



KANSAS MISSION  
**ABLAZE!**

PROCLAIMING  
THE MESSAGE  
TODAY,  
TOMORROW,  
FOR ETERNITY

NEVER LET  
THE FIRE IN  
YOUR HEART  
GO OUT. KEEP  
IT ALIVE.  
SERVE THE  
LORD.

ROMANS 12:11

KANSAS DISTRICT  
LCMS

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## THE KANSAS DISTRICT ABLAZE! UPDATE

JUNE 27, 2008

### Igniter Events Update

Nine regional orientation meetings, called Igniter Events, were conducted in May and June throughout the district, with 74 of our 165 congregations participating. The goal of these events was to share information about the *Fan Into Flame* Campaign and invite congregations to participate. Probably the most significant outcome of these events was the enthusiasm kindled for mission outreach. It was good for President Keith Kohlmeier, *Fan Into Flame* Chairman Rev. Joel Hiesterman, and Rev. Mark Frith to hear the joys, concerns, comments and questions about the campaign from congregation leaders.

So where do we go from here? Twelve congregations have boldly stepped forward to serve as pilot congregations, running campaigns from now through August. Watch for updates on these first campaigns on the District website and in later editions of this newsletter. Our Circuit Coordinators and Steering Committee members will be following up with all congregations, offering resources and support as decisions are made about participating in *Fan Into Flame*. If your congregation was unable to attend an Igniter Event, there is plenty of information available on our District website, including a PowerPoint presentation with handouts explaining the campaign.

Please prayerfully consider participating in this national & local effort to raise mission dollars for *Ablaze!* If you have any questions or concerns, don't hesitate to contact any of our Steering Committee members, Circuit Coordinators, or Rev. Mark Frith.



### Kansas District *Ablaze* Mission Plan

The Kansas District will receive 15% of the funds raised by Kansas congregations through their *Fan Into Flame* Campaigns. The Board of Directors asks for the Spirit's blessing on our *Ablaze!* Mission Plan, which includes the following goals :

◆**New Church & Ministry Starts - \$1,700,000**

Our goal is to plant 12 new congregations/ministries by 2017. Areas of current population growth like the Kansas City and Wichita regional areas and the communities surrounding Fort Riley are obvious places to start. *Fan into Flame* gifts will be used to create a revolving loan fund used for new mission starts.

◆**Revitalization of 70 Congregations - \$300,000**

With funds raised through *Fan into Flame*, we can assist congregations, through one or more of these workshops, to revitalize their mission and outreach to meet the unique ministry challenges in their communities:

- Urban Ministry Outreach – one annually
- “We Can” Module Workshops for rural congregations – four annually
- Strategic Ministry Planning Workshops – four annually.

We will also establish a Foundational Fund to provide revitalization grants for district congregations.

◆**Human Care Vision - \$1,000,000**

Natural disasters in Kansas (i.e. tornadoes and flooding) demonstrated our need to develop resources for disaster readiness and prepare preconceived plans for quick deployment of human and physical resources when the need arises. *Fan into Flame* gifts will be used to provide:

- Mobile Command Center
- Disaster Training for Congregations
- Congregational Preparation Grants.

We also want to create an endowment fund to ensure that all church workers in Kansas will be able to utilize the Kansas District Retreat Center to find needed respite and sabbath.

For more information about *Ablaze!* and resources for your congregation, visit the LCMS *Ablaze!* website.

[www.lcms.org/ablaze](http://www.lcms.org/ablaze)

You can also access this website and more *Ablaze!* and *Fan into Flame* information from the Kansas District homepage.

[www.kslcms.org](http://www.kslcms.org)

This bi-weekly newsletter will be sent to the Kansas District Email List. Pastors and church offices are encouraged to print and post or reproduce this page for their newsletters or bulletins. Contact Lori Hennessey at [lori@kslcms.org](mailto:lori@kslcms.org) or 800-357-4421 ext. 223 if you have any questions.