



GOD'S FAITHFULNESS FOR 50 YEARS

MAKE A JOYFUL
NOISE TO THE
LORD, ALL THE
LANDS! SERVE
THE LORD WITH
GLADNESS! COME INTO HIS PRESENCE WITH SINGING!
KNOW THAT THE LORD IS GOD! IT IS HE THAT MADE
US, AND WE ARE HIS; WE ARE HIS PEOPLE, AND THE
SHEEP OF HIS PASTURE. ENTER HIS GATES WITH
THANKSGIVING, AND HIS COURTS WITH PRAISE!

GIVE THANKS TO
HIM, BLESS HIS
NAME! FOR THE
LORD IS GOOD;
HIS STEADFAST
LOVE ENDURES
FOR EVER, AND HIS
FAITHFULNESS TO
ALL GENERATIONS.



THE SAVIOR HAS BEEN FOUND

BY WILLIAM J. FEICKERT, MEMBER

They took to the Cross
Back in the year of 1957
A group
Of people
With Faith
In Jesus as God's Son
Our Lord
Our Savior
Our love.

They,
Like Saint Andrew,
had
“found the Messiah
(which means Christ)”
starting
A formal group
In Columbia, Missouri, USA
With a few rows of people
Sitting on metal folding chairs
In a rented
Usage hall
Praying
Singing
Preaching
Learning
Giving
Sharing
Always with Faith.

Named and chartered
Saint Andrew's Evangelical
Lutheran Church
It formed into
A bigger group of people
Building
A small building
On four acres
Praying
Singing
Preaching
Learning
Giving
Sharing
With Faith
Growing into
A much larger group
Of faithful people
That added on more
And more building
Always
Praying
Singing
Preaching
Learning
Giving
Sharing
With Faith.

They didn't
Stand by
But lived themselves
Into the years
2007 and 8
With
50 years of praying
50 years of singing
50 years of preaching
50 years of learning
50 years of giving
50 years of sharing.

All a part
Of Faith in Jesus
That is now just over
Two thousand years old
Going
Into infinity
For Faith in Jesus,
The Savior who has been found,
Brings a kingdom
Forever and forever.

That's pretty good.

Giving 50 years of forever
Faith in Jesus.

Right here in Mid-America
God has blessed us well.





ST. ANDREW'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

BY 50TH ANNIVERSARY PLANNING TEAM

*For the Lord is good and his love endures forever,
his faithfulness continues through all generations. Psalm 100:5*

Saint Andrew's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Columbia, Missouri, celebrates its 50th Anniversary, with the theme *God's Faithfulness to All Generations*.

Celebration actually began on August 15, 2007, with Remembering Our Beginnings. That event commemorated the first formal gathering, 50 years ago, of those committed to establishing a Lutheran congregation in Columbia. We gathered in the Centrum, where we reflected on the name Andrew and prayed for God's continued guidance for St. Andrew's using the question, "What is God's future for this congregation?"

On September 15-16, 2007, our worship services commemorated the first worship service, 50 years ago. Pastor Morris and Corrine Niedenthal, St. Andrew's first pastor and his wife, were with us. Pastor Morris offered brief comments, reflecting on knocking on doors to recruit members, gathering in homes, the struggle for permanent housing for the pastor and his family, and other aspects of the early, organizational days. An informal reception held between services on September 16, honored Pastor Morris and Corrine and all charter members, including current living members Petey Bank, Ruby Jackson, Liz Strong, Olive Newman, Barb Baker, Red and Dorcas Leighton, and Betty Palm and former members Stan and Jane Grimm of Cape Girardeau,

Missouri and Liz Morin of Omaha, Nebraska (Stan, Jane and Liz were not able to attend, but sent their greetings). A 50th Anniversary fan was given to all attendees. The fan depicted the mosaic cross in the Fellowship Hall, which was originally designed and lovingly made by Corrine Niedenthal. Also, the fans promoted our two main events: February 10 Concert and April 20 Dinner.



The 50th Anniversary Planning Team commissioned local artist Heinrich Leonhardt to construct commemorative 50th Anniversary Christmas ornaments as a fund-raising item. The bells proved to be tremendously popular with over 150 being sold.

While remembering and celebrating occurred throughout 2008, two major celebration events highlight our history. The first, a Music Festival

held February 10, commemorated the formal organizational service of 75 charter members, held February 9, 1958. This evening event celebrated the rich musical history and diversity of St. Andrew's with congregational hymn singing and offerings by our Children's Choir and Choir Chimes, Reverence Praise Band, Adult Choir, Brass and String Ensembles, Hymns of St. Andrew's, all led by our Music Minister Nancy Robertson and Organist Barb Hamel. Wayne Porath was Master of Ceremonies. A reception followed the concert. God's faithfulness through all generations was evident – Pastor Morris Niedenthal died on February 8. One day later, February 9, the 50th anniversary of the birth of St. Andrew's – a new baby was born into the Family of St. Andrew's. Let us go forth, armed with the grace and blessings of our God!

Our major celebration event happened April 19-20. This was a Festival Weekend with the theme God's Faithfulness to All Generations. All three worship services focused on that theme, with thanksgiving to God for his faithfulness. The Saturday night contemporary service welcomed the return of several alumni members of the Reverence Praise Band and an extended music-rich worship service. In an atmosphere of excitement, fun, celebration and thanksgiving, an evening dinner program, held in the Centrum, on April 20 reflected on the rich history of St. Andrew's in carrying out God's mission for us, that is: Sharing Christ in faith, fellowship and service. Daniel J. Lehmann, editor of *The Lutheran*, was the featured speaker for all three services. During the dinner, Melba Bangert, Synod Vice Bishop, offered greetings from the Synod. Seminarian Anna Murphy Ballan brought greetings from Mrs. Corrine Niedenthal. Former pastor Ralph Anderson and his wife Jan greeted us with reflection on his years as pastor of St. Andrew's. A

letter of greeting was read from former pastor Jim Sylvester and his wife Marge. Erica Lembke was Master of Ceremonies.

We ask for God's blessing and grace as we celebrate His work through the members of St. Andrew's during the past 50 years and ask for His guiding hand as we begin our next 50 years.

50th Anniversary Planning Team:

Booklet Committee Co-Chairs – Scott Simmons and Erica and Gary Lembke

Dinner Committee Co-Chairs – Ann Havey and Scherrie Goettsch

History Committee Chair – Anne Edwards

Program Committee Co-Chairs – Erica and Gary Lembke

Publications Committee Chair – Wayne Porath

Publicity and Invitations Committee Co-Chairs – Karon and Paul Speckman

Video-Photography Chair – Cooper Drury

Worship Committee (Worship Ministry Team) Chair – Carol Elliott

Council President – Rick Coy

Pastors – Julia Will and Paul Moessner

Team Chair – Wayne Porath



OUR MISSION STATEMENT:

SHARING CHRIST IN FAITH, FELLOWSHIP AND SERVICE

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

Sharing – is both active and passive, both receiving and giving. Our Christian faith and life are gifts from God, given to us through the ministry of others. We, in turn, grow in faith as we help others share in God's grace.

One of the two who heard John [the Baptist] speak and followed [Jesus] was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. He first found his brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah"... He brought Simon to Jesus... [John 1:40-42]

Christ – In the human, Jesus from Nazareth, the eternal God has come to be with us in mercy. Jesus' death brings us forgiveness. Jesus' resurrection from the dead brings us new life both now and always.

So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. [2 Corinthians 5:17-19]

Faith – We trust God with heart and soul, mind and strength. We believe that the eternal Creator is merciful. We live each day guided by his will and empowered by his grace.

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God... [Ephesians 2:8]

Fellowship - Faith comes when we hear another person tell of God's good news. Faith grows when we comfort and challenge one another, when we share our joys and sorrows with brothers and sisters in Christ.

So those who welcomed [the apostle Peter's] message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added. They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. [Acts 2:41-42]

Service – Jesus tells us that we will find him when we work to meet the needs of those around us, especially those the world looks down upon or ignores. Our deeds of mercy become occasions of even greater grace for us.

Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me. [Matthew 25:40]

CORE PRINCIPLES

Five core principles of St. Andrew's contribute to the mission and life of our congregation. They are Bible-based and consistent with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. The core principles are described in general terms as follows to define the mechanisms of operation and governance of our congregation.

Worship Recognizing we are called to love the Lord our God with all our heart, soul and mind, we gather as a congregation to study the Bible, to publicly receive the sacrament of communion, to hear the word and to respond in praise and prayer. We proclaim the Word of God with reverent love and devotion to bring God pleasure and in thanksgiving for his gracious forgiveness of our sin.

Evangelism To carry out Christ's great commission, we proclaim and share the good news of God in Christ through word and deed. By commitment to preaching and dissemination of the gospel through outreach work, we desire to baptize and make disciples in all nations.

Fellowship As part of our baptism commitment we desire to draw people into closer relationships with one another as we have been formed as God's family. The opportunities to live among God's faithful community manifest the unity of those sharing in the love of Christ. The conditions of sharing interests, ideals, and experiences on equal terms in a congenial atmosphere are a source of personal and religious strength.

Discipleship We are dedicated to cultivating spiritual development by teaching others to observe all that Christ commanded. We support the concept that disciples study, embrace, and spread the word of God, strive for justice and peace, and actively lead others.

Ministry We acknowledge we are part of God's love for all people and are shaped for serving God. Following the example of our Lord Jesus, we serve others in response to God's love. We are dedicated to love our neighbors as ourselves and to act deliberately to meet the needs of others.



THE COLUMBIA AND BOONE COUNTY CONTEXT

BY ALAN HAVIG, MEMBER

In important ways the community in which St. Andrew's Lutheran Church organized in the mid-1950s differed from most areas in which American Lutheranism had developed. When founded in 1820-1821, Boone County and Columbia were on the western edge of United States territory settled by Americans of European descent. The eastern border of Mexico then lay in present-day Colorado. Missouri's neighbors Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas, Arkansas, and Oklahoma did not then exist. Pioneers founded Columbia in the same year, 1821, that Missouri became a state. These facts suggest that this area has a deep history, given its location in the central United States, one that predates the emigration of most Lutherans to the United States from Germany, Scandinavian nations, and other places.

The original white settlers of this area established cultural values and social institutions, which remained the foundation on which other groups built well into the 20th century. While small numbers of Yankees and recent immigrants to America settled here in the 19th century, those who pioneered the area were from the upper South Kentuckians, especially from the central part of that state, were the largest group of settlers, while people from Virginia, Tennessee, and North Carolina joined them. The Rollins, Stephens, Gentry, Guitar, Todd (including some of Mary Todd Lincoln's relatives),

Conley, Price, Hickman, Garth, and Gordon families were among the prominent ones represented in this early migration.

The Central States Lutheran

Volume 5 WATERLOO, NEBRASKA, MARCH, 1958 Number 3

On The Home Mission Front

Three new mission fields are scheduled for development this summer: Muskogee, Oklahoma; Oklahoma City, northwest; and Kansas City, Missouri, northwest. Calls have been, or will be, extended by the Board of American Missions to Seminary graduates to begin work as mission developers in these fields in early summer.

New fields under consideration for survey this summer are as follows: Lawton, Oklahoma; Ardmore, Oklahoma; Tulsa, Oklahoma, northeast; Wichita, Kansas, west; Kansas City, Missouri, northeast; Liberty, Missouri; Marysville, Kansas; and Ogalalla, Nebraska.

The mission in Midwest City, Oklahoma, suburb of Oklahoma City will be organized March 30 with approximately 70 charter members. The Rev. Fred Herdel who has developed five other ULC missions is the developer. He began work February 20, 1957 in this city, which is adjacent to the large Tinker Air Base. A full report will be given next month.

One of the four missions of Synod, Faith Lutheran Church, Prairie Village, Kansas, paid its apportionment 120 percent and over-subscribed its Lutheran World Action and Midland quotas.

St. Andrew's Lutheran Church, Columbia, Organized

Their religious preference was evangelical protestantism as nurtured on southern frontiers, where extended outdoor camp meetings helped to shape worship styles and the absence of rigorously-trained clergy gave the laity a large role. Columbia's and Boone County's most important early denominations remain significant today: Baptist, Presbyterian, Methodist, and Christian (Disciples of Christ). Relatively few Roman Catholics lived in 19th century Columbia. The nearest Lutherans were Germans who settled the lower Missouri River valley before the Civil War and helped to shape communities

such as Jefferson City, Hermann, and Washington, as well as St. Louis. Most of them belonged to what we know as the Missouri Synod. An article of faith among Columbia's religious people was bitter opposition to the Latter-Day Saints (Mormons) who, until they were driven from the state in the 1830s, made portions of western Missouri their home.

The city's and county's founders brought African slaves with them. Although many white residents favored Missouri's continued membership in the union of states when the Civil War began in 1861, most also wanted to retain slavery, a combination that proved impossible. Local owners of human beings subscribed to the beliefs that the Bible sanctioned slavery, and that African peoples' racial inferiority was part of God's plan for His people. From the post-war era until the mid 20th century, whites in Columbia and Boone County imposed the physical separation of the races through law and custom, although it was a milder form than that found in neighboring Tennessee and Arkansas. Most black males, for example, voted in Columbia. A racial lynching occurred in the city in April, 1923. That date was late in the history of American lynching, and occurred only thirty-four years before the founding of St. Andrew's and a mile from our church property.

Boone County enjoyed rich soils and an enterprising farm population, and Columbia prospered as an agricultural marketing center. The transportation of crops to markets beyond the county relied on wagon trails such as the Boonslick Road, which originated in St. Charles, and Missouri River boats, reached by Providence Road (which led to the port of Providence) and other trails. The city's first rail connection entered from the northeast in 1867 – today the Colt Railroad follows that route to Centralia

– and the second, the Katy Railroad, from the south in 1899. Both were spurs; Columbia never enjoyed a through railroad.

Two other sources of early economic growth were government-related. From its founding, Columbia was a county seat, and many of the prominent families produced lawyers. The administration of justice brought people and their pocketbooks to town, while salaries paid to judges, law enforcers, jailers, and those who constructed and maintained court houses helped to energize the economy.

The three colleges which flourish today originated in the pre-Civil War years: The University of Missouri; Christian, now Columbia, College; and the Columbia Baptist Female College, now Stephens College. Each, by attracting students and faculty not native to the area, as well as guest speakers and artists, made Columbia a more cosmopolitan city than it otherwise would have been. And each generated economic growth in a host of ways still evident. Curiously, to our way of thinking, state legislators did not vote an appropriation to fund the university until 1867. One result was that Columbians, both before and after that date, often "passed the hat" to enhance faculty salaries and meet other needs which student fees and state money could not adequately support. Local citizens raised \$50,000 to help build Jesse Hall, for example, following the destruction by fire of Academic Hall in 1892.

It is likely that Pastor Morris Niedenthal and some members of St. Andrew's were unaware of the Columbia community's history when they organized in 1957-58. But it was a part of the lives of the Columbians with whom they would interact.

Important early features of city and county life had

changed or were changing when St. Andrew's arrived on the scene 50 years ago.

By the 1950s, most of the founding families no longer produced community leaders, for example, and in 2008 some have disappeared entirely from the local population. While Boone County's farm population once greatly exceeded the number of Columbia citizens, the reverse is true in our time. State spending on a complex, increasingly large university campus became the major engine of economic growth in post-World War II Columbia, joined by important private employers such as insurance firms. Columbia has become a significant center of medical practice, the most important components of which are the state-owned medical school and university hospitals and county-owned Boone Hospital Center. Although the city did not become an important railroad town, it certainly benefits from location on a major interstate highway.

We know by daily observation that the city's religious profile has changed, displaying a diversity that would shock early settlers and probably surprise most Columbians of the 1950s. Today Lutherans of diverse heritage and creed join two groups of Latter Day Saints, Korean and Chinese Methodists, Buddhists, a Jewish congregation, many Roman Catholics and a few practitioners of the Greek, Russian, and other orthodox Christian faiths, Muslims, and many others. The global community contains a vast mix of religious belief and practice, and we may hope that local experience with it prepares us and our children to understand people who differ from us.

