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The Font
The Order of Saint Luke
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THE CALL TO SERVICE

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

In 2016 the Order of Saint Luke will be 70 years young! Our history continues to unfold as God adds new members to our community and "time makes ancient good uncouth" (as the old non-inclusive hymn has it). Yet, in our history are the roots of the sacramental charism that guides our work and spiritual formation.



Br. Abbot
Daniel Benedict

When in 1977 I found out about the Order of Saint Luke, I was so grateful to know of this liturgical and sacrament community dedicated to scholarship, study and practice that I couldn't wait to meet those people who were then the leaders of the Order: Clifford Field, Thorwald Torgerson, James Schmittle, and David Bork, Hoyt Hickman, and Don Saliers. (Yes, it was a pretty male-dominated group back in those days.) A few years went by and I finally got to a meeting of the Council somewhere in the middle of Pennsylvania (Sunbury, I think). Lo and behold, this California pastor met priors and leaders from chapters on the east coast, including Michael O'Donnell, Timothy Crouch and others. I felt like I had come "home."

Now, decades later, some of these luminaries have died, others of us have aged, and so, the memories are at risk. With Dag Hammarskjöld, the second Secretary General of the United Nations, I say, "For all that has been, Thank you. For all that is to come, Yes!" I say, "Yes" to what is to come in the Order as new occasions teach new

duties and as fresh leaders emerge and take up the mantle of guiding our life and work. And, I say, "Thank you" for all that has been. If you have never read Br. Hoyt Hickman's history of the Order, you can find it at <http://tinyurl.com/pjk57x5>.

So that others of us, especially you who are newer brothers and sisters will know it, I am asking for some of our longtime members to recollect some of the color and fabric of yesteryear. Br. Michael J. O'Donnell offers one such recollection in this issue of *The Font*. His recollection of the crisis of 1984 puts us right back in those yeasty days of liturgical reform and social unrest that made life both tense and exceedingly interesting in the Order and in the church at large.

I invite all of our long timers to consider writing your recollection of memorable moments in the life of the Order, including formative moments at the local chapter level. We'd especially like recollections of the start of chapters in the Philippines, Singapore, and in the US. The Book of the Acts of the Apostles still has room for more chapters!

Do remember the 2015 Retreat coming up. It will be ever so much better if you are there!

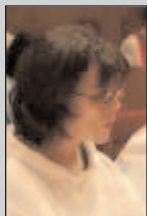
Grace and peace,

+Brother Abbot Dan, OSL

IN THE COMMUNION OF THE SAINTS

Sr. Heather Josselyn-Cranson, OSL
hjosselyn@hotmail.com

Faith communities have frequently kept necrologies of those saints who have gone before us. In this manner the Order of Saint Luke remembers these sisters and brothers:



Sr. Heather
Josselyn-
Cranson

Sept. 11 Br. Bill
Hunter (2011) Texas,
New York

Sept. 17 Br. Howard Sterling
(2014) New Jersey

Sept. 21 Br. James M. Ault
(2008) Bishop, GBGM, Drew The-
ological Seminary

Sept. 22 Sr. Christine Farrar
(2011) Missouri

Sept. 23 Br. Russell E. Son-
afrank, II. (2003) Indiana

Oct. 5 Br. Robert E. Gordon
(2002) Virginia

Oct. 9 Br. Bob M. Fuqua (2004)
West Virginia

Oct. 12 Br. Tom Beveridge
(2014) Connecticut

Oct. 21 Sr. Jane Ferguson (2008)
Illinois

Oct. 22 Br. Robert Fletcher
Thomas, Jr. (2005) South Carolina

Oct. 31 Br. Arthur J. Landwehr
(2003) Illinois

Br. James F. White (2004) Indi-
ana

A request: If you or your chapter are aware of other deceased members of the Order, I'd be grateful if you could send me information at hjosselyn@hotmail.com so that they may be included in the list of siblings for whom we give thanks to God.

