

Russian Dolls Explain LWML–Canada

Customized for the Alberta British Columbia District

The Individual Member

I am only one person. What can I do? How important am I? I have a small amount of talent. I can do some things but not all things. I have a small amount of resources — one mite box. I put in my dimes, quarters, loonies — maybe \$5 a month, or even \$10 or \$20, but how will that small amount help reach others for Christ? I offer my prayers with my mites. Please, Lord, use my small offering to bring the Good News to someone who has never heard it. I have personal devotions and study the Bible but I am only one. How can God use me?

The LWMLC Society

In my own congregation I join with a few more individuals in a Society. Here we use our talents and gifts to help each other serve the Lord in our congregations and communities. We grow spiritually and personally to enable us to reach out to others and share the love of Jesus. We meet each month to join our sisters for Bible study, prayer and fellowship and to collect all the mite boxes. Now we have more resources to work for the Lord — but we are still small. How can we be much help at all?

The Zone

Each Society is part of a Zone with several other Societies in their area. In the Alberta–British Columbia District we have 11 Zones, 83 Societies and 990 individual members. Now we are growing! We are part of a growing circle of Christian sisters. We meet new friends at rallies, retreats or renewals. At these events we have many opportunities for fellowship, Bible study and prayer and for using our God-given talent and time to serve God and serve others. In our District each Society treasurer sends the mites from its members to the Zone treasurer. [In some Districts Societies send their mites directly to the District.] See how our mites are growing!

The District

Every Zone is part of a District. In Canada we have five districts. Each Zone treasurer sends the mites from the Zone to the District treasurer. How our mites are growing! The District uses 60% of the mites they receive. At a District convention delegates from each Society select Mission Grants to support using funds from our mite offerings. As well, part of the District mites are used for strengthening the faith and encouraging service of the members. The total mission goal of all five districts is about \$175,000. Now God can really use us to reach others with His Good news and love.

LWML–Canada

Five Districts form the national body of our organization; 31 Zones, 250 Societies and 3,137 individuals. Together with our Lord we can make a difference! We have grown spiritually and personally while enjoying fellowship and participating in service to others. LWML–Canada committees use the talents and gifts of members all across Canada to write new resources —

Bible studies, devotions, songs and workshops. The purchase of such resources pays for the cost of their development and printing.

And what about our mites? The other 40% was sent from the District to the national level. It provides funding for Mission Grants selected by delegates from Zones at an LWML–Canada convention. Check the LWML–Canada web site for information on current mission grants [www.lutheranwomen.ca]. Some mites will be used in assisting the other levels of the League reach out effectively. Together with the District projects we're sending \$225,000 to spread the Gospel. Wow! How our mites have multiplied from my one little mite box. Together our individual mite offerings have become mighty mites for the Lord's work!