



# COMMUNITY NOTES

## Sisters of the Presentation

---

### September 2016

**Peace is every step...**

-Thich Nhat Hanh

On the vigil of each new month, a meaningful practice of mine is to sit in my prayer space with my calendar resting on my lap, and in a contemplative manner, welcome into my heart, the people and events, sketched on the squares of the calendar, that will be a part of my life in the month ahead: birthdays and anniversaries, meetings, appointments, zoom calls, coffee dates with friends, etc.

The month of September marks two significant events: the fifteenth anniversary of the 9/11 attacks (September 11) and the International Day of Peace (September 21). We will remember the victims and pray for the families who were left behind and who continue to bear the burden of sadness for those who were lost. We pray for peace in our communities, cities, countries and throughout the world.

The focus of Dubuque's Festival Celebrating the United Nations International Day of Peace for 2016 is women working for peace. Rohina Malik returns to Dubuque for a repeat performance of her one-woman play "Unveiled", offering an insightful look inside the world of Muslim women (September 21, 7:00-9:00 PM, Hoffman Hall Theater, Loras College). I encourage sisters and associates living in the tri-state area to take advantage of this opportunity, as well as other sponsored events, all free and open to the public ([www.dbqdayofpeace.org](http://www.dbqdayofpeace.org)). If you do not live in the area, take note of the events happening in your local city or initiate an action that will raise awareness and celebrate peace.

Perhaps all of us, right where we are, can do something to bring peace to the world.

I offer some simple suggestions:

- spend ten minutes a day praying contemplatively for peace;
- offer a smile and a peaceful presence to the people in your work-place and/or neighborhood;
- extend hospitality to someone whose values and opinions differ from your own;
- write an encouraging note to someone whose heart is filled with anxiety;
- be grateful and content!

Our efforts to cultivate peace lead us to the words of Jesus: "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives, do I give to you" (John 14:27).

Peace **is** every step....

*Beth Sinclair, RSM*

Dear Sisters and Associates,

I left my job in La Crosse in mid-June and recently moved my belongings to 2360. I have an opportunity to take a three-month sabbatical. Springbank Retreat Center in South Carolina has a sabbatical beginning September 14th until December 7th. I am grateful to the Leadership Team and to the congregation for this opportunity.

My sabbatical address:

Springbank Retreat Center  
1345 County Rs. S-45-114  
Kingstree, SC 29556

I take you with me.

Martha Donnelly, PBVM

Dear Friends!

With a joyful heart I am excited to announce that starting October 1, 2016, I will begin a new ministry of hospitality at Applewood I & II, 3125 Pennsylvania Ave, Dubuque, Iowa 52001. My role for residents of these two apartment buildings is to organize monthly socials, issue a monthly newsletter, do some light maintenance and some administrative work among other tasks. Since Sr. Joy lives in one of the buildings, I hope to interact with her a little more.

As I start this new adventure, I want to thank you for your past prayers, notes of encouragement and concern as well ask for continued prayers as this new ministry unfolds. In the days ahead I will utilize current skill sets and learn some new ones. I am confident that the Applewood team will be a great support as I learn those ropes. Cleaning has always been my therapy and a nice change from paperwork so I am ready to make my mom proud in that department. I enjoy learning new things so I am ready for the new challenges coming my way.

Sr. Marilou Irons, PBVM

3125 Pennsylvania Ave. Apt. # 003

Dubuque, IA 52002



## Ever Emerging

"Evolutionary Spiral"  
Artist: Mary Southard, CSJ  
[www.MarySouthardArt.Org](http://www.MarySouthardArt.Org)  
Courtesy of  
[www.MinistryOfTheArts.Org](http://www.MinistryOfTheArts.Org)  
Congregation of St. Joseph

This page developed last year in *Community Notes*, is designed to highlight emerging circle activity and inspire conversations. Each month an emerging circle will be invited to feature its movement, stimulating insight and inquiry, as well as implications for other circles and our emerging Presentation future.

We remain grateful to all participants and animators of the Emerging Circles. Given the fact that the Election Process and Futuring emerging circles have completed the activity of their circles, we invite the members of those circles to share their wisdom and talent by engaging in another emerging circle. If Associates or Mt. Loretto staff are yet interested in joining an emerging circle and having access to Basecamp, contact Jane Buse: [jane@dubuquepresentations.org](mailto:jane@dubuquepresentations.org) and the animators of the specific circle you wish to join.

A Hundred Thousand Welcomes:

Marilyn Breen: [marilyn@dubuquepresentations.org](mailto:marilyn@dubuquepresentations.org)  
Martha Donnelly: [martha@dubuquepresentations.org](mailto:martha@dubuquepresentations.org)

Leadership:

Annette Kestel: [akestel3925@aol.com](mailto:akestel3925@aol.com)  
Mary Lou Specha: [mlspecha@gmail.com](mailto:mlspecha@gmail.com)

Stewarding Property and Sustainability: Joy Peterson: [joy@dubuquepresentations.org](mailto:joy@dubuquepresentations.org)

Lynn Fangman: [lynn@dubuquepresentations.org](mailto:lynn@dubuquepresentations.org)

Spiraling Mission Groups:

Joetta Venneman: [jovialjomarie@gmail.com](mailto:jovialjomarie@gmail.com)  
Jessi Beck: [jessirenae@yahoo.com](mailto:jessirenae@yahoo.com)

As we launch this emerging work in process, Joanna Macy echoes the *Directional Statement* and cites, for reflection, how each and every person co-creates the shift of consciousness from me to we!

