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The Lutheran Beacon

Let your light shine . . .



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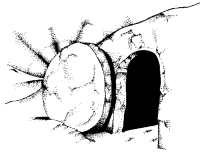


He
was

born . . .



He
suffered
and died . . .



. . . and
on

the third day He rose

So that we might live!

Alleluia!

LUTHERAN HAVEN RESIDENT RECEIVES THE GOOD SAMARITAN AWARD

submitted by Diane Leining

On February 20, 2011, Lutheran Services Florida honored several Orlando area Lutherans for their dedication to the Lord through volunteerism and service with their Fifth Annual Good Samaritan Awards Presentation. One of those recipients of this award was **Gloria Heumann**, a Lutheran Haven resident.

Since moving to the Lutheran Haven in 1995, Gloria has served as an organist for St. Luke's Lutheran Church in Oviedo, FL and also as one of the assistant organists for Redeemer Lutheran Church in Orlando.

Gloria was the primary caregiver for both her husband and mother during their long illnesses. But God has given Gloria the gift of never-tiring service to others, as well.

When she saw that there was a need for low-vision support, she gathered a group together for fellowship and support and that group continues to meet each month at the Haven.

She is Director of the Lutheran Haven Choir, directs the Haven's Golden Bell Ringers and Silver Chimers Choirs. She initiated "Munch 'n Music", a successful monthly program which includes a luncheon, followed by area musicians. The Haven's nursing home and assisted living facility residents also enjoy a monthly Community Sing-Along thanks to Gloria's efforts.

She also helped to establish GriefShare programs and serves as one of the facilitator, while also recruiting and training others in this ministry. Her compassion for those who have lost loved ones is evident as she continues to extend loving care to individuals long after the GriefShare sessions are over.

After receiving her award Gloria thanked everyone with the following: *Receiving the Good Samaritan Award has been very emotional for me-it is a humbling experience. My heartfelt thanks to all of the folks who attended the dinner and to those who have given me congratulations. All of us together are Good Samaritans, and I pray that we'll do an even better job of loving and serving our wonderful Savior and His people in our community each day.*

*That's our Gloria –
thanking others and giving all
the glory to God!!*

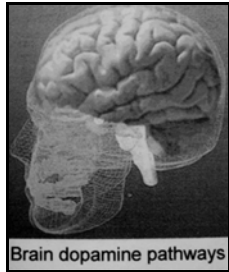


CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP VS, NICOTINE ADDICTION

by Rev. Thomas Soltis, SELC Stewardship Director

What Is Nicotine Addiction

John R. Polito, author of "Freedom from Nicotine", writes: Nicotine is the tobacco plant's natural protection from being eaten by insects. It's widespread use as a farm crop insecticide is now being blamed for killing honey bees. Once



inside the brain, it fits a host of chemical locks permitting it direct and indirect control over the flow of more than 200 neuro-chemicals, most importantly dopamine. The result? When a nicotine blood level lowers, the brain generates a craving — when new nicotine is inhaled, the brain releases dopamine to further stimulate nicotine hunger. The end result? A vicious cycle of a dope (dopamine) addict! Nicotine addiction is expected to kill 17 times as many Americans this year as all illegal drugs combined. **Nicotine dependancy is more than a "bad habit". It is a mental illness and permanent disease which directly harms the respiratory and circulatory systems.**

Christian Stewardship vs. Nicotine Addiction

Taking good care of our bodies is an important part of Christian stewardship. Our bodies belong to God. "It is He who made us and we are His." (Ps. 100:3) The human body is one of God's most precious gifts. It has eternal implications. Glorified, after the resurrection, it will exist forever. In the meantime, God desires that we manage our bodies well, refraining from what will harm us and pursuing what will benefit our bodily health. 1 Cor. 6:20 says: "Honor God with your body." To harm your body is to dishonor God. Nicotine is not only harmful, it is deadly.

