

BUSINESS MANAGER NEWS
Iowa District West Congregations' Mission Receipts



Month Ending February 2026	
Anticipated Amount	\$110,000
Actual Receipts	\$114,912
Year-to-Date Receipts	
Anticipated Amount	\$110,000
Actual Receipts	\$114,912
Over (under) anticipated amount	\$4,912
Use of Mission Receipts	
Remitted to Synod (45%)	\$44,000
Balance for District programs & ministries	\$70,912
Total Receipts	\$114,912
Mission Receipts Compared with Last Year	
Month ending February 2026	\$114,912
Month ending February 2025	\$124,310
Over (under) last year	\$ (9,398)

Partners in the Gospel - Monthly Mission 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 40% of your unrestricted congregational mission dollars support the work of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod? The 2026 budget includes \$528,000 designated for LCMS mission and ministry. Thanks to your support last fiscal year, we exceeded our goal and sent \$542,400 to the Synod. As we all “walk together,” we ask every congregation to be a partner with District and the Synod. Your dollars make a difference in carrying out the mission and ministry in IDW and across the world. Last year, IDW was ranked the 6th highest in mission giving out of 35 Districts. Thank you for your partnership!

Stewardship Spark - by Ron Chewning - www.StewardshipAdvisors.org - 248.644.6150

**LENT IS FORTY DAYS TO REFLECT
ON OUR UNWORTHINESS AND THEN
FOCUS ON GOD’S GRACE AND LOVE
IN JESUS**

“He Who did not spare His own Son but gave Him up for us all, how will He not also with Him graciously give us all things”
(Romans 8:32).



Concordia Plan Services (CPS) Workshop – Focusing on Retirement

Need help planning for retirement? Concordia Plans is hosting a pre-retirement workshop for workers on Monday, May 18, from 9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. at Grace Lutheran Church in Le Mars. Workers enrolled in the Concordia Retirement Plan pension, especially those age 50 or older who are thinking about retirement, are encouraged to attend. Spouses are also encouraged to attend. Topics covered include basic retirement finances, sources of retirement income, health care in retirement, tools and resources, and more. To register, send an email to MoneyMatters@ConcordiaPlans.org. See the poster for complete details.

Preparing employers for CRSP 403(b) Spring Enrollment – In early-mid April, Concordia Plans will begin a CRSP 403(b) [Spring Enrollment campaign](#) to:

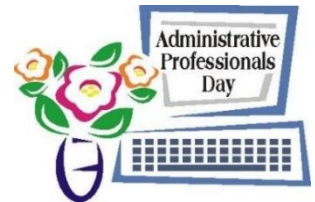
- Encourage workers who are saving to consider increasing their contributions to be better prepared for retirement.
- Encourage workers not currently saving to start! Concordia Plans will highlight the importance of personal retirement savings to complement their pension benefits.

[Sign up](#) for an upcoming spring retirement webinar on March 25 at 1 pm.

CPS will be offering an education opportunity focusing on healthcare this summer. Watch for more information.

Celebrate Administrative Professionals Day/Week

Administrative Professionals Week was first established in 1952, and over the years it has grown into one of the largest workplace observances in the United States, honoring more than 22 million administrative and office support professionals.



This year, it takes place April 20–24, with Administrative Professionals Day recognized on Wednesday, April 22. Each year, administrative professionals are celebrated for the skills, loyalty, and essential qualities that support nearly every office. Administrative Professionals Week highlights and honors the dedication and invaluable contributions of these professionals.

Religious Freedom Update from Alliance Defending Freedom

The Johnson Amendment—a tax provision from the 1950s—has long affected 501(c)(3) organizations, including churches and clergy. To better understand its history and how it came to restrict pastoral speech, you can read an [Alliance Defending Freedom \(ADF\)](#) attorney’s explanation of how these limitations were put in place more than half a century ago.

The Church & Ministry Alliance (CMA) is anticipating an upcoming federal court decision in a recent case involving the Johnson Amendment. This ruling, once announced, may influence how clergy can or cannot apply biblical principles from the pulpit.

CMA will host a livestream in which ADF attorneys will discuss the decision. Because Iowa District West is a CMA Partner Member, you are invited to join the waitlist for this livestream. Stay informed about what the ruling may mean for you: <https://www.adfchurchalliance.org/johnson-amendment-livestream>.

The livestream will:

- Explain what happened in this case
- Address the potential implications for churches
- Identify what remains legally unresolved

CMA exists as a ministry and resource for Iowa District West, helping remove the stress and uncertainty surrounding legal and legislative challenges to religious freedom. These issues directly affect how we use our facilities, whom we hire, how we design curriculum, and much more. CMA’s mission is to handle the legal and legislative work so you can continue to freely live and speak the truth of the Gospel with as few limitations as possible.

Our District partners with Alliance Defending Freedom’s (ADF) Church & Ministry Alliance to help protect religious freedoms. Because of our partnership, you receive a 20% discount (LCMS20) on your own membership, where you can quickly access educational resources and legal guidance from qualified attorneys. For many of our churches, the annual membership costs no more than \$250, depending on your weekly attendance size. Many of our schools are members and receive the same 20% discount. To explore the benefits and join, [click here](#).