



The Order of Saint Luke  
**BOOK OF REPORTS**  
 for the General Chapter Meeting at Retreat  
**Wednesday, October 5, 2022**

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# **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 at the Franciscan Renewal Center in Scottsdale AZ. It is good to return here after five years. We are blessed with a number of first-time attendees, and with our wonderful musicians. I am looking forward to our time together and to our guest speaker, Bob Hurd. Bob's music and his theological reflections will be a great gift to us.

I am very pleased to announce several changes to our appointed offices that will be effective October 3, 2022.

First, I share with you that Br. David Eichelberger is stepping down from his position as Pastoral Care Officer. I thank him for his service in this position, and for his years of service in many of our appointed offices. David, we have been blessed by your leadership.

I have asked Sr. Dianne Tobey Covault to move from her present responsibility as Chaplain General to assume the responsibilities of being our Pastoral Care Officer. Sr. Diane was a friend and mentee of Br. Tom Beveridge of blessed memory and will bring to her new position the learnings and love that he inspired.

Sister Celia Halfacre has accepted the call to be our new Chaplain General. As a former student of Br. Mark Stamm, Sr. Celia is well-grounded in worship design and exudes a love of liturgy. I look forward to working with her as we plan the worship for Council meetings and retreats. Sr. Celia has been working with Sr. Dianne for the last few months to gain experience in the Chaplain General's responsibilities.

As I was praying over these changes, I came to the realization that the Order not only has a need for worship planning when we are physically together (i.e., a Chaplain for our gathered community) but also for our many opportunities for online worship, which is of critical importance to a dispersed Order. I am creating a new appointed position, a chaplain for the dispersed community, who will have responsibility for organizing the celebration of frequent services of Feasts or other important events for the entire Order. This will allow participation by those who cannot realistically join us for our annual retreat. Sr. Kimberly Greway has accepted the call to fill this new position.

In summary, the new officers will be:

- Sr. Dianne Tobey Covault, Pastoral Care Officer
- Sr. Celia Halfacre, Chaplain General for the Gathered Community
- Sr. Kimberly Greway, Chaplain for the Dispersed Community

My gratitude to them all for accepting these responsibilities. I look forward to working with them on the Council of the General Chapter.

Again, my appreciation to Br. David Eichelberger for his many years of leadership.

And my ongoing appreciation to all who have accepted the call to service within the Order. I am supported by a wonderful team of elected officers who make my time as Abbot enjoyable and generally stress-free. Please hold us all in your prayers.

Our work is undergirded by our canons – persons who have received this position by years of service to the Order and who carry among themselves a rich institutional memory.

I am thankful for all the members of the Order who seek to spread the awareness of the Order within their churches and their schools and their denominational bodies. The fruit of your labor is sweet.

The downside of listing the people who have my gratitude is that I don't have time to list you all. We have amazing technical support and communications support. We are held in so many of your prayers. Thank you all. Your gifts sustain us.

On joyful days, may we raise your voices in song and praise with our siblings all across the Order, and on difficult days may our heart hear our siblings singing and praying and be comforted, knowing that we are being lifted up in love.

Next year in Pittsburgh,  
Sr. Abbot Elizabeth  
October 2022



## Report of the Prior General

Our annual retreat is being held this week at the Franciscan Renewal Center, 5802 E. Lincoln Drive, Scottsdale, AZ 85253. Our guest speaker is **Bob Hurd** who is the author of *Compassionate Christ, Compassionate People: Liturgical Foundations of Christian Spirituality*. He is addressing the theme “Exploring Sacramental Spirituality.” We are using some of Bob’s liturgical music as part of our Retreat.

Most seminaries across the country returned 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. 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.) At this year’s retreat, two Hickman Award recipients – Sharon Britz and Abby Peper – are attending.

We will return to **St. Paul of the Cross, 148 Monastery Ave., Pittsburgh, PA** for our 2023 Spring Council meeting. The dates are set for **May 8-11**.

Likewise, our **2023 Retreat** of the Order of Saint Luke will be held **October 16-19** at St. Paul of the Cross. Our presenter will be **Debie Thomas**, (see next page), a columnist for the weekly webzine Journey with Jesus and a contributing editor for *The Christian Century*. Her Topic for our Retreat: Sacred Connection: Engaging Spiritual Practices in a Turbulent World. Her first book, *Into the Mess and Other Jesus Stories*, was published this Spring by Cascade Book. Her published work includes spiritual memoir, book reviews, and reflections on the Revised Common Lectionary. She also serves as the Minister or Lifelong Formation at St. Mark’s Episcopal Church in Palo alto, California.

Br. George R. Crisp, OSL  
Prior General  
September 13, 2022

**Introducing Debie Thomas**  
**Retreat Speaker for October 16-19, 2023**



Debie Thomas is a columnist and contributing editor for *The Christian Century*. From 2014 to 2022, she served as a staff writer for *Journey with Jesus: A Weekly Webzine for the Global Church*.

Her first book, *Into the Mess and Other Jesus Stories*, was published this spring and is now available. Her

published work includes spiritual memoir, book reviews, and reflections on the Revised Common Lectionary. She also serves as the Minister of Lifelong Formation at St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Palo Alto, California.

Her Topic for our Retreat:

**Sacred Connection: Engaging Spiritual Practices  
in a Turbulent World**

How can Christian leaders make a case for robust spiritual practice  
in a culture that is harried, distracted, wounded and wary?

**Session 1: Replenishing the Well**

We can't share from wells that are dry. We can't lead others into places we haven't discovered for ourselves.

