



COMMUNITY NOTES

SISTERS OF THE PRESENTATION

FEBRUARY 2018

Positioning Ourselves for Inevitable Change

The most recent issue of LCWR *Occasional Papers* poses the question: “What do the people we serve and the larger global community most need from the presence of religious in this complex, rapidly changing time in the planet’s history?” Perhaps the greatest learning we may welcome is to position ourselves and assist others in positioning themselves for inevitable change.

“The way we are trying to change the world is not going to work, is never going to work,” says Deborah Frieze, author, entrepreneur and activist committed to strengthening local economies. She opens her 12-minute, TED talk “How I Became a Localist,” naming a reality to which many have become aware, “Most of our big systems – education, healthcare, government, business – are failing our communities.”

Her award-winning book, co-authored with Margaret Wheatley, *Walk Out Walk On: A Learning Journey into Communities Daring to Live the Future Now* purports her two-loop theory of change: as one system culminates and starts to collapse, isolated alternatives slowly begin to arise and give way to the new. “Emergence is nature’s way of creating change and it’s tricky to see ...,” according to Frieze, “localism is the hope of the future and [all] have a critical role to play” to shift systems for *the common good*. She introduces four roles relevant to our communal conversation, suggesting we may find ourselves in one or more. Interestingly, each role’s potentially positive impact resides in the extent to which one serves the common good.

Four Roles in Birthing the Future

1. **Trailblazers** step away from the dominant system, to free themselves to experiment with an emerging future. Willing to feel ignored, invisible, lonely, these separates – when locally networked – exchange information and learning, and become resilient contributors to a living ecosystem capable of birthing the new – co-creating partnerships! *We need all of us to create the conditions for change.*
2. **Hospice Workers** reside in systems and offer compassion and advocacy. These activists guide transition, gifting comfort and support to those suffering within the system and assisting as beacons of hope for what can emerge. *We need all of us to create the conditions for change.*

(continued)

3. **Illuminators** make visible the choice to story and shine a light on trailblazers' efforts to create something new. They repeat and maintain grace in the face of resistance and criticism, recognizing that "It takes perseverance to help others see new approaches ... as examples of what's possible – of what a new creation could be." *We need all of us to create the conditions for change.*
4. **Protectors.** Those successful in the dominant system, wielding power, influence and access to resources and relationships can advance (or destroy) pioneering efforts. When in service to the common good, they consciously create an oasis where others can innovate, protected from the disabling demands of the old system. They choose to be dedicated, thoughtful revolutionaries, residing deep inside institutional life and making equity among all more possible. *We need all of us to create the conditions for change.*

In ministry, family, prayer, community life, ... where do you find yourself? Wherever you are – with whomever you are, what role(s) do you play in creating positive conditions for change. All roles (in their best forms) are essential to co-create healthy and resilient communities for the common good – both locally and globally – to bring hope to the world. If we want healthier, hope-filled and more resilient community, each of us must engage contemplation and reflection in discerning our role as we consciously spur local action for positive change. Make space, converse with others, contemplate, encourage others to embrace their role ... to serve and offer what the larger global community most needs from women religious.

View Deborah Frieze's 12-minute TED talk "[How I Became a Localist.](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2jTdZSPBRRE)" (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2jTdZSPBRRE>)



In gratitude for the Trailblazers, Hospice Workers, Illuminators, Protectors who spurred our transformation over the years.

Sister Ann Jackson

The House of 100,000 Welcomes

Greetings, Sisters!

In January, Loras College offers a J-Term class for students which includes an optional three-week intensive course that students can take for credit. It's a great opportunity for students to focus on one class and perhaps do some intense research, study abroad or get some extra credits. For example, Presentation intern, Allegra Johnson, studied abroad in Rome during this time. Since it is optional and often a different pace than the two semesters, campus is much quieter during this chilly month. Thus, we had some extra time to work at the motherhouse and invite young women in.



As a result, we hosted two Thursday night prayer gatherings during this month. We invited women from campus to come to the Motherhouse for afternoon Mass, a meal and prayer reflection. The senior sisters proved to be great women of hospitality as they welcomed our guests! After Mass and supper, we gathered together one week to pray *Lectio Divina* with the Sunday readings and another week to watch a short clip of a sister reflecting on our true desires. Both gatherings proved to be a great time of community, prayer and hospitality, and we were grateful to use the space!

