

MATTHEW 5:14-16

# THE CANDLESTICK

LUTHERAN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY LEAGUE

ATLANTIC DISTRICT

4th ISSUE 2010

## President's Corner

### READ THE INSTRUCTIONS

A few months ago while at work, I was attempting to open a cellophane wrapped package of *Post-it-Notes*. I tried to pick at the corners of the wrapping; I tried tearing the wrapping; I even tried a letter opener; All of this to no avail. I was starting to get a little frustrated to say the least. I tossed the package on my desk and when I looked down, there, right on the front of the wrapper was written "To open, tear here"! I followed the instructions, tearing the wrapper as it stated. I guess I should not have been surprised, but the cellophane wrapper slid right off of the paper. My little personal battle with the manufacturer of *Post-it-Notes* could have been completely avoided had I just followed a few simple instructions.

We are quickly approaching a time of year where there will be a lot of exchanging of gifts. Many of these gifts in this day and age, in our electronic minded society, come with instruction manuals; some manuals are the size of novels! In order for us to learn how to use these items the way the manufacturer intended them to be used, we read the instructions. Who better than the manufacturer of a particular item can tell you how to use it to its potential, without causing harm to the item, or yourself for that matter.

God has provided us with an instruction manual. This manual is His holy word, the Bible. He wants us to take the time to read His instructions, His guidelines for our life. God does not want us to fumble and struggle with the "wrappings" of life. He wants to give us direction on how to live a life that is most pleasing to Him; life with purpose and meaning. His instructions can lead us through even the most difficult times in our lives. Our "Manufacturer", our Creator, knows better than anyone how to direct our path. But, we must read the instructions!

God's instruction book tells us that He sent his only Son into this world to live among us. He sent Jesus to walk among us. To live as we live, to feel what we feel; Immanuel-God with us! Jesus took on all of our sins and iniquities. He bled and died on a cross; suffered, so that you

and I may never feel the sting of death. But then, on that victorious third day, He rose so that we can have the assurance of life eternal. That is the 100% guarantee of our "Manufacturer"!

As we approach a new year on the calendar, now would be a great time for each and every one of us to make a commitment to dig deeper into God's life-saving instruction manual. Each day, take some time to walk with Him and talk with Him.

Read the instructions. Stop fumbling with the wrapper!

God's peace to each and every one of you in this Christmas season and in the coming New Year!

*Deborah Graybosch*  
President  
Atlantic District LWML



*For we walk by faith, not by sight.*

*2 Corinthians 5:7*



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## Pastoral Corner

Dear Sisters in Christ,

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

First let me begin by thanking Dr. Butts for a wonderful retreat. Our retreat was truly a spiritual journey as we focused on the theme, "Transformed in Christ". We thank God for His spirit transforming us and we now become sons and daughters of the King. It is only by the Holy Spirit that we are truly transformed. At our Baptism faith is created and our faith grows as we move from the milk to the meat of God's word. Water connected to God's holy word not only creates faith but sustains us in our faith. We teach, believe and confess that we are saints and sinners forgiven in Christ, and the Father remembers our sins no more.

God continues to transform us as we worship in song and prayer. Together we grow in our faith.

We have heard the call of our national LWML concerning our mite goals. I am reminded of the widow's mite in the Bible. Jesus said to His disciples that she showed her faith because she gave all she had. It is my prayer that we, by God's spirit, move our hearts and minds to give to our missions in Synod and District. Because we are transformed, we can respond cheerfully as we answer the call. May we continue to transform the world in Christ. It is truly the gospel message of hope, peace, love and joy. May we always remember that Christ gave to us first in His mission to save the world from sin.

We are the light of the world in what we believe, say and do. It is my prayer as Pastoral Counselor that we continue to become the light in our transformation so we all can see Jesus and give glory to God in our hearts.

In closing, I am reminded of one of my favorite songs, "When we all get to heaven, what a day of rejoicing it will be. When we all see Jesus, we will sing and shout for victory."

