

The Augustanan

SURVEYING THE MINISTRY IN OUR LIVES

January 2006

Go in Peace, Serve the Lord. Thanks Be to God!

Mission Statement

It is the purpose of Augustana Lutheran Church to engage as many persons as will share its confession of faith in fellowship of worship, learning, witness, and service that the Word of God in Jesus Christ may become effective in our lives together and individually, and relate effectively in Christian concern and love to the geographic community within which the church is located.

A "Reconciled in Christ" congregation that has been racially diverse since 1954 and a member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA).

Inside This Issue:

- 2 From the Pastor
- 3 Visionary Task Force Update
- 7 Stewardship Update
- 10 Remembering Floyd Anderson
- 13 Meet a Member



From The Pastor's Desk

By The Rev. Dr. Marcia Cox

Have you ever tried to do the best you can and yet people are meeting in secret to plot on getting rid of you? Most of us would find that reprehensible behavior for responsible leaders. Yet Herod and his storm troopers seem to have no problem doing so. They were wiser than the wise ones. Were the latter so naïve to think Herod was interested in paying homage to rival king he knew nothing about? Power corrupts, they say. Herod shows us it is true. Actually, it is not the power that corrupts but the fear of losing it.

God shows us a different kind of power through this vulnerable baby. God shows off but so does the baby. The baby shows off a Parent who loves us so much as to give up that power. The baby shows off a Parent who has no need to win by putting others down or taking others

out. Instead this Parent wields power by taking our infirmities, and bearing our diseases....disease, upon himself..

The wise ones...those magi...offered gifts fit for royalty. Joy, worship, and offerings are faith's response. And, you notice...they returned home by another way....not through Herod's palace. They returned as we return every week to infiltrate those places where where Herod-like authority is practiced: neighborhood, work, school, and family. We are redeployed by God to practice God's brand of authority and power.

Ideas borrowed from "Sundays and Seasons", p. 73.

Host Families Needed

Are you willing to host one or more students attending Ecumenical Advocacy Days March 10-13, 2006?

Several students from Lutheran colleges and seminaries are in need of housing during this event. If you are interested and available to host one or more students in your home during Ecumenical Advocacy Days, please contact Annie Lynsen at annie.lynsen@elca.org or 202-626-7947 before February 15.

Volunteers from Augustana provide food to homeless people on the first Saturday of every month. We are looking for people to help on **February 4th & March 4th.**

Please contact Amy Yergey at 301-294-9185 or ayergey@yahoo.com if you are interested.

Visionary Task Force Update

After many hours of thoughtful prayer and debate, the Visionary Task Force agreed to the following "Purpose of Work":

"PURPOSE OF WORK": In partnership with the Congregation and guided by the will of God, the Task Force will develop and present a Visionary Action Plan for Augustana Lutheran Church and the surrounding neighborhoods by June 30, 2006.

In accomplishing this purpose, we will:

1) Institute an interactive process to gather and analyze information from members and friends of Augustana, and the surrounding community.

2) Identify Augustana's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and challenges.

3) Identify resources and relationships to help execute our plan (both internal and external.)

Ask The Pastor

Q: What does the word "epiphany" mean?

A: It means "public manifestation". The Epiphany season bids us clear off the welcome mat and consider as a congregation how we embody God's gracious hospitality. Do we only greet people we know? In the Social Hall do we only gather around people with whom we are familiar? Are we waiting for someone to greet us?

The Orthodox remind us in the Christian West that Epiphany is mission-centered be-

4) Recommend and present to the Congregational Council and the Congregation a 3-Year Visionary Action Plan (with defined goals and measurable objectives) focused primarily in the areas of Mission, Ministry, and Programs.

We are gathering all of the information and data in the first months of 2006, and look forward to all members and friends of Augustana participating. There will be several different ways of doing this, and of course, you can always call any of the Task Force members: Judi Bucci, Venera Busby, Catharine Cashner, Leeann Hart, Chuck Holmes, Doris Lewis, Alison Martin, Sonvy Waidler, or Sid Stolz. Dr. Sherman Hicks has agreed to continue his involvement with the Task Force even with his new job with the ELCA and upcoming move to Chicago.

cause it is inherently baptismal. The Sunday following Epiphany is the Baptism of Our Lord.. This is how we enter this community of God's holy people. That is why our font sits at the head of the center aisle. It serves as a constant reminder to the congregation that a daily return to our baptism is the source of our power to do the work of God.

Augustana Calendar Items for January

Sunday, January 1, 2006
Name of Jesus
No Adult Forum
Worship Service – 10:30 a.m.

Monday, January 2, 2006
Church Offices closed for the Holiday

Thursday, January 5, 2006
Choir Rehearsal – 7:30 p.m. – Choir Room

Saturday, January 6, 2006
Stewardship Brunch and Meeting for Committee
Leadership
10:00 a.m. – Home of Carol Capps

Sunday, January 8, 2006
Baptism of our Lord
Adult Forum – 9:15 a.m.
Worship Service – 10:30 a.m.
Three Kings Day – Dia de los Reyes
All Committee Meet
Spiritual Friends Meeting – Noon – Library

Thursday, January 12, 2006
Choir Rehearsal – 7:30 p.m. – Choir Room

Sunday, January 15, 2006

Second Sunday of Epiphany
Adult Forum – 9:15 a.m.
Worship Service – 10:30 a.m.

Monday, January 16, 2005
Church Offices closed for Martin Luther King
Federal Holiday

Thursday, January 19, 2006
Choir Rehearsal – 7:30 p.m. – Choir Room
Catechism Classes begin – 7:00-8:30 p.m. –
Library

Sunday, January 22, 2006
Third Sunday of Epiphany
Adult Forum – 9:15 a.m.
Worship Service – 10:30 a.m.

Thursday, January 26, 2006
Choir Rehearsal – 7:30 p.m. – Choir Room

Sunday, January 29, 2006
Fourth Sunday of Epiphany
Adult Forum – 9:15 a.m.
Worship Service – 10:30 a.m.

The Augustana Moms 'n' Pops will meet on Fridays, February 10 and 24. We meet from 10:00 am till noon, locations to be announced. Please join us! For more information or to join our email list, please contact Sony Waidler at sonvy@yahoo.com.

