"Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it." - Proverbs 22:6

Grace Lutheran School

Falls Church, Virginia

Celebrating 25 years 1973 – 1998

Paul T. Schuler Senior Church History Thesis April 24, 1998 Professor James Korthals

Preface

Almost twenty-six years ago, I was born in Fairfax, Virginia. Upon my baptism, not only did I become a member of God's family, but I also became a member of Grace Lutheran Church in Falls Church, Virginia. Shortly after my first birthday, Grace Lutheran Church opened its own elementary school. When I was old enough, I attended Grace Lutheran School and nine years later (1986) I graduated. What a special day that was for me! Not only did I graduate by myself and therefore finish top in my class, but I also received my diploma from my own father who was the chairman of the Board of Education at that time. Grace Lutheran School made such an impact on my life that I decided to continue my Christian education and become a full time worker in the Wisconsin Synod. It is for this reason that I have chosen to write the history of Grace Lutheran School for my Senior Church History Thesis.

Most of the material which follows is simply a summary of that which is recorded in Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church and School Annual Reports. The rest of the information is either from letters written to past and present pastors and teachers or personal thoughts and memories from my own years at Grace. With this having been said, I would also like to dedicate this paper to those people who have encouraged me over the years to continue my Christian education and have supported me throughout my years of training for the public ministry: Pastor & Mrs. Walter Beckmann, Miss Susan Westendorf, Mrs. Joan Richards, Mrs. Heidi (Baer) Zartman, (then) Vicar Raymond Bell and most of all my parents, Melvin and Shirley Schuler.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul T. Schuler

¹ Information recorded for each school year can be found in the corresponding Annual Report. Simply match the first year listed in each subtitle with that same year of the Annual Report.

The Beginning

In the early 1970's, the Long Range Planning Committee of Grace Lutheran Church, a small mission congregation located in Falls Church, Virginia, made the recommendation to establish a Building Committee. The purpose of this committee was to look at the possibility of adding an educational wing to the church. This committee² was appointed on June 27, 1971 and immediately went to work. The first matter of business was the hiring of an architect. On August 25, 1971, Thomas J. Madigan was contracted as the architect and finished the master construction plan on January 16th at a cost of \$1200.00. The original thought was to begin with a kindergarten class in 1972 and then add other classes the following years. However, since the school building would not be complete by that time the decision was made to wait and open the school in 1973. Unfortunately, when 1973 rolled around the members of Grace ran into a snag. Fairfax County imposed a sewer moratorium that halted the building project for a short time. Finally, in 1974 the moratorium was lifted and after changing the design from a four-room to a three-room school, construction was underway. Mr. E. L. Daniels was chosen as the prime contractor for the project and began his work in December of 1974. The construction was completed and accepted August 20, 1975 at a cost of \$160,593.77.3 An amazing statistic to note here is the fact that the \$160,000+ price tag for this new school was paid in only 11 years.⁴ This kind of support from the congregation was a blessing that the school would enjoy for many more years. What a wonderful example of Christian stewardship and what a blessing from a gracious God.

On August 31, 1975 Grace Lutheran School was dedicated. Pastor Carl Pagel from Baltimore, Maryland served as preacher and as the 1975-76 school year began, prayers of thanks and praise were offered to God for the completion of this new learning facility.

² See Appendix A for list of people who made up this committee.

³ See Appendix A for breakdown of building expenses. ³ "Grow in his Grace" the 25th Anniversary Booklet of the Church. Assembled 1988, page 8.

⁴ "Grow in his Grace" the 25th Anniversary Booklet of the Church. Assembled 1988, page 8.

The decision to begin an elementary school was an easy one. Most of the church's members were Midwest transplants and were, therefore, very familiar with the concept of a Christian Day School. Having witnessed continued growth in both Vacation Bible School and Sunday School enrollment, the need for further and more structured Christian education was obvious.⁵

In February, 1973 a young teacher named Susan Westendorf, who had been serving at Buffalo Lutheran School in Fountain City, Wisconsin, was called to begin Grace Lutheran School in the fall of 1973. Excited and eager to meet this challenge, Miss Westendorf accepted the call and arrived in the summer of 1973.

In the summer of 1973, Pastor Walter Beckmann, the first pastor of Grace Lutheran Church, was faced with a tough decision. As he opened the door of his house to welcome Miss Westendorf to Grace and to the East Coast, he was interrupted by a phone call. It was St. John's, Wauwatosa, Wisconsin calling Pastor Beckmann to inform him that he had received the call to serve their congregation. After prayerful deliberation he decided to return the call and remain at Grace. Indeed, the hand of God was evident in this decision for he would serve faithfully at Grace for many more years.

On September 4, 1973, Grace Lutheran School opened its doors with 10 students spanning grades K-3.⁷ As was noted earlier, the school building was not completed at this time, so for the first two years classes were held in the church basement. Although space was limited both students and teachers were able to create a learning atmosphere. One way they were able to do this was through the generous offerings given by members of the church. Right from the start, Grace congregation supported its school. Through monetary donations, time spent helping out and gifts of school supplies

⁵ ibid.

⁶ Information found in letter of correspondence with Pastor Walter Beckmann, dated March 25, 1998.

⁷ See Appendix A for names and grades of first students

and playground equipment the members of Grace expressed their desire to make this school thrive.

This attitude made the relationship between the church and school very strong and continued to be a blessing the school would enjoy for many years to come.

The curriculum was similar to any other school with subjects such as math, reading, phonics, science, social studies, spelling, language, music, art and handwriting. What made this school and all other WELS schools different, however, was its goal to also teach young boys and girls the gospel message of salvation. This fact would remain the school's sole purpose from this its first year until its last.

The students took quite a few field trips this year including trips to the Smithsonian's Indian exhibit, the Fire Department, Hummer Road Nature Center, Annandale High School for a concert at Christmas time, the library and a pet shop. Living so close to Washington, DC proved very beneficial for the students. They would be able to experience things that many children in this world might not. At the same time, the teachers at Grace did a wonderful job of taking advantage of their location and using the many sites to expand the minds of their students.

God has commanded all people to, "Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation" (Mk 16:15). This, too, was a continuous goal for the students of Grace. I can still remember the little, white, plastic church with multi-colored windows that sat on the teacher's desk and into which all the students placed their mission money every week. This was just one way the students were able to make a difference in the world and at the same time give glory to their God. During this first school year mission offerings were collected and sent to one of the synod's mission fields.