### *Some circle guides . . .*

1. Attune to a common intention, not a goal or plan you can formulate with precision. May we meet common needs and collaborate in new ways.
2. Welcome diversity. Self-organization of the whole requires differentiation of the parts. Each one's role in this unfolding journey is unique.
3. Only the whole can repair itself. Take part in its self-healing. Healing wounded relationships within you and between you and others is integral to the healing of our world.
4. You are only a small part of a much larger process. So learn trust. Take part and take risks, when you cannot control, or even see, the outcome.
5. Open to flows of information from the larger system. Do not resist painful information about the condition of your world, but understand that the pain you feel for the world springs from interconnectivity, and your willingness to experience it unblocks feedback that is important to the well-being of the whole.
6. Speak the truth of your experience. If you have persistent responses to present conditions, assume that they are shared by others. Willingness to drop old answers and old roles, gives voice to the questions that arise in you.
7. No one has the final answer. The future is filled with possibilities.
8. Work increasingly in teams on joint projects serving common aims. Build community through shared tasks and rituals.
9. Be generous with your strengths and skills – they are not your private property. They grow from being shared. They include both your knowing and your not-knowing and the gifts you accept from the ancestors and all of creation.
10. Draw forth the strengths of others by your own acknowledgment of them. Never prejudge what a person can contribute. Instead be ready for surprise and fresh forms of synergy.
11. You do not need to see the results of your work. Your actions have unanticipated and far-reaching effects that are not likely to be visible to you in your lifetime.
12. Putting forth great effort, let there also be serenity in all your doing; for you are held within the web of life, within Spirit, within flows of energy and intelligence far exceeding your own.

(Unpublished text composed in 1990 by Joanna Macy in collaboration with German colleagues in *The Work that Reconnects*)

### *May we each know ourselves ever emerging . . .*



# COMMUNITY NEWS

## September 2016

### Email & Address Updates

**Sue Murphy, Associate**  
murphydands@gmail.com

**Mary Therese Krueger, PBVM**  
krugsmt@gmail.com

**Annette Kestel, PBVM**  
**Beth Driscoll, PBVM**  
2045 Hummingbird Drive  
Dubuque, IA 52002

Dear Friends,

Once again my mind and heart are filled with gratitude for the varied ways our family has received support from so many people connected with the Sisters of the Presentation. Jim's wife, Rowena, and all in their family join with Maureen and me in our appreciation for your prayers and expressions of love and care during Jim's long illness and at the time of his death.

Sister Mary Dennis Lentsch

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your presence, your kind, supportive messages, and all the many ways you helped to make our 60th Jubilee perfect and memorable in every way.

Sixty years ago, our class of 13 was welcomed by the Dubuque Presentations. Today, six of us continue the journey with sisters, associates, friends and family because of your support of LOVE. We would not be here today if you had not shared our challenges, our sorrows, our JOYs, and our celebrations of life as we walk in the light of Nano Nagle's Lantern.

It is with deep GRATITUDE that we shared this special day in our lives and promise you our ongoing commitment *reverencing relationships, celebrating unity, engaging contemplation and fostering partnerships while sharing in the stories and lives of those living injustices in our world.*

Sisters Donna Determan, Emilie Bormann, Hermann Platt,  
Jeanine Kuhn, Raeleen Sweeney, Sheila Ann Dougherty

Dear Friends,

With great gratitude we remember the abounding kindness and prayers which gifted me and all my extended family at the time of my brother Jim's sudden death. Thank you for your gracious concern, and loving expressions of sympathy. Please continue to remember Jim, my sister-in-law, Cathy, and Jim and Cathy's adult children and their families in your prayers.

Thanks and deep appreciation to all,  
Julianne Brockamp, PBVM

### Ministry Donation Committee

\$ 4,500	EXCEL, Inc.
\$10,000	Catholic Charities – Archdiocese of Dubuque (Immigration attorney)
\$ 2,000	Entre Rios - Bolivian Water Project
\$10,000	HOPE program at St. Pius V Parish (strengthen families especially for victims of domestic violence/their children)

***Requests for the next committee meeting are due November 23, 2016.***

# *From the Office of...* VOCATIONS

Vision Vocation Magazine, the official resource of the National Religious Vocation Conference (NRVC), is printed annually as a discernment guide for men and women discerning their call to religious life. Each magazine has wonderful articles on various topics ranging from creative ways to express religious life in ministry to stories of how sisters, brothers and priests have responded to the call as well as many other topics. In the 2017 issue which just came out, there is an article entitled “9 things religious life has to offer”. In this writing, I would like to share information about the nine points and offer questions that might be worth pondering.

Sister Shannon Fox is a member of the Sisters of St. Joseph of the Third Order of St. Francis. She lives in Chicago and ministers as a special education teacher. She began the article by saying, “Sometimes people think religious life is mostly about giving things up. But there is much to be gained when your true vocation is to be a sister, brother, or priest. It is true you make sacrifices when you join a religious community, just as with any life commitment, but I have found the sacrifices I make help me to be a better person. They have left me free to live more fully.” She then shared her list of things religious life has to offer.