World Hunger

October, 2005

Dear Friends in Christ,

Thank you for your recent gifts to the ELCA World Hunger and Disaster Appeal, which provided both immediate and long-term assistance to children, families and whole communities around the world and close to home. We appreciate your commitment to this work.

We are grateful for your gifts, designated for the ELCA Domestic Disaster Response (Hurricane Katrina), ELCA International Disaster Response (Pakistan) and the ELCA World Hunger Fund, all part of our ministries. Your gifts will help rebuild lives and communities shattered by disasters through immediate and long-term recovery efforts. Even when the damage wrought by disasters overwhelms us, the knowledge that our church cares – and is active with immediate aid and long-range recovery – helps survivors find their way through the crisis.

ELCA Domestic and International Disaster

Response helps in the immediate aftermath of disasters – and in the long months and sometimes years it takes to recover from a major disaster. Long after disasters leave the news, your gifts will continue to proclaim our commitment to walk with those lives have been devastated by disasters.

Thank you for your commitment to bring help and hope to people and communities in great need.

In Christ's Service

Kathryn Sime
Director, ELCA World Hunger and Disaster Appeal

Editors note – these letter combines acknowledgements that Augustana made this Fall in connection with Hurricane Katrina, the earthquake in Pakistan, and our on-going support of the ELCA World Hunger Fund.

January Birthdays

1	Kalvin Mushala	17	Susan Nash
4	Bonnie LePard	18	Todd Andrews
5	Norman Forness, Brian Shannon	20	Kurt Carroll
7	Nichole Wade	23	Michael Bucci
12	Ariana Watson	24	Paul Miller
14	Jennifer Bailey	30	Deon Rhode
15	Stephen Mushala, Alan Sutherland	31	Betty Anderson, Abigail Matson

Servants At God's Altar

Sunday, January 15, 2006

Second Sunday of Epiphany

Deacon I – Chuck Holmes

Deacon II – Douglas Anderson

Lector – Ben Cutler

Crucifer – Scott Dillon

Bookbearer – Olivia Brown

Torchbearers – Courtney Allen, Patricia Richter

Ushers – Eddie Van Aken, Lola Wade

Altar Guild – Mary Andoh, Salome Burton

Tellers – John McKirgan, Mary Andoh,
David Wassum

Hospitality Hour Host – Alan Sutherland,
David Juilfs, Tom VandenBosch

Sunday, January 22, 2006

Third Sunday of Epiphany

Deacon I – George Krafthofer

Deacon II – Patricia Richter

Lector – John Strackbein

Crucifer – Paul Beddoe

Bookbearer – Alex Brown

Torchbearers – Lars Sorenson, Kane Borders

Ushers – Eddie Van Aken, Lola Wade

Altar Guild – Mary Andoh, Salome Burton

Tellers – Peter Berube, Brian Danaher

Hospitality Hour Host – David Wassum,
Chuck Holmes, Jon Quam

Sunday, January 29, 2006

Fourth Sunday of Epiphany

Deacon I – Kathy Garrison

Deacon II – Doris Lewis

Lector – Kelly Bowers

Crucifer – Douglas Anderson

Bookbearer – Chantelle Agbro

Torchbearers – Jen Ray, Kaia Lenhart

Ushers – Eddie Van Aken, Lola Wade
Altar Guild – Mary Andoh, Salome Burton

Tellers – Michael Olson, Salome Burton,
Ron Mueller

Hospitality Hour Host – Eric Luttamus,
Bruce Gaston, John Strackbein

Sunday, February 5, 2006

Fifth Sunday of Epiphany

Deacon I – Chuck Holmes

Deacon II – Richard Gillam

Crucifer – Chuck Holmes

Bookbearer – Caroline Borders

Torchbearers – Nichole Wade, Courtney Allen

Ushers – George Krafthofer, Nicole &
David Skinner

Altar Guild – Judy Floy

Tellers – Mary Schooley, John Isbell,
Dawn Nelson

Hospitality Hour Host – Kelly Bowers,
Monika O'Connor, Alison Martin

Sunday, February 12, 2006

Sixth Sunday of Epiphany (Annual Meeting)

Deacon I – Douglas Anderson

Deacon II – David Juilfs

Lector – TBA

Crucifer – Paul Beddoe

Bookbearer – Patricia Richter

Torchbearers – Scott Dillon, Douglas Anderson

Ushers – George Krafthofer, Nicole and
David Skinner

Altar Guild – Judy Floy

Tellers – Kevin Horsted, Jonathan Moore,
Sonvy Waidler

Hospitality Hour Host – Annual Meeting Luncheon

THE STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE IS EXPLORING TRANSPORTATION SERVICE FOR OUR MEMBERS WHO NEED TRANSPORTATION TO CHURCH.

PLEASE CONTACT KAIA LENHART OR SALOME BURTON IF YOU HAVE IDEAS OR WOULD LIKE TO BECOME INVOLVED!

Stewardship Update

Time and Talent Forms...They Really Are Important!

Why do I need to fill out a Time and Talent Sheet?

At Augustana Lutheran Church we use the Time and Talent sheets to inform congregation and committee leadership about member interests and abilities to further the ministries of Augustana. The time you graciously give to Augustana is the foundation for our ministry! The Stewardship committee develops the Time and Talent sheet with input from all committees – they are designed to reflect general areas of interest, though we encourage you to talk to committee leaders to learn more.

How are the results of the time and talent sheet processed?

After the time and talent sheets are received, Betsy Knauff (a Stewardship Committee member) compiles the information according to each area of ministry/by committee. The “results” are then given to each member of council, the office, and all committee leaders. The Stewardship committee hosts a meeting/brunch (this year’s brunch at Carol Capps’ on January 7) where we discuss opportunities for ministry and how to reach out to members. Expect a call in the coming months from committee and

congregation leaders!

Why must I fill out a form this year – I filled one out last year and I’m still interested in the same things?

Your interests may not have changed, but council and committee leadership changes each year! Completing the time and talent sheet is a big help to us all!

Is it too late to fill out a form?

