

Three Reasons Why More Church Workers Are Needed

1. Replacement of Pastors

Projections show that the number of pastors serving in the LCMS will be declining in the years ahead. Statistics indicate that:

- ❖ 300 to 350 pastors will retire or leave active parish ministry annually between 2006 and 2016
- ❖ 250 seminarians were placed last year
- ❖ 240 are expected to graduate in 2008

At the current pace, we will fall short of replacing retiring pastors with new graduates by 100 annually.

2. Ablaze Mission Challenge

By the year 2017, the LCMS, with the blessing of the Holy Spirit, intends to:

- ❖ share the Gospel with 50 million people
- ❖ plant 2,000 congregations
- ❖ revitalize 2,000 congregations in the United States

As its share of the ministry, the Florida-Georgia District has committed to:

- ❖ share the Gospel with 2 million people
- ❖ start 200 or more missions
- ❖ revitalize 22 or more existing congregations

Pray that the Lord of the Church will provide the Directors of Christian Education, Christian Outreach, Family Life and Parish Music, Youth Ministers, and Lay Ministers needed to reach these goals.

3. LCMS Trained Teachers

- ❖ In 1995, over 60% of teachers in Lutheran schools in our district were synodically trained
- ❖ By 2005, that had dropped to 48%.
- ❖ The projection for 2015 is 35%

If we want to maintain Lutheran schools, we must have more synodically trained teachers.

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Servants for the Future Endowment Fund

Servants for the Future Endowment Fund was established by the FL-GA District Board of Directors in November 2006

- to better fund our endeavor to raise leaders for the church's mission
- with the goal of raising \$1,000,000 in connection with the District's 60th anniversary in 2008.

What will Servants for the Future do?

1. Provide more adequate **student aid** for those preparing for ministry.
2. Help support the **Concordia House of Studies**—the District's vehicle to bring a Concordia education close to home.
3. To strengthen and expand **campus ministry**—an excellent way to raise laity for leadership in church and society and to share the Gospel.

The need for student aid is great. Student costs at our Concordia Universities and seminaries are over \$25,000 a year. Student fees for distance education courses amount to over \$5,000 per year for four years. Servants for the Future will help the District more adequately provide its share.

How you can help:

- One time gifts
- Regular gifts on a monthly, quarterly, or annual basis
- Major gifts, including gifts of stocks, bonds, property
- Establish a named fund (\$50,000 minimum) in memory of a sainted worker or to honor someone still living
- Name SffEF a beneficiary of an insurance policy
- Remember it in your will

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

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