



Monthly Newsletter

July, 2025



Strengthening Our Healthcare Practices Through the Ministry Blessing Prayer

The poster has a light green background. At the top center is the ACTheals logo. Below it, the text 'ACTHEALS 2025 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE' is written in a bold, green, sans-serif font. Underneath that is a quote in blue: "The Joy of Praying with Jesus' Power, Authority and Blessings to Cure Serious Illnesses." In the center is a rounded rectangular frame containing a photograph of Rev. John Rice, an older man with glasses wearing a green vest over a light blue shirt. Below the photo is a blue box with the word 'SPEAKER' in white. At the bottom of the poster, the name 'Rev. John Rice' is written in a large, blue, serif font. Below the name, the dates 'OCTOBER 23-26, 2025' and the location 'MARYWOOD CONFERENCE CENTER ST. JOHNS, FL' are listed in a smaller, green, sans-serif font.


ACTHEALS
2025 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
"The Joy of Praying with Jesus'
Power, Authority and Blessings to
Cure Serious Illnesses."

SPEAKER
Rev. John Rice
OCTOBER 23-26, 2025
MARYWOOD CONFERENCE CENTER ST. JOHNS, FL

***Don't miss** this chance to deepen your understanding of blessing prayer and its incredible potential to transform lives. Mark your calendars and join us in October at the ACTheals Conference.*

Register for the Conference



President's Corner

We have now entered into my favorite liturgical season, that of Ordinary Time, when we hear the gospel stories of Jesus and his disciples walking throughout Galilee. What a treasure that would have been. A friend once described it so well, "just walking and talking with Jesus every day." We have the treasure of studying these gospel lessons and miracles, meditating on their meaning in Jesus' time, and what they mean for us in today's world. How do I live out the gospel today? What is Jesus asking of me to follow Him closely in today's culture? The richness of these stories guides my days, and I pray they do for you also. Like the Emmaus story (Luke 24:15), when Jesus joined the disciples walking along the road. We, like those disciples, don't always immediately recognize Jesus until we hear the familiar words, celebrate the sacraments, or have the scriptures opened to us when we meditate upon them.

Summer days in Ordinary Time are slower days, giving us ample time for study and reflection. It's also the time when we are able to celebrate family events, vacations, being outside in God's great creation, watching our gardens, the crops, and our yards bloom with the richness of God's glory.

My prayers for you this month are this: In Jesus' Name, I bless you with the gift of time, time to study the words of Jesus and to meditate upon them, letting them marinate into your lives, your families, and your ministries, like the soaker hoses we use to water our lawns to keep them green. I bless you in Jesus' Name to feel His loving arms envelop you in a big hug to keep you safe and guide you through these summer days. It is my prayer that we can greet each other in person in October as we celebrate Jesus, our Joy Giver, for we certainly have cause to celebrate the joy and blessings of being His people of ACT.

Kris Sendelbach, RN
ACTheals, Your Servant Leader

ACTheals Regional News

Mid-Atlantic Region Celebrates Corpus Christi Feast

On June 21, 2025, The ACTheals Mid-Atlantic Region celebrated the Corpus Christi Feast with a gathering that was both spiritually enriching and deeply fulfilling. Hosted by the regional coordinators, Anne Behneman and George Guschwan, the event brought together ACTheals members for an evening filled with food, scripture readings, discussion, praise and worship, and healing prayer.

George discussed the Gospel passage of Jesus' feeding of the five thousand people (Luke 9:11b-17), emphasizing that God will call us to move beyond where we are to help and bless others: "He's going to ask us to do something that is beyond ourselves." He also highlighted the satisfaction found in the Eucharist, reminding everyone that in the Eucharist, "you're going to be satisfied."

The praise and worship session was a highlight of the event, with attendees lifting their voices in song and prayer. The healing prayer session provided a space for individuals to seek spiritual and emotional healing, supported by the collective faith and prayers of the community.

For ACTheals members who were unable to attend the regional meeting in person, they joined on Zoom and also received prayer, while singing along during praise and worship. This virtual participation allowed everyone to feel connected and spiritually uplifted, regardless of their physical location.

