



Gift of \$10,000 represents gratitude for God's grace, prayers of friends

Just before the late service on a Sunday last September, a member of Trinity, Corpus Christi, walked up to Pastor Clifford G. Larson and handed him a folded check.

"I want you to have this, Pastor. Please open it," the man said. "This is my way of saying 'thank you' to the Lord for bringing me safely through two heart attacks and a stroke this summer and for the hundreds of prayers by members of Trinity and your ministry to me in the hospital."

The check—for \$10,000—was a gift to Trinity from Ken and Marie Whitlock.

Whitlock joined Trinity three years ago. He and Marie were both widowers when they married 11 years ago. Both are regular and active members of Trinity.

Send Your News to Bill

Send your news releases, photos and parish newsletters for the Texas supplement in the LUTHERAN WITNESS to:

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



Kenneth and Marie Whitlock

Lutheran youth take honors at state fair

Five young members of Holy Cross Lutheran of Nederland received honors at the Southeast Texas State Fair in the Overall Show Junior Market.

- Carrie Hollomon received third place with her steer, won the Showmanship Award with her lamb and placed seventh overall in the show.

- Catherine Hughes received 14th place in the show with her steer. Mike Hughes placed fifth with his steer and took ninth place honors with his pig.

- This was Casey Hollomon's first year to show his lamb and pig. He did a great job.

- Amanda McLaughlin participated in the show and placed 20th with her lamb. She also showed her pig.

What time is it?

Now is the time for every good man to write a will.

Alive in Christ surpasses major gifts goal in Synod and District

The major gifts phase of Alive in Christ, Missouri Synod's major financial appeal, has surpassed its goals throughout the Synod and the Texas District.

Late in 1985 a total of 298 major gifts had been given throughout the Missouri Synod for a total of \$14,209,500. The original synodical major gifts goal was \$12 million.

In the Texas District, 26 major gifts had been received for a total of \$1,374,000, surpassing the original district goal of \$1 million.

- A major gift is an amount of \$25,000 or more given over a five-year period. Gifts have ranged from \$25,000 to \$2 million. The major gifts phase officially concluded at the end of November, but major gifts may still be given.

The total minimum goal for Alive in Christ is \$60 million—with a hoped-for goal of \$100 million.

- Soon, congregational leaders will be hearing more about the congregational phase, which will be conducted most intensively during the 1986 Lenten season.

The support and generous contributions of many people throughout the Missouri Synod and in the Texas District are vitally important for the success of Alive in Christ.



Thanks from Rev. Kieschnick

Pastor Gerald Kieschnick of Faith, Georgetown, who was major gifts coordinator of Alive in Christ for the Texas District, made this statement:

"The success of any effort in the church, including fund raising, is directly dependent upon God's will that it succeed, the willing contributions of time and energy by volunteer workers and the joyful response of many people whose hearts are moved to generous giving as an expression of thanks to the God from whom all blessings flow.

"To all who have contributed to the initial success of Alive in Christ, a great big **THANK YOU.**

"But, most of all, our thanks to our heavenly Father to whom alone belongs the glory!"

A thought

From "Immanuel Tidings," the newsletter of Immanuel Lutheran, Houston:

When God speaks, E.F. Hutton listens.

Lutheran aid to build housing for quake victims

When the Mexican earthquake hit in September, most of the congregations of the Texas District took a door offering for disaster relief for Mexico City. Some congregations took more than one offering. Some contributed the offerings of Bible classes. In some instances, ladies groups became involved in collecting gifts for this disaster relief program.

• The result to date—and dollars are still coming in—is more than \$60,000 for disaster relief in Mexico City. This is the largest door offering in the history of the Texas District.

Twenty thousand dollars was sent promptly to our synodical office for immediate relief in Mexico. The need for immediate funds is now past, but the pain and suffering of the people continues. Those who had so little have even less. Tent cities are a reality, poor sanitation is the norm—those with little reason for hope are sinking into despair.

We cannot help all the people made homeless by the earthquakes in Mexico City, but we can come to the assistance of some. The Texas District Board of Directors has made a decision concerning the distribution of the balance of the disaster relief funds.

We have a contact in Mexico City—Rev. Robert Huebner. Huebner is a Missouri Synod pastor who is working for the synodical



Glenn O'Shoney

Board for Mission Services. He is busy helping families build inexpensive, suitable housing to replace the housing that was lost.

• The plan calls for each family to be involved in the erection of their own home. This work would be supervised by a team of professionals volunteering their services.

We are considering one project for eight homes—much like a small apartment complex. Another project is for 23 families. Each unit will cost just \$1,400.

The basic home will have one room, bath and kitchen. In every case there will be the option of adding a second floor when the owner is ready and has the means. Each home will be smaller than a single car garage!

Those working in Mexico City are happy with this plan because it requires self help; it develops sharing with others until all homes are built; it is a community venture and it is economically reasonable.

• The balance of funds we have now will help build more than 40 housing units.

By our standards—and we are the most blessed people in all the world—these housing units will be meager at best. For many, your offerings will provide the finest house that a family has ever been privileged to own.

"Inasmuch as you have done it to one of the least of these My brothers you have done it to Me." I

would like to thank you for your generosity, your concern, your commitment. We are blessed—a blessing to many.

We will, by the way, gladly receive additional dollars toward these housing units. Mark your gift for disaster relief in Mexico.

ALIVE IN CHRIST

The Alive in Christ special appeal is now moving toward the congregational phase. More than \$14 million has been received in major gifts. Texas ranks first in number of major gifts received and is second among all districts in terms of the total value of those gifts.

I hope that every congregation in Texas will participate in the Alive in Christ appeal. Yes, work is involved . . . but not an impossible amount of work. The more work a congregation puts in, the greater we can expect the return to be.

Part of our problem is expressed in the Scriptures

. . . we don't have because we don't ask (James 4:2).

The offering will be used to totally pay off the operating debt of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, to assist our schools in training men and women for ministry and to open new missions in North America—especially new missions in ethnic settings.

Some of the money will go toward increasing communications skills in our Synod and to helping our retired workers who are living on substandard incomes. Some dollars will go to assist our work in foreign fields.

The Forward In Remembrance offering brought in \$74 million—we were surprised! But we shouldn't have been surprised . . . God has blessed us to that degree and far more. It's possible we will raise \$100 million this time—but even that will come from less than 20 percent of us who call ourselves members of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. We are incredibly blessed!

Alive in Christ will make a difference in our church. I ask your support . . . I ask that you encourage the leadership of your congregation to participate in this offering.

Scripture says, *"But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light."*

Glenn O'Shoney

Glenn O'Shoney
President, Texas District



VISIT HOME—Pictured are, from left, Micha Graumann, Kathy Graumann, Pastor Wayne Graumann holding Greta, Debbie Wied, Pastor Douglas Dommer and Delo Dommer. Each member of this Tomball group is wearing a native costume brought home by Debbie Wied, who is home on furlough.

Bible translator home on leave from Liberia

Debbie Wied and her daughter, Misty, returned to the United States this fall for a short medical furlough from their missionary station in Monrovia, Liberia.

While visiting in the Tomball area, Debbie presented the story of the Lutheran Bible Translators and their work in several of the area congregations.

The Wieds, members of Salem Lutheran of Tomball, are support workers in the Monrovia area. Debbie maintains lodging for the translators and workers when they take short leaves from their duties.

Henry, Debbie's husband, maintains the equipment and builds facilities where the missionaries work.

Debbie brought with her a number of native items, including native dress for pastors, families and friends.



NEWLY INSTALLED—Rev. Rufus L. Young (front, center) was installed Nov. 11 as pastor of Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Perrytown. Pastors from Texas, Kansas and Oklahoma participated in the service. They included Reverends John Chandler (TX); Richard Bode (KS); Charles Paulson, (TX); Frederick Kuegele, (TX); Paul Uhles, (TX); Reinhold Dierks (OK); David Symm (TX); Robert Kuhlmann, (TX); Rufus Young (TX); and William Wagner (KS).

Somewhere down life's road, significant events await you

Does it ever seem like bills come due more regularly and more quickly than paychecks and income?

Does it ever seem that if you had just a little more, to reach a little farther, life would be less complicated?

As life goes on, down the road someplace there will be continued responsibilities, possible retirement, perhaps travel years and, at the end of the road, the gate to heaven and eternal life.

Now what would you like to be able to accomplish with what you have?

Would you like to be sure (check those that apply to you) . . .

- () that you can retire at the appropriate time?
- () that you and your spouse will have the most you can as long as you both live?
- () that your spouse will be provided for after you die?
- () that you will have in place a plan for your savings and other property, and still have control over it?

• () that you have a program that would protect a surviving spouse, one that would provide for his or her needs?

• () that you will have a place to live, even if you should no longer want to be responsible for the care of a home?

• () that you will have a program that would provide for the management of your assets in case of disability?

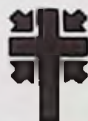
• () that you would have a plan that would also make possible continuing support of the Lord's work, at possibly no cost to surviving loved ones?

• () that as long as you live you will have complete control over all that the Lord has shared with you?

If you checked any of the above it will definitely be worth your while to write or call . . .

The Lutheran Foundation of Texas

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Austin, Tex. 78724
512-926-4272



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

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'Texans in Mission' provides awareness of missions in district

by Fred Boden
Mission Director

It is not infrequent that someone will ask me whether the district mission office has any written information about the missions in Texas.

Due in part to such inquiries and also to our concern for raising the mission consciousness of the congregations of the district, the Mission Board, in cooperation with the Board for Parish Services, developed a mission projects catalog titled **Partners in Mission**. The book was distributed in the fall of 1984 to all congregations, day school principals and ladies societies throughout the Lone Star State.

Recently an updating of the catalog was mailed to the same addresses. However, the update included a new, permanent name for the book, **Texans in Mission**.

The catalog includes special mission education resources for congregations, day schools and LWML groups, such as Bible studies, devotions and a variety of ideas for schools to use to teach an awareness of what is happening in missions in Texas.

• Each of the 85 mission ministries is highlighted with a picture and brief explanation of the ministry. In the back portion of the catalog is a listing of each ministry with three extra-budgetary projects listed—one in the \$500 price category, a second at \$250 and

the last at \$100. Each project represents a special need for that congregation.

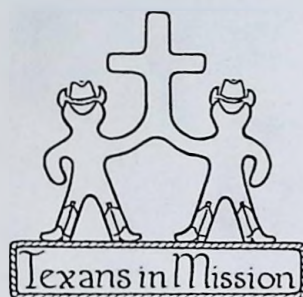
Congregations, Sunday schools, day schools, vacation Bible schools, Bible classes, youth groups, ladies societies, men's clubs or other church groups may wish to "adopt" one of the Texas missions and provide funding for one of their projects.

• An application blank and instructions are included in each catalog. Funds are received by the Board of Mission Administration office which coordinates the program. The funds are immediately disbursed to the "adopted" mission.

Pastors are encouraged to include a short prayer for a different mission each Sunday in the general prayers, mention that mission briefly in the Sunday bulletin, reproduce a page from the catalog to include with the monthly newsletters, and refer to a specific mission from time to time in sermons and Bible classes.

LWML groups may wish to use the catalog as a topic for a monthly meeting, special projects, prayer chain thoughts and Christian Growth emphases.

Day schools can adopt a project from chapel offerings, study the location of missions in conjunction with Texas geography units, write to a Texas mission, invite local Texas missionaries to speak to them or visit a local mission. The use of this mission educa-



tion resource is as varied as the imagination will allow.

• As mission consciousness is heightened, it is hoped that the members of our Texas District congregations will be inspired and motivated to greater mission giving so that the district can continue to take advantage of the many new opportunities for new mission development throughout our mission-minded Texas District.

• As a Texan in mission, may we encourage you to make full use of **Texans in Mission** as another means of supporting the work of the Lord's kingdom.

Hundreds gain insight from LSST sponsored conferences.

More than 100 Lutheran and nonLutheran professionals attended the "Loss and Beginning Again" conference Nov. 12-14 in Austin.

Dr. William Hulme, Luther Northwestern Seminary, St. Paul, Minn., was the featured speaker.

Thirty-five states were represented at the Adult Protective Services conference, "Working with victims of abuse and neglect," Nov. 17-20 in San Antonio. More than 700 attended the

conference jointly sponsored by LSST and the Texas Department of Human Services.

DISTRICT CALENDAR

February

- 3-6—National Hispanic Conference, El Paso
- 3-4—Coordinating Committee, Planning Council, St. Louis
- 3-5—Circuit Counselors Conference, Camp Lone Star
- 4—Social Ministry Committee
- 4-5—Learning Plan Workshop Event, district office
- 7-9—Social Ministry and Youth Workshop
- 10—Adult Ministry Committee
- 11-12—NAME Church Planting Conference, Dallas
- 17-20—Council of Presidents, St. Louis
- 18—Circuit 21, Trinity, Austin
- 21-22—Lutheran Outdoors Ministry of Texas summer staff
- 21-22—Lutheran Foundation of Texas
- 23—Recruitment Committee, Concordia, Austin
- 24-25—Staff retreat, Camp Lone Star
- 28-March 1, Early Childhood Education conference, St. Paul, Austin

March

- 1-2—ALDE, Dallas
- 10-11—LWML executive meeting, Texoma
- 13-14—CCPC, St. Louis
- 16-21—National Lutheran Outdoors Ministry Association, Orlando, Fla.
- 16-20—NAME
- 17—Board for Parish Services
- 18—Circuit 21, Hope, Austin



Notable events involve many of your fellow Lutherans

Special congratulations to **Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Hohle** of Hope Lutheran in Austin, who celebrated their 52nd wedding anniversary on Nov. 26.

Rev. Ed Schneider, pastor of St. Paul Lutheran in San Antonio, received the Legion of Merit Award on Nov. 29 at Lackland Air Force Base.

Recognizing his talent and contribution to the game of golf, the Texas Golf Hall of Fame inducted **Art Hodde** as a member on Oct. 30. He belongs to Trinity Lutheran in Houston and is a golf pro at Riverbend Country Club.

Two students from Concordia Seminary at Fort Wayne received fall placement positions in Houston congregations. **David Grassley** is associate pastor at Memorial Lutheran and **John Thompson** is vicaring at Christ Lutheran.

Congratulations to **Fredrick Thiele** of Redeemer, Baytown who has been elected to the Board of Directors of Valparaiso University Alumni for a three year term beginning January 1986.

The congregation of **Grace, Rockdale**, holds an "Adopt-A-Student Sunday" each November when special gifts are brought for the congregation's seminary student. The money received is sent in December as a Christmas present.



ANNIVERSARY—Mr. and Mrs. Norbert Andres of Zion, Dallas celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Oct. 6. Members of Zion for 45 years, Norbert has held several church offices and Aline taught kindergarten for 11 years at the church.

Grace's student this year is **Rob Mueller**.

Applause for **Ruth Bass** of First Lutheran in Lufkin who was honored by the Deep East Texas Regional Mental Health/Mental Retardation Services for her 100 hours of volunteer work.

And congratulations to **Gene Proft** of Holy Cross, Nederland, who won second place in the Family Living Division of the Texas Rice Festival Photo Contest. Gene says it's hard to take a bad picture when you're photographing grandchildren.

Trinity Congregation in Houston says it is honored to have two of the **Educators of the Year** serving at Trinity Messiah School. **Liz and Ed Gallmeier** received this honor at the Educators Conference in Dallas. The Gallmeiers are in their 24th year at Trinity Congregation.

In a special service of

Happenings in Texas

dedication to the glory of God, the congregation of **Faith Lutheran of Georgetown** dedicated its new church building on Nov. 17.

In a fall placement by Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, **Louis Redmann** has become an assistant at Shepherd of the Hills in San Antonio.

Congratulations to two couples of **Messiah, Houston** on November wedding anniversaries. Mr. and Mrs. Fred Stopple celebrated their 50th, and Mr. and Mrs. William Schelsteder observed their 57th.

And members of Grace Congregation of Seguin, **Mr. and Mrs. Julius Rennspies**, marked their 60th wedding anniversary in November.

Members of **Hope, Austin**, are rejoicing over the addition of a rank of 49 pipes to their organ. The rank offers a sound similar to a cornet or trumpet.

Messiah, Houston, was 62 years old on Dec. 8 and marked the occasion thanking God for the many blessings He has given this church family over the years.

The founding pastor of **Hope, Dallas**, **Rev. Vernon Appel**, was speaker on Nov. 10 as the congregation observed its 35th anniversary.

Since its beginning in November 1951, **Concordia of San Antonio** has given 23 young people to the preaching and teaching

ministries of the church.

Congratulations to **Brandon Gallegos** of Bethlehem Lutheran of Houston, who received a public service award from Houston Police Chief Lee Brown. Brandon saved his uncle and cousin from drowning last June.

Herb and Helen Jordan of St. Mark, Houston, recently celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary. Congratulations!

It was a joyous day on Nov. 17 when **Trinity Lutheran of Spring** set a new Sunday school attendance record. There were 509 in Sunday school that day. **Joe Smith** is superintendent.

Congratulations to **Rev. and Mrs. Walter Streicher**, who were honored with an open house in recognition of their 50th wedding anniversary on Sept. 29 at Mt. Calvary in La Grange. The Streichers served in mission fields in Brazil and also parishes in Ohio, Iowa and Texas. La Grange is their retirement home where Rev. Streicher is on modified service with Mt. Calvary.

Church Extension Fund

Your savings in Lutheran Church Extension Fund help to undergird the mission and ministry of the church. While you are earning interest, LCEF is able to make loans to help congregations build or expand their churches and schools.

SPOTLIGHT

Andes Mountain adventure greets Tomball teenager

Most of us only dream of visiting far off lands in search of adventure. For Elizabeth Johnson that dream is now a reality. **DESTINATION: CHILE—THE ANDES MOUNTAINS.**

For three months, beginning Dec. 28, Elizabeth has been a Venturer with Operation Raleigh, named after Sir Walter Raleigh—who did a bit of venturing himself.

Elizabeth, who is called Letty by her family and friends, was chosen to join the scientific expedition on the basis of character, stamina, potential and interest in science.

• Letty and her family are members of Zion Lutheran Church of Tomball. She is a freshman at Concordia College of Austin.

"My mom was watching 'Good Morning America,'" Letty said, "and saw Prince Charles of Great Britain being interviewed. He talked about Operation Raleigh."

Her mother, Jill Johnson, knowing Letty was interested in science, sent for an application to the highly selective expedition. After strenuous testing, Letty was accepted.

• Operation Raleigh is a four-year project, broken into three-month periods for each Venturer. It was organized by the Scientific Exploration Society, the Explorer's Club and local communities with the support of many universities and foundations throughout



Elizabeth Johnson

the world. The goal of the expedition is to have 4,000 young people from many nations participate in a variety of scientific projects.

Prince Charles conceived the operation and is its patron.

• Letty joined the expedition on Dec. 28, flying from Houston to Santiago, the capital of Chile, and then on to Valparaiso. She spent one week of instruction with 150 other Venturers on the nature and objectives of her specific expedition into the Andes Mountains.

Letty and her colleagues don't have the luxury of comfortable accommodations during their adventure. Holiday Inns, swimming pools and four-star restaurants are not to be found in this remote area of the world.

They are expected to find and sometimes build their own shelter, living among the native populations in selected areas or in completely isolated, uninhabited areas of the mountains. Project sponsors feel this will provide Venturers a deeper understanding of other back-

grounds and cultures.

Headed by scientists, explorers and youth leaders, the Venturers are engaged in botanical studies, archaeological digs, geographical surveys and ecological and conservation projects. Other tasks include building shelters, trails, water and drainage systems, as well as assisting in medical relief projects for remote villages wherever needed.

Upon her return on March 22 from this once-in-a-lifetime experience, Letty will be required to contribute 200 hours of community service in Texas. This will include presentations of her experience to students in churches, high schools and colleges across the state.

Redeemer, Beaumont, installs Rev. Budewig

It was a joyous occasion Sept. 22 when Rev. Glenn G. Budewig was installed as associate pastor at Redeemer, Beaumont.

Budewig primarily will

be concerned with education and youth. "However, the entire challenge of ministry rests on his shoulders as well as mine," said Rev. William Fehl, pastor of Redeemer.

Rev. Robert Budewig, brother of Glenn and campus pastor at the University of Houston, preached the sermon. Rev. Stanley Jones, circuit pastor and pastor of Holy Cross, Nederland, conducted the installation. A reception followed the service.

Budewig is a Pasadena, Tex. native and graduated from the St. Louis seminary in 1982. He served St. John Lutheran in Pryor, Okla. for three years.

His wife is the former Denetia Johnson of Stillwater, Okla.

Join the choir!

Men and women who sing stay younger looking. A singer's cheek muscles are so well developed by exercise that the face will not wrinkle nearly as soon as a non-singer's.



BEAUMONT—Participating in the installation service at Redeemer, Beaumont, for Rev. Glenn G. Budewig were, back row, from left, Revs. Paul Wang, Stanley Jones, Jimmy McCants, Stephen Hower, Bill Sanger. Front, from left, W.H.B. Fehl Jr., Robert Budewig, Doug Rathgeber, Norbert Roschke and Curtis Schneider.



SCHOOL BANNER—Judy Wolfe, a member of Our Savior in Austin, displays the banner she designed for the observance of the state's sesquicentennial and the Texas District's celebration of Lutheran Schools Month during February.

St. Andrew youth have fun, but serve, too

The young people of St. Andrew in Houston like to have fun, as all young people do. But they remember that part of having a good time can be serving others.

On Nov. 16, the youth group, God's Echoes, had a "Rake and Run and Weiner Roast." They surprised some St. Andrew members by cleaning their yards. Then they returned to church for a weiner roast.

On Nov. 24, the S.A.K.s, St. Andrew Kids, met at church in the afternoon and colored Thanksgiving pictures. They took the pictures to a local nursing home and gave them to the residents, many of whom have no family and few visitors.

Way to go, gang!

Youth training

According to Missouri Synod's constitution, the Lutheran school is the best agency the church has to train its young.

Special visitor sails by to visit Sunday school kids at Concordia, Bedford

A special visitor to Sunday school on Nov. 3 at Concordia Lutheran in Bedford was Noah. Well, he was dressed like Noah and looked like Noah.

The Sunday school teachers had prepared their students by reminding each child to bring a picture of their pet or a picture from a magazine.

Youngsters not having a



pet were encouraged to bring a picture of their favorite animal.

The Sunday school teachers do this the first Sunday of each month to stimulate interest in church or Bible personalities.

The previous visitor, on Reformation Sunday, was Martin Luther.

No, it didn't rain the Sunday Noah was there.

Our bright kids . . .

Karen Angerman of Trinity, Waco has been elected to the Student Government Association at Concordia Lutheran College of Austin as a junior class representative.

Congratulations to Shelli Rolfs of Grace, Midland on being chosen Midland High's Homecoming Queen.

For the second year Carol Ferrell, a member of Redeemer in Baytown, has been elected to Who's Who Among American High School Students. She was also named to the National Honor Roll.

The *Lufkin Daily News* ran a picture of Angie Berry of First Lutheran of Lufkin who, along with her high school government class, composed a constitution for a hypothetical colony in space.

Named outstanding senior student at Waltrip High School in Houston was Walter Stoerkel of Trinity Congregation.

Congratulations to Tirsha Breaux and Tracy Nelson, members of Redeemer, Beaumont, who were selected to play with the All-City Youth Orchestra. Tirsha plays violin, and Tracy plays viola.

Elected freshman senator of the Student Government at Texas A & M was John Arnold of Redeemer, Austin.

The LBJ High School band in Austin has 11 members who belong to Hope Lutheran Church.

Two young members of Bethel, Dallas, have been selected for student government positions at Concordia College, Austin. They are Amy Riske and Dana Bielefeldt.

In the spotlight in Houston is Casey Roberts, member of St. Andrew. She has appeared in a commercial with Houston Mayor Kathy Whitmire extolling the virtues of Houston.

GROWTH

The Lord added . . .

It was the blessed privilege of **Prince of Peace, Carrollton** to add 15 new members on Oct. 27.

Ten new members were received into fellowship at **St. Philip, Houston** in October.

Mt. Olive, Corpus Christi gives thanks to the Lord for the addition of nine new members during October.

In October **Our Savior, Rockwall** received 10 new members into their forever Christian family.

Faith, Gainesville added four adult members by transfer on Oct. 6.

For the third quarter of last year, God granted growth to **St. Paul, Wichita Falls**, that included nine new members by transfer, 12 by profession of faith and four by baptism.



St. Paul, Vernon held a double celebration on Oct. 22. They added these 43 new members and conducted a note burning ceremony at their annual church picnic to retire their \$250,000

building debt in only eight years. Former Pastor Roy Jacob and his family joined Rev. A. J. Loeschman and the congregation in thanking the Lord for the rich blessings.

Welcomed in November at **Our Savior, Granbury**, were nine new members.

In the first half of 1985, **Trinity Lutheran in Spring**, added 117 new members.

A blessing

One of the greatest blessings of being Lutheran is our heritage of music.



GEORGETOWN—These new members were received on Oct. 20 at Faith Lutheran, Georgetown. With them is Pastor Gerald Kieschnick.



NEW MEMBERS—Redeemer, Austin welcomes these new members received in October into their congregational family.



SOULS ADDED—In September these new members were added to the congregational family of Redeemer, Austin.



BOBBING ALONG—Jack Pinkard, 72, carefully spoons for apples during the North Austin Adult Day-Care Center Halloween party as 92-year-old Adele Wirtz looks on. The center is one of three adult day-care centers managed by Lutheran Social Services of Texas.

Coastal Bend Endowment tops goal

The Coastal Bend Endowment, initiated in 1979, reached its \$100,000 goal in mid-October.

The gift topping the \$100,000 mark was given by Calvin and Donna Lorfing, members of First Lutheran Church in Corpus Christi.

The idea for the endowment began during a meeting in the summer of 1979, said Janie Cravens-Garner, Coastal Bend regional director for Lutheran Social Services of Texas.

"Several Lutheran pastors and lay people were sitting around a table when

the idea developed to raise money earmarked for sustaining an area office," she said.

The Coastal Bend Regional office opened Jan. 1, 1980.

The purpose of the endowment was to act as insurance for an office to be set up and sustained and to start new programs with the interest resulting from the endowment.

"The endowment has allowed us to grow at an incredible rate," says Cravens-Garner. "Three years ago we added counseling. We were able to make a commitment to extend services to the Valley. And an adult day-care center is now in development."

Third adult day- care center opens

Brightly clad as a fearless pirate, 72-year-old Jack Pinkard tried his hand at 'spooning for apples' during the North Austin Adult Day-Care Halloween party last Oct. 31.

Pinkard has been a regular at the center, located at Covenant Presbyterian Church in Austin, since its opening Sept. 23 of last year. The center is managed by Lutheran Social Services of Texas (LSST).

"In addition to the staff, volunteers from Covenant and North Austin Lutheran churches including Faith, Redeemer and Triumphant Love help with activities and provide assistance to

clients with mobility problems," said Rev. Oren Schroeder, LSST's Central Texas regional director.

"We provide a structured, protective setting," he said, "enabling the elderly or disabled adult to remain in their own homes or with their family, thereby postponing nursing home care."

LSST started the first adult day-care center in Texas, the East Austin Adult Center, nine years ago. The South Austin center opened four years ago.

Together, the centers serve an average of 50 clients a day.

A sliding scale is used to determine client fees based on monthly income.

Lutheran Home auxiliary saluted as volunteer group of the year

The Texas Health Care Association (THCA) has named the auxiliary of Trinity Lutheran Home of Shiner as the volunteer group of the year, according to Priscilla Hammer, vice-president for long-term care for Lutheran Social Services of Texas.

Trinity Lutheran Home is owned and operated by LSST.

Representatives from the auxiliary were honored by THCA at its annual convention banquet Nov. 21 in Houston.

The home's activity director is Dianne Pfeil. When the auxiliary first met in 1966, there were 13

women present. Today, membership exceeds 100. Annually, the auxiliary gives more than 6,000 hours of service to the home.

"The original intent of the auxiliary," Pfeil said, "was to supplement and complement the services of the paid staff at the home. Through their services, they form an important link between the nursing home and the community which assures the residents that the 'outside world' has not forgotten them."

Regular activities for the group include reading to residents, conducting a craft class, hosting bingo games and monthly birthday parties.

Besides Trinity, LSST manages nursing homes in Round Rock, Lubbock and Midland.



Concordia's greatest asset—qualified and dedicated teachers. Pictured from left: (front) Prof. Harold Rutz, Dr. Varnes Stringer, Prof. Eric Gerstmann; (middle) Rev. Paul Puffe, Rev. Leonard

Stahlke, Dr. Bernard Gastler; (back) Prof. James Koerschen, Dr. John Jungemann, Prof. Theodore Zoch.

Following the classical tradition

The Concordia professors have a strong commitment to classical education in the Christian tradition. They are dedicated to providing the Concordia graduate with a comprehensive background to accompany career preparation in a major field.

The core curriculum includes classes in religion, English, social and behavioral sciences, fine arts, speech, mathematics, natural science and physical education. In addition, a student may select from a number of upper-level liberal arts electives for in-

depth study in an area of special interest.

The following professors teach required core curriculum classes or upper-level elective classes:

Dr. Bernard Gastler, music; M.Mus., Ph.D., University of Texas at Austin; further study at Lamar State University, University of Nebraska, University of Texas; teaching at Concordia since 1982.

Professor Eric Gerstmann, sociology; M.S.W., University of Denver; teaching at Concordia since 1981.

Dr. John Jungemann, psychology; Ph.D., Loyola University; teaching at Concordia since 1981.

Professor James Koerschen, music, Dean of Student Services; M.Mu.Ed., Wayne State University; further study at University of Texas; teaching at Concordia since 1974.

Rev. Paul Puffe, religion; M.Div., Concordia Seminary; M.A., University of Michigan; further study at University of Michigan; teaching at Concordia since 1984.

Professor Harold Rutz, music; M.Mus., Northwestern University; further study at University of Missouri, University of Texas; teaching at Concordia since 1964.

Rev. Leonard Stahlke, religion; M.Div., S.T.M., Concordia Seminary; further study at Concordia Seminary; teaching at Concordia since 1980.

Dr. Varnes Stringer, psychology, Registrar; M.A., Ph.D. University of Alabama; further study at University of Texas; teaching at Concordia since 1971.

Professor Theodore Zoch, physical science; M.Ed., Sam Houston State University; further study at Lamar State University, Texas A & I, Valparaiso University, University of Texas, Texas A & M; teaching at Concordia since 1968.

Editor's Note: The Feb-



ruary issue will complete the description of Concordia's greatest asset, with an introduction to the professors who teach classes within the majors.

Dollar for dollar . . . and more

How would you like it if you gave a \$10 gift and somebody else came along and said, "Just because you gave that \$10 gift, I too will give \$10?" Your gift would now be doubled, wouldn't it?

And that's what happens when employees of major corporations make gifts to Concordia Lutheran College in Austin.

Yes, that's right! These companies that double your gifts are called matching gift corporations.

Here is a list of some of the corporations that made matching gifts to Concordia last year because an employee made a gift directly to the college:

AAL
Atlantic Richfield
Amoco
CIGNA
Dow Chemical USA
Exxon
Chevron USA
IBM
Shell
Southwestern Bell
Texas Instruments
Texaco
Union Oil

Some companies will match an employee's gift 2 to 1. And some will even give three times what you give.

Here's an example: an Exxon employee gives \$100 to Concordia of Texas. A matching gift form is com-

pleted and Exxon sends Concordia a gift of \$300. This means a total of \$400 for the college.

If you work for a matching gift company, please consider your stewardship where your gifts may be doubled, tripled, or even quadrupled.

For a full listing of all 1,034 companies that make matching gifts, please write Fred Bleeker, Concordia Lutheran College, 3400 IH 35 N., Austin, Tex. 78705. Or you may want to ask your public relations or personnel director whether or not the company you work for is a matching gift company. If it is, they'll give you the information you need to have your gift matched.

Coming to CLC

Lutheran Grade School Day, Monday, Feb. 10, 12:45 p.m.—youth from Lutheran schools are invited to watch the Stags vs. Sul Ross University.

Stag Homecoming, Saturday, Feb. 22—a pregame supper and fellowship for alumni, the Stags vs. the Southwestern University Pirates (7:30 p.m.). All former CLC athletes are especially invited.

Senior Day, Saturday, Feb. 22—high school seniors and their parents are invited to learn more about the college and to join Concordians in Homecoming activities. Registration at 11 a.m.

Family Weekend, Friday, Saturday and Sunday,

Feb. 28 and March 1 and 2—spring musical, "110 in the Shade," on Friday and Saturday nights; alumni luncheon on Saturday, with the entering class of 1955 as special guests; worship service in the chapel on Sunday morning; Texas Independence Celebration in downtown Austin all weekend.

CLC sports

The women's volleyball team completed a successful season, with 24 wins and only 12 losses. The win over Division I Baylor University highlighted the season for the team, which was ranked in the NAIA Top 20 at one point.

Senior Lee Kennedy was a unanimous All-District choice and is a candidate for All-American honors.

The men's basketball team won the Capital City Classic for the second year in a row, beating St. Edward's in the championship game. Mike Childs and Gerry Johnson were All Tournament and Johnson was MVP.

Seven new congregations build first facilities

Seven new mission congregations built their first unit facilities during 1985. They are: Our Savior, Bay City; St. Paul, Plano; Epiphany, Jersey Village; St. John, Athens; Cross of Christ, DeSoto; Community, Coppell; and Faith, Georgetown.

Most of this growth came because Lutherans invested

in the Church Extension Fund which makes such building projects possible.

Book for the month

Sometimes the January "northers" force us to stay home and we can do some reading.

How about the book which was printed for Concordia College's 50th anniversary and which is now available in Concordia's 60th academic year? The book is called *Concordia of Texas—From the Beginning*. The cost is only \$1.

Fred A. Bleeker, vice-president for college advancement, says, "When you read this book, you get a handle on the struggle by the Lutherans of Texas to establish this higher educational institution."

And Fred Bleeker reminds us, "The support for a college cannot be something which comes by whimsy; one year or decade you want it and the next time you don't care. Support must be on-going and strong; otherwise, the educational programs falter and our students will be at a disadvantage."

"Also, there must be some whose vision and capability are there to see the Lutheran college as a place where the best of who we are is brought together and then transmitted to the next generation."

"Our beliefs, values and interests live on, through the grace of Christ."

For your copy, write Lois Bohot, Concordia Lutheran College, 3400 IH 35 N., Austin, Tex. 78705.

OUTDOORS

Summer camp is rapidly approaching

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

Plans are moving ahead at a feverish pace to prepare for a wide variety of summer camp programs and activities sponsored by Lutheran Outdoors Ministry of Texas. The treasured experiences and valued friendships will surely multiply in number as Christian people, young and old alike, gather in God's magnificent outdoors to celebrate their togetherness in Him.

How can such an experience be best described? The following statements have been gleaned from the Bethlehem, Palestine, newsletter and represent some of the special thoughts written by a teenager from Bethlehem who served as a junior staffer during the 1985 summer season.

"Dear Readers: During the week of Aug. 10-16 I went to Camp Lone Star as a junior staff counselor. What an exciting experience. I went only for one week and I guarantee you I will request two weeks next time.

"Every day we got up at 7 a.m. sharp! The junior staff had K.P. duty every morning, noon and night. We also had work projects, then we had time for other things such as swimming, a nap or just reading. Then we had lunch and it was



CAMP STAFF—These are some of the young people who served on the staffs of Lutheran camps. Left to right are Myra Schuster, Steve Lewer, David Thies and Amy Schuh. They make it look like fun, don't they?

back to the K.P. again.

"The afternoons were filled with Bible study and arts and crafts while others were swimming and playing Bible games. The counselors were really great. The kids shared all their feelings and thoughts with their counselors.

"At night we had supper at 5:45 sharp. Then about 8:30 we had roundup. That's when we got together, counselors and kids, and shared what we had learned in Bible study. The kids usually did skits and said Bible passages, which they had found that day as they were studying.

"After roundup we went to a special place to have evening devotions. We went to a place called 'Devotion Hill' and we had another place we called 'Lake Side Devotions.' It was very pretty. Together we learned about God's wonderful works. There were so many caring people there, that we loved each other as one in Christ.

"I thank God that I was able to go and have this

wonderful experience! I came back filled with so much joy and love for Christ, that I wanted to shout it to the world."

Marisa Marler

Beach camp for summer 1986

A special week long summer camp session will be held Aug. 3-9 at the North Padre Island Beach near Corpus Christi. The first annual LOMT "Beach Camp" is being planned for youth entering grades 10-12 and recent high school graduates. Pastors and adult sponsors are also encouraged to attend this event.

Beach camp, Texas style, is a unique experience. Sun bathing, beach volleyball, sandcastle building, surfing, beachcombing and deep sea fishing are among the activities which are featured in this program.

Campers will live right on the beach in tents with the ocean at their doors. This setting provides an

outstanding atmosphere for Christ-centered living and building a Christian community through group living, worship and Bible study.

Summer program begins again at Lutherland

Lutheran Outdoors Ministry of Texas will be programming one week of summer camp at Camp Lutherland near Kerrville. This beautiful 52 acre site is owned by the Alamo Zone of the Lutheran Laymen's League and is located along the Medina River in the Texas hill country, some 70 miles northwest of San Antonio.

The design of this one week session will be similar to the Alpha Camps (8- to 12-year-olds) at Camp Lone Star. Staff members from Texoma Lutheran Camp will serve as counselors during this event which is scheduled for Aug. 10-15.

Runaway children

According to the newsletter of Zion Lutheran, Dallas, there are 7,000 runaway children in Greater Dallas each year, most of whom run away because of physical, sexual, or emotional abuse.

Lutheran Hour

Lutherans in South Central Texas can hear the Lutheran Hour on KTAE in Taylor, KGID in Giddings, KLBJ in Austin and KKYX in San Antonio.



Super Sunday or sober Sunday

by Sara Kammrath

Due to media hype, most Americans knew that Jan. 19 was to be Super Bowl Sunday.

Perhaps lesser known is the fact that it's also Life Sunday.

Christians across America annually take time out to be a "voice for the voiceless" as we remember the infamous Supreme Court decision (Roe v. Wade) that legalized abortion on Jan. 22, 1973.

Hence, a more fitting title might be "Sober Sunday" as we repent for our nation and for our own inaction. Yet, it is most proper to call Jan. 19 "Super Sunday" as we also rejoice in the hope we have through the Lord of life.

What is your congregation doing—or what did it do—for Life Sunday and the rest of 1986 in "speak(ing) up for those who cannot speak for themselves" (Prov. 31:8)?

This past June, our Texas District Convention overwhelmingly resolved to give a strong pro-life witness. Being pro-life means sharing the love and forgiveness of Christ in a responsible and compassionate way with our neighbors.

It means not only saving unborn children but reaching out with real loving arms to the mothers and families in crisis pregnancies. It means works flowing from faith because of the Christ child who "made Himself nothing, taking the very nature of a ser-



LORDS SERVANT—Dorinda Rachelle Noack, a recent graduate of Concordia College-St. Paul, began her service to the Lord on Oct. 15 at Christ Memorial Lutheran Church in Houston as Director of Christian Education.

vant" (Phil. 2:7).

Isn't it ironic that on Jan. 20 our nation celebrates human rights in the first national observance of Martin Luther King's birthday, and yet, on Jan. 22, we remember the day in 1973 when 16 million of God's children in America lost their human rights?

Every congregation should have received a mailing from Texas Lutherans for Life (TeLL) in early December offering assistance for the celebration of "Life Sunday."

Anyone interested in pro-life information or in starting a local chapter of Lutherans for Life please contact TeLL at 109 Susan Carrol, San Antonio, Tex. 78216.

Chapel opportunity

Chapel services are held each class day at Austin's Concordia Lutheran College at 10 a.m. Visitors are welcome.

Teachers in prime position to be a missionary in lives of children, parents

by Keith Loomans
Director,
Board for Parish Services

In the church the word "missionary" brings to mind visions of a person sent to a far away place—a foreign country—to preach and teach the message of salvation in our Lord Jesus Christ.

Usually these missionaries were ordained pastors. At times men and women trained as Christian day school teachers were sent to foreign mission stations to teach children and adults about God. That process continues today.

At the same time there are missionary teachers at work, not in foreign fields, but right in community after community in which our congregations are located.

Missionary teachers are in Sunday schools, vacation Bible schools, weekday schools and our Christian day schools at the pre-school, elementary, secondary and even college levels. Some are synodically trained educators; most are not.

• Teachers of children in the various education agencies are in a prime position to be missionaries in the lives of children and their parents.

Surveys among converts to Christianity demonstrate time and time again the importance of relationships in the process of faith life development of a person.



Teachers who care about children also care about parents and other members of the family. Because of the teacher-pupil relationship, the teacher is welcome in the home. Visits in the home give the teacher the opportunity to build a relationship with other members of the family. During such visits the teacher will find opportunities to model discipleship and share faith in Jesus Christ.

• Congregations and congregational members can support the missionary teacher in a variety of ways: by prayer, by relieving teachers of less important duties thus providing the time to make home visits, by accompanying the teacher on home visits and expanding the web of relationships and by developing plans for the visiting/witnessing/outreach ministry through the various educational agencies of the parish.

Missionary teachers are an important part of the front line forces in the witness/outreach ministry of the congregation.

Did you know?

The first book translated into any American Indian language was *Luther's Small Catechism*.

They're singing our song

The newsletter of Grace Lutheran in Seguin points out that most people are familiar with the Navy hymn, "Eternal Father, Strong to Save," which speaks of God's arm binding the restless wave.

It also suggests other hymns we might consider for other vocations that are included in *Lutheran Worship*. For example:

Pilots: "From Heav'n Above to Earth I Come."

Typists: "Oh, Wondrous Type! Oh, Vision Fair."

Miners: "From Depths of Woe I Cry To You."

Dentists: "Crown Him With Many Crowns."

Road crew: "Prepare the Royal Highway."

Gardeners: "Lo, How A Rose is Growing."

Judges: "In the Hour of Trial."

Farmers: "When Seed Falls On Good Soil."

Census Takers: "All People That On Earth Do Dwell."

Astronomers: "Brightest and Best of the Stars of the Morning."

Redeemer of Beaumont dedicates new facility

Sunday, Oct. 27, was dedication day at Redeemer Lutheran of Beaumont.

The congregation's new facility is a 16,000 square feet education and family center building with nine school-size classrooms, office, kitchen, stage, several utility rooms, restrooms

and a multipurpose room that can be used for large meetings, basketball, volleyball and dinners. The building is fully air-conditioned.

Financial planning was facilitated by a fund drive in which Redeemer's faithful pledged \$330,000 over three years.

Building Committee Chairman Jerry Steger presented the keys to Pastor William Fehl who passed them to Dr. Charles Hawkins, chairman of the congregation.

The new facility will enable Redeemer to reach out into the community and to enlarge its work with family and youth.

Anniversary

This is the 10th anniversary year of Lutheran High School of Dallas.

Some will respond, some won't: how about you?

Interest rates are much lower than they have been for a long time.

The returns that the Church Extension Fund pays are as high as always . . .

• A financial return . . .

5 1/2 percent for Save-By-Mail,

6 percent on a \$500 investment for 1-year,

7 percent on a \$1,000 investment for 3-years,

8 percent on a \$10,000 investment for 5-years.

• A still greater return of dollars invested in the outreach ministry of the Texas District.

How about you?

() I will check my savings account.

() I will withdraw

\$100

\$500

\$1,000

() I will invest that amount in the Church Extension Fund. (Mail your check to CEF, 7900 U.S. 290 East, Austin, Tex. 78724.)

() Then I will be in support of the Mission Program of the Texas District as it continues to reach into more communities, more lives and more people's eternity.

Carl A. Heckmann
Director of Development

'I love you'

A recent interdenominational survey showed that members within the Lutheran church find it most difficult to say, "I love you." Members within the Assemblies of God find it easiest.



DEDICATION—This is the dedication service inside the new education and family center build-

ing for Redeemer of Beaumont.



MINISTRY BUILDING—San Antonio Mayor Henry Cisneros, left, speaks at the November dedication of a new ministry building at Concordia Lutheran, San Antonio. The building is dedicated "to the glory of God and the meeting of needs and the healing of hurts." At right is Concordia's senior pastor, Dr. Guido Merkens, confined to a wheel chair with knee injuries which required surgery. The four story building will be the base for providing a myriad of health, social and soul-enriching services.

Thoughts on her church

A young confirmand wrote the following, "What My Church Means to Me," when she was in junior confirmation instruction class at Redeemer Lutheran of Odessa.

"The church has a great deal of importance in a person's life. Your church life should be the center of all other things. The church is based on belief in our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

"The church, to me, is not just a building, but it is God's temple, the place to worship Him. The church is made of more than just

bricks and boards, but it must have a body of believers, and a good pastor, too. The people are what makes the church a success.

"The church must always follow God's Word, and must never get side-tracked, for, if it does, it will not be God's church any more. Although there are many different combinations, if you always remember God's code, you can be sure that your church will help you in building your faith in God.

"Jesus Christ, a good family of believers and a strong faith make up a church, and that is what the church means to me!"

Pastor honored on 85th birthday, 61 years in the ministry

Members and friends of Our Savior in Granbury gathered after Sunday worship on Oct. 27 to celebrate the 85th birthday of one of its members.

The life of Rev. Martin Gehrt was noted with prayers at the altar on that Reformation Sunday and by a reception.

It was the acknowledgment of 61 years of service to God in the office of the holy ministry as well as 85 years of God's grace in the life of His servant.

Gehrt and his wife of 37 years, Gertrude, have been long-time members of Our Savior and residents of the Granbury area for the past six years.

Gehrt's active ministry before retirement to Texas was in congregations in Missouri, chiefly in Perry County and in the St. Louis metropolitan area.

He began his ministry in 1924 in Minnesota and served adjacent congregations in Canada as well. It was while in Minnesota that he was ordained—preaching his own ordination service along with two additional worship services on that Sunday.

They didn't all get away

It didn't exactly rival the multiplication of the loaves and fishes, but everyone had fried fish nevertheless.

On Oct. 11-13 more than 60 fathers, sons and daugh-



HONORED—Rev. Martin Gehrt and his wife, Gertrude, were honored at Granbury on the occasion of Gehrt's 85th birthday and 61 years in the holy ministry.

ters traveled to Lake Livingston State Park to camp, fish and enjoy fellowship among God's natural creations. They are members of St. Philip Lutheran of Houston.

While boats were in short supply and fish in the nearby cove were scarce, "the good Lord supplied more than 200 white bass for our Saturday evening fish fry, totally preventing a rush to town for less desirable fare," said the St. Philip newsletter.

According to the newsletter, "In our evening discussion and Sunday service we found many reasons to give thanks: bountiful food, shelter (rough and not so rough), cool dry weather and each other."

Texas Lutherans keeping Lord's work moving via wills and trusts, directors are told

Millions of dollars are being set aside in wills and trusts by Texas Lutherans for the work of the church, according to Dr. Carl Heckmann.

Heckmann, director of development for the Texas District, told members of the district's board of directors at their November meeting that these financial arrangements being made by Texas Lutherans through the Lutheran Foundation of Texas will principally benefit home congregations of the donors.

Milburn Schubert, chief fiscal officer for the district, told the directors that world mission receipts for the first 10 months of 1985 were up 5.2 percent over the previous year, but still registering a deficit of \$590,000.

The directors heard from Mission Director Fred Boden that a Great Commission Church Planting Strategy kit has been completed. The kit is designed to motivate and enable congregations to involve themselves in church planting.

Boden also reported that the Texas District has received clearance for three more new missions in Clear Lake City, southwest Fort Worth and a Vietnamese ministry in Houston. He also said that in fulfilling a mandate from the district convention, the district mission board was to as-



ORGAN ENHANCED—A new Spanish trumpet stop for the organ at St. Paul Lutheran in McAllen was dedicated Sept. 15. The Spanish trumpet stop, which has the pipes mounted horizontally on the organ, is dedicated to the mem-

ory of George Launer, former minister of music at the church. Organist for the service was James F. Johnson, St. Paul's director of music, and violinist was Maggie Villegas.

sume responsibility for 10 campus ministries in Texas beginning Jan. 1, 1986.

In his report on Lutheran Outdoors Ministry of Texas, Director Karl Petzke said the ministry has received grants from various foundations for new cabins at Camp Lone Star, for a summer vicar program and for a bathhouse at Texoma Lutheran Camp.

In other action, the board of directors:

- Approved a distribution plan for the more than \$60,000 given by Texas Lutherans as aid for victims of the Mexico City earthquake. (See President O'Shoney's column for details of the plan.)

- Approved a recommendation of a media task force that the District Media Co-op and Film Library be

maintained within the district office for district member use only.

- Recognized the activities of Lutheran Information Exchange (LIFE) which seeks to support the work of the church through use of modern technology. The primary method of doing this is operating an electronic "bulletin board" accessed via telephone lines by anyone who operates a computer with that capacity. LIFE was founded by Lutheran pastors in Houston who use computers in church work and who envision them to be a valuable aid in administration, education and communication.

- Heard that because of changes in state accreditation and nonpublic schools, the district Church Schools Committee is involved in

revising the district accreditation process to qualify for recognition by the state.

- Were told that Dr. Oswald Hoffmann, the Lutheran Hour speaker, has been confirmed as a major presenter for the District Convocation to be held April 23-26, 1987.

- Approved the appointments of Betty Boecker and Rev. Ken Hennings to the Board of Lutheran Outdoors Ministry of Texas; Rev. James Tonn to the district's Constitution Committee; and Joe Judge as the district's representative on the board of directors of Lutheran Social Services of Texas.



'Miracle Sunday' celebration held at Holy Cross, Kerrville

A special three-event celebration was held Oct. 27 at Holy Cross in Kerrville as:

- Rev. Ahlert Strand Jr., was installed as the congregation's first assistant pastor.

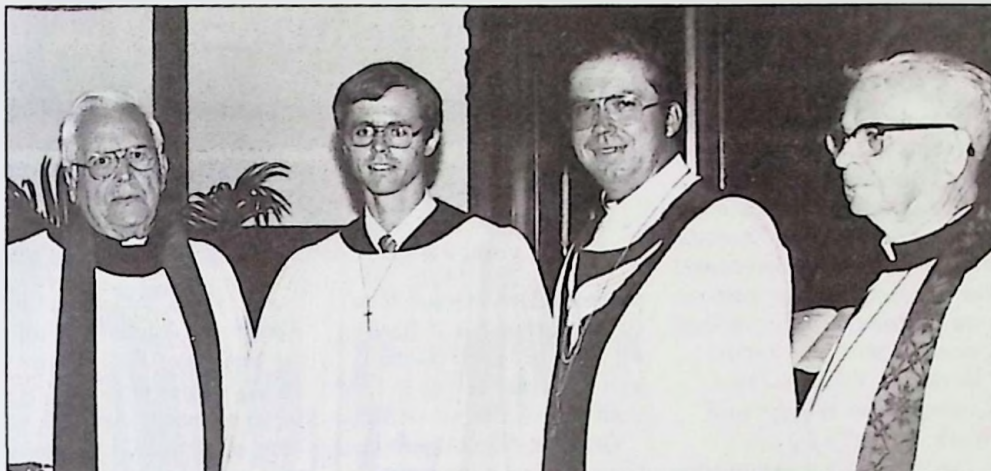
- The congregation's three retired pastors were honored with presentations of certificates recognizing their service.

- The dedication of the congregation's newly renovated facilities, in which the fellowship hall was converted into a two-story, air-conditioned classroom facility housing the church day school and after-school ministry and the old classroom wing was converted into modern, spacious offices.

The three events combined into a true "Miracle Sunday" in that the facilities were dedicated debt-free. Eighty-five percent of the work was done by volunteer labor from the congregation—where retired persons were able to work during the day and the employed often came during evening hours.

Rev. Steve Kappler is senior pastor of Holy Cross.

Rev. Victor Buvinghausen was honored for 45 years in the Christian ministry while Rev. R.J. Mueller was honored for 55 years. Pastor A.B. Wagner was out of town and could not attend the services, but he was honored for 23



MIRACLE SUNDAY—Key roles in a very special Sunday at Holy Cross, Kerrville, were played by, left to right, Rev. Victor Buvinghausen, Rev. Ah-

lert Strand Jr., Rev. Steve Kappler, Rev. R.J. Mueller.

years of service to the Kerrville congregation.

Holy Cross Congregation is gearing up to launch into the next phase of its expansion program which will in-

clude a sports and fellowship center. Additional plans call for a new school and an expanded worship facility.

50th anniversary observed by Grace Congregation

Grace Lutheran of Mart celebrated its anniversary on Oct. 13. A large number of friends and former members joined to mark a half-century of God's grace to the congregation.

Guest speaker at the morning service was District Vice-President Rev. T.R. Griesse, who served Grace from 1955 to 1960.

An afternoon thanksgiving service was conducted by Rev. Melvin Spenn, pastor from 1964 to 1984. Liturgists were Pastor Walter Albers and Vicar Paul Theimer Jr., commissioned in June to serve the Mart congregation. Also present was Rev. Alvin Walter, the church's vacancy pastor.

Between services, a new church sign was dedicated in memory of Herbert Sommerfeld. Given by his children and grandchildren, the sign was designed and built by Wesley Sommerfeld, a member of Grace.



CHARTER MEMBERS—Henry Becker, left, and Arthur Sielaff were honored as charter members when Grace Lutheran of Mart celebrated its 50th anniversary last October.

Are we really doing our job?

A message from Gus Kieschnick, media supervisor, Lone Star District:

Greetings in the name of Christ, our Savior. There is an old saying, "Never leave for tomorrow what you can do today." This really coincides with the hymn, "Hark the Voice of Jesus Crying, Who Will Go and Work Today?"

As your co-worker in the media department of the International Lutheran Laymen's League, I ask myself, "Are we really doing our job?" Our media year began on June 1, 1985, and so did the development department and the league services department.

- We have had three informative district board meetings of great encouragement and inspiration to those who attended. Why is it that some of us have not made even one presentation since June 1, 1985?

Here we are well through the league year with precious months gone by. What does the Lutheran Hour and all the other agencies of the International Lutheran Laymen's League mean to us when our Savior says in Matthew 9, "The harvest truly is plenteous but the laborers are few. Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that He will send forth laborers into His harvest."

- How long shall we tolerate this indifference? First, I'll pray all of us be found faithful. Secondly, I ask how much help will you need to make the suggested

Lone Star District Highlights

International Lutheran Laymen's League

By Gary D. Laneman, Information Coordinator
11601 January, Austin, TX, 78753



presentations in your zone congregations? And finally, I'll have to "grab the bull by the horns" to see to it that we get the job done.

Give me your suggestions. I need your input. Ask your pastors for a few minutes to say a few words about the worldwide Gospel outreach ministry of the league in a Sunday morning worship service. Or contact members on a one-to-one basis with the "Bringing Christ To The Nations" (BCTN) filmstrip.

Media representative Florence Schwausch at Zion, Walburg, enrolled 11 Lutheran Hour, two Lutheran Television and one BCTN sponsors to date. Praise the Lord! Let me hear from you.

This year's media representatives from the Lone Star District and their goals for congregational presentations are:

Melvin Sachs, Panhandle (11); Erwin Kunkel, South Plains (4); Arnold Koester, Red River, (11); Ernest Hoffman, East Texas (10); Bill Karpenko, Capitol (15); Harry Jordan, Alamo (8); Art Boerger, Houston, (25); Lela Hempy, Mid-Coast, (10); Carl Zieschang, Coastal Bend (6); Dick Combs, Tall Pines (6); Paul Themer, Big D (16); John Manfolk, Trinity (9); Rollins Roth, Western (9); Daryl Mahlow, Permian (4).

A mini-BCTN banquet at Redeemer, Austin, had an attendance of 47. Twelve BCTN's were enrolled, three members increased their present BCTN support.

Redeemer President Hatfield, Gary and Karin Laneman and Ted Wolfram did an excellent job of producing this fine event. Plan a mini-BCTN banquet in your zone now. Try it, God will bless your efforts. All glory to God! Contact Ted Wolfram, BCTN coordinator, PO Box 596, La-Grange, Tex. 78945. The phone is 409-968-6155.

The 43rd annual Lone Star District Convention will be held in San Angelo on May 2-4. The theme for the convention will be "Run the Race," based on Heb. 12:1. Make plans now to attend and enjoy fun, fellowship, old relationships and opportunities for developing new ones, and Christian growth.

Speakers include Rev. Wallace Schulz and International LLL President Paul Wegele. Exciting things are happening and we want you to be part of them.

Rev. Henry Biar of King of Kings Lutheran Church in San Antonio and pastoral advisor of the Alamo Zone of the LLL was the featured speaker at the Alamo

Zone's fall outing at Lutherland on the banks of the Medina River on Oct. 12.

Biar gave an exciting presentation on the theme "Octoberfest-Celebrate" in which he indicated why Christians should be happy people and continually celebrate their glorious heritage as members of His kingdom.

Biar also highlighted the positive work of the Lutheran Laymen's League in worldwide ministries as well as the advantages of membership both as individuals and as affiliated clubs. Apparently his words had an impact on the Holy Cross, Kerrville, representatives. Bob Redmann called to say that they were considering forming a new club and requested application forms.

Ken Weiser, president of the Lone Star District LLL, presented an interesting review of Christian wills and estate planning. He pointed out the problems that can occur when people neglect to leave a will and also the value of Christian wills.

Dennis Rhoads, president of the Lutherland Board of Directors, reviewed recent progress made at Camp Lutherland in renewing facilities including the installation of new water lines. Plans also are under way for the construction of new dormitory facilities.

Ray Smith of King of Kings Congregation was introduced as the new membership supervisor for the Alamo Zone which is fortunate to have 14 active congregation representatives.



What's new?

What's new?

Well, really nothing.

Doesn't it say in Ecclesiastes that there's "nothing new under the sun?"

That may be, but I came across lots of things in the Bible that are new! Will you let me share them with you? After all, we are beginning a *new year*.

Go ahead; I'm all ears!

Here is some of what I read in God's love-letter:

Lam. 3:22-23 "... His *compassions* never fail. They are *new* every morning . . ."

Heb. 9:15 "Christ is the Mediator of a *new contract*, . . ."

2 Cor. 5:17 "If anyone is in Christ, he is a *new creation* . . ."

John 13:34 "A *new command* I give to you: Love one another . . ."

1 Peter 2:2 "Like *new-born* babies, crave pure spiritual milk . . ."

Psalms 33:3 "Sing to Him a *new song*."

Psalms 51:10 "Create in me a pure heart, O God, and *renew a steadfast spirit* within me . . ."

Eph. 4:24 "Put on the *new self*, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness . . ."

Now, do you still think there is nothing new?

Not on your life! There's enough for me to be busy until the next new year!

Isn't it wonderful? God has granted us a new year and a new lease on life!

The next time someone asks, "What's new?" answer: "If you've got a minute, I'll tell you!"

May your new year be made happy in the Lord, who makes all things new, and may it be filled with joyful and fruitful service.

Rev. John Selle
Pastoral Counselor

Annual LWR drive in Texas

The annual statewide Lutheran World Relief Drive will be held the week after Easter: March 31-April 4.

Items to be collected are "Parish Projects" and clothing. Projects include school and health kits, layettes, sewing kits, uniforms, soap and quilts. Detailed brochures have been sent to each society.

Clothing is needed for infants, children and men. Please do not send shoes or women's clothing (except sweaters).

Information regarding the drive is available from Mrs. Richard Boone, 175 Easton Rd., Dallas 75218.



LWML News

LWML news should be sent to Dolores Bruncke, Texas District Editor, 3944 Meriman, Plano, Tex. 75074.

Material for the March 1986 issue must be received by Jan. 24.



1986 Texas District LWML Convention Lubbock, Texas

Psalms 69:34 gives us the theme for our 1986 convention: "Praise Him! All Heaven and Earth!" Convention dates are June 18-20.

The leaguers of West Texas would love to share the warmth, friendliness and sights that will inspire you to *Praise Him!*

Lubbock's Memorial Convention Center will be the site for all sessions and for the Communion Worship Festival. Housing will be located across the street at the Holiday Inn, Hilton and La Quinta Motel.

Rev. Charles Mueller of Roselle, Ill. will be our featured speaker. He is the author of "The Christian Family Prepares for Christmas," "Thank God I Have a Teenager" and "Getting Along."

We are eager to make your visit the most enjoyable you have experienced anywhere. Plan to visit the ranching heritage center, historic homes, one of the Lutheran nursing homes our mites help, wineries, etc.

Be our reason to *praise Him* even more!

Jeanne Cargile
Convention Chairman

1990 host

There is still time to apply to be host for the 1990 district convention. Application forms are available from our district president, Marcella Gaus, Box 123, Hamshire, 77622. Forms must be returned by March 1.



A new year

Dear Master, for this coming year

Just one request I bring;

I do not pray for happiness

Or any earthly thing.

I do not ask to understand

The way Thou leadest me,

But this I ask: Teach me to do

The thing that pleaseth Thee.

I want to know Thy guiding voice,

To talk with Thee each day.

Dear Master, make me swift to hear

And ready to obey.

And then the year I now begin

A happy year will be

If I am seeking just to do
The thing that pleaseth Thee.

-unknown-

District seminar set

"Linked by Love" is the theme of the Christian growth seminar to be held June 18 in Lubbock in conjunction with the district convention.

Alma Kern, author of the devotional book, *You Are Special*, will be keynote speaker for the seminar, which is designed to help each leaguer *reach, touch and grow* as a vital link in the chain of Christian love.

Your zone may be planning to send its Christian growth chairman to the seminar. Society delegates and members are also urged to take part in this rewarding workshop. Begin now to find ways to send your members to Lubbock in June!

Registration forms will appear in the March issue of the DISTRICT NEWS.

Print-worthy

Congratulations to Catherine Burkhard of Zion, Dallas, whose program, "Have an LWML Party," has been accepted for publication by the International LWML as a program resource. The party was described in our October 1985 issue.

Congratulations also to district counselor Rev. John Selle, whose article "I am a Mite Box," from our May issue has been approved for publication as a mite box devotion.

Such talents are blessings to our district and to the LWML!

Thank you, LWML!

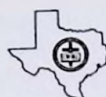
A special resolution was adopted at the 1985 Texas District Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod convention in Galveston, acknowledging and giving thanks to God for the support of the LWML in Texas.

Rev. Walter A. Dube,

secretary for the Missouri Synod's Texas District, writes: "On behalf of the people of the Texas District, receive our profound, heartfelt expression of gratitude and appreciation. . . . Your gifts and grants have provided enormous assistance in the ongoing mission work and ministry of the Texas District."

TEXAS MITE PROJECTS UPDATE

1984-86 goal	\$160,000
Received Nov.	5,419
Received 18 mos.	123,125
Still needed	36,875



PROJECT	PAID	BALANCE
Lutheran Braille Workers	\$10,000	-0-
Lutheran Homes for Aged,	15,000	5,000
Deaf Ministries	4,000	11,000
LSST, Clergy Care	4,500	-0-
Camp Lone Star	16,000	-0-
Mision Cristo El Salvador	8,000	7,000
Texoma Lutheran Camp	4,800	1,300

Total Mission Projects Goal	\$86,600
Paid to-date	62,300

Send your mites to Mrs. Mina Fitting, 704 Dellwood, Midland 79703. Make checks payable to TEXAS DISTRICT LWML.

League links

• KIDNAPPED!

Members of Holy Cross Ladies Aid in Nederland became kidnappers recently, capturing women of the congregation for a Saturday morning of fellowship at the church. Using the "Fashions that Function" skit from LWML, they lightheartedly presented information on the services performed by league members.

• CAPITAL ZONE—

During the fall rally at

Concordia College in Austin, pastors of congregations in the zone were presented certificates of appreciation for their support and encouragement of the LWML. Seventeen ministers were present for the recognition ceremony.

• TEXAS STAR ZONE—

Following a praise theme, rally speaker Rev. Ron Friedrich from the John of Beverly Chapel for the Deaf (Dallas) explained the work of this special ministry on the local, national and international levels.

1987 International convention

It might seem to most people that planning now for the summer of 1987 is a bit premature. Most people, however, won't be hosting over 7,000 people then . . . and Texas LWMLers will!

June 22-25, 1987 are the dates of the next International LWML convention, which will be held in Fort Worth. Convention Chairman Pearl Biar and her pilot committee are working to carry out the theme: "Radiant with God's Love."

Texas leaguers are encouraged to take part in preparations when called upon, and to invite friends and relatives to Texas in 1987 to share God's radiant love.

Mindy is waiting!

Mindy and her friends are waiting for an invitation to your society or zone! These LWML puppets would love to help you with a program. They come complete with scripts about the various aspects of the LWML.

Contact Dolores Bruncke, 3944 Merriman, Plano 75074, to arrange a visit for these delightful guests.

*May the peace of
the Lord be with you
in 1986.*

Your district officers



Rev. Kieschnick accepts call to LFOT

Rev. Gerald Bryan Kieschnick has accepted the call to be the Director of Development for the Lutheran Foundation of Texas (LFOT). When Kieschnick began his duties on Jan. 13, he said, "It gives me great joy to anticipate the opportunities I will have to work toward a solution to a growing problem in all areas of the church: undercapitalization."

Kieschnick stated that his main task is to help people do what they want with what they have. The emphasis is to serve people of the Texas District with help in estate planning, wills, trusts and gifting. Kieschnick feels his main goal is to help members of the Texas District make sound financial decisions with the resources they have.

Through estate planning and deferred giving, the people of the district can also provide opportunities for the church and its agencies to grow and prosper. Kieschnick stated, "My role is to plant seeds in peoples' minds."

Through LFOT, individuals can impact the success of the church's mission in such agencies as the local congregations, the Church Extension Fund and Lutheran Social Services of Texas (LSST).

Kieschnick will be working with Dr. Carl Heckmann, executive director for the Lutheran Foundation of Texas and the Church Extension Fund.

Heckmann will continue in his full-time role in both agencies, giving half of his time to each.

Kieschnick will be available to all congregations and agencies associated with The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod to tell the story of LFOT. Upon request, he may be engaged to serve as a guest pastor to conduct clinics about wills and estate planning, or to meet with individuals seeking assistance in planning wills, trusts, gifts and so on.

Most recently Kieschnick has served as parish pastor at Faith Lutheran Church, Georgetown. He was called to Georgetown to begin Faith mission congregation in 1981. The church has grown steadily under his guidance to more than 200 communicant members in 1985.

Faith, which dedicated its new permanent church building in November 1985, also became a self-supporting congregation in 1984, just three years after its establishment.

In Kieschnick's announcement to the congregation on Dec. 8, 1985 of his decision to accept the new LFOT position, he said, "... The final decision was made on the same basis as was the decision in August 1981 to leave Redeemer Lutheran Church in Beaumont to begin a new mission congregation in Georgetown. At that time I prayed that if the Lord ever wanted me and my family to move, He would indicate His will. . . ."

Kieschnick has faithfully followed the Lord's calling by serving within the



Rev. Gerald Bryan Kieschnick, director of development for the Lutheran Foundation of Texas

church for more than 15 years. His first parish was Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Biloxi, Miss., where he served from 1970 to 1973.

He returned to his home state of Texas in 1973 when he accepted the call to Redeemer, Beaumont, where he served until taking the challenge to begin the mission congregation of Faith, Georgetown. His family has also shared in the joys and challenges of the Lord's ministry.

Gerald Kieschnick married Terry Lee Roos of Austin in 1966, and they have two children: Angela Lynn, 15, and Andrew Bryan, 13.

Since his graduation from Concordia Theological Seminary, Springfield, Ill., in 1970 and later his M. Div. degree from Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Kieschnick has served the church in many capacities.

Currently, he is the Major Gifts Coordinator for the Texas District in the Synodwide Alive in Christ appeal. To date, the dis-

trict's major gift goal of \$1 million has been surpassed. Kieschnick also serves as the Director of Public Relations for the district.

In the past, he has served as a circuit counselor and been on several task forces including salary guidelines (1983), conference scheduling (1981) and campus ministry (1982-83). In addition to his involvement in the ministries of the Texas District, Kieschnick serves the Georgetown community as treasurer for the Noon Lions Club and is certified as a marriage and family enrichment seminar instructor.

In regard to his new role as director of development, Kieschnick stated, "I'm looking forward to working with people of the district. LFOT is service-oriented; we're not here to simply set up the church as the beneficiary."

Throughout his ministry Kieschnick has kept service to the people paramount. He has been and will continue to be a rich blessing to the Texas District as he labors in service to the Lord, the Texas District and to its people.

Guidelines for worship

From Pastor Wagner of Faith, Plano we read: 1. Come with an expectant attitude; 2. Come with an attitude of concern for your fellow Christians who worship with you; 3. Small children should be encouraged to worship with their parents; and 4. Stay for the entire church service.

COMMENTS

From The District President

We are getting a bit like the military up at the synodical headquarters in St. Louis—even here in the Texas District . . . everything is given a set of initials! In St. Louis we have the COP, CCPC and CCCW. Don't ask what they mean—it's really not all that important.

But I would like to tell you something about LFOT, LOMT and AIC. No, these are not diseases or subversive organizations—rather the abbreviations for two important organizations and one important program.

- LFOT stands for the Lutheran Foundation of Texas. Dr. Carl Heckmann is the executive director of the Foundation and Rev. Jerry Kieschnick is the associate director.

The Foundation's purpose is to help people make good decisions about estate planning . . . wise decisions about wills . . . helpful decisions on how best to use their income now—how best to utilize all of the resources God gives them at the point of death.

The Lutheran Foundation of Texas is a multimillion dollar foundation. Their offices are in the Texas District office building in Austin. If you would like to know more about the Foundation—how it might help you and your family—don't hesitate to call Heckmann or Kieschnick.



Rev. Glenn O'Shoney

- LOMT is Lutheran Outdoors Ministry of Texas. LOMT, under the direction of Rev. Karl Petzke, manages camps in LaGrange and at Lake Texoma. It assists in camping programs in West Texas and in the San Antonio area, arranges ski trips, hiking trips and a variety of other outdoor experiences. LOMT is involved in children's camping and in programs for adults as well.

LOMT is also located in the district office building in Austin—Petzke would be happy to answer all of your questions.

- AIC stands for Alive in Christ. This is not exclusively a district program—rather it is a Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod special appeal. Fifteen million dollars has been received in major gifts. The congregational phase of this program will begin in the spring.

The Forward In Remembrance appeal was a huge success—almost \$75 million was received. But that \$75 million came from less than 20 percent of our members. Just imagine what we could do with the Alive in Christ

appeal if we could receive gifts from 30, 40, 50 percent or more of our people. It's entirely possible that we could reach \$100 million.

While \$100 million is a lot of money, it really would not be taxing us all that much. We are an extremely gifted and blessed people.

I urge you to be a part of the Alive in Christ appeal—to make a generous gift for your church's work in education, missions, communications and assistance for the retired workers of the church.

- There's one more organization I would like to tell you about—no fancy initials here. This is the B. M. Woltman Foundation. Woltman was a dedicated Christian layman in Houston. When he died, he left a major portion of his estate to the B. M. Woltman Foundation. It's my privilege to sit on this Foundation's Board of Directors.

The primary recipients of Woltman's generosity are college students who are preparing for ministerial positions within our church. The B. M. Woltman Foundation is also generous in the support of Houston area high schools as well as in various other mission projects in the Texas District.

- For many, church is what happens on Sunday morning—church is the building we are in on Sunday morning. But the Holy Christian Church is much more than just that facility or just that single worship service.

The Holy Christian Church is the community of

believers in the Lord Jesus Christ—in Texas, in this country and in all the world. The Holy Christian Church operates in a very meaningful way through organizations like Lutheran Foundation of Texas, Lutheran Outdoors Ministry and the B. M. Woltman Foundation.

Our churches are energized and given power to do things through the offerings received on Sunday morning—and through the offerings received in appeals like Alive in Christ. The initials of an organization are not important—the whole name of an organization is not important.

What is important is what that agency or program does to accomplish the work of the church . . . proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ to all people. While you may never have opportunity to be in direct contact with the B. M. Woltman Foundation, the Lutheran Foundation of Texas or Lutheran Outdoors Ministry of Texas—I do ask you to keep these organizations and those who lead them in your prayers.

*Glenn O'Shoney
President, Texas District*

Church Extension Fund

Your savings in Lutheran Church Extension Fund help to undergird the mission and ministry of the church. While you are earning interest, LCEF is able to make loans to help congregations build or expand their churches and schools.



Rev. Karl Petzke

Johnson Foundation gives \$225,000 grant to Camp Lone Star

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

At its semiannual meeting in late fall 1985, the M. D. and Lillie A. Johnson Foundation once again provided solid capital funding assistance to Camp Lone Star with a grant of \$225,000. A total of nearly three quarters of a million dollars has been distributed to the camp by the Johnson Foundation for capital projects since the inception of the Lone Star Retreat Center in the late 1970s.

The most recent grant has been designated for the Youth Cabin Project at Camp Lone Star—which was originally initiated cooperatively by the Walter Droemer family, the Texas District Lutheran Women's Missionary League and the Johnson Foundation.

Each of these facilities will house 10 campers plus one senior and one junior counselor. The cabins will be built to function on a year-round basis and will be suitable for use by all ages and population groups

including the handicapped. Each unit will have air conditioning, industrial grade carpeting and self-contained restroom/shower areas.

As a part of the project to replace buildings constructed 40 years ago as temporary structures, the LOMT Board's Long Range Planning Committee has set a goal of 18 cabin units. The deadline for completion of the first eight cabins is May 15—thus providing them for use during the 1986 summer camping season.

The Johnson Foundation's meetings are held near Wharton at the home of Mrs. Lillie A. Johnson and the late M. D. Johnson. Mrs. Johnson has been a very active participant when grant proposals have been considered by the foundation's trustees. Among the trustees familiar to Texas District Lutherans are President Arnold Koop, St. Paul's, Edna, and Secretary Rev. Marvin Lehnhardt, Mt. Calvary-St. Matthew, New Orleans.

LOMT is grateful to the Johnson Foundation for its magnificent help in providing greater opportunities for Christ-centered experiences in God's great outdoors and in offering an atmosphere conducive to strengthening physical, emotional and spiritual health and well-being among God's people.

Nonchurch kids

On the average, about 10 to 12 percent of Lutheran day school children do not belong to a church.

LOMT receives LFOT grant for bathhouse at Texoma

At its fall 1985 meeting, the Lutheran Foundation of Texas responded to the Lutheran Outdoors Ministry of Texas' request for much-needed restroom/bathhouse facilities at Texoma Lutheran Camp with a grant of \$23,000.

With limited facilities of this type available at the camp, especially for separate male/female use, Texoma has experienced a progressively greater strain on its ability to adequately serve the campers' needs.

Texoma Lutheran Camp has shown dramatic growth in its service among God's people in north Texas during the past few years. As an example, the number of 1985 summer camp participants increased 55 percent over 1984.

The total process of trying to provide a more versatile outdoors ministry program for all ages—by converting the camp facilities from its former role as a boy scout camp—left the camp severely lacking in restroom/shower facilities. Thus, the LFOT grant provides a timely addition to accommodate the needs of all participants.

Lutheran Hour

Lutherans in south central Texas can hear the Lutheran Hour on KTAE in Taylor, KGID in Giddings, KLBK in Austin and KKYY in San Antonio.



Handicapped camp scheduled

From June 11-14 a special handicapped camp program will be held at Camp Lone Star. This event is designed to provide special experiences for prospective campers who are seven to 12 years old and who are at ambulatory and trainable levels of proficiency.

In spring 1985 a special task force began to meet to surface Christ-centered camping possibilities for the handicapped. A pilot event was held for younger children at Camp Lone Star in July 1985. Future plans include a spring/fall midweek camp for adults, a three-day camp for 13- to 20-year-olds and a weekend experience for families with handicapped members.

Task force members include Chairman Melissa Knippa, Ruzenjka Oliver, Nanette Pittsford and Suzanne Bentz, all members at Bethany, Austin; Cindy Knippa, Concordia, San Antonio; and Dr. Mike Bayer, Redeemer, Austin.

Further information on the June event will be forthcoming.

YOUTH

Our bright kids

Congratulations to Katrina Hawkins, Lorinda McCormack and Angela Talbert of First Lutheran, Lufkin who won positions in the Texas All-Region High School Band.

Shantell Leschber of Redeemer, Austin, head twirler at Hyde Park Junior High, recently won two contests in San Antonio for her twirling.

Jeff Domel, who attends Redeemer, Austin, was honored by being selected as the All-District (26-5A) football team guard. He was also chosen the All-Centex offensive guard.

The children of Tomball Lutheran School (Salem Lutheran Church of Rosehill) put into practice what they learn each day about their love for others when they sent a \$450 check to aid the homeless and needy Mexican people after the earthquake there.

Congratulations to Michelle Albers of Our Savior, Austin, who had her biography accepted for publication in the 19th annual edition of *Who's Who Among American High School Students, 1984-85*.

Paige Jolly, a senior at Reagan High School, has been chosen to compete in the Texas Blue Bonnet Scholarship Awards. She will be competing with girls throughout Texas for \$10,000 in scholarships. Paige attends Our Savior, Austin.

Congratulations to Curtis

Genz of Redeemer, Austin, who graduated from the University of Texas with a B.S. degree in electrical engineering.

District 25-3A football honors went to Jonathan Goeke, selected as First Team All-District punter. Jonathan is a member of Redeemer, Austin.

Michael Goeke, also a member of Redeemer, Austin, was elected to Baylor's Student Congress.

Becky Bohot, daughter of Rev. and Mrs. Paul Bohot of Redeemer, Austin, earned a letter from Anderson High School for being in the top five percent of her junior class. Congratulations!

Based on her high academic achievement and commitment to education, Renee Hempel of Immanuel, Houston, was selected to Kappa Delta Pi, an honor society in the College of Education at Texas A&M University. Renee is a graduate of Lutheran High School North in Houston.

Brian Deterling of Bethel, Dallas, has been selected for the honor of *Who's Who Among American High School Students*. Only five percent of all upperclassmen in all United States high schools attain this achievement.

Hearty congratulations to two members of Hope, Austin, who received their bachelors degrees from the University of Texas: Mikie Loomans received a B.S. degree in communications

and Sally Fasholz received a B.F.A. degree in drama production.

The sesquicentennial will be observed in several ways in the Texas District—especially during this month's celebration of "Lutheran Schools Month." The students of Our Redeemer, Dallas, have already started preparing for the celebration. They are each writing several essays; 12 winners will be chosen from the school and the winners will be eligible to compete in city and state contests.

Congratulations and best wishes to two college graduates from Faith, Georgetown: Michael Buchhorn received a B.A. in business management from Concordia Lutheran College in Austin. He will be studying for the ministry at Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne this spring. Mike Mersiosky graduated with a bachelors degree from Texas A&M University.

Grace Sunday school on parade

Every Nov. 11 Menard, Texas, holds a Veteran's Day Parade. For the third year in a row, Grace Lutheran Sunday School has won first place for their float.

The theme for this year's parade was "Saturday Morning Cartoons." Grace used the opportunity to present their religious message in the words of Mark 10:14, "Suffer the little children to come unto Me."

Grace's float was labeled "Donald Duck Presents Sunday Morning." The Scripture passage was chosen to show Christ's desire for all children to be brought to Him. Cordelia Kothmann, the Sunday school superintendent, stated, "We like to stress the need for children to attend worship services and Sunday school."

In addition to the beautiful float and Scripture message, the Sunday school classes had taped songs that were played during the parade.



GRACE ON PARADE—The Sunday school children of Grace, Menard spread the Gospel message during the Veteran's Day parade. They received a first place prize for their efforts.



Concordia High School benefits from AAL grant

Local branches 4741 and 4445 of Aid Association for Lutherans sponsored a charity banquet on Sunday, Dec. 8, to benefit Concordia Lutheran High School. The group raised approximately \$12,500—including a \$5,000 matching grant from AAL—to fund audio-visual and science lab equipment at the school.

The catered dinner was held at the Concordia campus, located near the intersection of F.M. 2978 and Huffsmith-Kuykendahl Road in Tomball.

Dr. Roy Lazenby, dean of North Harris Community College, was the main speaker. His topic was "Excellence in Education." Other speakers included Concordia students who shared their experiences of attending a small, but fast-growing college preparatory school and Tom Grunow, principal of Concordia, who spoke about current and future projections for the school, now in its second year.

Entertainment for the evening was provided by several musical groups from the area, including the Concordia High Choir under the direction of Peggy Honeck, the Concordia music department chairperson. The Bell Ringers from Trinity Lutheran Church, Spring, performed several selections directed by Mel Schiwart, Trinity minister of music.

Under the coleadership of Holly Hoffart and Karen

Paluch, the contemporary music group, Cornerstone, from Salem Lutheran Church in Rosehill also provided musical selections. The audience was then invited to join in a Christmas sing-along and enjoyed some background music during dinner.

What is child evangelism?

What is child evangelism? It is children bringing their friends to Sunday school and church. During the first quarter of the new Sunday school year, St. Andrew, Houston, has had nearly 30 Sunday school visitors.

Most of these children were brought to Sunday school through the efforts of the children who regularly attend. St. Andrew's

children have set a shining example of evangelism. As God's children, is it not our task to bring our friends and neighbors to worship in Sunday school and Bible class, as well as morning services?

Special recognition goes to Jennifer Emmott, Malia Henriksen, Courtney Miller, Lisa Cayton, Miles Rogers and April Waxman for bringing their friends to hear the wonderful news of Christ's Gospel.



District calendar

FEBRUARY

22-22: LOMT Summer Staff
21-22: LFOT, District office
23: Recruitment Committee, Concordia, Austin
24-25: Staff retreat, Camp Lone Star
28-March 1: E.C.E. Conference, St. Paul, Austin

MARCH

1-2: ALDE, Dallas
2-4: LOMT team meeting, Texoma
6-7: LOMT adult ski trip, Winter Park, Colo.
10-11: LWML executive meeting, Texoma
13-14: CCPC, St. Louis
16-21: National Lutheran Outdoors Ministry Association, Orlando, Fla.
16-20: NAME
17: BPS
18: Board of Directors
18: Circuit 21, Hope
22-27: LOMT youth ski trip, Leadville, Colo.



DIVINE DRAMA—These 31 members of Messiah Lutheran Church, Corpus Christi, have joined forces to produce a unique ministry. This group, called the "Divine Drama Group," meets each

Wednesday evening to prepare for skits and chancel dramas as their way to spread God's Word.

Crown of Life breaks ground

The Stone Oak subdivision of San Antonio was the site of the groundbreaking service for the first unit of the new facilities of Crown of Life Lutheran Church.

The Dec. 8 service was led by Rev. Paul J. Short, pastor of Crown of Life Lutheran Church, Larry Ohls, chairman of the congregation, and Gary Weik, chairman of the building committee. The ceremony was conducted at the southwest corner of Stone Oak Parkway and Knights Cross where the new building, a 7,500 square foot brick structure, will face Knights Cross.

The building will contain a sanctuary with seating for 190 and will include a balcony, offices and eight classrooms. Construction, under the management of Timbercon Builders, Inc., was scheduled to begin sometime in December 1985; the building will be dedicated in June 1986. All of Crown of Life's present ministries, including the preschool, will continue at the new location.

The building is the first of three buildings planned for Crown of Life's new location. The second building will be a new main sanctuary to provide for anticipated congregational growth and the third building will be an educational/recreational center.

What time is it?

Now is the time for every good man to write a will.



CROWN OF LIFE—Pictured from left to right are the members of Crown of Life: Rev. Paul J. Short, pastor; Wiley Mitchell; Gary Weik, chairman of the building committee; Larry Ohls, chairman of the congregation; Russell Maxwell;

Rodney Smith; Prentice Andres; and Joeline Weiss. This group is standing behind an altar made from stones placed by all the congregation members who attended the groundbreaking ceremony.

Grace 'plows' new ground

Ground was broken for the new Grace Lutheran Church, Seguin, on Nov. 24 following their late service. There was a large crowd present as members assembled to participate in the ceremony.

Though it was a dark day with intermittent rain falling throughout the service, the enthusiasm of those present shone through, making it a day of happiness and joy. This date climaxed months of hard work—praying and keeping faith in the building program at Grace. Many people combined their gifts and talents to make the building become a reality.

Rev. Glen A. Krans and guest speaker Rev. Louis Pabor from the Texas District office led the service.

Prior to the actual groundbreaking, the following words were delivered by Pastor Krans: "Whereas

by the grace of God, we are permitted this day to begin the construction of a church at this place, with this plow we now break ground together, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost, in order that the building which shall be constructed here may serve as a place where our God will record His name, where His honor will dwell, and where He will come unto His children and bless them."

After these words were spoken, members of the congregation picked up the four ropes attached to an old hand plow and moved

forward, turning the earth.

Member Ginny Nokes recalls, "One could not help but feel the Lord's presence in our midst. We have all prayed, asking for His help and guidance throughout, and now, our new place of worship is no longer an impossible dream, but is rapidly becoming a reality."



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 _____



Ascension dedicates new wing

A new education/fellowship wing was dedicated on Nov. 3, 1985, at Ascension Lutheran Church in Cleburne. The 2,300 square foot addition includes a carpeted fellowship area, which can be divided into eight classrooms by acoustical folding doors.

The new building also contains a pastor's study and church office. The kitchen area and rear portion of the worship area were remodeled, and paving was provided for the parking lot.

The new facility was largely made possible by a generous gift from Otto W. and Norma L. Schaefer, whose names were placed on a plaque in the new building.

The guest speaker for the dedication was Rev. Louis Pabor, vice-president of the Texas District. Rev. Ben Rathgeber, pastor of Ascension, served as liturgist. The Men's Club of Ascension served a barbecue dinner to celebrate the day of dedication.

Happenings in Texas

Rev. Reinhard Wuensche preached at the 75th anniversary service on Dec. 1 for his home congregation, St. Paul, Bishop.

Praise and thanks for the blessing of Minnie Schultz of Immanuel, Houston. Minnie celebrated her 100th birthday on Oct. 25, 1985.

Good news was received



ASCENSION RISES—This new education and fellowship wing was dedicated Nov. 3 at Ascension Lutheran Church in Cleburne.

at Trinity, Port Arthur, as **Rev. Timothy Dinger** accepted the call to become their pastor. Dinger and his family began their ministry in January.

Jeff Wilson spent a day as mayor of Orange and **Tyler Bearden** served as fire chief during their Kiwanas Club Annual Citizenship Day. Jeff and Tyler are both members of Grace in Orange.

Make a joyful noise unto the Lord! **Redeemer, Austin** has announced their plans for construction to begin their new pipe organ. The organ will have three manuals, 43 ranks of pipes and 32 stops.

On Feb. 9 **Holy Cross, Arlington** celebrated its 10th anniversary. District President Glenn O'Shoney preached at both services to give praise and thanks for God's rich blessings.

Resurrection, Spring, is reaching out to its community through help to the handicapped—they hold special services for the

deaf. On the second Sunday of each month, the 8:30 service has an interpreter for the deaf; on the fourth Sunday of each month a car pool provides transportation to Holy-Three-in-One Church for the Deaf in downtown Houston.

Pastor Jack Amen of St. Michael, Houston conducted the "Morning Devotions" on KHCB-FM from Dec. 30 through Jan. 4.

Congratulations to **Mr. and Mrs. Richard Adams** of St. Michael, Houston, who celebrated their 51st wedding anniversary in December.

The Lord has richly blessed hundreds of people with the ministry of **Rev. Martin Gehrt**, who recently celebrated his 61st year of service to the Lord. Pastor Gehrt and his wife, Gertrude, are now retired and are members of Our Savior, Granbury.

Praise and thanks is given to the Lord for the celebration of **Mr. and**

Mrs. Louis Schacherl's 64th wedding anniversary on Dec. 24. The Schacherls are members at Messiah, Houston.

Join Trinity, Spring, as they celebrate the 92nd birthday of **Bertha Hasler**.

Best wishes to **Mr. and Mrs. O.F. Meeck** of Bethlehem, Palestine, who celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on Nov. 21.

Rev. Wayne Pafk was recently commissioned as mission developer at Lago Vista. The service was conducted at Good Shepherd, Cedar Park.

Congratulations to Bethlehem, Palestine, as they celebrated their 40th anniversary on Dec. 1.

Hearty congratulations to **Mr. and Mrs. Harry Baumert** of Hope, Austin, as they celebrated 60 years of holy matrimony on Jan. 3.

On Jan. 19 **St. Michael, Houston**, gave thanks and praise to God on their 25th anniversary.

CONCORDIA



Concordia's greatest asset—qualified and dedicated faculty: from left (front): Prof. Michael Kramer, Prof. Edna Rehbein, Prof. Howard Lacey, Prof. Gretchen Sump; (middle) Prof. John Graham,

Prof. Linda Lowery, Dr. Barbara Morton, Dr. Glenn Vorwerk; (back) Dr. Norris Patschke, Dr. John Frahm, Dr. Thomas Mandeville.

A Concordia education

A Concordia four-year college education prepares students for careers in church, society, or for further study in seminaries or graduate schools.

Concordia offers the Bachelor of Arts degree in five majors:

Business management qualifies students to serve as generalists in management, with an emphasis on working with people.

Communication provides students with an understanding of the communication process and with skill in message production.

Elementary education

prepares students for Texas Teaching Certification or the Lutheran Teacher Diploma in grades one through eight.

General studies offers students a more traditional classical education, serving as a basis for many careers and for professional schools.

Mexican-American studies permit students to study the Spanish language intensively and to become familiar with the Mexican-American culture. The major includes one semester at the Instituto de Filología Hispanica in Saltillo, Mexico.

Concordia's pre-seminary students may select any major, along with religion and language classes, to

prepare for seminary entrance.

These faculty members teach within the major disciplines:

Dr. John Frahm—communication; M.S., University of Wisconsin; Ph.D., Michigan State University; M.Div., Concordia Theological Seminary; teaching at Concordia since 1982.

Professor John Graham—business management; M.S., Florida Institute of Technology; teaching at Concordia since 1980.

Professor Michael Kramer—communication; M.A., Northeastern Illinois University; further study at Purdue University, University of Texas; teaching at Concordia since 1984.

Professor Howard Lacey—business management; M.B.A., University of Houston; teaching at Concordia since 1985.

Dr. Thomas Mandeville—education; M.Ed., Southwest Texas State University; Ph.D., University of Texas at Austin; teaching at Concordia since 1983.

Dr. Barbara Morton—education; M.S., St. John's University; Ph.D., University of Texas at Austin; further study at St. John's University; teaching at Concordia since 1979.

Dr. Norris Patschke—education; Ph.D., North Texas State University; teaching at Concordia since 1981.



Professor Edna Aquirre Rehbein—Spanish; M.A., University of Texas at Austin; further study at University of Texas; teaching at Concordia since 1984.

Dr. Glenn Vorwerk—business management, vice-president for college administration; M.B.A., Ph.D., University of Texas at Austin; teaching at Concordia since 1982.

The librarian is on the faculty and coordinates the books and media resources needed for teaching and research:

Professor Gretchen Sump—librarian; M.L.S., Indiana University; serving at Concordia since 1971.

Not available for last month's issue, which pictured the professors who teach the courses every Concordia student must take:

Professor Linda Lowery—physical education, athletic director, volleyball coach; M.Ed., Sam Houston State University; teaching at Concordia since 1980.

Also teaching in the core curriculum area, but not available for a photo:

Professor Susan Stayton—English; M.A., University of Texas at Austin; further study at University of Texas; teaching at Concordia from 1964-1968 and since 1972.

The Concordia professors display a high measure of commitment and enthusiasm for scholarship and the education of students, continuing the tradition of rigorous teaching initiated by Dr. Henry P. Studtmann and Professor Martin J.

Neeb in Concordia's opening year, 1926.

Concordia happenings

Twenty-two students were candidates for mid-year graduation from Concordia, the highest number ever to complete degree work in December. These graduates join the 70 May graduates. Concordia commends its 92 1985 graduates and encourages the congregations to continue their support of Concordia's growing number of programs and students.

Concordia volleyball player Lee Kennedy was named Honorable Mention All American at the 1985 National Volleyball Tournament.

Think about this...

If a student went to school like some people go to church—when they feel like it, they would fail!

If an employee went to work like some people do to the tasks of mission work—indifferently, they would be fired!

If a person ate meals like some people partake of the Lord's Supper—irregularly and infrequently, they would starve!

If one paid bills like some support the church—occasionally, they would be charged with desertion!

If one spoke to others as seldom as some people pray to God, they would be branded as antisocial!

HOW ARE THINGS GOING IN YOUR SPIRITUAL LIFE?

College announces Texas contest

In honor of the 150th birthday of the state of Texas, Concordia College announced a special contest for Texas youth in grades 7-12.

Prizes will be awarded in six categories: essay, grades 7-8, 9-10 and 11-12; and short story or play, grades 7-8, 9-10 and 11-12.

All entries should reflect some aspect of Texas history or heritage. Specific information on topics and entry forms may be obtained from pastors and Lutheran school principals, or by writing the Public Relations Office, Concordia Lutheran College, 3400 IH 35 N., Austin, Tex. 78705.

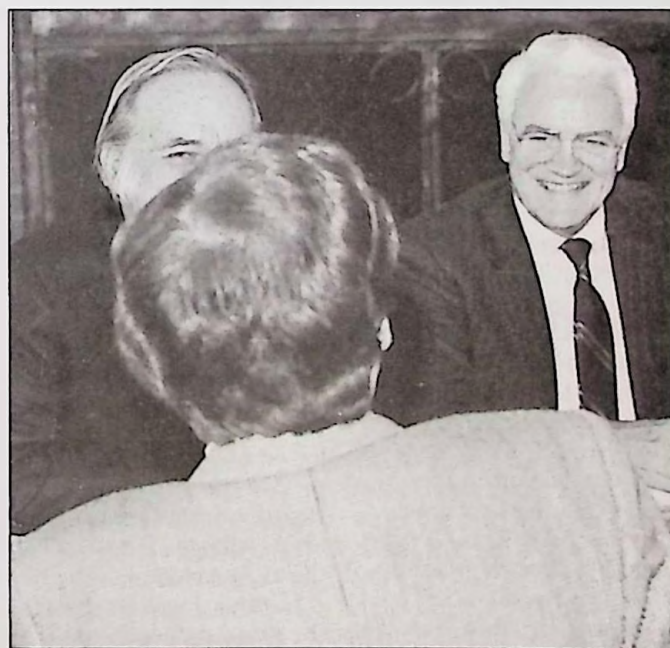
Entry deadline is March 25. Winners will be recognized at the annual Concordia Field Day on April 25.

