

Our Journey

Spring 2017 • Vol. 35 No. 2



FRANCISCAN SISTERS
OF LITTLE FALLS, MINNESOTA

Our year of celebration came to a glorious end!

The 125th anniversary celebration spanned from Founding Day on March 1, 2016, to the Feast of Saint Francis on October 4. Sister Carolita Mauer, who passed away in 2014, initiated all of the planning. We give thanks to her and to the literally hundreds of friends and family members who helped us celebrate. So many of you were with us every step of the way offering your time, talents and financial support. Thank you!

The highlights: Mayor Greg Zylka signing the proclamation; employees singing "Happy Anniversary" and the "Blessing Song" during the opening Mass; the social justice event with parish ministers and Bishop Donald Kettler; 20 monthly history columns in the *Morrison County Record*; Sister Elise Saggau's brief history book; the children's activity guide to understanding Francis; three special anniversary issues of *Our Journey*; three performances of "Late Night Catechism" at the Paramount Theatre; the Little Falls Dam Festival parade with Sisters Fabian, Bernarda and Joel as grand marshals; the campus-wide open house with fabulous displays and tours; Green Fair Folk Festival and the signing of the gratitude card for law enforcement personnel; Donor Appreciation Day with the fun and educational program on C.A.L.L. Radio Station at 1891 on the dial; the benefit concert featuring David Haas, Marty Haugen and Michael Joncas where voices practically lifted the roof of Sacred Heart Chapel; and the closing celebratory Mass on the Feast of Saint Francis.



Renowned liturgical musicians Marty Haugen, Michael Joncas and David Haas performed for a sold-out audience to celebrate the Franciscan Sisters' 125th anniversary. The three musicians are known for "producing some of the most popular and effective music for liturgical worship that has appeared since the Second Vatican Council," said Sister Bea Eichten, community minister.

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Our Journey is published three times a year by the Community Relations Department of the Franciscan Sisters of Little Falls, Minnesota, for donors, associates, friends, relatives and employees. This publication shares the journeys of our sisters and associates as they work in joyful service in the spirit of Saints Francis and Clare.

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Cover: Franciscan Community Volunteers, celebrating 50,000 hours of community service. Ann Anosike, John-Caleb Vacheresse, Jennifer Wonsever, Anna Taylor and Isaac Vacheresse. Photo by Pat Flicker.

Our Mission:

We, Franciscan Sisters of Little Falls, Minnesota, are a community of women religious whose members are called to live the Gospel joyfully and to reverence the earth and all of God's creation. In the spirit of Saints Francis and Clare, we embody a life of prayer, simple living and service to those in need.

We are committed to nonviolence as we recognize the need for healing in ourselves and in our world. We seek to build communities of peace and justice wherever we are called to serve.

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Franciscan Sisters of Little Falls,
Minnesota



Dear Friends,

“If the only prayer you ever say in your entire life is thank you, it will be enough.”

Meister Eckhart, a spiritual teacher from the Middle Ages, spoke in simple and readily understandable ways about prayer. This quote attributed to him invites us to orient our heart toward awareness of and gratefulness for the many blessings in our lives. A simple “thank you” is a profound prayer—it is plenty in God’s sight.

Blessings don’t only come during times of happiness and ease. Even in times of great difficulty, there are many small, daily blessings—the song of a bird, the wonder on a child’s face, feeling the sun on your skin . . . Being aware of our blessings helps us maintain an attitude of gratitude through hard times and good times, and studies show that gratitude leads a person to experience more optimism and overall health.

We definitely feel gratitude for you, one of the many people who support us through friendship, prayer and, of course, through financial donations. We experience your affection for the Franciscan Sisters as you partner with us in our many efforts to serve our sisters and brothers and our Mother Earth. We know that every time you make a donation to us or to any person or organization, you are expressing your affection for the greater human family and for our beautiful earth. As you peruse this issue of *Our Journey*, you will meet many of your fellow donors, who share their love and their time, their talent and their goods to benefit others.

Our life journey takes us in many directions, some planned and others not, some difficult and some stress-free. Each direction offers us the opportunity to be mindful of the blessings, big and (mostly) small, that are part and parcel of our journey. But however we are called into our life journey, God is there in our heart, offering hope and sustenance each day.

Thank you for journeying with us. Thank you for sharing your story with us and inviting us into your unfolding response of hope and fidelity. Thank you for allowing us to journey with you through our prayer and expressions of gratitude.

So we say, “Thank you” again and again and again—knowing that our prayer of gratitude holds you and your loved ones before our God, who loves you so much.

With gratitude,

Sister Beatrice Eichten Sister Rose Margaret Schneider
Sister Susan Knutson Sister Grace Skwira

It's always a high note at St. Francis Music Center

Deanna V. Boone

Music. It brings beauty and creativity into our world. It motivates and inspires us. It calms and excites us. It is an outlet for the expression of complex emotions. Music is a non-verbal language with the power to challenge and move us, to delight and heal us, to bring our hearts joy.

"That's why I teach music," said Bobbi French, piano and strings instructor at St. Francis Music Center. "In today's tumultuous world, we need music as much if not more than ever before. I firmly believe that engaging in the practice of music opens our eyes and hearts to love. Students of music, at any age, become more open to and aware of beauty and the ways that music contributes. That makes us better citizens of our world."

Bobbi and her husband, Hank, a retired Lutheran seminary professor and pastor, came to Little Falls three years ago after living for seven years in a cabin in rural central Minnesota. During those years, Bobbi taught music lessons and directed musical theater in the nearby community of Askov. Then, deciding it was too rural, they pondered where to live next. On their list of criteria, Bobbi wanted the opportunity to play in an orchestra and Hank needed to be near a body of water—but they also wanted to be near their grandchildren in the Midwest. Their answer: Little Falls.

"Our motto is 'Be where you are' which means, once we choose to move on, we look to thoroughly invest in the community where we



live," she said. They had no plan, no jobs. But they had faith that life would unfold as it should.

Rumi, the ancient Persian poet, philosopher and theologian, is quoted on Bobbi's oft-worn pendant, "Let the beauty of what you love be what you do." She considers herself fortunate to be able to make a vocation doing just that.

live," she said. They had no plan, no jobs. But they had faith that life would unfold as it should.

Hank was soon asked to be the interim pastor of First Lutheran Church in Little Falls and Bobbi found St. Francis Music Center and the Heartland Symphony Orchestra (HSO). "I'm able to do what I love most and do best: teach, coach, direct and play," Bobbi added.

St. Francis Music Center's vision and mission matched her values "to provide music education for anyone who wants it, no matter if they can afford it. The Music Center opens doors to people who otherwise may not have pursued the study of music. But," she said, "music is for anyone and everyone. At St. Francis, we encourage students of any age, from the youngest beginner to the

retired adult, to consider learning to sing or play an instrument."

Trained in music education, Bobbi has over 35 years of experience as a teacher and director. In addition to directing the orchestra program at St. Francis, she teaches violin, viola and piano. Her lessons emphasize music theory, instrument technique, note-reading, sight-reading, ear training and musical expression.

"There are always some students with a natural aptitude for music who will excel and go on to make a career in music," she said. "But there are many more who can benefit from music lessons in very gratifying and important ways. Music challenges the brain. It improves eye-hand coordination. It teaches commitment, responsibility

and discipline. It develops a sense of accomplishment and feelings of self-worth. We instructors are with students for a half hour. We are teachers and we are also mentors, an additional adult figure in the lives of young students and a supportive peer in the lives of adult students. It's a chance to instill in them a love for music which can last for a lifetime."

Being in an orchestra teaches more than the notes on a page. "Each musician makes a commitment to the group and that group counts on one another to be reliable. Players learn to listen to the other 'voices' of the orchestra and to understand how their instrument blends with other instruments to create a whole much bigger than themselves."

Bobbi's connection with the Heartland Symphony Orchestra creates a partnership with the Music Center's orchestras where students are invited to join and play with professionals. "We set schedules to allow participation in both organizations, advertise mutually and have a mentorship program where principal HSO string players work directly with Music Center students. It's amazing to see what we can accomplish together, for our own sakes and for the sake of our audiences. Music matters. Music makes a difference."

St. Francis Music Center offers three orchestral options. St. Francis Preparatory Orchestra is for young students with under two years of

experience; St. Francis Concert Orchestra is for more experienced players who play at the intermediate to advanced level; St. Francis Chamber Orchestra is for the most advanced high school students to perform original repertoire at the highest level. At present, 40-some players participate in the three groups. People need not be taking lessons at the Music Center to play in the orchestras. All orchestras, coached and directed by Bobbi, perform twice each year in Sacred Heart Chapel.

This article first appeared in the *Morrison County Record*, August 21, 2016. Reprinted with permission

Julene Ley receives Saint Francis Award

Julene Ley, director of Archives, is the Saint Francis Award recipient for 2016. Amy Scholl, director of Human Resources, announced the award, saying, "The values embody respect, meaning we treat each other and all of God's creation with dignity, justice and reverence; open communication, where we encourage people to express their ideas and feelings in ways that are clear, honest and direct; hospitality, where we create a comfortable, respectful environment in which people feel welcome, safe and valued; and compassion, in which we weave genuine concern and care into our interactions and seek to work together with flexibility and fairness, creating a supportive environment for all."

The nominations described Julene as "welcoming and hospitable; incredibly thoughtful and considerate of the sisters' well-being and makes every effort to accommodate their needs; gives the opportunity for others to grow and learn new responsibilities as well as asks for opinions regarding work-related issues, then listens to what others have to say; is true and honest, sincere and humble, hardworking and dedicated to the Franciscan Sisters, their home and history."

