

The Future is Now



Vision and Goals

The Board of Directors of the Michigan District-LCMS, in consideration of the vision and mission of the District, has determined that two of the long term goals for the congregations of the Michigan District should further what our forefathers started in the early 1800's. These goals are the basis of the 125th Anniversary Thank Offering: 1) intentional mission development; and 2) recruiting and supporting professional church worker students

While the Michigan District is celebrating 125 years of ministry outreach in the state of Michigan, there is a current and future need regarding the above goals. This is expressed by the adopted Thank Offering Theme, "The Future is Now." The goal of "The Future is Now" is to raise \$10,000,000. This campaign will directly support these two District goals:

- Intentional Mission Development -- \$5,000,000
- Recruiting, Supporting and Deploying Professional Church Worker students -- \$5,000,000

The Thank Offering is designed to praise God for the opportunity and impact of ministry over the last 125 years. It will also provide His people a way to return thanks for the abundant blessings they have received and enable continuation of the legacy for future generations.

Intentional Mission Development

With the enormous need for reaching those who do not know Christ as Savior and in response to the 125 years of blessings of God, the Michigan District seeks to raise \$5,000,000 to begin ten additional mission congregations over the next five years. One is planned to be an urban mission start. The funds will be held and dispersed from the Michigan District Endowment Fund for Mission Development. The Thank Offering will enable these mission starts to become a reality. In addition, through the support of the District Endowment Fund, the District will be able to continue planting two to three new mission starts per year.

Professional Church Worker Support

The Michigan District has a wonderful history of men and women who have answered the call of Matthew 9:37-38, "Then He said to His disciples 'The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into His harvest field.'"

The objective of this aspect of the Thank Offering is to increase the number of students, now and in the future, in all of our Concordia University System schools, especially our own Concordia University Ann Arbor. Through the added financial incentive, the District seeks to assist Concordia University Ann Arbor with increased funding for scholarships that will be helpful for students and ultimately for the Church. It is the hope of the District that many will answer the call to be professional church workers for the Lord. The need is great. There is a looming shortage of professional church workers. Therefore, the goal is to raise \$5,000,000 which will substantially increase the financial support offered to professional church worker students.