

Lutheran Association of Missionaries and Pilots U.S.

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE

The Redemptive Acts of Our God
by Rev. Dr. Don Johnson

Mavis Etienne – Mohawk Bible Translator
by Adrian Jacobs

Planting Seeds
by Mark & Kristine Schnarr

*Lutheran Association of Missionaries and Pilots U.S.
is a cross-cultural Ministry sharing the Gospel of Jesus
Christ in partnership with individuals and communities
through mutual witness, nurture and discipleship.*



**Lutheran Association of
Missionaries and Pilots U.S.**

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LUNCHEON BANQUET**

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CONTENTS

- 2 The Redemptive Acts of Our God
- 3 Coming Together
- 4 Take Up the Cross and Follow Me
- 5 God Opens Doors and Hearts
- 6 Mavis Etienne – Mohawk Bible Translator
- 7 Longing for Significance
- 8 I Am a Different Man Now
- 9 The Creative Works of God
- 11 Coming and Going
- 11 From the M/V CHRISTIAN...
- 12 Youth Growing in the Life of Christ
- 13 Once There Was Time
- 14 Standing Up, Standing Out
- 15 Planting Seeds....
- 17 Memorials & Honorariums
- 18 Reflections on Stewardship
- 19 www.lutheranmissionariesandpilots.org

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The Redemptive Acts of Our God

by Rev. Dr. Don Johnson



Rev. Dr. Don Johnson
Executive Director

If we could see even a small part of what God sees, I think we might understand the connections in people and events, distant and near, that God uses to revive and redeem that which seems lost and beyond redemption.

I have lived long enough; experienced enough to know God cannot be confined to my narrow ways of thinking. He is full of surprises. I saw this illustrated once more when I was recently invited to participate in the annual St. Lorenz Lutheran Church Mission Festival in Frankenmuth, Michigan.

I practically invited myself. I wanted to go there because I knew this community had an unusual connection to Native American missions going back to a German theologian named Wilhelm Loehe. Loehe himself never came to America but in the 1840's his passion for mission and his vision to reach out to the Indians of Michigan inspired many Bavarians to leave the familiar to come to a land far away to bring the hope of the Gospel.

The congregation and many of the people living in modern Frankenmuth trace their ancestry to those early immigrants who came to share the Gospel with the Indians. Sadly as was often the case of mission work among Indians in those days, the mission effort did not go as planned.

Although missionaries and lay people sent to America made a sincere effort to carry out the vision of mission inspired by Loehe, the results were minimal. A few children were taught the word of God, sometimes in German, and some were baptized. A few adults as well became Christians. But in those early years Indian people were under extraordinary pressure. Many were facing removal ever westward as a result of government pressure to clear the way for more immigrants. Disease had already wreaked havoc among many tribal communities resulting in great physical and emotional distress.

Their circumstances made bad soil for the seed of the Gospel. God knew this would occur even though Wilhelm Loehe didn't. And yet God inspired this visionary man to influence others to come to America to attempt mission to Native Americans. And as often occurs in the economy of God at work in His followers, God brings blessings in ways we never imagined.

As history reveals, the Indians were forced to leave Michigan for places further west. Mission outreach never was realized in ways Loehe hoped.

Meanwhile newly arriving immigrants, many without the hope of the Gospel themselves, moved into Michigan. The town of Frankenmuth had by now been established. Many of these immigrants became the recipients of mission by those sent to work among the Indians.

One hundred and sixty plus years later you can see the blessings that have resulted. At last count the congregation at St. Lorenz has produced over 300 professional church workers, including more than 82 pastors. These pastors and teachers have no doubt had an extraordinary impact throughout the years on many people. The St. Lorenz congregation has meanwhile become a thriving church with influence throughout the region and the Lutheran church in general.

More recently the congregation became recognized as one of the founding churches of the Missouri Synod. They have a large school and many of the congregation's members have successful businesses in this town noted for its old world Bavarian look and feel.

Clearly great blessings flowed from Wilhelm Loehe's vision for the lost. But it was not what he must have expected. He had hoped to bring the Good News of the Gospel to the Indians. All that remains of that original vision are some graves where Indians are interred, several restored log cabin schools in Frankenmuth and Sebewaing; testimony to the work of the early missionary efforts and one man's passion stirred by a God who works miracles in ways we least expect. God does not always do things when or how we think He will.

Personally I have great admiration for Loehe. He surely had an influence on American Lutheranism far beyond what he must have imagined. The roots of his passion for mission helped form the Missouri Synod and the old American Lutheran Church.

Clearly God used him to inspire great things. And those influences have continued through the years to the present.

Obviously as a full blood Native American I cannot trace my ancestry to the original immigrants who came to Frankenmuth to carry

The Redemptive Acts of Our God continued from page 2 . . .

out mission. In fact I am saddened that the work among Native Americans went so poorly; while thankful God took what seemed a failed mission effort and blessed the lives of those immigrants who also needed the Gospel.

In spite of the many years since the initiation of the mission to the Indians I find a renewed optimism because of a perceived spiritual connection to the original vision of Loehe. I cannot fully explain why, but I believe there is yet a fragment of hope, a glimmer of light that Loehe's original vision never completely died out.

I can make the case that in fact it is being revived in the ministry of the Lutheran Association of Missionary Pilots U.S. If we could see even a small part of what God sees, I think we might understand the connections in people and events, distant and near, that God uses to revive and redeem that which seems lost and beyond redemption. My visit to Frankenmuth left me with that sense.

Please pray with us that our ministry might be used of God to bring His glory to the Native people we serve in ministry.

Coming Together

by Rev. Clark Gies



Rev. Clark Gies
*Director of
Discipleship*
Fairfax, South Dakota

Several years ago our family headed west on vacation from our home in South Dakota. Along the way we stopped at Three Forks in the state of Montana at the headwaters of the Missouri River. There the Gallatin, Madison and Jefferson rivers converge to make the Mighty Missouri. Each of those three rivers by themselves was impressive, but coming together, they were far more impressive as they formed the Missouri. Forming from tiny mountain streams that were created by the melting mountain snows, these three rivers, in coming together, make up that river which passes within a few miles of where we live.

We consider ourselves fortunate to live by a mighty river that in many ways is a blessing to us. People of our area and even surrounding states find countless hours of pleasure along the river. It provides opportunity for boating, sailing, canoeing, skiing, swimming, fishing, camping, hunting and a host of other activities. We walk its banks and explore its islands, finding fossils and relics from bygone eras. It provides water for us and for livestock, and is used by many to irrigate their crops. It is no wonder that the inspired writers of Scripture frequently use the image of the river when talking about the blessings of God flowing to the people of the land.



Most of our spiritual beginnings started with water — a small basin of water. The drops of water that fell on each of our foreheads the day of our baptism were sacramental in nature. Through a declarative act of grace, God adopted us as His children. And living waters began to flow in us and through us.

But God certainly doesn't want the river of blessing to stop at the waters of baptism. He continues to feed us and nurture us and strengthen us through the means of grace — His Word and Sacraments. And He unites us with others in the Holy Christian Church to be a powerful force in bringing the Gospel message

continued on page 4 . . .

Coming Together continued from page 3 . . .

of His grace, love and mercy to others.

Just as the little mountain streams coming together form the Gallatin, Madison and Jefferson rivers, and they in turn come together to form the Missouri, the joining together of individuals, congregations, Christian schools, and auxiliary organizations with Lutheran Association of Missionaries and Pilots U.S. enables the ministry to grow and reach the lives

of more and more Native Americans throughout North America.

