



SUFFOLK SON SHINE

ONLINE NEWSLETTER OF THE SUFFOLK ZONE LWML

May 2007

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Dear Friends:

Good things are coming! Look inside!

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COUNSELOR'S CORNER



(Pastor Schenkel is taking a much-needed break this month. He will be back with us in June.)

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Pastor for his twelve years of faithful service as our Zone Counselor.

Thank you Pastor; you are truly a blessing to all of us!



MITE UPDATE!

AS OF 4/18/07 WE HAVE COLLECTED \$2391.02 TOWARDS MISSION GRANT #5, OUR SAVIOR'S NEEDY FAMILIES FOR \$8000.

WE ARE MORE THAN HALF WAY INTO THE BIENNIUM - PLEASE ENCOURAGE MITE GIVING IN YOUR CHURCHES AND SOCIETIES.

FROM THE PRESIDENT



A STEP AHEAD

I have been leading a Bible study in my church on *Heaven and Hell*, and last night we talked about being “Advent People”. Advent people realize that this earth is a temporary place and we are here for a short while on our way to Heaven. Advent people are always waiting and watching for the second coming of Jesus. We wait with anticipation and we hope and pray that we can witness to people while we are still here. Advent people try to be “a step ahead” in reading and searching His word to strengthen our faith and to help others so that when He comes again, we will be ready. To this end, I believe the Suffolk Zone is made up of “Advent People”.

It’s always good to be “a step ahead” of things. To plan ahead gives you the chance to work on tasks without stress – so they say. Your officers of the Suffolk Zone have tried to do just that – to be “a step ahead”. We are always thinking and planning about the next event and how to present it to you in a spirit-filled, fun loving way. We are always living “the next season” that sometimes we miss the time to share in the current season. But that’s OK because what we do is a labor of love.

The One day Mini-retreat at St. James Lutheran Church is scheduled for **Saturday, October 20, 2007**. We have about 50 women who regularly attend this event since it was started and it is a very worthwhile way to spend an autumn day. This is certainly an opportunity to become “Advent People”. You will receive more information on this retreat in the very near future.

The next **big** event is the **Ladies Holiday Extravaganza**, on **November 3rd, 2007** at Trinity Lutheran Church in Islip. This will be a day of “eating and shopping”. This is a **brand new event** and I hope all of you will participate either by coming to shop and have a wonderful hot lunch or to take a table to sell your arts and crafts, new/old items, baked goods, etc. This idea was brought to you at a zone meeting and it was very well received, but in order for it to be a success we **need** your participation. **More information and registration forms are included in this newsletter.**

I pray that all of you are “Advent People” waiting and watching and taking advantage of all opportunities to strengthen your faith until He comes again.

In service to Him,

Ginny



WALKING WITH JESUS



For a change my house is quiet. This abnormality is a change I occasionally relish. There is no fighting or arguing about things that don't make a difference. The lack of a schedule allows me to work, clean, or lounge whenever I selfishly desire. My dog and cats have been kissed and hugged by me more in the last 24 hours than they have in the last week combined. I enjoy being home alone.

As much as I relish being alone, I also yearn for my family to safely return home. I want the boys to come back with smiles on their faces and a desire to give me a hug. I want Rob to walk in the door with an urgency to tell me of all his experiences he had while he was away. I want all of us to safely gather home to share the experiences we have had in our time apart.

There was no instruction manual given to me telling me how much energy it takes to be a good mom. Through trial and error, conversations with other mothers I admire, and memories of my own life, I have struggled with this responsibility for the last 16 years. This is a job from which I will not quit (maybe take a short leave of absence) nor will I give up (even though the statement, "I GIVE UP!" has spewed from my lips many times) and I will continue to try to do my best for the rest of my life.

No one told me nor could they ever truly explain to me about the invisible string that permanently connects a mother to a child. No one could ever explain fully the unmatched joy or the deep sorrow you go through when you are a mother. It's so wonderful to me how being a mom allows me to feel the same experiences my child faces. I am also amazed at how much they can drive me nuts and at the

same time I want all my fledglings in my nest, safely under the protection of our home.

When my house is quiet I can take the time to think about all these things. Being alone gives me the chance to renew my spirit so I have the energy to get through the next set of circumstances. Being alone also gives me the added time I need to re-connect with God and to find comfort in the verse:

Psalm 46:10 Be still and know that I am God.

It's the quiet times that we can listen to God. It's the quiet times that we can renew our hearts and minds through His Word. It's the quiet times when we can listen to His promptings and know what our next course of action should be.

I urge all of you to take time out to renew yourselves with His Word. Get to a quiet place where you can just listen. Relax and rejoice in the knowledge that you are loved by a God greater than you could ever imagine or comprehend.

In less than 24 hours my house will return to what we call normal. I pray that this time of renewal will bless all of us so we can rejoice in this short vacation from each other.

May you too be blessed with a time of peace allowing your soul to be renewed by our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ

Linda Guterres
May 2007

FROM THE EDITOR..

“My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand.” John 10:27-28

I read the above words of Jesus in the Gospel of John recently, and they quickly took hold of my heart.

