



Canadian Healer

Fall 2016

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OSL in Canada

The International Order of St Luke the Physician



THE HEALING POWER OF GOD'S LOVE

By Bishop Eddie Marsh

The mere fact that you are reading this magazine reveals some things about you.

First of all you are a special person. You would not be reading this article if you were not. If someone encouraged you to read this journal of Christian Healing it means they see you as special. They do not readily invite everyone to peruse this magazine. If your life journey has brought you to a place where you are interested in knowing more about God, you are a special person.

Secondly you are a caring person. People who are interested in prayer and healing have a concern for their family, for others and/or themselves. There are many other ways you could be spending this time. Focusing on the subject of Christian healing means you are open to discovering, experiencing or sharing Christian fellowship and ministry. You are looking more deeply into the possibility of God bringing healing and love to you and to others. This is a very deep kind of personal caring.

Thirdly, you are a daring person. A person who takes prayer and healing seriously, or has a growing interest in the subject, is stepping out into unknown territory. In our time anyone who follows the biblical teaching of healing through prayer and the laying on of hands, or the sacramental anointing with oil, will probably receive some criticism or even ridicule. Most persons in the modern world do not appreciate that there are sermons in science. For Christians this is regrettable. It is unfortunate that few persons consider science as a glorious introduction to the immeasurable creativity of God. To swim against the tide of

modern secularism is inviting some degree of disapproval and isolation.

Surprising as it may seem, there are also leaders with authority in the church who for various reasons do not approve of Healing services. It could be Christian healing was not part of the curriculum in their theological colleges, and there are some who fear that laying on of hands could be perceived as inappropriate behavior and thus risk legal action. Consequently there are those who have been criticized and disciplined for exercising a healing ministry. However, those who seek healing and those who have been called to this ministry know that it is very difficult to follow Jesus and not allow the living Lord to minister health and wholeness to those who are in need.

Healing is a central component of the Gospel.

As you are a special caring, and daring person, a rare breed, you can surely assume that this is a sign that God is working to get your attention. Assess the possibility that God is sensitive to your considerations, and especially your hesitations, about deepening your Christian faith.

God always moves first and we respond to his love for us. The Apostle John put it this way. "This is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his son to be the expiation for our sins". God moves first very gently. The Lord is not aggressive or rude. He is always ready to deepen a relationship of love and healing with us.

I want to share with you a very simple, but vital

approach to healing by prayer and sacrament.

For more than thirty years my wife, Emma, and I have exercised a Christian healing ministry. We were privileged to have led OSL healing missions across Canada and the United States. We came to recognize that the healing ministry is most effective when the Presence of Jesus is experienced, and secondly, while in that Presence a person makes an act of deliberately receiving his love. When this procedure is developed it can seem like moving into a New Testament setting. Then prayers for any kind of healing – physical, mental or spiritual - bring surprising blessings. People seeking healing do well to become aware of the presence of God, and then deliberately receive his love.

One of the difficulties we encountered at healing missions is that Christians enjoy talking about the love of God. Christians are always proclaiming that God loves you just as you are and that Jesus loves everyone. We hear it all the time. But the amazing truth is that very few people actually stop and allow God to love them.

When we come to God in prayer we talk so much that God has no opportunity to speak to us about his love, let alone impact us with that love. Our prayers are often insistent - O Lord help me, O Lord forgive me, O Lord give me, and on and on. In the meantime, the main purpose of prayer, which is to receive the love of God, is being ignored. Of course intercession for our self and others is vitally important, and there certainly is a need to confess our sins. But in prayer, the basic purpose is communion with God: to be still and to be refreshed by his love. Every time we pray there should be a short time simply to be in his presence and allow him to love us.

God uses the Presence Prayer in which he pours out his love as a source of amazing healing power. Would it not warm your heart and deepen your faith, and enrich your life to have an experience such as the following?

