

COUNSELOR'S CORNER

God's promise to you

The Gradual for the Transfiguration of Our Lord is Ps. 117:1-2a; 96:8:

"Praise the LORD, all nations! Extol him, all peoples! For great is his steadfast love toward us, and the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever. Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; bring an offering, and come into his courts!"

Ash Wednesday, which falls on March 1 this year, starts the Lenten season. Before Lent, we celebrate the Transfiguration of our Lord — another time during the Epiphany season when Jesus gives you a glimpse of who He truly is. Here in the shortest of the psalms you have a wonderful prophecy.

As you know, not all nations are Israelites and not all people are Jews. But this small psalm is issuing a decree to everyone. And what are you to do? You are to praise the Lord for the blessings He has given to you. For in His steadfast love and faithfulness He keeps His promise to you!

What is the promise He gives to you? Jesus died to pay the debt of all mankind. You are justified by the shed blood of Christ. All your sins are forgiven in Christ. The work of reconciling you to God is finished!

Thanks be to God for all the good things He has done. The truly good things — of giving you faith, forgiveness of your sins, everlasting life and salvation.

Rev. Donald Klatt
Lakeland Region Pastoral Counselor



Our mite giving

Reminder: The fiscal year for the LWML ends on March 31. All societies are encouraged to mail their mite contributions to the LWML Minnesota North District by March 15 so that funds can be processed in a timely manner and forwarded to LWML for the 2015-17 \$2-million mission goal.

Donations postmarked after March 31 will go toward the next biennium's goal. As of January 31, the amount of \$247,559 was needed to reach this biennium's goal. The Lord our God is mighty and He can do mighty deeds!



Studying for full-time church work?

The LWML Minnesota North District has **scholarships available** for students planning a career in full-time church work. These scholarships are awarded on a yearly basis. The application may be downloaded at lwmlmnn.org.

Full-time church work includes, but is not limited to, men preparing for ordination, deaconess, director of Christian education, director of Christian outreach and Lutheran teacher.



To be eligible for a scholarship, a student must be enrolled in an LCMS university or seminary and studying for full-time church work, live in the Minnesota North District and be a member of an LCMS congregation.

For more information, contact Elizabeth McTigue, Scholarships chairman, at scholarships@lwmlmnn.org. Applications must be received by May 15. Recipients will be notified by late July.

Challenge met!

The LWML Board of Directors met in St. Louis Jan. 25-28. One of the highlights was a Mite Challenge. If \$2,500 was raised during the meeting for the 2015-17 mission goal, the Rev. Robert Roegner, LWML senior pastoral counselor, pledged to shave off his beard. When \$8,300 was raised, the beard and mustache came off.

If \$10,000 is raised by March 31, Roegner will remain smooth-faced until the convention in Albuquerque, N.M., in June. If you or your group want to help meet the \$10,000 challenge, be sure to indicate your intent when sending money to Financial Secretary Corles Rainer. Financial remittance forms can be found on the Resources page of our district web site, lwmlmnn.org.



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