

Footprints



Footprints

Footprints reflects the mission, spirit, and values of the Sisters of St. Francis, Dubuque, Iowa.

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Cover Photo



Photo by Sister Janet Haverkamp

Footprints

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“We the Sisters of St Francis and Associates set our common heart on the way, responding to the signs of our times as we: ...Enhance our collaboration with diverse partners to give expression to our mission...”

Excerpt from the 2020-2026 Direction Statement

The flowers on the cover of this issue of Footprints are a sign of hope for a springtime of new life in a year when life has been challenging.

“Walk for Sister Water” was a creative sign of hope initiated by the Sister Water Project (SWP) Committee. Like water it flowed and took on a life of its own. Our Franciscan spirit permeated the videos celebrating the precious gift of life-giving water with a mantra of praise composed by Sister Carol Hoverman.

SWP connects people across continents. When volunteers travel to Honduras and Tanzania, they see the needs as well as joyous celebrations of the gift of life-giving water.

Telling the story of Sister Water in schools and parishes, motivates people to join the cause. This year we needed new ways to tell the story. The walkers shared the story with homemade signs, letters, and social media posts. Each person/group chose a unique way to walk: on a treadmill, near water, carrying water, going multiple short distances after recovering from a broken bone, joining family for a welcome bonding experience, or honoring a deceased loved one.

SWP will soon be celebrating its “quinceñera,” 15 years of collaborating and building relationships with generous donors, volunteers and diverse partners.

--Sister Maureen Leach, OSF

Our Mission

Rooted in the Gospel and in the spirit of Sts. Francis and Clare, the Sisters of St. Francis live in right relationship with all creation.

Direction 2020 - 2026:

Rooted in our Franciscan mission and commitment to contemplative dialogue, we the Sisters of St. Francis and Associates set our common heart on the way, responding to the signs of our times as we: focus our efforts within the intersection of our three commitment areas addressing systemic racism, the climate crisis, and the underlying issues revealed by the pandemic; enhance our collaboration with diverse partners to give expression to our mission; and explore re-imagining Shalom Spirituality Center as a vehicle for transmitting the Franciscan charism and values.

Leadership Team

Sister Kathy Knipper
President

Sister Pat Clemen
Vice President

Sister Maureen Leach
Vice President

Sister Brenda Whetstone
Vice President





Clockwise from back left: Sisters Sarah Kohles, Janet May, Brenda Whetstone and Maureen Leach. (Contributed photo)

Walking for Sister Water

by Jessi Russo

The Sister Water Project Committee had hoped to host an event in 2020 to help raise funds for the Sister Water Project and create awareness of water issues. But that goal had to be tabled due to the pandemic.

“At each monthly meeting the idea kept surfacing about how could we pivot during the pandemic,” said Sister Water Project Committee member **Nancy Knipper**. “Then it struck us -- what if we host a walk but ask others to do so on their own time in a way they are comfortable,” added Nancy. “And from there, it just evolved.”

The group invited sisters, staff, Franciscan Associates, donors and the general public to “Walk for Sister Water” any time between March 12-22, 2021, in honor of World Water Day on March 22.

The committee suggested a walking length of 5K (3.1 miles), which is about the distance that some men, women, and children in parts of the world have to walk daily to obtain clean water.

“The walk was about raising awareness and standing in solidarity,” said **Sister Maureen Leach**, who is liaison to the Sister Water Project Committee. “A 72-year old woman reported to us that until recently, a glass of water was almost a luxury. Now after 26 years of work, her village has running water and she will no longer have to get up at 2 a.m. to walk to the well to get water for her family,” added Sister Maureen. “The Sister Water Project is making a difference.”

Each day from March 12-22 carried a theme as to reasons why someone should walk:

“Walk for Tanzania,” “Walk for Honduras,” “Walk for Joy,” “Walk for Justice,” “Walk for Education,” “Walk for Relieving Thirst,” “Walk for Children,” “Walk for Relationships,” “Walk for Health,” and “Walk for World Water Day.”

Each of the themes had a video featuring someone speaking about why they were walking for that particular reason.

In the “Walk for Education,” video, **Brian Gilligan**, who is the Liaison to Tanzania for the Sister Water Project Committee, shared the story about meeting a young girl in a green dress in Tanzania.

“On my first trip to Africa I was in a small Tanzanian village and the villagers took us to show us their traditional well where they were fetching water on a daily basis. It was no more than a mud puddle,” recounted Brian in his video.

