



In Touch

Sharing Society Information through Congregational Liaison Representatives April/May 2009

Exciting Times Ahead

With the coming of warmer temperatures and longer daylight hours, everyone seems to be in a brighter mood. We begin to think of all the things that we are going to do now that the remaining snow has disappeared.

At The Good Samaritan Society we are also looking forward to all the exciting events that we have planned. Some of these are highlighted in this edition of *In Touch*. I would like to remind you of 60th year anniversary celebrations that will happen throughout the year. You will hear more about these celebrations in the coming months.

One event that is being planned is the Soul Walk for Pastoral Care that will happen in four communities in September. There are Spirituality and Wholeness Workshops taking place in September and October in Edmonton (Sherwood Park), Lethbridge, Kelowna and Coquitlam/New Westminster. We have invited some phenomenal speakers for these days of renewal and spiritual growth.

But let's talk about the present. Within the next few weeks you will be receiving The Good Samaritan Spring Devotions booklets, *With Open Arms: Reflections on Christian Hospitality*, writ-

ten by our chaplains and two Board Members. The Congregational Liaison Representative will be making sure that all church members receive a copy of this inspirational booklet.

Most of you as Congregational Liaison Representatives have already received an invitation to attend, along with a guest, the Congregational Liaison Supper that is being held in your region. This is a time when we want to offer our appreciation for all the work that you have done in your role as a CLR and to update you on the happenings at The Good Samaritan Society. If you have any questions please feel free to phone or email me.

Rev. Dale Olsen
Director of Mission Effectiveness

Speaking Opportunities

Mission Effectiveness staff are available to come and present to your Seniors Group regarding Spirituality and Aging and also on the Mission of The Good Samaritan Society. Please contact Rev Dale Olsen (780) 431-3818 or dolsen@gss.org

Benefit Concert Tour

Kripa Nageshwar (Soprano) and Benjamin Kwong (Piano) are organizing a Benefit Concert tour across Canada to raise money for various charitable organizations including The Good Samaritan Society. The Benefit Concerts will include the works of Haydn, Handel, Melartin, Hundley, and Debussy.

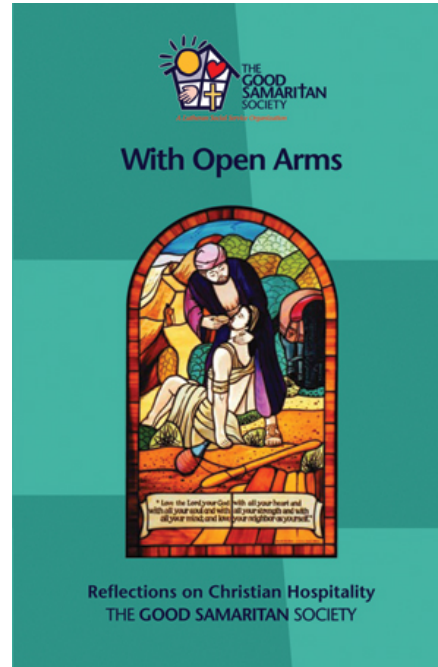
Tickets are being sold in advance at a cost of \$12 for adults and \$8 for students and seniors. Tickets are also available at the door at a cost of \$15 for adults and \$10 for students & seniors. The proceeds from the tickets will go toward Resident Care and Comfort at The Good Samaritan Mill Woods Centre in Edmonton, The Good Samaritan Park Meadows Village and West Highland Centre in Lethbridge, and The Good Samaritan Victoria Heights in New Westminster.

The concert series will be held in three locations including: Edmonton, Calgary and Vancouver. Please see "Upcoming Events" on p. 3 of this newsletter for further details.

Contact Information

- **Rev. Dale Olsen**
Director of Mission Effectiveness
(780) 431-3818 or dolsen@gss.org
- **Rev. Renita Falkenstern**
Manager of Mission Effectiveness
(780) 431-3780 or rfalkenstern@gss.org
- **Cara Stevenson**
Administrative Assistant
(780) 989-3220 or cstevenson@gss.org
- **Felix Tillmanns (Southern Alberta)**
Regional Coordinator of Mission Effectiveness
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"With Open Arms" Devotion Booklet



In celebration of its 60th anniversary, The Good Samaritan Society has created a 32-page booklet called *With Open Arms: Reflections on Christian Hospitality*. Copies of the devotion booklet will be delivered to congregations

in our service area over the next few weeks as well as to our facilities. This is our gift to you.

A donation envelope is included in the booklet for those who wish to support Pastoral Care Services at The Good Samaritan Society. By making a donation, you are supporting the ministry of nineteen chaplains who are bringing the love of Christ to our residents and clients through regular worship, hymn sings, bible study, visitation, and caring at over 35 facilities and programs throughout Alberta and B.C. Thank you for supporting this ministry of "extending Christian Hospitality to those at need or at risk."

If you have any questions or require additional books, please contact Renita Falkenstern at (780) 431-3780 or rfalkenstern@gss.org.

A Warm Welcome in Wetaskiwin



Members of Grace Lutheran, Wetaskiwin, who work or volunteer at The Good Samaritan Good Shepherd.

Back Row: Rev. Rita Roste and Ben Grohn
Front Row L-R: Rose Dutka, Frieda Minchau, Chrissy Williams, Kathleen Wilson, Irene Minchau, Ella Hughes, Rose Neiman, and Ken Kaiser.