Emmie and I were the theme speakers at an OSL Conference held in the Cathedral Shrine of the Transfiguration in Orkney Springs in the Diocese of Virginia. Our theme was the importance of breathing in the love of God for wholeness of body mind and spirit. The story being shared is with the permission of the lady whose name is Deborah.

Deborah entered the hall a little late and sat just inside the entrance door. After the presentation she left immediately without speaking to anyone. Emmie tried to catch her to have a conversation but she had left quickly without speaking to anyone. At the next session when she again came late and sat just inside the door, Emmie was prepared and walked to the rear of the room while I was concluding our message. Deborah had a severe case of agoraphobia. This illness prevented her from doing many ordinary things such as shopping or even going to the library. She learned to pray the prayer that was "Lord I will allow you to love me now" and breathed in the love of God and released some of the tension. She adopted the practice of breathing in God's love regularly. The love of Jesus is the most powerful healing agent in the world. During the conference she gained confidence. The Lord moved with her from the door entrance to the back row of seats, then a little further up the aisle, then into the center of the seats with people all around her. Imagine the joy we shared when she read the gospel at the closing Eucharist!

Deborah returned home and went to the cafeteria and to the library and to church worship. Her next big step was to visit her daughter who lived in another state. Another big Freedom was attained by attending a Cursillo weekend.

With her new friends she would visit a large prison to share Cursillo teaching and loving care there. Then she took the responsibility of

bringing two hundred dozen cookies for the inmates. O what a change, what a difference!

When you actually breathe in the Holy Spirit of love and not just talk about how God loves everyone, that Spirit will transform ashes into beauty.

At this time there is much to challenge the healing ministry by the disciples of Jesus. The opposition seems almost overwhelming until we find the vision of the Lord shining through the darkness and take time to breathe in the love and power of the Holy Spirit and allow him to minister his love and healing through us. There is a loving power available to help us renew the healing ministry of Jesus through his church.

Go for it!

In a time of disbelief, God raised up the healing ministry of the Order of St. Luke through John Gaynor and his wife, Ethel Tullock Banks, and

a lady named Agnes Sanford. Can He do that again in 2016 in a society where secularism and disbelief prevail? Is the Lord's Love waxed short? Never!

To finish, let me commend this prayer of Ethel Tullock Banks, the co-founder of OSL, which is helpful for those who are special, caring, daring persons:

“O loving, healing, helping Father, we come to you through faith in the promises of your dear son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Show yourself to us more and more in your nearness, love, and power, that in that knowledge, we may find rest, peace, strength, and love. Help us to rise above the pain and weariness and anxiety and to behold your face, that truly seeing you as you are, our hearts may open in such loving trust that you may do for us and others all that you would do. And use us for your glory, in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.”

For years, Bishop Eddie and Emma Marsh have faithfully proclaimed the saving grace of Jesus and His continuing healing ministry on earth.

As a couple, and individually, they are popular choices for leadership, and are often asked to lead conferences throughout Canada and United States.

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Online Calendar for Coming Events
Always up to date - Add your healing event at
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OSL Canada Network



OSL Canada is committed to finding ways for us all to remain connected and encouraged. "The Network" looks and feels like Facebook, but is a private, social network for OSL Members and invited guests. **'Embers' cool and grow cold when removed from fire. Let's stay connected and encouraged!** Membership is FREE

Coming This Fall

One of our members, Kathy Belicki, will be leading a discussion and teaching for Network members. Now is an excellent time to join the group and become familiar with the space. All are invited! If you receive SHARING you may remember reading Kathy's article, "Waiting for Healing" in the May/June 2016 issue.

Kathy will be the Guest Speaker in April 2017 for the OSL Telephone Conference Call.

Kathryn Belicki, PhD, MTS, CPsych, is a Professor of Psychology at Brock University and co-founder of the Brock Forgiveness Research Group. A registered psychologist, she obtained her PhD in Clinical Psychology and later a Masters of Theological Studies.