“While we were there a little girl in a green dress came up and scooped up a 5 gallon bucket of this water out of this mud puddle. It was a school day and I could tell by her dress she was not going to school. That stuck with me and a couple years later I was in the same villages after the Sister Water Project put a well in that community. We were looking at the well and we saw the same little girl. This time she was dressed in a school uniform and was going to school. That’s the kind of impact on an individual’s life that the SWP can have. That’s why I’m walking for education.”

Sister Kathy Knipper detailed her favorite Sister Water Project story in the “Walk for Relationship” video. In 2015, the mother of two young boys sent a letter to the Sister Water Project with \$96.41 enclosed in a Ziploc bag. The mother’s two young sons had



Franciscan Associates Dave Heiar and Jane Heiar walked for water. Contributed photo.

Why I Walked

I am a microbiology educator. So many aspects of both human and planetary health hinge on access to clean water. In lab classes, I have assigned students to bring in a water sample from their neighborhood and we were unable to locate any sources of water that were not contaminated with coliform bacteria (coliform = of the form of E. coli, and therefore indicating fecal contamination of the water). A few students were so taken with water issues and the simplicity of microbiological assays, they founded the Pure Water Access Project and undertook several international trips to work on clean water issues. My current activity is writing/editing microbiology textbooks for McGraw-Hill (based in Dubuque!). I've recently reviewed extensive literature on waterborne diseases and updated our discussion to include more current issues like the influence of plastics in the water on environmental health. Another concern, especially

in midwestern states, is eutrophication due to unregulated transport of phosphates into bodies of fresh water and the attendant issues that come from blooms of cyanobacteria.

Thank you for your phenomenal efforts to highlight the importance of clean water for all communities.

I walked three miles per day for six days for the the Sister Water Project. I will do so again. I live in Ohio, but am accompanying my husband on a temporary assignment at the National Science Foundation in Alexandria, Virginia. This has been a fun way to get to know my nearby environment.

Kathleen Sandman, PhD
Columbus, Ohio

set up a lemonade stand “for those who need a drink.”

“In their school they heard about the Sister Water Project during Lent from an Associate. For whatever reason they forgot to bring money to school to help children who needed water,” detailed Sister Kathy in the video. “So these two boys begged their parents for a way to raise money. After months of pleading they set up a lemonade stand at their father’s business for two days in August to help children in Tanzania and Honduras. Their connections to want to help strangers motivated me and brought me joy,” said Sister Kathy.

A number of schools also participated in the Walk for Sister Water. In Cedar Rapids, Iowa, 300 students and staff at Regis Middle School walked three miles to support the project.

“Although it was a little cold, and we all had to wear masks, it was nice because I think it made them realize that in these villages there are villagers that have to carry the water bins on top of their heads and shoulders for three total miles just to get clean water,” said Regis Middle School Principal **Josh Gredy**. “So it really instilled a sense of empathy and the true meaning of giving.”

The kindergarten students at Xavier School in Dyersville, Iowa, who also took part in the walk,

Sister Laurinda Hefel walked in the Chicago area. Contributed photo.



Why I Walked

At the end of February, Central Mississippi experienced a winter storm that brought a couple of inches of snow and ice and several days of temperatures below freezing. At my apartment, the pipes were frozen for two days, which prompted me to seek an available source of potable and non-potable water. Since the sidewalks and roads were icy, I didn't want to venture too far away or risk slipping and falling if I walked, so I drove to the Excel Center which is a round trip of about a mile. This brief inconvenience provided an excellent opportunity to be in solidarity with all those who must walk every day, often under hazardous conditions, to obtain water. (Having a car to transport eight gallons of water certainly made the task easier and safer!) The Sister Water Walk gave me another opportunity to reflect on the gift of Sister Water and challenged me to reflect AND act.

On a Saturday in March I hiked about 2.6 miles in the Petrified Forest northwest of Jackson, Mississippi, and in the small town of Flora nearby. This petrified forest is the only surviving place of this kind in the Eastern United States and is protected as a conservation area. The events that led to the petrification of the logs in this area began in the Oligocene Epoch where they were buried in the red sands and silts of the Forest Hill Formation. I marveled at the raw strength and transformative power of water as I gazed at what were once living trees. Studies indicate that these ancient trees were probably deposited in this site as driftwood by a prehistoric river. The petrified forest that is visible today, can be attributed to the powerful force of water - this time by erosion. The forces of erosion also move and shift the soil, creating a natural course for water to drain from the higher levels to the forest floor, providing life-sustaining water for plants and creatures.

