



The Font

Fostering connections within the Order of Saint Luke

May/June 2010

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

In Job 38-41 God overwhelms Job with mysteries of creation, life and God's strange life-bestowing justice. And Job confesses "I have uttered what I did not understand, things too wonderful for me, which I did not know." (42:3) Job who had lost his "hallelujah" is on the verge of finding it again! Not because he will regain all he has lost, as the happily-ever-after ending (42:10-17) has it, but because he has been drawn out into the deep mystery of God and life that overwhelms and transforms his (and our) smaller narratives.



In experiencing the current film, *Oceans*, I was drawn out into the depths of the resurrection and Jesus' "Alleluia!" when I witnessed the fecundity and diversity of life beneath the surface. Take for example what looked like a column of millions of sardines moving in a counterclockwise upward spiral. The sheer beauty and confluence of it! Even as an introvert, I wanted to shout an "Alleluia!" right out loud there in the theater.

We think of Easter in terms of discontinuity overcome by continuity: what humanity crucified, God raised. Yet, the utterly astounding divine life and imagination pulsing in the cosmos is far vaster than our comprehension. In creation we see the abundance and exuberance of divine life. When we make Eucharist we participate in what is to me like that awe-inspiring column of sardines—a swirling spiral of instantiated life to the glory and praise of the triune God. And we do this "in life, death, and life beyond death." (United Church of Canada, see UMH 883).

Even in the Order of Saint Luke, we lose and find our "Alleluia" in the swirl of life. In mid April Br. Brent Sturm resigned as Chancellor General (CG). For reasons he will share he could not continue (though he will do what has to be done through a necessary time of transition). We, your general officers, felt undone, lost, crucified. The CG is the nerve center of our organizational life. A few days later, after soul searching and deliberation, we asked Br. Scott Alford to serve as Chancellor General. He agreed to serve. Alleluia! (He will have to be elected at the May Council meeting, but is already working with Br. Brent to effect the transition.)

I ask your prayers for Br. Brent and Br. Scott. I ask your prayers for the spring Council meeting May 18-20 and for the *Book of Offices and Services* revision team meeting May 17-18. Further, I ask your generosity in contributing to the collective work of the Order, financially and in your "talents" (see the survey on page 4 in this issue). Though OSL decided some years ago not to make payment of dues a condition of membership, your annual or regular giving sustains the operational side of the our common life. Sr. MO and I make a monthly investment for the "good of the Order." I ask you to consider doing the same, whatever the amount.

In the name of the Great Shepherd of the Sheep,

Br. Abbot Daniel

From the Chancellor's Desk....

Brother W. Brent Sturm, O.S.L., brent.sturm@gmail.com



It has been a joy to serve as your Chancellor General these past ten years. However, it has also been a heavy burden. That burden has been growing for some time, and I am no longer able to commit the time necessary to get The Office of the Chancellor to the place where it needs to go. In the heat of a very frustrating and emotionally draining week last month, I asked Abbot Daniel to accept my resignation and to nominate someone to carry the work forward.

This is not a step that I have taken lightly. While I have no doubt that it is the best move for my family and me, I believe that it is the best move for The Order of Saint Luke, as well. The position of Chancellor needs to be divided among several volunteers – both to properly achieve what accountants call “segregation of duties” (making OSL more like a local church, with both a “financial secretary” and a “treasurer”), and to make these volunteer positions more palatable for those who serve. From my place in the center of the storm, I am not able to be effective in helping to achieve that transition. This is work that needs “new eyes,” and Abbot Daniel and the other elected officers have found “new eyes” that are greatly skilled and truly visionary.

I may well have more to offer once I have left the heat of the kitchen for the grace of the table, but I will also be content to simply dine. I will be an “official consultant” to the new Chancellor and the other elected officers through July 31st. After that, I will continue to “accept the call to service” as, and if, that call is received.

