



February 2010

**Fan into Flame** is a movement to inspire individuals and congregations in Iowa District West to respond as recipients of God's abundant grace through the sharing of resources in the work of the mission.

Plan now how your congregation can be involved in the Fan into Flame Campaign.  
Contact Mission Executive,  
Rev. Mark Gerken  
515-570-2331

**The total of gifts and pledges received Synod-wide to date is \$53,600,000**

**Total pledged for IDW: \$353,023**

*Praise God!*

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## Reaching the lost in Ames, in Iowa and beyond

It had been several years since St. Paul, Ames had done a concentrated drive purely for missions. So when Fan into Flame was presented to them they felt it was a great opportunity for their members to reach beyond their church building.

As a committee it was decided to elect the simplest plan; 6-8 weeks of promotion and two weeks of actual commitment. Information and mailings went out to the entire membership. Signs were placed both in and outside the church to raise awareness. Pastor Todd Jenks organized and led a Bible study based on Fan into Flame and mission work. Three committee members made appeals to the congregation in both worship services. One committee member asked for early commitments from the leaders, elders and their families.

Committee members were instrumental in making the campaign a success! They did much of the busywork. Fan into Flame provided workbooks as guides to help with the process of planning for the commitment Sundays and for the collection of pledges and reporting.

The members of St. Paul had 36 pledges totaling \$22,965.00. We praise God for the commitment from God's people! The opportunity remains available to their members to still make a pledge. This is an ongoing initiative where members are encouraged to make pledges at any time. The committee is actively reminding the congregation through bulletin and newsletter articles as well as displaying the results on a poster board in the church so members can see the progress that has been made.

The congregation is planning on using some of the 15% monies that come back to them from the campaign for scholarships for preschool families that cannot afford to pay the cost of school. On the preschool's page of their website the Bible verse from Mark 10:14 summarizes their mission to reach out to children in their community "Jesus said to them, 'Let the little children come to me... for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.'"