I walked the mile between my ministry at Excel and home to reflect further on the gift of Sister Water. What if I lived where water was not readily available? How many gallons of water could I have carried? Would the pathway be hazardous? Would someone try to harm me or take away the water I had gathered? Would it be safe to use as is, or would it be necessary to filter it, treat it with chemicals or boil it before it could safely be used?

Eileen Hauswald, OSF
Morton, Mississippi

learned about the Corporal Work of Mercy: Give Drink to the Thirsty. The students walked 10 minutes each day for 6 days.

Individuals also sent photos of themselves walking and shared why they were taking part in the walk. “Thank you for giving us a way to help the poor of the world. We have walked a total of 35.6 miles for your project. Our belief is this is one of the best charities to which we can contribute. Good job, Franciscans!” wrote **Mary Ann and Joe Barry**.

Gina MacRae wrote that she had walked along the Northshore of Lake Superior in Minnesota.

“I walked a 5K+ in solidarity with people who walk daily to obtain clean water,” she said in an email. “Many blessings and much gratitude for the Sister Water Project.”

Sister Liz Cummins walked at Skunk Creek Wash in Glendale, Arizona with her sisters, **Anne and Peggy**. “‘Wash’ describes areas where subtle contours allow water to flow or ‘wash’ from elevated sites to lower areas,” they wrote in an email.

“Streambeds are usually dry. They carry water briefly after a storm. Skunk Creek Wash has been dry for the past several years. We walked in solidarity with those who often find dry wells when they seek water. We walked to promote safe clean water for all!”

Donations for the project came from 21 states. To



Charism Team Member **Julie Tebbe** (right) walked with her family. Contributed photo.

date the Sister Water Project has completed/restored 300 well projects in Tanzania and 20 water systems in Honduras. To see the videos created for the walk, visit www.youtube.com/dubuquefranciscans. ■



Sisters **Liz Donahue** (left) and **Rita Green** share the reasons that they walked for the Sister Water Project. Photos by Jennifer Hammerand.

Sister Pat Doody Honored with Spiritus Franciscanus Award at BCU

During the Briar Cliff University (BCU) Honors Convocation in Sioux City in early May, **Sister Pat Doody** received the Spiritus Franciscanus Award. This award is presented to a member of the BCU community who practices the university values and visibly reflects the lives and character of Saints Francis and Clare.

“Sister Pat started work at BCU recently. She has had a large impact on a large number of individuals. She has helped elevate Franciscan values on our campus, provided encouragement, and also encouraged reflection. She reminds us of the bigger picture of life and why we are all at Briar Cliff University,” read Dr. Todd Knealing, Vice-President of Academic Affairs at the university.

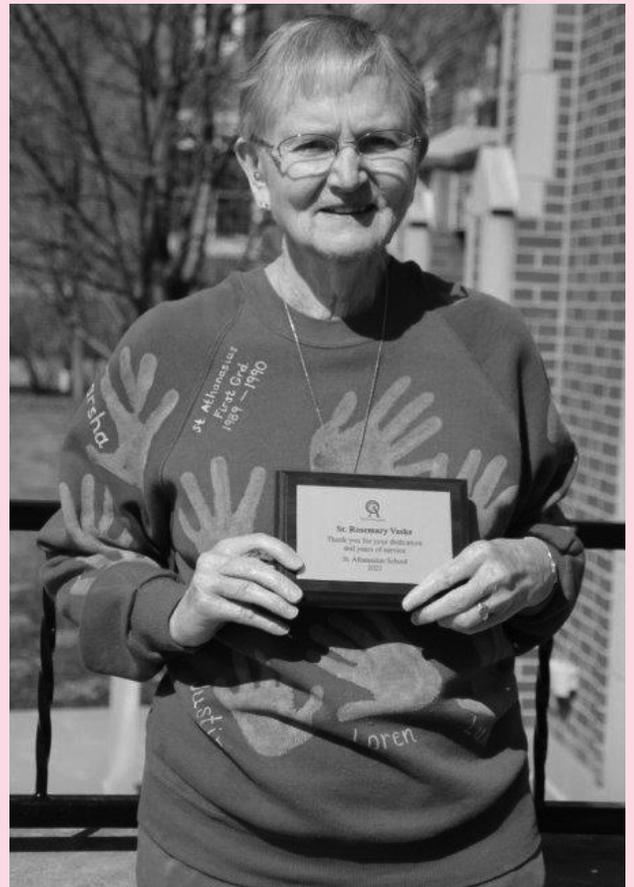
“I was beyond surprised to be given this award,” said Sister Pat. “I am so very grateful to be recognized in this way, but most of all, I am grateful to be able to minister at BCU.”