This first year of operation was a great success. However, none of it would have been possible without the guiding hand of the Lord. With that prayer Grace Lutheran School continued to operate.

The 1974-1975 school year saw an increase in enrollment of 2 students and the addition of the 4th grade. At the beginning of this year a program was started which would prove very beneficial in years to come and served to provide the children of Grace with a wide range of learning opportunities. It was a program of teacher aides. It consisted of parents of students as well as adults from the congregation who took time out of their busy schedules to help the teachers in their mission of training young children. The first teacher aides were Mrs. Marilyn Beckmann, who helped with social studies, Mrs. Ann Howard, who helped with flash card drills, Mrs. Nancy Kuehn, who handled weekly readers, and Mr. Richard Kuehn, who helped with science. These people were indeed great blessings to the school as were those teacher aides who would follow in their footsteps.

One of the field trips taken this year was to Turkey Run Farm where the students saw what it would have been like to live on a colonial farm. Turkey Run Farm soon became an annual event for the students and one always looked forward to.

Mission offerings were collected again this year and were sent to help the Swedish Lutheran Church and the Church Extension Fund.

1975 - 1976

After two years of waiting the children and faculty were finally able to move into the new classroom building. What a joy and a blessing this was. Another blessing this year was the increase in the enrollment and the addition of the 5th grade. When the year began 19 students were enrolled; however, in December one of those students transferred to Minnesota and for the remainder of the year there were only 18 students. This increase in enrollment was due to an extra-ordinarily large group who entered kindergarten. Because of this large class Mrs. Marilyn Beckmann was added to the teaching staff on a part-time basis. Mrs. Beckmann had previously served 3 years at St. Stephens, Beaver Dam, Wisconsin and 2 years at St. Peter's, Oak Grove, Wisconsin. Previous to this call, she had served as a teacher aide at Grace helping with many different subjects. So in 1975 Mrs. Beckmann

was added to the teaching staff teaching kindergarten as well as science, social studies and oral language for some of the other grades. Mrs. Beckmann was a great addition to Grace's faculty and continued teaching there until 1980.

With the increase in enrollment and with one of last year's teacher aides now serving as a teacher, there was plenty of room for some others in the congregation to step forward and help out.

Three ladies answered that call this year: Mrs. Marion (Gussie) Bynaker, Mrs. Nancy Kuehn, and Mrs. Elaine Beachley.

Some of the other blessings which the school enjoyed this year came in the form of school supplies. Through the generous offerings of members, the school was able to purchase an overhead projector as well as some new playground equipment.

Mission dollars this year went to some very special causes. One was the Indonesian mission, but the other two causes were local. The students sent money to help Atonement Lutheran School which was being built in Baltimore, Maryland and they also sent money to support Divine Peace Lutheran in Largo, Maryland which was a new mission congregation in the area. By setting aside their mission dollars for these two churches, the students learned what a joy it can be to help in the building of God's family here on earth.

1976 - 1977

In the 1976-77 school year, the sixth grade was added and the enrollment climbed to 22 students (21 after November due to a transfer). More teacher aides helped out again this year including Mrs. Elaine Beachley, Mrs. Gussie Bynaker, Mrs. Nancy Kuehn and Mrs. Joan Richards.

In an effort to keep the teachers abreast of what was new and improved in the area of education, the teachers began taking courses at the University of Virginia. Also, to keep them informed on what was going on among their brothers and sisters in the teaching ministry, at least one of the teachers attended the Michigan District Teachers Conference every year. Both of these teaching tools served

the teachers well. I can personally recall how excited the teachers would get just before conference time. Considering the fact that these teachers were somewhat isolated out on the East Coast, it was time well spent and the fellowship shared at these conferences was needed and greatly appreciated.

Field trips this year were taken to Turkey Run Farm, Falls Church High School Planetarium and Sleepy Hollow Nursing Home. Sleepy Hollow, like Turkey Run, became a favorite trip for the students. They would usually go before Christmas and recite for the residents verses from the Christmas story and also sing some Christmas songs for them. Not only was it a treat for the students, but think about how many elderly people had a chance to hear the gospel message about the True God who became a True Man. In future years, this trip became a monthly practice thanks to the efforts of Miss Westendorf.

Mission offerings this year went toward another area congregation, this one in Virginia Beach.

They, too, were building a new school and in this way the children were able to help out. The other recipient was the WELS Books for Missions Fund.

During this school year America celebrated its Bicentennial anniversary. These were Miss Westendorf's closing remarks for 1976.

As our nation's Bicentennial year drew to a close, we realized that of all the blessings the Lord has showered on us during the three years our school has been in existence, certainly one of the greatest gifts has been the freedom to operate a school in which we can freely teach His Word. May He continue to grant us this freedom, and encourage and bless all efforts toward Christian education.⁸

1977 - 1978

In the 1977-78 school year the enrollment increased again to 27 and the seventh grade was added. At the beginning of this school year, Mrs. Joan Richards was added to the teaching staff. She had taught in public school systems in Wisconsin, Washington, California and Georgia, and brought with her a wide range of ideas, insights, talents and abilities. Mrs. Richards was a stay-at-home mom

⁸ Copied from, "Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church and School Annual Report", 1976.

who had been volunteering at Grace as a teacher aide. When it was recognized that her talents in the area of math and science would be a great benefit to Grace, she was asked to teach on a part-time basis and she agreed to do it. Mrs. Richards began teaching in 1977, was Wisconsin Synod certified on September 27, 1982 and received a 'Call to Serve' in 1990.9 Although this might seem very strange to some that she did not receive her 'Call to Serve' until 1990, the reason for this is very simple - human error. When Joan was asked to teach she did indeed receive a divine call. The Holy Spirit moved the congregation to call her and the Holy Spirit moved her to accept the call. The fact that she did not receive an official piece of paper entitled 'Call to Serve' and that it was not entered into the minutes of the council until 1990 was simply an oversight on the part of the council. Everyone assumed that she had received a 'Call to Serve,' but it was not discovered that she had not until 1990. When things like this happen it really forces one to stop and think - 'What a gracious and loving God we have that he allows us, frail, imperfect, accident prone, sinful, human creatures to carry out his work of salvation on this earth.' Mrs. Richards served Grace faithfully for many years as a called worker and continues to serve faithfully to the glory of God.

