



Ohio District  
Northeast Zone

# Nor'easter

January 2009



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



The new year always brings to mind resolutions – those famous or infamous New Year's Resolutions. A resolution is a definite or earnest decision to follow some course of action.

I have made the usual resolutions in years past – lose ten pounds, be more organized, be on time – and the results have been rather dismal. Some resolutions have been broken before the week was out; others lasted just a tad longer.

This year I decided to try a different approach to making resolutions. I decided upon a course of action

that will last for a lifetime rather than a few days.

After my morning prayer, I have resolved to daily state my beliefs using my "hand of faith." These statements are neither earth-shattering nor innovative. Rather they are statements that will govern my thoughts, my actions and my heart.

I begin with my index finger, the one known as "the pointer." On that finger I say my first statement; "I believe in God." It is a simple statement of the fact that I believe that God is real and I want Him in my life. This belief will point me in the right direction each and every day.....cont on page 2

## ZONE COUNSELOR MESSAGE



.Look to the Hills.  
What a great way to express our faith. Every time God has come to His people in Scripture it has been on a hill or a mountain. Think about that for a moment.

God gave Moses the Law on Mt Sinai, Exodus 31:18 and Christ was crucified for us on Mt Calvary, Luke 23:33. Other examples are Solomon building the temple on Mount Moriah, 2 Chronicles 3:1, the same place where Abraham was told to sacrifice Isaac, Genesis 22:2

The Mount of Olives also holds a special place for David, 2 Samuel 15:30, and for Christ who visited there many times, Luke 22:39, and the Garden of Gethsemane is on this hill.

And of course Mount Zion will be the site of Christ's return, Hebrews 12:22, Revelation 14:1

As we continue to make preparations for this years Prayer Breakfast, Spring Rally and Fall Retreat, please do not lose sight of the fact that God comes to us because, in our sinfulness, we cannot go to Him. ....Cont. on page 2

### Northeast Zone Officers

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### LWML WEBSITES:

#### National

<http://www.lwml.org>

#### Ohio District

<http://lutheransonline.com/lwmlodistrict>

#### Northeast Zone

<http://www.lutheransonline.com/nezone/wmlOhio>

### Want to see more news in this newsletter?

Your news items are needed:

Please send your Society news

#### Email

[dkrainz@trinitywilloughby.org](mailto:dkrainz@trinitywilloughby.org)

#### or by US mail:

Trinity Lutheran Church  
Attn: Debbie Krainz  
37728 Euclid Avenue  
Willoughby, Ohio 44094

## Presidents message *(cont. from Page 1)*

The next finger is the middle finger, the tallest one. I focus on that finger as I say; "I believe that God can do all things." This statement reassures me that no matter what I encounter in the hours ahead, God will be there and He will be in control. I know that I should not be anxious about anything because God can and does take care of everything.

The third finger is the ring finger, the one that supposedly has the direct line to the heart. On this finger I state; "I believe that Jesus died for my sins." Because Jesus lived and died to take away all of my sins, I know that I am a redeemed and forgiven child of God. I know that the greatest act of love occurred on the cross on Good Friday.

The last finger is the little finger, the baby that always gets bumped and bruised. On that finger I state; "I believe that God loves me." Just as we protect and love our little ones. I know that God loves and takes care of me. As I focus on my little finger, I remember the song lyrics, "God loves me dearly, loves even me."

The final declaration of my faith is stated on my thumb; "I trust my life to God." I know God is in charge of my life and He is all I need to face each new day.

I conclude my "hand of faith" by putting my hand into God's hands. I ask Him to guide and guard, shield and shelter me as I go out into the world. I ask Him to be near me as I face the day with all its chal-

lenges, frustrations, joys and rewards. I resolve to keep my hand in God's hands into this new year and always!

Serving the Lord together,

Jeanne Schimmelmann



**Women's Fellowship**

## Counselor message *(cont. from Page 1)*

There is no better way to remind us to look to God or to the hills but to be in fellowship with each other at these events. Please join us for these gatherings so that we may build each other up in the faith, giving support and comfort with the love and comfort we have received through the love of Christ.

The theme for the 33<sup>rd</sup> Biennial LWML Convention in Portland, Oregon, is "Look to the Hills, God Reigns." Look to the hills and pray that God would bless us in all that we

do in the Northeast Zone. Look to the hills as those in Scripture did and God came to them. Look to the hills may be a theme but let it be our gathering place, look and keep our eyes focused on the cross, where Christ came to us.

In His Service

Rev. Donald P. Beaumont

Joshua 24:5

**SPRING RALLY** – the Spring Rally will be held on Saturday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> at Our Savior Lutheran Church, Mayfield Heights.

**FALL GETAWAY RETREAT** - The Retreat Committee will be making plans for the Fall Retreat beginning in February. If you have any suggestions for interest sessions, craft projects or mission projects, please contact me at 440-943-5497 or [jjj3shim@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jjj3shim@sbcglobal.net). The committee would appreciate any suggestions or ideas. The Fall Retreat is scheduled for September 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> at Cedar Hills Conference Center.

**NATIONAL CONVENTION** – The 2009 LWML National Convention will be held June 25 – June 28 at the Oregon Convention Center in Portland.