No! Though the earlier the better – we have extra forms in the back of the church. Please take one and turn it into the office, or drop it in the offering plate! Your commitment is a big gift to our mission and our ministry.

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO FILLED OUT THE TIME AND TALENT SHEET! If you have questions, please call Kaia Lenhart 301.589.0695 or talk to any of the Stewardship members.

2) Early Signs of God’s Design is a creative and innovative resource that provides a guide for parents, teachers, and other adults to nurture the spiritual gifts of children. It is available online at www.elca.org/christianeducation/programplanners/

Accessibility and Renovation Fund Update

Goal: \$1,500,000
Pledged \$997,657
Received last week \$2,192
Received to date \$749,596



Concerns of the People, Thank you, Mail Bag, Etc...

In our prayers, let us include the following:

+ Members: Ardelle Burton, Dorothy Gladney, Susan Nash, Bill Reid, Carroll Schipp and Dorothy Smith.

+ Friends and Family: Roxanna Anderson (Nash); Roseanne Baird (Bucci); Chris Balsam (Bucci); Bernice Bass (Castaño); Lillian Benning (Whoie); Trudy Bliss (Hunter); Diane Dellinger (Heinemeier); Leona Harper (Knauff); Dorothy Hunter (Hunter); Ray Hwang (Hwang); Warren Juggins (Burton); Darren Kerbyson (Waidler); John Larson (Kahler-Larson); Sylvia Lauttamus; Celeste Lotts (Knauff); Sean McAlister (Isbell); Elizabeth Morsches (Richter); Delmar Nelson (Burton); Veronica Richardson (Knauff); Caleb Richter-Tate; Sarah Richter; Michael Rodriguez (Hanson/Kaiser); Steven Seaburn (Knauff); Charles Wagley (Capps); Marion Wagley (Capps); Thom Unger (Bowers); Ann Valentine (Burton); Shirley Watterson (Hunter); William Wegener (Richter); Nellikan Wernicke (Baerwald); Cole Whiting (Bowers).

+ Qué Vaya Con Dios to Pastor Leonel Cruz as he takes a new call in the Philadelphia area.

+ In Christian Joy with Jacinta Bronte-Tinkew and Randy Capps on the birth of twins on Wednesday, November 30th. Daughter Inga Carolann Capps weighed 5 lbs, 14 ounces, and son Niklas Christopher Capps arrived weighing 6 lbs, 13 ounces. Congratulations to grandmother Carol Capps as well!

+ Thank you to Ron Mueller and Larry Anthony for underwriting the special music on Sunday, December 4th.

+ Thank you to Barbara Solt for donating a large green plant for the Social Hall, and thanks to Ben Cutler who picked up the plant and brought it to Augustana. Thanks also to Norman Forness for donating three large hanging plants, which have been placed in the classrooms. We appreciate all these "green" gifts.

+ Thank you to Jen Ray and the staff of NARAL

for donating Christmas poinsettias for the classrooms and church offices following their holiday party at Augustana.

+ Thank you to Pearl Cox, Judy Floy, Chuck Leath and Carol Vezzetti for collating and preparing the December issue of the Augustanan for mailing.

+ Congratulations to Pastor Cox who has been invited to speak the U.S. Catholic Conference of Bishops at their Martin Luther King, Jr. Day commemoration in January.

+ Bethel Lutheran Church in Biloxi, Mississippi sends its thanks for raising funds for four \$90 gift cards, so that their families can buy needed supplies to clean up after Hurricane Katrina. If you are interested in going to Biloxi on a volunteer mission in January with members of St. Paul's Lutheran contact Brian Danaher for more information.

+ Thank you to Chris Vierling for helping to organize the First Annual Advent Wreath-making party on 11/27.

+ Thanks for helping to send Christmas wishes and greetings to servicemen and servicewomen in Iraq. On Sunday December 4th, we signed 75 Christmas cards and raised enough donations to purchase prepaid phone cards for at least 25 soldiers! The ELCA's Federal Chaplaincy Ministries sends its thanks and adds, "God bless. You've given our troops (and their loved ones) a wonderful Christmas gift."

+ Thank you to all who contributed goods and gifts for our Christmas Baskets. Baskets were filled and delivered on December 17th to seven families.

+ The annual Lucia fest and Pageant held this year on December 11th is made possible by the collective effort of many people. In addition to those who participate in the Pageant, there are many who work behind the scenes. To all those who made that evening an enjoyable one, we extend our appreciation.

Augustana, Synod and ELCA News

Adult Forum on Sunday, January 15th will present the video, "Remembering Martin," an overview of the life and work of Dr. Martin Luther King as recalled by friends, family, and associates who were close to him during his career. Adult Forum meets at 9:15 am in the library.

Winter Retreat - Monday-Wednesday, January 16th-18th: Shema! (Pay Attention!) A winter retreat sponsored by the Synod Prayer Resources Group at the Loyola on the Potomac Jesuit Retreat Center in Faulker, MD. For more information see Patricia Richter or contact Pat Freitag at 301/983-6558.

Catechism Classes begins Thursday, January 18th: 7:00 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. p.m. in the Library

Adult Forum on Sunday, January 22nd along with the Social Ministries Committee, will host a panel discussion and open forum on family ministry. Panelists will include Augustana members and friends from a variety of family backgrounds (parents with young children, families with adoptees, gay families, empty-nesters) who will discuss issues facing contemporary families, the ways a faith community can support families, and possible opportunities for implementing a family ministry. We meet at 9:15 am and all are invited to attend.

Congregational Contact Sought To Combat Hunger A congregational representative from every congregation in the Metro D.C. Synod is desired to serve as that congregation's Hunger Coordinator. The person in this position would raise awareness of the campaigns, appeals and opportunities for giving help to combat world hunger. Writes the Rev. Kathy Hlatshwayo, chair of the synod Div. for Church in Society, "The need is great. Please consider this opportunity." If interested, contact her at revkathy@ispwest.com.

