

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



<u>For the month ending April 2010</u>	
Anticipated Amount	\$150,000
Actual Receipts	\$163,624
<u>Fiscal Year-to-date receipts</u>	
Anticipated Amount	\$450,000
Actual Receipts	\$444,036
Over (under) anticipated amount	\$ (5,964)
<u>Use of Mission Receipts</u>	
Remitted to Synod (43%)	\$ 190,934
Balance for District programs/operations	\$ 253,102
Total Receipts	\$ 444,036
<u>Mission Receipts Compared With Last Year</u>	
Year-to-date 2010	<u>\$444,036</u>
Year-to-date 2009	<u>\$452,157</u>
Over (under) last year	\$ (8,121)

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 April 2010, 1004 investments in Iowa District West totaled \$28,741,264. Those investments are providing opportunity for 56 loans totaling \$11,463,466 plus commitments totaling nearly \$332,152. 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!



Going on Vacation and Need Access to Cash?

Consider opening a Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF) StewardAccount®. The StewardAccount® is an easy-access savings account that pays competitive interest rates and offers the latest in financial services including electronic funds transfer features, an ATM/VISA® Check Card, online access through LCEF's **MyAccount** service and more! Contact Carole White 877.439.5233, carole.white@lcef.org, or go online to www.iowalcef.org.



**MAKING A
DIFFERENCE
IN THINGS
ETERNAL**

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? Did you know that 63% of the District budget supports District and Synod Missions? The District has active missions in Johnson, Sheldon, and Los Angeles. District also supports campus ministry, deaf missions, Hispanic missions and ethnic missions (Laotian and Sudanese).

Congregational Quarterly Financial Report

Included in *The Monthly* is the report of congregational support for the first quarter of the District fiscal period from February 1-April 30, 2010. Review your church's mission pledge to make sure your budget receipts are up to date. This report includes only District/Synod receipts and no restricted missionary support or other program income. Your mission dollars enable us to "Connect, Resource, Optimize, Partner, and Serve" every District congregation.



Mill Neck Thank You

What is Mill Neck? According to its website (www.millneck.org) "The Mission is to enhance the quality of life for people who are Deaf, or who have other special communication needs, through excellence in individually designed educational, vocational or spiritual programs and services. The Mill Neck Family of Organizations will continue to be the recognized leader in education and employment services for the Deaf." Established in 1947 by Lutheran friends of the Deaf, Mill Neck is partnering with IDW in 2010 to provide interpreting services for Dennis Konkel at the pastors conferences (\$1,000 gift). Thank you Mill Neck!

Special thanks to Thrivent Financial for Lutherans

Thrivent recently provided \$2,200 to the District for 2010 conferences and programs (they include Early Childhood Conference on August 6, Secretarial Conference on September 21, and the IOWAY banquet on November 6). Thanks Thrivent for your financial support and partnership!

Secretaries/Administrative Assistants

The Iowa District West Secretarial/Administrative Professionals Conference will be held in Ankeny this fall. Mark your calendar for Tuesday, **September 21**, 2010 from 8:00 a.m. - 3:45 p.m. at St. Paul Lutheran Church. All ministry assistant professionals are invited. For only \$35 (\$30 if registered by September 1) you will receive conference materials, conference gift, breakfast, lunch, and much more!

The 2010 theme will be "God's Gift through Communication." Scott Vaughan of Vaughan Communications will be our morning speaker. Scott serves the strategic communication needs of churches and faith organizations throughout North America. To learn more about Scott's ministry and free resources, go to www.svministry.com. In the afternoon, you will be uplifted by Gavin Jerome, The Morale Mechanic (www.moralemechanic.com). Dalend Mackey will use his gift of music and humor as Master of Ceremonies for the day.

Thanks to Thrivent Financial for Lutherans for their support. Vendors and exhibitors will be present to share their resources and products. If you have a company to recommend that would benefit other churches, please let us know. Plan now to enjoy a full day in Ankeny. More details and brochure to come!

