LifeLight in operation by the end of 1990.

Established Sept. 27-29, 1991, as the dates for an Older Adult Convocation, sponsored by the district's Older Adult Ministry Committee.

Set a goal of \$25,000 in the Hearts for Jesus project of 1990-1992, emphasizing "Helping the Children of Today" become Lutheran pastors and teachers of tomorrow.

Announced the Texas Educator Conference will be held in Austin Oct. 14-16, 1991.

- Directors made or approved the following appointments: Rev. Martin Doering to the Worship Committee of the Board for Parish Services; Carolyn Richter and Glen Teinert to the University Lutheran Student Center board. William H. Harlow to be director

of development for the Houston area of Lutheran Social Service; Herb Noack, Katherine Bolland and DeWyth Beltz to the board of directors of Lutheran Foundation of Texas.

- Approved a \$1,500 gift to the Synod of Mexico to help pastors there purchase new vestments. This is a gift from the Texas District to emphasize the partnership with the Synod of Mexico on the occasion of that synod's 50th anniversary.

Glorybound '90 is almost here

The 1990 Texas District Youth Gathering, "Glorybound '90, Handle with Care," is just around the corner. Youth from across the state will gather Nov. 23-25 at the Doubletree and Red Lion hotels in Austin.

Each church has received registration materials and information. Contact your pastor if you haven't seen any information or call the Texas District office at (512) 926-4272.

"The first set of pre-gathering materials will be sent to each congregation as their registration arrives. Space is limited and youth groups should plan to register early," said Pastor Martin Doering of Austin. Registrations postmarked before Oct. 23 will be \$75 per person. The fee is \$90 after that date.

Stewardship events planned for Saturday include trips to a water treatment

Send your news to Bill

Send your news releases, photos, newsletters and bulletins for the LUTHERAN WITNESS to:

Bill Wagner, editor

7900 E. Highway 290

Austin, TX 78724-2499

About photos: color photos are OK if the contrast is good. Black and white photos are best.



plant and recycling centers, delivering food to food banks, and visiting the elderly. Groups returning to the hotels from these events will be able to visit issue-oriented booths, participate in athletic events, and find out about hot topics for today's youth.

Correction

A story in the April issue of the "Texas Messenger" incorrectly identified a survivor of Rev. Richard Loomis, who died Feb. 13. Loomis served as senior pastor of Memorial Lutheran Church of Katy.

Among his survivors is his wife of 20 years, Nancy Loomis of Houston.



Remember the commitment to 'launch out into the deep'? Opportunity there, need great

- An Hispanic congregation in Houston could really use the services of a retired Spanish-speaking pastor to expand its outreach program—but the district mission budget has no provisions for that need.

- A newly organizing mission has special needs for worship materials—even chairs—but nothing has been allocated for those needs.

- An inner-city congregation plans a special children's celebration, complete with puppets, balloons, treats for the children, etc.—but the pastor pays for the extras himself because the budget won't cover this kind of thing.

- A group of interested people approached the mission office, eager to work and begin ministry in a vital new area—but we have to tell them there are no funds available to help them.

- A mission congregation needs Church Extension Funds earmarked for its building program—but members of the congregation are not able to invest the needed amount.

HOW CAN WE HELP MEET THESE NEEDS?

Of course, the Number 1 way is through regularly submitted, generous mis-

sion contributions from our district congregations. That is, and always will be, the backbone, heart and soul of our Texas District mission program. The major portion of the district budget supports our mission congregations.

But suppose your Bible class has a special mission offering that you'd like to designate for a special purpose . . . or you would like to give a special mission offering to celebrate God's special blessings in your life on a birthday or an anniversary . . . or whatever the occasion. That is when special needs can be met with special gifts!

- The special need to use the services of a retired pastor in Houston is being met by a special gift from an individual in our district and the Bible class offerings of another congregation in Houston (this project could use more help so that it can continue the rest of the year).

The Texas District Mission Office maintains a restricted account to match these kinds of gifts with the ministries in need—and we will tell you how your gift is used if so requested.

A couple of years ago the "Texans In Mission" catalog was sent to every congregation. That catalog gave three special needs for



each mission congregation in the district. Many of these projects are still available, waiting to be "adopted" by a Sunday School, an LWML or LLL society, or other congregational group, or even by an individual.

Call the mission office to see if the project you wish to adopt is still available. Or call the mission office if your congregation can't find the catalog—a limited number are still available.

- Another way to match needs and help is to directly approach one of our district mission congregations. Find out which mission congregation is in your area—call the pastor, visit the services, find out what the group needs—then offer to help. The rewards will be great—for them and for you.

A couple of years ago a "New Mission Endowment Fund" was set up by the Lutheran Foundation of Texas in cooperation with the Board of Mission Administration. Interest from this fund will be used annually to begin new ministries in

Texas.

In 1989-1990 (the first year interest was available), the fund helped set up the new Vietnamese ministry beginning at St. Philip in Houston. The opportunities for new mission planting are endless; additional gifts to the new Mission Endowment Fund would enable more new ministries to begin. Contact the Lutheran Foundation at the Texas District office for more information about this fund.

- Still another way you can help a mission congregation is to earmark your Church Extension investments for a mission congregation.

The mission office can give you a list of those mission congregations that need earmarked funds.

In 1988 our Texas District, in convention, renewed its commitment to "launch out into the deep." God has blessed Texas with opportunities to minister to so many kinds of people, with such a vast variety of places and ways to minister to these people—and He promises to bless our effort!

Sabbatical proves journey of many discoveries

by Rev. Walter E. Waiser
Peace Lutheran, Hurst

Sometimes you learn by pursuing activities you are eager to experience. Other times, you learn more by doing things you have resistance to, by facing situations you fear or hesitate to experience. A thoughtful, intentional approach to the latter kind of activity can lead to much growth in mind and heart.

Such was the case with a sabbatical leave I took in January this year. A week at a primitive campsite in the desert of Big Bend National Park, and two weeks at the Presbyterian Night Shelter in Fort Worth certainly fit all the above categories for me.

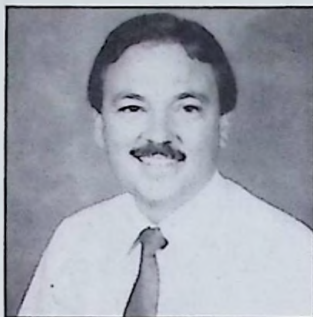
Although I had avoided these experiences for quite some time, a growing curiosity led me toward them. They made this sabbatical a most meaningful and fruitful learning period.

WEEK ONE:

IN THE DESERT

Why the desert alone? I knew the need for solitude. John Doberstein says it very well in his *Minister's Prayer Book*:

"Only when we are completely alone with God do all the masks fall away, do we become utterly honest, stripped of all real and ultimate sins and ambitions. Prayer reveals whether the inmost direction of my life is really toward God and



Rev. Walter E. Waiser

His Kingdom."

The Scriptural examples of people meeting God in the desert are numerous: Moses encountered the burning bush in the desert; the children of Israel formed their covenant relationship with God at Sinai; Elijah, who thought no one else believed, retreated to the desert; Jesus spent 40 days there immediately after His baptism and frequently returned during His ministry to pray.

Still, I wondered whether there was something inherently different about the desert. Big Bend looks much like Israel, so it was the place of choice.

The Plan: The design was to go back to basics and live as simply as possible. The menu was crackers, cheese, fruit, water. I would spend time reading the Bible, praying, meditating, singing hymns and recording my thoughts, feelings and experiences in a journal. I would read two books—*Shaped By The Word* by Robert Mulholland and *Journey Inward, Journey Outward* by Elizabeth

O'Connor. I also would take a long walk about midday with my camera, which would help me see creation with a more awe-filled eye.

Surprises: There is an initial beauty in the mountains, the vast distances, deep blue sky. But as you spend time in the desert, the unpleasant surprises become apparent. There were three primary surprises.

First, because of a drought, no fires were allowed. Without a fire, which provides warmth and a feeling of protection, the nights were very long and difficult to productively fill. Second, after a day and a half I realized I had not heard a sound in the desert that I didn't make. I yelled out loud but the sound quickly vanished into the immense sky.

Third, for four days straight there was no other

sign of life (people or animal) except for one bird that flew by.

Discoveries in the desert: You have two choices in the desert—either you will run away to avoid it or you will face it by trust in God. Here you must draw strength from God to face your anxieties, illusions and fears. And I have never felt so alone, vulnerable and fearful. The first night was so difficult that the only way I could find God was by singing hymns. I used the section of evening hymns in *Lutheran Worship* and finally was calm enough to fall asleep.

Each day and night was a bit easier. In the desert, all the distractions are gone, your dependence on God is obvious, and if you are still you can sense Him very near. I left Big Bend spiritually refreshed but glad to be headed home.

Next month: Presbyterian Night Shelter.



AIR MESSAGE—On Easter Sunday, members of Trinity Lutheran of Borger released 150 helium-filled balloons. Each balloon had a card attached with the church's address on one side and Luke 24: 5b-6a on the other.



ELDERS THREE—When the monthly elder roll is called at Pilgrim Lutheran in Houston, there are three “presents” when the name Kehr is called. In a unique situation, Pilgrim has a set of elders from three generations of the same family—Wilbert (left), Paul (center) and Kelly Kehr (right). Another of the clan, Nicholas Schneider (front), a third grade student at Pilgrim Lutheran School, may be on the way up to the elder board. Nicholas is Wilbert's great-grandson and Paul's grandson.



Prayers ride with police

A prayer provided by Trinity Lutheran Church of Shamrock accompanies Shamrock police officers as they pursue their duties.

Shamrock Police Chief Art Taylor and Mayor Doug Rives accepted the special prayers that will be affixed to the dashboards of city police cars. They were presented by Trinity's pastor, Andrew Simcak Jr.

The prayer reads: “Grant me your protection, Lord, and keep me mindful of my responsibility for the safety of others as well as my own. In Jesus’ name. Amen.”

What good can volunteers do? accomplish as much as anyone

by Rev. Martin Doering
Project Director
Lutheran Service
Ministries

What good can volunteers do?

A brief survey of pastors or church workers provides many answers to that question.

Some of the answers reveal frustration or disappointment. “It takes so long to train a volunteer that it’s easier to do the job myself.”

“The problem with volunteers has to do with reliability: I’m not sure that a volunteer for today will be here tomorrow.”

“They said they were volunteering, but all they did was complain about the work.”

But, thank God, there are other answers: “Our church would stop running without volunteers.”

“The ministry here has been expanded about 100 percent by the use of volunteers.”

“Our volunteers do so much and create free time for our teachers.”

What do the answers reveal? First, we realize that we are sinners and experience little difficulty complaining about or blaming others. On the other hand, we see that God is good and true to the promise to provide the skills needed to accomplish the work of the Kingdom.

This information was found in the research that went into establishing Lu-

theran Service Ministries in the Texas District. You probably can make good use of it.

UNIVERSAL TRUTHS ABOUT VOLUNTEERS

1. Except for retired people, they do not want to meet the requirement of paid employment—probably time and/or responsibility.

2. They aren't “free”—you must take time to orient, train, supervise and appreciate them.

3. They need interesting jobs. Paid staff receive money as compensation. Volunteers deserve satisfaction or a sense of accomplishment as compensation.

4. They can have the same or more skills as paid staff. Staff should be trained to cope with this.

5. Volunteer rights deserve just as much recognition as employee rights.

• What good can volunteers do? They can accomplish as much as anyone in the same situation. What good does service do for the volunteers? They receive a sense of accomplishment, the joy of working out their faith and the knowledge that they are useful and helpful.

To further explore the use of volunteers in your congregation, or to find out about opportunities for you or your group to serve as volunteers, you can contact Lutheran Service Ministries at the district office, (512) 926-4272.

Tracing two lives: marriage, independence, freedom, roots

by Pastor Jerry Kieschnick, Executive Director

Lutheran Foundation of Texas

Almost 25 years ago the young groom and the even younger bride, with the simple, yet significant words "I do," entered the holy estate of matrimony, more commonly called marriage.

In so doing, they gained independence from their parental homes and freedom as a new family unit to live, to move, to have their being in ways of their own choosing.

But over the past quarter century, perhaps not surprisingly, this couple has, time and again, made decisions and plotted the course of their lives in a pattern strikingly parallel to that of their parents, silent testimony to the power of roots throughout the course of their lives.

Today they are much more appreciative of the way their parents relinquished their parental control and attachment, allowing these two to literally "strike out on their own" in a challenging, exciting, difficult and even dangerous world.

About the time this article is read, July 7, to be precise, the daughter of the bride and groom will have become a bride herself. "Angie, Mom and I want you to know how proud we are of you and of Todd, the man you have chosen. In some ways the two of you are much better prepared to face the world than we were.



Pastor Jerry Kieschnick

"In other ways we know that life will be no more a bed of roses for you than it has been for us.

"It's a tougher world today than it was back then. At least that's what most people say. But evil has always been around. The devil never sleeps. The sanctity of the family is dwindling. Traditional Christian values are constantly being questioned. It's harder to raise children than it used to be. Marital fidelity seems to be the exception rather than the rule.

"As you venture into this world, Mom and I pray, fervently, that yours will be a life of independence and that your freedom will flow from your roots. We love you both so very much!

"We've discovered from our knowledge of God's



Yes, I want to know more. Clip and mail to

Lutheran Foundation of Texas

7900 US 290 E Austin, Texas 78724 512-926-4272

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____

() Telephone Number 7 _____

love that He always wants what's best for His children. He tells us what to do and what not to do, what will work and what won't, what will help and what will harm.

"But, having said all that, He turns us loose. He lets us make the decisions and the choices. He allows us to pay the price for wrong decisions and bad choices and to reap the rewards for right decisions and good choices. But, either way, He's still right there beside us, with His forgiveness, with His support, with His love.

"As human parents, our love and wisdom fall far short of God's love and wisdom. But we want you both to know that we're in your corner, that we love you, that we trust you, that we know you have wings and we pray you will always remember your roots."

In my work with the Lutheran Foundation of Texas, I'm constantly in touch with people—many

of whom have children and grandchildren. How I wish it were possible for the children and grandchildren to know the depth of their parents and grandparents love for them. And how I wish the parents and grandparents knew, in spite of occasional evidence to the contrary, how much they are loved by their children and grandchildren.

We at the Foundation believe in the sanctity of marriage. We believe in the importance of the family unit as a basic and fundamentally important element of the society in which we live.

We know the world is rapidly changing. We are committed to supporting families—including single parent families. And we take very seriously our role of helping the church, its pastors, its teachers, its people, its agencies, its congregations and its institutions communicate the changeless Christ for the changing world in which we live.



RV-tent family camping

What can happen when you put 37 adults, 13 kids, six dogs, 108 wheels and a dozen tent pegs on 16 campsites?

Just about the same thing that can happen at any state park or campground where camaraderie is built every weekend during the prime camping season.

But add Christian fellowship, devotional campfires, worship and witness opportunities and you have something special: **LOMT's Family RV-Tent Camping.**

Using state parks and other campground areas throughout Texas that provide fine facilities and unspoiled settings, the RV-tent campers join in fellowship for an unstructured weekend that encourages quiet interaction among family members and friends.

Group activities include community building, potluck suppers, devotions, Bible study and worship. Costs are limited to campground and entry fees.

If the camping bug has bitten you, LOMT has the

best medicine! Come join the next RV-tent camping event Sept. 14-16 at Fairfield, Texas. Contact the LOMT office in Austin for more details.

Special fall events scheduled

Lutheran Outdoors Ministry of Texas serves the Texas District in a variety of ways by providing opportunities for renewal and outreach. Through directed camping programs, workshops and retreats, LOMT offers outdoors experiences combined with spiritual renewal.

LOMT joins forces with other district boards or church-related agencies to provide ministry opportunities through Camp Lone Star and Texoma Lutheran Camp.

Looking ahead to fall 1990 finds these offerings in which you can participate:

SEPTEMBER

- Pre-Confirmation Retreats
- Texas District Singles
- New Teachers Retreat
- Pastor's Wives Retreat
- Archway Family Camp

OCTOBER

- Outdoor Education Workshop
- JOY Camp
- AAL Retiree Workshop
- Pre-Confirmation Retreat

NOVEMBER

- LifeLight Bible Study Training
- Orienteering meet



FISHIN' HOLE—It wasn't planned that way, but the deck of the new Bethlehem Center at Texoma Lutheran Camp turned into a fishing pier during the severe spring flooding in the Lake Texoma area. This photo was taken during the annual barbecue weekend in May. Water didn't get into the building.

Did you know . . .

- Each summer, the LOMT staff prepares a Bible study to use during summer camp? This guide contains five weeks' worth of five-day studies for various age groups as well as drama, music and devotions. Responsibility for production rotates among the LOMT staff and requires between 18-24 months from concept to final product. The 1990 materials are built around the theme "Heart to Heart" and study 1 and 2 Corinthians. The producer was Craig Oldenburg, program director at Camp Lone Star.
- 1990 was a time of natural disaster and record setting? During May, Lake Texoma, where Texoma Lutheran Camp is located, reached a record height of 644.77 feet above sea level.

Normal water elevation is 617 feet with the average summer elevation in the 612-

Don't miss it!

Don't forget the Camp Lone Star Barbecue Sunday, July 29, with worship beginning there at 11 a.m.

615 foot range. Lake Texoma poured over the spillway at Denison Dam, located at the 640-foot level only once before—in 1957—when the water reached the 643-foot level. At Texoma Lutheran Camp, the water came within inches of major buildings and flooded the Scriptrail, Teams Course, rifle range and cliff areas.

• Families can use either the Retreat Center at Camp Lone Star or the Jericho family cabin at Texoma on a space available basis without being a part of a larger group? Using LOMT sites for relaxation, restoration and recreation is a valuable asset offered through outdoors ministry.

CONCORDIA

Concordia commencement

Dr. George Beto, past president of Concordia Lutheran College of Texas, addressed the graduates at the college's ninth commencement as a four-year institution.

Beto taught at Concordia from 1939 to 1949 and served as president from 1949 through 1959.

After his 20 years of service at Concordia, he served as president of Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, Ind., from 1959 to 1962. He then accepted the appointment as director of the Texas Department of Corrections, continuing in that capacity until 1972. He is now distinguished professor of corrections at Sam Houston State University in Huntsville, Texas.

Beto challenged the graduates to follow the example of Nehemiah, who said, "I am doing a great work; I cannot come down." Beto mentioned the many accomplishments of our country that need to be continued and defended, like our educational system and our freedom to achieve in a classless society. He concluded by reminding the graduates of their responsibilities: "To whom much is given, much is required."

Rev. Eugene Oesch of Memorial Lutheran Church in Houston delivered the baccalaureate sermon. He used the story of Joseph, as recounted in Genesis, to illustrate some lessons for life,



Dr. George Beto



Rev. Eugene Oesch

admonishing the graduates to "live your lives knowing that God is in control."

The 75 candidates for the bachelor of arts degree include eight who also received the Lutheran Teacher Diploma, three who also completed pre-seminary studies and two with majors in church music.

David Bailes, a pre-seminary student from Houston who majored in Mexican-American studies, was the highest ranking graduate. Other honor graduates include Nancy Ireland Campney (Austin), Ronda Kane (Austin), Joyce Mele (Austin), Christopher Ohan (Bedford), Sarah Poss Osburn (Austin), Anne Psenck (Austin) and Adriana Vega (Galena Park).

During the commence-



TOP GRADUATES—David Bailes, a pre-seminary student with a major in Mexican-American studies, is the highest ranking graduate. Anne Psenck is the second highest ranking graduate. She majored in business management.

ment ceremony, William Beilharz, president of the Concordia Council, presented the 1990 Martin J. Neeb Sr., Teaching Excellence Award to Dr. Milton Riemer, professor of English and business.

Rev. Riemer was recognized for his contributions to the total ministry of Christian education, both inside and outside the classroom. He completed 30 years of service to Concordia this year.

The award, which is presented each year by the Concordia Council, is named for Martin J. Neeb Sr., who taught at Concordia from 1926 to 1945.

With praise to God, Concordia celebrates the graduation of another group of men and women, as they go forth to make contributions to church and society.

CLC—Looking good for the fall

Acceptances for enrollment at Concordia for the fall semester are at an all-time high for this time of year. Other indicators, like the number of dorm deposits received, also point to a record enrollment, substantially topping last year's 603.

There is still time to apply for admission for fall '90; the deadline is Aug. 15. Concordia offers a Christian education to prepare students for leadership in church and society. Fifteen programs and majors are available, including business management, communication and teacher education.

Call the Concordia Admissions Office toll-free for more information and an admission application: 1-800-735-3232.



Field Day keeps getting better

"Field Day gets better every year," wrote one school sponsor when evaluating Concordia's annual day of competition and fun for students in grades six, seven and eight.

Approximately 825 visitors from 27 Lutheran schools and churches gathered for an opening ceremony before beginning a day of competition in academics, athletics, art, music, drama and creative writing.

"Just for fun" activities included games, a cheerleading clinic and a concert by "Living Praise," Concordia's contemporary Christian music group.

Field Day offers young people an opportunity to demonstrate their talents in an atmosphere of Christian fellowship and worship.

Concordia College also benefits because each year many incoming freshmen report that Field Day was their first contact with the college. It is reasonable to assume that some would have chosen another college

if not for their early, favorable impression of Concordia of Texas.

Next year's Field Day is April 26. Lutheran Brotherhood will join with Concordia next year and in the years following to make the day even better, by providing additional financial support.

Children from our Lutheran schools and congregations are our future pastors, teachers and lay leaders. Concordia hopes to have them as students. They are champions!



SCHOLARSHIP WINNER—President Ray Martens presented a \$500 CLC scholarship to Paul Kroft of St. Paul Lutheran School in Austin, the winner of the eighth grade Bible Knowledge Quiz at Field Day. Paul is the son of David and Susan Kroft.



OPENING CEREMONY—Lutheran schools and churches participated in a parade of banners during the Field Day opening.



CONCORDIA VISITORS—This group from Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Pasadena visited with College President Ray Martens (center back) and toured the campus as part of an outing in Austin. Call the Public Relations Office (toll-free 1-800-735-3232) to arrange a tour for your group or your family.

YOUTH

Our bright kids . . .

Can you believe high school graduate Bethany Porter! This bright kid, a member of **Hope, Dallas**, received scholarship offers totaling more than \$100,000. Too bad they can't all be used at one school.

Congratulations to Ginger Hames and Amanda Sij, **Redeemer, Beaumont**, who were inducted into the National Honor Society.

On the bright kid list at **Bethel, Dallas**, are Yvonne Cheatwood, winner of an excellent rating in jazz competition (piano) and a superior rating in sonatina from the Music Teachers Association of Texas; Heather Robertson and Jason Andres, who were named to their high school's honor band; Cori Berg, second in UIL prose competition; and Brett Swendig, second in his school district's science fair.

Jenny Smiga, **St. Paul, Edna**, qualified to participate in Duke University's talent identification program.

Three cheers for Courtney Watson, **Our Savior, Rockwall**, who earned her 500-hour pin award and was named top teen volunteer at Baylor University Medical Center, Dallas.

Children ages one through first grade have their own choir at **Trinity, Klein**. It's called the *Churchmouse Choir*.



BUBBLE CHASE—Preschoolers at Faith Lutheran School, Huntsville, scramble for bubbles during "Bubbles Day" March 8 when the school observed National Lutheran Schools Week. Preschool teacher Sylvia Kraemer leads the bubble run. This photo appeared on the front page of the "Huntsville Item."

Lori Stubbs, **Trinity, Livingston**, was named a United States National Mathematics Award winner. As one of the nation's top math students, she will have her name in the U.S. Achievement Academy National Awards Yearbook.

She also had the highest grade point average in her seventh grade class for the current grading period.

Included in the bright kid gang at **Good Shepherd, Pasadena**, are Lori Barnes,

Cory Burrough, Stephanie Hargrove, Jaime Johnson, Nathan Knutson, Christie Schiller and Sheri Teinert, all of whom were inducted into the National Junior Honor Society.

Gobbling up honors at this year's Humble Livestock Show was Steve Wisenbaker, **Lamb of God, Humble**, who showed the grand champion turkey.

Congratulations to Scott Graham and Devin Howard of **Trinity, Klein**. Scott, a French horn player, won a music scholarship to Sam Houston State University.

Devin has won swim meet firsts in both the 50-yard and 100-yard butterfly; second in the 200-yard medley; third in 50-yard freestyle; fourth in 100-yard medley; third in 50-yard

(Continued on next page.)



OH, BROTHER—The Tomball Lutheran School soccer team, which had a successful 10-3 season, had three brothers as team members. They are sons of Charles and Delores Cates of Conroe, all members of Salem Lutheran Church of Tomball. From the left are Charles, eighth grade, third leading scorer with 10 goals; Ricky, sixth grade, goalie, who allowed only an average of 1.4 goals a game; and Will, fifth grade, second leading scorer with 13 goals.

YOUTH

TEXAS DISTRICT



FINALIST—Jana Muller, member of Redeemer Lutheran in Cisco, was named a finalist in the 1990 National Merit Scholarship Competition. The most prestigious achievement of a graduating high school senior, this selection places her academically in the top one-half of 1 percent of her peers.

YOUTH

(Continued from previous page.)

freestyle; fourth in 100-freestyle and eighth in 50-yard breaststroke. His butterfly times may prove to be national records this year.

The Maine Anjou cattle class at the Houston Livestock Show had 45 entries. Shonda Prescher, Trinity, Shamrock, won second.

Bright kid recognition, certainly, for Pollie A. Kuehn, St. Paul, Groves, who ranked seventh academically in her junior class of 307 students. On April 5, she became a member of the National Honor Society.

Congratulations to this gaggle of bright kids from St. Paul, Fort Worth:

Jennifer Christian, Jennifer Cox, Michael Doberenz, Kim Hennings, Keith Marut, Jonathan Mueller,

Sean Opitz, Christa Silvenis and Lisa Ziehe are all Tandy Scholar finalists at their respective high schools.

Kathryn Biar, King of Kings, San Antonio, was selected as all-district, all-city and all-state mid-fielder for soccer as a member of her high school soccer team.

She also was the chairperson for the school's Senior Grad Finale, the drug- and alcohol-free graduation party. Way to go, Kathryn!

Bright kid honors go to Eric Stearns, Grace Lutheran School, Arlington, who won first place in the engineering category at the Tarrant County Science Fair.

Brooke Biediger, St. Paul, San Antonio, had a busy May. She performed in three concerts with her school choir, played the viola in concert and gave a piano recital. And then there's Brian Biediger, who made first chair for saxophone in his school district's all-star band.

Congratulations to the bright kid gang at Redeemer, Austin. This bunch won grand or reserve champion honors in these non-livestock divisions at the Travis County Livestock Show:

Jena Lorenzen, seascape/landscape; Jeanette Goerlitz, string art; Chad Lorenzen, strawberry preserves; Rikki Wendt, cross stitch; Michelle Willis, latch hook; Rick Geerlitz, automatic deer feeder; Miranda Branham, decorated layer cake; Eric Sauls, mint fudge; Ryan Sauls, mint fudge.



ALL WASHED UP?—Children of Grace Lutheran School, Dallas, brought bars of soap for Lutheran World Relief as a chapel offering. The "Dallas Morning News" published their picture. A representative of a soap manufacturer whose product appeared in the picture donated four cases of soap to the LWR drive. In addition, Andrew Schreyer, left, holds bars of homemade soap made by his grandfather, Wilbert Oltmann of St. Paul Lutheran, Serbin. In all, 150 pounds of soap were collected.

Travis Jager, Our Savior, Abilene, received the High Point Award for a freshman on his high school swim team.

Bright kid honors at Our Savior, Austin, go to Kristy Braun, who received a school district trustee award and was inducted into the National Honor Society.

Honors also go to April Huntress, first-place winner in area-wide cosmetology competition and later winner of the state finals; and to Jeremy Boehm, third place winner in his school's science fair for a zoology exhibit.

From Prince of Peace, Belton, Michael Faglie made third team all-state lineman and will play in the Texas Coaches All-Star Football Game in Houston's Astrodome in August.

Marla Rosier, Bethlehem, Palestine, was elected a nominee for Area VII FFA president. Also, her steer won first place at the Anderson County Livestock Show.

Obstacles apparently don't mean much to Lori Harrison, Living Word, The Woodlands, who won third place in the hurdles in district meet.

TEXAS CHURCH EXTENSION FUND

Our mission is their mission

by Bill Siegrist, Director of Development
Church Extension Fund

Recently I was asked to serve as one of the keynote speakers at the Lutheran Church Extension Fund Spring Conference for the North Wisconsin District.

My three topics were (1) "How to Encourage and Motivate Your Congregational Representative"; (2) "Joy-filled Effective Communicating"; and (3) "Self Worth and Your Witnessing for Christ." There were more than 250 Church Extension representatives at this 12th annual conference.

During one of my presentations, I asked, "Are there any native Texans here?" There was no response, so I asked the question again. This time a beautiful white-haired lady exclaimed, "Here in North Wisconsin?!" Everyone had a good laugh.

- No, there weren't any native Texans at the conference, but there was a room full of God's committed people. They share in the same commitment to the mission and ministry of our church as we do here in the Texas District. Not only are they committed to mission work in the Wisconsin District, but also in other growing districts like Texas.

Because of the expanding mission activity and needs in states like Texas, Florida and California, for several years the North Wisconsin District LCEF has released funds to be used outside their state.

Recently they released \$1 million for new mission starts in other districts. As a result of the North Wisconsin District LCEF's commitment to new mission starts, they have released a total of \$11 million to be used in other districts. What a blessing!

- The saying, "We're all in this together!" takes on special significance when one considers this type of commitment to mission



SPEAKER—Bill Siegrist, director of development for the Texas District, spoke at the North Wisconsin District LCEF Spring Conference.

growth.

Our two district Church Extensions share the same mission statement:
The mission of the Church Extension Fund is to

provide opportunity to make funds available in support of the Great Commission (Matthew 28) through The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

Come Grow With Us in 1990 and beyond . . . Come Grow With Us in the Texas District and beyond . . . Come Grow With the Church Extension Fund in a ministry committed to Jesus Christ.

Come Grow With Us by contacting your congregational rep, your pastor or the district office.

Texas District

CHURCH EXTENSION FUND

Far out!

Fourth graders of St. Paul Lutheran School in Fort Worth are participating in the NASA seeds project.

The class was sent tomato seeds that a space shuttle took into orbit April 7. The seeds experienced weightlessness and cosmic radiation.

Twenty-five space seeds were planted along with 25 earth seeds so comparisons could be made.

Twenty-one of the earth seeds were up after just 14 days. Only 16 space seeds were up and growing. Average height of the earth seeds was 2.5 inches. The space seeds were only 1.5 inches.

Needless to say, the kids are breathlessly awaiting tomatoes from this far-out experiment.



Church Extension Fund

Bill Siegrist

7900 E. Highway 290

Austin, TX 78724-2499

(512) 926-4272



BAPTIZED—Harold Jacobsmeyer, pastor of Grace Lutheran in Dallas, baptized his third grandchild, Stephen Jacob Pagones, a few weeks before his retirement May 31. Jacobsmeyer served Grace congregation 25 years during which he baptized 278 infants and children.



Retired people recycle their skills as LSST volunteers

Where do volunteers come from? One of the greatest sources is retired people, people who can draw upon a lifetime of skills from a trade, business or profession—or the myriad skills that come from “just livin’.”

John Wilson is a twice-retired professional who volunteers for LSST. Retired from both the military and hospital administration, he learned the value of volunteers during his paid work life.

In the last three years, Wilson has installed more than 100 Emergency Response Service units in homes, apartments and rooms of elderly and disabled people.

What is ERS? An ERS unit is an electronic “black box” that works through the telephone system. By pushing a button, an elderly or handicapped person who has an emergency can instantly contact the ERS station, which is attended 24 hours a day.

In addition, ERS has a “fail-safe” feature. The user must reset the device each day to indicate he or she is “OK.” If the OK status isn’t received, the ERS station automatically notifies a neighbor, friend or local volunteer to check on the user’s condition. This relatively economical device allows many elderly or disabled people to remain independent and live in their own homes.

In conversation, Wilson talks about the concerns and satisfactions he finds in his volunteer work.

Helping People Remain Independent

First, Wilson speaks of concern for the individual who will use the ERS unit. “People want to stay independent as long as they can; they don’t want to be a burden,” he says. For example, an accident victim could no longer use his legs. He now lives in one room of his six-room house. The room serves as his bedroom, living room, kitchen and dining room. “I had to run the telephone wire around the doors and walls of two rooms to get to the telephone outlet. This

allowed the ERS unit to be next to the bed so the man could reset it each day.”

Improving Safety Conditions

Second, Wilson voices concern for the living environment of the people he visits. “You don’t have to look far from our neighborhood to find people in need.” John described a situation where, in the middle of an affluent area of Austin, there is a stone house on about two acres.

The people built the house when they were first married, more than 50 years ago. The wife has lived there alone for the past five years. “You can see the neglect setting in, paint chipping, exterior wood rotting, windows broken; damaged outlets—and the ones that are used are burdened with two or three three-way plugs and extension cords running in all directions. It is a real fire trap, but it is home. I really worked to make it safer.”

What Volunteers Are Made Of

Finally, Wilson talked about being a volunteer. When asked “What does it take to be a volunteer?” Wilson answers, “First, a willingness to go; second, willingness to communicate at a level your clients can understand; and third, the ability to adapt normal procedures to ‘make it work.’”

How You Can Learn about Volunteering

John Wilson is not unique. Many retired people (and others) serve LSST as volunteers in the ERS as well as in other programs. If you are interested in serving through LSST, contact the area service office or residential program nearest you. There is always list of jobs waiting to be carried out by one of LSST’s most valuable resources: our volunteers.

LSST volunteer opportunities

Emergency Response Service:

- Responders for elderly
- Installers of ERS units
- Make monthly telephone check

Adult Day Care

- Visit with participants
- Drive persons to doctor or lab
- Provide a program like
- Pictures of your trip

Nursing Home

- Member of the auxiliary
- Fund raising
- Help with holiday programs
- Help with monthly birthday party
- Provide a program like
- Pictures of your trips
- Read stories
- Tell about your life
- Visit with residents
- Help residents
- Write letters

Neighborhood House

- Help with children after school
- Tutoring
- Playing games
- Telling stories
- Help with sorting and distribution of clothing or food

Disaster Response

- Area Coordinator
- Area Advisory Committee Member
- Congregational Communicator

– Development Council Member

Office help in:

- Area service office
- Nursing home
- Administrative office

Contact the LSST office nearest you or

Lutheran Social Service of Texas

Volunteer Coordinator
P. O. Box 49589
Austin, TX 78765
(512) 459-1000

FAMILY NEWS



CLOSING THE GAP—Students of Grace Lutheran School of Arlington sponsored a Grandparents Day during Lutheran Schools Week. About 100 grandparents and Senior Fellowship members attended. Each was given a memory book to complete for their grandchildren. Here, the children are singing, "You're the Leader of Our Families," using the tune of "I've Been Working On The Railroad."

So, then, what's a working mother to do?

by Mary Pieper

A young mother must return to the work force following a short maternity leave. Her income is sorely needed to meet her family's financial obligations.

But she feels torn between earning those necessary wages and nurturing her newborn. Who will take care of her baby while she works? Will they be as responsible as she? Will all her child's needs be met? How will her return to work affect her maternal relationship with her little one?

• Confusion, guilt and uncertainty swirl within her. Who should be entrusted with her most precious responsibility? Where will she turn?

This scenario—and many others like it—is played out daily in cities and towns across our country. Texas is no exception. How can our churches help alleviate some of the stress this woman and



her family must be feeling?

• Perhaps our first response may be to encourage her to find a way to stay at home. But, is this realistic when the facts and statistics repeatedly tell us that the woman in the work force is not a passing fancy, but a hard reality in our changing society. If that is so, then how do we, as a caring, compassionate church meet this family's needs?

Extended care, or full-time child care, in our churches may be one solution. This would enable a family to place their child in a safe, loving and caring

environment knowing that the church is helping them build strong physical, social, emotional and spiritual foundations in their child. It also provides the congregation with a wonderful opportunity to truly live the Great Commission stated in Matt. 28:19-20.

• A congregation that is interesting in beginning an extended care program for infants and toddlers should have already formed a Planning Committee that has surveyed the congregation, developed goals based on the survey, and set up a plan of action that will address those

goals. Extended care in your congregation will require much thought and planning.

Your facility should be able to adequately service the numbers and ages of children who will be a part of the budgeting process, as well as wages that will attract a dedicated and well-trained staff. The congregation will want to provide adequate support for this ministry.

Community resources that may be able to help include the Day Care Licensing Division of the Texas Department of Human Services, a local college or university with an early childhood program, the early childhood consultant in our Texas District or the Synod, another congregation which has undertaken such an enterprise, or the booklet available through the Texas District Office: *In Ministry: Infants, Toddlers and Their Families*.

• Infant/toddler ministry is challenging. The members of the congregation will "say and do" God's love as they provide care for body and soul of infants, toddlers and their families.

For a list of resources on infant/toddler ministry, as well as a copy of *In Ministry: Infants, Toddlers and Their Families*, contact Keith Loomans at the Texas District Office.

(Mary Pieper is the director of the early childhood program at Our Savior Lutheran Church, Austin, and has served as project director for Infant/Toddler Ministry in the Texas District.)



PEOPLE, PLACES, & EVENTS

The Greater Orange Chamber of Commerce named Tom Clary, **Grace, Orange**, as one of that city's small business owners of the year. His firm, Orange Shipbuilders, received the award based on its growth and community activities.

Congratulations to Harriet Tillman, **Mount Olive, Corpus Christi**, who was chosen Teacher of the Month at her middle school.

Katie Proft, **Holy Cross, Nederland**, has earned her 1,000-hour bar as a volunteer worker at Mid-Jefferson Hospital.

Congratulations to Dianne Lazarine, **Lamb of God, Humble**, who was chosen Principal of the Year by the Texas Elementary Principals and Supervisors Association for District IV, the largest district in the association.

Mount Calvary, Ray-

mondville, celebrated the 50th anniversary of the founding of the congregation April 29 with a jubilee worship service. Rev. Martin Koehneke, pastor from 1940 to 1944 was a special guest.

Rev. Tom Hadley was installed June 10 as assistant pastor at **St. Andrew, Houston**.

On June 10, **Hope, Austin**, celebrated its 30th anniversary and the 25th anniversary of its school. The pastor is Rev. John Ellwanger. Guest speaker was Rev. Eugene Gruell, interim mission director for the Texas District and a former missionary to Cuba.

Rev. Tim Rosenthal was installed May 27 at **St. John, Athens**.

Members of **Redeemer, Fort Worth**, rejoiced May 20 in the joy of the service of installation as Rev. Thomas



TRIPLETS—A "first" for First Lutheran Church of Lufkin occurred when triplets were baptized into God's family. They are Almee Ryan, Erika Jordan and Benjamin John Weber, children of Benjamin and Susan Weber of Lufkin. All are shown with Pastor Frank Starr, who was pressed into service to hold Almee—or is it Erika?

C. Bode became pastor of their congregation.

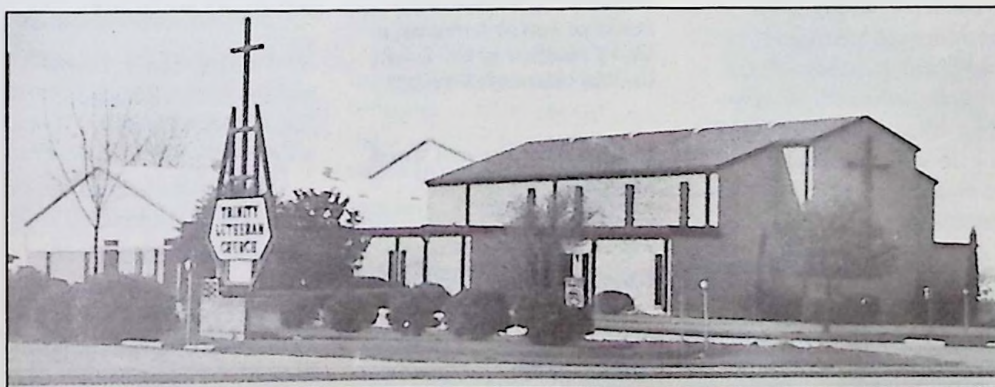
In recognition of his contributions to improve the quality of life of children and youth, Rev. Carlos Boerger, **St. Paul, San Antonio**, was awarded an honorary life membership in the National Congress of Parents and

Teachers. He has a puppet ministry for children.

James Higginbotham, **Our Redeemer, Wichita Falls**, earned a bachelor of music degree in vocal performance at Midwestern State University. He also received numerous awards, including the prestigious Presser Scholarship. He will continue his studies in New York.

Jean Lehmann, **Our Redeemer Lutheran School, Dallas**, was selected to attend the annual Teacher Recognition Luncheon that honors outstanding teachers from schools in the North Dallas Chamber of Commerce area.

Rev. Stephen Sohns from Manchester, Iowa, was installed April 29 as associate pastor of **Resurrection, Spring**. Al Franzmeier is senior pastor.



NEW CENTER—Trinity Lutheran of Taylor dedicated its new fellowship center (building at left) April 29. More room is now available for Christian education, conferences, meetings and fellowship. A kitchen is included in the 7,300 square-foot structure. E. George Becker is pastor. Guest preachers were two former pastors: Rev. Norman Stoppenhagen of Downey, Calif., and Rev. Reinhard Wuensche Jr. of Houston.

It's not our age that limits us; it's us that limits us

Unfortunately, postretirement and growing old immediately brings images in our minds of canes, nursing homes and dependence on other people. It does not have to be that way. A change of heart and attitude can create challenges and awareness of other activities. Actually, we limit ourselves . . . it is not our age.

The news media, magazines and workshops allow us the freedom of choice. We can, by self-evaluation, do what we put our minds to do.

Perhaps we can even get involved in something very different from the vocation from which we retired. Some of us have gotten a college degree, taken up art, joined a volunteer group or started writing a book. Remember, retirement is not an "in" or "out" door. Enjoy it as a revolving door that allows us to become open to all challenges.

When we get older, we do slow down. There is nothing wrong with that; this gives us time to evaluate our priorities and our knowledge. We have spent time teaching Sunday school, serving on church boards, PTAs and community projects. We have expertise in these fields and can be a valuable resource as we encourage others to serve.

We only retired from our vocation. Our avocation, as a baptized child of God, is that we are called to a life of service in Christ's name as long as we live.

One of the most meaningful relationships going for me is with my 7-year-old great niece. She lives in South Texas and writes regularly. I am always getting special cards that boost my morale and attitude. It took me a while to realize the value of this association, but what a blessing it is to me since I do not have children.

We constantly hear and read that there are more people over age 65 than there are teenagers. Even advertisers are alert to this fact. People live longer and can have long, productive lives.

We are alerted to this fact when we're told how we're contributing to the problems of Medicare, Medicaid and Social Security. Smile when you hear this. Remember the revolving door of retirement allows us to be walking billboards for the psalmist:

"They still bring forth fruit in old age, they are ever full of sap and green" (Ps. 92:14 RSV).

Let us accept the challenge and be an active Christian for life. Let the words of the gospel hymn



GRANT—Ed Trapp Jr. of Dallas, chairman of the Synod's Board for Social Ministry Services, displays a check for \$26,650, a grant from Aid Association for Lutherans to fund meetings focusing on ministering to older adults. Trapp, a member of the Texas District's Older Adult Ministry Committee of the Board of Parish Services, is also a member of the Texas District Board of Directors.

be our goal: "the last word in Jesus is US."

Join me as we show them what "US" can do in post retirement!

(Submitted by Amalie Long, member of St. Paul Lutheran Church, Monahans, and member of the Older Adult Ministry Committee of the Board of Parish Services.)

Anniversaries



The following Lutheran couples of the Texas District recently celebrated 50 or more years of marriage:

Cross, New Braunfels: Mr. and Mrs. David Grimm, 50 years, May 25.

St. Paul, Edna: Milam and Dorothy Simons, 57 years, Feb. 1. Anita and Arnold Koop, 57 years, April 17.

St. Mark, Conroe: Ted and Alma Orr, 50 years, March 23. Luther and Helen Owens, 65 years, April 11.

Trinity, Sealy: Leroy and Berneatha Schaare, 51 years, May 14.

Hope, Austin: Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Wagner, 62 years, May 20.

Grace, Arlington: Clif and Lillian Rawe, 53 years, May 27.

Redeemer, Baytown: Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Wilson, 55 years, May 10.



HONORED—Elizabeth Kretzman receives Goodwill award.

Goodwill Industries honors Bethesda group home resident

The Knox Achiever Award was presented to Elizabeth Kretzman, a resident of the Bethesda's Houston Heights group home, at a recent luncheon sponsored

by Goodwill Industries, Houston.

Kretzman received a certificate of excellence and \$100. Her name will be engraved on a plaque that hangs in the Rose Garden cafeteria at Goodwill.

Campus thanks 50 volunteers

Fifty volunteers were thanked for their help and prayers during the second annual Volunteer Tea April 22 at Bethesda's Good Samaritan Campus in Cypress.

The Sweet Adeline quartet entertained the guests with popular songs of the past, and Administrator Richard Risley and several residents also offered a musical tribute.

All volunteers received a 1990 commemorative button in appreciation for their hard work. Refreshments and a tour of the facility's two newest group homes completed the afternoon.

Each year, Goodwill gives special recognition to trainees, employees and graduates of its workshop for mentally and physically handicapped people. Eleven of 523 Goodwill clients received awards this year.

Kretzman was honored for her outstanding work performance, attitude, attendance and her accomplishments in overcoming personal and professional barriers.

Need help?

Want to know how to share Christ with a mentally retarded child or adult? Call Bethesda's Resource Center toll-free:

1-800-369-INFO.

Meet Leigh: Special Olympics record setter, medal winner

In his very first Special Olympics contest, Leigh Boy set a record in the 25-meter wheelchair race. It was many years before that state record was broken. Since then, Leigh has won numerous gold medals in similar events.

Born Oct. 28, 1955, at St. Joseph Hospital in Houston, Leigh was well traveled by the time he took up residency at Good Samaritan Lutheran Home in 1974.

Leigh has always loved to travel and visit relatives, according to his mother. Not only has he gone on cruises, but he also has made trips to California and Florida.

Leigh also enjoys music, especially musical shows. But, best of all, he "loves to learn about American Indians," says his mother. His favorite tribe is the Comanche. Occasionally, pretending that he is an Indian, he dons his own headdress, a leather band with a large feather.

Good Samaritan has been good for Leigh. Recently he moved into his own bedroom in the new group home just down the road from the main campus. There, skilled personal workers see that he is well taken care of.

During the day, he returns to the main campus for chapel, skill training activities and sports. During the evening in his new home, he enjoys watching "Wheel of Fortune" and then relaxing with his tape deck or a book.

Staff members describe Leigh as "a real joy to work with."



CANDLES—In arts and crafts class (photo above), Leigh Boy crushes colored chalk and mixes it with salt to make decorative bases for candles that Good Samaritan sells. Although Leigh does not speak, his big smile (photo at left) communicates his joy in music and books.

LLLers descending on Canada

May the Lord bless and keep the LLLers as they prepare and travel to Alberta, Canada for their convention there July 21-25.

Do not forget to have proof of citizenship in your possession. Adults must have one of the following: passport, copy of birth certificate, or voter's registration card and driver's license. Children must have a passport or copy of birth certificate.

CHINA PROJECT

*by Gus Kieschnick
Volunteer Field
Representative*

China is opening its door to the International LLL's ministry. Kenneth Petersen, LLL's director of international operations, and his staff are considering, with the Board of Governors, starting a cassette ministry in the People's Republic of China in cooperation with the China Christian Council.

There are currently only 900 pastors in the church there to "shepherd" some 5 million Christians in 6,000 organized congregations and many thousand more house groups.

The initiative for this ministry came from Henry Go H.J. Wu, director of the China Lutheran Hour of Taiwan, who also made the initial contact in China.

Why was this auxiliary organization of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod chosen to bring the Gospel

into China through the cassette tape ministry?

I really believe God chose this organization to get the Gospel into China because we have the purity of doctrine. We believe that we are saved by grace through faith in Christ, not by works lest any person should boast.

This China Project began with 10,000 cassettes delivered during Easter week. The Chinese people are not giving this kind of opportunity or cooperation to any other church group that we know of.

The only thing left to do is to find the money—start up costs were completely funded. Additional funding of \$200,000 is needed for the coming year. I feel confident that the Lord will provide the resources we need to carry out His will.

AWARD PRESENTED

Reinhold A. Teinert was honored as "Layman of the Year" at the Lutheran Laymen's League Lone Star District Convention May 5 in Wichita Falls. District President Charles E. Byrne Jr. presented the award at the Saturday evening banquet.

The inscription on the plaque reads, "A dedicated servant of the Lord who loves his Savior, his church, his family, and who demonstrates this love in working with the International Lutheran Laymen's League."

Reinhold has been a member of the Int'l LLL for more than 30 years. He has



LAYMAN OF YEAR—Reinhold A. Teinert, left, accepts Layman of the Year award from Charles Byrne, president of the Lone Star District, LLL.

been active in the local club, zone and district and now serves as district development assistant to Orville Helberg. His service as congregational representative began more than 25 years ago.

He recalls listening to "The Lutheran Hour" in the early '30s. His family didn't have a radio of their own, so they went to a relative's home to hear Dr. Walter A. Maier speak.

Over the years, Teinert has attended 19 Lutheran Hour rallies and 14 International LLL conventions.

In service to his home congregation, he served for many years in the stewardship department as financial secretary, treasurer or chairman of the board.

Teinert was born at Copperas Cove, Texas, and attended Lutheran day school at Immanuel.

During World War II, he served for four years in the U.S. Navy in the Pacific. After his discharge, he worked for 30 years in

Austin for the United States Post Office.

Teinert and his wife, Irene, have three children and five grandchildren. They are members of Redeemer, Austin.

"I want to thank God for allowing me to be a part of the ministry of the Int'l LLL and I pray for health and strength to continue," Teinert says.

ZONE RALLY

The Zone 12 South Spring Rally was held Sunday, April 29, at St. Matthew, Houston. Election results for 1990-91 are as follows: President—Norman May; Vice President—Marvin Orlowski; Secretary—Eldon Hinze; and Treasurer—Benny Mitschke.

President Norman May's goals for the coming year will be a membership representative in every congregation and the district convention in Houston in 1992.

NEWS NOTE

In a letter from former president Edwin J. Blume and his wife, Margaret, we are told they now live in retirement at Grace Lutheran Village in Paris, Ill. This is near their home town of Crown Point, Ind. Their address is 11 Concordia Drive, Paris, IL 61944; (217) 463-3706.

LLL news should be sent to:

**Irene Teinert
Information Coord.
1501 Barbara St.
Austin, TX 78757**



Wilt thou wilt?

Where did the spring go? Why has all the promise of all those new and different things been thwarted by the heat of summer? How come the wilt?

No, I'm not speaking of vegetable gardens. It is Christian faith that holds attention here. If I "Blossom with Love," am I finished?

God our Father has called us to be His messengers, to be about His mission. Not one of us would deny that we have this calling. As each of us prepares for this mission with His message, the excitement builds, just like a budding flower ready to bloom.

But then the summer heat takes the fun away and it gets harder to respond so joyfully.

Mite Report

May 1990

1989-90 Goal	\$200,000
May total	\$9,399
Total to date	\$216,853
OVER GOAL!	\$16,853

Sent to International LWML \$1,988

Send ALL contributions to Eudoris Weiser, Route 1, Box 46, Copperas Cove, 76522. MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO TEXAS DISTRICT LWML.

Thanks be to our God, who is faithful in season and out of season. It is upon His power that we can rely to accomplish His mission! He did not spare His own Son for us. He sent the Spirit for us. He empowers us by His Word and refreshes us through His Sacraments. He establishes and preserves His Church so that we endure the heat and continue to produce.

May each of us not only "Blossom with Love," but also produce fruit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, trustfulness, gentleness and self control.

*Rev. Ralph Hobratschk
District Counselor*

LWML Sunday 1990

It's not too early to begin thinking about LWML Sunday. "Seek His Truth" is this year's theme.

Rev. Gerhard Bode, International LWML counselor, has prepared the worship service. Karon Brauer, Peoria, Ariz., designed the bulletin cover.

