



The Newsletter

www.OSLregion8.org

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The Newsletter seeks to encourage interest in **Christian healing** and is published by The International Order of St. Luke the Physician (OSL), Region 8 Council. To submit stories of healing and notices of coming events please contact the editor, at editor@OSLregion8.org. The Regional Director is The Reverend Ron Vanauken, 19 Frost Drive, Whitby, ON, L1P 1C8 home 905.431.0385, email vanauken@rogers.com For more information regarding OSL please visit our website at www.OSLregion8.org

Our Objectives: Promoting the restoration of the Apostolic practice of healing as taught and demonstrated by Jesus Christ; promoting a sound pastoral and counseling ministry; promoting the practice of holding healing services in every church; developing local chapters to promote healing missions, workshops and prayer groups in their area.

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To join online or get a mail-in application form please visit The International Order of St Luke the Physician at www.orderofstluke.org



**THE FIRST
ALL-CANADIAN
OSL CONFERENCE**
August 25th – 28th, 2011

The Rev'd Canon David Smith

Canadian Mennonite University in Winnipeg was the site of the first all-Canadian OSL conference held this past August. About seventy five Canadians and a few others from the United States enjoyed a well run, interesting event, in perfect summer weather, in the serene setting of the university.



Canadian Mennonite University is a smallish institution with modest but modern facilities. The staff, in the best Mennonite tradition, couldn't

have been more congenial or helpful. The lecture hall, classrooms, dormitories and cafeteria were all within easy walk of each other, and the food, although not lavish, was excellent.



It was good to meet old OSL friends from across Canada and to make a lot of new ones, although I think there were only three who attended from B.C. and there were none at all from east of Ontario. But I was intrigued to talk over lunch with a young lady from Rio de Janeiro who was attending a summer music school at the university and perfecting her English before beginning her four year studies in cello at the university there

We were officially welcomed on Thursday evening by the Right Reverend Donald Phillips, the Anglican Bishop of the Diocese of Rupert's Land centered in Winnipeg. Unfortunately, being a busy man, he couldn't stay. But we had five main speakers. I, an Anglican, gave the opening address on that first evening to get us started. The other speakers were the Rev'd Joanne Biggs, a retired Salvation Army officer; the Rev'd John Adetunji of The United Missionary Church of Africa; the Rev'd Father Gerry Ward, a Roman Catholic priest in Spiritual Care at a Winnipeg hospital; and the Rev'd Ron vanAuken, a minister in the Reformed Church in America now serving a Presbyterian congregation. So altogether, we pretty well covered the ecumenical gamut.

And there were nine workshops out of which a person was able to attend four, all led by a variety of people from a variety of backgrounds. Although the main purpose of the conference was to centre upon our Lord and the ministry of his healing power, a lot of time was given to the consideration of the Order of St Luke in Canada.

The Rev'd Ron vanAuken directed our attention to the changes and developments in the OSL in recent years, especially here in Canada. There appears to be an increasing desire among Canadian OSL members to develop a unique Canadian identity for the OSL in Canada, and yet at the same time to maintain the Canadian OSL as an integral part of the OSL, together with the American OSL, within North America. To this end Archdeacon Larry Mitchell, who in June resigned as the North American OSL Director, was acclaimed by the meeting to be the Director of the OSL in Canada. The Rev'd Ron vanAuken was re-elected President of the Canadian Board of Directors, and the Canadian Board was authorized by the meeting to put together a concrete proposal as to what the Canadian OSL might look like in the future. That proposal is then to be forwarded to the North American Board for its consideration and approval.

The main concern of the business meeting was to strengthen and promote the growth of the OSL throughout Canada. Suggestions were made regarding a Canadian link on the OSL website, and a Canadian section in *Sharing Magazine*, and perhaps to have a Canadian OSL newsletter. There was a question raised, however, as to what all these developments might cost.

On the whole, the mood of the conference, I thought, was very positive, centered upon the Person of our Lord, and solidly grounded in the working of the Holy Spirit. The climax was the celebration of the Eucharist on Friday evening in the lecture hall when all our concerns were brought to a focus. The band from a local parish, a father and sons team (with a friend) was uplifting, and was well coordinated with the over-head enabling us easily to follow the words.

