



Giving out of Poverty

by Rev. John Bookshaw

“You have to be kidding! There is no way we can become part of *The Future is Now*. We are having a difficult time making our own expenses.”

Though the times are difficult in Michigan, we should see this as a great time to become involved in this effort. What a great and powerful witness it will be as we generously give to support missions, our future church workers, and international ministries.

I cannot help but think of the event in the ministry of Jesus when He was at the Temple treasury, watching the crowd putting money in the treasury to support the work of the Temple. The rich were putting in large sums of money and then **a poor widow put in those two copper coins**. Jesus said that she gave out of her poverty all she had to support the work of the Temple. This poor widow had to trust that God would continue to provide for all her needs.

Progress to Date ...

This month, *The Future is Now* hit its **\$4 million milestone!** This is through the generosity of just under 1,400 donors.

The action of this widow is a picture of the ministry of Jesus. Jesus would give His all for our salvation. Jesus offered His life so that we would receive the forgiveness of our sins and the promise of eternal life.

We, the forgiven, are to trust God for our salvation and His continual care for us. Supporting *The Future is Now* is one way we can carry out the Great Commission. I highly encourage all congregations to generously support *The Future is Now*.

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Resource Tip ...

Eight bulletin inserts are available online at www.michigandistrict.org/g3a3b.html. Use all of them, some of them, or ones pertaining to the initiatives your congregation is supporting!



Congregation Highlights

We thank the following congregations who have recently submitted commitments and/or gifts to the campaign: Calvary, Flint; St. John, Grand Haven; St. Michael's, Richville; St. John, St. Johns; Lakeshore Lutheran Fellowship, Spring Lake; and St. Matthew, Spring Lake. This year alone, more than 100 congregations have submitted pledge forms and/or gifts to *The Future is Now!*

“In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.”

1 Timothy 6:19



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