*In His Service,  
Pastor Marvin Griffin, Sr.  
Senior Pastoral Counselor*

## Human Care

### ORDINARY PEOPLE FOR IMPORTANT WORK

The CNN Network presented a special program on Thanksgiving Day 2010 that featured the lives of 10 heroes who were described by the host, Anderson Cooper, as "warriors against injustice who are doing battle for all of us." Along with a host of celebrities, tribute was paid to ordinary men and women who are standing up not only for a cause but for humanity and justice. As each story was narrated and portrayed, one could not but help but wonder how courageous and fearless these 10 people are. Inspired and moved to compassion, you learned how they each tread waters that many of us would probably never fathom doing. Each work and cause specific to a need and people was done with passion and compassion. They included, and were not limited to feeding thousands of children in 15 countries around the world, providing a hospital and healthcare in one of the most violent cities of Mexico, detonating live mines in Cambodia, helping female ex-cons stay out of prison once freed, creating lamps suitable for children to read by at night, and rescuing young girls from sexual slavery in Nepal. Yes, ordinary people moved by a need purposed to do something about a situation, and with the help and monetary support of others clearly accomplished important and meaningful work with children, youth, and adults from around the world, and from diverse social, economic, political and spiritual strata in life. How inspiring it was to watch these 10 heroes recognized for their bravery, dedication, love, and compassion as they set an example for many to follow and emulate.

Ordinary people, just ordinary people! That is who God has always looked for to do and accomplish His will. To do His will not for the accolades and recognition, but for Jesus, and for the love and good of humanity. For what is His will for us, His redeemed children, but to "act justly and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God." (Micah 6:8- NIV). As the Gospel of Matthew (25:41-45) so aptly presents it, it is to satisfy the hungry and thirsty, clothe the naked, offer hospitality to the stranger, and to tend to the sick and the imprisoned. For in doing this, we do it as unto Jesus himself, and what a great honor is this!

As we continue to serve and love the Lord in whatever way, manner, and scale, may we continue to be inspired to dream and labor for the Kingdom and for humanity. Remembering that perhaps, we will never receive the tribute and monetary acknowledgment as CNN's 10 heroes did, but knowing that we can be assured of hearing the Master's faithful words as we enter His heavenly presence, "Well done, good and faithful servant." (Mathew 25:21). What greater impetus than this, as we purpose to live our lives to the glory and honor of the Living and Triune God-Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

*Rosa I. Cruz-Molina  
Vice President Human Care*

## LWML JOINS “FACEBOOK”

The Lutheran Women’s Missionary League (LWML) is now part of Facebook; one of the fastest growing social networking websites on the Internet.

Social Networking is a term that describes the ability to meet friends in one convenient place. Each Facebook user can create a profile with photos, videos and information about themselves. Before the Internet was launched, social networking was primarily done at social events. Now it can be done from the computer desk right at home. Each Facebook page also has a wall where comments may be posted, and this public conversation can be viewed by all those who visit the site.

The LWML saw the ability to join Facebook as an opportunity to share God's Word with friends and even with friends' friends. Items included on the Lutheran Women in Mission Facebook page include LWML history and facts, prayer suggestions, discussion starters, mission grant information, and Mite Box donation reminders. Facebook provides women and men from across the nation the opportunity to keep in touch with one another.

In August 2010, the LWML launched its official Facebook.com page. Within the first thirty days over 1,300 people joined in fellowship on the LWML page. The response has been remarkable. You are invited to visit the Lutheran Women in Mission–LWML page and join in the conversation at [www.facebook.com/theLWML](http://www.facebook.com/theLWML).

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## THE FACE OF LWML

If I looked at the face of a woman in the LWML, would she give away any clues to the mission?

I wonder about the face because I am supposed to let my Christian light shine before the world. Sometimes I am surprised when people tell me that my face shines a comforting peace. The other day one of my sisters in Christ told me that I looked especially pretty that morning. Oh, this was such a comfort because I was gathering with other sisters that I haven’t seen in a year. And I wanted to look pretty for them. Of course, I wanted them to see peace and joy.

What is the mission of LWML?

I went to Facebook and read the LWML Atlantic District’s website and found the answer:

“Our mission 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.”

Martin Luther’s catechism style would follow with a question: What does this mean?

