WE ARE CALLED TO BE AN ATTENTIVE PRESENCE IN OUR RELATIONSHIPS WITH EACH OTHER, ALL OF GOD’S PEOPLE AND CREATION. (2018-2023)

1 Mary Nick Eiden, SLW, attended a memorial for homeless people who died in 2018 in Minneapolis.

2 Ruth Platte, SLW, celebrated the Vietnamese New Year with the Vietnamese community at her parish St. Vincent de Paul in Holiday, Florida. They offered prayers to Our Lady of LaVang.

3 Carrie Miller, SLW, Josette Buehlman, ASLW, and Kris Vorenkamp, SLW were on location with Scott Bakula of NCIS New Orleans.

4 Judiann Derhake, SLW and St. Anthony Catholic School principal, Aimee Hayes, were interviewed by KALB TV during Catholic Schools Week.

5 The audience reacts to the Purple Shirts’ “Inspirational Love and Your Just Desserts” performance at the Living Word Center, part of the Peace and Justice series.
This past week we were immersed in the Holy Journey of Jesus and our own holy journey, the Way of the Cross. The genuine disciple lives the Way of the Cross in his or her life. As I was contemplating this, the song from The Lion King, Circle of Life, came to mind:

It’s the circle of life  
And it moves us all  
Through despair and hope  
Through faith and love  
Till we find our place  
On the path unwinding  
In the circle  
The circle of life

Now, we know the rest of the story—where the Way of the Cross leads. It leads to a New Life. We seem to have been given our communal Way of the Cross at this time in history—we are encircled by despair as we move through each day of news: the crises all around us. We did not choose this time! But, wise people say we are made for this time. It’s true, we do not yet know how this path is going to unwind but with eyes of faith we can see signs of new life. We can notice good people, amazing efforts for the common good, inroads of hope into corrupt systems, new ways to care for Earth, the bright minds and hearts of the young generations… and on and on.

Contemplating the great incarnation of God’s love in the person of Jesus, we at least have the Way. We are disciples of Jesus, the Christ, who in His day, met the challenges and the persecution he had to face, all done within a community of faith. Certainly, that is our calling too. As we reflect on the joys and sorrows in our lives we are grateful and are strengthened by God’s faithfulness all along the way. As we move into our future, Christ is our Way, “through despair and hope, through faith and love.”

May we receive the wisdom, support and vision for now and into the future for which each of us longs: for our families, communities and our Earth. May we rejoice in the promise that there will always be LIFE and LOVE even as the path unwinds its mysterious ways before us.

Kristine Vorenkamp, SLW
SLW MINISTRY NEWS

WISCONSIN RELIGIOUS COLLABORATIVE NAMES EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

By Kim Boyce-Hagerty

The Wisconsin Religious Collaborative hired Lynelle Korte, CAE as executive director in January. Lyn visited the Living Word Center in February to meet with Leadership and staff and learn about the Sisters of the Living Word.

Sister Pat Cormack, SCSC, Board President of the WRC described Lyn as “a well-rounded certified association executive with more than 20 years of experience, excelling at strategy as well as functional leadership and execution.” Most recently, Lyn served as Executive Director of Organizational Solutions at the American Society for Quality, leading the new product development and corporate relations functions areas. Her understanding of business needs, models, and services should be very valuable for the collaboration, which is designed to free leadership of religious institutes to focus on mission and ministry.

ENGAGING HEARTS AND MINDS FOR JUNE ASSEMBLY

By Sharon Glumb, SLW

The SLW annual Assembly is happening on June 18-22 at the Living Word Center and it promises to be a lively event! The Assembly Planner Group—SLW Elizabeth Hebert, Chioma Ahanihu, Mary Joel Curcio, and Ruth Platte, along with facilitator Ruby Cribbin, have gathered regularly with Congregational Leadership these past five months to design it with creativity and purpose.

The Sisters, too, are engaged in preparations of the heart and mind, as they gathered in small conversation groups in January and February to surface the most urgent questions that the Assembly will need to address. Guiding all the planning is the five-year Direction Statement and Calls formulated in 2017.

As important decisions await the Sisters gathered at this Assembly, we trust the guidance of God’s Spirit and the prayerful support of friends like all of you.