REMEMBRANCES

1984: Growing Pains in the Order

The following "off the top" and candid recollection of a critical period in the Order's life was written by Br. Michael J. O'Donnell, first to bear the title "abbot" of the Order of Saint Luke. As current abbot of the Order and realizing that the memories of our past are slipping away as many of us old timers age and die, I asked Br. Michael to set forth his memory of the events leading to his term as abbot and to the shift from the "old school" of the Order to the "new school"—terms Br. Michael uses below. Br. Michael and I would welcome any other memories and perceptions that pertain to this account as we seek to retain our corporate memory.

—Br. Abbot Daniel Benedict
August 10, 2015

By Br. Michael O'Donnell
Canon of the Order

The year 1984 was a critical time for The United Methodist Church, and that stress was reflected in the struggles of the Order of Saint Luke.

Liturgical reform was taking place as a new Holy Communion ritual was being formed. That new ritual would eventually be adopted and be placed in the proposed new hymnal.

OSL decided to make its presence felt by hosting a Eucharist and breakfast for the delegates to the General Conference being held in Baltimore, MD. We were permitted use of the historic Lovely Lane Chapel.

Chaplain of the Order Timothy Crouch and Thorwald Torgerson (then secretary of the Order) were responsible for putting the service

together and leading it. They chose to use the old Cranmer-based ritual and lead in such a way, in my opinion, as to reinforce the worst of the stereotypes attributed to the Order.

I was livid. I loved the old ritual, but I was becoming very fond of the new. I especially appreciated the less penitential understanding of the Eucharist and well as the more approachable language. For me, the church was heading in the right direction, opposite of the image we put before the delegates.



Br. Michael O'Donnell

That afternoon the Nominating Committee met in the Pastor's Study at Lovely Lane. As Prior of the East Ohio Chapter I was on the Nominating Committee. Cliff Field was not running for reelection and could not be convinced otherwise. Timothy asked me to put his name forward as Canon (now called Abbot) of the Order. I had had some doubts about him in that position before that morning. I thought as Chaplain, he was in the best position to serve the Order with his talents.

After the Eucharist I was convinced that Timothy was not the right person to lead the Order. I could not with good conscience nominate him. Unfortunately, there were no other names put forward. There was a long Holy (and at times

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KINDRED SPIRITS: LIVING CONNECTED IN DIASPORA

Meet Br. Christopher Skillen of Downpatrick, Ireland

Welcome to a new feature in *The Font*, “Kindred Spirits.” In an effort to bridge the distances of our dispersed order, *The Font* will publish a biographical sketch of one of our members as often as possible. Br. Christopher shared the following with Br. Abbot Daniel Benedict as part of an effort to get to know our several members in the United Kingdom. We share this article with Br. Christopher’s permission. We have many members in the Order who love Ireland and find deep spiritual connections there.

**By Br. Christopher “Chris” Skillen
Downpatrick, Northern Ireland**

I have lived most of my life in Northern Ireland, though I was born in the Republic of Ireland, in West Cork, when my father was stationed there as a minister of the Methodist Church in Ireland in the late 1950s-early 1960s.

I can’t remember exactly how I stumbled upon the Order of Saint Luke, but when I did, I was amazed to find that there was a body within Methodism which held together my own core values. Ecumenism is very important for me, as are our Wesleyan roots. For many years I attended Evensong weekly in my local Church of Ireland parish, and grew to love the Lukan canticles. As a 16 year old my religion class studied the minor prophets and Luke for state exams, and I would say a sort of Amos-Luke axis has informed my own faith ever since, seeking right worship on foundations of inclusive justice in society: loving God/loving neighbour bound to-



As he puts it, “the lovely one is Br. Chris’ wife, Toni.” The location is Glendalough, County Wicklow, setting of the 6th century monastic settlement of St Kevin.

gether. I would have to admit, a yearning for wider liturgical literacy was part of my motivation too.

I have been a student in Dublin (at Trinity College), Glasgow, and for two one-year stints in the Soviet Union. I taught Russian and East European politics for some years at Glasgow Caledonian University and Queen’s University Belfast, during which time I became active in the movement to develop primary and high schools for Catholic and Protestant children together. I had been a child when the civil rights movement (of which my great-aunt was the first chairperson) met an aggressive response, and society degenerated into barbarism. Our mixed street emptied into safer, segregated areas, and like many of that generation, the vanishing of childhood friends left a life-long longing for reconciliation.

