

FROM THE EDITOR

Our theme, "Letting Go," reminds us that we soon bid a warm farewell to our LWML President, Patti Ross, who has worked alongside the *Quarterly* staff, collaborating on recent issues such as LWML women in the military, young women in mission, and the topic of this issue — a special request by President Patti — the growing epidemic of suicide.

The tenth leading cause of death in the United States and the second leading cause of death among young people ages 15–24, suicide claims the lives of more than 44,000 Americans each year*. It is a subject few find easy to address.



This *Quarterly* features personal accounts about the aftermath of suicide: young women (including Kati, from the cover of our Spring 2019 *LWQ*) who bravely tell their stories of attempted suicide and recovery; a mother who shares what it is like to cope with the suicide of her former husband; a woman who stands by her healing friend; and pastors and a military chaplain who share their perspectives through

the light and the hope of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Please consider sharing this *Quarterly* with a friend, and point them (or yourself) to the resources placed within the magazine and below.

In His hope and peace,

Nancy

Nancy Graf Peters, Editor-in-Chief

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 1-800-273-8255

Resources

Lutheran Hour Ministries (LHM): www.lhm.org
Lutherans for Life: www.lutheransforlife.org
American Foundation for Suicide Prevention: www.afsp.org

Reading Material

Speaking of the Inconceivable — A Closer Look at Suicide's Stigma by Rev. Peter Preus, available from Concordia Publishing House (CPH) and Lutherans for Life (cph.org)

And She Was a Christian: Why Do Believers Commit Suicide? by Rev. Peter Preus, available from CPH (cph.org)

The following *Project Connect* booklets from LHM, available for download at www.lhm.org/projectconnect/booklets.asp :

- *A Grief Like No Other* (6BE167)
- *Dealing with Depression* (6BE48)
- *Surviving a Loved One's Suicide* (6BE66)
- *Depression, Understanding the Pieces of the Puzzle* (6BE135)
- *La depresión* (6BE20) disponible en español
www.paraelcamino.com/booklets.asp

*Statistical data for this issue was taken from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention National Suicide Statistics for 2015.



Letting Go

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