



COMMUNITY NOTES

SISTERS OF THE PRESENTATION

APRIL 2018

We Celebrate a Wonderful Child of the Universe! (1718-2018)

When we pause to reflect on the magnitude of the impact of this one Child of the Universe for whom “Love was her lantern flame,” and whose counsel was “Spend yourselves for the poor,” we not only marvel at her transformative power but are also inspired to imitate her in our times.

“... when the call of Love came to her in no uncertain terms, she went for it with the same depth of passion and risk that she had lived all her early life. She could dream wildly without thought or fear of consequence. All that was before her was a single-minded dream and she gave her all to ensure that the dream became a reality.” *(PBVM Sisters Africa Unit 2018 Calendar)*

In this 300th year since the birth of Nano Nagle, we reflect on what it means to do the work of Nano. Certainly, as in her time, it means bringing a different perspective, not just as individuals, but also as a community; it is a perspective that is both personal and corporate; a perspective that embodies care for all people living in relationship with our majestic creation.

In Isaiah 43:18-19, God speaks, “Behold, I am doing something new ... ; now it springs forth ... ; can you not perceive it?” Can we see the new that God is doing, or have we stopped expecting anything new from God? Look for the NEW thing that God is doing among us. After years of Presentation service with those on the margins of poverty, seeking justice, bolstering liberation, civil rights, human rights and freedom from hunger, how have we experienced God’s presence and works on our emerging journey thus far? What do we see our Creator doing today?

The prophet Isaiah seems to be saying: Treasure the past but cease to dwell on it; stop clinging to the past or you’ll miss the incredible new thing that God is doing. “Do you not perceive it?” Talk with others about what you think God is doing. What is emerging throughout the world? What is it you see in the efforts to eliminate hunger, gun violence, abuse, poverty, homelessness ... what responses to natural disasters, fake news and brutal discourse, etc.? When the voices of youthful prophets rise up on behalf of life-giving safety and decency, what newness do we perceive? When people join a march in the streets, what do we perceive? What is it that is springing forth? How is new life being called forth? Is our call ever as insistent today as was that of Nano in her time? Is new life, the new abundant life promised by our resurrected Christ, budding forth?

Remember when Jesus, after touching a blind man, asks him: “Can you see anything?” The blind man admits he sees, but not clearly. Only after an admission of his vulnerability does he get a second touch: “Then Jesus laid his hands on his eyes again; and he looked intently, his sight was restored, and he saw everything clearly.” (*Mark 8:2-25*) Let us pray for that “second touch” that we might see clearly the vision and dream of the resurrected Jesus as it lives on in us. May we be disciples committed to bringing forth this life-giving, harmonious clear vision for all that lives.

Looking back can help us look forward in hope. Hope actively engages us in the Easter promise of new life. As we live amid chaos and ambiguity, we are challenged to believe in the efforts that lead to change. The resilience and steadfastness of Jesus and Nano spark in us a new zestful way of being and give hope to our journey. Priceless zeal is stirred in our hearts as we strive to continue to be a loving presence wherever we serve.

American philosopher, author and religious scholar, Jacob Needleman, calls out the grace of the fullness of community: “We obviously cannot confront this tangled world alone ... It takes no great insight to realize that we have no choice but to think together, ponder together, in groups and communities. The question is, how to do this; how to come together and think and hear each other in order to touch, or be touched by the intelligence (“clarity of vision”) we need?” (*Jacob Needleman Parabola Oct. 31, 2015, p.58*)

In the paschal mystery process, we anticipate a lot of “upper room” waiting for the wisdom of the Spirit to imbue us with all that is needed for the upcoming journey. May our path be brightened by the “kin-dom” vision of the resurrected Jesus. May the clarity of vision illumined by Nano’s lantern flame of love continue to be carried by her amazing Presentation Daughters of the Universe!

Sister Julianne Brockamp

Thank You

We thank Sisters Marilyn Breen and Rita Menart for their six years of service on our Finance Committee. We welcome Sisters Donna Demmer and Marge Loughren.