I chaired the parents’ group campaigning for one such ‘integrated’ school in Belfast, and then chaired its board of governors after it opened, and this led me to retrain as a teacher of religious studies, and to study theology at Edgehill College, Ireland’s Methodist seminary. For the past twenty years, I have served as head of religious studies at Shimna Integrated College, Newcastle, Co. Down, a high school serving around 600 Protestants and Catholics aged 11-18. I am an accredited Methodist Local Preacher, and generally conduct 3 or 4 Sunday services each month.

A couple of years ago, I felt led to healthcare chaplaincy, and I reduced my work contract, allowing me to train with Glasgow University and serve part-time in the Royal Victoria

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FROM THE PROVINCIAL GENERAL

As promised, a new pattern for sharing chapter reports begins with this issue of The Font. Using the information submitted by each chapter, with occasional editorial comment on my part, three or four chapters will be highlighted in each issue. Here are the most recent reports.



Br. George Crisp

The **Eastern Pennsylvania Chapter** was planning to lead early morning communion services at the May 2015 Annual Conference. Otherwise, the chapter is minimally active. Our officers are: Br. Lloyd Speer, Prior; Br. Art Rettew, Sub-Prior; Br. David Knotts, Treasurer/Recruitment.

Sr. Heather Josselyn-Cranson reported that the **Northwest Iowa Association** usually meets a couple times per year, with a meeting

Br. George R. Crisp, OSL, Provincial General
revgrc@yahoo.com

planned for May 12. Our joys and challenges are all work related. Personally, my college is "rightsizing" and my job is threatened, so I have mostly challenges. I remain the primary contact person.

The **St. Francis Chapter** planned to lead three morning worship services at West Ohio Annual Conference, June 8, 9, and 10 at 7:30 a.m. in the Lakeside UMC sanctuary. Monday worship will be a



Morning Prayer service. Tuesday worship is a Service of Word and Table. Wednesday's Service of Word and Table will include Profession of Vows. These worship times provide not only a time of gathering and reconnection for members of the Chapter, but also serve as an outreach to Annual Conference members and families. The Chapter meets annually following the Tuesday morning service, and at other times TBD, and keeps connected via social media. Officers of the chapter are: Sr. Alice Kay Hoover, Prior; Sr. Barb Lee, Secretary

Perpetual Reminder . . . Please notify the Provincial General: (1) if the contact person for your chapter or association changes due to an election of new officers, (2) if you are the contact person and you if you have updated contact information, (4) if you have additional news to share about your chapter or association, and (4) if you change your e-mail address.

Kindred Spirits

Hospital, Belfast, the major acute hospital in Northern Ireland. I very much enjoy being part of the ecumenical chaplaincy team. I work with patients who have not declared a religious affiliation and those whose affiliation is other than Catholic, Presbyterian or Anglican. I have just completed an 18-month candidating process for the ordained ministry of the Methodist Church, and in June the Irish Conference recommended me for ministerial training. I will be spending this year in a mix of college studies and circuit ministry in two local Societies. All being well, I will be commissioned as a probationary minister next June, and stationed on a circuit somewhere in Ireland. So I am about to step on this new path. Amongst my summer reading list I was pleased to find our Abbot's Patterned by Grace.

My wife, Toni, grew up in the Catholic community in West Belfast, and we have four children. She has been warmly welcomed in Methodism and feels very comfortable as part of our church. Northern

Continued from Page 3

Ireland, on the whole, has left violence behind, but remains a deeply divided society, with no shared view of the conflict's causes or the future. Seemingly small issues often inflame sectarian tensions and a sense of the fragility of the peace is never far away.

Share your story with our OSL kindred! Send a 500-750-word article to Sr. Cynthia Astle, Font Editor, spirit60cba@gmail.com. Please include a photo as a separate file in either JPG or PNG format. Printed articles and snapshots may be sent by post to Sr. Cynthia Astle, O.S.L., 4140 O.B. Crowe Drive, Dallas, TX 75227. Please do not send "family heirloom" photos, as we can't be responsible for their safety in transport. Photo prints will be returned if accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope.