We also offered an overnight retreat on Friday, January 19 until Saturday, January 20, for six women in total. Our Scriptural theme was from Hosea, "Behold, I will allure her into the wilderness and speak tenderly to her." Our goal was to create a space where women could come away in quiet and grapple with whatever was on their hearts. We had some time of communal prayer, quiet in the chapel, sharing meals together and the weather even warmed up enough that we could walk the labyrinth. A few sisters offered a listening ear or spiritual accompaniment for some of the women on Saturday morning. We found it to be a great way to continue cultivating relationships between sisters and young women at Loras, showing them the Presentation Motherhouse and community we have grown to love. Again, we are grateful for the opportunities to use this space and be creative in our endeavors. Thank you!

Interns: Anna Nielsen, Allegra Johnson and Nicole Connelly

Evolving Partnership – Collaborative Efforts to Address Systemic Poverty!

Our partnership with the Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque continues. The Foundation will host four graduate students from Boston's M.I.T. (Massachusetts Institute of Technology) to research access to affordable, quality childcare in rural regions of Iowa and the impact on the quality of life for low-income families and those trying to move out of generational poverty. The Foundation invited us to consider lodging these students during their field research. Given this incredible opportunity to further efforts to address systemic poverty, we are delighted to lodge these students at *Céad Míle Fáilte*, Sunday, March 18 through Saturday, March 31, 2018.

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

Our Journey in Formation



Since June 2016, I have been participating in the Religious Formation Conference (RFC) ForMission Program. This two-year program is for formation ministers and those in elected and informal leadership who support and oversee the quality and effectiveness of their initial formation programs. From January 6-13, 2018, I attended my fourth and final residential week of the program hosted at the Oblate Renewal Center in San Antonio, Texas.

The theme for the week and for the next several months is **Formation for Religious Life**. Our speakers included:

- **John Markey, OP** – *Spirituality: Imitating Christ through Personal and Socio-Political Transformation*
John challenged us to consider the Christ that we imitate and offered two particular Christologies for our consideration. He then explored how one's Christology impacts one's approach to mission (missiology) and church (ecclesiology).
- **Linda Gibler, OP** – *Theology: Formation in an Evolutionary Context*
Linda masterfully traced the history of the cosmos from the great flaring forth to today and invited us to consider how the different evolutionary moments might resonate with formation. Within all of this she wove scripture and wisdom from the saints and mystics.
- **Mary Pat Garvin, RSM** – *Interculturality and the Formative Process: Willingness, Commitment and Capacity*
Mary Pat explored the role of culture in the formation process and shared some of the skills, attitudes and virtues needed to live interculturality for the sake of community and mission.
- **Gary Johnson, OFM Conv** – *Formation and Scripture*
Gary noted that the real role of formators is to guide those in initial formation to be lifelong God-seekers. He presented the pattern of call from the scriptures and offered beneficial resources from church documents and other spiritual writers.
- **Arturo Chavez, PhD** – *Intercultural Competencies for Ministry (Skills Day)*
Arturo explored with us "The Iceberg Analogy of Culture" based on the work of Edward T. Hall and Eric H.F. Law. The tip of the iceberg above water is our external culture, the beliefs and values we acknowledge and are conscious to us. The larger portion under water is our unconscious internal culture which includes our values, traditions, thought patterns, perceptions and myths. We reflected on our own cultural identities and completed a self-assessment on our personal cultural preferences to gain further insight.

(continued)

As I prepare to complete the ForMission Program, I have some homework to do. The final requirement includes an integrative project connected to my formation ministry and relevant to our congregation. I am in the planning stage of my project and look forward to sharing it with you upon its completion.

The experiences of the past two years have been transformative for me personally and as formation coordinator. I deeply appreciate the opportunity to be a part of this program, to receive input from excellent presenters, to engage in a reading group of our sisters, to meet and share with formators from other congregations and to integrate my learnings and experiences. Thank you for this wonderful and growth-filled opportunity!

Sister Annette Kestel



RFC ForMission Team and Classes of 2018 and 2019



ForMission Class of 2018 and Team gathered at the Last Supper picnic table.



