

## COUNSELOR'S CORNER

*"After Jesus had dismissed them, He went up on a hill by Himself to pray."*

**Matt. 14:23a**

There are times when we might feel a need to be alone. Alone with our thoughts, alone to figure things out. But the truth is, we are never alone.

God has promised that He will never leave us or forsake us (Deut. 31:6), and Jesus Himself says:

*"And I will be with you always, to the very end of the age."*

**Matt. 28:20**

When we do draw away from the world, we are enjoying time with God. And God does desire us to spend time away from the world to be with Him. Even Jesus withdrew to spend time in prayer with His — and our — Father. So we see it is a good idea for us also.

We also look to Christ to see what we could do in this time with God to make it more valuable to us. And Jesus gives us the answer: Be in prayer! And we include in that statement to be in God's Word. So we are encouraged to have daily devotions, yet these do not have to be alone — though I would still recommend they be away from the world. We have our personal devotion, our family devotion, our weekly "devotional" time called the Divine Service on Sunday morning. We have Bible study and retreat opportunities. All these are God's gifts to us to spend much needed time with Him.

So take time to be with your heavenly Father. We are His children, after all!

**Rev. Anthony Cloose**  
Park Region Pastoral Counselor

## Passing of the gavel

During the Minnesota North District Convention held June 20-22, LWML District President JoNette Brogaard, left, presented the gavel to the newly elected president, Marilyn Hiltel. May our prayers and support be given to Marilyn and the other newly elected officers. Convention information may be found at [lwmlmnn.org](http://lwmlmnn.org).



## The 2016-18 biennial mite goal

A new mite goal of \$137,000 was adopted at the district convention in June. The delegates selected the following mission grants for the 2016-18 biennium:

► Scholarships for Men Preparing for Ordination	\$15,000
► Scholarships for Full-Time Church Work Students	\$50,000
► Orphan Grain Train	\$9,000
► Lutheran Island Camp's Christ Serve Academy	\$10,000
► Caring for Our Pastors (Doxology)	\$10,000
► C.R.O.S.S. Appeal	\$14,000
► Gloria Dei School and Church Building in Cap Haitian, Haiti	\$15,000
► Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch Chapel Furnishings	\$5,000
► Love Works! Lutheran Braille Workers	\$5,000
► Bible Translation Field Testing (partially funded)	\$4,000

## Super quilters

The sewing ladies of Our Savior's, Crookston, aided by a Thrivent Action Team grant, spent three extra days this past winter sewing quilts for hospice patients. This Crookston Zone Spring Rally ingathering project helped the group gain some new sewers and revitalize some of the regulars. Receiving half of the quilts is Larissa Kadlec of Altru Hospice, Grand Forks, N.D. The other half went to Valley Memorial Homes in East Grand Forks.



From left, (front row) Kathy Wagner, Judy Ellingson, Lorna Clemenson, Emma Borslien, Pearl Radi; (back row) Beverly Erdmann, Norma Hoppe, Deb Anderson, Jessie Rodseth, Laurain Jurchen, Jean Tester and Larissa Kadlec.

## 105!

Lil Nemmers celebrated her 105th birthday with family and friends on April 2 in Glenwood. She has been blessed with four children, 18 grandchildren (including twins) and 10 great-grandchildren. She is a member of Trinity, Grove Lake. She has been an active member of LWML Ladies Aid and helped with quilting for many years.



**Marilyn Hiltel**  
LWML District President  
6850 Golden Spike Road  
Sauk Rapids, MN 56379  
[president@lwmlmnn.org](mailto:president@lwmlmnn.org)  
320-387-2219