Your partnership in this ministry empowers us to seize more and more opportunities for ministry as they are opened to us. We are so thankful for your partnership and the blessings you provide. May we together, with God's blessing, fulfill our motto: *Christ's Kingdom. Every Native American Nation.*

Take Up the Cross and Follow Me

by Patricia Main



Patricia Main
Haskell LIGHT Ministry
Lawrence, Kansas

Wow! It has been one year since we received our assignment from God to be at Haskell Indian Nations University, the heart of Indian country. God has been so good to us. He has given us favor and grace. I can recite blessing after blessing that follows us. It wasn't easy to leave our family and everything that we were attached to. But God said take up your cross and follow me — to leave the safe, the familiar, for the unknown.

In this first year we have seen God open doors for us to serve the community of Haskell.

Through all the victories there also were some struggles and trials. We had a car accident that could have been serious. My dad had some health problems and I lost a very good friend. At that point I was almost ready to go back to Canada, but I thought, "No, God sent us here and He will bring us through these situations." Sure enough, God was our Deliverer, our Strength and our Rock. We continue to look to God for guidance and strength, but when we went through the storm, fear and doubt were trying to set in. But with God and with the help and wisdom from my husband we went through the storm. Praise God!

We responded to the invitation to work at Haskell LIGHT with a servant's heart. And God has blessed our lives and our ministry. Here are just a few highlights from this past year:

- Created a "safe haven" and "comfort zone" for students at Haskell LIGHT, distributing quilts, school supplies, snacks, personal hygiene items and other necessities
- Developed and implemented weekly meetings at Haskell LIGHT (Sunday evening meals and Bible Study; Friday evening social time)
- Implemented weekly visits to dormitories for one-on-one interaction with students
- Provided guidance and counseling for individual students as needed
- Established prayer time with Haskell University Staff and Faculty
- Engaged local Churches through volunteer activities, speaking engagements and by gathering local clergy at Haskell LIGHT
- Developed relationships with the Central States Synod (ELCA) and with the Kansas District (LC-MS)
- Networking with Churches, schools and local community to expand awareness of Haskell LIGHT
- Taught "Vision Quest" classes (semester-long student orientation) at the invitation of Haskell University
- Participated in Interfaith Council (Patricia is now President of this interfaith gathering of campus ministries)
- Designed and conducted "Walking In Our Destiny," a student conference to equip and empower student leaders (to be expanded and offered again in the coming year)
- Conducted a Lunch Program during Summer School with the help of local church volunteers

Thank you for your on-going prayer support for this ministry.

God Opens Doors and Hearts

by Will Main



Will Main
Haskell LIGHT Ministry
Lawrence, Kansas

Haskell Update

With a repetitive boom-boom-boom-boom, four First Nations and Native Americans chanted a paean of Christian praise! Jonathan Maracle, a Mohawk Indian from Ontario, Canada, and his band, *Broken Walls*, opened their first concert at Haskell Indian Nations University on Sunday night, October 14. They arrived in Lawrence, Kansas, October 13 and created interest with a short performance at a local bookstore. Their songs and sharing touched the hearts and lives of all who attended their concerts. The name of Jesus was lifted up, and God was praised through their music, the movement of the dancers and the clear, clean tones of the voice of Jonathan Maracle who spoke of reconciliation and healing in Christ. More than three hundred people attended concerts on Sunday and Monday, including more than 100 students. It was a fitting celebration of the 35th Anniversary of the Haskell LIGHT Ministry founded by Wiley and Caryn Scott, and now directed by Will and Patricia Main.

Patricia and I have been meeting with and fellowshiping with many new and different people since our arrival in Lawrence, Kansas last August. It is hard to believe that we have been here for one year. Where has the time gone?

One of our very dear friends Val, the pastor of a small congregation comprised of a surprising variety of ethnic groups, called me one day. She had something on her mind. A young Mexican man who had recently accepted Jesus into his life had begun attending church with his family. He had recently married, blending his children from a former relationship with the children of his new bride. Quite a challenge!

The Pastor asked this question — would I be willing to mentor this young man? I had only met him one time. Let me describe what he looks like; he is not a tall man - about 5 feet 10 inches, but he is a big man; broad shouldered with thick muscled arms. He has obviously spent time in the weight room. His hands are scarred and calloused, the hands of a fighter. He has many tattoos on his arms and neck and he likes to wear his hair in a crew cut. If you were to meet him without knowing him, his appearance would be very intimidating. But to look into his eyes you would see a different picture — though outwardly tough, he has a big heart. Since Jesus came into his life there is warmth and caring that radiates from his eyes.

I agreed to mentor this young man. As we became acquainted he shared with me his story. I was struck by the similarities of his to mine — both having come from dysfunctional homes. Both of us have experienced feeling the despair of being poor and looking for any way to escape the feelings of inadequacy and inferiority. When faced with this type of situation we both chose to harden our hearts and toughen up to deal with our environments. As we talked he shared with me how his journey and the choices he made eventually led him to prison. The mean streets seemed to offer the love and acceptance he was searching for.

I thank God for this young man who now follows Jesus. I know that he will be a great witness to his people here in Kansas.

God opened another door to witness to Him this past spring. Patricia and I had set up a meal



program for the summer students at Haskell. For a few of the students this was their only meal for the day.

One day after lunch I got talking to an older student, I'll call him Wiley. He had begun our conversation by saying, "I don't know why I'm going to share this with you but I feel that I must." He had served in the military. He shared with me a powerful story about how he substituted himself for his younger brother for a tour of duty during the Vietnam War. As a result of his actions his younger brother felt as if he was deprived of an opportunity to serve. He still carries bitterness and resentment towards Wiley to this day. And Wiley carries a constant reminder of his war experience, a bullet lodged in his back.

Like the younger brother he did his best to protect, he struggled with alcohol after the war. Whenever the two were together the younger sibling would become angry and violent toward Wiley and say to him, "I drank all these years because you stole my glory and honor when you did not let me go to war!" Wiley shared this story with me with tears in his eyes, and I was very moved by his transparency. He had no idea of knowing at the time that I too was struggling with my own relationship with my younger brother.

What a blessing this man's sharing was to me. I wiped the tears from my own eyes and thanked him. I was very moved by the fact that Jesus Himself knew what Wiley and I both needed at that particular time. Wiley and I continue our friendship today. He is a great blessing to his fellow students and me.

What a blessing it is to walk with Jesus at Haskell Indian Nations University. He is helping us to reach out to the students with the healing message of God's forgiveness.

Mavis Etienne Mohawk Bible Translator

by Adrian Jacobs



Adrian Jacobs
Ministry Staff
Brantford, Ontario

My Cayuga people are one of six Iroquoian nations that joined together in a Confederacy of nations in 1151 AD. The other nations are Mohawk, Oneida, Onondaga, Seneca and Tuscarora. The Six Nations originally occupied the Finger Lakes region of upstate New York and remains part of their original territory. They also expanded into Wisconsin and Oklahoma in the U.S. and in Ontario and Quebec in Canada. The passage of time, geographic separation and human ingenuity has diversified the original one language into six distinct though closely related languages. Jesuit missionaries first worked among the Six Nations in 1656 to 1684 AD. Some of the Iroquoian languages were reduced to writing at this time. Most efforts to translate the Bible into Iroquoian languages were accomplished in Mohawk.

Catholic mission among Mohawks has continued from earliest contact until today, but it has been the Protestant church that has made the progress with translation of the Bible into the Mohawk language. In the mid 1700's a Mohawk leader, Joseph Brant, was trained for the Christian ministry in Moor's Charity School run by Eleazar Wheelock in Connecticut. Brant translated portions of the Anglican Prayer Book and some hymns into the Mohawk language.

In 1804, John Norton, an associate of Brant and of the Cherokee Nation of the Iroquoian language family, went to London, England on behalf of Six Nations to complain of the colonial government's handling of land issues. While waiting he translated the Gospel of John into Mohawk and returned to the Six Nations community, my home reservation, with the first publication of the British and Foreign Bible



Society. In the late 1800's Methodist Mohawk minister Rev. Joseph Swan worked diligently on the Mohawk Bible.