"ONE Lutheran Campaign" Address Global Emergencies The ONE Lutheran Campaign seeks to get the U.S. government to allocate an additional 1% of U.S. Gross National Product to address the global emergencies of poverty and AIDS. As written at www.elca.org/advocacy, "2005 brought the hope of new political will to end hunger and

poverty, as the ONE Campaign in the U.S., and similar campaigns in 80 other countries, engaged millions of people in new efforts to end extreme poverty, hunger and disease... Advent can be our time to learn about these efforts, pray for their effectiveness, and thus respond with greater energy in 2006 to better the lives and ensure the dignity of all God's children." Advent resources are available, including a children's message, bulletin insert, litanies, preaching tools and more. Visit www.elca.org/advocacy to review.

LSA Gathering Data On Housing Ministry Lutheran Services in America (LSA) launched an initiative to change the face of affordable housing the U.S. and Caribbean. LSA is an alliance of nearly 300 social ministries organizations, the ELCA and the LCMS. Many Lutheran social ministries organizations are known for this work, and many Lutheran congregations are also engaged in providing shelter for people with low incomes or no incomes, said Jill Schumann, LSA president, but "We don't really know who is doing what where," she said. "Each group is doing it somewhat in isolation.

LSA is developing a database and collecting info from surveys. "Having a Lutheran housing network of experienced colleagues and resources to rely on could help more organizations not feel so isolated during the start up of a new program," said Janice Ulrich, LSA project manager, Baltimore. Learn more from www.lutheranservices.org.

Christian Handbook Released By Augsburg Fortress Augsburg Fortress has introduced The Christian Handbook, modeled after the highly successful The Lutheran Handbook from a confirmation series. Like The Lutheran Handbook, a highly successful confirmation resource, The Christian Handbook combines practical tips and humor for serious Christians, new believers or any reader exploring the faith. The nondenominational book offers a "refresher course" on subjects including "How to Memorize a Bible Verse," "The Seven Funniest Bible Stories," and "How to Stay Alert in Church." Order at www.augsburgfortress.org.

Remembering Floyd Anderson

As time and space allows in our newsletters we have an opportunity to share letters which go beyond the scope of the "Mailbag". Please find below, letters written on the life of Floyd Anderson by leaders of our Church.

The Rev. Dr. Robert Marshall, Bishop Emeritus, Lutheran Church in America:

"Floyd Anderson was an outstanding example of a man who dedicated the skills and knowledge of his daily work to the volunteer service of the church.

Only the bylaw limitation on the terms of office kept him from chairing the finance committee of the executive council of the LCA perpetually.

He did this while remaining faithful to his family, his local congregation, the synod and the institution. Floyd leaves a broad path of service ..."

The Rev. Dr. Reuben T. Swanson, Secretary Emeritus, Lutheran Church in America:

"There was a man –
A man devoted to his family
A man faithful to his God
A man dedicated to his church
A man committed to his vocation

There was a man –
A man pleasing in stature
A man congenial in nature
A man involved in service
A man steeped in patriotism

There was a man. That man was Floyd E. Anderson. His name became known to me as it appeared in the Yearbooks of the former Augustana Lutheran Church. His experience and competence in financial and administrative matters had been recognized with the result that he was serving on its Board of Finance of which he was chair when that church body joined with others to form the Lutheran Church in America.

To his congregation of membership and the national church body to which it belonged (both known as Augustana Lutheran Church), Floyd was fully dedicated. He affirmed the mission they shared with words, deeds, and support. He gave guidance to, interpreted, and championed their ministries.

The name, Floyd E. Anderson, became a person, a colleague and friend when we discovered we were both graduates of Augustana College in Rock Island, Illinois. To it, he was intensely loyal, faithfully attending and participating in the activities and events sponsored by it, observing his 65th anniversary of graduation in 2004 by walking with a grandson during the graduation festivities that year.

Floyd E. Anderson was a remarkable man.

His greetings as he met friends and other acquaintances were accompanied by a heart-warming smile.

His attention to issues as he participated in meetings caused him to be a sought-after member.

His perceptions and insights enabled him to make comments and judgments that facilitated conclusions and action.

Floyd E. Anderson was grateful and appreciate of his heritage.

He recognized with pride what his forebearers had done in founding the Augustana Synod and Augustana College nearly one hundred and fifty years ago. He cherished the tradition formed by the stalwart leaders and their followers who established a nationwide Swedish Lutheran church and a college. He joined in preserving that heritage by investing himself through membership in and financial support for the Augustana Heritage Association.

Today, we recognize another legend of the heritage he affirmed. Today, we salute the man whose being and actions framed that legend.

There was a man. That man was Floyd E. Anderson – a man devoted to his family, faithful to his God, dedicated to his church and committed to his vocation.

Hail and Farewell, Floyd E. Anderson, a legend and a man of God, rest in peace.

With cherished remembrances and overwhelming gratitude.”

The Rev. Dr. Roy Enquist, Washington National Cathedral:

“The voice was soft but clear. The last word I heard Floyd say was, “wonderful”. That was his response, as his days were swiftly drawing to a close, at hearing of a new program to provide scholarship assistance for children in Lutheran schools in the Holy Land. But what better word is there than “wonderful” to describe Floyd himself? His giving of himself to others with such fidelity, consistency, thoughtfulness, and abundance is a gift to us all that continues to work to bear rich fruit. “I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the Lord.” Psalm 118 declares. Floyd not only heard that glad word. He lived it. It was a deep personal gift for Mia and me to have been his friend for these past twenty-five years. The Risen Lord must have loved the whole Church very much to have given Floyd to us all. “Christ is risen and we have been raised with him.”

The Rev. Leonel Cruz, Pastor, Iglesia Luterana Santa Maria:

“March 25, 2005. It is Maundy Thursday and the church remembers how God loves us. On this day Floyd has been called to join the saints and to be at the presence of the Lord. We give thanks. Our God for his life and for allowing us to know him.

As I look back to those years since I met Floyd and Louise, what I remember most is his smile and through that smile, I could see a child of God who was loved and wanted to share with others that love. Indeed, Floyd shared such love with family, friends and with the ministry of the church. Augustana,

Gettysburg Seminary, the Lutheran Home, The Luther Institute, the Latino ministry at Santa Maria and many more, were some of Floyd’s concerns and ministries.

I have been blessed by his presence and I thank God for him.”

