



# Transition Team Survey # 5 - Part 1

## What has our history taught us?

Your name:

*Your name helps us reach every member.*

Our significant historical moments and our collective history are important for us to understand who we are as a congregation. The church is a body of people, and like the larger church, we as a congregation have a history. To know who we are means to know what we have experienced. In this survey, we ask you to recall highlights, challenges, and growth moments with the congregation, and especially as a congregation. This survey has 2 parts and is intended to be facilitated with a 17-minute meeting with room and time for your additional reflections in writing. Please return to any transition team member, the office, the webservant mail box by May 22, 2011.

4/25/2011

1944

LCOS HISTORY & MY HISTORY

The Rev. Elmer E. Christiansen 1945-1947	First Worship Service October 1, 1944, 2760 "D" Street in a renovated home. Officially organized May 1945, American Lutheran Church. Dedication of New Chapel April 7, 1946, 30th and "G" Streets.
The Rev. Theodore T. Brueckner 1948-1952	First Parsonage Completed, February 1948. Groundbreaking for New Sanctuary, April 17, 1948. Laying of Cornerstone, May 28, 1950. Dedication of New Sanctuary, March 30, 1952.
The Rev. Elmer H. Doering 1953-1964	Dedication of a new Education Unit and Parsonage, April 3, 1955. Became member of the American Lutheran Church, 1964. Planning Committee tours new Church site, September 24, 1964.
The Rev. Lester H. Hoffmann 1964-1971	Last Service at LCOS, 30th and "G" Street, August 28, 1966. Groundbreaking at New Site Parish Hall, February 27, 1966, 5050 N. Sierra Way. Parish Hall completed, September 1966. Laying of New Cornerstone for Sanctuary, October 30, 1966. Dedication of New Sanctuary and Parish Hall, January 29, 1967.
The Rev. Kenneth T. Caudill 1971-1991	Dedication of New Addition: Offices, Library & Nursery, June 20, 1976. Installation of Stained Glass Windows, December 19, 1978. Groundbreaking for New Education Unit, March 20, 1988. Dedication of new Visser-Rowland Pipe Organ, October 29, 1989. Became a part of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, 1991.
The Rev. Mark A. Bankson 1989-1993	
The Rev. Michael Stolts 1993-1997	Celebration of its 50th Anniversary, May 21, 1995.
The Rev. Eugene R. Holtz 1992-1998	Dedication of Friendship Center, April 22, 2001.
The Rev. Elwood "Woody" Hall, 1999-2010	Groundbreaking for Renovation, September 21, 2008. First worship in renovated sanctuary, September 13, 2009. Dedication of renovated facilities, October 18, 2009. Celebration of 65th Anniversary of the Congregation, June 6, 2010.



## Results Survey # 5

### What has our history taught us?

19 written responses plus additional feedback from 1 forum after each service

This part is very important. All congregations, like all families, and like the whole Church from the time of the Apostles, has conflicts, difficult experiences, losses, and various challenges. While the issues that result in conflict are of some interest, there have and always will be old and new issues for disagreement. So even more of interest to a potential candidate is what we have learned through our history. How have we grown over the years of working, worshiping, and serving together in the midst of loss, disagreement, and other challenges? Please express your thoughts in one of the 17-minute meetings and/or write a response in the space below.

Following is a summary of the responses received to the survey:

*We asked for self-reflection: When & where were you baptized?*

*We asked: What brought you to LCOS?*

- Family and friends; child in Sunday school
- The pipe organ
- Closure of Norton AFB
- Closest church to home

*We asked: What is your most joyful memory of LCOS?*

- Baptism/Confirmation of children/grandchildren; wedding; anniversaries
- Christmas Eve, Easter services with full Choir and Brass Choir
- Worship, music and friends;
- Meeting thoughtful and outgoing people
- Becoming a member;
- Being commissioned as a Lay Pastor;
- Receiving Holy Communion
- Renewal services in the 1990's;
- HARK Christmas musical play
- Purchase of this site after eviction from 30th & G Streets
- 1st service Christmas Eve in new Sanctuary by candlelight (no electricity)
- 1st service in renovated Sanctuary (old and new together); completed renovation
- Congregation service and picnic at Wildwood Park
- Teaching 3 and 4 year olds;
- Being WELCA president

*We asked: What is the most difficult task that the congregation had to face in its history?*

- Renovation (10)
- Being evicted, buying new property, building again in mid 60's(5)
- Declining membership (2)
- Finances (2)
- Aging membership
- Statement from ELCA
- Getting people to serve on Council

*We asked: What was the most significant congregational conflict in the last 25 years?*

- Human Sexuality Statement adopted by ELCA (17)
- Time of service
- Not retaining Contemporary Director
- Renovation
- Choice of Services

*We asked: What did the congregation learn from it?*

We can be more accepting and tolerant of different viewpoints, we can disagree and still be part of the Body of Christ, we can thoughtfully discuss issues, and we can work together through difficulties and change.