Mavis Etienne, a Mohawk from Kansatake Mohawk community in Quebec is the leader of the current Mohawk Bible translation project begun in 1999. After translating the only book of the New Testament not previously done, Mavis and her Mohawk translators, realized that the old Mohawk translation was hard to read and had unrecognizable words. I enjoy watching and listening to the Mohawk translators from two Mohawk communities discuss, sometimes vigorously, what word(s) should be used to translate the Scriptures. I periodically assist the project as a Bible and Native cultural consultant and interject my understanding of the passage and our Native community context. I have become familiar enough with hearing the Mohawk language that I can read Mohawk, with the assistance of my Mohawk mentors.

Mavis is a wonderful lady who is to the point and can get a job done. The following books have been published by the team:

- 2 Corinthians
- Ruth
- Jonah
- Daniel

The following books are presently in the works:

- Proverbs
- Esther
- Genesis
- Exodus

The following books have been drafted and are ready to be checked by translation consultants:

- Job
- Isaiah
- Lamentations
- Ezekiel
- Hosea
- Joel
- Amos
- Obadiah
- Micah
- Nahum
- Habakkuk
- Zephaniah
- Haggai
- Zechariah
- Malachi

The New Testament book of 1 Corinthians has been translated and all the other New Testament books, with the exception of the four Gospels, have been redrafted, but need to go through the rest of the steps. It is recognized by Bible translation authorities that the Mohawk Bible Translation Project is making the greatest progress of any North American Native project.

continued on page 7 . . .

Mavis Etienne continued from page 6 . . .

Much of the thanks for this project goes to Mavis Etienne. The rest of the thanks goes to the Mohawk people's initiative, Wycliffe Translators, the Canadian and American Bible Societies, the Catholic and United Churches,

My People International and Lutheran Association of Missionaries and Pilots U.S. We are getting the job done by partnership. Thank you for your important place in the big picture through your support and prayers.

Longing for Significance

by Linda Martin



Linda Martin
Ministry Staff
Sioux Lookout, Ontario

“There are so many who die without realizing and experiencing what they were meant to be!” This was a comment from one of the participants on the second to last day of a four-day workshop on Basic Counseling Skills. I had teamed up with three others to do this workshop in a northern community called Bearskin Lake. The first few days were spent teaching on various personal issues that people often struggle with their entire lives. One of the key points was how some of these issues can go back to childhood and teenage experiences, and how these painful experiences can still affect the way they see themselves, the way they see life, and the way they see God. The comment above came with the deep realization that one can live their whole life and die without ever realizing the full potential of what and who God intended them to be.

I remember another comment made by one of my instructors while I was in Bible college. He said that, “If we could only see the other person in their eternal state; who they were meant to be before the ravages of a broken world affected them, we would stand in awe of the beauty in that person.” He was not talking about beauty as the world understands it but the beauty God intended in the person created in His image. That thought has stayed with me, and challenged me all these years in this ministry to the hurting and broken.

The premise of our teaching in the Counseling Skills workshop, or any other workshop, is that each one of us is created in the image of God. Each one of us reflects something of who God is. But the effects of the Fall, the sin of the human race, have marred our ability to

live as God intended. As we all know so well, we live in a fallen world where people hurt others, and where people get hurt. Many of us come away from these personal experiences with much unresolved pain, what is often thought of as wounding. Often, it is this wounding from life that leads to our distorted sense of being. If we do not deal with our pain, whether it is unresolved grief or unresolved anger we end up limping through life and we do not experience the full potential of what God had intended.

One of the most vulnerable groups in our society is children. Children by nature and by God's design are dependent on adults, whether they are parents, extended family, or any main caregiver in their life to look after their needs. This need may be emotional, such as love, acceptance, respect, etc.; or a physical need such as clothing, food, and shelter; or spiritual need such as teaching them who they are, their purpose, and who God is. Many times we fail as parents to properly care for and love our children, without intending to. We may even make them feel neglected, abandoned and rejected. In worst-case situations children may end up feeling that they are “not loved,” “not accepted,” and “not important” or that there is “something wrong with them.” Thankfully we can find forgiveness and grace through our faith in Jesus Christ — to rebuild broken and hurting relationships. Jesus not only heals, He helps to restore what God the Father intends for us to be.

One of the turning points in my healing journey came when I understood that I carried the image of God in who I am as a Native person. A good part of my pain came from being Native, living my life in the shadows of the

continued on page 8 . . .

Longing For Significance continued from page 7 . . .

dominant culture. Even though no one came to me face-to-face and tried to tell me that being Native was not good enough, I began to feel less than others. I began to believe that I was not good enough as a Native person, and that I did not have a place in society. This is the pain and the shame that I carried for many years.

But then Jesus began to transform my life. When I found out that I carried the image of the Almighty God in who I was as a Native person it brought so much freedom to me as a Native woman. Suddenly I understood that I was “okay.” That it was “okay” to be Native. All the messages that I believed about not being good enough as a Native person were not true after all. I discovered God wanted me to be “Native,” and even more than that “He was delighted in me.” When I understood this, it brought so much healing and so much freedom to my soul. It was like me saying, “You mean to say that there is nothing wrong with me as a Native person?” And God responding, “No, my child. You are my beloved. I am delighted in you!” Zephaniah 3:17 (NIV) For someone who never

heard such tender words or believed them it was like a salve to my hurting soul.

Brennan Manning’s book, “Abba’s Child: The Cry of the Heart for Intimate Belonging” also addresses this. He quotes Merton saying that the foundation of our true self is to understand that we are loved by Christ. You see, some of our greatest needs are to belong and to be loved unconditionally. When a home breaks up, the child does not have a place to belong. When a child feels abandoned and rejected, he does not feel loved. These attack the essence of who he is as an individual that leaves him with an emptiness that hinders. But when we find our place in the embrace of our Lord Jesus, we have found ourselves. “Our identity rests in God’s relentless tenderness for us revealed in Jesus Christ.” (Brennan Manning)

In our workshops we help people come to a place where they understand that their unresolved issues can still affect them in the present, and how they can find healing in Jesus.

I Am a Different Man Now

by David Sternbeck



David Sternbeck
Ministry Staff
Neah Bay, Washington

We are doing a Thursday night Bible study at the Makah Lutheran church, studying the books of 1st and 2nd Samuel.

As I was studying in 1 Samuel 10, I came across a Scripture that had meant a great deal to me early in my conversion. Have you ever had that happen to you? I mean it was like God had written a passage of Scripture four thousand years ago that was meant for you in just that moment of time in your life.

I was forty years old at the time and possessed of a terrified conscience when the comfort of the Gospel was shared with me. I would never be the same again. I remember looking at the wreckage of the landscape of my life and thinking, “Oh Lord if I’m too sinful to be

saved, I’ll still live my life for you, if you’ll just save my children!” Of course, He was able to save even someone like me. And my children too!

Reading the story of Moses reminded me of something I had experienced. God had spoken to Moses and said, “I’m not giving you this promised land because of your righteousness, but for the wickedness of the world am I doing this great thing!” And I knew immediately that this work God was doing in my life wasn’t about me, but it was that He desired that none should perish. I felt He was calling me to be a witness of the wondrous work of God in Christ, the forgiveness of our sins and the transforming life of Christ in us.

I remember how these words jumped off the pages of Scripture, 1 Samuel 10:6-7, “The Spirit

continued on page 9 . . .

I Am a Different Man Now continued from page 8 . . .



of the Lord will come upon you in power, and you will prophecy with them, and you will be changed into a different person. Once these signs are fulfilled, do whatever your hand finds to do, for God is with you." I thought to myself, how can I become a different person? How can You use someone like me? Oh Lord, I cried, if only that were true!

