

Perspectives

Fall 2015 Volume 30 Number Two

A Publication of the Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration



“Love is not only concern for self and others, it also concerns how the coming generation is going to live.”
- Antona Schedlo, FSPA

Love. This issue focuses on this commitment—this giving of self—as something the world needs a little more of. Our cover photo, featuring Sister Patricia Tekippe and a student at Minnesota’s Roots ‘n Reading program, demonstrates love offered to our sisters and brothers through education. In this article you’ll see Sister Patricia and program staffers strive to ensure that students who might otherwise fall behind over the summer are kept fed—both through learning from traditional sources and hands on in a community garden. Roots ‘n Reading, supported by an FSPA grant, is addressing concerns for how the coming generation is going to live.

Love. Homeless women in Arizona are offered no judgment, just love, from FSPA affiliate Yolanda Arredondo. She serves the women at the Sister Jose Women’s Shelter avowing that “we do whatever the ladies need ... no questions asked.” Look inside Yolanda’s story to learn more about this shelter and how the staff and volunteers carry out God’s work of caring for these women.

Love. Newly perpetually professed Sisters Amy Taylor and Julia Walsh are shaping how the new generation of Catholic Sisters is going to live ... and spread Gospel love. They share their vow stories with you and both agree with Sister of St. Joseph Clare Bass who said “vowed religious life is in the midst of a renewal. It’s quite an exciting time to join an order as we shape our future together.”

Love. Your love. After reading this issue, we hope you embrace how your love—through prayer, support and financial gifts—moves our mission forward. Together, our good works help to shape how the coming generation is going to live.

Peace and all good. And love,
Sister Karen Lueck
FSPA president



Everyone is invited to quiet prayer before the Blessed Sacrament in Mary of the Angels Chapel on New Year’s Eve. A blessing of time will also be held. See page 15 for more information.

Perspectives represents the spirit and values shared by the Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration.

President: Sister Karen Lueck
Vice President: Sister Helen Elsbernd
Mission Councilors:
Sister Catherine Kaiser
Sister Karen Kappell
Sister Julie Tydrich

Love in La Crosse, Wisconsin

FSPA: helping build Bridges, LEAD young women to succeed

Three years ago, three strong women crossed paths in La Crosse, Wisconsin. Taylor was traveling from high school to adulthood, unsure of her footing, the route she should take. Tracie reached out, ready to guide her. She invited her to “Walk this way.” And Madalene was there, backing them up.

The path led to Bridges, one of two teen service programs of the Coulee Region YWCA designed to “create future leaders by empowering women at a young, pivotal age,” built to bolster the belief that every girl has “unique gifts and the potential to succeed, no matter what background she is from or what challenges she may face.” The programs employ intervention for risky behavior, positive relationships, role

models and mentors, peer fellowship, educational support and life-skills lessons that not only provide direction, but give young women keys to community leadership. Girls get to Bridges by way of referrals from schools, human and mental health services, parents and even friends. The other, Teen LEAD, is a scholarship program for disadvantaged teens nominated by their schools that challenges critical thinking skills, builds work ethic and gives tutelage by women who are beacons of light in the community.

“My experience at Bridges was amazing,” expresses Taylor, who learned about the opportunity from her high school guidance counselor in 2012. “I didn’t have many friends and was always left out of things.”



Taylor holds her most precious achievement—her daughter.

The very next day Tracie Stinson, the YWCA teen services director, showed up at school to meet with her. Soon she found herself in Bridges, forging relationships with other teen girls she still holds dear and engaging in a one-on-one relationship with a college mentor, discovering the many paths she could take. It was an “awesome” time in her life, as were the trips to college campuses,

movies and outdoor activities; she also raves about the influential yet welcoming women who spoke to Taylor and her friends about a spectrum of issues from domestic abuse to self-sufficiency. But the power she felt most pivotal at Bridges “was acceptance. When I found out I was pregnant, everyone was nothing but helpful. Tracie was very good with making sure I had what I needed to stay healthy.”

And now, as a mother of a 16-month-old daughter and a full-time cosmetology student with a part-time job in the industry, Taylor has exactly what she needs to succeed.

“The cycle of poor self-esteem that often leads to an unproductive adulthood can be broken,” says Tracie, “through the Bridges and Teen LEAD programs.” Since instituting the programs in 2009 the YWCA has served over 150 young women in the community. Yet they’re not all cast from the same mold with the same problems and the same



Sightseeing and a summer-time college visit, funded in part by an FSPA ministry grant, excite and inspire these future leaders.

Photos courtesy of YWCA

Continued on page 5



Love in Minnesota

Roots 'n Reading: nutrition for the body and soul

by Sarah Henkemeyer

“As a former farm girl, I understand the power that digging your hands into the earth has. It isn't just nutrition for the body, but also for the soul,” Franciscan Sister Patricia Tekippe states when asked why Project for Pride in Living's Roots 'n Reading program, combining gardening and reading assistance for young students, holds such appeal and has garnered an FSPA grant.

