

STATISTICIAN

It was through the efforts of Jacob Albright to **PRESS ON** that we are who we are today. Over the years of our denominational existence we have seen various responses to the programs and requests of our conference leadership. The leadership of the E.C. Denomination has an obligation to provide services and pastors to the member churches, however this requires financial assistance through developing a budget which is challenging if the information needed to do the work is not provided.

For the past several years fewer churches are sending the required Annual Report. This report is utilized heavily in determining the future budgetary availability. It is a report which allows our denomination to **PRESS ON** to greater heights by being **ALL IN** as an initiative for doing the Lord's work. When we are not **ALL IN** much needed missing information may cause errors in the determination of many financial decisions. To paraphrase our bishop: "When we are **ALL IN** it means more than what we do – it is who we are as disciples of Jesus." We need to ask ourselves, as churches, are we **ALL IN** by sending our Annual Report each year?

Because the attached statistics are incomplete due to 36 of our churches not sending Annual Reports this year we have decided to examine the information requested each year as some of the current information seems to be superfluous. In order for our denominational churches to be **ALL IN** it is imperative that this report has meaningful facts for further guidance.

If we all are to be more like Jesus it will require total commitment to Him and that same type of commitment is important to our denomination. It is now time for us to **ALL** be **ALL IN** and be able to **PRESS ON** in order to **PRESS FORWARD!**

Thank you for being **ALL IN** in your thoughtful consideration of this matter.

Rev. Dr. Kenneth Wiest, Conference Statistician