



# PRESENTATION DOORWAYS

*offering hospitality to the world*



# The COMMITTEE

PUBLISHED QUARTERLY by the  
Sisters of the Presentation  
2360 Carter Road  
Dubuque, Iowa 52001-2997 USA  
Phone: 563-588-2008 Fax: 563-588-4463  
Email: doorways@dubuquepresentations.org  
Web site: www.dubuquepresentations.org

## PUBLISHER

Julianne Brockamp, PBVM

## EDITOR/DESIGNER

Jane Buse, Director of Communications

## DOORWAYS COMMITTEE

Francine Quillin, PBVM; Karen Tuecke, Partners  
in Mission Coordinator; Leanne Welch, PBVM;  
Carol Witry, Associate Co-Director.

*The congregation is a member of Sisters United  
News of the Upper Mississippi River Valley,  
Communicators for Women Religious and the  
American Advertising Federation of Dubuque.*

# The PURPOSE

The purpose of Presentation Doorways is to further the mission of the Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary and our associates by sharing the news and views of the congregation with our benefactors, families and friends. Through this publication, we hope to share the charism of our congregation and to invite others to become involved in our mission.

# Your THOUGHTS & COMMENTS

We want your input. Please send or email photos, stories and information about our sisters, associates, former members, family and friends, or any ideas which relate to the aim of this publication. Submit to:

Editor, Presentation Doorways  
2360 Carter Road  
Dubuque, Iowa 52001-2997  
doorways@dubuquepresentations.org

# Cover PHOTOS

*The doorways represented on the cover are snapshots of significant doors in the Presentation history: (left to right) doorway of the current motherhouse at 2360 Carter Road; doorway of St. Vincent's Academy (now St. Columbkille) in Dubuque in 1879; doorway of Sacred Heart Chapel at the current motherhouse; doorway of the former motherhouse at 1229 Mount Loretta Avenue which was built in 1909; and doorway by which Mother Vincent Hennessy left Mooncoin, Ireland, to begin the Dubuque foundation in 1874.*

# PRESENTATION DOORWAYS

## A Look Inside CONTENTS

Sisters of the Presentation | Summer 2016 | Volume 60 • Number 2

### 4 Eco-Spirituality: The Spirit in Our Times

The Sisters of the Presentation, their associates and employees listen to the call to develop an "eco-spirituality" in their prayers and actions, taking to heart the Presentation directional statement. Pictured is Murna Stover.



### 8 A Vision of Sustainability: From "Me" to "We"

One of the Presentation commitments challenges sisters and associates to "support sustainability and systemic change for the common good." Along with many others, Associates Bren Connors and Barb Ressler have taken the call of the directional statement and this commitment promise to heart.

### 10 Reverencing Relationships

Presentation Sisters and associates gather for a weekend retreat to share conversation and explore and reflect on their relationship with creation, others and God. Pictured are Associates Laurie Noel and Colleen Venter with Sister Rita Menart.



### 12 Exceptional Individuals Honored

Presentation Sisters initiate several scholarships to further Foundress Nano Nagle's legacy of education and her desire to serve.

### 15 Remembering Our Roots

We remember our years spent in Storm Lake, Iowa, and the many stories during that time.

### 16 La Luz Hispana Celebrates Gran Festival

Presentation Sisters and associates, Franklin County residents, friends and family congregate in Hampton, Iowa, on June 4, to celebrate the community's cultural diversity in a Gran Festival, showcasing the growing Hispanic culture through music, dances, food, games, handicrafts and events. Pictured is Associate Darla Budden with her daughter.



### 19 Mount Loretto & Beyond

We share with you special times in the lives of Dubuque Sisters of the Presentation and their associates, near and far.

## Cover PHOTO

The Grupo de Danza Folklorica performed at the Gran Festival in Hampton, Iowa, on June 4. The festival celebrated the community's cultural diversity by showcasing the growing Hispanic culture through music, dances, food, games, handicrafts and more.

# A MESSAGE FROM LEADERSHIP

by BETH DRISCOLL, PBVM

## Partners in Mission

**Impelled by the legacy of Nano Nagle ...** and committed to supporting sustainability and systemic change for the common good, the leadership of the Conference of Presentation Sisters in North America, at their 2003 gathering, imagined the possibilities of a Presentation collaborative ministry as a fitting way to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Conference. Invitations were extended to more than 400 sisters who were members of the eight Presentation congregations.

**Impelled by the legacy of Nano Nagle ...** Sisters Marie Roche and Joan White (Newfoundland, Canada), Enid Storey (New Windsor, New York), Vera Butler (United States Province, Union), Rita Jovick and Maire Sullivan (San Francisco, California) and I (Dubuque, Iowa) responded to the invitation to discern the possibilities of living together as community and serving the unmet needs among people made poor. Location – to be discerned. Sisters Maire and Rita followed the callings of their hearts to serve their respective immigrant communities in San Francisco and Tipton, California. Sisters Enid, Joan, Marie, Vera and I followed our hearts to New Orleans, Louisiana, to work among people, homed and homeless, living in the Tulane-Canal Street neighborhood. We enthusiastically anticipated September 1, 2005, as our start date!

On August 29, 2005, Hurricane Katrina struck the Gulf Coast; levees and floodwalls gave way, flooding the historic city. Truly God's spirit had guided our decision to pitch our tent among the people of New Orleans. The spirit of our foundress Nano Nagle, whose lantern light led her through the winding lanes of Cork, Ireland, inspired us to offer light and hope to those struck by sudden disaster. Thus, the collaborative ministry of **Lantern Light** commenced.

Serving at **Lantern Light** ministry from 2005-2008 was truly a privilege. Moved by the charism of hospitality that stirred among the staff, guests and volunteers of **Lantern Light**, I stood in awe as I witnessed the respect and reverence that the staff, guests and volunteers had for one another. These profound experiences and memories sustain me. For this, I am forever grateful.

As some of us moved on, other Presentation Sisters moved in: Anna Raimon (New Windsor, New York), Mary Dennis Lentsch (Dubuque, Iowa), Maureen Nolan (United States Province, Union), Phyllis Gill (Aberdeen, South Dakota) and Dolores Cooney (English Province, Union). We were all enriched by the mutual sharing of hospitality, on-going dedication of volunteers and tremendous ownership and support of the local people.

**Impelled by the legacy of Nano Nagle ...** Presentation Sisters recognized and called forth the gifts of many people to ensure that the light of Nano's hospitality, compassion and hope continues to shine among all at **Lantern Light**. Literally hundreds of volunteers and organizations have been inspired by this light. The lantern has been passed and the leadership of **Lantern Light** now resides in the hands of the local people.

Truly the legacy of Nano Nagle invites us to take the lantern, tend its light, pass it on and transform the world in the process.



## Our MISSION

We, the Sisters of the Presentation, are Catholic women who dedicate our lives to God through evangelization, prayer, service and hospitality. Our way of life is based on the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We share in the vision of our foundress, Venerable Nano Nagle, who dared to dream of a better world for the poor, sick and uneducated of Ireland. We commit ourselves to the empowerment of women and children. We reverence and celebrate all creation as gift. We commit ourselves to confronting injustice and working for peace.

As we continue to keep Nano's dream alive, we are pleased to share our mission with you.

## Our DIRECTION

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

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

to transform ourselves  
and our world.