Included in the LWML Sunday materials will be a challenging Scripture activity page for all ages, "The Bible Marker"—a creative resource for personal Bible study, a banner pattern, an LWML information sheet and a related skit.

Envelopes for the 50th Anniversary Thankoffering will be available for congregations to use on LWML Sunday. This special offering, endorsed by the Synod's Board of Directors "as a gesture of recognition for the great contributions the

LWML has made to the life of our church body since 1940," is a commendation for the crucial role the LWML has played in the mission and ministry of our church.

The thankofferings should be sent to the LWML headquarters in St. Louis.

LWML Sunday materials will be mailed to each parish pastor and LWML unit in July. Plan now to observe LWML Sunday and be ready to order your materials early.

Guest speakers enhance zone meetings

• METROPOLITAN ZONE met at Our Redeemer in Irving for its spring rally. Featured speaker was Mariana Slocum, who showed a film about her service as a literacy worker in southern Mexico and Colombia, and spoke about her life there.

• BAYOU CITY ZONE—More than 50 leaguers gathered at Mount Olive Lutheran Church in Houston for their spring rally. Janet Scales, first vice president of the Texas District LWML, was the guest speaker. Her topic was "How the Working Woman Can Serve the Lord through LWML."

• DAL-NORTH ZONE spring workshop was held at Grace in Denison. Doris McKay spoke on "Seek His Face Today and Always." She urged the group to tap into God's unlimited power to help them through life's experiences.

• COASTAL BEND ZONE members gathered at Messiah Lutheran Church in Calallen for their spring rally and to hear guest speaker Bea Hammons. Mrs. Hammons, the director of Lutheran Social Services of Texas in Corpus Christi, spoke of the services that are offered through LSST: family counseling; EMR; adoption; and Daybreak, a day care for the elderly.

Society news

• Members of Faith Circle at St. Paul, Plainview, along with the Sunday school children, surprised the residents of Plains Convalescent Center with handmade wooden pins and songs sung by the children.

• Members of St. Paul LWML in Bellmead/Waco joined with AAL members and honored the confirmands and their families with a dinner May 5. New members at St. Paul's receive a bag of goodies—including LWML magnets and Mustard Seeds.

• We welcome Service LWML Society of Good Shepherd, Angleton. This brand new society is part of the Gulf Coast Zone. We look forward to working with these sister servants in mission.

LWML news

LWML news should be sent to Shirley Baumgartner, LWML District Editor, 5018 Risada, San Antonio, TX 78233.



As this issue goes to print, the 1990 district convention is foremost in our memories. What opportunities for mission, service and growth we received!

Our zeal was renewed and we are enthusiastic as we seek to "Blossom with Love" in our various surroundings.

Now, even as we are absorbing the renewal of spirit that was bestowed on us in Austin, our thoughts and prayers turn to Cleveland.

The 1991 International LWML convention in Cleveland, Ohio, promises to be a most exciting one as we celebrate the 50th anniversary of our Lutheran Women's Missionary League.

You have heard of ways you can be involved in this convention as a zone, society or individual. Here are some of the areas that still need your help:

- A 50th anniversary hymn and LWML hymn—talented LWML members are encouraged to enter their musical work. The LWML hymn will be in addition to those hymns now in use. Send entries to Mary Helen Kelly, 74-619 Fairway Drive, Palm Desert, CA 92260.

- Family affair—is

LWML a family tradition? Send stories of moms, daughters, grandmothers, aunts, cousins in the same family who are active LWML members. If you have a black and white picture, send that along. Send to Lu Greenwood, 289 North Drive, Wyandotte, MI 48192.

- Talented trumpeters will add a festive touch to the Cleveland jubilee convention. If you play the trumpet and are willing to serve as a trumpeter at the convention, send your name to Marcella Gaus, Box 123, Hamshire, TX 77622.

- The International LWML Thankoffering recipients will be selected by the delegates at the jubilee convention. Suggested projects should be sent immediately to President Betty Duda, 2450 Mikler Road, Oviedo, FL 32765.

Above all, plan to attend this convention June 27-30 in 1991 and let's all **CELEBRATE THE JUBILEE—GLORIFY HIS NAME!**

Resources galore!

Have you looked through your 1989-91 LWML catalog carefully? There are many program helps listed so that no LWML meeting or activity should be ho-hum.

Here are a few of the new skits that appear in the catalogue:

- "A Life for Lucy Leaguer"—Shows how a local unit can be revitalized through time management, motivation and confidence-building (5615).

- "So That's What Mission Service is All

About"—Experienced members introduce a newcomer to the various ways LWML members serve others (5643).

- "In Sight, On My Mind"—A skit to make members aware of the need to keep their mite boxes visible in their homes (5713).

- "Coffee Time"—In this devotional skit, three women discuss the impact of prayer on daily life (5735).

These and many other resources both new and tried and true can be ordered from: Lutheran Women's Missionary League, 3558 S. Jefferson Ave., St. Louis, MO 63118-3910.

Central Texas Zone responds to LWR drive

Thanks to the generosity of the members of St. Paul Lutheran Church, Bellmead/Waco, who were asked to add just two items to their grocery lists per week, the LWML assembled 103 health kits.

The excess items: 31 boxes of Band-Aids, 110 combs, nine tubes of toothpaste, 132 toothbrushes and

92 bars of soap, plus some deodorant and miscellaneous items, were taken to the Family Abuse Shelter.

Janet Hurta and her husband, Glenn, took nearly a pickup truck load of boxes for Lutheran World Relief to the collection point at Redeemer in Dallas.

St. Paul's offering consisted of 103 health kits, 103 boys' shirts and 51 pounds of soap.

The rest of the load included 42 pounds of soap collected at St. Mark's; two sewing kits, four quilts and 21 health kits packed by the women at Christ Lutheran in Hillsboro.

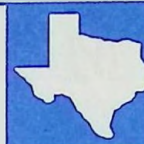
Grace in Marlin brought 11 more health kits, Trinity in Fairfield added 14 health kits to that. Immanuel Lutheran in Whitney assembled 21 health kits, added two womens sweaters to Peace, Hewitt's collection of seven sweaters and seven sewing kits.

A word of thanks to St. Paul's vicar Greg Brown and DCE Monty McCollough for lugging, storing and tripping around all those boxes.

Praise God for this outpouring of love from these servants to those who truly need to feel the love of Jesus in their lives.



SORTING, COUNTING, PACKING—St. Paul LWML assembles 103 health kits for Lutheran World Relief. Pictured from left are Joyce Nawara, Elna Albers, Cindy Summer and Geneva Bolen.



It's transition time in our lives; let us, too, 'set our face to go to Jerusalem'

by Rev. Carroll Kohl
Third Vice President
Texas District, LCMS



Rev. Carroll Kohl

"And it came to pass when the time was come that he should be received up, he steadfastly set his face to go to Jerusalem" (Luke 9:51).

With these words, St. Luke makes the transition between the glorious experience of Jesus on the mount of Transfiguration to the suffering and death waiting for Him in Jerusalem. He realized He had been sent by His Father to earn forgiveness of sin and eternal life for us and all other people. He knew that this could not be accomplished until He endured what was waiting for Him in Jerusalem, and so Jesus "set His face to go to Jerusalem."

This time of year we also are at a point of transition. We have not experienced anything as glorious and inspiring as the Transfiguration phenomenon, nor do we have anything waiting for us which is even close to the suffering and agony that Jesus had waiting for Him in Jerusalem, yet the month of August is a time of transition.

The summer of 1990 is rapidly drawing to a close. The fall season is before us. Soon the "lazy days" of summer will be only a memory. If you haven't yet taken that summer trip with the kids, you have only a few days left in which to do it. The beginning of school is just around the corner.

Some of us still are reflecting on the exciting vacation trip we made to the beach or the mountains or somewhere else. Others of us may recall the joy of having had time this summer just to sit and visit with friends in our own back yard.

Now it is time to change gears. Now is the time to make plans to get back into the fall routine. Now is transition time.

We know that James and John and especially Peter wanted to stay with Jesus on

Occasionally, Texas District President Louis Pabor will offer his president's column space to other district officials. Vice President Carroll Kohl, St. Paul, Big Spring, is this month's contributor.



Rev. Louis Pabor

the mount and just enjoy the splendor of the moment. But Jesus knew it was necessary to go on to the work at hand. So He "set His face to go to Jerusalem." We may not want to leave our summer schedules either. But we also need to "set our face" toward Jerusalem. It is time to get back to every-Sunday worship attendance . . . to get back to every-Sunday Bible class and Sunday school attendance . . . to check up on our tithes and offerings to determine if we have fallen short during the weeks we have been away from the church . . . to get back to serious work on those boards

and committees of which we are members . . . to get down to being faithful stewards in the work the Lord has placed before us in our respective churches.

If given a choice between staying on the mountain or going to Jerusalem, we know that the disciples would have stayed. We may be reluctant to make the transition from summer to fall and God's call for commitment, but the time has come. God has set before us many challenges and opportunities and has promised to go with us. Let us "set our face to go to Jerusalem" with the same determination that Jesus had.



NEW SHEPHERD—The Lord of the Church brought a new shepherd to Redeemer Lutheran of Fort Worth as Rev. Thomas C. Bode Jr. of Winnie, Texas, was installed as pastor May 20. Participating in the installation were, from left, Revs. John Armstrong, Stanley Geisler, Rudy Herbrich, Gerald Peterman, Francis Schroeder, Benjamin Rathgeber, circuit counselor and installer; Bode; Harold Hein, vacancy pastor and liturgist; Raymond Kahle, preacher; Jack Schnelder; Michael Chaffee; Terry Beltz; David Joeckel, district vice president; and Kenneth Hennings.

MISSION IN TEXAS

UT-Austin campus ministry important to value-shaping

by Rev. Charles Born,
Campus Pastor UT-Austin

In our society, higher education is a crucial formative agent. It helps shape the values of many and set the directions of our society. That's why it has been said that education is too important to be left to the educators. The importance of the higher education arena in guiding and shaping the development of people calls the church to be in mission in this arena.

During the summer of 1958, Rev. Charles H. Born of Lincoln, Neb., accepted a call of the Texas District to become the campus pastor at the University of Texas, Lutheran Bible chair instructor and district coordinator of campus ministry.

During his ministry, two chapels and student centers have been built. The first, at 26th and Wichita Streets, was completed in 1964 and taken by the state in 1971 by the right of eminent domain. The second in 1974, at 21st and San Antonio Streets, is an all-Lutheran center.

As University Lutheran

Church carries out the church's mission at the University of Texas in Austin, it includes all the facets you would expect to find in a campus ministry. . . worship, Bible classes, counseling, student fellowship, short term non-credit courses, retreats, recreational activities, service projects, etc. Rather than describing these, we would like to highlight several unique features of this ministry.

One of these is our telemarketing program. We regularly call new students at the university to invite them to share lunch with the campus pastor and several student leaders at the center. This accomplishes a number of purposes. First of all, a pastor speaks with them personally. They are then invited to share a non-threatening event. It brings them into the church and center, and community building is immediately initiated as they meet peers from the University community who are enthusiastically involved in the ministry.

The most significant factor of the ministry here is



CONFIRMATION CLASS—A significant factor of the ministry of Rev. Charles Born, center rear, at the University of Texas in Austin is the high number of adult confirmations. Here Pastor Born is shown with a recent confirmation class.



COMMUNION—Pastor Born administers communion to students at UT-Austin.

the high number of adult confirmations. In May, a former student, who is now married and living in Dallas, came to Austin to attend the graduation of her sister-in-

law. Since she had previously been instructed by me, arrangements were made for her confirmation prior to the graduation ceremonies.

It hasn't worked quite this way with all those taught here. Just recently a young woman ministered to at the university wrote, "I still walk closely with the Lord, and your ministry and teaching have enabled me over the years. No, I never became a Lutheran, but you and the apostle Paul have always influenced me. Pastor Lloyd Ogilvie is my Presbyterian pastor here in Hollywood."

Through the years the student confirmands have become pastors, pastors' wives, lawyers, architects, pharmacists, nurses and business leaders. That's the way it is in campus ministry. On the campus, the church has the rich opportunity to touch and shape lives with the Gospel of Christ for time and eternity. Campus pastors sow lots of seeds, others water and still others harvest for the Kingdom's sake!



BIBLE CLASS—Students at UT-Austin gather with Pastor Born for Bible study at University Lutheran Church. Campus ministry also includes worship, counseling, fellowship, service projects and other activities designed to build a spiritual community within the campus structure.

SPOTLIGHT:
1,297 YEARS OF MARRIAGE

TEXAS DISTRICT



Anniversaries



GOLDEN—Erwin and Anna Fischer celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary June 16. They are members of Bethany Lutheran of Houston.



SIXTY-NINE YEARS—Mr. and Mrs. Harry E. Mlertschin celebrated their 69th wedding anniversary May 15. They are active members of St. John Lutheran of Thorndale. They were baptized, confirmed and married there.



FIFTY YEARS—Edwin and Louise Ogilvie celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary June 9. They were honored at a special reception given by their children at Bethany Lutheran Church of Houston where the Ogilvies are members.

These Lutheran couples of the Texas District have celebrated wedding anniversaries of 50 years or more:

Hope, Austin: Dr. and Mrs. Ernest Tiemann, 61 years, June 9.

St. Mark, Houston: Henry and Hilda Iselt, 51 years, June 6.

Zion, Abilene: Carl and Muriel Wilhite, 63 years, June 19.

Trinity, Sealy: Paul and Lillie Ludwig, 63 years, June 6; Frank and Esther Thornton, 51 years, June 18; Luke

and Evelyn Michaelis, 50 years, June 22; and Jessie and Lillie Wittenburg, 50 years, June 26.

Grace, Arlington: Harry and Olive Richmond, 50 years, June 20.

St. Paul, Fort Worth: Peggy and John Keagy, 51 years, June 24; Edwin and Lorene Luedtke, 54 years, June 26; Marcella and Thomas Gibson, 53 years, June 30.

St. Paul, San Antonio: Walter and Gertrude Medack, 56 years, June 24; Leo and Louise Mooty, 55 years, June 21.



MALONE—Herman and Dora Huse of Salem Lutheran of Malone celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary May 21. They have been members of Salem all their married life.



FEDOR—Adolph and Erna Patschke, lifetime members of Trinity Lutheran, Fedor, celebrated their golden wedding anniversary Jan. 14.



SIXTIETH—Recently, Mr. and Mrs. Otto Schaefer were honored by their church, Ascension of Cleburne, for their 60th wedding anniversary. Mrs. Schaefer holds plaque from the church citing their dedication to the Lord and His church.



SIXTY-FOURTH—Elizabeth and Edward C. Uhl celebrated their 64th wedding anniversary June 22. They are members of Bethany Lutheran of Houston.



SIXTY-FIFTH—Sam and Lena Hall celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary June 17. They were married in 1925 by Pastor Hobart Meyer. Theirs was the first wedding performed at Messiah Lutheran Church of Houston. The Halls are now members of Bethany Lutheran of Houston.

What is the Lutheran Foundation of Texas?

by Pastor Jerry Kieschnick,
Executive Director,
Lutheran Foundation of
Texas

The only dictionary I own was presented with the following inscription: "Jerry: May this always be a help to you. Daddy and Mother - Christmas, 1959."

This old and now well-worn companion defines "foundation" as we might expect: "that on which something is founded, the natural or prepared ground or base on which some structure rests."

- Homes and other buildings have foundations. The length of time a structure stands is largely dependent upon the strength of the foundation on which it was built.

The dictionary continues: "a donation or legacy for the support of an institution, an endowment, an endowed institution."

- These two definitions comprise the answer to the oft-asked question, "What is the Lutheran Foundation of Texas?"

My answer: "It is a ministry that encourages giving and provides a basis of financial support for the other ministries of the church."

Developing that simple answer could take pages of amplification. A few points must suffice:

- The Lutheran Foundation of Texas (the foundation) is a ministry devoted to helping people give gifts to



Yes, I want to know more. Clip and mail to

Lutheran Foundation of Texas

7900 U.S. 290 E. Austin, TX 78724 (512) 926-4272

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

() _____

ZIP _____

Telephone Number _____

8

their loved ones and to their Lord. Some people choose to do so while they are still living. Others make plans for those gifts to be made at the time of their death. Still others do both.

- The work of the Foundation almost always results in larger and more effective gifts from people to their family members. We are **not** in the business of encouraging people to disinherit their children and give everything they have to the church. Children like to see us visit their parents. Children are pleased with the results of those visits because parents experience greater peace of mind when their giving plans have been made and because such planning saves tax dollars and probate costs, resulting in greater financial benefit for the family.

- The work of the Foundation encourages and enables people who love their Lord to financially support His work through

their home congregation or other favorite ministry in a manner which many never dream would be possible. Gifts of cash, stock certificates, certain parcels of real estate, life insurance policies and other valuable possessions are being made every single day by people just like you. Some of these gifts are given for the current benefit of the church. Others are given for the current benefit of the giver and the future benefit of the church.

- The ministry of the Foundation is largely a "how to" ministry. Most of the people with whom we work already love their family and their Lord. They want to give to their family and to their Lord. The Foundation's role is to design a plan which will help those gifts be given in the most effective and God-pleasing manner possible in accord with the wishes of the giver.

Strange, isn't it? Most of us spend a lifetime working, earning, saving, investing, accumulating, living frugally



Rev. Jerry Kieschnick

and spending carefully. And then we realize that everything the Lord has given us through these activities must someday be given away. For the Bible says, "*We brought nothing into this world and it is absolutely certain we can take nothing out*" (1 Timothy 6:7).

To what people and/or to which ministries are the gifts with which you have been blessed going to be given? How, when and by whom will those gifts be made?

Have your answers to those questions been expressed in writing, so that your giving goals will be accomplished? If so, praise the Lord! If not, the Foundation is here and available to help. We pledge to do so confidentially, sensitively and efficiently. We await your request for information and assistance.

Warning

The Motion Picture Association of America gave the Billy Graham movie *The Prodigal* a PG rating. According to MPAA, "pre-teenage children should not be exposed to Christianity without parents' consent."



Genealogy workshops scheduled

The Texas Wendish Heritage Society has scheduled three genealogical workshops that will deal exclusively with Lutheran church records and families with Lutheran roots. The new Lutheran Genealogical Society will conduct the workshops.

The workshops will focus on Lutheran, Lee County and Central Texas research, and participants will be permitted to do hands-on research of records from these areas.

The workshops will take place from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Aug. 25, Sept. 22 and Oct. 20. They will be held at the Texas Wendish Museum in Serbin.

There is a two-week advance registration fee of \$20, payable to the Lutheran Genealogical Society at Rt. 2 Box 155, Giddings, TX 78942-9769.

Barbara Hielscher at (409) 366-2441 has more information.

The workshops are for either expert or novice genealogists, with research instruction available.



CHRIST KINDERGANG—Pastor James Linderman of Christ Lutheran, Austin, invites the youngsters of the congregation to the altar for baptisms. "They don't remember their own," he says, "and they like seeing a new little brother or sister being received into the embrace of Jesus and into their church family." Here little Clayton Jameson Bielke receives the washing of Holy Baptism. Parents of the child being baptized may opt for the more traditional service that does not involve other children. (Photo by Brian Michalk.)

PEOPLE, PLACES, & EVENTS

Pastor Bill Sager, Faith, Woodville, and St. Paul, Jasper, was commissioned a reserve chaplain in the U.S. Army Reserve.

Rev. Tom C. Hadley was installed as assistant pastor of St. Andrew, Houston, June 10.

Its first sanctuary was dedicated June 3 by Faith, Mexia. Rev. Tom Konz is pastor.

Beta Sigma Psi, a Lutheran collegiate fraternity at Texas A & M, will award a \$250 scholarship to an incoming Lutheran male

freshman in September.

A dinner at Our Redeemer, Irving, June 17 celebrated the 25th anniversary of the ordination of the pastor, Robert P. Degner.

Hope Lutheran of Friendswood has entered the Texas Highway Department's "Adopt a Highway" program and will be responsible for a two-mile stretch of Hwy. 518, pledging its members to clean the roadsides of trash at least four times a year for two years.

Dr. Suzanne Schafer, Zion, Fort Worth, has received the distinguished alumnus award from her high school.

Living churches

Live churches dream great dreams; dead churches are afraid of reliving nightmares.



FISHER FOLK—Our Redeemer, Dallas, school students dressed in their fishing clothes for their annual musical. This year's performance by the preschoolers through eighth grade was called "Down By The Creekbank."

SERVING THE OLDER ADULT

One of the problems in our society today is pretending to be younger than we are

by Rev. E. George Becker

One of the most rewarding experiences in Christian ministry is that of serving the older adult. It makes little difference whether one is serving in full-time ministry or as a dedicated lay-person who wishes to help particularly the elderly.

Older adults may be classified into two major categories. Those who are approximately 50 and older, the so-called "un-retired" and those who are 65 and older, the retired or "semi-retired" who are sometimes referred to as senior citizens.

Among the elderly there are many who are suffering and even lingering because of health reasons. What is so shocking is not the fact that there are many suffering senior adults, but rather that many young people are not even aware of the fact. And then, of course, all of us, regardless of age, find ourselves not really caring too much about the "old people" who are shut in from society and are sick and lonely.

One of the problems in our society is that we pretend to be younger than we really are, especially after we hit middle age, and particularly when one hits 50 or so. But remember, middle age begins with the ages of 35 or 40. Life expectancy still has not hit 100!

In my ministry I am most grateful for the response of the senior citizens I am



privileged to serve. I cannot always spend the time with them that I would like. But they show their gratitude in many different ways when we come into contact, whether it be on Sunday morning, a visit in the hospital, a private communion service in their home if necessary, or just a telephone call. I wish I had the patience, understanding and thoughtfulness they have. It very often can be labeled the "patience of Job."

But I am also amazed at the continuous help of those senior citizens who continue to serve other "seniors" by assisting me in "golden age" ministry and lend a hand in a similar manner to community programs. They never give you the impression that "too much" is really "too much." Sometimes, for their own good, I wish they would be more honest and simply say, "I don't think I can handle that project right now." These folks are truly a gift from God. I'm sure any Christian pastor would agree.

But the "un-retired" who also help care for the elderly are also a blessing.

These are the people who give of their time, not just to one of their own family but also see the need for help in church and community senior citizens projects and activities. One may argue that they do this out of personal or self motivation because they may one day need this kind of help themselves.

But I choose to think of their service as being based upon the Biblical principle of Christian brotherly or sisterly love. This kind of motivation isn't centered in our own personal selfish desires. It begins with the life, the death and the resurrection of Jesus Christ and the love which he showed us through God's own forgiveness of us. This kind of motivation helps one to do more for those who are in need of help, whether they be young, middle aged, older in age or elderly.

(Rev. Becker is a retired pastor serving Trinity Lutheran Church in Taylor).

Now hear this!

A good sermon is when you wonder how the pastor found out all about you.

Something to sing about!

Katie Butters is a very special member of Our Redeemer Lutheran Church of Dallas.

She's a mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, has a great smile and a lovely voice.

She has sung in the Our Redeemer choir for 55 years!



Rev. J. Ralph Hess

After a struggle with leukemia for several years, Rev. J. Ralph Hess of Austin was called home by the Lord May 29.

He served congregations in New Mexico, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin before turning to the chaplaincy. He was chaplain at Wisconsin State Hospital before being called by the directors of the Synod's Texas District as an institutional chaplain. He joined Lutheran Social Service of Texas in 1970, and later was LSST chaplain supervisor until retirement in 1981.

Even during his retirement, he continued to make hospital and nursing home calls, still serving the elderly and ill.

Survivors are his wife, Margaret; daughter and son-in-law, Betsy and Robert Martinez, and granddaughter of Taos, N.M. Two brothers also survive.

A memorial service was held June 2 at Hope Lutheran in Austin.



HALF-CENTURY—In 1940, these people were part of the 20-member confirmation class of St. Paul, Serbin. They celebrated their 50th confirmation anniversary May 27 at St. Paul. From left, front row, are Elsie Schnell Bakken, Gladys Oltmann Symm, Florence Driessner Reinhardt; second row, Florence Urban Schwausch, Phyllis Schmidt Elbert, Hedwig Mertink Mutschink, Gertrude Groeschel Lorenz; third row, Herman Belsert, Arnold M. Krause, Herbert Schulz, Delbert Gersch; fourth row, Clarence Mutscher, Pastor Paul Hartfield, Teacher H.E. Welser and Milton Kasper. Two could not attend and five members of the class have died.

Pastors, educators to meet

Pastors and educators of Area D of the Texas District (Houston and Southeast Texas) will meet Oct. 18-19 at Salem Lutheran Church of Tomball.

The conference will focus on meeting the challenge of changing families—changing ministry. Keynote speaker will be Rev. John Saleska of Concordia Theological Seminary of Fort Wayne, Ind.

Among topics to be explored are grief, family abuse and substance abuse.



ASSOCIATE—Rev. Stephen J. Sohns was installed April 29 as associate pastor of Resurrection Lutheran of Spring. He has served congregations in Delaware and Iowa and at Resurrection will work especially in outreach and growth. Participating in the installation were, from left, Dr. Alvin Franzmeyer, senior pastor; Pastor Sohns; Dr. Wilbert Sohns, father of the new associate and president of the Wyoming District and preacher for the service; and Rev. Roy Kieschnick, circuit counselor.



Pastor, here's where your wife will be September 28-30

The fourth annual Pastors Wives Retreat will be held Sept. 28-30 at Camp Lone Star, LaGrange.

The theme of the retreat is "He Will Lift You Up."

Topic leader for the weekend is Dr. Pete Steinke, director of clergy care with Lutheran Social Service of Texas. The format will include both large and small group activities and a worship service with Holy Communion on Sunday morning.

A registration form will be sent to each pastor's wife in the Texas District, or you may use the accompanying



Dr. Pete Steinke form on this page.

Congregations are requested to help their pastor's wife to attend by providing financial assistance or babysitting during the weekend.

TEXAS DISTRICT PASTOR'S WIVES'S RETREAT
SEPTEMBER 28-30, 1990
REGISTRATION FORM
Cost: \$75.00

NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____
PHONE: _____
CHURCH NAME: _____
CHURCH ADDRESS: _____

MAKE CHECKS
PAYABLE TO: Texas District - Pastors Wives Retreat

MAIL CHECKS
AND FORM TO: Val Hennings
3733 Fenton
Ft. Worth, TX 76133
(817) 292-9191

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: September 1, 1990

YOUTH



SPECIAL KIDS—This is the Praise Choir of Redeemer Lutheran of San Antonio. This special group of children meets on Saturday mornings to practice, and once a month they sing for shut-ins. They have touched many lives with the love of Jesus!

Our bright Lutheran kids. . .

Kim Armbruster, **Faith, Sugar Land**, was voted "most likely to succeed" by her senior high school class. (The Faith newsletter said "we already knew that".) Kim also was class salutatorian.

It's anchors away for Kris Schneider, **Our Redeemer, Dallas**, who was awarded the Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps scholarship.

Brent Vyvial, **Trinity, Rosenberg**, won "Scout of the Year" in his Cub Scout pack.

Congratulations to Cherie Amundson, **Ascension, Cleburne**, who was the Cleburne Kiwanis Club's Youth of the Month in May.

The bright bunch at **Good Shepherd, Pasadena**, includes Angela Barnes, Debbie Jacobs and Matthew Wyman, all of whom were inducted into the National Honor Society.

Bill Kuschnerreit, **Bethlehem, Palestine**,

received an art scholarship from Lon Morris College.

Linda Donaldson, **Our Savior, Abilene**, earned a \$4,000 scholarship to McMurry College. She graduated sixth in her high school class.

Bright kid honors at **Our Savior, Austin**, go to Matt Johnson and Rachel Doering who received their school district's trustee award. That puts them in the top 10 percent.

One athlete who is getting the jump on almost everybody else is Rye Bavin, **St. Paul, Big Spring**, who participated in the state high school track meet. He won third in the high hurdles and fifth in the intermediate hurdles.

Congratulations to bright kid Diane Mitschke, **Christ Lutheran, Loebau**, who was eighth grade valedictorian of her class at Dime Box School.

Tara Kelley, **St. John**,

Cypress, was chosen out of approximately 300 children to play the lead part in a national commercial about Earth Day that aired in April.

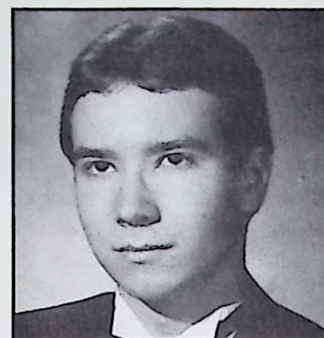
Kirk Elder, **Christ Our Savior, Lago Vista**, was inducted into the National Honor Society.

The folks at **Trinity, Klein**, are proud of members Matt Neidigk who made the all-state golf team, and Jamie Benfer who won a scholarship to Kilgore College for her cheerleading talents.

Three cheers for Lisa Donaldson, **Our Savior, Abilene**, who received the "Youth of the Year" award and a \$500 scholarship from the Exchange Club.

The gaggle of bright kids at **St. Paul, Austin**, includes Beth Krobbehof, Julie Sieberg and Angie Snyder, all of whom had the highest grade-point averages in their classes. It was two years in a row for Angie. Also, Charles Kelm won first place in the engineering division of the 34th annual Austin area science and engineering competition.

Count these among the bright kid gang at **Trinity, Port Arthur**. Jack Trahan rebuilt a pump in his diesel mechanics class and entered it in state competition. It won first. Clint Huckaby was inducted into the National Honor Society, and Carolyn Clary and Phillip Abshire into the Junior National Honor Society. LaRae Rising was on her school's tennis team that won second in district. She's also a cheerleader.



SCHOLAR—Marc Schwarz, member of **St. Paul, Big Spring**, has been named a National Merit Scholar. He was valedictorian of his class and will study political science and history at **UT-Austin** on a scholarship from this school. He also was state gold medalist in editorial writing, silver medalist in news writing. He received his school's outstanding science student award.

Sandy Reedy, **Prince of Peace, Belton**, has been honored as Female Athlete of the Year at Belton High.

Here's a tremendous honor! Chad Clark, **King of Kings, San Antonio**, has received more honors in art than any student in the history of his high school. His last was receiving the National Art Honor Society memorial scholarship. Also at King of Kings, Kathryn Biar graduated magna cum laude and was the Outstanding Achievement recipient. And Shawn Jensen built a grandfather clock as a junior in his industrial arts class. It won best in Texas in competition and was entered in the National Technology Students meet.

Bright kid honors to Wendy Farrack, **Concordia, Houston**, who graduated magna cum laude (fifth in her class), and to Judy D. Perkins

YOUTH

TEXAS DISTRICT



who placed second in UIL competition in debate.

Wow! Christie Grymes, **Zion, Tomball**, won a \$20,000 scholarship from Coca Cola—one of 50 winners out of 53,000 applicants.

Others of the bright kid gang at Zion are Jennifer Meiners who was a first-team selection in district basketball, and Travis Martin, winner of a drama scholarship.



Carrie Bowden

Carrie Bowden, **Faith, Gainesville**, was valedictorian at Gainesville High. She carried a 4.59 GPA. She's in the National Honor Society, has won numerous ceramic awards, was Soroptimist Girl of the Month and a Tandy Scholar.

Included in the bright kid gang at **Bethel, Dallas**, are: Cori Berg, honor graduate, president of the French Club and nominated for the *Dallas Times Herald* award in social studies; Kristin Ficken, National Honor Society, earning a skills endorsement in Business Education; Amy Galbreath, listed in Who's Who of American High School Students, and a scholarship winner; Lynn Oney, member of the district-winning academic decathlon team, lettered in volleyball and soccer, being chosen district MVP in the latter; David



SHARING LOVE—Two students of Redeemer Lutheran School of Dallas share a game with resident of Meadowgreen Nursing Home. They also had a cook-out with their "grandparents." Students in each grade at Redeemer were assigned a "grandparent" for the school year, with whom they shared activities and programs.

Sims, top 6 percent graduate, member of academic decathlon team and National Merit Scholarship commended student. Nice work, gang!

And consider this bright bunch at **Grace, Arlington**. Cory Geisselmann, Quinn Nunnally, Angela Herbrich, Steve Walsh and Matt Walsh are all National Junior Honor Society inductees. Eric Stearns was winner in the Tarrant County science fair.

Messiah, Houston, is proud of its young member Karen Kuropata who was salutatorian at her high school.

Grace Wueller and Becky Schkade, **St. Paul, Groves**, were inducted into the National Honor Society. Michael Wueller received the Academic Award for the second straight year with 5.0 GPA. Eric Simonsen received a \$2,000 academic scholarship from the University of Houston. And Melissa Girouard received a full two-

year volleyball scholarship at Alvin Community College.

The Biediger bunch of **St. Paul, San Antonio**, has done it again. Brooke Biediger's artwork, "Through the Window," was chosen for the permanent art collection at Woodridge Elementary. Brian Biediger was named to all-star band, and made a perfect score on the National Mathematics League test.



Randall Fehler

Randall Fehler, **Peace, Hewitt**, was valedictorian and president of his senior class of Lorena High. He received the Robert C. Byrd Honors Scholarship from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, a commendational presidential scholarship from Baylor University, and a scholarship

from the McLennan County Council of PTAs. He was president of Lorena's National Honor Society and the Waco District FFA.

When the Army goes rolling alone, Jennifer Von Dielingen, **Our Redeemer, Wichita Falls**, could be in it. The salutatorian of her high school class, she received an appointment to West Point.

Add these members of Gethsemane, **Houston**, to the bright kid bunch. Debbie Friedrich, graduating sixth in her class, and Ross Theilen, graduating fourth.

Virginia Wenck, **St. Paul, San Antonio**, competed in UIL contests in algebra and calculator. She also plays soccer. And she was inducted into the National Junior Honor Society.

Add Terri Olszewski, Niki Aurich and Becky Thompson to the bright kid bunch at **Trinity, Klein**. They all were inducted into the National Honor Society.

Patricia Heart is going down under. A member of **St. John, San Benito**, she was selected by the Harlingen Rotary Club to participate in the Student Foreign Exchange Program. She leaves Aug. 13 for Dargaville, New Zealand, where she will attend school for a year.

Congratulations to Tara Bieck, **Christ, Austin**, who was awarded a \$20,000 scholarship from the Lower Colorado River Authority.

Kristopher Schneider, **Our Redeemer, Dallas**, was valedictorian of his graduating high school class.

NEWS

Our bright older kids...

Carmen Hill, **Our Redeemer, Wichita Falls**, graduated magna cum laude from Midwestern University May 12. She's an education major.

Linda Piel, **Our Savior, Abilene**, received the Ginny Carlson Memorial Award from McMurry College, as the outstanding woman graduate, based on scholarship, service to school and community, and religious, moral and ethical character. Her brother, Carl Piel Jr., was named outstanding chemistry student in the graduating class. Both he and his sister graduated cum laude.

Helen Elkins, **Our Savior, Rockwall**, graduated summa cum laude from UT, Dallas. Her degree is in literary studies.



LEADER—Dawn Michalk, Immanuel, Giddings, is chairperson of the Texas District Lutheran Youth Fellowship. The council of district LYF chairpersons asked Synod's Board for Youth Services to study how the visibility of LYF can be raised among young people and the church in general and how the youth organization can make a greater impact in youth ministry. Dawn and her peers believe LYF must be Christ-centered, teen-sensitive, youth-led and ministry-oriented.

Martin Warnasch, St. John, Cypress, has been inducted into the Honor Society at UT, Austin.



Julie Carnahan

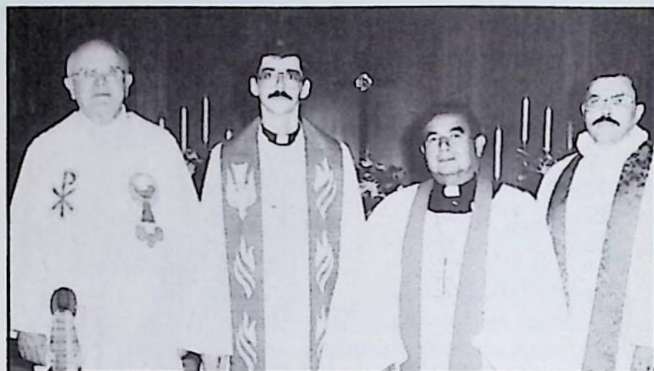
Julie Paige Carnahan, 18, **Christ Lutheran, Jacksonville**, graduated from dental assistant training school.

Tara Bernhagen, **Lamb of God, Humble**, graduated May 12 from the University of Houston with a degree in finance. She finished her work in three years and already has a job. Also, Andy Miller graduated from UT with honor in electrical engineering.

Amy Biar, **Holy Cross, Nederland**, a freshman Spanish major at A & M, has received the Reachin' High Award, designed to honor students who have distinguished themselves academically.

Selected for membership in Beta Gamma Sigma was Cindy Lynn Fischer, **Prince of Peace, Belton**. This is a scholastic honor society for students in business. Cindy has maintained a 4.0 GPA at Baylor University.

Tommy Cantrell, member of **Our Savior, Austin**, and a junior at Concordia Lutheran college of Austin, was named an NAIA academics all-star. He plays outfield for the baseball team.



FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY—Mount Calvary Lutheran of Raymondville celebrated the 50th anniversary of its founding with a jubilee service April 29. Participating were, from left, Revs. Martin L. Koehnke, lector; Walter Pohland, Mount Calvary pastor and preacher; Leopoldo Vigil, predicador; Steven Morlitt, officiant. Rev. Koehnke was pastor of Mount Calvary when it was founded.

Send your news to Bill

Send your newsletters, photos and stories for the LUTHERAN WITNESS to:

Bill Wagner, editor, 7900 E. Highway 290
Austin, TX 78724-2499

Official publication

The Texas District *Messenger* is an official publication of The Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod in this area. The *Messenger* will publish activities of the Synod and district and affiliated organizations upon request. To go beyond this would lead to confusion.



ROUND ROCK—King of Kings Lutheran Church of Round Rock has broken ground for an educational building. The six-room, 1,600-square-foot unit is being built entirely by member labor. All money was pledged before construction and completion is expected by September. Pastor Thomas C. Waynick, second from right, and members of the church council are shown at groundbreaking ceremonies.



LaVerne Reinhardt

Reinhardt service honored

LaVerne Reinhardt, former administrator of the Trinity Lutheran Home in Round Rock, received the Distinguished Service Award from the Texas Association of Homes for the Aging at its annual meeting May 17 in Austin.

In the summer of 1967, she joined the staff of the Lutheran Social Service of Texas nursing home as a nurse aide. Over the next 22 years she worked as receptionist/secretary, assistant administrator, manager of Altenheim and administrator.

In those years at Trinity Lutheran Home, there have been a few changes. When she first came, the home had only 86 beds including a cottage residence and personal care unit.

Today, after three renovation/construction periods, the facility, including the personal care unit of Altenheim, boasts 197 beds. The LSST Board of Directors designated the activities area in honor of LaVerne Reinhardt.

Chaplain brings comfort to grieving parents

Life and death.

Helping people deal with the realities of both is what LSST hospital chaplains do, day after day.

In this true story, Chaplain Robert B. Wedergren, LSST Chaplain at the University of Texas Medical Branch Hospitals in Galveston, relates one such experience.

On a cold wintry night my beeper went off at 1 a.m. right in the midst of a deep sleep. The message: Call the Shrine Burns Hospital.

I soon discovered that a 4-year-old child had cardiac arrest again, one of several that had occurred within a 24-hour period. The parents wanted to see the chaplain on call. The nurse relaying the message made it clear --the child was extremely critical.

Hurriedly I dressed and drove the lonely miles to the hospital. On the unit, the nurse gave me a quick briefing and then took me into the child's room.

The mother was bent over the barely breathing little boy, caressing the charred body. After I introduced myself, she expressed concern for her husband and asked that I talk to him. He was in the hallway adjacent to the room.

There, visiting with the staff psychologist who had spent many caring moments with the parents, we exchanged introductions. Their day had been unbelievably difficult and painful. I asked him if there was anything he wished to talk about.

His answer, as he turned to go back into the room, was, "We need to pray."

Back in the dimly lit room, kept extra

warm to compensate for the body's loss of skin protection, we gathered silently for a few moments by the almost still form of their child. Then the father went to the other side of the bed, opposite his wife. The three of us now formed a semicircle around the baby.

He got down on his knees and bowed his head. We held hands. We prayed. The prayer for strength and acceptance . . . and for God's love in Christ to embrace us in the midst of what we did not understand or want. Then silence.

I stepped back as the husband came around to embrace his wife. They were devoted both as parents and to each other.

We stepped out of the room as a nurse came to provide her loving ministry to the child.

Suddenly, the bright lights went on in the room. It was close to 3 a.m. The child had died.

We re-entered the room, stopped by the child's lifeless form, and held hands. In the hallway the strains of "I'll Be Home for Christmas," came softly from the loud-speaker. I thought to myself: Christmas comes to the real world in the midst of life and death, dimly lit hospital rooms and cold windy nights.

"I'll Be Home for Christmas." What would this family have to hold on to if it weren't for our Lord's coming?

The 34 LSST chaplains bring this message and hope to hundreds of individuals and families each day.

New development director for Southeast Texas

E.L. Van Laningham, vice president for agency advancement, announced the appointment of William H. Harlow as director of development for Lutheran Social Service of Texas. His office is in the Houston area and serves the Southeast Texas area.

William Harlow is a member of The Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod and has worked for the last 14 years with the Lutheran School for the Deaf in Detroit, Mich.

Rev. Robert C. Greene, president, said, "As LSST begins the major fund appeal

'Vision 2000, A Challenge to Care,' the Houston area will be a vital part of this campaign. Bill will provide staff leadership in 'Vision 2000' which is to raise funds for both local programs and state-wide ministries of LSST."

CONCORDIA

From Concordia's president . . . to faithful teachers with love

Christ's church must teach. Lutherans, more than many others, have caught the urgency and scope of "teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you." Check your congregational weekly activity calendar and you will find that much of what is scheduled has to do with teaching. Add to that counseling sessions and other one-on-one settings which are intentional techniques we use so that people may grow in understanding.

Remember that sermons too, in addition to what they may do to motivate, encourage, challenge or comfort, seek always to bring new insight or a better grasp on some treasure of the Gospel. Even our liturgies serve as continuing reminders of the faith delivered to us through the centuries. In some instances, we have congregational libraries for the single purpose of offering opportunity to expand our learning. The obvious conclusion is that we are teaching in quite a lot of what we do together.

Each of us of every age and description are involved in that learning by which we grow in faith and in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. We regret every exception to that norm. In the front lines of this great teaching enterprise are parents, teachers and pastors. Because of the clarity of their God-given roles, parents and pastors would hardly be called volunteers in this effort. A great many

teachers, however, are volunteers, people exercising those special gifts for which we all thank God.

Among all those classified as teachers, the unique treasure of Lutheranism is that number who are career teachers, those specifically prepared, certified and called to serve in our Lutheran schools—early childhood, elementary, secondary and institutions of higher education. I have the concern that each of us values these people for the marvelous gifts of God they are.

Our schools, of course, exist for the sake of the learners, not their teachers. It is so that "lambs" (and "sheep") may grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ that we make the significant investment in facilities and

personnel. But what have we without teachers?

Teachers are among Concordia's specialties. Both as a center of Christian education and as a contributor to the supply of available teachers, Concordia is your partner in the great venture of teaching/learning the faith.

Never underestimate what you contribute to that partnership. Your gifts and prayers make Concordia viable. But no contribution of yours is so great as the young men and women from your families and congregations who hear and respond to the Lord's call to teach.

The present supply of teachers is not boundless, and for the next generation the supply does not even exist except in the potential among your children.

You make a difference



President Ray F. Martens

directly as you encourage your children to serve the Lord as Lutheran teachers. You make a difference indirectly as you love your present teachers lavishly and generously. Return on investment is boundless: the shaping and securing of young lives for Christ.

Christ's church must teach. Your Concordia relishes its role not only in teaching, but also in teaching teachers. It is nice to be needed for something so close to the heart of what Christ has commissioned His church to do.



CHURCH MUSIC WORKSHOP—Dr. Donald Rotermund of Zion Lutheran Church in Dallas was guest conductor for this year's Church Music Workshop at Concordia. The 38 participants came from Texas, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma and Colorado. Next year's workshop will be the second week in June.



Concordia profs honored for teaching excellence

Concordia's president, Dr. Ray F. Martens, has called the career teachers of our church "... the unique treasure of Lutheranism." Two of Concordia's professors, Dr. Milton Riemer and Dr. Barbara Morton, surely qualify as two of the "treasures," and have been honored as such by receiving teaching excellence awards.

Riemer received the Martin J. Neeb Sr. Teaching Excellence Award from the Concordia Council, the chief advisory group for the college. Morton's Teaching Excellence and Leadership Award came from the Sears-Roebuck Foundation.

Riemer received his award in May, at the end of his 30th year as Concordia faculty member. He currently teaches English, business law and environmental law, and serves as chairman of the humanities and fine arts division. He is an ordained pastor, holding a master of divinity degree, as well as a doctor of philosophy degree and a juris doctor degree.

Although Riemer is well qualified to do many things other than teaching, he prefers to continue in the classroom. "Every year I hope I can make a significant difference in the life of a least one person," he says.

The Sears-Roebuck Foundation award recognizes private college educators who inspire and

motivate students to excel. Morton received her award for her contributions in preparing students to be effective teachers.

Under Morton's leadership, Concordia students have achieved one of the state's highest passing rates on the Examination for the Certification of Educators.



NEEB AWARD—William Bellharz presented the award to Dr. Milton Riemer at commencement. Riemer and his wife, Joan, are members of Hope Lutheran Church in Austin.



SEARS AWARD—Mildred Krlenke (left) of Sears-Roebuck and President Martens presented the award to Dr. Barbara Morton this summer. Morton is a member of Our Savior in Austin.



THEY WILL LEAD US—Two Ministerial Youth Retreats on the Concordia campus this summer introduced young people to the opportunities and joys of professional church work ministries.

LUTHERAN OUTDOORS MINISTRY OF TEXAS



CAMP STAFFS—The young people, at left, are the camp staffers this summer at Camp Lone Star. Garland Midgett is director and Craig Oldenburg is program coordinator. Above is the staff at Lake Texoma Lutheran Camp where Kelth Lund is director.

Special young people staff camps at Lone Star and Texoma

"Consider a summer of service." These are the words of invitation given to college-age youth, offering them a summer of experience, growth and fun in outdoors ministry—truly a summer they will never forget.

Giving a summer of service is — giving a summer of hard work beginning with staff training, an intense nine to 12 days of Bible study, community building, certification, swim tests, skills concentration and planning.

Each camp site of Lutheran Outdoors Ministry of Texas (LOMT) gathers its staff from across the country through the joint recruitment process of the National Lutheran Outdoors Ministry Association (NLOMA). NLOMA sends interview teams to many Lutheran college campuses seeking quality staff. This year, LOMT has staffers from Wisconsin, California, North Carolina and, of course, Texas.

A portion of the 1990 training for LOMT includes

a joint staff training that brings together the staff of Camp Lone Star and Texoma. This time of sharing and comparing helps each staff member see the value and benefits of their summer service and also helps them identify with other youth who will be working in similar circumstances.

Staff training is a crucial part of LOMT's program for it gives the staff an opportunity to learn the goals of Outdoors Ministry and to see how these goals will affect them in the months ahead.

A parent of a 1989/1990 summer camper recently stated, "The outdoor activities at camp are great and lots of fun, but what my daughter received the most was a good role model for the future from the college staff. You don't see many kids anymore willing to sacrifice and give a labor of love for others like the counselors here do. My daughter wrote two staffers last year . . . she really needed that; they showed her they cared."

The staff, carefully selected and trained, are led through the love of their Lord to serve others. This factor helps LOMT stand out

from other summer camp programs. It's a special ingredient that makes the recipe work!

Upcoming LOMT events

- Family RV-Tent Camping Weekend — Fairfield Lake State Recreational Area — Sept. 14-16
- Pre-Confirmation Retreats
Camp Lone Star — Sept. 21-22 and Sept. 28-29
- Texoma Lutheran Camp — Sept. 21-22 and Oct. 5-6
- JOY Camp (Older Adults) — Camp Lone Star — Oct. 5-7
- Contact LOMT office for further information — LOMT, 7900 E. Highway 290, Austin, TX 78724; (512) 926-4272.



DOMINO TIME—It's a heated game of dominoes at LOMT's RV-tent camper event held recently at Bastrop State Park. The next RV-tent camping event is Sept. 14-16 at Fairfield Lake State Recreational Area. More information is available from LOMT at the district Lutheran office.



ZION—Rev. Robert C. Preece was installed as senior pastor of Zion Lutheran of Dallas April 1. He is a native Texan and returns after an Illinois pastorate since 1973. Participating were, from left, front row, Revs. John Allmann; Carl Gaertner Zion's pastor emeritus; Preece; Louis Pabor, district president; Garland Gotoski. Second row, Vicar Joseph Ardy, Revs. Mel Symmank, Don Hefta, Donald Olson, Harold Jacobsmeyer, Kermil Ratcliffe, Ron Friedrich. Back row, Don Berg, Walter Huber, John Ellington, Randy Haedge, Robert Hill, Ken Henning, Tom Sorenson and Charles Houska.

Foreign worship drop-ins find singing easy to follow

Members of St. Paul Lutheran Church of The Grove know how to make visitors welcome.

When two high-ranking officers of the West German Military Command visited their Sunday morning worship service June 10, the congregation closed the worship service by singing "Ein' Feste Burg Ist Unser Gott."

The officers were given pictorial history books and plates from the congregation.

One officer had to return

to the field, but the other was treated to a fried chicken dinner.

The Grove is 13 miles east of Fort Hood which the German officers were touring.



KERRVILLE—Rev. John Treude was installed May 13 as the first pastor of Hosanna Lutheran of Kerrville, a new mission congregation. Treude comes from Caracas, Venezuela, where he has been a missionary since 1985. Participating were, from left, Revs. Clyde Duder, proclamer; Patrick Erickson; Tim Rosenthal; Treude; William Hozler; Reinhold Mueller; and Henry Blar, circuit counselor and installer.

Outstanding

You've reached middle age when your wife tells you to pull in your stomach and you already have.

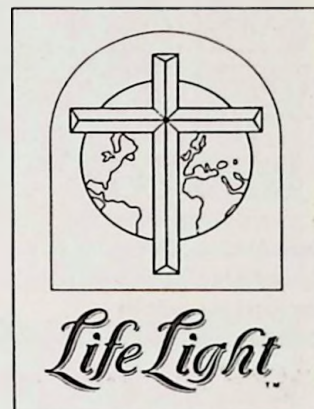
LifeLight great opportunity for growing in God's Word

If your congregation isn't involved in the in-depth, comprehensive Bible study called LifeLight, you are missing a fantastic opportunity to grow in God's Word.

LifeLight is proof that not all Bible studies are alike. While some require personal study and others involve group discussion, LifeLight includes both these—and more. This spiritual journey into God's Word includes private study, small-group discussion, informative lecture and review.

LifeLight was designed by The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod through a grant from the International Lutheran Women's Missionary League and is published by Concordia Publishing House. Lessons were prepared by LCMS theologians and authors.

Since LifeLight is designed to be lay-led, the journey demands commitment and a deep thirst to understand what God has to



say through His Holy Word.

Leadership training sessions are conducted by district leaders to help congregations prepare for this journey.

Fall is an ideal time to begin LifeLight in your congregation. To receive information about the program and training workshops, contact Texas District program coordinator Keith Loomans at the Texas District office in Austin or workshop coordinator Doris McKay, (512) 729-4651.

Life-changing Bible study programs don't just happen; they are the result of prayer, planning and the perseverance of committee leaders.

Working through such commitment, the Holy Spirit can touch the hearts and change the lives of LifeLight participants—and of your congregation. Don't delay, begin the journey today!

THE LORD ADDED...



The congregation of **Gethsemane, Houston**, was blessed May 20 with 15 new members brought by confirmation and transfer.

By adult confirmation, reaffirmation of faith and transfer, eight new members were added May 27 to the forever family of **Trinity, Klein**.

Eight persons were added to the family of faith at **St. John, San Benito**, April 27.