REPORT OF THE PASTORAL CARE OFFICER

Br. David A Eichelberger, OSL
daveeosl@yahoo.com

Dear Brothers, Sisters and Friends:

As we near the end of the one season and begin to move toward the next we remember that this time of transition is a difficult one for many folks. Parents of students, students, teachers and staff are all caught up in the time of preparation for new classes to begin. Parents who find their homes have grown strangely quiet face the challenge of re-examining relationships and life choices. Churches too are gearing up for a more intense rhythm of activity and participation. Let us each be in prayer especially for safety in our public places-our schools, churches and theatres, etc.



Br. David
Eichelberger

Our members and their families have been very busy and also challenged in different ways this past couple of months. We remember those who are beginning ministry and lives in new locations.

Among the prayer requests that I am aware of were the following:

Br. Brian Ogles was ordained an Elder in the East Ohio Conference. We had mentioned **Sr. Dianne Tobey Covault's** ordination but were later informed about Br. Brian. Congratulations to all who are transitioning in their ministry.

Br. William E. Olewiler retired again! He had been serving an interim pastorate of the Georgetown UMC in Georgetown FL. He hopes to do some traveling in the Midwest now that he is not serving a local

church.

Br. Gary Smith is recovering from recent surgery and doing well.

Br. Justin Crawford shared his concerns about his wife's challenging pregnancy and was delighted to report that all went well with the delivery. They welcomed their fourth child, their first son, Jayme Isaac, who was born July 21. Mother and son are doing well.

Sr. Dianne Tobey Covault and many folks in the East Ohio Conference are mourning the death of Mary Ann Carlson who had been a powerful witness for social justice.

Sr. Jeanette Block is sporting a new look after successful cataract surgery. We are thankful all went well with the surgery and with her recovery.

Br. Dwight Vogel experienced ill health during his time in South Dakota this summer and returned early to California. He underwent heart surgery Aug. 17. The stress of caring for Br. Dwight adversely impacted **Sr. Linda Vogel's** health as well, and she has been confined at home, according to her Facebook posts. At last report, Br. Dwight's in-hospital medical team and Sr. Linda's visiting nurse and friends in Pilgrim Place are caring well for them. Our prayers continue for them.

Br. Eric Hoeke welcomed a new-born niece this summer, Pauline Judith. He was also blessed to return in August to revisit an area where he had been in mission work in Zimbabwe.

Sr. Heather Josselyn-Cranson

continues to seek a new faculty position since she was notified that her college is discontinuing her position and that of others in a cost-saving reduction in staffing. We pray for her and others who are in the midst of the search for employment. **Br. David Eichelberger** also has a good friend, Rev. Beth Cooper, who until recently served as the Director of the Wesley Foundation at San Diego State University, who is seeking a new position after being suddenly discontinued by the resident Bishop.

Br. Abbot Daniel Benedict rejoiced to be named an Ecumenical Canon at the Episcopal Cathedral of St. Andrew in Honolulu this summer by the Episcopal diocesan Bishop of Hawai'i, +Robert L. Fitzpatrick.

Several of our Brothers and Sisters have experienced death in their families and among their friends this summer. **Sr. Kathy Haley** lifted a prayer concern for a good friend Rebekah Wright who died in July. **Br. Christopher J. Montgomery** shared the news of the sudden death of his grandmother Mary Agnes at the end of July. He had been especially close with her. **Br. Kenton Van's** father died August 4. Let us remember all these in their time of sorrow as we put our confidence in the giver of resurrection.

Sr. Linda Murry, who took her Life Vows at the 2014 Retreat, died July 19. Our prayers go out to Sr. Linda's family and friends.

Br. Jay Brown's wife, Janet, underwent brain surgery to remove tu-

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REMEMBRANCES

1984: Growing Pains for the Order of Saint Luke

Continued from Page 2

at times Unholy) Silence as the committee struggled with whom to nominate. A few names got batted around, but there were no hits.

