

Lutheran  
Building  
Men in  
Men for  
Mission  
Christ

# foundations

*"I didn't know Lutherans could worship like this!"*

## Lutheran Men's Gathering Success Stories

The 1999 Lutheran Men's Gathering brought together more than 600 grandfathers, fathers, sons and friends to explore what it means to "build a legacy of faith and

Men from "the plains, hills, seashores and mountains discovered a fresh relationship with God and with other men on the same faith journey," said Doug Haugen, director for LMM – the men's organization of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA).

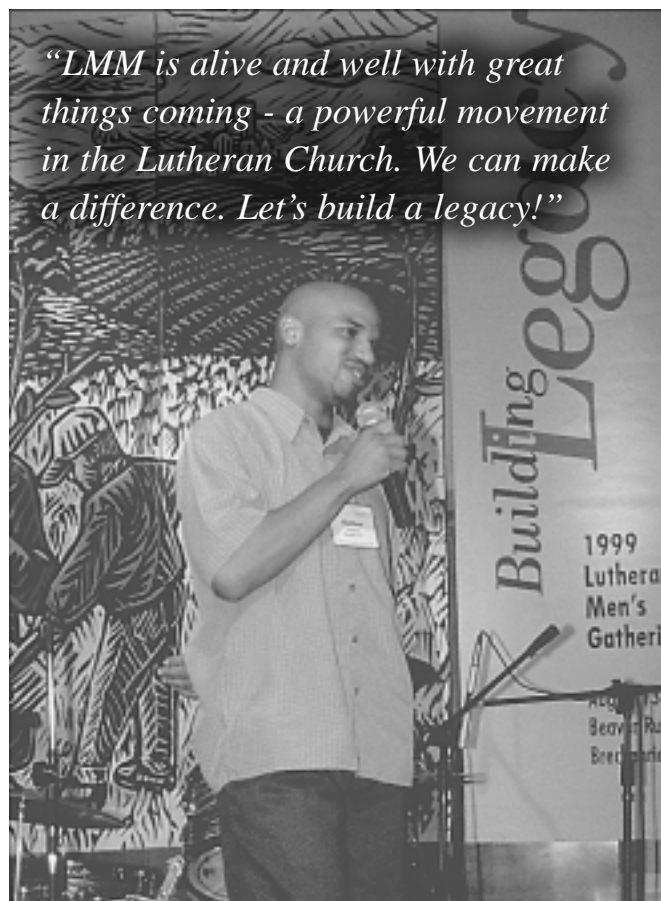
The goals of the gathering were three-fold, Haugen said. "The event served to connect men from all generations in America today; spark new men's ministries in ELCA congregations; and uplift and support the ministry of Lutheran Men in Mission," he said. Lutheran Men in Mission is organized in 42 of the ELCA's 65 synods.

The Rev. H. George

### Building Legacy

life" that will make a difference in families today and for generations to come. The gathering took place August 13-15 here at the Beaver Run Resort.

Under the theme, "Building Legacy," men worshiped, sang, participated in workshops and heard keynote presentations.



*"LMM is alive and well with great things coming - a powerful movement in the Lutheran Church. We can make a difference. Let's build a legacy!"*

Matthew Wangerin talks to the men gathered for his workshop.

Anderson, presiding bishop of the ELCA, greeted the gathering. "Recognize that you are a legacy. The time men spend with young people is rare in today's society. You are unique."

Anderson said Breckenridge is an appropriate place for this gathering. "A mountain is a good place

to be," he said. "Moses met God and received the Ten Commandments on a mountain, and the disciples came to know more about Jesus on a mountain."

The Rev. Walter (Walt) Wangerin Jr., host of Lutheran Vespers, the radio ministry of the ELCA, led a keynote presentation with his

### Success Stories

*Continued on page 4*

# \$100,000

## Challenge Jumpstarts Ambitious Fundraising Goal

An anonymous donor has stepped forward and issued a \$100,000 challenge to every individual, congregation and synod supporting Lutheran Men in Mission. Doug Haugen, director of Lutheran Men in Mission, announced the challenge at the Lutheran Men's Gathering on August 14.

**\$100,000 Challenge**  
*Continued on page 3*

# Millions of Men are Looking for Faith...

**W**ow! Awesome! Spectacular! These are just a few of the words that we have noticed as we have reviewed the evaluations of the 1999 Lutheran Men's Gathering and read our office mail and e-mail. Bishop Anderson stated to me the week after the event, "This ministry has risen to the next level!"

