



Nebraska
North
District

Spring 2017
Volume 14, Number 1

LUTHERAN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY LEAGUER

Blessings!

Ezekiel 34:26 *"I will bless them and the places surrounding my hill. I will send down showers in season; there will be showers of blessings."*


Have you ever heard or have had someone tell you to "Count Your Blessings?" I remember telling a few people this myself. Have you made a list of your blessings and thought about them. Let's all try it. You can make a mental list or write it down so you can look at it. I'm sure if we compared lists we would have many that are the same or similar.

Many of us will list our family, friends, our faith, good health, a good home, a good job, etc., but do we think about whom these blessings come from. Many in today's world think they are the ones who have accomplished these blessings on their own, but when I think about my blessing and how they shine upon me, it brings to mind a song I learned at the Lutheran school I attended and a song that is in the hymnal:

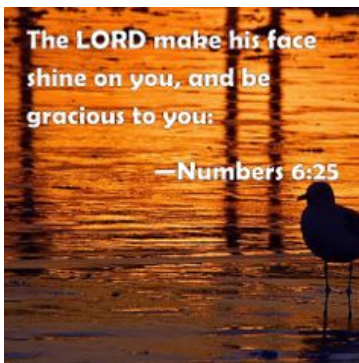
Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise Him all creatures here below,
Praise Him above ye heavenly host,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

It is God who has given and continues to give me blessings. Without Him I would not have them. But my greatest blessing is having Him as my Lord and Savior, and the blessing of grace that He gives to me and you so freely, for by His blessing of grace we are saved. By His blessing of grace, His light shines upon each and every one of us who believes in Him, and we are blessed knowing we have eternal life through Him. May God our Father continue to bless and keep you, shining the blessing of His love and grace upon you.

May you have a wonderful spring and hope to see many of you in Albuquerque this June.




VP Human Care
Peg Kumm
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mpkumm@gpcom.net
402-586-2930 or 402-360-0315



Inside the Leaguer ...

- VP Human Care..... Page 1
- President's Message..... Page 2
- Around the District Page 2
- VP Communications Page 3
- VP Gospel Outreach Page 3
- Calendar of Events Page 3
- VP Christian Life Page 4
- Pastoral Counselor Page 4
- Financial Report..... Page 5
- Pajama Prayer Party Registration.. Page 6
- Pajama Prayer Party Ingathering.. Page 7
- National Gifts of the Heart..... Page 8
- National Convention Update Page 8
- National Mite Update Page 8



Pen Pointers
Send all news items and sharp color or black and white photos to:
Linda Dammann, 1115 Carriage Rd., Papillion, NE
68046-2803 (402) 290-4524 lssddam1@gmail.com
Leaguer deadline: April 15, 2017



**President
Crystal Miller**
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402.290.0190
ccmiller@unmc.edu

Pure Purple Crystal

The Lord Make His Face Shine Upon You!

"The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you." Numbers 6:25

The verse above is the theme for this Leaguer! My prayer for each of you is that He shines on you through these articles.

In these dreary days of winter, each of us longs for sunshine. It often seems that days go by that I don't see the sun. I come to work in the dark and leave in the dark. As I look out the window, the days are cloudy and cold. I long for a day full of sunshine and warmth.

The physical longing for sunshine seems to parallel my longing for another place – Heaven. In Philippians 3:20 – we are told: *"But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ."* Are we ever content here on earth – likely not – because we were made for another place – for something better. So, while we are here get some SonShine through His Word and His sacraments. Jesus reaches out to each of us through His Word, sacrament, and through the fellowship with other Christians. Try each day to let the Lord's face Shine upon you through His Word. Spend some time in His Word alone, spend time in study and fellowship with other Christians. He will be gracious as you seek His direction. God will be patient with you; God's patience with me as a sinner can be overwhelming at times. I deserve nothing and yet Jesus died for me and forgave all my sins – those I have committed and those I have yet to commit. He is gracious and seeks to shine upon you. Open your heart, your mind and your arms and let Him shine upon you and be gracious to you.