*RFC ForMission Team:
Regina Robbins, SND; Michael Avila, FSC;
William Meyer, SM; Donna Del Santo, SSJ;
and Connie Schoen, OP*

From the Office of... VOCATIONS

Get Ready to Celebrate National Catholic Sisters Week March 8-14, 2018

What is National Catholic Sisters Week (NCSW)?

NCSW is an annual event created to celebrate and highlight the lives of women religious. Learn more on the [NCSW website](#).

How can I participate?

I'm glad you asked 😊

Social Media

You can like and share the daily posts from our Presentation pages on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. We will be using the [NCSW daily hashtags](#) such as Saturday #SisterSelfie, Sunday #Shoutout, and #MissionMonday.

Events

Here are some events already on the calendar. If you know of other happenings, let me know.

- March 9-10 [Chicago's Got Sisters](#)
- March 10 [New Orleans Sisters in the City](#)
- March 11-14 [Chicago Service and Discernment Trip](#)
- March 14 [NCSW Prayer Service at CTU](#)

Host

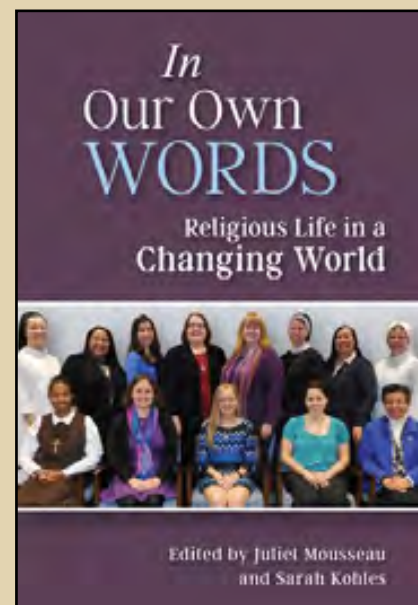
Encourage your parish, school, or organization to participate in the NCSW festivities by hosting an event. Here are some [resources](#) to make getting involved easy.

If you take pictures during the week please send them to vocations@dubuquepresentations.org or jane@dubuquepresentations.org.

Thanks and Have Fun! *Sister Jessi Beck*

A Great Read!

Clearly, I'm excited! Several of my Giving Voice friends wrote and published a book!



Written by a diverse group of younger women religious from North America, *In Our Own Words* offers a collection of essays on issues central to apostolic religious life today. The thirteen authors represent different congregations, charisms, ministries, and histories. Essays focus on the vows and community life, individual identity and congregational charisms, and leadership among younger members leading into the future. The authors hope these chapters may form a springboard for further conversation on religious life, inviting others to share their experiences of religious life in today's world.

You can purchase a book from [Amazon](#) but may get it faster from [Liturgical Press](#).



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

Welcome to the Presentation Associate Partnership

On January 24, sisters, associates and family welcomed our two newest associates, Sue Brimmer and Sarah Gieseke, during their commitment ceremony. Sue has lived in Dubuque her entire life and has been a nurse for the past 34 years. She is also an instructor in the nursing program at Northeast Iowa Community College and has a passion for wellness education and serving those who are most vulnerable. Sue works part-time at Mount Loretto in the Nagle Center and is continually inspired by the sisters at Mount Loretto. Sue shares, "Learning about the life and devotion of Nano Nagle has been so inspiring, and I am so very grateful for this opportunity to work with the sisters and associates on their mission during this time in my life's journey."



Left to right: Sarah Gieseke and Sue Brimmer

Sarah grew up in Wisconsin and moved to Dubuque in May 2016 when she became the executive director of the Presentation Lantern Center. She has worked with immigrants and refugees for most of her professional career, working with the Asylum program and the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program, as well as Goodwill and AmeriCorps. Sarah lived abroad for four years in Israel, Cambodia, France and Kenya. She is a member of the Universalist Unitarian church and believes that God is not limited to one faith tradition, but that we can learn and gain much by engaging with people from different ethnic and cultural backgrounds. Sarah explains, "I want to be an associate because I believe in the Presentation mission that God calls us to work for social justice and show others compassion."



