

## **The Bishop's Road Show – March 10, 2010**

While I was in Chicago I received the below letter from one of our Chapter Presidents, David Maurer:

Bishop,

We had a Thrivent conference call on Tuesday for Thrivent chapter leaders regarding Thrivent Choice. Giving Plus is gone. Thrivent Choice isn't Giving Plus, but charitable organizations can get supplemental \$ from Thrivent through donations from Thrivent members. That about covers what I can accurately say about the program right now.

What you need to know is that all churches should've received a mailing from Thrivent telling them they need to REGISTER with Thrivent to be eligible to receive these Choice \$. I believe the registration form(s) have been sent as well.

If a pastor can't find their forms, fear not. Go to [Thrivent.com/charitableorgform](http://Thrivent.com/charitableorgform) and fill it out there.

DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION is 31 March 2010

These aren't matching funds or even 50 cents on the dollar, but it is some bonus dollars. I've also spoken to Pastor Riegel and Sherri Schafer of CLP because they should both be eligible.

It is my understanding that you will need the number from the Thrivent Letter that invited you to complete this online registration. You will need your tax id and the routing number for your bank. At this point in time no one seems to know exactly what this new program will mean in the way of funding. It is an opportunity for you to receive something in 2010.

Second, and I know I sound like an old harpy, but if you have health insurance with the ELCA – BOP please visit the Health Assessment site and take the 10 minutes needed to complete this brief test. We still need 19 of you to assist us in reaching the 65%. Besides saving your congregation some money you will get a check in the mail for \$150.

Yours in our Lord's service,

+ Ralph