



The Order of Saint Luke
BOOK OF REPORTS
for the General Chapter Meeting
October 15-16, 2024

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The Book of Reports for the Council of the General Chapter The Order of Saint Luke

Report of the Abbot

“All who hunger, gather gladly. Holy Manna is our bread.
Come from wilderness and wandering. Here, in truth, we will be fed...
Taste and see the grace eternal. Taste and see that God is good.”

I heard my call to ordination from the Communion rail. It was there that my faith was fed. And that call has been strengthened by the Order of Saint Luke. It is here that I continue to be fed. It is here, through friendship and liturgy and love, that I know the grace eternal and the goodness of God.

You have entrusted me to serve as your Abbot for eight years. And I will go next week to Pittsburgh to pass that mantle on to our sister, Heather. I am grateful for the time I have served, and I am excited about the future. You all have elected a wonderful slate of new officers.

As I reflect on the “State of the Order” for the last twelve months, I am grateful to so many of you for the ways you have served to Order. Let me highlight just a few of our accomplishments in 2024:

- Many of you responded to Sr. Kimberley’s request to lead online monthly worship services that give us an opportunity to worship together even though we live far apart.
- The work of many of us, but particularly Br. Scot, has enabled increased use of WADO both for private prayer and for our online Daily Office gatherings.
- Under the leadership of Brother Daniel, but with the help of many others, our cohort groups have served those who wanted to learn about the Order of Saint Luke and to discern if they should become part of our family.
- You continue to find ways to connect across physical distances to support one another as you pray together, study together, and support one another’s spiritual life. I am thankful for the faithfulness of online chapters and weekly prayer groups.

As I look ahead, I need to express my appreciation for our incoming officers. In the past four years we have been blessed by the presence of younger members at our Retreats. We have experienced the emergence of new leaders who do not all have grey hair or retirement certificates hanging on their walls. Leaders with fresh perspectives and new energy. Sr. Heather, Sr. Celia, Br. Scot and Br. Brett have answered to call to service. I couldn't be more excited!

At this time, the Order has seven Canons – members of long-standing who carry with themselves both a knowledge of our institutional history and also a deep commitment to the Order of Saint Luke. They are selected by the Abbot in recognition of their past service to the Order. The current canons are Br. French Ball, Sr. Barb Lee, Br. Michael O'Donnell, Br. Mark Stamm, Br. Brent Sturm, Br. Matthias Tanner, and Br. Dwight Vogel. They serve for four years and can be renominated.

[Action Item] Therefore I am asking that these seven Canons continue for the next four years in this office. I also ask Br. Daniel Benedict to be added to our Canons in honor of the countless ways he has dedicated himself to the Order of Saint Luke.

I submit this final report as Abbot with gratitude for the trust you have given me for the past eight years, and with joyful confidence in our future.

“Here, in truth, we will be fed...
Taste and see the grace eternal. Taste and see that God is good.”

Under God's Mercy,
+ Sr. Abbot Elizabeth
October 4, 2024



Report of the Prior General

Two recipients of the Order's **Hoyt L. Hickman Award** are in attendance at this year's retreat – Sr. Diane McCleary (Perkins School of Theology) and Yoon Sun Shin (United Theological Seminary). We have not had an issue of *The Font*, so I have submitted a list of recipients for posting on the OLS website. As a reminder, each recipient is a graduating student, chosen by the faculty of the school, 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, are presented to the recipients.

The Spring Council meeting will be held May 12-15 here at St. Paul of the Cross. However, please note that next year's retreat will be held at the Mercy Conference and Retreat Center in St. Louis, Missouri, October 20-23, 2025. Their address is 2039 N. Geyer Rd., St. Louis, MO 63131. Check out their website at: <https://www.mercycenterstl.org/>. I will leave it to your incoming officers to announce the speaker and the topic of the retreat.

