

MATTHEW 5:14-16

THE CANDLESTICK

LUTHERAN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY LEAGUE

ATLANTIC DISTRICT

2nd ISSUE 2011

FORTUNE COOKIE PROMISES

I recently had dinner at a Chinese restaurant with my husband. As is the custom, at the end of the meal the waiter presented us with a plate which held two fortune cookies. We each chose our cookie. I asked my husband to read his fortune first, and then I proceeded to read mine. This is what my fortune read: "Keep your face to the sun and you will never see the shadows". My husband sarcastically commented "how deep is that!" We then had a discussion about the silly, almost ridiculous sayings in past fortune cookies.

A short time later I started to think about what my fortune said, "Keep your face to the sun and you will never see the shadows". I then thought, how true this statement is if we change "S-U-N" to "S-O-N"! I mentioned this to my husband and I said, "think about it, it really is the truth". The shadows of life, or the dark times always seem to be around us. We face adversities every day in the form of hardships, persecution, sickness, death, you name it. These are all the dark areas, or shadows in our lives that Satan can throw at us. But, if we keep our eyes focused on Jesus, the true light, the "S-O-N", these shadows of adversity will remain behind us.

Our good, gracious and merciful God promises to be with us always. He covers the shadows that follow us with the shadow of his cross. The dark shadows of sin and death have been defeated by Jesus, God's own Son, who victoriously rose from the grave! We have the undeniable promises of a living, loving God in His Holy Word, the Bible. Promises that assure us that if we look to His only Son, Jesus Christ, He will never leave us in the shadows of this earthly life. We have the promise of eternal life. So, fortune cookie promises can stay in fortune cookies...I'll stick to the promises in God's Holy Word...these are the promises that I believe!

*Deborah Graybosch
President
Atlantic District LWML*



*For we walk by faith, not by sight.
2 Corinthians 5:7*

PEORIA, HERE WE COME!!!

*Being with Jesus - Living on the Edge
LWML Convention June 23-26, 2011
Peoria, Illinois*

In a few weeks, 25 members of the Atlantic District LWML (and a few spouses!) will be heading off to Peoria, Illinois, for the 34th Biennial LWML Convention. Please remember all of us in prayer as we travel by car and air to attend to the business of the LWML. This is an exciting time for all as we will be electing a new national president, as well as adopting a new mission goal and selecting new mission grants for the 2011-2013 biennium.



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Pastoral Corner

Open our Eyes Holy Spirit

Dear Sisters in Christ,

The season of Pentecost gives us an opportunity to focus on the role of the Holy Spirit. Jesus, before His ascension, promised to send the power from on high. During our last District Board of Directors' LWML meeting, the devotion focused our attention to keep spreading the good news of Christ by the power of the Spirit. As we look through the eye of faith, we can see Jesus. May we continue to pray that the Holy Spirit falls fresh on us during this Pentecost season.

May we continue to scatter the seed with our mite boxes. God has promised that His Word will not come back void. It is my prayer that during the Summer months the Holy Spirit keeps us safe as we fellowship with family and friends. I ask God's blessing on the national Convention in Illinois. We look forward to our District's LWML retreat and convention.

Jesus told the disciples that they are witnesses of great things. We too, the disciples of today, are witnesses to great things, as we look through the eye of faith. Jesus has promised us that a good tree can only bear good fruit abiding in His forgiveness by the power of the Spirit. May that Spirit that gives power to create faith, strengthens our faith, sustains us in the faith, and move us forward in ministry.

We know the message. It doesn't matter if we have Faith as small as a mustard seed or as big as a mountain, God has called us to serve the Lord with gladness.

Serving an Awesome God by the Power of the Spirit,

*Pastor Marvin Griffin, Sr.
Senior Pastoral Counselor*

KEEP PRAYING

Please pray for...a request that all of us respond to. We are so blessed to be a praying people of believers.

Our Lord welcomes us with all our pleas, fears, anxieties, hurts, and thanks. He wants us to come to Him in prayer, even though He knows all we endure.