This is your invitation to join at <http://oslcanadanetwork.ning.com/?xgi=0dYBiPD8YAKrYj>

On The Calendar

Sept 24 - Winnipeg, Manitoba: OSL Region 10 Director, Rev. Raymond Knight, will be the keynote speaker at their Regional Conference to be held at the Lions (Lion's Club) Centre in Winnipeg. The theme is: Laughter and Healing Music. The AGM will be held on Fri Sept 23rd. For details and directions please see the announcement at <http://www.oslCanada.org/calendar.htm>



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Oct 16, 2016



[Melody Stancil MD](#)

Forgiveness: A Powerful
Prescription

Nov 20, 2016



[The Rev. Brian Kirby](#)

Inner Healing for sexual,
physical & emotional
abuse

Jan 15, 2017



[The Rev Mike Flynn](#)

More information in the
Dec Newsletter

Feb 19, 2017



[Fr Nigel Mumford](#)

More information in the
Dec Newsletter

Announcing “Open Access” to the Library of Recorded Calls.

Recorded Calls are made available for personal growth and may also be useful as a training opportunity for your OSL Chapter. If you are looking for a speaker for your conference or wish to encourage a friend, check out the speakers and get free access to the library of recorded calls and topics on healing that have been delivered since 2010. Simply click the link to the library on the conference calls website at www.oslRegion8.org/online.htm

For advance notice to news, upcoming conference calls and other coming events to do with healing click the link on the website to sign up for the email list or email editor@oslRegion8.org. Notices will arrive automatically in your inbox, including any change in conference telephone numbers and access codes.

Faith to Believe for Healing

By Rev Brian Kirby

In the Great Commission Jesus said to his disciples, “Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation. Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned. And these signs will accompany those who believe: In my name they will drive out demons; they will speak in new tongues; they will pick up snakes with their hands; and when they drink deadly poison, it will not hurt them at all; they will place their hands on sick people, and they will get well.” (Mark 16:15-18).

“I am the vine you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. (John 15:5).

“I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father.” (John 14:12).

“Is any one of you sick? He should call the elders of the church to pray over him and anoint him with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise him up. If he has sinned, he will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective. (James 5:14-16)

In Luke 5: 17-26 we read the account of Jesus healing a Paralyzed Man – also found in Matthew 9:1-8 and in Mark 2: 1-12

Let us not be like the religious leaders of Jesus’ time who were more concerned with their religious tradition and man-made rules and regulations that they often lost sight of Scripture. They felt threatened because Jesus challenged their sincerity and also because the people were flocking to Jesus as sheep without a shepherd.

It wasn’t the paralytic’s faith that impressed Jesus, but the faith of his friends. Jesus responded to their faith and healed the man. For better or worse, our faith affects others. We cannot make another person a Christian, but we can do much through our words, actions, and love to give him or her, a chance to respond. Look for opportunities to bring your friends to the living Christ.

When Jesus told the paralytic his sins were forgiven, the Jewish leaders accused Jesus of blasphemy—claiming to be God or to do what only God can do. In Jewish law, blasphemy was punishable by death (Leviticus 24:16). In labeling Jesus’ claim to forgive sins blasphemous, the religious leaders showed they did not understand that Jesus is God, and he has the power to heal both the body and the soul. Forgiveness of sins was a sign that the Messianic age had come (Isaiah 40:2; Joel 2:32; Micah 7:18,19; Zechariah 13:1).

From Matthew 9:1-8

Among the first words Jesus said to the paralyzed man were, “Your sins are forgiven.” Then he healed the man. We must be careful not to concentrate on God’s power to heal physical sickness more than on his power to forgive spiritual sickness in the form of sin. Jesus saw that even more than physical health, this man needed spiritual health. Spiritual health comes only from Jesus’ healing touch.

Both the man’s body and his spirit were paralyzed—he could not walk, and he did not know Jesus. But the man’s spiritual state was Jesus’ first concern. If God does not heal us - or someone we love - we need to remember that physical healing is not Christ’s only concern. We will all be physically healed in Christ’s coming kingdom; but first we have to come to know Jesus.