The ACTheals community is truly a place where God feeds the hungry, both spiritually and physically, nurturing their souls and strengthening their faith. This gathering was a testament to the power of unity and the grace of God working through the ACTheals Mid-Atlantic Region. We are thankful to Anne and George for their leadership.

If you would like to be connected with a regional support group, email apemberton@actheals.org. Let's continue to support one another and grow together in our faith journey.

Created with the assistance of Microsoft 365 Copilot AI.

TESTIMONIAL

"I love ACT! It's really enriched and changed my life - so powerful. I love the healing prayer."

-Kristina A.

*Mid-Atlantic region in ACTheals
Psychotherapists Specialty Group*



Interview with Douglas Schoeninger, Ph.D.: Insights and Blessings from a Longtime ACTheals Member

Douglas Schoeninger, Ph.D., a distinguished clinical psychologist, has been a pillar of the ACTheals community for decades. His journey with ACTheals began in 1976 when he attended his first conference, shortly after receiving his Baptism in the Holy Spirit in 1972. Since becoming a member in 1977, Doug has made significant contributions, including serving as the editor of *The Journal of Christian Healing*.

In our recent interview, Doug shared valuable advice for newcomers attending the ACTheals conference for the first time. He emphasized the importance of initiating conversations and reaching out to others. "Don't hesitate to initiate. Reach out," Doug advised. He encouraged attendees not to be afraid to approach others during lunch and ask to join them. "It's not easy to do—you're important. Let people know

who you are and what moved you to come. Ask questions about the organization," he added.

Doug also reflected on the blessings he has personally received through his participation and membership in ACTheals. He highlighted the joy of being with others who are deeply interested in listening to the Holy Spirit and praying for healing. "It's a blessing to be with others who had that desire and share it," Doug said. He further shared that one of the greatest blessings of ACTheals is the diversity of professions among its members, including associates. "It's a great blessing of ACT because we are interdisciplinary," Doug noted. This multi-disciplinary quality helps members to "think more deeply about the whole person... it gives us a holistic view of the person."

Growing up in the Baptist church, Doug has come to appreciate the ecumenicity of ACTheals. He feels "blessed by understanding Catholic traditions and those of other [Christian] denominations." Serving as a Protestant President in ACT from 2008 to 2010, Doug believes that having a better understanding of other Christian denominations can help professionals be "more available to our clients" who come from diverse backgrounds.

Doug Schoeninger has shared a wealth of knowledge with ACTheals members over the years, and his contributions have been invaluable. We are deeply thankful for his insights and dedication to the healing ministry.

Created with the assistance of Microsoft 365 Copilot AI.

Upcoming Events



ACTheals California Retreat (Hosted by the San Diego Region)

Join us for the ACTheals California Retreat, hosted by the San Diego Region, from **July 11-13, 2025**, at the beautiful Benedictine Abbey in Oceanside, CA. This retreat will be led by Retreat Master Fr. Charles Wright, with inspiring music by Donna Lee.

Invite the healing presence of Jesus into your life during this transformative event. For more information, please contact **Barbara Graham at bnb77graham@gmail.com**

Registration deadline extended to July 3rd!

[Get Registration Form](#)

Empowerment of the Holy Spirit

Join us for a day of renewal and spiritual empowerment at the Empowerment of the Holy Spirit event on Saturday, **September 6, 2025**, from **10:00 AM to 2:00 PM Pacific Time** at the American Martyrs Church in Manhattan Beach,



90266, in the Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Plaza Room. This special day will have dedicated times for healing prayer.

We are honored to have Fr. Pat Crowley SS.CC as our speaker. Fr. Pat is a gifted retreat director, conference speaker, and spiritual director, renowned for guiding Christians into a deeper faith experience through the healing love of Jesus Christ. In recognition of his spiritual wisdom, compassion, and healing gifts, Fr. Pat is an honorary member of ACTheals, where he leads by example, embodying Christ's love for God's people.

Contact: Bernadette St. James, PsyD for more information at **310.991.2256**

Light refreshments will be provided. A love offering of \$40.00 will be collected. We look forward to seeing you there!