Rejoicing May 20 over the addition of nine members was the congregation of **Trinity, San Angelo**. They came by adult confirmation, profession of faith and transfer.

Welcomed in June at **Christ Memorial, Houston**, were 29 new members.

The fellowship of **Good Shepherd, Pasadena**, grew by 20 May 6 through confirmation, profession of faith and transfer. Three of the adults confirmed also were baptized.

During May, 20 new members joined the fellowship of **Pilgrim, Houston**.

Four adults, two by



151 new 1990 members (so far)



TAKING OFF—Trinity Lutheran Church in Klein, under the blessings of the Lord, has taken off in the '90s. January through May, Trinity's average worship attendance increased more than 100 per Sunday. Three large groups pictured here were taken into fellowship through May, totaling 151 baptized members. Of these, 28 came by adult confirmation, the rest by baptism, reaffirmation of faith and transfer. Pastors are DeWyth Beltz and Roy Kleschnick.



confirmation and two by profession of faith, were received into membership at **Trinity, Shamrock**, in May.

Six new members were welcomed in June at **Mount Olive, Corpus Christi**, four by adult confirmation, and two of these were baptized.

The forever family of

Grace, Arlington, grew by 20 new members in May.

By confirmation, affirmation of faith and transfer, eight new members came to **Prince of Peace, Belton**, in May.

During April and May, the congregation of **Prince of Peace, Carrollton**, heard the

confession of faith of 18 new members.

Five adults and seven youth were received by confirmation on Pentecost Day at **Redeemer, Odessa**.

Through adult and junior confirmation and baptism, 14 members were added at **Charity, Burleson**.



SAN ANTONIO—It was with great joy and thankfulness to God that Redeemer Lutheran of San Antonio welcomed 24 new members (photo at right) into its fellowship May 6. All came by adult confirmation except one transfer. Pastors are Keith Johnson and James Martin.



GROVES—Nineteen members were received in May at St. Paul, Groves. Four came by adult confirmation, one by reaffirmation, three by profession of faith, four baptized, four by transfer, three previously baptized. Pastors are Jay Simonsen and Norbert Roschke.



LEWISVILLE—Lamb of God Lutheran of Lewisville recently welcomed 18 adults and 12 children into its fellowship. They were received by adult confirmation, profession of faith and transfer. Norman Schwoert and Richard Turner are pastors.



AUSTIN—These new members were received March 25 by transfer at Redeemer Lutheran of Austin. Pastors are David Schroder and Paul Bohot.



BETHANY—On June 3, Bethany Lutheran of Houston received the blessing of confirming five adults and baptizing two adults and four children (photo at left). They are Jamal Rahman, Lori Richter, Case Adam Richter, Arnold and Kay Tamez, Joshua and Timothy Tamez, Dianne Poteet and Amber Nicole Poteet. Pastor is Lee R. Kunkel.



REDEEMER—These are new members received by transfer April 29 at Redeemer Lutheran of Austin. Pastors are Paul Bohot and David Schroder.

100 YEARS OF BLESSING



She marks 80th confirmation anniversary

Mrs. K. Gus Kriegel received a plaque (photo at left) from Rev. Wilbern Michalk, pastor of Immanuel Lutheran Church of Giddings, on the occasion of the 80th anniversary of her confirmation.

Mrs. Kriegel, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Otto Berger, was baptized Sept. 6, 1896, at Immanuel Lutheran by Rev. E.F. Moerbe and then confirmed March 20,

1910, at Immanuel by Rev. G.W. Fischer in his first confirmation class.

Mrs. Kriegel is the oldest living member of Immanuel who was baptized and confirmed there.

She received special recognition in the celebration May 6 of the 100th anniversary of Immanuel Lutheran School. A special confirmation reunion was part of the celebration.



SPECIAL AWARD—A special presentation of plaques was made during the centennial celebration of Immanuel Lutheran School of Giddings. Two plaques went to Elsie Socha and Lydia Stroebel, (photo at right) widows of two former principals, John Socha (1957-1965) and Henry Stroebel (1929-1958). Pastor Wilbern Michalk, dressed as der lehrer (the teacher) made the presentations.



100th YEAR—This is the 1990 student body and teachers (right) of Immanuel Lutheran School of Giddings. On May 6, the school celebrated 100 years of continuous Christian education.

FACULTY—These faculty members (left) of Immanuel Lutheran School of Giddings were recognized during the 100th anniversary celebration May 6 of Christian education at Immanuel. Left to right are Victor Wachsmann, Timothy Stellenpohl, Joel Robinson, Jay Liebert, Carolyn Koslan, Ann Schueler, Doreen Woelfel, Eunice Hendrickson and Larry Becker, principal. Not present, Brice Kuhlmann and Anita Seemann.





Gone to pot

Members of Lord of Life congregation of Corpus Christi have found a way to grow money for their building fund.

The owner of a local nursery offered to make a large donation to the building fund if members would pot plants for him.

Beginning at 7:30 a.m. June 9, members spent the day at the nursery exercising their green thumbs.

The nursery owner, Ted Turner, liked the work so much that he grilled chicken and brisket for the volunteers.

Young Texas Lutherans named ambassadors

Two young members of Concordia Lutheran Church of San Antonio have been chosen for a 23-day visit to Russia as ambassadors of understanding.

They are James Orozco and Kristin Gamble who are two of 79 U.S. students who will take part in "The Initiative for Understanding/Student Ambassador Exchange Program."

This program was started by President Dwight D. Eisenhower 35 years ago. He believed that if people from different countries could become friends, understanding would grow, and we could begin to solve the differences that divide us.

James and Kristin will visit Russians in their homes in and around Moscow.



Bill Siegrist

No sleepless nights when your money's in CEF

by **Bill Siegrist**
Director of Development
Church Extension Fund

"But he (Samson) did not know that the Lord had left him" (Judges 16:20).

Surely one of the saddest verses in Scripture is this one from the book of Judges. In Samson, we see the equivalent of an Old Testament "Superman". Unfortunately through his disobedience, Samson lost the anointing power and strength from the Lord. The Concordia Self-Study Bible puts it this way, "The source of Samson's strength was ultimately God Himself."

For 84 years, the Texas District Church Extension Fund has existed for one purpose: CEF is a ministry committed to Jesus Christ and His Great Commission . . . to Him be the glory!

During these 84 years, there have been countless closings and takeovers of banks and savings and loans. No one has ever lost a dime which has been invested in the Texas District CEF. Are we competing with the local banks and savings and loans? NO!

The Board of Directors for the Church Extension Fund seeks to provide favorable mortgage rates to congregations coupled with favorable investment interest rates for investors. The rates are listed above.

If you've had any sleepless nights about where your money is invested or how it is being used . . . then now is the time to consider investing in the Church Extension Fund. Our ministry is your ministry!

"Come Grow With Us" by talking with your congregational CEF representative or your pastor. If you would

Investment Opportunities

Save-By-Mail Account--5.5% (no minimum)

One-Year 6% Note (minimum \$500)*

Three-Year 7% Note (minimum \$1,000)*

Five-Year 8% Note (minimum \$10,000)*

* Subject to penalty for early withdrawal
Individual Retirement Account (IRA)--7.75%
(updated quarterly, contact our office for current rates)



Church Extension Fund

Mortgage Interest Rates

Loans for mission
congregations--7%

Loans for self-supporting
congregations--9%

like to have someone personally contact you,
please contact us at the district office.

**Texas District
CHURCH EXTENSION FUND
Bill Siegrist
7900 E. Highway 290
Austin, TX 78724-2499
(512) 926-4272**

BETHESDA LUTHERAN HOME



NEW HOMES—Chaplain Frederick Stlemke, above, of Bethesda Lutheran Home, Watertown, Wis., helps a resident cut the ribbon at the dedication of the Good Samaritan campus' new Cypress, Texas, group home. Below, Rev. Gordon Albers, Austin, leads guests in singing the *Doxology* during the ribbon-cutting ceremony at the campus' new Good Samaritan group home. Both houses are located on K-Z Road in Cypress and were dedicated May 20. Sponsoring congregations are Salem, Tomball, and St. Timothy, Houston.



Meet Evelyn: Special Olympics medalist

One of the first residents to enter Good Samaritan in 1974 was Evelyn Wasatzke.

Although confined to a wheelchair because of a fall that damaged her spine in 1987, Evelyn still enjoys music and wheelchair dancing, and she has won medals in several Special Olympics events.

Before her accident, she ran the 50-meter and relay races. Now she enters the 30-meter slalom, 25-meter wheelchair races and the softball throw.

She also enjoys going to baseball games and rodeos. A



CLASS PROJECT—Making wastebaskets from styrofoam egg cartons helps Evelyn learn dexterity.

Teens & Friends cover costs of prom, Special Olympics

Thirty-eight Bethesda/Good Samaritan residents were among 200 people who attended the annual spring prom sponsored by Teens & Friends, an organization dedicated to helping mentally and physically handicapped people.

Teens & Friends also covered the cost of 11 residents who participated in the Texas state finals for Special Olympics in San Marcos.

Dress for the prom was formal. The women received wrist corsages of white carnations, and the men wore white rose boutonnieres.

To qualify for the Special Olympic finals, the residents had to place first, second or third in area meets. All Bethesda entrants won medals at San Marcos and two were filmed for a show on the Home Sports Entertainment network.



WAITING—Residents relaxed with chaperons in the grandstand between meets at the State Special Olympics finals at San Marcos.



PROM-GOERS—Barbara, right, enjoys a beverage with Elaine Goodwin, of Bethesda's Cypress group home staff, at the Teens & Friends annual spring prom. All prom-goers had their pictures taken for family and friends. Cindy, a resident of Bethesda's King's Court group home, was named prom queen.

good card shuffler, she spends hours playing cards and matching the different kinds and colors.

Now living in a new Good Samaritan group home, she enjoys having her own room. With physical therapy training, she hopes to someday walk on her own again.

During the day she likes to make plaques and wastebaskets in her classes at Good Samaritan's main campus.



Surprises, discoveries surface as sabbatical journey moves to shelter for the homeless

by Rev. Walter E. Waiser
Peace Lutheran, Hurst

Why a night shelter?

A collect we have used frequently for worship at Peace begins: *Almighty and most merciful God, we call to mind before You all those whom it would be so easy to forget: the homeless, the destitute, the sick, the aged and all who have no one to care for them.* (LBW, p. 44.)

For quite some time I have prayed that prayer, but then forgotten about the people I prayed for. Yet the Gospel tells how frequently Jesus was among the despised and rejected.

Then Charles Colson in his book, *Loving God*, emphasized the importance of "moving alongside those in need." He says, "Our presence in a place of need is more powerful than a thousand sermons. Being there is our witness."

In view of the growing

population of homeless, the night shelter seemed the most appropriate place to be.

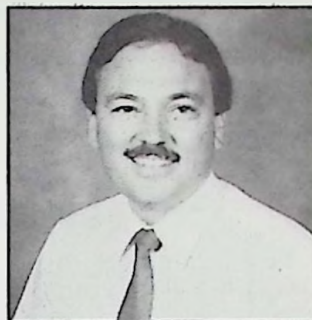
The Plan: In conversation with the director of the shelter, I decided to spend 12 days "moving alongside" the homeless. I was available to work wherever needed or would just be there to visit with staff, residents or other volunteers. Each day I also considered Jesus' words in Matt. 25:31-46 about "the least."

Surprises: The greeting from all the homeless was the same—"Who are you? Why are you here?" I expected my reply to give rise to some resistance. It was always the same: "I'm Walt Waiser. I serve a Lutheran church in Hurst. I'm on a one-month leave from my congregation and I've chosen to spend two weeks at the shelter learning about life among the homeless."

To my surprise, the people accepted me at once and wanted to tell me their stories.

During those two weeks I met a number of people I grew to like, some who could be my relatives or neighbors. There was even one woman who six months before had lived in an apartment only a mile and a half from my home. She had been my neighbor!

Discoveries: Having spent very little time among "the least," I didn't quite



Pastor Walt Waiser

know what to expect. I was surprised to find that most people at the shelter responded positively when treated with dignity and respect. They, like us, need someone to care about them in an unconditional way.

It is no longer easy for me to ignore those who lack initiative or ability. John Baillie in his *Diary of Private Prayer* prays "... for those who by reason of early surroundings have never had a fair chance in life ..." (p. 47). We need to be intentional about looking for "the least" and serving them.

The hymn "*Forgive Us Lord For Shallow Thankfulness*" (LW 401) grew in meaning each time I sang it during these two weeks. Spending time among the homeless exposes how shallow one's thanksgiving often is.

Week Four—Texoma Lutheran Camp. The last week of the month I sought solitude and quiet once again. I had to come down from the experience of the prior weeks and prepare to re-enter ministry. I had to summarize and define the learning I had experienced. I had to decide what I would strive to hold on to and integrate into my life and ministry. Again I

spent my time alone, in Bible reading, meditation and prayer, and with my journal. The focus was again on simplicity. The camp had been a helpful place for those activities in the past and served well again.

EPILOGUE

As I write this, it is nine weeks later. I continue to be surprised by the ways the leave has enriched my life. It deepened the understanding of pain, loss and suffering that I have when I minister to those grieving. It refocused my energy to invest more in relationship with my family, my friends and those I serve in ministry.

It showed me the way to a new ministry for Peace. On the last five Thursday evenings I have taken groups of six to eight youth or adults to the shelter to make sandwiches. This is a sign of a growing interest among people at Peace in being servants in our community.

The journey that began in January seems to continue in ever-surprising ways.

Christian education supporters

The congregation of Zion Lutheran of Tomball is a strong supporter of Christian Lutheran education.

Members have voted to offer each member child a \$1,000 scholarship toward tuition to the Lutheran school of the family's choosing.

Seeing red

Worshippers June 3 at Gloria Dei of Houston were really seeing red.

That's because members were asked to wear something red for the Festival of Pentecost, celebrating the special outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon the church.

"Let the fire of His Spirit burn in you," said the announcement of the event.

LONE STAR DISTRICT, LLL

\$14.3 million league budget will spread the Good News

A budget of \$14,356,186 has been adopted for the 1990-91 league year to meet the many challenges and opportunities to spread the Good News of Jesus Christ around the world.

The new budget represents about \$9.5 million for domestic and international Lutheran Hour ministries, \$2.17 million for Lutheran Television ministries and \$2.67 million for membership services.

Included in the Lutheran Hour budget, in addition to the funding of on-going programs, is \$200,000 for the continuation of the cassette ministry in mainland China; \$50,000 for funding special outreach in the German Democratic Republic and \$50,000 for funding of ministry opportunities in the USSR.

The television budget includes funds for the production of a 1991 Father's Day special, and money to produce a new television series pilot program.

The Int'l LLL board of governors took this action at its regular meeting May 11-13 in St. Louis.

President Roy Schmidt, in his opening remarks to the board, set the tone for the meeting when he said, "One important decision facing us is the 1990-91 budget and program, matters not to be taken lightly. When we leave [these meetings] we will



CHARTERED—Herbert Hartmann, seated, looks on as James Weaver holds charter for club at Trinity Lutheran of Rosenberg, presented by Benny Mitschke, right.

depart as one, united in our decisions, committed to our program, and eager to share our enthusiasm for our ministry with all our volunteers back home."

For us here in the Lone Star District, this also is our challenge. Let us start NOW to recruit new members and to gain support for the ministry of the Int'l LLL. Let us also thank God for the opportunities He has given us to share the Good News of our redemption in Jesus.

CBS MOVIE OF THE WEEK

CBS and Envoy Production (Int'l LLL production company) are engaged in co-production of a movie of the week, "Vistage of Honor." It is the story of emigrating Montagnards, Vietnamese mountain people, and their settlement through Lutheran Family Services of North Carolina. It is scheduled for telecast in November 1990.

NEW CLUB JOINS LLL

On Oct. 27, 1987, a few men of Trinity Lutheran of Rosenberg began meeting for

fellowship, service projects and topic discussions. Service projects included serving Easter breakfast, assisting the trustees with building and ground maintenance and repair. They also participated with the womens' groups and other volunteers in a major landscaping project.

Trinity Men's Club applied for an Int'l LLL charter which was presented to them Feb. 7 by Benny Mitschke, associate league services chairman. The club has 15 members.

During Lent, members placed Lutheran Hour coin boxes in the hands of each day-care child. This project raised \$80. The same project was carried out with the children of the Sunday school. A recent dinner/fellowship fund-raiser netted \$200 with 100 people in attendance.

Officers of the Men's Club are Henry Brau, president; James Weaver, vice president and Douglas Brau, treasurer.

REGION 10 GOVERNOR

Gary Laneman has completed four years of service to the league as governor of Region 10. He has served the league well. The Lone Star leaguers are proud and grateful for the leadership he has provided under God's guidance.

Laneman is not taking time off after this. His job frequently takes him to south Texas. His time during the day is spent maintaining water quality and observing other environmental problems. During the evening hours, he will join with the Rio Grande leaguers to work for the LLL. At a recent district board meeting, he detailed his plan of activities for the coming month.

Laneman and his wife are members of Redeemer, Austin. Laneman's successor will be elected in convention in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada.

MAGIC BOY'S EASTER videocassette #9 on spring Arbor Distributors "hot list" for May, ranked according to demand.

LLL news should be sent to:

Irene Teinert
Information Coord.
1501 Barbara St.
Austin, TX 78757





Faithful walking

"For we walk by faith, not by sight" (2 Cor. 5:7 KJV). Each time you look into a mirror, you believe you will see your image. What if that image was not there when you looked? What reaction do you think you would have?

When you turn on a faucet, expecting water to pour from the spout, what happens if the water is turned off by outside sources? What feeling do you have when no water comes out?

During a Bible class I attended a while back, the teacher referred to the water faucet. He said we had faith that the water would be there when we turned it on. And it is always such a surprise or a disappointment when the water does not appear.

If we had to see something each time we took a step in faith, we would not be very trusting, would we? We trust God to give us faith so we do not have to SEE something each time.

It reminds me of a little child taking his first steps. You extend your hands so the child can see you are right there to catch him if he falls. He cautiously takes the first stumbling steps right into your outstretched hands, trusting that you will be there

for him.

I believe God has His hands outstretched to each of us, ready to catch us or pick us up, for He said, "... and lo, I am with you alway ..." (Matt. 28:20 KJV) and He means ALWAYS! He gives the gift of faith and we trust Him to be there for us.

The next time you look into the mirror, expect to see your image—the body that houses the soul which belongs to Him! Then smile, give Him thanks and ask for faith to step out to do whatever He has for you to do today wherever that may be. It may be at home, at work, in the grocery store at the check-out counter, a visit to someone sick, shut-in, lonely or just needing a "listening post" for a moment. He will give you what you need to do any or all of these.

Walk by faith, not by sight because when you walk trusting Him, He provides all you need to do what He wants you to do.

A smile, a hug, an ear, all one with care;
He provides whatever's needed so you may share.

To serve, to listen,
to show His love
Knowing that He provides from above.

So walk by faith, not by sight

And know the Savior's might.

Let go and let God have His way;

Serve Him with JOY every step of each day!

Doris McKay

District LWML President

Lutheran World Relief

The following letter from Katherine Boone, chairman of the Texas Lutheran World Relief drive committee, shows how exciting service to the Lord becomes when we all work together. Because of this unity of spirit in Christ, many people have been helped to know God loves them.

"Dear Christian friends of all those who need our love:

The Lord touched the hearts and blessed the efforts of many loving and caring Christians across Texas and part of Louisiana. This resulted in a most successful LWR drive. We thank you and praise Him for such an exciting drive.

It is with grateful hearts and sincere appreciation for your Christian love and concern, your prayers and participation, that we make the following report: We received 2,460 gift boxes weighing 49,620 pounds or almost 25 tons! We filled three Yellow Freight trailers and also forwarded to the New York office monetary gifts totaling \$337.50. Approximately 359 churches responded, of which 63 were new participants.

On behalf of LWR, the Texas LWR drive committee and the less fortunate people who receive these gift boxes, we say, 'thank you very much and God bless you!'

The 1990 LWR drive has come to a successful conclusion, but it's not too early to plan to participate in the 1991 drive. We pray that you will include the Texas LWR drive on your 1991

calendar. Your help is still needed and will be needed for some time. Let us all join together and be the instruments of our Savior's love to those in need everywhere!"

To God be all praise and glory, for He has done marvelous things!



The 50th LWML anniversary logo incorporates the convention theme, "Celebrate the Jubilee! Glorify His name!" and two meaningful symbols, the cross and the trumpet. The cross is a symbol of what God has done. The trumpets are a symbol of what we must do. They say, "Tell the Good News!" They say, "Listen to the Good News!"

To proclaim God's Good News through word and deed has been the LWML's reason for existence. For 50 years the league has known blessing after blessing in that proclamation.

The jubilee anniversary is a celebration of praise. "Cause the trumpet to sound!" "Give unto the Lord the glory due His name!"

LWML

Mites in action

We've received several thank you letters from recipients of mite money collected during the 1989-1990 biennium.

Gerald Discher, prison chaplain, writes, "Please convey my deepest gratitude to the Texas District LWML. Here at Wallace Pack we obtained Bible bookmarks, Lutheran Tracts, a telephone amplifier and a portable sound system. We average about 125 inmate telephone calls per month to families about personal problems, thus the phone amplifier is used on a regular basis."

Our seminarian, Don Poole, writes, "Graduation is now upon us and we thank God for your generous prayers and support that have helped this day become a reality."

From Barbara Cameron, who works with the Lutheran Bible Translators in Sierra Leone, we read, "Thank you for your recent substantial gift to LBT that will assist in the Krio translation project in



Barbara Cameron

publishing of Scripture portions. Sisters, I appreciate your interest and participation in helping Bible-less people to have God's Word in their own languages."

In her letter, Lora Spence, director of campus ministry at the University of Texas at Arlington, says, "We have received the last payment of the \$45,000 grant you have blessed to the Lutheran Student Center at UT-Arlington. We thank each and every one of the women in the Texas District LWML. If, per chance, any of you are in the Arlington area please come on any Wednesday at noon to have lunch with us. We would love to show you the bright new addition and the beautiful remodeling that you are all responsible for in its existence. Your help, your prayers, your support will never be forgotten! On behalf of all students who have ever crossed this threshold and for those who will come in the future, we thank you!"

Finally, Rev. Calvin O. Goerdel, vice president for programs, Lutheran Social Service of Texas writes, "Thank you for the final

check for \$2,500. We want to express our appreciation not only for this last check, but for all the support that the Lutheran Women's Missionary League has provided our services in the Southeast Texas area."



Dedication of Lutheran Student Center in Arlington, November 1989. Dr. Harold Melssner and Dr. David Joeckel officiated.

These are some of the wonderful things our mites have done. The Lord has blessed our efforts "mite-ily," and He will continue to do so as we work together to accomplish the tasks He sets before us.

LWML thankoffering

You may, with your pastor's permission, offer your congregation an opportunity to contribute to the 1991 International LWML thankoffering this fall, possibly when you celebrate LWML Sunday.

There will be an international thankoffering envelope in the spring *Quarterly*. There was also an envelope in each tote bag at the Austin convention.

Your zone president has information about the thankoffering for international. Ask her about the possibility of sending a suggestion for an international project to use the funds from this thankoffering.

Extra envelopes may be ordered from the International LWML Office, 3558 S. Jefferson Ave., St. Louis, MO 63118-3910.

LWML news

LWML news should be sent to:

Shirley Baumgartner
LWML District editor
5018 Risada
San Antonio, TX 78233.

Mite Report

June, 1990

1989-1990 Goal

\$200,000

June total including
convention offering

\$10,592

NEW GOAL! 239,407

Sent to International

LWML **\$2,260**

Send **ALL** contributions
to Eudoris Weiser,

Route 1, Box 46,

Copperas Cove, 76522.

MAKE CHECKS

PAYABLE TO TEXAS

DISTRICT LWML.



Our Savior LWML, Rockwall, presented "Fashions in Reverse" at Rockwall Nursing Care Center in honor of National Nursing Home Week.



The faces may change, but the same Gospel continues to be preached to all in the world

by Rev. Louis Pabor, president

Texas District, The Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod

Dolores and I are not anniversary and reunion people. We have certain regrets. Through the years we have occasionally been told of get-togethers that seemed to have been great and which we didn't attend.

This spring was the 50th anniversary of the graduation of my class from Concordia Seminary in St. Louis. We decided that a 50th doesn't come very often and seemed like a nice round figure and perhaps we should go. This was especially brought home to us because Carl Heckmann and Harry Nuoffer kept talking about it and pushing us.

Then the Lord called both those fellas home to Him before the anniversary . . . and that made us feel all the more that we should attend. We mailed in our advance check for registration. Then came this letter from Dr. Karl Barth, seminary president, asking if I would consent to preach at the anniversary service. This almost persuaded us not to go . . . but we went . . . and we are glad.

It was one of those gatherings that we will always remember. Many of us had not seen each other for years . . . we met spouses for the first time . . . some of us had not been together since graduation in 1940. To say the least, we have matured!

We were a little late getting there on Tuesday evening and there were already several hundred under the trees at the open-air reception when we arrived. Dolores and I walked by the anti-dehydration station and filled our cups and then

looked for a place to sit. We saw a bench with two spaces so we walked over and sat down . . . and we had to look at each other several seconds before we realized that this was Lois and Carl "Peter" Mehl . . . he was one of my roommates at the seminary!

I can't help but feel that the Lord must have been nudging this a little bit! Since they had driven and we had flown that solved the transportation problem for the next three days. Needless to say, the fellowship in the quadrangle, the classroom sessions, the alumni gatherings, the banquet, the 50th anniversary communion worship service . . . all were great! No, Dolores and I have not been reunion goers . . . but this time we went and we are glad!

My ministry began 50 years ago. It has always been popular to criticize professors and the instruction they gave us. I guess if we tried real hard we could find some things to talk about, but these things I know--that during my years at the seminary my faith was strengthened . . . I was trained to think as a confessional Lutheran pastor . . . and I learned to be a student. No, I don't have a bunch of letters behind my name . . . back in those days they didn't even give you a



Rev. Louis Pabor

B.A.--they just handed you a diploma and told you to get with it.

Down through the years I have taken a few courses at universities here and there, but with no particular plan. I have had no desires beyond being a parish pastor . . . and I still think that is the highest calling. But I have always wanted to read, learn and study . . . God has given us so much to learn in this world.

It has always been popular to criticize our professors for not training us to be ready to be out in this ever-changing world. I have never had much sympathy for that. How in the world could our profs in the 1930s (God bless them) know what to tell us to expect in the '50s and '60s and '70s? How can the profs today possibly tell our sem students exactly what to expect in the 2000s?

Certain things we know--there will be more people . . . on the average people will be older . . . chances are we will be even more self-centered than we are today . . . changes in family and lifestyle will continue . . . there will be continuing

problems with chemical substances, relationships, spiritual values . . . but I also know that in general we will have the same needs. We will be people . . . sinners . . . the mortality rate will still be 100 percent . . . and how to be at peace with man and God will still take top priority. And over against this will still be the same Gospel which tells us how God was in Christ reconciling the world unto Himself . . . with everything which that implies.

When we were up in St. Louis, there were a few sem students on campus . . . it was the week between the end of spring semester and the beginning of summer classes. I thought to myself how 50 years ago there must have been 50th anniversary celebrations while I was at the sem, and those old guys had ministries which went back to 1890 and before.

Now with me up there and these young sem students, their ministries under God will extend to 2050 and beyond. Reaching both directions, this spans more than 150 years . . . we pastors come and go . . . but it's the same Gospel which is being preached to the world.

When Jesus commissioned His disciples on that hillside 2,000 years ago, it must have seemed to them an insurmountable task. He didn't tell them how to do it . . . He just told them to evangelize the world . . . and someone must have done something right because here we are 2,000 years later on the other side of the world

(Continued on next page.)

NEWS

PABOR

(Continued from previous page.)

talking about these same things.

As we move into the last decade of the century, it may seem that the obstacles are insurmountable. Remember the story of Will Rogers in WWI? The U-boats had become a real problem . . . sinking Allied ships.

When asked what could be done about it, Rogers thought a bit and said, "Boil the ocean." When asked how that would help, he said, "It'll get so hot in those submarines they'll be forced to surface and then you can capture them easily."

"But how can we boil the ocean?"

And Will replied, "You asked me for a solution and I gave it to you . . . now you work out the details!"

Jesus doesn't tell us how to do it . . . He just says that we should evangelize the world . . . now it's up to us to work out the details. I have every confidence that, as we are "instant--in season and out of season," the Lord will show us the way.

Louis Pabor

Warning

The Motion Picture Association of America gave the Billy Graham movie *The Prodigal* a PG rating. According to MPAA, "Pre-teenage children should not be exposed to Christianity without parents' consent."



EXTENSION—Concordia Lutheran of Garland broke ground June 3 for extension of its present multi-purpose building. That's Senior Pastor Gerald Nichols with the shovel. The extension will add 8,500 square feet and include 18 new classrooms and three administrative offices. Building plans include enlarging the narthex, nursery and parking lot. Total program is about \$400,000. Future plans include a large sanctuary in the next three to five years.

Family erosion can make church the surrogate

by Vi Rutz

The church historically has portrayed the image of God as Heavenly Father and the church as His family.

In today's changing world, this concept becomes more and more important. In an age when families come in all shapes and sizes and needs, the congregation often finds itself in the role of surrogate family.

The congregation, as surrogate family, provides support, encouragement and education to families within its ministry.

Family instability, because of various factors, often means that there are children who cannot even relate to a loving Father. Children with no fathers or poor role-model fathers may transfer their concept of father to Father, and may not accept their Creator.

Parents who are confused with change, work schedules

and financial difficulties cannot deal with proper parenting, and need help to refocus on children's values and procedures. Lonely parents need to be embraced through support systems of various kinds to replace the now disappearing network of the extended family.

We now are aware of how critical the early years of a child's life are, and that minimal, improvised care can be very damaging. The infant/toddler years and upward through the 3s, 4s and 5s are years of intense development, and quality parenting and teaching are not optional.

People become hurt and children suffer as parents struggle alone against the world. In these circumstances the congregation can become a surrogate family. Among tools available for use by congregations are the Birthing Class, Mother's Day Out, Parents and Tiny Chris-

tians, and Sunday School Together ideas.

Various tools of parenting now are becoming available through the church's infant/toddler ministry and other sources. Caution must be taken that tools are properly used. Congregation leaders must plan and schedule activities wisely so that families are strengthened.

Descriptions of the models mentioned above as well as other ideas for family ministry are included in the document, "In Ministry: Infants, Toddlers and Their Families," available free from the Texas District office.

Also available is a listing of other resources for infant/toddler ministry. Contact Keith Loomans for these materials.

(Vi Rutz is a member of Hope Lutheran Church, of Austin. She serves on the Texas District Early Childhood Education Committee.)



CHARTERED—May 20 was a happy day for Pastor Ric McMillan and these 123 members of Lord of Life Lutheran of Dallas/Plano as they celebrated Charter Sunday. There was a special charter service and reception for members and guests of this mission congregation. The charter service brings the congregation to official church status, a member of the Texas District and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

Commissioned pastoral assistant helps hold 200-mile lifeline

Although the Commissioned Pastoral Assistant Program is a separate entity from the Board of Mission Administration of the Texas District, the program has been a blessing to small outlying mission congregations that are unable to have a pastor of their own, as well as in situations of vacancies in mission congregations. Thank God for these men and their ministry!

The following article was written by one of the commissioned pastoral assistants, James Sturgis.

After his first exposure as a commissioned pastoral

assistant, he shared this reflection with his supervising pastor, Rev. E.F. Gruell.

THE MISSION CONTINUES--TODAY!

by Jim Sturgis

I, James, a servant of the Word of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, send this report of my recent visit with the dear Christian brethren of Carthage. Although the journey was long, and I arrived parched and weary from my travels, the welcome I received was warm and sincere. I was blessed to

share the praise and worship of our Lord Jesus Christ with them, and to share the Love, peace and joy that cometh when we gather in the name of Christ, our risen Savior!

Are the above words Biblical? Are they passed down and recorded through the efforts of an unknown, but dedicated monk or scribe? No, as "old" as the text may seem, the action is today. Yes, even today, men are being sent on missions!

The place, Carthage, Texas. The man, James Sturgis, a commissioned pastoral assistant for the Texas District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. The mission, to conduct liturgical services for the 17 members of the Christ Our Savior Church meeting temporarily at the home of Donna Boyd. This small group of dedicated Lutherans is struggling to maintain their worship of our Lord miles away from a supporting church.

Through the efforts of Rev. Eugene Gruell, coordinator of the Commissioned Pastoral Assistants Program, this vital enclave of Lutheran

worship, love, hope and praise clings tenaciously to a lifeline more than 200 miles long! The line is braided with the threads of your mission gifts, the monthly visit of Pastor Gruell, and the weekly visits of specially trained laymen Stan Waldow, Kilgore, and Jim Sturgis, Austin.

For the work of the vineyards continues, the harvest is bountiful, and alas, the workers are still too few.

Without these three factors—money, men and pastor—the light of our message of redemption and joy could possibly flicker and go out in the Carthage area. Of all the links, your prayers and mission gifts for support for this outreach, are most important. The next time you read Romans, or Timothy, try to envision those letters as written to and about people here and now in our lovely Texas.

For the work of the vineyards continues, the harvest is bountiful, and alas, the workers are still too few.



MISSION WALKERS—Iglesia Lutheran, San Pedro, had its second annual Walk-a-thon May 5, with members walking prescribed distances for pledges. These walkers raised \$389 for missions.

SPOTLIGHT

Gig 'em, Doves

Peace Lutheran School of Garland has chosen red and white for its colors and the dove as mascot.

School officials admit the dove may change to an eagle if and when the school moves into sports competition.

"Fighting doves sounds a little too paradoxical," the school publication admits.

Young people get with it at Gloria Dei

Ten youth and three counselors from Gloria Dei of Houston spent 10 days of their summer vacation giving witness to the love of Christ through their work at Servant Events in Mexico and Arizona. Others demonstrated their faith by serving their own congregations.

One Servant Event team went to Chihuahua, Mexico, where they helped rebuild a mission church. On this team were Dory Byers, Aaron Ceyanes, Brian Leslie, Kirk Olson and Chris Wilbur.

The other team went to Fort Defiance, Ariz., where they rebuilt homes among the elderly, handicapped and impoverished Navajo people. Members of this team were Claire Proft, Raja Shodavaram, Vinod Shodavaram, Eric Visentin, Diane Wilbur and counselors Steve Scheer and Dorothy Whiting.

Back at the church, more than a dozen young people were VBS teachers and aides.



OCTOGENARIANS—These are 10 of the 20 octogenarians honored June 17 at Redeemer Lutheran in Cisco for their many years of service to the Lord and His church. From left, back row, are Joe Weise, Robert Stephan, Johnny Gerhardt, Dora Schaefer and Freda Weiser. Front row, Willie Maie Ziehr, Ellen Reddick, Lissette Wende, Frieda Symm and Louise Zander. Not pictured are Hildagard Glueck, Clara Kansteiner, Winona Lanham, Jack Leach, Ida Schaefer, Ernest Stroebel, Herbert Wende, Martin Weiser, Martha Winge and Anna Cooper.

Long on years and long on love for Christ

What's an octogenarian? It's a person 80 to 90 years of age.

The 20 octogenarian members of Redeemer Lutheran in Cisco were honored June 17 with a dinner.

Before morning worship service, each was given a corsage or boutonniere by

women of the Redeemer LWML, which hosted the event.

Many of these members are still active in their church programs and four have been members of the LWML for more than 25 years. They are Ellen Reddick, Freda Weiser, Louise Zander and Willie Maie Ziehr.



DOUBLE ANNIVERSARY—Members and friends of Grace Lutheran, Brenham, honored Rev. and Mrs. (Gertrude) Graalman July 1, on their 50th wedding anniversary, and the 55th anniversary of Pastor Graalman's ordination. More than 400 attended the special recognition program and dinner. Graalman, 79, is Grace's visitation pastor. He was its first resident pastor from 1941 to 1950.

Dallas Lutheran High receives AAL grants

Lutheran High School of Dallas was awarded two grants totaling \$3,500 for the 1990-1991 school year from AAL.

The grants will be used to add a psychology class to the school's curriculum and to help pay the continuing education expenses for nine teachers.

The grants are part of AAL's school enrichment program, which this year will provide more than \$500,000 to nearly 100 Lutheran high schools in the United States.



HOUSTON—Here is the largest adult class received into membership at Christ Memorial in Houston. Of the 21 adults and eight juniors received, four adults and four children were baptized. Senior Pastor John D. Fritz says, "It's not a single program or person that makes growth possible, it's the whole body working together to make Christ alive for our people and our prospects." Associate Pastor Robert Grothe Jr. also credits "the warmth, care and attention visitors receive after their initial visit to the church's worship service."



By adult confirmation, profession and reaffirmation of faith and transfer, St. John, Cypress, welcomed 15 new members into its forever family. There also were five baptisms.

In June, Christ Lutheran, Austin, added 18 new members by adult confirmation, reaffirmation of faith and transfer. Three children of one family were baptized.

New members coming to Bethel, Bryan, in June totaled seven. Also, three children in one family were baptized.

A joyous June 10 at St. Mark, Houston, saw 29 new members received into fellowship.

By adult confirmation and letter of transfer, 20 new members joined the fellowship of Concordia, San Antonio, June 17.

Received in May at Trinity, Shamrock, were two new members by profession of faith, and two by adult confirmation.

Joining the forever family of Christ Our Savior, Lago Vista, July 8 were seven new members. Four were received by adult confirmation with one couple bringing a child, and two were transfers.



ROCKPORT—These new members were accepted June 10 at Peace Lutheran, Rockport. They are Somer, Courtney and Michael Nesloney; Mike, Adam and Pam Nesloney; Pat Elkstead, Stephen Elkstead, Dan Paroulek and Peter Elkstead. The pastor is Paul Johnson.



FORT WORTH—The fields are ripe for harvest on the west side of Fort Worth as evidenced May 20 by the 29 souls added to God's family of Redeemer, Fort Worth, by baptism, adult profession of faith, reaffirmation and transfer. New pastor is Rev. Thomas C. Bode Jr.; vacancy pastor was Rev. Harold A. Hein.



LUBBOCK—The congregation of Hope Lutheran, Lubbock, welcomed 35 new members May 27. Six adults with six children came through confirmation. Five adults with four children came by affirmation of faith. Others were received by transfer. Earl J. Pierce is pastor.



Big body, little wheels

by Pastor Jerry Kieschnick,
Executive Director, Lutheran
Foundation of Texas

There are many aspects of jet airplanes which are totally fascinating and intriguing to this old country boy. How in the world can such a massive machine totally defy the law of gravity and become airborne? I've heard about lift, propulsion, torque and other such terms, but the phenomenon is still amazing!

Several weeks ago, while driving through Austin, I experienced a close encounter with one such huge 747 or whatever. To land at the Austin airport, planes usually cross Interstate 35 at an altitude of what seems to be only a couple hundred feet, just before touching down on the runway.

This particular plane was a few hundred yards ahead and a couple hundred feet high. What struck me about this awesome sight was the huge size of the body in contrast to the correspondingly tiny wheels on which this giant was preparing to land!

How in the world could all that weight, all that volume, be supported on those few little bitty tires which would momentarily be subjected to traumatic impact with the very hard and hot runway below?

Yet, it happens thousands of times each day, almost as routinely as you and I breathe, at airports across our



Rev. Jerry Kieschnick

country and around the world. With very few exceptions, those tires and wheels perform the function for which they were manufactured, and thousands of passengers safely reach their destinations without the necessity of treacherous "belly landings."

Analogies are never perfect, but sometimes it seems the church is like an airplane. The Christian church is a big organization, composed of many people in many congregations of many denominations. It is huge, this body of Christ, as the apostle Paul calls the church.

The life of the church simulates an airplane in flight. The taxiing down the runway, the takeoff, achieving the cruising altitude, the descent, the landing, the deplaning of passengers who reach their destination, the boarding of new passengers, the refueling of the plane and the repeating of the whole process.

Jesus Christ, the Head of the church, provides the propulsion for the plane. But the church is a big body, dependent upon little wheels,



Yes, I want to know more. Clip and mail to

Lutheran Foundation of Texas

7900 U.S. 290 E. Austin, TX 78724 (512) 926-4272

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

() _____

ZIP _____

Telephone Number _____

9

so vital to takeoffs and landings.

Those little wheels are comparable to groups, organizations, auxiliaries, agencies and institutions of the church, all existing to support the church itself, to perform whatever functions need to be performed for the successful flight of the church.

We at the Lutheran Foundation of Texas see ourselves as little wheels. We see our ministry as that of supporting the church. The work we do in the areas of estate planning and in charitable giving, in the creation and development of endowment funds for congregations and other entities of the church, is done so the church might receive more than adequate financial support for the present and for the future.

Interestingly, our work is not performed in a vacuum. Our work is done with and for the benefit of real, live people who love the Lord, who love the church, who want to do something lasting and significant for this big body of Christ, the church.

Whether you are 28 or 88, whether you are married or

single, whether your wealth is measured in three figures or in 10, you are an important part of this great big body we know as the church.

Your financial support is vital, whether on Sunday morning in the offering plate, through a Charitable Remainder Trust providing tax and income benefits for you and your family, through a life insurance policy benefiting your congregation or through a simple gift in your will for a ministry of the church.

Helping you help yourself, your family and your church is the function of the Lutheran Foundation of Texas, an important little wheel helping to support a great big body.

Star sub

If you're not a film star yourself, standing in for one is not a bad deal.

Ted Leno, member of Hope Lutheran, Austin, worked for several weeks as the stand-in for Rod Steiger in the movie, "Ballad of Sad Cafe," being filmed at Willie Nelson's ranch west of Austin.



Summer evangelism in Pasadena

Twenty-seven adults and 10 children were received at Zion Lutheran of Pasadena June 24, culminating an intensive three-week effort.

According to Pastor Alfred Scholz, classes were conducted on Monday through Thursday evenings for two hours each night, over two weeks.

A third week was devoted to make-up sessions, arrangement of baptisms (eight were baptized) and assignment of spiritual caretakers by volunteer deacons and deaconesses of the congregation.

Of the 38 added, nine were transfers, but six families totaling 16 people were attracted to the church through its school.

Earlier, on March 25, 25 adults and 14 children were received. Twenty were transfers and 21 were attracted by the school.

For the summer sessions, more than 150 invitations were extended and aggressive follow-up calls were conducted.

Scholz said "A fine school program, a mission-minded church, great preaching from new Associate Pastor David Sawhill and God's blessings have made these efforts a real joy."



ATHENS—Tim Rosenthal was installed May 27 as pastor of St. John, Athens. Participating, back row from left, were Phil Konz; Fred Gersch; Adrian Bacarlisse; Mike Frick; Everett Gerdes, liturgist; Fred Boden, preacher. Front row, Paul Neuman; Dave Jung, installer; Rosenthal; Gregg Stanton.

Child in peril with SIDS: can you help?

A baby suffering from Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) is in serious need of a pediatrics vital signs monitor.

The infant is the child of a low-income family who are members of Grace Lutheran of Kileen.

The monitor alerts the parents with an audible warning if the child stops breathing.

Anyone with such equipment who is willing to lend it to this family should contact Pastor Mike Ramming at Grace. The phone is (817) 554-2148.



MAGNOLIA—Joining the fellowship of St. Paul, Magnolia, April 29 by profession of faith were Pauline Treichel; Ken Massey; Christine Chamberlain and children; and Sandra, Bill and Anna Surret and children. Received by confirmation was Wendy Hutcherson. Pastor is Barry Hildebrandt.

Houston Lutheran Chorale sets Seguin concert Sept. 16

Just back from a two-week tour of Europe where they sang in Germany, France, Switzerland and Austria, the Houston Lutheran Chorale will present a concert at 4 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 16, in Seguin.

The event will be in the Jackson Auditorium on the campus of Texas Lutheran College.

The chorale, under the direction of Metford E. Mountford, will present a wide variety of Christian music ranging from German hymns to spirituals, from patriotic tunes to contemporary Christian favorites.

For ticket reservations, call (512) 379-4161.

Besides preparing for the Christmas season, the chorale will host an evening concert Sunday, Oct. 14, with Stephen Neilsen and Ovid Young, world-renowned duo-pianists, composers and arrangers of contemporary Christian musical favorites. The concert will be at St. Mark Lutheran Church, 1515 Hillendahl, Houston. For tickets, call (713) 468-6452.

Scary

The frightening thing about heredity and environment is that we parents provide both.

Congregations hungry for growth and renewal are offered full menu by gifted Texas 'chefs'

by Rev. Ray Schkade
Executive Director
Board of Parish Services

Sometime ago, the district president's task force, dealing with congregation growth and renewal, spent considerable time discussing two important questions:

1. In light of the fact that congregations differ greatly in size, age, make-up, location and culture, how can the district respond to their varying needs?

2. When a congregation wants a speaker relating to growth and revitalization, is there anyone in their immediate area that can be called on for assistance?

The result of their brainstorming session was the creation of a "Growth and Renewal Menu" consisting of 17 courses or topics that a representative group of pastors identified as being of top importance for congregations.

Twenty-six committed and gifted pastors from all areas of the state were invited to a two-day training workshop where they were assigned to specific "menu" presentations led by nine workshop leaders. These pastors have agreed to serve as "chefs" in their area of the state.

The menu for congregation growth and renewal consists of the following courses: "Growth Challenge for the Small Church," "Member Assimilation," "Creating a Church Growth Climate," "High Expectations for Leadership," "Mission Vision," "Prayer and Church Renewal," "Outreach Strategies," "Mobilizing the Laity," "Congregations in Conflict," "Pastoral Care in a Growing Church," "Ministries in Transition," "Long Range Planning and Goal Setting," "Small Groups and Church Growth," "First Fruit Giving in Church Renewal," "Growing a Sunday School," "Worship Related to Outreach" and "The Challenge of the Larger Church."



**Rev.
Ray
Schkade**

The 33 "chefs" who are ready to serve congregations in the courses (presentations) for which they are trained are the following: Tim Baldinger, Dean Kelm, Mike Mast, Craig Dubois, Kenneth Hennings, Stephen Wagner, Mark Paul, Ric McMillian, Donald Hefta, Michael Chaffee, Steven Henze, Ray Schkade, Fred Boden, James Linderman, Curtis Schneider, Victor Kollmann, Henry Biar, Dennis Schiefelbein, Wayne Hamit, Timothy Stahlke, Neil Bockelmann, John Miller, David Adler, Glenn Budewig, Todd Dittloff, Daniel McKeehan, Steven Misch, Thomas Van Duzer, John Kah, Alvin Franzmeier, Wayne Graumann, Richard Kurth and Roosevelt Gray.

Key leaders in each congregation, including the pastor, have been sent a brochure listing and describing the courses and identifying the names, addresses and phone numbers of the 33 "chefs." Additional brochures are available from the district office.

All a congregation has to do is select a course (or courses) from the menu and contact the "chef" of their choice for a mutually agreeable date. The congregation is responsible for travel expenses and honorarium.

Is your congregation hungry for growth and renewal? Bring in a "chef" for the menu of your choice.



THANKS—Pastor Jerome Teichmiller of Zion Lutheran of Tomball presents a plaque from the congregation to Michael Graham who has left Zion to become an education missionary to Guatemala.

Missionary commissioned

Michael A. Graham, teacher at Zion Lutheran Church and Tomball Lutheran School for the past 12 years, accepted a position as education missionary to Guatemala for The Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod. He was commissioned as an LCMS missionary June 10 by Zion's pastor, Jerome Teichmiller.

Graham will be a fourth grade teacher at the Christian Academy of Guatemala in Guatemala City. In addition, he will assist other Lutheran missionaries in developing Sunday schools and vacation Bible schools.

This is the second time he has served the church in Guatemala. In 1988, Graham was an English teacher for Spanish-speaking students at Colegio Luterano El Divino Salvador in Zacapa, Guatemala.

At Tomball, he was a guiding force in establishing a student council and a local chapter of the National Junior Honor Society.



COLD FEET—Staying cool while repairing a suspension bridge damaged during spring flooding at Texoma Lutheran Camp is this member of a Servant Event team.

Youth gather at Lone Star, Texoma for Servant Events

"Make me a servant," "We are His Hands," "Worship and work must be one." — These song lyrics and slogans come from material used as a part of the nation-wide Servant Event programs that bring youth from across the nation together for service and Christian fellowship.

Each year, Servant Events scheduled throughout the summer build new projects, repair houses of the elderly or needy, serve the mentally handicapped or serve in unique cultural settings. The participants pay for the privilege to travel to a corner of the country and sweat, blister, get dirty and have fun.

Previous years have seen individual servant and group events take place at both Camp Lone Star and Texoma Lutheran Camp. This year,

32 youth from the corners of the Texas District as well as from Tucson, Ariz., and Fort Collins, Colo., gathered at Texoma for the North Texas Lakeshore Servant Event. In this service effort, youth repaired a suspension bridge damaged by the May flooding; developed a devotional site and pathway at the cliff area with benches, fire pit and a set of crosses; and most importantly, reached out to the community with a vacation Bible camp program. Each morning from 9 to 12, the youth also ran a vacation Bible camp program of games, Bible study and stories, crafts and activities, sharing their faith with those around them in a direct way.

"Servants" come to these events for many reasons, and you often see a core group of returnees each year. When asked, "Why are you here?"

Joy for seniors at Joy Camp

Camp Lone Star's JOY Camp for Just Older Youth (senior citizens) is just around the corner, and now is the time for you to make sure you're included. Rev. Richard Wagner of Trinity, Houston, and Dorothy Kalich are again program leaders for a Friday-to-Sunday extravaganza of fun, fellowship and study, Oct. 5-7. For registration information, contact Camp Lone Star, (409) 247-4128.



PLAYING WITH FIRE—Young volunteers during Servant Event at Texoma Lutheran camp dig fire pit that, along with new benches and set of crosses, will be a campfire devotional area.

one servant responded, "To tell you the truth, I came because I had never been in Texas before. What I really want to do is work, swing a hammer and sweat!"

Another youth responded, "I like kids. I'm here for the vacation Bible camp."

The college-age staff at the LOMT sites also serve as positive role models as they work and serve during the summer.

LOMT is offering several Servant opportunities for 1991:

- "Springing into Service" — A spring break session for college-age youth to serve at Camp Lone Star or Texoma Lutheran Camp.

- "Long-Term Servants in Outdoors Ministry" — A three-month to one-year individual event at Lone Star or Texoma, assisting with

maintenance, programs or whatever. Starting and ending dates negotiable to your schedule. Small stipend, room and board provided.

- "North Texas Lakeshore Outreach" — A group or individual event scheduled July 4-13, 1991 at Texoma Lutheran Camp. Will again conduct the vacation Bible camp program as well as assist with construction and renovation of devotional sites.

You may want to start now to prepare for "giving of yourself in service."

Consider one of the Texas District Servant Events or one of the many offered across the country. Watch for information coming soon from the Synod's Board for Youth Services in St. Louis.

NEWS

PEOPLE, PLACES, & EVENTS

Congratulations to Nelle Gentry, **Ascension, Cleburne**, who was chosen Teacher of the Year at Cleburne Junior High.

Special recognition was given to Pastor James Linderman of **Christ Lutheran, Austin**, Aug. 1 on the 30th anniversary of his ordination into the holy ministry.

Rev. David Loeffler was installed June 24 as pastor of **Good Shepherd, Sulphur Springs**. He also will serve **Clarksville**.

Ron Scherch was installed July 8 at **Bethel, Dallas**, as director of Early Childhood, Youth and Young Adults.

How about this! Klaus Fink, **Hope, Austin**, was named one of the "Outstanding Young Men of America."

Klaus is studying for his doctorate in material sciences at Case Western University in Cleveland, Ohio.

Tom Hilgendorf was installed July 1 at **Our Savior, Austin**, as minister of Christian education.

Adolph Gottschalk, **Trinity, Uvalde**, was named outstanding faculty member of 1989-90 at Southwest Texas Junior College. He is chairman and instructor in the business division.

First Lutheran, Lufkin, celebrates its 50th anniversary Oct. 21. Members Roy and Thelma Roberson are compiling a history of the congregation to be published in connection with the golden anniversary observance this fall. Frank Starr is pastor.