**Session 2: Giving Away What We Seek**

How might we engage 21<sup>st</sup> century parishioners in the practices of our tradition?

**Session 3: Lost in Translation**

What is missing in contemporary spiritual practice?

## Report of Chancellor General

To date, we have 445 active members within The Order. As my husband and I suffered from Covid this summer and are still suffering Covid fatigue, our annual mailing is going out while you are retreating. Please feel free to re-affirm on our website at [www.saint-luke.net](http://www.saint-luke.net) and use the Pay Pal feature to make a donation. Thank you all for your generosity to The Order. Officers and appointed officers are all volunteers and we serve you for our love of The Order.

You will notice changes to our budget. We were blessed this year to receive a bequest of \$9,091.00. I encourage all of us (myself included) to think about The Order when doing our estate planning. Many folks around the world are using [oslpublishings.org](http://oslpublishings.org) to purchase their books and "baubles and beads."

I also enclosed herein an updated Honorarium list [next page] so you can see who is gifted each year for the service they provide. It is simply a "thank you" for faithfulness in serving The Order. At our May council meeting, we decided to make them all the same amount (some were \$400.00) and I will send these out in October.

Our Reimbursement Policy for Council has been amended to specifically include Canons as appointed officers. Their work is invaluable to The Order as they hold the history, tradition and constitution of our life together. We also hope that local Chapters and Associations will be faithful at taking an offering so that your Priors, Provincial Companions, and/or Chancellors can attend council in 2024. It will be in Pittsburgh at St. Paul of the Cross, and you serve as the Nominating Committee for the election of new officers. New officers will transition in October, 2024 to begin new four year terms.

Please notice that my husband and I have moved: one mile north of our previous address! We are now residing at 1194 Fries Mill Road, Franklinville, NJ 08322 in our daughter's house as she and her family move to Ocean City, NJ.

As always if you have any questions or concerns, please email me at [oslchancellor@gmail.com](mailto:oslchancellor@gmail.com) or call at 609-364-9187.

In gratitude,  
/s/ Sr. Jeanette Block  
October 5, 2022

## Honorarium Levels (Proposed Revised 2022-23)

Editor, The Font	\$500.00
Editor, Doxology	500.00
Sacramental Life and Doxology Merged	
Director, New Publications/Acquisitions	500.00
Webmaster (added 2021)	500.00
Chancellor General	500.00
Companion for Inquirers (added 2018)	500.00
Chaplain General	500.00
Historian	500.00
Director, OSL Publications	500.00
 Total	 <b>\$4,500.00</b>

OSL Budget 2022 - 2023 / Revenue

	2021-2022 budget	Actual	2022-2023 proposed
<b>Revenue</b>			
Investments	1000.	2228.41	2225.00
White WVA		200.20	250.00
Legacy WVA		1763.53	1800.00
CD TDBank		264.68	275.00
Donations	3000.	9091.00 *	3500.00
Member Support	20,000.	24,812.86	24,000.00
Miscellaneous	5,000.	300.00	1,925.00
Publications (Books)	10,000.	16,093.00	16,500.00
Amazon		13,000.00	
PayPal (Website)		2,493.00**	
Retreat		600.00**	
Retreat	9,000.	8,665.00	2,500.00
Baubles/Beads**	1,000.		
Queensboro		110.00	1,000.00
Subscriptions	1,000.	902.00	2,000.00
Seminaries		502.00	
Individuals		400.00	
Totals	\$50,000.00	\$62,202.27	\$55,475.00

\*9091.00 was a bequest from an estate

\*\*Baubles and Beads is not separated out from books



OSL Budget 2022 - 2023 / Expenses

	2021-2022 budget	Actual	2022-2023 proposed
<b>Expenses</b>			
Abbot	2,500.00	0.	2,500.00
Chancellor General	0.00	0.	2,000.00
Prior General	1,000.00	117.05	1,000.00
Provincial General	200.00	0.	200.00
May Council	12,000.00	3,700.00	9,000.00
Insurance	600.00	610.64	650.00
Casual Labor	1,200.00	0.	1,500.00
Financial Review	500.00	0.	1,500.00
Retreat Scholarships	3,500.00	850.00	3,500.00
Hickman Awards	1,500.00	1,611.22	2,625.00*
E. Preston Rice		1,286.22	
Retreat Comp		325.00	
Honoraria	3,000.00	2,500.00	4,500.00
Member Services	5,000.00	4,466.00	5,000.00
Servant Keeper		600.00	
QuickBooks		600.00	
Clover		600.00	
Postage		500.00	
Website		1,000.00	
Music License		266.00	
Fees		400.00	
Streaming/Zoom		500.00	
Periodicals / Doxology	4,500.00	4,536.64	9,000.00**
Fed Ex		3,936.64	
Art		600.00	
Publications	4,500.00	2,005.24	4,500.00
Royalties		463.80	
Shipping		316.44	
Crosses		1,225.00	

\*E. Preston Rice's expenses have increased

\*\*Amount increased in the event casual labor is needed for *Doxology* as discussed at May council.

	2021-22 Budget	Actual	2022-2023 Proposed
<b>Expenses</b>			
Promotion	3,500.00	0.00	2,500.00
Miscellaneous	1,500.00	0.00	1,500.00
OSP	2,500.00	0.00	2,500.00
DORT	1,500.00	0.00	1,500.00
Anniversary	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00
Retreat	9,000.00	21,937.55	in/out***
St. Paul's		18,615.00	
Speakers Comp.		975.00	
Craft		60.00	
Honoraria Speakers		1,500.00	
Worship		354.60	
Folders		60.05	
Canons Hospitality		372.90	
Totals:	\$50,000.00	\$43,334.34	\$55,475.00

\*\*\*Cost of Retreat built into registration fee. 2021 required at retreat budget for our anniversary celebration.



