



Letter from Luke

*The Regional Newsletter of
Region 14*

*The International Order of St. Luke
the Physician. Fall 2006*

Volume 2 Edition 2

From the Regional Director

He brought me out into a broad place: he delivered me, because he delighted in me.
Psalm 18.19

The quotation above from Psalm 18 is God's promise and it is a good one for Region 14. Many of us have a history of coming here from afar to find freedom and prosperity and others of us have another history of painful captivity. For all of us our beloved Province of Saskatchewan is indeed a broad place. To be your OSL Regional Director is quite daunting because of its very size. The North American Conference in San Antonio Texas in June of this year was an experience that reminded me that OSL's ministry is both small and mighty. Region 14 may be small in budget and membership, but we are mighty in task and the work is mighty in importance. The People of God, especially in this broad place, are isolated and broken but also strong and resilient. This year, in spite of record gas prices, I have visited some of the Chapters with words of encouragement. I intend to continue to visit when ever and wherever I can.

I draw our attention to a voluntary commitment that was made at last year's conveners and chaplains meeting following the OSL Regional

Conference in Saskatoon. The Region 14 Chapters agreed to provide some funds to the Region for travel and budget to help OSL Canada to finally have charitable tax donation status in Canada. As we draw close to this goal, our resources are stretched.

I have discovered that some of the Chapter information is out of date or inaccurate. We are working to improve the communications between the Region and the Chapters. Maureen Whalley mbwhal@sasktel.net who has been acting as the Region 14 Convener, has agreed to continue in this position, now called Convener Liaison. Please be helpful as she works on behalf of this Region to update our Chapter information for the North American Website. Eventually we hope to have all our newsletters and communications made available to the chapters on the website. This will reduce costs. Meanwhile there are difficulties with our mailing lists. Let Maureen know if you have paid your annual fee but have not received your Sharing Magazine. Also please let her know if you have moved or if your email address has changed. I remind the Conveners that they need to make sure that the local membership gets a copy of the newsletter. Some do not as yet have an email address.

I hope that everyone is aware that the OSL organization operates both ecumenically and inter-denominationally. That means that we can welcome membership from any church and OSL leadership can belong to any denomination as long as they are recognized and accountable to their home church. If you are a member without a local chapter why not seek for a chaplain outside of your home church? There are many church leaders who are deeply involved in Christian healing. As long as they are willing to fulfil the OSL membership requirements and annual fee, they may provide leadership locally. If this is the case for you, please email me

beaconfolk@sasktel.net and make me aware of any plans or changes.

As I look ahead to the Region 14 Conference in Moose Jaw SETTING THE CAPTIVES FREE my prayer is that the Holy Spirit will continue to inspire and infill our membership and our leadership. The Rev. Dale Gillman is a remarkable visionary and healer and I believe that Christ has given her gifts and wisdom that are just what is needed at this present time. I am deeply honoured to be the Region 14 Director and I ask for God's wisdom and strength that I may serve OSL well in this "Broad Place."

In Christ's Healing Grace,
The Rev. Joanne Beacon

Catholic Health Association of Saskatchewan

63rd Annual Convention

**Theme: 'See, I Am Doing a New Thing
(Isa. 43:19);**

Creative Collaborative Leadership'
Dates: October 22 – 24, 2006 Place:
Delta Bessborough Hotel, Saskatoon.
Public Lecture: Steve Hill, Mission Integration
Director for the Alberta Catholic Health
Association
Keynote & Session II: Laura Richter,
Director of Workplace Spirituality,
Ascension Health, St. Louis, MO
Session I: Richard & Lillas Hatala, Co-founders,
Integrative Leadership Institute
Information/registration: T 306-655-5330, F 306-
655-5333, E cath.health@sasktel.net,
www.chassk.ca

Chapter News

Moose Jaw Chapter

We held our first meeting of the new season on Sept. 8th at Central Lutheran with 10 members

attending at which we finalized plans for the Healing Service which was held on the 10th at St. Aidan Anglican Church. We also made plans for a 12 hour prayer vigil to follow the Healing Service from 6 AM to 6 PM on Monday the 11th. We're looking forward to having the October Healing Service at Hillcrest Apostolic Church on the 1st of October at 7 PM. Plans for the Region 14 Conference to be held here on the 13th and 14th of October were reviewed. There will be a limited number of billets available Friday evening. Please see Lynne Morine at the Conference or phone her at (306) 693 - 5752 if you require a billet.

