

The Stevens Fund

*A Matching Grant Program
Available to congregations of the
Diocese of Fond du Lac*

The Stevens Fund was established by the Executive Council of the Diocese of Fond du Lac in 2001 from Memorial Gifts of over \$50,000 received by the Diocese on the death of Bishop William L. Stevens, Sixth Bishop of the Diocese. Recognizing Bishop Stevens' support of the work of mission congregations of the diocese and the cooperative nature of ministry between the diocese and its congregations, the Executive Council determined to use the gift to establish an endowment in the Diocesan Common Trust Fund to create revenue for a matching grant program for congregations.

Distributions from the endowment are held by the diocese and are available as matching grants twice each year. Any congregation of the diocese, with preference given to aided congregations first, mission congregations second and parish congregations third, may make application for a matching grant to implement a project or program that they may not normally be able to pursue. Applications for the matching grant received by **January 1st** will be determined by March 1st and matching grant applications received by **July 1st** will be determined by September 1st.

The Diocesan Bishop will make the determination on funding decisions with the assistance of the Rural Deans. Consideration for matching grants of up to \$2,500 should be based on the following prioritized criteria:

- 1) Programs that will enhance the evangelistic efforts of a congregation.
- 2) Programs that will deepen the spirituality of the members.
- 3) Programs that will strengthen educational opportunities in a congregation.
- 4) Projects that will improve the accessibility of a congregation's facility.
- 5) Projects that will improve the appearance/condition of a congregation's facility.

Upon completion of the program or project, the congregation should send a brief article (with pictures, if possible) for publication in the diocesan paper.