Around the District

Update on Mites for Missions

"To one there is given through the Spirit the message of wisdom, to another the message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit, to another faith, etc. ...All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and He gives them to EACH ONE, just as he determines." 1 Cor. 12:8 - 11

If you're like me, I sometimes think I have no talents. That was my thought when our LWML society decided to participate in a craft fair on November 12th to raise money for mites. By the look on the faces of other LWML ladies, they had the same thoughts. When the day arrived we had so many items we needed 2 tables to display them. Things like crocheted dish clothes, birthday cards made with pictures she had taken, doggie treats, jewelry, wooden snow men, hot pads for soup bowls for the microwave, aprons made from men's shirts, etc. and pies (our best seller).

All of these "non-talented" ladies with God's gifts, we were able to raise an additional \$400+ for mites.

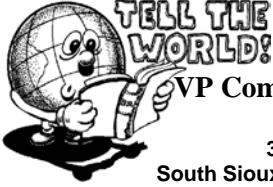
Submitted by Beautiful Savior LWML, LaVista, NE

Pictured are: L to R – Gladys Doerr, President; Rosa Norman, Treasurer; Jeanne Harder, Secretary; Cheryl Baker, Vice President.



Being Gracious

Something has been stuck on my heart. At a meeting someone asked about someone else coming to Ladies Aid. The answer was, "Oh no, she won't come again, not after




VP Communications
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what someone said about her kids." That hit me hard. At any given time in my life I could have been the someone with the kids or the someone talking about that person. Not very gracious. Since I am now Vice President of Communications, I feel as though I should really look at how I communicate with others. God is very gracious to us; He is kind, compassionate, forgiving, and understanding. God freely gives us His Grace. But am I that gracious? Not always. I get impatient at long meetings. I don't like it when people tell many stories that have nothing to do with the discussion at hand. I get easily distracted. I think my time is more valuable, *and* I think I am being gracious by being quiet at such times. Did you see how each sentence started with "I"? God has a different view of being gracious. It is not about me. God sees graciousness as a relationship not just as "random acts of kindness." A relationship of building lovingkindness, compassion, and understanding within a group of His people. We, as women of the LWML should strive to make that relationship of grace a priority. As our Lord God is gracious to us, we should be to others.

Proverbs 16:24 – *"Gracious words are like a honeycomb, sweetness to the soul and health to the body."*

God's Graciousness

Recently I received a letter from Rev. Keith Aschenbeck who along with his wife and children, live and minister in remote villages and settlements of Alaska. He thanked us for our \$7000 mite support which has enabled them to continue their work there. He spoke about the work they do and mentioned that they often face discouragement and isolation as they work with people who have a challenging environment and many struggles. The temperatures of -40 were mentioned! We pray that Pastor Aschenbeck and his family can endure the difficulties there and God will be gracious to them and lift up their hearts and minds! Pastor Aschenbeck asked that we pray not only for encouragement and strength but that they would be bold witnesses of Christ's love to people who struggle to see or experience little hope and joy in life.

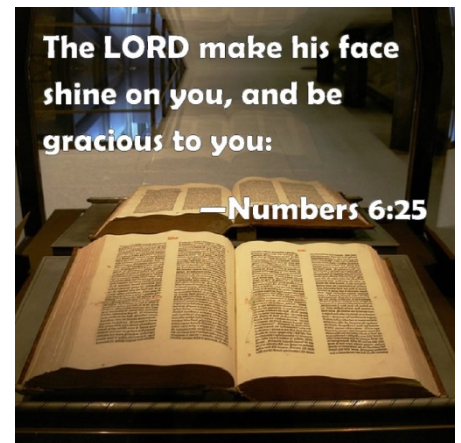


VP Gospel Outreach
Betty Poppe
 1380 County Road C
 Scribner, NE 68507
 402- 333-6953
betlowpop@yahoo.com

We have paid our first mission grant of this biennium to Mission Central and our next mite gift will be given to Lutheran Family Services in the amount of \$10,000 for the "At Ease—Ministry for Vets and Military". This is a more local endeavor to help those suffering from stress and mental illness after serving our country in the military. As we experience God's gracious gifts and love may we give what we can for missions along with prayers for those who are at work nearby and around the world telling others about Christ's love.

