

COMMUNITY NOTES Sisters of the Presentation

December 2016

"...by endurance and by the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope..."

(Romans 15:4)

How far is our horizon of hope? Nano's horizon of hope for the world extended across the globe, as she penned, "If I could be of service anywhere, I would surely do so." Today, we are challenged by Nano and our direction and mission statements to stretch our vision of hope beyond our local horizon. We see in these cross-continental headlines:

"Libyan forces take last few buildings from Islamic State in Sirte" (Africa)
"Earthquake: M 5.9 – Western Indian-Antarctic Ridge" (Antarctica)
"Who will help Myanmar's 10,000 Rohingya (most persecuted people)" (Asia)
"Gay schoolboy shared bullying torment day before suicide" (Australia)
"Freiburg murder: Germans urged not to scapegoat migrants" (Europe)
"Pentagon tried to hide \$125 billion in bureaucratic waste" (North America)

"In the latest sign of the devastating impact of global warming, Bolivia's government has declared a state of emergency in the wake of the country's worst drought in 25 years." (South America)

While some of these circumstances threaten our hope, "perhaps what threatens hope even more today are not these tragedies and calamities but the subtle despair we settle into...," theology professor Paul J. Wadell, writes in a recent issue of *America*. "The problem is not that we hope for too much, but that we have learned to settle for so little. We have caused the horizons of hope to shrink. We have lost sight of hope's transcendent dimension because we have forgotten the incomparable promise to which hope always beckons." Hope beckons us to stay faithful to the journey in spite of what may seem impossible.

Advent calls us to stay awake to the spiritual practice of creating headlines such as:

"Sisters of the Presentation and Associates promote direct ministry with people made poor."

"Presentation People advocate on behalf of people without options."

"Dubuque Presentation family supports sustainability and systemic change for the common good."

"Presentation family incarnates the hospitality of God! Drawn beyond themselves to spread hope and love to a world in dire need."

"May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to think in harmony with one another,..." (Romans 15:4-5).

Sister Ann Jackson

(The full article will be emailed separately: Paul J. Wadell, "Not Settling for Less," America, November 21, 2016, p. 20-23)

\ thank my God whenever I think of you;

We are very grateful to Carol Witry, Co-Coordinator of the Associate Partnership, for her leadership and gracious presence with us these past three-and-a-half years. Carol has been so instrumental in collaborating with sisters and associates to further the mission. Teaming with co-coordinator Sister Joan Brinks, the Associate Partnership Advisory Committee, as well as with the Midwest and national associate organizations, Carol has strengthened and broadened the scope of our associate partnership. As she takes leave, we celebrate with her and are grateful that her presence will continue as an associate. We invite your prayers for Carol and her husband Tom in the days and months ahead.

Sisters Julianne Brockamp, Beth Driscoll, Ann Jackson, Leanne Welch

And every time I pray for you, I pray with joy.

Philippians 4:3

With a New Year, Comes a New Look! Write One, Write All.....!!

In mid-January, we will send out the monthly listserv which will have two documents: one entitled Community Notes; the second, *Ministry Highlights! Community Notes* will offer a message from the leadership team, the "Ever Evolving" emerging circles progress, vocation, formation, associate and heritage pages as well as the "community news" noting address changes, reminders, etc.

Ministry Highlights, the second attachment, will offer just that - highlights from various ministries! We invite all sisters and associates to submit short articles that feature any highlights that further the mission!

Submit your feature to Carol Heim (<u>carol@dubuquepresentations.org</u>) by 8 am, the second Monday of each month!

"For auld lang syne, my dear, for auld lang syne..."



"Evolutionary Spiral" | Artist: Mary Southard, CSJ | www.MarySouthardArt.Org Courtesy of www.MinistryOfTheArts.Org | Congregation of St. Joseph

Ever Emerging

This page is designed to feature emerging circle activity and inspire conversations. Each month an emerging circle highlights its movement, stimulating insight and inquiry, as well as implications for other circles and our emerging Presentation future.