Bo Laffere, **Trinity**,



REUNION—These are 11 members of the 1945 confirmation class of Holy Cross, Warda, who held their 45th reunion June 2. Seated, from left, are Norbert Wacker, Van Durrengerger, Junell (Buscha) Ladewig, Florence (Michald) Hudler, Elmer Zoch. Standing are Vernlei (Moerbe) Mertink, Joyce (Wolff) Schramm, Evelyn (Schubert) Schautschick, Sophie (Mitschke) Pampell, La Verne (Moerbe) Rainosek and Audrey (Blitner) Koenning. They sang their two confirmation hymns, "Let Us Ever Walk With Jesus" and "Beautiful Savior."

Uvalde, was re-elected to another term on the Uvalde School District Board.

Members of **Our Redeemer, Houston**, honored their pastor, Rev. Lawrence Kelm with a celebration July 8 to observe his 25th anniversary in the holy ministry, and also the 25th wedding anniversary of he and Mrs. Kelm.

Congratulation to Doug Pennekamp, **Our Redeemer, Houston**, who was selected "Teacher of the Year" at Love Elementary School.

Pastor Dean Kelm of **Redeemer, Odessa**, has an extra reason to celebrate the Fourth of July. It also is his ordination date. This past Fourth marked his 25th anniversary in the holy ministry.

A Texas Historical Marker has been placed at **Trinity Lutheran Church Cemetery in Klein**. It was

dedicated July 15 in ceremonies sponsored by the Harris County Historical Commission and Trinity Lutheran Church.

John Morris, **Faith, Gainesville**, was re-elected president of the Gainesville Independent School District Board of Trustees.

Erik Stohlmann, **St. Paul, Fort Worth**, attends the U.S. Naval Academy and received the Lindauer Award as outstanding student in first-year German. He also made the Commandants List, was chosen as an academy exchange student and will spend some time at the Coast Guard Academy in New London, Conn.

Congratulations to Cheryl Rabe, **Trinity, Uvalde**, who was named outstanding nursing student in graduation ceremonies at Southwest Texas Junior College.



ORDAINED—Mark Beesley was ordained into the holy ministry June 3 at his home congregation, Mount Calvary, San Antonio. He will serve as a missionary-at-large in Platte City, Mo. Participating in the ordination were, front, Harold Schoeter, Kim DeVries, Beesley, Albert Loeschmann, Hugo Hannusch. Back row, Reinhold Mueller, Paul Tomasovic, John Treude, William Halzer.



TOMBALL—Celebrating their 52nd wedding anniversary June 19 were Edwin Sr. and Isabella Schroeder, members of Zion Lutheran of Tomball. They were married in 1938 at St. John Lutheran, Lincoln, Texas.



GOLDEN—Harry D. and Olive Richmond, members of Grace Lutheran, Arlington, celebrated their golden wedding anniversary July 7. In honor of the event, the congregation presented them a plaque.



The following Lutheran couples of the Texas District have recently celebrated 50 or more years of marriage:

St. Paul, Fort Worth: Betsy and George Brandt, 54 years, July 17.

Trinity, Houston: Herbert and Lillie Mitschke, 60 years, June 29.

St. Mark, Houston: Herbert and Ruth Schelnick, 51 years, July 8. Carl and Esther Seidel, 54 years, July 11.

Redeemer, Odessa: Clement and Edna Hebel, 60 years, Aug. 17.

Mount Calvary, Raymondville: Mr. and Mrs. Gus Kieke, 50 years, March 16.

Trinity, Sealy: Herbert and Earline Blase, 51 years, July 23.

Grace, Arlington: Charles and Evelyn Shepard, 51 years, July 21.

Charity, Burleson: L.D. and Gertrude Lakin, 50 years, July 14.

St. John, Beaumont: Irvin and Annie Hoffman, 55 years, July 3.

Trinity, Klein: Herman and Lorraine Schaefer, 54 years, July 3.



MINERAL WELLS—Mr. and Mrs. Jake Grable, members of St. Mark Lutheran, Mineral Wells, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary May 20.

Bethlehem, Palestine: Henry and Inez Dupont, 58 years, May 29.

St. Paul, Bishop: Mr. and Mrs. Howard Becker, 54 years, July 16. Mr. and Mrs. Walter Richter, 56 years, July 29.

St. Paul, San Antonio: William and Alice Hartman, 64 years, July 26.

Redeemer, Austin: Donald and Vida Suelflow, 50 years, Aug. 11.

Messiah, Houston: Rosina and Henry Kleb, 60 years, July 8.

Trinity, Tyler: Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Hoffmann, 50 years, June 29.

Trinity, Eden: Mrs. and Mrs. Arlie Blaylock, 50 years, June 15.

Ray speaks for himself, and he wins

Ray Pusok, 13, an eighth grader at Tomball Lutheran School, was named a finalist in the second annual RespecTeen Speak for Yourself letter writing contest.

Nearly 9,000 students from across the United States entered letters they wrote to U.S. representatives, stating their views on youth-related public issues.

Pusok wrote a letter to Rep. Bill Archer on gun control.

RespecTeen is a nationwide program sponsored by Lutheran Brotherhood and is designed to help parents and teens respect each other and themselves.

Pusok is the son of Rudolph and Gaynelle Pusok. The family belongs to Salem Lutheran of Rosehill.



BROWNWOOD—Mr. and Mrs. Lauren DeGlopper celebrated their 56th wedding anniversary June 20. They are members of Grace Lutheran, Brownwood.

Send your news to Bill

Send your news releases, photos and newsletters for the LUTHERAN WITNESS to:

Bill Wagner, editor
7900 E. Highway 290
Austin, TX 78724-2499

About photos: color photos are OK if the contrast is good. Black and white photos are best. Polaroids are least likely to reproduce well.



DIAMOND CHALLENGE — Bill Beilharz (center, seated) discussed plans for the council's role in the Diamond Challenge with Vice President Bleeke (left), Advancement Staff member Michael DeYoung (standing), and President Martens (right).

Concordia receives major grant from Mabee Foundation for student center

At the opening service for the 65th academic year of Concordia Lutheran College of Texas, President Ray F. Martens announced that the J.E. and L.E. Mabee Foundation of Tulsa, Okla., has authorized a \$750,000 challenge grant for the college. Concordia is challenged to raise approximately \$1.5 million before July 1991 to receive the Mabee funds.

The \$750,000 will be used to complete funding for a student life complex. By renovating and remodeling existing facilities—the old Memorial Gym, Texas Dining Hall, and the basement of Behnken Residence Hall—Concordia will provide its students with a center for recreation, dining and other student-life activities.

"A center for student activities is much needed for

Concordia's continued development as a four-year college," says Concordia Vice President Fred A. Bleeke. "One of the real strengths of a small Christian college is the family environment. The student life complex will help bring resident and commuting students together. It will also provide a place for alumni reunions and gatherings of church people, because they, too, are part of the Concordia family."

Concordia is naming the special grant from the Mabee Foundation the \$750,000 **DIAMOND CHALLENGE**. The term "Diamond" was chosen because Concordia is now in its Diamond Jubilee years (from the 60th to the 75th anniversaries) and also because of the amount of the challenge, a multiple of 75, the Diamond Jubilee year.

The college is planning to designate the renovated major room in Texas Hall the Grand Reunion Hall and will be pleased to recognize all \$1,000 donors who help meet the \$750,000 Diamond Challenge.

Bleeke says, "What I'd like to see is the names of former students, parents and relatives of past and present students, and special partner friends of Concordia listed together on a major plaque in the Grand Reunion Hall. Gifts of \$1,000 may be spread over 1, 2, 3, 4, or even 5 years. What we want is the participation of our church people and church groups." Gifts or pledges may be sent to **DIAMOND CHALLENGE**, Concordia Lutheran College, 3400 N. IH 35, Austin, TX 78705.

Concordia Council leads challenge

Bill Beilharz, president of the Concordia Council, is excited about the challenge grant issued by the Mabee Foundation and Concordia's effort to meet the \$750,000 Diamond Challenge.

"The council was formed in 1979 to help meet the needs of the Founding Four campaign, and we're enthusiastic about getting back into a project like this," he says.

The Concordia Council is the chief advisory group for the college. In addition to helping raise funds, the council serves as a channel of communication between Concordia's constituents and its board of regents. Beilharz has headed the group since 1982.

He has continued his involvement with the Concordia Council because he supports the mission of the college. He likens his involvement with Concordia to rearing a family: "It's the fun of watching something grow and being a part of its development."

Beilharz will work closely with President Martens, Vice President Bleeke and members of the Concordia Advancement staff to develop plans for the Diamond Challenge. He encourages friends of Concordia to "keep involved, stay active, join together to help."

The council meets Oct. 20. Inquiries about council membership may be addressed to Vice President Fred A. Bleeke, toll-free, 1-800-735-3232.



ROLE MODEL — *The Lutheran Woman of the Year serves as a role model for Concordia students. Fred A. Bleeke from CLC congratulates Catherine Burkhard, the 1990 Lutheran Woman of the Year.*

Concordia honors Lutheran Woman of the Year

The Lutheran Woman of the Year award is presented annually by Concordia of Texas, to one who provides an outstanding example of joyous Christian faith demonstrated by love and caring endeavors for others. The Lutheran Woman of the Year for 1990 is Catherine Burkhard of Dallas.

Burkhard was nominated for the honor by both the Women's League and the LWML Moonlighters of her home congregation, Zion Lutheran Church in Dallas.

Concordia Vice President Fred A. Bleeke presented the award to Burkhard during a worship service at Zion. Her son, Ron, a student at Concordia Lutheran Theological Seminary in St. Catharines, Ontario, Canada, preached the sermon for the service.

Vice President Bleeke presented a gift and a citation to Burkhard from the Concordia Board of Regents. The text of the citation is reprinted here:

Mrs. Catherine Burkhard, Dallas, Texas, upon nomination by many who know and love her, has been selected by the Board of Regents of Concordia Lutheran College of Texas to be Lutheran Woman of the Year, 1990. Especially noteworthy in her effective Christian service are: her ongoing commitment to the Lutheran Women's Missionary League, on the local, zone, district and international levels, not only through her leadership roles, but also through the use of her artistic and writing talents; her tireless work in the congregation through the choir, artistic offerings and

organizational efforts, but particularly for dedication to Bible study and prayers; her service to the community, including many years of involvement with Camp Fire Girls; the credit she brings to her Savior through her role as Christian wife, mother, and grandmother; her joyful attitude of service, which encourages others by example.

Catherine Burkhard provides us all a positive witness that those who give most extensively of their time and energy for the work of the Lord are able to do so because they have learned that their gifts are bestowed by a gracious God to equip us to serve Him. Because in all these ways she is a special person among us, she is Lutheran Woman of the Year 1990.

Communication awards won

Concordia Lutheran College of Texas once again emerged as the top award winner in the college and seminary division of the communication awards program sponsored by the Synod's Board for Communication Services. Competing against other LCMS colleges and seminaries, Concordia won awards in four categories, more than any other school. Last year Concordia also won four awards.

Concordia received the following awards: Best Display Advertising for magazine ads; Best Use of Television for television ads; Honorable Mention Media for Internal Audiences for Diamond Jubilee materials; and Honorable Mention Radio for radio spots.

Concordia staff members responsible for the winning communication entries are Raye Green, director of Public Relations; James Wade, Concordia Media Services; and Mike Broyles, Concordia Media Services. One winning magazine ad featured a drawing by Concordia freshman Serena Anazagasty of Austin.

New program approved

Concordia has received approval from the Texas Education Agency to add an endorsement in early childhood education to its elementary education program. Students completing the program can be certified by the state to teach kindergarten and pre-kindergarten.

TEXAS CHURCH EXTENSION FUND



CROWN OF LIFE Lutheran Church in Rowlett has been benefiting from a CEF loan since June 1989.

The one-thousand dollar benefit

by Bill Siegrist, Director of
Development, Church Ex-
tension Fund

What do all these congre-
gations have in common?

- Hope, Lubbock
- Christ Our Savior, Lago
Vista
- Holy Cross, College
Station
- Christ The King,
Kingwood
- St. John, Mansfield
- Tree of Life, Garland
- Crown of Life, Rowlett
- Christ Our Savior,
Coppell

All mission congregations
in the Texas District? Yes,
but there's something else.
Same Christ-centered minis-
try? Yes, but there's some-
thing else. Within the last
few years, recently
dedicated buildings? Yes,



Bill Siegrist

but there's something else.

What else do all these
congregations have in com-
mon? Each of them is cur-
rently benefiting from a 7
percent low-interest loan
from the Texas District
Church Extension Fund.

Is the congregation really
"benefiting" with a loan from
CEF? If one of these new
missions was to qualify for a
loan in its local community,
the mortgage rate probably
would be approximately 12
percent. As an example, let's

draw some comparisons. For
our example we will use a 10
percent rate, which would be
difficult for a "seasoned"
self-supporting congregation
to qualify for.

**Average Loan Balance
(missions listed above):**

\$460,485

30 Year Loan

CEF 7% Loan = \$3,063

monthly payment

Commercial 10% Loan =

\$4,042 monthly payment

Using "new math," the
difference in monthly pay-
ments is \$979, or over 30
years the difference would be
\$352,440! Do your invest-
ments in the Texas District

Church Extension Fund make
a difference? Call any of the
pastors or members of the
eight churches listed above
for the answer.

"The Thousand-Dollar
Benefit" does seem to be
appropriate, when we remem-
ber that the first definition of
benefit is an act of kindness.

Come Grow With Us in
this beneficial mission and
ministry of our church. For
more information, please
contact your CEF congrega-
tional representative, your
pastor or the district office.

**Texas District
CHURCH EXTENSION
FUND**

Bill Siegrist

7900 E. Highway 290

Austin, TX 78724-2499

(512) 926-4272



Church Extension Fund



ST. JOHN Lutheran Church in Mansfield was dedicated May 7, 1989. They continue to benefit from a Church Extension Fund loan.



Our bright Lutheran



Congratulations to John Snow, son of Rev. and Mrs. Charles Snow, **Beautiful Savior, Houston**, who won one of the 775 AAL national all-college scholarships. There were more than 5,000 applicants. Selection was based on academics, leadership, extracurricular activities and church and community involvement. John graduated summa cum laude from high school, lettered three years in varsity track, and holds the district pole vault record. He'll attend Concordia Lutheran of Austin.

Marie Moerbe, **Bethel, Bryan**, received a trophy and medallion from her school for having the highest sixth grade class grade point average.

Zane Hughes, **Our Savior, Dallas**, earned A's in every subject on every report card all year in his third grade class last school year.

Congratulations to David Bell, **Concordia, Garland**, who was selected as a National Merit Scholar. That puts him in the top one-half of one percent of the state's graduating high school seniors.

Bright kid honors at

Redeemer, Austin, go to Richard Lee Garland, Steven Hafer and Shantelle Leschber. Garland graduated from the LBJ Science Academy with a 4.0 GPA and was accepted into the Texas A & M honors program, receiving two scholarships. Hafer was his middle school's highest academic achievement winner in math. Leschber was in the top 10 percent of her high school graduating class and taken into the Society of Distinguished American High School Students. She's a UIL No. 1 rating winner in flute.

John Teske, **Faith, Huntsville**, was his junior high's outstanding band member award winner and a first division winner in regional band competition.



Robin Feuge

Robin Feuge, **Grace, Killeen**, graduated third in her high school class of 528 students. She received the UIL Scholar Award and other academic recognition. She

played varsity tennis three years and was team captain.

Members of **Trinity, Port Arthur**, are proud of Matthias and Timothy Dinger. Matthias won second in regional computer competition. He was a district winner in the cultural arts reflections program and was a National Merit semi-finalist. Timothy won a scholarship for Lamar University's music camp and was the cultural arts program winner in story-writing.

Michael Miertschin was valedictorian of his high school graduating class. This young member of **Salem, Tomball**, won an academic scholarship to Texas A & M.

Three cheers for Connie Townsend, **First Lutheran, Lufkin**, who won an honorable mention in a national poetry contest. It will be included in an annual poetry anthology.

Christopher Albert Hoppe, **Memorial Lutheran, Katy**, received the four-year McFadden Scholarship from Texas A & M and an all-college scholarship from AAL. He's going to A & M to study pre-medicine. He's a National Merit Commended Scholar, a member of National Honor Society, Academic Decathlon Team, tennis team and French Club. He's also an Eagle Boy Scout.

Bright kid honors at **Redeemer, Lubbock**, go to Geoffrey Kolander, elected president of his school's student council and named eighth grade "Outstanding Boy," and Jonathan Lingnau

for having a drawing exhibited at the Lubbock Arts Festival.

Morgan Bell, **Trinity, Klein**, received her God and Family scouting award.

Jami Wheatcraft, **Good Shepherd, Cleveland**, was inducted into the National Junior Honor Society. Her pastor, Rev. Donald Bahr, says her excellent scholarship was evident in her recent confirmation studies.



Erica Nichole Speckman

Erica Nichole Speckman, **Grace, Killeen**, is an advanced honors graduate who was a four-year member of the school's varsity choir, its 15-voice show choir, president of the choir program and leadership award winner. She was also a contributor to the school newspaper, yearbook and literary magazine. She's the youngest member of the Grace choir.

At **Christ Lutheran, Houston**, Jacob Gautreaux won a scholarship to the University of the Pacific in water polo and swimming, and Chris Sohl spent a month in Australia this summer as a foreign exchange student.

Felina Heart, **St. John, San Benito**, was elected

(Continued on next page.)

YOUTH



UNIQUE GRADUATION—Yes, that's really the Sphinx and one of the great pyramids of Egypt in Kerrie Hackbart's graduation picture. A member of Christ Lutheran of Fort Worth, Kerrie really graduated twice, once from Cairo American College in Egypt, where she had moved a year ago with her parents, and again, returning June 3 to graduate from Southwest High of Fort Worth.

YOUTH

(Continued from previous page.)

president of her sophomore class for the coming school year.

Paul Luedke, Zion, Tomball, competed in the state UIL contest in trumpet solo. Paul, 14, received a second division medal. Good playing, Paul.

Bright kid honors for David Friesenhahn, King of Kings, San Antonio, who graduated magna cum laude and is a National Merit Commended Scholar. He received a Texas A & M Opportunity Award, which is a \$1,000 scholarship for each year of college.

James Shafer, Prince of Peace, Belton, was chosen by the American Legion for Boys State in Austin where selected young men received hands-on government experience.

The list of accomplishments just goes on and on for Natalie Richter, Concordia, San Antonio. Consider: valedictorian at Wimberly High. State champion in UIL spelling. Second in district in UIL writing. First in district science fair. First in microbiology at Austin area science fair. National Honor Society. Commended Scholar and member Texas All-State Academic Team. Not surprising she was voted in school as "most likely to succeed."

Bright kid honors to Carrie Bowden, Faith, Gainesville, who was her senior class valedictorian, winner of three scholarships and named Soroptimist Girl of the Month. She attended the National Young Leaders Conference in Washington, D.C.

April Huntress, Our Savior, Austin, placed seventh in the national cosmetology competition in Oklahoma City. Earlier she won local and state contests.

J.J. McGrath, Grace, Denison, was in the brass

quartet that won first place in UIL state competition.

Honors galore have been compiled by Sarah Smith, Our Redeemer, Longview, who received U.S. President George Bush's Academic Fitness Award, and special honors from her school for being on the honor roll with distinction in grades six through eight.

Smith plays drums and flute in band and is a cheerleader. She's in the National Junior Honor Society and member of Redeemer's youth group. Way to go, Sarah!

Bibles for the Soviets

Sunday school students of Christ Memorial of Houston participated in a unique mission effort earlier this year.

The children used their Sunday school offerings to purchase Bibles printed in Russian. They were sent to Soviet Christians through the ministry of a publishing firm.

In all, 27 Bibles were purchased and sent to the Soviet Union.



MERCEDES—The Spanish mission in Mercedes, Mision Hispana Luterana Emmanuel, celebrated three confirmations and two child baptisms July 3. Pictured are Pastor Ruben Dominguez (holding Samuel Gonzalez), Erica Huerta, Eloy Gonzalez Jr., Bertha Gonzalez and Saul Gonzalez.



**Help children
teach ministry
to other
children**

The response to follow Jesus takes many forms. At the beginning of another school year, children in Sunday schools, Christian day schools, day-care centers and Parent's Day Out programs have the opportunity to minister "to the least of these."



Color it, kids



The "Children Helping Children" program of Lutheran Social Service of Texas provides three stories for children to feel a closeness with other children, less fortunate perhaps, who are also loved by Jesus Christ. Encourage your congregation to participate in this program. Call E.L. VanLaningham at LSST for information (512) 459-1000.

This summer many vacation Bible schools used the "Children Helping Children" program as one way for the children to share, respond, serve and witness to their love of Jesus.

You can use this page right now with your children. Let your child color the picture and display it somewhere as a reminder of our responsibility to help others.



BETHESDA LUTHERAN HOME

Tree of Life commemorates special gifts

During the recent dedication of two group homes on K-Z Road, Cypress, Bethesda/Good Samaritan Campus unveiled its new "Tree of Life" memorial wall.

Built and designed by C.H. 'Chuck' Rosenfield of Pinehurst, Texas, the Tree of Life is about seven feet high by nine feet wide, with 470 brass memorial plaques shaped like leaves.

"The Tree of Life will provide a way for friends of the Good Samaritan ministry to memorialize loved ones who have passed away, or to honor an anniversary, birthday or other special event," said Wayne Ritchie, regional public affairs director. Each leaf will represent a gift of \$2,000, including—if requested—those given in the past.

Thrift stores welcome items in good condition

Bethesda/Good Samaritan thrift stores can always use your good used clothing and household items. They are located in Houston at 241 W. 19th St. and 5131 Ella Blvd.; in Tomball at 406 W. Main; in Conroe at 2100 Tickne, in Dallas at 305 Western Park Shopping Village, Illinois at Cockrell Hill and in Austin at 5111 Burnet Road.

Volunteers also are welcomed and are needed as clerks, sorters and stockers.



MEMORIAL UNVEILED—Participating in the unveiling of Bethesda/Good Samaritan's new Tree of Life memorial wall are, from left, Administrator Richard Risley, Regional Public Affairs Director Wayne Ritchie, Executive Director A.L. Napolitano and artist-creator Chuck Rosenfield. Made of solid oak, the sculpture was hand-carved.

Funds sought to remodel dormitory as respite center

Moving residents from the dormitory on the main campus to certified group homes has been a Bethesda Lutheran Home priority for the Good Samaritan Campus for the last two years.

Since this dorm could not be ICF-MR certified as a residence for mentally retarded individuals under current Texas regulations, the two existing group homes were remodeled, three more were purchased and another two were built to house the 32 residents then living in Good Samaritan facilities. Another 12 need services.

Now that the dorm is empty, it will be repaired and remodeled for use as a respite center. Since most of the 6 million mentally retarded people in this country live at home with their families, short-term care is vitally needed not only in the Greater Houston area but also

for people throughout the state.

Families require this help when either of the parents becomes ill or is hospitalized, or simply when they need some respite from the responsibility of caring for a handicapped relative.

Since the estimated cost of the dormitory remodeling is \$80,000, Bethesda is seeking funds from organizations, foundations and individuals to assist with this project, according to Wayne Ritchie, regional public affairs director.

The Texas District LWML, at its recent convention, approved a grant of \$10,000 for this purpose.

Persons interested in assisting with this project may obtain more information from Ritchie at the Good Samaritan Campus, P.O. Box 729, Cypress, TX 77429; (713) 351-4911.

Craig Whitson accepts call as chaplain

Rev. Craig Whitson of Irvine, Calif., accepted the call to become the second chaplain of the Bethesda/Good Samaritan Campus. He succeeds Rev. Erwin Metz who is retiring.

A 1971 graduate of Concordia University, River Forest, Ill., he taught and served as principal in parochial schools for 10 years.

Following graduation from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, in 1984, he became associate pastor of St. Paul Lutheran Church, Orange, Calif. His vicarage was spent at Beautiful Savior, Houston.

Whitson and his wife, Janet, are parents of four children. Their daughter, Joanna, who had multiple handicaps, died at age 7.

Auxiliary chapters set fall dates

Prior to the Good Samaritan Auxiliary annual meeting in October, each chapter holds its own meeting to plan and set budgets for the new year. Everyone is welcome. Those dates are:

North Louisiana, Sept. 15 at Our Savior, Shreveport.

Dallas, Sept. 30 at Holy Cross, Dallas.

Panhandle, Sept. 30 at Christ Church, Amarillo.

Houston, Sept. 30 at Concordia, Houston.

High Plains, Sept. 26 at St. John, Lariat.

Golden Opportunity, Sept. 23 at Salem, Tomball.

Call the church for starting time.



NEW ORGAN—Dorothy Hein, organist at St. Paul Lutheran in Wallis, stands by the new Allen church organ presented to St. Paul July 15 as a birthday gift from members and friends at the church's 90th anniversary celebration. Rev. Martin Herzog, circuit counselor, was guest speaker as the organ was dedicated.

Planning for company

Some serious planning went into Friendship Sunday May 26 at Memorial Lutheran, Katy.

Two Sundays before was Pray for a Friend Sunday.

The Sunday before was Tell a Friend Sunday.

Invitations were printed and given to members to distribute. Banners were made.

And on the big day itself, a get-acquainted coffee and cookies followed the first service, and a pot-luck dinner followed the second.



PLAINVIEW—Pastors from four circuits participated in the Installation May 27 of David G. Jeske at St. Paul Lutheran, Plainview. From left are Joe Schulz, Mac Bearss, Bob Kuhlmann, Arthur Graf, Paul Rueckwald, Don Kirklen, Jeske, Carroll Kohl, Earl Pierce, David Rohode, Francis Mennenga and Dan Jones. Jeske came to Plainview from Salem Lutheran of Malone, Texas, where he served for more than six years.

Glorybound to make mountain of food and quilt of quality

The 1,300 participants of Glorybound VII: Handle With Care, the 1990 Texas District Youth Gathering, will demonstrate stewardship of God's blessings.

Each person registering to participate in the gathering will bring with them a can of food to be used to build a "Mountain of Food." The apostle Paul told us how it would work. "The Lord will supply your needs and more, so that from your surplus, you can contribute to the needs of others" (2 Cor. 9:10-11, paraphrased). The food collected at the gathering will be dispersed through Austin area food banks and shelters.

Each family group will be asked to bring a square of material, decorated in a unique fashion, which will be sewn into a large quilt or a number of quilts. These quilts will be given to appropriate agencies for distribution as they are needed, after being displayed during the closing day of the convention.

The central theme of the gathering is expressed in 1 Peter 4:10, "Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms." Besides learning, talking, planning and praying about stewardship and service, the youth and adults at Glorybound VII will be doing service as stewards of God's gifts.

Information about the

gathering has been sent to congregations, youth leaders, pastors and counselors. Plan to join us to give glory to God through the gathering, Nov. 23-25, in Austin.

More Texas vicars assigned

Three young Texans studying for the holy ministry have received vicarage assignments. All three are members of Faith Lutheran Church of Plano, and all three are students at Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, Ind.

The vicars are Roger Abernathy, assigned to vicar at St. Peter in Elma, Iowa; Wayne Schwiesow, to Good Shepherd, Fort Dodge, Iowa, and Mike Kettner, St. John, Yankton, S.D.

The names of these three were omitted from a listing of Texas vicars in the July issue of the *Texas Messenger*.



PRINCIPAL—Russ Renninger was installed July 15 as teacher and principal at Calvary Lutheran Church and School in Houston. For the last two years, he was organist and choir director at St. Mark, Conroe, and taught elementary education at Heritage Christian Academy in Cleveland, Texas.

Movie of the Week—an update

As you read this article, production of "Vestige of Honor" should be nearing completion. Through Envoy Production, we are making a movie of the week with Universal Studios to be broadcast in November on CBS.

It is the story of the Montagnards, fierce allies of the Green Berets in the central highlands of Vietnam. They continued fighting for 10 years after Saigon fell. Finally, when their number fell from 4,000 to about 200, they laid down their arms and escaped to a refugee camp in Thailand.

A smuggled letter to Don Smith, a real estate developer in Maine, by his former interpreter, deeply moved Smith to enlist the help of Green Beret veterans to rescue them. Finally the Montagnards were released from the refugee camp and were resettled in North Carolina by Lutheran Family Services in the fall of 1986.

This TV movie will put refugee resettlement in the minds of millions once again. It will draw a significant audience and remind people about hundreds of thousands of refugees who still are suffering as a result of the Vietnam war.

LLLers will work with the Synod's Board for Social Ministry Services and the Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service to make sure that the follow-up to this film will be far-reaching. You can participate by publicizing the film in your community and by making refugee resettle-

ment a project in your congregation.

Most important, you deserve thanks once again for your support of Lutheran television. This is another important example of the way that the Int'l LLL's media ministry helps put the Gospel of Christ into action.

Our participation in this TV movie will have a direct impact on the lives of thousands of suffering people. Praise God for this opportunity and for your continued support.

MEN IN ACTION

During June, leaguers of the Tall Pine Zone visited three congregations: Trinity, Klein; St. Paul, Magnolia; and Zion, Tomball. These visits were made by two-man teams, Erich Klenk and Ken Morris; Earl Krahn and Dick Combs. Results were as follows: 20 BCTN's, 17 Lutheran Hour sponsors, and two television sponsors. The total support to the league amounted to \$2,415. This report was provided by Dick Combs. Thank you, Dick, and also the other members of the team.

WHAT SO FEW CAN DO

The Lord has done great things with the financial support contributed for the ministries of the Int'l LLL. The Lone Star District has 2,589 members who contributed \$43,848.61, an average of \$16.94. This means that less than 3 percent of the membership of the Texas



District supported the "Christians . . . United in Mission" endeavor.

The results for the Int'l LLL for 1989-1990 are: membership, \$1,318,611, and BCTN \$1,571,437. This is an increase of \$161,444 in BCTN support. Yes, we had a great year. Pray the Lord will lead more to support "Christians . . . United in Mission."

ABOUT GERMANY

Dr. Dale A. Meyer has returned from Germany where he recorded interviews for the 1990 Lutheran Hour Christmas Special. While there, he also met with Dr. Hans-Lutz Poetsch and talked about other opportunities in what was formerly East Germany.

Ken Peterson, director of International Operations, is now working with Poetsch on these opportunities. Since an auxiliary Lutheran Hour office did not develop in Cottbus, it is hoped it may be located in the former East Berlin.

NEWS NOTES

Rev. Alan Struckmeyer of Immanuel, Temple, was appointed assistant pastoral advisor for the Lone Star District, LLL. His installation took place at the June 9 board

of directors meeting.

Dr. and Mrs. Oswald Hoffmann celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary June 23.

Five additional stations have started airing the 15-minute Spanish language radio drama, "Ayer, Hoy y Siempre." They are WCGB, Juana Diaz; WBMJ, San Juan; and WIVV, Vieques, all in Puerto Rico; KLMX, Clayton, N.M.; WYCY, Chicago, Ill.

After his recent trip to the Caribbean, Rev. Wallace Schulz has some interesting notes to share. One of these is about Dr. Angela Ramla, a member of the faculty of medicine at the University of the West Indies.

Ramla, a practicing pediatrician, became a Christian while growing up in her country of Trinidad as a result of listening to "The Lutheran Hour." She told us how our program continues to be a blessing throughout the Caribbean and especially in Jamaica, where she now lives.

Then, there is Mr. Rainford and his family, who live just outside the city of Mandeville. He is an older gentleman who has counted himself a member of our listening audience for more than 20 years.

LLL news should be sent to:

**Irene Teinert
Information Coord.
1501 Barbara St.
Austin, TX 78757**



**Lutheran Women's Missionary League
1990 Texas District Convention
Austin, Texas**

Convention notes

- A total registration of 925 people filled the Marriott ballroom in Austin, and a total of 332 voting members gathered to do the work of the Lord's kingdom and be filled with His Word through Bible study, inspiring speakers and song.

- More than 700 women attended the Discipling Woman seminar. Speakers Dr. Erwin Kolb and Jeanne Prochnow presented a lively program, using visual aids and skits. Small group discussion was an important part of the seminar.

- Delegates adopted a proposed work program of \$250,000, of which \$115,000 is to be used for mission projects. Treasurer Shirley Lorenz challenged each society to raise "a mile of pennies" over the next biennium for our work program goal. At 16 pennies per foot, one mile is \$844 or about five cents a day per member.

- The delegates approved the establishment of an endowment fund that would provide scholarships for women attending institutions of higher learning recognized by the Synod and enrolled in a course of study leading to full-time professional church work. The Texas District 50th anniversary offering with a goal of \$50,000 will be used to establish this fund.

Donations from memorials, thankofferings and endowments from Texas leaguers and friends earmarked for the endowment fund will be accepted by The Lutheran Foundation of Texas. The Friday morning convention offering of \$1,579 was designated to begin this fund.



1990 DISTRICT MISSION PROJECTS

1. **Seminary Student Scholarships** — four scholarships each year for Texas seminary student \$24,000
2. **Bethesda/Good Samaritan Respite Center, Houston** — financial aid to remodel the present dorm for use as a respite center \$10,000
3. **Deaf Outreach: Camp/Computer** — scholarship funds for deaf youth and adults to attend Camp Lone Star; to purchase computer hardware \$4,800
4. **Panhandle Children's Services, Amarillo** — establish a service office in Amarillo to serve the Panhandle area of Texas \$10,000
5. **Heartwarmers** — fund the development and production of a new seasonal program for ministry to institutionalized or home-bound \$12,000
6. **Roof for Church/Parish Hall, Houston** — funds for new roof for church and parish hall at San Pedro. \$5,440
7. **Salaries for National Bible Translators/Literacy Workers, Sierra Leone** — subsidize national workers to expedite Bible translation/literacy \$5,000
8. **Valley Hispanic Ministries** — funds to assist congregations to purchase vans for Sunday school use and to prepare material in Spanish \$15,000
9. **Beautiful Savior, Arlington** — assist in construction of a first unit for Beautiful Savior, a new mission in southeast Arlington \$15,000
10. **Transportation for Outreach, Houston** — provide van to go into the community to minister \$13,760

Mission Projects Total \$115,000



Smiling faces and blue tunics were everywhere—directing, leading, helping delegates enjoy the convention.



Two faces of Jeanne—Discipling Woman Seminar speaker Jeanne Prochnow, alias Witness Woman and Bag Lady.



Delegates at work



Minutes Review Committee members Lucille Campbell and Pam Grace set up tape recorder.



Mary Gruell, LBT missionary thanked LWML for support.



Pearl Blar brings greetings from Int'l LWML.



New members of the executive committee are, from left, Evelyn Berry, recording secretary; Iris Franke, second vice president; Rev. David Rohde, counselor; and Janet Hurta, treasurer.



President Doris McKay (far right) with, from left, past presidents Amalie Long, Pearl Blar and Marcella Gaus.



Elected to serve on the nominating committee are, from left, Peggy Turnipseed, Marie Mitchell and Ruth Doering.



1990-92 OFFICERS TEXAS DISTRICT LWML

President

Doris McKay
209 Pintail
Rockport, TX 78382

Recording Secretary

Evelyn Berry
2400 Northwood
Lufkin, TX 75901

First Vice President

Janet Scales
7 Williamsburg Circle
Galveston, TX 77551

Counselor

Rev. Ralph Hobratschk
P. O. Box 1076
Friendswood, TX 77546

Second Vice President

Iris Franke
104 W. Fourth Avenue
Smithville, TX 78957

Counselor

Rev. David Rohde
P. O. Box 136
Wilson, TX 79381

Third Vice President

Carol Young
1600 Johnny Miller Trail
Austin, TX 78746

Secretary to President

Dolores Guedin
9628 Huntington
Corpus Christi, TX 78410

Treasurer

Janet Hurta
9409 Gold Camp Circle
Waco, TX 76712

Parliamentarian

Pat Biar
1104 30th St.
Nederland, TX 77627

Financial Secretary

Eudoris Weiser
Rt. 1, Box 46
Copperas Cove, TX 76522

DISTRICT NEWS Editor

Shirley Baumgartner
5018 Risada
San Antonio, TX 78233

CHAIRMEN OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Mission Service

Helen Mitschke
10718 Timbergrove
Corpus Christi, TX 78410

Archivist/Historian

Elaine Schur
Route 2, Box 57
Plainview, TX 79072

Member Development

Dorothy Moerbe
Rt. 1, Box 139
La Grange, TX 78945

Nominating

Ruth Doering
2645 Gerol Drive
Galveston, TX 77551

Bylaws: Janet Scales

Christian Growth: Iris Franke

Missions Projects: Carol Young



Mission Service Ingathering—members show many different ways to be of service.



Zone presidents take a "song break" during board of directors meeting at Hope Lutheran Church.



Speaker Joyce Landorf Heatherley receives a thank you gift from President Doris McKay. In her talk, Heatherley urged leaguers to "pray large prayers—don't pray for crutches—pray for wings."

Serve the LORD with Gladness



Small groups discuss ways to be discipling women.



Wichita Falls will be the site for the Texas District Convention in 1994. They presented an invitation skit called "Showtime."



"Gladhatters" tell of what's going on in member development.



1990 Lutheran Woman of the Year, Catherine Burkhard.



Past President Ann Garrett

'Get on God's escalator,' speaker urges

Ann Garrett was president of the Texas District LWML from 1960 to 1964. She spoke to the convention body about steps in LWML membership. She said, "The early years are when friendships are formed, which become more meaningful as years go by. In mid-life, goals are established and fruit of early work is enjoyed. The last years are spent in inspiration, prayer and reflection."

Don't be afraid to "step on God's escalator" and "feel the joy of working with God's people."

Timely poem

For those who asked for the name of the poem read by Pearl Biar in the Discipling Woman Seminar, it is from *Bible Time Nursery Rhymes* and is titled "Not One but Two" by Emily Hunter. This poem may not be printed without permission from the author.

Mite Report

July, 1990

1990-92 Goal	\$250,000
July total	\$5,826
Total to date	\$16,418
Sent to International LWML	\$1,785

To International to-date
\$1,785

Send ALL contributions to Eudoris Weiser, Rt. 1, Box 46, Copperas Cove, 76522. MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO Texas District LWML.

LWML News

LWML news should be sent to:

Shirley Baumgartner
LWML District Editor
5018 Risada
San Antonio, TX 78233



October: month to remember events that led to Lutheran confession of 'Scripture alone'

by Rev. Paul W. Hartfield
Fourth Vice President
Texas District, LCMS

The month of October calls us to remember and observe the Reformation of the church by Martin Luther.

Actually Oct. 31 marks the date of Luther's nailing of the 95 theses to the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg initiating events that led to confessing a faith based solely on the Word of Scripture. Thus *Sola Scriptura* (Scripture alone) became the touchstone of the Reformation.

For Luther, this Word was a living Word that transcends time and is heard as God's voice throughout the Bible, Old and New Testaments, in Christ. Luther makes clear the centrality of the Word when he says, **"If you want to obtain grace, take care that you listen attentively to the Word of God or recall it with diligence. The Word, I say, and the Word only, is the vehicle of the grace of God."**

In the Scriptures we learn about what man is like, that he is a fallen creature, conceived and born in sin, separated from God and utterly incapable of coming to God of himself. We also learn about God, not only that God is a jealous God, but also is a God of infinite mercy who reconciled the world to Himself by Christ Jesus and offers to all peace and heaven itself.

But the Scriptures are



Rev. Paul Hartfield



more than a set of doctrinal propositions. The Gospel is **"the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth."** The Word is called the quick and powerful Word. It does not return void. It quickens. It sanctifies and cleanses the church; through it, people are led to know the truth. It is an effective Word even though some stumble at it.

In *The Freedom of a Christian Man*, Luther says, "If you believe it, you have it. If you do not believe it, you do not have it." To hear the Word of God implies that God's Word, the sacred Scriptures, remains the source of doctrine and final judge in all matters of faith and life.

Our confessions regard the Scriptures as the source and norm of doctrine. The Formula of Concord declares: "We receive and

Occasionally, Texas District President Louis Pabor will offer his president's column space to other district officials. Vice President Paul W. Hartfield, pastor of St. Paul Lutheran Church of Serbin, is this month's contributor.



Rev. Louis Pabor

embrace with our whole heart the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments as the pure, clear fountain of Israel, which is the only standard by which all teachers and doctrines are to be judged."

Luther declares over and over again the *Sola Scriptura* principle. In one place he says, "Holy Scripture is the book given by God the Holy Ghost to His church. From this book the church learns what the church is, what the church must do, what the church must suffer, where the church must abide; where this book ceases, there the church ceases. For He [Jesus] says: His church will not listen to the voice of strangers."

Luther's own respect for the words of Scripture is well known. He declares, **"I am bound; I cannot escape it. The text stands there too mightily."**

One serious danger we face in our day is the neglect to cultivate the contemplative life in our churches. We can get so wrapped up in programs, progress and growth that we neglect the one source of inner growth, God's Word.

As we hear and learn the

Word, there will necessarily follow the telling of the Word. The challenge is always before us to accept our Christian privileges and responsibilities as the light of the world, and the salt of the earth.

As we again celebrate the Reformation of the Church, may we be impressed with the great heritage which is ours through the Reformation with its principle of Scripture alone. May the Holy Spirit give us grace to diligently study the Word, that equipped and empowered by it, we may believe it, live it and tell it.

Bill's waiting

Send your newsletters, photos and stories for the LUTHERAN WITNESS to:

Bill Wagner, editor
7900 E. Highway 290
Austin, TX 78724-2499

The Texas District Messenger is an official publication of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. The Messenger will publish activities of the Synod, the district and affiliated organizations upon request.

HELPING THE FAMILY

Infant/toddler programs meet family needs

When we pray "Give us this day our daily bread," we well know that this petition not only asks for daily food but also asks God to provide us with all our daily needs. God works through His people to help those in need. This article overviews three ministry models that can help meet some of the many needs of a congregation's families with young children.

CARE FOR THE SICK CHILD

With increasing numbers of mothers in the work force, there arises the need of quality care for not only the healthy child, but the sick child as well.

Many mothers face guilt and frustration when faced with a difficult decision of where and how to find care for the sick child. One congregation has developed a program called "Granny's House" that links parents with people who volunteer to care for sick children. This program not only meets the needs of the child and parents, but also the needs of others to serve by providing a little time and tender loving care.

The program can easily be implemented by volunteers who set fees for "Granny" and also connect the parents with "Granny."

EXCHANGE CENTER

"They grow up so fast." Children do grow, and as they do, their needs change. Clothes, toys and furniture needs change too. More appropriate items are necessary. Most people sell such items or "hand them down" to friends and relatives. A program called The Material Exchange Center could be established to help parents share unwanted items and find people who need them. Such a program obviously requires space within the church facilities and volunteers to set up and coordinate the exchange of materials. The benefits of establishing such a program include leading families into communication with other families as they help each other meet their various needs.

PARENT RESOURCES

Parents today are so much more aware of the need to become educated about child development. As a result of in-



creased media coverage of child care and nurture, parents also are questioning much more about what is best for their child.

The Christian congregation has the opportunity to provide Christian-based resources for parents. A parent resource center in addition to the church library is an excellent program to help meet these needs. Not only could this provide resources in child development, but also in the spiritual development of the child.

If you are interested in implementing one or more of these programs, contact Keith Loomans at the Texas District office. He can share with you a copy of "In Ministry: Infants, Toddlers and Their Families" which contains these and other resources for such ministry.

(Liz Lanfried is on the staff at Our Savior Lutheran Church, Austin. She is the early childhood education consultant for the Texas District and is chairman of its Early Childhood Education Committee.)

Committee on Women posts are filled

Eight women have been named to the Texas District President's Committee on Women.

The committee, headed by Doris McKay of Rockport and Barbara Bradfield of Dallas, was approved by the district board of directors to serve as a "listening post" to explore additional ways that do not compromise Lutheran commitment to God's Word, for transforming patterns of church life to further include women in its vital work and mission.

The eight women approved by the district directors for membership on the core committee are:

Ila Kraft, Dallas; Sandra Morfitt, Brownsville; Amalie Long, Monahans; Betty Discher, Navasota; Barbara Brunsworth, Dallas; Marcella Gaus, Hampshire; Gretchen Sump, Austin; and Evelyn Berry, Lufkin.



IN TEXAS—These spring graduates of Concordia Teachers College of Seward, Neb., have been placed to serve the Texas District as professional church workers. From left, they are Karlin Beck of Franklin, Neb., assigned to Concordia Lutheran High School of Tomball; Michael Brandt of Sturgis, Mich., assigned to Lutheran High of Houston; Kimberly Charavay, Plaquemine, Ohio, assigned to Resurrection Lutheran of Spring. Not shown is Jonathan Mueller, Pocahontas, Mo., assigned to Our Savior, Houston.



CELEBRATION—C.C. and Meta Norrell, St. Paul, Plainview, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary May 27. Not only were their three children present for the reception, but so were nine grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren, some of whom eluded this family picture.

ANNIVERSARIES

The following Lutheran couples of the Texas District recently celebrated wedding anniversaries of 50 years or more:

St. Mark, Houston: Martin and Ruth Lehmann, 55 years, Aug. 4.

St. Matthew, Houston: Mr. and Mrs. Joe Beke, 51 years, Aug. 24.

Zion, Anderson: Mr. and Mrs. Willie Leiber, 50 years, Sept. 2.

St. Paul, Vernon: Paul and Alice Lowke, 59 years, July 29.

Concordia, Bedford: Al and Mary Martin, 50 years, July 14.

Hosanna, Kerrville: Arthur and Esther Christenson, 59 years, Jan. 17; Walter and Helen Moore, 52 years, April 9; Harold and June Heintz, 51

years, Oct. 18; and James and Viola Pattison, 50 years, Aug. 3.

Hope, Austin: Rev. and Mrs. Reinhardt Wuensche, 51 years, Aug. 20.

Redeemer, Austin: Don and Viola Suelflow, 50 years, Aug. 11.

Bethlehem, Palestine: Ray and Ann Heck, 56 years, Aug. 18.

Zion, Pasadena: Mr. and Mrs. Kurt Fuchs, 60 years, Aug. 9.

Holy Cross, Houston: Seth and Irma Green, 64 years, June 30. They have been members of Holy Cross since its founding 50 years ago.

Redeemer, Odessa: Clem and Edna Hebel, 60 years, Aug. 17.

Shooting for three centuries

Laura Cardner has a unique goal. If it's the Lord's will, she'd like to be one of a very few people to live in three centuries.

Born in 1898, Laura and her husband, Buck, celebrated their 59th wedding anniversary in June. They are members of Peace Lutheran of Texas City.

With 10 years to go, Laura will have lived in the 19th, 20th and 21st centuries.

But then so will have Buck. He was born in 1898 also.

Peace congregation honored them at a fellowship dinner on the occasion of their wedding anniversary.



Laura and Buck Cardner



ZION—Adolph and Esther Miller of Zion Lutheran, Walburg, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary July 7. They were honored with a buffet reception.



HOUSTON—Herbert and Ruby Behrend, for 36 years members of St. Matthew, Houston, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary June 2.



FORT WORTH—Clifford and Maurine Murphy, Christ Lutheran, Fort Worth, celebrated their golden wedding anniversary July 27. They were charter members when Christ Lutheran was established in 1952.



Bill Siegrist

Which voice are you listening to?

by **Bill Siegrist**
Director of Development
Church Extension Fund
Voice #1

One day a man wandered into a Christian book store. It was his first time to go into this type of store. As he looked around at the various resources, he noticed a common theme. There were books on HOW TO PRAY, HOW TO TITHE, HOW TO WITNESS and HOW TO STUDY YOUR BIBLE. He threw up his hands in bewilderment and exclaimed, "Don't you Christians know how to do anything!?"

Voice #2

At least once a week, sometimes daily, there is another voice that creeps into our lives. This voice comes to us in the mail. This voice exclaims, "There must be something wrong with all of you people!"

We receive a significant amount of mail daily at the district office. Kathy Lindbloom, our receptionist,

sorts and distributes the mail. Usually, at least once a week, one piece of mail Kathy delivers is some type of brochure advertising an upcoming workshop to be held in our area. Here are some sample titles: "How To Deal With Employee Attitude Problems," "How To Stay Calm And Productive Under Pressure."

This second voice would lead one to believe that someone out there apparently thinks we are not what we should be. They think they know something about us that we don't know or should know. This second voice shouts, "You need to improve. Get better. Do better. Be more effective and efficient." This voice also says, "What you are doing just is not enough; you are less than you should be. Improve!"

There are certainly other "voices" which attack us daily. Sometimes openly, at other times a bit more subtly. The last voice, unlike the first two, is not critical, disapproving, or belittling to us.

Voice #3

Recently I was reading through the book of Romans. When I got to chapter 8, especially verses 1-17, the idea of these different "voices" came to me. Our Lord's voice, His Word, certainly speaks to us about our lives and our relationship to Him. Verse after verse, His voice speaks to us about promises, unconditional love and total acceptance.

- I am not condemned (vs. 1).
- I am in Christ Jesus (vs. 1).



Church Extension Fund

- I live according to the Spirit (vs. 4).
- My mind is set on what the Spirit desires (vs. 5).
- I please God (vs. 8).
- I belong to Christ (vs. 9).
- I am God's child (vs. 16).

As a result of Christ's death for each of us; we can now hear a new voice: "My mind is controlled by the Spirit, resulting in life and peace" (vs. 6). Your Texas District Church Extension is in business for one purpose—ministry! Our purpose continues to be *to provide a place and space for this Gospel ministry to be spoken and shared with others.*

Come Grow With Us in this exciting ministry of our church. For more information, please contact your CEF congregational representative, your pastor or the district office.

**Texas District
CHURCH EXTENSION
FUND**

Bill Siegrist
7900 E. Highway 290
Austin, TX 78724-2499
(512) 926-4272

Two outreach programs tried at Tyler

Two outreach programs, both focusing on Sunday worship, have been initiated at Trinity Lutheran, Tyler.

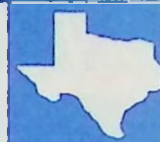
According to Pastor Fred Gersch, a small group of members selected for their skills and abilities in communicating with others, has been trained by the pastors to concentrate on more effective ministry with guests as they arrive at or depart from worship service.

These selected greeters are knowledgeable about the facilities and current and forthcoming events. They warmly invite and encourage visitors to participate.

The pastors and elders greet worshipers outside as they arrive, and guests are escorted to the information booth inside the church for guest registration.

Visitor packets and other information is distributed. Then the trained receptionist escorts the guest to an usher who seats them for worship.

On Sunday afternoon, each guest who is not an active member of another Christian congregation will be visited at his or her home and is given a loaf of homemade bread and a personal greeting from the caller. This Bread of Life ministry says "thanks" to the prospect for visiting worship and to let the loaf be a reminder of the message of the Bread of Life that was heard in morning worship.



FIRST AND LAST—Michael Bond, right, member of *King of Kings* in Round Rock, was born July 13, 1980, charter Sunday for the church. Ten years later, July 13, 1990, as the church celebrated its 10th anniversary, Stephen Andrew Waynick, the pastor's son, arrived as an anniversary gift.

Glorybound VII is almost here

This year's Texas District youth gathering is almost here. The weekend after Thanksgiving, almost 1,300 youth and adults will gather in Austin for "Handle with Care," the seventh such districtwide gathering.

When the youth and adults gather, they will bring several gifts to be used for the Lord, gifts to be handled carefully.

Each person will have an opportunity to contribute to the *Mountain of Food* collection of canned goods and non-perishable food items. The collected offerings will be donated to area food pantries.

Each family group (the basic registration unit: at least one adult and two youth) will bring a patch of material. Decorated to reflect the gifts of God, these patches will be sewn

into several quilts that will then be given to institutions which can use them.

And every person will bring another gift—themselves. Wearing clothes of celebration, the participants will rejoice in God's presence and creation. And wearing work clothes, they'll participate in service projects on Saturday afternoon.

Those service projects will be the most visible element of the gathering for Austin residents. Can you imagine 70 groups of youth and adults working at different locations around the city?

Worship, work, food, fun, speakers from around the state and around the Synod — they all come together next month in Austin for *Glorybound VII: "Handle with Care."*

Our bright Lutheran kids...

Three cheers for the youth of Hope, Austin, who assembled lunches at the church, then took them downtown to give to Austin's homeless. Each lunch included a sandwich, fruit, chips and a beverage.