Roots 'n Reading is in its third year of getting kids' hands dirty, with program locations in both St. Paul and a first ring Minneapolis suburb. “Roots 'n Reading grew out of our existing after-school educational programming. The kids wanted to do something a little different over the summer, and the idea of a garden took root!” states Shannon Siegfried Floe, youth program manager at Project for Pride in Living.

Since 1972, Project for Pride in Living has been dedicated to empowering low-income people to become self-reliant through integrated services. Its success has been fueled by a dedication to listen to the community's needs. In this case, it's the importance of summer reading assistance combined with the ideal of a summer garden.

Summer isn't only an opportunity to improve reading skills, it is also a crucial time to keep young minds active. The summer slide that happens when a student's young mind sits idle for the entire season is acutely felt once



Sister Patricia Tekippe and Youth Program Manager Shannon Siegfried Floe pose with a Roots 'n Reading student who participates in the program's summertime fun.

the school year resumes.

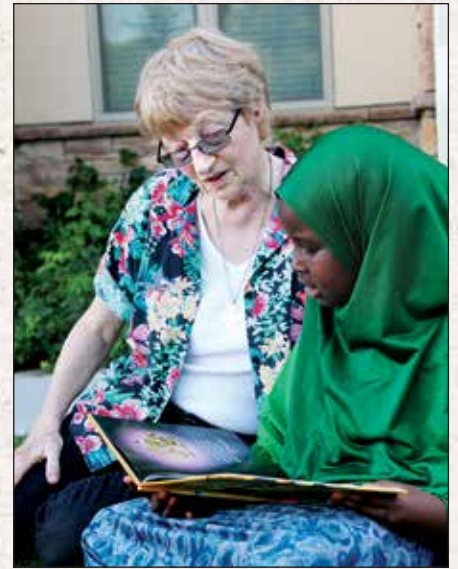
“When I was teaching, each fall I could instantly tell if kids had a leg up in the summer. If they did, the first day they're ready to go. If not, the summer slide contributes to a loss of skills and confidence. That loss means that kids are more likely to act out because they're less secure in their abilities,” Sister Patricia says.

According to Shannon, the program offers a volunteer-to-student ratio of between 1:1 and 1:3. “And not only have the kids maintained or improved their reading skills, they are also able to build positive relationships with their volunteer tutors.” She continues, “With many kids coming from low-income or immigrant families, building those close relationships with caring adults is also a big win and contributes to school success.”

Building a garden is another great opportunity for the kids to learn. “They learn about what seeds do and what a plant needs in order to grow. We've also learned that many of the kids are big fans of kale! But most importantly, the garden gives them a heightened awareness about their world and a new way to satisfy their curiosity. The kids really get a thrill out of seeing the whole cycle from seed to the vegetable they're about to eat,” Shannon says.

Volunteer Master Gardeners help with the garden. With each program meeting two evenings a week (with a third afternoon of gardening work done by staff), community members have stepped up to help weed and water the gardens on the days the program doesn't meet.

Many Roots 'n Reading participants are recent immigrants, now in Minnesota, hearing stories of what family members left behind, including a connection to the land. Other participants are from economically challenged families with a curiosity about some of the other



As a former teacher, Sister Patricia Tekippe always encouraged her students to read during summer break, preventing summer slide. She proudly supports an FSPA ministry grant that aims to keep children reading, all summer long.

community gardens they've seen spring up around the Twin Cities in the last few years. In both cases, there is a pride in bringing home some of the bounty the kids have worked hard to make happen.

The combination of busy hands and busy minds is working. Shannon says, "We not only see kids return each year, but we've seen the kids grow. There was one older boy in our program last year who was really disengaged from the group. The group leader saw this and gave him a leadership role. He was asked to take notes each evening, tracking the vocabulary words that were used. He took the task seriously and was really proud of his success. His younger siblings have returned to the program."

This progress pleases Sister Patricia. "The FSPA funding guidelines have always prioritized educational programs. What we save by living frugally can go to programs like this. I'm so happy that these kids can get their hands in the soil and grow things. I really do believe this



A former farm girl, Sister Patricia Tekippe says she understands "the power that digging your hands into the earth has."

Photos by Vendi

Bridges

continued from page 3

outlook on life. "I think the really great thing about both programs is that there isn't just one type of girl that attends either group. It's truly a mix of various backgrounds and personalities that all come together and form positive relationships with one another." And just like Taylor, Tracie is thankful for the awesomeness of Bridges and Teen LEAD. "We are lucky to have such great volunteer mentors for our ladies as well as some pretty amazing and resilient girls who participate."

"I think the difference in this program is the goal to make leaders out of girls who have potential," says FSPA affiliate Madalene Buelow (who sponsors a ministry grant that helps to fund college visits and scholarships

brings a connectedness to the Creator, a rootedness."

After the last vegetables are harvested, kids take away a feeling of accomplishment and of having seen an entire life cycle happen in a few short Minnesota summer months. New recipes and flavor combinations have been learned and above all else, a love of reading has flourished.

