

**FIRST READING: ACTS 3:12-19**

[Peter] addressed the people, "You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made [this man] walk? <sup>13</sup>The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. <sup>14</sup>But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, <sup>15</sup>and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. <sup>16</sup>And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.

<sup>17</sup>"And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. <sup>18</sup>In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. <sup>19</sup>Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out."

**PSALM 4***LBW, p. 216***SECOND READING: 1 JOHN 3:1-7**

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. <sup>2</sup>Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. <sup>3</sup>And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

<sup>4</sup>Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. <sup>5</sup>You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. <sup>6</sup>No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. <sup>7</sup>Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

**GOSPEL: LUKE 24:36b-48**

Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." <sup>37</sup>They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. <sup>38</sup>He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? <sup>39</sup>Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." <sup>40</sup>And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. <sup>41</sup>While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" <sup>42</sup>They gave him a piece of broiled fish, <sup>43</sup>and he took it and ate in their presence.

<sup>44</sup>Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." <sup>45</sup>Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, <sup>46</sup>and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, <sup>47</sup>and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup>You are witnesses of these things."



**T**hey gave Jesus a piece of broiled fish, and he ate in their presence

LUKE 24:42-43

Rev. Randal G. Palm, Pastor  
Pastor's Home - 770-978-6686  
Pastor's Pager - 404-737-7537

Donald T. Harris,  
Music Coordinator/Organist  
Organist's Home - 404-221-0151

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 13, 1997

SERVICE OF THE WORD  
(\*Congregation shall stand)

WELCOME  
PRELUDE

\*OPENING HYMN: "Let's Get Together"

1. Love is but a song we sing,  
And fear's the way we die . . .  
You can make the mountains ring,  
Or make the angels cry.  
'Tho the bird is on the wing,  
And you may not know why.

Chorus:  
C'mon people now,  
Smile on each other.  
Ev'rybody GET TOGETHER,  
'Oh' . . . Love one another, right now.  
(ending . . . right now, right now!)

2. Some will come and some will go,  
And we shall surely pass.  
When the one that left us here,  
Returns for us at last;  
We are but a moment's sunlight,  
Fading in the grass.

(Chorus)

3. If you hear the song I sing,  
You will understand.  
You hold the key to love and fear  
In your trembling hand,  
Just one key unlocks them both,  
It's there at your command.

(Chorus)

\*DIALOG:

(LBW) Page 126

Leader: Blessed are you, O Lord our God, king of the universe,  
Congre: for in your wisdom you have formed us.  
Leader: You feed the hungry and clothe the naked.  
Congre: We bless you and praise your name forever.  
Leader: You set free those who are bound.  
Congre: We bless you and praise your name forever.  
Leader: You raise up those whose courage falters.  
Congre: We bless you and praise your name forever.  
Leader: You provide for our every need.  
Congre: Accept our grateful praises.  
Leader: You have called us from all peoples.  
Congre: We rejoice and bless your name forever.  
Leader: You bless your people with peace.  
Congre: We bless you and praise your loving grace.  
Leader: Blessed are you, O Lord our God, king of the universe,  
Congre: for in your wisdom you have formed us.

\*CONFESSION OF FAITH

(LBW) Page 128

Pastor: God has made us his people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

\*APOSTLES' CREED:

(LBW) Page 128

Congre: I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son,  
our Lord,  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended into hell.  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again to judge the living  
and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

\*HYMN OF PRAISE:

"Listen! You Nations of the World" (LBW) Canticle No. 14

Refrain: Listen! You nations of the world: listen to the  
Word of the Lord. Announce it from coast to  
coast; declare it to distant islands.

1. The Lord who scattered Israel will gather his  
people again;  
and he will keep watch over them as a shepherd  
watches his flock.
2. With shouts of joy they will come,  
their faces radiantly happy,  
for the Lord is so gen'rous to them;  
he showers his people with gifts.
3. Young women will dance for joy,  
and men young and old will make merry.  
Like a garden refreshed by the rain,  
they will never be in want again.  
Break into shouts of great joy;  
Jacob is free again!  
Teach nations to sing the song:  
"The Lord has saved his people!"

\*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Reader: The Lord be with you.  
Congre: And also with you.  
Reader: Let us pray.