Accepting the award, Julene said, "I feel incredibly honored to receive the 2016 St. Francis Award! I love working for the Franciscan Sisters. They make me feel as though I am a part of their family and make my work enjoyable. The sisters treat people with unending care and compassion and have been excellent role models for all of us. I would like to thank those who nominated me and also acknowledge all of the other individuals who were nominated for this award. I am very grateful."



Julene Ley and Sister Julien Dirkes

To see the light in others

Sister Ange Mayers

Whether I'm speaking before a group or meeting someone for the first time, I identify myself as a Franciscan Sister of Little Falls . . . and then wonder if they know what that is. Simply, a Franciscan follows Jesus in the spirit of Saints Francis and Clare of Assisi.

Saint Francis, the patron saint of the ecology and animals, loved creatures and nature so much that he called everything sister or brother. In his prayer of praise, Francis praises God for Brother Sun, Brother Wind and Brother Fire, Sister Moon and stars, Sister Water, Mother Earth and Sister Death. Francis is also the patron of peacemaking and, as peacemakers, we commit ourselves to a life of peace and nonviolence, serving wherever God calls us.

I was raised on a dairy farm near New Munich in a family of 12 children. Milking cows and helping with the field work was ours to do. One summer when Dad was cultivating corn, I brought him lunch that Mom had prepared. When he came to the end of the row, he stopped the tractor and climbed down. We sat on the grass, and he gave me a part of the sandwich. This memory is a "breaking bread" moment! My siblings and I often played "church." In the house, a long bench was the communion railing, and Clark's candy wafers were the hosts. In the barn, we used a pole to which the little calves had been chained. As the priest I stood in the manger to give communion; catalogues were our prayer books.

I remember my parents as being franciscan (with a small "f"). At a Farmers Union picnic, my father picked up aluminum cans, long before "Go Green" was created. Years later, my dad was driving a combine harvesting oats, while I drove behind him on a tractor pulling a box to collect the oats. Instead of the oats running into the box, they ran over me, over the tractor and onto the ground. In silence, my father stopped, got down from the combine and, using his straw hat, scooped up the oats, hatful by hatful. I saw his great gratitude for God's gifts (and his ability to forgive his daughter).

My mother had a deep love and gratitude for God's gifts also. She loved animals and raised chickens. One cold day she brought a tiny chick, half dead, in from the barn. She warmed it with the heat from the oven. The chick resurrected! I saw the image of God in my mother that day. These experiences planted within me a love for Mother Earth and all of God's creatures. I now see how God was preparing me to be a Franciscan.

When I was a freshman in high school, my older



Sister Ange Mayers teaching in Monterrey, Mexico

sister Leona joined the convent. I went along with Mom and Dad on their first visit to see her. Sitting alone in the chapel in front of a tall statue of Saint Francis, I heard him say to me, "This too will be your home!"

I spent my last summer before entering the convent at home helping on the farm. My final farewell with my classmates was a dance on the Friday before I left for Little Falls. There I was dancing at the Spring Hill Ballroom—sure my dancing days were over! Well, to my surprise they weren't. Occasions to dance presented themselves during my early years at the convent and continue to this day.

Early on, I was asked why I wanted to be a sister. Without hesitating, I said, "To see the light in others," which over time meant being in relationship with other cultures. As a novice, my first mission experience was with the Mexican and Yaqui people in Tucson, Ariz. There we were four 19- and 20-year-olds without supervision! Our novice director was concerned that we would find "boyfriends." It was too hot to wear a veil, so she went to Walgreen's to buy silver rings, a sure sign that we were taken and not looking for boyfriends.

We worked for Catholic Charities under the direction

of a lay woman who took the role as our “supervisor.” The Yaquis and Mexicans welcomed us as family into their homes and their faith community. This summer experience was a stepping stone for full-time ministry. A few years later I, along with Sisters Louise Bauer and Janice Weniger, directed religious education in three small faith communities. One day in religion class, a student said something to me in Spanish. I said, “I’m sorry, Sergio, I don’t speak Spanish.” Arrogantly, I added, “my second language is German.” He responded, “Then why don’t you teach in Germany!”

In 1988, I went to Venezuela. Once I visited Sisters Carolyn Law, Ruth Grelson and Joanne Klinnert, I was off to language school and then back to Venezuela for what would become a three-year mission. I created a religion class for some 30 preschoolers. I loved the Venezuelan mission, living simply, right with the people. I followed in Sisters Carolyn and Joanne’s footsteps and cared for the children of a single mother who couldn’t raise the children on her own. Every morning I went to the neighborhood store to buy their food. In exchange, the children helped with yardwork.

After a sabbatical I returned to ministry with the Native American people in Arizona. Sister Elizabeth (Kizzie) Ohmann and I were pastoral ministers for the Tohono O’odham Nation. We took Eucharist to the homebound, directed religious education and led Word and Communion

services. On the Feast of Saint Francis, Kizzie and I were honored to give the homily at a Spanish mass. Each year my ministry expanded, including addiction prevention and community development. Twice, in the absence of a priest, I baptized infants. It was a blessing to put into action that in Baptism I was anointed, sharing in the priesthood of Jesus!

After 15 years, I was called back to Minnesota to live at the Welcoming House in St. Cloud to help with Franciscan Community Volunteers. Oh my! I felt I still had so much to accomplish, but through prayer I realized one doesn’t finish, one delegates, lets go, moves on.

Presently, I’m at our mission in San Rafael, Mexico, with Sisters Janice Wiechman and Mary Dumonceaux. We live in community with 16 girls, who are attending high school. My ministry is being a consultant to the teen leadership program in the parish and tutoring English to some of the girls here at Casa Franciscana. We sisters appreciate each other’s unique gifts, supporting and encouraging each other to live out God’s call to respond to the needs in the world, in the way of Saints Francis and Clare.

My journey has been with parents who lived the values of Francis and a religious community which gave me the ability to embrace peoples of other cultures—allowing me to see the light in others and in myself!



FRANCISCAN GIRLS CAMP

For girls who have completed grades 6-8

JUNE 6–JUNE 8, 2017

Activities include prayer with the sisters, singing, crafts, campfires, nature and outdoor activities.

Register by May 1, 2017.

For more information, contact Sister Ange Mayers at amayers@fslf.org, (320)632-0680.

Sister Joan Tuberty awed by hospitality

Elizabeth Rydeen

Sister Joan Tuberty, nurse, teacher, counselor, is a remarkable, accomplished woman.

An RN and trained psychiatric nurse, she's also a professor and taught nursing at the Catholic University of America, the College of St. Catherine and the University of Minnesota. She recently retired from 25 years in ministry as a spiritual counselor at St. Olaf Catholic Church in downtown Minneapolis.

About 10 years into her tenure there, she took a sabbatical to Ireland. She was 70 at the time and during her four months in silence and solitude she experienced a "prompting of the spirit" of sorts. As her work at St. Olaf evolved—she introduced centering prayer, offered spiritual counseling and organized a women's group—she wanted more and felt called to live closer to the poor and marginalized. She wasn't quite sure how to make that happen and even wondered what she had to offer people on the margins. Her daily walk from her parking spot to St. Olaf's led her past Exodus Residence, a 95-unit housing complex run by Catholic Charities; soon she realized what she was looking for was closer than she thought.

When Sister Joan approached Catholic Charities about becoming a tenant, the staff wondered how a religious sister would fit into the mix. What started out as an experiment turned into a beautiful 15-year relationship between Sister Joan and the residents. "I knew my boundaries, and my experience as a psychiatric nurse helped me to become that in-between person ready and willing to listen. I didn't want another job. I wanted to follow Saint Francis and live with the people. Exodus allowed me to do that," Sister Joan said.

Last fall, Sister Joan gave up her apartment at Exodus and moved to Little Falls. "There was a shift in ministry at St. Olaf's, and I was experiencing some health issues . . . I knew the time was right," she said. She is grateful to be among her sisters in community. "I'm totally awed by the gracious hospitality of my sisters and the resources at the convent." She attended the Thanksgiving community dinner sponsored by the local ministerial association and, again, was amazed at the sense of community. "There was no division. We were all one," she commented.



Good Friday April 14, 2017 - 9:30 a.m.

Silent Walk for Peace

The walk begins with prayer in the west parking lot of St. Francis Center and then proceeds through Little Falls, stopping at various places for reflection and song. Following the cross is a graphic reminder of some of the ways Jesus still suffers today and the necessity to pray for all people. Stations of the Cross will follow at 11 a.m.

Indoors: gather in Sacred Heart Chapel.

For more information, contact the Franciscan Life Center at (320)632-0668 or franciscanlife@fslf.org; www.fslf.org.



Sister Joan Tuberty: iconographer

Among her many talents, Sister Joan is also a gifted iconographer. Before she left the Twin Cities, she published a booklet featuring five of her works. She explained, “Icons are scripture visualized and companions for our spiritual journey.” In the introduction, she writes:

Stillness is not easily found today. Our world is bustling with engines, computers, and smokestacks. Yet silence is truly there for those watching at daybreak or attending to the silent power of the green blade as it cuts through the crusty earth in Spring. Icons are images born of this same watchfulness as the icon painter waits with the Word of God in prayer and stillness.