I will leave it to our Abbot to announce the name of the nominee to be presented for Council’s election in May, but I will say that I am thrilled with the selection and look forward to working closely with my sibling to achieve an orderly and smooth transition over the coming months. We spoke on the phone within hours of Abbot Daniel’s nomination, and are already working together on the coming tasks of moving the office, transferring legal authority, and keeping OSL running while we move boxes and computers and file cabinets.

The distribution of OSL Publications titles will remain in White Sulphur Springs. That is not work done by the Chancellor, but rather by volunteers at Emmanuel United Methodist Church. For the time being, you can still mail orders, affirmation forms, etc, to the White Sulphur Springs address. When a new physical address is established, we will communicate that broadly – as soon as possible via e-mail, and, at the very latest, in the next issue of *The Font*. I will, of course, also forward mail to the new Chancellor.

Your Sister Meredith (who is also my wife) asked this afternoon what I plan to do with an extra twenty or thirty hours each week. The first order of business will be to get back on my bicycle and see if I can peddle off the twenty or so extra pounds that currently inhabit my middle. After that, there are several good books on my shelf that need reading, and a new hammock on the back porch in which to enjoy them! Hmmm, maybe those two go together!

Brother Brent

From the Prior General's Office

Sr. Sue Moore, OSL esmoore@alum.mit.edu



An important goal of the Order of Saint Luke is to promote worship and sacramental education. One way we do that is through the Hoyt L. Hickman Awards, given to graduating students who have demonstrated excellence in liturgical studies. It has been our honor to provide this award to deserving recipients in the past, and we continue the tradition this year.

The Order of Saint Luke provides the gift of a handmade ceramic chalice and paten to each recipient of the award. These are custom made for us by E. Preston Rice, a potter in Tyrone, PA (not far from where our sister Carol Gathagan lives).

This award is named for our brother, Hoyt Hickman. Brother Hoyt is a retired United Methodist elder. He served as Director of Worship Resources for the General Board of Discipleship for more than two decades (1972-1993) and is a beloved member of the Order of Saint Luke. He played both visionary and strategic roles in the development and adoption of our current United Methodist ritual (Services of the Baptismal Covenant, Services of Word and Table, Service of Christian Marriage, Service of Death and Resurrection, and the services of daily prayer) and related resources in *The United Methodist Hymnal* and *The United Methodist Book of Worship*.

Call to Service

Br. Michael J. O'Donnell, Canon of the Order of Saint Luke
mjodonnell@bellsouth.net



The Order of St. Luke is an all-volunteer organization. We have no paid staff. Everything is done through the dedication of the members.

We are blessed with many gifted and talented people who are willing to share with the Order. Unfortunately, we do not always know who those people are.

On the following page is a short survey to help identify these people. Please fill it in and return by one of these methods:

1. Copy the form and paste it into your word processor.
Fill it out describing your gifts and talents. Your word processor will expand as you write.
Attach the form to an email to
< mjodonnell@bellsouth.net >.
2. Copy the form onto a piece of paper and fill it in.
Send the completed form to Br. Michael J. O'Donnell.
His address is in the OSL directory.
3. Email the information without the form to the above email address.

Thank you for answering this call to service for the Order.

Gifts/Talent Survey

Please fill in any appropriate items. Be as specific as possible. Return it to: Michael J. O'Donnell at mjodonnell@bellsouth.net.

Name: _____ **Email or phone:** _____

MUSIC

- ☐ Instrument: Specify
- ☐ Composing
- ☐ Other

WRITING

- ☐ Editing
- ☐ Reviewing
- ☐ Writing Articles
- ☐ Other

BOOKS/ PERIODICALS

- ☐ Production: printing, binding, mailing, etc
- ☐ Other

FINANCES

- ☐ Bookkeeping
- ☐ Portfolio Management
- ☐ Fund Raising
- ☐ Other

COMPUTER

- ☐ Database Management
- ☐ Web Site Management
- ☐ Other

SECRETARIAL

- ☐ Typing
- ☐ Record Keeping
- ☐ Other

ORGANIZATION

- ☐ Event Planning
- ☐ Other

ART

- ☐ Type: (textile, painting, sculpting, etc.) Please specify
- ☐ Vestments
- ☐ Paraments
- ☐ Design
- ☐ Graphic Art
- ☐ Other

ELECTRONIC

- ☐ Sound Production: Mixing, Recording, etc
- ☐ Video Production; Mixing, Recording, etc
- ☐ Other

Other Gifts/talents not listed above. Be specific.