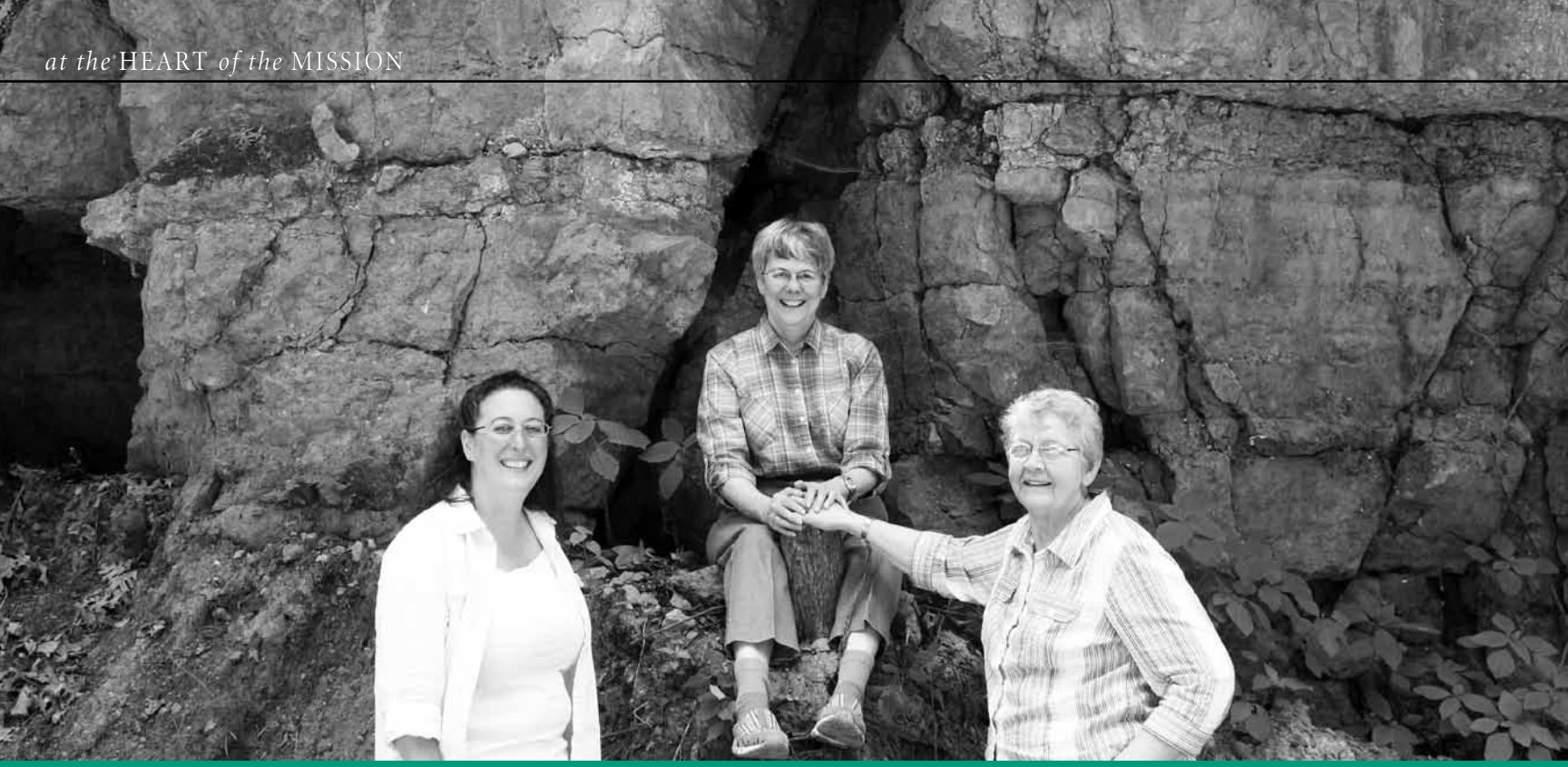
### Sisters of the Presentation LEADERSHIP TEAM

Sister Julianne Brockamp

Sister Beth Driscoll

Sister Ann Jackson

Sister Leanne Welch



Left to right: Partners in Mission Coordinator Karen Tuecke, Sister Kay Cota and Sister Dolores Zieser enjoy time with the untouched earth.

# Eco-Spirituality: The Spirit in Our Times

## Lead by the Face of God, the Cry of the Earth

by BETH KRESS, PBVM

### Does how you pray change what you do? Does what you do change how you pray?

The Sisters of the Presentation, their associates and employees listen to the call to develop an “eco-spirituality” in their prayers and actions. Taking to heart the Presentation directional statement to participate in the evolving consciousness of the cosmos by reverencing *relationships*, celebrating *unity*, engaging *contemplation* and fostering *partnerships* to transform self and the world, Presentation people express this spirituality in a myriad of ways.

They learn from their parents the natural relationship of Creator and created. They glean from ancient and contemporary saints how to celebrate the God within and to respect and heal the wounds of the planet. They dedicate their lives to see the face of God, to feel the breath of God and to love the song of God in their world – and it stirs their hearts to humbly and passionately live in reverence, care and justice toward all creation.

### The Mystery We Call God, Life Within

“I think that a spirituality of the earth is in my genes,” declares **Sister Maura McCarthy**, associate director of La Luz Hispana in Hampton, Iowa. “My very earliest memory is of the Mississippi and Iowa Rivers, the streams, the rolling wooded hills and the spring water exuding lithely from the ravines. As a missionary, I was struck by the breathless grandeur of the Andes Mountains. I also loved the Guaraní people’s love for the elements, especially noted in the musical refrain they made their own: ‘This is the earth ... the water ... the wind ... the fire.’ How can we learn to live hospitably with others who do not look, dress, eat, think, live or love in the same way? How do we discover God in this cosmos no one can fathom? Cosmic spirituality calls out to me.”



Teaching grade school at Resurrection in Dubuque offers **Sister Donna Demmer** opportunities to model her beliefs and to invite young people to develop their own spirituality. “God is in all of creation. Creation is a gift, and I am called to care for our home, Earth,” reflects Sister Donna. “Earth is sacred and I need to value what it speaks to me each day. It is my dwelling place where I can grow in my relationship with my God. The seasons of the year help me to see how life is a mystery and that nothing is permanent. I need to keep growing in my friendship with my Creator in the good and hard times. I am awed at the beauty of creation and God’s great love for me in just the simple things of life.”



**I strive to live a life of simplicity. ... Living simply leads to peace. Through my life experiences God has blessed me with the ability to live simply. ... This is an ongoing process. Living simply creates more time for the things that matter, like relationships. I have less to clean and I spend less time shopping. I then have more time for prayer, spiritual reading and reflection. I have more time for family and friends.** *Maurna Stover*

“We honored Hildegard of Bingen, a 12th century saint and Doctor of the Church, at a recent women’s retreat at St. Henry Parish in Monticello, Minnesota. It was my privilege to impersonate Hildegard and tell her story,” reports **Sister Carolyn Link**, who is a pastoral minister and spiritual director in Monticello. “Hildegard was so in love with nature, all creation. Green was her favorite color and more than a color – the life force of our Creator, the living light illuminating the darkness. For Hildegard the cosmos was sacramental and we are connected to everything and everyone bringing science, art and religion together. Hildegard’s message speaks to our day, ‘If we exploit, damage and ravage Earth, it is because we are out of balance.’ Hildegard is usually depicted holding a feather as she saw herself as a feather being blown about by the breath of God. I pray for Hildegard’s sensitivity to the needs of our planet as I go about my daily life.”