Finally someone asked me if I would serve in that position. I gave it prayerful thought. Part of my thinking was that I had been president of an Explorer Post that shut down on my watch. I was president of the local Young Republicans Club in college (can you believe that???) that I terminated. (I'd gotten smarter over the summer.) So I thought, if the Order of St. Luke were to end its life, then I could lead it in that direction.

So, finally, reluctantly I said that I would accept the nomination. Very quickly I decided that we were not going to die but rather lead the denomination into the new liturgies.

I dreaded walking out of the church where Tim was waiting word. It took a long time to get past my betrayal. But Timothy and I worked it out over time and he began to see a new role for himself in the ongoing life of the Order and the church.

The Order continued to struggle with its identity and position on liturgical reform over the years. After all, we were the Traditionalists, the ones who wanted to hold onto the old rites and rituals and "force" them on everybody else. We lost some important people along the way, the most significant being Thorwald. He had held the Order together so many times when we

'I decided that we were not going to die but rather lead the denomination into the new liturgies.'

– Br. Michael O'Donnell

had no other leadership. He maintained the records of the Order and often represented the Order to the church.

Thorvald was very "old school." He wore a cassock around town. On Sunday morning, worship in his church in Drakestown, NJ, was 1928 Book of Common Prayer all the way. He represented the Old School Order. I guess I came to represent the New School.

Timothy moved from Old to New once he saw the light. His transformation was a delight to watch and at times painful as well. But once Timothy Crouch set his heart and mind to something, there was no going back. His contribution over the years helped us move forward with integrity.

This is not to "kiss up" to you, Dan, but you were also very important as to how we moved forward. You constantly reminded us of the spiritual nature of our journey. You showed us the function within the form. The title *Sacramental Life* for our liturgical journal came from you using that phrase in a council meeting. By referring back to that often, I began to remold my own life in terms of being a sacrament to

others. Also Jim Wagner's Blessed to Be a Blessing helped me.

The Jeannette [PA] convocation in 1984 was the next battleground for the Order. It was part Old vs. New, part power play. This time it was Timothy going against Craig Bennett over who was going to give Bishop Ault (I think) instructions for his role in the Eucharist. The match-up was Tim as Chaplain vs Craig as Host. We lost Craig as a result of this argument. I was saddened to lose him, as he had been a valuable member among us.

The Order almost died in 1984. But God was not done with us yet. And still is not.

Thanks be to God!

i Of those who worked on what was to become the Word and Table order and text for the sacrament, only Br. Don Saliers is still able to recall the work and struggle of those days. We are grateful for his colleagues in that work: Br. Hoyt Hickman, James F. White, Larry Stookey, H. Grady Hardin, and Julian Hartt.

ii The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper: An Alternative Text 1972 was the

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REMEMBRANCES

Continued from Page 6

first publication in what came to be known in United Methodist circles as the "Supplemental Worship Resource Series." This was a watershed publication that shifted the direction of United Methodist liturgical reform that resulted from tumult of the 1960s and the stirrings of Vatican II that influenced all Anglican and mainline Protestant denominations. Word & Table: A Basic Pattern of Sunday Worship for United Methodists (SWR 3) was published in 1976 and offered introduction and commentary on the 1972 text, providing theological and historical context, along with calendar, three-year lectionary, and ecumenical texts for the ordinary texts of the sacrament. A Service of Word and Table: Complete Text 1984 Edition ("From the General Services of the Church as adopted by the 1984 General Conference") replaced the 1972 text. All of this was issuing forth against the back drop of the Cranmerian ritual of the church published in The Methodist Hymnal and The Book of Worship in 1966 and 1965 respectively, and that of the 1957 Evangelical United Brethren Church's The Hymnal. Carlton "Sam" Young, the editor of both the 1966 hymnal and the 1989 The United Methodist Hymnal, often quipped that the 1966 Methodist Hymnal [inclusive of ritual for sacraments] was DOA, and then following silence, gasps or laughter, he qualified the assertion, "not dead, but disabled on arrival." (Confirmed in an email from Carlton Young on 8/10/15) As with other denominations in the '60s, '70s and '80s, The United Methodist Church was experiencing a seismic shift in its liturgical roots and intentions.