We are a people who don't say "all we have left is to pray". We know it isn't the last resort but the first instinct. Whether in a hand holding circle with others or in the dark on our knees, we pray.

We pray at every point of life, assured of our Father's love.

We remember the disciples, who lived with Jesus, ate, slept, laughed, witnessed His miracles, those He healed, even bringing back from death. They watched Him attract huge crowds as a charismatic speaker, but what did they ask of Him... "Lord, teach us to pray". They saw how all He did was with prayer.

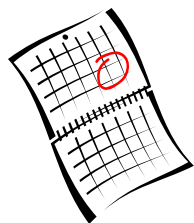
When we pray for others, they are assured of our intercession for them.

Prayer is our connection with God. Our posture of dependence and obedience. It is our privilege...

Let's remember that and keep praying.

Praying with and for you,

*Lynette Taylor
Vice President for Spiritual Life*



Plans for the 2012 Atlantic District--LWML Convention, hosted by the Albany Zone, are moving along. We've booked our space at the Best Western Albany Airport Inn for April 27--29, 2012. PLEASE MARK YOUR CALANDARS!!

The theme "Walking with the Lord," suggested by an Albany Zone member was approved by the District Board and the Bible verse "we walk by faith, not by sight" was also approved. The zone has approved a logo and suggested theme colors which will be presented to the Board for approval at the June 4 meeting.

Some of the key personnel have volunteered their services (Registrar, Treasurer, Exhibitor Contact.) Dr. Jean Boehler has consented to being our song leader again. Alleluia! We know she brings the joy of the Lord to us with her music.

Transportation to the motel is provided, without charge, from the bus and train stations and the airport. (Anyone flying in?) It is only blocks from US Route 87 -- the Northway -- for those coming by car.

The Albany Zone is looking forward to greeting you. Meetings will begin on Saturday morning; the Friday date is for those who prefer to come an evening in advance. Remember APRIL 27-29, 2012.

*Ethel Lesh
Zone and District Convention Manager*

**Ladies in Prayer and Service (Redeemer "LIPS")
Redeemer Evangelical Lutheran Church
Ninth Anniversary Luncheon**



Once again through the power of the Holy Spirit, Ladies in Prayer and Service (LIPS) celebrated their ninth anniversary on Saturday, March 5, 2011. The day started with a worship service in the sanctuary with the Holy Eucharist led by Pastor Dien Ashley Taylor with Pastor Roy Mannix as the preacher. Pastor Mannix is the Associate Pastor of Village Lutheran Church and The Chapel School, and he is the Campus Pastor for Concordia College in Bronxville, NY.

After the service we proceeded to the undercroft which was beautifully decorated for the second part of the anniversary. Over 140 people were in attendance for the luncheon. Many officers from the Lutheran Women's Missionary League Atlantic District, other Lutheran Churches from Bronx, Brooklyn, Queens, Staten Island and Long Island were in attendance, in addition to many women from around the community and Redeemer parish.

The theme for the day was **"One World One Heart."** The keynote speaker was the Rev. Dr. Dien Ashley Taylor, who serves as Redeemer's loving Pastor, inspirational preacher, teacher who is faithful to the Word and the sacred office. The Lord has blessed Redeemer with dedicated and faithful pastors who have served by sharing pure doctrine as a shepherd and priest to the congregation, LIPS, and the other societies in the parish. Some of the ladies who attended the luncheon commented that LIPS ladies are very energetic. My response to them was, "We have a Pastor who is energetic and loves the Lord with a passion. He teaches us the Word and encourages us to put our hearts, souls, and bodies in what we do for the Lord."

The theme was based on Genesis Chapter One. When God created the world he put His whole heart, soul, and spirit into it just as He did when he made male and female in His own image. God creates males and females to love Him and each other. His goal for everyone is that we become more and more like Him with one heart in one world. When God created the world, He provided everything that we need to live in peace and harmony, to love one another and to obey and worship Him in Spirit and in truth. This was God's will for all. He loves all people with an everlasting love and He calls us to do the same. God commanded us to love one another as He loves us, all by the power of His Holy Spirit and in response to His extravagant grace.