We thank Sister Lynn Mary Wagner for her three years of service on the Ministry Donations Committee and are grateful she has agreed to serve a second three-year term.

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

With Grateful Hearts

You are invited to participate in

An Evening of Thanksgiving

Friday, June 1, 2018

5:00 p.m.

Sisters of the Presentation

Sacred Heart Chapel



We pray in gratitude for the generous service and leadership of

Sister Julianne Brockamp

Sister Beth Driscoll

Sister Ann Jackson

Sister Leanne Welch

Tasty delights will be shared in the dining room following prayer.

With Great Joy

You are invited to attend the

Installation of the Congregational Leadership Team

Saturday, June 2, 2018

11:30 a.m.

Sisters of the Presentation

Sacred Heart Chapel

We celebrate the call of these Presentation women as our leaders

Sister Carmen Hernandez

Sister Rita Menart

Sister Joy Peterson

Sister Marilyn Breen

Dinner to follow.

Please register **NO LATER than May 22 to Jean Lange at 563-588-2008 or jean@dubuquepresentations.org.**

_____ **Friday Prayer**

_____ **Friday Supper**

_____ **Friday Housing Needed**

_____ **Saturday Installation**

_____ **Saturday Dinner**

_____ **Saturday Housing Needed**

Our Journey in Formation



At the end of April through the middle of May, I will be partaking in a three-week travel seminar visiting significant archaeological and historical sites in Israel/Palestine, Greece and Turkey through Catholic Theological Union. We will be walking in the footsteps of Jesus, Paul and the early Christians. There will be lectures and student presentations integrating the archaeology and history with biblical text. It will be an incredible experience!

I also will have the opportunity to visit Presentation Sisters in the Holy Land at the beginning of my travels and be able to spend some time with them. I am very excited to make some Presentation international connections and see Nano's mission being carried forth in the Holy Land.

I am very grateful to be able to participate in this opportunity for school and to gain a greater understanding of our Christian faith. Thank you in advance for your prayers and support!



Sister Mary Therese Krueger

From the Office of... VOCATIONS

Reflections from the Service and Discernment Trip to New Orleans - March 24-29, 2018

One participant had this to say about the experience, *"The service trip to New Orleans with the Sisters of the Presentation was an incredible experience where we witnessed how the sisters respond to the needs of the city. The ministries of Lantern Light and Hotel Hope are improving lives and restoring dignity to people who have been marginalized by society. This trip showed me how the Sisters of the Presentation (and any woman) can carry the light of Nano Nagle when they set their mind to it."*

Another participant reflected, *"While I very much enjoyed serving the homeless guests at Lantern Light as well as the mothers and children at Hotel Hope, perhaps my favorite part of this trip was living among the sisters and gaining a deeper understanding of what they do on an everyday basis. I returned home with a full heart and an appreciation for these women who literally "move mountains" and change lives every single day, even in the small ways (simply sparking conversation with a stranger!)."*

The goal of this trip is to give participants an experience of Presentation mission and charism through service at Hotel Hope and Lantern Light as well as prayer and group reflection to process the experience each day. Encountering people and building community among the participants and sisters and also with the guests and staff at each site is a gift. Thank you to everyone who prayed for this group! Special thank you to Sister Mary Catherine Redmond (New Windsor Presentation) who co-hosted the trip and Sister Mary Lou Specha who shared her friends, faith, and passion for the mission with us!

Sister Jessi Beck



Invite: Women's Retreat Day

Please share this invitation with women who may be interested in a day of retreat.

[Here is the link for more information](#) and a PDF of the flyer. I can also email you a pdf of the flyer that you can forward to interested individuals.

Is your heart searching for direction? Are you seeking a deeper relationship with God? You are invited to a day of retreat sponsored by Dubuque's Got Sisters for single women. The retreat will be offered at Our Lady of Mississippi Abbey, Dubuque, Iowa from noon until 8 p.m. on Saturday, April 28, 2018. For more information and to register, contact Sister Gail (gail@olmabbey.org).