The 2010 Retreat of The Order of Saint Luke
“Reconciliation and Healing ” led by Dr. Ruth Duck

October 25-28, 2010

St. Paul of the Cross, Pittsburgh PA

This page was intended to have the registration form for the October 2010 retreat.

Because the cost information is not finalized ,
all you are getting right now is this “place holder”

Watch for an addendum to the Font – which should come out late next week – that will
contain only this page!

Hope to see you in the Fall.

The Annual Retreat is our family reunion – and it is always great.

You may request additional information or ask questions by contacting Sr. Sue Moore at
esmoore@alum.mit.edu. or by calling 610 749 0845.

From the Provincial General

Br. George R. Crisp, O.S.L., revgrc@yahoo.com



During the first week in March, via a conference call, the General Officers gave interim approval for a new OSL group in the Western North Carolina Annual Conference. The Albemarle Association has submitted an action plan that includes meeting weekly for Morning Prayer. So far, two members have signed on – Br. Kevin Taylor (Prior) and Br. Curtis Goforth (Sub-Prior). Other OSL members in the area are encouraged to make contact with this new group.

As we move into “appointment season” and graduation time, let me repeat my perpetual reminder: If the contact person for your chapter or association changes due to an election of new officers, or if you are the contact person and you move to a new assignment or change your Internet service provider (AOL, MSN, Yahoo, etc.), please be sure to provide the Provincial General with updated contact information.

We are in the final stretch of preparing for the spring Council meeting in Pittsburgh. Requests have gone out to chapter and association leaders to make a report on their group’s activities. Three of the reports being made here are from last October, while two are from the current round of chapter reports. (All reports in the next Font will be from the spring meeting.)

- Br. Matthias Tanner reports: The Barnabas Chapter has met three times since the last report. We have been discussing the Rule of Life and Service, the proposals from Sr. Sarah about a new collect for the Order, and a sharing of devotional resources that have shaped our spiritual lives. The officers are: Prior, Br. Matthias; Sub-Prior, Br. Thomas Blackstone. I will continue to function as the contact person for the Chapter. We count as members of the Chapter all members of the Order living in Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont.
- The Illinois Great Rivers Chapter meets the fourth Wednesday, September through May (excluding December), at the United Methodist Center in Springfield. This year we will attempt to establish a second monthly meeting in Effingham. The frequency of the Effingham meetings is yet to be determined. We begin our chapter meetings with Morning Prayer, which is followed by business. One of our members leads a seminar, this year focusing upon the spirituality of our Order and how to impact the life of our local congregations with that spirituality. After celebrating the Eucharist, our meeting concludes with lunch at a local restaurant. We also have a covenant group that meets before the chapter meeting to support one another in praying the daily office.

This past year we decided to receive an offering at our chapter meetings to help offset the expenses of our representative to the Council of the General Chapter. Last winter, our February meeting fell on Ash Wednesday, and we organized an Ash Wednesday service, which included our conference staff and the cabinet, led by our new Bishop Gregory Palmer. We have a luncheon at a conference clergy event in February, and we have a luncheon at annual conference. At annual conference we also celebrate the Eucharist each morning before session begins, and we assist with the celebration of the Eucharist at

conference worship services. Our Sub-Prior Peter Wehrly has a chapter web page on his church's web site. Officers are Rusty Beals, Prior; Peter Wehrly, Sub-Prior; Jerry King, Chaplain; Linda Harrod, Scribe; Susan Meister, Web Scribe; Beth McLaughlin and Ted Mitchell, Treasurers.

