

BUSINESS MANAGER NEWS
Iowa District West Congregations' Mission Receipts



Month Ending May 2026	
Anticipated Amount	\$110,000
Actual Receipts	\$118,111
Year-to-Date Receipts	
Anticipated Amount	\$440,000
Actual Receipts	\$460,772
Over (under) anticipated amount	\$20,772
Use of Mission Receipts	
Remitted to Synod (45%)	\$176,000
Balance for District programs & ministries	\$284,772
Total Receipts	\$460,772
Mission Receipts Compared with Last Year	
Month ending May 2026	\$460,772
Month ending May 2025	\$466,083
Over (under) last year	\$ (5,311)

Partners in the Gospel - Monthly Mission Moment

The District supports a number of worthy mission projects, programs, and activities. This month, the part of the budget “Preparing Church Workers” is highlighted. When I started 28 years ago, the District’s annual support for students studying at Concordia schools was around \$60,000. Today, that amount has grown to over \$300,000. The increased support has come from endowment and restricted funds, as well as support from the LWML, individuals, and congregational gifts.

At the end of August, the schools and students will begin to receive the fall financial aid support from the District. Thank you for your congregational and individual gifts as we joyfully support our future pastors and church workers so they can pass the Christian faith on to the next generation.

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)

Firstfruits or priority giving expresses the special relationship that we have with Jesus.

“The best of the firstfruits of your [income] you shall bring into the house of the Lord your God” (Exodus 23:19).



69th Regular LCMS Convention



The 69th National Convention is almost here. Pray for IDW delegates as they travel to Phoenix for the Synod's Convention July 18–23. Everyone is encouraged to support the LCMS National Offering. Gifts to the 2026–2029 National Offering will directly benefit ongoing domestic work carried out at the local level by LCMS congregations, districts, and others, and supported by LCMS Family Ministry, Youth Ministry, Campus Ministry, and School Ministry. More information is available at www.lcms.org/national-offering.

Everyone can read Convention highlights in the current Reporter and *The Lutheran Witness*. To read the proposed resolutions, convention workbook, and other information, go to www.lcms.org/convention. You can also watch the convention proceedings live online from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily.

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, September 29, from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. All ministry assistant professionals are invited to enjoy a relaxing, inspirational, and educational day. We are excited to announce that our special speaker for the day will be Shannon Zetterlund (our highly rated speaker from 2018). More information will be coming this summer.

Concordia Plan Services (CPS) Summer Education Events

Health care continues to evolve, and it can be challenging to stay informed about the complexities of today's health care options. Each ministry has important decisions to make—including selecting the best health care option for the upcoming year. Now is an ideal time to review the changes to the health plan options for 2027.

Anyone interested in learning more about Concordia Health Plan options, special coverages, and what's new for 2027 is encouraged to attend a workshop this summer. Please plan to join one of our virtual education sessions:

Thursday, July 30 at 4 pm
Wednesday, August 5 at 11 am



Register online for the summer presentations:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CPShelp>

Mark your calendar for [Employer Benefits Elections](#) (website goes live July 1). The health plan enrollment timeline for 2027 health care option offerings is September 7–18. Employee/member open enrollment will be November 2–13.

Employer renewal packets with rates will be sent electronically via email in early July. As you plan your 2027 budget, please note the Concordia Plans rate adjustments:

- The estimated health plan rate increase is 8%
- The retirement rate will increase by 1% of compensation

You can explore a wealth of information anytime at www.concordiaplans.org. Additionally, the *Congregational Treasurer's Manual*, Chapter 4, provides extensive information at www.lcms.org/ctm.

Free Resources and Support from Concordia Technology Solutions (CTS)

Church office staff are responsible for a lot. Getting more done during the workday is more important than ever before. Technology can help give you back some time in the day, but where do you start? That's why Concordia Technology Solutions is offering [free Church Office Technology Assessments](#) for churches looking to increase their productivity with managing their congregation records, attendance, offerings, financial records, or church communications.



To make the writing part easier, CTS put together a free, ready-to-edit set of [Communication Templates for Every Church Event](#). Download it, drop in your dates and details, and most of your fall calendar is already written.