## The Order of Saint Luke Council of the General Chapter Proposed Expense Policy

The Council of the General Chapter of The Order of Saint Luke meets twice each year – in May and at the general retreat in October. All members of the Council pay their own expenses to attend the October meeting. The General Chapter has attempted, however, to fund the May meeting.

In May 2008, the total cost of the meeting exceeded \$14,000. This was due to a variety of factors – increased attendance, higher gasoline and airline prices, and a major NASCAR event in Charlotte all contributed to the high cost. Clearly, an organization with a \$40,000 annual budget cannot commit 35% of that budget to one business meeting. A look at our previous policies (drawn here mostly from memory and custom, rather than actual documents – if, in fact, documents ever existed) and a move toward a new policy is called for.

The following elements were a part of our Council Expense Policy through this past May's meeting:

- The elected and appointed general officers, including Canons, of The Order will have their expenses covered by the General Chapter. The **five** elected general officers will have their travel, room, and board costs for the spring meeting reimbursed as a “first claim”<sup>1</sup> on the Council meeting budget.
- Up to seven Provincial Companions will have their expenses covered by the General Chapter.
- Representatives of Chapters should have their expenses covered by their respective chapters. However, when the chapter is unwilling or unable to pay, the General Chapter will cover those expenses.
- Representatives of Associations should have their expenses covered by their respective chapters. However, when the chapter is unwilling or unable to pay, the General Chapter will cover those expenses.
- Council members living within 500 miles of a meeting location should probably drive, unless they can demonstrate that flying is less expensive.
- Mileage will be reimbursed at the “federal rate”.

There have been many problems with this policy, but the chief one is that we simply cannot afford it any longer. A new policy that encourages broader support from chapters and associations, and that assures General Officers of expense coverage is needed. In the spirit of

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<sup>1</sup> It is assumed here that all “First Claim” expenses are paid before any “Second Claim” expenses are considered. Likewise, all “First Claim” and “Second Claim” expenses are paid before any “Third Claim” expenses are considered, etc.

“getting something before us to discuss”, I suggest the following as our new Council Expense Policy:

- The General Chapter of The Order of Saint Luke will offer financial support to members of the Council of the General Chapter in attendance at the annual May meeting, but no such financial support is offered for the annual October meeting.
- Chapters and Associations of The Order are expected to fund the attendance of their representatives at the meetings of the Council of the General Chapter.
- The **five** elected general officers will have their travel, room, and board costs for the spring meeting reimbursed as a “first claim”<sup>2</sup> on the Council meeting budget.
- The general officers appointed by the Abbot, including Canons, may have their travel, room, and board costs for the spring meeting reimbursed as a “second claim” on the Council meeting budget.
- Up to three Provincial Companions may have their travel, room, and board costs for the spring meeting reimbursed as a “third claim” on the Council meeting budget.
- Chapter and Association representatives may have their travel, room, and board costs for the spring meeting reimbursed as a “fourth claim” on the Council meeting budget.
- The General Chapter funds semi-private accommodations; the extra cost for a private room, or to bring along another person, are not reimbursed.
- Mileage will be reimbursed at the “federal rate”.
- Council members living within 500 miles of a meeting will have their airfare reimbursement limited to the amount they would have received if they had driven.
- Council members are expected to use great care and due diligence in their planning, taking advantage of all available discount programs, various forms of public transportation, and making early reservations.
- Carpooling is highly encouraged.

In addition, the Chancellor General will explore the various “hub” airports around the country, and lodging options near each, with the intention of bringing a recommendation to the May 2009 Council meeting of preferred locations for Council meetings. Not only do we need to be aware of the cost to Council members, but also the cost of the meeting’s carbon footprint.

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<sup>2</sup> It is assumed here that all “First Claim” expenses are paid before any “Second Claim” expenses are considered. Likewise, all “First Claim” and “Second Claim” expenses are paid before any “Third Claim” expenses are considered, etc.

## Report of the Provincial General

Sr. Heather Josselyn-Cranson, OSL  
OSL Chapter Reports – October 2022

Charles Mosebrook Chapter	Sr. Lynn Basan	Partnership with the Order of the Knights of Rizal, particularly their Back-to-School programs in Central Luzon	10 active members	
Singapore Chapter	Br. Anthony Goh	Opening after pandemic; meeting on October 18 to discuss a Holy Communion liturgy for children	12 members	War and rumors of war – prayers that God would keep all people safe
Great Rivers Chapter	Br. Mick Laflin	Monthly gatherings and leadership at Annual Conference	14 participating members (average 7-8 per meeting)	Prayers for more OSL vocations and the return of inactive members
Winged Ox Association	Br. David Collette	Final discernment for Taylor Nauta on Aug 26; weekly Zoom prayers on Friday	3 members	Prayers for upcoming surgery for Br. David; for continued discernment for Taylor; possible physical chapter in Bend
Cal-Pac Chapter	Br. George Martzen	Weekly Wednesday PM prayers on Zoom (now moved to Thursdays at 4 PM)	16 active members	Prayers for Br. Bob Davis and Prior Br. George Martzen facing possible lung transplant
Hoyt Hickman Memorial Chapter	Sr. Kimberly Greway	Afternoon prayer twice monthly; reception of Br. Blaine Wenger	40 on mailing list	Prayers for health concerns, new appointments, and retirement

