

Conclusions – In Summary Slide 11 B

II. Nature of Project and components of its implementation

- 1) Project content and methodology will be introduced to congregations personally, to extent feasible, by internet and other means.
- 2) The project involves focused dissemination of information on: a) Financial challenges faced by seminaries and students, with some reference to historical trends and b) Alternative methods for directly contributing funds to seminaries for tuition support.
- 3) Immediately after project introduction to a congregation, volunteers will be identified to serve as Gabriel's Messengers (GMs). Meeting with members, individually or in small groups, they will focus on reducing information deficits.
- 4) At appropriate intervals, the GMs will suggest prayers for church services and by individuals for seminaries and staffs, present seminarians and youth who may be awaiting the Lord's career callings.
- 5) Financial support is suggested at a threshold of \$10.00 per month. Larger gifts and different giving frequencies also will be welcome. Donors will be encouraged to utilize available gift-matching opportunities.



- 6) Small groups can be formed to meet Concordia, St. Louis' minimum of \$500 per year under its Adopt-A-Student program. One member of the group would be chosen to serve as correspondent.
- 7) Congregations, also, will be encouraged to support seminarians' tuition by direct payments to seminaries. This precludes individual matching.
- 8) Every LCMS member has an interest in the outcome of this endeavor. Broad participation will tend to offset any smaller average of donation amounts and the total could be of major significance.
- 9) By personal contacts as well as use of printed materials, GMs will reach out to youth who are at ages to consider God's career callings.
- 10) Prayers will be encouraged for individuals in governance roles of churches, districts and synod to be cognizant of urgent financial needs by seminaries and seminarians.
- 11) The information dissemination aspect of this project probably will have a noticeable positive effect on the seminaries' fund raising efforts among individuals and churches. Concordia St. Louis reports it received contributions from 660 churches in 2004.

