

the acorn

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Presentation Center Fargo, ND Sacred Heart Convent



L-R FRONT ROW: Jubilarians Ss. Jean Marie Sheppe, Petronilla Metzger, 70 years; back row S. Marcelline Sookov, 60 years; Ss. Anne Hablas, Claudia Nelson, Jane Walker, 65 years.

A CAUSE FOR JUBILATION

On June 12, 2011, the Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Fargo commemorated 395 years of vowed life with six sisters celebrating

jubilees of profession: Sisters Petronilla Metzger and Jean Marie Sheppe (June 13,

CONTINUES ON PAGE 2

LINDA SEIM RECEIVES NANO NAGLE AWARD



L-r: S. Mary Margaret Mooney, Linda Seim, Associate Mary Jo Lewis

Linda Seim, Park River, ND received the 2011 Nano Nagle award. This award is given annually to a person who exemplifies concern for the needy, will-

ingness to be of service, simplicity of life, integrity, and professional competency. These were characteristics of Nano Nagle, the foundress of the Presentation Sisters. Each year an awardee is selected from among persons nominated by Presentation Sisters and Associates.

Associate Mary Jo Lewis, MD, a former member of the medical staff in Park River nominated Linda for the award. In her letter of nomination, Dr. Lewis wrote, "Linda has cared for patients and given of herself tirelessly over the decades for the Park River community. She also cares for her nurses like they are family and has mentored doctors so that they could care for patients."

Linda is well known to people who receive healthcare at First Care Health

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MMMMUSINGS

WASHING FEET

John is the only evangelist who recounts the incident of the washing of the feet at the Last Supper. John wrote his version of the good news years after the death of Jesus. Maybe it took some time to figure out how to present this somewhat strange event with its many facets of meaning.

Foot washing was a common ceremony of hospitality in Israel. Most people in biblical times were barefoot or wore sandals. In walking along dusty roads and dirty streets, feet got dirty—a little dust here, a little camel dung there—so when people got home or when a guest showed up at the front door, feet were washed. Washing dirty feet wasn't a fun job so the lowest of the servants in the household was given this task. That's how it was done.

The foot washing in the Gospel of John, however, was not ordinary. First of all, it was not done on arrival at the house, the party had already started, everybody was already eating their supper. Somewhere between the entree and dessert, Jesus got up to wash feet. This was not comforting or predictable. This was not the way it was supposed to be done. Not only was the timing off but also Jesus' role was that of host of the dinner, leader of the cult. He wasn't supposed to be washing feet—and certainly not in the middle of a dinner.

John doesn't give us a context for Jesus' unusual behavior, but Luke—who does not relate the foot washing—sets the

scene for it. In his version of the Last supper he tells us, "Then they began to argue among themselves about who would be the greatest among them."

Here is Jesus doing some of the most important stuff of his coming—instituting Eucharist, establishing the priesthood, getting ready to die so we might have life—and his disciples are jockeying for the corner office. Enough already—Jesus washes feet, telling his disciples in words and in action—"You want to know who is first? You are asking the wrong question. The question is how ought we treat one another. I have given you an example so you may copy what I have done to you."

This particular gospel message is a reminder that to truly serve we must do what is needed. We must not only uphold the established order but also at times depart from our comfort zone and act in ways that upset the status quo.

—S. Mary Margaret Mooney
President, Fargo Presentation Sisters



S. Mary Margaret Mooney



TO OUR DONORS

A CAUSE FOR JUBILATION... CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

1941), Sisters Jane Walker, Claudia Nelson and Anne Hablas (August 15, 1946), and Sister Marcelline Sookov (August 16, 1951).

Both Sisters Petronilla and Jean Marie began their faith life in Cavalier County, ND: S. Petronilla was baptized at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, Mount Carmel and S. Jean Marie at St. Alphonsus, Langdon. S. Jane received the waters of baptism at St. Paul's in Hazelton, ND; S. Claudia at Holy Name Cathedral in Chicago, IL, and S. Anne at St. Anthony's in Fargo. S. Marcelline was baptized at St. John's in New Rockford, ND. S. Marcelline is a graduate of St. James Academy New Rockford. S. Claudia attended Sacred Heart Academy in Fargo and graduated from Scobey MT. High School. Ss. Petronilla, Jean Marie, Jane and Anne are graduates of Sacred Heart Academy, Fargo.

After attending various institutions of higher education, the jubilarians served in a variety of ministries in many places. Ss. Jean Marie and Marcelline spent many years of ministry in health care in Langdon, New Rockford, and Carrington and S. Marcelline also worked in Tennessee and Minnesota. Ss. Petronilla, Claudia, Jane, and Anne taught at Sacred Heart Academy/Shanley, Fargo; St. Alphonsus, Langdon; St. James, New Rockford and served in various pastoral ministries in the Fargo diocese. S. Claudia also taught at Gonzaga University and S. Anne worked in peace and justice capacities in Appalachia.