We are blessed to be animators of the **Spiraling Mission Groups** related to Care of Earth, Human Trafficking, Immigration, and Women and Children. In our practice of the self-organizing model we have seen leadership continue to develop across these circles in a variety of ways. We have also experienced:

- surrendering to the self-organizing process
- allowing each person to bring forth their gifts
- placing a leader in every chair
- partnering with other groups for projects
- working to educate through reading and experiences
- increasing use of technology for meetings
- working to integrate more legislative advocacy
- increasing use of Basecamp
- increasing awareness and action in thinking globally and acting locally
- learning about yourselves as group and how you process as group
- making space for contemplation and chaos
- continuing to seek vision and collective wisdom

On Basecamp, there is:

1. Self-organizing PowerPoint shared at Community Days 2014.

2. U Process or U Theory with its stages and hosting a space PowerPoint shared at Community Days 2015.

3. Learning Community - Beginning with May 2016 sharing to the congregation on Life -Long Learning - explore what a learning community is and the questions we ask ourselves in journeying together.

We wish to create a "virtual toolbox" including the above and these additional strategies/skills that have been added to the "Spiraling Mission Group General Information" page on Basecamp. These may be used for individual reflection or as a check-in for a gathered group.

- 1. Basic Guidelines for Calling a Circle
 - 2. Methods Art of Hosting
 - 3. From Teams to Communities of Practice
 - 4. Two Models of Change

Stay tuned for more ...

Sisters Jessi Beck and Joetta Venneman

May we each know ourselves ever emerging...



December 2016

Sue Murphy, Associate murphydands@gmail.com Martha Donnelly, PBVM 2360 Carter Rd. Dubuque, IA 52001

Rita Cameron, PBVM

ritac@dubuquepresentations.org

MINISTRY FUND DONATIONS

Sister Carrie Link

\$450 (Human Trafficking Education)

La Salle Catholic School, Holy Cross, IA \$500

Requests for the first 2017 meeting of the Ministry Donations Committee are due by February 24, 2017.



2017 MT. LORETTO RETREAT 2017

Sunday, March 26, 7:00 p.m. to Friday, March 31 evening meal

Facilitator: Michael Crosby, OFM

Theme: Consciously Connecting in the Cosmic Christ

Michael Crosby will develop the historical and contemporary basis for this theme, concentrating on its foundation in Scripture. He will stress the mystical dimension and its application to the prophetic dimension of religious life.

Dear Friends,

I so appreciate your thoughtful notes, prayers and support at the time of my brother Jerry's death. My family and I will count on your continued prayers in the days and months to come. Thank you!

Sister Annette Skyles

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your words of encouragement, love and prayers. As you know, or perhaps do not know, that I am presently in the Emmaus Program in Olean Grove, NJ getting healthier each day. At this time I am discovering new meaning with the season of Advent: "Time of waiting with

the Heart of HOPE." Hoping I will be home by the end of January.

Hoping for prisoners to be released, immigrants to be respected and freed, addicts to find recovery, our environment to be protected and human trafficking to be ended. And especially, PEACE in our families, communities, nation, world, and in our own hearts.

For what are *YOU* waiting? For what are *YOU* hoping this Advent?

> Michaeline Healy Emmaus House 21 Main Ave. Ocean Grove, NJ 07756

PBVM Apparel Now Available

Our on-line PBVM apparel store is now open for orders. Just follow the link below and start shopping. You can select from a variety of styles, colors and sizes. If you have any questions or are looking for something specific that is not listed, please let me know.

On-line PBVM Apparel Store

http://tshirtwebstore.com/collections/sisters-of-the-presentation

After you place your order, you can either have your item sent to you for a fee or pick it up at Envision. I'm happy to pick up orders as needed and have them ready at the motherhouse for you.

Feel free to share this link with your family and friends.

Jane Buse - jane@dubuquepresentations.org or 563-588-2008



I would like to take this opportunity to thank all who have supported vocation ministry in so many ways for the last six and a half years. The strength of the prayerful support has been a wonderful gift as the call to be on the road visiting colleges, schools and individuals interested in learning more about women religious has been such a vital part of vocation ministry.

Relationships that have grown over these years are such an integral part of discerning God's call and I cherish the time spent meeting new individuals and deepening the relationship with those I have known for some time.

Since vocation ministry is not one person's responsibility, I will continue to do my part in developing new relationships and walking the spiritual journey with those I meet.