With the recent tragic event that took place at Virginia Tech University, these are certainly words that we can turn to for comfort. Even in a situation as horrific as Virginia Tech, where it seems that God was so far away, He was there.

I recently received a *Lutheran Hour Daily Online Devotion*, which was written by a retired Chicago Police Sheriff. He stated in that devotion that in his 30 years of service to the police department, he has been witness to many terrible events. He also stated that during many of these horrific times, it was prayer that got the victim through. He personally saw the miracle of Christ's love working in some of these victimized people. He stated that even though the media of today may try to deny the message of Jesus Christ and His love for us, His love *will* shine through. That terrible day in Virginia, as this story unfolded, we watched with horror. But then we saw something else. We saw people publicly praying, and people publicly asking for our prayers. The media could not stop this.

Sometimes we go through life as if it is a “tug-of-war”. We see and hear of all the evil in this world. Satan is just waiting to try to take hold and pull us away from our Heavenly Father. But, we have the promise of the above verse: *“no one will snatch them out of my hand”*. How comforting to know that as followers of Christ, no matter what the circumstance, no matter how difficult things can be on this earth, we can listen to the voice of the Good Shepherd as he calls us. We can follow Him as He promises us eternal life and we can cling with confidence to His hand, knowing that nothing will ever snatch us away from Him.

Deborah Graybosch
May 2007





Atlantic District LWML News

SAVE THE DATE!

OCTOBER 12TH-14TH!

ATLANTIC DISTRICT LWML

**ANNUAL RETREAT AT
TUSCARORA INN, MT BETHEL, PA.**

RETREAT LEADER: REV. DIEN ASHLEY TAYLOR

**PASTOR, REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH
BRONX NY**



FOR INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

DEBORAH GRAYBOSCH

VICE PRESIDENT FOR SPIRITUAL LIFE AD LWML/RETREAT CHAIRMAN

DGRAYBOSCH@OPTONLINE.NET

(631) 334-8975

INFORMATION IS ALSO AVAILABLE ON THE ATLANTIC DISTRICT LWML WEBSITE AT:

www.adlwml.org



Lutheran Women's Missionary League

Dear Suffolk Sisters,

The Suffolk Zone of the LWML will be sponsoring "something new" this fall. On **Saturday, November 3, 2007 from 10am-3pm at Trinity Lutheran in Islip**, we will be having a "**Ladies Holiday Extravaganza**". This will be a day for our two most favorite things: Eating and Shopping!

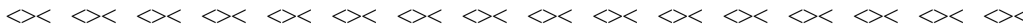
A **hot catered lunch** will be provided at a cost of \$15/person. Lunch will include hot and cold beverages and delicious desserts. (reservation form below) **LUNCH RESERVATION DEADLINE IS October 27, 2007.**

Throughout the event, a variety of vendors will be there for your holiday shopping convenience. If you would like to participate as a vendor, tables will be provided at a cost of \$15/table for the day. Please fill out the vendor portion of the reservation form below. (Set-up time for vendors is 9am.) **VENDOR RESERVATION DEADLINE IS October 6, 2007.**

If you have any questions, please contact me at 924-7106 or Linda Guterres at (516)840-4501. Whenever the Suffolk Zone has tried "something new" it has been a wonderful success because of your participation and we pray this new event will be no exception.

God's blessings to you.

Ginny Wirsing
Suffolk Zone President



Complete and return this portion to: Linda Guterres, 3 Timber Trail Lane, Medford, NY 11763
MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: SUFFOLK ZONE LWML

Name _____ Telephone # _____

Address _____ e-mail _____

LUNCH RESERVATION

/ Yes, I will be buying lunch @15/person

Total Lunch \$

VENDOR RESERVATION

/ Yes, I am requesting a vendor table @\$15/table

Total tables

\$ _____

Type of Merchandise to be sold

Total amount enclosed

\$ _____

Confirmation will be sent via e-mail or mail.



NEEDED....BUSY HANDS

Can you Knit or Crochet ??? Well if you can, we have a mission for you.

Global Health Ministries is looking for people to knit or crochet bandages for patients in some areas of the world that suffer from slow healing wounds.

Yarn: For Knit or Crochet use Peaches & Cream or Sugar & Cream 4 ply cotton yarn (white or natural color only.)

Knit: With size 8 needles cast on 14 or 18 stitches. Knit both sides until bandage measures 4 feet. Bind off. Fasten ends securely.

Crochet: use H hook, chain 13 or 17. Double crochet in third chain from hook. Double crochet to end. Chain 2. Double crochet to end. Continue until bandage measures 4 feet. Fasten off securely. Wash and completely dry the bandage, roll it and fasten it with a safety pin.