I am grateful for the privilege of serving the Order for the last eight years as your Prior General. My tenure as an officer of the Order spans the last 24 years, and I have been honored by your trust in my leadership. Thank you.

Br. George R. Crisp, OSL
September 20, 2024



Report of Chancellor General

OSL Budget 2024 – 2025 Proposed Expenses

	2022-23 Budget	Actual	2024-25
Proposed			
Abbot	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 2,500.00
Chancellor General	2,000.00	0.00	2,000.00
Prior General	1,000.00	107.78	1,000.00
Provincial General	250.00	0.00	250.00
Historian (OSP)	2,500.00	1,361.36	2,500.00
May Council	\$13,000.00	12,584.51	13,000.00
Insurance	700.00	700.00	800.00
Casual Labor	1,500.00	0.00	1,500.00
Financial Review	500.00	0.00	500.00
Retreat Scholarships.	3,500.00	1,500.00	3,500.00
Hickman Awards	\$ 3,300.00	1,614.85	3,300.00
Honoraria	\$ 4,500.00	4,500.00	4,500.00
Member Services.	\$ 5,000.00		5,000.00
Servant Keeper		720.00	
Quickbooks		660.00	
Postage		100.00	
Website		329.00	
ECWID		877.00***	
CCLI		113.00	
Tennessee Pewter		586.88	
Annual NJ Corp.		58.00	
Total		\$ 2,743.88	
Doxology	\$ 9,000.00	\$10,332.08	\$ 10,000.00
Publications	\$ 2,500.00		\$ 2,500.00
(Shipping)		292.79	
Royalties		0.00	
Total:		\$ 292.79	
NAAL:		\$ 1,949.97****	
Totals:	\$51,750.00	\$38,387.22	\$52,850.00

***\$700.00 reimbursed to Br. Jonathan Hehn as he was paying the monthly Ecwid fees

**** Sr. Jeanette paid her own airfare to Seattle. This expense also included a sponsor donation to NAAL of \$750.00.

OSL Proposed Budget 2024 – 2025

Revenue

Investments (earned quarterly interest volatile)

UMWVA

Legacy Fund (3/31/2024)	\$24,824.40	974.54 (Interest)
White Estate Fund (3/31/2024)	3,741.36	146.88 (Interest)
TD Bank Checking (4/30/2024)	18,658.66	0.00 (Interest)
TD Bank CD (3/27/2024)	10,349.39	349.39 (Interest)

Total Investments:	\$57,573.81.	\$1,470.81
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	Budget 2023 – 2024	Actual	Proposed 2024 – 2025
Donations:	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 2,000.00
Member Support:	20,000.00	8,530.54	15,000.00
Publications:	10,000.00		\$ 7,500.00
Amazon:		1,825.98	
PayPal		2,115.52	
Retreat:		657.75	
Checks:		540.50	
NAAL:		11.00	
UMPub Royalties*		30.00	
Doxology:		92.00 (new)	
Seminaries (12):**		480.00	
OSL Pub Books:		2,253.12	
		\$ 8,005.87	
Baubles & Beads:	0.00	\$ 811.34	\$ 1,250.00
Queensboro:	\$ 200.00	\$ 314.04	\$. 750.00
Totals:	\$32,700.00	\$17,861.79	\$26,500.00

*UM Royalties now digital; have not been able to access

**One seminary has gone digital; expect others to follow. Doxology now found on ATLA

Report of the Provincial General

I am grateful for the past eight years to have had the opportunity to work together with the priors of our OSL Chapters and Associations – these sisters and brothers truly show us what it means to “accept the call to service,” and their efforts keep the Order alive. I want to express my gratitude to Br. Scot Bontrager, Br. Mick Laflin, Br. George Crisp, Br. Anthony Goh, Sr. Debbie Neil, Br. David Two Hawks, Sr. Elinor Bayse, Sr. Kimberly Greway, Br. Jim DuFriend, Sr. Dianne McCleary, Br. Brett Isernhagen, Br. Ador Tolentino, Sr. Alice Kay Lovelace, Sr. Barbara Blackmon-Fortune, Sr. Lynn Basan, Br. Brett Johnson, and to all of the prior Priors.

