



The Order of Saint Luke
BOOK OF REPORTS
for the Council of the General Chapter
October 11-14, 2021

REPORT	PAGE
Report of the Abbot – Sr. Elizabeth Moore	2-3
Report of the Prior General – Br. George R. Crisp	4
Report of the Chancellor General (2021-2022 Budget) – Sr. Jeanette Block	5-6
Report of the Provincial General – Sr. Heather Josselyn-Cranson	7-8
Report of the Director of Periodicals – Br. Jonathan Hehn	
Doxology – Br. Jonathan Hehn	9
Report of The Font Editor and Companion for Life-Vowed Members – Sr. Cynthia Astle	10
Report of the Director of Aquisitions and Author Relations – Br. Daniel Benedict	11-12
Report of the Chaplain General – Sr. Dianne Tobey Covault	13
Report on the Constitution & By-Laws – Br. French Ball	14
Report of the Pastoral Care Officer (no report provided) – Br. David Eichelberger	14
Report of the Daily Office Revision Team – Br. Dwight Vogel	15
Report of the Companion for Seekers, Inquirers and Discerners – Br. Jim DuFriend	15
Report of the Our Story Project (OSP) and Historian for the Order – Br. Mark Stamm	16-17
Novitiate Team Report – Br. Daniel Benedict	18
Minutes of the May 11-13, 2021 Virtual Council Meeting (via Zoom)	19-24

The Book of Reports for the Council of the General Chapter

The Order of Saint Luke

Report of the Abbot

Siblings,

We gather this year in celebration of our 75th Anniversary. I was one year old when the Order of Saint Luke was founded. Some of you weren't even born yet. What was going on in the world that year? The terrible world war had ended, but Winston Churchill warned of a new war on the horizon when he coined the phrase of an "iron curtain" falling over Soviet-dominated Eastern Europe. The first meeting of the UN General Assembly took place in London. Juan Perón was elected President of Argentina. Benjamin Spock published "The Common Sense Book of Baby and Child Care." Boston lost the World Series to St. Louis, 4-3.

And Romey P. Marshall, William Esler Slocum, A. J. MacRoberts, and Robert J. McClosky met on September 12 in the offices of the Board of Missions at the Methodist Building in New York City to found the Brotherhood of Saint Luke.

By 1958, the name had changed to the Order of Saint Luke, which defined itself as "a fellowship of Methodist ministers and seminary students devoted to liturgical and sacramental study and practice." (Note: all men and all Methodists.)

Although much has changed, the Rule of Life and Service published in 1958 sounds familiar:

We live for the church of Jesus Christ.
We promote the public worship of the Church.
We hold the validity of the ministerial office.
We seek the devout life.
We magnify the sacraments.
We strive for the cure of souls.
We seek to prepare the baptized for life in the Church.

Those of you who are reading this are living testimony to how we have evolved while remaining true to our original intent of being "devoted to liturgical and sacramental study and practice." We are ecumenical (even though our Methodist roots do occasionally show). We welcome both clergy and laity. The only limitation on membership is that you must be willing to accept as a sibling anyone else who has taken our vows.

Our gathering this year will be small. Covid is still inhibiting (although not completely eliminating) our travel. Our technology team, led by Br. Scot Bontrager, will make as much of our worship and our speakers as possible available to everyone via social media.

For those of you who cannot join us, I hope you will be able to come to Scottsdale, Arizona next October. The Franciscan Retreat Center there is a lovely setting. You will hear more about this in the coming months.

I remain grateful for the many ways you have all creatively weathered the past 18 months. I thank God for your faithfulness. Let us continue to hold one another in prayer as our churches, our schools, and our families continue their recovery.

Be quick to love and make haste to be kind.

Blessings,

+ Abbot Elizabeth
September 28, 2021



Report of the Prior General

This week, October 11-14, 2021, we are holding our **75th Anniversary Retreat**. This is a time for reflecting on our history, thinking about our impact and legacy within the church, and casting our eyes toward the future. I am delighted to welcome our distinguished siblings – Br. Mark Stamm, Br. Don Saliers, and Sr. Kimberly Greway – as our presenters this week. In addition to the presentations, we have our Council meeting, worship and breakout sessions in person after three sessions in a virtual format. We are also live streaming portions of the retreat for those who could not attend. Several months of planning have gone into preparing for this event. I am grateful for everyone who contributed their knowledge and skill to make it happen.

Seminaries across the country used a combination of virtual and in-person ceremonies to present their academic awards this year. This included offering the Order's **Hoyt L. Hickman Award**, at 17 schools, to a graduating student who has shown exceptional ability in liturgical scholarship and/or exceptional ability in leading worship. One of those students, Br. Seth O'Kegley-Gibson is here with us this week. Ceramic chalice and paten sets, crafted by E. Preston Rice, were presented to the recipients. (In addition, one award was a ceramic bowl offered to a student not pursuing ordination.)

The dates for our **2022 Spring Council** meeting are set for **May 17-19** at the **Franciscan Renewal Center, 5802 E. Lincoln Drive, Scottsdale, AZ 85253**. More information about the center can be found at www.thecasa.org.

The **2022 Retreat** of the Order of Saint Luke will be held **October 3-6** at the Franciscan Renewal Center (see address above). This is earlier than usual due to the availability of the retreat center. Now is a good time to make your plans to attend this retreat in a lovely setting.