Sister Pat is currently Vice-President of Mission Effectiveness and Leadership and served as a member of the BCU Board of Trustees from 2017-2019. ■



Sister Pat Doody with BCU President Rachelle Karstens (left) and Todd Knealing. Contributed photo.

Sister Rosemary Vaske Inducted Into St. Athanasius School Hall of Fame



Sister Rosemary Vaske hold her plaque that St. Athanasius sent her marking her entry into the hall of fame at the school. Photo by Sister Phyllis Manternach, OSF.

Sister Rosemary Vaske was inducted into the St. Athanasius (Jesup, Iowa) Hall of Fame on February 11. Sister Rosemary was honored as a former teacher who influenced many young minds while teaching first and second grades in Jesup. Many of the current board members at the school were students of Sister Rosemary.

“It still is hard to believe that I was chosen for this honor. I think of this when I look at the plaque that was sent from the St. Athanasius School. We, the parents, the teachers and so many others had to work together to help those students learn and become the people they are today,” said Sister Rosemary. ■



“Opening the Eyes of Our Hearts”

Sisters work to assemble grab ‘n’ go meals for the Dubuque Rescue Mission and Catholic Worker House. Photo by Sister Phyllis Manternach, OSF.

This past Lent, the Sisters of St. Francis Charism Team helped to organize activities for Sisters and Mount St. Francis Center Staff around the theme of, “Open The Eyes of Our Hearts.”

The week of March 8, which was also Catholic Sisters Week, centered on opening hearts to the hungry. Sister volunteers assembled 100 grab ‘n’ go lunches for the Rescue Mission and Catholic Worker House, while staff collected 6 boxes of canned food items for the Dubuque Food Pantry.

During week two, staff and sisters were called to open their hearts to the thirsty and loose change was collected to support the Sister Water Project’s Walk for Water event and a Blue Out day was held inviting all to wear blue at Mount St. Francis Center. Over \$1,600 was raised from sisters and staff.

The final week focused on opening hearts to the homeless. Staff were invited to donate items from a needs list for Opening Doors and their shelters, collecting 6 boxes full of supplies.

While the sisters worked to assemble meals for the hungry during Catholic Sisters Week, the Charism Team also collected stories from people about how they had been “nourished” by sisters.

Lola (Dentlinger) Blaser wrote in about her teacher, **Sister Mary Lee Cox**.

“I am a former student of Sister Mary Lee. A couple years ago at a retreat we were asked to name four people that influenced our faith that we would have on our ‘Mount Rushmore.’ Sister Mary Lee was one of my people! Whenever I think of The Joy of the Gospel, she comes to mind. I remember as a 5th grade student the joy she had in her heart every day! Since graduating

from St. John School in Arcadia, I attended Kuemper High School and St. Ambrose University. I have taught in three Catholic schools and currently teach 6th-8th grade math and religion at St. Joseph School, DeWitt, Iowa. I know Sister Mary Lee is a big reason I have had this successful career! I also am married with four daughters and three son-in-laws and I try to live with joy every day!”

Gabriela Statt wrote in about **Sister Nancy Meyerhofer** has meant to her.

“Sister Nancy first came to Arica, Chile in the 1980s. This is where she met my mother. I saw Sister Nancy a few times throughout my childhood, and my mother would always tell me how special she was in her life. I saw her again when I was 18 and we were finally able to have a proper conversation, given the fact that I was now older and could speak English fluently. I expressed my desire to learn more about Liberation Theology, so we exchanged email addresses and started an almost daily correspondence. Over time we developed a bond so deep that she’s almost my second mother! With her unwavering compassion and love, Sister Nancy has been there for me through the loss of loved ones, college struggles, health issues, and a severe depression. Now at age 23 and about to get my degree in social work, I have become more and more fascinated in the teachings of St. Francis and discovered a desire to serve in a way I never knew was in me. Sister Nancy has been a beacon of light in both my mother’s life and mine, and she is the best friend I could’ve ever asked for. Talking to her sets my soul on fire, and makes me realize what faith is all about. ■