Koinonia Chapter	Br. Aidan (Joshua Allison)	Weekly Thursday AM prayers; quarterly chapter meetings (last July 14th)	10 members	
Perkins STH Chapter	Br. Aidan, functioning prior; Br. Mark Stamm, faculty advisor	Weekly Tuesday AM prayer; offering some live worship on campus	6 regular participants	
Mid-Atlantic Chapter (in formation)	Br. Daniel Benedict	Weekly Zoom prayers	5 regular; 20 on mailing list	Prayers for following the guidance of the Spirit in formation
Trinity Chapter	Br. Scot Bontrager	Emerging out of pandemic hiatus: meeting last week in September		Prayer for new prior Br. Scot and Sub-Prior Sr. Magdalene Ruth
New Jersey Chapter	Sr. Debbie Neil	Monthly meeting with book discussion (Joan Chittister, <i>Awakenings</i> )	15 members	Prayers for family members struggling with addiction; those with health issues; the predicament of the UMC
Philippine Chapter	Br. Ador Tolentino	9 active sub chapters; National Convocation Oct 17-19;	85 members	Prayers for the upcoming convocation on Sacramental Spirituality
St. Francis Chapter	Sr. Alice Kay Lovelace	First live meeting since COVID on July 13; next meeting planned for October	13 active members	Prayers for the journey toward renewed vitality for the Chapter
Upper New York Chapter	Br. Brett Johnson	Meeting planned for October 18	12 members	Discernment on leadership and directions for the Chapter
Dayspring Chapter	Sr. Laura King	Zoom prayer on 1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday, and 5 <sup>th</sup> T or Th	6-10 participants each week; 65 people on e-mail list	

## 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 33.1 (Lent-Easter 2022) is complete. 33.2 (Pentecost 2022) is awaiting a final draft currently, and will be sent to print this week (by Sept 30). I tweaked the workflow structure in 2022, but there have been some unfortunate delays due to personal matters on my end which caused some serious production delays for the Pentecost issue. I am beginning the production of Volume 33.3 (Ordinary Time 2022) this week, and hope to complete that process by the end of October, getting us back on track. For future years, I hope that I can simply back the entire process up for the Pentecost issue so that the proof copy is sent out in June, rather than July or August.

### *File organization and indexing*

The digital archive for *Sacramental Life* still needs to be completed. **I would be appreciative if the Council could find someone who can take on that task.**

### *Editorial Practices*

The stream of unsolicited submissions is improving somewhat, but not enough to reliably fill 4 issues per year. **I think after Volume 33 is complete, we should consider whether to move to a thrice yearly production schedule.**

Thankfully, the production team and board of editorial advisors remains strong. I could still use one additional copy editor, but the team seems to work fairly well as is. It remains to be seen whether Karen Tunnell will remain as our Visual Art Editor, since her work has been on a trial basis to assess whether it's a good fit for her and for us.

### *Distribution*

**[Action Item]** I am renewing my call from my Spring 2022 report to consider hiring a part-time business manager for OSL publications to handle the periodical subscriptions, customer service issues for both books and periodicals, and to engage in marketing efforts for both sides of our publications ministry. I recognize that we had some good discussions on this topic at the Spring Council meeting, and would like to continue that discussion perhaps at the next meeting in May.

Submitted by Jonathan Hehn  
28 September 2022

## Report of the Font Editor

As with all things over the past two-and-a-half years, The Font has been affected by the ripples of the coronavirus pandemic. Because OSL chapters often didn't meet in person or conduct retreats or other activities, there were fewer issues of The Font during the 2021-2022 publication year.

Delivery of The Font also was affected by missing data in the membership database from which the email listings are drawn. This year there were 36 siblings whose listings were classified by MailChimp, our delivery vendor, as "syntax errors" because of missing email addresses. Hence these siblings weren't included in the delivery list which contains 394 contacts as of Sept. 25, 2022. Since the Order committed several years ago to email as the priority means of delivery, both for economy and ease of delivery, this missing information has resulted in some siblings not receiving the newsletter.

There are two options to resolve delivery issues:

1. Send postal letters requesting email addresses from those on the "syntax error" list culled from the full membership database;
2. Resume print delivery of the newsletter to those without email addresses.

Option 1 would cost the Order \$21.60 in first-class postage, plus \$3.60 in supplies and printing, for a total of \$25.20. Recipients would be asked to send their email addresses to both The Font Editor and the Chancellor General to update records. Those who don't respond would receive a second letter to verify their postal address for future print mailings. This would require resuming printing and mailing newsletters at a cost to be determined by the number of recipients.

Option 2 would cost the Order \$28.80 for printing and supplies and \$30.24 for postage, figuring an average 12-page newsletter weighing two ounces sent first class, for a total of \$59.04 per issue. The financial impact of this option could be reduced by cutting back on Font issues from 3-4 per year to 2 per year, Winter-Spring and Summer-Fall.

As predicted in the last year's newsletter report, the cost of MailChimp service has increased since its acquisition by Intuit. In order to update the current mailing list, it was necessary in September to upgrade OSL's account from free with 500 contacts to an "Essentials" plan providing up to 2,500 contacts with 25,000 emails at a cost of \$36.24 per month for one year, or a yearly total of \$438.44. The Font Editor paid for one month's upgrade using her personal credit card.



Subsequent to the September upgrade, a lower tier of service was located, and the Editor downgraded the account to a total of 1,500 contacts with 15,000 email sends for \$24.52. This downgrade becomes active Oct. 22, 2022, for an annual cost of \$294.94.

