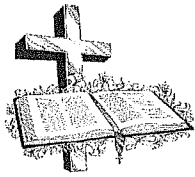


# The Mission in Mississauga



DIVINE PEACE  
EVANGELICAL  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
OF MISSISSAUGA

Divine Peace to Cross of Life

Mississauga, Ontario, Canada



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Church History 3031  
Prof. Korthals  
November 22, 2006

If at first you don't succeed try, try again. This is a well known saying, a saying that can be easily be spouted from a coaches mouth without even thinking. This saying might even be regarded by some as an empty cliché that overused by coaches. Even though it is true that one soul saved is an success, this cliché can on some level be relate to one congregation that is now relatively well-known for a Bible Soccer Camp. After a struggling mission closed its doors twenty years ago another mission with two locations have taken its place in the rapidly growing suburbs of Toronto, Ontario, Canada. In the mission in Mississauga that is now called Cross of Life, we can see God's divine peace, his persistent grace, and the power of the Holy Spirit which led his faithful people in their continued efforts in this rich mission field.

### **Why Mississauga?**

In the years following the split with Lutheran Church Missouri Synod (LCMS), our synod, the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS) was very eager to prove itself and to spread its wings in a way.

Following the severance of fellowship with Missouri, there of course was the realization we could no longer lean and depend on the Missouri Synod and we as a church would need to stand on our own two feet. There was a strong determination in our Synod to make up for lost time and to beginning serving our families in places where, prior to this, we had feared to tread. Chief among those places was the East Coast of the United States. An official slogan was adopted that said we would reach "every state by '78."<sup>1</sup>

The unofficial slogan of 'every state by '78' was accompanied by a zeal for mission work in the United States as well as expanding over the boarder into Canada. In the fledgling Colonial Conference of the Michigan District this missionary zeal was

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<sup>1</sup> Mittlestaedt, John "The North Atlantic District, The Second Decade – 1973 through 1983". North Atlantic District Proceedings, (June, 2004): 3.

certainly present, as the conference steadily grew and opportunities for ministry seemed to be sprouting up like buds, sprouts, and plants in a garden.

Out in my yard the crocuses are blooming, the tulips are up and should be in flower by the time you read this. The fruit trees are in full bud. The new growth that comes in spring is always wonderful to behold! As we savor the joys of Easter and look forward to the celebration of Pentecost it is a good time to survey some of the new growth and activity in our mission congregations. This growth comes not from the change of seasons, but by the resurrection of our Lord and through the powerful working of the Holy Spirit in the means of grace!<sup>2</sup>

Even though the WELS never reached their unofficial goal of every state by '78 that missionary zeal maintained momentum through the year 1978 and following, as interest in continued mission work was actively being explored all throughout the Synod, along the east coast of the United States, and into Canada.

Lengthening: The cords of the Colonial Conference are also being lengthened. The Lord is leading our conference to the northwest, to the Canadian city of Toronto. A group of pastors including Rev. T. Pfothauer of Ottawa, Canada, Rev. D. Priebe of Orleans, Canada, and Rev. W. Beckmann of Falls Church, Va. went to Toronto in December to inspect the field. Their investigation showed three or four families who are very interested. It is hoped that further investigation will reveal that this field, too, is ripe unto harvest.<sup>3</sup>

The field was certainly large enough as this area had been growing rapidly in the last few years. The town of Mississauga itself was established in 1974 and quickly became one of the fastest growing and most densely populated cities in the area. This area around Toronto area where Mississauga was situated was growing so quickly that it earned the moniker of

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<sup>2</sup> Pagel, Rev. Carl. "New Buds and Shoots in Our Mission Congregations". The Colonial Conference Crier. Volume XII, Number 1, (April, 1978): Addenda I, 1.

<sup>3</sup> The Colonial Conference Crier. Volume XI, Number 4. (January, 1978): Addenda I, 4.

the “Golden Horseshoe”.<sup>4</sup> As both lay people and pastors investigated prospects in this area it was determined that this growing area had the potential to support a mission.

Preliminary work in the Toronto area was done by Mrs. Judy Foulger of Brampton, Ont. In the winter of 1977, Pastors Beckman, Pftonhauer and Priebe traveled to Toronto to canvass the area. By September of 1978, other Wisconsin Synod members had been contacted and the small nucleus was granted exploratory status by the General Board for Home Missions.<sup>5</sup>

With both joy and uncertainty further efforts in the Toronto/Mississauga area were pursued.

We also have reason for joy among us because what is happening in our missions, really serves to advance the Gospel. Opposition to the Gospel is still common. There are seeming setbacks encountered. There is immediate concern when a familiar pastor is called to shepherd another flock. Some discouragement is felt when our people must wait for manpower to be authorized. There is a certain amount of disappointment when building efforts are delayed or halted temporarily. But we have reason for joy because we know that what is happening in our missions really serves to advance the Gospel... Exploratory status and manpower were requested in Toronto, Canada.<sup>6</sup>

### **Divine Peace**

As mission status was granted in places like Trumbull, Connecticut, and Asheville, North Carolina, this region of our Synod was given grace filled persistence as they toiled through the ups and downs of mission work. Carried by the joy of advancing the message of Christ, thoughts of mission work in the growing area of Toronto were included in the believing hearts and minds of the Colonial Conference. Lay people and pastors continued to try to make contacts and bring the good news to others. They canvassed the area and soon pastors and vicars from established congregations in Ottawa came to minister to these people in the Toronto area, holding monthly services starting in January of 1979.

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<sup>4</sup> Hefti, Pastor Roy. “A Chapel for the Golden Horseshoe”. The Colonial Conference Crier. Volume XVIII, Number 2. (June, 1984): Addenda I, 9.

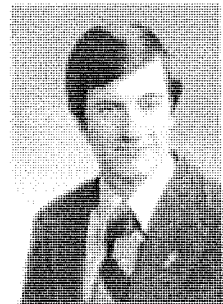
<sup>5</sup> Hefti, Pastor Roy. “Divine Peace Mississauga (Toronto) Ontario”. The Colonial Conference Crier. Volume XVI, Number 2, (April 1982): Addenda I, 7.

<sup>6</sup> Schmiede, Pastor Paul. The Colonial Conference Crier, Volume 12 Number 2. (October, 1978): Addenda I, 0.

Immediately the need to bring a full time missionary to the Mississauga area was felt and acted upon. Calls were sent out and declined. "Another call for a man to serve as District Missionary and to begin exploratory work in Toronto, Canada is to be extended soon."<sup>7</sup>

After a few months of delegation, prayer, and processing through customs a man was led to come to Canada as an answer to that call. That man was Roy Hefti a recent graduate from Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary.

Following the red tape necessary to gain entrance to Canada, Pastor Hefti and his wife, Alice, arrived in Canada on Sept 19, 1979. On October 7, Pastor Hefti was ordained and installed by Pastor Pfothenhauer at the Mississauga Valley Community Centre. The first regular worship service was conducted on October 14, 1979.<sup>8</sup>



ROY W. HEFTI

After experiencing some initial growth, this group of souls went from meeting at the Mississauga Valley Community Centre and began to meet in the parsonage of Pastor Hefti. This small mission in Mississauga now began to formerly gather together as a congregation, called Divine Peace. As their numbers grew they moved from one parsonage to another larger rented house on 4340 Creditview Rd. in Mississauga. In February of 1982, Divine Peace again outgrew their current arrangement of combined parsonage and worship facility and began worshiping in the Britannia Secondary School until a another more suitable and permanent place could be found. During this time membership was around 35 souls and average attendance was 23 per Sunday.<sup>9</sup> The progress was certainly encouraging, and this lead Divine Peace to search for their own permanent home. To build their own facility at this time would have been an insurmountable task in view of the land in that area was a hot



4340 CREDITVIEW RD.  
MISSISSAUGA

<sup>7</sup> Schmiede, Pastor Paul. "Our Lord's Accomplishments". The Colonial Conference Crier. Volume 13, Number 1. (January, 1979): Addenda I, 2

<sup>8</sup> Hefti, Pastor Roy. "Divine Peace Mississauga (Toronto) Ontario". The Colonial Conference Crier. Volume XVI, Number 2. (April 1982): Addenda, 7.

<sup>9</sup> Ibid. 7,8

commodity and prices for just an acre of land in 1982 would run as high as \$500,000.

Knowing this they searched for an existing facility until the Lord led them to find an old World War II vintage building that used to serve as a lodge hall and church hall. The plan was to remodel this building and make it into the permanent chapel for Divine Peace.<sup>10</sup>

From all reports things seemed to be going quite well for this small Canadian congregation. Unfortunately several changes in the near future would factor into the closing of Divine Peace's doors. It is not exactly clear how this mission went from promising one to closed one in less than five years. However, several factors have to be considered when trying to piece the history of the unfortunate decline of a mission in a town that was growing so quickly. One factor was the type of area that this mission was in. Pastor Hefti himself referred to the "transient nature of life in the big city" and how "members come and go due to job transfers, etc."<sup>11</sup> Other factors were simply how far removed this mission was from the rest of the district and the Synod, and the subsequent shortage of support which was felt and expressed by members of the conference. Even though this conference soon became its own entity with the formation of the North Atlantic District, this was still a very young district that was spread out over a large region. One more possible factor was revealed in the same article of the Colonial Conference Crier that announced the plans for a new chapel for Divine Peace. Immediately after Pastor Hefti's article on the chapel for the Golden Horseshoe the editor noted that Pastor Hefti had recently accepted a call to Bangor, Wisconsin.<sup>12</sup> All these challenges and changes seemed to be a bit too overwhelming for this "struggling group of 35 souls". Despite the efforts of the new pastor, Michael Enderle, who was ordained and installed on September 5<sup>th</sup>, 1983,

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<sup>10</sup> Hefti, Pastor Roy. "A Chapel for the Golden Horseshoe". The Colonial Conference Crier. Volume XVIII, Number 2. (June, 1984): Addenda I, 9.

<sup>11</sup> Hefti, Pastor Roy, "Divine Peace Mississauga (Toronto) Ontario", The Colonial Conference Crier. Volume XVI, Number 2, (April 1982): Addenda I, 7

<sup>12</sup> Hefti, Pastor Roy, Hefti, Pastor Roy. "A Chapel for the Golden Horseshoe". The Colonial Conference Crier. Volume XVIII, Number 2. (June, 1984): Addenda I, 9.

the congregation began a decline that it would not recover from. Later it would be noted that maybe the Synod and the church in its enthusiasm had bit off more than they could chew with this congregation as well as others along the East Coast in the Colonial Conference, and therefore could no longer maintain certain congregations such as this one.

An official slogan was adopted that said we would reach "every state by '78." I always assumed it was the Home Mission department that was largely responsible for that promotional slogan. Slogans, of course, can often be helpful. When it came to the East Coast, however, it may have caused us to move into certain areas prematurely, with little understanding of our appreciation for the culture of those we would need to serve if we were to survive in those areas. The presence of a few WELS or former WELS families could not always carry the day.<sup>13</sup>

In September of 1985, about two years after Divine Peace had installed its second pastor in its short history, the mission was dissolved.

Divine Peace, Mississauga, Ontario, Canada has experience some program changes this year. The congregation first received Mission Status in 1979. In September of 1985 the BHM authorized the congregation to sell its Anne Street facility (closing set for August) and to relocate in a growth area under new mode principles. In April Pastor Enderle began working as a Mission Explorer in South Erin Mills. A decision concerning continuation will be made by the DMB to the BHM after one year.<sup>14</sup>

And the official end of the exploratory mission would be noted in the next North Atlantic District Convention:

f. Fields Closed

Triune God, Ramsey, NY  
Divine Peace Expl. Mississauga, Ont...  
Trinity Explor., Poughkeepsie, NY<sup>15</sup>

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<sup>13</sup> Mittlestaedt, John "The North Atlantic District, The Second Decade – 1973 through 1983". North Atlantic District Proceedings, (June, 2004), 3

<sup>14</sup> North Atlantic District Proceedings, (June 9-11, 1986), 21-22.

<sup>15</sup> North Atlantic District Proceedings, (June, 1988), 38.

### Not Now – But Soon

Even though this particular exploratory mission closed its doors work continued in other areas around the Toronto, as the area continued to grow. Other missions took root and within ten years we as a synod would be led back to the fertile mission field of Mississauga to bring a message of Christ's cross of life.

Mississauga, ON

Already in 1979 it was clear that metropolitan Toronto was a great city with many people living in darkness. After two pastors and seven years of work in Mississauga, it was clear the Lord was saying, “**Not now.**” A new field in a different part of Toronto with a new team in 1987 was blessed by the Lord. And ten years later, in 1997, we returned to Mississauga at a new time with a new team and the Lord has blessed the work.<sup>16</sup>

During that time both the WELS and the North Atlantic District grew and learned from their past efforts to expand they maintained their mission mindedness. Throughout the 80's and into the 90's our synod and one of its newest districts continued to see and plan for opportunities to spread God's Word.<sup>17</sup> The North Atlantic District in particular continuously noted opportunities in and around the big city of Toronto<sup>18</sup>, and worked to improve the way they approached mission work examining both positive and negative aspects of their mission programs. One particular helping trend was the idea of team ministry that was designed to support and sustain young and “struggling” missions.

Our Toronto plan is built around a team ministry that we are attempting to establish there. Once that is in place and the added manpower is acclimated, we will work energetically with our Toronto area congregations and missionaries to develop a plan for expanding our WELS presence in the greater Toronto area. We are still awaiting the Lord's providing of the second man for the team ministry at Markham.

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<sup>16</sup> Mittlestaedt, John “*The North Atlantic District, The Second Decade – 1973 through 1983*”. North Atlantic District Proceedings, (June, 2004): 5

<sup>17</sup> North Atlantic District Proceedings, (June, 1990), 52.

<sup>18</sup> North Atlantic District Proceedings, (June, 1994), 22.



Since we do have new ministries and manpower in the North Atlantic and also a fair number of “struggling” missions, we continue to discuss ways that we can proactively help our missions and missionaries either to be better equipped as missionaries or to assist them with specific problems. While we do not presume to have all the answers, we want you to know that we are willing to listen and assist in whatever way we can. We have many helpful tools and resources at our disposal. We have District Commissions who are willing to assist us but are often underutilized. Often we aren’t aware of specific problems until they have done considerable harm to the local congregation. Please help us to help you.<sup>19</sup>

During these proceedings and plans for the Toronto area an unsuspecting vicar is present. Joel Schulz who was serving as vicar at King of Kings, Clifton Park, N.Y is listed as a special guest of the convention.<sup>20</sup> In 1999, Joel would receive the call to be the pastor at a new exploratory mission in Mississauga.

Meanwhile mission work was still being done in the Toronto area. Even though Divine Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church, Mississauga had closed its doors in 1987, those who remained continued to faithfully serve the Lord and share the good news of Christ in that ever growing region of Mississauga. Some of these souls began working with another local WELS pastor, Pastor Doug Priestap who was called into the area to begin helping Pastor Tom Haar in another area east of Toronto. In 1990 Pastor Priestap began doing mission work in the town of Bolton, Ontario, which is about 23 km away from Mississauga. Soon Pastor Priestap began reaching out to the town of Oakville (population 127,000). Together with some of the souls who were being served in the first Mississauga mission, he began gathering prospects in this city, which is just west of Mississauga.<sup>21</sup>

In 1994 this group of souls in the Oakville/Mississauga began to meet together for Bible Studies. They met in two homes of Margerite Rouleau, and Roberto and Denise

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<sup>19</sup> North Atlantic District Proceedings, (June,1996), 23, 24

<sup>20</sup> Ibid

<sup>21</sup> Unknown Author, “A Brief History of CROSS OF LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH The Exploratory in OAKVILLE/MISSISSAUGA, ONTARIO”. (2000). Addenda I, 17.

Tempsta. This group began calling themselves, "Cross of Life". This newly forming church body was in need of a pastor. At this time, Pastor Priestap was still living in Bolton where he and his family had a home and would regularly make more than an hour drive down to Oakville. The synod took note of the possibilities in Oakville and helped this group rent a storefront building in downtown Oakville. This group used this storefront to offer religious and Biblical literature to the community as a way of being able to share the gospel as well as establishing contacts with the community. This storefront also served as the regular worship center for the 25 members of Cross of Life and its visitors.<sup>22</sup> After establishing this worship center it was not long before a fulltime missionary would be among them.

Cross of Life at Oakville served by Pastor Doug Priestap and Mississauga. We have been calling for Mississauga and are still awaiting the Lord's filling of this call. Initially the new man will work with Pastor Priestap in a team ministry at Oakville and then gradually shift his emphasis over to Mississauga.<sup>23</sup>

On the surface one could throw out the cliché, "If at first, you don't succeed try, try again." But in this case it was more like the saying that is sometimes knit into pillows and or can be viewed embroidered and framed, "When God closes a door, he opens a window." And even though the doors of Divine Peace in Mississauga closed nearly over a decade before, God in his grace allowed the windows of opportunity to remain wide open. And in another act of God's grace the doors of a new exploratory mission in Mississauga would open again in 1999. In August of that year, this group of believers who were gathering together in Oakville had a new pastor for this new Mississauga mission. Joel Schulz was ordained by his father-in-law Pastor H.



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<sup>22</sup> Unknown Author, "A Brief History of CROSS OF LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH The Exploratory in OAKVILLE / MISSISSAUGA, ONTARIO". (2000). Addenda I, 17.

<sup>23</sup> North Atlantic District Proceedings, (June, 1998), 50.

Koelpin on August 15<sup>th</sup>, 1999,<sup>24</sup> and began to conduct services at a nice rented facility in the Living Arts Centre, a civic center in the middle of Mississauga.<sup>25</sup>

There had been a debate between keeping the mission in Oakville or in moving to Mississauga, but the same sort of tremendous growth and opportunity in Mississauga that led to the first mission in the 1970's was certainly still present in the 1990's stretching into the new millennium. Pastor Schulz in a report written in July of 2000 noted the continued growth in this area calling Mississauga the fastest growing city in Canada and possibly even all of North America.

Mississauga had 152,186 people in 1970, 298,045 people in 1980, 446,000 people in 1990, 574,200 people in 1998, and an estimated 588,500 people now. It is projected that there will be 618,000 people here by 2001, 652,900 people by 2006, 676,100 people by 2011, 711,800 by 2021, and 745,400 by 2031. The growth certainly looks to continue steady for a long time.<sup>26</sup>

Mississauga had become more than a bedroom community or a suburb of Toronto, it had become a "growing, diverse, multi-cultural city", with just about as many people who were commuting from Toronto as there were commuting to Toronto. It was understood that this was indeed a rich mission field not only because of the numbers of people that were coming in, but because of the type of people that were making this area grow. Many different types of people with many different backgrounds and cultures were moving in and many of them were unchurched, needing to hear about their Savior. One area pastor told Pastor Schulz, that if ten percent of Mississauga actually went to church on Sunday morning there would not be room for them in the church buildings here.<sup>27</sup>

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<sup>24</sup> North Atlantic District Proceedings, (June, 2000), 39.

