
ALUMNOTES

Ray Schkade -- Distinguished Alumnus

On August 28, 1988, Concordia Lutheran College honored the Rev. Ray C. Schkade with the Distinguished Alumnus Award in recognition of his many contributions to Church and society.

Rev. Schkade is in his 21st year of service as Executive Director of Parish Services for the Texas District of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod (LCMS). He has primary responsibility for stewardship, evangelism and recruitment and has authored numerous publications and audio-visual resources within his area of expertise.

Before accepting the Texas District position, Rev. Schkade was pastor of Redeemer Lutheran Church in Austin for twelve years. He organized the church as a mission in 1954, with worship services being held in an Austin Public School room. Redeemer grew in membership from 75 to over 1,250 during his ministry there.

Rev. Schkade is actively involved in the ministries of the Texas District. He served as District Director for the LCMS successful "Forward in Remembrance" campaign and also directed the Texas District's "Challenge of the Generations" campaign in support of Lutheran Social Service of Texas. He initiated a unique congregational stewardship plan for the Texas District which has been adapted for use by all districts of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.

On the national level, Rev. Schkade is in his second term as a member of the LCMS Council on Stewardship and Finance and is a member of the Planning Committee for the LCMS 1988 Great Commission Convocation.

In addition to his church related responsibilities, Rev. Schkade served for many years as military chaplain for the U.S. Army Reserves and National Guard. His final assignment prior to military retirement in 1986 was



The Rev. Ray Schkade received the sterling silver Distinguished Alumnus Medallion, engraved with the words, "You shall be a witness."

Division Chaplain (COL) of the 49th Armored Division of the Texas National Guard.

He received many special awards, including the Armed Forces Faithful Service Medal; Army Commendation Medal; U.S. Meritorious Service Medal; U.S. Legion of Merit Medal; State of Texas Lone Star Distinguished Service Medal; and the Bronze Martin of Tours by The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.

A native of Giddings, Texas, Rev. Schkade prepared for his ministry at Concordia, Austin (1942-46); St. John's College, Winfield, Kansas (1946-48); and Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Missouri (1948-50), where he received his Bachelor's degree. He completed seminary training at Concordia Seminary, Springfield, Illinois (1952-54).

Rev. Schkade and his wife Kathryn are active members of

Hope Lutheran Church in Austin.

Concordia Lutheran College is proud to call Rev. Schkade one of its own. The contributions he has made are outstanding examples for today's students.