



# Urgent Mission Needs!

The Nebraska District, in response to the opportunities for new mission work God is placing before us, joyfully supports *Fan into Flame* to help provide resources for witnessing opportunities in the communities of Nebraska and throughout the world.

"... for Jerusalem's sake I will not remain quiet, till her righteousness shines out like the dawn, her salvation like a blazing torch."

Isaiah 62:1

Nebraska District  
LCMS  
PO Box 407  
Seward NE 68434

888-643-2961  
www.ndlcms.org

*There is an urgent need for people around the world to hear about Jesus Christ as the only way to eternal life. Pastor John Diener of St. John, Tecumseh, shared the following thoughts at the conclusion of his congregation's participation in **Fan into Flame**.*

Dear Fellow Mission Partners in the Gospel of Jesus Christ!

On a personal level, the statistic that has driven me to my knees in repentance and daily inspires me to share the urgent message to get involved is the fact that **83 people die every minute who do not believe in Jesus Christ as their Savior**. And these are not 83 people "out there somewhere" that we don't know, but the 83 includes **people in our own community**.

I tried to convey this alarming truth in a variety of ways, but it always came back to the passage from Romans 10:13-14 which says, "**Everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord will be saved. How, then, can they call on the One they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the One of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them?**"

The goal is to reach 100 million people with the Gospel message by 2017, and I

pray that through the power of the Holy Spirit, many of the 100 million will come to believe in Jesus Christ and have life in His name.

The world is ripe for harvest **now** but the laborers are few. We can do something about that - and not miss this opportunity. *Fan into Flame* gives us the opportunity to directly **support mission work** all around the world, including our own community.

May God bless your congregation's prayerful consideration to participate in this **life-changing and life-giving mission opportunity**. Your congregation will surprise and delight you with their support - not because of your efforts - but because the Holy Spirit will bless it beyond even your highest expectations. If you want to know the difference the Spirit makes, speak to the people of St. John's, Tecumseh, and they will share with you the joy of responding to the challenge of the *Mission Ablaze! Fan into Flame* appeal.

***NOW*** is the time for Nebraska congregations to pledge to participate in *Fan into Flame*. Congregations that haven't committed can still be part of the District's campaign by signing a **Congregation Goal Agreement**. Congregations can then start *Ablaze!* education and planning for their appeal in early 2009. Visit [www.ndlcms.org](http://www.ndlcms.org) or call 888-643-2961 for more information.

### Campaign Update

Commitments to date from individuals and congregations in Nebraska for *Fan into Flame* are \$2,520,454 as a result of 465 gifts.

National gifts and commitments to date total \$34.6 million.

### Ablaze! Factoids

Looking for a way to begin *Ablaze!* education in your congregation? Share a few of these *Ablaze!* facts in your next bulletin.

1. It doesn't take money to tell someone about Jesus, only a personal commitment. Tell your neighbors, your friends, and your family about the hope you have in Jesus Christ.
2. Participating in *Ablaze!* education and *Fan into Flame* can provide members of your congregation with the tools to be confident witnesses of their faith in Jesus.
3. Gifts to *Fan into Flame* will provide financial support for programs, ministries, and capital projects to fulfill the *Ablaze!* vision of sharing the Gospel message of Jesus.