Congre: O God, by the humiliation of your Son you  
lifted up this fallen world, rescuing us from  
the hopelessness of death. Grant your  
faithful people a share in the joys that are  
eternal; through your Son, Jesus Christ our  
Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the  
Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST LESSON: Acts 3:12-19 (back of bulletin)

SECOND LESSON: 1 John 3:1-7 (back of bulletin)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

\*GOSPEL: Luke 24:36b-48 (back of bulletin)

\*SERMON HYMN: "Praise the Almighty" (LBW) No. 539

SERMON Pastor Bill

\*HYMN OF THE DAY: "He Lives"

1. I serve a risen Savior, He's in the world today;  
I know that He is living, whatever men may say;  
I see His hand of mercy, I hear His voice of cheer;  
And just the time I need Him, He's always near.

Chorus:

He lives, He lives, Christ Jesus lives today!  
He walks with me  
And talks with me, along life's narrow way.  
He lives, he lives, salvation to impart!  
You ask me how I know He lives?  
He lives within my heart.

2. In all the world around me I see His loving care,  
And tho' my heart grows weary, I never will despair;  
I know that He is leading, thro'all the stormy blast,  
The day of His appearing will come at last.  
(Chorus)

3. Rejoice, rejoice, O Christian,  
 lift up your voice and sing  
 Eternal hallelujahs to Jesus Christ the King!  
 The hope of all who seek Him the help of all who find,  
 None other is so loving, so good and kind.  
 (Chorus)

OFFERING

\*DOXOLOGY:

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" (LBW) No. 565

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,  
 Praise him, all creatures here below,  
 Praise him above, ye heav'nly host;  
 Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.  
 Amen.

\*PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Lay Assistant: Let us pray for the whole people of God  
 in Christ Jesus, and for all people  
 according to their needs.

(After each petition, the Lay Assistant may say,  
 "Lord, in your mercy," and the congregation responds,  
 "Hear our prayer.")

Pastor: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for  
 whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through  
 your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Congre: Amen.

\*THE LORD'S PRAYER

(LBW) Page 130

Congre: Our Father, who art in heaven,  
 hallowed be thy name,  
 thy kingdom come,  
 thy will be done,  
 on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread;  
 and forgive us our trespasses,  
 as we forgive those  
 who trespass against us;  
 and lead us not into temptation,  
 but deliver us from evil.  
 For thine is the kingdom,  
 and the power, and the glory,  
 forever and ever. Amen.

\*BENEDICTION

(LBW) Page 130

Pastor: The Lord bless us and keep us. The Lord make  
 his face shine on us and be gracious to us.  
 The Lord look upon us with favor and give us  
 peace.

Congre: Amen.

\*CLOSING HYMN: "Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me" (LBW) No. 327

ANNOUNCEMENTS & DISMISSAL

Pastor: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.  
 Congre: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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WE WELCOME PASTOR BILL CORKISH back to Rock of Ages this  
 morning to celebrate our 30th anniversary. Pastor Bill began  
 Rock of Ages as Mission Developer and was our pastor for 25  
 years.

\*\*\*\*\*

THE ALTAR FLOWERS ARE GIVEN to the glory of God by Patricia  
 Snow in honor of the birthdays of Ryan and Sean.

\*\*\*\*\*

THE ROSE ON THE ALTAR is placed in honor of the birth of NEVIN  
 EILENE KURT, born March 30, 1997, granddaughter of Chuck  
 Busch.

\*\*\*\*\*

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WELCOME ALL!

In the name of Him who is the Rock of Ages, we welcome you to our Worship Service on this **THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER**. Please register your attendance on the gold colored slips included in your bulletin this morning and place in collection plate.

**Today is the day we celebrate thirty years of ministry at "The Rock."** There is much to remember, and much to look forward to: preaching and teaching, caring and sharing, touching our community and touching the world, and, as in any family, singing, laughing, crying, and -- of course -- eating and talking together! We praise God in all we have done and all we do!

After our Worship Service today, we ask you to receive a blessing; then meet and greet old and new friends while we put the finishing touches on our preparations. By 12:15 p.m., we invite you to come to Corkish Hall and share a family buffet-style meal and fellowship.