Left to right: Associates Dianne McDermott, Sue Brimmer, Sarah Gieseke and Sister Marilou Irons

SAVE THE DATES

IT'S JUST AROUND THE CORNER!
Mount Loretto Annual Garage/Bake Sale
April 26-28 and May 3-5, 2018



It's not too early to begin collecting your gently-used items!
More information to follow.

REGISTER NOW FOR SPRING RETREAT

On April 14-15 all are invited to gather for the 2018 Presentation Associate and Sister Retreat *Embracing Hope in Challenging Times*! Take time away from the busyness of your life to consider what hope is and where hope begins, how it can be nurtured and how it heals us and calls us to action and celebration.



Register now for *Embracing Hope in Challenging Times* at:

www.dubuquepresentations.org / Members Login / Event Registration or you can email Jean Lange at: jean@dubuquepresentations.org or you can complete the registration form on the next page and mail it to Jean Lange. **The deadline for registering is March 23.** Plan now to join with sisters and associates as we share in prayer and celebrate hope in our lives!



Cancelled Service Opportunity

A service opportunity at La Luz Hispana, Hampton, Iowa, has been announced in community notes since October 2017. Due to the many transitions happening at La Luz Hispana, the service opportunity has been cancelled. Sister Carmen Hernandez has been elected to the new leadership team and a new executive director will be replacing her and Sister Maura McCarthy will be leaving La Luz Hispana also. Both Sisters Carmen and Maura express their regrets for the cancellation.

IMPORTANT
DEADLINES!

- Please have any requests for the Ministry Donation Committee submitted no later than Thursday, March 1, 2018.
- Quarterly car reports are due March 1, 2018.

EMBRACING HOPE *in*

Challenging Times



A Retreat for Sisters & Associates

Gather with other Presentation people to contemplate the place of hope in your life. Take time away from the busyness of your life to consider where hope begins, how it can be nurtured, and how it heals us and calls us to action and celebration. We hope this day will offer you space for contemplation and prayer as well as opportunities to connect with old friends and develop new ones.

Saturday, April 14 - Sunday, April 15, 2018

Sisters of the Presentation Motherhouse
2360 Carter Road, Dubuque, IA 52001

Directional Statement

Ignited by the fire of God's love and impelled by the legacy of Nano Nagle, we, the Sisters of the Presentation of Dubuque, participate in the evolving consciousness of the cosmos by

reverencing **relationships**
celebrating **unity**
engaging **contemplation** and
fostering **partnerships**

to transform ourselves and our world.

Schedule

Saturday, April 14, 2018

- 9:45 a.m. Registration and Gathering
- 10:15 a.m. Welcome and Opening Prayer
- 10:40 a.m. Morning Session:
What is Hope and How Does it Begin?
- 12:00 p.m. Dinner
- 1:15 p.m. Afternoon Sessions:
Nurturing Hope in Our Lives
Healing, Acting and Celebrating
with Hope
- 4:45 p.m. Closing Ritual and Prayer
- 5:30 p.m. Supper

Sunday, April 15, 2018

- 9:00 a.m. Mass
- 10:00 a.m. Brunch

There is no cost to attend the retreat. However, there will be an opportunity to make a good will offering to support Presentation ministries if you so desire.

Presenters



Sister
Joan
Brincks



Associate
Cindy
Pffner



Sister
Theresa
Marie Tran



Associate
Billie
Greenwood

Registration

RSVP to Jean Lange no later than **March 23** by doing one of the following:

- Complete the event registration form at www.dubuquepresentations.org - **Members Login**
- Email jean@dubuquepresentations.org
- Complete the form below and mail to:
Jean Lange, 2360 Carter Road, Dubuque, IA 52001

Name: _____

Housing

I need housing for the following nights.

_____ Friday, April 13 _____ Saturday, April 14

Meals

I need a meal for the following:

_____ Friday Supper
_____ Saturday Breakfast _____ Dinner _____ Supper
_____ Sunday Brunch

Please list any special housing or dietary needs below:



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

Presentation Annalists *(Continued)*

Sister Mary Benedict Murphy

Garryowen was the birth place of Julia Murphy, who later joined the Presentation community as Sister Mary Benedict.