64th Regular LCMS Convention

Thanks to all the congregations that have paid their Convention Assessment (due June 1). The balance must be paid in full in order to have the lay and pastoral circuit rep attend and vote at Synod's Convention July 10-17 in Houston. District has already paid \$65,448 to Synod to cover convention facility rent, electronic voting machines, multimedia expenses, postage, printing, floor committees, etc. The convention assessment also covers travel and food for 8 days for 39 District voting and advisory delegates. To learn more about the convention based on the theme "One People-Forgiven," go to www.lcms.org/convention.

Moving Away from Cash

There is a growing number of churches taking credit and debit offerings. At the request of The Dallas Morning News (www.dallasnews.com) the Richardson-based National Association of Church Business Administration (www.nacba.net) queried more than 200 local church administrators about how their churches collect tithes and offerings. Here are the results:

1. Does your church take bank drafts for tithes and offerings? Yes – 70%; No – 30%
2. Does your church take credit and/or debit cards for tithes and offerings? Yes – 55%; No – 45%

The informal survey also found that of those churches that do bank drafts and/or credit/debit cards, the most commonly cited benefit was “steadying income across the year,” followed by “increasing income.” Of the churches that don't accept bank drafts or credit/debit cards, most plan to do so within the next three years.

“Visa USA saw its volume at religious organizations climb 21 percent last year,” said Bill Dobbins, vice president of merchant relations. Vanco Services, based in Minnesota, has emerged to help churches collect by bank draft, credit card and debit card. “Vanco began nine years ago with 10 clients. Now it has 8,500 clients across nearly 30 denominations and handles \$27 million a month,” said Len Thiede, vice president for corporate sales.

What is your congregation doing to help cure the summer slump? One of the blessings of the church is a free automated giving service offered by LCEF called Joyful Response[®]. For more information about Joyful Response[®], go to www.LCEF.org and read “Ensure a Joyful Response[®] Even During Vacations” or call Carole White at 515.240.2229.

Housing Allowance

As mid-year approaches, now is a good time to review the 2009 housing or parsonage allowance designated for all ministers of the Gospel. If an allowance designated for 2009 is below the actual housing expenses, the church council should increase the housing allowance for the remainder of the year. Clergy who own their own homes can never claim a housing allowance greater than the fair market value of the furnished home. Complete details are in chapter 2 of the Congregational Treasurer Manual (www.lcms.org/ctm).

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.



Mailing Contribution Statements

Does your church distribute contribution statements quarterly or semiannually? The first two tax quarters of the year are almost here and this would be a good time to distribute statements. Did you know they can be sent bulk mail when you have over 200 pieces even though the mail pieces contain different information? Each envelope must be the same weight. To satisfy IRS deductible requirements, donors must receive substantiation of any donation. The statement lists the date and amount of each single contribution. Individual receipts are not required. Statements also provide good reminder for members to catch-up if they are behind. Questions often arise, “Is there a note that needs to be included on the contribution statements in order to satisfy the post office when mailing them using the bulk mailing permit?” No cover letter is required to satisfy the post office, although it is a good idea for the pastor or stewardship leader to include a letter. To mail the statements bulk mail, there must be a statement for new solicitations. A recommended comment to include is “Thank you for your continuing support,” or “Remember that our ministries depend upon your continued support.” The statement should also include a phrase “No goods or services were provided to the donor other than intangible religious benefits.” Do not include any words like “save for your tax records/papers” or “this is your receipt.” Chapter 10 of the Congregational Treasurers Manual (www.lcms.org/ctm) entitled “Contribution by Donors” is a great resource and also provides sample contribution statements.