ACTheals 50th Anniversary International Conference

Join us for the ACTheals 50th Anniversary International Conference, a milestone event celebrating five decades of healing. Don't miss this opportunity to connect with fellow healthcare professionals, clergy and interested persons in healing ministry to deepen your spiritual journey. Our plenary speakers will include Judith MacNutt of Christian Healing Ministries and Fr. Nigel Mumford. Please contact info@actheals.org for more information.

[ACTheals Mentorship Opportunities](#)

Are you passionate about the healing ministry of Jesus Christ and eager to integrate the gifts of the Holy Spirit into your life and professional identity? The ACTheals mentorship program provides a unique opportunity for Mentors and Mentees to connect and grow together. If you are interested in mentorship, don't hesitate to reach out and get started on your mentorship journey. Email apemberton@actheals.org.

[We've Moved!](#)

Our new address is **1700 Skyline Drive, Chattanooga, TN, 37421**. The ACTheals office has a new address. Please make a note in your files.

[Exciting News](#)

Our 50th Anniversary publication of the *Journal of Christian Healing* will be out soon! ACTheals members, be on the lookout for e-blasts for more information.

[Visit Our Website](#)

MISSION

Our mission is to:

- Heal and empower healing professionals to bring Christ's healing to others.



If you believe the Holy Spirit belongs in the healing space- you've found your people. Connect with Christian healthcare professionals and prayer ministers living out their faith in practice.

[View Our Partners in Mission](#)

Blessing Prayer for the Ministry of ACTheals

Jesus, I give you thanks and praise for all your people who are part of ACTheals. Thank you for their gifts and skills and passion in blending their faith with their health care professions. Thank you for how you use ACTheals to bring healing of heart, body, mind and spirit to so many others.

Jesus, in your name, I bless ACTheals with a fresh release of your Holy Spirit that renews and sustains your joy in each of us; that enlivens the gifts you have given to us for healing and ministry; that refreshes and heals us with the breath of God blowing around us, in us and through us. I bless the leaders of ACTheals with wisdom, discernment, and a desire to continue to “wait upon the Lord” in moving forward into a bright and new day for the ministries of ACTheals. I bless our 2025 Conference with a growing sense of anticipation and excitement for how

Recommended Reading

Called to Bless by Rev. John Rice emphasizes that blessing prayers are universally beneficial, bringing joy and thanksgiving wherever they are spoken. It highlights the awakening and transformation occurring in communities where the ministry of blessing is taught and practiced. Churches are becoming more vibrant, hearts are being healed, and lives are being transformed simply by blessing others in Jesus' name. *Called to Bless* is a call to God's people to embrace their role as agents of blessing, fostering greater health and vitality in their communities. Don't miss out on this inspiring and transformative book! *Called to Bless* will be available in hard copy for signing by Rev. John Rice at the upcoming ACTheals Conference in October at the conference bookstore. Be sure to get your copy and experience the power of blessing in your life and community.

About the Author: Rev. John Rice,

God will be at work in our midst.

Jesus, in your name I bless all our members with more of God's love, flowing directly from Abba's heart into our hearts. And I bless us and our families to be surrounded daily with a shield of God's love and light that protects us from all harm and all influence of the evil one during the waking hours of the day as well as the sleeping hours of the night. AMEN.

-Rev. John Rice.



fondly known as Fr. John, hails from The Blessing Place of Western North Carolina. An ordained Episcopal priest, Fr. John graduated from Seabury Western Theological Seminary in 1988. He served as a parish pastor for 24 years in Vermont and North Carolina before responding to God's call in 2012 to focus on restoring and growing the healing ministry of the church universal. As a member of the Order of St. Luke, Fr. John has held various leadership roles, including Regional Director, President, and Chaplain to the National Board. He is a sought-after conference speaker and workshop leader, dedicated to encouraging, equipping, and empowering God's people for Jesus' healing ministry.

Called to Bless

foreword by
Russ Parker



John Rice

Restoring God's Ministry of Blessing

Purchase this Book

ACTheals: Where God and Healthcare Meet

*This is the official newsletter for ACTheals (Formerly known as the Association of Christian Therapists). Member **comments**, **suggestions** and **submissions** are appreciated. Submissions are preferred with a digital photo, or else, a prior one from our files will be used. Member names can be withheld by request. Contact Angeli at apemberton@actheals.org.*



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