1. Opportunities for leadership—Opportunities to hone leadership skills within a congregation, in a ministry and in community-sponsored endeavors are plentiful and rich.
2. & 3 Encouragement to be your best self & a support network—Sisters within a community expect the best a sister can offer. There is spiritual support, ministerial support, or just someone to talk to or share the day with as all aspects of a sister’s life receive the attention needed to become the person God would like.
4. Mentors—There are many examples of sisters that have accomplished many incredible things. Having good mentoring is critical during times of challenge and times of development.
5. Freedom to not just work for a paycheck—Lay people often make decisions of where to work based on the ability to earn a certain income. Because sisters pool financial resources, a sister is encouraged to find a ministry based on where God is calling the sister to serve and where the sister might best use gifts and abilities.
6. Making time to balance lives—Life as a sister offers the opportunity to be engaged in a ministry without demands of raising a family. Religious women have freedom to do the chosen ministry, spend time with friends and sisters, time in prayer and reflection and enjoy hobbies/free time activities.
7. Sense of self—On-going formation allows a sister to examine gifts, strengths and weaknesses in light of the relationship with God. This allows a sister to have a better sense of who she is and who she is being called by God to be.

8. Prayer life—Each year a retreat opportunity allows a sister to focus on spiritual development, prayer life, and a deepening relationship with God. Community prayer helps to bond and ground sisters. Regular communal prayer times help a sister keep herself accountable and assist in developing the discipline needed for a deep prayer life.

9. Sisters—The biggest gift of religious life is living in community with other women that share the good, the bad, the ups and the downs, the tears and the laughter. Sisters live lives with each and are much richer for the experience.

It is always good to spend time in reflection. One or more of the following questions might offer material upon which to reflect.

- Who has been your support network?
- Were there / are there mentors in your life?
- What did / do they offer you?
- How do you find balance in your life?
- Have you found a sense of freedom in religious community life?



---

IMMERSION AND SERVICE PROGRAM OF THE SISTERS OF THE PRESENTATION

## Make a Difference Day: Service Opportunity

Saturday, October 22, 2016 - Please join Presentation sisters, associates and friends in assisting senior citizens, handicapped, veterans and others with a helping hand.

The Andrew Connolly *Make a Difference Day* will include light duty and heavy duty chores around the home, yard work projects, socializing and playing games with homebound seniors, doing simple repairs, and weatherization activities such as replacing furnace filters and applying window plastic or caulking.

Saturday, October 22, 2016

8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

No experience or references needed.

For more information or to sign up, contact Sister Rita at [service@dubuquepresentations.org](mailto:service@dubuquepresentations.org) or by calling 563-588-2008 ext. 153.

# Our Journey in Formation



## **Welcome to Dubuque, Mary Therese!**

On Saturday, September 3, we welcomed Sr. Mary Therese Krueger to Dubuque, accompanied by her moving team: her parents, Ann and Jim Krueger and Sisters Jessi Beck, Marilyn Breen and Janet Stelken. There to welcome her were the members of her new accompanying community, Sisters Jeanine Kuhn, Margaret Anne Kramer, and Rosalyn Ulfers and formation coordinator, Annette Kestel.

Mary Therese now formally begins her canonical novitiate year. This special period of prayer and discernment will include weekly trips with Annette to Techny Towers in Northbrook, IL for the Intercommunity Novitiate (ICN). This program gathers novices and directors from a variety of religious congregations of women and men for the following purposes:

- To interact with others on the journey through the canonical novitiate year.
- To pray and worship together.
- To receive input from speakers on topics pertinent to novitiate and religious life.
- To grow in appreciation of the differences in charism, cultural backgrounds, and life experiences of others participating in the program.
- To provide interaction and peer support for novices and directors.

On Tuesday, September 6, we attended the introductory ICN gathering, which included five women's congregations and seven men's congregations. Forty-seven novices and sixteen directors gathered to meet, receive an overview of the program, and share our congregational charisms. In small groups, each novice shared what attracted her/him to community, as well as expectations and hopes for the year of ICN. We concluded our day with Eucharist and a potluck lunch.

The ICN topics for the remainder of September will include input and process on transitions, the Myers Briggs personality types, and leadership and collaboration. We look forward to the great opportunities for learning, reflection, and sharing that the ICN will provide and to sharing what we learn with you.

*Annette*



Left to right:  
Sister Margaret Anne Kramer, Jim  
and Ann Krueger, Sisters Mary  
Therese Krueger, Jeanine Kuhn,  
and Rosalyn Ulfers





## From the...Associate Partnership Office

Carol Witry, Co-Director  
Joan Brincks, PBVM, Co-Director

phone 563.588.2008 ext 608  
fax 563.588.4463  
email associates@dubuquepresentations.org

### FOOD FOR THOUGHT...

“Love is not something we do, love is what God does in us when we encounter each concrete moment of reality as gift.” – Ilia Delio, OSF

- *How can you be fully aware and attentive to God’s grace revealed in the present moment?*

### MOTHER-DAUGHTER ASSOCIATES Betty Spehar

My journey with the Presentation sisters began when I was in 1st grade in Waukon, Iowa in 1944. In my youth, the Sisters of the Presentation were a shining light that showed me faith in Jesus Christ through love and example, as did their foundress Nano Nagle.

I moved to the Milwaukee area and married my husband Dave and raised three children. My oldest daughter Anne Marie moved to Chicago in 1990. Since I was spending more time in Chicago, Sister Raeleen Sweeney and I were able to connect. She invited us to an associate meeting and we were introduced to the Chicago Presentation sisters and associates.