Alive in Christ Major Gift

The Concordia Lutheran College faculty and staff presented a Major Gift commitment for Alive in Christ to Dr. Ralph Bohlmann when he visited the campus on December 14.

Major Gift designations for Alive in Christ are \$25,000 or more. Rev. Gary Pohl, Concordia development associate, reports that the average gift from each faculty and staff member was more than \$300 a year.

President Bohlmann lunched with the Concordia family before participating in the Alive in Christ Major Gift Weekend, held in support of Concordia's program of Christian higher education.



Dr. Ralph Bohlmann, president of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, lunched with the Concordia faculty and staff before the Alive in Christ weekend began.

Loss Conference attracts more than 100

"More than 100 attended LSST's Loss and Beginning Again Conference Nov. 14-15 at the Ramada Inn Townlake in Austin," reported Rev. Calvin O. Goerdel, LSST's vice-president for social services.

Dr. William Hulme of Lutheran Northwestern Seminary, St. Paul, Minn., was the featured speaker. Hulme's presentations included "The Theology of Loss" and "The Grieving Process."

Other presenters in the two-day conference were Rev. Goerdel speaking on the loss connection; Southwest Regional Director Kathleen Silber on adoption; Vice-President for Residential Service Rev. Dwight Anderson on aging; Counselor Dr. Barbara Brunworth on families; Chaplain Rev. Chester McGown on illness and institutionalization; and Clergy Care Director Dr. Peter Steinke on helping people to begin again.

Prior to the last presentation, a panel on "Interconnecting Theory and Practice" gave feedback impressions of the presentations and further developed the theme.

The panel consisted of Rev. Fred Schilling, moderator, assistant to the Bishop for the Lutheran Church of America—Texas Louisiana Synod, Austin; Rev. Tim Brunn, LSST counselor; Dr. Ann Hansen Garrett, developmental psychologist and LSST board member; Rev. Bill



Dr. William Hulme speaking at the Loss and Beginning Again Conference.

Knippa, pastor of Bethany Lutheran Church of Austin; and Rev. Paul Ziese, pastor at St. John's Lutheran Church of Austin.

VHS video cassette tapes of the presentations are available for loan from the Office of Development and Public Relations, 512-459-1000.

Wacker honored at LSST board meeting

Jim Wacker, Texas Christian University football coach, was designated to receive the first Lutheran of the Year Award by the LSST Board of Directors during their Nov. 15-16 meeting in Austin. Wacker will be honored at the LSST 1986 Annual Dinner, Feb. 14, in Austin.

LSST foster parents Emory and Wanda Muehlbrad of Austin were selected by the board to receive the 1985 Helping Hand Award. The Muehlbrads will also be saluted at the 1986 Annual Dinner.

In other business during the two-day meeting at the Ramada Inn Townlake, the Board:

- Voted to extend a grant

of up to \$20,000 to Casa Trinidad, LSST's proposed housing community in Zapata for low-income elderly and handicapped.

- Recognized outgoing members for their service: Mrs. Lila Collins, Corpus Christi; Rev. Keith Fox, San Antonio; Rev. J.C. Henning, Spring; Dr. Graham Rogeness, San Antonio; Dr. Arthur Schomburg, Victoria; and Rev. Richard Wagner, Houston.

- Approved the 1986 budget of \$9,035,610.
- Announced that Trinity Place Apartments of Round Rock, an LSST housing community for low-income elderly and handicapped, will receive the \$7,500 matching grant from the Lola Wright Foundation for emergency call units.

- Elected the following officers: Edwin Trapp Jr. of Dallas, chairman; Royston Lanning of Round Rock, vice-chairman; Jeanne Cargile of Lubbock, secretary; and Clifford Miller of Bay City, treasurer.

The next meeting is set for Feb. 14-15 in Austin.

Hundreds attend LSST/DHS conference

More than 700 professionals representing 35 states and the District of Columbia attended the Adult Protective Services Conference, Nov. 17-20, in San Antonio.

The conference, "Working with Victims of Abuse and Neglect," was cosponsored by LSST and the Texas Department of Human Resources. During the opening session, LSST President Rev. Robert C. Greene welcomed the participants on behalf of the agency.

The conference was designed to promote public awareness of abuse, neglect and exploitation of elderly and disabled citizens.

Plans are underway to cohost a similar conference with the Texas Department of Human Services on Oct. 14-17, 1986 in San Antonio.



MANY THANKS—Outgoing LSST board members were recognized for their service at the Nov. 15-16 LSST Board of Directors meeting. Pictured from left, Rev. Richard Wagner, Rev. Keith Fox, Lila Collins, Dr. Graham Rogeness, Dr. Arthur Schomburg and Rev. J. C. Henning.



Lone Star District Highlights



International Lutheran Laymen's League

By Gary D. Laneman, Information Coordinator
11601 January, Austin, TX, 78753

Annual Lone Star District convention set

A Service of Celebration with Rev. Wallace Schulz will open the 1986 Lone Star District's 43rd Annual Convention on May 2 in San Angelo, Tex. The service and convention will be held at San Angelo's convention center, located along the scenic Concho River at 500 Rio Concho Drive.

For the opening service, each congregation in the Lone Star District is being asked to bring a banner depicting the theme of this year's convention—**Run The Race**—which will be used during the procession.

On Saturday, the conventioners will be privileged to hear Paul Wegele from the International LLL headquarters in St. Louis. Wegele, who has served as president of the International LLL since 1984, will give the official LLL report.

• Wegele has been active in the league on all levels since 1973 when he served as chairman for the Lutheran Hour committee. On the district level, he served as president, vice-president, membership chairman, assistant membership chairman, extension ser-

vices chairman, as well as several appointed committees. He has also served his local LLL group as president, secretary and treasurer, and currently serves as the vice president.

• As a member of St. Luke's Lutheran Church in Bazine, Kans., Wegele served his congregation as president, vice president, treasurer, secretary and elder, as well as being active in the church's Sunday school programs.

• Wegele is also very active in civic affairs. He was chairman of the Ness County Lutheran Hospital Association for more than 20 years, was chairman of the Kansas Lutheran Hospital Association for two years and served two terms as director of Ness County Mental Health.

He was chairman of Ness County Wheat Growers for 12 years and served two terms as director of Kansas Wheat Growers. He is currently a member of the Lions International and is also a member of Bazine Co-Op Grain Co. Board of Directors. In 1977, he received the Soil Conservation Award for outstanding farmer in Ness County.

• Also headlining the convention will be Rev. Glenn O'Shoney, president of the Texas District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, who will speak on



Paul Wegele, president of the International LLL

the blessings and opportunities within our district.

Marcella Gaus, president of the LWML Texas District, will also appear at the convention to speak on the LWML activities and programs throughout the district.

• On Saturday night, the conventioners will have time to enjoy an old-fashioned, West Texas style barbeque in the great outdoors. The setting for this informal festivity will be the Goodfellow Recreational Facilities located on the banks of Lake Nasworthy.

A special ladies tour on Saturday is also being planned to highlight historic San Angelo. Fort Concho, Miss Hattie's, the unique Concho Pearl and the Country Depot are just some of the exciting places the ladies will get to visit and enjoy.

• Finally, on Sunday morning a special worship service will be conducted at the convention center with one of the pastors from Trinity Lutheran Church delivering the message.

Begin making plans now for a rewarding convention.

Modern proverbs

- Wear a smile. One size fits all.
- Never lose sight of the fact that old age needs so little but needs that little so much.

- Plenty of people miss their share of happiness, not because they never found it, but because they didn't stop to enjoy it.

- An apology is a good way to have the last word.

- Forgiveness is a funny thing. It warms the heart and cools the sting.

Lone Star District gets sesquicentennial approval

The Texas Sesquicentennial Commission has approved the Lone Star District, International Lutheran Laymen's League, for official sanctioning as a "Texas Independence Association."

This official sanctioning enrolls the Lone Star District and gives the district the authority to implement sesquicentennial projects, celebrations and activities.

God answers prayer

God answers prayers for us. He much desires to affect change in us! Pray always the prayer of David: "Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me" (Psalm 51:10). Notice that his request concerned an inner change in his life! May we daily do likewise.

The Lord added . . .

Mt. Calvary, San Antonio added 19 new members to their fold on Oct. 27 and received an additional 12 new members on Dec. 1.

The Lord continues to bless the growth of **Good Shepherd, Cedar Park** with 17 new members in November.

In thanksgiving to the Lord, **Faith, Georgetown** received 22 new members on Nov. 17.

Hope, Austin had the privilege to accept three members via transfer and four new souls through adult confirmation during December.

Praise to the Lord for the addition of nine members to the **Redeemer, Austin** family by profession of faith, as well as six transfers during December.

Seventeen souls were added to **St. Philip, Houston** on Dec. 1.

Through God's grace, **Concordia, San Antonio** received 43 new members to their fold during December.

Redeemer, Beaumont gives praise and thanks to the Lord for the addition of 10 members received by transfer and affirmation of faith in December.

Eight new souls were welcomed into the forever family of **Trinity, Weatherford** in December.

On Dec. 15 **Our Savior, Dallas** was privileged to add five new members to their family through confir-

mation and transfer.

Mt. Olive, Corpus Christi rejoices with the addition of nine members to their congregation in November.

The Lord has richly blessed **Zion, Tomball** with 17 additional members in December.

Holy Cross, Arlington expanded its forever family with the addition of nine souls during December.

On Dec. 15 the Lord blessed **Our Savior, Dallas** with the addition of six souls welcomed to their congregation.

The congregation of **Grace, Midland** rejoiced in welcoming 19 new members to their fold on Dec. 15.

Thanking the Lord for His bounteous blessings, **Our Redeemer, Wichita Falls** added 14 souls into fellowship during December.

In command of Christ's Great Commission, **Cristo El Salvador, Del Rio** welcomed five newly confirmed members to their congregation on the last Sunday in November.



HOUSTON—Dec. 15 was a great day for Gethsemane, Houston with the addition of 21 new members by adult confirmation, profession of faith or baptism. Included were 14 adults who were confirmed—the largest class of adults ever confirmed at one time in Gethsemane's 32 year history. The congregation is served by Rev. Eugene Heckmann (right) and Rev. Chris Johnson.



KERRVILLE—These souls are part of the 24 new members who joined Holy Cross, Kerrville on Sunday, Dec. 8. This brings a total of 54 new adults and children to Holy Cross's spiritual family during 1985, plus three junior confirmands. Pastor Steve Kappler is pictured at the left; and Pastor Ahlert Strand is on the right.

Two new communicants were graciously received by profession of faith to the family of **St. Paul, Wichita Falls** on Dec. 15.

Good Shepherd, Pasadena warmly welcomed 11 new communicants to their forever family during December.

Rejoicing to have them in their midst, the congregation of **Our Redeemer, Dallas** added 11 new souls to the church roster in December.

Through transfer and confession of faith, five new members joined the congregation of **Our Savior, Granbury** in November.

St. Mark, Houston re-

ceived 15 new members on Dec. 8.

Two members were received through adult confirmation in November by the family of **Messiah, Houston**.

The heavens rejoice with each new soul won to Christ, as does **Concordia, Houston** who received an additional member on Nov. 24 through adult confirmation.

Christ Memorial, Houston extended the hand of fellowship to four new souls during December.

On Oct. 6 **St. Paul, Plano** accepted 42 new members into its fold. **St. Paul** has accepted approximately 90 new members into their congregation between June and November in 1985.

Send Your News to Bill

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

Bill Wagner, Editor
7900 U.S. 290 East
Austin, Tex. 78721



Alive in Christ says, 'We care'

by Rev. Dean Kelm
Pastor of Redeemer,
Odessa

It is so exciting to be involved in a program that says to the Lord, to His people and to the entire world—"We care!" There is no doubt just how much God cares for us. All we need to do is look to Bethlehem and to Calvary and there we see the reality of God's caring love.

- Alive in Christ says "We care" about people in far away lands who need to know Jesus as their personal Savior and the Lord of their lives;
- Alive in Christ says "We care" about people next door, in the next block, in the next town or city, in the next state—the people right around us who need to know Jesus as their personal savior and the Lord of their lives;
- Alive in Christ says "We care" enough to provide the best possible trained workers in the harvest fields of our glorious God;
- Alive in Christ says "We care" about people in the language of 1986, with modern methods, doing all we can to share the message of Christ quickly, economically and effectively;
- Alive in Christ says "We care" about those special people who did so much to give us the great church we have today. Those workers



HOUSTON—On the second Sunday in Advent 45 new members were added at Epiphany Lutheran Church in Houston by adult confirmation, profession of faith and transfer. The congrega-

tion rejoiced, noting that this was a 10 percent increase in membership, as the Lord returned to them a tithe! Rev. Bill Johnson is the pastor of Epiphany.



SAN ANTONIO—Approximately 50 adults were received into fellowship at Concordia Lutheran Church on Sunday, Nov. 24, by confirmation

and reaffirmation of faith. The instructor for the adult instruction class was Rev. Robert Jaeger.

who served the Lord and his people in years gone by deserve the best possible retirement conditions—not just our gratitude for all they have given to us;

- Alive in Christ says "We Care" about having our own house in good financial order—paying off the debt of past years when in a bold step of faith our leaders borrowed funds in order to keep vital ministries moving forward!

Alive in Christ is good for our church body. It is a good feeling to think of what fantastic accomplishments can take place when dedicated men and women are willing—even eager—to step forward and "put their money where their mouth is."

We are now entering the direct congregational in-



RICHARDSON—These folks are among the nine new souls received by profession of faith and transfer at Messiah Lutheran Church in Richardson.

volvement phase of Alive in Christ. Only God Himself really knows what more than 120,000 Lutheran Christians in Texas alone will do when the final results of Alive in Christ are tabulated in several months. But our God is still performing miracles—for

this we pray and for this we work! Join hands in the Alive in Christ effort—because you care too!

Be good to you

Be yourself—truthfully
Accept yourself—gratefully
Value yourself—joyfully
Forgive yourself—completely
Treat yourself—generously
Balance yourself—harmoniously
Bless yourself—abundantly
Trust yourself—confidently
Love yourself—wholeheartedly
Empower yourself—prayerfully
Give yourself—enthusiastically
Express yourself—radiantly

by William Arthur Ward

On Wings Like Eagles

by Lori Bachmann
Parish services associate

To provide opportunities of celebration and nurture enabling the participants to celebrate the majesty and mercy of God, to proclaim the hope we have in Jesus Christ, to celebrate our Lutheran heritage, to recognize and affirm the participants as baptized children of God, to explore the servant role, to discover and use our God-given gifts and to be a better witness—these are the goals of the Missouri Synod's Youth Gathering, **On Wings Like Eagles**.

The theme of this event is based on Isaiah 40:27-31. These verses tell of God's action in our lives, that God's people have moments of weakness, and despair; then of His deliverance through faith that brings to the believer the grace which strengthens and renews us.

This is a fitting theme for young people—and for all of God's people—as we face the challenges of life. The promise is there that God will strengthen us!

- Many youth and adults from Texas will be among the 10,000 people assembled from the United States, Canada and other countries. It will be an event long remembered and cherished by those attending.

The Gathering can also be beneficial to our local congregations, circuits, areas and in the district. Leadership skills and new ideas will be brought back



Jim Bradshaw, Texas District coordinator for the Youth Gathering, "On Wings Like Eagles."

along with various resources and insights from the Gathering experience. If youth from your church attend, ask them to share their experience with your church!

Daily themes of faith, freedom, justice, mercy and hope will be explored. Participants will have the opportunity to experience parts of the Gathering at various sites in the city—interacting with the surroundings and with others attending the Gathering.

- The district coordinator for this Gathering is Jim Bradshaw, the Director of Christian Education at Memorial Lutheran Church in Katy. His role is to assist district congregations with planning, travel ideas, pre-Gathering training and to organize a time for all the Texas groups to meet together in D.C., possibly with one of our state's legislators.

Training events for the family group leaders will be conducted in the four vice-presidential areas in May. Jim and I will be working with those workshops. If Jim or I can assist you

with Gathering plans, please contact us. Jim can be contacted at Memorial Lutheran Church, 5810 Third St., Katy, Tex. 77449, 713/391-0171, and I can be contacted at the district office, 512/926-4272. Easter blessings to you all!



Adele Hempel with her family.

Mrs. Hempel honored

The Texas District Sunday School Convention and the Sunday School Rally Day at St. Paul Lutheran Church, McAllen recently recognized Adele Hempel and also gave her a token of appreciation for more than 45 years of dedicated service as a Sunday school teacher.

Through the years, she has taught the primary, junior and intermediate levels. She has received special joys and blessings in teaching the younger children at St. Paul about God's love for them in Christ Jesus. On her own confirmation, her pastor, Rev. John G. Elser, discussed with her ways in which she might participate in the life and work of the church.

Elser suggested that Adele consider teaching Sunday school, so she began her service to her Lord and church in 1939 and is still teaching.

60th anniversary celebrated

Mr. and Mrs. Reinhardt Wunderlich observed their 60th wedding anniversary on Dec. 6. Bertha and Reinhardt are life-time members of Trinity, Klein where they were baptized, confirmed and married.

They have been active on boards, especially the Board of Education, in teaching Sunday school, ladies' organizations, Bible class and choir. They continue to serve the Lord whenever possible, spreading the joy of His Gospel.

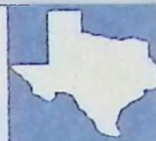
Pastor Beltz of Trinity stated, "They are a couple who have always been around when needed—not necessarily in the forefront, but always eager to serve the Lord. There aren't enough superlatives to describe the Christian example of love and faithfulness that this couple has given."



Mr. and Mrs. Reinhardt Wunderlich

Halley's comet

Texoma Lutheran Camp will sponsor special opportunities for sky-gazers to get a better look at Halley's comet.



Jesus is enough

Last September I attended a convention at which Donna Streufert led a devotion titled "Jesus is Enough." The power of that message has given me great comfort.

Her devotion was based on Col. 1:11, "We pray that you may be invigorated and strengthened with all power, according to the might of His glory, to exercise every kind of endurance and patience with joy."

As I go about my daily routine, I realize that I do not depend on myself—Jesus is in charge. He shows me His will if I only ask and listen to Him.

Jesus shows me how to love and asks me to share this love with others so they too may know that He is enough for them.

Jesus gives me the strength, power, patience and joy to be a reflection of Himself to others.

May Donna's prayer become yours also:

Dear Lord,

Help me to know Your will for me and to trust You; for Jesus, You are enough!

Help me behave with love, dear Lord, in board and committee meetings, in preparations and projects, in correspondence and casual conversation. Help me to love like You; for Jesus, You are enough!

Help me, Jesus, to run on Your power, not mine. Help me overcome my fear when it all seems too much for me.

Fill me with the endurance to turn a sour situa-

tion into something sweet; the patience to be forbearing with others, as You have been with me. Let Your joy spill out in my smile, my voice, my touch . . . for Jesus, You are more than enough for me!"

Gretchen Sump
Christian Growth
Chairman



Texas District LWML Convention Lubbock, June 18-20

LWMLers in Lubbock for the district convention this summer can expect to see lots of red, white and blue, reminding them of our state's sesquicentennial.

With 150 years of God's blessings to the Lone Star State in mind, a special post-convention tour has been planned to the nearby Ranching Heritage Center, where pioneer ranching lifestyles have been recreated.

The convention registration fee has been set at \$35, which includes the banquet June 19. Guest registration forms will appear in the next DISTRICT NEWS.

Plan now to be in Lubbock June 18-20 to "Praise Him! All Heaven and Earth!"

Rev. Charles S. Mueller chosen as convention speaker

The Texas District LWML is privileged to have Rev. Charles S. Mueller of Roselle, Ill., as its featured speaker for the 1986 Lubbock convention.

He also will serve as speaker for the opening service of praise.

Mueller is an author, essayist and lecturer. His publications include: *The Christian Family Prepares for Christmas*, *Getting Along*, parts of *Planning a Christian Wedding* and *Words of Our Faith*, a book of devotional definitions for new Christians.

His books of devotions and guidance for teenagers have been well received. His latest, *Let's Talk*, is scheduled for release in 1986.



Convention speaker Rev. Charles S. Mueller

Mueller has served as a parish pastor and as pastoral advisor for the Chesapeake District LWML and for the Capital District LLL. He has held several positions for the Southeastern District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, including two four-year terms as president.

Mite Report

Dec. 30, 1985

Total Goal	\$160,000
Received, Dec.	8,255
Received 19 mo.	131,379
Still Need	\$28,621

Send mites to Mina Fitting, 704 Dellwood, Midland 79703. MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO TEXAS DISTRICT LWML.

New to LWML

We welcome a new society to our district: Women's Auxiliary, Crown of Life, Rowlet.

Lutheran World Relief drive nearing

Societies and churches are reminded that the annual statewide drive for Lutheran World Relief will be held next month.

All clothing and "Parish Projects" need to be at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, 7611 Park Lane, Dallas 75225, no earlier than March 31 and no later than April 4. The fellowship hall will be open only from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. during this period.

For details regarding items needed, proper labeling of boxes and shipping of goods to Dallas, contact Mrs. Richard Boone, 175 Easton Rd, Dallas 75218, (214) 348-0479.

President O'Shoney chosen by International LWML

We are delighted to announce that the International LWML has chosen Texas District President Glenn O'Shoney as Proclaimer for the opening worship service of its 1987 international convention in Fort Worth.

The convention, which is expected to draw close to 7,000 delegates and guests, will carry out the theme "Radiant with God's Love."

The committee hopes to involve leaguers from the entire district in welcoming and serving our many Christian guests.

1985 World Hunger drive

A total of \$29,049.15 was donated in 1985 through the Texas District LWML for our special world hunger project.

These funds have been forwarded to the World Hunger program of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod for use throughout the world.

This special project has officially been concluded,

LWML news

LWML news should be sent to Dolores Bruncke, Texas District Editor, 3944 Meriman, Plano, Tex. 75074. Material for the April 1986 issue must be received by Feb. 21.

but those wishing to make further contributions should send donations directly to Synod's World Hunger in St. Louis.

We praise God for your generosity and continued support!

Completed projects

Rev. Karl Petzke, executive director of Lutheran Outdoors Ministry of Texas, thanks the Texas LWML for our completed Youth Cabin Project at Camp Lone Star. He states, "Your expression of love for this vital ministry is appreciated and cherished."

Rev. Peter Steinke, director of clergy care for Lutheran Social Services of Texas (LSST), writes: "Your \$4,500 grant has supported two workshops for pastors in the Valley and one in Amarillo, and will support several special workshops in 1986. In addition, five clergy have received assistance for individual counseling and two more will receive assistance for counseling fees. . . . Your support is greatly appreciated."

Four projects for this biennium have now been completed. Still waiting for funding are deaf ministries in Houston and Dallas, \$11,000; Mision Cristo el Salvador, \$7,000; and Texoma Lutheran Camp, \$1,300.

'Partners in Mission'

Last fall, a mission projects catalog, "Partners in

Mission," was sent by the Texas District to every congregation and women's society. The catalog includes descriptions of each mission ministry in Texas and a listing of needs that may be adopted by societies, day schools and Sunday schools.

A resolution to encourage use of this catalog was passed at our San Antonio convention.

To judge the usefulness of the catalog, a questionnaire has been sent to each society president from Rev. Fred Boden, director of missions in Texas. Presidents, your help is requested in returning the questionnaire to Boden's office as soon as possible.



Gina Franke, teen leaguer

Not only for adults

Gina Gayle Franke is an unusual LWMLer. A member of Grace, Smithville, she has been active in her society since 1983. In that time she has served as a Bible study leader, society secretary and is currently on the Christian growth committee of the Post Oak Zone.

Not unusual, you say? Consider that 1983 marked the date of Gina's confirma-

tion and that she is 16 years old!

The daughter of Zone President Iris Franke, Gina joined the LWML because there was no youth league at her church at the time. A youth group has since been formed and she takes an active part in it. In addition, she uses her musical talents to accompany the choir and as a church organist.

"Gina is no super teenager," states her mother. "She still experiences all the problems teenagers face in the world today. But all glory to You, Lord, I have a daughter who gets her 'kicks' from 'serving the Lord with gladness!'"

Post Oak is also the home zone of a second teenager, Maxine Hoffman of Immanuel, Giddings. Maxine, 16, is the daughter of Zone Prayer Chairman Lorene Hoffman and is a member of Immanuel's Ladies Aid.

Acquainted with LWML at an early age, Maxine has attended four district conventions. She is a member of her society's hospitality committee and goes directly from school to society meetings, which are held in the afternoons.

Maxine is an important link between her youth group and the women of the Aid. "I don't feel I'm forfeiting anything as a teenager," she states. "I feel I'm adding to my life."

These two Christian teens can serve as inspiration to all leaguers. Ladies, tell your daughters about the LWML and the joys available to them by serving God through it!



Austere district budget is result of difficult decisions

The Texas District Board of Directors has set the 1986 Texas District budget at \$4,930,470. Budget decisions faced by the Board were very difficult. The 1986 budget is an austerity budget—it is just two percent larger than last year's.

Eighty-five percent of all monies received in the Texas District office go directly to the mission and ministry of the church. Our national church body—for its program of missions in all the world—will receive 43 percent of every dollar that reaches our office.

The majority of all remaining funds flows to the mission department of our district . . . for the exciting program of missions right here in Texas. We will continue to open new missions in 1986—but a couple less than in previous years.

We will continue to fund ministries throughout this district . . . but a little less generously than we have in the past. We will continue to look for opportunities to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ . . . but we may have to find some new and less expensive ways to reach some of those challenges.

• We will be asking everyone to be conscious of travel expenses, we will attempt to hold down costs while at the same time maintaining the servant role of the district, we will not be able to hold some very important conferences. The difficult decision was made to cancel the



Glenn O'Shoney

1986 missionaries conferences, the New Workers Orientation Conference and one of two circuit counselors conferences.

While this will save the district \$10,000—it will also cost us. These conferences are important parts of the support system that we have built for church professionals.

Unfortunately, these are conferences where the major portion of the expense is borne directly by the district—not the congregations. Because of that they become fair game when you start looking to save some dollars—reduce a budget. I hope that these conferences can be brought back into the district program as early as next year.

• But it's not all gloom and doom! The people of the Texas District—you people—are an extremely generous people. We see that generosity reflected in your congregational income . . . we see that generosity reflected in the dollars that are sent to the district and through us to the national

church body.

Our people of Texas give at a far greater per communicant rate than any other district in The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. For that we are proud of you.

It may be good for us to have a year like this occasionally—to have to take a very close look at every budget item and make mission and ministry decisions about the expense. Although the budget will be tight . . . make no mistake about it, your church, through its district, will be active and aggressive in mission in Texas.

• The economy has grown soft in Texas, and this certainly has impacted on our parishes. But let's not begin feeling sorry for ourselves. We are an incredibly blessed people! We are blessed to be a blessing!

We will tighten our belts, but it will not curtail our message . . . God was in Christ, reconciling the world Himself, no longer charging their sins against them . . . Christ is the way, the truth and the life, no man comes to the Father but by Him . . . yes, God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

Alive in Christ

We are pretty well down to the congregational phase of the Alive in Christ spe-

cial synodical appeal. The major gifts portion of the program went very well. An advanced gifts portion went reasonably well. The important question, for the success of the whole program, is what will happen in our congregations—in your congregation.

My hope and prayer is that your congregation will be an active participant in the **Alive in Christ** appeal. My hope and prayer is that you personally will count it a privilege to make a special gift for this offering.

The dollars we collect will be used to totally pay the operating deficit of the Synod, to strengthen the ministry through our educational units, to strengthen the mission of the church in the world and in North America (most North American mission funds will move toward ethnic ministry support), to assist some of our retired workers who are living on inadequate incomes, to assist in the communications area of the work of the church.

Synod is managing its resources and managing them well. The opportunities and the challenges, however, exceed the dollars they have available. **Alive in Christ** will make wonderful things possible!

Again, I pray that you will be an active participant—one who gives a gift to the **Alive in Christ** special appeal.

Glenn O'Shoney
President, Texas District

New congregation is effective way to reach unchurched, so let's plant a church

The First Great Commission Church Planting Seminar was held on January 12 at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Bellmead (Waco), Tex. The four-and-a-half-hour seminar was attended by more than 70 pastors and laypersons representing the congregations of Circuit 18, from Waco and the surrounding area.

The participants received inspiration, useful information on church planting and some how-to's as they contemplated the planting of the new mission in Mexia during 1986. The seminar was led by Rev. Fred Boden, mission director for the Texas District.

• The purpose of the seminar is to introduce participants to a new dimension of potential ministry and outreach for their congregation or group of congregations—namely, new church planting.

The seminar is a basic introduction to church planting and is the one resource to be used in fulfilling District Convention Resolution #7-4-85: To Implement New Church Planting by Circuits of the District.

That resolution further encourages circuits to sponsor and plant one new mission in their circuit area between now and 1990.

The seminar is divided into six modules:

1. **Discovering the Great Commission and the Importance of New Churches**, which includes a programmed Bible study,



Rev. Fred Boden

lecture information on church growth, a video presentation on the topic "Why New Churches?" and a church planting game.

2. **The Great Commission, New Churches and the Missouri Synod**, in which church planting activities, statistics and observations within the Synod are studied via a video presentation.

3. **Obstacles and Excuses in Church Planting**, which uses a drama on video and small group discussion to help participants face many of the excuses why a church should not be concerned with starting new churches.

4. **How our Church was Born**, a report from participating congregations on how their congregations were started.

5. **Great Commission Case Studies of New Churches**, which details and models five new mission endeavors in Synod and how they began. Included are three studies from the Texas District—

Coppell, North San Antonio and Atlanta.

6. **A Church is Born**, in which another video presentation highlights some of the challenges, joys, setbacks, frustrations and eventual successes of a newly-planted church.

The determination to sponsor, plant and support a new church in Mexia was the final outcome of the seminar. Presently, a task force is being formed with representatives from each of the circuit congregations to lay plans for the beginning of the new mission.

A special task force guide is provided as they lay their plans. A spring candidate from the seminary is being called to serve as church planter. He will work in a dual parish arrangement with Trinity Lutheran Church in Fairfield. The congregations will be setting aside funding over and above their regular world mission contributions for the support of this new venture.

• How was the seminar received? The following is an excerpt from an unsolicited letter from a Clifton congregation layperson a couple of days following the seminar:

"Please accept my thanks for your efforts in bringing the seminar on church planting to use in Waco this past Sunday. I was privileged to attend along with Pastor (Russell) Hess and three other members of Immanuel from Clifton. Driving home that evening, the general consensus was an excitement over what our Lord can accomplish through our willingness to



plant churches in His name. . . . Again, thank you for bringing the seminar to us."

The resource materials were developed by Drs. Win and Chip Arn of the American Institute for Church Growth in Pasadena, Calif., especially for The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

• If your congregation or circuit would care to have such a presentation, please be in touch with the district mission office to arrange a date. There are presently three persons who are trained to lead it.

As Dr. Win Arn says, *"The most compelling reason (for planting new churches) is that new congregations are the most effective way to reach unchurched people."*

And—after all— isn't that the challenge and charge of our Lord's Great Commission to us?

First school

The first Lutheran school in Texas was established in 1855 at First Lutheran Church of Low Pin Oak in Bastrop County, later named St. Paul Lutheran School in Lee County, Serbin.



Baylor University honors Lutheran business leader as Distinguished Alumnus

An internationally-recognized Lutheran business leader has been named a Distinguished Alumnus by the Baylor University Alumni Association.

Walter F. Beran, a former Texan now living in California, was honored Jan. 17 at the Distinguished Alumni Banquet in Waco.

Beran lived in San Antonio from 1948 to 1965 where he was a partner with Ernst & Whinney, an international accounting and consulting firm. He and his wife Annette and sons, John and James, were members of Concordia Lutheran in San Antonio.

Presently, he is vice chairman of Ernst & Whinney, headquartered in Los Angeles. He is chairman of the Board of Councillors, School of Business Administration, University of Southern California.

He is a past chairman and member of the executive committee of the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce and commissioner of the California State World Trade Commission. This year he is chairman of the Greater Los Angeles United Way campaign with a goal of \$86 million.

Over the last decade, Beran has developed a keen interest in Japan-U.S. relations. He visits Japan regularly for extensive discussions with key business and government lead-



Walter F. Beran

ers and has been influential in bringing Japanese and California leaders and communities into a closer relationship.

Beran is a native Texan, raised in The Grove. He graduated cum laude from Baylor in 1948.

In 1983, chief executive officers of California firms named him one of four "exceptional leaders" in Los Angeles.

St. Paul's outreach ministry is growing

Besides the 900 worshippers attending church services at St. Paul Lutheran Church in McAllen, there are some 300 others the congregation is reaching with the good news.

These are "Winter Texans" who live in recreational vehicle (RV) parks in the community.

According to Erich Brauer, outreach coordinator, this figure could increase significantly as additional parks begin offering this service.

Three retired pastors, who spend the winter months in the Valley, are engaged in this ministry on behalf of the St. Paul congregation.

As believers, we respond to our Lord's call to be His witnesses

The theme of our synodical thank offering is based on the sixth chapter of Romans.

The apostle reminds us of the real truth that in our baptism our sinful self died with Christ, and even as Jesus was raised to life on the third day, so we walk in newness of life. We are "alive to God in Christ Jesus." That means we are responsive to God.

Having victory over death and sharing in new life by the power of the Spirit, we are not controlled by sin. Rather, we live "under grace." The grace of God is our power and is the source of meaning and direction in our lives. We can respond to the Lord God as He speaks to us through His Word. What a blessing we share!

The Lord is calling us to be His witnesses to the ends of the earth. As believers we respond to this call. Through our *Alive in Christ*, nearly all of us have the capability of bringing a special gift. Will you do so?

Do we really mean business as members of Synod? Are we going to give our "above and beyond" gift for the work we do together in our Synod?

I am praying and working to make this happen. We are a richly blessed people here in Texas. Let's take the lead in responding to the Lord's call as we proclaim and teach His word to all the nations.

Our gifts to *Alive in*



Christ will support this gracious work!

Pastor Dave Joeckel
Grace Lutheran Church
Arlington

Faithful doorkeeper is called home

At his funeral, he was called "A doorkeeper in the house of God."

Edwin G. Kilian had been head usher at St. Paul Lutheran Church, Austin, for 68 years. He died Jan. 12 and services were held at St. Paul on Jan. 15.

He was born Aug. 7, 1901, at Serbin and moved to Austin in 1917.

According to St. Paul Pastor Fred Neumann, "Ed Kilian was a faithful member of St. Paul Lutheran Church and served tirelessly, his name becoming synonymous with the church's name."

Kilian also served St. Paul as church treasurer.

He served in his role as head usher the Sunday before his death.

Did you know

That in our Lutheran church we confirm only 58 percent of the people we baptize?

The Lord added . . .

It was quite a December Sunday for Gethsemane, Houston, which received 21 new members, including 14 adults by confirmation. Praise the Lord!

On Jan. 19, the congregation of Trinity, Waco, welcomed four new members.

At its last voters assembly meeting, the congregation of Trinity Lutheran, Houston, accepted 10 persons into membership.

On Dec. 15, it was the blessed privilege of Prince of Peace, Carrollton, to hear the confession of faith of 23 Christian people who, with their families, joined the church as communicant members.

By confirmation, profession of faith and transfer, 29 Christians became members of Good Shepherd, Pasadena, in January.

On Dec. 22, Concordia Lutheran, San Antonio, joyously received 10 new members by transfer and reprofession of faith.

Welcoming 12 new members into their congregational family during December were the members of St. Andrew, Houston.

A warm welcome was extended on Dec. 15 to 15 people who joined the congregation of Zion Lutheran, Dallas, by transfer and profession of faith.

King of Kings, San Antonio, received 25 members on Dec. 22 through adult



FORT WORTH—The Lord continues to bless Redeemer, Fort Worth, which recently received 48 persons into membership—by transfer, confession of faith, baptism and seven by adult confirmation. For 1985, Redeemer added 76 adults

and children, 17 by adult confirmation. The congregation is looking toward a major building program in 1986 that will include a new family life center. Carl C. Reiter is pastor.

confirmation, profession of faith and transfer.

Four new families became part of the family of Concordia, Garland, on Dec. 1.

Joining the forever family of Christ Memorial, Houston, were 14 new members in January. Also four infants were placed in the arms of Jesus through baptism.

On Dec. 8, six persons were welcomed into communicant membership at Peace Lutheran, Hewitt, and one child was baptized.

The First Family, First Lutheran, Lufkin, welcomed six new members in December through transfer and adult confirmation.

A joyous December at Mt. Olive, Corpus Christi, saw 20 new members re-

ceived by adult confirmation, transfer and baptism.

Called together by the Holy Spirit are 16 new members of Our Redeemer, Dallas, who joined the congregation on Jan. 5 by confirmation, transfer and profession of faith.

Extending the hand of Christian fellowship to six adult confirmands in December was the congregation of Immanuel, Houston.

On Jan. 12, Redeemer, Odessa, welcomed eight new members into its fellowship of believers.

Special stamps

Church Extension Fund Stamps won't mail a letter, but they will help build a chapel for a new congregation.

Tax savings

Individual Retirement Accounts are an effective way of achieving income tax savings while building a retirement fund. IRAs in the Lutheran Church Extension Fund pay competitive interest and while your retirement fund grows you are helping provide loans at favorable rates to congregations to build or expand their churches and schools.

They're superior

The Lutheran Home of West Texas, Lubbock, and Trinity Lutheran Home, Shiner, have received superior ratings from the Texas Department of Health. Both are administered by Lutheran Social Services of Texas.



MIDLAND—These are some of the 19 members recently received by Grace Lutheran Church of Midland. Five came by transfer, four by profession of faith, six by adult confirmation and four children were included.



WINNIE—Dec. 22 was another special day in the life of Hope Congregation, Winnie, as four new families were welcomed by confirmation and baptism. Pastor Curt Schneider said, "God has richly blessed us with these precious souls. Through the gift of His spirit, their lives will never be the same. Neither will ours."

RICHARDSON—Shane White, by adult confirmation, and Susan Jones by baptism (picture at right) were received in December at Messiah Lutheran Church, Richardson.



District calendar

April

- 1-2—Staff retreat, LBJ
- 4-6—Peer ministry training, Houston
- 5-6—Family camping, LBJ municipal park, Fredricksburg
- 10—Adult Ministry Committee, Dallas
- 15—Circuit 21, San Juan
- 20—Church Extension Fund Sunday
- 24—Discipleship Convocation meeting, district office
- 25—Concordia Field Day
- 26-27—Social Ministry and Youth Workshop
- 25-27—Jubilation Weekend, Texoma

May

- 2-4—LLL convention, San Angelo
- 3—Synodical Youth Gathering group leader training, Area C, San Antonio, LaGrange
- 4—Synodical Youth Gathering group leader training, Area B, Arlington
- 10—Synodical Youth Gathering group leader training, Area A, Lubbock
- 12-15—DCE Facilitator Conference, LaGrange
- 17—Synodical Youth Gathering group leader training, Area D, Houston
- 18-19—Board of Mission Administration
- 19—Board for Parish Services
- 20—District Board of Directors
- 21—Circuit 21, Bethany
- 21-22—Staff retreat, Lone Star
- 23-25—LOMT married couples camping, Inks State Park
- 30-31—Convention floor committee meeting, St. Louis

30-June 1—LOMT summer staff orientation, Lone Star



Pastor Bud Redmann

Pastor Bud Redmann ordained, installed at San Antonio

Rev. Louis J. (Pastor Bud) Redmann was ordained Jan. 5 at Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church in San Antonio.

During the same service, he was installed as the congregation's assistant pastor. His chief responsibility will be to lead the congregation in responding to its outreach opportunities.

Redmann served the congregation as vicar during 1985. With his wife, Eunice, he came to San Antonio from Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, where he enrolled in pastoral training after his retirement from the U.S. Air Force.

Lutheran Hour

Central and South Texas listeners can hear the Lutheran Hour on KTAE in Taylor, KGID in Giddings, KLBK in Austin and KKYX in San Antonio.

She helped herself, her family and church growth forever

by Carl A. Heckmann
Executive Director
of Development
Texas District

Helen Abernathy asked the Lutheran Foundation of Texas to help her in some financial planning.

Mrs. Abernathy had a few simple goals set for herself. She was looking for a method to help herself, her family and the Church Extension Fund of the Texas District.

It wasn't a difficult request. After a visit and a few telephone calls, both Mrs. Abernathy and the executive director of the Lutheran Foundation of Texas signed a trust agreement and the gift was made to the trust.

• This is what will happen for Mrs. Abernathy in the future . . .

1. The gift is managed by the Lutheran Foundation of Texas with the assets invested in the Church Extension Fund.

2. For the current year, she receives a considerable tax benefit as a result of the gift to the trust.

3. She knows the funds she earned and saved are serving the mission program of the Texas District.

4. She is receiving a quarterly check from the Lutheran Foundation of Texas for the agreed upon return on the gift.

5. This income will be coming to her as long as she lives.

6. Upon her death, the

same earnings will go to her daughter, as specified in the trust agreement, for an additional 20 years.

7. At the end of that time, the trust assets will flow into the Permanent Fund of the Church Extension Fund, there to serve the mission program of the Texas District from then on.

In a recent letter, Mrs. Abernathy wrote to the Foundation, *"I am happy that the Lord has led me to further our mission program here in our state by starting new missions. I would also want to stress that I am, by no means, wealthy. Anyone can give of the blessings which God has given to His children."*

She continued, *"It has been a pleasure working with you and my privilege to become acquainted with you."*

This is but one way the Directors of the Lutheran Foundation of Texas can help you meet whatever goals you have set for yourself and your estate.

If either Pastor Kieschnick or I can assist you, call or write . . .

**The Lutheran Foundation
of Texas**
7900 U.S. 290 East
Austin, Tex. 78724
(512) 926-4272

Did you know

That 37 percent of our congregations gained less than one person in 1984?



Lutheran Foundation of Texas



Carl A. Heckmann

Rules suggested for use of church property

Redeemer Lutheran of Beaumont has suggested some simple rules about the use of church property:

- If you open it, close it.
- If you turn it on, turn it off.
- If you unlock it, lock it.
- If you break it, repair it.
- If you can't fix it, report it to the trustees.
- If you borrow it, return it.
- If you use it, don't abuse it.
- If you make a mess, clean it up.
- If you move it, put it back.
- If it belongs to someone else, get permission to use it.

Send Your News to Bill

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

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

"Thank you for remembering these simple rules," says the Redeemer Congregation newsletter.

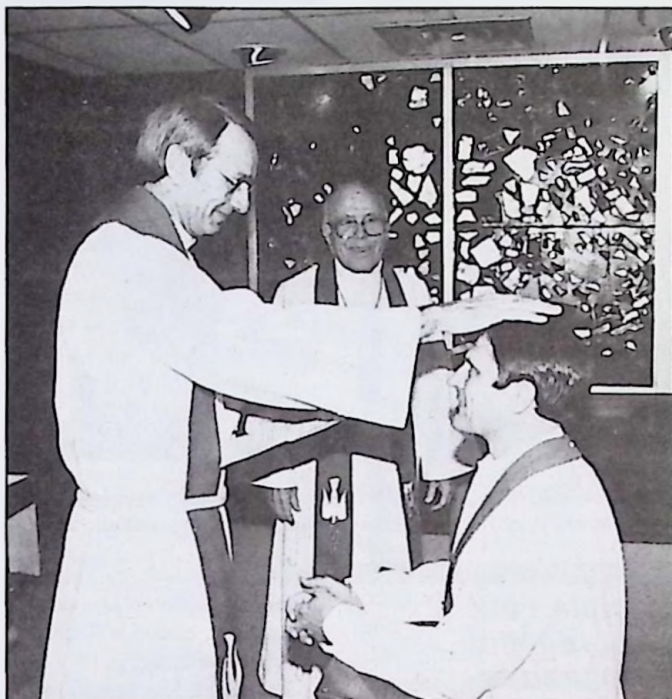
Deaths

Mrs. Marie Horn

Mrs. August (Marie Klunkert) Horn died Dec. 31 in Austin. She was the wife of Rev. August Horn, retired, of Manheim. Besides her husband, she is survived by four daughters, a son, 15 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren. Two sisters also survive. Mrs. Horn, a native of White Oak, Tex., was 80. Services were held Jan. 3 at Ebenezer Lutheran in Manheim.

Erich Friedrich Wendland

Erich Friedrich Wendland, 85, of Fedor, who taught in Lee County Lutheran parochial schools for nearly a half-century, died Aug. 8 of last year. His first call was to Christ Lutheran School in Loebau where he taught for 18 years. He accepted a call to Trinity Lutheran School in Fedor in 1942 where he was teacher, organist and choir director. He retired in 1977. He is survived by his wife, Frieda, of Fedor, three sons, two brothers, and 10 grandchildren.



INSTALLED—Rev. Gerald Kieschnick is installed by District President Glenn O'Shoney as Director of Development for the Lutheran Foundation of Texas. Looking on is Dr. Carl A. Heckmann, who heads the district's Church Extension Fund and Foundation efforts as executive director.



SEXTON SUPERIOR—Zion Lutheran of Abilene recently honored Arthur Siewert for 35 years of service supervising the church's heating and cooling. A special "sexton's pin" was awarded by Erwin Witt, chairman of the board of trustees. The specially-designed pin is shaped like a thermostat. Here Siewert is congratulated by Pastor J. Russell Kinser, right.



SENIOR POWER—These folks are members of St. Mark, Conroe. All are 80 or older. They put in many hours of work in the Good Samaritan Thrift Shop in Conroe which takes in more than \$1,000 a month and helps support the Good Samaritan Home in Cypress. What a blessing are, left to right, Myrtle and John Wetts, Barbara and Joe Cours, Grace Johnson, and Jess and Myrthe Homes.



FIVE GENERATIONS—Immanuel Lutheran of Houston is proud of its five generation family members. They are great-great-grandmother Anna Foerster; great-grandmother Maxine Foerster Shoup; grandmother Jo Ann Shoup Squyres; mother Melony Squyres Thomas; and the little guy, Braden Zachary Thomas.

Whatever cleanliness is next to, this church is close to being there

Mel and Kathy Riecke of St. Peter Lutheran Church, Gun Barrel City, were scheduled to clean their church on a recent Saturday.

Because of illness, helping children move and an avalanche of paperwork, the Rieckes were not sure if they could fill their cleaning chore.

Kathy mentioned their problem to Sue Parsons, wife of Pastor Daniel Parsons; so Sue and Pastor decided to clean the church themselves.

As they were dusting and mopping that Saturday afternoon, up drove members Dan and Edna Wiethorn, who somehow sensed the church might need cleaning. So the four of them gave it a good going over.

Meanwhile, Mel and Kathy finished their earlier commitments and came by the church to clean it.

Kathy remarked that "the pews didn't seem to have any dust," but she and Mel cleaned the church anyway.

And Sunday, the church sparkled. But why not, with three cleanings?

Lutheran youth behind bars

As one of their class assignments, members of the junior confirmation class of Concordia Lutheran Church, Garland, toured the Dallas County Jail.

Accompanied by the jail chaplain, who took Bibles to some of the prisoners, Pastor Gerald L. Nichols asked the youth to write impressions of their tour.

Some statements were:

"I would never want to be there. It is not the best place in the world."

"The way the prisoners looked! You could tell by the way they acted that they really didn't want to be there, even though they tried to look real cool. I couldn't live like that."

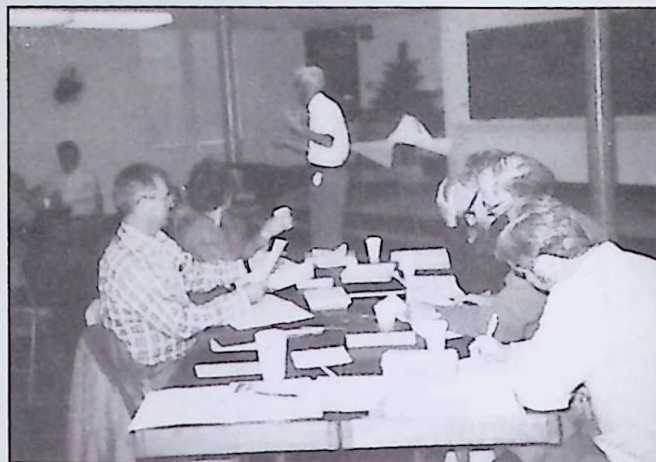
"Seeing the prisoners all chained together."

"I was surprised by the way they looked. In prison they make them cut their hair and shave."

The class members also were asked to write a prayer based on their experience. Some examples:

"Dear God, please let all the prisoners know that You care about them and that they are Yours. Thank You for giving those churches such success in spreading the Word through the jail. Let them know You will forgive their sins if they except (sic) You in Your name. Amen."

"Dear Heavenly Father, I pray that You will help the prisoners to understand and to help them with their problems and keep them safe. Help me not to make a mistake like they did. Amen."



WORKSHOP—One of the three tables of participants working through issues at the St. Paul Lutheran leadership workshop. Pastor Thomas V. Handrick is shown leading the discussion.

Wichita Falls congregation emphasizes leadership training

The officers and board members of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Wichita Falls are well prepared for their leadership roles.

In January, the annual Leadership Workshop was conducted in a day-long session by Pastor Thomas Handrick.

Twenty-three past, continuing and newly-elected leaders participated in the conference. Activities included an ongoing devotional Bible study titled, "Who/What Am I?"

Also part of the workshop was a discussion of administrative items consisting of "What It Means To Be A Leader," "Congregational Financial Flow, Accounting and Reporting," "Proposed Salary Guidelines," the Texas District Church Extension Fund and the Alive in Christ appeal.

Further study examined

the complementary relationship between the congregation, called workers and goal setting.

Handrick has been conducting these workshops since 1978.

Corpus Christi children cope with puzzling numbers

Many Texans have found the 911 emergency system to be of valuable assistance in calling for help.

Children in the Mt. Olive Lutheran Church preschool in Corpus Christi have also found it to be a bit puzzling. The problem is that many of the children have home phone numbers that start with "991."

This has naturally created confusion since teachers have been emphasizing home addresses and phone numbers with the youngsters and also teaching them how to dial for emergency aid.

Teachers have asked the Mt. Olive parents to help them work with the children to eliminate confusion.



LSST chaplain brings comfort to parents of burned 4-year-old

Life and death.

Helping people to deal with the realities of both is what hospital chaplains of Lutheran Social Services of Texas do day after day.

• In this story, Chaplain Robert B. Wedergren of Galveston relates one experience:

At 1 a.m. on a cold wintry night, my beeper went off—right in the midst of a deep sleep. The message: "Call the Shrine Burns Hospital."

I soon discovered that a four-year-old child had arrested again, one of several such medical crises 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 told me that she was concerned about her husband and asked that I talk to him in the adjacent hallway.

There, visiting with the staff psychologist who had spent many caring moments with the parents, we exchanged introductions. I briefly conveyed that I understood their day had



GOOD NEWS!—That's what LSST chaplains do—bring the message of God's love, comfort and hope, day by day to the sick, troubled and mentally ill at 27 locations.

been unbelievably difficult and painful. I asked the father if there was anything he wished to talk about—following the lead suggested by his wife.

• His answer as he began to turn 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 where his wife was. The three of us now formed a semicircle around the baby.

He went down on his knees and bowed his head. I whispered to his wife, "Your husband has asked that we have a prayer." She nodded.

• As we held hands and bent over the child, the odor of charred flesh and the antiseptic wrappings merged to form a smell one does not forget. We prayed

for strength and acceptance . . . and for God's love in Christ to embrace us in the midst of something we did not understand or want. Then silence.

I stepped back as the husband came around the bed to embrace his wife. They had given evidence in word and demeanor that they were devoted as parents and to each other.

The psychologist and I stepped out by the nursing station briefly to be in touch with our feelings and to visit about this experience.

Suddenly, the bright lights went on in the room—it was close to 2 a.m.—the child had died.

At this point, the parents left by the hall door. We reentered the room, stopped by the child's lifeless form and, as the staff went about their work, we went to the hall to find the parents.

As we split up to see if we could locate them, the strains of "I'll Be Home for

Christmas" came softly over the loudspeaker. I thought to myself: "Christmas comes to the real world in the midst of life and death, in dimly lit hospital rooms, and on 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?

Oh, yes. If a person is superstitious, the child died on Friday the 13th; yet it was a day like any other, sanctified by the presence of the Good News.

(Statewide, there are 27 chaplains under the LSST umbrella of services. Ministering, day by day, in a variety of settings—including hospitals, nursing homes and correctional institutions—these chaplains bring the Good News to the sick, troubled and mentally ill. For more information about the LSST Chaplaincy Program, call 512-459-1000.)

An important date approaches

To guarantee full financial aid (100 percent of need filled), an important date is coming up for students who plan to enroll at Concordia Lutheran College.

The date is April 30, 1986.

Lynette Heckmann, director of financial aid, explains, "If a student has financial need, and if all financial aid materials are received at Concordia by April 30, and if he is willing to accept all forms of aid offered by the college, including grants, work and loans; that student will receive 100 percent of his financial need."

Students applying for financial aid after April 30 may not have 100 percent of need filled, although they will receive some assistance.

In order to assure processing by fall registration, the deadline for application for financial aid is July 15.

Explaining financial aid

"I would like to go to Concordia, but I can't afford it."

Concordia's admissions counselors very frequently hear this comment as they talk with prospective students. The counselor is then able to explain the availability of financial aid and how it makes a Concordia education affordable.

But what about those students and their parents who never investigate the possibilities—who reject



Lynette Heckmann, Concordia's director of financial aid, is available to help students and their parents complete financial aid forms.

Concordia at the onset of college planning because of preconceived notions about the high costs of private education?

Many have the idea that only those from very poor families can qualify for financial aid. Not true. Many students from middle income families also qualify.

For example, 51 percent of Concordia students now receiving financial aid come from families with incomes from \$27,000 to \$44,999; and 13 percent come from families with incomes of \$45,000 and above.

Of course, each family is expected to contribute a reasonable amount to the student's education. A nationwide formula has been developed to determine that amount, taking into consideration as family income, family size, normal family expenses and even extraordinary expenses, such as illnesses.

A financial statement prepared by the student

and parents and processed by an independent agency uses this formula to determine the family contribution.

The family contribution and any outside assistance are then compared to the total cost of college attendance, which includes tuition and fees, room and board, transportation to and from home, books and some personal expenses. The amount not covered by family contribution and other resources is the student's need for assistance. He is eligible to receive that amount in financial aid.

Because costs vary from college to college, a given student may be eligible for financial aid at one college and ineligible for aid at another. The only way to find out about eligibility for financial aid at Concordia is to apply by requesting and completing a Financial Aid Packet from the Financial Aid Office, 3400 IH 35 N., Austin, Tex. 78705.

If you know a student who has rejected the possibility of obtaining a Christ-centered education at Concordia because of financial considerations, please share this information.

What about scholarships?

In addition to providing financial aid, Concordia assists students by awarding scholarships on the basis of outstanding past performance in academic or extra-curricular activities. These are not based on need, but on accomplishment.

Students may qualify for a four-year renewable scholarship or for a one-year scholarship.

The Scholarship Committee has already begun making awards, but the final deadline for application is not until July 1. Application forms are available from Concordia's Financial Aid Office.

You can help

You can help Concordia provide financial aid and scholarships. The college continues to seek donors interested in assisting Concordia students.

On this topic, Martin Luther wrote, "If the father is poor, let the child be aided (to attend a Lutheran school) with the property of the Church. The rich should make bequests to such object, as some have done, who have founded scholarships; that is giving money to the Church in a proper way."



Student Government President Joel Dittmer plants the first "Tree for Texas."

CLC begins sesquicentennial project

On Arbor Day, Concordia planted a live oak tree in front of Kilian Hall, beginning "Trees for Texas," a project to commemorate the 150th birthday of the state.

Concordia plans to plant 150 trees to celebrate the sesquicentennial. Many of the new trees will replace existing ones which are dying, while others will be used to landscape the new communication and fine arts building.

Individuals and church

groups are invited to join Concordia in celebrating the sesquicentennial by sending \$20 to the Development Office at the College to purchase a "Tree for Texas."

New majors offered

In a continued effort to better serve its constituency, Concordia will introduce two new majors in fall 1986—church music and behavioral science.

The new majors will join the five already established: business management, communication, elementary education, general studies and Mexican-American studies. All lead to the Bachelor of Arts degree.

The church music major has been designed to prepare both church-work and non church-work students for church music leadership. Students may select either a conducting or an organ emphasis.

The behavioral science major will include studies in psychology, sociology and communication to prepare students for graduate school or for careers in social service areas.

As with the other CLC majors, the two new offerings can prepare young men for seminary entrance. The behavioral science major, in particular, should be helpful in preparation for pastoral duties.

Choir plans spring tour

The Concordia College Choir will sing at churches in the Houston area and in Louisiana on this year's annual spring tour. The 40-member choir will be accompanied by several instrumentalists and by the Handbell Choir as it presents a musical program of worship and praise. Prof. Harold Rutz directs the group.

These Lutheran churches will host the choir on the following dates:

Thursday, April 10
Christ Memorial, Houston

Friday, April 11
Trinity, Baton Rouge, La.

Saturday, April 12
St. Matthew, New Orleans, La.

Sunday, April 13
St. Paul, Groves

Monday, April 14
Salem, Tomball

Each year, the Concordia Choir tours a different area of Texas and the south. Contact Rutz at the college if you would like to invite the Choir to your church next year.



The Concordia College Choir will tour Louisiana and the Houston area in April.

"And P.S., God, please watch over and bless my young friend, . . ."

A way has been devised for many adults of Christ Memorial Lutheran Church in Houston to have a significant part in youth ministry. It's called the "P.S. Program."

Here's how it works. Any adult church member may sign up to be a part of the P.S. Program for one year.

Adults who are a part of the program are asked to add a "P.S." to their daily prayers—to pray for a specific young person of the congregation.

When they sign up, they are asked to attend a P.S. meeting where a brief Bible study review is given on prayer along with full details of the P.S. Program.

Then each member receives the name of a youth for whom they can pray.

Happenings in Texas

The midweek Bible study classes for children at **Our Savior, Granbury**, is called *"God's Happy Hour."*

Congratulations to Rusty McDonald, member of **Grace Lutheran, Orange**, who was elected fire chief of the Little Cypress Volunteer Fire Department. Also, Scott and Shannon McDonald were named Junior Fire Fighters of the Year.

Pastor Stephen Hower left **St. Paul Lutheran, Groves**, on Jan. 12 for **St. Louis**. He accepted a call as Director of Development for Concordia Seminary there.

Three members of **St. Paul, Edna**, are directors of **Oak Creek Village**, a newly-developed retirement community in Edna. They are Mrs. Anita Koop, Joe Hermes and Mrs. Lillian Wiede.

On Jan. 24, the Prayer Circle of **Grace Lutheran, Midland**, held a daylong prayer vigil with members

of the circle praying in shifts in the sanctuary from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Earlier, congregation members had submitted prayer requests.

Rev. Timothy Dinger of Marlin was installed as pastor of **Trinity Lutheran, Port Arthur**, on Jan. 19.

Congratulations to Bill and Irma Zwernemann, members of **St. Mark, Houston**, who recently celebrated their 53rd wedding anniversary.

In January the Men's Club of **Immanuel, Copperas Cove**, visited the Central Texas College planetarium where they witnessed a special star show designed to give a possible scientific explanation of the star of Bethlehem.

David Grassley was ordained into the holy ministry and installed as associate pastor at **Memorial Lutheran, Houston**, on Dec. 22.

Holy Cross, Arlington, celebrated its 10th anniversary



YULE JOY—This is the float constructed and entered by Faith Lutheran Congregation in the Gainesville community Christmas parade.

sary with special services on Feb. 9.

A reception given by their friends and fellow members of Good Shepherd, Mount Pleasant, marked the observance of the 60th wedding anniversary of **Mr. and Mrs. Ed Keil**.

And special good wishes also to Emil and Amanda Laake of **St. Mark, Houston**, who celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in December.

St. Philip, Houston, has formed a folk choir of singers and guitarists interested in contemporary Christian music.

Christmas Day has extra meaning for Lorenz and Ida Wuensche of **Trinity Lutheran, Spring**, who celebrated their 58th wedding anniversary last Dec. 25.

And congratulations to Mike and Anette Koenig of

Our Redeemer, Dallas, who were married 50 years on Jan. 5.

Two Lutheran churches in Houston recently celebrated anniversaries. On Dec. 8, **Messiah Lutheran** marked its 62nd anniversary and **St. Michael Lutheran**, observed its 25th anniversary on Jan. 19.

Making all the right moves was Walter Storkel of **Trinity Lutheran, Houston**, who won first place in Class A chess competition sponsored by the Houston Chess Association.

Dedication of the new Good Shepherd church building at Angleton, which was constructed with the help of the **Laborers for Christ**, was held Jan. 26.

Observing the 25th anniversary of the dedication of their church and fellowship hall was the congregation of **Immanuel, Giddings**, on Jan. 19.



PLOWING AHEAD—Pastor Glen Krans leads the congregation in prayer following the ground-breaking for the new Grace Lutheran Church at

Seguin. The group all pulled on ropes attached to plowshare for the ceremony.

My wants are great, my needs are few, but this is what I want to do

Mr. and Mrs. James Anderson are happy people!

They have so much for which they thank their Lord.

Theirs is a happy marriage. They have three fine children—all members of the church. There's one beautiful granddaughter. They're not wealthy, but find that their needs are taken care of. They have been saving a portion of their income across the years. And, under God's blessing, this has come to be a neat little sum.

Just recently a \$10,000 CD came due, and they were prevailed upon to invest that \$10,000 in the Church Extension Fund (CEF) of the Texas District. They're happy about

that, and this is why . . .

1. They are receiving a good return on their investment, approximately the same they would have received had they renewed that Certificate of Deposit.
2. They are receiving a return of \$800 per year.
3. Because they are investing in CEF, the Texas District Mission Program has the benefit of their \$10,000 investment to continue its program of opening new missions across the State of Texas.
4. They know (even though there is a penalty for early withdrawal) that they can have their \$10,000 returned to them at any time at their request, and upon the return of the note.
5. They have the satisfac-



CHURCH EXTENSION FUND

tion of knowing that they are actively and deeply involved in the most exciting mission program in the church today.

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

Grace Lutheran in Seguin to have new building

by Ginny Nokes

Ground has been broken for the new Grace Lu-

theran Church in Seguin.

There was a large crowd present as members assembled to participate in the service.

Although it was a dark day with intermittent rain throughout the service, the enthusiasm of those present shone through, making it a day of happiness and joy.

This day climaxed months and months of hard work—praying and keeping faith in the building program. So many worked so hard for so long while many in our congregation have generously supported the building program financially. It has been a team effort throughout.

Pastor Glen Krans and guest, District Vice-President Louis Pabor, led the service. Krans said:

"Whereas by the grace of God we are permitted this day to begin the construction of a church in this place, with this plow we now break ground together, in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Ghost, in order that the building which shall be constructed here may serve as a place where our God will record His name, where His honor will dwell and where He will come unto His children and bless them."

After these words, congregation members picked up the four ropes attached to an old hand plow and moved forward together, turning the earth.

One could not help but feel the Lord's presence in our midst.

OUTDOORS

CAMP LONE STAR SCHEDULE *

Children's Camps

Date	Program	Ages	Rate
June 8-14	Canoe Quest and Adventure Camp	11-15	\$142.00
June 11-14	Handicapped Camp	7-12	76.00
June 22-27	+Alpha I	8-12	124.00
June 28-July 3	+Alpha II	8-12	124.00
July 3-6	Expedition I	5-7	62.00
July 3-6	Canoe Quest II	11-15	62.00
July 6-12	+Alpha III	8-12	142.00
July 13-18	+Alpha IV	8-12	124.00
July 20-27	Music/Band Camp		125.00
July 27-August 1	++Pioneer II	8-18	114.00
July 27-August 1	Conquest	8-18	124.00
August 8-10	Expedition II	5-7	52.00
August 8-10	Canoe Quest III	11-15	52.00
August 10-16	+Alpha V	8-12	142.00
August 17-22	+Alpha VI	8-12	124.00

++For Group Registrations Only

Date	Program	Ages	Rate
June 8-14	Canoe Quest and Adventure Camp	11-15	\$142.00
June 15-20	++Pioneer I	13-18	114.00
June 15-20	Discovery I	13-18	124.00
July 3-6	Canoe Quest II	11-15	62.00
July 20-27	Music/Band Camp		125.00
July 27-August 1	++Pioneer II	8-18	114.00
July 27-August 1	Conquest	8-18	124.00
August 3-8	++Pioneer III	13-18	114.00
August 3-8	Discovery II	13-18	124.00
August 8-10	Canoe Quest III	11-15	52.00

++For Group Registrations Only

Teen Camps

Family Camps

Date	Program	Ages	Rate
July 3-6	Family Camp	Max**	\$299.00
July 20-25	Family Camp	Max*	420.00

'Servant' events provide special experiences for young people

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

One way that Christian young people want to respond to God's love for them is by doing work for others. In recent years, the Missouri Synod's Board for Youth Services has responded to this need by

sponsoring Servant Events.

Lutheran Outdoors Ministry of Texas (LOMT) is once again participating in this program with a "Servant Event" opportunity in 1986. The emphasis is rather unique when compared to most of the other servant events, simply because individuals 18 years of age or older volunteer for a minimum of *three months* rather than for one or two weeks.

• There are many opportunities for a wide range of experiences through

LOMT's programs—where young people volunteer their time and talents for special service in outdoors ministry. Texoma Lutheran Camp and Camp Lone Star provide the setting for repair work, restoration, program support, recreation and leadership training which are among a variety of activities and responsibilities in this program.

In 1985, LOMT had one "servant" come from as far away as Williams Lake, British Columbia. This young man, Ed Seibert,

was at Camp Lone Star for six months. He functioned as a support staff person in any area where assistance was needed. His personal reflection on this experience was gratitude to God for the Christ-centered growth and opportunities that were afforded him to respond to the Savior's love through this vibrant ministry.

• Applications for "Servant Event" participants are available through LOMT at the district office.



* TEXOMA LUTHERAN CAMP SCHEDULE

Date	Program	Ages	Rate
June 8-13	Explorer I	9-13	\$113.00
June 13-15	Expedition I	5-7	45.00
June 15-20	Adventure I	7-9	113.00
June 15-20	Operation Outpost	11-18	120.00
June 20-22	Texoma Trek I	11-18	50.00
June 29-July 4	Explorer II	9-13	113.00
July 6-11	Adventure II	7-9	113.00
July 6-11	Texoma Trek II	11-18	120.00
July 13-19	Fish Camp	11-18	129.00
July 13-19	Explorer III	9-13	129.00
July 20-26	Water Skills	11-18	150.00

Children's Camps

Teen Camps

Date	Program	Ages	Rate
June 8-13	Work Camp	13 up	\$ 55.00
June 15-20	Operation Outpost	11-18	120.00
June 20-22	Texoma Trek I	11-18	50.00
July 6-11	Texoma Trek II	11-18	120.00
July 13-19	Fish Camp	11-18	129.00
July 20-26	Water Skills	11-18	150.00
July 27-August 1	Senior High Camp	High School	113.00

Date	Program	Ages	Rate
July 4-6	Family Camp	All Ages	See below

Family Camp



SERVANT—A servant event participant, Ed Seibert from Canada, served for six months at Camp Lone Star.

LOMT sponsors camping events

Special events held at public campgrounds during the 1986 spring season continue to emphasize LOMT's desire to provide greater variety in camping and related activities for Texas District Lutherans.

- The annual Memorial Day Weekend Married Couples camping trip will be held May 23-26 at Inks Lake State Park near Burnet. Water sports, hiking and evening campfire sharing devotions will highlight this event, led again by Kevin and Mary Pieper.



- Lady Bird Johnson Municipal Park in Fredericksburg will be the scene for an RV-family camping event over the April 12-13 weekend. Spaces for 25 units and a large pavilion have been reserved to accommodate this gathering.

For further information and registration materials contact the LOMT office.

Halley's Comet weekend at Texoma camp

Texoma Lutheran Camp is sponsoring a special opportunity for sky gazers to get a better look at Halley's Comet on April 11-12.

The viewing begins at 9 p.m. on Friday, April 11, with viewing all night of the constellations, galaxies and the comet—along with appropriate periodic devotions.

The night ends with a 5 a.m. breakfast. Participants can have a sleeptime in the cabins before returning home.

Tight district budget to create 'painful' lessening of mission starts

A \$4,930,470 budget for 1986 was adopted by the Texas District Board of Directors at its January meeting.

Offering board directors a spending plan which he labeled "to the bone," District President Glenn O'Shoney said the new budget is \$115,000 above the 1985 budget—for an increase of 2.3 percent.

Mission ministries in 1986 will receive \$1,326,900, compared to \$1,309,550 in 1985.

"This is a tight budget," O'Shoney told the directors, "and it is painful when a mission program grows only one percent."

Mission Administrator Fred Boden said the Texas District will substantially lessen the number of new missions proposed for the district this year.

Other budget items include \$297,339 for parish services, \$149,957 for special services and projects, \$28,000 for general assemblies and \$514,189 for administration and office needs.

The Texas District will send \$2,120,102 to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod in support of the synodical budget. This represents 43 percent of the district budget.

Boden told the directors that there can be no new missions begun with district funding in 1986 except the Valley Hispanic mission—for which special funding, including a Lutheran Brotherhood grant,

is available.

"We are seeking Lutheran Brotherhood funds for a Vietnamese ministry and the congregations of the Waco Circuit will support the work in establishing a mission in Mexia.

"These are the only three missions—there were seven in 1985—contemplated in 1986 due to budget restrictions," Boden said.

He added that if a worker/priest is obtained for one of the two West Texas ministries, and if a Dallas area congregation continues with its plans to plant a sister congregation, there could be five new missions in Texas in 1986.

He said that East Magnolia and Pearland were on the list for 1986 starts, but probably will not be started.

Boden said new missions completed in 1985 included New Boston, Carthage, Lago Vista and Colleyville. It had been anticipated that two more would be completed, but the call to serve Valley Hispanic was declined, and since there was no funding for East Magnolia, it was postponed.

The largest number of Texas congregations in any year voluntarily became self-supporting in 1985, Boden said. These included St. Paul, Monahans; Zion, Kermit; Faith, Andrews; Mt. Olive, Austin; Living Word, The Woodlands; Concordia, Garland; Our Savior, Corpus Christi; Good Shepherd, Cleveland; St. Luke, Sweeny; San



Juan, Austin, and Christ the King, Waxahachie.

Chief Fiscal Officer Milburn Schubert reported that 1985 contributions from Texas congregations to world missions totaled \$4,673,668—an increase of nearly five percent over the previous year, but \$142,000 below budget. He said a final accounting of the world missions fund will likely bring it close to the budget figure.

Directors were told that the district Church Extension Fund had a 1985 net worth of \$18,428,151, an increase of nearly \$1.7 million over 1984.

"It has been a good year," said Carl A. Heckmann, executive director of the fund and the Lutheran Foundation of Texas.

Heckmann said the foundation assets totaled \$15,750,016 at the end of 1985, enabling it "to help people get their estate to go where they want it to go."

Foundation trusts and annuities total \$3.2 million; endowment funds total \$407,000; insurance policies total \$120,000; gifts and bequests total \$899,000; and the total written into wills totals \$11 million.

Executive Director of Parish Services Rev. Ray

Schkade told directors that 108 congregations have enrolled in Every Member Stewardship Involvement—'86. He said Missouri Synod's Stewardship Department is interested in EMSI-'86 as a type of program to use throughout Synod, and has provided funding to assist the effort in Texas.

In other action:

• District President O'Shoney told the board that initial funds from the Texas Lutheran response to the Mexico City earthquake have resulted in a 12-unit building project which is nearing completion. Ground is being cleared for a second project.

He said \$10,000 of the money has been released and another \$46,000 is available.

• Rev. Howard J. Patten of Houston was appointed to the Board of Mission Administration.

• Directors heard from Rev. Karl Petzke, director of outdoors ministry, that there had been a 13 percent increase in the use of camp facilities at Lone Star and Texoma during 1985.

• Board members were told that the Lutheran Campus Ministry of Texas is no longer in existence—as a result of a directive from the district convention. The district's campus ministry effort is now under the Board for Mission Administration.

• The board extended the call/contract of Dr. Carl A. Heckmann through 1986 as executive director of the Church Extension Fund and Lutheran Foundation of Texas.



Our bright kids . . .

Bright kids abound at **Faith Lutheran, Gainsville**. Honor students at their respective schools are Leanna Winter, Chelisa Herbrich, Lee Russell, Merica Maxfield, Tim and Angela Herbrich, Julie and Lauren Morris, Keil Bowden, Antje Kelling, Carrie Bowden, Mary Ann Hifler, Laura Husfeld and James Rouse.

Applause for these band students, members of **First Lutheran, Lufkin**, who won places on the all-region bands: Juline Hawkins, Gwenn Borgfeld, Katrina Hawkins, Lorinda McCormack and Angela Talbert. And winning top ratings in the UIL twirling contest were Katrina and Angela.

For the second year, Calvin Alexander, a senior at Lutheran High South in Houston, was voted the district's best offensive football player as quarterback, and was all-district on defense as a linebacker.

The Senior Youth Group of **Zion Lutheran, Fort Worth**, will present chancel dramas on selected Sundays this year, illustrating various stories from the Bible.

Three young members of **St. Peter, Gun Barrel City**, are making straight "A's" in their school in Ma-bank. They are Mary Christensen, Christi Parsons and Emily Husted. Congratulations.

Russell Sander, high school senior and member



HERE'S HOW—Coach Terry Hynous of Concordia Lutheran High School in Tomball instructs basketball camp players on the art of good defensive positioning. Concordia conducted a free

two-week basketball camp for students in the fifth through eighth grades as a community service.

of **Redeemer, Austin**, has received a letter jacket for academic achievement. Also lettering for scholastic superiority was Jonathan Zielke.

The temperature was 25 degrees, but Jeff Woelfel, Redeemer, Austin, ran in the Aspen Hills 7K race and placed first in his age category and seventh overall. Good job, Jeff.

Congratulations to James Higginbotham of Our Redeemer, Wichita Falls, who made the All-State Choir. More than 35,000 try out for this choir, from which 200 to 300 are chosen after three rounds of auditions.

We're proud of Drew Dresser of Redeemer, Aus-

tin, a student at Oklahoma University, who received all "A's" in the last grade period.

Hooray for the first graders of **Our Savior, Austin**, who sang for residents of an area nursing home on Valentine's Day and gave the residents art objects they had made in class.

Dallas High athletes win state championship

by Nancy Lochmann

The Lutheran High School of Dallas varsity soccer team is the 1985 Texas Association of Private Schools State Champion.

After finishing the regu-

lar season with a record of 9-0-1, the team won its second consecutive state title with victories over Northland Christian, Winston and Second Baptist.

Named to the All-State Team were Colin Clasen, senior from Our Redeemer; Aaron Clasen, sophomore from Our Redeemer; Jeff Wilson, junior from Bethel; Sean Smith, senior from Mt. Olive; Tony Williams and Brian Bannister.

The team was coached by LHS faculty member Wayne Seitz, a member of Bethel Congregation.

What time is it?

Now is the time for every good man to write a will.



Great Commission is Christians' number one priority

A message from Gus Kieschnick, district media chairman:

Today, our number one priority for all Christians is the Great Commission—"Go and teach all nations"—telling people everywhere of Jesus' love, especially those who do not have religious freedom.

This is where the International Lutheran Laymen's League enters the challenge. We are the right arm of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. It is our job to involve all members of our church-at-large to become "*Bringing Christ to the Nations*" (BCTN) sponsors.

We need their dedicated prayers and their generous support. Why? We, the International League, have the responsibility to proclaim the Gospel to all people.

What a challenge! Today there are more than two

billion people living in countries that we cannot enter with the Gospel in our pocket. How can we reach them? Over the airwaves—the *Lutheran Hour* on radio and *This is the Life* on television. Let all of us truly be slaves to all that is right and holy.

In the United States, every person has the opportunity to learn of Jesus' love through the local congregation or over radio and television. There are very few exceptions. Pray and sacrifice for the "*Go and Teach All Nations*" program of the International Lutheran Laymen's League.

And denounce the idol of materialism that has gripped all of us in the United States.

Let's follow the example of the apostle Paul who said:

"I speak this way, using the illustrations of slaves and masters, because it is easy to understand: just as you wanted to be slaves to all kinds of sin, so now you must let yourselves be slaves to all that is right and holy" *Romans 6:19*.

Convention

- Are you tired of running? Then come away on May 2-4 to refresh yourself at the 1986 Lone Star District LLL convention.

- Need your spirits lifted? There will be inspiring speakers, singing, fellowship, Bible study and special music to lift you high.

Rev. Wallace Schulz, Rev. Glenn O'Shoney, International LLL Chairman Paul Wegele and Texas LWML President Mrs. Marcella Gaus will really get your spirits flying with their own unique way of sharing God's love.

Schulz will be bringing a message on Friday evening with a service of celebration. This will be a service for all area Christians including conventioners.

Wegele is the keynote speaker on Saturday. He will have a lot to tell us about the great work the LLL is doing to get the message of Christ to all nations.

- Need to be refreshed? Enjoy a visit to historic San Angelo, with the Concho River winding through the city, old Fort Concho and a good dose of "westernism." Have your spiritual joints and muscles warmed in our unique western hospitality with a Saturday evening fellowship and barbeque on the banks of Lake Nasworthy. Don't forget your boots and jeans!

- Know of someone else who needs to be uplifted? Encourage the folks from your own congregation and anyone else you know who



needs to be refreshed to join us in San Angelo so that you can, with renewed strength, "*Run the Race*."

Registration

Convention headquarters is Trinity Lutheran Church, 1326 Kenwood, San Angelo, Tex. 76901.

Convention hotels are:
La Quinta, 2307 Loop 306, phone 915-949-0515.
Double room is \$38.50.

KOA campgrounds available, Airport Road, 915-949-3242. Hook-up is \$12.50.

Mail registration checks by April 15 to:

LLL District Convention
Trinity Lutheran Church
1326 Kenwood
San Angelo, Tex. 76901.

Make checks payable to LLL Convention, 1986.

Costs are:
Registration, \$7.50 per person.

Saturday lunch, \$3.
Saturday evening fellowship and meal, \$6. (\$3.00 for children.)

Ladies tour, \$12, includes lunch. (\$7.50 for children 5-11.)

(The above LLL column was compiled by Gary D. Laneman, information coordinator, 11601 January, Austin, Tex. 78753.)



What does the Resurrection mean to us?

Christ's resurrection assures us of eternal life and gives us courage for our journey through life. It helps us meet challenges in our service to Him.

His resurrection means that we are never alone. Our Lord spent much time alone, either by choice or because others left Him. He tells us, "Remember, I am with you always, until the end of time." That promise gives us strength.

Christ's resurrection means that we need never be afraid. The women at His tomb on Easter morning were afraid until the angel told them to "fear not." The shepherds in the fields near Bethlehem were given that same message. Joseph was told, "Don't be afraid to take Mary to be your wife." The words "don't be afraid" are for us also.

Christ's resurrection means that God's Spirit lives in us. It means that we have special gifts to use for His service.

The joy of Christ's resurrection encourages us to step out in faith. We have been commissioned to "go into all the world" in the company of thousands of other women of the LWML, serving with joy.

Rejoice in our risen Savior, share His presence in your life with others, serve Him with gladness!

*Marcella Gaus
District president*

Reminders

- Our statewide Lutheran World Relief Drive is March 31-April 4. Boxes **must** arrive at the fellowship hall of Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, 7611 Park Lane, Dallas 75225, during that period **only**. Contact Katherine Boone at 214-348-0479 if you have questions.

- Encourage one another to attend the LWML convention in Lubbock June 18-20.

Discuss the proposed bylaw amendments and proposed projects at your society meetings. Each society should send a representative who can vote the wishes of her group.

Delegates will be seated by zones, along with their zone president.

Proposed bylaw amendments

Proposed amendments to our district bylaws are normally published in the DISTRICT NEWS prior to a convention.

Due to the large number of amendments proposed this biennium, copies are being mailed to each zone and society president for distribution to delegates.

The proposals will be mailed in early April and will be stamped "IMPORTANT: DELEGATE INFORMATION."

Presidents, please see that your delegates have these well before convention time.

If you do not receive the bylaw proposals by April 30, contact District Bylaws Chairman Pat Biar, 1104 30th Street, Nederland, 77627.



- The logo chosen for the international convention is the work of our district recording secretary Catherine Burkhard of Dallas. The design, in shades of red and blue, is dominated by a rejoicing figure with arms uplifted in response to God's love through Jesus Christ.

The figure is surrounded by the cross, which radiates God's love. The theme words are placed to symbolize the fact that we are indeed "Radiant with God's Love" by coming to the foot of the cross of His Son.

'Linked By Love' seminar

Alma Kern, author of the devotional book, *You are Special*, will be featured as keynote speaker for the Linked By Love Seminar at the Lubbock Convention this summer.

Seminar participants will have the opportunity to attend all of the sectionals, which are planned to help LWMLers "reach, touch and grow" as Christians.

An optional buffet will be available for \$8 to the first

150 people who register for it. Registrants may indicate this choice on the seminar registration form.

Parish Projects: serving our Lord by serving others

By now, all societies in Texas should have selected at least one of the Lutheran World Relief "Parish Projects" as their mission service project for 1986. If your society has not yet undertaken this needed work, please don't put it off any longer.

Parish Projects include saving soap, preparing sewing, health and school kits, making quilts and school uniforms, and assembling layettes. Brochures may be obtained from Margaret Goodson, 3803 Gardendale, Houston, 77092.

Each zone will bring one representative project to the LWML convention in Lubbock this summer for a dedication ceremony. Societies, however, should *not* save projects for this event. We would like to have all completed projects in Dallas for shipping on the LWR truck on April 4.

Mite Report

Jan. 28, 1986
Total Goal \$160,000
Received, Jan. 10, 197
Received 20 mo.

141,577
Still Need \$18,423

Send mites to Mina Fitting, 704 Dellwood, Midland 79703. MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO TEXAS DISTRICT LWML.

LWML news

LWML news should be sent to Dolores Bruncke, Texas District Editor, 3944 Merriam, Plano, Tex. 75074.



HOUSING RESERVATION (for convention and seminar)

IF YOU WILL BE SHARING A ROOM, ONE PERSON IS TO RETURN ONE FORM FOR ALL PEOPLE IN THAT ROOM.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

TELEPHONE _____ NO. OF PEOPLE _____

Please enclose the names, addresses and phone numbers of all people sharing the room.

Do you want a roommate? _____ How many? _____

Smoker _____ Nonsmoker _____

I need reservations for the following nights:

____ Tues. June 17 ____ Wed. June 18 ____ Thurs. June 19

MARK YOUR PREFERENCE: (Subject to availability)

____ Holiday Inn Civic Center (806/763-1200)

singles: \$52 doubles: \$58 triples & quads: \$64

____ Hilton Hotel (806/747-0171)

singles: \$49 doubles, triples & quads: \$59

____ LaQuinta Inn (806/763-9441)

singles: \$37 doubles: \$42 triples & quads: \$47

CHECK ONE:

____ Guaranteed reservation until 6 p.m. (Subject to cancellation after 6 p.m. unless notified by phone of late arrival.)

____ Guaranteed reservation for late arrival.

Major credit card _____ Card No. _____

Expiration date _____ OR enclosed is my check for first night payment: \$ _____ (excluding tax)

DEADLINE FOR CONFIRMED RESERVATION

IS MAY 15

Return this form to:

Corlis Schafer

3437 53rd Street

Lubbock, Texas 79413

GUEST REGISTRATION LWML Convention 1986

NAME (last) _____ (first) _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____ SOCIETY _____

CHURCH _____ ZONE _____

Registration & June 19 banquet \$35.00 _____

Post-convention Tour of Ranching _____

Heritage Center & luncheon \$11.00 _____

Extra Banquet Tickets (\$12.50 each) _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION IS MAY 15. No refunds made after June 1. Make checks payable to **LWML LUBBOCK CONVENTION.**

Check if deaf-signing section is needed _____

I wish to sing in the convention choir _____

Arriving on charter bus originating in _____

I need transportation from air or bus terminal _____

Arrival time & flight no. _____

RETURN FORM AND REMITTANCE TO:

Mrs. Joy Teinert, Registrar

4601 30th Street

Lubbock, Texas 79410

(806-795-8614)

SEMINAR REGISTRATION 'Linked by Love'

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ZIP _____

SOCIETY _____ ZONE _____

Registration fee of \$8 must accompany this form.

Make checks payable to and mail to:

Elaine Wukasch

1422 Cloverleaf Drive

Austin, Texas 78723

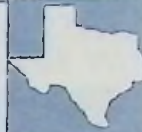
(512-451-1780)

An optional buffet lunch is available to the first 150 people who register for it, at a cost of \$8.

____ Yes, I would like to have the buffet lunch.

(Do not send money for the lunch now.)

REGISTRATION MUST BE IN BY MAY 15



Come join us at our staff meeting

It would be nice if every one of you could be a part of a Texas District staff meeting. Our staff meets regularly six to eight times a year . . . sometimes even more often than that. Our meetings usually last two days. We give ourselves plenty of time to talk about the business of our church.

Eleven of us sit around a table—the actual staff of the Texas District plus the executive director of Lutheran Outdoors Ministry of Texas, the director and associate director of the Lutheran Foundation of Texas as well as our business manager. With this group we are able to take a good look at all facets of the ministry of the Texas District—and propose meaningful directions for that ministry.

Some items discussed at our last staff meeting:

- The success of the *Texas Messenger* pilot project . . . you people really enjoy the new format.

- The wonderful enrollment figures for our Missouri Synod Youth Gathering this summer in Washington, D.C.—up to 15,000!

- The fact that 12 congregations attained self-support at the end of 1985—including two Hispanic congregations.

- The need for more Church Extension dollars. The mission of our church and the Church Extension dollars are closely tied together.

- The success of the Laborers for Christ pro-



Rev. Glenn O'Shoney

gram—building church facilities at enormous savings to congregations.

- The number of mailings that leave the Texas District office . . . yes, we are concerned about that—looking into it.

- The funding of the district mission effort—what's the financial outlook for 1986 and beyond?

- Plans for our 1986 Fall Stewardship program.

- The health of our parochial and high schools—the number of our schools grows every year.

- The Texas effort in the *Alive in Christ* appeal—we are hoping to be a district that demonstrates our commitment to the work-at-large . . . a district that just doesn't talk about it.

- The need to replace some of the office furniture.

Every staff meeting, by the way, begins with a Bible study led by one of the staff. Actually, two full hours is set aside for Bible study, for growing in the Word.

What pleases me most about our staff meetings? Three things please me very much. First, our staff is composed of competent workers, concerned workers, workers who always

ask the question, "How can we be of service to the people of the Texas District?"

Secondly, I like their willingness to tackle the problems and the challenges of the district . . . even the really tough decisions. The neat thing is that after some brisk debate . . . the staff is able to walk away from the table as friends, partners in Christ, co-workers for Christ.

Finally, I appreciate the staff because when they talk about the work of the Church, they are just not talking about the work of an individual congregation or the work of the Texas District, they are talking about the whole work of the Church—encompassing the work of the parish to the work of the national Church body. Ours is a staff committed to the whole ministry of God's people in all the world.

I look forward to our staff meetings—I see those meetings as the glue that holds us together . . . as the time that gives us the direction and the vision which is so vital for a ministry like ours here in

Texas. I am thankful to God—I know you are, too—for a staff that is faithful to His Word—committed to be in His service.

Some help is needed

We are moving toward a Hispanic Lay Training School on the campus of Concordia, Austin. The school's purpose would be to train men for positions of ministry—in Texas and all across the country.

The national Church body is committing a significant amount of money for this program. But, like the Texas District, they don't have all the funds they need. They have asked if Texas could generate \$15,000 toward this effort.

I am appealing to you people. \$15,000 means 15 people at \$1,000 per person, or one person at \$15,000, or three at \$5,000. Quite honestly, I would accept the money in any amount.

If the Lord has blessed you and you would like to be a blessing to others through this special program at Concordia College—drop me a note . . . hopefully enclose a check.

Glenn O'Shoney
Glenn O'Shoney, President
Texas District

Grad student from Texas wins Gotsch scholarship

Becky Koenig, a graduate student from Giddings, Tex., in the Master of Church Music program, has won the first annual Herbert M. Gotsch Church Music Scholarship at

Concordia College, River Forest, Ill.

The scholarship for graduate study is given only to full-time graduate students who have an organ music emphasis. Koenig was chosen for the scholarship on the basis of her essay about the role of the organist in the church and on an audition.

The joyful step into self-support

by Rev. Fred Boden
Mission Director
Texas District

January 1, 1986, marks the date when the largest number of subsidized ministries in the Texas District achieved the status of self-support in a single year. The 12 mission congregations are celebrating this new step with special services this year.

Some of these ministries had been on district support for 40 years, others for 20, 10 years and a couple for five years or less. The overwhelming majority of these congregations voluntarily elected to take this step at this time.

Partially responsible for the growing number of subsidized ministries attaining this new status is the policy adopted by the Board of Mission Administration in 1980 which assumes self-support by all subsidized ministries (excluding only deaf, changing community and maritime ministries) within five years of a congregation's official organization. January 1, 1986, is the first time that five-year limit was in effect.

These congregations are now self-sustaining:

- Iglesia Luterana de Nuestro Salvador (Our Savior Lutheran) of Corpus Christi, organized in 1941 and presently served by Rev. Dennis Schiefelbein.
- Iglesia Luterana "San Juan" (St. John's Lutheran) of Austin, organized in 1937 and now served by Rev. Roy Garcia.
- Faith Lutheran Church



CLEVELAND—This is Good Shepherd Lutheran of Cleveland, chartered in 1967—one of 12 mis-

sion congregations in the Texas District to become self-supporting on Jan. 1.

in the west Texas town of Andrews, organized in 1956 and now served by rate of Rev. Michael Harding.

- Zion Lutheran Church of Kermit, also in west Texas, organized in 1958 and now being shepherded by Rev. Joe Judge.

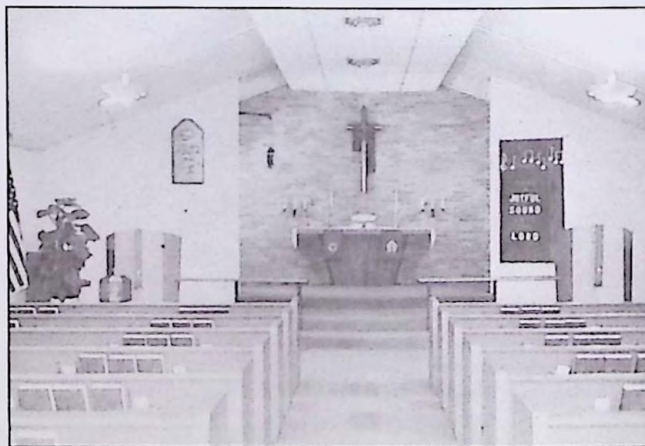
- St. Paul Lutheran Church of Monahans, also served by Pastor Judge and organized in 1952.

- Mount Olive Lutheran Church in south Austin, served by Rev. Paul Meyer and organized in 1978.

- Living Word Lutheran Church of The Woodlands, north of Houston, organized in 1978 and currently under the pastorate of Rev. David Adler.

- Concordia Lutheran Church of Garland, begun, organized and continuing under the pastorate of Rev. Gerald Nichols. Organization took place in 1980.

- Faith Lutheran Church



ANDREWS—This is the sanctuary of Faith Lutheran in Andrews, organized in 1956 and now a self-supporting congregation.

in Woodville in east Texas was organized in 1981 and is presently served by Rev. William Sager.

- Christ the King Lutheran Church in Waxahachie, served by Rev. Donald Bahr, was organized in 1968.