One national change, which altered the community context that St. Andrew's entered five decades ago met resistance, reflecting Missouri's long history

as a border southern state. The desegregation of public schools, followed by its application to other facilities such as restaurants, became American law in 1954 through the Supreme Court's *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka* decision. The end of legal segregation met slow compliance from the local public school system and the three colleges as well as from some businesses, and outright opposition from some citizens and groups. Many Columbians, however, supported the goals of the civil rights movement. St. Andrew's founding coincided with the Little Rock, Arkansas, Central High School desegregation crisis in 1957-58. In our congregation's early years, issues raised by American foreign-military policy in Southeast Asia, assassinations and other domestic violence, and concerns over persistent poverty in our nation provided opportunities to speak and act from our scripture-based faith. That St. Andrew's joined people of other faiths in applying the gospel of love to such matters helped to earn its honored place in what is now our community, too.







WE WERE ON A ROLL:

Looking Back at August-December 1957

BY CORRINE NIEDENTHAL, CHARTER MEMBER

Before we came to Columbia on the 15th and 16th of September, 2007, for the 50th anniversary of the first service of St. Andrew's I read through early service bulletins and Link newsletters. I was impressed with the activities that went on at the congregation's beginning – from August through December 1957 – and noted them down to share with Charter members on the weekend of celebration. One of the Charter members suggested that I pass on these moments in history to St. Andrew's members.

In 1957 we would not have used the phrase "... on a roll" but never-the-less when we look back to those months in 1957 – in today's parlance we really were "on a roll". Pastor Morris Niedenthal, newly ordained on 30 June arrived in Columbia on July 4 to begin work as a mission developer for the United Lutheran Church and to organize a Lutheran congregation in Columbia.



On 15 August interested persons met in the Carnegie Room of the Daniel Boone Hotel to listen to plans about starting a ULC church, which would be called St. Andrew's Lutheran Church. Thirty-six adults, 7 children, 2 visitors and 1 photographer were present. In the weeks after that the men met for coffee at Guy's Cafe and on 29 August a picnic was held at the Jaycees Park.

On September 5 the movie, "Martin Luther" was shown at the Tiger Hotel. The first service of St. Andrew's Lutheran Church was held on Sunday, 15 September at the Labor Temple where the congregation would worship for the next four years. The pulpit and altar had been constructed and offering plates and several other items to be used in the service were given as gifts. Troy and Olive Newman gave the altar cross. There were 67 adults and 31 children present; the offering was \$124.35. During the month of September the Sunday School teachers met and the Niedenthals moved into the parsonage and "Congregation Center" at 15 Spring Valley Road. The first choir rehearsal took place at the Newman home and Olive has sung in the choir all fifty years ever since! 22 September was Baptism Sunday. Petey Bank was listed as the person to contact about providing altar flowers. Here it is worthy to note that Petey and Dorcas Leighton have been on the altar guild for fifty years. On 29 September

children were enrolled in Sunday School and a ministry was begun for both service men and university students.

In October the women met to organize a women's group. The 6th of October was the first signing of the Charter Membership Roll, Sunday School classes began and Sunday School teachers were installed. Dorcas Leighton was Sunday School treasurer. On 20 October the Charter Membership Roll officially opened and the first session—of six—of the Pastor's Class began. Margaret Throckmorton (Betty Palm's mother) and Dorcas Leighton were in charge of the arrangements for the Open House at the parsonage that also took place on the 20th. On 27 October Pastor Niedenthal preached at a Reformation Day Service at the Methodist Church.

In November the women's group had their second meeting and officers were elected; Dorcas Leighton was membership chairperson. The women baked pies for the USO, served coffee after church once a month and prepared the altar for Holy Communion. On 11 November Pastor Niedenthal gave the invocation at the community-wide Veterans' Day program. On 17 November the Charter Membership Roll was again open for signing. A Family Night and Potluck was held at the "Congregation Center" and the Evangelism Committee was formed and at work.

On December 1 the 6th and final session of the first Pastor's Class took place and a new series was begun. The women served coffee after the 8 December service and the Lutheran Students met at the parsonage. The women's group met on 9 December; Petey Bank gave a program on "Christian Symbols". The Evangelism Committee met on Tuesday the 10th. The Charter Membership roll was open

for signing on Sunday the 15th – by this time there were 109 baptized members including 64 Charter members (adults?) – and the choir led a Christmas Vesper Service that evening. On 22 December after rehearsing for the past three weeks the Children's Christmas Program was held.

On Sunday 5 January 1958 the Charter Membership Roll was again open for signing and during the following week there was a meeting almost every evening at the "Congregation Center". On Monday evening the United Lutheran Church Men had a fellowship dinner, on Tuesday evening the Steering Committee (Church Council) met, on Wednesday the choir rehearsed, on Thursday the "70" Club met, on Sunday January 12th the Lutheran Students met and on Monday evening the United Lutheran Church Women held their January meeting. And looking ahead to the summer Barbara Baker was one of the teachers for vacation Bible School and Liz Strong helped to prepare refreshments for the children. Meanwhile in later months when plans for building the first addition were in the works Murrell Jackson was contracted to build it. Murrell and Ruby were Charter members of St. Andrews. Murrell was an excellent builder and was very proud to be chosen to do that work.

It was a very impressive beginning. Even before being formally organized St. Andrew's Lutheran Church was "on a roll".



ORGANIZATION DAY FOR ST. ANDREW'S — 9 FEBRUARY 1958

BY CORRINE NIEDENTHAL, CHARTER MEMBER

Finally the big day had come. Pastor Morris Niedenthal wrote in the January 1958 Link Newsletter:

The organization of a Christian Church is the "Pledging of a person's life to the Saviour of the world, and this is done before the altar of God in response to His love, and for all to hear."

Many will never witness such a momentous day again in all their lives.

May our congregation grow in faith from this pledge of loyalty and advance to the glory of God. We ask you to pray that the lives given to God through the work of this new congregation may witness to the love He has given to us."

All the activities of those first months led up to the organizing of the congregation on Sunday 9 February 1958. 123 baptized members—seventy-four adults—became Charter members of St. Andrew's Lutheran Church.

There were 157 persons in church on that Organization Day Sunday. Dr. Alfred W. Young, President of the Central States Synod preached. Assisting at the service were Dr. Reno Frobenius, assistant to the Synod President, Rev. C A. Vammen, Super-

intendent of the Cherokee Indian Mission, Oaks OK [Rev. C. A. Vammen was the father of Dorcas Leighton] and Rev. Robert Karsten, interim pastor in Wichita KS. Thirteen boys and girls in the youth choir sang for services that morning directed by Mrs. Carl Johnson. They included Sandra and Howard Cordell, Tim and Greg Smith, Wanda and Betty Throckmorton, Donald and Jenise Nelson, Skip Wheeler, Johnny Marquardt, Toni Sloan and Jimmy and Beth Ballsrud. Special Organization Day offering envelopes were distributed. The offering was designated by the Steering Committee to be for the Building and Lot Fund and \$750 was set as the goal.



After the service of organization a catered congregational dinner was held at 1 p.m.

the Labor Temple. Adults paid \$175 and children \$.75. Mr. George Strong was in charge of ticket sales. The ULC Women supplied the desserts.

On Wednesday, February 12 the Church Council met and prepared a recommendation to be presented to the congregation for the purpose of calling a pastor as follows: "The Church Council recommends that Pastor Morris Niedenthal be extended a call as pastor of St. Andrew's Evangelical Lutheran Church and we present this to the congregation for action."



The next Sunday, 16 February there was Installation of the Church Council and a congregational meeting to call the first pastor.

On Sunday 23 February the Office of the Blessing of Gifts was conducted during the worship service when gifts given for the worship life of the congregation were dedicated. Gifts and their donors are as follows:

Mr. and Mrs. Troy Newman: Altar Cross

Mr. and Mrs. Troy Newman: Candleholders

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Brunken, Sharon and Larry: 10 Hymnals

Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Bamman: Altar

Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Sloan: Lectern

Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Grimm, Miss Donna

Grimm: Communion ware

Mrs. Q. Morgan, Sedalia: Pulpit Bible

Mr. and Mrs. David Smith: Candlelighter

United Lutheran Church Women of
St. Andrew's: Acolyte and Choir surplices

Mr. and Mrs. O. E. Marquardt: Communion
Kneelers

Mr. and Mrs. James Sherman: \$125 for Altar
Paraments

Memorial to John Albrecht, Jr.: \$15 for Altar
Paraments

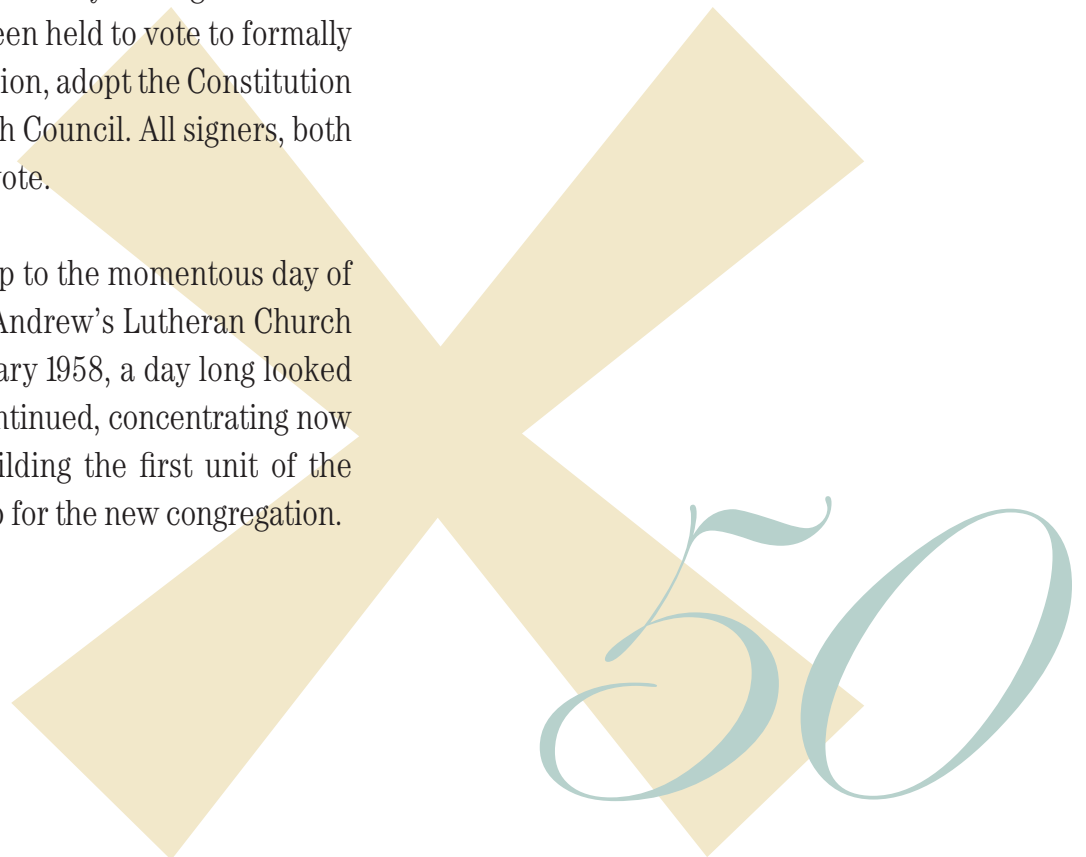
Sunday School Children: Nursery Toys

Charter design and calligraphy done by
Corrine Niedenthal

At 2:30 that afternoon a congregational meeting was held during which the budget was presented, discussed and acted upon and the Evangelism Committee reported on their work. Meanwhile during the previous weeks in January and February of 1958 different groups met, worked and planned. The ULC Men had met and officers were elected. The ULC Women met and committee members were appointed. The women prepared Communion the first Sunday of each month, served coffee the second Sunday of each month and volunteered to furnish dessert for the Congregational dinner after the service of Organization on 9 February. The Lutheran students met regularly on the 2nd and 4th Sunday evenings of each month. The Sunday School continued to grow and needed more teachers. The Pastor Class had an average of 25 persons each Sunday. The Sacrament of Infant Baptism was held on January 26 and Communion on 2 February.

In the afternoon of 2 February an organizational business meeting had been held to vote to formally constitute the congregation, adopt the Constitution and elect the first Church Council. All signers, both men and women had a vote.

All these activities led up to the momentous day of the Organization of St. Andrew's Lutheran Church in Columbia on 9 February 1958, a day long looked forward to. The work continued, concentrating now on buying a lot and building the first unit of the church—the next big step for the new congregation.







CHARTER MEMBERS

(As listed in the February 9, 1958 Organization Day Program)

Miss Bonny Andrews
Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Baker
Mrs. Ralph L. Baker
Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Ballsrud
Mrs. Gail Bank
Mr. and Mrs. Harold Bauer
Mr. and Mrs. Victor Bayer
Mrs. Ruth Botkin
Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Brunken
Miss Sharon Brunken
Mr. and Mrs. James R. Burge
Miss Peggy Burge
Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Cordell
Mr. and Mrs. Carl Gates
Miss Donna Grimm
Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Grimm
Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Hansen
Mr. and Mrs. Carl H. Johnson
Mr. Dale Kuehl
Mr. and Mrs. William Lahue
Mr. and Mrs. Forrest Leighton
Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Malchow
Mr. and Mrs. Otto E. Marquardt
Mr. and Mrs. Don Morin
Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Murphy
Mr. and Mrs. Troy C. Newman
Mrs. Morris Niedenthal
Mr. and Mrs. Vito Parisi
Miss Alva Powell

Mr. and Mrs. Don L. Richard
Miss Barbara Sanders
Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Schmalz
Mr. and Mrs. James Sherman
Mrs. Fred Simmons
Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Sloan
Mr. Russell Sloan
Mr. and Mrs. Bert Smith
Mr. and Mrs. David Smith
Mr. and Mrs. George Strong
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Teague
Mrs. Margaret Throckmorton
Miss Judy Throckmorton
Mrs. Peter Torbey
Mrs. and Mrs. W. L. Wheeler
Mr. and Mrs. Reid Woodbury

Charter Members Still at St. Andrew's

Barbara Baker
Petey Bank
Ruby Jackson
Dorcas Leighton
Red Leighton
Olive Newman
Betty Palmer
Elizabeth Strong





SAINT ANDREW'S SILVER ANNIVERSARY HISTORICAL SKETCH

1958-1983

BY OLIVE NEWMAN, CHARTER MEMBER

ST. ANDREW'S began, in thought, in the summer of 1955. At that time the Lutheran Church of America conducted a rough survey in order to decide if there was a real need to establish a church in Columbia. People learned that the decision was positive when Pastor Morris J. Niedenthal and his wife, Corrine, arrived July 4th, 1957. They began to canvass the town and on August 15th, the first meeting of fifteen interested people met at a local hotel. The name St. Andrew's was selected and a new church began to take form.

The first public worship service was held on September 15th at the Union Labor Temple on Garth Avenue, and services continued there until the first unit was constructed. That fall a house was purchased on Spring Valley Road to serve as Parsonage and Congregational Center. By October a choir had been established as well as LCW and LCM groups. The Charter Membership Roll was opened on October 20th. The first congregational meeting was on February 2nd, 1958, at which time a constitution was adopted and the first council elected to office. Formal Organizational Day was February 9th with 75 charter members. Thirteen of these were still in the congregation in 1983.

In June of 1958, the present church site was purchased at a cost of \$25,000. As in the case of the

Parsonage, this was made possible by a loan from the Board of American Missions. An executive building committee was appointed in October and from then until 1960 it was a time of struggle to reach a financial goal that would make building a reality. In June that goal was reached and ground breaking ceremonies were held. Shortly thereafter, Pastor Niedenthal was called by the Synod to teach at Maywood Seminary. His resignation took effect on October 30th. He returned to give the address when the first worship service was held in the new building on December 18, 1961. It was a time of great joy for the many families that had given so much to make St. Andrew's a reality.



The church was without a pastor for eight long months, during this time the laymen worked and struggled together and St. Andrew's learned that

its strengths were greater than its weaknesses. In March of 1961 Pastor James Sylvester accepted the call of the congregation and arrived with his wife, Marge, and three children on May 24th. St. Andrew's continued to grow in meaningful ministry with effective leadership and guidance from Pastor Sylvester. He and his wife led the way in a fund drive in 1966 with sacrificial giving that saw the church debt finally dramatically reduced. 1967 was the first full year of separation from the Board of American Missions. We were financially on our own for the very first time. The same year saw the beginning of two worship services each Sunday in order to accommodate all the people.



Many changes were to take place over the following years. The Parsonage was sold and the pastor given a housing allowance: Equity in the house was put toward the debt retirement. In 1971 a Wickes pipe organ was purchased and installed by 1972. The membership continued to increase as did the pledges. It was a joy to be able to reach out more and more in service to the community at large.

