

BRIEF HISTORY OF FOUNTAIN OF LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH

1957 - 1977

- TUCSON, ARIZONA -

In 1957 the City of Tucson had a population of approximately 212,892. The present population is 452,000. The population thrust to the Southwest of the United States had begun but was still in its early stages. Forty-five years previously the Lutheran Church had been represented in Tucson by only one Congregation - Grace - which was independent of synodical affiliation. It was established about 1912 at the time Arizona became the "Baby State." Our Saviour's Lutheran Church (LCA) was organized in 1945 in Roskrige School. At that time the whole area of the Southwest United States was considered by synodical leaders of Wisconsin and Missouri to be too large for either one and was so divided that our State of Arizona became Wisconsin territory. Ultimately the English District was invited by the Missouri Synod to begin work in Arizona. Faith Lutheran Church was the first Congregation organized in January 1949. Services were held at Peter Howell School before construction of the Church building at Fifth and Alvernon. Late in 1956 members of Faith Church undertook the rental of a new public school five miles to the east.

The English District, through its Church Extension Fund, purchased ten acres of property as a site for the Church on Kolb Road. Kolb Road gets its name from the Brothers Kolb, who were Arizona pioneers, and who were active in the development of the tourist trade around the Grand Canyon. Such a purchase of property, which cost \$30,000, of course was beyond the ability of the small local group of people who desired to organize into a Congregation.

- BIRTH OF FOUNTAIN OF LIFE -

Worship Services and Sunday School were conducted in a new elementary school by the Rev. and Mrs. William Dietze. The English District sent a missionary Pastor, Richard P. Melbohm to Tucson, on July 4, 1957.

The new Congregation, at an outdoor patio meeting, even before it was organized, adopted its unique name from a passage in Psalm 36:9 which speaks of our Lord Jesus as our Fountain of Life. This was the first time this beautiful name for Christ has been used for a Lutheran Church. Subsequent to the naming of the Congregation it was interesting to discover that some 15 hymns in our current Lutheran Hymnal contain references to Jesus as the Fountain of Life, such as numbers 345, 278, 157, 145, 305, 282, 619, 149, 277, 361, 376, 32, 448 and 4. At the present date we know of at least two other Congregations that have happily adopted this name. Fountain of Life, Sun City, Arizona, and Fountain of Life, High Point, North Carolina.

Fountain of Life Congregation was organized January 1, 1958.

The original plan of the District had been to build a place of worship on the new property immediately, but due to the limitations of the financing ability of the District for Church Extension purposes this project had to be delayed for some three and one-half years and during that time the Congregation met in the school as renting guests. The facilities were adequate, though they were styled for strictly academic uses on the elementary level.

It could only happen in Arizona, at least as far as we know, that a public school is made available for conducting Worship Services. This practice is necessary particularly for the benefit of new groups desiring to organize Congregations and conduct services pending the erection of their own Church facilities in an area where there were no empty store fronts or other public building available for rent.

So it was that arrangements were made particularly by the Herb Ellermann and the Norman Stevens families with Annie Kellond School (the schools in Tucson are named after retired teachers and other educational directors who have served in the area). One school is named after Frank Borman, the astronaut from Tucson, Arizona. The rental charge or usage fee in 1957 was something like \$15 for up to three hours for the auditorium or the combination auditorium and dining hall and \$1 apiece for additional class room space, depending always on the arrival of the custodian to do the unlocking.

For those in the Congregation who do not remember this chapter of history and for others who have not had this experience, it is well perhaps to recall that such a Congregational life and worship in a public building, like the school, is somewhat like the transient life of early Indian residents of this area who each day quietly folded their tents and silently moved away.

So we had a place allotted to us under the stage of the auditorium to store our equipment such as portable altar, pulpit and reredos, or blue folding screens. A metal wardrobe storage closet in the hall for vestments and books and other materials for teaching so that they did not have to be transported back and forth each week. Individuals of the Congregation like Harvey Kuehner undertook the responsibility of setting up the stage for services.

One other interesting note in remembrance of the period in Kellond School is that Bible Classes were conducted out of doors on the sunny side of the inner court year round, except for the month of January. This was found to be quite comfortable and the same court which was complete with outdoor concrete staging area was used for Easter Worship Services and the beginning of the traditional dramatic presentation of the Easter story "And Because He Lives" around the empty tomb. Remember Faye Gledt as an angel in high heels?

During the period in which regular services were held in Kellond School, meetings, confirmation classes, choir rehearsals and special services were also conducted in the Parsonage at 6942 East Calle Canis, in Terra del Sol Subdivision. Davis-Monthan Air Force Base facilities were made available to Fountain of Life Congregation in those early days for special celebrations and social gatherings were held in the Officers Club, also in the NCO facilities. The University of Arizona, Shamrock Dairy Hospitality Room, and peoples' homes were offered and used as gathering places during the tri-year-plus homelessness of the young Congregation.

- CHARTER MEMBERS AS OF JANUARY 1, 1958 -

*BIRKELAND, Monroe & Sally; Timmy
BOISE, Doris; Johnny, Hilda, Charleen
BRADNAN, John & Laverne; Judith Louise
and Paulette
*EICHHORST, Don & Janis; Dawn, Bruce
ELLERMANN, Herb & Viola; Larry,
Donald and Janice
*FIENHOLD, Fred & Alberta; Edwin,
Stephen and Susanne
HALE, Dorothy; Debbie, Shelley
HALL, Marie; Sylvia
KAASE, Carl & Julia; Frederick C.
KRACAN, Florence & Edward; Corliss
KUEHNER, Harvey & Arlene; Greg, Toni
LOWE, Minerva
LUDWIG, Walter & Ann; Patricia Ann
*MEIBOHM, Richard & Ruth; Carla,
Barbara, John and Joyce

MATARAZZO, Bonnie; David, Connie
*MUCKLOW, Esther; Edward, James,
Kenneth, Lynn Richard & Linda Dianne
PORTER, Edith
*PRCHAL, Betty; Steven, Joseph, Kathy
*RIEGERT, George & Dorothy; Sandra
Jeanne
REPP, Thomas & Betty; Robert, Thomas
STEVENS, Norman & Louise; Craig
STEIBEL, Lois; Calvert, Cathy
STILL, Marilyn; Terry, Joan, Janet
TOBIAS, Edward & Norma; Gail, Kathy
WARSINSKI, Frank & Vernita; Tom,
David, Ricky
*WILLER, Elmer & Wilma; Matthew,
Jeffrey
*WOODRUM, Dorothy; Robert, Russell,
Janet Lynn

WAGNER, Mrs. Louise

*Presently members of Fountain of Life.

- FIRST ANNIVERSARY -

The First Anniversary Banquet of Fountain of Life was held January 18, 1959 at 5:00 P.M. in the Junior Ballroom of the University of Arizona. The theme "The Church Building Program, Past, Present and Future." Herb Ellermann, first Chairman of the Congregation referred to "The Past."

In the spring of 1956 Faith Church voters appointed a committee. Herb Ellermann, Chairman, met with the County Planning Commissioner, to select a site. Ultimately a meeting was called on the present Church ground and it was unanimously decided that this was it. Pastor Carl H. Harman set the wheels in motion between the English District and Tucson Land and Development for the purchase of ten acres on Kolb Road in the spring of 1957.

