

# PW Renewal News

*A Monthly Devotion written by a WELS/ELS pastor's wife with some encouraging updates, prayers & news.*

August 1, 2011

He has remembered his love and his faithfulness to the house of Israel; all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. Psalm 98:3



My grandmother has Alzheimer's. She was diagnosed a couple years ago, but initially her memory failed only minimally. She has been able to live at home with my grandfather. His physical health has been failing, but he could remind her where things were and when it was time for her pills.

This past April was her 80<sup>th</sup> birthday and we celebrated. My mother, aunt and uncle threw a party and we were all there. She still remembered us all, but was forgetting things like my having spent 2 weeks every summer with her and grandpa as a girl.

Monday, July 25<sup>th</sup>, 2011 my grandfather had a stroke. And Grandma didn't know to call 911. God was watching over them though, and the gentleman who picks them up to go singing at the nursing home every week arrived and called the ambulance.

Memory is an amazing thing isn't it? My brother-in-law remembers everything, and I do mean everything. Even things from when he was only 4 years old. I watch my young boys now and am saddened of all the day-to-day moments that will be forgotten. *(Which is why I keep scrapbooks and a notebook of the things they say.)* Remembering those special moments between family and friends are especially precious. This is why Mary, "treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart." *Luke 2:19.* She didn't want to forget. Memories are records of a relationship, instances of love. I have many memories of those summers at my grandparents. Grandma doesn't any more.

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PLEASE SHARE!

If you have prayer requests, news you'd like to share, or would like to help by writing a devotion for the newsletter, please let Valerie know.

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## Register Today!

We have 2 Renewals coming up this Fall.

Spread the Word and Join us if you Can!

## Renewing Our Vows

Sept. 25-27, 2011

Alberta, Canada

Elkwater Lake Lodge

Registration ends September 4<sup>th</sup>.

Nov. 4-5, 2011

Rockford, Illinois

New Life Ev. Luth. & the Baymont Inn

Early-bird Registration ends October 5<sup>th</sup>

*Details & Registration Online*

[WWW.PWRENEWAL.ORG](http://WWW.PWRENEWAL.ORG)

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I'm a typical, busy mom doing four things at once. (*Okay, maybe seven.*) I forget anything that isn't written down on my calendar. I have to put reminders in my planner to call friends and write my grandmothers.

I have 4 children. God has billions. And he knows every hair on each of our heads. He "remembers" every second of each of our lives. We are never forgotten. He doesn't need reminders to bless us or hear our prayers. He doesn't even need a video camera. Of course, He is God. But when you compare His to our own memories and all the things we forget on a daily basis, all the people we forget in some way, God's memory is truly mind-blowing.

What a comfort that reminder has been this past month. God hasn't forgotten Grandma. No matter what she may forget in the months to come, her strong relationship with her Savior is on God's "heart." The only thing He does forget is our sins. "For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more." *Hebrews 8:12*. And thank God for that! You are remembered. But each and every one of your sins is fully forgotten because our Savior has washed them clean.

No matter what you're struggling with at this time, remember you are on God's "to do list." He remembers you and is there to support, encourage, and love you. And as I look at my garden, I'm even encouraged that God remembers to bring me flowers!

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### *What Would Serve You?*

As always, PWR is looking to be an encouragement and a help to pastors' wives'. We have a list of ideas, but would like to know what would be the most useful to you to decide what project to undertake next.

So, beyond the Renewals, monthly devotion, and current Devotion book, feel free to share what you might find supportive.

Here are some current ideas we've had:

Daily Scripture Devotional Journal, Monthly Prayer Calendar, or Online Book List of suggested reading.

*Would you like any of these? Do you have other ideas? Please share.*