



# WELS Nursing Today

## Unexpected blessings

Sometimes, blessings come that are totally unexpected. Mid-December I was diagnosed with breast cancer. I am told this was caught early, is low grade, and my prognosis very good. Thank the Lord! That being said, I still need to get through all the tests, a lumpectomy, and a re-excision, radiation, and anti-estrogen therapy.

What has come as an unexpected blessing is the care of the staff attending me, from the office clerk asking if this was my first time in the cancer center and with a tender smile reassuring me that I would be alright, to the doctors and nurses who really listen to my questions, answer them no matter how silly, and follow-up when they see me next.

I am also blessed by our children, neighbors, and church family who tirelessly send cards, call or stop in just to talk, offer their time when my husband can't get away to take me to the endless doctors' appointments and *bring food!*

Another unexpected blessing came to my door from the UPS delivery man. A rather large box arrived and in it was a beautiful handmade quilt and journal from the WELS Comforter Ministry! I had been referred by a dear friend to Su Hanson, from Manitowish Waters, Wis., who founded the Comforter Ministry in 2005. Their mission is one of comfort and compassion, reaching out to women with cancer with God's Word through journals and quilts. I cherish my beautiful quilt as it gently

reminds me of God's love and compassion for me. The reason why I share this with you? To encourage you, as the Lord provides opportunity, to show compassion and comfort to someone in need. I didn't realize how much these things meant until I was on the receiving end.

Want to learn more about the Comforter Ministry? E-mail [comforterministry@yahoo.com](mailto:comforterministry@yahoo.com) or go to [comforterministry.com](http://comforterministry.com). You could pray for the ministry, help financially, make and donate a comforter according to criteria already set up, help promote this ministry in your congregation, and request a comforter/journal be sent to a special woman diagnosed with cancer!

***Shout for joy, O heavens; burst into song, O mountains! For the Lord comforts his people and will have compassion on his afflicted ones. Isaiah 49:13***

Your sister in Christ,  
Sue Bolha

## WELS Lutherans for Life Associated Pregnancy Services—New Initiative!

"The process of converting WELS Lutherans for Life's pregnancy center to a medical clinic is underway and we would like to present an exciting opportunity to WELS RNs who might like to be involved with



pregnant mothers seeking all variations of services. The clinic is staffed with client advocates who have been trained and educated in our pro-life efforts and they will be responsible for meeting with the clients to assist them in whatever way possible. The RNs in the clinic will operate in a professional capacity by overseeing and directing all medical aspects of our work, such as the pregnancy testing, medical history and assessment, possible STI/STD testing, and medical education of the client. Those RNs who are interested in becoming proficient in obstetrical ultrasound may also have the opportunity to train for such a skill.

We are hoping to staff a variety of shifts (weekdays and one evening) averaging four hours at a time. Our schedule is flexible in the hours offered to serve the needs of our clients without making any demands on our volunteers.

If you are interested, I would love to have a conversation with you about this exciting opportunity to make a difference in the lives of the women who walk through our doors. I am happy to answer any questions you may have and to explore this option further. Obstetrical experience is not a requirement but a current Wisconsin state license is. Please feel free to call me on my personal phone (262-442-8961) at any time or leave a message at the center so that I may return your call. Thank you for considering this wonderful opportunity to help us in our mission to save the lives of babies!"

*Written by Pam Manske BSN RN, nurse manager—  
Associated Pregnancy Services*

## • News & Notes •

- **Parish Nurse:** Online Course Summer 2017—open for enrollment, closes May 15. See the Announcement Section of [welsnurses.net](http://welsnurses.net) for more details.
- **Spring Conference** is ready for registration! The conference will be held on Fri., April 21 (evening gathering) and Sat., April 22 all day, at the Center for Mission and Ministry, N16W23377 Stone Ridge Dr., Waukesha, Wis. Our theme for this year is "Christian Nurses Ministering to Those Who Struggle" and our guiding Bible verse is: Mathew 26:41 "Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptations. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." **Please know that there is an attendance option for joining us remotely. We will be live-streaming the sessions.**
- **Bethany Lutheran College** in Minnesota will be starting the first cohort of nursing students this Fall 2017 Semester. How wonderful for them to have reached this point in their initiative. We will continue to pray for their success and strength of character as they lead these future nurses through the education process.
- **ELECTIONS!** The WELSNA Council is asking that each of you prayerfully consider joining our group in the role of communications coordinator or treasurer. Both positions are open for nominations this year and voting will begin in April both electronically and at the Spring Conference. Please see our WELSNA homepage for more details.
- Coming in next newsletter: Interviews with our Spring Conference Speakers.



Special Ministries—WELS Nurses Association  
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