Anti-Nicotine Admissions for a Nicotine Drug Addict

- * Admit that your body is a precious gift from God and that He desires its well-being.
- * Admit that nicotine is harmful to the human body and therefore not God-pleasing.
- * Admit that smoking is a waste of money and that your financial resources could be put to better use.

- * Admit that nicotine is permanently addictive and that you are a nicotine drug addict for life.
- * Admit that, even after a period of being a non-smoker for years, one puff will again trigger your addiction.
- * Admit that, armed with faith and prayer, God will grant the power to defeat addiction temptations again and again.

Nicotine Cravings

Research suggests that the average quitter experiences a maximum of 6 crave episodes per day on the 3rd day of recovery, declining about 1.4 per day by day 10. Each crave usually lasts less than 3 minutes and the average quitter experiences a maximum of 6 on the most challenging day. 18 challenging minutes per day is manageable with God's help.



Ground Rules for Quitting

- * Give up smoking one day at a time.
- * Remember that, since you are a nicotine drug addict, one puff will trigger re-enslavement.
- * When the urge occurs, do three things:
 - (1) Remember God's will and pray.
 - (2) Make up your mind and just say "No!"
 - (3) Quickly engage in an activity which totally absorbs your attention away from the urge.

Nicotine Replacement Products.

Placebo controlled NRT, Zyban, Chantix and NicVax clinical studies have no foundation in science. Those using a nicotine patch or gum as a stand-alone quitting product have only a 7% chance of quitting for six months. The vast majority of long term ex-smokers quit on their own without any NR product or procedure. Those who refuse to allow nicotine back into their bloodstream have 100% odds of success.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

www.whyquit.com

Why We died Young -Nicotine Addiction 101

LWML NEWS

by Sharon Roegge, SELC District LWML President

Being with Jesus – Living on the Edge is the theme for the 34th Biennial LWML Convention and will be playing in Peoria June 23-26, 2011. In addition to Rev. Ken Klaus leading us in the opening worship, there will be many special guest speakers.

Deb Burma, who is a noted speaker and author of women's Bible studies and devotions, will be the keynote speaker. She will inspire and motivate us as she shares Christ's love with us in fun, creative and engaging style to live out the convention theme. Our Bible study leader for the convention will be Dr. Reed Lessing, author and an Associate Professor and Director of the Graduate School at Concordia Seminary in St. Louis. Friday night will find inspirational speaker Katie Stam, Miss America 2009, and Saturday night will find Sibling Harmony, two brothers and a sister entertaining us. Katie Stam is an inspirational speaker and Sibling Harmony performs creative and insightful original Christian songs for all ages. Registration opened on March 1st.

Other activities included during this week include a first-ever golf outing on Wednesday, several servant events on Thursday, a mission in motion pledge walk and exercise on Saturday morning, and special interest luncheons on Saturday. All the information and more can be found in the Winter 2010 Lutheran Woman's Quarterly. Or you can go to www.lwml.org for lots of other information. Hope to see you in Peoria!

Mite Marathon—Race to the Finish Flat Jan!

In the spirit of the children's book Flat Stanley, the LWML now introduces our much loved President, Jan Wendorf, in the form of "Flat Jan". In the next few weeks before the LWML Convention in Peoria, "Flat Jan" is traveling to bring awareness to the Mite Marathon to meet the 2009-2011 mite goal. Please consider sending a special mite donation for each mile Flat Jan has traveled to get to your district, or make a guess at how many miles she will travel, and send a donation to arrive in March before the end of the biennium to help meet the goal. Each of you will play an important role in this project that ties into the Mite Marathon ... Race to the Finish.

With four "Flat Jan" posters traveling around the country, the goal is to see how many miles "Flat Jan" can travel, and how many mites can be raised, before she arrives to "Play in Peoria" at the Convention, June 23-26, 2011.

Our "Flat Jan" starts out in New Ipswich, NH and will arrive at my doorstep around June 1st. If your society would like to have a picture with "Flat Jan", please let me know. Your donations should be sent to Lutheran Women's Missionary League, PO Box 411993, St. Louis, MO 63141-1993 to be received no later than March 31st. Please note on the contribution "Mite Marathon" – Flat Jan and that you are a SELC District LWML.

