Our 100th Issue

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Join Us at Celebration United in Nederland This August!

See this Issue’s List of Honorees on Page 6!

www.CelebrationMinistries.org
In 1873, Horatio G. Spafford wrote the words to this song after experiencing great tragedies in his family. His wife and four daughters were on a ship that collided with another vessel and sank. Of his family, only his wife survived. As he sailed to be with his grieving wife, in the area where the ship went down with his four daughters, the words to this song came forth.

1 "When peace, like a river, attendeth my way, When sorrows like sea billows roll; Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say, It is well, it is well with my soul

Refrain: It is well with my soul, It is well, it is well with my soul

2 Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come, Let this blest assurance control, That Christ hath regarded my helpless estate, And hath shed His own blood for my soul...

It has been 144 years since that song was written. Today in 2017, we can still say “It is well with our soul” because of the revelation of Jesus Word to us and the power of the Holy Spirit who is active in our lives.

As we focus on what is ahead for 2017, we must know that God loves us. His presence is always with us. We are a three part being with a spirit, soul and body. When we accepted Jesus, our spirit came alive to God and we can have fellowship with Him. The body is the part of us where we reside on earth. The body needs nutritious food, exercise and adequate rest to function at its best.

Our soul consists of our mind, our will and our emotions. Our soul has to be renewed by God's word so rather than believe what others say about us or be influenced by the world or allow demonic forces to plant negative thoughts in our mind, we have to learn to “cast down vain imaginations” and speak and believe what the Word says about us.

For those of us who work on computers and the internet, we are in constant communication with others by sending and receiving messages. This is possible when we have an internet connection. When my connection is lost, I call my IT guy (my husband) for HELP! It is the same with staying in connection with Jesus. When we feel like we are disconnected from the Lord, we can call out to Him. The Proverbs say, “the Word will rise up (In your spirit) and speak to you.” God is always speaking to you in your spirit. We cannot hear Him when we do not quiet our minds to listen.

The lyric’s to Horatio Spafford’s song continue to point out what is needed for our soul “to be well”…the answer is JESUS and all He promises:

1. Peace that only He provides
2. Authority to use His name over Satan and his forces
3. The power that comes from speaking the Word by faith
4. The awareness that Christ knows what is going on with you
5. Knowing that Jesus shed His blood for your sins
6. Recognizing that sin has no power over you
7. A strengthened faith through the power of His Word
8. Gift of hope -- Hope is what God says about you, not what you think about yourself

Today, Jesus says to us: “I have told you these things so that in Me you may have perfect peace and confidence. In the world you have tribulation and trials and distress and frustration, but be of good cheer—take courage, be confident, certain, undaunted—for I have overcome the world,--I have deprived it of power to harm, have conquered it for you.” John 16:33 Amplified

Jesus is continuing to teach us to say, “it is well with my soul.” Amen

Love,

Judy
On Tuesday, May 30th, Celebration once again had the privilege of hosting a luncheon at The United Methodist Church’s Texas Annual Conference. Celebration sisters and fresh faces alike were wowed by the poignant message delivered by Rev. Kaitlyn in which she encouraged each of us to stand firmly rooted in Christ. As Christians, at times we believe the destination is to become a disciple and check it off the list. She offered that we should build on our discipleship and continue to live it out. Host church The Woodlands UMC helped us stage an inviting, calming, yet lively setting for our nearly 130 guests. Our VP of Worship, Christi Gardner, and guest vocalist, Carissa Vann, tugged at our heartstrings and evoked the Holy Spirit to join us - and join us He did!

“I was so blessed!” Dorothy Kyle said. “The food, music and fellowship was wonderful. I especially enjoyed the speaker, Kaitlyn Hankins. Her message was awesome and powerful. We were all wrapped in the Spirit.”
Celebration Women's Ministry has touched the lives of many women through the years and there to document it all was our newsletter, which was always well written and printed with great care. This month, Celebration is celebrating the printing of its 100th newsletter! To honor this occasion, we will blast to the past and see how Celebration has changed since it started.

Here is a look back on what our newsletters have contained over the years:

“Chapters are starting all over the conference! God has been faithful in the “birthing” of Celebration!” Issue 6, August 1999

“Celebration events are a place to meet and experience God and the Leadership Retreat was no exception” Issue 27, September/October 2002

“In light of what has happened in the past eight years, we can definitely agree... Celebration is not a work of women or men, but is a work called forth by God for this hour in the Church.” Judy Graham in Issue 50, September/October 2006

Tragedy Strikes: “Hurricane Ike Cancels Fall Luncheon Celebration Sisters Respond with IKE Relief Fund” Issue 63, November/December 2008

“It is my belief that when our SISTERS are in need, and when we have the resources to help, our Celebration Sisters respond generously...” Issue 63

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“This year’s conference is focused on finding the true happiness we’re all seeking - true Christian happiness ultimately found in our relationship with Jesus, the foundation of our hope.” Brandy Stevens, former VP of Conferences speaking of National Conference 2011, Issue 75, Spring 2011

“We have been released, freed, comforted, and given a crown of beauty for ashes.” Regarding National Conference 2013, Issue 84, Summer 2013

The message that rings true in every newsletter, “First and foremost, have a relationship with Jesus and Father God.” Judy Graham, Issue 95, Winter 2015.