A third option is MailChimp's "Pay As You Go" plan which offerings seasonal mailings by credits. As MailChimp explains it:

A flexible email plan for the seasonal sender. Buy email credits so you can send whenever you need to — without a monthly subscription. Each email send costs one credit. For example, one email sent to 100 contacts equals 100 sends, so it would cost 100 credits. Credits expire after 12 months.

• 5,000 credits	\$175.00
• 10,000 credits	\$235.00
• 15,000 credits	\$350.00
• 50,000 credits	\$1,150.00
• 75,000 credits	\$1,725.00
• 200,000 credits	\$2,300.00
• 2,000,000 credits	\$2,900.00
• 5,000,000 credits	\$5,750.00
• 25,000,000 credits	\$11,500.00

I apologize for the confusion on email delivery options. MailChimp has become much more complicated to use because of its corporate changes, and I wanted to make sure the mailing list was updated before the 2022 Retreat.

As The Font Editor, I recommend the following:

1. Use Option 1 to locate and resume delivery to siblings without emails on the membership list.
2. Change OSL's MailChimp account to "pay as you go" at the lowest tier of service, 5,000 credits, for an annual fee of \$175. Note that this option could encourage quarterly email communications not necessarily needing full Font issues in order to use as many credits as possible before their annual expiration.

Thank you as always for the privilege of serving as Editor of The Font.

Sr. Magdalene Ruth (Cynthia) Astle, OSL

## Report of the Companion for Life Members

Dear Abbot and Siblings:

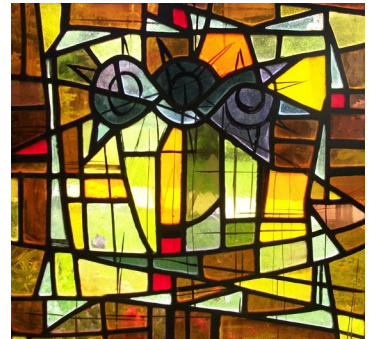
I figuratively throw myself before you in supplication for forgiveness at how my good intentions as Companion for Life Members failed to happen this past year. The coronavirus pandemic, along with my own health issues, drained me of the energy and imagination to complete my grand plans for this new responsibility.

However, I'm pleased to report that my health has improved dramatically since I was hospitalized last April, and I find myself with renewed enthusiasm for improving our contacts with Life Members. So, if it please the Abbot to give me one more chance, I will gladly continue in this position and ask my siblings to hold me accountable for fulfilling my charge in the coming year.

Sr. Magdalene Ruth (Cynthia) Astle

## Report of the Chaplain General

I am currently "on the road" on the way to Scottsdale, driving from Cleveland Ohio with Jane Thorkelson, our personal luggage, and two suitcases and a large bin filled with materials for our worship services for retreat!



After preparing worship for last year's retreat and for our General Council meeting in May, it became evident that I could no longer answer this call to service. I am infinitely grateful to our Abbot for recognizing the toll that the office was taking on me and finding a most wonderful solution to the ever-growing role of Chaplain General. I am also very thankful to Sisters Celia and Kimberly who have already begun to reduce my part in the significant role of this office. I pray that they are able to find fulfillment in answering their call and I know their expertise will shine.

Thank you as always to the many, many of you who have answered the call to service and will be participating as leaders in the worship services this year.

Sr. Dianne Tobey Covault  
Chaplain General  
September 26, 2022

## Report of Director of Acquisitions and Author Relations for OSL Publications



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

1. Cultivating relationships and prospects for titles that Order of Saint Luke Publications may want to acquire and develop. Such titles are to be consistent with OSLP's Mission and Scope: 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 2022:

1. For **forth coming publications** see the chart below.

OSL Publications  
Forth Coming Title Acquisitions 2022

Proposed Title/author-editor	Proposal Received and Accepted: Date	Expected MS date	Content Editor	Copy Editor	Anticipated Publication Date	Notes
<i>Loving Confidence in the Divine Generosity": Word, Sacrament, Prayer, Praise: Essays in Honor of Michael B. Aune</i> , edited by : Kyle Kenneth Schiefelbein-Guerrero	9/13/2021	Currently undetermined	Kyle Kenneth Schiefelbein-Guerrero	Aileen Zaballero		A festschrift of essays in honor of Lutheran liturgical scholar and teacher, Michael Aune. A letter of understanding has been signed and filed. (Manuscript submission is schedule for October 2022.)
<i>Living the Rule</i> Br. Matthias Tanner	3/21/2022	MS received. Final editing awaited. This will be a PDF volume available without charge.	Br. Wayne Perry		Fall 2022	A little book to help inquirers and discerners clarify terms in the Rule and Commentary, suggesting ways to live it out, and provide questions to stimulate thinking.

2. 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.
3. In late fall of 2022 I and our Chancellor General will send out **an annual letter with royalty checks** to authors of titles we publish. Based on sales, the Chancellor General, issued the checks with my letter.
4. **Book table at NAAL:** Due to uncertainty related to Covid-19 and location, we elected not to host a book table at the 2022 year's meeting.
5. As of May 31, 2022 all titles in our order fulfillment center have been returned to authors or destroyed. Br. Dean Emerson, who handles our order fulfillment moved to a new appointment and no longer had space to house stock.
6. **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.
7. **[Action Item]** I request that Abbot Elizabeth **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 20, 2022

## Report of the Daily Office Revision Team (DORT)

Work this year has focused on two projects which will be reviewed by DORT at a brief meeting during our council session this year

- Integrating material from **A Lukan Daily Lectionary** (based on Revised Common Daily Lectionary) with recommended psalms for morning and evening prayer growing out of the lectionary in **A Lukan Psalter**, the psalms in the last section of **The Daily Lectionary** (Br. Mark Stamm, ed.), and psalms in other ecumenical sources. Draft for field review of Year A will be available through the FONT. Draft for year B is being completed.
- Developing a customary for offices and services of the Order to provide a tool for use by the chaplain general and other planners of worship experiences. We will review how this worked at our October meeting.
- Preliminary work on a book of prayers by Abbe Daniel is being projected.
- A possible “Lukan Book of Readings” will be discussed.

