



LCEF ON THE MOVE

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS DISTRICT EDITION



February 2009

Dear Friends,

Welcome to the February issue of **LCEF on the Move**.

We are now well into the calendar year 2009 and, later this month, we will enter the Lenten season. The next few months are some of the busiest in terms of activities on the church calendar. I pray that the activities at your church are of benefit to current members and welcoming for those not yet associated with your ministry.

In spite of a troubled economy, we have a number of churches that are moving forward on expansion plans. Please keep these congregations in your prayers. It may be simplistic, but my prayer is that these projects proceed on schedule and at (or below) budget.

LCEF continues to be blessed by the faithful support of investors who understand that an LCEF investment is more than a monetary asset: it supports ministry. Along with a fair rate of return and a history of financial strength, LCEF investments help build churches and support ministry. We call that the 'ministry dividend'.

Not only is this a very busy time in many of our churches, but it is also an important time for the districts of our Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod, as 2009 is the year that districts meet in triennial convention. The North Dakota District convention was held last month and Southern Illinois holds its convention February 19-21. The bulk of the conventions are in June (including the Missouri District). Please keep these conventions in your prayers as decisions are made regarding the future of our work together as a church body.

Some of you receive this newsletter in printed form, along with supplementary material. Included in this month's mailing are 'bulletin blurbs' for use in church bulletins, newsletters, etc. throughout the calendar year. We will also resume shipment of the 'dollar bills'. If you receive this newsletter in electronic form and are interested in the 'bulletin blurbs', drop me an email at dennis.klussman@lcef.org.

Thanks again for your past, present, and future support of LCEF.

In HIS Service,

Dennis Klussman
LCEF Vice President

LCEF Services Help Congregations Face Economic Challenges

Many congregations see LCEF as their primary source for funding of building projects, including new construction and renovation work. It is for this reason that many individuals and organizations invest funds with LCEF, so that funds are available to lend to congregations for their building needs.

The LCEF Arch of Services (shown below) is often presented as a way to help congregations bring in necessary resources to plan (and pay for) a successful building project.

However, LCEF also realizes that not every congregation is always in need of construction funds and sometimes an existing loan can become an important issue in terms of planning for the future. As a result, LCEF offers a number of services that help congregations that are struggling with finances.

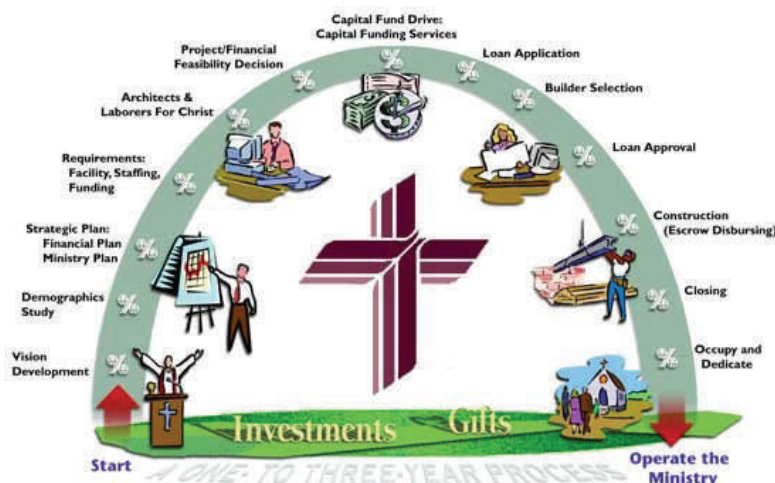
Most building projects include a capital campaign that helps provide a 'down payment' for the cost of construction. The difference between total cost and the campaign receipts is then financed on a long-term basis with LCEF. What happens at the end of the initial capital campaign? The level of enthusiasm regarding the project has dropped and the interest of members moves to other areas. It is for this reason that LCEF's Capital Funding Services has developed proven approaches to a follow-up campaign dedicated to debt reduction and renewed interest in the ministry. This can also include (as an option) Strategic Ministry Planning services to help reinforce the values, mission, and vision that led to the need for the building expansion.