Within the first year of my conversion, God did do a work. I remember my daughter calling me, in tears, saying, "Dad, there has to be a God because you have become a different person, and I want a relationship with Him also." All of my children in that first year were swept into the Kingdom of God through my testimony and the

blood of the Lamb. It was like He was able to save to the uttermost ends of the earth and I was living proof! I knew that I would spend the rest of my life sharing the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ with anyone and everyone. You see He answered my prayer to save my children; and if He could save me He could save anyone.

And now, here I was in Samuel again. Here I was looking over the landscape of my life again, and what a different life it is. It's been eleven years since God intervened in my life. I continue to witness to His power and the Lord continues to change lives. You see, this year by God's grace I have baptized nine people, seven adults and two infants. I have witnessed our Lord at work in the lives of three Native people that are preparing to enter the seminary, and I have one year left to complete seminary myself. God has truly taken the broken parts of my life and brought healing.

I am so excited to share with you what the Lord is doing. But also to encourage you to share your lives with others and in the midst of your life, share the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ and the forgiveness of sins, and the transformed life of living in the Spirit. For God is with you!

The Creative Works of God

by Rick Martin



Rick Martin
Ministry Staff
Sioux Lookout, Ontario

The longer I live the more amazed I am at the creativity of our Lord and Savior, Jesus. I see this in creation itself, but I also marvel over and over again in the way I see God weaving His tapestry of grace in and through people and their lives. Recently my thoughts have taken me to the way in which God uses us to accomplish His purpose. No big surprise here of course. God chooses to make us His witnesses. Let me provide some examples.

Through the years, my wife Linda and I have been privileged to work with The Lutheran Association of Missionaries and Pilots U.S. This past year I have seen so many good people

faithfully serving God and blessing the lives of others through their witness and service. The way God has been using the staff and their particular ministry and has woven them together is inspiring. It especially blesses my heart to see how God brings people together and uses their unique gifts to reach the hurting.

Another place we have seen God at work is the *Rising Above* conference that takes place in Canada. Linda has been one of the main speakers at their national conferences. I too play a small part by leading small group seminars. Their slogan is "First Peoples, Helping First Peoples" a clever slogan that intends to inspire Native people to address the many hurts

continued on page 10 . . .

The Creative Works of God continued from page 9 . . .

and pains Native people of North America have experienced and are experiencing now. Some of this is the result of the abuse that took place in residential schools Native people were forced to attend as youth.

What has surprised us has been the way people have been coming to faith and are starting new relationships with God at these conferences. The conferences are not designed to focus on evangelism. On the other hand the leadership is very clear that the people coming know that it is a Christian conference. Many of the speakers openly share their own stories about how God moved in their lives to bring healing to the deepest parts of their own wounding. When the speakers share how God has given them real and lasting hope, people are moved by the Holy Spirit to accept God's grace thus beginning new journeys with Jesus themselves.

Just a few weeks ago I was at another mission conference, not a *Rising Above* conference. Two young Native women were asked to share about their lives. To my amazement they began to share how they had become believers and Christians at a recent *Rising Above* conference. Linda had been a main speaker at this conference, but we had not heard that anyone's life had been changed by her testimony. Yet, this is what happened. In fact, one of the women relayed how she was not even supposed to be there and in fact did not want to be there, but somehow ended up attending the conference anyway. After listening to how others found healing and after she began to deal with her own hurts, the walls that kept her from seeing God began to come down. Through the amazing power of God's Holy Spirit she was able to see Jesus and follow Him.

On another occasion, the leader of *Rising Above*, a Native pastor, was speaking at a church service. I was there helping with the worship. Again to my amazement, four young people came up to the pastor after the service wanting to begin their walk with Christ. Pastor Mervin Cheechoo had shared his own story of how God brought healing and faith in his own life. Yes, he was very vulnerable and open about his life and he used his own story to

present the Gospel of hope. Again, God moved in a creative way to bring people to Himself.

In April we were invited to share our witness on the Winnebago Reservation in Nebraska through our colleague in ministry, Pastor Ricky Jacob. I can still see my wife, Linda, counseling a Native woman late into the evening after we had finished a workshop on abuse issues. We were there to help people find hope in the midst of their pain. God used this to creatively draw people to Himself. He used Pastor Ricky Jacob to open the doors for us to be there. Again, we saw God weaving our partnership in the Gospel together for His glory in His own creative way.

There are many other stories that I could share like this that have occurred over the last few years at the *Rising Above* and other conferences. What is so amazing is to see how God longs to be in relationship with those He has created, and how He draws people to follow Him. He often does this through the witness of those who have gone through much pain themselves.

This is what I see with the staff at the Lutheran Association of Missionaries and Pilots U.S. God has been using us separately and in different ways, but He also brings us together in partnership to complete His purposes in our own lives, as well as in the lives of so many others. And He uses you, our partners in the Gospel, to proclaim His Word to those in need. We are truly grateful for your prayers and financial support that enable us to share God's love.

Coming and Going

by Rev. Elvin & Alice Borg



Rev. Elvin & Alice Borg
M/V Christian
Southeast Alaska

With sadness we say farewell to Rev. Elvin and Alice Borg. The Borg's will be retiring effective March 2008. Both Elvin and Alice have been very good friends to all of us and faithful servants of the Lord. We will miss them and wish them God's blessings on their retirement and throughout the years.

I can hardly believe it has been ten years since I was called to be Pastor/Skipper of the M/V (Motor Vessel) CHRISTIAN and Alice as First Mate. The years have been rich; one of the best decades of my life and ministry. My plate has often been filled with exotic and amazing food at the innumerable potlucks hosted on the CHRISTIAN in communities throughout Southeast Alaska. But more gratifying has been the surprising work of God's Holy Spirit in the lives of people who have found their way onto the boat.

Our ministry area in Southeast Alaska has changed during the last ten years. Timber industry jobs have significantly decreased leaving villages and schools with ever fewer people and children. This has opened the possibility of new and expanded ministries. In transition visioning and planning this winter with the Lutheran Association staff and our successors (Alice and I are retiring next March) we explored new directions and areas of expansion for the ministry of the M/V CHRISTIAN.

In response to this visioning, we held Vacation Bible Camps this summer in two Tlingit villages north of our normal ministry area. The reception was warm. The boat was filled with children. Our volunteers were pleased. I was excited by future possibilities. These communities have much to offer as well as to receive. We can work together. A

capable Christian person from Angoon volunteered to lead a Vacation Bible Camp team to another community next summer. We identified other prospective Native leaders in these two communities. That is a big step toward our goal of identifying, and helping train local Native leaders. I ended this summer reluctant to turn over to someone else the exciting future of our work. God's work, really.

Here are a few words lifted from Pastor Michael Bristol's newsletter after participating in a Vacation Bible Camp team who taught 37 children on the boat in Angoon:

"...We took the kids and some of their parents and leaders from the church out for a day trip. The kids especially were excited to point out to us the whales and seals and the many colored jellyfish. We were excited, too! We loved seeing many eagles...."

"We thank God for the experience of working with Native Alaskan children, their parents and church leaders. We pray we were able to plant the seed of God's Word into their hearts by work and song. They taught us much, too."

Your continued prayers for this ministry are essential.

From the M/V CHRISTIAN....

Elvin and I survived another Vacation Bible Camp season on the M/V CHRISTIAN. If you asked me what my main impression of the whole summer was, it would be "God sends people to help."

"I would like to go along on the trips and help you" she offered. This was Sylvia, a young mother with her 5-year-old in tow. We had come to Kake to bring Vacation Bible Camp for the children there. It was a new community for us, a new venture. We always appreciate when a resident can go along on the boat to be a familiar mother presence for the children, someone who already knows each child. We had prayed for a member of the community to

help, and there was Sylvia within 10 minutes of our arrival! What a gift. In Angoon, Pastor Joey and several adults came along on the one-day trip to help.



Even the boys did crafts eagerly!