**Sister Elena Hoye**, of Dubuque, is imbued with an eco-spirituality that reflects not only her growing up on a farm in western Iowa, but also her many global contacts through her ministry as networker for the International Presentation Association. “I am learning that the more I immerse myself into the face of God in creation, the more I understand that ‘all shall be well and



Maurna Stover, director of nursing, starts her day with a daily meditation to help restore balance and practice simplicity in the busyness of life.

all manner of things shall be well,” acclaims Sister Elena. “I know all is connected, and I know I am connected. I am connected in love and held in the web of love.”

“I strive to live a life of simplicity. Living simply reduces consumption which in turn reduces waste and pollution of the earth. Living simply leads to peace. Through my life experiences God has blessed me with the ability to live simply,” states **Maurna Stover**, director of nursing at the Sisters of the Presentation. “Through prayer or while sorting my belongings, the Lord has guided me in letting go, discarding what is no longer useful and giving things away. This is an ongoing process. Living simply creates more time for the things that matter, like relationships. I have less to clean and I spend less time shopping. I then have more time for prayer, spiritual reading and reflection. I have more time for family and friends. I thank God for the gift of simplicity.”



### Integrating the Universe Story, Confronting Threats to Creation

“I inherited my love, respect and deep appreciation for God’s gifts of nature from my father and his ancestors who lived among the Indians of Allamakee County,” shares **Sister Kay Cota**, of Dubuque, who devotes time to both contemplative and active care of Earth. “Dad taught by example to respect and appreciate the earth. He studied the animals and their habits and learned from them. He hunted only what our big family needed for food. He saved rain water and compost for the garden and recycled glass to make the cement lids for the wells stronger. I am connected spiritually to the land by sharing the beauties of nature through the lens of a camera, participating in our ecology group and in being concerned about the impact that a sand company in Clayton County, Iowa, will have on the environment and the beauty along the Great River Road in Northeast Iowa.”



Eco-spirituality has provided a great impact on my life and the actions I take to provide preservation of the earth. ... If we think about our daily actions and the impact the actions have on the earth, each one of us would think twice about doing certain things. I embrace eco-spirituality, I find balance and compassion with the earth. *Karen Tuecke*

“By reflecting on eco-spirituality as ‘connecting the science of ecology with spirituality’ I have become more aware of the importance of living and praying in a way that helps to connect our Presentation directional statement and ecology,” comments **Sister Dolores Zieser**, of Dubuque. Filled with creativity and organizational energy, Sister Dolores shares her talents with many civic and Presentation projects. “The directional statement encourages me to ‘engage contemplation and foster partnerships to transform ourselves and our world.’ The fact that I have been a member of our ecology group is a constant reminder to me of the spirituality of creation and my duty to not only pray for, but also to act upon issues that affect our earth which God created for our common home. I have been very involved in this endeavor by attending talks, reading articles, especially Pope Francis’ encyclical, signing petitions and sharing this information with others.”



**Karen Tuecke**, partners in mission coordinator at the Sisters of the Presentation, shares, “I am drawn to the writings of Professor Noel Preston who states, ‘We belong to the cosmos, the earth and spirit and we seek a connection within each other and the whole community of life. In evolutionary terms, we can say we are life’s ultimate enrichment. We can love, offer and receive compassion, act justly and wonder.’ Eco-spirituality has provided a great impact on my life and the actions I take to provide preservation of the earth. The earth as the center provides humankind and all living things with the necessities for survival such as oxygen for clean air, soil for growing, water for consumption, mammals for the circle of life and so on. If we think about our daily actions and the impact the actions have on the earth, each one of us would think twice about doing certain things. I embrace eco-spirituality, I find balance and compassion with the earth.”



**Sister Marie Barth**, of Dubuque, invites others to integrate art and spirituality in their lives. “I learned the roots of ‘eco-spirituality’ early in life growing up and fishing with Dad on the Mississippi River. His love and respect for nature came from his growing up in Germany on the Rhine River,” recalls Sister Marie. “When later in life, on a visit to his home, Dad was



*Sister Dolores Moes keeps a daily record of actions she takes to care for the earth.*

shocked and saddened to see the condition of his beloved Rhine River contaminated by the war effort. I felt his concern for the environment here when he had me write a letter to the city protesting the waste he had seen dumped in the Mississippi. I’ve appreciated exploring cosmic spirituality in classes such as ‘Sacred Universe’ at the Roberta Kuhn Center in Dubuque, sharing monthly with sisters on the topic of ‘evolutionary consciousness,’ and participating in monthly centering prayer.”

“I have incorporated eco-spirituality into my life as I respond to a call from God through Pope Francis and my Presentation community,” recalls **Sister Dolores Moes** who continues a life of service at Mount Loretto after years of teaching, pastoral ministry and personal caregiving. “In 2013 we were invited to live out the directional statement in a more concrete way by forming groups around important issues. Ecology and sustaining Earth was my choice. Fracking as a threat to our beautiful farmlands was our first focus; then we considered issues related to use of wind, water, oil, coal, animals, pipelines and more. Meetings, daily computer alerts to protest actions harmful to the earth and efforts to involve the area Catholic sisters through Iowa Interfaith Power and Light followed. I now keep a list of what I do daily. Prayer and contemplation with God’s Spirit daily guide me in the actions needed to care for our common home.”



Presentation Sisters and associates profess a mission whereby they are “called to evangelize, offering hope and love to a broken world by incarnating the hospitality of God, confronting injustice and working for peace.” The deepening of that mission continues as they grow in friendship with the Creator, strive to live hospitably with others, find balance and compassion with the earth and act in justice to care for our common home.

# Sharing Eco-spirituality with Community and Family

by BETH KRESS, PBVM

In his address to the European Parliament in Strasbourg, Austria, November 2014, Pope Francis stated, “We are stewards, not masters of our earth. Each of us has a personal responsibility to care for the precious gift of God’s creation.” Department supervisors at the Sisters of the Presentation carry a special responsibility to the sisters and their home and to support employees as they incorporate eco-spirituality into hours of service.

No stranger to helping bring forward the “greening of Mount Loretto” over the past three decades, **Randy Engler**, director of maintenance, is a naturalist and conservationist in his own right as the “head steward” tending to the 40-acre property with lake, woodland and creatures of all sorts. “Planning, keeping a schedule for replacement of furnishings and fixtures, being friendly to the earth with treatment of lawn and trees, calling on engineers and other experts to assist us in maintenance, this and more are ways we save on budget, care for the land and property and be aware and share that awareness with the sisters and employees. It is nearly 25 years since the renovation of the motherhouse. All these involvements increase my knowledge and experience. Not only do I apply what I learn at work but it also filters to my responsibilities at home and in my yard. I am caring for Earth and all creation.”



“I’m always looking for ways to be more sustainable by reusing, recycling and by saving the money for the sisters!” says **Linda Brown**, director of housekeeping who has worked with the sisters for 12 years. “We know that being sustainable is good for the environment and is very important to all the sisters. I will share just a few things we do.”



- We do our best to reuse or recycle before throwing items away.
- We install new recyclable soap dispensers and paper towel roll dispensers while repurposing old dispensers at the garage sale.
- We purchase new pulse microfiber floor cleaning system in place of traditional mopping, reducing cross-contamination, reducing chemical consumption up to 95 per cent, reducing water consumption up to 90 per cent and producing superior performance for maintaining healthy, safe environments.
- We clean old chairs, recliners and lift chairs with vinegar. Reuse or recycle old chairs through the garage sale.
- We recycle mattresses first by changing them out to rooms that are less used or giving them to places of need.