It was serendipitous that the jubilees of these sisters—who brought the Good News to many and the work of whose hands continues to touch many lives—was observed on Pentecost Sunday. Fr. Leo Stelten was celebrant of the Eucharistic Liturgy offered in thanksgiving for the gifts of the Holy Spirit and the gift of these sisters to the Church.

Traditionally, we have published the list of all our donors of the current fiscal year, July 1 through June 30, in our summer issue of The Acorn. This year we are experimenting with publishing this list in the fall issue of The Acorn which you will be receiving in late autumn. Our hope is to make sure the list of donors is as complete and up to date as possible.

Your generosity of heart is always deeply appreciated. We hold you in our prayers and you are remembered each month at one of our Eucharistic liturgies at Sacred Heart Convent.

—S. Francine Janousek, editor

REST IN PEACE

Mary Kennedy

Aunt of Sister Shawna Foley

Maggy Nelson Brace

Sister-in-law of Associate Tony Rheault

Associate Dorothy Haugen

Fred (Fritz) Sprunk

Brother of Sister Georgiana Sprunk

Ellard Chamberlain

Uncle of Sister Lois Byrne

Christine Neft

Grandmother of Sister Shawna Foley

Rose Mary Rathborne

Aunt of Sister Josephine Brennan

Margaret Anderson

Aunt of Sister Mary Margaret Mooney

Ed Beauclair

Uncle of Sister Mary Beauclair

the
acorn

Vol. 31 No. 2 • Summer 2011

Published by the Presentation Sisters of Sacred Heart Convent, 1101 32nd Avenue South, Fargo, North Dakota, 58103. Tel. 701-237-4857, Fax: 701-237-9822. The ACORN is published to share the spirit and charism of Nano Nagle, foundress, with families, friends and benefactors; to reflect the pride Presentation Sisters feel for their membership and the ministries in which they engage; and to promote the furtherance of their Gospel inspired mission. Circulation is 6,900.

Editor: S. Francine Janousek
Design: Raul Gomez
Proof Readers: Presentation Sisters

Printed By: TRF Times Printing
Thief River Falls, Minnesota
E-Mail: acorn@presentationssistersfargo.com
www.presentationssistersfargo.com

A NEW CHALLENGE FOR A SEASONED MINISTER!

S. Sharon Altendorf has completed six months in her new ministry as Vice-President of Mission Services for the Avera Marshall, MN, Regional Medical Center. Every bit of this was new and an adventure because she had never worked in hospital ministry nor had she worked with Mission Services. (It's true that S. Sharon does know the history and spirit of the Presentation and Benedictine Sisters so that was a plus.)

Prior to November 2009, Avera Marshall was a city owned hospital with no connection to any religious organization. In fact any religious reference in the hospital was taboo. The value of offering healing to any and all people, no matter who they were and whether they could pay or not, were so evident. When the hospital was looking for a larger system with which to partner, the Avera system with the values of hospitality, compassion, and financial stewardship was an excellent fit.

Avera is a health care system sponsored by the Benedictine and Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Sisters of South Dakota. They chose the name "Avera" because it means "to be well." The mis-



S. Sharon Altendorf

sion statement reads: "Avera is a health ministry rooted in the Gospel. Our mission is to make a positive impact in the lives and health of persons and communities by providing quality services guided by Christian values." (Can you imagine what S. Sharon's ministry might entail? Well truth be told, she is still figuring that out!)

BUILDING BRIDGES: THE REFUGEE EXPERIENCE



Ss. Rosaria Acton and Olivia Scully recently attended the Conference, *Building Bridges*, sponsored by Lutheran Social Services of North Dakota at the Fargo Holiday Inn. This annual Conference is held to provide information and support to communities as they work with new Americans. Answers to many questions about refugees and their experiences in a new country are provided.

Most of the attendants were involved with the refugees in some way as teachers, social workers, nurses, law enforcement officers, or volunteers. Four hundred participants were present for the two day conference.

The opening session was most enlightening as Roxanna Saberi spoke about her life in captivity in Iran as described in her book, *Between Two Worlds*.

A panel was presented by New Americans from around the world. The panelists were employed in various work situations. They were thankful for their freedoms, job opportunities, and peaceful

environment in their new country.

Sessions by Charles Pratt, Community Relations Officer for U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, were most helpful. Many questions were asked and answered in detail.