**We are so glad you came!**

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PRAYER CONCERNS

Roberta Aho; Carol Hornsby; Betsy Graham; Pastor Ralph Graham; Ron Lajoie; Dorothy Lobb; Georgia Blanton; Terry Melton; Joshua Samuels; John Hefner; Nicole Karn (daughter of Ned & Carla); Shawn Richards (friend of Donna Lewellyn); Bettie Vandewater (Louise Rittler's sister); Chuck Marino (Jan Hammons' brother-in-law); Frances Kvale; Barbara Strickland (Van Melton's mother); Esther Shirey (Joyce Anderson's mother); David Miller (Irene Blackburn's brother-in-law); Mac Stewart (Jerry & Jan Hammons' neighbor); Jimmy Carbaugh (Kathy Carbaugh-Martin's father); Edward Martin (Kathy Carbaugh-Martin's father-in-law); Mary Frances Caughman (Kristi Lodigensky's grandmother); Lydia Lorenzo (Irene's daughter); Ethel Hatcher (sister of Hazel Franklin); Quincy Snow (relative of Patricia Snow); Carrie Ramsey (grandmother of Peggy Ramsey-May); Linda Whitman (Mildred Coles' daughter); Pam Jordan & Lynn Eidson (friends of Marie Pruden); Daisy Yunker (Doris Carpenter's mother); Bill Coble (Joe's father); Bill Naylor (Linda Coble's step-father); Jane Cromer (Fred Blackburn's aunt); Sadie Peterson (Ruth Flaaten's mother).

\*\*\*\*\*

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

GREETERS: Fred & Lou Covalt.

ACOLYTE/CRUCIFER: Julianne Samuels & Claire Lingafelt.

LAY ASSISTANT:

Jonelle Brutus.

USHERS: Terry Blanton & Greg Hardesty.

TECHNICIAN: Brett Williams.

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GARAGE SALE

May 10, 1997

8:00 a.m. -- 3:00 p.m.

All donations accepted **except clothing and shoes**. The **deadline** for donations is **Sunday, May 4**. If you need to store any items (large or small), or if you will need pick-up of any items, please call Kelly Kraus (770-879-0027).

\*\*\*\*\*

SUMMER CAMP OPPORTUNITIES

The Youth Committee will provide a \$100.00 scholarship to each youth to attend his/her choice of a summer camp (including National Youth Gathering, Affirm, Lutheridge). Please call Kelly Kraus at 770-879-0027 if you wish to take advantage of a scholarship.

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"YOUNG at HEART"

(50+ Group)

Thursday, April 24

The "Young at Heart" group will meet at the church at 10:30am to go to Buckner's (South on I-75, Exit 66) for lunch. Those who would like can stop at the Tanger Outlet (Exit 68) to shop. Sign-up sheet in Narthex.

\*\*\*\*\*

JR./SR. LOCK-IN

April 18 - 9:00pm--

April 19 - 8:00am

Bowling, movies --- and much, much more! If you have any ideas, let us know!

Things to bring:

2 liter soft drink or snack to share and \$10.00 for bowling from 11:00pm-2:00am. Please call Blake or Kelli (770-963-3093) **by today (April 13)** to let them know if you will be attending. Since we no longer have a church van, transportation must be arranged in advance. If you want to bring a friend along, **please limit yourself to one friend**. We must know about friends ahead of time, too.

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**LUTHERAN NIGHT  
AT THE BRAVES**

(sponsored by Lutheran  
Brotherhood)  
**Monday, July 14**

The Braves will be playing the Philadelphia Phillies. Tickets are \$15.00. (Lutheran Ministries of Georgia will receive \$2.00 per ticket, plus Lutheran Brotherhood Atlanta Northwest Branch #8142 will match up to \$2,000.) LMG will be high-lighted during the pre-game events. Plan to be in the stadium by 7:00pm. Sign-up sheet in the Narthex.

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**ROCK OF AGES  
MOTHER/DAUGHTER LUNCHEON**

**Saturday, May 10  
11:00 a.m.**

**Magnolia Tea Room  
Stone Mountain**

**Cost: \$11.45 (tax &  
gratuity included)**

**Mark your calendar now -**  
join in this WELCA event and  
treat yourself to a nice  
lunch with women of ROA!  
Sign-up sheet in the  
Narthex.

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**ATTENTION ADULTS!**

God has created us for fellowship and relationship with one another. Small groups provide an atmosphere where the Holy Spirit can transform lives. Small groups will help you and other members of your group build relationships and discover ways to connect the Christian faith with your everyday life.