We hope to see many of you at the Conference.

Dan Listoe, Secretary

News from Weyburn

We did not meet during the summer. In our summer newsletter we asked people to start back knitting prayer shawls. We have none left. We hope to resume meetings in the fall. We will need to change our day from the 4th Tuesday to maybe the 3rd Sunday, after worship.

Catherine Harper

The Saskatoon Chapter presents

A Prayer Ministry Training Workshop

We will be using the Alpha Tapes on Prayer Ministry. We are offering this course for all people involved in Prayer Ministry. We would love to have you join us.

This is a refresher courses as well as training for new prayer ministers.

St. Stephens Anglican Church
10 Grosvenor Crescent, Saskatoon

Tuesdays in November 7, 14, 21 & 28, 2006

Please phone Betty Mitchell 306-343-6649 to pre-register

The Saskatoon Chapter

is presenting on

Monday October 16, 2006

At 7:30 P.M.

St. Stephen's Anglican Church

10 Grosvenor Crescent

Guest Speaker

Dr. Phil Carverhill, Psychologist

Prairie Therapists & Trainers

Presentation

***Journeys of Death & Loss,
Life & Living***

All Welcome

Regina News

We are still trying to encourage chapter growth in Regina, including finding a Chaplain.

In June Lorna Cross and Malcolm Tait presented a full day workshop on Healing at St. John's in Gull Lake. There were about 40 in attendance from 5 or 6 denominations with one-half dozen clergy.

In July, Lorna and Malcolm, presented another full day workshop at the Diocese of Qu'Appelle Summer School at St. Michael's Retreat.

Malcolm Tait

Prince Albert Chapter

James Smith Healing Service

On invitation by the Rev. Martha Stonestand, a Healing Service under the sponsorship of the International Order of St. Luke the Physical was held Sunday evening, June 25th at St. Stephen's, James Smith Reserve. The Lord provided us with a beautiful evening and the Service was well attended. Chief Luther Constant spoke at the opening of the service stressing the need for members of the Band to forgive one another and work together, to remember they are one family under God. What he had to say was very much in harmony with the statement of faith of the Order of St. Luke expressing God's desire to heal us all in body, soul, and spirit, so that we can better serve Him through the Unity of His Spirit. The Lay readers of James Smith Reserve took an active part in the music ministry and liturgy and prayer teams. Bishop Anthony Burton served as Celebrant in the Eucharist Service, and anointed the members of the congregation after the ministry of prayer. There was such a response for healing prayer that we formed three prayer teams. One reflection that I want to share is regarding the Hymns selected for the service. There was lots of hymns and every verse is sung. When sung in Cree, the music is slower than I am accustomed to, but singing slower gave me more time to meditate on the actual words. The words were powerful and so in tune with the whole service.

As soon as the service concluded, the centre aisle was quickly transformed to a buffet meal. We wish to express our thanks for the wonderful hospitality, food, and fellowship extended to us by the congregation of the James Smith Band.

Art Pederson

A Story of Answered Prayer

The Story of Baby Alice:

Psalm 139: 13-14 Comes True

By Kathy Storrie

Alice* was born on August 13, 2006 to Carla, who lives in Saskatchewan and is the niece of a friend of mine (Anthea). Quite early in her pregnancy, her doctors told Carla that her baby appeared to have a genetic disorder - Edwards Syndrome. More tests confirmed this diagnosis so Carla and her husband, who already had a disabled child, were offered an abortion. They refused.

Edwards Syndrome is a genetic disorder which produces an extra chromosome resulting in 'trisomy' (three copies of a chromosome rather than two). This extra genetic information appears in each and every cell of the baby's body, causing many characteristic abnormalities. These include low birth weight, a small, abnormally shaped head, low-set ears, small jaw, small mouth, heart defects and clenched fists with overlapping fingers. About half of the babies with this disorder die in the womb and of live born infants, only half live to 2 months and most do not survive their first year.

In Carla's womb, Alice's growth was abnormally slow; eventually Carla was told to leave her employment and to rest. More ultrasound tests showed the birth defects quite clearly. Anthea asked me to pray. At first I asked for Carla, her husband and the rest of the extended family to be sustained through this terrible ordeal. Then one night, I was clearly directed to pray for the baby's healing. I argued with God quite vehemently as if we were in court citing the first daughter's disability - as if God needed to be reminded! - as just one reason alone why He should heal this baby. I also asked some other people to

pray. Another test, 5 weeks before the birth, confirmed that nothing had changed - the baby was abnormally formed and her weight was too low.

