



CROSSWINDS

Volume 33
Issue 11
September 2011

Newsletter of the La Crosse Area Synod Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

W-ELCA President -Leanne Lutz

Greetings Sisters in Christ:

This summer is just flying by! It seems only yesterday that I was looking out my kitchen window, wondering if the grass was going to green up and my flowers would start pushing through the dead leaves of last Fall! Now we're fast approaching the Harvest and putting them back to bed for winter.

Psalm 23:5, "Thou prepares a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anoints my head with oil; my cup runneth over." My cup has overflowed so many times this summer....let me share just a few of the moments:

Triennial Convention/Gathering, Spokane, Washington – Thanks so much for the honor of being a delegate and taking part in decision making and seeing all of the behind-the-scenes work of the Churchwide officers for the Women of the ELCA organization. Churchwide's recap of living out our purpose statement: "*Growing in Faith*" Lutheran Woman Today magazine will be renamed to Gather in September 2011, Café: Stirring the Spirit Within is a free online publication and podcast for young women. "*Affirming our Gifts*" mobilizing women to act boldly on their faith in Jesus Christ, 30 new program resources available online, leadership programs for synodical presidents and treasurers. "*Supporting One Another*" scholarships, supporting congregational units, networking at the youth gathering. "*Engaging in Ministry and Action*" building global community, raising up healthy women and girls, partners in ministry. "*Promoting Healing and Wholeness*" grants for nonprofit organizations, Today's Dream: Tomorrow's Reality. "*Providing for Mission*" regular offerings, thankofferings, designated gifts, special offerings. "*Planning a Gift*" planned giving and much, much more! The worship was uplifting, the speakers were fantastic, the Congo line got the youth excited (as well as the young at heart) and communing together brought about renewal of shared faith with our sisters in Christ.

On a personal note, a new job in patient care has brought me full circle to my purpose in this life – serving others! My baby enters her senior year of high school and I return to school as well to continue working towards my nursing degree. As I said earlier, my cup runneth over with the blessings in my life!

Our Fall Renewal (formerly Fall Workshop) is scheduled for Saturday, October 15, 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m., St. Paul's Lutheran, West Ave., LaCrosse, please register early, bring your completed quilting sheets, and ideas from your units that work well! Come for a morning of devotions, information on changes for 2012 LWR kits, as well as speaker, Suzanne Soltvedt, and a time for sharing your units' ideas!

In ending, enjoy the rest of your summer, be safe, act boldly and continue to lift up your Sisters in Christ through word and deed!

Blessings!

Leanne Lutz, President
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