In April of 1971, Pastor Sylvester submitted his resignation to become effective July 30th. Pastor Greg Hibbard served as Vice-Pastor until September when Pastor Harry Allen became interim minister.

On October 24th the congregation extended a call to Pastor Ralph D. Anderson. The call was accepted and he, his wife Jan and two daughters arrived in January of 1972. Installation Services were conducted by Dr. Harvey Prinz (President, Central States Synod, Lutheran Church in America) on January 9th. The congregation was delighted to have a pastor sing the liturgy. It was another first for St. Andrew's. The membership continued to grow under his leadership as well as outreach to others in the community.



In 1973 Pastor Anderson guided the congregation in finding answers to such vital questions as, "What is the future of St. Andrew's, what is our mission and what do we want to become?" In finding answers to these questions, it became evident that the church would have to consider expanding its facilities if it was to fulfill its sense of mission as a true "Body of Believers."

Many fine Ad Hoc building committees were at work over the years to follow. Every effort was made to ascertain the needs and if a new building was necessary. A final committee was established to make a definite recommendation to the council in the fall of 1975. The council accepted the recommendation and it was presented to the

congregation for a vote. The congregation voted to build a new multi-purpose building and to remodel the present structure for educational facilities. An Executive Building Committee was appointed in January of 1978. By spring an architect was engaged and preliminary designs were approved by the congregation in April. The fund raising began on May 24th, directed by Robert Wieboldt from LLM. The congregation pledged more than \$10,000 above the \$90,000 that was needed to assure the financial feasibility of the project. The construction contract was negotiated in early spring of 1977. The long awaited Ground Breaking Service was held on July 10th and construction began immediately.

The new building was dedicated in February, 1978, on the twentieth anniversary of the congregation. It included a new, flexible worship center, the Centrum, and new offices, and made it possible to remodel the former sanctuary as a fellowship hall. In the years following, stained glass windows were added to the Centrum, and the original narthex was extensively remodeled as a learning center, both memorial projects, and a number of improvements were made to the fellowship hall so that it could better serve the needs of an ever growing church school program.

With the building project behind them, the congregation turned their attention to ministry and parish life. At the time of dedication of the new building, they responded to the Strength for Mission drive by pledging nearly double the set goal. In the following years, the Lutheran Book of Worship was introduced, and such new activities as the Word and Witness Program, Koinonia groups and Lenten home communions were started in response to the challenge for spiritual renewal and shared ministry. The congregation sponsored the resettlement

of two additional refugee families.

In 1979 an invitation came to St. Andrew's from the Strength for Mission program to apply for a grant for additional staff. After careful consideration of how best to make use of this opportunity, a Ministry Coordinator was added in January of 1982. That same month saw a particularly happy event, the surprise service arranged by the members of St. Andrew's to celebrate the tenth anniversary of Pastor Anderson's ministry.

In 1980, in order to direct the many activities of a growing congregation more effectively, the Church Council was reorganized into three working groups for parish support, parish outreach, and parish life. At the congregational meeting that same year, it was resolved that 1983, the year of the twenty-fifth anniversary of St. Andrews, should be the goal for increasing the financial commitment of the congregation significantly in order to support an expanded ministry. With faith and grace this has been done, and one of the special anniversary projects was to inaugurate a St. Andrew's trust fund for support of our ministry in the community in witness of the rich life we share as a parish.







HISTORY OF ST. ANDREW'S — THE FIRST 40 YEARS

BY KRISTIN GROETSCH

This historical sketch of St. Andrew's Lutheran Church was written for our 40th Anniversary in 1998. It was based on earlier narratives written by Olive Newman and Osmund Overby, as well as interviews with a number of charter members. Some have since deceased. Kristin was a graduate student.

Knock and the door shall be opened

In 1955, a small number of people in Columbia opened their doors to strangers on their doorsteps. First they opened their doors to surveyors from the Lutheran Church in America and shared their thoughts on bringing another Lutheran church to town. Two years later, people opened their doors to Pastor Morris Niedenthal, the young minister who had been sent to establish that church.

Olive Newman recalls an early-morning visit from the dedicated pastor after getting into town late from a family vacation in South Carolina. "Someone knocked at the door that morning, and my husband got up in his pajamas and went to the door," Olive says. "All I could hear him say was 'We were up real late last night. Can you come back later?'" It was Pastor Niedenthal ... and he was back very early that afternoon."

Some charter members came from a Lutheran background and had been attending Campus Lutheran or Trinity Lutheran churches. Others were worshipping with Baptist, Presbyterian or Methodist congregations. But most were looking for a better fit. "I had been hoping and praying that there was going to be another Lutheran church," Frances Marquardt says. "I was just delighted they were going to start another church."



St. Andrew's charter members speak highly of Pastor Morris Niedenthal. Barbara Baker remembers the pastor as "a real go-getter." Ralph Baker enjoyed Pastor Niedenthal's preaching. "He could take a sermon that wasn't a masterpiece and turn it into something great," Ralph says. Margaret Will says that Niedenthal "had that wonderful kind of personality — everyone took to him." The pastor's wife,

Corrine, also contributed to congregational life by teaching Sunday School, singing in the choir and designing bulletins.

The name St. Andrew's was decided upon at the first meeting. "We talked about Andrew as being a fisherman, and I think this meant a great deal to all of us because we knew we absolutely had to be fishers of people," Petey Bank says.

Although there was great commitment early on, there wasn't an abundance of worship space. Worship was held at the Labor Temple on Garth Avenue from August 1957 until the first church building was completed in December 1961. Early members recall clearing away beer bottles, dumping ashtrays and sweeping the floor before services. "You weren't just a member of the congregation, you were also on the clean-up committee," Petey says.



Sunday School was an attractive aspect of the new church. Many charter members had young children and volunteered their time as Sunday School teachers ever and over again, often dealing with cramped conditions.

Dorcas Leighton helped with the nursery at the Labor Temple, which was in a furnace room adja-

cent to the makeshift sanctuary. She grins as she remembers trying to keep the children quiet once during worship when there was a gaping hole between the nursery wall and the sanctuary.

Ask and it shall be given

Despite the challenges presented by their rented quarters, charter members agree that they were grateful to have a place to worship. They created a reverent atmosphere by building a portable lectern and kneelers. Individual members donated a brass cross, candle holders, wine and flower arrangements. Hymnals and choir robes were contributed by Pastor Niedenthal's home church in Russell, Kansas. "Whenever we needed anything we just said so, and somebody offered to get it," Frances Marquardt says.

Congregational meetings, choir rehearsal and circle meetings were held during the week at the parsonage on 107 Spring Valley Road, which was purchased in the fall of 1957 for \$23,750. Even at that early stage in the church's formation, three dedicated men co-signed the loan that made the purchase possible.



Meanwhile, the congregation was growing. Pastor Niedenthal was consistent in canvassing the town. Mark Marquardt was spreading the word to customers at the Novus Shop where he worked. And some members relied on “shoe-leather power” to get out and recruit more souls. Most Columbians were gracious to the door-to-door evangelists. But Barbara Baker and Olive Newman recall one visit that never got off the ground. “I remember knocking at one door, and I told the lady we were calling from St. Andrew’s Lutheran. She grabbed her screen door and said, ‘Well, I’m certainly not Lutheran or anything like that!’” Olive recalls. The two women promptly moved on to the next name on their list – a woman who invited them in and offered them lemonade. Membership grew enough that by February 9, 1958, there were 75 charter members at the formal organization service.

Special Service of Dedication Is Held for St. Andrew’s Lutheran Church Yesterday



(Tribune Photo by Don Woolley)
Shown as they worked on decorations for the dedication service at St. Andrew’s Lutheran church are members of the Luther League: left to right, Mike Krause, son of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Krause, Route 4, president of the group; Judi Jackson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Murrell Jackson, 10 Frances drive, devotions chairman; Larry Brunken, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. F. Brunken, 402 Hitt street; Peggy Burge (standing at back), daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James R. Burge, 1605 Wilson avenue, program chairman; Toni Coudle, who lives with Mrs. Theodore Brueckner, 614 McBaine avenue.

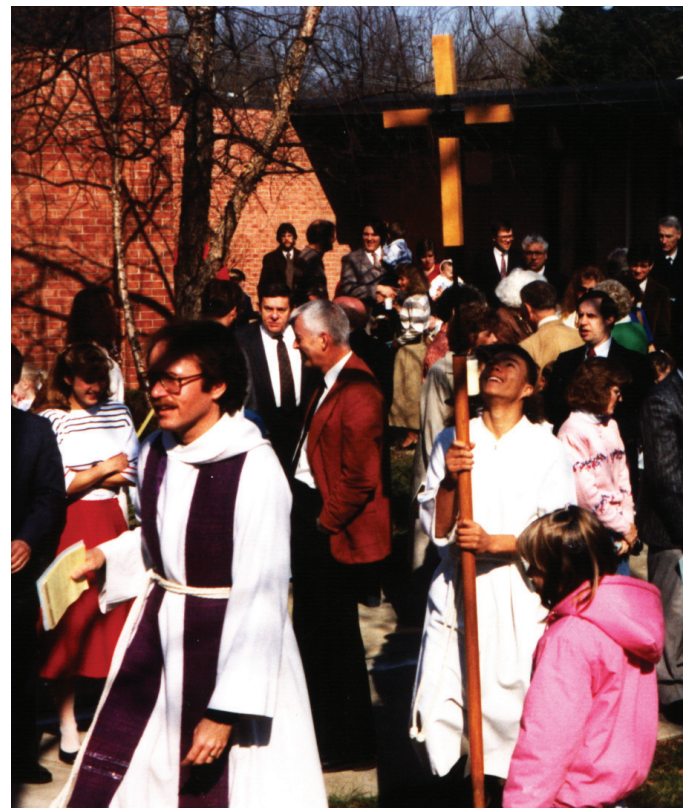
Seek and you shall find

Financially, the first few years were challenging as the group drew up plans for a church. “We had some struggling times there, no question about it,” Red Leighton says. “But we all stuck with it, and

through prayer and work, we were able to accomplish our goal.”

Ground breaking for the first building was in June 1960. Pastor Niedenthal had been called to seminary teaching and had left in October 1960 but returned for the first worship service in the new sanctuary on December 18, 1961.

Over the next three decades St. Andrew’s continued to grow in faith and members. Since Pastor Niedenthal’s departure, four ministers have served St. Andrew’s: James Sylvester, 1961-71, Ralph Anderson, 1972-1986, and Paul Moessner since 1986. With further growth of the congregation, Associate Pastor Julia Will joined the church in 1995. “All our pastors have been good pastors,” Frances Marquardt says. “We seem to have lucked out.”



The most visible signs of growth, however, were the building expansions with the addition of the Centrum and the remodeling of the original building for

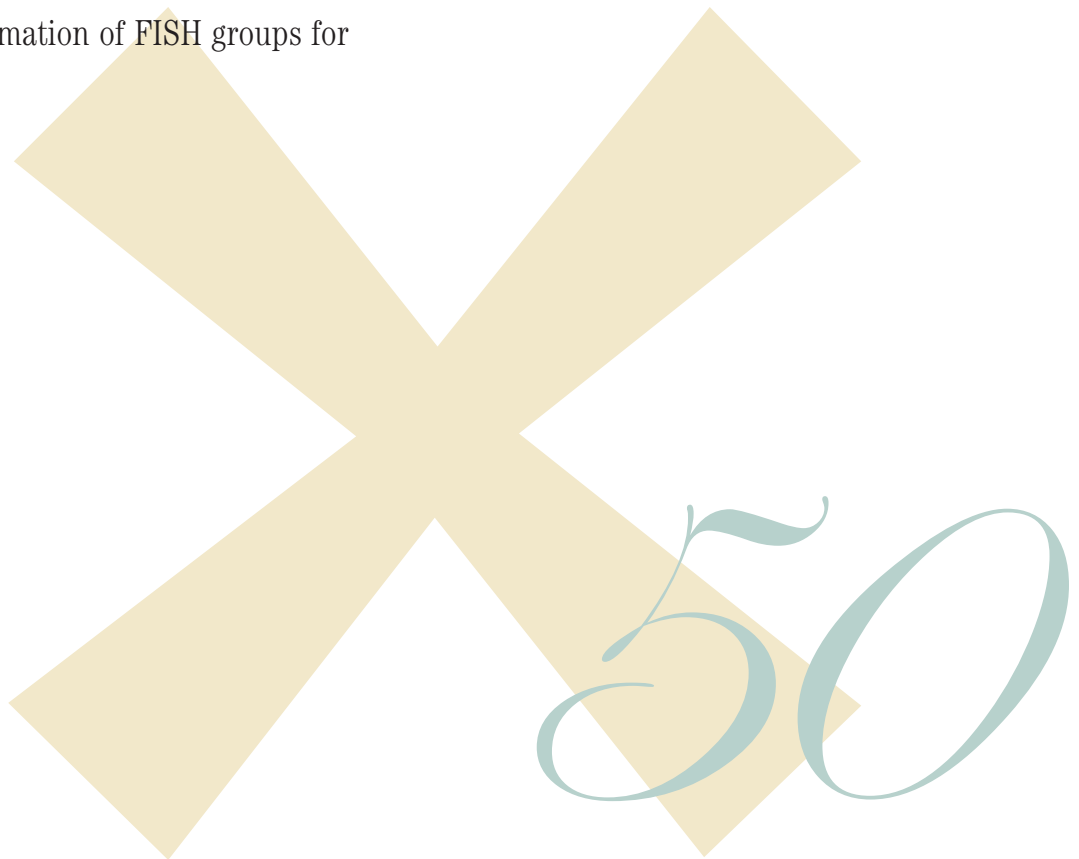
educational purposes dedicated in 1978, and with a major expansion of the education areas and remodeling of the fellowship areas dedicated in 1991

Some aspects of church life have remained the same. Petey Bank says that the congregation has always been young, with Sunday School and youth ministry being priorities. Many charter members speak of an active laity as a constant over the years. "It has always been a church, I feel, where lay people really worked and always have had a voice in everything," Olive Newman says.

However, with time comes change. Finances are less burdensome now, and the congregation is better able to reach out to the community. In a happy turnabout, St. Andrew's now provides meeting space to outside groups. The congregation also participates in social ministry programs. Margaret Will observes more activities for families than there were during the first years. Other changes have been the offering of a third service on Saturday evening and the formation of FISH groups for Bible study.

Pastor Niedenthal closed one of his early letters to his growing flock with these words: *And so our congregation begins its formal life. May it be a blessing to all of its members and to the community. May it always move forward to the Glory of God and in Jesus' Name.*

St. Andrew's today can be grateful for our past and for our charter members who took a leap of faith. Their zeal and cooperative spirit kept the church moving forward. May we follow their example as we commit ourselves to a future that is as inspired and successful as the past years.





HISTORY OF ST. ANDREW'S — AN UPDATE, 1995-2007

BY ANNE G. EDWARDS, MEMBER

Kristin Groetsch, the author of the early History of St. Andrew's presented in the "Forty Years of Blessings" booklet used at the Fortieth Anniversary Celebration (February 22, 1998), was a student at the University of Missouri. She interviewed a number of Charter Members for her work which was written in 1996. Kristin was scheduled to receive her Master's in Journalism in the spring of 1996 and to begin work with The Lutheran, the magazine of our ELCA.

Kristin's History of St. Andrew's covers the years 1955-1995. My Update continues with more events in 1995 and concludes with the end of 2007. As I reviewed old newsletters and historical materials for St. Andrew's, I was aware that each member of St. Andrew's might select different things to include in a history. I was struck with the realization that so many people have contributed in so many different ways, and all of these efforts and energies have been important. I tried to select those significant events that stood out in the life of our congregation and would have meaning for most of us.

Special thanks are due Pastor Paul, Pastor Julia and Wayne Porath who reviewed this document more than once. I thank Audrey Mortensen and Paul Speckman too, as they provided valuable proofing, editing and input.

1995 The year 1995 brought Pastor Julia Will to St. Andrew's! Her Installation as Associate Pastor was held on August 27, at both services. Dennis Hallemeier, Assistant to the Bishop of our Synod, gave the sermon, and Pastor Paul led the worship. Colette Anderson coordinated a brunch between the services to celebrate this important day.



Wilson Freyermuth, President of the Church Council, reported that the Worship and Music Committee recommended that St. Andrew's call Barb Hamel to serve as Organist, following the resignation of Jami Conrad. David Puderbaugh continued to serve as Music Director.