From the M/V CHRISTIAN continued from page 11 . . .

2007 VBS Stats:

M/V CHRISTIAN

- 16 volunteers,
115 children in
4 communities

Interior Alaska

- 70 volunteers in
31 communities

Neah Bay, Washington

- 5 volunteers,
15 children

LaPush, Washington

- 6 volunteers,
30 children

Our nieces, Esther and Hannah, were teen counselors on our Hydaburg camp. They told the children Bible stories and invited the children to realize Christ in their lives.



And luxury — we had a volunteer cook for this particular trip. Kevin, finishing up his internship at Sitka Lutheran Church, donated his time to come and do all the meal preparation. What delicious food he made and all with enthusiasm.

And then there was Alice T. in Angoon. After 38 people piled onto the boat for a 6-hour trip, she saw that I needed help in the galley. Did I ever! Alice and I brought out food, made pots of coffee, and did countless dishes. That was only snacks — then came supper. But Alice made the work light — she started singing choruses and I joined in. She said, “If anyone finds anything wrong with our cooking, we’ll just point at each other and say, ‘Alice did it.’” After 4 hours in the galley, she and I stumbled out to rest and visit.

After all our camps were done, I realized how God had provided all the people needed for the camps. They came, like angels, like answered prayer! And we had prayed for help.

Youth Growing in the Life of Christ

by Rev. Daniel Jacobs



Rev. Daniel Jacobs
Associate Ministry Staff
Crow Agency, Montana

I first met Vivian about five years ago at the Crow Lutheran Ministry outreach booth at Crow Fair. Through the weekend, she and her little sister would come listen to lessons about Jesus, color and make crafts. When school started, she began attending Sunday school in Lodge Grass. Then at age ten she began attending the Thursday evening youth group and entered into regular study of the Small Catechism.

I met Carlton when he was a tiny baby living on the Little Big Horn River about nine miles above Wyola. As he grew, we visited and played a lot together. Visits became more frequent when his family moved a couple of miles outside of Lodge Grass. His love for the Lord continued to grow and a few years ago he asked questions, and once in a while he talks of becoming a church worker. Those talks always led to his need to be baptized.

In early August of this year, Vivian and Carlton finished their Catechism studies. On August 30, 2007, during youth group, Carlton

was baptized in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. As He stepped toward the baptismal bowl at the beginning of the service, Vivian said to him, Bye, Carlton.” He paused and turned, saying, “The old me is gone. I’m all new...well, will be.” And with that prelude the service began.

After Carlton was baptized, Vivian stepped forward to stand beside him. There she made her confession of faith and confirmation vow. As the rest of the youth group looked on with great interest and some wonder, these two young Christians received the Body and Blood of Christ for the first time.

Please remember these two in your prayers. The road before them will not be easy. There are all the challenges of being young. There is the struggle of following the Way in a largely syncretistic and sometimes hostile environment. There is the burden of growing up in a reservation community where so much of life is severely broken.

Once There Was Time

by Cathy Benzler

"Be still and know that I am God." Psalms 46:10



Cathy Benzler
Associate Ministry Staff
Port Angeles,
Washington

Each summer in the Pacific Northwest, the tribes gather and have what is called, an Inter-Tribal Canoe Journey. Canoes travel from the reserves in British Columbia, along with the tribes in Western Washington to the designated hosting tribe's territory. The canoe journeys are so important to the tribes. It helps to restore part of the culture that was taken from them. It teaches the youth responsibility and it is drug and alcohol free. The elders share stories from their ancestors and give welcome speeches in their Native tongue. It is a beautiful display of seeing the diversity of people expressing words of welcome and singing songs in their God-given language.

Two years ago the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe hosted the canoe journey. My husband Tom and I were the volunteer coordinators. Our job was to get people to help in the many areas that needed volunteers. Feeding 4,000-5,000 people each night for dinner and 2,000-3,000 for breakfast takes a lot of cooks and servers, not to mention clean-up crews, vendors, security, etc. We gathered about 500 people from the surrounding communities. Everyone was welcomed and enjoyed the event. Things run more relaxed on "Indian Time" and each day there was a tentative schedule, but by the evening we were always running behind. This made the people from town a little anxious, because as a rule, everything in most of their culture is done by the clock. In the Native culture, time was determined by the seasons and the cycles of the tides. It meant life was less stressed. People were not in such a great hurry. Let me offer an example.

Last week we were invited to a dinner the Lower Elwha Reservation had for all their tribal members, to thank them for all the work and support they gave during this year's canoe journey. Dinner was said to start at 5:00 p.m. As I arrived at 5:00, the decorations were still being put up. The children were running around and happily playing. The elders were greeting one another and exchanging stories of the journey. Dinner was ready to eat about 5:45, but first we had prayer. It was a good

prayer, but it wasn't the typical short prayer that most people pray before eating. There was no hurry. As we were eating, I glanced around the room and couldn't help but notice how at peace everyone was. A community having a good time enjoying the company of one another. It was real family togetherness. After dinner, gifts and certificates of appreciation were passed out and everyone sat while each tribal member's name was called out. This took several hours to complete. A long and wonderful evening that our Creator orchestrated. The unity that filled that room was a glimpse of Christ's love for His people. Time didn't matter that night.

As I drove back to town that night, the cars were flying by me; everyone was in a hurry trying to get somewhere. So much of our world today is like this; driven by the clock and in a hurry to do this, get there. We have forgotten that once there was time for people, for life, for celebration, for God! Everyone could learn a lesson from the First People of this land when it comes to time.



Standing Up, Standing Out

by Rosemary Sternbeck

"...and when you have done all to stand, stand therefore..." Eph. 6:13,14



Rosemary Sternbeck
Ministry Staff
Neah Bay, Washington

Because of our need for companionship all of us feel the need to be accepted and appreciated. We all like to feel like we fit in somewhere. We want to belong to something bigger than ourselves. But life can be tough when you stand out in the crowd. This is evident even in the animal kingdom. Take cute baby chicks for example. One with different markings or one with an injury will be picked at by the others, often until it dies, unless it is removed from the group.

*Candice, one of our young ladies in the Morning Star Girls Club is trying to find her place in Neah Bay. Light skinned with freckles, red hair and somewhat of an attitude, she doesn't fit in. Her Caucasian mother lives with a Makah man in the village. Candice hopes that they will marry and through him she can claim relation to many of the people in the tribe. She reasons that then she would be included in the family ceremonies and celebrations where gifting and dancing are important expressions of Makah culture.

One thing Candice does have is strong convictions and a love for the Lord. She is faithful about attending church on Sunday. She looks forward to Vacation Bible School and keeps in touch with workers she meets at church camp.

In the Morning Star Girls Club we have been studying the book of Esther. Recently Candice lamented to me "I don't know why I'm here in Neah Bay." I tried to encourage her. I told her that perhaps just like Esther, God is preparing her for a special work. "Perhaps He will use you to teach Sunday School or Vacation Bible School on other reservations. Because you have grown up on a reservation, you will understand how best to reach out to people there. Even though it may be difficult now, God will use your experiences to help others." She smiled and squared her shoulders. "Yes, maybe so, I'd like that."

Recently our congregation was gifted with worship songs from a church in British Columbia, our cousins to the North. Hand

movements, much like those of the Hawaiian and Mauri cultures, are used to express thanksgiving and honor to the Creator. The ladies of our church practiced two of the dances while the men sang and played drums.

In the Girls Club we were gifted a song that the girls practiced in a circle. On the night we all practiced together one of the ladies brought an extra shawl for Candice to wear as she participated with the other girls. You should have seen her face! She was beaming!

It is our hope that Candice, as well as some of the other girls reaching their teenage years, will continue to be involved in the Morning Star Girls Club. This coming year we are planning on making a quilt that can be raffled to raise money to buy a cow for a family in Africa. In February we want to have a luncheon for the girls and their mothers featuring a fashion show with the items they have sewn. We will be working on scrapbooking, putting more dirt in our flowerbeds, and trying new recipes. Most of all we want these girls to know how important they are to the life of the church.