In Genesis chapter one, we hear how God provided everything for us that we need to survive and thrive in this world. He created the heavens and the earth. He made the night and the day, the seas, the rivers, the vegetation, the fruits, the seas and the fish. After God provided everything on earth, He made human beings—male and female—in His own image. This is all part of His awesome provision for us.

God gives us His Word to reveal to us that He loves us with an unconditional love. As we read, learn and think about His Word and love and as we hear how He created the world, we see God's power, creativity, wisdom, love and tender concern for His children. Take time to marvel at His creation, the color of the sky, the light of the sun, moon and stars, the mosaic of leaves, the snowflakes that fall on the trees and lawn, the different species of animals, flowers, trees, rivers, and seas that He richly provides us for our enjoyment. In **1 Timothy 6:17** we hear this: "God is a giver. He gives us everything even when we disobey Him and live unthankful lives. He continues loving and forgiving us." He gives us the most precious gift of His body and blood for the forgiveness of our sin. He will keep on giving until the day we die, and then He will give us all the riches of His heavenly mansions. God created one world with everything that we need to survive. He also created male and female with one heart to love for security and for mutual love for one another as He loves us.

As I look back on each anniversary and remember LIPS mission statement, we keep growing spiritually. We are bound together with God's love and His gracious help.

*Cecile Walker, President
Ladies in Prayer and Service (LIPS)
Redeemer Evangelical Lutheran Church
The Bronx, New York*



HANDMADE CARDS FOR OUR TROOPS

The Suffolk Zone held its Spring Event at Our Savior Lutheran Church in Centereach, NY, on Saturday, April 16. The day started with approximately 30 women attending a worship service led by Pastor Stelzer. After the service, we went downstairs where we were instructed by Joni Mazer, the Nassau Zone President, in making handmade greeting cards for our troops. She had special stamps, decorative paper, and other items for us to use to make our own personalized cards.

All the cards were sent to *Operation Gratitude* based in California. These cards will be included in care packages to be sent to United States service men and women around the world. After our card making, we enjoyed a pot luck lunch that everyone contributed to. We especially enjoyed all the desserts provided by the ladies of Our Savior Lutheran Church. A special thank you to Joni Mazer for all of her help.

*Ginny Wirsing, President
Suffolk Zone*



****SAVE THE DATE****

October 14—16, 2011

Atlantic District Retreat at Tuscarora

Our retreat leader is Jan Struck

Topic: Seriously...Walk on Water??

Matthew 14:22-33

Discovering our "calling" to serve,
daring to step out of the boat,
and keeping our eyes on Jesus.

Our music leader is Dr. Jean Boehler
(our past convention music leader)

Registration begins September 1, 2011.

The registration form will be on the website soon.

Looking forward with you to a spirit-filled fall weekend.

Until then, may we all enjoy the summer, basking in the
warmth of our Lord's love.

*Your sister in Christ,
Lynette Taylor
Vice President for Spiritual Life*



District Young Woman Representatives

The Atlantic District LWML is privileged to have two wonderful women representing us as Young Woman Representatives at the national LWML convention this summer in Peoria, Illinois. Angela Winkler and Deaconess Raquel Rojas, who both served as YWRs to our District convention last year, will walk with President Deb in the banner procession at the convention and will be busy with lots of exciting YWR activities and events. Both young women attend Redeemer Lutheran Church in the Bronx and are now serving on our Board of Directors after their experience at the District convention. The Peoria convention will surely be an uplifting and exciting experience for them!

*Rae Ann Spitzenberger
Young Women's Advocate*

ALBANY ZONE 2011 SPRING RALLY

What a lovely day it was! Hardly any rain, just sprinkles (an achievement in upstate New York this spring!) as we drove down from the northern part of our zone through the foothills of the Catskills to our newest LCMS church in the Atlantic District, Immanuel Lutheran Church at Delhi. Blossoming trees and shrubs lined the roads and we even got to ride through a covered bridge at one point.