Blaspheming is claiming to be God and applying his characteristics to yourself. The

religious leaders rightly saw that Jesus was claiming to be God. What they did not understand was that he is God and thus has the authority to heal and to forgive sins.

It is easy to tell someone his sins are forgiven; it's a lot more difficult to reverse a case of paralysis! Jesus backed up his words by healing the man's legs. Jesus' action showed that his words were true; he had the power to forgive as well as to heal. Talk is cheap, but our words lack meaning if our actions do not back them up. We can say we love God or others, but if we are not taking practical steps to demonstrate that love our words are empty and meaningless. How well do your actions back up what you say?

From Mark 2:1-11

The paralytic's need moved his friends to action, and they brought him to Jesus. When you recognize someone's need, do you act? Many people have physical and spiritual needs you can meet either by yourself or with others who are also concerned. Human need moved these four men; let it also move us to compassionate action.

Before saying to the paralytic, "Get up," Jesus said, "Son, your sins are forgiven." To the Jewish leaders this statement was blasphemous, claiming to do something only God could do. According to the law, the punishment for this sin was death (Leviticus 24:15,16). The religious leaders understood correctly that Jesus was claiming divine prerogatives, but their judgment of him was wrong that he was blaspheming because his claim was true. Jesus is God, and he proved his claim by healing the paralytic.

This is the first time in Mark that Jesus is referred to as the "Son of Man." The title "Son of Man" emphasizes that Jesus is fully human, while "Son of God" emphasizes that he is fully God. As God's Son, Jesus has the authority to forgive sin. As a man he can identify with our deepest needs and sufferings and help us overcome sin.

This is an example of vicarious faith. Seeing the faith of the four men who brought the one who was sick, Jesus said to the sick man, "Your sins are forgiven," and then, "rise, take up your pallet, and go home." Others were believing for the healing of their paralytic friend, and Christ used their faith so that it was just as though he believed himself---for both sin and sickness.

Before healing him, Jesus told the paralytic his sins were forgiven. To the protests that followed, and to the accusation of blasphemy, our Lord replied that the healing miracle he was about to perform was the proof of his power to forgive sins, confirming that he was indeed the Son of God, the long-awaited Messiah.

What concerned Jesus was the faith of the person making the request, whether the healing was for himself or for someone else.

The Prayer of Faith

Our loving Father, we come to you in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord for this your servant who has a need for healing. We thank you that you have made a promise in your word to raise him up so that his need is met. We now pray the prayer of faith so that your promise is made effective in full and blessed reality in his life. Father, we now accept your promise of healing for him and with him. We believe that he receives this blessing so that we do not doubt in our heart. By faith we affirm that you are now raising him up. For the blessings that we will see at once, we thank you by sight; and for those blessings that we do not see at once, we thank you by faith. But whether it be by sight or by faith, we praise your name through Christ. Amen

*Rev Brian Kirby is a priest in the Anglican Network in Canada, and is Pastor of Arbutus Grove Reform Church in BC. The above is a talk he delivered at an OSL Healing Mission in Florida. **Fr Brian will be Guest Speaker on the OSL Telephone Conference call on Nov. 20/16***

God's Grace, Angels, and My Healing!

By Al Hill

I am becoming slowly aware that somehow I am hovering around in an atmosphere of what appears to me to be a "sphere." I am in the fetal position, hovering around through this sphere in dark brown air. I'm looking down and immediately think of Genesis when the Lord made the earth – it is empty and I'm looking desperately for the firmament mentioned in the bible. At first it seems I am hovering over Lake Ontario. As time goes by, I begin to see what appears to be land and lights twinkling like small LED's flashing on and off.

I'm afraid... and yell "help" many times but I'm not sure anything ever comes out of my mouth or if anyone hears. It seems like an eternity but I gradually open my eyes: I'm in a hospital bed and to my right I immediately see my loving wife, Clarene. She has been by my side ever since I've had this serious medical problem of a seizure. When I saw her, I immediately knew all was well!