Heavenly Father, Thank you for your continued love and grace as these young people struggle to understand how to fit into your plan for their lives. In Jesus' name. Amen.

**Name changed to protect privacy*

PLANTING SEEDS

Of faith, Of hope, Of love & Of the Gospel ...
into the lives of many Alaskans & Two Arkansans!

by Mark & Kristine Schnarr

During the first two weeks of June we went on our second mission trip to Alaska. We volunteered to serve the Lord through the ministry of Lutheran Association of Missionaries and Pilots U.S. Our missionary staff pilot was Dan Treacle. Dan is a “man after God’s own heart” who serves the Native Alaskan people of numerous Alaskan villages with great love, wisdom and gladness. This year we spent time with the residents of two Native Alaskan villages — Fort Yukon and Tanana.



The Lord provided numerous opportunities for us to plant many seeds ... both literally and figuratively. Each “seed” was a miniature miracle in the making! Overall, we were abundantly blessed by the people we met and learned much from them. We hope to return next year. Here are a few stories that tell it like it was.

FORT YUKON Population: 700

The Village of 1,000 Seeds

We were very excited about returning to Fort Yukon. We hoped to reconnect with people we had met and worked with the year before and hoped to meet new people as well ... the Lord met these hopes and more.

The workshop was well attended. There was a very high level of interest in gardening and in the distribution of seed packets donated by Heifer International and five wooden planter boxes constructed by Zion Lutheran Church in Fairbanks. Mark’s hands-on demonstration of planting mixed lettuce seeds in one of the boxes generated lots of interest and enthusiasm.

A 90-day growing season presents many challenges to village gardeners, even though 24-hour sunlight offsets some of the negatives. Their primary crops include potatoes, lettuce, peas, turnips, carrots, beans, spinach and radishes. Many looked forward to planting several varieties of flowers. Some started seeds indoors and from these were able to grow cucumbers, cabbage, broccoli, cauliflower and squash.



We also walked around the village, talking with men and women about gardening. Mark offered seed packets wherever we went. It is our hope and prayer that the interest in gardening will grow and that more seeds will be planted in the years to come After all, life began in a garden by The Master Gardener and we believe that you “are nearest God’s heart in the Garden than anywhere else on earth!”

The Mission House of Living Water—Literally and Figuratively

LITERALLY — As the first mission team of the summer to move into the mission house in Fort Yukon, we found the house did not have running water as the pipes had frozen and ruptured during the very cold winter. We were grateful that another missionary couple, Rev. Rod & Susan Pierce from Houston Texas, was staying in “the little house” next door. Their house had running water ... they quickly became our “new best friends.” Fortunately, they were gracious and shared well with others.

FIGURATIVELY — We thank God for the streams of “living water” that did flow through the mission house every evening that we held our small group Bible Study. What an honor and blessing it was to study God’s Holy Word together with several village residents. We thank them and the Pierces for attending. This gave us the very special opportunity to open God’s Word together and discuss the application of it to our lives. We also sang many wonderful hymns of the faith together, prayed together and truly ended up being “bound together in Christian love.”



“I planted the seed, Apollos watered the plants, but God made you grow. It’s not the one who plants or the one who waters who is at the center of the process but God, who makes things grow.” 1 Corinthians 3:6-7 (The Msg)

Someone's Knocking on the Mission House Door

It was 8:00 a.m. A knock on the door startled Kristine from her morning "quiet time." At the door was a woman from the village. She was obviously distressed and expressed a need and desire to talk and pray with "someone from the church." Kristine invited her to come into the house.

She shared with them that she needed someone to pray with and for her because she was feeling very "empty inside and no prayer would come out." She shared her burdens that involved very serious family and personal issues. Immediately, Kristine began to pray with her and share a Psalm with her. The woman seemed to relax and explained that she was flying to Fairbanks for a day of doctor appointments. She said that she felt that God had directed her to the mission house that morning And He gave her a sense that there would be help for her there.

We invited her to return to the mission house in the evening for Bible study. That evening she returned. She had a smile on her face, explaining that with God's help she had conquered the fears she struggled with earlier in the day. Volunteers usually work with groups of villagers, however, often times God presents one-on-one opportunities to us to minister to others and to share the Gospel message of love and hope in Christ Jesus our Lord & Savior. We humbly thank the Lord for these opportunities.

How grateful to our Lord we are for this opportunity to "plant seeds" of faith, hope, love and the Gospel with the special people of Alaska. To God be the Glory, great things He has done....

Tea Time at The Mission House

Kristine invited three young girls from the community to visit one afternoon at 3:30 for tea. The invitation was quickly accepted by all three and then one of the girls said that we would have to pick some Blue Bells for our tea time ... not for a centerpiece, but for snacking on with our tea & cookies!

At 3:30 the next day, the girls were patiently waiting on a bench outside the mission house ... all dressed up for tea time. They were precious in our sight! They all agreed that our first priority was to find and pick Blue Bells. About 15



minutes later, we returned to the mission house with what appeared to me to be a bushel basket full of wild flowers The girls taught us the proper technique for removing the tiny blue flowers. Mark was kindly asked to leave, for this was a tea time "for women only." We promised we'd save him some of the goodies.

The table was set, we said a blessing and began passing around cookies, peanut-butter cracker sandwiches, tea and BLUE BELL BLOSSOMS Then came the sugar and honey ... a must at any tea party ... from London to Fort Yukon!

Then came a beautiful gift and surprise. The girls stood up with hymnals in hand and sang two beautiful hymns and then one of the girls recited Psalm 100! We were blessed, including Mark who was listening from the bench outside the house.

We will keep these girls in our prayers and plan on corresponding in the days to come.

TANANA Population: 400

A Place Where Respect, Generosity and Community Met

Upon our arrival, many asked, "Are you the Gardeners?" It was asked so many times within the first few hours of our time there, that we jokingly thought we might change our name to Mark & Kristine "Gardener." With our affirmative response to that welcoming question, however, we were pointed in the direction of the Tanana Elders Residence (a nursing home). They needed to have 8 rows of potatoes planted in the garden and flowers planted in several flower boxes.

During the next couple of days, we served this community in this small way as well as passed out many seed packets, talked with village gardeners and visited with the knowledgeable school librarian about local gardening issues.

Also, upon our arrival, preparations were underway for the funeral of a woman who was a former resident of the village.

We were invited to attend the traditional potlatch ... and made cupcakes to bring as our contribution. We soon discovered that we were in for a big treat in more ways than delicious food. This traditional Indian potlatch was to offer much more. We were to experience a little taste of this community's overwhelming sense of family, sharing and generosity. From 30-gallon kettles of moose soup to "Indian ice cream;" from moose meat in to-go bags ... all served with grace by men and women of Tanana, to heartfelt testimonies from family and friends of the woman who was buried that day ... we were very blessed.



