



Mission Grant Report Form

Iowa District West

Grant recipients are asked to complete and submit the report form within one month of the completion of the effort or, if a continuing ministry, by January 31 of the following year in which the grant is received. Please submit any pictures, as well, that would help to share the story with other congregations to encourage them in their ministry.

1. Please provide a brief overview of the effort.
Lutheran Veterans picnic at Yellow Smoke County Park in Denison, IA. On Sunday, July 7 from 1-3pm. In addition to Lutheran Veterans we also invited all active military, guard and reservists and their families to be our guests.
2. What goals were established for this effort; that is, what did you hope to accomplish?
Our main goal was to honor and thank all those invited for their service to the nation. Fellowship with Barnabas members and pastors, with the goal to reach out to those who have drifted away or have no relationship to Christ and His church was the second goal.
3. Did you achieve your goals? If not, what do you think were some of the contributing factors?
Yes and no. We were pleased with the number of veterans (about 60 including their families) from several LCMS churches in the circuit. Unfortunately several days before the event we learned of a change in our National Guard units schedule which placed them out of town the day of the picnic. We made last minute efforts to extend invitations to their families through local media and the leadership of the Guard, but none of the families attended.
4. Is there anything you would do differently if you were to undertake this effort again?
Communicate with commanding officer to determine possible training dates. Attempt to get mailing list to contact directly. Invite all veterans in our circuit regardless of religious affiliation.
5. What lessons were learned through this effort?
Check with VA office in county for assistance in contacting veterans.
6. What suggestions would you give to a congregation considering a similar effort?
If you intend to invite your local National Guard or Reserve Unit, speak to commanding officer only. Food planning is difficult because attendance numbers are not able to be determined.

7. Contact person

Name: George Salmon

E-mail: gwsal@mchsi.com Phone: 712-269-9506

Congregation: Zion Lutheran Church, Denison, IA