Come join such a group and learn to deal with troubles in a supportive group relationship. Beginning April 6 at 9:00 a.m. in the Lounge, a study entitled "A PRACTICAL RELIGION," based on the New Testament letter of James, and various Old Testament Psalms will begin. The Letter of James remains vital and contemporary in our search for ethical and moral behavior today. Then, on April 13 at 9:00 a.m. in the Loft, a study entitled "TROUBLES, KEEPING THE ALLIGATORS AT BAY," will begin. This is from the Serendipity Focus Series, and is written for a small group to do together. This study deals with seven common troubles in our lives and Biblical strategies for dealing with them.

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**CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK**

**Today:**

8:45am-Coffee & Fellowship  
9:00am-Sunday School  
9:00am-Youth Committee  
9:00-9:45am-Church Library  
open  
10:00am-Worship Service  
11:00am-Fellowship  
12:30pm-Covered Dish  
Luncheon (CH)  
4:00pm-Middle Choir  
5:00pm-Teen Choir

**Mon., April 14:**

12:00 Noon-Bible Study (Lg)  
7:00pm-Worship (Lg)  
8:00pm-AA, Alanon, Alateen  
(AR, LL)

**Tues., April 15:**

7:00pm-Survivors of Suicide  
(Lft)  
7:30pm-Mutual Ministry (Lg)

**Wed., April 16:**

9:30am-Martha Circle (Lg)  
1:30pm-Mountain View  
7:00pm-Battered & Abused  
Women (12,13,14)  
7:00pm-Adult Women's Choir

**Thurs., April 17:**

6:30pm-Cub/Boy Scouts  
(AR, 12,13,14)  
6:30pm-Atlanta Church  
of Christ  
(CH;1-4;7;10;Lft;Lg;N)  
7:30pm-Property Comm.

**Friday, April 18:**

8:00pm-AA, Alanon (AR, 11)  
9:00pm---Jr/Sr Leagues'  
LOCK-IN

**Sat., April 19:**

8:00am-Jr/Sr Leagues'  
LOCK-IN concludes.  
10:00am-Recovery (11)  
2:00pm-Atlanta Choir (AR)

**Next Sunday:**

8:45am-Coffee & Fellowship  
9:00am-Sunday School  
9:00-9:45am-Church Library  
open  
10:00am-Holy Communion  
3:00pm-1st Yr. Confirmation  
4:00pm-Middle Choir  
5:00pm-Teen Choir

**ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY**

10:00am - 128

**OFFERING**

Last Week: \$ 4,370.  
Yr-to-Date: \$ 51,849.

**DEBT RETIREMENT**

Last Week: \$ 90.  
Yr-to-Date: \$ 1,116.

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**FOOD PANTRY NEEDS - APRIL**

tuna  
English peas

\*\*\*\*\*

Sunday, April 13, 1997

We have recently learned that former ROA member, John Hefner, has thyroid cancer. He will be going into Duke University Hospital for surgery on Tuesday, April 15. For those who would like to send cards, the address is below:

Mr. John Hefner  
216 Whitehall Way  
Cary, North Carolina 27511

\*\*\*\*\*

Every member and visitor is asked to complete this card so that the congregation might know how to best serve you and in order to ensure an accurate record of participation. Use the reverse side for messages.

- Member
- Visitor\*
- Number of children in nursery and Sanctuary

\*Please include the name and address of your home congregation on the reverse side of this card.

Receiving Communion

Please Print

\_\_\_\_\_ (name)

\_\_\_\_\_ (address)

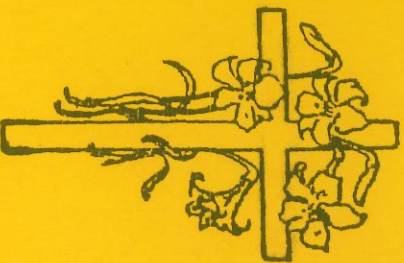
\_\_\_\_\_ (city) \_\_\_\_\_ (state)

\_\_\_\_\_ (zip)

\_\_\_\_\_ (phone)

\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ (date)

- New Resident
- First time visitor
- Interested in Church Membership
- Desire Lay Person to visit
- New Address/Phone Number
- Desire Pastoral Call/Appointment
- Know of illness (on back)
- Prayer Request (on back)
- Question or Comment (on back)
- Wednesday Night Dinner Reservation



Complete and deposit with offering



Feb. 5, 1992

# 'Pastor Bill' Corkish Retiring From Church He Founded

By BENJY GRAHAM

Special To The News/Sun

If there was ever a pastor who didn't fit into the typical preacher pattern, it's Pastor Bill Corkish, recently retired after 25 years of ministry in the church he founded — Rock of Ages Lutheran Church.