Since joining the Presentation Associates, Anne Marie and I have been a part of this vibrant community, participating in activities and events when possible and appreciate being remembered in prayer over the years. Being an associate has helped keep my life centered, as well as enriching my own prayer life.

I stay active in my home parish in Greendale, WI, and I am part of the faith community adult formation board. Being associates is something that Anne Marie and I can do together and we appreciate the community, support, and enrichment of our faith that the Presentation sisters and associates bring to our life.

### ASSOCIATE PARTNERSHIP ADVISORY COMMITTEE



After five years of service as faithful members of the Associate Partnership Advisory Committee, Mary and Harry Stanton are stepping down due to health concerns. We are grateful to you, Mary and Harry, for sharing your faith, wisdom, wit, skills and support and love for the Associate Partnership in countless ways as Advisory Committee members. Be assured of our prayers and support as you continue on your journey. We are grateful for your presence among us and for your witness as followers of Jesus and Nano.

We are happy to welcome Associates Rose Rausch and Sue Murphy as new Advisory Committee members. Rose is a former PBVM member and has been an associate for five years. She is a member



of the Cedar Rapids associate group and the Leadership emerging circle. Sue, a Presentation employee, became an associate in 2010 and is a member of the Joyful Servants of the Light associate group and the Human Trafficking emerging circle. Both women bring many gifts to their roles as Advisory Committee members. Their strong faith and enthusiasm for the Associate Partnership will serve them well.



### LEARN SOMETHING NEW EVERY TIME YOU VISIT!

Looking for activities or resources for your associate group? Want to be inspired by how associates are living the Presentation mission? Wondering how to go about inviting someone to consider becoming an associate? Interested in learning more about associate groups? The Associate Partnership section of the Dubuque Presentation website is for you! Take a little time to explore!

Go to [www.dubuquepresentations.org](http://www.dubuquepresentations.org) Click on: Associate Partnership tab at the top OR scroll to the bottom and on the left click on Associate Partnership.

On the next screen on the left you see a list of topics to click on for information. *Associate Testimonials* and *Living the Mission* give wonderful information. Get to know some of our associates!

This site has a private section for sisters and associates. Click on *Members Login*. Associates login by typing your first name for the username and your last name for the password. You will see the following forms:

- Ministry Fund Request
- Event Registration (This is the place to register for Associates/Sisters retreat, Community Days, Associate Gatherings and other events at Mt. Loretto.)
- Service Award Application
- Directory Update

On the left, click on *Associate Partnership*. You will see:

- Associate Group Listing
- Featured Associate Groups (great place to learn about other associates)
- Upcoming Events
- Forms:
  - Initial Associate Commitment, Time and Talent Survey, Photo and Video Release, Recommitment, Withdrawal
  - Invitation Process
  - Resources & Ideas: (for individuals or groups)
    - Click on each idea to learn more about it and the resources to support it. Periodically, new ideas and resources are added.

Spend some time browsing the rest of the website, learning more about Presentation mission, heritage, ministries, spirituality, social justice, opportunities and much more. Learn something new every time you visit!



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

## STANDING ON THE SHOULDERS

Someone once suggested that the archives ought to contain thumbnail sketches of all the sisters who have gone before so that we can learn about their virtues and enjoy their foibles. An earlier archivist had begun this project, and short biographies of the first 64 sisters to be professed in the Dubuque Presentation community are available for interested readers.

Recently the present archivist has taken up this project, beginning with the profession class of 1902. The results of this ongoing project will appear occasionally in Community Notes. The first installment appears below.

*Sister M. Hermann*

### **Sister Mary Fidelis Martin 1878 – 1908**

Catherine Martin was born in November of 1878 to Patrick and Elizabeth Martin of Lawler, Iowa. She entered St. Vincent Convent November 21, 1899, and was received into the novitiate by Mother Aloysius Waring on May 19, 1900. Mother Angela Crowley received Sister Fidelis's final vows on April 2, 1902 at a ceremony officiated by Rev. John Fogarty.

No mission assignments are listed on Sister's individual permanent record. She died at St. Vincent Convent on May 3, 1908, of tuberculosis.

The following account is taken from "Our Dear Ones" by Sister Mary Vivian Cranny.

"From Mt. Carmel School, Lawler, came Madonna-like Kitty Martin to join the ranks of Nano Nagle's Presentation daughters. Her affable disposition, thoughtfulness of others, and sweet personality endeared her to her novitiate companions. Her teaching career was marked by efficiency seldom surpassed. By some rare method of management Sister could leave her post temporarily and return to find her children as orderly and attentive as if she were seated at her desk.

"All too soon the fatal foe of so many young Presentation Sisters claimed another victim. The noonday air was still vibrant with the echo of the Angelus when, on May 3, 1908, Sister Mary Fidelis sped from earth to spend the rest of Mary's month, yes, even all eternity, in the company of Mary and Mary's son.

"The year of Sister's death, Mount Loretto was under construction. She longed for a glance at the walls, but she was too ill to leave her bed. A kindly attendant wheeled her bed to the window one day so she could feast her eyes lovingly on the home she was never to occupy."

Sister Fidelis died of tuberculosis at St. Vincent, where she had been professed only eight years earlier.

Unfortunately, the archives contains no picture of Sister Mary Fidelis and there is little information about her in the files.



