



Looking after “the little ones”: Our Ministry Continues

Chaplain’s Report, by Pastor Ron Bestvater

We are still providing spiritual care in the hospitals of Saskatoon. Whether the health care system facilitates or impedes our ministry does not change our mission.

Since the Government cut funding for spiritual care in health care facilities, many people have been told “There is no spiritual care here any more.” This is not true. Patients, families, caregivers, friends coming to hospital – as well as nurses, therapists, doctors, clerks, executives, and everyone serving in the hospital – needs to know that LuMinHoS is still there. Every day, the chaplains, pastors, and volunteer visitors are still providing spiritual care in our hospitals and health care facilities. God calls us to this ministry, not the government, and God supports us in this ministry. This is true: through chaplaincies like LuMinHoS, **God is still providing spiritual care in the hospitals** and long term care facilities of Saskatoon!

In Matthew 18:10, Jesus gives this command: “see that you do not despise one of these little ones; for I tell you that in heaven their angels always behold the face of my Father who us in heaven.” As the early church experienced persecution, two qualifying phrases were added to this verse. Together they tell us who these little ones are. “Who believe in me” was added to the first sentence so it reads, “See that you do not despise one of these little ones *who believe in me.*” The other phrase that was added at the end of the verse is, “for the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.” In Greek original text, the word translated

as *lost* can also mean “perishing” (see John 3:16). This command is the reason we are still providing spiritual care in the hospitals of Saskatoon!

In our vast, complicated, and many-layered health care system, battles rage every day about how to best care for patients and support their families, friends, and caregivers. Spiritual care is part of that battle ground. Recently I attended a meeting of high-level managers as they worked out three ways that patients could find out about spiritual care in the hospitals. They decided that going forward, they would implement the following procedures to let patients in Saskatchewan find out about spiritual care options in our hospitals:

- ✚ adopt our multifaith Spiritual Care flyer and circulate it through the system (*you can find it on the About/ Advocacy page of our website*)
- ✚ post laminated spiritual care contact information in every room
- ✚ run spiritual care contact info on the TVs at every bed.

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Above left: Chaplain Ron shares stories from the ministry of LuMinHoS with the SK Synod (ELCIC) Convention, June 9.

If you or someone you know is in hospital in Saskatoon and wish to be visited by Chaplain Ron or a LuMinHoS volunteer, please contact LuMinHoS and let us know!

Coming Events

Walk-a-Thon

We are excited about this first-ever Walk-a-Thon for LuMinHoS, and we expect to have a lot of fun as we raise funds to support our hospital ministry. Please join in the walk and/or sponsor a walker!

9:00 a.m. on August 11, 2018

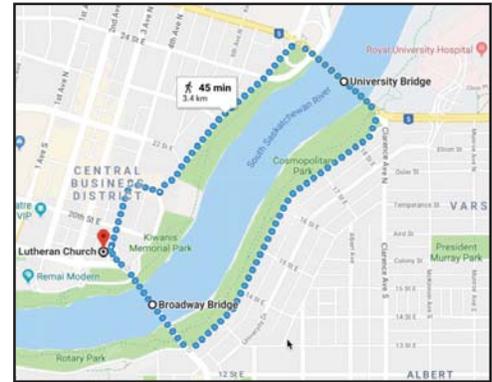
Zion Lutheran Church
323 4th Ave S, Saskatoon

Planned Route

(approx. 3.5 km; you can do a shorter or longer walk if you wish)



- Zion
- Meewasin Trail
- University Bridge
- Sask Crescent
- Broadway Bridge
- Zion



For more information

(including sign-up to walk, pledge forms, walkers you can sponsor, etc.)

Please visit the Events tab on our website

or contact Wendy Stevenson 306.227.6385, wendystevenson@sasktel.net

Calling all LuMinHoS Volunteers!

The Board of Directors invites its valued volunteers to a THANK YOU BBQ!

Date: Sunday, **July 15**, at 6:00 p.m.

Location: North lawn of Faith Lutheran Church, 2801 Preston Avenue, Saskatoon

What if...? Should the weather be uncooperative, we will move to the narthex.

What to bring: A lawn chair and a healthy appetite – and your spouse!