Our guest speaker will be Robert Hurd who is the author of *Compassionate Christ, Compassionate People: Liturgical Foundations of Christian Spirituality*. In this book, Bob Hurd brings insights from scripture, theology, philosophy and liturgical tradition to bear on the task of laying the foundations of Christian spirituality. Bob's widely used liturgical music, published by Oregon Catholic Press, is featured in numerous hymnals in the U.S., Canada, Great Britain and Australia.

Br. George R. Crisp, OSL
Prior General
September 13, 2021

Report of the Chancellor General

July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022						
		<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual as of 3/30/2021</u>	<u>Proposed Budget</u>	<u>Amendments to Proposed Budget</u>	<u>Notes</u>
Revenue	2020/2021			2021/2022		
Investment Performance						
James White Est UMFWW			\$ 50			as of 3/31/2021 Principal 3,565.36
OSL UMFWW Int.			\$ 334			as of 3/31/2021 Principal \$23,680.38
OSL CD Interest			\$ 258			as of 3/31/2021 Principal \$10,257.86
	subtotal	\$ 1,600	\$ 642	\$ 1,000		
Donations		\$ -	-	\$ 100		
Member Support		\$ 22,000	\$ 17,247	\$ 20,000		
Miscellaneous		\$ 475		\$ 4,901		
Publications		\$ 13,000	\$ 8,335	\$ 10,000		
Retreat (net)*		\$ 9,500	\$ 1,120	\$ 9,000		Zoom retreat 10/2020
Baubles & Beads		\$ 1,500	\$ 100	\$ 1,000		Oct. retreat B&B on site
Subscriptions		\$ 750	\$ 850	\$ 1,000		
Total Revenue		\$ 48,825	\$ 28,294	\$ 47,001	\$ -	
Expenditures						
Abbot		\$ 2,500	\$ -	\$ 2,500		
Casual Labor		\$ 1,700	\$ 1,700	\$ 1,200		
May Council		\$ 4,000	\$ 2,758	\$ 9,000		\$2500 FRC \$258. Zoom Tech
Chancellor General		\$ 2,000		\$ 1		
Financial Review		\$ 500	\$ -	\$ 500		
Hickman Awards		\$ 1,250	\$ 1,324	\$ 1,500		
Honoraria		\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000		
Insurance		\$ 600	\$ 562	\$ 600		
Member Services**		\$ 5,000	\$ 4,825	\$ 5,000		
Miscellaneous		\$ -	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500		
Periodicals (Sac Life)		\$ 4,500	\$ 3,698	\$ 4,500		
Promotion		\$ 3,500	\$ -	\$ 3,500		
Provincial General		\$ 200	\$ -	\$ 200		
Prior General		\$ 1,000	\$ -	\$ 1,000		
Publications		\$ 4,500	\$ 829	\$ 4,500		
Retreat Scholarship		\$ 3,350	\$ -	\$ 3,500		
Our Story Project		\$ 2,500	\$ -	\$ 2,500		
DORT Project		\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,500		
Anniversary		\$ 1,000	\$ -	\$ 1,000		
Total Expenditures		\$ 41,100	\$ 20,196	\$ 47,001	\$ -	

Balance Sheet

As of June 30, 2020

ASSETS

Current Assets

Operating Bank Accounts

TD BUSINESS CONVENIENCE PLUS \$ 22,952.99

Investments

Restricted

James White Estate Endowment UMFVV 3,010.89

Total Restricted Investments **\$ 3,010.89**

Unrestricted Investments

United Methodist Foundation WV 20,306.11

Certificate of Deposit 10,219.87

Total Unrestricted Investments **\$ 30,525.98**

Total Investments **\$ 33,536.87**

TOTAL ASSETS \$ 56,489.86

LIABILITIES AND EQUITY

Liabilities

\$ -

Fund Balances

Unrestricted Fund Balance

Beginning Balance 59,385.70

Investment Performance 1,014.45

Net excess of Revenue or Expenditures (6,925.14)

Ending Balance **\$ 53,475.01**

Restricted Fund Balance

Beginning Balance 2,873.66

Investment Performance 141.19

Ending Balance **\$ 3,014.85**

Total Fund Balances

Beginning Balance 62,259.36

Net excess of Revenue or Expenditures (6,925.14)

Investment Performance 1,155.64

Total Fund Balance \$ 56,489.86

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY \$ 56,489.86

Report of the Provincial General

+ **Action item:** Disbanding the Eastern Pennsylvania Chapter because of continued inactivity

Sr. Heather Josselyn-Cranson, OSL
September 30, 2020

Chapter	Prior	Recent Activity	Members	Prayer Concerns
Charles Mosebrook	Lynn Basan	Online gatherings,	Ten	Brothers Job Cabral, MD, Brylex Sosa, EMT, (Col.) Pablito Melchor and (Capt.) Jonathan Marcos, both military chaplains, all waiting for vocations, and for the Pilipinas York Rite Bodies
Greater New Jersey	Fran Noll	Meeting on-line, choosing a book for joint reading	Twenty	Mourning Gloria Smith and praying for Ken Smith
Koinonia Chapter	Br. Aiden (Joshua Allison)	Weekly Th AM prayer, quarterly meetings, visits from Brs. Daniel and Mark	Nine (plus “constituents”)	Longing to gather in person to celebrate the Eucharist
Dayspring Chapter	Br. Matthias Tanner	2x weekly meeting for prayer over Zoom	Thirty	None shared
Perkins STH	Br. Mark Stamm	Reconstituting		Prayers for life after COVID
East Ohio	Br. Kyle Gould	No recent activity		Need for fresh energy
Trinity (N. Texas)	Br. Terry Heislen	Discussions on resuming regular meetings	Seventeen	Discernment, charity, mindfulness of our purpose, and the presence of the Spirit as we prepare to move into a new season in the life of the chapter.
Illinois Great Rivers Chapter	Br. Mick Laflin	Zoom meetings on 1st Wednesday of the month, prayer and book study	Twenty-five	Prayers for meeting in person