*Director of Housekeeping Linda Brown replaces a 100% recyclable paper towel roll on a newly-installed dispenser which has proven to have both cost-effective and time-saving benefits.*

Co-Director of Associate Partnership **Carol Witry** reflects, “For me everything in the cosmos – humans, animals, plants, earth, the vastness of space and all it contains – everything is intimately connected. We’ve all come from the great ‘flaring forth’ of God’s love that happened over 13 billion years ago. Virtually everything is saturated, permeated with God. Everybody and everything is a manifestation of the divine. I encounter God everywhere and am called to treat everybody and everything with respect and reverence, living in a creation-friendly way through my choices and actions. Though she may not have used the term ‘sustainability,’ Presentation Foundress Nano Nagle surely lived each day striving, through her care for those on the margins, to create for them an environment and community that would enhance the quality of their lives both in the present and for future generations. Her legacy has touched us all.”



Reuse, Recycle, Reduce, Repurpose are words in the language of supervisors at the Sisters of the Presentation. Stewarding the land, the building and its contents, water and the lake, energy, the fauna and flowers, these individuals lead all employees and partner with the sisters in caring for the many gifts that abound at the motherhouse property. Together they witness to living in a creation-friendly way.



Left photo: Associate Bren Connors, of Denver, Colorado, views solar panels with a capacity of over 100 kilowatt, which were installed by her company on the roof of a senior apartment community. Right photo: Bren kneels next to the raised garden beds she built for a local school. These beds will provide produce with very little water.

## A Vision of Sustainability From “Me” to “We”

by CAROL WITRY, ASSOCIATE PARTNERSHIP CO-DIRECTOR

Rooted in Presentation foundress, Nano Nagle’s legacy of radical hospitality, the Presentation directional statement offers a call to transformation. One of the commitment responses to this call challenges sisters and associates to “support sustainability and systemic change for the common good.” Along with many others, Associates Bren Connors and Barb Ressler have taken the call of the directional statement and this commitment promise to heart.

Reflecting on the directional statement and its commitments, Barb draws a connection to the end of the film “Camelot.” When faced with the dual losses of his friend Lancelot and his wife Guinevere, King Arthur recalls the advice of his mentor, Merlin on what to do for being sad: “Learn something,” he says. “You

learn something!” Barb concurs, “In response to the Presentation directional statement, we lean, learn and live into our collective future. The integration and synergy of sustainability compels – endless possibility emerges.”

Bren also views sustainability as deeply rooted in Presentation spirituality. “Nano worked tirelessly to contribute to the ongoing life of the community, particularly the poor. I view sustainability not only in terms of energy and ecology, but also economics. This calls me to do whatever I can to provide for the least among us and part of that is keeping our communities sustainable and living sustainably myself.”

**I believe that if we don’t all start to make changes to positively affect our climate, we will likely have a short future. At the same time, I understand that not everyone has the means I do to make changes to live more sustainably. My hope is to help others take whatever steps they can.** *Bren Connors*

“There are a plethora of resources to help us learn to live more sustainably,” Barb shares. “As an associate, I’ve had opportunities to attend a variety of conferences and interact with international and national speakers on climate change, food, wellness and evolutionary consciousness.”

A course on “Living in the Age of Sustainable Development” sparked Barb’s interest in the topic of sustainability into action. “I’ve participated in Dubuque’s sustainability efforts and opportunities by installing a rain barrel, composting and participating in the food scrap pilot collection. Even gardening practices have shifted for me, incorporating more edible components to flower beds and avoiding pesticide use on the lawn. Urban gardening, permaculture and the tiny house movement draw me more deeply into mission. Sustainability is a life ethic.”

Bren agrees, “Living sustainably is a way of life at our house. We have installed solar panels that have had a net-zero use of electricity for several years as well as a tankless hot water system that heats water only as needed. Our condensing furnace is 95+ per cent efficient. We try to make good choices every day about water use. We do only full loads of laundry in a front-loader machine that uses one-third of the usual amount of water. We recently purchased a rain barrel to capture and reuse water for our gardens.”

Both Barb and Bren view sustainable living as critically important. “I believe that if we don’t all start to make changes to positively affect our climate, we will likely have a short future,” states Bren. “At the same time, I understand that not everyone has the means I do to make changes to live more sustainably. My hope is to help others take whatever steps they can.”

“Scholars across subject areas have written that we face a critical crossroads environmentally, economically and socially,” notes Barb. “One need only look around to see institutions in which we formally found life and vitality now struggling.”

Reflecting on finding hope in the midst of the current crossroads, Barb states, “Exploring and embracing a big-picture stance of sustainability is invited by our directional statement and demands transformation. In his book, “Leading from the Emerging Future: From Ego-System To Eco-System Economies,” Otto Scharmer explains our task this way: ‘Ego-system awareness is based on me-centric thinking. Eco-system awareness values the well-being of all others and serves the well-being of the whole. ... The journey from ego to eco awareness or from me to we has three



Associate Barb Ressler, of Dubuque, works in her yard where she employs sustainable gardening practices.

dimensions: better relating to others, better relating to the whole system and better relating to oneself. Such transformation, from ego to eco, animates collective action.”

Eco-system awareness is exemplified in Bren’s work in the arena of affordable housing where the organization for which she works has a strong focus on ecological, economic and educational sustainability. “Residents in the housing we offer are trained on how to recycle as well as save energy and water. We try to strike a balance between encouraging personal responsibility by residents and offering the most sustainable properties possible.”

Transformation from ego to eco is reflected in Nano Nagle’s growth in radical hospitality and is at the core of the Presentation directional statement. Following in Nano’s footsteps, both Bren and Barb offer good models of ego-to-eco transformation as they share in the challenge and hope of sustainable living.

### Be Sustainable, Go Paperless

In an effort to be sustainable, more than half of all charitable gifts worldwide are made online to support not-for-profit agencies. Join an ever-growing number of partners in mission managing their contributions online. Donate Now is convenient and easy for a growing community of Presentation Sisters, associates, employees and partners, near and far.

**DONATE NOW**

To make your gift, visit:  
[www.dubuquepresentations.org](http://www.dubuquepresentations.org)  
or call the Partners in Mission Office  
at 563.588.2008 ext. 105

# Reverencing Relationships: Cultivating a Culture of Care

## Sister & Associate Retreat

by CAROL WITRY, ASSOCIATE PARTNERSHIP CO-DIRECTOR

On April 16-17, Presentation Sisters and associates gathered at Mount Loretto to share in "Reverencing Relationships: Cultivating a Culture of Care," their annual retreat. Focusing on a call in the Presentation directional statement, co-presenters, Sister Elena Hoye and Associate Radie Roberts, guided participants on an afternoon and evening exploration, reflection and experience of their relationships with creation, others and God.

Acknowledging that relationships are revered as we recognize God's presence in them, Sister Elena set the stage for the retreat by inviting participants out into the beauty of the spring day with their smart phones and iPads to record an experience of God's presence. These images, shared in the evening prayer, offered meaningful reminders of God's presence and the call to reverence relationships with all.

Drawing from *Laudato Si*, Pope Francis' encyclical on care of the earth, Sister Elena invited retreatants into reflection on their relationship with Earth through music, video, conversation and her sharing. Ritualizing their call to reverence the earth, participants scooped Earth into their hands and blessed it.