And that, says Shannon, is the greatest thing she's seen come from the program. "We hear the kids tell us that they really like reading now. Maybe because the atmosphere is more relaxed or the books that their tutors bring are a perfect fit, but something flips and they

begin to see that reading can be for enjoyment. There's a real excitement that comes from that realization."

Thanks to the support of the FSPA, that excitement continues for another year. ■

Sarah Henkemeyer is a freelance writer who lives in the greater Minneapolis-St. Paul area.

and travel costs), "but possibly no voice because of their economic situation, their color and perhaps their grades. They are not the girls who get all the attention and opportunities for success. They are not the ones who join church groups or other extracurricular activities that would give them the opportunity to become confident young women." The Orange Door Prom Store, a re-sale fundraiser managed by Teen LEAD girls, giving them hands-on experience in a business setting, is one of Madalene's favorite annual functions. "It's a joy to see the girls help other girls pick out that fabulous dress [many new, donated by area formal dress shops] that is going to make them feel good about themselves and being part of the high school rite of passage that is prom. Bridges and Team LEAD are about knowing who you are and," she says, "becoming comfortable with it." ■



My Perspective

FSPA helps cultivate, propagate White Rose

Off the grid. So far off the grid, in fact, that you won't find them on the Internet. So far off the grid, in fact, that their 34-page newsletter is painstakingly produced by typewriter and photocopier, lovingly illustrated by hand.

So far off the grid are John and Regina Bambrick-Rust, founders of White Rose Catholic Worker Farm in rural La Plata, Missouri. Yet their ministry is hardwired: to education, offering land-based skill formation in growing food, natural building and holistic healing; and to hospitality, inviting those in need of shelter to their home.

Julia Walsh, FSPA, is a teacher, a social justice advocate, a blogger, a columnist and a poet who wears many other hats, under which she shouts joyfully her good news of Gospel living. She ministered in Chicago, Illinois, for four years, where she discovered the buds of White Rose blossoming in the city and came to cherish organic, mutual sustenance of right relationships with John and Regina. As they transplanted their ministry in south suburban Chicago, she sustained her support. When they transferred their White Rose blooms to La Plata, she bade them best wishes, blessings, abundance.

And helping to nurture the nourishment they provide for all of creation, Sister Julia sponsors an FSPA ministry grant. She offers us answers to questions that can keep White Rose, indefinitely, on the Franciscan guided life-sustaining grid.

Perspectives:

What stimulated your senses to White Rose Catholic Worker?

Sister Julia:

A close friend connected me to John and the original founders. Even though I lived in a different neighborhood I hungered to participate in their communal living and support their work and life together. I became friends with him and Regina when they discerned and moved to farmland in south suburban Chicago (before moving to Missouri).

I am a supporter because they are extremely inspiring to me. They live more radically than anyone I know.

Perspectives:

White Rose is crafting and cultivating many modes of sustainability and hospitality that include constructing a natural-built house for

volunteers and guests, moderating use of petroleum and electricity, living largely without automobiles and starting a meal co-op and a tools/equipment share. How do you see these efforts impacting their immediate neighbors? Care of creation on a larger scale?

Sister Julia:

I love the simple things they do to build community and relationships with their human and natural neighbors. The community potlucks and the hosting of visitors is a way for them to share their mission and heighten awareness among others, as well as gain support for their work. I suspect that what they are doing will have ripple effects as others are inspired to live more closely connected to creation.

Perspectives:

The program is said to have generated collaboration and relationships: basic needs deeply delved and developed in John and Regina's ministry. What do you see as gift—to FSPA, in the vein of Francis and Clare—from White Rose?

Sister Julia:

Just as Francis and Clare both found alternative ways to live in response to the signs of their times and their witness inspired others to commit to a radical Gospel lifestyle, John and Regina are also offering an alternative form of Gospel life in response to the signs of environmental degradation in this time in history. They are also rooted in the Gospel and in service to their local and global communities. We are blessed and enriched by their bold commitment. We can be honored by our connection to them as we partner together in building up the reign of God! ■



White Rose honors "All God's Creatures." As part of a co-op with two neighboring farms they've recently welcomed two Percheron draft horses: value increasing (for their reproduction), non-petroleum providers of mowing and tilling and dragging firewood that also, says John, "connect us to creation."

Spirit of Ministry

In this humble house, there's community

by Michael Clancy

Less than a mile from downtown Tucson, Arizona, sits a house so humble that passersby never would guess what is going on inside.

This is the place where city resident Yolanda Arredondo, an affiliate with the Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration, serves others.

The Sister Jose Women's Shelter occupies this tiny, four-room house, and it provides daily respite for the city's homeless women, no questions asked.

Both Yolanda's participation and the very existence of the ministry itself were inspired by Sister Jose Hobday, a Franciscan Sister who lived her vocation among the poor before she died in 2009. Yolanda was a friend; so was Jean Fedigan, a former hospital administrator who founded the shelter.