I also have a new personal email that you can start using to message me instead of the vocations email: **ritac@dubuquepresentations.org**



Our Journey in Formation



Last summer during Community Days, I shared with you that I am participating in the Religious Formation Conference (RFC) ForMission Program to help me grow in my role as formation coordinator. Here is a brief review of the purpose of ForMission and an update on my homework.

For Mission, a two year program, is designed to assist participants in:

- Personal and communal transformation and to be agents of personal and communal transformation
- Developing aptitudes and skills required in the formation of and for a prophetic way of religious life in the 21st century
- Transferring learnings, skills and processes to the situation in their communities.

January 24-31, 2017 I will attend the second of four week long residential sessions at Mercy Center in Burlingame, CA. This week will begin our focus on the theme of Community and will consist of input from speakers and opportunities to process input in large and small group settings, along with theological reflection on some aspects of our lived experience of community.

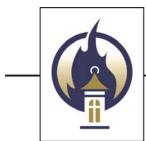
Part of my ForMission homework includes forming and meeting with a reading group of our sisters. Sisters Joan Lickteig, Beth Driscoll, Corine Murray, Dolores Zieser, and Lynn Fangman graciously agreed to meet with me every six to eight weeks to discuss articles around the current ForMission theme. We met in September and November to reflect on articles centered on Mission and Religious Life for the 21st Century. We read and discussed the following articles. If you are interested in reading any or all of these, I will be happy to share them with you electronically or hard copy.

- 1. Discerning Ministerial Religious Life Today, by Sandra Schneiders, IHM
- 2. The Future of Religious Life, by Timothy Radcliffe, OP
- 3. An Earthy Christology, by Elizabeth Johnson, CSJ
- 4. Spirituality and Mission: Body, World, and Experience of God, by Anthony Gittins, CSSp
- 5. The Holy Spirit and Mission in Some Contemporary Theologies of Mission, by Susan Smith, RNDM
- 6. Don't Be Indifferent to Difference, by Gary Riebe-Estrella, SVD
- 7. Conversation: A Brave New Way of Mission, by James McCloskey CSSp
- 8. A Short History of the Church's Mission, by Stephen Bevans, SVD

Another important part of my homework includes participating in a peer supervision group with other ForMission participants. Another ForMission participant and I meet with a trained supervisor every four to six weeks. The purpose of supervision is to help those working in formation grow in the skills needed to accompany women and men in initial formation.

Thank you for the opportunity to participate in the ForMission Program! I look forward to sharing more of my learnings and experiences with you in the future.

annette



From the... associate Pantnenship Office

Carol Witry, Co-Director Joan Brincks, PBVM, Co-Director
 phone
 563.588.2008 ext 608

 fax
 563.588.4463

 email
 associates@dubuguepresentations.org

FOOD FOR THOUGHT...

"If we could see the miracle of a single flower clearly, our whole life would change." - Buddha

• What miracles have you experienced today? How has your life changed?

ASSOCIATES EMBODY HOSPITALITY by Sister Louann Doering

"Lived hospitality" is a phrase that fits Karen Freiburger and Darlene Richard. These two associates

who are also familial sisters are part of the Nano's Neighbors associate group. In the spirit of Nano Nagle, who invited guests to her home to celebrate Christmas Eve, Darlene and Karen have invited the sisters from Mt. Loretto to their homes to enjoy Christmas goodies and a sense of festivity. This has been their practice for years, beginning in 2005. They have changed the date to July to make it "Christmas in July." Even their husbands, Marvin of Sherrill and Ken of Dubuque, have added their welcome as the gathering alternates between the two homes.



Darlene and Karen and Sisters Damian O'Brien, Lois Lehmann and Joan Lickteig celebrate "Christmas in July".

Darlene and Karen show hospitality at Mt. Loretto where Karen serves as receptionist, a role from which Darlene has recently retired. As part of Nano's Neighbors they have helped prepare and serve community meals at Hope House, St. Patrick's, and this past July at Prescott School for "Bridges Out of Poverty". Their hospitality shines forth.

THANK YOU, CAROL WITRY!