<sup>25</sup> Unknown Author, "A Brief History of CROSS OF LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH The Exploratory in OAKVILLE / MISSISSAUGA, ONTARIO". (2000). Addenda I, 17.

<sup>26</sup> Schulz, Joel. "Mississauga Ministry Potential". (July 13, 2000), Addenda I, 11

<sup>27</sup> Schulz, Joel. "Mississauga Ministry Potential". (July 13, 2000), Addenda I, 11, 12.

All this was the same type of report that was received in the late 1970's.

Mississauga was growing, there were many people who were from many different backgrounds, and an alarming large amount of the people there were unchurched. So why would another mission work this time? It seemed that the situation around Mississauga had not changed that much, but the circumstances around the synod and the district had changed – they were older more experienced and better equipped to support a mission like this one. Seeing the challenges before him, Pastor Joel Schulz, recognized the need for more than just one pastor to reach out to thousands and noted the need for a missionary team and respectfully requested added support.

Throwing one pastor into Mississauga to reach its thousands of lost would be like one soldier landing on Normandy beach on D-Day... We could obviously use a “ministry team” here in Mississauga. (I realize that most likely, so could everybody at all of our other missions. I do not ever intend to assert that we have a greater need here or deserve more help). But if it is the Lord's will that more manpower could be made available for our mission work here to meet these needs, I would suggest a few of the following possibilities... a pastor, teach staff or lay minister... Any help that we could get could be used in some way or other to multiply our efforts to reach the lost here.<sup>28</sup>

By the year 2000 there were an estimated 588,5000 people in Mississauga. But we had seen before that just because this mission was in a large and growing area it didn't guarantee growth for this WELS congregation. In fact before this congregation could really make an impact on the community it was trying to serve it would have to move in among its people. So before they could fight the battle of trying to sustain a young mission they would have to be put on the front lines. Therefore, seeing continued growth was happening away from the downtown area, the worship location at the downtown living arts center, though nice, was starting to feel removed from where the people were. And when

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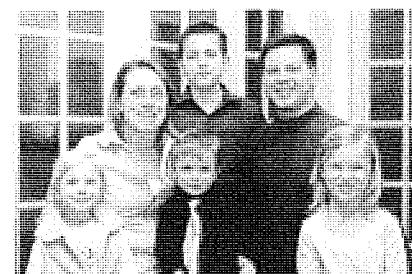
<sup>28</sup> Schulz, Joel. “Mississauga Ministry Potential”. (July 13, 2000). Addenda I, 12, 13.

the church had no visitors on Christmas Eve of 2000, the members decided that the church needed a new location. The Lord blessed the members of Cross of Life by helping them find a public school which was right in the middle of their target area and was willing to rent out their gym for Cross of Life's worship location. Therefore early in 2001, Lisgar Public School, which is only about block away from the location of the new parsonage and church office, became their place of worship. During the first month at Lisgar new visitors came to visit Cross of Life every week.<sup>29</sup>



**Lisgar Public School**

Learning from their past experiences and recent observations the synod, Pastor Joel Schulz, Cross of Life, and its members went ahead with a vision of how this mission could be sustained. Cross of Life faithfully proclaimed the gospel of Jesus Christ to its neighbors while benefiting from programs and organizations such as Mission Partners<sup>30</sup>, Travel Canvass Witness, and WELS Kingdom Workers. In 2003 Cross of Life would also receive help and added manpower through the synod's staff ministry program, when Mr. Kevin Walker was installed on September 7<sup>th</sup> of that year. All these external programs supplied Cross of Life with the extra manpower and aid that had not been available to Divine Peace and that was needed to build bridges reaching out to the community.



**Staff Minister Kevin Walker  
with his family**

Aided by the aforementioned organizations and programs, as well as the synod itself, Cross of Life also energetically planned and put on extensive and creative outreach programs to make contacts and create evangelistic opportunities with more of its neighbors. Many of these outreach programs were geared toward children because this area had more

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<sup>29</sup> Wietzke, Julie K. "Getting to know... Cross of Life". Forward In Christ. (April, 2004), 14

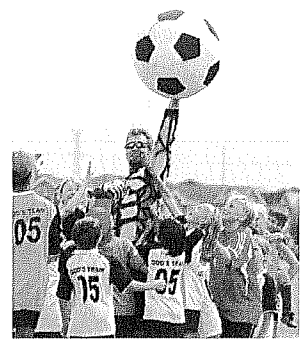
<sup>30</sup> "Mission Partner Adoption Agreement" Addenda I, 14.

kids age seven and under than any other Toronto neighborhood. And after having several successful one-day programs such as a Christmas 4 Kids, Pastor Schulz came up with an idea that would promote more long term contacts. The idea was a week long soccer/Bible camp. This camp would intertwine soccer and the Bible truths and be staffed by coaches and helpers from the congregation and others recruited by WELS Kingdom Workers.<sup>31</sup>

The camp would consist of soccer drills and games at the beginning of the day then toward the middle of the day the coaches and children would all assemble together and hear a about the game of soccer and God's Word. Using creative themes, that are a little bit different every year, Pastor Schulz through these daily devotions<sup>32</sup> helps children learn about the game they love and also the God that loves them.

This camp's theme this year is "Soccer is My Game – Jesus is My life." Being a Bible-teaching church, we also again plan to share the message of God's love with the children who participate. This camp serves as a sort of vacation Bible school as well. Besides helping them pass and dribble better, we plan on sharing with them the amazing way that God showed his love to us by sending Jesus to give us real life! We will be using soccer to show many parallels between that game and the important game of life with God.<sup>33</sup>

This camp was a huge success from the very beginning. More than 80 different children from all around this densely populated suburban community came to the first camp held in 2001, and learned about soccer and their Lord. The Camp remains a large part of Cross of Life's outreach efforts. It builds relationships that renewed yearly and encourages involvement from those who are already members. "One family we met through our soccer camp has already hosted coaches for the next year's camp. God has blessed us with this unique



**Soccer Campers crowd around Coach Mike**

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<sup>31</sup> Schulz, Joel. "Something deeper shared". *Forward in Christ*. Volume 88, Number 11, (November 1,2001), 25.

<sup>32</sup> Schulz, Joel. "Cross of Life Soccer Camp Message Day 4, 'The Cross'" (July 11, 2002), Addenda I, 33.

<sup>33</sup> Schulz, Joel. "Soccer Camp Letter". (April 11, 2002), Addenda I, 27.

opportunity to share the gospel with the families in our neighborhood.”<sup>34</sup> The camp continues to thrive with the numbers for the 2006 camp reaching 170 kids with the numbers for the 2007 camp expected to exceed that. This camp has also made an impact throughout the synod, as other congregations have also benefited from sort of a camp template that Pastor Schulz has made available.<sup>35</sup>

This soccer camp has helped Cross of Life a great deal in establishing a name for the church in the community and supplying this mission with rich opportunities to share the gospel. Through kind of contact with the members of the community and the opportunity to share with them God’s grace in Christ, God has done wonderful things for this congregation. Since 2001, the year of the first soccer camp, the size of Cross of Life has quadrupled. Cross of life has grown from 30 souls in the year 2000 to 112 souls today.<sup>36</sup>

As this congregation, by the grace of God, continues to grow and bring the gospel to this large and growing community Cross of Life also continues to make strides to make sure it remains a permanent fixture in the Mississauga area. In 2005 efforts were made to buy land and explore the possibilities of building a worship facility of their own. A piece of land was even picked out, but after the price of the land was raised once again these discussions fell through. But that did not deter Cross of Life from continuing to branch out.

As Mississauga continues to grow so grows the more scenic and less developed area around it. The area of Milton a nearby community has shown noticeable growth. Because of the continued expansion from the Toronto and Mississauga areas many have searched for another place that is a bit more removed from the big city have resulted in growth in the city of Milton. More and more people have been coming into the area, more and more

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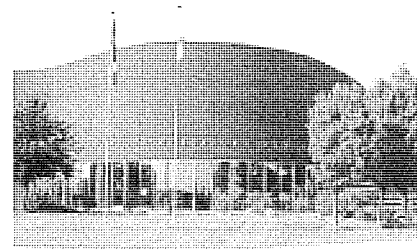
<sup>34</sup> “Mission Partner Adoption Agreement with Mississauga, Ontario, Canada”. Addenda I, 14.

<sup>35</sup> Schulz, Joel. “Cross of Life Soccer Camp 200-“. Addenda I, 28-32.

<sup>36</sup> “Form 9: Five Year Tracking Form, 2006-2007”. Addenda I, 24.

people who need to hear the good news of Jesus Christ. Cross of Life led by the Holy Spirit has continued to reach out to these people with the divine peace that comes through Christ. Initial contacts for this work in Milton have been made through the outreach programs like the Bible/soccer camp, through members who have moved their homes to the city of Milton, and through personal and public invitations to come and worship.

Despite not having their own facility and having to worship in a rented space, Cross of Life, has not let that stop them from doing the best with what they have and where they are. From simply taking a look at one of their bulletins<sup>37</sup> one can see that Cross of Life has developed a unique kind of worship service that blends both contemporary and liturgical aspects. Members and visitors enjoy singing, praying, and reading while staring up at images of inspiring pictures and words projected on a canvas divider in a gym, reading from the Christian Worship, listening to soloist or choir, or simply singing a more “traditional” hymn. In their worship service it is clear that the members of Cross of Life do their best to praise their Lord. And in September of 2006, Cross of Life began offering this same type of weekly gospel proclaiming worship service at a local community center in Milton.



**Milton Leisure Centre**



**Pastor Joel Schulz and wife Dawn with Elijah, Jonah, and Moira**

Forty-five people attended the first service on Sunday, and attendance since then has been around 20-25 people.<sup>38</sup>

The Lord continues to bless Cross of Life in both Mississauga and Milton, as Cross of Life is on the brink of shedding its mission status and becoming self-sustaining.

Cross of Life is continually setting their sights on finding a permanent facility even though land is hard to come by. As of February 2007, Cross of

<sup>37</sup> Addenda I, 39

<sup>38</sup> Goetzinger, Harland. “District News, North Atlantic”. *Forward in Christ*. Volume 93. (December 12, 2006), 24.



Life will be entering a bid somewhere in the ballpark of 1.8 or 2 million dollars for a two acre piece of land with a very usable church building on it.<sup>39</sup> With the continued growth of the area and Cross of Life it seems only a matter of time before additional staff will be called upon to help carry on the work in this area. Only God knows what is in store for this congregation and the start of sister mission in Milton, Ontario, Canada.

The work in this area is not easy and many things keep this church from growing even more. The biggest opponent to this work is the devil. The devil is no stranger to Canada and his work as prevalent here as it is anywhere turning the hearts of unbelievers away from the truths of God's Word as well as leading believing members of Cross of life away. Other barriers that the devil uses to slow down the work of the gospel take the form of culture and religion. The diversity of world religions is a tough obstacle to overcome in such a culturally diverse area. In addition the Canadian Churches have turned many off to spiritual affairs and have fostered a general distrust and disdain for any church. It has become very hard to approach people about faith, and it takes a long time to build relationships and figure out a way to get the Gospel to them. All this has seemed to cultivate a general spiritual ecumenism and a tendency to gravitate towards an attitude of indifference. "We all believe in the same God" is the common sentiment of a area filled with Muslims, Buddhists, and other world religions. The basic challenge therefore is to let people know this wonderful message which God has given to us.<sup>40</sup>

As this area continues to grow may the Lord continue to bless Cross of Life, Pastor Schulz, Staff Minister Walker, and all those who labor for the Lord in the Mississauga area both in the present and future. May the Lord be with them as they face both blessings and challenges in order to bring the wonderful message of Christ to this extensive mission field.

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<sup>39</sup> Joel, Schulz. An email to Mike Kuschel. (December 18, 2006). *Addenda I*, 41.

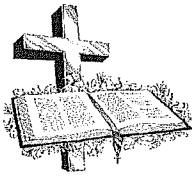
<sup>40</sup> Joel, Schulz. An email to Mike Kuschel. (December 18, 2006). *Addenda I*, 41, 42.

And may we all be reminded of the persistent grace of God, which has granted us divine peace through the cross of Christ. May we keep our eyes on that cross of life that brings eternal life to those who believe.

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# The Mission in Mississauga



DIVINE PEACE  
EVANGELICAL  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
OF MISSISSAUGA

Divine Peace to Cross of Life

Mississauga, Ontario, Canada

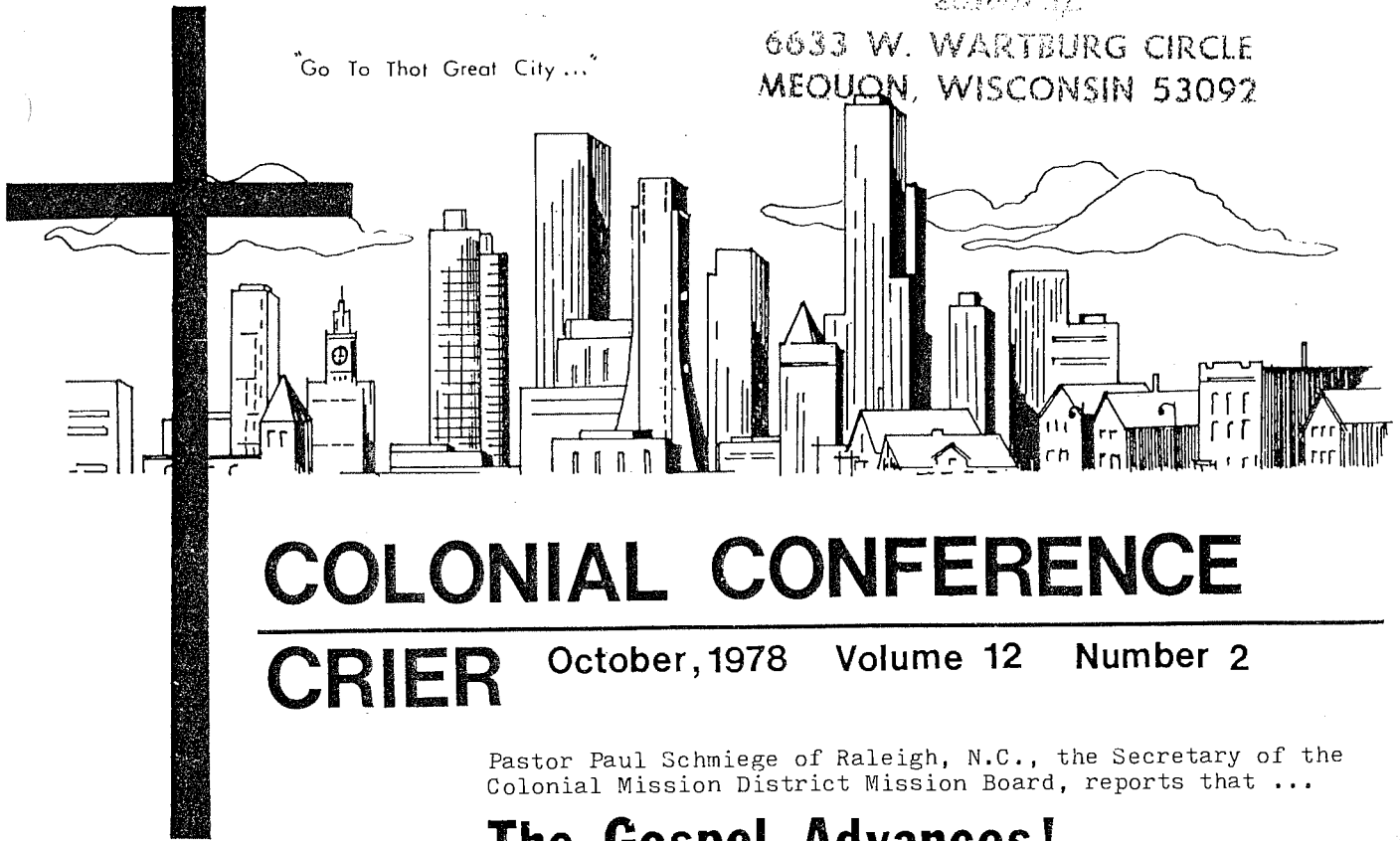


*Addenda I*

Mike Kuschel  
Church History 3031  
Prof. Korthals  
December 18, 2006

6633 W. WARTBURG CIRCLE  
MEQUON, WISCONSIN 53092

"Go To That Great City ..."



# COLONIAL CONFERENCE

**CRIER** October, 1978 Volume 12 Number 2

Pastor Paul Schmiede of Raleigh, N.C., the Secretary of the Colonial Mission District Mission Board, reports that ...

## The Gospel Advances!

The Apostle Paul sent a letter of joy to the Christians in Philippi. Paul had been under house arrest in Rome for almost two years for preaching Christ. Yet Paul wanted his fellow believers to be glad that what had happened to him had really served to advance the Gospel. Paul rejoiced that it was now known throughout the palace guard that he was in chains for Christ. Paul rejoiced to know that most of his brothers in the Lord had been encouraged by his ordeal to speak the Word ever courageously and fearlessly. Paul was overjoyed that Christ was being preached. (Philippians, chapter 1).

We also have reason for joy among us because what is happening in our missions, really serves to advance the Gospel. Opposition to the Gospel is still common. There are seeming setbacks encountered. There is immediate concern when a familiar pastor is called to shepherd another flock. Some discouragement is felt when our people must wait for manpower to be authorized. There is a certain amount of disappointment when building efforts are delayed or halted temporarily. But we have reason for joy because we know that what is happening in our missions really serves to advance the Gospel.

Mission status and manpower were requested for the mission nucleus at TRUMBULL, CT. Attendance is about 20. Four persons are in instruction class. Thirty-five prospects were uncovered by summer vicar Martin Albrecht and the Lutheran Collegian canvass/witness team. Exploratory status and manpower were requested in TORONTO, CANADA. The mission nucleus at ASHEVILLE, N.C., has exploratory status. The fourth call for a District Missionary (mission starter), whose work would begin at Asheville, has been extended.

HOPE of SYRACUSE, N.Y., has selected a church site. GOOD SHEPHERD of RUMFORD, R.I., has been renovating and repairing their church building. ASCENSION congregation has moved to a new place of worship in HARRISBURG, PA.