"We do whatever the ladies need," Yolanda says. "Showers, laundry, breakfast and lunch. We're there for them."

About 30 women stop by daily, women who Jean describes as the lowest on society's totem pole.

"Homeless women are abused. They are the victims of robbery and rape. They need a place of safety, a place to think," Jean says. "The biggest job is to treat them with dignity and respect. Most of them are chronically homeless, and many suffer from mental illnesses and drug or alcohol abuse."

This is how the shelter, founded

in 2010, facilitates spiritual development for the volunteers and the women who visit.

"None of us are afraid to show our faith," Jean says. "We do it through our actions."

Yolanda, at age 75, takes part in numerous activities. She volunteers at her church, Tucson's Our Mother of Sorrows. When her daughter, now



FSPA affiliate Yolanda Arredondo, a Tucson resident since arriving from Mexico City when she was 17, serves lunch to one of the women at the Sister Jose Women's Center.

Photo courtesy of Sister Jose Women's Center

a physician, was young, the two of them would make sandwiches at Casa Maria, a soup kitchen.

"I try to do a little bit of everything," including regular prayers as part of her FSPA affiliation. "I've always volunteered. No one taught me. It just came from my heart."

A lifelong Catholic who moved to Tucson from Mexico City when she was 17, Yolanda became involved with the shelter ministry through another Catholic sister, Janet Dalton, FSPA, whom she knew through church. Yolanda has been visiting the shelter for more than three years and says she gets far more out of it than she gives.

She repays the service by taking

care of the mostly barren yards in front and back, keeping them neat and clean.

Jean, the only full-time employee of the shelter, says the FSPA ministry grant will go toward the purchase of computers to provide education, job training and other services for her clients. The shelter is looking for a larger home to accommodate the services.

The women have formed connections that lead back toward more stable lives, Jean says. The connections with each other and the shelter's volunteers show that they are willing to work at getting back on their feet.

None of the women have children with them, so the shelter finds other ways to shape how the next generation will live.

"It's in small increments," Yolanda says. "We've seen some get off the streets, and they help other women. The question is what do they take from here to use in their daily lives, and then coming back to be filled again.

The seeds have been planted; now we wait and see."

Jean echoes Yolanda when she talks about the effort.

"It's God's work," she says. "When you are doing that, even though it may be hard and chaotic, at the end of the day, you have peace." ■



Yolanda Arredondo joined FSPA in prayer affiliation 15 years ago.

Michael Clancy, a former reporter for the Arizona Republic, is a freelance writer in the Phoenix area who is passionate about social justice.



Development Update

Faith, Hope and Love! Our FSPA benefactors mirror these virtues every day. These photos show what can be accomplished through your gifts, your commitment to a Franciscan presence and your partnership. Together, we're doing the work of the Gospel, with faith, hope and much love.



Love is ... providing a career for Guatemalan women and health care to a nation. A gift of \$8,000 provides LPN training for 80 young women, allowing them to leave a sweatshop and become trusted caregivers and leaders in their villages.

Photo courtesy of Guatemala LPN Nursing Program



Love is ... Grace Loescher, youth program director at Tubman House in Sacramento, California. After years of using volunteers in this capacity Grace brings steady and loving guidance to the children at Tubman House. We are delighted to help fund her position with a grant.

Photo courtesy of Tubman House



Love is ... reading to children. With support of an FSPA ministry grant, Literacy Volunteers of Chippewa Valley has helped hundreds of parents become full partners in their children's education.

Photo courtesy of Chippewa Valley Literacy



FSPA ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT

JULY 1, 2014 – JUNE 30, 2015



USE OF FUNDS



Unrestricted/
Support of
Ministries

\$336,846

60%



Outreach
Ministries

\$111,368

19%



Retirement/
St. Rose/
Villa St. Joseph

\$28,749

5%



Spirituality
Centers

\$4,800

1%



Program
Expenses

\$83,065

15%



Total Funds
Dispersed

\$564,828*

100%

52

Number enrolled in our planned giving program: **Perpetual Friends**

70

Number of donors in our monthly giving program: **Faithful Friends**



74 GLOBAL FSPA MINISTRY GRANTS



¹Assistance provided to Cameroon through the Common Dream Endowment Campaign.
¹FSPA benefactor gifts provided to Zimbabwe.

WAYS TO GIVE



ONLINE at www.fspa.org

BY MAIL at 912 Market St., La Crosse, WI 54601

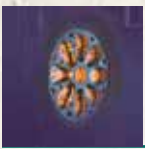
JOIN Faithful Friends Monthly Giving, 608-791-5282

JOIN Perpetual Friends Planned Giving, 608-791-5282



*FUNDING SOURCES

General Contributions	\$378,676	67%
Bequests/Planned Gifts	92,457	16%
Memorial Fund	10,630	2%
Support from Congregation	83,065	15%
Total Revenue	\$564,828	100%



Love in FSPA

Sisters celebrate the profession of perpetual vows

The Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration are pleased to share the stories of two recent final vow ceremonies. Amy Taylor, FSPA, and Julia Walsh, FSPA, both professed perpetual vows in La Crosse, Wisconsin's Mary of the Angels Chapel surrounded by their fellow Franciscan Sisters, family and friends.