- Good Shepherd Lutheran Church of Cleveland was chartered in 1967 and

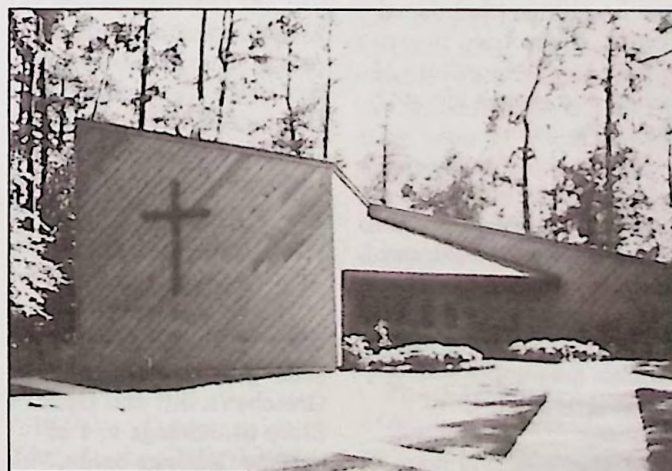
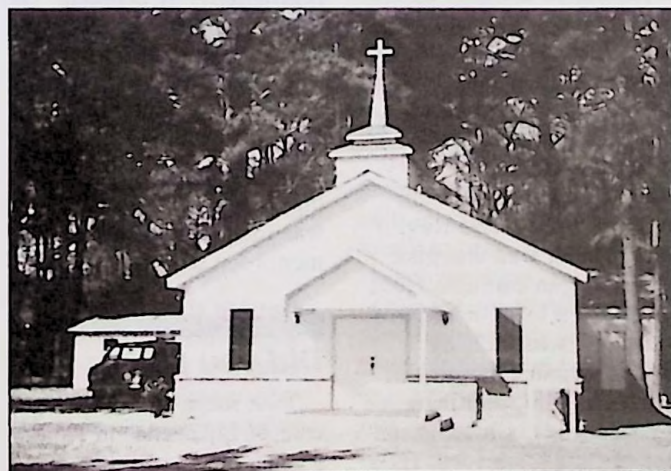
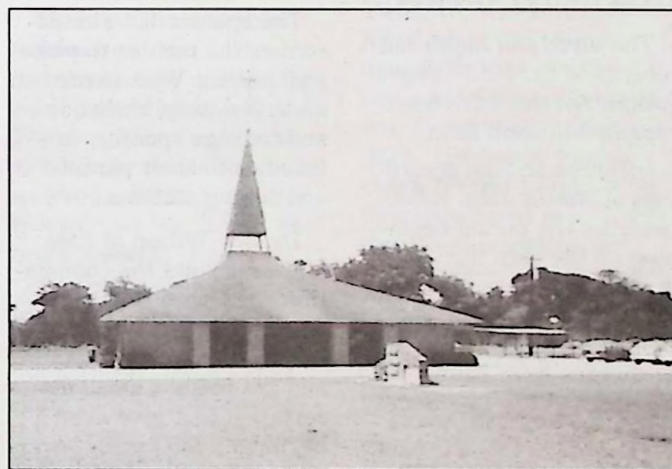
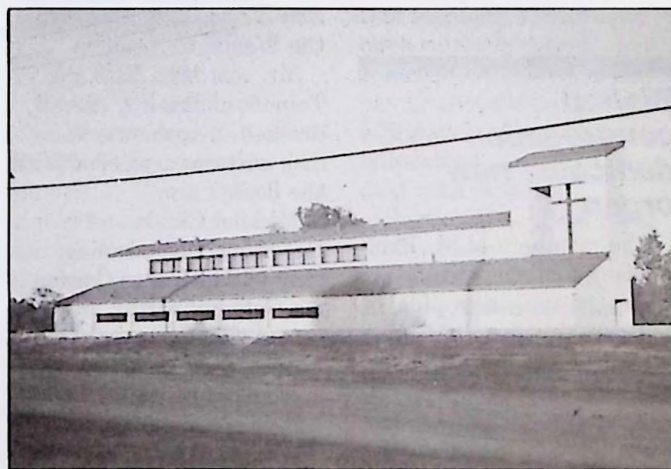
is presently served by Rev. Marion Parker.

- St. Luke Lutheran congregation in Sweeny was chartered in 1961 and is currently pastored by Rev. Denny Bennett.

Congratulations to all these ministries! May they continue to be vigorous and effective in their future mission endeavors!



SELF-SUPPORTING—These are some of the Texas churches that became self-supporting on Jan. 1. At right is St. Paul, Monahans. Below, top row, left to right: Concordia, Garland and St. Luke, Sweeney. Bottom row: Faith, Woodville and Living Word, The Woodlands.



Alpine's Outstanding Citizen chose others for the honor of the year

Dr. Ernie Reesing, congregation president at Redeemer Lutheran, has been chosen by the Alpine Chamber of Commerce as Outstanding Citizen of the Year.

Described as "an unselfish man," Reesing had written letters recommending two other men as outstanding citizen of the year.

Reesing is a professor at Sul Ross State University. He is also the city's fire chief, has headed the state's fire fighters organization and is one of Texas' foremost authorities on rural firefighting.

Historical Serbin church records are published

by Rev. Reinhard Wuensche

Texas District Archivist

The birth and baptismal records of St. Paul Congregation, Serbin, have been compiled in book form.

Included are the recordings of Pastor John Kilian, covering the period beginning on the ship *Ben Nevis* in 1854 to near the end of his ministry in 1884. The *Ben Nevis* brought the first Lutherans from Europe who settled the Lee County area.

The book is more than just an ordinary baptismal record. Kilian tried to give a more complete picture of family and church life at that time.

For example, stillborns are included. So are the names of the live-birth fathers, their addresses and occupations. Included is the mother's maiden name and origin, as well as the child's position among his siblings, e.g. fourth child, third daughter.

A father's second mar-

riage or mother's first marriage are duly listed in most cases. The non-Serbin children are listed as to their birthplace—such as Industry or New Ulm.

The sponsor list also describes the man as to place and station. Women are identified as to husband, and teenage sponsors are listed as to their parents and sibling stations.

Dr. Joe Wilson of Rice University did the compilation work with St. Paul's permission. His introductory notes are very detailed and are really a small dissertation that give even a beginner a comfortable overview of Wendish history.

Wilson and his wife, Adele, have long been active in the Texas Wendish Heritage Society. He is on the Board of Directors of Concordia Historical Institute on the campus of Concordia Seminary in St. Louis.

The book is available from St. Paul's; the museum gift shop in Serbin; at Gretchen's Gift and Book Store in Giddings and at various Giddings banks.



NEW ORGAN—This new organ has been dedicated at St. Paul in Bishop.

Bishop congregation dedicates new organ

The members of St. Paul Lutheran, Bishop, joyfully dedicated their new pipe organ to the glory of God on Feb. 2.

A festival worship service was held with Harold Rutz as guest organist. He is professor of music at Concordia Lutheran College, Austin. He was accompanied by Margaret Cude, a member of St. Paul, who played the French horn. Royce Felder, elders chairman, was lay reader and Rev. Mark Emel was liturgist.

The organ contains 1,031 pipes for a total of 16 pure ranks. It was built by Wicks Organ Company of Highland, Ill., and installed by George G. Christiansen III of Oklahoma City, Okla.

Wendish descendants part of Sesquicentennial parade

The Lutheran schools of Texas sponsored a float in the Sesquicentennial parade in Austin on March 2—Texas Independence Day.

Eight students rode on the float, representing Lutheran schools in the Austin area.

All the elementary school children on the float were direct descendants of the Wendish settlers who founded the first Missouri Synod Lutheran church in Serbin in 1854. The float included a replica of the ship, *Ben Nevis*, that brought the Wends to America.

Mr. and Mrs. Reinhold Teinert of Trinity, Austin, dressed in authentic Wendish costumes, were also on the float.

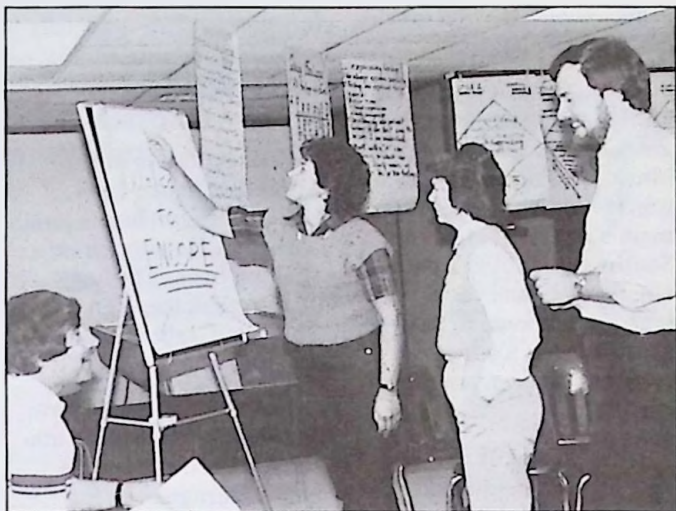
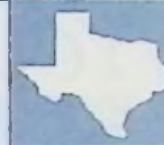
Michael Childs and Marci Deterling, homecoming king and queen at Concordia College, Austin, rode on the float.

The float represented more than 13,000 Texas Lutheran school students. These students have just completed a month-long celebration of their schools and heritage in honor of the Texas Sesquicentennial.

Mrs. Suzanne Mueller, a member of the Texas District Lutheran School Sesquicentennial Committee, was in charge of arrangements for the float.

Did you know . . .

That more than 40 percent of Lutherans in America are farmers?



LEADERS—Bob and Eunice McKinney, left, and Diane and Greg Rommel led a marriage relationship study for directors of Christian education.

Church leaders take their own advice

Led by Directors of Christian Education Bob McKinney and his wife, Eunice, of Gloria Dei, Houston, and Greg Rommel and his wife, Diane, of Lamb of God, Humble, a group of DCEs and their spouses took time off from their duties at their respective Lutheran churches in the Houston area to take the advice often given to lay people in their congregations: to see marriage as a gift of God—one to be cherished and nourished.

The McKinneys and Rommels led the group in the Aid Association for Lutherans-sponsored program called "Encore: Shared Growth in Marriage."

The program is not new, but the event's sole participation by DCEs and their spouses was a first in the Houston area and possibly in the nation.

The group was reinforced in the knowledge that positive feedback encourages open communication, shown techniques to develop behavior that revitalizes affirmation in marriage relationships and told how to deal with conflicts.

Participating DCEs and their spouses were Randy and Sandra Kerkman, St. Andrew, Houston; Kim and Shelly Schutt, St. Philip, Houston; Phil and Martha Bloch, St. Timothy, Houston; Alan and Kim Davis, Bethel, Bryan; and Jim and Joanna Bradshaw, Memorial, Katy.

Where will it go?

The "Alive in Christ" offering will go toward foreign missions, American mission, preparation of church workers, retirement of the synodical debt, pension supplements for retired pastors and teachers with marginal income and new communication opportunities.

Three Lutheran congregations feel tornado terror and devastation

Terror, destruction and miraculous deliverance were experienced by Lutheran families in the Houston area when tornados swept through portions of Harris County on Feb. 5.

Mr. and Mrs. J.C. Boyle, members of Trinity Lutheran, Spring, will long remember the terror of searching for their children after the tornado.

The Boyles lost their entire home and were left only with the car they were in at the time of the storm and the clothes on their backs.

Their children, a nine-year-old girl and an 18-month-old boy, were in the home in a babysitter's care. The daughter was blown 300 feet from the house and suffered a broken leg. Rescuers found her buried beneath a pile of trash.

The babysitter grabbed the boy as the storm hit and climbed with him into the bathtub—where she clung to the youngster as the tornado blew the house from around them. The sitter was injured and the boy received a partially severed ear. Rescuers rushed them to a hospital.

Meanwhile, the Boyles arrived at the scene of devastation and began searching for their children, whom they later located in hospitals.

Other members of Trinity also received substantial damage to their homes and automobiles.

In Salem Congregation, Tomball, the Clifford Mora

family lost their mobile home and all possessions.

Lawrence Dossman lost his business and his home was damaged.

The church itself received no major damage, losing only some panes of glass.

In Zion Congregation, Tomball, stained glass windows on the west side of the church were blown away. There was damage from hail and wind to 80-90 percent of the buildings in Tomball, mostly windows and roofs.

A Zion member, James Tiedt, 16, was seriously injured when the tornado demolished the mobile home in which he lived. He was found unconscious in a ditch. His family had to check several hospitals before they found him. He remained unconscious for several days, and in addition suffered severe facial cuts and extensive knee damage. His parents are Larry and Lucille Tiedt.

Texas District President Glenn O'Shoney said some district disaster relief funds are being sent to the stricken area. Houston Lutheran officials said benefits are scheduled for the victims, some of whom had no insurance. O'Shoney also asked district congregations to receive a disaster relief door offering.

Someone said . . .

The meaning of "adult education" is having a teenager in the house.

YOUTH

Young reporters tell all about it

Holly Boyd and David Wiesehan want you to know what's happening in their second grade class at St. Paul Lutheran School in McAllen.

The young reporters wrote this for the St. Paul newsletter:

Second Grade News. On January 8 we started doing our Texas booklet. Roy Reid had a birthday January 20 and Sanetta de la Rosa had one January 22. Lupe and Jaime had birthdays this month. The Bird Lady, Mardi Eggers, and the Turtle Lady, Ila Loetscher, visited our school. Pastor Dewayne Nelson came to our room and talked about what pastors do. Congratulations to Pastor and Mrs. John Davenport on the birth of Jenna Ruth. Holly Boyd will be moving to San Antonio in February. Mr. Al Schaaf is a good man. He pushes us in the swings at recess.

As Walter Cronkite would say, "And that's the way it is" in the second grade at St. Paul.

Our bright kids . . .

Lori Kasper, a sophomore at Texas Christian University, has been chosen to represent her school in Phoenix and El Paso as part of the TCU Today program, speaking to prospective TCU students. Lori is the daughter of Ed and Janet Kasper, St. Paul Lutheran, Fort Worth.

David Winkler, Redeemer, Austin, was selected a member of the Junior High School All-Region Band. He plays tenor saxophone.

Congratulations to Bob McCloskey, also of Redeemer, Austin, who is a straight A honor student at his school.

Matthew Schiel, Zion, Tomball, has earned the Cub Scout award for Lutherans, "God and Family." Good work, Matt!

Three cheers for these

students who are members of Redeemer, Beaumont. Becky Veen, clarinet and Brad McNeal, baritone, have made the All-City Band. Kevin Smith, bassoon, along with Brad, made the All-Region Band.

The Girl Scout Religious Award, "God and Me," has been given to Kristah Benton of St. Andrew, Houston. Part of her project was studying Jesus' life through pictures with "thank you" prayers under each picture.

Congratulations to Sonya Matschull, Grace, Midland, on her gymnastic accomplishments in her school's regional meet in El Paso. She placed second on vault, third on beam, fourth on bars, fifth on floor and fifth all-around.

Good for Martin Beversdorf. He was chosen as an alternate to the bass section of the All-State high

school choir. He is a member of Grace, Paris.

And three cheers also for Matt Loeschman, eighth grader and member of St. Mark, Lake Jackson, who was named outstanding male band student at Southwest Texas State University band camp. Matt, a trombonist, also was awarded a superior rating at a recent regional contest.

We're proud of Ken Evans, fifth grade student and member of St. Philip, Houston, who was runner-up in the spelling bee at Sugar Mill School.

Congratulations to Scott Heitshusen of Christ Memorial, Houston, who won first chair position in the All-State School Choir.

Dean Reinhardt of Hope, Austin, is a fine athlete. Dean won a place on the All-District soccer team.

Keith Komar, member of Grace Lutheran of Midland, has received a \$10,000 Presidential Scholarship to attend Texas A & M University. Considered the most prestigious undergraduate scholarship, the endowment is awarded for academic excellence and involvement in extra-curricular activities.

We salute James Hengst Jr., member of Living Word, The Woodlands, who was one of nine juniors in the Conroe School District chosen to take part in the Rice-Baylor High School scholarship honors program. The program allows 50 talented Houston-area science/math students

to interact with nationally renowned scientists from Baylor College of Medicine and Rice University.

Four students in the Faith Lutheran Day School, Sugar Land, won honors in Houston area spelling bees. They are Jean Aydelotte, Ben Thomas, Carly Milner and Jason Canada.

Congratulations to Eric Petersen of Trinity, Amarillo, whose 3.85 grade point average at West Texas State University placed him on the President's Honors list.

50 adults help church's active youth ministry

A determined emphasis on youth involvement at Redeemer Lutheran of Austin has resulted in a "balanced" ministry that involves more than 100 youth each week in some form of ministry, according to Harlan Teske, minister of youth.

This emphasis means that more than 50 of the congregation's adults are doing certain kinds of leadership functions within the youth ministry.

"I am thankful for all the support that we have here at Redeemer for youth ministry," Teske said. "Our concern is that youth ministry is so easily equated with 'one group' when that is not possible, not even in a small parish.

"Youth have many different interests, just as adults do," Teske said. "Ministry can take place around those interests."



Lone Star Director Garland Midgett is new NLOMA president

by Karl Petzke,
Executive Director
Lutheran Outdoors
Ministry of Texas

At its annual February conference in Orlando, Fla., the National Lutheran Outdoors Ministry Association (NLOMA is made up of Missouri Synod-affiliated camps) elected Garland Midgett, director at Camp Lone Star, as president for a two-year term.

He succeeds Rev. Karl Petzke, LOMT executive director, who concluded his service as president at the annual event. Both men have previously held this leadership role.

• NLOMA focuses upon providing resources, leadership and many other services to assist fellow Lutherans in having special Christ-centered experiences through camping or related activities.

In recent years, NLOMA has grown dramatically both in its membership and in its ability to provide a wide variety of opportunities for all population groups and organizations within the church.



Rev. Karl Petzke

One of the primary benefits of NLOMA membership is the recruitment of summer camp staff. Each year approximately 20 LCMS camps join in interviewing prospective staff members at most of our synodical colleges.

This truly has been a blessing in providing the best possible quality and dedication among the camp leadership which offers spiritual nourishment and treasured times for children, youth and adults during the summer season.

Midgett is the outgoing NLOMA recruitment chairman and Petzke has also served two terms in that position. Incidentally, Texoma Director Keith Lund is the present NLOMA treasurer.

• A major direction was taken at the NLOMA Conference that impacts all Lutheran camps. A three-year emphasis, called "Growth in Excellence," was approved and excitement was certainly in evidence concerning this program. Focus will be placed on camp accreditation, director certification and board competence. Basically, the program is designed to follow the distinctly Lutheran standards of the American Camping Association.

O'Shoney to be speaker at Texoma barbecue

The annual BBQ on May 17 at Texoma Lutheran Camp will be a day filled with activities and excitement.

The day's events, which begin at 11 a.m., will include a special musical concert featuring Dallas-Fort Worth area young adults, water activities, swim time, information on camp programs, camp and trail tours, the great BBQ meal (5:30-6:30 p.m.) and a "Hidden Treasure" Hunt!

Rev. Glenn O'Shoney, Texas District president, will lead worship at 7 p.m. Director Keith Lund encourages, "Come for all day, part of the day, just the meal and worship—whatever, just come! The day is for you! Be there. Celebrate camp!"

September is Family Camping Month at Texoma

September has been designated as "Family Camping Month" at Texoma Lutheran Camp. Special programs, Bible study, optional activities and worship will be available for families during September at this beautiful site.

Focus will be placed upon RV and tent camping for individual families and groups of families. Leaders during this month's events include Dr. Carl Heckmann, Keith Loomans, Lori Bachmann and Rev. Karl Petzke.



Amarillo Lutheran Church serves community's senior citizens

Feb. 12 marked the seventh anniversary of the Northeast Senior Citizens' Center, which is housed in the parish hall of Christ Lutheran Church, Amarillo.

The congregation provides the parish hall facilities—including the utilities—without cost, according to congregational chairman Lonnie Williams.

The center is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. with an average daily attendance of 50 to 60 elderly. Mrs. Lorena Allen is site manager.

The nutrition program at the center has provided thousands of meals in the past six years, along with fellowship, games, arts and crafts, field trips, bowling league, Bible study and social evenings.

"This is one example of how churches can make their facilities available during the week as well as on Sunday for reaching out for the needs of people in the community," said Rev. Robert T. Kuhlmann, pastor at Christ.

Northeast Center is one of five satellite centers for senior citizens in the Amarillo-Canyon area.

Send Your News to Bill

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

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

Foster parents honored by LSST; Coach Wacker Lutheran of Year

A couple that were foster parents to more than 150 children were honored as recipients of the Lutheran Social Services of Texas' annual "Helping Hand Award" during the agency's annual dinner Feb. 14 in Austin.

• LSST Board Member Mrs. Irene Clements of Marion made the "Helping Hand" presentation. Describing how the foster parents, Emory and Wanda Muehlbrad, met the challenges of caring for many special needs children, she also spoke of their commitment to family life. The Muehlbrads are members of Faith Lutheran, Austin.

Football Coach Jim Wacker of Texas Christian University was honored as "Lutheran of the Year." Rev. Robert C. Greene, who made the presentation, described Wacker as "a man who demonstrates that principles are more important than winning." Greene cited examples of Wacker's

commitment to his Christian ethics and to his church.

• Wacker, in turn, presented the "Dedicated Service Award" to Rev. Bill Lange, pastor of Faith Lutheran of Seguin. Wacker was a member of Faith when he coached at Texas Lutheran College in the mid '70s. This service award is designed to give the "Lutheran of the Year" the opportunity to honor an individual who has significantly contributed to his spiritual development.

LSST staff with employment anniversaries of five, 10, 15 and 20 years during 1985 received either certificates or plaques from LSST Board of Directors Chairman Edwin A. Trapp Jr.

• Special staff recognition was given Mrs. LaVerne Reinhardt, administrator of Trinity Lutheran Home in Round Rock. Mrs. Reinhardt retires in June after 19 years as receptionist, secretary, assistant administrator and finally administrator, a position she assumed in 1972.

Keynote speaker was Marlin W. Johnston, commissioner of the Texas Department of Human Services, who illustrated the common mission between his agency and LSST by giving examples of how the two agencies work together.

"Attendance for the event exceeded 300," reported LSST President Greene. Theme for the evening was "Faith, Alive in Love."



HELPING HANDS—LSST Board Member Irene Clements, left, presents the "Helping Hand Award" to Emory and Wanda Muehlbrad at the LSST annual dinner. The Muehlbrads of Austin have served as foster parents for more than 150 children.



HONORED—Recipients of LSST awards were honored at the annual dinner on Feb. 14. On the left is Coach Jim Wacker, "Lutheran of the Year," with Mrs. Wacker. "Dedicated Service Award" recipient Rev. Bill Lange is pictured on the right with Mrs. Lange. LSST President Robert C. Greene is in the center.



RETIRING—LSST President Robert C. Greene presents a plaque to Mrs. LaVerne Reinhardt, who is retiring in June as administrator of Trinity Lutheran Home in Round Rock.

LSST Sunday to be observed May 4

Lutheran Social Services of Texas Sunday for Missouri Synod congregations was designated as May 4 by the Texas District Board of Directors.

Bulletin inserts were shipped to LCMS congregations in early April. These

inserts are designed to give an overview of the ministries and to provide information on local contacts.

Packets containing material for LSST Sunday presentations can be obtained from the Office of Development and Public Relations, LSST, P.O. Box 49589, Austin, Tex. 78765-9589. The phone number is 512-459-1000.



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brochure is available for more information.

Texas Lutheran District
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Preparing for the pastoral ministry at CLC

Concordia Lutheran College has developed a dual approach in its training of young men who are preparing for the pastoral ministry in The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

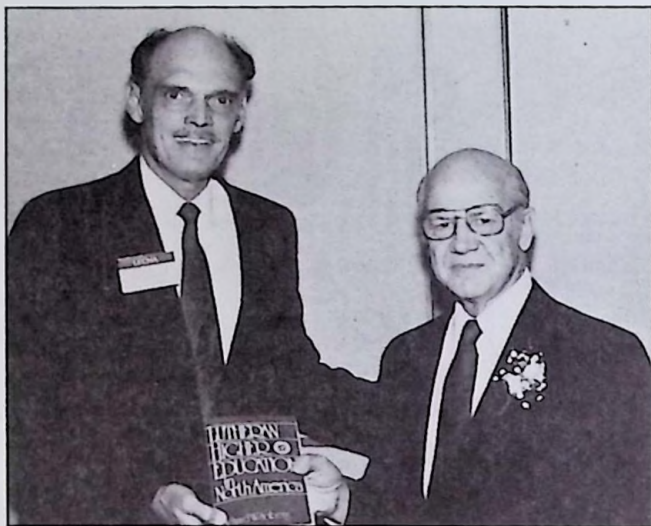
Pre-seminary students receive a classical education in languages, religion and the liberal arts to help them approach the study of Scripture in a disciplined and scholarly manner. They also choose a major that will help them in the day-to-day ministry to a congregation.

Concordia prescribes instruction in both Hebrew and Greek for pre-seminary students. The men are also advised to study Latin as a further aid in preparing them for Biblical study.

Each Concordia student working toward a bachelor's degree takes one religion course each year. Those preparing to become pastors are counseled to take additional Biblical instruction, either as a part of the general studies major or as electives.

In addition to religion classes, all Concordia students are required to complete a liberal arts curriculum, aimed at providing a general foundation of knowledge. This core includes classes in English, speech, fine arts, social and behavioral sciences, mathematics, natural sciences and physical education.

As stated in the "objectives" of the college, one of the goals of this program is to help each student "de-



Author Richard Solberg presents a copy of *Lutheran Higher Education in North America* to Dr. Ray Martens, newly-elected LECNA president.

velop a broad and deep understanding of our past and present world and those traits necessary for Christian leadership in a world community. . . ."

Those Concordians preparing for parish ministry may choose to study in any of the majors available at the college. Indeed, a diversity of student background is encouraged to fit individual talents and the varying needs of the church.

One seminary catalog summarizes Concordia's philosophy particularly well: "A student body composed of men who have majored in a variety of disciplines at the college level has a great potential for cross-fertilization of ideas in the classroom as well as in . . . college life. Beyond that, the Church in today's society has need for a ministry which represents a broad spectrum of talents and capabilities as reflected in the total education of its professional servants."

Three CLC majors par-

ticularly popular among young men preparing for the pastoral ministry are general studies, business management and communication.

The general studies major involves coursework in several subject areas. The student specializes in one discipline and also studies in three secondary fields. A graduate of this program gains a comprehensive view of God's world and man's place in it.

Concordia senior Joel Bartsch from Bellaire, Tex., chose the general studies major because he wanted to study both theology and history intensively. "The general studies major allowed me to plan a program to fit my interests," he says. "I will have the background to approach further studies from several viewpoints."

Sophomore Ronald Burkhard from Dallas, Tex., has selected the business management major in preparation for seminary studies. He felt that the ability to

manage the financial and business aspects of a parish would be helpful. "I feel confident that I will be able to use management skills in many ways, both in my professional and personal life," he says.

A young man majoring in communication gains skills to employ media tools to share the message of Christ with the world. He also improves his understanding of the communication process, equipping him to take an active role in the information age.

Peter Mead, junior from St. Louis, Mo., believes this major will help him in the ministry as he deals with the various facets of communicating with a congregation.

A new major being introduced in the fall of 1986 is also expected to be a popular choice for those planning for the pastoral ministry. The behavioral science major will combine course offerings from psychology, sociology and communication to give students the understanding and skills needed for working and counseling with individuals and groups.

Concordia works to provide all graduates with a comprehensive background to enable them to grow and develop as society changes. The college believes this to be particularly important for those young men who will lead tomorrow's congregations.

Did you know

It takes 70 Lutherans one year to gain one person?



Martens to lead LECNA

Concordia President Dr. Ray F. Martens has been elected to serve as president of the Lutheran Educational Conference of North America (LECNA).

In his statement to representatives from the 50 North American colleges and universities that make up LECNA, Martens commented on the fact that any good news associated with Lutheran college campuses seems to be offset by news that is or threatens to be bad.

He said, "I think we shall carry right on finding opportunities in our problems. Our good and gracious God has already placed into our heritage and development the very resources that meet problems nose to nose: energy, determination, hard work, His quickening spirit, a sense of purpose, critical and creative thinking, service-oriented values and people who help people be all they can be."

LECNA released a book detailing the history of Lutheran higher education in North America, written by Richard W. Solberg, former history professor at Augustana College in Sioux Falls, S. Dak., and Thiel College in Greenville, Pa.

Five church bodies form LECNA: The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, the Lutheran Church in America, The American Lutheran Church, the Association of Evangelical Lutheran Churches and the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Canada.



Rev. Paul Puffe leads pre-seminary students in the difficult study of Hebrew.

CLC student named #2 in nation

Lisa Hintz, Concordia sophomore from Houston, is second in the nation in scoring in women's basketball in the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics. The NAIA includes 360 teams nationwide.

Hintz led the nation in scoring for most of the season before falling to the number two spot. She is a consistent shooter, averaging 26.3 points a game.

Hintz is the daughter of Gary and Beverly Hintz of Our Savior Lutheran Church in Houston and is a 1984 graduate of Lutheran High North.

Commencement scheduled

Concordia Lutheran College will complete its 60th academic year on May 10

with a commencement ceremony at 10 a.m. in Woltman Activities Center. Rev. Glenn O'Shoney, president of the Texas District, will address the graduates.

Celebrating Lutheran schools

Concordia joined other Lutheran schools across the state during February in a celebration of Lutheran Schools Month. Following the theme "Loyalty and Allegiance in Lutheran Schools," some of the events also emphasized a Sesquicentennial theme.

On February 5, Concordia students participated in a balloon release, scheduled to take place simultaneously in all participating Lutheran schools in Texas. The ceremony was broadcast live on a local television program, "Good Morning, Austin."

Concordia's Woltman Activities Center was the site

for an Open House on February 9, featuring the talents of students from Austin-area Lutheran schools, as well as a performance by Concordia's "Living Praise" musical group.

The packet of materials sent statewide to Lutheran schools for use during February featured a teaching unit by Concordia student Rebecca Winkler, a senior in the Lutheran Teacher program. The unit traces the history of the Wends, Texas' smallest ethnic group, who opened the first Lutheran school in Texas in Serbin in 1855.

Another member of the Concordia family, English Prof. Gary Wenzel, contributed his talents by writing the copy for two brochures titled, "Lutheran Schools in Texas," sent to all Texas congregations for distribution in February.



Dr. Ray Martens, extreme right, and CLC students celebrate Lutheran Schools Month.

Church is named, memorial services held for crew of shuttle

After prayerfully considering how the Lord would want them identified in the community, the Community Lutheran Fellowship of Coppell selected the name **Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church**. This new church was planted by Prince of Peace Lutheran of Carrollton.

Gloria Dei Lutheran of Houston (Nassau Bay) held a memorial service on Jan. 30 to honor the crew of the space shuttle **Challenger**. Representatives of the Air Force and NASA participated.

Salem Lutheran of Rosehill dedicated a new organ on Feb. 2.

Helen Tyler of Holy Cross, Nederland, has been cited by the media for her uniquely Texas creations: "Sesquicentennial Wreaths." President Ronald Reagan, Vice-President George Bush and Governor Mark White each got one.

Congratulations to First Lt. Glenn Starnes, son of Chuck and LaVerne Starnes, **Faith Lutheran, Georgetown**, who received the Navy Achievement Medal while serving with the 10th Marines.

Rev. Stephen McClintic was installed on Feb. 9 as pastor of **St. Timothy Lutheran, Houston**. McClintic formerly served in Rockwell.

Congratulations to John and Hilda Rawls of **Zion, Tomball**, who celebrated



THE PLAY'S THE THING—Members of the youth group of Concordia Lutheran, Bedford, have been involved in dinner theater performances, raising money for hunger relief in Tarrant

County. Here the young people do a scene in which a writer searches to find what a Christian is while Satan points out human imperfections. The young actors group is called JoyUs.

Happenings in Texas

their 50th wedding anniversary recently.

Winter Texans are teacher's pets at **St. Paul, McAllen**. Christian winter visitors are volunteering needed relief to the church day school teachers by monitoring playground and lunchroom activities a couple of days a week.

A special day of celebration on Feb. 9 marked the 10th anniversary of **Holy Cross, Arlington**.

Organ dedication was held Feb. 2 at **St. Paul, Bishop**. Prof. Harold Rutz of Concordia College, Austin, was guest organist.

Frank Kieschnick is on TV. A member of **Holy Cross, Nederland**, he has done a commercial for Sheet Metal Workers Local 196, appearing as an ap-

prenticeship instructor—which he once was.

The Helping Hands of **Good Shepherd, Pasadena**, last year took more than 100 meals into the homes of their church members who had a family member in the hospital or was taking extensive treatment at home.

Trinity Lutheran, Spring, has a therapy exercise class each Wednesday geared especially for senior citizens.

Three cheers for Alfred Findeisen, **Redeemer, Austin**, who was named

"Farmer of the Year in Central Texas" by the Texas Agriculture Extension Service.

Dr. Michael Kubitz of **Holy Cross, Nederland**, was elected president of

the Port Neches Rotary Club, while his wife, Jane, has been named to the Port Neches Chamber of Commerce board.

Lena Paulos, a member of **St. Paul, Wichita Falls** since 1915, celebrated her 100th birthday on Jan. 31.

The installation of Rev. Randall S. Haedge as associate pastor of **Bethel, Dallas**, was held Feb. 16.

Celebrating its 20th anniversary this month is **Christ Memorial, Houston**.

Congratulations to Charlene Unger, member of **Trinity, Amarillo**, who won first place with her quilt block in the Sesquicentennial contest in Randall County. Winning quilt blocks from the 26-county Panhandle area will be worked into a special quilt for the Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum in Canyon.



Evangelism service emphasizes spreading the Good News

"We Follow In Their Train" was the theme for a special evangelism service at Redeemer Lutheran of San Antonio. At the Sunday morning service, Pastor Phil Schamehorn recalled the sacrifices and the determination of the believers to spread the Good News.

That evening, a Great Commission dinner was held to which each member brought a native dish reflecting his or her ethnic background. An exciting array of foods from India, Holland, France, Yugoslavia, England, Spain and Mexico was served to an enthusiastic group of 100



LUTHERAN SCHOOLS MONTH—Texas Governor Mark White signs a proclamation designating February as Lutheran Schools Month in

Texas. Looking on are Lutheran school students and school and district representatives.

friends and members.

The dinner officially began the new training session for Redeemer's evangelism program, The Ambassadors.

Special events mark observance of Lutheran Schools Month in Texas

by Suzanne Mueller

February was a very busy and exciting month for Lutheran schools across Texas as they joined together "Celebrating Loyalty and Allegiance in Lutheran Schools."

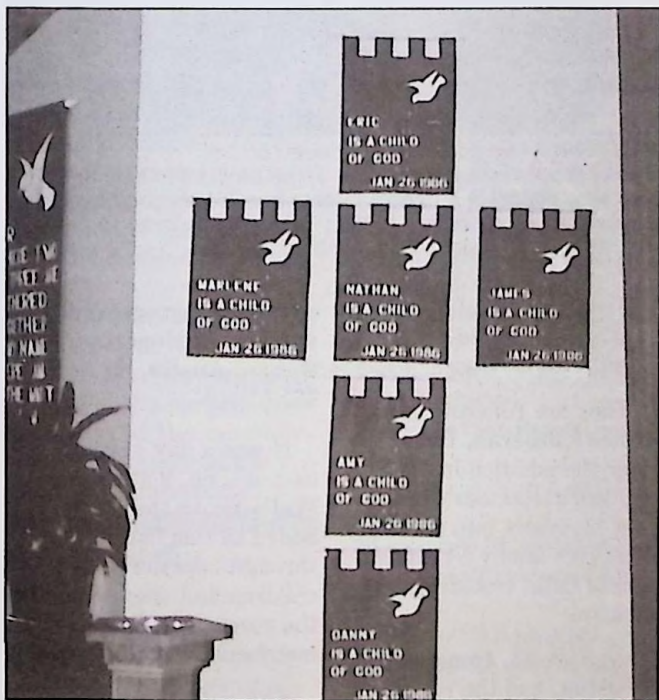
Representatives and a delegation of students from Austin area schools met with Gov. Mark White for signing ceremonies proclaiming February Lutheran Schools Month of Texas.

Also in special ceremonies at the district office, Karen Mosman, an information specialist for the Texas Sesquicentennial Commission, presented the Sesquicentennial flag, pins and sanctioning certificate to Rev. Glenn O'Shoney, Keith Loomans and school committee representatives Suzanne Mueller and Dave Sommermeyer.

Balloon releases, which kicked off the month's activities, were covered on television stations in Austin, Dallas and Houston.

Several balloons released by Austin area students from Our Savior and Hope schools got special notice after being retrieved by people in Corsicana and Gatesville in a matter of hours and in West Virginia by the next morning.

Special worship services, fine arts festivals, parades, choral, band, gymnastics and history demonstrations; open houses, spirit days, cultural activity nights, heritage essay contests, historical dress-up days, family suppers, burying time capsules and Texas sing-along programs were only some of the ways our Lutheran schools celebrated their heritage and the state Sesquicentennial.



BANNERS—These are baptism banners given through the banner ministry of Cross of Christ Lutheran in DeSoto. Each newly-baptized member is given his or her banner which bears the name of the baptized child.



The Lord added . . .

Our Savior, Austin, introduced 61 new members on Jan. 27, received into their forever family by transfer, confirmation, affirmation of faith and baptism.

On Jan. 19, it was the privilege of Concordia, San Antonio, to receive nine members by transfer and reprofession of faith.

Eight new members were welcomed in January at Redeemer, Austin.

Four children were baptized into the Christian faith in December at Good Shepherd, Pasadena.

Newest members at Mt. Calvary, San Antonio, are the 10 received during January.

Five persons were welcomed at Zion, Fort Worth, as new members in February.

Added in December at Holy Cross, Arlington, were six new members.

In December, Our Savior, Rockwall, received three new members and one infant was received into God's kingdom through the washing of Holy Baptism.

Seventeen new members joined the Christ Lutheran, Fort Worth, family during December.



HOUSTON—These 61 new members were recently welcomed into fellowship at Gloria Dei, Houston. Of these, 17 were adult confirmands,

30 transfers, eight professions of faith, five children and one adult baptism.

The congregation of Redeemer, Beaumont, rejoiced in December with the addition of 13 new members by adult confirmation, transfer and affirmation of faith.

Announced in February was the addition of seven new members at Grace, Midland.

For the third and fourth quarters of last year, God granted nine new members by confirmation and seven by baptism into Saint Peter's Lutheran, Bowie.

On Jan. 26, it was the blessed privilege at Prince of Peace, Carrollton, to hear the confession of faith of 19 Christian people who entered membership.

Trinity, Houston, received 19 new members in February by transfer, profession and reaffirmation of faith.

During January, seven new members were received into the Christian family at St. Paul, San Antonio.



FREEPORT—Five adults were received on Dec. 15 into membership at Grace Lutheran, Freeport. Three brothers in the group also were baptized. A total of 19 members were added by the Lord in the second half of 1985 by baptism, confirmation, reinstatement, profession of faith and transfer.

Four new members recently were added at St. John, Clarksville.

They are rejoicing at Grace Lutheran, Paris, over the addition in January and December of 15 new members into their Christian family by affirmation of faith, transfer and baptism.

On Feb. 16, Immanuel, Houston, had the privilege of welcoming 12 new members.

Nine new members re-

ceived a congregational welcome at Hope Lutheran, Austin, on Feb. 16.

It was a day of celebration on Feb. 2 at Zion, Walburg, as the Lord added to this family through baptism of two children and one adult, and the reception of eight new members by confirmation.

And the Lord added to His church 11 new members in February at Faith, Georgetown.



Growing congregation turns to challenge of assimilation

On Feb. 23, Lamb of God Lutheran Church of Lewisville joyfully gave thanks to God for the addition of 35 new communicant members to the parish fellowship. Of these, 10 adults were received by confirmation, one of whom was also baptized.

Rev. Ray Schkade, executive director of the Texas District Board for Parish Services, was guest preacher for this New Member Mission Sunday.

Lamb of God Lutheran is one of several rapidly growing Texas District parishes in the Dallas metroplex area. The congregation was blessed in 1985 with a 15 percent net increase in communicant membership.

"This is one reason," said Norman Schwolert, pastor, "the congregation of Lamb of God has enrolled in the EMSI-'86 program, to organize for the ongoing task of assimilating members into the challenging worship and mission life of the parish."

Schkade's sermon theme and message, "Concern for Christ's Mission," was a reflection of the positive enthusiasm of the membership for outreach in the Lewisville community.

It's a builder

For more than 80 years, Lutheran Church Extension Funds have helped Missouri Synod congregations build or expand their worship facilities.



DESOTO—There were six baptisms included in the reception of these 27 new members at Cross of Christ Lutheran Church in DeSoto.

CALENDAR

MAY

- 2-4—LLL convention, San Angelo
- 3—Synodical youth gathering group training, Area C, San Antonio, LaGrange
- 4—Synodical youth gathering leader training, Area B, Arlington
- 9—Social Ministry Committee, district office
- 10—Sunday school workshop, Christ Memorial, Houston
- 12-15—DCE facilitator conference, LaGrange
- 17—Synodical youth gathering group leader training, Area D, Houston

- 17—Texoma barbecue, LOMT board, Texoma
- 18-19—Board of Mission Administration
- 19—Board for Parish Services
- 20—District Board of Directors
- 20—Circuit 21, Bethany
- 21-22—Staff retreat, Lone Star
- 24-26—LOMT married couples camping, Inks State Park
- 27-30—1986 Campus Ministry staff conference
- 30-31—Convention floor

committee meeting, St. Louis

30-June 1—LOMT summer staff orientation, Lone Star

JUNE

- 12—Adult Ministry committee
- 19-22—LWML District Convention, Lubbock

Not orphans

The bulletin of Our Savior Lutheran, Abilene, suggests that we don't say "our Father" on Sundays and act like an orphan the rest of the week.

Tribute to an astronaut

The disaster that claimed the space shuttle Challenger and all its crew was particularly personal for members of Gloria Dei, Houston, which serves the Nassau Bay area, home of NASA.

Jim Mandigo, member of Gloria Dei, wrote a tribute and dedicated it to Astronaut Ellison S. Onizuka's daughter who attends his class at Whitcomb School:

HEAVEN'S DOOR

*Within the bounds of my cockpit,
I allow my mind to soar.
I am in control of the aircraft,
And its gentle response to more.*

*Climb to reach the Heaven's limit,
Total concentration I must pour.
Frightened that its limit must be reached,
Far short of Heaven's door.*

*I have flown within my limits,
My performance was better than poor.
I have touched the throne where God sits,
And some day I will go back for more.*

Jim's poem will be hung along with Col. Onizuka's picture at Whitcomb School.

Millions for the Lord is response to His great love

by Rev. Charles L. Houska
St. Philip, Houston

Alive in Christ is a success!

This major appeal for new funds to be used in the mission and ministry of our church is already a success and a victory for the Lord's kingdom.

No, we haven't met our minimum objective of \$60 million or our \$100 million challenge goal—yet. As I am writing this article we are at \$20 million; when you read this article the total will be even higher.

• But no matter what the dollar total ends up being, we can pronounce this appeal a success. Any time God's people give more than \$20 million for the Lord's work that's a beautiful, exciting thing.

Yes, *Alive in Christ* is a success—just how big a success is what we are in the process of determining as you people of God continue to respond to the opportunities to participate.

• Great things are going to be done for the Lord. How many great things depends totally on you.

The more congregations and individuals that respond to this challenge, the more of a positive impact *Alive in Christ* will have on our mission of bringing the Good News of Christ to our world.

Here in Texas we have a great number of pastors and lay people who have already responded with their time and their generous



gifts. As this kind of response continues, I have no doubt that we will meet and exceed the goals that were established before we even began.

But no matter what the totals end up to be, *Alive in Christ* is a joyful success because the Word of God has been proclaimed. You people of God have again responded to the love of Christ and the mission and ministry of our Church has been expanded.

• So thank you each for what you have done and what you will be doing in the last few weeks of this appeal.

God bless you abundantly.

10 Immanuel members are 90 or more

Immanuel Lutheran of Houston has saluted with a special remembrance its 10 members who are, or will be, 90 years or older this year.

Mrs. Minnie Schultz at 101 heads the list. Others are Mrs. Gertrude Schaefering, 98; Mrs. Rosa Albe, 97; Miss Pauline Neumeyer, 96; Mrs. Louise Sohns, 94; Edward Wolff, 93; Mrs. Irene Borgstrom, 91; Mrs. Minnie Knittel, 90; Mrs. Elsa Forsman, 90, and Mrs. Anna Foerster, 90.



LITTLE FISHER FOLK—Sunday school children at St. John's, Clarksville, get in a cardboard boat and do some "fishing" while singing "I Will Make You Fishers of Men." The new Sunday school format was adapted from a vacation Bible school program.

"We salute them," said the church newsletter. "We remember them in our prayers. We wish them a happy birthday."

Creative change in Sunday school lessons at Grace, Paris

by Bonnie Beversdorf

Last summer, the Sunday school teachers at Grace Lutheran, Paris, decided to use a vacation Bible school format for Sunday school. Some teachers wanted a summer break.

It was decided to have all the Sunday school children study together as a family. One or two teachers could handle the whole group while older children helped younger children with special projects—like a devotion center cross and a wooden boat with a Christian symbol on its sail.

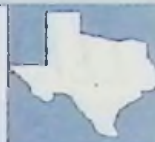
Arch books about Jesus' parables were used for Bible story time. The children received copies of the Arch books and, by the end of the summer, had a good start on a religious library of their own.

One Arch book story was acted out by the children for a church fellowship. The projects were displayed at an old-fashioned ice cream social sponsored by the Sunday school.

The books and special projects idea worked so well at Grace that a sister congregation, St. John's, Clarksville, decided to try it in the fall.

The regular Sunday school teachers were free to attend a new couples Bible class while a new teacher had "family" Sunday school.

This change in Sunday school format for a few months created new interest and enthusiasm for the children and teachers as well.



"I left the ministry to enter the ministry"

by Rev. Gerald Kieschnick
Lutheran Foundation of
Texas Director

It hasn't happened yet, but any day now I expect someone to ask me why I decided to leave the ministry. By that, they would, of course, be referring to my decision to leave the parish ministry to become Director of Development of the Lutheran Foundation of Texas.

It would seem, at least to some, that the *only* ministry is the pastoral ministry. But we have many people who are called to various forms of ministry.

In addition to the pastoral ministry and the teaching ministry, we also have ministers of Christian education, ministers of discipleship, ministers of church growth, ministers of assimilation, ministers of spiritual gifts, campus pastors, prison chaplains, hospital chaplains, etc. We also speak of various forms of lay ministry and of the ministry of each Christian person. All of these are very important types of ministry!

• The ministry of the Lutheran Foundation of Texas is also an important, even vital, ministry. The word "ministry" itself is defined as "the act of ministering or serving." That is precisely what the Lutheran Foundation of Texas is all about.

As you may know, the Lutheran Foundation of Texas exists *for the purpose of helping people* do what they want to do with what they have, for the



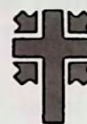
Rev. Gerald Kieschnick

purpose of providing *funding* for the various *ministries* of the Texas District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod that otherwise would be unfunded or inadequately funded, and for the purpose of *helping people choose* which *planned giving vehicles* can best accomplish these pur-

poses.

• That, my friends, is ministry. It is ministry to the 126,000 people of the Texas District, ministry to the 334 congregations of the Texas District, ministry to all the ministers of the Texas District, ministry to Concordia Lutheran College, ministry to Lutheran Social Service of Texas, ministry to the Church Extension Fund, ministry to Lutheran Outdoors Ministry of Texas, ministry to our Lutheran hospitals, ministry to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, ministry to our Lutheran high schools, ministry to Good Samaritan Lutheran Home, ministry to the LLL and LWML, to name a few.

So it is that I have left the ministry—the parish pastoral ministry, that is—



Lutheran Foundation of Texas

to enter the ministry—the ministry of the Lutheran Foundation of Texas.

You, too, can be a vital part of this exciting ministry!

1. You can be instrumental in the scheduling of a Wills and Estate Planning Clinic in your congregation—a phone call or note will begin the process!
2. You can prayerfully consider the various means of planning *your* "estate," regardless of its size, so that what you have will go where you want it to go when you go to heaven—a phone call or note will begin the process!
3. You can encourage those you love—friends, relatives, fellow congregational members—to do something (write their will, plan their estate) that not many people like to think about, but which makes those who actually *do it very glad* they did—tell them a phone call or note will begin the process!

If we can be of assistance, please write or call

**The Lutheran Foundation
of Texas**
7900 U.S. 290 East
Austin, Tex. 78724
512-926-4272



PORT ARTHUR—Installation services for Rev. Timothy J. Dinger were held Jan. 19 at Trinity Lutheran, Port Arthur. Rev. Doug Rathgeber of Beaumont, who was vacancy pastor, preached. Rev. Stanley Jones, Nederland, circuit counselor, was the installer. Left to right front are Rev. Curtis Schneider, Vicar Paul Wang, Rev. Norbert Roschke, Dinger, Rathgeber and Rev. Bruce Blakelock. Back row, Revs. Bill Sager, W.H.B. Fehl Jr., Jones and Glenn Budewig.

Lone Star District Convention is next month in San Angelo

The 43rd annual Lone Star District Convention is May 2, 3 and 4 in San Angelo. Join us for a weekend of fun, relaxation and inspiration in West Texas.

The convention will begin on Friday evening with a Lutheran Hour rally at the San Angelo Convention Center featuring Lutheran Hour Speaker Rev. Wallace Schulz and International President Paul Wegle.

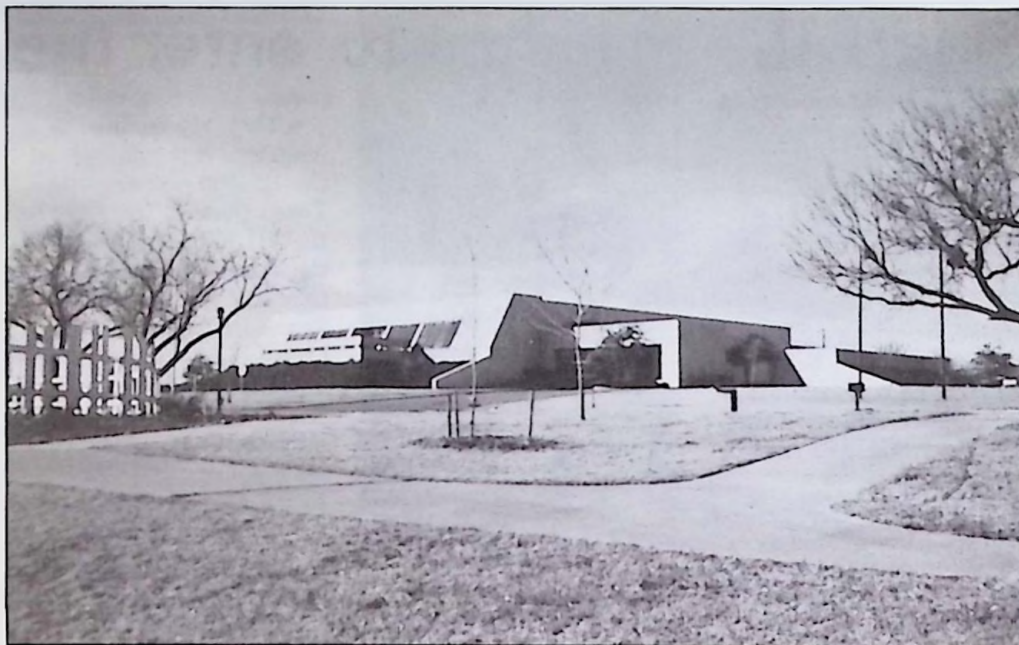
• Other highlights of the convention will be the ladies tour on Saturday and a big Sesquicentennial barbecue on the shores of Lake Nasworthy Saturday evening. So join us! Everyone is welcome.

REGISTRATION: The registration fee is \$7.50. Prices for other events are: Saturday lunch, \$3; Saturday evening fellowship and meal, \$6, with tickets for children at \$3; the ladies tour is \$12 which includes lunch, while tickets for children are \$7.50.

Make checks payable to LLL Convention, and mail to:

• LLL District Convention, Trinity Lutheran Church, 1326 Kenwood, San Angelo, Tex. 76901.

BUS AVAILABLE: A bus will be leaving Lee County and the Austin area for San Angelo. For \$22 round trip, you can relax and enjoy the company of other Lone Star Leaguers in a large, comfortable commercial charter coach. Call Dr. David Mitchke at 409-542-5464 for reservations.



LLL MEETING SITE—This is the San Angelo Convention Center, the site of the 43rd Lone Star District LLL Convention May 2, 3 and 4.

Lone Star District Highlights



International Lutheran Laymen's League

By Gary D. Laneman, Information Coordinator
11601 January, Austin, TX, 78753

LOCAL LLL GROUP NEWS:

Redeemer, Austin, LLL, served pancakes and Walburg sausage to more than 200 at their annual Shrove Tuesday, Fat Tuesday, Pancake Dinner just before Ash Wednesday. Proceeds from the supper went to support the Lutheran Hour broadcast, "Bringing Christ To The Nations," in Tototori, Japan.

• Faith, Grand Prairie, had 15 turn out for their organizational meeting as an affiliated Men's Club with the International Lutheran Laymen's League. There are now 56 active af-

filiated groups with the Int'l LLL in the Lone Star District.

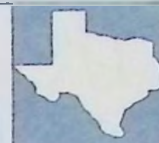
• St. John's, Galveston, has reaffiliated as a LLL group. At one time, St. John's was one of the more active LLL groups on the Gulf Coast. What an opportunity to have another big beach fish fry that St. John's was noted for or a Lone Star convention in Galveston.

"GOD'S WORLDWIDE PLAN FOR ME." This Int'l LLL-produced Bible study was a big success in the Lone Star District. Thirty congregations participated and that many

leaguers volunteered as motivators as an outreach of the Lutheran Laymen's League toward a service project to the congregations of our church.

• Christ our Lord desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth that He gave Himself as a ransom for all, that all who believe might have eternal life. This is the reason that Int'l LLL began a three-part series of Bible studies. That is, to show this plan of salvation and our responsibilities for sharing God's wonderful plan.

BUS TO FLORIDA. If you would be interested in taking a commercial charter coach to Orlando, Fla., for the International Lutheran Laymen League's convention July 26-30, you may get additional information from Ruth Kieschnick at 512-453-2275. Round trip cost is \$110.



Proposed mission projects

The following mission projects have been selected for consideration and vote at the Lubbock convention. Detailed information on each project will be included in the convention manual.

1. **Camp Lone Star**—\$12,000 to purchase basic furnishings for nine new cabins.

2. **Commission on Ministerial Health (Texas District, LCMS), Clergy Care**—\$10,000 to fund clergy careshops within the Clergy Care system.

3. **Concordia College, Austin, Hispanic Layworkers Program**—\$10,000 for financial aid to Hispanic layworkers and students.

4. **Deaf Ministries of Texas**—\$5,700 to purchase a character generator to caption materials for the deaf.

5. **Hispanic Scholarship Fund (Inner City), Houston**—\$10,000 to enable Hispanic children to attend Lutheran schools.

6. **Laborers for Christ of Texas**—\$10,000 to purchase additional equipment for use in building churches.

7. **La Iglesia Luterana San Pablo, Houston (mission church)**—\$12,000 to provide funds for a new roof and subsequent church and school repairs.

8. **Lutheran Braille Workers**—\$10,000 for expenses and supplies at Texas Lutheran Braille centers.

9. **Lutheran High Schools of Dallas, North and South Houston and**

Tomball—\$12,000 (\$3,000 each) to assist the schools with designated projects.

10. **M.D. Anderson Hospital, Chaplaincy Program**—\$12,000 to enable a pastor to train for work in Ethiopia.

11. **Spanish "Portals of Prayer"**—\$5,000 to underwrite printing and distribution costs through the Board for Mission Services of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

12. **Texas A&M University, Lutheran Center**—\$5,000 to purchase a copier and other special equipment at the Lutheran Student Center.

13. **Texoma Lutheran Camp**—\$10,000 to enclose an outdoor pavilion, providing additional meeting space.

14. **Valley Parenting Support (Hidalgo County), LSST**—\$15,000 to provide parenting care and coaching at the Valley Service Area Emergency Children's Shelter.

Buses to Lubbock

Chartered buses from three locations will be taking LWMLers to Lubbock for the convention. Contact the chairman nearest you for details:

• AUSTIN AREA

Start from Giddings. Contact Doris Fritsche, Route 2, Box 219, Giddings, 78942, 409-366-2395.

• DALLAS/FORT WORTH AREA

Contact JoAnn Epperson, 6329 Rustic Glen, Garland, 75043, 214-226-3837

• HOUSTON AREA

Start from Beaumont. Contact Rosemarie Her-ring, 1313 Houston, Nederland, 77627, 409-722-4379 days, or 727-3830 evenings.



'Westward Ho' to Lubbock!

As the Texas Sesquicentennial Wagon Train winds through our state, *you* are invited to hitch *your* wagon and come to Lubbock June 18-20!

Many events are planned to help us "Praise Him! All Heaven and Earth!"

The convention banquet will feature a unique Texas musical sampler. Come hear the Barbershop Belles from Borger, a Texas fiddler, a Texas Tech quartet and Mexican mariachis.

To top off your visit to the Plains, a very special postconvention tour has been planned to the Ranching Heritage Village, where you will view life as it was on the Texas frontier.

LWML news

LWML news should be sent to Dolores Bruncke, Texas District Editor, 3944 Mer-riman, Plano, Tex. 75074.

TEXAS MITE PROJECTS UPDATE

1984-86 goal \$160,000
Received Feb. 6,339
Received 21 mos. 147,915
Still needed 12,085



PROJECT	PAID	BALANCE
Lutheran Braille Workers	\$10,000	-0-
Lutheran Homes for Aged	20,000	-0-
Deaf Ministries	4,000	11,000
LSST, Clergy Care	4,500	-0-
Camp Lone Star	16,000	-0-
Mision Cristo El Salvador	15,000	-0-
Texoma Lutheran Camp	6,100	-0-
Total Mission Projects Goal		\$86,600
Paid to-date		75,600

Send mites to Mrs. Mina Fitting, 704 Dellwood, Midland 79703. Make checks payable to TEXAS DISTRICT LWML.

Convention notes

• **BYLAW PROPOSALS** have been sent to society and zone presidents. Be sure your delegates receive them for study.

• **RESOLUTIONS** to be presented for consideration should be sent to Barbara Finke, 1418 Schumacher, Navasota 77868.

• **ROOMMATES:** remember to have one person send in the housing form . . . with a list of all sharing the room.



1987 Convention

- Tee shirts for sale. Approval has been given for the sale of tee shirts bearing the 1987 convention logo. The shirts will be white with blue trim at the sleeves and v-neck and will feature the logo in blue and red. They will sell for \$6 and will be available at the Lubbock convention as well as at Fort Worth in 1987.
- Approval has also been given for computerized registration . . . a "first" for an International LWML convention! This will save about 2,000 hours of work and will free more women to serve in other areas needing help, such as ushers and hostesses.
- Volunteers are needed to be hostesses, ushers, typists and proofreaders, and to assist with transportation, luggage, tours, etc.

There will be a sign-up booth at the Lubbock convention, or you may contact the volunteer coordinator: Helen Savage, 2011 Pebble Creek Dr., Cleburne 76031.

League Links

• EAST TEXAS ZONE

Our Redeemer, Longview, was host for the new zone's first workshop.

Based on "The Bread of Life," the event drew members from all societies of the zone plus vicars, pastors and husbands, for a total attendance of 80.

• PANHANDLE ZONE

The Episcopal Conference Center near Amarillo was the site of a winter retreat. Rev. William Knippa of Austin led two topic studies on "The Seasons of Life."

• POST OAK ZONE

Retired missionary Rev. Theodore Michalk of Giddings spoke on "The Harvest is Plenteous" for the spring rally.

• TEXAS STAR ZONE

Several skits centering on "Sharing the Glory of God's Love" reassured rally participants in their service to the Lord. Led by District President Marcella Gaus, the women were encouraged to "Reach, Touch and Grow."

• WHITE OAK ZONE

Enthusiasm and humor were evident during the winter retreat at Camp Lone Star. Under the overall theme of "All in the Family," leaguers were treated to a Bible study by District Counselor Rev. John Selle titled "Harried and Hurried Housewives with Hassles and Haggles, Honestly Honing your Homes and Happily Handling Hurts, with Heavenly Help from on High!"

Short vignettes from Erma Bombeck's humorous views on family life and the collecting of family recipes for a "retreat cookbook" helped draw members closer as part of God's family.

Texas leaguer honored

Ruth Streit of Vernon was honored recently by her city's Chamber of Commerce as the "Outstanding Rural Citizen" for 1985.

Ruth, a homemaker and award-winning seamstress, has been active in her church as a teacher and organist, and as a society and zone officer. She is currently serving Zion LWML as president, and the Red River Zone as Christian growth chairman.

She has served her community through the schools, the county Extension Homemakers Service Club and Council, as an adult 4-H leader and as a member of the Wilbarger Sesquicentennial Committee.

Serving the Lord by serving others seems to be a family trait: two of Ruth's sisters are currently active in International LWML positions.

Congratulations, Ruth, on the honor bestowed and the witness lived!



The LWML of St. Michael, Winchester, gives special birthday recognition to those members who are 90 years old and older. Mrs. Selma Pampell received a corsage on her 91st birthday from hospice chairman Mrs. Esther Pampell.

Baby shower for LWR

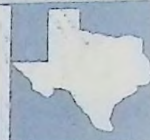
St. Paul, Austin, recently held a unique baby shower to provide layettes for Lutheran World Relief.

The project, "Share the Joy: Share Layettes," was hosted by the church's two LWML groups and was held immediately following Sunday worship services.

Complete with refreshments, the shower provided a way for all members of the congregation to take part in the project.



Honored for over 50 years of loving service through the Ladies Aid of St. John, Beaumont, are, from left, Edna Schiesler, Rosalee Olivier and Ella Bauer. Also honored at a special luncheon but not pictured were Lydia Heiner, Louise Kurtiz and Josephine Clay.



Joyously basking in the afterglow of Easter

I am dictating this the Monday before Easter—you won't receive it until long after Easter. But Easter is not something we enjoy one day—it is a happening, an event, a reality that brings us joy and excitement every day! He is risen—He is risen indeed!

The tears and sadness of Good Friday are turned into joy and exultation on Sunday. The Father's plan has been brought to completion—in Christ. Your sins, my sins, paid in full—through Christ's suffering and death on the cross. The Resurrection says it's all true. Through faith in Christ we are those who are forgiven!

So while Easter may have been a few weeks ago, it is Easter today—the very day you read this. The truth of Easter is never dated . . . Christ is risen . . . He has conquered death . . . we are the forgiven sons and daughters of God . . . eternal life is ours.

SUPPORTING THE SYNOD

Last year the Texas District remitted 43 percent of its income for the work of our national church body. Forty-three percent of our income totaled just under \$2 million. The Board of Directors voted to submit an additional \$2,000 so that our gift to Synod in 1985 would be an even \$2 million. It's the first time we have ever reached this figure in Texas.

Our commitment to



Glenn O'Shoney

Synod increases to 44 percent this year—45 percent in 1987. The Texas District has always been strongly supportive of the work at the national level . . . we continue to show that support today.

It's important that we realize that the mission of our church . . . *to carry the Gospel of Jesus Christ to all the world* . . . is also our mission right here in Texas.

It's important that we realize that the training of men and women for ministry is our ministry as well. It's important that we realize that the whole work of our church body is our work, our responsibility and our obligation as well.

I am thankful that I can be the president of a district that feels strongly and positively about its relationship with the national church body. The Texas District does not stand apart from The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod . . . we are, rather, a vital and integral part of that church body.

TEXAS DISTRICT CHURCH EXTENSION FUND

The net worth of the Texas District Church Extension Fund now exceeds \$18.5 million. The Fund showed a net increase of \$1,672,282 in 1985—the largest gain in any one year for the Church Extension Fund. Thank you!

• The Church Extension Fund is the very heart of our mission program. Without these funds we could not purchase the advance sites, erect the first units, lend money to fledgling congregations. With these funds we are able to be one of the most aggressive districts in all of the Synod—opening seven new missions a year.

If you are not an investor in the Church Extension Fund, I encourage you to become one—today. The Church Extension Fund offers you the opportunity to save your money . . . drawing a fair rate of interest return . . . while at the same time allowing your funds to be used for the mission expansion of your church.

• \$18.5 million may seem like a lot of money . . . but

most of the money is, in fact, already on loan to congregations. We need a much larger fund if we are to continue at our present rate of mission expansion.

SOME HELP NEEDED

We are moving toward a Hispanic Lay Training School on the campus of Concordia, Austin. The school's purpose would be to train men for positions of ministry—in Texas and all across the country.

The national church body is committing a significant number of dollars for this program. But, like the Texas District, they don't have all the funds they need. They have asked if Texas could generate \$15,000 toward this effort.

I am appealing to you people. \$15,000 means 15 people at \$1,000 per person, or one person at \$15,000, or three at \$5,000. Quite honestly, I would accept the money in any amount.

• If the Lord has blessed you and you would like to be a blessing to others through this special program at Concordia College—drop me a note . . . hopefully enclose a check.

Glenn O'Shoney
President, Texas District

Joey's a real sport!

Joey Dierker, age 3, whose father is Sports Information Director at Texas Christian University, showed some apparent confusion from attending both church and sporting events.

On his way to church at St. Paul Lutheran in Fort Worth, Joey asked, "Mother, can I have a quarter to put into the collection plate at half-time?"

SPOTLIGHT

Students respond to Lutheran School Month with high-flying activities

Lutheran schools are alive and well in Texas!

The spirit of Texas and our Lutheran heritage has never been more evident than during the Texas Lutheran Schools Month "Celebrating Loyalty and Allegiance in Lutheran Schools."

Throughout the state, Lutheran schools took the opportunity to shout the praises of their programs, the blessings of being Texan and their wonderful Lutheran heritage in many creative ways.

Beautiful banners graced sanctuaries throughout Texas Lutheran churches at festival services during "Texas Lutheran Education Sunday." Children participated as ushers, readers and sang special anthems. Bands played and special litanies were read.

A highlight of the month was on Feb. 5 at 10 a.m. when balloons with notes attached were released statewide. Many responses from several states—one from as far away as West Virginia—came back to the scores of participating Lutheran schools. Newspapers and TV stations across the state covered some of the activity.

There were poster contests, Grandparents Day, Sesquicentennial dress-up days, choral, band, art, history and tumbling demonstrations, along with essay contests.

Teachers added emphasis to the celebration by ar-



LUTHERAN FLAGSHIP—This float is a replica of the Ben Nevis, the ship that sailed to America with Wendish pilgrims. These pilgrims settled at Serbin and introduced the Lutheran faith to Texas in 1854. This Ben Nevis, carrying Lu-

theran school children and Mr. and Mrs. Reinhold Teinert of the Wendish Heritage Society, was in Austin's Sesquicentennial parade on March 2—Texas Independence Day.

-ranging trips to historical sites such as the state capital, Texas Memorial Museum, LBJ Library, Washington-on-the-Brazos, San Jacinto monument, the Alamo, St. Paul, Serbin and the Wendish museum.

Packets revealing details of the life of the Wends, who established the first Lutheran schools in Texas, were prepared for students.

Noodle-making demonstrations by Wendish Heritage Society members who were dressed in authentic costumes delighted central Texas students.

On March 2, Texas Independence Day, Lutheran Schools of Texas were represented in Austin's huge birthday parade with a float called *Ben Nevis*, the name of the ship which brought the pioneering Wendish people to Texas in the mid-19th century.



READY TO LAUNCH—Vicar Michael Hackbardt of Our Redeemer Lutheran, Dallas, led a devotion for the school children there who then released 250 helium balloons to celebrate Lutheran Schools Month in Texas.



Shotgun bags Lutheran balloon

The balloon launch at Immanuel Lutheran of Houston in observance of Lutheran Schools Month provided some interesting responses.

One balloon was found the next day by Boy Scout Troop 73 on Dark Mountain in the Uwarrie National Forest of North Carolina.

The Immanuel students also heard from Kosciusko, Miss.

But the most interesting response came from a youngster in Jonesboro, La., who wrote:

My name is Heath Newton. I am eight years old. I am in the third grade in Southside Elementary School in Jonesboro.

We found your balloon in the woods near our home. It was caught high in a tree so my dad had to shoot it down with his shotgun. That is the reason the card has holes in it.

*Your friend,
Heath Newton*



WINNERS—Courtney Brown and Julie Pleasant, third graders at Our Redeemer School, Dallas, were first and second place winners in a Dallas Morning News essay contest. Here they display their medallions which were awarded at a Texas Independence Day celebration.

UP, UP AND AWAY—These are students at Trinity Lutheran School in Corpus Christi about to release their Lutheran Schools Month balloons.



OLD-FASHIONED WAY—Women of the Wendish Heritage Society show first grade pupils in Immanuel Lutheran School of Giddings how to make homemade noodles.



WITH THE GOVERNOR—Third and fourth grade students from Hope Lutheran School, Austin, pose with Governor Mark White after viewing the Sesquicentennial Wagon Train at the capitol.

Lutheran offering brings shelter to earthquake victims

By the end of July, four "vecindades" with 47 homes will be completed for quake victims in Mexico City—built with donations from door offerings taken by Lutheran churches of the Texas District. The homes will house up to 280 persons.

This information was presented by District President Glenn O'Shoney to the Texas District Board of Directors at their meeting on March 18.

O'Shoney shared with the directors a letter from Prof. Roberto Huebner of the Lutheran Seminary in Mexico City. Huebner is handling Lutheran relief efforts in the quake-damaged area.

"We are still supplying cold cuts to the Salvation Army, with who in turn are feeding more than 13,000 persons each week," Huebner wrote.

He added that while the Lutheran Aid Committee continues to function, most other suppliers have cut off or slowed down. The Salvation Army, supported by Lutheran assistance, is supplying meals for families who live in tents and have no cooking facilities.

"Since our committee is helping in the construction of homes for these tent dwellers, we understand and know they are truly helping people who continue to need it," Heubner said.

In addition to construction funds already sent, O'Shoney said \$30,000 remains in the assistance

fund for additional home building.

In other action, the board:

- Authorized O'Shoney to work with Dr. John Miller of Lamb of God Lutheran Church in Houston and the District Church Growth Task Force to study Miller's suggestion that the district involve itself in a Professional Interim Pastor program.

The interim pastor would go into a congregation that has a pulpit vacancy and assess the state and needs of the congregation, develop plans and leadership, establish broad-based communication with the members, direct the pastor search committee and phase out when the new pastor is in place.

Circuit counselors previously had endorsed the concept.

- Heard Rev. Ray Schkade, executive director of the Board for Parish Services, describe as "excellent" the work of the district's Church Growth Task Force which is developing resource materials combining good Lutheran theology with church growth methodology.

- Was advised that the 1986 Ministerial Youth Retreat plans call for 11th and 12th graders and college freshmen to hold their retreat on June 8-12, with 9th and 10th graders in retreat on June 15-19.

- Expressed concern over staff reports and a review from President Ray Martens of Concordia Lu-

Texas District News, LUTHERAN WITNESS remain wedded

Reacting to overwhelming reader satisfaction with the Texas District news being a stitched-in part of the LUTHERAN WITNESS, the district board of directors has voted to make the pilot test permanent.

Texas was one of six synodical districts which tested the presentation of district news as a part of the magazine for six months. During this time, a readership survey was conducted among the pilot districts.

Bill Wagner, editor of the district supplement, told the board that the survey indicated that 95.7 percent of Texas readers approved of receiving their district news stitched into the LUTHERAN WITNESS.

Previously, the district publication was a tabloid newspaper, inserted into, but not part of, the magazine.

theran College, Austin, that the number of young people entering synodical schools to become professional church workers is dwindling significantly.

- Heard that 109 congregations are enrolled in the EMSI-86 effort.

- Were informed by Keith Loomans, director of parish services, that Synod is contesting the recent IRS ruling that declares women educators ineligible for tax benefits for ministers.

- Heard in the report from Lori Bachmann, director of the district youth and singles ministry, that 800 young people from 64 Texas congregations are signed up to attend the synodical Youth Gathering Aug. 2-6 in Washington, D.C.

- Received a report from Rev. Fred Boden, district mission director, that clearances have been obtained for future new mission starts in Mexia, northwest San Antonio (Sea World), First Colony and Lakeway.

- Appointed Carson

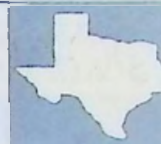
Campbell to the board of directors of Lutheran Social Services; Philip Hohle, Jill Hasstedt, Wendy Powell, Ron Bartels, David Angerman, Mark Wahlers and Matthew Headley to the district Youth Ministry Committee; and Paul Schoppa to the board of the Lutheran Foundation of Texas. Reappointed to this board were Jerry Saegert and Bill Morrison.

- Approved with appreciation the preparation of Lutheran church promotional material which the Lone Star District of the Lutheran Laymen's League has offered to distribute at the State Fair in October.

Send your News to Bill

Send your news releases, photos, parish newsletters (we especially want these) and bulletins for the LUTHERAN WITNESS to:

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



CONFIRMANDS—These seven adult confirmands at Bethany Lutheran, Houston, were among the 20 adults confirmed and four children baptized recently. Two adults also were baptized. Left to right, front row, are Tracy Radford, Janet Masvero, Leticia Liera and Diane Masvero with Jason and Jamie. Back row, Pastor Al Miller, Peggy Zelenske, Margala Livanec, Raymon Sallee and Marty Mueller, DCE.

Lutheran school enrollments rise in Texas District

Statistics released for the 1985-86 school year show that enrollment in early childhood and elementary schools operated by LCMS congregations has grown by 289 students since last year. The enrollment in synodical Lutheran high schools has dropped slightly nationally.

In the 101 Texas District Lutheran schools, enrollment in preschool through elementary grades increased from 12,029 to 12,036. High school enrollment increased from 702 to 708 in the four Lutheran high schools.

The most dramatic change was in the number of full and part-time staff in all programs—821 in 1984-85 to 881 in the 1985-86 school year. The entire seven percent increase was in preschool and elementary school programs.

In Texas District schools, 55.5 percent of the enroll-

ment is non-Lutheran and 10.5 percent is unchurched.

Missouri Synod congregations own and operate the largest school system of any mainline Protestant denomination in North America.

In some Texas District congregations the Lutheran school is an important resource for evangelism. An incomplete report of 1985 congregation statistics shows that through the school relationships, 28 adults were baptized, 148 adults were confirmed and 73 children were baptized.

In addition, to become stronger in outreach ministry, Lutheran schools are extending their ministry to the families of children enrolled in the school. The Lutheran Education Association has developed a resource for the school in ministry to families. For information contact the Texas District office.

The Lord Added....

Receiving three new members by the rite of confirmation on Feb. 9 was the congregation of **Our Savior, Whitney**.

It was the blessed privilege of **Prince of Peace, Carrollton**, to hear the confession of faith from 28 new members who joined the congregation's forever family on Feb. 23.

Four families, totaling 18 members, joined the growing fellowship of **Faith, Lampasas**, in March.

By transfer and reprofessing of faith, 11 persons were received into fellowship at **Concordia, San Antonio**, on Feb. 23.

Welcomed in March were 19 new members into the family at **Bethel, Dallas**.

The congregation of **Grace, Midland**, is rejoicing over the addition of 10 new members in February, along with three children who were placed in the arms of Jesus through baptism.

Welcoming five new members on a recent Sunday was the congregation of **Our Savior, Granbury**.

Ten new members plus three baptisms was the good and joyful news reported on March 9 at **Redeemer, Austin**.

Five new members and a baptism brought rejoicing in February at **Mt. Olive, Corpus Christi**.

On March 9, it was the privilege of **Redeemer, Odessa**, to welcome three new members into its fellowship of believers.

By adult confirmation and transfer, 10 persons became members of **Redeemer, Austin**, on March 16.

Welcoming 18 new members into their forever family on March 9 was the congregation of **St. Mark, Houston**, by profession of faith, confirmation and transfer. Also, there were three infants placed into the arms of Jesus through baptism.

Seven persons were welcomed to the congregation of **Redeemer, Odessa**, on March 16 through adult confirmation, baptism and transfer.

TV vs. Sunday school

The average U.S. child will, by age 65, have spent nine years in front of a TV set. But if he goes to Sunday school every Sunday during those years, he will have spent only four months studying the Bible.



LET'S BUILD—John Jansen, left, receives a \$92,273.46 check from Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Regional Administrator Hollis Rulledge, far right. Also pictured is Edwin A. Trapp, chairman of LSST's board of directors, second from left; and Rev. Dwight Anderson, LSST vice president. The check is partial payment on a HUD loan to build Casa Trinidad, a housing community for elderly and handicapped at Zapata.

Lubbock Neighborhood House now part of LSST services

Neighborhood House, an assistance program in Lubbock originally founded by Lutherans in 1967, has become a part of the umbrella of services of Lutheran Social Services of Texas.

The founding group of Lutherans was organized as the Lutheran Council for Community Action.

"Neighborhood House came to us with the goal of strengthening their accounting and management," said Susan Scheel, LSST's West Texas regional director. "We feel that we can offer the support that has been needed by Neighborhood House."

Other sponsors include the Good Neighbor Ministry of the Lubbock Ministers Association, which has funded the program since 1977, and the United Way since 1978.

Although the management of Neighborhood House has changed, its

youth programs and emergency assistance services remain intact.

"The latchkey program offers a safe haven for children of working parents," said Julie Leland, the new program director of Neighborhood House. "Children ages four to 13 are welcome here from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. for supervised play."

Other youth outreach programs include the Care Cubs and Young Mothers Group. "In Care Cubs," Leland said, "little ones learn to take care of themselves. Then they learn to develop concern for other generations." She said Care Cubs often bring cheer to senior citizen home residents.

Young Mothers is a cooperative effort with Catholic Family Charities. "In a socially-productive environment, young mothers learn about finances, budgeting and life-style maintenance," Leland said.

Casa Trinidad celebrates beginning

The Casa Trinidad Board of Directors and Lutheran Social Services of Texas hosted a "Celebration of Beginnings" March 9 at the construction site of the planned community in Zapata.

Casa Trinidad is a housing community designed for low-income elderly and handicapped individuals in Zapata, 48 miles south of Laredo.

Construction began in early March. The community will have six efficiency units and 18 one-bedroom apartments in eight buildings, plus a community building.

U.S. Housing and Urban Development has issued a check for \$92,273.46 as partial payment from HUD on the Casa Trinidad loan—the total amount of which is \$686,400. Additional funding for Casa Trinidad comes from a gift of \$20,000 from LSST which also is providing a short-term, no-interest loan of \$104,000 so that construction would begin immediately after the final HUD approval.

To qualify as a resident, a person must have an income of less than \$6,950 per year, or for two people, a combined income of less than \$7,900. A resident must be at least 62 or handicapped. For couples, one spouse must be 62 or handicapped.

Completion of the community is expected by late December 1986.



BIRTHDAY—"Looks too good to eat," said residents and friends of Trinity Place Apartments in Round Rock before cutting the cake that marked the LSST project's first birthday.

Trinity Place Apartments host birthday party

Residents and friends of Trinity Place Apartments, a community in Round Rock for low-income elderly and handicapped individuals, celebrated the community's first birthday on March 1. The apartments are managed by Lutheran Social Services of Texas.

The 68-unit apartment complex was funded in part with a U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development loan.

To qualify as a resident, the applicant must be at least 62 or handicapped, and with an income of less than \$10,700, said Nancy Cato, manager. For couples, one spouse must be 62 or handicapped, with the couple's combined income of less than \$12,200.

"A residents' council takes an active role in planning monthly activities," Cato said.

Currently, there are 72 residents of Trinity Place Apartments. Cato reports a waiting list of 54 individuals.



What the church means to me

by Jennifer Ellwanger

The church is the body of Christ. Jesus brought it into being and is the Head of the church, or the Cornerstone, as the Bible sometimes refers to it.

This church is made up of sinful human beings—but their sins have been forgiven and the Holy Spirit dwells in them.

These people are all over the world. They believe in Jesus and are strengthened in their faith through the sacraments and the teaching of the Word, which they hear especially in church.

The word church also is used in the Bible to refer to individual congregations around the world. In your church, you meet and talk to the new people who, by being members in the family of God, are different than they otherwise would be. They are shining lights for Christ, and they try to serve Him to the best of their ability.

Everything I have said about the church in general I believe you can say about Hope Lutheran Church. I believe the church will go on as long as the world stands and will be an important part of many people's lives.

I know it will always be an important part of my life.

(Jennifer wrote this essay for junior confirmation class at Hope Lutheran, Austin.)



INSTALLED—Participating pastors in the installation service for Rev. Randall Haedge at Bethel, Dallas, were left to right, front row, Gerald Nichols, John Allmann, Harold Jacobsmeyer, Haedge, Melvin Symmank and Fred Neumann. Back row, Don Berg, Don Hefta, Tom Sorenson and Dr. Carl Gaertner.

Randall Haedge installed at Bethel, Dallas

Rev. Randall Haedge was installed on Feb. 16 as associate pastor of Bethel Lutheran of Dallas. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Glen Haedge of Dallas.

Haedge graduated from Concordia College, Austin, and Concordia Teachers College, River Forest, Ill. He received his master of divinity degree from Concordia Seminary in St. Louis in 1982.

Haedge served his vicarage at Salem Lutheran in Black Jack, Mo., where he started a mission congregation. His first call was to this same mission church where he served until accepting the call to Bethel. At Bethel, he will concentrate on outreach and ministry with singles and young couples.

He is married to the former Catherine Golnick, whose parents are missionaries in Taiwan. The Haedges have three daughters.



NEW CHURCH—Turning the first spade of earth for the new sanctuary of Lamb of God Lutheran in Humble is Pastor John Miller. Others pictured are, from left, Paul Floth, Jim Holmes and Greg Rommel.

Workshop to deal with issues of single adults

This is a retreat for all adult singles! The retreat will be at the Lone Star Retreat Center in La-Grange. The dates are August 15-17.

Workshop sessions will deal with various single adult issues. A few of them are loss recovery, financial planning, parenting and loneliness.

Bible study, worship, free time and fellowship will also be a part of this weekend.

For more information contact Lori Bachmann at the district office, 7900 U.S. 290 East, Austin, Tex. 78724, 512-926-4272.

Lamb of God at Humble begins work on new sanctuary

Groundbreaking ceremonies were held Jan. 26 at Lamb of God Lutheran in Humble for a new sanctuary. Present at the ceremony were 327 members and guests.

Participants were Jim Holmes, president of the building committee; Erv Luedke, who spoke on historical milestones of the church; and Mike Adler, who outlined the memorial gifts program.

Music was provided by the children's choir. The groundbreaking ritual was handled by Pastor John Miller; Greg Rommel, educational director; Paul Floth, president of the congregation; and Holmes.

CONCORDIA



Concordia takes pride in the class of 1955-56, now serving the Lord as pastors, teachers and active lay people.

Concordia celebrates anniversaries

As Concordia nears its 60th anniversary on Oct. 26, 1986, another milestone was celebrated this spring—the beginning of coeducation at the college.

In 1955-56, the first women students entered the formerly all-male school. This March, members of that class which entered Concordia 30 years ago gathered on the campus during Family Weekend to commemorate their anniversary.

Of the 20 freshmen and three sophomore women who enrolled in 1955, 11 returned to the campus for the reunion, as well as three of the male class members. Mildred Mahron, dean of women in 1955-56, also attended. Many of the group had not seen each other since their college days.

In its relatively short his-

tory, Concordia has made remarkable progress as an institution of higher education. Beginning as a preparatory academy for young men in 1926, Concordia added the junior college for men in 1951 and included women in the junior college in 1955.

In the fall of 1980, the first upper level classes were held, and the first baccalaureate degrees were awarded in 1982.

The 1986-87 school year will thus mark several anniversaries: the 60th anniversary of opening, the 35th anniversary as a junior college and, in May 1987, the fifth anniversary of the awarding of four-year degrees.

The college will invite all alumni to return to the campus on Oct. 26 for a celebration of its history of providing Christian education. As hosts and supporters of the college, all Texas District Lutherans are invited to join in the celebration.

Alumni phonathon

Many of Concordia's alumni, current students, faculty and staff spent evenings during the last two weeks in April on the telephone as volunteer callers for the "first annual" Alumni Phonathon.

Former Concordians were asked to insure that current and future students will receive the same quality education that Concordia has provided for the past 60 years. The funds raised are designated to close the gap between what each student pays for tuition and the actual costs of a Christian education of the highest caliber.

John and Lois (Hillegeist) Lange, CLC exes from '58 and '60, provided a challenge to their fellow alumni by matching dollar-for-dollar each Phonathon gift, up to \$25,000. The response was gratifying, as alumni affirmed their commitment to the college.

Honorary Doctorate to be awarded at commencement

The faculty and Board of Regents of Concordia Lutheran College of Texas have voted to begin awarding the Honorary Doctorate to individuals who have distinguished themselves in fields which are in harmony with the purposes and functions of the church. The first such degree will be conferred at Concordia's Commencement on May 10 to Rev. Glenn O'Shoney, president of the Texas District.

"President O'Shoney was chosen to receive the Doctor of Laws degree to honor his prolonged superior service to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, as a congregational pastor, as Executive Director of the Board of Mission Administration of the Texas District and as President of the Texas District," said Dr. Ray F. Martens, Concordia president.

"Rev. O'Shoney has also made significant contributions to Concordia College by serving on the College's Board of Regents and by his efforts as a member of the executive committee for Founding 4, the college's \$3,000,000 capital campaign," Martens added.

The commencement ceremony will be held at 10 a.m. on May 10 in Woltman Activities Center. O'Shoney will also serve as commencement speaker.

Coming in fall '86

Watch for information in the next issue about Concordia's new Extended Education Program, designed for the working adult. The classes will begin in the fall semester.

CEF grows

In the one month period from last Dec. 16 to Jan. 15 this year, the Church Extension Fund in Texas received new investments totaling \$380,972. This was \$166,181 more than the same one month period a year ago.



Both teams from St. Matthew-Houston (dark, solid uniforms) outjumped and outmaneuvered their opposition at Concordia's Lutheran Elementary School Tournament.

LEST at CLC

In March, boys and girls from seven Lutheran schools competed in the third annual Lutheran Elementary School Tournament, hosted by Concordia Lutheran College.

The boys' team from St. Matthew-Houston won the tournament for the third consecutive year. The girls' team from St. Matthew also took the championship this year.

Schools sending teams were Redeemer-Austin, St. Paul-Austin, St. Paul-Fort Worth, Immanuel-Giddings, St. Matthew-Houston, St. Paul-Thorndale and Zion-Walburg.

The following girls were named to the All-Tournament Team: Christine Ball (Immanuel-Giddings); Kristy Braun (Redeemer-Austin); Monekia Denkins

(St. Matthew-Houston); Rachel Mitschke (Immanuel-Giddings); and Kim Whitsel (St. Paul-Austin). Christine Bell was Most Valuable Player.

These boys were named to the All-Tournament Team: Jason Bartles (Zion-Walburg); James Brown (St. Matthew-Houston); Milton Jarrels (St. Matthew-Houston); Stephen Mueller (St. Paul-Fort Worth); and Paul Slutes (Redeemer-Austin). Stephen Mueller was Most Valuable Player.

Professor Mark Wahlers organized and ran the tournament. He says that next year's tournament is scheduled for February.

This event, along with Field Day, allows Concordia to honor a few of the many outstanding students in the Lutheran schools of Texas.

CLC upper level students will lead freshmen

Upper level students at Concordia Lutheran College in Austin will soon have an opportunity to provide help to entering freshmen, to be of benefit to their college and to gain valuable experience for themselves—all at the same time.

The Master Student Program, which will begin in the fall of 1986, will use 30 college sophomores, juniors or seniors as leaders, models and paraprofessional counselors for groups of freshmen. Each group of 15 freshmen and their two upper-class counselors will function under the guidance of one faculty member.

The program aims to help freshmen have a more meaningful and successful college experience. "Research shows that even the most well-prepared stu-

dents can benefit from a program such as this," states Concordia Dean of Student Services James Koerschen.

"The Master Student Program is part of an overall Student Life Program designed to increase the entering student's chance for reaching the goal of a college degree," Koerschen continued.

The upperclassmen selected to participate in the new program must have demonstrated a successful adaptation to college. They will be chosen by an application and interview process and will receive intensive summer training.

While helping freshmen avoid some of the pitfalls of college and thus improving Concordia's retention rates, the upper level students who participate in the Master Student Program will gain leadership and counseling skills to further their own career goals.



Concordia's spring musical, *110 in the Shade*, portrayed family conflict caused by the arrival of a rainmaker in a drought-stricken Southwestern town. Playing leading roles were, from left, Faith Horn, Joel Bartsch, Joel Dittmer (back) and Tom Schwoert.



Jim's confirmation was coming up fast. His parents looked for a gift that would last.

It had to fit the occasion, you see. For Jim AND the church the gift ought to be.

Their pastor provided the solution with ease, "A C. E. F. plan is certain to please."

For Jim this investment will grow like a weed While it helps out young churches really in need.

MORAL:

At Confirmation time, Church Extension Fund investments make truly wonderful and timely gifts.

For additional information about CEF, write

Church Extension Fund

Texas District

The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod
7900 US 290 East Austin, TX 78724



District calendar

June

- 1—Orientation meeting, Camp Lone Star
- 5—Church Growth Task Force
- 12—Adult Ministry Committee, Dallas
- 19-22—LWML District Convention, Lubbock

July

- 11-13—Sunday School Convention, St. Louis

- 13-14—Board for Mission Administration
- 15—District Board of Directors
- 15-18—LCMS Black Convention, Indianapolis
- 17—Floor committee hearings
- 18-25—Synodical Convention, Indianapolis
- 26—Lutheran Outdoor Ministry Board of Directors, Camp Lone Star
- 27—Annual barbecue, Camp Lone Star

Young Lutherans write their thoughts at confirmation

Seven young people were confirmed Palm Sunday at Crown of Life Lutheran in San Antonio.

Each wrote a confirmation essay. Here are excerpts from their essays:

"With Jesus, I never feel like there's nobody to listen."—Rachel Braly

"Jesus Christ means forgiveness of my sins, because He died on the cross for me."—Aubrey Lippe

"I know now I can go to heaven after I die, where my Lord has prepared a wonderful mansion for me."—Richard Maxwell

"In my life, Christ is the main person."—Paul Ohls

"I think that we are very fortunate and should be thankful that God loves us so much that He gave us His only Son to die for our sins so that we could have eternal life."—David O'Leary

"Jesus Christ is my Lord. I'd also like to say to y'all that are confused that He is true God and true man."—Jessica Weik

"Christ's death was a gift to us freely given which proves He is a wonderful God."—Melissa Weiss

Slow start

The newsletter of Christ Memorial, Houston, reminds us to hang in there by revealing that in its first year of business, the Coca-Cola Company sold 400 Cokes.



SELECTED—Rev. Arlyn J. Hausmann has been named Vice President for Development and Public Relations for Lutheran Social Services of Texas.

Mothers' support group begun in Tomball

A mothers' support group has been started in Tomball. The group meets at Salem Lutheran Church of Rosehill. The purpose is to give mothers a chance to meet with other mothers, make friends and share common concerns.

Meetings are held the fourth Wednesday each month from 9:30 to 11 a.m. in Salem's fellowship hall. Babysitting is provided.

Mothers of the whole community have been invited to be part of this support group.

Marge Harris, wife of Ben Harris, minister of music at Salem, is program coordinator.

Each meeting includes a topic related to parenting such as teaching religious concepts to children, first aid, nutrition, drug and sexual abuse and teenage problems.



Kids learn power of prayer

The fourth graders of Our Redeemer School in Dallas have been learning about and experiencing the power of prayer in religion class.

At the end of each day the children have an opportunity to share prayer requests.

"It is very uplifting," say teachers, "to see their love for their classmates and the concern they show for others such as the families of the shuttle astronauts."

Happenings in Texas

St. Paul of McAllen conducts an outreach ministry to the recreational vehicle parks in the upper Valley where thousands of "Winter Texans" reside. By the end of February, attendance at services in five parks was averaging 500 per Sunday. This ministry is conducted by three retired pastors, themselves "Winter Texans."

Missouri Synod pastors in the Houston area provide daily devotions at 11 a.m. on Radio Station KHCB-FM. In March, the speakers were Rev. Craig DuBois, Rev. Douglas Barnett, Rev. Dewyth Beltz and Rev. Ralph Hobratschk.

For the fourth year, Rev. Donald R. Peymann of Pilgrim, Houston, provided the invocation for the Houston Rodeo, part of the huge livestock exposition there.

The Parish Fellowship Ministry Board of Prince of Peace, Carrollton, is arranging a congregational trip to Eureka Springs, Ark., in August so that members can see the Great Passion Play performed in the Ozark Mountains.

Congratulations to Dr. Roland Bunge, member of Redeemer, Nacogdoches, who was selected by KTRE-TV as one of the "Nine Who Make the Difference" in the Lufkin-Nacogdoches area. A veterinarian, Bunge received congratulations from President Ronald Reagan and Governor Mark White.

And three cheers also for Dr. Norman Markworth, who is a member of Redeemer, Nacogdoches. An astronomy professor at Stephen F. Austin University, he was instrumental in the creation and assembly of a 41-inch reflector telescope—the only computer-controlled telescope in the Central Time Zone.

Congratulations to two elder members of Trinity, Spring, who observed birthdays in February. Ed Buvinghausen turned 89 and Rudy Berglund celebrated his 74th birthday.

A superior gesture of kinship came from Gloria Dei, Nassau Bay, when they presented a gift of \$7,000 from Sunday school and Bible class offerings to Good Shepherd, Angleton, to be used for equipment



and furnishings in Good Shepherd's new facility dedicated earlier this year.

Congratulations to Bill and Trina Fischer of St. Mark, Houston, who were given the "Service to Schools" award by Lutheran High North.

Gene Proft of Holy Cross, Nederland, won second place in the Spindletop Memorial Museum photo contest for "Airport Sunset" picture.

Tree of Life, Garland, held its Charter Sunday on March 2.

Lori Busch of Pilgrim, Houston, has something cooking! Out of 40,000 entrants in the American Bake-Off, Lori was one of 97 finalists.

As a memento of its mortgage-burning, St. Mark of Mineral Wells has a plaque on the wall that says, "The Lord paid in full our salvation. By God's grace we have paid in full our church and our land. Praise ye the Lord!"

Robyn Ruble Young, member of Redeemer, Nacogdoches, and a senior premed student at Stephen F. Austin University, was inducted into Who's Who Among American College Students. She enters the University of Texas Medical School, Houston, in the fall.

Irwin Carroll was in Zurich, Switzerland, recently to deliver two papers at a technical exhibition. He is a member of Zion, Dallas, where he is chairman of the Board of Christian Education.