Iowa District West Budget Receipts

February 1, 2010 – April 30, 2010

Circuit	Congregation	Town	Communicants	Pledge	Actual Amount	Per Comm.
ADAIR	IMMANUEL	ADAIR	198	4,400.00	1,093.00	5.52
	ST. JOHN	ADAIR	93	2,300.00	0.00	0.00
	HOLY CROSS	ANITA	145	0.00	0.00	0.00
	ZION	ATLANTIC	442	18,000.00	4,500.00	10.18
	ST JOHN	CASEY	144	6,500.00	0.00	0.00
	ZION	DEXTER	191	6,000.00	1,323.00	6.93
	IMMANUEL	GREENFIELD	183	5,000.00	1,600.00	8.74
	IMMANUEL	GUTHRIE CENTER	193	5,000.00	0.00	0.00
	ST. THOMAS	PANORA	122	1,200.00	400.00	3.28
	FAITH	WINTERSET	28	600.00	150.00	5.36
	FIRST	WIOTA	145	2,500.00	562.39	3.88
		Total			51,500.00	9,628.39
ALGONA	TRINITY	ALGONA	917	55,000.00	13,835.00	15.09
	ZION	AYRSHIRE	40	5,000.00	0.00	0.00
	ST JOHN	BURT	270	4,500.00	1,367.25	5.06
	ST LUKE	CYLINDER	96	5,000.00	499.00	5.20
	ST PAUL	EMMETSBURG	269	15,750.00	3,937.50	14.64
	ST JOHN	FENTON	275	8,000.00	2,100.00	7.64
	ST JOHN	GARNER	186	7,200.00	1,800.00	9.68
	ST PAUL	GARNER	596	14,500.00	3,627.00	6.09
	IMMANUEL	LONE ROCK	127	10,000.00	2,185.00	17.20
	TRINITY	MALLARD	186	29,400.00	7,350.00	39.52
	OUR SAVIOR	SWEA CITY	39	0.00	0.00	0.00
	PEACE	WEST BEND	180	16,500.00	3,729.00	20.72
	ST PAUL	WHITTEMORE	159	8,004.00	1,755.00	11.04
		Total		178,854.00	42,184.75	
BOONE	MEMORIAL	AMES	703	40,000.00	6,681.90	9.50
	ST PAUL	AMES	413	23,040.00	11,340.90	27.46
	ST. PAUL	BOONE	199	11,000.00	2,225.00	11.18
	TRINITY	BOONE	624	8,000.00	3,070.00	4.92
	CHRIST	BOUTON	155	11,000.00	2,749.97	17.74
	TRINITY	DAYTON	69	3,000.00	640.00	9.28
	TRINITY	JEFFERSON	440	24,000.00	6,000.00	13.64
	ZION	OGDEN	363	16,000.00	4,685.50	12.91
	TRINITY	PERRY	110	4,000.00	0.00	0.00
		Total		140,040.00	37,393.27	
	CARROLL	ZION	ARCADIA	384	10,000.00	3,333.36
ST. JOHN		AUDUBON	256	126.00	0.00	0.00
ST PAUL		CARROLL	474	22,770.00	5,621.99	11.86
TRINITY		COON RAPIDS	118	0.00	0.00	0.00
PEACE		GLIDDEN	100	6,937.00	1,200.48	12.00
IMMANUEL		LIDDERDALE	111	4,000.00	1,441.25	12.98
ZION		MANNING	554	31,500.00	10,500.00	18.95
		Total		75,333.00	22,097.08	
CHEROKEE	ST. PAUL	AURELIA	310	32,000.00	7,056.54	22.76
	TRINITY	CHEROKEE	418	15,000.00	5,130.00	12.27
	PEACE	MARCUS	243	12,500.00	2,545.75	10.48
	TRINITY	MARCUS	157	7,500.00	1,875.00	11.94
	ST JOHN	PAULLINA	298	1,000.00	250.00	0.84
	ZION	PAULLINA	562	12,000.00	3,173.00	5.65
	PILGRIM	QUIMBY	120	2,500.00	0.00	0.00
	BETHEL	SUTHERLAND	237	8,500.00	2,375.85	10.02
		Total		91,000.00	22,406.14	
COUNCIL BLUFFS	FAITH	COUNCIL BLUFFS	458	4,992.00	1,357.74	2.96
	ST. PAUL	COUNCIL BLUFFS	519	16,966.00	4,241.49	8.17
	TIMOTHY	COUNCIL BLUFFS	398	23,729.00	5,964.40	14.99
	TRINITY	GLENWOOD	311	4,000.00	1,059.99	3.41
	PEACE	HARLAN	63	1,000.00	249.99	3.97
	ST. JOHN	HONEY CREEK	272	9,000.00	0.00	0.00
	IMMANUEL	LOGAN	201	5,000.00	1,666.68	8.29
	FIRST	MISSOURI VALLEY	295	13,200.00	4,400.00	14.92
	ST. PAUL	OAKLAND	81	1,800.00	200.00	2.47
	TRINITY	PERSIA	78	3,000.00	750.00	9.62
	OUR SAVIOR	WALNUT	78	2,000.00	667.72	8.56
		Total		84,687.00	20,558.01	