Wholehearted Living
WOMEN'S RETREAT DAY

A discernment retreat for single women seeking whole-hearted living with God at the center. The day will include time for prayer, personal reflection, input on making wholehearted choices, group sharing, delicious meals, and of course caramels!

WHEN
Saturday, April 28, 2018

TIME
Noon - 8 p.m.

WHERE
Our Lady of the Mississippi Abbey, Dubuque, Iowa

For more information, contact one of the following:
Sister Gail (gail@olmabbey.org)
Sister Aprilia (amartato@gmail.com)
Michelle (ma.horton@gmail.com)

Sponsored by
DUBUQUE'S
got
SISTERS

Dominican Sisters of Sinimawa, Dubuque Franciscan Sisters, Holy Spirit Missionary Sisters, Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary and Trappistine Nuns



From the... *Associate Partnership Office*

Cindy Pfiffner, Co-Director
Joan Brincks, PBVM, Co-Director

phone 563-588-2008 ext. 608
fax 563-588-4463
email associates@dubuquepresentations.org

Presentation Junior Associate Group

By Anna Bruxvoort and Sister Dolores Zieser

“In eighth grade, I volunteered at the Sisters of the Presentations annual art and bake sale. Little did I know it would be a start to what is now the Junior Associate Partnership. While I was helping out, Sister Dolores Zieser was telling me about the associates, and I was very interested in what they do for our community. I began asking Sister Dolores if an associate group for teens could be a possibility. Fortunately, Sister Dolores was able to get in touch with the Associate Partnership coordinators and make this possibility a reality.” This is a firsthand account from Anna Bruxvoort, a Wahlert Catholic High School student who first initiated the Presentation junior associate group.

Following that conversation, Anna and Sister Dolores spoke to the Wahlert freshmen students during their religion classes and from that presentation eight students decided to move forward and investigate the possibility of a junior associate program. Sisters Dolores and Francine Quillin co-lead the group which held its first meeting in the spring of 2017.

The group tries to schedule monthly meetings, which is challenging due to the busy schedule of the teens. They begin each meeting with prayer and talk about Nano Nagle and the subsequent ministry of the Presentation Sisters throughout the world. The group has also used other religious articles or video presentations around topics of interest for teenagers. These young people are very interested in service opportunities. One of the projects they did was to bake cookies and deliver them to the Dubuque Rescue Mission.



After almost a year of monthly meetings, the group is still considering the junior associate program as a trial. Because the present group members have such a great interest they will hopefully follow through and continue to meet together until the teens graduate. Sister Dolores feels the teens are growing in their faith and in their connection with the sisters. While it is definitely a commitment, both Sisters Dolores and Francine feel it is worth it. Anna shares, “I am pleased to say that my faith has grown tremendously being able to communicate and work with Sister Dolores and Sister Francine!”



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

Presentation Annalists

Sister Mary Angela Feeney

Sister Mary Angela (Imelda Gertrude Feeney) was born in the parish of St. Joseph on the Prairie. She entered the Presentation community in 1937, and spent her active mission years teaching in Catholic schools from 1940-1989. After her retirement, Sister Angela became involved with archives, and accomplished much in the preservation of the community history.

She began with the transcribing of Sister Anastasia Burns' oral history tapes, saving for posterity the personal recollections of the early sisters. Sister Angela kept the annals from 1991-1999, lending her personal style to the chronicling of events.

One of her projects was the acquiring of information for the mission files. She worked tirelessly to fill the gaps in the history of each mission, requesting stories, pictures and newspaper articles from those serving in various places. Much of the information we have on past and present missions comes from her persistence in asking for current items of interest.

Another project which evidenced her research skills was the writing of an article entitled "Presentation Sisters in America: An Historical Survey" for the *Encyclopedia of American Catholic Women*.