We currently have 16 chapters, some more active than others. I did not receive reports from the Upper NY Chapter and the Charles Mosebrook chapter this fall. There are regions of the country with enough OSL members that I believe chapters are possible there: these include southern Texas and Tennessee, among others. I encourage anyone who does not have a chapter near-by to consider forming one!

I am also indebted to the many siblings who have served and are serving as Provincial Companions. These dedicated folk stay in touch with people in given regions, helping to share information and connect siblings who may not have chapters near-by or other connection to the Order. Our current fantastic Provincial Companions are Br. Louis Serra for New England, Sr. Rebecca Holland for Pennsylvania, Br. Rusty Beals for Illinois and Missouri, Br. Gregory Hayes for the Virginias, Br. French Ball for Kentucky and Tennessee, Sr. Kristi Hintz for Michigan and Wisconsin, Br. Bill Olewiler for Florida, Sr. Debbie Wade for Texas, Br. Taylor Burton-Edwards for Alabama and Georgia, Br. Perry Polk for California, Br. David King for Alaska, Washington, Oregon, and Idaho, Sr. Agnes Saffoury for New York, Br. Stephen Ball for the Carolinas, and Br. Christopher Montgomery for Nebraska, Kansas, and the Dakotas. We are looking for Provincial Companions for New Jersey, Arizona and Nevada, Indiana and Ohio, as well as the Pacific Rim (including the Philippines and Singapore) and Europe.

Finally, I am thrilled to hand this work over to Br. Brett Isernhagen, who will bring his own gifts and graces to the relational task of collaborating with Priors and Provincial Companions. They could not be in better hands, and I encourage all of us to continue to hold these siblings and their critical work in prayer.

Sr. Heather Josselyn-Cranson
October 8, 2024

Chapter	Prior	Recent Activities	# of members	Prayer Concerns
Trinity Chapter	Br. Scot outgoing; Sr. Jennifer Kilpatrick incoming	Eucharist at Annual Conference; informal meeting at Uniting Conference		+ for Br. Scot as he takes on the role of Chancellor General
Illinois Great Rivers Chapter	Br. Mick Laflin	Hybrid morning meetings the first Wednesday of each month; Eucharist at Annual Conference	16 members; 10-12 at most meetings	+ prayers for family of Br. Mike Rayson, OSL + prayers for family of Judith Rossiter, mother of Sr. Beth Fender
Cal-Pac Chapter	Br. George Crisp, acting	On-line PM prayers each Thursday; Re-visioning meeting Oct 2	4-6 each week	
Singapore Chapter	Br. Anthony Goh	Planning overnight retreat Oct 28-29	12 members, no seekers	+ thanks for a new Methodist bishop in Singapore
New Jersey Chapter	Sr. Debbie Neil	Monthly meetings to discuss Lukan spirituality and the Order	10-12 average each meeting	+ prayers for health of the members + prayers for the nation in an election year
Central Oregon Seekers Chapter	Br. David Two Hawks	Weekly dinner and prayer, outreach prayer services, food drives	15 average each week; 7 vowed members	+ prayers for continued growth and outreach
St. Julian Chapter	Sr. Elinor Bayse	Several meetings, Zoom and live, during the fall	Average 4 members present	+ prayers to attract more OSL members
Hoyt Hickman	Sr. Kimberly	Afternoon	Roughly 25,	+ health issues

