

## **CHRISTIAN OUT-SOURCING**

Two relatively small congregations on the western edge of Arizona, “Messiah” in Parker and “Lamb of God” in Lake Havasu City spent many hours and energy to produce 5,000 Christian Witness Coloring Books. The books are given at the “Lutheran Evangelism Association Witness Booth”, to the thousands of children who attend the Arizona State Fair each year. Over 300,000 people reached since this ministry began. (2004 was the 32<sup>nd</sup> year of this ministry). Together with the printed outreach to the adults passing the booth, these books witness to the children and their parents.

Through their partnership with the Association they are an example of how working together we can reach literally thousands of people with the message of Christ’s love. Though they are many miles distant from the Fair they helped make possible the only mass witness outreach to the whole state of Arizona and beyond to out-of-state visitors.

“CHRISTIAN OUT-SOURCING” gave the people of these congregations the opportunity to have “Hands-On-Ministry” not just sending money to help; they gave “Sweat Equity” to their ministry! All the copy work was done by Chuck Suffecool of Messiah. The people of both congregations met in Parker, folded, put together and stapled 5000 of the Children’s Coloring Books, as they shared the fellowship of Christians working together in the Kingdom. -- It was a joy!

The idea of “Christian Out-Sourcing” could be a way of opening doors in other areas of cooperation.—many third-world Lutheran churches need printed witness materials, but can’t afford to have them printed. He believes there are many small and large congregations, Christian companies, and individuals who have excellent copy equipment, which are not used to capacity. He believes this kind of “Hands On Sweat Equity” would be welcomed and enjoyed.

The distance between the foreign mission field and our churches in this country may give us the feeling of disconnection which “Christian Out-Sourcing” can help erase. To know that materials produced by the hands of ordinary dedicated members of a congregation here are being used by their counterparts thousands of miles away, will help bind them together in Christian mission. Pastor Erv has requests for witness materials from Ghana, Nigeria, and the Philippines that could be filled by this kind of effort! (E-mail [levapfi@mindspring.com](mailto:levapfi@mindspring.com)) for more information.