- The New York Conference Chapter holds general meetings twice per year and periodic sub-chapter meetings. Our general activities center around being a presence at our Annual Conference as well as getting our members involved in Conference and District worship committees; also supplying our Candidates for Ministry with copies of *This Holy Mystery* and *By Water and the Spirit*. Officers: Prior – The Rev. John P. Fahey, Jr., OSL; Sub-Prior (Connecticut) – The Rev. Joseph Piccirillo, OSL; Sub-Prior (Northern NY) – Sr. Agnes Saffoury, OSL.
- Last fall, the St. Benedict Chapter (Candler) was just gearing up for the 2009-2010 school year. Sr. Lauri Hartly reported: “We plan to have a day-long retreat this year and again publish the Lenten Devotional written by and for the Candler School of Theology and Emory communities. The leadership is as follows: Sr. Lauri Hartley, Prior; Sr. Judith Knox, Sub-Prior; Br. Steven Reneau, Chancellor; Sr. Fran Connell, Chaplain; Br. Randall Wright, Formation Officer.”
- Br. Bruce Morgan reported (in April 2009) that the Southeastern Georgia Association had not been able to meet. “Besides the pressure of my job, I feel I am over my head with tons of paper work required for me to enter the ministry in the United Methodist Church. Plus, I’m already preaching quite a bit at my church, sometimes every week. I also have a ministry where I visit the elderly. Maybe this summer, we can get back on track.” [PG Note: No report was filed in the fall of 2009; I’m currently waiting for the spring 2010 report.]



From the Pastoral Care Officer

Bro. Tom Beveridge, OSL tandaosl@yahoo.com

Sisters and Brothers:

I come from a family of mechanically-minded people. People who liked to work with their hands and with gadgets large and small. Generations of farmers who tilled the land from the 1830s, through the introduction of machinery made possible by the Industrial Revolution, and on past the middle of the Twentieth Century. Airline mechanics and pilots, and electrical engineers. My Great-Grandfather Tom Beveridge was a stationary engineer. I still have calipers and other tools that belonged to my Grandfather Tom Beveridge, who was a highly-skilled toolmaker. One of his sons, my Uncle Clifford, was a design engineer whose brother Clayton, my father, developed those same skills as a draftsman. Finally, in retirement, Dad began designing and building furniture. Each morning, Sr. Amy and I take our breakfast at a table that is his creation.

Though you might think that all this was lost on me, as I have lived in a world of ideas and books, and followed the vocation of a pastor and counselor, in a way it was not lost at all. My inheritance from those who came before me is their passion for exploring how things fit together. This translates into a search for relationships among people at all levels of life, and also between the larger systems of civilization and nature. How does what I do or say affect others? How have I been shaped by other people and the world around me? What are the consequences over there of what we do over here?

I thought of all this recently when I came across a quote from John Muir, whose passion was the wonders of nature, including several of what were to become our national parks:

*When one tugs at a single thing in nature,
he finds it attached to the rest of the world.*

To me, being pastoral is about that tug; about being attached. I can't imagine being a pastor apart from a pastoral community.

And so I wonder on the one hand about the paradox of instant communication and widespread isolation and alienation, and on the other, where do you experience that tug? In a world where matters of great human consequence often go unresolved while "talking heads" pick each other off with well-aimed sound bites, how do you experience that attachment? Is pastoral community still possible, do you think?

How do things fit together; things like Baptism and a passion for connections? Like Eucharist and the call to compassionate service? Like the Rule of Life and the Rule of Service?

Those are the questions that are tugging at me these days. What, or who (or Who?!), is tugging at you?

Some news of our community follows. Do be in touch with me when you have news you wish to share or if you desire pastoral conversation with me. This is particularly important if you do not participate in the Cyber Chapter, as that is an important, but incomplete, source for news. Write me at tandaosl@yahoo.com or PO Box 891, Bloomfield, CT 06002-0891. Or call me at (860) 243-3388. For the sake of accuracy and to protect confidentiality, I make every possible effort to check each item ahead of time with the brother or sister concerned.