On October 15, Bishop Charles Maahs commissioned Bill Markgraf as Parish Ministry Associate (PMA). Bill completed a 3-year course of study through the Central States Synod, preparing to serve St. Andrew's and other congregations in the Mid-Missouri region as a PMA. With the recommendation of the Mutual Ministry Committee, the Church Council called Bill to be a "Lay Minister of Word and Sacrament."

Saint Andrew's youth, as in many years of our history, traveled seeking spiritual growth and offering service. Preparing for the rite of confirmation on Reformation Sunday, the 9th graders and accompanying adults headed to Colorado's Sangre de Cristo Mountains for a week of back-packing through Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp. This year, high school youth and adults spent a week at Lee Valley Ranch in South Dakota's Black Hills, working to enhance our youth ministry. The group which went to South Dakota was supported by the annual fund raising event of "Roger's Rolls". Roger and Joyce Langendoerfer and a number of Saint Andrew's volunteers, through their two-day effort, made delicious varieties of rolls (Pecan, Cinnamon, Coconut and Iced) from scratch as a fund raiser for youth trips. Matching funds increase the funds raised through Lutheran Brotherhood and Aid Association for Lutherans (AAL), now merged into what is known as Thrivent Financial for Lutherans.

During 1995-96, the congregation could say that ten Fellowship, Inspiration, Study, Help (FISH) groups had been established, significantly expanding opportunities for fellowship and Bible study.

1996 During early 1996, the congregation unanimously approved a resolution to direct the Youth Minister Search Committee to proceed to identify

and recommend a suitable candidate for the congregation to call as its Youth Minister in 1996. Jim Lewis was invited to interview in May, and he and his fiancée, Belinda Bateman, came to Columbia on May 2-5. Jim graduated from the Lutheran Bible Institute with honors and accepted the call to serve as Director of Youth and Family Ministry, starting July 1



Since January 1, Communion was made available each Sunday (though not at every service), "...reflecting our understanding that Communion is a unique and sacred gift God offers us." (Pastor Paul)

A watertight membrane roof (replacing the old tar and gravel roof) was completed during Holy Week. Buckets catching rainwater in the Centrum were removed!

On May 19, a reception was held for David Puderaugh, Choir Director, as he took a full-time position in Columbia.

On May 26, we celebrated Pastor Paul's 20th Anniversary of Ordination with a reception in the Fellowship Hall.

Barb Hamel, Director of Music, announced the appointment of Stacey Hite as Adult Choir Director. Stacey came to Columbia to work on a Master's degree in Choral Conducting at the University.

St. Andrew's ten-member CARE Team, through RAIN (Regional AIDS Interfaith Network), began September 7, 1996. This team served an AIDS "care friend" for three years. Wilson Freyermuth was the head of the team.

The Jail Ministry Team began with visits to the female inmates at Boone County jail through the Interfaith Council's Jail Ministry Program. Pastor Julia organized the team.

The Reverence Praise Band made its debut at a Sunday night Confirmation session in September.



We celebrated the marriage of Jim and Belinda (Bindy) Lewis with a special reception on September 22. Jim's Installation was held on that same day.

On December 2, the Ministry Planning Group met for the first time. Members were asked to help with establishing a long-range strategic plan for St. Andrew's.

1997 The Ruth Circle purchased a silver, gold-lined chalice for the congregation, given in loving memory of Frances Marquardt, a Charter Member of St. Andrew's and the Ruth Circle.

The Church Council chose to provide financial support for Garrett Struessel, one of our St. Andrew's family, as he began preparation for ordained ministry at Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary in Berkeley, CA.

In March, Dennis Frerking solved the water problem that threatened the roof of Fellowship Hall by climbing on the roof with bare feet and freeing the gutter downspouts! Hundreds of gallons of standing water were released.

The St. Andrew's Prayer Group began in July.

Keith Walker was hired as the new Adult Choir Director, joining us August 17.

Cathy Rosenholtz (daughter of Sandy Rosenholtz and of St. Andrew's), ordained on August 31, 1997, was called to serve as Assoc. Pastor of Our Saviour Lutheran Church and Preschool in Jamaica (Queens), New York. Cathy graduated from the Harvard Divinity School.

Old friendships were renewed at an Open House in Fellowship Hall for Pastor Ralph and Jan Anderson (Pastor at St. Andrew's, 1972-86). They were in Columbia to be honored at the 25th Anniversary of starting the Meals on Wheels Program in town.

St. Andrew's hosted the "Thanksgiving Ecumenical Worship", along with Trinity Presbyterian, Columbia United Church of Christ and Fifth Street Christian Church. Rev. Hannah Hurdle Toomey, former pas-

tor of Fifth Street Christian Church, was the guest preacher. In August, 1997, at the ELCA Churchwide Assembly, the “Formula of Agreement” was passed, allowing full communion with the Presbyterian Church USA, the Reform Church in America and the United Church of Christ.

1998 In our 40th Anniversary Year, we celebrated the gift of the past and renewed our vision for the future. On February 22, Pastor Morris Niedenthal, our first and founding pastor, preached at both Sunday services. “Historical Heaven” followed that evening – a dinner, a youth skit, a retro slide show of St. Andrew’s, a video featuring Charter Members and singing led by the Reverence Praise Band.

In thanksgiving for the help other congregations gave us to get started forty years ago, half of our Thankoffering was used to help Fountain of Hope Lutheran Fellowship (Kansas City) build a place for feeding the spiritual and physical hunger of the people in their neighborhood. On May 17 (11:00 service), three representatives from Fountain of Hope Lutheran Fellowship helped us celebrate this partnership. They were given a check for \$5000, half of the amount we collected as of that time for our 40th Anniversary Thankoffering. The visitors presented Pastor Paul with a beautiful banner for St. Andrew’s.

On June 4, Thursday evening services began, designed for persons who must work or be away on weekends and for any who desire a less formal atmosphere than on Sunday morning. Each service included Communion.

A Chronic Illness Support Group was formed on August 20, under the leadership of Pastor Julia, offering prayer, study and conversation for those who

struggle with chronic illnesses, pain and fatigue.

The Mom’s Group began on September 17, offering prayer, study and conversation in a supportive atmosphere, with childcare provided. Pastor Julia started this group.

1999 Church Council President Paul Speckman announced two growth opportunities involving our staff: Jim Lewis accepted a position as one of the organizers of the ELCA National Youth Gathering in St. Louis in 2000 and, with the approval and encouragement of the Church Council, Pastor Paul enrolled in the Doctor of Ministry Program at Luther Seminary in St. Paul, MN.



In January, we had to say farewell to our talented organist, Barb Hamel, as she moved on to a full-time teaching position. We welcomed Dan Brooks as a gifted replacement that same month.

The IMPACT! Reverence Praise Band went on their first ever summer tour in June!

The Church Council reported “minor leaks and potential leaks” in our roof.

St. Andrew’s first Block Party was held in August. An estimated 200 people attended, and at least 20% were visitors.

Pastor Michael Will was appointed by the United Methodist Church to the position of Director of the Wesley Foundation, the campus ministry division of the United Methodist Church. Pastor Mike started this work July 1, 1999.

A Special Congregational Meeting was held in July to approve a roof repair project. Council President Speckman said we needed a quorum at the meeting, or we will face a soggy building in the fall!

Garrett Struessel, “son of our congregation”, visited from Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary and preached at St. Andrew’s.



In September, Michael Oriatti began work as Director of the Adult Choir.

2000 Following roof and ceiling repairs, the Library became Pastor Julia’s office and a “Church Volunteer Office” was created next to Frankie Anderson’s office.

At the Annual Meeting, Great Swami Wayndini (Wayne Porath) announced that the floor covering in Heaven is orange carpet!

We celebrated Pastor Julia’s 10th Anniversary of Ordination with a reception on April 9.

Twenty-nine people from St. Andrew’s went to Atchison, Kansas to participate in the Central States Synod Junior High Youth Retreat. Sixteen were part of the IMPACT! Reverence Praise Band, invited as the feature band for the weekend.

A Mission Statement for St. Andrew’s was formulated: Sharing Christ – in Faith, Fellowship, and Service. Mission Work Groups were formed to help fulfill our mission.

Our Second Annual Block Party was held in August.

Chad Langdon, who worked with our youth ministry, graduated from the University and began his study for the Pastoral Ministry at Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary in Columbia, South Carolina. Donations were collected to support Chad.

Garrett Struessel was ordained and received his first call in Denver, Colorado.

Greeters became a new part of the welcoming ministry. Provide a Ride also was started to help people get to church.

The Global Connections Committee started and began intentional service to places all over the globe.

2001 The congregation voted at the Annual Meeting to include funds in the budget to subscribe to the ELCA’s LUTHERAN MAGAZINE for everyone in the congregation on the Every-Home-Subscription-Plan, asking members to reimburse the church at the half-price rate if they could.

Thursday evening worship services, held during the summer months in recent years, were suspended due to low attendance in relation to the volunteer and staff effort required.

We said goodbye to Michael Oriatti, our Choir Director for two years. He completed his work at the University and moved on to doctoral work at the University of Indiana.

We asked for volunteers to stand on carpet spots until we received enough contributions for the replacement of our carpet in the Fellowship Hall, Narthex and Pastor Julia's and Jim Lewis' offices! In an August newsletter, Pastor Julia pronounced a benediction over the pile of old carpet which was removed and replaced (Well done, good and faithful servant ... Matthew 25:21).



Pastor Paul, Donna, Krista and Anja celebrated 15 years of ministry with us at St. Andrew's on August 18-19.

The Saints of St. Andrew's grieved over the terrorist attacks on September 11.

We surprised Pastor Paul with a party observing his 25th Anniversary of Ordination, and Paul and Karon Speckman tracked down a model railroad layout we gave Pastor Paul for his office.

The Church Council accepted the gift of a new, white, 15-passenger van with tremendous gratitude

for the donor who wished to remain unknown.

St. Andrew's received a 2001 Network Grant in the amount of \$7,000 for AAL to implement a Campus Peer Ministry Program.

2002 Our new Peer Minister, Kellee Horne, was welcomed in February. We hoped to increase our ministry with students with her help. In September, Andrea Oleen, a MU Journalism Sophomore, became the second "PM". Pastor Paul acted as Advisor for the campus Peer Ministers. Kellee graduated in December, but Andrea continued to serve in the PM role.

IMPACT! Reverence Praise Band took their ministry and their music on the road for a second tour. The \$1651.57 gathered during the tour and at a homecoming concert was donated to Rainbow House for their new house.

Jim, Bindy, T.J. and Martin left St. Andrew's for Shreveport, LA, after more than six years with us. The Church Council extended a call to Dennis BURGART (May graduate of the University) to serve as Interim Youth Minister.

The new Global Connections group held its first ELCA World Hunger Appeal, using a variety of methods of educating the congregation and collecting the funds.

Pollyann Jacobs, a member of St. Andrew's, accepted the position of Adult Choir Director.

2003 The LUTHERAN MAGAZINE subscription plan was removed from the church budget and became a voluntary plan with a fall subscription drive, using the same half-price advantage as before.

February 2003 marked St. Andrew's 45th Anniversary. We celebrated with an old-fashioned Lutheran potluck on the evening of the 23rd. Despite the snow, over 100 people attended, including eight of the ten remaining Charter Members and their families. Over 450 cans of soup were collected for the 45th Anniversary celebration by the 8th Grade Sunday School.

In honor of the 45th Anniversary, the congregation voted to create a fund from which capital repairs and improvements could be made. The Church Council recommended the installation of an electric door to make it easier for persons with disabilities, the elderly and others to enter the church.

The "Cover to Cover" FISH Group, under the leadership of Pat Steuber, emerged with a goal to read through the Scriptures in one year.



The Evangelism Committee began a new Visitor Follow-up Ministry called the "Cookie Patrol". First-time visitors to worship services are visited and presented with cookies or banana bread, plus a brochure and an invitation to return to St. Andrew's again.

The Strategic Planning Committee, formed by the Church Council and the Mutual Ministry Committee in 2002, began the process of evaluating the

feedback obtained from focus groups and small groups, as well as former members. Their efforts were aimed at helping to determine future directions for spiritual growth in the congregation over the next 3-5 years.

St. Andrew's joined with Peace United Church of Christ in Hartsburg, MO as the city partners to their country parish as part of Foods Resource Bank, a nondenominational organization which raises money for world-wide sustainable agricultural projects. During Lent, offerings were given to purchase seed that Hartsburg farmers planted and harvested, and donations doubled in the sale of crops. Money was given through Food Resource Bank to Lutheran World Relief.

Frankie Anderson, St. Andrew's Parish Administrator, resigned to spend some time with family and to explore other interests. She served the congregation in exemplary form for ten years. Her last day was May 29.

In July, we were blessed with the opportunity to hear two daughters of our congregation preach. Melissa Afdahl (daughter of Gordy and Linda Afdahl, granddaughter of Greta Ley Kauf), Assistant Director of Admissions at Drury University, preached on the 12th and 13th. Melissa started at Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary in Berkeley, CA in September 2003. On July 26th and 27th, Anna Murphy (daughter of David and Gunilla Murphy) preached for us. At this time, Anna was about to start her third year at Loyola University in Chicago. She also planned to attend seminary after her college graduation.

Our summer Office Assistant, Kelly Holste, left to begin classes, and our new Administrative Assistant, Julie Ayers, started on September 2.

Dennis Burgart, the Interim Youth Minister, left in September, and Pollyann Jacobs resigned as Choir Director. We thanked both Dennis and Pollyann for their wonderful service.

Thirteen members of Reverence Praise Band travelled to Estes Park, Colorado, to provide music for the Rocky Mountain Synod's 2003 Youth Gathering.

2004 Pastor Paul and Pastor Julia led discussions of recent studies about human sexuality, particularly regarding sexual orientation, within our ELCA.



Nic Bade accepted our offer to be our next Youth Minister, starting April 1. Nic was installed at all three services on April 18.

In May, Pastor Paul received his Doctor of Ministry degree from Luther Seminary. His doctoral advisor, Patrick Keifert, described the pastor's thesis as "exceptionally strong" and conveyed through e-mail that Pastor Paul carried on his doctor of ministry work "in an exemplary fashion that has never been matched in my experience." On May 12, we celebrated Pastor Paul's graduation with what else – a potluck!

A Mission Volunteer Fund was created for dona-

tions to Anja Moessner's mission in Slovakia, as well as future volunteer missions of the congregation. Anja, as an ELCA Missionary Teacher, traveled to Slovakia in mid-August and taught at a Slovakian Lutheran high school in Liptovsky Mikulas. In addition to teaching, she shared in daily worship and devotional time with her students and had the opportunity to be involved in their local congregation. Anja's commissioning was celebrated at each service on August 7 and 8. Dr. Jeanne Stevenson-Moessner, Anja's godmother, preached.

Julie Ayers, Administrative Assistant, moved with her family to Colorado Springs. We welcomed Terri Williams as Julie's replacement.

We had a volcano in Fellowship Hall, thanks to Pat Steuber and Gary Lenzini! Lava Lava Island and Vacation Bible School were a huge success.

St. Andrew's was a presence at the Twilight Festival downtown every Thursday evening in September.

The Shepherds Ministry, designed by Linda Vedder, began as an approved ministry by the Church Council.

Mel George facilitated an October meeting which gave all interested persons an opportunity to submit a response to the Task Force for ELCA Studies on Sexuality.

2005 April 9-10 marked Pastor Julia's 15th Year of Ordination. Pastor Julia, Pastor Mike and John Michael gave a reception to say "Thank you" for partnership in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Based on the recommendation of the Music Minister Search Committee, the Church Council called

Nancy Robertson to lead the music ministry. Nancy started on May 1. Nancy most recently served at Bethel Baptist Church before joining us.

Following the Church Council approval of the Lay Eucharist Sharing Program (December 2004), Pastor Julia trained volunteers, and the Visiting Shepherds ministry began on Mother's Day. Communion from Sunday worship was shared with home bound and nursing home members.

Hannah Martine replaced Andrea Oleen as Campus Peer Minister, due to Andrea's school schedule.

The Global Connections ministry started the Fair-Trade crafts/coffee/chocolate sales and collected articles for health, sewing, school and layette kits for Lutheran World Relief. The Esther Circle assembled all the kits in October.



Lisa Lukis, a student at Luther Seminary in St. Paul, MN, served as a "summer intern", focusing on the church's ministry with older adults.

