

## WAY TA GO, KATHY! LET THAT LIGHT KEEP ON SHININ'!

by Sandra Eggers

We as Christians toil faithfully, living Jesus' words "be faithful." We do so, not caring for fanfare; we do so because "He first loved us."

Occasionally, though, our Lord allows us a little recognition. As true Man, Jesus knows our human need to be accepted, to be recognized. And, on Saturday, May 3, 1997, He allowed such for one Kathy Ann Krause, Director of Michigan Programs and the Ephphatha Center.

On that rainy Saturday, within the elegant surroundings of the Detroit Athletic Club, Kathy and four of her fellow alumni of Wayne State University were each honored with a "Headliner Award."

Presented by the Women of Wayne alumni group since 1967, the Headliner Award recognizes those women whose achievements have been worthy of the press and who have contributed to the life of their communities, state and nation. Some past honorees have included Dr. Sonya Friedman, a nationally-recognized psychologist and Trudy DunCombe Archer, judge and wife of Detroit Mayor Dennis Archer.

In Kathy's case, her achievement received notice when she became the Director of Michigan programs at Lutheran Special Education Ministries. Through her work she's touched innumerable lives, the lives of the children with special learning needs as well as the lives of the teachers she shepherds.

Kathy accepted her Headliner Award graciously, explaining to all what Lutheran Special Education Ministries does and why it does it: for these children, one of the loves in her life.

She then humbly acknowledged the sacrifices her family made when she returned to school to finish her

bachelor's, then master's degrees and the loving support she receives from her colleagues at Lutheran Special Education Ministries.

And, most important, she publicly acknowledged Whose work it truly is. Kathy closed her remarks that day with "To God be the glory." Nods and approving exclamations rippled through the room. What a lovely witness.

So, yes, God allowed Kathy Ann Krause to enjoy a bit of the spotlight.



*Kathy Krause (back row, second from left) surrounded by her fellow Headliner Award honorees. Photograph by: Deborah R. Kingery*

God allowed her to receive the kind congratulations from family, friends and colleagues. God even allowed her to take home a plaque marking the occasion.

God allowed all this, perhaps, because He knew His daughter so well. He knew that on that day, Wayne State University's spotlight would grow dim just for a moment, just long enough to let the One True Light radiate through this daughter of the King.

Way ta go, Kathy! Keep that light of yours a shinin'!

### PROFILE

**May 1985**-Graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree from Wayne State University, Detroit, MI. Admitted to the Golden Key Honor Society and Wayne State Graduate School.

**December 1989**-Graduated with a Masters of Education degree with endorsement in Learning Disabilities.

**1985-86**-Special education teacher with the Anchor Bay School District.

**1986-87**-Resource room teacher at St. Peter Lutheran School, Macomb Township, MI, for Lutheran Special Education Ministries.

**1987-88**-Resource room teacher at both St. Peter and Immanuel Lutheran Schools.

**Fall 1988**-Instructional Consultant for the Ephphatha Center, Lutheran Special Education.

**June 1995**-Accepted into the doctor of education program at Wayne State University.

**1995-96**-Adjunct faculty member at Wayne State University.

**1995**-Director of Michigan Programs, Lutheran Special Education Ministries.

**Present**-Director of both Michigan Programs and Ephphatha Center, Lutheran Special Education Ministries.



# Annual Association Meeting

## Kristin Anderson Moves Hearts at Annual Meeting



Kristin sings a heartfelt rendition of "All I'll Ever Be."

For the first time ever, a student who had received services from Lutheran Special Education Ministries was asked to address the Annual Association Meeting.

*It was these (LSEM) teachers, according to Kristin, who accepted her as God created her, who challenged her to be her best and who impressed upon Kristin the importance of trying.*

High school junior Kristin Anderson began her story, recounting her life as a shy first grader who lacked self-esteem because of her special learning needs. She told of her gradual transformation into a more confident young woman who has the courage to attempt courses that her current teachers believe would be beyond her.

Kristin believes that catalyst was Lutheran Special Education Ministries and its corps of dedicated, caring, Christian teachers.

It was these teachers, according to Kristin, who accepted her as God created her, who challenged her to be her best and who impressed upon Kristin the importance of trying.

As her gift to Lutheran Special Education Ministries, at the conclusion of her presentation Kristin sang "All I'll Ever Be", originally sung by Amy Grant, that expressed her belief that since God made her who she is, she is indeed special.

