

SD District LWML Mission Grant Mite Box Devotion

April 2008

Sewing Center & Orphan Assistance, Masindi, Uganda - \$3825 (Paid in Full)

Leader: We open in the name of the Holy Trinity:

All: All praise to God the Father, All praise to God the Son,
All praise to God the Spirit, Eternal Three in One!
Let all the ransomed number Fall down before the throne
And honor, pow'r, and glory Ascribe to God alone
"The Day of Resurrection" (LSB 478, v4; LW 133, v4)

Leader: *"In Joppa there was a disciple named Tabitha (which, when translated, is Dorcas), who was always doing good and helping the poor."* (Acts 9:36)

Reader 1: As was the case with the New Testament disciple, Dorcas, in Joppa, there are women in Masindi, Uganda who are also doing good and helping the poor.

Reader 2: The Lutheran Church Mission in Uganda (LCMU) is a young church that is growing at a fast rate throughout the country. The women are trying to do what they can to support themselves as well as to give to the church, but many are poor and it is difficult to find employment.

Reader 3: Masindi is a small town in Western Uganda where the Lutheran Church has a training center for church leaders. The women of this community have received a South Dakota District LWML mission grant of \$3825 which is enabling them to learn to sew and make clothing to sell in the community. With the money earned from this project, the women can help their families and their church.

Reader 1: Because of this mission grant it is possible for at least 10 women to be trained at a time by sharing a sewing machine. The women are being helped initially by the funding of this project, but they will eventually be able to fund their own work from their profits.

Reader 2: The women of the Lutheran Church in Masindi are also helping to support large numbers of orphans from HIV/AIDS and conflicts near the Congo and Sudanese borders. Many of the women have taken children into their homes because there is no care for them in the community. Funding from this grant is helping with the expenses of caring for these children and for their school fees.

Leader Prayer:

Gracious and loving heavenly Father, as we bring our Mite offerings before you today, we remember the women of Masindi, Uganda and their love for you, their church, and the orphans they are helping. We thank you for these special servants, and pray that you will bless their sewing project that through it they may earn the funds necessary to sustain their work so they are able to share their income with their church, and will be able to continue to care for the orphans of their community. We thank you, too, that through our Mite giving, you make it possible for us the members of the SD District LWML to reach out to these women of faith in love and compassion as you have done for us through our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. In his dear name we pray. Amen.