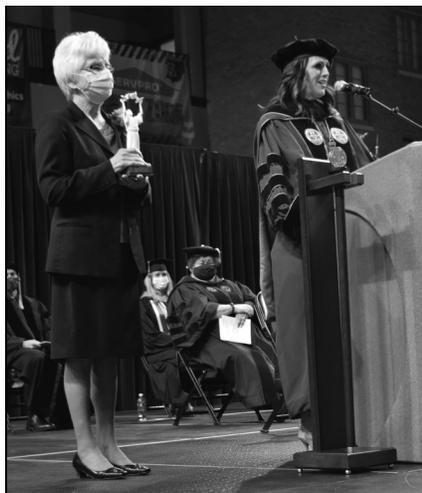
Sister Janet May Receives 2021 Spirit of St. Francis Award

Sister Janet May received the 2021 Spirit of Saint Francis Award from Briar Cliff University (BCU), Sioux City, Iowa, on May 8. Established in 2006, this award “honors those exemplifying the Franciscan spirit of service, caring and openness to all through contributions to society and by leading a values-centered life.”

“I was overwhelmed with feelings of humble gratitude and joy in receiving the Spirit of St. Francis award,” said Sister Janet. “During my 17 years in Campus Ministry I had a deep commitment to passing on the Franciscan values to students and employees.”

“Sister Janet played a key role in RCIA, Antioch, and Busy Persons Retreats as she encouraged students to grow in their faith,” read BCU President Rachelle Karstens at the ceremony. “She also helped students grow in their Catholic faith and embody our Franciscan values. Sister Janet also served as an advisor for the Catholic Daughters and S.O.U.R.C.E. She led Campus Ministry activities including annual trips to Honduras, North Omaha, Winnebago, and Macy Reservations and so much more. On campus, Sister Janet organized the Christmas Party for Persons with Disabilities, the annual Angel Christmas tree, and other outreach activities. She also led the campus through healing as we mourned the loss of two students throughout her service to the university.”

As a tribute to her years of service, the university established the Sister Janet May Endowed Scholarship to honor her legacy and the impact she has had on many lives at BCU. ■



Sister Janet May (left) with BCU President Rachelle Karstens. Contributed photo.

Franciscan Common Venture Celebrates 50 Years



Sisters Ruth Geraets, PBVM, Mary Horrell, Marie Cigrand, Lorie Reid, and Father Gerry on the Franciscan Common Venture team missioned to Kenedy, Texas in 1978. Contributed photo.

In the summer of 1971, the Dubuque Franciscans launched a new program inviting people to join them in giving service across the country. That program, Franciscan Common Venture, is celebrating 50 years in July.

The virtual celebration for Franciscan Common Venture titled, “Seeds of Service, Fruits of Justice” will be Saturday, July 17, on Zoom with 2 sessions: 9:00-11:30 a.m. and 1:00-3:30 p.m.

The event is free and registration is required. To register, contact **Sister Michelle Balek** at commonventure@osfdbq.org. ■

Philip Chard to Speak on Connecting with Nature

The Dubuque Franciscans’ Canticle of Creation Center is offering a series of virtual programs about spiritual and emotional wellness which concludes at 6:30 p.m., Monday, June 7, when presenter **Philip Chard** explores connecting with nature.

Philip Chard is a psychotherapist, writer, trainer and public speaker. His part-time private practice, called “Out of My Mind, LLC,” is based in Pewaukee, Wisconsin. He has a weekly award-winning newspaper column, called “Out of My Mind,” and has written three books. His passions include sailing the Great Lakes, wilderness backpacking, nature photography, writing, meteorology, astrophysics, eco-psychology and delving deeply into the human condition.

Access the program via Zoom at <https://tinyurl.com/34aprwrk>. (Or visit Zoom.us and enter in meeting ID 861 2111 7686 and passcode 528346. The event is free and all are welcome. For more information, contact **Lori Apel** at apel@osfdbq.org or (563) 583-9786. ■

Catholic Sisters Launch “Exploring Intersections”

The Dubuque Franciscan Sisters join Catholic Sisters from 24 congregations in four states to launch a yearlong, live-streamed conversation series on the leading social justice issues of our time.

Titled, “Exploring Intersections: Catholic Sisters on Racism, Migration and Climate,” each month the series focuses on a different social issue and explores how it intersects with racism, migration and climate in a thought-provoking and engaging conversation.

The conversations are streamed live via Zoom and also YouTube at 3:00 p.m. the second Wednesday of each month.

During the session, panelists exploring issues such as equality, care of creation, migration, racial justice, ending human trafficking, eliminating gun violence, economic justice, food security, restorative justice, affordable housing, educational justice, and equitable access to health care.

Three panelists from different walks of life, including Catholic Sisters, bring unique perspectives to each session.