My answer would be that as an LWML member, I have a joyful obligation to inspire each woman to have a positive relationship with God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost. This humble relationship is about grace, faith and gifts. Ephesians 2:8 and 9 says, “For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works so that no one may boast.”

Because of this verse, I know that all of God’s children have gifts. The gift of faith is the best gift. And how I love to share gifts! My love for Christ does give me joy and I lovingly want to share that gift of faith, humbly, with all that come into my life. My heart wants to grow closer to Christ. I know that those around me do help me in this goal. How can I help them use their gifts to serve others in the world?

I can say “thank-you”. God tells me to pray with thanksgiving. He has taught me that saying “thank you” is pleasing to Him. Would it be pleasing to others? Telling others thank you lets them know that their gift has served others well. And, as each woman grows closer in her relationship to God, she will continue to share the gifts God has given her with all of God’s children.

I can have joy. Joy influences others to work eagerly. I want to see each woman eagerly help the poor, the sad, and the needy.

I can share love. Jesus’ law says to love one another. The love in my heart will give each day a new start. The women of LWML do humbly share Christian love for others. I have faith in God who spreads this love all over the world. Love is the best gift of God. My joyful face is a book that tells The Story of Jesus and His love.

*Joan Nathan*

*Christian Growth Chairman*

*Ladies Guild of Holy Trinity, Middle Island*

## Sometimes you just have to ask, “Why?”

My girlfriend and I had decided to treat ourselves and meet for breakfast. Rather than eat at a diner, we decided to stop at a local deli, pick up food, and bring it back to her house where we could enjoy each other’s company on her back patio.

We were ready to leave the parking lot when we both noticed a woman, crouched down on the sidewalk, in front of her car, polishing her toe nails. Hovering just about two inches over the curb, bent to the ground, painting her toes.

Ginny and I just sat there looking at her with speechless expressions on our faces. That’s when I said, “Don’t you just want to go over to her and ask, ‘Why?’”

To people who don’t have a relationship with Jesus, my behavior may cause them to pause and want to ask me, “Why?” Why do I believe in a man who lived thousands of years ago? Why do I believe in what the Bible says?

Why do I believe that Jesus Christ lived, died, defeated death, and paid for me with His blood? Why do I have hope in a world that seems to be hopeless? How in the world does the Holy Spirit live inside of me? Why do I have faith? Why do I believe?

All of us are instructed to have an answer to these questions.

1 Peter 3:15-16 (New International Version)

<sup>15</sup>But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, <sup>16</sup>keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander.

Am I ready to give an answer to the reason for my faith? Are you ready to do the same?

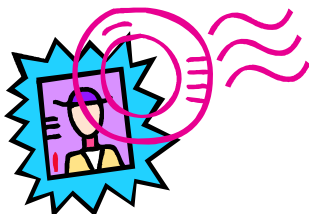
At this point in time, my answer to this question may hinge on the fact that I’m raising four teenagers and a husband, and I haven’t killed any of them yet. But my sarcasm wouldn’t plant any seeds of faith in the listener’s heart.

My faith is built on years of living proof, hard evidence of the work of God in my life and those around me. My faith is solidified in lives of the people God has touched, who openly give their testimony of His loving faithfulness in their lives. My faith is as necessary as air and water because without my belief in Jesus Christ living on this earthly plane is hopeless.

What is your answer? Why do you believe? Are you prepared to give a reason for your faith?

Think on these things.

Linda Guteres



### GREAT NEWS!

The great news is that our five year total of funds received from all the stamp donations is now \$1,096. All donations go to the AD LWML Interpreter’s Fund. We are so thankful for all who have donated the stamps and worked on getting them cut and sorted so they can be delivered to the dealer. This has been a blessing because of the support but also because it has brought many groups of LWML women together as they cut and sort the stamps. An additional blessing is the benefit of assisting with the cost of interpreters so our deaf sisters could be with us at events when they are able to attend. Please continue to save your stamps. We will also be happy to accept any collections or first day covers. If you have any questions, please contact me at 631-563-0046 or by email at [bizz728@aol.com](mailto:bizz728@aol.com) (please put “stamps” on the subject line).