Jennifer Haffemann



As an All-Star Cheerleader, Misty Tonniges, **King of Kings, San Antonio**, will go to London, England, in December to participate in the Lord Mayor of Westminster New Year's Day Parade. She's secretary-treasurer of her high school junior class.

Mary Gaston, **Zion, Abilene**, achieved first-chair flute in symphonic band at Angelo State's band camp.

Jennifer Watters, **Grace, Orange**, was awarded a scholarship to Wellesley College in Massachusetts.

Bright kid honors for Shaye Benton, **Our Redeemer, Dallas**, who was inducted into Mu Alpha Theta, the national math honor society, and into the National Honor Society. She is president of her school's Girls' Service League, and secretary of the student body and student council.

Memorial, Katy, is saluting Jena Falco, named most valuable pitcher in the Katy Girls Softball Association, and Tracy Jordan, who won first place in speech for her high school.

Jennifer Haffemann, **Pilgrim, Houston**, is having a terrific 1990! She

was inducted into the National Junior Honor Society; received the second highest award in Girl Scouts, the Silver Award; was confirmed at her church; and is active in Fort Bend County Teens Against Drugs.

Bright kid honors go to David Friesenhahn, **King of Kings, San Antonio**, who graduated from high school magna cum laude and was a commended student as a National Merit Scholar. He received the Texas A&M Opportunity Award, a \$1,000 scholarship for each year of college. He was placed in his high school's Hall of Honor for ROTC and art.

There is a gaggle of bright kids at **Redeemer, Austin**, including:

Erin Boatright, who made all-city orchestra and all-district band and most valuable player on his school soccer team; Jason Vaughn, who made National Honor Society and Teachers Achievement award for math and citizenship; Rikki Wendt, who received an academic letter for three consecutive semesters with a 4.0 GPS.



SAN ANTONIO—Pastors Keith Johnson and James C. Martin conducted a glorious service July 15 at Redeemer Lutheran in San Antonio. The service included burning the mortgage on the church and school buildings, and dedicating a 40-by-60-foot pavilion (above) built by members of the congregation. Also two new families were welcomed into membership. "It was truly a day of thanksgiving for God's goodness and continued presence with His people," the pastors said.

District convention leaders

Chairmen and officers for the 1991 Texas District convention were chosen by Rev. Fred C. Gersch of Tyler, convention manager.

Gersch presented the names to the July meeting of the Texas District Board of Directors. The 1991 convention will be held June 20-23 at the Grand Kempinski Hotel in Dallas.

Curtis Mickan of Dallas will be general convention chairman. Others are William Wenthe, Dallas, displays and supplies chairman; Charlotte Hughes, Roanoke, registra-

tion chairman; Faith Morrison, Dallas, secretary; Rev. David Jung, Tyler, treasurer; Barbara Bradfield, Dallas, worship and music chairman; Rev. Jim Otte, Nacogdoches, public relations chairman.

The convention officials met in Dallas Aug. 23 to review their job descriptions and begin convention planning.

Good thermostat

The right temperature at home is maintained by warm hearts, not by hot heads.

Chronic illness support group busy in Austin

The Chronic Illness Support Group at Hope Lutheran Church, Austin, will meet once a month this fall after a summer break. All who have a chronic illness or who are caretakers for someone chronically ill are welcome to attend.

This group developed as a result of the "Living with Chronic Illness Seminar" presented in February by Hope's Board of Christian Education and Dr. Stephen Schmitt, author of the book *Living with Chronic Illness*.

Anyone interested in attending the monthly sessions may call Hope Lutheran Church office at (512) 926-8574 or Jane Falkenburg at (512) 926-2555.

Hope's Board of Christian Education will continue hosting annual seminars that will be open to the Austin area. It has also established the Carl Heckmann Foundation for Christian Education.

The board welcomes contributions to the foundation so more outstanding seminars can be scheduled for 1991.

For more information about the foundation, call Jane Falkenburg.



HONORED—A special anniversary service June 10 honored two members of Redeemer, Austin, who are members of the faculty of Concordia Lutheran College of Austin, and who were observing 30 years of ministry in the church. Shown with their wives, they are Dr. Norris Patschke and Dr. Don Ziecke. With them are Redeemer Pastors Paul Bohot and David Schroder.

In memoriam

Rev. Alvin Albert Walter

On July 22, the Lord called to Himself Rev. Alvin A. Walter, 80, of Hillsboro.

Pastor Walter, who retired in 1976, graduated from Concordia Seminary in Springfield, Ill., in 1935. He served pastorates in Oklahoma before coming to Texas in 1948, where he served parishes in Tomball, Malone and La Grange before his retirement. He was a vacancy pastor in various central Texas congregations, including five years at Christ Lutheran in Hillsboro.

He is survived by his wife, Ella; a son; four daughters; a sister; three brothers; 11 grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

First Lutheran in Lufkin turning 50

First Lutheran of Lufkin will observe the congregation's 50th anniversary Oct. 21.

There will be a special service, a dinner and an informal program in early afternoon.

Rev. Roy Kieschnick, pastor of the congregation from 1974 to 1978, will be

speaker at the service. He now serves Trinity at Spring.

A history of the congregation has been written and will be printed and distributed as part of the anniversary observance.

Rev. Frank Starr is pastor.



New chaplain to be installed Sunday, Oct. 28

The commissioning of Rev. Craig Whitson, new Good Samaritan campus chaplain, will take place at 3 p.m., Sunday, Oct. 28, at the campus chapel, 18937 K-Z Road, Cypress.

The public is invited.

The preacher for the occasion will be Rev. Gordon Albers, Austin, chairman of the Texas District Social Ministry Committee.

Rev. Frederick Stiemke, Watertown, Wis., Bethesda's religious life administrator, will narrate the residents' presentation of symbolic gifts to their new spiritual counselor. The gifts will include a Bible, the Book of Concord, Luther's *Small Catechism*, a baptismal shell, a small chalice and paten—and themselves.



Chaplain Craig Whitson

Rev. Alvin Musgrove, circuit counselor, will officiate at the commissioning. The liturgist will be Rev. Wayne Graumann of Salem Lutheran, Tomball.

Refreshments and a fellowship period will follow the service. Whitson succeeds Rev. Erwin Metz who is retiring and has served as Good Samaritan's chaplain for the past 2 1/2 years.

A former parochial school teacher and principal, Whitson is a 1984 graduate of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis.

James Glameyer takes planned giving post

Newly appointed as Planned Giving Counselor at Bethesda's Good Samaritan campus, James Glameyer brings to the position a lifetime of church involvement and three decades of sales experience.

To prepare for his new role, Glameyer spent two weeks training at Bethesda's main offices in Watertown, Wis., and then attended an estate planning seminar in August.

Glameyer will be available to help Bethesda friends achieve the best possible tax benefits for themselves and their families through charitable giving vehicles. His goal is to thank personally all who have supported Bethesda/Good Samaritan ministries over the years.

Most recently, Glameyer served as national sales manager for Plotpro Inc., Houston, a manufacturer of computer plotter supplies. Before that, he was a manufacturer's representative for the Spectrum Group of Jacksonville, Fla.

Active as an elder at Salem Lutheran Church, Tomball, Glameyer has served on numerous parish boards and committees.



James Glameyer

News briefs

Another successful **Lutheran Day at the Dome** was enjoyed by 800 friends of Bethesda/Good Samaritan homes in July. Donated funds also provided 70 tickets for residents and direct care staff.

The new Good Samaritan Thrift Store in Austin is off to a good start with more than \$3,000 in sales the first month. The store is at 5111 Burnet Road. Contributions of good, usable merchandise are appreciated—housewares sell especially well.

Thanks to a donation of tickets, most residents attended a performance of the **Ringling Brothers and Barnum and Bailey Circus** this summer.

Boys at the Rosehill group home appreciated the special **VBS class** provided for them by their sponsoring congregation, St. John, Cypress.

On recommendation of their teacher, nine of the 12 residents of Rosehill and King's Court homes were accepted for **summer school** in a special education program at Carlton Public School.



FAREWELL— Chaplain and Mrs. Erwin Metz admired the cake at his retirement party in August. During his ministry, he served five Texas parishes. For 17 years, he taught religion at Racine Lutheran High before joining the Bethesda staff.

MEMORIES— Residents and staff reminisced with Pastor Metz about his 2 1/2 years as Good Samaritan chaplain.



Tours welcome

Want to learn more about how mentally retarded people grow and develop under Bethesda/Good Samaritan guidance? Call our Cypress office at (713) 351-2911 for information about tours.

Ministering to young adults means sensitivity, gentleness

by Rev. Richard Manus
Campus Pastor, Texas A&M University

Young adults can be classified chronologically between ages 18 and 25 and situationally as follows:

1. College student
2. Military service
3. Working

Additional distinctions include:

1. Single or married
2. Without or with children
3. Living in the parental home or away
4. Handicapped

Many young adults go through a brief or extended period of exploring religious affiliational options while others seek to appropriate through their own experience the faith passed on to them through family and church.

Some young adults prefer specialized small-group opportunities for Christian growth and fellowship geared to their age level and interests. Others seem to appreciate participating in any level of an inter-generational congregation. Many young adults avoid organized Christian groups yet maintain a belief in God, perhaps choosing to return to church-life later on.

Ministry with young adults can be organized around the following principles:

1. Presence: Let young adults know through all available channels that the church is there for them, especially during times of struggle, sorrow and stress. Pastors, church workers and members need not shy away from making personal

contact on a regular basis just to say, "We care about you." Do not approach them statistically or drop them from the church roll.

2. Openness: Church leaders and members should let young adults know they are available to help them process struggles with faith and other issues in a non-judging way, thus leaving the door open for someone unsure about his/her place in the church. Do not establish "young adult ministries and programs" without consulting young adults. They are responsible for generating their own programs based upon their needs and perceptions.

3. Inclusivity: Young



TOP GUYS—Kris Schneider, left, member of Our Redeemer, Dallas, and David Rotermund, Zion, Dallas, were each awarded the Pro Deo Et Schola Award from Lutheran High School of Dallas. The award is presented to graduating seniors who have demonstrated leadership, influenced students in a positive manner and exemplified the Christian life in school and at church. Schneider was valedictorian and is attending Christ College, Irvine, Calif., majoring in secondary math education. Rotermund, salutatorian, is attending Texas Christian University and is in pre-med studies.

adults can be approached to discover their God-given motivational gifts and use them intentionally for His glory and the good of other people. The church cannot accept as final that young adults are wrapped up in themselves, always on the receiving end of life.

4. Congruence: Young adults are especially sensi-

tive to the "faith without works" warning issued by James. If they see the church faithfully integrating Biblical teaching with private and public life, young adults will be challenged to identify outwardly with the royal priesthood.

God Himself is the minister to young adults though Word and Sacrament. The church simply carries God's gifts, welcomes, shares, invites, inquires and waits upon the Holy Spirit to renew baptismal promises within young adults. Sensitivity and gentleness are key ingredients in approaching people who are searching, sorting out priorities and setting life goals.

No better off

The heart of education is our literature, so read for knowledge and pleasure. The person who does not read is no better off than the person who cannot read.



SCHOLARSHIP—John Karle received the first LWML scholarship ever given at St. Paul, McAllen. He is a second year seminarian at Concordia, St. Louis, and graduated from St. Paul's Christian day school. The \$500 scholarship was made possible by the Women's League at St. Paul, which operates the church's Christian Living Resource Center, a source of books, cards and gifts. Cathy Spieler gives Karle the award. Looking on is Bernice Mitchell, director of the center.



LSST embraces challenge to care for those who need it most

The 1990s are the threshold of a new century. To prepare for the year 2000, Lutheran Social Service of Texas is launching a campaign called VISION 2000—The Challenge of Caring. Our VISION 2000 includes caring for the old and young, the adolescent and the adult, the sick and imprisoned, the homeless and the helpless, the abused and the abuser. Ours is the *Challenge of Caring* for all of God's creation.

As a statewide leader in providing human services to people of all ages, LSST's mission is to continually expand and improve the kind of services, number of people served and quality of services to meet human needs. In performing our mission, we witness to the love of God in Christ Jesus.

Challenges then and now

In the 1970s, the challenge was to provide for the next generations—particularly the elderly. LSST's campaign accomplished the goal of expanding at Trinity Lutheran Home in Round Rock and beginning nursing care in west Texas.

In the 1990s, we face both new and continued challenges: the fast pace of society, geographic mobility, family and home realignments, redefinition of individual and societal roles, and the growing number of aging Texans.

In this rapidly changing, often chaotic world, the family must be the stabilizing force. The family has become a diverse institution with many single-person households, single-parent families and two-income families. Yet, the stresses evident on family life can hinder the family from fulfilling its support-giving role without help from outside. Herein lies one of the main *Challenges of Caring* in the world 2000.

Shifts in responsibility for care

There is an ongoing redefinition of who is responsible for care. The federal budget deficit and judicial actions are

forcing our Texas Legislature to re-examine its priorities for publicly funded services. As a result, the private sector will have to provide services once reserved only for government.

VISION 2000 objectives

The overall goal for Vision 2000—The Challenge of Caring is to raise \$5.5 million during the next three years. These dollars will be divided among three funding needs for LSST.

Need I: \$1.5 million for continuing support of ministries;

Need II: \$1.67 million in new support for statewide ministries; and

Need III: \$2.33 million in new support for area ministries.

The first need continues the annual giving for LSST.

Each year individuals, congregations and organizations give \$500,000. This continuing support is the backbone of ministry and represents 27 percent of VISION 2000's three-year goal.

The second need will provide new money for programs with statewide concern. These include adoption and post-adoption services, chaplaincy services, clergy care services, child abuse programs and nursing care. This need represents 30 percent of the campaign funds.

The third need will provide new money for programs in specific geographic areas. The geographic campaign objectives allow for local "ownership" of programs. The 16 area campaigns are to be conducted in central Texas. They are: Brenham, Bryan/College Station, Coastal Bend, Concho Valley, Dallas, Fort Worth, Golden Triangle, Houston, northeast Texas, Rio Grande Valley, Permian Basin, Panhandle, San Antonio, South Plains and Victoria.

Each area has identified specific programs and accompanying campaign goals. Forty-three percent of VISION 2000 funds will be used for local programs.

Vision 2000 logo symbolizes challenge

The symbol of VISION 2000 describes the *Challenge of Caring*.

In the center is the cross of Christ, who is the beginning of LSST's ministry.

The arrows point outward, directing our ministry to people wherever they are.

The three interlocking circles, representing the Trinity, place the ministry within the framework of the Christian church.

Finally, the triangle surrounds all of the ministry to symbolize the three

components of VISION 2000: First, the people who are served—the clients.

Second, the people who perform the services—the staff. And third, the people who make the services possible—the donors.

VISION 2000—The Challenge of Caring is a bold undertaking for the church and LSST. The VISION begins with the cross of Christ and extends to each of us, whether we are client, staff, or donor.



CONCORDIA



"WHO WILL LOVE THE CHILDREN?" — AAL District Representative Jim Brown, left; Publicity Committee Member David Glenke, center; and Concordia's Mike Linebrink, right, hear a preview of the Hearts for Jesus theme song, as played by Fred Frieling Jr. on the keyboard and Marty Doering on the guitar.

Concordia and the Texas District join to help the church leaders of the future

Because of Concordia's mission to help provide future leaders for the church, the college has established a new scholarship program called "Lutheran Education for Tomorrow."

According to Michael Linebrink, Concordia's endowment gifts counselor, "The establishment of a permanent scholarship fund for students studying to be pastors or Lutheran school teachers will not only help students with their financial obligations, but also encourage more young people to enter church-work careers."

The Texas District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod will assist with the project through the district's "Hearts for Jesus" program. Children in Lutheran schools and congregations will be given special coin boxes. The district will place the funds collected into an endowment fund.

The goal of the "Hearts for Jesus" program is \$25,000 over a two-year period. By the year 2000, when this year's third graders enter college, Concordia will be able to award the first scholarship from the fund, with a \$1,000 scholarship given each semester thereafter.

AAL has awarded the college a \$5,000 grant to help promote the Lutheran Education for Tomorrow and the "Hearts for Jesus" programs. The grant money will be used to develop posters, leaflets, coinboxes and a videotape to be used by schools and Sunday schools.

James Wade of the Concordia Media Services produced the music video for the "Hearts for Jesus" project. The song titled "Who Will Love the Children?" was written by Rev. Marty Doering of the Texas District office in

collaboration with Fred Frieling Jr. (professionally known as Jess DeMaine), who was also the vocalist for the production.

The music serves as a background for scenes of children in Lutheran schools and of pastors and teachers as they do the Lord's work. The video will be shown when the "Hearts for Jesus" program is explained to young people.

The partnership between Concordia and the Texas District, with AAL's assistance, will enable many young men and women who are preparing for church-work careers to receive a Christian higher education at a cost comparable to that of a state-supported college.

CLC develops top teachers

In 1990, Concordia's teacher education graduates continued a tradition, scoring a 100 percent

passing rate on the Examination for the Certification of Educators in Texas (ExCET). Since 1986, when the state of Texas first required the ExCET for teacher certification, Concordia has posted a 98 percent first-testing passing rate and a 100 percent overall passing rate. That means every CLC graduate who has applied for a Texas teaching certificate has received one.

Although comprehensive data comparing the ExCET passing rate at Texas Colleges is no longer released by the Texas Education Agency, Concordia's record surely remains among the top two or three in the state.

The following 1990 Concordia graduates have accepted calls to teach in these Lutheran schools: Heather Arp to Bethany, Houston; David Birnbaum to Faith, Hialeah, Fla.; Judy Fristsche to Pilgrim, Houston; Cindy Miller to Redeemer, Austin; and Bobby and Julie Schroeder to Grace, Brenham.

Other 1990 graduates have accepted positions in public schools or have deferred teaching careers for the present in order to attend graduate school.

Whether Concordia graduates teach in Lutheran or public schools, their preparation has included religion classes, and an emphasis on Christian values and the Christian perspective in all classes, regardless of subject.



One family's story tells reasons for partnership

Each family that supports Concordia has a unique story. Helen and Monroe Karcher of Austin allowed their story to be told as an invitation for others to join them as partners in Christian education.

Although Helen and Monroe Karcher did not attend Concordia, they are regular contributors to the college, placing it second only to their home church in terms of monetary support.

According to Helen Karcher, one reason for the couple's allegiance to Concordia is the very positive impact it made on the lives of their daughters, Debbie (Albers) and Carol (Lesem).

"The girls made friends for life there," she says. "They also gained a sense of their heritage by being with others of the same beliefs and similar family histories."

When the Karchers speak of family history, they are referring to the saga of the Wends in Lee County, Texas. Both are of Wendish descent and both spent much of their youth in Lee County, Monroe near Lincoln and Helen near Manheim.

Helen Karcher's family history also is tied closely to Concordia's history. Her uncle, Oscar Horn, was a member of the first class of young men in 1926, and her brother, Glenn Horn, attended CLC, as have numerous cousins.

The Karcher family also

includes a network of relatives who pledge their support to Concordia. There is a Horn Family Scholarship Endowment, and the family of Debbie's husband has established an Albers Family Scholarship Endowment. Debbie established the Roy Rathgeber Memorial Endowment after the death of her first husband.

In addition to their family connections to Concordia, the Karchers cite further reasons for supporting the college. "We should be appreciative to have a synodical college in Texas where young people can receive their education in a Christian environment," explains Monroe Karcher. "And if we're going to have a college, it needs to be first class, and that takes money."

Helen Karcher stresses that involvement with the school's activities is also important. She is a member of the Concordia Guild and has served on the advisory



Monroe and Helen Karcher

board of the Concordia-sponsored Austin Children's Choir.

"It's exciting to be around the college and see its phenomenal growth," she says.

The Karchers are active members of Christ Lutheran Church in Austin. Their family includes daughters and sons-in-law, Debbie and Jim Albers and Carol and Steve Lesem; and grandchildren, Angela, Jeremy and Daniel Albers and Benjamin and Cassidy Lesem.

Sneak-a-peek at Concordia

Concordia Lutheran College of Texas invites high school students to investigate the college at any time, but particularly on one of the Sneak-a-Peek Days, when special information and recreational activities are scheduled. The first Sneak-a-Peek Day will be Saturday, Nov. 11. Later days will be Feb. 16, April 6 and June 29, 1991.

Parents and church youth leaders also are invited to Sneak-a-Peek Days. Special sessions are scheduled for the adults, including a financial assistance information seminar.

Contact the Concordia admissions office at 1-800-735-3232, toll-free, for information and to make reservations. All activities, including meals, are free! Also call to request a visit by an admissions counselor to your church or home.



GETTING READY FOR '91 — The Concordia admissions staff has already begun making visits to schools and churches to talk to prospective students for 1991. From left, they are David Bailes, Carmen Etzel, Terry Small, Candace Kilpinen and Rachel Meissner.

THE LORD ADDED...



ST. MARK—During worship June 10 at St. Mark Lutheran in Houston, 28 people were received into membership. One young Jewish man was baptized into the faith. Others were received by adult confirmation, profession of faith and transfer.



MINERAL WELLS—St. Mark Lutheran of Mineral Wells had the privilege of bringing into membership Kenneth and Jerry Sadler, and Martha Currier.



TEXAS CITY—Thirty-three new members were added recently at Peace Lutheran, Texas City, by adult confirmation, profession of faith and transfer. Pastor Walter Dube is at top left.



CONROE—These nine adults and two youth were received into membership recently by transfer at St. Mark Lutheran in Conroe. Pastor Herbert Graf is at right. Second from left is Rev. Arnold Mueller, pastoral assistant.



TYLER—These are some of the 15 people taken into fellowship July 8 at Trinity Lutheran, Tyler. Pastors are Fred Gersch and David Jung. The new members came by adult confirmation, profession of faith and transfer.

GLORIA DEI—In June, Gloria Dei of Houston added 63 more baptized members, bringing the total of new members since January to 223. Rev. John H. Kleschnick is pastor.



TEXAS DISTRICT



PERRYTON—Rev. Wayne R. Hegstrom was installed June 3 as pastor of Bethlehem Lutheran in Perryton. Participating were, from left, Rev. David Stevens, Rev. Fred Kelm, Rev. Hegstrom, Rev. Robert Kuhlmann and Rev. Carroll Kohl. Hegstrom comes from a parish in Shattuck, Okla.



INSTALLED—Rev. David G. Loeffler was installed June 24 as pastor of Good Shepherd of Mount Pleasant, and St. John's of Clarksville. Participating, from left, back row, were Revs. Adrian Bacarisse, Michael Mattli, Gregg Stanton. Front row, Revs. Wayne Braun, Francis Schroeder, Loeffler and Marvin Koch. Loeffler comes to his new call from an associate pastorship at Cross Lutheran in New Braunfels.



TEXARKANA—These new members were received July 22 at First Lutheran, Texarkana. Five came by adult confirmation, four by profession of faith and four by transfer. They received a special welcome at the church picnic Sept. 16.

FIVE GENERATIONS—The baptism July 1 at Immanuel Lutheran of Giddings involved five generations of the child's family. Baptized was Regan Amanda Fritsche, infant daughter of Ricky and Kim Fritsche. From left are grandmother, Kathy Friedrich; mother, Kim Fritsche, holding Regan; great-grandmother, Alvina Zoch; and great-great grandfather, August Schubert.



ROWLETT—This group was received into membership June 24 at Crown of Life Lutheran in Rowlett. They came by baptism, reaffirmation of faith and transfer. The pastor is H. Melvin Symmank.



ROCKPORT—Peace Lutheran Church of Rockport received these three members into fellowship July 29. From left are Pastor Paul Johnson, Seth and Doris House, and Mark Moerbe.

LUTHERAN OUTDOOR MINISTRY OF TEXAS



HAPPY CAMPERS—These are youth and counselors having a remarkably good time at Camp Lone Star. You can help someone enjoy a Christ-centered camping experience by getting yourself or your congregation involved in a campership.

Campership will get an indoor kid outdoors

Summer camp is now only a memory for most campers of the 1990 LOMT summer season. Those campfire songs and devotions, the games, friends and lessons have reconfigured into a lasting image for telling children and grandchildren.

Most often, parents make sacrifices to provide a camping opportunity for their children or the children pay their own way through savings or "working it off." Others receive help through camperships offered by their congregations or individuals.

A campership can serve to match children the their financial needs with resources that will allow them to attend a Christ-centered camp program. One campership recipient wrote an anonymous donor, "Thank you for giving money for two kids to go to camp this year. I was the lucky one that got to

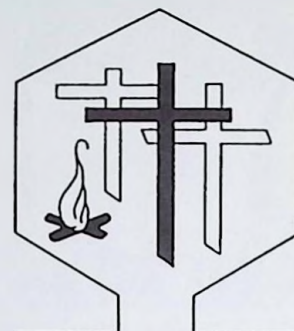
come . . ."

Being at camp means spiritual growth, new friends, songs, games and more.

Why not put some "luck" into a child's life? Give a gift to your congregation earmarked for a campership or head up a campership

committee to raise funds, identify and select campers.

Or make a gift directly to LOMT, providing funds for needy campers — monies would be distributed through the camp sites. Use the coupon below or call the LOMT office at (512) 926-4272 to receive more information on LOMT



Upcoming LOMT events

JOY Camp (Older Adults), Oct. 5-7—Camp Lone Star

Orienteering Meet, Nov. 9-11—Texoma Lutheran Camp

Big Bend Singles Trip, Nov. 21-25—Big Bend National Park

Ski Trips
Dec. 26-Jan. 1, 1991—Angel Fire, N.M.;
March 8-15, 1991—Winter Park, Colo.;
March 10-15, 1991—Ruidoso, N.M.
Texas District Singles Retreat, Jan. 11-13, 1991—Camp Lone Star

LOMT CAMPERSHIP PROGRAM

- ☐ Send me information on how I can help young people attend our LOMT Christian camping programs.
- ☐ Enclosed is \$_____ for an LOMT campership to help young people needing assistance to attend camp.

NAME _____ PHONE NO. () _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ZIP _____

CHURCH _____ CITY _____

Mail to: LUTHERAN OUTDOORS MINISTRY OF TEXAS
7900 E. HIGHWAY 290, AUSTIN, TX 78724



CLASS OF '45—This is the confirmation class of March 1945, confirmed at Holy Cross Lutheran of Warda by Rev. Paul C. Elfert. The class celebrated its 45th anniversary June 2. From left, back row, are Verniel Moerbe Mertink, Joyce Wolff Schramm, Evelyn Schubert Schautschick, Sophie Mitschke Pampell, La Verne Moerbe Rainosek, Audrey Bittner Koenning. Front row, Norbert Walker, Van Durrenberger, Junell Buscha Ladewig, Florence Michalk Hudler and Elmer Zoch. Unable to attend were Herman Telnert and Albert Hobratschk.

PEOPLE, PLACES, & EVENTS

East Texas congregations of Circuit 14 will gather in convocation from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Nov. 3, at **St. Peter Lutheran Church in Gun Barrell City**. The theme is "Sinner . . . Saint . . . Servant." The keynote speaker will be Rev. John Kieschnick of Gloria Dei, Houston. The convocation will include worship, a mass choir, banners, food and fellowship. It will also include a youth gathering with Tom Couser, DCE at Holy Cross, Dallas, leading a discussion on self esteem.

Memorial Lutheran, Katy, will mark its 45th anniversary Oct. 28 with a special service and dinner. Early photographs and old church bulletins will be displayed.

Trinity Lutheran School of Corpus Christi closed its door this summer after 42 years of Christian education in the community. Declining

enrollment forced the closing.

A service of thanksgiving and praise Sept. 9 marked the installation of Rev. Ronald Wagner as pastor of **Christ Lutheran Church of Fort Worth**.

Pastor Albert Loeschman of **Grace, Seguin**, was presented a silver cross by his congregation July 1 as he observed the 25th anniversary of his ordination into the ministry.

District President Louis Pabor was honored at the Sunday service Sept. 30 in his home congregation, Redeemer of Austin, celebrating the 50th anniversary of his graduation from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis.

St. Paul, Austin, celebrated the 25th ordination of its pastor, Fred W. Neumann, Aug. 12 with a

communion service, matins and a fellowship meal.

To ensure it has a source of qualified babysitters to care for members' children, **St. Philip, Houston**, conducted a babysitting course that included first aid and CPR training, information on early childhood development, handling emergencies and orientation to St. Philip facilities.

A special service July 15 at **Faith Lutheran, Huntsville**, marked the 25th anniversary of Pastor Donald Kaspar's ordination.

Nine families of **Gloria Dei, Houston**, hosted students and teachers from Hungary, Germany, Belgium and Brazil this summer under the Experiment in International Living program.

The adult Bible class of **St. Paul, Bishop**, awarded a \$300 scholarship to one of the congregation's young members, Sarah Vandercook, who is studying for a church-work career at Concordia College of Austin.

Lord of Life, Corpus Christi, celebrated groundbreaking Aug. 26 at its new property at Flour Bluff Drive and Compton Road. Rev. Wayne Hamit is pastor.

Page Nickell, first grade teacher at **Redeemer Lutheran School, Fort Worth**, was named Teacher of the Week by the Fort Worth *Star-Telegram*.

Laura Dinda accepted a call as director of child care



KNOWS HORSES—Carl Nafzger, a member of **St. Paul Lutheran Church of Plainview**, was the trainer of the Kentucky Derby winner this year, *Unbridled*, in Louisville. Nafzger is pictured with his wife, Wanda, who assists him in his training.

and child evangelism at **Our Savior, Austin**.

Don Widger was installed June 24 as director of education intern for **Christ Lutheran, Lubbock**.

Jennifer Koch, **Grace Lutheran, Victoria**, was awarded a Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship. Koch, a junior at Texas Lutheran College, Seguin, is one of 118 students nationwide to receive the scholarship, valued up to \$7,000 annually. Winners are determined by academic merit from a field of 700 math and science students in 450 colleges and universities.

The Adam's Mark Hotel on the west side of Houston will be the site for the July 26-28 **Texas District Sunday School Convention** in 1991. The tentative theme is "Filled for Growing; Empowered for Going."

It's amazing how a little gift can go such a long way

by **Pastor Jerry Kieschnick**
Executive Director, Lutheran Foundation of Texas

Most of us have heard of Benjamin Franklin. But few of us know about one of the wisest decisions he ever made.

About 200 years ago, Franklin left several gifts to charitable causes at the time of his death. The total amount was rather modest by today's standards. Franklin gave \$4,444.44 to each of two causes which were near and dear to his heart—the cities of Philadelphia and Boston.

Since that time, following the instructions in Franklin's Last Will and Testament, the original \$8,888.88 total has grown to more than \$6.5 million!

The will stipulated that, for the first 100 years after his death, none of the gift's principal could be used. After 100 years, part of the principal could be withdrawn and used for the general benefit of the citizens of Philadelphia and Boston.

Franklin did not give specific directions for the use of his gifts after the second 100 years. He simply stated in his will that almost 75 percent of the accumulated funds should go to the states of Pennsylvania and Massachusetts, with the remainder staying in Philadelphia and Boston.

Here are a couple of lessons for us from the wisdom of Ben Franklin.

A little gift can go a long way. A gift that you may think is too small to do much good can have an awesome impact! When invested,



Pastor Jerry Kieschnick

compounded and accumulated, a small gift, in time, can become a sizable amount.

That's one of the special benefits of endowment giving where, at least for a designated period of time, the gift is designed to grow—not to be spent. Then, when the time is right, the income and perhaps some of the gift's principal is used for the greatest need existing at that time.

It's wisest to leave specific decisions to future generations. How could Ben Franklin possibly have known 200 years ago, wise as he was, what the specific needs of his favorite charities would be in 1990? He simply made sure his gifts would serve the causes he supported. He left the specifics up to those who, in the future, would be faced with the very real challenges of deciding what needed to be done with his gifts.

We may think we know today the greatest need of our congregation, of our



Yes, I want to know more. Clip and mail to
Lutheran Foundation of Texas
7900 U.S. 290 E Austin, TX 78724 (512) 926-4272

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____
()

ZIP _____ Telephone Number _____ 9 _____

district, of our colleges and seminaries, of our agencies and institutions tomorrow. But sometimes we see through a foggy glass, dimly. Sometimes we don't see the big picture. Sometimes we don't have all the information today which is needed to make the most prudent decision tomorrow.

The Lutheran Foundation of Texas encourages charitable giving, in any amount, of gifts you make in the future, through your Last Will and Testament.

We encourage you to remember the twofold thrust of this article:

No gift is too small. Properly structured, even the smallest of gifts, wisely managed, can do a significant amount of good for our Lord's kingdom through the ministries of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

When making endowment gifts, it's best to express your wishes and preferences in a general way. Leave specific decisions about how your gift will be spent to those

charged with the responsibility for that ministry, whether that be today, or 200, or 2,000 years from now.

For assistance, suggestions and guidance in making a gift that will make a difference, contact the Lutheran Foundation of Texas. We may not be quite as wise as Ben Franklin, and you probably will never have to worry about seeing this writer's face on a \$100 bill.

But through the experience of helping hundreds of people make gifts that meet their needs and serve the church today and into the future, we believe by God's grace we can help you do the same!

Show or tell?

Life is like walking in deep snow. People will follow your footsteps rather than your advice.

A prayer

Lord, teach me the glorious lesson that occasionally it is possible that I may be mistaken.



AT ACADEMY—These four Texas District educators attended the National Lutheran Principals Academy held in July in St. Charles, Mo. From left are James Vandercook and Larry Becker, principals of Lutheran schools at Bishop and Giddings respectively; Keith Loomans, director of Parish Services of the Texas District who served on the Academy staff; and Principal Gary Spieler of McAllen.

The game of the name

King of Kings Lutheran in San Antonio doesn't provide babysitting services anymore during its meetings, studies and services.

Well, they really do, but it isn't called babysitting.

The new term at King of Kings for minding the children is *Kid Watch*.



JUST SEW-SEW—These women of Trinity Lutheran Church of Port Arthur made 107 blankets for Lutheran World Relief in a single year. The quilt in the background is one of many made during the past 16 years to raise funds for Good Samaritan/Bethesda Lutheran Home in Cypress.

Three district principals attend academy

Larry Becker, Immanuel, Giddings; Gary Spieler, St. Paul, McAllen; and James Vandercook, St. Paul, Bishop, successfully completed the National Lutheran Principals Academy held July 7-11 at Immanuel Lutheran School, St. Charles, Mo. The academy was attended by 40 Lutheran school principals from 17 states.

The five-day intensive program equipped principals by confronting them with simulations in effective communication, interpersonal relationships, managerial responsibilities and administrative expectations.

The academy was sponsored by the Department of Lutheran Elementary School Principals and Lutheran Education Association in conjunction with the Synod's Board for Parish Services. AAL, Appleton, Wis., provided financial support for the academy.

The academy staff of nationally prominent Lutheran educators included Dr. Keith A. Loomans, director of Parish Services for the Texas District. Academy graduates were able to receive graduate credit through Concordia University of Mequon, Wis.

Tentative plans are to hold two academies in 1991—one on the West Coast and one in the Midwest.



OUR SAVIOR—Tom Hilgendorf, center, was installed July 1 as minister of Christian education at Our Savior, Austin. Present were two other area principals, Norm Stuemke, left, Redeemer, Austin, and David Koenig, St. Paul, Austin. Our Savior moved into its new church, school and child care facilities in August.

Bethel, Bryan, planning for next century

The folks at Bethel Lutheran Church in Bryan are looking for things to bury in the ground—things that won't be dug up until 2040.

That's the year Bethel will celebrate its 100th anniversary, and members want to bury a time capsule.

Sunday school students are beginning to collect things representative of the church life that will be buried this year in a time capsule. More material will be added in 2015, the 75th anniversary of the congregation, and the capsule will be opened again in March 2040, at the church's 100th birthday.

Mark your calendars now.

Bad day for sure

You know it's a bad day when your bar of Ivory sinks.

LONE STAR DISTRICT LLL

Int'l LLL to convene in Texas

In July more than 1,300 LLLers and 99 children and youth were in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, to attend the 73rd convention of the International Lutheran Laymen's League. All came to "Walk in the Light" as they participated in the various activities of the convention. Twenty-nine members and four children represented the Lone Star District.

The Lone Star District was chosen to host the convention in 1994. Rodger Habermehl of McAlester, Okla., was elected governor of Region 10 (Lone Star and Oklahoma). He replaces Gary Laneman, who served in this position for the past four years.

ON SATELLITE

On Sunday evening, the first convention session was narrowcast throughout the United States and Canada by direct broadcast satellite. Many LLL members and friends videotaped in their homes this portion of the opening session.

These tapes can be replayed in congregations and LLL groups. Among those participating in this telecast was Roy Schmidt, Int'l LLL president, as keynote speaker.

In his message Schmidt said, "I prefer to think of light in our theme as a verb which means to take fire, to ignite something, to guide with light. This is very fitting for our league to do that, just as we carry out the mission of Bringing Christ to the Nations. The dictionary does not put a restriction on the speed

with which people walk. Applying speed to the Lord's work is critical. Speed does count. We have seen so many opportunities for ministry put before us this past year that it boggles our mind. How soon can we start a new ministry?"

"Thomas Jefferson said, 'The highest office you can hold in any organization is that of a volunteer.' You are important in your role as a volunteer . . . volunteers are the real foot soldiers who get the job done. What are we here for? To prepare for our walk in the light," Schmidt concluded.

Schmidt, of Bay City, Mich., was re-elected to a second two-year term as International LLL president.

GERMAN CHRISTIANS

At the Lutheran Hour rally on Sunday afternoon, Lutheran Hour Speaker Dr. Dale A. Meyer gave us additional news about things that happened in East Germany. Meyer said that prayer meetings were begun in Leipzig in 1982, which eventually led to peaceful demonstrations against the Berlin Wall.

On seven successive Mondays, crowds of believers, in prayerful concern, marched in Leipzig in peaceful protest of the wall. On the seventh Monday the wall was opened. Meyer likened it to the Children of Israel marching around Jericho.



COMING TO TEXAS—District Pastoral Advisor Steve Henze and his wife, Roslyn, coordinated the successful bid presentation that will see the 1994 Int'l LLL convention hosted by the Lone Star District. Delegates from the Lone Star and Oklahoma districts stand in front.

The wall was opened in November during the week of Dr. Martin Luther's birthday.

MEYER'S CHALLENGE

Meyer challenged the conventioners to think about their encounter with Christ when they enter eternal glory. Christ might say He is very happy to see them, but He might also ask, "Did you bring anyone with you? Didn't you remember that I sent you to bring Me to the Nations?"

Meyer also told conventioners that he didn't want his ascension into heaven to be a solo flight. "Let other people see the light through our own dear Lutheran Hour while it is day; let us work and get members for this Christ-centered ministry," concluded Meyer.

COINS FOR JESUS

During the 1990 Lenten season, 27 schools in Texas participated in the "Coins for Jesus" project. Children from participating schools contributed \$2,663.54 in support of the Lutheran Hour ministry. LLL

members think this is outstanding.

Al Knott, media chairman, Lone Star District, again will be in charge of the 1991 "Coins for Jesus" project. Knott will be available to talk to your principal or faculty. His address is 3418 White Oak, Temple, TX 76502; phone (817) 778-1628.

Kay Meyer of the St. Louis office is assisting with the Coins for Jesus project. Germany will be added to this year's list of choices of countries to be studied in 1991. It is LLL's hope that ultimately this can become an international project.

TOUGH LOVE

Lutheran Hour special—Be sure to listen to "The Lutheran Hour" Nov. 4 and Dec. 23! These broadcasts will feature Pastor Inze Holmer from East Germany. Holmer sacrificially opened his home to shelter deposed East German Premier Erich Honnecker.



Freedom in truth

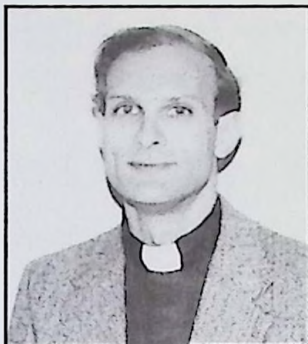
"Raise your right hand! Do you swear to tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth?" These words are repeated many times in our nation's courtrooms. They are the basis upon which a person charged with a crime is found guilty or innocent.

It is a terrible thing for a witness who swears to tell the truth to then lie. This is called perjury and it carries a stiff sentence of its own.

Truth is one word that will stand out above all others in this month of October as we celebrate LWML Sunday. It is the truth that Jesus Christ is the only Savior of the world. The truth that we are saved by an act of God's grace through the gift of faith He gives to us through Baptism and His Word; the truth that Jesus has made us His disciples, has set us on the witness stand of the world, and encourages us to think, speak and live His truth.

Yet, how often are we given the opportunity to bear witness to the truth of our faith and we hide it? Or worse still—we deny it! Rather than being like Stephen, who boldly expressed the faith for which he was stoned to death, we tend to be more like Peter in the courtyard of the high priest. We perjure ourselves.

Because of this, it is constantly necessary for us, even as Christian people, to "Seek His Truth." Jesus said it so simply to the Jews who believed in Him, "If you



Rev. David Rohde

abide in My Word, you are truly My disciple. And you will know the truth and the truth will set you free" (John 8:31-32).

In 1862, President Abraham Lincoln delivered his famous Emancipation Proclamation which freed the slaves. It soon became evident that many people who had lived their entire lives under slavery were not equipped or prepared to live this new life of freedom. They were apprehensive and scared.

It's true that, for many of us, it is scary and frightening to get up on the witness stand and testify about Jesus to our friends, neighbors, relatives and fellow workers. We often don't feel equipped or prepared. But the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth is that "God has not given us a spirit of timidity but a spirit of power, of love and of self discipline. So do not be ashamed to testify about our Lord" (2 Tim. 1:7-8a).

Rev. David Rohde
Counselor

Miles of mites

Has your society taken up the challenge issued at the convention in Austin? If each society would raise a "mile of pennies" during the next biennium, our goal can be easily attained.

At 16 pennies per foot, one mile is \$844 or about five cents per day per member. Smaller societies that may not be able to make one mile shouldn't give up. There are those who are willing to "go the extra mile" for them.

Make this journey a prayerful one. Thank God for His goodness and ask His blessing as we move forward toward our goal of \$250,000 and the funding of each of our mission projects for 1990-1992.



Orientation

Were you just elected zone president? What an exciting opportunity to serve our Lord! You will surely grow spiritually as you seek to put His will in action.

To help you serve effectively in your new office, an orientation workshop will be held Nov. 30-Dec. 1 at Camp Lone Star. Leaders will be Dot Moerbe, member development chairman, and Texas District LWML President Doris McKay.

Mark your calendar and plan to attend this informative workshop.



Endowment fund established

Rejoicing in all the blessings that LWML has brought to us as individuals and to our church, the district LWML convention delegates voted to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Texas District LWML with a \$50,000 Scholarship Endowment Fund.

These scholarships will be for young women studying for full-time professional church work.

To make a special contribution to the scholarship fund, send your gift to the LWML Scholarship Fund, Lutheran Foundation of Texas, 7900 E. Highway 290, Austin, TX 78724-2499.

All special contributions will be published at the 1992 convention. If the contribution is given to honor or congratulate someone, or as a memorial, a personal letter will be sent from the Lutheran Foundation of Texas to the person or family.

For more information, contact your zone president or a member of the scholarship committee. They are: Marcella Gaus, chairman, Box 123, Hamshire, TX 77622; Margaret Goodson, 3803 Gardendale, Houston, TX 77092; Shirley Lorenz,



Involvement = excitement

Hope Circle, Golden Triangle Zone, was excited about the convention in Austin! They set up the booth for the Golden Triangle convention bid and the 50th anniversary booth.

They submitted two project proposals—Heartwarmers and Seminary Student Scholarships—that were accepted, placed on the slate and chosen to be two of the mission projects during the next biennium.

Seven of their 10 members were at the convention: Zone President Johnnie Kaspar; Society Delegate Teresa Parker; Zone Convention Bid Chairman Beverly Morris, who also presented a skit for Int'l LWML's 50th anniversary at the board of directors meeting; Cindy Day, who, with help from Kathy Gaus, wrote the Cajun narration and delivered it during the slide presentation; Mary Bauer, who was the photographer and helped set up the booth. Marcella Gaus reported for the 50th anniversary committee.

These leaguers agree that it was a special convention, made even more so to them because of their involvement. They recommend getting involved in LWML!



Working together on dolls for Nigeria are, from left, Diane Beacker, Betty Harlow and Shirley Gold.

Dolls travel to Nigeria

One past project of the Immanuel Dorcas Circle in Giddings was to sew 250 dolls for Nigerian children for distribution through Missionary Keith and Sherri Theimer. Theimer is presently working with the Ekajuk tribe in Ewinimba, a small village in southeast Nigeria.

Some members of the Dorcas Circle met weekly, sewing and painting dolls for the Nigerian children. Others sewed and painted dolls individually and before meetings.

Thanks to Dorcas Circle, many Nigerian children will be a little happier.



The women's group LWML Society of Lord of Life, Dallas, received its official membership charter in July. We look forward to working with our sisters in Christ.

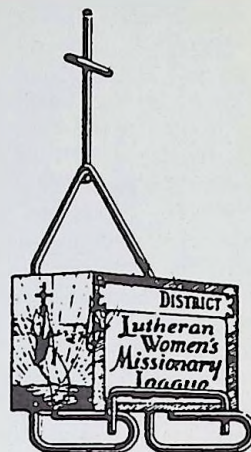
Looking ahead to 50 years

The 50th Anniversary Texas District LWML Convention will be held June 19-21, 1992, in Houston. All six Houston area zones—Bayou City, Golden Harvest, Northeast Houston, New Horizon, White Oak and Channel—are working together to make 1992 a year to remember. Something new—this will be a weekend convention.

The Christian Growth Seminar will be Friday, June 19, and opening worship with communion will be that evening. The banquet, Saturday, June 20, will include a special multimedia 50th anniversary presentation. The convention will close at noon Sunday with a short worship service. Headquarters will be the Wyndham Greenspoint Hotel on I-45 North. Start planning now to attend our 50th birthday celebration.

LWML news

LWML news should be sent to Shirley Baumgartner, LWML district editor, 5018 Risada, San Antonio, TX 78233.



Mite Report

August, 1990

1990-92 Goal	\$250,000
Received Aug.	6,488
Rec'd to date	22,907
Needed for goal	227,093
Sent to International LWML	1,237
International to date	3,021

Send ALL contributions to Eudoris Weister, Route 1, Box 46, Copperas Cove 76522. MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO TEXAS DISTRICT LWML.



Don't forget to make LifeLight™ a part of your planning this year. You will greatly benefit from this in-depth study of the Bible. If your church does not have a LifeLight™ Bible study group or does not know how to start, contact Doris McKay, 209 Pintail, Rockport, TX 78382.



Wonderful theme, fine committee are all set for next June's Texas District Convention

by Rev. Louis Pabor, president
Texas District, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

As I write these words to you on the last day of August, summer is winding down, school has started, swimming pools have closed, and we are gearing up for a busy fall program in our congregations. As you read these words in November (there is a time lag, you know), hopefully you will be climaxing a successful stewardship program, we will be on the verge of the holiday season, you are making plans for the New Year . . . and maybe even for Lent.

But as I write these words on the last day of August, I am thinking ahead to June 1991 . . . and the Texas District Convention. Time flies and there is so much to do . . . it is high time we begin in earnest.

The dates are June 20-23, and the place is the Grand Kempinski Hotel in Dallas. I remember when the district convention was hosted by an individual congregation . . . usually out in the country or in a small town . . . no spouses would attend and delegates would be paired off among the members of the congregation for lodging.

Then, as our numbers grew, the convention was shifted to Concordia College in Austin . . . and now with about 1,500 registered, plus in and out visitors, we have found it necessary to go to hotels.

The theme will be *Tell Everyone What He Has Done*. We have been encouraged to use this theme as a follow-up to the last synodical convention in Wichita. The synodical

representative is Dr. August Mennicke, first vice president. The Bible study essayist will be Professor Arthur A. Just Jr. of our Fort Wayne seminary. Worship services and devotions will be interwoven throughout.

We have a fine convention committee: Chairman Curtis Mickan, Zion, Dallas; displays and supplies, William Wenthe, Zion, Dallas; registration, Charlotte Hughes, Lamb of God, Lewisville; secretary, Faith Morrison, Zion, Dallas; treasurer, Rev. David Jung, Trinity, Tyler; worship and music, Barbara Bradfield, Zion, Dallas; public relations, Rev. Jim Otto, Our Redeemer, Nacogdoches; convention



Rev. Louis Pabor

manager, Rev. Fred Gersch, Trinity, Tyler.

The committee will meet again in November.

Soon each congregation will receive instructions on making nominations for several major offices . . . two nominations for Texas District president (these nominations may be Missouri Synod pastors from anywhere in the world); two nominations from within your area for area vice president; and nominations within your circuit for circuit counselor.

You also will receive guidelines for selecting your congregational lay delegate and alternate. We usually suggest that you send your congregational president . . .

but that's up to you.

Soon we will select floor committees and will give guidelines on how congregations should submit memorials to the convention . . . and numerous other things. After the turn of the year, we will begin putting together the convention workbook so it may be mailed to each delegate, pastor and professional worker. The compilation of that book is always a feverish time around the district office.

The home base for serving the Lord and doing His work is the individual congregation and its members. However, we voluntarily band together to do the work of the Lord on a wider scope. The district convention is the event that gives impetus and direction to this work.

As we close this year and go into the second year of the 1990s, we ask you to remember our upcoming convention in your prayers and to give it your support in every way. Let's use this wonderful theme and the Texas District Convention to *Tell Everyone What He Has Done!*



DISTRICT SERVANTS—At the July meeting of the Texas District Board of Directors, eight district office employees were recognized for their service anniversaries. From left, are Beth Lauterbach, five years; Frances Mertschin, five; Bill Wagner, five; Milburn Schubert, 15; Evelyn Mueller, 27; Marlene Hahn, five; Shirley Brown, five; Rev. Louis Pabor, district president, who made the awards; and Peggy Turnipseed, five.

HAPPENINGS IN TEXAS



25 YEARS—St. Paul Lutheran of Austin celebrated the 25th anniversary Aug. 12 of Rev. Fred Neumann's ordination with a recommissioning service. Participating, from left, were Duane Kilhne, elder; Richard Covey, president; David Koenig, St. Paul school principal; Bill Siegrist, director of development, Texas District Church Extension Fund and officiant; Rev. Dean Kelm, Odessa, guest speaker; Neumann; Rev. Earl Bleke, associate; Rev. Louis Pabor, district president; Rev. Jerry Kieschnick, executive director, Lutheran Foundation of Texas.

PEOPLE, PLACES, & EVENTS

Members of Trinity, Klein, keep in touch with their members away at college through their Adopt A College Student Program. Each student is sent about nine care packages a year containing snacks, school supplies, small gifts and encouraging words.

The Lord blessed the first-ever vacation Bible school held last summer at San Esteban Lutheran Mission in San Antonio. Thirty children under 12 attended each day, and 180 people—mostly non-members—attended closing services. Rev. Steve Fullen is mission developer.

Bethlehem Lutheran, Houston, celebrated its 50th anniversary Sept. 16. Professor Charles Froehlich of Concordia-River Forest, son of Bethlehem's first pastor, was guest speaker. Timothy Phillips is pastor.

Eleven members of Peace, Hurst, spent a week in Honduras in August



GROVES—Alma Lovelace celebrated her 90th birthday Aug. 2. She is the oldest member of St. Paul Lutheran of Groves and still very active in the LWML and Ladies Aid.

helping improve a mission station there. They were Carol and Jeff Burrough; John Chandler; Amy and Vera Jenest; Ray Johnson; Sandy Knoll; Cara Koeritz; Mike Troutt; Jane Weber; and Don Zobel Jr.

Pastor H. Melvin Symmank, Crown of Life, Rowlett, was honored July 15 on the occasion of his 25th year in the ministry.

A special service of worship and thanksgiving Sept. 9 at Redeemer, Odessa, marked the 25th

year of ministry of Pastor Dean Kelm. The guest preacher was Rev. Stephen A. Wagner of Carrollton.

Pastor Bill Sager, Faith, Woodville, and St. Paul, Jasper, was commissioned a first lieutenant as chaplain in the National Guard.

A diet class, called Losing Yet Gaining, was started at St. Andrew, Houston, for people who want to lose weight. It begins with a 15-minute devotion.