Calendar of Events

- Pajama Prayer Party, Peace Lutheran, Grand Island, NE..... April 22, 2017
- Spring Workshops:
- Norfolk Zone, St. John Lutheran, Pierce..... April 1
 - Omaha Tri-Zone, Beautiful Savior, LaVista..... April 2
 - West Point Zone, St. Paul Lutheran, Wisner April 24
 - Plainview Zone, St. Peter, Orchard April 25
 - Wayne Zone, St. John's Lutheran, Wakefield May 2
 - National LWML Conv, Albuquerque, NM June 22-25
 - His Light on Our Path, NE North District Conv,
 Norfolk, NE (*note change in date*)..... June 21-23, 2018
 - National LWML Conv, Birmingham, AL..... June 27-30, 2019
 - National LWML Conv, Lexington, KY June 24-27, 2021



Let Us Be Gracious

“Sad are the hours, which are not bright with Jesus.”

Have you ever had someone smile at you so brightly, so intently, that you just knew that smile was for you only? It may have been at your wedding day, maybe your child’s first smile, or the smile of that son or daughter right before they were to be married. You knew that smile was sending you all the love they had in their hearts at that moment. Yet whenever we seek the face of God in prayer, devotion or Bible study, we can experience that brilliant smile from our Savior. He sees us and he smiles on us with his never ending, undeserved love. He is gracious to us and he wants us to be gracious to others also.

LWML is that place where grace should shine! We love and accept our sisters and brothers in Christ for who they are...God’s children. LWML welcomes us all to share our love for God and each other. Our graciousness extends to not only those close around us, but also to those we will never meet, as we gather our mites to extend graciousness through our mission projects.

Every Sunday, our Pastor bestows this blessing on us, as we leave our church. We ask God to smile on us and be gracious to us. Let us also extend that grace through our mite giving, so that all may know this love. Graciousness, grace, blessing...have you experienced any of those this week, month, year or lifetime? Let us be generous with our mites, as we share the blessings God has bestowed on us. Let us help those in need of both physical and spiritual blessings with our mission projects.

"The Lord make His face shine upon you." This blessing promises the shining of His face--not a brief ray, but the full blaze of concentrated love. Heaven's fullness is to see Him face to face. Heaven's foretaste, is to catch this pledge of His smile.

“The degree to which I am blessed staggers me...The degree to which I take that for granted, shames me.”

Let us be gracious in our giving, just as our Father is gracious to us.

The Blessings of the LORD Shining On You

Blessings come in all shapes and sizes. In the last Leaguer, Pastor Williams talked about the birth of a new grandchild. What a blessing! Parents and grandparents alike beam with joy when they behold the face of their new child or grandchild. On their wedding day, a bride and groom beam with happiness as they join their hands, hearts and lives together. Children beam with joy as they open their Christmas or birthday presents. A high school student beams with joy over his/her first car. A college student beams with elation after landing that first job. My office is full of the artwork and notes from my children that bring me great delight. The blessings of the Lord are many!


In the book of Numbers, (6:22-25), the Lord instructed Aaron through Moses to **“Bless the people of Israel, say to them... *The LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you*”** What a promise! What a blessing that the LORD makes His face to shine upon His people. When Moses was up on Mt. Sinai, the LORD would not permit him to see His face, saying, **“*you cannot see my face, for man shall not see me and live.*”** (Exodus 33:20) but now, through Jesus, the LORD makes His face shine upon them and upon us! Along with LORD’s face shining upon us, He is also gracious to us. That word “gracious” carries with it the meaning of mercy and generosity. The blessing for us now is His grace, mercy and generosity are without end! As there is nothing a parent would not give or do for their child, the same is true with our heavenly Father. He proves that when He sent His only begotten Son to die and rise again *for you*, bringing the Lord’s blessings *for you*!

The tremendous blessings of the Father’s love comes shining through His Son who is the Light of the world. (cf. John 8:12; 9:5). His light shines upon us and then amazingly, He causes you and me also to be **“*the light of the world*”** (Matthew 5:14). We are blessed to reflect the light of the Father’s love, forgiveness, grace, mercy, generosity and more to our families, friends, neighbors, acquaintances and those whom the LORD puts in our life. All of this so that one day, not only will the LORD make His face shine upon us, but we will see Him face to face. Until that day, you are blessed because His face continues to shine upon you so that you can continue to shine His love to the world!

May the Lord continue to make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you!