Please RSVP by July 10 to Renate at 306.343.0156, hisrib@shaw.ca or

Allan at 306.244.3748, allgrundahl@gmail.com



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We support these efforts to let patients know that we are ready to provide spiritual care.

But these efforts are not enough. They do not consider the little ones: the ones who are at the centre of the healthcare system; the ones who are perishing, the ones who are lost; the ones who because of their physical or spiritual or psycho-social ailments are unable to ask for any care, including spiritual care.

Our obligation to care for them does not rest on their ability to request specific services but on our

diagnostic capacity. Do we risk “despising the little ones who believe in me” if we do not expect a diagnosis identifying a need for spiritual care and subsequent appropriate referral for spiritual care?

Please join their angels in prayer who are always before the face of our heavenly Father to support all involved in Jesus’ ministry to seek and to heal with spiritual care and comfort his little ones who are perishing in the hospitals and care facilities of Saskatoon.

Annual General Meeting: Music, Food, and Friendship

Almost thirty LuMinHoS board members, VMT committee members, and other friends of LuMinHoS spent a very enjoyable evening in the beautiful Fireside Room at Rock of Ages Lutheran Brethren Church, June 3, for the AGM.

Our Board Chair, **Gord Martens**, got things off to a great start accompanying himself on guitar for a rousing rendition of "Here I Am, Lord." Following grace, we enjoyed a good Lutheran potluck supper, complete with lefse!

Reports were presented by the President (Board Chair), Chaplain, Resource Development Committee, Reformation 500 Committee, VMT Chair, and VMT Committee Chairs. **John Riggs** presented the 2018–19 budget. These reports can be found on the About/Documents page of our website. New board

members were introduced, and we said goodbye to our Secretary, **Donna Schultz**.



Above: **John Riggs** (left), VMT Chair Rev. **Harold Hesje**, and others appeared to be enjoying Gord's guitar playing!

Welcome, New Board Members

At the Annual General Meeting, LuMinHoS added two new members to its Board of Directors. The following brief biographies will help you get acquainted with them. Diane will act as the Secretary of the Board, and Coralie will serve on the Finance and Resource Development Committees. We welcome both!

Diane Davis

I was raised on a farm in northwestern Alberta; then studied Biology at the University of Alberta and Entomology/Apiculture at the University of Guelph, where I met my husband, **Art**. We have two sons: the older is a French Immersion teacher in Saskatoon, and the younger is a musician, currently based in Los Angeles. I enjoy travel, reading, music, gardening, curling, weaving and quilting, and various volunteer activities.



My family members and I have experienced the benefits of hospital visitations, and I feel that LuMinHoS is especially important, in light of recent budget adjustments.

Coralie Geving

As Secretary/Treasurer at Mount Calvary LCC in Maple Creek, I became aware of LuMinHoS through *The Caregiver*. Board member **Allan Hjelte** was in my graduating class (those many years ago), and while

helping with a house purchase in Saskatoon, he graciously suggested I consider serving with LuMinHoS.

I was raised on a farm near the Montana border, in a community of Norwegian and Swedish settlers. I attended Lutheran Collegiate Bible Institute for one year of high school, later graduating with a BA (Economics/Political Science) and an LLB from the University of Saskatchewan. I spent three decades in private practice in southwest Saskatchewan, retiring in 2010 and moving from Shaunavon to Maple Creek to enjoy a cabin at Cypress Park.

Last summer, I downsized and moved to Saskatoon, where I continue to garden vigorously and to sew and quilt enthusiastically. I can also be found haunting garage sales, flea markets, libraries and the many excellent coffee shops of Nutana.



The Future is 'Bright' for LuMinHoS

Thoughts from the Chair, by Gord Martens

In Isaiah 40 God speaks. When God speaks it's good to listen! This time God speaks to us when He says "Comfort, comfort my people". He further states "speak tenderly".

This is the ministry of LuMinHoS. Through our Chaplain, lay visitors and Assistant Clergy, we bring COMFORT to God's people.

Why Comfort? What Comfort?

