



## LBCM ANNUAL MEETING

Pastor Richard Vevia opened the meeting with a few remarks about the different services in different languages at various times at Calvary Lutheran. After an opening prayer, LBCM president Pastor Cathy B. called the 2010 Annual meeting to order. The minutes from the 2009 Annual meeting were read and approved. The Treasurer's report was given, several questions were answered by the Treasurer about the report and it was also approved. A new budget of \$229,924.00 was presented. A short explanation on item 14 - Projects, really depends on how many mission teams we'll have in 2010. The funds for projects are received and dispersed and the figure of \$90,000.00 is a projected guess. The new budget was adopted.

Annie L. entertained the attendees with three Christian songs with a "Mariachi" style which has become very popular in Mexico.

New board members were introduced and approved. Our new board members are Pastor Doug J. from St James Lutheran in Imperial Beach CA, Gail N. from Morning Star Lutheran in Lakeside CA, Pastor Michael H. from Clairemont Lutheran in San Diego CA, Pastor Salvador F. and Michelle G, both from First Lutheran in El Cajon, CA. LBCM thanked the Board members that were leaving this year, Pastor Cathy B., Lois Y., Chris M., Erin K. and Pastor John D. LBCM looks forward to having Pastor John D. continue as a Pastoral Advisor.

A report about the difficulties that have come up crossing the border with items into Mexico was reported by Manny Cruz. LBCM is still able to get across many items needed by the people, just in small quantities.

Manny Cruz announced that he has notified the LBCM Board that he would like to retire in October of 2010. Manny began his career with LBCM in October of 1985 and he decided that at the 25th year it would be a good time to retire. The LBCM Board has begun working on this transition. Manny expressed that he has been blessed by God by getting to meet so many good people, who happen to be good Christians, who happen to be good Lutherans. He thanked everyone for the opportunity to serve his Lord and to help the people in Mexico. Manny feels that helping people on both sides of the border also means that Christians living north of the border need opportunities to share their blessings received with those less fortunate, including sharing the comfort we receive from God through His Son's sacrifice on the Cross.

Before adjourning the meeting, the LBCM website address was given: [lutheranborderconcernsministry.org](http://lutheranborderconcernsministry.org) and it was announced that Thrivent Financial was going to be matching the offering to be used for the Angel Scholarship Program. The LBCM Annual meeting was adjourned and everyone gathered for a meal of fantastic Mexican food.

## A SHORT HISTORY OF S.E.C. (CHRISTIAN EDUCATION SERVICES)

When Dr. Gussick was called to LBCM to serve as its first Director, it was with the understanding that he would continue to work on the literature program started by him and direct LBCM. When I came in 1985, Pastor Gussick took the time, on many occasions while driving or waiting at the border, to explain the history of his pioneering efforts in Central America. The importance of producing Spanish literature and his love and desire to make available this material to the Spanish speaking world was evident in our conversations. I will always appreciate those times together.

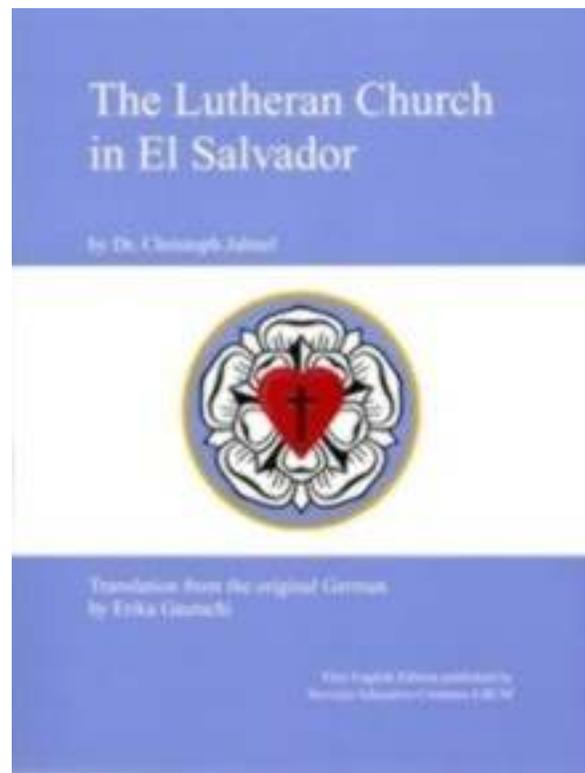
The S.E.C. office in Guatemala published Sunday school, VBS and many other forms of religious study materials. In 1986, Dr. Harry Wendt's "The Divine Drama" was introduced and S.E.C. was given permission to translate it into Spanish. Then the Guatemala office closed and was relocated to Arizona.