In addition, note the articles in this issue of the Crier that speak of new church buildings and manpower.

As we review the news from our missions, we can see that what is happening serves to advance the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We pray with joy that even more laborers will be granted and that we may speak God's Word more courageously.

This newsletter is printed in October, April, and January in the interest of the Wisconsin Synod congregations in the Eastern part of the United States and Canada. All correspondence should be addressed to the editor. The current editor is Rev. Paul Schweppe, 519 Brooklyn Blvd., Brightwaters, N.Y. 11718. The current copy editor is Rev. Robert Balza, 5 Rawlings Drive, Bear, Delaware 19701.

MISSOURI LUTHERAN SYNOD  
1978

the  
Colonial Conference Crier

VOLUME XII -- APRIL, 1978 -- NUMBER 1

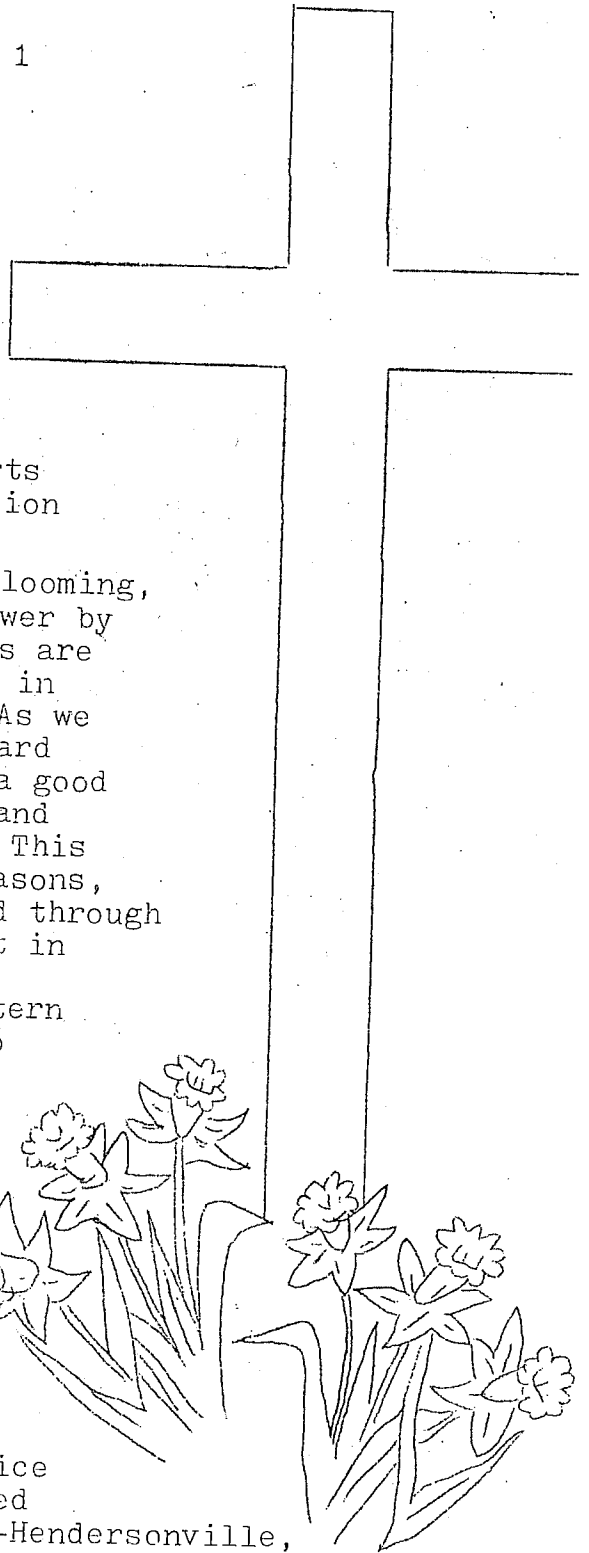
*New Buds and Shoots  
in Our Mission  
Congregations*

(Rev. Carl Pagel, pastor of Atonement Lutheran Church, Baltimore, Md., reports for the Colonial Mission District Mission Board)

Out in my yard the crocuses are blooming, the tulips are up and should be in flower by the time you read this. The fruit trees are in full bud. The new growth that comes in spring is always wonderful to behold! As we savor the joys of Easter and look forward to the celebration of Pentecost it is a good time to survey some of the new growth and activity in our mission congregations. This growth comes not from the change of seasons, but by the resurrection of our Lord and through the powerful working of the Holy Spirit in the means of grace!

New growth is possible in the western suburbs of Ottawa, Ontario, Canada. Two meetings have been held to discuss the possibility of holding services and starting a new mission there. The success of ABIDING WORD congregation in Orleans, east of Ottawa, encourages us to believe that another mission congregation could take root and grow in this vast metropolitan area. The Mission Committee of ST. PAUL'S congregation has done an outstanding job in planning for this mission development.

New growth is possible even in an ice and sleet storm. Twenty-one people braved adverse weather conditions in Asheville-Hendersonville,

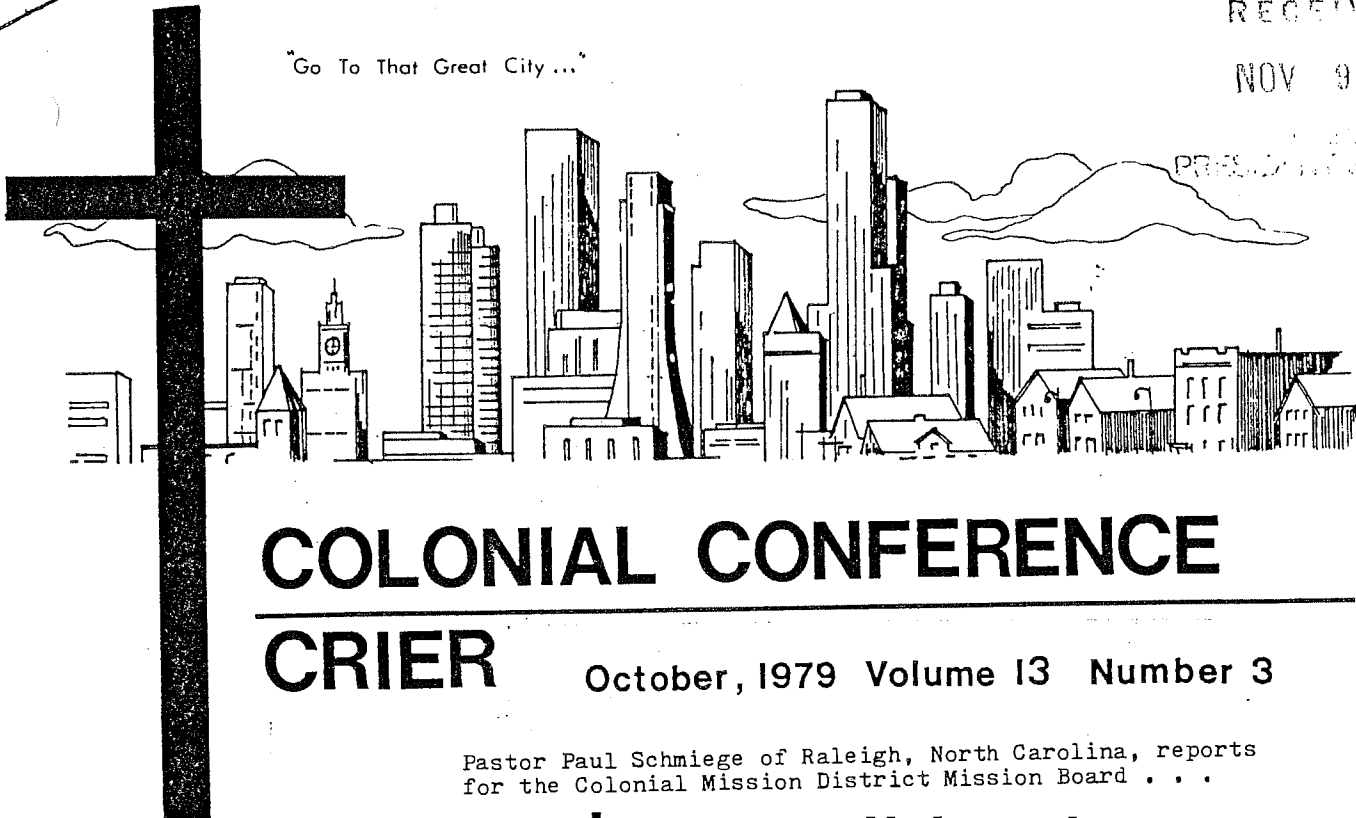


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PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

"Go To That Great City..."



# COLONIAL CONFERENCE

## CRIER

October, 1979 Volume 13 Number 3

Pastor Paul Schmiede of Raleigh, North Carolina, reports  
for the Colonial Mission District Mission Board . . .

## Our Lord's Accomplishments

In this world where there is so little that is of lasting value and so much that is left undone we are reminded of the accomplishments of our Lord. We can never sufficiently thank God for what He does through the proclamation of His saving Gospel in our own day and age. Nor can we ever sufficiently thank Him for the new hands that He has once again sent into the mission fields of our Colonial Mission District.

Pastor Jon Guenther was installed as the missionary for the exploratory field in the Hendersonville-Asheville area of western North Carolina on July 1. Much farther north, the red tape was cut so that Pastor Roy Hefti could give himself fully to the work of the Lord in the exploratory field in Toronto, Ontario. Pastor Hefti was installed on October 7 by Pastor T. Pfothenauer of Ottawa.

The Lord made good use of the faithful service of His called worker, Pastor David Clark, who labored for 3½ years on behalf of St. Paul congregation, Nashua, NH. Pastor Clark preached his last sermon on August 19, and is now serving at Hope, Detroit, MI.

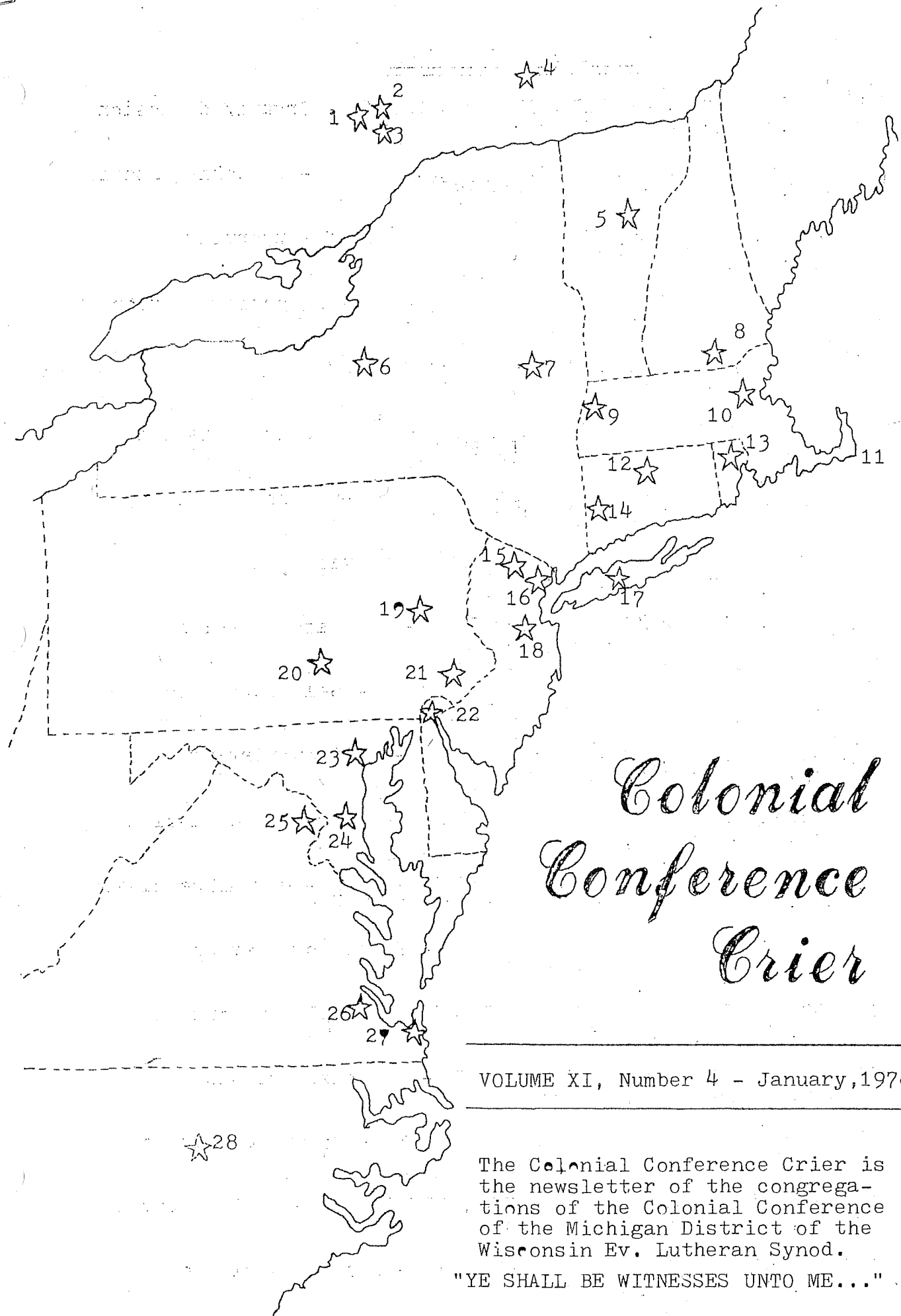
The Lord also blessed us with the assistance of Summer Vicar Thomas Nass, who helped with canvassing and evangel-

ism follow-up work in our Colonial Mission District this summer.

The Lord, by means of the Gospel of the crucified and risen Savior, inspires our missionaries and lay witnesses to give themselves fully to the work of mission outreach. Eight hundred homes were visited by the members of Ascension, Harrisburg, PA, in preparation for their Vacation Bible School. Twenty-two hundred homes were visited by DMLC graduates, Miss Bea Becker and Mr. Lennard Punke, while they were assisting with the VBS outreach program at Gethsemana, Raleigh, NC. Five or six lay people have been coming out on Monday nights to help with the work of evangelism at St John's of Christiana, Delaware.

The Lord also deserves all the credit for moving the members of the WELS to provide land and facilities for our missions. Land search is under way at Ascension, Harrisburg, PA. An offer to purchase has been made on a site that features a vacant bank building and home in Amherst, NH. The cost of preparing the two buildings for use by St. Paul congregation is being studied. Cross of Christ, Syracuse, NY, is engaging an architect. The first worship facility of St. John's, Christiana, DE, was dedica-

This newsletter is printed in October, January, and April in the interest of the Wisconsin Synod congregations in the Eastern part of the United States and Canada. All correspondence should be addressed to the Editor, Rev. Paul Scheppe, 45 Talisman Drive, Dix Hills, N.Y., 11746. Subscriptions and payments may be made to the copy editor, Rev. Robert Balza, 5 Rawlings Dr., Bear, DE 19701.



# Colonial Conference Crier

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VOLUME XI, Number 4 - January, 1978

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The Colonial Conference Crier is the newsletter of the congregations of the Colonial Conference of the Michigan District of the Wisconsin Ev. Lutheran Synod.

"YE SHALL BE WITNESSES UNTO ME..."



being lengthened. The Lord is leading our conference to the northwest, to the Canadian city of TORONTO. A group of pastors including Rev. T. Pfothauer of Ottawa, Canada, Rev. D. Priebe of Orleans, Canada, and Rev. W. Beckmann of Falls Church, Va. went to Toronto in December to inspect the field. Their investigation showed three or four families who are very interested. It is hoped that further investigation will reveal that this field, too, is ripe unto harvest.

Canada's capital city, OTTAWA, like every other large city is seeing a population shift to the suburbs. Because of this, ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH of Ottawa has already mothered one daughter congregation in the western suburbs, and is now considering establishing another mission in the eastern suburbs. Twelve families to the east of Ottawa may form the next congregation of the Colonial Conference as the cords are lengthened.

Also to the south the tents of God's Church are being extended. Four families from ASHEVILLE and HENDERSONVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA, are requesting Wisconsin Synod services in the western part of their state. Newspaper advertising is being done in Asheville and meetings are being held with mission board representatives in hopes that exploratory services can be started.

May these encouraging items help us to see the opportunities open for expanding the Lord's tent. Through the strength of His Word, let us strengthen the stakes and lengthen the cords, and stretch forth the curtains of His Church of Grace in the East.

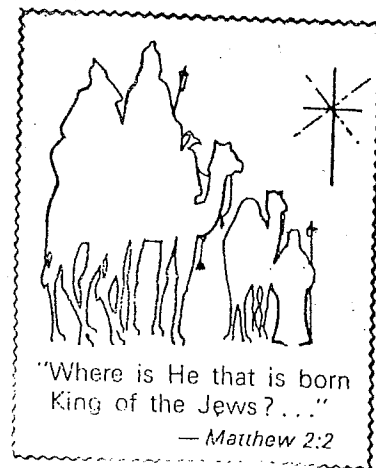
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The devotional article for this issue has been written by Rev. James Tauscher, the pastor of Our Savior's Ev. Lutheran Church of East Brunswick, New Jersey.

The text for this devotional is the last verse of the Gospel lesson for Epiphany,

MATTHEW 2:11

"AND WHEN THEY WERE COME INTO THE HOUSE, THEY SAW THE YOUNG CHILD WITH MARY HIS MOTHER, AND FELL DOWN, AND WORSHIPPED HIM; AND WHEN THEY HAD OPENED THEIR TREASURES, THEY PRESENTED UNTO HIM GIFTS; GOLD, AND FRANKINCENSE, AND MYRRH."



# "They Presented Unto Him Gifts"

The annual season of gift-giving (better known to us as Christmas) is now a month-old memory. During the pre-Christmas shopping season, stores were jammed. Retailers reported a record year for sales. Money exchanged hands freely to buy gifts for grandpa and grandma, mom and dad, little sister, junior's teacher, and the paperboy. It just doesn't seem like Christmas unless we exchange gifts.