Lady of the Sign is the first of five icons featured in *Icons, Gifts of Prayer, Soul Images Made Visible*. “Every icon is an expression of the Incarnation, that act of flesh-taking by which Christ becomes 'the door through which we enter in the knowledge and experience of the Divinity. And Mary is an inseparable wonder of the Incarnation.' Mary is the mirror of the entire creation and incarnation on earth . . . in her very essence in the natural and supernatural order,

heaven, earth, sorrow, joy, comes to be reflected, as the sun is reflected in a mountain lake, as a prosaic word seems to change its nature when it is inserted into the mold of a superior poet. (Reflections of Jean Guitton)

“This icon portrays the ancient orans figure with arms outstretched and uplifted in surrender and intercession, mediating between heaven and earth as the channel of the continual flow of earth and heavenly energy. The Christ child medallion on Mary’s breast signifies every Christian, Christ-bearer, and the work of unity and reconciliation. ‘God, in Christ, was reconciling the world to himself.’ (2Cor. 5: 18) The Christian in prayer participates in this same work of reconciliation.

“For me, this icon captures the very essence of prayer and compassion and was given to me at a time when the life and work of prayer held me in place like a magnet holds fragments of metal.”



“The Lord shall give you a sign: A virgin shall conceive and bear a son. He shall be called ‘Emmanuel’, God with us!” (Is. 7:14)

Dear Friends,

Six months ago, the director of Community Relations, Deanna Boone, retired and moved away to Wisconsin. It was a tearful good bye. When I made my interest in her job known, the Franciscan Sisters graciously allowed me to take her place. Indeed, I have big shoes to fill. She is an amazing communicator, an excellent writer and champion for all things Franciscan.



Although I've been part of the Franciscan community and the Development Office since 2000, my new role as director has brought me closer to many donors. Calls and letters are often deferred to me, which gives me an opportunity to connect with you, our generous donors.

In this issue of *Our Journey*, you'll read about the Bednarczyks, a delightful couple who chose to give a donation to the Franciscan Sisters as their Christmas gift to their grandchildren. How wonderful! And I talked to many of you who called on Give to the Max Day to make sure your donation was received and eligible for matching funds. That technology "hiccup" on the GiveMN site allowed me to visit with the brother of a former sister who continues to support the "good work of the sisters."

What warms my heart more than anything are the stories that come across my desk of the impact the sisters have had on the people served through their ministries. For example, Carol (Bormann) Kapsen wrote this: "Whenever I hear certain classical pieces of music, I think of Sister Cecelia (Schmitt). She taught music at St. Mary's in Morris when I was in seventh grade, and several of her classes were on music appreciation. I particularly remember her explaining the meaning behind the music and what it represented. The *Grand Canyon Suite* was one, and I loved it."

This issue serves as our annual report where we honor and thank all the generous people who support our mission and ministries, our Franciscan way of life. Please, know that we are grateful for all the ways you help us—with your time, your talents and your financial resources. Again, thank you!

Peace and all good,



Elizabeth Mahoney Rydeen
Director of Development

This issue of *Our Journey* recognizes individuals, businesses and organizations that have made cash, planned and in-kind gift donations to the Franciscan Sisters of Little Falls, Minnesota, during calendar year 2016, January 1 – December 31. Donors who have passed away in 2016 are identified with an asterisk (*) behind their names.

Every effort has been made to recognize donors according to their wishes, including those who wish to remain anonymous. If names have been listed incorrectly, omitted or appear against the donor's wishes, we apologize and encourage you to bring the matter to our attention by contacting Elizabeth Rydeen (320-632-0624) so that the error can be corrected.

Donating to the Franciscan Sisters:

Please, feel free to express any wishes you may have for your gift. However, be advised that in order to ensure that donors will be entitled to a federal income tax deduction, Franciscan Sisters of Little Falls, Minnesota, (FSLF) is required by Internal Revenue Service rulings to retain full authority over the assets granted to it and cannot accept gifts that are required by the donor to be paid, or to be used, only to further the work of a specific individual or that are required to be used in another country by FSLF or a foreign charity or religious institute.

Christmas Appeal - \$122,705

Give to the Max Day - \$52,017

Memorial Appeal - \$27,270

125th Special Anniversary Mailings - \$42,676

Individual Donors

We extend out sincere thanks to our many donors who wish to remain anonymous.

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You are with us . . .

Sister Cordy Korkowski, director of Donor Relations

When I began my work as director of Donor Relations in 2013, I had no idea where the path would lead me. Now I know.

Last year, in particular, was filled with events, gatherings and wonderful occasions where our donors and friends came together to celebrate our 125th anniversary as a Franciscan Community. Also, I ventured out on the road more often, spending time with donors and sharing our mission. Other highlights were visiting with present and interested donors who came to our campus to share a meal and learn more; writing letters, notes and conversing on the phone interlaced my days.

Throughout the year, I heard these words, “What can we do for the Franciscan Sisters?” “We love the Franciscan Sisters.” “Our support allows us to be with you in your mission!”

You, our donors, are with us. We have many facets to our mission and gospel way of life. Your generosity makes our outreach to the poor, our mission work here and abroad, our promotion of the arts, our pastoral work, and the health care

needs of our sisters in retirement possible. Our gratitude is beyond words.

As I review the names of our donors listed in this issue of *Our Journey*, I do so with profound appreciation. On behalf of the Franciscan Sisters and from the bottom of my heart, I say, “Thank you!”

Thank you

Diana & Tom Christian
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I attended St. Francis Nursing School in Breckenridge from 1947-1950. I want to contribute to the sisters because the values I learned stayed with me my entire life. — Virginia Plett, Tucson, Ariz.

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We love to help out the Franciscan Sisters. Sister Cortona Bentler was my aunt. The sisters always pray for our personal and business needs. Their prayers work 95% of the time. I have enjoyed the sisters since I was a kid. — Jerome and Kim Guerin, Costa Mesa, Calif.

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Financial Report

Fiscal Year Oct. 2015 – Sept. 2016

Source of Funds

Donations	\$538,637.33
Grants	189,374.00
Memorials	42,104.75
Gift Planning	267,820.64
Sales/Special Events	99,153.68
Total	\$1,137,090.40

Use of Funds

Franciscan Ministries ...	\$974,190.93
Franciscan Missions	53,402.97
Franciscan Outreach	5,515.00
Retirement Needs	103,981.50
Total	\$1,137,090.40

Just one gift

Joan Bednarczyk

We first came to know the Franciscan Sisters when Sisters Cordy Korkowski, Johnelle Becker and Rita Barthel ministered in our parish of St. Stephen in Anoka, Minn. We have long admired and loved these dear women because of their faithful commitment to gospel values lived out in the Franciscan charism. With them as our inspirational guides, we too began to acknowledge the pull of Francis.

In the past, much of our Advent attention focused on gift-buying for our three children, their spouses and our nine grandchildren. While contemplating the “gift” of Christmas and after considerable prayer, we decided there would be only one gift this year: a donation to the sisters in honor of our grandchildren and their parents.

This change in attitude and action did not come right away—changing the norm rarely does. But it was right for us and now has become a new norm . . . and a true gift.



Peter and Joan Bednarczyk and their grandchildren experienced the joy of Christmas—with just one gift.



Prayer support for those in pain

Associate Michele Rosha

I am the chaplain for Catholic Health Initiatives St. Gabriel's Health in Little Falls. St. Gabriel's now offers a new service to its patients, staff and community: a prayer team of seven commissioned to provide Christ-centered care to people who are hurting. Many times we find that after pain medications, treatments and rest, there remains a pain that just can't be named. St. Gabriel's prayer team provides prayer support for the gap in between.

How did this begin? One day the young man who works across from me said, "Michele, I feel like we should be praying for people." That was the beginning, and one year later we are praying in the chapel every Wednesday at 9 a.m. We also pray with patients in their hospital rooms or invite staff to call us to their location.

When we were commissioned to this ministry on May 18, 2016, the reading was from the Gospel of Matthew on sending forth to go out and pray for the sick. We felt affirmed by the timing of our work and this gospel call to prayer and going forth.

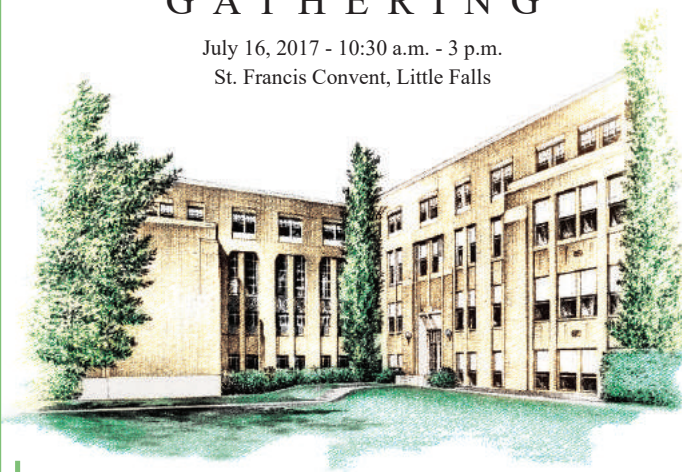
This additional layer of prayer with the prayer team is multi-denominational. We address our differences respectfully and with understanding of how approaching prayer can be very individual. Keeping Christ Jesus at the center of all we do, we honor the tradition of Catholic Health Initiatives and hold each person in prayer through the support that is most meaningful to them.

It has been an honor to be called to pray in special areas, including CentraCare Dialysis, to support patients who are going through a particularly rough time, as well as other locations to pray for relatives of co-workers. We also do our best to stop when we see someone is hurting and offer prayer throughout the day.

God does not limit the call to prayer. We are willing to be available wherever and whenever we can be of service. *(To make a confidential request of our team, you can call 320-631-5619.)* We look forward to praying with all those in need.