For further info, contact Sharon Roegge at 570-443-9250 or 570-41-5814. E-mail her at skroegge@pa.metrocast.net.

LWML Human Care

by Nona Schipull, SELC District Human Care Chairman

I recently received Bethesda's Winter Bulletin. People with disabilities are dear to my heart because my brother had Down's Syndrome. (He went to be with his Lord twenty years ago this month--March.) He loved Jesus; he loved other people; and he was willing to do whatever job that he could.

This issue of "Bethesda Bulletin" highlights some people with disabilities who serve in church as God has given them gifts and abilities. One young man volunteers for A/V work at his church, and a young woman plays the piano for her church.

Are you using the abilities that God has given you whenever and wherever He has need of you?

Do you express thanks and appreciation to those people who perform tasks that serve you and others?

If anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. | Peter 4:11 (NIV)

News From Around Our SELC District

A Family of Servants

Rev. George Pivan retired from the parish ministry at Holy Trinity LC, Garfield, NJ in 1994.

During the he ensuing 16 years he served a number of churches in the Richmond, VA area as their Interim Pastor. They included: King of Glory LC, Williamsburg, VA, Grace LC, Chester, VA and Nazareth LC, Hopewell, VA. In addition he has conducted worship services and preached for fellow pastors while they were on vacation or when help was needed. He also conducted four Consecration Sundays in churches of the Southeastern Distirct of the LCMS.

But perhaps the most memorable and rewarding of his pastoral activities took place on February 13, 2011. On that Sunday he led Grace congregation in worship at both their early and late Sunday Divine Services. His worship team included his granddaughter, Rachel Phillips, crucifer; his granddaughter Abigail Phillips, acolyte; his son-in-law Buddy Phillips as lector. And to complete the team his daughter, Joy Pivan Phillips delivered the message to the children.

Truly a family of servants!



Rev. George Pivan, Rachel Phillips,
Buddy Phillips, Joy Pivan Phillips
and Abigail Phillips

District President Carl Krueger and his wife, Dianne, have been experiencing God's extraordinary power while vacationing in Hawaii. Visiting the *Big Island*, they witnessed a new eruption of the Kilauea Volcano. An awesome sight to behold! While on Maui, the tsunami came to visit, causing them to evacuate their hotel and spend the night in a rental car in a Walmart parking lot - until the water came within two blocks. They then joined a lot of people on higher ground at a McDonalds. *They (and we) praise God for His protective care!*

On the same note . . . we offer our prayers and compassion to the people of Japan.



Rev. Don Hayas reports that his wife, **Ruth Janosik**, underwent a heart catheterization and had two stents inserted into affected arteries. She is at home recuperating.

Carol Matej, wife of **Rev. Robert Matej**, is also recuperating from surgery.



The Daniel Family-siblings: John, and wife Carol (John serves on the LCEF Board of Directors) and David, and wife Slavka (David recently retired as LCMS Professor at the Seminary in Bratislava), whose brother, *Richard*, was translated to glory.

The Duda Family-siblings: FS Duda and Susan Hanas (who serve on our Lutheran Haven Board of Trustees) and Eleanor Hrcir - whose sister, *Elaine Lavender*, was translated to glory, suddenly, of an apparent stroke.

May our victorious Resurrected Savior grant peace, with the sure confidence of the Great Reunion, and the assurance that His love and promises can sustain and strengthen those who are left behind.

APRIL Calendar of Events

- 1 Deadline for submitting Vicar Request and Call Placement Request to District
- 8-9 SELC LWML Eastern Zone Retreat, Eden Resort Lancaster PA
- 12 "Pre-slotting" of Vicars and Candidates by COP and Seminaries Call Committee, St. Louis MO
- 21 Maundy Thursday
- 22 Good Friday
- 24 Easter
- 28 Final "Slotting" Vicars and Candidates, Fort Wayne
- 29 Placement Committee meets with District Presidents individually, Fort Wayne IN
- 30 Council of Presidents; Placement, Fort Wayne IN

This is your newsletter . . . Articles & Photos are welcome!