Perhaps some congregations couldn't tolerate the energy and intensity that Pastor Bill exudes. His legendary persistence makes it hard to say no to him, it's impossible to ignore his deep baritone that booms with enthusiasm from the pulpit every Sunday, his ruddy face, shining with the conviction of his faith.

And then there are his robust hugs. Lutherans are not noted for hugs.



Corkish

Bill, Rock of Ages Lutheran Church has basked in his warmth, thrived under his whirlwind of activity, and adopted his concern for helping those less fortunate in the community with 14 significant outreach programs.

Even the members have been astonished at some of their accomplishments. Six men from the congregation, inspired by the exciting atmosphere at Rock of Ages and Pastor Bill's role model, have entered the ministry with a seventh following them to the seminary in the fall. That is an unusually high number of new pastors to emerge from a church only 25 years old.

At first the congregation was stunned at the pastor's plans to retire. But they gradually rallied and on Saturday night gave him a big bash of a banquet with 350 in attendance. There were speeches, gifts (including a trip to England), a puppet show, a roast, and songs by the choir with humorous lyrics adapted for Pastor Bill and his wife, Sue.

The word "retired" when applied to Pastor Bill has to be taken with a grain of salt. He is simply moving into a new phase of ministry. He's already busy establishing a mission church near Ellijay where he and Sue Ann have a log cabin home.

Associate Pastor Tim Landers is functioning as the church's new leader with the help of a part-time assistant, Pastor Roll Miesel.

PASTOR BILL knew at a very early age that he wanted to be a pastor.

"I was nine years old," he remembers. "It was crazy, but I came home from church one Sunday and said to my foster mother, I think I want to be a pastor."

"Why do you say that?" she asked, clearly surprised.

"Well, I was so impressed by the fact that the preacher is up in front. He's in charge. The people sit back and do what he says. He controls the situation. I like that. I'd like to be control."

That decision made — and never regretted — he soon began to practice delivering sermons, waving his arms and speaking with gusto from his small red and green wagon in the backyard of his home in Rochester, N. Y.

As the years passed, he never appeared to waver from his determination to become a minister, eventually winning a B.A. degree from Capital University and a Master of Divinity degree from what is now Trinity Lutheran Seminary, Columbus, Ohio.

In 1966, by that time married and with four children, he was sent to Stone Mountain to develop the third American Lutheran Church mission in Georgia.

After a whirlwind of visiting potential members up and down Memorial Drive, the first service was held Oct. 30 in Clarkston High School with 180 present.

The church building was completed in time for Christmas Eve services, and by February, 1967, Pastor Corkish had set a record for the largest number of confirmands — 131 — for a mission church established by the American Lutheran Church in this district.

IRONICALLY he considers his greatest strength to be his ability to give comfort to grief-stricken people although he himself has often been in need of comfort.

By the time he was seven years old, for example, his parents had abandoned him and he was shuttled back and forth between five foster homes, living every day aware that his parents, though nearby, were indifferent to his welfare. As an adult, he has had to endure gut-wrenching blows when two of his children were killed in separate automobile accidents. In 1980 he had to climb out of the black hole of clinical depression.

"To comfort someone, you have to have been there," he says simply. "I've been there."

He hastens to explain that he cannot take away the grief that bereaved people feel. But he can make them feel better about the one who has died — and that is the first step in healing.

At Rock of Ages he allowed no open caskets in the church. In fact, caskets were seldom brought into the sanctuary. Instead, he followed his chronology of Jesus' death and resurrection: the body is buried first, and then later, at the church, resurrection is celebrated.

"First there's Good Friday," he says, "and then you have Easter. You go from death to life." And when you end with a celebration of the life of the loved one, it's appropriate to call the service a Celebration.

"People are lifted up by concentrating on how that person was in life. You help the bereaved keep their memories. And I've learned more and more how essential that is. The Celebration gives you a good feeling that the person has not died although the housing of that person is gone. The spirit lives."

THE DIFFERENCE between the theology of Lutherans and other mainline fundamentalist churches, he explains, is that "we operate in gray areas, and the other churches operate in black and white."

"When you operate in gray areas you realize that everything isn't this or that...perfect or imperfect...that there are varying shades of gray. We have the message that God is love and we believe in reconciliation and forgiveness and

that God accepts people right where they are.