In November of 2006, LBCM received a letter from Pastor McClure in Tucson, now the Literature Consultant for LBCM. Pastor McClure worked in Guatemala for many years alongside Pastor Gussick. He informed LBCM about a book written in 2005, in German, by Pastor Christoph Jahnel, telling the history of the Lutheran church in El Salvador. Pastor John Huber had a copy and shared it at the LBCM Annual meeting on March 5, 2006. After more than a year of searching, Pastor McClure had found a translator to translate the book from German to English. Pastor McClure's letter was read at the LBCM Board of Directors meeting on December 2, 2006, requesting the approval of \$10,000 out of the Divine Drama account to translate the book into English. At that same meeting, the Board approved the proposal by Pastor McClure. It was estimated it would take at least a year to accomplish the translation. In the meantime, copyrights and other publishing requirements had to be worked out. In March 2008, Pastor McClure informed the LBCM Board that the translation was finished, but he would need an additional \$1,000 to compensate the translator. It was approved. Editing and publishing rights were then worked out. The book was introduced at the 2009 LBCM Annual meeting.

During 2009, conversations and communication with Pastor McClure focused on letting S.E.C. go on its own. The LBCM Board wanted the assurance that S.E.C. was approved as a non-profit entity in Arizona and with the I.R.S. This was assured by Pastor McClure after seeking legal advice and as of January of this year S.E.C. has been on its own. The remainder of S.E.C. funds that were in LBCM accounts has been transferred to S.E.C.

If you'll notice the LBCM heading on the front page of this newsletter no longer has a Literature Consultant and the wording in the box on the back has been changed. LBCM continues to provide religious Spanish literature to the churches in Mexico. A very popular booklet is Portales de Oracion (Portals of Prayer). We also provide Buenas Noticias (Good News), various pamphlets and Bibles. Study materials from Concordia Hispanic Institute have been used extensively in Ministry training.

People interested in the book "The Lutheran Church in El Salvador" can write S.E.C. at 2012 East Monte Vista Dr, Tucson AZ 85719 or E-mail – lcesbook@gmail.com -M.C.



## LEGNA'S CORNER

By Legna Lanza

The following is a testimony from lay pastor Josue Del Carmen who leads the mission **Lirios de Los Valles (Lily of the Valley)** in one of the communities that has been hit with severe delinquency in the past year. I wanted to share it with you, for you to see how God is working in the lives of young people.

*Oscar Alvarez N. is a senior in high school and he is 18-years old. He is one of seven young people from **Lirios de Los Valles** involved in the Angel Scholarship Program.*

*As a pastor I have seen how God has been guiding Oscar's Christian faith through the service he gives here at church. Oscar could only do his service, which is required by the Angel Scholarship Program, on Sundays. He has been in charge of placing the music tracks for the church service and installing the electronic equipment.*

*From the time he started, God started working in his life. He did not like singing, but now he enjoys singing out loud and he also reads the Bible for the Sunday service.*

*He was eager to learn more about God and started asking me questions. He wanted his family to be involved in his new life with Christ and invited me to do a Bible study at his home. Through this I got a chance to meet his parents and his brothers and sisters. It's been eight months since Oscar's family started*

*studying the Bible and now they are involved in church.*

*Oscar is a young man that has been through tough times, coming from a low income family, but now he sees everything in a new light, the light of God, and he wants to become a better person.*

*May God continue to bless each person that makes the Angel Scholarship Program possible. This is a program that has produced many good results from the planted seeds of love.*

*–Pastor Josue*

*May God continue to help support this ministry that gives so much hope to young lives.* –Legna



Oscar is in charge of setting up the electronic equipment for services at **Lirios de Los Valles (Lily of the Valley)**.

**MISSION TEAMS**

January - February - March 2010

FROM	PROJECT
<b>Bethlehem LC</b> Auburn CA	Various
<b>Zion LC</b> Victorville CA	1 House
<b>Good Shepherd LC</b> Yucaipa CA	2 Houses
<b>Covenant Community</b> Orange CA	VBS
<b>Christ LC</b> Costa Mesa CA	1 House
<b>Faith LC</b> Meadow Vista CA	2 Houses
<b>Mt Cross LC</b> Camarillo CA	1 House



Filberto J. playing guitar and leading the singing at Independencia. This is the area near the recent earthquake on Easter Sunday. At this time LBCM has no word from San Luis concerning damage or problems. Young Job J. continues to lead the services once a week.

**NEEDS**

Digital camera, new or used, in good working condition  
 Diarrhea medicine  
 Spanish Bibles with Martin Luther's Small Catechism from Lutheran Heritage Foundation: [www.LHFmissions.org](http://www.LHFmissions.org)

The LUTHERAN BORDER CONCERNS MINISTRY (formerly the Lutheran Baja California Mission) is independent, inter-Lutheran, non-profit incorporated in California in 1967 to supplement ongoing Lutheran efforts with Latin Americans on both sides of the border. All programs are supported solely through voluntary contributions. Initially the work centered in two of the fastest growing and economically depressed areas in the Americas, in the border cities of Tijuana and Mexicali, today we include San Luis Rio Colorado. LBCM continues to provide religious Spanish literature to all areas we are currently working in. ALL GIFTS TO LBCM ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE. With a dollar or more contribution, one becomes an LBCM member.