Greg Lemke, Director of Public Safety at Minnesota State University, Moorhead, presented helpful information on hate crimes experienced by New Americans and others. All questions were answered in detail.

Marc DeCelle, author of *How Fargo of You*, shared his experiences of moving into a "Prairie" culture. The session was delightfully relaxing and entertaining. DeCelle was available for book signing after the session.

We are most grateful for this opportunity to learn, share and be inspired by the experiences, struggles and hopes of the New Americans living and working in our state.

-Ss. Olivia Scully and Rosaria Acton

A CALL TO PONDER

For a time last summer I was floating in a swamp of spiritual deadness. Prayer, worship, scripture—beautiful gifts of the Holy Spirit—floated over my head instead of settling in my heart. And then as summer became fall, I began hearing about "The Spiritual Exercises", "The Ignatian Retreat" and the "19th Annotation" or "Extended Ignatian Retreat." I wasn't sure of what any of this meant but anything with the word *retreat* in the title always makes me want to know more so I packed up my swampy spiritual deadness and made my way to the information meeting.

That was the beginning of a journey with prayer and scripture unlike any I'd ever experienced before. It wasn't about study and "finding the answer." There were no answers, no right or wrong or black or white. With S. Andrea Arendt as my companion on the journey and the

Holy Spirit as our guide, I experienced the seasons of the church year in a whole new way.

I will forever be grateful to all who have gone before me on this journey and mindful of those who will come and join us on the path ahead. I encourage you to explore this opportunity the very next time it's offered.

Thanks be to God, who never leaves us in the swamps we fall into along the way, who says to us "Look, see the new thing I am doing," and shines the light on a path we never saw coming.

-Associate Sandy Larson

If you are interested in more information about the Ignatian retreat experience, please contact S. Andrea Arendt, 701-237-4857, ext 211, or email presprayerctr@cableone.net.

MEET OUR NEWEST ASSOCIATES

Geralyn Frandsen

My name is Geralyn Frandsen and I had the great honor of being received as an Associate with the Presentation Sisters on May 22, 2011. I have been married for 28 years to my wonderful husband, Gary, and we have two children, Claire, 25 and Joseph, 21.



Associate Geralyn Frandsen

I first became aware of the Presentation Sisters of Fargo in 1994 when I had the good fortune of meeting S. Mary Margaret Mooney. She was the director of the nursing program at Maryville University, St. Louis, MO, where I am a faculty member. It is from her that I learned about the Presentation Sisters and their foundress, Nano Nagle. In 1997 S. Mary Margaret gave me a copy of *Doing What Needs To Be Done*. This book introduced me to the origin of the Presentation Sisters and the great work Nano Nagle engaged in for the poor of Cork, Ireland. During the past two years I have made four visits to Fargo from my home in St. Louis where I solidified my commitment to become an associate. With the help of S. Francine Janousek and the development of the online formation program I was able to reflect on my spirituality throughout the months of formation. I would like to express my sincerest appreciation for the assistance Ss. Mary Margaret and Francine and Associate Don Smith provided me during my formation process.

Marlys Johnson

I have known members of the Presentation Sisters for many years and admire their faithfulness and dedication. I have worked in hospitals run by the Presentation Sisters and found there was a sense of peacefulness and respect there that I didn't find elsewhere. I wanted to know more about their philosophy and

their foundress, Nano Nagle. Although I don't think this will necessarily change the things I do in life, I know I will do them more in union with God.

I am a member of St Anne and Joachim Catholic Church. I live in South Fargo with my husband, Frank. Together we have four children plus one in heaven, nine grandchildren, and one great-grandchild. We are blessed.

Karen Mellum

Karen Mellum was initially drawn to the Sisters of Presentation by a desire to grow closer to God. She discovered God's same desire for her and all people through the Ignatian Retreat with S. Francine Janousek. She finds her spirit deeply connects with the Presentation characteristics, especially the prayerfulness and spirituality elements, as well as hospitality and professional competence. She loves that the sisters have eyes that look both inward and outward, who attend to the soul and at the same time, respond to the needs of the powerless and poor.

Karen is mother of eight year old twins, Annika and Liam, and wife of Lutheran Pastor Loren Mellum. She enjoys time with her family, running, gardening, writing, reading, praying, and travel. She loves those spontaneous moments at home when a favorite song gets turned up loud and everyone starts dancing, including the golden retriever.

Professionally, Karen is licensed psychologist who received her PhD from Ball State University, Muncie, IN, in Counseling Psychology in 2000. She works for Wells Fargo as a consultant in Employee Assistance Consulting. She provides consultation and referrals to employees and their family members on personal and work-related issues. She also consults with supervisors and managers on how best to handle employee problems and promote peak performance levels



Associate Karen Mellum

within work groups. Karen enjoys providing training and education about behavioral health and career issues.