As nice as it is to hear all those good words it's the stories of what happened to men when they were there... and when they

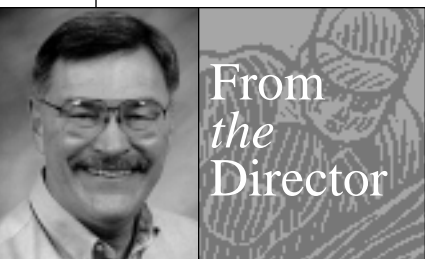
returned home that really touch me. We are hearing stories of men coming to faith, families being healed and strengthened, and congregational men's ministries being re-charged. That's what we are about.

I was particularly touched by the story of a man who was

not a paid participant at the event, but who had been watching and listening to us. He came to our prayer chapel stating that he was looking for faith... and he found it. And then he joined us for worship. That could only happen because there were many men throughout the ELCA praying for this ministry, working to build this ministry and contributing to help this ministry grow.

Like our friend at the gathering, there are millions of men looking for faith. Our aim is to build a network of men and congregational men's ministries who are about the business of building men for Christ. That can only happen when we pray, work and contribute together.

In order for us to carry out the mission that is set before us, we need to come to a place where we receive \$300,000/year in contributions. As you have read elsewhere in this newsletter one individual has stepped forward with a challenge gift for 1/3 of that amount. He wishes to remain anonymous at this time. He is not a Lutheran, but he is excited about what we are doing in building men for Christ. His hope is that, together, we will



From  
the  
Director

double the amount he has put forward.

This newsletter is going to every ELCA congregation as well as those on our regular mailing list. We are attempting to build a network of individuals and men's ministries who are willing to join together in reaching more than 2,000,000 men for Christ. I would like to ask you to do three things:

1. Pray for the men in your life, and for ministry with men throughout the United States.
2. Contact us and let us know who you are, how your congregation is building men for Christ, and how we might support you in that effort.
3. Prayerfully consider responding to the financial challenge that one generous soul has put before us.

*Lutheran Men  
in Mission is  
committed to assist  
every congregation  
in establishing  
an effective men's  
ministry.*

We have come down from the mountaintop to deal with real life everyday. We know that the need is too great to build this ministry alone- but with God's help, we can build it together!

*Doug Haugen, Director, Lutheran Men in Mission*

**Special thanks to Ordean Dravland, of Aurora, CO for presenting a leather tooling of the Lutheran Men's Gathering logo at the August event!**



## Legacy Builders: A Reunion of our Founders

These men were at the constituting assembly for Lutheran Men in Mission in Seguin, Texas, in 1988. They went on to become synod and churchwide leaders in the movement. Re-uniting at the Gathering, they have been a part of the tremendous growth of this ministry over the past 11 years.

## Lutheran Men in Mission

# *foundations*

is published bi-monthly and sent to all who contribute to the ministry of Lutheran Men in Mission. Your contribution will ensure that *foundations* will continue to come to you every two months. It is our desire that *foundations* will be a source of personal spiritual growth, as well as a source of information for those involved in congregational men's ministries.

Please drop us a line and let us know stories of men's ministry we could use and/or issues you would like to see featured.

Doug Haugen, Director

Julie Sevig, Editor

Ruth Larson, Executive Secretary

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## \$100,000 Challenge

Continued from page 1

Those present at the Gathering responded with an offering of nearly \$35,000 in gifts and commitments. Together with other gifts and commitments received, the total now stands near \$56,000.

This challenge jump-starts an aggressive three-year plan to develop an annual revenue of more than \$300,000 to rapidly expand programming and resources to assist every ELCA congregation in developing a life-changing men's ministry.

Since its inception, the intent has been that Lutheran Men in Mission would become a ministry completely supported by individual men and congregational and synod men's ministries. The Division for Congregational Ministries of the ELCA has consistently supported Lutheran Men in Mission by supplying half of the staff salaries (as well as office space and equipment) and an annual allocation of \$20,000 for programming. As recently as 1991, contributions were supplying just 47 percent of the operating income for Lutheran Men in Mission. By 1998, contributions were supplying 92 percent of the operating income.