A unique and inspirational way to honor the life and memory of loved ones are the stepping stones being placed around the campus of Concordia, San Antonio. Each stone is inscribed with the honoree's name along with a verse from the Bible.

The congregation of Bethlehem, Houston, presented 20 German hymns to St. Paul, Serbin.

It was a grand occasion for Mr. and Mrs. Frank Barbian of St. Paul, Plainview, who celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary Dec. 22. They were the first couple married at St. Paul and theirs was the first wedding ceremony performed by their pastor, Rev. Carl Gaertner, now of Dallas. Gaertner attended the anniversary celebration, as did the maid of honor, Mrs. Godfrey (Marie) Cadra, Midland. She and Mrs. Barbian are sisters.

St. Mark, Houston, is sponsoring a young male Czech immigrant refugee in this country.

Horror story

Did you know that since 1973 following the Roe vs. Wade decision, approximately 18 million abortions have been performed, most as convenience abortions?

OUTDOORS



THANK YOU—Outdoors Ministry Director Rev. Karl Petzke gives Mrs. Lillie A. Johnson of Wharton a special painting of the Camp Lone Star Retreat Center in gratitude for the Johnson Foundation's superb assistance through the years.

Lone Star family camps provide food, fun and great outdoors

Has your family earnestly desired to take some time off together, but you just haven't been able to accomplish it? How about a family weekend or a full week away from home to work on having fun together, and working on unity, communication and relationships in a setting of Christian love and in the midst of God's marvelous creation? (With all the meals prepared?)

Camp Lone Star once again is offering two very attractive events for families during the 1986 summer season. Because of the Fourth of July weekend, the annual weekend event has been extended one day and will be held July 3-6. The week-long event will be in session again later that same month—July 20-25.

What can you expect at family camp?

- Chunks of free time as a family.
- Superb air-conditioned sleeping, eating and meeting facilities in the beautiful Lone Star Retreat Center.
- Optional activities and time as a family to work on relationships, building for the future, communication and family devotions.
- Sharing in Christian fellowship with other families.
- Time for fishing, hiking, canoeing, . . .
- Use of the hot-tub, sport court, swimming pool and other resources for building Christian family unity.
- Enjoying outstanding leadership and dedication to serving participants by the summer staff and a resource couple.

Now's the time to send in your registration or contact the LOMT office for further information.

LOMT Board is a vital part of a special mission

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

Lutheran Outdoors Ministry of Texas has grown tremendously since it began in 1979. The growth in camps, retreat facilities and people served is increasing annually.

LOMT still has goals to achieve in its ministry. Our hope is to serve more people of all ages in the worship of our Lord in the outdoors. Your help and continued support for this vital ministry is both needed and appreciated.

These were statements recently expressed by Chris G. Bentz, president of Lutheran Outdoors Ministry of Texas. Bentz, a member at Bethany, Austin, and co-owner of Texas Corrugators, is one of the original members of LOMT.

The LOMT Board meets quarterly to enact policies and to facilitate the management, programming and operation of this phase of our Lord's service. There also are three special committees consisting of LOMT Board members. These committees are Long-Range Planning, Salary and Performance, and Off-Site Programming.

Joining Bentz on the LOMT Executive Committee are Wilbert Kalbas, St. John-Lariat, vice president; Mrs. Betty Boecker, Memorial-Houston, secretary; and Gary Bounds, Our Savior-Austin, treasurer.

Other board members



Chris Bentz
President of LOMT

are District Youth Committee appointee Ron Bartels, Zion-Walburg; Gary Frieling, Our Redeemer-Dallas; Mrs. Bonnie Hahn, Good Shepherd-Cedar Park; Rev. Ken Hennings, St. Paul-Fort Worth; Rev. Lawrence Kelm, Our Redeemer-Houston; Mike Linebrink, Our Savior-Austin; and Jim Noack, Zion-Dallas.

With the forthcoming district-wide capital funding campaign approaching in 1988, the LOMT Board is determined to proceed in a systematic manner to provide the best possible experiences in Christ-centered camping and related activities for all Texas District Lutherans.

NOTICE: Music Camp cancelled at Lone Star

Due to unforeseen circumstances, the **MUSIC CAMP** at **CAMP LONE STAR** scheduled for July 20-27 has been canceled. This opening in the schedule has been replaced with a **CONQUEST II/PI-ONEER IV** week (ages 8-18) to be held July 20-25.

YOUTH

TEXAS DISTRICT



Our bright kids . . .

Good for Kris Daniels. This young member of **Zion, Fort Worth**, received a scholastic award at the Tandy Scholastic Recognition Dinner in April.

Kristy Bruan of **Our Savior, Austin**, was on her school's basketball team which won the city championship.

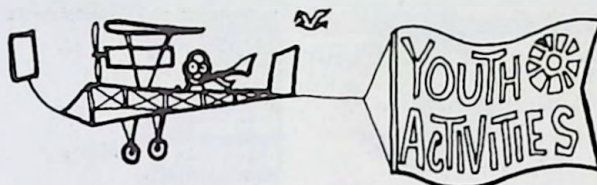
Congratulations to six Lutheran youngsters who have received scholarships to Lutheran High of Dallas, renewable each year they attend the school. They are Margo Baker, Todd Crosby, Kris Schneider, Josh Wilken, Karri Bowman and Judy Harmann.

A really bright kid is Lamar Wallace, 16, of **Redeemer, Nacogdoches**, who soloed a single-engine Cessna a few months back. Recently he competed in the regional swim meet in Austin in three events. He is a high school sophomore.

Michael Miertschin, eighth grade student at **Tomball Lutheran School**, was first runner-up in the East Texas Spelling Bee for private schools. He missed "rigatoni."

The people of **Good Shepherd, Cedar Park**, really appreciate the church's Brownie troop. The girls planted alyssum in the church's walkway and flowerbed.

Such a talent! Tennessee Wallace, 13-year-old seventh grader and member of **Redeemer, Nacogdoches**, made a First Division rating in her ensemble flute competition in February at



Stephen F. Austin University.

And congratulations to Mark Sij of **Redeemer, Beaumont**, who received No. 1 rating on his solo in recent school district choir competition. It qualified Mark to go to state competition.

Teens for Christ of **St. Philip, Houston**, washed 92 cars squeaky-clean in a wash-a-thon. Here is what is really neat. At least half of the car-owners whose vehicles were washed were not members of St. Philip, so the teenagers handed each one a pamphlet about their church.

Brian Matschull, young member of **Grace, Midland**, was a member of his school's soccer team which won the city junior high championship.

Alicia Richter of **Immanuel, Houston**, who is a student at Concordia College, Austin, was awarded a scholarship by Aid Association for Lutherans.

At **Tomball Lutheran School** athletic banquet, "Most Valuable Tiger" awards went to Travis Martin, soccer; Denise Dierksen, volleyball; and Michael Miertschin, basketball.

Sixteen high-school-age members of **Gloria Dei, Nassau Bay**, have formed a new church choir called "Joy Sound." The group presents contemporary Christian music in a light

folk, soft rock sound using guitars, drums, keyboards and other instruments.

A pleasing person is Linda Piel, member of **Our Savior, Abilene**, who was chosen "class favorite" by her high school senior class. She also received the Good Citizen Award from the Daughters of the American Revolution.

In a special ceremony, the following students at **Tomball Lutheran School** were inducted into membership in the National Junior Honor Society: Michael Miertschin, Jon Selle, Eric Roberson, Allen Little, Brandy Garrison, Michael Boscarto, Travis Martin, Karyn Schroeder, David Norton, Jana Jackson and Crystal Bowers. Way to go, people!

Sunday school youngsters at **St. Mark, Mineral Wells**, held a surprise birthday party for their friend and fellow member, Jake Grable, on his 79th birthday. They baked a cake in the form of a Church Extension Fund stamp book and designed special cards for him.

Jaylyn Sturgis was chosen best all-around girl in her senior high school class while Carrie Hollomon was elected president of her school's National Junior Honor Society. Both are members of **Holy Cross, Nederland**.

Three Texans, all from Plano, have made the

dean's list (3.5 average) at Concordia College, Ann Arbor, Mich. They are John Hill, Rachel Hill and Stephen Kotsines. Stephen's grade point average is 4.0. Wow!

A pat on the back goes to Diana Farrack of **Hope, Austin**, who plays the clarinet and was chosen to perform in the school all-district band at a clinic-concert.

Praise the Lord for the young people of **Redeemer, Odessa**, who tithe 10 percent of all the funds they raise to the Door of Hope Mission in Odessa.

Stephan Crone and Jeff Mensing, young members of **Christ Lutheran, Austin**, have been accepted into the Science Academy at their high school.

And Carrie Bowden of **Faith, Gainesville**, was second place winner in a history contest sponsored by Daughters of the American Revolution.

Three cheers for the girls basketball team of **Concordia Lutheran High School, Tomball**, which won the district championship and represented their area in the state regionals. Their amazing record was 27-1.

In March, the junior high youth of **Gloria Dei, Nassau Bay**, went on a midnight hike, held a special worship service and had a 4 a.m. viewing of Halley's comet using powerful telescopes. Neat experience, surely.

Heather Shauf, **Faith, Gainesville**, was a participant in the Cooke County Spelling Bee.

Lone Star District Highlights

International Lutheran Laymen's League



By Gary D. Laneman, Information Coordinator
11601 January, Austin, TX, 78753

Three Texas congregations add LLL clubs

Three LLL clubs have organized for service to their Texas congregations and to promote the program of the International LLL of "Bringing Christ to the Nations."

The new clubs are at Nacogdoches, Grand Prairie and Dalhart. They have joined the 55 other clubs in Texas to raise a mighty voice unto the Lord. Welcome aboard, shipmates!

IT'S THE FAVORITE

The Spanish Television Network, called "Galavision," made a survey of the El Paso region to see which was the favorite program among Hispanics. They were told it was "Ayer, Hoy, y Siempre" (Yesterday, Today, and Forever), said Rev. Roberto Rojas of Lorain, Ohio.

Rojas was Bible study leader for 115 delegates and guests at the Fifth National Hispanic Conference recently in El Paso. He encouraged LCMS participants to make use of the excellent resources provided by the International Lutheran Laymen's League, including the 15-minute drama, "Ayer, Hoy, y Siempre," as well as the

one-minute and two-minute devotions for radio, the television programs and the Spanish printed materials. He also praised the LCMS Board for Mission Services for the helpful publications it was supplying on a regular basis.

Explaining the conference theme, "Equipping the Saints for Service," Rojas said, "God has called us to win souls for His kingdom," but in this he advised urgency because, "many Hispanics move, and we don't know how much time we have."

Nevertheless, "Every believer has gifts from the Holy Spirit, and these must be used to build up Christ's body, the church. Therefore, we have to involve every member," he concluded.

Lay delegate Enrique Orozco from Miami emphasized teaching laity the Biblical support behind their involvement, but he also stressed the need to show people gratitude for their service.

Dr. Eugene F. Gruell, who is moving from Miami to McAllen, Tex., received two standing ovations. The first for a resolution thanking him for his nine years of supervision of the Int'l LLL's Spanish drama, "Ayer, Hoy y Siempre."



THANK YOU GIFT - Rev. Fred Pankow, Hispanic ministries coordinator for the International Lutheran Laymen's League, places a silver chain and cross around the neck of Dr. Eugene F. Gruell as a gift from the league for Gruell's assistance on the LLL's Spanish Language radio program "Ayer, Hoy y Siempre." The presentation was made at the Hispanic conference in El Paso, Texas. Looking on, left to right, are Rev. Leopoldo Vigil, conference chairman; Rev. William Reagan, resolutions committee chairman; and Susan Gonzalez, secretary.

The second came when Rev. Fred Pankow, the league's Hispanic ministries coordinator, presented Gruell a silver cross in recognition of supervising the drama without remuneration.

Gruell is a former mission director of the Texas District, Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

FLYING TO ORLANDO

Through Ask Mr. Foster, special convention rates have been negotiated with Eastern Airlines for the International Lutheran Laymen's League convention in Orlando, Fla., July 27-30. This special rate is five percent off the lowest applicable Eastern Ultimate Super Saver airfare.

You must make your reservation 30 days in advance for this special fare.

For travel information and to make reservations, call toll-free 1-800-325-4689. Request the GROUP DE-

PARTMENT and identify yourself as an LLL participant in the July Orlando convention.

PROGRAM CHANGES

Here are some new radio and television programming changes in Texas:

- "This is the Life," Lubbock, KCBD Channel 39, Sunday at 6:30 a.m., and Plainview, WIN, Channel 11, Sunday at 10 a.m.

- "Esta Es La Vida," El Paso, KINT, Channel 26, Saturday at 1 p.m., and Plainview, WIN, Tuesday at 7:30 p.m.

- The Lutheran Hour, Kenedy, KTNR, 92.1, Sunday at 10 a.m.

- "Crosswalk," Big Lake, KWGH, 1290, Sunday at 9 a.m., and Huntsville, KSHU, 89.3, Sunday at 5 p.m.

- "Day By Day With Jesus," KCBI, 89.3, Monday through Friday at 1:10 a.m. and on Saturday at 6 a.m.



Doris McKay



Sherry Torbert



Phyllis Abshire



Rosemarie Herring

Candidates for district office

The Nominating Committee submits the following slate of candidates for election at the 25th biennial convention of the Texas District LWML in Lubbock, June 18-20:

• **Second Vice-President:**

Doris McKay, Rockport (Coastal Bend Zone)

Sherry Torbert, Houston (Golden Harvest Zone)

• **Recording Secretary:**

Phyllis Abshire, Port Arthur (Golden Triangle Zone)

Rosemarie Herring, Nederland (Golden Triangle Zone)

• **Treasurer:**

Barbara Frazier, Missouri City (Bayou City Zone)

Shirley Lorenz, Giddings (Post Oak Zone)

• **Pastoral Counselor:**

Rev. Kim DeVries,

San Antonio, (North Alamo Zone)

Rev. Carroll Kohl, Big Spring (West Texas Zone)

• **Nominating Committee:**

Mary Bauer, Winnie (Golden Triangle Zone)

Candy Bleeke, Walburg (Capitol Zone)

Betty Discher, Navasota (Bluebonnet Zone)

Audrey Ebert, Sealy (Mid Coast Zone)

Dorothy Hunger, Rockwall (Texas Star Zone)

Helen Mitschke, Corpus Christi (Coastal Bend Zone)

Doris Nagy, Houston (Northeast Houston Zone)

Jean Wottrich, Chairman

Barbara Ussery

Sherry Torbert

Rev. Donald Peymann



Convention update

• **"Linked by Love" Seminar**

From 8:30 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. Wednesday, June 18, at the Holiday Inn adjacent to the Civic Center. Participants will be able to attend all sectionals.

Keynote speaker Alma Kern will autograph copies of her book *You are Special* after the sessions. Books will be for sale.

• **Opening service**

Wednesday, 7:30 p.m., in the Civic Center theater—a celebration service with Holy Communion.

• **Convention sessions**

Begin Thursday, June 19, promptly at 8:30 a.m. in the Lubbock Civic Center.

• **Of special interest**

Ingathering dedication of "Parish Projects" on Thursday.

Banquet, 8 p.m. Thursday, at the Holiday Inn—features a Texas musical sampler.

Outdoor devotion, Friday 7:30 a.m. at the entrance to the Civic Center.

Two zones have extended bids for the 1990 district convention: Capitol (Austin) and Central Texas (Waco).

A special presentation is planned to honor Lil Kobs for 38 years of service as archivist/historian.

Tee shirts with the 1987 convention logo will be on sale for \$6 each.



Barbara Frazier



Shirley Lorenz



Rev. Kim DeVries



Rev. Carroll Kohl

Praise Him! All Heaven and Earth!

I'm excited about our upcoming convention in Lubbock! We have a great worship celebration planned, and a truly gifted preacher, Dr. Charles Mueller, will be sharing God's Word with us.

I'm also excited about celebrating God's grace under the theme "Praise Him! All Heaven and Earth!"

This convention will be a bittersweet one for me, for at its close I will be leaving my office as your district counselor. It has been my privilege to fill this position for nearly five years.

It has been a great experience for me and has been spiritually rewarding as well. I'll miss serving the Lord in this capacity, but I rejoice in knowing that as we praise God together in service to Him here on earth, we will praise Him together forever in heaven. No matter where our journeys in life may take us, we will be together eternally with the risen Lord in



Rev. Donald Peymann

heaven. Is there a better reason to praise Him, all heaven and earth?

God's continued blessings be with you always and give you joy in His service.

*Donald R. Peymann
District Counselor*

LWML News

LWML news should be sent to Dolores Bruncke, Texas District Editor, 3944 Merriam, Plano, Tex. 75074.

International officer at Lubbock

The Texas District is privileged to have Alice Cross, newly-elected international vice president for mission projects, as a special guest at our district convention.

As chairman of the 1985 Ames convention, she "felt blessed to watch the convention unfold into reality"—a statement we hope to echo as Texas undertakes the 1987 international convention in Fort Worth. We welcome you to Texas, Alice!

News from International

●By direction of the International Board of Directors, each Monday at noon has been designated as a special time for all LWML members to be "Linked in Prayer" as we work together in service to our Lord.

●The deadline for submitting names of possible nominees for international office is August 15. Positions open are president, vice-presidents for mission service and mission education, and financial secretary. Forms are available from Marcella Gaus, Box 123, Hamshire, Tex. 77622.

●Four women will be commissioned at the Fort Worth convention to visit England as part of the Discipling Woman—to Woman program. Any Texas leaguer interested in applying may contact Marcella for forms.

●Banners for the Fort Worth convention will be needed from each district. If you are interested in designing the Texas banner, contact Marcella Gaus.



Jane Hurta, publicity cochairman for the 1987 convention, models one of the denim aprons given to the International Board of Directors. The gifts were made by Helen Mitschke, Marjann Moehring, Kay Richter, Carlene Siroh and Margaret McFarlane, all from the Corpus Christi area.



One of the youth cabins being completed at Camp Lone Star—made possible by a project grant from the Texas LWML. Each cabin is equipped for the handicapped and will house 12 campers. The cabins will be ready for use this summer.

Mite Report

March 30, 1986
Total Goal \$160,000
Received, March 8,311
Received 22 mo.

156,227

Still Need \$3,773

Send mites to Mina Fitting, 704 Dellwood, Midland 79703. MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO TEXAS DISTRICT LWML.



Opportunities abound to speak of Jesus to someone who needs the message

A pastor felt a sharp pain in his chest. He had felt a similar pain many years before . . . a pain which had resulted—at that time—in bypass surgery.

His wife drove him to the hospital where a diagnosis was speedily accomplished: more surgery would be necessary.

This surgery would be far more dangerous than the last—there was a real chance the pastor would not survive the operation.

The family spent many hours in prayer to the Father. Fellow pastors made regular visits—joining the family in prayer. Physicians' schedules were cleared; an operating room was readied; and the surgery began.

About an hour and a half after the surgery started, the family—in the waiting room—received a handwritten note from the anesthesiologist.

The pastor's wife sent me a copy of the doctor's note. It meant so very much to her! I am also impressed by the note—it is remarkable witness to the doctor's faith—it was a wonderful comfort to the family as well.

This is what he wrote:

"Your loved one seems to be doing quite well thus far. I began at 10:35 and shortly thereafter, he drifted off to sleep, gently and safely and quickly. Since then, his responses



Rev. Glenn O'Shoney

have been safe and predictable and controllable. I anticipate a completion around 3:30 p.m. We shall see."

(I am omitting a portion of the letter since it deals with specifics about the operation.)

"Our prayer is that God will grant a wonderful recovery! The loving Father truly cares and is ever faithful to answer, just as He knows best."

Pastor Francis Mennenga of Redeemer Lutheran Church in Lubbock, Tex., was certainly in God's hands—as well as the hands of a very capable team of physicians. He not only survived the operation—he is recovering with remarkable speed.

• I relate this because I am truly impressed with the doctor's witness. He used the occasion of that operation as a witness opportunity.

As Lutherans, we are not very good at doing this sort of thing, but we can learn!

God gives every one of us plenty of opportunities—wherever we are, whatever we are doing—to speak of

the Savior, His love, His forgiveness . . . to someone who needs that message.

We have wonderful opportunities to speak of a life with meaning—the life in Christ. We have great opportunities to tell people how good, gracious, and merciful God has been to us.

A short time ago I sat on an airplane with Keith Loomans of our district staff. An elderly man sat next to Keith and soon the two began talking. When Keith identified himself as a church worker, the man readily admitted that he had no church home and had a very low regard for religion and the Christian faith.

For more than an hour the two discussed faith and life—Keith very kindly and

patiently speaking of his faith and his confidence in Jesus. Just another illustration of using whatever time and place God gives for such opportunities.

• In a hospital, on an airplane . . . God gives each one of us our opportunities. True, your knees will probably shake and your speech may waver just a bit . . . but the Spirit will brace you up. And, best of all, the message—Word—you speak is not a word about you—but a Word about Christ. It's the Word that has changed your life and has the power to change the life of others.

What is it Isaiah says?

... "My Word will not return void, but will accomplish that which I please and prosper in the thing where to I send it."

Glenn O'Shoney

Glenn O'Shoney
President, Texas District

Lutheran High establishes new skills program

The School Board of Concordia Lutheran High School, Tomball, has announced the addition of a comprehensive reading and study skills program into the college-prep curriculum for the 1986-87 academic year.

All incoming freshmen will be required to take this program as part of their freshman English I class.

The program, called *Power Reading*, was sug-

gested by Principal Tom Grunow as a result of faculty discussions and a review of admission test scores. Grunow has used similar programs with excellent results in Florida Lutheran schools.

The theory calls for students on a freshmen level to not only increase reading speed and comprehension, but also to obtain good study, lecture and notetaking skills. As a result, students should experience greater productivity in school work and achieve better grades.

The Hispanic A-Team is poised for action

by Rev. Fred Boden
Director, Mission Board
Texas District

There is no question that the large number of Hispanics (close to 50 percent including undocumented persons) populating our state demands an ever-increasing amount of attention, involvement and investment of time and funding on the part of the Mission Board of the Texas District.

There are now 15 ministries directed toward Hispanics in Texas with an additional ministry in the Rio Grande Valley awaiting the acceptance of a call.

- Continuing immigration, both legal and illegal, from Mexico and Central America, the emergence of a strong Mexican-American middle class among the second and third generations from Mexico, and the racial change of the inner-city areas (particularly Houston and San Antonio) all call upon our district to find new and more effective ways of reaching out with the Gospel to our Hispanic neighbors.

The city of Houston is the fourth largest Hispanic market in the United States and is projected to rank third by 1990 behind Los Angeles and New York. In terms of population figures that comes close to one million Hispanics in Houston to begin the decade of the nineties.

- Many of the older congregations near the downtown inner city are



Dan Williams
... heads the A-Team

experiencing rapidly changing neighborhoods, declining membership and a totally new clientele with which to do ministry.

Many of these congregations do not know where to begin new Hispanic ministry outreach. Others clearly don't want to change or reach out to other racial groups.

Some congregations are unaware that their neighborhoods will be markedly changed before the end of the 20th century and that they need to begin to strategize for that change even now.

At the same time, not all of the existing Hispanic ministries are effective in their outreach. New and more effective models of ministries and styles of ministry are needed.

- With this understanding, the Mission Board was charged to do a district-wide study of the need for Hispanic ministry. With only a very small percentage of congregations returning their questionnaires, a task force put forth a report to the 1985 Texas District Convention with accompanying recommendations.

The result was Resolution 7-5-85, which called for the creation of a seven-member task force to develop district Hispanic action teams. These action teams will assist existing congregations begin neighborhood Hispanic outreach and offer direction and assistance to congregations with Hispanic ministries, helping them increase their effectiveness.

Specifically, the "A-Teams" would assist congregations considering Hispanic outreach by exploring opportunities that exist; identifying resources (personnel, facilities, existing congregational programs, etc.); suggest a simple, practical plan to begin work; assist in training lay teams for work in a given setting; and act as a resource for continued development and expansion of the ministry.

- The team has now been formed. Members are Dan

Williams, a member of the Board of Mission Administration who serves as chairman of the Task Force; Rev. Roy Garcia, pastor of San Juan Lutheran in Austin; Rev. Jesus Gonzales, pastor of San Pedro Lutheran in Houston; Rev. Don Kroll, pastor of Mount Calvary Lutheran in Raymondville (an Anglo and Hispanic ministry); Mrs. Peggy Martin of Cristo el Salvador Congregation in Del Rio; Rev. Dennis Schiefelbein, pastor of Nuestro Salvador Congregation in Corpus Christi; and Mrs. Lucy Wilke of San Antonio.

Many congregations and professional church workers feel inadequate when it comes to ministering to the Hispanics around them. The Hispanic Action Team would assist congregations to develop a plan and the resources to begin.

- The Hispanic Action

(Continued on page 12C)

Send us the Hispanic A-Team

_____ I believe our congregation should begin to minister in some way to Hispanics around us. We would like a visitation team to come to our church.

_____ We would like information on seminars and workshops developed by the Team.

_____ I know individuals who are interested in reaching out to the Hispanic population (please include their names and addresses).

_____ We are involved in doing Hispanic work and would like a team to visit us to assess our situation and make any possible suggestions.

_____ I have some resources which could be used by the Texas District in Hispanic outreach (please include a description).

Name please _____

Address _____



Kids tell why they like being in Christian school

It's not just parents, but children as well who realize the importance of a Christian education. To prove this point, the children of Emilie Schmidt's first and second grade classes at Zion Lutheran School in Fort Worth recently wrote essays on "Why I Go To A Christian School." Here are some of them:

Devan Warren, second grade: "Because I like my teacher. She makes learning fun. The children are fun to be around and to play with. I learn about the Bible. I also learn about how Jesus loves us. So if I went to another school, I would not be able to know the things I have been learning."

Jill Castle, first grade: "I love my school because they teach me about Jesus. And they even teach me about math and spelling. My parents think a good education is very important and they believe Zion gives me that head start. My teacher is very nice to me and I have made many new friends. I love my teacher. My teacher is like my mother. I am good in class."

Jason Skrasek, second grade: "I go to a Lutheran school so that I can learn about Jesus. Every Wednesday we go to Chapel. I go to a Lutheran school because a Lutheran school has nice teachers there. My parents want me to go to a nice school. My mom and dad want me to become a better Christian and keep Jesus as my friend."



NEW CHURCH—These are the folks present on Jan. 26 when Lord of Life Lutheran Church of north Dallas held its first worship service. The mission congregation shares quarters with a patrol division of the Dallas Police Department.

Badges and Bibles go together as church doubles as police station

It is an unusual combination, even in a big city: badges and Bibles. But a church has turned out to be an answer to the Dallas Police Department's prayer.

The police department's north central patrol is sharing a building with Lord of Life Lutheran Church in far north Dallas. Actually, both are renting from the previous occupant, another church congregation which moved to a new location.

Lord of Life is a new mission congregation of the Texas District, formerly known as the North Dallas/Renner Mission. Rev. Ric L. McMillian is pastor/mission developer.

The police will be moving out when a permanent station is completed.

Sharing the building with the Lutherans prompted Police Sergeant Randy Jones to say, "We're pretty comfortable here. It may have a calming effect." The division has 80 officers, six investigators, 14 sergeants, three lieutenants and a captain.

"It's working out pretty well," McMillian said. "They've been more than accommodating."

Lord of Life held its first worship service Jan. 26 this year. The first seven weeks of worship have added at least one first-time visiting family each week. On March 30, Lord of Life celebrated its first three baptisms and its first adult confirmation.

A home

Lutheran Social Services of Texas placed 235 children adoptively with 225 families in 1985.

Refugees resettled

Lutheran Social Services of Texas helped settle 227 refugees last year with the assistance of involved sponsors and congregations.

A-TEAM

(Continued from page 12B) Team will make on-site visits to help churches assess their situation and potential.

It will assist in targeting the mission field of a particular congregation and aid in developing a strategy that fits each situation. The Hispanic Action Team will develop seminars to train clergy and laity in the resources and techniques to begin new work.

The initial program has been directed to the Houston area. However, any district congregation interested in having the "A-Team" visit and assist them should contact either Rev. Fred Boden, 7900 U.S. 290 East, Austin, Tex. 78724 or Dan Williams, 3006 Niagara, Corpus Christi, Tex. 78405. The request form may be used to make this contact.

• May our heavenly Father bless the efforts of this team as the Texas District moves forward with the Word of Reconciliation to the vast numbers of unchurched and undisciplined Hispanics throughout our state.

"God . . . gave us the ministry of reconciliation . . . so we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us" (2 Cor. 5:18,20).

Quake aid

Lutherans from across the state contributed more than \$200,000 through Lutheran Social Services of Texas to aid persons displaced by the September 1985 Mexican earthquake.

OUTDOORS

Ski trips, family camping offer renewal in God's great outdoors

The Lutheran Outdoors Ministry of Texas Ski Ministry for 1985-86 has continued a budding tradition of providing special experiences for children, youth, young adults, older adults and families with two events this past winter. On both occasions, buses were chartered for these trips.

• Red River, New Mex., was the scene for a three-day skiing venture during the pre-Christmas season. David Angerman, Minister of Music at Bethany, Austin, leader of the Dec. 20-24 trip, spoke enthusiastically about the superb fellowship and Christian growth which was so evident among the group's 36 participants.

A Christmas theme provided a radiant setting for the group's worship and growth together. Skiers enjoyed three days on the slopes of either Red River or Taos.

The annual Spring Break Ski Trip (March 22-27) once again was led by Harlan Teske, Minister of Youth at Redeemer, Austin. The snow and mountains around Leadville, Colo., provided the setting for 60 participants.

Evening devotions focused on the "Stations of the Cross," helping the group remember Christ's last moments before the crucifixion.

Comments from the scene included one waitress who thanked the group, saying, "This was the most courteous and well-behaved group I have seen during this season, and besides,

the participants always gave a clear witness of their Christian faith and life through singing and prayers."

It is interesting to note that there were 25 beginning skiers among the group and all participants enjoyed the occasion at their skill level.

• Plans are already in motion for the 1986-87 LOMT Ski Ministry Program. Events will be firmed up by late summer or early fall.

An LOMT Family Camping Trip April 5-6 to Lady Bird Johnson Municipal Park in Fredericksburg began what surely will blossom into a multifaceted program in recreational vehicle or tent camping for families in years to come. Glenn and Janet Hurta from St. Paul, Waco, spearheaded the planning and arrangement-making for the initial event.

• Participants from a goodly number of Texas communities enjoyed the breathtaking setting and the time to get away, to refresh, to relax and to become renewed. Pastor Karl Petzke, Executive Director of LOMT, led the Bible study/worship, focusing on the "oneness" that we have in the glorious risen Christ.

Prior to breaking camp, the family camping group set the dates of Oct. 11-12 for a Fall event which is scheduled to be held at Dinosaur Valley State Park near Glen Rose. Final plans for this occasion will be forthcoming.



ON THE SLOPES—Rusty King of Redeemer, Austin, shows his ski form to his Lutheran buddies during a trip sponsored by the Ski Ministry of Lutheran Outdoor Ministries of Texas.

Lone Star barbecue: a superb tradition

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

The gathering of Texas Lutherans and friends of Camp Lone Star at the annual Lone Star Barbecue has become an exceptionally special annual tradition. This year's event will be held Sunday, July 27.

Rev. Eugene Oesch, pastor of Memorial Lutheran Church in Houston and former Texas district vice president, will be the speaker at the 11 a.m. worship celebration.

This gathering of people, praising God for His magnificent creation and the opportunities to be together at such a fantastic site for Christian nurture and growth, uses the setting of a naturally shaded area of huge, mature, spreading live oak trees.

Once again this year the Texas-style barbecue meal of beef and pork will be free—a complimentary din-

ner served as a special expression of love provided by area friends and supporters of this vibrant ministry.

The barbecue will begin at 12:15 p.m. and will be followed by the very popular benefit auction at 1 p.m. Many attractive items, such as hunting trips, works of art, quality building materials and the like will be featured at the auction.

Council officers

The Lutheran Outdoors Ministry of Texas Development Council elected an Executive Committee at its annual plenary meeting Saturday, March 15, at the Texas District Office in Austin. The Council's officers are: Fred Boecker (Memorial, Houston)—President; Dr. Joe Frost (Redeemer, Austin)—Vice-President; Catherine Burkhard (Zion, Dallas)—Secretary; L. A. Lieder (St. John, Cypress); John Kueck (Pilgrim, Houston); and Fred Stengle (St. Paul, Fort Worth)—Members-at-Large.



Theodore Griesse, humble and faithful servant of God, will be missed

"Pastor Griesse was a humble and faithful servant of His Lord," said District President Glenn O'Shoney. "He loved his church and felt it an honor to serve as vice president for our Texas District."

Rev. Theodore R. Griesse was buried March 26 following funeral services in Waco. He died of cancer on March 24. He earlier had resigned from the active pastoral ministry at St. John, Athens, because of his lengthy illness.

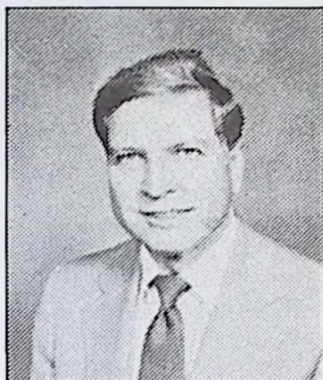
A third vice president of the Texas District, he was, despite his illness, "Ready and anxious for opportunities for service," said O'Shoney. "I will miss him both as a competent advisor and as a friend," the president said.

Griesse was born Feb. 25, 1924, the seventh of 10 children of Rev. and Mrs. A.H. Griesse. Seven of the 10 were sons, and all studied for the holy ministry.

He married Mildred Becker in 1948 and they were blessed with two children, Timothy and Phyllis.

In Texas, Griesse served congregations of First Lutheran, Lufkin; Bethlehem at William Penn; Grace Lutheran at Mart; Christ Lutheran, Austin, where he also served Bethany as a mission congregation; St. Mark, Waco; and at Athens.

In addition to serving as vice president, he had been a district counselor, LWML counselor and district archivist.



Rev. Theodore R. Griesse

Test indicates Lutheran school pupils at head of the class

David Cox, principal of Faith Lutheran School in Plano, has reported to his congregation on the results of the basic skills test taken by Faith pupils.

"Our average kindergarten student has a higher grade equivalent and percentile rank than the average kindergarten in 99 percent of the schools nationwide," Cox reported.

Cox also said this is true of four other grades in Faith School as well. He said the average Faith student is working one year and one month ahead of his actual grade.

The grade equivalent is most dramatic in the eighth grade where the average student is working two years and one month ahead of grade level.

"We give thanks to God for His faithfulness to His promise, 'Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness and then all these things (even academic excellence) will be added unto you,'" Cox concluded.

The fruits of this couple's labors will serve their family and Lord

He is a farmer. He and his wife grew up on farms. That's their lifestyle. For almost 35 years, they worked at it. They had a good life, a good family, providing educations for their children.

Several years ago, with their family through college, married, in homes of their own and established, they began to wonder whether they might not take life easier.

• They saw an article on the work of the Foundation. It interested them. They clipped the coupon. The Foundation director came to talk to them, to see what they wanted from life.

As a result, they placed their farm in a Charitable Unitrust with the Foundation.

And guess what happened!

• Ever since, they have received a monthly check from the Foundation which provides for their needs, gives them an opportunity to travel and to enjoy the sunset years of their lives.

Both of them are still living. That check will con-

tinue to come to them as long as they live. Upon their deaths, that check will be divided equally between their two sons.

At the end of that time, the trust will deliver to two charities that the farmer and his wife have named as ultimate beneficiaries the total assets of the trust.

Isn't that beautiful?

And, there were a lot of other benefits available to this fine couple . . . no capital gains tax, a tax benefit that carried over for several years upon the creation of the trust, none of the trust property going through the probate process, no Federal Estate Tax upon their death.

• After this couple is gone to be with the Lord forever, their children will be provided for. But, more important, the funds they accrued during the years of their earning power gives them a good lifestyle as long as they live.

And more, their children are provided for. Still more, all of the "fruits of their labors," will serve the Lord and His Church until the end of time.



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 _____

Lutheran presence grows in Rio Grande Valley

A Lutheran presence is growing in the Rio Grande Valley.

"We're ministering to the social, psychological and emotional needs of the Valley population," said Sylvia Rosales, program director for the Valley Service Area Office of Lutheran Social Service of Texas.

The Harlingen office was established last summer. Rosales and secretary Eve Hernandez serve as the full-time staff.

Rosales described the primary ministries of the office as counseling for women facing an unplanned pregnancy, foster care, adoption development and community projects.

Counseling

Counseling a woman facing an unplanned pregnancy involves discussing the alternatives, with adoption being one of those alternatives, Rosales said.

Counseling of the birth-mother does not stop when she relinquishes the baby for adoption. Follow-up services may last more than a year after birth. The grief process for women who choose adoption is intensified around days like Mother's Day, Christmas and particularly the child's birthday. "These are the times when the women who relinquish their children for adoption need reassurance," Mrs. Rosales said.

Foster care

Foster care provides a temporary home for a child waiting to be adopted.



CHILD HELP—Sylvia Rosales, program director for the Valley Service Area Office, pauses to add a new picture to the other photos of children placed into adoption through the Valley office of Lutheran Social Services of Texas. The office opened last summer.

Adoption

Since the office opened, 13 adoption placements have occurred. Because of the many Hispanic families in the Valley, everything from the adoption screening to the placement ceremony and follow-up services are conducted in both English and Spanish.

Community projects

Because there are so many needs in the area, a big effort is made to plug into existing services and networks. To significantly and effectively assist the area which is plagued by poverty, unemployment and overcrowding, the LSST office is actively pursuing a respite shelter for abused and neglected children.

Foster placement in the shelter will be temporary. The goal of foster care is to relieve the immediate family stress and prevent further breakdown of inter-family relationships while staff members work with parents to strengthen their parenting skills.

Nursing homes observe special events, communities join in

In each of the four nursing homes sponsored by Lutheran Social Services of Texas, Older Americans' Month (May) and National Nursing Home Week (May 11-17) were observed with special events involving the residents and the community.

Trinity Lutheran Home in Round Rock, a 117-bed facility, honored residents with a Mother-Daughter Tea. The entertainment, said Activity Director Becky King, was the Friendship Band, a local musical group of elderly ladies who perform with homemade musical instruments.

Another special event was a residents' dance. Again, the entertainment was unique. The band consisted of one man, Dr. R. W. Gambel of Georgetown, who simultaneously performed on a variety of instruments.

National Nursing Home Week at **Trinity Lutheran Home in Shiner**, a 91-bed facility, included a week-long celebration, according to Activities Director Dianne Pfeil.

On one day, residents participated in an arts and crafts contest. Individuals from the community were judges. Another day provided homemade ice cream, and another activity was "Olympic" games such as softball throwing, walking and wheelchair races.

There was a domino tournament and a pet day during which community residents brought their

pets for a visit with nursing home residents.

Kick-off for the week at the **Lutheran Home of West Texas**, a 63-bed facility in Lubbock, was the Annual Home with Heart carnival. Judy Burkhardt, activity director, said the event raised money for the American Heart Association.

Attractions included carnival-type booths, entertainment from community groups, a spaghetti lunch and softball game involving members of the local media.

A separate "rock-'n-roll-a-thon" was conducted to raise money for the home. Twenty residents were sponsored to rock in rocking chairs or roll in wheel chairs for an allotted amount of time. Area Lutheran youth were on hand to count the "mileage" and "rocks."

During the week, Christ Lutheran of Lubbock sponsored a games night for the residents.

The Home with Heart celebration was a springboard for a special week at **The Lutheran Home-Permian Basin**, a 114-bed facility in Midland. "It was a carnival-type event," explained Kathy Thornton, activity director. "We had booths designed for people of all age groups."

More than 50 volunteers were saluted at the Volunteer Appreciation Banquet later that week. "The volunteers are a great support and help to the home," Thornton said.



LINCOLN—St. John Lutheran Church of Lincoln welcomed 10 new members by baptism and adult confirmation at the beginning of its Centennial Celebration. Left to right are Pastor Otto Brillinger, Mrs. Shari Boes, Virginia and Hershel Pruitt with daughters Kimberly and Martha; Susan and Dennis Iselt with sons Dennis Jr. and Jonathan. Not shown is Mrs. Sally Biar.



LARIAT—St. John of Lariat recently celebrated Membership Sunday and received 20 new members: five by adult confirmation, 13 by transfer and two by baptism. Pastor Mac Bearss said, "This is a record 15 percent increase in the congregation. God is really blessing us." It was the largest one-time reception in the church's history.



HOUSTON—On March 23, St. Philip, Houston, welcomed eight adults by confirmation, 17 by profession of faith, 24 by transfer and witnessed the baptism of two adults and five children. Under the Lord's blessings, St. Philip now has 1,518 baptized members.

The Lord added . . .

By adult confirmation and affirmation of faith, Redeemer, Beaumont, rejoiced over five new members in April.

On March 2, Beautiful Savior, Houston, received 12 persons into membership through transfer and adult confirmation. One child was baptized. On March 23, one adult and two children were brought to Jesus through baptism.

Nine adults were received in March at Trinity, Houston, by the rite of confirmation.

Seven families have joined Our Savior, Austin, since January.

At its February meeting, the voters assembly of Trinity, Spring, joyously approved the addition of 21 new members by transfer and profession of faith.

Six persons were added at Concordia, Houston, in January and February by profession of faith, transfer and baptism.

A glorious March 23 saw 35 persons welcomed into the forever family at Good Shepherd, Cedar Park, by transfer and affirmation and reaffirmation of faith.

"We are blessed in welcoming new members to our family," said the April newsletter of Peace, Hewitt, as five members were added.

On April 6, the congregation of Prince of Peace, Carrollton, received 30 new members into their fellowship.



St. Peter, Mabank, welcomed four new members in March.

It was a privilege on March 30 for Concordia, San Antonio, to receive 18 new members by transfer and reprofession of faith.

On March 9, the voters assembly of Good Shepherd, Azle, accepted four persons into their congregational family.

Five new members were welcomed and two children baptized at Christ Memorial, Houston, in March.

On April 15, Living Word, The Woodlands, introduced 10 new members from three families into its fellowship.

Where are your savings?

At a bank building, a convenience store? At a savings and loan developing a supermarket? In a checking account just lying there? Or in the Church Extension Fund helping a congregation build its first church building?

YOUTH

Our bright kids. . .

There is a bunch of "hoppy" kids at **Holy Cross, Arlington**. Twenty-six Holy Cross school children took part in the Muscular Dystrophy Hop-a-thon and with thousands of hops multiplied by pledges from parents and friends raised \$2,845 to fight MD.

And at **Pilgrim Lutheran, Houston**, the children contributed \$810.50 for Bibles and devotional booklets to be used by patients and families through the chaplaincy program at M.D. Anderson Hospital.

Chris Winston of **Immanuel Lutheran, Mercedes**, is representing Mercedes High School this month at Texas Boys' State. He recently was voted most popular boy in his junior class.

Kim and Teri Liepke of **St. Andrew, Houston**, competed in the "Showcase USA Dance Competition." Both won awards.

A pat on the back, please, for Chris Franka of **Redeemer, Austin**, who had the highest grade point average in his high school freshman class. He's in the Science Academy.

Kara Wende and Jana Wende of **Hope Lutheran, Austin**, are like Mary—they both had a little lamb, and both won awards with them at the Caldwell County Junior Livestock Show in Lockhart.

Accepted into the National Honor Society is James Hengst Jr., who ranks fourth in his high



school class of 265 students. He's a member of **Living Word, The Woodlands**.

The bright kids of grades three and four of **Our Redeemer, Dallas**, visited a nursing home where they read to the residents from books they had brought along. They also gave them potato-head people pictures to decorate their walls. Isn't that neat!

Congratulations to Thad Engeling of **Faith, Sugar Land**, who is a National Merit Scholarship finalist.

Winner of her school spelling bee and contestant in the city-wide contest was Amy Schwirtlich of **Grace, Midland**.

A much appreciated chore performed by the youth of **St. Luke, Olney**, is cleaning the church cemetery. They also cut firewood for some members.

Congratulations to Amy Galbreath of **Bethel, Dallas**, who is the Champion Speller for the Lutheran schools of the greater Dallas area.

Bright kids are Michael Davis and John Wuensche of **Zion, Fort Worth**, both of whom have been selected for the National Honor Society.

And John Sonntag, also from **Zion, Fort Worth**, plays lead trumpet in his high school band.

Priscilla Scholl, **Zion, Tomball**, received a second place medal in the 3K Shamrock Run which raised money for the American Heart Association.

Jeff Koslan, **Our Savior, Abilene**, caught a seven-pound black bass recently. Not bad for someone not much bigger than his fish. Congratulations, Jeffrey!

Julia Bedrich, member of **Redeemer, Austin**, was named one of five national finalists in the All-American Girl of the Year Contest, sponsored by *Teen Magazine* and a cosmetics manufacturer. Julia was chosen from thousands of applicants and was given a four-day trip to New York City.

Holy Cross, Nederland, is proud of a couple of its bright kids, Regan Romero, who was inducted into the National Honor Society and who won a first place medal for her clarinet solo in interscholastic competition, and Rebecca Rice, who was crowned Junior Miss at the 1986 Heritage Festival.

Taborri Bruhl of **Our Redeemer, Wichita Falls**, has been named to the distinguished student list at Texas A & M University. Taborri is a freshmen majoring in journalism.

Grace, Orange, has produced a bevy of bright

kids. Winning regional school band honors were Brenda Broussard, Clay Yeaman and Scott McDonald. Shannon McDonald, Jeff Wilson and Shawn Welch won choir honors.

Renee Krans, of **Grace, Seguin**, won the essay contest for all public and private schools sponsored by the "Clean Seguin Campaign." Renee reminded the community, "This city is a beautiful creation that both God and our people helped to build."

Some swimmer is Amy Gier of **Grace, Orange**, whose high school team won the district championship. Amy won the 100-meter freestyle, third in the 100-meter backstroke and anchored the freestyle relay team.

Here's to these bright kids of **Christ Lutheran, Amarillo**: Gene Brooks set an area-wide record of 15' 2" in the pole vault; Joel Kuhlmann, Julie Sievers, Amy Brooks, Joel Sievers and James Beck, all of whom gained national academic recognition.

To amen or not

The practice of adding an "Amen" to the end of every congregational hymn began in the 19th century. It appears to have started with the influential 19th century hymnal, *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, used by the Church of England.

There is no right or wrong about it. Often an organist will purposefully add the "Amen" if the text of the hymn is clearly prayerful.



What Christian love means to me

by Layne Brewster

Christian love means loving everyone including your enemies. Jesus understands that it is hard to love your enemies. Therefore, He gives you all the love and support you need.

Christian love applies to every relationship in life. We love or try to love as Jesus did, not because the other person is lovable, but because we are loving.

• You can do so many things in this world, but if you do not love it is useless. For example, in 1 Corinthians 13:3, Paul says, "If you give all of what you possess to the poor and surrender your body to the flames, but have not love, you gain nothing."

Also in 1 Corinthians 13:2, it says, "And if I have a faith that can move mountains, but have not love, I am nothing."

To love is to have it in your heart and soul. Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered.

Love keeps no record of wrongs. It does not delight in evil but rejoices in the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails (1 Cor. 13:4-7).

• We have the Ten Commandments to go by as laws, but you can't expect to go to heaven by just obeying these laws. Jesus has shown us the meaning of love by dying for us on the



Deborah Lutze

Award-winning student to teach at Lutheran high

Deborah Lutze, May graduate of Concordia College, River Forest, Ill., has received the 1986 Student Award Certificate from the American Institute of Chemists Research and Recognition Foundation as Concordia's outstanding natural science student.

Deborah is now teaching science and mathematics at Concordia Lutheran High School in Tomball, Tex.

The award cites Deborah's "demonstrated record of leadership, ability, character, scholastic achievement and potential for advancement of the chemical professions."

A physical science major, she is from Yorkville, Mich.

cross. We are saved by faith, but this faith is shown by our love.

(Layne wrote this essay as a confirmation class assignment at Hope Lutheran, Austin.)

Many Texas young people to soar at Washington youth gathering

by Lori Bachmann
Director, District Youth, Singles Ministry

More than 15,000 youth and adults from across Texas, the United States, and Canada will gather together in Washington, D.C., this August. They will come to proclaim Christ through worship, activities, fellowship and more. The theme for this youth gathering is On Wings Like Eagles.

Many churches in the Texas District are registered for this event. They have been busy preparing for the journey and for the gathering with their "family" group and youth group.

Plans are also being made to share their experiences in this event with their group and congregation upon returning from the gathering.

Here are some activities by a few of our congregations that will be attending and some other information too . . .

Our Savior, Austin:

They are using a sponsor program—the sponsor shares a contribution and the gathering participants keep in contact with the sponsor, sharing before, during and after the gathering.

El Calvario, Brownsville:

These participants will attend the cross-cultural event prior to the gathering. Eight people will be going to D.C. from El Calvario.

Dallas/Fort Worth area:

Some of the youth groups



will be taking a side trip to New York City.

Dollars to Missions:

Some groups are giving a set percentage of their fund-raising to mission projects. One-half of the offering at the Area D Youth Gathering in Houston is for financial aid to participants.

\$1 Help Program:

Participants could give an extra dollar when they registered. This will be used for financial aid to people needing it.

District logo

A district logo was selected by the District Youth Ministry Committee. The logo was designed by Karla Bell from Bethel Lutheran Church in Bryan.

From all around our Synod we will come, ready to rejoice and to explore our life in Christ! Keep the participants in your prayers and support and encourage them.

Read more about the theme in Is. 40:28-31 where we hear God's promise to us all! "But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint" (Is. 40:31).

CONCORDIA

Dinda receives doctorate from seminary

Concordia's Professor Richard J. Dinda received the Doctor of Letters from Concordia Theological Seminary in St. Louis during the May commencement exercise.

"This action of the faculty is a way of expressing our gratitude to God and our appreciation to you for the contributions you have made to the work of the Church in many different ways," said Dr. Karl L. Barth, seminary president, in a letter to Dinda notifying him of the honorary degree.

Particularly noted were Dinda's translations, under the editorship of Jaroslav Pelikan, of Luther's lectures on Zechariah, 2 Timothy and the minor prophets for the American edition of Luther's works, as well as his work during the past decade in translating Johann Gerhard's *Loci* from medieval Latin.

Concordia also expresses gratitude to the Lord for Dinda's long and dedicated service to the college.

Following his graduation from Concordia Seminary and one year as a parish pastor, Dinda began his teaching career at Concordia of Texas in 1952. During the following 34 years, he has taught a variety of subjects. He continues to teach his favorite—Latin.

In addition to his seminary training, Dinda has earned a master's degree in classical studies, a master teacher certificate, a mas-



Professor Richard J. Dinda

ter's degree in library science and a master's degree in Latin American studies. He is now nearing completion of the master's degree in art history.

"We are privileged to have Richard Dinda as a part of our faculty," says Dr. Ray F. Martens, Concordia's president. "The Doctor of Letters degree is an honor he richly deserves."

Dinda pursues cherished dream

The completion of the translation of Johann Gerhard's *Loci Communes Theologicae* (Theological Commonplaces in Locus Form) is Professor Richard Dinda's most cherished dream.

Gerhard (1582-1637), one of the principal theologians of the Reformation, greatly helped to systematize the theology of Martin Luther. He wrote several classic Lutheran theological treatises in medieval Latin. It is one of the strangest phenomena of Protestantism that the greatest work of this man was never translated into English.

Dinda began translating the *Loci* in 1973. Fund shortages repeatedly interrupted his work; yet, in spite of this, he managed to complete 12 of the 31 *Loci*.

Now budget restrictions within The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod have brought the project to a standstill, with 19 *Loci* yet to be translated.

Dinda, a linguist of the first order with the highly special expertise to translate this 17th century treatise into idiomatic English, awaits a new source of support.

The *Loci* carry immense significance because in them Gerhard, the Thomas Aquinas of Lutheranism, offered the basic and authentic dogmatic and systematic theology of the Lutheran church.

Together with Martin Chemnitz, he systematized the theology of Martin Luther. The writings of these two men are, next to the *Book of Concord*, the most authentic interpretation of Luther and the Lutheran Confessions in existence.

However, because Gerhard wrote in medieval Latin, his treatises have been virtually unusable to English-speaking religious scholars for more than 300 years. The addition of this work to the collection of English translations of Lutheran classics would prove of great value.

For more information about the translations, contact Dinda at Concordia College, 3400 IH 35 N., Austin, Tex. 78705.

CLC wants your memories

Do you remember sitting in a classroom in Kilian Hall, listening to a lecture by Dr. Henry Studtmann or Professor Martin Neeb?

Were you one of the merchants who provided produce and supplies that were loaded on the college truck?

Did you help the college survive by supplying scholarships for students during the gloomy depression years?

Can you recall who gave the branding irons once displayed in Texas Hall?

Does your church have records of the funds collected as the college was established in 1926?

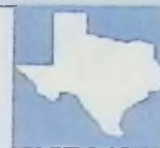
Perhaps you even remember the planning in the '20s for a Concordia of Texas.

A Concordia video history will be a special feature on Founders Day, Oct. 26, 1986.

Former students and professors, church historians, long-time friends of the college—you have memories and memorabilia that need to be preserved. Please contact Fred A. Bleeke at Concordia if you can help: 3400 IH 35 N., Austin, Tex. 78705, 512-452-7661.

You and me

The district Church Extension Fund has a net worth of \$18,428,151 with the largest growth ever recorded in 1985: \$1,672,282. That is you and me investing in our church.



Concordia offers new program

Concordia of Texas has made a commitment to extend its educational offerings to a group which has been largely overlooked.

Beginning in fall 1986, Concordia will meet the needs of the older, working adult by offering night classes. Under this new program, called Prime Time Education, the non-traditional college student will be able to earn a bachelor's degree while continuing full-time, day employment.

Two considerations prompted the addition of the new program: an effort to use college facilities more effectively and a desire to make synodical undergraduate education available to those with family financial responsibilities.

Concordia has the lowest tuition, by far, of any synodical college. One reason for this is the college's continual concern for wise stewardship of resources. Prime Time Education will make use of classrooms which previously stood empty during the evening hours.

Although it is expected that most Prime Time Education students will be Austin-area natives, Concordia wants also to serve the mature adult from any area who might desire a synodical education, but rejects the possibility because of a need to provide family financial support. This applies especially to men without undergraduate degrees who wish to enter the parish ministry.



This group from Pilgrim Lutheran Church in Houston recently visited Concordia for lunch and a tour of the campus. Concordia invites other congregational groups to be the guests of the college. Call the Director of Public Relations to make arrangements, 512-452-7661.

In addition to the convenient time scheduling, Prime Time Education will feature several other policies to meet the needs of adult learners.

Concordia will grant credit to an enrolled student for "Validated Learning Experience"—knowledge gained through personal study, previous training, or job experience. Credit may also be earned in certain subject areas by passing CLEP or PEP tests.

"Course by Arrangement" allows a student to reach a personal schedule arrangement with an instructor in case of a valid time conflict.

The "Fresh Start" option gives students who have been away from college for five or more years the opportunity to choose to begin afresh in the accumulation of grade point average. The student will not be penalized for failing grades made at a presumably less serious period in life.

In all planning for Prime Time Education, extreme care has been taken to design a program convenient to the adult student without compromising Concordia's academic standards. The night student will receive the same level of quality education as the traditional daytime student.

If you wish to receive a brochure outlining this new program and a list of class offerings for the fall, write Prime Time Education, Concordia Lutheran College, 3400 IH 35 N., Austin, Tex. 78705; or call 512-452-7661.

Concordian named to All America team

Concordia sophomore Lisa Hintz has been named as an Honorable Mention selection for the NAIA women's basketball All-America team.

Hintz, a 1984 graduate from Lutheran High North in Houston, is a member of Our Savior Lutheran

Church. She is majoring in elementary education, planning to become a Lutheran teacher. Her parents are Gary and Beverly Hintz.

Baseball teams follow the sun to Austin

While it was still chilly in most parts of the country, baseball teams from other synodical colleges journeyed to Concordia of Texas to take advantage of perfect playing weather.

Spring break at Concordia during Holy Week featured visits from the teams from St. John's, Winfield; Concordia, Mequon (formerly Milwaukee); and Concordia, St. Paul. The previous week Concordia, Seward was in Austin to play.

No one team emerged a clear winner as the visiting teams played the CLC Stags and each other.

The synodical college system offers Concordia of Texas students expanded opportunities for friendships as they interact with students from the other nine colleges who share common values and goals.



Friendly rivals from the Concordias in Mequon, St. Paul and Austin.

MINISTRIES AMONG US

Ex-farmer tills souls these days

Rev. Walter Moose lives right in the middle of a farming community, but he's not much for tilling the soil.

He doesn't have anything against it. Farming's an honorable profession and farmers themselves are the salt of the earth. Matter of fact, he grew up on a farm. It wasn't much of one, and maybe that's why he turned to the ministry.

- He's pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church at West Sinton. He also serves as minister of St. Paul's Lutheran in Three Rivers.

Actually, Moose said he liked farming. I suppose, though, when you try to grow crops in poor soil on the side of a mountain, you sometimes get discouraged.

Anyway, he decided at an early age he wanted to be a minister. That wasn't an easy row to hoe either, but he made it eventually. It took a while. It wasn't until 1937 when he was 33 years old that he finally earned his divinity degree.

- His hometown is Latrobe, Pa. Any golfing fan will tell you that's where Arnold Palmer came from. Moose knew Palmer's parents, but he doesn't recall anything in particular about the tractor Arnie brags about in TV commercials.

Latrobe is in mountainous country 50 miles east of Pittsburgh. Moose's father, who came to this country in 1876 from Germany, had a small farm about 14 miles from town. He worked hard trying to earn a de-

cent living. It wasn't easy, and Walter did his best to help. He even laid out of school several years to help his father.

"He was old, and I always felt I couldn't go off and leave him. My father really went through a lot." He worked for the railroad and in the coal mines before he started farming. Three times his house burned to the ground.

Moose stayed home and helped his father on the farm after finishing grammar school. That's why it took so long for him to reach his goal. He was 23 years old when he finally started to high school.

- High school was 14 miles away in Latrobe. Commuting was out of the question, so he worked for his room and board.

"I helped people with their gardens, did babysitting, worked part time for a funeral director and did janitor work at Trinity Lutheran Church in Latrobe."

He had long ago decided to go into the ministry and liked working for the church. He graduated from high school in 1930. He was 26 years old. He worked his way through the University of Nebraska and finally through the seminary, earning his divinity degree in 1937.

His first church was at Wellston, Okla. It was the era of the Depression. The top pay for Lutheran ministers in 1937 was \$70 a month. That was with housing furnished. His



Rev. Walter Moose

starting pay was \$30. He also had a house—unfurnished.

- Back in those days, it was common for members of the church to take food to the pastor when they couldn't afford to give money.

In Wellston, money was scarce, and so was food because of the drought and dust storms.

"When they planted corn, it would get about five or six inches high and die," Moose said.

One thing about Wellston, though. That's where he met Sophia. They celebrated 47 years of marriage in May.

Since Wellston, Moose has served other churches in Oklahoma, Kansas, Oregon and Missouri.

He came to West Sinton in 1973, a move he has never regretted.

- Trinity Lutheran Church has a small congregation, only 41 communicants. St. Paul's is even smaller, with 17 communicants.

Although the congregations are small, they have

made him and Mrs. Moose a part of their community.

He also enjoys the mild winters. He came down here to get away from the cold weather.

The most rewarding thing, though, has been 48 years of "serving the Lord, preaching the Gospel. That's the real reward. It's the only reward."

The above article is reprinted from the Corpus Christi Caller-Times, and was written by Spencer Pearson, staff writer. As Rev. Cliff Larson, circuit counselor from Corpus Christi says, "It brings me joy to see the secular press give a veteran of the Cross such coverage."

District calendar JULY

- 11-13—Sunday school convention, St. Louis
- 13-14—Mission Administration Board
- 14—Church Extension Board
- 15—District Board of Directors
- 15-18—LCMS Black Convention, Indianapolis
- 18-25—Synodical Convention, Indianapolis
- 26—LOMT Board of Directors, Camp Lone Star
- 27—Annual Barbecue, Camp Lone Star

AUGUST

- 2-6—National Youth Gathering, Washington, D.C.
- 11-13—Principals, DCEs and Administrators, Camp Lone Star
- 26—Woltman Foundation, Houston.



King of Kings dedicates new worship center

King of Kings Lutheran Church of San Antonio dedicated its new worship center on Feb. 16.

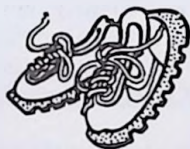
Members and friends gathered in the old sanctuary, now the parish hall, and proceeded to the steps of the new building where a door-opening ritual was held. A processional followed consisting of pastors and lay leaders from surrounding Missouri Synod congregations.



DEDICATION SERVICE—Members and friends of King of Kings Lutheran Church of San Antonio

gather for door-opening ceremony of new worship center which was dedicated on Feb. 16.

Heckmann's afterburner working just fine



Dr. Carl Heckmann's feet may be 69 years old, but they're getting quicker by the year.

For the second year in a row, he reduced his time in the Capitol 10K run held in Austin in March. That's 6.2 miles.

His goal was to run it in an hour. He didn't quite make it—missed by 24 seconds, but was faster than last year.

While he did good, he still failed to beat his four children: Duane, Mark, Lloyd and Jane.

Heckmann is director for development of the Texas District.

Love for Texas wins Lutheran student ride on wagon train

Heather Robinson of Amarillo admits that Texas is no longer the largest state, "but it will always be the boldest and grandest to me."

This is part of Heather's essay that won the Trinity Lutheran School fifth-grader first place in a Texas Sesquicentennial essay contest sponsored by the *Amarillo Globe News*.

There were 400 entries in the contest.

As winner, Heather had the special privilege of riding on the Texas wagon train in May as it moved through the Panhandle area.

Heather's Texas heritage goes back to the 1800s when her great-grandparents settled in the Lone Star state.

Katherine Bolland, former educator of year, retires

Katherine Bolland, a Lutheran educator for 38 years, retired at the end of this school term. For the past 20 years, she had been on the ministerial staff of Zion Lutheran Church, Dallas.

Most of her teaching ministry has been in Texas where she served parish schools in Bishop, Houston, San Antonio and Dallas. She also taught in Hawaii

at Wahiawa.

Throughout the years of her ministry, Katherine Bolland has exemplified the office of Lutheran educator through what her peers call her "up-front" commitment to quality education, tireless parish activity and unselfish service to her district and Synod.

In 1983, she received the Texas District's "Lutheran Educator of the Year" award.

A special service honoring Miss Bolland was held at Zion on May 18.

O'Shoney credits district co-workers for degree honor

"I am thankful to God that He has placed me in this place in ministry, with you as co-workers," District President Glenn O'Shoney said to pastors, teachers and district staff members following the announcement that he would receive the first honorary doctorate ever conferred by Concordia Lutheran College, Austin.

An honorary Doctor of Laws was conferred on O'Shoney by the Board of Regents and faculty of the college at commencement services May 10. O'Shoney was also commencement speaker.

"While I have received this honorary doctorate, you have made it possible," he told his co-workers of the district. "This doctorate is for 'Distinction in Leadership' and it's a privilege to ride the coattails of your skill, leadership and commitment," he told his fellow district Lutherans.

Happenings in Texas

You can't get blood from a turnip, but you can from Clarence Sanders, LeeRoy Schuster, Christi Steele and Fred Tonn of St. Mark, Houston. Each has now donated two gallons of blood during the church's blood drives.

Congratulations to Ray Chaffee of Living Word, The Woodlands, who placed fifth in the Woodlands 10-K run for the benefit of Interfaith's Emergency Aid Program.

Members of Messiah, Houston, are volunteers in the Meals on Wheels program, delivering meals to the homes of the poor, sick and elderly. That's serving the Lord with gladness!

Observing its 40th anniversary on May 4 was Christ Lutheran, Austin. The observance included a cornerstone laying for the congregation's new sanctuary.

And observing its 20th anniversary with a special service on April 27 was Christ Memorial, Houston.

Also, throughout the year, St. Matthew, Houston, will be thanking God for 60 years of His grace through the church and 40 years of ministry through the school.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Hoffman, Messiah, Houston, who celebrated their 59th wedding anniversary on April 27.

Doug Daehling of Grace, Midland, was featured in Dr. Norman Vincent Peale's narration in broadcasts aired on more than 300 radio stations March 28. Peale commends Doug for "hanging in there" when he saw a man collapse on the street and used CPR to save his life.

Also at Grace, Midland, a weekly evening class called "3D" has been launched. It features diet, discipline and discipleship through devotions and discussion. Its goal is to create both winners and losers, obviously.

Hearty congratulations to Hal and Arvilla Dyer of Our Redeemer, Dallas, who celebrated 54 years of marriage on April 1.

A special worship service was held April 27 honoring Pastor Alvin Walter of Hillsboro for his 50 years in the ministry and his 50th wedding anniversary year.

Groundbreaking was held April 6 at Mt. Olive, Corpus Christi, for the church building expansion that will include adding classrooms, enlarging the sanctuary, fellowship hall, narthex, kitchen and office.

Congratulations to Denise Koepke of Our Savior, Abilene, who was honored as Volunteer of the Month by Meals on Wheels. She is route coordinator for the program which brings warm meals to the homebound elderly and handicapped.

Ed Herrington has had some career! A member of Bethel, Dallas, he has completed 40 years with the phone company.

David Bruton of Our Savior, Granbury, was the Optimist Club Texan of the Month for March.

An active member of Grace, Midland, Arlen L. Edgar recently was elected president of the 107,000-member American Institute of Mining, Metallurgical and Petroleum Engineers.

Celebrating its 70th anniversary on April 27 was St. Paul Lutheran, McAllen.

Congratulations to Henry and Ola Theiss of Trinity, Spring, who celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary on April 12.

And congratulations also to Gus and Ida Stirl, members of Grace, Victoria, who observed their 60th wedding anniversary on April 6. More than 100 guests from 14 different communities were present at the celebration given by their daughter and grandchildren.

Rev. Richard A. Nelson was installed May 11 as pastor of Trinity Lutheran, Weatherford. He comes to the Texas District from Christ Lutheran of Hutchinson, Kans.

Rev. David G. Loeffler was installed as associate pastor of Cross Lutheran, New Braunfels, on April 13.

Mrs. Pauline Cella, member of Resurrection, Spring, was chosen "Employee of the Month" at Heights Hospital.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Rev. Robert Myers was installed as pastor of Trinity, Navasota, on May 4.

Congratulations to Anita Frevert, active member of Gloria Dei, Houston, who was named by the Texas Library Association as "Outstanding New Librarian of Texas." She is a high school librarian.

A Lutheran Braille Center has been established at Immanuel, Giddings. Volunteers there are becoming personally involved in reaching out to the blind and vision-impaired.

Three Amarillo congregations, Christ, Prince of Peace and Trinity, are sponsoring three summer youth workers from Concordia College, Seward, Nebr.

New mission offering highlights celebration

On April 27, Christ Memorial of Houston celebrated its 20th anniversary with a special remembrance of how it all started two decades ago.

Christ Memorial began with monies provided by the Texas District's "New Mission Fund." The anniversary observance included the gathering of a remembrance gift labeled "20th Anniversary—New Mission." The gift will be used to help establish a new mission church.

A mortgage-burning was part of the anniversary observance.



Happiness is a secure retirement.

For many, retirement is viewed as a time to do the many things there never seemed to be time for during their earning years. It's a time of travel. A time of leisure. A time to just enjoy life. Unfortunately, many people do not properly plan ahead for their retirement years. And all too often they are left wanting, rather than enjoying.

That's where Church Extension Fund comes in. CEF investments can be used to help build for retirement. They earn a guaranteed rate of return, and over the years will grow for you. And all the while you are investing in CEF, your dollars are being used to help build much needed worship and educational facilities for the Lutheran Church. That's happiness and security all rolled into one.



Texas District
Church Extension Fund, LC-MS
7900 U.S. 290 East
Austin, Texas 78724



CELEBRATION—This is St. John Lutheran Church of Lincoln which is celebrating its 100th birthday in 1986. Several special observances are scheduled during the year.

100th birthday for St. John Lutheran at Lincoln

by Susan Iselt

Pastor Otto Brillinger and the congregation of St. John Lutheran Church in Lincoln have planned activities throughout 1986 to celebrate the church's 100th birthday.

On April 13, a 100-year historical marker was placed in the churchyard and was followed by a western-style barbecue dinner. District President Glenn O'Shoney spoke at these special events.

St. John will continue to celebrate throughout the centennial year with sev-

eral dinners and various guest speakers.

The Lord has been good to St. John. He has blessed this church and its people, and He has helped them to be strong, faithful servants. As the congregation of St. John, we know we must give God the glory for it all.

Send your news to Bill

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

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



MANY KIDS, ONE LAMB—Almost lost in a sea of kids is this little lamb brought to church by Pastor Roger Grummer at Concordia, Bedford, to illustrate his children's message. Can you spot the lamb's head just under Grummer's chin?

Mary had a little lamb, and so did Concordia Lutheran, Bedford

Squeals and giggles, oohs and ahs greeted Pastor Roger Grummer as he presented his weekly Sermon-in-the-Sack message to the children of Concordia Lutheran, Bedford, on Palm Sunday.

Instead of a child bringing an item in a sack (as is the usual custom) as a basis for the children's sermon, it was Pastor's turn.

He brought, with the help of the Rodden family, a little lamb for the children to see, pet and love.

Of course the lamb is a powerful religious symbol as well as a cuddly thing: the Lamb of God, the Sacrificial Lamb given for our sins, the lamb as one of Jesus' flock, and so on.

It was delightful to see the children's instant love for the lamb, a natural parallel to God's love for us.

Waxahachie youth conduct church service

The youth of Christ the King Lutheran of Waxahachie conducted the service on Sunday, April 27.

The service, titled "The Light Drives Away Shadows," began in full light but was "plunged into darkness" to give the feeling that the light had failed.

As the seven "failings" were answered from Scripture, the light increased by the lighting of candles.

The "failings" in the worship ranged from personal to worldly ideas, not only pertinent to youth but also applicable to everyone's problems.

The worship experience was very personal and special, church leaders exclaimed.

Young people who participated were Mike Bahr, Eric and Thor Yoytko, Christine Norum, Brett and Monica Mabry, Jeff Hreha, Lori Yocum, Allison Thormahlen and John Ruple.

Seminar gives women opportunity to assess life goals, changes

A unique seminar for women, called "Bloom and Blossom At Any Age," was conducted April 18 and 19 for members and guests at Christ Lutheran, Austin.

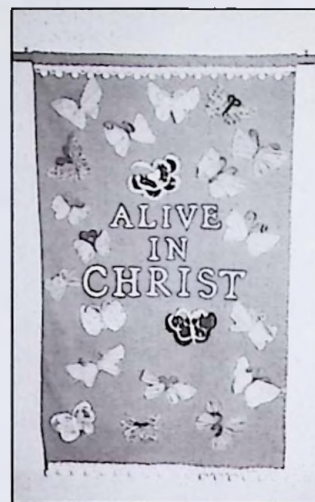
Speakers and panel discussions reviewed the challenges, changes and goals for participants in their lives at various age levels.

Speakers included Margaret Williams, a clinical social worker for the Counseling and Pastoral Care Center of Austin. She reminded the group that in aging, "One shifts from doing and having, to being," alluding to the early years of achieving and earning, followed by years of reflecting the knowledge and experience gained.

Group discussion leaders included Judy Wolff, former home economist and teacher; Laura Krause, educator and graduate school candidate; and Dessie Zoch, former Dean of Women at Concordia College, Austin.

Topics reviewed by the women in group discussions included, "What Can I Do With My Life in the '20s and '30s?" "Yes, There's Life After 40," and "Retirement, What'll I Do?"

Devotions, fellowship and sing-alongs rounded out the program, called by congregation members "an outstanding and uplifting event."



NEW LIFE—Women and children of St. John's, Clarksville, made this butterfly banner especially for Easter as a reminder to members of their new life in Christ through His resurrection.

Alive in Christ banner gives double reminder

by Bonnie Beversdorf

In preparation for the Easter season, some ladies and children at St. John's, Clarksville, made butterflies from starched calico ribbon and pipe cleaners.

These butterflies and others, crocheted by a lady in the congregation, were pinned onto a banner with the words "Alive in Christ." The colorful three-dimensional cooperative banner was hung in the church narthex on Easter morning.

The banner reminded the church members that through Christ's resurrection, they, like the butterflies, have new life in Christ.

The banner also continues to remind church members of the synodical "Alive in Christ" fund drive.



Good Samaritan satellite home will be built

A groundbreaking service for the latest group home satellite of Good Samaritan Lutheran Home for handicapped persons in Cypress was conducted March 16 at McAlester, Okla.

Dr. Eugene W. Linse, executive secretary of the Board for Social Ministry Services of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, St. Louis, and Lester Mattson, executive director of Good Samaritan Home in Cypress, participated in the service.

The special observance was held in conjunction with the dedication of Trinity Lutheran Church's new edifice, which was built on adjoining property of Good Samaritan's new group home in McAlester.

Dr. Oswald Hoffmann, Lutheran Hour speaker, preached the dedication sermon.

Texans place in national basketball tournament

The basketball team of St. Mark, Houston, won the consolation crown at the 39th annual National Lutheran Basketball Tournament at Valparaiso University in April.

The St. Mark team beat St. John's of Milwaukee 73-71 to take the consolation.

Concordia Lutheran of Kirkwood, Mo., was the tournament winner.

Jeff Weyer, a guard on the St. Mark team, was named to the all-tournament team.



SATELLITE HOME—Ground is broken at McAlester, Okla., for a satellite facility of Good Samaritan Lutheran Home of Cypress, Tex., to serve handicapped persons.

Organized for action

Very little is left to chance at Trinity Lutheran Church in Spring.

In gearing up for their church picnic on April 27, picnic organizers set up 13 committees whose titles included:

Clean barbecue pit before picnic, Barbecue, Clean barbecue pit after picnic, Sell meat, Slice meat, Carry meat, Cut cabbage and Sell tickets.

'Matter of Choice' recommended by Social Ministry Committee

by Rev. Roy Garcia

"A Matter of Choice" is a new VHS videotape that has been added to the Texas District Co-op Library.

It is the story of an investigative reporter who explores both sides of the pro-life/abortion issue.

The reporter interviews doctors, nurses and directors of homes for girls. She also speaks with the girls themselves, some who have decided against abortions and have had their babies, as well as with girls who have had abortions. The tape does include an explicit, tastefully done, scene as she actually visits an abortion clinic to gather

factual information.

The tape has been reviewed by the district Social Ministry Committee and recommended to the Board for Parish Services.

"A Matter of Choice" is an excellent resource that should be seen by teens as well as by adults, pastors as well as laymen, and by anyone else wanting to learn more about pregnancy and its termination.

If you are a member of the district film co-op, you may obtain the videotape rent-free from the district office.

More information about the topics of abortion and pro-life may be obtained from: Texas Lutherans For Life, 109 Susan Carrol, San Antonio, Tex. 78216; or from: Rev. Roy Garcia, 2704 E. Second, Austin, Tex. 78702, 512-472-5017.

New gym begun for Lutheran High School of Dallas

Ground-breaking ceremonies for a new gymnasium and locker-room facility at Lutheran High School of Dallas were held on April 13.

As Lutheran High School completes its first decade of quality Christian education, this celebration seemed to mark the beginning of a new phase in the development of the school.

The gymnasium complex will complete basic school facilities and offer room for growth.

The school's headmaster, Dr. Gerald Brunworth, said, "The school is proud of its service to the Dallas community in its first 10 years, and we look forward to even greater effectiveness in the future."

Turning over the first shovels full of dirt were students, faculty, administrators, parents, alumni and friends. Completion of the new building is expected in the fall.

Pastor-educator conference is set for October 6-8

Oct. 6, 7 and 8 are the dates of the Pastor-Educator Conference to be held in Corpus Christi.

The noon-to-noon event will have La Quinta as its headquarters with additional rooms at the Marriot.

Theme for this year's conference is "Empowered for Service." There will be about 40 sectionals in all areas of ministry.

Texans heading for International Convention in Florida

Join us in Orlando, Fla., for the International LLL Convention July 26-30. Already, 30 Texans are planning to be there. Call Ruth Kieschnick, 512-453-2275, if you are interested in taking a large, comfortable commercial charter coach to Orlando from Texas. Round trip cost is \$110.

Many activities are being planned at the convention for all ages. Trips to Disney World, Epcot Center and Sea World are some of the many activities being arranged. Especially for the younger conventioner, trips to the beach and Kennedy Space Flight Center also are being arranged.

So join us Texans for a vacation of inspiration and fun as together we bring our songs of praise and glory to the Son for all His blessings to the Int'l LLL in southern Florida.

GOSPEL OUTREACH

The zone rally in Austin with Rev. Leonard Stahlke as guest speaker did much to inform those attending on the extent and intensity of the league's worldwide Gospel outreach program.

Stahlke, now a professor at Concordia College, served many different mission congregations in Central America. He assured the leaguers that God's work there has and continues to encourage and inspire people in Central and South America.

He also said that the Spanish ministry broad-



OUTREACH REPORT—Rev. Leonard Stahlke tells Capitol Zone rally that Lutheran Hour broadcasts are doing much to encourage and inspire listeners in Central and South America in the direction of the saving grace of Jesus Christ.

Lone Star District Highlights

International Lutheran Laymen's League

By Gary D. Laneman, Information Coordinator
11601 January, Austin, TX, 78753

casts of the LLL through *Bringing Christ to the Nations* programming is doing much to assist the missionaries in the field.

Stahlke stated that new Japanese missionaries are being sent to Brazil where large communities have been touched by the Holy Spirit through the Lutheran Hour broadcasts in Brazil. These communities are now asking that Japanese missionaries, who themselves were brought to Christianity through the Lutheran Hour in Japan, come and minister to the 10,000 Japanese in Brazil.

• He also stated that a large German community in Central and South America listens to the Lutheran Hour broadcasts. They began settling into these areas soon after being released from prisoner-of-war

camps in the Dakotas. They took with them the Lutheran pastors who ministered to them while in prison.

Soon after they settled in Central and South America, Luther's *Small Catechism* was translated into Spanish and these three factors have done much to bring the Gospel message to a people that needs to know more about God's love.

In other zone rally happenings, the zone passed a resolution to support Concordia College with fund-raising activities by the nine local clubs in the Capitol Zone.

URGENCY OF THE GOSPEL

A message from Gus Kieschnick, district media chairman:

Greetings in the name of Our Savior who suffered and died and rose for all mankind.

A few days ago, Ruth and I received a letter from Dr. Hoffmann. We want to share an excerpt of it with you. He writes:

"After more than 30 years of serving as speaker of the Lutheran Hour, I sense more strongly than ever the urgency of preaching the Gospel to men, women and children all over the world."

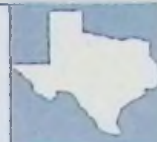
• Let us take courage from this man of God. Always, through thick and thin, he remains positive and fearless. Let's put the shoulder to the wheel. As Dr. Suvuseshemthu, manager of our Lutheran Hour office in India exclaims when he rises in the morning, "The beginning of another day. Who today might be won for our Savior?"

*Yours in Christ,
Gus Kieschnick*

FIRST CONTACT

Japanese Lutheran Hour is beginning 35 years of broadcasting. Some 85,000 Christians now claim that their first contact with Christianity was through the Japanese Lutheran Hour. Of some 330 national pastors in Japan, 49 were led to a faith in Jesus Christ through the Japanese Lutheran Hour's ministry.

Also, 40 percent of the membership of the Lutheran Church in Portugal had their first contact with the church through the Portugal Lutheran Hour.



It's convention time again; what excitement! We "Praise Him!" for all the planners and the workers, and for the many leaguers across our district who have been praying for the success of our Lubbock convention.

As you read this, the convention may be over. Delegates and guests will have come to share, to learn and to be inspired.

The knowledge and insights gained from the "Linked by Love" seminar, the devotions and the Bible studies will not be over, however. They will have a lasting effect on our lives as we work together to serve God.

We attend a convention to receive information, to hear speakers, to vote for mission projects and to elect new officers. All this becomes a part of LWML and our life. What makes it

all worthwhile is the love we share through Christ and our willingness to go out to share and serve.

A special thank you to all who worked to make this convention a success. This includes not only committees and officers, but every person who attends . . . may God bless you in your service to Him.

*Marcella Gaus
District president*



LUBBOCK—District executive committee members toured the Lutheran Home of West Texas, one of the mission project recipients for 1984-86. The home will be open to all attending the district convention June 18-20.

'Praise Him!' for a successful LWR drive

Clothing, quilts and kits totaling 30,890 pounds were received for the annual Lutheran World Relief Drive in Texas, making it necessary to call for a second freight van. In addition, almost 50 new groups participated this year.

Drive coordinator Mrs. Katherine Boone of Dallas calls it "the most successful and exciting drive ever!" She urges Texas churches and societies to plan now to participate again in 1987, "joining together as instruments of our Savior's love to those in need everywhere."



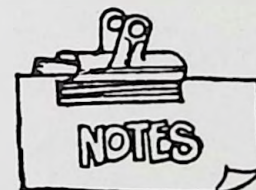
The English novelist William Thackeray stated that "next to excellence is the appreciation of it."

Our district LWML has been blessed with excellence in its leadership. Nowhere is this more evident than in the four members of the Executive Committee leaving office at this convention.

Our appreciation and thanks to Gretchen Sump, Puddin' Krueger, Catherine Burkhard and Rev. Donald Peymann for dedicated service to the Lord through the Texas District LWML!

Mite Report

April 30, 1986
Total Goal \$160,000
Received, April 7,547
Received 23 mo. 163,774
Over goal \$3,774
Send mites to Mina Fitting, 704 Dellwood, Midland 79703. MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO TEXAS DISTRICT LWML.



- A reminder that money given for world hunger should now be made payable and sent to: World Hunger, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, 1333 S. Kirkwood Road, St. Louis, MO 63122-7295.
- Special bequests to the International LWML have been allocated as follows: \$35,000 for the production of a video film about the LWML; \$100,000 to fund an indepth Bible study to be produced by Synod.
- The fall LWML Quarterly will be sent to every woman in the Missouri Synod.
- Remember to be "Linked in Prayer" with your LWML sisters every Monday at noon.



Shown using the commercial dishwasher that was purchased for Texoma Lutheran Camp with a grant from the Texas District LWML is Jill Lund, wife of camp director Keith Lund. A convection oven and large range were also part of the completed mite project.

Winter QUARTERLY stresses changes in life

Change is often a frightening event. The problems that can occur when people are faced with changes are not always easy to handle. It is at these times that the Christian church family can be of help.

Does your church family offer special support to those who are in the process of "changing chapters" in their lives? Do you involve retirees, offer help to college students, singles, those leaving prison? Do you have courses for newly-married couples, for the newly-widowed or divorced? What do you offer out-of-work or "movable" families?

Share your successful ways of helping by sending your news and photos to *Quarterly News* Editor Pauline Groerich, 2796 So. Wolff Street, Denver, Colo. 80236. The deadline is July 20.

LWML News

LWML news should be sent to Dolores Bruncke, Texas District Editor, 3944 Meriman, Plano, Tex. 75074.

Texas LWML: big, and still growing

"Praise Him!" . . . our LWML in Texas has grown during the 1984-86 bien-nium!

According to Membership Chairman Joyce Hamilton, 16 new societies have been added to our district during these two years, bringing the society total to 301. Our zone roster has grown to 31 with the addition of

two new zones.

A cordial welcome to our newest sisters: Clarks-ville—St. John, Ruth-Na-omi Circle; Dallas—Zion, LWML Moonlighters; Gar-land—Concordia LWML; Garland—Tree of Life, SONshine Guild; Houston—Concordia, Ruth Circle; Houston—Immanuel J.O.Y.; Jasper—St. Paul, Ladies Guild; Lake Jack-son—St. Mark LWML;

Pattison—Christ Ladies Guild; Rowlett—Crown of Life, Women's Auxiliary; San Angelo—Trinity, Lydia League; San Antonio—Holy Cross, LWML Night Group; Sequin—Grace, Dorcas; Sulphur Springs—Our Savior, Women Serv-ing Our Savior; The Grove—St. Paul, Hope Cir-cle; Tomball—Salem, Pris-cilla Guild.



Mites at work!

• "A project without prayer is like a garden without water." These words from Rev. Gary Martin of Iglesia Luterana Cristo El Salvador in Del Rio stress the basic idea behind the use of every mite box: a coin *and* a prayer.

Cristo El Salvador, which began in 1982 as a mission to area Hispanics, has received \$15,000 in mite support from the Texas LWML this bien-nium.

Martin further states, "We have never felt alone in this effort. Without the ladies of the LWML who have so energetically been partners with us, we would be missing a tremendous arm of support . . . you're what we hoped you would be: partners in God's for-ever family."

• Rev. Richard Reinap, Lutheran Church for the Deaf in Austin, writes: "We are most grateful to members of the Texas Dis-trict LWML for your sup-port of deaf ministry projects. You have been a great blessing."

Payment of \$4,000 has completed the Austin por-tion of this project. The Houston and Dallas churches have requested that we hold the \$11,000 balance until additional rev-enue can be raised at the local level.



Two societies have been welcomed into the Gulf Coast Zone re-cently. Above, with Rev. John Selle and District President Mar-cella Gaus (third from left) are members of the newly organized society at St. Mark, Lake Jackson. Below, with past zone presi-dent Pat Shannon (left), are representatives of the LWML society at Grace, Freeport, which transferred from a neighboring zone.





Lutheran Social Service of Texas offers vital assistance

On July 19, Lutheran Social Service of Texas celebrates the 60th anniversary of its charter as a Lutheran Aid and Orphan Society.

In 1929 the Lutheran Aid and Orphan Society and the Augustana Association of Charities began working together because of unexpected circumstances. The Texas Conference of the Augustana Synod could not continue to operate Trinity Lutheran College in Round Rock because of lack of funds and enrollment. At the same time the Lutheran Aid and Orphan Society was looking for a place to begin services to homeless children and elderly adults.

- When the college closed, the Lutheran Aid and Orphan Society bought the property for \$25,000. On November 29, 1929, Trinity Lutheran Home opened.

In 1944, the society changed its name to the Texas Lutheran Welfare Society and added offices in San Antonio.

- The LCMS Texas District signed a contract with Lutheran Welfare Society in 1964 to provide professional social work services to Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod individuals. In 1965, the Board of Directors changed the society's name to the Lutheran Social Service—better reflecting its program and service.

In 1970, the Texas District became a full partner



Glenn O'Shoney

with the Southern District of the American Lutheran Church and the Texas-Louisiana Synod of the Lutheran Church in America.

The Texas District brought its institutional chaplaincy program into the agency. Again, the name of the agency was changed—to its present name—Lutheran Social Service of Texas.

- L.S.S.T. has come a

long way. At first it concentrated on care for the aged. Today, L.S.S.T. offers retirement communities, adult day care centers and an emergency response system to assist individuals in their own homes.

At its beginning, L.S.S.T. offered some counseling . . . today, in addition to family and individual counseling, L.S.S.T. offers "clergy care"—professional pastoral care and counseling to Texas Lutheran pastors.

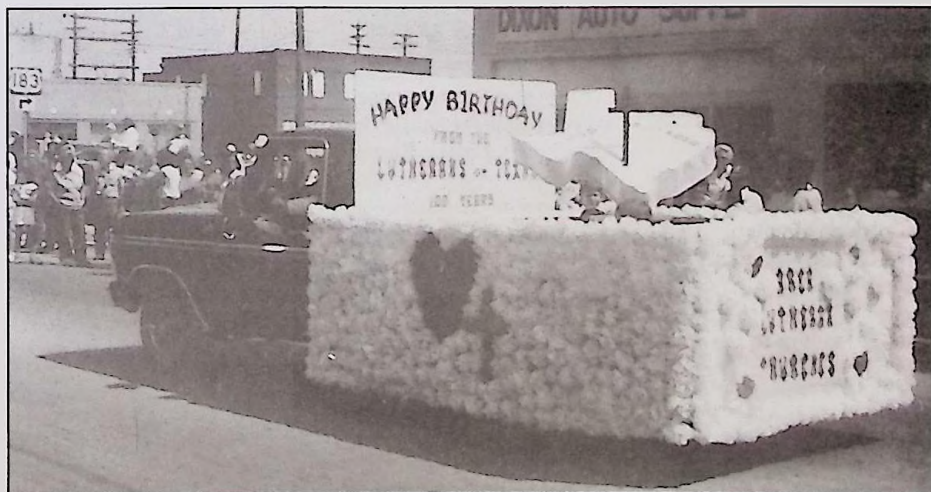
- When organized, the adoption program was strong. Today it is stronger. In the last five years, L.S.S.T. has placed more than 1,000 of the 3,000-plus children placed since the adoption program began in 1944.

L.S.S.T. is an integral part of the Texas District ministry. Tens of thousands of people have been assisted through its ministry. It is truly a ministry of care and concern for needy people.

- We are thankful to God for this agency and thank Him especially now as L.S.S.T. celebrates its 60th anniversary. Many of you are contributors to L.S.S.T. The Texas District—through its budget—helps to support the ministry of care.

The Lord said, *"In as much as you have done this to the least of these My brethren, you have done it to Me."* Through the work and ministry of L.S.S.T.—we work to fulfill that word of our Savior.

Glenn O'Shoney
President, Texas District



A WINNER—The Sunday school of Redeemer Lutheran, Cisco, entered this float in Cisco's annual Folk Life Festival and won first place in the float division. With a parade theme of "Happy

Birthday, Texas," the float conveyed birthday greetings from Cisco Lutherans, who have been in the area for 100 years.

That's matzos not nachos

by Cindy Stafford

Faith Lutheran, Stephenville

The Passover meal is a tradition at our church, and each year I make the matzo for this event. It seems that every year there's a humorous incident connected with the matzo-making.

First, there was the year I developed a quicker way to roll out the dough (as we all know, swiftness was essential to the fleeing children of Israel). My method is simple: place the matzo dough in a plastic trash bag between two boards, then run over it with your pickup truck. It works and saves wear on your arm muscles.

However, you will get some interesting questions like "Where are the tread marks," and, "Did the Israelites borrow the Egyptian chariots to roll their dough?"

This year, I invited some neighbors over to visit while I prepared the matzo. I told the husband, who has a hearing problem, that I was making matzos tonight and he should bring his wife over and visit.

Later, a jar of jalapeno peppers, cheese and a bag of tortilla chips appeared on my kitchen cabinet. I called my neighbor's wife to ask if she knew anything about these items left on my cabinet.

She replied, "Yes, Barney said you were making nachos tonight."

These incidents will be recalled each year; a part of what makes this event so special to our congregation. Like a true family, we are brought closer together by sharing with each other—most importantly the sharing of that special love God gives to all His children.

Happenings in Texas

Members and friends sponsored a "Help Send A Worker To The Harvest" dinner May 4 at Christ Lutheran, Amarillo, on behalf of fellow-member Dan Johnson, a teacher at Tascosa High School, whose decision to enter the ministry has led him to enroll at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Wilson, members of Redeemer, Baytown, who celebrated their 51st wedding anniversary May 10.

Fifty minutes of praise, exercise and fun is the description at Faith, Plano, of its new program called *Believerbise*. It is choreographed exercise to contemporary Gospel music.

Three cheers for E.E. Markwardt of Our Savior, Dallas, who has been elected commander of Region II of the Disabled American Veterans.

Sharing her time and talent is Dorothy Hagemann of Our Savior, Abilene, who was selected "Volun-



65th—Peter and Helen Herzberger, members of Mt. Olive, Corpus Christi, celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary with a family reception in Pearland and a church reception at Mt. Olive. They were married April 2, 1921 in Saginaw, Mich. They have six children, 23 grandchildren, 28 great-grandchildren and 10 great-great-grandchildren.

teer of the Month" by the Volunteer Clearing House of Abilene.

Rev. Joseph Judge of Monahans, Tex., has accepted the call of Zion, Dallas, to become associate pastor.

Gloria Dei, Houston, is observing its 20th anniversary this year. One of the major anniversary projects will be giving 20 gifts to the community during the year.

Congratulations to Ralph and Evelyn Rohrback of Living Word, The Woodlands, who celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on May 3.

Rev. John Siemsglusz, formerly of Grace, Brenham, was installed as pastor of Redeemer, Baytown, on May 4. Rev. Robert Meyers, formerly of Tomball, was installed as pastor of Trinity, Navasota, also on May 4.

Celebrating their 58th wedding anniversary on

May 20 were Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Wagner, members of Hope, Austin. Congratulations!

Rev. Charles H. Born, long a leader in campus ministry for the Texas District and pastor of University Lutheran, Austin, received an honorary Doctor of Laws degree on May 10 from Concordia Teachers College in Seward, Nebr.

Rev. James Otte began his service as pastor of Redeemer Lutheran, Nacogdoches, following his installation on June 1.

Congratulations to Prof. Richard Dinda, of Concordia College, Austin, who received an honorary Doctor of Laws Degree from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis. Dinda was cited for his excellence of literary expression in articles written for journals, books and syllabi used at various Missouri Synod educational levels.

Rev. Dean Kelm, pastor of Our Redeemer, Odessa, has been elected chairman of the board of directors of West Texas Opportunities, a social welfare agency in the Odessa community.

That ringing sound at Bethel, Dallas, is the music of their new three-octave bell choir. The bells were dedicated April 20.

Rev. Richard Nelson was installed as pastor at Trinity Lutheran, Weatherford, on May 11.

Praise and blessings for Mr. and Mrs. Emil Schautschick of Immanuel, Houston, who recently celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary.



A report on a two-year church growth process

Seventy Texas District congregations are completing a two-year church growth process, which better equips them for work in their God-given Great Commission responsibility.