A surprise summer picnic celebration was given for Pastor Julia at Twin Lakes, honoring her ten years of service at St. Andrew's and her 15th Year of Ordination.

The repaired and improved doors were dedicated between services on December 11.

2006 The 50th Anniversary/Strategic Planning Committee began to focus on the question "What is God's future for the congregation?" Focus Area Groups began work in January to develop Action Plans as corollaries to St. Andrew's Strategic Plan.

On April 30, we voted on changes to our Constitution and By-laws, as recommended by the Church Council and the Mutual Ministry Team. Changes enabled greater member involvement.

On May 18, the Prayer Shawl Ministry was started, under the leadership of Carol Waudby.

The Staff of St. Andrew's sponsored refreshment and conversation on September 2-3, in gratitude for twenty years with Pastor Paul and Donna.

An Evening Fall Festival was held in September, with a concert by the Reverence Praise Band and the Hilary Scott Band. Several hundred folks attended.

The Church Council, on behalf of all who worship at St. Andrew's, pledged commitment to the renewing worship process. An anonymous donation covered a significant portion of costs related to the new hymnal produced by the ELCA's Renewing Worship Task Force, called Evangelical Lutheran Worship. St. Andrew's hosted a day-long regional training workshop sponsored by the Central States Synod on November 4th to introduce the new hymnal with its 10 worship settings.

2007 Terri Williams, our Parish Administrator, resigned effective January 14th. Terri planned to work

part-time for the Festival of Sharing.

Sheryl Mehrhoff replaced Terri Williams as Parish Administrator, effective January 15th.

After more than 8 years of ministry as organist for St. Andrew's, Dan Brooks submitted his resignation. Dan's last day was January 28th.

The revised Constitution and By-Laws were adopted at the January 28 Annual Meeting.



Nic Bade decided to move back to Minnesota, and we gathered to say "goodbye" and "God bless" to Nic on February 24 and 25.

We began using the new hymnal on February 25, the first Sunday of Lent.

We rejoiced in the graduation of a daughter of our congregation, Melissa Afdahl, from Pacific Lutheran Seminary, May 12, 2007, in Berkeley, CA.

We welcomed the return of Barb Hamel as Organist, effective May 13!

The Developing Disciples Committee met with the congregational leaders on May 22 to review the procedures and expectations of our new By-laws.

On June 17, at our 11:00 service, we commissioned Susan Goldammer for her work as a missionary in Tanzania through the Division for Global Mission of our ELCA. Susan, a faithful servant of St. Andrew's, is serving as Development Officer and Lecturer in the Legal Department of Tumaini University – Dar es Salaam College.

Ted and Jennifer Carnahan moved to Dubuque, IA, as Ted began study at Wartburg Seminary in July.

Melissa Afdahl was ordained at Messiah Lutheran Church in Springfield, MO on July 29, 2007. Melissa accepted a call to serve as Pastor of Glenwood Lutheran Church, Toledo, OH. Pastor Julia preached at Melissa's ordination and was part of the "Laying on of Hands".



Anna and Joseph Ballan moved to Chicago, as Anna began study at Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago.

On September 7, Scott Simmons became one of 17 students enrolled in the inaugural Distributive Master of Divinity program at Luther Seminary in St. Paul, MN. Distributive M.Div. students take a combination of online courses and on-campus one- or two-week intensive courses to fulfill their academic requirements. The students also complete

an enhanced contextual leadership component at their home church, working with a designated Partner Pastor (in Scott's case, Pastor Paul Moessner), in some sort of leadership capacity for an average of 10 hours a week.



Saint Andrew's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Columbia, Missouri, will celebrate its 50th Anniversary in 2008, with the theme "God's Faithfulness to All Generations". Celebration actually began on August 15, 2007, with Re-membering Our Beginnings. That event commemorated the first formal gathering, 50 years ago, of those committed to establishing a Lutheran congregation in Columbia. The gathering was held in the Centrum, in which we reflected on the name Andrew and prayed for God's continued guidance for St. Andrew's, using the question, "What is God's future for this congregation?"

On September 15-16, we commemorated the beginning of worship at St. Andrew's on September 15, 1957. Pastor Morris and Corrine Niedenthal were present as we committed ourselves to continuing this ministry. Our worship was based on the liturgy used in 1957. We honored the Niedenthals and all

Charter Members, including current living members Petey Bank, Ruby Jackson, Liz Strong, Olive Newman, Barb Baker, Red and Dorcas Leighton, Betty Palmer and former members Stan and Jane Grimm of Cape Girardeau, MO and Liz Morin of Omaha, NE, at an informal Sunday coffee. The Grimms and Morins were not with us on the 16th.

The Global Connections Ministry reported that with the \$5,500 St. Andrew's collected last Lent for seed and fertilizer, the soybeans and corn harvests at Hartsburg were sold for \$25,181.39! \$11,000 will go to Lutheran World Relief/Foods Resource Bank projects and \$11,000 to the United Church of Christ FRB projects. \$1,365.99 was collected from all the sale items, with half the money going to the ELCA International Disaster Response Fund and the other half to Selian Hospital in Tanzania. This is the largest amount St. Andrew's has ever collected for World Hunger projects!

During our 50th Anniversary year, our St. Andrew's congregation will help to fund and build a house for Habitat for Humanity as a service to the community. This community ministry project is a response



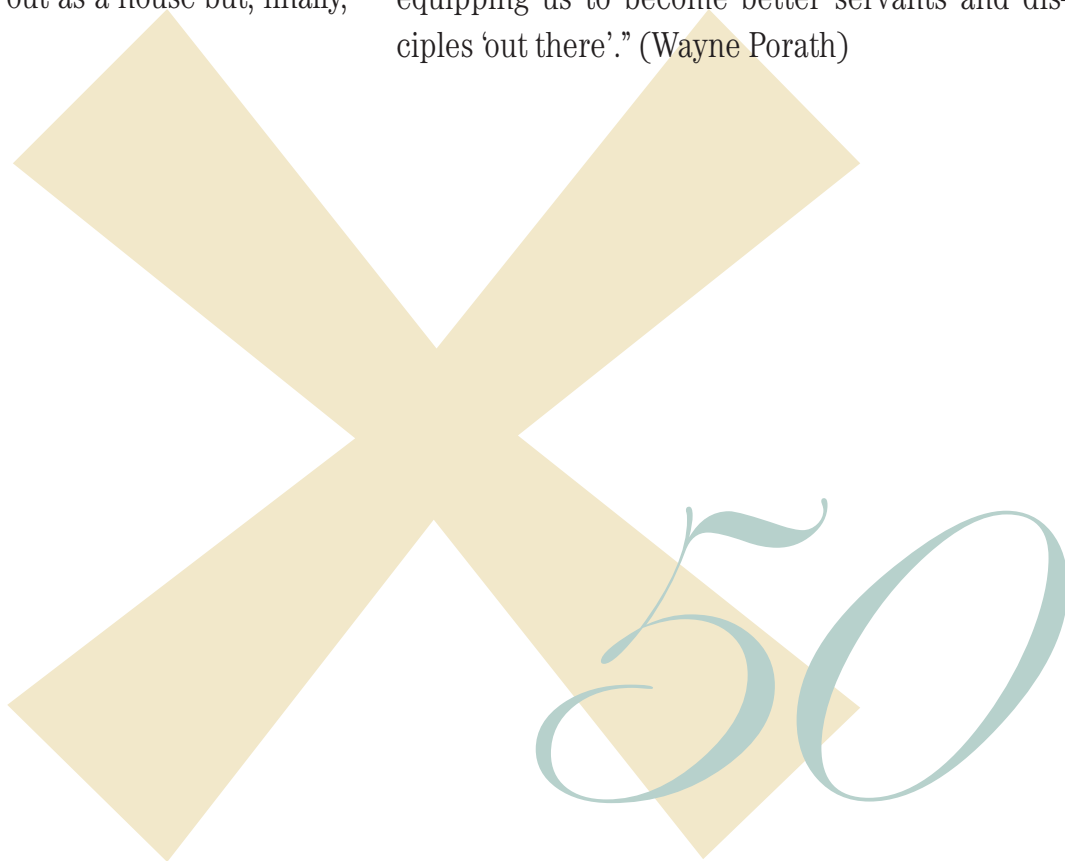
to the need for affordable housing in Columbia. While many members of the congregation will be wielding hammers and paintbrushes at the con-



struction site, others will volunteer to make snacks and lunches for the workers or for fund-raising activities. Because the local Boone County Chapter of Thrivent has been accepted into the national “Thrivent Builds with Habitat for Humanity” program, Thrivent will contribute substantially to the cost of building our Habitat house. Also, because of the Thrivent award, other Lutheran churches in Columbia will be partners with St. Andrew’s in constructing what will start out as a house but, finally, will become a home.



On December 18, the 50th Anniversary Planning Team (chaired by Wayne Porath) met to begin planning for further commemoration of St. Andrew’s beginning to occur in 2008. Our theme, “God’s faithfulness to all generations” (Psalm 100), reflects the fact that, “More and more members are making and taking personal commitment to witnessing to God and to His mission here at St. Andrew’s. God is truly at work in the place we call St. Andrew’s, equipping us to become better servants and disciples ‘out there’.” (Wayne Porath)





SAINT ANDREW'S FIRST BUILDING

BY OLIVE NEWMAN, CHARTER MEMBER, AND WAYNE PORATH, MEMBER

The Holy Spirit was at work through a handful of people of Columbia, beginning in 1957. That group expanded in size, commitment, and faith such that on September 15, 1957 the first worship service of future St. Andrew's Lutheran Church members was held at the Union Labor Temple on Garth Avenue and on February 9, 1958, their "chartering" service was held, again at the Labor Temple. Attendance was 157 persons! The essentials – a lectern, brass cross, candle holders, make-shift altar – all were donated by future members, but a "church home" was sorely needed. Many church activities were being held at the parsonage. Leaders of the new church body promptly began planning for their permanent church home.

The first step was to acquire a lot. In June, 1958, a beautiful wooded, 4-acre lot at 914 West Boulevard South was purchased for \$25,000, with a 10% down payment. The financial note, along with the note for the parsonage (which had originally been made by members), were taken over by the Board of American Missions, possible only because several members co-signed the note. This location was desirable because Columbia's population was rapidly expanding in this, the southwestern portion of the community.

An Executive Building Committee was established

in October 1958. Members were: Kenneth Hansen and Troy Newman (Co-chairs), David Smith, Donald Richard, Harold Haugen, Murrell Jackson, and Robert Smith. Troy Newman served as president of the congregation 1958-61, providing strong continuity to the building effort. From then until 1960 it was a time of struggle to reach a financial goal that would make building a reality. The building committee completed plans but all bids were very high. The Board of American Missions suggested that the congregation contact Creative Builders, Inc., of Urbana, Illinois for a bid because of their extensive experience with other churches, using standardized plans and precut construction materials. This effort proved successful with substantial reduction in bid without substantial changes in design. By June 1960, the financial goal was reached and ground breaking ceremonies were held. Construction progressed on schedule, allowing the first worship service to be held in the new building on December 18, 1961, presided over by Pastor Morris Niedenthal. It was a time of great joy for the many families that had given so much to make St. Andrew's a reality.

General contractor for the building was Murrell Jackson, a member of St. Andrew's. Cost was \$96,500, including \$63,342 for the general contractor, \$20,400 for the package shell from Creative

Builders, \$5,000 for architectural fees and the remainder for furnishings, lighting, and insurance. The Cheltenham National Bank held a \$27,400 construction loan and the Board of American Missions held a \$51,000, 2% 3rd mortgage loan. During their fourth annual meeting on January 29, 1961, the congregation voted to “...go officially on record as extending to Murrell Jackson vote of thanks for constructing a fine church building with a limited amount of funds.” Mr. Jackson responded by extending his thanks to the congregation for giving him the opportunity to build the church.

The Executive Building Committee recognized that growth potential was indeed great and that the building program be planned accordingly. Their vision was that the first unit be used as a chapel with seating for 155 people, designed for future expansion. They looked at a number of churches in Columbia and in the St. Louis area. The 1959 Annual Report states, “We hope that the first unit will not only serve a functional value but also will include great esthetic values.”

The new church was a low-arched building, laid on an east-west axis, with the main entrance on the west, facing West Boulevard South. Parking was on the north and east. Landscaping accented the open woods lying to the south of the structure. An earth-tone color of external brick was selected to provide a warm welcome, further accented inside by the natural color arching laminated wooden beams that provided the main structural support. Inside the main doors was a foyer, with the pastor’s study immediately to the right. The nave was furnished with folding metal chairs, which, in addition to providing cost-effective seating, provided needed flexibility to maximize use of limited space. Sunday School classrooms lined

the southern wall. A small but highly functional kitchen with serving counter was positioned on the front, immediately to the left of the altar. This kitchen, of course, was critical to the many congregational dinners and other gatherings through the years. Behind the altar were the furnace room (no air conditioning), rest rooms, and a library. The altar was simple, yet beautiful, with the same lectern, cross and candle-holders as had been used at the Labor Temple. The centerpiece was a beautiful mosaic cross that hung above the altar, lovingly created by Mrs. Corrine Niedenthal as her last gift to the congregation when she and Pastor Niedenthal left in the fall of 1960. In 2008, this mosaic is visible on the west wall of the Fellowship Hall, which is our original building, redesigned to meet current needs.

We can be thankful that God was at work through the dedicated members of St. Andrew’s 50 years ago as they sacrificed much to ensure that this building became a reality. Pastor James Sylvester came to St. Andrew’s in 1961. His pastor’s report for the 1961 Annual Report was entitled “OUR HOPE FOR THE FUTURE”. In reflecting on measurement of growth he noted, “*How ever many members a congregation may have, if its witness is not vital and dynamic, it is not a large or an effective part of the body of Christ. The congregation is made up of its individual members and it functions as a unified body... And though the growth is manifested in the appearance and activity of the whole, it is still constituted in the growth of its individual members*”. He further challenged members of that day to ask themselves whether they were growing in their effectiveness of witnessing for Christ – a challenge for us of this day, a half-century later.



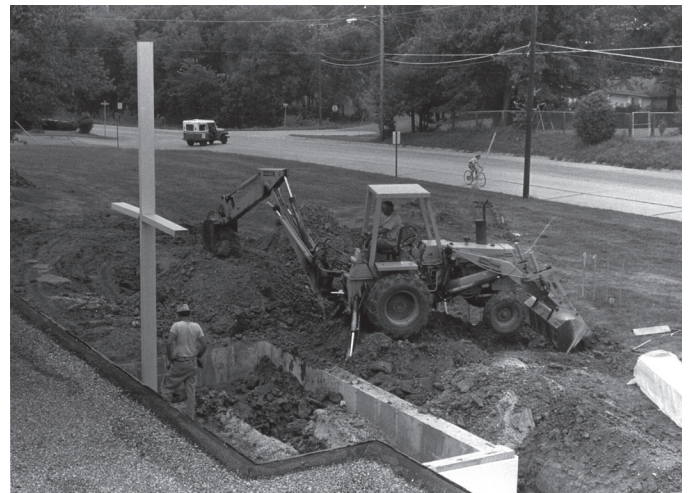
CENTRUM 30TH ANNIVERSARY

BY OSMUND OVERBY, MEMBER

Ground breaking for the Centrum addition to St. Andrew's took place July 10, 1977, and the building was dedicated February 28, 1978, on the twentieth anniversary of the congregation. The project grew out of a pressing need for better facilities for the Sunday school and other programs, and a more long-range need for a larger worship space. The most practical solution to these needs was to build a new worship center that would be flexible enough to serve a variety of functions, and to remodel the original church, built in 1960-61, to be our fellowship hall. The architect for the project was Edward A. Sövik, a nationally recognized specialist in church design of the firm Sövik, Mathre, Sathrum and Quanbeck. The general contractor was B. D. Simon Construction Company. The Executive Building Committee members were: Osmund Overby (Chair), Chuck Headley, Milton Berg, Dwight Beach, Chris Johannsen (President of the Congregation), Peggy Larson, and Petey Bank.

The new building was made of similar brick to the existing building. It formed an L with the original building to enclose a new garden area to the southeast. One of the main entrances was from the parking lot through this garden area, the other was through the new front doors on the west side of the building. It deliberately was not a "churchy"

design, to indicate that we believe that the mission of our congregation is to be found in the world, not apart from it. For the same reason the plan of the new worship space was made as flexible as possible so that it can serve many other purposes. The design was guided by the idea that the space is made sacred by the congregation gathered in worship. To reflect these new attitudes toward the building, the architect coined the word "Centrum" for the worship room in place of the traditional terms Sanctuary or Nave.