Memorial Chapter	Greway	prayer bi-weekly	average attendance 10ish	+ death of Carol's husband Boyd + Adoption of Gavin
Koinonia Chapter	Br. Jim DuFriend, acting prior	Monday AM prayer	9 members	
Perkins Chapter	Sr. Dianne McCleary	Morning and mid-day prayer over Zoom weekly	4 members	
Mid-Atlantic Chapter	Br. Brett Isernhagen	Monday mid-morning prayer and discussion via Zoom	9 active members	+ for Sr. MaryO and Br. Daniel and all with health concerns
Philippines Chapter	Br. Ador Tolentino	8 sub-chapters with Zoom meetings; plans for Oct 2024 retreat		
Dayspring Chapter	Sr. Barbara Blackmon-Fortune	Prayer on Tuesdays and Thursdays	15 active members; 2 soon to take first profession, one inquirer, one to take life vows	+ ongoing prayer for many OSL members
St. Francis Chapter	Sr. Alice Kay Lovelace	Plans for future Zoom and possibly live meetings	13 members	+ for vitality of the chapter + for members with health concerns

Questions from Br. Jonathan Hehn

1. The NAAL website has some OSL members listed as founding members, but with no "OSL" on their name. Could we ask them to update that?
2. We need to decide what to do with *Doxology*. If my role changes at ND, I could stay on as editor, but in any case there needs to be admin help. We're woefully behind.
3. Br. Scot is probably already on this, but can we utilize the Google for Non-Profits free ad dollars now that our account has been set up?

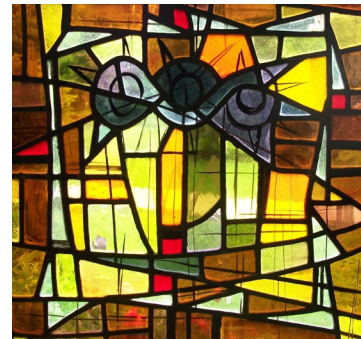
Peace,
Br. Jonathan
September 19, 2024

Report of the Font Editor

No report submitted; editor needed

Report of the Companion for Life-Vowed Members

No report submitted; companion needed



Report from OSL Publications

If a report from OSL Publications is forthcoming, Sr. Elizabeth will provide it at the General Chapter meeting.

Report of the Chaplain General

Siblings,

As my tenure serving as the Chaplain General for the order comes to a close, I am thankful for my time in this role. It has been a joy and an honor to serve you all in this capacity, and I joyfully hand this off to the new chaplain after October.

In my tenure, we have created a catalog of our holy hardware. Br Lewis Worthington and I continue to try to figure out when we can get together to get the hardware he has in his possession. Maybe I'll get it in my hands before I see you all in October. In addition, I have tried to maintain our inventory of batteries and incense (consumable hardware).

This year, Br Derek Kubilus volunteered to help me in my planning for our worship during this retreat. He has created our worship book. I am eternally grateful for his help. I am hopeful that others will want to follow in Br. Derek's footsteps. There is a great deal of work that comes with this position, and it is joy when one or more of us step up and volunteer to help in our work.

Thank you, dear siblings, for allowing me to grow into this role and hand it off this year.

Sr. Celia Halfacre

September 23, 2024

Report of the Webscribe and Tech-Sibling

The website continues as it has for the past few years. Updates are made when required. Sr. Kimberly Greway and Sr. Debbie Neill have helped keep the content current. As I transition into the role of Chancellor General, I would like to hand off as much of the website duties as possible. As always, we need new photographs to keep the content fresh. Please share your pictures either in the Facebook group or directly with the webscribes so that we can get them integrated in the website.

We have moved almost all digital services over to Google Hosting, which Google provides to non-profits for no-cost. Officers and appointed siblings can have @saint-luke.net email address

if they desire. We can use @saint-luke.net mailing lists for chapters and work areas. Several chapters are already taking advantage of this, as is DORT.

Google Drive will allow us to store our documents in a shared repository. If you would like access to the shared drive, let me know. My vision for this is a place to store all our digital assets. It already has a number of old books of reports, worship bulletins, etc. The archivist and historian might be interested in both storing more and perusing the existing content there.

Google Meet is provided at no-cost. We can move from Zoom (\$18/mo.) to Meet. In our early tests it works adequately for spoken liturgy, but music isn't as good on Meet as it is on Zoom. More experimentation is needed to see if Meet will meet our needs.