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MARCH AREA GATHERINGS

By Carrie Miller, SLW

As we move from winter into spring—from one of Mother Nature’s expressions of beauty to another one, the Sisters will also be reflecting on transitions from one “season” to another within ourselves—also holding expressions of their own beauty and blessings. We looked forward to our Spring Gathering as a time of sharing some of these blessings with each other.

This sharing happened on March 23, as forty-four Sisters connected via WebEx for two hours of reflection and discussion on the Calls we have committed to: being an attentive presence in our relationship with each other, all of God’s people and Creation; to choose collaborative options for our future with other religious; to respond individually and corporately to those areas of society that are in need of a compassionate presence, and to live a contemplative way of being in our world.

Spring Gathering, March 23
Sr. Mary Ann Grausam was born in New Ulm, Minnesota January 3, 1940 to Eugene and Theodosia Grausam. She attended St. Mary Elementary and Holy Trinity High Schools. In 1958 she decided to enter the Sisters of Christian Charity with her best friend, Lolly Fisher. Her parents knew nothing of her plan until the letter of acceptance arrived. She studied at Mallinckrodt and Mundelein Colleges, majoring in English and minoring in Elementary Education.

Her first mission was teaching second grade to a class of seventy-two children at Gehlen Elementary in LeMars, Iowa, and she later taught second grade at St. Boniface in Sioux City.

When Mary Ann was preparing for final vows in 1967, her father died of a heart attack. Though unusual at the time, she was given permission to attend her dad’s funeral. She shared this story and its significance to her throughout her life.

In 1968 Mary Ann taught second grade at St. John in Detroit. Over the next twelve years she moved from primary education into pastoral ministry, completing a masters in Religious Studies in 1974.

Mary Ann joined the Sisters of the Living Word in 1975. She served as novice director, moving to St. Isaac Jogues in Illinois at the request of Annamarie Cook, SLW and was the Director of Religious Education at St. Martha in Morton Grove. It was difficult for her to leave those she had come to love so dearly, yet, she devoted herself wholeheartedly to both ministries.

Mary Ann was the moving force in the development of the SLW formation program, initiated the Associate Program, and served on the Ministry Committee.

In 1992 she moved to Canton, Mississippi with SLW Sharon Glumb and Joel Curcio where she served in pastoral ministry for three parishes while chairing the Community Ministry/Peace and Justice Committee. In 2002, they moved to Holly Springs where she worked for Sacred Heart Southern Missions as Social Service Minister for two of Mississippi’s poorest counties.

Mary Ann celebrated her fiftieth jubilee in 2009. After developing memory loss she moved to Resurrection Life Center in Chicago. Sister Mary Ann entered eternal life December 5, 2018. Her funeral took place at St. Martha in Morton Grove.
Sr. Grace Rief, the sixth child of thirteen born to Frank and Leonora in Chaska, Minnesota, on November 11, 1924, said that receiving her First Holy Communion “left memories never to be forgotten.... I possessed with me the God I had learned to know and love from my parents and teachers.”

Grace graduated from Guardian Angels where the “example of the Sisters, their prayer-life and friendliness, were a major factor in choosing my vocation.” Her mother was her “first novice directress, a very kind and wise one,” who counseled her about the joys ahead and the many things she loved from which she would need to detach. In August 1949, Grace became finally professed.

Grace taught all primary grades from 1943 until 1992, almost 50 years, in Illinois, Missouri, Louisiana, and Michigan, with the majority of her time in Chicago. She taught ESL and tutored, volunteered as Hospitality Coordinator, coordinated Catholic Services, and spent her last years at Resurrection Life Center.

Grace felt that Vatican II brought a more humanizing effect to religious life rules. She was grateful to have more of a voice in the Church, and responsibility for her own actions as an adult. In 1975 she wrote, “I felt I had a ‘call from the Lord’ again to a different vision of religious life” and joined the SLW.

Grace concludes her autobiography: “I am grateful to the Sisters of Christian Charity for my early training and education, the years spent in prayer, study and meditation, discussion and sharing with fellow Sisters of that community. To them I owe so much and will always thank God for everything I am because of them, and I ask Him to be with them as He is with us.

“May the Spirit guide each Sister of the Living Word, and in a special way, those who led us out of the past into the present. May the Lord let His face shine upon us!”