In 1907, as newly-elected Mother General, she began plans for a new motherhouse on Wild Street (now Mt. Loretta Avenue). By 1909 the building was complete, having been supervised by Mother Benedict herself because the community could not afford to hire someone for this task.

Another task completed by this busy woman was the updating of a new Constitution. When she left her position in 1913 this project was taken over by Mother Columba O'Callaghan, but was not completed until Mother Benedict began her second term in office in 1916.

Mother Benedict's *Annals* give the most complete picture of the founding of each of our missions up to Dougherty which opened in 1907. Mother Benedict died November 18, 1955.



Sister Mary Benedict Murphy

Sister Mary Rosalia Plamondon

A native of Canada, Lydia Plamondon later moved with her family to Dubuque, Iowa, and entered the Sisters of the Presentation around 1890.

She received training at St. Joseph College (Loras), and the Bush Conservatory in Chicago, and then spent her active ministry years as a music teacher. Sister Rosalia was known as a woman of convictions who had the courage to live by those convictions. For many years she was a member of different General Councils in the community.

Retirement from teaching was not the end of her work for the community. For many years she sewed liturgical vestments, and the white cloaks which the sisters wore for special feast days. The archives holdings include many items such as pyxes, stoles, etc., which were hand-painted by Sister Mary Rosalia in a delicate rose pattern.



Sister Mary Rosalia Plamondon

She spent years as portress, taking phone calls and welcoming visitors at the door. Sister Rosalia died January 6, 1967.

Sister Hermann Platt

NEWS & INFORMATION



REMINDER: Upcoming Program - Partners in Mission Coffee and Cookies

The Partners in Mission Office will continue to offer you quarterly updates on what is happening with our partners. Since the last offering, there have been requests to move the date to Wednesday. To honor those requests, we have done so.

Please mark your calendars and try to attend the **First Coffee and Cookies 2018 gathering** being held in the Presentation Center on **Wednesday, March 21 from 1 – 2 p.m.**



We will discuss the Annual Report, stories, giving today and in the future. Below is a list of additional dates when the 2018 Partners in Mission Coffee and Cookies gatherings will take place.

Wednesday, June 20 from 1 – 2 p.m.

Wednesday, September 19 from 1 – 2 p.m.

Wednesday, December 19 from 1 – 2 p.m.

We look forward to your presence and participation!

Karen Tuecke, Partners in Mission Coordinator



Scholarship Opportunities: Deadline April 1, 2018

In the spirit of Presentation Foundress, Nano Nagle, and her desire to serve, the Sisters of the Presentation established scholarship and award opportunities. Please encourage others to apply. **To apply visit:** www.dubuquepresentations.org

[Presentation Mission Service Award](#)

[Nano Nagle College Scholarship](#)

[Mother Vincent Hennessy Scholarship](#)

[Nano Nagle Service Award](#)

Season of Lent - Prayer Opportunities Presentation Motherhouse

First Week of Lent (February 18-25, 2018)

February 18/Sunday:
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
(conclusion of Mass until 4:10 p.m.)

February 19/Monday:
Contemplative Prayer: 6:15-6:45 p.m.

February 24/Saturday:
Stations of the Cross: 5:00 p.m.

Second Week of Lent (February 25 - March 3, 2018)

February 26/Monday:
Centering Prayer: 6:15-6:45 p.m.

February 27/Tuesday:
Contemplative Prayer: 6:15-6:45 p.m.

March 3/Saturday:
Stations of the Cross: 5:00 p.m.

Third Week of Lent (March 4-10, 2018)

March 5/Monday
Evolutionary Awareness: 6:15-6:45 p.m.
Contemplative Prayer: 6:15-6:45 p.m.

March 7/Wednesday
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

March 10/Saturday
Stations of the Cross: 5:00 p.m.

Fourth Week of Lent (March 11-17, 2018)

March 13/Tuesday
Contemplative Prayer: 6:15-6:45 p.m.

March 17/Saturday
Stations of the Cross: 5:00 p.m.



Fifth Week of Lent (March 18-25, 2018)

March 21/Wednesday
Contemplative Prayer: 6:15-6:45 p.m.

March 24/Saturday
Stations of the Cross: 5:00 p.m.