California Pacific Chapter	Br. George Martzen	W evening prayer weekly, Chapter meeting in May	Seventeen (?)	Safety during the pandemic
Philippines Chapter	Br. Ador C. Tolentino	F2F meeting in February and Zoom meeting in June.	Seventy-eight and four in inquiry	None shared
Upper New York Chapter	Br. Brett Johnson	Zoom prayer / meditation day on Sept 29	Ten	General health and well-being of the Chapter, for Prior Brett as he prepares for ordination interviews, and a renewed energy within the Chapter
Singapore Chapter	Br. Anthony Goh	No F2F or Zoom meetings	Twelve	Prayer as we slowly and carefully extend our reach and numbers and emerge from the 'bomb shelter' of our alerts
Winged Ox Association	Br. David Collette	Weekly meetings on Tuesdays via Zoom	Two members	Continued participation and growth
Hoyt Hickman Memorial Chapter	Sr. Kimberly Greway	Evening Prayer 2x monthly; Compline 1x monthly, plans for in-person meetings at retreat, council and one other	Nineteen-ish	Members with health issues and job changes
St. Francis Chapter	Sr. Alice Kay Lovelace	Plans for an October event	Fifteen	At the loss of Br. James Mussman; for the vitality of the Chapter

Report of the Director of Periodicals / *Doxology*

Overview

Since my Spring 2021 report, one issue of *Doxology: a journal of worship and the sacramental life* has been published, Volume 32.1 (Lent-Easter 2021). Volume 32.2 (Pentecost 2021) is awaiting a print proof currently and Volume 32.3 (Ordinary Time 2021) is currently in production. The new team and workflow structure I designed is working fairly well, though I will likely need to tweak both the process and some of the team slightly for 2022. **Below, I suggest hiring a part-time staff person to take care of many of the business aspects of OSL Publications.**

File organization and indexing

Some of us are planning to touch base about completing the indexing of *Sacramental Life* during the Fall retreat, as well as completing the uploading process of back issues of SL to our new online periodicals archive.

Editorial Practices

I have shifted from a single-blind to a double-blind review process after consulting with some colleagues. I don't personally think that's necessary, but it's the "industry standard." I am getting a small but steady stream of submissions, which I would like to increase. So far I am rejecting about 50% of the articles sent in for peer review. We are using Google forms to collect and archive peer-review responses, and that is working very well.

Distribution

There have been many problems with both libraries and individuals not receiving copies of the journals, which reflects poorly on me and on the Order's publishing efforts. Efforts to resolve this on my part have not been entirely successful. **I suggest that we consider hiring a part-time business manager for OSL publications who can oversee all of these efforts, even if that's an in-house person.** Based on my past few years' experience with OSLP, I think that would be the best way to ensure that all of the issues I've experienced both as an Editor and as an author get resolved. Using volunteers from the Order for the business end of the publications seems to work in some ways, but people are so stretched for time that I don't see how we are going to get things back on track without someone who is paid to do some of this work.

Themes and ideas for future issues

I have decided not to do "thematic" issues of *Doxology* for now so that I can focus on soliciting a steady stream of submissions. That may change in the future.

Submitted by Jonathan Hehn
September 28, 2021

Report of *The Font* Editor and Companion for Life-Vowed Members

I'm combining these two reports because the two responsibilities have converged over the past year, primarily because of the goal to improve communication in both areas.

The Font has published quarterly over the past year. As of last count, we send the newsletter to about 750 members around the world. Our largest issue typically is the Summer issue because that's when we announce the winners of the Hickman Award. Publishing photos of 15-20 winners takes up lots of space!

The next largest *Font* issue is the annual report on retreats. It's "retreats" plural because our siblings in the Philippines and Singapore usually hold their own gatherings close to the time when we meet in the United States. Again, lots of pictures help us share the joy of being together.

The Font has proved crucial to this year's top goal as Companion for Life-Vowed Members, which is to communicate how important our Rule of Life and Service is to living our faith. I received affirmation for this goal from Br. Frank Richard Coats, my predecessor. I've added a column on this topic to *The Font*, and I've invited other Life-Vowed members to contribute reflections on what the Rule means for them. In the meantime, I plan to continue to explore the Rule by writing a column about each individual vow. Submissions for this content will be most welcome.

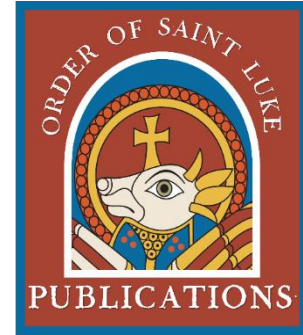
I thank the Order again for purchasing in 2020 a copy of the Quark Xpress page assembly software. Putting the newsletter together using the right kind of software is a constant blessing!

As always, I am happy to receive content submissions and suggestions from our OSL siblings.

