

# Partners on the Journey



Sisters of the Most Precious Blood Partners in Mission Newsletter

SUMMER 2020

*Reconciliation—Deepening our Relationships with God, each other, and our suffering World.*

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Featured Board Member: 2  
Kris Jackson

Meet Partner in Mission: 2  
Nancy Hebert

Getting to Know: 3  
Sr. Marie Loeffler

SFC in the Spotlight: 3  
Gurtweilers

"Keep in Touch!" 4  
by Mary Jane Matejka

Pathways Candidates 4  
by Audrey Jungermann

As you may have read these past few weeks, nominations are being accepted for two new Governing Board members to replace two who will rotate off at the end of the Summer.

It has been my privilege to work with the six Partner members who currently serve on the Board with two Sister Advisors. All together, they are an awesome team! I look forward to getting to know the two new Partners who will come on board next year. Please give serious consideration to whether your talents and gifts might have a place on the Board.

Board members meet in O'Fallon in February, August, and October, and attend two Saturday retreats at Meadowlark—one to recharge our spiritual batteries and one to

plan the Partners in Mission direction for the year.

Members serve three-year terms, with the option for a second, subsequent term. Each Board member also heads one of five committees—Communication, Board Formation, Recruitment, Development, and Spirituality.

We are blessed to have several Partners already step forward as candidates this year. However, if you have been considering Board service, there is still time; nominations will be accepted until July 31.

Please keep our candidates and those considering Board service in your prayers. This should be an exciting election year!

-Audrey Jungermann

## Pathways to PIM

If you know someone who would like to learn more about Partners in Mission, please have them contact me or a member of the Board. We will be happy to explain our mission and answer questions.

A new Pathways class is forming now for the Fall.

Thank you!

Audrey Jungermann  
636-542-9479

## 2020 Jubilarians

We congratulate the Sisters of the Most Precious Blood celebrating Jubilees this year.

### 75th

Sr. Mary Joan Dyer  
Sr. Luanna Brucks

### 70th

Sr. Alice Falk

### 60th

Sr. Margaret Bollner  
Sr. Marjorie Cordes  
Sr. Charlene Grieshaber  
Sr. Joan Klaas  
Sr. Barbara Payne  
Sr. Joanne Reuter  
Sr. Joyce Schramm  
Sr. Michaleen Vomund  
Sr. Paulette Weindel

### 50th

Sr. María Jesús Montaño Cortadellas  
Celebrated her 50th Jubilee on  
February 2, 2020

We give thanks for these extraordinary women who are living examples of God's love. May they each be blessed abundantly!

You are truly a gift to us, Sisters.  
Congratulations!



## Featured Board Member: *Kris Jackson*



*Kris Jackson*

In my life, I have been a wife, mother, social worker, teacher, musician, landlord, daughter, sister, and friend. In July of 2019, I retired from the position of part-time Executive Director of the Southwest Garden Neighborhood Association. At present, I help my husband Al in his accounting and tax business and assist him with the five apartment buildings we own.

Regarding my faith walk, I was born, baptized, and confirmed a Lutheran, but converted to Catholicism in 1992. In those early days, God sent some insightful mentors to help strengthen my faith walk. In 2014 I met Sr. Carol Orf who introduced me to Partners in Mission. Thank you, Sr. Carol! Being a Partner has been a joy! I became a Partner in 2016 and am a member of *Gurtweilers* Small Faith Community. I serve as leader of *Gurtweilers*, recording

secretary on the Governing Board, and chair of the recruitment committee. (If you know someone who might enjoy being a Partner, please forward their contact information to Audrey Jungermann.)

My husband Al and I have been married for over 40 years. We have two children, Ida and Allen, Jr. Ida is a licensed acupuncturist and is married to a wonderful man, Brooks. We are proud to call him our son. Our son Allen lives nearby in a group home and, thankfully, is recovering well after a long illness.