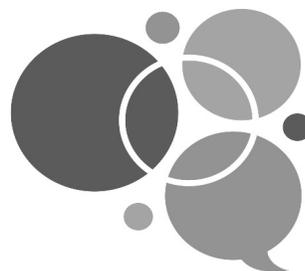
The live-streamed sessions will be interactive, with opportunities for questions and comments following the 45-minute panel conversation for those who register on Zoom.

Moderating the series is Charish Badzinski, a writer, public relations consultant, and founder of Rollerbag Goddess Global Communications whose passions include social justice, human rights and preservation of the planet.

“The campaign is a response to the 2015-2022 Resolution of Leadership Conference of Women Religious (LCWR) to heighten awareness for advocacy and action, create communion without controversy, and offer insight with intent to effect change,” said **Sister Kathy Knipper**, President of the Dubuque Franciscan Sisters.

LCWR Region X, Communicators for St. Louis Sisters (CSLS), and Sisters United News (SUN) are collaborating on this campaign.

For information on how to register to participate in “Exploring Intersections,” visit <http://www.exploringintersections.org>. ■



EXPLORING INTERSECTIONS

CATHOLIC SISTERS
ON RACISM, MIGRATION AND CLIMATE

Exploring Intersections Schedule

2021

March - Gender Equity (recording available at youtube.com/exploringintersections)

April - Care of Creation (recording available at youtube.com/exploringintersections)

May - Migration (recording available at youtube.com/exploringintersections)

June 9 - Racial Justice

July 14 - Ending Human Trafficking

August 11 - Eliminating Gun Violence

September 8 - Economic Justice

October 13 - Food Security

November 10 - Restorative Justice

December 8 - Affordable Housing

2022

January 12 - Education Justice

February 9 - Equitable Access to Healthcare

March 9 - Navigating the Road Ahead

Register at: <http://www.exploringintersections.org>

2020 Statement of Accountability

Dear Friends,

Since the Development Office was established in 1996, we have insisted that “gratitude” was the foundation of all we did to stay in touch with our families, friends, former students, colleagues, and benefactors.

We often hear of the gratitude you have for the ministry of the Dubuque Franciscans, today and over the past decades in your life.

We trust that you know how very grateful are the Dubuque Franciscans for your support of our lives and ministries. We promise to remember you in our prayers!

*Sister Cathy (Kate) Katoski, OSF
For the Sisters of St. Francis of Dubuque, IA*

DONOR DESIGNATION OF GIFT INCOME

For the needs of retired sisters	\$ 80,994.24
For ministry among poor people	\$ 2,420.00
For wherever our need is greatest	\$ 199,286.23
Birdies for Charity	\$ 13,133.98
Estate Gifts	\$ 437,299.38
Sister Water Project	\$ 314,424.22
Honduras Hurricane Relief*	\$ 16,675.59
	<u>\$1,064,133.64</u>

HOW YOUR GIFTS WERE DISTRIBUTED

By the Leadership Team of the Sisters of St. Francis of Dubuque

Ministry Fund	\$ 27,986.57
Operations	\$ 280,280.47
Birdies purchases	\$ 13,133.98
Sister Water Projects	\$ 330,701.71
Honduras Hurricane Relief*	\$ 16,675.59
Investments	\$ 395,355.32
	<u>\$1,064,133.64</u>

**This amount only includes donations that came from outside donors through the Development Office to our Honduras Hurricane Relief Fund in 2020. In total, including donations from individual sisters, more than \$42,555 was sent to Honduras in 2020.*

In Remembrance

Sister Marcelline Arndorfer April 17, 1918 - January 6, 2021



Alfrieda was born in St. Benedict, Iowa, to Charles and Anna (Bergman) Arndorfer. She was the youngest of nine children.

Her mother, reared in an orphanage in Germany, dearly loved sisters, so she named her daughter after Dubuque Franciscan Sister Alfrieda Schwers, the principal at St. Benedict School.

Alfrieda's father died when she was five years old and her mother died when Alfrieda was ten, but her older brothers and sisters were able to manage the farm and see to the education of the younger girls. After

ten years of education in Catholic schools, she spent two years in Hartley, Iowa, living with her oldest sister while she attended the public high school there.

When she came to Mount St. Francis, her siblings, Father Alfred and Sister DeSales, accompanied her. Alfrieda loved to tell the story of their arrival just as the sisters were leaving chapel after evening prayer. She said, "What a beautiful and welcome sight to see the lights flick on in the various windows of my new home as we rounded Mary's snow-covered circle. And to me it seemed a special welcome that no knock or bell was needed, for when Sister Justina White, Portress, saw us emerging from the car, she came to open the door for my entrance into Mount St. Francis." This was on

January 1, 1937. Alfrieda was received on August 12, 1937 and given the name Sister Mary Marcelline.

