

60th ANNIVERSARY

District's 60th to Benefit Endowment Fund

The thankoffering for the Florida-Georgia District's 60th anniversary celebration, "Following in Faith," has been earmarked for the newly established *Servants for the Future* Endowment Fund.

Promotional materials are being mailed to each congregation in conjunction with 60th anniversary events to encourage individual members to respond to this special endeavor to raise \$1,000,000 for the endowment fund.

The *Servants for the Future* Endowment Fund was established by the District's Board of Directors to provide more adequate support for student aid for those preparing for church work professions; the Concordia House of Studies, the District's program to provide church work preparation on the local level through collaboration with Concordia University system schools; and campus ministry as the District seeks to expand the number of campuses where ministry to students is carried out.

The purpose of an endowment fund is gain gifts which will be invested to provide an income stream year after year to support these vital ministries. Although the initial goal is to gather \$1,000,000 to meet the needs of these three ministries at the current time, a fund of \$10,000,000 would be necessary to meet the objectives.



The need for student aid is great. Student costs at LCMS Concordia universities and seminaries are more than \$25,000 a year. Student fees

for distance education courses exceed \$5,000 per year for four years. Among these are the Ethnic Immigrant Institute of Theology (EIIT), the Center for Hispanic Studies Theological Education by Extension (TEE), the Distance Education Leading To Ordination (DELTO) and the new Specific Ministry Pastor (SMP).

Funding for students is expected to be a collaborative endeavor with students, their families, colleges/seminaries, home congregations and Districts each contributing a portion. The Florida-Georgia District has not been able to contribute more than a basic grant of approximately \$1,000 per student in the recent past, which is less than what is desired or expected.

As a point of reference, the maximum amount of support that Concordia Seminary-St. Louis is able to fund for the 2008-2009 school year is 53% of tuition (about \$11,448 a year), leaving approximately \$10,152 for tuition, \$1,500 for books, room and board of \$5,000 to \$6,500 a year for a single student, clothes, travel, etc. to be provided by others. As these figures indicate, the balance to be paid by others is not insignificant.



The Concordia House of Studies (CHS) offers basic religion course work to prepare students for meeting entry level competencies at the Synod's two seminaries; for becoming a certified teacher in LCMS schools; for taking the foundational courses necessary for gaining

certification as a Director of Christian Education, Christian Outreach, Parish Music Ministry, Family Life Ministry, deaconess or certified lay minister. Courses are offered in various regions of the District in response to interest and needs.

To this point, support for the CHS has been provided through *Forward Together - Servants in His Mission*, the District's capital campaign. This support has made it possible to keep course work costs down to the amount charged at a Florida state school. As *Forward Together* winds down, a new revenue stream needs to be developed to cover overhead and keep course costs reasonable. (For more information, please contact Dr. Wayne Wilke, CHS Director, at 877-457-5556, or at wwilke@flga-lcms.org.)



The drive to expand campus ministry in the Florida-Georgia District grows out of a commitment to serve students from our congregations at colleges and universities in Florida and Georgia; to share the Gospel with the many students who are searching; and to equip students to assume leadership roles in church and society, including business, government, education and the media. We have five congregations doing campus ministry, and another four embarking on this outreach. Opportunities exist for another five to ten congregations to engage this opportunity. The *Servants for the Future* Fund will assist congregations in initiating this type of ministry.

In addition to the special anniversary thankoffering

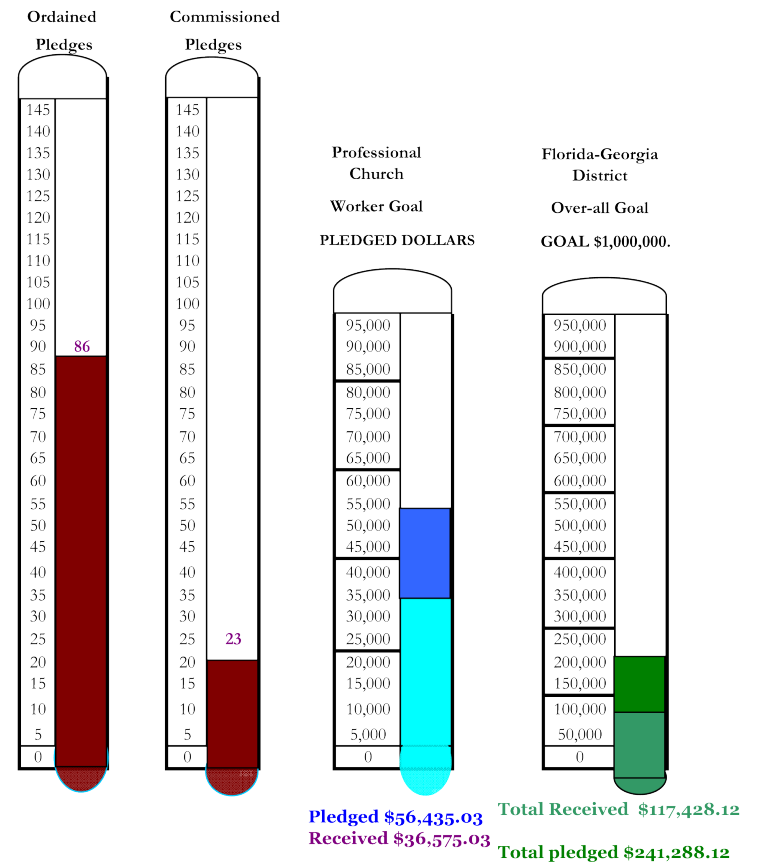
being designated for *Servants for the Future* Endowment Fund, individuals can provide support by direct one-time gifts; by regular gifts on a monthly, quarterly, semi-annual or annual basis; by gifts of stocks, bonds or property; by designating *Servants for the Future* as a beneficiary of an insurance policy; by remembering it in estate planning. Individuals can name a fund in honor of a church worker or loved one, or in memory of a sainted worker, family member or friend with a minimum of \$50,000.

