DECEMBER 2021 | VOLUME 11

RGV ZONE - LWML NEWSLETTER

Isaiah 7:14 Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

Pastors Corner

Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel." (Isaiah 7:14)

"What's in a name? That which we call rose, by any other name would smell as sweet." So writes William Shakespeare (*Romeo and Juliet, Act 2, Scene 2*). And while we don't often take the time to think about it, Shakespeare is exactly right. Names are important. They mean something. Everything that exists has a name.

During this season of Advent we have a chance to think about the names of God. Specifically, we have a chance to think about all of the names that we give to Jesus. **"His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."** (Isaiah 9:6)

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rgvlwml@gmail.com

Zone Officers

Dawn Tighe	President
Imelda Loredo	Vice President
Lupita Casarez	Secretary
Rev. Richardson	Pastoral Counselor

And this is just the beginning. He is “Son of David.” He calls himself the “Son of Man.” We know that he is “Son of God.” On and on the list goes, and His names describe who he is and what he does.

One of the names that we use is “Immanuel,” and it is one of the most significant names we use for Jesus. We all know this name, but too often we forget that it means “God with us.” Or at least, we forget what it means that Jesus is God “with us.” He is not some remote god who sits high up in the heavens. He is not some unknown god who hides in the trees and the rocks and the things he has created. He is the God who is one of us. He is the God who knows each of us individually. He is God ***with*** us!

Jesus has always been with His people. He is the Lord who walked and talked with Adam in the Garden of Eden. He is the one who spoke from the bush. He was the rock from which His people drank in the desert. (1 Corinthians 10:4) He was the pillar that led them during those forty years. He was there, in the holy of holies, sitting on the mercy seat, shielding His people from their sins.

Jesus has always been with His people, but in the incarnation, Jesus truly revealed what it means that He is Immanuel, God with us. He took on flesh and took up our cause in the Virgin’s womb. He became one of us, like us in every way except without sin. He ate and slept. He experienced pain and loss and suffering and death. He came in weakness and humility. He came in order to be nailed to the cross and left there to die. But as weak and humble as He appears, He has power above all others. He is resolute and determined. He knows what He is doing. He comes in order to bring life out of death.

This is the wonder of Advent. Our God comes to us. He comes with purpose. He comes to seek and save you who are lost. **“Let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory.”** (Revelation 19:7) Our king comes! He is Immanuel. He is God with us!

May the peace of our Lord be with you always!

Pastor Richardson

Prayer for Mites

Dear Heavenly Father,
Thank you for giving me all that I have. Bless these mites that I give back to you so that they can be used to spread the Good News of Jesus' love here and throughout the world. Amen.

Mites

District

Mite Report through October 2022

2020 - 2022 Mite Goal $377,500.00
Mites Received $295,449.80
Total Mites Still Needed
$82,050.20

Mission Grants Goal*
$210,327
Mission Grants Paid
$171,434
Mission Grants Balance
$38,893

National

Mite Report
The 2021–2023 fiscal period is April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2023.
Mite Offerings Received
Amounts as of October 31, 2021
Mission Goal for 2021–2023 Biennium:
$2,150,000.00
Amount Received: $ 724,437.36
Mite Report — October 2021 posted 11/19/2021

ZONE TREASURER REPORT

Balance forward from October 2021 - $1392.71
Income: Love Gifts - El Buen Pastor - 84.00
Retreat Registrations - 196.50
Expenses:
Balance as of November 30, 2021 - $1673.21

Love’s Pure Light

All RGV ZONE - LWML
ARE INVITED
(RSVP is needed)

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son[a]from the Father, full of grace and truth. John 1:14

SAVE A DATE!

St. John (San Benito) - The ladies of St. John Lutheran of San Benito will have a Christmas Brunch on Saturday, Dec. 4 from 11a.m. to 1 p.m. Listening to the Christmas story and singing hymns is planned.
This event is an open event to our Zone, so bring a friend and a dish (it's potluck) come fellowship with us!
Info: dorispickering@gmail.com
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Register online or by completing this form.
Mail to:
Dawn Tighe, 602 Morgan Blvd,
Harlingen, Tx 78550

You will receive a confirmation email.