## Back to School

It is September, and the Lantern Center is "back to school" after our August break. We resumed Tuesday, September 6<sup>th</sup> and we are off to a busy, but good start.

### 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

### New Students

During the last week of August I was in the office and received a few new immigrant students. Then last week, our first official week back to the center from summer break, we received a few as well. I am happy to see them coming out of the woodwork! Debbie is working with me to find tutors among our existing pool to serve these immigrants in learning English. There are two young men from the Philippines, a Marshallese couple, a young Guatemalan woman, and two Mexican women, one of whom arrived just three weeks ago and is a sister to an existing student. We are always looking for more volunteers. The requirement is just 2 hours each week. Please help me spread the word.

### Citizenship Training

One of our stalwart volunteers, Ruth Fagan OSF, and I had the opportunity to attend a Citizenship Teacher Education training held at the USCIS field office in Omaha on September 1. We had eight hours of instruction in what exactly makes up the citizenship interview and the test itself. We also received some tips on how to teach the concepts of the 100 civics questions *and* how to best prepare adults for the speaking, reading and writing portions of the interview. It was a very valuable training and we also had fun. Ruth is a fantastic story teller!

### Clarke University Volunteers

On Saturday, September 10, four young women from Clarke University and I cleaned at the Lantern Center for a few hours. I also educated them on what we do. This free labor, as part of the *Into the Streets* program, is appreciated since we do not employ a janitor. I won't hesitate to accept the offer of volunteers again in the spring.

### Motherhouse Visits

I will be at the Presentation motherhouse on the third Thursday of every month for lunch. I look forward to these occasions to deliver news from the Lantern Center.

Blessings,  
Sarah Gieseke



Sarah J. Gieseke

*Executive Director*

*email giesekej@gmail.com*

### address

Schmid Innovation Center

900 Jackson Street

Suite LL5-1

Dubuque, Iowa 52001

*phone* 563.557.7134

*cell* 608.475.3670

*email* thelanterncenter@gmail.com



# ¿QUÉ TAL, BOLIVIA?

## [WHAT'S HAPPENING, BOLIVIA?]

### MIRACLES CONTINUE TO HAPPEN

Martha, a Guarani woman, is a single mother of seven who lives in Mokomokal, just minutes from our house in Timboy.

We learned in April that Martha, 44, was in need of surgery to save her eye sight. Sister Therese Corkery met her in the city and accompanied her to the eye specialist who scheduled the first surgery in June. After several trips to the city of Tarija for follow up and surgeries, Martha is doing very well with her left eye, which was most affected by the condition.

We are anticipating that Martha will begin the next series of visits to the specialist in October, when the process will begin on her right eye.

During Sister Diana Blong's recent visit, we journeyed together to Martha's home and gave her a ride to Entre Rios so she could continue on to her doctor's appointment in the city.



This past week, when we visited Martha in Mokomokal, we found her enjoying the little children practicing the typical Guarani dance, the *Atiko*. Her youngest daughter, 5 year old Juanita, is part of the group of dancers, but informed her mother that she couldn't dance that day because she did not have her *tiboi* dress ready!

A special thanks to all of you for your financial and prayerful support that makes this miracle happen for Martha.

## UPDATE ON CASA BETANIA (BETHANY HOUSE)

*Casa Betania* continues to welcome young people for study projects and visits. This past month, Noelia Barreto Velasquez, came to live with us, and experience community.



Sister Mery Cari Paz continues working diligently on her thesis, in addition to classes and various activities, in her final semester of studies in the university.

*Sister Mery joined by Lorena and Gonzalo during a study project at Casa Betania*



*Sister Therese, Yasi Mendez and Noelia Barreto*

*Hermanas Therese, Suzanne, Marge, and Mery*





**As the fall activities begin at La Luz Hispana, we take this opportunity to present our Board members:**



Anabel Alanis is the wife of Juan Alanis Hernandez and is the mother of three children: Marcos, Maria, and Alyzarit. She is proud to be on the board of *La Luz Hispana* with the opportunity to promote a more united community in Hampton. She has used her creative talents to teach rosary making, paper flower making, designing of dance costumes, and creating animals out of balloons, (the latter with the help of her husband Juan).



Monica Reyes grew up in New Hampton. She and her sister are Dreamers and her brother is a US citizen. For Monica, the immigration debate is not about partisan politics, but about families. Today she is working to change immigration laws which would benefit her family. They are among the 17,000 lowans who would have benefitted from the President's executive order for immigrant children and parents of citizen children.



Elsa Gonzalez was born in Guatemala and came to the United States when she was 22 years old. Her son is Jose Miguel and her daughter is Danielle. She loves being on the board of *La Luz Hispana* to serve her community in this way. She is studying computation, GED classes, and citizenship classes.



Jim Kohls was born and raised in Kansas. He graduated from the University of Kansas with bachelor's degrees in Business Administration and Accounting. He moved to Hampton in October, 1999. He is currently employed as the assistant controller at Hampton Hydraulics (Seabee), and also works part time at Franklin Wellness Center. Jim is married and has two grown children.



Sister Janet Goetz is a charter member of the La Luz Board where she has served as secretary. After thirty-plus years as registrar at Bishop Garrigan High School, Algona, Iowa, she is now appreciating the change of pace which comes with retirement. Sister Janet volunteers in the Garrigan lunchroom and at the St. Cecelia parish office. She is a member of the Presentation Sisters and continues to reside in Algona.



