



THE FONT

FOSTERING CONNECTIONS WITHIN THE ORDER OF SAINT LUKE

ABBOT'S LETTER

It's hard belonging to a dispersed Order!

The Order of Saint Luke has always been dispersed, made up of people who gathered periodically and then returned to their varied homes. Many of us have envisioned (no doubt with a rose-tinted imagination) having a “mother house” for the Order. A few brave OSL members once took steps in this direction, vacationing together for a week each year and trying out what life together might be like. But we remain a dispersed Order, gathering together at Spring Council and October Retreat, in scattered chapter meetings, through Zoom for periodic worship times, and – maybe most importantly – in the work of prayer.

One part of our Rule of Life and Service is to “accept the call to service,” and I often think about this in terms of filling roles or positions within the Order. Some are priors, some are provincial companions, and some are general officers. Yet we ALL accept the call to service by praying for one another, and for the Order. Many of us pray the Collect for the Order of Saint Luke daily: “O Shepherd of us all, who inspired Saint Luke the Physician.....” (A previous collect for the Order, which is no longer used, began, “O Shepherd of us all, whose gifts are that some should be pastors and teacher...” While it was written with the assumption that most OSL members were clergy, seminary professors, or both – an assumption that we no longer hold - this prayer carried me through my doctoral degree, as I dreamed about someday finishing grad school and going on to teach in higher education.) Others may prefer Sr. Sarah Flynn's longer and lovely collect “ADONAI, whose servant Saint Luke the Evangelist.....” Others still may opt to use the petitionary prayer which allows us to lift up by name the general officers, priors, and others in the Order. (If you are unfamiliar with any of these prayers, you can find them at saint-luke.net/wado as part of Lauds each day.)

In each case, you are accepting the call to service by praying for your siblings in the Order. And you are helping to knit us together, as dispersed as we are.

After being installed as Abbot of the Order, I began praying my way through the OSL membership list. Each day, as part of morning prayer, I have lifted up a handful of siblings in prayer and have sent a brief e-mail to these siblings. (If you haven't received such an e-mail, it may be that your e-mail address in our Membership Directory is not current! Or your last name may begin with one of the later letters in the alphabet... in which case, you'll get an e-mail from me eventually.) Many of you have taken the time to respond, thanking me for my prayers, assuring me of your own (for which I am deeply grateful), and sharing some prayer concerns with me. I am humbled by this trust, and I find that these small glimpses into the lives of my siblings makes the Order more tangible in some way. When I think of the Order, now, I think of Sr. X, concerned for a parent with dementia. And of Br. Y, anxious about an upcoming medical test. I imagine all of us, spread out around the globe, each living in our own circumstances, with worries and joys and frustrations.... Each praying to God for the world and for particular, beloved people in that world... Each striving to live the sacramental life in varied and wondrous and quotidian ways.

I invite you to join me in praying for the Order, if you are not already doing so regularly. And if you are feeling remote from the Order and looking for ways to feel connected, I urge you to consider joining one of the Zoom worship options that many of our Chapters offer every week. (A chart with these opportunities can be found in this issue of the Font.)

Being dispersed is a challenge, but it is part of our identity. As a dispersed Order, we have members in different countries, on different continents, in different time zones, and of different languages and cultures. We continue to live into balancing the richness that comes with our dispersed-ness with our need for connection and community. I welcome any thoughts or inspirations you may have regarding this ongoing balance!

Yours in this marvelous, messy dispersed Order,

Abbot Heather

DAILY OFFICE OPPORTUNITIES

MONDAY

Mid-Atlantic Chapter

Weekly Monday 10:00am - 11:00am (EST)

Mid-Morning Prayer followed by lectio using the Lukan Psalter or other discussions as determined by the group.

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5090694227?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5090694227?pwd=NVhtUHJHYnhEV0tEYTB1YU43TU9Sdz09&omn=89922293325)

[pwd=NVhtUHJHYnhEV0tEYTB1YU43TU9Sdz09&omn=89922293325](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5090694227?pwd=NVhtUHJHYnhEV0tEYTB1YU43TU9Sdz09&omn=89922293325)

Contact Br. Brett Isernhagen - brett.isernhagen@gmail.com

Fellowship of Siblings

Weekly Monday 9:00pm (EST)

Compline

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/736740447?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/736740447?pwd=ZWpEdTY1WTFiQUpLK3RwUWc2SmJldz09)

[pwd=ZWpEdTY1WTFiQUpLK3RwUWc2SmJldz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/736740447?pwd=ZWpEdTY1WTFiQUpLK3RwUWc2SmJldz09)

Pass Code: Pray

Contact Br. Adam Lassen - alassen@neb.rr.com

New Jersey Chapter

Second Monday of each month, September - May (excluding October)

9:30am-11:30am. Worship is followed by a book study.