FROM THE COMPANION FOR INQUIRERS AND NEW MEMBERS

The Order has welcomed these new members since the last issue of The Font.

Br. Randall Hibern, Kerrville TX

Sr. Debbie Neill, Tuckahoe NJ

Br. Chris Hardy, White Haven, PA

Br. Jason Humbert, Etowah TN

Br. Brett Johnson, Port Byron NY

Br. Eugene A. Vajna, Orlando FL

Please give your personal welcome to these new brothers and sister as you encounter them.

I have responded to six inquiries

during this time.

Please refer inquiries about the Order of Saint Luke to the addresses listed below.



Br. Matthias Tanner

Br. Matthias Tanner, O.S.L.
Companion for Inquirers
and New Members
24 Parsons Way
Poland, ME 04274-5695

Email :brmatthias@gmail.com

PASTORAL CARE

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mors in early August. She survived the surgery and is now undergoing rehabilitation. Please keep them both in your prayers during this challenging time.

Br. Tom Trainor is also in rehabilitation after sustaining a fall recently.

Sr. Meredith Sturm has completed her chemotherapy and is now undergoing radiation treatment for her cancer. She is feeling much better except for some residual neuropathy. She has been able to return to work on the days when she is feeling well.

We remember those who live in areas of devastation from disease outbreaks, droughts, fires, floods, earthquakes and tornadoes. We pray that those who will be threatened by hurricanes and typhoons will be spared much damage and death. We especially pray for peace

throughout the world.

O gracious God of all nations, we look to you for our guidance, strength and renewal. We are thankful for the privilege of intercessory prayer. For all who are in distress, for those who mourn, for those who are ill, we look to you, our Creator and Redeemer. Help us your children from all parts of this planet to learn to honor one another and to respect the gift which each of us contributes in your created order. We especially pray for all those in positions of authority to do their very best to respect their citizens and to work for the commonweal.

O God, continue to watch over the Order of Saint Luke so that we may continue to be one of the means through which you bless the world. In the gracious Name of Jesus we ask it. Amen.

THE ORDO

Prepared by Br. Jack Fahey, O.S.L

SEPTEMBER

T	1	G
W	2	G
T	3	Samuel Checote G
F	4	Albert Schweitzer G
S	5	G
S	6	15th Sunday after Pentecost G
M	7	G
T	8	G
W	9	Mary Bosanquet Flecher G
T	10	G
F	11	Isabella Thoburn & Clara Swain G
S	12	Jesse Lee G
S	13	16th Sunday after Pentecost G
M	14	Holy Cross Day R
T	15	G
W	16	G
T	17	Hildegard of Bingen G
F	18	Dag Hammarskjold G
S	19	G
S	20	17th Sunday after Pentecost G
M	21	Matthew R
T	22	G
W	23	G
T	24	G
F	25	Peter Cartwright G
S	26	Freeborn & Catherine Garrettson G
S	27	18th Sunday after Pentecost G
M	28	G
T	29	Michael and All Angels W
W	30	Jerome and George Whitefield G

OCTOBER

T	1	G
F	2	G
S	3	G
S	4	19th Sunday after Pentecost G
M	5	G
T	6	William Tyndale & Jennie Fowler Willing G
W	7	John Woolman G
T	8	G
F	9	G
S	10	G
S	11	20th Sunday after Pentecost G
M	12	G
T	13	Gilbert of Sempringham G
W	14	G
T	15	Teresa of Avila G
F	16	Thomas Cranmer G
S	17	Ignatius of Antioch G
S	18	21st Sunday after Pentecost G
M	19	Luke R (trans) (comm. Jacob Arminius)
T	20	G
W	21	G
T	22	Fred Pratt Green G
F	23	James of Jerusalem R
S	24	Sarah Crosby G
S	25	22nd Sunday after Pentecost G
M	26	G
T	27	G
W	28	Simon and Jude R
T	29	G
F	30	G
S	31	G

Eve of All Saints W

Notes on The Ordo:

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.