Darla Budden is vice president of the *La Luz Hispana* board. She is a Presentation Sisters' Lay Associate in the group called Nano's Nine. She and her husband Rick are parishioners of SS. Peter & Paul Parish in Petersburg, where she does a great deal of volunteer work. They have four amazing children, three beautiful grandchildren and a new granddaughter due in September.



Brook Boehmler, the former executive director of the Greater Franklin County Chamber of Commerce is now the elected Mayor of Hampton. Boehmler was honored at SummerFest for his work during his four years as executive director of the chamber. In addition to his work as mayor, Brook is manager of the PAPPAS JOHN ENTREPRENEURIAL CENTER of NIACC and takes great interest in all citizens of Hampton, especially the newcomers.



Sister Rita Menart is a Sister of the Presentation of Dubuque, Iowa, who is president of *La Luz Hispana* board. Rita has been a religious for over 30 years, has served as a teacher, missionary in Guatemala and in Bolivia, director of Hispanic Ministry in the Archdiocese of Dubuque and as a counselor. Presently, she is a counselor with Catholic Charities in Waterloo, Iowa.



Linda Kuehner graduated in Spanish from UNI, and taught Spanish for the Hampton-Dumont Community Schools. She is married to Leon Kuehner and has two children and one grandchild. She presently serves on the Hampton Public Library Board, and the FGH Board of Trustees along with helping with the Food Bank and Crisis Fund at St. Patrick Catholic Church.



Sister Jeanine Kuhn, PBVM, entered the Sisters of the Presentation in 1956, and received a BA from Clarke University, an MA from Loras College, and an MA in Christian Spirituality and Retreat Work from Creighton University. She has served and enjoyed a variety of ministries; teacher, principal, community leadership, pastoral associate, spiritual director, retreat work, and Director of American Martyrs Retreat House. She continues offering spiritual direction/mentoring while living in Dubuque in the Vocation Discernment Community.





Sister Sharon Kelchen, PBVM was baptized Donna Kelchen at St. Patrick's in Ryan, Iowa, the oldest of nine children of Lawrence and Florence (Hosch). Her family all live within 30 miles of one another. (How lucky is that?) Sharon entered the Presentation Sisters in 1964 and majored in music at Clarke College. She served in many Iowa towns as music teacher and principal. She served the Hispanics in Chicago and as house coordinator at Mt. Loretto. She feels that her life has been blessed even with its challenges.



Joann Gullickson graduated with a degree in accounting and is now the volunteer accountant for *La Luz Hispana*. She worked for 18 years at Terex, Cedar Rapids, a manufacturing company in Cedar Rapids, most recently as Chief Financial Officer. Joann is a Presentation Associate and lives in Coralville with her husband, Lee. They have two grown daughters and eight grandchildren (ages nine yrs. – eight mos.) who all live close by. If anyone should ask, Joann is more than willing to show pictures of the wonderful grandchildren.



Megan (Pearson) Rosenberg is a Hampton native and an attorney with a general practice there. She received her BA from Loras College and her JD from William Mitchell. She and her husband, Jeff, have two children, Mickey (13) and Lily Alice (8). She had been especially helpful in regard to setting up the statues for *La Luz Hispana* and advisor concerning legal issues for persons frequenting *La Luz Hispana*.



Sister Carmen Hernandez is executive director of *La Luz Hispana* since its inception on March 27, 2013. She worked 2 years in Sioux Falls, SD with the Aberdeen Presentation Sisters at *Caminando Juntos* from 2010 to 2012. Prior to this, she was Hispanic Outreach Coordinator at Mercy Medical Center, North Iowa in Mason City, IA. She studied Spanish in Bolivia for five months. Carmen is originally from Waterloo, IA, attended Columbus High School, University of Northern Iowa (undergraduate work), University of Dayton (graduate work).



Sister Maura McCarthy from Hanover of Allamakee County, did her formation as a Presentation Sister and teacher at Mt. Loretto and Clarke College. After teaching at Osage and St. Paul, MN. She with Ileen Sweeney commenced our mission in Bolivia. She returned to the states after 10 years, taught at Our Lady of Guadalupe in Chicago, then returned to Bolivia to accompany the Guarani people for 23 more years. She spent several months with the Latinos in Florida, was representative at the International Presentation Association in New York, and is now associate director of *La Luz Hispana*.

## Hotel Hope Chalet will soon be open for families

The renovations to **Hotel Hope Chalet** are almost complete. Soon this refurbished structure will address the need for a safe, clean, and homelike environment that supports a family unit, builds self-esteem and respect.



Above, renovated Hotel Hope Chalet.

The Chalet will provide stability and special services until more permanent housing for the family can be obtained. Families in a housing crisis; low- to-moderate income; all

racess; all religions are welcome at **Hotel Hope Chalet**. Homeless Families and their children will be directly involved in creating the strategy and a roadmap to return to more permanent housing.

An important strategy of **Hotel Hope Chalet** when dealing with families in crisis will be to welcome clients as if they were guests into a homelike environment rather than a cold, institutional, highly-regimented one: it is more of a "Bed and Breakfast" than a "shelter" in many details of its interior design and function.

The Chalet will house two families at a time for an average stay of 30 days, in a neighborhood that flooded with over 8 feet of water after Hurricane Katrina. The block filled with blighted abandoned houses in January, is now on the road to recovery!

