



Bountiful Mites

Sketch

[**Please provide:** two actresses and two copies of the sketch for the actresses.]

Props: Mite Box, bag of M&M candy

Marlene: Hello, I'm Marlene.

Mary: And I'm Mary.

Marlene and Mary: We are the M&Ms for Mites and Missions.

Marlene: We thank you for inviting us to make an appearance at your event as we tour the United States to share the great news about the Mites and Missions, frequently referred to as M&Ms, of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League.

Mary: The Lutheran Women in Mission have a long-standing commitment to Mites and Missions. The fact is that after the first LWML Executive Board meeting in October 1942, and before the 1943 convention, nearly 44,000 Mite Boxes were sent to the LWML Districts.

Marlene: And from that time through 1949, the women generously filled those Mite Boxes to overflowing with mission offerings in the amount of \$91,762.33. Now that is bountiful giving!

Mary: Speaking of Mite Boxes [hold up Mite Box], did you realize that the first ones were not in the LWML colors of purple and gold, but instead blue and white? Over the years the colors and designs on the Mite Boxes have changed to include a child's box and paper wraps for small round cans, but the mission has stayed the same. [hold up examples if have them]

Marlene: As the LWML M&Ms, we are especially fond of the M&M chocolate candies. [hold up package of M&Ms] They, too, had their beginning about the same time as the LWML. When they were first sold in 1941, they were packaged in cardboard tubes and were a favorite of the American GI's serving in World War II. They have changed as well over the years, but remain a favorite of people world-wide.

Mary: Speaking of world-wide, did you know that over all these years those mighty mites have traveled to five continents to help spread the Gospel from Afghanistan to Vietnam and about 50 countries in-between? Now that is bountiful giving!

Marlene: With each biennium you are given many choices when it comes to selecting new LWML Mission Grant projects. Each one is important and worthy of being chosen.

Mary: Whether you gave mites for a Missionary Retreat Home in Argentina, Training for K-9 Comfort Dogs in the United States, Evangelistic Outreach in Siberia, or Building Homes and Hope in Haiti, you know that each mite helped to bring the love of Jesus to many people around the world. Now that is bountiful giving!

Marlene: Speaking of bountiful, those M&M candies sure are bountiful as well. Just like with LWML Mission Grants, we have so many choices including milk chocolate, dark chocolate, peanut butter, almond, and the list goes on and on. Now those are bountiful choices!

Mary: As faithful Lutheran Women in Mission, you have accepted the challenge to increase and support a greater number of LWML Mission Grant projects with your prayers and financial giving.

Marlene: Your sacrificial giving is apparent because by 2012 over \$100 million in mites had been received by the LWML. And that amount continues to increase with each biennium.

Mary: Now that is bountiful giving!

Marlene: It is quite evident that since 1942, you and all the women of the LWML have been passionate in your support for Mites and Missions. I also believe that the women of the LWML have a passion for the candy M&Ms as well, because in 2001 and 2002 there was a global color vote to choose a new color of M&Ms. I am convinced that many of you here today were among the 41 percent who voted for purple, the winning color. Now that is bountiful voting!

Mary: As we continue our tour across the country sharing the story of Mites and Missions, we rejoice at the commitment each of you have to being bountiful givers. Today we say to you, continue to show your dedication for Mites and Missions by generously filling the little Mite Box that sits on your window sill, by the washing machine, on your dresser, in your car, or wherever it is kept.

Marlene: Each time you place your mites, whether they are coins, currency, or checks, in these boxes, you are a shining example of serving the Lord with gladness. Each and every mite makes a mighty big difference in your bountiful giving.

Mary: As we leave you today to continue on our tour across the United States as the M&Ms for Mites and Missions, we have a final suggestion.

Marlene: Enjoy your choice of candy M&Ms, and let them be a reminder to be a bountiful giver as you fill your Mite Box to overflowing.

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Published by Lutheran Women's Missionary League, 2015