

DISTRICT UPDATES



TRINITY-SAVANNAH, GA, celebrated the installation of Rev. John R. Hopkins as pastor on May 27 during a festive 4:30 p.m. service. A reception, prepared by women of the congregation, followed the service. Shown here are service participants (front, l-r) Rev. David Brighton, Rev. Karl Dunker, Rev. John Hopkins, Rev. Karl Schmidt, (back, l-r) Jerry Bisping, Rev. Bob Besalski, Vicar Justin Laughridge, Rev. Don Lunick. □

St. Paul Celebration

St. Paul Lutheran School-Peachtree City, GA will recognize its tenth anniversary on Saturday, October 20, with an alumni and staff reunion followed by a banquet. The celebration of the work God has accomplished through St. Paul Lutheran School will continue with Sunday services on October 21. Gifts and contributions may be made to the Reverend Dr. Ronald H. Janssen Memorial Scholarship Fund, honoring the founding pastor of St. Paul Lutheran Church and School. □

TRINITY LUTHERAN-ALBANY, GA, welcomed a new pastor earlier this summer. Rev. Steven Keltner was ordained and installed at a festive 4 p.m. worship on July 29. Participating in the

service were (l-r) Rev. Richard Pieplow, Messiah-Valdosta; Rev. Earl Steffens, Peace-Tifton and Counselor for Florida-Georgia District Circuit 5/Tallahassee; Keltner; Rev. Jay Winter, University-Tallahassee; and Rev. Steven Schave, Mount Calvary-Warner Robins. □



Concordia-Kendall Youth Inspires Pastor

Concordia Lutheran Church-Kendall, FL, member Sabastian Govea "will capture your heart just looking at him, but when he speaks, he seals the deal."

So reports Rev. Fred Naumann, Concordia's Interim Pastor. While greeting the children after services each Sunday, Naumann asks them to give him a "high five" and most do — some with exuberant gusto. Recently Sabastian instead looked up and quite seriously said, "I'm a hugger, not a hitter," and then gave Naumann a tight squeeze around his knees.

"That bit of wisdom," said Naumann, "is what we try to instill in all our members but especially the children who attend our daily and Sunday school programs."

That sentiment was also the theme of Naumann's sermon on September 9, Concordia's Rally Day.

Food and fun followed the 11 a.m. Rally Day worship service where all teachers and staff were installed. Approximately 30 families were welcomed as visitors.

"Each year the school and congregation set aside this time to emphasize the importance of sound education based on God's Word and expressed in loving concern and actions through its teachers and staff," Naumann said. □



Sabastian Govea of Concordia-Kendall.

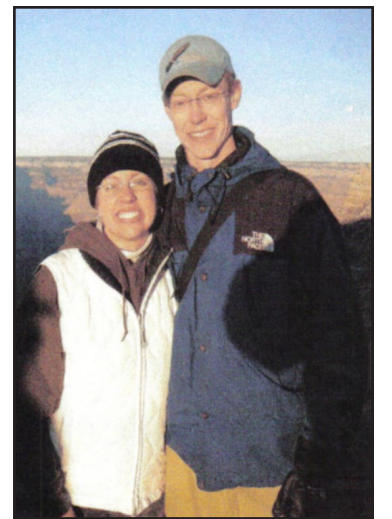
Bethel-Clearwater Welcomes DCE Intern

Andrew ("Andy") Stumpf was installed as Director of Christian Education Intern at Bethel Lutheran Church-Clearwater, FL, on August 12.

One of his first official acts was the launch of a new Youth Bible Class on Sunday mornings.

A native of Cicero, IL, Stumpf has worked as Program Director at Mt. Cross Camp in California and as Adventure and Program Director at Lutheran Valley Retreat in Colorado. For four summers he was Program and Adventure Director and a counselor during at Walcamp in Kingston, IL.

