

# RELIGION

## Lutheran Brotherhood Provides \$1 Mil for Ministries

### ELCA Urban Ministry Program

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) will begin distributing grants in February 1999 for innovative urban ministries thanks to a \$1-million grant from Lutheran Brotherhood. The money will help the church's Division for Outreach launch a ten-year initiative, "In the City for Good."

"In the City for Good" calls for new education programs for urban

lay leaders, culturally relevant worship opportunities, support for the training and salaries of urban pastors, and cooperation with community groups in solving neighborhood problems. The initiative will award \$500,000 in grants each year to help congregations adapt to and transform their neighborhoods.

"The ELCA has declared that we are 'In the City for Good,' said the Rev. H. George Anderson, presiding bishop of the ELCA. "We are excited about the potential to strengthen our outreach in cities of the United

States and Caribbean through a decade-long urban ministry emphasis.

"This significant financial commitment from Lutheran Brotherhood creates an alliance in which our respective missions of evangelism and fraternal activities converge," said Anderson. "We are thankful that Lutheran Brotherhood joins the ELCA in building a solid foundation for urban ministries in the 21st century."

The \$1 million from Lutheran Brotherhood will be given to the Division for Outreach over the next

five years and will be combined with money from the division's budget, the ELCA Church Council and the church's Vision for Mission Fund. Lutheran Brotherhood has also provided dollars for evaluation of the grants so that learning from the new work can assist the whole church.

"The 'In the City for Good' endowment fund provides an exceptional opportunity to support innovative urban ministries," said Robert P. Gandrud, Lutheran Brotherhood president and CEO. "This \$1-million grant exemplifies Lutheran

Brotherhood's commitment to aid Lutheran ministries and congregations as well as how we serve through stewardship."

Rev. Jerrett L. Hansen of Baltimore, leader of the ELCA's division for Outreach's urban ministry team says that "In the City for Good" presents a three-dimensional vision of transforming people's lives, congregations and communities. "Until people's hearts are changed," he notes, "nothing else will change."

Lutheran Brotherhood is a member-owned fraternal benefit society of 1.1 million Lutherans joined together for financial security, benevolent outreach and volunteer service. Lutheran Brotherhood's mission is to improve the quality of life for its members, to strengthen communities and to aid Lutheran congregations and institutions.

Lutheran Brotherhood is represented in the Portland Metro area by Susan K. Heuer

## The House of Rahab Staying Afloat

BY JOY RAMOS

Over 60 women and children whose lives have been devastated by addiction(s), domestic violence or prostitution call the House of Rahab home. These women and children in need are graciously welcomed and allowed to stay until they can become self-sufficient.

A sign in the lounge for them reads: All who enter here find love.

The House of Rahab is the state's largest transitional housing facility located in NE Portland's Parkrose neighborhood. Charlene Newman is its founder. For three years, it has served as a safe refuge for hundreds of women and children.

Maintaining such generosity has a price.

Just recently, the building's owner

had announced plans to sell the property for \$400,000 with a down payment of \$50,000. Fortunately, the Newmans were able to set a verbal agreement to secure the facility which helped ease them out of their financial crisis that's still not over.

Losing the House of Rahab would be a serious hardship for these women and children as there are so few transitional housing facilities like it. It's exceptional by design and intent.

"The main purpose of the House of Rahab is to help women break the cycle of self-defeating or self-destructive lifestyles," explained its founder. All their basic amenities are provided for and support systems are available to them as a means of leading healthful, productive lives.

The nurturing environment of the House of Rahab has proven successful over the years. Close to 40% of the women who had lived there have

moved on and gotten a job.

Single women choosing to stay at the facility are required to only pay \$325 a month or based on a sliding scale to stay. With that, they receive 24-hour supervision, their own room, three meals a day and group therapy sessions (on women's issues, parenting and anger management offered weekly). The minimal rent requirement doesn't even fully cover operating costs which run \$25,000 monthly.

Keeping the House of Rahab afloat is Charlene Newman's main concern. Donations given by the Soroptomist organization are helping to foot the bill until January of next year. This may be enough to receive other financial offers. Volunteers and food donations are also needed.

