

The Future is Now



That is what the 125 year history of the Michigan District is about... bringing people to Jesus.

The Board of Directors of the Michigan District, as the caretaker of the vision and mission of the District, has determined that two of the long term goals for the congregations of the Michigan District are: Intentional Mission Development and Recruiting, supporting, and deploying Professional Church Worker Students. As the District celebrates 125 years of ministry outreach in the state of Michigan, *The Future is Now* for these two goals of the District.

The Future is Now is a three-year celebration which targets raising \$10,000,000 to directly support mission development and recruiting and supporting professional church work students. The celebration is designed to praise God for the opportunity and impact of ministry over the last 125 years and to provide His people a way to return thanks for the abundant blessings they have received, thus ensuring that the legacy begun so many years ago will be here for future generations.

Intentional Mission Development

With the enormous need for mission starts, the Michigan District seeks to raise \$5,000,000 to begin ten additional mission starts over the next five years, one urban mission start, and place funds into the Michigan District Endowment Fund for Mission Development. With your help these additional new mission starts will be 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

In the past five years the support for professional church work students has averaged about \$400 per year – far below the cost of tuition and expenses. The goal of *The Future is Now* is to raise \$5,000,000 to substantially increase the financial support offered to professional church worker students and to add to the Michigan District Endowment for Professional Church Workers.

A secondary objective of this effort is to increase the number of students, now and in the future, in 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 additional funding for scholarships, students, and support of the individuals and congregations of the District. It is the hope of the District that many will answer the call to be professional church workers for the Lord.

Get Involved

The Michigan District Board of Directors, through individuals and the local congregations, seeks your assistance in the fulfillment of these outcomes for the District through the 125th Anniversary Celebration. Information about *The Future is Now* will be shared regularly through *Michigan In Touch*, the District website at www.michigandistrict.org/g5.html, and through newsletter articles and bulletin announcements provided to your congregation.

For more information about *The Future is Now* or to find out how you can participate in the thank offering, through financial support or as a volunteer, please contact Ray Zavada in the District Office at 734.213.4264 or 888.225.2111.