A group of ladies and Walther Leaguers from Faith Church canvassed a portion of the East side area and on October 7, 1956 Church and Sunday School were started in Kellond School, with 30 children in Sunday School and 43 in attendance for Worship Service.

Pastor and Mrs. William Dietze, Herb and Vi Ellermann, Dr. and Mrs. Dwight Shafer and Ann Ludwig were the first Sunday School teachers.

The first baptism was on October 21, Lorenn Ley, son of Dr. and Mrs. David Smith.

The mission paid for its advertising, rent of school, Hymnals, Sunday School supplies, etc., and had \$1,000 left in the Treasury at the end of the first year.

The first Children's Christmas Service was held with 100 in attendance. Gifts were given all children present.

- ENGLISH DISTRICT -

The English District Church Extension Board, of which the Rev. O. T. McRee was Executive Secretary, extended several calls to the cactus country of Eastern Tucson. Several candidates who flew in to look over the field decided to return to the areas from which they came. Sunshine and climate salutary to human health was no small contributing factor in the decision of a Pastor from a Church in downtown Cleveland, right near the Cuyahoga River, which was lined with steel industry and at one time even caught fire, to come with his wife and family of four children to the more salubrious climate of Tucson, Arizona.

Pastor and Mrs. Melbohm came to Tucson, July 4, 1957 to meet with the members interested in organizing the Congregation. It was hot enough to fry an egg on the sidewalk. They accepted the call, arriving on the scene in September and moving into a little termite ridden house on 6252 East 27th Street.

- PASTOR AND FIRST OFFICERS -

On Sunday, September 22, 1957, Pastor Melbohm was commissioned at Faith Church. Fifteen members and their children were transferred from Faith to Fountain of Life and after the service the ladies group of Faith held a reception.

On October 27, 1957, at the Sunday School and Church Picnic, a special token

of \$100 in appreciation for his services was given to Pastor Dietze.

By Christmas the Pastor and family were in the new Parsonage in Terra del Sol, and the congregation was really humming with activities. Choirs organized, Sunday School Teachers Training, Adult Classes started, Confirmation Classes on the way, Altar Guild forming, an excellent Christmas program taking shape, Church Brochures printed and advertising in local papers.

The Children's Christmas Program was well attended and everyone enjoyed the late service on Christmas Eve in the Parsonage. Between Christmas and New Years a housewarming party was given for the Pastor and his family in the Parsonage.

On January 5, 1958 the constitution of Fountain of Life was adopted, the 1958 budget was set up, and officers were elected for the year. The budget was set at \$12,837 of which \$810 was for the Synodical Treasury; English District subsidy was \$4,000 for the first year.

The officers were: Chairman, Herb Ellermann; Vice-chairman, Norman Stevens; Secretary, Harvey Kuehner; Treasurer, John Bradnan; Financial Secretary, Frank Warsinski; Elders: H. Kuehner and H. Hofmann; Trustees: C. Kaase, M. Birkeland and D. Eichhorst; Sunday School Superintendent, Bud Willer. During the course of the year William Kane became Elder and Dr. Klein took over as Chairman of the Building Committee when Norm Stevens was transferred to California.

An outdoor Easter Service, with pageant, was presented in the school patio with over 200 present. On May 25, 1958, a Church and Sunday School picnic was held at Randolph Park. Carl Kaase was appointed Head Usher.

- FIRST ANNIVERSARY -

Major Frederick E. Hintz reported on "The Present." The Elders duties are to assist the Pastor in caring for souls; look after the spiritual needs of the Congregation; visit the sick; bring comfort to the discouraged; administer Fountain of Life "Love Fund."

Each Elder has been assigned an area for which he is responsible. His activities are: to become acquainted with each member; become acquainted immediately with new members; encourage each member to become active in the affairs of the Church and of the Congregation; make mission calls and direct the efforts of the Fisherman's Club; greet members and visitors at all Worship Services.

The Congregation has numerous activities which are of special note: We are blessed with having at present a fine pianist, Ann Ludwig, who doubles as the leader of our Junior and Senior Choirs. Both Choirs are doing a very fine job ... but they could use more voices.

The Congregation's Altar Guild and Missionary League is an excellent group of devoted ladies who take care of the Altar, including setting it up, arranging for flowers for each service and caring for the sacramental wine and wafers. They also visit Church prospects and newcomers in an effort to swell our ranks and to find people willing to serve in God's Kingdom.

The Walther League is another of our Church functions. It is a social group of Lutheran young people designed for spiritual growth, and Christian Fellowship.

The Fisherman's Club - operated under the Board of Elders and consisting of consecrated men and women who will make mission calls.

The Nursery is in operation during all Worship Services and the ladies in attendance care for our youngsters. Please feel free to utilize this service.

The Sunday School meets every Lord's Day at 9:30 A.M. and there are classes from nursery age through adult Bible Classes.

Junior Confirmation Classes meet each Saturday at the Parsonage.

- FIRST ANNIVERSARY -

Dr. Raymond Klein, Chairman Building Committee reports. To look into "The Future," it is necessary to look at what has happened during the past years.

Let's look back to 1940 - Tucson in 1940 had but 58,000 people. Said 58,000 people had \$147,400,000 in the banks. In 1958 the population had increased to over 220,000 who had more than \$1,100,000,000 in the banks. It is significant to point out that while the population increased about five times, the bank deposits increased about eight times. It is estimated the new residents are coming into Tucson at the rate of 1,200 each month. Lloyds of London has prophesied that by the year 2000 there will be a continuous line of homes between Phoenix and Tucson.

Our Church site is in a rapidly expanding area. There are more than 830 homes under construction or planned for the area. In the very near future the land that we have for a Church will be surrounded by houses.

In the Bible, you read in Mark 9:23 a saying by Christ, "If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth." To state it another way, positive thinking achieves positive results. One might have the goal of having a beautiful back yard to relax in. So, out goes the husband or wife to dig tree holes, plant bushes, etc., and in so doing he or she gets enjoyment out of the activity because the individual is achieving what he wants - he is working toward his goal.

I would propose that our goal be breaking of the ground for our Church by December, 1959, and completion by December, 1960. If each of us here tonight accepts his goal, we will have it. Tonight we will have an opportunity to demonstrate, in a tangible way, the means to obtaining a beautiful Church building on Kolb Road seating 260 people. Phase One of "Operation Roofover" is for planned saving for the Lord. Sometime later counselors will talk to all of us here and give us the opportunity to make a pledge for savings for the new Church. Please note the word - SAVINGS. You are not being asked during Phase One for an outright contribution, but money to be invested in the English District Mission Extension Fund, which in turn loans it back to us to build our Church.

