

# The Font

Fostering connections within the Order of Saint Luke

March/April 2006



## From the Abbot's Desk

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Grace to you, and peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord. I hope this letter finds you well.

By the time you read this, we'll be in the middle of Lent, or, at least, on the edge of it. Among other things, Lent is, of course, a time for confession and penitence. As I was discussing term paper possibilities with a Doctor of Ministry seminar that I'm teaching this spring term, I suggested that one possibility for an interesting paper would be a case study on a liturgical blunder that they had made. What went wrong? What were the implications? What might have been done differently? One could analyze one's blunder from a theological or historical point of view. Does it follow in an historical succession of blunders? Or, does it share similarities with other historical missteps and false starts? Such reflection could yield important learnings.

So far, however, no one has taken my suggestion, and who can blame them? I have, at times, suggested a similar process as a framework for a *Sacramental Life* article, but, again, no takers. It is hard to air our mistakes in public. I might talk about the time that my chasuble knocked over a flower arrangement at a wedding, but that is mere liturgical slapstick. We might better talk about failures to lead or overly forceful leadership. Or not. On the matter of imperfect leadership, perhaps the private confessional is best after all. Let it suffice to say, then, that our leadership is imperfect and yes, in need of God's grace. The Prayer of Humble Access also speaks to the approach that we leaders make to the altar.

"We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen" (*BCP*).

Your brother,  
Mark W. Stamm, O.S.L.

---

## Publicity Materials Available on the Web Page

You can find promotional materials about the Order of Saint Luke by going to the Members Only Section of our website: Please consider printing copies of this material to share with colleagues who might be interested in the Order. You can access the web page at <http://www.Saint-Luke.org>. Click on the Members Only section. If you do not have the member name and password, you can obtain them from Br. Brent Sturm at [chancellor@saint-luke.org](mailto:chancellor@saint-luke.org).

## ***May Council Meeting***

*Sr. Sue Moore*

The **Spring 2006 Council Meeting** will be held in Ocean City NJ on **May 22-24, 2006**. Please contact Sr. Sue Moore at 610 749-0845 Or by email at [esmoore@alum.mit.edu](mailto:esmoore@alum.mit.edu) if you are planning to attend. The best airport will be Philadelphia. If you will let Sr. Sue know your arrival time, she will try to arrange car or van pools to minimize travel expense and hassle. The trip from the airport to Ocean City will take about an hour.

You can check out the guest house at [www.theoceanaireguesthome.com](http://www.theoceanaireguesthome.com). Single rooms are EXTREMELY limited at the guest house. Several of the rooms are triples. All rooms have at least a half-bath. Some have private showers. If you are willing to be in a top bunk, please let Sr. Sue know. (The good news is that we will be only a half-block away from the boardwalk and ocean and easy walking distance to St. Peter's Church where we will be meeting.)

---

### ***From the Provincial General***

*Br. George R. Crisp, O.S.L., Provincial General* [revgrc@prodigy.net](mailto:revgrc@prodigy.net)

Interest in the Order of Saint Luke continues to be strong. I've had an inquiry about starting a chapter or an association at Hiwassee College, a small Methodist liberal arts college, in Madisonville, Tennessee. We are waiting to see if there are additional developments in San Antonio, Texas and, internationally, in Malaysia. In each case, I answer questions about how to start a chapter, suggest chapter activities, and provide our "Guidelines for Relationship to the Order of Saint Luke."

Kudos to Provincial Companion **Mabel Doser**. Her efforts in reaching "disconnected" members (folks not in a chapter or association) in South Carolina and Georgia via letters, and directing them to chapters in their areas, is yielding results.

Here is the next set of summarized chapter reports, given on a rotation basis, from information shared at the Fall Council meeting or other times as noted. I wish some of these reports were more up-to-date or more hopeful. Let us covenant to pray for the needs of these chapters.

Each chapter or association is welcome to provide the latest information (or corrections) about its chapter's events directly by submitting an article to *The Font*. If you are the primary contact person for your chapter or association, and you move or change your internet service provider, please update your contact information with me.

*Heads up:* Just after Easter, I'll be asking all chapters and associations for an update on their activities. This will form the basis of my report to the Council.