Linda Bizzaro  
Stamp Chairman

### LWML 2013 CONVENTION FUNDRAISING

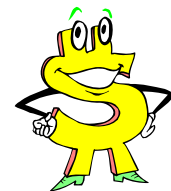
As you may know, Pittsburgh, PA, has been selected to be the host city of LWML’s 2013 National Convention. Each of the six host districts have been asked to help make a monetary contribution towards hosting this event. Atlantic District’s Immediate Past President, Maureen Consiglio, has been selected to Chair the Planning Committee...and she needs our help!

Some suggestions are bake sales, asking your group to donate a percentage of your Christmas Fair earnings, dinners, free-will offerings, etc. These are just some thoughts. Any way you can help would be greatly appreciated.

We are also collecting empty toner cartridges as part of a recycling program. LWML earns money for sending them back. I have volunteered to coordinate these efforts across zones. For more information, please send an e-mail to [thecandlestick@adlwml.org](mailto:thecandlestick@adlwml.org). Please bear with me while I learn the ropes to this new endeavor.

Thank you for your support!

Kathy LaPorte  
Editor, The Candlestick



## ALBANY ZONE LWML FALL EVENT, 2010

We were truly blessed on Saturday, September 25, 2010, when we met for our Albany Zone Fall Event at Zion Lutheran Church, Schenectady, NY. It was a beautiful day outside which meant easier travel for our sisters who come from far and wide to our meetings. (I think we must have the longest zone!)

Nadia Tileschuk and Jean Wildgrube greeted our guests at the door. Women were invited to leave their ingathering items (school supplies for needy children which were to be turned over to our speaker who distributes them as she travels to distant places). After registering, the ladies and two pastors climbed the stairs to our second floor parish hall to visit and have lunch. A delicious meal prepared by the ladies of Zion was enjoyed by all. (The only gaffe was that Alice Schuman discovered to her dismay that the coffee and hot water pots had not turned on when she thought she had switched them on. Coffee took a while as a result.)

Pastor David Nuss, our Pastoral Counselor, and Pastor George Carstensen, Host Pastor, led our worship and Holy Communion service. After sharing that best meal of all, we settled down to hear our speaker.

Karen Flewelling is a member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Saratoga Springs, NY. A number of years ago she became interested in participating in the activities of Earthwatch, e.g. counting rare birds in distant places. As she traveled to these out-of-the-way spots, she came in contact with the often deplorable living conditions of the people. This led her to get involved in bringing potable water to many locations around the world, principally in Africa and South America. Karen told us of some of her experiences, often reading from her journal. That her words were powerful was made very clear by the reaction of the audience. Our Albany Zone LWML presented her with a check to support her work, especially her current project of digging a well in Uganda next spring.

At our business meeting Ethel Lesh, Atlantic District LWML Convention Manager, reported on a recent meeting she had held with Albany Zone representatives about our responsibilities in hosting the 2012 Convention. Ethel was elected our Zone Convention Manager.

We elected a new President Janice Topping, Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, Glens Falls, NY, and a new Vice-President Jean Alverson, Immanuel Lutheran Church, Delhi. Jan and Jean spoke briefly, telling of their backgrounds and pledging their devotion to carrying out their new offices. They were installed in office by Pastor Nuss at the end of our meeting.

We bid a fond adieu to Pastor David Nuss who has been our Pastoral Counselor for a number of years. His kindness and good humor have been a blessing to us all.

*Alice Schuman*



### LWML 2011 PRAYER SERVICE AVAILABLE *FREE* ONLINE

The LWML Prayer Service for 2010 is now available online at [www.lwml.org](http://www.lwml.org). The service celebrates the theme of the 34th Biennial LWML Convention in Peoria, Illinois, June 23-26, 2011: "Being with Jesus – Living on the Edge!" The convention Bible verse is Acts 4:13b, 20: "And they realized they had been with Jesus. For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard." The convention goal statement is "Empowered by being with Jesus, I courageously speak of Him and live a life transformed by His love."

With the convention theme, Bible verse, and goal statement in mind, the prayer service presents seven scenarios where women, motivated by the Gospel of Jesus, have the opportunity to share the Good News with others. Time is given for reflection, prayer, and the identification of life situations where participants might be able to witness God's grace in Jesus Christ. Bible reading and group prayers follow each scenario. The service ends with a mite offering and a pledge for faithful service.