Canon Brendan aka Dwight Vogel, OSB for the  
Daily Office Revision Team  
September 14, 2022

## **Report of the Companion for Seekers, Inquirers, and Discerners**

Requests for information about OSL are received from those who have seen the website or have been told about the Order by a member. I respond with a copy of the Brochure, the Rule of Life and Service, and Questions and Answers for Inquirers. I also direct them to the Facebook group for Seekers, Inquirers, and Discerners where they will find several preliminary documents with information about the Order. After they have explored the Facebook group, they are invited to request an application if they wish to move forward toward membership. After receiving an application, they are matched up with a Companion who will walk with them through the history and Constitution of the Order. The final step is to spend time prayerfully discerning if the Order of Saint Luke is the right fit for them. There is no specific time line to move through these steps. Some move very quickly and others wish to move more slowly.

There are now thirty individuals on the list of Inquirers or Discerners at various stages in the process. I appreciate everyone who is working with these Inquirers. Several are able to be part of a Chapter or Association others are located in more remote areas and are not able to have in-person fellowship with other members or their Companion. Volunteers to be Companions are always welcome.

Br. Jim DuFriend+ OSL

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September 14, 2022



## Report of the Historian / Our Story Project (OSP)

In this report, I'll offer a list first of problems with the historical project as I have experienced them since the last report in May, and then follow with a list of positive prospects.

### First the problems:

1. I've spent much of August and September dealing with COVID-19 and related complications (I have been fully vaccinated and boosted, but was stricken anyway, and I find myself mystified by the claims that the pandemic is over). Most disappointing of all was that my case emerged while I was serving as preacher at the Empire Grove Camp Meeting, a place rich in OSL influence and presence.
2. Gathering volunteers has been difficult and siblings and friends have often demonstrated a reluctance to gather materials, write reflections and/or sit for interviews. Such dynamics are quite frustrating, and a bit mystifying at that, especially given my experience of you when you gather. That is, you seem to enjoy talking about yourselves and telling your stories. I wonder what I'm missing or failing to do.
3. Some persons have expressed willingness to participate in the project work and then have not followed through on commitments. I won't name specifics, but within the past year or so, such failures have included the following:
  - Expressed commitments from siblings to seek interviews with key members and former members of Order, with little or no subsequent follow up or reporting on progress or lack thereof. In many of these cases, I have developed lists of specific and focused questions for persons to use in such interviews, while giving them permission to use my questions or to develop their own questions.
  - Although some siblings have transcribed interview (see below, highlights), other siblings have committed to transcribe completed interviews and have not done so, with little or no subsequent follow up or reporting on progress or lack thereof.
  - Failure of siblings to submit interview recordings that have been completed.
  - I have asked several siblings for to sit for interviews with me, but have not been given responses from them, one way or the other. Perhaps such is a function of my recent illness (see above).
4. At times, it seems that some (or many) siblings believe that the Our Story Project is Brother Mark's project alone. Indeed, I am committed to it, but I have repeatedly said that gathering our stories belongs to all of us. A wider vision has been slow to spread, and I wonder how I have failed in spreading it more effectively.

### Some highlights.

1. Sisters Jennifer Kilpatrick and Carolyn Tanner have done excellent work compiling transcripts and are committed to doing more of them, and/or are in process of the same.
2. Sister Cherlyn Gates has done some excellent work uncovering historical details on various persons of interest to the Order, Romey Marshall and others.
3. I have found someone to interview regarding John Fellers, OSL, who was largely influential in forming the well-developed liturgical sensibilities of St. Paul's UMC located in the hospital and museum district of Houston. I was teaching there recently as part of our Houston-Galveston extension. The St. Paul's staff is a delight to work with in planning a Word and Table Service, and they have one of the best stocked sacristies that I've ever seen in a United Methodist congregation. Much of their formation can be traced to the work of Br. John that occurred several decades ago beginning in the early 1970s. I have more investigation to do there, but a good pathway is open for me to do it. Their senior pastor, Dr. Jeff McDonald, is a former student.
4. I will be rescheduling an interview with a student of Grady Hardin's. In my opinion, Grady's witness was in large part missing from Robert Peiffer's otherwise very helpful dissertation *How Liturgies Evolve*.
5. And I had 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. I have his commitment to consider such material, but haven't acted on it, yet. First step, I think, should be preparing my October-December presentation for consideration in *Doxology*.
6. I am in process of application for a research leave from Perkins that will allow me to do further work on the Our Story Project and the wider historical research on the Order.

**In continuation from the previous reports, here are some ways that you may contribute to the Our Story Project:** The full descriptions are in the October *Book of Reports*, so I won't repeat them in full here. But the headings are as follows:

1. Transcribe interviews



2. Submit your written accounts and other printed materials.
3. Volunteer to be interviewed.
4. Volunteer to conduct interviews, and especially in and around the sectors of the Order that you have known and experienced.
5. Encouraging siblings (including yourself, dear reader) to write and submit short (or long), informal (or more formal) accounts of their experiences within the Order and/or in living into the dynamics of the Rule of Life and Service.
6. Volunteer to do research assignments.
7. 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.

