

Monthly Newsletter

RIO GRANDE VALLEY ZONE
WOMEN IN MISSION

✦ June 2026



JOHN 21:15-17

¹⁵ When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." He said to him, "Feed my lambs." ¹⁶ He said to him a second time, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." He said to him, "Tend my sheep." ¹⁷ He said to him the third time, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" Peter was grieved because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" and he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep."

*Devotion by
Gladys Franco*



WE ARE

His Sheep

This encounter between Jesus and Peter takes place after the resurrection. Jesus had already appeared to Mary Magdalene and then to the disciples in a locked room. Now, in this third appearance, He reveals Himself to seven disciples by the sea, this is where His conversation with Peter happens.

At the center of this moment is one question: "Do you love me?" Jesus asks Peter this three times, the same number of times Peter had denied Him. But instead of condemning Peter, Jesus invites him to reaffirm his love. Each time Peter responds, Jesus gives him a calling: "Feed my lambs." "Tend my sheep." "Feed my sheep."

*"Feed my
sheep."*

JOHN 21:17



What does this mean? Jesus is entrusting Peter with the care of His people. In Matthew 9:36, we see the heart behind this calling: "Jesus looks at the crowds with compassion, because they are harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd." Jesus sees people with love, recognizes their lost condition, and moves toward them with care. This is the same attitude He calls Peter, and every believer to have.

At the same time, this passage reminds us of something we often overlook. We are not only called to care for others, but we are also His Shepherd. Jesus, our Good Shepherd, restores, feeds, and sustains us daily.

Take a moment to come before your Good Shepherd and allow Him to examine your life, *relationshipally, physically, mentally, and spiritually*. Let Him show you what is truly going on inside.

*Let's
Pray*

Lord, thank you for Your faithful love and gentle care over my life. Thank You for seeking me, restoring me, and calling me Your Own. Help me to love You and to care for others with the same compassion and grace You have shown me. In Jesus' name, Amen.

WE ARE HIS
SHEPHERD

TIME FOR
Reflection

COME BEFORE THE GOOD SHEPHERD
Let Him examine your life and lead you in His truth.

FOR REFLECTION

- 1 How does the Law reveal the condition of your heart?

- 2 How does the Gospel restore and renew you?

- 3 How do the Means of Grace sustain and strengthen you?

JOURNAL SPACE

Write freely. Pour out your heart before the One who cares for you.

REMEMBER

You are known.
You are loved.
You are His.

"The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want."

PSALM 23:1

THE EVANGELIST

Training Series



Equipped to SHARE CHRIST

TEXAS DISTRICT LCMS EVANGELIST COURSE ♥



Members from Trinity/El Cavario in Brownsville who went through the Evangelist Training Course



Members from St. Paul Lutheran Church in Harlingen who went through the Evangelist Training Course

What Is the Evangelist Course?

The Texas District LCMS Evangelist Course equips and encourages laypeople to confidently share the Gospel in their everyday lives. Through practical training, biblical foundations, and Christ-centered encouragement, participants learn how to share Christ naturally in relationships, use simple tools for meaningful conversations, and reach out in love and compassion to those around them.

Our prayer is that every participant will be strengthened in their faith and sent out to share the hope we have in Christ.

“Always be prepared to give an answer for the hope that is within you.”

UPCOMING Events

June 11-13

Doubletree by Hilton, Austin Texas



Texas District 44th Biennial Convention

Saturday, November 7

300 Pecan Blvd. McAllen



Fall Rally

11:00 am

Our Fall Rally will be held at St. Paul Lutheran Church, McAllen and hosted by El Buen Pastor. Registration will begin at **10:30 a.m.** Elections for President and Secretary will be held during the business portion of the Rally.

January 29-30, 2027

602 Morgan Blvd., Harlingen

Women's Retreat

Our annual Women's Retreat is in the planning stages. If you would like to participate in the planning of this event please join us for our next Zone Executive Meeting to be held on May 2nd at 10:00 am at St. Paul Lutheran Church, 602 Morgan Blvd. Everyone is welcome!!!

LWML RGV ZONE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

May 2, 2026

Present: Dawn Tighe, Joy Madero, Imelda Loreda, Mary Bilderback,
Peggy Elder, Diane Schubert, Krista Pena

Texas District Convention: Attendees from our Zone will be Zone President Dawn, Pastor Chad, YWR Krista, Teen Tabitha and 2 delegates.

Fall Rally El Buen Pastor November 7 2026: Mary stated she has confirmed that the Rally will be held at St Paul McAllen and has contacted the caterer. Menu tentatively will be chicken cordon bleu at a cost of \$11 per plate. Still working on theme, decorations and speaker. She will have more info for our September board meeting. Elections will be held for Zone President and Secretary

January 29-30, 2027 Women's Retreat: Krista has been in contact with Christina Hergenrader to discuss theme for the retreat. Christina offered two options: Option A Peace, Love & Sisterhood based on Luke 1 (Mary & Elizabeth) and Option B Everlasting based on Psalms 22, 23 40. Board unanimously voted on Option A. Now that a theme has been decided, each group will be working on activities based on the theme and will need to present at our September Board meeting.