You can imagine the tension when Carla went into labour - she, her parents (who were in the hospital), the doctors and everyone involved were dreading the expected outcome.

Out came Alice - pink (even before she had taken a breath) and absolutely perfect! She didn't really cry but just mewled a bit like a kitten, opened her eyes and looked around! Her weight was 7 lbs and 12 oz! For those of you who do not know - this is a very respectable weight for a girl! Her great-aunt, Anthea, reports that Alice is an unusually happy and calm child who just seems to enjoy life - doing what a healthy infant is supposed to do - mainly sleeping, suckling, and excreting! Praise the Lord!

(* the names have been changed to protect the privacy of the family.)

Psalm 139: 13-14

“You created every part of me; you put me together in my mother’s womb.

I praise you because you are to be feared: all you do is strange and wonderful. I know it with all my heart.”

The 48th Annual North American Order of St. Luke Healing Conference

The annual conference was held in San Antonio, Texas from June 28 to July 1, 2006. It was well attended with over 500 people registered. The conference was held at Alamo Heights United Methodist Church. The church was an amazing building with all sorts of rooms for small groups, other meeting halls and a place to eat as well as the very large chapel. There were other smaller chapels as

well. We had our Canadian O.S.L. meeting in one of the smaller chapels.

Our key note speaker was the Rev. Mike Endicott from Wales, U.K. Fr. Mike is the director of the healing order of Jacob's Well. His talks were thought provoking and stimulating. At his request we had as a closing service a Celtic Healing service. We were in groups of eight in six circles. In the middle of the circle were four people who ministered to us. One served the bread, one served the wine, one gave us a prayer shawl (a small piece of fabric that was about four inches by twenty eight inches that hung around our necks) and the fourth person anointed the shawl and each individual with healing oil. This was all done in silence. It was extremely moving and effective. People were seen with tears in their eyes as the event took place. It just proved that we do not need long flowery speeches to administer God's healing love. Just having the presence of another caring for the individual is sufficient.

The other guest speaker was The Rt. Rev. William Frey who was the former bishop of Colorado. In 1990 he resigned that position to become the Dean of Trinity Episcopal School for Ministry in Ambridge, Pennsylvania. Bishop Frey retired in 1996 and moved to San Antonio. He and his wife Barbara lead conferences and retreats together.

There were eighteen different workshops a person could attend as well as attending the lectures by both of the speakers. And of course there was the Annual Meeting of O.S.L. as well as the Canadian Annual Meeting.

Our final banquet was a very interesting evening. There was a mariachis band that entertained us with their music and dance and they got everyone else up dancing too. At the banquet, Julabeth Carden was honored for her

twenty year service as office manager for the Order of St. Luke

If you ever have the opportunity to attend an Annual Conference it does give you the rewarding vision of how many other people are involved in the healing ministry under the banner of the Order of St. Luke.

Betty Mitchell

Thursday Evening Healing Prayer Ministry

On Thursday evenings from 6:30 to 7:30 there is a prayer team at St. Stephen's Anglican Church, 10 Grosvenor Cres., Saskatoon available to pray for anyone in need. The people who pray have had a training course in this ministry to help them. This ministry is open to anyone in the community who would like to take advantage of the ministry of prayer.

To find out further information please contact either:

Marj Felgate at 374-3589

Dee Pearson at 373-9384.

Book Review

'Fire by Grace' The Healing Power of Forgiveness

By Pastor Richard W. Rouse

When Larry was at the Lutheran Synod in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan in early July he picked up this book and brought it home to read. We have been reading through it in the mornings and it is an excellent book.

Richard Rouse was the pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church in Lynnwood, Washington when an arsonist lit fire to his church. He goes through the story telling all the steps he and his church went through as they discovered who set the church on fire and the rebuilding of the

church. He talks about the importance of forgiveness in the healing process. It is a very thought provoking book, although we have not finished reading it yet I thought I would like to review it now. This is a very good read.

The book is published by Augsburg Books.

