

That all of them may be

ONE!

John 17:21

Nebraska District LCEF

October 2011

A FEW THOUGHTS . . .

I've been reading an interesting book entitled, "Just Walk Across the Room" by Bill Hybels. It focuses on opportunities our Lord gives us every day to make an eternal difference in the lives of others.

Think about it once in light of the following information. *Ten thousand steps.* Roughly, that's the distance you travel sunrise to sunset, each and every day of your life. It adds up to about 115,000 miles in a lifetime—or more than four times around this big planet of ours. With that said, just one question: Are we using our steps wisely?

What if your steps could impact someone eternally? Often times our steps give us opportunities to come into contact with those who are sick, lonely, wandering, depressed, hopeless and struggling in so many different ways. What happens when the opportunities are there to meet these people and genuinely care for them and love them? That's what our Lord did when He came to our earth as our Savior. He came to bring hope, forgiveness and life to broken people living in a fallen world.

The apostle Paul put it this way in Romans 5:6 and 8: *"You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly...God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us."* Jesus himself said it this way: *"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest."* (Matthew 11:28)

Our journey each day can have a life-changing impact for someone standing a few steps

away from us as we reach out to them with care and love. Maybe there will even be the opportunity to share with them the good news of life, hope and forgiveness that we have through faith in Jesus. LCEF celebrates the opportunity to support and be a partner with you in that mission. Who knows where our steps will take us and what God's Spirit will do as we witness to His care and love.

Stepping out in faith with you,

Rev. Gene Gierke
Romans 15:13



Special points of interest:

- LCEF maintains strength
- Retirement opportunities

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DOLLARS & SENSE

**We praise God
for the many
investors and
donors who
support ministry
through LCEF.**

LCEF Maintains Strength

***In these volatile economic times,
Lutheran Church Extension Fund
maintains its strength and credibility.***

While the extended economic recession, the downturn in the real estate markets, and volatility of the equity markets are challenging, LCEF remains well-capitalized with a strong liquidity position.

LCEF's strength is based on the balance it maintains between loans and investment dollars. Even in light of economic conditions, investments in LCEF remain steady and it has funds available for loans to churches, schools, universities and seminaries, as well as rostered church workers.

It has been blessed with borrowers that continue their financial commitment to LCEF. LCEF continually monitors how best to strengthen its stewardship of resources. It has taken specific actions to maintain its financial strength and ability to meet the mission.

Some important points for you to know:

- LCEF's total assets in fiscal 2011 (July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011) were \$1.84 billion, with net assets at \$162 million.

- The capital-to-asset ratio improved in fiscal 2011 to 10.42% (inclusive of our loan-loss reserve) from 10.17% in fiscal 2010. Well-capitalized banks typically maintain capital-to-asset ratios of 9% while we strive to maintain a ratio of around 11%.
- LCEF's operating income improved in fiscal 2011, totaling \$7.8 million. Through cost savings and improved efficiencies, LCEF limited operating expense increases this year.
- LCEF has a small portion of funds set aside for investment. Conservatively invested, the portfolio consists mostly of high-quality fixed-income assets to limit risk and realize a consistent return. In 2011, LCEF moved a minimal amount into equities, representing just 1.2% (\$21.6 million) of the total invested portfolio.

We praise God for the many investors and donors who support ministry through LCEF loans and services.

Transforming Lives, Carrying On Tradition

You've selected your investments and beneficiaries carefully. This choice was important to you because you wanted to ensure the funds were distributed as you wish, not according to a probate court proceeding. You may have even made some decisions on charitable contributions you'd like to leave.

Among your wishes may be a desire for your beneficiaries to continue your tradition of supporting the LCEF ministry. Now is the time to communicate why you chose LCEF and, should you choose, encourage your beneficiaries to continue that legacy after you're gone. Let them celebrate your life through what you valued and cherished as a Christian.

Need some help in talking with your beneficiaries about LCEF? Contact a representative at the number below. If you have not yet designated a beneficiary for your LCEF investments, take this important step now. For information and forms go to: http://www.lcef.org/products_services/investments/beneficiary_bequests.cfm.

For more assistance, call 1-800-843-5233.



Peace Lutheran Church, Grand Island

Groundbreaking for a new addition at Peace, Grand Island, in May brought a little history to the future site. Charter members as well as young people pulled an old-fashioned plow to break ground where the new educational wing will stand. The congregation used LCEF's Architectural Advisory Committee, a demographic study and Strategic Planning For Ministry during the early stages of the expansion plans, and currently has an LCEF construction loan.



Restless in Retirement?

LCEF's Laborers For Christ offers the perfect outlet for restless hands and open hearts.

A vital service provided by the Lutheran Church Extension Fund, **Laborers For Christ** is an organized group of dedicated Christian men and women who use a portion of their retirement time to help congregations, schools, and social ministries of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod build, expand or improve facilities.

Laborers for Christ (LFC) is looking for dedicated, able-bodied, individuals who desire to bring fulfillment to their retirement years by putting their love for Christ into action for God's Kingdom.

