

MISSION GRANT SPOTLIGHT

Alamo Hills Children's Ministry

(Shepherd of the Hills church plant)
San Antonio • \$4,285

By Joy Cowan
VP of Gospel Outreach

Alamo Hills Church, just outside of San Antonio, has Matt. 28:16-20 as its theme verses. "Go and make disciples," included in Jesus' important instructions, make these verses especially appropriate. This congregation is meeting in a movie theater on Sunday mornings, and then meets people wherever they are the rest of the week.

Alamo Hills has been in the planning and "working toward" stages for two years, but officially began as a congregation in September 2018. They are blessed to be based in two movie theater rooms. One is used for worship and "whole-group" time, and the other room, along with the outside corridor, is used for children and youth activities.

Alamo Hills is one of two congregations within the Alamo Ranch community of San Antonio, which has a



Members of Alamo Hills Church enjoy an outing at a cafe.

Alamo's Sunday morning children's ministry is held in a movie theatre.

population of 70,000 people — and growing. It is a great opportunity to reach people with the love of Jesus. There have even been guests who intended to see a movie, but changed their tickets to a later show just to attend worship first!

The LWML Texas District mission grant funds are being used for audio-visual equipment, mobile food-preparation equipment, and Christian-education curriculum and supplies to be used for children's ministry. With its work not being in a traditional church building, it is important to have equipment that is easily transported and set up for a variety of functions.

The phrase that the leadership team uses to remain focused and moving forward is "Guide all peo-



ple into a transforming relationship with Jesus Christ." What a wonderful goal for all of us in our daily walk with God. It is an honor and privilege that we can partner with Alamo Hills Church by giving our mites to reach out.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Do you have time?

"Grandma, do you have time to play with me?" ... "If you have time, could you come to church for a committee meeting tomorrow?" ... "I'd love to go to lunch with you this week if you have time."

Sound familiar?

LWML is asking a similar question: In what way might we compete for people's time? The leadership team suggested these initiatives as part of our strategic planning:



- ▷ Create, initiate, and implement effective, relevant focused, meaningful events.
- ▷ Develop time-sensitive, flexible, varied events.
- ▷ Develop meaningful personal relationships.

- ▷ Include unique Christian relationship opportunities.
- ▷ Engage with a local mission entity for a one-time servant event.

I challenge you to consider ways to embrace one or more of these ideas for your LWML. As a result, more women may find time to participate. We'd love to share your story in *District News*.

Serving with JOY
Debbie Curry



BEAUMONT

St. John Lutheran Church Ladies Aid held its annual Christmas party on Dec. 3 with a meal and ornament exchange. All ladies of the congregation and friends were invited, and attendees brought canned goods and non-perishable food items to give to Some Other Place, a local food bank.

Don't forget bylaw review

By Reagan Mayville
Structure Committee Chairman

Whether you represent a society, zone or district, your bylaws are an important part of your organization. They should be reviewed every five years.

Here are some guidelines:

- ▶ Articles on name, object, membership and parliamentary authority must conform to national bylaws.
- ▶ Be sure to use current terms. (Use of the *LWML Style Guidelines* is recommended as titles and committees change often.) Be careful of wording and correct punctuation for clarity.
- ▶ Write flexible bylaws. Be brief;

use the barebones bylaws as a guide.

- ▶ Use standing rules for items that may change frequently, such as committees, meeting information, etc.

Bylaws need to live and breathe, reflecting the group's thinking and current practice.

Remember that bylaws amendments must be approved by the LWML District Structure Committee before they can be adopted and implemented by your zone or society.

Always feel free to call upon me for help. I am excited to serve the district for my first term in this capacity and am so blessed!



**LWML Texas
District 2018-20**
Mite Goal: \$350,900

Mites received through January:
\$140,067

Mites still needed to meet goal:
\$210,833

**Mission grants paid through
January: \$64,500**

Send mites to:
LWML TEXAS DISTRICT
ATTN: FRANCES MOLITOR
FINANCIAL SECRETARY
P.O. Box 820
ANDERSON, TX 77830

Lutheran World Relief Ingathering dates

April 22 • Houston Area
Epiphany, Houston
7 a.m.-5 p.m.

April 24 • San Antonio Area
Texas Lutheran University, Seguin
8 a.m.-3 p.m

April 27 • Dallas Area
Messiah, Plano
8:30 a.m.-4 p.m.

For more information, visit
lwmltxdist.org/human-care.



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Cindy Carter, *District News* editor at
districtnews@lwmltxdist.org

LWML 38th Biennial Convention



- June 20-23
 - Mobile, Ala.
- Register at
lwml.org/convention