"We believe that God has the power to change and redeem. And so we place that in the context of society where the Gospel becomes a healing agent for society as well as for individuals."

"The church stresses forgiveness. Grace is a love that none of us deserves, and so we in the Lutheran church say that God's love reaches out to everyone."

During his years at Rock of Ages, Pastor Bill was in close contact with the members at Rock of Ages, keeping current on many of the details of their lives and knowing the name of every member. On Sundays as he waited to give his sermon, he looked out over the congregation checking the roll, searching for the lost sheep who were absent.

Most people experience Pastor Bill as a kind man. But he is not a wimp. If you went to him with a problem, some of his members say, he might look at you straight and give you a stiff solution such as "Well, you're going to have to work on that and put yourself in the other fellow's place. You may not know what suffering has caused the other fellow's behavior."

He also had a unique way of getting things done that angered some people but was remarkably effective with others. His technique was to approach someone with a description of a job that needed to be done. After a few minutes of vivid description on the importance of the task and the abilities of his "victim," he neatly sidestepped any objections by thanking the person for agreeing to do the job.

A few people left the church because of him, but hundreds of others are believed to have joined the church because of him.

THE IMPRESSION Pastor Bill produces today is still one of compressed energy. His penetrating blue eyes, ruddy complexion, and a compact body that is always poised for action make him seem as taut as a tennis racket. He would not like that comparison, however, for his passion is golf.

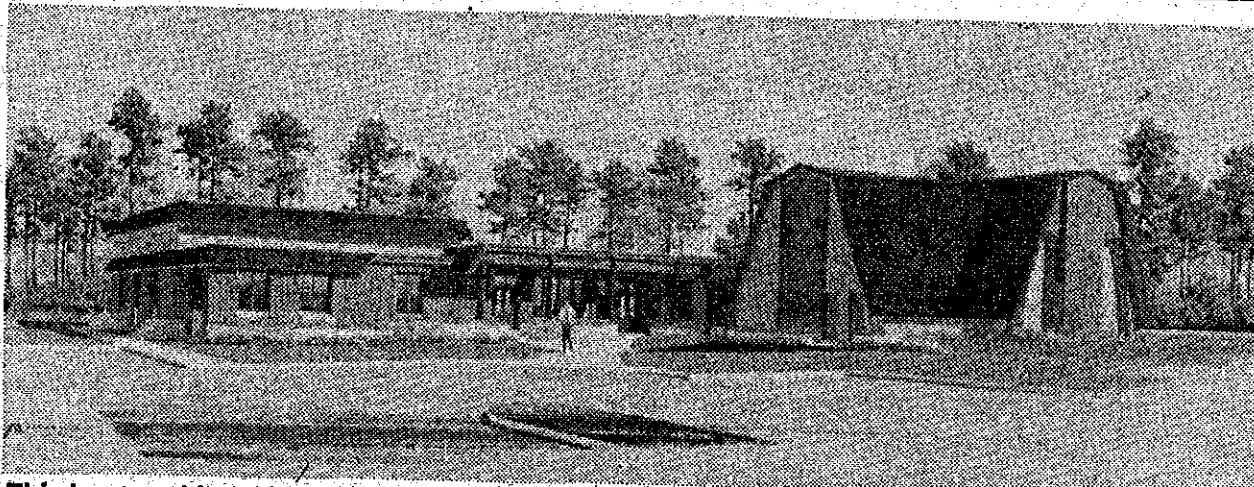
He plays the game with the haste of a preacher who is late for a wedding. Before his companion had teed off, Pastor Bill is striding down the fairway after his own drive, apparently oblivious to everything except the challenge of his game.

When asked recently how he would like to be remembered, Pastor Bill indulged in an unusual pause, throwing his head back and pondering the question. "I think I'd like to be remembered as somebody who led a congregation where the members cared about the least of the brethren...a pastor who led his congregation in the changes in the community and in this church."

"The change has been so rapid, yet I believe Rock of Ages hung in there with it and stayed relevant to what the gospel says."