Haugen said, "Using this generous challenge as a springboard, we realistically could be completely supported by contributions by our next Assembly in 2002."

Through the Master Builders: Building Men for Christ emphasis, Lutheran Men in Mission is building men's faith, relationships and ministry through events, resources and leadership development.

Plans for the next three years include: (but will not be limited to):

### Staff:

- adding program staff

### Events:

- Regional events in 2000 and 2001
- A Gathering for more than 1,000 men of all ages in 2002

### Resources:

- Expanded newsletter published a minimum of six times/year distributed to every man on our LMM list and every congregation.
- Retreat resources for congregational men's ministries
- A minimum of three new topical Bible studies
- Tapes to assist in witnessing to men of every generation and ethnic background
- Men's Ministry Guidebook on the Web
- Web site development
- A first-class men's magazine
- In depth congregational research on men's concerns.
- New General brochure
- Spanish Language Bible Study
- Resources mailing to each congregation
- Bibliography of men's resources.

### Leadership Development:

- Regional leadership training events for pastors and men's ministry leaders
- Spanish language guidebook for men's ministry
- Publication of "How to Build a Life-Changing Men's Ministry"
- Churchwide leadership training event for pastors, AIMS and men's ministry leaders
- Churchwide lay leadership training.
- Program grants for Synod men's leaders and programs.

Please join us in this ambitious program to expand men's ministry in the Lutheran church.

# Yes!



## I want to help meet the challenge.

- Enclosed is my one-time gift to help meet the challenge: \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- I would prefer to pledge \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per month to help meet the challenge for \_\_\_\_ months.

### Method of Payment:

- Check payable to Lutheran Men in Mission
- MasterCard  Visa    Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_
- Card No.: \_\_\_\_\_
- Amount to be charged: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  one-time  per month
- Name (as it appears on card): \_\_\_\_\_
- Billing Address: \_\_\_\_\_
- City/ State/ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Master Builders/Lutheran Men in Mission    Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, 8765 West Higgins Road, Chicago, IL 60631-4176

# Building Legacy

ministry in cooperation with other churches. In 1997, the ELCA Churchwide Assembly voted

to enter into full communion with the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), the Reformed Church in America and the United Church of Christ.

The Rev. Roland D. Martinson, a professor of pastoral care at Luther Seminary, St. Paul, Minn., a seminary of the ELCA, led a seminar on foundations for building men's ministries. Lyman Coleman, president of Serendipity, a publishing company in Littleton, Colo., led a seminar on small group ministry for men.

Music at the 1999 Lutheran Men's Gathering was provided by musician and songwriter Paul Todd, music groups Dakota Road and The Moos Band and guitarist Tony Melendez. Born without arms, Melendez plays the guitar with his feet.

Bible study was led by the Rev. Albert Starr Jr., Ascension Lutheran Church, Los Angeles. Starr said, "Legacy is about relationship and an exchange between generation and generation." Starr also serves on the California Governor's

*"The first thing I did when I got home was hug my kids and tell them that I love them. I left with a strong commitment to improve my relationship with my kids and work on my fathering skills."*



## Success Stories

*Continued from page 1*

two sons, Joseph and Matthew. Walt said the keynote was his first stage presentation with his sons. The Wangerins spoke on the "Building Legacy" theme.

"Legacy can be about what is passed down. It's not hereditary, but legacy can be about sharing stories from generation to generation," said Matthew, a restaurant manager in Atlanta. Joseph is a freelance artist and sculptor.

In their presentation, Matthew and Joseph shared stories about growing up and the significance of their father. Walt discussed the process of naming a child, "a holy thing God has given to parents." Growing up, Matthew was often called "the loud war cry" by his father.

"The process of naming is a way we discover children. Naming is the declaration of a whole character, and how a child begins to identify and knows himself," said Walt.

"God empowers us to name, and everything named establishes relationships."

The Wangerins were introduced by Rollie Fredrickson, Chippewa Falls, Wis. Fredrickson brought his two sons and five grandsons to the gathering.