Some congregations are simply looking for a way to bolster weekly giving based on Biblical stewardship principles. As a result, LCEF has developed Consecrated Stewards, a 6 – 10 week process that includes a 4-week public emphasis on a Biblical approach to stewardship. Consecrated Stewards includes Bible studies, publicity, and a celebration Sunday featuring a guest preacher and a time for congregational commitment. No two congregations are alike, but many congregations that have used Consecrated Stewards have experienced increased offerings in the 15% - 25% range.

For more information about these services, contact LCEF at (800) 843-5233 or visit the LCEF website www.lcef.org.

The Southern Illinois District has received some funds that are designated to assist congregations with a portion of the cost of these services. For more information about the availability of these funds, contact Dennis Klussman by telephone at (618) 444-7771 or by email at dennis.klussman@lcef.org.

Built Around and For the Church





KIDS Stamp Corner

How many times have we heard about the need for people to budget and manage their finances? How about stewardship issues? What can we do to help young people learn about these things? One answer is LCEF's KIDS Program.

KIDS stands for **K**ids **I**nto **D**iscipleship and **S**tewardship. This program, offered in day schools and Sunday schools, allows children to purchase stamps that can be exchanged for investments in an LCEF account upon completion of a stamp booklet.

Kids also learn the benefits of investing for the future while also supporting the mission and ministry of a congregation. Activity books help keep kids involved and encourage them in their stewardship life.

For more information about the KIDS Program call LCEF at (800) 843-5233.

The Blurb

(for use in church bulletins, newsletters, etc.)

Our God has shown His love and mercy to us by sending His Son to die for our sins. We show our love to the world by sharing the good news of salvation in Jesus Christ with all that we meet. Our Lutheran churches seek to minister to their communities and spread the Gospel throughout the area. Your support of Lutheran Church Extension Fund assists congregations in their ministry. Call 1-800-THE-LCEF (843-5233) or visit www.lcef.org for more information.

At Your Service

(LCEF Services Update)

Many churches have just entered a new budget year and may be carrying a large debt load after a recent building expansion / renovation. Before starting the building program, the congregation conducted a successful capital campaign that is now almost complete. There is a need to continue the campaign, but it is often difficult to convey the importance of such to the members other than 'We have got to be able to pay the bills!'

Here is an idea that might help. LCEF's Strategic Ministry Planning team and its Capital Funding Services unit can work jointly with your congregation to help clarify the mission, vision, and values of the congregation so that all members (recent and not-so-recent) are on the same page in terms of the ministry. Once this is accomplished, the mission, vision, and values become the basis for a new capital campaign to reduce indebtedness and free up other resources for ministry. Because both efforts take place in approximately the same timeframe, LCEF can offer the package of services at a cost that is less than if each service was purchased separately. Furthermore, since most congregations pay for capital campaigns out of the proceeds of the campaign, the cost of these services can be covered outside the normal church budget.

For more information about LCEF's Strategic Ministry Planning services and Capital Funding Services, contact LCEF at (800) 843-5233 or visit the LCEF website www.lcef.org.

Did You Know?

Did you know that LCEF has approximately 63,000 investors?

Only 3.50% of the communicant members of the LCMS are able to fund all the capital needs of churches, schools, and other LCMS agencies. Thanks be to God for the wonderful support of these investors!

Current *LCEF* Loan Rates

Congregations (Loans Amortized Up To Twenty Years):

Annually-Adjusted Loan: 5.875%
(Loans > \$2 Million Adjusted Monthly)

Five - Year Balloon Note 6.375%

Ten - Year Balloon Note 6.875%

Construction Rate is 1% Higher During Construction Period

1% Loan Origination Fee

Rostered Church Worker Mortgage Loans (Loans Amortized Up To Thirty Years):

One Year Adjustable Rate Loan (10% Down payment): 5.125% - 5.625%

Five Year Adjustable Rate Loan (10% Down payment): 5.375% - 5.875%

Final Interest Rate Based Upon Down Payment and Credit History

LCEF On The Move

A Monthly Newsletter of the Missouri District LCEF

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For additional information, visit the LCEF website www.lcef.org or call (800)-843-5233.