During the past three-and-a-half years, we have been blessed with the gentle leadership and service of Carol Witry as Co-Director of the Associate Partnership. As Carol steps down from this role, her presence will be deeply missed. We are grateful for her contribution to the development of the Associate Partnership over these past years.

Sister Joan Brincks, Co-Director with Carol, expresses her appreciation by saying, "Carol embodied



her love for the Associate Partnership. As a co-worker, I experienced that love in the ways that Carol led with passion and commitment. Her love for God and Nano Nagle inspired associates and sisters to fully live Presentation mission and charism. I am grateful for Carol's creativity, enthusiasm, openness and contemplative spirit."

Associate Becky Searcy gratefully shares, "Carol's spirited presence among us will be missed by all. Journeying with her as an associate and working with her as a member of the Associate Partnership Advisory Committee has been a real treasure. Carol has a tremendous passion for faith,

family and community. Carol has been a great leader, always looking toward the future." God bless you, Carol! May you journey with care and wisdom!

WITH GRATITUDE AND WELCOME



As you may know, the Associate Partnership Advisory Committee meets three times annually to support and encourage associate participation in the PBVM mission and to make recommendations to the leadership team and co-directors regarding matters that affect the associates.

Sister Sheila Ann Dougherty just completed her second term of three years and is moving on to other ministries. We are grateful to you, Sister Sheila, for sharing your faith, wisdom, many skills and support for the Associate

Partnership in countless ways as an Advisory Committee member! Blessings on your journey!

We are happy to welcome Sister Janet Stelken as our new Advisory Committee member. Sister Janet has been a teacher, ministered in pastoral care, served on the Leadership Team and currently volunteers at St. James Parish in Chicago. She brings many gifts and much enthusiasm for the Associate Partnership to her role as an Advisory Committee member.



LENTEN REFLECTION DELIVERY

Thanks to all for your prayerful, thoughtful Lenten reflections. The booklet is being printed this week. If you plan to be at Mt. Loretto over the holidays and would be willing to take Lenten booklets back to those in your group or area, please contact Carol Witry at <u>associates@dubuquepresentations.org</u>. Thank you! Those who received the Advent booklet electronically will also receive the Lenten booklet electronically.

FOR YOUR 2017 CALENDAR

Save the date – **April 29, 2017** from 8:45 a.m.-3:00 p.m. - for the bi-annual Conference of Associates & Religious of the Midwest Area (CARMA) day of reflection. Registration materials will be coming in January.



HISTORY HAS SHAPED US. TODAY WILL BE TOMORROW'S LEGACY.

An Interesting Piece of History from 1915

Among the annals is a copy of a thesis by Sister Mary Inez Doyle written in 1939 as part of her B.A. requirements. The thesis is a history of the Presentation Sisters in Dubuque.

As we probably all know, when a new Presentation house was opened in Ireland it became a separate entity, owned by the sisters. This practice was not carried over to the United States, and each community of sisters assigned to a mission remained attached to Mt. Loretto. Apparently this needed to be clarified canonically, because the following copy of a document dated August 7, 1915, reads as follows:

"Whereas a petition has recently been presented to the Apostolic See to unite all the Houses hitherto independent of one another, which certain Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin from Ireland established in the United States of America, in the Dioceses of Dubuque, Omaha, Sioux City, and the Ordinaries of these Dioceses not only consenting, but favoring and asking for it; this Sacred Congregation of Religious Communities having duly considered the matter decrees, that the Houses of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary in the above mentioned Dioceses shall be united from this day in one body, and shall constitute really and properly but one religious congregation under the rule and obedience of the Superioress General of the same; that it shall be the principal house and the Novitiate for all the Houses which now are, or in the future may be, and that the principal House shall be what is commonly known as Mt. Loretto, Dubuque, Iowa."

An earlier decree had cleared up some other questions from the sisters concerning their canonical status. The following was approved February 5, 1915.

"Whereas the Sisters by the name of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and belonging to the Dubuque Diocese humbly sought of the Apostolic See the favor:

'Of partaking in the indulgences, privileges, and other spiritual favors granted to the whole Congregation of the Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, as well as the Apostolic Benediction with a plenary indulgence at the hour of death for the individual Sisters themselves and their relatives to the third degree included.' "The Sacred Congregation of Religious Communities...answers as follows: The favor is granted."

