

# Update

## Christian Life Communities Canada

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### GENERAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Presidents:	Bob & Shirley Gatchene,	Kitchener, Ont.
Eccl. Asst.	Fr. John English	Winnipeg, MA
Nat. Community Coordinator:	Jean Floyd	Waterloo, Ont.
Ex. Officio:	Elaine Regan	Toronto, Ont.
Central Region Rep:	Susan Tomenson	Toronto, Ont.
Atlantic Region Rep:	Beulah Costain	O'Leary, P.E.I.
Western Region Rep:	Pat Hartman	Coaldale, A.B.
Youth Rep:	Ray Comeault	St. Boniface, MA

July/Aug. 1998

Greetings to CLC Canada!

Hopefully everyone is experiencing a bit of *summer time fun!* This beautiful time of year has long been waited for. Sunshine, warm breezes and relaxation, all of which are so welcomed.

By the time you will have received this edition of Update, our Canadian representatives to the World Assembly in Brazil, Elaine Regan and Fr. Earl Smith, will be well on their way. We ask that you continue to keep them in your prayers. We know that this rich experience will greatly benefit our National CLC Community. We look forward to hearing from them upon their return. Hopefully they will be able to submit a report to Update, which will be of great value to our National Community.

### NEW NATIONAL COMMUNITY COORDINATOR

In our last Update we were asking for your prayers for the appointment of our new National Community Coordinator. We are so pleased to announce that JULIE DWYER-YOUNG will be our new National Community Coordinator replacing JEAN FLOYD. At the present time Julie is working with Jean as often as possible to learn all the various procedures that are part of this job. Julie will be present at our next General Council Meeting in October 98 to meet the General Council and to experience first hand, with the assistance of Jean, just how things are run. We thank Julie at this time for her generous response to the Spirit, and know it will not take long before you will be hearing from Julie personally.

## **NEW NEWS!**

We would really appreciate hearing of any new events or happenings in your regions over the summer. The next Update will go out in September 98, so this gives everyone time to submit information. You can send this information to Shirley Gatchene.

**Fax: 1-519-570-4735 or email: [gatchene@ionline.net](mailto:gatchene@ionline.net)**

## **CENTRAL REGIONAL ASSEMBLY**

Just a reminder to Central Communities and others who may be able to join us, to send in your registration for our Ontario Regional Assembly – Oct. 2-4/98 in Hamilton, Ont. Theme: “Celebrate Our Oneness Out Of Our One-ness”. **REGISTRATION DEADLINE: Sept. 15/98.**

This is a great opportunity to come and gather for enrichment and fellowship. It is of great importance that our Regional Assemblies are well supported by our attendance. This speaks loudly of commitment and interest in Christian Life Community. We hope to have many communities in our region present.

## **NEWS FROM ROME**

Attached please find an excellent report from Gilles Michaud about World CLC events and his new appointment at the World level. Once again let us keep Gilles and Leah in our prayers as they undertake this new work for CLC at the World level. May the Lord truly grace and bless both of them.

## **PRAYERS**

Thanks to all who offered prayers for the success of Hugh Morrison’s heart surgery. It truly was a success and Hugh is coming along great.

We continue to pray for all our CLC members who might be experiencing health problems at this time. We ask the Lord to bless and heal all those in need, be it physical, emotion or spiritual. We place our trust in God’s healing power!

## **THOUGHT FOR THE DAY!**

**EVERY DAY WE ARE GIVEN STONES, BUT WHAT DO WE BUILD?  
IS IT A BRIDGE OR IS IT A WALL?**

**CLC IS A WAY OF LIFE**

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I am submitting the following article to be included in the update. If this not possible, please passe it on to all CLC's.

### ***World CLC Secretariat***

I have recently returned from Rome after a three week exposure of what happens, on a daily basis, at the the World CLC Secretariat.

The most significant revelation is that there is a tremendous amount of work done by so few people. Its encouraging to know that we are going there as a couple which will be a tremendous in making the work load a little lighter. Roswitha Cooper, the present executive secretary, did manage to find some time out of her busy schedule to show me some of the important sights and also on how to defend oneself against the vicious Italian driver while doing so.