Grace died March 14, 2019. Her funeral Mass was celebrated by Fr. Bill Zavaski at St. Edna in Arlington Heights on March 18. 🕊

Rest in Peace Sweet Souls
By Chioma Ahanihu, SLW

My life in the second half of 2018 was filled with exciting activities that took me to different parts of the country! In continuing the incorporation process to full membership with the Sisters of the Living Word as a finally professed Sister, my discernment in making the next step continued to deepen my awareness of religious life and the beauty of where God was leading me. I continued in my ministry with Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Chicago and in my parish at St. Stephen Protomartyr in Des Plaines, Illinois.

LIFE COMMITMENT PROGRAM

Part of the process of preparation for final vows is getting approval for the intense formative process. I applied to the Life Commitment Program (LCP) which is organized by the Religious Formation Program. This is a national two week intensive program held annually for those intending to take their final vows in various religious congregations, both male and female. The venue for the 2018 LCP was the Marillac Spirituality Center in Leavenworth, Kansas. There were 22 religious Brothers and Sisters from 17 different congregations with about ten different language affiliates that gathered this year. We bonded instantly upon arrival! It was a tremendous opportunity to gather at that sacred space and to share communion, community, and learn about each other and how religious life has been for us during these years of first profession of vows. We explored topics such as Religious Life as a Prophetic Enterprise in the 21st Century, presentations on Vows, Community, and Communal Life. We shared daily prayers, Mass and meals together. It was an enriching program indeed!
IGNATIAN SPIRITUAL EXPERIENCE
I continued my spiritual deepening journey and drove to the Sacred Heart Jesuit Retreat Center in Sedalia, Colorado for a 30-day Ignatian Spiritual Exercise retreat. This is an opportunity offered to each Sister from the Sisters of the Living Word before final profession to intentionally search, seek, and to develop that deep connection with God. The experience so far is the most treasured moment of my lifetime. I was blessed to go through this exercise with a Jesuit with an international background. This was one of my hopes for a spiritual guide, since I am an immigrant myself.

LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE
As I returned to my Community in Chicago and began settling back into ministry, I received an invitation to be part of a panel discussion with the Leadership Conference of Women Religious (LCWR) Region 9 who were having their Congregational Leadership meeting at the Mound in Sinsinawa, Wisconsin. The panel was made up of four younger Sisters from different congregations. These Sisters are connected through the Giving Voice group, which is a network of Sisters under age 50. We shared our stories and life experiences in ministry, living in community, and our hopes for religious life with those gathered.

FINAL PROFESSION
The culminating event wrapping up the year was preparation and celebration of my final profession of vows. Saturday, December 15, 2018 was set for the celebration. I continued to meet with my director to complete our earlier scheduled discussions of various topics as part of my incorporation process. My Sisters were involved in different aspects such as working on the invitations and the liturgy preparations. The ceremony took place at the 5 PM Mass at St. Stephen. The Mass was concelebrated by Bishop Alberto Rojas and other priests including the pastor, Fr. David Arcila. People from different parts of the country, people whom I have known from childhood, from various ministries I was or am still involved with, and from my Nigerian community here in Chicago, attended. My family, who were not able to attend from Nigeria, was represented by my sister Mavis. The liturgical dance group was organized by Nigerian religious Sisters who came from Illinois, Wisconsin, Indiana, and Minnesota. The parishioners and parish choir were actively involved in the liturgical celebration. A reception followed the Mass in the parish gym. There was plenty of food, music, and dancing. In all, 2018 was filled with so many blessed memories that I will treasure forever. ☺️
The state of Mississippi is named after the River that forms most of its western boundary and that flows from Itasca, Minnesota to the Gulf of Mexico at the southern tip of Louisiana. Its history is checkered with racial issues, urgent need for educational and health care possibilities and pastoral nurturing of its small Catholic population. Several women of the Living Word Community have called it home and have planted the Mission of the Sisters of the Living Word in a number of cities along I-55 from Holly Springs in the north to Biloxi in the south. The organic soil and the spirit of the Mississippians is rich, fertile and productive.

Sister Vianney Moore was our pioneer to the mission field in Laurel. She spent 1990-1996 as the Pastoral Associate at Immaculate Conception Church. Vianney's vivaciousness and her desire to be in solidarity with the poor were very apparent. Sister Mary Nicholas Eiden and Vianney spent several months together in Laurel. Mary Nick writes, “Vianney was loved by the people because someone was always greeting or speaking to her when I was with her at church.” She loved the South, its people, its culture, and offered her gifts freely.

