

## New Pastor Leads All Saints

Rev. David Wesche was ordained and installed as the new pastor of All Saints Lutheran Church-Blairsville, GA, on July 24, 2005.

Worshippers filled the sanctuary and narthex for the 4 p.m. worship service. Among those attending were many of Wesche's friends and former co-workers from congregations in Woodstock, GA, and Lakeland, FL, as well as 15 fellow pastors from area churches.

A reception in the All Saints Fellowship Hall followed the service.

For the year proceeding his ordination and installation, Wesche served as a vicar at All Saints under the leadership

of Rev. Charles Houska, who retired on September 1, 2005.

Prior to entering the pastoral ministry, Wesche was a Lutheran school teacher and a Minister of Youth and Family Life in Lakeland. He has a master's degree in Family Life Education Ministry and completed his pastoral training at Concordia Seminary-St. Louis.

All Saints Lutheran was established in November of 1990 with ten charter members. The congregation's membership now numbers approximately 240.

Wesche is the fourth pastor to lead All Saints, following Houska, Rev. William Schultz and the late Rev. Ralph Weinrich.

The service was the final event Weinrich was able to attend. He was the first to offer a blessing for Wesche, whose connections with Weinrich trace back many years. He was the pastor for Wesche's grandfather — one of the founding pastors for the Florida-Georgia District — and officiated at his funeral. Wesche offered the same service at Weinrich's funeral several months ago.

Wesche and his wife, Sally, have two children: son Andy, 18, a senior at Lutheran High School North-St. Louis; and daughter Katie, 15, a student at Union County High School-Blairsville. □



Among the 15 pastors participating in the ordination/installation service for Rev. David Wesche (front, kneeling) were former pastors for All Saints-Blairsville: Rev. William Schultz (third from left, front); Rev. Charles Houska (far left, front) and Rev. Ralph Weinrich (front, left).

## Hope-Orlando Building a Preschool, Planning a Multipurpose Facility

A bursting-at-the-seams Orlando congregation is starting construction on a new preschool and hoping to break ground on a new multipurpose facility in 2007.

"We have grown almost 20% annually since 1999, and we need more space," said Rev. Paul vonWerder, pastor of Hope Lutheran Church and Preschool.

Hope Lutheran also hosts services for the Spanish-speaking ministry of Esperanza Viva Iglesia — Hope Alive — Evangelica. Rev. Roberto Rojas is pastor of Esperanza Viva, which is part of the Greater Orlando Spanish Partnership for Equipping Lutherans in Evangelism.

Between these two growing ministries, as many as 340 people worship at the church over a weekend.

Plans call for the construction of a 3,600-square-foot preschool, which will allow the popular Christian education ministry to expand from about 40 children to 64. The new school is expected to be completed in 2006.

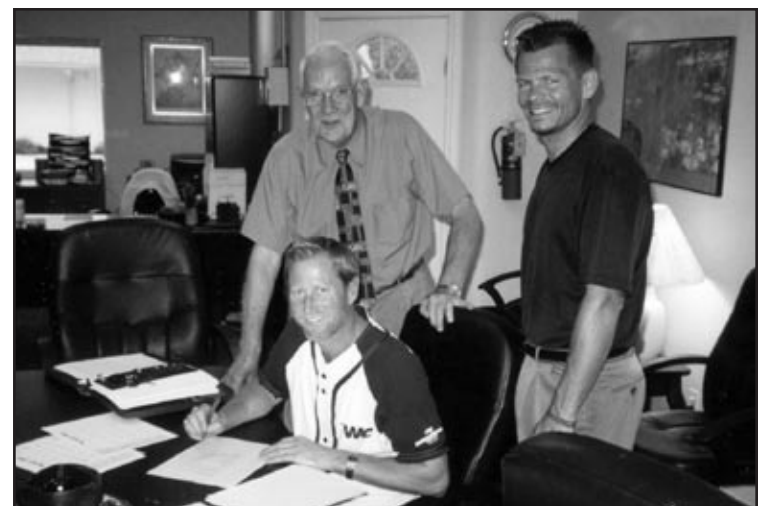
In the next several years, the congregations hope to begin the phased construction of a multipurpose facility that will provide more space for worship, Sunday school classes and administrative offices.

To help make the congregations' vision a reality, Hope and Esperanza Viva are partnering with Capital Funding Services, the capital fund-raising arm of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. A ministry of the Lutheran Church Extension Fund, CFS helps LCMS congregations and agencies raise funds for capital needs.

LCEF also is providing loan support to the congregation.

"This is an exciting, growing ministry that reaches out with the Gospel to a cross-section of its community, both Anglos and Hispanics," said CFS Regional Consultant Hal Chase, who is working with Hope and Esperanza Viva on their biblically based capital stewardship campaign, "Making Space for Jesus."

"Their enthusiasm for the Lord is contagious," Chase concluded. "They are spirit-led and spirit-filled!" □



Working on the biblically based capital stewardship campaign to help Hope Lutheran Church and Preschool and Esperanza Viva Iglesia Evangelica Lutheran in Orlando build a new preschool and multipurpose facility are Hope Lutheran Congregation President Jeff Friedrich (seated) and (standing, left to right) Capital Funding Services' Hal Chase and Rev. Paul vonWerder.



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## LutherHostel 2005 Scores with Students



Florida-Georgia District member Mary Gene Carr (right) from Trinity Lutheran Church-Orlando was among 20 adults who participated in LutherHostel 2005. She is pictured with Rev. Thomas Zehnder, the main presenter for the event and president emeritus of the Florida-Georgia District, and his wife, Jackie.

An enthusiastic group of 24 adults, age 55 and above, participated in LutherHostel 2005, held October 1-4 on the campus of Concordia Seminary-St. Louis.

Rev. Thomas Zehnder, former missionary to Japan and president emeritus of the Florida-Georgia District, was the main presenter for the event. Participants experienced Seminary class instruction and attended presentations by Seminary faculty and local experts on the theme "Joy in the Journey."

The theme for LutherHostel 2006 is "Light for All Ages," and will take place October 7-10. For more information about LutherHostel 2006, call the Office of Continuing Education and Parish Services at 314-505-7123 or e-mail ce@csf.edu. Concordia Seminary is located at 801 Seminary Place, St. Louis, MO 63105. □