



In Touch

Sharing Society Information through Congregational Liaison Representatives June/July 2009

Soul Walk Preparations in Full Swing

Excitement continues to grow as the date for the first ever Soul Walk in support of Pastoral Care draws closer. The walk will happen on Saturday, September 26 at four different locations: Edmonton, Wetaskiwin, Medicine Hat in Alberta and Gibsons, BC. The walk is part of Mission Month celebrations.

The goal for the walk is to raise funds for the Pastoral Care Endowment Fund, raise the profile of Pastoral Care at The Good Samaritan Society and to have some good fun. There will be prizes, food and entertainment to go along with the walk. And each walker will receive the first ever Soul Walk T-shirt.

Pastoral Care has a strong history throughout the 60 years that The Good Samaritan Society has been in existence. Starting with a volunteer chaplain the ranks of Pastoral Care Services has grown to the point where 19 chaplains offer spiritual and religious care to residents/clients, staff and families.

In the next couple of years we will be adding two new chaplains who will serve the new Southern Alberta facilities in Cardston, Raymond and Taber.

Soul Walk brochures are now available for interested walkers. Also, online registration is up and running at www.gss.org

We hope that some people in your congregation will take up the challenge to have some fun and support Pastoral Care. If you are not able to walk would you consider volunteering for the event?

Your help is appreciated and you will certainly enjoy the day.

Rev. Dale Olsen
Director of Mission Effectiveness

Speaking Opportunities

Rev. Dale Olsen is 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

Rev. Renita Falkenstern is available to lead worship and preach in your congregation. Please contact Rev. Renita Falkenstern (780) 431-3780 or rfalkenstern@gss.org

Chaplain Robert Marshall is available to lead worship and preach in your congregation. Please contact Rev. Robert Marshall (780) 989-3293 or rmarshall@gss.org

A Time for Celebration



Virginia Burke, Diaconal Minister

Virginia Burke was consecrated into the Diaconal Ministry at **Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd** in Stony Plain, Alberta on Saturday, May 9. Virginia completed her Diaconal Practicum at The Good Samaritan Society and was subsequently called to be a chaplain at Royal Oak Manor in Lacombe, and Programs for Persons with Developmental Disabilities in Edmonton. **Bishop Ron Mayan** officiated at the consecration. **Rev. Phil Hink**, father of Virginia, preached the sermon. **Rev. Doug Hanson-Torwalt** officiated at the service. **Deaconess Julie Hink**, mother to Julie, gave her the diaconal medallion. Lunch and refreshments were served after the church by the women of Good Shepherd.

Contact Information

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- **Felix Tillmanns (Southern Alberta)**
Regional Coordinator of Mission Effectiveness
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Pastoral Care Volunteers at South Ridge Village



Front Row L-R: Frieda Lehr, Frieda Freitag, Arnold Freitag
Back Row L-R: Florence Jans, Leona Herter

We are grateful for our pastoral care volunteers from **Victory Lutheran Church** in Medicine Hat. They serve God and neighbour by offering their time, talents and treasures to enhance the quality of life of our residents at South Ridge Village.

Our pastoral care volunteers porter residents to weekly Hymn Sings and Worship Services. They assist the residents during these events with singing and by providing special music. They also assist with such special events as the Services of Remembrance and Founder's Day celebrations. Some of the pastoral care volunteers also visit our residents. Once a month, pastoral care volunteers also serve our residents a special lunch. All of these and other gifts so generously offered by our pastoral care volunteers make it possible for South Ridge Village to live out the mission, vision and values of The Good Samaritan Society.

A Correction:

We goofed! In the last issue of *In Touch* we should have included **Esther Kaiser, Fran Jenkins** and **Dolly Hagstrom** as members of Grace Lutheran, Wetaskiwin who work or volunteer at Good Shepherd Lutheran Home. Thank you for all that you do!

CLR Appreciation Supper



Back Row L-R: Felix Tillmanns, Rev. Dale Olsen, Fran Lyon, John Weing, Don Rempel, Rev. Brian Amison
Front Row L-R: Fred Schoening, Rev. Jim Lindemann, Betty Lambert, Darlene Rempel, Hilda Weing

In my capacity as the Regional Coordinator of Mission Effectiveness for Southern Alberta, I have met many wonderful people who give of themselves. Some of these people are called CLR's. Not the Calcium, Lime, Rust removers but the Congregational Liaison Representatives.

The CLR's connect The Good Samaritan Society to the congregations by giving Temple Talks, delivering devotion books, or writing updates for the church newsletter. Seventeen of us from Pincher Creek, Taber, Cardston, Magrath, Milk River, Edmonton and Lethbridge met on May 27, 2009 at West Highlands. It was an evening to show our appreciation for all that these CLR's do.

The Good Samaritan Society would not function nearly as well without the many hours of service these people provide in connecting us to our Lutheran congregations, our roots. We enjoyed a fabulous meal together and shared some of the upcoming events for the coming

year. We were also privileged to have two guest speakers. The first was Heather Tope, Volunteer Coordinator for West Highlands, who spoke about the important role of volunteers and current areas of need.

Gloria Borg from TeleCare gave us a demonstration of the Emergency Response Service and spoke about the value of TeleCare within the organization. Thanks so very much to all of the Congregational Liaisons and "Friends of" groups that support The Good Samaritan Society. You truly epitomize the Parable of the Good Samaritan and take to heart Jesus' words to "Go and do likewise."

- Felix Tillmanns, Regional Coordinator of Mission Effectiveness

Upcoming Events



Soul Walk for Pastoral Care

Saturday, September 26, 2009

Medicine Hat, Gibsons, Edmonton, and Wetaskiwin

Alberta

Edmonton

The Good Samaritan Society Annual General Meeting

Saturday, September 19, 10:00 am
Corporate Office

Medicine Hat

CLR Appreciation Evening

August 5, 2009, 5:30 PM

Location: The Coast Hotel, Medicine Hat

British Columbia

Gibsons

Kelly Walker Concert

Sunday, November 1, 2009

Location: Christenson Village

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

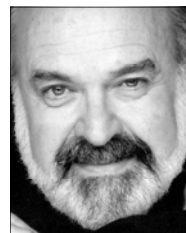
Ramada Hotel, Kelowna, BC

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.