



SUFFOLK SON SHINE

THE ONLINE NEWSLETTER OF THE SUFFOLK ZONE LWML

November 2006



*"Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever."
Psalm 107:1*

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COUNSELOR'S CORNER



The one who observes the day, observes it in honor of the Lord. The one who eats, eats in honor of the Lord, since he gives thanks to God, while the one who abstains, abstains in honor of the Lord and gives thanks to God. [7] For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. ~
Romans 14:6-7

The excitement of the holiday season is once again upon us. It begins with our National Day of Thanksgiving. This day is not a "church holiday" in the sense of Christmas and Easter, but certainly a day of great celebration for God's people. In my preparations for the upcoming holidays I came across a "brief history" of Thanksgiving in our nation. It was a refreshing reminder to me of what Thanksgiving is about and where it came from, and I thought it would be inspiring to share it with you.

The following is an excerpt from [Christian History Institute's](#), "Glimpses of people, events, life and faith from the Church Across the Ages":

It was cold that December in 1620 when the Puritan Separatists we know as the Pilgrims set foot on the Massachusetts shore. Why did this small band of Christians leave behind all that was familiar for this precarious future?

When King James assumed the throne of England in 1603, he was determined to assert his authority over the government and the Church of England. He opposed those who wanted to reform the teachings and practices of the Church of England. In a fit of rage at these people, the Puritans, King James vowed, "I shall make them conform or I will harry them out of the land, or else do worse."

One group of Puritans, the Separatists, were not willing to support the Church of England in any way, believing that the Church should only be under the headship of Christ, not the king. From this belief, the pilgrims moved to the new country and began their own colony

Years later, while George Washington was camping at Valley Forge, he prayed for help and saw God's answer when the French sent military assistance. Washington called for a day of thanksgiving among his troops. Still later, in 1789, President Washington proclaimed the first National Day of Thanksgiving, November 26, as " a day of public Thanksgiving and prayer in gratitude for God's allowing the American people to establish a form of government so conducive to their safety and happiness."

Although Thanksgiving is not a church holiday, you can see its "connection" to God's goodness in providing for life. President Washington took God's good gifts serious enough to declare a holiday. As God's people today, we are constantly showered with His gifts. As we all take time to once again to give thanks - we keep in mind the words of Saint Paul (above) and give thanks to God, through His Son, Jesus Christ, who is the source of all blessings and goodness in our lives!

*God's Richest Blessings and Happy Thanksgiving to all!
- Pastor Schenkel*

FROM THE PRESIDENT



I THANK YOU LORD! I REALLY DO!

How many times have I prayed? A thousand times? Ten thousand times? I pray each Sunday in church during the appropriate times, we pray as a family each evening before dinner, and I pray a lot on the way to work in the car. I do my best praying there. Sometimes I go from "Point A" to "Point B" and not remember passing anything, including traffic lights. Do I thank Him for getting me at my destination safely? No. I just marvel at the ability of the brain to carry on tasks when I am not paying attention. But it isn't the brain, it's Him.

When I am praying in the car, I pray for all the things I need. I pray for all the troubles people I love are going through. I pray for my son to reach his place of employment on time. I pray that my daughter, who lives and goes to school in Manhattan, gets to where she has to be safely on the subways and walking back to her dorm at night. I pray that my husband is also careful driving around, as he sometimes can get distracted listening to sporting events on the car radio. I have everything I need; clothes (even though they are a little snug), plenty of food (that's why they are snug), and a roof over my head that is paid for. My son gets to work on time every day, my daughter is doing very well at school and has learned to be careful and look over her shoulder and my husband is more than careful (even though I am not sitting beside him to make sure). I guess things are going well. Do I thank Him for all of this good fortune? No.

I pray to God that he helps me get through another day and be able to go to work with back pain, and the symptoms of Fibromyalgia and Rheumatoid Arthritis. Each day I am able to drive to work in a decent car that doesn't break down and do the job that I am paid to do. And I am able to do it! Every day! Do I thank Him that I was able to get through another day? No.

