By Carolyn Lee
The Imperial Republican

A benefit held for Richard Munson of Imperial recently raised money for medical expenses. The Imperial United Methodist Church chancel choir served 125 people at the benefit, held Jan. 23 at the church.

Munson, a former secondary instrumental teacher at Chase County Schools, was diagnosed with pneumonia late last year. At that time cancer was discovered in a lung, wife Letitia said.

Surgery to remove the top lobe of his right lung was performed at the University of Nebraska Medical Center in December.

After returning to Imperial, Munson's skin turned yellow and his legs were swollen, his wife said. It was then discovered that his blood pressure was very low, and he was hospitalized again.

He was then flown to the Med Center in Omaha, where he was on oxygen and a vent tube was inserted. Letitia said the family gathered at that time, fearing the worst.

Munson returned to Imperial and was hospitalized from Jan. 8-21.

Letitia said he received a good report Tuesday during an appointment in Omaha and the drain tube to the lung was removed.

The next step, she said, is to begin treatments for the cancer in North Platte.

Munson had a kidney transplant 10 years ago.

Letitia said the benefit was "humbling and overwhelming," and also acknowledged the work that went into it and the support.

She also commented on the wonderful care Munson received at both the Med Center and at Chase County Community Hospital.