DENISON	FAITH	DELOIT	61	2,000.00	0.00	0.00
	IGLESIA	DENISON	18	1,500.00	300.00	16.67
	OUR SAVIOR	DENISON	650	15,000.00	4,082.00	6.28
	ZION	DENISON	1834	45,000.00	6,990.00	3.81
	BETHLEHEM	DOW CITY	226	5,000.00	1,380.00	6.11
	ST JOHN	KIRON	104	5,000.00	2,500.00	24.04
	TRINITY	MANILLA	255	3,000.00	1,000.00	3.92
	IMMANUEL	SCHLESWIG	530	17,625.00	4,406.25	8.31
	Total			94,125.00	20,658.25	
	DES MOINES	CHRIST THE KING	ALTOONA	97	1,400.00	430.02
ST PAUL		ANKENY	598	12,000.00	4,000.00	6.69
HOLY CROSS		CARLISLE	110	6,000.00	1,500.00	13.64
CALVARY		DES MOINES	70	4,800.00	1,725.00	24.64
HOPE		DES MOINES	583	20,400.00	5,100.00	8.75
OUR SAVIOUR		DES MOINES	170	6,200.00	2,066.72	12.16
PEACE		DES MOINES	287	5,200.00	1,590.00	5.54
MT CALVARY		INDIANOLA	361	12,500.00	4,168.00	11.55
Total				68,500.00	20,579.74	
DES MOINES		FAITH	ADEL	438	32,477.00	8,119.44
	LIVING FAITH	CLIVE	234	0.00	0.00	0.00
	ASIAN	DES MOINES	49	300.00	0.00	0.00
	MT OLIVE	DES MOINES	389	10,800.00	2,700.00	6.94
	SUDANESE	DES MOINES	35	500.00	500.00	14.29
	TRINITY	DES MOINES	309	12,000.00	4,000.00	12.94
	MESSIAH	JOHNSTON	38	13,900.00	1,960.66	51.60
	CHRIST OUR SAVIOR	NORWALK	95	3,900.00	1,592.35	16.76
	BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR	POLK CITY	271	3,600.00	975.00	3.60
	GLORIA DEI	URBANDALE	1897	70,000.00	17,613.00	9.28
	TRINITY	VAN METER	147	7,500.00	1,296.85	8.82
	SHEPHERD OF VALLEY	WDM	509	21,690.00	2,429.17	4.77
	Total			176,667.00	41,186.47	
FORT DODGE	MT CALVARY	EAGLE GROVE	70	300.00	100.00	1.43
	GOOD SHEPHERD	FORT DODGE	652	20,000.00	6,667.21	10.23
	PRINCE OF PEACE	FORT DODGE	232	11,000.00	3,298.18	14.22
