

## Monthly Mission Minute / Stewardship Sparks

### August 2010

Did you know that your congregational mission dollars support the District budget in a variety of mission and ministry areas? Did you know that \$47,000 is budgeted for stewardship (includes \$40,000 for gift planning/Christian estate planning counselor expenses). The stewardship budget is supplemented with \$2,000 of LCEF proceeds. Take advantage of the upcoming Stewardship School classes (August 23-25) and Stewardship Advisors resources.

### July 2010

Did you know that your congregational mission dollars support the District budget in a variety of mission and ministry areas? Did you know that \$4,400 is budgeted for **officers' honorariums**? This is a small stipend for all they do for the District. Members of the Board of Directors meet quarterly and also serve on committees. To learn more about the 15 board members go online at [http://www.idwlcms.org/about\\_us/board\\_of\\_directors.htm](http://www.idwlcms.org/about_us/board_of_directors.htm). The next time you see a District board member be sure to thank them for their service to the church.



### June 2010

Did you know that your congregational mission dollars support the District budget in a variety of mission and ministry areas? Did you know that 63% of the District budget supports **District and Synod Missions**? The District has active missions in Johnson, Sheldon, Los Angeles. District also supports campus ministry, deaf missions, Hispanic missions and ethnic missions (Lation and Sudanese).

### May 2010

Did you know that your congregational mission dollars support the District budget in a variety of mission and ministry areas? Did you know that 43% (an increase of 1% from last fiscal year) of your unrestricted congregational mission dollars support the work of **Synod missions**? In the 2010 budget, \$774,000 is forwarded to Synod. Your dollars make a difference in carrying out the mission and ministry in Iowa and across the world. IDW is ranked 7th in total dollars pledged to Synod. Thank you for your partnership!

### April 2010

Did you know that your congregational mission dollars support the District budget in a variety of mission and ministry areas? The District is participating in the LCMS **Ablaze!** movement to share the Gospel with 100 million unreached people by 2017. This year the District budget includes \$40,000 for grants. Of this total \$4,000 supports the LCMS Center for US Missions and \$36,000 will be used to assist congregations or circuits in new initiatives to reach the lost. The deadline for Ablaze grants is March 31; although smaller amounts will be available later in the year. If you are interested in an Ablaze grant, contact Mission Executive Mark Gerken as soon as possible.

### March 2010

This issue of The Monthly includes the congregational giving from the fiscal period February 1, 2009 through January 31, 2010. **Thank you** to the 177 congregations (plus Faith, Winterset; Iglesia, Storm Lake & Denison, and deaf ministry preaching stations) for your mission and ministry support. Receipts were only \$8,286 short of our congregational goal of \$1,850,000. Thank you for your support during these tough economic times! District continues to use wisely the dollars entrusted to us.



### February 2010

Did you know that your congregational mission dollars support the District budget in a variety of mission and ministry areas? The 2009 budget ending January 31, 2010 included \$3,900 for a comprehensive financial audit. This intense review of all financial details assures the District is operating properly and the financials are in accordance with the generally accepted accounting principles. For a \$2.6 million budget, this is a good value. February is audit time at the District Office. If not done already in your congregation,

a financial review of the church financial activities is healthy for the church. If you choose to do the project with congregational members, the Congregational Treasurer's Manual, Chapter 25 has a lot of helpful information.

### January 2010

Did you know that your congregational mission dollars support the District budget in a variety of missions and programs? Missionary, Rev. Scott Jensen, started the new mission at Our Savior Lutheran Church, **Sheldon** in 2006 and it continues to grow. The District is pleased to partner with this mission; over \$27,000 has supported this exciting new northwest Iowa mission this year.

### December 2009

Did you know that your congregational mission dollars support the District budget in a variety of mission and ministry areas? The 2009 budget includes \$918,500 for **mission** work in Iowa and Los Angeles. Thanks to all the congregations and individuals who support this mission. Currently District is behind budget \$68,000 for congregational mission support and behind \$33,400 for mission direct gifts.

You can support the work of the church with your tax deductible gift before year-end! Some **mission projects** to support include:

Deaf missions - Missionaries Rev. Dennis Konkel and Pat Monroe

Ethnic missions - Sudanese Missionary Rev. Simon Yiech

- Laotian Missionary Rev. One Chanh Keouthai

Hispanic missions - Missionaries Rev. Daniel Vogel and Rev. Henry Witte

Individual Outreach With Adults and Youth (IOWAY) missions - Missionary Ellie Menz

Los Angeles Nehemiah Project missions - Missionary Rev. Arthur Porter

Northwest Iowa rural missions - Missionary Rev. Scott Jensen

The complete mission team is online at

[http://www.idwlcms.org/ministry\\_areas/missions/information/idw\\_mission\\_team.pdf](http://www.idwlcms.org/ministry_areas/missions/information/idw_mission_team.pdf)

Support can be sent to Mission Central (40718 Hwy E-16, Mapleton, IA 51034) or to the District Office (PO Box 1155, Fort Dodge, IA 50501).



