Major Changes

Included with this revision of Volume 1 of the Congregational Treasurer's Manual—October 2014

2.110: Informs that a federal court case holding the clergy housing allowance unconstitutional is currently under appeal by the Treasury Department.

4.320: Revises the contribution rates for CRP in 2015; announces effective July 1, 2014 CRSP employer contribution is voluntary.

4.341: Lists some of the E-Learning modules provided by CPS to assist employers with their responsibilities in administering the Concordia Plans.

4.800: Suggests staying informed about health care reform and how it will affect LCMS ministries and workers by visiting the CPS website.

7.311: Notifies to file IRS Form 8822-B within 60 days after organizations' Responsible Party (usually its Treasurer) changes.

10.400: Informs where to search online for IRS' EO BMF, a data base listing organizations that are eligible donees; Synod's blanket exemption number is GEN: 1709.

15.300: Announces a preferred pricing agreement with Paychex that is available for all LCMS employers to help them with their payroll responsibilities.

16.710: Describes Church 360°, a complete suite of web-based church software to manage congregational information, online presence, and finances.

19.700: Announces LCEF's Signature Sponsorship Series, a cooperative funding program empowering ministries to more effectively share their story and increase visibility within their communities.

Where text refers to the "standard business mileage rate," this rate is currently 56 cents/mile (went into effect 1/1/14). Unfortunately, IRS had still not released the 2015 rate when this manual was being printed. As soon as it is available, we will update and post the new rate at www.lcms.org/resources.

The Congregational Treasurer's Manual is published in a printed format and on CD, both available through your district office. It may also be viewed at www.lcms.org/resources. Volume 1 is being printed this year in large-scale quantities to replace the stale-dated material in previous editions. The CD has some of the forms illustrated in this manual available for interactive use.

NOTE: All changes to the manual are not listed on this page; only those determined by its editors to be major.