

“Honor the Lord with your  
wealth, with the first fruits of all  
your crops.”

- Proverbs 3: 9

## Pacific Southwest District Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

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### Pacific Southwest District Steering Committee Members

- Mr. Bill Buerger  
Epiphany Lutheran Church  
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- Mr. Mark Hansen  
Bethany Lutheran Church  
Long Beach, CA
- Rev. Jim Johnson  
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church  
Goleta, CA
- Rev. Dr. Loren Kramer  
Co-Chair  
Faith Lutheran Church  
Capistrano Beach, CA
- Mr. Bob Lichtsinn  
Co-Chair  
St. John Lutheran Church  
Orange, CA
- Mrs. Naomi Liles-Shirley  
Faith Community Lutheran Church  
Las Vegas, NV
- Rev. Ron Martin  
St. Paul Lutheran Church  
Orange, CA
- Mrs. Laura Rusch  
First Lutheran Church  
Manhattan Beach, CA
- Rev. Dr. Larry A. Stoterau  
District President

This past fall, the first stirrings of **Fan into Flame** in support of the *Ablaze!* movement began in the Pacific Southwest District as all congregations were invited to workshops in their region. More than one-third of congregations attended, with approximately 200 people representing their church communities at the meetings. At the same time, some congregations arranged for small group meetings that outlined how individuals could support the historic *Ablaze!* effort.

The spirit of generosity was kindled as a result of this early work, and the Pacific Southwest District can joyously announce that it has received more than **\$1 million** in pledges over a five-year period from individuals and congregations toward **Fan into Flame!** Commitments in writing from the following congregations have provided \$235,000 toward the total pledge amount: St. Paul’s, Orange, California; Fountain of Life, Sun City, Arizona; St. Paul’s, Holtville, California; and Bethany, Long Beach, California. There are verbal commitments from several churches that will be counted once the pledge forms are received.

The unique structure of campaign funding allocation follows Jesus’ instruction in Acts 1:8, “But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you; and you will be My witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” It will distribute net dollars raised for new ministries as follows –

|                                   |       |
|-----------------------------------|-------|
| Jerusalem (Congregations)         | – 15% |
| Judea (Districts)                 | – 15% |
| Samaria (National)                | – 20% |
| Ends of the Earth (International) | – 50% |



All congregations are encouraged to learn about how they can actively participate in *Ablaze!* and **Fan into Flame**. Please call Tony Perito, **Fan into Flame** Campaign Director at the district office at (888) 773-5267 for more information. You can also visit the *Ablaze!* section of the PSD website, [www.psd-lcms.org](http://www.psd-lcms.org), to see the five steps to engage congregations and to download participation and pledge forms.

The Pacific Southwest District joyfully joins with other Missouri Synod Lutherans throughout the country in support of **Fan into Flame**. While providing LCMS World Mission needed funds to share the Good News of Jesus throughout North America and around the world, the Pacific Southwest District plans to allocate 15% of net unrestricted gifts offered by our members toward local outreach.

This newsletter will be sent to the PSD eNews list to provide regular communication about *Ablaze!* and **Fan into Flame**. Pastors and church offices are encouraged to print this for reproduction in their newsletter or to post on bulletin boards. Contact Sylvia Knight in the District Office at [sylvia.knight@psd-lcms.org](mailto:sylvia.knight@psd-lcms.org) or call 888-773-5267.