We assembled in Immanuel's beautiful sanctuary around the table of Our Lord for a Holy Communion service to begin our day together. The Rev. John Priest led our worship. His homily centered on our being a mission group. He told us the story of John Eliot, a seventeenth-century missionary to Native Americans in New England. It just so happened that May 21, the day of our rally, was a day of remembrance for this early spreader of the Gospel in America.

At the end of the service, we adjourned to the church hall downstairs where we enjoyed a delicious lunch (we even were treated to a special cake decorated to honor LWML) prepared by the hospitable ladies of Immanuel. Jean Alverson, VP of the Albany Zone and leader of the Immanuel society, led our business meeting. Ethel Lesh, our District and Zone Convention Manager for the 2012 Atlantic District LWML Convention in Albany, led a discussion of the work that we need to do to get ready for that event. Several women volunteered for various tasks that must be completed. Our Fall Event will be held at St. Paul's, Saratoga Springs.

The business meeting was followed by a work session in which we assembled health kits to send to the Peoria LWML convention in June. Since we have just one carload of ladies driving there, they will take 45 kits to the Convention. The considerable remainder of items for the needy which had been collected will be given to a homeless center in Delhi and the City Mission of Schenectady.

It was a good day of worship, work and fellowship. Thank You, Lord!

Alice Schuman



SUFFOLK ZONE OVERNIGHT RETREAT AT CORMARIA, SAG HARBOR



Every Mother's Day weekend for almost the past 29 years, the Suffolk Zone has a 24-hour women's retreat on the Peconic Bay in Sag Harbor. The retreat house is an old mansion dating back to the early 1900's. Each year we have a speaker, planned activities, singing, worship service and of course great food. This year was no different. Barbara D'Aquino, head of Women's Ministries at Our Savior Lutheran Church, Centereach, was our speaker. The theme was "It's Time To Sit at the Grownups Table" based on the book of Hebrews. The weather was wonderful and many of our women spent their free time either doing crafts, spending personal time with Jesus or just sitting out on the deck overlooking the bay chatting with new found friends. It is a wonderful, relaxing time. Every woman in the District is welcome to attend our retreat. Each year we have "first timers" who vow they will return the next year – and they do. This year one of our first timers thanked me for inviting her as she had such a nice time and made three new friends which she continues to keep in contact with.

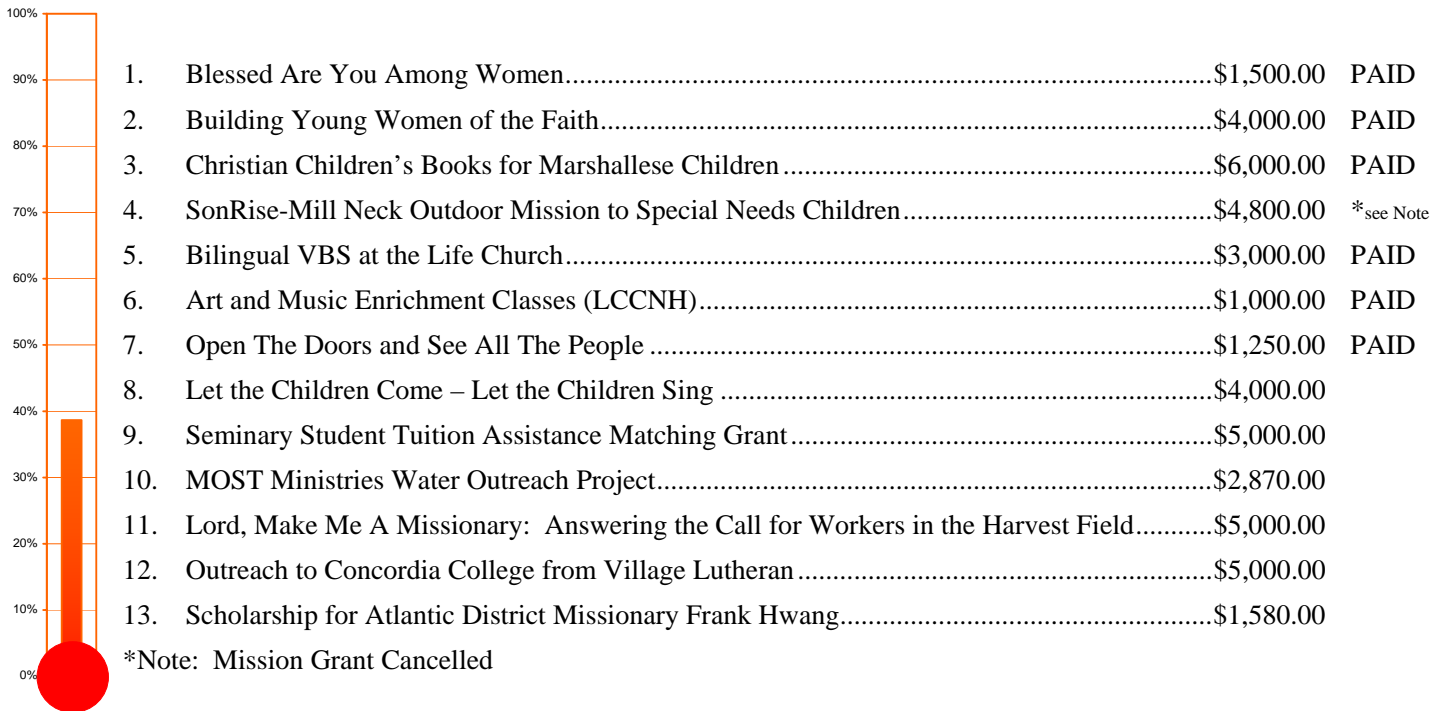
Please consider joining us next year!