As a first all-Canadian conference, it provided a definite inspiration for the OSL in Canada, and we are hoping that we shall see many more of these conferences and events in Canada. In that North American conferences are to be held every second year in the immediate future, it might work well to have our Canadian conferences here in Canada during the intervening years.

The talks were taped. Copies might be had from the Reverend Deacon Linda Stokes at llostokes@mymts.net.



OSL CANADA LAUNCHES!

By Colin Campbell

This summer, I had the opportunity to attend the First Canadian National OSL Conference at the Canadian Mennonite University, in Winnipeg, between August 25-28. It will surely be a historic event for the history of OSL in this country, as much of the discussion at the conference centered around the proposal to establish a stronger Canadian presence within the present North American structure. Seventy Canadians were registered, together with some of our American friends, who came to show their interest and support.

The decision of the annual meeting was that we open discussions with the North American board to find a way by which we are able to remain within the North American structure but have more autonomy and flexibility, in order to be able to develop a distinctively Canadian OSL - just as Australia, New Zealand and England have their national OSLs.

In order to do this, it was decided to elect representatives, on to the newly established Canadian board, from every region in Canada - that is, one member from every province, except for the Maritime Provinces, which would constitute a single region. The Rev Larry Mitchell was appointed to be the Canadian director, the Rev Ron vanAuken was elected to be president, supported by myself, as vice president.

There was considerable concern expressed that the North American OSL Board do not see this as a desire to separate from We have come a long way together and wish to continue our journey in partnership with them. OSL members in Canada will continue to pay their memberships to the OSL Office in San Antonio. They will still continue to receive *Sharing* magazine and other benefits of their membership.

Speaking for myself, this new direction challenged me to rethink the mission of OSL and to explore what fresh opportunities would present themselves with a distinctly Canadian OSL. I should like to share some of my reflections with you.

OSL world-wide has the following strengths: Its theology and spirituality are firmly grounded in historical Christianity. We affirm the great creedal

statements of the Church and base our healing on the practice of Jesus and the apostles. All members of OSL know from personal experience that Jesus Christ still heals today.

OSL North America suffers from the following weaknesses: Although it has many active chapters and even more active members, the organization suffers from poor, person-to-person communication links and, as a consequence, individuals are liable to fall prey to discouragement and dwindling motivation. In 1990 the number of members in OSL NA was 7019. In 2011 the number is 4794. In the US the membership in 2011 is 4329 and in Canada 465. The number of new members in 2011 to May was 447 (422 in the USA and 25 in Canada. 2010: new members 743, and in 2009 new members were 585) We lose as many members as we gain, usually because of a perceived lack of support.

This gives OSL Canada the following opportunities: First the time is long overdue for a young person's OSL to be formed to deal with the specific issues faced by adults between the ages of 20 and 30. A major source of confusion and hurt, that should be addressed, are the consequences of the sexual revolution, particularly its effect on women. Second, Canada is a land of immigrants, many of whom came here as refugees. These persons have often been terribly scarred and need the peace and healing for their souls that only Jesus and the Holy Spirit can give, yet we have not reached out to them. Lack of aboriginal members is a major issue. OSL members are generally white Caucasians over 50. We are obviously not ministering to young people and non-whites effectively. Third, Canada, with its international reputation as an "honest broker," is uniquely positioned to set up links with other OSLs. We can learn a lot from Australia and New Zealand, who, like us, have aboriginal populations. Collectively, we can reach out to the other countries of the world and welcome their insights, as we have all seen how powerfully God has been able to work there.

"If God is with us, who can succeed against us." There is nothing too difficult "for those who love the Lord." The mission of OSL Canada is to offer the healing ministry of Jesus to all who desire it. We are committed to an ecumenical leadership and membership and welcome all those, who affirm a faith based on the great historical creeds of Christianity.

THE MUSTARD SEEDS NETWORK

In my opinion, one of the greatest weaknesses of OSL is its poor retention record of new members.

