



June 2009

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 Peter Black
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The total of gifts and pledges received Synod-wide to date is \$46,919,566

Total pledged for IDW: \$286,713

Praise God!

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Why every church in IDW should participate in **Ablaze!** and Fan into Flame

Can you identify one person in your life that doesn't profess a belief in Jesus as their Savior? There is only one Savior; only one way to get to heaven. There are people in our communities, in our state, in our country and across the world that do not believe in Jesus as their Savior. *"God our Savior, (who) wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth."* 1 Tim. 2:3-4 We have the saving message! Now, how will we take the life saving message to those who do not profess that faith? Through the power of the Holy Spirit we are asked to go and tell the message of Jesus as the one and only Savior. Some of these ways do not cost money, but others do have start up costs or ongoing cost. What more important task can we have than being a part of telling others about Jesus? Fan into Flame gives us the opportunity to directly support mission work all around the world, beginning in our own community. Be apart of this urgent and life changing opportunity!

A portion of the money that comes back to Iowa District West will be used for church revitalization. The following is taken from the IDW case statement.

Church Revitalization

Changing demographics and cultural trends continue to impact the ministry of Iowa District West congregations. A majority of District congregations have experienced decline in membership and worship attendance. Celebrating the Lord of life, we seek to offer eternal life to everyone. In the last four years: baptized membership has declined by 3 percent; worship attendance has declined by 4 percent; 70 percent of congregations experienced a decline in worship attendance; and half of the District congregations worship less than 100 people each week. Revitalization initiatives will reconnect inactive members and reach the unchurched in our communities with the good news of Jesus Christ. Specific initiatives to accomplish this goal will include:

"On each side of the river stood the tree of life, bearing twelve crops of fruit." Revelations 22:2

+ Twelve Fields

At least twelve ministry "fields" (congregation, circuit, community) will be identified as District models of ministry transition and revitalization. Fan Into Flame will provide the "fields" with the following:

- "Seed" monies for staffing, community outreach initiatives, professional consultations, demographic surveys and other resources for field preparation.
- Coaching from District staff and other mission planters
- Mission leadership training for the pastor and lay leaders with an emphasis on community outreach.

Each of the twelve mission models will commit themselves to sharing their revitalization experiences and expertise with at least two other District ministry contexts.

"Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" And I said, 'Here am I. Send me.'" Isaiah 6:8

+ Missionaries in Every Field

At least six thousand people (ten percent of District membership) will be equipped to respond to the Great Commission (Matthew 28:19-20) with renewed commitment to share the love of Christ in the home, community, and into the world. Fan Into Flame will equip member missionaries through

- Family ministry resources and training to strengthen the faith sharing and faith living in the home.
- "Reaching The Heartland For Christ" and rural ministry initiatives.
- At least four District and regional outreach training events featuring a Biblical mission mandate