August 30, 2011

Board of Directors
Centre for Rural Community Leadership and Ministry
Suite 447-1121 College Drive
Saskatoon, Sk.
S7N 0W3

On behalf of the Swan Valley CPE Steering Committee we would like to thank you for your financial support for the Swan Valley Clinical Pastoral Education Pilot Project held this past spring. As a member of our steering committee, Rev. Dr. Cam Harder has provided invaluable assistance in developing this program.

Five students completed the program. These students included two students from St. Andrew’s United Church College in Saskatoon, one Mennonite Church Canada pastor, one Roman Catholic lay woman and one candidate for ministry in the Lutheran Church. Besides receiving 200 hours of classroom discussion, the students provided over 400 hours of spiritual support to persons in the hospital, long term care facilities and mental health clients in the Swan River area. They also assisted with leading worship and providing support and education to health care staff. The students worked with staff, management, local clergy and the Spiritual Care Advisory Committee on a number of initiatives to enhance spiritual care.

The students received a warm welcome from staff, management, local congregations and the community at large. A number of congregations provided a welcoming meal to the students, billeting with families and a place for worship.

The students were very enthusiastic about their training and the CPE program has obtained national recognition as an innovative program from the Canadian Association for Spiritual Care (formerly the Canadian Association for Pastoral Practice and Education). This program is one of the first of its kind to offer training in a rural context.

Dr. Janel Curry a rural researcher from Calvin College, Grand Rapids, Michigan is assisting us in developing research related to our program. A more detailed report will be sent to you in the near future.

If you have any further questions please contact Rev. Margaret McCallum, Teaching Supervisor
at the above address.

Once again we thank you for your partnership in this exciting pilot project of Clinical Pastoral Education.

Yours Truly

Pastor Bob Lewis
Chair Swan Valley CPE Steering Committee