The author, Reverend Carl Gnewuch, served the LWML as Pastoral Counselor from 2005-2009. He is a graduate of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, currently serving as senior pastor at Our Shepherd Lutheran Church, Birmingham, Michigan. He is married to Cindy for 25 years and they are blessed with children Stephanie, Mark, and Kyle.

LWML President Janice Wendorf encourages all Lutheran Women in Mission to take advantage of this *free* downloadable resource: "May the Lord encourage us through His Word to speak bravely and confidently what we know – Jesus lived, died and rose for us!"

## LWML TRANSFORMED IN CHRIST RETREAT - 2010

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This year was my first time joining the Atlantic District Lutheran Women's Missionary League annual retreat. I really had a blank page going into it, having never been on any type of retreat with the church or any group in my life. To my surprise, it not only met my spiritual need; it helped me to think as well.

During my whole life, I have never really had many female friends, and I have to admit I came to this event thinking, "Oh boy! All these women". To my surprise, I have not ever felt such closeness, oneness and strong bonds all in one place, with all these women whom I had never met.

I left with a completely different outlook on women. There are a lot of good women out there who are willing to roll up their sleeves, help one another and get the job done through the love of Christ.

Over this weekend of being transformed as Dr. LuJuana Butts spoke, as we ate together, as we did crafts, as we laughed and prayed together, we were sharing the love of Christ Jesus with each other. Jesus opened my heart and soul in a special way during this time. There are not words to describe the feelings of love that I have in my mind, body and soul for the Lord and for the women with whom I shared that weekend. I thank God for bringing me to this place where I was able to take time and see God's love all around me through these women and His creation.

There is one last thing I cannot leave out. While there in Pennsylvania, I had a chance to become one with nature. I was able to go down to the river for hours and pray and speak with our Heavenly Father, to feel His presence all over. I looked upon His Word so beautifully, so sacredly, so breathtakingly. Towards the end of this trip, I saw birds, crows, chipmunks and squirrels. Watching the leaves fall from the trees, the steam of the water is something that for me is not seen everyday. I did not want to leave. Then I realized that I am not leaving because I will hold these memories and apply this love everyday of my life through the love of Christ. I am so thankful to have been part of this. Thanks be to God and Redeemer Evangelical Lutheran Church in the Bronx and especially Deaconess Rojas; without her love and support it would have not been possible for me to attend and be blessed. Thank you and God Bless!

*Kristijo Melendez  
Redeemer Evangelical Lutheran Church  
The Bronx, NY*

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It was exciting for me to attend the Atlantic District LWML Retreat. I must say I am continually impressed and touched by the women of the LWML. Their faith, their dedication and their genuine love for each other through Christ is something so refreshing to see and experience. During this transforming retreat, I was really able to connect with my sisters in Christ in a different way than we can usually connect by enjoying food, constructing crafts, and even just walking and talking. For many of us, it was the first time attending a retreat, so I enjoyed sharing the excitement as our fellowship was strengthened and nourished through the activities.

This time was to help us be transformed in Christ. We were broken, molded and remade by His Word through His servant Dr. LuJuana Butts. Dr. Butts did such a wonderful job by reminding us that through Christ Jesus, we are transformed, that He is the Potter and that we are the clay. It was beautiful to have these encouraging words being reemphasized by the wonderful music by Dr. Jean Boehler.

I enjoyed this three day retreat because it provided a time for me to reflect on God's Word in a different way, in a different place, through the prayer time, Bible studies, meditation and worship. It was a time of much needed respite for me, to sit at "Jesus' feet" and be transformed by His love. The labor of all those who expended of their time, talents and efforts gave me an opportunity to reflect once again on my vocation and where God has called me to serve. With that we know that it is His will that all people be transformed in Him. Therefore, we continue to ask that He forms others throughout their lives just as we have been formed and transformed. This retreat re-energized my own love for Scripture and my desire to spend time alone with God. It warned me once more not to get caught up in work because my service cannot hinder my personal life in Christ.