Reflecting on their relationships with others, Radie focused on the practice of compassion and invited pairs of participants into a relationship-building time of sharing, guided by a series of engaging conversation starters.

"I really appreciated the opportunity and time to get to know my conversation partner, an associate, in a new and deeper way," states Sister Raeleen Sweeney. A culminating ritual invited participants to reverence each person at their table saying, "The Christ in me greets the Christ in you."

The final segment of the afternoon called each participant to reflect on their relationship with God as Sister Elena shared helpful ways of engaging in contemplative prayer followed by the opportunity for time alone with God. Participants ritualized reverence for relationship with God by placing hands on their hearts and greeting the Christ within.

Evening prayer offered a meditative time including contemplative silence, song, ritual and the images of God's presence contributed by participants. Cultivating a culture of care continued with a laughter-filled activity to open the social, and after more sharing, participants joined together for Sunday morning mass and brunch.

Summarizing her retreat experience, Associate Sue Murphy states, "The entire weekend, from the 'getting to know you better' icebreaker to sharing in the closing brunch immersed us in a time of recognizing, celebrating and reverencing relationships! The retreat was truly a gift for all!"



Left to right: Top photo: Retreat presenters, Associate Radie Roberts and Sister Elena Hoye; Middle photo: Associate Colleen Venter offers an image of connectedness and relationship. Bottom photo: Associates Janet Leonard and Florence Jaeger and Sister Lois Lehmann catch up during a break.

## Annual Garage Sale Promotes Sustainability

The Sisters of the Presentation and their associates hosted their 12th annual garage sale on April 28-30 and May 5-7, 2016. The sale has grown with each passing year. Every spring, a call goes out to sisters, associates, employees and friends to donate gently-used items. Once again this year the gym was filled with generous donations that would become someone's treasure.

This garage sale has become one that shoppers look forward to each year. Presentation hospitality is evident as shoppers enjoy bake-sale items while shopping the organized, attractive presentation of sale items, with a bonus that it's all indoors!

In reflecting on this year's sale, Sister Julia Wingert, a core committee member of the sale, notes, "The garage sale is a great way to promote sustainability. Unwanted or unneeded items don't end up in the landfill and they are going to someone who will use them."

Associate Linda Dolphin, also a core committee member, concurs, "The shoppers go home happy with their purchases, items are recycled and our proceeds help those in need. It's a win-win for all."

This year, over \$22,500 was collected for the student endowment fund at Immaculate Conception School in Charles City, Iowa, and for Hispanic Outreach Ministry of Evangelization (HOME), a ministry with the Hispanic population in the Dyersville, Cascade, Farley and Petersburg areas.

The garage sale core team is very grateful to all who contributed, helped unpack, sort and organize, donated fresh-baked goods, promoted the sale, worked at the sale and shared hospitality with all.



Left to right: Associate Karen St. John, Associate Mary Lou Mauss, Sister Paula Schwendinger and Associate Carol Witry volunteer at the annual Presentation garage sale.

## Associate Partnership

For more information, please visit:

[WWW.DUBUQUEPRESENTATIONS.ORG](http://WWW.DUBUQUEPRESENTATIONS.ORG)

Under Membership > Associate Partnership

Office of Associate Partnership

563-588-2008

[associates@dubuquepresentations.org](mailto:associates@dubuquepresentations.org)

## Reverencing Relationships



On May 20-22, the entrance classes of 1968-1969 gathered for a reunion at the Sisters of the Presentation. They spent the weekend reconnecting and renewing friendships that began almost 50 years ago. While some continue to live their baptismal call as vowed members of the community and others live this call through marriage or the single life, these women have made it a priority to stay in touch with one another through the years. A highlight of the weekend was having the opportunity to visit with the Mount Loretto sisters, filling them in on life's events since novitiate days. The group also enjoyed singing together, recalling songs from years ago that brought delight to many. As farewells were shared, so were plans for the next gathering.

Left to right: Front row: Rose Rausch, Billie Greenwood, Sister Beth Driscoll, Linda (Reichenauer) Winkelbauer and Sister Lynn Mary Wagner. Back row: Sister Paula Schwendinger, Cindy Waddick, Sister Marilou Irons and Bonnie Dahlhauser. Not pictured are Barb (Faust) Sauser and Virginia (Heisler) Barton.



Sister Beth Driscoll presents Elena Dominguez the Mother Vincent Hennessy Foundation Scholarship. Elena will be attending Clarke University in the fall.

## Exceptional Individuals Honored through Presentation Scholarships

by JANE BUSE

The Sisters of the Presentation initiated several scholarships and awards to further Presentation Foundress Nano Nagle's legacy of education in the spirit of her desire to serve. The sisters are pleased to honor the following commendable recipients.

### Nano Nagle College Scholarship

The Nano Nagle College Scholarship rotates among the many Iowa high schools in which Presentation Sisters have ministered. The scholarship was awarded to a student at Wahlert Catholic High School, Dubuque (2010); Bishop Garrigan High School, Algona (2011); Newman High School, Mason City (2012); St. Mary High School, Storm Lake (2013); St. Edmond Catholic High School, Fort Dodge (2014); and Beckman High School in Dyersville, Iowa (2015).

This year's \$500 Nano Nagle College Scholarship was awarded to **Megan McElmeel**, a deserving senior from Columbus Catholic High School in Waterloo, Iowa, who models self-giving service by the numerous service opportunities she has participated in over the past few years. Megan is committed to using her talents to improve the lives of others, whether that be volunteering at St. Vincent de Paul, working with Friendship Village retirement residents, serving meals at the Catholic Worker House or by being a leader of service through her commitment to her soccer team. This fall, Megan will continue serving as she pursues a degree in nursing at Indian Hills Community College in Iowa. Megan expresses, "I want to become a nurse and go on mission trips to help the sick who cannot pay for medical care."

"In all of my years of experience, some individuals stand out for their great qualities and Megan is one of those people," states Julie Girsch, girls head soccer coach at Columbus Catholic. "Megan is well known for her work ethic, positive attitude, teamwork mentality, leadership and service to her community. She is well respected throughout the school for her caring personality and the ability to connect with others who are in need. Throughout the time I've known her, she has shown me time and again that she is a positive, motivated leader with amazing potential."



Megan McElmeel, recipient of the Nano Nagle College Scholarship

### Mother Vincent Hennessy Foundation Scholarship

In celebration of Mother Vincent and the Dubuque Presentation foundation, the Sisters of the Presentation offer a \$500 Mother Vincent Hennessy Foundation Scholarship to a graduating senior from Wahlert Catholic High School, Dubuque, Iowa, which Presentation Sisters have actively supported since its inception. This year's recipient is **Elena Dominguez**, who has been actively involved in multiple service opportunities at Wahlert, her home parish and the greater Dubuque community. In the fall, Elena plans to continue her Catholic education by pursuing a degree in social work and psychology at Clarke University in Dubuque.

With a heart for service, Elena appreciates the opportunity to serve and focus on what those less fortunate need, using the gifts God gave her to be of help to others. "The phrase 'Live simply so others may simply live,' hits close to my heart," states Elena. "I take everything I do seriously. When something needs doing, I do it to the best of my capability."

