

## LCEF StewardAccount® Supporting LCMS Ministry

With an LCEF StewardAccount®, invested funds are used to support Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod ministries while the investor maintains easy access. The StewardAccount® is similar to a money market account with many additional benefits and features. LCEF offers free check writing with monthly statements as well as a VISA® check card and EFT (electronic funds transfer) options. The StewardAccount® earns competitive market rates for individual investors and for congregations; go to [www.ialcef.org](http://www.ialcef.org) each month for current rates.



Steve and Carole White have one StewardAccount® for personal use and household expenses. "I have my paycheck automatically deposited into the account. I can use my VISA debit card to purchase groceries, buy clothing, or do any shopping - it works wherever VISA is accepted. I can get cash from an ATM but, to avoid fees charged by the ATM owner, I simply add a cash disbursement to a store purchase. With MyAccount (electronic access to my LCEF accounts), we can use online bill paying for utilities, doctors, and even help with the farm loan payments to our local bank. We can write a check for the tithe to our church on our StewardAccount® as soon as my paycheck is deposited." Checks can be written for \$250 or more. One could also authorize an electronic tithe from their StewardAccount® directly to their church through Joyful Response (LCEF's free electronic tithing and tuition payment service available to all LCMS churches, schools, and preschools). "Another interesting feature of the StewardAccount® is this: every time I make a purchase signing my name (instead of using my PIN); a donation is made to LCEF's World Mission Fund."

 StewardAccount®

White also has a StewardAccount® for business use which aids in accurate record-keeping of business expenses and offers a convenient means to buy gas and purchase office supplies using the Check Card. Hotel reservations are made online as needed, saving money by using discount service providers. Each month, when business expenses are submitted for reimbursement, a check is deposited into the LCEF business account with a postage paid envelope and deposit slip or it can be electronically deposited by the business manager with no waiting time or chance for getting lost.

Besides the convenience of online bill paying, MyAccount also allows review of all activity in LCEF accounts, making transfers between accounts or to a checking account any time of day.

The Whites opened a Family Emergency StewardAccount® when this new investment first became available by LCEF because of the great investment rate and excellent features. It has proven to be beneficial when unexpected expenses came up and even for planned purchases such as Christmas gifts. A set amount is electronically deposited in their Family Emergency StewardAccount® each month from a checking account and additions can also be made to the account by mail. White adds, "Since we know we can access it anytime, but only 12 times per year, it is a great place to accumulate funds for the next appliance or vehicle that we'll need to replace someday not so unexpectedly."

"There are no fees charged by LCEF on any StewardAccounts® or for the VISA debit cards we use frequently or for the online access to our LCEF accounts. It's great to know that, with our personal and business saving and investing, we are supporting a much-needed service to our LCMS congregations and organizations, providing loans for their expansion, renovation, and operation."

Consider including LCEF and the StewardAccount® in your investment strategy. Application and Offering Circular are available by contacting your LCEF Vice President or online at [www.ialcef.org](http://www.ialcef.org).



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