

On The Journey

Sisters of the Most Precious Blood



Global
Awareness

FALL/WINTER 2016



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We Remember . . .
We Celebrate . . .
We Believe . . .




Sister Elizabeth Weiman
 May 6, 2016



Sister Mary Luke Bauman
 May 14, 2016



Sister Dolores Emge
 August 21, 2016

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For more information about the Sisters of the Most Precious Blood and their mission, please visit, www.cpps-ofallon.org.

It is a pleasure to greet each of you for the first time via ***On the Journey***. As you may remember from the last issue of this magazine, our community elected a new leadership team during our Chapter this past April. Sisters Ginny, Joni, Barbara, Marie and I are getting accustomed to our new ministry and continuing our journey up the learning curve.



Our community holds a Chapter every six years to evaluate our life and mission and to ensure that it remains vital within the Church. At the Chapter we also set direction for the future in light of the changing needs of the Church and society and our abilities to respond to those needs.

At the 2016 Chapter (see the Future Direction Statement on the next page), we acknowledged our deep gratitude for God's many blessings and committed ourselves to living more contemplatively. To live more contemplatively does not mean withdrawing from the world. Rather, contemplative living implies mindfulness--being aware of God's presence in every person and in all of creation. Such mindfulness impels us to be more globally aware and to respond to the needs of our suffering world.

Thankfully we have Sisters and Partners In Mission volunteering and living in various parts of our globe. Their experiences help all of us to broaden our global awareness. In this issue we share with you about some of our short-term mission trips. On page 5 you will find information about those countries in which our Sisters are living and serving on a long-term basis.

On behalf of all of the Sisters of the Most Precious Blood, I extend our deepest gratitude to each of you for your support and prayers as we strive to live out our Chapter commitment. In this season of Thanksgiving we give thanks for you, and we ask our loving God to bless you abundantly.

Gratefully,

Sr. Janice

Chapter Statement

Every six years, the Sisters of the Most Precious Blood hold a General Chapter to elect new leadership and set direction for the next six years. This past March, through mutual reflection, prayer and discussion the Sisters determined what that direction would be. Here is the 2016 -2022 Chapter Statement:



Out of our deep gratitude for all of God's blessings, we respond by moving into our future with greater contemplative living that leads to global awareness. Impelled by the Gospel we commit ourselves as a community:

- to take bold action that transforms us, gives us energy and unites us in working and praying for peace and justice in our suffering world;
- to deepen our relationships with all of our Sisters and Partners in Mission in living our charism of Reconciliation.

We pray to do this with renewed vigor for our life and mission.

Did you know?

Did you know that the Sisters of the Most Precious Blood have a presence at the United Nations? We are a part of the Partnership for Global Justice (PGJ). Partnership for Global Justice is a network of religious congregations, other groups and individuals grounded in Gospel values.



The PGJ Works on Behalf of:

- Women and children
- People living in poverty
- Earth justice and sustainability
- Teachers and college students on global sustainability

The PGJ works together:

- To bring the expertise of our membership, many of whom work on the ground in other countries, to the United Nations
- To partner with many other Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) in promoting policies at both national and international levels.
- To offer opportunities for organizations who do not have full-time personnel at the United Nations to collaborate with the PGJ.



This page gives a historical snapshot of the global impact made by the Sisters of the Most Precious Blood through their foreign ministries. The four countries represent where the Sisters are currently serving.

ESTABLISHED	1959	1993	1939	1957
MINISTRIES	12	2	12	17
COMBINED SERVICE	404 YEARS	23 YEARS	77 YEARS	238 YEARS
THROUGH THE YEARS	35 SISTERS	1 SISTER	24 SISTERS	31 SISTERS
CURRENT	6 SISTERS	1 SISTER	2 SISTERS	1 SISTERS
CITIES	Cochabamba and La Paz	Tartu and Tallin	Helsinki and Tampere	Arequipa and Lima

Sr. Joyce Schramm

In January 2016, Partner In Mission Sue Buerkle and I went to El Paso, Texas, for 10 days to help with the refugees who were coming into Texas to escape the violence and death in Central America. Annunciation House, a house of hospitality for the homeless poor and the undocumented, made a plea for volunteers to assist people who were in the detention centers in Texas. The detention centers were releasing people every day, permitting them to go to relatives around the U.S. who could facilitate the process of getting their documentation. Annunciation House needed help in assisting released persons in connecting with their families.

Most of the detainees were families with children. We received them with a smile, and gave them a change of clothes, toiletries, a shower and food. We helped them to get in touch with their contact person in the U.S and to make travel arrangements. We also assisted them with getting medical treatment if they needed it before an oftentimes long journey to their final destination.

We met some wonderful people who were very grateful to be treated with love and respect. We still pray for those people and wonder how they are faring.



