

#7 MOZAMBIQUE DORCAS SEWING PROJECT, LCMS INTERNATIONAL MISSION AFRICA REGION — \$5,000

Leader: The Lutheran Church of Mozambique has started a **Dorcas Sewing Project** to enable women to learn a skill and provide an opportunity to earn some income to help sustain the family. In addition, the Gospel has been shared while teaching the art of garment making thereby giving them hope for a better future and a way out of poverty.

R1: *And every skillful woman spun with her hands, and they all brought what they had spun in blue and purple and scarlet yarns and fine twined linen (Exodus 35:25).*

Leader: Sewing and working with fabric has long been a skill for women throughout the ages. Still today, women use this skill to be creative, help others and come together to support one another. One of the first items sewn by the original **Dorcas Sewing Project** group was masks to help prevent the spread of COVID. The **Dorcas Sewing Project** has been so successful that the Lutheran Church of Mozambique (ICCM) is wanting to expand this opportunity to others.

R2: *She makes linen garments and sells them; she delivers sashes to the merchant (Proverbs 31:24).*

Leader: The **Dorcas Sewing Project** not only teaches the skill of sewing garments, but also teaches crocheting and knitting. The Project includes funding for sewing machines, fabric, thread, scissors, needles for the machines and for embroidering. The \$5,000 grant from the LWML South Dakota District will go toward the total cost of about \$35,000. Since many of us have experience sewing, we can really relate to how much this will help these sisters in Christ grow in many ways.

R3: *Therefore encourage one another, and build one another up, just as you are doing (1 Thessalonians 5:11 NIV).*

Leader: Many of these women are not employed away from home and work only on their small farms. Learning sewing skills will give them an opportunity to work and provide some income for their family and at the same time, give an opportunity to share the Gospel and encourage their faith in Christ. It will help these women in so many ways.

All: **Father, as women, we understand the need for coming together to enjoy each other's company, the desire to help provide for our family, the satisfaction in learning a new skill, and the power of the Gospel in our lives. Bless these sisters of ours in Africa as they expand this sewing project to reach even more women with not only a new skill but above all to teach them about You and Your amazing love for each one of them. Encourage us to give generously to the work of spreading the Gospel through our mite offerings. This we ask in your son, Jesus' name. Amen!!**