- FIRST THE MOUNTAIN AND THEN THE VALLEY -

Pastor Richard P. Melbohm said There was once a Christian cobbler - a shoemaker - who carried on his trade in a little shop by the sea. One day his minister called and seating himself near the workbench, he looked on as the man kept on hammering away on shoe after shoe. But before long the monotonous beat of the hammer and the dinginess of the room, lighted only by a small window, got to be too much for the minister and he said, "Man, don't you ever get tired of this narrow life?" Then, the old shoemaker rose from his shoes and bits of leather. "Pastor", he said, "whenever I feel like that I do this" ... and with a few steps he was standing

at the door of his shop ... with a push of his hand, he flung it open ... and there before the two men stretched out the great wide expanse of the sea! Immediately the little room was glorified ... glorified by its relationship to the fields and skies and the great rolling sea and to the Creator of them all.

Our lives are like that. Whether we spend them surrounded by old shoes, or among pots, books, desks, or machines, makes little difference. They hem us in, those things. The dull routine makes our existence a humdrum affair. And the smallishness of it all tends to shrivel our souls ... to make us small, prejudiced and self-centered. What you and I need too is to fling open the door of our little life. We need to expand our lungs with the bracing air of a world that is bigger than "I and my little things." We need to catch the Epiphany vision of the sea, the vast sea of men and women all around us and of the One who loves them all as He does you and me, then the Anniversary Celebration of our Congregation will be glorified by the vastness of its relationship to the world and to Him who is the Savior of the world.

- GROUND BREAKING WITH SHOVEL AND SONG -

- TUCSON ATTRACTS -

One of the chief attractions of Tucson and the Southwest for Church workers or Church members is its sunshine and climate salutary to human health. It was some of these factors that brought people here in those days from Chicago, Detroit, Buffalo, Minneapolis, Milwaukee and even St. Louis. The people who met their first Pastor here referred to Tucson as a great indoor, outdoor hospital and there was much truth in this. The health of at least one member of each family seemed to be involved in the reason for their moving to Tucson ... and incidentally, this was one of the reasons that members organizing the Church suggested that we do not use the common cup but individual cups for distribution of the Lord's Supper because of the prevalence of communicable diseases by germs. Of course there were many other reasons that drew people to the Southwest. The pioneering spirit, searching for the final frontier, and the amazing weather. The whole attraction was summed up in those days by the four C's - copper, climate, cattle, cotton - with the University of Arizona as an educational institution and Hughes Aircraft

Company, the largest employer in this State, thrown in for good measure.

People generally migrate to Arizona as they do to Florida from the colder regions of the North with an instinct akin to that which the Lord gives to robins, geese and other wild birds and animals, first on a sort of tentative basis to thaw out and get some healing rays; then gradually they develop a desire to stay and so as soon as they can make arrangements for the change of employment or rearrange family associations, or retire, they pick up and come, some as the general practice is, get, if you can imagine it "cold feet" after a little while and go back home only to find that home is really the place that they want to be from, and then they come back to stay. However, there is a general class of "snow birds" who for one reason or another cannot or do not break their ties in the North and continue to migrate each year and become perennial winter worshippers at Fountain of Life, such as the Gallmeyers, Kreitners and Hetzel from Buffalo, Huflages from Kentucky and others.

- PREPARING TO BUILD -

Locally the Congregation was dedicating itself to building up funds for purchase of pews and furniture necessary for conducting Worship Services. But the large capital investment necessary for building (at least in those days of 1960-61) \$155,000 plus assuming the \$30,000 for property, plus \$16,500 for the Parsonage, was still beyond the financial capacities of obtainment by the local group through conventional commercial loans.

The avenue provided by the Lord of the Church was again through the agency of the Church Extension Fund of the English District. Locally only about \$18,000 was loaned to the fund. The bulk of the investment was provided from loans by faithful people in all parts of the District from coast to coast who supported the extension of the Church. God bless these people who never saw Arizona or Tucson, yet made it possible to dedicate a beautiful place of worship in Arizona.

- TRANSFER TO KOLB ROAD -

Our period in the school came to a close after three and one-half years with the motorcade that left the school with banners flying, flags waving out of the top of a sun roofed VW when the Congregation proceeded to the new site and Sanctuary on Kolb Road on Passion Sunday of 1961, being March 19.

The worship setting of the new Church was designed with a unique mountain view window revealing the inspiring view of the Catalina Mountains; calling to the worshiper's mind the words of Psalm 121, "I look to the mountains; where will my help come from? My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth."

The construction material included brown adobe brick, copper ore and, for the mountain view window, a special solar glass which eliminates 50% of the light and heat making it possible for worshipers to view the pleasant mountainscape without eye strain or discomfort.

- THE PIPE ORGAN -

After the cost of the first building complex, designed by Charles Edward Stade of Park Ridge, Illinois, could barely be met out of the funds available (\$145,000 from the District and funds raised locally) only \$5,000 was left for the installation of the organ, Mr. David McDowell, with a built-in devotion and with an inner urge or compulsion to build and install pipe organs as an avocation-profession, agreed to furnish a pipe organ for this price. Later he came by and said the materials would cost more than that and so the original cost to the Congregation was finally up around \$7,500.

The console of the organ was purchased from the Congregational Church on Second Avenue and completely refinished and restored by Charles Sewell, and pipes for the organ were retrieved by Dave McDowell in the snow of January from an organ that he had built for a Church in Nebraska and which the "corn huskers" had decorated with paint but finally forfeited by giving up their Church to a farmer who contacted the organ builder.

These were fine German organ pipes that Dave had to restore by means of an acid bath before building them into Fountain of Life's first basic organ unit. Dr. and Mrs. Leland Reeck engaged Mr. McDowell to add a coupler mechanism. The organ was expanded some ten years later by the addition of Gemshorn and Quintadena through memorial donations from Clara Mackolitch in memory of her husband, William, and from Evelyn Franke in memory of her husband, Arthur.

- FINANCING CHURCH AND PARSONAGE -

The Church property and building complex plus the Parsonage on Calle Canis were consigned to the Congregation under a Land Contract designed to be repaid over a period of 25 years from 1961. That would have run to 1986, at a very favorable 5½% interest with the sale of the original Parsonage which had become part of the capital investment of the Congregation and the building of a new Parsonage on the Church property. The total price then would have been, if it had been paid over that period to 1968, around \$500,000. By the grace of God the process of repaying of the indebtedness was expedited in various ways. During one of the early years the Congregation repaid an extra \$5,000 in one year which was like reducing the total figure by twice that much because it reduced the principle.

- ENGLISH DISTRICT EXPANDS WORK IN TUCSON AREA -

1961 was an eventful year for the English District of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod in Tucson. Two Congregations were started. Ascension Lutheran Church on the north side in the Casas Adobes area, and Holy Trinity Lutheran Church on South Twelfth Avenue in the Mission Manor School, with Pastor Lynn Rittmann of Cleveland, Ohio, being called to serve both missions.

The Lutheran Church of the Risen Savior, Green Valley, Arizona, was organized in 1964 and was served by Leland R. Larson, at that time Pastor of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Tucson.

In 1967 Larry Misner was called as the first full time Missouri Synod Campus Pastor.

In 1976 Dr. Marcus Pera was called to succeed Pastor Misner, who was called home in 1975.

Christus Rex Congregation was organized in 1970 and held its first meeting in Nogales, Arizona. It is now served by Pastor Stanley R. Peterson and Worship Services are held in Rio Rico Stables.