Br. Mark W. Stamm, OSL

Director of the Project and Historian for the Order

September 20, 2022



## Novitiate Team Report

The Novitiate Team consists of myself, Br. Jim DuFriend, Companion for Seekers, Inquirers, and Discerners; and Sr. Barbara Lee, whose wise counsel is most helpful.

We remain attentive to what chapters, companions, and Inquirers and Discerners observe about the process. We are now four years into this way of formation. I include the chart above as a succinct overview of the process. Details of the process are available at on the Order of Saint Luke Seekers, Inquirers and Discerners in files, "Overview of Inquiry and Final Discernment"



I report the following:

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.
2. Companions: We continue to face a need for members of the Order who are willing and ready to serve as companions to those inquiring about the Order. Resources, both publications and guidelines, are available. Recruitment and orientation are an ongoing task.
3. Services welcoming Inquirers and admission of Discerners are available on the Facebook Seekers, Inquirers, and Discerners group page. I am ready to assist chapters and associations with planning these services as needed. If there are new chapters forming, their priors should contact our Provincial General, Sr. Heather or myself for those resources.

Br. Daniel Benedict  
September 20, 2022

## **Minutes of the Tuesday, May 17, 2022 General Chapter Meeting**

OSL council meeting, Tuesday May 17, 2022, Franciscan Renewal Center

Those present: Br. Dwight Vogel, Sr. Dianne Covault, Br. Mark Stamm, Sr. Jeanette Block, Sr. Heather Josslyn-Cranson, Abbot Elizabeth Moore, Br. George Crisp, Br. French Ball, Br. Jim DuFriend, Br. David King, Br. Scot Bontrager. Br. Daniel Benedict, Br. David Eichelberger and Sr. Kimberly Greway joined us via zoom.

Abbot Elizabeth welcomed us and opened with prayer

Br. George shared that the 2023 Council and Retreat is scheduled for St. Paul of the Cross in Pittsburgh.

Sr. Jeanette presented changes to the Honorarium schedule and to the Reimbursement Policy for Council meetings. Affirmed.

Sr. Jeanette presented the budget. It has been expanded to reflect the revenue and expenses. Needs to be passed at General Council meeting.

Sr. Heather shared her report from the Book of Reports and encouraged us to pray for the Priors and Provincial Companions. One action item: Closing the East Ohio Chapter due to inactivity. The history of that Chapter included Br. French, Br. Michael O'Donnell and the late Br. Timothy Crouch. Sr. Heather made the Motion to close the chapter, it was unanimously approved.

Charles Mosebrook Chapter in the Philippines. Sr. Lynn Basan contacted Sr. Heather about becoming a Chapter. They are active and perhaps lay driven. Charles Mosebrook was a missionary in the Philippines. The original OSL in the Philippines is very much part of the structure of the UMC. Affirmed.

Br. Daniel Benedict presented a report on author relations and publications. He sent letters to a few authors to discontinue their books. Grateful to Br. Dean for housing the books and for his work in fulfilling the orders. He and Br. Mark Stamm will be working on a digitized version of the Wesley Prayer book. Br. Daniel would like to have an assistant to mentor that sibling into being the Director of Acquisitions and Author Relations. We have three books coming out: Br. Dwight *Living in the Valley of the Shadow*; Br. Matthias "Living the Rule" and Festschrift Michael Eyeoon(?). Br. Mark asked about a new introduction to the 1784 Sunday Service; we have 39 copies and there is an original copy at Perkins. James F. White did the intro.

Sr. Dianne explained the tasks of Chaplain General contain so many moving parts. She would like to see some oversight over the Zoom and weekly services that are occurring in between

council and retreat. She would like to be able to delegate the tasks. Abbot suggested being proactive by inviting someone to come and offer the opportunity to serve. Sr. Dianne asked for an earlier registration date for retreat so she knows who is coming. Abbot suggested a virtual Chaplain General to handle the scheduling of the feast days or seasons in between Council and Retreat.

We discussed the need to mentor folks for the tasks of the Order, but we don't want to undermine the nominating committee. We will discuss this later.

Br. Dwight shared about the continuing work of the Lectionary done by the late Sr. Fran and Sr. Jeanette that built upon the work of the late Br. Hoyt and Br. Mark. Br. Jim DuFriend and Sr. Dianna DuFriend created an index for the Psalms. Integrating the lectionary with the psalms. We were provided with a copy of the Lectionary for Year A by Br. Dwight. He will send it to Sr. Cynthia Astle and to Br. Scot Bontrager so others can get it.

Br. Jim DuFriend's report is in the Book of Reports, nothing to add.

Br. Mark Stamm's OSP was presented at Retreat and then he presented it to Perkins Faculty. He has interviewed more folks and is finding people to transcribe. He will gather his own records and put together his own thoughts. Sr. Dianne will interview Br. Mark to get his submission. Br. Mark will send materials to me for the archives. Sr. Jeanette will reach out to Br. Dean for the books to be archived at Drew.

Br. Daniel's report on the Novitiate is in the Book of Reports. Siblings with strong roots in the OSL are needed to help new people get into the OSL. Sr. Heather affirmed the process as it has deepened her commitment to the Order through the journey. Br. Dwight also has time now to companion someone. Br. Mark indicated the Perkins Chapter has expressed energy in the extension program in Houston and Dallas. Sr. Dianne suggested working in cohort via zoom; Sr. Abbot suggested just encourage the group to meet together without overstructure.