My prayer is that we know and share that Christ has transformed us from death into life; He has transformed us from being only sinners into being saints as well. He has the power to transform and He chooses to do so out of His mercy, grace and love. We ask that He keep our minds and our hearts open so that we may be remade into true servants of His Word, that He restores unto us the joy of our salvation in Him!

Mercy, peace and love,  
*Deaconess Raquel Rojas  
Redeemer Evangelical Lutheran Church  
The Bronx, NY*

## MY FIRST RETREAT!

I would like you to go with me on a journey, but for this, you have to close your eyes. Oh, I realize that this is a little bit difficult while you are trying to read my lines here. OK – just imagine!!! Friday afternoon, the work stress of the past week is behind you, a dear friend is sitting beside you in the car, and you are surrounded by the most beautiful fall colors of Pennsylvania. After a relatively short drive (1 ½ hours from Yonkers, NY) we arrive in paradise. A valley with a babbling brook winds along a curvy road, framed in orange, yellow and brown autumn leaves, crisp air, and sunshine. Are you still with me? That is Tuscarora - an inviting Lutheran Retreat Center in Mount Bethel, PA.

After we checked into our comfortable room, we met other retreat members. “Old” friends from various meetings and churches, other ladies we had never seen before, employees of Tuscarora; and everybody welcomed us with a friendly smile or a hug. I felt so comfortable among my sisters in Christ and saw right away that this weekend would be very special. I knew that our spiritual nourishment was taken care of because my dear friend, Dr. LuJuana Butts was the retreat leader; she and her husband, Melvin, are truly people of God and went way beyond their “call of duty” to make everybody feel comfortable. Our theme was “Transformed in Christ”, and Dr. Butts had four distinct parts to her strategy. We reflected on our transformation

✦ In Christ,  
✦ by Love,  
✦ by Prayer, and  
✦ by Serving

These parts were spread out from Friday evening to Sunday Morning and were enhanced by wonderful music led by my great friend and roommate, Dr. Jean Boehler. Oh did we ever have a list of favorites (at least favorites of mine) like...*Lead Me, Guide Me, Along the Way... My Faith Looks Up to Thee... Spirit of the Living God... Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying*, and many more; Jean even taught us new songs and we sounded pretty good.

Half way into the second day I came up with a more secular comparison of this wonderful retreat. Only one time in my life was I able to visit a spa - that was part of my present for our 25<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. It was such an unbelievable experience that this great reflective weekend reminded me of this spa. We were cleansed by the forgiveness of our Lord Jesus Christ, we were wrapped in the warm comfort of the most beautiful and up-lifting music, and we were nourished by the many examples and stories Dr. Butts shared with us.

You cannot believe how much we laughed. Unfortunately, I cannot share with you the inside jokes of my friend Deborah, and believe me the “Suffolk Players” really made me laugh so hard, that it took some time to catch my breath again. I loved their skit about installing the program, “Love” on a laptop computer; it really hit home with technically challenged people like me. I could go on and on and just realized that I haven’t even mentioned our two Pastoral Counselors, Rev. Marvin Griffin and Rev. Travis Yee. We were led by Rev. Yee in a Compline service on Friday evening, and Pastor Griffin shared the Sunday worship service with us where he gave us an unforgettable sermon.

There is one point I would like to make to all of you, especially the ones who had never been on such a retreat: the Planning Committee (thanks to every one of you). They were very thoughtful and didn’t “pack” this retreat full of “stuff” – it was definitely the right mix of studying the Word, reflecting on God’s creation, relaxation and entertainment. To accomplish this blend of activities is not easy, especially since there were ladies in their early 20’s as well as more seasoned LWMLers still going strong in their high 80’s; however, our planning team did it.

On Saturday afternoon I had really planned to take a LONG nap and possibly watch the featured film before dinner, but my “new” lunch partners mentioned a craft session. Yes, we were “intentionally” mixed up to meet new ladies and thanks to mine, I made a beautiful card, which I decorated with stamps and ribbons and immediately sent it on to my daughter, Stephanie, in St. Louis, MO, hoping that she will be inspired by my work to join me at the national Convention in Peoria, IL, next summer.

