

CHRISTIAN LIFE NOTES

Oregon District

LWML

Volume 47

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“Harvest Time”

Oh, beautiful for spacious skies,
For amber waves of grain,
For purple mountain majesties
Above the fruited plain!
America! America!
God shed his grace on thee,
And crown thy good with brotherhood
From sea to shining sea.

Text: Katherine Lee Bates, 1859–1929

The end of summer, the beginning of fall. Harvest time. My husband and I have driven through Washington and Idaho when the wheat was ripe for the harvest. All golden, blowing in the breeze, thousands of acres ready for the mighty combines to come. But as we were driving, we thought there was a fire. Smoke was wafting up on the other side of the ridge. That would be a disaster. All those fields at risk - dry as they were and ready to be picked. But as we reached the top of the hill, we found that it was just the combines hustling across fields. The ‘smoke’ we saw from the highway, was the dust and chaff being kicked up from the machine. What a flurry of debris. Matthew speaks about the harvest in Chapter 3: 12. “His winnowing fork is in His hand, and He will clear his threshing floor and gather His wheat into the barn, but the chaff He will burn with unquenchable fire.” Christ is coming to harvest His believers and those who do not know Him will be cast into hell.

LWML members, we are fortunate to be part of the great plan of salvation; we have been baptized into Christ. As sisters of our risen Savior we share the gospel in many ways. We are the Lord’s hands, and feet, and mouth. We sing, tell, and declare God’s love. We share Jesus’ love and we share the bounty that He has given to us.

In this era of covid-19, protests, and wildfires how do we fund our mission grant challenges? How do we fulfill the great commission to “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.” (Matthew 28: 18-20).

We can take up the challenge and set aside prayer time, talents, and money to meet the need of sharing the gospel with others.



Below, is a bookmark with our mission grants listed on one side and a coloring outline on the other. Cut it out and fold it. Put it in a location where you pray, or where you might see it when you are washing dishes or brushing your teeth. Pray for each of the grants. Ask the Lord to bless the grant; that the people reached through the grant would come to faith and knowledge of our loving Savior.

Next, look for ways that you can share God’s love with others.

Maybe instead of saying “have a good day”, we say “have a blessed day in the Lord”. We can ask others about their needs and ask if we can pray them. Ask about what we can do for others just as Christ gave us examples.

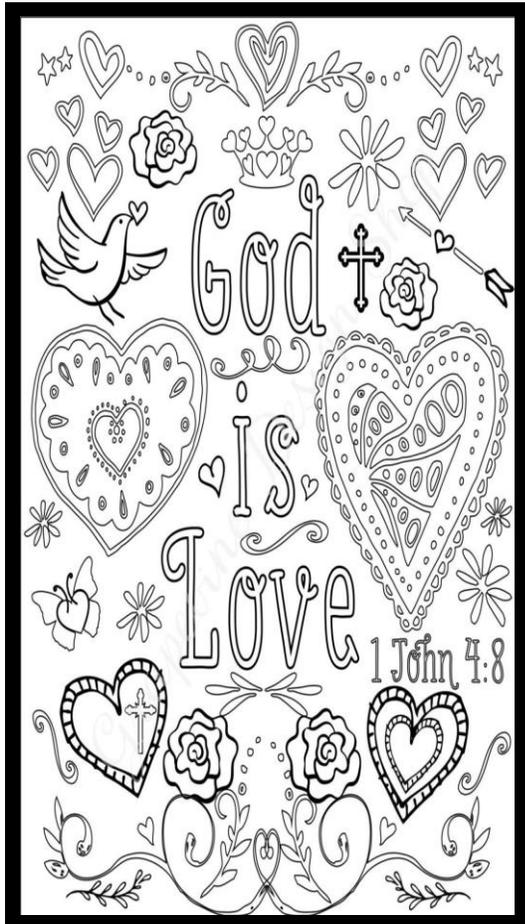
Finally, I ask myself; how can I remember to put aside my Mites?

One idea that was shared was to put a purple \$5.00 aside on a regular basis. I asked, “What purple \$5.00?” Well, on the back of the \$5.00 bill the number 5 is purple. Purple. A reminder that our Mites will fulfill the Mission Grants that the Oregon LWML have chosen.

What are we waiting for? The Harvest is out there. Be a part of the harvest. Share your prayer time, talents, and money to spread the greatest news of our loving Savior Jesus Christ.

Mite Totals through August 31, 2020 for the 2020-2022 biennium is \$9,134.74 of the \$87,885.26 goal. Pray that God would continue to bless our Oregon LWML that we may participate in God's great harvest.

The Christian Life Committee



Praying for:

Oregon LWML Mission Grants 2020-2022

1. Bridge of Hope CARE Pantry Expansion, \$5,500
2. A Bridge to Jesus – the SSS Soccer Clinic and Beyond, \$6,000
3. Bringing Christ's Light to Those Living in Darkness, \$6,500
4. Carrying Christ into the Heart of the Hispanic Home, \$6,500
5. Equipping People with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities to Sing, Tell, Declare His Marvelous Deeds, \$6,500
6. Expanding the Dominican Republic Disability Ministry as God's Word and Jesus' Love is Shared, \$6,500
7. Filling Haitian Tummies Opens Ears to the Gospel, \$5,000
8. Financial Assistance for Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Indiana Food and Clothing Co-Op to Purchase Food, \$5,000
9. Healing Spaces, \$6,500
10. Project "GO" (Gospel Outreach) – Share Jesus, \$2,957.50 (partial funding)
11. Safeguarding our School Children, \$6,350
12. Support for Concordia Seminary's International Graduate School Students, \$2,957.50
13. Taking the Gospel to B.C. North, \$6,500

<https://www.lwmlor.org/missions>