

#2 FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR CONCORDIA THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY, FT. WAYNE, IN FOOD AND CLOTHING COOP — \$5,000

Leader: **Concordia Theological Seminary** is preparing workers to serve in the harvest fields. These men and women are carrying the compassion of Christ to His people as well as to the lost. By helping relieve the financial burden of feeding and clothing their families, this grant will help further the mission and ministry of the Word through these students.

R1: *When He saw the crowds, He had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. He then said to His disciples, “The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into His harvest fields.”* (Matthew 9:36-38).

Leader: The **Food and Clothing Co-op** is important to the students at Ft. Wayne because:

R2: Nearly 60% of the students are married second career with families.

R3: Many spouses are unable to find short term employment to help with expenses.

R4: Although the financial needs are the same, the former employment earnings are gone.

R2: The **Co-op** provides 80–85% of all food and household needs each month at no cost to the students.

R3: The **Co-op** spends about \$7,500 /month on perishable items and fresh produce.

R4: All students are eligible to use the Coop.

Leader: On average, the **Food Co-op** monthly purchases include:

R2: 300 gallons of milk.

R3: 175 dozen eggs.

R4: 250 packages of cheese.

R2: 3500 pounds of fresh produce.

R3: 2,000 diapers.

R4: 400 pounds of ground beef.

Leader: What a tremendous effort to help our future pastors and church workers during their time of educational studies! Praise God that we are able to help assist them in such a tangible way!

All: **Our Good Shepherd, as You blessed the fish and loaves to feed the multitudes on the hillside, we ask that You would bless the mite offerings we give for this mission grant for the Food and Clothing Co-op at Ft. Wayne. Guide the people who oversee this large task, bless the families who benefit from the items, and encourage the students in their studies as they prepare to lead Your people home to You. In the name above every other name, Jesus, we pray! Amen.**