Mrs. Gussie Bynaker, Mrs. Nancy Kuehn and Mrs. Phyllis Schmugge offered their time and services this year as teacher aides helping with subjects like spelling and reading. Field trips included the Sleepy Hollow Nursing Home and the Smithsonian Air and Space Museum. Mission money collected in 1977 was sent to the WELS Indonesia Equipment Fund and also the Inner City Pastors' Council in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

1978 - 1979

This school year brought along with it three 'firsts.' In 1978 the eighth grade was added to the enrollment, so Grace had its first graduate - Laury Schumacher. Another first was the addition of the

⁹ Information taken from letter of correspondence with Joan Richards, dated March 25, 1998.

first non-member student which raised the enrollment for this school year to 31. What made this a special occurrence was the fact that in the future there would be more non-member students enrolled at Grace and the school would serve well as an arm of outreach. The other first was held in the spring of 1979. It was Arbor Day. For an afternoon the children would go outside and clean up both the school and church property. This tradition would continue for many years and became something that all the children looked forward to. I can say this because I personally always looked forward to Arbor Day. Unfortunately, one year I ruined it for myself by trying to impress the girls in my class with the dangling a worm on my nose trick. For that I was sent inside and was not able to enjoy the rest of the day. ¹⁰ However, Arbor Day served a great purpose at Grace and was a tradition which continued despite my failed attempt to impress my friends.

Grace benefited from some new teacher aides this year. Mrs. Lois Becker and Mrs. Clara Portch were added to the staff, along with Phyllis Schmugge who had volunteered in the past. These aides helped with reading, flash cards, working on listening skills and with Scholastic magazines.

Field trips included Sleepy Hollow Nursing Home, the National Museum of History and Technology, the Museum of Art and Carvel Ice Cream Store.

The 1978 mission dollars were sent to the WELS Latin American Communication Fund and WELS Care for Mentally Retarded Fund.

1979 - 1980

This school year would be the last year of formal teaching for Mrs. Marilyn Beckmann. Having served faithfully for more than five years Mrs. Beckmann handed over the reigns to Miss Heidi Baer, a DMLC graduate from the class of 1980. However, even after her retirement, Mrs. Beckmann was always willing to fill in as a substitute whenever necessary.

¹⁰ This story was documented in a letter of correspondence with Joan Richards, dated March 25, 1998, under the heading, "Some of my fondest memories of my years at Grace".

Throughout her years of teaching, Mrs. Beckmann faced many challenges such as a student with severe learning disabilities and some with emotional problems. However, she too enjoyed many blessings. Besides the thrill of teaching young children gospel truths, Mrs. Beckmann mentioned these three fond memories: Hugs from Deanna During, Paul Schuler and Sasha Engle, and always having Ernst Hunter sitting in front of her whenever she substituted.¹¹ Indeed, the Lord blessed Grace Lutheran School with Mrs. Beckmann and God be praised for her many years of faithful service.

The enrollment for this year went up again to 33, including 2 non-members, and saw two students graduate: Eric Portch and Laura Hawthorne. Again, this school year proceeded smoothly thanks to the help of parents and more teacher aides. Added to the list of teacher aides were Mrs. Carol Anderson and Mrs. Diane Bean. Not only did these two ladies, along with the others, help with things like reading, spelling quizzes and flash cards, but they also helped supervise the lunchroom and the playground. Ask any of the teachers how nice it was to get a little break during the day. I am certain they expressed their deepest thanks for these women.

The students took a field trip this year to the National Zoo and mission dollars for 1979 went again to the WELS Care for Mentally Retarded Fund.

1980 - 1981

As was mentioned earlier, Mrs.Beckmann was succeeded by Miss Heidi Baer, a 1980 graduate from DMLC. I recall when Miss Baer arrived. She was excited, energized and ready to conquer the world. Even though, as far as I know, she has not yet conquered the world, she was able to take control of the younger grades, make it her world and serve faithfully for 10 years. She taught kindergarten, reading, religion, math and language for grades 1-2, art and phy. ed. for grades 1-4, social studies for grades 3-4 and music and spelling for grades 1-3. Throughout her years at Grace these duties would

¹¹ Letter of correspondence with Marilyn Beckmann, dated March 25, 1998.

fluctuate a little, yet her main areas of concentration were all subjects for the lower grades and various other subjects for the upper grades including phy. ed. and art.

Once again, more names were added to the list of teacher aides like: Mrs. Shirley Schuler, Mrs. Virginia DeMarce, Mrs. Dawn Ehlers and Mrs. Mary Junker. These women added some much needed help this year especially, because the school was switching from a system of buying books to a book rental system.

This year the enrollment was up to 37 and was still on the rise. Graduates included Rebecca Adams and Trent Portch. Field trips included one to the Hummer Road Nature Center and one to the National Gallery of Art. Mission dollars for 1980 were sent to the WELS Committee on Relief and the Sweden Conference and Aid Fund.

As is noted in the 1980 Annual Report, the US was going through a difficult period. These are the closing remarks of Miss Westendorf for 1980.

As this report is being written, a new United States President is about to be inaugurated, and we are fervently praying for the release of the American Hostages in Iran. 1981 will no doubt see many changes that will affect our lives. Some will seem beneficial, others detrimental to us. But through all these changes for you as members and we, as parents, students and teachers, one thing will remain constant. We will be fed daily with the Word of Life. May God lead us to appreciate this important blessing more and more each day, and may He continue to encourage and guide all efforts toward Christian education.¹²

1981 - 1982

During the 1981-82 school year Grace reached its highest enrollment with 44 students. However, following this year, the enrollment would fluctuate regularly. One major reason for this had to do with its location. Being located in a suburb of Washington, DC meant that there would be many people coming and going from this area due to their occupations with the government or with the military. Some of the other reasons for this flux in enrollment will be mentioned where they apply.

¹² Grace Lutheran Church and School, Annual Report, 1980, p. 22.

It was also in 1981 that Grace Lutheran Church called an assistant pastor. His responsibility was to explore the possibility of starting a new mission in the Manassas, Virginia area. Pastor Paul Ziemer accepted this call and by the grace of God founded a self-supporting mission congregation within 11 weeks.¹³ The enrollment of 44 students was therefore a combination of students from Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Manassas and Grace. This number also included 2 non-members.

1981 marked the beginning of Grace Lutheran School's monthly newspaper/newsletter entitled, 'Notes and News'. This publication began as a work done by the 4th - 8th graders, but would soon become a work of the whole student body. It served to inform parents and members of the congregation of all that was going on in connection with the school. This was just one more way the relationship between church and school was solidified.