The new building is made of familiar materials—brick, concrete block, steel, oak. They are not disguised by costly finishes and decorations, but rather honesty and simplicity were the guides to their use. Careful attention was given to the design of detail so that the emphasis would be on the quality of materials and of the workmanship.

Less tangible but important to the experience of the room are the harmonious proportions of the space and the acoustics, finely tuned by the concrete block, to give a presence to the human voice, singly or in groups, spoken or sung, and to a range of instruments from the pipe organ to the dulcimer. The character of the building therefore is not pretentious or elaborate, but rather straightforward, solid, dependable—qualities that should be reflected in our congregation.

The Centrum is made a light, warm space by the yellow ceiling and upper walls, on sunny or cloudy days and even at night. Attention focuses on the furnishings, which have the brighter colors and richer forms. The baptismal font, symbolically placed at the entrance with the blue greens of the windows reflected in its flowing water, and the organ mounted on the opposite wall, are the only two fixed furnishings in the room. The altar table, the pulpit, the sectional platform on which they stand, the communion rail, the processional candlesticks, and the chairs for the congregation, are all moveable and can be re-arranged for other types of services or removed when the Centrum is to be used for other purposes.

The altar is in the form of a table to stress the importance of the sacrament of the Lord's Supper. The bronze St. Andrew's cross that stands at the font, in the interlocking triangles of its design also symbolizes the Trinity, and in the intersecting vertical and horizontal, the cross of Christ. Christ's cross is found repeatedly in the paraments, woven in the seasonal colors of the liturgical year specially for the Centrum by Barbara Overby of our congregation. She also designed the kneelers, which were made in a workshop in Portugal. All the colors in the room are moderated to harmo-

nize with each other and with the stained glass windows. The windows were designed by Dietrich Spahn, a specialist in liturgical arts, on the theme of Father, Son and Holy Spirit on the west wall, and Word and Sacrament on the east wall. He titled the large window on the south wall, "Christ in the World." The windows and all of these special furnishings were gifts from members of the congregation. Our building as we know it today was completed in 1991 with the addition of the education wing enclosing the courtyard memorial garden. Keith Westenhaver of our congregation was the architect.

The realization of this building project was made possible through the sacrificial giving of many members of the congregation. Some of the special and designated gifts were: Baptismal font – Dr. and Mrs. Jack Horton in honor of their children John, Anne and Jim; Altar table – The Troy Newman family; Processional candlesticks – Mrs. Petey Bank; Processional cross – Pastor and Mrs. Morris J. Niedenthal; St. Andrew's banner – Mr. and Mrs. John Swanson in memory of their son Neil; Stained glass windows – Mrs. Pam Struessel in memory of her husband, Dr. Kenneth Struessel; Chancel chairs – Mr. and Mrs. Norton Strommen; Cabinet in Parish Administrator's Office – Mr. Kenneth Hansen.



SUNDAY SCHOOL WING

BY JOHN FARMER, MEMBER

By the 1980's the Congregation had grown substantially. This growth paralleled the growth in Columbia. But it also reflected the leadership and outward focus of the Congregation. Although the original church building together with the addition of the Centrum had served us well, we began to outgrow our physical space. As with the first expansion project, a committee was formed to assess our needs. The committee did an excellent job, however, their task was made easier by the obvious need for more and better Sunday School space.

With the needs assessment well documented, a Building Committee was formed Fall of 1987 to take the process to the next step. John Farmer chaired this enthusiastic committee consisting of Daryl Buchholz, Gus De Wall, Pat Ehlmann, Scherrie Goetch, Glenda Moum, Jim Linsenbardt, and Ozzie Overby. Working with the Building Committee, the council selected Keith Westenhaver as our architect. Keith and the Building Committee began planning and made preliminary designs in consultation with many groups and individuals from the Congregation. Earlier the addition of the Centrum filled our needs for worship and the remodeling of the original building served well for our fellowship needs. The challenge was to tie these two pieces together in a way that would meet our needs for Sunday School space. At the end of the design pro-

cess, Keith presented an excellent design that met our goals splendidly.

Building on the excitement generated by the preliminary design, a Steering Committee for the Capital Funds Drive was established August, 1988. This committee was co-chaired by Dean and Diane Fitzgerald. They were supported by Tom Coon, Gary and Diana Johnson, Roy and Barb Robinson, Gordon and Linda Afhahl, Pan Struessel, David and



Betty McCarthy, Nyle and Paulette Wollenhaupt, Ann Havey and Daryl and Joyce Buchholz. We also hired an outside consultant to assist in this ambitious project. Even though the campaign exceeded our expectations, we still had to pare the original design back slightly to fit our budget. The main loss was the clearstory lighting for the classrooms, and some of the space had to be eliminated from the end of the wing.

With the final design in place and the promise of the necessary funding, the Building Committee began the hard work. Together with Keith, we sweated and worried over all the necessary details that go into a major building project. Keith provided the leadership during this process. His leadership skills were tested on occasion as this committee proved to be not only enthusiastic, but also full of many ideas about each step of the process. I clearly remember two specific examples that reflect this process. One involved a long and detailed discussion concerning kitchen sinks. The second example involved the process of picking colors for paint, tile, carpet, etc. There were literally hundreds of options for dozens of items. Fortunately, we had access to people with good skills in this area. Being colorblind put me at a distinct disadvantage, so I made my selections guided mostly by the names of the colors. To my surprise (and with a little pride) most of my selections made the final cut. However, if anyone takes objection to any colors in the Sunday School wing or the Fellowship Hall, I will defer to the experts that really made the choices.

The building process itself went fairly quickly. Keith closely supervised the construction, and I dropped in as often as I could because it was so much fun to watch the process. In the end we were all very pleased with the outcome. We dedicated the new Sunday School wing in the Spring of 1991. It included seven classrooms, a large nursery, a space for the Choir, and much needed storage space. Also, the Fellowship Hall was expanded to include three more classrooms and three partitioned spaces. It is only now, almost twenty years later that our needs for maintenance and new space are again focusing our attention on the next building phase in our growing Congregation.



VISUAL ARTS AT ST. ANDREW'S

BY BARBARA OVERBY, MEMBER

The visual arts have had an important place in the life of St. Andrews since the very beginning. During these 50 years many individuals and groups, professionals and amateurs, mostly members of the congregation have been involved in expressing our faith through art. From the architects and planners who designed the building to the Vacation Bible School children who have painted, pasted and papered their rooms, we have been enriched through their sensitive use of space, light, colors and textures.

The mosaic "Christ on the Cross" that now hangs on the west wall of the Fellowship Hall, was designed and created by Corrine Niedenthal, wife of the first pastor of St. Andrew's. In the original building, the present Fellowship Hall was the worship space (sanctuary) and the altar and this cross were at the east end of the room. Mrs. Niedenthal finished the large work well ahead of time for the service of dedication in December 1961. The glass, marble and tile pieces used in the construction of the work reflect a centuries old tradition of mosaic art in Christian churches around the world. It is fitting in our current setting where so much of the congregational activity takes place, especially serving as a focal point for the Saturday evening services.

The red doors in the Fellowship Hall were the

original west entrance doors to the church of the 1960's. Designed and built by former member David Rausch, the cross of St. Andrew remains a welcoming symbol of the hopes of a growing congregation. It too was saved and is an important reminder of Christ's disciple. The Greek letters Alpha and Omega on the doors denote God's eternity and infinitude.

When the large addition was built in 1977-78, the idea of a "Centrum" was new to the people of St. Andrew's. The architect was Edward A. Sovik, a nationally recognized designer of churches that embodied new theological interpretations of Christian worship. In keeping with the simplicity of familiar materials – brick, concrete block, steel and oak, the room reflects quality and workmanship, harmonious proportions of space and acoustics. The organ and the baptismal font are the only two fixed furnishings in the room. All other pieces including the sectional platform can be re-arranged for other types of services or removed when the Centrum is to be used for other purposes. All the colors in the room are moderated to harmonize with each other. They make the room a light, warm space on sunny or cloudy days and even at night. Many of these special furnishings were given as memorials by individuals and families of St. Andrew's.

The stained glass windows were designed by Dietrich Spahn, a specialist in liturgical arts. The west wall windows reflect the theme of Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and on the east wall the Word and Sacrament. Spahn titled the large window on the south wall, “Christ in the World”, the white cross of Christ over the orb of the world against a landscape with morning colors on the left, the east moving to evening colors on the right. The windows were a memorial gift from the Struessel family.

The windows provided inspiration for colors and design for other works of art in the Centrum. A large quilted banner by Bettina Havig hung on the west wall and for many years served well. Paraments and stoles in the seasonal colors of the church were woven by Barbara Overby and the kneelers which she designed were sewn in a traditional type of needlepoint by a cooperative workshop of women artists in Portugal. The designs of three of the kneelers were adapted from the chapter headings in the Lutheran Book of Worship. The other four are inspired by the colors and forms in the stained glass windows.

Seasonal banners and decorations woven, quilted and appliquéd have been made by many members. They include the Bethlehem scene used at Christmas, Mary and Child, a Lenten banner and several others such as the baptismal banners and napkins, a woven wedding banner and the quilt in the Fellowship Hall. At Christmas, the tree in the Centrum is decorated with Chrismons made by many women of the congregation. Geneen Morgan, LCW President at the time, recalls that LCW had “no money” so she went to the Church Council with a request for \$25 for white lights. The request was approved, and the women proceeded with the project, donating all other materials. The word Chrismon

comes from “Christi Monogramma”, Latin for the Monogram of Christ. Symbols such as the anchored cross, Star of David, the Crown of Christ, Alpha and Omega, and various sea shells are just a few of the symbols frequently used. They are stitched and wired together, and made of pearls and gold wire. Our collection of them began in the ‘60s with the inspiration of Betty Kvam, a few new ones have been added, and they have been lovingly cared for and repaired over time.



A major expansion of the education areas and remodeling of the fellowship areas, the Narthex in particular, was accomplished in 1991. This very sensitive blending of the two buildings with light entering through the skylight and courtyard into the Narthex was designed by Keith Westenhaver, a prominent Columbia architect and long time mem-

ber of the congregation. With access to the Courtyard there was now additional space for coffee hours, meditation and even an outdoor classroom in good weather. Now called the Memorial Courtyard Garden, arrangements for burial are available for members and non-members of the church. In the Narthex is a carving of the prayer of St. Andrew designed by Osmund Overby and carved by local artist, Greg Olsen.



In 1991, the Troy Newman family, had the large sculpture of three crosses and Andrew's fishing nets made by a local artist, Don Asbee. It is placed on the west lawn of the church, in memory of Troy Newman, one of the very hard-working and faithful founding fathers of St. Andrew's.

The Sunday School and Vacation Bible School stu-

dents have done beautiful work in the education wing. Echoing the Niedenthal mosaic, is a mosaic cross at the east entrance made in the '90s by all the VBS children. Other summers they have also participated in weaving a ten-foot long rainbow and a "sea images" banner, both of which reflect the particular theme of the VBS theme for that year. Art projects are regularly used in both Sunday School and VBS to broaden the understanding and experiences of children of all ages. The murals on the walls in the education hall and individual classrooms are wonderful examples of this. It is obvious that we have very dedicated teachers, artists themselves, who are able to supervise this meaningful activity.

So many people – so many names, so many unnamed, so many hours, re-configuring the Centrum, setting up chairs for meetings and services, lighting candles, preparing communion, cleaning the kitchen, mowing the lawns, all these artists, making God's house a living work of art.







MINISTRY STAFF THROUGH THE YEARS

Pastors

Morris J. Niedenthal 1957-1960

James Sylvester 1961-1971

Ralph D. Anderson 1972-1986

Paul H. Moessner 1986-present

Julia A. Will 1995-present

Ministry Coordinators/Youth Ministers

Zelma Swailes 1982-1987

Dana McConnell 1988-1990

Sue Sjoblom
1990-1994

Jim Lewis 1996-2002

Dennis Burgart 2002-2004

Nic Bade 2004-2007





THE ST. ANDREW'S PIPE ORGAN

BY JOHN CARLSON, MEMBER

In late 1971, the congregation found it necessary to replace our well-used but failing electronic organ. A committee was formed to investigate alternatives and, although, a pipe organ was most desirable; it seemed totally beyond our reach. Ken Kavanaugh, a local organ builder, was contacted to discuss our needs and with his help, the St. Andrew's pipe organ became a reality. With used chestwork and pipes, one additional rank of new pipes, and a new console built to specifications determined by the committee and Mr. Kavanaugh, our organ was installed in 1972 in a chamber built by volunteers from the congregation.

Mr. Kavanaugh, now a member of St. Andrew's, has re-engineered the instrument into the space provided for it in the new building. Currently, the organ contains 5 ranks of pipes (377 total), accessible via 30 stops and couplers on the console. This accessibility is made possible by many feet of cable, approximately 6000 individual wire connections and over 2000 electrical contacts in the present specifications. The console was originally designed to allow for additions to the organ and in the new installation this is made possible by the addition of chestwork and wiring to accommodate 4 additional ranks (256 pipes) at some time in the future.

We now have a very fine instrument in an exciting environment, which has been obtained at less than half the cost of a similar, all new instrument. With the potential for expansion, it can become even more versatile and interesting—very possibly one of the finest small pipe organs in Missouri. It adds an enjoyable and essential dimension to our worship experience and will be even more highly appreciated in its new setting. Mr. Kavanaugh and the organ committee of St. Andrew's, with their foresight, careful planning and hard work, have made the “un-reachable” fall into our grasp.





BOY SCOUT TROOP 706

Saint Andrew's began sponsorship of Boy Scout Troop 706 in 1966. This partnership has been exciting and productive through the years. The troop has helped with yard clean up projects and taking a turn helping our assigned roadside clean up on Stadium Boulevard. Eagle projects include the stockade fence hiding the dumpster and remodeling the youth room. Troop 706 has been one of the more active in the Columbia. Many scouts achieved Eagle Scout status, including Saint Andrew's members listed here:

Eagle Date	Name
1974	Bank, David B.
1974	Fairchild, Bruce C.
1974	Kvam, Kenneth E.
1974	Westenhaver, John K.
1976	Kalleberg, Eric L.
1976	Yarwood, Kent D.
1976	Yarwood, Keith V.
1978	Yarwood, Douglas S.
1979	Yarwood, Dennis R.
1980	Nelson, Daniel C
1997	Stockham, Erik S.
2004	Blanchard, Sam S.
2007	Lee, Matthew
2007	McDonald, Michael
2008	McDonald, Thomas







SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF THE CONGREGATION

BY BRAD LOCKENVITZ, MEMBER

Among the products and blessings of St. Andrew's brief existence have been the significant number of its congregation called to the ministry. In but 50 years from this Columbia outpost of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America, where Lutherans of any stripe once were so rare that neighbors once asked the late Pastor Morris Niedenthal if his church was to be a new sect or cult, nine of our number have been inspired to study and spread the Gospel as ordained Lutheran ministers.

Some, like the Reverends Garrett Struessel, Steve Sylvester, Cathy Rosenholtz, Melissa Afdahl and seminary student Anna Murphy Ballan, grew up and were confirmed at St. Andrew's. Others, like the Reverend Chad Langdon, attended St. Andrew's while attending college. Senior Seminarian Maureen Howard and seminary students Scott Simmons and Ted Carnahan began attending St. Andrew's a bit later in life before taking the next step toward the ministry. Each of them shared a bit of his or her experience with us in celebration of the 50th anniversary of St. Andrew's.

The Reverend Melissa Afdahl The Reverend Melissa Afdahl, pastor at Glenwood Lutheran Church in Toledo, Ohio, expressed a "huge sense of gratitude" for the supportive community she grew up with at St. Andrew's, evidenced by the many adults supporting the spiritual growth of young people in the congregation. To her, this sense of community was where St. Andrew's offered the most to the inspiration and spiritual education of the young people of the church.

"There simply was no question that the pastors and other adult members of the congregation were dedicated to us and would be there for us each day," she said. "It gave us a true sense of security with them and with one another."

She described gaining a rewarding connection with Pastor Paul Moessner and Donna Moessner and their family. "It was like having a second set of parents," Pastor Afdahl said. She listed having Saturday breakfasts with Donna and Krista Moessner among her favorite memories.