The Rev. David G. Berg, Chaplain, Fellowship Square Foundation, Inc:

“My first encounter with Floyd and Louise Anderson took place at a dinner for pastors and spouses in the fall of 1970 at a restaurant on Old Georgetown Road. As I, a newly ordained pastor from eastern Pennsylvania, sat across from them that Friday evening, I learned that this quintessential Lutheran couple was the product of a magnificent Swedish Lutheran ethos of the Midwest from early in the 20th century and that they had arrived in our nation’s capital at a time when the face of Washington was being changed by the dramatic events of World War II.

My ministry at Zion, Takoma Park, soon changed as a result of that first memorable meeting. Hearing that a cadre of volunteers was seeking a site for the first Meals on Wheels program in metropolitan Washington and acting on the encouragement and guidance I received from this couple, Zion opened its kitchen the following June, a kitchen which, since then, has provided more than a million meals to the elderly and infirm and which continues as an intake hub for similar programs in the region.

Floyd Anderson will be known for a long time as one who always provided leadership for various aspects of the Lutheran culture and the Washington aspects of the Lutheran Church. He led by example as well as service with clear thinking and analytical finesse that could be understood by large groups of people. He knew and worked with the Rev. Dr. John A. Scherzer in the early years of Fellowship Square Foundation and expressed pride in and demonstrated leadership for its housing and chaplaincy programs. As a guiding force in Lutheran Lay Fellowship over several decades, Floyd

con't from p. 11

always led, always facilitated with ideas that were just beyond the horizon, but close enough to people to make those ideas reality. While he was honored with the Luther Institute's Wittenberg Award a few years back, he never sought personal gain or fame but always sought to translate the message of Martin Luther and Lutherans into American thought and action. In accomplishing this, Floyd's rare combination of analytical thinking and genial nature stimulated others to appropriate levels of activity.

I have personally benefited from Floyd Anderson's abilities to lead, inspire and coach in my course of ministry. I know that I am one of many. While I am saddened by his loss, I shall always be inspired by his example."

The Rev. Dr. E. Harold Jansen, Bishop Emeritus, The Metropolitan Washington, D.C. Synod:

"One of my first memories of Floyd takes me to one of the Lodges at Mar-Lu-Ridge Bible Camp when the newly formed Washington, D.C. Synod had just been organized. There were many questions about proceeding under a new arrangement, the continuation of staff, and the perennial questions of financing.

Floyd was an oasis of calm and good hope in the midst of a tumultuous and uncertain conversation that ebbed and flowed in and out of confusion. Floyd seemed to be right at home, dealing with issues that had to do with the life and work of his Church, this time it happened to be with the issues of ministry to youth.

I can recall many instances, when the finances of one agency or another seemed to have drifted out the safe zone and good work was being threatened. I cannot recall exactly what steps Floyd took in each case, or what advice he gave. Actually, from my perspective, I had often only a vague idea of the details. But when Floyd was present, it was as if someone had finally managed to focus on the heart of a situation, and the pieces would start to fall into place, and the situation was cleared, if not always easy to manage.

In many situations, Floyd's role was decisive in directing the development of the Fellowship Square Foundation. Through his participation in the active leadership this Foundation has grown to be one of the largest affordable housing agencies in the Washington, D.C. area. The foundation now provides quality housing for the elderly in four impressive buildings, and serves almost 800 residents.

For some years as president of the Foundation, Floyd guided the agency through periods of enormous change in terms of population, changes in federal regulations, and a constantly evolving set of standards to keep the Fellowship Houses among the best managed in the area. These past years he has been active as a member of the Finance Committee until this very last illness. He as expertly informed, but his manner made him known more as a mentor than an expert, and this meant that many of his colleagues were able to grow in their own capacities.

His personal faith brought a glow to those around him. When he and Louise would arrive for a meeting or other event, it was as if a certain credential had been added to the gathering. Their supportive cheer and strong spirit created an upbeat, hopeful strength to whatever issues were at hand.

Floyd and Louise faithfully had attended every national gathering of their churches and became a great resource for local understanding of the broad national policy development.

The people, staff and leadership of the Fellowship Square Foundation recognize Floyd Anderson as a man of vision, gentle leadership, and gracious determination to serve. He will be remembered as a man whose faith in Jesus Christ made every task, great or small, difficult or routine, a festive response to God's invitation to ministry."

Meet A Member - Joy Stancil

By Barbara E. Solt

In this season of Epiphany, we bring tidings of comfort and joy, that is, tidings of our own Joy, the Comforter. Joy Stancil is a nurse who works in Washington Hospital Center cardiac step-down unit, with people who have had heart surgery. She does discharge planning and helps the patients and their families prepare to return home.

Joy is also one of Augustana's long-time comforters. When someone becomes ill during the service, Joy is one the ushers call on to come to the narthex to help. Maybe that's why she usually sits near the rear pulpit-side aisle, the easier to slip in and out of. For those of you who don't know her, Joy now can usually be seen with her mother, Eulah Sobers, and her granddaughter, Nia Stancil. Joy can also be often seen wearing the colorful garb of her native Guyana. When you talk with her, you hear the soft lilting cadence of her native country's English.

Joy is a long-time member of Augustana. She began attending shortly after she came to DC in 1958 when she was 20 years old, to live with her sister and attend nursing school, graduating first from Federal City College in 1972 (now the University of the District of Columbia). In 1975 she graduated from Howard University, with a MSN, following in the medical profession footsteps of her father, who was a pharmacist in Guyana. In addition to working at WHC, Joy has worked as a nursing supervisor at the National Lutheran Home, when it was still located in DC, before it moved to Rockville.

Joy says she had visited a number of churches, but found Augustana friendly, like a family and a "place where I could be myself." She had been an Anglican, so she also liked the worship service style. She became a member in 1972, and when, through a girlfriend, she met Allen Stancil, they were married here. Allen, a Roman Catholic, soon also joined Augustana, and together they were one of the very active member-couples, raising their

sons Nathan and Martin. Joy would take off of work

for church camp weeks to devote her full attention to helping run this long-time tradition of teaching ministry to neighborhood children. On Sundays, Allen could be seen standing in front of the church greeting all comers – and those who chose to walk on by. Unfortunately, all Joy's experience in cardiac care could not prepare her or the Augustana family for the sudden and too-soon loss of Allen, 13 years ago. Having been active on council, teaching Sunday School, and serving as teller and on various committees, Joy then turned her attention to raising her two school-aged boys.

