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**Gospel Outreach Report**

 **January 2025**

**How can we shine a light on missions?**

That was the question I asked at a recent zone presidents meeting and I was overwhelmed with wonderful ideas. Some LWML groups highlight an LWML mission, using a story and devotion published on **lwml.org** during each monthly meeting; some groups post a “Mission of the Month” on their bulletin board, using the posters available on **wa-aklwml.org**; some have a periodic visit to the congregation from a caped “Mighty Mite” who points to how God uses the mite box to support His missions; some use a “Loud” mite offering in metal buckets to “drum” up support for missions; some put short mission descriptions in their church bulletins on the Sunday they collect mites; some include specific missions in their congregation’s prayers of the church. Through our mite offerings and the ministries they support, we participate in sharing the gospel throughout the world! Praise the Lord! ***And he said to them, “Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation”* (Mark 16:15).**

**How can we proclaim Christ and serve others in our everyday lives?**

We are made to be God’s hands and voice – and that means right where we live. ***For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works* (Ephesians 2:10a).** You probably have your own ways to recharge your batteries and dedicate your days to the Lord. Maybe a routine of quiet time with your Bible and prayer, *Portals of Prayer* devotions, or the morning email with *LWML Mustard Seed* devotions. As I wake up each morning, I ask God to let me be a blessing that day – that He use my hands and intellect and speech to do His work. Of course, some days I’m not as useful as others! Pride, sin, and laziness get in the way! But because of Jesus, every morning I can start anew – praying and putting myself in His hands! ***Now may the God of peace . . . equip you with everything good that you may do his will* (Hebrews 13:20-21).**

**Do you need ideas for expanding your faith and serving others?**

Joyce Berger added a new resource to the **wa-aklwml.org** home page. **A Year’s Worth of Mission Service Activities – Sharing Jesus’ Love through Action in 2025.** It is a calendar developed by the LWML Gospel Outreach Committee with suggested monthly activities to grow your faith and share it with others. ***As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another* (1 Peter 4:10a).**

**Is God is calling you to a short term mission?**

Apply for short term mission funds! The application form is on **wa-aklwml.org**. Short term missions can involve any mission undertaken by LWML women at home or away. What if you don’t have a specific mission in mind, but still feel the call? Check out the updated list of short term mission possibilities! ***Declare His glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all peoples!* (Psalm 96:3).**

**Pray for our scholarship recipients as they begin a new semester!**

Justin Chester (Concordia Seminary, Fort Wayne), Grace Macduff (Concordia Seminary, St. Louis), Benjamin Oesch (Concordia Seminary, St. Louis), Isaac Stults (Concordia University, Irvine), and Pastor Matthew Both (Mission Training Center, Irvine) are beginning their spring semesters with LWML district scholarships. *We pray that Justin, Grace, Benjamin, Isaac, and Matthew will be strengthened in faith and understanding as they serve Your church!*

Yours in Christ, Solveig Schick – VP of Gospel Outreach