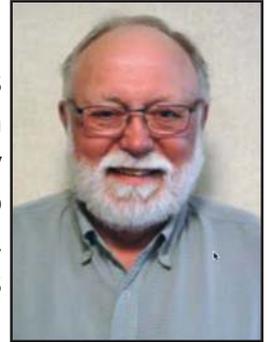
The Comfort of Assurance. Assurance of sins forgiven. Assurance of God's love, even through the valley of the shadow of death. Assurance that nothing can take God's love away.

We bring them the Comfort of the Peace that passes all understanding. Peace that the world cannot give. Peace that we don't understand but so desperately need. Peace that heals. Peace that binds the wounded soul.

You see, the healing of the medical world can only deal with matters of the body. The healing our God brings heals the soul, our inmost being, eternally. Peace in our soul lays our fears to rest. Peace in our souls assures us that Jesus completed His work on the cross; the work of salvation that was out of our

reach. The soul yearns for this peace when faced with sickness or death.

Yes, the ministry of LuMinHoS fills that need every day. Our Chaplain is ready and willing to go at any time of day or night to minister to the critically ill and their families, bringing the assurance of God's love and understanding.



You are our partners in this growing ministry. We are so thankful for all your prayers and gifts, making our ministry possible. God is opening doors of ministry at breath-taking speed. We urge all of you to support this ministry regularly with your prayers:

- ✝ prayers for the Chaplains and volunteers
- ✝ prayers for the sick and dying
- ✝ prayers for the families.

We invite you to support LuMinHoS financially to allow us to focus on the ministry that God has so richly blessed.

I wish for all of you a wonderful summer. May you spend precious time with families and friends.

LuMinHoS and Your Legacy

A Planned Giving Evening

Many friends of LuMinHoS have been asking for more information about how we can support LuMinHoS through planned or "legacy" giving. This type of gift is very important for sustaining our ministry into the future. Often Planned Giving refers to bequests left to charities in wills. But there are other ways to do it – including some that involve making the gift while you are still around to witness the impact.

David Friesen, Gift Coordinator for the Central District of the LCC's Lutheran Foundation Canada, has graciously agreed to come for an evening and share some of his wisdom about planned giving with us. Technical information will be provided, but it will also be an inspiring evening of storytelling and appreciation for LuMinHoS. All are welcome! RSVP details to come.



September 28, 2018

Volunteers

What is the VMT?

by Rev. Harold Hesje, VMT Chair

LuMinHoS's VMT stands for "**Volunteer Management Team.**" This team provides a valuable role that in other organizations might be filled by paid employees.

The VMT functions as a link between the Board and the Chaplain. It takes direction from the Board, while supporting and assisting the Chaplain with many of the day-to-day tasks that need to be done. The VMT operates with four committees: **Events, Visitations, Communications, and Finance.**

With the VMT in place, the Board can delegate some of its responsibilities to the VMT, while retaining some functions to be carried out by Board members.

Likewise, the Chaplain can call upon members of the VMT to take care of many tasks that would otherwise overflow from his plate. This gives him more time to do the front-line work of his calling – visiting patients in the hospitals of Saskatoon!



Volunteer Help Wanted!

LuMinHoS needs an **Administrative Assistant.** This person would greatly relieve the Chaplain of duties that take him away from hospital patient visits. If you are interested in a volunteer, part-time position helping Chaplain **Ron Bestvater**, the Board, and the VMT stay organized, please contact Ron.

We also have openings on several committees. Please contact the chair of the VMT, Rev. **Harold Hesje**, if **you would like to help our ministry** by serving on a VMT committee. His number is 306.652.4524.

Martha Hoffman

For many years, and ongoing, Martha has prepared the envelopes with stamps and return addresses for our mailing bees.

Donna Schultz

Our efficient board Secretary resigned after one year of service. We will miss her.

Barb Lemon

For several years, Barb was the layout person for *The Caregiver*. She will continue to help with the clergy directory, as she has done so faithfully and beautifully.

Blair Seifert

Resigned as Communications Chair this spring. He had served well, giving careful attention to both the newsletter and the AGM Reports.

Thank you all! The help of all our volunteers in their individual capacity is much appreciated.

Kudos

Become a Lay Visitor!