For more information about becoming a Laborer For Christ, contact LCEF at 1-800-843-5233 or visit www.lcef.org.



Family Emergency StewardAccount®

Do you have funds set aside that can be used for the unexpected? The Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF) offers an investment tool that helps to meet the needs of your family during those surprising times. The Family Emergency StewardAccount® provides opportunity for investment growth and convenient access to funds. To learn more, contact the Nebraska District LCEF office today at 1-888-643-2961 or Gene Gierke at 402-641-1485.



The mission of LCEF is to support the Church in fulfilling its mission of sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ by being a Christ-centered servant partner of the LCMS, ensuring that funds and services are available now and in the future.





Lutheran Church Extension Fund Investment Interest Rates

October 2011

1-800-843-5233
www.lcef.org

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Suite 300
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StewardAccount® Certificate

Minimum Investment	Rate	APY
\$100	-- 0.375%	0.376%
\$1,000	-- 0.500%	0.501%
\$5,000	-- 0.625%	0.627%
\$10,000	-- 1.250%	1.257%

Dedicated Certificate

Minimum Investment	Rate	APY
\$100	-- 0.250%	0.250%
Custodial accounts for minors: \$25		
\$1,000	-- 0.375%	0.376%
\$5,000	-- 0.500%	0.501%

Fixed Term Notes

(Minimum Investment \$500)

	Rate	APY
6 Month	-- 0.375%	0.376%
9 Month	-- 0.500%	0.501%
1 Year	-- 0.625%	0.626%
18 Month	-- 0.875%	0.878%
2 Year	-- 1.000%	1.004%
3 Year	-- 1.250%	1.256%
5 Year	-- 1.875%	1.888%
6-10 Year	-- 2.125%	2.142%
11-15 Year	-- 2.375%	2.396%
16-20 Year	-- 3.000%	3.034%

Floating Term Notes

(Minimum Investment \$100)

	Rate	APY
2½ Year (30 Month)	-- 0.730%	0.732%
5 Year (60 Month)	-- 1.600%	1.610%

Family Emergency StewardAccount Certificate

Minimum Investment	Rate	APY
\$25	-- 1.375%	1.384%

**Balances of <\$10,000 require monthly
electronic investments**

HSA FlexPlus Certificate

Minimum Investment	Rate	APY
\$1	-- 1.125%	1.131%
\$2,500	-- 1.625%	1.637%
\$5,000	-- 2.125%	2.146%
\$15,000	-- 2.625%	2.657%

Next Generation Note*

(Minimum Investment \$5000)

	Fixed Term - Rate	APY
Next Generation	-- 3.375%	3.418%

IRA Dedicated Certificate

Minimum Investment	Rate	APY
\$100	-- 0.375%	0.376%
\$1,000	-- 0.500%	0.501%
\$5,000	-- 0.625%	0.626%
\$10,000	-- 1.250%	1.256%

IRA Jumbo Notes

(Minimum Investment \$100,000)

	Rate	APY
5 Year Fixed	-- 2.250%	2.269%
60 Month Floating	-- 1.975%	1.990%

Cemetery Perpetual Care StewardAccount® Certificate

	Rate	APY
\$1,000	-- 1.125%	1.131%
\$25,000	-- 1.250%	1.257%
\$50,000	-- 1.375%	1.384%
\$100,000 +	-- 1.625%	1.637%

Congregation Endowment Note

(60-Month Floating)

Minimum Investment	Rate	APY
\$1,000	-- 1.975%	1.990%
\$10,000	-- 2.100%	2.117%
\$100,000	-- 2.225%	2.244%

Congregation Endowment Note

(5-Year Fixed)

Minimum Investment	Rate	APY
\$1,000	-- 1.975%	1.990%
\$10,000	-- 2.100%	2.117%
\$100,000	-- 2.225%	2.244%

Congregation Certificates

(Minimum Investment \$100)

	Rate	APY
Demand	-- 0.375%	0.376%
StewardAccount® Certificates		
\$100	-- 1.125%	1.131%
\$250,000	-- 1.250%	1.257%
\$500,000	-- 1.375%	1.384%
\$1,000,000 +	-- 1.500%	1.510%

*In conjunction with the purchase of the Next Generation Note, you have made a contribution to the LCEF. A portion of this contribution is non-deductible and considered a premium on the purchase of the note since you are receiving a benefit in return for the contribution (i.e., a 1.5% higher interest rate on the balance of the note). The APY on the principal amount of the Next Generation Note is 3.418%. If the non-deductible portion of the contribution (premium) is deducted from the interest you receive on the note, the yield-to-maturity is reduced to 1.68%.

LCEF is a nonprofit religious organization; therefore, LCEF investments are not FDIC-insured bank deposit accounts. This is not an offer to sell investments, nor a solicitation to buy. The offer is made solely by LCEF's Offering Circular. Investors should carefully read the Offering Circular, which more fully describes associated risks.