Barb Ressler, teacher at Wahlert, confirms Elena's desire to serve others, "Elena lives service. If something needs to be done or someone needs help she steps up. All of our students perform service – it's required. The remarkable difference in Elena as compared with many other teens is that Elena embodies the service mindset as an integral part of who she is." Barb continues, "She just does service whenever, wherever, however she is able to make a positive difference in the world. When I think of Elena some very familiar words echo in my mind. 'If I can be of service in any part of the world, I would gladly do so...'" (Nano Nagle)

## Relay for Life "Masterpiece of Hope"

Relay for Life, the annual walk and fundraiser for the American Cancer Society was held on June 3, 2016, in Dubuque. The theme this year calls to mind the recent claim on signs leading into the city, "Dubuque, Masterpiece on the Mississippi" as Relay for Life is a masterpiece or sign of hope to cancer patients.

Presentation Sisters participated as "Presentation Pacers" in the very first relay event in Dubuque in 1998. Continuing this tradition every year since, the sisters take an active part in this event in honor of current sisters, associates, employees, relatives and friends who are cancer patients and in memory of deceased loved ones who lived with cancer. Since 2010, Presentation associates joined the Presentation Pacers team, and then in 2013, employees joined the team, rallied by Jean Lange, house coordinator. Sisters, associates, employees, as well as family members and friends together make for a very spirited team.

This year with 25 members on the team, their first fundraiser was the annual bake sale and prize raffle in March. In May all relay teams were invited by the Dubuque Relay Committee to sell luminaria bags at one of the Hy-Vee grocery stores. "We were the top team selling 82 luminaria bags along with many generous donations from customers," says Sister Dolores Zieser, team co-captain. "Even our Mayor of Dubuque stopped by and made a donation. We had a "widow's mite" donation of 30 cents from a young man. A woman customer gave us the money she had just redeemed from pop cans." The money collected went directly to the American Cancer Society while the amount of sales was credited to their team. The generosity of so many gives hope for cancer patients to be helped by the American Cancer Society.



Presentation Pacers present for the Relay for Life team lap. Left to right: Back row: John Richman, John Kirk, Dwayne Murphy, Amanda Kirk, Ron Dankert, Randy Engler, Wayne Venter, Katie Chapman and Colleen Venter; Middle row: Sister Dolores Zieser, Sister Nuong Bui, LHC, Sister Josita Zieser, Marge Reidy, Mary Dankert, Sister Huyen Phan, LHC, Sister Rosalyn Ulfers, Sister Donna Demmer, Sister Marie Barth and Sue Murphy; Front row: Karlee Grant, Kennedy Tuecke and Karen Tuecke.



I was a ~~stranger~~ and you welcomed me.

refugee

Matt. 25:35

Jesus

Catholic sisters are using billboards to promote the above message urging communities to welcome refugees. The billboards are displayed in Iowa, Wisconsin and Nebraska.

## Catholic Sisters Campaign Urges Inclusion for Refugees

Ten communities of Midwest Catholic Sisters are calling on citizens, President Barack Obama and local, state and federal politicians to work together to welcome refugees and are launching a public awareness campaign to make sure potential candidates and voters remember this critical issue when they head to the polls in November.

“Pope Francis has declared 2016 a ‘Year of Mercy,’ urging us to open our hearts to the stranger and the homeless because this is the way of faith,” states Presentation Sister Joy Peterson. “We believe that offering hospitality to refugees is a moral and faith response to the suffering of our sisters and brothers. Fifty-eight million people are displaced worldwide. We cannot turn our backs to the enormity of this pain and misery.”

Sisters are placing billboards urging communities to welcome refugees in the Quad Cities, Des Moines, Dubuque and Clinton, Iowa; Kieler and Madison, Wisconsin; and Omaha, Nebraska. The billboard’s message, “I was a ~~stranger~~ a refugee and you welcomed me” will remain posted through June and July. The message, based on the words of Jesus, is taken from the Gospel of Matthew. Prayer services near some of the billboard sites will be scheduled at a later date. Sisters are also reaching out directly to local, state and federal politicians with postcards that ask them to “speak out against fear-mongering and inflammatory rhetoric

about refugees,” and state that the sender opposes “any legislation that would block the resettlement of refugees of any nationality or religion in the United States of America.”

“We declare ourselves welcoming communities in affirmation of our Catholic tradition that holds sacred the dignity of each person,” comments Sister Joy, “and we invite other communities and people of faith to join us in becoming refugee welcoming communities through prayer, reflection, education and action. Failure on the part of the federal government to welcome refugees has resulted in states passing legislation that is punitive and harmful to human rights.”

The following ten religious congregations are coordinating this campaign: Dominican Sisters, Sinsinawa, Wisconsin; Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Sisters of the Presentation, Sisters of St. Francis and Sisters of the Visitation, all of Dubuque, Iowa; Congregation of the Humility of Mary, Davenport, Iowa; Sisters of St. Francis, Clinton, Iowa; Sisters of St. Benedict, Rock Island, Illinois; Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration, La Crosse, Wisconsin; Sisters of Mercy, West Midwest Community, Omaha, Nebraska.

For more information, visit [www.facebook.com/catholicsisters](http://www.facebook.com/catholicsisters).

## REMEMBERING Storm Lake, Iowa

1950-2009

by MARY HERMANN PLATT, PBVM, ARCHIVIST

“We are grateful for the long and faithful service of the Sisters of the Presentation to St. Mary Parish and School. They touched many lives both by their direct involvement with our children in the classroom, and by their witness as women committed to religious life.” (Reverend Bruce Lawler *Black and White* newsletter, summer 2009) This comment expressed the sentiments of many as the last two Presentation Sisters prepared to leave Storm Lake, thus ending 59 years of service in the school and parish.

St. Mary School in Storm Lake was established and ably staffed by the Franciscan Sisters from Clinton in 1912, while the Presentation Sisters had been in charge of the school in Danbury, Iowa, since 1887. Correspondence between Mother Mary Camilla Keefe and the Most Reverend Bishop Joseph Mueller in 1950 indicated that a trade was to be effected, moving the Presentation Sisters to Storm Lake and the Franciscan Sisters to Danbury.

Arriving in Storm Lake in August of 1950, the following sisters began their work in a new setting: Sisters Mary John McGeough, Joseph Kennedy, Modesta Elbert, Daniel O’Brien, Agnita Healy, Ethel Paulus, Victoria Gereau, Ignatius Cunningham, William Allen and Sheila Kane. In October the furnace in the convent exploded, necessitating a move to what had been the former sisters’ quarters in the school. A joyful group returned to their refurbished home in December.

St. Mary was the only Catholic school in Buena Vista County. Parents were very education-minded, perhaps because of the presence of Buena Vista College in town, and expectations for good quality education were evident. Two out of three graduates went on for higher education. Enrollment increased from 200 students in 1950 to 371 in 1957.

A new brick school building housing grades 1-12 had been built in 1927, and the high school was accredited by the state of Iowa in 1938. As enrollment increased, at times the first grade occupied a house nearby. The need for more space resulted in the construction of a new high school and gym, dedicated in 1957.



St. Mary School in Storm Lake, Iowa

Construction continued with the building of St. Ann Convent which was occupied in 1967 and which provided 16 bedrooms. A feature of the new convent was a separate chapel connected to the main building by a breezeway and accessible from the outside. This brought all the sisters under one roof, after they had lived in various places for some years.

