

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



<u>For the month ending June 2009</u>	
Anticipated Amount	\$154,167
Actual Receipts	\$171,146
<u>Fiscal Year-to-date receipts</u>	
Anticipated Amount	\$770,833
Actual Receipts	\$776,043
Over (under) anticipated amount	\$ 5,209
<u>Use of Mission Receipts</u>	
Remitted to Synod (42%)	\$ 325,938
Balance for District programs/operations	\$ 450,105
Total Receipts	\$ 776,043
<u>Mission Receipts Compared With Last Year</u>	
Year-to-date 2009	\$ 776,043
Year-to-date 2008	<u>\$ 786,173</u>
Over (under) last year	\$ (10,130)

**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 June 2009, 1090 investments in Iowa District West totaled \$30,352,256. Those investments are providing opportunity for 55 loans totaling \$12,267,512 plus commitments totaling \$991,943. 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!



It is better to look ahead and prepare than to look back and regret. Investing in LCEF is one way to help others while preparing for your future. Invest today! For more information, contact Carole L. White (1-877-439-5233 or [carole.white@lcef.org](mailto:carole.white@lcef.org)).



**MAKING A  
DIFFERENCE  
IN THINGS  
ETERNAL**

## Stewardship Spark / Monthly Money Moment

The District supports a number of worthy mission projects, programs, and activities. In convention, the delegation approved using the mission expansion fund for mission personnel and/or programs which expand the outreach initiatives of the District. In recent years the fund has spent \$155,000 for Johnston and Sheldon missions. The current balance is about \$550,000.

### Online resource

Looking for church communication, outreach, website, and other ministry resources? Yvon Prehn is developing a new website with a wealth of resources. Improve your newsletters by reading “Newsletter no-nos, what not to do in your church newsletter.” For more information go to [www.churchcomtraining.com](http://www.churchcomtraining.com).

### District Secretarial/Administrative Assistants Fall Conference

Mark your calendar for the District Secretarial/Administrative Professionals Conference on Tuesday, **September 22** (the 4th Tuesday) at First English, Spencer from 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. We are thrilled that Jenny Herrick has agreed to spend the day celebrating your position/ministry as church secretary. Jenny is a nationally known Christian motivational humorist/clown/author. To learn more about Jenny, go to [www.allkiddingaside.biz](http://www.allkiddingaside.biz).

For only \$35 (\$30 if registered by September 1) you will receive conference materials, speaker’s book, breakfast, lunch, and much more. Thanks to Thrivent Financial for Lutherans for their support.

Jenny will also present a free message entitled “Two weeks, a Red Nose and the Real Patch Adams” for all church secretaries and the community Monday evening, September 21 at the Clay County Regional Event Center.

Plan now to attend! Brochures were mailed mid-July and can also be downloaded at [www.idwlcms.org](http://www.idwlcms.org).

### Software for Sale

If your church is looking for discounted software, we may be able to help. While supplies last, we have Microsoft Office (Access, Excel, Outlook, PowerPoint, Publisher, Word) software available. The charity license agreement rate is only \$110 and \$75 for additional licenses. The software is only for ministry work.

### Need a projector to show a PowerPoint presentation or video?



Thanks to monies received from a memorial fund, District has purchased a projector for congregational use. Would you like to experiment for a worship or Bible class presentation, or maybe show VBS highlights? If your congregation wants to “test the waters” and see how it works, you can now rent a projector from the District. The cost to rent is \$25 per day, up to \$100 a week. If interested contact [Jason.Fuller@idwlcms.org](mailto:Jason.Fuller@idwlcms.org).

### Concordia Plan Services Update

Finance committees planning for next year’s budget should be aware that Concordia Health Plan (CHP) contribution rate increases will be necessary in order to maintain the funding of the plan. The Plan actuaries are recommending a 5.9% increase for all plan options except Option HRA which will increase only 3.9%.

If you do not know your current rate, visit their website: [www.concordiaplans.org](http://www.concordiaplans.org) - click on “Rates,” click “Concordia Health Plan” button on the left side of the page, scroll down the page and click “To view rates for an Active Worker or Employer, click here.” Enter the 5 digit employer ZIP code and the applicable rate page for your ZIP code will appear. The 2009 rates reflect all CHP options, class of coverage, as well as rates for retirees.