I enjoy spending my free time quilting, playing the piano, writing (I am currently working on a graphic novel), and playing board games with our family and friends. When time permits, Al and I like to "escape" to our lake property in rural Missouri.

-Kris Jackson

## Meet Partner in Mission: *Nancy Hebert*



*Nancy Hebert*

I was born on a farm in Northern Minnesota. I later became an LPN, retiring after 30 years in Pediatrics and OB/GYN. I loved nursing.

In 1972 I married my husband Gary, who was stationed in the Navy. Five days before our scheduled wedding, we were in a serious car accident and had to have surgeries. We were finally married in the hospital chapel—in robes and bandages! We were blessed with three children and seven grandchildren. Our oldest son Terry passed away but left us with a beautiful granddaughter, Cayla. Our son Tim and wife Gretchen live in Fort Collins, CO with sons John and Steven. Our daughter Tami and husband Josh live in Cape Girardeau, MO with children Caleb, Luke, Mark, and Lucy. I enjoy spending time with all my grandchildren, and especially enjoy helping with

Lucy, who has autism. After 43 years of marriage, Gary passed away in 2016.

In 2018 Mary Martin invited me to consider becoming a Partner in Mission. I was excited to connect with the Sisters. I am a member of *Stepping Stones* Small Faith Community. This group has been very special to me. Our mentors, Sr. Mary Catherine Feldewert, Sr. Rosemary Russell, and Sr. Alice Falk, share Jesus's love and how it has worked in their lives. We take turns leading monthly gatherings and help with Bingo at Abbey Senior Health each month.

I am learning to turn challenges into contributions. I volunteer at Volunteers in Medicine and St. Barnabas Parish and am attending Lay Formation classes through the Archdiocese of St. Louis.

-Nancy Hebert

## Getting to Know: *Sr. Marie Loeffler*



*Sr. Marie Loeffler (standing) with Sr. Lorraine Brueggemann*

I was born on March 18, 1923, the seventh of ten children born to Josephine and Joseph Loeffler. I was baptized March 25, the Feast of the Annunciation, and given the name Marie.

In my childhood home were two pictures. One of the Immaculate Heart of Mary and another of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. No matter where I went I sensed these pictures were looking at me; it was as if they followed me. This was my childhood realization of Psalm 139: 7, "Where can I go from Your

Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence?" As I grew older this became more meaningful. Mary and Jesus are there when I pray the Divine Office and are taking care of me.

My Father's Aunt, Sister Frowina Schneider, influenced my decision to become a Sister of the Most Precious Blood. I entered the convent on June 11, 1937. Father Peter gave me a wonderful send-off with a blessing in front of the entire student body. After the graduation ceremony the entire class of 26 students accompanied me to the front steps of the convent. To this day it still surprises me that I had such determination at the young age of 14!

In the convent I became a cook. My mother had taught me a lot about cooking, and I enjoyed it. I cooked for many people, including Archbishop Ritter when he was bishop of the St. Louis. He asked me to teach him how to make pork sausage! I never wrote a cookbook, but I did wear one out!

I was always looking for new recipes to serve.

Often, at wake services, there is a display about the sister. There isn't going to be anything for me, because, I'll say it now, "Everyone ate it all!"

I pray the Divine Mercy rosary daily. I am the Moses for victims of violence. My heart and prayer goes to those without water and victims of war. I pray for teachers, the homeless, the displaced, the unborn, and immigrants. I pray for victims of human trafficking and those who fear for their lives. I call upon the Lord to be with them and help them.

This is my short but sweet recipe for living: Don't let yourself get into a rut. Look for something new and different each day, even if it's a new recipe. God is full of surprises and you will find life to be interesting. I certainly can vouch for it!

-Sr Marie, as told to Kris Jackson

## Small Faith Community in the Spotlight: *Gurtweilers*

*Gurtweilers* Small Faith community consists of Chris Lloyd, Kurt and Peggy Hoefel, Sr. Barbara Schlatter, Kris Jackson, Theresa Krausel, Sr. Susan Borgel and Sue Buerkle. Although unable to perform a service, together we all strive to live the CPPS core values.

