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Counselor's Corner

"Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good!"
(Ps. 34:8a).

As Jesus teaches us to pray, He begins, "Our Father, who art in heaven." Here, according to Martin Luther, we are invited by God to believe that "He is our true Father, and we are His true children" (Luther's Small Catechism). What an invitation!

It seems like God loves to invite us to realize we are His children. In Psalm 34, we are invited to "Taste and see that the Lord is good." Now, we may remember passages like Deut. 6:16, where we are told not to put the Lord to the test. Yet when God invites us to do so, He desires us to put Him to the test. In this way, we may see that the Lord is good, that we may see that He does for us what He promises.

When I cook a meal (it happens on occasion), I do a lot of taste-testing. The better the meal tastes, the more I test!

So God invites us to "taste-test" His faithfulness. He invites us to confess our sins and receive His forgiveness through the life, suffering and death of His Son, Jesus Christ. God invites us to come to the Lord's Supper to believe and receive Jesus' very body and blood with the bread and wine, and for the faith-strengthening forgiveness bestowed there. For the more we "taste-test," the more we see how good He is to us!

*Rev. Anthony Cloose
Park Region Counselor*



2014 LWML Retreat at Lutheran Island Camp

Savor the rich indulgence of God's grace! Dark chocolate, white chocolate, milk chocolate — no matter what variety, it's always delicious! As life brings us sweet morsels of joy and bitter nuggets of pain, God sustains us through it all. Go ahead, indulge in His love and forgiveness.

A "Chocolate Life" brings lighthearted yet compelling scriptural connections to provide comfort and strength for everyday living. We invite you to savor the abundance of sweet, satisfying grace of God in Christ Jesus at the LWML Retreat Aug. 8-10 at Lutheran Island Camp, Henning.

The retreat will feature a Bible study led by the Rev. Don Stauby to tickle your taste buds for God's Word. The Rev. Mark Peske will be the featured speaker. Entertainment will be provided by the Rev. Dane Compton on clarinet.

Attention mothers of children ages 3 to 8:

Lutheran Island Camp offers Discovery Camp, Little Lambs and Sheep Camp. They run simultaneously with the LWML Retreat. For more information and to register your child, go to www.islandcamp.org.

Special: Bring a "Retreat" first-timer and you both will receive 25 percent off the registration price.

For more retreat information, contact Mary Kuhnau at christianlife@lwmlmnn.org. Go to www.lwmlmnn.org for retreat updates, a list of items to bring or a map to the camp.

2014 LWML Retreat Registration Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Special Needs: _____

Roommates: _____

Choose your housing preference:

☐ Cabin ☐ Retreat Center

Registration Fees:

- Friday-Sunday: \$120 • Friday-Saturday: \$70
- Saturday Only: \$50

Registration deadline: Aug. 1, 2014

(There will be a \$10 fee for late registration.)

No refunds after Aug. 7. Young women ages 12-17 receive a 25 percent discount.)

Make check payable to: "LWML MN North District."

Send registration to:

Mary Kuhnau
1536 71st St. NW
Alexandria, MN 56308