The teacher aides this year were the same as the last helping with classes such as phy. ed. and art. One of these aides, Mrs. Virginia DeMarce, even taught German to those students who were interested.

The graduates this year included William Albrecht, Karl DeMarce, Margaret Howard and Paul Keiser. These last three students, Karl, Margaret (Peggy) and Paul, started their career at Grace in kindergarten and became the first students to graduate having completed all nine years at Grace.

Field trips this year included the Pet Farm, National Gallery of Art, Gunston Hall, the National Zoo, Smithsonian Air and Space Museum and the Capital. Missions for 1981 were sent to the Latin American Communications Fund.

1982 - 1983

The 1982-83 school year marked the 10th anniversary of Grace. The enrollment this year began with 32, yet ended with 30. This was quite a drop from the previous year and I believe many

¹³ Information found in "Pastor's Report," Annual Report, 1981, p. 2. By self-supporting I mean that they were no longer receiving operating subsidy from the synod. They were able to do this because no land had been purchased at this time.

factors can account for this loss in enrollment. The first factor, would be what I mentioned previously about a new church starting in Manassas. The to the distance between Bethlehem and Grace a couple students were not able to return. Second, that 4 students graduated and only 1 entered kindergarten. Third, a couple of families decided not to have their children return to Grace for various reasons and fourth, Divine Peace in Largo, Maryland started its own school in 1982 and a couple of students transferred there.

Once again the long list of teacher aides were active this year including one new helper, Mrs. Ann Howard. Graduates were Elizabeth Greenley, Christopher Portch and Kenneth Schmugge. Field trips included the Annandale Pet Shop, Sleepy Hollow Nursing Home, Senate and House office buildings, National Zoo, Fort Ward and Children's Museum in DC.

Mission money for 1982 went to the WELS World Mission Building Fund.

1983 - 1984

The 1983-1984 school year began with a party and ended with a party. The year began with a baby shower for Mrs. Clara Portch who had served for many years as a teacher's aide and ended with a farewell party for Mrs. Carol Anderson who was also an aide for many years. Because of the new addition into the Portch family Clara would not be able to help out much for the next few years and understandably so. However, the many years of service she had already given were a great benefit to the school. For Carol this school year would be the last because she would move to New York in the summer of 1984. Her many years of faithful service were also thankfully received.

It was during this school year that Grace was ushered into the age of computers. During the 1983-1984 school year computer literacy was added to the curriculum and taught by Mrs. Richards for grades 5-8, expanding to grades 1-8 the following year. With the addition of computers, another area in which the congregation was able to express its support of the school was recognized. Through donations and gifts the school continued to have the material and equipment necessary to keep pace

with the rest of the computer world. That was not always the case in some school districts, so again, the support from the church was highlighted.

The 1983-1984 school year saw two more firsts. In February the 7th and 8th grades participated in the MathCounts Contest and in May Grace held its first annual Science Fair. Both of these annual events carried on for several years and provided the students with even more learning opportunities.

Graduates in 1984 were Matthew Anderson, John DeMarce, Mark Huelle, Michelle Jenkinson, Juliane Richards, Barbara Schuler and Andrea Wollin. This class was the largest ever to graduate from Grace.

Field trips taken during this year were to the Museum of Natural History, Lisner Auditorium to watch "Freedom Train," the Air and Space Museum, Albert Einstein Planetarium and Pet Farm Park.

Mission money for 1983 was sent to the WELS Institutional Ministries Fund.

1984 - 1985

In 1984, 25 students were welcomed to Grace for another year of Christian education. Many different field trips were taken this year including trips to the National Zoo, Turkey Run, Supreme Court, National Aquarium, Gunston Hall, Gadsby's Tavern Museum and the Pet Farm.

The highlight of the year came in May when Grace traveled to Largo, Maryland to participate in the first annual Field Day. I remember that day very well. Sports was something I was always interested in and what a thrill it was to spend a day with other Christian 'grade-schoolers' in different competitions. This annual event would carry on for many years and provided the students with some wholesome Christian fellowship.

The graduates this year were Robert Howard, Jane Huelle and Jennifer Portch and mission offerings for 1984 were sent to the Apache Student Aid Fund.

On June 8, 1985, Colonel Robert C. Jenkinson was called home to glory. During his 15 years of membership at Grace, Bob served as a trustee and also as the chairman of the Christian Day School building committee. Bob helped Grace Lutheran School in many ways including the installation of a new, home-made, breakaway, basketball hoop. His services would not be soon forgotten and thanks be to God for his dedication and willingness to serve. In memory of Colonel Jenkinson a flag and flag pole were donated to the school and the pole was erected in front of the school building. This flag pole remains as a reminder of a good friend and a fine Christian gentleman.

Midway through this school year a new teacher was temporarily added to the staff. Miss Patricia Filber, a 1985 graduate from DMLC filled in for 10 weeks while Heidi (nee Baer) Zartman was on maternity leave. Miss Filber was a big hit with the students and it was hard to see her go. However, as was always the case, the students sent her off with a farewell party in March of 1986. If you have not picked it up already, the students of Grace were famous for their parties. It did not matter what the occasion was, the students just enjoyed celebrating every occasion with a party.

This school year also saw the addition of another called worker. This time it was a vicar. Raymond Bell was called to serve as a vicar at Grace and was a pleasant addition to the faculty. Ray was the first of many vicars to serve at Grace and was the first of many vicars who thoroughly enjoyed spending some quality time with the students. I add this point because Ray Bell was a big influence in my decision to attend a Prep school upon graduation. Even though Ray is no longer a minister in the Wisconsin Synod, his attitude toward the ministry and his general demeanor were a great influence to this young eighth grader.

With the arrival of Vicar Bell a new opportunity for worship was added to the school agenda.

Beginning in September, Vicar Bell and Pastor Beckmann began conducting monthly chapel services which took place on Wednesday mornings in place of Bible History. These services provided the

students with an opportunity to be in the church itself on a day other than Sunday. The idea of worship took on a new meaning for them and I believe they attained a greater appreciation for Christian worship.

In November the students held yet another party. This time it was a baby shower for Mrs. Zartman. Other activities this year included field trips to the Zoo, the Planetarium, Air and Space Museum and Lisner Auditorium. Selected 7th and 8th graders attended the MathCounts contest and the school participated in the second annual Field Day in Largo, Maryland.