Although there are many active chapters and even many more active members, the organization suffers from poor, person-to-person communication links and, as a consequence, individuals are liable to fall prey to discouragement and dwindling motivation. We lose as many members as we gain, usually because of a perceived lack of support.

It has been my experience over the last few years that news of God's healing power spreads most wonderfully one-on-one. As one person prays with and heals another that person then prays with another, and for all you, who remember your high school math, a binary series takes off very quickly! For this reason, I have established an email network, open to all those interested in healing, so that we may encourage one another. So far, there are 25 members.

In looking for a name for the network, the idea of mustard seeds came to mind. We are all like mustard seeds - as individuals small and insignificant but powerful if we only realize our power and plant ourselves in the fertile soil of the world's needs.

In Hamilton, last month, we established a new chapter and met for the first time. There were 5 of us. God's message for the evening was a definition of healing. He promises all of us the healing of "shalom" - that is, a deep peace within us that nothing can shake. There are few I know who have this but all of us need it to live effectively and all of us can have it because God has promised it for all of us.

I hope that you will all share what God is doing. OSL is a sleeping giant! Let us encourage one another! Thanks to all of you who responded to my request to join this new network to share experiences of healings in our chapters and in our lives. Anyone reading this, who wishes to join, should contact me at ccmcampbell@gmail.com

With all God's blessings to all!

Colin Campbell is a long time member of OSL and former board member of the North American International Order of St Luke the Physician. Colin resides in Hamilton, ON, and is a member of OSL Region 8 Council, and Vice President of the newly formed OSL Canada. Following a challenge at OSL Canada conference to be intentional about staying in touch with one another for support and encouragement, Colin has taken the initiative to begin "Mustard Seeds."



**OSL TELEPHONE
CONFERENCE CALLS
ARE CONNECTING WITH MEMBERS...
INFORMING VISITORS... AND BLESSING
LIVES!!**

**Join us at 3:00 pm EST Nov 20 to talk with
Ron vanAuken, Larry Mitchell, Colin
Campbell... and hear an inspiring message
from Ron VanAuken. For details please
visit www.oslregion8.org/online.htm**

**Join us 6 times a year
on the 3rd Sunday at 3:00 pm
Jan and Feb, Apr and May, Oct and Nov**

**The First Canadian OSL Conference,
Aug 25-28, 2011, Winnipeg, Manitoba
By The Ven. Larry Mitchell**



The Canadian Mennonite University in Winnipeg was the setting for Canada's first national OSL conference which attracted approximately 75 registrants coming from Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and B.C. along with four OSL members from the United States. The theme of the conference was **"Proclaiming the Gospel and Healing the Sick in the 21st Century."** In order to

show the ecumenical nature of the Order five key note speakers represented five different Christian traditions. Our eight workshop leaders also represented different Christian traditions and ministry backgrounds.

Our first key note speaker was the Rev. David Smith, a retired Anglican priest and former Regional Director for Ontario. David currently holds the Canadian seat on the North American Board of Directors. His opening key note address was: **‘Called to be Disciples: Strengthening our wills in the Healing Ministry.’** In his address David said if we are to fulfill his will in the ministry to which he calls us, we must not only know him, but train our wills to follow and obey him.

The second key note address, was given by the Rev. Joanne Biggs, a retired Salvation Army officer with twenty years of pastoral ministry and 12 years in chaplaincy ministry. In her address, **‘Healing’s Journey: A Winding Path,’** she spoke about the need for understanding in the care of people in times of grief and loss. She also addressed the issue of preparing care givers to exercise this ministry.

The third key note address was given by the Rev. Father Gerry Ward, a Roman Catholic priest of the Archdiocese of Winnipeg and Director of Spiritual Care and Mission for St. Boniface Hospital in Winnipeg. Gerry’s address was on the **‘The Healing Power of Compassion in the 21st Century’** where we learned that compassion is part of who we are as Christians and that Jesus demands compassion from His disciples.