In 1972 Richard C. Glock was called to be Pastor of Mount Olive Lutheran Church, five miles farther Southeast than Fountain of Life.

- NEW PARSONAGE IN 1965 -

The present Parsonage, 700 South Kolb Road, was dedicated September 1965. Dr. Raymond Klein was President of the Congregation at that time. The design and building was the product of joint planning by Richard Hansen, a young architect, and Gerhard Muller, a builder, together with the Pastor and members of the Congregation; also Leonard Bunge, the sub-contractor for carpentry, and Fred Fischer for plumbing. Ed Helm also helped with concrete work.

- LIVING IN HEAVEN AND STILL WORKING ON EARTH -

Upon the death of Norman and Marian Dress in 1971, they left half of their estate to the reduction of the capital part of the Church's indebtedness in the amount of over \$52,500 which then in effect reduced the indebtedness again by about \$76,500 including interest. (The other half of the estate was left to The Lutheran Home for the Aged, Westlake, Ohio.)

A legacy from an estate of a friend of the Pastor in Cleveland, Ohio, in the amount of \$2,300 was applied to the reduction of the capital indebtedness of the Congregation at the time the Parsonage was built. The debt was further reduced beyond regular repayment schedule by legacies from the estates of Al Stone and Kathleen Goodman. At this time, 1977, the total indebtedness of the congregation is in the neighborhood of \$45,000 which is about seven years ahead of schedule.

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- FELLOWSHIP HALL -

A need for such a facility was felt for at least five years prior to 1970. One set of plans after another was devised especially with the idea of adding on to the so-called West side of the West Room and again and again small groups discussed the matter and came to the conclusion that the project was beyond our means and could not be undertaken while we still had mortgage payments to make on the original complex of buildings. Then one day it happened that a group decided to present the matter to the entire Congregation as a challenge. Plans were drawn up and presented visually on an overhead project with mock up model especially prepared under the guidance of Dr. Ray Klein and the architect as a complement to our present buildings, a place acoustically treated to make it possible to have open class room areas and darkened for audio visual presentations, and the spirit of God moved the Congregation to assume the challenge. Ground was broken during the Christmas Season of 1970 and the Hall was dedicated on July 25, 1971.

A significant impetus was given to the drive for \$85,000 by a gift of \$25,000 by Mrs. Tillie Poggenbeck in memory of her grandson, Bill Bretcher, and the total funds for the Hall were pledged and paid for in a three year period over and above the other normal commitments of the Congregation. The Hall has indeed been a blessing to the Church and Sunday School, fellowship, Voters meetings, wedding receptions, several Passover Celebrations, Pairs 'n Spares, also dinners, Bicentennial Celebration, LWML meetings, community gatherings such as voting and Boy Scouts, and in recent years also for two classes of Pre-Kindergarten.

- GOD STILL BUILDS THROUGH YOU AND C. E. F. -

At the present time the English District is appealing to all Congregations like ours to at least make sufficient loans available to the Church Extension Fund to cover the remaining indebtedness so that the same opportunity might be provided by the Church Extension Fund of the District to other new groups or Congregations to begin.

The sponsoring District has in our days seen changes within itself in the matter of an appreciable number of Congregations reverting to the original English Synod status organizationally independent of, but in basic fellowship of the faith with the Missouri Synod with whom it has been associated for 65 years.

- CHURCH RECORDS -

On the occasion of the 20th Anniversary we have duplicated records of baptisms, confirmations, marriages and burials. Several copies have been made for security purposes. Church bulletins for the 20 years have been bound. A Book of Memorials donated through the years, and a number of albums of pictures of confirmation classes and sundry other special events and a special book of newspaper clippings are all available in the Church offices.

- EDITOR'S CONFESSION -

They told me it couldn't be done! Now I believe it! Somebody's name, probably a number of them are going to be left out of the Church History and we will feel so bad. Even whole programs and blessed events may be missed. But we've "gotta" try, and so here are some more things that have happened over the years.

- SPECIAL PERSONS AND HISTORY -

Especially endowed and volunteer workers have been sent to Fountain of Life by the Lord of the Church from time to time in the course of its 20 year history as a very special blessing. Only the Lord Himself will know and remember all that everyone has done, but a number of people come to mind as one looks back over the two decades. Ann Ludwig was the first pianist for the group. Doug and Virginia Lootens and John and Jannelle Shaud also offered their talents in leading the music of the young Congregation.

Then in 1958 Walter Lessmann and his sisters, Lee and Selma, appeared on the scene out of Texas. Walter had experience as Business Administrator and Mission Counselor having retired early in order to offer his services to the Church wherever they might be used, and the Lord sent him to Fountain of Life where he became Chairman of the Elders, the Fisherman's Group, and a teacher of Confirmation Class, as well as a devoted custodian of the property. Lee taught Sunday School. One of Walter's chief assets which he shared with the Church was a personal secretary, his sister, Selma. Don't underestimate secretaries who put into print all the good ideas that lay executives and Pastors have to offer. It multiplies their potential.

A notable tradition at Fountain of Life has been the Carl Heldt artistic skill which is apparent annually in the outstanding Thanksgiving and Advent altar decorations as well as the designing of the communion equipment in which Carl has been

faithfully assisted by Mickie and Tim, Mickie especially, in designing of altar paraments. Others who have volunteered in art, needlework, and sewing areas are: Laura Anderson, Sandra Baughn, Doris Brunenkant, Evelyn Fahr, Clara Geweke, Ardis Grob, Virginia Hecht, Faye Johnson, Mary Johnson, Arlene Kuehner, Lowney McCormick, Flo McHenry, Esther Mucklow, Vi Rhyner, Edith Searle, Ethel Swanson, Wilma Willer and Joan Youngling.

We have had a number of office volunteers: Laura Anderson, Joyce Chapman, Avis Dykstra, Merilee Freistadt, Joyce Melbohm, Vi Rhyner, Miriam Thomas, Carol Weaver, and during the early years Dorothy Woodrum cut the stencils for the Sunday Bulletins.

Among the regular Church secretaries were Selma Lessmann, Millie Cox, Sallie Birkland, Donna Oebker, Esther Moldanado, Gladys Danner, Vi Rhyner and Carol Weaver. As the Educational office was added, Dorothy Van Deinse and later Suzanne Weadock became secretary.

Not every Congregation has its own tomb builders union, but the Bud Willer family and Monty Birkeland, and others, have led the Easter Morning tomb builders group for many years.

Greeters through the years were Walter Lessmann, Virginia Holton, Edith Searle, Elders and their wives and, of course, Pastor and Mrs. Melbohm, and a host of friendly members who made full use of the Worship Court.

AFTER THE KIRK

"If after Kirk you bide a wee
There's some wad like to speak to ye,
If after Kirk you arise and flee,
We'll all seem cold and stiff to ye.
The one that's on the seat with ye
Is stranger here than you may be."

Frederick Hintz III is a special gifted worker who returned from Nepal where he worked as a volunteer with the Peace Corps teaching Bible Class.

Faithful custodians have been Dan McFarland, John and Wilma Angell, with assistance over the years by Al Degner, Alan Scott, Dennis Hanson, David Hanson and Reg Degner. Lawn care by Alan Scott, Reg Degner and Paul Schmidt.