This was the beginning of a long period of time when I had to undergo many tests, CT scans, MRI's, and three brain operations.

It all began on April 5, 2013. I felt unwell and thought I was having a stroke; thankfully my friend, John, was with me and took me straight to Centenary Hospital where after many tests and scans I was told I had suffered from a stroke but also was thought to have a brain tumour.

I was referred to Sunnybrook hospital where I would meet with a neurosurgeon to take over my case. I met him on April 24th and handed him my CT scan. He told me he was going to schedule brain surgery to remove the tumour on May 8th; however, in the meantime if I were to feel worse I was to go back to the hospital.

Clarene promptly asked him "How much worse is worse? On Sunday, two days ago, he was walking; today he had to be wheeled into your office in a wheelchair!" The doctor's face fell and he immediately scheduled an MRI for that afternoon and admitted me to the hospital. As it turned out, the nickel-sized "tumour" had grown to the size of a chicken egg. He scheduled me for surgery as soon as an operating room became available that night. The tumour turned out to be an abscess in my brain; thus began a 5-6 week stay at Sunnybrook with two subsequent brain operations, each within a week to 10 days of each other. After the third operation, my neurosurgeon told Clarene the best

case scenario for me was that I would be blind in my left eye and would suffer from paralysis on my left side, the severity of which was as yet unknown.

During my stay at Sunnybrook, I knew I was not alone. Clarene would come to visit me every day and I would talk to her about the presence of "Eric" and the "birdies"¹ - my word for angels (see note below). Eric would be sitting in the corner of my room and would softly play the guitar; he stayed with me during my month-long stay at Sunnybrook. Clarene could not see this person or the "birdies" but I certainly knew they were there. The only conclusion I can come to is from listening to Mark Virkler's teaching about "Hearing God's Voice." He speaks of guardian angels being with each of us throughout our lives. Eric must be my guardian angel. Later, as I was healing, I told Clarene that Eric and my "birdies" had left, and that I knew my time to leave this world had not yet arrived. I was going to be okay after all!

The Lord was truly with me during my illness, but he was also looking after my wife. After one particularly difficult day, Clarene told me that she had a divine encounter while driving home from the hospital in the middle of the night, exhausted and uncertain of our future together. As tears fell from her eyes, she had cried out to God and immediately a wonderful sense of deep peace (the peace that passes all understanding) and joy flooded her being. She too, was reminded that she was not walking this journey alone.

After two and a half months in the hospital and rehabilitation centre, I was finally allowed to come home where I continued to gain strength to walk again on my own, learned to dress myself again, and co-ordinate my hand and eye movements. I continued meeting various specialists for follow-up appointments, and on my last visit with my neurosurgeon he told me I did not have a tumour, my abscess was gone and I didn't have to see him anymore.

I am now walking and doing things around the house which I never expected to be able to do again. I can see out of both eyes but there is a lingering weakness where my brain does not always send messages to my left eye correctly and therefore I don't always see/recognize things on my left.

It's not until I look back at how far I've come, that I realize just how much I have to be thankful for... all the blessings and healing mercies our Heavenly Father has bestowed upon me. He was with me every step of the way... sending angels to watch over me and stay with me... and blessing me with His presence each day then, and now! He sent Reverend Andre Leroux to my bedside. He gave me Holy Communion and anointed me right there in my hospital room. Alicia and George Toner also came to visit and I was anointed by Alicia as well. God has blessed me with good friends who came to visit in the hospital and pray for me, and whom I know still lift me up in prayer. Prayer is a powerful gift and a privilege through which the Lord blesses us. Yes, I have much for which to be thankful.

Thank you Father, for giving my life back to me!

