

**Committee Chaplain
Fall Board 2016
Bulletin #1B**



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Hi Everyone,

With our National Holiday of Thanksgiving quickly approaching, I thought that the words of Ralph Waldo Emerson might be added into almost every meeting we attend this fall. I have used this at a District meeting prior to a meal with everyone joining in.

GIVE THANKS

for each new morning
with its light
for rest and shelter
of the night
for health and food
for friends and love
For Everything
thy goodness sends.

We reflected at Fall Board Meditation on 9/11 and how that event and other cataclysmic events in our nations's history have given us some of our most memorable songs of patriotism and faith. Those songs were written by men and women of many faiths. They were of varying ethnic, cultural, regional, and political diversity, yet each writer was expressing the hope of freedom, the sorrow of loss, and the strength of our Nation and all our citizens in the words of their songs. Those songs and hymns used were: "Eagles Fly" by Sammy Hagar; "My Country 'Tis of Thee" by Samuel F. Smith; "The Battle Hymn of the Republic" by Julia Ward Howe (she also founded the New England Woman's Club); "God Bless America" by Irving Berlin; and "Where Were You?" by Alan Jackson. You may be able to use the words to these songs as meditation ideas in your own clubs.

I have already been contacted by a club wondering if there will be a memorial service at Spring Convention. The memorial tribute for our members who have died during this 2 year administration will be at the meditation in the 2018 Spring Convention. Please make sure to keep a list of any losses in your club and get them to me and your District Director in Spring 2018. I'll remind you of that closer to the time.

Several members asked for some of the readings used at meals and at Summer Planning. I would be happy to share with anyone if you will please email me.

Christmas and Hanukkah and other special religious and community celebrations are just around the corner once we pass Thanksgiving. I wish all my friends, however you celebrate the holidays of your faith or your lie, a Blessed holiday season. It is my hope that the New Year will bring more inspiration, more creative projects and further community participation and deeper and abiding friendships in our clubs as we are "Living the Volunteer Spirit" and " Making the World a Better Place for Every Girl".

