



## Greetings to the LuMinHoS Community

### God has given us a Mission - full of Blessings and Opportunities!

I would like to begin by thanking God for the many opportunities and blessings He has so richly bestowed on our Ministry during the past 18 months of COVID-19 restriction. The dedication of our donors has allowed us to continue to visit Lutheran patients in Saskatoon, facilitated by Chaplain Richard Engel. While the hospitals were closed to most visitors, including Parish Pastors, the SHA allowed our Chaplain to visit patients in all the hospitals. We definitely see God's power at work in this. Thank you for your continued support.

LuMinHoS ministry has many new opportunities to reach out to the patients and visitors that are seen by our Chaplain. One way certainly is through the proposed Follow Up Ministry that would allow us to follow up with those Lutheran patients, with their permission, who no longer have the joy of fellowship with a Lutheran congregation. With the centralization of our rural population, many rural Parishes have closed--leaving members without Parish fellowship. Our follow up ministry proposes to find ways to help these Lutherans re-establish fellowship with a nearby Lutheran congregation. And, if there is none available, then to introduce them to another Christian Church in their area. About half of patients visited no longer have full-time fellowship with a Lutheran parish.

We are also hoping to establish LuMinHoS ministries in other larger centers in the province when COVID-19 related restrictions are lifted. The mission field is large and the opportunities to share the good news of the love and forgiveness brought by Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection abound.

We need your help to continue our ministry and expand to these opportunities. You can participate by:

Keeping our ministry in your daily prayers. You can follow our prayer calendar printed in our regular newsletter, the Caregiver, to help you specify your prayers to the needs of our Ministry.

Support LuMinHoS financially. Ministering to our Lutheran patients takes money. You can review our annual Budget on our website at [www.luminhos.org](http://www.luminhos.org). Donations can be made by cheque, online, or monthly automated debits. Please feel free to reach out to our office by email or telephone for further support.

God has given us a mission--a mandate in which all can participate. Please be generous according to your riches in Christ.

May God richly bless you as you partner with LuMinHoS.

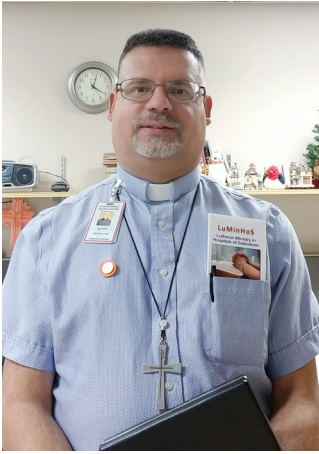
Yours truly,

Gord Martens, Chair



## LuMinHoS Vision Statement:

LuMinHoS will present the comfort of Christ to all Lutheran patients admitted to Saskatoon hospitals.



## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Rev. Richard Engel

***“But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.”***

*Matthew 6:33*

Thanksgiving is a time to pause and reflect on what we are grateful for. We might give thanks for food and shelter; family and friends; our financial and communal resources. They assure us of a certain level of comfort and safety. Maybe that's why they make it on many a grateful person's list of things to be thankful for each Thanksgiving.

But, this is the second pandemic Thanksgiving we've now celebrated. It's been 20 months since the pandemic began. And now, we're in the middle of the virus's fourth wave. Add to this the knowledge that pandemics usually last a few years before relenting, and it's no wonder so many find it difficult to pause, reflect, and give thanks. Even as a faithful people, we may find ourselves struggling to be thankful in a season of COVID fatigue and COVID information overload. We are, in fact, anxious. And worried. Many are concerned with the present and what the future may hold. The words and title from the old gospel song, "One Day at a Time, Sweet Jesus" have never rung more true.

Christ's words in Matthew's gospel have also, never rung more true. "Do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? [...] can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life?" As harsh as it sounds, Jesus does speak the truth. No one can add an hour to their life by worrying.

The familiar Thanksgiving passage of Matthew 6:25-33 comes up in the middle of Jesus'

Sermon on the Mount. And, like the good preacher he is, Jesus gives a couple examples, just to make sure the crowd (and us) grasp the breadth and depth of God's love and care for us. The eye-opening example of the birds of the air is followed by an even more poignant one: "Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin,<sup>29</sup> yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these." Wow. That's pretty amazing! I mean, King Solomon, in all his glory, his comforts, his wisdom and riches, could not come close to *how exceedingly well God clothes the lilies, and so, also clothes us.*

Instead of worry, which, humans indeed do exceedingly well, Jesus redirects us: "Strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well." Christ's instruction to strive first for the kingdom of God offers us a holy way to keep worry at a healthy distance: love God, love neighbour as ourselves. And, we're asked to do so with our very lives. Yet, in seasons of anxiety and suffering (and worry), when we cannot uphold Christ's instruction like we wish we could, let God and neighbour love and care for *you*. We are to care for each other as Christ commands.

As I write this, I warmly reflect on my past year as chaplain and the milestone of completing 2000 visits. Thank you, for your prayers and support for this ministry. The need for pastoral visitation in hospitals remains urgent. On behalf of myself and the LuMinHoS board, *thank you*. In faith, I am certain that bringing the peace and comfort of Christ to the hospital bedside is indeed striving and ushering in the Kingdom of God, here and now, one patient at a time. To God be the glory!