*Born in Montreal, Al Hill was responsible for Fire Protection Engineering as VP for an insurance broker. In 1961 he married his first wife, Ruth. After moving to Toronto and 47 years of marriage, Ruth lost her battle with cancer. Before she died, Ruth insisted Al carry on with his life and remarry if the right woman came along. Al wrote a short book **Stage 4 Terminal - Our Journey in Faith** which served to help him through his grief.*

Al's first criterion for a wife was that she would be a Christian. He met Clarene at church and two and a half years later they were married. Al and Clarene live in Scarborough, have 5 adult children and 5 grandchildren, one of whom recently went to be with the Lord. Al is currently pondering a second book. He may be contacted at alhill0728@aol.com



Note re: "birdies" Years before my ordeal, I told Clarene about a little girl who had been trapped under a garage door when the electric door opener failed to work properly. Later in the hospital, she had asked her mother where the "birdies" - who had remained with her while she was trapped - had gone. She told her mom that they made her feel good and unafraid. "Birdies" became my word for "angels."

Accept, O Lord, our thanks and praise for all that you have done for us. We thank you for the splendor of the whole creation, for the beauty of this world, for the wonder of life, and for the mystery of love



REFLECTIONS ON OSL'S VISION, MISSION AND VALUES

Colin C M Campbell, PhD

In July, the Board of OSL met to clarify our vision, mission and values. This practice is common in the business world, where companies use such statements to identify their distinctive niche in the marketplace. The distinctive role for OSL in the Church today is that we model healing prayer, without compromise, on the practice of Jesus and the early Church.

Many come to OSL healing conferences hoping for a “knockout blow,” often as a last resort, when the doctor has done all that she can for them. Rarely do they come only to seek the kind of fellowship and conversion that is readily available elsewhere.

We in OSL, together with all churches, recognize the value of redemptive suffering. Although its role has been interpreted differently by different traditions, there is general agreement that there are two times when suffering can be redemptive.

First, all of us are called to suffer with Jesus in order to redeem the world from its sin. We are even invited to rejoice in the experience, as it is a sign that we belong to him.

Second, we are called to sorrow over our own sins, for the pain that this causes our Lord and other people.

Such suffering has a redemptive purpose. However, it is a very great error to conflate this with suffering in general, and teach (as has been and, in some places, is still being taught) that all forms of suffering are redemptive.

The overwhelming evidence is that those who came to Jesus for healing were no different from those who seek healing today. They hoped for an immediate cure from some crippling burden.

Again, the overwhelming evidence is that Jesus healed them without any precondition; for example, he did not first insist on personal piety. He even discouraged those who wanted to join his group. A notable exception was the rich young ruler, whom he loved, but who rejected the redemptive suffering involved!

OSL's mission, vision and values consist of the following axioms:

- God wishes all of us to enjoy life in all its fullness.
- God accomplishes this mainly through people.

- Suffering is the result of God's will being blocked.
- The purpose of healing prayer is for God to reveal the block and for us to allow him to remove it so that the Holy Spirit is freed to act in the life of the one being prayed for.

From these axioms it follows that the two prerequisites to successful healing are: No blocks in the healer and no blocks in the one seeking healing.

We read that Jesus himself was unable to heal the scoffers in his hometown. As we read on, however, we find that when the "no blocks in him" met the "no blocks in those who trusted him," healing occurred.

It has been OSL's distinctive privilege to proclaim this to a needy world, one replete with cynics and scoffers. If our prayers do not always meet with the

success that God would wish, then, this time, it is our suffering that is redemptive. Like Jesus' invitation to the rich young ruler, this is a call for us to heed the summons of our leaders in OSL: It is time for us to deepen our prayer life.

We have work to do!

Colin Campbell was elected Vice President of OSL Canada at the First OSL Canadian National Healing Conference in Winnipeg, MB. He is a long time member of OSL, former President of The International Order of St Luke the Physician Board of Directors, and the current member for Canada on that Board. Colin is also Interim Director of OSL Region 8 (Ontario).

Dr Campbell is Convenor of the OSL Hamilton Chapter and the founding Convenor of the first OSL Young Adults Chapter in Canada. Colin is a secondary school teacher and resides in Hamilton, Ontario. He may be contacted at ccmcampbell@gmail.com



The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork. (Psa 19:1 KJV)

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