Financial records of the Church have been in the hands of Financial Secretaries and Treasurers, notably Dick Barnes who has been Treasurer for almost the entire 20 years. But there have been a number of Financial Secretaries including Alvin Simshauser (perhaps part of his motivation in working in the Church and singing in the Choir was to meet Carol Cucia, whom he subsequently married), Morley Wales, Fred Bretcher, John Edwards, Walter Sippel, Ray Rhyner, and the happy crews who met to count.

- PLANNERS AND BUILDERS WITH VISION -

In constructing the buildings, Sanctuary, Sunday School Rooms and Hall, one name stands out above others, the service that was offered by Dr. Raymond Klein who served as Chairman of both Building Committees. When Mr. Stade came to Tucson he had a design for a Church in his brief case but when he was led to the Church

property and stood in the face of the Santa Catalina Mountains he received inspiration for the mountain view window and fell in love with the copper ore and adobe in the area and had the vision to use these also in our unique Sanctuary. Later a local architect, Earl Kai Chann, complemented the original planning of Mr. Stade with the plan for the Fellowship Hall. The original structure being open to the surrounding hills and desert on every hand with glass, while the Hall is entirely enclosed for teaching and visual aids projects. Other members of the building committee included the Pastor, Bill Colvin, Bettie Markley and Charlie Sewell.

Under the grace of God and fine leadership of the Building Committee and the cooperation of the Congregation in general, special note should be taken that the implementation of this important project would not have been possible without the very generous donations of Fred and Frieda Bretcher, including a \$25,000 memorial to Bill Bretcher in the name of his Grandmother, Tillie Poggenbeck, who at the time was reaching the most advanced age of any member of Fountain of Life, just shy of 100 years.

- ANNIVERSARY SURPRISE -

On the occasion of Pastor Melbohm's 25th Anniversary, his long time associate in the ministry, Pastor Lynn Rittmann, was the surprise preacher. On that occasion some of the good ladies, under the leadership of Vel Fischer, prepared tasty refreshments and George Dushenke, in the name of the Congregation presented a wheelbarrow full of 1,000 silver dollars to a thoroughly surprised preacher.

- GUEST PREACHERS -

Preaching was occasionally done by local Pastors, including a Pastor, being a winter visitor from Minnesota, who conducted German services during Holy Week for several years. However, more especially the conducting of services during the Pastor's vacation time, done by laymen of the Congregation - outstanding among whom were Dr. Raymond Klein, Dr. David Lomen, Dr. Glen Nicholson, Elwood Pett and Wynn Stoll. Other speakers were Pastor Harold Engelbrecht, Dedication speaker; Pastors William Dietze, Dr. Erwin W. Kurth, Carl H. Harman, Lynn Rittmann, Richard C. Glock, George Gesell, Richard Drews and Dr. Paul Maler; Pastors Harold L. Hecht and George Bornemann respectively past and present Presidents of the English District. Millard Wolfram, a Wisconsin Synod Vicar and Curtis S. Jorstad (ALC) exchange of pulpits. Missionaries Alvaro Carino (former classmate of Pastor Melbohm), David Block from the Philippines, Robert Zorn, India, and recently Robert Gussick from Guatamala and Mexico, Chaplain Glenn Koch, John W. Bennken, Jr., George Taylor, Irwin Schroeder, Carl T. Metz, Arizona State Prison and John Pope, Arizona Highway Patrol, also University of Arizona Campus Pastors Lary Misner and Dr. Marcus Pera.

- DIRECTORS OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND PASTORAL ASSISTANT -

In 1972 Harlan Teske was called by Fountain of Life to be a Director of Christian Education and Youth Work, as part of the Five Year Plan. He was succeeded in 1974 by Joel Schmidt. About 1973 Pastor John F. Pope, a graduate of Concordia Seminary, moved to town as a rookie Highway Patrolman. Besides being a Chaplain to the area members of the State Highway Patrol he served as Pastoral Assistant at Fountain of Life for a couple of years before returning to Phoenix.

- JOY OF SHARING FAITH WITH THOSE WHO HAVE ENJOYED LONG LIFE -

Nursing residences and convalescent centers have been included in the ministry and outreach of Fountain of Life Congregation over a period of years. Among the regular associations that we have had have been the conducting of services and personal ministry by Pastor and people at Devon Gables, 6150 East Grant Road, since the inception of the home twelve years ago, to members in residence which include Anna Hoellocker, Clara Pritzke, Viola Shultz, Paula Talley, Margaret QuIntern, and others. Weekly services have been held complete with organ and vocal music. At one time singing was accompanied by a New York State school teacher who reached the age of 105. The organist was 87. Those who assisted include Evelyn Fahr, Lorraine Gillett, Clara Glassel, Wilma King, Edrie Robinson, Emma Schwenke, Dorothy Taube and Carol Weaver. Music by Adah Hantelman, Marcella Swan, Joyce Swinehart, and Youth Group.

Also Catherines, later called Glen Acres, now Leewood, 1020 North Woodland Avenue, near Speedway, where Tillie Poggenbeck, as a member, reached within four months of her 100th birthday. Of those assisting in recent years we particularly remember Frieda Burns and Edna Kapella. For a time Eva Reeck and a group of ladies also ministered to the physical needs and with a number of ladies they instituted a sort of fellowship service program with visitations and goodies for the residents.

Since its inception around 1969 or 1970, Four Seasons, later Posada Del Sol County Home, Craycroft near Grant, services have been held and a group of ladies, Phil Nicholson, Jo Hinkle, Lois Hintz, Flo McHenry and others, conducted physical therapy services and fellowship programs. Among those recently assisting in these services are Vera Musegades, Doris Brunenkant, Esther Mucklow, Betty Prchal and Jean Voigtman, and Katrina Van Deinse, Faye Moon along with other young people of the Congregation. Taped music has been used here.

Recently Pastor Richard Glock and members of his Congregation have taken over the visiting at Leewood and have equally shared in the program at Devon Gables and Posada.

- GIVEN TO HOSPITALITY -

God's Word reminds us that we are to show hospitality and many people in Fountain of Life have demonstrated this grace. We remember the program of hospitality offered by Ruth Melbohm to visitors and members at the Parsonage and over the years by Vel Fischer in her home. The Helping Hand Program undertaken by a group under the leadership of Eva Reeck. The Hintz's and Reeck's Open House during the Holiday Season and special occasions. To the many who opened their homes to members of Choirs and other visiting groups of young people.

- LAY EVANGELISM -

A program of Evangelism and Missionary Outreach in the Congregation and community has varied in organization and personnel throughout the years starting with door to door canvassing in the community by Pastor and people, followed by an organized Fisherman's Group, later a group of Visiting Elders elected by the Congregation and appointed to geographic areas. Annual Every Member Visitation for pledges and encouragement in the program of the Church. More recently special efforts like the effort of the Seventy to reach members and non-members alike, and in the

last two years an active Evangelism Committee led first by Lester Dorey working through the Elders and currently chaired by Don Robinson and including Les Dorey, Wilma Willer and Bill Nass as coordinator.

