LWML English District November 2019

Greetings to all LWML members,

Update on Mites:

LWML Mite goal progress as of October 31, 2019. Mission Goal: $2,100,000. $576,321.04 has been received. Mites needed - $1,523,678.96.

**DOUBLE YOUR IMPACT!** Thanks to two generous donors, this year all LWML Giving Tuesday donations will be matched up to $20,000 in matching funds. Giving Tuesday, observed on the Tuesday following Thanksgiving, takes the focus off of the commercialism of Black Friday and Cyber Monday and instead celebrates giving back. You can go to www.LWML.org and donate. We know the reason and this is the season.

English District report. This biennium the Mission Goal is: $18,000. At convention we selected seven grants to be funded, of those five have been paid. Grant #1: Liberty Line Rural Transportation Ministry - $3,000; Grant #2: Operation Barnabas for Comfort Dog Congregations -$2055; Grant #3: Boldly Declaring Y’Shua as Messiah in Israel (The Apple of His Eye Mission Society) – $3000.00; Grant #4: Positive Options Lakeshore Pregnancy -$2000.00; Grant #5: Concordia Seminary St. Louis Food Bank - $3,000.00. The two remaining to be paid are Family of God Reading Lab, $2,000 and From Cradle to College Books – Lutheran Books for immigrant Children and campus Ministries, $2,945. The Mites needed to reach our goal are $4945.00. Those funds need to be received by LWML English District Treasurer, Carol Klein, by March 1, 2020.

**NOW TO OUR MISSIONARIES**

THE APPLE OF HIS EYE MISSION SOCIETY – Steve and Nancy Cohen, Robert and Kristi Roegner

The Apple of His Eye began in St. Louis in 1996. It is a LCMS Recognized Service Organization (RSO). Steve Cohen has been with it since the beginning; actually Steve started it in Toronto in 1981 when it was called Jews for Jesus. As Pastor Roegner expressed when he visited Tel Aviv, Israel earlier in 2019, he states “it was an awesome experience thinking about the millions of Jews (approximately 6.7 million) during the Holocaust who lost their lives without knowing, understanding, and having faith and salvation in Y’shua as their Messiah. What’s amazing about this number is that today, in 2019, the population of Jews living in the land of Israel is 6.7 million! Of that number 99.9% live their lives without knowing, understanding, and having faith and salvation in Y’shua as their Messiah!” The Roegner’s are most anxious to begin their ministry in Israel beginning January, 2020.

At the last LWML English District convention the delegates voted a grant in the amount of $3,000.00 to The Apple of His Eye Mission Society. As stated above, the grant has been paid. Written words from Nancy Cohen “Your September donation helps move us forward in reaching the Lost with the Gospel message of salvation. THANK YOU”.

LATIN AMERICA - Pastor Jonathan and Deaconess Cheryl Naumann

“Dear friends In Christ, We hope all of you have enjoyed a blessed Reformation celebration! There were many baptisms and new members added to several of our mission congregations over the weekend. God is faithful and we love to see His Word at work here in the hearts of these people!” Pastor Jonathan.

One day, as Pastor Jonathan drove the streets of Mexico City he saw a parade of taxis decorated with wreaths and crucifixes. He found out the taxis were taking pilgrims to the second most important religious destination in Mexico: the shrine of El Cristo Negro de Chalma, or the Black Christ of Chalma. This shrine contains a crucifix that is black because it is made of rock call obsidian, used by the Aztecs to carve idols. The Spanish missionaries, who converted the Aztecs to Christianity, claimed in 1537 that an Aztec idol had been miraculously replaced by a crucifix, with the idol lying smashed to pieces at its feet. Words of Pastor Jonathan – “Today in this mission field we encounter different idols that must be smashed to make way for Christ: the idols of self-importance, of modern technology, of promiscuity, and of materialism, to name a few.”

Words from Deaconess Cheryl – “It’s always exciting for us to receive new missionaries on the field. Right now there are four women in the middle of their “orientation” period here in the DR. All of us here play a part in their field training and Pastor Jonathan leads them in daily devotions.-----Another cause for joy in October was the Mercy Center conference in Madrid, Spain, which focused on “Every One His Witness” and was attended by 45 adults and five teens, coming from 18 different areas of Spain. Though I coordinate these conferences for the region, I rely on missionaries in other countries to carry out the logistics, using our materials and trained teachers. As God wills, your LCMS mission congregations will continue to grow when their members focus on bringing the good news of Jesus Christ to more and more people!

**Wishing everyone a safe and Happy Thanksgiving!**

Yours in Christ,

Ruth Crowl

VP Christian Life/Human Care