Sarah Piersol

While I was born and raised in Fargo, ND, I have had the opportunity to experience several major cities throughout the east coast and mid-west. I have also had the pleasure of meeting people from around the world through tutoring and advocacy work. A performance artist since childhood, activities involving fighting for social justice provide a natural transition.

I became interested in Presentation Associates while working with Associates and Sisters regarding LGBT advocacy. I have a passion for working with young adults and their perception of religion and its establishments.



Associate Sarah Piersol

Lisa Richmond

Lisa has embraced Presentation spirituality because of its balance of honoring both the inner life and practical outer expressions of loving service. Her background includes several experiences working as a consultant and volunteer with Catholic laypeople who were committed to various social justice projects, and she is delighted to be able to formalize her appreciation for this spiritual tradition—along with gaining new inspiration and spiritual direction from the Sisters.

Lisa was raised in Fargo, moved away for the first part of her adulthood, and returned home in the summer of 2009.



Associate Lisa Richmond

She has worked as a director of development for organizations ranging from the Minnesota Humanities Commission and the Connecticut Humanities Council to the Center for Creative Photography in Tucson, AZ, and also worked as a fund development consultant for a private firm serving clients in Connecticut and New York City during 1999-2003. She was educated at Luther College in Decorah, IA, and at the State University of New York at Buffalo, where she earned a master's degree doing a field study of women leaders at an urban Assemblies of God Church. She currently works as special projects coordinator for Lutheran Social Services Housing, Inc.—a new program striving to meet the currently pressing need for affordable housing in rural North Dakota.

Karis Thompson and Matt Trefz

Matt Trefz moved to Fargo during the summer of 2009 to work as a pediatric cardiologist at Sanford Health. Karis Thompson moved to Fargo in August 2009 for a year-long role as a community organizer with Project F-M, a vision and venture to cultivate a 21st century faith community lead by young adults. She



Associates Karis Thompson and Matt Trefz

now works with the Office of Intercultural Affairs at Concordia College, Moorhead, MN.

We met through mutual friends in 2010, and were married on June 25, 2011. We both very much appreciate the hospitality and witness of the Presentation community and feel blessed to have found our way into formal Association with this community that continues to enrich and enliven our Christian identities and journeys. We're thankful to be a part of a local and international spiritual community expansive and inclusive enough for us to be authentically who we are and to sustain relationships with all the diverse people we know and love.

ASSOCIATE JEAN HANNIG MAKES PERPETUAL COMMITMENT

Ten years ago, I was accepted as an Associate of the Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Fargo. I had become part of a community of men and women who follow the example of Nano Nagle. In the years since then, I have grown spiritually, supported by the men and women who are Presentation Associates and supported by the women who are the Fargo Community of Presentation Sisters. Annually I have renewed my commitment for one year as a Presentation Associate.

About two years ago, I started to think about making a perpetual commitment as an Associate. I wondered why I was drawn to the idea of making a commitment for the rest of my life. I had made a commitment in marriage for a lifetime. Was I ready to make the same kind of commitment as a Presentation Associate? I prayed and spent time discerning this call. I began to realize that

Presentation Associates and Sisters are a family to me. Whenever I saw an Associate or Sister it was like seeing a family member and rejoicing in all that binds us together. I felt in my heart that living daily with the charism of Presentation spirituality was how I was living out my baptismal call. I realized that I could not ever see myself apart from Presentation Associates and Sisters. Then I knew that I was ready to make a perpetual commitment. I went through the process of prayer and discernment. I felt sure of my decision. The Presentation congregation, through its leader, S. Mary Margaret Mooney accepted me for perpetual commitment.

On June 11, 2011, I was ready to make my Perpetual Commitment! As I read the words, "I commit myself as an Associate of this Congregation all the days of my life," I felt a tremendous rush of the Holy Spirit within

me. That was my Pentecost this year. I saw all the faces of Associates and Sisters gathered and I felt a great love from everyone in the room. Now I know that I will always walk on a special journey with Presentation Sisters and Presentation Associates. I will live out my baptismal call in the Spirit of Nano Nagle—doing what needs to be done.



Associate Jean Hannig

ASSOCIATE DAY 2011: SEND DOWN THE FIRE ΠΑΡΟ: CHARISM, SPIRITUALITY AND SUSTAINABILITY

Having been an associate of the Presentation Sisters for 30 years, I look back at that time and see how the Presentation Charism has influenced my life. That was never more apparent as forty-eight associates gathered for the annual Associate Day June 11th in Fargo with many of the sisters.