Mary Nick joined Vianney in 1992 after an extraordinary retreat experience in Nevada. She “felt called to work for equality among races and religions . . . Laurel was a good place to start.” Mary Nick taught 4th grade and wanted to be a supportive Catholic presence. She felt welcomed by the students and parents who responded to her efforts. From 1993-1997 she taught 4th grade at Holy Child Jesus in Canton where she “fell in love with my black sisters and brothers who were both an inspiration and a challenge.” Drugs were a huge challenge in the area. Mary Nick was confronted with this evil serving the children and their families, at the Care Center that she visited and in the jail where she taught reading. She learned through their strong sense of community and wondered who taught whom more.

Sisters Mary Ann Grausam, Mary Joel Curcio, and Sharon Glumb arrived in Canton in 1992 and ministered there until 2002. The three of them were very involved in their respective ministries as well as in the local community, the Diocese, and the Living Word Community. Mary Ann was the Pastoral Associate at St. Anne Parish in Carthage, and Sacred Heart and Holy Child Jesus in Canton. She was acting pastor her first six weeks! The Community
Annals state: “That had some advantages because she was able to establish her presence as pastoral minister in each of the parishes—the disadvantage was too much too soon with too little knowledge.” Mary Ann went on to help build bridges of understanding and confidence in the two parishes. Empowering lay leaders was also a priority. She served on the Editorial Board of Mississippi Today, the diocesan newspaper. She was also a committee member planning the 1997 Annual Diocesan Conference.

Mary Joel started from the ground up as Director of Development for St. Joseph High School and St. Richard Catholic School, both in Jackson. Mary Joel helped direct successful Capital Campaigns for both schools. St. Joseph’s campaign was for a new school with an arts center and an athletic complex. St. Richard’s campaign was for a Planned Giving Program and an Endowment Fund. She also worked hard building the data base for alumni and supporters of both schools. As a sanity measure to press conferences, construction meetings, and delays, Joel directed the liturgical music and the children’s choir at Sacred Heart Parish.

Sharon immersed herself into campus ministry at three institutions: Methodist Millsaps College, Presbyterian Belhaven College, and the University of Mississippi Medical Center. Her position was Coordinator of Campus Ministry for the Diocese of Jackson at St. Peter’s Cathedral. Sharon was able to see her efforts grow roots with the establishment of a Student Leadership Council at Millsaps and a faculty-initiated on-campus Mass for Thanksgiving at the University. An annual mission trip to Saltillo, Mexico was also begun at Millsaps. Reaching out to Catholic college students has been a favored ministry for Sharon. Her many years of experience in various settings added to the depth and breadth of the programming. In 2000 Sharon divided her energies between campus ministry and as Director of New Membership for the Living Word Community.

“To be continued in the Fall OutWORD.”

“I felt called to work for equality among races and religions.”

-Sr. Vianney Moore, SLW

Magnolia is Mississippi’s state flower
A LIVING WORD

WHO READS THE SIGNS OF THE TIMES
By Mary Cornille, SLW

You might think that Shirley Williams Mueller memorized the words of the Constitutions of the Sisters of the Living Word and of the Living Word—Jesus: “I have come that you may have life and have it in abundance.”

Shirley, the sister of Donna Williams, SLW and the late Jude Williams, SLW, also entered the convent as a high school girl, but quickly discovered it was not for her. She returned home to Minnesota, and completed Guardian Angels High School in Chaska.

Minnesota is still home base for Shirley. She is the president of HEM Snuffys, Inc. After the death of Shirley’s husband Micheal, the founder and president, Shirley succeeded him. Sister Donna works as the administrative assistant. “Donna is the backbone of my business,” she says, valuing Donna’s commitment to excellence.

Snuffy’s Malt Shops have three locations, with a fourth to open soon, and also supply the Minnesota Wild hockey and the St. Paul Saints baseball team stadium concessions.

