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Counselor's Corner

“Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time He may exalt you.”

(1 Peter 5:6)

March is often a long and difficult month for many people. It is still a winter month, at least it is up here in the north, and if it is turning to spring, it is usually a gloomy, soggy, and muddy month. And it feels like the longest month of the year by at least 12 days!

As a pastor, I often think March is a month that is 43 days. Along with the normal monthly pastoral duties, there are double the services, for March is always in the Lenten season. And for many people, Lent is a gloomy time of year.

Yet Lent, though penitential, is not a gloomy time. It is a time to examine oneself, to humble oneself to God and his Word. To see in His Word that we are “poor miserable sinners” is not something we enjoy, but it is necessary if we are to see our need for our Savior, Jesus Christ.

This is just what God, through His Word, does for us during Lent. As we are led by the Holy Spirit working through the Word to humble ourselves, God lifts us up with the joyous resurrection!

So this Lenten season, let us see ourselves as God sees us, and then rejoice all the more when He lifts us up in our resurrected Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Rev. Anthony Cloose

Park Region Pastoral Counselor



2015 Des Moines convention update

Early registration (post-marked by March 14, 2015) ends soon. Gather some of your friends and plan a trip to Des Moines!



Gifts from the Heart

www.lwml.org/conventions

Is your society gathering “Gifts from the Heart” items? Have you checked with your zone delegates and other convention attendees about getting items to convention by car or bus?

Here are the needed items listed in the 2014 *Winter Lutheran Woman's Quarterly*.

Bring any of the following:

- ▶ Crayola regular markers
- ▶ Tempera paint
- ▶ School paint brushes
- ▶ Crayons
- ▶ Colored pencils
- ▶ Glue or glue sticks
- ▶ Pony beads and laces
- ▶ School kits
- ▶ Hygiene (health) kits

The following items may be handmade:

- ▶ Quilts
- ▶ Hot neck wraps (wraps filled with rice to be heated in microwave)
- ▶ Shawls
- ▶ Undershirts (sleeveless)
- ▶ Decorative pillows (to clutch, prop up and brighten the room)
- ▶ Scarves

Charter bus

Check with Marilyn, our bus transportation chairman, to see if there's room



on one of our LWML Minnesota North chartered buses. Visit our website, www.lwmlmnn.org or check out the 2015 winter issue of the *Minnesota Northern Light* for contact information.

Scholarships

Spring breaks in March are a good time for church-work students or men preparing for ordination to focus on scholarship applications for the next school year. The guidelines and application can be downloaded at www.lwmlmnn.org. The application is due May 15.

Board positions available

Do you have the desire, time and skills to serve as the LWML Minnesota North editor or archivist-historian? These two positions on the Board of Directors are vacant. If you are interested, please contact President JoNette at 320-846-0984.