I would suggest that each Society gather their bandages, pack them in a box and mark it "Knitted" or "Crocheted" Bandages. Include a note letting them know the name and address of your group and that you belong to the Atlantic District Lutheran Women's Missionary league, and mail it to:

Global Health Ministries
7831 Hickory Street NE
Minneapolis, MN 55432

If you need more information, please contact me at 631-589-8353 or on line at arthon@aol.com

Honey Pabst
VP Human Care
Atlantic District LWML

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

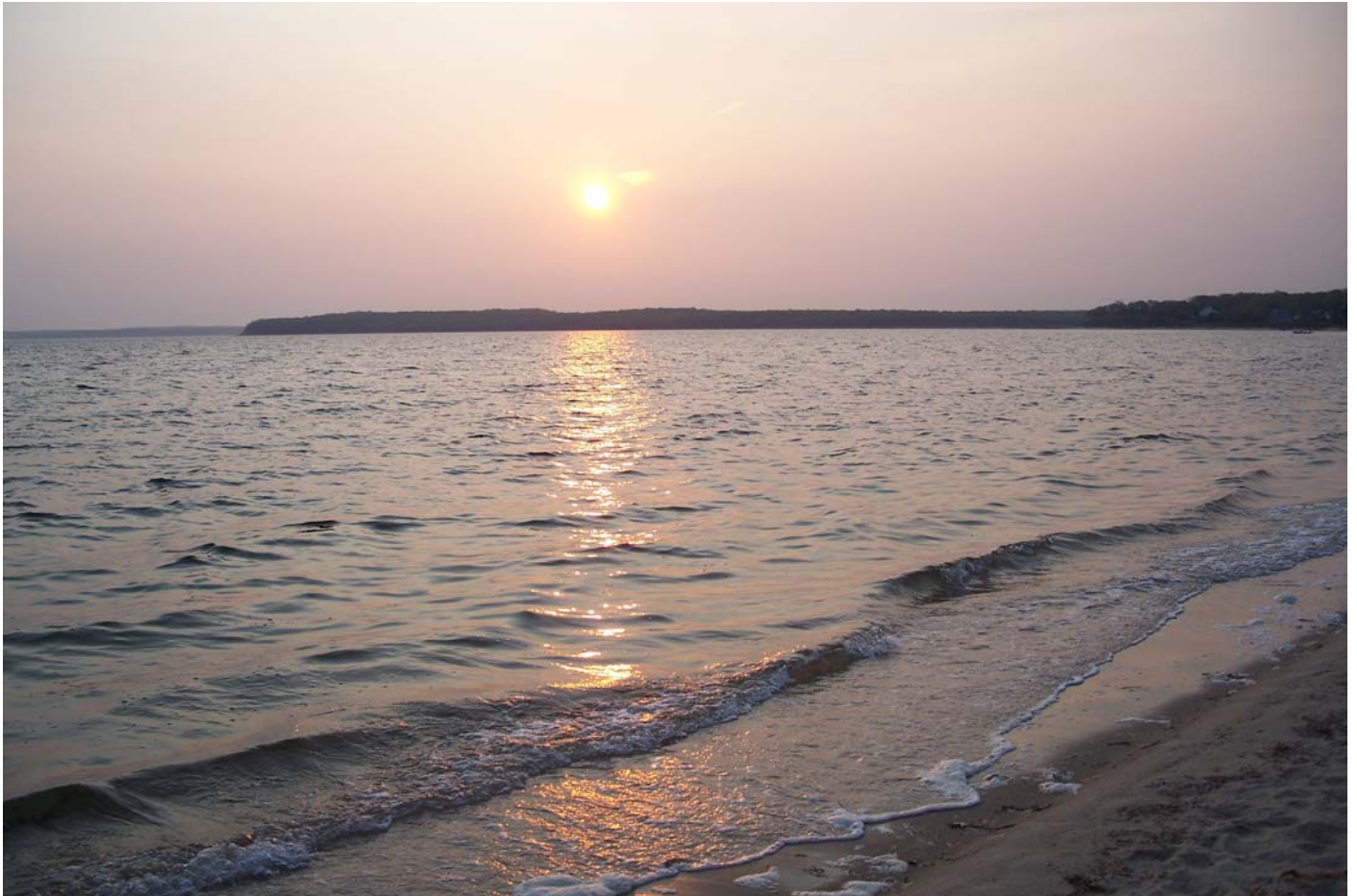
I want to thank everyone for all the donations that were brought in during our retreat at Cormaria Mother's Day weekend. The response to the needs of Hope House was very gratifying. It was so wonderful to see my car packed to the top. However, there was one little problem with all of that. There wasn't any room for my Aunt Lil! My aunt is a very special lady but I don't think she ever thought she would be traded for some paper towels. She was a good sport about it, and we did find someone to take her home.

All of the items were delivered to Hope House a few days after the retreat and they were thrilled with our contributions. Hope House just celebrated their 27th year. Since they opened approximately 6,000 boys have gone through there and they are happy to report that they have a 97% success rate for the boys.

If you would like to know more about Hope House, I have flyers available and would be happy to answer any questions you may have.

Honey Pabst, VP Human Care
AD LWML

He leads me beside still waters. Psalm 23:2



*This was the view at 6 a.m. on the grounds of Cormaria Retreat House in
Sag Harbor, NY*

*Why not mark your calendar now for next year, for the Suffolk Zone
Annual LWML Retreat, May 9th and 10th 2008. You too can experience
the beauty of God's creation!*