Grace Lutheran Church in Wetaskiwin hosted a Good Samaritan Sunday on March 22. **Rev. Rita Roste**, the pastor of Grace, invited Rev. Renita Falkenstern to preach and present a DVD illustrating the history of The Good Samaritan Society through the decades. Pastor Renita thanked the congregation for all of the support they have offered to the Good Shepherd Lutheran Home throughout the years *and* for their continuing support now that the facility has become part of The Good Samaritan family. Renita invited everyone who either worked or volunteered at Good Shepherd to put up their hands and was amazed to see the host of hands shoot up.

After the service, members of Grace who serve as staff or volunteers at Good Shepherd were invited to stand for a photo. Their smiling faces are depicted in the above photo.

Upcoming Events



Alberta

Calgary

Benefit Concert with Kripa Nageshwar and Benjamin Kwong

Wednesday, June 17 at 7:30 pm
The Cathedral Church of the Redeemer
218—7 Avenue SE
Ticket Sales: 403.608.8119

Edmonton

Congregational Liaison Supper Meeting

Tuesday, May 12, 5:30 pm
at Corporate Office, Edmonton

Benefit Concert with Kripa Nageshwar and Benjamin Kwong

June 13 & 14 at 7:30 pm
Holy Trinity Anglican Church
10037 84 Avenue
Ticket Sales: 780.434.9620

Lethbridge

Congregational Liaison Supper Meeting

Wednesday, May 27, 6:00 pm
Location: West Highlands

Rolly View

Rev. Renita Falkenstern presents on The Good Samaritan Society

Sunday, June 14, 10:30 am
St. Paul Lutheran Church
Rolly View

British Columbia

Benefit Concert with Kripa Nageshwar and Benjamin Kwong

Saturday, June 20 at 7:30 pm
Unitarian Church in Vancouver
949 West 49th Avenue
Ticket Sales: 604.266.8559

2009 SPIRITUALITY AND WHOLENESS WORKSHOPS



Carol Taylor, RN, MSN, PhD

HEALING PRESENCE: You're Nobody Till Somebody Loves You

September 25, 2009

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church
Sherwood Park, Alberta

Early Bird: \$70 by Aug. 24
Regular: \$90 by September 15

October 1, 2009

Lethbridge Lodge
Lethbridge, Alberta

Early Bird: \$70 by August 31
Regular: \$90 by September 22

Nurse, educator, ethicist, university chaplain-in-residence, public speaker and author, Carol Taylor engages audiences around the world with her invitations to professionals and the public at large to think seriously about the difference they are making in our world. Whether speaking to health professionals, educators, administrators, clergy and spiritual caregivers, or the broader community she frequently asks ethic's big question: "At the end of the day are people better or worse for having experienced me/us?"

A Catholic sister for thirty-five years, Carol is absolutely committed to the belief that we are all created in God's image. If God is love then each of us is called to be love in our own world of connections. She admits to being baffled by the fact that the human heart runs amuck so often—but finds new reasons every morning to be hopeful.

Look forward to a day of self renewal, reflection, inspiration, and good connections.

For more information, or to register, go to www.gss.org and look for "Spirituality and Wholeness Workshops"



Rev. Dr. Robert Voyle, Psy.D.

THE CRAZY WISDOM OF COMPASSION

All the great religions of the world teach compassion as the agent of genuine transformation. In our modern culture, "crazy wisdom" is found in the illogical practice of non-violent protest or offering forgiveness rather than seeking revenge, and in the many other Gospel ways of seeking transformation through love rather than fear and intimidation.

October 16, 2009

8:45 am—3:30 pm

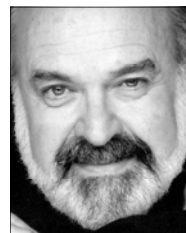
Ramada Hotel, Kelowna, BC

Early Bird: \$70 by Sept. 14, 2009
Regular: \$90 by October 6

During this workshop we will expand our understanding of compassion to include three faces:

Tenderness, Fierceness, and Mischievousness, and see how all three are necessary if we are to be compassionate and effective agents of transformation in our society.

Rev. Dr. Rob Voyle is an Episcopal priest, executive coach, licensed psychologist, and mechanical engineer. He has a doctorate in clinical psychology and degrees in theology and mechanical engineering. Rob is the Director of the Clergy Leadership Institute and is an international leader in the area of appreciative inquiry training for clergy, coaches, and church leaders.



Kelly Walker

DANCING ON THE ARK: Hope and Courage During Life's Transitions

Bilingual author, therapist, storyteller, public speaker and gifted musician, Kelly Walker has addressed varied audiences of education, health care and legal professionals, business people and clergy throughout North America with his engaging message of hope and courage mixed with humour. A born teacher, he addresses timely concerns of change, burnout, leadership, and grief, helping people to see the joy and potential in their lives, both professionally and personally.

October 30, 2009

8:45 am—3:30 pm

Coquitlam Inn, New West-Coquitlam, BC

Early Bird: \$60 by Sept. 28, 2009
Regular: \$80 by October 20

Twenty years as a Dominican Friar and life in a monastery, an international university education obtained in Canada, USA, Italy and Mexico and 12 years as a therapist have given Kelly a unique background that has shaped his perspective on life.