

COUNSELOR'S CORNER

Guiding us daily

As Jesus passed on from there, He saw a man ... and He said to him, 'Follow Me.' — **Matt. 9:9**

I once read that the famous frontiersman Daniel Boone has been called "the Columbus of the woods," who helped people from getting lost. Adam and Eve were lost in the woods even though we only hear of two trees! Spiritually, all of Adam's descendants are lost in the forest of sin. But Yahweh had mercy. He promised to send His own Son to lead the way out of "the land of the shadow of death," says Isaiah, and into the open, green pastures of light and life eternal.

As Jesus' life unfolds in that Gospel light, with divine Word and works, He is shown and proclaimed as the fulfillment of the promised Messiah. And the mercy of the Lord overflowed in Him! Jesus has done more than just show us the way to life; He Himself *is* the Way — and the only way — to the Father. When He endured the cross to atone for our sin, and when He rose from the dead to bring life and immortality to light, He became the pioneer and perfecter of our faith. Baptized in Christ Jesus, we will rise with our bodies to life eternal.

Daniel Boone was quite talented as a guide and explorer, opening new areas of our country for people to dwell in, but he's long gone. But Jesus is not a mere guide whose time is past. He is the Savior, who — according to the writer of Hebrews — alone is leading us through this world and straight on into the "better country, a heavenly one." He continues to say to us, and to all who are around us: "Follow Me!"

Rev. Matthew Vrudny
Park Region Pastoral Counselor

'Follow My Lead'

In preparation for the upcoming "Follow My Lead" LWML regional events, the members of the LWML Minnesota North District Leader Development Committee and the Assembly of Leaders (AOL) attendees met to assemble resource binders for each LWML group in the Minnesota North District. These binders will provide valuable information for equipping, encouraging and energizing



From left, Lori Salvhus, Kathy Brandt, Glenice Hall, Marilyn Hittel, Karen Gorentz and Marcia Wittenburg.

LWML members throughout the district.

These events will be held this spring in Park I, Park II and Arrowhead I; and this fall in Arrowhead II, Lakeland I and Lakeland II.

Be a servant and recycle!

Do you have a collection of plastic bags? How about turning them into plarn (plastic yarn)?

One district LWML member turned a barrel full of plastic bags into plarn. After she recruited her daughter, the two of them spent a Thursday night, Friday and Saturday crocheting the plarn into 145 sleeping mats! On Sunday after worship, they drove to the homeless encampment on Hiawatha Avenue in Minneapolis and distributed the sleeping mats. After the experience, the daughter shared the sleeping mat pattern to others. Now, she and her recruits are continuing to make sleeping mats.



From left, Sandy Backman, Carol Reuss, Deb Anderson, Peggy Pasche, Valerie Johnson, Alois Rau, Dennise Carlson. Also pictured is Finely Steenblock, Zion's youngest LWML member.

Cabin keepers

Every fall, the society of Zion Hoffman, holds its September meeting at Lutheran Island Camp. The ladies are treated to lunch and a tour of Christ Serve Ranch, or a pontoon ride on Battle Lake. In 2014, the society adopted Eunice cabin.

Over the past three years, it has raised more than \$5,000 to renovate and update the cabin with curtains, rugs and other supplies for campers. Some talented Zion members also helped with renovating the cabin siding.



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