Workshop topics at the men's gathering ranged from dealing with anger constructively to men as key leaders in teaching faith. Curtis Miller, associate director of men's ministries for the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), led a workshop on developing "healthy" men's

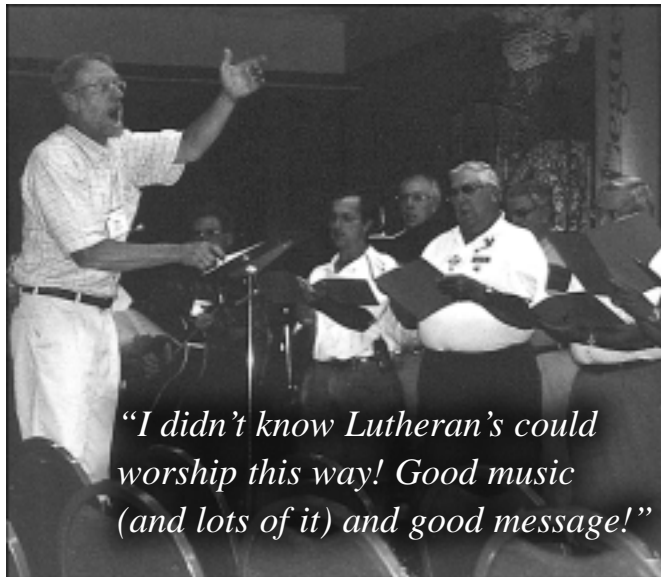
Commission on Fatherhood.

"God is present in all generations. That is a legacy and a promise," said Starr. "God does not give us a legacy of fear, but a legacy of power, love and self-control." Starr

asked men to think about how our nation and society experience grief and hopelessness, and how the church can be prepared to respond. He also asked men to think about what they want the

*"Great spirit, terrific organization; faith filled...  
I wish my dad were here! But I'll bring my sons next time!"*





*"I didn't know Lutheran's could worship this way! Good music (and lots of it) and good message!"*

The choir was directed by Ron Nelson

next generation to inherit and why.

The Rev. Richard Hardel, executive director for the Youth and Family Institute of Augsburg College, Minneapolis, a college of the ELCA, was a keynote presenter. Hardel said nothing is more important than "men proclaiming to be nurturers of faith."

"We seek our fathers blessings. Fathers, don't wait a lifetime to give it. Give it now, so that your child may see Jesus in your life. Have your children and your children's children know the power of forgiveness," Hardel told the gathering.

Bart Campolo, vice president of Kingdomworks, an urban youth ministry in Philadelphia, said, "Fathers give us a start in life, and this should be the basis for measurement. Do not compare yourself with other people, not even with your own father, which is what we tend to do. We all have different starts; test yourself against yourself."

Campolo said men do not look "into the mirror much, but we must. You must take stock of who you are and see

what you have. If you want to build a legacy, first determine that which you have. Next, you must determine what you can do with what you have. Our fathers may have blessed us with a starting point, but it is who we are in the end that matters. We are all made in the image of God. Our legacy may be bad or good, but your destiny is terrific."

The Rev. Richard Jensen,

professor of homiletics, Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, and musician Paul Todd delivered a sermon with music from famous Broadway plays. Jensen said plays like "Phantom of the Opera," "Rent," "Jesus Christ Superstar" and "Les Miserables" illustrate the "incredible welcome of God's grace" in ordinary lives.

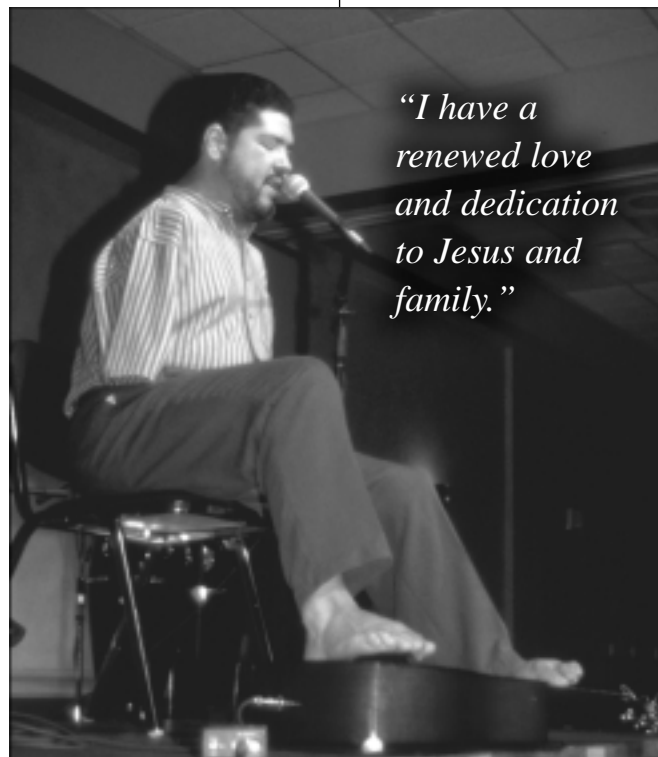
Ken Canfield, president of the National Center for

Fathering, a non-profit education and research center dedicated to "inspiring and equipping" men to be responsible fathers, was a keynote presenter.

