



## The Nebraska District *Ablaze!* Update

June 5, 2008

# What Are We Talking About?

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.

**"You are not your own; you were bought at a price."**

1 Cor. 6:19-20

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As congregations discuss their involvement in *Fan into Flame*, and committees begin working on the appeal plan chosen by the congregation, it might be a good idea to define some of the terms people will be using.

**Campaign** - *Fan into Flame* is the capital fund raising campaign endorsed by the 2004 Synodical Convention that will secure \$100 million dollars in new money to fund vital new and enhanced mission programs around the world, throughout the United States, and in participating Districts and congregations. To date, \$30.1 million has been raised through the national campaign. These dollars will be used to help LCMS World Mission, the Nebraska District, and congregations reach out with the saving message of salvation through Christ Jesus.

**Effort** - The Nebraska District Board of Directors, in its December 2007 meeting, approved participation of the District in the *Fan into Flame* mission effort to support mission projects and programs that will advance the District's *Ablaze!* goals. These mission goals and the new money needed to begin these mission efforts is outlined in the Nebraska District Case for Support, which is available on the District *Fan into Flame* webpage, [www.ndlcms.org/news/FIF/index.html](http://www.ndlcms.org/news/FIF/index.html).

**Appeal** - Each congregation in the Nebraska District will have an opportunity to participate in *Fan into Flame* with congregations from across the LCMS by planning a meaningful, intentional congregational appeal to educate members about *Ablaze!*, *Fan into Flame*, and to invite their support.

**More information on the national campaign, the District's effort, or congregational appeals is available on the District website at [www.ndlcms.org/news/FIF/index.html](http://www.ndlcms.org/news/FIF/index.html).**

### It's Not Too Late!

Congregations that have not yet decided when to participate in *Fan into Flame* still have time to conduct a well-organized appeal. Congregations are strongly encouraged to begin forming a planning committee and to take the matter to their voters' meeting in July. Circuit Coordinators are available to answer questions and to provide helpful resources.

**Every congregation of the Nebraska District is encouraged to decide by September 15 when it will be participating.**

### Campaign Update

Commitments to date from individuals and congregations in Nebraska for *Fan into Flame* are \$1,673,780 as a result of 32 gifts.

### Frequently Asked Questions

The Nebraska District has developed a brochure to answer some of the most frequently asked questions we hear as we visit with congregations and individuals about *Fan into Flame*. Anyone is invited to visit the website and print a copy for personal, committee, or congregational use. Following is one of the questions included in the brochure.

**Our congregation already has community outreach projects in place. Do we need to start something new with the portion of our gifts that are returned?**

No, the money may be used by your congregation for new or existing outreach opportunities. Your congregation will receive a check every quarter to be used for outreach as the congregation chooses. There are no forms to fill out or reports to make in order to receive the money. You can use these funds to support established outreach ministries or to reach out to your community in new ways.