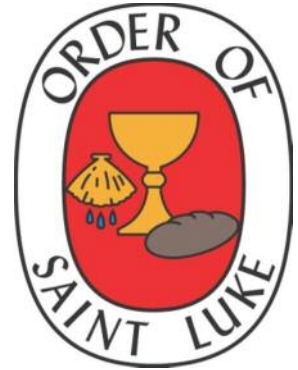
The color code is: W- White, R- Red, B- Blue, P- Purple, G- Green. Gold may be substituted for White.

The Order of Saint Luke

2015 Annual Retreat

Saint Paul of the Cross, Pittsburgh PA

October 20-23, 2015



Featuring
Br. Don Saliers

who will lead us in conversation about

Doxology and Lament: The Psalms and the Inner Life of the Church

Plan to arrive any time after 2:00 pm on Tuesday, enjoy the afternoon catching up with your brothers and sisters and sharing an informal pizza dinner at 6:00 pm.

The Retreat formally begins with Festive Vespers for the Feast of Saint Luke, beginning at 8:30 pm.

The Retreat will end at noon on Friday.

Remember: The retreat is open to all, not just to members of the Order. Do you have a friend who would enjoy great worship, plenty of laughter, some serious reflection, and time with Br. Don Saliers? Invite them to attend with you!

A registration form is included in this issue of the Font and online on our web site. Questions? Contact Sr. Sue Moore at esmoore@alum.mit.edu.

FROM THE PRIOR GENERAL

Br. Don Saliers to lead the October 2015 Retreat



Sr. Elizabeth Moore

We are delighted that Br. Don Saliers will be providing leadership at the October 2015 Retreat of the Order of Saint Luke to be held in Pittsburgh. I asked him to provide a brief synopsis of what he would be covering during our time together, and he sent to following reply:

“My topic at the retreat will be ‘Doxology and Lament: The Psalms and the Inner Life of the Church.’ We will explore the rhythm of praise and lament, thanksgiving and the cries of the human heart. In addition to reflecting on individual psalms and our life passages, we will examine the multiple relationships between psalms and specific hymns – ancient and new. How do the psalms inform the emotional strength and the ‘sung theology’ of the church today?”

Don is our brother in the Order, but that only tells a tiny bit of who he is and what he has done. Many of you are aware of Br. Don’s work through his books and lectures. OSL Publications is proud to produce two of his books, *Worship and Spirituality* and *The Soul in Paraphrase: Prayer and the Religious Affections*. (Copies of both will be available at the retreat.) It is indeed an honor for us to have him with us this October.

As a fuller introduction to Br. Don, I offer you the following information:

‘We will explore the rhythm of praise and lament, thanksgiving and the cries of the human heart. ... How do the psalms inform the emotional strength and the “sung theology” of the church today?’

– Br. Don Saliers

Don E. Saliers is Wm. R. Cannon Professor of Theology and Worship, Emeritus, Emory University, and recently appointed Theologian-in-Residence at Candler School of Theology. He is a graduate of Ohio Wesleyan University, Yale Divinity School, with doctoral work at Cambridge and a Ph.D. from Yale University. He served as President of the Society for the Study of Christian Spirituality, and the North American Academy of Liturgy, from whom he received the Berakah Award in 1992. Before joining Emory University in 1974, he taught at Yale Divinity School and has taught in the summer programs at St. John’s University (Collegeville, MN), Notre Dame, Boston College, Vancouver School of Theology, and more recently at Boston University School of Theology.

For many years he directed the Sacred Music Program at Emory, and has been organist/choirmaster at Cannon Chapel for 35 years. Among his published books are *Filled With Light* (2008), *Music and Theology* (2007), *Sounding Glory: Hymns for the Church Year* (2006),

A Song to Sing, A Life to Live (2005) with his daughter Emily Saliers of the Indigo Girls; *Worship and Spirituality* (1996), *Worship Come to Its Senses* (1996), *Worship As Theology: Foretaste of Glory Divine* (1994), and *The Soul in Paraphrase: Prayer and the Religious Affections* (1991). He has published more than 150 articles, essays, chapters in books and book reviews. Currently he is working on a theological commentary on the Psalms.