One of my goals during that time there was to find an apartment for Leah and I. I was successful in doing so with the help of other Italian CLC members and their prayers. We now know that we will have an apartment to live in once we arrive in Octobre but as for the lack of furniture, we are not quite sure how that will take place.

Another very important event took place while in Rome. The Pope convened a Pontifical Council on the Laity for the 27 to 29 May. The council had organized world congress of ecclesial movements. The theme for this congress was: " The Ecclesial Movements: communion and mission on the threshold of the Third Millennium. Our CLC was invited to attend and for this had 8 delegates. These persons and countries were:

CLC Spain- Jose Mari Riera (president),  
CLC Luxembourg- Agnes Rausch,  
CLC Italy- Marinela D'Angiolella and Antonio Mancini, CLC Slovenia- Igor Bahovec,  
CLC Malta- Michael Mifsud,  
CLC Secretariat- Roswitha Cooper and myself.

This 3 day congress preceded the celebration of the Vigil of Pentecost which was celebrated by John Paul II.

The organizers of the congress had invited 350 other delegates from other movements from around the world. These 50 or so movements represented by these delegates included the founders and leaders of many of these movements.

During those three days there were in attendance numerous representatives of the Roman Curia, several Bishops and delegates from other churches and communions.

The congress was opened Wednesday morning by Cardinal James Francis Stafford, President of the Pontifical Council for the Laity, who welcomed us on behalf of the Pope. This was followed by Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, Prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith. His talk was on: "The Ecclesial movements, hope for the Church and for man( and woman).

I felt that his talk was a powerful affirmation of how the Holy Spirit has been a sign of the times in that through lay movements in the church, especially so since Vastican II, we have witnessed a surprising growth of charisms and of missionary vitality.

The second day was given to us in the form of a round table from several persons on the following themes:

- A new missionary impetus
- the task of formation
- the construction of a more human world
- responding to forms of poverty; charity and justice

On the third day we heard many testimonies of new and old forms of life, communion and mission. This was given to us by several people which included people such as Jean Vanier from L'Arche Communities and our CLC World President, Jose Maria Riera. Jose Maria spoke on the long history of our movement. Beginning with St Ignatius and his companions. Since the time of Jean Leunis sj, our founder, we were known world wide as the Marian Congregation. In the year 1948, the "Apostolic Constitution Bis Saeculari" given by Pope Pius XII, our movement was mentioned in a special way. During that particular time in our history, we began the process of changing our name to Christian Life Community. He went on to say that, as a world community we have continued to this day to be witnesses of the Good News in a world that so needs signs of hope in the many secular activities of our world. In order to continue to be effective in this apostolate we will meet in Brazil this July to discern what are the signs of the times and where is God calling as witnesses in our church and in our world.

Cardinal Stafford summed up the congress in these words: " during this congress there were many surprises but the special one is that through our evangelization we are creating a civilisation of love. It is obvious that we have been witnesses to the presence of the Holy Spirit and in that we have come to know that humankind can only be free when it gives itself to others.... this is love... God is an excess of love."

All this work culminated in very moving celebration Saturday afternoon on the Vigil of Pentecost. Lay delegates of the congress gathered with many thousand pilgrims from different parts of the world to sing and pray; " Veni Sancte Spiritus."

I would like to conclude in this same spirit. I am urging you to pray for our World Assembly in Brazil and especially so for our Canadian CLC Delegates, Elaine Regan and Earl Smith sj.

Praise and Glory to God  
Gilles Michaud

**DIRECTORY CORRECTIONS AND ADDITIONS**  
**3rd edition**

<u>NAME</u>	<u>COMMUNITY</u>	<u>CORRECTION</u>
Elaine Regan	Companions	<b>Address change</b> 90 Lippendavie Ave., Suite 5 Toronto, ON M4L 3R5
Philip Ryan	Our Lady of the Way	<b>Address Correction</b> s/b 29 Rochman Blvd.
Bob & Shirley Gatchene	Co-Presidents	<b>Fax Correction</b> 519-570-4735
David Cobain	Visitation	<b>Delete</b>
Ann Nagle	Joyful Noise	<b>Additions</b> 28 Lancaster St. East Kitchener, ON N2H 1M4 519-576-9575
Ellen Misio	Joyful Noise	78 Merner Ave. Kitchener, ON N2H 1X4 519-742-5213