Sr. Magdalene Ruth (Cynthia) Astle
Font Editor and Companion for Life Vowed Members
September 29, 2021



Report of Director of Acquisitions and Author Relations for OSL Publications



As the title suggests, **the focus of acquisitions and marketing** is on:

1. Cultivating relationships and prospects for titles Order of Saint Luke Publications may want to acquire and develop. Such titles are to be consistent with the Mission and Scope stated resourcing “the academy and the church in their understanding and practice of the sacraments, liturgy, and liturgical spirituality.”
2. Maintaining communication with and providing support to current and prospective authors, including editorial supervision, publication, marketing and ensuring royalty payments, in collaboration with the Chancellor General.

I report the following actions since the General Chapter and Council meeting in the fall of 2020:

1. I rejoice that we have a functioning website with an **OSLP bookstore in operation**. Along with that I give a shout out to Br. Dean Emerson, who does a fabulous job with our fulfillment center operating out of his home. These realities mean reduced overhead costs and a stronger income stream. Shoppers can now skip Amazon and go to OSLP! <https://oslpublishations.org/>
2. **Forth coming publications** include:
 - a. Br. Dwight (Brendan) Vogel continues to work on the proposed title, ***The Valley of the Shadow***. (The manuscript is currently in final editing.)
 - b. A festschrift of essays in honor of Lutheran liturgical scholar and teacher, Michael Aune, with a working title, ***“Loving Confidence in the Divine Generosity”***— *Word, Sacrament, Prayer*, edited by Kyle Kenneth Schiefelbein-Guerrero. A letter of understanding has been signed and filed. (Manuscript submission is schedule for October 2021.)
3. In conjunction with Br. Mark Stamm, we aim to **digitize our facsimile edition of *John Wesley’s Prayer Book: The Sunday Service of the Methodists in North America***. The current title has an important introduction by the late James F. White. As reported in the spring, we think a new edition should have a new introduction, in addition to a curated version of White intro. Due to Covid-19 full access to the library at Perkins/SMU does not allow us to complete this work at present.
4. I have plans to work with Sr. Heather Josselyn-Cranson to host a **Meet the Author seminar** based on her OSLP book, *The Reason Why We Sing*. We learned a lot from doing the first “Meet the Author” seminar in March 2021 featuring Br. Dick Eslinger and material from his OSLP book, *Preaching the Holy Mystery*. Our major learning is that it was more work than we anticipated and that subsequent iterations of the series should be simpler and perhaps a single session.

5. In November 2021 I will initiate work with the Chancellor General to send out a **letter of appreciation and royalty checks** were sent out to authors of titles we publish. Based on sales, the Chancellor General, issued the checks with my letter.
6. **Book table at NAAL:** If we are able to host a table at the January 22-25, 2022, meeting, I will arrange for it, if our general officers deem it prudent and if border crossing is still in place.
7. **OSLP archive:** Br. Dean Emerson has recently sorted through an archive of OSLP records from the late 1990s through the 2008 to see what is of value and usefulness. I will work with him to secure a summary of his findings and what items and files should be retained.
8. **Custodial files:** I continue to be in possession of 1) a file of copies of our royalty agreements/letters of understanding and 2) our ISBN numbers and related papers. Our Chancellor General, Sr. Jeanette, has copies.
9. I recommend that the Abbot **appoint a co-director for OSLP Marketing and Acquisitions.** While I remain in good health, I think it prudent to have someone be familiar with and sharing in this work. As with many positions in OSL, we need to anticipate succession.

Br. Daniel Benedict
September 13, 2021



Report of the Chaplain General

I am currently hard at work compiling and formatting our Worship Book for retreat. Thank you to all of you who graciously answered the Call to Service to lead worship in any capacity. I am so looking forward to hearing from our preachers and leaders.

I ask for your patience as I “learn the ropes” without the benefit of our wonderful just retired Chaplain General Sr. AK Lovelace, who is unable to attend this year. I am very grateful for her guidance and assistance.

I know that because of the ongoing pandemic we will have constraints on some of our favorite parts of retreat, including communion and passing of the peace during worship. I hope that despite these, we can all be filled with joy as we worship together.

Sr. Dianne Tobey Covault
Chaplain General
October 2, 2021



Report on the Constitution & By-Laws

During 2021 there was one action with regard to the Order's Constitution. It had been noted that, with the structural changes in the United Methodist Church, the organization to which the Order had intended to leave any assets no longer existed. Therefore it was prudent to make an appropriate change to our Constitution. The following change was proposed:

ARTICLE VIII - DISBURSEMENT OF ASSETS

In the case of the dissolution of The Order such assets as may be held at that time shall be disbursed as a contribution to the ~~worship unit of Discipleship Ministries of the United Methodist Church, or its successor bodies (a 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization)~~ North American Academy of Liturgy.

The vote was held between May 25 and August 1, 2021. With 75 votes cast, the amendment passed with 70 in favor, and five opposed.

Therefore, Article VIII now reads:

ARTICLE VIII - DISBURSEMENT OF ASSETS

In the case of the dissolution of The Order such assets as may be held at that time shall be disbursed as a contribution to the North American Academy of Liturgy.

Respectfully submitted,

O. French Ball,
Canon for the Constitution

Report of the Pastoral Care Officer

No report was submitted.

Report of the Daily Office Revision Team (DORT)

Because of the pandemic, the Daily Office Revision Team (DORT) has not met in person. We have carried on communication by email and are scheduled to meet at the conclusion of the retreat. The response to *A Lukan Psalter* has been gratifying. Work on making the Web Amplified Daily Office (WADO) and the lectionary for the daily office available for use continues. The possibility of developing a book of prayers as a worship resource will also be discussed.