Lay Visitors are an essential component of the ministry of LuMinHoS. If you would like to be a LuMinHoS Lay Visitor in Saskatoon hospitals, please contact our Chaplain. Our Visitation Coordinator will walk you through the steps to be authorized.

The steps are detailed on our LuMinHoS website under the "People" tab. Grateful thanks to our current, faithful Lay Visitors!

LuMinHoS Has a Website!

Please visit our new website at
<http://luminhos.org>.

On the site, you can find not only our mission statement and how to arrange for a visit, but also past issues of *The Caregiver*, a spiritual autobiography of Chaplain Ron, and information about how to become a volunteer. There are photos from some of our recent events and details about upcoming ones. We plan to make ticket sales for events available through the website as well as through congregations.

Online Giving

The website also has a link to our Online Giving page through CanadaHelps. Yes! LuMinHoS can receive

online donations. The processing fee is lower if you give through our website rather than by searching for LuMinHoS on the CanadaHelps site. You can give by credit card or by PayPal – or even donate securities. It's also very easy to set up monthly giving through this site. (Pre-Authorized Remittance monthly gifts cost us a bit less; the form for that is on the Donate page of our website.)

Watch for more exciting developments to our website in the coming months! And if there's something you'd like to see on the website that isn't there, our webmaster would be happy to add it. You can reach her at pamelagiles@shaw.ca.



LuMinHoS on Facebook

LuMinHoS is also on Facebook. Some fun photos from recent events are on there at the moment, and info about upcoming events. We envision the page primarily as a means of promoting our events and hope that when future events are announced, you will encourage your congregation's Facebook admin to share the event through the congregation's social media accounts.

Gifts in Honour of

Pastor Ron Bestvater

D'Arcy Hande, Margaret Fast, Gordon & Illa Knudsen,
Delores Mengerig

Rev. Gene Grant

Rev. Heather Anderson, Nora Peterson

Evelyn Schumacher

Bryan Tastad & Noreen Donald

Frieda & Howard Wagner, 60th Wedding Anniversary

Edwin & Miriam Loessin

Reformation 500 Banquet

"Thank you for a lovely evening" – Evelyn Schumacher

Gifts in Memory of

Melvin Lorne Byblow

Howard & Frieda Wagner

Ken Ebbert

Renate & Bill Bishopp, Diana Fast

Humboldt Broncos Hockey Team

Les & Irene Cannam

Mary Sather, Manny Sather, Matt Sather

Stan & Dianne Sather

Dennis Starnes

Leona Nadeau

Elmer Ullrich

Dorothy Ullrich

Vi Van Allen

Melvin & Joyce Amundson

Edward Wutzke

Elma Wutzke

Bruno Zirk

Renate & Bill Bishopp

Donor Recognition, 2017–2018

The ministry of LuMinHoS is supported entirely through the generosity of individual donors, congregations, businesses, and organizations. We and the patients we serve are grateful for your generosity.

