



### CHAPLAIN'S CORNER - Pastor Richard Engel



*Luke 2:8-20 "Do not be afraid; for see – I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord." – Luke 2:10-11*

The angel's visit to the shepherds in Luke 2:8-20 reminds me of a lesser known song by the musical group A&BBA. The song is called *The Day Before You Came*. The lyrical content sings over a somber musical composition played in a minor scale, recounting the mundane and ordinary details of life for a single working woman. Listening to the song, you experience her loneliness and resignation to what seemed to be her plight. Of course, all the details recounted in the song are already in the past, the song's refrain reminding us that everything changed for her the day she met that special someone.

On the eve of Jesus' birth Luke tells us, "In that region, there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night." There is ample scholarly literature that tells of a shepherd's life during that time period. We might be tempted to describe their work as unskilled labour, a term I think is used by people in "skilled" positions to describe jobs they have no experience in. Yet, even if we were to use such a definition for a shepherd's work, it would be placing the profession too high on a pedestal. It was the lowliest and least desired job in Jesus' time. Yet, imagine the challenges you and I might have working as a shepherd, 'living in the fields' and watching over sheep at night. Imagine the mundane and ordinary details they could have relayed to us *the night before the angels came*.

The appearance of an angel of the Lord, with 'the glory of the Lord' shining around them certainly must have been a holy and terrifying sight. Yet, one

can imagine, as they were regaining their faculties after witnessing what they saw, a multitude joins their messenger. More sights. More sounds. I imagine they could scarcely take it in. After such a terrifying and holy (and joyous) experience, it's no wonder they resolved to "now go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." But, what about the sheep? What of the threat of thieves? Or wolves?

Like the angel who appeared to the shepherds, those of us who visit in the hospitals carry the message of God's redeeming love the Spirit makes known to us through the compassion and grace of our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Into their suffering, we messengers then listen. And, we hear stories of suffering. Several patients share their struggles with stroke, or cancer, or some other significant and life-altering event. And, like the angelic messenger who spoke to the terrified shepherds, we gently reassure and remind patients at a time when they are very much terrified: "Do not be afraid – for see; I am bringing you good news of great joy [...]." Through our being present in visiting, reading scripture, and praying, we bring the comfort and peace of Christ. We remind of the One who truly can bear all our suffering, making its weight and the uncertainty of the future a little more bearable.

But what about the cancer? What of the stroke and what it has left behind? The threat of thieves and wolves remained after the angelic hosts left the shepherds. I imagine they did what they could to ensure the sheep's safety.

*Continued...*



### LuMinHoS Vision Statement:

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

Knowing God was with them, they learned to trust God to watch over the flock, which would be out of their control for a time. Similarly, after a visit, the patient's suffering remains. But, reminded of God's peace and love gifted to us through our King of kings, patients come to know God is with them; that they may trust God is watching over them, carrying them. And this, I pray, reminds them as the shepherds discovered that night, that they are deeply and unconditionally loved. Now and always. Amen.



*"The gift of service leads to a life of love."*  
- Mary White

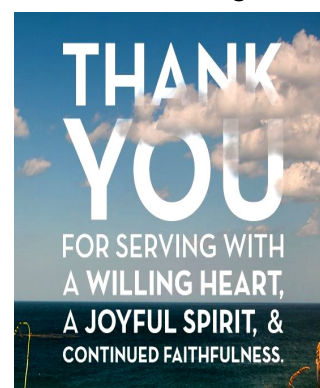


## THANK YOU FOR SERVING!

LuMinHoS has been very blessed these past number of years to have Joan Meyer as our admin assistant. Joan kept track of the comings and goings of our ministry along with attending board and committee meetings, taking minutes, preparing agendas, filing information, answering phones, and much more. She has been very capable and played a vital

role assisting our chaplain, board, and committees. Unfortunately, Joan has been dealing with significant health issues this past year which has necessitated stepping down from her position. Joan's presence will be deeply missed.

Thank you, Joan, for sharing your gifts and abilities with us. You have been an invaluable resource and strength to our organization. Thank you also for offering to guide the new admin assistant as they begin their role. We continue to pray for healing and a good recovery for you.