Memorials & Honorariums

April 1, 2007 to August 31, 2007

In Memory of

- ALM, Roy ... Ginny Miller & Family
ALM, Stanley ... Ginny Miller & Family
AMGOTTE, Bill ... Rev. Gordon & Ida Marie Lindemann
ANDERSON, Evelyn ... From a Friend
ANDERSON, Janyce ... Mr. & Mrs. John Ofstedahl
ATKINSON, Norman ... Lucile Atkinson
BAUER, Del ... Marlyn Kottsick
BERGMAN, Doris ... Barbara Pingel
BERNDT, Esther ... Ruth Volkenant
BIRKNER, William ... Mrs. Ginny Miller
BRADLEY, Peter ... Eleanor Bradley
BRAUN, Clarence ... Geneva Braun
BRINKMAN, Marion ... Rev. Layton & Melba Lemke
BROWN, Vida ... From Friends
BUBLITZ, Lucille ... Ronald & Beverly Wegner
BUESKING, Kenneth ... Geneva Buesking
BUFE, Rena ... Dr. & Mrs. Ronald Kolar
CARLSON, Jean ... Ladies Guild of Memorial Lutheran Church Bremerton, WA
CONLEY, Cynthia Ann ... Bernice Schmidt
DANIELS, Keith ... Yvonne Daniels
DAUGHERTY, Petty Officer 1st Class Steven P. ... Terry & Sandra Jenkins
DAVIS DAUENHAUER, Alice Anne ... Oscar Dauenhauer
DAVIS, Warren ... Ruth Seboldt
DIAL, Joe ... Ruth Seboldt
DIEDRICH, Cora ... Jonathan & May Ann Anderson
DITMANSON, Fred & Emma (Missionaries to China) ... Grace Adams
EBERHARDT, John ... John & Bea Beiderwieden
ECKBLAD, Wesley ... Anna Letscher
ERB, Alice ... Arnold Erb
ERICKSON, Lee ... Rev. Layton & Melba Lemke
ETNYRE, Harold and Esther ... Vicki Etnyre
FAZEKASH, Steve S. ... Anna & Raymond Letscher
FECHNER, Erwin ... Loretta & Franklin Kern
FISH, Henry & Lorena ... George and Shirley Fish
FISH, Lorena ... George & Shirley Fish
FRANKLIN, Dorothy ... Mr. & Mrs. Donald Robidoux
FREY, Robert ... Robert & Delores Weiss
FRIGSTADT, Donald ... Mildred Sjostrand
GARTEN, E. Alexander ... Mr. & Mrs. Michael Russo
GEHRKE, Doug ... Carol Prange, William Peter
GRILLO, Joseph ... Lois Volpe
GRUENHAGEN, Helen ... Rev. Layton & Melba Lemke
GUNTER, Behrens ... Rev. Layton & Melba Lemke
HANAN, Harold & Ida ... Russell & Vasiliki Hanan
HANSON, Lillian ... John & Dorothy Ofstedahl
HERRING, Thelma ... Rev. Layton & Melba Lemke
HOCHSTETLER, Katie ... Mrs. Ginny Miller
HODIK, Elsie ... Harlan & Dolores Knauf
HOLLINGSWORTH, Dwaine ... From Friends
HONG, Edna ... Rev. Gordon and Ida Marie Lindemann
HOVER, Hans ... Margaret Hover
HUDGENS, Doris ... Ruth Seboldt
IN MEMORY OF A LOVED ONE ... Doris Pearson
IN MEMORY OF FAMILY MEMBERS ... Mr. & Mrs. Erwin Lorenz
IN MEMORY OF MY HUSBAND'S APRIL 12TH BIRTHDAY ... Laverne Klawitter
IN MEMORY OF MY PARENTS ... Howard Zielke
JANZOW, Ludwig ... Mary Lowry
JENSEN, Ruth ... Ruth Seboldt
JOHNSON, Luella ... Mr. & Mrs. Wayne Kuhl
JONES, A. Ellis ... Gloria Jones
JONES, Mike ... Ruth Seboldt
JORDAN, Joe ... Doris Reda
JORDAN, Rudolf ... Dorothy Bradley
JORGENSEN, Margaret ... Rozella Rice
JORGENSEN, Virginia ... Ruth Seboldt
JUNGWIRTH, Nathalie ... Delwin Mahn
KERR, Mildred ... Janice Enders
KLAWITTER, Edward ... LaVerne Klawitter
KOLLMEYER RODENBURG, Vinita ... Ruth Seboldt
KOOPMAN, Dale ... Elvira Lors
KRAMER, Helen ... Marilyn Nast
KRATZKE, Lavina ... Mr. & Mrs. Richard Mullen
KRAUSE, Marie ... Carol Prange
KUHNERT, H. ... Lucille Henning
LACKEY, Larka ... William Peter
LAMAR, Lloyd ... Ruth Seboldt
LARSON, Terri ... Rev. Layton & Melba Lemke
LASSMAN, Bob ... Betty Nelson
LAUEY, Raymond ... Barbara Pingel
LEGGETT, Richard ... Marliese Leggett & Family
LIEDERBACH, Tom ... Darwin & Geraldine Johnson
LILIENTHAL, Richard ... Darlene Lilienthal
LOWDEN, Thelma ... Rev. Robert Weber
MAIER, Barbara ... Charles Maier
MAYER, Reinhold ... Dorothy Bradley
MERDINYAN, William ... Getrude Merdinyan
MEREDITH, Ken ... Mr. & Mrs. Skip Meredith
NAEGELE, Clara ... Loretta & Franklin Kern
NAUSS, Jim ... Shirley Nauss
NELSON, Charlotte ... Ruth Seboldt
NELSON, Gerald ... Lyle & Hazel Doehr
NEUHAUS, Herbert ... Eunice Neuhaus
OTTE, Rev. Harold ... Rev. Layton and Melba Lemke
PALMQUIST, Esther ... Ginny Miller & Family
PAPE, Austin ... Kenneth & Luetta Flaa
PEARCE, Robert ... Henrietta Pearce
PERRINE, Georgia Anna ... Katharine Kannitzer
PESKE, Rev. Gerald ... James & Rebecca Vanderlinde
PINGEL, Frederick ... Barbara Pingel, Keith & Mary Krause
PINGEL, Fritz ... Rev. David & Sandra Henslin
PINGEL, George ... Barbara Pingel
POOL, Lyle ... Marjorie Johnson-Peterson
POSSIEL, Norman ... Pauline Possiel
PRELLWITZ, Lena ... Mr. & Mrs., James Lehmann
RACHWAL, Ed ... From Friends
REINBOLD, Arlene ... Dorothy Bradley
REINDEL, Irwin ... Mildred Reindel
REINDEL, Irwin ... Mildred Reindel
RENNER, Lydia ... Duane and Karleen Kallhoff
ROESSLET, Ralph ... Ruth Seboldt
SCHAD, Walter ... Ruth Seboldt
SCHERZER, Al ... Doris Reda
SCHICKEL, David ... Barbara Schickel
SCHLOBOHM, Lennes ... Orville & Lillas Ehster
SCHMIDT, James ... Rev. Layton & Melba Lemke
SCHUENKE, Richard ... Donald & Rose Marie Brauer
SOVEREIGN, Richard ... Ginny Miller & Family
STEBER, LeMar ... Dolores Steber
STEC, Anne ... Jack & Susan Pritchard
STIEMKE, Dwight ... Rev. Gordon & Marie Lindemann
STOCK, Duane ... Darlene Rheingans
STRASBURG, Earl ... Gladys Beningo
SVEND, Benda ... Mr. & Mrs. Norris Rollofson
TORMALA, Ruth ... Charlene Rodda
TOWNSEND, Janice ... Thomas & Kyle Schulz
ULRICH, John ... Doris Reda
VAN VECHTEN, Roger ... Helen Van Vechten
VANECEK, Elsie ... Anna Letscher
VERWYS, Lydia ... Anna Letscher
WATT, James ... Helen Watt Pickhardt
WEHMEYER, Regina ... Jerry & Joy Eickhoff
WETTENGEL, Donald ... Mr. & Mrs. Ivan Schwartz
WHITE, Bud ... Bob Slover
WILLIAMS, Donald, Donald Jr. & Stanley ... Carol Williams
WINSLOW, Carroll ... Neva Winslow
WOHLERS, Lucille ... Lila & John Ahrens
WORDEN, George ... Doris Reda
YOUNGDALE, Rev. Kermit ... From Friends
ZIESMAN, Albert ... Mrs. Albert Ziesman