A new teacher aide was added to the staff this year, Mrs. Lynda Roper. She offered assistance with map skills, Scholastic magazines and in other areas. The other new helper this year was MaryJo Hayes. MaryJo became the first bus driver for Grace. In an effort to open opportunities for more students to attend Grace, it was resolved by the voters assembly to begin a bus route to the Burke, Virginia area. This year saw that plan put into action. The efforts paid off because several new families were able to send their children to Grace. This bus program would continue for many years with the exception of the 87-88 school year.

There was one graduate this year from the 31 students: Paul Schuler, and mission money for 1985 was sent to the African Church Extension Fund.

1986 - 1987

This year brought with it many new teacher aides including Mrs. Nadine Dankert, Mrs. Myrtle Brown, Mrs. Ruth Boche, Mrs. Beverly Jenkinson and Mrs. Peggy Sinclair. As you can see, many members of Grace offered their services and gave of their time, which the teachers greatly appreciated.

The other addition to the staff this year was Vicar Jon Kuske. Vicar Kuske, along with Pastor Beckmann, continued the Wednesday morning chapel services and also was well received by the children.

Field trips included the Museum of Natural History, the Lisner Auditorium, Museum of History and Technology, the Supreme Court, the Capitol, Turkey Run Farm, Gadsby's Tavern Museum and Gunston Hall.

31 students attended Grace this year and 5 graduated: Carrie Deglow, Anne Gohlke, Marc Jenkinson, Mark Schuler, Lynn Wollin. Mission dollars for 1986 went to the Wisconsin Lutheran Child and Family Service in Milwaukee, Wisconsin and the WELS Central Asia Radio.

1987 - 1988

Only 22 students were enrolled at Grace this year and that number would fall even more as the year progressed. The graduation of 5 and the addition of no children in kindergarten explain part of this decline, but as was mentioned earlier, people who live in this metropolitan area tend to move around quite often. Therefore, this school year saw no students graduate from the 8th grade.

A new Vicar was again added to the staff this year - Peter Unnasch. Also, due to the fewer number of students, not as many teacher aides were needed and so the numbers decreased. One woman, however, was new to the school this year, Mrs. Jane Couillard. Jane helped with spelling, math, and also supervised the playground. Another teacher aide, Mrs. Ruth Boche, moved out of the area during this school year and the students said good-bye with a farewell party in February.

Sadly, Grace said good-bye to another teacher aide this year who was called home to glory.

Mrs. Peggy Sinclair was called to her eternal home on Nov. 21, 1987. She helped the school immensely for a few years and would be missed.

One of the highlights of the year was a presentation given by 1987 graduate Anne Gohlke. Anne was a Freshman at Martin Luther Preparatory School in Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin and presented information about her school. This was quite a treat for the students. Living so far from Wisconsin, it is rare that they received advertisements and much information about the synodical

schools. So thanks to Anne, the students were able to attach a familiar name and face to one of those schools. This was a great blessing for the students.

Field trips this year were taken to the Capitol, Turkey Run Farm, Sleepy Hollow Nursing Home, Gadsby's Tavern Museum, Gunston Hall and Lisner Auditorium.

Mission dollars for 1987 went to the Home Mission Foreign Language Study Fund and the African Medical Mission.

During the 1987-88 school year, Grace Lutheran Church celebrated its 25th anniversary. This milestone was quite a gift from a gracious God. Grace Lutheran Church was a pioneer on the East Coast and had a large part in the starting of many other congregations in the area. Grace Lutheran School also had a part in this through its mission offerings and prayers. As the school concluded its 15th year of operation Grace's member were able to reflect back on those years and see the guiding hand of a precious Savior. Thanks be to God for Grace Lutheran Church's 25 years of prosperity and Grace Lutheran School's 15 years of education.

1988 - 1989

The Lord blessed Grace with an increase in enrollment this year with 30 students K-8. Two of those students would graduate: Kelley Cullins and Paul Zarling. It is interesting to note here that of the 30 students enrolled this year, 9 were non-members. One can definitely see the hand of the Lord at work through this school.

At the beginning of the school year the faculty was supplemented by Mary Zarling who substituted for Heidi Zartman while she was on maternity leave for 6 weeks. Of course, before Mrs. Zarling could leave the students had to host a surprise party for her, which they did in October. Vicar Bill Tackmier was also added to the staff this year as well as other helpers: Gussie Bynaker, Jane Couillard, Stephanie Bynaker, Lucille Blackburn, Virginia DeMarce and Rachel Yungman.

As was mentioned earlier, during the last school year the bus program was not in operation. However, it was started up again this year with Mrs. Pamela Croll serving as the driver. Her services were greatly appreciated.

Field trips this year took the children to Sleepy Hollow Nursing Home, the Supreme Court, Great Falls Park, Maine Ave. Seafood places, the Kennedy Center and Lisner Auditorium.

During this school year a number of gifts were also graciously donated to the school. For the most part these gifts consisted of computer hardware and software, but other items were also received.

1989 - 1990

It became evident at the end of the last school year that the enrollment for this year and the following could be very low. With only 20 enrolled this year and Elizabeth Kubes being the sole graduate, this prediction became a reality. In an effort to boost enrollment and to heighten the recognition of Grace in the community, the Board of Education decided to carry out an advertising campaign. By doing so the community became more aware of the fact that there was a school of quality education right there in the neighborhood.

Pastor Walter Beckmann, along with the faculty also took note of this gradual decrease in enrollment over the past years and had some concerns about the future of the school. In fact, it was at this time when Miss Westendorf continued her education toward an advanced degree. Grace was not the only school in the synod who was struggling at this time. Some schools out in California had even closed down.¹⁴ Thanks be to God that closure was not necessary and for sustaining Grace through this difficult time.

Teacher aides who helped out this year included Gussie Bynaker, Dot Hoeting, Kathy Stout, Diana Anderson and Rachel Yungman. Vicar Brad Wordell was also added to the staff this year and

¹⁴ Information found in a letter of correspondence with Pastor Walter Beckmann, dated March 25, 1998.

the students took one trip to Sleepy Hollow Nursing Home. Another highlight this year was the opportunity to enjoy a variety of presentations. Throughout the year many of the members from Grace visited the school to talk to the students about their careers and occupations. The students heard first hand about work as a police officer, an architect, an artist and others. The students were also given information about some of the different cultures represented in the congregation like the Iranian and Vietnamese cultures. These presentations served well to open the eyes of the students to a variety of life experiences.