An Invitation From

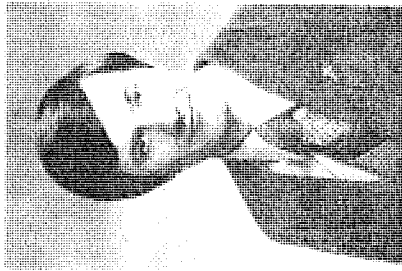


DIVINE PEACE  
EVANGELICAL  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
OF MISSISSAUGA

Now meeting at the parsonage  
on Creditview Road in Mississauga

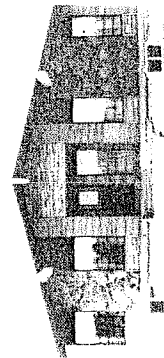


## A Personal Invitation



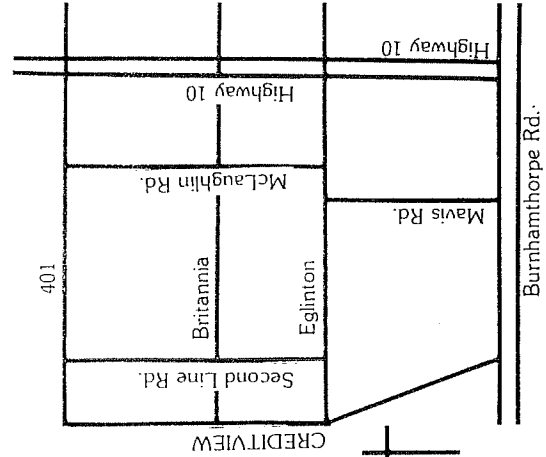
My name is Rev. Roy Hefti. As pastor of Divine Peace Ev. Lutheran Church, I invite you to come and hear the word of God with us. You and your family will always be welcome in our midst.

If you desire counsel in spiritual matters or information concerning membership, I am always ready to meet with you. My phone number is 826-0968 and I live at 4340 Creditview Road in Mississauga.

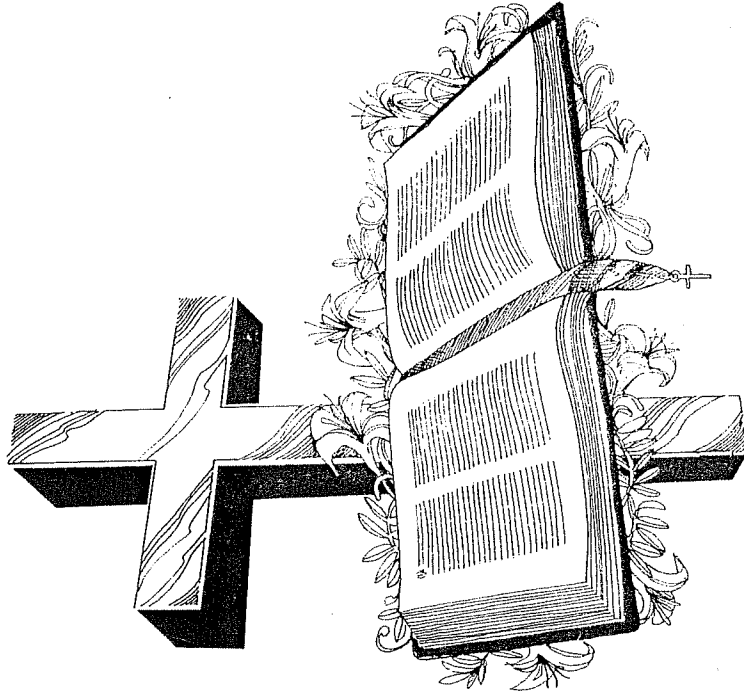


4340 CREDITVIEW RD.  
MISSISSAUGA

4340  
CREDITVIEW



## An Invitation From



# DIVINE PEACE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MISSISSAUGA

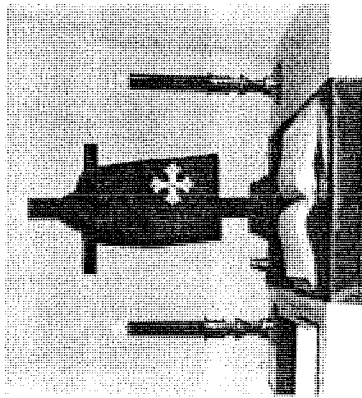
Now meeting at the parsonage  
on Creditview Road in Mississauga



We invite you to come and hear the Good News of Jesus Christ, the Saviour of the world. Our name tells who we are.

We are —

## DIVINE PEACE



We preach God's peace. Jesus called it the peace which the world cannot give. It is found only in God's Word - the Bible. The Bible is our only basis at Divine Peace.

Our message is the "Evangel" - the Gospel - the Good News. The Good News announces free salvation in the death and resurrection of God's Son. No matter what we have been, no matter what we have done, Jesus Christ is the only Saviour from all our sins.



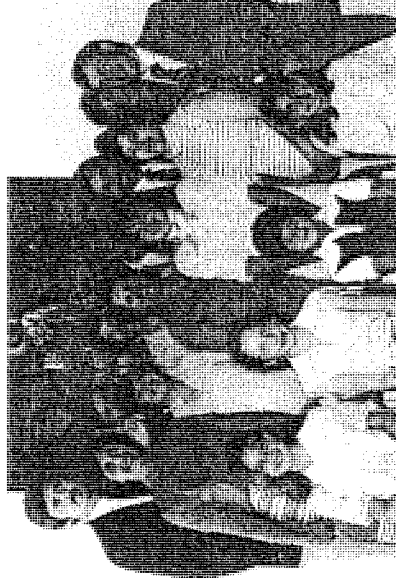
## EVANGELICAL

## LUTHERAN



We are meeting temporarily at the parsonage, but we are no fly-by-night denomination. We trace our roots back over 450 years to the reformer, Martin Luther. We enjoy the rich Lutheran heritage of music, singing, ceremony and faithfulness to the Word of God.

## CHURCH



We are a church, a group of people who share a common faith. All of us, men and women, young and old, invite you to come and learn about YOUR Saviour with us.

Every Sunday morning we offer Sunday School for children, Bible Class for adults and a worship service for all. Won't you come and join us at the parsonage at 4340 CREDITVIEW ROAD in MISSISSAUGA?

### SCHEDULE

Worship Service .....	9:30 a.m.
Sunday School .....	10:45 a.m.
Adult Bible Class .....	10:45 a.m.

# WELS in Canada

From time to time the CRIER would like to introduce its readers to the specific congregations of the Colonial Conference. In this issue, we feature the WELS churches in Ontario Canada.

## St. Paul's Ottawa, Ontario

The First Evangelical Lutheran St. Paul's Church was constituted on November 14, 1874. Its founders were immigrants to Ottawa from the province of Pomerania in Prussia after the Franco-Prussian War of 1870-71. It was indeed the "first" Lutheran church in Ottawa, and has from the beginning been located on the corner of King Edward and Wilbrod Street.



The congregation joined the Missouri Synod in 1878, and always played a prominent part in the affairs of the Canada District. In 1969, however, St. Paul's was forced to withdraw from the Missouri Synod in protest over the synod's altar and pulpit fellowship with the American Lutheran Church. One year later it affiliated with the Wisconsin Synod.

St. Paul's has been a mother to several churches in the capital area. Most recently it helped start up Abiding Word in Orleans and Divine Word in Napean, and has contributed to the work being done in Pembroke and Toronto.

Pastor Thomas C. Pfothenhauer has shepherded the flock of St. Paul's since 1964.

## Divine Peace

### Mississauga (Toronto) Ontario

Divine Peace of Mississauga is a relative new-comer to the Canadian scene. Preliminary work in the Toronto area was done by Mrs. Judy Foulger of Brampton, Ont. In the winter of 1977, Pastors Beckman, Pfothenhauer and Priebe travelled to Toronto to canvass the area. By September of 1978, other Wisconsin Synod members had been contacted and the small nucleus was granted exploratory status by the General Board for Home Missions.

In January of 1979, monthly services were begun by the pastors and vicar from Ottawa. As of March 28, 1979, three calls for a pastor had been extended and returned. It was decided that a divine call would be extended through the assignment committee of the Seminary. On May 21, 1979, the call was received and accepted by candidate Roy W. Hefti, originally of La Crosse, Wisconsin.

Following the red tape necessary to gain entrance to Canada, Pastor Hefti and his wife, Alice, arrived in Canada on September 19, 1979. On October 7, Pastor Hefti was ordained and installed by Pastor Pfothenhauer at the Mississauga Valley Community Centre. The first regular worship service was conducted on October 14, 1979.

Due to lack of storage and other factors, it was decided to move our worship services to a more permanent type of arrangement—a parsonage-worship facility. A large house resting on two-and-a-half acres of land at 4340 Old Creditview Road was subsequently rented. For the next two years, from Feb. 29, 1980, to Feb. 27, 1982, the parsonage-worship facility served the needs of our small congregation.

Due to a pleasant lack of space at the Creditview facility, Divine Peace has now separated the worship facility and parsonage. Pastor Hefti now resides with his wife and two children at 1051 Cedar-glen Gate, Unit #39, Mississauga, Ontario, Canada L5C 3A7, Phone: (416) 272-4825. Although we had originally intended to have a rather permanent worship set-up in a nearby office building, the offer to lease fell through at the last moment due to stringent fire-code regulations. Divine Peace now meets at the

Britannia Secondary School at 100 Elm Drive in Mississauga, at 10:30 a.m. each Sunday. This rather satisfactory arrangement that we have at the school was a long-shot. Out of the 135 schools in the area, there is not a single opening at present, nor were there any but this one at the very time we needed it. We are also at the only school or community centre which has only one religious group meeting in it on a Sunday. The Lord has shown once again how powerful and merciful He is to His children.

Attendance and membership in the last two years have gone up and down due to the transient nature of life in the big city. Members come and go due to job transfers, etc. Our growth has therefore been slow but steady. Our present baptized membership stands at 32; communicant membership at 21, and average attendance at 25. The Lord has richly blessed Divine Peace through His precious Gospel. It is our fervent prayer that He may continue to do so and that Divine Peace may progress from exploratory status to mission status and beyond.

### **Abiding Word**

#### **Orleans, Ontario**

Abiding Word Ev. Lutheran Church in Orleans, Ontario, is a mission church about ten miles east of Ottawa, Canada's capital. The congregation was organized in 1974, and the building was dedicated on 21 January 1979. We are 123 souls (76 communicants). The average age of the people in the congregation is 21 years, which means that we have many young parents and many small children. In fact, there are 14 children on the cradle roll and 11 in nursery class. It makes for some very interesting church services! Fortunately, we also have several older families who can help out, and since four families have sets of twins, help is certainly welcome. Presently, the parents are trying to organize some type of baby-sitting arrangement during the worship service, but we are finding that with so many little children the logistics are rather difficult.

Since we are in a rapid-growth area, there is plenty of evangelism work to do here, and the congregation is very interested in outreach. There are about



45,000 people in our area, which is about two-thirds of the planned population for the area. Because most of the people are connected with the government or the military, the population is very transient (1 to 3 years is the average stay). This accounts, for the most part, for the fact that last year we gained 30 people - and lost 28! Such movement is certainly excellent for the spread of the Gospel, and is also excellent for promoting outreach awareness at home. It is hard to be overly concerned about "ourselves" when "ourselves" spans from Australia to Cameroon, as well as throughout Canada and the U. S.

### **Redeemer**

#### **Pembroke, Ontario**

One hundred miles west of Ottawa, on the Trans Canada Highway, is the town of Pembroke, population 15,000. Among those 15,000 is a high concentration of Lutherans, so in the mid-seventies Pastors Pfothenauer from Ottawa and Priebe, then pastor in Orleans, began exploratory services in Pembroke. In 1978, a small church building was purchased on the corner of McKenzie and Coolidge Streets.

Pastor Frederic Zarling served the congregation on a full-time basis from February '79 till September '81. Other than that, the flock has been served by the pastors and vicars in the Ottawa area, most currently by Pastors Lindke and Spreeman.

Since the congregation numbers less than a dozen communicants at this time, it is supported in part by St. Paul's congregation in Ottawa.



PASTOR DAVID KEHL

Pastor Kehl was a 1979 graduate of our Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary and is now serving Good Shepherd Lutheran Church of Rumford, Rhode Island.

He was born in Ixonia, Wisconsin, where his father was the principal of the Lutheran elementary school.

He prepared for the seminary by attending Northwestern Preparatory School and Northwestern College in Watertown, Wisconsin. He served two years as a graduate tutor at Northwestern with dormitory and classroom duties. St. John's of Redwood Falls, Minnesota was his first parish.

His wife, Joan, is originally from the North Atlantic District territory. Her parents have been members of 3 of our mission congregations. Joan is also a graduate of Wisconsin Lutheran College in Milwaukee and Dr. Martin Luther College in New Ulm, Minnesota.

Their daughter, Heidi, was born in November of 1983.

Pastor Kehl writes: "We look forward to doing the Lord's work in the North Atlantic District and hope to get to know better many of the pastors, teachers, and other fellow Christians in this area."

## A CHAPEL FOR THE GOLDEN HORSESHOE

Mississauga is part of the "Golden Horseshoe", as the densely populated southern part of Ontario is sometimes called. Within a 50 mile radius of Mississauga itself, there are some 4.5 million people. This fast-paced suburb of Toronto dubs itself "The City of Tomorrow."

2 And now, the Golden Horseshoe, and Mississauga in particular, has a chapel which Divine Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church can call home.

It is not a new structure. For a struggling group of 35 souls to build a new facility at this time would be an insurmountable task in view of land prices in the area which run as high as \$500,000 per acre.

So the Lord in His mercy provided Divine Peace with an alternative: a WW II vintage building formerly used as a lodge hall and church hall. Through a CEF loan the building was purchased at a cost of \$65,000, and at the time of writing, we are discussing with the General Board for Home Missions just how much money will be allocated for the remodelling project.

No date has been set for dedication yet, but readers of the Crier will be informed when that date is available. We hope to provide our readers with some "before and after" pictures of the building also.

May God bless this chapel to His glory and to the salvation of precious souls.

Pastor Roy Hefti

Ed. Pastor Hefti has recently accepted a call to Bangor, Wisconsin.



# MISSISSAUGA, ONTARIO

Location:	West of Toronto
Population:	575,000
Distinction:	Fastest growing City in North America
Incorporated:	1974
Mayor:	Hazel McCallion





Pastor Joel Schulz  
3964 Beacham Street  
Mississauga, ON, L5N 6S9  
joel.schulz@on.aibn.com

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## *Mississauga Ministry Potential*

July 13, 2000

I have been asked to give a report on the potential for growth and ministry in Mississauga, Ontario, based on the numbers of people living here, and the numbers expected to move in. And the main part of that request was that I came up with some actual numbers and statistics to back up the claims of the growth forecasts here.

Of course, every mission and exploratory is going to tell you that their city is the fastest growing metro area in their county, state, province, or country. I got your attention originally by telling you that Mississauga has been the fastest growing city in North America! Though that claim may be true, since I have heard it a few times from people I would trust, I found no hard evidence to back it up. I did find hard evidence to back up the fact that it has been the fastest growing city in Canada at least since 1986, and the trend will most likely continue. There is going to be a huge growth spurt in the next few years.

Mississauga had 152,186 people in 1970, 298,045 people in 1980, 446,000 people in 1990, 574,200 people in 1998, and an estimated 588,500 people now. It is projected that there will be 618,000 people here by 2001, 652,900 people by 2006, 676,100 people by 2011, 711,800 by 2021, and 745,400 by 2031. The growth certainly looks to continue steady for a long time.

### **CHURCHILL MEADOWS**

The area where our parsonage is located is near the area of highest growth. There is an area just a few blocks to the south of us that is called "Churchill Meadows." It is a huge expanse of what was once farm land, and in the next 5-10 years is going to be completely developed. As you are reading this, houses are going up there faster than you can watch them be built. There are already about 100 people living in this tract of land, and that number is going to skyrocket in the next few months!

In talking to the homebuilders and developers of this area, I have heard that 1,100 homes will be completed by the end of this year, another 1,100 homes by next year, and a total of about 11,000 homes will go in there altogether. I have heard that 47,000 new families will be moving into Mississauga in the next 5-6 years from other sources.

Then I went to City Hall and dug up the following statistics which are about the same, but probably more official. You have received copies of all this information in the packet I sent you. In the Churchill Meadows district alone, 100 people live there now. 1,500 people will live there by the end of 2001, 11,100 people by the end of 2006, 23,700 people by 2011, 33,500 by 2016, and 41,500 people by 2021! This is our main target area. According to the city statistics, there will be almost 12,000 houses on this piece of real estate by the year 2021. If we would want to build a church here, we would already have to apply for a plot of land to be "re-zoned." But it would be much easier sooner than later.

You can see all of these same numbers on the data I am sending you. Check out the "Mississauga Growth Forecasts" for "Population Growth" and "Housing Growth." Also be sure to check out the "Mississauga - Demographics" packet for more detail. Besides Churchill Meadows, there are a few other

districts that we could and have done work in, that are also growing like wildfire. The church office is in the "Lisgar" district, which is also going to be growing quite a bit, but not as much, since it is already quite built in. It will add 10,700 people by 2021. The "Meadowvale Village" and "City Centre" districts should also grab your attention. Meadowvale Village is going to add 29,600 people by 2021. There is also going to be a lot of growth in the City Centre, right around the Living Arts Centre, where we currently worship. It should add 19,000 people by 2021, and could be quite the area for some multicultural work.

### MULTICULTURAL ISSUES

That brings us to the next very important issue about doing our mission work in this city. Mississauga is a very multicultural city! English-speaking Caucasian Canadians are not in the majority in the entire make-up of Mississauga. It is filled with people from all over the globe. It has high populations of East Indians, Chinese, South Asians, Portuguese, Scottish, Irish, Italian, Polish, French, Filipinos, Jamaicans, and even a few Germans. That is only the beginning of the list! Take a look at Table 1 in the 1996 Census Update – Ethnic Origin and Visible Minorities" packet that I sent. Mississauga is a mini New York City, but with a higher percentage of East Indians. Mississauga is very similar to Toronto, but even has higher percentages of some "minorities."

The churches that are doing well here have established some pretty well-run "multicultural ministries." They are having services in other languages and incorporating music and traditions from other cultures. The Mississauga Gospel Temple (MGT) and Grace Community Church are two such examples. They are quite large and have become well-known in the community.

People are coming here all from all over Canada, the World, and even some from the U.S. They aren't just moving across town. Mississauga also is establishing itself as a cultural center for arts, and as a place of big business. The economy looks to be strong (see that packet) and will have new businesses coming in steadily over the next 20 years. The only problem Mississauga is going to have is how they are going to handle all the traffic! Right now, just as many people commute to Mississauga from Toronto and other places to work as the number of Mississaugans who commute to Toronto to work. It is not a bedroom community, but a growing, diverse, multi-cultural city that has demonstrated a pride in itself and a dedication to be run well and organized. It has been running "in the black" for years, thanks to eighty-something year old Mayor Hazel McCallion. For more info, check out [www.city.mississauga.on.ca](http://www.city.mississauga.on.ca)

### THEREFORE...

Throwing one pastor into Mississauga to reach its thousands of lost would be like one soldier landing on Normandy beach on D-Day. And there are a lot of "lost" here. One of the pastors from MGT told me that if ten percent of Mississauga actually went to church on Sunday morning, there would not be room for them in the church buildings here. We could obviously use a "ministry team" here in Mississauga. (I realize that most likely, so could everybody at all of our other missions. I do not ever intend to assert that we have a greater need here or deserve more help). But if it is the Lord's will that more manpower could be made available for our mission work here to meet these needs, I would suggest a few of the following possibilities...