Sister Amy Taylor

"It is a blessing for me to see my family, Franciscan Sisters and friends on the wheel of my life. Thank you for continuing support and love through all the spins of my shaping." That sentiment, shared by Sister Amy on the day of her final vow ceremony, May 16, incorporates her favorite pastime, pottery making. And her passion for pottery was incorporated throughout her ceremony. From the bowl she molded that brought forth the ceremonial lard light, an FSPA sacred tradition, to Franciscan Sister Anita Beskar's reflection in which she likened Sister Amy's journey to "... glazing and refining in the kiln of community," Sister Amy, the potter, was welcomed to the faithful following.

With her companion sisters by her side, Fran Browning, FSPA, and Ronalda Hopfan, FSPA, Sister Amy professed the vows of poverty, consecrated celibacy and obedience. She then received the FSPA ring, a symbol worn by all perpetually professed FSPA. Sister Amy's ring not only bears the community's symbolic history, but

holds family significance, too. The ring was made from her grandmother's wedding ring, her mom's bracelet and gold from an FSPA ring of generations past. She refers to this ring as "a daily reminder of generations of faithfulness and covenant."

Sister Anita referred to the ceremony as a moment of "joy, surrender and commitment." She told the congregation "The spirit is engulfing us in the mystery of call ... as we, with you, Sister Amy, say yes." She concluded, "None of the clay of our lives is completely shaped; trust this journey into a living yes."

Sister Amy lives in La Crosse, serving the congregation as membership director. In her ministry she walks with women discerning religious life.

Sister Julia Walsh

"It is dangerous to play with fire, but once it catches you, the only choice you have is to be *light*." Those words, expressed by Father Graham Golden, O. Praem., describe Sister Julia Walsh, and her heart that was on fire with joy and gratitude July 11 as she professed her perpetual vows with FSPA. To all who gathered, Sister Julia offered her prayer "that each of you are also inspired to be on fire for the Gospel and will do what is yours to do. Together may all our service and acts of justice enkindle the fires of Christ's love and peace."

Her companion sister, Cecilia Corcoran, FSPA, placed the ring on Sister Julia's finger after the vows were professed. And Sarah Hennessey, FSPA, reflected on the nine-year journey that led Sister Julia to that ring.

"Sister Julia is all fire," said Sister Sarah.



Photos from left, Sister Amy Taylor smiles as Sister Fran Browning presents the FSPA ring for blessing; Sister Amy processes with the lard light; parents Joann and Bob joyfully pose with their newly perpetually professed daughter.

“Her commitment today to burn with God’s love as a Franciscan Sister of Perpetual Adoration touches each of us and spreads a spark of hope into the future.”

Recognizing Sister Julia’s passion for social justice, Sister Sarah made reference to the ministries in which Sister Julia has enflamed: “You have come into some *Messy Jesus Business* [referring to the title of Sister Julia’s blog]! This way, the following-Jesus way, is about burning for a living wage for women in Afghanistan. It’s about teenage moms in California and students on Chicago’s South Side who see their friends get shot.

It’s about being homeless in La Crosse even when you have a job. It’s about the messiness of faith and living every day with your sisters ... Sister Julia lights it all up in a messy Jesus business way, that helps us face this unknown future together with risk and hope.”

Sister Julia lives in La Crosse serving as a religion teacher at Aquinas Catholic High School. She blogs at www.MessyJesusBusiness.com and is a columnist for National Catholic Reporter’s *Global Sisters Report*. ■

Photos, top from left, Sister Julia Walsh with her parents, Elsie and Kevin; Sister Julia proudly shows her FSPA ring; photo at right, Sisters Sarah Hennessey, Julia, Eileen McKenzie and Linda Mershon



FSPA collaborated with Catholic Sisters of the Upper Mississippi River Valley to welcome Pope Francis during his visit to the United States in September. The sisters recognized Pope Francis’ environmental encyclical, *Laudato Si’* or “Be Praised,” and support his urgent call to care for our common home. The ad appeared in *USA Today’s* special edition published during his visit.

**Standing with Pope Francis
Caring for Our Common Home**

Catholic Sisters of the Upper Mississippi River Valley

- Benedictine Sisters bmsisters.org
- Clinton Franciscans clintonfranciscans.com
- Congregation of the Humility of Mary clm.org
- Discalced Carmelites carmelitesofeldridge.org
- Dubuque Franciscans ofdbq.org
- Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration fspa.org
- Sinsinawa Dominicans sinsinawa.org
- Sisters of Charity, BVM bvmcong.org
- Sisters of Mercy West Midwest sistersofmercy.org
- Sisters of the Presentation dubuquepresentations.org
- Sisters of the Visitation sistersofthevisitationdbq.org
- Trappistine Sisters mississippiabbey.org



In Memoriam

Rejoice, you who are alive in Christ

Sister Janet Dalton **March 28, 1936-April 1, 2015**

Sister Janet was born in Galesburg, Illinois.