	ST PAUL	FORT DODGE	1176	53,000.00	6,621.54	5.63
	IMMANUEL	ROWAN	40	120.00	0.00	0.00
	ST JOHN	VINCENT	134	2,000.00	0.00	0.00
	ST PAUL	WEBSTER CITY	331	10,000.00	2,500.03	7.55
	ST PETER	WOOLSTOCK	35	400.00	0.00	0.00
	Total			96,820.00	19,186.96	
HUMBOLDT	HOLY TRINITY	FARNHAMVILLE	269	11,000.00	0.00	0.00
	FIRST	FONDA	29	400.00	100.00	3.45
	TRINITY	FORT DODGE	109	6,375.00	1,763.25	16.18
	ZION	HUMBOLDT	718	25,000.00	6,250.03	8.70
	TRINITY	KNIERIM	137	3,000.00	750.00	5.47
	IMMANUEL	LIVERMORE	90	5,000.00	1,942.00	21.58
	ZION	LUVERNE	108	7,600.00	0.00	0.00
	IMMANUEL	POMEROY	125	6,000.00	1,500.00	12.00
	IMMANUEL	ROCKWELL CITY	165	6,500.00	1,625.01	9.85
Total			70,875.00	13,930.29		
LE MARS	TRINITY	HAWARDEN	498	13,320.00	4,108.29	8.25
	TRINITY	HINTON	306	7,000.00	0.00	0.00
	ST JOHN	IRETON	40	8,500.00	2,125.00	53.13
	ST PAUL	IRETON	225	10,000.00	2,500.00	11.11
	FIRST	KINGSLEY	356	8,500.00	3,558.00	9.99
	GRACE	LEMARS	530	12,000.00	3,000.00	5.66
	FAITH	ORANGE CITY	314	16,000.00	3,999.99	12.74
	CHRIST	REMSSEN	157	4,500.00	365.00	2.32
	Total			79,820.00	19,656.28	
MAPLETON	TRINITY	ANTHON	121	1,500.00	269.00	2.22
	ST JOHN	BATTLE CREEK	326	5,000.00	1,249.97	3.83
	ST PAUL	BATTLE CREEK	94	2,500.00	0.00	0.00
	IMMANUEL	CHARTER OAK	80	4,830.00	2,980.00	37.25
	ST JOHN	CHARTER OAK	397	10,100.00	2,585.92	6.51
	ST PAUL	CHARTER OAK	84	6,000.00	1,965.00	23.39
	GRACE	CORRECTIONVILLE	61	1,000.00	0.00	0.00
	ST PAUL	IDA GROVE	922	22,500.00	6,358.33	6.90
	ST MATTHEW	MAPLETON	450	13,500.00	3,405.00	7.57
	ST LUKE	RICKETTS	100	2,000.00	1,150.00	11.50
	ST PAUL	UTE	280	15,000.00	1,446.00	5.16
	Total			83,930.00	21,409.22	