Rev. Richard Glen Engel, BA, M.Div.  
Chaplain

Lutheran Ministry in Hospitals of Saskatoon



**Did you know ...** that LuMinHoS is supported entirely through donations from faithful individuals, congregations and organizations who understand the importance of our ministry? Donations can be made in several ways:

**You can assist us** in using LuMinHoS resources wisely by signing up to receive future newsletters and other LuMinHoS mailings by email. Simply email [info@luminhos.org](mailto:info@luminhos.org) with **CAREGIVER by EMAIL** in the subject line to indicate this. **Thank you for your support.**

## 3rd Annual Walkathon

On September 18, 2021, a bright and sunny morning greeted Walkathon participants, among them a few to cheer them on. Masks donned, they gathered in front of Zion Lutheran church awaiting a send-off prayer by Chaplain Richard Engel. The group took the same route as in previous years and covered the distance in record time.



Doreen Baker, the walk organizer, was unable to join that morning so Del Mengerling brought her friend Diane Koroll to receive pledge sheets and tally donations. Del also generously put out trail mix; bottled water was available. Thank you to Zion for making their space available again.

It is always good to observe walkers finding friends to walk beside and chat. Total donations to LuMinHoS amounted to \$3,800. Donations for the walkathon are still being received if anyone missed donating.

**A heartfelt THANK YOU goes to all donors, walking or not.**

**From the LuMinHoS Events Committee - We hope that we will be able to host a live event in the coming year and that we will see you then. In the meantime, please enjoy a recap of our virtual event from last year.**

## LuMinHoS presents The Year When Everything Changed

A different sort of event

LuMinHoS is pleased to bring you a virtual fundraising event to enjoy right in the comfort of your own home.

Find it at <https://www.luminhos.org/>

There are various ways that you can donate to LuMinHoS:

E-transfer to [info@luminhos.org](mailto:info@luminhos.org)

Mail a cheque to LuMinHoS at P.O. Box 23019 RPO Market Mall Saskatoon S7J 5H3

Online through Canada Helps at <https://www.luminhos.org/donate/>

For more information: Call, text or email the LuMinHoS office: 306-229-3515; [office@luminhos.org](mailto:office@luminhos.org)

### TRIBUTE GIFTS

June 2021 – October 2021

#### GIFTS IN MEMORY OF:

**Conrad and Jeff Opdahl**

Joyce Opdahl

**William (Bill) Bishopp on his birthday**

Renate Bishopp

**Yvonne Littlecrow**

David Littlecrow

**Carol-Lynne Zapf**

Evelyn Schumacher

**Louise Goos**

Rev. Dr. Ken & Margareth Peterson

Eileen & Wayne Carlson

**William (Bill) Bishopp and Hildegard Mueller**

Garth & Carol Tastad

**Joan Burback and Trygve Njaa**

Thor & Margaret Kleiv

**Margaret Baun**

Ray & Charlotte Hahn

#### GIFTS IN HONOUR OF:

**Renate Bishopp**

Moira Remmen

**Chaplain Richard Engel**

Louise Goos

**Renate Bishopp's Birthday**

Dr. Dennis Kendel

*Thank You*

Donations received in honor or memory of a loved one are welcomed. If you would like the family to be informed of the donation, please provide name and address of who should be notified and an acknowledgement will be sent.

## PRAYER REQUESTS



*Please continue to pray with us! Acknowledging the importance and power of prayer as taught by Jesus, LuMinHoS Chair Gord Martens and Chaplain Richard Engel, invite you to pray through one or more of the petitions each day. A full list of prayer petitions can be found on*

*our website, at [www.luminhos.org](http://www.luminhos.org)*

O God, our Creator, because you love us so, may we strive to love you and neighbour through these prayers. This day, we pray for:

Nurse Practitioners and Doctors who practice at clinics in our communities, including their administrative assistants and clinic staff. Strengthen and encourage them in their commitment to care for their patients.

Security guards and security staff in our hospitals and long-term care facilities. Be with them as they ensure the safety of residents, patients, and staff.

Ministry leaders who are able to visit patients at the hospital and residents in long-term care facilities. Guide them as they navigate through the ever-changing web of pandemic protocols. Bless them as they visit. And, for ministry leaders who are unable to visit at these places, we lift them up to you, O God, as they minister to them from a distance.

Spiritual Care staff and students at St. Paul's Hospital, as they visit and minister to their patients. Nurture them with love and may your Spirit continue to equip them in their work.

The mission staff and healing arts staff at St. Paul's Hospital, as they enhance and nurture spiritual care with their special gifts of visiting with patients through art therapy, reading & writing, and music therapy. Bless them in their work.

Management and staff in the various restaurants and coffee kiosks present in our hospitals and long-term care facilities. Encourage them and bless them as they prepare each order.

Staff and patients in renal (kidney dialysis) care facilities. May your ever-present and gentle Holy Spirit surround the staff as they care for those receiving dialysis. Surround the patients, too, gentle Spirit, for dialysis sessions can last for hours.

The loved ones of those who now eternally rest in your care. And, for the medical staff who were present as they breathed their last breaths.

For hospital teachers and teaching assistants, who, bring school to hospitalized children and youth as they recover in hospital. We bless them and give thanks for them and their work.

For nursing and medical students, nursing and medical residents and interns as they learn and work and grow in their profession of caring for the sick and dying.

For students in the inter-professional practices for patient rehabilitation: physio and massage therapy, occupational therapy, and speech therapy. May they acquire the skills they need to help patients heal & prepare to return home.

God of abundance, we thank you for loving us so completely, revealing to us how you continue to provide for our every need. We praise you for the many ways you do so. And, we acknowledge times of suffering, which, obscure our faith and view to see even then, you carry us and give us hope in the midst of our despair. Give to us your Holy Spirit, to help us remember the peace and comfort we have in Christ, who asks us to share it with our communities and world. Amen.



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Visit our website: [www.luminhos.org](http://www.luminhos.org) Like us on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/Luminhos](https://www.facebook.com/Luminhos)

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