

BUSINESS MANAGER NEWS

Iowa District West Congregations' Mission Receipts



Month Ending August 2026	
Anticipated Amount	\$110,000
Actual Receipts	\$93,776
Year-to-Date Receipts	
Anticipated Amount	\$770,000
Actual Receipts	\$794,746
Over (under) anticipated amount	\$24,746
Use of Mission Receipts	
Remitted to Synod (40%)	\$308,000
Balance for District programs & ministries	\$486,746
Total Receipts	\$794,746
Mission Receipts Compared with Last Year	
Month ending August 2026	\$794,746
Month ending August 2025	\$778,671
Over (under) last year	\$ 16,075

Partners in the Gospel - Monthly Mission Moment

Your faithful mission giving is making a real difference in our community. Through our District's shared ministry, your congregation directly supports Lutheran Family Service (LFS), an important partner that brings the healing presence of Jesus Christ to people and families facing life's toughest challenges.

Your Generosity in Action: With our current District budget, your congregation's mission dollars give over \$23,000 directly to LFS, plus free office space worth more than \$18,000 each year. In addition, our District has given another \$450,000 over the past few years to help these important ministries grow.

A Lifeline of Hope and Healing: LFS has four regional offices across Iowa and supports our neighbors by offering:

- Mental Health & Marriage Counseling: Offering hope and support to individuals and couples.
- Pregnancy & Adoption Services: Helping expectant mothers and giving financial support to adoptive parents as they build loving families.
- Congregational Outreach: Helping local churches serve their communities more effectively.

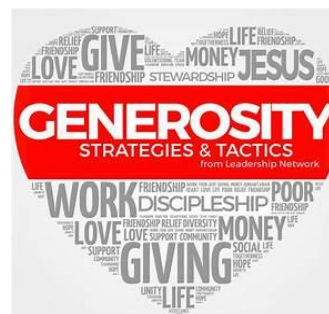
When life feels overwhelming, LFS is here to remind us that nothing is impossible with God.

Get Involved & Learn More: To discover how LFS can serve you, your family, or your congregation: contact them at 515.573.3138 or visit www.LutheranFamilyService.org.

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)

**AS GOD'S GIFTS TO US GROW,
WE ARE TO INCREASE OUR
GIVING AS WELL.**

"Honor the Lord with your wealth and with the firstfruits of all your produce; then your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will be bursting with wine" (Proverbs 3:9).



Stewardship Program: Blessed to Advance God's Church

Thanks to Stewardship Advisors, the District has a new three-week stewardship emphasis. The three-weekly themes for **Blessed to Advance God's Church** are:

Week 1: "Blessed with Time"

Week 2: "Blessed with Abilities"

Week 3: "Blessed with Resources"

For each of the three weeks, the following are available: Bible study with answer guide, Bulletin message, Lay reader talk, Power point, Children's message, Sermon, and Worship helps. Click this [video link](#) to preview the program. All the materials are on the District stewardship [website](#).



Compensation & Benefit Recommendations

The Board of Directors approved the suggested compensation recommendations for 2027. To view the salary schedule, [click here](#).

Another option to consider is the LCMS compensation tool used by congregations around the Synod to help determine fair and appropriate compensation for your workers. [Click here](#) for the direct link.

Be Well Serve Well - Let's Walk!

It is time to register for the State of Iowa [Healthiest State 16th Annual Walk](#) on Wednesday, **October 7**. Walking is one of the best ways to stay healthy. Walking together gives us an opportunity to catch up and refresh our minds, and the physical benefits add up, too! How awesome is walking? Walking improves memory, curbs inflammation, spurs creativity, increases physical performance, improves attention and concentration, lowers stress, and helps with losing weight. If you are on the Concordia Health Plan, remember to record your steps on [Vitality](#)!



Church & Clergy Finance/Treasurer's Workshop

The next Treasurer's Workshop will now be held online on Saturday, November 7, from 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. The Saturday, January 7 program will take place in person at Our Saviour Lutheran Church in Denison, with a snow date of the following Saturday. Pastors and all individuals within the church who have financial responsibilities are encouraged to attend. Please register [online](#). If you have any questions, please contact Roger at 515-576-7666 or Roger@IowaDistrictWest.org.



Taxes can be confusing for pastors, and one helpful resource is a Church Law & Tax [online](#) article titled "*The Top 3 Confusing Tax Issues for Clergy—and Practical Tips to Handle Them Effectively.*" It offers practical guidance that many will find beneficial.

Lutheran Federal Credit Union – A Blessing to Our LCMS Community

Our own LCMS-founded Lutheran Federal Credit Union (LutheranFCU) continues to be a blessing to the church, providing competitive auto and mortgage loans to LCMS church workers and members. This summer, LutheranFCU generously supplied "Christ is Risen, Indeed" insulated water mugs to Synod Convention delegates and continues to donate back to the church, supporting ministry in meaningful ways.

We encourage you to explore their many financial options and services. Congregations can now easily promote LutheranFCU using their new "Congregational Resources" page, which offers bulletin announcements, newsletter blurbs, graphics, and other ready-to-use materials. Visit: www.lutheranfcu.org/congregation-resources.



We are *the* credit union of The LCMS.