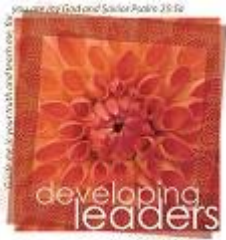
Did I mention the delicious food they served at Tuscarora? Oh my, three outstanding meals a day and the calories just flowed, but then I thought of my sister’s smart comment, which always makes me laugh. According to her explanation, calories are little animals that sneak into your clothes at night and sew them tighter. I could have done something about these little animals since our Planning Committee had scheduled an early morning exercise walk, but “Saint Mattress and the Holy Comforter” didn’t let me leave the warm bed at 6:30 am. I also have to admit that I did not take advantage of the “Deck Devotion” offered before breakfast. I promise, however, that I will be better next year; after all...it was my first retreat.

During the Sunday worship service it became so evident how much this retreat meant for me. The transformation in Christ was felt in my heart and soul, and I returned home renewed in His service, evident even to my family. Thank you Atlantic District LWML for planning such a meaningful weekend. I can tell you right now, this was only my first retreat – not my last. Blessings to all of you.

*By Brigitte Conkling*

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# Leader Development...Developing Leaders



From the LWML Leader Development Committee ...

It's that time of year. We're making our lists and checking them twice, hoping to find the right gifts for the people on our list. Have you thought of the gifts you already possess? Gifts of the Spirit? Two resources are now available here as free downloads. They are the revised and updated *Gifted for Service* and *Personal Development*. Check them out and see how you can use your gifts in service to your Lord and Savior!

***Gifted for Service*** - A Bible Study on Spiritual Gifts.

***Personal Development*** - Are you all wrapped up in beautiful paper with ribbons and all the trimmings to match? What is inside that beautifully wrapped gift?

Printed from the LWML Website

**LWML Plays in Peoria** – Peoria, Illinois, will be the place to be from June 23-26, 2011, to hear renowned speaker and author Deb Burma, the keynote speaker at the 34<sup>th</sup> Biennial LWML Convention under the theme **“Being with Jesus – Living on the Edge.”** You will be encouraged as Deb challenges you to “live on the edge” in different ways. While you’re at the convention, check out the Servant Events on Thursday. Quilts and other items to bring for *Gifts from the Heart* can be found when you visit [www.lwml.org](http://www.lwml.org). Just select convention on the “Favorites slider” for more details.

**LWML Plays in Peoria** – That’s right – playing soon in Peoria, Illinois, from June 23-26, 2011, will be Bible study leader Dr. Reed Lessing at the 34<sup>th</sup> Biennial LWML Convention. Dr. Reed’s dynamic Bible study sessions will be centered on the theme of the convention **“Being with Jesus – Living on the Edge.”** Come and hear mission speakers demonstrating how they also “live on the edge.” And don’t worry about missing your regular exercise when you’re at convention. You will have a great opportunity on Saturday morning to participate in the Mission Pledge Walk. Visit [www.lwml.org](http://www.lwml.org) for more details.

## MEMORIES FROM TUSCARORA



**ATLANTIC DISTRICT LWML  
MISSION GRANTS SELECTED  
2010-2012 BIENNIUM**

1. Blessed Are You Among Women.....	\$1,500.00	<b>PAID</b>
2. Building Young Women of the Faith.....	\$4,000.00	<b>PAID</b>
3. Christian Children’s Books for Marshallese Children .....	\$6,000.00	
4. SonRise-Mill Neck Outdoor Mission to Special Needs Children.....	\$4,800.00	<b>**Note</b>
5. Bilingual VBS at the Life Church.....	\$3,000.00	
6. Art and Music Enrichment Classes (LCCNH).....	\$1,000.00	
7. Open The Doors and See All The People .....	\$1,250.00	
8. Let the Children Come – Let the Children Sing .....	\$4,000.00	
9. Seminary Student Tuition Assistance Matching Grant.....	\$5,000.00	
10. MOST Ministries Water Outreach Project.....	\$2,870.00	
11. Lord, Make Me A Missionary: Answering the Call for Workers in the Harvest Field.....	\$5,000.00	
12. Outreach to Concordia College from Village Lutheran .....	\$5,000.00	
13. Scholarship for Atlantic District Missionary Frank Hwang .....	\$1,580.00	