### WE COULD USE...

**A FULL-TIME PASTOR** - He would split duties with me, and we would be able to do twice as much.

**A FULL-TIME PASTOR** – Some outgoing, people person with almost a salesman-like ability to get people to talk and listen. This pastor could spearhead the calling, canvassing, survey work part of the job, as well as get his feet in the door for follow-up work. The other pastor, (me maybe) might do the lions' share of the teaching classes, preaching, administration, etc. In other words, break up duties and find out which pastors did which best and then use our strengths. I like this possibility a lot more than the top one, where we would both be doing the same thing, but more of it with two.

**A FULL-TIME STAFF MINISTER** – He would do all the above that a staff minister could do. I would help him and handle the preaching and more of the other "pastoral" duties. He could also help with teaching.

**A FULL-TIME LAY MINISTER** – Once again, he would do all of the above, and I would help him as well as handle the “pastoral” duties.

**A FULL-TIME STAFF MINISTER** – This one would spearhead a VBS program, youth ministry, Day-care, nursery, and help get some or all of these things going as mission arms here. I would be able to continue to do more of what I am doing now with all those added components.

**A WELS TEACHER** – He (or she) would do the same as the one above – get child and youth ministry going full speed.

**A WELS TEACHER** – He would work on beginning a Christian Day School (an LES) here in Canada! That would be innovative and quite popular here! They need help with schools!

**A PASTOR, TEACHER, STAFF OR LAY MINISTER** with expertise in getting some multicultural (or even in one other culture) ministry going would be very helpful. Someone who could work with me to stretch beyond the normal thing that we are so far attempting to do here in Mississauga.

**NAME ANOTHER POSSIBILITY...** There are probably plenty of other possibilities that I have not come across. But I think we need to think beyond the norm. Hope Church in Scarborough is doing a good job, I believe, of incorporating some unique elements into their ministry. And their team ministry has probably helped a lot. Any help that we could get could be used in some way or other to multiply our efforts to reach the lost here.

Keep us in your prayers, that our probing leads us to lost souls, no matter how many we have doing the work here. Keep praying that the Lord will lead the people we have to serve to their best abilities to share that message, and that He would lead others to the faith who would also have talents to serve in His kingdom. Pray that He will bless our faithful preaching of his Word here to bring people to know their Savior through that wonderful Gospel. God’s grace is certainly amazing! May we never tire of sharing it with those who need it as desperately as we do!

Those of us “out here” always greatly appreciate the wonderful work that the Mission Board does, and the help, support, and prayers you give us! May God bless you and guide you as you continue your Kingdom work!

His Grace and Peace be Yours,



Joel Schulz  
Pastor, Cross of Life  
Mississauga, ON

# Mission Partner Adoption Agreement

with

## Mississauga Ontario, Canada

*Cross of Life Lutheran Church*

### Growth possibilities

Our church is located in a very densely populated, ethnically diverse area of new homes in Mississauga. In 2000, the total population was only 24,000. Now, it's 40,000 and will grow to over 60,000 by 2006!



*Andrea and Dawn  
Blessed members*

### An energetic church home

We have seen tremendous changes in our ministry here in the Toronto area. God has blessed our extensive outreach programs by increasing our weekly

church attendance from only 20 last year to an amazing 60 this year! We now have 39 members, have a prospect list of over 400 and have the benefit of having over 70% of our members actively involved in church activities! Bible Instruction, Bible Study, and Evangelist Program classes are held right in the parsonage. It feels like home to many in the congregation!



*Bible Camp 4 Kids*

### Involving the kids

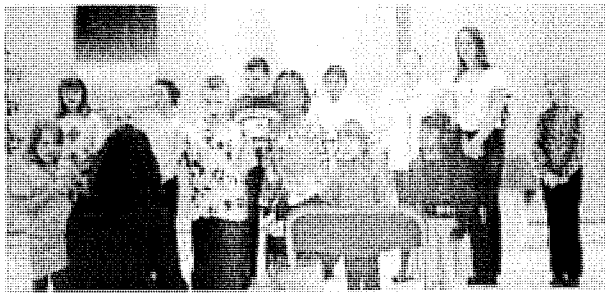
Our Children's ministries have been incredibly successful for us, since our neighbourhood has more kids under age 10 than any other in the Greater Toronto Area. We have many "Bible Camps 4 Kids," and our Easter 4 Kids attracted 63 children from the community! Our members regularly hand-deliver flyers and it's amazing to hear when someone visits our congregation because they read one of our flyers!



*Members relaxing together*

### Soccer-Bible Camp . . . what a hit

Our biggest outreach event has been our Soccer-Bible Camp. This summer, we will be holding our third one of these camps, which have averaged between 80-90 participants each year. We get to share Jesus with a group of kids by using something they love – soccer – to make that truth hit home. One family we met through our soccer camp has already hosted coaches for the next year's camp. God has blessed us with this unique opportunity to share the gospel with the families in our neighbourhood.



*Children's choir*

## Unique stories

Each member of Cross of Life has a unique story. One man had been asked by his wife for years to join her at church. He continually refused. But, God was working behind the scenes. A recent transfer to Mississauga for work led his family to our church. He will now be serving as head of our Evangelism efforts, thanks to the work of the Holy Spirit.

## From Trinidad

We have a family originally from Trinidad who had been searching for years for a church that fit their needs. After meeting us through Soccer Camp and a Steel Drum Community event we held, they joined our church and now both parents attend Sunday Bible Class, their daughter helps with Sunday school and Bible Camp, and the father will be serving on our newly created Leadership Team.



*Nakita and Janice  
Newly confirmed members*

## Worshipping together

We even have "Kids Row". Many of the children in our congregation choose to sit together in the very front row of church. One girl even told Pastor Schulz how much she loved his messages, and how she could easily remember the stories and examples he shared. The visible growth in their faith is remarkable.

## Growing by God's grace

We continue to confirm new members every few months as our church continues to grow by God's grace. Everyone comments on how connected they feel in our church. We look forward to possibly securing a building for worship and a WELS school in the future. God-willing, we will get mission status in the summer of 2003.

## About Your Missionary

### Joel Schulz



*Joel and Dawn Schulz and family*

Pastor Schulz grew up in South Dakota and Wisconsin. He began his ministry as a tutor at Michigan Lutheran Seminary. He met his wife, Dawn Koelpin, while he was a student at the Seminary. She graduated from Martin Luther College and received a call to Vassar, Michigan. Dawn taught lower grades there for one year. They were married in 1997 and began a joint ministry as tutors for Michigan Lutheran Seminary in Saginaw, Michigan.

Joel and Dawn moved to Mississauga in 1999, after Joel received a call to start an exploratory mission there. They began their ministry by holding church services in a downtown civic centre, but realized the great need to minister to a new development in the NW corner of Mississauga. They moved to a parsonage within walking distance of a school that they could rent for church services.

Both of their children were born in Canada. Jonah was born on July 4, 2000, and Elijah came on April 28, 2002. Dawn enjoys being home with the boys, teaching piano lessons, serving as organist and choir director, and leading Women's Bible Study.

# Mission Partner Adoption Agreement

with

## Mississauga Ontario, Canada

Cross of Life Lutheran Church

I/We hereby agree to support Cross of Life at Mississauga, Ontario Canada, Project # WEL920.1011 with a total of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ during the next \_\_\_\_\_ years.

My/Our gift will be sent: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ monthly    \$ \_\_\_\_\_ quarterly    \$ \_\_\_\_\_ semi-annually    \$ \_\_\_\_\_ annually

Enclosed is my gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_ **Bill my credit or check card** \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_ MasterCard    \_\_\_ Visa    \_\_\_ Discover    \_\_\_ American Express

Acct # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ I want the convenience of **Electronic Funds Transfer**. Please include a voided check. Date for automated transfer is 20th of the month.

Please make checks payable to WELS.

Send to: WELS Ministry of Planned Giving, 2929 N Mayfair Rd, Milwaukee WI 53222

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse's first name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Congregation name: \_\_\_\_\_

Congregation city: \_\_\_\_\_

*Note: Gifts given to Mission Partners will be credited to your congregation's mission offerings without indicating your name unless you request otherwise.*



A Brief History of  
CROSS OF LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH  
The Exploratory in  
OAKVILLE / MISSISSAUGA, ONTARIO

In the early 1980's, a mission was begun in Mississauga, a large and growing city right to the west of Toronto, Ontario. A building was purchased, in which the group worshiped until about 1987. The mission closed down at that point. But, since Mississauga began to be one of the fastest growing cities not only in Canada, but in all of North America, efforts were made to get manpower back into this metro area.

Pastor Doug Priestap was called into the area to begin helping Pastor Tom Haar, who was working to the east of Toronto's metro area. In 1990, Pastor Priestap began doing mission work in the town of Bolton, Ontario, and he, his wife Doris, and his three daughters lived in a house there. The congregation named itself "Good Shepherd." The next shift came when Pastor Priestap began reaching out to the town of Oakville (population 127,000). Together with some of the souls who were being served in the first Mississauga mission, he began gathering prospects in this city, which is just west of Mississauga.

In 1994, the present group was formed with Bible studies in the homes of Marguerite Rouleau, and Roberto and Denise Tempesta. The congregation now took on the name "Cross of Life," a suggestion from Mr. Tempesta. At this time, Pastor Priestap was still living in Bolton and commuting to Oakville to serve this group. In August of 1995, with the help of the Synod, the group was able to rent a Christian Information Centre, a storefront building on Kerr Street in downtown Oakville. The Information Centre was set up to offer religious and Biblical literature to the community as a way to establish contacts and share the Gospel. The group also worshiped regularly in the storefront, and gained a number of neighbourhood members and visitors. Cross of Life had around 25 members.

In August of 1997, the Kerr Street storefront was closed down. Cross of Life continued to meet at Glen Abbey Recreation Centre in the northern section of Oakville. They began doing mission work in that part of town at that time. Pastor and his family moved to Oakville and began renting a parsonage on Callaghan Crescent. In December of 1998, Pastor Priestap took a call and his farewell service was on Christmas Eve of that year. Pastor Ed Herman from Hope Lutheran in Scarborough covered the vacancy by leading Sunday morning worship services and Tuesday evening Bible classes in the vacated parsonage. There were about a dozen or so attending at this time.

The Mission Board had hope to get two men working in this metro area, but with the shortage of pastors, it seemed only feasible to call one pastor – which they hoped to receive from Assignment Day in Mequon, Wisconsin. Pastor Joel Schulz was given the assignment after completing two years of tutoring at Michigan Lutheran Seminary in Saginaw, Michigan. He and his wife Dawn moved to Canada in the summer of 1999, and he was installed on August 15. Since the Mission Board could only get one man into this area, they had to choose which field – Oakville or Mississauga? They chose Mississauga, because now, among other reasons, Mississauga at 575,000 people is the fastest growing city in North America, and is largely unchurched. So, Pastor Schulz was called to serve as a Mission Explorer in Mississauga, with the intention of beginning with the Oakville-based Cross of Life core group.

The first step in the "move" to Mississauga was getting a new worship facility. The Lord blessed the group with a nice rented facility in the Living Arts Centre, a civic centre in the middle of Mississauga. The core group of 25 members has gone along with the move to Mississauga, and are ready to begin the next task the Lord has given them – sharing the Gospel in this growing, culturally diverse, large city. The parsonage was moved into Mississauga this spring, right into the middle of an area that is supposed to see **47,000 new families** move into it in one year's time. The harvest is most certainly plentiful! Pray that God bless our ministry of sharing his love with so many people who don't know Him here in Mississauga!

**CROSS OF LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH  
MISSISSAUGA, ONTARIO  
OUR STORY - 2003**

Our church is located in a very densely populated, ethnically diverse area of new homes in Mississauga. In 2000, the total population was only 24,000. Now, it's 40,000 and will grow to over 60,000 by 2006!

Pastor Schulz was called to serve here as a mission explorer in 1999. After spending the first year in Oakville, the new millennium brought a move to a parsonage in Mississauga, and the beginning of our work here. During that interim, the group met and worshiped in a downtown civic centre. After it was realized how important it was to get into our own neighbourhood, the worship location was changed to a local grade school. We currently worship at Lisgar Public School, and our church office is the parsonage, one block away.

Over the past year we have seen tremendous changes in our ministry here in the Toronto area. God has blessed our extensive outreach programs by increasing our weekly church attendance from only 20 last year to an amazing 60 this year! We now have 39 members, have a prospect list of over 400 and have the benefit of having over 70% of our members actively involved in church activities! Bible Instruction, Bible Study, and Evangelist Program classes are held right in the parsonage. It feels like home to many in the congregation!

Our Children's ministries have been incredibly successful for us, since our neighbourhood has more kids under age 10 than any other in the Greater Toronto Area. We have many "Bible Camps 4 Kids," and our Easter 4 Kids attracted 63 children from the community! Our members regularly hand-deliver flyers and it's amazing to hear when someone visits our congregation because they read one of our flyers! Our biggest outreach event has been our Soccer-Bible Camp. This summer, we will be holding our third one of these camps, which have averaged between 80-90 participants each year. We get to share Jesus with a group of kids by using something they love - soccer - to make that truth hit home. One family we met through our soccer camp has already hosted coaches for the next year's camp. God has blessed us with this unique opportunity to share the Gospel with the families in our neighbourhood.

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We have a family originally from Trinidad who had been searching for years for a church that fit their needs. After meeting us through Soccer Camp and a Steel Drum Community event we held, they joined our church and now, both parents attend Sunday Bible Class, their daughter helps with Sunday school and Bible Camp, and the father will be serving on our newly created Leadership Team.

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Mission Connection Article –349 words  
December 27, 2000  
Cross of Life Lutheran Church  
Exploratory – Mississauga, Ontario  
North Atlantic District  
Pastor Joel Schulz

### **CHRISTMAS IS FOR CHILDREN!**

Christmas is for children. Is it for you or me? It is – if we are *children* who realize that we haven't always been perfect. It is – if we believe with childlike hearts the wonderful news the angels delivered at Christmas: "Today a Savior has been born for you!" Christmas is for children! And in our particular mission setting, Christmas gives us a great opportunity to share that same message to children.

Cross of Life is an exploratory in Mississauga, Ontario, worshiping in rented facilities and trying to reach out to its diverse community with the gospel. Mississauga has been the fastest growing city in Canada for years, and is filling up with people from every nation, race, and religion. It is also very unchurched, and difficult to reach with the Gospel. An area pastor informed me that if 10% of Mississaugans went to a Christian church on Sunday morning, there wouldn't be room for them!

However, we discovered that the neighborhood we are working in has the highest percentage of children age 0-6 in the whole city. We realize our need to share the good news with those children, and to reach their families through them. We held a "Christmas for Kids" this year and mobilized all of our people to undertake the challenge. We trudged through deep snow to deliver 5000 flyers, put up some road signs, and prepared for the day. God blessed our efforts abundantly! He brought 20 children to the local grade school we rented to hear the good news. Only two of those were our members! The day went wonderful, and with God's help, we shared the message through lessons, videos, crafts, games, and singing. The event concluded with all of the parents showing up for a closing service in which the children shared the message with them.

Christmas is for children! "Children" include all of those who believe His Word with a child's heart moved by the Holy Spirit. Our goal is to help more of the diverse people in our area realize that since Christmas is for children, it is for them!



# CROSS OF LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH

MISSISSAUGA, ONTARIO

## MISSION STATEMENT

“Cross of Life, in gratitude to God, EXISTS to use His Word to EXALT Him in everything we do; to EQUIP His children to serve others; to EVANGELIZE to those who don’t know Jesus as their Saviour; and to ENCOURAGE and EDIFY those who do.”