Canon Dwight Vogel, OSL
Daily Office Revision Team
October 1, 2020

Report of the Companion for Seekers, Inquirers, and Discerners

Since the Spring Council meeting 15 individuals have been added to The Order of Saint Luke Seekers, Inquirers, and Discerners Facebook group giving a total of 188 members. Many of these are members of the Order and are serving as companions (mentors) to Inquirers and Discerners. This group is the location of several documents that are intended to acquaint those interested in learning more about OSL and the process of becoming a member.

The process of Inquiry and Discernment continues to be a work in progress. There are 25 Inquirers with members of the Order assigned to them as Companions. Local chapters have welcomed Inquirers and are assisting them on their journey toward membership. Some have, for various reasons, decided that they are being led in a different direction.

Identifying and assigning Companions for such a number of Inquirers has been a challenge. I try to match them with someone in the same time zone but this is not always possible. Sr. Heather has been helpful in contacting Priors of this need and has recommended individuals. There is a need for more Companions.

Our desire is to assist pilgrims to be better informed about the Order of Saint Luke before making a commitment to the Rule of Life and Service.

Br. Jim DuFriend+ OSL
Companion to Seekers, Inquirers, and Discerners
September 21, 2021
Br.jimosl@gmail.com
(251)769-5109



Report of the Our Story Project (OSP)

As I said in my May report, spring term of this year afforded me the longest, most focused stretch of work on the Our Story Project, perhaps a glimpse of what will be possible in my (eventual) retirement. Sister Abbot Elizabeth also gave me the title “Historian,” which represents both expansion of my scope and further focusing of it. It also means that I need to make some visits to the UMC Archives, which I’ve not yet done.

Since a month-long Brother Mark and Sister Margie Stamm break-out road trip this summer, followed by the turn toward the SMU/Perkins fall term (and resumption of all of my teaching and chapel elder duties), my primary work on the Our Story Project (and other OSL history) has involved me in sifting materials and preparing for my presentation(s) for the 2021 retreat, and there is more material than I could ever use. Moreover, the material continues to expand as I’ve always expected and hoped it would do,

And so I’ve asked Brother Jonathan Hehn to allow me to an occasional “From the Historian” column in *Doxology*, so that I can, from to time, relate other narratives, stories, interesting snippets, vignettes, analysis, etc. from our continuing history.

Here are some ways that you may contribute to the Our Story Project:

1. Transcribe interviews. We have audio and video records of many of the interviews that I and others have conducted, but experience teaches us that media change, sometimes making earlier forms obsolete. There is much to be said in support of records printed on paper. To that end, I need volunteers who will listen to recordings and create transcripts. Please let me know if you’re willing to try your hand at this work. I will offer some instruction.
2. Submit your written accounts and other printed materials. Perhaps you’ve kept journals reflecting on life within the Order and/or your living of the sacramental life, or perhaps you’d be willing to write short (or long) accounts of your experiences as they relate to the Order and the Rule. Please consider submitting these—and yes, edit them as you wish. Your story is your story, and you decide how you want to tell it. B
3. Volunteer to be interviewed. Consider allowing me (or one of my colleagues in the project) to interview you. I think most persons have enjoyed the opportunity to share about their perspective and their experiences.

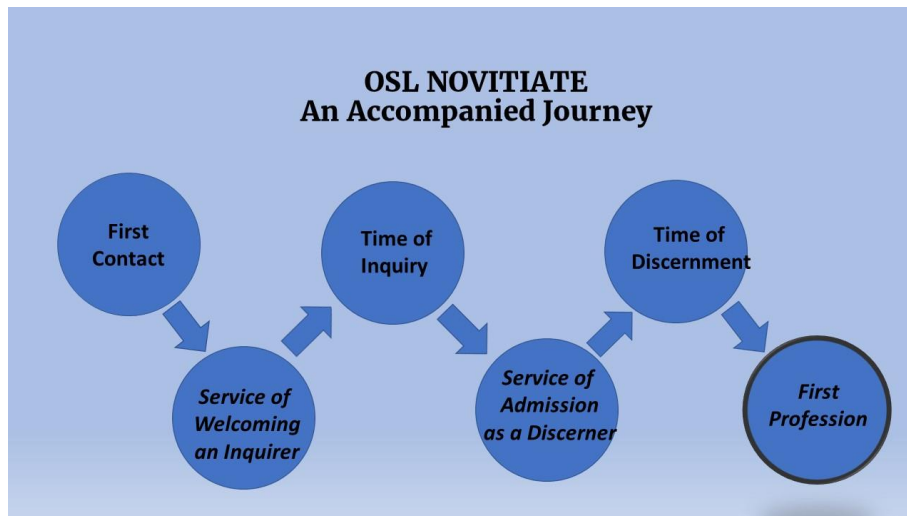
As my process has developed, I've been sending interviewees a set of questions that I'd like to ask them and then I ask them for suggestions as to topics that they would like to discuss. In other words, you become a full participant in the process. So please, volunteer, and we'll find a convenient time for our conversation.

4. Volunteer to conduct interviews. If you'd like to participate in conducting interviews, I can coach you on the process. The primary requirements are curiosity, and an openness to your sibling's narrative as it unfolds, that is, a willingness to listen. If that work sounds interesting to you, please contact me, and let's talk.
5. Volunteer to do research assignments. From time to time, various research questions occur to me, such as "What was the dialog on the General Conference floor in and around the passage of *This Holy Mystery*, and how were OSL members involved in that discussion. This query would involve reading the 2004 General Conference transcript and preparing a digest that addressed the question.
6. Volunteer to work toward compiling a comprehensive list of all of the persons who have held membership in the Order, with their dates of membership. One wouldn't, of course, compile this in an afternoon, and it might be somewhat elusive and the represent the proverbial "going on to perfection," but I think it would be immensely helpful, and Sister Abbot and Sister Chancellor General probably grow tired of me asking "Would you check to see if X person was a member, and when?"