<https://zoom.us/j/98404030528?pwd=bWNWa3B6TitaNWljRGlQTUdVTjlMQT09>

Password 206263

Contact Sr. Debbie, njvicster@comcast.net

TUESDAY

Dayspring Chapter

Weekly Tuesday evening 8:30pm EST

[https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83367399956?](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83367399956?pwd=RGxtamg0b2pnRGNNcWtQcnJKQ1VhUT09)

[pwd=RGxtamg0b2pnRGNNcWtQcnJKQ1VhUT09](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83367399956?pwd=RGxtamg0b2pnRGNNcWtQcnJKQ1VhUT09)

Passcode 384007

Contact Sr. Barbara Blackmon-Fortune - revbebf@yahoo.com

Hoyt Hickman Memorial Chapter

Every Other Tuesday afternoon 2:pm EST

Begin Calendar May 14, 2024

[https://www.google.com/url?](https://www.google.com/url?q=https%3A%2F%2Fus02web.zoom.us%2Fj%2F83764736495%3Fpwd%3Db)

[q=https%3A%2F%2Fus02web.zoom.us%2Fj%2F83764736495%3Fpwd%3Db](https://www.google.com/url?q=https%3A%2F%2Fus02web.zoom.us%2Fj%2F83764736495%3Fpwd%3Db)

[nhqSFlyalpYVvk84V3d1dXp6eHhVZz09&sa=D&source=calendar&usd=2&usg=AOvVaw2t5aG2AVd_SxRNjdTPkQ_M](https://calendar.google.com/calendar?ical=nhqSFlyalpYVvk84V3d1dXp6eHhVZz09&sa=D&source=calendar&usd=2&usg=AOvVaw2t5aG2AVd_SxRNjdTPkQ_M)
Contact Sr. Kimberly Greway - pastorgreway@gmail.com

WEDNESDAY

Cohort I informal group
Every Wednesday 7:00 am EST
Using WADO Lauds incl a participant provided reflection
Contact Sr. Lisa - 1nolanca@att.net. For ZOOM link invitation

THURSDAY

Dayspring Chapter
Weekly Thursday morning 7:00am EST
[https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83367399956?](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83367399956?pwd=RGxtamg0b2pnRGNncWtQcnJKQ1VhUT09)
[pwd=RGxtamg0b2pnRGNncWtQcnJKQ1VhUT09](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83367399956?pwd=RGxtamg0b2pnRGNncWtQcnJKQ1VhUT09)
Passcode 384007
Contact Sr. Barbara [Blackmon-Fortune at revbebf@yahoo.com](mailto:Blackmon-Fortune@revbebf@yahoo.com)

Cal-PAC Chapter
Weekly Thursday evening 4:00 (PDT) Contact Br. Terry Van Hook
terry@agapejourneys.com for a ZOOM link invite.

YOU ARE INVITED

Beloved Siblings,
You are warmly invited to join us for the Spring Council Meeting of the General Chapter of the Order of Saint Luke, taking place May 12-15, 2025 at St. Paul of the Cross Monastery in Pittsburgh, PA. This gathering is a sacred time to come together in prayer, planning, and faithful work as we seek to further the mission and vision of our Order.

As we meet in the spirit of community and discernment, we will reflect on the path ahead, strengthen our bonds, and engage in meaningful discussions that shape our shared ministry. Your presence and participation are vital as we seek to be faithful stewards of our calling. We look forward to seeing you there!

Grace and peace,
Sr. Celia Halfacre

Mid-Morning Prayer in honor of Cuthbert of Lindisfarne

March 20th, 2025

7:00 am Pacific US

10:00 am Eastern US

1:00 pm GMT

10:00 pm Philippines



**Hosted by your friends in the
Mid-Atlantic Chapter!**

FALL RETREAT

Introducing Our Fall Retreat Speaker: **Dr. Karl Kuhn**

We are excited to welcome Dr. Karl Kuhn, Professor of Religion at Lakeland University, as our speaker for the Fall Retreat at Mercy Conference and Retreat Center in St. Louis, MO, from October 20–23, 2025.

Dr. Kuhn is an expert in biblical studies, cultural anthropology, and interfaith dialogue. During the retreat, he will offer insights into Lukan spirituality, exploring how the teachings of Luke can shape our understanding of faith in today's complex political and social landscape.

For those looking to dive deeper into his work before we gather, Dr. Kuhn's book *The Politics of the Cross: A Christian Vision for the Kingdom of God in a Divided World* might prove an interesting read. Please note this book is not necessarily the text we will cover for our retreat, but it will introduce you to our speaker.

Sr. Celia Halfacre