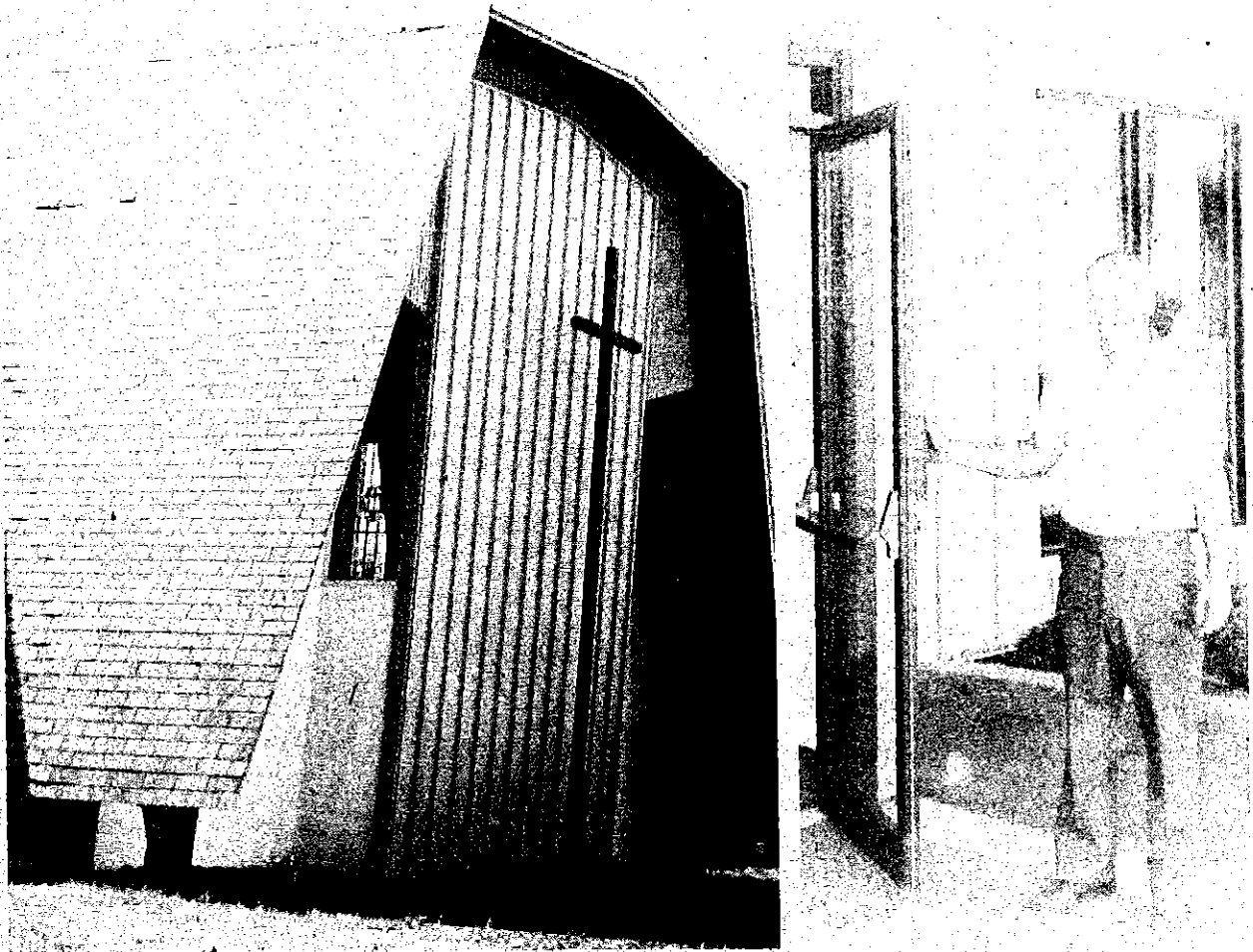
He's referring to the church's participation in one of the most active Red Cross blood drives in the city, in ministry to the aged, the homeless, the hungry, abused children, first offender juveniles...and the list goes on.

## CALENDAR



This is an architect's drawing of the expanded facilities of Rock of Ages Lutheran Church, 5134 Memorial Drive, Stone Mountain. A \$750,000 campaign to fund the expansion was launched this month. There will be two wings, with 150 seats, which will also house new

choir and communion preparation rooms. The section on the left will have 17 Sunday school rooms, a 400-seat fellowship hall, enlarged staff offices and two meeting rooms. Completion is expected by mid-1984.