Br. Mark Stamm, OSL
September 25, 2021



Novitiate Team Report



The Novitiate Team consists of myself, Br. Jim DuFriend, Companion for Seekers, Inquirers, and Discerners; and Sr. Barbara Lee.

In the spring I reported the following developments: (In italics, I include follow up comments as appropriate.)

1. **Br. Jimmy DuFriend continues to care for, assign companion/mentors, and keep records on inquirers and final discerners.** He also maintains and monitors the Facebook group page for seekers, inquirers and final discerners. I am grateful for his work on our behalf.
2. On January 4, with Sr. Barbara Lee, Sr. Beth Fender, and Abbot Elizabeth Moore, I hosted a “Companions Orientation and Training.” The aim was to interpret, orient and answer questions for existing and prospective companions who accompany Inquirers and Discerners.
3. Anticipation of Cohort Group formation and implementation. *We have been unable to follow through and implement this expanded way of supporting Inquirers in their vocational quest. The outline awaits leadership who feels a calling to this work.*
4. I have made several revisions of the services related to welcoming Inquirers and admission of Discerners. They are available on the Facebook Seekers, Inquirers, and Discerners group page.
5. Sr. Heather Josselyn-Cranson has made novitiate resources available to priors and chapters. *If there are new chapters forming, their priors should contact Sr. Heather or myself for those resources.*

We remain attentive to what chapters, companions, and Inquirers and Discerners observe about the process. We are now a little over two years into this.

Br. Daniel Benedict
September 13, 2021

Minutes of the May 11-13, 2021 Council Meeting Via Zoom

Those present: Abbot Elizabeth Moore, Sr. Jeanette Block, Br. French Ball, Sr. Kimberly Greway, Br. Jim DuFriend, Sr. Celia Halfacre, Br. George Crisp, Br. Daniel Benedict, Sr. Bron Yocum, Sr. Heather Josslyn-Cranson, Br. Dwight “Brendan” Vogel, Br. Mark Stamm, Br. Kyle Gould, Sr. Jennifer Kilpatrick, Br. Joshua “Aidan” Allison, Sr. Dianne Tobey Covault, Br. Brent Sturm, Br. Scot Bontrager, Br. Jonathan Hehn, Sr. Alice Kay Lovelace, Br. Matthias Tanner, Sr. Fran Noll, Sr. Barbara Lee, Br. Ador Tolentino.

We began with evening prayer from the Book of Offices and Services, led by Br. Brent Sturm and Sr. Heather Josslyn-Cranson.

Abbot Elizabeth asked each of us to check in briefly with each other.

Approval of Agenda, Minutes and Budget Presentation

The minutes from our October General Council meeting were approved by all. The budget was presented; Br. Jonathan Hehn asked that the category for publications be changed from Sacramental Life to Doxology. The budget will be approved in October.

Abbot Elizabeth shared her report on pages 2-3 in the Book of Reports. Abbot lifted up the new chapters that have formed. The Hoyt Hickman chapter has many who attend through Zoom as well as geographically. Abbot also shared that Sr. Bron Yocum is forming a new chapter, a pan-seminary chapter with Lancaster, Palmer and Moravian.

The Psalter publication has become very popular at Claremont. OSL publications can be ordered from our own website, oslpublishings.org, which Br. Jonathan Hehn set up, or through www.saint-luke.net.

Abbot Elizabeth shared that Br. Kyle Gould will not be taking over publications, so she will be continuing as the “interim-interim” director of publications. Sr. Cynthia “Magdalene Ruth” Astle is now the companion for Life Vowed members. Br. Mark Stamm has been appointed as our historian. Br. David Eichelberger was fine with the change in this leadership.

Abbot Elizabeth explained why we have Canons of the Order. In 2000 at the Greensburg retreat, Br. Dwight “Brendan” Vogel and Br. Mark Stamm brought the announcement to the Order that it is appropriate to establish the office of Canon. It is someone who holds a lot of institutional memory of the Order and has served faithfully. The abbatial appointment allows the Canon to continue to participate on council. Our Canons are Br. French Ball, Sr. Anne Albrecht, Br. Hoyt Hickman, Br. Brent Sturm, Br. Matthias Tanner, Br. Mark Stamm, Br. Michael O’Donnell, Sr. Barbara Lee, and Br. Bill Beasley. Sr. Anne and Br. Bill have become “Canons with the Saints in Light.” They are indeed with us in deep memory and influence on the Order. There is one person, had he not died of cancer, would be a Canon by now. Abbot Elizabeth

proposed that Br. Timothy Crouch needs to be recognized with the Canons with the Saints in Light. One other abbatial appointment she would like to make is Br. Daniel Benedict for all the work and service he has done. We affirm those abbatial appointments.

Abbot Elizabeth referred to page 3 of her report, “a rule of life is a trellis.” It is something that keeps holding her up and she offers that image to us as well.