St. Francis High School GATHERING

July 16, 2017 - 10:30 a.m. - 3 p.m.
St. Francis Convent, Little Falls



The Franciscan Sisters invite former students, staff, and faculty to gather on Sunday, July 16, 2017, for Mass and lunch.

This is a great opportunity to enjoy one another's company, to share memories, and to nurture and promote the Franciscan spirit that was instilled during your high school years.

Please send your name, address, year of graduation and phone number, together with your registration fee, by July 1 to:

Mary Ellen Imdieke
3395 125 Ave. NE
Blaine, MN 55449-6572

Phone: 763-785-0295
E-mail: sfhs.reunion@outlook.com

Registration fee: \$20 per person. Checks payable to Franciscan Sisters. After July 1, \$25.

Thank you

Charles Latterell
 Gerry Latterell
 Harvey* & Adeline Laudenbach
 Glen A. Lauer
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 Wayne & Regina Lauermann
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 Mary Kay & Thomas Mans
 Nelda Marcotte
 Joe & Pat Mareck
 Kathleen Mareck



Sister Marguerite Ostendorf ministered in education for 41 years, 25 of those years were in Morris at St. Mary's School. While her students remember her fondly, she's also well-known as the sister in the Development Office who signs all the thank-you letters. Almost 1,200 people responded to our annual Christmas Appeal, and Sister Marguerite penned her name to every thank-you letter. Along with generous donations, many donors return the ornament with their prayer requests. The ornaments adorn the Christmas trees in the chapel's gathering space through Epiphany when Sister Marguerite distributes them among the sisters. In turn, the sisters remember the donors and their intentions in prayer throughout the year.

Planned Giving

Please let us know
 if you would like more
 information on remembering
 the Franciscan Sisters in your
 will and estate planning.

Contact:
 Sister Bernice Ebner
 116 8th Avenue SE
 Little Falls, Minnesota 56345
 (320)632-0699 • bebner@fslf.org

Thank you

Steve & Theresa Mareck
Carol Marston-Stanley
Barbara Martell
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Sharon Marthaler
Charlie & Peggy Martin
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Barry & Judy Petro
Terri Petron

We love our Franciscan Sisters. The sisters are genuine and work hard to do their outreach with many people . . . following the example of Jesus. Being a 1957 grad of St. Francis High School, I love continuing my connections and support of the sisters.
— Joe and Clare Reagan, Norfolk, Va.

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Gregory & Susan Schlosser
John & Jennie Schlumberger

My mother graduated from St. Francis High School in 1937. Sister Christine Weiner was her art teacher. We loved our visits with the sisters and still feel an atmosphere of peace and gentleness when we are with them. — Barb and Jerry Reif, Glenwood, Iowa

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Thank you

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Joseph & Beulah Trunk
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Eileen Tschida
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Irene Twist
David & Mary Twomey
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Isaac Vacheresse
Josiah Vacheresse
Gretchen & Carl Valdez
Mike Vales
Joe & Laurie Valesano
Rosyne Valley
Bro. Ken Valois, SVD
Dave & Karen Van Heel
Lanie Van Sloun

The Franciscan Sisters were teachers to our six children at St. Mary's in Alexandria. They were top notch and we have precious memories of them. Great to work with. — Donald and Doloris Lorsung, Alexandria, Minn.

Inge & Karel Svoboda
Ludvik Z. & Katheryn Svoboda
Rosanna & Mark Svobodny
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 Joan & Tom Vitro
 Clare Vogel
 James & Alice Vogel
 Tom & Kim Vogel
 Donna Voght
 Joseph & Renata Voigt
 Thomas & Anne Vollrath
 Karen Vonderheide
 Diane & David Vos
 Leo & Margaret Vos
 Rev. William Vos
 Rita Vosen
 Henry Vuong

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 Margaret Wackerfuss
 Jean & Paul Wagener
 Richard & Roxanne Wagner
 Rodney & Mary Ann Wahlberg
 Francis & Dianne Wald
 Margaret Wald
 George & Rita Amberg Waldref
 Wayne & Patricia Waletich
 Donna Waletzko
 Samuel & Patricia Walker
 Beverly Wallace
 Prince & Sandra Wallace
 Ellen & Steve Wallgren
 Magdalene Wallgren
 Allen & Elaine Walter
 Leo Walz
 Steven & Sherry Wangler
 John Ward
 Cornelius & Patricia Warzecha
 Ervin & Lynn* Warzecha
 Phyllis Warzecha

Yvonne Warzecha
 Carol Waschbusch
 David & Ivetta Watercott
 Delores Watercott
 Jerome & Anke Watercott
 Sherahl & Donald Weadon
 Herb & Jeanette* Webb
 Bea Weber
 Chad & Pat Weber
 Elva Weber
 Frances Weber
 Richard & Sandi Weber
 Roger & Mary Weber
 Sally Weddel
 Kathleen S. Wedl
 Elizabeth Weidenbach
 Grace Weidner
 Phyllis Weigel
 Louis Weiland
 Stanley & Deborah Weinberger
 Carol Weis
 Susan Weis
 Rosemary Weiser
 Marvin & Trudi Weiss
 Clifford & Shirley Weitgenant
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 Allan Welle
 Judy Rose & Judi Welle
 Barbara Weller
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 Bernice Welters
 Janice Weniger
 William & Regina Weniger
 Aloys & Marjorie Wenker
 Bonita Wenker
 Robert & Dione Wenner
 Ken & Linda Wenning
 Allen & Jan Wentland
 Appolonia Wentland
 Susan Wentland
 Stephen Wenzel
 Rev. Timothy Wenzel
 Marie Wernersbach
 Robert Wessel
 Virginia Wessing

The Franciscan Sisters are near and dear to us. We give generously because we get back generously. As associates, we have many meaningful relationships with the sisters. This helps us live our Gospel values as well. — Jim and Alice Vogel, Little Falls, Minn.

Carol Rinkenberger Westhoff
 Ron Westmiller
 Erna Wetzel
 John & Carol Weyandt
 Peter & Eva Weyandt
 Ruth Weyandt
 Thomas & Diane Weyandt
 Joan Weyer
 Gayle Weyers
 Molly Weyrens
 Arlene Whalen
 Pearl Whelan
 Robert & Penny White
 Lloyd & Kathy Whittaker
 Bonnie & Ed Whitting
 Mary Jo Wieber
 Ben & Sarah Wiechman
 James & Linda Wiechman
 Rose Wiechman
 Alphonse Wiechmann
 Marc & Audrey Wiechmann
 Tom & Joanne Wiechmann
 Christopher Wieland
 George* & Leona Wieland
 Albert & Shirley Wielinski
 Dolores & Stan Wielinski
 Gerald & Pam Wiener
 Janet Wiener
 Leo & Antoinette Wiener
 Rev. Stanley Wieser
 Bonnie Wiesmueller
 Lori Wightman
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 Lois Willette
 Gilbert Williams
 L. Jane Williams
 Mary J. Williams

Philip & Lois Williams
 Ralph & Joan Williams
 Francis Wilmes
 William & Kathleen Wimmer
 William Wimmer
 William & Janet Windsperger
 A. C. Winter
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 Dick Wojciechowski
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 Joanne Wolf
 Mary Wood
 David & Lynda Wosmek
 Geralyn Wotzka
 Terry Wotzka
 Ruth Wronski
 Loretta Wuertz
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 David & Jeri Yaggie
 Stephen & Laurel Yanish
 Mike & Yvonne Yapuncich
 Matthew & Barbara Yelle
 Joan & Paul Yenter
 Vernon Yetzer
 Ann Yoerg
 Robert & Bridget Yorek
 Alan & Marilyn Youel
 Angela Young
 Robert & Eileen Young
 Russell & Martha Young
 Tom & Shirley Young
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 Ron & Barb Zachman

Verena Zachman
 Anna Mae Zajac
 John & Janet Zangs
 Carol Zapzalka
 Tim & Danelle Zapzalka
 Mark & Sherry Zawacki
 Victor & Verna Zeiher
 Rev. Tom Zelinski
 Donald & Theresa Zenner
 Art & Marilyn Zenzen
 Susan Zenzen
 David & Virginia Zeta
 Rose Marie Zetah
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 Marcy Zilkoski
 Rev. Nicholas Zimmer
 Richard & Linda Zimmer
 Sabina Zimmer
 John Zimmerman
 Les & Beth Zimmerman
 Ralph Zimmermann
 Daniel & LaVonne Zinda
 Carol Zirbes
 Donna Zniwski
 John & LaDonna Zobava
 Jerry & Jean Zondlo
 Muriel Zumbusch
 Darlene & John Zurawski
 Robert & Jane Zweifel
 Ronald & Margaret Zweifel

Father Edgardo Neri is pastor for San Rafael Parish in Mexico, where the sisters train lay pastoral leaders in the small city of San Rafael and the surrounding villages. He visited the motherhouse in Little Falls last October. Standing: Sisters Pat Forster, Carol Schmit, Janice Wiechman, Isabel Berrones, Mary Dumonceaux and Aurora Tovar; seated: Father Neri and Sister Ange Mayers.





Pickleball, now being offered at St. Francis Health and Wellness Center, is a mix of tennis, badminton and ping-pong. It's just one of a number of new activities available at the center. Renovations along with additional space have allowed the center to grow and attract more members. Other opportunities include spin bikes, kettlebells, Qigong, weight lifting, swimming lessons, massage services, a variety of yoga classes and special sessions for seniors. Learn more at www.stfrancisrec.org.