Perhaps the Newsletter that sums up Celebration the best is Issue 99. “We are COVERED” the headline reads, and yes, since 1999 when we were voted into the Texas Annual Conference, we have been covered. We’ve been covered with favor within the church, with love and encouragement from our fellow Celebration sisters, and with a hedge of protection given to us by Christ. At National Conference 2017 we learned of this protection God has given us “under his wings” (Psalms 91:4 ESV). Celebration, the National Board, the chapter boards, and all the Celebration Sisters have truly found refuge in Christ as we strive to serve this fellowship of believers, following His lead all the way.
HONOREES

Thank you to all the women who have made a difference in other’s lives!

Celebration Sisters    Aline Graham    Laura Johnson
Pat Albers              Imogene Graham   Jane McKim
Janice Bryant           Elena Griesel    Anne Pouns
Cheryl Bryant           Erin Grimes      Virginia Rogers
Wendy Burks             Raylee Grimes    Sharon Saunders
Suzette Caldwell        Peighton Grimes  Sue Sloan
Elna Cox                Ann Hargis       Jacquetta Smith
Gail Cox Gazin          Chase Jaffarian  Mary Swan
Burna Dean Graham       Mary Jennings     Martha Turner

The Gift of Celebration - The Next Best Thing to a Thank You Card
Who has made a difference in your walk with the Lord? Your donations in honor of women who’ve blessed your Walk with Him will make a difference to other women’s lives. You can pass it on! Donate $25 to honor each woman who has made Jesus come alive in and to you. Now, let’s see who...

Visit www.celebrationministries.org and click DONATE.

We invite you to submit your prayers to be prayed for by our Celebration Prayer Team.

Submit Prayer Requests online:
http://celebrationministries.org/prayer/prayer-request/
The Lord’s Prayer: A Focusing Prayer

by Mary Sneed

Having a prayer plan can enrich your prayer life. Jesus gave us a perfect plan in Matthew 6:9-13 and Luke 11:1-4 when the disciples asked Him how they should pray. The Lord’s Prayer today is a part of many Christians’ worship and prayer plan. Martin Luther gave his interpretation of the Lord’s Prayer to the believers of the sixteenth century. He felt it was meaningful for the Christians of his day and I believe it still holds relevance in our prayer life today.

The following is a focusing outline using the Lord’s Prayer.

1. Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name: Focus on God as the sovereign Lord of all.
2. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven: Focus on God’s existence on Earth and His will is the driving force of our lives.
3. Give us this day our daily bread: Focus on you will receive everything you need for this day. Let go of the struggles of the past and trust God has tomorrow managed.
4. And forgive us our trespasses: Focus on asking for God’s forgiveness.
5. As we forgive those who trespass against us: Focus on spiritual growth to be like God and forgive as He does.
6. And lead us not into temptation: Focus on God’s guidance to do His will.
7. But deliver us from evil: Focus that God will guide you through your day.
8. For thine is the kingdom: Focus on the belief the Kingdom of God is the authority over all.
9. And the power: Focus on the power God gives us to live a Godly life.
10. And the glory: Focus on giving all the credit for good works to God.
11. Forever: Focus that God is, was and always will be Lord of all.
12. Amen: Believe that God will do what He says He will do.

The Lord’s Prayer is a covenant or agreement we make with God. Make your prayer plan today.

Support Celebration Women’s Ministry at Smile.Amazon.com!

Connect your account to Celebration: Visit https://smile.amazon.com/ch/81-0624392

Celebration Invites You!

Celebration United
Saturday, August 19, 2017
9:30 a.m. - 12:00 noon

Keynote Speaker: Rev. Dr. Janice Gilbert
Wesley United Methodist Church
3515 Helena Avenue Nederland, TX
Reserve your seat today! No admission fee.
Contact Shelle: crostatlwcw@gmail.com
409-565-5578
www.celationminstries.org
Celebration Calendar

Trinity FUMC
Upcoming Meetings
July 11, 2017
6:00-8:00 pm
August 8, 2017
6:00-8:00 pm

Cypress Trails
Ice Cream Social
July 20, 2017
7:00-9:00 pm
22801 Aldine Westfield Rd.
Spring, TX 77373

Celebration United
Nederland
August 19, 2017
9:30 am - 12:00 noon
Wesley United Methodist Church
3515 Helena Avenue
Nederland, TX

Celebration Women’s Ministry, Inc. Officers:
Judy C. Graham, President
Linda Johnson, Treasurer
Margie Filer, Secretary
Sheila Davis, VP of Special Events
Christi Gardner, VP of Praise & Worship
JJ Sauter, VP of Leadership Development
Mary Sneed, VP of Prayer
Sharon Wright, VP of Conference

Send Chapter news and events to News@CelebrationMinistries.org by October 1, 2017.
Refer friends to subscribe to our news by contacting News@CelebrationMinistries.org.
To receive “Sounding the Trumpet” (Chapter and National prayers), email Julie Puckett at japbristol@gmail.com.
To make a donation or payment, contact Linda Johnson at Treasurer@CelebrationMinistries.org or send to Linda Johnson, 4572 Sandpiper Cove, College Station, TX 77845.

Visit www.CelebrationMinistries.org