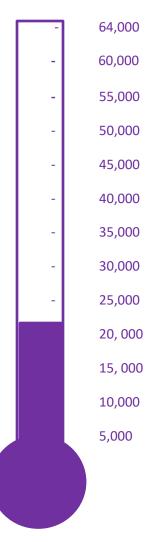


## Our 2016-2018 Mission Goal \$64,000



We are praising God for the continued generosity of our New England, Mite Collecting, Prayer Warrior, Sisters in Christ!

We have collected \$21,539.02 toward our Mission Goal as of 11/30.

Grant #1 \$6,000 PAID! Grant #2 \$5,000 PAID! Grant #3 \$3,000 PAID!

Please, send your mites to: Shirley Schindler, LWML-NED 6 Davis Road Ellington, CT 06029-3701

Visit <a href="www.lwml-ned.org">www.lwml-ned.org</a> email: president@lwml-ned.org

December 6, 2016

Dear Mite Collecting, Prayer Warrior Sisters in Christ,

I hope you are well and warm and dry on this chilly night. Again, I apologize for a late letter. I've been composing this in my head for over a week now. Time to put fingers to keyboard!

I'm thrilled to tell you that your generous gifts to LWML New England District have allowed us to pay our 3<sup>rd</sup> mission grant of \$3000 for Deaf Ministry Vacation Bible School. Sharing the Good News with all people! Thanks be to God!

Just as exciting, LWML announced that \$23,270 for the 2015-2017 LWML Mission Goal was raised on Giving Tuesday, through \$13, 270 in donations on that one day and a matching gift of \$10,000! This total was triple the amount raised last year on the same day! Praise the Lord!

No resting now -- our ambitious goal for the 10 remaining New England District mission projects requires focus ... concentration ... mites in the box ..., and especially ... prayer!

I can do everything through him who gives me strength. Philippians 4:13

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My little Advent calendar is telling the Christmas story one day at a time. The verse for December 6<sup>th</sup> says,

"But there was no room for them at the inn." Luke 2:7.

Those words reminded me of our church choir's Christmas Cantata. We are singing <u>Come Let Us Adore</u>, an arrangement of Christmas songs from Brentwood Benson Music Publications. Specifically, the narration preceding one of the songs says,

"There was no room in the inn.

No room for Heaven's amazing gift of love.

No room for the long-awaited Messiah.

No room for our only hope of salvation.

No room.

Time and again these two simple words stir our hearts, and we vow to make sure it never happens with us. Our prayer becomes, "Father, don't let me fill Christmas with anything but who Jesus is and the reason he came."

My sisters, I pray that you fill your Christmas with Jesus. Whatever your preparations for family, friends, food, and festivities, ensure that your first fruits are for Jesus and His Advent, His coming. We have already received the gift of life everlasting. No other gift compares.

Merry Christmas! Barbara Lis President, LWML-NED