Grants

Benton Telecommunications
Brass Family Foundation
Catholic Health Initiatives
Conrad Hilton Fund for Sisters
Five Wings Arts Council

Getsch Charitable Trust
Jerome L. & Ursula A. Choro-
manski Family Foundation
Vernon L. Dahlheimer Family
Foundation

Koch Foundation, Inc.
Laura Jane Musser Fund
Margaret Rivers Fund
Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures
Minnesota State Arts Board

Morrison County Area
Foundation
Our Sunday Visitor Institute
Pine Country Bank

Stearns Electric Association
Trust
Support Our Aging Religious
(SOAR!)
US Bank Foundation

In-Kind Gifts

Larry Anderson
Tom Bodine
Sharon Bonesho
Mary Clark
Cold Spring Bakery,
Cold Spring
Roberta & Dave Cook
Coyote Moon Grille, St. Cloud
John Doman
Paul Given

Great Harvest Bread,
Waite Park
Barb Guggemos
House of Pizza, St. Cloud
Jan Hovda
Gerald & Charlene Jelinski
Sharon Kloss
Derald & Theresa Krentz
Cel & Rose Kroll
Roman Kulzer
Little Falls Radio

Bonnie Malterer
Karen & Dennis Mathiason
Noodles & Company,
St. Cloud
Janet O'Connell
Olive Garden, Waite Park
Pacific Wok, St. Cloud
Art Phillips
Mary Poser
Gertrude Rausch Estate
Reality Roasters/Mark Norgren

Tom & Cathy Rudolph
Terry Sakry
Sawatdee, St. Cloud
Joyce Selg
Isidore Schmiesing
Short Stop Custom Catering,
St. Cloud
Somali Cafe, St. Cloud
Maxine Stregge
Kevin Stocco
Texas Road House, Waite Park

Third Street Brewhouse,
Cold Spring
Viet Tien, Waite Park
Breanna Wegner
Janice Weniger
Audrey & Gordon Williams
Jerome Zimmerman

Mission and Church-related Groups

Christian Mothers of North Prairie &
Bowlus
Church of St. Andrew, Elk River
Church of St. Anne, Kimball
Immanuel Lutheran Church Women,
St. Paul
Little Rock Scripture Study,
Little Rock, AR

Our Lady of the Lake Church,
Battle Lake
Our Lady of the Lake Church, Big Lake
St. Cloud Mission Office
St. Loretta's Mission Circle of St. Rosa,
Grey Eagle
St. Mary's Mission Group, Bluffton
St. Mary's Mission Society, Melrose

St. Monica's Christian Women, Sartell
St. Stephen Mission Group, St. Cloud
Knights of Columbus
Council #4718, Alexandria
Council #1728, Alexandria
Council #2018, Andover
Chesterton Council #1995, Brandon

St. Damian Council #11345, Kimball
St. Edwards Council #1527, Morris
St. Joseph Council #7529, Onamia
Council #1804, Randall
Holy Trinity #13398, Royalton
Rochester Knights of Columbus
Fourth Degree 530, St. Cloud
St. Cloud Council #961, St. Cloud

Business and Organizations

Amazon Smile, Seattle, WA
 Bowlus First Response Team
 Brandl Motors, Little Falls
 Briggs & Morgan Professional Assoc.,
 Minneapolis
 Bursch Travel, Waite Park
 Catholic Charities, St. Cloud
 Central MN Credit Union,
 Little Falls
 Christian Brothers Services,
 Romeoville, IL
 Clifton Larson Allen LLP,
 Waite Park

Conny's Creamy Cone, Inc.,
 St. Paul
 Consolidated Telecom Co., Brainerd
 Culinex, Fargo, ND
 DJ Bitzan Jewelers, Waite Park
 Executive Express, St. Cloud
 Goldsmith Jewelry, Little Falls
 GoodShop, San Francisco, CA
 Guerin Management Consulting, Inc.,
 Philadelphia, PA
 KC's Uptown Saloon, Inc., Pillager
 LeMieur Funeral Home (Kyle &
 Margit LeMieur), Little Falls
 Lin Furniture, Little Falls

Marco Business Products, Inc.,
 St. Cloud
 Miller Chevrolet, Rogers
 MN State Veterans Memorial Assoc.,
 Little Falls
 Morrison Co. Agricultural Society,
 Little Falls
 Paramount Theatre & Visual Arts,
 St. Cloud
 Paul Schlauderaff Construction LLC,
 St. Joseph
 Prairie Restorations, Princeton
 Shingobee Builders, Waite Park

Spectrum Printing/Design/Apparel,
 Little Falls
 St. Cloud Hospital/CentraCare
 St. Cloud Toyota
 CHI St. Gabriel's Hospital, Little Falls
 Thrivent Financial
 Volunteer Services Collaboration,
 Minneapolis
 Wells Fargo Volunteer Program,
 Minneapolis
 West Side Liquor East, St. Cloud,
 Waite Park

Honor Gifts

Sister M. Antonette Ahles
 Sister Carmen Barsody
 Sister Isabel Berrones
 Sister M. Maureen Blenkush
 Sister M. Adella Blonigen
 Sister Mary Pat Burger
 Sister Ardis Cloutier
 Kathy Cullinan
 Mary Pat Dobmeier
 Peggy Doi & family
 Kevin Eisenmenger
 Franciscan Sisters, Little Falls
 Sister Anne Furnstahl

Sister Therese Furnstahl
 Jan Gerads
 Sister M. Rosaria Hagel
 Sister Gloria Haider
 Sister Annella Henger
 Roger Hoy Family
 Sister M. Georgine Larson
 Raymond & Bernadine Loidolt
 65th Anniversary
 Maureen Isaacson
 Sister M. Patrice Kiefer
 Sister Fran Kempenich
 Sister Jan Kilian's Jubilee

Anita Kolles
 Kolles Family
 Sister Eileen Kosel
 Gene Kosel
 Sister M. Lillian Kroll
 Sister M. Theresa Lenz
 Michael Leonard
 Sherman & Patricia Malkerson's
 40th Wedding Anniversary
 Irene McGearry
 Jim & Gloria McNellis's 60th
 Wedding Anniversary
 Jerry Menke

Sister Shirley Mueller
 Sister M. Maurita Niedzielski
 Loren Petrich
 Bill & Bonnie Przybilla
 Anna Riebel
 Beth Riebel
 Sister M. Bernarda Sanoski
 Betty Scherber
 Sister M. Fabian Schneider
 John & Lil Schwitalla
 John Skeeter & Diane Griffin
 Sister M. Evangeline Stanoch
 Sister Caroline Stoltz

Loretta Tonak Family
 Sister Aurora Tovar
 Eileen Tschida
 Sister Joan Tuberty
 Sister Carol Virnig
 Elva Weber
 Gilbert & Laverne Weber
 Ruth Weyandt
 Madeline Woodbury
 Sister Donna Zetah
 Sister Mary Zirbes

Stay up to date with all FSLF events



We need your help!

If any of your contact information changes—phone number, home
 or email address—please let us know.

Contact Ruth Mueller at 320-632-606 or rmueller@fslf.org.

- Thank you! -

If you would like to sign up to receive the monthly FSLF E-newsletter, visit our website
www.fslf.org under publications. The e-newsletter is sent monthly via email and features
 current news about the Franciscan Sisters and Associates.

Memorials

Duane Ackerman	Jim Broughten	John & Lacy Fisch	Dennis Jancik	Pete & Mark LaFontaine
Jim Aldrich	Bernice Brown	Lyle & Harriet Fischer	Tom Jancik, Jr.	Peter & Agatha LaFontaine
Fidel Aguilar	Jill Brown	Helen Wattenhofer Fisher	Tom & Mary Jancik, Sr.	Jerome James Lamb
Sister M. Dolores Ahles	Emma Buhl	Marvin Fleck	Tom Jancik, III	Marguerite Burggraff Lamb
Sister M. Theophane Ahles	Tom Bukowski	Jim & Mary Flynn	Rita Jansen	Sister Mary Goretti Lampert
John Akotchik	Virgil Burger	Jack Force	Marian Rose Janski	Joe & Helen Lampert
Isabel Albright	Ernest Burggraff	Ronald & Gladys Force	Paul Jacob Janski	Charles Lange
Sister M. Lorraine Allen	Donald Bursch	Paul & Isabel Fortin	Rose Wiener Janski	Sister Lydia Langer
Joseph Anderson	Betty Ann Butler	Willard Fowler	Doris Janson	Mr. & Mrs. Gilfred Langlie
Roy & Anna Belle Anderson	Nora Burton	Franciscans Sisters, Little Falls	Rose Januschka	Ken Larson
Sharon Andrews	Marcella Schaefer Cairns	Harry Frank	Anita Jensen	Marshall & Helen Larson
Jim & Isabelle Atkinson	Marsha Campbell	Robert Frericks	Don & Doris Johnson	Harvey Laudenbach
Antonio Ayala	Arlyce Ann Cane	Leo Furnstahl	Donny & Glenn Johnson	Alois & Alice Lauer
Dionicio Avila	Margaret Caneff	Sister Mary Leone Furnstahl	Larry & Chuck Johnson	Margaret LeBlanc
Charles Bachand	Nancy Carlson	Sister M. Stella Fussy	Oscar & Elizabeth Johnson	Regina Lenarz
Sister M. Marguerite Barbeln	Sister M. Judine Cassidy	Karen Garcia	Stanley & Effie Johnson	George Lentner
Joe Barsody	Sister Margaret Mary	Sister M. Regis Gartner	Sister M. Celine Jonas	Joyce Lentner
Sister M. Johnelle Becker	Champagne	Jack & Vi Gibbon	Lloyd & Mary Jones	Mardell Libbesmeier
Sister M. Yvonne Becker	Bonnie Chan	Ed Ghostley	Marilyn Jones	Mary Lindberg's mother
Sister M. Delphine Belanger	Katherine Chandler	Katherine Giecek	Marcella Jutz	Dick & Mary Littfin
Henry Bellamy	Don Chizek	Fran Glaser	Josh Kadrie	Roberet & Bill Logan
Frances Belland	Sister M. Lois Christen	Bro. Mike Glidden, OSC	Christopher Kalahar	Jerry & Lois Loher
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Jerry Belletti	John & Marce Connery	Katie Goihe	Louis Kedrowski	Sister M. Beata Lorsung
Beverly Benck	Elena Culos	Sister M. Doris Goldammer	Thomas & Tony Kedrowski	Peter Loscheider
Charlie Benck	Katherine Czech	Jan Goldammer	Sister M. Kathleen Kelly	Lawrence Lundgren
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Nels & Veronica Berger	Pat & Mary Ann Davis	Green	Sister M. Theresa Kimlinger	Robert & Jeanne Magee
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Dorothy Bieniek	Raymond Deeney	Athur Guyott	Sister Helen Ann Klepaida	Marie Maleska
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Sister Helen Niehaus
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Jerry O'Driscoll
Sandra Oemcke
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Lewis Ohmann
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Porfidio Olivas
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Randy Opatz
Rosemary Ostendorf
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Chuck Peterka
Donna April Peterka
Jim Peteroski
Joe & Clara Peters
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Kathy Peterson
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Gene Pfannenstien
Debbie Pfeiffer
Herb, Ray & Audrey Pflueger
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Mary Ann Rausch
Arthur & Leona Reichensperger
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Lorraine Rutz
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Joe Schimota
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Truman Scholl
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Sister Marcella Schuller
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Thomas Weber
Elizabeth Webster
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Sister Mary Wentland
Sister M. Juletta Westendorf
Sister M. Camillus Weier
Sister Elizabeth Weier
Sister M. Lenore Weier
Florian Weiser
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Sister M. Karlene Weyandt
Sister M. Thomas Weyandt
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Sister M. Redempta White
William White
Clare Whites
George Wieland
Sister M. Margarita Wiener
Sister Mary Christine Wiener
D. D. Wightman
Maria Angeliue Willette