Shirley spent thirty years attending Micheal’s Lutheran church with him. After his death, she decided to attend Catholic churches in the area, among them St. Victoria. She also nurtures her faith with daily reading. Her observation on life and goodness: “Families are stronger than ever. Men are so much more involved now.” She notes how “both parents find good living time with their children.” And talk about the Living Word charism of new life! Shirley has 14 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren. Her youngest great-grandson, William, age 1, comes to work every day with his parents, employees of Snuffy’s.

Sister Donna introduced Shirley to the Small Sums ministry, one devoted to assisting persons who need help getting a new start (see box). Small Sums is faith-filled, “beating the door down with prayer,” and promoting a work ethic, making persons seriously independent and seriously successful.

Shirley is a generous benefactor. She says she wants to be a “close to home” giver. “And for us, close to home is the Sisters of the Living Word.”

The WORD radiates from good people all around, and that light shines brightly from Shirley Williams Mueller, a real Living Word!

Small Sums Thank You
Because of your contributions, Small Sums helped 652 homeless folks, with new jobs, with what they needed to start their jobs. So glad that you recognize that this is an important, practical and powerful solution for ending homelessness. It’s a surprisingly simple solution and thanks to your generosity, we were able to help them at such an important time in their journey back to a more stable life.” Sisters of the Living Word have provided Ministry Grants in 2017 and 2018.

-Terre Thomas from Small Sums
ASSOCIATE GATHERINGS

The **Louisiana Associates** held their annual retreat in February on “The Seven Sorrows of Mary,” led by Judy Gomila, MSC. They reflected on each of the sorrows and emphasized the qualities of forgiveness and encouragement, especially in the later stages of life. Four women became new Associates: Lynda Leaber, Judy Himel, Elaine Warriner, and Mary Ann Mataconis.

The **West Texas Associates** hosted “An Evening of Prayer and Commitment” with Donna Williams, SLW on March 18 at the home of Barbara Aretz, ASLW.

The **Iowa Prayer Partners** began meeting at a retirement home and invited the residents to join them. A new group has formed that participated in weekly faith sharing during Lent.

**TEXLA**

The **Texas and Louisiana Associates** are part of TEXLA, a group of Associates from a variety of religious orders that will gather in the fall in Houston, Texas. They will attend workshops and share their strengths, resources, programs, new ideas, and ministries with each other. They will also discuss how to continue their spiritual growth.

The **Michigan Associates** are planning a gathering in May.

At the Advent Prayer Service “Let Us Gather to Pray for the Transformation of Our World” on December 2, 2018 at the Living Word Center, Donna Pelsi and Natalie Crary made commitment as **Illinois Associates**.

**ANNUNCIATION PRAYER SERVICE**

God calls…and beckons our response…Mary witnesses to us the power of a faithful “Yes!”

On Sunday, March 24 the Sisters of the Living Word, Associates, and friends and family gathered to celebrate a Feast of the Annunciation prayer service at the Living Word Center in Arlington Heights, Illinois. The service consisted of prayers, readings, quiet times for thought, then sharing. The Sisters renewed their vows and the Associates their commitment. The Annunciation is the Feast Day of the Sisters of the Living Word. ☕

![New Louisiana Associates Lynda Leaber, Judy Himel, Elaine Warriner, and Mary Ann Mataconis](image)

![New Illinois Associate Natalie Crary stands with Mary Cornille, SLW, and family and friends.](image)

![Barbara Mass, SLW pins the ASLW pin on new Illinois Associate Donna Pelsi.](image)
THERESE LYNCH, 1948–2018
*Remembered with Gratitude*

Therese Lynch, a long-time friend and benefactor of the Sisters of the Living Word died on October 10, 2018. She was married to the late Paula Phipps for twenty two years. Therese loved learning. She held degrees in Social Work, Law, Mediation, Spiritual Direction, and Kundalini Yoga. She loved teaching at Siena Heights University in Michigan, and at Concordia, Oakton, and Triton Colleges in Illinois.

As a lawyer, Therese loved practicing collaborative divorce law. She was the coordinator of the Postal Service’s EEO Mediation Program. She served as the coach for the Center for Conflict Resolution. As a therapist, Therese helped clients deal with issues both emotionally and spiritually. Therese had a strong passion for social justice and was particularly active in ending the death penalty, thus changing our policies to reflect love and compassion.

Therese supported the Sisters of the Living Word by attending their events and providing financial support over many years. She also provided for the Sisters of the Living Word through her estate by designating a portion of her IRA to continue the mission and ministries of the Sisters.