The community said good-bye to a great historian when Sister Angela died July 3, 2012.



Sister Mary Angela Feeney

Sister Hermann Platt

NEWS & INFORMATION



DIRECTORY UPDATES

It is time to update the Community Directory. If you have a new address, phone number or email, please send the updated information to Carol Heim at carol@dubuquepresentations.org by June 15.

If you would like a new photo taken, please let Jane Buse-Miller at jane@dubuquepresentations.org know and she will set up a time for you to get your photo taken. If you have a new one you want to submit, please send it to Jane.

Thank you for keeping your information current.

COMMUNITY DIRECTORY 2018-2019



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SAVE THE DATE

2018 Community Days

July 18-21, 2018

More information and dates of associate participation
will be coming soon.



ANNUAL BENEFIT GARAGE AND BAKE SALE

Anyone who has been to the gym and the garage will certainly tell you the donations are already filling the place. We need all of you to make this year another success story!

You can still support the sale and Presentation ministries through donations of money, sale items, baked goods and time. **We still need people to work shifts during all the hours the sale is open.** You can sign up for a shift, (or shifts 😊) on the sheet posted in the gym which will now be open every week day (see below) or call Sue Murphy at 583-2893 or e-mail murphydands@gmail.com and she will do it for you. Feel free to bring along a friend to help and of course we'll give them time to shop!

WHEN:

Thursday, Friday, Saturday

April 26, 27, 28, 2018

Early Bird Thursday, April 26, 7-8 a.m. \$10 donation

Thursday, Friday, Saturday

May 3, 4, 5, 2018

(Thursdays, Fridays 8 a.m.–dusk; Saturdays 8 a.m.–1 p.m.)



Early Bird
7-8 am
Fee \$10.00

WHERE:

Garage and gym behind the
Sisters of the Presentation Motherhouse
2360 Carter Road, Dubuque, Iowa

WHAT:

Please bring gently-used items: clean adult, children and baby clothing; household items; books; CDs; furniture; games, toys, etc. Plants such as hostas, ferns, schefflera, crotons, etc. sell very well too. (Please no shoes, computers/accessories, TVs, baby cribs or car seats, Nordic tracks or treadmills or entertainment centers. We can sell only bed frames, we can give away the mattress.) Homemade baked goods will be sold. Wrapped baked goods may be brought to the gym on April 26-28 and/or May 3-5.

WHY:

The proceeds from the 2018 sale will assist the following ministries/charities:

- Catholic Charities for immigration legal services
- Carol's Closet of Strawberry Point (families, veterans and seniors)
- Hope House in Dubuque

The gym behind the Sisters of the Presentation will be open for drop-offs of usable items from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily EXCEPT Sundays beginning Monday, April 2, until Saturday, April 21. **No items will be accepted after Saturday, April 21.** Larger items such as furniture, desks, large lamps, etc. should be dropped off at the garages across from the gym.

Thank you in advance for all the items you will be donating, all the time you will be helping and all the shopping you will do for this very worthwhile cause. *Your very grateful - Garage Sale Committee*

MONTHLY CALENDAR



MAY 2018

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

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

- 2 Sister Ann Jackson (B)
- 3 Cathy Schmitz
- 4 Sister Jessi Beck (B) / Mary Rohner
- 6 Sister Benjamin Duschner (B)
- 8 Sister Sharon Kelchen (B)
- 14 Becky Searcy
- 16 Sherry Gieseemann
- 20 Sister Paula Schwendinger (B)
- 23 Sister Mary Lou Specha (B)
- 26 Sister Mery Cari Paz (B)
- 28 Judy Kluesner
- 31 Dianne McDermott

Special Events

- 13 Mother's Day
- 28 Memorial Day

PRAYERS & UPDATES



Address & Email Updates

Sister Carmen Hernandez will be moving to the lower level of the Céad Míle Fáilte House.

