

# JOHN & HARRIET Wiebe

MISSION ADVANCEMENT FUND

John and Harriet Wiebe were passionate people. They were passionate about their family, community, country, business interests and many other things. First and foremost, however, each had a lifelong passion for Jesus Christ. Each was brought to faith in Jesus through baptism and by his grace remained faithful to him and the message of forgiveness of sins and eternal life until the day the Lord himself welcomed them into heaven. For Harriet that day came in 2006 and for John in 2009.

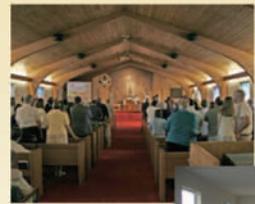
During their lives the Lord blessed John and Harriett with substantial business success. John's company was instrumental in the development of many commercial properties in their hometown of Omaha, Nebraska, and their business interests also extended to many parts of the globe. With that success came significant financial blessings for both the company and for the Wiebes themselves.

They shared much of that financial blessing with others through widespread charitable giving. Among their particular charitable interests were the planting of new congregations, the expansion of outreach efforts within existing congregations, and ministries that brought love and care in the name of Christ to children. Part of the "Wiebe lore" is that during the 1950s and 1960s, John, a licensed private pilot, would fly over Omaha to scope out possible locations for future congregations and then work with the mission board of the Nebraska District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) to help make these mission visions a reality. At least five Omaha-area congregations trace their roots to John and Harriet's initiative. The Wiebes would regularly become members of a newly planted congregation, help it get organized and established, and then move to another congregation to start the process anew. "We stayed until the pews and the organ were in," remembers one of the Wiebe children. "Then it was off to someplace else to do it all over again!"

While they were extraordinarily generous during their lifetimes, the Wiebes also made arrangements to be generous after their deaths. Through their estate plan the Wiebes made a significant gift to the LCMS Foundation, directing the Foundation to distribute funds according to its discretion for the advancement and benefit of the Lord's kingdom through ministries of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. The Wiebes chose the

Over, please.





Foundation to serve as custodian for a portion of their charitable estate plan after the Lord called them home. The Foundation in turn established the John and Harriet Wiebe Mission Advancement Fund and has already made a significant number of gifts to ministries from the fund.

Thanks to the foresight of John and Harriet Wiebe:

- Plans are being prayerfully made to plant a new mission congregation in the Omaha area.
- Worship technologies have been improved at Divine Shepherd Lutheran Church.
- Efforts to reach unchurched people through youth, family and community ministries are being supported in perpetuity at Atonement Lutheran Church.
- Facility improvements are being made to make worship more accessible at First Lutheran Church in Missouri Valley, Iowa and staffing expanded to support outreach in a neighboring community.
- Light of Life Lutheran Church in Bermuda Dunes, California, a recently established congregation, is receiving support for its ongoing ministry.
- Living H2O, a ministry of Pacific Hills Lutheran Church, is receiving perpetual support as it reaches out to 60,000 college and university students in the Omaha area.
- The facility at St. Mark Lutheran Church in Omaha is being expanded to accommodate the ministry of Concordia Academy, an elementary school reaching children in Kindergarten through Grade 6.
- Ongoing support is being provided for Bethany Lutheran Church as it reaches into its ethnically diverse and changing city center community.
- Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church, is receiving ongoing support for outreach through Mt. Calvary Lutheran School.
- Parking facilities are being expanded at Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church, Lavista, Nebraska, to accommodate the burgeoning number of worshipers coming to the congregation from its growing suburban community and plans are being extended for multi-site worship centers in places apart from the congregation's primary place of worship.

Under the custodianship of The LCMS Foundation, the gift of John and Harriet Wiebe is having an immediate impact in the Kingdom of God and will continue to have an impact until Christ comes again. The Foundation, established in 1958, exists to help individual Christians pursue their passion for giving to family and all ministries of the church today, tomorrow and forever. For further information about how the Foundation might help you plan and direct your passion for giving contact the Foundation at 1-800-325-7912 or visit their website [www.lcmsfoundation.org](http://www.lcmsfoundation.org).

JOHN & HARRIET  
*Wiebe*

The  FOUNDATION®  
Linking Christians with Giving Opportunities