She ministered as a principal and school counselor in Arizona. Sister Janet served as an FSPA mission councilor in La Crosse from 1998 to 2002. She then returned to Arizona to work as a counselor on the Tohono O'odham Indian Reservation.



Sister Mary Alice (Bernelle) Foley **Jan. 6, 1923-April 17, 2015**

Sister Mary Alice was born in Montreal, Wisconsin.

She taught in elementary schools in Iowa, Montana, Washington and Wisconsin for 33 years. From 1981 to 1984, she worked at St. Francis School for Exceptional Children in Freeport, Illinois. She also served as a ward clerk, library aide, secretary, tutor and teacher for several years in Superior, Ashland and Durand, Wisconsin.



Sister Mariquita Luby **Nov. 9, 1919-April 24, 2015**

Sister Mariquita was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and was named Lois Eulalie.

Sister Mariquita served as a registered nurse and instructor at St. Francis Hospital School of Nursing and at St. Anthony Regional Hospital School of Nursing in Carroll, Iowa. She also worked as retirement director at St. Rose Convent and at a Freeport, Illinois, nursing home. She volunteered in a Catholic social services center in Mobile, Alabama, and then served as activity director at the Villa.



Sister Marlene (Mary Brian) Weber **Nov. 12, 1938-April 27, 2015**

Sister Marlene was born in Miami, Florida.

She was a middle grade teacher in Wisconsin Rapids

and Marathon, Wisconsin, and then taught at Viterbo College. She ministered as a pastoral associate in Duluth, Minnesota, before serving as administrator of St. Rose Convent. Sister Marlene returned to Viterbo College as Dean of Students. She worked in campus ministry at St. Thomas Aquinas Center in West Lafayette, Indiana, from 1994 to 1998. After serving as FSPA mission councilor, she worked at Mount Alverno Retreat Center in Appleton, Wisconsin.



Sister Grace Marie Wilgenbusch **April 11, 1920-June 30, 2015**

Sister Grace Marie, born on a farm near New Vienna, Iowa, was baptized with the name Mary Antonette Leonilla but was called Leonilla.

Sister Grace Marie taught elementary grades in parochial schools in Iowa, Washington and Wisconsin for 40 years. She then ministered in the Tulsa, Oklahoma Diocesan Social Services' Emergency Assistance program. From 1985 to 1990, Sister Grace Marie served the elderly in Broken Arrow, Oklahoma.



Sister Lucille Kleinheinz **Oct. 23, 1911-July 26, 2015**

Sister Lucille was born in Madison, Wisconsin, and was given the name Marie Rose at her baptism.

Sister Lucille ministered as an elementary teacher for seven years and as a high school teacher for 28 years in Iowa and Wisconsin, including 18 years at Aquinas High School in La Crosse. After earning a master's degree in library science, she continued working as librarian at Aquinas for 23 more years.



Sister Ann (Mary Medard) Pollpeter **Jan. 22, 1929-Aug. 9, 2015**

Sister Ann was born in West Point, Iowa.

She served as an elementary teacher for two years and then as a biology and chemistry teacher for 11 years in high schools in Idaho, Iowa and Washington. She taught at Viterbo College from 1965 to 1968 and again from

1970 to 1979 before moving to Canton, Mississippi, where she taught high school science and religion. Sister Ann then served as a home health nurse in Canton for four years. Her missionary spirit led her to the Marshall Islands where she taught nursing and biology at the College of Micronesia in Majuro from 1988 to 2000.



Sister Joyce (DeLourdes) Bantle
April 13, 1922-Aug. 15, 2015

Sister Joyce, a lifelong resident of La Crosse, ministered in nursing.

Her career spanned 46 years at St. Francis Hospital as staff nurse, private duty nurse, head nurse, assistant director of nursing service, assistant clinical instructor in emergency nursing, director of clinical nursing practice, administrative assistant to director of nursing, assistant administrator of patient care and vice-president of mission effectiveness. After retiring, Sister Joyce spent five years as director of health care ministry at St. Joseph's Cathedral Parish in La Crosse.



Sister Helen Esther (Basile) Lueck
March 28, 1921-Sept. 4, 2015

Sister Helen Esther was born in New Vienna, Iowa.

She ministered as an elementary school teacher and administrator for 17 years in Carroll, Iowa, Spokane, Washington, and at St. Wenceslaus School, La Crosse. From 1961 to 1974, she taught at Viterbo College. She then served as principal at St. Pius School, Cedar Rapids, Iowa. In 1983, Sister Helen Esther was appointed administrator of Villa St. Joseph.



Affiliates

Carmen Smith
Sept. 23, 1926-Nov. 30, 2014

Carmen, a prayer affiliate, was born in Tacoma, Washington, and was a graduate of Marycliff High School in Spokane. She and her husband Thomas had four sons.