VP Christian Life
LaDonna Stanosheck

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402-748-3843
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Christian Life

**Pastoral
Counselor's
Message**


Pastor Marcel Kohlmeier
230 Cherry St
P.O. Box 217
Orchard, NE 68764
402-893-2390
revkohlmeier@hotmail.com

Financial Report

Quarter 3, October – December, 2016

Miscellaneous Offerings for Quarterlies/Leaguers

Burton, Grace Lutheran	\$90.00
Chambers, St. Paul LWML	90.00
Columbus, St. John's WMA	58.50
Fullerton, Mt. Calvary LWML	157.50
Fremont, Trinity	70.00
Hooper, Immanuel LWML	137.50
Howells, Trinity 2	45.50
North Bend, St. Peter's Sisters	110.00
Madison, Trinity LA	82.50
Madison, St. John LA	66.00
Norfolk, Christ Ladies Circle	55.00
Norfolk, Christ Priscillas	225.00
Pierce, St. John's LA/LWML	71.50
Tilden, Immanuel	82.50
Omaha, St. Paul LA	55.00
Omaha, Bethany Women in Mission	24.00
Omaha, St. John LWML	55.00
Omaha, St. Mark LWML	325.00
LaVista, Beautiful Savior LWML	110.00
Omaha, King of Kings	385.00
Bloomfield, First Trinity LWML	39.00
Foster, Trinity LA/LWML	13.00
Plainview, Zion LA	33.00
Plainview, Zion Priscillas	60.50
Verdigre, Bethlehem	90.00
Concord, St. Paul LA/LWML	162.00
Laurel, Immanuel LWML	132.00
South Sioux City, Hope LWML	225.00
Wakefield, St. John's LA	90.00
Wakefield, Immanuel LA	16.50
Wayne, First Trinity Altona	24.00
Winside, St. Paul LWML/LA	180.00
Bancroft, Zion	55.00
Beemer, St. John LWML	82.50
West Point, St. Paul LWML	13.00
TOTAL QUARTERLY/LEAGUER OFFERINGS	\$3,912.50

Send your mites to:

Shelley Freudenburg
700 W Omaha Ave., Ste B
Norfolk, NE 68701
Shell844@telebeep.com

Please include the voucher.

National 2015-2017 Biennium

Mission Goal: \$2 million

Clean Water and Evangelism Ministry	\$50,000
Disaster Response Trailers	\$80,000
Cancer Care Packages — Phil's Friends	\$50,000
Renovation of JEM Seminary Buildings	\$120,000
Redeeming Life Maternity Home	\$100,000
Hope and Healing to the Navajo People	\$75,000
Outreach in Refugee Camps — Lebanon	\$72,000
Lutheran Family Services Healthy Families	\$60,000
LCMS Global Seminary Initiative	\$100,000
Training Teachers and Leaders	\$100,000
Opportunities in Uganda	\$100,000
"In Their Hands and Upon Their Hearts"	\$50,000
"We Are God's Workmanship"	\$32,500
Bringing the Gospel to the Lost Sheep of Israel	\$100,000
Helping Hands Initiative	\$100,000
Deaconess Training	\$90,000
Lutheran Youth Corps	\$25,000
Providing Hope for Detroit	\$100,000
Rosa Young Academies (Partial)	\$14,063.94

Memorials

Mary Doescher	\$10.00
Alan Broderson	10.00
Ester Bakder	10.00
Ray Reeg	5.00
Robert Higenkamp	* 10.00
Geneva Wagner	10.00
Ruth Qualset	* 10.00
Isabelle Schultz	10.00
Irma Kreuger	20.00
Jolene Giebels	* 20.00
Ralph Daehnke	25.00
Delva Brobaw	10.00
Orma Beckmann	10.00
Jolene Siebels	* 25.00
Sharon Gruneke	25.00
Memorial	* 400.00
Luetta Werner	20.00
Edna Panning	10.00
TOTAL MEMORIALS	\$175.00
* included in Mites total	

Mite Offerings

Mites	\$21,754.00
Special Offering	2,148.58
Payment in King to Mites	(1,107.44)
Memorials	465.00
Donations	1,205.07
TOTAL MITES	\$25,572.65

Miscellaneous Income

Board Retreat	\$1,531.00
District Convention Offering	40.00
Miscellaneous	250.00
Special Offering	104.00
Payment in Kind to Mites	(1,107.44)
TOTAL MISCELLANEOUS	\$2,103.77
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$31,585.15
Interest (October - December)	3.77
TOTAL QUARTER 3 RECEIPTS	\$31,588.92