### **Chapter News**

The **Boston University Chapter** holds monthly meetings with evening prayer, Eucharist, fellowship, and dinner. In 2005, we held a Lenten Retreat which included the daily office as well as time for "holy listening and prayer." The chapter also provided Holy Week Wednesday Eucharist and anointing service in Marsh Chapel, open to both the seminary and the University community. Cheryl Gates continues to serve as Prior.

*From the Provincial General (cont.)*

In September, Br. O. French Ball reported the activities of the **East Ohio Chapter**. “We meet monthly at a central location for fellowship, formation, business and Eucharist.” The chapter was studying Br. Dwight Vogel’s *Food for Pilgrims*, and elected new officers. Br. French added: “Recently we experimented with an evening meeting, to accommodate members who are unable to attend during working hours. This was successful, and we plan to continue evening meetings four times per year.” *[That’s an idea that other chapters might use. GC, PG]*

The **Little Rock Chapter** was granted its charter in October 2000, but we have not had contact with them since that time. Attempts to reach the last contact person for the chapter resulted in e-mail address failures. I would be happy to hear from anyone with information about this chapter.

Reporting in October 2004, Br. Andrew Ritts, Chancellor of the **Missouri Chapter** noted that they meet at Annual Conference and on or near the Feast of Saint Luke. Their activities include prayers, Eucharist, disputation. Chapter members had input on the installation of their bishop (in 2004), and were consulted by the ordained ministry team on ordination services. The conference Sessions Team conferred with Prior Joe Barnes on opportunities for prayer at annual conferences.

Br. Jim Edmison indicates that the **Oklahoma Chapter** is inactive. If this chapter should reactivate, please keep the Provincial General informed of your progress.

No report was filed by the **St. Francis Chapter** (West Ohio) this past fall, but in May 2005 the chapter reported meeting four times a year, and held one retreat. Br. Kevin Orr was serving as Prior; Sr. Barbara Lee, Chancellor.

Due to a changeover in membership or interest, the **Wesley-Allen Chapter** (Detroit area) was planning to elect officers in the fall of 2005. Generally the chapter meets at annual conference and two other times a year.

---

*From the Prior-General*

Br. Stanley Tanner, O.S.L., Prior-General [Stanosl@aol.com](mailto:Stanosl@aol.com)

**The 2006 Annual Retreat** will be held at St. Joseph's Retreat Center in Greensburg PA on **Oct. 18-21**. This is later in the week than we usually gather, due to the schedule of the Retreat Center. The retreat theme is "**I Will Lift Up My Eyes to the Hills**" focusing on psalms in worship and as worship. Brother Tom Beveridge will share with us about the "Censored Psalms," by which he refers to those psalms or portions of psalms left out of the 1989 United Methodist hymnal. Dr. Gary Chamberlain will talk with us about psalms from the perspective of a scholar, translator, singer, and above all prayer of the psalms. He has authored a translation of the psalms, and set several to music.

### ***From the Officer for Pastoral Care***

Br. Tom Beveridge, O.S.L. [ta891josl@aol.com](mailto:ta891josl@aol.com)

Brothers and Sisters:

Lately, I've returned to a book I read last year, Changing for Good, by James O. Prochaska, et al. It's meant for therapists, though I've been reflecting on its application with groups. Prochaska outlines six stages of change, the first two being Pre-Contemplation and Contemplation. He thinks that a lot of people who need to change leave the process prematurely because whoever was trying to help them pushed to hard without regard to their readiness to make the Big Step.

If you try to get them to Prepare to change (Stage Three) when they are still in the denial that is characteristic of Pre-Contemplation (Stage One), you may do far more harm than good. Denial is just that much harder to overcome if you frighten them off from the start. Likewise, if you try to pressure them into Action (Stage Four) when what they need to do is think and learn about the problem (Contemplation), it may make them feel too uncertain to move forward at all.

My immediate reason for thinking about all this in systemic terms is my commitment to work for change towards a universal, national health system in our country. (See a personal note under News, below, and you'll see why I'm passionate about that. But it is another story.)

Meanwhile, it strikes me that this is also important for helping us keep our pastoral hearts open when dealing with changes in congregational life – especially where it has to do with changes in worship practices. We can be right. We can be historically and biblically grounded. We can be ecumenically aware. And so on. But, have we discerned where our people are? Do we love them enough to be patient while we see what they in order to be ready to make the change we think needs to be made? Do they need time to process what is being proposed? More information? Time to talk together with no commitments (yet!) to act? Are they open to the idea but needing time to prepare?