Don served United Methodist churches in rural Ohio and the inner city of New Haven, Connecticut. He has given numerous named lectures across the United States on matters of worship, spirituality and music, and has been involved in the development of United Methodist worship resources for 40 years. He has been an editor of *Worship* journal, and of *Weavings*. He currently writes the monthly chaplain’s column for *The American Organist* journal in addition to being an active composer, performing regularly with the Emory Chamber Players in Atlanta. He continues to teach, lecture and lead retreats.



2015 Retreat of The Order of Saint Luke
Doxology and Lament: The Psalms and the Inner Life of the Church
October 20-23, 2015

St Paul of the Cross Retreat Center,
 148 Monastery Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15203 Pittsburgh PA
www.stpaulsretreatcenter-pittsburgh.org/

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

E-MAIL: _____ PHONE: _____

CELL PHONE: _____

Are you an OSL member? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Is this your first time attending an OSL retreat? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Your first name as you'd like it to appear on your Nametag: _____

(Nametags will use the title Sr. or Br. unless you request otherwise.)

If you have any special dietary or mobility needs, please note them in detail on the reverse.

Please note that some rooms have private baths, but many do not. Most rooms are singles. If you want to room with someone, then please indicate that preference on this form. If you need to have a room with toilet facilities, please let me know and I will do what I can to accommodate you.

☐ Please register me for the **2015 Retreat** (Tuesday afternoon, October 20, through Friday lunch, October 23) at a cost of \$375.00

☐ Please register me for **early arrival 2015 Retreat** (Monday night, October 19, through Friday lunch, October 23) at a cost of \$425.00.

(For those attending the DORT meeting and any others who wish to arrive on Monday)

NOTE: Transportation will not be provided from the airport. A convenient way to get to the monastery is by Super Shuttle. The cost is \$26 one way. Additional passengers are \$9 so it pays to meet up with others at the airport if possible. Reservations must be made in advance at <https://reservations.supershuttle.com>.

Please charge my ☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard ☐ My check is enclosed.

□□□□ - □□□□ - □□□□ - □□□□

Exp. □□/□□

Signature: _____

Registration deadline is September 15, 2014.

Please return a completed registration form for each individual attending to:

Sr. Sue Moore, O.S.L., Prior General

The Order of Saint Luke

1002 Hunters Lane, Ashland City TN 37015

You are welcome to send your information via email to esmoore@alum.mit.edu if you are not attaching a check.



THE FONT

The Order of Saint Luke
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Memphis, TN 38119

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MEDITATION *The Way of New Monasticism*

Reprinted by permission of Amos Smith, author of Healing the Divide: Recovering Christianity's Mystic Roots, from his Aug. 13, 2015 e-newsletter.

Silent prayer isn't necessarily about external structures like monasteries, but about the actual cultivation of interior silence, which is accessible to all.

A person can have the robe of the monk and not the heart of the monk. Likewise a person can have the heart of a monk (a committed spiritual practice) and dress in street clothes. Outward appearances are secondary to the motivations of our hearts. Maximus the Confessor enumerates:

He who has renounced such things as marriage, possessions and

other worldly pursuits is outwardly a monk, but may not yet be a monk inwardly. Only he who has renounced the impassioned conceptual images of these things has made a monk of the inner self, the intellect. It is easy to be a monk in one's outer self if one wants to be; but no small struggle is required to be a monk in one's inner self.[1]

May more and more people reconcile world-denying asceticism on the one hand with God-denying humanism on the other. May more Christians emulate Jesus by loving "the Creator" and taking care of "the creatures." In other words, may there be more neo-monastics in this world. People who haven't quit their day jobs and who are fully immersed in the world, but

who practice centering prayer habitually day in, day out.

Without activism, contemplation is in constant danger of becoming what Thomas Merton called "consecrated narcissism." Without contemplation, activism is in danger of turning into a humanistic enterprise stripped of its primary and vital connection to God as source of inspiration and refuge from the storm.

The contemplation of God and service to our neighbors go hand in hand!

[1] Palmer, et al, *The Philokalia* Vol. 2, pg. 106.