



## ***Celebrate LFOT Sunday on October 21— an opportunity for your congregation***

**by Gary Pohl, Executive Director**



**Pohl**

Did you know that in 2006, religious organizations were the largest recipients of gifts in the United States? Almost 33% of all giving, more than \$96 billion, was to religious organizations.\* That statistic is certainly one evidence of the work of the Holy Spirit in the hearts of people.

For the past 47 years, The Lutheran Foundation of Texas has helped Lutheran congregations in Texas encourage stewardship of God's resources through congregational giving, that includes both current gifts and planned gifts that will benefit God's kingdom in the years to come. By observing LFOT Sunday on October 21, congregations will have another opportunity to encourage members to help their congregation by establishing an individual or congregational endowment or an charitable trust that ultimately will benefit the congregation.

LFOT works with individuals about how they might support the Lord's work through their estate plans. In addition, LFOT also assists members in giving stock gifts to benefit special programs in their congregations or other ministries.

In 2006 the Foundation distributed more than \$1.1 million to ministries. Of that amount, 77% was distributed to Texas District ministries, congregations, schools, and Concordia University Texas for use by those ministries. Over \$590,000 was distributed primarily to Texas District individuals through gift plans that, after benefitting those individuals and their families, will ultimately benefit ministries.

Last year, 116 congregations let us know that they observed LFOT Sunday. We encourage all congregations to share the stewardship ministry of the Foundation with their members on October 21 or on another appropriate date in 2007.

To help your congregation observe LFOT Sunday on October 21 or another Sunday, we have sent a



**Jennifer Moore**

### **LFOT Adds New Board Member**

On July 1, Mrs. Jennifer Moore of Beaumont began a three-year term of service on the Board of Directors of LFOT. Her membership will include serving on LFOT's Investment Committee.

Jennifer began working in the financial planning industry in 1993. A graduate of Stephen F. Austin University, she is a Certified Financial Planner™ (CFP), Chartered Financial Consultant (ChFC), and a member of the Financial Planning Association (FPA). She is currently an independent advisor with AIG Financial Advisors.

Jennifer and her husband, Burton, have two sons and are members of Redeemer Lutheran Church in Beaumont. They reside on the family farm in Nome, Texas. We welcome Jennifer to the Board of Directors.

special packet of materials to your pastor including a sample newsletter paragraph, a bulletin insert template, and some suggested prayer thoughts that can be used for worship on LFOT Sunday at your congregation. If your congregation does not have this information, please call 800-880-3733, or email [garyp@lfot.org](mailto:garyp@lfot.org).

\*Giving USA, a publication of Giving USA Foundation™, researched and written by the Center on Philanthropy at Indiana University, 2007.