## OBJECTIVES

To accomplish this purpose we want to:

1. **EXALT** God by worshiping Him above all things, loving and glorifying Him with our hearts and lives. (WORSHIP)

1 Corinthians 10:31

*“So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.”*

2. **EQUIP** God’s children to praise Him for his gift of salvation by serving others in their spiritual and physical needs. (SERVICE)

Matthew 25:40

*“...I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of these brothers of mine, you did for me.”*

3. **EVANGELIZE** lost souls by taking every opportunity to share the good news of Jesus Christ in our community and throughout the world by our words, actions, and offerings. (EVANGELISM)

Mark 16:15

*“He said to them, “Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation.”*

4. **ENCOURAGE** and build each other up in Jesus Christ by gathering regularly in fellowship and Christian love. (FELLOWSHIP)

Ephesians 2:19

*“Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God’s people, and members of God’s household”*

5. **EDIFY** one another with God’s Word through personal and family devotions, regular worship, faithful use of the Sacraments, and active participation in Bible study so that we mature in our faith as disciples of Jesus. (DISCIPLESHIP)

2 Peter 3:18

*“But grow [keep on growing] in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.”*

## FORM 9: FIVE YEAR TRACKING FORM

**CURRENT YEAR:** 2002-2003      **CONGREGATION:** Cross of Life Lutheran Exploratory – Mississauga

MEMBERSHIP												
	Current Y-T-D 2002-2003		Last Year 2001-2002		2 years ago 2000-2001		3 years ago 1999-2000		4 years ago		5 years ago	
	Com.	Souls	Com.	Souls	Com	Soul	Com	Soul	Com	Soul	Com	Soul
Transfers in:	3	5	3	7	0	0	2	2				
Prof. of Faith:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				
Confirmations:	7	13	7	7	2	0	3	1				
Adult Baptisms:	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0				
Child Baptisms:	0	2	0	3	0	5	0	1				
Total Gains:	10	20	11	18	3	6	5	3				
Transfers out:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				
Releases (all types):	1	2	1	1	7	9	3	4				
Deaths:	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0				
Total Losses:	1	2	1	1	8	10	3	4				
<b>NET MEMBERSHIP:</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>34</b>				
CALLING ACTIVITY												
	Past.	Lay	Past.	Lay	Past.	Lay	Past.	Lay	Past.	Lay	Past.	Lay
Initial Survey Calls:	559	632	0	1400	1139	3173	3822	359				
Law/Gspl Present.:	181	6	95	5	115	61	39	0				
Calls on Prospects:												
By Telephone:	514	643	309	58	330	310	162	95				
Personal	1197	258	450	80	652	87	191	8				
Inreach Calls:	868	268	287	160	445	130	287	41				
No. of Prospects:	378		357		360		192					
ATTENDANCES												
Sun. worship (ave.)	51		27		24		18					
Visitors:												
1st time	151		114		90		58					
Repeat prospects:	742		419		306		96					
Non prospects:	69		90		228		54					
Adult B.C. (ave/wk)	8		7		8		11					
Youth B.C (ave/mo)	Na		Na		Na		Na					
Sun. Sch. (ave/wk)	14		3		5		Na					
BIC enrollment	14		10		3		2					
Prospects:	14		9		3		0					
Members:	0		1		0		2					
FINANCES – US Dollars												
Total local budget:	138,484		78,505		69,705		69,265					
Total local offerings:	25,586		13,059		10,295		11,203					
Special Gifts/Off.:	4843		571		182us-3096c		2884us-425cd					
SMO commitment:	1340		1340		1340		1340					
SMO remitted:	1340		1340		1340		1340					
Subsidies received:	118,391		63,535		59410		64,427					
CEF payment due:	0		0		0		0					
CEF pay. remitted:	0		0		0		0					

## FORM 9: FIVE YEAR TRACKING FORM

**CURRENT YEAR:** 2004-2005      **CONGREGATION:** Cross of Life Lutheran Church – Mississauga

MEMBERSHIP												
	Current Y-T-D 2004-5 (7 mo.)		Last Year 2003-2004		2 years ago 2002-2003		3 years ago 2001-2002		4 years ago 2000-2001		5 years ago 1999-2000	
	Com.	Souls	Com.	Souls	Com	Soul	Com	Soul	Com	Soul	Com	Soul
Transfers in:	2	4	7	10	3	5	3	7	0	0	2	2
Prof. of Faith:	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Confirmations:	8	15	8	8	7	13	7	7	2	0	3	1
Adult Baptisms:	0	0 (3)	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0
Child Baptisms:	0	2 (6)	0	5	0	2	0	3	0	5	0	1
Total Gains:	10	21	16	22	10	20	11	18	3	6	5	3
Transfers out:	0	0	3	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Releases (all types):	5	5	0	0	1	2	1	1	7	9	3	4
Deaths:	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
Total Losses:	6	6	4	8	1	2	1	1	8	10	3	4
<b>NET MEMBERSHIP:</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>34</b>
CALLING ACTIVITY												
	Past.	Lay	Past.	Lay	Past.	Lay	Past.	Lay	Past.	Lay	Past.	Lay
Initial Survey Calls:	3	100	6	2280	559	632	0	1400	1139	3173	3822	359
Law/Gspl Present.:	110	130	142	80	181	6	95	5	115	61	39	0
Calls on Prospects:												
By Telephone:	468	205	620	868	514	643	309	58	330	310	162	95
Personal	947	310	1240	436	1197	258	450	80	652	87	191	8
Inreach Calls:	942	460	1335	690	868	268	287	160	445	130	287	41
No. of Prospects:	400		410		378		357		360		192	
ATTENDANCES												
Sun. worship (ave.)	73		65		51		27		24		18	
Visitors:												
1st time	60		141		151		114		90		58	
Repeat prospects:	501		869		742		419		306		96	
Non prospects:	49		130		69		90		228		54	
Adult B.C. (ave/wk)	11		11		8		7		8		11	
Youth B.C (ave/mo)	7		4		Na		Na		Na		Na	
Sun. Sch. (ave/wk)	14		15		14		3		5		Na	
BIC enrollment	13		19		14		10		3		2	
Prospects:	12		18		14		9		3		0	
Members:	1		1		0		1		0		2	
FINANCES – Canadian Dollars												
Total local budget:	145,600		256,300		213,200		117,750		104,500		103,900	
Total local offerings:	39,500		60,840		38,188		19,600		15,500		16,800	
Special Gifts/Off.:	5,250		3,900		7,228		850		3,275		4,750	
SMO commitment:	3,250		5,200		2,000		2,000		2,000		2,000	
SMO remitted:	3,700		7,000		2,000		2,000		2,000		2,000	
Subsidies received:	120,375		202,900		175,012		95,300		89,000		96,650	
CEF payment due:	9,500		20,550		0		0		0		0	
CEF pay. remitted:	9,500		20,550		0		0		0		0	

## FORM 9: FIVE YEAR TRACKING FORM

**CURRENT YEAR:** 2006-2007      **CONGREGATION:** Cross of Life Lutheran Church – Mississauga

MEMBERSHIP												
	Current Y-T-D 2006/7 (5 mo.)		Last Year 2005-2006		2 years ago 2004-2005		3 years ago 2003-2004		4 years ago 2002-2003		5 years ago 2001-2002	
	Com.	Souls	Com.	Soul	Com	Soul	Com	Soul	Com	Soul	Com	Soul
Transfers in:	0	0	1	1	2	4	7	10	3	5	3	7
Prof. of Faith:	0	0	1	3	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
Confirmations:	5	10	10	8	16	27	8	8	7	13	7	7
Adult Baptisms:	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	1	1
Child Baptisms:	0	0	0	7	0	8	0	5	0	2	0	3
<b>Total Gains:</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>18</b>
Transfers out:	3	4	0	0	0	0	3	7	0	0	0	0
Releases (all types):	0	0	7	10	5	5	0	0	1	2	1	1
Deaths:	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Losses:</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>NET MEMBERSHIP:</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>43</b>
CALLING ACTIVITY												
	Past.	Lay	Past.	Lay	Past.	Lay	Past.	Lay	Past.	Lay	Past.	Lay
Initial Survey Calls:	0	0	7	0	6	100	6	2280	559	632	0	1400
Law/Gspl Present.:	61	25	138	60	161	165	142	80	181	6	95	5
Calls on Prospects:												
By Telephone:	214	95	582	335	586	385	620	868	514	643	309	58
Personal	404	115	1134	280	1343	600	1240	436	1197	258	450	80
Inreach Calls:	507	220	1705	540	1661	780	1335	690	868	268	287	160
<b>No. of Prospects:</b>	<b>433</b>		<b>412</b>		<b>415</b>		<b>410</b>		<b>378</b>		<b>357</b>	
ATTENDANCES												
Sun. worship (ave.)	77		75		75		65		51		27	
Visitors:												
1st time	59		134		156		141		151		114	
Repeat prospects:	389		796		800		869		742		419	
Non prospects:	16		71		75		130		69		90	
Adult B.C. (ave/wk)	35		17		13		11		8		7	
Youth B.C (ave/mo)	--		6		6		4		Na		Na	
Sun. Sch. (ave/wk)	14		12		12		15		14		3	
BIC enroll. (ave/mo)	8		7		12		19		14		10	
Prospects: (ave/mo)	6		5		8		18		14		9	
Members: (ave/mo)	2		2		4		1		0		1	
FINANCES – Canadian Dollars												
Total local budget:							256,300		213,200		117,750	
Total local offerings:							60,840		38,188		19,600	
Special Gifts/Off.:							3,900		7,228		850	
SMO commitment:							5,200		2,000		2,000	
SMO remitted:							7,000		2,000		2,000	
Subsidies received:							202,900		175,012		95,300	
CEF payment due:							20,550		0		0	
CEF pay. remitted:							20,550		0		0	

## Something deeper shared

It is a hot afternoon in July. A group of young kids is on a soccer field working on drills. They come from all sorts of backgrounds and have different colors of skin but the same blue T-shirts. Coaches encourage the kids and point out how they could do better.

Then, you hear a long whistle. "Grab a drink," the coaches tell the kids, "It is time to head to the bleachers for the Bible lesson!"

What? Bible lesson? I thought this was a soccer camp! It was. But it was also a Bible camp—Cross of Life's Soccer/Bible Camp, the first ever for this exploratory mission in Mississauga, Ontario.

The idea for a soccer camp hit me as I was jogging past the city soccer fields in the middle of our target area—a densely populated suburban neighborhood with many young families with little children. Soccer is popular among the youth here. Parents are paying \$150 for one-week soccer camps! My wife and I played soccer



Kids line up ready to practice a drill at the soccer/Bible camp at Cross of Life, Mississauga, Ontario. Besides practicing soccer, 84 children also learned about their Savior.

in college. I am even coaching a team now. Why not have a soccer camp where we also teach the children about Jesus?

And that is what we did. WELS Kingdom Workers recruited an eight-person team of coaches and helpers. We advertised with road signs and mailings, clearly indicating that we would be teaching kids about Jesus, but that we would also be practicing soccer skills. We charged \$15 to help cover costs, including T-shirts, water bottles, soccer balls, cones, jerseys, pumps, canopies, and a bunch of other things normally not in church budgets. Finally we spent some late nights preparing drills, game plans, devotions, skits, and lessons.

The Lord certainly blessed this program. Eighty-four children registered. And we averaged 80 kids every day! We had a lot of fun, and we believe that the kids got the messages we shared with them about Jesus.

The motto of the camp was "Soccer skills taught—something deeper shared." We illustrated each message about Jesus by using soccer skills and game situations. Good soccer was played, and good discussions were held about sin and grace and our wonderful Savior.

Through this program, we are getting the opportunity to share Jesus with a larger crowd. You see, none of the 84 children were members of our church. Many of them had never heard of Jesus. We added prospects to our list and got some positive exposure in our community. Most important, we were given an effective way to share the gospel with 80 kids each day. We know God will work through that Word.

Many parents remarked that they got a great deal out of this. We think their kids got a great deal! But the best thing we heard was when we asked an eight-year-old what her favorite part was. Her answer? "The pastor's messages about Jesus."

Joel Schulz

## One-stop shopping

Ordering WELS products just became easier.

If you are looking for a book, video, pamphlet, or other WELS product, the place to go is <www.shopWELS.net>. This new on-line "store" displays products from WELS departments and includes a link to Northwestern Publishing House's site.

According to Gary Baumler, director of WELS Communication Services, "The synod has been working toward a central clearinghouse for WELS materials for about five years. After researching the possibilities, the idea for shopWELS.net was born."

WELS' areas of ministry and Northwestern Publishing House made this central clearinghouse a reality by coordinating their efforts. WELS' areas of ministry compiled their materials and created the Web site to display and order them, while Northwestern Publishing House is storing materials and processing orders. WELS Communication Services' staff is maintaining and updating the site and answering any questions that customers may have about products.

Debbie Kamin, shopWELS.net help desk specialist, explains, "It's nice because customers can see what they are ordering on-line. The Web site provides customers with both a short and long description of the product and a picture."

Visit the new site and enjoy the luxury of one-stop shopping for your WELS product needs.

*If you prefer ordering over the phone, call Northwestern Publishing House, 800/662-6022. For questions about shopWELS.net products, call Debbie Kamin toll-free at 866/283-5719.*

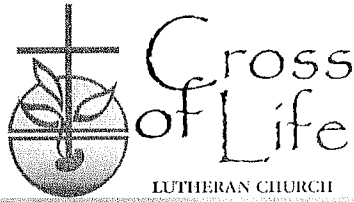
## About Your Missionary Joel Schulz

Pastor Joel Schulz grew up in South Dakota and Wisconsin, where his father is also a pastor. Joel attended Martin Luther Prep School, Northwestern College, and Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary, and began his ministry as a Tutor at Michigan Lutheran Seminary. He met his wife, Dawn Koelpin, while he was a student at the Seminary. She graduated from Martin Luther College and received a call to teach grade school in Vassar, Michigan. Dawn taught 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> grade there for one year. They were married in 1997 and began a joint ministry as tutors for Michigan Lutheran Seminary in Saginaw, Michigan.

Pastor Joel and Dawn Schulz moved to Mississauga in 1999, after Joel received a call to start an exploratory mission there. They began their ministry by holding church services in the Living Arts Centre (a downtown civic centre), but realized the great need to minister to a new development in the NW corner of Mississauga. They moved to a parsonage within walking distance of a school that they could rent for church services.

Both of their children were born in Canada. Jonah was born on July 4, 2000, and Elijah came on April 28, 2002. Dawn enjoys being home with the boys, teaching piano lessons, serving as organist and choir director, and leading Women's Bible Study.





Pastor Joel Schulz  
3964 Beacham Street  
Mississauga, ON, L5N 6S9  
joel.schulz@on.aibn.com  
905-785-6765

April 11, 2002

Dear Friends of Cross of Life,

It is time to announce Cross of Life **Soccer Camp 2002**, being held **July 8-12**, at **Lisgar Park Soccer Fields**. After we had so much fun with your children last year, we are really looking forward to it again! Like last year, the camp will be on Monday to Friday, from **1:00 to 4:00 pm**. It will be for children age 6-13.

This year, we have again figured that we can facilitate 90 kids in our camp, and will take applications on a first come, first serve basis. We want all of you, who have either attended our 4 Kids events in the past or were at our soccer camp last summer, to have the first chance at registering your kids. That is why we have sent this letter to you to give you a couple of weeks before the signs go up and it is a "free-for-all." We hope you found our Soccer/Bible Camp worthwhile last year, and that we will see you on the pitch again this summer!

I am excited to announce that the level of quality at our Soccer Camp this summer will even be improved from last year. We will have 10 university players, including a couple coaches, who are quite excellent in their soccer skills. I have even taken a few coaching clinics myself and am now qualified as a Level II youth soccer coach. Again, the soccer camp is going to be a real soccer camp in which we learn, practice and improve our individual skills, teamwork, and knowledge of the game of soccer. It will be appropriate for anyone from beginners to city rep players. All the participants will be given REAL soccer jerseys and quality water bottles to use during camp and keep as souvenirs of their experience. This year we are asking you to send us their shirt sizes.

The camp's theme this year is "**SOCCKER IS MY GAME – JESUS IS MY LIFE.**" Being a Bible-teaching church, we also again plan to share the message of God's love with the children who participate. This camp serves as a sort of vacation Bible school as well. Besides helping them pass and dribble better, we plan on sharing with them the amazing way that God showed his love to us by sending Jesus to give us real life! We will be using soccer to show many parallels between that game and the important game of life with God.

We will be having a "**F.E.A.S.T!**" These will be our objectives: 1) To have **FUN!** 2) That **EVERYONE** is involved. 3) To have lots of **ACTIVITY!** 4) To work on **SKILLS**. 5) To improve our **TEAMWORK**. We also will be having a spiritual "feast" by learning more about a loving God. And finally, there will always be tasty refreshments for the kids to feast on each day!

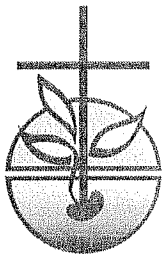
With some of the improvements we made this year, and with how much money it cost us last year, unfortunately we had to make the cost a little more realistic this year. It will be \$40 per child, and \$30 for any *brothers or sisters of the first child at full price*. However, we don't want anyone to be excluded because of the cost! If the price prohibits your children from coming, give me a call and we will find a way for them to come.

So, if you are interested in the soccer camp, mail in the enclosed application with your cheque payable to "Cross of Life" to the address above. You can also register online at [www.crossoflife.net](http://www.crossoflife.net), but will have to complete application with payment later. **Don't delay! The deadline for applications is June 3!** Applications will be processed on a first come, first serve basis. The sooner the better so we can get their shirt sizes for the jerseys! Each child must bring their own shin guards (mandatory) and soccer shoes (not mandatory).

If you have any questions, call me at 905-785-6765 or email me at [joel.schulz@on.aibn.com](mailto:joel.schulz@on.aibn.com). Hope to see you in July!

God bless,

Pastor Schulz



**Cross of Life Soccer Camp 200-**  
**July 8-12 – Lisgar Soccer Fields**  
*“Soccer Is My Game...Jesus Is My Life”*



**PARTICIPANT APPLICATION FORM**

Parent's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Church Home \_\_\_\_\_

Anything we should know about the health of any participating children with relevance to the activities we have planned \_\_\_\_\_

Who to contact in case of emergency \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

1<sup>st</sup> Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Yrs. Soccer Experience \_\_\_\_\_  
 Health Card # \_\_\_\_\_ **Shirt Size** \_\_\_\_\_

2<sup>nd</sup> Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Yrs. Soccer Experience \_\_\_\_\_  
 Health Card # \_\_\_\_\_ **Shirt Size** \_\_\_\_\_

3<sup>rd</sup> Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Yrs. Soccer Experience \_\_\_\_\_  
 Health Card # \_\_\_\_\_ **Shirt Size** \_\_\_\_\_

4<sup>th</sup> Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Yrs. Soccer Experience \_\_\_\_\_  
 Health Card # \_\_\_\_\_ **Shirt Size** \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Jersey Sizes</b>  <b>Youth</b> <b>XS,S,M,L</b>  <b>Adult</b> <b>S, M, L, XL,</b> <b>XXL</b>
---

Kids must be age 6-13. They are responsible to bring their own soccer shoes, shin guards (mandatory!), and sunscreen (recommended!). We are providing Soccer Camp Jerseys, water bottles, and daily snacks. To cover expenses, there is a \$40 fee per child. It will be \$30 for every family member after the first child. Cheques can be made out to "Cross of Life." Space is limited – first come, first serve. Being prepaid makes it easier on July 8!

\_\_\_\_\_ Total amount \_\_\_\_\_ Cheque enclosed \_\_\_\_\_ I will pay when I drop my child off

**THE PARTICIPANT IS RESPONSIBLE FOR HIS OR HER OWN MEDICAL COVERAGE**

NOTICE OF WARNING: There is a potential risk in training and participating in any sport, and we have tried to create a safe environment. The coaches have established rules for participation, and proper conduct on or about the playing field must be followed.