Eventually as the number of sisters decreased and enrollment continued to rise, the convent was remodeled to accommodate several classrooms, with the sisters’ quarters reduced to one end of the first floor and several bedrooms on second floor. In 2009 when the last two sisters retired to Dubuque, two of the lay teachers rented rooms in the building.

Sister Angela Feeney, who ministered in the high school from 1973-1980, said of her time there, “Although I enjoyed all the classes I was assigned to teach, my greatest satisfaction came from the enthusiasm that so many of the students had for learning how to do public speaking.” Students would come before and after school, as well as in the evenings, to perfect their speaking skills.

Sister Josita Zieser, one of the last of 102 Presentation Sisters to minister in Storm Lake, retired in 2009. She taught full time for 10 years, then part time in art and third grade, and transferred to the position of parish administrative assistant for her last few years. She commented, “I loved teaching high school art; it was a class they wanted to be in ... I’ve thoroughly enjoyed my 19 years here. It was one of the best places I’ve been.”

Sister Donna Determan, who also retired in 2009, remarked, “I know a lot of the alumni that I taught the Sacraments to are now the parents of children I’ve taught. It’s just a thrill and exciting to see them grow up and have families ... Storm Lake is like my second home.” She had spent 25 years at St. Mary’s.

# La Luz Hispana Celebrates 1st Annual Gran Festival

by MAURA MCCARTHY, PBVM, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF LA LUZ HISPANA

A spectacular multitude of Franklin County residents, friends, Presentation Sisters and associates and family congregated in Hampton on June 4, to celebrate the community's cultural diversity in a Gran Festival. With more than 1500 people in attendance, this first annual event showcased the growing Hispanic culture through music, dances, food, games, handicrafts, and other products and events. The Gran Festival was planned by a commission of eight persons meeting for several weeks in the headquarters of La Luz Hispana, the non-profit agency initiated by the Sisters of the Presentation of Dubuque, Iowa. Brook Boehmler, mayor of Hampton, and other influential Hampton leaders were especially helpful to Sister Carmen Hernandez, president of the committee.

La Luz Hispana is beginning its fourth year of service to the Hispanic people of the Greater Franklin County area offering ESL classes, advocacy, healthy living, computer and sewing skills, financial planning, networking with the schools and agencies, Mexican cultural dance and is planning a Citizen Learning Center (CLC) for this fall. This CLC will provide materials, information and assistance to legal immigrants in the process of naturalization.

Adriana Noah from Meraki and Sol Photography comments, "I had the opportunity to attend the Latino Festival in Hampton, hosted by La Luz Hispana. I would say it was a great turn out with food, activities for children, horse rides along with some cute animals and traditional Latino and Aztec dances. We also had several groups play such as Passion Tropical, La Voz del Sur and Banda Oro. It was a great way to start the summer!"

Pia Hovenga and members of "Viva Iowa!" the newly-created Spanish newspaper, were also taking pictures and eyeing news stories during the planning process and throughout the entire event. This newspaper announced the Gran Festival for several weeks. Frankie Aliu from Mid-America Publishing that produces "The Hampton Chronicle" was also helpful in creating signage and other announcements for the Gran Festival.

Sister Carmen notes, "A big shout out to our main sponsors for making this day possible: Tello Enterprises, Franklin County Pork Producers and ABCM. Thanks also to our supporting sponsors, the many businesses who donated items, time and services. Our special thanks to Melissa Pacheco, our MC, and Fernando Aveiga, our DJ, as well as to the City of Hampton, to all of our volunteers and to anyone I may have missed. It was a great day! Thank you for your support and for all who came to share in the fun."

One Hispanic woman remarks, "This was the best Latino festival that I have ever attended, anywhere!"



Left to right: Top photo: Linda Kuehner, Officer Mark Morrison and Sister Jeanette McCarthy share the La Luz Hispana story, information and souvenirs with visitors. Middle photo: Brothers enjoy showing off their new identities. Bottom photo: A beautiful family of Mexican dancers.



The festival had a two-fold purpose. It was an opportunity to strengthen community relationships, get to know neighbors and connect cultures, as well as to raise funds for La Luz Hispana, which has depended largely on the Sisters of the Presentation, with the addition of other donations for its day-to-day expenses. "It is time for La Luz Hispana to become self-sufficient and stand on its own two feet," states Sister Carmen. "Therefore, the proceeds will help to create this future." The festival netted around \$20,000 toward becoming self-sustaining.

# Presentation Sisters Gather to Re-imagine Initial Formation

On May 17-18, an international group of Presentation Sisters, invited by their congregational leadership teams, gathered in Lusaka, Africa, for a meeting to reflect on and re-imagine how to approach initial formation across the congregation.

Almost 50 Sisters from across the globe, from Zambia, Zimbabwe, Africa, Ireland, Canada, England, Latin America, India, Pakistan, the Philippines, New Zealand, USA and Thailand, attended the 2016 International Formation Gathering 2016 sponsored and planned by the Union of Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

"I deeply appreciated the opportunity to gather with other Sisters of the Presentation that work in initial and on-going formation ministry. Our days together offered a healthy balance of input from our facilitator and three presenters, as well as, time to process the input in large and small group settings," states Sister Annette Kestel, Dubuque Sisters of the Presentation representative.

The theme of the gathering was "Re-imagining Initial Formation Across the Congregation as a Co-creative Process for Mission." The content of the program was designed to be interactive and to include input from participants, reflection and group work.

Attendees represented a wide spectrum of experience – younger sisters who are currently in the initial formation phase of becoming a Presentation Sister; sisters who have made perpetual profession in recent years; sisters who work in the area of formation and vocational accompaniment; and sisters from the leadership teams from the various countries represented.

Sisters experienced a rich and diverse program, facilitated by Sister Clare Stanley of St. Joseph of Cluny from Sierra Leone. Presenters included Sister Gail Worcelo, co-founder of the Green Monastery in Vermont in the United States; Sister Pat Murray, a Rome-based Loreto Sister who is executive secretary of the Union of International Superiors General, and Father Michael McGuire, a Manila-based Columban Missionary, psychologist and trainer of formators.

The gathering was comprised of prayer, reflection, team-based discernment exercises and workshops based around the metaphor of the harvest cycle. All attendees reflected together on the input received and offered suggestions for initial formation in the years to come. Once returning to their respective countries, participants will share their learnings and experiences with their congregations.

"The spirit and charism of Nano Nagle were palpable in our gathering. I went having only met the other three sisters traveling from North America, but it didn't take long to get acquainted with all the others coming from different countries," shares Sister

**This experience has certainly enlarged my Presentation worldview. Knowing sisters ministering to those made poor in these other parts of the world causes me to look at the needs of our world with greater compassion and empathy. I feel a deeper Presentation connection and a greater passion for our Dubuque mission and directional statement.**

*Sister Annette Kestel*



Presentation Sisters present at the gathering who minister in North and South America. Left to right: Sisters Annette Kestel (Dubuque, Iowa); Sandy Butler (Newfoundland/Labrador: Union); Eileen Quirke (Latin America); Shawna Foley (United States Province: Union); and Francine Janosek (United States Province: Union).

Annette. "This experience has certainly enlarged my Presentation worldview. Knowing sisters ministering to those made poor in these other parts of the world causes me to look at the needs of our world with greater compassion and empathy. I feel a deeper Presentation connection and a greater passion for our Dubuque mission and directional statement."

The gathering offered many blessings – one of the greatest blessings was the openness on everyone's part to take a chance to walk together one pace beyond into the future, assured that the light of Christ shines from Nano's lantern, leading with tender loving care.