—Mary Lou Specha

## Hotel Hope welcomes PBVM Summer Service team

**Hotel Hope** staff, Srs. Julie and Mary Lou, warmly welcomed Srs. Jessi Beck and Mary Therese Krueger and Summer Service team member, Rachel Dunlap, during their week long experience in August. This event was coordinated through the Dubuque PBVM "100,000 Welcomes" Emerging Circle group.

Jessi, MT and Rachel were able to assist **Hotel Hope** with many projects. We are so appreciative of their work and determination in assisting us in getting the Chalet ready to welcome guests!

Rachel Dunlap shared, "Our service in NOLA showed me the stark realities of living in poverty, the extreme difficulty in overcoming poverty and the need for more services to help others lift them-selves out of poverty."



Rachel & Jessi take a break for some play time.



Jessi, Rachel & Mary Therese remove old paint from wood.

Sr. Jessi Beck shared, "The work of Nano Nagle is alive and well in New Orleans! As Nano worked to alleviate the suffering of women and children in Ireland, Mary Lou, Julie and their many partners continue the mission for housing in New Orleans. I feel blessed to witness this and offer my small contribution. Blessings on all working to open the doors of **Hotel Hope** for those in need."

## Interested in becoming involved?

### Contact

Mary Lou Specha, PBVM  
 Executive Director  
 4222 South Broad  
 New Orleans LA 70125  
 Cell: 504-715-9798  
[mlspecha@hotelhope.org](mailto:mlspecha@hotelhope.org)

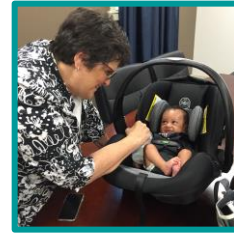
Phyllis M. Taylor  
**HOTEL HOPE**

Visit us at  
[www.hotelhope.org](http://www.hotelhope.org)  
 Like us at  
[www.facebook.com/hotelhope.nola](https://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

## Collaborating for success



Following our Community Days in July, Sister Mary Lou and I returned to New Orleans refreshed with a renewed

sense of mission. Our conviction, however, to the success of **Hotel Hope** is that we must be collaborators and partners with those resources in the city available for families in a housing crisis. **Hotel Hope** cannot exist on its own.

Within a few days of our return, a Case Manager from Louisiana's Coordinated System of Care (CSOC) organization called **Hotel Hope** for help in placing a woman with seven children (ages 16 to 3 weeks) in a house they found for her. Before she could move in they needed \$800 for a deposit.

I quickly contacted groups and individuals who had volunteered to help **Hotel Hope** in any way and soon found myself delivering the check to the new landlord. As I waited at the new home for the family, I couldn't help but realize that though the family would finally have shelter, they would have absolutely no furnishings – no chairs, no beds/bedding, no pots and pans, nothing. When I contacted the CSOC regarding what other services they could provide, they said that their job was done. They did not have the funds to furnish the home, just put them into a house.

Once again, **Hotel Hope** put out a call for much needed furnishings for a newly housed family. Generous donors immediately provided beds, bedding, towels, dishes, silverware, school supplies, clothing for the children, lamps, and sitting chairs.

Making a house a home is the goal for a family in crisis. This is only possible when we collaborate. "To whom much has been given, much is to be expected." (Luke 12:48)

May Hotel Hope's mission continue to serve those in need as it continues to build relationships with other caring people.

—Julie Marsh

Summer is often a time of schedule changes, but in the HOME project, for the most part we continued as usual. The interesting thing about our Bible sharing this summer was that with the school age children around, there was more activity around the house and some even wanted to be in the Bible sharing group with us. I was especially impressed by a little ten year old girl, who made her First Communion in May and had her own Bible (in Spanish). She sat with us every week and followed along with the readings, and shared her own prayer when we came to spontaneous prayer in Spanish. The people want to know more about the Old Testament, so each week we use a Sadlier junior high book, and learn something of the characters/symbols of the Old Testament.

I was asked by the “Propagation of the Faith” Archdiocesan office to give Mission talks for the HOME project during the summer. I was assigned to St. Ludmila’s in Cedar Rapids in early August and will go to Tama and those surrounding parishes at the end of September. Who would have ever thought that I would be considered a missionary, ministering in my own backyard of Farley, Cascade, Dyersville, and Petersburg?

We have two families that are dealing with serious cancer issues. One family is from St. Patrick’s in Dubuque, but all the people in the areas I visit know them. The mother had surgery in Iowa City, followed by various chemo treatments. She has five children, ranging in age from 15 to a one-year old. Needless to say, there is no insurance. I was so impressed by the outpouring of care and concern by the people. They decided to sell food in the Cascade Park one Friday night in July to raise money for Lupita and her family. Various families prepared different types of food, and the Hispanics came to buy it. At the end of two hours the food was gone and they had raised \$1,800 for the family.

Another family is dealing with their five year old, who has leukemia. He is currently in one of the hospitals near Aurora receiving chemo every week. He was enrolled in Hennessey School in Petersburg, along with his sister, but because they had been visiting their father in Aurora when this happened, they will stay there until his treatment is over. Please keep Angel and his family in prayer.

