

Counselor's corner

"... for you are dust, and to dust you shall return" (Gen. 3:19).

These words brought death to all man because of the fall of Adam. God's judgment was made. Sent from God's presence, the skin clothing with which God had clothed Adam and Eve was a reminder of the sin that clung to them. They, in turn, clung to the promise that salvation would come one day through "the seed of a woman."

Ashes are a sign of mortality and death. The sign of the cross in ash upon the forehead is a reminder of sinfulness; our lot is that of Adam. We confess that we have "sinned in thought, word, and deed ... and deserve God's temporal and eternal punishment."

"In the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins..." God has acted; His promise is made whole. Christ has taken upon Himself your sin. Another cross was made upon your forehead at your baptism; with water and the Word, you were marked as one redeemed by Christ so that "we are dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus" (Rom. 6:11).

Ash Wednesday is a somber day; it reminds us of our sinfulness. But our joy is in Christ through whom we receive forgiveness and life. Because of Christ, death no longer has dominion over us so that we may serve our Lord and neighbor with gladness.

*The Rev. Don Stauty
Arrowhead Region Counselor*



Our Redeemer quilts go to Joplin, Mo.

Quilters from Our Redeemer, Moorhead, Minn., made 100 quilts this past year. These were given away, with 12 going to the LCMS church in Joplin, Mo., where they were devastated with tornados this past summer.

Pictured are, from left, (front row) Helen Puffe, Eleanore Moreau, Faith Krueger; (middle row) Phylis Solee, Evelyn Strand, Sonja Beltz; (back row) Carol Schmidt, Marion Eidenschink, Carolyn Lichtsinn.

Scholarships available

Each year, the LWML Minnesota North District gives scholarships to those who are preparing for full-time work in the church. Apply by May 15 for a scholarship for the next academic year.

LWML scholarship guidelines: Applicant must plan to be in full-time professional service for The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod; live in the Minnesota North District; a member of an LCMS congregation; enrolled in an LCMS college or university; and reapply for the next academic year if already receiving this scholarship.

Download, print and complete the application at www.lwmlmnn.org. Mail the completed form by May 15.

For more information, contact Linda Jeske at scholarships@lwmlmnn.org.

**LWML Minnesota North District
25th Biennial Convention
June 25-27
Breezy Point Resort, Minn.
Theme:
Arise! Shine!
Your Light has Come ...**

Bible verse: "Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD rises upon you. See, darkness covers the earth and thick darkness is over the peoples, but the LORD rises upon you and his glory appears over you. Nations will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn" (Is. 60:1-3 NIV).



**35th Biennial LWML Convention
June 27-30, 2013, Pittsburgh, Pa.**

Theme: Quenched! by the Water
Scripture verse: John 4:14
Goal Statement: Quenched by Christ's redeeming grace, I am empowered by the Holy Spirit to be a wellspring of the Father's love.

\$100 million in mites

LWML has gathered \$100 million in mites since the founding of the organization in 1942.