

## **Report of the Director of Evangelical Mission**

I am pleased to begin this call as the Director of Evangelical Mission (DEM) for Western Iowa. It is an 'interesting' time to begin such a call, as we face the challenge of carrying out ministry under the pandemic.

The DEM position is a Churchwide denominational position with responsibility for four primary areas: Encouraging new ministries and mission starts, Congregation renewal and vitality, Stewardship, and Mission support. I have only begun to formulate some ideas about how to approach these responsibilities. I will be looking to form new and renewed networks to help guide our work in these areas. I would appreciate hearing from anyone, rostered or lay, if you have a heart and passion in the areas of stewardship and mission.

One of the early disappointments for me as I have started is that the pandemic keeps me from visiting congregations. Having served in Western Iowa since I was ordained, I looked forward to doing much of my work 'among' the synod and to coming to know better congregations I have seen from afar. I hope to be able to do that more some day in the future, as I know we all hope for the time when we can safely be together again. Meanwhile, I invite you to reach out to me with questions and ideas. Know that there are many praying for your ministry and the work we share in our synod.

God Bless,

Rev. Jim Mossman