### November 2009

Did you know that your congregational mission dollars support the District budget in a variety of missions, programs, projects, and activities? This month the part of the budget that is highlighted is **equipment, computers & technology**. The District budget support this account \$7,500 in 2009. This includes all hardware (computers built in house to save money), software, training, and LCMS technology agreement of \$1,200. District purchases Microsoft software through the Charity Open License Discount program (Microsoft Windows and Office Professional also available to churches) to save costs.

### October 2009

Did you know that your congregational mission dollars support the District budget in a variety of mission and ministry areas? The District budget support the **personal missions** committee \$3,000 in 2009. To learn some new personal mission ideas and resources to help you and your congregation tell others about Jesus, contact Rev. Jason Peterson at St. John, Burt at [revjpeterson@LutheranReformission.com](mailto:revjpeterson@LutheranReformission.com).

### September 2009

This issue of *The Monthly* includes the **congregational giving** from the fiscal period February 1 - July 31, 2009. Thank you to the 175 congregations and mission starts for your mission and ministry support. Receipts were \$250 ahead of our congregational goal of \$925,000 (annual goal \$1,850,000). The total 2009 District budget is \$2,632,960 with other income sources from individual and congregation restricted gifts, Endowments/grants, LCEF program, LCEF investment and bank interest. Thank you for your partnership and helping spread the Good News of Jesus Christ!

### August 2009

The District supports a number of worthy mission projects, programs, and activities. In convention, the delegation approved using the **mission expansion fund** for mission personnel and/or programs which

expand the outreach initiatives of the District. In recent years the fund has spent \$155,000 for Johnston and Sheldon missions. The current balance is about \$550,000.

### June 2009

Did you know that your congregational mission dollars support the District budget in a variety of mission and ministry areas? The 2009 budget includes \$170,034 for **human care/outreach**. This includes \$125,000 for the chaplaincy ministry expenses (for Rev. James Brammeier in Des Moines and Rev. Steven Benson in Sioux City), \$32,190 for Lutheran Family Service, and the balance for other human care, rural, and older adult ministries.

### May 2009

Did you know that your congregational mission dollars support the District budget in a variety of **mission, ministry, and administration** areas? The District budget includes 64% for missions and only 17.5% for administration and support services (less than 18 cents of every dollar goes towards administration expenses). Just like in the church, District has many of the same administrative expenses. Some of these areas include office staff salaries, benefits, and travel; annual audit; office equipment/supplies; The Harvest magazine; utilities, maintenance, and insurance. Your congregation can receive additional insurance coverage and savings with Lutheran Trust ([www.lutherantrust.com/](http://www.lutherantrust.com/)).

### April 2009

Did you know that your congregational mission dollars support the District budget in a variety of mission and ministry areas? As part of the LCMS, the District is participating in the **Ablaze!** movement to share the Gospel with 100 million unreached people by 2017. This year the District budget includes \$15,000 for grants to assist congregations or circuits in new initiatives to reach the lost. If you are interested in an Ablaze! grant, contact Mission Executive Mark Gerken.

### March 2009

This issue of The Monthly includes the congregational giving from the fiscal period February 1, 2008 through January 31, 2009. **Thank you** to the 176 congregations for your mission and ministry support. Receipts were only \$50,428 short of our congregational goal of \$2 million. Thank you for your support!

District continues to be stewards of your mission dollar. To see a summary of 2008 highlights of our mission dollars, go online to [www.idwlcms.org/district\\_news/information/stewardship\\_sparks.pdf](http://www.idwlcms.org/district_news/information/stewardship_sparks.pdf)



### February 2009

Did you know that 42% of your unrestricted congregational mission dollars support the work of **Synod**? In the 2008 budget, \$820,000 or 41% was forwarded to Synod. Your dollars make a difference in carrying out the mission and ministry in Iowa and across the world. IDW is ranked 8th in total dollars pledged to national Synod. Thank you for your partnership!

### January 2009

Did you know that \$35,400 (3% of Iowa District West congregations' mission receipts minus Synod support) are forwarded to **Lutheran Family Service** for ministry in Iowa? Start off the new year by supporting this worthwhile organization who has been caring for families in Iowa since 1901. For more information on LFS (your partner in ministry bringing the healing presence of Jesus Christ to those in need) contact them at 515-573-3138 or [www.lfsiowa.org](http://www.lfsiowa.org).