As this school year ended the faculty and students said good-bye to a dearly loved teacher. Mrs. Heidi Zartman would resign her call at Grace after this year and she would be missed. For a decade the teaching staff of Miss Westendorf, Mrs. Richards and Mrs. Zartman had remained the same. These three woman worked very well together, had fun working together and were able to run Grace Lutheran School without a hitch. The hard work and faithful teaching which these women gave was greatly appreciated by every member of Grace. The many faithful years which Heidi gave would never be forgotten and God be praised for her dedicated work.

1990 - 1991

Even though Mrs. Zartman was no longer a full time teacher she did offer her services as a substitute this year along with Mrs. Beckmann. The other teacher aides this year were Dorothy Hoeting, Diana Anderson, Jane Couillard, Gussie Bynaker, Clara Portch, Kathy Stout, Shirley Roe, Tracie Onsager, Rachel Yungman and Jean Foster. However, the greatest change took place this year with the addition of Mr. John Keibel as principal.

Mr. Keibel was a 1990 graduate from DMLC and was given a one-year call to serve as teacher and principal. With the addition of Mr. Keibel the arrangement of teacher responsibilities would undergo a great change. For 18 years Miss Westendorf had served as school administrator and, for the most part, teacher of the upper grades. With the arrival of Mr. Keibel, Miss Westendorf was able to

hand over the administrative duties to him as well as the upper grades. This change served to be quite a blessing. It freed Miss Westendorf from a very challenging workload and allowed her the opportunity to start teaching the younger children again. This change gave Miss Westendorf a renewed vigor to serve her Lord. With less responsibilities she was able to spend more of her time focusing on the teaching of Jesus' precious little lambs which was something that brought her true joy.

During the spring of this year Miss Westendorf reached the 25 year mark in her teaching career. Thankfully, Grace reaped the benefits of most of those years. During her career at Grace Miss Westendorf received many calls to cities like Milwaukee, Menominee Falls, Wonewoc, Green Bay and Grafton, Wisconsin; New Ulm, Minnesota; Seattle, Washington; San Diego, Califorinia; Crete, Illinois and others. Grace can be thankful that the Lord led her to remain with them. She fulfilled a role that not many people could and for her many years of service, may God be praised.

This year ended with 31 students and 2 graduates, Pamela Gohlke and Kris McGary.

1991 - 1992

The enrollment for the 1991-1992 school year was only 19. However, there were still quite a number of teacher aides who gave of their time: Dorothy Hoeting, Diana Anderson, Jane Couillard, Gussie Bynaker, Clara Portch, Kathy Stout, Shirley Roe, Marilyn Beckmann, Tracie Onsager, Peggy Ottenheimer, Loretta Zirkel, Rachel Yungman, Peggy Foster and Bob and Phyllis Steffensen. The other new addition was Vicar Aaron Glaeske.

As this year started there was a time of great nervousness. The current bus driver was moving with her husband overseas. However, the providential hand of the Lord was seen again when a woman named Lori Cousins accepted the job at the last minute.

¹⁵ This information is found in a letter of correspondence with Susan Westendorf, dated march 25, 1998.

It was also at the start of this year that Mr. Keibel's call to serve as principal was made permanent. This pleased the members of Grace and they looked forward to having him around for a longer period of time.

Field trips this year included Sleepy Hollow Nursing Home, Lisner Auditorium, Claude Moore Colonial Farm, the Air and Space Museum, National Gallery of Art, National Cathedral and the Tortilla Maya Company.

Those who graduated this year were Michelle Gohlke and John Norwood.

1992 - 1993

The 1992-1993 school year brought with it some new faces. Another new vicar was welcomed, Mr. Brett Bauer, as well as a new principal, Mr. Steve Lauber. At the end of the previous year Mr. John Keibel made the decision to resign his call as principal. Thankfully, Grace was able to receive another graduate from DMLC. Mr. Lauber was assigned to a one year call as principal. Mr. Lauber filled the position quite adequately and with 25 students Grace enjoyed another year under God's favor.

Teacher aides this year were Gussie Bynaker, Ann Howard, Kathy Stout and Loretta Zirkel and substitute teachers were Mrs. Zarling and Mrs. Koeplin.

Another blessing this year came with the opening of a new mission in Woodbridge, Virginia. With the addition of some students from that area the ratio of WELS members to non-WELS members enrolled at Grace was back up to 1:1. In past years this had become a major concern. With the number of member students dropping below the number of non-member students, the Board of Education was forced to continually evaluate the purpose of the school as well as its future. So with the increase in this ratio, things were looking up.

Another blessing received from the new mission in Woodbridge, was the service of its pastor and his wife. They were able to drive the school van for Grace and filled a much needed position. Therefore, the Woodbridge mission was a graciously received addition to the area.

Field trips this year included Sleepy Hollow Nursing Home, Smithsonian, Bull Run and the Air and Space Museum.

1993 - 1994

At the end of the previous school year Principal Lauber asked to be reassigned rather than having his call made permanent. Thankfully, the Lord provided Grace with another graduate, Steve Balsa. Mr. Balza carried out his work faithfully and was well accepted by the faculty and congregation.

Those who offered their helped by substitute teaching this year were Mrs. Zarling, Mrs. Zarlman, Mrs. Beckmann and the new vicar, Mr. David Schleusener. Also offering their help were a number of teacher aides: Loretta Zirkel, Judy Boose, Gussie Bynaker, Rosalie Greenley, Susie Krause and Kathy Stout.

Some highlights from the year were trips to George Mason University for a couple musical performances, the Kennedy Center, Sleepy Hollow Nursing Home, the Naval Academy, Great Falls and the National Zoo.

Graduates this year were Patrick During, Pieter Landers and Robert Siblo.

1994 - 1995

There were a few new additions this year including Vicar Don Schultz and teacher aides Peggy Foster and Stephanie Chartrand. Some other additions were another new bus driver named Jennifer Olive and a new school custodian Carl Binswanger who was also unofficially known as the 'teacher morale-booster.' 16

Some special events this year included the regular field trips to places like Fort Pumpkin, the Kennedy Center, the National Gallery of Art and Sleepy Hollow Nursing Home. Also, the eighth graders were privileged to take a trip to Michigan Lutheran Seminary, the National Cathedral, the Capitol, the Supreme Court and Gettysburg.

The year ended with three graduates: Charlotte Bossi, Caroline Foster and Robert Kubes. It also ended with a little school spirit. The eagle was chosen as the school mascot with reference to Isaiah 40:31 and blue and gold were chosen as the school colors. For the future, Grace was looking into starting a school store which would carry GLS imprinted items and they were also looking into initiating a sports program.