WADO continues to be perfected as the team has ideas and we live into using it for our daily prayer-life.

Videography duties have been handed off to Br. Brent Strum.

The Facebook communities carry on, there is nothing to report other than they continue to be active.

Stats:

830 distinct visitors to the site in September 2024, 764 were "new" (whatever that means to Google).

5779 views of WADO

5,708 views of the front page

132 views of the retreat info page

108 views of the retreat registration page

Br. Scot Bontrager

September 20, 2024

Report of the Daily Office Revision Team (DORT)

No further reports from the Daily Office Revision Team will be forthcoming.

Canon Dwight Vogel, OSL
September 22, 2024

Report of the Pastoral Care Officer

Sr. Dianne Covault's report will be given at the General Chapter meeting.

Report of the Companion for Seekers, Inquirers, and Discerners

Since the October, 2023 council meeting:

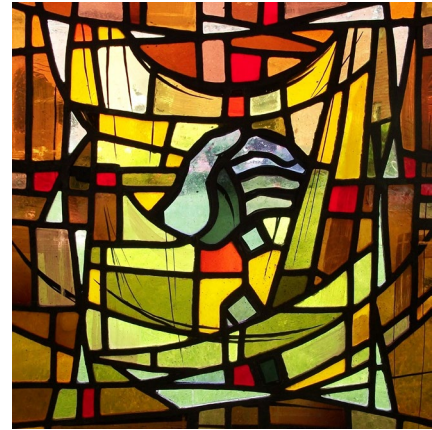
As a member of the of the Novitiate Team I have received twenty (20) inquiries seeking information about the Order. Invitations were sent to those inquiring to join the Facebook Group, *Order of Saint Luke Seekers, Inquirers, and Discerners* along with four documents: Daily Office Tan Card, Inquirer's Q&A, OSL Brochure, and Rule of Life and service. A further invitation was given to request an application for the Time of Inquiry if they wished to seek further information.

Of the twenty (20) seeking information, thirteen (13) applications were completed and returned. The completed applications were forwarded to Sr. Barb Lee who assigned companions to the inquirers. Br. Daniel Benedict also received a copy of the applications and invited them to participate in five (5) ZOOM sessions to help them discern whether they sensed a call to become a member of the order.

Br. Jim DuFriend
Companion to Seekers, Inquirers, and Discerners
September 23, 2024

Report of the Historian

1. As noted in my spring 2024 report, I am on research leave for Academic Year (AY) 2024-25, with retirement effective May 31, 2025.
2. Part of my work this year has included the boxing and electronic organization of my various Perkins records—particularly 24+ years oversight of Perkins Community Worship--and conveying those records to Bridwell Library/SMU. There are, of course, matters of historical significance here, both directly for the Order and beyond. I am quite conscious of my personal history, noting that I've been a member of the Order since 1990 and have served under the appointment of a UMC bishop since 1979.
3. As to the Order, I expect to remain in this historian's position, continuing the work that I have been doing since 2017. I also remain active in the writing, production and promotion of the *Belong* series, yet another attempt to form sacramental *praxis* in the UMC. This work, ultimately, is expression of the Rule of Life and Service.
4. I have served as a guest editor for *Doxology* (I think my issue will appear as the Ordinary Time issue). My (longish) piece, "Presidents, Abbots, and Other General Officers of the Order of Saint Luke" is scheduled to appear in that issue. This study is the first extended, finished piece of scholarship to appear from my efforts as historian for the Order. A second piece of similar length, "Whatever Happened to the Third Period?" is in process and will eventually appear. I've written a full draft and gauge it about 70% completed at this point (that is, it's a rewrite or two from the point that I'll fully satisfied with it)
5. In the months ahead, Brother Scot Bontrager and I will be undertaking efforts to begin archiving materials in and through our website (and Google), and I/we will be needing some help, Indeed a considerable amount of it. I would like to form some manner of permanent (or semi-permanent) working group, perhaps along the lines of what the Daily Office Revision Team (DORT). We might call it the OSL Digital Archives and Research Team. That could make the acronym DART, although DART is the acronym for Dallas Area Rapid Transit and so could be confusing or even a trademark infringement. Other ideas?