In *Response to Human Needs*, we adopt a family at Christmas through St. Anthony's Food Pantry and pray for that family during the Christmas Season. Rooted in prayer and *Presence*, the Partners and Sisters of the group alternate months sending birthday cards to the Sisters.

We support each other in our individual ministries and are conscious of the Sisters' commitment to immigrants and refugees. Sisters Susan and Barbara serve on the Community Leadership Team; Kris serves on the Partners in Mission Board; Chris serves as leader on St. Pius Parish Council; Theresa is active in Pro-Life efforts; Sue serves on the Community's Bold Action Committee and volunteers at the International Institute, as does Sr. Susan. Kurt and Peggy have opened an historic Bed and Breakfast, offering generous *Hospitality* to many.

We spend meeting time each month sharing faith experiences and supporting each other in living the Charism of *Reconciliation*, responding to aging parents, struggling children and grandchildren, siblings, and Community members.

-Kris Jackson



*From left: Chris, Peggy, Sr. Barbara, Kurt, Kris, Theresa, former member Janie Barton, Sr. Susan, and Sue*

## ***"Keep in Touch!"***

Unlike the founding Sisters who struggled to get word to the motherhouse in Gurtweil, Germany that they had arrived safely in America, we in the 21st century can phone, send cards, whisk off e-mails and texts quite easily. Staying in touch makes such a difference!

In September, each Sister and Partner received precious gifts to help get to know and bond with each other during this 175th anniversary year. Marcia Schmitz and Leah

Wand compiled the wonderful photo directory that accompanied the box of goodies from the Anniversary Committee. As you page through your photo directory, are you able to connect a name with a face? When you pull out a name from the box of slips, do you hold that person in prayer; maybe send a card and let them know that you are praying for them?

If St. Paul could write all those letters while in jail, we certainly can keep in touch and make each other's days spe-



## **Pathways Candidates**

Last October, eight women embarked on the Pathways journey to learn about the Precious Blood Sisters' history and explore the possibility of becoming CPPS Partners in Mission. Unfortunately, the pandemic disrupted our sessions and we were unable to complete the last few classes.

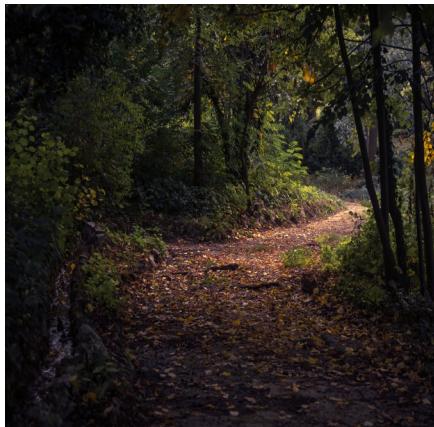
To give our candidates a chance to get to know one another better and experience all of Pathways, we plan on picking up where we left off when we can once again meet in person.

Sr. Carol Orf, the group's sister mentor, and I have come to know our candidates as faith-filled individuals who would be wonderful Partners.

Please hold each of them in prayer during this pause in their instruction. Pray that they will be able to complete the course and that they will come to know God's plan for their lives.

Thank you.

-Audrey Jungermann



### **CPPS Partners in Mission**

*Partners in Mission strive to bring Christ's reconciling presence to those we encounter in our daily lives. We seek to carry on the legacy of the Sisters of the Most Precious Blood by deepening our relationship with God, each other, and the Community to heal our suffering world.*

### **GOVERNING BOARD MEMBERS**

Patti Belmont, Board Chair  
Dawn Boschert, Vice Chair  
Kris Jackson, Secretary  
Carol Oldendorf  
Denis Wilhelm  
Jean Douglas  
Sr. Ginny Jaskiewicz, Sr. Advisor  
Sr. Julia Marie Wolf, Sr. Advisor  
Audrey Jungermann, PIM Director

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### **Partners on the Journey Newsletter**

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