# The Presentation Lantern Center New Executive Director



Sister Corine Murray (right), executive director of the Presentation Lantern Center for 14 years, passes the lantern on to Sarah Gieseke who has recently become the center's new executive director.

In May, the Presentation Lantern Center board of trustees, staff, tutors and English Language students welcomed Sarah Gieseke, the center's new executive director. Sarah, a native of Wisconsin, has lived and worked in several places in the United States and beyond its borders. As an undergraduate at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse, she studied for one year in France. Sarah also earned a Master of Arts in International Human Rights degree from the University of Denver, with a self-directed specialization in migrant and refugee issues.

Sarah has worked in a wide variety of places, in both government and nonprofit sectors: as a refugee caseworker for the U.S. Refugee Program in Nairobi, Kenya; as a volunteer for the Harpswell Foundation in Phnom Penh, Cambodia; as a graduate intern at Rabbis for Human Rights in Jerusalem and the West Bank; as an AmeriCorps VISTA in emergency preparedness in Louisiana; and as an asylum officer for U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services in the Washington D.C. area. The wisdom she acquired through these experiences, her heart for advocacy and passion for immigrants will guide her well as she serves Presentation Lantern Center students from around the world.

Sister Corine Murray, retiring executive director, reflects on the past 14 years, "I've viewed the world through the eyes of people from five continents and 56 different countries and it has been an amazing experience. I feel connected to so many places; I now watch world news with a different pair of eyes."

Throughout history, education has opened the door to a new and better life. The mission of the center which is to offer hospitality, educational opportunities and advocacy for adult immigrants, especially women, who are striving to better their lives, is a wonderful fit for Sarah. "I am so happy to be working to assist immigrants in Dubuque," shares Sarah, "which is near my family in Southwest Wisconsin. I am looking forward to continuing Sister Corine's exceptional legacy at the Lantern Center."

Sarah enjoys the diversity found in the human race and feels a personal calling to be an advocate for inclusion. Just like Sister Corine, Sarah and the center's volunteer tutors will continue to change lives.



## IMMERSION & SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

### Service & Immersion Opportunity to Tucson/Nogales Area

Do you have an interest in joining other volunteers on a service/immersion trip to the Tucson/Nogales areas of the Mexican/American border? The Sisters of the Presentation are working with the Kino Border Initiative in planning a trip that would give volunteers a full experience of border issues. This multi-day experience could include a hike in the desert, visit to a women's shelter, observing actual court proceedings, as well as volunteer experiences. The Kino Border Initiative indicates the best month for this trip would be February 2017.

### If you are interested and/or want more information, please contact:

Sister Rita Cameron  
Presentation Quest Coordinator  
2360 Carter Road  
Dubuque, IA 52001-2997  
563-588-2008 or [service@dubuquepresentations.org](mailto:service@dubuquepresentations.org)

# Mount Loretto AND BEYOND

Featured below are special times in the lives of Dubuque Presentation Sisters and associates, near and far.



## Reconnecting 20 Years Later

Janella (Frankl) Reicks, a former member of the Presentation community, accompanied by her husband, Ron, made a return trip to Bolivia in April to celebrate their 20th wedding anniversary. Over 20 years ago, Janella worked for several years among the Guarani people with Sister Maura McCarthy. Their reunion was a joyous occasion for all. Left to right: Ron and Janella Reicks share a toast with Sister Suzanne Takes.

## Happy 90th Birthday!

Sister Raeleen Sweeney made a special trip to the motherhouse a week before Sister Catherine Wingert celebrated her 90th birthday. An impromptu gathering of snacks and drinks were enjoyed by all. Left to right: Sisters Catherine Wingert, Dolores Moes, Anne Marie Kollasch, Donna Determan, Raeleen Sweeney and St. James Lickteig.



## Treasured Friendships to Last a Lifetime

A group of retired teachers from the Immaculate Conception School in Charles City, Iowa, made a special trip to the Sisters of the Presentation to visit their former co-workers. These ladies cherish a special bond having taught together over the years. Left to right: Front row: Sister Ellen Mary Garrett, Sister Linus Coyle, Sister Catherine Wingert and Sarah Barrett; Back row: Sister Anne McCormick, Marilyn Rochford, Susan Strong, Lynn Redenius, Sister René Laubenthal and Sister Sheila Kane.

**You are invited to join us.**

June 27, 2016  
July 25, 2016  
August 22, 2016  
Centering Prayer  
6:15-7:00 p.m.  
Sisters of the Presentation  
Dubuque, Iowa

For updated information about the activities and events of the Sisters of the Presentation of Dubuque, please visit our web site at [www.dubuquepresentations.org](http://www.dubuquepresentations.org) or call 563.588.2008.

**Please pray with us.**

July 13, 2016  
60th Jubilee Celebration  
Sister Emilie Bormann  
Sister Donna Determan  
Sister Sheila Ann Dougherty  
Sister Jeanine Kuhn  
Sister Hermann Platt  
Sister Raeleen Sweeney

July 13-15, 2016  
Community Gathering  
Dubuque, Iowa

September 24, 2016  
50th Jubilee Celebration  
Sister Marjorie Loughren  
Sister Anne McCormick

21st of each month  
Pray for Vocations

25th of each month  
Mass for Benefactors

Please help us keep our database up-to-date.  
Please change this label and send it back to  
us, call us at 563.588.2008 or email us at  
info@dubuquepresentations.org. Thank you.

\_\_\_\_ New Address  
\_\_\_\_ Misspelled Name  
\_\_\_\_ Wrong Address  
\_\_\_\_ Remove my Name  
\_\_\_\_ Receive Duplicate Copies  
(please indicate which is correct)

## Relationally SPEAKING

*Sisters, Associates, Family, Friends in Brief*

In 1941, when **Sister Linus Coyle** entered the novitiate, her father enrolled her in a financial society called Catholic Knights of Wisconsin. This company later joined a larger Catholic financial society called Catholic Financial Life. In recognition of Sister Linus' achievement of 75 years of membership, she was awarded a statuette of Mother Mary for her long-term affiliation with the organization. Since she was unable to travel to accept the award in person, five company leaders and representatives presented the award to Sister Linus on Saturday, May 21, in Dubuque, to express their gratitude for her longtime association.



The **Conference of Presentation Sisters of North America** held their annual meeting at the Presentation motherhouse on May 30-June 4 in Dubuque. The conference is comprised of the leadership teams of the seven North American Presentation congregations: Newfoundland-Labrador Province: Union; San Francisco, California; Aberdeen, South Dakota; New Windsor, New York; Staten Island, New York; United States Province: Union; and Dubuque, Iowa.

*Left to right: Front row: Mary Byrnes (New Windsor), Patricia Anastasio (New Windsor), Sharon Fagan (Newfoundland/Labrador: Union), Beth Driscoll (Dubuque), Lucille Welbig (Aberdeen) and Barbara King (New Windsor); Middle row: Stephanie Still (San Francisco), Janice Klein (Aberdeen) Lorraine Hale (Staten Island), Leanne Welch (Dubuque), Martha Otterstedt (New Windsor) and Mary Thomas (Aberdeen); Back row: Julianne Brockamp (Dubuque), Francine Evans (Aberdeen), Joan O'Sullivan (United States Province: Union), Lois Greene (Newfoundland/Labrador: Union), Ann Jackson (Dubuque) and Beth Hassel (Staten Island)*