Betty Mitchell

The Ministry of the Order of St. Luke

OSL is primarily an organization dedicated to restoring Jesus' ministry of healing to the Christian Church. This is done by the establishment of local chapters for prayer, education and training. As well as these things being made available in the local chapter, each area is encouraged to hold regular healing services, healing missions and teaching workshops and conferences.

OSL's pastoral ministry is primarily focused on teaching clergy and lay people in congregations to minister Christ's healing love to one another.

Requests and referrals for individual help are best answered by clergy and people in individual congregations learning how to respond and minister to each others needs.

Local OSL chapters are a resource that clergy and parishioners can look to for help in developing a powerful and effective healing ministry within their congregations.

It is a part of our mandate as Christians to be involved in the ministry of Healing. Therefore the ministry of healing prayer is a part of the mandate of the Gospel given to the church and should be a central part of the total ministry of each congregation.

To Order Canadian O.S.L. Resources and Books

Eileen Barrie, Manager of the Churchmouse Resource Center has books in stock for the reading list of the OSL. They range in price from \$3.00 for the Rufus Womble booklets to \$7.50- \$29.95 for other books on the reading list. There is no G.S.T. or P.S.T. Only mailing costs will be added on to the invoice. To order please write to:

**The Churchmouse Resource Center,
150 College Ave., Regina, Sask. S48 1B8**

Phone: (306)-522-3263

or e.mail to: churchmouse@sasktel.net

2006 OSL Region 14 Conference Setting the Captive Free

***Guest speaker: Rev Dale Gillman
October 13 - 14***

***Fri. 4 pm – Sat. after 5 pm Eucharist
Central Lutheran Church, Moose Jaw***

Hosted by Moose Jaw Chapter

***contact: Region Convener Maureen Whalley
(306) 682-4109 email: mbwhal@sasktel.net***

***Deadline for the next newsletter will be
Dec. 08, 2006***

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E-mail: betty.mitchell@sasktel.net

2007 International O.S.L Conference, June 4 – 8, and tour of Great Britain

Every five years the world wide Order of St. Luke hosts an international conference in one of the countries in which the Order of St. Luke is active. In 2007, the conference will be hosted by the members of the Order in England at the Hayes Conference Center in Swanwick, Derbyshire, June 4 - 8, 2007. Members of the Order from every country where the Order is active will be represented. Eminent people involved in the healing ministry around the world will be invited to speak..

Following this conference Larry and Betty Mitchell invite you to join them in a tour of England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland. As well as visiting some of the famous places of Great Britain we also hope to visit some of the healing sites and homes of Great Britain, such as Glastonbury, Holy Island, Iona, and many more. Our tour coordinator will be Ernie Snook from San Diego, California. If you are interested in more information contact us at betty.mitchell@sasktel.net or phone (306) 343-6649. Although the tour will follow the conference people do not have to attend the conference in order to join us on the tour.

Upcoming Event

St. Paul's Hospital Ethics committee is offering a Parish based advanced care directive education program for clergy and their parishioners, church workers, lay pastoral visitors, caregivers, and people who are facing end of life issues.

The program will be held at St. Timothy's Anglican Church, 2101 Lansdowne Ave, Saskatoon, January 24th, 31st and February 7th and 14th, 2007. The program will be delivered in four 2 hour sessions and each session will consist of: prayer, reading sacred text,

introduction to the content of the teaching video followed by a discussion.

The program is based of four videos and a presentation by Fr. Mark Miller

1. The Journey of Suffering – Harold Kushner, “When bad things happen to Good People.”
2. When the Journey ends – “Gordon facing terminal illness”
3. Preparing an Advanced Health Care Directive, “Introduction to Advanced health Care Directives by Fr. Mark Miller
4. Story of Sister Thea – “Almost Home”

More details and registration information in our December newsletter.

Larry's Fall Itinerary

Sunday September 24th : A presentation of the healing ministry and the work of OSL at the Fort Pitt and Onion Lake Parish.

September 29, 30 & October 1st: OSL Mission in St. Paul's Anglican Church, Thunder Bay, Ontario.

October 12th – 14th : Mission in Dayton, Ohio.

October 16th – 18th: Visit Chapters in St. Louis, Missouri & speaking at Healing service

October 19th – 21st: Mission in Richmond, Virginia.

November 9th – 11th: Board of Directors meeting in San Antonio, Texas

***Please copy and distribute this
newsletter to people in your
chapter and area.***