This morning, as I listened to the news reports of events, tragic events, happening all around the world, I realized how thankful I am to Jesus to be able to live in this country, to have a roof over my head, to have food to eat and clothes to wear. To have two children that are responsible young adults and have faith in Christ Jesus, to have a husband who loves me and is a wonderful provider, and who also believes in God, and is with me every Sunday in church. And yes, I have to deal with pain every day, but I am thankful to Him that the pain is not debilitating and I am able to go to work each day.

In Philippians 4:6 God says *"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and petition, **with thanksgiving**, present your requests to God."* He wants us to come to Him with our concerns and needs and not to be anxious, but to believe that He listens to us and answers our prayers. But we are also to come to Him with **thanksgiving** for all that He does for us, to acknowledge His love for us in so many ways. I thank you Lord for this upcoming "Thanksgiving". Let us all remember to thank Him for everything we have, because without Him, we have nothing at all.

So I thank you Lord! I really do!

Blessings to all of you this Thanksgiving!
Ginny Wirsing
November 2006

WALKING WITH JESUS



Dear Christian:

November 2006

Do you see me? Do you really want to know how I am feeling or do you just say, "How are you?" to be polite. Why do you turn away as if you don't have the time to listen to me when I begin to answer you? I'm dying here and you are supposed to be a Christian and you are supposed to want to help me and you don't have the desire or compassion to take the time to listen to me.

What makes you better than me? How can you read the parable of the Good Samaritan and think that you would not be the one to walk away but the one who would care and you won't even take the time to hold my hand? So what if I am dressed in rags or maybe I haven't been able to shower in the last few days and I don't smell like perfume. So what if I have to sleep in the streets and I don't have a house like you. So what if I have to stand on a street corner hoping that there would be work for me today so I can feed my family tonight.

The last time I read my bible I read that Jesus didn't only help the pretty people. Jesus helped the beggar at the gates who couldn't see. Jesus acknowledged the woman who broke through the crowd of men just to anoint His feet and to wipe them with her hair. Jesus always had compassion on the people who everyone else seemed to ignore and you are supposed to be striving to be like him too.

The last time I read my bible it told me that no one is better than anyone except Jesus. Your sins may be more acceptable or maybe they are hidden better than mine, but we are both the same. We are both sinners and you are no better than me.

How can you stand in church on Sunday professing to worship our Lord and King and you won't even do what He says to do? All Jesus asks is that we tell others about His good news and you stand there with your mouth frozen shut because you are uncomfortable with the stares coming from the crowd.

Don't you get the message? Don't you understand? Jesus died for us EVEN though He knew in advance that we would be the way we are. Jesus died for us EVEN though our sins hung on Him. Jesus died for us. Jesus died for BOTH of us.

Maybe it is I who should reach my hand out to you to offer you the message of God's forgiveness. Maybe it is I who should remind you of His love-His deep, abiding, complete love-that is available to all who ask. Maybe it is I who should witness to you because I really don't care anymore what people think of me.

Maybe it is I who should be praying for you.

Signed,

Today I stand before you convicted in my heart that I have professed to be a Christian for 46 years and I have fallen drastically short of the goal. This is a letter that should have been written to me because it is I who has turned away from people who are different than me again and again. It is I who has judged other people thinking myself better than they. I have not had compassion on people, as I should. I have not spread the Gospel-one of the simplest things in the world to do for the one who has done so much for us-as I should. I have turned aside from God over and over and over again. It's me who is a sinner and it's me who so desperately prays for His forgiveness. Amen

Linda Guteres



Psalm 95:1-6

*"O come, let us sing unto the LORD: let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation.
Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto him with psalms.
For the LORD is a great God, and a great King above all gods.
In his hand are the deep places of the earth: the strength of the hills is his also.
The sea is his, and he made it: and his hands formed the dry land.
O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the LORD our maker*

"Oh, thank God", we may say this phrase often, but do we really say it often enough, and do we really mean it?