As always, do be in touch with me if there is news you wish to share or if you desire pastoral contact with me. Contact me at [ta891josl@aol.com](mailto:ta891josl@aol.com) Call me at (860) 243-3388. Or write me at PO Box 891, Bloomfield, CT 06002-0891.

### **News:**

**Br. Dan Benedict** is currently teaching an online course called "No Cowardly Spirit: Grace-Driven Holy Communion."

Correction: Bro. Dan's book MS, working title: Shaped by the Liturgy, was submitted to the Upper Room, not published on January 1. Publication date TBA. AND: Liliana Benedict was born 1/22/06 at 7:30PM, weighing 8.5 pounds and stretching 20.5 inches. Liliana, her mother Leila, the Benedict's daughter and son-in-law Rob (not Rod, as written previously!) are doing fine. Dan writes, "We are embraced by the Mystery and the Mercy all around. [dbenedic@bellsouth.net](mailto:dbenedic@bellsouth.net)

**Br. Tim Waugh** has been undergoing surgeries during January and February for a kidney transplant. He covets our prayers even as he prays daily for all of us. [musicawv@frontiernet.net](mailto:musicawv@frontiernet.net)

**Br. Elliott Bush:** Prayers, please for his wife Trudy; thanks for successful emergency surgery in December for appendicitis. And for son David who graduated from Thunderbird with his MBA in mid-December, only to need surgery for an adrenal tumor. [pstrelliott@wisconsinumc.org](mailto:pstrelliott@wisconsinumc.org)

**Br. Hoyt Hickman** wrote at the end of January that his wife Martha is facing surgery and they are contemplating a move to a retirement community. Please keep them in your prayers as they deal with that very full plate. [hickman@bellsouth.net](mailto:hickman@bellsouth.net)

From Br. Mark Stamm: Kudos to **Br. Stephen Fife** of Perkins and the Louisiana Conference for his article on pilgrimage to Taizé that appeared in a recent issue of The United Methodist Reporter. Good work! Bro. Stephen writes that the article is available at: [www.reporterinteractive.org/main/Feeds/tabid/116/Default.aspx](http://www.reporterinteractive.org/main/Feeds/tabid/116/Default.aspx) To find the article, when you are at the UM Reporter site, at the left side is a list. Click on archives. When that list appears, scroll to the bottom, click on "View the archive." Then a list of the months comes up. Click on the January 2006 entry. Scroll down to the article..... (it's about the eighth one down). [snfife@smu.edu](mailto:snfife@smu.edu)

**Br. Tom and Sr. Amy Beveridge:** And please, everyone, keep us and our son Tom and his fiancée Lee in your prayers. He has no health insurance, chronic health needs, no money and no job. That is a major worry. The good news: We finally have a diagnosis that looks like it may help substantially in his bid for Social Security Disability. That would be a step in reducing the pressure of all this. Something called, Kluver-Bucy Syndrome – very rare, includes frequent seizures and memory loss. [ta891josl@aol.com](mailto:ta891josl@aol.com)

---

**OSL Publications**  
*Sr. Nancy Crouch*

**Ordo: Bath, Word, Prayer, Table: A Liturgical Primer** in honor of Gordon Lathrop and featuring essays by Schillebeeckx, Saliers, Ramshaw, Vogel, Moe-Lobeda and others is now available from OSL Publications at the special introductory rate of \$19.00 prepaid.

Also recently published is **The Banquet's Wisdom: A Short History of the Theologies of the Lord's Supper** by Gary Macy (ISBN 1-878009-50-8) — 266 pages — Paper—\$14.95  
In the Introduction, Macy points to the past and asks some very pertinent questions:

“For over fifteen hundred years, Christians were, for the most part, “in communion”. ... The Christian people, as a whole, have a much longer history of unity than of disunity. This simple historical observation raises some interesting questions. How did we as a community get from there to here? How did the earlier centuries manage to maintain the communion which seems so to elude us? ... Perhaps in rediscovering our former union, we Christians may find the grounds for overcoming our present disunion.”

---

**If you are reading this before Feb. 26:**  
**Invitation to Attend John Wesley Theological Institute**  
*David Eichelberger, Prior*

The Northern Illinois Chapter of the Order of Saint Luke invites chapter members and friends to attend the John Wesley Theological Institute and Chapter retreat Feb. 26-28.