February 2009

Leadership Conference

Congregation Endowment
(5-Year Fixed)

Minimum Investment	Rate	APY
\$1,000	-- 3.400%	3.444%
\$10,000	-- 3.525%	3.572%
\$100,000	-- 3.650%	3.700%

Congregation Endowment
(60-Month Floating)

Minimum Investment	Rate	APY
\$1,000	-- 3.400%	3.444%
\$10,000	-- 3.525%	3.572%
\$100,000	-- 3.650%	3.700%

Congregation Certificates
(Minimum Investment \$100)

	Rate	APY
Demand	-- 1.500%	1.508%
StewardAccount®	--	
\$100	-- 2.500%	2.529%
\$250,000	-- 2.625%	2.657%
\$500,000	-- 2.750%	2.785%
\$1,000,000 +	-- 2.875%	2.913%

IRA Jumbo
(Minimum Investment \$100,000)

	Rate	APY
5 Year Fixed	-- 3.625%	3.675%
60 Month Floating	-- 3.400%	3.444%

Family Emergency StewardAccount

Minimum Investment	Rate	APY
\$25	-- 3.125%	3.170%

Balances of <\$10,000 require monthly electronic investments



StewardAccount® Certificates

Minimum Investment	Rate	APY
\$100	-- 0.875%	0.879%
\$1,000	-- 1.000%	1.005%
\$5,000	-- 1.375%	1.384%
\$10,000	-- 2.500%	2.529%

Fixed Term Notes
(Minimum Investment \$500)

	Rate	APY
6 Month	-- 1.750%	1.762%
9 Month	-- 1.875%	1.888%
1 Year	-- 2.000%	2.015%
18 Month	-- 2.250%	2.269%
2 Year	-- 2.375%	2.396%
3 Year	-- 2.500%	2.524%
5 Year	-- 3.250%	3.290%
6 – 10 Year	-- 3.375%	3.418%
11 – 15 Year	-- 3.625%	3.675%
16 – 20 Year	-- 3.875%	3.932%

Floating Term Notes
(Minimum Investment \$100)

	Rate	APY
2½ Year (30 Month)	-- 2.380%	2.401%
5 Year (60 Month)	-- 3.025%	3.059%

IRA Dedicated Certificates

Minimum Investment	Rate	APY
\$100	-- 0.875%	0.878%
\$1,000	-- 1.000%	1.004%
\$5,000	-- 1.375%	1.382%
\$10,000	-- 2.500%	2.524%

HSA FlexPlus Certificates

Minimum Investment	Rate	APY
\$1	-- 2.750%	2.785%
\$2,500	-- 3.250%	3.299%
\$5,000	-- 3.750%	3.815%
\$15,000	-- 4.250%	4.334%

Cemetery Perpetual Care StewardAccount®

	Rate	APY
\$1,000	-- 2.625%	2.657%
\$25,000	-- 2.875%	2.913%
\$50,000	-- 3.125%	3.170%
\$100,000 +	-- 3.375%	3.428%

Dedicated Certificates

Minimum Investment	Rate	APY
\$100	-- 0.500%	0.501%
<i>Custodial accounts for minors: \$25</i>		
\$1,000	-- 0.625%	0.626%
\$5,000	-- 0.750%	0.752%

LCEF is a nonprofit religious organization; therefore, LCEF investments are not FDIC-insured bank deposit accounts. This is not an offer to sell investments, nor a solicitation to buy. The offer is made solely by LCEF's Offering Circular. Investors should carefully read the Offering Circular, which more fully describes associated risks.