1995 - 1996

This school year would see another change in the teaching staff. In December of 1995 Mr. Balza handed in his resignation so that he might pursue other career opportunities. Mr. Balza served faithfully for two and half years and was instrumental in promoting and advancing school spirit. The Lord used him to train young men and women and for that let Christ's name be praised. His replacement, Mr. Brett Kriese, a mid-year graduate, was assigned half way through the year and successfully brought the 95-96 school year to a close.

Other additions to the faculty this year were Vicar Dan Sims and Mrs. Beth Rupprecht. Mrs. Rupprecht was indeed a blessing to Grace because she was a fully trained teacher in the Wisconsin Synod. Previously she taught at a WELS school in California and was now bringing her talents to the

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¹⁶ This comment was made by Principal Steve Balza in the 1994 Annual Report, p. 18. Working with Carl was also named as one of Miss Westendorf's fondest memories of her years at Grace found in a letter of correspondence with Sue Westendorf, dated March 25, 1998.

East Coast. Mrs. Rupprecht served as a substitute this year and became a wonderful addition to the school family.

One major purchase was made this year and that was a new 15 passenger van. Thankfully, along with that van came a willing soul to drive it for the entire year, Mrs. Sue Rose.

Teacher aides this year were Gussie Bynaker, Loretta Zirkel, Kathy Stout, Susie Krause, Peggy Foster, Stephanie Chartrand, Peggy Ottenheimer, Deborah McQueen and Jane Wills. Carl Binswanger continued his work as janitor this year and also received the title of "the comical conversational custodian."

Field trips took the children to the Capitol, the Children's Museum, the Kennedy Center and Sleepy Hollow Nursing Home. The year ended with 28 students, yet no eighth grade graduates.

1996 - 1997

As the 1995-1996 school year drew to a close, it was decided to call a more experienced person from the field to take over the responsibilities of principal. Mr. Kreise served faithfully to complete the school year and after returning to the assignment committee received a permanent call to serve in Algoma, Wisconsin.

To replace Mr. Kreise and to carry out the responsibilities of principal and teacher of the upper grades, Mr. Robert Rebers was called. Mr. Rebers, his wife Lynn and their two children, Bethany and Kathryn, came to Grace from Immanuel Lutheran School in Sault Ste Marie, Michigan. In Michigan, Mr. and Mrs. Rebers were the faculty and now have come to Grace to be part of theirs. When asked to state some reasons for accepting the call to Grace, Mr. Rebers wrote, "We had both been teaching in Michigan so this was an opportunity for her to be home with our children." The Rebers have been a welcomed addition to Grace's family.

¹⁷ This title was given to him by Steve Balza in the 1995 Annual report, p. 18.

¹⁸ Quoted from letter of correspondence with Robert Rebers, dated March 25, 1998.

Thirty-five students were enrolled this year, two of which would graduate in 97, Deanna During and Ernst Hunter. The substitute teachers this year were Mrs. Rupprecht, Mrs. Kline and Mrs. Rebers. Also a new bus driver was welcomed, Mr. Scott McKeown.

As the 1996-1997 school year started, Grace welcomed a new member to its staff - Pastor Kevin Wattles. Pastor Wattles was called as a result of the synod's decision to supply all its District Presidents with graduate assistants instead of vicars. By 1995 all but three districts (North Atlantic, Pacific Northwest and South Central) had received graduate assistants. Finally, in 1996 the president of the North Atlantic District, Pastor Beckmann, received his. For the past 11 years Grace had welcomed vicars to the staff, yet this year the Lord moved the assignment committee to place Pastor Wattles among the flock in Falls Church, Virginia. Pastor Wattles is originally from Lincoln, Nebraska and is graduate of Nebraska Lutheran High School, Northwestern College and Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary. Upon graduation from WLS, Pastor Wattles was given a one year call to Grace. Having moved to Virginia with his new bride, Jill, Pastor Wattles was ordained and installed on August 18, 1996. Pastor Wattles soon became a valuable part of Grace's family and was welcomed with open arms.

Grace would sadly have to say good bye to two special people by the end of the year and they would be missed. First, word was received in October that Mrs. Phyllis Schmugge has died in Minnesota. Mrs. Schmugge had served as a teacher aide for many years in the late 1970's and throughout the 1980's and was loved by many. Her death came as quite a shock to many because she was not that old. Yet, the Lord works in mysterious ways and the members of Grace can praise him for all that he has done. Mrs. Schmugge served faithfully for many years and her gift of time and talents will not be soon forgotten.

¹⁹ Information found in letter of correspondence with Pastor Walter Beckmann, dated March 25, 1998.

Secondly, during the summer following this school year the students and faculty would have to say good-bye to Mr. Carl Binswanger who was transferred out of the area. Carl was about as cheerful as they come. He was able to tell jokes that could get even the most discouraged and frustrated teacher to crack a smile. His sense of humor, his wit and his enthusiasm for his Savior would be sorely missed.

As to the rest of this school year, field trips were taken to the Lisner Theater, Children's Museum, Sleepy Hollow Nursing Home, and the Heidelburg Bakery. Also, as always, many people gave of their time to help the school this year and for that the faculty was thankful.

1997 - 1998

As I am writing this paper, this is the present school year. Upon its conclusion, Grace Lutheran School will have faithfully served its Lord by training children in the truths of God's Word for 25 years. Indeed, this is cause for great rejoicing. Another cause for great rejoicing is the fact that Grace has reached its highest enrollment ever with 45 students. Even though the school year will end with only 44, due to a transfer, this still remains a wonderful blessing from God.

This year there is one substitute teacher, Mrs. Lynn Rebers, and two volunteer teacher aides, Mrs. Kathy Stout and Mary Vargas. I make a point to say 'volunteer' because this year Grace added its first paid teacher aide, Mrs. Peggy Foster. Mrs. Foster has been as great addition to the Grace faculty. Her services, along with the services of the other teacher aides, have been graciously received.

Field trips this year are being taken to the Lisner Theater, Children's Museum, National Gallery of Art and Sleepy Hollow Nursing Home. Also, this coming June, these 4 students will graduate: Matthew Anderson, Betsy Foster, Sean Grewal and Paul Mastin.