## OPPORTUNITIES:



### PART TIME VOLUNTEER STAFF ADMIN ASSISTANT POSITION Available with LuMinHoS:

As a result of Joan's stepping down, we have an immediate need for a new admin assistant to take over this position.

This is a **part time volunteer staff position**. If you would like more information, or you know of someone who could be interested in this position, please contact Mr. Gord Martens, LuMinHoS board chair at [gmartens@sentinelgroup.ca](mailto:gmartens@sentinelgroup.ca).

## VOLUNTEER HOSPITAL VISITORS

**Visiting Lutheran hospital patients** - are you interested in doing that?! Orientation and training is provided. Visiting time is tailored to the amount of time you have available to volunteer, which can be variable each week. If you are interested in volunteering or would like further information, contact:

Allan Grundahl at [allangrundahl@gmail.com](mailto:allangrundahl@gmail.com), 306-220-9878  
or Sylvia Unrau at [sylunrau@gmail.com](mailto:sylunrau@gmail.com).



**IN THE COMING SEASONS OF ADVENT, CHRISTMAS AND LIGHT**, seasons when we often think of sharing and giving, we invite you to consider sharing in LuMinHoS's ministry of presenting the *Light of Christ* to patients in Saskatoon Hospitals. As a ministry supported entirely through donations from faithful individuals, congregations and organizations, your gifts are an important part of all that LuMinHoS does.

### Donations can be made in several ways:

- **E-transfer** sent to [info@luminhos.org](mailto:info@luminhos.org) (no cost to LuMinHoS or donor). If giving "In Memory" or "In Honor" of, please enter names of the honored person(s) in the Message line.
- **Cheque** sent by mail (donor's cost of postage and cheque)
- **Credit Card or Paypal** (please be patient while the page loads)
- **Monthly PAR donations** - minimal service charge by some financial institutions

Autumn is upon us and it seems like we brought in the new year only a few weeks ago. This year continues to be a time of hopeful and cautious returning to 'normal' as we continue through more than two years of COVID experiences. Many changes have happened during COVID in terms of how we have been able to offer our ministries in Saskatoon Hospitals, and we have seen some return to 'normal' this



year. Change seems to be the only constant in our world. In that perspective we are thankful that God's love never changes. This is critical to patients Chaplain Richard visits in the hospital.

During this period, you, our ministry family have been most faithful in both prayer and giving, and for that we give thanks to God.

Pastor Richard has been increasingly busy over the past nearly 3 years. Especially during COVID when patients were unable to receive visitors. We are excited about expanding our ministry and focusing on the follow-up program where we work with those Lutherans who no longer are affiliated with a Lutheran congregation. In order to do this, we will be looking at bringing in more visitors to assist. We would encourage you to continue to remember our ministry in prayer as we seek God's direction for this addition to ministry.

Your gifts have made all this possible. As most of you are aware, the Canada Revenue Agency recognizes that gifts to charitable organizations are valuable assets to the well-being of Canadians. They back this up with generous tax savings. For example, in Saskatchewan, the first \$200.00 you donate in any given year will give you a 35% tax credit between the Federal tax and the provincial tax. Any donation over \$200.00 in a given year (up to 50% of your adjusted gross income yearly) will give you a combined tax credit of 50%. This same tax benefit is available for those who wish to donate from their Estate in the same generous manner they demonstrated while alive. This tax relief is substantial to the Estate, especially if there are pension or RRIF benefits upon the death of the last surviving spouse. These amounts in your Estate at the last death are taxed as a lump sum, potentially diminishing your Estate value. By remembering LuMinHoS in your will, your Estate will save tax owing and your generosity will be a great example for your family. If Estate gifting is of interest to you, please feel free to contact your tax advisor to see how your Estate might benefit from a charitable gift.



Blessings of the season of Advent as we celebrate God's greatest gift to all.

