

For All the Saints

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All Saints Day, November 1 will soon be upon us. The familiar All Saints Hymn, "For All the Saints" begins with these words, "For all the saints who from their labors rest, who thee by faith before the world confessed, thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest." The blessing of the saints who shared their financial resources with the SW MN Endowment Fund are continuing to bear witness to their heritage of faith.

Recently the SW MN Endowment Fund Committee announced gifts to a variety of ministry areas. These gifts are the results of money generated from the generous investment of faithful saints for those who would come after them. This cloud of witnesses made possible \$6,800 from invested funds to support and grow ministry through the SW MN Synod.

Their gifts are purchasing equipment to expand our ability to use visual technology to invite congregational leaders to participate in leadership events, through webinars and other video postings. Their gifts provided the resources for stewardship leaders to grow this vital ministry in their congregations. Their gifts will provide Bibles and training in local Lutheran Men and Mission organizations. Their gifts will help families become centers for vibrant faith ministry. Their gifts will lead to saving money and expanding the opportunity for others to participate in supporting shared ministries.

All of us benefit from the SW MN Synod Endowment Fund whose "purpose include but are not limited to seminaries, colleges, students, social agencies, special synod related programs, synod ministries whether global or local, congregational development, capital improvements, disaster relief, or any and all similarly related worthy designations."

Joint me in giving thanks for the saints who have shared their financial resources and those who are benefiting from them in 2010. To learn more about the Endowment Fund contact Bill Elmstrom, the Western Minnesota Planned Giving Coordinator at 320 839-3326 or check out planned giving on the synod website.