Music was a great enjoyment in her life. She remained close to the Sisters of the Living Word and was an Associate of the Sisters of St. Joseph in La Grange Park where she sang in the Circle of Song chorus. Therese deeply loved her friends and family. Her beautiful spirit and radiant smile will always be with us.

The National Catholic Community Foundation manages Donor Advised Funds and Giving Accounts for the Sisters of the Living Word. For more information visit www.nccfcommunity.org or contact Margaret Mei, Director of Mission Advancement at mmei@slw.org
In Gratitude and Thanks

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PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR THE HEALING OF
Cindy
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Greil
James
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Greil
Sr. Barbara Mass, SLW
Kathy
Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Boyce-Hagerty
Patricia
Joanne M. Fedewa, SLW
Peter
Mary Cornille, SLW
Sister Rosaria
Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Boyce-Hagerty
Ruth
Mr. and Mrs. Michael G. Rusniak
Zibute
Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Boyce-Hagerty

SLW DONATIONS GIVEN TO THE FOLLOWING ORGANIZATIONS
$200 to Second Harvest NOLA for hungry families in the area.

$500 to Catholic Charities USA toward Hurricane Relief

$500 donated to Catholic Charities USA toward housing for the influx of immigrant families across the country.

Memorials

Allen Ashbey
Rosalie Erdmann, SLW
Colette J. Fahrner, SLW
Joanne I. Grib, SLW
Kathleen Heer, SLW
Barbara Mass, SLW
Jeannine Randolph, SLW
M. Fidelis Rolfes, SLW
Stella Stacken, SLW
Norma Thelen, SLW
Luanne Wilhelm, SLW

George Bethel
Mr. and Mrs. William E. Brown

Annette Bierstetel
Norma Thelen, SLW

Bob, Billy and Margaret
Mrs. Maryann J. Kramer

Tina Campbell
Colette J. Fahrner, SLW

Christella Carbaugh, SLW
Ms. Sally Sammons, ASLW

Helen Cico
Mary Cornille, SLW

Annamarie Cook, SLW
Ms. Carol L. Kelzer, ASLW

William Corliss
Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Boyce-Hagerty

Marie and C.W. Cox
Mrs. Charlotte Roussel

Nancy Cummins
Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Boyce-Hagerty

Louise Deske
Ms. Jo Ann Fryer

Sue Dunham
Mrs. Catherine Avena
Joanne I. Grib, SLW
Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Boyce-Hagerty
Barbara Mass, SLW
Ms. Margaret A. Mei
Stella Stacken, SLW
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Bill Fallon
Veronica Hoffmann, SLW
Rosaria Schlechter, SLW

Mariette Gillen, SLW
Ms. Renee Kero

Mary Ann Grausam, SLW
Mr. and Mrs. Currie
Boeing Co.
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Mrs. Carlotta Curcio
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Mrs. Catherine Heer

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Jennifer Keller
Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Boyce-Hagerty

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Mrs. Lynn Gibson

Agnes Martinka, SLW
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Mrs. Diane Martinka

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Veronica Hoffmann, SLW
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Duane Nemmers
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Mrs. Laura Drewes

Joyce Roehl, SLW
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Laura Saunders, SLW
Ms. Jel Jones
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Many thanks to the Crary Family Legacy Fund for their grant to support the retired Sisters who are ministering as volunteers and for sponsorship of the Jazz Brunch.

Paul Schaffhausen
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas J. Adam

Elden Schulin
Mr. and Mrs. Wayne DeLaune

Genevieve Shea, SLW
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas J. Adam

Katie Sondgeroth
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Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Rodriguez

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Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Greil

Patrick Tembo
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Jude Williams, SLW
Mr. and Mrs. David G. Williams
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Chioma Ahanihu, SLW
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Mr. and Mrs. John Hughes

Ruth Platte, SLW
Ms. Peggy Cunniff and
Mr. Patrick J. Rocks

Jeannine Randolph, SLW
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Nugent

Maureen and Joe Ruane
Mrs. Kathleen O’Connell
Mr. Daniel Ruane

Rosaria Schlechter, SLW
Sr. Mary Louise Coccimiglio, SLW
Ms. Lisa A. Korus
Dr. Sheri Lofton
Mr. and Mrs. George Wenzel

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Mr. and Mrs. J. Michael Gibbs
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Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Radenmacher
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Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Stacken

Norma Thelen, SLW
Mr. and Mrs. James Stance

Kristine Vorenkamp, SLW
Mr. Michael Thompson

Donna Williams, SLW
Mrs. Mary McKinney

Rita Worm, SLW
Mr. and Mrs. Mark G. Brodersen

Corrections to Winter 2018 Issue:

Rosaria Schlechter, SLW is alive and well and we apologize that she was listed in the Memorial section.