With featured speaker, S. Anne O'Leary, PBVM, USA province of the International Union of Presentation Sisters, sharing her insight into the spirituality of sustainability and sustenance and what our Presentation response to that could be, we were given much to think about! Who said being Presentation would be easy?!

As I watched the interaction of the sisters with the associates and listened to their discussions, I was struck

at the depth and breadth of ministry that is being done around the world by this small group of people—men, women, associates, and sisters.

Because I live so far away (Montana), it is not always easy for me to attend these gatherings. I believe that I really miss a lot by not being present at these functions yet I also know that my life is enriched by my association with these people. They challenge me to go beyond myself and to step out of my comfort zone and be like Nano!

As I listened to S. Stella Olson and Associate Debra Boyer give their reflections, I heard the words: *pray, listen and respond* and realized that this is something I need to take to heart these next months as I discern

where my call to ministry will be. I also heard that being an associate is not so much "doing" as being! By "being" an associate, I am empowered to follow in Nano's footsteps and to be the presence of Christ to my own little world!

-Associate Julie French



S. Anne O'Leary

SISTER CORNELIA O'SULLIVAN SCHOLARSHIP

In 1984 a scholarship was established in memory of Sister Cornelia O'Sullivan. The scholarship is awarded annually to a junior girl at Shanley High School, Fargo, who has successfully completed chemistry and a foreign language—two of the subjects that S. Cornelia taught during her 50+ years at Shanley—and is recommended by her teachers. We have



administered the scholarship the past 27 years adding to the interest generated each year in order to make the award.

At this time we are inviting former students of the scholarship and of Sister Cornelia, if they so wish, to add to the corpus so that the scholarship can be sustained well into the future. Please contact S. Mary Margaret Mooney for further details.

Presentation Prayer Center 26th Annual Fundraiser Brunch

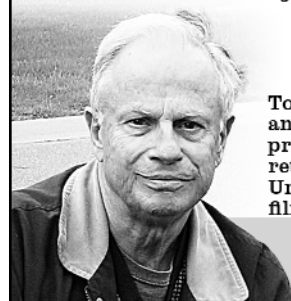
GOD IN THE MOVIES

Speaker is Dr. Tony McRae

Tony McRae will give us a window into how to engage the movies and to find on the other side a deeper understanding of God's presence in the movies and in our lives. Dr. McRae, a remarkable, retired professor at Concordia College and Minnesota State University, Moorhead, has parlayed his interest and expertise in film into an equally remarkable avocation.

Thursday, October 20, 2011, 11:00 am to 1:00 pm

at the Holiday Inn Fargo - Tickets: \$30.00 by calling 701-237-4857 or emailing presprayerctr@cableone.net.



16TH ANNUAL Presentation Benefit Tea A Tradition Continues...

Sunday, December 4 at 2 p.m.
Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church
210 5th Avenue West, West Fargo ND

Seating is limited. For reservations, contact Kathleen Creighton at 701-282-4458 or krcreighton@msn.com. Tickets on sale now



TRAVELS TO DUBUQUE, IOWA

This spring it seemed that the road often led to Dubuque for various events. At each visit, our Presentation Sisters at Mount Loretto provided gracious hospitality for us.

On a snowy, slushy April day in Fargo, a group of sisters and associates journeyed to the sunny city of Dubuque to attend the Ninth Bi-annual Midwest Gathering of Associates, Sisters, and Brothers. The featured speaker was Edwina Gateley. The topic was "In God's Womb." Participants were invited to reflect on God's love and compassion throughout all stages of their lives.

While there, they also viewed *The Women & Spirit: Catholic Sisters in America* exhibit on display at the National Mississippi River Museum & Aquarium in Dubuque. A description from the web site reads, "It is a traveling exhibit sponsored by the Leadership Conference of

Women Religious (LCWR) in association with Cincinnati Museum Center. It reveals the mystery behind a small group of innovative American women who helped shape the nation's social and cultural landscape."

"Meet women who corresponded with President Thomas Jefferson, talked down bandits and roughnecks, lugged pianos into the wilderness, and provided the nation's first health insurance to Midwestern loggers. Discover sisters' courage during the Civil War, the Gold Rush, the San Francisco Earthquake, the Influenza Epidemic, the Civil Rights Movement, and Hurricane Katrina."

In mid-May six other Fargo Presentation Sisters journeyed to view it and were likewise impressed and inspired. Should you have the opportunity, do take advantage of viewing this excellent exhibit in your area!



Attending the Edwina Gately Workshop L-R FRONT ROW: S. Maris Stella Korb, Associate Diane Beaton, Ss. Lorraine Schmalz and Francine Janousek. **BACK ROW:** Associate Don and JoEllen Smith.....