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"Look To The Hills"

Lutheran Women Missionary League

*Northeast Zone Prayer Service*

Saturday, February 7, 2009

(snow date Feb. 21)



**Shore Haven Lutheran Church**

**280 E. 222<sup>nd</sup> Street**

**Euclid, Ohio**

Registration 9:00am - 9:30am

Cost: \$6.00 for the meal following the Service

Registration to Joan Bauer at 216-481-6521 or [joanbauer@earthlink.net](mailto:joanbauer@earthlink.net)

Deadline: Sunday, February 1

Offering: Collection for Mites

## **Good Things can happen when People Pray**

*by Ann Marie Bollas*

Our nation is in the midst of economic and international distress. No one knows what awaits our nation and our new President, but he needs our prayers. It's our privilege and responsibility to pray. The Bible says: "Pray for rulers and for all who have authority so that we can have quiet and peaceful lives full of worship and respect for God." 1 Timothy 2:2.

Pray for his: Forgiveness (individually and nationally), Protection (safety), Wisdom (insight & foresight), Reverence (humility), Strength (endurance and stamina) for the President, his

staff and the many other leaders of our great country. May the Lord truly hear our prayers and bless our land!

In the State Dining Room of the White House, there is a message engraved on the fireplace from John Adams to his wife, Abigail, "I pray heaven to bestow the best of blessings on this house and all that shall hereafter inhabit it. May none but honest and wise men ever rule under this roof." May John Adam's prayer be answered, again.

### **Angels Explained by Children**

I only know the names of two angels -- Hark and Harold (Gregory, age 5)

Angels don't eat but they drink milk from holy cows (Jack, age 6)

Angels live in cloud houses made by God and his Son who is a very good carpenter (Jared, age 6)

What I don't get about angels is why, when someone falls in love, they shoot arrows at them? (Sarah, age 8)

## There Grows a SONflower



by Billie Lelle

Last winter my husband and I decided to transform a former vegetable garden spot into a country flower garden. Birdhouses were built, plans for plant locations were drawn and trees, shrubs and some perennials were purchased and planted. In the spring, a flat of annuals was added and as a final touch, my husband gave me a small bird feeder for our country garden.

As expected, birds moved into the birdhouses, the flowers grew and flourished well, most of them), and the birds came to nibble at the birdseed. Our country bird haven was a reality.

Now on this crisp autumn day as I mow the lawn, I have plenty of time to admire the garden and recall some of its history. Some of the annuals had died and had been replaced, extra plants and shrubs (too inexpensive to resist) had been added, a charming white country fence trimmed one side and day lilies had been planted. It is indeed a beautiful spot, but the most striking thing in the garden is a sunflower. Certainly, not in my

plans, but as it lifts its seed-filled head to the sky, I consider its origins.

I think back to the bird feeder - at first I was filling it with the regular bird seed and I found that the birds not only ate, but also scattered the seeds all over the place and soon our garden was filled with plants that closely resembled weeds. I came close to removing the bird feeder from the fertile soil. Then I decided to fill the feeder with just sunflower seed. The birds really liked that, but they also sent these seeds sailing onto the soil. Then they started appearing, God's special surprises - sunflowers - blooming where the seeds had fallen. I could have never planned them so well. As I consider this wonder of nature, I knew God had once again given me a parable to ponder.

In preparation for my job as a Lutheran educator, I do much planning. I plan for the physical needs - desks, chairs, cubbies. I plan for the aesthetic needs - catchy bulletin boards, friendly surroundings, cute posters. I plan for the academic needs with lesson plans and units. My classroom will be a place of learning and

indeed it is although plans change and some ideas got "filed" instead of used. It is so exciting watching these little ones read, write, add and subtract - but the greatest joy in my classroom is when I see the SONflowers. These are the wonderful times when I know that the Gospel has been received by the power of the Holy Spirit in a child. The result of the Gospel is AWESOME! There are the words of confession and forgiveness, the acts of love and kindness, the voices raised in joyful praise. I am reminded that God says the Word never returns empty, but it will accomplish the purpose for which It was sent. (Is. 55:11) I praise God that the seed of faith was planted in me at baptism, that it was nourished by the Word and that I have been called to do the great task of sharing the Gospel with little children. Yes, I thank God for my sunflowers, but I praise God for the SONflowers. I pray each of us will continue to feed and scatter the seeds - the seeds of the SON and my you rejoice each time you see a SONflower.

### Northeast Zone Church Websites

**Good Shepherd Lutheran Church**, Mentor - [www.lutheranonline.com/gslcmentor](http://www.lutheranonline.com/gslcmentor)

**St. Paul's Lutheran Church**, Painesville - [www.stpaulslcmsohio.org](http://www.stpaulslcmsohio.org)

**Zion Lutheran Church**, Painesville - [www.zelc.com](http://www.zelc.com)

**Trinity Lutheran Church**, Willoughby - [www.trinitywilloughby.org](http://www.trinitywilloughby.org)

**Bethel Lutheran Church**, Willowick - [www.bethelwillowick.org](http://www.bethelwillowick.org)

**Our Redeemer Lutheran Church**, Solon - [www.ourredeemersolon.org](http://www.ourredeemersolon.org)

**Our Savior Lutheran Church**, Mayfield Hts. - [www.oursavior-church.org](http://www.oursavior-church.org)

**St. Mark's Lutheran Church**, Chesterland - [www.stmarkchester.org](http://www.stmarkchester.org)

**Hope Lutheran Church**, Aurora - [www.hopeaurora.org](http://www.hopeaurora.org)

**Shore Haven Lutheran Church**, Euclid - [www.shorehaven.lutheran.com](http://www.shorehaven.lutheran.com)

**Valley Lutheran**, Chagrin Falls - [www.valleylutheran.org](http://www.valleylutheran.org)