St. Gregory Class of 1953 made a gift in memory of Sr. Annamarie Cook, SLW.

Diane and Tom Adam made gifts in memory of Paul Schaffhausen and Genevieve Shea, SLW.

We apologize for these omissions/errors.
INSPIRATIONAL LOVE AND YOUR JUST DESSERTS

As part of the Sisters of the Living Word Peace and Justice series the Purple Shirts from the Bitter Jester Foundation for the Arts performed various works on Inspirational Love and Your Just Desserts. The performers Jessica Antes (improv teacher with Second City and co-creator of a female identifying comedy training program), Nicolas DeGrazia (co-founder and creative director of Bitter Jester Studios) and Charles Turck (founding member of The Comic Thread sketch comedy troupe and a board certified Pharmacotherapy Specialist) entertained a delighted audience with thoughtful, funny and poignant short stories and poems inspired by Shel Silverstein, Roald Dahl, Erma Bombeck, Monty Python and many anonymous authors. Guests were treated to a sweet table of delectable desserts, coffee, tea or hot chocolate.

7TH ANNUAL DAY AT THE RACES

On Sunday, March 10 over 130 friends of the Sisters gathered to celebrate the 7th Annual Day at the Races at the New Orleans Fair Grounds. Diane (ASLW) and Gary Michel were honored with the Partners in Mission Award for their dedication and devotion to the Sisters over many years. Catherine Guirovich, ASLW and Joy Cossich Lobrano, ASLW each received the Volunteer of the Year Award for their planning and support of many SLW events, their availability to help the Sisters when needed, and for providing educational outreach opportunities.

We are grateful to our event sponsors: Jefferson Sprinkler, Inc., Tsang Family, Michael and Norma Kimble, Louie and Sally Roussel, Moises and Rosemary Arriaga, Sylvia Trepagnier, Ronnie and Gwen Briggs, ASLW, Patrick and Rhonda Connick, St. Edward’s Association of Men, and M.D. Descant, LLC. We are grateful to all who attended, donated raffle items, and celebrated with the Sisters!
GOOD SHEPHERD SCHOOL OUTREACH AND LIBERTY’S KITCHEN

Sisters of the Living Word and Associates and friends attended Good Shepherd School on Monday, March 11, for a presentation and tour given by Ronnie Briggs, ASLW, one of the founding directors, and their President/CEO Thomas Moran, Jr. (a graduate of St. Edward the Confessor in Metairie). The school serves low-income, urban youth in Pre-K through 7th grade of which 60% live in single parent households, 50% live in households that earn less than $20,000, 86% live in households that earn less than $39,000, 30% have a family member who was or is currently incarcerated, and 100% qualify for federal free or reduced lunch. 100% of their alumni attend high performing high schools and graduate on-time. For more information about Good Shepherd please visit www.thegoodshepherdschool.org.

After the tour the group went to Liberty’s Kitchen New Orleans for a lunch provided compliments of the Sisters of the Living Word. Liberty’s Kitchen is cooking up a community where all young people have a chance to succeed. All proceeds directly support workforce training, healthy food access, and leadership development for local youth. For more information please visit www.libertyskitchen.org.

Attendees at Good Shepherd School and Liberty’s Kitchen

Birdies for Charity 2019
Sisters of the Living Word will once again participate in John Deere’s Classic fundraiser. Birdies for Charity kicks off in April, pledge forms will be mailed in May, and pledges are due to John Deere by July 12!
2019 DATES TO SAVE

April 28
4th Annual Jazz Brunch
Chevy Chase Country Club
Wheeling, Illinois

June 22
Jubilee
St. Edna Catholic Church
Arlington Heights, Illinois

August 11
Founder's Day
Living Word Center
Arlington Heights, Illinois

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