



CHICAGO COMMUNITY TRUST CONTINUES TO SUPPORT CLEF PROGRAMS

Since 2004, CLEF's relationship with the Chicago Community Trust has resulted in \$900,000 in support for education and leadership training for teachers and principals in our Chicago Lutheran schools. So when Robin Doeden, Executive Director of CLEF, was invited to participate in the Trust's January press conference to make a major announcement regarding funding for education initiatives in Chicago, she jumped at the opportunity.

"Our Lutheran schools are considered the third largest school 'system' in the city; with just 4,000

students we are far below the number served by the Chicago Public Schools or the Catholic Schools," explained Robin. "To be included at the same table as these groups, and to play a role in the Trust's announcement, is a huge step toward Lutheran schools being acknowledged and recognized in our city."

On Thursday, January 17, Robin joined Chicago's own Mayor Richard Daley and Terry Mazany, President and Chief Executive Officer of Chicago Community Trust, as well as representatives from Chicago Public and Catholic Schools.

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Robin Doeden participated in The Chicago Community Trust's (CCT) press conference to announce an additional \$50 million being made available to education in Chicago over the next five years. Here, Robin meets with Joshua Hale, Executive Director of the Big Shoulders Fund, and Terry Mazany, President and CEO of CCT.

Sustaining a Small but Mighty System

Since 2004, the Chicago Community Trust has provided \$900,000 to support CLEF's efforts. These funds have helped CLEF increase the educational support staff and material resources it offers its far-flung network of small neighborhood schools.

Additional staff allowed CLEF to expand its continuing development opportunities for teachers and principals. Between 2004 and 2007, more than 375
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Calendar of Events

May 1	Annual Teacher Recognition Dinner "Dream a Dream" Awards presented Keynote Speaker: Alderman Will Wade, Seventh District, Milwaukee, WI Rosewood Restaurant, Rosemont (Ticket Required)
June 15-21	UKANDU Mission Trip Sites across Chicago will be included
August 18	Annual Networking Conference Keynote Speaker: Ben Glenn, The Chalk Man Walther Lutheran High School, Melrose Park
November 8	Scholarship Dinner "15 Years of Creating Success Stories" Keynote Speaker: Ken Carter Hyatt Regency O'Hare, Rosemont (Ticket Required)

CHICAGOLAND LUTHERAN EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION 2007 DONOR LIST

We are truly grateful to our 263 individuals, congregations, foundations and corporations who generously supported CLEF during 2007. The individuals highlighted in bold italics provided support at a level of \$1,000 or more.

Congregations/Schools/ Church Organizations

Concordia University – Chicago

***First Saint Paul's Evangelical
Lutheran Church, Chicago***

***Grace Lutheran Church,
Western Springs***

***Grace Lutheran Church
(Benevolence Committee),
River Forest***

Immanuel Lutheran Church, Hodgkins

Immanuel Lutheran Church, Elmhurst

Lutheran Church Extension Fund

Northern Illinois District – Lutheran
Church-Missouri Synod

***Prince of Peace Lutheran Church,
Palatine***

***Redeemer Lutheran Church,
Elmhurst***

Redeemer (Elmhurst) Women's Guild

St. Luke Academy, Chicago

St. Matthew Men's Bible Study,
Barrington

St. Paul Lutheran Church, Chicago

St. Paul Lutheran School, Chicago

Walcamp Outdoor Ministries

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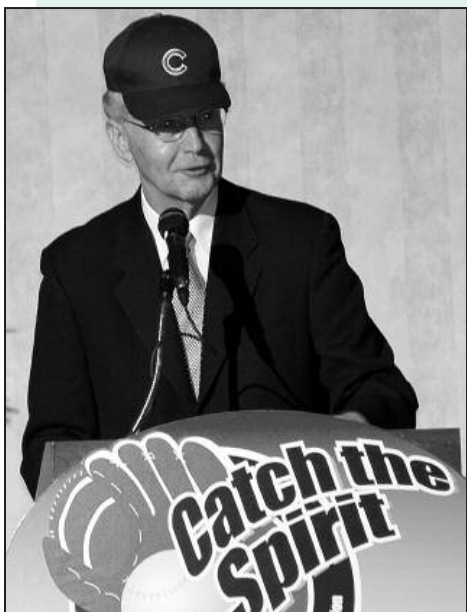
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SCHOLARSHIP DINNER RAISES \$60,000 FOR SCHOLARSHIPS



Above: Ryne Sandberg responded to audience questions during his keynote presentation.

Below: Rich Bimler gets the audience excited for the evening by leading the group in the popular baseball song, "Take Me Out to the Ballgame!"



More than 300 people were present at the Hyatt Regency O'Hare, in Rosemont, on Saturday, November 10 to "Catch the Spirit!" Guests were welcomed to the event by Luther North baseball players distributing Cracker Jack and peanuts, and the evening opened with a rousing rendition of "Take Me Out to the Ballgame!"