AGREEMENT: I have read and understand the policies and the risk involved. I hereby agree that my children will follow all rules for good order and safety during this camp. I agree and understand that neither Cross of Life Lutheran Church, nor any of the volunteers involved are liable for any injuries received while participating or playing in the activity for which I am registering herein, or for the loss or damage to equipment. I agree that I shall make no claim and bring no action, suit, or proceeding for any and all damages, losses, liabilities, or costs in any manner suffered or incurred as a result of my participating in the activity for which I am registering herein, and I hereby release Cross of Life Lutheran Church and its officers, directors, and pastor, the City of Mississauga, and the Region of Peel District School Board from any and all damages, liabilities, or costs in this regard.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE INFORMATION IS CORRECT AND COMPLETE. I UNDERSTAND AND AGREE WITH IT.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 SIGNATURE OF PARENT OR GUARDIAN

\_\_\_\_\_  
 DATE

PLEASE FILL OUT THIS APPLICATION AND SEND WITH CHEQUE TO:

CROSS OF LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH  
 3964 BEACHAM STREET  
 MISSISSAUGA, ON L5N 6S9

<b>APPLICATION DEADLINE:</b> <b>JUNE 3, 200-</b>
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# CROSS OF LIFE SOCCER CAMP 2002 CHECKLIST

- \_\_\_\_\_ Reserve Soccer Fields
- \_\_\_\_\_ Get liability insurance on fields
- \_\_\_\_\_ Recruit coaching team
- \_\_\_\_\_ Organize coaching team's trip
- \_\_\_\_\_ Get coaching team's uniform sizes
- \_\_\_\_\_ Set up theme and structure of camp
- \_\_\_\_\_ Create poster, info letter, and applications
- \_\_\_\_\_ Mail poster, info letter, and applications to Kids' mailing list
- \_\_\_\_\_ Reserve Road signs for advertising
- \_\_\_\_\_ Order Water bottles
- \_\_\_\_\_ Design Camp jersey logo
- \_\_\_\_\_ Receive and compile all participants' shirt sizes by June 3
- \_\_\_\_\_ Order Soccer Jerseys & coach uniforms after June 3
- \_\_\_\_\_ Get balls
- \_\_\_\_\_ Get cones
- \_\_\_\_\_ Get canopies
- \_\_\_\_\_ Get pinneys
- \_\_\_\_\_ Get whistles, ball bags, clip boards
- \_\_\_\_\_ Get goal nets
- \_\_\_\_\_ Get tape and mallet
- \_\_\_\_\_ Get first aid kit
- \_\_\_\_\_ Get plenty of large water containers
- \_\_\_\_\_ Develop spreadsheet with all participant's information
- \_\_\_\_\_ Organize registration process
- \_\_\_\_\_ Recruit registration helpers
- \_\_\_\_\_ Get cash to give change on day
- \_\_\_\_\_ Recruit photographer (possibly parent and let kids come free)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Buy plenty of film for camera and recharge videocam batteries
- \_\_\_\_\_ Make posters for site and other directional items
- \_\_\_\_\_ Plan and obtain treats
- \_\_\_\_\_ Organize lesson plan for each day
- \_\_\_\_\_ Organize and compile all soccer games and drills
- \_\_\_\_\_ Plan and compose 5 soccer skill demonstrations
- \_\_\_\_\_ Plan and compose 5 children's scripture lessons and activities
- \_\_\_\_\_ Plan TCW Coaching Team's stay here on site
- \_\_\_\_\_ Assemble all equipment to be transported to site daily
- \_\_\_\_\_ Get plenty of rest prior to week
- \_\_\_\_\_ Pray for energy and the Lord's blessing!

# Cross of Life Soccer Camp

Day 2 – Tuesday, July 17

## “Dribbling”

- 1:00 – 1:15**     **ROLL CALL**
- We will give 15 minutes to everyone to get here and be ready to go. Trust me, it will take this long. We will check off each child as they get here. If we can start earlier, great!
- 1:15 – 1:30**     **WARM-UP AND STRETCHING**
- Each age group will divide up and do an Indian Run around the field twice. We may call it something different than that. I will demonstrate it.
  - Each group leader leads their group in full round of stretches. Make sure they stretch well. We don't want muscle pulls.
- 1:30 – 1:45**     **“DRIBBLING”**
- All the age groups will be brought together and led in a presentation on dribbling by me (Pastor Schulz).(have kids get water) The basic concept I will try to teach is *control*. The object of dribbling is to make sure that the ball never gets too far in front of you. You always want to stay “hooked up” to it. We will demonstrate the difference between what happens when someone is dribbling well, and how easy it is for the defender to steal the ball when it is far out in front of you.
- 1:45 – 3:00**     **DRILLS WORKING ON DRIBBLING (With a water break in the middle)**
- Each age group will split up and work on appropriate drills that practice dribbling. We will set out cones and have them weave through them. We can have races between different “teams.” We will teach the 3-person weave with the older groups. We will have some keep-away type offense/defense drills. Have two people trying to keep it away from each other. Have the “go for the ball” drill. Other drills...
- 3:00 – 3:30**     **SOMETHING DEEPER FROM THE BIBLE**
- Kids can all get **water bottles and oranges** and rest in the shade. Pastor will teach a Bible truth about staying hooked up to the Word of God. With dribbling, it is SO important for you to keep ball near you, stay hooked up with it! If it gets too far away, someone will snatch it up! Demonstrate this with volunteer participant. *Devotion on the Parable of the Sower (Matthew 13:1-23) with application to John 15, to teach the lesson of how important it is for us to stay hooked up with Jesus through his Word. Unlike dribbling, when you are hooked up closely with the Word, ON ONE can take that away from you! It doesn't matter whether you are Pele' or a beginner. It all depends on God and his grace!*
- 3:30 – 4:00**     **SCRIMMAGE!**
- Divide into teams with various age groups, hand out pennys, have group leaders involved, and play a scrimmage for the rest of the day, stressing dribbling and ball-handling. We can also build on the rules we learned yesterday.
- 4:00 PM**     **DISMISSAL (hand out treats, talk with parents, invite kids to Bible Camp)**

\* Note to all Group Leaders:

Make sure the kids get plenty of water all during the day. Let's try to schedule regular water breaks, and have all the water bottles in one place so that it limits our down time. But don't deny a kid water who needs it. We aren't at preseason football camp. Above all, be watching in your groups that each participant is playing and practicing safely. Quickly settle disputes, if we would ever run into a problem there. Let's not take any chances on letting injuries happen that could be avoided.

# Cross of Life Soccer Camp



***“Soccer skills taught...  
Something deeper shared.”***

Invite your children, age 6-13, to participate in this soccer camp that our church is putting on. It is a 5-day camp that will be held on the Lisgar Park soccer fields just south of Lisgar Public School. It is an actual soccer camp that will be run by Joel Schulz, the pastor of Cross of Life, who played four years at university level and has coaching experience. He will be assisted by eight university students who also have soccer experience. Actual skills will be taught and practiced. Along with those skills being practiced, the kids will also receive insight into something more important – the message of God's love in the Bible – and how that can apply to their lives, all in the context of the game of soccer! T-shirts and water bottles will be provided. Kids should bring soccer shoes and shin guards. There is a \$15 fee for expenses. Register by June 29, 2001.

**Monday, July 16**

***-The Rules of the Game***

**Tuesday, July 17**

***-Dribbling***

**Wednesday, July 18**

***-Passing***

**Thursday, July 19**

***-Shooting***

**Friday, July 20**

***-Teamwork***

**Lisgar Park Soccer Field**

**1:00 PM to 4:00 PM**

**July 16 - July 20**

**Kids age 6-13**

**\$15 / child for the week**

**Call 905-785-6765 for questions.**



# Cross of Life Soccer Camp

## Day 2 Drill Stations

- 1:00 – 1:15** Roll call -Each coach takes team through roll call to see who is there.
- 1:15-1:30** Warm-Up and Stretching
- 1:30 – 1:45** “DRIBBLING” -Group explanation of the basics of dribbling
- 1:45 – 3:00** **DRILLS WORKING ON DRIBBLING**
- 5-6** Dribbling around cones  
Dribbling Relays  
Cops and Robbers  
Circle Tag  
Bees  
Sharks and Minnows  
Wave Game
- 7-8** Dribbling around cones  
Dribbling relays  
3 man weave  
Ball Thief  
Cops and Robbers  
Circle Tag  
Bees  
Sharks and Minnows  
Wave Game
- 9** Dribbling around cones  
Dribbling relays  
3 man weave  
Ball Thief  
Cops and Robbers  
Circle Tag  
Sharks and Minnows  
Wave Game  
Four Squares Gauntlet  
Scrimmaging  
3 on 2, 4 on 3
- 10-13** Dribbling around cones  
Dribbling relays  
3 man weave  
Ball Thief  
Cops and Robbers  
Circle Tag  
Sharks and Minnows  
Wave Game  
Four Squares Gauntlet  
Scrimmaging  
3 on 2, 4 on 3
- 3:00 – 3:30** **SOMETHING DEEPER FROM THE BIBLE**
- 3:30 – 4:00** **SCRIMMAGING**

Cross of Life Soccer Camp Message  
Day 4, July 11, 2002

“THE CROSS”

Texts Used: Matthew 27:45-54, John 3:16, Romans 3, 1 John 2:2

How is everyone doing so far? Having fun? Great – we should be having fun! Soccer is a game – it is supposed to be fun! Our life, on the other hand, is more important than a game. Many things about life are very serious. But life can also be fun. It is fun when we have Jesus in our lives! In order to make it *fun*, though, Jesus had to do something very *serious*. It is time to have our talk about soccer and Jesus again...

How many of you saw the World Cup Final: Brazil v. Germany? (*response*) What an exciting game that was! There was one offensive play that both of those teams used so well that gave them many chances to score goals. Do you know what that play was? (*response*) It was the “CROSS.” How many of you know what a “*cross*” in soccer is? (*response*) A cross is when one of the players on your team kicks the ball all the way from the side of the field into the middle of the field, right in front of the goal, where your forwards are waiting to head or kick it into the goal. It normally arches up over the heads of the defenders so they can’t stop it. If the cross is placed just right, there is nothing the defenders can do about it. *In soccer, a good cross is very effective in scoring goals and winning the game!* **Have coaches demonstrate good and bad crosses. The defenders can humorously get all bungled up when the ball goes over their heads.**

*In soccer, a good cross is very effective in winning the game. In life, the CROSS is absolutely necessary to win the game!* Do you know which cross I am talking about? (*response*) That’s right, I am talking about the cross that Jesus had to die on. Do you know why? Let me tell you why with a story...

Once upon a time, there was a very powerful king. Whenever he made a law, the people followed it. He was wise and loving and fair and just. He took care of his people, was fair to them, and in turn, they liked him a lot too. He loved his family and took care of his aging, frail queen mother, who was very sick. He was a good king. One day, this king made a law that on a certain day of the year, every one of his subjects should give something to the poor to help them out. And if anyone refused to obey this law, they would be handcuffed in the town square in front of all the people, and be publicly whipped. So the king made the law and everyone obeyed it. Everyone, that is, except for his poor, frail, old mother. She broke the law. And the king said that anyone who broke the law would have to be beaten. What could the king do? If he had his mother whipped, she would die, because that would be too much for her to take. And that wouldn’t be showing a lot of love! But if he didn’t, then that wouldn’t be showing a lot of justice? Who would obey the king’s laws anymore? He would no longer be a just king! So what did the king do? How could he be both loving *and* fair? Do you know what he did? He put himself in handcuffs in the town square for everyone to see, and then had himself publicly whipped. *He took the beating for his mother, so she wouldn’t have to!* This way, he showed both his love *and* his fairness! And the people loved him even more!

This is what God did for us with the cross. God is fair and just – He demands that we be perfect and make no mistakes. And if we aren’t perfect, He says that the punishment will be death in hell. But God is also very loving! He wants us to be in heaven with Him forever! Well, just like the king’s mother, you and I have disobeyed God. We have not been nice to our parents, friends, brothers, sisters, and neighbors. We have not always put God first in our lives. So God should punish us, right? He has to, because He is fair and just. But God loves us way too much to punish us with death and separate us from Him! He wants us to be in heaven with Him! So what could He do? Just like that king, He took the punishment out on Himself! He took the punishment out on his own Son, Jesus, so that He wouldn’t have to take it out on us. Jesus came here to die on a CROSS to pay the punishment for all those sins of ours, so that God could still be just and fair, but so that God could also show how much He loves us! He knew that we could have never survived that punishment, just like the king’s mother couldn’t. So He took it himself on the CROSS.

In soccer, a good cross is very effective in winning the game. In life, the CROSS that Jesus died on is absolutely necessary for you and I to “win the game”! That cross was the way that God could still be fair and show how much He loves you and me! That cross is the thing that shows how much God loves us! That cross is the thing that guarantees that God and us are on good terms now and that we will be in heaven forever! I once asked Jesus how much He loved me. “This much?” I asked. He stretched his arms out wide and said, “This is how much I love you!” *This is how much Jesus loves each of you! This is what He was willing to do for you!* The cross means that you will be with Him forever!

# CROSS OF LIFE

## MISSISSAUGA, ONTARIO

### Finding the common denominator

Julie K. Wietzke

It's Friday night. Reggae music is playing in the background. People are talking and laughing. Some begin moving to the beat. Soon everyone in the room—including a 75-year-old Romanian man—is dancing to the island music.

What doesn't belong here? (This is a trick question!) Actually nothing and no one is out of place. This is a typical gathering for Cross of Life, Mississauga, Ontario, Canada, a mission congregation of 63 members from more than 12 different nationalities.

Although members come from various cultures and races, they all have something in common—faith in their Savior and the desire to spread that faith into the diverse, multicultural city of Mississauga.

### Finding the right location

Located right outside of Toronto, Mississauga is considered one of the fastest growing cities in Canada due to the number of immigrants settling in the area. Houses are being built by the thousands to accommodate the people. But the neighborhoods aren't defined by culture.

"All different people from all different races are really scattered around," says Joel Schulz, pastor at Cross of Life. "Down most of our streets, it's hard to find three houses in a row of people with the same skin color, culture, or racial background."

Holding worship services in its target neighborhood provides common ground to the community-minded group of Cross of Life's members and prospects.

Yet Schulz didn't know this when he first came to Mississauga in 1999. He was assigned to restart an exploratory that had been working out of the neighboring community of Oakville. To stay close to existing members, he began holding worship in a plush civic center in downtown Mississauga, about 15 minutes away from his target neighborhood.

Schulz invited people to services, used Travel-Canvass-Witness teams, and "basically became a telemarketer." Although it was building its prospect list, Cross of Life only had about 30 to 40 visitors in the first year and a half. "We were too far away," says



Members of a Travel-Canvass-Witness team teach neighborhood children about soccer and Jesus at a one-week soccer/Bible camp.

Schulz. "We thought we needed a 'nice' place to meet, but [prospects] didn't care what the building looked like. They wanted something they could walk to."

When the church had no visitors on Christmas Eve 2000, members decided that night that the church needed a new location.

Two months later Cross of Life began holding services in a school gym in the middle of its target area. New visitors came every week in that first month. Since then Cross of Life has had hundreds of visitors each year and is well-known in its community.

### Building relationships

But it didn't become well-known overnight. Moving into the target neighborhood helped, but the members needed to gain trust and build relationships with the people whom they were serving. Because the church's neighborhood had more kids age seven and under than any other Toronto neighborhood, the congregation knew that it needed to reach out to the children.

After having several successful one-day programs for neighborhood children, the church's prospect list continued to grow. But Schulz felt that something more was needed. In spring 2001, he came up with the idea of having an event that would appeal to all cultures—a one-week soccer/Bible camp. By interspersing soccer



drills with Bible truths, Schulz and members of a Travel-Canvass-Witness team reached 85 children with the truth about Jesus and strengthened the church's community image.

Those children then shared the message of God's truth with their parents, and some of those parents began attending Bible information classes. Three families joined the church; others are still in classes. Plans are in place for the fourth annual camp this summer.

### Showing love

While all these things may have helped get their foot in the door, God's true Word and members filled with love for each other and the lost keep people coming back.

Lloyd Stacey, who was formerly unchurched, attended Cross of Life for the first time when his sister and brother-in-law were visiting him and encouraged him to attend. He went back the following week. "My eyes were opened as if for the first time," says Stacey. "I can recall a voice inside me saying, 'Where have you been all this time? You need to be here!' I have had a hunger for God's Word ever since."

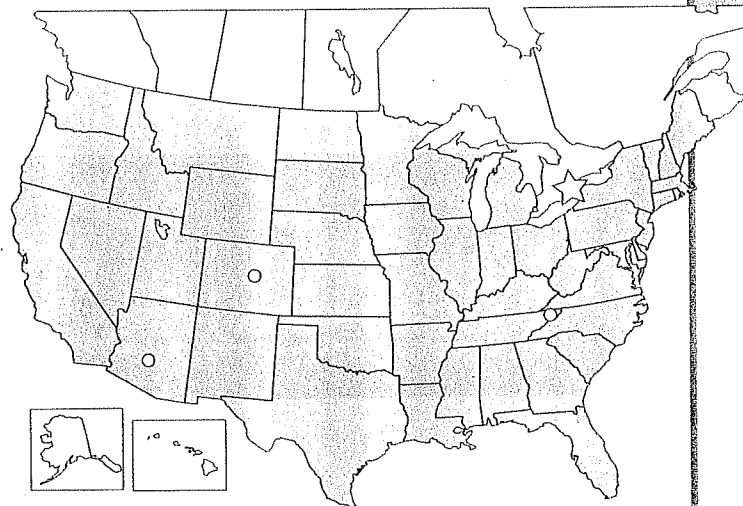


Neighborhood children at a one-day Bible camp called "Noah's Ark 4 Kids."

Lester Chandoo never went to church in Trinidad because "at home, church was a big fashion show." He attended several churches after he and his wife moved to Canada in the mid 1980s. But only after he took Bible information classes at Cross of Life did he see the whole truth and feel the love of his Savior and his family in Christ. "It's different to see the joy and fellowship that you have on a Sunday and even on days other than Sunday," says Chandoo. "[In other churches] people invite you because they know what you do or who you are. They don't invite you because you're a person. Here you're treated like people."

And you're treated like friends. "We have fellowship every Sunday after worship, and I can see and feel genuine love," says Stacey. Members and prospects also regularly get together during the week for fellowship

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## QUICK FACTS

Cross of Life, <[www.crossoflife.net](http://www.crossoflife.net)>:

- is located in a highly unchurched area. One Mississauga pastor stated, "If five percent of people went to church on Sunday, there wouldn't be enough churches to go to."
- has members from countries such as the United States, Canada, Romania, Trinidad and Tobago, Jamaica, Barbados, Guyana, Vietnam, China, Brazil, and Colombia.
- has 14 people attending four different Bible information classes a week.
- has nine people in the Congregational Evangelist program.

events—or just for dinner. Members are excited about the Word and are making connections with others so they can share their joy.

### Plans for the future

In September 2003, Cross of Life entered the Mission Development Phase of the Board for Home Missions and is on its way to being self-supporting. Members are excited by the news: "It provides me with a level of comfort that my new church is going to be around, and I don't have to worry about looking for another one," says Stacey.

But challenges still abound. The school gymnasium works well for worship, but Schulz and Staff Minister Kevin Walker hold all meetings, Bible classes, and some fellowship events in their homes. If classes keep growing, space will become an issue. Even though a land search committee has been formed, land is scarce, so scarce that hardly any churches in Mississauga have their own building. Prices are high as well, with four or five acres of land costing millions of dollars.