Canfield outlined four "I can's of fatherhood: involvement, consistency, awareness and nurture. A father needs to spend time with family, and a father should know his children's personality, spiritual gifts and learning capacity. A father also expresses love, an



Paul Lumpkin, Dan Joy, Charlie Kalthorn share a moment of fellowship



*"I have a renewed love and dedication to Jesus and family."*

Born without arms, Tony Melendez plays guitar with his feet.

eruption of the kingdom of God and our destiny."

The men's gathering closed with worship. Walt Wangerin preached the sermon. More than \$34,000 in gifts and commitments was collected for the extension of men's ministry. The Sunday morning worship offering of more than \$5,000 was collected for the ministry of Lutheran Vespers.

Preceding the men's gathering, the Lutheran Men in Mission Assembly met here Aug. 12-13. The Assembly re-elected Charles Schwartz, Fredericksburg, TX, president of Lutheran Men in Mission. Heber Rast, Cameron, SC, was elected vice president;

**Success Stories**

*Continued on page 6*

# Triennial Assembly of Lutheran Men in Mission Actions

The Triennial Assembly of Lutheran Men in Mission approved these resolutions:

1. Develop a plan which would result in men being better informed on the health issues facing them, especially prostate cancer.
2. Explore methods of developing a partnership/alliance with the men of the Nicaraguan Lutheran Church. (This is in response to an overture made by the Nicaraguan Lutheran Church Men.)
3. Commend Dr. Charles Bruning for the guidance he has given on the issue of domestic violence and the authors of "Building Bridges: Men Dealing Constructively with Anger". The Assembly also resolved to support ongoing programs to educate the church on the issue and efforts to eliminate domestic violence.
4. Have Lutheran Men in Mission staff and board formulate plans to increase the principal of the Lutheran Men in Mission Endowment Fund to \$2,000,000.

The Assembly also passed budgets totaling \$236,000 in 2000, \$286,000 in 2001 and \$386,000 in 2002. With the challenge gift (see page 1 of this newsletter) the challenge budgets are \$336,000, 386,000, and \$436,000. These budgets would allow Lutheran Men in Mission to add staff, increase programming and operate without ELCA churchwide subsidy by 2002.

Charles Schwartz, Fredericksburg, TX, was re-elected board president. Heber Rast, Cameron, SC, was elected vice president. Ken Getzin, Rancho Palos Verdes, CA, was re-elected treasurer. LeRoy Simonson, Rolf, IA was elected secretary.



The Lutheran Men in Mission Executive Committee; Doug Haugen, Director; Charlie Schwartz, President; Ken Getzin, Treasurer; Leroy Simonson, Secretary; Heber Rast, Vice President

**Re-elected to their positions as regional representatives to the board were:**

- Region 2: Don Helgren, Atascadero, CA
- Region 3: Allen Anderson, Paynesville, MN
- Region 5: Rollie Fredrickson, Chippewa Falls, MN
- Region 6: Bernie Bressen, Louisville, OH

**Newly elected regional representatives are:**

- Region 1: Olaf Magis, Great Falls, MT
- Region 4: Charles Oestreich, New Braunfels, TX
- Region 7: Charles Kalhorn, North Babylon, NY
- Region 8: Tom Dover, Charleston, WV
- Region 9: Don Watson, Campobello, SC

## Building Legacy

### Success Stories Continued from page 5

Leroy Simonson, Rolf, IA, was elected secretary; and Ken Getzin, Rancho Palos Verdes,



Dick Hardel addresses the Gathering on "The Power of a Father's Blessing."

CA., was re-elected treasurer.

"We're looking to do bigger and better things," said Schwartz. "We plan to raise more than \$100,000 to match a \$100,000 gift that is being given by an anonymous donor to support the work of the men's organization."

