



## Women of the ELCA Spring Silent Auction Fundraiser

Thank you to everyone who donated to the Silent Auction and to all who bid on items. We made over \$1,400 which will be given out to various outreach projects this fall. Thanks to all who helped with this event. We appreciate everyone's involvement.

### Hospice Kits

It is not too late to contribute items or money for Hospice Kits. We would use the money to purchase items needed for the kits. The kits are set to 3rd world countries where they provide comfort and cleanliness to Hospice patients. Please continue to support this important project. The hospice basket will be out until June 16th.

Please note, there have been changes in the last couple of years and they have specific requests:

- ◆ New or gently used regular sized bath towels (no longer than 48 inches). This style can be found at Walmart.
  - ◆ Washcloths
  - ◆ 1 bath-size bar of wrapped DOVE unscented Soap. (Six bars of unscented Dove soap at Walmart is \$6.88).
    - ◆ 1 tooth brush in original individual packing
      - ◆ 1 pick style comb
      - ◆ 1 nail clipper
    - ◆ 1 4 oz jar or tube of petroleum jelly
  - ◆ 1 pair of heavy -duty household kitchen gloves size Med.



### CARE OF CREATION CORNER

Remember we save on energy if we eat and shop locally. Check out the local Farmer's Markets in Lindstrom, Chisago, and neighboring towns. Enjoy the fresh fruit and vegetables as they come into season.

## St. Paul Area Synod of Women of the ELCA 32 Annual Convention Recap

Ninety-four women attended the convention. The theme was "Hospitality". We enjoyed socializing, many speakers, a couple of meals and a bible study. Karen Seaver was elected as Treasurer.

Bishop Lull lead the Bible Study on 1Peter 4:8-11, which was written to the world wide church and gave them and us a "To Do List" to show us how to be Christian. We are to be hospitable without complaining, to serve one another as good stewards, to use our God given gifts, to speak God's words and to glorify God in everything we do.

Erica Belland from Rural Renewable Energy Alliance (RREAL) of Backus, MN shared their message of hospitality resulting from a partnership with NE MN Women of the ELCA and other organizations to find a solution for sustainable electrical power at hospitals in Phebe and Curran, Liberia. They are still raising the final \$300,000 to complete the "Current for Curran" project. The Curran solar equipment will be shipped this summer and will be installed this fall. Also, RREAL trains local Liberians to install and maintain the equipment. Other donated solar power units throughout Liberia have been installed as a by-product of this training.

Judy Harpstead from LSS shared their hospitality through LSS's partnerships including "Nat'l Foundation of Credit Counseling" that works one on one with people for five years to reduce debt and Increase their credit score. And, "Cherish All Children" program My Neighbor is not for Sale focused on reducing child trafficking.

My reflections bring me back to the April Gather Magazine article by Kimberly Knowle-Zeller:

*I keep finding myself with the women, I need their faith. I need their presence. I need their tears and their laughter. Most importantly, I need them to show me Christ. . . And in them, I find myself in Christ.*