Susan Buerkle, Partner In Mission

May 27-June 4, 2016, I was blessed to serve as an Occupational Therapist on a medical/ surgical mission to Tegucigalpa, Honduras, through Global Health Outreach, an ecumenical Christian Mission organization. Sponsored by my employer, Athletic Physical Therapy, I provided post-operative care, protective orthotics, and instruction for patients of Orthopedist Dr. Richard Howard, DO, of St. Louis at Hospital Escuela, the public hospital in Tegucigalpa. In a country where over 60% of households live in extreme poverty, and where there is no health insurance, the sick and the injured pour into Escuela from the surrounding mountainsides and wait in long lines to receive medical care. Local physicians are stretched to exhaustion. Honduras has one of the highest murder rates in the world. Most of our patients were victims of violent (machete) attacks, and many had waited months to years for surgery to repair injured limbs, eliminate pain, and enable them to work.

I encountered migrants who had fled Central America earlier this year while working with Sr. Joyce Schramm at Annunciation House in El Paso, Texas. Witnessing firsthand the deplorable conditions which drive people from their homes and families, hearing their stories and touching their wounds have made a profound impact on me. As a Partner in Mission, and a member of the CPPS Gospel Justice Committee, I have embraced the charism of Reconciliation, which calls us to unity with all people and all of God's creation. I will fervently continue my local volunteer work with Catholic Relief Services, bringing hope to vulnerable nations, and will continue to advocate, along with the sisters, for immigration reform.



Debbie Whited, Partner in Mission

As an outreach All Saints Parish in St. Peters, my parish, has partnered with Belize for over ten years with their Belize Parish-to-Parish Ministry. The mission of the ministry is to show support for the people living in the Toledo District of Belize, to fight poverty, facilitate economic empowerment, and promote human dignity; provide educational and medical equipment, small business loans, high school scholarships, clean water solutions, medical care, and community improvements.

During our trip on June 11 - June 20, 2016, we visited and/or worked in the villages of Santa Cruz, Santa Elena, Pueblo Viejo, San Marcos, Otoxha and San Lucas. I was blessed to teach religion lessons in three of the schools.

Since high school, I have had a desire to travel to other places to learn about and build relationships with others. As a CPPS Partner in Mission, one of our Sister Prayer Partners is Sr. Doris Rechiene who once shared about a visit with the Sisters in Bolivia and Peru and her many years living and working there. Her passion and love for her recent travel experience and her years of service encouraged me to continue thinking of participating in a mission trip. Sr. Doris and so many more of the Sisters are such an inspiration through their courage, their enthusiasm, and their love for others. The Sisters truly are a reconciling presence in the world both near and far and have been a great influence in my life.

Rick Heitman, Partner in Mission

I became a Partner in Mission in 2005. I have loved being involved in ministry with the Sisters, while learning about and being impressed by their foreign missions. My home parish is All Saints in St. Peters, Mo. All Saints has a continuing missionary outreach program to the country of Belize, a tiny Central American country that shares borders with Mexico and Guatemala. Coastal Belize has a thriving tourist industry, but the interior of Belize that our group serves is among our hemisphere's poorest of the poor. People still live in thatched huts, and the overwhelming majority of the population is sustenance farmers, working hard to feed their families.

In 2014, I made my first trip with All Saints to Belize. We normally focus on providing much needed educational supplies and teaching in the village schools, while also working on various construction projects for the villages that we serve. Participating was a tremendously enriching and rewarding experience.

While I was there, I noticed that the villagers had NO medical supplies and the nearest true medical help was a very difficult two-hour drive away. Villagers could and did die from simple infected cuts! When I returned in 2015, I began to bring basic medical supplies and I started teaching first aid techniques. In 2016, we were permitted to begin to import some over the counter medicines; and in 2017 we hope to establish a vitamin distribution program for the children to supplement their diets. Although these are all small, incremental steps, we hope to effect real societal change. This is my personal effort to live out our charism of reconciliation!



Congratulations



Congratulations to the newest members of the Partners in Mission program. Chris Crawford, Karen Grant, Janie Harper-Barton, Kristina Jackson, Chris Lloyd, and Rosemary Pieper were welcomed during the commitment ceremony on September 11, 2016.

Congratulations to Sister Janice Bader on receiving the Leadership Conference for Women Religious (LCWR) "Outstanding Leadership Award" at their Assembly held in Atlanta, August 9 - 12, 2016. The LCWR Outstanding Leadership Award was established to recognize and honor persons who have significantly contributed to the ministry of leadership and who reflect the LCWR mission.