Messiah Lutheran, Midlothian, observed Charter Sunday Sept. 9. It became an official congregation of the Texas District and of the Synod. Rev. Eugene Gruell, Texas District interim mission director, was guest speaker.

The Board of Education of Cross, New Braunfels, entered a float Sept. 28 in the Comal County Fair. The float's theme was "Sharing the Caring Christ Through Nurture and Education."

Ben and Nicole Bentrup, members of Lord of Life,

Corpus Christi, are spending a year on their sailboat visiting the Florida Keys and the East Coast.

M. Bernal, Gilbert Flores and Dan Williams teach a bilingual Bible class at St. John, Corpus Christi. It celebrated its fourth anniversary Sept. 30.

Congratulations to two caring members of St. Paul, San Antonio. Casandra Wilke logged 592 hours of volunteer work this past summer at Lutheran General Hospital, and Timothy Boerger contributed 142 hours at the hospital along with a like amount at a public library.

Two-fold joy in New Braunfels! The new mission there has been named Christ the King Confessional Lutheran. And, the first guest minister was Rev. William Holzer, assistant pastor of San Antonio's King of Kings.

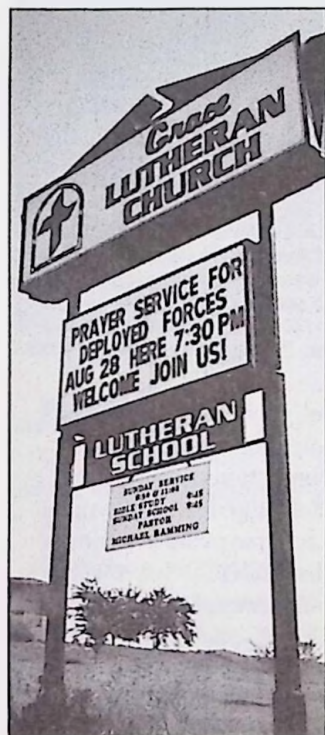
Rev. Vic Winkelmann was installed Sept. 2 as pastor of Trinity Lutheran, Livingston. He was a member of St. Mark, Houston, before studying for the ministry as a second career.

In cooperation with city health officials, Concordia, San Antonio, offered free influenza vaccinations to Medicare recipients. Non-Medicare card holders received the flu vaccine for a small fee.



Families of deployed troops get comfort, care at Grace

The Iraqi invasion of Kuwait in August and the sudden deployment of American forces to Saudi Arabia deeply affected the community of Killeen at the front door to Fort Hood.



INVITATION—Sign in front of Grace Lutheran in Killeen announces prayer service for troops deployed to Saudi Arabia.

PREPARING—In photo at right, Pastor Michael Ramming and Chaplain Eric J. Erkkinen prepare for a special service of prayer petitioning for the safety of U.S. servicemen and women deployed to the Middle East. Ramming's congregation, Grace Lutheran of Killeen, serves many Fort Hood families.

A high percentage of members of Grace Lutheran in Killeen is active-duty Army. Many were placed on immediate alert for deployment.

Knowing that the stress generated by the crisis would be long-term, parish leaders began preparing a ministry and support plan.

The start of this care ministry was a special prayer service with the theme *Let Your Protection Be Upon Each*. This service of hymns and prayers was held for the community Aug. 28 at Grace Lutheran, to provide spiritual encouragement and moral support for local military personnel and families preparing to deploy to Saudi Arabia.

Because of long duty hours, the military was invited to attend in working uniforms.

The Aviation Brigade Chaplain for the Second Armored Division assigned to Fort Hood, Captain Eric J. Erkkinen, an LCMS



PRAYER FOR SOLDIERS—In their morning prayers, children of Cindy Bender's second and third grade class at Grace Lutheran School in Killeen remember the deployed men and women. Many of the children's parents have gone or are preparing to go.

chaplain preparing to deploy, joined Lay Minister Cecil Heidtbrink, and Rev. Michael Ramming, Grace's pastor, in conducting the service.

At the opening, Ramming said, *"Our men and women in uniform and their families need to know we care and will stand beside them in every way we can, including with our prayers. After all, our Gospel message is the greatest power on earth!"*

During ensuing weeks, the parish board of lay ministry built a ministry organization to give moral, spiritual and practical support to military and civilian families affected by the mobilization.

Don Kulp, a civilian technician preparing to deploy, reminded the members that the civilian workers *"will also need your thoughts and prayers."*

John Speckman, director of the board of lay ministry, and a deploying pilot, began early in the crisis to use "A Hymn of Strength and Support" (selected verses

from "Eternal Father") at each worship service.

Assistant board director Rick Schiffner pledged, *"Our families will know we care, when we're there to help with the anxieties, as well as the broken washer and balky lawnmower. I want each soldier member to know that the Grace family is watching over his or her family while away."*

John Font is a member of Grace and an experienced Red Cross field representative. Font accepted the position of Mobilization Response Project Leader. Under his guidance, this ministry is expanding to include family support teams, emergency assistance teams and a mail ministry to deployed personnel.

Individual congregation members, as well as Sunday day school students and members of auxiliary organizations will be part of this ministry.

The prayer of Grace Lutheran, Killeen, is *"Let Your protection be upon each!"*

Report cites huge challenge of ministry to Valley's Hispanics

Last year, the board of mission administration requested that the Hispanic ministries in the Rio Grande Valley prepare a survey of the present state of the Valley Hispanic ministries. This is a condensation of that report.

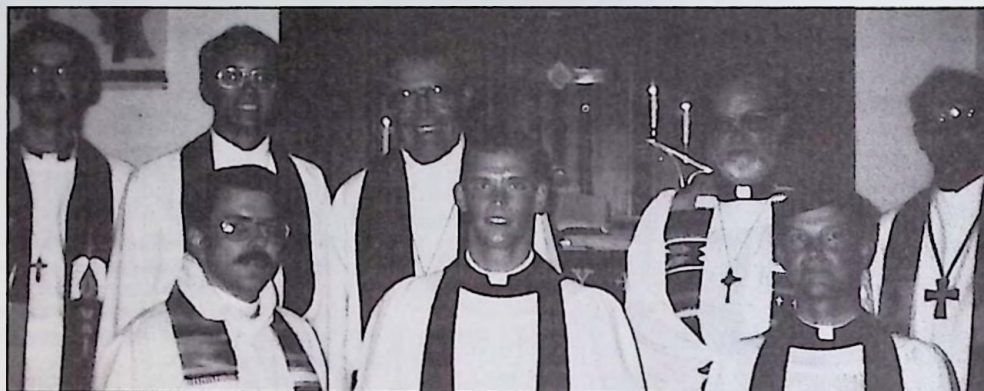
The term *Hispanic* covers a diverse population. In the Valley, about 85 percent of Hispanics are Mexican-Americans; the rest are from Cuba, Puerto Rico, Central and South America.

These people come to the United States for two basic reasons: negative conditions in their homelands, and positive expectations from a move to the United States.

Once immigrants have made the move, there are four steps to their cultural maturity. The *first* phase is marked by fear and a sense of loss. It gradually gives way to accepting the new way of life and rejecting their heritage. They try to be like their neighbors.

The *second* phase is disillusionment. They realize they cannot fully be part of the society; they feel rejected by the dominant society. The *third* phase is renewed nationalism. They affirm their cultural identity and way of life.

Fourth, there is a phase of acceptance and maturity. Immigrants realize they are unique and yet participate



MISSIONARY—Edmund J. Weber was ordained and commissioned Aug. 19 as Hispanic ministry missionary for the central Rio Grande Valley. The service was held at Immanuel Lutheran in Mercedes. Weber will serve in the Mercedes and Alamo areas. Participating in the service were, from left, front row, Revs. Steven Morlitt, circuit counselor; Weber; Dr. Douglas Judisch, preacher. Back row, Revs. Walter Pohland, Marcus Mueller, Eugene Gruell, Harry Klepper, Dymann Jirovec.

in the larger mosaic of the new society as a whole.

Currently, the Rio Grande Valley probably represents a continuous development of the third phase. Since they are the dominant force numerically, they have not had to fully assimilate into the new culture. They have been able to maintain their own language and have only adopted those values that appeal to their idea of bettering themselves. They are unique to the "melting pot" of America because of their constant communication with their homeland.

Another pattern that emerges is of generational differences. The first generation often never leaves their homeland emotionally or psychologically. The new culture is learned only enough to survive. The second generation has a foot in each culture. They understand

their parents but also know the new culture through school and work. The third generation knows their grandparents were immigrants but feel they are part of the new culture.

Cultural and economic conditions in the Rio Grande Valley assure its continuation as a place of constant change and migration.

Most Hispanics in the United States are Roman Catholic. However, the number of active Catholics is less than 10 percent. Those inactive in the Catholic Church are attracted to Pentecostal and charismatic movements because those groups appeal to the Hispanic's warmth, openness and expressive personalities.

For Mexican Americans, religion or "religious experience" is all-inclusive. There is a common flow of

religious experience which tolerates all creeds and convictions. This creates a challenge for Confessional Lutherans who are certain that the Holy Spirit works only through the Gospel. The Hispanic is more likely to profess a loyalty to a congregation or a pastor than to the Word.

Two final cultural differences impacting the Hispanic's religious commitments are:

1) Family relationships. Hispanics are extremely loyal to family; bonds of blood are often more important than objective truth. Since their religious experience has been one where no commitment of time or presence is expected in church, the transition to a life of active faith is difficult to make.

2) Time. While the Anglo lives by the clock, the Hispanic is more relaxed and attaches less



importance to the time. Hispanics prefer to give up the future when choosing reality. The church has to struggle with this as it deals with death and resurrection, and even simple things like making budget plans for next year.

The report indicated these goals for the future of Hispanic ministries in the Rio Grande Valley:

Social ministry resources must be used and coordinated to help the church impact the daily lives of the people it serves.

A greater cooperation and networking among the Valley congregations is needed to lead to solidarity in ministry.

Find the need for the church within this community and culture so the Gospel can be proclaimed without competing with existing family and authority structures.

To this end, these recommendations were made to the board of mission administration:

1. That the decade of the '90s be promoted as the decade for Sunday school among district Hispanic congregations, providing opportunities to strengthen family ministry.

2. That over the next three years, district and Valley congregations work together to provide the first full-time social worker/community center director for the Rio Grande Valley.

3. That the mission board



is encouraged to pursue the reinstatement of the Hispanic in-service training program for the benefit of mission outreach throughout the church.

4. That funds be sought to enable Valley pastors to take a leave of absence for intensive language training.

5. That the Valley be considered a priority for locating extended training opportunities for laymen and future pastors.

6. That in the next two years, two "worker-priests" be recruited for new ministries in the Valley.

7. Realize that two Theological Education by Extension workers are needed to provide support for storefront or house ministries.

8. That subsidy levels need to be stabilized and maintained at least at present levels in order to provide ground-level support. Additional cutbacks would promote existing ministries to adopt more maintenance-oriented ministry.

9. That we ask the district to look for ways to fund secretarial help for established ministries.

10. That a team ministry be considered for one of the

Valley congregations.

11. That educational furloughs and continuing education are needed for Valley Hispanic pastors in order to ensure a growth mindset among congregational leadership.

Many variables affect the outcome of Hispanic ministry within the Texas District and the Rio Grande Valley. The church's ministry within the Hispanic community includes respecting the values, language, beliefs and culture

of those in the community. Valley Hispanic pastors take these factors seriously, understanding that the Gospel will never be understood and accepted if we are not aware that communicating the Gospel mean more than just speaking a few words in Spanish.

Report submitted by Rev. Steve Morfitt, Brownsville; Rev. Leopoldo Vigil, Harlingen; Rev. Walter Pohland, Raymondville; Rev. Tim Stahlke, McAllen; and Rev. Ruben Dominguez, Mercedes.

Outreach begins swimmingly

It's almost impossible to keep your head above water, the pastors of Trinity of Tyler found out July 8 as the congregation launched its year's theme, "Join Us on the Journey of a Lifetime." Pastors Fred Gersch and David Jung were the dunkies in the dunking booth that was part of what the congregation called Super Summer Celebration.

The event, featuring summer fare of hot dogs and snow cones, was an outreach effort to the community and more than 1,000 invitations were issued for neighborhood families and friends to come to Sunday school, worship and the day's special events.

A highlight of the service was receiving 15 new members.

Future "Journey" events include an education emphasis in December,

along with an Advent musical festival at which musicians will present Christmas music every 15 minutes in the nave for neighbors and guests.



KERSPLASH!—Pastor David Jung takes one of his 40 dunks as a well-aimed ball triggers his plunge at Tyler's Trinity Lutheran kickoff of its "Journey of A Lifetime" activity.

THE LORD AT WORK IN TEXAS

ST. PAUL—This group of new members was received Sept. 9 into the forever family at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Austin. Five adults were confirmed and two were baptized. Four children also were baptized. Pastor is Fred W. Neumann.



TRINITY—A service of praise and thanksgiving followed by a reception marked the 25th anniversary in the ministry of Rev. Thomas E. Petersen at Trinity Lutheran in Austin. Rev. Robert Hill of Plano was guest preacher at the July 15 event. Members presented Petersen with a book of testimonials, a liturgical stole and a cash gift.



ST. TIMOTHY—St. Timothy Lutheran of Houston received more than 30 members into communicant membership July 15. Eight new members came by adult confirmation. The pastor is Stephen McClintic.



HONEY GROVE—Pictured at the Aug. 26 installation of Rev. Loren A. DuBols as pastor of St. James Lutheran Church of Honey Grove are, from left, front row, Rev. Theodore Dallmann, L. DuBols, Rev. Craig DuBols. Back row, Rev. Marvin Koch, circuit counselor; and Rev. Robert Hill.



TEXAS AMBASSADORS—These are the youth and adults from the Texas District who attended a week of summer training for Ongoing Ambassadors for Christ in July at Lincoln, Neb. OAFS is a youth evangelism movement in The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. The young people are available to congregations for community religious surveys or for special weekends of Bible studies, singing, dramas, puppet plays, devotions at nursing homes and participation in Sunday school and worship services.



By confirmation and transfer, **Concordia, San Antonio**, added 18 members to its forever family Aug. 19.

Welcomed June 24 into the Christian family of **Crown of Life, Rowlett**, were 10 new members by baptism, reaffirmation of faith and transfer.

A joyous Aug. 26 service at **Redeemer, Austin**, saw 31 new members join their fellowship.

The family of **Peace, Hurst**, increased by 50 Aug. 12 when 37 adults and 13 children were received. Eleven were baptized, including two adults, one teen and eight children.

Others came by profession and reaffirmation of faith and transfer.

Helping build the church of Jesus Christ are 21 new members at **Prince of Peace, Carrollton**, brought into its Christian fellowship in June and July.

July was an exciting month at **Epiphany, Pearland**. Four youngsters were baptized, four members were received by confirmation and 21 were received by profession of faith.

Five new members in July were received at **Christ Our Savior, Lago Vista**.

Also in July, **Zion, Anderson**, rejoiced over receiving six new members by baptism and transfer.

By baptism, reaffirmation of faith and transfer, 16 people joined **St. John, Cypress**, in August.

Aug. 26 was a magnificent day of praise as 32 people entered the fellowship of **Cross of Christ, De Soto**. They came by baptism, confirmation, profession of faith and transfer.

Fourteen new members were received July 29 at **Faith, Georgetown**. They came by adult confirmation, reaffirmation of faith and transfer. Six baptisms were included.

Seven members joined the forever family at **Our Redeemer, Irving**, Aug. 26.

September saw the addition of 11 new members into the fellowship at **Trinity, San Angelo**.

By adult confirmation, profession of faith and transfer, 11 people joined **Christ Lutheran, Houston**, Aug. 26.

Four generations at Grace



SEGUIN—Rebecca Linebarger, daughter of Kenneth and Susan Linebarger, was baptized recently as the fourth generation member of Grace Lutheran, Seguin. At left is Great-grandmother Laura Herster. Grandmother Mrs. Kenneth Linebarger is at right.



ST. PHILIP—These members recently were added by transfer at St. Philip, Houston. From left, are Hans Larson; John and Jonathon Willbanks; Todd and Andrew Wohler; Edgar Finner; Tina Larson; Karen Willbanks; Patricia Wohler; Ezelle Finner; and Emil Finner.



AUSTIN—These new members were welcomed Aug. 19 at Hope Lutheran, Austin. From left, are Pastor John Ellwanger, Irene Pilchle; Robert Hosmer; Heidi, Kay and Major Karl Schneider.

History remembers the Alamo; love remembered in 'His story'

by Bill Siegrist, director of Development
Texas Church Extension Fund

Late in August was vacation time for the Siegrist family. It was our last opportunity to get away before school started. Our first stop was at Camp Lone Star in La Grange. These facilities and its dedicated staff are truly a God-given blessing for our district. Our next destination was San Antonio. We spent a day and a half sightseeing and enjoying the local cuisine. Finally, we ended up back in Austin, with just enough time to buy school supplies.

My wife, daughters and I have been to San Antonio numerous times during our 10 years here in Texas. Many trips have included a quick walk-through of the Alamo. Each time we have visited this historic Texas shrine, I remember a story shared with me by one of the first pastors I met in our district.

- He first visited the Alamo with his family and with his wife's parents. During their visit, he heard the familiar story retold about those 13 fateful days in 1836:

"Unsheathing his sword during a lull in the virtually incessant bombardment, Col. William Barrett Travis drew a line on the ground before his battle-weary men. In voice trembling with emotion, he described the hopelessness of their plight and said, 'Those prepared to give their lives in freedom's cause, come over to me.' Without hesitation, every man, save one, crossed the line. Col. James Bowie, stricken with pneumonia, asked that his cot be carried over."

After hearing the story, this pastor remarked, "I know what the problem was, there's not a back door in the Alamo. . . ." Needless to say, his



mother-in-law, a native Texan, didn't find much humor in his observation.

- This time as Pam, Emily, Carrie and I walked through the big double wooden doors of the Alamo, we had a different appreciation for this historic site. A day earlier when we arrived in San Antonio, we went to a theater along the river walk and watched a movie, which is ongoing, about those 189 patriots. This movie depicted more than just familiar names—Travis, Bowie, Crockett, Bonham—it revealed people who valued freedom and were willing to die for the cause of liberty.

As a parent, I believe one of my responsibilities is to instill an appreciation with-in my daughters about the value of freedom and the price many have paid for it. Many of these lessons and stories will become more meaningful to me and to them as we grow older.

As a Christian parent, what does our Lord's Word say to us regarding retelling His story? "... Faithfully obey the commands I am giving you today—to love the Lord your God and to serve Him with all your heart . . . teach them to your children, talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up" (Deut. 11:13,19).

- The pastor mentioned earlier in this article would occasionally begin a Bible class talking about history. He would use a play-on-words and say, "His-story," in place of the word history.

For more than 80 years, the Texas District Church Extension Fund has been in partnership with you and other fellow Lutherans in retelling His love story. Your invested dollars in this ministry serve a dual purpose: (1) they help churches build needed facilities and make renovations or repairs; (2) these invested dollars also receive an attractive rate of interest, which when needed, will provide additional income for your personal needs.

Join us in retelling His story throughout the Texas



Bill Siegrist

District. Your savings and investment dollars make a lasting difference in CEF. For more information, contact your CEF congregational representative, your pastor or the district office.

Texas District
CHURCH EXTENSION FUND
Bill Siegrist
7900 E. Highway 290
Austin, TX 78724-2499
(512) 926-4272

Golden oldies top favorite hymns list

"How Great Thou Art" is the greatest! At least at St. Mark Lutheran Church in Houston. But "What A Friend We Have In Jesus" tied it for first place in a member poll of favorite hymns of the congregation.

Sixty hymns received at least one vote.

Tied in second place were "Amazing Grace" and "Old Rugged Cross."

In third place was "Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling."

Five hymns tied for fourth, including "Beautiful Savior" and "A Mighty Fortress is Our God."



Rev. Theodore H. Vogel

Vogel saves souls and lives, too

Rev. Theodore Vogel of Immanuel Lutheran in San Antonio, concerns himself with saving souls—and lives.

He recently was chosen the Outstanding DWI Education Program Instructor in Texas by the Texas Alcohol Traffic Safety Education Association.

Vogel pioneered the program for DWI offenders in Frio County, which is designed to help individuals carry out responsible drinking-driving decisions and prevent future DWI behavior.

He has been regional advisor in south Texas to various governments on alcoholism and drug abuse, helped organize AA and Al-Anon groups in Pearsall, and has written newspaper articles on substance abuse.

While Vogel lives and maintains an office in Pearsall, he has been pastor of Immanuel in nearby San Antonio since 1987.

Scary

The frightening thing about heredity and environment is that we parents provide both.

Schools, great instruments of ministry

A total of 114 children were baptized and 250 adults were confirmed as a direct result of school ministry in Texas, according to 1989-90 statistics.

Keith Loomans, director of the Texas District Board for Parish Services, said, "Lutheran school administrators in Texas realize that the school is a strategy for congregation ministry.

"The Lutheran school is one program by which a congregation is meeting its goals in worship, witness, service, fellowship and nurture," Loomans said.

Careful!

If we do not watch and pray, we will be led into temptation before we know where we are.



CARROLLTON—Chris Hahn, recent graduate of Concordia College, St. Paul, Minn., was installed Aug. 19 as a faculty member and athletic director of Prince of Peace Christian School, Carrollton. At left is Rev. Stephen Wagner, senior pastor, and Gabe Flicker, principal.

Extra educational advantage given these Lutheran students

(Editor's note: As public schools in Texas opened Aug. 27, newspapers across the state reported the latest nationwide results on the Scholastic Aptitude Test, a college entrance exam. In Texas, student scores on the math and verbal sections of the S.A.T. dipped, and the state ranked 46th among the 50 states.)

The church council of Concordia Lutheran of San Antonio voted to give the school students some extra educational advantage.

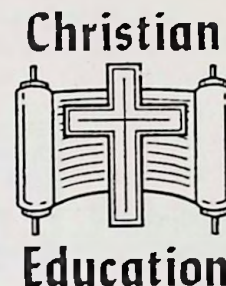
- The council directed Concordia Lutheran School to begin classes Aug. 20, five days before public schools. Because Concordia S.A.T. scores are inferior? No. Concordia S.A.T. scores range ahead of public schools at each elementary level.

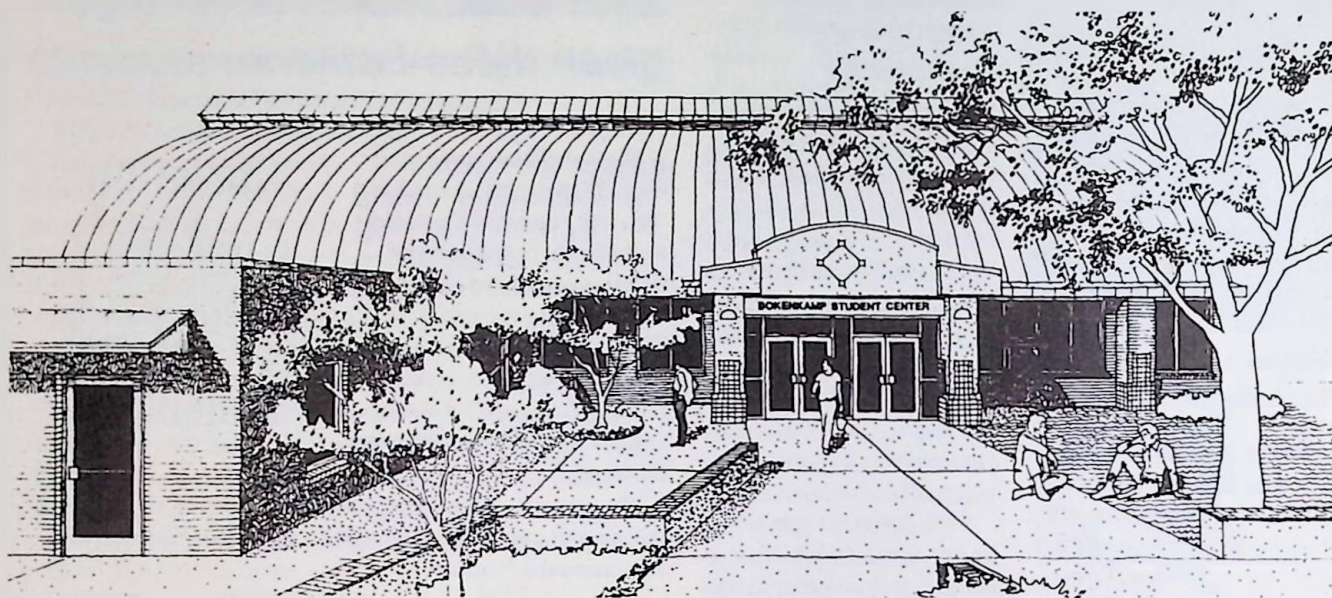
In a statement to church members, the council members said, "We are starting a week earlier as a signal to the rest of the city, state and country that America needs to begin to compete more successfully educationally with the rest of the world.

- "Our public school year," the statement said, "is presently 175 days; Germany has 220, and Japan, 230. Having our children going 40 days less than the children in other parts of the world puts them at a distinct disadvantage. Concordia is seeking to right that wrong and start to close the gap. . . . We do this to strive after excellence for our children and families that is worthy of our Christian faith.

- "We are doing it to bless our families—the parents and children—with increased educational advantage," said the statement. It also is designed to "strengthen our community and serve as a model and encouragement to the public schools to 'get with it' and start thinking about expanding the school year," said the council statement.

- "Lastly, and least importantly," the statement concluded, "we feel that 90 days is too long for children to just be 'cut loose' for the whole summer. When they picked cotton, corn or beans in the fields to help their parents, perhaps they needed 90 days. This has not been the case for the last 40 years."





Diamond Challenge will build student center complex

As reported in the September LUTHERAN WITNESS, the Mabee Foundation has issued a challenge to Concordia Lutheran College to raise \$1.5 million by July 1991 to receive \$750,000 in Mabee funds. The effort to meet the Mabee specifications will be known as the Diamond Challenge, in honor of Concordia's Diamond Jubilee years (from the 60th to the 75th anniversaries).

The funds will be used to remodel Memorial Gym, Texas Dining Hall, and the basement of Behnken Residence Hall to provide a student center complex.

When news of the Diamond Challenge was released, Don and Pat Bokenkamp of Burton stepped forward with a gift of \$500,000. Because of their leadership, the centerpiece

of the Mabee Student Life Complex will be named the Bokenkamp Student Center.

Dr. James Moritz of Austin has accepted the chairmanship of the Diamond Challenge. He will work with Concordia Vice President Fred A. Bleeke and staff coordinator of the Diamond Challenge, Glenn Pittsford, to meet the Mabee Foundation's challenge.

"Dr. Moritz honors us by accepting this leadership role," says Bleeke. "His involvement with the church and community at many levels will greatly assist the college in meeting the goals of the Diamond Challenge."

The Concordia faculty and staff have responded to the Diamond Challenge by pledging \$104,000. In addition, the M.G. and Lillie A. Johnson Foundation has awarded the college a \$100,000 grant.

"The initial response to the Diamond Challenge has been a rich blessing," says Bleeke, "but we still have a long way to go to reach our goal. We hope to enlist the support of thousands of Texas Lutherans, particularly as partners in the Grand Reunion Hall."

When remodeled and enlarged, the central room in Texas Dining Hall will be named Grand Reunion Hall. It will serve as a meeting center for church groups, family gatherings and alumni activities, as well as serving a growing student population. Grand Reunion Hall partners will be those who pledge \$1,000 or more, which can be spread over a five-year period. Partners' names will be listed on a giant plaque.

"To attract and retain outstanding students, Concordia must provide for

quality in both academics and student life," says Bleeke. "The great Founding Four effort enhanced educational facilities as Concordia became a four-year college. The success of the Diamond Challenge will address quality-of-life considerations. We want Concordia to be recognized as offering the best in Christian higher education."

AAL grant provides scholarships

AAL awarded a \$6,000 grant to Concordia Lutheran College, Austin. The grant will provide scholarships for 12 Lutheran freshman students.

Concordia also will award scholarships totaling more than \$65,000 from its own budget to freshman students. The school hopes the two scholarship programs will increase enrollment of Lutheran students.



White Hall Offices dedicated

Concordia Lutheran College dedicated a newly purchased and remodeled building on Opening Service Sunday, naming it White Hall Offices.

The name honors the late Gus Schroeder, a long-time Concordia friend, who made a significant bequest to the college. He was a resident of the White Hall community near Navasota and a member of Salem Lutheran Church, White Hall. A plaque engraved with his photograph hangs in the Hall's entrance way.

Special guests at the dedication were Rev. Richard Kessler of Salem-White Hall; Ellie Schroeder, Schroeder's sister; and other relatives and friends of Schroeder.

White Hall Offices, located at the corner of Interstate 35 and Concordia Avenue, house the college advancement staff.



OPENING WORSHIP CHOIR — The choir from Hope Lutheran Church in Austin sang at CLC's opening worship.



OPENING WORSHIP PREACHER — Pastor Paul Hartfield of St. Paul, Serbin.

Record enrollment at Concordia

Concordia Lutheran College of Texas enrolled 680 students for fall 1990—a 13 percent increase over fall '89 enrollment and a 34 percent increase over fall '88 enrollment.

Anticipating a record number of resident students, Concordia renovated the former American Inn Motel that the college purchased several years ago for future needs. It now serves as a fourth dormitory.

"We are doing a better job of getting the word out about Concordia," says Terry Small, director of admissions, "but we still hear even Lutheran young people say they never heard about the college before or they thought it was still a two-year college. We need the help of all Texas Lutherans in spreading the good news about quality education at Concordia of Texas."

Concordians serve the church

A central purpose of Concordia Lutheran College is to provide pastors for congregations of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. Concordia's pre-seminary students can choose any major, in addition to classes in religion and Biblical languages. They attend a seminary for two years and spend one year in a vicarage assignment at an LCMS congregation, before returning to the seminary for a final year.

These former Concordians received vicarage assignments for 1990-91: Scottie Quinn to St. John, Sayville, N.Y.; Henry Biar II to a new mission, Detroit, Mich.; Russell Etzel to Our Savior, Lake Worth, Fla.; Michael Hafer to Zion, Humboldt, Ill.; Mark Tews to Immanuel, Spirit Lake, Iowa; Bradley Meckman to Reformation, Afton, Ohio; Daniel Pharr to Redeemer, Richland, Wash.; Peter Heckmann to St. Mark, Milford, Ohio; Mark Joeckel to Atonement, Metairie, La.; Erwin Perez-Arche to Nuestro Salvador, Corpus Christi, Texas; James Herrod to Hope, Friendswood, Texas; and Dana Wilhelmson to Peace, Flagstaff, Ariz.

These Concordians received calls as pastors: Michael Michalk to missionary-at-large, Manteno, Ill.; Robert Rogers to Messiah, Seattle, Wash.; and Joel Boyer to Calvary, Carson City, Mich.



DEDICATED TO GOD'S GLORY—President Ray F. Martens displays the plaque which hangs in White Hall Offices.

Goldie Fund to refurbish Cypress campus kitchen

From the earliest days of Good Samaritan, the Women's Auxiliary has conducted an annual appeal known as the Goldie Fund to raise money for unbudgeted necessities.

In recent years, the fund has provided dormitory carpet and tile, special dining utensils, a bus with an automatic lift, new mat-

resses, linens, a washer and dryer and many other items.

Last year their "You Don't Have To Shop" shower purchased "housewarming" gifts for the facility's two new group homes in Cypress—everything from mops to grills, lamps to clothes hampers, and dishes to telephones.

Refurbishing the main campus kitchen is this year's goal. Kitchen improvements needed include repainting the walls; replacing the counter tops, kitchen sink and faucets, ceiling tile and supporting grids; light fixtures; new floor tile for the kitchen and the food storage area; rebuilding the water heater closet and installing a new pull-down door to enclose the serving counter when it is not in use between meals.

The goal is \$8,634. Send gifts to The Goldie Fund, 3614 Aberdeen Way, Houston, TX 77025.

Anyone for a tour?

For folks who live some distance from Houston, but would like to tour the Bethesda/Good Samaritan campus, the public affairs staff will help arrange a two-, three-, or four-day group tour, including interesting sites along the way. Call (713) 351-4911 for information.

Tours are available weekdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. for individuals living or visiting the Greater Houston area. Groups are asked to make reservations in advance.



DISSEMBARKING—Residential Aide Beverly Schultz and a school bus driver help a Rosehill group home resident get off the Cypress-Fairbanks school bus.



GETTING ACQUAINTED—Rev. Craig Whitson, the new Bethesda/Good Samaritan chaplain, has spent his first weeks getting acquainted with campus residents.

Chaplain Craig Whitson begins his ministry to 44 residents

"A direct answer to our prayers" was the joyous response of Bethesda/Good Samaritan Administrator Rich Risley to the arrival of Rev. Craig Whitson.

Whitson is the campus' second chaplain, replacing Rev. Erwin Metz who recently retired.

Whitson will provide

Children attend special school

"With enthusiasm and excitement," 12 residents of Good Samaritan's two children's group homes began classes at the Carlton Center again this September, according to Barbara Sefas, group home program coordinator.

Functional and personal skills are taught at the center, which is Cypress-Fairbank's ISD special education school.

When students return home on the school bus at 2:45 p.m., the staff reviews the teachers' written comments and work on projects with the young people.

religious instruction to Good Samaritan's 44 residents, individually and in small groups, both on the main campus and at the seven group homes. He also will lead a daily chapel service for the day-program participants.

After a week of working with the residents, Whitson stated his goal: "Christ came to give everyone an abundant life. Men and women who are retarded, and especially their families, sometimes wonder what that promise means for them. My goal at Good Samaritan is to reinforce the truth that this promise is for them, and as best as I am able, to point them in paths where they will find its realization in their lives now and in eternity."

Linens needed

New washcloths, hand and bath towels, as well as sheets for single beds with matching pillow cases, are always needed for our group homes.



Fish really put the bite on LOMT anglers

Seventy-five fishermen along with 35 spectators and friends enjoyed LOMT's Family Fishing Weekend July 20-22 at Port Aransas.

Mike Linebrink and his wife, Pixie, with the help of Warren and Betty Ressel, all of Our Savior, Austin, served as hosts for this weekend event. Mike said, "This was the biggest and best ever! We added a bay fishing trip, night-time fellowship, made it a whole weekend-long event and added a Sunday morning worship."

Saturday night activities and fellowship included a "U-peel-em" shrimp boil with an old fashion sing-along led by LOMT

Beach Camp staffers from Padre Island, and a special by musician/song writer Jess DeMaine.

Rev. Craig DuBois of Our Savior, McKinney, set an LOMT record with a 56-pound black tipped shark, leading the way for his congregation to claim "Most Fish Caught" honors on the Gulf trip. Lee Ehman of Gethsemane, Houston, won "First Fish" recognition.

The bay trip saw David Thoresen, Our Savior, Austin, take "First Fish", Wanda Hoerig, Good Shepherd, Cedar Park, "Biggest Fish" and the Eugene Bode Family, Trinity, Riesel, earned "Most Fish" honors.

Junior staff opportunities

High schoolers are always looking for something to do, and although summertime is far off, now is the time for youth to consider becoming junior staffers at Camp Lone Star or Texoma Lutheran Camp.

This program is designed for youth ages 15 and older and students who will have completed the ninth grade by June 1991.

Christian young people serve in many ways at camp including serving meals, kitchen clean up, maintenance, cabin cleaning, assisting with devotions and worship leadership, and helping in other program areas of camp life.

Being a junior staffer is a lot of work, sweat and long hours, for no pay—just room and board. But it also is a way to spend two summer weeks in fellowship with other high school-age youth, the college summer staff and the year-round



LUTHERAN OUTDOORS MINISTRY OF TEXAS

staff at the camps, not to mention the many campers of the summer season. It all adds up to new friends and exciting memories.

To become a junior staffer, request an application after Jan. 1, 1991, and return the completed form to the respective camp office as soon as possible. Assignments are made by April 1.

OR attend the Junior Staff Workshop held Dec. 7-8 at either LOMT site. Registration material is available at your church office or the LOMT office: 7900 E. Highway 290, Austin, TX 78724; (512) 926-4272.

THIS AND THATS

* THANKS TO the many volunteers who manned the concession stand #308 at Arlington stadium for the '90 season. The many hours were fruitful in raising initial funds for an adult sleeping facility at Texoma.

* LOMT SITES are looking for songbooks, Bibles, devotional aids, patio/deck furniture, power hand tools, miniblinds; hoping to upgrade the office equipment (software and hardware); and trying to locate some good utility-type vehicles for camp use. If you can assist in any of these area, please let us know.



The big one

BIGGEST—Rev. Craig DuBois of Our Savior, McKinney, caught the biggest fish during LOMT's deep-sea fishing trip. Here he is with his 56-pound shark.

Outdoors ministry has several positions open

LOMT is seeking applicants for full-time or part-time positions in outdoors ministry. Responsibilities include program and support (maintenance/custodial) functions. Send applications and inquiries by Dec. 15 to:

Garland Midgett
Rt. 3, Box 2L
La Grange, TX 78945
(409) 247-4128

Here's one special way of giving thanks: just do it!

by Pastor Jerry Kieschnick, Executive Director
Lutheran Foundation of Texas

By the time this article appears, Thanksgiving Day will be just around the corner. But as it is being written, the tension mounts between Iraq and the rest of the world, particularly the United States.

Who knows today what life will be like tomorrow, much less what will be happening two months from now? Will we be giving thanks that reason and restraint have prevailed and that peace is still the order of the day? You and I both hope and pray that will be the case.

In my travels across the state of Texas I meet with many people who are truly thankful for God's blessings in their lives. Some are more thankful than others. The thankfulness of a few people is overshadowed by the problems, the grief, the worries, the loneliness, the heartaches that are real parts of people's lives.

But, by and large, the comment I hear most frequently is something like this: "Pastor, I've had a hard life, but it's been a good life. I'm so thankful to God for my parents, for my brothers and sisters, for my spouse, for my children, for my friends, for my work, for my church, for my home, for my country and for my faith. There's no way I can ever adequately express my thanksgiving, but I'd like to try."

At this point in the con-

versation, my role with the Lutheran Foundation of Texas is to help that person or family discover the various ways and methods to thank God in a tangible way.

"There's no way I can ever adequately express my thanksgiving, but I'd like to try."

The first special way to give thanks is to take care of ourselves and of the family given to us by our heavenly Father. A last will and testament, a living trust, a gift annuity, a power of attorney and a directive to physicians (Living Will) are some of the legal documents available in today's society to adequately and accurately



Pastor Jerry Kieschnick

express your care for yourself and for your loved ones.

The Bible says, *He who does not take care of his family is worse than an infidel* (1 Tim. 5:8). The people in our family are gifts from God. We thank Him by taking care of them, both while we're living and at the time of our death.

The second special way of giving thanks is to help enable the work of the Christian church, which is the organized means God chose centuries ago to accomplish the communication of His Word to His world. In case you have not yet discovered it, the tasks of preaching, of teaching

and of ministering to people in our own country and around the world are expensive propositions, requiring our present and future financial support. Jesus said, *Where your treasure is, there your heart will also be* (Matt. 6:21). The converse is also true, "Where your heart is, there your treasure will also be."

Some legal documents mentioned above can provide greatly needed financial support for the church's work either at the same time as or after you provide for loved ones.

A recent TV commercial exhorts the "couch potato" to get up and become involved in some kind of physical activity. The punch line is, "**Just do it!**", meaning "We don't care what form of physical exercise you choose, just do it!"

The psalmist says, *Oh, give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good and His mercy endureth forever*. At this special time of year for giving thanks, I encourage you to make special plans to thank God for His bountiful blessings in your life. How you choose to thank Him is your decision—just do it! And feel free to call us for help in doing so.

How firm a foundation

Christ Lutheran Church of Austin helps members exercise their souls as well as their bodies by offering aerobic exercise to contemporary Christian music.

The class is called **Firm Believer**.

Yes, I want to know more. Clip and mail to:



Lutheran Foundation of Texas

7900 U.S. 290 E. Austin, TX 78724 (512) 926-4272

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

() _____

ZIP _____

Telephone Number _____



NEW SHEPHERD—The Lord of the Church brought a new shepherd to St. Phillip Lutheran of Houston as Rev. Kenneth Miltchke was installed June 10 as pastor. Participating in the service of installation were, from left, Revs. Ray Bowles, Herbert Elfert, Steven Kramer, Nihn Nguyen, Thomas Van Duzer, Harold Heckmann, Miltchke, John Fritz, Douglas Barnett and Martin Doering.

'Ouch' is about all they say

by Vera Schuster

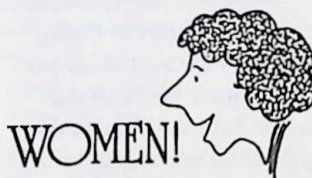
They don't make much noise except for an occasional "ouch" when a finger gets pricked while quilting.

They are eight dedicated Lutheran women who have been quilting quilts for other people since 1985. Some 25 quilts have been made and more than \$4,000 has been received for them.

The money was used at Mount Olive Lutheran Church of Corpus Christi to buy chairs, tables, office furniture, a typewriter for pastor, kitchen items and postcards with the church picture on them.

Quilt prices vary with the size of the pieced quilt top and the amount of stitches (thousands!) required. Some quilts bring \$400.

The "Happy Quilters" who perform this labor of love are Daisy Bowen, Eunice Lewis, Evelyn Smith, Elvira Michalk, Dolores Bolt, Cleatis Hofer,



Alma Polasek and Vera Schuster.

Lap robes also have been made for nursing home or in-home elderly, as have covers for the city's homeless and donations to Lutheran World Relief.

Hundreds Glorybound

The weekend following Thanksgiving will be filled with people who care about giving thanks. More than 1,300 youth and adults are gathering for GLORYBOUND VII: Handle with Care, the Texas District youth gathering. Following the musical lead of Brethren, the high school youth and their counselors will sing songs of praise and service. Speakers like Dr. Peter Steinke, Professor Larry Meissner and Teacher Kristine Schmidt will exhort those gathered to participate in stewardship of the Lord's blessings and to care for God's creation. Bible study under the direction of Pastor Eugene Gruell will provide the firm foundation for ongoing service as attendees return home.

Dr. Mark Wahlers, who has been acting as steering committee chairman for the event, has pulled together the talents and resources of people within the district to provide a significant element of the Texas District's youth ministry program.



Lori Bachmann, the district staff member for youth and singles ministry, is delighted to note that past gatherings have influenced participants in a renewed sense of discipleship and commitment. She expects this gathering will also heighten the "stewardship consciousness" of those who attend.

Copies of the music written for the event will be available to district congregations for use in local youth ministry.

Handle with Care will continue to be the theme after the youth and adults return home Sunday, Nov. 25, still "Glorybound" by the grace of Christ.



GIDDINGS—The ordination and installation of Rev. John Burger as youth pastor and associate pastor of Immanuel Lutheran of Giddings was held July 1. Participating were, from left, Paul Fischer, vice president of the congregation; Robert Grimm, president; James Miltchke, board of youth chairman; Rev. Paul Hartfeld, district vice president and pastor of St. Paul, Serbin; Burger; Rev. Wilbern Michalk, senior pastor; Alfred Zoch, elders chairman; and Paul Klipp, youth group president.

YOUTH

Our bright Lutheran kids . . .

For the third straight year, Michelle Schleuning, **Crown of Life, Rowlett**, was nominated to "Who's Who Among American High School Students."

Ginnyann Kappler



It's a habit—and a good one. A few years ago, Ginnyann Kappler was valedictorian of the Christian day school of **St. Paul Lutheran, McAllen**. Now she's valedictorian of the her 1990 high school graduating class. She's active in Fellowship of Christian Athletes and was president and vice president of the Lutheran Youth Fellowship of St. Paul. She received nine scholarships valued at \$13,700. An accomplished artist, she has won numerous local, state and national awards. She plans to study environmental design and hopes to make a contribution to society that will "create a world that not only supports life, but also enriches it."

Bright kid honors go to these seventh graders of **Zion Lutheran School, Dallas**, who were inducted into the National Junior Honor Society: Stephanie Allmon, Carlee Hefta, Chris Hendricks, Triste Shaw, Sarah Symmank and

Aaron Waldkoetter.

St. Mark, Lake Jackson, is proud of its gaggle of bright kids, including Debra Lange, second place in math olympics; Sean Hicks, outstanding achievement awards in spelling, math facts, English, health and science; Jennifer Huffman, medals winner in state solo and ensemble; Valerie Leschber, upgraded her amateur radio license to advanced class, chaplain in the high school orchestra; Gina Willbanks, winner of Theater Arts Merit Award.

Laurence Montgomery



Laurence Montgomery, **Christ the King, Waxahachie**, is listed in "Who's Who Among American High School Students" for the second year. He plays basketball and is vice president of his church youth group.

Congratulations to the kids of **St. Paul, Waco**, who participate in the church's music ministry with a musical, "Heart To Change The World." The youngsters will present this musical yearly as an evangelism effort in various congregations.

An exceptional science

student, John Noack, **Zion, Dallas**, was part of the summer program in biomedical sciences at M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, where he worked with faculty members in their cancer research.

James Klinec, **St. Mark, Lake Jackson**, graduated cum laude and received the Latin IV merit award. He is a four-year member and vice president of the Latin Club. He has won regional and national awards in Latin contests for costume representation.

Lisa Marye, **Zion, Dallas**, was honored by the Dallas City Park Board for her participation in the National Junior Tennis League Program. She has played on a Dallas city tennis team for five years.

Jon Hackleman, **Redeemer, Austin**, earned the God and Country Award—the highest honor available to Cub Scouts.

Off and running is Rhonda Kay Weber, **St. John, San Benito**, who received a track scholarship to Concordia Teachers College, Seward, Neb.

Jeremy Heiner, **St. John, Beaumont**, received the 4-H Club's Gold Star award—the highest county award given. He also was a state winner for 4-H projects and was chosen to attend the national 4-H Congress in December in Chicago.

For the fourth year in a row, **Redeemer, Lubbock**, won the traveling plaque for having the most summer campers from any church at Ceta Glen in Canyon. One adult counselor and 19 youth attended the camp.

Congratulations to Greg and Kit Harper, **Trinity, San Angelo**, who have received Boy Scouts' highest rank, the Eagle Award.

Ryan Hadley, **Peace, Garland**, won two airline tickets this past summer to anywhere in the continental United States. So where'd he go? You guessed it—Disneyland.

The highlight of the summer for Emily Krizan, **Our Redeemer, Dallas**, was a trip to the ARCO Jesse Owens Games in Los Angeles. She was bronze medalist in the 400-meter dash for girls 11 and 12. Her goal is to run in the Olympics in 1996 or 2000.

Congratulations to Jennifer Martin, **St. Paul, McAllen**, chosen "Miss Rio Grande Valley Teen." She will represent the Valley in the Miss Texas Teen Pageant this month in El Paso.

Talented Sonny Davidson, **Hope, Austin**, put his skills to work for his high school and did the artwork on the school's football program cover.



Painting, praying, partying and it's mission accomplished

The residents and staff of Trinity Lutheran Home in Shiner enjoyed having 14 teenagers and five enthusiastic adult sponsors spend three days there in June. This was the summer event for the confirmation class at Holy Comforter Lutheran Church in Humble.

Lynn Campbell, administrator said, "Pastor George Brookover visited Trinity Lutheran Home earlier in the year and informed us that his confirmation class would be interested in doing a service project."

After his first visit, Brookover and the congregation's Confirmation Ministry Task Force began planning with the Trinity Home administrator. This summer event would include a short term "away from home" experience for the second-year confirmation class.

THE MISSION to accomplish would be painting the wood trim on the buildings at Trinity Lutheran Home in Shiner. The objectives, according to Brookover were, "First, to ENGAGE second-year confirmands in a significant servicing experience in the wider church. Second, INVOLVE the group in an additional team building with classmates and adults through service, daily worship, prayer, Bible study and play. And third, OFFER a major fellowship and fun trip in conjunction with the serving experience.

To beat the summer heat, the group began work around 6:30 a.m., took a break at noon and worked again later in the evening.

Brookover stated the youth felt this was an opportunity for personal and spiritual growth, along with providing a volunteer service. It was their way to thank God for all the blessings they have received.

After completing the job at noon Tuesday, the workers visited each resident and presented them with a card that contained a homemade cross and the inscription, "The children of our Sunday school made this cross. We want you to have it as a reminder of God's love and of our visit at Trinity Lutheran Home."

On Wednesday the group headed for Schlitterbahn in New Braunfels to complete their painting, praying and partying service project.



ON A MISSION—Members of the junior confirmation class of Holy Comforter Lutheran Church of Houston paint a building at Trinity Lutheran Home in Shiner.

Emergency response broadened

Lutheran Social Service of Texas Inc. (LSST) has received an annual grant from the Metrocrest Hospital Authority in Farmers Branch for the Emergency Response Service (ERS) in Dallas. The grant includes \$29,750 to purchase new Lifeline units and \$4,000 for the service contracts on existing Lifeline units.

The ERS base station for Dallas is located at the R.H.D. Medical Center in Farmers Branch. This is part of the Metrocrest Hospital Authority.

Pat Miller, ERS staff in Dallas said, "The partnership LSST has with the Metrocrest Hospital Authority allows the continual expansion of this valuable ministry to the elderly and disabled persons in our community."

LSST serves more than 1,600 persons throughout Texas with the ERS program. The statewide system is based in Austin and able to serve any person in the state with the 800 telephone number.

Alzheimer's victim is honored by exhibit

"Perceptions," an exhibit dedicated to the memory of Earl Albert Jones, a victim of Alzheimer's Disease and featuring the works of Michael Angel Diaz of Corpus Christi, is being held at the Multicultural Center in Corpus Christi.

Diaz recently administered the Lutheran Social Service of Texas Daybreak Adult Day Care Center in Corpus Christi. The center provides programs for the elderly and adults suffering from Alzheimer's dis-

ease. It was at the center Diaz befriended Jones, who died of the disease in January.

The artist is planning a sabbatical from exhibiting to begin work on a series focusing on the effects of the disease.

Lutheran Social Service of Texas also provides care for people with Alzheimer's disease at the Trinity Lutheran Home in Round Rock. This service was the first nursing home program certified by the state Department of Health.

More on Edmonton convention

"The first thing God had to do was knock him off his horse," said Rev. Wallace Schulz, associate Lutheran Hour speaker, as he spoke of the conversion of the apostle Paul.

Speaking at the Sunday morning worship service at the Edmonton Convention Center, Schulz continued, "Sometimes God has to knock us off our horse. That's the only way He can use us—that's the law part, getting us off ourselves.

"The second thing we can learn from the story of Paul's conversion en route to Damascus is that He didn't leave Paul on the ground. God made the commission He gave Paul quite clear—be a witness and minister to the people. . . . to turn them from darkness to light. That's our commission, to do that, too," said Schulz.

"We're not meeting here to condemn the darkness but to proclaim Christ, that people might turn from darkness to light," Schulz added. "God is appointing us to go into the whole world . . . that's why we're here . . . it happens only when we get off our horse; go to the people, open their eyes, turn them from darkness to light—God asks us to do so," Schulz added.

In his devotion, Int'l LLL Pastoral Advisor John Bass explained how in Nebraska many people now own horses for play things, riding them only once or

twice a month. But horses originally were work animals. "The LLL is full of work horses, not play horses grazing in the field. I can see your glow, because the Word is our Light, our enthusiasm, our work. The LLL shines as brightly as its members are shining. We are beacons. But sometimes we think faith is something we can put on and off whenever we want. The early Christians were not like that. They were like a "city on a hill" (Matt. 5:14). He concluded with a challenge, "Let's be all that we were created to be in the Lord Jesus Christ. You are more than a flashlight—you are beacons and workers!"

MULTICULTURAL WORK

Why does the Int'l LLL need to develop multicultural programming? For every white (Anglo) person who dies, there is one to take his place. But for every Black who dies, there are five to take his place. For every Hispanic (Spanish-speaking or Latin), there are eight! These statistics do not include the fastest growing minority in North America, the Asians. These points were stressed by Rev. David Elseroad in a presentation. He is manager of multicultural programming for the league.

He noted that many cultural groups need to be reached. "Leaguers can undertake this immense love

mission with joy, knowing we love because Christ loved us," Elseroad concluded.