Send submissions to:

The Lutheran Beacon

c/o Gail Peterson:

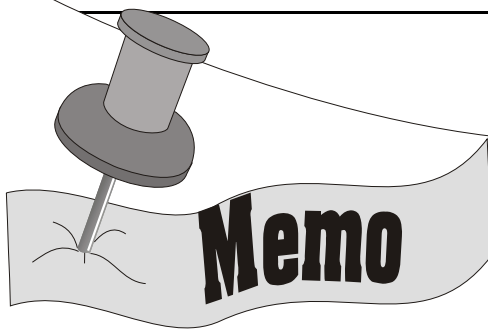
1210 Ambra Dr. - Viera, FL 32940-6755

email: gailmail37-beacon@yahoo.com

Please submit articles as separate attachments in the program you write in. [e.g. Word Perfect, Word, etc.], NOT as part of your e-mail.

Photos must be submitted as separate attachments [NOT as part of your article-.JPEG format preferred.]

When sent by snail mail, photos must be received by the 8th of the month. If you want them returned please attach a note and send a self-addressed stamped envelope.



TELL ME YOUR STORY!

by Robin, Paris, Gift Planning Counselor Lutheran Haven & SELC District

It has been said that when someone dies with their story untold, it is like a library burning. Have you told anyone your story?

Part of my work as a Gift Planning Counselor is to hear and capture your story for future generations. It is only when I have heard your story – especially your FAITH story – that I can guide your decision-making process related to the Christian legacy you leave for those you love and the ministries for which you have a passion.

Over time, the best gifts to ministry and acts of service evolve into a perpetual monument to the human spirit, which is God-breathed. They bless both the giver and the receiver, and send out ripples of faith and good will that can reverberate for generations.

However, it is important that we share what's in our hearts as we give and serve. Without the stories behind our service and our giving, important lessons are lost.

Besides constructing a Lifetime Plan for you that uncovers what God placed in your heart at your baptism, this storytelling allows you who give and serve at your home congregations and at other Lutheran and Christian ministries to share what is behind your generosity. Seneca said "We should give as we receive, cheerfully, quickly, and without hesitation." We want to teach future generations that those who give in this spirit of gratitude and joy will quickly discover that abundance comes back to the cheerful giver! "Give, and it shall be given unto you: good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over." (Luke 6:39)

Why not let me help you tell your story? Give me a call at 407-706-1168, or email me at rparis@lutheranhaven.org. It would be honor and pleasure to sit down with you and help you pass on the legacy of love to your family and the Kingdom.

ST. LUKE'S CONCERT SERIES 2010-11 *presents*

Lutheran Cantata Choir

FREE Admission. *and Chamber Ensemble*

Sunday ~ April 10 ~ 3pm



A gift to the
Community
from

**St. Luke's
Lutheran
Church**

2021 W. SR 426
Oviedo, FL
32765

For more info:
407/365-3408
www.stlukes-oviedo.org



Click on Concert
Series logo



JUSTIN CHASE
Director

God our King, Lord of Love

Young members of the Lake Nona HS Concert Choir will join the Lutheran Cantata Choir and Chamber Ensemble in presenting an inspiring Lenten program of sacred music, including:

- Bach: Cantata No. 71– *Gott ist mein König (God is my King)*
- Handel: *I Know that My Redeemer Liveth*
- Vaughan Williams: *Let All the World*
- Emerson: *O Sifuni Mungu*
- Martin (arr): *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*

Greet Director, Justin Chase, and the Choirs at a FREE RECEPTION following the concert.

Visit stlukes-oviedo.org to request direct emails for the 2011-12 season, which begins in September!



St. Luke's Concert Series 2010-11 is made possible by the generous donations of individuals, as well as support provided by Seminole Cultural Arts, Inc.