A Community Mission Outreach especially among the Mexican-American Community was activated in 1973 by Pastor Melbohm with the help of Lois Meyer, Directress of Hispanic work at River Forest, and two of her students. Les Dorey of Fountain of Life, Walter Schroeder of Ascension, and Lorita Misner of Campus Community were among those who took prime interest in this work along with Pastor Melbohm and Pastor Bert Bodaski of Prince of Peace and Bethany Lutheran Church. Today this work is continued under the leadership of Pastor Rich Miller sponsored primarily by the American Lutheran Church.

- MUSICIANS -

The first organist, Ann Ludwig, succeeded by Carol McKeen, Virginia Lootens and Marcella Swan. Young people of the Congregation who have entered into the service of organ music have been Joyce Melbohm, Jan Scott and Emma Reeck. Joyce Melbohm Swinehart played the organ from the beginning of Lent, February 1970 through Easter 1977, also organized and directed the Junior Choir, Folarama and Youth Ensemble. Presently Jan Scott and John Kerbs are our organists.

Choir Directors through the years have included Ann Ludwig, Doug and Virginia Lootens, Janelle Shaud, Marcella Swan, Phyllis Reblin, Gloria Ritt and Joyce Melbohm Swinehart.

Instrumentalists, vocal soloists and accompanists: George Spence, oboe, Adah Hantelman, violin, Cindy Swan, Martha Williams, Gayle Lathrop, guitar, Scott Landry, cello, Phyllis Reblin, soloist at Worship Services, weddings and funerals; Chuck Hinkle, Otto David, Eva Reek, Christie Young, Verna Sisk, also soloists; accompanists for the youth choirs are Karen Carlton, Bonnie Thompson, Cheryl Swenson; pianists for Sunday School have been Terri O'Connor, Bill Finley, Johanna Schackart, and many others.

- TRUSTEES -

Through the years the Trustees have taken an interest in upkeep of the buildings and property from the time that sod and trees from an abandoned golf course were transplanted and the driveways and parking lots were tarred and graveled. The heavy concrete tables and benches originally built for the Ramada by John Melbohm and other young people in days of "yore" having been moved to the area between the Library and Hall, to recent days when under the direction of Gene Scott and his faithful crew, new roof heating units were finally installed, a new memorial sign erected with special help from Harry Brenner, our bricklayer from New Jersey, who also pitched in to bring the long planned "Rocks from all - 50 - States Lactern" in the Patio into being for Easter Morning.

There are interesting stories about how Gene got the painting job done within the limited budget, and also a sprinkling system installed by Alan Scott, all of which required a lot of personal work.

Through Roland Browne the huge concrete pipes on the play ground were donated by Sundt Construction Company and delivered to the site.

Charlie Sewell made his contribution to the 20th Anniversary by coming back to repaint the altar rail, pulpit, and lectern, which he had first done 16 years ago as Chairman of the Trustees.

The Trustees have also worked out extensively detailed plans for the use of the west end of the property for housing and for ingress and egress to Langley Avenue, but no action has been taken.

John Melbohm worked for many years on the installation of a public address system, installation of outdoor lighting with automatic photoelectric control and the construction of altar and cabinets in the Kindergarten Room.

Speaking of Trustees in recent years, one cannot help but think of Carl Heldt, Jim Moore, Ed Shunk, Ken Richmond, Glenn Weber, Bill Colvin, Mike Clark, Jim McHenry and Bob Taube. They all worked on the Church roof and upkeep of the property along with the Boy Scouts who have their annual cleanup of Church property in the spring.

- UNIQUE REMEMBRANCE AT FOUNTAIN OF LIFE -

Special events in the two decades of Congregational history that come back through the kaleidoscope of memory include a Congregational picnic atop 10,000 foot Mount Lemmon accessible from the Church within an hour's time. The Sunday School Picnics and Pre-School graduations at Randolph Park

The Luaus, an imported theme, that have become traditional at Fountain of Life have been held out of doors at the end of September or early October. Aloha, pearly shells, Tahitian dancing - remember the Peletti's? leis, beachcomber outfits, Philippino stick dances - remember Robin and Danny Wenceslao? All the exotic Hawaiian dishes from pineapple to Poi? Then also the Western Potluck held in February with traditional Western wear, beards, boots and saddles along with the delicious Western food including barbecued meats and beans.

Various other occasions have brought us visiting choirs from St. John, Winfield, Kansas; Seward, Nebraska; Alamosa, Colorado; Portland, Oregon; "He Led the Good Life" by Singers from Christ Church, Phoenix, Pastor David Marth and his inspiring young people.

In 1976 a special dramatic musical extravaganza in celebration of the Nation's Bicentennial was presented for two successive evenings to a crowded house in the Hall. The delicious home cooked buffet dinner including a special birthday cake was prepared by ladies of the Congregation. The show began with Christopher Columbus' (Carl Reblin) protestation "It's a round" over Isabella's (Phyllis Reblin) naive remark "It's a flat", and concluding with "God Bless America" sung by people representing all nationalities as United States citizens dwelling in the land of liberty. The celebration was under the direction of Warren Cuny and Ardis Grob with accompanist, Gloria Ritt.

Fountain of Life has celebrated the Passover in recent years on several occasions during the Lenten Season. The remembrance of the Old Testament covenant has been enthusiastically received by the Congregation with dramatic aids such as the blood on the lintels and door posts of the Hall and the seven-fold candelabra borrowed from the Synagogue. Christian Hebrews, known as Jews for Jesus from California made the celebration especially meaningful and Fountain of Life has supported their work of Evangelism since that time.

1975 was the first Christmas Eve Service that Bill Harpel missed in his life. He was on air rescue mission looking for a man who was lost - and later found.

People who have celebrated 50 years and over of marriage:

Harry & Harriet Bergman, 1912

Fred & Frieda Bretcher, 1919

Fred & Alberta Flenhold, 1927

Pastor & Mrs. George Gesell, 1925

Art & Clara Geweke, 1927

Morris & Bernice Hill, 1925

R. W. & Dessa Lathrop, 1919

Lester & Lowney McCormick, 1927

- TEACHERS AND CHRISTIAN DAY SCHOOL -

Day School Education at Fountain of Life was begun in the fall of 1961. The officers of the Congregation were reluctant to make any commitment involving the establishment of a Day School, even a week day Kindergarten, but Mrs. Walter Heinzelmann (Ruth), who moved here from a teaching position in Butte, Montana, and had much experience in instructing teachers as well as teaching, offered to assume all of the responsibility of starting a Kindergarten provided the facilities were made available, without any obligation to the Congregation. In other words, she accepted the tuition that was offered and most of that was from non-members. She has been teaching Kindergarten, and in recent years Kindergarten and First Grade, ever since. A big change of enrollment came when the public schools revived Kindergarten which materially affected the enrollment since the majority of pupils attending at Fountain of Life, as from the beginning, were children of non-members.

About 1963 interest was expressed by non-members in a Pre-Kindergarten for four year olds and once again, without any responsibility to the Congregation except facilities, Grace Diels, a teacher trained for primary education, offered an educational program for this lower grade level. Marilyn Rehlander took over this class for a year.