AN ASSISTANCE STORY FROM PRESENTATION PARTNERS IN HOUSING

In the past couple of years, Presentation Partners in Housing (PPiH) has seen a steady increase in the number of requests from single people. These are, for the most part, people who have been employed all their working lives but now find themselves without employment. They have exhausted unemployment benefits and are now willing to take whatever they can to get by. Out of this group, PPiH can assist those who are further restricted due to medical conditions. Many have worked at demanding, physical work without the benefit of medical insurance; sometimes because it wasn't available, other times because they needed the extra money to pay rent, car insurance, and other expenses. These folks are now of a certain age where what once was just an ache or pain has now become debilitating. Some are eligible to apply for Social Security Disability, but this can often be a long, drawn out process. Some will just continue to work regardless of what it is doing to their bodies. Some come to us.

one and a half months with no way to pay the upcoming month. She was single (divorced) and her children grown. As we talked I found out that in 2009 she was working full time, responsible for a large area with her position, paying her bills, living her life. What happened?! Twenty years earlier she had been in a car accident that had crushed both her legs. After many surgeries, reconstructions, and intense rehab she was able to return to work although at a different job. She worked her way up in her field and was finding life pretty good. Her legs would tire but she learned ways to relieve the stress on them. In 2008 she had a set back with one leg that required surgery. She had the surgery but the leg wasn't healing like it should. She used all her vacation and sick time to rehab believing she would return to work again. She finally did but couldn't maintain the intense level she did before. Her leg never felt right and she fatigued quickly. She had to have surgery on it again in early 2010 and has not been able to return to work. Pain has been a defining issue. She has used all her savings and retirement funds to live on, finally exhausting them in February of this year. She applied for Social Security Disability but



due to some paperwork errors it was held up if it will get approved at all. She does have another surgery scheduled this summer which is supposed to "fix" the previous problems.

We, along with two other programs, were able to help her get her rent caught up. I then referred her to another program which is able to pay her rent for a time until she has some definite results either through social security or her ability to return to work. The blessing in all of this is that her employer continued to

provide her health insurance. Just think where she would be without it!

This is just one story and this is how Presentation Partners in Housing can help.

-Sharon Kleeman, PPiH Director

If you would like more information about Presentation Partners in Housing to assist in some way, please contact Sharon Kleeman at 701.235.6861 or e-mail skk1978@6861.

S. SHARON ALTENDORF SERVES ON GLOBAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE

S. Sharon Altendorf is one of six members of the Global Concerns Committee (GCC) of the Leadership Conference of Women Religious (LCWR). She was appointed to a three year term in 2010. The mission of GCC is to support the efforts of LCWR to work for a just world order with a special commitment to women and children.

Responsibilities include:

- Initiate an LCWR Assembly resolution related to justice and monitoring the implementation
- Develop *Resolutions to Action*, a periodic two-page resource on a current justice issue, distributed electronically by LCWR. (These provide theological reflection, social analysis and suggested actions.)
- Provide LCWR members resources related to a just world order.
- When appropriate, plan pre-assembly events to assist members in becoming better informed about an issue specific to the region where the assembly is held.
- Assist the local region in planning a public witness during the assembly.
- Make recommendations to the LCWR Board as needed.



LCWR GLOBAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE L TO R: S. Front: Sharon Altendorf, PBVM; S. Janet Lehman, SCC; S. Marie Lucey, OSF; S. Judith Justinger, SSJ
BACK: S. Dorothy Pagosa, SSJ-TOSF; S. Kathleen Bryant, RSC; Fr. Seamus Finn, OMI; S. Miriam Mitchell, SHSP.