Br. Mark W. Stamm, OSL
September 26, 2024

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.

The third cohort began in April 2024 and completed its five sessions in September 2024. Cohort IV begins in January.



How the Cohorts Work (yes this is repetitive so that we continue to live into this way of welcoming and journeying with Inquirers)

Each cohort meets in monthly ZOOM sessions for five months. Companions provide the primary relationship with Inquirers and Final Discerners. The online sessions provide interaction with other discerners and members of the Order, praying the daily office, and a focus on our Rule of Life and Service, Lukan Spirituality, Our History, Constitution and Customary, and Consideration of Next Steps.

With any approach involving human beings and multiple time zones the process is messy and continues to need adaptations. Still, I think the Novitiate is working both for those exploring membership and for the Order in an increasingly digital environment.

Where there are active in-person chapters, the primary formation best takes place in that local chapter. For example, [members of] the [Claremont] Subchapter of California-Pacific Chapter live together in a senior residential community. A woman in Final Discernment is very much embraced and being formed in our life and customs in that community. She has also been a faithful participant in Cohort III.

Gratitude

I ask members of the Order to express appreciation to Br. Jim DuFriend who receives applications to enter the Time of Inquiry, and to Sr. Barbara Lee who with discerning eye matches Inquirers and Companions.

Priority

As I noted in my report to the General Chapter last fall and spring, prudence suggests that we build the team with additional OSL members who learn the process with us, assume some of the work, and eventually take the mantel from those of us currently serving. I welcome any who hear the call to service to step up! I welcome suggestions of Lukans you feel should be considered for this call to service.

This is a work of the Spirt among us and I am grateful and humbled to be part of it.

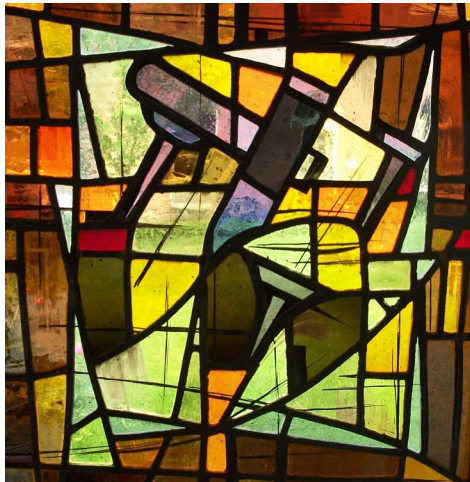
Br. Daniel Benedict

October 3, 2024

**Minutes of the General Council Meeting
May 13-16, 2024
St. Paul of the Cross Retreat Center, Pittsburgh, PA**

Monday, May 13, 2024

Those present Sr. Abbot Elizabeth Moore, Sr. Barb Lee, Br. Brett Isernhagen, Sr. Barbara Blackmon-Fortune, Sr. Debbie Neill, Br. French Ball, Sr. Kimberly Greway, Br. Scot Bontrager, Br. Mark Stamm, Sr. Heather Josselyn-Cranson, Br. Brent Sturm, Br. George Crisp, Sr. Gail Dugan, Br. Dwight Vogel.



We gathered in the chapel for Eucharist at 4:30 pm followed by dinner. We then gathered in the assembly room to catch up with each other. We ended the day with Compline.

Tuesday, May 14, 2024

We gathered for morning prayer at 7:00 a.m. followed by breakfast. We then began the council meeting at 9:00 a.m.