NORTHWEST	ST PAUL	HARTLEY	377	28,000.00	11,500.00	30.50
	ENGLISH	LARCHWOOD	72	5,100.00	1,275.00	17.71
	ST JOHN	MAY CITY	132	3,000.00	0.00	0.00
	ST PETER	OCHEYEDAN	166	8,000.00	2,000.00	12.05
	ZION	OCHEYEDAN	85	6,000.00	1,640.00	19.29
	PEACE	ROCK RAPIDS	305	10,000.00	1,666.68	5.46
	ST JOHN	SANBORN	224	9,500.00	3,180.00	14.20
	OUR SAVIOR	SHELDON	46	720.00	180.00	3.91
	Total			70,320.00	21,441.68	
	SAC CITY	ZION	AUBURN	68	3,500.00	770.00
FAITH		EARLY	110	4,000.00	1,262.00	11.47
PILGRIM		LAKE CITY	243	5,500.00	1,350.00	5.56
EMMANUEL		LAKE VIEW	350	14,000.00	3,501.00	10.00
TRINITY		ODEBOLT	280	14,500.00	4,502.19	16.08
ST PAUL		SAC CITY	508	15,500.00	2,583.34	5.09
ST PETER		SAC CITY	40	2,200.00	0.00	0.00
ST PAUL		SCHALLER	173	9,600.00	1,600.00	9.25
PEACE		WALL LAKE	438	14,000.00	3,500.00	7.99
Total			82,800.00	19,068.53		
SIOUX CITY	ST JOHN	CLIMBING HILL	80	2,250.00	419.80	5.25
	BETHEL	LAWTON	275	5,000.00	222.40	0.81
	SHEPHERD OF PEACE	SGT BLUFF	406	6,000.00	0.00	0.00
	BETHANY	SIOUX CITY	41	4,090.00	600.00	14.63
	CALVARY	SIOUX CITY	645	25,375.00	5,763.53	8.94
	CONCORDIA	SIOUX CITY	97	700.00	263.25	2.71
	FAITH	SIOUX CITY	311	6,000.00	500.00	1.61
	REDEEMER	SIOUX CITY	999	60,000.00	20,000.00	20.02
	ST PAUL	SIOUX CITY	762	56,063.00	3,500.00	4.59
	Total			165,478.00	31,268.98	
SOUTHWEST	ST TIMOTHY	BEDFORD	18	0.00	0.00	0.00
	IMMANUEL	CLARINDA	192	4,500.00	1,174.00	6.11
	ST JOHN	CLARINDA	639	24,000.00	6,000.00	9.39
	ST PAUL	CLARINDA	199	3,000.00	1,000.00	5.03
	REDEEMER	CORNING	174	3,000.00	1,000.00	5.75
	TRINITY	CRESTON	230	5,500.00	1,374.71	5.98
	ST JOHN	HASTINGS	109	3,600.00	1,327.88	12.18
	OUR SAVIOR	LEON	61	240.00	60.00	0.98
	FIRST	MT AYR	42	600.00	0.00	0.00
	IMMANUEL	OSCEOLA	121	2,000.00	733.00	6.06
	OUR SAVIOR	RED OAK	122	0.00	0.00	0.00
	TRINITY	SHENANDOAH	143	8,000.00	2,062.51	14.42
	OUR SAVIOR	SIDNEY	23	0.00	75.00	3.26
	MT CALVARY	VILLISCA	101	2,100.00	700.00	6.93
	Total			56,540.00	15,507.10	
SPENCER	IMMANUEL	ESTHERVILLE	281	9,800.00	2,300.00	8.19
	CONCORDIA	LAKE PARK	160	1,800.00	745.00	4.66
	CHRIST THE KING	SPENCER	302	1,000.00	249.99	0.83
	FIRST ENGLISH	SPENCER	649	38,000.00	9,304.19	14.34
	IMMANUEL	SPIRIT LAKE	672	33,335.00	8,334.00	12.40
	IMMANUEL	TERRIL	170	6,000.00	2,000.00	11.76
	Total			89,935.00	22,933.18	
STORM LAKE	ST JOHN	ALTA	255	20,400.00	5,480.55	21.49
	ST PAUL	ALTA	273	5,600.00	2,409.00	8.82
	ST JOHN	GALVA	366	16,500.00	4,225.10	11.54
	ST PETER	NEWELL	130	5,000.00	1,702.31	13.09
	FAITH	SIOUX RAPIDS	25	750.00	312.50	12.50
	GRACE	STORM LAKE	424	25,000.00	6,249.99	14.74
	IGLESIA	STORM LAKE	9	1,500.00	300.00	33.33
	ST JOHN	STORM LAKE	402	10,000.00	2,025.00	5.04
	ZION	STORM LAKE	291	6,700.00	237.32	0.82
	Total			91,450.00	22,941.77	
Grand Total			1,848,674.00	444,036.09		