FRANCISCAN SISTERS

OF LITTLE FALLS, MINNESOTA

ANNUAL

Pasta



BAR

Saturday, April 1, 2017 4:30 - 7 P.M.

St. Francis Convent, 116 8th Avenue SE, Little Falls, MN

Adults \$9 • Children (5-12 years) \$5
Children under 5 years - Free

Tickets available at the door or by calling: (320)632-2981, Monday - Saturday

Spaghetti with meat sauce (meat-less sauce is available upon request), chicken alfredo, white and cracked wheat bread, Caesar salad, homemade bars and beverages will be served.

Proceeds Benefit

St. Francis Health and Wellness Center and St. Francis Music Center, Little Falls

116 8th Avenue SE, Little Falls, MN 56345 • (320)632-2981 • info@fsf.org • www.fsf.org

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Andrew Zajac
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Myrna & Myron Ahle
Sister M. Johnelle Becker
Beth Bulger's Father
John Coyne
Urban & Dorothy Frank
Carol Gohman
Nancy Gram's Father
Lawrence Haeder
Doreen Kapsner
Mary Miranowski
Janet O'Connell's Mother
Barry & Judy Petro
Becky Running
Eileen Schwieters
Sister Ann Sherman
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Grandparents of:

John Coyne

Family Members of:

Sherry Andres
Bernice, sister of Florence Billig
Biniek & Bieniek Families by
Joseph & Peggy Biniek
Lloyd & Marci by Faye Boser
Opal Caelins
Deeney & Kirsch Families by
Elaine Deeney
Dombovy, Dukowitz & Gross
Families by Marie Dombovy
Howard, Bill, Denny, & brother
Bill by Joanne Fleck
Ehlen & Frederiksen Families
by Nancy Ehlen
Kowal & Dobrwado Families
by Wanda Fandino
Alfred, Clara, Dorothy, Ida,
Mabel & Yvonne by Darlene
Hapka
Eugene, Rosemary & Bill by
Joseph & Loris Hassler
Russ & Family Members by
Margaret Havens
Mary Lou Helmbrecht
Herb Hortsch & Family

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by Ed & Dolores Kantor
Doreen Kapsner
Lois Kobler
Konen & Weber Families by
Mary Konen
Louis Kost Family by Janet
Kost
Kostreba & Ripplinger Families
by Mary Ann Kostreba
Kranz & Pofahl Families
Larson Family by Sr.
Georgine Larson
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of Regina Laueremann
Cyril LeDuc Family by Dorothy
LeDuc
Alice Lehnen
Walter Little Family by
Catherine Little
John & Christina Blonigen
Families by Christine
Maleska
McDonough & Phillips Families
by Rev. Msgr. James
McDonough
Cleo & Mary Ann Meyer
Families
Lloyd & Ruth Pallansch
August Nitz Family by Gertrude
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Sabourin
Daniel, son of Paul
Schlauderaff
Schloeder & Walz Families by
Leo Walz
Schmitt & Freese Families by
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Schmitt
Schneider & Sowada Families
by Paul & Jackie Schneider
Schneider & Zilkoski Families
by Paul & Jackie Schneider
Schroedl Family by Ann
Baumeister
Schwab & Sauer Families by
Geraldine Schwab
Smoley & Skwira Families by
Patrick & Iris Smoley
Stanoch Family by Al & Jean
Seckinger
Teff & Fussy Families by Harry
& Ione Teff
Donovan & Elizabeth Theis
Joe Tombers
Tremblay & Roth Families by
Mary Tremblay
Albert & Adelaide Valley Family
by Rosyne Valley
Jim Weller's Family by Barbara
Weller

Family and Friends of:

All service men by Francis &
Kathel Doll
All who died in the work of the
Lord by Gregory A.
Dumonceaux
Rose, Tom, Pat & Don
by Edward Godzala
Denise & Ron Janson
Dave Kosel & Shannon
Shaughnessy
Janet Kulzer
Those who died alone by
Michael Lange & Craig
Plummer
Doreen (Klisch) Maki
Stacie by Lloyd & Ruth
Pallansch
Patricia by Paul Schlauderaff
Poor Souls by Virginia
Tostenson
Beverly by Alyce Turgeon
Welters & Lange Families by
Bernice Welters
MN Soldiers who died in Iraq
and Afghanistan by Janice
Weniger
Pete, LaVerne, Phyllis, Tom, &
Mary by Loretta Wippler

St. Elizabeth of Hungary Society

Anonymous
Bob & Shirley Albrecht
Geri Barsody
Stephen T. Bieniek
Dick & Mimi Bitzan
Kenneth & Dorothy Bjorklund
Elizabeth Black
Loren & Deanna Boone
Violet Budreck
Charles Buhl
Robert Claesgens
Edward & Elizabeth Clark
James Decker
Joel & Mary Donnell
Toni Ebner
Pauline Eichten
Mel & Julie Euteneuer
Tom & JoyGenea Furnstahl
Sylvia Geis
Jackie & Deacon Dave Holst
Mary Sue House
Rex & Monica Ingram
Douglas Isaacson
Donna Ziebarth Junghardt
Mary Alice Kalkbrenner
Ron & Margaret Keller
Donald W. Kjonas
Barbara Koch
Elaine Kolles
Norbert & Donna Korkowski
Patty Korkowski

Jean & Joseph Krause
Rev. Anthony Kroll
Bob & Joyce Kvanbeck
Connie Lacher
Ralph and Louise L'Allier
Paulette & Larry Lappi
John & Arlene Leisen
Dennis & Karen Mathiason
Louise Mulvaney
Joyce Nelson
Mary Jean Niedzielski
Dolores Paggen
Eunsook & Seungwoo Park
Ann Sang & Jerry Pietrzak
Virginia Plettl
Lori & James Rausch
Robert & Monika Rivers
Margaret Rogers
Richard Ruhoff
Duane & Terry Sakry
Richard & Bertha Schiller
John & Margaret A. Schroeder
Joan Seifert
Lorraine Shafer
Arnold Soenneker
Dean & Merrisue Soutor
Ron & Sharon Spanier
Elmer & Jaletta Stommes
Helen Taffe
Hortulana Van Sloun
Janice Weniger

Rev. Nicholas Zimmer
Deceased Members
Lena Albrecht
Germaine Allen
Angeline Ammann
Regina Athman
Joe Barsody
Rev. James Bernauer
Rev. Francis M. Bialka
Anthony Bieganeck
Marie Bieganeck
Frank Bischoff
Harvey Bisek
Earl & Lorraine Blaylock
Marianne Bolster
Rosemary Boehm
Thomas Bresnahan
Rev. Francis A. Britz
Dorothy Brobst
Othmar & Louise Broman
Eugene M. Broschovsky
Walter & Rita Bryce
Emma Buhl
John Burelback
Addie Butler
Agnes Capizzo
Rosemary Clear
Alyce Collins
Vincent C. Conlon
Vernon L. Dahlheimer