Nathan (Nia's dad) is now a policeman in northern Virginia, having served in the Army. Martin works at a Marriott and attends Gibbs College to be a paralegal. Martin is an artist who has also studied graphics.

Now Joy is entering a new phase of life. Her work schedule allows her four days a week to have her granddaughter come for long visits. She enjoys movies, reading, visiting people and "doing everything I can" to help people. She has also begun taking courses at Howard Divinity School on weekends, in attempt to expand her knowledge of theology and to be able to integrate her own faith and spirituality into counseling with her patients. In our conversation preparing for this column, Joy related how she appreciated how supportive Augustanans were when Nathan went overseas in the military. She received cards from members saying they were praying for him. She also says she is ready to help Augustana move into our next phase of post-construction ministry. Maybe to once again hold health fairs, where our parish's nurses can do health screenings on a Saturday morning. Or maybe to teach preventive self-care. Or..... who knows what forms of comfort Joy might bring us once again. Greet her and you will receive a smile that would warm even the coldest of hearts. Joy to the World, indeed!

Lutheran Lay Fellowship Update

Our (Lutheran Lay Fellowship) speaker was the Rev. Michael Meier who is the ELCA Coordinator for Mission Support, Department of Synodical relations in Chicago. His subjects were “New Developments in Mission Funding” and, “Money Leadership for Pastors.”

Forty years ago there was more money for mission support, a recognition of the value and importance of the church beyond the immediate horizon. There is now less support of the larger church, less willingness to send money away and less commitment to ministry. In 2004, Lutheran congregations received \$1.8 billion in regular offerings. This amount has increased almost every year for the past 25 years. However, the amount designated for mission support is steadily declining. The ELCA is seeking ways to reverse this trend. Some of the new directions were presented by Rev. Meier.

The ELCA hopes to reinforce a positive attitude toward the ministries and commitments it needs to fund and to affirm the growth of companion synod relationships which make connections with other people in other parts of the world. Where money is needed for building, education and global mission, oversight is needed to avoid misuse.

On 3/1/05, the Rev. Mark A. Grorud was

appointed as Director of Relationships with Large Member Congregations (LCM). These have memberships of 750 or more and there are 110 in the ELCA. These congregations tend to separate themselves and go their own way. Pastor Grorud’s task is to visit these congregations and to build alliances through shared resources such as wisdom, expectations and money.

Mission interpretation is another element needed to restore commitment. The ELCA needs to publicize what it is doing and how that makes a difference. There is also a plan to form a “blue ribbon committee” on funding and funding patterns—“how to grow the pie, not just how to cut it up.”

Rev. Meier introduced the concept of money leadership for pastors suggesting ways to make it more comfortable to discuss money through instruction. Pastors and parishioners can be helped to assess their own practice and understanding about giving, saving, debt reduction and financial planning.

Another observation was that, in addition to regular offerings of \$1.8 billion, Lutheran congregations have another \$1.8 billion in the forms of cash, endowments and investments that they are “sitting on.” The blue ribbon committee will offer to help these congregations manage this money more effectively.

Thank you to Jeanne Lowe and Brian Danaher for working with Martha’s Table on Saturday, December 3, distributing food to the homeless on a very cold night. One client, who refers to himself as the “Cookie Monster,” eagerly awaits the next visits from Augustana’s teams on February 4th and March 4th. To sign up for an up-coming visit, contact Amy Yergey at YergeyA@CatholicCharitiesDC.org.

Tips for Creative and Courageous Faith Sharing

In the course of daily life:

Wear a cross or a religious symbol. You may be surprised how many times this will start a conversation about your faith.

Pray before a meal, especially with family and friends, but also in public places.

Refer to your church, your faith and the Bible in casual conversation with others.

Respond "Thank God!" or "God is Good!" when someone shares an uplifting story with you.

Say "I will pray for you" when someone shares a personal concern or difficulty with you.

Send a card or note of encouragement, offer words of blessing that convey your faith and trust in God.

Be courteous and helpful in all public transactions; look for ways to give a verbal and positive witness to the hope that is within you.

As you walk through your day, scatter blessings. Some will take root and grow, others won't.

Share a smile and personal greeting with a stranger.

Turn times of tension and conflict into moments of blessing.

Offer a "God word" in conversations about current public events.

Ask someone you may have hurt for forgiveness.

Speak up against injustice, evil and verbal insult.

Be clear that your perspective is

informed by your faith and belief in a loving, forgiving God.

In moments when God is blasphemed, speak up and say "Excuse me, you're talking about someone who is very important to me."

In talking about the weather or scenery, marvel at the intricate beauty of God's creation.

Carry tracts or cards of encouragement and distribute them when appropriate.

At the office:

Decorate your office with symbols or pictures that say something about your faith or could invite conversation about God.

Offer affirmation to colleagues for a job well done; share how thankful you are to God for their gifts.

Carry your faith over into your work by insisting on fair prices, good products and just treatment of customers and employees.

Share what motivates you to stand up for these values in such a way.

Take a colleague to lunch and share something about how God is working in your life or something that you have recently been involved in at your church.

Remember birthdays, job transitions with notes of blessing and encouragement.

Invite a colleague to come with you to worship or to participate in church-related activities.

Host a lunchtime Bible study once a week for those who might be interested. Check with your

employer first.

In times of struggle and pain:

Visit neighbors, friends and colleagues when they are sick or hospitalized.

Share a devotional booklet and offer a prayer.

Deliver a meal or plate of cookies to the family or person struggling with loss, tragedy or illness.

Share a cassette tape of uplifting, encouraging Christian music.

Mow the lawn, shovel the driveway, buy groceries or clean the house without waiting to be asked. Then share why you were motivated to care in such a way.

Recognize the variety of issues that bring pain to people's lives (financial crisis or loss, death, illness, divorce, abuse, etc.)