With Cubs hat firmly in place, Richard Bimler welcomed guests to the CLEF Scholarship Dinner, and encouraged them to enjoy a night of fun and games!

Ryne Sandberg, Chicago Cubs 2005 Hall of Fame Inductee, took questions from the crowd gathered, and answered with stories and anecdotes about life as a professional baseball player, father, husband and Christian. "I was actually raised Lutheran," said Sandberg, "and I still remember attending Vacation Bible School and bringing my glove and a ball to church and playing catch against the church."

The live auction featured a special opportunity for a fan to take home a Sandberg Jersey, personally autographed. Ronnie Christiansen, a Cubs fan for more than 90 years, was presented with the item, and her picture taken with her hero.

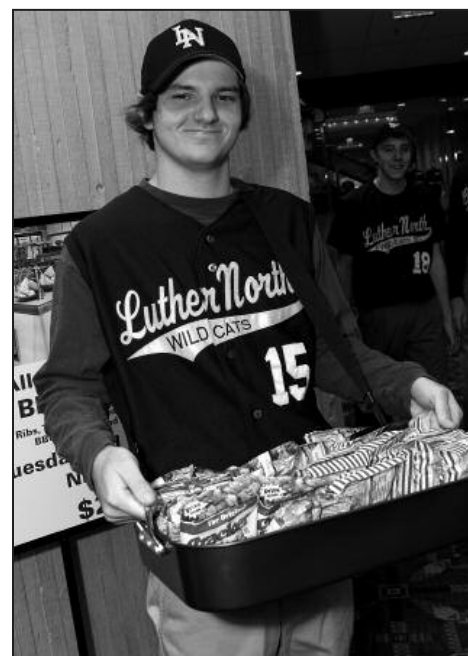
More than \$60,000 in scholarship support was

raised through the event – which will enable more than 100 students to continue their education in one of our 33 Chicago Lutheran schools.

Robin Doeden, Executive Director of CLEF, stressed the importance of continuing our work in Chicago's "mission field" well beyond this event.

"Tonight you have celebrated with friends and family, and you have met new friends who share a similar passion for our city and our children," said Robin. "Simply by choosing to be here tonight you have helped provide much-needed support for our schools

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Above: Members of the Luther North baseball team welcomed guests to the event with bags of popcorn and peanuts!



During a special Board of Directors pre-reception, Ryne Sandberg autographed a jersey for Steve Jacobson, while Lou Rundio watched.



Left: Students from the Luther North Choir provided special music for the evening.

SCHOLARSHIP DINNER

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and our children. But the work doesn't stop when you walk out that door tonight.

"We need to keep teachers in our classrooms who can continue to share the story of Jesus with our students. We need books and other classroom supplies to help the children learn science and math and reading. We need to make sure roofs don't leak and windows aren't broken. And, most



Rich Bimler displays the Ryne Sandberg Jersey available during the live auction, while auctioneer Don Gillingham collects bids.



Robin Doeden, CLEF Executive Director, impresses upon guests the importance of "Chicago's Mission Field" and encourages guests to make a special gift.



Above: Marilyn Schawk is excited to win the trip to Miraval Spa, in Tucson, Arizona during the live auction.

Below: Richard Vie, CLEF Board member, and his wife Joan, take advantage of a family photo with Ryne Sandberg.



Steve Claussen, CLEF Board member, and his guest enjoy the program.



importantly, we have to help our children stay in our classrooms,” continued Robin. “We need to provide scholarship support that will enable every child in Chicago the opportunity to experience God’s love through our Lutheran schools. I assure you, that gift is important – and much-needed.”

The 2008 Scholarship Dinner – “15 Years of Creating Success Stories” – will be held on Saturday, November 8, 2008, at the Hyatt Regency O’Hare, Rosemont. Coach Ken Carter will be the featured speaker. ☀



Jay and Doris Christopher, Benefactors of the evening, chat with Ryne Sandberg. Jay is the Chairman of the CLEF Board of Directors.



Ronnie Christiansen, member of First St. Paul’s Lutheran Church, had her dream come true when she met and had her photo taken with her Cubs hero – Ryne Sandberg.



Laura Madsen, CLEF Board member and Chair of the 2007 Scholarship Dinner, with Milwaukee Alderman Will Wade and his wife Lizzette. Mr. Wade will be the keynote speaker at CLEF’s Teacher Dinner on May 1.



Bill Mattes, one of the founders of CLEF, and still an active board member, enjoys the evening’s activities.

SAVE THE DATE!

2008 SCHOLARSHIP DINNER

“15 YEARS OF CREATING SUCCESS STORIES”

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2008

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Dr. and Mrs. R. Allan Zimmer

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans GivingPlus Participants

The following 59 individuals took advantage of Thrivent's GivingPlus Matching Gift Program in 2007, helping CLEF receive an additional \$9,670 in support. We are grateful to Thrivent, and all of those listed here who "grew" their gifts in 2007!