Vincent Daigle
Dr. Joanne Decker
Joseph & Dorothy DeBevec
Greg & Lorraine Dumonceaux
Dorothy Ellstrom
Ann Eltgroth
Louis & Emma Eltgroth
Bernice Euteneuer
Anna Feltl
Ray Flesher
Clara Fritz
Frederick Fritz
Kenneth J. Freiberg
Dolores M. Gaida
Joseph B. Gaida
Wilber E. Gahm
Mary L. Gannon
Edward Gartner
Frank Goering
Alvin Hagel
Clarence & Mary Hageman
Marion B. Haire
Jack T. Hanrahan
Margaret Haiden
Margaret Pauline Hall
Leonard Hofacker
Ben Hoffman, Sr.
Ruth Holenke
John Holt
Jeanette Rose Hughes
Eileen Hurst

Rev. Wilfred Illies
Loretta Moser Jaroch
David Koch
Leo Kimlinger
Allen Kolles
Severin & Ruth Koop
Rev. Harold Kost
Annetta Larson
Herman J. Lawinger
Raymond Loerzel
Kathryn Ramsey Lettengarver
Monsignor Peter Lorsung
Dolores Maciej
Mary Lou Maleska
Rose Manion
Helen Marcyn
Bernadette Mareck
Carol Mareck
Henry Mareck
Helen Maszk
Henrietta Matter
Anne S. McCloskey
Shirley R McGinnis
Edward McKigney
Laura M. McMahan
Rev. George Mehok
Floyd & Maureen Mehrwerth
William & Leona Meinze
Leonard Menke
Florence Meyers
Alberta Moe

Gertrude Moos
Cora Moran
Kathleen M. Nelson
Catherine Niedzielski
Clem Niedzielski
Edward H. Niehaus
Magdalen Olson
Keith & Ann Paquin
Rev. John Pickla
Dora Powelson
Florence C. Preiner
Albert N. Pull

Mary Ramler
Margaret Rauer
Anthony P. Rausch
Fr. Donald W. Rieder
Suzanne M. Roelandt
Germaine Marie Schlather
Mary Jo Schik
Clare Schirmers
Walburga Schirmers
Mary Jean Schlegel
John J. Schmitt
Clarence Schneider

Harold Schneider
Marcellus (Sal) & Margaret
Schneider
Rev. Raymond Schulzetenberg
Mary E. Schwanke
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Elmer Slagel
Ralph Stommes
Florence Summerville
Therese Tarr
August P Thomas

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Marcella Trutwin
Frank Unger
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Marcie Veldre
Nestor Virnig
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Vincent P. Weiher
Bernard Witzke
Walter & Rose Witzke
Orville J. Woeste
Thomas & Marguerite Zastrow
Leonard Zetah
Bridget J. Zwach

Volunteers

Fatama Abdulrahman
Ellen Akotchik
Georgia Anderson
Shirley Arvidson
Judy Athmann
Julia Austin
Mary B.
Ray & Dorothy Banick
Melissa Barton
Vi Bauer
Irene Becker
Terry Bernardy
Valerie Bleeker
Faye Boser
Pat Boser
Rich & Sally Brenny
Mary Lou Britz
Bea & Larry Britz
Donna Brooks
Marilyn Brown
Pat Capek
Elise Carey
Betty Cichon
Marilyn & Philip Cichon
Rob Clemmons, Alice & Guy
Dodee Colombe
Patty Commerford
Alexia Cripps
Garry & JoAnne Dahl
Sara Dahl
Lucy Dale
Kristen Dall
Jean Dennis
Phyllis Dobis
Russell Doke
Jim Donnell
Joel & Mary Donnell
Audrey Doucette
Lolly Doucette
Bonnie Eastman
Kathy Etzel
Mel & Julie Euteneuer
Jeff & Jan Everson
Annette & Jerry Fedor
Roger & Patricia Fernelius
Rosanne Fisher
Penny Flansburg
Conrad & Mary Rae Freeberg

Janie Frie
Arlene Furnstahl
Bernie & Marcy Gallus
Matt Gallus
Sheila Gardner
Lloyd Geisenhof
Mitch Gertken
Maureen Gertkin
Cheryl Ginger
Judy Girtz
Jackie Glatzmaier
Marcia Goff
Steve Good
David Gouker
Mark Grams
Sheila Gregoire
John & Rita Hacker
Patricia Hammerbeck
Chari Hample
Mary Hanfler
Connie Hanson
Rosalia Heath
Kiera Hecht
Bill & Judith Hecht
Annie Heisitch
Mary & Tom Hendricks
Sheila Henry
Beatrice Heinz
Betty & Al Heinz
Rowena Hollister
Helen Isaacson
Charlene & Jerry Jelinski
Judi Johnson
Margaret Johnson
Mary Ann Justin
Russ Kadow
Kay Kahler, Scott, Allyson,
Sarah & Anna
Doreen Kapsner
Karen Karnowski
Michelle Keller
Tony Keller
Tony Kile
Lance & Dawn Knopik, Kestin,
Luke, Peter & Thomas
Dee Knopik
Mary Kokett
Laurie Koll

Donna & Ben Kuklock
Dee LaForce
Joe & Dee LaForce, Bethany,
Lauren & Rachel
LeRoy & Kathy LaForce
Greg Langlois
Mason Langner
Peggy Larson
John Lauer
Mary Lepinski
Avery Lillemoe
Kim & Dennis Lind
Debbie Louison
Tammy Mackert
Kathleen Mahling
Marilyn Mahling
Cynthia Marriott
Joyce Marotte
Ann Marsolek
Caroline Maurer
Julie May
Violet Mayer
Nancy McCoy
Joyce Mester
Violet Meyer
Julie Modrynski
Dorothy & Bob Mushel
Marcia Nelson
Jeff Odendahl
Dorothy & Robert Oldakowski
Isaac Olson
Michelle Olson, McKenna &
Mikaela
Tim Olson
Eileen Pella
Kathy Pederson
Elaine & Jerry Peterson
Diane Pilloud
Alice Piotrowski
Dorothy & Don Popp
Sev & Mary Poser
Allen Riedeman & Gretchen
Miller, Claire & Emma
Julie Richgels
Judy Rose
Janet Sanderson
Len & Terri Sanoski
Rachel Schilling Family

Cindy Schmidtbauer
Joyce Schmidt
Karla Schneider
Elaine Schomer
Ray & Dianna Schulte
Larry & Pat Sharon
June & Len Shutter
Geri Sinderman
Greg & Vicki Spofford
Val Spychalla
Cheryl Stanek
Mariella Stavish
Pat Stewart
Kevin Stueven
Barb Stumpf
Alison Swoboda
Diane & Ed Tamm
Lucy Tanner
Pat Tedford
Tim Thomas

Bob Thome
Rita Toenies
Eileen Tschida
Gavin Turcotte
Kiley Turcotte
Helen & Bob Verkuilen
Roger & Judy Virnig
Alice & Jim Vogel
Jim & Therese Waddell
Gen Waller
Carol & Jim Wielinski
Marlene Williams
Loretta Whippler
Jane Yorek
Mary Young
Mary Zack
Yvonne Zappa
Terri Zenner



The Franciscan Gift Shop features a variety of items hand crafted by Franciscan Sisters and other artists. A beautiful array of merchandise expresses Franciscan values and the splendor of creation. Sister Janice Welle (right) manages the Gift Shop; on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons volunteer Eileen Pella helps customers find that perfect gift. The Gift Shop, located in the west entrance to St. Francis Convent, Little Falls, is open Monday-Friday, noon to 4:30 p.m. Proceeds benefit Franciscan ministries.

Semper Reformanda

The Church Reformed, Always Reforming

Rev. Dr. Henry French

This year marks the 500th anniversary of what came to be known as the Protestant Reformation, a movement of immense importance in the reshaping of Western religious, political, economic and social life. October 31, 1517, is commonly recognized as the beginning of the Reformation. On that day, Martin Luther—an Augustinian monk and professor of biblical theology—posted 95 Theses (points for debate) on the door of Wittenberg Cathedral, arguing against what he considered to be the Church’s corrupt and unbiblical practice of selling indulgences. His intention was not to start a new church, it was to reform the Church—a task that all churches should always be about.

An indulgence was a “purchased” promise that past, present and future sins would be forgiven and, therefore, purgatory could be avoided by oneself or by one’s loved ones who had died but on whose behalf an indulgence was purchased. As Johann Tetzel, a priest and seller of indulgences was often heard to say in his sales pitch, “As soon as a coin in the coffer rings, a soul from purgatory springs.”

Luther’s study of the Bible led him to believe that forgiveness of sins and salvation could not be sold by the church and bought by ordinary Christians. Rather, he insisted that forgiveness of sins and salvation were the gift of God’s grace received through faith and not by so-called works of righteousness (Ephesians 2:8). Indeed, two of the so-called “five pillars” of the Reformation were the insistence on “*grace alone*” and “*faith alone*.”

Luther argued that the only authority for Christian faith and life was the Bible—especially the revelation of the life and teachings, death and resurrection of Jesus—and not either Church tradition or the Church’s clerical hierarchy. Hence, two more of the “five pillars” of the Reformation were the insistence upon “*scripture alone*” and “*Christ alone*.” These four pillars of the Reformation lead directly to the fifth: “*Glory to God alone*.”

Because of Luther’s strong belief in the sole authority of scripture for Christian life and faith, he strongly believed that the Bible needed to be available to ordinary Christians so that it might actually function as the ground of their lives and faith. Ordinary Christians did not understand Latin and were, therefore, dependent upon the clergy for their knowledge of what the Bible taught. Luther believed this gave far too much power to the clergy over the laity and so he translated the Bible into vernacular German. It was one of his greatest gifts to the Church.