What we take for granted today was guaranteed 100+ years ago!

Sister M. Hermann



Board of Trustees

Kevin Deeny President

Mary Lou Mauss Vice-President

Brad Kane Treasurer

Mary Louise Scieszinski, PBVM Secretary

Sheila Ann Dougherty, PBVM Benjamin Duschner, PBVM Diana Miller Tim Moothart Laurie Noel Hermann Platt, PBVM Carol Walsh



Sarah J. Gieske Executive Director 900 Jackson Street Suite LL5-1 Dubuque, Iowa 52001

phone 563.557.7134
cell 608.475.3670
email thelanterncenter@gmail.com

A Thought: Peace on Earth?

The quote above is the essence of my thoughts this morning, as I write this update. It is Christmastime and everywhere we say, we sing, "Peace on Earth." What is more critical is that first, I have peace inside, so I think this morning that "Peace within Me" should be the starting point and from there, peace on earth will come. As Prem Rawat states: "Peace begins not with countries, not with nations, and not with governments. Peace begins with you. Peace begins with me. Peace begins with each one of us. It is within us."

Tutor Appreciation Dinner

On Sunday, December 4th from 4 – 6 p.m., Lantern Center volunteers braved the first snowfall and gathered at the Presentation Center at the motherhouse for our annual banquet. There were about 45 people in attendance, which is not too bad considering the snow and that we had 63 RSVPs. We enjoyed lasagna, and homemade salads and desserts brought by our volunteer tutors. Our program included an explanation of why the lantern is the symbol of the Presentations, and therefore, our center. We gave two lanterns to two tutors who received the Presentation Lantern Center Service Award: Catherine Basten and Sister Mary Martens, BVM. The night closed with Christmas carols, and a new rendition of We Wish You a Merry Christmas. Instead of "figgy pudding" we sang we wanted "verbs that conjugate" and "Debbie's coffee." An enormous thank you to sisters Benjamin, Sheila Ann, and Hermann, and also Associate Mary Lou Mauss for their help in set-up.

New Students

Recently, we have had three new students start with us. One is an Iraqi woman, former nurse; another, a woman from Mexico who has a son with hydrocephalus (please keep her in your prayers); and another, a man from Bangladesh who works 7 days a week, 12 hours a day and tells me one is lucky to earn \$200/month in Bangladesh to be able to purchase rice – a country staple - at the same price as it is in the U.S. Wishing you gratitude in your lives, and Happy Holidays!

"Until we achieve peace from within, we cannot have peace and harmony outside us, and neither can there be world peace, nor any kind of personal progress in our own lives. Bringing peace will require everyone's efforts. Whatever little one can do in this direction, one should do."

-Sri Sri

Sarah

¿QUÉ TAL, BOLIVIA? [WHAT'S HAPPENING, BOLIVIA?]

SOLIDARITY WITH LUCIANA

Several years ago, Colette and Paul McDermott, (Sister Julianne's sister and brother in-law from Cascade) offered to help a young widowed mother with five children. The friendship started with a monthly donation for Luciana and her family, which helped the mother to buy school supplies and food for her young family. Colette was able to meet and visit Luciana and her family during a



visit to Bolivia in 2006. Many years have passed and Colette & Paul have not forgotten about Luciana. During the past two years, Luciana began to set aside some of the monthly donation to build a one room home for her family.

The first purchases were five bags of cement, followed by a load of bricks, and most recently the purchase of six sheets of tin for the roof. Since the rainy season has begun, this purchase was essential.

Thanks to the solidarity and generosity of Colette & Paul, Luciana and her family will spend Christmas in their new home in Naurenda, Bolivia.