Peggy presented flyer, registration and program cover based on the theme. Mary (El Buen Pastor) will be contact person to coordinate the activities. Peggy (St Paul Harlingen) will be contacting a caterer to work up menus for meals Friday & Saturday. It was suggested that the caterer or possibly youth be available to serve meals. Joy (St Paul McAllen) will be working on table decorations now that a theme has been decided. All groups will need to present a budget at our September Board Meeting.

Closing: Lord's Prayer

Respectively submitted
Diane Schubert

**Next Meeting September 12, 2026
at St Paul Harlingen 11:00**

Finance/ Mite Reports

National 2025-2027 Mission Goal Report

Amounts as of January 31, 2026

Mission Grant Goal for 2025–2027 Biennium: \$2,622,270.00

Amount Received in January : \$152,877.79

Total Mite Offerings Still Needed for Mission Grants Budget: \$2,094,778.65

District Mites as of March 2026

2024–2026 Mission Goal

\$403,000.00

Mites Received Over Mission Goal

\$21,211.24

25% Paid to National

\$21,211.24

Mission Grant Goal

\$225,000.00

District Mission Grants as of March 2026

2024–2026 Mission Grant Goal

\$225,000

2020–2024 Mission Abundance

\$47,314

Total Mission Grants

\$272,314

Mission Grants Paid

\$272,314

Mission Grants Balance

\$0

Zone Treasurer Report

Beginning Balance May 2026 - \$3565.97

Income - 0

Expenses - 0

Ending Balance April 2026 - \$3,565.97



MISSION GRANTS 2024–2026

1. Seminarian Scholarships for Texas Students	\$60,000
2. New Life Children's Center Spiritual Care Program, Canyon Lake	\$20,000
3. Disaster Response Team, Trinity Lutheran Church, Tyler	\$15,000
4. Orphan Grain Train Shipping Supplies, Houston	\$15,000
5. Proclaiming Christ to People Who Are Blind or Visually Impaired (LBW)	\$20,000
6. Let It Shine Academy, Bethany, Austin, Lutheran Special Education Ministries	\$10,000
7. Adventure Woods Day Camp Outreach, Camp Lone Star, Tomball	\$20,000
8. Shepherd's Canyon Retreat Ministry Scholarships	\$15,000
9. Hereford Hispanic Outreach Program, Hereford	\$25,000
10. Offering Women Hope: Blue Blossom Pregnancy Centers and Maternal Assistance Program, Houston	\$8,000
11. Disciple and Mobilize Youth for Gospel Outreach, Glocal Mission, Houston	\$12,000
12. Little Lambs Parents' Day Out Ministry Playground Equipment, Sulphur Springs	\$10,000
13. Christian Education Scholarships K–12, Central Texas	\$25,000
14. Ysleta Lutheran Mission Human Care Warehouse Repairs, El Paso (partial funding)	\$17,314
Total	\$272,314*

2024–2026 Mission Grant Goal \$225,000
*includes \$47,314 mission abundance from 2020–2024

JUNE



This is a monthly prayer guide for your daily use. Each day as you pray, please feed your Mite Box in support of district and LWML Mission Grants. As you lift up the countries and mission grants listed, pray that the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ would be heard by those who live there or are served by our mite offerings. Each country listed has been a recipient of a mission grant from Lutheran Women in Mission at some time since 1942. What a joy it is to bring these prayers to our Father's listening ears!

1. For all the blessings in your life.
2. For LWML Mission Grant #13.
3. For Japan, one of the 83 countries where LWML has supported a grant.
4. For the LWML Chesapeake District.
5. For graduates as they look for work and start new jobs.
6. For opportunities to help or pray for people today.
7. For the country of Jordan.
8. For farmers and the wonderful food they produce.
9. Gratitude for our earthly fathers and especially for our heavenly Father.
10. For our Lutheran in Mission Vice President of Special Focus Ministries.
11. For LWML Mission Grant #14.
12. For the LWML Carolinas District.
13. For the ability to go outside and praise God for the little and big things we see.
14. For our USA flag and our country that it represents. Wear red, white, and blue today.
15. For the country of Kazakhstan.
16. For the ability to rest in the Lord today.
17. For God's Word and being able to hide it in our hearts.
18. For the LWML Atlantic District.
19. For the country of Kenya.
20. For the safety of people traveling.
21. For the country of Germany.
22. For summer and friends.
23. For the country of Kyrgyzstan.
24. For all church workers.
25. For LWML Mission Grant #15.
26. For the ability to enjoy ice cream or other treats with a friend and pray for them.
27. For the country of Laos.
28. For our senses. Enjoy your senses of smell, taste, touch, and hearing.
29. For those workers who work overnight.
30. For the LWML New England District.

[2025-2027](#)
[Mission Grants](#)

Summer INSPIRATIONS



Let's encourage one another
by sharing how God is at
work in our lives this
summer.



Share with us this summer!

We'd love to hear your favorite verses, special moments, and ways
you've seen God's beauty and goodness along the way.



FAVORITE VERSE



What Bible verse is
encouraging you this
summer and why?



GOD'S CREATION



Did you see something
beautiful on a vacation or
day trip that reminded you
of God's goodness?



SUMMER REFLECTIONS



Share a meaningful moment,
answered prayer, or blessing
from your summer.



We want to hear from you!

Please send your verse, reflection, and
photos (please) to be featured in our
summer newsletter's.

EMAIL:
church@splch.com



The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of His hands.

PSALM 19:1