



*from LEADER DEVELOPMENT ~ SPRING TIME!~~~ MARCH ~ APRIL ~~~2015*

**"HUG-IN-A-MUG" from Pat Reck, Leader Development**

**ACTS 20: 32 "And now I entrust you to God and the message of his grace that is able to build you up and give you an inheritance with all those he has set apart for himself.**

Greetings, "sure & begorrah!" I wish you all a grand Spring....in your hearts, in your step, and in your yards! March whizzed by, few excuses. But I had a lot of time to think about this HUG..... Here we are reflecting on the Holy Week and Easter celebrations, and I hope you all reflect on that whiz-bang, great District Board meeting hosted in Stayton by the women of Calvary Lutheran! I was so jazzed during and after it...the turnout, the buzz, the energy, and all the things laid out before us. (Praise the Lord for Carole Covlin stepping up to the huge job of Corresponding Secretary: Marianne Dolson did a herculean job!!!) It will be a busy Spring for our District. There will be: new officers, a contingency off to Des Moines, planning for our Convention, Eugene 2016. And keep your eyes on the fine site and the Sept. 25-27 Retreat...this promises to be a memorable one, and one we should encourage all our women to attend.

Now, looking at The Leaguer's calendar of those Spring Rallies, I see 2-3 over the next three weeks about to take place..... I, for Juniper Zone, know it's about the most fun tea party that Alice ever attended!! We must **Prepare** the tea just so as to make it an exciting event, **Inspire** & excite new women to attend, **Nurture** and encourage leadership to step up to the offices up for election, and then **GO** set an example....in our mission

efforts, our community at home, our church population, all ages, and serving the Lord with gladness. {Did you spot that goal **P.I.N.G.**? I hope so; it's not a bad rubric when planning an event. } I pray your rallies are well-attended, exciting, and laced with new faces. It's all about personal invitations, phone calls, offers of rides, making women feel wanted and needed at our gatherings. And then the trick is to fashion Bible Study to meet the current needs on the hearts and capture the heartbeat of the group. Include some singing into your afternoon, minimize reports and put some exciting new event on the summer calendar to carry your Society through and not lose touch. Start out simple: plan a summer picnic with a fun, girlie agenda, if camping is not an option? Pedicures, board games, wine tasting. (Linda Reiser used to say, "Good food and wine bring women to the table!") A day at the lake, or the quietest back yard or park nearby, always giving women something to look forward to, and assuring them of a vital organ of communication....a "What's Coming" reminder in your newsletters and weekly bulletins, a phone tree for reminders, picking-a-prayer-partner, whatever you know connects women to women! My Zone will celebrate its 6th annual four-day retreat in the high lakes "at the footstool of His throne"...no phones, no bad news, just 25-30 women, refreshing their minds, bodies and souls and making new friends over board games, foot washings, hand waxes, white elephant swaps, deep Word study every dawning, much music, nap & free time, great loggin' camp food! We come from 4-5 societies and once school is out, we start counting the days to see each other again, in our grubbies. Call it Adult VPS Days: very personal skip days! We deserve it. So do you.

Now, this verse I selected, this HUG, was given to me in a recent sermon, ACTS 20: 32 "**And now I entrust you to God and the message of his grace that is able to build you up and give you an inheritance with all those he has set apart for himself.**" I loved it because it spoke to me almost as a command followed by action. The very words *entrust YOU to God* is talking about us, you and I, the prepared, inspired, nurtured and goal-oriented with the message we carry and share: of Grace and Grace alone to Get up, Get out and Go. This should build us up, embolden and strengthen us, in a rare privilege we have to be with and for those he has set apart for himself, our very Sisters In Christ. They are who I want to tea party, breakfast, prayer chain with and for; we need each other in a tight-knit assuring relationship. I truly believe that is how we will grow and maintain our League. And I pray with all my heart you have wonderful gatherings, graced with successful women with leadership qualities that fit the personality of your Society step into positions of new guidance for your growth, encouragement, and viability in the coming months...spring, summer and fall. God bless everyone receiving this mini-supplication. Continue in prayer, focus on only the best, and God will make it happen. I rejoice in your service and the mission we embrace.

*Yours Truly, Pat Reck, Chairperson, Leader Development*  
*April 5, 2015*