## DeMeyere Reports on Building Sale, Indiana, 125th Anniversary & Budget



Delegates to the Annual Association Meeting assemble in the library of Christ the King Lutheran Church in Grosse Pointe, MI

At the Annual Association Meeting on May 14, Roger DeMeyere reported that:

- Lutheran Special Education Ministries and Cornerstone Schools Association have now closed on the East Nevada property. The Lutheran Special Education Ministries corporate offices and the Michigan regional offices will remain at 6861 E. Nevada, in the west wing of the building.

- the final draft of a consortium agreement with the Lutheran Association for Elementary Education in Fort Wayne, the Indiana District-LCMS and the Catholic Diocese has been completed. The agreement must now be approved by the respective boards.

- the 125th Anniversary Task Force, chaired by Karl Mueller, has been convened to provide advice and counsel to direct this celebration.

- the 1997-98 budget of \$2,297,000 has been approved by the Board of Directors. This represents a 21% increase (\$400,000) over 1996-97, to cover costs in the new service site, Indiana, and growth in the current sites in Michigan, Illinois and New York.

## DeMeyere Honored for 10 years' Service



(L-R) Gregg Braun looks on as Roger DeMeyere opens his gift.

At the Annual Association meeting Executive Director Roger DeMeyere was honored for 10 years' service to Lutheran Special Education Ministries. On behalf of the Board of Directors, Development Director Gregg Braun

presented Roger with his 10-year anniversary gift, a carved wooden box.

In addition to the customary gift, Roger was surprised with a cake decorated with a fisherman and captioned, "Congratulations, Roger, on 10 years' of fishing for the Lord."

## THANKYOU!THANKYOU! THANKYOU!THANKYOU!

Thank you to:

- Aid Association for Lutherans, \$1,100 in matching funds.
- Ameritech, \$1,054 in matching funds.
- Brauer Foundation, \$1,500 unrestricted grant.
- Peter and Constance Cracchiolo Foundation, \$200 unrestricted grant.
- La-Z-Boy Foundation, \$3,000 unrestricted grant.

## IT'S NOT TOO LATE . . .

To get some extra help for your VBS program when you include children with special learning needs. Just ask for your FREE SON-shine Support, a page full of practical tips that will work in any classroom, with any VBS program.

CALL TODAY - 1-313-368-1220 and ask for your FREE SON-shine Support.

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# Around the Ministry

## Michigan

by *Kathy Krause, Director*  
*Michigan Programs*

As we approach the end of another school year, it's a time for reflection. What wondrous gifts given by a great and awesome God!

Year-to-year, I always marvel at the accomplishments of students who are often considered "handicapped." At our last staff meeting, one teacher told about her student who had overcome some personal struggles and now looked upon life more positively. Another spoke of her student's growing self-esteem that gave this young person a more confident manner. But they all told stories of joyful triumph, praising these children who seldom receive accolades. Such are the many blessings bestowed by a gracious Lord within an LSEM classroom!

So, as our academic year ends, we finish as we began . . . giving thanks to our Heavenly Father and asking for His continued love in our lives and in the lives of our students, as we continue to "Feed His Sheep."

## Illinois

by *Jim Krone, Director*  
*Illinois Programs*

We are reminded in the Bible that things happen in God's time and we should not try to force Him into our time, calendar or schedule. And so it is with new staff.

Our two new employees are Sara Ruschmeyer and Julie Hinz. Sara is a new graduate of Concordia College, Seward, Nebraska, who has taken the long-vacant Aurora teaching position. The faculties at Aurora, Yorkville and Addison all believe that she was well worth the wait.

Julie is the long-awaited addition to our secretarial staff. Julie comes to us with a good working knowledge of the computer, communication and organizational skills, a good sense of humor, and, most important, a heart for our ministry.

We also celebrate yet another addition to our Lutheran Special Education Ministries' extended family. In January, Cheryl Saiki gave birth to a healthy baby girl, Tonya. I'm also glad that, after a 3-month maternity-family leave, Cheryl is back in the classroom and will continue half-time with Lutheran Special Education Ministries. Our long-term substitute, Nancy Sadaki, continues with St. James and St. Paul, Canfield, Chicago. Come fall she'll no longer be a substitute; we've hired her as faculty.

The Lord has indeed blessed us with these wonderful, faithful, new faculty and staff. Yes, His time is indeed perfect.

## New York

by *Paula Rosen, Director*  
*New York Programs*

Many visitors to New York state are surprised by the beautiful, colorful and plentiful trees that bloom in Spring here, even in the heart of New York City. Others may be pleasantly surprised by the ministry of Lutheran Special Education Ministries.

Since most private schools can't afford to support children with special learning needs, Lutheran schools in New York have opened their doors to these children. They are as beautiful as the blossoms that open their faces to the world each Spring. LSEM is grateful for the wonderful teachers who work with children, the parents who support us, the administrators, pastors, and school boards who enable us to work in their schools and the supporters who open their hearts to us.

