



Lutheran Women's Missionary League Rio Grande Valley Zone

April 22, 2024

Toothpicks

Faith Lutheran Church in Georgetown has thousands of crosses on the wall. One of these crosses is made out of toothpicks. As a group of visitors recently inspected the walls, one gentleman remarked, "I sure wish I could use one of those toothpicks right now." Have you ever needed a toothpick, but it was just out of reach, or you saw one at the restaurant, but now are on your way home wishing you had grabbed one?

Sometimes, we need the help of others to notice the broccoli in our teeth. There are also times when we need the help of a friend to realize our sin. A group of coworkers were discussing the issues at work, and then a new hire entered the conversation and quickly spoke up. The new hire pointed out how the people being talked about probably were unaware of how their actions were impacting others. Hush fell over the group as they realized their sin of gossip.

We like to be quick to notice the errors of others, but not of our own doing. As with all of the concerns in our lives, Jesus spoke about this topic, too. **"Judge not, that you be not judged. For with the judgment you pronounce you will be judged, and with the measure you use it will be measured to you. Why do you see the speck that is in your brother's eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye? Or how can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' when there is the log in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother's eye. (Matthew 7:1-5).**

Is it wrong to help our brothers and sisters in Christ know the errors of their ways?

Inside this issue:

Devotional
News Reports

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Rev. Chad Bresson Pastor
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No. However, we are told how to handle this situation. **Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted. Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.** (Galatians 6:1–2).

All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work. (2 Timothy 3:16–17).

A common passage which speaks about how to handle helping others is Matthew 18:15–18. The goal of helping our brother see their sin is not to prove we are more holy than they are, but to help them restore relationships between themselves and God and with other people. We are all weak, and we are all sinful.

Praise be to God that He is not just barely out of reach. He is with us, and helps us in our weaknesses. Praise God for the gift of forgiveness through His Son for all who believe, so we may share that forgiveness with others.

Meditation offered by Diane Schubert
Zone Christian Life Chair

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Toothpicks

Written by Kayla Winkler

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April 2024

Balance			
Balance			1528.22
Income			
Deposit 4/16/24	Mites (Spring Rally)	413.00	
Remote Deposit check # 618	Donation St. Paul - auction	280.00	
Total Income			693.00
Expenses			
			0
Ending Balance			2221.22



May 2024 Mite Prayer Calendar

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18).

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	Please give prayerful support with 50 cents a day for Mites		1. For flowers. Bring some to a friend or neighbor.	2. For school teachers, school workers, and students.	3. For Ethiopia, one of the 83 countries where LWML is supported.	4. For the LWML Ohio District.
5. For nurses and healthcare workers.	6. For the opportunity to be able to invite someone to lunch so you	7. For the country of Guinea.	8. For godly mothers.	9. For the opportunity to help a young mom.	10. For our Lutheran Women in Mission Vice President of	11. For LWML Mission Grant #11.
12. For God to strengthen ordained pastors everywhere.	13. For the country of Haiti.	14. For the many things you can be thankful for today.	15. For our national LCMS Council of District Presidents.	16. For the country of Hong Kong.	17. For the LWML English District.	18. For Mite Goals in all the districts.
19. For friends and strangers you meet today.	20. For the country of India.	21. For flower and vegetable gardens.	22. For firefighters.	23. For LWML Mission Grant #12.	24. For the country of Indonesia.	25. For the LWML SELC District.
26. For your neighbors and for ways to serve them.	27. For an opportunity to buy someone a cup of tea or coffee.	28. For the country of Israel	29. For the armed forces who gave their lives and for their families left behind.	30. For the LWML Eastern District	31. For the country of Latvia.	

Next Zone Meeting will be at the Harlingen Olive Garden
11 am 11 May 2024



MITE GOAL

as of March 2024

\$0
\$390,000.00

\$387,764

[View Mite Report >>](#)

MISSION GRANTS

as of March 2024

\$0
\$215,129.00

\$215,129



Who We Are

THELWML MISSION STATEMENT

As Lutheran Women in Mission, we joyfully proclaim Christ, support missions, and equip women to honor God by serving others.

—Adopted January 2021

THELWML VISION STATEMENT

The LWML is the leading group for LCMS women where each woman is welcomed and encouraged to use her unique God-given gifts as she supports global missions and serves the Lord with gladness.

—Adopted June 2015, revised February 2016

2023–2025 PRIMARY FOCUS

- **Proclaiming Christ**
Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all peoples! (Psalm 96:3).
- **Supporting Missions**
And he said to them, “Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation.” (Mark 16:15).
- **Equipping Women**
Now may the God of peace ... equip you with everything good that you may do his will (Hebrews 13:20–21).
- **Serving Others**
As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another (1 Peter 4:10a).

BELIEFS

As an auxiliary of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, our beliefs are in line with the statements found on the LCMS website at [lcms.org/about/beliefs](https://www.lcms.org/about/beliefs)

OBJECT Mission Education, Mission Inspiration, Mission Service, Financial grants for mission needs

MOTTO *Serve the Lord with gladness* (Psalm 100:2).



Lutheran Women's Missionary League
Rio Grande Valley Zone

RGV Zone Spring Rally
April 6, 2024

Time: 11:00AM

Place: St Paul Lutheran Church McAllen TX

Our opening hymn was 'Drawn to the Cross Which Thou Hast Blessed' followed by a Devotion by Rev Dr James Fichenscher. He based his devotion on Psalm 96:1-6 Sing to the Lord a new song.

The LWML Pledge was said followed by the singing of Serve the Lord with Gladness.

Dawn Tighe RGV Zone President called the meeting to order. Imeldo Loreda from St Paul McAllen welcomed all to the rally. Mary Bilderheck Group President from El Buen extended the invitation to the Fall Rally which will be tentively held the first Sunday in November at St Paul McAllen.

Roll Call by Dawn Tighe: St Paul McAllen (25), St Paul Harlingen (4), Fishers of Men Port Isabel (0) TheTable Los Fresnos (1- Pastor Chad), St John San Benito (5), El Buen McAllen (4), Emmanuel Mercedes (0), Mt Calvary Raymondville (0) Zion Alamo (0) and Guest (1).

Total of Mites collected was \$372.38

Our guest speaker was Mrs. Margie McCreery whose presentation was on Christ Heals in Nigeria. She shared many items and pictures on her nine trips to Nigeria where she helped revitalize a compound consisting of a hospital, nursing/midwifery school and missionary homes. Margie McCreery and Karen Granger took time after lunch to answer any questions.

Pastor Chad Bresson, Zone Pastoral Counselor gave the closing Devotional on Too Good to Be True based on Mark 16 Jesus Resurrection. The closing hymn was Spread the Reign of God the Lord.

After lunch, Dawn Tighe introduced Judy Kunkel Chairman TX District Convention 2024 spoke of the coming convention June 13-15 Corpus Christie inviting all to attend. Judy also requested those attending to volunteer for various opportunities to make this a successful convention. Dawn reminded all Group Presidents to submit their forms naming their Delagates for the convention. She shared that Donna Snow will be our speaker for our Zone Retreat in January to be held at St Paul Harlingen.

Respectfully submitted
Diane Schubert