Report of the Abbot

Abbot Elizabeth Moore indicated she has written her last report as our Abbot. She expressed thanksgiving for our siblings who have “yes” in their vocabulary. Abbot reminded us about our speaker for the October retreat, Dr. Gordon Lathrop (October 14 – 17). Abbot is concerned that we do not have more priors attending this meeting. The priors serve as the nominating committee. Has the way we function changed? We need the fellowship of each other; should we Zoom more?

Abbot has been working on the publications since it has been changed so much. Should we re-examine our charter for publications? We filled in a gap with writings out of print; we would make them available. What does the market want and what is helpful for people to do.

Report of the Prior General

We have 18 seminaries on our list for Hickman Awards; Asbury closed their Florida campus. Br. George wants to invite the Hickman award winners to come to retreat. We voted by consensus to have Br. George invite the Hickman recipients to retreat. Dr. Lathrop was invited by Br. Daniel Benedict and a follow up Zoom conversation with Br. George followed. We will meet at St. Paul in 2025; dates to be announced. We are still using E. Preston Rice as our potter for the Hickman awards.

Report of the Chancellor General

Sr. Jeanette Block spoke about the transfer of the American Express account for the new officers. For now, we leave it in place. Sr. Jeanette presented the budget. Br. Brent Sturm made a Motion to approve our 2024-25 budget at \$52,800.00 as per Sr. Jeanette's report. He also moved that we refer to the General Chapter the budget of \$52,800.00 for the 2024-25 year. Motion was seconded and approved. Sr. Jeanette to work with Servant Keeper on getting email/text service for the virtual ministry.

Report of the Provincial General

We went over Sr. Heather Josslyn-Cranson's report. She has three action items: The Winged Ox Chapter needs to be discontinued; new Central Oregon Seekers Chapter; and reform the East Ohio Chapter into St. Julian Chapter. Sr. Celia Halfacre and Sr. Kimberly Greway have thinned out the worship items for our life together.

We divided the questions for the action items. The Winged Ox Chapter was unanimously discontinued. We are concerned about Central Oregon using the word Seekers in their name as the OSL has a seeker group who are looking to join as members. We approved the Chapter, but Sr. Heather will email the leaders to see if they are willing to be known as the Central Oregon Chapter. The East Ohio Chapter wants to reform as the St. Julian Chapter which was unanimously approved. Sr. Heather reported on the Provincial Companions; she has a chart of the United States.

When we join the OSL, we are a member of the Order and a participant in the chapter. Abbot feels we need to make this very clear. Br. Scot Bontrager and Br. French Ball will look at the bylaws so see if we need a specific change due to virtual gathering. The bylaws need to be amended to reflect the terms of membership and participating in a Chapter.

Companion for Life-Vowed Members

No report. We believe the Companion be Br. Jim DuFriend.

Virtual Meetings

Sr. Kimberly Greway reported on the monthly Virtual Meetings. There are approximately 22 people. Everyone does the services differently.

Website

Br. Scot Bontrager hared that others can use the website to edit their own content rather than have him do the work. He has experienced that folks buy more tools, but one will do all the jobs and consolidate. Br. Scot does not want to continue with the video component of our time together. He would like to hand over the day to day content of the website. He will continue with the technical side of the website. WADO (Web Amplified Daily Office) continues; just needs more content. We discussed more work on the Marian Feasts. More and more people use WADO every day. We discussed using the website and our tools more effectively. Sr. Kimberly encouraged us to explore the website.

Report of Publications

Sr. Abbot shared that we do not have any new publications to report on. We received a manuscript from Br. Matthias Tanner. It is not a book, but a pamphlet. Sr. Elizabeth worked with him and the publication is only 14 pages long. She has also worked with Br. Robert George. "Living the Rule: A Beginning;" it is a short version of Food for Pilgrims. It is short enough that it would be interesting reading for people in the cohort groups. Sr. Elizabeth never got to do an in depth study of the publications. If she puts together the sales history over time, we sold about \$24,000.00 in 2011- 2012. Our sales have dropped dramatically, and we have taken things out of the catalog that were not selling, but they can be obtained through used book sales. We sell our own worship resources and we sell them to ourselves. Resources from non-OSL writers are really in sharp decline. There is a question about the administrative costs of having them in a catalog so perhaps we need to shrink them even more.

