



OCTOBER Hug~In~A~Mug 2021 Vol. 67

⁷ To him that made great lights: for his mercy endureth for ever: ⁸ The sun to rule by day: for his mercy endureth for ever: ⁹ The moon and stars to rule by night: for his mercy endureth for ever (Psalms 136:7-9 KJV).

Greetings Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ.

The Son to Rule by Day....His mercy endureth **forever!** That is a powerful word! I have been resting in and clinging to it tighter than ever these past summer months. I went to my 50-year-old King James Bible, given to me by my precious, Norwegian Uncle Johnny, knowing that "resilience" is a gene I share with him to this day; he passed as a carpenter for Christ, slinging his hammer in northern Washington.

We are all carpenters for Christ, in fact, building on the foundation laid out for us in the Word of God...the Word that endureth forever. President Carol's key words these past two years, since our Convention 2020, B.C., (before Covid ☺) have been to Ignite, Involve, Equip, & Encourage. Once ignited, we are on fire! Once involved, we know His plans for us. Once equipped, we have a plethora of tools. And once encouraged, for me personally, it is knowing the depth and hearts of our Christian family teammates, so that we can soar.

So it was, in just the past two months, women of Oregon have risen out of the ashes of unforgiving lockdowns, edicts, temporary barriers, and experienced **"The collective JOY of being together again!"** At the Christian Life Retreat just over a month ago, nearly seventy women were ignited and involved building over seven hundred Blessings Bags, which have been corporately gifted across the entire District to countless shelters for the homeless.

And two weeks ago, the District Board of over two-dozen officers met in Woodburn, in **collective JOY of being together...** to lay out plans for our Fall Rallies, being held these next two months, and were equipped with their respective Zone commitments towards fruition of our 2022 LWML Oregon District Convention, June 24-26: "You are God's Masterpiece..." created in Christ Jesus to do good works; carpenters that we are.

Remember, I had shared in my last month's HUG, how the bird sanctuary I have built in my backyard over 25 years now, gave me such peace and surrender? In closing today, I am reminded that Fall remains my favorite season by far, what with its harvest moon, clear crisp dawns, spectacular coloring of Oregon's famed forests. To that end, because of my own forest, trees, a tall fence, I have been denied a sunrise and some wide-open spaces. On a whim, yet a much-needed restful escape, I took refuge for a day and night, in a rustic log cabin two hundred miles from home, on the banks of northern Klamath Lake. And there, long before dawn, I sat for over an hour, shivering in very brisk air, and witnessed a sunrise! It was a slow explosion of blinding fire come up over the vast Agency Plain....glassy, calm, shallow water, rippled only by wildlife refuge birds of all of God's creation. One silent hour of peace & quiet, in my own head, praising God for the morning that gilds the skies. And I knew that: **his mercy endureth forever.**

Yours in Christ, Pat Reck, Leader Development