One final change which occurred this school year happened back in December. Pastor Walter Beckmann, the man who started this congregation and has kept it running under God's grace, announced his semi-retirement. Why semi-retirement and not full? Out of love for the public ministry

and for the synod. When asked what led him to this decision he wrote, "I chose semi rather than full retirement because of the number of vacancies in the synod, and also because I felt I still had something to offer the church." Indeed, he was right. Pastor Beckmann still serves as President of the North Atlantic District and since he has started to receive his social security income the only work he gets paid for is about 20 hours worth at Grace. The work he still does for the synod he considers a freewill contribution.²¹

Pastor Beckmann saw Grace Lutheran School begin back in 1973 and still watches it train Jesus' little lambs today. For all the hard work, all the words of encouragement and support given to the staff and for the countless prayers offered on behalf of Grace - all thanks and praise be given to the almighty God.

As this school year ends, students and faculty will say good-bye to Mrs. Beth Rupprecht. This summer she will be moving to Japan with her family and she will be missed. For her talents in the classroom and for her gifts offered in the area of music, may God be glorified.

The Future

During this past year a building program was started. What began as a remodel to make the church handicap accessible soon became a major building undertaking which will not only make the church handicap accessible, but will also double the size of the school, enlarge the fellowship area, as well as the sanctuary, and add office space. The man appointed to be the chairman of this building project is Don Richards. With the help of the Building Committee²² the following steps have already been put into action:

1. Mr. Larry Barton, AIA, has been hired and has completed the architectural plans for the

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²⁰ Quoted from letter of correspondence with Pastor Walter Beckmann, dated March 25, 1998.

²¹ This information is found in a letter of correspondence with Pastor Walter Beckmann, dated March 25, 1998.

²² For a list of those people who are serving on the Building committee, see Appendix A.

addition. After offering plans A, B and C, to the members of Grace he was asked to produce plans E and F which were to be a combination of the first three.²³ This was completed and the voters overwhelmingly voted for Plan E.²⁴ Therefore, the application for a Special Use Permit was submitted to Fairfax County in February of 1998.

- 2. Mr. Greg Hawes of Gallifant, Hawes & Jeffers, Ltd. was hired to provide civil engineering services.
- 3. Ms. Sarah E. Hall of Blankenship & Keith has been hired to handle legal dealings with Fairfax County.

It becomes quite obvious after reading the detailed plans which have been offered in regard to this building project that Grace has been blessed with some gifted people and stewardship minded individuals. Lord willing this project will be completed in the very near future and Grace Lutheran Church and School will continue to provide its members and those in its community with the saving message of Christ crucified.

Conclusion

For 25 years Grace Lutheran School has provided quality Christian education for a number of children. Some of those children are now married and have their own children. Some have become doctors, some teachers and some government employees. Some are attending Colleges and Universities around the country and still others are looking forward to 8th grade graduation and entering High School.

The teaching staff at Grace has been exceptional over the years and has faithfully provided Christian training and nurture for those in their care. One teacher in particular has been active since the school began and has continually been a source of encouragement and guidance for all her students,

²³ Plan D dealt with the additions to the parking lot.

²⁴ See Appendix B for a drawing of this plan.

namely, Miss Susan Westendorf. When Miss Westendorf came to Grace she was given quite a challenge. Yet, with the help of her Lord, she took on that challenge and has continued teaching gospel truths to the children for many years. For her many years of service and for her future years of Christian training we thank our God and ask him to be with her.

As I look back over the years I can see good times and bad. I can see the enrollment reaching 44 and I can also see the school facing a possible shut down. Yet, through it all, I see the Lord's guiding hand leading teachers, parents and a supporting congregation to operate a school that has trained Jesus' little lambs for 25 years.

As was explained throughout this paper, there are a large number of people who made a great impact on this school. From the teachers to the teacher aides to Carl the custodian, many Christian people have given of themselves to the glory of God. However, there is one name I have failed to mention up to this point. I suppose I purposely did this so he would get the recognition he truly deserves, but I did not do it to overlook the many others who deserve the same recognition. The man I am speaking of is Mr. Len Wilson. Len Wilson was recently called home to heaven, but his memory is still with us today. If you would take a tour through the classrooms today and would take the time to glance around the room, chances are your eyes will browse over something that Len designed, built or installed. I can remember from my years at Grace some of the cabinets that he built and the counters he installed. Yet, I cannot remember ever hearing Len say, "So what do you think of my work?" One day there could be boxes stacked to the ceiling and the next day those boxes would be neatly stacked in storage cabinets and it was a given that Len had taken care of things in his own humble way. Grace Lutheran School was indeed blessed through the humble service of Len Wilson and for that we can thank our gracious heavenly Father.

As I bring this paper to a close there are a number of people I would like to thank, but I think I have used up enough paper so I will summarize. To all the teachers of Grace, past and present, and to

both pastors - thank you so much for your words of insight and for returning your questionnaires with such promptness. To the members of Grace who have invited me to preach for your 25th anniversary I thank you and look forward to the opportunity and to our gracious Lord who thought it nothing to send his only Son that we all might live forever with him in paradise - Thank You!

Dear Lord, bless this school now and forever! Amen.

APPENDIX A

The following is a list of those members who were appointed to the building committee on June 27, 1971

Chairman - R. C. Jenkinson

Members - L. Brown, J. Howard, M. Russell, W. Holls, A. Kraft, L. Wilson

(Note: This committee finished its work with M. Schuler serving as chairman.)

The following is a breakdown of cost for the school building project submitted in 1975.

E. L. Daniels - Contractor	\$142,127.65
T. J. Madigan - Architect	16,466.71
Fairfax County - Fees and Permits	350.00
Soil Consultant	585.00
Note Program and Legal Fees	84.26
Teachers' Desks and File Cabinets	423.90
Shelves	335.12
Locks and Fire Extinguishers	177.88
Shrubbery	43.25

TOTAL COST - \$160,593.77

The following is a list of the names and grades of those students who were enrolled at Grace Lutheran School during its first year of operation.

<u>Kindergarten</u>: Tania Boettcher, Peggy Howard, Paul Keiser, Karl DeMarce, Christine Prosek

<u>1st Grade</u>: Emily Greenley, Marty Kuehn, Lee Morgan

<u>2nd Grade</u>: Curt Beachley

3rd Grade: Kris Kuehn

The following is a list of those members who are presently serving on the Building Committee for Grace Lutheran Church.

Chairman: Donald Richards
Financial Chairman: Donald Hoeting
James DeMarce, Richard During, T.J. Klungseth, Daryl Knuth, Jim Mueller,
Robert Rebers, Melvin Schuler, Pastor Beckmann, Pastor Wattles