Charles Asche

Dorothy Belau

Diane Black

Marilyn Busse

Howard Claussen

Stephen Claussen

Kurt Claussner

Sandra Corniels

Steven Diekmann

William Ewald

Jean Feehan

Paul Gahl

Roselyn Gieschen

Gail Goodwin

Lynne Gourlay

John Groskopf

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Florence Kleine

Henry Knueppel

Mark Korntheuer

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Delayne Pauling

Terry Pfortmiller

Velma Roush

Walter Ruehrdanz

Cheryl Saiki

Richard Schepler

John Schroeder

Troy Schroeder

George Shone

Diana Solis

John Stodden

Valerie Stodden

Chad Tischer

Sandra Wackenhuth

Elmer Wille

Stephen Zielke

Small but Mighty

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teachers and administrators from Lutheran schools participated in conferences, workshops and customized school visits designed to address particular problems of teaching practice. Visits were held at least twice annually in participating schools, creating greater continuity and depth of analysis. CLEF also expanded its traveling library of professional resources for teachers from 60 to 500 volumes, and 27 teachers took graduate courses related to their field or to educational leadership.

With help from CLEF and the Trust, the Lutheran schools in Chicago sharpened their focus on retaining quality teachers and administrators. In schools where change in administrators was anticipated, CLEF helped develop succession plans to ease the transition to a new principal. In the second year of the project, teacher retention improved and no principals left the system – a substantial reduction in administrative turnover.

CLEF and the Trust also offered 50 administrators and teachers the opportunity to participate in leadership institutes. In addition to strengthening their grasp of optimal educational practices, school leaders learned better budgeting and ways to access federal funds for low-income students. ☀

Are you a Thrivent member? For more information on how you can have your gift to CLEF matched through the GivingPlus Program contact your local Thrivent representative, or Robin Doeden at CLEF, 630.595.9310. ☀

COMMUNITY TRUST

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Mazany announced that while their original five-year, \$50 million commitment to support education improvement initiatives in Chicago schools was complete, they will extend the commitment for an additional five-years, and an additional \$50 million. This ongoing support will be primarily dedicated to the three school systems represented at the press conference – with our Lutheran schools very much in the mix.

Emphasizing the importance of non-public school systems being included, Mazany said, “Like their counterparts in the Chicago Public Schools, Catholic and Lutheran educators need high-quality, continuous training to stay current

with changing content knowledge and teaching practices. However, many of these schools are unable to afford substantive training on their own – just keeping the doors open is an all-consuming task.

“The Trust has invested in significant training to put these schools on a sound financial and educational footing for the long-term,” he continued. “In many cases, our support of these schools has helped sustain key neighborhood institutions serving some of Chicago’s neediest families and communities.”

Following the press conference, representatives of CLEF also participated in a special reception at the Museum of Science and Industry to further explain the results of the past five years, and the expectations of the future support. ☀

Around Chicago

LUTHERAN DAY NURSERY, in partnership with the Coalition to Lower Obesity in Chicago Children (CLOCC), will welcome a team of high school students into the building to teach the children about nutrition and exercise. The children have also started an organic garden and will plant vegetables in the spring that will be incorporated into the school's menus. Long-term, the school will also participate in a study of the amount of activity the children get each day. CLOCC is a nationally recognized childhood obesity prevention program with a common goal of protecting Chicago children from the effects of the obesity epidemic. Its primary focus is on children aged three to five years, their caretakers, and those who work with their parents and caretakers.

LUTHER NORTH just finished their second annual “Winterim Period” in which each student takes either one ½ credit elective course or two ¼ credit elective courses of varying kinds for ten school days. The Winterim term is held between the traditional high school semesters. Some of the more unique courses this year included Meteorology, taught by former FOX News weatherman, Rick DiMaio; Introduction to Anthropology; Introduction to the Culture of the Russian People; and a career exploration class in which 20 alumni professionals from diverse fields interacted and spoke with students on the parameters and kind of preparation needed for various careers. This unique educational opportunity allows the school to enrich its curricular choices and the student to broaden and enrich his/her education. ☀

Here is my commitment to the Chicagoland Lutheran Educational Foundation

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____ annually
(\$ _____ per month) | <input type="checkbox"/> \$1,200 annually (\$100 per month) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$1,500 annually (\$125 per month) | <input type="checkbox"/> \$1,000 annually (\$85 per month) |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> \$500 annually (\$42 per month) |

I wish to contribute:

I would like to submit my contribution by:

- Enclosed check
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- Visa Mastercard
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Credit Card Number _____ Expiration Date _____

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Please mail your gift to: CLEF, 861 S. Church Rd., Bensenville, IL 60106.
Or contact us at 630.595.9310.