Carmen worked as a nurse for more than 26 years. She served her parish as a eucharistic minister and as a visitor to the sick and elderly.

Carmen is survived by three sons, seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Charlotte Nesseth
July 20, 1922-July 25, 2015

Charlotte was born in Onalaska, Wisconsin, and raised on a farm. She and her husband Wilbert were the parents of two sons.

Charlotte worked as an occupational therapy assistant in several different settings, including 25 years at the VA Hospital in Tomah.

She was a very active member of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Tomah and later at St. Joseph the Workman Cathedral, where she served for 25 years.

Charlotte, a prayer affiliate and prayer partner, is survived by one son, three grandchildren and one great-granddaughter.



Read the complete FSPA obituaries under News/Events at www.fspa.org.



FSPA natural burial cemetery at Villa St. Joseph



Addenda

FSPA to host live podcast from St. Rose Covent

A Nun's Life Ministry visits the Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration on a Motherhouse Road Trip March 3, 2016, in La Crosse, Wisconsin. The trip combines social media and in-person events in innovative ways to engage with people about God, faith and religious life.



A highlight of the road trip is a podcast that is live-streamed (audio and video) over the Internet. Two Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration will join the hosts, Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary Julie Vieira and Maxine Kollasch, to talk about topics such as discernment, prayer, spirituality and more. There is also a live chat room where online listeners interact with each other and the sisters during the podcast. People from across the U.S. and many other countries watch the podcast and join the chat room using their computers and mobile devices. The podcast airs March 3 at 5 p.m. Eastern time at www.aNunsLife.org/LIVE.

Wisconsin Catholic Sisters confront human trafficking

Sixteen congregations of Catholic Sisters based in Wisconsin have banded together to create a human trafficking awareness campaign. The sisters purchased advertising on buses in Milwaukee County, Oshkosh and Green Bay. "Trafficking people, including children, is a travesty in today's world," says Sister of St. Agnes Jomarie Zielke, representing Wisconsin's Leadership Conference of Women Religious. "It is nothing short of modern slavery, exploiting people for profit through sex and labor."

The bus ads (see photo below) are one component of the Catholic Sisters' awareness campaign. The sisters also prepared a toolkit to help Catholic parishes throughout Wisconsin educate their congregation about the dangers and prevalence of human trafficking.

This collaboration is another step in the FSPA's



ministry to end modern slavery. Sister Marlene Weisenbeck created the La Crosse Task Force to Eradicate Modern Slavery, www.fspa.org/modernslavery, and has served on national and international human trafficking projects. Recently, FSPA supported Human Thread, a campaign to raise consciousness and empower Catholics to advocate for the plight of garment workers worldwide. Find Human Thread online at www.humanthread.wix.com/the-human-thread.

Sister Malinda Gerke honored by Franciscan Federation

For her "fine example of reflecting the beauty and goodness of God through artistic expression," the Franciscan Federation recognized Sister Malinda Gerke at its annual banquet held in June. She was selected based on criteria that focuses on "someone with artistic expression who is able to bring power to the powerless." Sister Malinda is especially known for playing the harp, something she taught herself to do. Not only does she play an antique harp at FSPA gatherings, she regularly plays for the sick and dying at two La Crosse, Wisconsin, hospitals. She has produced a number of harp music CDs and is the author of *Instrument of Peace*, featuring stories of healing and an accompanying CD. Sister Malinda shares her work at www.ruahmedia.org.



Malinda Gerke, FSPA

Photo courtesy of Mayo Franciscan Healthcare

100 years in the Diocese of Spokane

"Mass celebrates 100 years of Franciscan Sisters' ministry in Spokane Diocese," an article in the Aug. 20 issue of the *Inland Register*, honors the celebration that took place this past summer. "A century of faithful presence illumined the beautiful night. Italicized a milestone Mass, exhilarated a congregation of about 300 guests, ignited a party that lasted long past dark. It was a celebration, held at St. Augustine Parish on July 24, meritorious of the 100 years the Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration have served in the Diocese of Spokane." To see Spokane FSPA Patricia Gordon, Sharon Bongiorno, Betty Bradley and Kathy Roberg pictured with Bishop Thomas A. Daly and read the article in its entirety visit www.fspa.org/content/news-events/spokane-a-century-of-faithful-presence. ■

Connect with us

New Year's Eve blessing of time to include afternoon open prayer: Everyone is invited to rejoice in the coming of the New Year at St. Rose Convent's Mary of the Angels Chapel. The New Year's Eve service will be held on Thursday, Dec. 31. Quiet prayer before the Blessed Sacrament begins at 11:45 a.m. and is open to the public all afternoon. The blessing of time will begin at 6 p.m. Please use the chapel entrance located at 901 Franciscan Way, La Crosse, Wisconsin.

