

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



<u><b>For the month ending February 2011</b></u>	
Anticipated Amount	\$ 146,250
Actual Receipts	\$ 148,158
<u><b>Fiscal Year-to-date receipts</b></u>	
Anticipated Amount	\$146,250
Actual Receipts	\$148,158
Over (under) anticipated amount	\$ 1,908
<u><b>Use of Mission Receipts</b></u>	
Remitted to Synod (44%)	\$ 65,190
Balance for District programs/operations	\$ 82,968
Total Receipts	\$148,158
<u><b>Mission Receipts Compared With Last Year</b></u>	
Year-to-date 2011	\$ 148,158
Year-to-date 2010	\$ 155,525
Over (under) last year	\$ (7,367)

### **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 2011, 991 investments in Iowa District West totaled \$30,771,901. Those investments are providing opportunity for 54 loans totaling \$9,964,363 plus commitments totaling nearly \$1,252,696. 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!**



**MAKING A  
DIFFERENCE  
IN THINGS  
ETERNAL**

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!

**Invest in Ministry** - Through the grace of God, Lutheran Church Extension Fund continues to provide low-cost loans and services to LCMS ministries across the country in ways that further His Kingdom. This is accomplished through LCEF's unique ministry-through-investment programs. LCEF investors earn competitive interest rates, while ministries borrow at cost-effective loan rates. Contact LCEF for the latest information on investment interest rates at 1-800-843-5233 or visit [www.lcef.org](http://www.lcef.org).

## Stewardship Spark / Monthly Money Mission Moment

Did you know that your congregational mission dollars support the District budget in a variety of mission and ministry areas? This year the District budget includes \$64,500 for mission *Ablaze* grants, available to all District congregations to assist them in outreach. This also includes support for the Center for U.S. Missions and Transforming Congregations Network, two organizations helping synodical congregations to be actively engaged in reaching those who do not yet believe.

## The Lutheran Witness Subscription Rate

The rate for *The Lutheran Witness* increases for May 2011-April 2012. Including the insert, the total changes from \$18.96 to \$20.83. *The Lutheran Witness* offers synodical news, reports from Lutherans around the world, features, columns, Q&A's, a Bible study, and so much more. This is the premier magazine for Lutherans who want to be informed and stay informed! If you have any changes and questions, contact Concordia Publishing House circulation at 800.325.3040 ext. 1419 or email [Becky.Laumand@CPH.org](mailto:Becky.Laumand@CPH.org).

## 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 24-30, with Administrative Professionals Day on Wednesday, April 27. The theme is "This year, celebrate all office professionals." 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).



We welcome our newest Administrative Assistant to IDW, Jill Davis! The next time you are in the office stop by and introduce yourself.

## Secretaries/Administrative Assistants Conference

Mark your calendar for the District Secretarial Conference scheduled for September 20 (the 3rd Tuesday) in Denison. All ministry assistant professionals are invited. The committee will meet this month to begin planning the conference. If you have any ideas please let us know as soon as possible.

## 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 2011 annual salary (the salary figure the worker earned on January 1; the information applies to the 2011 tax year), 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).

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.).



Professional church workers, watch for the 2011 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.

To better improve your health and wellness, the Plans supports Grace Place Retreats ([www.graceplaceretreats.org](http://www.graceplaceretreats.org)). Camp Okoboji is hosting a retreat (partially supported by LWML) on June 13-17 – register today!