



Why Should We Participate in Fan into Flame?

We are encouraging one another to participate because we're discovering that statistically the world is a whole lot more "un-churched" than what we might have thought. That is speaking of simply the world around us. Kansas is a state where more and more people are considering the church to be optional. As a Kansas District we have been working together to open our eyes to the mission field abroad and near. *Ablaze!* and *Fan Into Flame* are a lot of things to a lot of people. Simply stated, it is rallying phraseology that invites us to consider going the extra mile or two in our mission efforts for the sake of Christ's Kingdom.

Ablaze! with *Fan Into Flame* is a global movement and it is a local movement. In Kansas there are many opportunities to begin new congregations and/or expand ministry through our local congregations. We need each other's help to do this. In Kansas there is a growing need for an effort that we're calling revitalizing congregations. In Kansas there is a need for the care and keeping of people in times of disaster. However, there is also a growing need for the care and keeping of our church workers. For a lot of our workers it appears that there is "little gas left in the tank" for any more mission endeavors. So we need each other's help to care and encourage one another.

When you think of the Kansas District, think not of an office staff operating out of base called Topeka. Think of all the ligaments that bind each of our congregations and ministries together. Horsemen tell us that when you yoke two horses together to pull as one, they do not pull with a horsepower of 1+1. The horsepower is greater than the sum. Two horses will pull with an equivalent of almost three horses. Think of synod and how our Lord would have us be as one - One Body in Christ! Think and pray what the Lord would have us to do in this day and age, as one people pulling together. *by Rev. Mark T. Frith*

How Easy is it to Participate?

It's as easy as 1-2-3!

1. **Recruit** - It only takes a small committee of dedicated lay leaders to plan and carry out an appeal. No matter what size your congregation is, a handful of enthusiastic lay leaders can gather resources, develop a plan and begin the steps necessary to share *Fan into Flame* with the entire congregation.
2. **Educate** - Having a pastor and a committee that knows about *Fan into Flame* is great, but it's just as important to tell the entire congregation about this unique mission opportunity. The next step is to educate the congregational members on what *Ablaze!* and *Fan into Flame* are all about.
3. **Invite** - The final step is to invite participation in *Fan into Flame* by the congregation and individuals through:
 - a. Personal visits to members
 - b. Cottage/group meetings
 - c. Commitment Sunday(s)
 - d. A percentage of a Capital Campaign
 - e. A pledge of a percentage of last year's offerings over a period of 3 to 5 years
 - f. A combination of any of the above or your own plan.

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

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

Kansas Congregation News - St. John, Alma

St. John, Alma, took two months to publicly prepare for a Commitment Sunday. After discussion in the Board of Elders and an announcement at a voters' meeting four months prior to the commitment date, we relayed information about *Fan into Flame* via bulletin notices, newsletters and Sunday announcements. We also had two Sunday viewings of *Ablaze/Fan into Flame* video segments as part of our worship service in support of missions. Two weeks before our Commitment Sunday, we sent a personalized letter to each of our church members asking for a commitment, and to consider using tax rebates to achieve a \$50,000 goal for our congregation. We received pledges and gifts on August 24th, and will continue to accept them till September 14th. *by Pastor Bob Grimm*

KANSAS
MISSION
ABLAZE!

PROCLAIMING
THE MESSAGE
TODAY,
TOMORROW,
FOR ETERNITY

"THE HARVEST
IS PLENTIFUL,
BUT THE
WORKERS ARE
FEW. ASK THE
LORD OF THE
HARVEST,
THEREFORE, TO
SEND OUT
WORKERS INTO
HIS HARVEST
FIELD."

LUKE 10:2

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This 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 or 800-357-4421 ext. 223 if you have any questions.