Yet the zeal for saving souls continues to bring this diverse group together. "It's exciting seeing God's Word work," says Schulz, "not only as we grow in numbers but also as we grow in faith."

*Julie Wietzke is a senior communications assistant for Forward in Christ magazine and WELS Communication Services.*

## Truth vs. tradition

The Hispanic Outreach Center at First Lutheran, Green Bay, Wis., is helping people peel away tradition to discover God's truths.

Timothy Flunker

Alfonso is a well-traveled, intelligent young man from Mexico. His father, a landowner in the central state of San Luis Potosí, was well respected by all those who lived and worked around him. Sunday after Sunday, Alfonso would travel to town with his family so that his father could make an appearance at the town's Catholic church. Why did they go? It was what they were supposed to do.

Alfonso received an education, worked for Ford Motor Company in Mexico, and after his mother passed away and his father's land was sold, he came to work in the United States with his brother. Because he wanted to improve his English skills, he came to the Hispanic Outreach Center at First Lutheran in Green Bay, Wis. Other volunteers and I began to develop a relationship with him, and soon he was in the weekly Wednesday evening Bible class.

As we studied the gospel of Mark, Alfonso was amazed at what he read. When we read that Jesus healed the demon-possessed individual by sending the demons into a herd of pigs, Alfonso's mouth dropped open. Although I noticed his surprise, I ignored him as I asked questions of the other students. I finally gave my undivided attention to Alfonso.

"What is your question, Alfonso?"

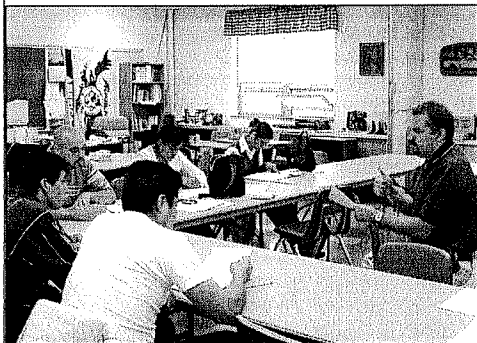
He answered, "I never would have believed it, until I read it. Jesus has the power to exorcise demons! I thought that only the priest could do that."

Imagine that! Here was a learned individual who had spent many hours within the walls of the Catholic church. Yet he didn't know what power the Son of God truly had. A curious person, who lived a life inside a tradition that had so blinded him from the truth, now drinks that truth weekly, eagerly anticipating the next opportunity.

It really shouldn't come as a surprise that there are people who don't understand the power of the Son of God. It shouldn't surprise us that many don't know the full extent of God's love for the world—so great a love that he gave his one and only Son to save the world from its sins. What could surprise us is how many of those close to us don't know what Jesus has done for them.

WELS is focusing on North American Outreach. There are many people like Alfonso in the world, people who are still trapped in a gospel-less tradition—people who may live near you. You and I have the gospel. Let us share it with everyone.

*Timothy Flunker serves as the Northern Wisconsin District Hispanic Outreach Coordinator.*



Timothy Flunker (far right) coordinates outreach to Hispanics in the Northern Wisconsin District.

## Silvia, soccer camps, and serving Jesus

Silvia didn't realize all that would come from bringing her sons to soccer camp at Cross of Life, Mississauga, Ontario, Canada.

Joel Schulz

Meet Silvia Portaluppi. That's right, Portaluppi. It's not a German name, and Silvia didn't grow up in the Midwest. She grew up in Brazil and Ecuador. She was not brought up in WELS or in a Lutheran church. Her family had some Catholic roots. She met her husband, Jaime, in New Orleans. They moved to Ecuador, where their two sons, Marco and Raphael, were born. There they spoke Portuguese and Spanish at home, even though Silvia and Jaime also knew how to speak English. Their next move took them to Mississauga in Ontario, Canada. The boys began going to schools where English was spoken. Now they speak English as their second language.

One of the "languages" they spoke before English was soccer. That's how we met Silvia, Marco, and Rafael. They came to Cross of Life's first Soccer-Bible Camp in 2001. And as soon as they met us, they loved us so much, that they just joined our church on the spot!

No, I'm just kidding. They didn't do that. But they did like our camp enough to come back in 2002. And again in 2003. And, after prodding Marco a bit, again in 2004. All involved with the soccer camp observed what a wonderful woman Silvia was and what great boys her sons were. After camp we worked on following up and getting to know them better. Thank the Lord, we didn't scare them off. Sometime between the 2003 and 2004 camps, Silvia began studying the Bible with us so that she could learn to know Jesus better.

In fall 2004, Silvia was confirmed as a member of our congregation. Now her oldest son is being taught catechism by Silvia, with guidance from me and other members who are also growing by teaching their children in their homes. Silvia and Marco are making a great mother-son connection, while Marco learns about his Savior and Silvia learns more as she teaches.

Her Savior is moving Silvia to become active in serving him with her life and through the ministries of our church. Just recently, Silvia and Jaime began hosting our staff ministry intern, Michelle Mozak, who is learning with us for six months. What a blessing to the congregation and God's kingdom! Silvia responds, "It is really a blessing to have been touched by such amazing people at Cross of Life."

God puts interesting and wonderful people into his world. Ours is the joy and privilege to do all we can to find them, engage them, and share Jesus' love and Word with them. Give it a try! Cherish the blessings!

*Joel Schulz is pastor at Cross of Life, Mississauga, Ontario, Canada.*



*Cross of Life, Mississauga, Ontario, Canada, has held an annual Soccer-Bible Camp each summer since 2001. The camp has a dual purpose—to teach children soccer skills and to teach them about their Savior.*

## Virtual Bethlehem 2004 update

An update on a Winter 2005 Mission Connection article.

Mollie Schweppe

In December 2004, 850 visitors saw and heard the true Christmas story through Virtual Bethlehem, an interactive, life-size tour of the first Christmas. This was the second consecutive year that Tree of Life, Cary, N. C., presented this free event to its community.

In 2004, Tree of Life expanded Virtual Bethlehem by targeting specific groups. Advertising to home schoolers drew more than 70 home-schooled children and their parents the first day of the event, which ran three weekends. Members who staffed the event also accommodated elderly guests needing assistance and Spanish speakers. Tree of Life prayerfully visited individuals without a

church home. This year, four new, unchurched families expressed interest in Tree of Life after attending Virtual Bethlehem.

Guests' comments show how God worked through Virtual Bethlehem to bring each visitor closer to him:

† "Virtual Bethlehem made me think about the true sacrifice of Jesus," wrote one guest.

† "My kids talked about what they learned all year long," wrote a parent who also attended with her family in 2003.

† The event "strengthened my faith and helped

me to tell the Christmas story to my daughter," wrote another parent.

Whether the visitors were children or seniors, English speaking or non-English speaking, churched or unchurched, God used Virtual Bethlehem to reach them and show them his love.

*Mollie Schweppe is a member of Tree of Life, Cary, North Carolina.*



# Building bridges in a multi-cultured neighborhood

Using imagery from the World Cup, a congregation uses soccer to show that God loves all people.

Joel Schultz

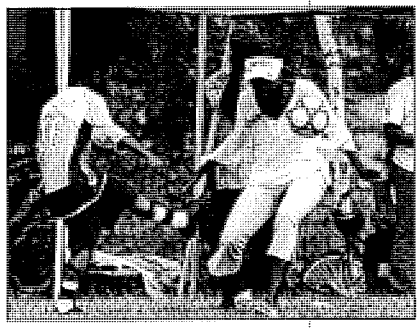
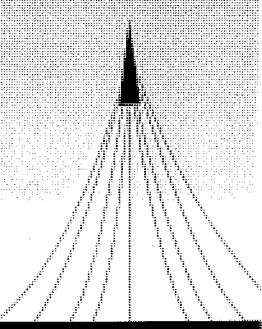
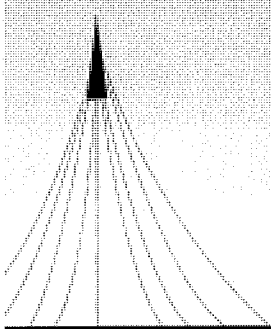
As we gathered together for the first time since the year of Missions, United, The Lord blessed our soccer club camp and the opportunities it gave to build bridges. The camp began six years ago with an attendance of 25. This year 167 children attended. All of them learned John 3:16 and recited it by

heart. They were able to show that they are people of the world that God loves. On the closing day we had a free BBQ picnic for all the families so we could meet them and build bridges with them. Over 400 people enjoyed hot dogs, chips, and

the team. They were able to show that they are people of the world that God loves. On the closing day we had a free BBQ picnic for all the families so we could meet them and build bridges with them. Over 400 people enjoyed hot dogs, chips, and

They also witnessed all their children recite that passage blessed for the whole neighborhood to hear. God certainly blessed it. One set of grandparents from a neighboring city brought their grandchildren in the

They were able to show that they are people of the world that God loves. On the closing day we had a free BBQ picnic for all the families so we could meet them and build bridges with them. Over 400 people enjoyed hot dogs, chips, and



# Bringing Jesus to more than 25 nationalities

A fresh approach to purpose yields gratifying blessings.

Carl W. Leyrer

One of the newest schools in our church body is also taking a new approach—not to education, but to purpose, objective, and funding. Divine Savior Academy (DSA) in Doral (Miami), Fla., opened in 2004 with an enrollment of 33 children. Many blessings have ensued. For the 2006-07 school year we anticipate an opening enrollment of 145-150 students ranging from K4 through sixth grade. Each year we will add another grade. DSA had originally planned to stop at the eighth grade (end of middle school). However, reflecting the wishes of the parents and the community, new plans are to

extend the school through the 12th grade. There is more to DSA than just serving as a great educational institution. From the beginning, the purpose of the school has been to be an outreach arm of the congregation. As a result, the majority of the students come from the community. Having the school gives Divine Savior the opportunity to share the promises of Jesus with children and also to make contact with parents. The God-given blessings have been most gratifying. There have been baptisms, and some families are once again connecting with Christ

because of our academy and church. There are a number of external aspects that make DSA different from many WELS schools. Miami is a culturally diverse city. Latinos are by far the majority population, and the school reflects that. The student body comes from the Pacific Rim, Europe, almost all the countries of South and Central America, not to mention many of the Caribbean Islands. Altogether, over 25 nationalities are represented. All the children at Divine Savior Academy wear uniforms. DSA is a tuition-based school and is completely self-supporting.



Students at Divine Savior Academy attend a Friday chapel service wearing their "spirit shirts." A new school, DSA students currently represent over 25 nationalities that are receiving God's Word on a daily basis.

Initial survey work indicated that the community was looking for high quality education in a safe and moral environment. From the favorable comments of the parents and the community, witnessed by the growth of the school, we have been able to reach those objectives with God's help. In the process, we

have also been able to develop a level of rapport and trust that allow us to share God's Word not only with the students but also their families.

Carl W. Leyrer is pastor at Divine Savior, Doral, Fla.

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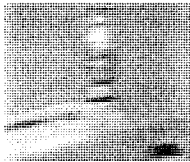


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About Mississauga



Formed in 1974, Mississauga is now recognized as Canada's 6<sup>th</sup> largest and fastest growing major city with a population of 695,000 residents representing cultures from around the world.

**Mississauga Is Canada's Gateway**

Mississauga is home to Lester B. Pearson International Airport and the greatest concentration of major highways in the country, all of which position Mississauga to serve local, national and international markets and travelers. Local public transit is linked to Toronto and other neighbouring cities, offering a comprehensive network of bus, subway and commuter train routes.

**Mississauga Is Safe**

Recognized for being the safest city in Canada, Mississauga is a known major focal point for commercial activity, rich in arts, cultural facilities, parks, entertainment, nightlife and world class sport and recreational facilities for all interests that attract residents and visitors alike. Full of tremendous shopping opportunities and home to Square One, Ontario's largest mall, Mississauga is the place to shop till you drop.

**Mississauga Is A Corporate Capital**

Home to more than 18,000 businesses and a major employment centre within the GTA, Mississauga houses 50 of Canada's Fortune 500 offices providing residents with an opportunity to work close to home.

**Mississauga Is Green**

We have over 481 parks and woodlands with serene tranquil settings or passive and active recreational facilities with our lakefront parks becoming a boaters haven.

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Re: Milton  
From Joel Schulz Mon Dec 18 11:41:09 2006  
---- Original Message ----  
**From:** Mike and Beth Kuschel  
**To:** Joel Schulz  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 14, 2006 9:03 AM  
**Subject:** Milton

Joel,  
Thank you for all the information, and your help. I hope all your Christmas preparations are going well. And after writing the majority of this paper I have been thinking a lot about your congregation which has meant so much to both me and my wife. I have a couple more questions for you. Mostly concerning Milton.  
What factors led to the opportunity into Milton?

One of the main ways we have made and strengthened initial contacts with prospects is our worship service. It has proved to be the thing that people feel they need to "check out" before getting further in ministry with our church. And over the years, it has developed into something that has been a very positive thing for visitors - our visitors have enjoyed it with about a 95% approval rating. (earthly kind of numbers there) But of course God has been able to speak to outreach prospects through our worship service and message we give. we put a lot of effort into it. and so, why not do it TWICE? A second time in a different area, to a different group of people?

Right to the west of us is Milton, the now fastest growing city in Canada. A few of our own members have moved there. One of them is quite the accomplished musician. So the idea grew that maybe she could do the music part, and I could bring the service and the sermon, and we could do a Sunday afternoon or evening service as an outreach effort in this new neighbourhood. It would not be a new congregation - but more of a second service, and an outreach arm for Cross of Life. Same Sermon. Same Service. New music. And once we got it up and running, it wouldn't take too much more effort than just doing what we do now, but doing it again for more fruit.

We were able to get a few grants from the BHM and from our own district to get the needed advertising and promotion and equipment to put on the new worship service. And we found a decent time and place to carry it out on. Our people were very enthusiastic for the idea and agreed to come and join the effort for the first month...

We began on September 17, 2006 in the Milton Leisure Centre at 4:00 pm on Sundays.

What kind of response has the opening of Milton received?

Not huge, humanly speaking. We had a grand opening service with about 50 people. Then for the first month, it settled down to about 30 people, since some of ours were coming to two services to help get it going. Currently we have about 15-20 a Sunday, with a couple real Milton prospects coming each week. So it is a relatively small and informal thing now, but we do have a few prospects through it and it also gives our people who can't make the morning service another chance to worship on Sunday. It has got our people re-excited about outreach as well - that we can help get a mission effort started. It isn't bearing huge fruit, humanly speaking, but the people who are regular want to keep it going, and with God's help, we will. Who knows what He has planned.

Are there any new leads on buying land to build?

Why yes, there is. We are currently trying to put together a bid to buy a 2 acre piece of land with a very usable church building on it! It is 2.3 miles east of our house, and may sell for around 1.8 to 2.0 million. The bids will be accepted on February 19, 2007, and I am sure many churches and businesses will be bidding for it. So nothing is set, but we are working on a CEF loan application right now. The idea would be that we would work the new Glen Erin neighbourhood, just as we did the Milton neighbourhood with all sorts of promotion about our church moving in, and there is a potential this could be a new target area for us along with our Lisgar target area. The Soccer Camp would stay at Lisgar fields for now, but there are a field full of soccer pitches right behind this new church property!

One general question:

What has been the most challenging aspect of doing mission work in the Mississauga?  
The devil. The way that he has got into peoples hearts and turned them off so against God and his messengers and the Christian church. And then when he gets into the hearts and lives of your own people and try to run you off course that is a distraction to your mission....

But humanly speaking... CULTURAL barriers... RELIGIOUS barriers... the diversity of world religions here - the ugliness of the Canadian Christian churches and how that has turned people against them and made them distrust them - the fact that it is very hard to approach people about faith here - the fact that it takes a long time to build relationships and figure out how it is you are going to get the Gospel to them - the spirit of ecumenism here and the "we all believe in the same God" stuff... You can't really do anything like you learned it in school.. the basic challenge was just figuring out... OK I have this wonderful message to share... how can I share it with these people? (People who have no kind of background at all like the kind of background I have)

(The black ink is the author's questions and the blue is Pastor Schulz's response)

**Cross of Life  
MINISTRY SEASON**

**2006**

<b>Teachers Workshop</b>	- August 26	
<b>September Fall Kickoff Lisgar</b>	- September 10	(Begin Small Groups, Installations)
<b>Milton Grand Opening</b>	- September 17	
<b>Volunteer Mobilization Sunday</b>	-September 24	
<b>Growing in Life Sundays</b>	-Sep.10, Oct.29, Nov. 26, Jan.7, Feb. 18, Apr.29, May 27	
<b>CAP Seminar in New York</b>	-September 30	
<b>Fall Bible Camp 4 Kids</b>	-October 7	(In Milton)
<b>Thanksgiving Service</b>	- October 8	(Special Song & Music service)
<b>Fall Fellowship Outing</b>	-October 14	
<b>Youth Retreat/Lock-in??</b>	- Oct/Nov??	
<b>Reformation Service &amp; Brunch</b>	-November 5	
<b>Women's Advent by Candlelight</b>	- December 8	
<b>Christmas 4 Kids</b>	- December 16	
<b>Congregational Christmas Party</b>	- December 2	(Place w/ piano in Milton)
<b>Christmas Steel Concert</b>	- December 15 <sup>th</sup> or 16 <sup>th</sup>	
<b>Children's Christmas Service</b>	- December 24	(Sunday morning)
<b>CHRISTMAS Eve Service</b>	- December 24	(Sunday evening)

**2007**

<b>Congregational Meeting</b>	-January 14	
<b>Men's Retreat</b>	-January 26-27	
<b>Open Gyms</b>	-January/ February / March (6 Biweekly)	
<b>Family and Friendship Service</b>	- February 11	
<b>Winter Fellowship Outing</b>	-February 17	(Tubing or other snow activity)
<b>Ash Wednesday</b>	- February 21	(In Milton)
<b>Easter 4 Kids</b>	- March 31	
<b>Palm Sunday</b>	- April 1	
<b>Good Friday</b>	- April 6	
<b>EASTER</b>	- April 8	
<b>Spring Clean-Up Day</b>	- April 22	
<b>Women's Retreat</b>	-April / May	
<b>Synod Sunday</b>	- May 6	
<b>Mother's Day</b>	- May 13	
<b>Spring Fellowship Outing</b>	-May 19	(Bowling / Putting Edge...)
<b>Ascension</b>	- May 20	
<b>Ministry Planning Day</b>	- May 26	
<b>Congregational Campout</b>	- June or August	
<b>Annual Congregational Meeting</b>	- June 17	
<b>Father's Day</b>	- June 17	
<b>Soccer Camp</b>	- July 9-13	