Another gift to the emerging Protestant Church was the doctrine of the “priesthood of all believers,” the belief that every Christian has direct access to God through scripture, prayer and the indwelling of the Holy Spirit without the mediation of the clergy or church institutions. Therefore, every believer has the God-given responsibility of sharing in the ministry of Christ by proclaiming the Gospel to others and by engaging in acts of love and service to others—a very Franciscan theme.

Luther insisted that true Christian faith is not just about believing; it is about how we live as well. Faith and love are the two poles of Christian life. In a decidedly Franciscan tone, he wrote:

“We conclude, therefore, that a Christian lives not in him or herself, but in Christ and in the neighbor. *We live in Christ through faith and in our neighbors through love.* By faith we are caught up beyond ourselves into God. By love we descend beneath ourselves into our neighbors.”

Good words to ponder as together we trust that God—through God’s people—is continually reforming the Church.



Hank French is a retired pastor and professor of the ELCA and a friend of the Franciscan Sisters. He lives in Little Falls with his wife Bobbi.

Living the Gospel with energy, spirit, peace . . .

Sister Rita Kraemer



In these years, following her 60th Jubilee, **Sister Rita Kraemer** is moving into less of “what will I do” and more of “how will I live into this latter part of my life.”

Although she has ministered in the field of aging for many years, her professional work hasn’t necessarily prepared her for the personal aging process. Her ministry history includes time with finance, long term care administration, FSLF Leadership and the planning and oversight of building and renovation projects. More recently, she served as chairperson for the FSLF Senior Care/Residence planning work group. She remains a Senior Care Consultant and Planning Consultant with the National Religious Retirement Office where she assists other religious communities. In addition, she serves on the FSLF Visioning and Planning Advisory and Employee Pension Plan committees, is a volunteer in the Archives Department and is the praying sister for the Finance Department. “After all,” as is said, “Sisters never retire.”

“My days and years have and continue to be lived in the belief of God’s providence in my life. The strength of that conviction and grace has guided me these many years through the hills and valleys of life. I am grateful for my vocation, my ministries, travel opportunities, people I’ve met along the way, for friends, family and Sister companions on the journey.”

Sister Jeanette Quinn



“As God continues to form me, I am growing ever more grateful to God for the blessing of life,” said **Sister Jeanette Quinn**. “Daily I find my joy in the Lord.”

A retired RN with experience in several fields, she now spends more time in prayer. “We receive many requests for prayers and I am serious about praying for all of these people and their needs. My day is greatly influenced by the needs of others and of our Franciscan Community’s life.”

Sister Jeanette, who answered her call to be a Franciscan Sister in 1950, is now helping with some of the laundering of the altar linens and priests’ albs. She has a special fondness for seeing that the cloths are properly cleaned for Eucharistic moments.

“Sometimes I write poetry as a result of being inspired by something I have seen or heard,” she said. “What I write is a reflection of my inner self and that awareness, in turn, keeps me in close touch with God.”

FCV celebrates 50,000 hours of community service

Pat Flicker, director of Franciscan Community Volunteers

For years, the Franciscan Sisters longed for a program that would offer young adults a long-term service opportunity coupled with a deep spiritual experience in the Franciscan tradition. It was Sister Clara Stang's vision that helped develop Franciscan Community Volunteers (FCV) back in 2009. The time was right: the country was in a recession, college graduates were finding it hard to find employment, and nonprofit agencies were experiencing a higher demand for services amidst shrinking funding. Franciscan Welcoming House, the former Holy Spirit Convent in St. Cloud, was the perfect location.

FCV's goals are twofold: 1) assist local nonprofits in providing basic needs and outreach to the marginalized and 2) provide young adults with a foundation for a life of service, compassion and advocacy rooted in the Gospel. Over the years, Anna Marie's Alliance has benefitted from having FCVs on site. "I am so grateful to have had Franciscan Volunteers here at Anna Marie's. They have been life savers at times when the shelter is really busy," remarked Kim Salitros.

Young adults make a long-term commitment (10 ½ months) to live in community with Franciscan Sisters while working full time in local nonprofits. Volunteers are placed in service agencies according to their skills and experience. Christine Kustelski, director of the Boys & Girls Club-Southside, said, "Each year I am amazed at how the FCVs are so community minded. We average over 185 youth each day, and the work we do is not always easy. FCVs understand that they are a part of this community and help build a culture of caring with our members!"

To date, 43 young adults have availed themselves of the program, and in March, FCV reaches an impressive milestone: 50,000 hours of service to people in need in the St. Cloud area! Most young adults come to FCV feeling like they are going to change the world and upon completion realize, while they made a difference, they have been changed forever!

FCV will be celebrating this milestone at its annual fundraiser—the Taste of St. Cloud on May 1 at the Coyote Moon Grille. Come and celebrate with the Franciscan Sisters and the volunteers!

8 T H A N N U A L TASTE OF ST. CLOUD



Monday, May 1, 2017
4:30-7:30 p.m.

Territory Golf Course
Coyote Moon Grille
480 55th Ave SE, St. Cloud, MN 56304

Tickets: \$25
(\$30 at the door)

Call (320)229-0307 or visit our website at www.fcvonline.org.

Featuring 16 local restaurants, a silent auction & music

Supporting Franciscan Community Volunteers
A ministry of the Franciscan Sisters of Little Falls, Minnesota





The Franciscan Sisters welcomed six new Franciscan Associates in a ceremony in Sacred Heart Chapel on October 9, 2016. Franciscan Associates are women, men and families who proclaim their call from God to live the spirit, charism and mission of the Franciscan Sisters of Little Falls, Minnesota. They commit to a mutual relationship and live the commitment within their own lifestyles as they joyfully follow the Gospel values in the footprints of Saints Francis and Clare! New Franciscan Associates: Camilo Barrera, Bogotá, Colombia; Jan Duhnke, Alexandria; Mary Pull, Waite Park; Betty Kampa Miller, St. Cloud; Mary Poser, Pierz; and Steven Good, Pierz.

Sister Latona Kalis, 77

Died September 23, 2016, at St. Francis Convent, Little Falls, Minn.



Antonette Marie Kalis was born June 7, 1939, at St. Gabriel's Hospital in Little Falls to proud parents, Anthony and Kathryn (Quigley) Kalis. Big brother, five-year-old William, and his parents welcomed Antonette to their home in Royalton.

For many years, Anthony owned and operated a garage in Royalton, while Kathryn supported him in his work and cared for their children and grandmother.

Antonette attended grade school and began high school in Royalton. In her sophomore year, she enrolled at St. Francis High School as a day student. After graduation, she attended St. Mary's School of Nursing in Rochester and became a registered nurse. Later, she studied at Cardinal Stritch College in Milwaukee and earned a degree focusing on persons with developmental disabilities.

Frequent visits during her childhood to her aunt, Franciscan Sister Mary (Leonissa) Kalis, as well as friendships with high school teachers, led her to enter the Franciscan Community. Antonette was accepted into the Franciscan Community on July 31, 1961, and received the name Sister Mary Latona. Her first profession of vows was on August 12, 1963, and her final vows on August 12, 1968.

Sister Latona had an exceptional talent in dealing with people and especially loved being with the elderly. It has been said of her, "She knows how to respond to older people, how to keep their minds at attention and keep them at ease." In the 20 years she served at St Otto's Care Center, she helped plan and oversaw the construction of new facilities, Alverna Apartments and St. Camillus Place. Sister Latona was very innovative in establishing the first Adult Day Care in Minnesota, and the fourth such service in the entire nation! Her love for the less fortunate led her to coordinate the opening of 10 group homes for the developmentally disabled in western Minnesota. She said, "These people are wise in their simplicity and limitations. They keep me constantly aware of the true value of life."

She ministered as a staff nurse, director of nursing, director of mentally challenged and special services, administrator, RN consultant and served in the Franciscan Sisters Leadership. Since 2008 she ministered as the director of Health Services and Planning for her own sisters.

Sister Latona's hobbies included counted cross-stitch and card-making. One of her outstanding projects was the creation of a Hardanger altar cloth which she made as a Jubilee gift for her aunt, Sister Mary Kalis.

Letter to the editor . . .

As leaders of religious communities headquartered in central Minnesota, we, along with the Presidents of the Leadership Council of Women Religious and the Conference of Major Superiors of Men appeal to President Donald Trump and to all people to work toward respectful and civil discourse. We appreciate Pope Francis's New Year's Day Peace Message: "It is a challenge," he writes, "to build up society, communities and businesses by acting as peacemakers. It is to show mercy by refusing to discard people, harm the environment, or seek to win at any cost."

As Catholic Sisters, Brothers and religious priests, we have chosen to live with those who are sick, dying or living in poverty. Our schools, hospitals and social services helped to build, shape and humanize American society by healing, educating and serving those in need regardless of ethnicity, religion, means or circumstance. Then and now, we strive to bring healing, hope and consolation in the face of sadness and despair.

We are deeply concerned by the fractures and divisions seen so clearly during this past election season which continue to threaten the well-being and inclusion of all Americans and those who have fled in fear to our shores and borders. America is at its best when its diverse people come together to overcome seemingly insurmountable obstacles with ingenuity and creativity even going so far as to courageously risk their lives to transform conflict into peace.

We stand ready to collaborate with the new administration when it promotes the common good through its policies, practices and people. Together, we have the opportunity to advocate for and build a just, merciful and humane society worthy of the dignity of all. Jesus Christ's Gospel of love is the charter that moves us to action.

As always, we remember our President, the people of the United States and the world in prayer.

Sister Beatrice Eichten, OSF, Community Minister
Sister Michaela Hedican, OSB, Prioress
Fr. Kermit Holl, OSC, Prior
Abbot John Klassen, OSB

Our Journey

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