April 2024 Vol. Vii





## There's a Psalm for that!

When I was growing up, the Gideons would show up at school and give away Bibles. These Bibles weren't the entire Bible. These were small Bibles that only had the New Testament. They were called "pocket testaments" and they were handed out by the millions at schools all over the United States. Mention "pocket testament" and for many of us, we can still envision the Gideons workers and their boxes showing up at school and the buzz of getting something for free. For some of us, the pocket testament from the Gideons was the first time we owned our own Bible. Being a good church kid who was taught to recite the books of the Bible at an early age, the pocket testament was a bit of curiosity for me. I always found it curious that the Psalms (and sometimes Proverbs) was added to the end of the New Testament.

That practice of adding the Psalms to the New Testament dates back to the 1500s and the Reformation. But here in America, the modern habit of adding Psalms to the New Testament started in the Civil War when the American Bible Society passed out New Testaments with the Psalms to both Union and Confederate soldiers. Soldiers were used to having the Psalms in worship, but with the advent of the Civil War, the Psalms also provided comfort and peace for the soldier, especially wounded soldiers. The Psalms took on a devotional dimension in a profound way.

Inside this issue:

Devotional

**News Reports** 

rgvlwml@gmail.com

Zone Officers
Dawn Tighe
President

Joy Madero Vice President

Diane Schubert Secretary

Rev. Chad Bresson Pastor Counselor

> Linda Hoehne Treasurer

Peggy Elder Editor

The Psalms cover all of life, giving expression to whatever is happening in life at the moment. The Psalms express sorrow. Some psalms express joy. Some psalms express fear. Some psalms express gratitude. Some psalms are simply helping us navigate important decisions in life. Some psalms remind us of who is in charge. Some psalms point our faith in the only who who can help us. And all of the psalms focus our attention on Jesus.

And it's this last point where we must see the Psalms. The Psalms express in poetry and song and prayer the unfolding plan of redemption ultimately landing in Jesus. The Messiah who was promised in Genesis 3 and anticipated in the rest of the Old Testament is anticipated in the Psalms, with the poetry and song expressing expectation of a coming of "One who is Greater than David".

All of the Psalms are about Jesus, and all of them help us express just who Jesus is and what he has done for us and how he "feels" about us. One of the most repeated themes in Psalms is that Jesus love for us is steadfast and lasts forever. And many Psalms give voice to our response to that love.

If Jesus is the point of the Psalms, then there's a Psalm for that! Are you suffering? Has God let you down? Have you suffered injustice? a tragedy? Has God gone missing in your life? Do you have serious doubts about Jesus? Do you feel grief? Do you have anxiety? Crippling fear? Do you feel joy? Do you feel a need to worship? Do you need forgiveness? Do you need a reminder of how much Jesus loves you?

The Psalms are for you. There's a Psalm for that! The Psalms aren't simply anticipating Jesus. They are anticipating us. These Psalms knew of a day you'd be down. These Psalms knew there'd be a day when you would be depressed. These Psalms knew there'd be a time when you would be feeling grief and loneliness. These Psalms knew you'd need hope. These Psalms knew there'd be multiple days when you would need to hear again that Jesus loves you and His love for you is forever. There is a Psalm for that because there is always a Jesus for that!



### **Zone Treasurer Report**

March 2024					
Balance			1618.22		
Income					
	Total Income		0		
Expenses					
check # 30	Chad Bresson Tx Dist Retreat Reg	90.00			
			90.00		
Ending Balance			1528.22		





Mite Report
The 2023–2025 fiscal period is July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2025.
Mite Offerings Received
Amounts as of February 29, 2024
Mission Goal for 2023–2025 Biennium: \$2,350,000.00
Amount Received: \$1,158,575.37

Total Mite Offerings Still Needed: \$1,191,424.63

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#### **Texas District**

Mite Report through February 2024
The 2022–2024 biennium began on April 1, 2022.
2022–2024 Mite Goal
\$390,000
Mites Received
\$366,255.72
Total Mites Still Needed
\$23,744.28
Mission Grants
Mission Grants Goal\*
\$215,129
Mission Grants Paid
\$208,879



Mission Grants Balance \$6,250

#### St Paul - McAllen

Our main rummage sale exceeded 5,400! But extension fund raiser with Phill the Box is ongoing. So until those \$\$ are figured & collected. We won't be able to make a final decision on dispersment of fund towards missions.

#### St Paul -Harlingen

Our St Paul Harlingen group held an Easter breakfast between services. We are also planning a potluck brunch/lunch for our May meeting before we adjourn for the summer.

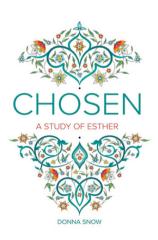
Texas District Convention 13-15 June 2024



Next Zone Board Meeting 11 May 2024, 11:00 Olive Garden - Harlingen

RGV Annual Women's Retreat 24-25 January 2025







# Alleluia and Praise the Lord!

But I will hope continually and will praise you yet more and more. My mouth will tell of your righteous acts, of your deeds of salvation all the day, for their number is past my knowledge(Psalm 71:14–15).

I know many have been waiting to hear and the news is fantastic! Although the mite goal of \$390,000 was not met, the LWML Texas District has been blessed to accomplish so much this biennium. The final mission grant payment was delivered in March and all operating costs have been paid. The final total of mites received for the 2022–2024 biennium was \$387,764!! Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

What love poured out from our members and supporters when the call went out in September when there was a large deficit in the mite offerings. To go from where we were in September of 2023 to where we were at biennium end genuinely reflects the desire of our supporters to boldly step forward in the hope we have in Christ Jesus. All the prayers and extra effort in sharing your blessings has once again proclaimed the deep faith of you, the members, to wholly trust in the Lord for our every need.

Not only are we blessed to celebrate the resurrection of our Lord during this Easter season, but we are also blessed to celebrate the end of a wondrous 2022–2024 biennium. What a ride it has been!! I will forever be thankful to have been on this ride with you.

Frances Molitor
President
LWML Texas District