Don Allenback
Pat Amendt
Melvin & Joyce Amundson
Conrad & Corrine Amyotte
Eric Anderson
Rev. Heather Anderson
O.F. & Hazel Anderson
Arvid & Carol Andvaag
Fran Anderson
Sharon & Jim Babcock
Rino Bacchetto
Vern & Ruth Bachiu
Alice & Albert Barth
H. Leverage & Rene Baxter
Anne Bendig
Rev. Ron and Diane Bestvater
Dave & Rhonda Billard
Renate & William Bishopp
Ron Boden
Vivian Bonli
Marilyn Borch
Beverly Boreen
Ruth Braaten
Jeanette Marie Brandell
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Elizabeth Brewer
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Ervin & Wendy Derbowka
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Gerald & Linda Follick
Martha Friend
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Aaron & Edith Froese
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Rev. Lowell Guebert
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Judith Haichert
Tim & Sherry Halstead
Margaret Hamp
Wilmer & Alice Hamp
D'Arcy Hande
Joan Hanson
Karen Harilstad
Harvey & Sylvia Haugen
Rev. Edwin & Audrey Hedlin
Mary M. Heimbecker
Walter & Annette Heise
H.T. & Elizabeth Hepting
Rev. Harold & Elaine Hesje
Janice L. Hilderman
Eileen Hippe
Allan & Brenda Hjelte
Martha Hoffman
Jim & Karen Hopkins
Sterling & Marion Hopkins
David Hoppe
Ruth Hosegood
Rose Ingram
Muriel Jarvis
Earl & Ruth Jewitt
Daniel & Barbara Jiricka
Noreen Johns
Margot Kaczur
Elmer Kelin
Mildred Kerber
Adrienne Kinchen
E. Klassen
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Thor & Margaret Kleiv
Walter & Donelda Klinger
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Gordon & Illa Knudsen
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Warren & Wendy Stevenson
Bryan & Noreen Tastad
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Walter & Muriel Tastad
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Irma & Elwood Torgunrud
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Marcel & Sharon Voyer
Harvey & Valerie Wagner
Howard & Frieda Wagner
Murray & Ferne Wagner
Lovina Walper
Loreen Waschenfelder
Linda Weisberg
Maxine Werle
Henry & Marlene Wichert
Terry & Patricia Wirth
Florence Wudrick
Elma Wutzke
Carol-Lynne Zapf
Gail Zink
Bernie & Ruth Zuk
Affinity Credit Union
Atch & Co.
LutherCare Communities
Mourning Glory Funeral Services
Augustana Lutheran
Augustana Lutheran Women
Beaver Creek Lutheran Ladies Aid
Bethlehem Lutheran
Carrot River Valley Lutheran
Christ Lutheran (MacNutt)
Christ Lutheran (Marengo)
Christ Lutheran (Rhein)
Christ Lutheran Ladies Fellowship
Emmanuel Lutheran Women
Faith Evangelical Lutheran
Faith Lutheran Women's Soc.
First Saskatchewan Lutheran
Five Oaks Women
Good Shepherd Lutheran
Green Valley Lutheran Women
Lutheran Church - Canada
Lutheran Ladies Aid

continued

Lutheran Women's Missionary League
 Mount Calvary Lutheran
 Our Redeemer ELW
 Our Redeemer Lutheran
 Partners in Worship Women's Auxiliary
 Salem Lutheran
 Saron Lutheran Women
 Saskatchewan River Lutheran
 Saskatchewan Synod (ELCIC)

Scandia Lutheran
 St. John Prairie Lutheran
 St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Women
 (Shellbrook)
 St. John's Lutheran (Humboldt)
 St. Olaf Lutheran Women (Kindersley)
 St. Paul Lutheran (Burstall)
 St. Paul Lutheran (Duval)
 St. Paul Lutheran (Eatonia)

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran (Saskatoon)
 Trinity Lutheran (Churchbridge)
 Trinity Lutheran (Wilkie)
 Trinity Lutheran Ladies (Rosthern)
 Zion Evangelical Lutheran (Jansen)
 Zion Evangelical Lutheran (Saskatoon)
 Zion Ladies (Jansen)
 Zion Ladies Circle (Kyle)
 Zion Lutheran (Nipawin)



*Above left: Chaplain **Ron** visits with a delegate at the LuMinHoS display at the SK Synod (ELCIC) convention, held at Luther College in Regina, June 8–9. Above right: Chaplain Ron joined Rev. **Wally Boymook**, the Gideon's Chaplain, Rev. **Cathy Coates**, United Church Chaplain for the Saskatoon hospitals, and **Alfred Wiens**, Chairman of the Saskatoon branch of the Gideon's Society, in the chapel at City Hospital on May 29. Wally and Alfred were presenting copies of the New Testament with Psalms and other publications for the ecumenical chaplains and lay visitors to be able to distribute to patients who ask for them.*

LuMinHoS

PO Box 23019, Saskatoon, SK S7J 5H3 <http://luminhos.org>

Chaplain Rev. Ron Bestvater, sts
 cell 306.229.1663 luthcaresoc@sasktel.net

Questions about donations or address updates
 can be sent through our website
 or by email to Treasurer Diana Fast, treaslcm@yahoo.ca

MISSION STATEMENT

LuMinHoS is a ministry of spiritual care sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ,
 with Lutheran patients and their families in the Saskatoon hospitals.

VISION STATEMENT

LuMinHoS will present the comfort of Christ to ALL Lutheran patients
 admitted to Saskatoon Hospitals