Marcelline was assigned to teach primary grades in the Iowa schools of Sacred Heart in Riverside, Sacred Heart and Holy Ghost in Dubuque, St. John in Bancroft; and All Saints in Portland, Oregon and St. John Brebeuf in Niles, Illinois. Sister especially treasured her nine years in "God's beautiful Pacific Northwest."

Sister retired to Mount St. Francis in 1993, to Holy Family Hall Infirmary in 2008, and then to Clare House in 2011.

Sister is survived by her nieces, nephews, and Franciscan sisters. ■

Sister Josephine Schmitz October 28, 1922 - February 17, 2021



The fifth of eight children,

Mary Josephine Schmitz was born on October 28, 1922, in Jefferson, South

Dakota. Her parents, Henri and Barbara (Wantz) Schmitz, had immigrated from Luxembourg.

After her family moved to Riverside, Iowa, Josephine attended grades one to eight at Sacred Heart School. She attended one year at Cathedral High School with the BVM sisters before the Depression brought financial difficulties that forced her to spend the remaining three years at Senior High School, known as the Castle on the Hill.

When she was quite young,

Josephine was attracted to the Franciscans and used to dress up with a dish towel for a veil and a rope belt with a rosary dangling from it that had to jingle when she walked.

On Friday, September 13, 1940, Sister Caritas and Josephine boarded the Illinois Central train for Dubuque. Josephine's only bout with homesickness occurred on that train ride, where the conductor, upon noticing her tears, offered her a pillow.

Josephine was received a year later with the name, Sister Mary Philip. After first profession in 1943, she began teaching at St. Joseph, Granville. She obtained a BA degree in education from Briar Cliff College and went on to get an MA in the reading program at Clarke College. She also taught in

Dyersville; St. Mary's, Waterloo; Stacyville; St. Michael, Sioux City; Sacred Heart and St. Mary's, Dubuque; LaMotte; Guttenburg; and in Illinois at Midlothian and Corpus Christi, Chicago. She enjoyed her later work as meal site coordinator at Alverno Apartments, and her many volunteer positions in St. Mary's Parish, Maria House, and Mercy Hospital all in Dubuque.

Josephine had a great love of animals. She also had a deep desire to find her roots. Beginning in 1978, she made five trips to Luxembourg to see the land of her parents' birth. She also made several pilgrimages to the shrines of the Blessed Virgin.

Sister is survived by her nieces, nephews, and Franciscan sisters. ■

In Remembrance

Sister Mary Margretta Trumm May 11, 1916 - March 21, 2021



Dolores Trumm was born in Dyersville, Iowa on May 11, 1916, to Francis and Margaret (Steger) Trumm, the 5th youngest

of 13 children. She attended grade school and high school at St. Francis Xavier in Dyersville where Sisters Dorothea Stoeber and Irmina Manternach were a strong influence on her later decision to enter religious life.

On August 12, 1935, Dolores was received into the Sisters of St. Francis with the name Sister Mary Margretta, and in 1937 she began a teaching career at Sacred Heart in Dubuque. She also taught in the grade schools of Monticello, Templeton, Garnavillo, and Worthington. She then became a high school teacher, teaching at St. Mary's Waterloo, Templeton, Bancroft, Holy Cross, Ossian, and Remsen. For 31 years she taught math and science, directed the alumni office, and supervised the media center at St. Mary's in

Remsen. For 17 summers she ministered to Native Americans in Arizona and Mississippi and African American children in inner-city Chicago.

In January, 1995, Sister Margretta Trumm was recognized as the Remsen, Iowa Citizen of the Year. An article in the Remsen Bell Enterprise stated, "She has affected hundreds of people, not only in her classroom, but through her philosophy of life." How true this was; Sister Margretta had an infectious positive outlook on life, no doubt received in part from two of her mother's favorite quotes: "Oh, it's not so bad. It could be worse;" and the words of St. Paul, "I can do all things in Him who strengthens me."

When Sister Margretta retired to Mount St. Francis in 1995, she volunteered as seamstress at Stonehill Care Center for several years. In 1999, she moved to Holy Family Hall. In 2011 she moved to the newly built Clare House.