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____ Night Owl / Early Bird
Email address: _____
Registration $ 22.00
Saturday $ 15.00 (8 night) Friday _____ Total: _____
Meals:
Friday Dinner: $5.50 Total: _____
Saturday Breakfast $ 6.50 _____ Lunch $ 8.50 _____ Dinner $9.50 _____ Total: _____
Grand Total: _____

R E T R E A T
Journey to Faith - A Trip of a Lifetime

When: 28 - 29 January 2022
Where: Cone Oasis Baptist Camp, La Feria, Tx

REGISTRATIONS ARE DUE NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 30 2021

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Spring Rally
Host - Soliedad Femenil - El Buen Pastor
1929 Pecan Blvd, McAllen
2 April 2022

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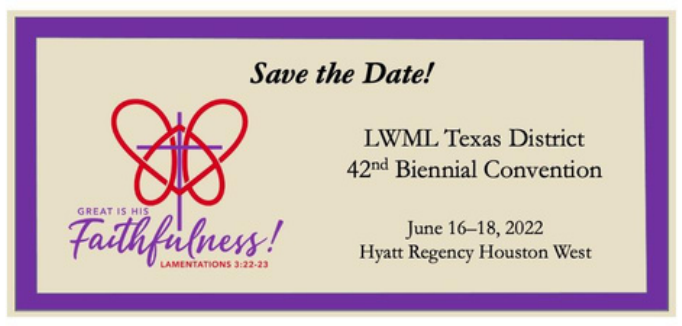


What do you think?

Rio Grande Valley Zone
LWML
Lutheran Women's Missionary League

Happy Birthday!

Jesus

Dawn Tighe Emily Bresson Nicole Allex Erin Adams
Denise Lefner Rachel Martin Merridee Lefner
Tracy Campbell Hannah Abrego Mellory Grannum
Kathleene Swanberg Cassie Vargas Alexena Reyes
Natalie Owens Leyva Minnie Denker Connie Johnson
Alyssa Cervantes Wyndi Klostermann Jane Boling
Edna Vargas

Rev. Chad Bresson
Lupita Casarez

Dawn Tighe -
RGV Zone President

RGV Zone Fall Rally

9 October 2021

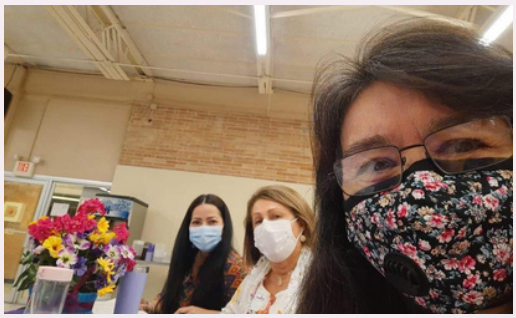
Article by Peggy Elder
Pictures by Joy Modero

FALL RALLY OCTOBER 2021

The Rio Grande Valley Zone Rally was held on 9 October 2021 at the St. Paul - McAllen twenty-six beautiful ladies gathered together to serve the Lord with Gladness. Due to Covid it had been awhile since we were able to hold a rally, it was such a joy to be able to greet and fellowship with our fellow sisters in Christ.

The meeting started with an opening devotion led by Rev. James Fickenscher from St. Paul, McAllen, followed by the opening Hymn "Where Charity and Love Prevail."

Dawn Tighe called the meeting to order with everyone joining together to sing the LWML and reciting the League Pledge.



The meeting continued with Joy Modero introducing the rally program Humorous Interruptions video skit by Jan Struck and Abby Goehring from the LWML Convention followed by an M&M Bountiful Mites skit "Marlene and Mary" explained the history of Mites and Mission.

Starting in 1942 over 44,000 Mite Boxes were sent to the LWML Districts. From that time through 1949, the women generously filled the mite boxes to an overflowing mission offering in the amount of $91,762.33. Now that is Bountiful giving! They went on to explain the history of the mite boxes beginning with the first mite box which was blue and white. Over the years the colors and designs of the mite boxes have changed, but we rejoice in the commitment each of you have to being bountiful givers. Each time you place your mites, whether they are coins, currency, or checks, in your box, you are a shining example of serving the Lord with gladness. Each and every mite makes a mighty big difference in your bountiful giving.

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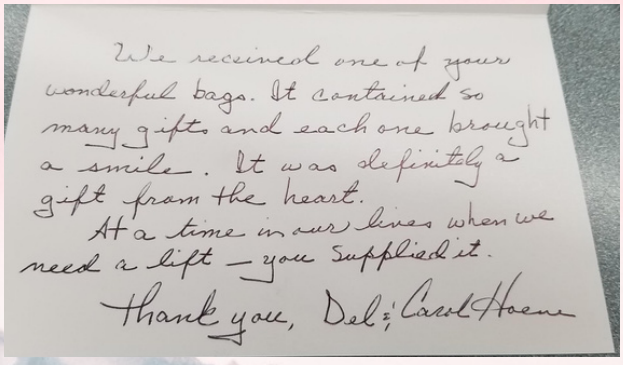
St.Paul Lutheran - McAllen received a thank you note from a couple that were recipients of a Breast Cancer Survivor Kits! The fruit of your labors & gifts in Christ❣ All deliveries have been made & appreciated



We received one of your wonderful bags. It contained so many gifts and each one brought a smile. It was definitely a gift from the heart.
At a time in our lives when we need a lift — you supplied it.
Thank you, Del & Carol Haene