The fourth key note address was given by the Rev. John Adetunji the Regional Manager of Projects and Plant Operation, Norman Regional Health Authority. John is also an ordained minister of the United Missionary Church of Africa an offshoot of the Evangelical Missionary Church of Canada. John spoke on the subject of **‘Healing by Proclaiming the Gospel’** or **‘Power Evangelism, Back to the Basics.’** In this address John said that healing was the result of proclaiming the good news of the Gospel. He said that it was this kind of power evangelism-healing that will draw people to the kingdom of God. He said that we should go back to the basics, do it Jesus’ way and we will be able to win more souls with the help of the Holy Spirit.”

The fifth address was given by the Rev. Ron Vanauken, who is an ordained minister in the Reformed Church in America and of the Presbyterian Church in Canada. He has served in congregations in New York, Alberta and in Ontario. Ron is currently serving a transitional parish 2/3 time while concurrently working in the areas of counseling, mediation, and spiritual direction and is also the current regional OSL director for Ontario. In his address, **‘Moving from a Ministry of Healing to a Healing Ministry’** he said that the purpose of the Older of St. Luke has been “to restore the ministry of healing to its proper place in the Christian Church but he poses the question, is it possible that we need to look at what we are doing and how we do it from a fresh, scriptural perspective?”

During Friday and Saturday, the following eight workshops were offered:

1. **‘Healing Soul Pain’** dealing with grief given by the Rev. Clare Edwards.
2. **‘Making the Journey Your Own’** helping people trace their path of healing from their life experience, given by the Rev. Joanne Biggs.
3. **‘Healing Prayer and Team Ministry, Part 1’** exploring the Biblical basis for healing prayer and its place in the church given by Lorna Cross and Malcolm Tait.
4. **‘Healing Prayer and Team Ministry, Part 2’** helping people build up a healing team within their congregation, also given by Lorna Cross and Malcolm Tait.
5. **‘Some Dos and Don’ts in the sick room’** exploring the dos and don’ts of visiting in a sick room, given by the Rev. David Smith.
6. **‘An Introduction to Kingdom Healing’** a workshop introducing participants to the six principles of Kingdom Healing Ministry, given by Sandra Fisher, Lorraine Bonnell, Lynne Sampson, Chad Sampson, Maureen Whalley and Betty and Larry Mitchell.
7. **‘Bringing Healing to People Through Music’** exploring how music can be an instrument of healing given by Naoka Matsumura McKee.
8. **‘Healing Liturgies Workshop’** exploring ways to develop congregational liturgies for healing ministry given by Kara Mandryk.

The weekend was filled with both spontaneous singing as well as spirit anointed worship led by a family Gospel band from St. Chad's Anglican Parish in Winnipeg. The Lord was truly in that place!

Friday Morning was devoted to the business of OSL in Canada which included a full discussion of the future of the Order in Canada. An election was held for the Canadian Board of Directors to elect people to represent each of the provinces in Canada for the coming year. Since the provinces that make up Region 9 were not represented I was given the responsibility of finding people to represent them on the board.

At this meeting there was strong agreement that the time has come for OSL in Canada to have its own unique identity. With that in mind the decision was made that OSL in Canada begin to work at developing a Canadian identity but to do so within the structure of OSL North American Structure. A proposal is being prepared to send to the North American Board to be discussed at their November Board meeting in San Antonio.

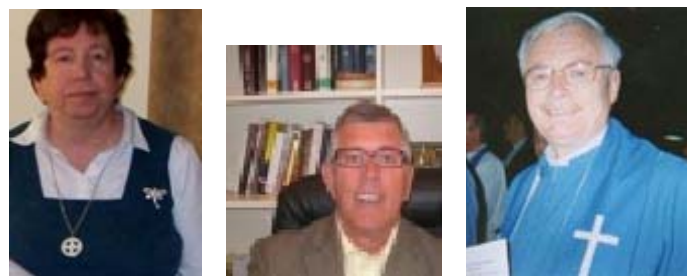
During the course of this meeting I announced that I had decided that after seven years as the North American Director the time was right to step down from that position. It is my desire to concentrate my efforts in working with the Canadian Board of directors in developing a national expression of the Order in Canada.