Sister is survived by her sister-in-law, Jacquie Trumm, nieces, nephews, and her Franciscan sisters. ■

Rest in Peace

John Galles

Brother of Sister Michaela Galles and brother-in-law of Sister Janet Taphorn

Clara Hermiston

Sister of Sister Dolores Banowetz

Joan Smith

Sister of Sister Janet Taphorn

Norbert Banowetz

Brother of Sister Dolores Banowetz

Susan "Susie" Vaske

Sister-in-law of Sister Rosemary Vaske

William "Bill" Orthaus

Brother of Sister Kathleen Orthaus

Leo Loosbrock

Brother of Sister Davida Loosbrock

Leo Watts

Brother-in-law of Sister Millie Leuenberger

Gladys Elsbernd

Sister-in-law of Sister Ruth Elsbernd

Cyril Friedman

Brother of Sister Madonna Friedman

Dolores Hebig

Sister-in-law of Sister Bona Joan Hebig

Delores O'Brien

Sister of Sister Rita Goedken

Father Richard Gaul

Brother of Sister Kay Gaul

Herb "Cubby" Manternach

Brother of Sister Julie Manternach

Bernard "Bernie" Jungers

Brother of Sister Theresa Jungers

Sister Susan Ivis Honored by Presentation Lantern Center

Sister Susan Ivis was honored with the 2020 Outstanding Service Award from the Presentation Lantern Center in March. Since 2011, Sister Susan has assisted immigrants as both an English language and science tutor, as well as to prepare for the U.S. citizenship test.

"This year, we are proud to honor and congratulate Sister Susan Ivis, a volunteer of 10 years who has tutored students in English, Citizenship and, going above and beyond, has also tutored students extensively in science, as she has a master's degree in nursing," said Megan Ruiz, Executive Director of the Presentation Lantern Center. "Sister Susan has been an incredibly welcoming and devoted tutor for all these years, and we are so grateful for her service. We congratulate her for a job well done!"

The Outstanding Service Award was established in 2009 and is awarded annually. ■



Sister Susan Ivis with her award. Contributed photo.

The annual Mount St. Francis Employee Appreciation and Recognition dinner was held Wednesday, May 19, at Mount St. Francis Center. Special recognition was given to employees who completed 5, 10, 15, 20, 30, and 45 years of service.

“Time and time again, you go the extra mile to ensure our home remains a safe and welcoming place,” said **Sister Brenda Whetstone** at the event. “Your loyalty and support has been extraordinary. We appreciate you more than you know. We look forward to working another 40 or 45 years with you!” ■

45 Years



Carol Ries
Not pictured: Nancy Droeszler

30 Years



Kathy McDonnell

20 Years



Nicole Birkett and Cathy Steines
Not pictured: Irene Ehlers and Sheila Merz

15 Years



Bridget Schlichtmann, Diane Denlinger, Tammy Maas,
and Mary Jo Kaesbauer

10 Years



Mary Hingten, Stephanie Fuehrer, and Monica Schreiber

5 Years

Cheryl Anstoetter
Lexi Duve
Veronica Dzakpasu
Kim Grant
Diana Hattula
Linda Hinzmann

Sister Karla Kloft
Corinne Robey
Val Samson
Julie Tebbe
Nancy Wallace

Footprints



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Sister Water Project Well #300 Installed in Tanzania



The Dubuque Franciscans' Sister Water Project completed construction on its 300th well in Tanzania, Africa, on April 27, 2021. The well was installed in the Kwaterondo Village, which has a population of 800 people, and was constructed by Safe Water for Life and Dignity (SWLD), with whom the Sister Water Project partners. SWLD is a nonprofit started by six young men attending the Salvatorian Institute of Philosophy and Theology in Morogoro, Tanzania, with the aim of promoting the dignity of the poor people in the rural communities by providing them with safe water. ■

Calendar of Events

JULY 9-11

“Francis and Clare of Assisi: A Spirituality of Poverty and Joy” at Shalom Spirituality Center, 1001 Davis St., Dubuque. How can we live the contemplative life in the midst of busy lives? Finding a way to balance prayer and action is a challenge. Dr. Susan Pitchford will present how the Franciscan way of life can be balanced and integrated in anyone’s way of life. Call (563) 582-3592 to register.

AUGUST 22-27

“Divine Interruptions” at Shalom Spirituality Center, 1001 Davis St., Dubuque. There are times in our lives when we meet an energy that interrupts, disrupts and surprises us. This retreat, led by Sister Nancy Schreck, OSF, will use scripture and women mystics from a variety of traditions to explore to notice the “in breaking” of the Divine. Call (563) 582-3592 to register.