Most of the two years was spent in congregational ministry evaluation, making plans for outreach and nourishment and initiating specific ministry programs such as "The Master's Plan" and Sunday school evangelism.

• Following are some quotes from Texas District congregation leaders on the results of CG-2 on their churches: "increased emphasis on adult Christian education"; "visitors follow-up plan"; "Master's Plan implementation"; "new Bible classes started"; "more member involvement"; "more membership classes"; "better records"; "people's attitudes have changed"; "concern and care for unchurched souls"; "learning of lifestyle evangelism";

"Long range planning"; "community activities such as Mother's Day Out"; "better advertising"; "Christian education programs for outreach expanded"; "evangelism and visitation program developing"; "road signs"; "mass mailings planned"; "small group Bible classes in neighborhoods"; "fisher of men fish fry"; "celebration of friendship Sunday."

These are only a few of many positive comments



Rev. Ray Schkade

Let's Share the Good News of Jesus

made in an evaluation document.

• The evaluation document also asked for an identification of problems that were encountered during the two-year process. Here are quotes: "Members not wanting to grow"; "impatience"; "changing people's attitudes"; "old guard still wanting to keep things as they are"; "don't want to get too big"; "congregation just not ready"; "too much work"; "lack of following through"; "resistance to change"; "non-commitment of congregation to back task force."

It is not easy for congregations to establish a ministry balance which concentrates on both nourishment and outreach. Many are working hard to bring about this balance. May God give our congregations the strength and the power to do both.

It's dark outside . . . do you know where God's unsaved children are?

by Rev. Ray Schkade
Executive Director
Mission Administration

The darkness of sin is everywhere. The gloom of life without Christ is inevitable. The need for new life in Christ is an absolute for those who are only once-born people. And they are everywhere. Your neighbor across the street . . . the person you work with . . . the member of the bowling team . . . the person you met at the social gathering . . . one out of two people in the community, on the average, is unchurched.

• It's dark outside . . . do you know where God's unsaved children are? For God so loved The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod that He gave His only begotten Son? No, that's not what John 3:16 says.

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have everlasting life."

God would have all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth . . . Lutherans included.

But there are others outside His family who are living in darkness and are lost.

• It's dark outside . . . do you know where God's unsaved children are? Should it be your concern? Are you your brother's keeper? Some might say that reaching the unchurched is the responsibility of the pastor and the evangelism board, thus ex-

cusing themselves from outreach involvement. How unfortunate this attitude!

The Holy Spirit does the converting, but God's family members—all of them—are to be the Spirit's instruments in reaching the lost. He uses the word and deed witness of Christians to work His miracles. Studies have revealed that in 70 to 80 percent of those who have come to faith in Christ, the Spirit's effective work was initiated through the relationships established by Christians with friends, relatives and acquaintances.

• There are numerous resources that have been developed to help God's family members become more sensitive to and better equipped for sharing the Gospel. The Texas District Board of Parish Services offers one-day witness workshops, youth discipling, church growth training experiences and evangelism resources including audio-visuals.

There are training kits available for congregational purchase. One kit is *"Heart to Heart, Sharing Christ with a Friend"* which was prepared by one of our own Texas District pastors.

For the person who is looking for an excellent book to read about the individual Christian's role, *"Everyone A Minister,"* by Dr. Oscar E. Feucht, is excellent. The book is available from Concordia Publishing House.

The Lord added . . .

Through the power of the Sacrament of Holy Baptism, three infants and one adult were received into God's kingdom on April 27 at **Our Savior, Rockwall**.

It was the blessed privilege of the congregation of **Prince of Peace, Carrollton**, to hear the confession of faith of 20 persons who became members on April 27. In addition, there were four baptisms.

Presented in May were 29 new members of **St. Paul, Fort Worth**.

Thirteen new members were received into fellowship at **Christ Lutheran, Austin**, on May 4, six by adult confirmation and seven by transfer. In addition, four children received the washing of Holy Baptism.

Introduced in May were 15 new members of **Faith, Houston**, and in addition there were three baptisms.



SAN ANTONIO—King of Kings Lutheran Church of San Antonio received two adults by confirmation, above, 10 by transfer and conducted two baptisms during April.



CENTERVILLE—These are some of the 36 new members received into membership during the past 12 months at **Our Savior Lutheran Church, Centerville**.

By transfer and profession of faith, the congregation of **Gethsemane, Houston**, joyously welcomed 25 new members on April 13.

Fifteen new members in April became a part of the forever family of **Redeemer, Austin**.

Lovingly added to membership in April at **Zion Lutheran, Anderson**, were four communicants: two adults and two teens.

Welcomed in April at **Good Shepherd, Pasadena**, were six persons into membership.

Through confirmation and transfer, 17 new members were introduced to the congregation of **Christ, Fort Worth**, in May.

What a joyous month in April as **Trinity, San Angelo**, placed 13 children into the arms of Jesus through baptism.

Placed on the congregational rolls in May were 11 new members at **Our Redeemer, Dallas**.

Four adult confirmands were received at **Concordia, Houston**, on April 27.

One was also baptized along with her two children.

There were 11 new members at **Our Redeemer, Dallas**, on May 4, received by adult confirmation, profession of faith and transfer.

Ten new members received through adult confirmation were introduced to the congregation in May at **Bethel, Dallas**. Also, three additional members joined by transfer.

It was the blessed privilege on May 4 of **Our Redeemer, Wichita Falls**, to hear the confession of faith of 16 wonderful Christians who joined the Redeemer forever family as communicant members.

A remarkably joyous day occurred on April 27 when **Grace Lutheran, Arlington**, received 50 new members, 14 by adult confirmation and the rest by transfer and profession of faith. Nineteen youngsters were received by junior confirmation.



ARANSAS PASS—Five new children of God—two adults and three children—entered God's kingdom on March 23 at **Faith Lutheran, Aransas Pass**. This is the largest group to join the congregation at one time. New members are Sheena Ann Smith, Hector Rojas Cruz, Joshua James Easterday, Melody Ann Easterday and Walter Brown.



RICHARDSON—Messiah Lutheran of Richardson received eight new members into its family by transfer on Feb. 16.

HOUSTON—Bethany, Houston, welcomed nine new members and their families April 27 through adult confirmation, baptism and profession of faith. With Pastor Al Miller are, left to right, Gertrude Shelton, Timothy and Sherry Wright and daughter Melissa, Michael and Pam Milne with John David and Amy, Kenneth and Karon Bader with Jamie and Shane.

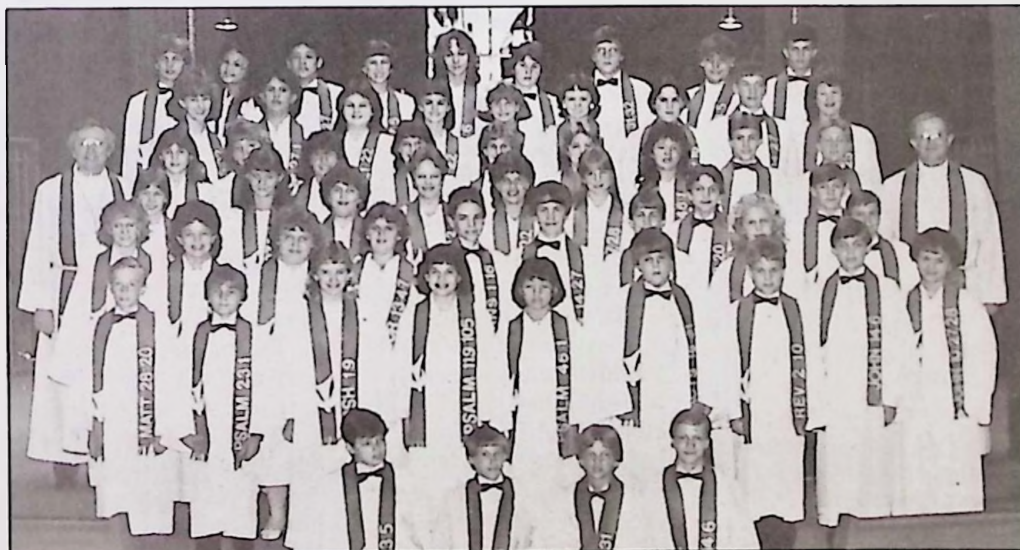


BAY CITY—This is the first junior confirmation class of Our Savior Lutheran in Bay City. Left to right are David Dannels, Chad Profant, Pastor Ray Rogers, Steven Loesch and Doug Ryman Jr.



PILGRIM—Meet the newest members of Pilgrim Lutheran Church of Houston. On April 27, the congregation was introduced to 52 new mem-

bers, 16 adults by confirmation and profession of faith and 36 adults and children by transfer.



AUSTIN—Redeemer Lutheran, Austin, celebrated the rite of confirmation May 4. More than 1,100 witnessed the vows taken by these 57

confirmands. The young people received special instructions during the year from the pastors, Rev. David Schroder and Rev. Paul Bohot.



WAXAHACHIE—Palm Sunday, March 23, was an important day for five of the youth of Christ The King Lutheran of Waxahachie. They were confirmed, then took their first communion on Maundy Thursday. From left are Eric Voytko, Christine Norum, Jennifer Lippe, Greg Gass and Allison Thormahlen. Pastor Donald G. Bahr stands behind them.



Retirement made easy with the help of C.E.F.

Retirement. If you are like most people, you look forward to it as a time to simply sit back and enjoy life. But a comfortable, enjoyable retirement will only come with proper planning.

And that's where Church Extension Fund can help. Because CEF investments earn a guaranteed rate of return, many people over the years have found them helpful in supplementing their other retirement income. And not only will CEF investments help you towards a more enjoyable retirement, they will also assist your church. Because the dollars you invest in CEF are used to help congregations build needed worship and educational facilities. So, why not start now planning for retirement . . . and help your church at the same time.



Texas District
Church Extension Fund, LC-MS
7900 U.S. 290 East
Austin, Texas 78724



CORNERSTONE—At 94, Paul Anderson is a charter member and oldest member of Christ Lutheran, Austin. On May 4, wielding a trowel, he placed the mortar around the cornerstone of the church's new sanctuary which is scheduled for dedication this summer. The occasion also marked the 40th anniversary of the congregation's founding. Anderson heads four generations of his family who are current members of Christ. At right is the pastor, Rev. Roy Bohrer.

Church members have role in building of organ

Messiah Lutheran Church, Richardson, dedicated its new pipe organ during a festival hymn service April 27.

Organists Dorothy Meyer, Eunice Elser and David Johanson were joined by brass players Les Holben and Paul Wesebaum.

The objective of the congregation was somewhat unique when the organ plans were conceived nine years ago. The organ was

to be constructed in three phases as the money was raised. In addition, there were several members who wanted to contribute skilled labor to the project.

The John Fort Organ Company of Dallas was commissioned to oversee the project with these objectives in mind.

The builder provided the custom-built pipework and windchests, while members of the congregation donated their special skills in cabinet work, electrical and structural design.

The tonal composition of the organ is three-manual, 22-stop, with 1,306 pipes.



MEMORIAL SIGN—This new church sign was dedicated at Peace Lutheran in Hewitt on Easter Sunday. It was given and installed as a memorial to their parents by Mr. and Mrs. James Vonderkumz, shown here with Pastor David Bergman.

Kids in paper Peace Corps

The fifth and sixth grade Sunday school classes of Concordia Lutheran, Garland, have prepared eight packets of Sunday school material to send to missionaries.

Each student was also asked to write a letter to the missionary receiving the packet.

The youngsters collected Bibles, *Portals of Prayer*, unused Sunday school materials and other material from congregation members that will be sent once each quarter to the missionaries.



FIRESIDE CHAT—The L.A.F. (Lutheran Adult Fellowship) Club at Redeemer, Beaumont, enjoyed an evening of fellowship and praise with a chilly mid-March hayride and wiener roast. The

L.A.F. Club schedules an outing each month to "let their hair down" in an atmosphere of Christian faith and love. Barry and Ruth Olson conceived the idea for the group.

Tomball Lutheran School youth plan working summer in Ysleta

More than a dozen Tomball area residents are working this summer at a mission church in Ysleta, near El Paso.

The group, half of which are high school students, will spend two weeks participating in one of the 13 "servant events" of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

• Michael Graham, a teacher at the Lutheran school and member of Zion Lutheran Church, Tomball, is group leader. He said: "Our church's servant events can best be described as work retreats. They range from volunteer service at camps and schools for the mentally impaired, to work among the poor like the one in which we are participating.

"Our group will work at Centro Cristiano de Ysleta, a Lutheran mission serving mostly Hispanic and Indian populations," he said.

Participants will repair

and paint the mission compound buildings and will work on the homes of needy area residents.

• The program includes evangelism and food distribution as well as learning more about the Hispanic culture. Group members will also visit Chihuahua, Mexico, where they will observe various ministries, one in a barrio mission.

The young people pay for their own expenses. In Tomball, the participants held car washes to help meet costs.

Summer youth workers assigned to three Lutheran congregations

The three Lutheran churches in Amarillo affiliated with The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod will sponsor three summer youth workers from Concordia Teachers College, Seward, Nebr., according to Dr. Bill Karpenko, college director of DCE/Youth Ministries.

Shelly Kruger began her ministry at Trinity Lutheran in May. Pat Burt started his ministry at Prince of Peace in June and Corinne Young is working at Christ Lutheran.

The three-month ministries are designed to give college students personal experience in youth ministry and in service to local congregations.

One of every 20 Missouri Synod Lutherans is a resident of Texas

One of every 20 members of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod lives in Texas.

This information is contained in the Texas District's report to the July 18-25 synodical convention in Indianapolis and was reviewed by the district board of directors at its May 20 meeting.

In preparing the district report, District President Glenn O'Shoney noted that Texas has 340 congregations and preaching stations, 130,000 adult and child members, 98 schools, four high schools, as well as being the home district for Concordia Lutheran College.

- It is the place for ministry for 1,200 professionals—pastors and educators.

The 1986 district budget, the report noted, is just shy of \$5,000,000. The mission program is concerned with 67 subsidized congregational ministries as well as many specialized ministries including five college campuses with full-time workers and significant mission work in ministries among the black, Hispanic and deaf.

The report also describes the goals of "Texas—1990," a statement of intent for the district adopted earlier by the district board of directors.

These goals include:

- Adjustment of the spending budget of the Board for Mission Administration so that a minimum of 50 percent of budgeted

district funds are spent in ethnic and inner-city ministries.

- Emphasis in total stewardship, time, talents and treasures of our people. Texas leads the Synod in per communicant giving—averaging \$450 per communicant. By convention resolution, the district has committed itself to increase the portion remitted to the national church body to 45 percent of all district income. In 1985, the Texas District remitted an even \$2 million to Synod. And there is a strong district and congregational emphasis on Bible study, worship and service.

- Strengthening support for all professional workers so they can better accomplish their tasks and find even greater joy and satisfaction in their work.

- Enhancing communication for all levels of ministry, including continuing the stitched-in version of the district supplement into the LUTHERAN WITNESS so that Texas Lutherans will receive news of both national and district interest with each issue.

The report points out that the Texas District has a rich mission history and that our prayer is we will never lose that mission zeal, that mission spirit. We are "determined to know nothing except Christ," the report concludes.

According to President O'Shoney, this is the first time in memory that Synod



ACADEMIC HONOR—Rev. Glenn O'Shoney, center, accepts academic hood signifying the conferring of an honorary degree, Doctor of Laws, from Concordia Lutheran College of Austin in recognition of prolonged superior service to God and the church. It was the first honorary degree ever awarded by the college. At left is Dr. Milton Riemer, academic dean, and at right is Dr. Ray Martens, college president. The event was held during commencement exercises on May 10. O'Shoney is president of the Texas District, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

is asking each district to submit a report concerning its work, plans and dreams.

In other action, the board of directors:

- Elected Rev. David Joeckel of Grace Lutheran, Arlington, as a district vice president. He fills the position of Rev. Ted Griesse, who died earlier this year. Rev. Eugene Heckmann, Gethsemane, Houston, formerly fourth vice-president, moves to third vice-president and Rev. Joeckel becomes fourth vice-president.

- Expressed appreciation to Marcella Gaus, president of the district LWML, for her sharing with the board of the LWML mission project proposals.

- Heard a report from Rev. Fred Boden, district mission director, citing the need for the Board of Mission Administration to concern itself with ethnic minority groups both in planning for future expansion as well as vigorous administration of existing

ministries to ethnic groups.

During the past year, the mission department was responsible for six black ministries and 11 Hispanic ministries, plus the Hispanic in-service training program. Of particular concern, Boden said, is ministry for Korean, Vietnamese and Laotian populations in Texas. Boden also described the efforts of the Hispanic Action Team, now planning program models for congregations involved in Hispanic ministry.

- Heard President O'Shoney offer his opinion that the key to an effective Hispanic ministry is a lay ministry—worker/priest ministry—which funds the worker to the congregation's ability. The board approved O'Shoney's recommendation that the district explore possible ways of training lay persons for Hispanic ministry expansion and provide funds not to exceed \$2,000 for a study of potential methods.



FRIEDRICH



GLASPIE



KONZ



LODUCA



LOFGREN



THEIMER

Cisco music student is National Merit Scholar

Nathan Urban, member of Redeemer Lutheran in Cisco, has been designated a 1986 National Merit Scholar, one of only 1,800 United States high school seniors to be so honored.

He has been accepted by Baylor University and the Baylor School of Music and has been offered scholarships by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation, Baylor University and Aid Association for Lutherans.

He is the son of Pastor and Mrs. Otto Urban.

Longhorn Band under Lutheran leadership

Malcolm Randig, a music education major at the University of Texas in Austin, has been elected president of the Texas Longhorn Band for the 1986-87 season.

He is a member of Trinity Lutheran Church of Taylor, where he also serves as choir director.

His parents are Melvin and Doris Randig of Taylor.

Send your News to Bill

Send your news releases, photos, parish newsletters (we especially want these) and bulletins for the LUTHERAN WITNESS to:

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

Lutheran Aggie awarded stipend for cancer research

Patricia Zoch of Austin, a junior at Texas A & M University, has been awarded a stipend by the UT System Research Center in Smithville.

This summer, Patricia is participating in a 10-week independent research project under supervision of Dr. Rodney Nairn of the research staff.

An honors student, Patricia is pursuing a career in biomedical research in general and cancer research in particular.

She is the daughter of Professor and Mrs. Ted Zoch of Austin, where the family belongs to Christ Lutheran Church.

St. Louis seminary sends six graduates, six vicars to Texas

Six May graduates of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Mo., have received calls to Texas pulpits:

- Mark David Friedrich of Jamestown, N.Dak., to Grace Lutheran, Dalhart.
- James Joseph Glaspie of Brooklyn, N.Y., to Calvary Lutheran, Houston.
- Thomas Richard Konz of Houston, to Trinity serving Fairfield and Mexia.
- Joseph Paul Loduca of Fenton, Mo., to Zion and St. Paul Lutheran Churches of Kermit and Monahans.
- Richard Steven Lofgren of Escondido, Calif., to St. John Lutheran, Houston.
- Paul W. Theimer Jr., of Mineral Wells, Tex., to Grace Lutheran, Mart.

Vicars assigned for a year of parish training to Texas are:

James Cartwright to Trinity Lutheran, Seymour.

Walter Pohland to Hispanic in-service training, Austin.

Ronald Simpson to Our Redeemer, Dallas.

Jeffrey Sippy to Trinity Lutheran, Sealy.

John Thieme to Hope Lutheran, Friendswood.

Frank Winter III to Concordia Lutheran, San Antonio.

Four Fort Wayne grads, four vicars receive calls

Four graduates of Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Ind., received calls to Texas:

- John R. Austin of Varna, Ill., to Immanuel Lutheran in Clifton.
- David W. Baker of Denver, Colo., to Grace Lutheran, Marlin.
- Raymond E. Johansen of Fresno, Calif., to Midland.
- William E. Strong, of Mineral Wells, Tex., called to Houston as assistant at Our Savior Lutheran.

Vicars from Fort Wayne who will spend a year with Texas congregations:

Richard R. Goodwill to St. Paul, Waco.

Roosevelt Gray Jr. to Mt. Calvary, Houston.

Charles W. Hamit to Christ Lutheran, Austin.

Ralph W.E. Patrick to Hispanic Ministry, Austin.

CONCORDIA

Concordia celebrates finish of 60th year

When Concordia celebrated the completion of its 60th year with the commencement ceremony, 41 percent of the graduates also received recognition for fulfilling requirements in church-work programs.

Included in the total of 81 bachelor of arts candidates were 20 who received the Lutheran Teacher Diploma and 13 who met requirements in pre-seminary studies.

Five students received the associate of arts degree. The number of students completing this two-year program is declining as more students continue at Concordia to complete the bachelor's degree.

Also at the commencement ceremony, President Ray Martens conferred the honorary Doctor of Laws degree on Rev. Glenn O'Shoney, president of the Texas District, in recognition of his prolonged superior service to God and the church.

The following honor students were recognized: **Associate of Arts** highest ranking—Stephen Smith (Grace, St. Petersburg, Fla.); second highest ranking—Tim Theis (Faith, Plano); **Bachelor of Arts** highest ranking—Nancy Adams (Trinity, West Sinton); second highest ranking—Michelle Theiss (Mt. Calvary, San Antonio).

Other honor students were Michael Buchhorn (Faith, Georgetown); Kathryn Noack (Our Redeemer,



Six of the 10 CLC Honor Graduates: (from left) Martha Rockey, Pam Richter, Kathy Noack,

Nancy Adams, Rob Rogers and Rebecca Schubert.

Houston); Pamela Esch Richter (Our Redeemer, Staplehurst, Nebr.); Martha Palmer Rockey (St. Paul, Fort Worth); Robert Rogers (St. Paul's, Decatur, Ala.); and Rebecca Schubert (Zion, Walburg).

Joel Bartsch (Pilgrim, Houston) was selected by his classmates to bring greetings from the graduating class.

O'Shoney delivered the commencement address. He challenged the graduates to make a difference in a world overwhelmed with needs by following the example of David, who overcame the giant Goliath with God's help.

The Concordia faculty, administration and staff also attempt to emulate David, relying on the Lord's blessings to provide a Christian collegiate experience for young men and women. We are thankful that God allows this educational ministry to continue to prosper and grow.

AAL, Lutheran Brotherhood aid Concordia

In May, Ray Bauer and Dale Elmshaeuser pre-

sented Concordia President Ray Martens with the first disbursement of a \$6,450 grant from Aid Association for Lutherans to fund High School Weekends at Concordia.

The goal is that up to 10 high school seniors will enroll in the college as a result of the High School Weekend experience.

Concordia recently received \$1,679 from Lutheran Brotherhood's IMPACT program (Inviting Member Participation in Aiding Lutheran Colleges and Theological seminars).

The IMPACT program matches, on a percentage basis, Lutheran Brother-

hood members' gifts of \$25 to \$100 per year to Lutheran institutions of higher education.

Do you need a speaker?

If you are in charge of securing speakers for your church or civic organization, you need a copy of Concordia's *Speakers Bureau and Resource Guide*.

Faculty and staff participants are ready to address your group on a variety of subjects.

Write the Public Relations Office, Concordia Lutheran College, 3400 IH 35 North, Austin, Tex. 78705.



AAL representatives Dale Elmshaeuser, left, and Ray Bauer present a check to college President Ray Martens.



Field Day highlights sesquicentennial

Along with the athletic and academic competitions which traditionally take place on Concordia's annual Field Day for Lutheran students in grades six through eight, this year's event featured special sesquicentennial events.

Eighth grade students Natasha Beer (St. Paul School, Austin) and Amy Carriker (Zion School, Pasadena) won the two sesquicentennial writing contests. Natasha's short story, "Cincee Ann," told the story of Cynthia Ann Parker. Amy's essay, "Texas Good Guys," was a history of the Texas Rangers.

A sesquicentennial quiz asked students to name the man who commanded Confederate forces at Sabine Pass among other Texas history questions.

Rachel Roberts from Redeemer School in San Antonio won the eighth grade Bible knowledge quiz, earning a \$100 scholarship to Concordia.

Other academic events tested student knowledge of science, mathematics, spelling and history. Participants brought art and science projects and exhibited their talents in speech and music.

In athletic competitions the young people jumped, ran and threw to win ribbons in numerous contests.

As an integral part of the Lutheran educational system, Concordia takes pride in the high degree of competency exhibited by these young people.



Amy Carriker, essay contest winner

Curriculum expansion continues

The Concordia faculty and Board of Regents have approved a new Concordia major which will be offered for the first time in the fall of 1986.

Environmental science will emphasize a concern for the environment and the management of natural resources.

The major will provide a sound foundation for graduate studies in such programs as environmental engineering or for immediate employment by state and local governmental agencies or by industries.

As indicated in the March LUTHERAN WITNESS, two other majors were approved this year for initial inclusion in the fall schedule. Along with environmental science, church music and behavioral science will join Concordia's other majors: business management, communication, elementary education, general studies and Mexican-American studies.

The faculty and Board of Regents also approved the



Natasha Beer receives a certificate from President Ray Martens for her winning short story.

addition of 21 new curriculum courses.

For more information on any of the above majors, which are presented in a Christ-centered atmosphere, write the Admissions Counseling Office, Concordia Lutheran College, 3400 IH 35 North, Austin, Tex. 78705.

Anniversaries of service recognized

How many people these days devote 35 years to the same profession, or continue for 25 years with the same employer? To do so would certainly seem to indicate a high measure of dedication and commitment.

Concordia professors Richard Dinda (languages, history), Bernard Gastler (music) and Leroy Tschatschula (government) have each spent the past 35 years in the ministry of the church. Twenty-five of Dr. Tschatschula's years of service have been at Concordia Lutheran College of Texas.

President Ray Martens



Rachel Roberts, winner of the Bible Knowledge Quiz, displays her scholarship certificate.

recognized these people and others celebrating service anniversaries of five years or five-year increments in a chapel service in May.

The following also observed anniversaries of service to the church at large: Varnes Stringer, registrar, psychology—30 years. Gary Pohl, development; Gretchen Sump, library; and Gary Wenzel, English—15 years. John Frahm, communication—10 years. Steven Menke, admissions—five years.

These faculty and staff members were recognized for anniversaries of service at Concordia: Ivan Routon, maintenance—20 years. Varnes Stringer and Gretchen Sump—15 years. Arthur Ahlschwede, institutional research; Eric Gerstmann, sociology; John Jungemann, psychology; and Norris Patschke, education—five years.

These faculty and staff members have devoted a significant portion of their lives to the ministry of the church. Without dedication such as this, Concordia could not continue.

OUTDOORS

Joy Camp set for Sept. 26-28

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

J-O-Y! These three letters have come to mean a great deal to the people at Camp Lone Star. Each year when summer camp comes to an end and the fall program calendar surfaces for discussion, J-O-Y conveys excitement on the camp scene.

Joy Camp is a program for Just Older Youth. Specifically, Joy refers to retired and semi-retired folks and occasionally some who are just plain tired who also want a weekend of relaxation and Christian fellowship.

This event originated a number of years ago before the Retreat Center was constructed and when all participants stayed in the original youth camp barracks. Believe it or not, there were even some regular participants who resisted the move into the new Center with its modernized, air-conditioned facilities. These Joy campers did not want to lose the special camaraderie that accompanied living together in a bunk house.

But many features of Joy Camp are still the same—meaningful Bible studies and worship; good food; fishing; card games, dominos and “42” games; special field trips; the annual crowning of a king and queen; and an abundance of Christian fellowship and togetherness.

This year's Joy Camp will be Sept. 26-28. Special leadership will once again be supplied by Rev. Richard Wagner and Mrs. Dorothy Kalich. These leaders are well-known for their fine program direction, care and concern, as well as their antics—Wagner for his enthusiasm and spur-of-the-moment surprises; Dorothy for her uplifting accordion music and the unending bag full of tricks.

In the past, Joy campers have flocked to this event from all areas of the Texas District. The 1986 weekend begins Friday afternoon with check-in prior to the evening meal, which is served at 5:30 p.m. The program extends through Sunday afternoon. The cost for full participation is \$55 and this covers six meals, sleeping accommodations with linens and all aspects of the program. Persons who attend part time will have rates adjusted accordingly.

For further information or reservations, write to Camp Lone Star, Rt. 3 Box 2L, La Grange, Tex. 78945.

Retreat Center hosts district conferences, workshops

The beautiful Lone Star Retreat Center annually serves as a site for a number of key Texas District functions during August and September. August will find the district's Christian day school administrators as well as new pastoral workers holding conference—workshop sessions. The district singles'

retreat will also be held in August.

September is when the district Board of Directors holds its annual growth-work session for three days. All circuit counselors gather together for one of that group's two semi-annual events in September.

The district staff will meet at Lone Star in September for one of its meetings, hosted as often as four times per year in the Retreat Center.

LOMT is sponsoring a district-wide “Lifting Up The Spirit III” in September, designed to provide clergy and their wives with an opportunity to experience special enrichment together as well as dealing with burnout and stress.

Plans firmed up for September family camping month at Texoma

The Texoma Lutheran Camp Program Committee has set aside September weekends to allow family RV campers and tenters to enjoy God's beautiful creation.

Resource leaders have been invited to present Bible studies on Saturday mornings and to lead the Saturday evening campfire worship event. Other optional activities will be led by camp staff members.

In addition, there will be free time for families to build on their togetherness. Meals may be obtained in the camp's kitchen. RV hookups are available in addition to ample tenting space.

Resource leaders who

will be serving during this special emphasis are:

Sept. 5-7: Rev. Fred Rogers, Commerce, Tex.

Sept. 12-13: Lori Bachmann, Texas District

Sept. 19-21: Rev. Carl Heckmann and Rev. Karl Petzke, Texas District

Sept. 26-28: Keith Loomans, Texas District

Make your plans now to attend!

LOMT development council grows

Lutheran Outdoors Ministry of Texas (LOMT) has witnessed significant growth in its development council since the group's inception in September 1985. The council, which primarily functions to shore up the fiscal stability of LOMT, added 13 new members during spring 1986. New members are:

Willie Clark, Denison, Grace

Nolan Doss, College Station, Holy Cross

Gary Hartman, San Antonio, Concordia

Gerald Kurio, Austin, Redeemer

Ron Lammert, San Antonio, Concordia

Richard Mitchell, McAllen, St. Paul

Benny Mitschke, Pasadena, Good Shepherd

Dr. David Mitchke, Serbin, St. Paul

Dale Rabe, Dallas, Holy Cross

E. A. Roitsch, La Grange, Mt. Calvary

John Smith, Houston, Gloria Dei

Werner Waiser, Houston, Beautiful Savior

Glenn Wiseman, Cypress, St. John.



Yes, I want to know more Clip and mail to

Lutheran Foundation of Texas

7900 US 290 E Austin Texas 78724 512-926-4272

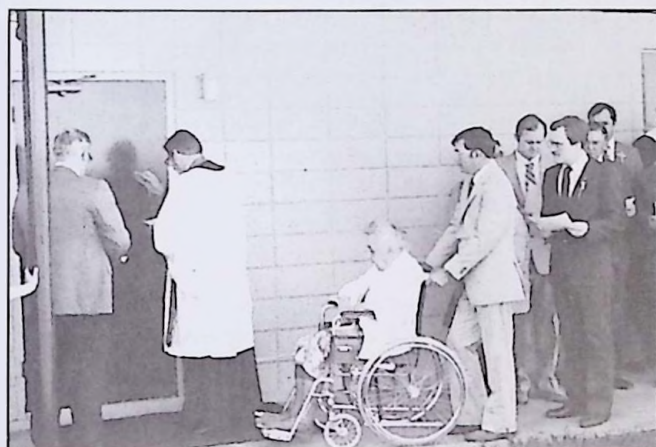
Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____



DEDICATION—Members of Our Savior Lutheran Church, Abilene, follow Pastor Robert Hagemann and congregation president Carl Piel into their new education building for the dedication service on March 23. Six classrooms were added and the kitchen and fellowship area remodeled.

Texas District calendar

AUGUST

2-6—Synodical Youth Gathering, Washington, D.C.
11-13—Principals' Conference, Camp Lone Star
11-13—Texas District Hispanic Conference, Del Rio
15-16—District Youth Committee
18—EMSI
22-23—District Singles Retreat
26—Woltman Foundation, Houston

SEPTEMBER

4-5—Staff retreat, Camp

Lone Star
13—Black Subcommittee Meeting
14—Lutheran Outdoors Ministry of Texas Sunday
15—Board for Parish Services
17-19—Workshop for Pastors and Spouses, Camp Lone Star
21-22—Board for Mission Administration
22-25—Council of Presidents
26-28—Joy Camp, Lone Star
28-30—Board of Directors retreat, Camp Lone Star

Helping people do what they want is the Texas Foundation goal

The following is a true story—the names have been changed to maintain the anonymity of the people involved. Their permission to share their story was granted.

Orville is a man in his 80s. He is a member of a congregation of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod in a small town in Texas. Orville's wife, Louise, died several years ago, and their son, Lewis, was killed in a military conflict. Orville lives with another son, Ernest, age 63, who has remained single all his life.

Some time ago, Orville and Ernest spoke with the directors of the Lutheran Foundation of Texas about the possibility of establishing a trust fund in loving memory of their entire family. They wanted a trust which would:

- be flexible, enabling them to add to the trust when money becomes available or to withdraw from the trust if the money is needed;
- be funded primarily with the proceeds from the sale of a farm, amounting to approximately \$70,000, which will be received from the purchaser of the farm over a 15 year period;
- provide an income, paid quarterly, to Orville and to Ernest for as long as they live;
- create a perpetual endowment fund which would provide an annual gift to the Church Extension Fund of the Texas District after both Orville and Ernest have gone to heaven. In

Orville's words: "That way, I can help build churches in Texas long after I'm no longer here on earth."

In order to help Orville and Ernest do what they wanted to do, a Lutheran Foundation of Texas representative met with them in their attorney's office, provided their attorney with specific wording for inclusion in their trust and provided specific information concerning the payment of the earnings of the trust to Orville, Ernest and the Church Extension Fund.

This true story is but one of many examples of how the Lutheran Foundation of Texas is helping people do what they want to do with the property and possessions which the Lord has entrusted to their care.

For information on how the Lutheran Foundation of Texas can help *you* do what *you* want to do, please call or write:

The Lutheran Foundation of Texas
7900 U.S. 290 East
Austin, Tex. 78724
512-926-4272

It *may* be one of the most important steps you've taken in a long time!

Means a lot

The Church Extension Fund means a lot to the Texas District. It means that our mission program, the largest one in the Missouri Synod, is able to continue, since we have money available to lend to new congregations for land and buildings.

First infant of Lutheran orphanage recalls her childhood memories

"Sunshine" was three months old when her mother died of pneumonia.

When she was 11 months old, in 1930, she and her two older brothers and sister arrived at the newly-formed home set up by the Lutheran Aid and Orphans' Society. Their father, unable to continue to care for his children, brought them to the home after hearing about the place from his pastor.

Anita, "Sunshine" as she was affectionately called as an infant, was the first of thousands of babies to be cared for through the Lutheran Aid and Orphans' Society, later to become Lutheran Social Service of Texas.

Anita, of course, grew up as little girls do. She later married and had children of

her own. Recently Anita shared some memories of, as she put it, the good old days of growing up at the home.

Interspersed with Anita's reflections are clips from the Lutheran Aid and Orphans' Society's bimonthly newsletter, *The Texas Inner Mission News* (T.I.M. News).

ANITA'S STORY

Little Anita learned to take her first steps on Christmas Day. She is beginning to speak her first words. (T.I.M. News, Vol. 1, No. 1, June-July 1930.)

Christmas was always great. The most I can remember were the huge cedar trees in the upper story of the home. I can remember a big Christmas tree with almost everything on it . . . candy canes, popcorn.

Program for the Dedication of the New Old Folk's Home, Nov. 20, 1935. (T.I.M. News, 1935.)

We saw the old people every day because we went over there after school. I can remember in the mornings, I'd have to carry milk over there. I'd get paid a nickel a week. You could buy a lot with a nickel at that time.

The old washhouse is still standing. We used a rough board before the washing machine finally came, (laughing) and even after we'd still have to put the clothes on the rough board first before putting them in the machine. I guess everyone was afraid the machine



ANITA REMEMBERS—Anita LaPorte tells her grandchildren, Jason Shoemaker, six, center, and Billy Brannen, seven, tales of the "good old days" growing up in "the Home" provided by Lutheran Aid and Orphans' Society, a predecessor to Lutheran Social Services of Texas.

wasn't going to get them clean.

. . . the 14th annual meeting of the organization . . . barbecue dinner, 25 cents. (T.I.M. News, 1937.)

They had what we called the big meeting at the home once a year when all the professionals and everybody came. The most I can remember was all the delicious food.

Spring cleaning, hmmm, I do remember that! It wasn't really spring cleaning, it was cleaning for the meeting. Washing the woodwork, washing the walls, washing everything.

. . . Vacation Bible School begins. (T.I.M. News, 1938.)

The churches were very involved with the home.

Churches or families from the different churches sponsored a child or maybe a whole family of children. My sponsor was a family from Round Rock. They bought clothes for me and

different things like that.

Spring must be around the corner, the boys are coming home from school carrying their shoes under their arm. (T.I.M. News, 1938.)

We'd go down to the creek to go swimming. A lot of times we'd sneak away with swimming clothes under our clothes. I remember it just as the good old days. When they opened the theater in Round Rock, that was a big deal. All the kids from the home got in free on Monday nights. We never missed a movie.

Editor's note: Anita Schmidt married James LaPorte on April 3, 1950. The couple, parents of six children and seven grandchildren, still live in the Austin area.

This article is the first of a series of historical glimpses of the early social service ministry by Lutherans in Texas.



MEMORIES—Memories of being the "May Day Queen" are part of Anita LaPorte's childhood memories of growing up in "the Home."



Caring that counts among 'the least of them'

Notice the resemblance?

If you have your Father's eyes, you see the resemblance immediately. Each person pictured here is the "least of these," the people out of the mainstream, the ignored. And the Lord loves each one completely, absolutely, without partiality—as much as He loves you.

- If you have your Father's ears, you hear their voices—

- If you have your Father's hands, you aggressively reach out to touch them.

Your Father has given you His eyes, His ears, His hands. For what purpose? *"From Him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work" (Eph. 4:16).*

The Lutheran Christian people of Texas have been given a way to grow and to build up their love in the body of Christ.

Lutheran Social Service of Texas, celebrating 60 years of continuous care to the "least of these," offers countless ways to be a living member of Christ's body—through prayer, through volunteering, through careful study and education and through financial support.

- But, let's make it real.

Don't think about hundreds of young girls with unplanned pregnancies or hundreds of children



BRADY AND DAD—Brady, still tiny at four months, shares a smile with dad.

waiting for adoption or hundreds of foster care families.

- Think of one.

Think of tiny Brady. Brady's life could be measured in terms of 15 inches and two pounds, six ounces.

The new adoptive parents of this special baby—parents found by LSST—only needed to see Brady's smile—because they had their Father's eyes.

Thousands of elderly people enjoy care and security in LSST's quality nursing homes, retirement communities, adult day health care centers and, through the emergency response "help buttons."

- But, consider just one woman helped in her time of need.

As Alma Meissner, 85, was closing her drapes last September, she broke her hip. But she was not one of those victims who would lie alone, without help, for hours—or days. She pressed a special emergency response system "help button." Within 20 minutes, she was in the emergency room of a

nearby hospital.

More than 800 older adults who want freedom and privacy while still needing safety and security have taken advantage of such a service.

- God's compassionate ears also hear you. And His eyes watch over you. His hands enfold you. His sight, His hearing, His touch are yours to share. You are in a strong ligament of love in Christ's body.

You see the resemblance because you have your Father's eyes—and His love—for the unwanted, those cast adrift and those growing weak.



HELPED—For Alma Meissner who broke her hip, help was just a push button away via LSST's emergency response program.

Caring does count

For 60 years, your caring has counted.

Tiny infants to frail elderly have been blessed by God's love in action demonstrated through Lutheran Social Service of Texas.

Our thanks to you for your support.

Your continued support at this time will launch LSST's special 60th anniversary thank offering.

In thanksgiving to you, we have a free Bible study bookmark. It is our prayer that the free bookmark will be of assistance to you in your personal devotions.

Write for your free Bible study bookmark today:

LSST Bible Study Bookmarker
P.O. Box 45989
Austin, Tex. 78765-9589

Below are some of the ministries which you, either directly or through the Texas District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, supported during the first 60 years:

Adoption of children, adult day care centers, chaplaincy, clergy care, congregational consultancy, disaster relief coordination, emergency response system, family life education, foster care for children, individual counseling, marital counseling, mutual assistance homes for pregnant women, nursing home care, refugee resettlement, retirement communities, services for abused children and their families, unplanned pregnancy counseling.

As you see, your **caring does count!**

God bless you for your continued prayers and support.

YOUTH

Our bright kids . . .

Congratulations, Bobby Cohrs! Bobby is a sixth grader at St. Paul School, Wichita Falls, and is the top reader for the second time in the North Texas Read-a-thon benefiting multiple sclerosis. Bobby read 130 books.

Kenny Bounds is a champion high school tennis player, winner at the district level. Kenny goes to **Our Savior, Austin**.

Also from **Our Savior** is Kimberly Braun who made the National Honor Society as a high school junior.

Likewise National Honor Society inductees and members of **First Lutheran, Lufkin**, are Katrina Hawkins, Steve Hlavaty and Angela Talbert. Treasurer of the Lufkin society is Angie Berry. Bright kids, right?

Chosen to have her achievements published in *Who's Who Among American High School Students* was Kristen Pearson, member of **Grace Lutheran, New Caney**.

She's a winner, is Jennifer Martin, member of **Our Savior, Dallas**, who came in first in the "Quad City Classic" on April 12 in DeSoto. Jennifer's prize was a new bicycle.

Martin Beversdorf of **Grace, Paris**, was one of 100 gifted and talented state sophomores to be selected from 1,000 applicants to attend the four-week Governor's School this summer in Austin.

Second place winner was Ginny Talbert, **First Lu-**

theran, Lufkin, in a coloring contest sponsored by the *Lufkin Advertiser*.

And here is a report on the bright kids at **Faith, Gainsville**. Steve Mulkey was elected president of his high school student body. Carrie Bowden will be a cheerleader at her high school next year and Aaron Strickland was one of nine winners among more than 600 contestants in a Wal-Mart coloring contest.

And aren't we proud of Heidi Knippa, **Hope Lutheran, Austin**, who was selected "Girl of the Year" at LBJ High School! She also was inducted into the National Honor Society.

Part of the bright gang at **St. Paul, Fort Worth**, include: Kimberly Hennings, Lisa Ziehe and Jason Cox, all winners in a piano contest sponsored by the Fort Worth Music Teachers Association. And Joey Otte who was selected a cheerleader for next year at his high school. And Brian Howell who received a Presidential Academic Scholarship from Baylor University. And Layne Kasper, recognized as a Tandy Scholar indicating status as a top two percent student academically. And Katie and Rachel Krieger who were among 80 students chosen to sing with the Fort Worth Honor Choir.

Fifth-grader Brian Gibson, **Grace, Midland**, was chosen from among 1,100 groups of students to compete in the Texas Future Problem Solving Bowl in Austin. Chris Fitting, also of **Grace**, won second place

Reading can make you hungry

Fifteen young students of the day school of Good Shepherd Lutheran, Cedar Park, enjoyed pizza with the principal on April 10.

They earned this privilege by reading a total of 75 books each in the school's **Pig-Out-On-Books** program.

Jane Anne Roszell is the program coordinator.

in the *Midland Reporter Telegram's* "Design An Ad" contest.

The Conroe Independent School District All-District Fourth Grade Choir had three members of **Living Word, The Woodlands**, on its rolls. They are Anna Adler, Bobbi Jo Hribar and Julie Shotzman. Also from **Living Word, Sharya Sager**, high school sophomore, was elected a varsity cheerleader for the coming school year.

Three cheers for Katrina Hawkins and Beth Starr of **First Lutheran, Lufkin**, who were named to the All-Star Cast of the Lufkin High School Drama Club.

Members of **Faith Lutheran, Huntsville**, recognized for their academic achievements were Lisa Koerselman and Deanna Byrd. Lisa received the Dow Chemical Alumni Scholarship given by the accounting department at Sam Houston State University and Deanna was presented the Wood-Yager Memorial Scholarship given by the general business and finance department.

And what are bright kids at **Holy Cross, Nederland**, doing? Lisa Ludwig was elected head varsity cheerleader and Missy Krautz was elected cheerleader at

Nederland High for next year. And Jody Burnett, Lisa Ludwig and Tammy Terrell were inducted into the National Honor Society.

Cheers for these young people of **Zion, Fort Worth**, who will be high school cheerleaders next year: Kelly, Kim and Kris Daniels, and who also were elected to the Junior National Honor Society at their middle school.

From **Christ Memorial, Houston**, Julie Jorgenson has been selected as a cheerleader at her high school, and Dania Wendland was chosen outstanding Junior student and drum major at the same school. Also, Gretchen Ruser had a winning essay in the "Time to Write on Texas" contest.

Pats on the back for Rusty Knippa and Chip Malleck who won **Redeemer of Austin's** first fishing tournament with a stringer of 11 pounds, one ounce worth of black bass.

And while we're on fishing, 12 youth and six adults attended **Concordia of Houston's** fishing trip in April to Lake Conroe. Now you need to hear about Shelli Markert, because she was the *only* one to catch a fish.



50-50—Alvin and Ella Walter were honored in Waco on the occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary and Pastor Walter's 50th anniversary in the ministry.

50 years has double meaning for Texas pastor and his wife

A service of thanksgiving and praise was held on April 27 at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Waco observing the 50th anniversary of Rev. Alvin Walter's service in the Lutheran ministry and the occasion of the 50th wedding anniversary of Walter and his wife, Ella.

The Walters live in Hillsboro, where, though he is officially retired, Walter continues to serve the congregations of Circuit 18 as vacancy preacher.

He was ordained in May 1936 and served parishes in Oklahoma and at Tomball, Malone, La Grange and Hillsboro in Texas.

Service liturgist was Rev. Walter Albers of St. Paul, Waco, counselor for Circuit 18, and the preacher was Rev. Glenn O'Shoney, Texas District president.

Texans in debate on Hispanic ministry models

Two Texas leaders participated at Hialeah, Fla., in a discussion on effective models for Hispanic ministry within The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

Some 30 workers and executives attended.

Dr. Eugene F. Gruell of McAllen, a former Texas District mission director, felt that Anglos and Hispanics must promote a climate of tolerance so that integration eventually will occur. "Keep playing over and over the tape which says, 'We're both on the same team; we're both part of LCMS.'" Gruell said a Christian day school was one of the best agencies for achieving well-equipped Hispanic members.

Rev. Fred Boden, mission executive for the

Student escorts former President

This Lutheran student has gone into politics—sort of. Chris Efrid of Faith Lutheran, Huntsville, was given the responsibility of escorting former President Jimmy Carter on the Texas A & M campus when Carter was on campus to participate in the M.S.C. Wiley Lecture Series.

Chris found the President to be "so natural" and thoroughly enjoyed the experience of getting to know him personally.

Texas District, said half of the 15 Synod Hispanic congregations in Texas were independent and half were mixed.

"A generation ago," he said, "all Hispanic groups were separate. But now, Anglo congregations are conducting bilingual ministries in various Hispanic communities."

He stated that third-generation Hispanics aged 20 to 35 years were most receptive to Lutheran evangelism efforts, while the second generation is largely

churchless.

Along the Texas-Mexico border, however, independent ministry with the high percentage of first generation Hispanics appears most effective, he observed. Boden called for vigorous preparation of Hispanic lay workers and saw training of vicars (interns) in Hispanic ministry as highly successful.

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod has about 5,000 Hispanic members served in some 55 congregations and ministries.



PLOWING AHEAD—Mt. Olive Lutheran, Corpus Christi, broke ground April 6 for a major building expansion that will provide new space for worship, education, fellowship and administration. Ground was broken with a plow pulled by Sunday school children and adult church members.

Richard Bremer is chairman of the building committee and Arnold Reiners is congregation president.

**To run the race,
you have to start
your engines**

A message from Ken Weiser, president, Lone Star District:

The 43rd annual Lone Star District LLL Convention is history.

This convention has to be rated as one of the most inspiring LLL conventions in Lone Star history by the 200 who attended. Paul Wegele, the International Lutheran Laymen's League president, quoted his Pastoral Advisor Dr. Arnold E. Kromphardt: "Start your Engines."

Indeed this is the time to start our engines. This is the beginning of a new year and as our motto "Run the Race," we indeed are at the starting line and need to start our engines.

• The convention began on Friday evening with "Run the Race Celebration" with Rev. Wallace Schulz, associate Lutheran Hour speaker, having the inspirational message.

One point Schulz emphasized was that the league could help the professional workers, pastors, teachers, and so on. Supporting them through stressful parish problems that exist in district congregations is a very important role in which the league can participate.

The convention session started Saturday morning with a message by District LLL Pastoral Advisor Rev. Paul Hartfield. He emphasized that the entire program in the church is related to "Run the Race."

• The report by the In-



LLL CONVENTION—These are a portion of the delegates and guests to the 43rd annual Lone Star District convention held in May at San An-

gelo. The session was called one of the most inspiring in history.

Lone Star District Highlights



International Lutheran Laymen's League

**By Gary D. Laneman, Information Coordinator
11601 January, Austin, TX, 78753**

International President Paul Wegele emphasized the program "Share the Vision." This program is to finance the newly-completed building which was erected and named in honor of Dr. Oswald and Marcia Hoffmann. This same program is to finance the Childrens Television Programs "The Little Troll Prince" and "The Griffin and the Minor Cannon." Independent surveys show that children watch television over 25 hours per week, or about three and one-half hours per day.

Other surveys show that 16.5 million of the children are unchurched. It is evident that quality Christian programs are a tremendous vehicle to share the Good News of Jesus Christ with these children and their parents as well.

• With these new oppor-

tunities and challenges, each congregation will want to make every effort to organize their own LLL club.

It does not take big numbers to start a club. Nor does it take well versed persons to have a club.

The original LLL organization was begun to aid our church and this is to continue.

• In this day and time it is very important that we aid our church. We need to aid and support our professional workers, our pastors and our teachers. With an LLL club we can do much towards this end.

With the enthusiasm and inspiration which everyone enjoyed at the San Angelo Convention, each person will want to make every effort to attend next year's convention at Brenham, Tex. The Brenham Lutherans are working hard

to make this convention a memorable one.

Each person attending the convention will have an opportunity to visit the "little Creamery" where Blue Bell ice cream is made.

The convention is scheduled for May 1-3, 1987. Each person will be doing themselves a favor to mark their calendar for this occasion.

• The convention voted to have the 1988 Convention in Temple and the 1989 Convention in Pasadena.

More than 55 LLL affiliated clubs are now organized in the Lone Star District. The following clubs are celebrating anniversaries:

In February: Mt. Calvary, LaGrange, 40th; Mt. Calvary, Brady, 45th; St. Paul, Bishop, 40th.

In April: St. Paul, Ft. Worth, 45th; St. Paul, Vernon, 45th; Trinity, Amarillo, 40th; Salem, Tomball, 30th; Trinity, Taylor, 35th.

In May: Trinity, Navasota, 30th.

In June: Bethlehem, William Penn, 30th; St. Luke, Olney, 35th; Redeemer, Austin, 30th.



'On the move'

Many are the twists and turns in our lives. By the time you read this my family and I will, God willing, have made a move to serve in another area of Texas. Whatever turns are taken, God is always in charge to lead us into every tomorrow.

As you look back over the chapters in your life, you too will see many changes as you and your loved ones have been "on the move."

With each move, there are the inevitable decisions on what to take and what to leave or throw away; what to count as valuable and what as worthless junk.

The whole world seems to be "on the move." Where are 4.5 billion people headed? What must they pack, and when will their journey be over?

We have not yet reached our final destination, which is our eternal abode with God in heaven. Those who cling to everything here will lose it all . . . there are no U-Hauls for that final move!

Those who count earthly possessions and prestige as nothing, however, but hold fast in faith to the risen Savior have all that is essential as they move toward home. As the hymn so aptly puts it, "Nothing in my hands I bring; simply to Your cross I cling!"

As members of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League, it is both our privilege and earnest duty to lift high the cross of Christ for all these people to see.

Only in Christ Jesus, who died that men might live and who lives that men might never die, can sinners "on the move" find hope, forgiveness, peace, joy, life and salvation!

Praise God, we're going home! There we will be together forever, singing praises to our great and glorious God and to the Lamb who sits upon the throne.

God be with you 'til we meet again . . . if not soon, I'll see you at home!

*Pastor John Selle
District Counselor*



Behind the scenes: the 1987 international convention

Finding a supplier for bolts of uniform fabric; securing 3,000 hotel rooms; locating a source for astroturf; contacting entertainers; checking food service prices—the amount of detailed planning and work involved in hosting an International LWML convention is amazing!

The Texas host committee began its work before the 1985 convention so that each chairman could meet with her counterpart in Iowa. They are now finalizing plans to welcome an estimated 7,000 Lutherans to Fort Worth next June.

The host committee is a



Members of the Sunshine Zone presented "Little Red Rider—a Lubbock Fable," a skit urging women to attend the district convention. Shown from left are Vivian Lester (Granny), Lydia Bethke (Wolf Granny) and Gracie Knudson (Red Rider).

diverse group, but members have one thing in common: they are all "Radiant with God's Love!" Two examples of this are transportation co-chairmen Deborah Ann Pierce and Pat Schulze.

Deborah, a teacher at Grace Lutheran School in Arlington, is married to Mark Pierce and is working on her master's degree in education.

A busy homemaker, Pat and her husband Herb have three children ranging in ages from 22 to 30.

Deborah and Pat have different backgrounds and family situations, yet both seek God's guidance as they work together to make their part of the convention a success.

Edna Petersen chosen Texas Lutheran Woman of the Year

Congratulations to Edna Petersen of St. Mark, Houston, for being elected

1986 Lutheran Woman of the Year by Concordia College, Austin!

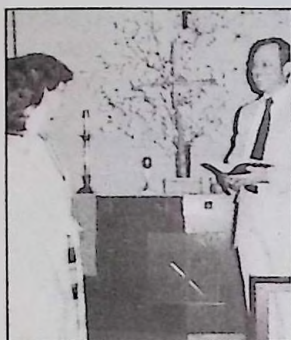


In the news

The Abilene Reporter—News recently featured an article on Dorothy Hagemann of Our Savior, Abilene, who was chosen as Volunteer of the Month by the Volunteer Clearinghouse of that city.

Dorothy, wife of Pastor Ronald Hagemann, serves at a shelter for battered women and children and has involved the women of her church in the project. In addition, she and they support the Abilene Meals on Wheels program by driving regular routes.

We rejoice in the witness of one who "serves the Lord with gladness." Congratulations, Dorothy.



EAST TEXAS ZONE—Dogwood blossoms and an "old rugged cross" form the background for the installation of new zone officers. Debra Curry (left) and Evelyn Berry were installed as zone secretary and president by Rev. Mel Newman of Palestine.

District banner needed

A banner to represent the Texas district is needed for the 1987 international convention. It must be 3'x5' and depict the theme, "Radiant with God's Love."

Anyone wishing to submit a design should send it to our district president: Marcella Gaus, P.O. Box 123, Hamshire 77622. The deadline for submitting a design is Oct. 1.



Community service workshops are held each month by the Dorcas Guild of Cross, New Braunfels. Members are shown with lap robes made for local nursing home residents. They also regularly mend clothes for residents.

International projects

Do you know what the international mission projects are? Does your society have an international mission project poster? Do you pray for each project?

To help keep these needs before the members of your church, your society may order **Prayers for Projects** and the **Mission Project Packet**. This material is available at no charge from LWML headquarters, 3558 S. Jefferson Ave., St. Louis, Mo. 63118-3910.

Mite Report

May 30, 1986

Total Goal	\$160,000
Received, May	8,395
Received	
24 mo.	172,371

OVER GOAL \$12,371

Send mites to Mina Fitting, 704 Dellwood, Midland 79703. **MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO TEXAS DISTRICT LWML.**

LWML News

LWML news should be sent to Dolores Bruncke, Texas District Editor, 3944 Meriman, Plano, Tex. 75074.

League Links

• DAL NORTH ZONE

Dr. Barbara Brunworth of Lutheran Social Services of Texas was featured speaker for a workshop titled "Give God Glory—Praise His Name for the Family." Her presentation centered on caring for those we are closest to.

• EAST TEXAS ZONE

The use of beautiful and symbolic dogwood blossoms from East Texas helped carry out the spring rally theme of "In the Cross of Christ I Glory." Ron Henderson of the Greater Dallas chapter of "Right to Life" was the featured speaker.

• GOLDEN TRIANGLE ZONE

An active spring included a workshop on "The Art of Listening," led by Rev. Glenn Budewig of Redeemer, Beaumont; and a rally featuring District President Marcella Gaus and Sam Maggio, a lay-visitor to area jails, as speakers.

The zone also conducts a "Bibles for Prisoners" program and is responsible for sewing tote bags for the international convention.

• MESQUITE ZONE

Using a sub-theme of "God is NOW," Dr. Barbara Brunworth of LSST

spoke at a workshop titled "The Christian Woman in Today's Society."

• PANHANDLE ZONE

A slide tour and information on their work as missionaries in the Philippines was presented at the spring rally by Dr. and Mrs. Alan Abel.

• SUNSHINE ZONE

Grace, Kileen, was the setting for a workshop titled "Talented, Tired, Beautiful Feet." Using feet to symbolize talents and abilities, members were instructed and encouraged in ways to refresh God's gifts for service.

• WHITE OAK ZONE

A workshop on "The Woman Within" stressed various aspects of a Christian woman's life in relation to the Bible and today's rapidly changing society. Guidelines were given regarding time for others and self, setting priorities and accepting imperfections in the world around us.



Based on the theory that every bride enjoys showing off her finery, members of Faith Ladies Guild, Houston, recently held a Bridal Review as a "fun raiser." Sharing wedding memories, photos and wedding cake, the women viewed gowns from several eras, with one family modeling an entire ensemble.



How eloquently this man's gift reveals his life in Christ

We have all sung the familiar verse:

We give Thee but Thine own,

What-e'er the gift may be;

All that we have is Thine alone,

A trust, O Lord, from Thee.

All that we have is truly a gift from God. We are the stewards, the managers of those gifts. Our district's Chief Fiscal Officer, Milburn Schubert, placed a sheet on my desk recently which spoke eloquently of one man's life of stewardship.

On May 9, 1969, this layman signed his will. I am sure there was no fanfare connected with that event—it's likely that no other member of the congregation knew that he visited his lawyer that day. By signing that will and indicating his plan for the eventual distribution of his assets, he made a strong statement concerning his faith and life in Christ.

• The Church Extension Fund of the Texas District received \$242,000 in cash and land. The size of his bequest may actually be more—this is just what we know of at this time.

But this isn't the whole story of the man and his stewardship. For the last 20 years he has been sending regular cash gifts to the capital fund of our Texas District Church Extension Fund. In those 20 years we have received \$360,000 from this faithful servant.

All told, more than \$600,000 has been added to our Church Extension Fund because this one man was a good steward. He set as his priority the building of the Church Extension Fund.

• I am certain of this: his congregation never suffered through lack of support. While he was generously supporting the Church Extension Fund aspect of church work, he also generously supported his local parish.

He heard the Word of the Lord, lived the Word: "Give and it will be given to you, good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over."

His generosity has helped us buy advance sites, purchase property for churches, build first units throughout Texas. His generosity and commitment could serve as a model for all of us.

• You may not have this man's resources—now or ever. But I do hope that when you write your will (if you have not already done so) that you will remember your local parish, your district, your Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod in some phase of its work.

Let your final will and testament be a witness to the faith that you live and enjoy today.

Mexico disaster relief

We continue to send funds to assist the people of Mexico City—those who were devastated through the earthquake.



Glenn O'Shoney

A good number of housing units have been constructed or are under

construction—assisted by our gifts.

Many people have been fed, clothed, given warm blankets—through our contributions.

The difficulties for these people continue to grow—the devaluation of the peso is devastating to everyone, especially to the poor. I am so thankful to God for you people—for the generosity you have shown in this instance.

Our Savior's Word speaks so directly . . . *"In as much as you have done it to one of the least of these my brothers, you have done it to me."*

Glenn O'Shoney

Glenn O'Shoney
President, Texas District

Salem Lutheran, Malone, observes 100th birthday

Salem Lutheran Congregation of Malone celebrated its 100th anniversary on June 8. Rev. Wallace Schulz, associate speaker of the *Lutheran Hour*, led the morning anniversary worship service.

After a congregational

luncheon, the afternoon service was led by Dr. Carl Gaertner of Dallas and Rev. A. Dean Kelm of Odessa, Texas District first vice-president.

Messages and greetings from former pastors, teachers, sons and daughters of the congregation were presented.

Rev. David Jeske is pastor.

Free babysitters? Sure enough

You can farm your kids out free at Gloria Dei Lutheran in Houston.

Members of the church have formed a babysitting cooperative where participants trade babysitting duties at no charge.

For parents it provides a convenient and inexpensive way to attend adult events.

The only drawback would be that the whole co-op can't go out at the same time.

Happenings in Texas

It was a happy day of celebration on May 18 when **Zion Lutheran, Schulenburg**, dedicated its pipe organ addition, given by Mrs. Arthur Bohot in memory of her husband and his parents, Rev. and Mrs. Alfred A. Bohot.

On May 25 Rev. Todd A. Dittloff was honored by his congregation, **Our Redeemer, Wichita Falls**, on his 10th anniversary in the ministry.

By the grace of God, Mr. and Mrs. Karl Zoch of **Immanuel Lutheran, Harrold**, celebrated their 61st wedding anniversary on Feb. 8. They have been active members of Immanuel since 1936.

And congratulations to Dr. and Mrs. Ernest Tie-mann, members of **Hope Lutheran, Austin**, who observed their 57th wedding anniversary in June.

In Georgetown, **Faith Lutheran** installed its new pastor, Rev. John F. Selle, on June 8.

Three cheers for Dorrie McGinnis, member of **Mt. Olive, Corpus Christi**, who was selected second runner-up in the Miss Buccaneer Days contest.

Rev. Eldor Mickan was installed on July 6 as pastor of **St. John's, Corpus Christi**.

June 22 was the 37th anniversary of **Our Savior, Dallas**. It was celebrated with a special rededication of the sanctuary.

A host of birthday greetings at **Our Savior, Dallas**, came to D.K. Ball on June 13 who, at 91, is the second oldest member. He rarely misses church.

Congratulations, coach. Paul Stueckler, head basketball coach at Lee High in Midland, and member of **Grace, Midland**, has been honored by the Texas Association of Basketball Coaches for passing the 500-win mark in his 32-year career. Actually, his record is 652-363.

A special celebration of praise was held May 25 at **Faith, Andrews**, honoring Heino and Karin Evik on their 60th wedding anniversary.

Faith Lutheran, Houston, held a special celebration on June 29 in honor of Pastor Ronald D. Damerow's 25 years in the ministry. A former classmate, Rev. Douglas Robbins of Livingston, was guest speaker.

Rev. Joseph Judge was installed on June 1 at **Zion, Dallas**, as associate pastor.

A glorious day occurred on July 13 at **Grace Lutheran, Seguin**, as the congregation dedicated its new sanctuary.

By congregational action, Katherine Bolland has been recognized as "teacher emeritus" at **Zion, Dallas**. Miss Bolland recently retired after 38 years—20 at **Zion**—as a Lutheran educator.



KINGSVILLE—Rev. David Symm, a native of Giddings, was installed at **St. Paul Lutheran, Kingsville**, on April 20. The pastors, left to right, are Clifford G. Larson; Mark Emel, who preached the sermon; Symm; David Hill; and William Schuster.

Pastor Richard E. Kurth at **St. Mark, Houston**, has received his seven-gallon mug from Blood Services.

Paige Pauley of **Christ Lutheran, Fort Worth**, was director of the Tarrant County "Hands Across America" project on May 25.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Drake, **Redeemer, Baytown**, celebrated their 53rd wedding anniversary on June 1.

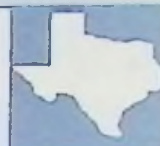
Congratulations to Michael Birrell, **Christ Memorial, Houston**, who went to Dallas for the A.A.U. state championship in tae kwon do in April and won the gold medal in the middle-weight red belt class. Michael is looking forward to the U.S. Olym-

pic team tryouts.

Rev. Eugene Heckmann of **Gethsemane, Houston**, was chosen to offer the invocation at the graduation ceremonies of Scarborough Senior High School at Houston's Music Hall.

Congratulations to the Parent-Teacher League of **Trinity, Spring**, whose Year Program Book was chosen winner for Best General Content by the National PTL. The Trinity group received a plaque in June at the National PTL convention in Wisconsin.

A potluck dinner on July 20 honored Mrs. Carlene Davis for her 30 years of service as church secretary at **Good Shepherd, Pasadena**.



E. Krause



E. Robinson



B. Krause

Nine Seward grads placed in Texas Lutheran school classrooms

Nine May graduates of Concordia Teachers College, Seward, Nebr., have been placed in Texas Lutheran classrooms.

They are:

Elizabeth Ann Brunworth-Krause of Dallas, placed at Lutheran High School North, Houston.

Rita Elisabeth Chaudhary, Napa, Calif., coming to St. Paul in Groves.

Esther E. Cloeter, Seward, Nebr., coming to

Trinity Lutheran, Waco.

Lance Douglas Gerard of Amarillo, coming to St. Paul, Harlingen.

Veloyce Berdeen Harnapp of Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, coming to Holy Cross, Arlington.

Bradley R. Krause, Colorado Springs, Colo., coming to St. Matthew, Houston.

Rhonda J. Mohr, Manning, Iowa, coming to St. Paul, Harlingen.

Eileen Kaye Robinson, Henrietta, N.Y., assigned to St. Paul, Harlingen.

Elizabeth Carol Ryan, North Miami, Fla., assigned to Hope, Austin.

Teachers she never had inspire student toward teaching career

Kianna Rathgeber is too young to ever have had a class under June Wells or Margaret Tucker, but the two women play an important part in Kianna's decision to become a teacher.

Kianna is the 1986 recipient of the Wells-Tucker Memorial Scholarship, which is awarded to a Rider High School (Wichita Falls) graduate each year. Wells and Tucker, who both taught at Rider, were killed in 1983 in an automobile accident near San Miguel, Mexico.

Kianna, a member of St. Paul Lutheran of Wichita Falls, will attend Midwestern State University this fall to study elementary education. She hopes to become a teacher because she has had some experience teaching at her church and she says, "I enjoy children."

Kianna was a member of the National Superstar Drill Team that traveled to England and Ireland, sang in the school choir and was a member of the National Honor Society and the Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

Her pastor, Rev. Thomas V. Handrick, says Kianna is a "faithful member of our congregation."

You're in the work force today; tomorrow it could be different

by Rev. Gerald Kieschnick
Director of Development
Lutheran Foundation
of Texas

It could be my last day of work! It could be your last day of work!

Marvin and Josephine Ruckers (not their real names) were thinking about that when they asked the Lutheran Foundation of Texas to help them plan for the time when they would no longer be working.

They had been thinking about possible early retirement so that they could spend more time traveling, visiting children and grandchildren and doing some of the things they had put off doing when they were in the work force.

At the same time, they wanted to be sure their will was in order.

When I met with them, they shared their goals with me. They wanted to provide some assistance for the college education of their three grandchildren. They hoped that the taxes

paid on their estate after their deaths could be reduced to a minimum . . . perhaps even eliminated, if that were legitimate.

They had also thought about the possibility of a memorial fund being set up in their name . . . one-half to provide subsidy for tuition for those community children who could not afford to attend the Christian day school, one-half to go to the Church Extension Fund of the Texas District.

It took two visits, some prayerful consideration on their part, a few suggestions from the Lutheran Foundation of Texas and an attorney's expertise for them to reach a final decision.

When the documents were all signed, they had nothing but a feeling of satisfaction of a job well done, coupled with gratitude to the Lutheran Foundation of Texas for having worked with them through this process.

How long will it be before your last day at work?



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 _____

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Brownsville congregation sees need for child center, then makes it happen

You'd think there might be a minimum of activity in a small congregation during a pastoral vacancy, right?

Wrong. At least in the case of Trinity Lutheran in Brownsville where on April 27 a special service was conducted involving children and staff of the congregation's new child care center.

• Trinity opened the center and preschool on Jan. 2 with 11 children 4 years old and under. Now there are 30 children.

The state-licensed center is governed by the Trinity Board of Christian Education, which recommended the ministry after five months of surveying child care needs in the Rio Grande Valley last year.

As a mission of the church, the center has four goals:

- To bring little children to Christ.
- To promote each child's total development.
- To serve the young parents of the congregation.
- To reach out to other young parents in the community.

The voters resolved to provide this ministry and designated Nicky Loff Stahl to organize the center, with Becky Rasco to be director when the center opened in January.

For the next three months, about 45 people, one-third of the members of Trinity, donated their time, talents and many items

such as high chairs, pillows, crib sheets and money to convert a plain fellowship hall into a child's place of fun and learning. James Rasco, Director Becky Rasco's husband, designed and built playground equipment.

• Members cleaned, scrubbed, hammered and painted, held garage sales and benefit barbecues to raise money for the center. An open house was held in November last year.

The amazing part of this labor of love was that there was no pastor to lead and guide. However, Pastor Steve Morfitt of El Calvario Lutheran Church in Brownsville was on hand as vacancy pastor and led many a prayer for the center's successful completion.

Director Rasco and a staff of five opened the center on Jan. 2, 1986. Rasco has a B.S. degree in human services with an endorsement in early childhood.

The food service was organized by another Trinity member, Mrs. Billie Bin-



CHILD CENTER—Mrs. A.L. Poeske, wife of the congregation chairman of Trinity Lutheran of Brownsville, shows off cake with child center's logo during the new facility's open house.

gley, who is retired from many years in the Brownsville School District foods department.

• Supplementing the staff are a number of congregational volunteers. They act as "grandmas" and occasionally a "grandpa" helps out on the playground.

The center is dedicated to promoting each child's personal growth in every

way: spiritually by providing Christian experience through prayer, Bible stories and music; socially by group play, both directed and free, and sharing with other children; emotional health through behavior guidance with emphasis upon loving, sharing and expressing feelings.

• There is singing, dancing, listening, telling, acting out, painting, creating, manipulating, question solving and discovering. There is a "performing room" with stereo, piano and rhythm band instruments.

Parents receive a written progress report on their child's accomplishments each semester.

Parents also are encouraged to come to the center to have lunch with their child and are invited to drop in to observe at any time.

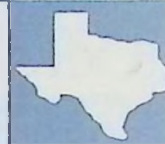
Lutheran school grads are great

In the 1986 graduating class of Giddings High School, nine of the top 10 students were graduates of Immanuel Lutheran School of Giddings or St. Paul Lutheran School of Serbin.

It is indeed a credit to our parochial schools for these students to achieve this high ranking.

Immanuel graduates include Sheila Medack, valedictorian; Sherri Kunkel, Claris Farrack, Doug Matthijetz, Janet Birnbaum (member of Ebenezer Lutheran, Manheim) and Lynette Bell (also member of Ebenezer).

Serbin graduates include Milton Urban, salutatorian; Debra Becker and Chris Becker.



Proposed Glenwood Manor discontinued by board action

The Board of Glenwood Manor, Inc., voted in their May 12 meeting to discontinue the development of Glenwood Manor, the proposed Lutheran retirement community in the Houston area, announced Board President Robert Madsen.

The decision was made, Madsen said, in response to the continuing decline of the Houston economy in recent months and a concurrent commitment "to never put the resources or well-being of our prospective residents at undue risk."

"Glenwood Manor is a community we wanted very much. We are still committed to the creation of such a community, but the risk of continuing is too great at this time," he continued.

• With few committed residents currently, to continue the retirement center in hopes of attracting a sufficient number of residents is not in anyone's best interests, Madsen said.

The idea for a retirement community, offering services of both independent living and nursing home care, began in September 1983. Lutheran Social Service of Texas gave support to form Glenwood Manor, Inc., an affiliated corporation, to respond to the significant need for such a community in the Houston area.

• The decision of the Glenwood Manor, Inc., Board of Directors is supported by a similar decision made by the LSST Board



REMEMBERS THE LADY—86-year-old Bertha Johnson remembers hearing about "the lady," the Goddess of Liberty on top of the state capitol, from her dad. In 1888, her dad shinnied up the stone figure to paint the uplifted star.

which met May 9 and 10 in Lubbock.

Both boards affirmed their commitments to provide residential services for the Houston area elderly.

Southwest director began job June 1

Dr. Bernard Scrogin joined LSST as the Southwest Texas Regional Director, headquartered in San Antonio, on June 1, reports Rev. Calvin O. Goerdel, LSST's Vice President for Social Services.

A graduate of Texas Lutheran College, Scrogin received his master of social work degree from the University of Texas at Austin in 1965. He also spent one year at Luther Theological Seminary and received an Ed.D. degree from East Texas State University in 1978.

Scrogin began his career as a caseworker with Lutheran Family and Social Service in Omaha, Nebr. Most recently he was the Director of Outreach for the Austin State School in a 14-county area headquartered in San Marcos.

Resident remembers first statue put atop state capitol

Putting the new statue on top of the state capitol building proved to be easier said than done for workers in June.

One of LSST's residents at Altenheim, a personal care facility on the Trinity Lutheran Home grounds in Round Rock, told the Austin newspaper how it was done the first time around.

Bertha Johnson should know. Her father, Ernst G. Kamp, was the brave young lad who, back in 1888, painted "the lady's" uplifted star—after the Goddess of Liberty was installed on top of the capitol.

Mrs. Johnson is one of more than 400 residents served daily in facilities owned or operated by LSST.

Additionally, Mrs. Johnson typifies one of thousands of older adults, children and adults who have been served by LSST since the agency was chartered as the Lutheran Aid and Orphans' Society in 1926.



Casa Trinidad nears completion

Casa Trinidad, the housing community designed for low-income elderly and handicapped individuals in Zapata, is scheduled for completion in early September, announced Rev. Dwight A. Anderson, LSST's Vice President for Residential Services.

Processing of resident applications began in June.

Zapata, the site for the community, is located 48 miles south of Laredo. Construction of Casa Trinidad began in March.

• The planned community will consist of six efficiency units and 18 one-bedroom apartments in eight buildings plus a community building.

To qualify as a Casa Trinidad resident, a person must have an income of less than \$6,950 per year; or for two people a combined income of less than \$7,900. A resident must be at least 62 years of age or handicapped.

• "The rent with utilities is designed to equal or be less than 30 percent of the residents' income," Anderson said.

LSST will provide management for Casa Trinidad which will be owned by Casa Trinidad, Inc.

GROWTH

The Lord added to His church . . .

On Pentecost, May 18, 32 communicant members were added to the growing membership of **Lamb of God, Lewisville**. Of these, seven were received by adult confirmation, 20 by profession of faith and five by transfer. One adult was baptized. The Lord has added 80 new communicant members to the congregation during 1986, placing membership over the 400-communicant mark.

Redeemer, Austin, welcomed 11 new members on May 25.

There were 13 new members joyously received in May at **Good Shepherd, Pasadena**, by confirmation, profession of faith and adult baptism.

Seven persons joined the congregational family of **Faith, Houston**, in May.



RICHARDSON—Messiah, Richardson, received 14 new members April 20. One adult and two children were baptized, one adult confirmed and 10 others received by transfer. Pictured are new members Bobby Smith, Kelli Clocker and Stephanie Oie.

In May, **Living Word, The Woodlands**, welcomed 15 new members plus four youth confirmands.

By reaffirmation of faith, adult confirmation and transfer, 25 new members joined **Faith, Georgetown**, on June 1.

Four young people were confirmed in their Christian faith, one adult confirmed and three adults and three children accepted by transfer on Pentecost Sunday at **Christ Lutheran, Amarillo**.

Received on June 1 at **Trinity, Klein**, were nine new members by transfer and reaffirmation of faith.

Envisioning a mutual blessing, the congregation of **First Lutheran, Texarkana**, welcomed 25 new members in May by confirmation, transfer, profession of faith and baptism.

Five adults and 13 young people were confirmed May 18 at **Beautiful Savior, Houston**. A special guest was Rev. Naohiro Kiyoshige, president of the Japan Lutheran Theological College and Seminary in Tokyo.

The congregation of **Prince of Peace, Carrollton**, heard the confession of faith on June 1 of 25 new members welcomed into fellowship.

At **Concordia, Houston**, 11 members were admitted during March and April by baptism and confirmation.

During the month of May, the Lord brought 17



FORT WORTH—The Lord continues to bless the Christian fellowship at **Redeemer Lutheran, Fort Worth**. In a recent special service of celebration, 27 persons were received into membership, seven by adult confirmation.

new members into the forever family of **Redeemer, Odessa**.

By adult confirmation and transfer, 14 new members were introduced in June at **Trinity, San Angelo**.

Recently adding 12 new members was **Christ Memorial, Houston**, and at the same time rejoicing over membership for 10 junior confirmands.

There was a wonderful addition on May 25 of 19 new members at **Faith, Gainesville**, by baptism, confirmation, reaffirmation of faith and transfer.

The Lord added six by confirmation at **Trinity, Klein**, on June 8.

By transfer, confirmation and profession of faith, the family of **St. Mark, Houston**, grew by 20 persons on June 8.

On a joyous June 15, **Redeemer, Austin**, welcomed 11 new members, plus their children, through adult confirmation. They also re-

ceived 15 new members by transfer.

At a special June service, **Immanuel, Giddings**, recognized the 15 new members received since January.

Good Shepherd, Azle, is rejoicing over adding a record number of members by confirmation on May 18. Four adults and six youth were confirmed.

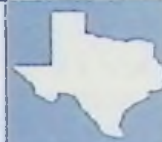
The June 18 issue of "Good News," the newsletter of **Our Savior, Austin**, listed 15 new members received by transfer and five received into fellowship through adult confirmation.

June 8 was a special day for **Gloria Dei, Houston**, as 52 new members were joyously welcomed.

There were seven new members added at **Mt. Calvary, San Antonio**, on June 8 by adult confirmation. Also welcomed into God's family by baptism were four youngsters during the first two weeks in June.

MORE GROWTH

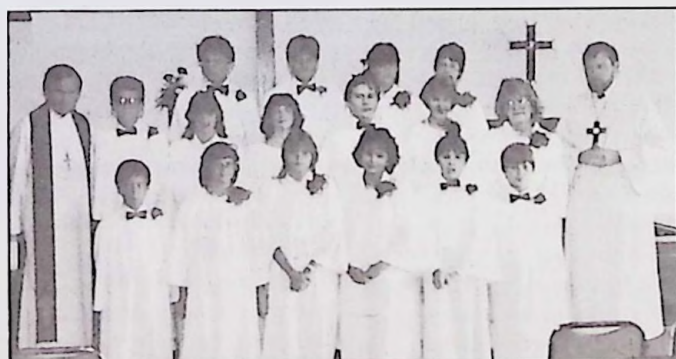
TEXAS DISTRICT



ABILENE—Here is Pastor Robert G. Hagemann with some of the 16 new members recently received at Our Savior Lutheran Church, Abilene, through profession of faith and transfer.



HOUSTON—On May 18 King of Kings, Houston, welcomed nine youngsters into membership by junior confirmation. Left to right, front, are Brian Ledwell, Russell Klinkerman, Carrie Telteller, Sarah Underwood. Second row, Rev. Robert Cardaro, prison chaplain who officiated at the confirmation in the absence of Rev. John D. Smith, pastor; Chris Euler; Jeffrey Succop; Mark Miller; Colleen Klinkerman; Raechel Johnson, and Elder Richard Moss. Sarah is a Down's syndrome child who received instruction from Sandra Meyer, a member of the congregation, who used special material from Concordia Publishing House titled *You And Me, God*.



HUMBLE—On May 18, Lamb of God, Humble, had its largest confirmation class ever. Left to right are, back, Jason Mabrey, Ron Dacus, Sheri Glona and Amy Rommel. Center row, Steve Wisenbaker, Renee Summers, Kelly Bagley, Greg Jordan, Julie Purington and Stephanie Brewster. Front row, John Pena, Heather Hill, Richelle Summers, Stephanie Anderson, Matthew Dupler and Jeff Hebert.

SAN ANTONIO—Jason Pryor, Christopher Todd and Justin Pryor are members of the high school confirmation class confirmed at King of Kings, San Antonio. They are shown in photo at right with Pastor Henry Biar.



How to be a foot washer

Sometimes your feet get dirty, right? Especially in summertime. What would you say if a friend saw your dirty feet and said, "Hey, I'll wash your feet for you!"

The third, fourth, fifth and sixth graders at St. Andrew Lutheran in Houston had a chance to react to that statement April 27 during their Sunday school opening. The teachers and children had a "Foot Washing Service."

At first, many were reluctant to join in, but after some persuasion all students participated, either by having their feet washed or by washing someone else's feet. Most of the children said it felt good and was refreshing. A few said they felt embarrassed.

Sunday school officials said the children were quite excited about the foot washing and talked about it on their way to their classrooms. There, they learned what Jesus was saying when He washed the disciples' feet on Maundy Thursday:

"We can express our love for Jesus by loving and humbly serving other people."

Lutheran school student is North Texas reading champion

At an age when most other children were learning their ABCs from *Sesame Street*, Bobby Cohrs would have taught Big Bird a thing or two.

Thanks to an early start in learning to read, the young Wichita Falls resident has earned his second award as top reader in a contest that involved more than 1,500 other students in North Texas.

• He won the 1986 Multiple Sclerosis Read-a-Thon

for having read the most books of any participant from Fort Worth, Abilene, Wichita Falls and surrounding areas.

Bobby, 11, began learning to read when he was only 2. Over the past year, he read 130 books to become the reading champion.

Bobby's parents are Mr. and Mrs. Richard Cohrs. Dad is principal of St. Paul Lutheran School and is his son's sixth-grade teacher.

• Bobby is far from being one-dimensional. "If it came to watching the Cowboys (Dallas variety) or reading a book, he'd watch the Cowboys," his father says.

Watered seeds grow on University of Houston campus

by Rev. Robert Budewig

Lutheran Campus Ministry at the University of Houston—University Park can best be described by Paul's words to the Corinthians: **"I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God made it grow"** (1 Cor. 3:6).

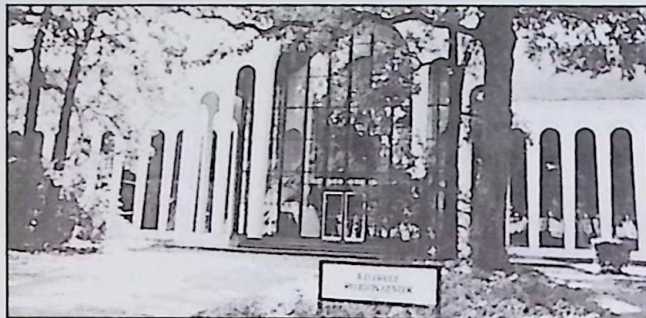
In 1950, the Lutheran Student Association, which was part of the National Lutheran Council, planted the first seed of Lutheran Campus Ministry on the University of Houston campus.

A second seed was planted in 1955, when The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod began its own campus ministry. Those early years saw Lutheran Campus Ministry meeting the students' needs, but they were hindered because they had no regular meeting place.

But in 1965, the A.D. Bruce Religion Center was completed with contributions from 11 major denominations.

From 1955 to December 1985 the Lutheran Campus Ministry was a cooperative effort of the National Lutheran Council and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. The campus ministry was so successful that from 1959-1976, both Lutheran organizations had a campus pastor.

But a problem developed in the Lutheran Campus Ministry in 1975 when two Lutheran campus pastors took calls. For the next nine years the field of Lu-



FOR STUDENTS—This is the A.D. Bruce Religion Center at the University of Houston where the Lutheran church is nourishing the students' spiritual lives.

theran Campus Ministry was watered sporadically because there was no full-time campus pastor.

In March 1985 I accepted God's call to be the full-time Missouri Synod pastor at the University of Houston. When I began work there were three active students in our ministry.

I began watering the Lutheran Campus Ministry seed that hadn't received much water for quite a while. I started by sending letters to area pastors, talking with students on campus and with local Lutheran parish pastors. A full-time program was started, not only for the Lutheran students, but also the Lutheran faculty and staff.

Not only was I watering, but I began to feed the students, spiritually and bodily, as regular worship services were started on Wednesdays over the noon hour and with a weekly Bible study.

Free Monday lunches and "get acquainted" meals saw more and more students in our office. Social gatherings once a month were expanded to twice a month at the students' request as more and more Lutheran students got to know each

other.

A monthly newsletter was started, reaching not only all the Lutheran students, staff and faculty, but also the 115 area Lutheran churches.

As this watering and feeding continued, so did the growth as God sent students into the ministry here. A ministry that now, after one year, numbers close to 20 active students and a number of faculty and staff.

The student involvement is at an all-time high as we now look for outreach opportunities.

Bible distribution on campus, Lutheran booths at orientation and at the International Food Fest are just some of the student involvement in outreach, as we try to reach out to the other students on our campus, letting them know there is a Lutheran Campus Ministry that cares about them.

I hope that soon I'll be able to take two or three of the students with me into the local congregations when I'm asked to preach. These students will share their God-given gifts by playing the harp or violin or by singing.

The exciting thing for me

is that now the students are beginning to see Lutheran Campus Ministry as **their** ministry.

In fact, last November some of the students approached me and asked if we could begin Sunday morning worship services. So on January 26, we began Sunday morning Lutheran worship at 11 a.m.

This worship not only serves the needs of our Lutheran students, but also serves the needs of the other Protestant students since there is no Protestant worship service on Sunday.

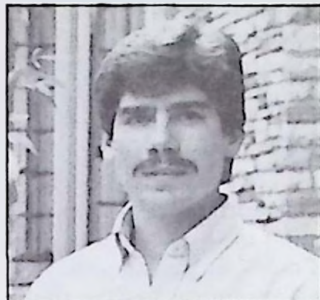
The Lord has been giving growth also in this area—we average 12 students per Sunday.

There definitely is a Lutheran presence on the campus of University of Houston—University Park. It's because of this that I give God the glory, praise and thanks! Paul's words indeed ring true: **"I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but GOD made it grow."**

NOTE

Parents and friends, please send me your son or daughter's name, address and phone number if they are attending University of Houston, or are planning to attend.

I would like to encourage them to come by the offices of Lutheran Campus Ministry, Room 112, A.D. Bruce Religion Center. Lutheran Campus Ministry can only be more successful with your help. Send any correspondence to Rev. Robert Budewig, 112 A.D. Bruce Religion Center, 4800 Calhoun, Houston, Texas 77004.



Doyle Theimer

Send your News to Bill

Send your news releases, photos, parish newsletters (we especially want these) and bulletins for the LUTHERAN WITNESS to:
Bill Wagner, Editor
7900 U.S. 290 East
Austin, Tex. 78724



60 YEARS—Mr. and Mrs. Eric E. Lammert, members of Memorial Lutheran of Houston, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on June 22. They have three children, seven grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Odessa broadcast

The Lutheran Hour is broadcast over KUFO, 104.7 FM in Odessa at 7:30 each Sunday morning.

Texas seminarian participates in Biblical archaeological dig

Doyle Theimer, a seminarian from Mart, Texas, is participating in the excavation of the Biblical city of Abila in northern Jordan this summer.

He joined a faculty member, two former students and two current students of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, on the dig.

• Dr. Horace D. Hummel, chairman of the department of exegetical theology, serves as an associate director at the excavation site.

"Abila is an attractive site for a number of reasons," said Hummel. "First it is a large site, and therefore has much to offer. Second, the area is not as well-known, either historically or archaeologically, as many other parts of the Biblical world."

Abila, now known as Quailibah, is 15 miles east of the southern half of the Sea of Galilee. It was one of the cities of the Decapolis, a geographical region almost entirely east of the Jordan River. Others included Damascus and Jordan's present capital, Amman (ancient Philadelphia).

Jesus visited the Decapolis during His ministry. There are three specific references to the area in the Bible: Matt. 4:25, Mark 5:20 and Mark 7:31.



MENARD—Rev. Byron Hodson, front, was installed as pastor at Grace Lutheran, Menard, on June 1. Participating in the service were, left to right, Rev. Kenneth Holdorf, San Angelo; Rev. Tom Maggart, Brownwood; and Rev. Charles Huffman of Ozona/Sonora. Hodson has also served Mt. Calvary of Brady since 1984.

Texas District calendar

SEPTEMBER

4-5—District staff retreat, Camp Lone Star
7-8—District Stewardship Committee
13—Black Subcommittee meeting
14—Lutheran Outdoors Ministry of Texas Sunday
15—District Board for Parish Services
17-19—Workshop for pastors and spouses, Camp Lone Star
19-20—Family weekend, Texoma
20—Hispanic A-Team Area Workshop, Trinity, Houston
21-22—District Board for Mission Administration
22—District Board for Church Extension
22-25—Council of Presi-

dents

26-28—JOY Camp, Lone Star
28-30—District Board of Directors Retreat, Camp Lone Star

OCTOBER

2-3—ALDE Conference
6-8—Pastor-Educator Conference, Corpus Christi
10-11—Lutheran Foundation of Texas
10-11—District Deaf Family Retreat, Lone Star
17-20—Church Extension Fund Conference
18—Lutheran Outdoors Ministry of Texas Board, Austin
20-22—Social Ministry Conference, New York City
25—Concordia Council, Concordia College, Austin

CONCORDIA



Philip Hohle, director of Lutheran Electronic Media.

LEM fills Lutheran media needs

Lutheran Electronic Media was created in 1978 to fill the media needs of Lutherans. Concordia College provides the umbrella under which LEM functions, and LEM provides hands-on experience for Concordia communication students.

LEM's primary objective is to provide quality media productions and media production services to Lutheran groups at below industry rates. A secondary purpose is to promote the use of media in general (and video in particular) among Lutherans.

Lutheran Electronic Media has been especially busy this year. The following are a few of the major projects completed:

- produced videotapes of the four-hour Elder's Training Workshop for the Texas District;
- produced five multimedia slide shows for the Texas District for viewing at the district convention in Galveston;
- produced a promotional tape/slide show for Lu-

theran Outdoor Ministry of Texas;

- provided videotape footage to the Missouri Synod Board for Communication Services for an upcoming film on faith and families in crisis;
- videotaped worship services in mission churches in all areas of Texas for a co-operative production of the Board for Communication Services and the Texas District Board of Missions;
- completed five music videos shown at the Youth Gathering this summer. In addition to recording and mixing the sound and shooting the video, Philip Hohle, LEM Director, wrote lyrics for four of the songs. *Chosen*, a band from St. Philip in Houston, composed the music for the four selections.

In addition to these major projects, Lutheran Electronic Media serves individual churches and groups. For example, LEM provided photographic services, videotaping, video workshops, audio recording and public address systems for Texas Lutheran churches and schools in 1985-86.

LEM also administers Lutheran Media Ministries, a video co-op jointly owned by the Texas District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, the ALC Southern District and the LCA Texas-Louisiana Synod.

Formed in 1981, LMM is the largest and oldest Lutheran video co-op in the United States. Approximately 200 videotapes are available for borrowing by member churches.

Philip Hohle, Director of Lutheran Electronic Media, uses the services of James Wade, Concordia's Director of Media, as part of the co-operative effort between

LEM and CLC. He is assisted on most projects by Concordia communication students, who operate sound and lighting equipment, do some camera work and serve as actors.

Concordia is especially proud to be named as one of only two private colleges in Texas providing "professional video training."

Lutheran Electronic Media is an essential element in this training. It provides Concordia students with opportunities to perfect their skills, while at the same time helping Lutheran churches and schools with media needs.



Rob Rogers receives instruction from Philip Hohle before taping the dialog evangelism series. Rogers is a May pre-seminary graduate who majored in communication.



Dr. Bernard Gastler, one of the presenters at the Parish Music Workshop, is director of the new Children's Choir.

Church musicians attend workshop

Twenty church organists and choirmasters sharpened their musical skills this summer when they participated in the Parish Music Workshop at Concordia Lutheran College. Professor Harold Rutz and Dr. Bernard Gastler of the Concordia music faculty led the week-long seminar.

The participants received individual instruction and attended group sessions on conducting, service planning and music selection. They also were able to view a large display of current organ and choral music. A daily chapel service provided a time for the musicians to share their talents while worshipping together.

The church music leaders represented a cross section of congregations, coming from both large and small parishes, from as far away as the Valley and the Dallas-Fort Worth area. Three 1986 Concordia graduates also participated in preparation for upcoming duties.

This is only the second time the workshop has been offered. As Concordia develops its new major in church music, it is anticipated that this or similar summer instruction will be available.

Ministerial youth retreats on campus

The Texas District Recruitment Committee sponsored two ministerial youth retreats this summer, designed to encourage young people to consider church ministry careers. Dr. Milton Riemer of the Concordia faculty heads the committee.

The youth, housed on the Concordia campus, had the opportunity to discuss various ministries with people actively involved in them. They visited with teachers, parish pastors and a chaplain, among others.

It is vitally important that today's youth be encouraged to dedicate their lives to work in the church. Concordia is proud to be able to assist the Texas District Recruitment Committee in its efforts.

Concordia College to sponsor Children's Choir

Austin-area boys and girls, ages 8 to 13, will have an opportunity this fall to "sing to the Lord a new song," as part of the new Children's Choir, sponsored by Concordia Lutheran College.

Music professor Dr. Bernard Gastler will direct the group. Choir members will be selected by audition in August.

Gastler's background has prepared him for his new duties. He taught elementary music in Lutheran schools for 29 years, concurrently serving in the church as minister of music. After completing a Ph.D. in music education at the University of Texas, he accepted a call to Concordia in 1982.