However please send her mail to:

Sister Carmen Hernandez
2360 Carter Road
Dubuque, IA 52001

Sister Mary Dennis Lentsch

pbvmdennis@aol.com

Prayers: March 15 - April 12, 2018

- 3/15** Please remember in prayer Mary Catherine Clark, sister of Sister Mary Rosanne Rottinghaus. Mary Catherine's health has failed significantly and she, her doctors and the family realize her time on earth is not too long. All prayers are appreciated.
- 3/16** Please remember in prayer, Donna Muller, age 92, Presentation associate from Whittemore, Iowa, who died on March 15. Here is the [online link to Donna's obituary](#) on the Oakcrest Funeral home website.
- 3/23** Please remember in your prayers Deon Wingert, 44, and all the Wingert family. Deon died Monday, March 19, 2018, in a motor vehicle accident near Lytton, Iowa. He is survived by his daughter, Molly; his Dad, Dale; six sisters, one brother, nieces, nephews, and friend and former wife, Gina Froehlich. Deon is the nephew of Sister Julia Wingert and Associate Karen St. John. Deon was preceded in death by his Mother, Lois; his grandparents, Clare and Hertula Wingert and Ray and Louise Becker. Thank you.
Sister Julia Wingert

I'd like to ask you to pray for my niece Michele. The doctors found cancer near her ear and removed it, but they think that the salivary gland may have been involved. She will have more surgery and start radiation. Michele is my sister Shelley's daughter and is a young mother of two. Thank you!
Sister Jean Ann Meyer

- 3/24** Verona Buckner has endured strokes repeatedly this past year. She is presently in her home with her daughter and Hospice. She is unresponsive at this time. Verona was in the original associate group in Chicago, a long-time, loyal member of St. Dorothy Parish and caregiver of Father Sweeney during his last months of illness. When able, Verona loved visiting the Presentation Motherhouse and being with the sisters. Verona is 91 years old. Kindly pray for Verona's peaceful transition, and for her daughter.
- 3/28** Please continue to pray for Sister Julie Marsh's dad. She had her bags packed and was ready to travel home when she witnessed her dad having a seizure. She called 911 and her dad was transported to Mason City. His heart was in A-fibrillation and he will be on a heart monitor for the next few days. Please keep her dad and all her family in your prayers. Thank you.
- 3/29** Verona Buckner, longtime Presentation associate, had a very quiet "homegoing" about 10:30 a.m. Monday morning. We ask for your continued prayers. Here is the [online link to Verona's obituary](#) on the A.A. Rayner & Sons Funeral Home.
- 4/2** Please pray for Presentation associate, Marlene Myers, who has been moved to the Hospice House in Hiawatha, Iowa. We invite you to hold Marlene, her children and grandchildren in prayer during this sacred time of transition. Thank you.
- 4/3** Thank you for your prayers and loving expressions of sympathy at the sudden death of our nephew, Deon. Please continue your prayers for Deon's daughter, Molly, our brother, Dale, Deon's sisters and brother and all the Wingert family. God bless each of you and those you love.
Associate Karen St. John and Sister Julia Wingert
- 4/5** Presentation associate, Marlene K. Myers, 74, passed away peacefully from complications related to Parkinson's disease on Wednesday, April 4, 2018, at The Dennis & Donna Oldorf Hospice House of Mercy in Hiawatha, Iowa. Here is the [online link to Marlene's obituary](#) on the Murdoch Funeral Home website.
- 4/7** Word has been received that Sister Mary Rosanne Rottinghaus' sister, Mary Catherine (Rottinghaus) Clark, entered eternal life at about 1:00 p.m. on Friday after a long, hard month of getting ready.
- 4/10** Please remember Kay Gauthier in your prayers. Kay is a Monticello, MN long-time dear friend of Presentation Sisters. Kay is in home hospice care and in good spirits. Please keep in prayer her daughter Nancy and husband Kevin as well as her grandchildren: Andrew, Emma, A.J. and Ellie.
Thank you! Carrie Link