Sixth Week of Lent - Holy Week (March 25-31, 2018)

March 26/Monday
Centering Prayer: 6:15-6:45 p.m.

March 28/Wednesday
Contemplative Prayer: 6:15-6:45 p.m.

Triduum:

March 29/Holy Thursday:
7:00 p.m. Mass of the Lord's Supper

March 30/Good Friday:
3:00 p.m. Services

March 31/Holy Saturday:
7:00 p.m. Easter Vigil

April 1/Easter Sunday:
9:00 a.m. Mass

MONTHLY CALENDAR



MARCH 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

- 4 Sister Anne Marie Kollasch (B) / Dick Baldwin
- 8 Sister Janet Goetz (F) / Sister Jeanette McCarthy (F)
- 11 Clara Ernst
- 12 Darlene Richard
- 14 Char McCoy
- 18 Claudette Hill / Anne Marie Spehar
- 19 Sister Josita Zieser (F)
- 22 Sister Raeleen Sweeney (B) / Sister Rosalyn Ulfers (B)
- 24 Yvonne Kisch / Barbara Klein
- 25 Sister Marie Barth (F)
- 26 Doris Bussan / Marlene Von Fumetti
- 30 Sister Therese Corkery (B)

Special Events

- 11 Daylight Savings Time
- 17 St. Patrick's Day
- 25 Palm Sunday
- 27 La Luz Hispana Established (2013)
- 30 Good Friday

PRAYERS & UPDATES



Address & Email Updates

Rita Menart

rita.menart@dubuquepresentations.org

Please add the following new associates to your directory:

Sarah Gieseke

201 W. 17th St. Apt. #1

Dubuque, IA 52001

(608) 475-3670

giesekej@gmail.com

Sue Brimmer

10061 Ginger Rdg

Dubuque, IA 52001-8228

(563) 588-3575

sbrim51@yahoo.com

Prayers: January 14 - February 14, 2018

1/22 Please remember in your prayers my daughter-in-law, Vicky Danner, who is having a total hip replacement today, January 22. Thank you. *Charlotte Danner, Associate*

1/23 Please pray for Barb Lenz, (Presentation employee/ food service), who fell down a flight of stairs. Barb broke four vertebrae in her neck and will have surgery this afternoon, January 23, at 3 p.m. The fall did not occur at Mount Loretto. Barb is counting on your prayers. **UPDATE:** Surgery was successful and she was home on January 26. If you'd like to send Barb a card, her home address is:

Barb Lenz
708 Kane Street
Dubuque, IA 52001

1/28 Please remember in prayer the soul of Mary Lou Cota, sister-in-law of Sisters Lou and Kay Cota. Please remember in prayer the soul of Fran Mescher, sister of Sister Mary Edward Dolan.

1/30 Your prayers are requested for Clement Kollasch, who died on January 29, 2018. Clem is the brother of Sister Anne Marie Kollasch.

2/2 Your prayers are requested for Dorothy Palmiter, sister of Sister Francesca Presseller, who died today, February 2, 2018. Dorothy lived in Sacramento, California, and would have celebrated her 100th birthday on February 17, 2018. Sister Francesca is grateful for your prayers and thoughts!

Please remember Sister Suzanne Gallagher in your prayers. Sister Suzanne was in a car accident on Tuesday, January 31, 2018, and was hospitalized in Waukon until today. She is now at Mount Loretto recuperating.

2/5 Thanks to all your prayers, Abby is back with us and school has been going well. There is still much adjusting and counseling ahead for her so please keep her in your prayers. Pray also for God to soften Abby's mother, Jodie's heart and to somehow block her interference. I know you've been "praying unceasingly" and we appreciate it. *Mary Lou Mauss, Associate*

Our family wants to thank you again for all your prayers for my niece, Cheri. Her sister, Patti Larsen, writes: "Everybody reports that Cheri continues to gain strength, endurance and cognitive improvement with the help of her on-going therapies. She graduated from the wheelchair to the walker and just yesterday to a cane." Continue your powerful prayers!

Sister Therese Corkery

2/12 Please pray for my nephew, Chad Breen who had a liver transplant 20 years ago and is now in need of another transplant. He is on the list and waiting. Remember Chad and his family at this time. *Sister Marilyn Breen*