\*\*Note: Mission Project Cancelled September 2010

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

**NEXT MISSION GRANTS TO BE FUNDED**

Mission Grant #3 – Christian Children’s Books for Marshallese Children - \$6,000

A nation with a young population, high illiteracy and drop-out rates, the Marshall Islands has few children’s books available in the native language of their people. This project will see the production of the first Marshallese Language Christian Children’s book, which will be modeled after the “Arch-Book” style published by CPH. This grant will be used to help fund the publishing and distribution of books. Pastor Paul Sauer and Our Savior Lutheran Church (Bronx) will partner with the Ministry of Education and churches and schools in the Marshall Islands to ensure that books are distributed to as many children as possible. (Sponsored by Hearts and Hand Society (LWML), Our Savior, Bronx) We need \$3,662.03 in mite donations to pay Mission Grant #3.

Mission Grant #5 – Bilingual VBS at the Life Church - \$3,000

THE LIFE is a new church plant in Old Westbury, New York, seeking to reach the unchurched by meeting community needs. In the neighboring Westbury School District about 40% of the elementary school children are not English proficient and about 80% of families are eligible for federally funded school meals. This grant will be used to provide a Bilingual VBS for children that will be fun and nurturing while spreading the Gospel. (Sponsored by Lynette Taylor, LWML Member)

*Lillian L. Biddle  
Vice President  
Mission Outreach*



**EASTERN ZONE SELC DISTRICT JOINT RETREAT  
WITH ATLANTIC, NEW ENGLAND, NEW JERSEY,  
EASTERN AND ENGLISH DISTRICTS**

Friday, April 8 – Saturday, April 9, 2011  
Eden Resort, Lancaster, PA

Journey to Faith: The Trip for a Lifetime

**Join Us As We Discover:**

What is Spiritual Growth  
Stages of Spiritual Growth  
Marks of Spiritual Growth  
Nurturing Spiritual Growth

**Price: Includes Friday & Saturday Night Lodging, Breakfast & Lunch on Saturday, Breakfast on Sunday**

**Lodging in Standard Guest Rooms Per Night** *(please check your choice)*

- Single - \$331 per person
- Double - \$188 per person

**Lodging in Queen Suites** (3 queen beds & a pull-out queen bed). Each Suite contains 2 separate rooms separated by a bathroom *(please check your choice)*

- Triple - \$170.00 per person
- Quad - \$144 per person
- 5 people - \$129 per person
- 6 People - \$118 per person

**Optional One Night Stay on Friday Night:** Includes Breakfast & Lunch on Saturday

Queen Suites (same arrangement as above) *(please check your choice)*

- Triple - \$94 per person
- Quad - \$81 per person
- 5 people - \$73 per person
- 6 people - \$68 per person

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_

**Registration Deadline: February 8, 2011.**

Questions please call Cheryl Rusiecki at 609-926-6573.

Please make checks payable to Peace Lutheran LWML, and mail them to:

Cheryl Rusiecki  
120 Ruby Drive  
Egg Harbor Township, NJ 08234

## ZONE EVENTS

### Executive Committee

02/12/11 Atlantic District LWML Board of Directors Meeting, Concordia College, Bronxville, beginning at 9:30am for the Executive Committee and 10:00am for the full Board

### National

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

## LADIES IN PRAYER AND SERVICE—LIPS

Cordially invite you to our  
Anniversary Luncheon  
on

Saturday, March 5, 2011

at

Redeemer Evangelical  
Lutheran Church



4360 Rev. Theodore Wittrock Crossing  
(Boyd Avenue)

Bronx, NY 10466

10:30 am—2:30 pm

\$25.00 per person

Speaker: Rosa Cruz-Molina

Theme: One World, One Heart

RSVP by February 15, 2011 to:

Cecile Walker, Redeemer LIPS  
Redeemer Evangelical Lutheran Church  
4360 Rev. Theodore Wittrock Crossing  
(Boyd Avenue)



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.

## Executive Committee



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or mail to

The Candlestick, 12 Antarctic Street, Bay Shore, NY 11706

Submission deadline for the next issue is

**March 1, 2011**

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FOR YOUR SOCIETIES.**