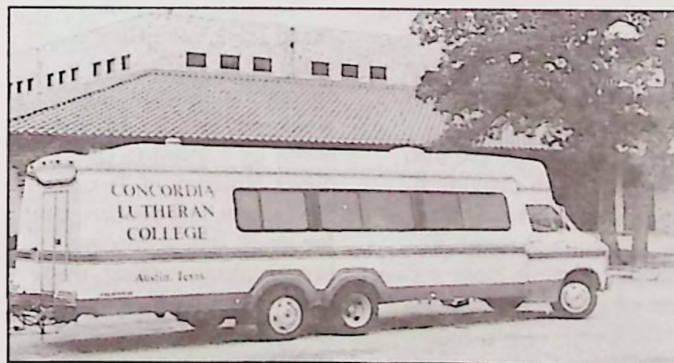
The choir has been two years in the planning, including time spent by Gastler in England where he studied and observed several college and cathedral choirs. He also consulted with directors of prominent children's choirs in the United States.

"Concordia is in a position to offer children a music education experience of the highest quality," says Gastler. "Our primary goal is to provide a balance of music education and concert performance for the young singers."

A second goal of the choir is to provide first-hand experience for CLC students who are preparing for music teaching or church music leadership. They will assist Gastler in administrative and conducting duties, and will observe his choral training techniques.

Gastler says that another reason for organizing the choir is a personal one. He looks forward to renewing his contact with young students, and feels he can better instruct college students in working with children if he has fresh experience in that area.

Music has traditionally occupied a prominent position in worship, particularly in the Lutheran church. Concordia's sponsorship of the Children's Choir follows a historic precedent set by European churches and colleges who provide choral training for young voices.



Concordia's new 22-passenger bus permits greater participation in its service, recruitment and performance programs. The bus was purchased with a special donation from friends of the college.

OUTDOORS

Celebrate LOMT Sunday in September

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

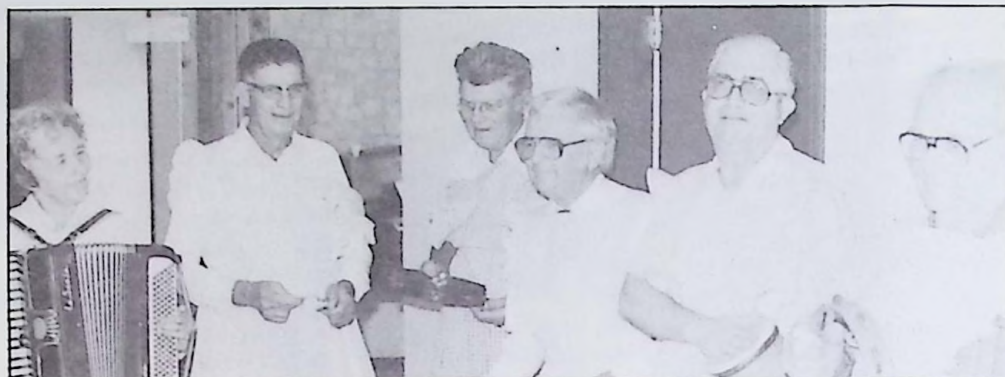
September 14 has been designated as Lutheran Outdoors Ministry of Texas Sunday in Texas District congregations. Focus will be on thanking and praising God for His graciousness in providing a multitude of opportunities for His people to experience Christian growth through this vibrant ministry.

• LOMT Sunday represents one of the three Sundays during the year that have been designated by the district for special congregational emphases. As such, emphasis will be placed upon basic information to assist our fellow Texas Lutherans become better acquainted with Lutheran Outdoors Ministry of Texas.

Resources will be available to all congregations. Resources include LOMT bulletin inserts, parish newsletter articles, seed thoughts for a verbal presentation as well as a litany and special prayers to express thanksgiving to our gracious God for the rich blessings of LOMT.

Congregations are also encouraged to provide financial support on this special occasion through a special offering, door collection or use of remittance envelopes.

• Under God's guidance and care, and with His magnificent creative and protective hand, LOMT is



LUTHERAN LAWRENCE WELKS—This kitchen band was part of the entertainment last year at the JOY Camp at Camp Lone Star. JOY stands for Just Older Youth and refers to retired and semi-retired folks who join together at Camp Lone Star, La Grange, for a weekend of relaxa-

tion and Christian fellowship. This year's JOY Camp is Sept. 26-28. For information or reservations, write Camp Lone Star, Rt. 3 Box 2L, La Grange, Texas 78945. Cost of \$55 covers six meals and sleeping accommodations with linens.

providing more and more services for all people in the Texas District to enjoy Christ-centered experiences in the midst of God's great outdoors.

A specially-designated LOMT Sunday in your church will focus on the opportunities that are growing in our midst—providing quality leadership, programming and settings through camping and related activities.

LOMT fall family camping event set for October

The Dinosaur Valley State Park near Glen Rose will be the setting for a special family camping weekend, Oct. 11-12, sponsored by Lutheran Outdoors Ministry of Texas. This event will feature time for great fellowship in a breathtaking setting, exploring the park, enjoying a group supper, Bible study and Sunday morning worship.

Details will be forthcoming from the LOMT office.

Big Country Camp is big success

The change from a full week to a three-day camp session did not have an adverse effect on the enthusiasm and solid Christian growth experienced at the Big Country Lutheran Camp.

Held in early June at the Texas 4-H Center Camp near Brownwood, a record 123 campers and 23 leaders from West Texas Lutheran churches participated in this annual event.

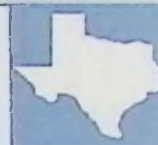
Pastors Wayne Schueler

from Albany, Otto Urban from Cisco and Russ Kinser from Abilene were among the on-site leaders, but nearly all the pastors in Circuit Six have been involved in the planning and operation of this Bible camp.

The theme for this special camping session was "An Exodus Event" and focus was placed upon groups representing the "twelve tribes."



BEAUTY SPOT—Beautiful and well-equipped Camp Lone Star at La Grange is a rich blessing for Texas Lutherans. Here, District President Glenn O'Shoney, right, chats during a special retreat with Rev. and Mrs. Donald Berg, left, and Rev. and Mrs. Stephen McClintic.



DALLAS—Rev. Joseph Judge was installed as associate pastor of Zion Lutheran, Dallas, on June 1. Assisting with the installation were, left to right, Dr. Carl Gaertner, Rev. Tom Sorenson, Rev. Vernold Aurich, Rev. Roderick Hathaway, Rev. Judge, Rev. Don Helta, Rev. Randall Hedges, Rev. Don Berg, Dr. Pete Steinke, Rev. John Allmann and Rev. Harold Jacobsmeyer.

Plainview pastor marks 25 years in ministry

Pastor Jack Bauer, minister of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Plainview, celebrated 25 years of ministry and was honored by his congregation on July 20 with a special service and reception.

Guest speaker was Warren Schmidt. He and Bauer were roommates at St. John's College, Winfield,

Kans.

Bauer graduated in 1961 from the seminary in St. Louis. He first served at Sabetha, Kans. and later went to Lawrenceburg, Tenn. until 1968.

That year, he became a U.S. Air Force chaplain. Overseas assignments included Thailand, Vietnam, Turkey and England.

After leaving the Air Force in 1980, he returned to the parish ministry. He came to Plainview in 1981.

Counting watermelon seeds

It's possible to count the seeds in a watermelon. It's impossible to count the number of watermelons in a seed.

Over a 20-year period, a fine Christian gentleman made \$360,000 in contributions to the Church Extension Fund. In his will, he left an additional \$242,000.

I spoke to him about all of this a goodly number of years ago. I asked him when and under what circumstances he had become interested in CEF.

He said that his pastor, in confirmation class, kept encouraging investments—no matter how small—in the Church Extension Fund.

He began with a small investment. There were others later, some larger, some smaller. But, each of those investments brought a return—a return in congregations formed, a return in people, returns for eternity.

(By Dr. Carl Heckmann, Director of Development, Texas District.)



Many of our children fail to get significant home religious training

by Keith Loomans
District Director
Parish Services

A recent survey indicates that many parents—those active in a church and those who are not active in a church—are not providing their children with significant religious training in the home.

The data further revealed that "one of the greatest differences between the church and unchurched is that the former are more likely to have had religious training in the home."

• Such training or discipling would include family talks about God and religion, reading the Bible together regularly, praying together, family devotion time and applying religious precepts to the formation of character in the home.

It is important that pastors and Christian educators gain insight into the conditions in the home in terms of religious training and discipling.

What do parents know about their faith? Do parents live their faith? How do parents deal with the tough questions asked by their offspring? How many parents, especially if they are not regular in church attendance, can give a good answer to the child's question, "Why should I go?"

Parents, pastors and Christian educators must team together to strengthen the home and congregation so that each compliments the other in nurturing the development



of faith.

• There must be a team effort in reinforcing what is taught in the home, in educating parents, in educating youth, in nurturing children.

Pastor—educator—parent team efforts would also enrich the spiritual lives of families, strengthening them for their ministry of discipleship.

• Christian values and discipleship patterns tend to be established during the pre-teen and teen years, making the home and the congregation vital areas for nurturing the development of faith—the life of discipleship.

Posthumous award goes to Lutheran physician

Dr. Richard H. Jesse, president of St. Matthew Congregation of Houston until his death, has received the Distinguished Service Award posthumously from the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Hospital.

On the hospital teaching staff for 24 years, Jesse was described as "a superior surgeon and visionary researcher as well as a compassionate physician whose patients were his foremost priority."

YOUTH

Our bright kids . . .

Congratulations to Tim Zoch of Christ Lutheran, Austin, who has been selected as the LBJ High School band drum major.

There's a great group of bright kids in Teens Fellowship at Our Savior, Dallas. They have made a commitment of \$800 to the church organ fund. The money will be raised through youth activities.

Winners of the Trustee Scholarship Award at Reagan High for being in the top 10 percent of their class were the following bright kids of Hope, Austin: Dean Reinhardt, president of the school National Honor Society; Sharon Green; Brad Knippa; Debra Falkenberg; and Michael Stennett. Way to go, gang.

Bright kid Deanna Roy, member of Our Redeemer, Wichita Falls, made drum major at Archer City High as a junior.

Such an achievement record has been compiled by Gerald Jentsch of St. Paul, Wichita Falls. During his four years at Archer City High, Gerald was a member of the National Honor Society, a participant in the Gifted and Talented Program, in Who's Who Among American High School Students, regional qualifier in Number Sense, Calculator Application, Science Club, basketball captain, regional qualifier in golf, One-Act Play regional qualifier, president of the Spanish Club, marching band state finals, trumpet soloist, Church Youth Fel-



BOOKWORMS—These are the first graders at Zion, Walburg who read 9,047 books. Left to right, front: Stacy Horton, Glen Ochs, Sharrah Stigdon, Scott Horton, Tiffany Halmstrom, Jay Bleeke, Craig Chichurka, Deborah Draeger. Back row, Thomas Winkler, Cameron Reeder,

Christina Edgar, Angela Grady, Amanda Noack, Sherlyn Almazan, Priscilla Pitts, Lisa Mosier, Jennifer Bamsch, David Wolf, Kandy Kubala, Aaron Reese, Dorothy Rhea, Alesia Reese, Matthew Bohmfalk and Caroline Koy.



CHAMP READER—This is Amanda Noack, who read 1,044 books this year to lead her first-grade class.

lowship, member of men's church softball team. Whew!

The first sister team ever to be selected as drum majors at Lufkin High are Katrina and Juline Hawkins, members of First Lutheran, Lufkin.

Congratulations to Deanna Roy of Our Redeemer, Wichita Falls, whose name will appear in the new edition of Who's Who In Music. She has been identified as one of the country's most out-

Bunch of first grade bookworms devour 9,047 volumes in 30 weeks

"I am so proud of this class. Every year my first graders surprise me, but this year I am shocked!"

This was the comment of Elaine Gummert, first-grade teacher at Zion Lutheran School in Walburg.

Mrs. Gummert's 25 first graders read 9,047 books in 30 weeks during the '85-'86 school year. They spent the first six weeks learning how to read and the rest of the year practicing.

They choose books from their classroom, school, public and home libraries to read aloud to their parents. Their parents then filled out the book report which the students turned in when they gave an oral book report at school.

For every 10 books a student reported on, he or she received a "jogger" to hang on the wall. For 20 books, they got to choose and keep a book from Mrs. Gummert's personal library, and when they reported on 20 books, they also received a special poster.

"These students have done a superb job this year. Each of my students read at least 200 books," said Mrs. Gummert.

Amanda Noack, daughter of Slim and Judy Noack, read 1,044 books to lead the class.

standing high school musicians.

Piper Wagner, member of Faith, Sugar Land, was a member of the Dulles High School Golf Team which won the state championship. Piper was second lowest scorer for her team

in the tournament.

Carrie Bowden, Faith Lutheran, Gainesville, finished 14th in Texas in a state computer exam in which more than 2,500 students participated. (Continued on next page)

YOUTH

TEXAS DISTRICT



(Continued from page 12N.)

Redeemer, Austin, has quite a collection of bright kids, including:

- Chris Wiesenhutter, who was selected outstanding male student at his junior high.

- Bob McCloskey, who was elected president of the JUST SAY NO club at his school, a group which believes that it is cool to just say no to drugs and alcohol.

- Shantelle Leschber, who won the U.S. Twirling Association state baton championship.

- Rebekah Bohot and Kim Berry, who entered the National Honor Society.

- Michelle Rudolph, a scholarship winner in the Merit Scholarship Program. She ranked third in her class of 302.

- David Winkler, chosen to play in Austin's all-city band.

- Jason Woelfel, selected at his high school as drum major and chosen outstanding junior in the band.

- Todd Kurio, inducted into the National Honor Society and a qualifier for the regional tennis championship.

Nice work, Kristy Braun. This bright kid from **Our Savior, Austin**, made the National Junior Honor Society and was elected a cheerleader.

Salutatorian of his high school graduating class was Ken Homeyer, a member of **Trinity, Navasota**.

Todd Miertschin, **Hope, Austin**, was recognized for nine years of perfect atten-



dance at school, beginning in kindergarten. Just to prove he's human, most likely, Todd did miss a half-day once when he was in preschool as a 4-year-old.

Three cheers for these outstanding high school graduates who are members of **Redeemer, Odessa**. Shelly Blanchard, Richard Deras and Daren Fick, all National Honor Society (Daren was all district in golf for three years), and Sammie Hill, third place in environmental science and fourth place in art and Latin in state competition.

At **Living Word, The Woodlands**, bright kids are Laura Miller, captain of her school drill team; Dean Hengst, outstanding student in drafting technology; Sharyn Sager, drill team squad leader (colonel); and Kim Nicar, outstanding girl in symphonic band.

Jody Manier, **Redeemer, Beaumont**, placed third in her graduating class academically. Lucky Texas A & M will get her for college. Other Redeemer achievers who graduated from high school are Greg Belz, who won architectural competition honors, and Libby Fehl, who won fifth place in a national French contest.

Bright kids abound at **Grace, Arlington**, and in-

clude: Gregory Gregson, national merit finalist; Lori Spivy, national honor society; Susan Kersten, president of Spanish Honor Society; Kris Ann Young, year book business manager; Whitney Davidson, all-state soccer goalie.

Beth Crabtree, **Our Savior, Rockwall**, received a \$4,000 scholarship from Baylor University where she will study computer science, and Wade Kuhlman, National Honor Society, also received all-district honors in football.

Congratulations to Michelle Elliott of **Trinity, San Angelo**, who was salutatorian of her high school graduating class, a scholarship winner and varsity cheerleader.

Joel Symmank, **Crown of Life, Hewlett**, graduated from Lutheran High of Dallas, making National Honor Society, receiving the school's Religion Award and the Presidential Academic Fitness Award from President Reagan.

Mike Krautz and Catherine Hughes of **Holy Cross, Nederland**, are both second year National Honor Society members.

Inducted into the National Honor Society is Julia Bedrich of **Redeemer, Austin**, who also won first

place in the Austin District Music Teachers' Scholarship Contest. She also was awarded a scholarship by the Wednesday Morning Music Club.

Wonderful Katie Proft of **Holy Cross, Nederland**, has received a 500-hour bar for her volunteer service at the county hospital.

Bright kids at **St. John's, Clarksville**, include teenagers Rebecca Dianne Zehetner, the first recipient of a \$500 Citizens Bank scholarship; Nicole Bray, recipient of the \$1,000 Wal-Mart scholarship; and Gary Schneider, whose market lamb took grand champion at the Red River County Junior Livestock show.

What a terrific record is being compiled by Kim Armbruster of **Faith, Sugar Land**. She won a competition to deliver the student speech at her junior high graduation, made all A's during junior high and has nine years of perfect school attendance.

Consider Duane Dube of **Redeemer, Austin**. This high school graduate was the recipient of two scholarships, member of the National Honor Society for two years and served as state president of the Future Business Leaders of America.

An outstanding athlete is Randy Richter, **St. Paul, McAllen**, who led his team as a pitcher to their first-ever district championship. His record was 12-1 and he was selected Most Valuable Player of District 32-5A. Look for more next year. He was only a junior this season.

**Courage, faith of
LLL members
support programs**

A message from *Gus Kieschnick*, district media chairman:

Greetings in the name of our ascended Lord!

Under God's blessings we enjoyed a successful year enrolling sponsors. The results: 612 Lutheran Hour, 297 television, 167 BCTNs and 3,888 members. Praise to the Lord!

- Many thanks to all of you. You worked with loyalty and dedication. That is why we had such outstanding results. Our team effort for the new league year is "More Active Workers."

On Ascension Day, our Savior told His congregation, "Go make disciples in all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and then teach these new disciples to obey all the commandments I have given you. And be sure of this, I am with you always, even to the end of the world."

On judgment day we will have to give an account to Him. We are motivated by His love to comply.

- After completing 11 years as district media chairman, I thank my God. He has given the members of the league and us the courage and faith to promote and sponsor programs. We thank the pastors and district congregations for their prayers and support.

Really, this needs to be promoted constantly. The more mission-minded our pastors and congregations

Lone Star District Highlights

International Lutheran Laymen's League

By **Gary D. Laneman**, Information Coordinator
11601 January, Austin, TX, 78753



become, the more opportunities God will give us to reach lost souls in the local parish area, as well as overseas.

- Today, 58 nations with 2.5 billion people have little or no freedom.

As volunteer representatives of the league, we plan to expand our services by informing our congregational members what, under God's blessings, their prayers and their support is accomplishing through our radio and television ministries throughout the world.

- This has been well received. Pastors have given us part or all of the Bible class time on a given Sunday when it does not interfere with the local program. This information is presented from a world map, identifying the 19 foreign Lutheran Hour offices and their managers.

We are the right arm of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod to assist in word and deed. Members are really receptive to this type of information.

- My successor as district media chairman is Gary Rohloff. He and his family live in Grapevine. They are members of Messiah Lutheran Church in Keller. We are very fortunate to have him. Under God's blessings, he will

serve in an outstanding manner.

\$14 MILLION BUDGET

The International Lutheran Laymen's League has adopted an operating budget of slightly more than \$14 million for the 1986-87 league year which began June 1.

The budget was adopted by the league's Board of Governors at its meeting in St. Louis in May. It provides \$9 million for Lutheran Hour radio ministry, \$2.5 million for television ministry and \$2.5 million for membership services.

The budget represents a decrease of about \$800,000 from the '85-'86 budget, which had been projected as a deficit spending budget when set by the league's Board of Governors in 1985.

"The Lord had blessed us over the past few years with additional funds," John Daniels, Int'l LLL executive director, explained, "so over the past two years the board decided we could spend over one million dollars from our reserves to do some extra things in our ministries. Now we face the challenge of continuing to be effective in those ministries, while keeping our expenses reasonably close to our projected income."

The 1986-87 budget calls

for adjustments in the allocation of funds in many areas of league activity. The daily five-minute devotional program, *Day By Day With Jesus*, is being discontinued, as is the weekly television series, *Pattern for Living*.

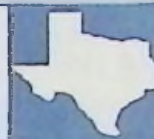
"That's not really as drastic as it may sound," Rev. William Dingler, director of media services for the International LLL, explained. "Both programs have continually been losing stations."

He explained that *Pattern for Living* is re-runs of *This Is The Life* which now are showing on many cable systems. And *Day by Day With Jesus* is a victim of deregulation. Stations no longer are required to devote a certain amount of time to public service and many have abandoned the practice of beginning and ending their broadcast day with a devotion.

The board also appropriated \$1.2 million above the budget for production of a one-hour animated special, "The Little Troll Prince," which will premier during the 1987 Christmas season.

You have a will

You already have a will made out by the State of Texas. If you have made another, does it save all the taxes and expenses possible? Have you considered a trust? Is it only for rich people? Questions about these savings can be answered by Pastor Gerald Kieschnick of the Lutheran Foundation of Texas without cost or obligation. Phone him at 512-926-4272.



LUTHERAN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY LEAGUE
1986 TEXAS DISTRICT CONVENTION



Seminar keynote speaker Alma Kern encouraged each woman to feel special about herself as "a unique creation of God."



Lili Kobs, left, was escorted to the stage by past president Toni Kraatz for special recognition of 36 years of service as district archivist/historian.



Newly elected officers, from left, are Shirley Lorenz, treasurer; Rosmarie Herring, recording secretary; Sherry Torbert, second vice-president; and Rev. Kim DeVries, counselor.

1986-88 DISTRICT MISSION PROJECTS

1. **Laborers for Christ of Texas**—additional equipment for building churches \$10,000
2. **Lutheran Braille Workers**—expenses and supplies at Texas Braille work centers \$10,000
3. **Valley Parenting Support (Hidalgo County), LSST**—parenting care and coaching, Valley Service Area Emergency Children's Center \$15,000
4. **Deaf Ministries of Texas**—character generator to caption materials for the deaf \$5,700
5. **Commission on Ministerial Health, Texas District, LCMS**—Clergy Care workshops \$10,000
6. **MD Anderson Hospital, Chaplaincy Program**—training a chaplain for work in Ethiopia \$12,000
7. **Camp Lone Star**—basic furnishings for nine new cabins \$12,000
8. **La Iglesia Luterana San Pablo, Houston**—new roof and repairs for mission church and school \$12,000
9. **Concordia College, Austin—Hispanic Layworkers Program**—financial aid to Hispanic layworkers and students in the program \$3,300

Mission Projects Total \$90,000



Financial Secretary "Mite-y Mina" Filting demonstrates her full mailbox as mite boxes pour forth. She encourages societies to send mites in on a regular, monthly basis and challenges everyone to raise their mite giving from three to five cents per day. This would far surpass the \$178,000 goal set for this biennium. She also suggests stressing a "Mite Project of the Month" for society meetings. Mite boxes were given to all visiting dignitaries after one of them brought a box he had been filling at home.



Elected to serve on the Nominating Committee are, from left, Helen Mitschke, Candy Bleeke and Mary Bauer.



Seminar leaders Doris McKay, left, and Danelle Schultz radiate the joy shared when Christians are "Linked by Love."

Mite Report

June 30, 1986

1986-88 Goal \$178,000

Received in June (includes convention offerings) \$11,112

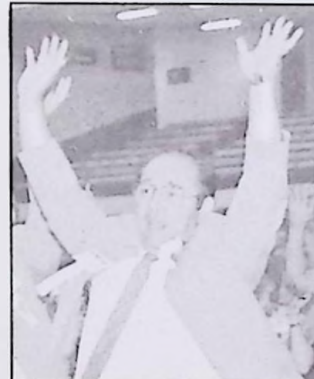
Needed to meet goal \$166,888

(\$7,417 per month)

Send mites to Mina Fitting, 704 Dellwood, Midland 79703. Make checks payable to **TEXAS DISTRICT LWML.**



A happy gathering of Texas district past presidents includes, from left, Jeanne Cargile (1972-76); Pearl Biar (standing) (1980-84); Lil Kobs (1946-48); Amalie Long (1968-72); Ann Garrett (1960-64); Marcella Gaus (1984-present); and Pat Barlow (seated) (1976-80).



"Praise Him; the results are marvelous!" Convention keynote speaker, Rev. Charles Mueller, in a typically joyful pose. His exuberant outlook on a life of adventure and praise made him a convention favorite.



Retiring Treasurer Puddin' Krueger, left, and former district third vice-president, Dee Peters, share laughter. Dee is wearing a 1987 international convention teeshirt.



Archivist/Historian Elaine Schur, left, and Toni Kraatz, who served as district president from 1945-46, find a quiet corner for a visit.



Retiring recording secretary Catherine Burkhard, left, pauses for a break with her daughter Janet, who served as convention song leader.



Members from the Capital Zone happily invite all leaguers to Austin, chosen as the site of the 1990 district convention. The 1988 convention will be held in Galveston.



1986-88 OFFICERS TEXAS DISTRICT LWML

President

Mrs. Marcella Gaus
P.O. Box 123
Hamshire, Texas 77622

Recording Secretary

Mrs. Rosemarie Herring
1313 Houston Ave.
Nederland, Texas 77627

First Vice-President

Mrs. Pat Biar
1104 30th St.
Nederland, Texas 77627

Counselor

Rev. John Selle
4010 Williams Drive
Georgetown, Texas 78628

Second Vice-President

Mrs. Sherry Torbert
5810 Lodge Creek
Houston, Texas 77066

Counselor

Rev. Kim DeVries
5522 Crosswind
San Antonio, Texas 78239

Third Vice-President

Mrs. Peggy Turnipseed
1302 March Drive
Austin, Texas 78753

Secretary to President

Mrs. Beverly Morris
P.O. Box 577
Hamshire, Texas 77622

Treasurer

Mrs. Shirley Lorenz
208 Woodland Ave.
Giddings, Texas 78942

Parliamentarian

Mrs. Ruth Doering
2645 Gerol Drive
Galveston, Texas 77551

Financial Secretary

Mrs. Mina Fitting
704 Dellwood
Midland, Texas 79703

DISTRICT NEWS Editor

Mrs. Dolores Bruncke
3944 Merriman
Plano, Texas 75074

CHAIRMEN OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Mission Service

Mrs. Theresa McMurray
1210 Voyle
Lufkin, Texas 75901

Archivist/Historian

Mrs. Elaine Schur
Route 2
Plainview, Texas 79072

Membership

Mrs. Catherine Burkhard
6660 Santa Anita Drive
Dallas, Texas 75214

Nominating

Mrs. Candy Bleeke
P.O. Box 37
Walburg, Texas 78673



A sailboat is loaded with the precious cargo of Lutheran World Relief project kits during an inspiring Mission Service In-gathering Dedication at the Lubbock convention.



District Counselor Rev. John Selle took every opportunity to gather mites. His "roving mite box," which was soon traded for a large can, netted \$505 for mites.



Beautiful West Texas centerpieces combined windmills, cotton bolls, wheat and patriotically colored flowers. They were the work of High Plains President Mary Alice Ramm (shown) and her daughter Ruth Owen of Muleshoe.

Texas LWML receives award

The 1986 Texoma Service Award, usually given to an individual, was awarded to the women of the Texas District LWML "for support and service to both Texoma Lutheran Camp and Lutheran Outdoor Ministries of Texas."



Attending the convention together were Mrs. Madge Peiman, 91, of Lariat and her five daughters, all of whom are active LWMLers. Shown are (back, from left) Mildred Haseloff, Farwell; Edna Petersen, Houston; Ruth Streit, Vernon; Ruby Young, Perryton; and (front) Louise Mueller, St. Louis; and Mrs. Peiman.

Reminders

- Please remember to use only the most recent (1985-87) LWML catalog when ordering material from LWML headquarters.
- Proposals for international mission projects must be submitted in resolution form (12 copies) by Oct. 15. Contact Peggy Turnipseed for details and assistance.
- Bylaw changes adopted

at the convention will be incorporated into a new set of bylaws and will be available to societies after the March Board of Directors meeting.

- Send Texas banner designs for the 1987 convention to Marcella Gaus by Oct. 1. The 3' x 5' banner must use red, white and blue, and carry out the theme "Radiant with God's Love."



LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF HELP—Boxes to collect soap from hotel rooms were placed at Civic Center entrances.

Need help?

Use the District Directory!

If you wish to:

Submit society or zone bylaws for approval; obtain a copy of district bylaws; get help with writing new bylaws.

Contact:

Bylaws chairman
(First V. President)

Obtain ideas for programs and Bible studies; borrow Christian growth materials from district loan library; receive information on Christian Leadership Training.

Christian Growth
chairman
(Second V. President)

Borrow slides and programs on current mite projects; receive project information; submit suggestions for new projects.

Mission Project
chairman
(Third V. President)

Remit Mite money, *Quarterly* payment, or ANY monies for the Texas District LWML; order Mite boxes and remittance forms.

Financial Secretary

Submit news items and/or photos for publication in the District News, publicize rallies, etc; schedule use of LWML puppets.

District News Editor

Report officer changes in zone and society; receive information on starting a society; order or increase LWML *Quarterly* subscriptions.

Membership chairman

Obtain ideas for mission service (Lutheran World Relief projects, food for needy, used postage stamps, etc.)

Mission Service
chairman

Submit district or zone materials for the district archives; submit zone histories.

Archivist/Historian

Buy LWML materials such as handbooks, Resource Folders, skits, programs, Mustard Seeds, memorial cards, etc.

LWML Headquarters
3558 S. Jefferson
St. Louis, Mo 63118

LWML News

LWML news should be sent to Dolores Bruncke, Texas District Editor, 3944 Meriman, Plano, Texas 75074.

Lost and found

Found at Lubbock Civic Center: a woman's grey cloth raincoat. Contact the District News editor to claim it.



Mission of the church must be kept in perspective

My car was giving me some trouble. There was nothing major—a series of small things needed work. But one thing was clear, the car would be in the shop all day.

While I waited for the dealer van to take me to the office, I sipped a cup of free coffee and looked at all of the plaques and awards this particular dealership had won.

There, in the middle of the awards, was a neatly framed document titled, **"Our Mission Statement."** Imagine that, an automobile dealer—a major auto company—having a "mission statement."

Their mission statement was short and direct. It was their goal to provide the finest automobile and the finest service possible. They knew what they were about.

• Does your congregation have a mission statement? Have you ever thought about a personal mission statement? If a secular company sees the value in this . . . certainly the church should see the value in it, since we spend a great amount of time talking about our "mission."

True, we don't need additional mission statements beyond those the Scriptures give us. The statements are short and clear. Among those mission statements, **"Go ye therefore and teach all nations, baptize in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."**



Glenn O'Shoney

Go, teach, make disciples, baptize—that's the mission of the church, of your congregation, of the Texas District, of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

• We need to remind ourselves of this mission from time to time. If we don't keep this in perspective, we might begin to believe the church's mission is to place cushions on the pews, buy the bigger organ, build the new building, get the new handbells, or whatever.

What's your mission statement? What's your congregation's mission statement?

The Three Percent Club

Lyle Schaller, a perceptive Christian writer, talks about "the three percent club." It's his perception—and not a bad one—that every congregation has a certain number of people who find great joy in always complaining about something.

The problem is that the three percent can sound like 30 or 40 or 50 percent—they are very vocal.

• How much damage these people can do in a church! So much energy is

wasted trying to calm these people!

It's obvious that in the church it's difficult to please everyone. What time should the worship services be, what material should we use for Sunday school or vacation Bible school, how warm or cold should the church be on Sunday morning? You will have as many answers to these and a myriad of other questions as you have people in the congregation.

• Questions, of course, get much more complex and difficult than these. It's how we handle the problems—that's important!

Don't be a part of the three percent club . . . rather be a helpful person who, in a positive and supportive manner, looks for the best possible solutions to the problems that will always be a part of your church—your congregation and mine.

Circuit counselors

This is probably a good place to say a word or two about circuit counselors. It follows nicely on my comments concerning the three percent club, since our circuit counselors often get involved in trying to sort out some of the problems that club causes.

• We have outstanding counselors in the Texas District! They are men of God, men of dedication, men of vision, men with

good skills. They are the glue that holds the Texas District together—at least that's my judgment.

The circuit counselors meet twice a year to discuss our district's work and the work of our Missouri Synod. I talk with them and they talk with me to strengthen our work together.

The circuit counselors help me—and you—when congregations are vacant, experiencing internal problems, experiencing the joys of an installation.

Because of Texas' enormous size, our counselors play a more important role than counselors do in many other districts. They truly represent the president's office—they truly represent the Missouri Synod in their location.

Professional salaries

Just this final word. Now is a good time to think about the salaries you pay your church professionals. We encourage you to tie your pastor's and educators' salaries into what the local school district pays.

If your congregation does not have the guidelines provided by the Texas District, we would be happy to send you a copy. We think that tying salaries into the local school district makes good sense and provides every congregation a reasonable way to set salaries within the church.

Glenn O'Shoney
President, Texas District

86 area meetings provide insights in Lutheran ministry and mission

Because Lutherans want to know more about the mission and ministry of their church, the Texas District has taken the initiative and has begun to conduct 86 area meetings:

- To inform congregational leaders about existing Missouri Synod missions and ministries—international as well as those in the Texas District.
- To receive a report of the ministries of each Texas congregation.
- To discuss future mission challenges as well as congregations' past performances.
- To receive a response about several mission and ministry proposals.

The series of meetings began in late August and will continue through early October.

In a letter to Texas pastors, District President Glenn O'Shoney said, "Congregation members know very little about the mission and ministry endeavors of their district and Synod—and they want to know more. That is the finding of a recent survey taken within The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod . . ."

One district leader will be present at each of the 86 meetings. The meetings feature a video presentation in which Missouri Synod President Ralph Bohlmann and O'Shoney, along with other key synodical and district leaders, share insights concerning the mission and ministries of both district and Synod.

The video, "Like A Mighty Army," contains remarks from Bohlmann, who praises Texas support for synodical programs that include starting 500 new churches each year in 35 countries in addition to the United States.

Also described by Rev. Fred Boden, district mission director, are 80 Texas mission activities.

The series of meetings was described for Texas District Board of Directors members at their July 15 meeting in Austin.

In other action, board members:

- Approved a 1987 \$5,697,309 district work program that O'Shoney labeled the district's "hopes and dreams" for the coming year. A budget session later in the year will determine the extent of funding for the work program. The 1986 district budget totaled \$4,930,470.

The new work plan calls for increases in missions and parish services, with a decrease in special services and projects.

- Heard a report for the first six months of 1986 that \$1,180,613 has been received in new investments for the Church Extension Fund, and that \$5,014,778 was received or committed through the Lutheran Foundation of Texas.

- Presented an Eagle computer, a gift from the Peter Foundation, to Concordia College while reserving time for any specific Texas District project.



INSTALLED—Pastor Stewart Albin Marshall, kneeling, was installed May 4 at Christ Lutheran, Jacksonville. He comes to Texas from a pastorate in Ontario, Canada. Left to right are Pastors Adrian Baccarisse, Tim Zank, Hugo Hannusch, Fred Gersch, Larry Stier, Mike Snow and Daniel Parsons.

- Were told that Texas District relief funds continue to build much-needed housing for earthquake victims in Mexico City.

- Approved appointments of Elmo Miertschin and Jim Brown, both of Austin, to the district stewardship committee.

- Were told that between major gifts and congregational gifts, the Texas District was the largest contributing district to the *Alive in Christ* appeal with total gifts of \$3,034,244.

- Approved an additional provision in the work plan calling for creation of an Interim Pastor Corps, whose members would be used during a congregation's pastoral vacancy to help that congregation through a period of self-evaluation, goal-setting and the process of calling. A sum of \$5,000 was recommended to train a few pastors for this specialized service.

- Affirmed the appointment of Curtis Morgan of McAllen to the district Board for Mission Administration.

- Heard that the Texas District Hispanic Lay Ministry Program has evoked great synodical interest as

a way of enlarging outreach among Hispanics.

- Affirmed the appointment of Rev. Stephen McClintic to Lutheran Outdoors Ministry of Texas.

- Established a minimum base salary of \$12,500 for educator candidates, plus Concordia Plans.

- Accepted with gratitude the donation of a cross in the form of the Missouri Synod logo for the district office from Kenneth Weiser, president of the LLL Lone Star District. Weiser gave the cross in memory of Rev. Albert Jesse, past president of the Texas District, and Clarence Saegert, past president of the LLL, Lone Star District.

Send your news to Bill

Send your news releases, photos, bulletins and parish newsletters (we especially want the newsletters) for the LUTHERAN WITNESS to:

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



August F. Droegemueller

Former district vice-president Droegemueller dies

On July 26 Rev. August F. Droegemueller was called home by his Lord. Droegemueller is survived by his wife, Ruth, the former Ruth Behnken, and their two children, Sharon and David.

Droegemueller began his ministry in Powhattan, Kans., in 1941. In 1945, he came to the Texas District to Bethel Lutheran in Bryan. He later served at St. John, Galveston, and Bethany, Houston.

He left Texas in 1960 and served as executive secretary in the Missouri Synod's Montana District. He served as Montana District president from 1966-1969.

In 1969, he returned to the Texas District and served St. Matthew Lutheran in Houston until his retirement in September 1982. During this time, he also served as Texas District vice president.

After his retirement, he accepted a call as part-time assistant pastor at Memorial Lutheran in Houston, where he served until his death.

Waco sponsors help kids get Christian education

A good education is a must. The grade school years are the most important and formative years. You want a good education for your child, taught in a Christian environment, but you just can't quite afford a Christian day school. What can you do?

The School Board of Trinity Lutheran School, Waco, thinks it has the answer: Sponsor-A-Student.

This program is designed to help a child become a student in the Christian educational system.

Individuals, families or groups donated a fixed amount monthly toward a sponsored student's tuition fee. In some cases, just \$10 a month makes the difference.

Sponsors automatically become members of the Parent-Teacher League and are invited to all school functions. Donations are listed as a church contribution to missions.

O'Shoney now chairman of Council of Presidents

Because of a vacancy created by an election at the Missouri Synod convention in Indianapolis in July, Texas District President Glenn O'Shoney will head the Council of Presidents.

The council is made up of Missouri Synod's 38 district presidents.

Convention delegates chose Dr. August Mennicke, president of the Minnesota North District, as First Vice-President of Synod, a full-time position. Mennicke had been chairman of the Council of Presidents.

O'Shoney had been council vice-chairman and now assumes the chairman's position.

Texans elected at convention

Five Texans were elected to key positions at the synodical convention held in July at Indianapolis, Ind.

Dr. Guido Merckens, senior pastor of Concordia Lutheran Church of San Antonio, was elected Synod's fifth vice-president. He had previously served as second vice president from 1971 to 1983.

Rev. Eugene Oesch, pastor of Memorial Lutheran Church, Houston, was



Dr. Guido Merckens

named to the Board of Regents of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis. He previously had served as a Texas District vice president.

Elected to the Board of Regents of Concordia Lutheran College, Austin, were Paul Bohot and Robert Bauer.

Art Noack, a former district vice president, was named to the Nominations Committee for the 1989 Synodical convention.

Dr. Glenn O'Shoney, president of the Texas District, was nominated for synodical vice president but declined to stand for election.



HAPPY 25th—Members of St. Paul Lutheran, Big Spring, honored their pastor, Carroll C. Kohl, on June 29, the 25th anniversary of his ministry in God's kingdom. A surprise reception and potluck luncheon were included. Present at the occasion were members of the Kohl family. From left are nephew Terry McCaleb; daughter Angela; Mrs. Leighrene Kohl; Kohl; daughter Glenda; and daughter Dana. Thomas Kohl, a son, was unable to attend.

MISSION

Bivocations of worker/priests important to mission work

by Rev. Fred Boden
Mission Director
Texas District

A resolution passed by the 1985 District Convention in Galveston encouraged the use, where appropriate, of the worker/priest concept for lay and ordained professional church workers.

But just what is a worker/priest? Perhaps the concept and the term would be easier to define if we were to use a more current term—a bivocational worker.

A worker/priest—a bivocational worker—is a person who ministers vocationally in a church-related job and through another "secular" job.

He is a minister who supports himself and his family through a secular job during the week and serves as a congregational pastor or begins a new ministry (planting a new mission church) during his evening and weekend hours. In some cases, he may serve part time in both the secular job and the church job.

• The apostle Paul was a bivocational worker—a tentmaker by trade and church planter and pastor during the remainder of his ministry.

In Acts 18:1-5, while staying with Aquila and Priscilla in Corinth, Paul spoke of his tentmaking trade:

"There he (Paul) met a Jew named Aquila, born in Pontus, who had recently



WORKER/PRIEST—Rev. Elder McCants is vigorously pursuing a worker/priest role in the development of Community Lutheran Church of San Antonio.

come from Italy with his wife Priscilla, for Emperor Claudius had ordered all the Jews to leave Rome. Paul went to see them, and stayed and worked with them, because he earned his living by making tents, just as they did. He held discussions in the synagogue every Sabbath trying to convince both Jews and Greeks" (Acts 18:2-4).

Again in 1 Thess. 2:9 he speaks of his labor and toil (that we might not burden any of you, while we preach to you the Gospel of God). Compare also 2 Thess. 3:7-9.

In the first three centuries of the church many of the church's ministers, even bishops, supported themselves.

• In the Middle Ages the German "Eigenkirchen"

were located on land donated by a nobleman and farmed by the clergyman for his own support.

In England and colonial America the "parson's glebe" was a portion of land set aside for the maintenance of the local parson and his family.

During the 1970s 22 percent of American Protestant clergy served in worker/priest ministries.

All of this may come as a surprise to many Lutherans in this country, but worker/priest ministry is an ancient, respectable and widely-used form of ministry in our world.

• The bivocational worker has been a "standard" in many denominations' ethnic ministries, especially among Blacks. Many denominations, due to financial limitations, begin most, if not all, of their new mission churches using this type of worker.

Recently, the Texas District Mission Board has started to use bivocational workers in a variety of ways.

In 1985 Rev. Elder McCants, mission developer and pastor of Community Lutheran Church in San Antonio, approached the Mission Board with a list of criteria for serving that ministry as a bivocational worker and requested that the board would approve his recommendation.

It did. Ministry is still vigorously pursued, the church continues to grow, members begin to take on a greater responsibility for ministry and Community Lutheran continues as one of the leading mission congregations in the district in



DEVELOPERS—Rev. Ray Johansen, left, and Rev. Craig Fenske have come to Midland and Dallas in worker/priest roles.

adult accessions.

• A short time later Rev. Jimmy McCants, at St. Mark Lutheran Church in Port Arthur, another Black mission congregation, elected to become a worker/priest.

Both Pastors McCants (no relation) teach in the public school systems in their respective cities and serve their congregations well during the evenings and weekends. Being teachers, they are also able to assume full pastoral responsibilities during the summer.

January 1986 saw the beginning of a worker/priest ministry in the Dallas deaf ministry. Rev. Ron Friedrich had been approached about teaching a couple of courses at Lutheran High School in Dallas and serving as an interpreter for the deaf and hearing impaired students at the Dallas area community college.

Friedrich asked that his subsidized salary from the Mission Board be reduced a certain amount for the next two years. His employment in the schools will cover the

(Continued on next page.)



(Continued from page 12D.)
balance of his salary needs.

Today Friedrichs has made more contacts within the deaf community than he would have made as a fully-subsidized pastor of John of Beverley Chapel.

• Two recent graduates of Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Indiana, Craig Fenske and Ray Johansen, arrived in Texas this past summer to begin new ministries.

Fenske will re-start the Hispanic ministry in the Dallas area with support from Hope and Faith Lutheran churches of Grand Prairie. His offices and initial work location will be at Faith.

Fenske has agreed to serve this ministry as a worker/priest. As the work develops and grows, it is expected that he will assume a greater role in the mission's work.

Pastor Ray Johansen arrived in Midland to begin a new ministry. He will be seeking full-time employment in a secular field and developing a new mission at the same time. The nucleus group forming the new mission is providing some initial support. Within three years it is expected that he will be fully supported in his church work.

The district will continue to seek additional bivocational workers, especially for new church development, as candidates and opportunities for expansion of the mission program become available.

Worker/priest is not for everyone. It is not expected to be. But where the "chemistry" of worker, people and local situation



PERFORMERS—Houston's Lulac Ballet Folklorico Dancers performed at the Hispanic Mission Festival at Beautiful Savior, Houston. They are shown with Bettie Horn, center, mission coordinator.

Why church members do—or don't—attend Bible classes

Members of Redeemer Lutheran, Austin, recently were surveyed on their thoughts about Bible class attendance.

The following multiple leading responses were received from 95 persons who participated:

• The reasons I attend Bible class are:

—Feel the need to grow spiritually, 66.

—I can enjoy the Christian fellowship, 61.

—The lowest answer was to share personal concerns, 27.

• The reasons I do not attend Bible class regularly are:

come together to allow it to be used, the worker/priest can be a beautiful, vital and growing ministry.

• Please remember to pray for these five worker/priests in our district mission ministries who have elected to move on a type of "faith mission," are fully dedicated to their ministries and are being blessed by our Lord in their untiring endeavors.

—Most compelling reason was this: I don't know anybody and I feel out of place, 16.

—Have other commitments, (young children), 9.
• I would consider attending Bible class if:

—I had more information about available choices, 14.

—Topics were more relevant, 9.

—More of my friends attended, 6.



ORDAINED—Phillip Douglas Reed, above, was ordained June 8 by Pastor Robert G. Hagemann at Our Savior, Abilene. Reed also was commissioned evangelistic missionary to Panama where he served a two-year vicarage. Reed is the third member of Our Savior congregation to enter the ministry, and a fourth is attending Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, Ind.

Festival features mission work among Hispanics

The members of Beautiful Savior Congregation of Houston celebrated their annual mission festival for two Sundays, focusing on Hispanic mission work in Houston and the Texas District.

Junior high young people, dressed as Mexican dancers, greeted and seated members and guests as they arrived for the annual mission festival.

The festival is sponsored by the Mission Board with Ed and Bettie Horn as coordinators. Each church board had a part in festival preparations.

The Beautiful Savior gym was decorated like a Mexican fiesta, complete with pinatas, balloons, curio shops and the Lulac Ballet Folklorico Dancers of Houston directed by Suzie Gonzales. A Mexican potluck dinner was served.

Claudio Perez, director of Christian education at St. John's Lutheran Church of Houston, spoke on Hispanic mission work in Houston and the Texas District.

On the Sunday before the mission festival, Mrs. Angela Morales, director of Early Childhood Ministry at San Pedro Lutheran Church of Houston, brought her Sunday school Mexican dancers and gave a slide presentation on her church's Hispanic mission work.

Rev. Clifford W. Horn is pastor of Beautiful Savior.



K. Brockberg



D. Linin



D. Lutze



J. Marcis



T. Wieck

Five River Forest spring grads assigned to Texas

Five spring graduates of Concordia College, River Forest, Ill., have received assignments to the Texas District.

They are:

- Kara K. Brockberg of River Forest, assigned to Concordia Lutheran High School of North Harris County, Houston.

- Deborah G. Linin of Philadelphia, Pa., assigned to Memorial Lutheran School, Houston.

- Deborah L. Lutze, Yorkville, Ill., also assigned to Concordia Lutheran High School of North Harris County.

- Jane E. Marcis, Cleveland, Ohio, assigned to Redeemer Lutheran School, San Antonio.

- Tamera J. Wieck, Bay City, Mich., assigned to Lutheran High School of Dallas.

It's not a gift, it's an investment and it builds our churches

by Dr. Carl Heckmann
Director of Development
Texas District

Henry Rodell isn't a wealthy man.

Henry is kingdom-minded and wants to be involved. He is active as a lay member of his parish. His weekly contributions are good.

But, Henry has just learned that there's another way to be involved . . . and it requires no gift of time, energy or money . . . and, he's happy about that. He is now an investor in the Church Extension Fund, and with that in the mission program of the

Texas District.

We're not asking for a gift . . . just the investment of a part of your savings . . .

- Less than \$500 at 5 1/2 percent.

- Over \$500, for one year, at 6 percent.

- Over \$1,000, for three years, at 7 percent.

- Over \$10,000, for five years, at 8 percent.

Even though there is the usual penalty for early withdrawal, your investment will be returned to you at your request and the return of the note you hold.

Not a gift . . . an investment!

It's an investment that is always lent, never spent.

The money you invest in the Church Extension Fund is lent to the Fund, and then to congregations . . .

- * for the purchase of property

- * for the building of a building

- * for repairs or additions to the buildings.

When the loan is repaid by the congregation, it's lent to another congregation.

And **ALWAYS**, it's ready to be returned to you whenever you ask for it.

Clip the investment form below, complete it, forward it together with your check to 7900 U.S. 290 East, Austin, Texas 78724, and

CHURCH EXTENSION INVESTMENT FORM

() I am interested

() I am ready to commit myself to the investment indicated below

In the name of _____

Social Security Number _____

and/or (joint account) _____

Social Security Number _____

in the name of minor _____

Social Security Number _____

or as custodian _____

address _____

city _____ state _____ zip _____

congregation _____ date _____

earmarked for: _____

I WISH TO PARTICIPATE IN ONE OF THE FOLLOWING PLANS

\$ _____ Save-by-Mail 5 1/2%

\$ _____ 1-Year 6% Note (Minimum \$500)*

\$ _____ 3-Year 7% Note (Minimum \$1,000)*

\$ _____ 5-Year 8% Note (Minimum \$10,000)*

Check one _____ Interest paid Annually (Notes only)

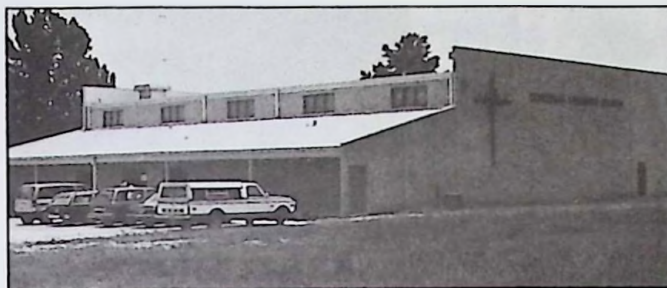
_____ Interest added to Investment

Compounded Quarterly

*Subject to penalty for early withdrawal

Make all Checks Payable To:

Texas District Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, 7900 U.S. 290 East, Austin, TX 78724



FELLOWSHIP CENTER—Concordia Lutheran of Houston has dedicated this \$330,000 Christian Fellowship Center. It has a gymnasium, fellowship hall, kitchen and meeting room.

Concordia, Houston, dedicates Christian fellowship center

Concordia Lutheran, Houston, dedicated its new \$330,000 Christian Fellowship Center on June 1.

The building is of tilt-wall construction with 9,000 square feet. It contains a gym/fellowship hall, kitchen, meeting room, rest rooms and storage rooms.

Of the total building cost,

\$200,000 was raised through a bond program last fall. Pastor Harold Wageman believes some kind of record was set when the entire bond issue was sold in one hour and 10 minutes.

Building Committee Chairman was James Gersch.



30th YEAR—Pastor Bill Johnson displays Epiphany Star Cross and neckchain given to him by Epiphany Lutheran Congregation of Houston in honor of his 30th year in the ministry. From left are Mrs. Emily Johnson; Johnson; Elder Delton Koenning; and Pastor Carlos Boerger, who was anniversary service speaker.

Houston pastor honored on 30th anniversary in ministry

Epiphany Lutheran of Houston held an appreciation dinner and reception June 22 celebrating Pastor Bill Johnson's 30th year in the ministry.

A 1956 graduate of Concordia Seminary, in Spring-

field, Ill., Johnson has spent all 30 years of his called ministry in Texas. He was in Amarillo five years, Dallas eight years, 12 years in San Antonio and the past five years at Epiphany serving Houston's Jersey Village and northwest Harris County.

Special preacher at the service was Pastor Carlos Boerger.

Deaths

Rev. Paul W. Theimer Jr.

Rev. Paul W. Theimer Jr., pastor of Grace Lutheran Church in Mart, died July 3 of heart failure.

Theimer, 58, had entered the ministry later in life, and was ordained June 9.

He served a deferred vicarage at Grace and then was called as pastor there.

The funeral was held in Mart.

He is survived by his wife, Marjorie, and five sons: Thomas, Roger, Keith, Doyle and Philip.

Rev. Louis Boriack

The long ministry, 65 years, of Rev. Louis Boriack ended July 1 when the Lord called Boriack unto Himself.

Boriack faithfully served a church regularly until his death at age 83. He served congregations in Clara, Riesel, Dime Box and Noack, and lived in Pasadena.

He was buried July 5 from Zion Lutheran, Pasadena, where he was a member in retirement.

He is survived by his wife, Lena.

Mrs. Mary Loduca

Mrs. Mary Loduca, wife of Rev. Joseph Loduca, pastor of St. Paul, Monahans, and Zion, Kermit, died July 12.

Besides her husband, a 1986 seminary graduate, she is survived by three children.

How to tell

You can always tell a Lutheran, because Lutherans sing *A Mighty Fortress* better than anyone.



DIES—Rev. Paul W. Theimer was called to eternal glory by his heavenly Father on July 3.

New church provides Texas Heritage Room

Members of Christ Lutheran, Austin, are completing a Texas Heritage Room in their newly-dedicated church building.

The room will serve as a social center and its emphasis coincides with the Texas sesquicentennial.

On display in the room will be an American flag that flew over the capitol in Washington, a state flag that flew over the capitol in Austin and a sesquicentennial flag.

Paintings will portray a Texas flavor, said Pastor Roy Bohrer, and display items include an iron skillet, old candlesticks, an anvil, ladies' hightop boots, old eyeglasses, rag rugs, tin cups, crocheted doilies, Indian corn, dried squash and gourds.

On one wall will be a grouping of historical pictures—given by members—of church events, baptisms, confirmations, buggies, wagons, or any subject symbolic of the 1836-1900 lifestyle.

Happenings in Texas . . .

More than 600 Lutherans from the Metroplex watched the Texas Rangers defeat the Seattle Mariners at Ranger Stadium on Lutheran Night in June.

Pastor Ronald D. Dame-row's 25th anniversary in the holy ministry was observed June 29 at **Faith Lutheran, Houston**, with a special celebration.

Dean Reinhardt, **Hope, Austin**, has been appointed to the Air Force Academy.

Gloria Dei, Houston, begins its 20th anniversary year on Oct. 19 with festival services featuring Dr. Glenn O'Shoney, district president, as speaker.

Rosemarie Herring was installed as president of the Pilot Club of Mid-Jefferson County. She is a member of **Holy Cross, Nederland**.

Celebrating the 25th anniversary of the dedication of its sanctuary on July 27 was **Immanuel Lutheran, Houston**.

Congratulations to George K. Franz, member of **Trinity, Spring**, who celebrated his 84th birthday on July 2.

A Sunday morning schedule of services for the Lutheran Mission of Southeast Arlington started June 15. The mission meets at Foster Elementary School.

Helen and Johnny Wittenback of **Zion, Pasadena**, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary June 27. They have been members of Zion for more than 40



AGGIE EVENT—Aggies shown here are enjoying a hamburger fry. Students and faculty members rotate sponsoring fellowship gatherings held at the Texas A & M Lutheran Student Center each semester. Local pastors also join in the fun. A & M campus ministry goals include the

training and deployment of peer ministry and campus witnessing groups, training of dorm and apartment Bible study leaders and student ministry associates for outreach to international students.

years and Johnny has been on the finance committee "forever."

Good for the Singles Spectrum of Redeemer, **Austin**, who led the worship at a home for mentally retarded men and boys. They were greeted with enthusiastic applause after presenting songs and a puppet sermon lesson.

Congratulations to William and Alice Hartman of **St. Paul, San Antonio**, who celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on July 8.

Robert Dey, **Faith Leyva**, Alice Keith, Jon Koerber and David Stelly have been added to the list of One Gallon Blood Donors from **Gloria Dei, Houston**.

Students who have attended more than one full year at **Prince of Peace Lutheran School, Carrollton**, scored better than 82 percent of the children in the nation who took the Science Research Associates Achievement Test. Students attending more than two years scored higher than 90 percent of U.S. students taking the test.

In **Houston, Gloria Dei** is participating in the resettlement of two political refugees from Czechoslovakia.

Dedicating its new church on July 13 was **Grace Lutheran, Seguin**. They observed their 37th anniversary at the same time.

Congratulations and God's blessings to Henry and Inez Dupont who celebrated their 54th wedding anniversary on May 29.

The congregation of **St. John Lutheran, Hamilton**, celebrated its 50th anniversary on Aug. 10.

Heino and Karin Evik, **Faith, Andrews**, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary by reaffirming their wedding pledge at a special worship service May 25. The couple was married in Tallinn, Estonia, now part of the Soviet Union, and came to America in 1956.

Victor Hermann has joined the staff of Good Samaritan Lutheran Home of Cypress as coordinator of business affairs.

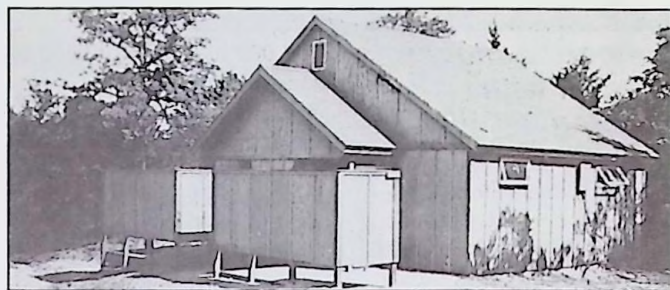
Among those attending the 100th anniversary cele-

bration at **Salem Lutheran, Malone**, were Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Nafzger of Plainview. Her father, the late Rev. H.C. Gaertner, was pastor for 26 years and she was parochial school teacher and organist for four years.

Tina Bertucci, **Redeemer, Austin**, a U.T. graduate in marine biology, is now a commissioned officer on the ship *Researcher*, based in Miami, Fla. This ship was the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's representative in the Statue of Liberty harbor parade on July 4.

Celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary on July 12 at **Trinity Lutheran, Port Arthur**, were Mr. and Mrs. Herman Schaefer. Herman taught at Trinity from 1933 to 1972. Although retired since then, he serves as Minister to Shut-Ins at **Trinity, Klein**.

Also celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary recently were Carl and Esther Seidel, members of **St. Mark, Houston**.



BATHHOUSE—This bathhouse at the Lutheran camp at Lake Texoma is a great addition to the camp's outdoors ministry. It provides additional opportunities for services to family RV camping, retreating and multiple use in the summer camp program. The facility was funded by Lutheran Foundation of Texas. Texas Laborers for Christ and Dallas-Fort Worth-Denison area volunteers constructed it.

Upsurge in special activities at LOMT sites

The additions of new cabins at Camp Lone Star and a new bathhouse at Texoma Lutheran Camp have opened possibilities for additional avenues of outreach at both sites.

Special population groups such as victims of severe burns, molested adults and mentally handicapped individuals have benefited extensively from the fine facilities at Camp Lone Star.

Forty students used these structures while participating in a German camp under the auspices of Houston University.

Many options have surfaced with the bathhouse addition at Texoma. More centralized restrooms-showers have paved the way for extensive participation in a wide variety of outdoors ministry activities.

Above all, these new structures at LOMT sites have paved the way for great opportunities for Christ-centered growth and development in the heart of God's beautiful creation.

LOMT snorkel-scuba trip to Caribbean set

Plans have been firmed up for a four night/five day trip, sponsored by Lutheran Outdoors Ministry of Texas, to the Cayman Islands. This event is scheduled for Jan. 18-22, 1987, and will involve snorkeling and scuba diving along with many other experiences in this beautiful Caribbean setting.

Lester and Bonnie Hahn, members of Good Shepherd, Cedar Park, are certified divers and will be the leaders of this trip which will focus its activity around the theme "Celebrating God's Power."

Lester is a self-employed remodeling contractor and Bonnie is a Christian day school teacher.

Travel and condominium accommodations have been selected to coincide with a slack season in the Caymans. Oct. 15 has been set as registration deadline. For more information, call or write the LOMT office, 512-926-4272, 7900 U.S. 290 East, Austin, Texas 78724.

'Project Wild' is innovative asset to LOMT outdoor education programs

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

In the past year, a new dimension in outdoor education especially directed toward Christian day schools has surfaced at both Camp Lone Star and Texoma Lutheran Camp. Garland Midgett and Keith Lund, directors at the respective camps, have become certified instructors in "Project Wild," a supplementary conservation and environmental education program emphasizing wildlife and its habitat.

Project Wild workshops, held at both camps, are particularly designed to assist teachers to appreciate the magnificence of God's creation and to use a variety of activities to supplement language arts, math, science, social studies, art, health or physical education.

The Project Wild portion of such a workshop is conducted at no cost to the participant, provides six hours of approved credit toward career ladder advancement and gives the participant a complimentary copy of the Project Wild Activity Guide for either the elementary or secondary grade level.

In addition, complete weekend workshops at both camps provide opportunities for obtaining resources and expertise in astronomy, orienteering, outdoor education logistics, environmental awareness and team challenge course activities.

LUTHERAN OUTDOORS MINISTRY OF TEXAS



The benefits of such events are not limited to the classroom teacher. Volunteers working with young people and many other individuals can use the instructional resource of Project Wild effectively.

There will be one Project Wild workshop at each LOMT camp during the 1986-87 school year. The dates are Nov. 7-9 at Camp Lone Star and March 6-8 at Texoma Lutheran Camp. Contact either camp for a complete schedule for the options of either a day event or full weekend workshop.

Heartening

According to the Grapevine, newsletter of Faith, Georgetown, a Johns Hopkins medical researcher reports that the incidence of fatal heart disease among infrequent churchgoers is twice as high as for those who attend church at least once a week.

CONCORDIA

Theme for 1986-87 announced at opening service

The faculty, staff and students of Concordia Lutheran College have been challenged to "Think Excellence" during the 1986-87 school term. The theme for the year was announced at the college's opening service on Aug. 31.

The theme was suggested in Philippians 4:8, "Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things."

Rev. Eugene Heckmann of Gethsemane Lutheran Church in Houston was asked by the college to preach for the opening of its 61st year. Heckmann and his wife, the former Joyce Gascamp, are graduates of the junior college program and each of their five children have attended or are attending CLC.

The choir, from Immanuel Lutheran Church in

Giddings, with the assistance of other Lee County Lutheran church choir members, provided special music.

In introducing the theme "Think Excellence" to the faculty, President Ray F. Martens said, "In addition to the Lord's blessings and the combined strength of so many, how we think is a determining factor in how we proceed. I opt to think positively, to think excellence."

These thoughts are particularly appropriate as the college enters a second phase in its history as a four-year institution. Following the initial building and introduction of five majors for the bachelors program, Concordia allowed time for stabilization before starting a new growth period.

Beginning in fall 1986, three new majors will be introduced, in addition to Prime Time Education, a night program for adult learners. Construction will also begin on a new Communication and Fine Arts Center, with other buildings scheduled to follow under the expansion plan.

Concordia moves forward with building

Over the past several months, Concordia has experienced a great deal of excitement and enthusiasm revolving around its building expansion plan, particularly the long-anticipated construction of the Communication and Fine Arts Center.

The 30,200 square-foot center will feature music practice rooms, classrooms, performance areas and media studios and equipment—allowing Concordia to offer state-of-the-art instruction in communication and church music. Media equipment is currently housed in the old Memorial Gymnasium and the music department uses a building originally designed to be a power plant.

Bids for the new building were opened in July. When long-term financing is in place, construction will begin, with a target date for completion of late summer 1987.

Wade T. Janssen, Concordia's Director of Capital

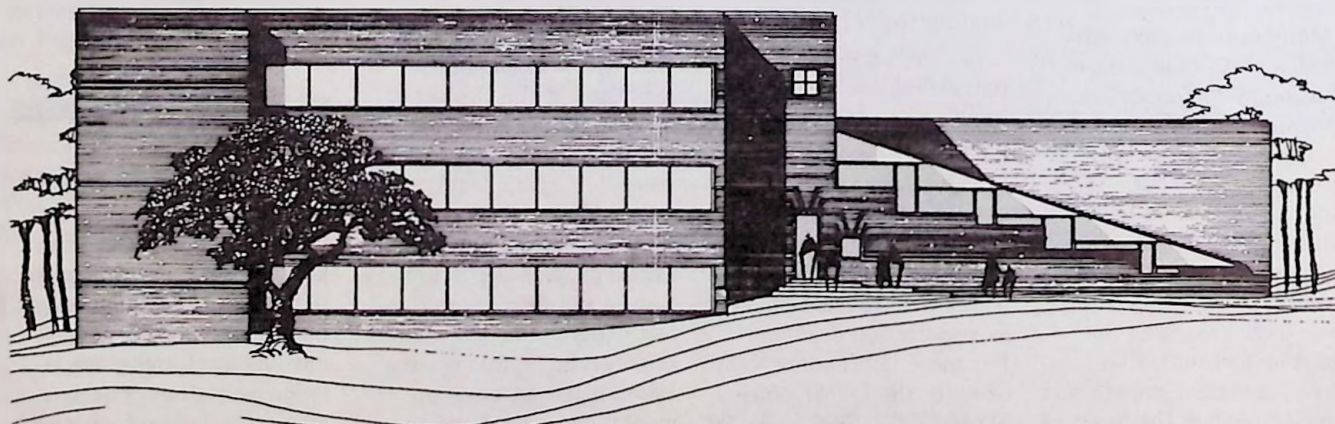
Gifts, indicates that \$900,000 has already been pledged toward the \$3,000,000 goal for the new center. Of that total, \$437,500 was received through major gifts to Missouri Synod's Alive in Christ appeal.

"Our Lord has blessed Concordia, making it a strong, healthy college," says Janssen. "This, I feel, is the reason the Board of Regents made the decision to move forward by expanding present facilities. It is through such bold action that Concordia can continue to grow and serve."

For further information on how you can help Concordia continue to move forward, contact Janssen at Concordia Lutheran College, 3400 IH 35 N., Austin, Texas 78705.

Pohl moves to directorship

Rev. Gary Pohl has been named Director of Development at Concordia. He formerly served the college as development associate.



Architect's drawing of the proposed Communication and Fine Arts Center.



Mrs. Edna Peiman Petersen was honored by Concordia Lutheran College as Woman of the Year for 1986. President Ray Martens presented congratulations at her home church, St. Mark in Houston.

Edna Petersen is Woman of the Year

Edna Peiman Petersen, Woman of the Year for 1986, represents the many Texas women who have done so much in service to God, church and community. In July Concordia President Ray F. Martens formally recognized her dedication and faithfulness at her home church, St. Mark in Houston. He presented her with a brass statue of Christ in appreciation of her example.

"Edna Petersen and others like her serve as role models for our women students," says Martens. "They point the way with lives of highest value and service."

Mrs. Petersen has been

asked to speak on campus in the fall.

Each Lutheran Women's Missionary League organization in Texas was asked to nominate a woman for the honor. The Concordia Board of Regents selected the honoree from 92 nominations.

The LWML organizations were encouraged to nominate a woman who fit the following criteria: provides leadership in the LWML; gives of time and talent to her congregation; demonstrates an enthusiasm for evangelism; supports Christian education; and evidences a joyous Christian faith.

Two LWML organizations nominated Mrs. Petersen, the Lutheran Ladies Circle of St. Mark and the ZEAL society of

Zion, Pasadena. Their nomination documents, along with numerous supporting letters, clearly testified that Mrs. Petersen has consistently demonstrated the above-listed qualities.

Edna Petersen is the wife of Ray Petersen, the director of Christian education at St. Mark, and has three sons and four grandchildren.

She serves as an inspiration for all.

Fall Festival to include anniversary celebration

Concordia's annual Fall Festival Weekend will be especially festive this year because it will include Founders Day on Sunday, Oct. 26, celebrating the 60th anniversary of the first day of classes at Lutheran Concordia College of Texas, as it was then named.

Weekend activities will begin on Friday, Oct. 24, with the first evening performance of the Fall Musical. Drama Director Michael Kramer has chosen a retelling of the child's fairy tale, "The Princess and the Pea" for this year's presentation.

The musical, titled "Once Upon a Mattress," recounts the familiar story of a prince's prospective bride who was so sensitive she could not sleep on a high stack of mattresses because a pea had been placed under the bottom one.

Saturday, Oct. 25, is Parents Day, with all parents and grandparents of CLC students invited to informa-

tional sessions and a reception.

The Concordia Council will also meet that day. The evening will be highlighted by a second performance of the musical.

Founders Day activities on Sunday will include special programming and the screening of a video history of the college. William Volkmann of Menard is honorary chairman of the Founders Day committee.

All Texas District Lutherans are invited to attend one or more Fall Festival events. Your church will receive an invitation and information to be included in your newsletter or bulletin.

Help your Concordia celebrate 60 years of quality Christian education.

Annual report features historical theme

The term "annual report" indicates a recital of facts and figures covering a given year, as Concordia's 1985-86 Annual Report does. However, because the college has completed a significant milestone in its history, the annual report also chronicles the progression of events from 1926 to 1986.

In addition, the report's photos show the people and progress over six decades.

Many have already received the 1985-86 Annual Report. If you have not and would like a copy, write Concordia's Director of Public Relations at 3400 IH 35 N., Austin, Texas 78705.

The Lord added . . .

Nineteen new members were welcomed in the first half of 1986 at Holy Cross, Nederland, by transfer, adult confirmation and baptism.

Reported in July was the addition of nine members at Our Savior, Rockwall.

On June 22, it was the privilege of Concordia, San Antonio, to receive 31 new members by confirmation, transfer and reprofession of faith.

Chartered on March 2 this year, Tree of Life, Garland, on May 18 received 14 members into fellowship, two by confirmation, two by reaffirmation of faith and 10 by transfer.

Reported in July by Our Redeemer, Dallas, was the addition of six new members.

Joyous news appearing in the July newsletter of Bethlehem, Palestine, was reception of 25 new members by junior and adult confirmation and transfer.

Introduced to the congregation on June 8 at Good Shepherd, Cedar Park, were 28 new members brought to the fellowship by transfer and affirmation of faith.

Members of Immanuel, Giddings, opened their hearts and their church on July 13 to 13 new members added by adult confirmation and baptism.

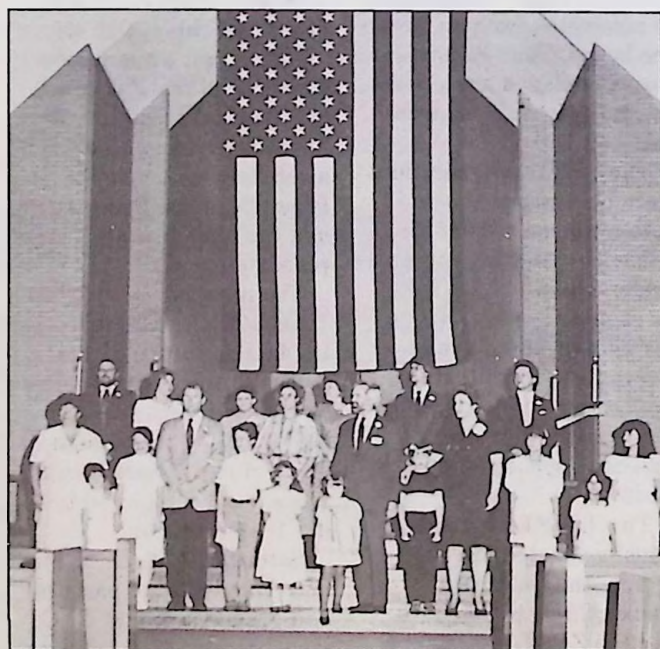
Lutheran Hour

You can hear the *Lutheran Hour* in the Arlington area on KVTI, KRLD, or KCBI on Sundays.



HOUSTON—With joyful hearts, the congregation of St. Matthew's Lutheran of Westfield (Houston) welcomed the new members at left into fellowship on June 29 through transfer and profession of faith.

AUSTIN—Our Savior Lutheran in Austin welcomed 27 new members, some of whom are shown at right, into membership on June 23 through baptism, adult confirmation and transfer.



FLAG DAY MEMBERS—In a special service on Flag Day, St. Mark Lutheran of Houston received 23 new members, (shown at left) eight by adult confirmation, two by profession of faith, three by transfer and 10 children, five of whom were baptized in the service. The American flag provided a backdrop for the reception service.



GAINESVILLE—Pastor Rudy C. Herbrich of Faith Lutheran, Gainesville, is shown with 17 of the 19 new members who were received May 25 by adult baptism, confirmation, profession of faith and transfer.



PECOS—In far west Texas, the congregation of Trinity Lutheran, Pecos, is praising the Lord for the addition of 13 new members to their family on April 27; six by adult confirmation, of whom five were baptized, three by reaffirmation of faith and four by transfer. The infant daughter of one new member also received the washing of Holy Baptism. They are pictured with Pastor Carl Sellent.

Texan compiles handbook for directors of children's choirs

After several years of diligent work, Donald O. Rotermund, minister of music at Zion Lutheran, Dallas, has compiled a handbook for directors of children's choirs.

Rotermund worked under the supervision of Concordia Publishing House of St. Louis, which commis-

sioned him to serve as chief editor for the handbook, *Children Sing His Praise*.

The process of preparing the handbook included collaboration with some of the most eminent individuals in the field of choral training.

In addition to coordinating the efforts of all contributing authors, Rotermund prepared two of the book's chapters.

Throughout the volume, pictures of Zion's school children help illustrate many of the techniques and skills presented.

Church baptizes 550th infant

Toni Nungaray, baptized July 6 at Gethsemane Lutheran of Houston, became a special statistic in the church records.

In recording the baptism, the office secretary noted that Toni is the 550th infant baptized at Gethsemane in the 32-year-history of the congregation.

During that same period, there have been 72 adults baptized.

District calendar

October

2-3—ALDE Conference.

6-8—Pastor-Educator Conference, Corpus Christi.

10-11—Lutheran Foundation of Texas Board.

10-11—Texas District Deaf Family Retreat, Camp Lone Star.

11-12—Lutheran Outdoors Ministry of Texas Family Camping, Glen Rose.

16—District Youth Committee, district office.

17-20—Church Extension Fund Conference, Austin.

20-22—Social Ministry Conference, New York City.

25—Concordia Council, Concordia College, Austin.

November

1—Lutheran Outdoors Ministry of Texas meeting, district office.

3-4—Staff Retreat, Camp Lone Star.

7-9—NAME Conference.

10-13—Council of Presidents.

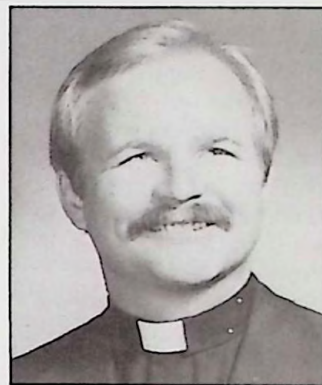
13-14—Association of Christian Schools International, Dallas.

14-16—Lutheran Youth Fellowship Conference, Houston.

16-17—Board for Mission Administration.

17—Board for Church Extension.

21-24—Fall Church Extension Fund Conference, Phoenix.



CALLED—Mark Arthur Cattau, graduate of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, has received a candidate call to Christ Lutheran in Hillsboro. He is from Fort Dodge, Iowa.

Fort Wayne sends three grads to Texas

Three graduates of Concordia Seminary, Fort Wayne, have received their first call into the holy ministry to serve in Texas.

They are:

- Mark Steven Dojan of Jackson, Mich., called to Our Savior Lutheran Church in Whitney.

- Loren Anthony Dubois of Des Moines, Iowa, called to Our Savior and Redeemer Lutheran Churches of Bay City and Palacios.

- Craig Bennett Fenske of Hankinson, N.Dak., called as mission developer/worker-priest for the Hispanic mission of Southwest Dallas.

Two LSST mission projects adopted at LWML convention

The Texas District LWML voted to fund two mission projects for Lutheran Social Service of Texas during their convention June 18-20 in Lubbock.

The two mission projects were: Clergy Careshops and staffing for a Valley Parenting Support Children's Shelter.

"The projects will be funded over a two-year period concluding in June of 1988," said Peggy Turnipseed, LWML's Mission Projects Chairman.

"The Clergy Careshops are designed to provide education to help clergy and their wives deal with problems of ministry, family and other stress," said mission sponsor Amalie Long of Monahans.

The careshops will be available to Texas District Missouri Synod pastors and their wives. The resolution adopted specifies that \$10,000 be extended to the Texas District Commission on Ministerial Health to work through LSST's

Clergy Care system to provide a series of careshops.

The Clergy Care Program, based in Dallas, began in 1982. Rev. Peter L. Steinke is director and conducts careshops and clergy counseling across the state.

The Valley Parenting Support Mission Project adopted commits \$15,000 to staffing of a foster care-type home for abused and neglected children.

"The purpose of this type of arrangement is to relieve the immediate stress factors which lead to abuse and neglect by placing the child in a foster-type home; and concurrently, working with the parents to improve their coping and parenting skills," said Rev. Calvin Goerdel, LSST's Vice President for Social Services.

The service is scheduled to begin in 1987.

The LSST Valley Service area office opened in Harlingen in July 1985 offering counseling, adoption and community projects.



NEW TWO—Pledging to welcome their newly adopted daughters into their hearts and home, adoptive parents Karen and Robert participate in an adoption placement service last June conducted by Rev. James Carlson.

Double joy in little bundles

A day in June was doubly blessed for Karen and Robert, a couple who became proud parents twice over of two-day-old twins. The couple (last name withheld by request) traveled from their San Antonio home to Victoria to meet their newly-adopted daughters, Kaitlin Michele and Megan Elise.

A placement service for the family was conducted by Rev. James Carlson of Trinity Lutheran Church, Victoria.

Ann Zaudtke, social worker for LSST's Unplanned Pregnancy Counseling Program in Victoria, notes, "Twins are a rarity to place."

Volunteers find the time

The theme, "Volunteers find the time," was proven at the Trinity Lutheran Home Shiner Appreciation Dinner, July 15. Approximately 54 volunteers collectively gave 6,501 hours to the home in the 12-month period ending June 30, 1986.

Nine volunteers were given special recognition for the larger amounts of time they gave. Those honored were Wilma Stindt, 939 hours; Nollie Muenich, 462; Erna Roth, 421 1/2; Bernice Ferrara, 385 1/4; Erna Barta, 242 1/2; Clara Fischer, 176; Irma Schendel, 162; Joyce Wehmann (unable to attend), 155; and

Elvera Hoerig, 152.

"Our volunteers are special friends to our residents," said Pfeil. "They do so many big and small things during the year to enrich and make the lives of the residents brighter."

Dee Hanks and Rosa Knudson were honored at a volunteer appreciation event in May at LSST's Lutheran Home Permian Basin in Midland.

Both help sponsor the Wednesday afternoon bingo at the Lutheran Home. Mrs. Jo Brandes, co-volunteer of the appreciation event says of the two, "We just couldn't do without them, they bring such loving care and dedication to the home."



FOUND THE TIME—These volunteers found the time to contribute more than 6,500 hours in a year to the Trinity Lutheran Home in Shiner. They were honored at an Appreciation Dinner July 15.



Lago Vista grad is Miss Everything

Polly Van Cleve, member of Christ Our Savior in Lago Vista, is a package of dynamite.

A graduating senior last spring, Polly was valedictorian of her class, cited for excellence in English, economics, chemistry and government.

She received the Capitol City A & M Club scholarship, the Fay T. Barnes Scholarship, the State Valedictorian Award and is the first recipient of the Julie Paul Memorial Scholarship.

Her excellence in volleyball (most valuable player) and track (competitor at the state level in the 3200-meter event) won her the Army Reserve Academic/Athlete award.

For her excellence in leadership and scholarship she was given the Education Flag Pin and the University Interscholastic League scholarship award.

Polly has been class president every year in high school, and as a senior was vice president of the band, president of the student council and president of the National Honor Society.

Our bright Lutheran kids . . .

Bruce Milbrath of Redeemer, Beaumont, chose to help his church as his Eagle Scout project. Bruce designed, recruited assistants, organized, planned and built a sidewalk structure for the church's new education/family center building.

Helping were Matt Hazelip, Rety Sleeper, Brian and Kevin Nelson, Gregory Weiss, Stephen Schattner and Aaron Sackreiter. Bruce didn't get to carve his name or troop number in the wet concrete, but the Lord knows who did it, and so do we.

Special congratulations to Tracey Jones of Prince of Peace, Carrollton, for being voted most valuable player on the St. John's College women's softball team.

Diane Hanff, Trinity Lu-

theran, Klein, was an exchange student to Australia for six weeks this summer.

In July seven-year-old Amanda Lentz participated in a national gymnastics meet in Mobile, Ala. Proud to claim her is Faith Lutheran, Andrews.

Bright kid Stephanie Pietsch, Concordia, Houston, was named outstanding algebra and history student at her high school.

Congratulations to Heidi Bruhl and Mark Carroll, Our Redeemer, Wichita Falls, who were awarded college scholarships by the Sheppard Air Force Base Officers Wives Club and NCO Wives Club.

Three cheers for Shannon Wickliffe, Redeemer, San Antonio, who excelled so much in athletics that she was chosen "Athlete of the

Running on empty?

The kids attending vacation Bible school at Bethlehem Lutheran, Palestine, during June seemed to their teachers to be running on empty. At least before refreshment time.

Each day, the youngsters downed six gallons of KoolAid and 25 dozen cookies.



Keith Hill

80s" at Redeemer School. As a proper award, Coach Jerry Gonzales retired her jersey. Number 14 now can be seen in the school's trophy case.

The abundance of bright kids at Resurrection Lutheran, Spring, include Paul Schubring who received an AAL All-College four year scholarship. He will attend Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, N.Y. Also, Brad Weselman, chosen by his high school faculty to attend the American Legion Boys State in Austin, and Linda Petersen, who graduated summa cum laude from Stephen F. Austin University where she was chosen Outstanding Language Arts Student of her class.

Douglas Romig, member of Faith Lutheran, Andrews, has received the Eagle Scout award in Seminole. He is attending Texas Tech this fall on a U.S. Army ROTC scholarship.

Why I go to a Lutheran school

by Keith Hill

I go to a Lutheran school

because it gives me a good Christian education. Classes like math, spelling, phonics, reading and science are taught by caring Christian teachers. They care enough to spend extra time with you if you need it. Even gym class is the same enjoyable way. I especially like my Bible history class, learning about my Lord and Savior.

I also go to a Lutheran school because the teachers, principal and the whole staff are kind and caring. I have enjoyed all of my teachers up to third grade, and I'm sure that I'll enjoy the rest of my teachers.

I have many Christian friends at my Lutheran school. They are a lot of fun to be with.

One last reason that I go to a Lutheran school is that my parents send me there. They went to Lutheran schools and know the importance of a Christian education.

(Keith is an "A" student at Our Savior Lutheran School, Houston. His essay was area winner in a statewide contest. He likes soccer, swimming and Cub Scouts. He's nine.)

You? Give a million-dollar gift? Read this before saying 'no way'

by Rev. Gerald Kieschnick
Director of Development
Lutheran Foundation of
Texas

Many, many years ago, I remember a television program called, "The Millionaire." The story revolved around a wealthy benefactor who regularly selected someone to receive his gift of \$1,000,000.

Until very recently, I never thought I would personally know anyone who would be capable of making a million dollar charitable gift. You can imagine my surprise when I recently discovered that, in fact, many people I know are entirely capable of such a gift.

- Allow me to illustrate by telling the story of just one of several families with whom I have been privileged to visit in my work with the Lutheran Foundation of Texas. This story is told with the individuals' consent, whose names have been changed to maintain their anonymity.

Larry and Alice are a Lutheran couple in Texas. The total value of their estate is just more than \$200,000. Their original plan was to leave one-half of their estate to their loved ones and the other half to three Lutheran ministries, including their home congregation.

- While visiting with Larry and Alice, I suggested an alternate plan for their consideration. The alternate plan included the creation of a Revocable Charitable Living Trust, funded initially with a \$10

bill, supplemented by a provision in their wills which will pour the net proceeds of their estate into this trust at the time of their deaths. This trust will be managed and invested by the Lutheran Foundation of Texas.

If their deaths are not simultaneous, the annual earnings of whatever assets have been placed into the trust will be paid by the Foundation to the surviving spouse as long as he or she lives.

Then, after both Larry and Alice are in heaven, the annual earnings from this trust will be paid to their loved ones for 10 years. After that time, the principal amount of the trust will be used to create a Memorial Fund bearing Larry and Alice's names.

This Fund also will be managed and invested by the Lutheran Foundation of Texas. The annual earnings from this fund will be paid to the Lutheran ministries chosen by Larry and Alice.

- So, instead of dividing \$100,000 among their loved



Rev. Gerald Kieschnick
ones, Larry and Alice will be able to distribute approximately \$200,000 among their loved ones over the 10 year period.

And, instead of dividing \$100,000 among the three Lutheran ministries, Larry and Alice will be able to distribute almost \$20,000 per year until the end of time among the three Lutheran ministries.

As you can see, over 50 years, even though Larry and Alice will have already been in heaven, their earthly possessions will have generated for the work of our Lord through The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod in Texas a gift of \$1,000,000. (That's one million dollars!) The exciting finale to this

story is twofold:

1. Every 50 years until the end of time, Larry and Alice will have been responsible for another \$1,000,000 gift.

2. Larry and Alice, from this very moment until they enter eternal life through physical death, have the joy, the peace of mind and the excitement of knowing that they have generously provided for their loved ones and for their church.

- You, too, can share the joy, the peace of mind and the excitement experienced by Larry and Alice.

For more information, at no cost or obligation, simply complete and mail the coupon below.

Congregation honors pastor J. Louis Konz

Calvary Lutheran of Houston honored its pastor, Rev. J. Louis Konz, with a retirement service June 8.

Konz, who retired earlier this year, has devoted 42 years to the ministry.

Konz's initial call sent him to Nigeria where he was a missionary from 1944 to 1959. Before coming to Calvary, he served Trinity Lutheran in Eden, Texas, and Grace Lutheran in Marlin. He came to Calvary in 1974.

Though retired, Konz shows no signs of slowing down. He is vacancy pastor at Holy Cross of Houston, and continues to serve as Houston Area Circuit Counselor, a long-time post.



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 _____



100-year-old oaks grace new site of St. Timothy, Houston

St. Timothy Lutheran of Houston dedicated its new church facilities June 22.

Guest speaker was Rev. Terry Ahlmeyer of Pleasant Plains, Ill., former pastor of St. Timothy. Dr. Carl Heckmann, Texas District director of development, also was a guest speaker. Rev. Stephen McClintic is pastor.

The 7,200 square-foot sanctuary sits at the front of a 9 1/2-acre site, graced by 100-year-old oak trees. Twenty stained glass windows depict significant events from the Old and New Testaments.

The pipe organ has three keyboards, 17 stops, and 1,118 pipes encased in a red oak cabinet.

Church dedication anniversary is marked at Immanuel

On July 27 Immanuel Lutheran Church, Houston, celebrated the 25th anniversary of its church sanctuary dedication.

Dr. Elmo Miertschin was guest speaker. He was pastor at Immanuel when the church was built and dedicated. Rev. R.G. Friedrichs is pastor.

The observance included a dinner followed by a program at which all who were "firsts" were introduced—first to be baptized, first confirmation, first marriage and so on.



NEW SANCTUARY—This is the new sanctuary of St. Timothy Lutheran, Houston, which was dedicated June 22. Rev. Stephen McClintic is

pastor. Oak trees 100 years old grace the grounds.

Growth spurs expansion of Lamb of God Lutheran in Humble

As many passersby on 1960 Bypass in Humble have noticed, Lamb of God Lutheran Church continues with its plans to build an impressive new sanctuary.

"Lamb of God has grown so much in the past nine years," says Rev. John Miller, pastor, "that we just had to do something to expand our abilities to serve the community."

With membership growing, the congregation responded.

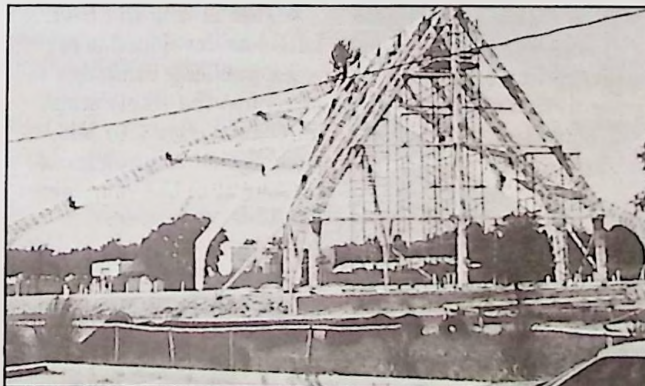
Building plans were drawn for a church seating 500 people, turning the present sanctuary into edu-

cational and administrative space.

The congregation then responded with a successful fund-raising program, using the slogan, "Not equal giving, but equal sacrifice."

One member remembers, "It was wonderful to see the outpouring of the Holy Spirit as it touched the hearts of those making commitments."

Building costs are estimated at \$650,000 and have been underwritten by three-year pledges from more than 80 percent of its members.



WHAT IS IT?—This is the framework of the new sanctuary being erected to accommodate the growth experienced by Lamb of God Lutheran in Humble.

Hurricane Bonnie leaves minor damage

Hurricane Bonnie, first of the season, was described as a "small hurricane."

If this was a small hurricane, our pastors in the Beaumont and Port Arthur areas have no desire to know what a "big hurricane" could do.

No Lutherans were hurt, and Lutheran churches came through with minor damage—except at Hope Lutheran in Winnie, where Curt Schneider is pastor. There, the roof was peeled back and there was considerable rain damage.

Almost everyone lost electrical service, but it returned quickly.

Said District President Glenn O'Shoney, "Some people talk about hurricanes as a way of life for those along the Texas coast, but they are never just a way of life. They are devastating and frightening."

"We are thankful Bonnie is history and hope that it will be the last hurricane to touch our shores this year."

LUTHERAN LAYMEN'S LEAGUE

Young Adults program of LLL abounds with opportunity

Young Adults in the International Lutheran Laymen's League is an uplifting experience for everyone, ages 18 and over.

Whether you're single, married, divorced, widowed, employed, at school, unemployed, at home, or just a person like you, the LLL Young Adults program is for you.

- The LLL Young Adults program soars with fellowship, fulfillment, new bonds and friendship, worldwide broadcasting, meaningful work, recognition and impact, purpose and direction.

Launched from homes, congregations, LLL-affiliated groups and communities, the program is fueled through prayer support, LLL resources, leadership opportunities, retreats, communications and service projects.

For more information, contact Thomas Byrne, Young Adult Chairman, 3501 Antelope Trail, Temple, Texas 76501.

Christian Rock

Crosswalk is now the most widely syndicated radio show in North America devoted exclusively to progressive Christian rock music. More than 400 radio stations in the United States and Canada carry the program, which is produced by the Int'l LLL in St. Louis.

"The majority of stations airing 'Crosswalk' are so-



called secular stations," says Mark Eischer, program producer. "This means that Christian artists have the potential to reach a broader audience through the program," he said.

- Recent *Crosswalk* broadcasts have featured Owen and Sandy Brock of *Servant: REZ*; Petra, Robert Sweet of *Stryper*; and Vision's Billy Powell, formerly of *Lynyrd Skynyrd*.

Crosswalk is available to radio stations on a sustaining, public service basis.

Membership campaign

Remember in September and October all membership representatives should begin publicity for the Oct. 1 direct mail campaign. This publicity should be designed to alert members that their membership renewal notices will be arriving about Oct. 1 and should encourage immediate response to this mailing.

- About Sept. 30, the membership representatives enrolled to date receive a computer printout of those members of their congregations who have been LLL members for any of the past three years.

Then, about Oct. 1, the first direct mail enrollment forms will be mailed to all members who have been

enrolled in any of the last three campaigns.

Thus, if a person has missed enrolling for a year or two, he is given another opportunity. Also at this time, representatives should be enrolling new members and continue to encourage immediate response to this mailing.

TV Sunday

On Sept. 21, we will celebrate Lutheran Television Sunday in The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod churches throughout the United States and Canada.

- This is a wonderful way for churches to participate in carrying out the Lord's Great Commission to share news of Christ our Savior. By supporting Lutheran Television, we make it possible to expand the league's television outreach.

Poster campaign

Many Lutherans know the Int'l Lutheran Laymen's League as the organization that sponsors *The Lutheran Hour*. Some know that it sponsors *This is the Life*. Most however, know nothing about the league's many other programs and projects.

- That is why the Int'l LLL has developed a 12-week publicity campaign to introduce the whole scope of league activity to Missouri Synod congregations.

Central to the campaign are 12 large posters designed for display in church narthexes. A display stand is furnished as are bulletin inserts and brochures relating to each poster.

The campaign could be used during a membership campaign, to acquaint a



congregation in which a group is considering LLL group affiliation with the league, or in a variety of ways.

- A congregation wishing to use the 12-week publicity campaign materials should appoint a publicity campaign manager. That person should contact the league's public relations department for an order form and for specific information about conducting the campaign.

Workers safe

The Lord again protected the Middle East Lutheran Ministry staff in Beirut, Lebanon.

Moris Jahshan, Lebanon *Lutheran Hour* manager, reported that on July 10 a time-bomb was placed under a British embassy car near the entrance to the new Lutheran Ministry building in East Beirut.

"We thank the Lord that our staff members are all safe," said Jahshan. The blast destroyed several cars in the street and caused \$25,000 damage to the building.

The information above was written by Gary Laneman, Information Coordinator, Lone Star District, 11601 January, Austin, Texas 78753.



Opening new doors

God opens doors of opportunities for all of us to serve Him and His people. Through the LWML I have a new opportunity to grow spiritually as I serve others.



Rev. Kim DeVries

As evidenced at the district convention in Lubbock, the women of Texas demonstrated an enthusiastic faith that could move mountains. Had I never attended an LWML meeting, zone rally or district convention, I would not know the power of the Holy Spirit that moves within the LWML.

I encourage each of you to open the door to your first LWML meeting, zone function or convention. Do not fear if you are asked to serve in any capacity, for the Lord will supply the talent if we but supply the willing heart and hands.