Year of Consecrated Life closes February 2016, pray with us: Pray with us as we continue celebrating the Year of Consecrated Life, as dedicated by Pope Francis. We invite you into our Adoration Chapel on the first Monday of every month, now through February 2016. Join us between 4 and 6 p.m. Please use the entrance at 701 Franciscan Way, La Crosse, Wisconsin.

Discerning women invited to Come and See: FSPA offers personalized Come and See and community living experiences for women interested in religious life. The experiences are arranged to accommodate the discerner's schedule and the time includes prayer, service, fun and the opportunity to learn more about community life. Interested women are invited to contact Sister Amy Taylor at membership@fspa.org or 888-683-3772.

Global Awareness Through Experience (GATE): We offer cultural immersion programs to El Salvador, Guatemala, Peru and Mexico. Our 2016 schedule, available at www.GATE-Travel.org, offers an opportunity to encounter people of courage, faith and hope. Join us for a program to deepen your own solidarity with our southern neighbors. Call us at 608-791-5283, or email gate@fspa.org for more information.

Franciscan Spirituality Center, La Crosse, Wisconsin: Join Thomas Reese, SJ, Feb. 6, 2016, for a discussion on Pope Francis and church reform. Father Reese, a fellow Jesuit, is the senior analyst for the *National Catholic Reporter* and former editor-in-chief of the weekly Catholic magazine *America*. Read more and register online at www.FSCenter.org or call 608-791-5295.

Marywood Franciscan Spirituality Center, Arbor Vitae, Wisconsin: Schedule your 2016 retreat! Directed by Janet Mallak, SSND, retreat dates are Jan. 31 to Feb. 6 and June 5 to 11. Directed by FSPA affiliate Joyce Heil, retreat dates are Aug. 12 to 18. New in 2016 is a private directed retreat offering a flexible stay option from March 6 to 13. Or, create your personal time away at a Marywood cabin on beautiful Trout Lake. Visit www.marywoodsc.org or call 715-385-3750.

Prairiewoods Franciscan Spirituality Center, Hiawatha, Iowa: Come, be still. Of song, dream and love, new life is born! What great loves are gestating in your life, and how can you nourish the germinating seeds while wintering? Come to Prairiewoods for the *Stillness: Somewhere to Begin in the New Year Retreat* Dec. 11 to 13. This weekend retreat will warm and inspire you to slow down, lean back and listen to the deepening stillness. More information is available at www.Prairiewoods.org or 319-395-6700.

The Christine Center, Willard, Wisconsin: Celebrate with a *Year-end Contemplative Retreat*, Dec. 27 to Jan. 1, and experience the wonderful energy and transformative power of silence. Be nourished by deep winter quiet, homemade meals, morning sessions and evening conversation circles for spiritual deepening and mindfulness practice. Individual spiritual guidance is available. To register, visit www.christinecenter.org, call 715-267-7507 or e-mail christinecenter@tds.net.

Connect with FSPA through volunteer service: If you're seeking volunteer opportunities, visit our website to see how you can serve with Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration and their ministry partners. You'll find a variety of opportunities, both short and long term. Learn more at www.fspa.org/content/join/become-a-volunteer. ■

10 THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT PERPETUAL ADORATION

WHEN IT BEGAN
AUG. 1, 1878

WHERE WE PRAY



HOW PEOPLE REACT

"Don't you just love nuns? They have their own kind of cool. Thanks for putting me on the prayer list!"

HOW THE PRAYERS FEEL

"Thank you so much for your prayers. Honestly, before beginning this journey with cancer, I was not a believer in the power of others praying for me. With this cancer, that has all changed. I definitely feel the effects of the prayers. It has been a true comfort to me during this difficult time. Thank you very much and God bless."



PRAYER REQUESTS IN AN AVERAGE YEAR



7,658

phone



6,086

email



5,116

handwritten note



WHAT WE RECITE, EVERY HOUR

O, Sacrament most holy,
O Sacrament divine,
All praise and all thanksgiving,
be every moment Thine.
Eucharistic Heart of Jesus,
furnace of divine love,
Grant peace to the world.

WHO REQUESTS PRAYERS



People of all ages. "Thank you very much for praying for me. God is good! Thank you. Love. Thank you." ~ 8-year-old girl



WHERE REQUESTS ORIGINATE

United States, Poland, Bangladesh, Germany, India, France, Canada, Australia, Uganda and Hungary ...

May God's grace continue to wrap around the world as we lift up our hearts in presence of the Blessed Sacrament.

INTENTIONS

EVERY HOUR OF EVERY DAY

For justice and peace for all, especially the poor, the homeless and the abused in the world

For those who work with our sisters in their ministries, for those who work in our sponsored institutions, and for those who are served by these ministries

For our relatives, benefactors, friends and enemies

For our national, state and local government officials and for this city and its inhabitants

HOW TO REQUEST PRAYER

- www.fspa.org
- 608-782-5610
- 912 Market Street
La Crosse, Wisconsin
54601



*Franciscan Sisters
of Perpetual Adoration*

Modern Lives. Sacred Traditions.



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