Congratulation to Sister Antoinette Temporiti on receiving the Partnership for Global Justice (PGJ) Annual Peace and Justice Award for her work with Microfinancing Partners in Africa (MPA). The PGJ is our Non-Governmental Organization at the United Nations.

Congratulations to Sister Esther Hogan on being recognized for her significant contributions to the mission of American Association of University Women (AAUW).



SEA Alumnae Reunion Brunch

All St. Elizabeth Academy Alumnae are invited!

Saturday,
November 19,
2016
10:30 a.m.

International
Institute Hall of
Nations
(former SEA
Chapel)

\$35.00

For more information contact Marcia at 636-240-6010 or mschmitz@cpps-ofallon.org

Note: We are looking for more email addresses for our SEA Alumnae. Please send in your email address so we can send you updates.

Alzheimer's Walk

With more of our Sisters living into our 80's and 90's we find that we are subject to the infirmities of an aging population. In 2010 the transition from the Sisters of the Most Precious Blood Motherhouse to a continuum of care facility brought with it recognition that illnesses like Alzheimer's are a significant part of our reality.

We approached the St. Louis Alzheimer's Association with many questions. They offered training to gain a better understanding of the spectrum of age-related dementias, specific suggestions and materials for ongoing support of our Sisters. Since 2013, as a way of supporting these programs and their ongoing research, we have participated in their annual **Alzheimer's Walk**. We hold a plant & bake sale to help raise funds to support our team of walkers who participate in the local "Walk" at St. Charles Community College. Each year our donation has increased; this year we reached our highest goal of raising \$2000.



ECUMENICAL PRAYER SERVICE FOR PEACE



The Sisters of the Most Precious Blood's Gospel Justice Committee sponsored an Ecumenical Prayer Service for Peace and Nonviolence on Wednesday, September 21, 2016, in St. Joseph Chapel. Local churches, 7th grade PSR classes from Assumption Parish, all of our Sisters, and the

general public were invited to join people all around the globe in praying for peace and nonviolence in our world. Participants followed the "Peace Pole" to various locations on the property, stopping to participate in the prayer service.

The Gospel Justice Committee sponsored this prayer service as a way of participating in the Pace e Bene (Peace and all good) "Campaign Nonviolence." This campaign has a goal of creating a culture of peace and nonviolence in our world free of war, poverty, racism, the climate crisis, and the epidemic of violence and injustice. Pace e Bene invited groups that have been working in these areas to come together during the week of September 18-25 by hosting activities to join voices around the world to support a global shift toward peace and nonviolence. September 21 is the UN International Day of Peace so the Sisters decided to have a prayer service on that day. To learn more about Pace e Bene go to www.paceebene.org.



With Gratitude

Thank you to our many generous donors who supported the Sisters of the Most Precious Blood and their ministries in the 2015/2016 fiscal year. Your kindness is greatly appreciated.

Mission Advancement Office Statement of Accountability



7%	Bequest
34%	South American Missions
27%	Individual Donations
13%	Retirement
19%	Annual Events



26%	Administration
34%	South American Missions
13%	Retirement Needs
7%	Annual Events
20%	Invested for Future Needs

Income

Bequests	\$ 25,963.95
South American Missions	\$ 120,192.80
Individual Donations	\$ 93,684.39
Retirement	\$ 45,545.00
Annual Events	\$ 65,434.75
Total	\$350, 820.89

Expenses

Administration	\$ 91,628.64
South American Missions	\$ 120,192.80
Retirement Needs	\$ 45,545.00
Annual Events	\$ 24,176.27
Invested for Future Needs	\$ 69,278.18
Total	\$350,820.89

Night at Busch Stadium

Thank you to everyone who joined us, made a donation, or sponsored a Sister to attend our "Night At Busch Stadium Fundraiser" on Friday, June 17, 2016. Despite the sun in our eyes, we had great seats and a good time even though we lost to the Texas Rangers 1 - 0! Pictured below are just a few photos of the game.

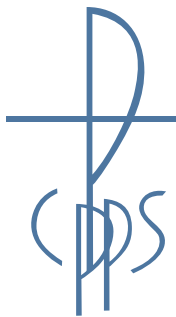


Please mark your calendar and plan on joining us for our **Dinner Auction**



on **Saturday, March 11, 2017**, at **Old Hickory Golf Club**.





Sisters of the Most Precious Blood

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AUCTION HELP

We really need your help this year in order to make our biggest fundraiser a success! Please consider donating items for our Dinner Auction on Saturday, March 11, 2017.

The following is a wish list of items:

- St. Louis Cardinals and Blues game tickets
- Golf gift-certificates
- Tickets to the Fox, Muny or Peabody Opera House
- Restaurant gift cards
- Wine

If you have any questions or are not sure if what you have fits our needs, please call Leah Wand at 636-240-6010. Thank you!