Share how God has carried you in moments of personal struggle. Send cards, more than once, with encouraging words of scripture.

In your neighborhood:

Be public in a subtle way about your faith.

Find creative ways to help out neighbors in times of need with a bag of groceries, some help around the house or apartment, a card, flowers, or a listening ear.

Deliver a plate of cookies or a loaf of bread for no particular reason at all.

Warmly introduce yourself to newcomers and ask if they will be looking for a church to attend. Invite them to yours.

con't on p. 19

Calendar Observances for Epiphany

January 1, 2006

Name of Jesus

The observance of the octave (eighth day) of Christmas has roots in the sixth century. Until the recent past, Lutheran calendars called this day “The Circumcision and Name of Jesus.” The emphasis on circumcision is the older emphasis. Every Jewish boy was circumcised and formally named on the eighth day of his life. Already in his youth, Jesus bears the mark of a covenant that he makes new through the shedding of his blood, now and on the cross. That covenant, like Jesus’ name, is a gift that marks the children of God. Baptized into Christ, the church begins a new year in Jesus’ name.

Monday, January 2

Johann Konrad Wilhelm Loehe, renewer of the church (1808–1872)

Loehe was a pastor in nineteenth-century Germany. From the small town of Neuendettelsau, he sent pastors to North America, Australia, New Guinea, Brazil, and the Ukraine. His work for a clear confessional basis within the Bavarian church sometimes led to conflict with the ecclesiastical bureaucracy. Loehe’s chief concern was that a parish finds its life in the eucharist, and from that source evangelism and social ministries would flow. Many Lutheran congregations in Michigan, Ohio, and Iowa were either founded or influenced by missionaries sent by Loehe. The chapel at Wartburg Theological Seminary is named in his honor.

Loehe’s vision to see the eucharist at the center of parish life can lead us on to think about ways that the incarnate presence of Christ in holy communion sends us out on a life of ministry and mission.

Sunday, January 15

Martin Luther King Jr., renewer of society,

martyr (1929–1968)

Martin Luther King Jr. is remembered as an American prophet of justice among races and nations, a Christian whose faith undergirded his advocacy of vigorous yet non-violent action for racial equality. A pastor of churches in Montgomery, Alabama, and Atlanta, Georgia, his witness was taken to the streets in such other places as Birmingham, Alabama, where he was arrested and jailed while protesting against segregation. He preached nonviolence and demanded that love be returned for hate. Awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964, he was killed by an assassin on April 4, 1968. Though most commemorations are held on the date of the person’s death, many churches hold commemorations near Dr. King’s birth date of January 15, in conjunction with the American civil holiday honoring him. An alternate date for the commemoration would be his death date, April 4.

Congregations may choose to remember King by singing “We shall overcome” (TFF 213) or “Holy God, you raise up prophets” (TFF 299).

Tuesday, January 17

Antony of Egypt, renewer of the church (251–356)

Antony was born in Qemen-al-Arous, Upper Egypt, and was one of the earliest Egyptian desert fathers. Born to Christian parents from whom he inherited a large estate, he took personally Jesus’ message to sell all that you have, give to the poor, and follow Christ. After making arrangements to provide for the care of his sister, he gave away his inheritance and became a hermit. Later, he became the head of a group of monks that lived in a cluster of huts and devoted themselves to communal prayer, worship, and manual labor under Antony’s direction. The money

they earned from their work was distributed as alms. Antony and his monks also preached and counseled those who sought them out.

Antony and the desert fathers serve as a reminder that certain times and circumstances call Christians to stand apart from the surrounding culture and renounce the world in service to Christ.

Tuesday, January 17

Pachomius, renewer of the church (c. 290–346)

Another of the desert fathers, Pachomius (puh-kome-ee-us) was born in Egypt about 290. He became a Christian during his service as a soldier. In 320 he went to live as a hermit in Upper Egypt, where other hermits lived nearby. Pachomius organized them into a religious community in which the members prayed together and held their goods in common. His rule for monasteries influenced both Eastern and Western monasticism through the Rule of Basil and the Rule of Benedict, respectively.

The Egyptian (Coptic) church may be unfamiliar to many Western Christians. Use the commemoration of Pachomius to teach about the Egyptian church at parish gatherings this week.

Wednesday, January 18

Confession of Peter

Beginning of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is framed by two commemorations, the Confession of Peter (a relatively recent addition to the calendar) and the older Conversion of Paul. Both are remembered together on June 29, but these two days give us an opportunity to focus on key events in each of their lives. Today we remember that Peter was led by God's grace to acknowledge Jesus as "the Christ, the Son of the living God" (Matt. 16:16).

This confession is the common confession that unites us with Peter and with all Christians of every time and place. During these weeks of Epiphany, with their emphasis on mission, consider an ecumenical worship service with neighboring congregations to embody the unity we share in our confession of Christ, a unity granted us in our one baptism, a unity we yearn to embody more fully. The hymn "We all are one in mission" (WOV 755) could be sung at this service.

Saturday, January 21

Agnes, martyr (c. 291–c. 304)

Agnes was a girl of about thirteen living in Rome who had chosen a life of service to Christ as a virgin, despite the Roman emperor Diocletian's ruling that had outlawed all Christian activity. The details of her martyrdom are not clear, but she gave witness to her faith and was put to death as a result, most likely by the sword. Since her death, the church has honored her as one of the chief martyrs of her time.

Wednesday, January 25

Conversion of Paul

End of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

Today the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity comes to an end. The church remembers how a man of Tarsus named Saul, a former persecutor of the early Christian church, was led by God's grace to become one of its chief preachers. The risen Christ appeared to Paul on the road to Damascus and called him to proclaim the gospel. The narratives describing Paul's conversion in the Acts of the Apostles, Galatians, and 1 Corinthians inspire this commemoration, which was first celebrated among the Christians of Gaul.

con't on p. 18

con't from p. 17

The entire Week of Prayer for Christian Unity gives us a chance to consider our calling in light of Paul's words in Galatians that all are one in Christ. The hymn "Bind us together" (WOV 748) can be used to pray that Christ will continue to hold us in our baptismal unity.

