

**BUSINESS MANAGER NEWS**  
***Iowa District West Congregations' Mission Receipts***



<b>Month Ending April 2026</b>	
Anticipated Amount	\$110,000
Actual Receipts	\$117,153
<b>Year-to-Date Receipts</b>	
Anticipated Amount	\$330,000
Actual Receipts	\$342,661
Over (under) anticipated amount	\$12,661
<b>Use of Mission Receipts</b>	
Remitted to Synod (45%)	\$132,000
Balance for District programs & ministries	\$210,661
Total Receipts	\$342,661
<b>Mission Receipts Compared with Last Year</b>	
Month ending April 2026	\$342,661
Month ending April 2025	\$365,979
Over (under) last year	\$(23,318)

**Partners in the Gospel - Monthly Mission Moment**

Did you know that your congregational mission dollars support the District budget in many mission and ministry areas? Historically, the District budget has dedicated a significant portion to missions—nearly two-thirds of the entire budget. Almost one-third supports Synod missions, and nearly another one-third supports District missions.

The remaining portion of the budget provides essential congregational support services (Human Care, Education, Youth, Stewardship), as well as other ministry support service expenses.

Your dollars truly make a difference in carrying out the mission and ministry of Iowa District West and in sharing the Gospel around the world.

Thank you for being a Partner in the Gospel!

**Stewardship Spark** - by Ron Chewning, President of Stewardship Advisors, which provides year-round stewardship education [resources](#) for LCMS churches (248.644.6150 - [stewardshipadv@aol.com](mailto:stewardshipadv@aol.com))

**CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP IS ABOUT LIVING THE CHRISTIAN LIFE.**

“And we pray this in order that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and may please Him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God” (Colossians 1:10 NIV).



## Congregational Quarterly Financial Report

Included in *The Messenger* is the report of congregational support for the first quarter of the District's fiscal period from February 1-April 30, 2026. Review your church's mission contributions to make sure your budget receipts are up to date. This report includes only District/Synod receipts and no restricted missionary support. Thank you for being "Partners in the Gospel." We are *On a Mission to Support Christ's Mission!*



A special thank you to the Boone, Carroll, Sac City, and Southwest circuits that have 100% participation for the first quarter.

## 69<sup>th</sup> Regular LCMS Convention and National Offering



Thank you to all congregations that have already paid their convention assessment (due June 1). Please remember that the remaining balance must be paid in full for your lay and pastoral circuit delegates to participate in the Synod's Convention, July 18–23 in Phoenix, AZ.

The District has already remitted nearly \$75,000 to the Synod to cover convention facility rent, electronic voting machines, multimedia expenses, postage, printing, floor committee needs, and more. The convention assessment also supports travel, lodging, and meals for six days for 32 District delegates and advisory leaders.

To learn more about the 69th National Convention, centered on the theme "*Christ Is Risen! Tell the Next Generation*" (based on 1 Corinthians 15:20–22), visit [www.lcms.org/convention](http://www.lcms.org/convention). Additional information can be found in the May issue of [The Lutheran Witness](#).

**2026–2029 National Offering:** The theme for the 2026–2029 National Offering reflects the church's call to proclaim Christ's resurrection across generations. Based on Psalm 78:4 — "*We will not hide them from their children, but tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the Lord, and His might, and the wonders that He has done.*" — this offering supports the ongoing mission of sharing the Gospel far and wide.

The National Offering spans the years between conventions and provides an opportunity for congregations, districts, circuits, individuals, and other groups to support the LCMS in its work of making known the Good News of Jesus Christ. Gifts to the 2026–2029 National Offering will directly benefit domestic ministry carried out at the local level and supported by LCMS Family Ministry, Youth Ministry, Campus Ministry, and School Ministry.

Everyone is encouraged to participate in and support the LCMS National Offering. Learn more at [www.lcms.org/national-offering](http://www.lcms.org/national-offering).

## Secretarial/Administrative Assistants Fall Conference



The Iowa District West Secretarial/Administrative Assistants Conference will be held at St Paul, Fort Dodge this fall. Mark your calendar for Tuesday, **Sept 29** from 8 am - 3:30 pm. All ministry assistant professionals are invited to enjoy a relaxing, inspirational, and educational day. The program is a work in progress. A brochure with more details will be shared this summer.

## Housing Allowance

As mid-year approaches, it's a good time to review the 2026 housing or parsonage allowance designated for all ministers of the Gospel. If the allowance currently designated for 2026 is lower than the minister's actual housing expenses, church leaders should vote to increase the allowance for the remainder of the year. Please remember that clergy who own their homes may not claim a housing allowance greater than the fair market rental value of the furnished home.

For additional details regarding housing or parsonage allowances, see Chapter 2 of the LCMS *Congregational Treasurer's Manual* ([www.lcms.org/ctm](http://www.lcms.org/ctm)).

