

National Black Ministry Convocation set for Selma

March 7, 1965, was a milestone day in the history of Black Americans. On that Sunday morning, 600 demonstrators assembled at Brown Chapel AME Church in Selma to march across the Edmund Pettus Bridge, heading for Montgomery to protest racial discrimination in our nation's voting booths.



Dr. Cheryl E. Williams

The LCMS Board for Black Ministry Services is issuing a call to assemble in Selma once again — this time at Concordia College — not only to march across the Edmund Pettus Bridge but to do some more “crossing over” at the 2006 National Black Ministry Family Convocation.

Convening under the theme *Crossing Over!*, this biannual gathering of Lutherans in Black Ministry invites attendees to cross over from “complaining to cooperation” and from

“observing to ownership” in their various ministries. The Convocation — set for Wednesday, July 19, through Sunday, July 23, will feature a family-friendly agenda of worship, workshops, business sessions and fellowship event.



John Beasley

Scheduled keynote speakers are Dr. Cheryl E. Williams, an assistant professor at Concordia University-Irvine, and John Beasley, an acclaimed stage and television actor. Williams is a cultural anthropologist who specializes in cross-cultural learning; while Beasley is the founder of the Beasley Theater in Omaha, NE, which features works by African-American playwrights. Both speakers are active members of the LCMS.

Black Ministry convocations are devoted to strengthening the impact and appeal of the LCMS to African-Americans. At present, less than 5% of the 2.4-

million member church body is African-American; however Rev. Phillip Campbell, Executive Director of the LCMS Board For Black Ministry Services, eagerly shares that the goal of his office as well as the 300 congregations in Black ministry is to add at least 50 new churches targeting the African American community by 2010.

The Convocation is open to all. The registration fee is \$140 for adults and \$90 for youth (ages 5 through adult). Registration forms, agendas and hotel information are available by calling the BBMS office at 800-248-1930 x1751 or checking the Black ministry area of the LCMS website at www.lcms.org. □

Trinity-Savannah Pays Tribute to Schroeder

Rev. Stephen Schroeder was honored by members and friends of Trinity-Savannah, GA, on April 30 as he retired from 35 years of full-time pastoral ministry. All 35 years had been spent in Georgia — the last 32 of them at Trinity.

Schroeder preached his last sermons as Trinity's full-time pastor at the 8:30 and 11:00 am worship services on April 30. The sermon text was Philippians 1:3-11, which says in part, “I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, thankful for your partnership in the Gospel from the first day until now.”

“And I am sure that He who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.”

traveled from as far away as Montana to help honor the couple.

A native of Iowa and a 1970 graduate of Concordia Seminary-St. Louis, Schroeder came to Georgia with his first call to Statesboro. There was no established Lutheran church there at the time; he and his wife helped establish St. Paul and served there three years.

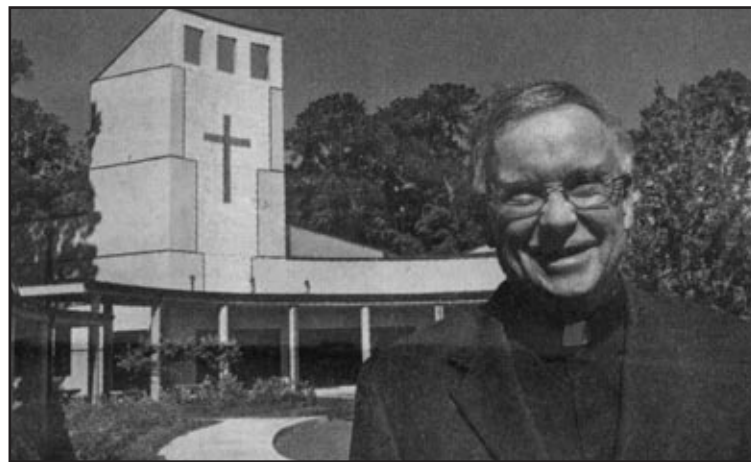
In 1974, Pastor Schroeder was called to Trinity, the only Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod congregation in the Savannah area. At the time, the military-heavy congregation had recently completed a new sanctuary — and changed its name from Martin Luther to Trinity Lutheran Church. Schroeder succeeded Rev. Donald Lunick, who had taken a call to Michigan.

During his 30-plus years at Trinity, the congregation's membership has grown from 120 to 540. Schroeder explained that expansion as a focus on the mission, “to reach out with the Gospel in word and deed.”

Trinity members, however, said their retired pastor deserved much of the credit for the growth. “You feel like he talks to you in the service,” said Trinity President Bill Edwards, who has been a member for 12 years.

The Schroeders are now living in Orlando near their children and grandchildren. Two more grandchildren will be joining the family this summer.

Rev. Robert Besalski is serving as resident interim pastor for Trinity. □



Rev. Stephen Schroeder in front of the Trinity Lutheran-Savannah sanctuary that was completed two years ago.

Schroeder and his wife, Barbara, were honored at a reception immediately following the late service.

Among those attending were the Schroeders' three children and four grandchildren along with friends and former parishioners. Some of the guests

Grace Honors Retiring Pastor

Members and friends of Grace Lutheran-Arcadia, FL, honored Rev. Theodore and Janice Hanus at a retirement party on April 23.

Pastor Hanus — who retired after 42 years in the ministry — was Grace's first full-time pastor, serving the congregation for more than 14 years.

A native of Chicago, Hanus graduated from Concordia Seminary-St. Louis and was ordained on July 5, 1964. His first call was to Peace Lutheran Church-Scranton, PA. That service was followed by calls to congregations in Queens Village, NY; Centereach, Long Island; Vestal, NY; and a dual ministry in Rome and Fulton, NY.

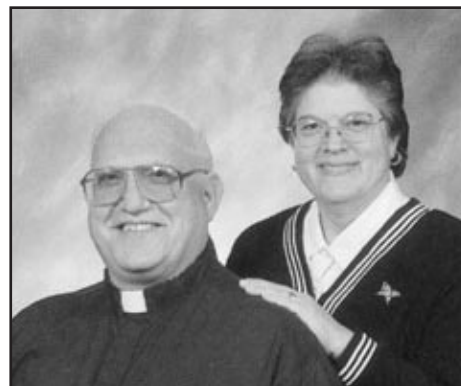
His first call to Florida was a dual parish ministry — Grace-Arcadia and Peace Valley-Wauchula. He was called as Grace's full-time pastor in 1995.

Hanus served as circuit counselor in both the Eastern and Florida-Georgia Districts of the LCMS. He was elected chairman of the board of directors for Lutheran Hospital of Brooklyn, NY; commissioner for the Housing Authority of Arcadia; chairman of the community board for Selby House, a mental health recovery center in Arcadia, and the Center for the Needy, a charitable agency in Arcadia.

In addition to his ministerial duties, Hanus served 23 years at a United States Army Chaplain in the National Guard. He retired in 191 with the rank of Lt. Col.

Hanus and his wife, a registered nurse, have two children — Jennifer, who graduated from seminary in May, and Martin, a biochemical engineer in Worcester, MA — and two grandchildren.

Pastor and Mrs. Hanus have worked together for the last several years on a mission project to supply Bibles for soldiers in Russia. So far, more than 20,000 Bibles have been given to new recruits, injured soldiers, enlisted men, officer candidates, chaplains and commanding generals. This ministry has been honored by both the Russian church and state governments. □



Rev. Theodore & Janice Hanus



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