Ginny Wirsing
President, Suffolk Zone



Mission Outreach

MISSION GRANTS SELECTED 2010-2012 BIENNIUM



NEXT MISSION GRANTS TO BE FUNDED:

Mission Grant #8 – Let the Children Come – Let the Children Sing - \$4,000

This grant will provide formal training in music to Inner-City (Detroit, MI) at risk girls and boys (grades 3-8). They will also learn about God’s saving grace and his love for them. We are educating, uplifting and supporting our youth with the goal being to raise up church musicians for the future. Sponsored by Mary Smith, LWML Member. We need \$3,407.15 in mite donations to pay Mission Grant #8.

Mission Grant #9 – Seminary Student Tuition Assistance Matching Grant - \$5,000

The grant funds will be used for Seminary Student Tuition Assistance in a 1:1 match by The LCMS Joint Seminary Fund through the generous gifts of individual donors, family foundations, congregations and corporations. The funds will be distributed to Concordia Seminary (St. Louis) and Concordia Theological Seminary (Ft. Wayne). Sponsored by Rev. Dr. Glen D. Thomas, Executive Director, Board for Pastoral Education – LCMS.

Atlantic District Mission Grants.....	\$45,000.00
LWML Mission Grants	\$18,750.00
Atlantic District Mission Inreach	\$11,250.00
2010-2012 Total Mission Goal.....	\$75,000.00

Lillian L. Biddle
Vice President
Mission Outreach

ZONE EVENTS

Albany Zone

10/01/11 Fall Rally, St. Paul's, Saratoga Springs

Bronx-Westchester Zone

11/05/11 Fall Event, Trinity Lutheran Church,
Scarsdale, beginning at 9:30 am

Mid Hudson Zone

10/01/11 Fall Rally, Our Savior Lutheran Church,
Fishkill.

National

06/23-26/11 LWML Convention, Peoria, IL



Safe travels for everyone going to convention in Peoria.

Please submit your travel stories for the next edition of *The Candlestick*. Everyone has a story! I'm looking forward to reading them all!

Visit us online at www.adlwml.org

Send e-mail to TheCandlestick@adlwml.org

or mail to

The Candlestick

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Submission deadline for the next issue is

September 1, 2011

PLEASE MAKE COPIES

FOR YOUR SOCIETIES.



The mission of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League is to assist each woman of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod in affirming her relationship with the Triune God so that she is enabled to use her gifts in ministry to the people of the world.

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