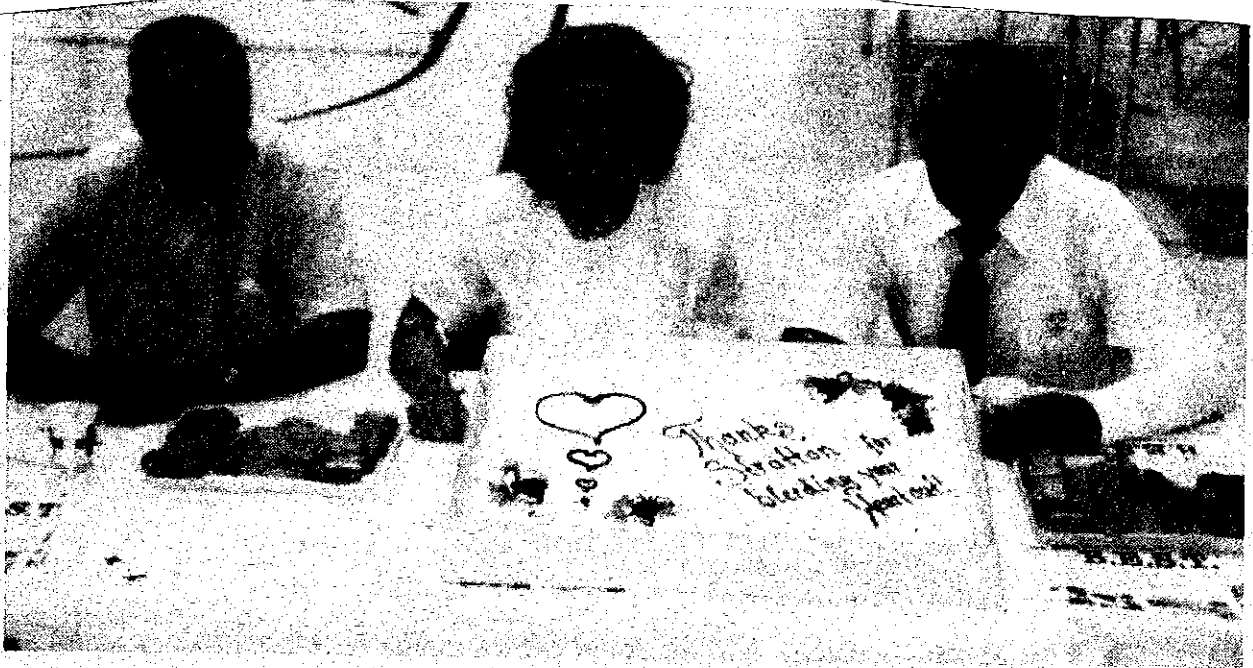


NEWSphotos By David Tucker

## Rock Of Ages Opens New Wing

The Rev. William S. Corkish, pastor of Rock of Ages Lutheran Church, stands in front of the

newly enlarged church. Formerly 10,000 square feet large, the church's building on Memorial Drive has been enlarged to 25,000 square feet.



*The Wake*

*news / item*

## **Gives 20th Gallon Of Blood**

*1/16/91*

Stratton Zealack, right, recently gave his 20th gallon of blood in a blood drive at Rock of Ages Lutheran Church in Stone Mountain. Mr. Zealack says he gives blood on a regular basis in thanks for the life of his wife, Twyla, center, who was saved by blood transfusions following a serious traffic acci-

dent, in which she was declared dead. Mr. Zealack's donation brought the total for Rock of Ages blood to 200 gallons. The church holds blood drives four times a year. One the left is the Rev. William S. Corkish, founder and pastor of Rock of Ages.

*File in Church Rock of Ages Lutheran*

*The Decatur News/Star*

## Rock Of Ages To Host

### Reformation Observance

<sup>10/26/88</sup>  
A special observance of the Protestant Reformation will be held at Rock of Ages Lutheran Church, 5135 Memorial Dr. on Oct. 30 at 4 p.m.

Rock of Ages will host a joint worship in which five other Lutheran churches will participate: Epiphany Lutheran, Conyers; St. Stephen's Lutheran, Decatur; St. Paul's Lutheran, Decatur; Gloria Dei Lutheran, Redan; and Messiah Lutheran, Decatur.



Poole

Delivering the sermon will be The Rev. Donald R. Poole, Jr., pastor of Epiphany Lutheran. He also serves as the secretary of the Southeastern Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

The Rev. Michael Skoor, one of the pastors at Rock of Ages, will serve as the liturgist for this joint service.