On the Saturday evening the Reverends Lee Titterington, Diana Wilde and Doug Lewis were inducted as Chaplains. The Rev. Raymond Knight was inducted as an Area Director for the Manitoba Region; plus John Adetunji, Julianna Wehfriz Hanson, Diana Wilde, Louise Jones plus one other person were inducted as Associate Members and two others were inducted as Full members. After the induction Father Gerry Ward gave the fourth key note address followed by the conference Eucharist and healing service. This service was led by Fr. Larry Mitchell, with the laying on of hands and anointing with the oil of healing.

The first Canadian National conference concluded on Sunday with a time of Morning Worship led by Father Larry with the Rev. Ron vanAuken giving the final conference address entitled *'Moving from a Ministry of Healing to a Healing Ministry.'*

This was a wonderful, spiritual time of healing, renewing friendships, making new friendships and enjoying each other as a community of believers. After some discussion amongst the conference participants it was decided that we needed to keep up the positive momentum that was created at this conference so it was decided to begin to look towards a 2nd Annual Canadian Conference as soon as possible. This would become one of the tasks of our new Board of Directors.

The material for this report was a joint effort between our Canadian treasurer, Bev Otsuka who wrote some of the material for her parish newsletter in Saskatoon and from Larry Mitchell.





OSL Canadian Board of Directors
Director, The Ven Larry Mitchell NA Director Emeritus
President: The Rev. Ron Vanauken, Ontario
Vice President: Dr. Colin Campbell, Ontario
Secretary: Mrs. Lynne Sampson, Saskatchewan
Treasurer: Mrs. Bev Otsuka, Saskatchewan
Members at large:
British Columbia: The Rev. Doug Lewis
Alberta: The Rev. Lesley Hand
Manitoba: The Rev. Clare Edwards
Quebec: Vacant
Maritimes: Vacant
Newfoundland and Labrador: Vacant
Saskatchewan: The Ven. Larry Mitchell,

Induction of new OSL Members at the First All-Canadian OSL Conference



Plenary Session



OSL Statement of Faith
We Believe: God uses many agencies for healing: some are spiritual such as prayer, love, faith, anointing with oil, and the laying on of hands; some are medical such as medicine, surgery, and psychology. These agencies should be supportive of one another. God's desire for us is wholeness and health. Christian healing is accomplished through faith in Christ and through subjecting one's entire life to the scrutiny and counsel of God. We believe Jesus Christ is alive today and still possesses all power on earth as in Heaven.



COMING EVENTS



Lunch and Conversation



A great opportunity to share with others!

Would you consider making a financial donation to help advance the work of OSL in Ontario? An income tax deductible receipt will be issued in January for contributions over ten dollars, received in 2011.

If a pre-addressed envelope wasn't included with this newsletter please make your donation payable to OSL Region 8 and address it to Sandra McColl, Region 8 Treasurer, General Delivery, Woodview, ON, K0L 3E0. THANK YOU!

Nov 20 at 3:00 pm EST - OSL Conference Call.
(see page 4 for details)

Jan 15 at 3:00 pm EST - OSL Conference Call.
Guest speaker **Rev. Mike Endicott** from Wales, UK. Logon early; this call will fill up fast.

Feb 19 at 3:00 pm EST - OSL Conference Call.
Guest speaker – **Bishop Alex McCullough**. Bishop Alex's teachings are always appreciated and most encouraging.

May 4-5, 2012 – Healing Conference with **Mike Endicott** in Oakville at St Simon's Anglican Church. **Everyone is meant to pray for healing!**



Mike will be teaching Friday night and all day Saturday. There will be no workshops at this conference. Books tables will be available, one being Mike's publications... a great time to save on shipping charges from Wales, UK. A full brochure and registration form will soon appear on the website, and will be sent to you via email and snail mail. Please consider inviting your friends. Early registration is recommended as we expect this event to be sold out.

Region 8 business meeting will take place at lunch.

Hear more about this amazing healing conference on the OSL Conference Call this Sunday at 3:00 pm.

Download free mp3's at www.simplyhealing.org