



The Nebraska District *Ablaze!* Update

December 11, 2008

Mission Miracles

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.

"The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told."
Luke 2:20

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The Lord continues to work in the hearts of His people, and as more Nebraska District congregations share with their members the urgent need to tell people about the saving work of Jesus Christ, hearts are moved to support this work with gifts and prayers.

That's what *Fan into Flame* is: the invitation for each member in every congregation to be involved in supporting *Ablaze!* mission projects through gifts and prayers. Every gift to this historic mission endeavor goes to support telling people about Jesus in four mission fields as outlined in Acts 1:8 – locally, district-wide, nationally, and internationally.

In just the last two weeks, 9 more Nebraska congregations have sent in reports from appeals or committed to participation in 2009.

St. Paul's, Arlington
St. John, Battle Creek
Immanuel, Butte
Immanuel, Daykin
Faith, Lincoln

Christ, Nebraska City
First, Papillion
Zion, Shickley
St. Paul, Weeping Water

God is doing amazing things in these and the other participating *Fan into Flame* congregations. These 9 congregations represent gifts and commitments totaling more than \$114,500 in support of mission work! **Imagine how many more people would be able to hear about the saving work of Jesus Christ if your congregation joined in this effort!**

By God's grace, congregations that run appeals consistently exceed their goals, as was the case with congregations that reported this week. Other congregations are stepping up to commit to participating in 2009.

If your congregation has not committed to being a part of this exciting mission effort, it's not too late. Print and complete a **Congregational Pledge Form** from the District website at www.ndlcms.org, and return the form with your prayerfully considered pledge goal. Congregations can then find the time that works best for their participation in 2009.

Resources and materials will remain available from the Nebraska District Office into 2009.

*Just as the shepherds glorified and praised God for the things they heard and saw, we thank God for the miracles He has done in the Nebraska District through His people this year. Congregations and individuals have come forward with generous hearts to ensure the story of Jesus and His free gift of salvation is shared with those who don't know Him. At this Christmastime, join us in giving thanks for those who have participated in *Fan into Flame*.*

End-of-the-Year Pledge Cards

Congregations that have distributed pledge cards to members, or who are in the process of collecting pledge cards from members at the conclusion of an appeal, are reminded that these cards must be **postmarked by December 31** on their way to the *Fan into Flame* office in St. Louis for the donor to be given tax credit for 2008.

Many donors will be planning on counting their *Fan into Flame* gifts on their 2008 taxes, so please help them by making sure all pledge cards are mailed by December 31, and remind your participating members to do the same.

Campaign Update

Commitments to date from individuals and congregations in Nebraska for *Fan into Flame* are \$3,012,770 as a result of 930 gifts.

National gifts and commitments to date total \$38.8 million.

The Nebraska District has received back \$83,512.18 to be used for mission work in Nebraska.