As I begin my term as your district pastoral advisor, a new door in my life has been opened. My prayer is that God will also open a new door for you as we "serve the Lord with gladness."

*Pastor Kim DeVries
District Counselor*

LWML news

LWML news should be sent to Dolores Bruncke, Texas District Editor, 3944 Meriman, Plano, Texas 75074.

LWML plaque at Concordia

A memorial plaque will be placed at Concordia College in Austin commemorating the site of the first Texas District LWML convention, which was held on June 10, 1942.

The dedication service will take place Oct. 26 as part of Founder's Day campus activities. All leaguers are invited to attend.

Convention thanks

Convention chairman Jeanne (Cargile) Meredith shares two special notes of appreciation with all Texas leaguers.

From Alice Cross, international vice president for mission projects: "Hospitality was just overwhelming . . . I was told I would find this in Texas, and all I can say is 'Amen—it is so!'"

From Debra Curry, secretary of the East Texas zone: "A Texas-size *thank you* to all the convention hosts . . . Everything was very well organized and inspiring . . . We will look forward to seeing you in Fort Worth. Praise Him! All Heaven and Earth!"

Quarterly requests news

The spring 1987 LWML *Quarterly* will emphasize "Helping the Hurting." Your society is invited to share examples of what can be done by God's caring people.

Does your congregation conduct "compassion training" courses?

How does your society minister to people who are hurting, divorced, lost a loved one, suicide, drugs, victims of rape?

Is your group involved in community projects that offer assistance to desperate people through a crisis hotline?

Tell about that compassionate individual who always seems to have the time, the heart and the ability to help the hurting.

Send information and photos to Pauline Groerich, 2796 S. Wolff St., Denver, Colo. 80235 by Oct. 20.

LWR drive

Texas societies are encouraged to plan now for the 1987 Lutheran World Relief Drive, which will be held April 20-24.

For details, contact Mrs. Katherine Boone, 175 Easton Rd., Dallas 75218.

Now showing: Texas mission projects

Are you looking for a program idea? Slides on all the newly-chosen Texas mission projects are ready for society use.

Two programs are available: a full-length version, complete with script, lasts 45 minutes; and a shorter version lasts 25 minutes.

You may reserve a slide program by contacting district mission projects chairman Mrs. Peggy Turnipseed, 1302 March Drive, Austin 78753.



Selecting fabric and patterns with a western look was one of the first orders of business for members of the ushers/pages committee of the 1987 international convention. Shown from left are ushers chairman and co-chairman Phyllis Kohls and Clarice Lundquist, and pages chairman and co-chairman Priscilla Anderson and Frances Bradley.



LWML members of Beautiful Savior, Houston, welcomed more than 200 members and guests to an Hispanic Mission Festival held recently at their church. The guest books were given to the church's mission board for follow-up calls.

Society retreat—an important bond

Using material from the 1984 San Antonio Christian Growth Seminar, the women of First Lutheran LWML of Lufkin used the beauty and seclusion of a river house set on 640 acres to help them learn about "Strengthening the Christian Woman."

According to society secretary Debra Curry, this annual retreat "strengthens the participants and the LWML unit more than any other society activity."

"New friends are made," she states, "and this year old friends were reunited through a special visit from a former member."

Highlights included a sunrise devotion and quiet times for personal commitment to spiritual growth.

Society officers are encouraged to read and use the "Did You Know" section of the convention manual (pages 67-70).

Mite Report

July 28, 1986

1986-88 Goal \$178,000

Received in July \$5,443

Received 2 mos.

\$16,657

Still needed \$161,343

Send mites to: Mina Fitting, 704 Dellwood, Midland 79703. MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO TEXAS DISTRICT LWML.

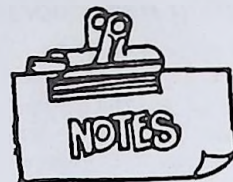


Members attending the eighth annual women's retreat of First Lutheran Church, Lufkin, give evidence of the unity and joy the event produces.

District service project chosen

Gathering quilts and blankets for distribution to the world's needy people has been chosen as the 1987 special mission service project for the Texas LWML.

Societies are encouraged to begin gathering fabric now (doubleknits are useable) for quilt preparation. Details, including sizes, are available from mission service chairman Theresa McMurray, 1210 Voyle, Lufkin, 75901.



• Did you know that the LWML *Quarterly* is available in large print? What loving gifts these could make for nursing homes and special women of your congregation!

All *Quarterly* orders may be made and increased through Catherine Burkhard, 6660 Santa Anita Dr., Dallas 75214, with payment going to Mina Fitting, our district financial secretary.

• Did you also know that any payment made for the *Quarterly* helps more of our mite money go to missions?

• Zones are reminded to send their histories to district Archivist/Historian Elaine Schur. Page 68 of the convention manual gives guidelines on how and what to save.

• During the convention, a woman stopped at the braille booth to request material for her blind brother. Mrs. Helen Braun now has additional material, but has no name or address for the brother. If this concerns you, please contact Helen at 5306 31st St., Lubbock, 79407.

• Zone secretaries are reminded to send rally minutes to the district president after each rally.

• Blessings and congratulations to former district president Jeanne (Cargile) Meredith and husband Jim, who were married July 19!



There are some things that only a synod can do

The 56th Regular Convention of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod is now history. Texas was represented by 70 voting and advisory delegates. These men and women were honored to have the privilege of representing you and the entire Texas District.

As I sat in the convention sessions, I realized, again, that there are some things only a synod can do.

- Only a synod, a banding together of congregations, can have a world mission program like our program in The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. We reach into 35 foreign fields—preaching the Good News of Jesus Christ among people we will never meet this side of the veil . . . people whose language we do not understand . . . but we are there.

Only a synod has the financial wherewithal to accomplish this aspect of our Lord's mandate to "Go into all the world and preach the Good News of Jesus Christ to every person."

- And only a synod has the financial ability to maintain colleges and seminaries to prepare men and women for ministry. Even as a Synod—with considerable financial resources—we struggle to maintain a quality educational program.

But who will argue that our educational system has been one of the strengths of our church, that the men and women who have been prepared for ministry are



Glenn O'Shoney

well prepared—truly gifted—real gifts of God to the church.

- Only a group like our Synod can effectively show concern for the professional workers through a plan like the Concordia Plans—see to the health benefits of the workers—see to adequate retirement benefits.

- There are many things only a coming together of all of the people of God—like that coming together in our Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod—can accomplish.

Many resolutions were adopted at the synodical convention. These resolutions offer the church a sense of direction—a sense of mission.

Personally, I wish we would spend far more time on mission resolutions and far less time on bylaw resolutions—but both are, in fact, necessary for the well being of our church.

We are a strong church body. We have great resources. We have strengths we have not even begun to tap. Our greatest strength, of course, doesn't come from within us—it comes from God Himself, the One who has sent us into mission.

We recognize our many failings—our many weaknesses. We are people plagued with sin, indifference, sometimes contentiousness.

But we are the people of God. We are the called and redeemed ones.

It's a great feeling to be a part of a synodical convention. It's a wonderful feeling especially to be a part of the convention's worship and praise aspects. It's good to know that our church, meeting in convention, is just a tiny part of the real working of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

The real work takes place where you are—through your congregation—through its mission and ministry and training and sending.

Mutual Prayer Ministries

One of our Texas pastors, Rev. James Herzog, has a seriously diseased heart. He is not able to function as a parish pastor. But he functions every day on your behalf, my behalf, on behalf of the district and Synod.

Though he is disabled in many ways, his prayer life is not disabled. It is a tremendous joy to know that Jim prays for me every day. It should be a joy to many that you are included in his prayers.

How is your prayer life? I think it's often the case that we "have not, because we ask not."

- It would be fitting for you to remember Rev. James Herzog in your prayers . . . as he most certainly remembers you.



CONFIRMANDS—These are 1936 confirmands of St. Paul, Bishop.

50-year confirmands in reunion

The 1936 confirmation class of St. Paul, Bishop, celebrated its 50th anniversary May 4.

All nine class members were present. At the celebration service, Rev. Mark Emel, pastor, included the confirmation hymn, "In the Hour of Trial," which had been sung by the class 50 years before.

Members of the class in the picture above include, back row, from left, John Schubert, Hazelwood, Mo.; John A. Wuensche Jr., Victoria; Erwin Richter, Seguin; Raymond Denkeler, Bishop; Louis Kieschnick, Bandera; front row, Allyne Moerbe, Katy; Dorothy (Mrs. David) Theis; Eleanor Pfluger and Helen Shafer, both of Bishop.

Happenings in Texas

Members of Gloria Dei, Houston, have come to grips with the names of the Czechoslovakian refugees they sponsor in their area. Vladimir and Frantisek are warmly accepted as John and Frank.

Rob Gerlach, minister of music and teacher at Redeemer, Austin, and Gwen Hohle, teacher at St. Paul, Austin, have completed a 15-hour graduate level certification in music education at Sam Houston State University, Huntsville.

A loving ministry to the sick and aged is conducted by members of Faith Lutheran, Huntsville, who visit Green Acres Nursing Home every month to celebrate the residents' birthdays.

Rev. James Glaspie was installed Aug. 17 at Calvary Lutheran, Houston.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Dube of Redeemer, Baytown, who observed their 55th wedding anniversary on Aug. 16.

Randy Schroeder, son of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur J. Schroeder, charter members of Redeemer, Austin, received the rite of ordination Aug. 10 at Redeemer.

Pastor Richard Kurth of St. Mark, Houston, is putting a lot of himself into his ministry—including eight gallons of blood for the blood services program.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. C.T. Schoessow of Messiah, Houston, who



SURPRISE!—Judy Joeckel, wife of Pastor Dave Joeckel, right, attempts to stifle an "Oh, my goodness" as she is ushered into a surprise birthday party given for her by her church friends at Grace Lutheran, Arlington.

celebrated their 53rd wedding anniversary on Aug. 13.

The congregation of St. Paul, Fort Worth, recently honored Lillian Englefried on her 25th year as church secretary.

A loving service is performed by members of Our Redeemer, Wichita Falls, who conduct devotional services at a local nursing home.

VBS attendance was perfect at Our Savior, Abilene. Every child who started the first day was present every day. Visiting children also were added daily.

Tom Grunow, first principal/administrator of Concordia Lutheran High School in Tomball, has resigned from the post to become Dean for Institutional Advancement at Concordia Lutheran College, Portland, Oreg.

Good Shepherd Lutheran, Austin, dedicated its new education building Aug. 17.

Three Texans attended a workshop held during August in Seward, Nebr. The workshop, sponsored by the Synod's Board for Parish Services, was on "Writing for the Church." Attending from Texas were Millie Martin, Tomball; Claudia Nash, Houston; and Rev. Dennis Schiefelbein, Corpus Christi.

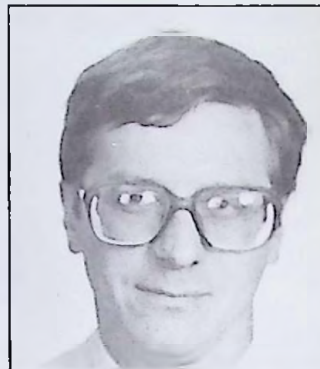
Yvonne Symank, a University of Houston fine arts major and a member of St. Mark, Houston, was pleased to see her artwork come to life. Her original designs of the bear, penguin and rabbit were chosen to be the costume characters at Fame City, a newly established amusement park in Houston.

Join the choir!

You live longer with a song in your heart. Opera singers shape up by singing. A new study suggests their lungs and hearts might be just as strong as any athlete's.



ELECTED—Deaconess Eunice McKinney, a member of Gloria Dei, Houston, was elected treasurer of the Lutheran Deaconess Conference at its annual session held July 10-14 in Valparaiso, Ind.



Rev. Barry L. Pfanstiel

Lamb of God in Humble adds second pastor

Rev. Barry L. Pfanstiel was installed July 13 as associate pastor of Lamb of God Lutheran Church in Humble.

Presiding at the ceremony was Rev. John Miller, who said, "In just nine years we have grown to more than 800 souls, are in the process of a major building program and now are expanding our pastoral care to better serve the community."

Pfanstiel commented, "It is obvious that the greater Humble area is continuing to grow and we look forward to sharing the love of Christ with our neighbors and providing increased opportunities for spiritual development."

Pfanstiel is a native of Kentucky, entered the ministry in 1974 and previously was pastor of a congregation in McMinnville, Tenn. He and his wife Janine have twin daughters, Lindsey and Rachel, 2.

A thought

Did you know that most people who join a church were invited by a friend?



FRUITS OF THEIR LABOR—In October last year a new church facility built by Laborers for Christ was dedicated at St. John, Athens. Here is one fruit of their labor: kids and teachers from the first St. John Vacation Bible School, which was held in July.

Legionnaires honor Seguin Lutheran

Special recognition was given to Post Chaplain Basil Karm by members of his American Legion Post in Seguin.

Some of his accomplishments last year included dedicating approximately two-and-one-half days a week to shut-ins in rest homes. He visited people in the hospital and at home throughout the community.

He set a record for membership recruitment by signing up 98 new members for Post 245 last year.

Karm is a member of Grace Lutheran, Seguin. According to his pastor, "He applies the same skills here as an active member of our evangelism committee, and in visitation, follow-up and personal care."



D.C. DETERMINED—This bunch from St. Peter's in Bowie got together to make sure the church youth group had funds for its trip to the youth gathering in Washington, D.C. The group, aided by their moms, put on a benefit Mexican dinner, held a car wash, sold wood and had a bake sale. Back row, from left, are sponsor Brent Husfeld, Donna Roth, Darren Gill, Doris Long, Glenda Roth, Rose Marie Husfeld, Sylvia Morton, Guy Morton and Pastor Jerry Bagwell. In front, Renae Roth, Sherry Long and Don Gill.

Texas Lutherans for Life are encouraged at LWML convention

by Pat Brown

Exciting! Enriching! Edifying! How else can we describe the events of the 1986 Texas District LWML convention?

Texas Lutherans for Life (TeLL) representatives gathered with more than 500 delegates and guests June 18-20 in Lubbock to worship and praise, work and play.

As we praise and thank God for His blessing upon our efforts, we also gratefully acknowledge the support and encouragement of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League members.

Praise God with thanks!

- For the 500 men and women who accepted tote bags inscribed *Unborn Babies are People Too*.

- For the hundreds who stopped by our exhibit to examine brochures and books.

- For those who, on the first evening, depleted our supply of *Precious Feet* lapel pins.

Praise God with thanks!

- For the zone and society leaders who expressed interest in having us make presentations to their organizations.

- For the many concerned individuals who added their names to the mailing list for TeLL's newsletter.

- For the high school teacher who purchased 25 copies of *When You Were Formed in Secret* to be used as supplementary ma-

terial in her classroom.

Praise God with thanks!

- For Rev. Ron Jenkins of Christ Lutheran Church, Lubbock, who invited us to give our film presentation to his Bible class members.

- For the 52 members of Christ Lutheran who welcomed us with their friendly interest.

- For all who worked faithfully many weeks and months to make the convention a success and who made our participation possible.

- For our many brothers and sisters in Christ, God's lasting instruments of blessing upon our participation and with whom we echo this line of that great convention hymn:

"Give honor to Christ and His name that we bear."

For more information about TeLL and how your adult Bible class can have a presentation about life issues, write to:

TeLL, 109 Susan Carrol, San Antonio, Texas 78216 or call 512-342-6957.

Send your news to Bill

Send your news releases, photos (color pictures are okay), parish newsletters and bulletins for the LUTHERAN WITNESS to:

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



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 _____

A gift is a gift is a gift . . .

by Carl A. Heckmann
Executive Director
Lutheran Foundation
of Texas

That's three . . . three gifts!

An estate left \$60,000 under the management of the Lutheran Foundation of Texas to be held in trust until a retirement home could be built in a given area of the state.

Ultimately, two retirement homes were planned in that area and each wanted to receive the original bequest. Under the management of the Lutheran Foundation of Texas, more than the original gift was available to each of the two potential retirement homes.

Also, while the money was held in trust, much of it was invested in the Church Extension Fund, making it possible for new mission congregations to begin constructing their first facility.

Mr. and Mrs. Smith wanted to make a sizable gift to their congregation. They gave the money to the Lutheran Foundation of Texas to manage. Before

the gift could be made to the congregation, they wanted to help a young pastor with a special gift to purchase a home.

Through the Lutheran Foundation of Texas, both were possible: the congregation and the pastor each received a gift. And, for a good while, all of that gift was invested in the Church Extension Fund and churches were being built.

A gift is a gift . . . or is it more than that?

The Lutheran Foundation of Texas
7900 U.S. 290 East
Austin, Texas 78724
512-926-4272

The difference

Reliable statistical research indicates that a comparison of church-professing Lutherans reveals that those who attended Lutheran schools profess a great clarity on the way of salvation by grace through faith in Jesus Christ alone (show more tendency to reject belief in salvation by works.)

Zest for life, love for God Madge's attributes after 91 years

Like most pastor's wives, Madge (Magdelene) Kersten Peiman involved herself with parish work, attended meetings and often served as pianist and organist.

At 91, it's still going on. Mrs. Peiman was born April 17, 1895 in Vassar, Kans. She married Herbert Peiman on Dec. 25, 1917. He became a Lutheran minister.

Madge's husband served four parishes in Texas: Cisco, Vernon, Borger and Lariat. He died July 23, 1973.

Some of her roles changed with her husband's death, but not her role as a busy, concerned child of God.

Today at 91 Madge is an active member of the LWML at St. John Lutheran in Lariat. She hemstitches baptismal napkins for her church and makes quilts for Good Shepherd Lutheran Home for the Retarded at Cypress, Texas.

She is an active member of the auxiliary at Good Samaritan, the Farwell Convalescent Center, where she helps with bingo games each Monday afternoon and with devotions twice a month.

She works with braille once a month at St. John Braille Work Center and attends weekly Bible classes at St. John and also at Immanuel Lutheran in Clovis, N.Mex.

Her busy fingers find time for handmade gifts for



Mrs. Madge Peiman

family and friends.

Madge's joy and zest for living were clearly visible recently when she and her five daughters attended the LWML convention in Lubbock.

Reflecting on her life as a minister's wife and as a Christian woman, she said, "It has not always been easy, but I would have had it no other way."

Her life has been and continues to be a living witness to these words from Isaiah 46:4, "Even to your old age and gray hairs, I am He, I am He who will sustain you."

Fritsche takes principal position

Ronald Fritsche was installed Aug. 10 as principal of Immanuel Lutheran School, Houston. Rev. R.G. Friedrichs, Immanuel's pastor, served as the officiant and performed the rite of installation.

Assisting in the installation were Ray Petersen, director of Christian education at St. Mark's Lutheran; James Hutter, Zion school principal; Ed Richter, principal at Our Savior; Martin Mueller, Bethany DCE; and Don Schmidt, Tomball principal.



The Lord added to His church . . .

Asking that their membership be a blessing to them and their fellow members, the congregation of **Trinity, Klein**, welcomed 39 new members on Aug. 3.

Nineteen new members were received at **Our Savior, Abilene**, on Aug. 3.

It was the privilege of the congregation of **Redeemer, Odessa**, to hear the confession of 11 Christian people who, with their families, joined the church as communicant members on Aug. 3.

On June 29, the Lord added 40 new members at **St. Philip, Houston**: nine by confirmation, three by profession of faith and 28 by transfer.

Rejoicing over 14 new members in July and August was **Redeemer, Beaumont**, where the newcomers joined by adult baptism, adult confirmation, affirmation of faith and transfer. Four young

children also were baptized.

Our Redeemer, Irving, was blessed on June 29 with four new members welcomed into their forever family.

The Lord added 28 new communicants to the membership of **Lamb of God Lutheran, Lewisville**, of whom 22 were received by transfer and six by adult confirmation. Two of the adults confirmed also were baptized.

On Aug. 3, five adults were welcomed into membership at **St. Andrew, Houston**, by confirmation.

Welcomed in August at **Redeemer, Austin**, were 15 new members into church fellowship.

Three children were brought to Jesus through baptism on Aug. 3 at **Faith Lutheran, Houston**, along with seven new members who were welcomed into Faith's forever family.



SAN ANTONIO—King of Kings Lutheran of San Antonio Pastor Henry H. Biar received four members on July 27 by holy baptism, eight by confirmation and two by profession of faith. Five members had been added on May 25 by transfer.



TRIPLE HEADER—Placed into the arms of Jesus by three were these triplets baptized in June at Zion Lutheran of the Lockett community near Vernon. Dad Danny Fancher holds an earlier arrival, three-year-old Krystal, along with triplet Justin. Mom Julie Fancher holds Jason while Pastor Gerald Thiele manages Jarod Fancher.

By transfer and reaffirmation of faith, seven new members joined **Hope, Austin**, on Sept. 7.

Direct dialing

You'll never get a busy signal on the prayer line to heaven.



AMARILLO—Four young people and one adult were confirmed recently along with reception of two family transfers at Christ Lutheran in Amarillo.



ORDAINED—Participating in the ordination of Alan Struckmeyer at Trinity Lutheran, Navasota, were, from left, Jerry Discher, Robert Myers, Frank Manus, Struckmeyer, Richard Kessler, Melin Boelke and Gilbert Franke.

One-of-a-kind window reminds both sleepers and preachers

Christ Lutheran Church of Austin may have a church window like no other church window in the world.

The etched glass window, in the stairwell to the balcony, commemorates Eutychus, whose story in Acts 20:9-12 says he fell asleep during one of Paul's sermons and fell to his death from a third-story window.

Paul brought him back to life.

The window has an Austin background scene which brings the story to our time.

Why Eutychus? Christ Lutheran's pastor, Rev. Roy Bohrer, suggests that the Eutychus window serves as a reminder to preachers and listeners alike.



DOOR-OPENING—Rev. Fred Boden, Texas District mission director, center, officiates at the door-opening ceremony for the dedication of Crown of Life Lutheran Church, San Antonio.

Congregation ordains second member

On June 22 Trinity Lutheran of Navasota ordained its second member in two years.

He is Alan Struckmeyer, son of Marvin and Verna Mae Struckmeyer. He later was installed as pastor of St. John Lutheran in Pryor, Okla.

Chaplain Jerry Discher, a former pastor of Trinity, preached the ordination sermon. Rev. Gilbert Franke, circuit counselor, was the ordainer. Rev. Robert Myers, pastor of Trinity, served as liturgist.

Struckmeyer, married to Linda Rose Knapp of Columbia, Ill., graduated from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, last spring.

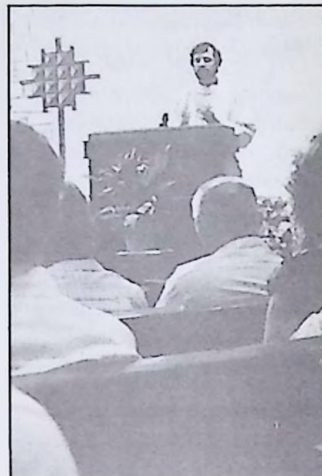
A year ago, Rev. John Treude, now serving in Caracas, Venezuela, was ordained at Trinity, his home congregation.

Crown of Life dedicates church

Crown of Life Lutheran Church of San Antonio dedicated its new sanctuary Aug. 3. Officiant and preacher was Rev. Fred Boden, Texas District mission director.

Larry Ohls is chairman of the 210-member congregation.

In 1982, Rev. Paul Short served as missionary-at-large and led the congregation's development. He was called as pastor and installed in 1984. Earlier this year, Short accepted a call to a pastorate in Kentucky.



HONORED—Vern Koehlinger addresses his home congregation, Gloria Dei, Houston, after his recent graduation from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis.

Congregation's pastor 'son' is honored

Aug. 10 was a special day for the congregation of Gloria Dei Lutheran of Houston (Nassau Bay).

One of its former members, Vern Koehlinger, a recent graduate of Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, returned to share the pulpit that day with Rev. John H. Kieschnick, senior pastor, and to speak with high school youth during the Sunday school hour.

Koehlinger is the congregation's first member to graduate from the seminary. A reception was held after the worship services to honor him, his wife Marie and sons Benjamin and Peter.

Before entering the seminary, Koehlinger was an engineer for a Houston company and has a chemical engineering degree from Purdue University.



Amarillo church offers haven during tornado season

The Texas Panhandle is a terrific place to be—except during a tornado.

Since most Panhandle residents do not have a good storm shelter, Christ Lutheran of Amarillo offered its church basement for use as a shelter.

The Civil Defense organization inspected the basement and assured the congregation it would make an excellent storm shelter.

The congregation prepared maps for area residents.

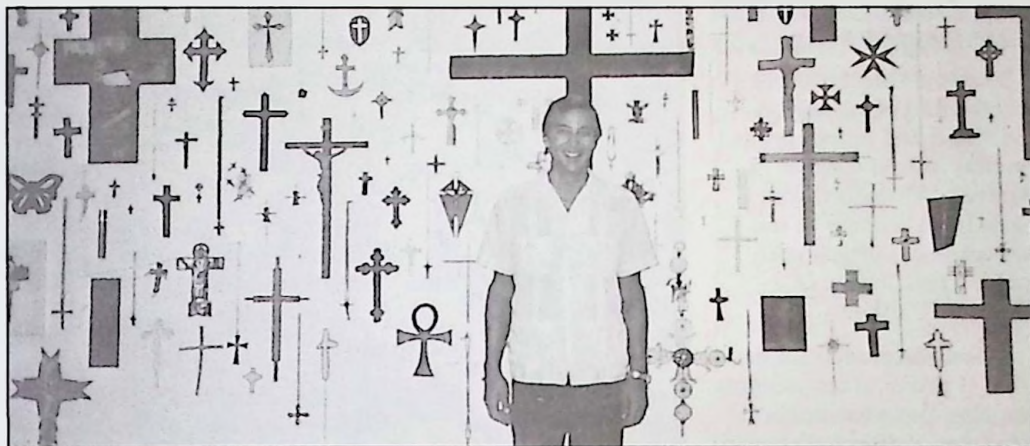
The basement will be opened for possible use during all storm warnings.

Mother's Day Out idea helps hungry in Panhandle

From Christ Lutheran of Amarillo's pastor, Rev. Robert Kuhlmann, came the idea for Mother's Day Out participants to help the hungry.

If a child brought two or more canned goods articles, the Mother's Day Out fee was reduced by \$1. Then a special dedication of the canned goods for service to the hungry was held.

According to Keith Loomans, director of the Texas District's Board for Parish Services, this is a good example of how a ministry of care to one group can become a source of care ministry for others—a good example for little ones as they grow in their understanding of caring for others.



CROSS COLLECTION—Pastor John Selle of Faith Lutheran, Georgetown, poses with his collection of crosses which now numbers more than 250. He remembers where most of the

crosses came from, especially the one woven from thread obtained by unraveling a prisoner's socks.

100th birthday for pastor's widow

Louise Kellner Streckfuss celebrated her 100th birthday July 6 at Trinity Lutheran Home in Round Rock with her sister, two sons, two daughters and several grandchildren.

She is the widow of Rev. John Martin Streckfuss, who was a missionary and Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod minister in Texas from 1904 to 1918.

Her husband was the son of Rev. John Adam Streckfuss, who was a Missouri Synod pastor in Illinois and worked for Concordia Publishing House in St. Louis.

John Streckfuss was the grandson of Rev. George Streckfuss, who arrived in America from Bavaria in 1840 as a missionary to convert the Ojibwa Indians in Ohio and who joined Dr. C.F.W. Walther and six other ministers to form The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

George's father was a forester for the King of Bavaria.

Pastor's cross collection includes one from prisoner's socks

Once upon a time, Pastor John Selle had five crosses of various kinds scattered around the house. He decided to get them together in one place, and the first thing he knew, he had a collection.

That collection has turned into a display of more than 250 crosses, all hanging on a wide wall in the narthex of Faith Lutheran Church, Georgetown where Selle is pastor.

The crosses range in size from a tiny one-fourth inch gold cross to a seven-foot wooden one which serves as the collection's focal point.

Selle can't remember exactly where every single cross came from, but he knows the origin of most.

"I got the big wooden one when I performed an outdoor wedding ceremony," he remembers. "The bride's father decided there couldn't be a proper wedding without a cross, so

he nailed two boards together and painted the cross black. After the wedding he gave it to me."

A recent acquisition is one of his most unusual. It is a cross that was woven from unraveled prison socks. It was given to him by Roberto Diaz, who is serving 60 years in prison.

Diaz got the cross from a prisoner on death row who was convicted of killing a college co-ed.

Selle said, "Diaz was being transported to prison by Sheriff's Deputy Dennis Jaroszewski, who saw Diaz' cross around his neck and mentioned that I collected unusual crosses. Diaz pulled it off and wrote a note asking that it be delivered to me."

The cross is displayed in a frame along with Diaz' note.

(Material in this story is reprinted from the Williamson County Sun.)

YOUTH

Our bright kids . . .

Three cheers for those wonderful bright kids in the third and fourth grade Sunday school class at St. Andrew, Houston, who have been writing to missionaries in various countries. Their leader is Melanie Walther.

Good Shepherd, Angleton, is proud of its young member Jennifer Bobbitt, who was 1986 valedictorian at Angleton High School. Congratulations, Jennifer!

And a pat on the back for Andy Miller of St. Paul Lutheran, Harlingen.

Andy was Harlingen High's valedictorian and received three scholarships, one an \$8,000-per-year, four year scholarship to Yale where he will study medicine. He also was South Texas Academic Decathlon champion and is an outstanding swimmer.

Bright kid recognition for Doreen K. Dockweiler, Holy Cross, College Station, and Rachel S. Holste, Bethel, Bryan, who were chosen to participate in Duke University's Sixth Annual Search for mathematically and verbally brilliant students. The program identifies bright young students to help develop their special abilities and to direct them toward special programs for the academically gifted.

Giovanni (Gio) Turincio, St. Paul, Harlingen, served an internship this summer with the Conservative Youth Foundation in Washington, D.C. She also attended seminars on how



OUT TO LAUNCH—Children attending vacation Bible school at Our Savior Lutheran, Sulphur Springs, used helium balloons to carry their VBS theme, "It's About Jesus—Tell Everyone You

See," to new heights. The children tied cards to balloons with their names, addresses and a special message sharing the Good News about Jesus and His love for them.

laws are made and learned about lobbies. She attended the Republican Youth Convention in August.

Congratulations to Donna Cherry of Holy Cross, Nederland, who was chosen Outstanding Girl in

Horsemanship at the Texas Lions Club for Crippled Children in Kerrville.

Maria Deborah Biel, Grace, Arlington, is a member of the Texas Girls' Choir which presented concerts this summer in Aus-

tralia, New Zealand and Fiji.

Good for Karl Haverland! Karl, Redeemer, Austin, attended the state FFA convention in Amarillo and was awarded the "Lone Star Farmer" degree, the highest FFA award given at the state level.

Bright kid honors certainly go to Laura Furr, St. Luke, Olney, who was her high school graduating class's salutatorian this year; class president four years; member of the state finalist basketball team; participant in acting, writing, speaking and poetry-reading events; drum major; all-region band and orchestra member; and state qualifier as a trombone soloist.

Monica Salmeron, St. Paul, Harlingen, left July 17 as a representative of Youth for Understanding. She will be spending her high school sophomore year living with a family in Germany.



BACK HOME—These are members of the youth groups of Memorial Lutheran, Katy, who spent long hours making this banner to take to the August youth gathering in Washington, D.C. The banner was displayed in the Back Home Ministries area of the convention center.



CHARTER MEMBERS—These remaining five members of the original 55 charter members of St. Luke Lutheran, Sweeny, were honored at the congregation's 25th anniversary service. From

left are St. Luke Pastor Denny Bennett, Gene Mach, Gladys Mach, Lillie Danford, Laverne Amason and Debbie Rabe.

Kingsbury Congregation to observe 100th anniversary in 1987

Evangelists Lutheran Church, Kingsbury, will have a 100-year anniversary celebration service on the fourth Sunday in April 1987. Rev. Elmer Hohle is pastor.

There will be two services: at 10:30 a.m. with Rev. Alton Donsback of Denton speaking, and at 3 p.m. with Dr. Alfred Leja as speaker. Leja is a former professor at Concordia Lutheran College, Austin.

PRIZE WINNER—The Evangelism Committee of Our Redeemer Lutheran, Longview, entered the city's annual July 4 parade and won \$50 for having the most patriotic float out of 44 entries. (Photo at right). Rick Poland is evangelism chairman and Julie Anderson headed the float committee. Sunday school children on the float wore T-shirts they made in vacation Bible school. "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord" (Psalm 33:12) said the sign on the float.

Wendish Heritage Society gets Folklife Fest honors—again

For the second year in a row, when awards were announced at the 15th Annual Texas Folklife Festival in San Antonio, first place in the booth category went to the Texas Wendish Heritage Society.

Booths were judged on the quality of the educational presentation, folk costuming and representation of ethnic heritage.

Ron and Cindy Knippa of Concordia Lutheran, San Antonio, have served as cochairmen of the booth for the past five years. They, along with other society members, delighted more than 95,000 festival visitors with stories of their ancestors' contributions to the growth and development of Texas and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

Of the less than 100,000 Wends in the world today, one-seventh of them live in Texas and belong to Missouri Synod congregations.

According to the Smithsonian Institute, the Wends are the smallest ethnic group in Texas.

The Folklife Festival is sponsored by the Institute of Texan Cultures in San Antonio.



Cross lifted high in Sweeny to mark anniversary

An all-day celebration was held June 8 at St. Luke Lutheran of Sweeny. Under the theme "Lift High the Cross for 25 Years under Christ's Lordship," the congregation observed its 25th anniversary.

In the morning worship, the only son of the congregation to enter the ordained ministry, Rev. Bryon Sunderman of Buhl, Idaho, delivered the message. His father, Lyle Sunderman of Sweeny, was the lay Scripture reader.

In afternoon services, five previous St. Luke pastors returned to help celebrate the occasion. Rev. John Socha delivered the sermon, while Rev. Helmut Eisenbraun, Rev. George Winkler, Rev. Bryon Sunderman, Rev. Douglas Barnett and Rev. Norbert Wodtke helped officiate.

Five of the remaining 55 original charter members were recognized and honored. They are Gene Mach; his wife, Gladys Mach; Lillie Danford and her daughters, Debbie Rebe and Laverne Amason.

Current pastor at St. Luke is Rev. Dennis H. Bennett, who has served in Sweeny since July 1984.

Be glad

The *Messenger* of Redeemer Lutheran, Austin, reminds us to be glad for color! God could have made the world in black and white.

CONCORDIA

Concordia teacher grads are 100 percent

Concordia Lutheran College was one of only two Texas colleges with a 100 percent passing rate on the May examination for the Certification of Educators in Texas.

The ExCET, much more rigorous than the highly publicized Texas Examination of Current Administrators and Teachers (TECAT), is a series of tests covering professional education and subject areas.

Education program graduates must pass the ExCET before they can be state certified or employed by school districts.

Concordia graduates who plan to teach in the Missouri Synod's parochial schools receive state certification along with the Lutheran Teacher Diploma.

Both the TECAT and the ExCET were mandated by the Texas legislature as part of an extensive effort to improve the state's education system. The ExCET was administered for the first time this year.

As reported by the *Austin American Statesman*, Concordia and Austin College in Sherman were the only two colleges with a 100 percent passing rate. The Texas Education Agency reports a statewide passing percentage of 80.

Dr. Barbara Morton, director of Teacher Education at Concordia, says that CLC students were at or above the state average for each test.

She indicates that the

Concordia teacher education faculty has developed a detailed listing of all professional education competencies and other competencies believed to be critical to ministry in Lutheran schools. Each competency has been assigned a specific place in the professional education sequence.

"This preplanning assures coverage of necessary knowledge and skills," says Morton. "Concordia students should always be well prepared for tests such as the ExCET, as well as for their first teaching assignments."

Attention, Lutherans in business

Are you a business executive, an accountant or the owner of your own company? If you fit in these categories, Concordia Lutheran College could use your assistance for its business management students.

As a Christian in the business world, you can help in several ways:

- by helping CLC management students find summer employment;
- by providing management graduates with initial placement;
- by learning more about Concordia's business management major, which emphasizes Christian principles and ethics along with a business education.

For more information about how you can help, please contact Prof. Howard Lacey at the college, 3400 IH 35 N., Austin, Texas 78705, 512-452-7661.



The bell in front of the Concordia Chapel once rang a call to worship in Serbin, Texas.

The Wendish Bell at Concordia

Every weekday during the school year, Concordia students, faculty and staff enter Birkmann Chapel for worship. On their way, they pass a brass bell set on a concrete stand. A small plaque provides information about the bell, including the fact that the display was erected by the high school senior class of 1958.

John Bobo, secretary of that class, recently furnished the bell's history:

"The church bell, which graces the entrance to Birkmann Chapel, was presented to Lutheran Concordia College of Texas in the early days of the school's history. The bell was donated by St. Paul Lutheran Church in Serbin, Texas, and in fact had issued the call to worship for early Wendish Lutherans there.

"It was poured in Kleinwilke, Prussia (now a part of East Germany) in 1854, probably for the purpose of

transporting it to the new world with the first settlers. The inscription on the side states (in Wendish), 'God's word and Luther's teachings will never disappear.'

"The bell was presented to Concordia as memorabilia, partly because it had a crack and would not carry the beautiful resonant tones it once did. Having no proper place to store it, Concordia placed the bell in the basement of the music building.

"It was discovered in 1957 by the class of 1958, who recognized its historical value and voted to approach President George J. Beto concerning proper recognition and display.

"Beto stated that if the class would donate its treasury funds, the school would make up the difference. The class agreed, and hence the senior class of 1958 was recognized for its foresight in restoring to permanent display a truly significant part of early Lutheran history in Texas."



Concordia students earn scholarships

Thirty returning Concordia students will receive scholarships ranging from \$400 to \$3,000 in 1986-87. The Scholarship Committee, in its July meeting, selected the awardees from a number of applicants.

Concordia scholarships are awarded to students for past achievement in academic or extracurricular activities.

Each of this year's recipients earned at least a 3.0 cumulative grade point average, with four having a 4.0 cumulative average (all A's!).

In addition to maintaining outstanding academic records, most of the students also participate in college activities in leadership positions.

The following students will receive scholarships in 1986-87:

Nancy Adams (Trinity, West Sinton), Mr. and Mrs. Ernest A. Bolland and Miss Katherine Bolland Church Music Scholarship; Karen Angermann (Trinity, Waco), Roy Rathgeber Memorial Scholarship; Don Arldt (Faith, Georgetown), Rev. Albert F. Jesse Scholarship.

Linda Arldt (Redeemer, Austin), AAL Lutheran Campus Scholarship; Lori Arnold (Concordia, San Antonio), Jeffrey Michael Nelson Memorial Scholarship; Dana Bielefeldt (Bethel, Dallas), Gertrude T. Wiederanders Scholarship; Alice Buchhorn (Faith, Georgetown), G.E. and Martha Wolf Scholarship.

Bonnie Burghard (Con-

cordia, San Antonio), Gertrude T. Wiederanders Scholarship; Ronald Burkhard (Zion, Dallas), Concordia Presidential Scholarship; Christopher Counts (Austin), F.R. and Marie Leschber Scholarship.

Marci Deterling (Bethel, Dallas), Concordia Presidential Scholarship; Joel Dittmer (St. Paul, Lakeland, Fla.), Rev. F.W. Siebelitz Scholarship; Paula Eifert (St. Matthew, Miami, Fla.), Student Assistance Scholarship; Russell Etzell (St. John, Houston), Rev. Fred Stelzer Scholarship.

Mark Haake (Good Shepherd, Cedar Park), Minnie Sprain Estate Scholarship; Peter Heckmann (Gethsemane, Houston), Judith Lynn Growcock Memorial Scholarship; Marty Herzog (St. John, Wharton), Homer Haseloff Scholarship; Michele Hoffman (St. Michael, Houston), AAL Lutheran Campus Scholarship.

David House (Redeemer, San Antonio), Rev. F.W. Siebelitz Scholarship; Charles Kieschnick (St. John, Lincoln), Louis E. and Meta E. Kissman Scholarship.

Rebecca Kretzmann (Zion, Schulenberg), Hayes, Freeling, Cowan Scholarship; Peter Mead (Concordia, Kirkwood, Mo.), Concordia Presidential Scholarship; Joyce Mele (Bethany, Austin), Godfrey and Marie Cadra Scholarship; Donna Menzel (St. Paul, Thorndale), AAL Lutheran Campus Scholarship.

Ruth Pliego Juarez (Austin), Dr. Fred Growcock Alumni Scholarship; Scottie

Quinn (Concordia, San Antonio), Stephen Emil Albers Memorial Scholarship; Alicia Richter (Immanuel, Houston), AAL Lutheran Campus Scholarship; Brenda Richter (Christ, Austin), AAL Lutheran Campus Scholarship; Lauren Schultz (Cross of Christ, Chattanooga, Tenn.), Fred Bolland Estate Scholarship; Eve Smith (Gethsemane, Austin), Mrs. Elfrieda Brigham Scholarship.

These outstanding young people set a high example for their classmates and certainly deserve special recognition.

More about scholarships

Concordia is able to award scholarships to its most outstanding students through the generosity of individuals who place a high value on the benefits of a Christian education.

Many of these men and women have established endowment funds, several specifically designated for church work students. Other Concordia supporters contribute to established memorial endowments or to the general scholarship fund.

Although Concordia of Texas remains the lowest cost synodical school, a private college education is expensive. Without scholarship assistance, many of our finest students would experience insurmountable financial difficulties.

If you would like to assist Concordia students by establishing a scholarship fund or endowment, contact

Rev. Gary Pohl at the college, 3400 IH 35 N., Austin, Texas 78705.

Board members elected

Delegates to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod convention elected two men to serve on the Board of Regents of Concordia Lutheran College in Austin.

Rev. Paul Bohot will assume his place on the board at its October meeting.

He is a graduate of Concordia's High School and Junior College, of Concordia Senior College in Fort Wayne and Concordia Seminary in St. Louis. He has served congregations in Arkansas and Texas and currently pastors Redeemer Lutheran Church in Austin.

Robert Bauer was re-elected to the Board of Regents for a second term. He will continue as board vice chairman. A member of Hope Lutheran Church in Winnie, he is a prominent farmer and rancher.

Other board members are Thomas Baden, Rev. Herbert Graf, Dr. Thomas Krueger, Dr. Gus Melde, Rev. Glenn O'Shoney, Donald Schmidt and Leonard Schroeder.



Rev. Paul M. Bohot

OUTDOORS



OUTDOOR FUN—It's not exactly "Jaws" size, but those teeth held by Charlie Kelm of St. Paul, Austin, in photo at left, are from a 64-pound shark Charlie caught while attending Beach Camp

sponsored by Lutheran Outdoors Ministry of Texas. At right, youngsters check their compass bearings in an orienteering meet at the Lutheran camp at Texoma.

Beach Camp proves exciting

Twenty teenage youth from varying parts of Texas converged on the North Padre Island National Seashore near Corpus Christi this past August for a weeklong beach camping experience sponsored by LOMT.

An unusual and unexpected water spout severely damaged the tents and equipment at the campsite on Tuesday evening and caused the weeklong event to be shortened.

Although the severe storm marred their time together, these campers and their counselors were spared injury. They had an enriching, Christ-centered experience through their togetherness and their adaptability to living on the beach.

A special day was spent deep-sea fishing, catching mostly shark including 64 and 66 pounders.

Plans are already in motion for another Beach Camp in 1987.

Individuals serve LOMT in varying capacities

Servant Event participants who have volunteered to assist LOMT for a minimum of three months in 1986 at Camp Lone Star are Tim Chase from Mesa, Wash., and Gary Timberlake from Silver Spring, Md.

Amy Mahloch from Cedar Park, Texas, and Wendy Powell from Austin,

Texas, will assist at Texoma Lutheran Camp.

The responsibilities of these "servants" are quite flexible in nature and are dependent upon an individual's interest, skill and experience; the needs of the camp; and the time span within which a person comes on the scene.

Rev. Stephen McClintic from St. Timothy Lutheran Church, Houston, was recently appointed to fill a vacant position on the LOMT Board of Directors.

Orienteers always find themselves

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

Orienteering is an activity which involves following a map and using a special orienteering compass to guide yourself through unfamiliar territory.

Such an event is the Statewide Lutheran Orienteering Meet, which will be held Nov. 7-9 for the third consecutive year at Texoma Lutheran Camp.

Participants from churches 300 miles away have been a part of this special Texoma event the past two years.

Night orienteering, environmental awareness, recreational sports, Bible study and worship along with just sharing with fellow Christians in a beautiful, primitive setting are all enjoyable parts of this annual activity.

Orienteers use specially drawn maps which show trails, buildings, fields, heights and even small features like pits, ditches and

boulders. The participant's task is to interpret the map by three-dimensional thinking. At any rate, the activity involved is fun, easy and challenging.

The simplest form of orienteering involves taking a map in one hand and your family in the other and walking through the woods to new and exciting places without any risk of getting lost.

The Texoma meet is partially a competitive sport for teams and individuals with courses of varying length and technical difficulties suitable for competitors of all ages and abilities.

Winners are those who navigate the courses in the quickest possible times. Unknown areas are used and checkpoints (controls) are passed, in order, during the competition.

To obtain more details about this event, contact Texoma Lutheran Camp Director Keith Lund, Rt. 1, Box 116-P, Pottsboro, Texas 75076, 214-786-3121.



Good Samaritan opens second group home for mentally handicapped

A second group home for mentally handicapped residents has been opened on a 3.5 acre site in the Spring area. It is operated by Good Samaritan Lutheran Home of Cypress.

More than 75 Lutheran congregations in the Greater Houston area are being contacted in an effort to schedule a Sunday morning presentation of the home's progress in opening this unique kind of living for the mentally handicapped.

Good Samaritan also operates a group home in the Heights section of Houston. A third home, under construction in McAlester, Okla., is to open this fall.

Group homes provide a Christian family living situation to help residents develop their God-given potential. Residents capable of living in an independent situation and needing minimal self-care are eligible for this kind of residency.

In this less-restrictive environment, residents can obtain jobs at a nearby sheltered workshop, giving them a greater feeling of achievement and self-worth.

Not a fridge

God never intended his church to be a refrigerator in which to preserve perishable piety. He intended it to be an incubator in which to hatch the faithful.



GROUP HOME—This group home for the mentally handicapped has been opened in Spring.

History observance reminds parish of its heritage

The City of Huntsville celebrated its 151st birthday in July. That, along with the state's sesquicentennial celebration and the nation's Independence Day celebration, prompted the members of Faith Lutheran, Huntsville, to focus on history on July 6.

Members of the congregation were reminded of their American heritage by a display of folk art and paintings done by Faith members.

Their Texas District heritage was highlighted by a photographic display of items in the Wendish Heritage Society Museum in Serbin and of the St. Paul, Serbin, church building.

Pastor Donald Kaspar of Faith said, "It is important that we remember what has been, because what has been is what produced us. We understand ourselves a lot better when we understand the things that have shaped and molded us. History can help us establish sound values.

"Additionally, from history we can learn what sorts of mistakes have been made so that we not make them again. And so, having

an awareness of our past is of great value to us."

Deaths

Rev. Herbert Driessner

Rev. Herbert Driessner of Onalaska, Texas, died Aug. 20. Services were held Aug. 23 at Faith Lutheran in Huntsville.

Driessner is survived by his wife, Dorothy, and four children.

He began his ministry in Otto, Texas, in 1942. He served congregations in Sagerton, Dumas, Eden and Menard in Texas, and in Clovis, N.Mex. He retired in 1979.

Theodore H. Taube

Funeral services were held June 3 at Trinity Lutheran, Houston, for Theodore Taube, 88, a founding (charter) member of First Lutheran, Lufkin.

He moved to Houston in 1942 where he was a member of Trinity until his death. He was an active member of Trinity's Voters' Assembly, and attended church and Bible class each Sunday until two weeks before his death.

Survivors include daughters Gertrude Stringer and Ruth Stoerkel; son Albert Taube; sister Mathilde Taube; brother Edward Taube; and 10 grandchildren

Why I go to a Lutheran school

by Karen Raddatz

The reason I go to a Lutheran school is because it makes me feel good to know that I'm learning about God. It makes me feel good to know that I'm someone special, not like I'm just a kid.

It also makes me feel good to know that I can share the Good News with others and that when I grow up and have a family that they'll share the Good News with others because I shared it with them.

Another reason I like going to a Lutheran school is it might help with my education. When I grow up I want to be a teacher and I hope to get a job at a Lutheran school.

I think that if you go to a Lutheran school you learn more about life. For instance, in a public school you might only learn about life here on earth. But in a Lutheran school you learn that you're just visiting here and about life in heaven.

So I think that in a Lutheran school you learn about the most important thing of all, and that's Jesus Christ.

I like going to a Lutheran school. It's fun and makes me feel good all over.

(Karen is a student at Grace Lutheran School in Arlington and is the daughter of Bonnie and Jerry Raddatz. Her essay was a state winner during Lutheran Schools Month.)



ALL-STAR LOGO—The logo used for the major league all-star baseball game in Houston this summer was designed by a Houston-area Lutheran.

Texas Lutheran hits a homer with baseball logo

Lamb of God Lutheran Church in Humble is blessed with many talented people. Much of this talent is seen day to day in the marketplace.

One such example was displayed at the 1986 Major League All-Star Baseball Game in Houston in July.

Jeff Sanson, an active member of Lamb of God, received the opportunity to design and illustrate the All-Star Game logo.

"It was difficult not to get all pumped up when seeing the logo on walls, hats, T-shirts and the big video screen in the Astrodome," recalls Jeff, "but I did come to realize that it was the grace of God that made it all possible."

Jeff credits a major part of his recent successes to members of Lamb of God who lift him up and keep his spirits high even when things are not going so well.

As Jeff puts it, "I could not help but be drawn to Lamb of God by the love and caring of its people."

Lutherans help retarded to know their Savior

There are 14 Lutheran congregations in Texas providing special education classes for 82 retarded students.

The classes are designed to give special loving attention to retarded children and adults who require specialized curricular resources if they are to grasp the meaning of the Gospel.

Last year, across the whole Missouri Synod, there were 374 congregations which enrolled 2,071 students in classes for the mentally retarded.

District calendar November

- 1—Lutheran Outdoors Ministry of Texas meeting, district office.
- 3-4—Staff retreat, Camp Lone Star.
- 5—Social Ministry Committee.
- 7-9—NAME conference, St. Louis.
- 10-13—Association of Christian Schools, International, Dallas.
- 14-16—LYF conference, Houston.
- 16-17—Board of Mission Administration.
- 17—Board for Church Extension.
- 18—Circuit 21 conference, Beautiful Savior, Austin.
- 21-24—Fall Church Extension Fund Conference, Phoenix, Ariz.
- 25—District Board of Directors.

December

- 18-19—Staff meeting, district office.



50TH ANNIVERSARY—Members of the 1936 confirmation class of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Serbin recently gathered to celebrate their 50th anniversary. See story below for names.

1936 confirmands of St. Paul, Serbin, get together for 50th anniversary reunion

The largest junior confirmation class ever brought to communicant membership at St. Paul, Serbin, recently held an anniversary reunion. It was their 50th.

There were 28 young people in the class of 1936, and 24 of them were present 50 years later at the reunion. Three members of the class are dead and one was unable to attend.

Their first grade teacher, H.E. Weiser of Taylor, led the class into the Sunday service conducted by St. Paul pastor, Rev. Paul Hartfield.

The group also sang its German confirmation song, "Sei Getreue Bis in den Tod."

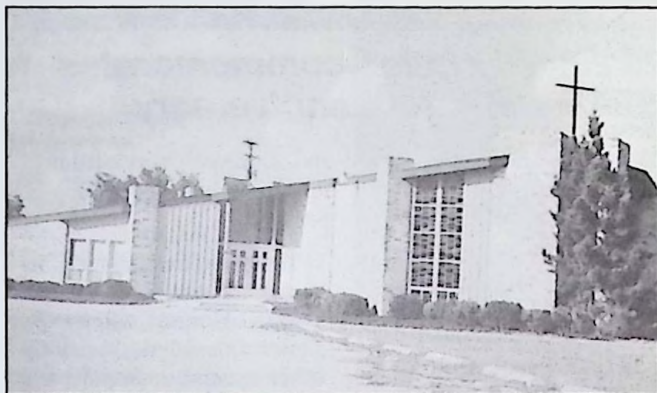
In the accompanying picture, are, left to right, front row, Selma (Mersiovsky) Dotson, Ella (Matthigitz) Jordell, Leona (Gersch) Sandoz, Ruth (Fischer) Vittek and Hermine (Vogel) Andreas.

Second row, same order, Laverne (Steglich) Nitsche, Esther (Mutscher) Raschke, Blandina (Schulz) Bigon, Gertrude (Mertink) Fischer, Lorine (Krause) Zoch, Lorine (Mitschke) Bamsch and Erna (Schmidt) Mersiovksy.

Third row, Harold Noack, Clarence Schulze, Edgar Schulz, John Becker, Leonard Groeschel, Milton Moerbe and Victor Symm.

Fourth row, Christopher Schatte, Clarence Paschke, Emil Nitsche and Walter Miertschin.

Fifth row, Alfred Krause, Hartfield and retired teacher Weiser.



CELEBRATION—This is St. John Lutheran Church of Hamilton which celebrated its 50th anniversary in August. Its first pastor and organizer was present.

50th anniversary celebrated by Hamilton congregation

St. John Lutheran, Hamilton, observed its 50th anniversary with special services and activities on Aug. 10.

Rev. Hugo Quitmeyer, St. John's first pastor, addressed the Bible class about the early days of the congregation and spoke at the afternoon celebration service.

Rev. Albert Wuensche, a

former St. John pastor, preached the service of praise and thanksgiving.

St. John was organized in 1936 during the Great Depression. Quitmeyer, then a vicar, had begun organizing the congregation in 1934 and, using borrowed facilities, held his first service in 1935.

Two years later, the church was founded and Vicar Quitmeyer had become Pastor Quitmeyer. The first church was built in 1939 and the present structure was erected in 1973.



INSTALLED—Participating in the June 1 installation of Pastor James E. Olte at Redeemer, Nacogdoches, were, front row, from left, Art Hill, Frank Starr, Stewart Marshall, Dan Parsons, Mel Neuman. Back row, Eugene Oesch who gave the installation sermon and who is Olte's uncle; Olte; and Kim Zank.

Church Extension Fund provides continuing memorial for wife

by Carl A. Heckmann
Director of Development

Mr. and Mrs. Edward J. Wendt had been members of Cross Lutheran Church, New Braunfels, for 14 years. They were active and supportive members of that congregation during these years.

Some time ago, they took out two notes with the Texas District Church Extension Fund.

As long as that money was invested in CEF, it was being used to help new mission congregations purchase land and build their first units.

Not too long ago, Dora, Edward's wife, passed away.

In a recent mailing from Edward Wendt, he states,

"Enclosed please find two notes which we had purchased some years back. I do not want to cash them in, rather I want to give them to the Texas District CEF, including all of the interest. I feel it only fitting that I give this as a memorial to my beloved wife Dora, who was recently called to her heavenly mansions. She was the one who suggested that we take out these notes even though we could have more interest elsewhere."

It's not the number of notes or the size of those notes. What the Church Extension Fund is grateful for is that across the years this money was invested in the Church Extension Fund.

And now, as a continuing



Carl A. Heckmann

memorial to a wife who has gone to be with the Lord forever, that investment, now a gift, will continue to serve the ministries of the Texas District until the end of time. It will continue to make possible the ministry of the Good News, reaching into the hearts and homes and lives and eternities of people.

That's the continuing story of CEF.

You can become a part of that ministry by investing a part of your savings . . . and there can be no greater return upon your investment!

**Texas District
Church Extension Fund
7900 U. S. 290 East
Austin, Texas 78724
512-926-4272**

Getting in

The newsletter of Messiah Lutheran, Houston, suggests that nearly everyone is in favor of going to heaven, but too many are hoping to live long enough to see an easing of entrance requirements.



IN TEXAS—Concordia Teachers College, Seward, Nebr., has announced four additional placements of teacher graduates in Texas. From left are Margaret and Kurt Leapley of Plainview, Nebr., assigned to Immanuel-Bethlehem, Houston, and Edith Bolt of Huntsville, Ala., assigned to Trinity, Waco. Not pictured is Bradley Krause of Colorado Springs, Colo., assigned to St. Matthew, Houston.

Rev. John Austin installed by Clifton congregation

Immanuel Lutheran Church of Clifton welcomed a new pastor on July 13 when Rev. John Austin was installed during afternoon services.

A native of Illinois, Austin was ordained last June. He graduated from Concordia Junior College at Ann Arbor, Mich., and in 1969 enrolled at Concordia Seminary, Springfield, Ill. He left the seminary in 1971 and entered private industry for 10 years.

He returned to the seminary, then in Fort Wayne, Ind., and completed his theological studies in 1986.

He is 38.

He and his wife, Bonnie, have two children, Kathryn, 16, and John Charles, 12.

A cool idea

Those searingly hot days of August were made more comfortable for senior citizens by St. Paul Congregation of San Antonio.

In cooperation with the Presa Community Center and the City of San Antonio, the Seniors Room at St. Paul remained open until 8 p.m. during extremely hot days to provide a safe place where senior citizens could come and relax in a cool environment.

20/20 celebration commemorates Gloria Dei's 20th anniversary

Gloria Dei, Houston (Nassau Bay), will commemorate its 20th anniversary by presenting its community with 20 gifts, Rev. John H. Kieschnick, senior pastor, announced.

With a theme of "20/20 Celebration," the year-long event will start Oct. 19 with the dedication of a new pipe organ. Rev. Glenn O'Shoney, Texas District president, will be preacher.

A luncheon at the Hobby Hilton will follow morning worship services featuring remarks by charter members and congregation officers.

Featured speaker is Rev. Ron Rall, manager of mission interpretation for the Missouri Synod. Dr. Charles Ore, associate professor at Concordia Teachers College, Seward, Nebr., will give an organ concert that evening.

During the year, various workshops and seminars will feature Dave Grant, author; Zig Ziglar, lecturer and motivator; and Dr. Jean Garton, a leading

spokeswoman and author for the Synod's pro-life position.

The popular Dobson film series, "Turn Your Heart Toward Home," will be shown this fall and various other special events for all age levels are planned.

The anniversary year concludes Oct. 18, 1987, with a concert and singing featuring Dr. Oswald C.J. Hoffmann and organist Paul Manz.

Kieschnick has served the congregation since 1974 during which time it has grown from 400 to more than 1,200 members.

"I never cease to be amazed," said Kieschnick, "at what God can do with people and what people can do with God's help."

The church has four full-time professional staff, seven choirs, three youth groups, special groups for college-age students and singles, a counseling referral service, leadership training and development, training in one-on-one care giving and a variety of personal growth programs.

There are 100 children enrolled in an early childhood program and the church has had three major building programs in the past decade.

Additional expansion is being studied along with the possibility of planting a mission congregation.



NEW PASTOR—Participating in the installation July 13 of Rev. John Austin, center, at Immanuel Lutheran of Clifton, were Rev. A.C. Gottberg; Rev. G.P. Ascher; Rev. David Baker; Rev. M.F. Spenn; Rev. Walt Albers; Ken Schrank, elder;

Rev. Walter Chelmo; Calvert Bernhardt, congregation president; Rev. H. Schriebeis; Rev. Al Walters; Rev. M. Dommer; and Rev. David Jeske. Photo by Don White Photography.



Oct. 12 is Refugee Sunday

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod recognizes Oct. 12 as Refugee Concerns Sunday.

Information packets are available from the Synod office in St. Louis. These materials explain the ministry of refugee resettlement in the three-state area of Texas, Louisiana and Arkansas.

LSST has resettled 120 refugees in Texas in 1986, reports Robert Palm, LSST's refugee coordinator.

The majority of refugees resettled are Southeast Asian. However, a significant number are from eastern European countries as well as from Ethiopia.

The worldwide refugee situation continues to be a problem and has become more complex. There are roughly 10 million refugees around the world and the number does not seem to decrease.

However, both the number of refugees admitted to the U.S. and the amount of government support for refugee programs continues to be reduced.

"The ministry of refugee resettlement needs the continued support of Lutheran Christians," said Palm. "Because large numbers of refugees are not being admitted to the U.S. as they once were, the need for church sponsorship has lessened somewhat.

"But the number of refugees around the world remains high. In addition, the amount of money available to agencies such as ours



GENTLE LADY—This is Mrs. Lela Ford, a gentle lady who is 94 years old. She's outlived her husband and children and has recently become a client at the East Austin Adult Day Care Center.



NOTEWORTHY—Here's Mrs. Lela Ford learning to play the piano at one of LSST's adult day care centers. Her other activities include daily chapel services, sing-a-longs, games and visiting with others who share some of the same memories of a earlier day.

continues to decrease," Palm continued. "Unfortunately, the demand for our services has not diminished. We need church involvement now more than ever.

"Congregations can be involved with our ministry in a variety of ways. They can continue to sponsor refugees and their families when called upon; or, if sponsorship is not feasible, perhaps a monetary gift can be made to assist other congregations in their sponsorships," Palm concluded.

Fourth LSST adult day care center opens in Corpus Christi

The fourth adult day care center operated by Lutheran Social Service of Texas began with an open house Sept. 24.

Spohn Hospital in Corpus Christi is co-sponsoring the center, called Daybreak, in the fellowship hall of First Lutheran Church, Corpus Christi, announced Janie Cravens-Garner, LSST's Coastal Bend Regional Director.

• At the Daybreak center, which will have space for 10 to 15 clients at any given time, older or handicapped adults can receive some exercise, lunch, a snack and the chance to be with their peers.

Cravens-Garner describes Daybreak as an alternative for people who may need assistance during the day, but do not need nursing home care.

A professional staff and volunteers will work with the clients. Dietary and nursing consultation will be provided.

Daily fees are based on a sliding scale corresponding with the clients' ability to pay.

• "Adult Day Care is a relatively new concept. Until a few years ago, options for elderly and handicapped adults who needed a structured protective setting were quite limited," said Cravens-Garner. "There was no middle road between living independently and being cared for in an institution."

Centers help to meet the need the client has to be

with peers and gives the family a break from the 24-hour-a-day job of caring for a dependent older adult.

• LSST opened the first adult day care center in El Paso, Texas, more than 10 years ago. (It is now part of Lutheran Community Services of El Paso.)

LSST has three centers in Austin: East Austin, which celebrates its 10th anniversary this year; South Austin, which began five years ago; and North Austin, which turned a year old on Sept. 23.

Christmas cards are available

Christmas cards, with proceeds going toward the statewide LSST ministries, are now available.

There are two styles to choose from. First is a drummer boy accompanied by sheep against a nighttime blue background with a verse reading "May all the blessings of Christmas be yours to share in a very special way."

The other style is an infant nestled in hay shaped like a tree ornament. The Holy Child card reads "May the miracle of Christ's birth fill your Christmas with happiness."

A minimum contribution of \$7.50 is requested per set of 20 cards.

For more information or to order contact LSST, P.O. Box 45989, Austin, Texas 78765-9589; or call 712-459-1000.

Lutheran Hour emulates disciples; brings ordinary people the Gospel

ORLANDO, FLA.—“If I read it correctly, the disciples were ordinary people who spoke to ordinary people in their own language,” Dr. Oswald Hoffmann told more than 1,800 people at the Lutheran Hour rally here.

“And that’s why we speak to ordinary people on our broadcast in their own language as well,” Hoffmann said.

Hoffmann, speaker on the international radio broadcast of the *Lutheran Hour* for the past 30 years, spoke July 27 at the Performing Arts Center here.

Also participating in the rally were Rev. Milan G. Weertz, pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church in Orlando, and Rev. Oscar A. Gerken, pastor of Faith Lutheran, Eustis, Fla. Rev. Wallace Schulz, associate *Lutheran Hour* speaker, lead a pre-rally hymnsing.

• The *Lutheran Hour* rally was the opening event of the 69th annual convention of the International Lutheran Laymen’s League held in Orlando. Some 1,200 league members and friends from throughout the United States, Canada and several foreign countries attended the convention.

Speaking on the convention theme, “Live in the Son,” Missouri Synod’s Southern District President Richard Meyer, in his keynote address, told the assembly: “It was my privilege to be the second Missouri Synod missionary in Japan, arriving in 1948

Laneman elected LLL governor

Congratulations to Gary Laneman of Austin who was elected governor of Region 10, Lutheran Laymen’s League which includes Texas and Oklahoma. This is a great honor for Gary and we pray God’s blessings upon him as he begins his new responsibilities in the LLL.—*From the Redeemer (Austin) weekly Messenger.*

in Japan, arriving in 1948 when Japan was uniquely open to the Gospel after its defeat in World War II.

“The work of our Synod in Japan, however, owes its start not to missionaries sent by the church, but to the G.I.s who found themselves in the army of occupation after the war and used that opportunity to let their lives reflect Light of the Son,” Meyer said.

• “Countless people who are living meaningless, desperate lives are looking to us for some indication that life can have meaning and purpose,” Meyer concluded. “If we have the key to unlock that understanding of life—the life lived by the Son, the life made possible by Him who died for all—then those who live should no longer live for themselves but for Him who died for them and rose again.”

Paul H. Wegele of Ness City, Kans., was reelected

as International LLL president. Also reelected was G. Franklin Furr Jr. of Winamac, Ind., as governor of Region 4; Norman Kleinschmidt of Bushnell, Ill., as governor of Region 8; and C. Duane Kiefel of Jamestown, N.Dak., as governor of Region 12.

• Newly elected to the league’s Board of Governors were Merle Lietz of Paxico, Kans., as financial secretary; Duane C. Schwichtenberg of Lakeland, Fla., as governor of Region 2; Arvin Kleinschmidt of Wisconsin Rapids, Wis., governor of Region 6; Gary Laneman of Austin, Texas, Governor of Region 10; and Melvin M. Stueve of LaVerne, Calif., as governor of Region 14.

Members also passed a resolution to amend the league’s constitution and bylaws to allow members of the newly formed Lutheran Church—Canada to remain members of the league and chose as its 1990 convention site the league’s Alberta-British Columbia District. Host city of the league’s 75th anniversary convention in 1992 will be Milwaukee, Wis.

“We must assess the priority of league programs, considering programs that not only touch those who are not saved in our communities and around the world but also consider programs that develop people who work in the congregation throughout the zones and districts of Synod,” Wegele told the assembly. “It is necessary to be turned around to a point where our total effort is people-oriented.”

• The convention con-



cluded with a banquet attended by more than 800 people. In his banquet address, Dr. W. Leroy Biesenthal, associate secretary of the Missouri Synod’s Board for Evangelism Services, said, “Let’s celebrate the fact that there is life in the Son!”

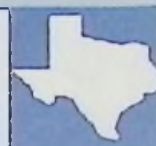
“Let’s celebrate this: that though you and I were completely without hope for life in and through and with Him, now we have been called to a lively hope through the resurrection,” Biesenthal said.

Helps everyone

Your savings in the district Church Extension Fund help undergird the mission and ministry of the church. While you earn the interest, CEF can make loans to help congregations build or expand their churches and schools.

Recipe for trouble

Take one generation of young people. Add one education from which God and the Bible have been removed. Season liberally with much materialism. Mix with home life where Christ is only a curse word. Allow to harden into adults.—*From St. Michael (Houston) Herald.*



Change

October makes us think of change. As the days cool down and shorten we realize that another lazy summer is over. Picnics, camping and LWML conventions give way to fall activities. The end of the year seems to be saying, "Ready or not, here I come!"

For LWML members, fall is an exciting and busy time. LWML Sunday, zone retreats and rallies all bind us together as we work in love for an eternal cause.

Seasons come and go; people come into our lives and go out. Children grow up and move out on their own; parents grow old and move in. We may have to move to another city, or perhaps our term of office is ending.

Change can be refreshing or frightening. Strength to cope with it can be found in our God, who said, "I am the Lord; I change not" (Malachi 3:6). No matter how busy or pressured we are, we can find rest in God's enduring love.

When we read His Word, share in family devotions and Bible studies and speak to Him in prayer, we find peace and assurance.

The harvest season reminds us that as we serve our changeless Savior and His people, we will reap a harvest of joy. The joy is ours, the glory His!

*Marcella Gaus
District President*



Lutheran Women's Missionary League International Convention June 22-25, 1987 Fort Worth, Texas

The Caddo Indians had a word for friendship: *tejas*! Texas leaguers will have the opportunity to show and share the special brand of friendship that gave our state its name when the International LWML meets in convention next June in Fort Worth.

Plan to attend the convention—as a guest or as a worker. If you are able to help, many positions are available before and during the convention.

Several hundred women will be needed as hostesses at airports, hotels and the convention center to help with luggage, lost and found, and to staff first aid and information booths. Help is also needed to set up decorations and to serve as ushers. Teenagers are

needed to be pages during the convention.

To receive information on ways you can help, or to volunteer for a specific service, contact the volunteer coordinator, Mrs. Helen Savage, 2011 Pebble Creek Dr., Cleburne 76031, 817-641-6711.

To experience the enthusiasm, joy and friendship that comes from an LWML convention, plan now to be in Fort Worth next June as one of the special women who are "Radiant with God's Love!"

LWML News

LWML news should be sent to Dolores Bruncke, Texas District Editor, 3944 Meriman, Plano, Texas 75074.

Quilts chosen as international project

Quilts and blankets have been designated as the mission service ingathering for the 1987 international convention.

Each society is urged to supply a blanket or make at least one 60"x80" quilt. Details and guidelines on making the quilts are available from our district mission service chairman, Theresa McMurray, 1210 Voyle, Lufkin 75901.

It's not too early to begin your support of this need.

LWML plaque dedication

Texas leaguers are invited to attend a dedication ceremony on Oct. 26 when an LWML plaque is placed at Concordia College in Austin.

A brief service, led by district counselor Rev. John Selle, will take place at 1:45 in the chapel. This immediately precedes the college's Founders Day program.

The Texas LWML was formed in 1942 and held its first convention on the Concordia campus. Our first district mite project was a \$1,000 grant toward the campus chapel.

Leaguers who attended the 1942 convention are especially urged to attend.

Mites on the move

Our first payment to 1986-88 mission project has been made! Texas Lutherans for Christ has received partial payment of \$2,500.



From your membership chairman

• The names and addresses of all officer changes on the zone and society level should be sent to the district membership chairman. Especially needed are changes in the offices of president and Christian growth chairman.

The membership chairman is now the only district officer to whom these changes must be made.

• A resolution was passed at the Lubbock convention for our district to participate in the LWML's Young Woman Representative program. Forms and information regarding nominations for the Texas representative to the 1987 international convention

will be mailed to all societies in November.

• Anyone knowing of a group of women in a Missouri Synod congregation who are interested in the LWML is asked to contact District Membership Chairman Catherine Burkhard at 6660 Santa Anita Dr., Dallas 75214. An information packet for such groups is now available.

Mite Report

August 26, 1986	
1986-88 Goal	\$178,000
Convention excess	\$6,183
Received in August	\$3,221
Received to date	\$26,061
Needed to meet goal	\$151,939

Send mites to Mina Fitting, 704 Dellwood, Midland 79703. **MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO TEXAS DISTRICT LWML.**

Helping you 'serve the Lord with gladness'

Societies looking for special ways to serve their Lord might consider the following:

• Reach out with God's Word, available at very low cost through the American Bible Society. For a catalog and distribution suggestions write to their Volunteer Activities Department, 1865 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10023.

• For information on sponsoring refugees contact Rev. Eugene Gunther, Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service, LCMS Board for Social Ministry Services, 1333 S. Kirkwood Rd., St. Louis, Mo. 63122-7295.

• Consider becoming involved in the Lutheran Tape Ministries program. Information and a catalog are available from Rev. Fred Naumann, Lutheran Tape Ministry, Inc., 124 S. 24th St., Suite 202, Omaha, Nebr. 68102.



Behind the scenes: international convention

The enthusiasm seems to be contagious. As the 45 members of the convention host committee meet and report on progress, the "sparkle" becomes almost tangible!

Entertainment chairman Elinor Blakney of Granbury shares her pleasure over securing the talents of western historian/singer Don Edwards for the Texas-style "Western Night."

Charleen Doberenz, who serves as decorations chairman, is excited about silk screening the unique nameplates. Hospitality chairman Pat Lemons happily displays the attractive western uniforms that volunteers will wear.

Joan Burzlaff of Burleson and Bonnie Schluter of Fort Worth have undertaken one of the more demanding responsibilities: properties chairmen. They must arrange for every chair, typewriter, podium, telephone, table, etc. needed by all committees. They still need willing workers to help them with these tasks.

Ask any of these women about being a part of the convention scene. The answer will be: "It's Worth it!"



CONVENTION COMMITTEE—Pictured are most of the 45 host committee members of the 1987

international LWML convention, to be held June 22-25 in Fort Worth.



Our statistics look good, but . . .

Allow me to quote some statistics—and make a few comments about them.

These facts and figures were, by the way, compiled by Henry Niermeier, a good and faithful retired educator, who works part time for the Texas District.

Now the statistics . . .

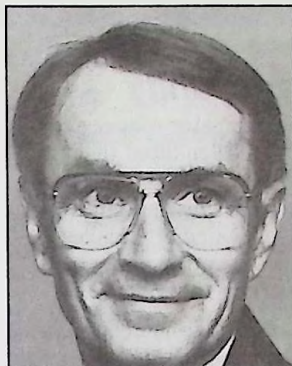
- The Texas District has 313 parish pastors—more than any other district except Michigan.

- 5.73 percent of all pastors located in the

United States and Canada are in Texas.

- We have 5.26 percent of all Missouri Synod congregations in Texas—330 at the last count.

- As of Dec. 31, 1985, we have a baptized membership of 128,204 . . . which is 4.69 percent of all Missouri Synod Lutherans in the United States and Canada. Only four districts have more members than Texas.



Glenn O'Shoney

rolled in Bible classes. Only (you guessed it) Michigan has more.

I could continue quoting statistics and I will do just that in my next LUTHERAN WITNESS article. But what do all of these statistics mean?

They show that our Texas District is growing. We are not growing as fast as we ought to be or as fast as we could be—but we are growing.

They say we have a tremendous potential in our pastors, educators and lay people. They point to a district that is committed to strong services of worship, regular celebration of the Lord's Supper, strong emphasis in adult education and a strong emphasis on parochial education.

There are times when we could throw our hands up in despair and ask, "Why aren't we doing so much more?"

There are those whose lives have been touched by the Spirit . . . those who have been entrusted with the sure Word . . . those who know what we believe and in whom we believe.

- Rather than despair, we need commitment. Every pastor, educator, congregation, person—each one of us—must be committed to sharing the precious Gospel message with others. We want everyone to know how good it is to be His.

- We confirmed or baptized 2,125 adults last year. Only two districts in the entire Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod gained more than 2,000 in this way—Texas was one of them.

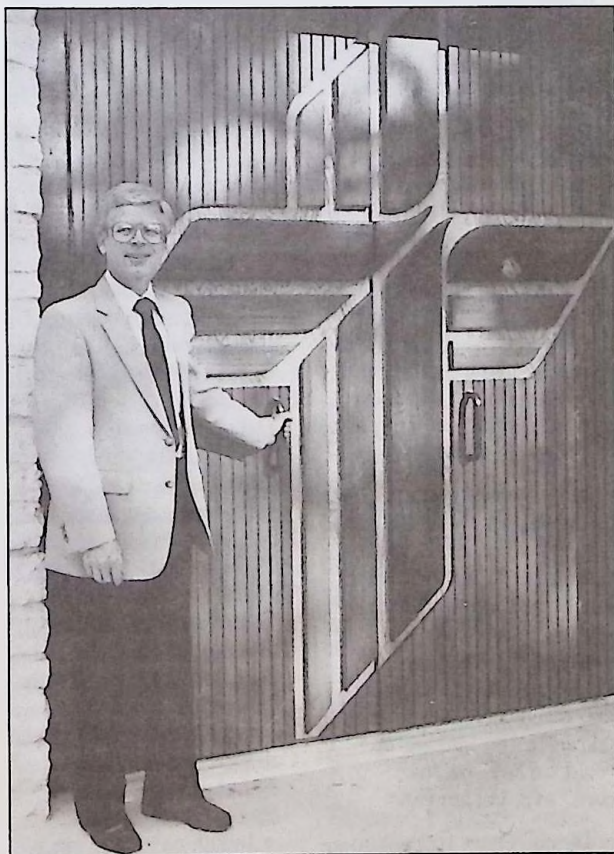
- Our people communed an average of 8.8 times per year.

- Texas pastors conducted 870 burials last year. Eleven districts had a greater number of burials. This says something about the youth of the average member of the Texas District.

- We have 100 Lutheran schools and early childhood programs. We rank fourth in this category. We have 11,500 students in our schools.

- Records show that we have 781 educators in Texas—only two districts have more workers.

- Texas has 27,675 en-



DOOR CROSS—This is one of two handsome crosses gracing the double doors of the new sanctuary at Christ Lutheran Church of Austin. The crosses duplicate the official logo of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. The new sanctuary was dedicated Aug. 24. Standing at the door is the pastor of Christ Lutheran, Rev. Roy Bohrer.

Glenn O'Shoney
President, Texas District

Hispanic workers use conference for witnessing to community

by Rev. Fred Boden
Mission Director
Texas District

Del Rio, Tex., along the Mexican border, was the scene of the biannual Texas District Hispanic Workers' Conference which was attended by 15 pastors, DCEs and lay ministers. These people are involved in the district's outreach to the Hispanic population.

Participants included all of the workers in the Houston and San Antonio areas, the host area and one representative from the Rio Grande Valley.

The keynote address by Dr. Eugene Gruell of El

Buen Pastor congregation in McAllen lifted the sights of those in attendance to consider discipleship and the making of disciples as the unique and only true work of the church.

Gruell also emphasized the importance of preserving the disciples in their relationship to the body of Christ. "To not only make disciples, but to preserve them is the privilege and obligation of the Church," he stated.

Early morning Bible studies on 2 Cor. 4:5-12 and Matthew 13, led by Professor L. Stahlke and Rev. Alan Sielk, helped participants focus on the conference theme—"Let's Make Disciples for Christ."

• One of the conference highlights was the time set aside in the afternoon for participants to make evangelism calls in the community near Cristo El Salvador mission. These visits resulted in 10 first-time visitors to the mission for the evening Spanish evangelistic services.

On the second evening the same 10 persons returned and brought two or three other visitors with them.

The program committee felt that to just talk about making disciples in a conference was not enough. Rather, they felt the best way to put the theme into action was by witnessing to the community through the Gospel proclamation "make disciples."



WITNESS—Rev. Gary Martin talks with Del Rio residents when participants in the biannual Texas District Hispanic Workers' Conference used conference time to make evangelism calls near Cristo El Salvador mission. More than a score of first-time visitors attended evening services, which were conducted in Spanish.

The experience was so rewarding that the assembly passed a resolution on the last day of the conference to include visitations and evangelistic services during each future Hispanic Workers Conference.

Pastor Gary Martin, full-time missionary in Del Rio, expressed his gratitude to the participants for providing a good number of new prospects for their growing mission. "It really works," he commented in an informal discussion as he referred to the making of "cold turkey" or "hard-core" evangelism calls.

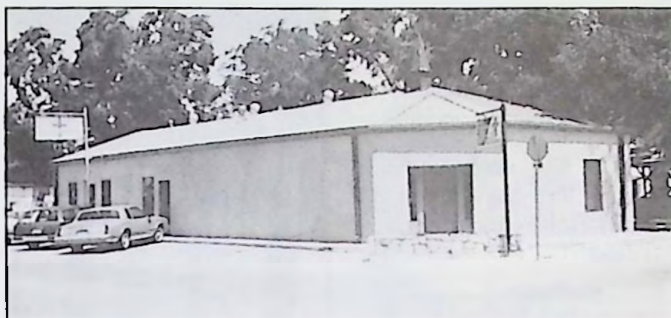
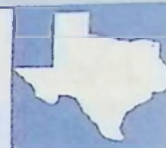
In his report to the conference, the district mission executive pointed out that there are 16 district ministries that are reaching out to the Hispanic population.

- They are:
Austin, San Juan
South Austin Hispanic
Brownsville, El Calvario
Corpus Christi, Nuestro
Salvador
Dallas Hispanic
Del Rio, Cristo El
Salvador
Harlingen, Nuestro
Redentor
Houston, Galena Park
Houston, San Juan
Houston, San Pablo
Houston, San Pedro
McAllen, El Buen Pastor
Mercedes, Immanuel
Raymondville, Mt.
Calvario
San Antonio, San Pablo
San Antonio, Trinidad
- In the past year six workers have accepted calls into Texas Hispanic ministries: Richard Lofgren, Houston, San Juan; Craig

(Continued on next page.)



SPEAKER—Rev. Jesse Gonzales conducts a session during the Texas District Hispanic Workers' Conference. During the conference, he was elected the new president.



MEETING SITE—This is Mision Cristo El Salvador in Del Rio, site of the biannual meeting of the Hispanic Workers' Conference which featured the theme, "Let's Make Disciples for Christ."

HISPANIC LEADERS

(Continued from previous page.)

Fenske, Dallas Hispanic; Alan Sielk, Houston, San Pablo; Eugene Gruell, McAllen, El Buen Pastor; Heriberto Huerta, San Antonio, Trinidad; Ruben Dominguez, Mercedes Hispanic.

The Hispanic In-Service Training Program provides training for vicars and DCEs in Hispanic settings, attempting to broaden the bilingual personnel base for Hispanic work within the district as well as in other United States and Latin America areas. Six of the pastors now working in our district's Hispanic ministries were once vicars in this program.

In other items relating to Hispanic work in Texas, the subsidy provided for our Hispanic mission work was mentioned. In 1986 the Board of Mission Administration budgeted \$233,000 for this ministry.

The 1987 work program includes \$337,000. The newest Hispanic ministry, Mercedes, received a \$25,000 Lutheran Brotherhood New Mission Project. It was announced that in

1985, 55 adults were confirmed in seven of the Hispanic congregations.

• The mission director set the following goals for Hispanic ministries by the year 1990: 1) to begin four new Hispanic ministries; 2) to confirm at least 500 adults; 3) to dedicate half of the total mission budget for ethnic ministries in the district, a greater portion to go for Hispanic work.

Resolutions passed by the assembly included one to plan a Hispanic family retreat for 1987 and one to name a correspondent from Texas to contribute news and devotional articles to the new Hispanic magazine, *El Testimonio Luterano*.

The group also passed a resolution to recognize Rev. Ray Bowles, a longtime worker among Hispanics who recently retired from the ministry at St. John Lutheran Church in Houston, for his many faithful years of service to the church.

• The new officers of the Hispanic Workers Conference for the 1988 conference are: President, Rev. Jesse Gonzales; Vice President, Rev. Carlos Boerger; and Secretary, Rev. Juan Rubio.

Dallas Cowboys choose Lutheran pastor for pre-game worship

The Dallas Cowboys football team has invited a Lutheran pastor to lead the team worship service on Dec. 14.

Rev. Steve Wagner, senior pastor of Prince of Peace Lutheran, Carrollton, will lead the players' chapel service before the team plays the Philadelphia Eagles at Texas Stadium in Irving.

The Cowboys players and coaches customarily gather for a Sunday morning chapel service at the stadium before taking the field for their warm-up exercises.

Wagner also was invited to watch the game on the sideline, along with the players.

Foundation provides grants to high school association

The Lutheran High School Association of Houston has been notified that it has received grants from the B.M. Woltman Foundation totaling \$65,000.

The two grants include \$32,000 for grants for tuition and financial aid to students attending Lutheran High North or Lutheran High South, and \$33,000 for debt retirement.

A third grant proposal for the Master Teacher Incentive Program is being considered. This program rewards outstanding performance by classroom teachers with salary bonuses.

To be eligible for the Master Teacher Award, a teacher must have served for four years within the Lutheran High School Association of Houston, have a master's degree, a Texas teaching license and must have received commendable or above ratings on the annual teacher evaluations for the last two years. Recipi-

ents for 1985-86 are Bruce Baacke, Lynn Eickemeyer, Daniel Jensen, Wayne Kramer and Paul Stuenkel.



50 YEARS—Raymond and Theresa (Mueller) Doege of Messiah Lutheran, Houston, recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. They have two children and twin grandchildren. They were married in Cypress, Tex., at Trinity Lutheran Church.

Send your news to Bill

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

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

Where should I invest my maturing CDs, appreciated stocks, appreciated real estate, or other assets I may have?

by Rev. Gerald Kieschnick
Director of Development
Lutheran Foundation
of Texas

That's a common question these days, with many interest rates at their lowest point in nine years! Possible answers are investment programs sponsored by Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod Texas District agencies:

1. The Church Extension Fund of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod Texas District

- a. Save by mail—5 1/2 percent
- b. One-year note (minimum \$500)—6 percent
- c. Three-year note (minimum \$1,000)—7 percent
- d. Five-year note (minimum \$10,000)—8 percent
- e. Helps build churches in the Texas District while earning interest for you

2. A Charitable Revocable Living Trust with the Lutheran Foundation of Texas

- a. Funded with a minimum of \$10.00
- b. Net earnings paid to you for lifetime, then to other loved ones for designated period of time, then to memorial/endowment fund of your choice
- c. Withdrawals and deposits may be made with 30-day notice
- d. No penalty for early withdrawal
- e. Reduces or eliminates Federal Estate Tax liability



Rev. Gerald Kieschnick

3. A Charitable Remainder Unitrust with the Lutheran Foundation of Texas

- a. Funded with a minimum of \$10,000 cash, stocks, real estate or other assets
- b. You select fixed rate of earnings or fixed income amount, paid to you for lifetime, then to loved ones for designated period of time, then to memorial/endowment fund of your choice
- c. Additional deposits may be made
- d. Avoids Capital Gains Tax on appreciated real estate or stocks
- e. Provides Federal Income Tax deduction
- f. Reduces or eliminates Federal Estate Tax liability

These three investment programs can be of significant benefit to you, your loved ones, your home congregation and the mission of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod in Texas and throughout the world.

Please send me more information on:

- ☐ A Church Extension Fund Savings Account
- ☐ A Charitable Revocable Living Trust with the Lutheran Foundation of Texas
- ☐ A Charitable Remainder Unitrust with the Lutheran Foundation of Texas

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____

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Day Phone _____

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Evening Phone _____



ORDAINED—Larry Gene Krueger, right, was ordained Aug. 10 at Temple. He is pictured with the pastor of Immanuel, Temple, Rev. Ray Weber.

Larry Krueger ordained Aug. 10

Larry Gene Krueger was ordained Aug. 10 by Rev. Ray Weber at Immanuel, Temple. Other pastors participating in the service were Rev. Steve Henze, liturgist; Rev. Vic Kilian, lector; Rev. Vernon Appel; Chaplain Whitfield McMillan; Rev. Alvin Meissner; and Rev. Donald Ude.

A recent graduate of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Krueger received a call to First Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tahlequah, Okla., and was installed there Aug. 17 by Oklahoma District President Gerhard F. Bode. He is married to the former Sally Stewart of St. Louis.

His parents are Johnnie and Lillian Krueger of Immanuel, Temple.

High School Association conducts installation

On Sept. 7, Rev. Laurence White of Our Savior Lutheran, Houston, officiated at the installation of six new teachers and an executive director for the Houston Lutheran High School Association.

The new teachers are Terry Hynous, Don Christian, Marjorie Myers, Carolyn Ortegón, Elizabeth Krause and Detlef Kemnitz.

Ray Hauer was installed as the new executive director of the association, which operates two Lutheran high schools with an enrollment of 461 students.



Pastor Horn honored on 25th year in ministry

Members of Beautiful Savior, Houston, along with family and friends, celebrated with Rev. Clifford Horn Aug. 20 recognizing his 25th year in the holy ministry.

Speaker for the service was Rev. Harvey Fred Kelm Jr. of Red Cloud, Nebr., Horn's son-in-law.

Special music was presented by the adult choir and solo music was offered by Faith Horn, Pastor Horn's daughter.

The ceremony also was a farewell for Faith Horn, a 1986 graduate of Concordia Lutheran College, Austin, who accepted a call to teach in a Lutheran school in Plant City, Fla.

During dinner and during the presentation of an anniversary cake, music was featured by the church contemporary choir. Horn received a banner from the Beautiful Savior staff. Mark Belew, congregation president, presented a plaque to him.

Former members invited to Bishop anniversary

All former members of St. Paul Lutheran Church, Bishop, are invited to attend the 75th anniversary service at 10 a.m. on Nov. 30. Texas District President Glenn O'Shoney will be guest speaker.

Three services earlier in the year featured two sons of the congregation, Rev. R.H. Wuensche of Austin



SPEAKER—Dr. Oswald Hoffmann, noted speaker of the *Lutheran Hour*, will address the Texas District's Discipleship Convocation April 23-26, 1987, in Dallas.

and Rev. Ronald Pfluger, and a former pastor, Rev. Raymond Reich of New Braunfels, as speakers.

Earlier this year the congregation dedicated a new 16-rank Wicks pipe organ.

A smile item

The newsletter of St. Paul Lutheran, McAllen, claims there is a church which dubbed its children's choir "The O.K. Chorale."

Dallas Convocation will prepare Texans for discipleship challenges

"Catch the Vision of the Great Commission!" That's the invitation to pastors, teachers and laypeople of the Texas District who will gather in Dallas on April 23-26, 1987, for a Discipleship Convocation. They will meet at the Sheraton Park Hotel.

Major speakers and practical workshops will enhance this version of the district's pastor, teacher, lay conference and will focus on themes built around the Lord's Great Commission of Matthew 28.

Exciting worship opportunities will help participants experience Christ's universal vision of reconciling love.

◦ Noted *Lutheran Hour* speaker Dr. Oswald Hoffmann and Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod President Dr. Ralph Bohlmann will share their perspectives of the church's mission, both past and future.

Other speakers exploring the needs which the vision exposes are former Southern California District President Dr. Arnold Kuntz and Dr. Raymond Bakke, of Northern Baptist Theological Seminary, Lombard, Ill. Bakke, who has traveled the world extensively, is a popular speaker on social trends.

A major convocation objective is to provide fresh training for Texas Lutherans who minister to an everchanging world.



SINGERS—The popular Dave and Barb Anderson will provide music during worship portions of the Discipleship Convocation to be held next year in Dallas.

Practical workshops will express the vision in outreach, assimilation, reclamation and nurture/care.

◦ All activities will be highlighted with worship. The popular Dave and Barb Anderson of Anoka, Minn., will provide music along with the Houston Lutheran Chorale, under the direction of Met Mountford of St. Mark Lutheran, Houston.

Space is limited, so plan to register early. Registrations begin in January when materials are sent to all Texas District congregations. Registration forms also will appear in the *Texas Witness*.

GROWTH

The Lord added to His church . . .

Welcoming new members on Aug. 17 was the congregation of **Grace, Arlington**, where 17 persons were received by adult confirmation and 30 were received by transfer.

Joining the forever family on Aug. 31 at **Grace, San Marcos**, were 25 new members, welcomed at a reception after the service.

Rejoicing over the addition of 18 new members on Aug. 31 through transfer and reprofession of faith was the congregation of **Concordia Lutheran, San Antonio**.

Placed into the arms of Jesus by baptism during August were six children at **St. Paul, Fort Worth**.

At **Redeemer, San Antonio**, there is rejoicing over the four new members received by confirmation, two by reaffirmation of faith, one by baptism and four by transfer—all welcomed in the name of Jesus on Aug. 31.

Recently the Lord added eight new members by transfer and five through baptism at **St. John, Cypress**.

On Aug. 17, 40 new people were welcomed into the church family of **Pilgrim Lutheran, Houston**. Seventeen came by transfer, 14 were baptized children, five by adult information class and four by reaffirmation of faith.

Church membership for nine persons occurred dur-



HOUSTON—Here are the new members welcomed into congregational fellowship on Aug. 17 at Pilgrim Lutheran Church of Houston, Donald R. Peymann and Richard C. Izzard, pastors.



ATHENS—This (at left) is the first group of new members to be received at St. John Lutheran in Athens since the installation of its new pastor, Rev. James Linderman, on July 13. Left to right are Phillicia Phillips, Patsy Phillips, Jerry Phillips, Jean Linderman, Linderman, Myrna Winslow, Edwin Dutton, Eleanor Dutton and Elvin Dutton.

ing September at **Immanuel, Houston**, as they were taken into the church family.

Welcoming seven additions into the church family was **Redeemer, San Antonio**, congregation on Aug. 31. The new members came by confirmation, reaffirmation of faith and baptism.

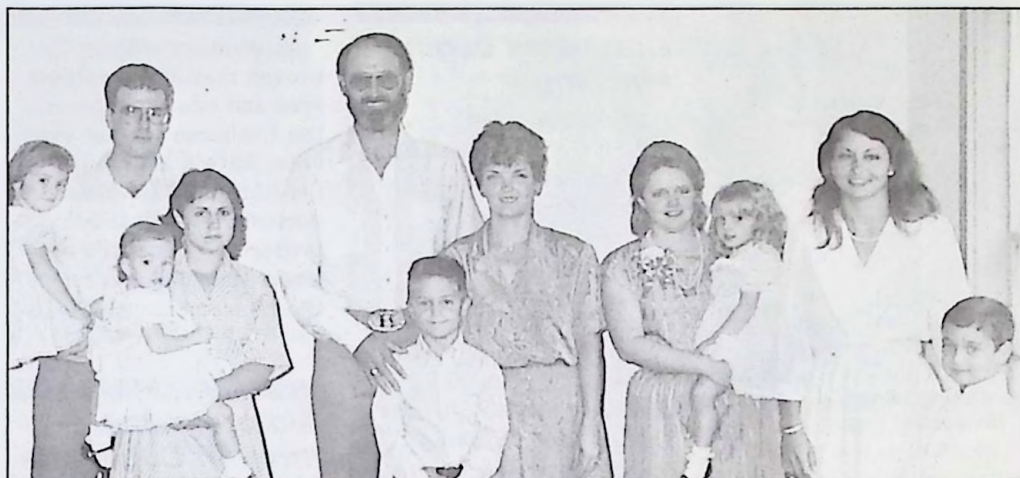
Thrill your pastor

Comments which thrill a pastor's heart:

"I know it looks impossible, but with God's help we can do it."