District Mission Grant Goal for 2016 – 2018 \$87,000

1. Mission Central Current Missionary Need – The Time is Now <i>paid</i>	\$10,000
2. At Ease – Ministry for Veterans, Active Military and their Loved Ones	\$10,000
3. Concordia Seminary, St. Louis Food Bank	\$6,000
4. Widow's Self Employment Project – Milk Society	\$2,000
5. Columbus Lutheran Hispanic Ministry	\$10,000
6. Spanish Bibles with Small Catechism for the Americas	\$7,500
7. Professional Church Workers in Crisis Retreat	\$3,500
8. Camp Luther Mission Leader Development	\$9,000
2016-2017 Scholarships <i>paid</i>	\$14,500
2017-2018 Scholarships	\$14,500

Young Women Representatives

District Youth Gathering Servant Event Support <i>paid</i>	\$2,016
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Teen LWML

Camp Luther – His Kids Scholarships for Campers <i>paid</i>	\$216
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Registration Form



Come and join us – the ladies of LWML North and South will spend the day in **God’s word, fellowship** and **service** together. We will be led in Bible Study by **Elaine Nelson** and **Jessica Feldman**. We will make pajamas, developmental hearts and other items for Lutheran Family Services (counseling and foster care programs) and for Bright Horizons – for women and children who have left their home because of domestic abuse. Developmental hearts will be given to NICU’s in Nebraska – they are for parents to sleep with, so that they have their scent on them and then they are left with babies for comfort when the parents cannot be there.

Date: **April 22, 2017**
Location: **Peace Lutheran Church – Grand Island**
Times: **8:30-9:00 – Registration**
4:00 p.m. – Closing
Registration Fee: **\$15.00**

Name: _____

Address: _____

District: _____ North _____ South _____ Other

Send Registration and payment to: **LaDonna Stanosheck**
701 N. Maple
Osmond, NE 68765
Email: lmstano@gmail.com

Registration Deadline:
April 15th
T-shirt Order Deadline:
April 10th

Make Checks payable to: **Nebraska North District LWML**

T-shirts (order a t-shirt to remember the day and promote future service projects)

Size: ___ Small ___ Medium ___ Large ___ X-Large ___ XX-Large ___ XXX Large



Cost: \$18.00

Use this link to order t-shirts: <https://www.customink.com/g/akv0-00aq-vhc1> (Order deadline April 10th)
Or send order form with payment to LaDonna Stanosheck (address above).

Pajama Prayer Party Ingathering

Bring any of the items on the list – could be one – or several.

Snack Bag Items:

1. Juice Boxes (boxes or bags)
2. Brown Paper Bags (lunch size bags)
3. Zip top Snack Bags (to divide bulk items into individual servings)
4. Animal Crackers (bulk containers)
5. Fruit Cups – non-refrigerated type
6. Fruit Snacks – Individual packages
7. Goldfish Snacks (bulk containers)
8. Granola Bars
9. Pudding Cups – non-refrigerated type
10. Plastic Spoons
11. Individual Candy – small candy bars, tootsie rolls, etc.
12. Trail Mix
13. Cheese and Cracker packs (individual servings)
14. Apple Sauce (individual servings)
15. Fruit Loops (large boxes that can be divided into individual servings)
16. Peanut butter and cracker snacks (individual servings)
17. \$5 (for purchase of undonated items to complete Snack bags)

Items to Bring:

- Sewing Machine
- Serger
- Scissors
- Sewing Pins

You do not need to be able to sew to come to this event – there will be many non-sewing steps for participants.

If you are doing some sewing prior to the event – save your scraps – or contact Crystal Miller for a pattern for the Developmental Hearts – ccmiller@unmc.edu

Hygiene Kits: Bring complete kits in 2-gallon zip top bags

Boys Hygiene Kits

- Deodorant
- Body Spray
- Body Wash
- Notebook
- Pen
- Pencil
- New Pair of Underwear
- New Pair of Socks
- Chapstick
- Shampoo
- Conditioner
- Razors
- Shaving Cream
- Shower loofa (net scrubbie)
- 2 gallon Ziploc bag that everything fits into

****All items should be full-sized (not travel or hotel size)**

Note: Boys coming into the Foster Care Program can range from 0-18 years old – so pick an age, write it on the Ziploc bag you bring the stuff in and purchase age appropriate things for the bag. (pre-teen and teen age kits are a special need).