Report of the Prior General

Br. George Crisp shared his publication *The Faith We Sing and the Lectionary*. His full report is on Page 4 of the Book of Reports. The Hoyt Hickman awards are being given in our seminaries to those who have been named as outstanding liturgical leaders receive this award. This October we will celebrate our 75th Anniversary at retreat. Our speakers are Br. Don Saliers, Sr. Kimberly Greway and Br. Mark Stamm. Dates are October 11 - 14, 2021 at St. Paul of the Cross in Pittsburgh, PA. Br. George will have the registration form available late June, early July. Br. George also answered questions related to the pandemic.

Sr. Heather Josslyn-Cranson encouraged us to think of other retreat centers for us to meet. Br. George indicated he is willing to find facilities.

Br. George highlighted the need for all participants attending retreat be vaccinated and he also highlighted our return to the Franciscan Renewal Center in Scottsdale, AZ.

Report of Acquisitions/Author Relations Director

Br. Daniel Benedict lifted up the work of Br. Timothy Crouch. He desired that the Order take up religious publications. He also thanked Br. Jonathan and Br. Scot to get the websites up and running so folks can get our publications. New titles, *The Lukan Psalter*, *The Faith we Sing and the Lectionary*, and *The Liturgical Tradition*, (Br. Mark and Sr. Heather). We are a niche press; we publish what fits the mission and scope of The Order. Br. Brendan’s book is forthcoming and another festschrift Michael lune. We did have a Meet the Author seminar with Br. Dick Eslinger Preaching the Holy Mystery. It was an immense amount of work! Br. Daniel is hoping we have *The Reason We Sing*. Br. Dean Emerson who handles our fulfillment center and does a great job with that. Br. Mark brought up the festschrift of Horace Allen.

Novitiate Team and Cohort Groups

Page 18 of the Book of Reports. Br. Daniel reminded us that we are in the early stages of something quite new in navigating the Order and if they have a vocation for the Rule of Life and Service. They had a companion training event in January. He encouraged all of us to consider being a companion. We announced Cohort Groups last October to meet for five different sessions online to broaden their understanding of the Order, to learn the history, the Rule, the Lukan Spirituality. However, we do not have a strong leader to organize and implement that Cohort

Group. He feels they have the vision and an outline of what needs to happen. He will discuss with Sr. Abbot.

Abbot Elizabeth shared a “grumpy abbatial comment,” that it seems the cohort groups are a good idea, but we do not have a leader to do it, and we should probably admit we cannot do it at this time. We have good modules available and good material to use in companioning folks, but we need a leader. If you are feeling the call to service, please discuss with Abbot Elizabeth, Sr. Barbara Lee or Br. Daniel.

Br. Aidan reminded us that if we have chapter/association meetings that we want to share, we can share with him at barefootfriar@gmail.com

Wednesday Evening May 12, 2021

Those present: Abbot Elizabeth Moore, Sr. Jeanette Block, Br. Jonathan Hehn, Br. French Ball, Br. Mark Stamm, Sr. Heather Josslyn-Cranson, Br. George Martzen, Br. Scot Bontrager, Sr. Bron Yocum, Br. Brent Sturm, Sr. Jennifer Kilpatrick, Br. Joshua “Aidan” Allison, Br. Jim DuFriend, Br. Dwight “Brendan” Vogel, Br. Matthias Tanner, Sr. Kimberly Greway, Sr. Dianne Tobey Covault, Sr. Alice Kay Lovelace, Br. Kyle Gould, Sr. Beth Fender, Br. Ador Tolentino, Sr. Barbara Lee.

We began with Evening Prayer by Sr. Jennifer Kilpatrick, Br. Mark Stamm, Br. Scot Bontrager, Br. Joshua “Aidan” Allison and musicians Br. Jonathan Hehn, and Sr. Heather Josslyn-Cranson.

Report of Provincial General

Sr. Heather referred us to her reports in the Book of Reports. She thanked all for their leadership as Priors and Provincial Companions. Please pray for the Priors and our chapters. Br. George Crisp shared that someone from Oregon connected with Cal-Pac; the zoom prayers are working to cross geographical backgrounds.

Report of Chaplain General

Sr. Dianne Tobey Covault is our new Chaplain General. She gave thanks to Sr. Alice Kay Lovelace for her work as Chaplain General. Sr. Dianne is happy to be part of the council. Abbot Elizabeth shared a news article about Pennsylvania opening up after Covid; hopefully, we can have many at retreat. Sr. Kimberly Greway shared that the RC Church is soon to fully open.

Report of Webmaster

Br. Scot Bontrager showed our new website at www.saint-luke.net. He shared pictures of the Philippines Chapter to reflect our diversity. He showed the different pages including our history. Br. Scot then showed the new publications site at www.oslpublications.org. Order from this site; as Amazon profits from our work. He thereafter answered questions. Br. Scot and Br. Jonathan will look at extending our PayPal account to include donations as well as retreat registrations.

Our Story Project

Br. Mark Stamm referred us to his report in the Book of Reports on pages 16-17. He has been enjoying working on OSP during his leave with SMU. He stressed that we are the history of the

Order. Br. Mark is looking for siblings to transcribe, submit our own journals, and volunteer to be interviewed and to do interviews. Eventually, he would like to have a hard copy of OSP for the archives at Drew Seminary at Madison, NJ. Br. Mark encouraged us to write our memories of Br. Timothy Crouch, Br. Hoyt Hickman or others who have passed away. Br. Ador Tolentino shared via chat that the Philippines Chapter is celebrating their 10th Anniversary of OSL; Br. Gilmartine Guerrero is working on that.