In Honor of

- 55th WEDDING ANNIVERSARY ... Rev. Donald & Marion Hoffmann
ABRAHAM, Ernst (92nd Birthday) ... Hilda Bierlein
ALLAN, Edna (Birthday) ... Anna Letscher
BURBAGE, John & Kelly ... Rev. Mary Finklea
BURNS, Bill ... James & Amy Burns
CHRISTIANSEN, Rose ... Marie Egeland
EBERLE, Allen (Birthday) ... Howard & Judy Herron
GAMPER, Stewart & Louise (10th Wedding Anniversary) ... Ann & Ray Letscher
HERMANSON, Herman & Joyce (50th Wedding Anniversary) ... Marvin & Ruth Behnfeldt

HILL, Rev. G. ... Edward Roll
IN HONOR OF 65th
CONFIRMATION REUNION ...
Dorothy Bradley
IN HONOR OF JESUS CHRIST ...
Walter Ted Rugenstein
IN HONOR OF OUR LORD'S
WORK ... Mickie Todd
JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD &
SAVIOR ... Wilds Ohrmund
KJERLAND, Don & Susan (50th
Wedding Anniversary) ...
Raymond & Arlene Avischious

KRAUSE, Bill & Verna (70th
Wedding Anniversary) ... Deb &
Don Floersch
LA LONDE, Bob & Irene (50th
Wedding Anniversary) ... Ronald
& Pamela Wandasiewicz
LEGGETT, Richard & Marliese (51st
Wedding Anniversary) ... Richard
& Marliese Leggett & Family
LONGANBACH, George (Father's
Day) ... Betty Rafferty
LUND, Ted (90th Birthday) ...
Terrell Abell

MCGINN, Anna (98th Birthday) ...
Anna Letscher
MUELLER, Kenneth ... Evelyn
Mueller
RAGHU DR. ... Noel Ruth
Gersonde
RASMUSSEN, Thor ... Leif
Rasmussen
SCHMANDT, Marvin (90th
Birthday) ... Marlett Grueber

SCHRIMSHAW, Albert (95th
Birthday) ... Donna Snyder,
Doris Smith, Donald & Rebekah
Smith
SEAN (1st Great Grandson) ...
Theodora Schumann
STERNBECK, David ... Sylvan &
Mary Adams

Reflections on Stewardship

Stewardship is an expression of faith. We accept God's gifts gratefully, tending them responsibly, and share them in justice and love. So, when we return home to the Father, we hear Him say, "Well done, good and faithful servant . . . Come and share your master's happiness!" Matthew 25:21 (NIV)

Your Will

A *Will* is the most important element of responsible stewardship. It allows you to express your own choices regarding the distribution of your possessions, once you have returned to the Father.

If you choose Lutheran Association of Missionaries and Pilots U.S. as a recipient of your generous support, it is important to use our full name, address and tax ID#:

Lutheran Association of Missionaries and Pilots U.S., Inc.
3525 N. 124th Street, Suite 1
Brookfield, Wisconsin 53005
Phone #: (262) 783-5267
Tax ID#: 39-1509253

Charitable Gift Annuity

A *Charitable Gift Annuity* gives you the satisfaction of not only helping a ministry you support, such as Lutheran Association of Missionaries and Pilots U.S., but it also provides you the practical benefits of a fixed rate of return, along with charitable tax benefits.

Gifts of Life Insurance

A gift of *Life Insurance* is a very popular way to support a favorite ministry, especially if the care of loved ones is already secure. Such gifts receive an immediate charitable income tax deduction. And premiums you pay in the future are also tax deductible.

Retirement Plan Gifts

A gift of *Retirement Plan Assets* is a very wise gift you can make to a ministry like Lutheran Association of Missionaries and Pilots U.S. Often, Retirement Plan Assets are subject to punishing taxes. A gift of these assets can increase the amount of your estate available to family and loved ones.

For more information on including Lutheran Association of Missionaries and Pilots U.S. in your estate planning considerations, please contact the Lutheran Association of Missionaries and Pilots U.S. office at 262-783-5267.

Important

If the Lutheran Association of Missionaries and Pilots U.S. is already mentioned in your *Will* or estate plan, it is important to make certain all references to this ministry include the following information: Lutheran Association of Missionaries and Pilots U.S., Inc., 3525 N. 124th Street, Suite 1, Brookfield, Wisconsin 53005, Phone #: (262) 783-5267 and Tax ID#: 39-1509253. Thank you.

"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."
Matthew 6:21 (NIV)

Northern Lights Fellowship

The *Northern Lights Fellowship* recognizes the men and women who have made a special commitment to the long-term ministry of Lutheran Association of Missionaries and Pilots U.S. through a Bequest, Charitable Gift Annuity, Trust Agreement, Life Insurance program or other estate gift.

To become a member, simply notify Lutheran Association of Missionaries and Pilots U.S. when a planned gift is made. While estate plans remain anonymous, membership in the *Fellowship* encourages other friends to remember Lutheran Association of Missionaries and Pilots U.S. in their estate planning.

As a special expression of our gratitude to members of the *Northern Lights Fellowship*, we are pleased to offer a beautiful print of a watercolor painting by Mary Johnson, gifted artist and wife of our Executive Director, Rev. Dr. Don Johnson.

Your Legacy of Faith and Love

Yes! I have already remembered Lutheran Association of Missionaries and Pilots U.S. in my Will or Estate Plans. Please enroll me in the *Northern Lights Fellowship*.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip Code _____

Please contact me

Phone Number _____

Please detach and return this form to the address below. Thank you!

Pastor W. Paul Brinkman
Director of Development
Lutheran Association of Missionaries and Pilots U.S.
3525 N. 124th Street, Suite 1
Brookfield, WI 53005-2498
(262) 783-5267

Northern Lights



Lutheran Association of Missionaries and Pilots U.S.
Christ's Kingdom. Every Native American Nation.

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by Pastor W. Paul Brinkman



Pastor W. Paul Brinkman
Director of Development

When the new website for the Lutheran Association of Missionaries and Pilots U.S. was launched on July 1st it caused me to pause and think of just how important the technology of computers and the Internet have become for the ministry of the Lutheran Association of Missionaries and Pilots U.S.

The Internet began in the 1960's and evolved over the next couple of decades. In his book about the Internet, Ted Hart writes about the fact that the first e-mail message was sent in March, 1972, and by April, 1993, the World Wide Web made it possible for corporations, government entities and nonprofit organizations to create a new presence in the world on the Internet. We should not forget that the World Wide Web has also facilitated the work of Christian missions around the world.

The Lutheran Association of Missionaries and Pilots U.S. has been on the forefront of the use of this technology since its inception. With a widely dispersed staff the use of e-mail technology greatly facilitated ministry efforts by providing instantaneous communication throughout North America. In the 1980's we used "Tandy 100" laptops with 12K memory capacity and rubber cups that fit over the mouthpiece and earpiece of a standard telephone to send and receive our messages. It

had its limitations, but it took our ministry to a new level of efficiency and sophistication. After a year or two we were able to expand the memory capacity of our machines to 24K!

E-mail is still a significant tool in our ministry. With nineteen locations across the United States including Alaska, and five in Canada, the use of e-mail makes it possible to share information in real time, without the use of paper and Fax machines, and without having to play "phone tag" for hours just to share information. It also has allowed us to be in touch with volunteers and supporters regarding ministry developments and opportunities, whether by e-mail messaging or through the newly revamped website.

If you have not yet visited the new website, www.lutheranmissionariesandpilots.org, we invite you to do so. Check out the new video online; or the audio presentation of the KFUD radio interview with Don Johnson, Will and Patricia Main; or click on the "ministry map" to view photos of the ministry staff, then click on any one of the photos to learn more about the ministry of the people serving there. We also invite you to please be in touch with us. Tell us what you think of the work we have done so far on the new website, and give us your ideas for how we can make it even better. We look forward to hearing from you!