It was there he met his wife, Laura Holle. They were married in 2005. □



Laura and Andy Stumpf

CAPSULES

by Rev. Gerhard Michael Jr.
President, Florida-Georgia District

Calling Congregations Pastor

Athens GA.....Trinity
Augusta GA..... Our Redeemer
Bartow FLRedeemer
Boca Raton FL St. Paul (Senior)
Clewiston FLFaith
Esteros FL Estero Lutheran Mission
(Mission Planter)
Eustis FL Faith (Senior)
Jacksonville FL Grace
(Assistant/Associate)
Kendall FL Concordia
LaBelle FL Christ the King
Marco Island FL Marco
Newnan GA Zion
North Dade County
(Miami Shores FL) ...Redeemer
(Mission Developer)
North Miami FLHoly Cross
Orlando FL Our Savior
Tavernier FL Immanuel
Titusville FL Good Shepherd
West Palm Beach FLRedeemer
Winter Haven FLGrace (Youth)

Principal/Administrator

Dunwoody GA..... Rivercliff
Holly Hill FLTrinity
Jacksonville Grace
(new high school)
Orlando FLTrinity

DCE/DCO/Music

Sarasota FLBeautiful Savior

Calls Extended

Grace-Jacksonville FL, extended a call to Rev. Matthew Hoehner, O'Fallon MO, as associate pastor.
Christ Our Savior-Hampton GA, extended a call to Rev. Larry Townsend, Blue Bell PA, as pastor.

Grace-Winter Haven FL, extended a call to Ms. Ellen L. Porter, Winter Haven FL, as teacher.
Peace-Okeechobee FL, extended a call to Mr. Robert D. Achong, Garden City KS, as DCE.
Zion-Fort Myers FL, extended a call to Mrs. Rebecca Hirsch Duport, First-Fort Smith AR, as Family Life Minister.

Calls Received

Ms. Anastasia L. Davis, Redeemer-Stuart FL, received a call from Cross View Early Childhood Center-Edina MN as teacher.

Calls Accepted

Rev. Alan Struckmeyer, Immanuel-Temple TX, accepted the call from Abiding Savior- Gainesville FL.
Rev. Larry Townsend, Blue Bell PA, accepted the call from Christ Our Savior-Hampton GA.
Ms. Anastasia L. Davis, Redeemer-Stuart FL, accepted the call from Cross View Early Childhood Center-Edina MN.
Ms. Ellen L. Porter, Winter Haven FL, accepted the call from Grace-Winter Haven FL.
Mr. Robert D. Achong, Garden City KS, accepted the call from Peace-Okeechobee FL.
Mrs. Rebecca Hirsch Duport, First-Fort Smith AR, accepted the call from Zion-Fort Myers FL.

Calls Declined

Rev. Timothy V. Maslowski, Susanville CA, declined the call from Christ Our Savior-Hampton GA.

Rev. Edwin Nicklas, Our Savior-Plantation FL, declined the call from Grace-Orange TX.
Rev. Matthew Hoehner, O'Fallon MO, declined the call from Grace-Jacksonville FL.

Transferred to Other Districts

Rev. William S. C. Johnson to Indiana District.
Ms. Anastasia L. Davis to Minnesota South District.

Resignation

Rev. Henry Drummond resigned from Concordia-Kendall FL.

Ordained Minister Assignments

Rev. Charles J. Kanefke - Concordia-St. Louis MO
- Trinity-Cape Coral FL
Comissioned Minister Assignments
Mr. Timothy M. Leech - Concordia Nebraska - Orlando Lutheran Academy-Orlando FL
Ms. Jennifer N. Thomas - Concordia Wisconsin - Orlando Lutheran Academy-Orlando FL
Ms. Sara E. Sorkness - Concordia Texas - Grace-Winter Haven FL
Mrs. Kim Schave - Concordia Theo. Sem - Christ-Perry GA

Emeritus

Rev. Larry Larsen, Rogate, Clearwater FL.

Church Triumphant

Rev. Dr. Thomas A. Droege, Doraville GA, April 5, 2007

Rehearsals Begin for Lutheran Cantata Choir

Rehearsals begin this month for the Lutheran Cantata Choir for its concert on Sunday, March 9, 2008, at St. Luke's Lutheran-Oviedo. The performance is part of St. Luke's annual concert series.

The choir will present Bach's Cantata BWV 79, "Gott der Herr is Sonn und Schild" (God, the Lord, is Sun and Shield). Written for the Reformation Festival in 1725, the cantata makes use of a large choral and instrumental ensemble. The program will also feature other pieces of varying styles as was done in the 2007 cantata concert performance.

The Lutheran Cantata Choir is composed of singers from Lutheran church choirs throughout Central Florida and is open to anyone who has a "passion for music and a joy for singing." Two rehearsals are planned this fall (October 14 and November 11); weekly rehearsals are scheduled from January 13 through March 2, with a dress rehearsal on March 8.

If you are interested in participating, please contact James Coe at jcoe@stlukes-oviedo.org or 407-365-3408 extension 3055 or David Ludwig at dgludwigjr@aol.com or at 407-275-8106. □