Peace,

Br. Tom Beveridge, Pastoral Care Officer

"All are to be welcomed as Christ."

The Rule of St. Benedict

News:

Sr. Cynthia Astle has been named Editor of *The Progressive Christian*®, an independent national journal of commentary, news and opinion for progressive religious leadership. *TPC* is the successor publication to *Zion's Herald* (established in 1823 by the Boston Wesleyan

Association). This news is particularly sweet against the backdrop of Sr. Cynthia's struggles with loss of vision in one eye and painful treatments for that. Congratulations, Sr. Cynthia! And continued prayers, of course. cbastle@as-tex.net

Sr. Patricia D. Brown was in Rwanda during Lent where she worked with *Mama Arlene*, at the *Urukundo* (Love) Home for Children. Arlene D. Brown is Patricia's mother. Mama Arlene, age 80, cares for about 50 children, many of whom are babies. All are orphaned. Mama Arlene will be traveling to the U.S. and Canada, July - September and Sr. Patricia is presently arranging her speaking engagements. To see more about Mama Arlene and her work (also pictures of Sr. Patricia!), go to: www.hopemadereal.org pdbrown@spiritworks.org

Sr. Heather Josselyn-Cranson is the winner of Boston University's first hymn-writing competition, held in honor of Carl P. Daw, Jr., retired executive director of the Hymn Society in the United States and Canada. Her hymn, entitled "Planets Humming as they Wander, and set to the tune *Musica Mundana*, was chosen as the winner from among 40 submissions. She took her inspiration from the ancient Greeks, who saw the proportions of the spheres of the planets and stars as a form of music, a kind of harmony – hence the name she chose for the tune. Her hymn was performed at BU's Marsh Chapel on April 21, by the Seminary Singers and congregation. While a doctoral candidate at the BU School of Theology, Sr. Heather worked with Carl Daw, an adjunct professor of hymnology. Read the full story, and hear Sr. Heather reading the text of her hymn at <http://www.bu.edu/today/node/10868> Congratulations, Sr. Heather! hjosselyn@hotmail.com

Br. Bill Hunter injured his back this winter, and as a result was diagnosed with osteoporosis. He underwent spinal surgery in March. The surgery went well; however, routine biopsy at the time called for him to come under the care of an oncologist. Further tests led to a diagnosis of Multiple Myeloma. With treatment, the prognosis is fairly good. Br. Bill asks for our prayers for **Sr. Shirley** and himself. billhunter@juno.com

Sr. Amy Beveridge will undergo cataract surgery in her left eye on May 27th. The disturbance of two surgeries for a detached retina in that eye last year apparently aggravated the cataract, which was already developing. She says she is feeling "cautiously optimistic" about prospects for improved, if not perfect, vision. Prayers, please. tandaosl@yahoo.com

Br. William Boyd Grove underwent knee replacement surgery on March 2nd. After convalescing at the home of his and *Mary Lou's* daughter *Susan*, in Johnson City, TN, he has returned to his home in Charleston, WV and is doing well. Br. William is a retired bishop, and retired ecumenical officer for The UMC. wboydgrove@aol.com

Br. Jim Reed underwent heart surgery on March 5th at Charleston Area Medical Center, Memorial Division (Charleston, WV). He received a new valve and one bypass. Please keep him, his spouse, *Yvonne*, and their family in your prayers. pastor.spumc@verizon.net

Update from **Br. Eliott Bush**: After sustaining serious injuries in a car crash this past winter, the most serious of which was the loss of a leg, and after many weeks in rehab, Br. Eliott wrote on April 19th: "I'm ... making great progress with therapy. Will have prosthetic leg in two weeks, may go home in three!" pstrelliott@gmail.com