We broke for prayer and lunch,

Br. Jonathan Hehn joined us via Zoom and shared updates on Doxology. Issues are behind, but they are out in the proper order. He is trying to tighten up the process of production to get it out on time. He discussed considering a parttime business manager for OSL Publications to handle the details and to market our publications better. Subscription renewals would help with funding. We discussed how to make the publications better. Sr. Jeanette to look into what it would cost the Order to hire someone to manage Doxology and publications.

Br. David Eichelberger indicated he continues to pray for the membership and posts joys and concerns into the Font.

The Book of Reports discussion was completed and we moved on to a discussion about questions posed by our Abbot.

1. Handling of council meetings in the future. Meetings are getting more expensive due to travel and cost of retreat centers and hotels. Must think about technological ability wherever we gather to ensure we can provide wireless to our members. Must think about resources on site for music, communion. We also discussed a hybrid way of meeting: gathering in small groups to be together, but zooming with the other small groups to have discussion and decision making. To explore other retreat sites, perhaps send a small group to investigate what is available at different places. Should council be physically together to engage in the nominations process for 2024. Sr. Abbot wants time to discern and mull over making a decision about council meetings continuing as live events or zoom.
2. The need for new appointments. Consider a new pastoral care officer. How do we restructure the Chaplain General's office to divide the responsibilities. Consider an appointment as sacristan. Should have a coordinator for all the Zoom services. Abbot suggested that Sr. Dianne and Sr. Kimberly Greway work together to come up with a proposal. Br. Aidan is working with the Chancellor General to help with the workload of data input. Mentoring siblings working together is not meant to undermine the nominating committee. The appointed sibling could continue serving along with the newly nominated person. The nominating committee should have the job descriptions available (in the bylaws) to invite new officers to serve. Educate the chapters that they have a responsibility to help their priors attend the meetings. Abbot will help educate the chapters about the responsibility to support the priors to come. Clarity to help the priors understand that this is the prior's responsibility to be at the nominating meeting. Abbot will speak with Br. David Eichelberger about pastoral care; meet with Sr. Kimberly Greway and Sr. Dianne Covault about the Chaplain General position and appoint a sacristan.

Br. Dean Emerson is moving and organized a zoom with Abbot, Br. Dan, Sr. Jeanette and Br. Jonathan to discuss the inventory of books. Many are available on print on demand, some only in our inventory and we are keeping the Wesley Books (Eucharistic Hymns (58 copies) and the Prayer Book (39 copies) ). They are not reproducible. Br. Daniel wrote to the authors of the books to be discontinued to offer their books otherwise, they will be destroyed.

Ed and Sara Phillips	Dwight Judy
Dick Eslinger	Gail Ramshaw
Carolyn Tanner	Paul Bradshaw
	Jill Crainshaw

October retreat in FRC October Bob Hurd to be our speaker. Abbot E and Br. Dwight met with Bob to share his plans for retreat. Contemporary RC hymn writer. He will provide a title soon

so Br. George can advertise the retreat. He is willing to share his music without fee with our musicians for retreat.

Broke for prayer and dinner.

Wednesday, October 18, 2022

Council gathered at 9:15 a.m. Sr. Kimberly Greway, Sr. Barb Lee and Br. Jonathan Hehn joined us via Zoom. Abbot E explained about the emailed customary and lectionary that were sent yesterday. It is a draft; please review and give feedback to Br. Dwight. It is not prescriptive material, just suggestive. It will be a Customary for the Offices and Services for the Community.

Br. George shared info about the October 2023 retreat, which will be in Pittsburgh. Speaker will be Debie Thomas, columnist and contributing editor for *The Christian Century*. Her topic for retreat will be "Sacred Connection: Engaging Spiritual Practice in a Turbulent World" in three sessions.

Br. George wants to invite the Hickman Award recipients to come to retreat at our cost. Council affirmed the invitation. If the cost is so prohibitive, advise the person that they can apply to the Abbot for the funds. "Scholarships are provided on a limited basis," through application to the Abbot.

Br. Dwight initiated discussion of the proposed Lukan Lectionary, but will not use that term Communitae of Faith at a particular time. (Latin) The particular custom of a community to use the lection. We should use a Lukan lens when planning worship and times of prayers. He referred us to his email of May 10 with attachments. Br. Dwight would like responses over the summer as he hopes to have a customary for worship for use in October.

Sr. Abbot shared she received an invitation from the Philippines chapter to come in October. She would want to visit both chapters (Charles Mosebrook chapter), not just the original chapter that formed. She will pay her own airfare and is requesting the Order pay for someone to accompany her. She suggested we wait to visit after a new Abbot is elected and she will accompany the new Abbot. Sr. Abbot suggested she decline the invitation to visit for this year; however offer to go after the election to introduce the new Abbot to visit both Philippine Chapters.

Sr. Jeanette shared that PayPal is not connected to [www.saint-luke.net](http://www.saint-luke.net) due to some complications.

Reimbursement policy discussion. Motion made by Sr. Dianne Covault that Canons be specifically added as a 2nd tier reimbursement; Seconded by Sr. Heather unanimously approved.

The Order of Saint Luke is still not widely known; how do we change that? Br. Scot shared our demographics from our website. Council ended at 10:20 a.m. We will gather for mid-day prayer and communion.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sr. Jeanette Block, Chancellor General