Mark Stamm and Karen Westerfield Tucker will be our featured presenters. If you can only come for a day, plan to join us on Tuesday when Br. Mark will be doing a morning practicum on This Holy Mystery, followed by lunch and a Chapter meeting. We will be meeting at the Aylesford Retreat Center, just off I-55 at the Cass Avenue-North exit, just west of I-294. We especially invite our friends from Iowa, Wisconsin and Indiana to join us.

## Ordo for the Order of Saint Luke

### MARCH

<b>W</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Ash Wednesday</b> P
<b>T</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>John Wesley</b> W
F	3	P
S	4	P
<b>S</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Lent</b> P
M	6	P
T	7	Perpetua and her Companions P
W	8	P
T	9	Gregory of Nyssa P
F	10	Harriet Ross Tubman P
S	11	Thomas Ware P
<b>S</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Lent</b> P
M	13	P
T	14	P
W	15	P
T	16	Lucy Rider Meyer P
F	17	Patrick P
S	18	Cyril of Jerusalem P
<b>S</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Lent</b> P
<b>M</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>Joseph, Mary's Husband</b> W
(transferred)		
T	21	P
W	22	Jonathan Edwards P
T	23	Martin and Henry Boehm P
F	24	Ida Bell Wells-Barnett P
<b>S</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>The Annunciation</b> W, P- PM
<b>S</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent</b> P
M	27	P
T	28	P
<b>W</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>Charles Wesley</b> W
T	30	P
F	31	John Donne Francis Asbury P

### APRIL

S	1	P
<b>S</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent</b> P
M	3	P
T	4	Martin Luther King, Jr. P
W	5	George Miller, John Walter and John Dreisbach P
T	6	P
F	7	P
S	8	P
<b>Eve of Passion/Palm Sunday</b> <b>R/P</b>		
<b>S</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>Passion /Palm Sunday</b> R/P
<b>M</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>Monday of Holy Week</b> R/P
<b>T</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>Tuesday of Holy Week</b> R/P
<b>W</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>Wednesday of Holy Week</b> R/P
<b>T</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>Holy Thursday</b> R/P, W for Eucharist
<b>F</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>Good Friday</b> R (stoles only)
<b>S</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>Holy Saturday</b> R/P- am (stoles only) W - pm Vigil of Easter
<b>S</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>Easter W</b>
<b>M</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>Easter Monday</b> W
<b>T</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>Easter Tuesday</b> W
<b>W</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>Easter Wednesday</b> W
<b>T</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>Easter Thursday</b> W
<b>F</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>Easter Friday</b> W
<b>S</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>Easter Saturday</b> W
<b>S</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter</b> W
M	24	Samuel Wesley W
<b>T</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>Mark</b> R
W	26	W
T	27	Peter Boehler W
F	28	W
S	29	Catherine of Siena Laura Askew Haygood W
<b>S</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter</b> W

All Sundays, Solemnities and Feasts are in **bold** type and followed by the proper liturgical color for the day or part of the day.

The color code is: W- White, R- Red, B- Blue, P- Purple, G- Green. Gold may be substituted for White.

*ORDO prepared by Br. John P. Fahey, Prior  
New York Conference Chapter*

**The Font**

The Order of Saint Luke  
25 Tressel Street  
White Sulphur Springs WV 24986

---

Published bi-monthly, beginning July/August 2003  
Sr. Sue Moore, Editor  
[esmoore@alum.mit.edu](mailto:esmoore@alum.mit.edu)

*FIRST CLASS MAIL*

---

**More Ways to Stay Connected**

Visit us on the web: <http://www.Saint-Luke.org>

Join the cyber chapter: Send a message to [osl-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:osl-subscribe@yahoogroups.com), with “subscribe” as the subject line

Information for *The Font* can be sent to me via email: [esmoore@alum.mit.edu](mailto:esmoore@alum.mit.edu), or to:

P.O. Box 6, Durham PA 18039.

If your email address changes, please notify the Chancellor-General at [chancellor@saint-luke.org](mailto:chancellor@saint-luke.org) and the Font editor at [esmoore@alum.mit.edu](mailto:esmoore@alum.mit.edu) in order to keep our records accurate.

Grace and Peace,

Sr. Sue Moore

Deadline for submissions for the May/June issue of <i>The Font</i> is April 15, 2006.
---