Through these supportive partnerships, great things continue to happen.

This year, with the guidance of the Soul Release Prison Ministry, Karen Harker's self-contained class at Holy Trinity made Mother's Day cards for women in prison. Soul Release has distributed the cards.

Kay Seymour's resource room students at Martin Lutheran High School received several awards for perfect attendance and best improved in three subject areas.

I have presented a workshop on meeting the needs of children with Attention Deficit Disorders in the classroom at Catholic Schools Teachers' Conference and received "rave reviews." I'll present this same workshop at the Lutheran Schools Association Teachers' Conference in November.

Now on a more personal note: thanks for your patience, understanding and especially your prayers. I am so lucky to have such wonderful people in my life.

## Ephphatha Center

by *Lisa Krenz, Resource Specialist*

As the spring sunshine streams through my window, I am reminded of another light, the "Light of the world," God's Son, Jesus Christ. He gives us more than a little seasonal boost. Through His death and resurrection, Jesus gives us new life for now and forever. We rejoice in these life-giving rays of God's Son-shine in Jesus.

It is with this image in mind that we have titled our VBS handout: SON-Shine Support. This handout gives classroom preparation and teaching suggestions to help VBS teachers instruct students with special learning needs, like those with hearing and mental impairments and attention deficit disorder.

Judging by the positive responses we've already received to our SON-Shine Support effort, we think that more congregations will provide VBS programs for children with special learning needs this year than have provided them in the past. These people of God know that VBS is such a wonderful opportunity to teach the precious message of the Gospel to these children. All it takes is a little extra help from a VBS teacher, guided by the SON-shine Support.

Now's also a great time to look past VBS and toward the next school year. It's a good time to review what worked and what didn't; who was helped and who could be helped better.

So while you're soaking up summer sunshine, why not also bathe in eternal Son-shine? We of The Ephphatha Center can help you identify resources and teaching strategies that best meet the needs of all your students. Just give us a call. We'll be glad to help you plan for your Fall Confirmation and Sunday school programs.



# The Advocate

for Students with Special Learning Needs

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## God's Gifts – Our Thanks

by Gregg Braun  
Development Director

*“What can I render to the Lord for all  
His benefits to me?”*

—The Lutheran Hymnal

As I write this, spring has reached its full crescendo of color. Tiny white Lilies of the Valley are beginning to emerge; the purple lilacs aren't far behind. The trees are almost fully leafed-out in varying shades of green, and pink crab apples are blooming.

During this beautiful time of year we are reminded daily of God's gifts to us in the nature He created. During this time of year it's easy to give thanks.

But as you and I know, God's gifts don't begin and end with springtime. They are with us moment by moment, with each breath you - and I - take, from now and through eternity. All because of God's greatest gift to us - eternal life - given us by the sacrificial gift of His Son, Jesus Christ.

If God's gifts are always with us, shouldn't our thanks be as well?

Of course it should. Not as a duty. Not as a “pay-back.” Not even because it's “nice” or “proper.” But our thanks

is given as our response - prompted by the Spirit - to God's immeasurable gifts of love to us. We love Him because He first loved us.

So we readily give thanks and praise to the One who made and who sustains us. Through our worship. Through our living as Christ would have us live. And through loving our neighbor by caring for him and her, especially when our neighbor has need.

125 years ago when dedicated Lutheran leaders came together to care for orphans who happened to be deaf. They gave their gifts of time, talent and treasure. From the organizational skills of a Reverend John Huegeli to the farmer who gave our first superintendent, Reverend G. Speckhardt, a few chickens as pay, these Lutheran Christians gave thanks to God through their gifts for these, our special children.

As you now consider all the gifts God has given you, do give Him thanks in songs of praise. But also give Him thanks in works of hands. And, as you, too, offer your time, talent and treasure, consider our ministry, won't you? Please consider being numbered among the many, many saints who have “served to enable children with

special learning needs receive a Christian education” by giving to Lutheran Special Education Ministries.

You can send your gift to: Lutheran Special Education Ministries, Attn: Development Office, 6861 E. Nevada, Detroit, MI 48234.

**— At Lutheran Special Education Ministries, we care for these children who learn differently from us. By teaching them in a way they can comprehend, we help them learn about their Savior, so that they can understand.**

At Lutheran Special Education Ministries, we care for our neighbor who has a special learning need. We care for these children who learn differently from us. By teaching them in a way they can comprehend, we help them learn about their Savior, so that they can understand.

As you know, our generation is not the first to help those children with special learning needs. It was nearly