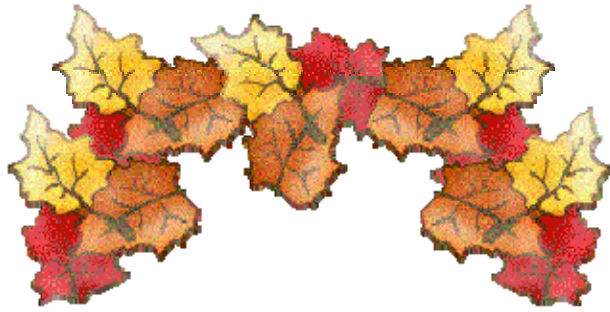
How many times do we pray a spontaneous prayer, for example, while we are driving in bad weather: "Dear Lord, please get us to our destination safely". And then, when we do arrive, how often do we stop and say "thank you Lord". Many times I find myself going about my business after I've arrived at my destination and then it will dawn on me later that I never said "thank you". At that moment I will stop and give a prayer of thanksgiving.

But, how often do we stop and just thank Him? How many times have we looked at a beautiful sunset, or a snow-covered mountain, or rolling hills and admired the beauty? How often do we look at the marvelous wonder of a newborn baby? Do we take the time to say "thank you" to the Creator for this beauty? How many times have we ourselves or someone we love been cured of an illness? Do we take the time to say "thank you" to our Great Physician who watches over us? How often have we thanked our Heavenly Father for giving us the freedom to worship Him as we choose? How often do we thank our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ for His suffering and dying in our place, so that we might not suffer the pains and torment of Hell, but that we might live with Him eternally?

So, why not stop, take a look around you, and start thanking our Awesome God today for all that He has given you.

*Deborah Graybosch
November 2006*





Atlantic District LWML: NEWS FROM HUMAN CARE

*You will be made rich in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.
2 Corinthians 9:11*

How thankful I am for the generosity of all of you with our Stamp Project. Our first shipment was delivered to the dealer and I am happy to report that we were able to contribute \$230 to the Interpreter's Fund for the Deaf.

The stamps have come in little packages and big packages. Every stamp is appreciated and your efforts are a blessing. Whatever you can collect and give to us will help us add to this fund so that everyone can participate in our events. Please continue to send in your donations of stamps. We are still collecting Commemorative Stamps, Foreign Stamps, Holiday and Love Stamps, stamps over 39 cents, and any other loose stamps that you wish to donate. If you are not sure about the stamp, send it any way. We will sort it out.

If you have any questions, please call our Stamp Chairman, Linda Bizarro at 631-563-0046.

Remember; use commemorative stamps when you send out mail. Keep on collecting and ask others to collect too.

Thanks and God Bless,

Honey Pabst
AD LWML Vice President Human Care



DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know that you can now access the Atlantic District LWML at it's new website? Go to www.adlwml.org to see the new set up! You can now receive the *Candlestick* online in PDF format, as well as many new features. Take a look!



With Praise and Thanksgiving to Him!! Mission Grant #3 can now be paid.

Our next goal is Mission Grant #4: Encouraging Young Christian Evangelism, in the amount of \$7000.

Encouraging Young Christian Evangelism (EYCE) is the Atlantic District's initiative to develop young people to be the church leaders of today and tomorrow. Youth in EYCE will meet monthly for youth oriented worship, training and Bible study. They will also participate in mission and service trips. EYCE will create a relational mentoring community with an emphasis on hands on ministry for youth who have a heart for missions. Youth in EYCE will be required to work with their home pastor to actively participate in ministry at their home congregation.

**PLEASE CONTINUE
TO
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MITES
MONTHLY**

Please forward all mites to:

Clara E. Wert, 18 Westland Avenue, Queensbury, NY 12804. Please note "mites" in the memo area of the check.



JUST FOR THE FUN OF IT!



IN ALL THINGS, GIVE THANKS

A 4-year-old boy who was asked to say grace before Thanksgiving dinner. The family members bowed their heads in expectation. He began his prayer, thanking God for all his friends, naming them one by one. Then he thanked God for Mommy, Daddy, brother, sister, Grandma, Grandpa, and all his aunts and uncles. Then he began to thank God for the food. He gave thanks for the turkey, the dressing, the fruit salad, the cranberry sauce, the pies, the cakes, even the Cool Whip.

Then he paused, and everyone waited--and waited. After a long silence, the young fellow looked up at his mother and asked, "If I thank God for the broccoli, won't he know that I'm lying?"