## TRIBUTE GIFTS

June 2022—October 2022

### GIFTS IN MEMORY OF:

**Stella Allenback and Pat Linques**

Donald Allenback

**Jo Anne Propp**

Douglas and Ella Propp

**Myrtle Swenson**

George and Alice Tastad

**Harold Giere**

Allan Hjelte

**Roy Vestre**

Green Valley Lutheran Church Women

**Randy Beauchene**

Sherry Gore

Rhonda Gore-Billard and David Billard

**Gertrude Satre**

Bruce and Ruth Sestak

**Gerald Lundgren**

Monica Johnson

### GIFTS IN HONOUR OF:

**Joyce & Hubert Karstens**

**60th Wedding Anniversary**

Lovina Walper

**Bob & Karen Renz's**

**60th Wedding Anniversary**

Jansen Zion Ladies

**Pastor Richard Engel**

Del Mengerig

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.





## Katie Lu's Café - LuMinHoS fundraiser Event, August 7<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Finally – LuMinHoS friends were able to rub shoulders again, thanks to the efforts of the Events Committee (Angie, Diane, Alice, Renate, Del and chair Rhonda) and the generosity of Aspira Village! KatieLu's Café was held in the impressive dining room with approximately 67 people attending. The tables were set with place mats sporting KatieLu (Katherina Luther); paper plates and serviettes were used to make it easier for the staff to be ready for the first evening meal.



The Events Committee got real busy creating platters of "dainties"; Village staff, including Holly, the First Impressions front desk person, served coffee and tea.



Some neat Silent Auction items, donated by friends from Saskatoon and beyond were displayed and found new owners. LuMinHoS chair Gord Martens acted as MC, pushing the auction heavily. We are much indebted to Village resident and well-known musician Gary Gullickson who serenaded us with a wonderful piano performance. One high point of the event was the auctioning of a decadent Mocha Torte by Andrea Cameron. It fetched a whopping \$175. Gord Martens and friend Ben Buhler combined their voices in great harmony. Chaplain Richard barely got a few words in since our time together came to a quick end. Thanks to some very generous donations, LuMinHoS can add \$4,320 to its bank account.

We thank all who donated treasures, baked, served and sang, played, attended, and made this "life" event a most enjoyable afternoon. It was good to see some residents interact with guests whom they had previously known.

To God be the Glory!



**The 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Walk-a-thon for LuMinHoS** had 20 participants and two four-legged friends. Again, the weather could not have been more cooperative. Autumn colours were just starting to show off and it was a most picturesque walk. After Chaplain Richard Engel gave us a spiritual send-off, we walked from Zion Lutheran along the Broadway Bridge and Saskatchewan Crescent, descended via University Bridge and finished the walk under the trees



on Spadina Crescent. This took about one hour, more or less leisurely, back to Zion where the registration people were tallying the pledge sheets. At the writing of the article a total of \$5060.00 was collected. As always, thanks be to God for safety and to all those who show support of the ministry of LuMinHoS by donating and walking.

**LuMinHoS PO Box 23019, Saskatoon, SK S7J 5H3**

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

Chaplain : cell 306.229.1663 chaplain@luminhos.org

Info at office@luminhos.org

## TO EMAIL RECIPIENTS:

If you choose to send a donation by mail or email, you are welcome to include this card or information along with your donation. Or if you choose to e-transfer and would like to provide this information, please follow up your e-transfer with an email with the details you would like shared. If you have further donation questions, please contact [info@luminhos.org](mailto:info@luminhos.org). THANK YOU!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### Donation Amount:

- For the general work of LuMinHoS
- In Honour of \_\_\_\_\_
- In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_
- I wish my gift to remain anonymous

Donations can be made through e-transfer at [info@luminhos.org](mailto:info@luminhos.org), cheque by mail or through [www.canadahelps.org](http://www.canadahelps.org).

### I am interested in

- Making monthly donations by PAD (pre-authorized debit) or e-transfer
- Information on donating investments to LuMinHoS
- Information on estate planning: making bequests, etc.
- Becoming a prayer partner

## AN ADVENT PRAYER

*God of hope, who brought love into this world,  
be the love that dwells between us.*

*God of hope, who brought peace into this world,  
be the peace that dwells between us.*

*God of hope, who brought joy into  
this world, be the joy that dwells  
between us.*

*God of hope, the rock we  
stand upon, be the center, the focus  
of our lives always, and particularly  
this Advent time. Amen.*

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