Arrangements can be made to utilize Simply Giving,

a program offered through Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, or Joyful Response, a program offered through Lutheran Church Extension Fund, to have automatic deductions made from checking or savings accounts. Arrangements are being structured so that gifts can be made by credit card through the District website.

For assistance, or more information, please contact District Gift Planning Counselor Stuart Craig at the Lutheran Ministry Center, 7207 Monetary Drive, Orlando, FL 32809-5753 at 877-457-5556, extension 4, or at Gifts4ministry@earthlink.net.

Servants for the Future Campaign Statistics



Following In Faith

Florida-Georgia District 60th Anniversary 2008 Circuit Convocation Schedule

CIR #	CIRCUIT NAME	DAY	DATE	HOST CHURCH	CITY	STATE	OFFICE PHONE
1	North East Georgia	Saturday	05/03/08	Good Shepherd Lutheran Church	Gainesville	GA	(770)532-2428
2	Atlanta North	Sunday	05/04/08	Faith Lutheran Church	Marietta	GA	(770)973-8877
3	Atlanta South	Sunday	05/04/08	St. Paul Lutheran Church	Peachtree City	GA	(770)487-0339
4	E. Central Georgia	Saturday	05/03/08	Our Redeemer Lutheran	Augusta	GA	(706)733-6076
5	Tallahassee	Saturday	04/26/08	Epiphany Lutheran Church	Tallahassee	FL	(850)385-7373
6	First Coast	Sunday	04/27/08	Grace Lutheran Church & School	Jacksonville	FL	(904)928-9136
7	No Central Florida	Saturday	04/26/08	St. John Lutheran Church	Ocala	FL	(352)629-1794
8	Space Coast	Saturday	04/19/08	Grace Lutheran Church	Merritt Island	FL	(321)986-9689
9	Orlando East	Sunday	04/27/08	Trinity Lutheran Church	Orlando	FL	(407)422-5704
10	Orlando West	Sunday	04/20/08	Faith Lutheran Church	Eustis	FL	(352)-589-5433
11	Winter Haven	Saturday	04/12/08	Grace Lutheran Church	Winter Haven	FL	(863)293-8447
12	Heartland	Saturday	04/05/08	Faith Lutheran Church	Sebring	FL	(863)385-7848
13	Suncoast	Sunday	04/20/08	Holy Trinity Lutheran Church	Lutz	FL	(813)949-7173
14	St Petersburg	Saturday	04/19/08	Christ the King Lutheran	Largo	FL	(727)595-2117
15	Tampa	Sunday	04/13/08	Immanuel Lutheran Church	Brandon	FL	(877)689-1787
16	Sarasota	Sunday	04/13/08	Lakeside Lutheran Church	Venice	FL	(941)493-5102
17	South West	Saturday	04/12/08	St. Michael Lutheran Church	Ft. Myers	FL	(239)939-4711
18	Treasure Coast	Saturday	04/05/08	Our Redeemer Lutheran Church	Stuart	FL	(772)286-0911
19	So Palm Coast	Sunday	04/06/08	Trinity Lutheran Church	Delray Beach	FL	(561)278-1737
20	Gold Coast	Sunday	04/06/08	Gloria Dei Lutheran Church	Davie	FL	(954)475-0683
21	Miami North	Sunday	04/06/08	Holy Cross Lutheran Church	North Miami	FL	(305)893-0371
22	Miami South	Saturday	04/05/08	Concordia Lutheran Church	Miami	FL	(305) 235-6123