SAN ANTONIO—Shown with Pastor Keith Johnson of Redeemer Lutheran, San Antonio, are the latest group of members received into membership at a special service on Aug. 31.



ROSEHILL—At a recent Sunday service, Salem Lutheran of Rosehill (photo at left) received six adults into membership after completing adult confirmation. Their five children were received into membership through baptism on the same Sunday. Salem pastors are Wayne Graumann and Douglas Dommer.



DALLAS—Above are some of the 34 new members, including 11 by adult confirmation, received into membership at Bethel Lutheran, Dallas, Aug. 24. Pastors Randy Haedge and Donald Berg said, "We are truly proud and give thanks to God for this thrilling event, and it was even more satisfying since many of these were involved in a summer adult confirmation class."

Commissioning service held for mission developer

A special service of commissioning was held Sept. 14 at Grace Lutheran Church of Midland for Rev. Ray Johansen as mission developer in Midland.

The Midland effort is a Texas District mission outreach. Its purpose is to reach the unchurched, particularly in northwest Midland.

Born in 1936, Johansen

began his career in the title insurance and escrow business. He entered Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, Ind., in 1982 and graduated in 1986.

He will function as a worker/priest, dividing his time between mission work and secular employment.

Lutheran Hour

You can hear the *Lutheran Hour* in the Austin area at 7 a.m. on Sundays on KLBK, and in San Antonio at 8:30 a.m. on KKYX.

District calendar

December

- 5—Circuit 6 conference, Zion, Abilene
- 16—Circuit 21 conference, Austin
- 18-19—Staff meeting, district office
- 24-26—Christmas holidays

January

- 1-2—New Year holidays
- 17—Lutheran Outdoors Ministry of Texas Board, Austin
- 18-19—Board for Mission Administration
- 19—Board for Church Extension
- 19—Board for Parish Services
- 20—Staff meeting, district office
- 23-25—Pre-retirement seminar, Camp Lone Star
- 27—Texas District Board of Directors

You can do this for your pastor

Build his spiritual power by praying for him. When you pray for your pastor you pray for your church, your community and your family.

Ever go to church in Kingsville?

St. Paul Lutheran Church of Kingsville is planning to celebrate its 75th anniversary next year, on Aug. 9, 1987.

The congregation has requested help to locate former members.

Please send names and addresses to St. Paul Lutheran Church, Invitation Committee, P.O. Box 1581, Kingsville, Tex. 78363.

Houston church has new associate

Rev. Dymann Jirovec has accepted the call to become associate pastor at Immanuel, Houston.

He comes to Immanuel from Trinity Lutheran in Waterville, Minn., and will serve as youth director along with involvement in evangelism.

He is married and has three daughters.



The Concordia Guild will sponsor the Austin Children's Choir, led by Concordia's Dr. Bernard Gastler. Rehearsals began in September.

Concordia Guild expands membership

You are invited to become a member of the Concordia Guild.

Traditionally, the guild has been composed of faculty and staff members and their spouses. Feeling that the organization offers a unique opportunity for those outside the college who wish to advance and support its programs, members voted this year to expand the guild to include alumni, parents of students and friends of Concordia.

The activities and goals of the Concordia Guild will remain the same. The group improves campus life in a variety of ways, through such activities as sponsoring or assisting with special events and raising money for projects.

In past years, the projects have included new draperies and furnishings for campus buildings and scholarships for students.

As its project in 1986-87, the guild has chosen to sponsor the Concordia College Choir and the new Austin Children's Choir—a

Concordia sponsored group under the direction of Dr. Bernard Gastler and CLC students preparing for teaching music or choir direction. Funds raised by the guild will provide sheet music and other essentials for the two choirs.

Concordia Guild president Linda Nabors, CLC Admissions Counselor, expects most new members to be from the Austin area, but encourages others to join, even though they might not be able to attend meetings. "Those from other areas will have many opportunities to support Concordia in their home cities and congregations," she says.

For more information about how you may become a member of the Concordia Guild, write Linda Nabors at Concordia, 3400 IH 35 N., Austin, Tex. 78705.

Enrollment '86

Concordia enrolled 464 students for the fall semester, up from 445 in the fall of 1985. Dormitories are full, with 192 students living on campus, as compared to 177 in 1985.

Graduates begin teaching

Seventeen recent graduates of Concordia's elementary education program began teaching careers in Lutheran schools this fall. Twelve are in Texas classrooms, with the others in Missouri, Florida, Louisiana, California and Ohio.

Placement Director Dr. John Jungemann reports that all 1986 Lutheran teacher graduates with geographic mobility have been placed.

As reported in the October Texas District news, the 1986 education graduates distinguished themselves by scoring a 100 percent passing rate on the first administration of the ExCET (Examination for the Certification of Educa-

tors in Texas).

In addition to their proven mastery of subject area and education theory, the Lutheran teacher graduates have a knowledge of Scripture and Lutheran doctrine. They are well prepared to meet the challenge of teaching in Lutheran elementary schools.

Aid programs through Concordia

Students at Concordia will receive \$969,274.69 in aid during this 61st academic year through gifts and grants. The college itself provides \$267,279.67, with the remainder coming from congregations, districts, state and federal government, and private agencies.



Site preparation is underway for the construction of the Louise T. Peter Center, a 30,000 square foot building for music, communication and education classes. Wade T. Janssen, Director of Capital Gifts, reports that the college seeks individuals who would like to contribute for the construction of this much-needed facility.



CLC prof combines writing and teaching

If you read *The New York Times*, you may have noticed an article in the Saturday, Sept. 13, issue titled, "You Mean We Have a History?"

If you also read the information in small print about the article's author, you learned that it was written by Joe Patrick Bean of the Concordia Lutheran College history faculty.

The *Times* article is only one of many that have been published during the last six months. Bean's writings have appeared in the *Houston Chronicle* (six times), *The Houston Post*, *The Dallas Morning News* and the *Fort Worth Star Telegram*.

In addition, *The ANALS of the American Academy of Political and Social Science* included a book review by Bean in its May issue.

In most of his newspaper essays, Bean comments on current events, using his knowledge of history to provide insight and background information.

Writing for publication is by no means a new venture for Bean. His first published writing was an essay on George Orwell's 1984, printed in his high school newspaper when he was a freshman.

As a high school senior, he wrote an article about one of his teachers which was included in the *Voice of Missouri*, the district supplement to the LUTHERAN WITNESS—his first state-wide publication.



To write his articles, Professor Joe Patrick Bean relies on the newspaper to provide current event information and on his computer to provide word processing assistance.

After his graduation from St. Paul's College High School, he wrote fiction and poetry along with essays and commentaries. He estimates that around 80 of his writings have been published.

Bean received an associate's degree from St. Paul's College and two degrees from Concordia Teachers College in Seward, Nebr.—a B.A. in history and a B.S. in education.

His master's degree in history came from Marquette University in Milwaukee, Wis. He is currently enrolled in the doctoral program in history at the University of Texas in Austin.

Bean's teaching experience includes three years at Martin Luther High in Milwaukee and three years at Concordia College in Austin.

His teaching background led to writing *The New York Times* article, in which he comments that today's young people have a basic absence of historical memory and little first-hand knowledge of the events shaping today's world.

He concludes by saying that studying the past through the lens of the present is not the same as experiencing those events personally, whether the source of information is a person or a textbook.

Students might then ask "Why bother?" Bean believes that attempting to understand the past is preferable to ignoring it, and quotes the words of the German historian Johann Gustav Droysen, who said that studying history "is not 'the light and the truth' but a search therefor."

Bean, through his writing and his teaching, helps others in that search.

Christmas Concert scheduled

The Concordia College Choir will present its annual Christmas Concert at 7:30 p.m., Friday, Dec. 12, at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Austin.

The College Choir, under the direction of Professor Harold Rutz, will sing both sacred and traditional music. Concordia students will also provide instrumental music, including selections by the Handbell Choir.

The Austin Children's Choir, in its first public appearance, will also sing. Dr. Bernard Gastler directs the Children's Choir.

Thinking about college?

If you are a high school junior or senior, your mailbox has probably been full of college brochures. Have you received Concordia's?

If you haven't, it's because the Admissions Counseling Office doesn't know about you!

Concordia offers many programs of study in a Christian atmosphere. To receive information and brochures, contact Admissions Counseling Office, Concordia Lutheran College, 3400 IH 35 N., Austin, Tex. 78705; 512-452-7661.

You'll be pleased with what you find out about Concordia of Texas and its tremendous support network of more than 100,000 Missouri Synod members in Texas and nearly 3,000,000 synodical members throughout the U.S.

Riemer earns second doctorate

Dr. Milton Riemer, English professor at Concordia, has earned his second doctorate from the University of Texas, receiving the Doctor of Jurisprudence from the UT School of Law. He also holds the Master of Divinity degree from Concordia Seminary in St. Louis.



At St. Mark, Conroe, a special worship service and congregational dinner on Sept. 7 honored couples in the congregation married more than 45 years. There were 17 couples present.

The people of Mt. Calvary, San Antonio, surprised Pastor and Mrs. Kim DeVries on Aug. 2 with a congregational dinner for their 10th wedding anniversary and the 10th anniversary of his ordination into the ministry.

On July 28, Rev. Arthur W. Arndt celebrated his 90th birthday at his home in Giddings with family members from nine states. All seven children and their spouses, along with 14 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren were present. Arndt's 50 years in the ministry were spent entirely in the Texas District. He served parishes in Cisco, Harlingen, Wharton, Serbin and West Sinton. He retired in 1972.

Tom Brazeil, member of First Lutheran, Lufkin, is a paramedic and fireman with the Lufkin Fire Department. He made page one of the local paper recently when he delivered a baby boy in an ambulance while transporting the mother to the hospital. Everyone is doing fine.

Congratulations to Mrs. Annie Lippe, member of Redeemer, Odessa, who celebrated her 98th birthday on Aug. 28. She has

Happenings in Texas . . .

been a genuine inspiration to the faith of her family and friends.

And congratulations also to Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Theiss of Trinity, Klein, on their 51st wedding anniversary Aug. 22.

There is a group at Christ Lutheran, Houston, called the Rest Home Singers. They go to a home for the elderly and infirm twice a month and lead favorite hymns and gospel songs as they sing along with the residents of the home. This is indeed an enriching and uplifting ministry.

The enlarged and remodeled Mt. Olive Lutheran Church, Corpus Christi, was dedicated in special services on Nov. 9.

The generation gap was closed at Zion Lutheran, Tomball, on Aug. 10 when Jennifer Johnson was installed as a teacher for Tomball Lutheran High School after her May graduation from Concordia Lutheran College, Austin. Reader for the service was Teacher Rudolph Obermueller, celebrating his 55th year in the teaching ministry. He is retired but occasionally plays the organ for services. He received a plaque at the installation for his dedicated service.

A welcome service is performed by the Adult Singers of Our Redeemer, Irving. They offered special babysitting service on Sept. 12 for any parents of the congregation who wanted an evening to themselves.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. W. Nimtz of Messiah, Houston, who observed 54 years of marriage on Sept. 25.

Perfect! That's what Nancy Murray of Our Savior, Abilene, was as she entered 11 items in the sewing and knitting divisions at the West Texas Fair and received 11 ribbons—three of them first prize.

St. John, Cypress, held its annual Senior Citizens Day on Sept. 7, when 65s-and-over were recognized and Senior Citizen of the Year was chosen, who turned out to be Mrs. Pearl Hargrave.

On Sept. 14, Hope Lutheran, Austin, dedicated and used for the first time its new rank of organ pipes and set of handbells.

You might say Paul Welch and Dawn Kissman have gone to the dogs, but in a very positive way. These members of Our Savior, Abilene, competed in the State 4-H dog show with Paul's entry taking first in the Novice Obedience Class and Dawn taking seconds in sub-novice obedience and conformation.

The volunteer team from Hope, Austin, has just completed its 12th year of conducting devotional services each Wednesday at a nursing home. Another team performs this much-appreciated service every other Sunday.

It was a celebration of joy on Sept. 14 when Our

Savior, Houston, installed William Strong as assistant pastor, installed Douglas Pennkamp as director of parish music and education, and dedicated its new parish hall and classroom building.

Messiah Lutheran, Richardson, has welcomed David Lineberger as its new Minister of Music and Administration.

Members of Good Shepherd, Cedar Park, dedicated their expanded educational, worship and office space on Aug. 17.

Messiah Lutheran, Richardson, is celebrating its 30th anniversary on Jan. 4, 1987. Past members and friends are invited to the service and luncheon.

St. Paul, McAllen, is celebrating with John E. Karle who, in his first year, was selected as a member of the Singing Cadets, the 54-voice male chorus of Texas A&M University.

Congratulations to Oscar and Esther Woelfel of St. Mark, Houston, who celebrated their 58th wedding anniversary in September.

Sixty years of wedded life were celebrated recently by Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Schumacher of St. Paul's, Plainview. Congratulations!

There are 32 young members of Immanuel, Giddings, attending college this semester. Favorite school? A&M University with 11 Immanuel enrollees. In addition, Immanuel has six young members serving in the armed forces.



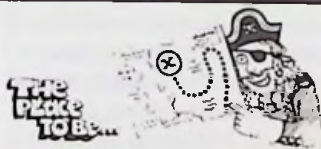
HIGH ROPE EVENT—Seminarian David Thies, summer staffer for three years at Camp Lone Star, serves as a "spotter" during a high ropes event at the Lone Star team challenge course.

O'Shoney to lead high adventure trek at Philmont in the Rockies

Dr. Glenn O'Shoney, Missouri Synod Texas District President, will serve as the leader on a 12-day backpacking expedition in the Rocky Mountains of New Mexico, June 28-July 9, 1987.

Sponsored by Lutheran Outdoors Ministry of Texas, this trek involves exploring the Philmont (Boy Scouts of America) Ranch's high country and experiencing the thrill of climbing mountains over two miles high.

Activities include technical rock climbing, archaeological excavation techniques and wilderness survival. This event will be limited to 10 male participants who are at least 14 years old. Further details may be obtained from the LOMT office.



Lone Star Challenge Course grows in outreach effectiveness

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

"You are standing on top of a telephone pole, 25 feet in the air, preparing to jump for a trapeze eight feet away."

Go for it—a chance to fly!

Two days ago the idea that you could even be standing here was ridiculous. But, you didn't think you could fall off a four-foot platform backwards and let people catch you. They called it trust. You didn't think everybody in your group could balance on that wire at one time, together. It took time, a lot of communication and experimenting, but we did it."

"You didn't think you could walk that balance beam 20 feet above the ground, but your group helped and you did it. And you knew you couldn't climb to the top of a telephone pole and stand up. But they gave you the prodding, the encouragement—the caring—until you trusted them and trusted yourself and here you stand . . . the view from the top is wonderful!"

- These are some typical observations and reactions that have surfaced from participants using the Lone Star Challenge Course, which is rapidly becoming known as a marvelous tool to build group togetherness and to develop interpersonal relationships.



Rev. Karl Petzke

The application to Christians growing together as God's people and being strengthened in their relationship to each other and with our loving Lord has surfaced as a special benefit for youth groups, church councils and other retreat-type events.

But, even more, service to the expanded community of Texans in sharing the Gospel through this effective medium has become a welcomed highlight of this outdoors ministry.

Recently, groups have included health professionals, Alcoholics Anonymous and other chemical abuse programs, female rape victims, youth from the Texas State School for the Blind, youth having difficulty in school or who are in special counseling programs, staff members from the Texas Rehabilitation Commission office and many others.

- Breaking down barriers and opening up to Christ-like compassion and love have become the norm in this setting.

LUTHERAN SOCIAL SERVICE OF TEXAS

Remembering our heritage

by Rev. Robert C. Greene
President of Lutheran
Social Service of Texas
Heritage.

Lutherans are famous for it.

We take the best from our past and faithfully implant it in our future.

In this 60th anniversary year, we've paused to celebrate the milestones of the growing Lutheran social service ministry in Texas in the name of Christ.

What follows are a few of the memorable events in the development of your Lutheran ministry to people in need:

1867—The earliest record of organized Lutheran charitable work in Texas: a Pastors' Widows Aid Fund.

1878-1891—An Invalid Fund established for a disabled pastor's children.

1900—Lutheran churches in Texas collected \$1,743.60 for relief aid after the Galveston hurricane. Out-of-state churches contributed, too. Total amount: \$7,827.15.

1924—A then-named Good Samaritan Society of Texas was organized.

1926—The society was chartered on July 19. The name was changed to the Lutheran Aid and Orphans' Society to avoid confusion with a Good Samaritan Society in South Dakota—and not to be confused with the Good Samaritan Home in Cypress.

1929—The society, with the support of the Augustana Association of Charities, bought the Trinity Lutheran College property



HERITAGE OF CARING—The year was 1962. The residents and caregivers are making their way to the next activity . . . perhaps its chapel, bingo or a sing-a-long. Thousands have enjoyed the security and Christ-centered care in nursing homes managed by LSST. Today, the four LSST Homes—located in Round Rock, Shiner, Lubbock and Midland—care for more than 375 people around the clock each day.

in Round Rock to begin Trinity Lutheran Home, a home for orphans and the elderly.

1944—The society changed its name to the Texas Lutheran Welfare Society and expanded to include a social service office in San Antonio. The emphasis began on providing unplanned pregnancy counseling and placing children in foster or adoptive homes.

1945—With the close of WWII, a Veterans Counseling Service was briefly provided. Refugee resettlement helped to resettle 268 families.

1958—The institutional program for children at Round Rock ended in June.

1962—The Altemheim Retirement Resident center in Austin was given to the society. In 1984 it was moved to the Trinity Lutheran Home campus.

1963—Trinity Lutheran Home in Shiner first opened its doors to residents.

1964—The Missouri Synod Texas District contracted with the society to provide professional social work services to individuals related to the Synod.

1970—The Texas District joined its institutional chaplaincy to LSS and became a full partner in the agency. The name was changed again to Lutheran Social Service of Texas.

1976—First adult day care center opened in El Paso.

1980—Emergency Response System service began in the Austin area.

1981—Consultant to Congregation program begins.

1982—Clergy Care ministry begins.

1983—LSST assumed the operations of The Lutheran Home of West Texas in

Lubbock and The Lutheran Home-Permian Basin in Midland.

1985—Oak Creek Retirement Community in Edna and Trinity Place Apartments, low-income housing for elderly/handicapped in Round Rock, welcome their first residents.

1986—Casa Trinidad, a low-income housing community in Zapata for elderly/handicapped, opens.

The list below reflects the ministry done on your behalf:

- Adoption of children
- Adult day care centers
- Chaplaincy
- Congregational consultancy
- Disaster relief coordination
- Emergency response system
- Family life education
- Foster care for children
- Individual counseling
- Marital counseling
- Mutual assistance homes for pregnant women
- Nursing home care
- Refugee resettlement
- Services for abused children and their families
- Unplanned pregnancy counseling

Learn more

For more information about Lutheran Social Service of Texas, contact LSST, P.O. Box 49589, Austin, Texas 78765-9589.

In thankfulness for 60 years of God's blessings, we'll send you—free—our LSST Bible bookmark for use in your personal devotions.



WINGS OF TIME—There were eight different "time periods" at the August youth gathering in Washington, where the 15,000 participants could interact with fellow Christians. The Reformation Wing of Time had a staff of Texas District teachers, students and pastors. From left, standing, are Harlan Teske; Wally Manderud; V'Ann Luedke; Izzy the eagle, which helped share the Isaiah convention theme "God will lift you up as on wings of eagles"; Karl Dunn; Ev Lunning as Martin Luther; Terri Johnson; Rev. John Smith; and Laura Wiederaenders. Kneeling are Mike Naleieha and Troy Gallaher. Not pictured is Joanne Teske.

Our bright Lutheran kids . . .

Pamela Mettlach is a south Texas HERO! She has been elected a regional vice president of HERO—Home Economics, Related Occupations. She served as delegate to the national Future Homemakers of America convention in Orlando, Fla. She is a member of St. Paul Lutheran, McAllen, and a senior at Memorial High.

Congratulations to Teresa Bennett of Living Word Lutheran, The Woodlands, who was awarded a journalism scholarship after attending year-book camp this summer at Sam Houston University.

The youngsters in grades six through eight at St. Andrew, Houston, call themselves God's Echoes.

Bright kid Stanley Koeser of Trinity, Riesel, has been named an Academic All-American by the Na-

tional Secondary Education Council. These scholars must earn at least a 3.3 grade point average and be nominated by a teacher or counselor. His name will appear in the Academic All-American Directory of top high school scholars. Nice work, Stanley!

Let's give three cheers to the girl's varsity volleyball team of Concordia Lutheran High of Houston which won first place in the Beaumont Christian Tournament.

Lisa Zwernemann, Hope, Austin, made the dean's list her first two semesters at the University of Texas, Austin.

Three of the four Riesel High School twirlers are members of Trinity Lutheran, Riesel. They are Andi Ramos, Amy Schroeder and Lisa Fleischhauer.

VBS doubles size of The Grove

According to map population charts, The Grove has 45 people living in the community.

But between July 22 and Aug. 1, it had 84 students in vacation Bible school at St. Paul Lutheran Church. In addition, there were eight teachers, eight helpers and Pastor Wayne Thomas Pick, who taught the seventh and eighth graders.

Of the students attending, St. Paul Congregation supplied 33. The rest came from Moody, Gatesville, Temple, Belton, Moffat, Whitson, Walburg and other areas of rural central Texas.

The congregation of St. Paul Lutheran at The Grove has 248 baptized and 206 communicant members. The church was established in 1883.

The Grove is 20 miles west of Belton.

Church Extension

by Carl A. Heckmann
Director of Development

It's an amazing story!

It's a story about the grace of God in the lives of people.

It's the story of investments that are "Always lent—never spent" . . . the money available to one parish after another for its facilities . . . investments that are always available to the investor.

It's the story of a return the like of which is available nowhere else. At a time when interest rates are falling, the CEF return remains the same. And the



Dr. Carl A. Heckmann

greatest return is still the number of those who are brought to Christ through the ministries made possible by your investment in CEF.

**Texas District
Church Extension Fund**
7900 U. S. 290 East
Austin, Tex. 78724
512-926-4272



LOOK AT US—These little ones overflow the altar area of St. Mark Lutheran, Lake Jackson, to have their picture taken at VBS. There are 79 children. And of these, 29 were visitors, proving once again the evangelism value of VBS. The kids' offerings, sent to the Lutheran School for the Deaf, totaled \$117.72.

**Pastoral advisor,
wife honored on
25th wedding
anniversary**

by Gary D. Laneman
Information Coordinator
11601 January Dr.
Austin, Tex. 78753

Lone Star District pastoral advisor Rev. Paul Hartfield of St. Paul, Serbin, and his wife, Cydell, received a surprise 25th wedding anniversary dinner. Held in Giddings, the dinner involved more than 500 persons.

Bob Hartfield, Paul's brother, conducted the services before the dinner and Pastor Marcus Wolfram of Warda, master of ceremonies, told a humorous story about the days when Paul and Cydell were dating and the lure of Cydell's fantastic homemade apple pie.

Cross given

President Ken Weiser, in ceremonies at the Texas District office in Austin, recently gave a cross in the form of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod logo for use in chapel services in the district office. This cross was given to the district in memory of Rev. Albert Jesse, past Texas District president and pastoral advisor of the Lone Star District LLL, and also in memory of Clarence Saeggert, past president of the Lone Star District, International Lutheran Laymen's League.

In Lebanon

We continually receive letters of concern about Moris Jahshan and our staff



FETED—Rev. Paul Hartfield and his wife, Cydell, were honored by the Lone Star District of the International Lutheran Laymen's League on their 25th wedding anniversary. Hartfield is pastoral advisor to the Lone Star District members.

in Lebanon. This is an excerpt from a letter received by courier just a few days ago:

"As you realize, the situation in Lebanon is still tense. But in spite of that, we are trying to do our best to keep the work going to the best of our abilities and to the glory of God.

"The three courses, Life of Christ, People of God and Hope of the World have already been printed. Right now, the Garden of the Youth Bible correspondence course is still being printed. Also, we have printed a new sticker in the Arabic language which has the Oriental cross with the words, 'God Is Love' in the center.

"In addition, we are finding good acceptance to our work and materials in the

Orthodox and Catholic circles. You might be happy to know also that we are cooperating with the Bible Society in Lebanon in marketing our materials, especially the video cassettes. They are still at the Middle East Council of Churches in Ras-Beirut, being transformed to U-matic video cassettes.

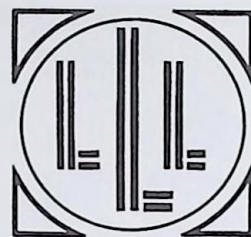
"Then they will be copied on VHS video cassettes which are used mostly in homes. We have finished 40 *This Is The Life* films translated into Arabic and placed on video cassettes. Over 200 orders have been received to date.

"Finally, the *Lutheran Hour* ministry reaches a vast number of Arabic-speaking people. Recently, we received a letter about a man in Morocco whom we call 'Younes.'

"Younes is an old Muslim friend of the office. His first contact was two years ago. In January 1985, he made his decision to accept Jesus Christ as his personal Savior. Since that time, Younes is facing many problems:

- He was fired from his job.
- He was rebuked by his friends and rejected by his family.
- His government warned him to stop preaching and talking with his people about Christ, or he would be condemned and sent to prison for the rest of his life.

"Although Younes is facing all kinds of persecution, he still is searching and striving to know more about Jesus the Savior. In his last letter, he declared his faith openly. His letter



included words and verses from the New Testament. He requested us to give definitions and interpretations of some Bible verses, such as:

• Please help me to understand the meaning of the verse taken from John 3:16. What do we mean by the word 'world?' Does it include everybody, even the Muslims and the Jews?

• How can I express Jesus' love which is now in my heart to my enemy?

So, is there still a ministry in the Middle East? Just this one example illustrates that there is.

Closed Captioned

All 52 episodes of *This Is The Life*, a 30-minute syndicated religious drama, have been closed captioned for the 1986-87 broadcast season.

This project was made possible by a grant of \$53,601 from Mill Neck Foundation to Lutheran Television, the TV ministry of the International Lutheran Laymen's League.

This Is The Life is telecast weekly over about 150 TV stations throughout North America, plus several cable networks.

Recently Mill Neck purchased 75 sets of "Yeshua" VHS cassettes to give to some 50 congregations for the deaf and to agencies ministering to the hearing-impaired.



What are you sowing?

"Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously" (2 Cor. 9:6).

What is your area of greatest need today? The Lord would say to you, "I will meet your need!" He will do it exceedingly abundantly, more than you could ask or think—but not according to the ways of man.

God's plan is filled with paradox; His wisdom is "foolishness" to the world. His wisdom says "give and it shall be given unto you." Is your need financial? Then *believe* His word today and give from your need; expect His blessing!

Are you lonely or depressed? Reach out and help someone else today in their need, however small. Lose your life in servanthood and you will find tremendous joy and purpose in living. "Whosoever loses his life for My sake will find it."

Is love your need? Give in the measure you want it returned to you. If you want to feel like a queen, try making your husband feel more like a king!

God's Word is true and has power in its effect. Meditate on the 2 Cor. 9:6 scripture and let it guide your "planting."

Sowing life,

Sherry Torbert
Christian Growth
Chairman



Something new!

Our district mission projects committee has developed two new aids to help promote the projects chosen for the 1986-88 biennium.

• MISSION PROJECTS POSTER

Committee member Iris Franke has designed a poster (shown above) that can be used to update the progress on each of our district mite projects. The posters have been mailed to zone presidents for distribution to each society. Prominently displayed and updated, the poster can be an effective tool in informing everyone of the work done by our mites.

• PRAYERS FOR PROJECTS

Prayers for each of the district projects have been prepared for use at monthly meetings when mites are collected or by individual members as they daily place money in their mite boxes.

These prayers were written by committee members Pat Barlow and Gloria Denman. Gloria dictated her

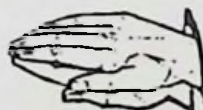
prayers to Amalie Long from her hospital bed while recovering from a serious automobile accident. Thank You, Lord, for dedicated servants!

Questions regarding the poster and the prayers may be directed to Mission Projects Chairman Peggy Turnipseed, 1302 March Dr., Austin 78753.

Prayers for Projects

TEXAS LABORERS FOR CHRIST

Thank You, heavenly Father, for the willingness of your faithful people to share their talents in the construction of new worship facilities. These Laborers for Christ need our Mighty Mites, and with Your blessing we can provide the necessary tools for their work. Lord, we ask Your help in keeping us faithful in our commitment of \$10,000 for this project. Accept our praise and thankfulness in Jesus' name. Amen.



Mite Report

September 30, 1986

1986-88 Goal \$178,000

Received in September \$7,750

Received to date \$33,811

Needed to meet goal \$144,189

Send mites to Mina Fitting, 704 Dellwood, Midland 79703. MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO TEXAS DISTRICT LWML.



Help still needed for international convention

You can help make the 1987 international convention a success by serving as hostesses, helping with transportation, greeting visitors, staffing information booths and in many other areas.

Teenage girls are needed to serve as convention pages. Consider having your society sponsor a teen for this opportunity. Costs are approximately \$150 for each page. This covers her uniform, room and meals for the duration of the convention.

To help, contact Helen Savage, coordinator for volunteer activities, 2011 Pebble Creek Dr., Cleburne 76031, 817-641-6711.

"God's goodness hath been great to thee . . . Let never day nor night unhallowed pass but still remember what the Lord hath done." Shakespeare





'Western Night' to be a convention highlight

One of the unique features of the international LWML convention in Fort Worth will be a "Western Night," complete with Texas barbecue and special western entertainment.

The talents of cowboy singer-guitarist-composer Don Edwards will be a highlight of the evening. Edwards, who played a major role in the rejuvenation of the now famous Stockyards area of Fort Worth, is a "walking encyclopedia" of the Old West.

"I have a special love for the preservation of our Western heritage," he states. "I'm a cowboy traditionalist."

Tickets for "Western Night" will include the barbecue and the separate entertainment program. The number of tickets will be limited, so guests are encouraged to register early. Registration forms will appear in the spring *Quarterly*.

League Links

• EAST TEXAS ZONE

A special fellowship held recently gave newer societies in East Texas the opportunity to receive ideas and enthusiasm from more established societies.

Personal growth experiences from the Lubbock convention were exchanged, and zone president Evelyn Berry shared ideas for starting and improving societies. Professor Eric Gerstmann of Concordia College in Austin spoke on implications of "The American Family: Dying or Changing?"

• GOLDEN TRIANGLE ZONE

Two events have made this fall special for Golden Triangle women.

A September workshop on "Ministering to Those Experiencing Grief" was led by zone counselor Rev. Glenn Budewig. In October, rally speaker Rev. John Stelling, a chaplain at M.D. Anderson cancer hospital in Houston, shared insights of his past work as a missionary in Beirut.

• TEXAS STAR ZONE

Patricia Schnell of Our Savior, Rockwell, spoke of her experiences in the mission fields of New Guinea as she helped carry out the fall rally theme: "Proclaim His Gospel, Glorify His Name."

• TRI-ZONE RETREAT

Dal-North, Metropolitan and Texas Star zones held their sixth annual cooperative retreat at Texoma Lutheran Camp this fall, filling camp accommodations to capacity! The retreat theme of "Talented, Tired, Beautiful Feet" was carried out in skits, songs, banners, Emmaus Walks and studies.

LWML News

LWML news should be sent to Dolores Bruncke, Texas District Editor, 3944 Merriman, Plano, Texas 75074.

From the district membership chairman

• Annual statistical report forms will be distributed to all society presidents in December. The form must be completed and returned to zone presidents as soon as possible. Zone presidents are responsible for getting them to the district membership chairman by Jan. 31, 1987.

• REMINDER: When your society or zone changes officers, send the names, addresses and phone numbers of all new officers to Catherine Burkhard, 6660 Santa Anita Dr., Dallas 75214.

Nominations for Young Woman Representative

Information regarding the Young Woman Representative program has been mailed to all society presidents. Included are a letter of explanation about the program, guidelines for selecting nominees and two copies of both the "nomination form" and the "consent form."

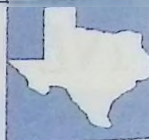
Each society may submit up to two nominations for a 20- to 30-year-old woman to be considered as the Texas representative to the 1987 international convention.

The deadline for submitting nominations is Jan. 15, 1987. Nominations received after that date will not be considered.

Questions regarding this program may be directed to Catherine Burkhard, 6660 Santa Anita Dr., Dallas 75214.



Talented, tired, beautiful feet of servants for the Lord were washed by sister servants during a Tri-zone Retreat at Texoma Lutheran Camp.



Texas—down, but far from out

Two weeks before I wrote this article, I was in Big Spring, Dallas, Houston, Corpus Christi, San Antonio and, of course, Austin. I spoke to church professionals and to lay people. The story—you already know it—is the same, the economy of Texas is hurting.

Some areas of our state are worse hit than others, but everyone is feeling the crunch! Your church—local parish and Texas District—is also feeling a bit of a crunch.

More people are moving out than are moving in . . . some have lost their jobs . . . farmers still are having difficulty and, if you can believe this, they are hurting from too much rain!

What impact will this have on our church, our Texas District? Obviously, some. But I believe most of our congregations will do what they can to fully meet their obligations; they will do what they can to hold expenses down; they will do what they can to fully meet their local and district commitments.

This can be a good time for your congregation to establish clear priorities for your local mission and ministry.

- How effectively the Texas District is able to continue its work is really up to you and your congregation. Personally, I believe we will do just fine. You people have always had a mission zeal—a real mission commitment. It may be a bit more difficult,



Glenn O'Shoney

but I believe that the district's mission program will continue on course.

We will, as a district, continue to provide generous and growing support for the work of our Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. I am confident we will receive your support—support not only in terms of dollars but also support in terms of prayers.

Some Statistics

In the last issue of the *Texas Messenger*, we reviewed some statistics concerning our Texas District. Here are some more statistics that might interest you.

- Texas has a total of 330 congregations. The average size of our Texas congregation is 391 baptized and 295 communicants. Most of our churches have less than 500 adult members. Only 54 have more than 500 . . . and these are, obviously, located in our major cities. Two congregations have more than 2,000 communicants.

- Texas has 265 urban churches and 65 rural churches. Of our baptized

membership, 109,317 or 85.3 percent are urban and 18,887 or 14.7 percent are located in rural areas. Texas has more urban congregations than any other district.

- Of the 254 counties in Texas, 135 have Missouri Synod churches. Harris County (Houston) has the most with 50. Dallas County has 20, Bexar County 13, Tarrant and Travis Counties have 12 each. 119 Texas counties have no Missouri Synod church—but the total population of these 119 counties is just over a million. Our churches are located where the people are.

Again, statistics don't tell the whole story . . . and you can often warp statis-

tics so that they tell the story you want them to tell.

One thing is clear from these statistics, however. Where once we were a rural church, we are now clearly an urban church. And while we thank God for our existing rural churches and the support and stability they bring our church, our future will continue to be in the urban setting. That's where the people are and that's where the people will be.

- The beauty is this: the Word of God doesn't change. It is the power of God for salvation. While everything around us is in flux—change—it is *the one who we proclaim, Jesus Christ, who is the same yesterday, today and forever: the only Savior!*

Glenn O'Shoney

Glenn O'Shoney
President, Texas District



INSTALLED—Rev. Jay Simonson was installed Aug. 17 as pastor of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Groves. Participating in the ceremony were, from left, Curtis Schneider, Norbert Roschke, Ronald Hampsten, Pastor Simonson, Glenn Budewig, Douglas Rathgeber, William Saeger, Bruce Blakelock and W.H.B. Fehl.

Convocation to feature noted speakers and exciting worship

Plans continue for Texas District church professionals and lay persons to "Catch the Vision of the Great Commission!" in Dallas next April.

The Sheraton Park Central Hotel will host a districtwide conference, called a Discipleship Convocation, April 23-26, 1987, the weekend after Easter. The event will feature noted speakers, exciting worship and small group workshops.

- Numerous workshops, led by experienced people from throughout the district, will offer practical information on evangelism outreach and new-member assimilation. In addition, they will suggest ways to reclaim inactive church members and provide adequate nurture and care for all members. Registration forms, to appear soon, will detail workshop topics.

Convocation speakers are Dr. Ralph Bohlmann, president of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod; Dr. Oswald Hoffmann, *Lutheran Hour* speaker; Dr. Arnold Kuntz, former president of the Southern California District; and Dr. Raymond Bakke of Northern Baptist Seminary, Lombard, Ill.

- Bakke is a popular speaker who has traveled extensively throughout the world. He teaches courses on evangelism, missionology, urban church ministries and church history. In Dallas, he will provide visions of local and worldwide social trends that influence



Dr. Ralph Bohlmann



Dr. Raymond Bakke

Christian ministry.

He also is a senior and associate international coordinator for large cities for the Lausanne Committee for World Evangelism. Texans also will appreciate his experience in Hispanic ministry.

- Worship activities will be enhanced by the music of Dave and Barb Anderson of Anoka, Minn., and the Houston Lutheran Chorale.

The discipleship convocation promises to be an effective way for Texas Lutherans to experience, explore and express the vision of the Great Commission.



Registration materials will appear in next month's *Texas Messenger* in the LUTHERAN WITNESS and will be sent to all Texas District congregations in January.

Corpus Christi congregation to mark 50th anniversary

The 50th anniversary celebration for St. John Lutheran Church, Corpus Christi, has been set for Sunday, May 17, 1987.

The all-day jubilee will include two reminiscing periods with special music and pictorial displays, two worship services with special music and songs of the church as speakers, a noon fellowship meal and a closing reception.

Former members and friends of the church are asked to send names and addresses to St. John Lutheran Church, Jubilee Invitation Committee, 3055 Buddy Lawrence Dr., Corpus Christi, Tex. 78404.

Concordia Lutheran sponsors literacy campaign in its community

Concordia Lutheran Church, San Antonio, in conjunction with the San Antonio Literacy Council, has started classes teaching reading, writing, G.E.D. preparation and citizenship training.

According to Dr. Guido Merkens, Concordia's senior pastor, these twice-a-week classes are being offered to help San Antonio's more than 250,000 functional illiterates. San Antonio has an illiteracy rate of more than 30 percent, the highest in the nation.

"This is a most important project for the future of the city," Merkens said. He added that an aggregate of \$16 billion will be the cost to taxpayers during their lifetimes because of the costs of the problems created by illiteracy in our society.

Members of Concordia are being asked to serve as teachers for the literacy program. Qualifications are described as having at least a high school education, preferably some college, a willingness to volunteer two to four hours a week, and a conviction to help people help themselves.

Easily hurt

Saints Alive, the newsletter of St. Paul, Fort Worth, suggests that what's wrong with the exhortation to "give until it hurts" is that many people have a low pain threshold.



Why exercise?

Immanuel Lutheran of Giddings has a Christian aerobics class for women.

Their sign-up sheet for participation includes choosing one of the listed reasons for joining the class.

One of the choices is: "My mirror made me do it."

Pastor Meyer honored on double anniversaries

Pastor Virgil R. Meyer of Messiah Lutheran, Richardson, was honored Sept. 21 by the congregation.

It was the 35th anniversary of his ordination in the ministry and his 25th anniversary as minister of Messiah.

Rev. Elton F. Bauerkemper of Our Savior, Dallas, was guest speaker.

Before coming to Messiah, Meyer served at St. John's, Clarkesville; Grace, Paris; and Peace, Texas City.



GIFT OF LIFE—Diane Hoehnerhoff of St. Philip Lutheran, Houston, donates a pint of blood during church campaign. Members of St. Philip donated 60 units of blood during their annual blood drive.

Texan's radio programs cover third of world

Radio programs supervised by a Texas pastor are being heard over a third of the world.

The programs are the 15-minute Spanish radio dramas called "Ayer, Hoy y Siempre" (Yesterday, Today and Forever) and are prepared weekly under the supervision of Dr. Eugene F. Gruell of McAllen, Tex. The programs are produced by the International Lutheran Laymen's League for 165 stations worldwide.

The latest station to join the broadcast effort is KVOH of Van Nuys, Calif.

KVOH, which stands for Kings Voice of Hope, will saturate 27 nations and more than 1,000 islands in the southern hemisphere.

The signal also will cross two-thirds of the United States and the eastern half of Canada, covering approximately one-third of the earth.

DISTRICT CALENDAR

January

- 1-2—New Year holidays
- 6—Discipleship Convocation meeting, district office
- 17—LOMT Board of Directors, Austin
- 18-19—Board for Mission Administration
- 18-22—LOMT snorkeling-scuba diving, Cayman Islands
- 19—Board for Church Extension
- 19—Board for Parish Services
- 20—Staff meeting, district office
- 23-25—Pre-retirement seminar, Camp Lone Star
- 27—Texas District Board of Directors

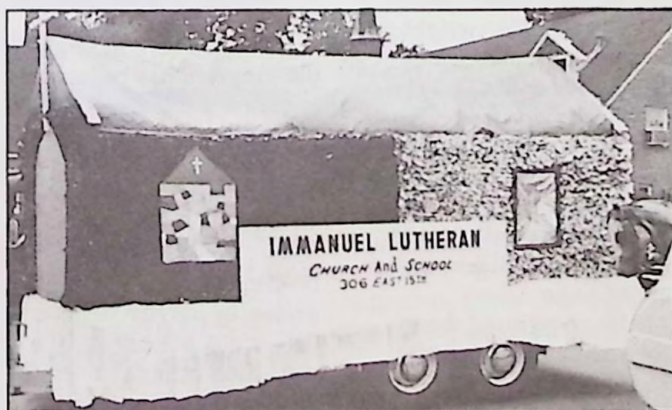
Strong leadership given by Texas for 'Alive in Christ' appeal

Texas District congregations provided strong leadership for the *Alive in Christ* appeal, District President Glenn O'Shoney reported.

He said that according to the final report from Rev. Louis Pabor, director of the synodical appeal in Texas, the top 10 Texas congregations in total giving were:

- Concordia, San Antonio, \$154,700.
 - Trinity, Houston, \$94,806.
 - Trinity, Spring, \$88,650.
 - Holy Cross, Dallas, \$66,130.
 - Zion, Dallas, \$62,300.
 - Zion, Pasadena, \$55,865.
 - Trinity, Austin, \$46,856.
 - Grace, Midland, \$41,690.
 - Prince of Peace, Carrollton, \$38,900.
 - Hope, Austin, \$38,222.
- Pabor said the top 10 congregations in per-communicant giving in Texas were:

- Trinity, Albany, \$304.45.
 - Immanuel, Mercedes, \$168.71.
 - Zion, Schulenburg, \$167.44.
 - Trinity, Austin, \$164.41.
 - Our Savior, Rockwall, \$133.93.
 - Redeemer, Friona, \$132.63.
 - Cross of Christ, DeSoto, \$110.21.
 - St. Paul, Bishop, \$103.57.
 - St. Mark, Lake Jackson, \$102.46.
 - Grace, Freeport, \$98.25.
- None of the above totals include the major gifts category.



LUTHERAN FLOAT—Immanuel Lutheran Church of Houston entered this float in the annual Heights Festival. Depicting both a church and a school, the float was followed by 50 children from Immanuel School, each carrying a Christian flag.

MISSION

Here is a small band determined to do God's work, no matter what

By Rev. Fred Boden, Executive Director, Board of Mission Administration, in cooperation with Vicar Jim Cartwright

Seymour, Texas! Where in the world of the Lone Star State is that?

Just about 50 miles southwest of Wichita Falls, in the center of Baylor County, on the northern plains of Texas, on the banks of the Brazos River is the town of about 4,000 that inhabitants call Seymour. A town, by the way, that was once under serious consideration as the location of Texas Tech University.

Trinity Lutheran Church has been a part of the Seymour landscape since 1950. It became a member of the Missouri Synod in 1953.

For the past 25 years, the congregation was served basically as a preaching station by Rev. Gerald Thiele, pastor of Zion Lutheran Church in Vernon. Trinity is now served by Rev. Delmer Brack of St. Luke in Olney.

• St. Luke Congregation requested a vicar last year and again this year. Both vicars had primary responsibility for Trinity's ministry.

During the 1985-86 vicarage year, Vicar Jeffrey Lee began providing full-time ministry services at Trinity. This year, Jim Cartwright continues to build on that ministry.

St. Luke in Olney is providing a sizeable amount of financial support for the vicar.

Although Trinity Lutheran Church sits in the middle of an economically depressed area where most businesses and churches are trying to just "hold their own," you wouldn't know it from the activity around the church.

This congregation, with a membership of 37, is stepping out in faith. In July they picked up a dormant plan to build a new building and breathed new life in it. By the first of August, construction had started on a 1,200 square feet building.



Vicar Jim Cartwright

• The members, along with help from some of St. Luke, Olney, members, did all the interior work: developed their own plans, built the walls, did the plumbing and electric work, and so on.

They completed the building in time for the dedication service planned for the first Sunday in September. Whenever anyone would doubt that they would be ready on time, the reply was always, "Oh, you of little faith."

Vicar Jim Cartwright, a retired Air Force Chief Master Sergeant, led the dedication service on Sept. 7 with addresses by Rev. Fred Boden, Executive Director of the Board of Mission Administration, and Rev. Delmer Brack, pastor of St. Luke, Olney.

Also recognized were Rev. Gerald Thiele, Mt. Zion, Vernon, and Trent Kieschnick, a member of St. Paul, Vernon, the contractor who built the building's exterior.

• The congregation will use the facilities, which they call the Christian Activity Center, for a multitude of activities, including Sunday school, Bible study, fellowship hours and outreach ministries to the aged, handicapped, poor and the unchurched.

They are engaged in a review of their constitution, bylaws and organizational structure to ensure that all serve to meet the congregation's needs and goals.

The primary goal is to confront people with the Gospel message. They will soon establish short- and long-range plans to achieve the primary objective, as well as meet the secondary objectives of Christian education and maturation, dynamic evangelism, church growth and membership involvement to prevent "backdoor losses."

• A door-to-door canvass of the town is planned to witness to others, to uncover unmet spiritual needs and to locate the unchurched as well as to make the people of the church's service area aware of what Trinity has to offer.

An aggressive multimedia program has begun to increase public awareness of Trinity and of what Lutherans believe.

The congregation strongly believes that economic, political or social problems should not be an excuse or barrier to deter Christians from doing the work God commissioned us to do and that is to "go . . . baptize . . . teach . . . and . . . makes disciples . . . of all people . . ."



SEYMOUR BUILDING—This is the new educational wing for Trinity Lutheran Church in Seymour, where 37 dedicated Christians are faithfully doing the work of the Lord and enhancing the Lutheran presence.



Texas' Hispanic ministry efforts are recognized

Rev. Fred Pankow, former vicar and pastor in the Texas District, has received a Doctor of Theology Degree from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis.

Pankow's dissertation included references to the Texas District's efforts to share the Gospel with documented and undocumented Hispanics. The dissertation was titled "A Scriptural Stance Toward Undocumented Hispanics and Selected Methodologies for Reaching Them With the Gospel."

Pankow was vicar at Good Shepherd Spanish Lutheran Mission in McAllen from 1945 to 1946 and was pastor of San Pedro Lutheran Church in Houston from 1956 to 1961.

Since 1979 he has been serving as Hispanic Ministries Coordinator for the International Lutheran Laymen's League, with responsibility for Spanish radio, television and print ministries.



DOCTORATE—Rev. Fred Pankow, right, whose doctrinal dissertation included references to Texas' work among Hispanics, received the Doctor of Theology degree from Dr. John Klotz of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis.

New library dedicated at St. Paul School, Harlingen

A new library addition has been dedicated at St. Paul Lutheran School, Harlingen.

Keith Loomans, director of Parish Services for the Texas District, was speaker at the worship service.

St. Paul School was started in 1948. It now has eight grades and an Early Childhood Development Center.

David Glienke is principal.

Things are growing in Lampasas

The *Green Thumbs* group of Faith Lutheran, Lampasas, reports its Biblical Garden was a success—at least until mid-summer when along came hordes of red spider mites, green worms and leaf hoppers.

However, before the pests appeared, some church members enjoyed squash, beans, cucumbers, sage, dill and parsley from the garden.

Later, mulch was added to the soil and more than two dozen amaryllis bulbs were planted in the shape of a cross.

Bluebonnet seeds were scattered adjacent to the bulbs, and a Texas touch is expected to enhance the flower cross.

Today's five loaves and two fish

by Carl A. Heckmann
Director of Development
Texas District

It was a miracle, wasn't it? Only God could have done that.

But it wasn't just a once-in-a-lifetime experience. God is still performing miracles like that today.

Paul and Francis are beginning to know what it's like to be a part of God's miracle process. They weren't wealthy. But they did know that everything they had—like that little lad's lunch that day—was something that God could use.

Paul and Francis placed \$50,000 in a trust. They asked that the trust be invested in the Texas District Church Extension Fund. They agreed with the Lutheran Foundation of Texas on a six percent return on their investment.

For as long as they live, they will receive that annual earning of six percent. As the trust grows larger, the annual earnings will be more.

They also specified that upon their deaths, the earnings from the trust go to their son, Henry, for 15 more years.

At the end of that time, the trust will remain intact, in trust with the Lutheran Foundation of Texas, and the earnings will be paid to the Church Extension Fund to be used for the purchase of property, the building of chapels for new mission congregations . . . and this will go on until the end of time.



Carl A. Heckmann

Five loaves and two fish! This is what their investment means to them . . .

For Paul and Francis: support of ministry until the end of time and a return of \$3,000 per year for as long as either of them live;

For Henry: the same return, \$250 a month for 15 years;

For the Church Extension Fund: an additional \$3,000 per year for the purchase of land or the building of a first unit in one of those seven new missions per year.

Would you like to be a part of that? Write or call:

Texas District
Church Extension Fund
7900 U.S. 290 East
Austin, Tex. 78724
512-926-4272

Send your news to Bill

Send your news releases, photos (color pictures are okay), parish newsletters and bulletins for the LUTHERAN WITNESS to:

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

GROWTH

The Lord added . . .



Welcomed in the name of Jesus were seven new members on Aug. 31 at **Redeemer, San Antonio**. Four came by confirmation, three by reaffirmation of faith. One of the confirmands also was baptized.

Nine new members joined the church family on Sept. 7 at **Grace, Orange**.

Trinity, Corpus Christi, received 14 persons into membership on Sept. 14 by confirmation and transfer.

It was a glorious Oct. 5 at **Redeemer, Austin**, as five persons were received by adult confirmation, 14 became members by transfer and three youngsters were placed into the arms of Jesus by baptism.

Eight new families consisting of 23 persons were added to the congregation of **Our Savior, Austin**, on Sept. 28.

Received in September at **Redeemer, Beaumont**, were five new members.

The congregation of **Prince of Peace, Carrollton**, heard the confession of faith of 14 Christian people



TEXAS CITY—This is the summer confirmation class at Peace Lutheran, Texas City, along with their families. Fourteen adults were received by

confirmation and 11 by transfer. Rev. Walt Dube is pastor.

who joined their forever family in August, and again on Sept. 28 when 10 more new members were received.

Welcomed in October were 14 new members at **Faith, Houston**.

On Sept. 14, the congregation of **St. Mark, Houston**, rejoiced over the reception of 10 new members.

By adult confirmation and transfer, seven new members joined the congregation of **Our Redeemer, Wichita Falls**, on Sept. 21.

The fellowship of **St. Peter, Gun Barrel City**, increased by eight in October.

There were eight adults confirmed on Sept. 28 at **Lamb of God, Humble**, bringing the total for the year to 20, and there are 12 in the final instruction class of the year.

Welcoming 15 new members recently was **Trinity, Waco**.

By transfer and profession of faith, 12 Christian folks were received into the family of **Trinity, Klein**, on Sept. 28.

Their October newsletter announced the reception of 10 new members into the congregational family of **Mt. Olive, Corpus Christi**, by baptism, confirmation and transfer.

New and returning members to recognize and celebrate over were named in October at **Redeemer, Baytown**, totaling 18.

The month of August saw 12 receptions at **St. Paul, Wichita Falls**, by transfer, profession of faith and baptism.

By reaffirmation of faith and transfer, 18 new members were welcomed at **Good Shepherd, Cedar**

Park, on Sept. 7.

The October newsletter of **Christ Memorial, Houston**, welcomed 22 new members into fellowship and announced the baptism of three infants.

Five children were received into God's kingdom of grace at **Redeemer, Austin**, on Oct. 19.

Welcomed into the Christian family at **Our Redeemer, Dallas**, on Oct. 12 were seven new members.

Welcomed into membership at **Our Savior, Austin**, on Sept. 28 were 19 new members.

After completing the late summer adult confirmation class, 10 new members joined the congregational family of **Gloria Dei, Houston**.

New members added in October at **Christ Lutheran, Austin**, totaled six.

GROWTH

TEXAS DISTRICT



HOUSTON—On Sept. 14, St. Philip Lutheran of Houston welcomed 42 new members, above, 36 of whom were transfers and six of whom joined through profession of faith.



ORANGE—Members of Grace, Orange, rejoiced Sept. 7 over the addition of nine adults by confirmation, one of whom was baptized. Above are the new members with their families.

LAGO VISTA—On its first Member Commitment Sunday this year, Christ Our Savior Lutheran Mission at Lago Vista, on Lake Travis near Austin, received 49 members by transfer, three by affirmation of faith and seven by adult confirmation for a total of 59 members shown at right. The mission began worship last Feb. 16. Rev. Wayne J. Palk is mission developer.



And The Lord Added



CONFIRMED—Six adults were confirmed at Bethany Lutheran, Houston, on Aug. 3, and one adult and one child were baptized. Pictured with family members are, first row, Crystal, Brittany and Tiffany Boeker; Michelle Lieja. Second row, Aurora Mayorga with sons Gregory and Michael; and Nicholas and Tennille Livanec. Third row, Albert Miller, pastor; Wade and Vivian Boeker; Estela and Apolinar Lieja; Gary and Marlala Livanec.

RICHARDSON—These 12 Christians in photos at right are the new members of Messiah, Richardson, received in September by transfer. The Lord continues to bless the Texas District. Last December, according to District President Glenn O'Shoney, Texas had a baptized membership of 128,204, which is 4.69 percent of all Missouri Synod Lutherans in the United States and Canada. Only four of the Missouri Synod's 38 districts have more members than Texas. In the Texas District are 5.26 percent of all Missouri Synod congregations, or 330 congregations at last count.



MISSION

Bus ministry proves mission field is right outside church front door

Allena Village is a post-World War II residential area immediately north of Concordia Lutheran Church in San Antonio. This area of largely single-family homes has become the target of a new bus ministry at Concordia.

Beginning the first Sunday in September, a leased city bus has been traveling selected streets of the community, bringing children to a special Sunday school at Concordia.

Despite a steady rain-storm the first Sunday, 21 children attended Sunday school. The high attendance has been 38, and there is a solid potential for growth.

• According to Dr. Guido Merkens, senior pastor at Concordia, the program begins at 10 a.m. on Saturday when both adult and youth workers meet in the chapel for information, inspiration and street assignments.

Teams of one youth and one adult go door-to-door in the Allena Village area identifying families having children who do not attend Sunday school.

Specially printed materials about the Sunday school and the total ministry of Concordia are left with prospective families. The visiting teams then return to church to share results and enjoy a soft drink.

• On Sunday morning, a telephone volunteer phones each home on the bus route, and reminds people to have their children ready and waiting for the bus.

When the bus arrives, it carries a special invitation banner on the exterior, identifying it as the Concordia Sunday School bus. A bus captain and workers ride the bus, going to each house's front door for pick-up.

• Younger children are enrolled in regular classes, while children 6 to 12 attend special classes. Through these smaller classes, the bus ministry children can enjoy more direct and personal attention, according to Merkens.

With some 45 children already enrolled, the bus ministry has created additional blessings since several parents have enrolled in adult instruction class. Others have become aware of the full range of ministries Concordia offers.



HERE WE ARE!—Neighborhood youngsters unload from a city bus chartered by Concordia Lutheran of San Antonio after they had been picked up for Sunday school. Volunteers canvass adjacent residential areas to identify youngsters not attending any Sunday school.



AT SUNDAY SCHOOL—Ready for the return trip home are these children brought to Sunday school at Concordia Lutheran, San Antonio. The church's new bus ministry already has enrolled

more than 50 new children in Sunday school, and some of their parents have joined an adult instruction class.



Happenings in Texas

Messiah Lutheran of Richardson will celebrate its 30th anniversary Jan. 4 with a special service and a luncheon.

In a worship service on Sept. 28, Carl and Violet Panzer of **Our Savior, Abilene**, renewed the marriage vows they made to each other 50 years ago.

At **Immanuel, Giddings**, things are shaping up with an aerobics class set to contemporary Christian music called *Believerbise*.

Congratulations to William and Louise Doering, members of **Our Savior, Houston**, who celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on Aug. 1. Joining the celebration were their children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren along with Doering's two sisters, Marie Leschber of Walburg, and Lena Kieschnick of San Antonio.

Pastor Royce R. Popp of **Gloria Dei, Houston**, conducted morning devotions for a week over KHCB radio.

Celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary on Oct. 31 were Mr. and Mrs. Fred Winter of **Messiah, Houston**.

And congratulations also to Mary and Art Ebert of **Our Redeemer, Irving**, who observed their 54th wedding anniversary on Oct. 9.

The congregation of **Immanuel, San Antonio**, along with friends and many former members cele-

brated its 30th anniversary Sept. 21. District Vice President Louis Pabor delivered the celebration message.

St. Paul Lutheran School, McAllen, is operating its 44th consecutive year. Seventy-seven percent of elementary-age youngsters in the congregation are enrolled. Terrific!

At **Faith, Andrews**, spiritual and body health is enhanced through 30 minutes of muscle-toning exercises preceded by a short devotion. The class is called the *Body & Soul Workshop*.

A job clearing house at **St. Mark, Houston**, provides a caring ministry for unemployed members. Those desiring work fill out questionnaires and church volunteers make and document contacts with employers about job opportunities.

The enlarged and remodeled **Mt. Olive Lutheran, Corpus Christi**, was dedicated to the glory of God and use of His people in a special service on Nov. 9. Rev. John E. Meyer, St. Louis, vice president of the Lutheran Church Extension Fund, was guest speaker.

Special congratulations on special wedding anniversaries to Mr. and Mrs. Fred Hans, who celebrated 61 years, and Mr. and Mrs. Fred Schultz, who celebrated 55 years in October. They are members of **Redeemer, Baytown**.



HE'S 100—Louis Sengerle celebrated his 100th birthday Aug. 20. He has three children and 13 grandchildren plus several great-grandchildren. Mr. and Mrs. Sengerle are shown above with Pastor Carlos Boerger of St. Paul Lutheran in San Antonio, where they have been members 23 years.

Good Shepherd Lutheran School, Cedar Park, participated Oct. 11 in the city of Leander's sesquicentennial celebration by hosting an information booth about the school and entering a float in the parade.

A new pastor was installed Oct. 12 by **King of Kings, Round Rock**. He is Rev. Tom Waynick of Mercedes, Texas.

And Rev. Todd A. Dittloff, formerly of Wichita Falls, was installed as pastor of **Christ Lutheran, Houston**, on Oct. 5.

Missionary Paul Brink and his family visited **St. Philip, Houston**, in August where he reported on his work in Venezuela. The Brinks are one of three missionary families supported by St. Philip.

Installed Oct. 12 as pastor of **Holy Cross, Arlington**, was Rev. Michael Chaffee of Knierim, Iowa, a 1983 graduate of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis.

Faith, Stephenville, cel-

ebrated its 25th anniversary Oct. 26. The service was led by Rev. Carroll C. Kohl, Faith's founding pastor.

The television program sponsored by **Concordia, San Antonio**, called *Breakthrough*, has added a radio format and is now heard in the San Antonio area on Saturdays on KDRY-AM and on Sundays on KSLR-AM. The program features messages by Concordia's senior pastor, Dr. Guido Merkens.

Mrs. Ernest (Lena Roth) Boehm celebrated her 93rd birthday on Sept. 21 with an open house given by her children. She taught parochial school at **Zion, Anderson**, from 1914 to 1918 and has outlived many of her pupils. She still attends Bible class and church at Zion every Sunday.

The congregation of **St. Michael, Houston**, rejoiced on Nov. 3 with members Mr. and Mrs. Albert Sitz who observed their 55th wedding anniversary.

Concordia of Texas celebrates its 60th birthday

The Founders' Day Celebration in October at Concordia Lutheran College focused on the numbers 60, 26 and 86.

• Concordia celebrated its 60th birthday on October 26, 1986. On that day in 1926, 26 young men attended the first classes at Lutheran Concordia College of Texas, as it was then named.

The Little Tavern Band began the day's festivities with traditional German music, setting the tone of a remembrance of heritage which continued throughout the afternoon.

The program centered around a film history of Concordia's 60 years, which was produced by media instructors Philip Hohle and James Wade with the assistance of former and current CLC communication students.

The Austin Sesquicentennial Commission partially funded the production and sponsored the day's activities as an official Sesquicentennial event.

• The film began with a recounting of the beginnings of Lutheran higher education in Texas by Rev. John Socha, retired pastor from Giddings, and Rev. Reinhold Wuensche, Texas District archivist. Rev. Oscar Horn and Norbert Kasper, members of the beginning class of 1926, reminisced about the college's first years.

Dr. George Beto, who began teaching at Concor-

dia in 1939 and served as its president from 1949 to 1958, spoke of both Dr. Henry Studtmann's presidency and of his own years as president.

During Beto's term in the office, Concordia added the junior college in 1951 and became coeducational in 1955. Rev. Alvin Meissner (beginning class of 1951) and Marjorie Wilke (beginning class of 1955) provided memories of those landmark years.

• The film continued with comments by Mark Headley, his wife Mary (Bean), and Nancy (Albers) Horton, members of the graduating class of 1982, the first four-year college class.

Rev. Glenn O'Shoney, President of the Texas District, and Dr. Norris Patschke, Dean of Instructional Services, spoke of Concordia as it is today.

Following the film history, President Ray F. Martens gave the keynote address. "We could not have chosen or designed a more superior heritage," he said.

"We stand strong because of the sturdy foundation built by our predecessors. But we who are now Concordia dare not merely stand, as though to retire in our comparative youth. We are merely 60, a climbing, growing, maturing youngster as colleges are measured," he continued.

• Martens concluded his speech with a description of specific goals for the 15 Diamond Jubilee years, 1986-2001.

Also during the program, several individuals and

groups were introduced as special guests, including William Volkmann of Menard, Texas, honorary Founders' Day Chairman; members of the honor classes from 1926, 1951, 1955 and 1982; members of the Texas District LWML; donors to Founding Four, the campaign which enabled Concordia to become a four-year college; and local dignitaries and government officials, including Austin's mayor Frank Cooksey who brought greetings from Concordia's host city.

The day ended with a Texas-style barbecue supper, complete with a birthday cake. CLC alumnus Jess DeMaine (Fred Frieling Jr.) and his band provided country and western music during the meal.

• Concordia is proud of its 60-year history—1926 to 1986—and looks forward to its next big birthday party in 2001, when it will celebrate its 75th year.

We agree with Wuensche, who stated in the film that Concordia is "One of the crown jewels of Synod's systems, and maybe the stepping stone to one of its great futures."

LWML's history includes CLC

In another Founders' Day event, members of the Texas District Lutheran Women's Missionary League gathered to dedicate a historical marker in the front of Birkmann Chapel.

The resolution which led to the placement of the plaque reads as follows:

"WHEREAS the first of-

ficial meeting of the Lutheran women of the Texas District was held on June 10, 1942, at Concordia Lutheran College in Austin, following initial efforts begun in Waco in June of 1941; and

"WHEREAS the first completed District mission project in 1943 was for the Concordia College Chapel; and

"WHEREAS we are called upon to remember our heritage in this Sesquicentennial year of celebration in Texas; therefore be it

"RESOLVED that the Texas District LWML authorize placement at Concordia Lutheran College, Austin, Texas of a memorial plaque that reads:

June 10, 1942

Site of the First

Texas District LWML Convention

Serve the Lord with Gladness"

LWML District President Marcella Gaus, District Counselor Rev. John Selle and Texas District LWML members were recognized during the Founders' Day program.

Also as a part of the weekend's activities, Mrs. Edna Petersen, representing the LWML, spoke in a regularly scheduled chapel service on Friday, Oct. 24. She was chosen earlier by the Concordia Board of Regents as Lutheran Woman of the Year, to serve as an example to Concordia's female students.

Concordia salutes the LWML women for their contributions to the college, to the church and to society.



Governor Mark White signed a citation honoring Concordia's 60th birthday. With him are Concordia students Mark Schneider and V'Ann Luedke, Founders' Day Coordinator Suzanne Mueller and President Ray Martens.



Austin's mayor Frank Cooksey spoke on Founders' Day. Each guest received a commemorative bandana such as Cooksey wears.



Retired pastor Arthur Arndt, LWML president Marcella Gaus and LWML District Counselor John Selle unveiled the LWML memorial plaque.



Concordia alumnus Fred Frieling Jr. (Jess DeMaine is his stage name) entertained during the barbecue on Founders' Day.



The Concordia birthday cake is displayed by students, from left, Mark Schneider, V'Ann Luedke, Julie Troncin and Marty Herzog.



The Concordia faculty, the Concordia Council and parents of Concordia students got acquainted at a reception on Parents' Day, the Saturday before Founders' Day.

Taxes, taxes, taxes

by Rev. Gerald Kieschnick
Director of Development
Lutheran Foundation
of Texas

"Over and over again, courts have said that there is nothing sinister in so arranging one's affairs as to keep taxes as low as possible. Everybody dies, rich or poor; and all do right, for nobody owes any public duty to pay more than the law demands. Taxes are enforced exactions, not voluntary contributions."—Judge Learned Hand.

Someone once said, "Only two things in life are certain: death and taxes."

We who know God's promise of eternal life through faith in Christ Jesus also know that eternity in heaven is certain. But, as long as we live on earth, we are faced with the reality of both death and taxes.

- The quotation from Judge Learned Hand is a good reminder for us that we live in a country which recognizes the value of religious and charitable organizations by making contributions to such organizations (including our own Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod) tax-deductible.

As a matter of fact, charitable contributions not only produce income tax savings, but, in certain cases, can also result in partial or total elimination of capital gains taxes and federal estate (inheritance) taxes.

- As the end of a calendar year approaches, many



Yes, I want to know more Clip and mail to

Lutheran Foundation of Texas

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()

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Rev. Gerald Kieschnick

people find it advantageous to review their personal financial picture with an eye toward their probable tax liabilities.

The end of the year provides an excellent opportunity for making that special charitable gift, resulting in potentially significant tax savings for the donor.

- But to achieve tax deductions for 1986, charitable contributions must be made before midnight on Wednesday, Dec. 31, 1986.

Now is the appropriate time to consider a special gift to your home congregation; a special gift to the Lutheran Foundation of Texas to create a Memorial Fund; an Endowment Fund which will benefit any of a number of Lutheran causes

until the end of time; a special gift directly to any of the many Lutheran ministries; a gift of appreciated stocks, real estate or other assets, resulting in many exciting benefits for the Lutheran Church and resulting in substantial tax savings for you.

Death and taxes may be certain, but your opportunity to significantly reduce your tax liabilities through a charitable gift before the end of the year is also very real. We at the Lutheran Foundation of Texas stand ready, at no cost to you, to assist you in your charitable giving!

- For information about or assistance in making your special end-of-the-year gift, complete and return the coupon which appears with this article, or call to arrange for a confidential, no-cost visit with a Foundation representative. *You'll be glad you did!*

What's stewardship?

Someone has said that stewardship is not just raising budgets, it's raising Christians. It's not a matter of funds, it's a matter of faith.

Numbers game

Faith Lutheran Church in Sugar Land wants to help you remember their phone numbers.

Among the numbers serving Faith and its school are:

242-PRAY

242-TOTS

24C-HILD

'Laborers for Christ' start Gainsville project

"Laborers for Christ," retired craftsmen organized into construction crews who donate their work skills to the Lord, are on the job at Faith Lutheran, Gainsville.

During October, six individuals and couples (the wives provide support duty) arrived to begin carpentry work on Faith's new facility. Helmuth Burger of Paris, Tex., leads the team, with Norman Iverson assisting.

A special commissioning service for the team was held Oct. 19.

Congregation members furnish snack items for coffee breaks and join in potluck suppers at the site on Wednesday evenings for fellowship and Bible study.

"Laborers for Christ" have worked on several Lutheran projects in Texas. It is estimated their donated skills can cut construction costs as much as half.

The workers have travel trailers in which they live with hook-ups provided by the church at the work site.



DEDICATION—There was a special Rally Day Aug. 24 at Hope Lutheran, Winnie. Not only was there a special youth and Christian education worship, but a new youth building was also dedicated. Theme for the day was "The Construc-

tion is Complete—Now We Start Building!" Pictured here are some of the participants in the dedication of the building, which was built by Hope members and financed by the Texas District Church Extension Fund.



GROUNDBREAKING—In the photo at left, Pastor Francis W. Mennenga turns first shovel of dirt for extension and renovation of facilities at Redeemer Lutheran, Lubbock, on Sept. 14. The \$280,000 project is due for completion early in 1987. The work involves creating additional space for educational, service, social and administrative functions.



LONG-TIME MEMBER—Miss Elsie Heye has been a member of St. Paul Lutheran, San Antonio, for 73 years. Here she is shown June 30 on her 90th birthday. She attends worship services every Sunday.



COPPERAS COVE—These are a portion of the 28 people received recently into membership at Trinity Lutheran, Copperas Cove. Ten adults were baptized, 11 received by profession of faith and five by transfer.



MARKER—This marker was erected by Redeemer Lutheran Church of Cisco at the original site of Christ Lutheran Church and was dedicated in special services July 27. Young people of Redeemer surround the marker on the original church site, eight miles south of Cisco. The marker reads: "Christ Lutheran Church. Organized in 1904 under the leadership of the Rev. G.G. Mueller from 1904 to 1944. The church maintained a Christian Day School. In 1965 Christ and Grace Lutheran Churches combined to form Redeemer Lutheran in Cisco."

YOUTH

Our bright kids . . .

Can you be a bright kid at 7:15 in the morning? The boy's choir of **Redeemer School, San Antonio**, is full of them. They practice twice a week at that time with Miss Kathlyn Gerhardt. Fresh doughnuts help.

And how's this for a really neat thing? The three-year-old class in the school at **St. Paul, McAllen**, had a special celebration for grandparents—who seemed delighted with their cards, the fruit salad prepared by the pre-schoolers and the special music. Grandpa and grandma thank you, kids.

The Sunday school at **Christ Our Savior, Lago Vista**, had a very successful Rally Day. It featured balloons and a clown and was called "The Lord Throws A Party."

Two bright kids at **Trinity Lutheran, Riesel**, are Sonia Bode and her sister, Sarah. Sonia is on her high school yearbook staff as a photographer and also volunteered 450 hours at a Waco hospital. She is secretary for the intensive care nursing staff on weekends.

Sarah is a school cheerleader and also has reached more than 85 hours of hospital volunteer work.

And besides these two, DeeAnna Londonburg, also a member at Trinity, has hit 100-plus hours volunteering at the hospital. She's a high school junior and a genuine bright kid.

Three cheers for the children in VBS at **Zion, Tom-**



AMBASSADORS—These Texas young people were among 245 youth who attended training last summer in Sturgis, Mich., for *On-going Ambassadors for Christ*. They attended workshops on OAFIC witnessing methods, self-image, suicide and more. Since 1970, more than 20,000 youth have been trained to share their Savior through the OAFIC program. Texas contact for OAFIC is Pastor Robert Hill, 2825 E. Parker Rd., Plano, Tex. 75074.

Zion youth found in the gutter

A youth event at **Zion Lutheran, Dallas**, found its senior youngsters in the gutter.

The young people built a giant banana split in a rain gutter (not attached to the roof).

Said one youngster: "We had a great time as we built things up—and then ate them down."

ball, who used their offerings to send 75 Bibles to the mission field in West Africa.

The folks at **Holy Cross, Nederland**, are congratulating young members Betsy Grimes, who read 134 books, and Katy Grimes, who read 203 books in the **Nederland Summer Reading Program**. They each received a prize for their effort—a book!

Tim McCormick, a senior at **Pan American University** and a member of **St. Paul, McAllen**, was elected president of the campus chapter of **The American Society of Personnel Administration**.

The older youth group of

Christ Lutheran, Austin, are hiring themselves out to do any chores for congregation members such as mowing, painting, digging, dusting, washing, carrying—to earn funds for the activities of their **Senior Rescue League**.

Todd Kurio of **Redeemer, Austin**, was elected senior class president at **Anderson High School**. Look out, Ronald Reagan!

A real star is Dania Wendland, **Christ Memorial, Houston**, who has been named to "Who's Who Among American High School Students" and who has been only in honor classes both in junior and senior high school. She also

is drum majorette for the drill team at her **Stratford High School**. She attended three drill team camps this summer, winning trophies and ribbons. She was a finalist for **Miss Super Sensational** out of 650 girls attending drill team camp at **A & M University**.

Don't you like the name of that 16-voice singing group from **Lutheran High North, Houston**? They call themselves the **Glory Givers**.

Congratulations to Stephen Street and David Wuensche of **Zion, Fort Worth**, who received **God And Family** awards in Cub Scouts. They worked all summer on requirements for the award.

Two young members of **Crown of Life, San Antonio**, are semifinalists for a **National Merit Scholarship**. They are David Maxwell and Chris Petkus. Good luck!

Talk about a swinger! Piper Wagner of **Faith, Sugar Land**, recently found out she is ranked in the top 50 junior girl golfers in the U.S. and 35 other countries, based on her play last summer.

Congratulations to Scott Adam of **Trinity, Klein**, who was recognized by the **National Merit Scholarship Foundation** for outstanding academic promise. He was in the top five percent of national scores received from more than one million young people tested. Way to go, Scott!



THEY LEAD THE CHEERS—These are the winning cheerleaders of Zion Lutheran School of Pasadena who will be competing nationally in December. Left to right are Missy Coler, Adrienne Howard, Wendi Slaton, Rochelle Weber, Brooke Moran, Beth Leimbach, sponsor, Wendy Martens, Amy Zacho, Staci Benoit and Lorinda Campbell. Not pictured is Kim Robbins.

Babysitters by the bunch

Mrs. June Corse and Mrs. Debby Nelson brought their babies to St. Paul Lutheran School in McAllen to help the three-year-old preschoolers learn about caring for infants.

Said their teacher: "We had lots of fun seeing, smelling, tasting and touching baby's things."



BIG FLAG DUO—Chris and Jan Koenig are both members of Alpha Phi Omega, service fraternity at University of Texas, Austin. You've seen them on TV because it's their fraternity that carries the world's largest Texas flag at football games. Chris and Jan are members of St. Paul Lutheran of McAllen, son and daughter of David and Rhoda Koenig.

Three cheers for cheerleaders of Zion Lutheran

The 1986-87 Zion Lutheran Grade School cheerleaders of Pasadena attended the National Cheerleaders Association summer workshop, where they received top recognition as the camp's best cheerleader squad.

The workshop was held at Clear Lake High School and attracted more than 45 cheerleading squads from public, parochial and private schools in the surrounding area.

The association sponsors the "Award of Excellence" at more than 280 workshops in the United States. The Zion Lutheran group was chosen for this award on the basis of their cheerleading technique, unity, friendliness, cooperation, leadership and sportsmanship.

As winner of this excellence award, the Zion youngsters will compete in the 1986 cheerleading championship Dec. 26-29 in Orlando, Fla.

Lutheran coed joins fellows in all-male (nearly) Aggie Band

Only three other persons in the world can do what Kristie Hackbart does. She's one of four women who march and play in the 1986-87 Texas Aggie Band.

Kristie, a member of Christ Lutheran of Fort Worth, is a freshman at A & M University.

All four girls say they're not out to change the band, which is only in its second year of having female members.

"Some people think having women in the band is a radical change," says Kristie. "But we have to do the same things that the guy next to us does. We are doing our best not to change the band, but just to change ourselves to fit into what was already here."

"I liked being in the band in high school and I wanted to keep marching. And the Aggie band is the best around so I decided to join," Kristie said.



PLAYGROUND—A new children's playground was dedicated Aug. 31 at Mt. Calvary, San Antonio. A hard-working group of members assembled the large play equipment. Shown are Pastor Kim DeVries and member Jan Longoria. The playground is a memorial to her husband, Frank, who was a teacher.

And nobody had to teach it

The innocent wonderment of children is evident in the report by second grader Kristina Davey reporting for her class in the newsletter of St. Paul Lutheran School, McAllen.

Wrote Kristina: "During lunch time one of our fish had a baby fish. It was very small."

Then she added: "It can already swim."

OUTDOORS

Rich personal rewards await Lutheran summer camp leaders

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

Even though it's just December, plans are in full motion at the LOMT office, Texoma and Lone Star in preparation for Summer Camp 1987.

Securing the best qualified staff members as counselors, kitchen and maintenance helpers, water safety personnel, medics and other support positions is a high priority to assure top level camping and related experiences for all participants.

But for the prospective staffers, what does such a commitment for 12 weeks entail? Is it worth it to subject themselves to one or more summers with the prospect of being on duty for practically 24 hours each day, under constant pressure, with meager financial remuneration and

without much freedom?

- The overwhelming response of former counselors and other support staff members has brought out positive reactions in terms of rich personal rewards, special joys, gratification and blessings.

Unselfish dedication and enthusiasm for reaching out to kids, youth and adults with Christ's love has often helped these young leaders sort through and shape their future.

One of the greatest assets of such leadership for the prospective staffer is preparation for the responsibilities of adulthood, marriage, occupational endeavors and ministry at all levels.

For the future pastor, valuable experiences in dealing with people provides a rewarding balance after spending long hours in academic studies.

For the future educator, opportunities abound to establish rapport and to cultivate expertise in teaching skills.

For the future lay leader, uplifting spiritual enrichment and preparation for lifelong service to the Lord results from constantly delving into and sharing the precious Word of God and from fellowship with peers who come from varying backgrounds but who are involved in a special phase of Christ's ministry.

- It's desirable for summer staffers to be equipped with guitar, singing, sports, recreational, water-



LOOKS LIKE FUN—Junior staffers at Lutheran camp certainly enjoy their work. They are Karla Bell and Jennifer Kieschnick, whose enthusiasm and joy are apparent as they share experiences with other staff members.

front, watercraft and other camping skills.

However, enthusiasm for and happiness in nurturing others with the Good News of Christ and just simply care and concern for the well-being of God's people as well as His creation are the prime qualifications for summer staff leaders.

Pastors, educators, interested lay people, parents—LOMT needs your assistance in locating and securing quality leaders for this vital outreach ministry. Won't you take the time to urge your young people to seek out such a beneficial and treasured experience?

- For more information contact the LOMT office in Austin, Camp Lone Star or Texoma Lutheran Camp.

Prospective staffers must be 19 years old by June 1, 1987. Completed applications will be accepted from December through Feb. 7. Interviews will be arranged to suit the applicant. Actual selection of personnel will take place in February.

- How about it? Your recommendation can be a rich reward for someone in this special laboratory of Christ-centered life.



HE LIKES IT—Seminarian David Theis has enjoyable time as a third-year camp counselor.

Junior staffers are needed

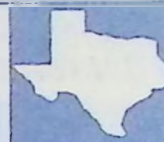
Opportunities for volunteer service at either Texoma Lutheran Camp or Camp Lone Star are open to youth who have reached age 15 as of June 1.

Junior staffers (formerly called C.I.T.s) assist the full-time counselors or just serve where needed for one, two or three weeks. Interested individuals should contact either:

Garland Midgett, Camp Lone Star, Rt. 3, Box 2L, La Grange, Tex. 78945, 409-247-4128; or Keith Lund, Texoma Lutheran Camp, Rt. 1, Box 116-P, Pottsboro, Tex. 75076, 214-786-3121 for a superb and treasured experience.



PALS—Counselor Rhonda Hermann hugs her two friends who are members of her Expedition campers (five- to seven-year-olds).



Irresistible describes LSST's 3,500th adoptive child

With six teenagers in the family, it's difficult to imagine wanting to have a baby. But that is exactly what the Gibbons family wanted to do.

- Enter David—an irresistible infant with smiling, watchful eyes.

For the Gibbons family, David became number seven of a contrasting combination of boys and girls with varying backgrounds.

For Lutheran Social Service of Texas, David signifies the 3,500th adoptive placement since the agency's adoption program formally began in 1944.

A number of innovations have broadened adoption practices since the 1940s. David and others in the Gibbons family are reminders of these changes.

- David is a cooperative placement between LSST and Catholic Charities of Houston. In David's case, his birthmother and adoptive parents, Tom and Nanci, elected the option of some openness in their adoption experience by releasing non-identifying information to David's birthmother through LSST. The Gibbons say they are also open to meeting her.

Further correspondence and possible meetings will also be arranged by LSST social workers—but, only if both parties agree.

Forty years ago, the adoption emphasis was placed more on the adoptive parents and the agency and less on the child and



READY TO PLAY—Young David Gibbons marks LSST's 3,500th adoption placement since the agency's adoption program began in 1944. Baby Number 3,000 was placed in September 1984. LSST is the largest adoption agency in the state and the largest Lutheran adoption agency in the United States. More than 250 infants, older children, minority, foreign-born and handicapped children are placed annually by LSST.

birthparents.

Cooperative placement between agencies was unusual then. Secrecy was favored in adoption.

Since Tom and Nanci know about David's birthmother, they have some information and impressions to pass on to him when he starts the normal childhood questions of "Where did I come from?"

- Very little is known about his birthfather except, they joked, "That he is male."

David's skin coloring indicates that his birthfather was a different race than his birthmother. Biracial children are harder to place, classifying them as "special needs."

David was special needs in another sense too. His mother's background indicated that he might have extensive health problems, the Gibbons said. He was tested in the hospital before he was released to a

foster home when he was two weeks old.

While David was waiting for a permanent home, the Gibbons were eagerly waiting for a baby.

- June was when they decided to pursue adopting another child. David is their fifth adoptive child. Since both Tom and Nanci work for the Texas Department of Human Services—Tom is a policy specialist writer and Nanci is administrator for residential child care licensing—they needed to look outside TDHS to adopt a child.

They returned to LSST, as they had twice before.

It was around the fourth of July when they formally applied. "We would accept a wide range," Nanci said, "and consider other problems as long as the child was basically healthy."

Because they were willing to accept a special needs child—a child much harder to place than the

traditionally sought after white infant—they did not wait as long as usual. In their case, David became part of their family only two and a half months after application.

- David is the first infant in the Gibbons household since Tom and Nanci's biological children, Tom Jr., now 19, and Katie, now 18, were born.

They were living in Tennessee when they adopted 14-month-old toddler Ian, now 16. Ian is considered biracial because his background is Canadian and Indian.

Next came 17-year-old Susan who was four and a half when she was adopted through LSST. A developmentally disabled child, Susan was classified as special needs, too.

Their first experience with open adoption came with sisters Rachael and Rebecca four years ago. The girls are now 16 and 14. Although the family is not in contact with the birthmother now, it is something they consider an option.

- Tom describes his family, saying, "We have lots of variety."

Nanci agrees, adding, "We have everything you could want in a child, maybe not all in one child. It's an incredibly appealing combination that no one or even two children could provide."

As for David, he's happy and content, his parents report. In addition to being very cuddly, he seems to be very interested in what is going on around him—and with a family like his, it is a lot.

Christmas TV special planned by Int'l LLL for next year

by Gary D. Laneman, Region 10 Governor
Texas and Oklahoma
11601 January, Austin, Texas 78753

The International Lutheran Laymen's League has signed a \$1.2 million contract with Hanna-Barbera Productions Inc., to produce an animated Christmas special, "The Little Troll Prince."

The one-hour Christmas special is planned for telecast during the 1987 Christmas season.

- It tells the story of Bu, the prince of the evil trolls, who is changed into a gnome when his frozen heart is melted by God's love.

"The International Lutheran Laymen's League is pleased to be part of this production," Janet R. Meyer, manager of media marketing for the Int'l LLL said. "We know 'The Little Troll Prince' will, in a positive way, touch the lives of millions of children and their families around the world."

ON THE AIR

The following radio and television stations in Texas have added programs supplied by the Int'l LLL:

RADIO

KPSM, Brownwood, airing *Crosswalk* at 10:30 a.m. on Sundays.

KBEN, Carrizo Springs, airing the *Lutheran Hour* at 7 a.m. on Sundays.

KLCR, Center, airing *Crosswalk* at 6 p.m. on

Saturdays.

KPTX, Pecos, airing *Crosswalk* at 10 a.m. on Sundays.

TELEVISION

McCaw Cablevision, Paris, showing *This Is the Life*. Check listings.

ARABIC OUTREACH

The *Lutheran Hour* radio ministry continues to reach out to a vast number of Arabic-speaking people. Responses received in the Lebanon office of the *Lutheran Hour* include these:

- EGYPT: While I was listening to your program "King of Kings" from Monte Carlo, I found that life with Christ is more important than anything else. I came to realize that we can do nothing without Jesus. I am a graduate student from the University of Assuaut, Egypt, and I am looking forward to a job. I am full of joy, excited to learn more about Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Please be kind and send me a copy of the New Testament, and also a copy of the book "Life of Christ."

- IRAQ: I am writing this letter just to tell you how grateful I am to your radio programs, especially "King of Kings." Out of this program I learned how to be a good follower of Jesus Christ. Also I became a new creature. I know that



Jesus is living within me. I trust in Him, and love to serve Him. Please send me a copy of "Life of Christ."

- IRAQ: Peace be with you, friends. First of all, I am thankful to God for you and for your program "King of Kings." Please be kind and send me a copy of the book, "Life of Christ." I am really in desperate need of this book because I want to teach my brother and also a friend of mine about Jesus and His life when He was on earth.

- TUNISIA: I am a Tunisian citizen. I do not go to bed until I listen to your radio program from Trans World Radio Station. I discovered it a few weeks ago and was very pleased and happy with it. I am a Muslim young man, and through your programs I came to know more about the Christian religion and Jesus Christ (Issa, the Son of Mary) as a friend and helper. I would really appreciate your help to know more about this Jesus.

- TRIPOLI: Greetings and best wishes from North Lebanon. This is my first letter to you after I listened to your radio program from Cyprus. First of all, I would like to thank you for your wonderful message. Your words were clear and to the point.

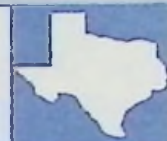
Jesus once said, "Ask and it shall be given . . ." So I ask you to send me please a copy of the Holy Bible.

- EGYPT: I begin my letter with a word of thanks and express respect to your magnificent program "King of Kings." I hope that you'll accept me as one of your radio listeners. I promise you to be an active and good student. Please give my letter a special care and attention.

- TUNISIA: God was so good to me. He led me to know your address through one of my friends. Would you please send me some of your publications and Bible correspondence course materials, and also your indigenious songs on cassettes. I would be very pleased if you send me the Holy Bible and "The Life of Christ."

I really want to know more about Jesus Christ and the Christian faith. I am really in a dilemma. I have doubts about Jesus and His two natures. Is he God or man? And how would you dare to say that Christ is the Son of God? Knowing that we, as Muslims, believe that God has no children, and He has no wife. I would appreciate it if you put an end to my dilemma and my doubts.

- IRAQ: I heard your radio program "Spot and Meditation," and I was amazed and very happy when I heard it. If possible, please answer this question for me: How could a man be saved from sin, and inherit eternal life? How could this happen? Please send me a copy of "The Book Before the Microphone."



Counselor's corner

(The following, written by Texas District Counselor Rev. John Selle, is based upon 1 Peter 5:7: "Cast all your care upon Him, for He careth . . ." and has been set to the melody of hymn 479 in *The Lutheran Hymnal*.)

"CARETAKERS"

Dare to care! Dare to care!
 All God's children, boldly share!
 Give yourselves in loving service;
 Show concern for all in need!
 Reach out with the touch of Jesus;
 Souls and bodies everywhere to feed!
 Here and there! Help repair!
 Do not wait! Do not wait!
 Saints arise! It's not too late!
 Sick and grieving, troubled, lonely;
 People hurting everywhere!
 There's no need now to be timid;
 Take their hands and let them know you're there!
 Do not hide! God will guide!
 Broken lives! Cry distress!
 There's no time to sit and rest!
 Caring, helping, loving, list'ning,
 Hesitating not at all;
 Seeing each as God's creation;
 Loving all men, those both great and small!
 New hopes giv'n! Souls for heav'n!
 Dare to care! Dare to care!
 All God's children, boldly share!
 Take the Gospel! Tell it! Live it!
 Share the Father's love in Christ!
 By the power of the Spirit,
 Helping those who grope in endless night!
 Be His light! Shining bright!

John F. Selle
 October 1986

Quarterly news request

The summer 1987 *Lutheran Woman's Quarterly* will emphasize the "family circle."

You are encouraged to share experiences and ways that your congregation includes families, singles, youth and elderly in its circle of family love.

How does it offer the feeling of "family" to indi-

viduals during holidays?

Describe how your unit includes "special" people into their homes to create "extended families."

Share how a family in your congregation opened their home to a child or adult who desperately needed a solid understanding family circle.

Send news and photos to Pauline Groerich, 2796 S. Wolff St., Denver, Colo., 80236, by Jan. 20.



PLAQUE DEDICATION AT CONCORDIA COLLEGE—Rev. A. Arndt, who served as one of the first Texas district LWML counselors, shares honors with President Marcella Gaus at the dedication of a plaque commemorating the first LWML convention in Texas, held on the Austin campus.



Convention update

Volunteers are still needed to help with the international convention.

- A media chairman is needed to work with newspapers and television stations. Contact Margaret Goodson, publicity chairman, 3803 Gardendale, Houston 77092, 713-682-0390.

- Teenage girls are needed as pages. A uniform is required. Contact Priscilla Anderson, Rt. 1, 1004 Spanish Trail, Roanoke 76262, 817-379-5085.

- Many positions are open that require no uniform: can you help decorate, or help in the luggage room the last day of convention?

Can you work a two hour shift taking phone calls, or help with lost-and-found or first aid? These are all important parts of a convention. Notify Helen Savage, volunteer coordinator, 2011 Pebble Creek Dr., Cleburne 76031, 817-641-6711.

Quilts and blankets

Two quilts from each district will be used for the ingathering dedication ceremony at the 1987 international convention. All other quilts and blankets should be boxed and sent to Lutheran World Relief, 1901 Fifth St. SE, Minneapolis, Minn. 55414. Be sure to keep a record of the number sent.

If your society has not started work on this project, consider having a weekly "quilt meet." Directions for making simple quilts are available from Mission Service Chairman Theresa McMurray, 1210 Voyle, Lufkin 75901.

Mite Report

October 28, 1986

1986-88 Goal \$178,000

Received in Oct. 8,141

Received 5 mos. 41,951

Still needed 136,049

\$5,000 has been paid to Texas Laborers for Christ.

Send mites to Mina Fitting, 704 Dellwood, Midland 79703. MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO TEXAS DISTRICT LWML.



Prayers for projects

LUTHERAN BRAILLE WORKERS

Dear heavenly Father, we are thankful that You have so graciously provided funds for expenses and supplies to the Lutheran Braille Workers.

We are thankful for all the people, young and old, in the 16 places in Texas who put the Braille books together.

We are thankful for this opportunity to help the blind by providing them with Your Word wherever the Braille system reaches, including places that even missionaries cannot enter. In Jesus name, Amen.



The choir of Holy-Three-in-One Church of the Deaf in Houston performs a special Christmas concert. Deaf ministries in Texas are recipients of a district LWML grant.

Mites on the move

Deaf Ministries of Houston recently received \$1,796 of a \$4,000 grant for van repairs.

The original 1984-86 grant was for a replacement van for Holy Three-In-One Lutheran Church of the Deaf, but because a replacement has become economically unfeasible, a request was made to use these funds to repair and recondition the present van. This request was approved at the Lubbock convention.

According to Rev. Robert Case, Lutheran pastor

to the deaf in the Houston area, the van has been a tremendous aid in transporting people for the many aspects of the ministry.

From our district membership chairman

- All nominations for Texas' Young Woman Representative to the Fort Worth convention must be received by Jan. 15 to be eligible for consideration. Mail before that date to Membership Chairman Catherine Burkhard, 6660 Santa Anita, Dallas 75214.
- Annual statistical membership forms, mailed to all societies early this month, must be returned to zone presidents as soon as possible. The district membership chairman must have them no later than Jan. 31.

REJOICE
AT THE BIRTH
OF THE
PRINCE OF
PEACE AND
GIVE THANKS.



LWML NEWS should be sent to Dolores Bruncke, Texas District Editor, 3944 Meriman, Plano 75074.



Registered nurse Pauline Dietz, left, measured the blood pressure of all who attended the East Texas rally at Trinity, Tyler. Mary Ann Krumm is shown receiving this service as she checks into "The Abundant Life Clinic."

League links

• EAST TEXAS ZONE

A five-part skit written 19 years ago by members of Trinity, Tyler, formed the basis for a Christian growth workshop titled "Saved to Serve." Two of the original cast members were present to take part in "The Abundant Life Clinic," which depicts a spiritually ill person who seeks and receives help.

• MESQUITE ZONE

A joint rally united LWML members (who "Serve the Lord with Gladness") and LLL members (who "Live in the Son") under the theme "Praise Him, All Heaven and Earth."

• WHITE OAK ZONE

Rally speaker Sherry Torbert, district second vice-president, spoke on the wonder and power of God's Word and the Biblical directive to "Praise Him, All Heaven and Earth."