Hermanas Therese, Suzanne, Marge, and Mery







What historical or living person could mean more to persons of Mexican heritage than Our Lady of Guadalupe? Mexican American theologians place her at the center of Mexican and Hispanic spirituality. She is also considered the feminine face of God for an extremely oppressed people. Less than 15 years after the conquest of Mexico by Spanish invaders, Our Lady appeared to Juan Diego as a pregnant indigenous woman in native dress, looking very Indian with her striking dark skin and speaking affectionately to him in his native Nahuatl

language. Her expression was tender and loving, voicing esteem and confidence in Juan Diego's capability to carry out the problematic mission that she was requesting of him: that of having a church constructed where the native people could encounter the One God beneath the figure of God's spectacular Mother. The site of the church was at the base of Tepeyac, where earlier the ancient shrine of the earth goddess Tonantzin was located. The exquisite image of Our Lady of Guadalupe

imprinted on his tilma, coupled with the beautiful and unseasonable roses, convinced Bishop Juan Zumarraga that Juan Diego was indeed the faithful messenger of Mary's request.

The mixing of the indigenous and Spanish cultures created the new race of mestizos known as the Mexican people. Another new mixing of cultures began in the American Southwest, especially in Texas, New Mexico, Colorado, Arizona, and California. This new mixture became what we call the Hispanic people, sometimes called Latinos or regionally Chicanos. This mingling of cultures continues in North Central Iowa where many persons from Vera Cruz or other areas of Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, or other Latin countries mix socially and culturally with other immigrant descendants.



Hispanics of the Hampton area have spent weeks planning for the celebration of the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe at St. Patrick's Church. The women brought donations for hundreds of roses to Sister Carmen for contracting a local florist. The decorating of the church was scheduled for December 10.

The mañanitas, or early morning serenade to Our Lady, began at 5:00 am on December 11. The voices of men, women, and children joined melodiously with Sister Carmen's guitar in heartwarming praise of the Mother of God and Mother of all. Then after abrazos and warm wishes for all, coffee and hot chocolate were served in the parish hall.



Archbishop Michael Jackels devoutly celebrated the Mass in Spanish on that Sunday evening with the children reenacting the story of Juan Diego and his encounters with Our Lady of Guadalupe and Bishop Juan Zumarraga, (after Juan finally got past the bishop's sentinels). The parents of the children narrated the story at the microphones and read the speaking parts of the Our Lady, Bishop Zumarraga, his sentinels and others, as the children dramatized the events. The emotional story captivated and charmed the worshipers.

After the Eucharistic Celebration, the unrivaled feast was served in the parish hall: tacos dorados, tamales,

pizza, spaghetti, and various desserts. A group of Hispanic parishioners from Latimer, IA, sang evocative Mayan hymns in honor of the Virgin known as "the Guadalupana". A group of Hampton children danced adorably in colorful Mexican dress bringing delight and applause from the spectators. And finally, the Hispanic women's dance set performed charmingly in splendid pastel dresses that they had managed to acquire from Mexico. The feast demonstrated radiantly the rich cultural heritage of this honorable and proud people and manifested a religious tradition profoundly deep and abundantly loving.





maura aumen



December 2016

Building pathways from homelessness to home ownership

A Year of Blessing! A Season of Gifting and Gratitude!

In 2016 Hotel Hope received 80 crisis calls, 65 from families with 76 children who needed housing. With your generous support Hotel Hope provided a variety of services and assisted the families in many ways. Many of the families needed short-term assistance.

Hotel Hope assisted with fees for housing applications, security deposits, food, hygiene products, clothing, furniture and other necessary support for the families. Hotel Hope assisted eight

families to secure permanent housing —no longer do they live in cars under a bridge or in abandoned houses.

Since 2014 we have assisted more than 100 families and over 225 children. This ministry has been done without the use of a building. Just imagine what Hotel Hope will accomplish when we open the doors to the Phyllis M. Taylor Hotel Hope!

-Sísters Mary Lou Specha and Julíe Marsh

Room in the Inn: Guest families begin journey to self-sufficient housing



The McLendon Family: Tammy, Christopher and their three teenage children (14, 15, 16 years) spent 9 months living out of their car after being evicted by a landlord who was selling his property.

Hotel Hope sheltered them for six months before they were placed into their permanent home earlier this month.



The Winston Family: Chevelle and her husband have four small children. Both parents are working but were unable to find affordable housing, forcing them to live with her mother in a small Section 8 housing unit not intended for two families. Hotel Hope assisted them with a security deposit for a new home just in time for the holidays.