Girls Hygiene Kits

- Deodorant
- Body Spray
- Body Wash
- Notebook
- Pen
- Pencil
- New Pair of Underwear
- New Pair of Socks
- Hair Ties
- Chapstick
- Shampoo
- Conditioner
- Razors
- Shaving Cream
- Shower loofa (net scrubbie)
- Tampons
- Panty Liners
- 2 gallon Ziploc bag that everything fits into

****All items should be full-sized (not travel or hotel size)**

Note: Girls coming into the Foster Care Program can range from 0-18 years old – so pick an age, write it on the Ziploc bag you bring the stuff in and purchase age appropriate things for the bag. (pre-teen and teen age kits are a special need).



Gifts from the Heart Albuquerque 2017

Recipients

Albuquerque Christian Children (Privately funded foster care that emphasizes Christianity.)	Care Net (Works with unplanned pregnancies. Pro-life!)	Lutheran World Relief (Focuses on international disaster relief and recovery.)	Ysleta Lutheran Mission (Provides ministry and human care on both sides of the US/Mexico border.)
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Gifts from the Heart Items

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Twin-sized Sheet Sets (new and in package) 2. Quilts (60" x 80" preferred, but all sizes welcome) 3. New Baby Kit (or individual items from kit) 4. School Kits (or individual items from kit) 5. Health Kits 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Children's Underwear (Items should be new and in sizes for pre-school to middle-school aged kids.) 7. Gift Cards (\$10 or \$25 amounts recommended to Walmart, K-Mart, Kohl's, or JC Penney)
<p>New Baby Kit (Packed in diaper bag)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 8-12 disposable diapers (Newborn or Size 1) 2. Wet wipes 3. 2 sleepers (Size 0-3 or 3-6 months) 4. 2 daytime outfits (Size 0-3 or 3-6 months) 5. 2-3 pair of socks 6. 1 fleece blanket 7. Baby wash 8. Baby lotion 9. 1 baby washcloth 10. 1 baby toy 11. 1 gift for Mom (toiletry or personal) 12. Christian books or tracts 	<p>School Kit (Packed in backpack)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Spiral notebook or lined paper 2. 6 pencils 3. 3 pens (blue or black) 4. Ruler 5. Blunt scissors 6. Washable Markers or Crayons 7. Glue sticks 8. 2 folders 9. Eraser 10. Children's Bible
	<p>Health Kit (Wrapped in bath towel)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Washcloth 2. Full-sized bar of soap 3. Toothbrush 4. Toothpaste 5. Comb 6. Christian books or tracts



National Convention Update

In less than four months the LWML 37th Biennial Convention will be held in Albuquerque, New Mexico, on June 22-25, 2017.

Go to www.lwml.org/2017-convention for registration information for convention and all the special events.

Inspiring speakers include: * Steve and Nancy Cohen * Ida Mall * Gloria Edwards and Linda Reiser * Deaconess Betty Knapp * LCMS Missionaries * Rev. Dr. Gregory P. Seltz * Vicar Tim Norton * Donna Pyle * and MANY more!

Exciting entertainment includes: * Wendysue Fluegge * The 75th Diamond Dazzle event on * Mariachi San Pablo Saturday, June 24th (Highlighting LWML's * Humorous Interrupter Jan Struck past and looking ahead to the future as Katie Luther.)

Other events: * Wednesday's Tee Up 4 Mites * Mission in Motion Pledge Walk * Thursday's Servant Connections * Gifts from the Heart

Countdown to Mite Deadline

As of March 13th, we need to raise \$73,109.50 to meet our 2015-2017 National Mission Goal. Will you help us reach this goal? Here's how you can help:

- Visit www.lwml.org/donate-online and select the option to donate to Mission Gifts.
- Share this eNews with friends, family members, or with your congregation.
- Post a link to www.lwml.org/mission-grants on your social media platforms: Facebook, Twitter, Google+, etc. and ask for support of the LWML Mission Goal.
- Pray that the LWML reaches the needed financial support for the 2015-2017 Mission Grants.

Thanks in advance for your continued love, support, and prayers for these Mission Grant recipients and the many people they reach with the Gospel.



Fund
worldwide missions!

Feed your Mite Box!