The two men who were picked up by immigration are still in jail in Cedar Rapids. One of the lawyers from Catholic Charities thinks that one of the men may be able to stay, but the other one will definitely be deported, since this is the second time he has been caught. The women now live together in Cascade, which means they can share rent, ride together to work in Dyersville, and support one another. I stop once a week when I am in Cascade, if they are home. We often just sit and share and pray together. They are working to organize another Bible sharing group that fits in with their working hours. But I am waiting for them to say they are ready. At the end of August another young man from Cascade was picked up at his work site. He, also, is in jail in Cedar Rapids. I visited his wife, who is fortunate to have documents through DACA. She has two young girls, ten and three, and the three-year old was crying for her daddy the whole time I was there. I feel so helpless, as there is not much I can do, except walk with them, and at times give them some monetary help, in the form of gas or food vouchers.

Recently I received a call from a translation office in Los Angeles, CA. They had obtained my number through one of the doctor's offices in Dubuque where I had translated. They wanted me to translate for a workman's compensation case, and they will reimburse me for my services. I happened to have an hour free so I went to the clinic. Even though I didn't recognize the man's name, when his wife and girls came in, I knew them because I had translated for them at Xavier School in Dyersville. He had fallen at his job and had knee surgery. Since the company didn't have a translator, they paid a woman to drive from Des Moines to be present for the surgery. I told the Los Angeles office that I would be willing to translate if it didn't interfere with my ministry schedule. So we shall see what other doors open up in the future.

One of my cousins here in Dubuque was on Hospice, so I mentioned to the nurse that if they ever had Spanish-speaking families and needed an interpreter, I would be willing to help. I received a phone call from the Hospice office the next day, and am now on their list, if a need arises.

This month completes my first year of HOME, and when I look back, I am amazed at the doors that have opened. I pray that God will continue to use me wherever the need arises, and that as Nano's daughter I can "offer hope and love to a broken world."

Thank you for your continued support and prayers for me and the people I am privileged to walk with.

*Sister Paula Schwendinger*



# OCTOBER 2016

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						<b>1</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>					

(B) = birthday  
(F) = feast day  
(R) = reception  
(b) = baptismal

- 1 Sister Therese Marie Hawes (F)
- 4 Sister Beth Driscoll (B) / Carol Schmidt
- 6 Lorrayne Rudish / Mags Young
- 7 Julie Duncan
- 9 Sister Mary Dennis Lentsch (F) / Karen Freiburger
- 11 Joyce Mahnke
- 12 Sister Leanne Welch (b)
- 13 Ali January
- 17 Sister Pamela Quade (B) / Judi Moritz
- 18 Sister Ellen Mary Garrett (F) / Betty Spehar
- 19 Sister Julie Marsh (B)
- 22 Kathy Meinecke
- 28 Sister Marian Sweeney (B)
- 29 Judy Munshower
- 30 Julie Lundstrom
- 31 Barb Ressler

## Special Events

- 11 Motherhouse Moved to 2360 Carter Road (1969)
- 15 Art & Crafts Boutique

## **PRAYERS**

**Aug. 1, 2016 – Sept. 16, 2016**

**9/14**

Thank you for being with us in your thoughts and prayers. Jeanne came through her Transcatheter Heart Valve Replacement surgery very well yesterday -- about three hours including recovery. She is in CICU until she is either discharged or before she goes to a regular unit before leaving the hospital in several days.

God bless you and give you and your loved ones the graces and strength you need. Beth Kress PBVM

**9/13**

Sister Rosanne Rottinghaus came home from Mercy Hospital on Saturday with a pacemaker. She is doing well.

Sister Lynn Marie Fangman is being released from Mercy Hospital today. She will be spending a few more days in recovery after tests and observations regarding intestinal issues before returning to work.

**9/8**

Thank you for your continued prayers for my sister, Mary. The 3 hour surgery for the cancer spot on her lung is scheduled for Sept. 16. The breast surgery will be dealt with after the lung surgery has healed. Thank you also for your continued prayers for my nephew, Lowell. He has been transferred from the hospital to a nursing home/rehab in Waterloo. Periodically he suffers from depression; not easy to be in a Nursing home at age 56. Gratefully, Therese Corkery PBVM

**8/31**

Please keep Colleen Collins Hauser (niece of Sr. Laurayne Mahoney) in your prayer. Colleen survived breast cancer 2.5 years ago and is now battling lung and liver cancer. She is a former member who entered our community in 1958. She is living in Ohio with her husband, Don. They have three children.

**8/26**

Sister Matthew Cunningham came from the hospital yesterday. She will receive ongoing therapy for her hip here at Mt. Loretto.

Thank you my friends for your prayers, love and concern. My visit with Dr. Carter in Iowa City on Thursday was positive. Before I left Iowa City I received an injection to stimulate my kidneys to help produce red blood cells. I will receive this injection every two weeks for the next two-three months (which I will receive here in DBQ). I will have my blood checked every two weeks to determine if the injection is improving my red blood count. I may need a blood transfusion or two until the injection begins to take effect. I am counting on your continued prayers, Janice Hancock PBVM

**8/22**

Please pray for my niece, Didi. On Thursday, August 25, she will have a double mastectomy. Another lump appeared in the same place as the original lump.

Also, please remember my brother-in-law, Randy. He is waiting for a liver transplant!

Thank you for your prayerful support, Joellen Price PBVM

**8/18**

It's time to REJOICE!! I got a great report from the oncologist today. The CT scan I took yesterday showed that I am cancer free! So all that chemo paid off. Monday I begin radiation at the Wendt Center, 5 days a week for five+ weeks. Please continue your prayers, they have really worked.

Thank you and God bless, Lynn Wagner PBVM