Thursday, January 26

Timothy, Titus, and Silas, missionaries

On the two days following the celebration of the Conversion of Paul, his companions are remembered. Timothy, Titus, and Silas were missionary coworkers with Paul. Timothy accompanied Paul on his second missionary journey and was commissioned by Paul to go to Ephesus, where he served as bishop and overseer of the church. Titus was a traveling companion of Paul, accompanied him on the trip to the council of Jerusalem, and became the first bishop of Crete. Silas traveled with Paul through Asia Minor and Greece and was imprisoned with him at Philippi, where they were delivered by an earthquake.

This festival invites the church to remember Christian leaders, bishops, pastors, and teachers--both men and women--who have been influential in the lives of individual members as gospel signs of the light of Epiphany.

Friday, January 27

Lydia, Dorcas, and Phoebe, witnesses to the faith

On this day the church remembers three women who were companions in Paul's ministry. Lydia was Paul's first convert at Philippi in Macedonia. She was a merchant of purple-dyed goods, and because purple dye was extremely expensive, it is likely that Lydia was a woman of some wealth. Lydia and her household were baptized by Paul and for a time her home was a

base for Paul's missionary work. Dorcas is remembered for her charitable works, particularly making clothing for needy widows. Phoebe was a diakonos, a deaconess in the church at Cenchreae, near Corinth. Paul praises her as one who, through her service, looked after many people.

Today provides an opportunity for congregations to reflect on the ministry of women, ordained and lay, wealthy and poor, who have given of themselves in service to the church and to the ministry of the gospel in their congregations.

Saturday, January 28

Thomas Aquinas, teacher (c. 1225–1274)

Thomas Aquinas was a brilliant and creative theologian of the thirteenth century. He was first and foremost a student of the Bible and profoundly concerned with the theological formation of the church's ordained ministers. As a member of the Order of Preachers (Dominicans), he worked to correlate scripture with the philosophy of Aristotle, which was having a renaissance in Aquinas's day. Some students of Aristotle's philosophy found in it an alternative to Christianity. But Aquinas immersed himself in the thought of Aristotle and worked to explain Christian beliefs in the philosophical culture of the day. The contemporary worship cultural studies done by the Lutheran World Federation resonate with Aquinas's method.

con't from p. 15

In your home and with your family:

Witness your faith with your own family by gently stating "I believe..."

Commit to regular prayer before meals and family devotions.

Play Christian music when listening to background music.

Monitor the television viewing of your children; take time to explain why something might offend or please you.

Commit family needs, struggles and decisions to prayer.

Use "God-language" in your conversation with children and other family members.

Model your faith by taking time for daily devotions and Bible study.

Model stewardship and hospitality by giving money or food to people in need.

Evangelize your children by sharing a Bible story with them before bedtime.

Take time to talk about what you experienced at worship.

Encourage sharing of key leanings from church or Sunday school.

At times of life passage and celebration:

Remember birthdays, baptisms, first communions, confirmations, anniversaries, weddings, funerals, graduations, birth or adoption of a child, a move into a new home or apartment, and job transitions as special times when a word of blessing and affirmation can be shared through cards, letters, phone

calls or in person. Gift a person with a Bible, musical tape, or devotional booklet.

Write a personal note about your faith inside the cover.

Take time to share how you feel about the other person by committing your thoughts to writing.

Plan a party or celebration especially if it appears one wouldn't otherwise happen.

Take your friend to lunch or out for dessert. Find a special way to celebrate their achievement.

At holiday and "holy day" times:

Remember that some people are more inclined to first come to church at Christmas or Easter.

Look for creative ways to invite a friend, neighbor or co-worker to worship or to a special holiday event.

At Christmas time, provide faith-related gifts and storybooks to neighbor children, teachers, and friends.

Share verbally why Christmas and Easter are times of celebration for you and your family.

Host a Thanksgiving Party for your neighbors.

Find ways to help others reflect on their blessings.

Remember Mother's Day and Father's Day as a special time to care for others whose families may not be close by.

Reflections:

"Always be ready to give an explanation to anyone who asks you for a reason for your hope, but do it with gentle-

ness and reverence." 1Peter 3:15 Jesus' parting words to his followers were "Go, and make disciples..." (Mt 28:19-20) It is clear that we are to be up front in our witness. We are not to sit back and wait for others to come to us. In our complicated and fast-paced world, people are not quick to discern "the hope that is within us." We must take the initiative by speaking and serving in the name of Jesus. We are to plant the seeds. The Holy Spirit is responsible for the growth and harvest.

What kind of witness is effective and faithful to our heritage as Lutheran Christians? Quite simply: Invitational Evangelism. A witness that respects the space and needs of the other, yet confidently and courageously issues the invitation to "come and see." This kind of witness is not threatening or coercive, nor does it require one to sign on the dotted line. It invites. Gentleness, reverence and a faith grounded in action are keys to witnessing on a daily basis.

Use the suggestions in here to help you discover creative and courageous ways to share your faith on a daily basis. You may carry this information in your pocket, brief case or purse as daily reminder of the opportunities God will present you to share your faith with others.

Finally, remember to ground and center your faith sharing in prayer. Pray for guidance, opportunity and courage to share your faith on a daily basis.

"Let your light so shine before others, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father in heaven." Matthew 5:16.

Writer: David Poling-Goldenne

The Augustanan **Surveying the Ministry** **in Our Lives**



Non-profit organization
US POSTAGE PAID
Washington, DC
Permit No. 8708

Augustana Lutheran Church
2100 New Hampshire Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20009-6507

office phone: 202-234-5315
voicemail: 202-234-5312
fax: 202-234-5724
email: office@augustanadc.info
www.augustanadc.info

The Augustanan is published by Augustana
Evangelical Lutheran Church once a month.
All correspondence should be addressed to
The Rev. Dr. Marcia Cox, 2100 New Hampshire
Ave. NW Washington, DC 20009-6507

Copyright © 2006 Augustana Evangelical
Lutheran Church

Newsletter Editors
The Rev. Dr. Marcia Cox
Rebecca Roth

Assistant Editor
Bill Riggs

Web Design & Production
Betsy Miller