Once the Newmans pull the House of Rahab out of its survivalist state, they can focus on upgrading the prop-

erty and including other vital services for these women and children. This involves expanding the facility to include two nearby buildings, connecting a sewer within 5 years, developing a computer lab, plus other plans being considered.

"We can't survive without communities pulling to help," said Charlene Newman. An account has been set up through the U.S. Bank (Argay Square Branch on 4100 NE 122nd) to receive donations.

"We believe with the love and respect for the women we have here, families and communities will benefit. We feel lives will be changed and these women will be able to enter the community with esteem and confidence which will be passed on to all who touch their lives. We hope you will find a way to work with us," asks Charlene Newman.

## Obituary

**In Loving Memory of**  
Ellen Elizabeth Wood - Preston  
October 22, 1927 - September 19, 1998

Ellen Elizabeth Wood - Preston, born October 22, 1927 in Portland, Oregon to Wilhelmina (Billie) and George H. Wood passed away on September 19, 1998 at her home in Milwaukie, Oregon. Ms. Preston was educated in public schools and attended the Portland Art Institute. She worked retail most of her adult life and retired from a State of Oregon position in 1991. Ms. Preston's passion for performing and visual arts in her youth helped to refine her talents as an adult to become one of the areas most sought after theatrical stage managers. She continued to work for Lakewood Community Center part-time in the ticket office until her illness. She leaves a rich artistic

legacy throughout the greater metropolitan area. Ms. Preston is survived by her son Robert (Bobby) Lee Fother Jr., a daughter Elizabeth Fother - Branch, her grandson Robert Lee Branch Jr., a granddaughter Karin (Nya) N. Branch and numerous cousins, nieces, nephews and a large extended family. We will celebrate her life with a memorial performance held on October 22, 1998 at 11:00am. At the Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center (IFCC) 5340 N. Interstate Avenue. There will also be a tribute and dedication on October 25, 1998 at 2:00pm. In the Lake Oswego Community Theater at the Lakewood Community Center 368 State Street. For information about the Ellen Wood-Preston Memorial Fund please call Bobby or Liz at (503) 721-1757.

### Recital

An Organ Recital featuring five organists affiliated with Augustana Lutheran Church is scheduled at 3:00 PM on Sunday, November 1, 1998. Organists Mark Huth, Walter Krueger, Glenn Ludtke, Paul Torgerson and Dena Turner will perform music by J.S. Bach, Buxtehude, Clerambault, Franck, Nyquist and others on the church's 1989 Marceau Pipe Organ. A free-will offering to benefit the music program of the church will be received. A reception hosted by the church's Worship and Music Committee will follow the recital.

The church is located at 2710 NE 14th Avenue, Portland. For further information contact the church office at (503) 288-6174.

### Daniels Memorial Church

Celebrates

Pastor Harry B. Daniels Jr. & Wife 6th Anniversary Appreciation Service.

We invite all to come & fellowship. October 18, 1998, 3:30 PM

Daniels Memorial Church, located at 1234 NE Killingsworth St. For more information call 284-3721

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285-4231

### Fellowship Missionary Baptist Church

Every Sunday:

8:00 AM Early Morning Worship

9:15 AM Sunday School

11:00 AM Morning Worship

the Lord's Supper

(1st Sunday)

Children's Church

(1st, 2nd and 4th Sunday)

6:00 PM Training Union

(2nd and 4th Sunday)

7:15 PM Evening worship

(2nd and 4th Sunday)

11:00 AM Baptismal Service

(4th Sunday)

4009 North Missouri Avenue  
(503) 249-0377



Pastor  
Johnny Pack IV

### Grace Covenant Fellowship

Fall Term '98 Schedule of Classes

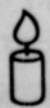
Grace Covenant Fellowship is offering fall term classes to be held on Sunday mornings, beginning October 11, 1998 - December 20, 1998. All classes are being held at Grace Covenant Fellowship @ 5450

NE Flanders (one block south of Glisan) Classes begin at 11:15 AM - 12:15 PM. You may join us at 11:00 AM for light refreshments and fellowship.

Classes are free and open to the public. Please call now to register, (503) 281-5850.

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Every Sunday  
10:00 a. m. - Sunday School  
11:00 a. m. - Morning Service  
7:30 p. m. - Night Service

Wednesday  
7:30 p. m. - Prayer - Bible Study  
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