Ruth Melbohm and Irene Richmond expanded this program to two classes, and several years later Kim Meyer took Irene Richmond's place upon her retirement and another class was added with Alice Ludwick as teacher.

The program of education is now under the general supervision of the Board of Education and Director of Christian Education, Joel Schmidt. The separate educational office and secretary have been provided for the purpose of Christian education and youth activities. The 1977 enrollment in all grades is 80-85 pupils.

- CONFIRMATION INSTRUCTION -

A week day instruction program has been regularly conducted through the years to include as much as five years of preparation for confirmation. The 7th and 8th Grade classes have been taught by Pastor Melbohm and by lay people like Stan Dusek, Walter Lessmann, Dave Raymond, Otto David, and in more recent years by Directors of Education Harlan Teske and Joel Schmidt. The 6th Grade "Life of Luther" class has been taught for a number of years by Gene Scott, Gerald Musegades, and Jack Ludwick; the 5th Grade in recent years by Mrs. Heinzelmann.

- LUTHERAN HOUR RALLY -

In 1973 an outstanding Lutheran Hour Rally with Dr. Oswald Hoffmann as guest speaker was held in the New Civic Center Music Hall. Prominent in the arrangements for this successful rally was Walter Sippel. For several years inter-synodical reformation festivals were also conducted.

- WOMEN'S ACTIVITIES CURRENTLY INCLUDE -

Women Suffrage: over a period of ten or twelve years the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod has seen fit to approve Women Suffrage for all but certain offices such as parish Pastors and Elders. Fountain of Life has followed the decision of Synod by adopting into the Constitution the right of voting to both sexes 18 years of age and over. The women on their part have conscientiously undertaken the responsibility of voting and serving on boards and committees.

Annual Women's Emphasis Day during morning worship service including reading of Scripture, prayers, as well as the usual role as singers and greeters.

Annual visitation and exchange of fellowship and food including also the carrying of gifts to the Papago Indians and neighboring reservations has been undertaken by women, especially of Fountain of Life and Mt. Olive.

- MARYS AND MARTHAS AT FOUNTAIN OF LIFE -

The first meeting of the Altar Guild and Lutheran Women's Missionary League was held at the home of Arlene Kuehner on October 13, 1957. Arlene George was elected President. Others present were VI Ellermann, Janis Eichhorst, Ruth Meibohm, and Esther Mucklow. Soon others like Betty Prchal, Lillian Myers and Faye Gliedt joined the group. A Mary Martha Guild was first established which later became the LWML. The Mary Martha Guild has sponsored continued Bible and topic study and fostered a variety of programs particularly an annual pre-Christmas Bazaar through which a variety of talents have been used through months of preparation in order to raise monies for support of especially selected mission projects such as -

Lutheran Bible Translators, Inc.

Lutheran Braille work

Marillac Lodge for World Missions

House of Samuel

Lutheran World Relief and World Hunger

Community Outreach to Mexican-Americans, Navajos, and Papagos

Also, in support of the High School Youth of Fountain of Life

The Lutheran Hour

Project Hope

Good Shepherd Home of the West

American Leprosy Mission

Lutheran Social Ministry of Arizona

Leaders of women's groups have been Phil Nicholson, Betty Prchal, Lois Hintz, Jo Hinkle, Marianne Dorey and Alice Lehmann. Among the Bazaar leaders have been Joan Youngling, Joyce Chapman, Kathryn Coleman, Terry Krech, Bev Heman and Alice Lehmann.

List of women who have been active in work in Nursing Homes for devotions and physical therapy and also helped in work of the Bazaar raising money for missions include:

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Laura Anderson	Ardis Grob	Lou Nostrand
Wilma Angell	Eleanor Gust	Diane Ostermeyer
Darlene Bales	Jan Heidorn	Louise Poe
Linda Bereiter	Micki Heldt	Betty Prchal
Inga Blevins	Bev Heman	Eva Raeck
Sally Birkeland	Jo Hinkle	Irene Richmond
Patty Bone	Lois Hintz	Avis Robinson
Mary Ann Boyer	Eleanor Jones	Edrie Robinson
Doris Brunenkant	Dallas Keller	Lillian Sayner
Myrna Burns	Ann Kinney	Emma Schwenke
Lois Carlton	Wilma King	Johanna Schackart
Joyce Chapman	Terry Krech	Edith Searle
Kathryn Coleman	Irene Kroepflin	Fran Sittig
Pat Courson	Donna Kunkle	Kathy Skinner
Theresa David	Emily Kurtze	Joyce Meibohm Swinehart
Jean Degner	Alice Lehmann	Marcella Swan
Rita Eaton	Minerva Lowe	Ethel Swanson
Janis Eichhorst	Clara Mackolitch	Dorothy Taube
Evelyn Fahr	Florence McHenry	Ruth Trupp
Madeline Fleck	Ruth Meibohm	Katrina Van DeInse
Evelyn Framke	Faye Moon	Mae Vaughn
Mildred Furnas	Esther Mucklow	Lucinda Voegel
Clara Geweke	Lila Musegades	Jean Voigtman
Lorraine Gillett	Vera Musegades	Sandy Voss
Clara Glassel	Dorothy Nass	Carol Weaver
Lillian Goetzke	Marilyn Neubauer	Connie Welffenbach
Lore Gosckeler	Phil Nicholson	Wilma Willer
Amanda Goode		Joan Youngling

Only the Lord knows all who have helped.

- SPORTS -

Confucius say: He who strike have no time to spare!

One of the oldest sports at Fountain of Life is bowling. There have been volleyball, basketball, softball, swimming parties, hiking, ice and roller skating, even tugs of war and other organized recreation on the Church property under the likes of Esther Hilton and Darlene Hemer; also at the East Side YMCA and neighboring parks.

Fountain of Life bowling league was organized in the fall of 1961 by Pastor and Ed Orinski, a one time city champion, at the Golden Pine Lanes and later Tucson Bowl. From the beginning it was a mixed handicap league with as many as 12 teams. A placque with the names of most of the winning teams is posted in the Fellowship Hall. The 1977 winning bowling team is the five member "Holy Rollers" - Roger and Angie Nielson, Carl and Phyllis Reblin and Fred Brown.

Among those who have been regular bowlers for the longest period are Don Robinson, Bob and Bernie Bushman, Leonard Bunge and the Pastor. Bernie Bushman has a perfect attendance record and recalls that in 1965 she was awarded the booby prize for rolling a 63 game and then nine years later in 1974 she had a high game of 263.

Pastor, too, believe it or not, one year had a high single scratch of 257 and high series. Jack Holton was the senior citizen of the league. Dick Barnes appeared on the All City Team carrying around a 210 average.

The Bowling League has supported the Church Library with a donation each year. Dr. Luther was a avid bowler. In his day there were nine pins...the excuse of many since Luther's day for getting only nine pins, the example of the Great Reformer.

Fountain of Life League now bowls at the sophisticated computerized Brunswick Lanes on Camino Seco near Broadway with five person teams, a mixed handicap league, no previous experience necessary. You can join the happy group. The season begins in September. Otto David is chairman and Angie Nielson is secretary.