Br. Mark Parsons was hospitalized again in Charleston, WV, in mid-April for persistent, recurrent upper respiratory and sinus infections. And then he was released early to minister to the family of a youth leader in his church who was killed in a canoeing accident; a stunning loss both for them and the congregation. He returned to Charleston for further tests and may need to go out of state for medical consultation -- all in an effort to identify the cause of the infections. He writes, "We sincerely thank you all for your love and concern. Please continue to journey with us in prayer in the coming days and weeks. God is in control!" marked4god@gmail.com

Prayers, please, for **Br. Rusty Beals** and his family. Br. Rusty's father *Ervan Eugene "Gene" Beals* died in early April. rbeals@dtnspeed.net

Sr. Inga Freyer-Nicholas was moved into hospice care on March 26th, and died there on April 20th. As this was being prepared for publication, plans were being completed for a service of Word & Table (according to the UCC BoW), on April 25th at Pilgrim's UCC, the church she and her husband **Br. Ron Freyer-Nicholas** served together. The six participating clergy represented the ecumenical and interfaith journey of their ministry. At her request, Sr. Inga was dressed for her departure in alb and stole. Please hold Br. Ron and their congregation in prayer. ashes2fire@cfl.rr.com

COMING THIS OCTOBER!
2010 Order of Saint Luke Retreat
Reconciliation and Healing
Dr. Ruth Duck, leading
October 25-28, 2010

Saint Paul of the Cross, Pittsburgh PA



Ordo for the Order of Saint Luke

MAY

S	1	Philip & James the Less R, PM-W
S	2	5th Sunday of Easter W
M	3	Thomas Coke W
T	4	Monica W
W	5	Olof Gustav Hedstrom W
T	6	W
F	7	W
S	8	Julian of Norwich W
S	9	6th Sunday of Easter W
M	10	W
T	11	W
W	12	W
		Eve of Ascension W
T	13	Ascension Day W
F	14	W
S	15	W
S	16	7th Sunday of Easter W
		Ascension Sunday W (Optional)
M	17	Harry Hosier W
T	18	Jacob Albright, Mary McLeod Bethune W
W	19	W
T	20	W
F	21	W
S	22	W
		Eve of Pentecost R
S	23	Pentecost R
M	24	William Edwin Robert Sangster G
T	25	The Venerable Bede G
W	26	G
T	27	John Calvin G
F	28	G
S	29	G
		Eve of Trinity Sunday W
S	30	Trinity Sunday W
M	31	The Visitation W

JUNE

T	1	Justin G
W	2	The Martyrs of Lyons G
		Eve of Thanksgiving for Holy Eucharist W
T	3	Thanksgiving for the Holy Eucharist W
F	4	G
S	5	Boniface G
S	6	2nd Sunday after Pentecost G
M	7	Chief Seattle G
T	8	G
W	9	Columba & Aidan G
T	10	
F	11	Barnabas R
S	12	G
S	13	3rd Sunday after Pentecost G
M	14	Basil the Great G
T	15	Evelyn Underhill G
W	16	G
T	17	G
F	18	Matthew Simpson G
S	19	G
S	20	4th Sunday after Pentecost G
M	21	Thomas Bowman Stephenson G
T	22	Alban G
W	23	G
T	24	Nativity of John the Baptist W
F	25	G
S	26	G
S	27	5th Sunday after Pentecost G
M	28	Irenaeus, Peter Jones or Kahkewaquonaby G
T	29	Peter and Paul R
W	30	G

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

Please note the following:

- All Sundays, Solemnities and Feasts are in **bold** type and followed by the proper liturgical color for the day or part of the day.
- Commemorations are noted but the seasonal color is kept. Those who wish to solemnize a particular commemoration should use Red for martyrs and Holy Cross Day and White for all others.

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

**The Font**

The Order of Saint Luke
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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, with “subscribe” as the subject line

Information for *The Font* can be sent to me via email: 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 and the Font editor at esmoore@alum.mit.edu in order to keep our records accurate.

Grace and Peace,
Sr. Sue Moore

Deadline for submissions for the July/August 2010 issue of <i>The Font</i> is June 20, 2010.
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