Periodicals: SaLife and Doxology

Br. Jonathan Hehn referred us to his report, pages 11 of the Book of Reports. The two periodicals have been merged into Doxology: a Journal of Worship and Sacramental Life and has moved to a quarterly publication schedule. Doxology has a reconstructed team of folks; he indicated that we have two paid positions. **32.1 Doxology:** a Journal of Worship and Sacramental Life. ATLA had been indexing Doxology, but they decided to make the access to full text of articles and he will discuss how to get the full text of articles and as they are digitized he can get them out. There are some back issues of SaLife which are not on the publications website yet; he will need physical copies that can be digitized. He feels he can utilize some student workers. The index of SaLife is still incomplete; the pandemic precluded student workers. Br. Jonathan would like to substantially increase the number of subscribers. It is \$40.00 per year, but you may opt for free on the website; libraries have a standard fee, but he would like to expand the subscriptions to libraries. Br. Jonathan also still calls for submissions for articles and has asked us to share that call.

Sr. Abbot indicated if NAAL is live in 2022, he will provide copies for folks to look at and subscribe. He also amassed a list of peer-reviewers. Br. Jonathan is still working on a correct timeline for getting articles peer reviewed and out. Br. Mark commended Br. Jonathan on his work ethic for “cat herding.”

The Font Report

In Sr. Magdalene Ruth’s absence, Br. George Crisp shared her report on Page 12 of the Book of Reports. The Font is issued to members of the Order, it is an inhouse newsletter due to the privacy concerns of our members.

Publications - Books

Abbot Elizabeth has picked up the production aspect of the books. We have been extremely fortunate to receive manuscripts that are well formed and Br. George Crisp is asked to proofread. Another manuscript is forthcoming from Br. Dwight. There is no financial report; it will be available in October. Br. Dean Emerson handles the inventory of our publications and he is very wonderful to serve the Order with.

Report of Life Vowed Companion

Br. George Crisp also shared Sr. Magdalene Ruth’s report found on Page 14 of the Book of Reports. Three are in discernment for Life Vows in October 2021.

Report of Companion for Seekers, Inquirers and Discerners

Br. Jim DuFriend shared his report, found on page 15 in the Book of Reports. We have a FB group for seekers, inquirers and discerners. Within that group, Br. Daniel prepared documents for folks to review. There is a lot of interest in the Order. Many are interested in the healing Order of Saint Luke. He has approximately 27 inquirers, 24 have companions, three are new. A few are ready to become members in October. His challenge is assigning companions. Br. Daniel

Benedict gave an orientation for companions and is offering further help and direction for those who wish to serve as companions. Please let Br. Jim know if you would like to become a companion. Sr. Heather commended Br. Jim on his service.

Sr. Abbot asked if he has a way of asking those who are simply on the FB group for a long time without making a decision, he has contacted and then eliminate them from the group. Br. Aidan commented that his Koinonia Chapter is reviewing the materials to simply grow in the Order.

We adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

Thursday Evening, May 13, 2021

Those present: Sr. Jeanette Block, Br. Ador Tolentino, Abbot Elizabeth Moore, Br. Brent Sturm, Br. George Crisp, Br. Mark Stamm, Br. Oliver Pineda, Br. Gilmartine Guerrero, Br. Felician Biasbas, Br. Jun Equilla, Br. John Castro, Br. Joel Bengbeng, Br. Noel Alfonso, Br. John Taliwaga, Br. Jess Bondoc, (Sr. Jennifer Kilpatrick is participating in a service at Perkins for her graduation), Br. Dwight "Brendan" Vogel, Sr. Heather Josslyn-Cranson, Br. Kyle Gould, Br. Jim DuFriend, Sr. Barbara Lee, Br. Jonathan Hehn, Br. George Martzen, Sr. Beth Fender, Br. Matthias Tanner, Br. Joshua "Aidan" Allison, Sr. Kimberly Greway, Sr. Alice Kay Lovelace, Sr. Dianne Tobey Covault, Sr. Debbie Neill, Br. David Eichelberger,

Report of Pastoral Care Officer

Br. David Eichelberger indicated he has been following up with prayer requests and participating with the Hoyt Hickman Chapter. Br. David is very happy to be relieved of the historical task force as Br. Mark Stamm takes over this position.

Question about our publications website: all digital publications are to be purchased directly through amazon.com

New Business

Br. George Crisp made a Motion to invite the Hickman Award winners to retreat in October as our guests. We do not pay for their transportation. Two prior winners have accepted the invitation. Seconded by Br. Brendan Vogel and Br. Mark Stamm. No discussion. Unanimously passed.

Sr. Jeanette Block proposed that in the event Order dissolves and ceases to operate, that we have our funds redirected from the Worship Unit of the Board of Discipleship Ministries to the North American Academy of Liturgy. Abbot Elizabeth Moore read Article 8 of the Constitution, which provides for the disbursement of our assets. Br. Joshua "Aidan" Allison moved to and seconded by Br. Kyle Gould to send an amendment to the membership to change the beneficiary of our assets to the North American Academy of Liturgy.

Last October, Br. Geoffrey Moore brought up the need to review our honorifics of Br. and Sr. so that we are more fluid in addressing one another. We discussed the tradition of using Br. and Sr.; it provides equality among us. Using "sibling" may open the door for the change of pronouns. Sr. Jeanette may change the forms.

Our business meeting is adjourned at 7:36 p.m.

Br. Kyle Gould, Sr. Dianne Tobey Covault, and Br. George Crisp led us in the service of Compline.

Respectfully submitted,
Sr. Jeanette Block, Chancellor General