Other cherished memories include assisting with younger children in Bible school, hosting the bands Captive Free and Young Encounter and making the trip to Rainbow Trails with her confirmation class. "I went to Rainbow Trails two more times,

once while backpacking in high school and once as a chaperon while in college,” she said. “It is a very special place.”

Pastor Julia Will arrived at St. Andrew’s between Pastor Afdahl’s junior and senior years of high school and provided added inspiration. “It was important to me seeing a woman in the ministry, and she always took time to support and nurture,” Pastor Afdahl said. “Pastor Julia and I went on a wonderful retreat together before my ordination. I asked her to preach at my ordination service and she was part of the ‘laying on of hands.’ She continues to be a valued friend and mentor.”

Anna Murphy Ballan, Seminarian Anna Ballan’s experience at St. Andrew’s began in 1988 when her parents, David and Gunilla Murphy, moved to Columbia. Anna now attends Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago. She describes her spiritual growth as having a slow start that progressed as she grew older and became involved in various activities of the church. She served in the children’s choir, as an acolyte and in the nursery, taught Vacation Bible School and trained to be a peer minister.

“The summer before my junior year of college, I was blessed with an internship opportunity at St. Andrew’s, during which I explored my call through conversations with Pastor Paul and Pastor Julia by visiting people in hospitals and nursing homes, preparing a sermon and working with high school youth,” she said, “That same fall I was invited to plan and lead a peer ministry retreat. These op-

portunities for ministry at St. Andrew’s taught me what it is like to lead and be committed to participation in a community.”

“Throughout my childhood, through a few years of teenage angst and in other major transitions in my life, St. Andrew’s has always been a welcoming place of quiet holiness, a place of safety,” Anna said. “The safe place that it provided challenged me to be myself, to ask questions and to take my faith seriously. Even now, as I continue to discern my call to ministry at seminary in Chicago, the community at St. Andrew’s is a constant companion.”

Many of Anna’s life passages have been marked at St. Andrew’s: taking her first communion, affirming her baptism, preaching her first sermon (during which she spilled a glass of water all over herself), and exchanging her wedding vows here. She lists each of these events as being intimately connected to worship and community.

She fondly recalls high school mid-week adventures, including egg roulette, Bible collages, progressive dinners, water balloon-capture the flag and candlelight prayer services. “I’ll not soon forget the wide-eyed enthusiasm of various Vacation Bible School kiddos as they crawled into a big trash bag whale with Jonah, watched Chatter the Chipmunk tackle Bible mysteries, laughed at church members dressed as shepherds and shouted out the words of their favorite praise songs,” she said.

To Anna the most valuable gifts St. Andrew’s gives to young people are love and respect. “Too often, adults lift young people up as ‘the future’ or as ‘the church of tomorrow,’” she said. “St. Andrew’s allows its youth to imagine that they are part of the church today. Indeed, this is as important for the

youth to understand as it is for the rest of the congregation.”

Anna describes St. Andrew’s community as rich and full of life. “Many intimate conversations with Pastor Julia, Pastor Paul and former youth director Jim Lewis are so precious to me, and their love and support have been incredibly helpful as I continue to discern my call to ministry,” she said. “Though these mentors have been a true blessing, the orange ‘pews’ of the church are filled with saints! I cannot begin to name all those who have lent an ear or shoulder, offered words of encouragement, helped to fund my seminary education or simply flashed big smiles to brighten my days.”

Ted Carnahan, Seminarian Now attending Wartburg Theological Seminary in Dubuque, Iowa, Ted Carnahan began attending St. Andrew’s in 2004 after finishing undergraduate school at Truman State University in Kirksville. In a state where Missouri Synod churches outnumber those of the ELCA by more than seven to one, Ted was baptized in a Missouri Synod church in St. Louis County but grew up attending an ELCA church. Ted described himself as growing up “nominally Lutheran” and as an “irregular church goer” as a teenager who began to get involved with the LCMS Student Center while at Truman State.

After moving to Columbia, Ted became impressed with the sense of community among adult members of St. Andrew’s congregation. “Everyone is afforded an opportunity to play a role in the church besides merely attending services, and each per-

son is given autonomy in choosing what that role will be.” He was impressed with how lay people were involved in the worship service and how they were made to feel comfortable in their church activities, noting, “No one is put on the spot.” He described the cookie ministry, where cookies are delivered to the homes of visitors to the church, as “an ingenious way of inviting people to return without making them feel uncomfortable.” That sense of community led to Ted’s decision to attend Wartburg, which he describes as “very much community-oriented.”

Ted and his wife Jennifer finalized the decision to seek the ministry while attending St. Andrew’s. Ted credits Pastors Paul and Julia with being “very instrumental in helping me understand and appreciate what a call to ministry might mean.”

Maureen Howard, Seminarian Maureen Howard, a Senior Seminarian at Luther Theological Seminary in St. Paul, Minnesota, has been serving an internship in Boone, Iowa. She expects her call to pastor a church this summer, and she is grateful for the friendships made at St. Andrew’s that have endured in the eight years since she moved.

Her call to ordained ministry came while she was in high school in New York, but she entered the seminary years later after attending St. Andrew’s with her husband, Mike, and her family. While here, along with Julie Florence and Mary Ellen Degan, she taught Sunday School classes for three year olds.

Many of her memories here involve her children. Daughter Rachel was confirmed here. Daughter Mariah was baptized here, and once cried so much while playing the role of the infant Jesus during a Christmas Eve service that her cries were tape-recorded to be used in future nativity scenes. In that service the entire Holy Family was portrayed by the Howards, with Rachel and son Steve depicted as angels.

Among her favorite activities were organizing and running the 1997 Vacation Bible School with Molly Zitsch, and a children's Christmas pageant called the OFF, OFF Broadway potluck dinner theatre, where borrowed hay for the stable effect provided unexpected trouble in cleaning.

Maureen fondly recalls Pastor Julia comforting her and her family by praying with them and their physician prior to surgery for Rachel. She felt the Holy Spirit present with them then and credits the continued presence of the Holy Spirit during her time at St. Andrew's with maintaining her desire to pursue the ministry.

The Reverend Chad Langdon The Reverend Chad Langdon, now Associate Pastor at Hope Lutheran Church in St. Charles, Missouri, said time at St. Andrew's while in college "absolutely influenced my decision to enter the ministry and to choose the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America." Those decisions were not final when he first started attending St. Andrew's during his sophomore year at the University of Missouri. While attending St. Andrew's, he also attended the LCMS campus church as he decided what path to take.

"Pastor Paul Moessner was very good and very encouraging in letting me explore all my interests before choosing the path I took," he said. At one point he was given charge of a confirmation small group. "And I loved teaching confirmation high school kids," Pastor Langdon said.

Pastor Langdon credits Pastor Julia Will and former Youth Pastor Jim Lewis as well as Pastor Paul with inspiring and preparing him for the ministry, as each of them encouraged him to participate in the ministry of the church in whatever ways in which he felt suited. "All of them were good at equipping people — letting others do the ministry," he said. Of particular importance was his opportunity to observe the differences between the role of pastor and the role of youth minister.

"Much of what I saw former youth minister Jim Lewis do, I have incorporated into my youth ministry," Pastor Langdon said. "And while Pastor Paul challenged my thinking, I always felt very comfortable in his presence. Pastor Julia had a unique way of reaching and challenging my feelings. They are very special people."

Like others who went on to ordained ministry, Pastor Langdon also praised Saint Andrew's congregation with his preparation, in particular the Bob and Linda Buchheit family. He became very close to their son, Brian, while attending here.

And also like others, he remembers his trip to Rainbow Trails as an "awesome experience." He has grateful memories of Saturday night services and the time during his first year of seminary when the congregation arranged for him to fly back to Columbia to see his students being confirmed.

The Reverend Cathy Rosenholtz The Reverend Cathy Rosenholtz was three years old when her family moved to Columbia. She now serves as Pastor of St. Jacobus Evangelical Lutheran Church in Woodside (Queens), New York. Her background is unique. Her father is Jewish, and her mother, Sandra, remains a member of St. Andrew's. She and her sister were brought up celebrating both sets of holidays but attended Hillel and its Jewish school for children on Sundays with occasional visits to St. Andrew's.

She recalls what she describes as the "strong, yet gentle presence of [former] Pastor Ralph Anderson, who so clearly preached the Lutheran message of grace," a message she said she very much needed to hear. "At age 14, after coming to believe deeply in Christ as the Incarnation, I was baptized (in the new sanctuary with its 'living water' font) by Pastor Anderson," Pastor Rosenholtz said. "I still have the baptismal candle. Over the years, Pastor Anderson was always open to my spiritual questions and explorations, and he made sure a whole group of us received our 'last ditch' confirmation before we left for college." While she attended Harvard, Pastor Rosenholtz found Pastor Anderson remained available for her when she came home asking tough questions and began realizing her call to ordained ministry.

Pastor Rosenholtz was graduated from Harvard with a Master of Divinity degree and served as an intern at Redeemer Lutheran Church in Rochester, New York where she again encountered Pastor Anderson. He later presented her for ordination. "So that means he baptized me, confirmed me and presented me for ordination," she said. Along the way Pastor Rosenholtz served at a shelter for homeless and destitute women, as a hospital chaplain in

Philadelphia and wrote a master's thesis entitled "Faith Without Fratricide: Some Suggestions for a Lutheran Senior High Sunday School Curriculum to Counteract Anti-Semitism."

"Needless to say, when I think of St. Andrew's, I think of Pastor Anderson, but there have been other wonderful people over the years as well," Pastor Rosenholtz said. "I was deeply grateful for the beautiful purple stole that Barbara Overby wove for me as an ordination gift."

"St. Andrew's, as the only ELCA parish in Columbia, has been a beacon of thoughtful, intelligent ministry with a warm and caring heart," she said. "It was a great place to grow up and a model for what parish ministry can be."

Scott Simmons, Seminarian Scott Simmons, a member of St. Andrew's since 1982, is taking advantage of the distance learning program offered by Luther Seminary in St. Paul, Minnesota. He cites St. Andrew's program of inclusion in its ministry as contributing to his call. "I always have felt that St. Andrew's has supported the Lutheran teaching of the priesthood of the believers," he said. "All along I have been challenged, encouraged and supported in a variety of roles and settings. The freedom to be a lay minister helped open me up to God's call to the ordained ministry."

Scott came to Columbia after completing undergraduate school and while he began his post-graduate work at the University of Missouri's School of Journalism. His most memorable event with St.

Andrew's to date was the Reverence Praise Band trip to Estes Park, Colorado, in 2003 to present music for the Rocky Mountain Synod youth gathering. "It was quite a blessing to be part of a group of 13 everyday people who were able to be on stage for something like 28 out of 54 hours and present over 50 different songs for over 750 enthusiastic high school youth," he said.

Other favorite memories include his wedding with wife Kelli, his son's confirmation, Tuesday meetings with Pastor Paul, high school hunger strike lock-ins, Rainbow Trail hiking trips, the Isle Royal high school trip, visits from Joseph Sittler and Martin Marty, his participation in the Reverence Praise Band, Seder meals, Easter vigil baptisms and being the first church in the Central States Synod to use a setting from the new ELW for worship.

Scott believes St. Andrew's most important gift to the inspiration and spiritual development of young people is offering the following: "Freedom to test the waters... a freedom that ultimately allows the Holy Spirit to meet them where they are, not in some pre-programmed box."

The Reverend Garrett Struessel The Reverend Garrett Struessel, Pastor of Resurrection Lutheran Church in Lakewood, Colorado, describes St. Andrew's as a place of formation as a young person. "From the earliest memory my beliefs about God were formed [at St. Andrew's] with an openness to all of God's creation and all people and a rejection of the more conservative-right image of God, which always seemed to limit God to one's own perspec-

tive," he said. "It is hard to put a finger on this kind of teaching, but later on when I began to study theology more intently, I found that my beliefs and the overall culture of much conservative Christianity were not aligned. The regular teachings through sermons, Bible studies, confirmation classes and mission/youth trips helped to form who I am in countless ways."

Pastor Struessel said St. Andrew's became a central place for him and his family when his father was killed in a car accident in 1977. He said Pastor Anderson, a close friend of his father's, became a father figure for him as he grew up.

He thanks Dana McConnell for introducing him to Luther College when he was a senior in high school. "It was a fantastic place to go to college," he said. "It was through there that I worked at Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp and through Rainbow Trail that I felt called to into ministry as Youth Director. Then on from there to seminary."

His own youth group trips to Rainbow Trail and a mission trip to Mexico City in 1988 made important impressions on him while at St. Andrew's. "I routinely tell people the Mexico City trip changed my life forever," he said.

Pastor Struessel offered thanks to Pastor Moessner and to the whole congregation for supporting him through the years and in supporting him in his seminary education. "It has meant a lot to be 'from' St. Andrew's Lutheran Church," Pastor Struessel said.

The Reverend Steve Sylvester Pastor Steve Sylvester, the Lead Pastor at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Circle Pines, Minnesota, credits former Pastor Ralph Anderson with being the person who most contributed to his career choice. "He simply went about the work of being a pastor in the right way." Pastor Sylvester said. "No pretension, but he was always appraising the present and looking ahead with a sense of what God was asking of him."

In discussing experiences at St. Andrew's that led to his call, Pastor Struessel also gave credit to the congregation. "I would suppose it had something to do with having so many surrogate grandparents, etc. in the congregation," he said. "I also saw that St. Andrew's made a difference in people's lives, both in the congregation and in the community."

Pastor Sylvester said the congregation was most helpful to young people of his time "by taking us seriously, both as persons of faith in our own right and by encouraging us to have a voice concerning the direction of the congregation."

Pastor Sylvester has composite, pleasant memories of children having the run of the church building in his youth during the period when his father, Reverend James Sylvester, was pastor of St. Andrew's. Pastor Jim [retired] and his wife Marge, recall fondly that their son Steve was the first member of St. Andrew's to attend Bethany College.

Confirmed at St. Andrew's in 1973, the Reverend Sylvester credited his confirmation experience with being the most formative of the youth experiences of his day, "I don't remember much by way of content, but I do remember that I enjoyed working with and learning from Pastor Anderson and my fellow students."

Conclusion As we of St. Andrew's celebrate our first half century, with pride and affection we thank these sons and daughters of our congregation who shared their memories with us and answered the call to Christ's sharing in faith, fellowship and service.







MISSIONARY WORK BY MEMBERS OF SAINT ANDREW'S

Faith, Hope and Lawyers.

BY SUSAN GOLDAMMER

Whoever heard of a lawyer missionary? What can an attorney really do to further God's mission? No one really wants a lawyer in the United States! Why would they want one in another country?

And yet the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania desperately needs trained attorneys to lecture at the branches of Tumaini (Hope) University, a Lutheran-sponsored higher education institution in Tanzania. In a developing country, new to independence, democracy, and individual rights, lawyers are essential and hard to find. The universities in Tanzania are struggling to fill the need and the few trained advocates in the country are not sufficient to fill all the lecturer positions. The Tanzanian church asked the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) for assistance. They needed lawyers.

But as Jonah would tell us, hearing a call and answering it are two different things. I needed more than a nudge to give up a comfortable career and move to Tanzania. St. Andrew's was there from the beginning. From the advice of Pastor Paul to investigate mission options through the ELCA, to the

wise words of my friends at church, to the blessings I received before I departed, St. Andrew's taught me the true meaning of faith. I slowly loosened the ties that bound me so closely to my family, friends, career, and country. I learned to pray.



And St. Andrew's has been with me through the journey. I curled up in the warm comfort of the prayer shawl the church gave me in the airplane as the last glimpse of the United States faded through the window. I was carried through my mission by the weekly prayers of support and guidance from congregation members and the packages, letters, and e-mails from my church family. And through

the monetary gifts sent to help Tanzanians in need, St. Andrew's circled the globe and shared its love directly. I am overwhelmed at St. Andrew's support of my mission. At no point during the journey did I walk alone.

My students are challenging and brilliant and struggling and full of ambition. They have overcome amazing educational and financial obstacles to even attend a university. When they graduate they will shape the future of Tanzania. Will Tanzania escape corruption and lift itself out of poverty? Will it support freedom of speech, escape tribalism, respect religious freedom and support human rights? Will Tanzania remain a peaceful country? The name of the university says it all. Tumaini means Hope in Swahili. I hope and pray every day.