SPECIAL GUESTS

Gene Sears, featured in the LLL's "Prisoner" video shown at the convention in 1989, reaffirmed how the Gospel touched him through "The Lutheran Hour," while in prison. His personal witness touched LLLers, adding impetus to the work of "The Lutheran Hour" and the league's radio and print outreach. Sears continued listening to "The Lutheran Hour." He started a Bible study group using material provided by the LLL. His faith and witness led others to profess faith in Christ.

Sears was paroled in February after serving seven of a 20-year sentence. He and his wife, Judy, attended the convention as special guests of the Int'l LLL.

DISTRICT NEWS

PLANO—A record average daily attendance of 300 was set by **Faith Lutheran** at VBS in July. Paul Themer of Rockwall told the children about the LLL's tape ministry in China. An offering of \$633.77 was received and given to the China tape ministry. At the closing service, 12 children were received through baptism. (Reported by Don Smith)

HAMILTON—**St. John, Hamilton**, hosted a workshop/rally Sept. 9 for Region B, zone 7. District

officers present were President Charles Byrnes; John McCardle, Region B vice president; and Gus Kieschnick, field representative.

Approximately 50 people pledged their support of the Int'l LLL programs. Challenges were accepted to build a stronger program with God's help. (Reported by John McCardle)

KERRVILLE—Rev. John Treude, formerly a missionary in Venezuela, was installed May 13 as pastor of **Hosanna Lutheran Church in Kerrville**.

At a recent Alamo Zone rally, he told how "The Lutheran Hour" Bible study courses and other material provided by the Int'l LLL helped him in his service in Venezuela. (Reported by Marcel Bernard)

VIDEO SUCCESS

Videocassettes of holiday specials are becoming very popular at Christian bookstores, with "The Magic Boy's Easter" as the season's big hit. The video cassette ministry has grown dramatically in a year: the league now is penetrating 25 percent of the 6,000 total stores in the United States. Gross dollar sales increased 92 percent. About 10,000 video units were sold—a 308 percent increase!

LLL news should be sent to:

**Irene Teinert
Information Coord.
1501 Barbara St.
Austin, TX 78757**



"I have no talent—I can't do anything!" In my business I hear these words frequently. My answer is always, "Everyone has a talent, whatever 'it' is, you can do something."

A talent is something that we do well. It is not restricted to being an author, artist, singer or songwriter. I have a friend who is always smiling. In the 25 years that I have known her, I have never seen anything but Jesus' love shining in her eyes.

Another friend can be counted on to lend a helping hand doing whatever needs to be done.

Someone else close to me

sometimes never says a word, but she knows when I need her. I count these people "talented" because they use whatever God has given them to glorify their Lord Jesus Christ.

Romans 11:36 says, "For of Him, and to Him, are all things; to whom be glory forever" (KJV). Everything we have comes from God and is of God. He gives us the talents we possess. He wants us to have them. That makes us unique!

It is exciting that God gives us an important part in His kingdom. How special we are to be entrusted with the task to tell the world "Jesus loves you!"

Thank God for who you are and with a joyful heart sincerely pray, "Thank you Lord, for making me, me."

*Iris Franke
Christian Growth
Chairman*



Iris Franke

LWML News

LWML news should be sent to Shirley Baumgartner, LWML District Editor, 5018 Risada, San Antonio, TX 78233.

Did you know?

—An imprinted Bible commemorating LWML's 50th anniversary will be given to each person attending the Cleveland convention June 27-30, 1991? Everyone is asked to bring a used (but not worn out) Bible in exchange for the commemorative Bible. They will be distributed to various prison ministries throughout the United States.

—A special feature of the 50th anniversary convention will be a Christian arts and crafts festival? Come and walk through this exhibit area at the convention center. If you are interested, begin preparing your entries. Crafts for the exhibit will be selected by slides. Two entries from each artist will be accepted.

—The Mission Service Committee needs you to bring your GOLD to the jubilee convention? Each individual who attends the convention is asked to bring ONE item of gold for a special ingathering. Any kind of gold will do—Golden Kernel Corn, Gold

Medal Flour, Golden Graham Crackers, Golden Hearth Macaroni—anything with the words *gold* or *golden* from the supermarket. No items in glass, please. This GOLD will be distributed to the food pantries of the greater Cleveland area. When you pack your bag, remember to put in your GOLD.



LWML for all generations of this family

St. John Lutheran Church, Athens, was well represented at the district convention in Austin this past June. Deanne Cope, Mary Martha Society delegate; her daughter, Chris Hicks, Rebekah Society delegate; and Deanne's mother, Alice Laitz, guest, were each seen "Blossoming with Love."



THREE GENERATIONS. From left, Deanne Cope, Chris Hicks and Alice Laitz.



Our challenge to walk with the Lord

How is your walk with Lord since the Austin convention? There, we were challenged, committed and commissioned to "Blossom with Love," "Serve the Lord with Gladness" and agreed to work on a 50th anniversary scholarship fund.

We adopted a \$250,000 budget—this is more than 300 miles of pennies, one mile for each society, or 5.4 cents per day per member. We work on the buddy system. Early finishers help the rest. It's exciting to calculate this to see what will make it work. We are running a little behind our goal at this time. Periodically we will let you know how many miles we have gone.

Let's focus on the real challenge, our walk with the Lord, as He used us to plant the seeds of His love in every avenue of our lives. As we drop coins into our mite boxes each day, let's thank God for His blessings and pray that our mission

projects will serve as vital tools to plant the seeds of God's love in Texas and beyond. God will bless our walk as we go hand in hand, prayer by prayer, day by day, mile by mile with Him.

*Eudoris Weiser
Financial Secretary*

God's Word for today found in new studies

Don't miss the excellent Bible studies in the fall *Quarterly*. Author Rev. Dirk van der Linde takes us back to basics with the three R's—Repent, Renew and Reach out. The studies are up-to-date, thought-provoking and will initiate much soul-searching.

Two new Bible studies are now available. "Jesus Speaks to Me—Man and Woman—in the Gospels" by Louise Mueller is a six-lesson study and speaks about the relationships of men and women and their roles in the church and society as they follow Jesus. Order #2033—LWML, 3558 S. Jefferson Ave., St. Louis, MO 63118-3910.

"Pastor and People—Making It Happen Together" is taken from Thessalonians. Learn from Paul's example how to reach out to others with Jesus' love and forgiveness. Order the student manual (#20-2357) and the leader's guide (#20-2358) from Concordia Publishing House, 3558 S. Jefferson Ave., St. Louis, MO 63118-3968.

Texas Mites Projects Update

1990-91 Goal	\$ 250,000
Received September	\$ 6,518
Received to date	\$ 29,424
Still Needed	\$ 220,758

PROJECT	PAID	BALANCE
Seminary Student Scholarship	\$6,000	\$18,000
Bethesda/Good Samaritan Respite Center	-0-	\$10,000
Deaf Outreach: Camp/Computer	-0-	4,800
Panhandle Children's Services	-0-	10,000
Heartwarmers	-0-	12,000
Roof for Church/Parish Hall, San Pedro, Houston	-0-	5,440
Salaries for National Bible Translators/literacy workers, Sierra Leone	-0-	5,000
Valley Hispanic Ministries	-0-	15,000
First Unit Construction		
Beautiful Savior, Arlington	-0-	15,000
Transportation for Outreach	-0-	13,760

Mission Projects Goal	\$115,000
Paid to date	\$ 6,000
Sent to International LWML	\$ 1,481
To International to date	\$ 4,502

Send ALL contributions to Eudoris Weiser, Route 1, Box 46, Copperas Cove 76522. MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO TEXAS DISTRICT LWML.

Traditions to grow by

Concordia Publishing House, in cooperation with International Lutheran Women's Missionary League is planning a book on family traditions. CPH is asking for contributions of traditions, activities, crafts, projects and games LWML families do throughout the secular and church year. Especially needed are church-, school-, Sunday school-related ideas and family devotion traditions and activities.

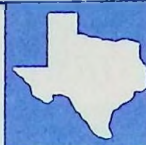
Families whose ideas are printed will receive a com-

plimentary copy of the book. Publication date is slated for July 1, 1992.

Send your traditions to Ruth Geisler, TRADITIONS TO GROW BY, 3558 S. Jefferson Ave., St. Louis, MO 63118-3968.



Rejoice and give thanks



The indispensable attribute of a Christian's life is JOY!

by Rev. Walt Dube
Secretary, Texas District
The Lutheran Church—
Missouri Synod

"Rejoice . . . and again I say rejoice!" (Phil. 4:4). What marvelous encouragement! "Shout joyfully . . . all the earth" (Ps. 100:1). How comprehensive! "These things have I spoken to you . . . that your joy may be full" (John 15:11). What a gracious Lord!



Rev. Walt Dube

Joy among Christians ought to be an indispensable attribute. How absolute Scripture is about that! When all other life qualities have dissipated, and no matter how loveless, careless or senseless the world may become, the joy of Christ within us, ought to remain.

Joy was apparent in Christ as He set His face toward Jerusalem (Heb. 12:2).

We witness it in St. Paul, who gives us a wonderful example! Nothing ought to be more true of Christians today, particularly during this Advent season when all our senses are pointed toward Christmas, reminding us how precious we are in the eyes of God who lays aside His radiant glory for our sake to become poor and live among us as Man among men.

What a gracious and empowering God!

Gracious and empowering? Yes, indeed, gracious and empowering! For it was this grace that empowered the patriarchs and the apostles. It's the same grace

that empowers the Church, you and me, today.

For those who strain at the words . . . *joy . . . grace . . . power*, with furrowed brow, and wonder if the language isn't somewhat forced, I encourage you to take a look at your heart and mind today. Perhaps you, too, have been victimized by a secular world and a carnal mentality, as so many have.

The world presents an enormous offering of tinsel glamour, trivial gadgetry, and temporal excitement—and we rush to buy it. Then, reality sets in. Charge accounts scream for payment. Toys don't last. Remedies won't work. The "rush" is gone. Our expectations are unfulfilled. Notions of vanity, and even guilt, begin to creep over us. We feel betrayed. Our mind begins to tell us how poor and disadvantaged we are—and we believe it. How tragic!

No wonder we find so much of our joy drained and our spirit powerless. The problem is we have lost our focus. Our chosen, royal, priestly baptismal stature

Occasionally, Texas District President Louis Pabor will offer his president's column space to other district officials. District Secretary Walt Dube, pastor of Peace Lutheran Church of Texas City, is this month's contributor.



Rev. Louis Pabor

has diminished in our mind to little more than a dim and distant silhouette. We have surrendered so much of our Christian joy and commitment to a fevered lifestyle or the aimless mediocrity of a sin-driven world that we feel disillusioned and rejected—fit, at best, for a first class pity party.

Listen! It doesn't have to be that way.

You can regain your focus. Your thinking can be clarified. The Holy Spirit is able to re-establish your heart. The sufficiency of God's grace can refill your cup with joy. **How?** Through the Word. **Where?** Around the Savior's table at church and your devotional center at home. **When?** When you're enjoying the fellowship of believers or sharing Christ's love with companions or co-workers who yet have to come to know the One who came. Permit me to tell you a story.

In a foreign country, an unconverted tourist happened to see a Christian nurse dressing an open, leprous wound. The sight

was a shocking one, revolting to the eye and stomach. "I wouldn't do that for a million dollars," said the carnal tourist to the nurse. "Neither would I," said the Christian nurse with a smile.

What a million dollars wouldn't do, God's love in the nurse's heart did! You too can have such spirit.

Isn't that why we celebrate Christmas?

May the joy of Christ among us be yours. May it fill your life. May it lift you far above the plane of today's "average" Christianity. For, indeed, God didn't come with an "average" redemption, measured in silver and gold; but He came with His best—a Son, the Child of Bethlehem—to redeem us with a holy and precious grace that ultimately flowed for you and me in a crimson stream from Calvary's hill.

A joyous, gracious and powerful Christmas to you all—the members of the Texas District. You are a marvelous arm of the Savior's church.

PEOPLE OF THE TEXAS DISTRICT



A Christmas message for you

Dear fellow worshipers of the Christ Child,

Blessings and joy to you and your family as you prepare for the coming of Jesus.

Another year is nearly history. Because of you and many like you, that year has been a year of blessing for the Texas District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

We have faced our share of problems and, while not all of them have been resolved, many of them have been turned into opportunities for better service and ministry. We work together as co-laborers for the Lord Jesus Christ. We thrill at the message of the prophet Isaiah: *"His name shall be called wonderful, counselor, the mighty God, the everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace!"* We rejoice in the message of the angel: *"To you is born this day in the city of David a Savior which is Christ the Lord."*

Dolores and I wish you a very blessed Christmas and a very prosperous New Year.

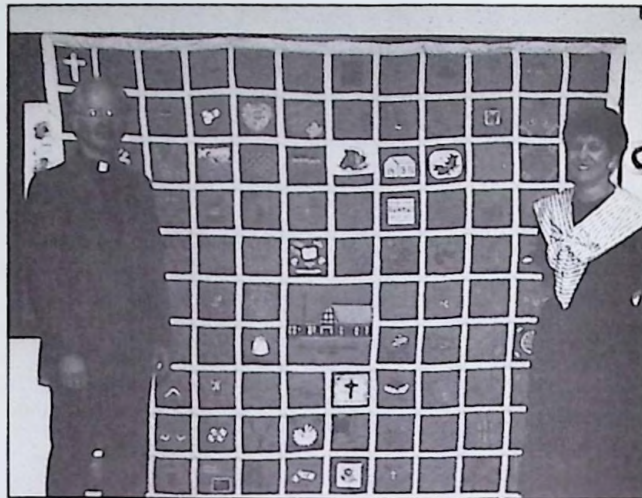
In His Service,

Louis Pabor

Louis Pabor, President



ARLINGTON—Four new workers were installed Aug. 26 at Grace Lutheran of Arlington. They are Jim Frerking, center, left, principal of Grace School; Robert Zrmack, center, right, seventh grade teacher; Melissa Schuman, front, right, third and fourth grade teacher; Connie Strand, front, left, director of Grace's Mothers Day Out preschool program. The school has 149 pupils (K-9) and 82 are in preschool. Pastors are David Joeckel, top, right, and Rudy C. Herbrich.



VICTORIA—Grace Lutheran Congregation, Victoria, honored Pastor and Mrs. Richard Mayerhoff Sept. 2 with a dinner and gift of a friendship quilt upon his 15th anniversary at Grace and their 25th wedding anniversary. Each family member of Grace made a block for the quilt that was quilted by Mrs. Mayerhoff's mother. An added blessing the congregation celebrated was the burning of the note on Grace's Sunday school wing addition—a five-year note paid off in three years.



GRANDMAS—The congregation of St. Paul Lutheran in The Grove celebrated Grandparents Day Sept. 9 by recognizing all grandparents of the congregation. Special recognition was given Selma Zuehlke, left, oldest grandmother and great-grandmother. Lillian Brown, right, was honored as youngest grandmother.



VILLAGERS—These are the people of Bethlehem in Peace's replica of Jesus' birthplace.



WINE PRESS—Women stomp grapes in Bethlehem's wine press. They are Joyce Rac, Carolyn Howard, Judy Rac and Connie Lype.



KINGS—Kings from the Orient point to star that guided men across desert. (Louis Nataro and Charles Phinney)



BEGGAR—Bethlehem beggar (John Chaplin) made \$12.50 in a night's work.



ANGEL—Angel (Emily Vanzant) announces "Good News" to shepherds in Peace Lutheran's Journey to Bethlehem.

Journey to Bethlehem

More than 100 members of Peace, Texas City, have been busy preparing for their second annual Journey to Bethlehem, set for Dec. 8-9, 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Journey to Bethlehem attempts to replicate the ancient village setting of Bethlehem at the time of Christ's birth. To accomplish this, church members each year transform their Family Center and gymnasium into a miniature Judean village with booths, shopfronts and more than 80 costumed characters.

"Everyone gets into the act, kids and adults alike," says Pastor Walter Dube.

As "pilgrims" stroll through the village, they are both informed and entertained by census takers, merchants, shopkeepers, peddlers, Roman soldiers, nomads and characters of every sort. "We strive to keep all information and depictions as authentic as possible," says Set Director Harold Gunderman. Jo Ann Dube, the general project director, and her character crew spend hundreds of hours researching and planning each display and presentation.

As the pilgrim's journey winds down, he passes by the Bethlehem Inn where Hershel Glanz, the raucous innkeeper, disparagingly barks the announcement, "No room in the inn . . . try the stable!"

The stable, complete with animals, is set outdoors under Peace's bell tower pavilion, where at every 15-minute interval a 10-minute nativity pageant is enacted. The pageant follows the narrative recorded in Luke 2.

The pageant closes with an announcement of welcome and an invitation to enter the church sanctuary for a moment of reflection and meditation accompanied by quiet Christmas music played on the organ or over the church sound system.

Last year, the inaugural Journey to Bethlehem presentation drew well more than 2,000 people from area communities during the two-night run. Considering the superlative response from those attending last year, many more are expected this year.

"Come early," suggests Pastor Dube.



Almost "all I really need to know . . ."

**by Pastor Jerry
Kieschnick, Executive
Director, Lutheran
Foundation of Texas**

The title of this article is actually part of the title of the book *"All I Really Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten"* by Robert Fulghum.

At a recent conference, I heard a report on this book, highlighting several of the more poignant paragraphs, including the following advice:

- Share everything.
- Play fair.
- Don't hit people.
- Put things back where you found them.
- Clean up your own mess.
- Don't take things that aren't yours.
- Say you're sorry when you hurt somebody.
- Warm cookies and cold milk are good for you.
- Take a nap every afternoon.
- When you go out into the world, watch for traffic, hold hands and stick together.

Who could argue with the wisdom contained in such simple instructions for life?

Yet, as I listened to this book review, I kept getting that gnawing feeling that something I really needed to know was missing from its pages.

To be quite truthful, I have not read the book in its entirety. But, based on the excerpts I have read and based on the review I have heard, I'd be very surprised if what I feel is missing would in fact be present.

That which is missing is any reference whatsoever to the source of man's and woman's greatest need—forgiveness of sin and the resulting assurance of eternal life with God through His Son Jesus Christ.

How could any treatise titled *"All I Really Need to Know . . ."* omit such a vital need?

The answer is so obvious it's easy to overlook. The book was written from a strictly secular perspective. As it happens, according to the book reviewer I heard, the author is a member of the Unitarian church, a religious body which does not believe in the Triune God.

I heard that book review the day before yesterday. By the time this article crosses your path, Christmas will be right around the corner. I see an obvious parallel.

The advice in the book

"All I Really Need to Know . . ." is simple, heartwarming, socially redeeming. Nothing about the advice is inherently wrong. It's just that something so important is missing. Charitably, we could give the author the benefit of the doubt.

Our country's celebration of Christmas is almost the same — fun to look forward to, heartwarming, generally resulting in an expression of hope, peace and good will among the people of the world.

But what is Christmas without the one whose birthday it observes? What is Christmas with no knowledge, no mention, no adoration of the baby Jesus? And what is Christmas without an awareness of that baby Jesus as God's most perfect, unselfish, sacrificial gift of His one and only Son for the eternal well-being and salvation of the people



Rev. Jerry Kieschnick

He Himself created?

Perhaps that's why one of my favorite Bible verses, especially at Christmas, in addition to the Christmas story itself (preferably read from the traditional King James Version of the Bible) is what my childhood pastor used to call "the Gospel in a nutshell":

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:16).

The stuff you and I learned in kindergarten, as simply expressed in the book, is neat stuff to remember. But we absolutely, positively must add to that stuff the real stuff we all need to know — God's love for you, for me, for the people of the world, expressed in His most precious gift—the Christ Child!

A blessed, merry and Christ-filled Christmas to you and yours, from your Christian friends at the Lutheran Foundation of Texas!



Yes, I want to know more. Clip and mail to:

Lutheran Foundation of Texas

7900 U.S. 290 E. Austin, TX 78724 (512) 926-4272

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

() _____

ZIP _____

Telephone Number _____



**An easy way
to multiply
your gift**

Giving is part of Christmas, and we are always on the lookout for a great deal.

One of the easiest ways to support Lutheran Outdoors Ministry of Texas is through the Matching Gift Program that helps provide summer camp counselors and interns for our camps. Use of matching gifts is made possible through a cooperative plan with Concordia Lutheran College.

If you work for a company that participates in matching donations to religious or educational organizations, simply request a matching gift form, then complete and send it with a gift to Concordia Lutheran College's LOMT Scholarship Fund. It's that easy!

Look for the article in this LUTHERAN WITNESS issue which lists the matching gift companies or call the advancement office at Concordia Lutheran College to start multiplying your gift today.



Outdoors: a part of Christmas

Outdoors ministry is about outdoor experiences—bringing people outside, close to nature, to experience creation first hand.

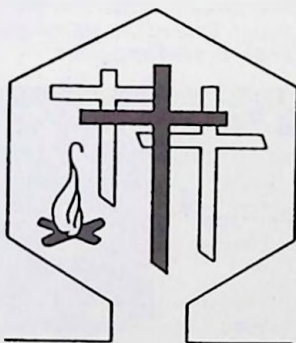
In this Advent season, we prepare to celebrate the coming of our Lord, the birth of our Savior. Our thoughts turn to the outdoor experiences of Christmas—

- * A journey by donkey down the open road with no room inside the inn;
- * Shepherds out in their fields

keeping watch at night and how dramatically the whole sky filled with heavenly hosts;

- * One star outshines the others bringing witnesses to a stable, probably a cave, to testify to the miracle.

As we now wait for the return of our Lord to again fill the out-of-doors with His glory, we can give ourselves a moment beside the water, in the garden, on top the mountain or around the campfire. May the Lord bless you in the year ahead and give you an opportunity to experience the out-of-doors.



Coming events

DECEMBER-JANUARY 1991
— Summer Staff (Applications/Interview times available through camp offices)

Dec. 7-8 — Junior Staff Workshops at Camp Lone Star and Texoma Lutheran Camp (Junior Staff applica-

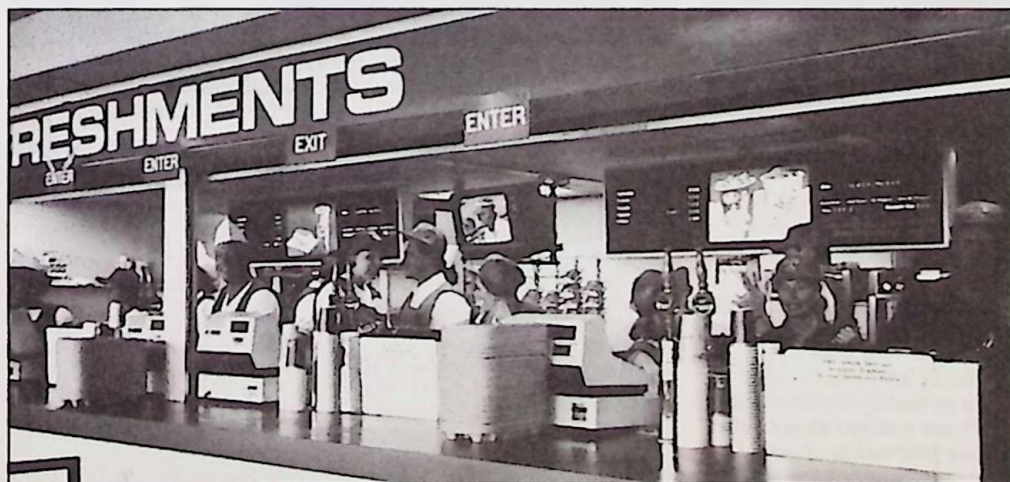
tions accepted January and February for both Camp Lone Star and Texoma)

Jan. 11-13 — Texas District Singles Event at Camp Lone Star

Jan. 11-13 — Texoma Team Weekend

Feb. 9-14 — National Lutheran Outdoors Ministry Conference and Joint Recruitment Staff Selection

Feb. 22-24 — Outdoors Education/Project Wild Workshop and Star Watch at Texoma Lutheran Camp



HOT DOG!—These members (photo at left) of Peace Lutheran, Hurst, operate a concession booth at the Texas Rangers' Arlington Stadium. Their profits will go toward a new adult facility at Texoma Lutheran Camp

THE LORD ADDED . . .

New Members



LEWISVILLE—Lamb of God Lutheran of Lewisville celebrated its 20th anniversary Sept. 9. A feature of the service was the reception of the 56 baptized members above, including 36 communicants. Sixteen adults came by confirmation and profession of faith. One adult was baptized. The congregation has purchased a 10-acre site for a new facility and plans construction beginning in 1991. Norman Schwoert is senior pastor. Richard Turner is associate.



BURKBURNETT—Grace Lutheran of Burkburnett welcomed 14 new members Sept. 9. Ten adults were received by profession of faith and four children were baptized. Keith Schweltzer is pastor.



MINERAL WELLS—St. Mark, Mineral Wells, had the privilege of bringing into membership by rite of adult confirmation Mrs. Patsy Wheeler and Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Bazzell. The Bazzell children, Trey and Jacy, were brought into membership by Holy Baptism and their father, Bobby, was baptized at the same time. With them is Pastor Phil Schamehorn.

BISHOP—St. Paul Lutheran, Bishop, recently added six adults (photo at right) by confirmation and three children by baptism. In the past nine months, the church added 16 adults by confirmation, two of whom were baptized, along with eight children. Another nine members were added by transfer. Says Pastor Richard Goodwill, "Our people are excited about new young families that have come into our fellowship recently, and about reaching into the Hispanic community as well."

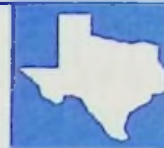


SEALY—One infant baptism and seven adult confirmations added these members to the forever family of Trinity Lutheran in Sealy. One of the adults also was baptized. Rev. George Winkler is interim pastor.



AUSTIN—These new members have been received at Redeemer Lutheran of Austin through adult confirmation and transfer. Pastors are Paul Bohot and David Schroder.





PEOPLE, PLACES, & EVENTS

What a special day Sept. 9 was for Rev. Harold Heckmann and his wife, Della. Visitation pastor at **Pilgrim, Houston**, Heckmann celebrated the 45th anniversary of his ordination, his 45th wedding anniversary and his 70th birthday. His brother, Rev. Eugene Heckmann, preached the service.

Congratulations to Jason Houchin, **Redeemer, Fort Worth**, who was appointed by the Westworth Village city council to a vacant seat.

First Lutheran, Gatesville, celebrated its 25th anniversary with a special service Oct. 14. Rev. Raymond Reich of Cross Lutheran, New Braunfels, was guest speaker. He helped charter First Lutheran when he was pastor at Aleman.

Jon Jungemann, **Hope, Austin**, received his Air Force wings at Laughlin AFB. His brother, Joel, was to get his wings Nov. 2 from the Navy in Beeville. Another brother is a pilot.

The Presbyterian Night Shelter in Fort Worth for the homeless has a real friend in **Peace Lutheran of Hurst**. The men's fishing retreat at Peace had excess funds of \$1,200 that went to the shelter and two groups of Peace members go the shelter on alternate

Wednesdays to make sandwiches. They also serve the evening meal every third Sunday.

Salem Lutheran, Rosehill (Tomball), dedicated a new educational center Oct. 7.

Trinity, Taylor, observed the 40th anniversary of its pastor's ordination Oct. 14. He is Rev. E. George Becker. District President Louis Pabor was preacher.

Arlena McLaughlin, **Faith, Huntsville**, was named publisher of *The Huntsville Item*.

In October, **Peace, Hurst**, celebrated the 25th anniversary of Pastor Roger Neeb's ministry there.

Rev. Ric McMillian accepted the call as senior pastor of **Lord of Life, Dallas**. He had served as mission developer and brought the congregation to its charter phase.

Christ Lutheran, Pattison, celebrated 100 years of grace in Jesus Christ Nov. 4. Houston's St. Philip choir provided special worship music.

An exciting learning adventure happened Sept. 16-17 at **Peace, Hurst**, when 425 people took a walk through the Bible, learning key words and phrases of the entire Old Testament.



50 YEARS—Rev. Louis and Mrs. Dolores Pabor are shown following special services Sept. 30 at **Redeemer Lutheran Church in Austin**, their home congregation. The service marked Pastor Pabor's 50th anniversary of his graduation from Concordia Seminary in St. Louis and a half-century of service to our Lord. Now president of the Texas District, Pabor's ministry mostly has been in Texas.

Immanuel Lutheran, San Antonio, celebrated its 34th birthday Sept. 23. Of the original charter members, 10 still are on Immanuel's roll. Theodore Vogel is pastor.

The children (more than 82 daily) attending Bible school at **Zion, Fort Worth**, put their feet in it, so to speak. A nine-foot long banner of paper had the foot print of each child with his or her name on it.

A special service Oct. 14 at **Christ Memorial, Houston**, celebrated Pastor John Fritz's 40 years of ministry of the Lord's Word.

Rev. Richard Brandt, the first pastor of **Memorial, Katy**, was speaker at Oct. 28 services marking the congregation's 45th anniversary.

Bethlehem, Brenham, celebrated its 130th anniversary Sept. 9, a feature of which was the presentation of a plaque from the Texas District office. Also, as part of the observance, two gifts of adjoining land were dedicated.

Neat things have happened to two members of **Hope, Austin**. Ed Baumann was chosen as a contestant on "Wheel of Fortune" to be taped in January or February, and DeAnn Reed was named a candidate for Homecoming Queen representing the Bobcat band at Southwest Texas State University at San Marcos.

The congregation of **Epiphany, Houston**, celebrated with Pastor Joel Kettner Oct. 14 in a special service marking his 25th anniversary of ordination.

There was a special service of thanksgiving and praise Oct. 28 at **St. Mark, Conroe**, as the congregation celebrated paying off the mortgage on the church. Rev. Herbert C. Graf is pastor.

NEWS



KEY PERSON—Mrs. Lee Etta Kelm has retired after 18 years as organist at St. John's Lutheran Church of Houston where she has been a member for 24 years. She's also been Sunday school superintendent, church treasurer, choir director and worked with the school's music programs. A surprise reception marked her retirement.

Send your news to Bill

Send your photos, newsletters and stories for the LUTHERAN WITNESS to:

Bill Wagner, editor
7900 E. Highway 290
Austin, TX 78724-2499

About pictures: Color prints are fine if the contrast is good. Polaroids tend to reproduce poorly. Black and white photos are best.

Troubled people

The most overloaded, desperate people are those who can see no burden but their own.

A giving guide can help

Once you've decided you want to give, what's the best way? You may be surprised at the choices you have — and the benefits you can enjoy with a little careful planning.

Write or call for our free guide to giving, of special help as you review your year's finances this fall.

Lutheran Foundation of Texas
7900 East Highway 290
Austin, TX 78724-2499

____ Please send me a free copy of "Your Guide to Effective Giving in 1990," at no obligation.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____



OUR SAVIOR—This is the new sanctuary of Our Savior Lutheran of Austin, dedicated Sept. 16. The new site is 11 acres and the facility is double the size of the former church. Participating in the dedication, from left, were Rev. Martin Doering, director of Lutheran Service Ministries who was lector; Rev. Gordon Albers, pastor; Rev. Richard Burk, organist and former member of Our Savior; and Rev. Louis Pabor, district president, preacher.

Sunshine from the storm

More than a year ago, Zion Lutheran Church in Tomball was struck by lightning. The church was damaged extensively.

The damage was repaired, and Zion Congregation decided to re-dedicate its building with one-half of any special offering being given to a Texas mission for help in its building.

As a result, Lord of Life Lutheran Church in Corpus Christi will receive a nice gift toward its building from Zion Congregation, (Jerome Teichmiller, pastor). Wayne Hamit is pastor of Lord of Life.



Centennial for St. Paul

The year 1991 is the 100th anniversary of St. Paul, Austin.

Although the celebration, focusing on the theme "From Strength to Strength" (Psalm 84) will encompass the entire year, three festivals have been scheduled:

Jan. 6: Blessings of the Past

July 7: Reunion Sunday

Oct. 6: Our Gospel Mission

In addition, two other Sundays have been designated as occasions for celebrating significant aspects of the life of St. Paul Church:

May 5: Celebrating the blessings of St. Paul School

Sept. 6: Celebrating the contributions of women's groups

Pastor Fred Neumann said that the church office at (512) 472-8301 will provide help for anyone wishing to participate in a special way or information about any event.



GOLDEN—Retired Pastor Emeritus and Mrs. Albert H. Lindemann of Grace Lutheran of Burkburnett celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary July 28 with a special worship service and by repeating their marriage vows.



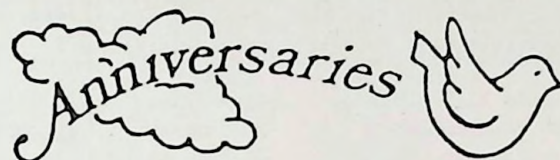
SHAMROCK—John and Christine Hrncliar, members of Trinity Lutheran Church of Shamrock, celebrated their golden wedding anniversary June 5.



LUBBOCK—Mr. and Mrs. Sylvin Schoppa celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary Nov. 3. They are members of Redeemer Lutheran of Lubbock.



KLEIN—Mr. and Mrs. M.C. (Buddy) Klein, life-long members of Trinity Lutheran of Klein, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary Aug. 25.



The following couples of Lutheran congregations of the Texas District have recently celebrated 50 or more years of marriage:

St. Mark, Houston:

Oscar and Esther Woelfel, 62 years, Sept. 27.

Trinity, Klein:

Ernest and Delora Theiss, 55 years, Aug. 22.

Hope, Austin:

Mr. and Mrs. Hudson Powell, 50 years, Sept. 1.

Messiah, Houston:

Mr. and Mrs. W.H. Leitko, 50 years, Sept. 17; Mr. and Mrs. Walter Nintz, 58 years, Sept. 25.

Trinity, Sealy:

Eddie and Lillie Kersten, 60 years, Sept. 7; W.G. and Leah Vogt, 65 years, Sept. 10; Mike and Mildred Shelburne, 51 years, Sept. 16.

Grace, Arlington:

Norman and Thelma Main, 62 years, Sept. 25; Walter and Paula Nelsen, 64 years, Sept. 20; Pat and Claire Panzer, 57 years, Sept. 30; Jeanette and Victor Wolf, 55 years, Sept. 14.

St. Paul, Fort Worth:

Gladys and Earl Hare, 51 years, Sept. 23.

St. Paul, Vernon:

August and Esther Rummel, 60 years, Sept. 2; Henry and

Mary Lowke, 59 years, Sept. 10.

St. Paul, Thorndale:

Richard and Adele Urban, 58 years, Sept. 4.

Crown of Life, San Antonio:

Roy and Viola Stroth, 50 years, Sept. 15.

Good Shepherd, Cleveland:

Martin and Elsie Schulze, 50 years, June 23; Fred and Lucy Hirsch, 57 years, July 27; H.K. and Louise Smith, 52 years, Sept. 10; Louis and Mertice Larson, 56 years, Sept. 21.

Trinity, Sealy:

Clarence and Nancie Hoppe, 51 years, Oct. 7.

Cross, New Braunfels:

Rev. and Mrs. E.F. Lange, 53 years, Oct. 6; Mr. and Mrs. Freddie Retzloff, 52 years, Oct. 16; Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Queen, 59 years, Oct. 18; Mr. and Mrs. Henry Pohlmeier, 56 years, Oct. 19; Elmo and Olga Schmidt, 50 years, Sept. 18.

St. Mark, Houston:

Earl and Ruth Bohannon, 50 years, Oct. 26.

St. Matthew, Houston:

Alvin and Leona Musgrove, 59 years, Oct. 25.

Zion, Dallas:

Norbert and Aline Andres, 55 years, Oct. 6.

MISSIONS

Houston Vietnamese ministry responds to ethnic diversity

by John C. Willbanks

After considerable planning and anticipation, a new Vietnamese ministry has been established at St. Philip Lutheran Church, Houston, in cooperation with the Missouri Synod's Board for Mission Services and the Texas District Board of Mission Administration. It is only the second congregation in the Synod to conduct regular Vietnamese services.

On Easter Sunday, Rev. Ninh H. Nguyen led more than 50 Vietnamese in their worship service. Nguyen, a former Christian Missionary Alliance pastor, is now completing requirements for becoming a Missouri Synod pastor. His colloquy program is supervised by Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Ind.

Rev. Douglas Barnett, pastor of St. Philip, considers this new ministry to be his congregation's response to the ethnic diversity of southwest Houston.

"While we continue to expand our already established ministry," he says, "we also recognize the open door placed before us to proclaim the Gospel among persons representing a diverse background from ours. Most to whom Nguyen ministers are from Buddhist or other non-Christian backgrounds. Since they still have strong family ties to southeast Asia, the potential is enormous!"

Although his regular family of Vietnamese worshipers is small, Nguyen is planning for growth and success. He expresses no

doubts about eventually building one of the largest Vietnamese ministries in Houston.

"We have only eight Vietnamese families at St. Philip. But my plan is to increase membership by one person each month. We will knock on doors, plan evangelism meetings several times a year, and have fellowship parties," he says.

His people already are active in sponsoring newly relocated families from Vietnam, much like Missouri Synod forefathers met and cared for German immigrants during the mid-19th and early 20th centuries.

Nguyen said the heart of his effort will be to empower his people to become actively involved in the ministry. "As any church does, we will search for leadership within our congregation—someone to take the responsibilities of planning hospital visitations, reach out to non-Christians, and encourage more responsibility and involvement among each other."

Eight families may seem few, yet when St. Philip was established in 1963, it had only 12 families. Today it is one of the largest Lutheran churches in Houston.

Nguyen conducts Sunday services simultaneously with St. Philip's regular 11 a.m. English service. He takes great pride in structuring his services according to Lutheran liturgical practice.

Although he writes his services in Vietnamese, the pattern and flow strike a familiar chord. As Nguyen



VIETNAMESE MINISTER—Rev. Ninh H. Nguyen, left, is shown with his wife, Hieu, and three of their four children. Sons Andy and Todd are honor students at the University of Iowa. Daughter Lily is a freshman at the University of Houston and Linda is a freshman in the Houston School District's School of Medical Sciences.

enthusiastically points to the text of the program, he says, "See here . . . this is where I say, 'In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.'"

Because Houston's Vietnamese population is so large, Barnett and Nguyen are optimistic that substantial growth will come in the near future.

"The Vietnamese are a hard-working and gracious people who, we believe, are receptive to the claims of Jesus Christ," says Barnett. He adds, "Ninh is the cultural bridge for our church. Because of his dedication, there is a great outpouring of support for the Vietnamese."

Besides being excited about the Lutheran faith, Nguyen is an experienced pastor who is familiar with the administrative challenges of parish ministry. His father was a Christian missionary, and Ninh followed his lead in a culture where Christians are in the minority.

In 1969, Nguyen began

serving what eventually became a six-year term as a chaplain in the South Vietnamese army. During this time, he met many Lutheran chaplains serving in Vietnam with the U.S. forces. These acquaintances sparked Ninh's interest in the Lutheran Church.

With Communist forces moving closer to Saigon, it became clear that Nguyen, his wife and three young children would have to leave the country.

Eventually Houston became home where Nguyen established the Vietnamese Alliance Church, still Houston's largest Protestant Vietnamese congregation.

"After a year of studying about the Lutheran doctrines with pastors and various Lutheran professors," Nguyen recalls, "I felt called by God to enter the Lutheran mission field."

Nguyen has one more year of seminary study before becoming an ordained pastor of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

YOUTH

TEXAS DISTRICT



Our bright kids...

A special youth service Aug. 26 at **Salem Lutheran, White Hall (Navasota)** honored three really diligent Sunday school students. These youngsters have perfect attendance records: Rebecca Kessler, five years; Kristi Falco, five years; Sharon Finke, three years. Great work, kids!

Landon Ledlow, **Ascension, Cleburne**, was top reader in the church's summer reading program. He read 15 books and was awarded bonus Tracky Stamps for his effort.

Boy Scouts of the troop at **St. Paul, Groves**, are forming an authentic Indian dance troop. They plan to visit Indian reservations to learn about Indian clothing and dance performance.

Congratulations to Paul Lund, **Bethlehem, Palestine**, on winning the 9-year-old division of the Grand Masters Tennis Tournament.

Twenty-one students of **Cross of Christ Lutheran School, DeSoto**, read at



SAN ANTONIO—These 24 young Lutheran Christians of Redeemer, San Antonio, spent three days near San Antonio at a youth retreat using the theme, "Let the Son Shine In." There was singing, skits, Bible studies, swimming, hiking and an outdoor worship service. Nine adult counselors participated.

least 12 books in the school's summer reading program.

Three cheers for these bright kids of **Grace, Midland**, who have earned participation in the renowned Duke University Talent Identification Program: Stephanie Norton, Ainsley Stelling, Erin Petersen, Amy Allen and Ashley Lewis.



Laurie Gary

Laurie Gary, **Grace, Burkburnett**, participated in the NASA Space and Rocket program in Huntsville, Ala. Activities of the week included classroom lectures, training in a variety of space simulators and the accomplishing a space mission aboard a simulator of a space shuttle. Laurie's crew position was launch and landing specialist.

Erin Boatright, **Redeemer, Austin**, made all-city orchestra, all-district band and was most valuable player on her soccer team. Awesome!



**FOCUS
on
YOUTH**



YEA, TEAM!—These are the cheerleaders of Zion Lutheran School of Dallas, shown rehearsing at national cheerleader camp on the SMU campus. They won several blue ribbons. Carol Chandler, second grade teacher, is cheerleader coach.



AIR MAIL—Students of Trinity Lutheran School of Klein released balloons Sept. 11 to begin their school year. Messages attached to each balloon said, "God wants everyone to be part of His family."

CONCORDIA

Special Announcement

IT'S AS EASY AS 1...2...3...

Your gift to Concordia Lutheran College of Texas can have double the impact if you work for a matching gift company. Simply

- 1 Locate your company's name on this list.
- 2 Obtain a matching gift form from your personnel office.
- 3 Send the completed form with your gift and watch your gift multiply.

We are pleased to report that all of the companies listed here will match your gift to Concordia. In many cases the gifts of retirees and employee spouses also qualify.

Many subsidiaries of these parent companies are also eligible. Check with your personnel office. If your company does not have a matching gift program, why not work with others to start one.

As you read in the last two issues of the *Lutheran Witness*, Concordia and the Lutherans of Texas face a magnificent challenge—to raise \$1,500,000 in gifts and pledges by July of 1991 in order to receive an additional \$750,000 from the Mabee Foundation of Tulsa, Oklahoma, to be used to renovate and remodel existing facilities into a student life complex. The effort to meet the Mabee specifications is known as the Diamond Challenge.

Both your gift and matching funds from your company will be used to meet the Diamond Challenge. Your support will thus be multiplied by both your company and the Mabee Foundation.

Give your gift a lift! Join in partnership with your company to support Christian higher education at Concordia of Texas.

A

ACF Industries, Inc.
AMP Inc.
ARA Services, Inc.
ARCO
AT&T
Abbott Laboratories
Access Energy Corp.
Adria Laboratories Division of Er-
bamont, Inc.
Advanced Micro Devices

The AEROSPACE Corp.
Aetna Life & Casualty
Aid Association for Lutherans
Air Products and Chemicals, Inc.
Akzo America, Inc.
Alabama Power Co.
Albany International Corp.
Albertson's, Inc.
Alcan Aluminum Corp.
Alcoa Standard Corp.
Alexander & Baldwin, Inc.
Allegheny Ludlum Corp.

Allendale Mutual Insurance Co.
Allied-Signal Inc.
Allstate Insurance Cos.
Alpha Industries, Inc.
Aluminum Co. of America
AMAX, Inc.
Amcast Industrial Corp.
Amerasia Hess Corp.
American Airlines
American Brands, Inc.
American Cyanamid Co.
American Electric Power Co., Inc.

American Express Co.
American General Corp.
American Home Products Corp.
American International Group, Inc.
American Medical International, Inc.
American Mutual Insurance Cos.
American National Bank
American National Bank & Trust Co.
of Chicago
American National Can Co.
American Optical Corp.
American Petrofina, Inc.
American Savings Bank
American Standard, Inc.
American States Insurance Co.
American Sterilizer Co.
American Stock Exchange
American United Life Insurance Co.
Amentech
Amentech Applied Technologies Inc.
Amentech Services, Inc.
Amentech Co. National Association
Amfac, Inc.
Amoco Corp.
Amstar Corp.
AMSTED Industries Inc.
Analog Devices Inc.
Arthur Andersen & Co.
The Andersons Management Corp.
Anheuser-Busch Cos., Inc.
Appleton Papers Inc.
Arkwright Mutual Insurance Co.
Armco Inc.
Armstrong World Industries, Inc.
Armtek Corp.
Asea Brown Boveri Inc.
Ashland Oil, Inc.
Associated Box Corp.
Guy F. Atkinson Co. of California
Atlantic City Electric Co.
Augat Inc.
Automatic Data Processing, Inc.
Avon Products, Inc.
Avtex Fibers, Inc.

B

BASF Corp.
BHP-Utah International Inc.
BMC Industries, Inc.
The BOC Group, Inc.
BP AMERICA
M.S. Bailey & Son, Bankers
Baker Hughes Inc.
Ball Corp.
Baltimore Bancorp.
Baltimore Gas & Electric Co.
Banc One Wisconsin Corp.
Bancorp Hawaii
Bancroft-Whitney Co.
Bank of Boston
The Bank of California, N.A.
Bank of Montreal
Bank of New England Corp.
The Bank of New York
Bank One, Texas
Bank South Corp.
Bankers Life and Casualty
Bankers Trust Co.
Barber-Colman Co.
Barclays Bank PLC
BarclaysAmericanCorp.
C.R. Bard, Inc.
Barnes Group Inc.
Barnes & Roche, Inc.
Barnett Associates, Inc.
Barnett Banks, Inc.
The Barton-Gillet Co.
Baxter Healthcare Corp.
BayBanks, Inc.
Bealrice Co.
Bechtel Power Corp.
A.G. Becker Paribas Inc.
Becor Western Inc.
Bedon Dickinson and Co.
Beech Aircraft Corp.
Bell Atlantic Corp.

CONCORDIA

TEXAS DISTRICT



Bell Federal Savings and Loan Association
 Bell of Pennsylvania
 Bellcore
BellSouth Corp.
 Beloit Corp.
Bemis Co., Inc.
 The Bergen Record Corp.
 L. M. Berry and Co.
 Best Products Co.
 Bill Communications, Inc.
 Bituminous Casualty Corp.
 The Black & Decker Corp.
 H & R Block, Inc.
The Blount Foundation, Inc.
 Blide Bell, Inc.
 The Boeing Co.
Boise Cascade Corp.
 Borden, Inc.
Borg-Warner Corp.
 Boston Edison Co.
 The Boston Globe Newspaper Co.
 Boston Mutual Life Insurance Co.
 Bowater Inc.
 Brakeley, John Price Jones Inc.
 Bernd Brecher and Associates, Inc.
Bridgestone/Firestone, Inc.
 Bristol-Myers Squibb Co.
 Bristol Savings Bank
 Brockway Glass Co., Inc.
 *Brown & Williamson Tobacco Corp.
 Brown-Forman Corp.
Brown Group, Inc.
 John Brown Inc.
Brunswick Corp.
 Buell Industries, Inc.
 Buffalo Color Corp.
 Bunge Corp.
 Burlington Industries, Inc.
Burlington Northern Inc.
 Leo Burnett Co., Inc.
 Burroughs Wellcome Co.
 Butler Manufacturing Co.

C

CBI Industries, Inc.
 CBS Inc.
 CNA Insurance Cos.
CPC International Inc.
 CSX Corp.
 Cabot Corp.
 Cabot Stains
 Caltex Manufacturing Co., Inc.
 Callahan Industries Inc.
 Campbell Soup Co.
 Capital Cities/ABC, Inc.
 Capital Holding Corp.
 Carolina Power & Light Co.
 Carolina Telephone and Telegraph Co.
 Carpenter Technology Corp.
 Carson Pirie Scott & Co.
 Carter Hawley Hale Stores, Inc.
 Carter-Wallace, Inc.
 Castle and Cooke, Inc.
 Caterpillar Inc.
Centel Corp.
 Centene Energy Corp.
 Centene Bank, N.A.
 Central Illinois Light Co.
 Central Life Assurance Co.
 Central Vermont Public Service Corp.
 Century Cos. of America
CertainTeed Corp.
 Chamberlain Manufacturing Corp.
 Champion International Corp.
Champlin Refining & Chemicals, Inc.
 Charles River Laboratories, Inc.
 The Chase Manhattan Corp.
Chemical Bank Corp.
 Chemtech Industries, Inc.
Chesapeake Corp.
 Chesapeake & Potomac Telephone
 Chesebrough-Pond's, Inc.
 Chevron Corp.
 Chicago Title and Trust Co.
 Chicago Tribune Co.

Chrysler Corp.
 Chubb and Son Inc.
 Chubb Life Insurance Co. of America
 Church & Dwight Co., Inc.
 Church Mutual Insurance Co.
 CIBA-GEIGY Corp.
 CIGNA Corp.
 Cincinnati Bell, Inc.
 *Circuit City Stores, Inc.
 Citicorp/Citibank, N.A.
 Citizens and Southern South Carolina Corp.
 Citizens Fidelity Bank & Trust Co.
 The Citizens and Southern Georgia Corp.
 Cleveland-Cliffs Inc.
 Clorox Corp.
 The Clorox Co.
 Coats & Clark, Inc.
 The Coca-Cola Co.
 The Coleman Co., Inc.
 Colgate-Palmolive Co.
 Collins & Aikman Corp.
 Colonial Bancorp, Inc.
 Colonial Parking Inc.
 Colonial Penn Group, Inc.
 The Columbia Gas System, Inc.
 Columbus Life Insurance Co.
 Comerica Inc.
 *Commercial Intertech Corp.
 Commonwealth Energy System
 Commonwealth Insurance Co.
 Communications Satellite Corp.
 Community Mutual Blue Cross & Blue Shield
 Connecticut Bank & Trust Co.
 Connecticut Mutual Life Insurance
 Connecticut Natural Gas Corp.
 Connecticut Savings Bank
 Conoco Inc.
Consolidated Edison Co. of New York, Inc.
 Consolidated Natural Gas Co.
 Consolidated Papers, Inc.
 Consolidated Rail Corp.
 Consolidation Coal Co.
 Consumers Power Co.
Contel Corp. (J.C.U.G.)
 Continental Bank
The Continental Corp.
Continental Telecom Inc.
 Frederic W. Cook & Co., Inc.
 Co-Op Banking Group Cos.
 Cooper Industries
Cooper Tire & Rubber Co.
 Coopers & Lybrand
 The Copley Press, Inc.
 Copley Real Estate Advisors, Inc.
 Copolymer Rubber and Chemical Corp.
 Corning Inc.
 Courtaulds Coatings Inc.
Covington & Burling
 Cowles Media Co.
 Crane Co.
 Cray Research, Inc.
 *Credit Suisse
 Crompton & Knowles Corp.
 Cross & Trecker Corp.
 Crown Central Petroleum Corp.
 Crum and Forster, Inc.
 Cummins Engine Co., Inc.
 CUNA Mutual Insurance Group
 Cyclops Corp.

D

Dain Bosworth Inc.
 Dana Corp.
The Danforth Foundation
 DEKALB Genetics Corp.
 Delta Air Lines, Inc.
Deluxe Corp.
 Dennison Manufacturing Co.
 Deposit Guaranty National Bank
 DeSoto, Inc.
 The Detroit Edison Co.
 A.W.G. Dewar Inc.

The Dexter Corp.
 Diamond Crystal Salt Co.
 Didier Taylor Refractories Corp.
 Difco Laboratories
 Digital Equipment Corp.
 Digital Sciences Corp.
 Dominion Bankshares Corp.
 Donaldson Co. Inc.
 Donaldson, Lufkin & Jenrette
 Dove-Knight and Associates, P.A.
 Architects
 Dow Chemical U.S.A.
Dow Corning Corp.
 Dow Jones & Co., Inc.
Dresser Industries, Inc.
 Drexel Burnham Lambert Inc.
 Dry Dock Savings Bank
 Duke Power Co.
The Dun & Bradstreet Corp.
 Duquesne Light Co.
 Durham Corp.
 Duty Free Shoppers Group Ltd.