Outstanding athletes in basketball were John Melbohm who was on the first Palo Verde High team; David and Neil Henry were on championship teams at Saguaro High, and Kevin Dukes, All City Baseball - 1977.

Alan Scott, Danny Wenceslao, Scott Styrmo and John Furrh were all outstanding distance runners at high school and University of Arizona. Barry Schur set a seven foot plus record in high jump at the Upward Look both in Arizona and Kansas. Jim Mucklow, first in State in shot put; Roland Youngling, Colorado, and Mike Shannon, University of Arizona, football greats; Alan Fischer set records as one of the foremost 50 mile bike racers of Arizona.

Donena Brummett and Georgeanne Barnes made their records in tennis at Catalina and Saguaro High. Marilyn Moore has also carried a prize in City League competition.

Competitive basketball reached its high point in 1976 when our men's team won first place in the Luther League: Richard Bohm, Roger Brockmeyer, Dave Fischer, Brian Harpel, Rick Knuth, Glen Leegan, Wally Lierman, Alan Scott and Ron Shult.

- SCHOLARSHIPS 1977 -

Karen Carlton won a \$400 scholarship from the Tucson Elks Lodge for the most valuable student, plus AAL and President's scholarship. Alan Scott has been appointed to the Naval Academy at Annapolis, Maryland, also an appointment to the U. S. Air Force and an ROTC scholarship to Rice University. Scott Landry won a scholarship to Claremont Mens College, University of Arizona, and a 4-year scholarship to Arizona State University, and a \$1500 United States Senate Award.

- YOUTH ACTIVITIES -

Throughout the years the young people have been a vital part of the program of Fountain of Life. In worship, athletics, and in growing as the Scriptures says... in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man. In earlier years a number of lay people of the congregation assisted in guiding and sponsoring the activities of youth including Bill and Doris Earl, George and Dorothy Riegert, Eleanor and David Jones, James Preisch and Joyce Melbohm Swinehart.

In more recent years our Directors of Christian Education, Harlan Teske and Joel Schmidt have been assisted by numerous lay people like the Eichhorsts, Darlene Hemer and Sam Baughn and including -

David Bates
 Sam Bough
 Roger Brockmeyer
 Bill and Lois Carlton
 Pat Casey
 Gaye Chapman
 Jim Courson
 Dawn and Bruce Eichhorst
 Lauren Fix
 Ardis Grob
 Ray and Evelyn Gremel

Ron Gustafson
 Dennis Hanson
 Merlin and Lois Hanson
 Darlene Hemer
 Mark Heltibrand
 Dorothy Hoel
 Craig and Sherry Hoelworth
 Rick Knuth
 Dennis Landry
 Andrea Mersereau

Mary Schmidt
 Ed and Lu Shunk
 Tim Sievers
 Jill Simpson
 Tom Skinner
 Pete and Edith Sorrell
 Roy and Doris Stahl
 Joyce Swinehart
 Wilber and Sondra Voss
 Martha Williams
 Clarence Wright

Special youth activities in recent years have included two trips to Pasadena with Joel Schmidt for the Rose Parade and decorating "The Lutheran Hour Float" part of the expenses being raised by "slave sales" in which the young people allowed themselves to be put on the block for sale for services; attendance at Lutheran Camps in the Chiricahuas and Bisbee and participation in musical program with volleyballathon, walkathon and bike rides. Variety programs of athletic activities, singing and playing and acolything for worship service, teaching in Sunday School, participating in dramatic scenes for the outdoor Easter pageant and serving Thanksgiving and Easter breakfasts, dancing for luaus and being an active part of helping to show hospitality to visiting young people and participating in the Ongoing Ambassadors Mission group. Among those acolytes through the years who come to mind are Steve Blamey, Don Brummett, Alan Fischer, Alan Scott, Mike Carlton, Chris Voss and many others including young ladies, Crystal Miller and Karen Foreman.

Each year the young people of the Confirmation Class have made special gifts to the Church starting with the earliest young group who donated the beautiful and symbolic suspended cross over the altar; communion glasses; outdoor plantings. This year part of the lectern in the worship court.

At the 20th Anniversary Dinner, the youth were represented by Martha Williams and Scott Landry quoting from Psalm 103:1 and 5.

- SCOUT MASTERS AND LEADERS -

The Boy Scout Troop #701 was organized at Fountain of Life by Stan Dusek. Other scout masters and leaders have included Ken Schwartz, Ken Degner, Harper Coleman, Gene Scott and Al Seames. Among those who have attained to the rank of Eagle Scout have been Hank Thoenes, Alan Scott, Reg Degner and Warren Seames.

Troop #701 have been active in annual cleaning-up of the Church grounds and with their annual rummage sale.

- CHURCH LIBRARY -

Dr. Melvin Hecht and Ruth Danielson worked with Pastor in founding the Library. Ruth Danielson is the Librarian. The Library currently contains over 1,000 volumes all duly cataloged and available for use by members of the Congregation without charge.

Ruth reports that generally speaking those that have borrowed the books have been responsible and returned the books and that not more than 20 have been lost over the years.

THE Bowling League was the first sponsor of the Library through annual donations. Individuals have donated fine religious books and Pastor Melbohm has donated an

extensive part of his personal library.

It would be interesting to members to note that there is also a tape library including the whole New Testament and studies on various Christian topics and sermons.

Make use of your Fountain of Life Library and grow in Christ.

*20 - 40th Reading
then pictures*

out

- PERSONAL HISTORY OF RICHARD P. MEIBOHM -

During his tenure at Fountain of Life he served as counselor for the Arizona Circuit 1958-1970, from 1970-1974 as Vice President of the English District for the Arizona Pacific Coast Region.

During the last several years he also served as the representative of the Lutheran Council of the U.S.A. for contact Pastor to military personnel at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base in Tucson. As such, also offered prayers for officers at DMAFB regarding President Eisenhower's decision to use the Thermo Nuclear Bomb, and delivered the address at the annual Presidential Breakfasts.

Prayers for the City Council, St. Mary and St. Joseph Hospitals, Community Outreach to Nursing Homes including Leewood, Four Seasons, Posada and Devon Gables. Radio work with Betty Markley Sears Hour and Television and Boy Scout gatherings.

Preached many times at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base and Ft. Huachuca and also served the Veterans Administration with the VFW in their memorial services and with the Salvation Army.

In the early 1960's Pastor Misner was called to be Parish Pastor to students, Pastor Meibohm also had charge of this work. Frequent speaker at Civic organizations such as Lion's Club, Boy Scouts, and the Optimist Club. He was also asked to give the Lord's blessing on sports programs annually for the Toro's especially when Merle Miller was the local manager. Served as a member of the Board of Directors for Family Debt Counselors with Colonel and Mrs. Tideman. In the area of the local public school system, he spoke at dedication of Fickett Junior School, baccalaureate address at Palo Verde High School, conducted classes as guest lecturer at Rincon High School in Social Studies at Sahuaro High School in religion.

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- 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF FOUNTAIN OF LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH -

- 40 IN THE HOLY MINISTRY OF RICHARD P. MEIBOHM -

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ALL GLORY BE TO GOD ALONE!