"We hope participation in this men's ministry will expand. We also want to see that the ministry flourishes financially so that we can produce resources and programs to reach every man in and through congregations with the Good News of Jesus Christ. Our aim is to help enrich and develop the faith lives of men so that their relationship with Jesus Christ is strengthened," Schwartz said.

"The goal of Lutheran Men in Mission is to build men's faith, relationships and ministry through men's gatherings, resources produced by the organization and leadership development, Haugen said. Lutheran Men in Mission works to achieve those goals by working with men in congregations and synods of the ELCA through gatherings, Bible studies, men's ministry guidebooks and resources, and "coast-to-coast" leadership training," he said.

Sites and dates of 2000 events will be announced in January!

# 1999 Lutheran Men in Mission Leadership Directory

## *Elected Officers*

### **President:**

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### **Secretary:**

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llsimonson@juno.com

### **Vice President:**

Mr. Heber Rast  
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Fax: (803) 534-2457

### **Treasurer:**

Mr. Ken Getzin  
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## *Board Members*

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### **Region 5:**

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### **Region 6:**

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### **Region 9:**

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### **Delegates at Large**

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## *Advisory Members*

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### **Bishops' Liaison:**

(To be named)

### **Women of the ELCA Liaison:**

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### **LYO Board Liaison:**

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## *Building Legacy*

*"The Gathering was timed as a gift from God for my son and me.*

*The Saturday of the Gathering we received a telephone call that my son's mother's husband has a brain tumor and may not have more than a year to live. He and my son are friends.*

*"We were able to cry, process and pray for God's help in this painful situation.*

*The Gathering provided a healing place for us. Especially the Sunday morning worship. Walt Wangerin helped us very much as we deal with Father/Step father issues and death."*

# Master Builders

Lutheran  
Men in  
Mission

Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in America

Building  
Men for  
Christ

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dhaugen@elca.org

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## • NEW RESOURCES •

### *Help Grow Your Spiritual Life and Men's Ministry*

To order the following resources, call Augsburg Fortress Publishers at 1-800-328-4648.

#### **Man to Man: Family, Friends, and Faith**

This 30-minute audiotope designed to assist you in opening up conversations on spiritual issues with men in and outside of your congregation, and to invite them into your men's fellowship. Side A features music by Dakota Road, Paul Todd and Tony Melendez - popular artists who led music and worship at the recent men's gathering. Side B features the voices of men who highlight family, vocational and spiritual issues, and share how having fellowship with other men has helped them. The tape concludes with an invitation to become a part of your men's fellowship. It is priced at only \$1 to enable you and others in your ministry to give it away to as many men as possible. Cost \$1.00, code 69-6523.



#### **God's Man**

This new devotional is written by men for men. The topics deal with everything from our relationships, families and work to our time, our money, and the special problems we face as men. In all, 52 subjects are covered, one for each week of the year. The authors are Christian men of all ages who come from a variety of backgrounds. They include pastors and laymen, professors and professionals, experts on various subjects and ordinary men with insights to share. A perfect gift for Christmas, birthday or Father's Day! Cost: \$12.95, code 69-4350.



#### **Steps to Establishing an Effective Men's Ministry**

1. Find one other man who shares your interests and concerns.
2. Talk to your pastor and ask him or her two things: First, who are some other men who may be interested in being a part of your team? Your team might include a visionary leader who sees the big picture with imagination and creativity; a stakeholder - an established leader in the congregation; and an activator - one who receives by involving others. Second, share what kind of support you might need from your pastor.
3. Meet together regularly for prayer, Bible study and strategic planning instead of spending time planning and in operations. Let your leadership team become the model for what you want to happen for men in your congregation.
4. Identify those areas of the congregation where men are already actively engaged.
5. Recruit men to get other men involved in areas of ministry where they are not already involved.
6. Identify men in the congregation who are going through transitions in life. Find casual ways to speak to them and men who are less involved or not involved in your congregation. Ask them what their concerns are in their family, vocational and spiritual lives.
7. Develop a strategy to reach more men in your congregation and community. Use the *Men's Ministry Action Plan* to help you develop your strategy. Cost: \$4.95. Call Augsburg Fortress Publishers at 1-800-328-4648, code 69-6580.