E

EG&G, Inc.
Eastem Enterprises
 Eastland Bank
Eaton Corp.
 Jack Eckerd Corp.
 Ecoblab Inc.
 Educators Mutual Life Insurance
 Egan Machinery Co.
 Elf Aquitaine, Inc.
 Elizabethtown Water Co.
 Emerson Electric Co.
 Engelhard Corp.
 Engineered Systems & Development Corp.
 Enron Corp.
 ENSERCH Corp.
 Ensign-Bickford Foundation
 Envirotech Corp.
 Equibank
 The Equitable Financial Cos.
 Equitable Life Insurance Co. of Iowa
 Equitable Resources, Inc.
 Ernst & Whinney
 Esterline Corp.
 Ethicon, Inc.
 Ethyl Corp.
 European American Bank
 Exxon Education Foundation

F

FMC Corp.
 Facet Enterprises, Inc.
 Factory Mutual Engineering and Research/Service Bureau
 Fairchild Industries, Inc.
 Far West Federal Bank
 Farm Credit Banks of Springfield
 Federal-Mogul Corp.
 Federal National Mortgage Association
 Federated Department Stores, Inc.
 Ferro Corp.
 Fidelity Investments
 Fiduciary Trust Co. (Boston)
The Field Corp.
 Fifth Third Bancorp.
Fireman's Fund Insurance Co.
 First Atlanta/The First National Bank of Atlanta
 FirstBancorp, Inc.
 First Bank System, Inc.
 The First Boston Corp.
 *First City Bancorp. of Texas
 First Fidelity Bancorp.
 First Interstate Bank of California
 First Interstate Bank of Oregon, N.A.
 First Interstate Bank of Washington, N.A.
 First Kentucky National Corp.
 First Maryland Bancorp.
 First Mississippi Corp.

First National Bank of Chicago Foundation
 First Union Corp.
First Valley Bank (First Valley Corp.)
 First Virginia Banks, Inc.
 Fleet National Bank
Fluor Corp.
 Ford Motor Co.
 Ford Motor Co. of Canada, Ltd.
The Foxboro Co.
Freaport-McMoRan, Inc.
 Fruehauf Corp.
 H.B. Fuller Co.
 Funderburke & Associates

G

GATX Corp.
 GTE Corp.
 Galileo Electro-Optics Corp.
 Gallatin National Bank
 E. & J. Gallo Winery
 Gannett Foundation
 The Gary-Williams Co./The Piton Foundation
 Gast Manufacturing Corp.
 The Gates Corp.
 GenCorp Inc.
General Accident Insurance Co. of America
 General Cable Co.
General Cinema Corp.
 General Defense Corp.
 General Dynamics Corp.
 General Electric Canada Inc.
 General Electric Co.
 General Foods, Inc.
 General Housewares Corp.
General Mills, Inc.
 General Motors Corp.
 *General Public Utilities Corp.
General Re Corp.
 General Signal Corp.
 M. Arthur Gensler Jr. and Associates, Inc.
 Gerber Products Co.
 Gilbane Building Co.
 The Gillette Co.
 Gilman Paper Co.
 P. H. Glatfelter Co.
 Glaxo Inc.
 Glendale Federal
 Goldman, Sachs & Co.
 Goldome
 Good Value Homes, Inc.
The BFGoodrich Co.
The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co.
 Gould Inc.
 Goulds Pumps, Inc.
 Government Employees Insurance
 W.R. Grace & Co.
WW. Grainger, Inc.
GrandMet USA, Inc.
 Grant Thornton
 The Graphic Printing Co., Inc.
 Great Lakes Carbon Corp.
 Great Northern Nekososa Corp.
 Great West Casualty Co.
 Greenwood Mills, Inc.
 Gregory Poole Equipment Co.
 John Grenzbach & Associates, Inc.
 Grinnell Mutual Reinsurance Co.
 Grumman Corp.
 The Guardian Life Insurance Co. of America

H

Hackney Industries Inc.
Halliburton Co.
 Hallmark Cards, Inc.
 Hamilton Bank
 Hampton & Harper, Inc.
 John Hancock Mutual Life Insurance Co.
 M. A. Hanna Co.

CONCORDIA

*Harleysville Mutual Insurance Co.
Harper & Row, Publishers, Inc.
Harris Corp.
Harris Trust & Savings Bank: Harris Bankcorp
Hartford Insurance Group
The Hartford Steam Boiler Inspection and Insurance Co.
Hartman Corp.
Haworth, Inc.
H.J. Heinz Co.
Heller Financial, Inc.
Hercules Inc.
Hershey Entertainment & Resort
Hershey Foods Corp.
Hewitt Associates
Hewlett-Packard Co.
*Hexcel Corp.
Higher Education Publications, Inc.
The Hillman Co.
Hochst Celanese Corp.
Hoffmann-La Roche Inc.
Holmes & Narver, Inc.
Home Life Insurance Co.
Homestake Mining Co.
Honeywell, Inc.
Geo. A. Hormel & Co.
Hospital Corp. of America
Houghton Mifflin Co.
Household International, Inc.
Hubbard Milling Co.
Hubbell Inc.
J.M. Huber Corp.
Huck Manufacturing Co.
Huffy Corp.
Hughes Aircraft Co.
The Hydraulic Co.

I
ICI Americas Inc.
IDS Financial Services Inc.
*IE Industries Inc.
INB Financial Corp.
ISC Group, Inc.
ITT Corp.
IU International
Illinois Bell
Illinois Tool Works Inc.
IMCERA Group, Inc.
Imo Delaval, Inc.
Indiana Bell Telephone Co., Inc.
Industrial Indemnity Co.
Industrial Risk Insurers
Ingersoll-Rand Co.
Innovation Packaging, Inc.
Instron Corp.
Integon Corp.
Intel Corp.
Intelligent Controls, Inc.
The Intertek Corp.
International Business Machines Corp.
International Flavors and Fragrances Inc.
International Multifoods Corp.
International Paper
*International Student Exchange Cards, Inc.
Iowa Resources Inc.
Itek Corp.
*Iveco Trucks of North America, Inc.

J
JSJ Corp.
James River Corp.
Jefferies & Co., Inc.
Jefferson-Pilot Communications Co.
Jefferson-Pilot Corp.
Axel Johnson Inc.
E.F. Johnson Co.
Johnson Controls, Inc.
Johnson & Higgins
Johnson & Johnson
SC Johnson & Son, Inc.
Jones Group, Inc.

Jostens, Inc.

K
KPMG Peat Marwick
K mart Corp.
Kansas City Southern Industries
Karmazin Products Corp.
Kearney-National Inc.
Keebler Co.
Keefe, Bruyette & Woods, Inc.
Kellogg Co.
The M.W. Kellogg Co.
W.K. Kellogg Foundation
Kemper Group
Kennametal Inc.
The Kerite Co.
Kerr-McGee Corp.
Walter Kidde & Co.
Kidder, Peabody & Co. Inc.
Kingsbury Corp.
Kiplinger Washington Editors
Knight-Ridder, Inc.
H. Kohnstamm & Co., Inc.
Korte Construction Co.
Kraft General Foods

L
The Lamson & Sessions Co.
Lund O'Lakes, Inc.
Lanier Worldwide, Inc.
LaSalle National Bank
The Law Co., Inc.
The Lawyers Co-operative Publishing Co.
Lehigh Portland Cement Co.
Levi Strauss & Co.
*Libbey-Owens Ford Co.
The Liberty Corp.
*The Life Insurance Co. of Virginia
Eli Lilly and Co.
Lincoln National Corp.
Link Engineering Co., Inc.
Thomas J. Lipton, Inc.
Loctite Corp.
Loews Corp.
Lone Star Industries, Inc.
Lotus Development Corp.
The Louisiana Land and Exploration
Louisiana Power & Light Co.
The Lubrizol Corp.
Lucky Stores, Inc.
Ludlow Corp.
Lukens Inc.
Lummus Crest, Inc.

M
M/A COM Government Systems Division
MCA Inc.
*MCI Telecommunications Corp.
Midwest Division
MNC Financial, Inc.
MSI Insurance
M & T Chemicals Inc.
MTS Systems Corp.
John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation
Mack Trucks, Inc.
MacLean-Fogg Co.
R. H. Macy & Co., Inc.
*Madison Mutual Insurance Co.
Maguire Oil Co.
Mallinckrodt, Inc.
Manufacturers Hanover Corp.
Manufacturers National Corp.
Marathon Oil Co.
Maremont Corp.
Marine Corp. (Springfield)
Marine Midland Bank, N.A.
Maritz Inc.
The Marley Co.
Marsh & McLennan Cos., Inc.

Martin Marietta Corp.
Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Co.
Mattel, Inc.
Maxus Energy Corp.
The May Department Stores Co.
Maytag Corp.
McCormick & Co., Inc.
McDonald's Corp.
McDonnell Douglas Corp.
Thomas McFadden & Associates
McGraw-Hill, Inc.
McKesson Corp.
McQuay Inc.
The Mead Corp.
Mebane Packaging Corp.
Mechanics Bank
Medtronic, Inc.
Mellon Bank Corp.
Menasha Corp.
Merck & Co., Inc.
Meredith Corp.
Meridian Bancorp. Inc.
Meridian Insurance Co.
Merit Oil Corp.
Meritor Financial Group
Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc.
Metropolitan Life Insurance Co.
Mettler Instrument Corp.
Michigan Bell
Michigan Mutual Insurance Co.
(The Amersure Cos.)
Middlesex Mutual Assurance Co.
Midland Montagu
The Midland Mutual Life Insurance
Midland-Ross Corp.
Midlantic Corp.
Miehle-Goss-Dexter Inc.
Milliken & Co.
Millipore Corp.
Milton Bradley Co.
Minnesota Mutual Life Insurance
Mississippi Power & Light Co.
The MITRE Corp.
Mobil Oil Corp.
Moen Inc.
Mohasco Corp.
Monarch Capital Corp.
Monroe Auto Equipment Co.
Monsanto Co.
The Montana Power Co.
Montgomery Ward & Co., Inc.
Monumental Corp.
MOOG Inc.
Moore McCormack Resources, Inc.
Morgan Construction Co.
J.P. Morgan & Co. Inc.
Morgan Stanley & Co., Inc.
Morrison Knudsen Corp.
Morse Shoe, Inc.
Morton International, Inc.
Motorola, Inc.
Charles Stewart Mott Foundation
Murphy Oil Corp.
Mutual of America
Mutual Benefit Life
Mutual Of New York
Mutual of Omaha

N
NBD Bancorp, Inc.
NCNB Corp.
*NCNB Texas National Bank
NCR Corp.
NL Industries, Inc.
NRC, Inc.
The NWNL Cos., Inc.
Nabisco Brands, Inc.
NACCO Industries, Inc.
Nalco Chemical Co.
National City Corp.
National Gypsum Co.
National Intergroup, Inc.
National Medical Enterprises, Inc.
National Steel Corp.
National Westminster Bank USA

Nationwide Mutual Insurance Co.
Neles-Jamesbury
Nepesa, Inc.
New England Business Service, Inc.
The New England Education Loan Marketing Corp.
New England Electric System Cos.
New England Mutual Life Insurance
New England Telephone
New Jersey Bell Telephone Co.
*New Jersey National Bank
New Jersey Natural Gas Co.
The New York Bank for Savings
New York Life Insurance Co.
New York Stock Exchange, Inc.
New York Telephone
The New York Times Co.
The New Yorker Magazine, Inc.
Newmont Mining Corp.
Newsweek, Inc.
The Samuel Roberts Noble Foundation, Inc.
Nordson Corp.
Norfolk Southern Corp.
North American Philips Corp.
Northeast Utilities
Northern Illinois Gas
Northern States Power Co.
Northern Telecom, Inc.
The Northern Trust Co.
Northwest Airlines, Inc.
Northwest Industries, Inc.
Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance
Norton Co.
W.W. Norton & Co., Inc.
Norwest Corp.
Noxell Corp.
The NutraSweet Co.
John Nuveen & Co. Inc.
NYNEX Corp.

O
Oakite Products, Inc.
Occidental Oil and Gas Corp.
Occidental Petroleum Corp.
Ohio Bell Telephone Co.
Ohio Edison Co.
The Ohio National Life Insurance Co.
Oklahoma Gas and Electric Co.
Old Stone Bank
Olin Corp.
*OMNI Construction, Inc.
Oneida Ltd.
Ontario Corp.
Openaka Corp., Inc.
Oregon Portland Cement Co.
Outboard Marine Corp.
Owens-Corning Fiberglass Corp.
Owens-Illinois, Inc.
Oxford Industries, Inc.

P
PPH Corp.
PPG Industries, Inc.
PQ Corp.
Paccar Inc.
Pacific Enterprises
Pacific Mutual Life Insurance Co.
Pacific Resources, Inc.
Pacific Telesis Group
Pan-American Life Insurance Co.
Panhandle Eastern Corp.
Paramount Communications Inc.
Parker-Hannifin Corp.
The Paul Revere Cos.
Pearle Health Services, Inc.
Pechiney Corp.
The Penn Central Corp.
Penn Central Industries Group
Pennbancorp
J.C. Penney Co., Inc.
Pennsylvania Power & Light Co.
Pennwalt Corp.
Pennzoil Co.

CONCORDIA

TEXAS DISTRICT



People's Bank
The Peoples Gas Light and Coke Co.
PepsiCo, Inc.
PET Inc.
Peterson & Co. Consulting
Pfizer Inc.
Pheips Dodge Corp.
Philadelphia National Bank
Philip Morris Cos. Inc.
Phillips Petroleum Co.
Phoenix Mutual Life Insurance Co.
Piedmont Aviation, Inc.
The Pillsbury Co.
The Pinkerton Tobacco Co.
The Pioneer Group, Inc.
Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc.
Piper, Jaffray & Hopwood Inc.
Pitney Bowes Inc.
Pittsburgh National Bank
Pittway Corp.
Plantle & Moran, CPA's
Playboy Enterprises, Inc.
Pogo Producing Co.
Polaroid Corp.
Pope & Talbot, Inc.
Pottlatch Corp.
Preferred Risk Mutual Insurance Co.
Preformed Line Products Co.
Premark International, Inc.
Price Brothers Co.
T. Rowe Price Associates, Inc.
Price Waterhouse
The Principal Financial Group
The Procter & Gamble Co.
Promus Cos.
Protection Mutual Insurance Co.
Provident Life and Accident Insurance Co.
Provident Mutual Life Insurance Co. of Philadelphia
Provident National Bank
The Prudential Insurance Co. of America
Public Service Co. of Colorado
Public Service Electric and Gas Co.
Puget Sound Power & Light Co.

Q

Quaker Chemical Corp.
The Quaker Oats Co.
Quaker State Corp.
Quantum Chemical Corp.

R

R. J. R. Nabisco, Inc.
RIKO General, Inc.
Ralston Purina Co.
Rand McNally & Co.
Raytheon Co.
Reader's Digest Association, Inc.
Redlands Federal Savings & Loan Association
Reichhold Chemicals, Inc.
The Reliable Life Insurance Co.
Reliance Electric Co.
Reliance Insurance Cos.
Republic National Bank of New York
Research-Cottrell, Inc.
The Research Institute of America
Revlon, Inc.
Rexham Corp.
Rexnord Corp.
Reynolds Metals Co.
Rhiana Foods Inc.
Rochester Midland Corp.
The Rockefeller Brothers Fund, Inc.
Rockefeller Family & Associates
The Rockefeller Group
Rockwell International Corp.
Rohm and Haas Co.
Rohr Industries, Inc.
Rolling Thunder, Inc.
ROLM Corp.

Rolscreen Co.
Rorer Group Inc.
Rospatch Corp.
Ross, Johnston & Kersting, Inc.
Royal Insurance
Rubbermaid Inc.
RUST International Corp.
Ryco Division, Reilly-Whiteman, Inc.
Ryder System, Inc.

S

SDS Biotech Corp.
SKF USA
SNET
SPS Technologies, Inc.
SPX Corp.
Safeco Corp.
The St. Paul Cos.
Salomon Inc.
Sanders Associates, Inc.
Sandoz, Inc.
Santa Fe Pacific Corp.
Sanwa Bank California
Sara Lee Corp.
Schering-Plough Corp.
Schlegel Corp.
Charles Schwab & Co., Inc.
Scott, Foresman and Co.
Scott Paper Co.
Scripps Howard, Inc.
Joseph E. Seagram & Sons, Inc.
Seairight Co., Inc.
G.D. Searle & Co.
Security-Connecticut Life Insurance Co.
Security Pacific Corp.
Security Van Lines, Inc.
Sedgwick James, Inc.
Seton Co.
Shaklee Corp.
Shawmut National Corp.
Shearson Lehman Hutton
Sheldahl, Inc.
Shell Oil Co.
Shenandoah Life Insurance Co.
The Sherwin-Williams Co.
Siemens Corp.
Siemens Energy & Automation, Inc.
Sierra Pacific Resources
Silco Industries, Inc.
Simpson Investment Co.
Skinner Corp.
Smith International, Inc.
SmithKline Beecham
Society Corp.
Somers Corp. (Mersman/Waldron)
Sonat Inc.
Sonoco Products Co.
Sony Corp. of America
Soo Line Railroad Co.
South Central Bell Telephone Co.
South-Western Publishing Co.
Southeast Bank, N.A.
Southern Bell
The Southland Corp.
Southwestern Bell Corp.
Sovran Financial Corp.
Spiegel, Inc.
Spring Arbor Distribution Co.
Springs Industries, Inc.
Square D Co.
A. E. Staley Manufacturing Co.
Standard Insurance Co.
The Standard Products Co.
Stanhope, Inc.
The Stanley Works
State Farm Insurance Cos.
State Mutual Life Assurance Co. of America
State Street Bank & Trust Co.
Stauffer Communications, Inc.
Steel Heddle Manufacturing Co.
Steiger Tractor, Inc.
Sterling Drug Inc.
J.P. Stevens & Co., Inc.
Stone & Webster, Inc.
The Stop & Shop Cos., Inc.

Student Loan Marketing Association
Subaru of America
Sun Co., Inc.
Sun Life Assurance Co. of Canada
Sun Microsystems, Inc.
Super Valu Stores, Inc.
Susquehanna Investment Group
Swank, Inc.
Swiss American Securities Inc.
Syntex Corp.

T

TRW Inc.
Tambrands, Inc.
Tandy Corp.
The Taagie Foundation, Inc.
Technometrics, Inc.
Tektronix, Inc.
Teledyne, Inc.
Tennant Co.
Tenneco Inc.
Tesororo Petroleum Corp.
Texaco Inc.
Texas Commerce Bank Houston
Texas Gas Transmission Corp.
Texas Instruments Inc.
Textron Inc.
Thomas & Betts Corp.
Thomasville Furniture Industries
J. Walter Thompson Co.
3M
TICOR
Time Warner Inc.
The Times Journal Co.
Times Mirror
Times Publishing Co.
The Toro Co.
The Torrington Co.
Total Petroleum (North America) Ltd.
Towers, Perrin, Forster & Crosby
Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A., Inc.
Tracor, Inc., a Westmark Co.
Trailer Train Co.
Transamerica Corp.
Transco Energy Co.
Transtar, Inc.
The Travelers Cos.
Travelers Express Co., Inc.
Treadway Cos., Inc.
Tremco Inc.
TRINOVA Corp.
Triskelion Ltd.
Trust Co. Bank, Atlanta
The Turner Corp.
*20th Century Insurance Co.

U

U S WEST, Inc.
UGI Corp.
UUB Financial Corp.
UNUM Life Insurance Co.
U.S. Bancorp
USAir
USG Corp.
USLIFE Corp.
UST, Inc.
USX Corp.
Unilever United States, Inc.
Union Bank
Union Camp Corp.
Union Electric Co.
Union Mutual Fire Insurance Co.
Union Pacific Corp.
Union Trust Co.
Unisys Corp.
United Bank of Denver
United Engineers & Constructors
*United Fire & Casualty Co.
United Gas Pipe Line Co.
United Parcel Service
United Services Automobile Association
United States Borax & Chemical Corp.

United States Fidelity and Guaranty Corp.
United States Leasing International
United States Trust Co. of New York
United Technologies Corp.
United Telecommunications, Inc.
United Telephone Co. of Florida
United Telephone Co. of Indiana
United Telephone Co. of New Jersey
United Telephone Co. of Ohio
United Telephone Co. of Pennsylvania
United Virginia Bank
Universal Foods Corp.
Unocal Corp.
The Upjohn Co.
Utah International Inc.
Utica National Insurance Group

V

Valero Energy Corp.
Valley Bancorp.
Valley National Bank of Arizona
Varian Associates, Inc.
Victaulic Co. of America
Virginia Power
Vulcan Materials Co.

W

Wachovia Bank & Trust Co., N.A./The Wachovia Corp.
*Wallace & Wallace Ltd.
The Wallingford Steel Co.
Wamac
Werner-Lambert Co.
Washington National Insurance Co.
The Washington Post Co.
Waste Management, Inc.
Watkins-Johnson Co.
Wausau Insurance Cos.
C.J. Webb, Inc.
Welch Foods Inc.
Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.
*Wenzell International Corp.
West One Bancorp
West Point-Pepperell Foundation
Western Life Insurance Co.
Western Publishing Co., Inc.
Westinghouse Electric Corp.
WestStar Bank, n.a.
Westvaco Corp.
Weyerhaeuser Co.
Whirlpool Corp.
White Consolidated Industries, Inc.
Whitman Corp.
Whittaker Corp.
John Wiley & Sons, Inc. Publishers
Willamette Industries, Inc.
The Williams Cos.
Williams & Co., Inc.
Winn-Dixie Stores, Inc.
The Wiremold Co.
Wisconsin Bell, Inc.
Wisconsin Energy Corp.
Wolverine World Wide, Inc.
Wyman-Gordon Co.

X

Xerox Corp.

Y

*Yosemite Asset Management
Arthur Young
Young & Rubicam Inc.

Z

Zapata Corp.
Zurn Industries, Inc.

Receiving the ultimate call

by Ray Schkade

On Friday, Oct. 12, Dennis Schiefelbein and I had a long visit on the phone, discussing his call to serve as senior pastor of a congregation in Kansas City. I kiddingly told him I had asked the Holy Spirit not to honor any call for Dennis outside the state of Texas. Little did I know he was on the verge of receiving the ultimate call for which there is no deliberation—the Father's call to join His family in heaven.

I wrestle with the question

so many are asking . . . and for which there is no answer: "Why should the life of this young pastor, so vibrant and productive for Christ, so needed in the ministry, be taken in the prime of his vocation?" *"Be still and know that I am God"* I hear the Lord telling me.

I thank God for Dennis Schiefelbein and the years of service he rendered his Lord and his church. A fellow church worker stated that Dennis accomplished each day what it takes most of us



Rev. Dennis Schiefelbein

to accomplish in a week. He lived and served with an intensity and a drive as if he knew his time on earth was short.

God accomplished so much through Dennis in such a short time. He was God's servant leader in applying the power of the Gospel which transformed a stagnant congregation, with only a handful of members, to one of the most vibrant and exciting congregations in the Texas District with a membership of more than 350, and an average church attendance of more than 250. Our Savior, Corpus Christi, was in the process of starting a daughter congregation.

On the district level, Dennis was a member of the Texas District Church Growth Task Force and led many area workshops on leadership, barriers to growth, and prayer. His many seminars on prayer in Texas were so successful that other synodical districts began seeking his services.

In our conversation on Friday before his death, we made plans for Dennis to be trained as a church consultant in order to serve congregations in the Texas District that needed help.

Dennis Schiefelbein was a multi-talented man of God with deep spiritual convictions, who loved his Savior and was willing to do anything that might help advance the kingdom of God.

The church has lost an outstanding leader.

Pray the Lord of the harvest to send us a replacement for Dennis Schiefelbein. And would it be too presumptuous to ask for a carbon copy?



SIDS-imperiled baby OK

by Rev. Michael Ramming
Pastor, Grace Lutheran
Killeen, Texas

A big Texas "thank you" to the many who responded to the call for help in the September issue of the *Texas Messenger* and in President Pabor's newsletter, *Pastor to Pastor*, on behalf of the infant at Grace, Killeen, at high risk for SIDS (Sudden Infant Death Syndrome) and in critical need of a monitor.

Rick Schiffner, project coordinator for the Grace Board of Lay Ministry, reports that "the baby and his family are fine. The little guy was finally provided a vital signs monitor through Medicaid, and he's home, doing well. The research we did, however, and the information phoned into us will be a big help in future needs."

As soon as the baby's plight was publicized, phone

calls began coming in offering equipment at reduced price, valuable referral suggestions to local support and assistance organizations, offers of financial donations and prayer support. Each call was deeply appreciated.

Our LCMS family has a special resource to assist families with children at risk for SIDS. Dr. Richard Hardoin, a member of St. Mark, Lake Jackson, Texas, is on the staff of the Southwest SIDS Research Institute in Lake Jackson.

This institute offers diagnosis, referral and support services; has a monitor loaner program; and can be contacted during business hours at 1-800-245-SIDS.

Additional information gathered in response to this crisis has been saved and is available on request from Grace, Killeen, or the Texas District office in Austin.

Rev. Dennis Schiefelbein

Rev. Dennis Schiefelbein died suddenly Oct. 14 at his home in Corpus Christi where he had been pastor of Iglesia Luterana de Nuestro Salvador since March 1981.

He graduated from Concordia Seminary in St. Louis in 1980, and vicared in a Cuban ministry in Hialeah, Fla. His rapidly growing Corpus Christi ministry had been one of the Missouri Synod's most effective among Hispanics.

He was active in community affairs and was involved heavily in Texas District programs.

He is survived by his wife, Anita, and three children: Matthew Paul, 3, and twins Benjamin Joshua and Tabitha Ann born Aug. 30 this year.

Services were held Oct. 18 at Nuestro Salvador.

Memorial gifts may be sent to Project Gabriel at Nuestro Salvador in Pastor Schiefelbein's memory.



LIFELINE is a precious gift for the frail or disabled

Security and independence are something we often take for granted. For the frail, disabled or those living alone, independence is priceless. The Emergency Response LIFELINE program addresses these concerns.

The program allows a client to summon help with the press of a button. After a base station in the Austin Groups for the Elderly building receives a call for help, trained personnel summon assistance. LIFELINE works through a standard private telephone line.

The statewide Emergency Response Service monitors 1,400 clients.

Jim Peters and Pat Hinton are coordinators for the Austin area. Peters has been

with the LIFELINE program for more than a year and travels 3,000 miles a month, often on dirt roads, installing and troubleshooting monitors for his 370 clients.

There also are coordinators in Midland, Lubbock, Dallas, San Antonio and Corpus Christi. In addition, many communities have a volunteer coordinator who provides these services.

"What makes my work so rewarding is getting to spend a little time listening to the problems, joys and interesting tales of these wonderful

people. It 'makes my day' to get them to smile and forget their aches, pains or loneliness for a few moments. Sometimes I'm the only one they see for weeks on end," Peters said.

"Age is no indicator of who benefits from LIFELINE. The youngest client is 25, and the eldest is 103. Some are disabled and frail, and many simply live alone and want a bit of security," said Sigrid Gentile, LIFELINE's program director. "We also serve many of the clients from the Department of Human

Services through the Community Care for the Aged and Disabled program."

Hinton said there is no installation charge and no equipment to purchase. The monthly monitoring fee is from \$22 to \$30, depending on the LIFELINE model used.

The Emergency Response LIFELINE has been available in Texas for 10 years.

There are two needs: First, individuals and groups to sponsor clients through the purchase of the LIFELINE unit, and second, individuals and groups to serve as volunteer coordinators or installers of the LIFELINE program. If you or your organization are interested call Sigrid Gentile at 1-800-533-0485.

CARE

About One Another in Christ

Addition of deaconess expands Christian care dimensions at Trinity Home in Round Rock

Lorna Hill, a commissioned deaconess of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, will serve the Trinity Lutheran Home in Round Rock. Hill is a graduate of the Lutheran Deaconess Association, Valparaiso University in Valparaiso, Ind., and received Clinical Deaconess Education at Valparaiso.

She was consecrated a deaconess at Trinity Lutheran Church, Mountain Lake, Minn., in 1985, and served as deaconess at Redeemer Lutheran Church, Albuquerque, N.M., until accepting this position.

Hill is not the first deaconess to serve the home. In the 1970s, two deaconesses from the former American Lutheran Church served the home, and in the

1980s a deaconess from The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod served there.

Rev. Calvin Goerdel, vice president for Pastoral Ministries and Church Relations said, "She is an important addition to the quality care team at Trinity Lutheran Home and as a result of her deaconess training, will expand the dimensions of Christian care already provided in the home."

**MINISTRIES
AMONG US**



Lorna Hill

Arrival of these bluebirds creates much good

**by Bill Siegrist
Director of Development
Church Extension Fund**

"Have you seen any bluebirds lately?"

No, I'm not referring to bluebirds that are related to the robin family. The type of "bluebird" I refer to is a familiar term to those who have spent any time in the world of sales and marketing. The following brief example will illustrate the term.

After serving for several years as a director of Christian education in a congregation in Tennessee, I went to work for a Christian corporation in Dallas. As a national training consultant, my income was a set salary, plus commission based on sales.

One morning a co-worker, Bryan Flanagan, asked, "How are sales for the month?" I mentioned that just the previous afternoon I had received a \$6,000 order from a corporation in North Carolina. Bryan then asked if I had been traveling in that area of the country recently, and had I done a presentation for them.

My response was that I had not been in the area and had never even heard of the company. Bryan said that when he was with IBM and someone received an order such as this one, they referred to it as a "bluebird".

At the district office, we recently received an investment of more than \$100,000 for the Church Extension Fund. Someone



Bill Siegrist



Church Extension Fund

asked me, "Did you have anything to do with this investment?" I responded, "No, not directly; it's a bluebird."

I love my work. It's exciting. There are so many enjoyable people to work with—and they even pay me to do it! From time to time along comes a "bluebird" that serves as a beautiful reminder: Our Lord is still in control, providing for His people. His promises still speak to us today: "I will send you rain in its season, and the ground will yield its crops and the trees of the field their fruit" (Lev. 26:4).

As 1990 comes to a close, please consider making an investment or possibly a reinvestment in the ministry of the Church Extension

Fund. Needless to say, all of our "bluebirds" are not \$100,000 investments. We remain thankful and give all glory to our Lord for the \$10 investment—for in His hands, they are all useful.

For more information please contact your CEF congregational representative, your pastor or the district office.

**Texas District
CHURCH EXTENSION
FUND**

**Bill Siegrist
7900 E. Highway 290
Austin, TX 78724
(512) 926-4272**

Yellow ribbons support Persian Gulf forces

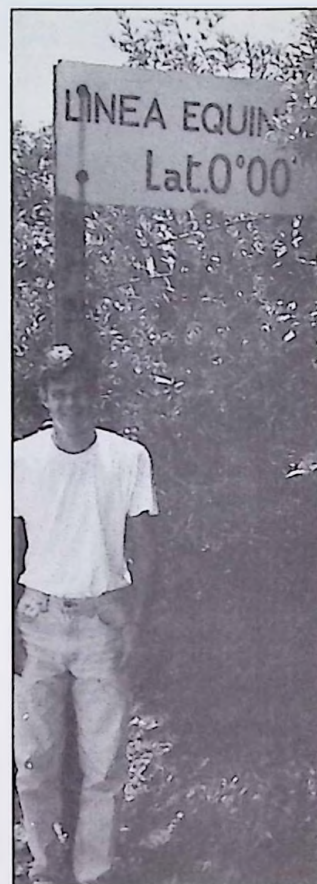
Rally Day took on new significance Sept. 9 at Peace Lutheran Church in Texas City.

In addition to promoting Sunday school and launching fall activities, members added the "rallying around" of families with loved ones in military service—particularly those serving in the Persian Gulf area.

Church members wore small yellow ribbons in support of their servicemen and women. Also, Pastor Walt Dube led the congregation in tying big yellow ribbons on the oak trees around the church.

Freeway flora

Our national flower is the concrete cloverleaf.



AT ZERO—Michael Davis, member of Zion Lutheran, Fort Worth, stands at zero degrees latitude (the equator) in Ecuador where he spent the summer studying Spanish at Pontificia Universidad Catolica del Ecuador. He is a senior at Southwestern University in Georgetown.

Brochure correction

There is an error on Page V in the 1991 brochure, "In the Same Spirit," produced by the Synod and the Texas District. The item should have read "A new Black ministry has been started in Houston as an extension of Mount Calvary Lutheran Church," rather than Calvary Lutheran Church.



**Supermarket
tapes benefit
residents**

"Apples for Students," a rapidly growing national "Partnerships for Education" program, will provide benefits for the Bethesda/Good Samaritan Campus.

The program will allow the home to "purchase" Apple computer systems, printers and software with cash register receipt tapes. Only tapes dated between Aug. 15, 1990, and March 15, 1991, are valid.

Good Samaritan plans to select software that will help residents in its day program learn coordination and communication skills, as well as software that will provide enjoyment during recreation periods.

Therefore, the campus staff is asking people who shop at Apple Tree Supermarkets to save their register tapes, ask their friends and relatives to do the same, then send them to Bethesda Lutheran Home, Good Samaritan Campus, P.O. Box 729, Cypress, TX 77429. When the tapes arrive, volunteers will total and batch them until there are enough to redeem for the desired items.

In a similar receipt program offered by Gerland's department stores, Good Samaritan Campus recently received a gift of \$887.24—that's 1 percent of the \$88,723.86 in receipts that friends collected. Supporters are asked to continue saving Gerland tapes also.



A SPECIAL PLACE - The "Chapel of the Loving Arms" on the Bethesda/Good Samaritan Campus is the scene of many special events, like the recent baptism of eight residents and the Dec. 14 Christmas presentation featuring all campus residents. The public is invited to all special events, and the campus is open for tours on weekdays. For more information, contact the Public Affairs office at (713) 351-4911.



CONTESTANTS - Residents wait patiently with staff for their turn to compete at the recent Game and Fun Day.

**Wheelchair organization
sponsors game/fun day**

A special Game and Fun Day was sponsored by the Southwest Wheelchair Association this fall at the Bethesda/Good Samaritan Campus.

Residents of all seven Good Samaritan group homes participated in the event which included three competitive games—obstacle course, lawn circle toss and long-distance bean bag toss.

Awards were given to first, second and third place winners. In addition, all residents received participation ribbons.

After the games ended, a pizza party was held.

The wheelchair association is a non-profit organization of volunteers who raise funds to sponsor events for handicapped persons.

**Eight residents
baptized
in joint ceremony**

Eight residents were baptized recently in a special ceremony at Bethesda/Good Samaritan's Chapel of the Loving Arms.

Chaplain Craig Whitson and Rev. Erwin Metz, former chaplain, officiated at the baptisms.

A year ago, when the facility opened two new group homes for children, three of the admissions were unbaptized. In the meantime, Metz also had been seeking permission to baptize five other residents.

The efforts culminated in a joint ceremony Sunday, Sept. 16, with parents, guardians, godparents and loved ones in attendance.

"You could just see the glow in the faces," Whitson remarked after the event. "They know this was a special day in their lives, and the joy in their hearts was apparent to everyone there."

**Colorful Christmas
program planned**

"God's Christmas Rainbow," the story of Christmas and salvation through colors, will be presented by Good Samaritan Campus residents at 7 p.m., Friday, Dec. 14.

Everyone is invited to this annual Christmas program in the campus chapel at 18937 K-Z Road, Cypress. Refreshments will be served.

The program is under the direction of the facility's new chaplain, Rev. Craig Whitson.

TEXAS SHEPHERDS



ST. ANDREW—Rev. Tom C. Hadley was installed as assistant pastor at St. Andrew Lutheran Church of Houston. Participating, from left, were Revs. John Freed, senior pastor of St. Mark, Houston; Harold Fleischhauer, circuit counselor and senior pastor of St. Andrew; Hadley; and Eugene Heckmann, first vice president of the Texas District and pastor of Gethsemane, Houston. Hadley had been serving vacancy pastoral positions in the Houston area.



LIVINGSTON—Rev. Victor L. Winkleman was installed Sept. 2 as pastor of Trinity Lutheran of Livingston. Participating were, back row, from left, Revs. Herbert Graf; Gebhard Dobberfuhl; Richard Kurth; Wayne Schardt; W.H. Wetstein, lector; William Sager; and Marion Parker. Front row, Revs. Eugene Heckmann, officiant; Winkleman; and Donald Bahr, preacher/vacancy pastor.

20 Texans at St. Louis sem

Twenty young men who belong to Texas District congregations are students this year at Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, preparing for the holy ministry.

They are: Larry Bowers, Faith, Laredo; Thomas Brouwer, Our Savior, Houston; Norman Roland Finke, St. Matthew, Houston; Warren Graff, St. Philip, Houston; James N. Greear IV, Trinity, Tyler.

Also, Volker Heide, Prince of Peace, Henderson; Daniel Heuer, Salem, Tomball; John Karle, St. Paul, McAllen;

Charles Kieschnick, St. John, Lincoln; Richard Lamb, Grace, Midland; Scott Lemmermann, Lamb of God, Lewisville.

Also, George Lowrey Jr., Peace, Hurst; Kirk Miller, Peace, Garland; Richard Schmidt, Zion, Dallas; Richard Elwin Sweney Jr., Trinity, Waco; Kenneth Watson, Grace, Brenham; Delton Ray Weiser, Peace, Garland; Todd Alan Wilken, Holy Cross, Dallas; Philip Charles Wottrich, Mount Olive, Austin; Thomas Snooks, St. Paul, Fort Worth.



FORT WORTH—Rev. Ronald A. Wagner was installed Sept. 9 as pastor of Christ Lutheran of Fort Worth. He formerly served parishes in North Dakota. Participating in the installation were, from left, front row, DCE John Abernathy, lector; Rev. Wagner; and Rudy Herbrich. Second row, Ben Rathgeber, circuit counselor and installer; David Joeckel, district vice president; Terry Beltz, liturgist. Back row, Harold Hein; Tom Bode; Francis Schroeder, preacher; and John Linder.



OZONA—Faith Lutheran of Ozona celebrated its 25th anniversary Aug. 12. Participating in the service of praise and thanksgiving were, from left, Revs. Tom Maggart, Brownwood; Matthew Jacobs, Eden; Gerald Boerger, San Angelo; Herbert Kluck, Eola-Ballinger; Arno Melz, Waterloo, Iowa, Faith's first pastor; and commissioned lay minister Charles Huffman, present pastor.



CELEBRATION—A Celebration of Ministry and Sending was held at Bethany Lutheran of Houston July 8 for Craig Boehlke, left, and Gary Griffin, sons of Bethany Congregation who are beginning their pastoral ministries. Craig is at Palmer, Kan., and Gary at Independence, Iowa.



Down in the dumps? Not them

Recycling efforts by the youth singles of Christ Lutheran of Fort Worth have been awesome.

As of Aug. 21, 37,835 pounds of recyclable materials have been processed. This is 18 tons of waste that has not been dumped into landfills.

The youth have realized \$1,844 which they have donated to the Tarrant County Food Bank.

Goals of the effort are (1) to feed the hungry; (2) provide a service to the community; (3) save God's earth.



MEMORIES—Louise Duncan, left, a member of Good Shepherd, Pasadena, is shown with her cousin, a deaconess, in Hemsbach, West Germany, where she was confirmed 50 years ago.

Very special anniversary

Louise (Mrs. Andy) Duncan, a member of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church of Pasadena, had the unique opportunity to celebrate the golden anniversary of her confirmation day at her home church, Jesus Christus Kirche, in Hemsbach, West Germany.

Twenty of the original class of 33 were present May 6 for the all-day festivities that began with a special worship service. Besides this class, there were others celebrating their 25th and 75th anniversaries.

Duncan visited with her cousin, a deaconess, who also was a member of the 50th anniversary class.

As mementos of the occasion, Duncan received a gold pin and a book.



QUILTERS—The women of St. Paul Lutheran of Bishop get some expert help in threading the string back through the quilt. Standing, from left, are Alice Michalk, Hattie Kleschnick, Margaret Moerbe, Drew Miers, Hattie Riese. On the floor are Kevin Haunschild, Lindey McNair, Heather Roecker and Kyle Huey.

'What's a quilt?'

by Ardith Vandercook
St. Paul Lutheran School,
Bishop, Texas

One day during hot lunch, one of my kindergartners observed the women of our church quilting and asked me what they were doing.

When I told him the women were making a quilt, he asked, "What's a quilt?" After taking the class back to watch the women quilt, "our" quilt began to take shape in my mind.

Each child chose a favorite Bible story to illustrate. After several practice drawings, they drew their picture on unbleached muslin using fabric crayons. These were then pieced together with red gingham to complete the top. The quilters returned to help put on the back and help each child through the corners on their square.

After the quilt was finished, the class delivered and donated it to the newly opened Ronald McDonald House in Corpus Christi. It hangs in the children's play room.

This project was especially satisfying to me as a teacher in a Christian school. The children shared a favorite Bible story. They gave something to a worthwhile place. And they definitely learned what a quilt was!

KINGWOOD—Rev. Allen Doering greets parishioners at the reception following his installation Aug. 5 as first resident pastor of Christ the King Lutheran Church of Kingwood, near Houston. The church began serving the Kingwood community in the spring of 1989. Doering comes to Christ the King from a seven-year pastorate in Colorado. He and his wife, Mary, have three children.

Message for all the world

"The Lutheran Hour" is now in its 61st year of broadcasting. The saving message of God's love as presented in this ministry is now heard around the world. God continues to open doors and give opportunities for us to proclaim His Word.

BERUTT, Lebanon—Iraq continues to be reached with the Gospel via the Middle East Lutheran Ministry headquartered here. Established in 1950, the ministry's eight staff members use radio, television, print, Bible correspondence courses, cassette ministry and a new Arabic translation of Luther's *Small Catechism* to share the love of Christ.

About 300 letters are received monthly from Iraq, Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Libya, Egypt, Cyprus, Jordan, Syria, Saudi Arabia and Lebanon—about 90 per cent from non-Christians.

Unfortunately, budget limitations recently required cancelling one Arab-language broadcast blanket-ing Iraq and other Middle Eastern nations. The powerful Transworld Radio station temporarily is airing the program free of charge to see if, in the next few months, funds become available before it goes off the air. Cost of the transmission is about \$26,000 a year.

Middle East staff members request the prayers of fellow Christians so the conflict soon ends and peace returns to the area.

NEW ZEALAND—Of the

4 million New Zealanders, only 6,000 are Lutheran. Yet, this tiny Lutheran church body of 42 congregations has become well-known far beyond what its size warrants—thanks to "The Lutheran Hour."

Rev. Rodney Beh, who heads the Lutheran Hour office, also is president of the New Zealand District of the Lutheran Church of Australia, and has reason to praise God. He points out new opportunities for sharing on the country's two main islands located 1,200 miles southeast of Australia.

For example, Hospital Radio in Palmerston North recently needed meditations to broadcast to its patients. The staff requested 15 programs from the New Zealand Lutheran Hour, which Beh provided from his office.

"The Lutheran Hour" also reaches behind prison doors. Inmates tune in the 15- and five-minute broadcasts or the 60-second spots, and often request Bible correspondence courses.

Chinese-speaking people in New Zealand who are interested will, on a regular basis, receive cassettes prepared for mainland China through the China Lutheran Hour office.

Beh informs us that congregational contacts have signed people as annual radio sponsors.

The Lutheran Hour ministry in New Zealand is in its 40th year. However, in the early years only one station accepted the program. Now, about nine stations throughout the two main islands carry various

broadcasts.

CARACAS, Venezuela—The Central University of Venezuela organized the Fifth Anniversary Festival of the Anti-Drug Help Line, with the participation of this city's Lutheran Hour office, popularly known as "Bringing Christ to the Nations."

At its booth in the exhibit center, the Lutheran Hour office distributed 2,500 copies of four booklets: "Drugs," "AIDS," "Suicide" and "Sexual Abuse," and made presentations of its new video cassette, "Drugs—Integral Prevention." The video, funded with the assistance of the Wheat Ridge Foundation, emphasizes the spiritual dimensions and drug prevention treatment, and helped attract 700 visitors to the Lutheran exhibit.

Dr. Jaime Paredes, Lutheran Hour office director, says, "Many government authorities and other people came to our stand to offer congratulations and thanks for the programs and literature. They said the messages got to them in their everyday conflicts as refreshing Gospel and made them reflect on their relationship with God."

CUBA—Three representatives from the newly reorganized Lutheran Church of Cuba visited Int'l LLL headquarters recently. They hope to become Lutheran pastors soon. The three were guests of Rev. Robert Gonzalez, the Synod's counselor for Hispanic ministry. They

were welcomed by Ken Peterson and Rev. David Elseroad of the LLL staff.

They reported on conditions in their homeland where eight Lutheran congregations with 1,000 members once existed. About 100 Lutherans presently are scattered throughout Cuba. The largest contingent lives on the Isle of Youth, where Lutheran ministry began in 1911. The Isle once was home to three thriving congregations and two schools.

In the 1940s and 1950s, listeners to the Spanish Lutheran Hour helped form the nucleus of groups on Cuba's mainland. When missionaries and nationals left Havana and the Isle of Youth in the 1960s during the advent of Communism, the eight congregations became inoperative.

The three delegates—Ramon Ebanks, Ramon Gonzalez and Samuel Ruiz—also viewed a Spanish "This Is The Life" film at the LLL office and they said this was the type of material they need to show in homes and churches in Cuba, preferably in videocassette form. They requested fellow Lutheran laymen to supply, if possible, at least two videocassette players for ministry to Cuba.

They were very grateful and asked for our continued support and prayers.

TEXAS—To be a part of this ministry you are only a phone call away from Orville Helberg, development chairman, 1-915-692-5625; or write him at 1842 Edgemont Drive, Abilene, TX 79602.



Did I hear someone say 'Come'?

Here it is! That busy season when we seem to have so much to do! Shopping for that special gift that has to be just right! What will it be this year? Oh, me! How will I get everything done? Worry, fret, write lists upon lists that must (?) be accomplished by such and such a date! And these words came to mind:

Don't forget the teachers' gifts

And those for John and Kate,

And did those Christmas cards get mailed,

Or will they arrive too late?

The mail is not what it used to be;

Or did I somehow miss the date?

Did I hear Someone say "Come"?

Away I go, hurrying as I run,

So why does all this holiday flair

Seem not to be so much fun?

Oh yes, I must show how I care.

Now where to look for "important" gifts

Not get them? I would not dare!

Did I hear Someone say "Come"?

When all along the truth is found,

In a Book with His message profound!

Why don't I look inside and find

What I need for my troubled mind?

But, before I start with those earthly chores,

Something else is needed much more.

Did I hear Someone say "Come"?

Someone still calls with His special love

Unmeasured, yes, that is for sure!

So, come into my heart, Lord Jesus, come,

Fill my life with Your gifts for Your use;

So others may see when I'm rushing about

Your love and light shining out,

And hear You say to them, "Please come"!

May the blessings of our glorious Lord and Savior be showered on each of you as you prepare for His coming and share what He means to you with everyone you meet so they, too, will rejoice!

*Doris McKay
District President*



International LWML 50th anniversary thankoffering

Celebrate the Jubilee! Glorify His Name! Begin with thanksgiving! Launch LWML's future with a jubilee thankoffering. Declare in deed, "Thank you, Lord, for a glorious past. We look forward to all that You would have us be and do in our future."

* Members and friends of LWML make thankofferings by spring rally time in 1991.

* Thankofferings may be sent to your zone treasurer or to International LWML, 3558 S. Jefferson Ave., St. Louis, MO 63118-3910.

* Pray for a response that truly glorifies His name!

The project to receive these funds will be voted on at the 1991 convention, June 27-30, 1991, in Cleveland, Ohio.

Your zone president has information on the international thankoffering, or write Marcella Gaus, 50th Anniversary Coordinator, Box 123, Hamshire, TX 77622.

Brochures and offering envelopes are available free from the International LWML office in St. Louis.

A mile of pennies

Have you started your journey with the Lord? Each society's goal for this biennium should be a mile of pennies, or 5.4 cents a day for each member. This is not an extra offering, but a way of charting our mite offerings toward our goal of \$250,000 for 1990-92.

Keep a list of the mission projects near your mite box so each time you drop in a nickel or dime, you can say a prayer for one of the projects. Lots of coins will be collected, lots of prayers will be said, and mile by mile our goal will come closer. Together, we can accomplish much in His name.



"Heartwarmers" is a ministry to people in nursing homes, at senior gatherings, homebound people and others in long-term care facilities. This musical ministry enables anyone to visit and present Christ-centered programs of joy, community singing and comfort to these often-neglected people.

Four video tapes, "Down Memory Lane," "Easter Cheer," "Shine on Harvest Moon" and "Land of the Free," are available on loan from your mission service chairman, Helen Mitschke, 10718 Timbergrove, Corpus Christi, TX 78410. The cost is \$5 to cover postage and insurance.



We thank and praise our gracious God that our mites are already being used for His kingdom. As you can see by the mite report on this page, three of our mission projects have received partial funding: scholarships for seminary students, deaf outreach and funds for the parish hall roof in Houston.

Four seminary students will receive help in the form of scholarships this biennium: Henry Wied from Salem, Tomball, who is attending Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne; Ron Burkhard from Redeemer, Austin, attending Concordia Lutheran Theological Seminary at St. Catharines, Ontario; Delton Weiser from Peace, Garland, and James Greear IV from Trinity, Tyler, attending Concordia Seminary in St. Louis. May God be with these young men as they prepare for the pastoral ministry.

Three slide presentations on the Texas District Mission Projects for 1990-92 are available for use by societies and zones. These are ideal for programs at rallies and society meetings. Request them from Mission Projects Chairman Carol Young, 1600 Johnny Miller Trail, Austin 78746.

Bits & Pieces

• Two societies have joined the Texas District since we met in convention in Austin last June. They are LWML societies of Our Savior, McKinney, and Lord of Life, Dallas, both members of the Dal-North Zone. We thank God for these newest sisters in mission.

• Are you planning a special rally, retreat or meeting? Why not display the 50th celebration banner? What a great way to celebrate LWML's 50th birthday! This banner is available on loan from Shannon Baron, 1609 Springdale, Longview 75604.

• Remember "MOM"—Mites Once Monthly. International asks that mites be sent once each month. This is easier when societies send mites to the district treasurer monthly.

Reminders from Member Development

• It is important for all zones to appoint a member development chairman to assist societies in a program of member development, as well as help the district member development chairman pass along information as needed. These chairmen should work as membership personnel—helping the zone presidents encourage women's groups to join the LWML and maintain those who are currently members.

Texas Mites Projects Update

1990-91 Goal	\$250,000
Received Oct.	11,411
Rec'd to date	40,866
Still Needed	209,134

Project	Paid	Balance
Seminary Student Scholarships	\$6,000	\$18,000
Bethesda/Good Samaritan		
Respite Center	-0-	10,000
Deaf Outreach: Camp/Compute	800	4,000
Panhandle Children's Services	-0-	10,000
Heartwarmers	-0-	12,000
Roof for Church/Parish Hall, San Pedro, Houston	2,720	2,720
Salaries for National Bible Translators		
/literacy workers, Sierra Leone	-0-	5,000
Valley Hispanic Ministries	-0-	15,000
First Unit Construction/Beautiful Savior, Arlington	-0-	15,000
Transportation for Outreach	-0-	13,760
Mission Projects Goal		\$115,000
Paid to date		9,520
Sent to International LWML		1,530
To International to date		6,033

Send ALL contributions to Eudoris Weiser, Route 1, Box 46, Copperas Cove, 76522. MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO TEXAS DISTRICT LWML.

• *Lutheran Woman's Quarterly* rates increased with the fall issue. The yearly subscription rate is \$1.60 for 10 or more to one address and \$2.50 for single copies. Within reason, orders may be increased or decreased through the year. However, orders must be in increments of five. Donations toward *Quarterly* subscriptions are encouraged. Send to Eudoris Weiser, Financial Secretary, Route 1, Box 46, Copperas Cove 76522.

Please do not contact the LWML office concerning any matter with *Quarterly* subscriptions! Your district member development chairman is your contact—

Dot Moerbe, Rt. 1, Box 139, LaGrange 78945.

• Annual membership report forms will be sent to each zone in mid-December.

• Names, addresses and phone numbers of all newly elected zone officers, society presidents and Christian growth chairmen should be sent to the member development chairman as soon as possible.

LWML news

LWML news should be sent to Shirley Baumgartner, LWML District Editor, 5018 Risada, San Antonio, TX 78233.