

**NEWS FROM THE BUSINESS MANAGER**  
***Iowa District West Congregation's Mission Receipts***



<u>For the month ending February 2009</u>	
Anticipated Amount	\$154,167
Actual Receipts	\$126,124
<u>Fiscal Year-to-date receipts</u>	
Anticipated Amount	\$154,167
Actual Receipts	\$126,124
Over (under) anticipated amount	\$ (28,043)
<u>Use of Mission Receipts</u>	
Remitted to Synod (42%)	\$ 52,972
Balance for District programs/operations	\$ <u>73,152</u>
Total Receipts	\$ 126,124
<u>Mission Receipts Compared With Last Year</u>	
Year-to-date 2009	\$126,124
Year-to-date 2008	<u>\$155,994</u>
Over (under) last year	\$ (29,870)

**Lutheran Church Extension Fund**

The mission of Lutheran Church Extension Fund is to provide opportunity to make funds and services available in support of the Great Commission through The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod.

As of February 2009, 1093 investments in Iowa District West totaled \$30,048,252. Those investments are providing opportunity for 53 loans totaling \$12,368,844 plus commitments totaling \$1,188,311. LCEF puts invested dollars to work in mission and ministry right here in Iowa District West.

If you are interested in investing in the ministry of LCEF or if you have questions on the loans and services provided to our congregations, please contact Carole White. **Come, Join the Ministry!**



Pastors and Church Secretaries: How about including a brief note about LCEF in your church newsletter or bulletin? Please use the following short paragraph—thank you!

**Save in LCEF. Grow in the Gospel.**

When you invest in the Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF), you provide opportunities for others to grow in the Gospel. How? LCEF is a ministry-through-investment organization that provides low-cost loans and services to LCMS churches, schools and rostered church workers. Loan dollars are made possible through the



**MAKING A  
DIFFERENCE  
IN THINGS  
ETERNAL**

support of LCMS members who invest their money in LCEF and earn a competitive interest rate. Call LCEF today at 1-800-843-5233 or visit [www.lcef.org](http://www.lcef.org).

### **Stewardship Spark / Monthly Money Moment**

Did you know that your congregational mission dollars support the District budget in a variety of mission and ministry areas? As part of the LCMS, the District is participating in the Ablaze! movement to share the Gospel with 100 million unreached people by 2017. This year the District budget includes \$15,000 for grants to assist congregations or circuits in new initiatives to reach the lost. If you are interested in an Ablaze! grant, contact Mission Executive Mark Gerken.

### **Celebrate Administrative Professionals Week and Day**

This annual event was originally organized in 1952. Over the years, Administrative Professionals Week® has become one of the largest workplace observances. This year it is held April 19-25, with Administrative Professionals Day on Wednesday, April 22. The theme is "Excellence in Action." If interested in more information or observance suggestions, go to [www.iaap-hq.org/APW/apwindex.htm](http://www.iaap-hq.org/APW/apwindex.htm).

**Administrative  
Professionals  
Day**



### **Secretaries/Administrative Assistants**

Mark your calendar for the District Secretarial conference scheduled for September 22 (the 4th Tuesday) in Spencer. All ministry assistant professionals are invited. The planning committee will be planning the conference this month – if you have any ideas please let us know.

### **Concordia Plan Services**

Congregations should have received the quarterly Group-Term Life Insurance (GTLI) Reports. The February report includes all workers enrolled in the Concordia Disability & Survivor Plan (CDSP). Reports generated in May, August and November will only include workers employed and enrolled after the initial report was prepared. The additional tax applies to those workers who have potential death benefits in excess of \$50,000 (should the worker die within the current tax year) and the lump sum death benefit for enrolled dependents. The \$50,000 exclusion allowed by the IRS for the workers' potential death benefit does not apply to the dependent death benefit. Calculations for the cost of group-term life insurance are based on the 2009 annual salary, worker's age at the end of the current tax year, number of dependents, and Social Security participation. (More information about Group-Term Life Insurance can be found in the Congregational Treasurer's Manual, section 4.600. The information can also be found online at [www.lcms.org/ca/www/ctm/media/Chap04TreasMan.pdf](http://www.lcms.org/ca/www/ctm/media/Chap04TreasMan.pdf) (page 13). To learn more, a new Webinar is online at <http://www.concordiaplans.org/DetailPage.aspx?ID=154>. Also online is the new 2009 Brief Summary of Benefits (BSOB) - [www.concordiaplans.org/graphics/assets/documents/12035.pdf](http://www.concordiaplans.org/graphics/assets/documents/12035.pdf)

Did you know you can download and print forms directly from the website at [www.concordiaplans.org](http://www.concordiaplans.org)? Click on Resources and Forms and scroll to select the form of your choice (i.e. enrollment form, employer change report form, etc.).

**CONCORDIA**   
**PLAN SERVICES**  
*Your LCMS Benefits Partner*

Professional church workers, watch for the 2009 Summarized Personal Statement of Benefits (PSOB) to be mailed in May. The summary will help you see at a glance your benefits, total compensation, and status of enrollment. Your "extended" PSOB is also available online! Online access information will be provided to you in your PSOB.

Employers in The Church's Plan should have received the new Concordia Retirement Savings Plan (CRSP) Guide. This is a very helpful resource for leaders and employees. It is also available online at: <http://www.concordiaplans.org/graphics/assets/documents/12083.pdf>

To better improve your health and wellness, the Plans has partnered with Grace Place Retreats ([www.graceplaceretreats.org](http://www.graceplaceretreats.org)) and the commission on Ministerial Growth & Support. To view a segment online, go to [www.concordiaplans.org](http://www.concordiaplans.org), click on "Health & Wellness" and then select "Health Video Segments." Camp Okoboji is hosting a retreat on September 28-October 2 – register today!