

## **POWER OF POD: *FOR THE SAKE OF THE CHURCH***

“For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: a time to be born and a time to die; a time to plant and a time to pluck up what is planted”  
(Ecclesiastes 3:1-2).

What the Preacher in Ecclesiastes is talking about is personal planning...doing what needs to be done at the appropriate time and being prepared for the inevitable at all times. We hear it said or read about it on a regular basis, not just from financial planners...write a will or identify the location of your assets or appoint someone with power of attorney. What is interesting is that many individuals or families simply ignore the helpful advice. It is for that reason that the Federal and State governments collect hundreds of millions of dollars annually from estates that provide no instructions for the disposition of assets.

**PAY UPON DEATH (POD)** does not sound like a preferred instruction when one is making an investment or initiating a savings account. But it is an effective way to clearly note one's intentions regarding the final disposition of an asset. And it is easy to do. One just needs to remember to do it!

And including a POD on an investment or savings account provides significant benefits:

- ❑ Assured that the asset will be distributed to the individual or organization of your choice
- ❑ Maintain complete control of the asset during your lifetime
- ❑ May change beneficiary any time you choose
- ❑ Receive estate and income tax deductions when you designate a tax-exempt organization as beneficiary
- ❑ Avoid probate; designated beneficiary receives a gift immediately.

Many Lutherans have investment and savings accounts with LCEF (Lutheran Church Extension Fund). Contact them and ask that your account includes a POD designated *For the Sake of the Church* endowment effort.

*For the Sake of the Church* endowment effort is a worthy program to practice the art of personal planning. Endowment earnings will assist Lutheran students financially when attending a Concordia as they prepare to serve their church and society in the future. Contact the Development Office at one of the Concordias (telephone number is listed in this Chronicle) or call 1-800-248-1930 X 1252 for assistance.