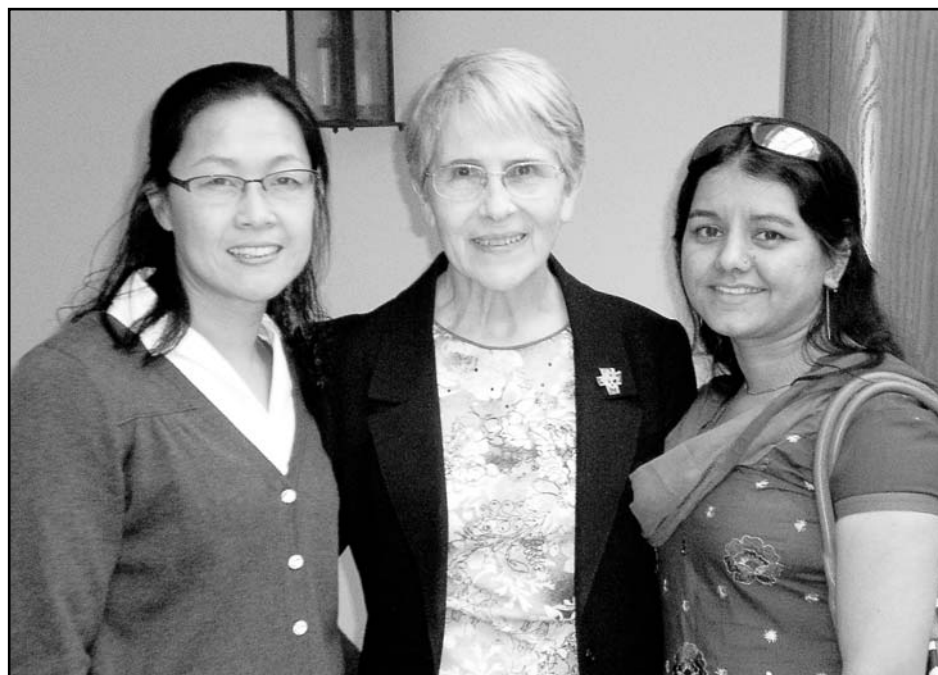
Some special areas of concern include globalized systems of poverty, violence/war, human trafficking, unjust immigration policies and practices, ecological integrity, reform of health care, racism and intolerance, and the abuse of women and children.

WOMEN OF COLOR MERIT SCHOLARSHIPS

Why “women” and only “of color?” Because women are generally more disadvantaged than are men in various aspects of our society, and women “of color” are yet further discriminated against due to the shade of their skin, Presentation Sisters have been awarding scholarships since 1991 to college students who qualify according to these criteria.

This year Helen Zeng-Barnett, originally from China, and Jayanti Lamitray, from the country of Bhutan, were chosen as scholarship recipients. Both are majoring in nursing. Helen will be in her last year of attending North Dakota State University, Fargo, and Jayanti will be beginning her second year at Minnesota State Community and Technical College, Moorhead.

These women, chosen from among 19 applicants, were invited to the Convent for a Sunday evening congratulatory meal which took place on May 15.



WOMEN OF COLOR SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS L-R: Helen Zeng-Barnett, S. Maris Stella Korb, and Jayanti Lamitray

PRESENTATION MINISTRIES SUPPORTED THROUGH PLANNED GIVING

As the Director of Development for the Sisters it is one of my responsibilities to keep up to date on all the different facets of fund raising in the industry. I am challenged to stay on top of all the legislation nationally and locally which provides



S. Stella Olson

opportunities for families to share their life estates for the benefit of their favorite charity and at the same time make sure that their children are not forgotten. It has been a real pleasure to get to know the people who have had a relationship with the sisters for years and continue to believe in the mission and ministry of the Presentation Sisters.

One of our donors contacted us recently and asked if we had ever thought of charitable gift annuities. The Presentation Foundation is a 501 (c) 3 organization and Charitable Gift Annuities is just one way donors can benefit and assist us in funding their favorite ministries. Planned gifts include wills, retirement plans, life insurance and other complex forms of planned giving which requires consultation from your lawyer, CPA or financial advisor. One of the most common ways to honor an individual who has died is through a memorial to the Presentation Foundation. Many of our donors are sending checks each month generated at their local bank. If you are interested in any of these options please feel free to contact me. We are grateful to all of our faithful benefactors and you are remembered in our prayers.

-S. Stella Olson, Development Director
 For further information, please contact S. Stella Olson, 701.237.4857, Ext 227 or e-mail foundation@presentationsistersfargo.com

presentation & prayer center camp for women
 Tales of Wonder
 nurturing, healing, and empowering through story and music.

July 29-31, August 19-21,
 NEW this year, Sept 23-25,
 for women in their 20's, 30's or 40's.

Scholarships available. Registration is limited to 8 participants each weekend. Contact Sr Andrea at 701-237-2857, ext 211 or presprayerctr@cableone.net



Associates Sandy Larson and Jol-Ilen Smith and Sue Garaas, and S. Andrea Arendt

RESURRECTED LIFE: AN EASTER STORY

Spirituality of the Second Half of Life: Crossing the Sacred Threshold to Deeper Love

As I read the announcement as titled above, and the bio of the speaker, Paula D'Arcy, I thought, "She has something important to say that I need to hear." Before closing the email message, on impulse I registered for *An Evening with Paula D'Arcy* at St. Thomas University, St. Paul, MN.

