Governing Board Elections

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

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 Montañño 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!
Meet Partner in Mission: Nancy Hebert

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.

-Nancy Hebert

Meet Partner in Mission: 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.

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-Kris Jackson
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