

SISTERS OF THE MOST PRECIOUS BLOOD PARTNERS IN MISSION NEWSLETTER



Summer 2014

Important Date

Sun., Sept. 7, 2014
Partners in Mission
Assembly Day

GETTING TO KNOW YOU



Marilyn Woebeking was born in St. Louis, Missouri. She is the older of two children. She has a sister who is three years younger than herself.

During high school, Marilyn worked as a salesgirl in a bakery. After graduating high school, she worked as a secretary for Southwestern Bell Telco, which we now know as AT&T. After thirty five years at Southwestern Bell, Marilyn retired.

Marilyn is single and has four of the greatest nephews and nieces. She also has eleven wonderful great nephews and nieces. Marilyn says they are so fun to be around.

Marilyn became a Partner In Mission four years ago. She was influenced by Sr. Luella Dames and made the decision to join. One of her joys of being a Partner in Mission is to be with so many people who care so much about others.

Thirty years ago, Marilyn joined some of her parish family on a trip to Israel. It was an exciting trip for her. It was a week full of many things, not only spiritually but civilly as well.

Marilyn belongs to the small faith community, *Outside the Gates*. She tries to live reconciliation through constant prayer.

We thank you, Marilyn, for joining us!
by Lori Larkin

Explorers No Longer

by Sr. Carol Orf

After the initial period of Partners in Mission exploration, we welcome new people to the journey of formation. The formation period begins in September and ends in June the following year. During this time those in formation meet monthly with a facilitator in St. Louis or in O'Fallon. They will study and reflect on the history, prayer, charism and ministry of the Sisters of the Most Precious Blood to determine their place in this journey.

Sr. Marie Orf will lead the sessions in O'Fallon as Arline Nallon, Connie McKoskey and Lindsey Reckel, begin their formative experience.



In St. Louis Sr. Carol Orf and Sr. Ginny Jaskiewicz facilitate the gatherings for Nancy Haselhorst and Robin Dannenmueller..



The enthusiasm of these women as they seek a deeper relationship with God and with the sisters is inspirational. We are privileged to walk with them!

Celebrating New Life!

by Sr. Carol Orf

The Partners in Mission Assembly is scheduled for Sunday, September 7, 2014, in O'Fallon's Alpine Heights. For those making their first commitment, the day begins at 9:00 am with a short practice in chapel to prepare them for the ceremony when they will proclaim their commitment and receive the partners' pin.

After a year of formation, we are happy to welcome these new members: St. Louis candidates: Julie Schlichting, Pat Belmont, Mary Mann, Sr. Carolyn Pozarich, sister prayer partner, and Jim Baur.



Jean Welker, Amanda Schumer and Connie Visnack, our southern neighbors, Perryville.



O'Fallon candidates:

Sr. LaVerne Wester, sister prayer partner, Mary Donnelly, Denis Wilhelm, Bernie Donnelly, Sr. Robert Ann Harper, sister prayer partner, and Helen Brown.

Last year for the first time, the candidates made their commitment in the context of Eucharist. All partners favored this format. Pat, Mary, Jim, Julie, Bernie, Mary, Helen, Denis, Jean, Amanda, and Connie will participate in the Eucharist as various ministers.

After Mass the new Partners in Mission will join the Sisters of the Most Precious Blood and other partners for lunch in Alpine Heights. In the afternoon they will participate in the activities and business of Partners in Mission.

As you live out God's mission of reconciliation with the sisters, we thank you for choosing to be a reconciling presence.



Partners in Mission Assembly Day 2014

by Dawn Boschert!

Hear Ye! Hear Ye!

Another year has flown by and our Partners in Mission Assembly Day will be here before we know it. The date is **September 7, 2014, in O'Fallon, Alpine Heights.** We are looking forward to welcoming our new members as they make their first commitment during the Liturgy. Seasoned members will renew their commitments during Mass also.



Our presenter is **Sr. Rosemary Russell** who will speak to us about the English Tutoring Project. In the afternoon, the Partners in Mission Ad Hoc Planning Committee will fill us in on their progress. Don't miss this new and exciting year for Partners in Mission!