I thought I would be giving something of myself to better the world. What better way to help a young, struggling democracy than to educate its law students on constitutionalism, human rights, and justice? But I learned more than I taught and I received more than I gave. That is the paradox of missionary work – God sends you to help so that you may saved.

Mission Teaching in the Slovak Republic

By ANJA MOESSNER

During the 2004-2005 school year I had the privilege of being a volunteer English teacher in Liptovsky Mikulas, a small town in the Slovak Republic. It is hard to put in words just how amazing this experience was, but I will try.

I won't deny the incredible challenges facing me. I was teaching at a young high school, with very few resources. Slovakia is a country still recovering from communism and Liptovsky Mikulas is feeling the economic strain especially hard. Equally challenging was being in a foreign country with very few English speakers. But, in spite of all that, it was still the best experience of my life. I worked with the most caring teachers who were so quick to befriend me and the three other American teachers. I had students who were excited for me to be there and worked harder than any other students I had ever seen. I was in a country with such rich history and in a town nestled in beautiful mountains.



Now when I tell people about my experience I often get surprised looks and always get the question how did you end up there? Well the short answer is that I wanted to teach abroad and the Division for Global Missions program in Slovakia was the best fit for me. But thinking about it as I write this, I realize that the answer goes beyond that. I can remember sitting in my college apartment during my senior year, having panic attacks about what would happen after graduation. As I looked on line for post college options this program kept coming up. Although I tried to dismiss it – a volunteer job out of the country just didn't seem practical – God had sent a clear message that I could not ignore. Of course this journey started a lot earlier then senior year. It started as I grew up in a strong faith community, first with my parents, but in no way would it be complete without St. Andrew's.

Editor's Note: Anja is the daughter of Pastor Paul and Donna Moessner.







OUTREACH MINISTRIES OF ST. ANDREW'S

Sharing Christ – in faith, fellowship, and SERVICE

BY DEEDEE SCHLICHTING, MEMBER

The Ministry Team leads and supports Saint Andrew's in fulfilling its purpose as a community of disciples, coordinating service to meet global, national, and local needs. Over the last 50 years of our church history, Ministry Teams have empowered our church members to be instruments of God's love who are dedicated to "love our neighbors as ourselves..." and to act deliberately to meet the needs of others.

Assistance and sharing, through Christian service, have been provided and built upon the congregation's core principles: worship, evangelism, fellowship, discipleship and ministry. The Ministry Team is complimented in its efforts through the assistance and involvement of the church's two women's circles (Esther Circle and Ruth Circle) and other internal committees.

The following is a partial listing of the agencies and ministries in which St. Andrew's has been involved through the years:

Assistance League of Mid-Missouri

Upscale Resale Shop

Links to Learning

Parent Packs and Bundles for Babies

Women's Achievement Scholarship

Operation School Bell new clothing for disadvantaged children

Kaboodle Kits for battered women's shelter

Assault Survival Kits for females in hospital ER

Book Bags reading to children in nursery schools

Support for The Shelter for battered women and their children

Boone County Council on Aging

Food delivery, visits to the elderly, grocery aide

Lawn care, snow removal and small maintenance help

Phone calls for reassurance

Boys and Girls Club of the Columbia area

Central Missouri Food Bank and Food Pantry donations and assistance

Habitat for Humanity – construction, financial support, record keeping

Columbia Human Services Agencies, with the Inter-faith Council

Love, Inc. (affordable housing, job training, day care and parenting help, locally)

Lutheran Family & Children's Services – Originally housed by St. Andrew's, board members, fundraising, youth mentoring, adoption

Columbia Meals on Wheels – Initiated by Pastor Anderson, board members, drivers

The Wardrobe – staffing clothing donation shop

St. Andrews Shepherds Ministry – Cookie Patrol for visitors, College Connections for students, Feed the Lambs (meals for new parents, recently

hospitalized members, etc.), Cradle Roll, Visiting Shepherds, Katy's Closet, Military Connections, Provide-A-Ride

Prayer Shawl Ministry, Prayer Groups

Red Cross Blood Drives

Salvation Army Coat Drive Collection

Shelters for the Homeless – St. Francis for men and Lois Bryant House for women and children

Loaves & Fishes Soup Kitchen in Columbia

Voluntary Action Center's Christmas Gift & Food program and Columbia Coat drive

Global missions – World Food Resource Bank seed project, school supply/book bags for third world countries, world disaster relief, Free Trade product sales

Jail Ministry at county prisons for women and men

Endowment Board – Monetary gifts to ministries

Public Meeting Place – Boy Scouts, polling place, etc.

Fifth Sunday Offering for community organizations and agencies

Emergency Needs financial assistance for utilities and gas

Sponsored Inter-Faith Lenten Breakfast for Columbia community

St. Francis House – providing meals for the homeless; donation of blankets

Crop Walk through Church World Service

RAIN (Regional AIDS Network) – sponsored a Care Friend for three years

Inter-Faith Ecumenical Thanksgiving Worship Services with Fifth Street Christian, Trinity Presbyterian, Columbia United Church of Christian – offering collected for local community organizations

School Supplies and Book donations for Field and Benton Elementary Schools

Miracle Day for Fifth Street Christian – helped with church renovations

GRO (Grass Roots Organization) – advocacy for homeless and low income issues

Kutaisi Salt Collection for Columbia's sister city in Republic of Georgia

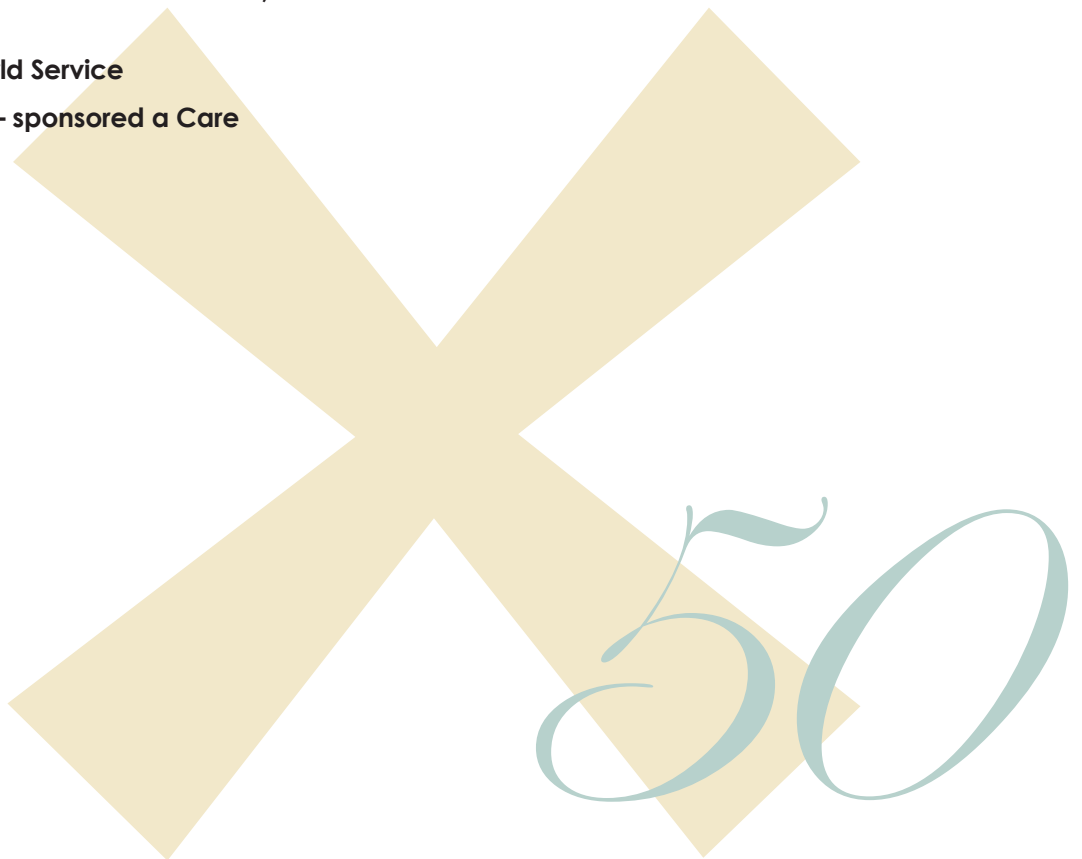
Douglas Park Summer Lunch Program

Church Women United

Rainbow House - emergency shelter for abused and neglected children

The Shelter – shelter for battered women and survivors of rape, and their children

McCambridge Center – treatment center for women experiencing alcohol and drug problems





PARISH MINISTRY ASSOCIATE

A St. Andrew's Guided Journey

BY BILL MARKGRAF, PARISH MINISTRY ASSOCIATE

I was first introduced to St. Andrew's in 1976 when Ralph Anderson was pastor. What with teaching on many weekends and having family back in my home town area of Joliet, Illinois I didn't get to attend on a regular basis. After a year and a half I moved to University City, Missouri to become the Fire Chief, where I joined Bethel Lutheran Church shortly after arriving. This was an interesting venture as Bethel was the second church to leave the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod and a dozen or more of the professors that had walked out of Concordia Seminary in next door Clayton, Missouri had joined Bethel. What a great opportunity to learn. I began to serve as an assisting minister, which I suppose you could say began a long journey toward becoming a Parish Ministry Associate.

When Linda and I returned to Columbia we immediately joined St. Andrew's. We were greeted by many of the warm and caring "old timers" and Pastor Paul and made to feel right at home. Folks will never know how much that meant to us.

After a short period of time I began to assist Pastor Paul on Sunday mornings. Occasionally when

Pastor Paul was out of town I would preside. It just seemed a natural thing to do although I was scared out of my wits when doing so.



As our friendship grew Pastor Paul became aware of a new program that was beginning in our Synod. Past Bishop Charlie Maahs stopped in Columbia and we talked about my joining in this new program. He warned me that it would

take a lot of work and travel (classes were held in St. Louis, Kansas City, and Nebraska as the program was a combined effort with the Nebraska Synod). Bishop Maahs was right. I put more miles on my car in three years than I had in the past 10!

Along with my newfound friend Larry Lemke and 5 others I was part of the first class of "PMAPERS" (Parish Ministry Associates). After three years of classes and travel I was certified for Word and Sacrament by Bishop Maahs on October 15, 1995. Since then I have filled in at St. Andrew's as well as a half dozen or more other churches including Methodist and Presbyterian!

My longest service besides St. Andrew's continues to be at Peace Lutheran in Salisbury, Missouri. I guess I've been filling in off and on for the past 15 years. I'm usually there 2-3 times a month and during Lent and Advent.

I recently returned from a grade school class reunion. Many were surprised that Billy Markgraf was filling in as a Pastor. But then that just proves that our God can do anything. With great joy I am most grateful to Pastor Paul for his encouragement, guidance, and support.





BITS AND ABUNDANCE

PASTOR PAUL H. MOESSNER

The Apostle Andrew – it seems – was just a bit player. In the drama of Jesus' earthly ministry and of the early church, he does not get top billing. Even so... In the three stories where he does have a role [John 1, 6, 12] significant results follow his bit part.

Of the thousands of people who have entered our congregation for worship and then re-entered the world for service, most of us may seem only bit part players in the world's drama. Even so, these are the people, the hands and the voices God has used and will continue to bring to reality Jesus' words: I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly. [John 10:10]

I praise God for all who have shared their unique parts, contributing to the ministry of Saint Andrew's, to the abundant joy many have and will continue to receive.





ANNIVERSARY LETTER FROM PASTOR WILL

"Make a joyful noise to the Lord..." Psalm 100:1

I was struck with the sound of baby noises during worship on Easter. As we were proclaiming the empty tomb, the sound of baby noises resounded in the walls of the Centrum . . . loud, ruckus, baby sounds of joyous noise! The wild paradox of living baby sounds along side the Gospel's remembrance of the first witnesses of the resurrection bridged the communion of saints in a trajectory of joy. Joining the sound of band, brass, choirs and the singing of generations of families, friends, guests and strangers, the sound of joyous baby noises created a cacophony of timeless praise to the crucified, resurrected Lord of Life.

It is in this spirit of joy we celebrate the 50th anniversary of Saint Andrew's Lutheran church. The theme of our celebration is inspired by Psalm 100. Psalm 100 is a song of thankful praise to the God of faithful love, to all generations. We remember the patient, prayerful tenacity of the generation of charter members and their desire to share the good news of Christ. These charter members courageously envisioned a new Lutheran congregation on an empty plot of land on West Boulevard. They chose to call this congregation Saint Andrew's, and like the disciple Andrew, they set about sharing the Gospel. In their daily walk and also door to door they asked people to "come and see," and to be a part of Christ's mission to the world.

The 50-year history of Saint Andrew's is rich with marvelous stories of faith, fellowship and service for the sake of the world. Like the disciple Andrew who saw the needs of the multitude and brought forth a child willing to share his meal of loaves and fishes, our ministries have multiplied in the hands of Christ. Through the continuing generations, these ministries have abundantly blessed countless lives all over the world. These acts of faithfulness by the saints of Saint Andrew's proclaim the joyous willingness to give, often sacrifice, allowing for the priority of the life of faith that is alive and growing in God's grace.

In true Saint Andrew's style, this year has brought forth a variety of diverse, comprehensive and memorable moments of golden times together. It was a special gift to have Saint Andrew's founding pastor and his wife, Dr. Morris and Corrine Niedenthal, with us in our September anniversary celebration of Saint Andrew's first worship. We give thanks for the life of Dr. Niedenthal and remember his entry into eternal life, February 8, 2008, the day before the 50th anniversary of Saint Andrew's charter. As a further gift of hope, the joyous noise of a new little life was born on February 9, 2008, to join the saints of Saint Andrew's in their celebration. We enjoyed a wonderful "Music Festival" in honor of our charter as saints in heaven and on earth sang together.

As we look to the celebration on April 19-20, 2008, I give thanks for the dedication of those who have worked diligently on all the aspects of our celebrations this year. So many people have graciously given of their time, talent and treasures to make this anniversary a truly splendid thanksgiving to Christ and his church. We are all looking forward to the April 19-20th festivities and the wonderful reunion with folks coming from all over the country. What a joy to see previous pastors, staff, members and friends of Saint Andrews.

I count myself blessed beyond measure to serve along side the saints of Saint Andrew's these thirteen years. I thank my God everyday, for our partnership in the Gospel and my call to serve as the associate pastor of this marvelous congregation. As well, my partnership along side the leadership and brilliance of Pastor Paul Moessner has deeply enriched my understanding of the pastorate and the church, for which I am most grateful.

Now, together, as a congregation we look prayerfully to our future asking what God's vision is for us in our desire to continue to "share Christ, in faith, fellowship and service." We look with excitement to the building of a Habitat for Humanity home, the calling of a director of youth and family ministry, the renewal of our church building and whatever else the Lord has in mind. Our hearts seek to be open to the will of Christ.

"...For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations."

Psalm 100:5

With you, for Christ,

Pastor Julia A. Will





THE SECOND FIFTY YEARS

RICK COY

Jeremiah 29:11-13 *For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.”*

As we at Saint Andrew's, now in our second fifty years, move forward, it's tempting to imagine where we might be in just ten years. No matter how much time we spend planning or creating a vision, the simple truth is, we can't know with any certainty exactly where we will be. Our culture is continually changing, our congregation will welcome new people and say goodbye to old friends, and our needs and the needs of our community will change. So what do we know?

We know our congregation is blessed with people who are talented and are willing to share those gifts, and are willing to give their time. Inspired by our founders, we are willing to dream. Committed to our mission and our core principles, we are willing to serve. Energized by our strategic plan and new leadership opportunities, we are willing to act. It is these attributes that convince me that we can and will continue to advance Youth and Family Ministry, expand Christian Education, grow Community Ministry programs, and develop a Master Plan for facilities improvements. These

achievements will keep us grounded and serve as a road map well into the future.

Our challenge then is not dreaming, serving, deciding or acting, but is one of discernment. As a diversified multi-generational congregation, how do we discover what God wants for us and what God wants us to do? Discovery and discernment from worship, scripture and prayer must remain central to our efforts and our results.

Blessings,
Rick Coy
Church Council President



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57	Sons and Daughters of the Congregation	Brad Lockenvitz
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69	Outreach Ministries of St. Andrew's	Deedee Schlichting
71	Parish Ministry Associate	
73	Bits and Abundance	Pastor Paul H. Moessner
75	Anniversary Letter from Pastor Will	Pastor Julia Will
77	The Second Fifty Years	Rick Coy