What do we do to get new materials? Should we survey our membership as to what they need and want. Br. Scot's wife drafts surveys for Survey Monkey if we'd like to do a survey.

Nominating Report

The Nominating Committee recommended Sr. Heather Josslyn-Cranson as Abbott, Br. Brett Isernhagen as Provincial Companion, Br. Scot Bontrager as Chancellor General and Sr. Dianne

Covault as Prior General. All were nominated by consensus. Per the Constitution, “The names go to ballot as soon as practical after the council meeting. Ballots must be returned within sixty days after the initial mailing. The Officers shall be invested at the next General Convocation. The Abbot shall appoint a chairperson to oversee the process of nominations and election, who will be a non-voting member of the Committee.”

We have decided the ballots will go out by July 1, 2024. Folks can respond by email. Send out a slate of officers and vote via email. Br. Brent Sturm will receive the responses as our monitor. Br. George Crisp has charged Sr. Jeanette Block and Br. Scot Bontrager to find the best way to reach the membership. Photos of the nominees will go on the webpage with an explanation of the process to vote between July 1, 2024 – August 29, 2024.

Br. George thanked the nominating committee for doing the important work of nominating officers.

Eucharist was celebrated followed by dinner. We postponed the balance of our meeting until Wednesday and had an early compline. An early night for rest and pilgrimage.

Wednesday, May 15, 2024

After morning prayer and breakfast, we met in the assembly room. In Sr. Abbot’s absence, Br. George Crisp gathered the nominating committee to continue their work. Sr. Dianne Tobey Covault would like to say, “not yet” to the nomination so she can focus on her role as our pastoral care officer. She is also serving in her conference and would like to continue that service first. The committee did not have a new nomination for Prior General.

Pastoral Care Report

Sr. Dianne Tobey Covault shared that she is working to become more visible to our siblings and is fleshing out her position.

Report of Companion for Seekers, Inquirers, and Discerners

See the report on Page 13.

Report of OSP Historian

Br. Mark Stamm supplemented his written report. He is planning for retirement and has to go through the materials in his offices as some of those are related to OSL. Br. Mark discovered that Jean Audrey Powers was a significant female leader in 1996, although not an officer, she

was a leader not only in the Order but in the church. Br. Mark has found very interesting historical information on Br. David Bort, Br. Hoyt Hickman and Br. Vernon Schmidt. Br. Dwight Vogel shared that Jean Audrey Powers moved to Pilgrim Place and became active in the Cal-Pac [Claremont] subchapter.

We gathered in the Chapel for Eucharist.

After lunch, the nominating committee met again. Sr. Dianne Tobey Covault decline to serve as our Prior General as she is busy with her ministry and conference responsibilities. Sr. Celia Halfacre was nominated and agreed to serve as long as Br. George Crisp would mentor her. Perhaps a discussion is needed on restructuring the responsibilities that come with the positions. The committee discussed adding a retreat coordinator to plan and execute the retreat and perhaps a sub-position so the leadership is staggered. There are not too many past Chancellor Generals, nor Chaplain Generals. The Constitution and bylaws should be studied to see how we can restructure our leadership. Most of what was discussed today in the nominating committee will require Abbatial appointment.

Br. George Crisp thanked the nominating committee for their especially important work and specifically Br. Brent Sturm in bringing his expertise in leading this committee over the years.

We changed the schedule for the evening so that Compline would be completed early if siblings wanted to gather for pilgrimage.

Br. George Crisp set the dates with St. Paul of the Cross for 2025 as follows: **Council May 12 – 15, 2025** and **Retreat October 13 – 16, 2025.**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Sr. Jeanette M. Block, Chancellor General