The Peace that Surpasses all Understanding

by Ellen Jones

There are always opportunities within Partners in Mission for spiritual challenge, growth, and guidance. One of these is the annual Silent Guided Retreat that Sr. Carol Orf and Sr. Ginny Jaskiewicz facilitate each spring at the CPPS lake house known as Meadowlark.

This year May 2-4, 2014, three partners met in Warrenton to take advantage of this great occasion for personal development. Sandy Dennis, Maureen McGrath and Ellen Jones were treated to private rooms, at a beautiful venue, with individual scriptural guidance. The spring weather was perfect; the water, breeze and early blooms made for a very peaceful environment for reading Bible passages, listening to music, journaling, meditating and praying. Each of the participants shared that they found the retreat very beneficial, and intend to attend again. Whether, you have issues that you need time to work on, you feel your faith or prayer life is underdeveloped, or your day to day life just doesn't afford you much quiet time with God, taking a few days to focus on you and your relationship with the Lord can be a wonderful solution. Watch the newsletter and updates for future events. You'll be glad you did!

FUN! FUN! FUN!

What: Partners in Mission BBQ

When: Saturday, August 9, 2014

Where: St. Joseph's, Cottleville Cafeteria

Time: 11:00 - 2:30 pm

Special Treat:

St. Joe's Men Club - grilling for us again!



Forging the Future

by Maureen McGrath

Moving into our future with the many possibilities afforded us is both daunting and exhilarating. We are finding ourselves amidst a myriad of ideas and feelings about those ideas. Our Ad Hoc Planning group has worked faithfully to honor the Sisters of the Most Precious Blood's mission. The accomplishments accumulated by the sisters over time are too many to mention. The Partners feel privileged to be a part of the activities in the present as well as those not even imagined but sure to come in the future. Keeping this in mind is what has come to be the accomplishments of the planning committee.

We have revisited the many aspects of the Partners' Relationship. We have adapted the process to meet what we imagine will be the needs of the group in the future. We have allowed for the administration and implementation of the organization's needs so as to continue beyond the time of the Sisters' completion. Of course all possibilities are yet to be revealed and we prayerfully open ourselves to that. We stand in awe of the process in which we have been so fortunate to participate. We feel we have made a small contribution to the long legacy that is the Sisters of the Most Precious Blood. With God's grace and our willingness to accept His help we will all forge ahead into the future. The legacy will surely live on in all of our intentions to continue the mission.



"The Gurtweilers" aka "The Gurties"

by Sr. Ginny Jaskiewicz

What an unusual name to have chosen for a Small Faith Community I thought when I heard this is what Peggy and Kurt Hoefel, Teresa Krausel, Susan Buerkle, and Sr. Barbara Schlatter had chosen. Why I wondered? This was my opportunity to find out. When I asked Peggy, she stated that it is because Gurtweil was a jumping off point for our early sisters, a time of new beginnings and new adventures. Leaving their homeland, called for bravery, vulnerability, reaching out and leaving the comfortable and familiar. It was a time to be plunged into something new. Peggy further explained the analogy by stating that this is what happened in a much more limited way by becoming a Partner in Mission. Courage, vulnerability, leaving the familiar are the same qualities needed today to become a Partner in Mission, to trust enough to share our deeper self and to open ourselves to carrying out Jesus mission of reconciliation with heightened awareness.

Therefore, during this inaugural year together their goal was to get to know each other in a deeper way. They wanted to know the special gift each person is and the talents each has to offer. Each month they opened their gathering with a prayer and shared how each saw God working in his or her life. They then focused on a reading or topic of discussion. Each person took a turn selecting the topic from the booklets provided or own resources. Using the article as a jumping off point they shared their "reconciliation experiences" over the past month ...what the situation was and if they felt successful or challenged by the event. A closing prayer was prayed and they dispersed feeling more connected and looking forward to next month's gathering of the "Gurties."

