



Counselor's corner

Come now, let us reason together, says the Lord: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool (Is. 1:18).

Imagine a child sitting down with his parents to discuss a recent "incident." The child may continue to proclaim his innocence, but as the parents speak the truth, the child, like the prodigal son, comes to his senses. He sees the truth he has been denying, and agrees with his parents.

As God's children, God calls us to reason and to see the truth. This is what Lent is about. We take time to examine ourselves according to God's Word, and see our sinfulness for what it is. We come to agreement with God on our condition and what we have earned with our sin — death!

But that's not the end of the reasoning session with God, though death is where Lent ends. For Lent ends in the death of our Lord Jesus Christ and His burial in the tomb. He paid for our sins. Then Jesus gloriously rose from the tomb, giving us life. Through Christ Jesus, God makes our scarlet sins into snow-white righteousness.

*Rev. Anthony Cloose
Park Region Counselor*

Suggestions for ways to use Mustard Seed Devotions:

- With daily devotion.
- With bedtime prayer.
- To begin a meeting.
- As a Bible study discussion starter.

52 Weeks of giving thanks



Pictured are the women of Evening Guild, Trinity Lutheran Church.

Early in 2012, Diane Dappen, Human Care chairman of Evening Guild of Trinity, Bemidji, Minn., gave the society women the LWML project handout, "52 Weeks of Giving Thanks and Doing Without: Sharing Our Blessings with Others." The project task for the first week was to "sleep without a pillow case." Each week the members did without an item, gave thanks for it, then placed the item in the pillowcase. Other tasks were to brush your teeth with your finger and then place a new toothbrush in the pillowcase, wash clothes by hand without soap and place laundry detergent in the pillowcase and so on. A Bible was also placed in the pillowcase.

In November, the society gathered the pillowcases and distributed them to Village of Hope (a family shelter in Bemidji) and to Northwoods Coalition For Battered Women.

The women of the Evening Guild said it was an eye-opener as we all take so much for granted in this land of plenty.

LWML Scholarships available for church workers

Did you know that the Lutheran Women's Missionary League Minnesota North District has money available to help you with your college tuition? If you are a resident of Minnesota North District and a member of an LCMS congregation with an interest in training for a career as an ordained pastor or church worker within our Synod, we are here to give you a hand.

Currently we are assisting three men preparing for ordination at our two seminaries, as well as 18 students seeking to prepare for careers in full-time church work at our Concordia universities. To qualify for a scholarship, you must be enrolled in one of our LCMS affiliated universities or seminaries.



Application forms may be downloaded from the LWML Minnesota North District website at www.lwmlmnn.org/resources.html, then choose "Scholarship Resources." The completed application and references must be received by May 15, 2013. Returning students need to apply annually. Scholarship awards will be announced by the third week in July.

Since our first district convention in 1964, over \$750,000 in scholarships have been awarded for students preparing for full-time church work, including pastors, teachers, directors of Christian education and deaconesses. All made possible through our mites, as we give thanks to our great God.

*Linda Jeske
Scholarships Committee
Chairman*