It was weeks before I realized why *An Evening with Paula D'Arcy* was my Easter moment. I was speechless throughout the entire experience and for days afterward. Eventually, I understood that I had witnessed a woman truly living a resurrected life. The simultaneous presence of both her life-leveling wound and her radiant resilient spirit, were absolutely palpable for the audience gathered in the small and intimate auditorium that April evening.

In 1975, at the age of 26 and three months pregnant, Paula was the only survivor of a car accident caused by a drunk driver, which killed her young husband and two year old daughter. The life she had planned ended there. The life she was given rose from those ashes. Through all of it, God never left her. Standing at the intersection between a life of bitterness and isolation, and a life of deep and resilient love, she took the right turn.

Paula's painfully strenuous journey eventually delivered the insights of a deeper love: finding God's abiding presence in everyday life, learning to graciously hold loved ones as God-given gifts rather than owned possessions, and appreciating one's divine purpose: to carry love into the lives of those we meet on our path. Our lives have deep spiri-



Associate Catherine Miyamoto

tual purpose if we are paying attention. Our lives in all their gory detail are sacred. "God comes to us," she says, "disguised as our life."

Paula D'Arcy is a writer, playwright, retreat leader and conference/seminar speaker. Resources which may be of interest include the following:

Song for Sarah: A Mother's Journey Through Grief and Beyond (1979)

Where the Wind Begins (1984)

Gift of the Red Bird: The Story of a Divine Encounter (1996) CD (2006)

When Your Friend is Grieving: Building a Bridge of Love (2000)

A New Set of Eyes: Encountering the Hidden God (2002)

Seeking With All My Heart: Encountering God's Presence Today (2003)

Labyrinths: Walking Toward the



Paula D'Arcy

Center Gernot Candolini; *Forward* by Paula D'Arcy (2003)

Spirituality for the Two Halves of Life (CD) Richard Rohr and Paula D'Arcy (2003-04)

Sacred Threshold: Crossing the Inner Barrier to a Deeper Love (2004)

When People Grieve – Expanded, Revised, and Updated: The Power of Love in the Midst of Pain (2005)

Daybreaks: Daily Reflections for Advent and Christmas (2007)

Helping Children Grieve (DVD) and Khris Ford and Paula D'Arcy (2009)

Waking up to This Day: Seeing the Beauty Right Before Us (2009)

Daybreaks: Daily Reflections for Lent and Easter (Themes: Love, Fear and Pain) (2009)

-Associate Catherine Miyamoto

LINDA SEIM RECEIVES NANO NAGLE AWARD CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Center and its predecessor, St. Ansgar's Hospital. For years she was not only the pillar of nursing services but also the manager of ancillary services at the hospital. In addition, she more than once filled the administrator role as an interim.

In accepting the award, Linda turned the tables and spoke of the sisters who have taught her how to

live the Nano Nagle characteristics. *Reliance on Divine Providence* was learned from S. Agatha Lucey whose favorite line in a time of crisis was, "the Lord will provide!" S. Marcelline Sookov taught Linda how to be a *servant leader*. It was she who "persuaded me to become Director of Nursing Service and had the faith that I could actually do it."

S. Mary Margaret Mooney taught Linda about "support for education and even made a pharmacology class interesting!" She thanked the Presentation Sisters for giving her the award and for "the opportunity to have a fulfilling and rewarding career in a caring and supporting environment and for setting the example that keeps me going through the good times and the bad. What a wonderful way to top off a long career."



UN PERMANENT FORUM OF INDIGENOUS ISSUES

May 16-27, 2011

Led by two members of Indigenous tribes (one a member of Canadian Mohawk tribe, the other from Saami tribe of Northern Europe and Russia) in the UN's Great Assembly Hall, the 10th session of the Permanent Forum opened with a prayer and a hymn sung in the native language of the singer's tribe. Mr. Ban Ki Moon, Secretary General of the UN, welcomed over 1,000 state indigenous members, delegates, and visitors from all over the world to the UN. In his inspiring speech, he highlighted the struggles and difficulties that the Forum had encountered over the past ten years but whose perseverance and resilience was crowned with the passage of "Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples" that has received universal approval. Mr. Ban Ki Moon stated, "The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples finally has the consensus it deserves. Now we need to make the Declaration's Principles a reality...to those who do not grasp the Declaration's importance, I say, *Protecting and promoting the rights of indigenous peoples benefits us all.*"

Mr. Ban then challenged the Forum to continue the good work that has been started by many different indigenous groups from many parts of the world. "Your success can build momentum toward the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples planned for 2014. You can identify ways to bring to life the principles enshrined in the Declaration. Raise your voices at this Forum and beyond. I will urge the world to listen."

-S. Anne Frawley, Short-term IPA NGO Representative