The Campbell Family: Dion, her husband, their two adult children and three grandchildren were living in a shelter in one of the city parks for two weeks. Although Dion has a job and her husband is a substitute teacher and a coach, they were evicted for not being able to pay their rent. **Hotel Hope** sheltered them for two weeks before they found a more affordable house.

Interested in becoming involved?

Contact Mary Lou Specha, PBVM Executive Director 4222 South Broad New Orleans LA 70125 Cell: 504-715-9798 Phyllis M. Taylor HOTEL HOPE

> Visit us at www.hotelhope.org Like us at



mlspecha@hotelhope.org www.facebook.com/hotelhope.nola Hotel Hope Update is a monthly sharing with Dubuque PBVM Sisters and Associates. Communications Team: Mary Lou Specha, PBVM; Julie Marsh, PBVM; Beth Kress, PBVM



The Belvine Family: Sierra, her two-yearold baby girl and nine-month old baby boy were found staying under one of the overpasses in the city for weeks. She left a home where illegal drugs were prevalent. Wanting more for herself and her children, she called **Hotel Hope**. There she received emergency shelter for her family for three months. Sierra has recently signed a lease and is in istemas

permanent housing for Christmas.



The Lunkins Family: Lorraine, a grandmother with full custody of her 8 year-old grandson, was found living in her car with the child behind in a private parking lot. Hotel Hope received a call that they were there for over two weeks and provided sheltered for over a month. Lorraine is now planning to receive a permanent housing placement. She will be home iust before Christmas.

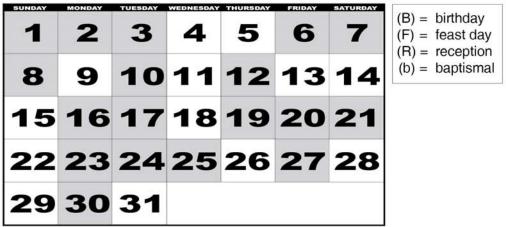


May these holy days bring you Christmas peace, hope and joy. May your New Year be happy and holy. Thank you for your prayers and support of our mission at **Hotel Hope.**

Sísters Mary Lou Specha & Julie Marsh

PRESENTATION CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JANUARY 2017



- 1 Colleen Vlaisavljevich
- 2 Sister Carrie Link (B)
- 3 Darla Budden / Bridget Lahart
- 6 Madonna Moeller
- 7 Paulette Besch / Deborah Pic-Deutmeyer
- 10 Ruth Ludwig
- 12 Sister Joan Lickteig (F) / Jane Nagy / Nancy Schroeder
- 16 Sister Marjorie Loughren (B)
- 17 Sue Baldwin / Deb Blaul / Zelma Sholly
- 19 Donna Ewy
- 20 Sister Marilou Irons (B)
- 21 Sister Rayanne Determan (b) Sister Agnes Marie Lynch (F) / Sister Linda Reicks (B)
- 23 Sister Margaret Anne Kramer (B) / Sister Irma Ries (B) Sharon Loeffelholz / Kathryn Scudella
- 24 Sister Kay Cota (B) / Sister Joetta Venneman (B) Rose Rauch
- 25 Sister Barbara Rastatter (B)
- 27 Hazel Wagner
- 30 Sister Lynn Mary Wagner (B)

Special Events

- 1 New Year's Day
- 7 Mother Vincent Moves to Key West (1875)
- 8 Epiphany
- 16 Martin Luther King Day

PRAYERS

November 18 – December 16, 2016

12/13

Our good friend Pam Hoggins, who has been part of our associate and associates to be associates group, just lost her grandson to suicide. He was 25 years old. Please keep her and the family in prayer. Thank you, Bren Connors, Associate

12/12

On Monday, Dec. 12, I will be having laser surgery on my right eye to remove a cataract. The second surgery for my left eye will be sometime in February. I am looking forward to new vision! Thank you. Sister Beth Kress

12/7

Please continue your powerful prayers for Dale Schmidt, brother of Associate Marlene Von Fumetti, and for his family and friends. Dale is now in Hospice care. Thank you.

12/2

Please pray for Jerry Skyles (Gerald), brother of Sister Annette Skyles, who died December 1, 2016. Jerry died peacefully with his family with him. He lived in Portland, Oregon. Sister Annette is grateful for your prayerful support.