

ITEMS

CLT visits St. Louis

CLT meets with Sisters at Mason Pointe after attending LCWR Assembly in St. Louis.

Page 2

Subversive Habits

Mission Partners review history of Black Catholic nuns in US to deepen understanding of racism.

Page 5

A bevy of activity

Communities and ministries enjoy outings, fundraisers, donation drives and more.

Page 6

Celebration of life

Sister Nellie Marie Hawkins remembered for her faithfulness to her contemplative vocation.

Page 10



SOLD: NORMANDY PROPERTY

U.S. Federal Properties bought the 10.4-acre Normandy property in September to develop into a USDA facility. Sisters sold the property in response to the changing reality and evolving future of the Province. Searches are underway for new residence for the Sisters and office space

Continued on next page



Green Corner

Season of Creation is coming to a close for 2022. Each year it begins on September 1 and ends on the Feast of St. Francis and Blessing of the Animals on October 4. This year Christians were called upon to address the threat of climate change. You can watch the launch event at <https://bit.ly/3qFRcCb>. Season of Creation also featured a podcast which addressed the crucial link between racial justice and the fight against climate change. Listen to it at <https://n.pr/3QK4vfr>. For the closing Mass and Blessings of the Animals visit <https://bit.ly/3QUSKmG>

PROVINCE NEWS



ZEAL

Sold, *Cont'd from p. 1*

for the staff.

Sister Madeleine Munday, province leader for Mid-North America, said, "We are proud to play a part in this exciting new development, and we hope it spurs continued growth in Normandy."

Good Shepherd Sisters arrived in south St. Louis in 1849, where it had a strong presence on Gravois Avenue. Anne Lucas Hunt, who often gave land and money to Catholic and other civic organizations, donated the property

in Normandy to the Sisters in 1874 and additional land in 1878 so the Sisters could escape tuberculosis and cholera, which plagued St. Louis at the time. The full press release may be found on our website at <https://bit.ly/3StLpvn>

CLT visits St. Louis

LCWR (Leadership Conference for Women Religious) held its 2022 assembly in St. Louis from August 9-12. The assembly brought together nearly 700 leaders of orders of Catholic Sisters, including the Congregational Leadership Team (CLT) for Sisters of the Good Shepherd and Province Leadership Teams (PLT) for Mid-North America, New York-Toronto, and Central South.

The event encouraged women religious to explore sources of wisdom that can assist navigating the change women's religious leadership is experiencing. Set as a series of spiritual conversations, the assembly observed major world shifts and movements taking place

Much of the conversation focused on the relationship between the loss of place being experienced worldwide and within the lives of women religious and the transformation of consciousness that is underway.

A series of three dialogues among LCWR members, including Gayle Lwanga Crumbley, RGS, augmented the conversations.

Meeting Sisters at the Mason Pointe Community

On August 14, the Good Shepherd Congregational Leadership team

Continued on next page



Sister Barbara Beasley, PLT Councillor for Mid-North America (L) and Yvette Arnold, Secretary-General in Rome, engage in a conversation at the LCWR banquet in August.



Representatives of the Congregational Leadership Team read a prayer at the Leadership Conference for Women Religious.

PROVINCE NEWS



ZEAL

CLT visit, *Con't from p. 2*

representatives visited and had lunch with Sisters at Mason Pointe Care Center. Later in the afternoon, the CLT, Contemplatives, and PLTs gathered for an in-person/Zoom with all of the Good Shepherd Contemplatives of North America.

Some of the sessions of the LCWR Assembly were recorded and can be found at <https://bit.ly/3dzGBpv>

Group photo:

Representatives of the Congregational Leadership Team and province leadership teams in North America are L-R front row: Sisters Mirjam Beike, Edith Olaguer, Gayle Lwanga Crumbley, Mary Carol McClenon, Sharon Rose Authorson, Carol Siegel, Elizabeth Garciano. L-R back row: Sisters Cristina Rodriguez, Madeleine Munday, Yolanda Borbon, Josita Corera, Maureen McGowan, Erika Sanchez, Paulette LoMonaco, Yvette Arnold, Barbara Beasley, Christine Truong, Veronica Villarreal, Debbie Drago, Claudia Palacio, and Francisca Aguillon. Yvette Arnold is the Congregational Secretary.



Sisters Christine Truong, PLT, and Susanne Hughes share a private moment.



Sisters at Mason Pointe mingle with leadership.



Sister Nora Pat O'Flannigan and CLT members.

PROVINCE NEWS



ZEAL

Announcements and News Tidbits

Sister Mary Joy Benson has been missioned to the Danville community. She resides at Nazareth Center, 15 Schoolhouse Lane, Danville, PA, 19178. The telephone number is 570-275-8701.

The 2022 member conference for U.S. Catholic Sisters Against Human Trafficking takes place in St. Louis from October 26-28. Please let Jeanette McDermott know if you attend. Register at <https://sistersagainsttrafficking.org/>

The Good Shepherd North America Gathering will be held from November 1-4 at St. Paul of the Cross Passionate Retreat

Center in Detroit, Michigan. Look for a story in the next issue of Items of Interest.

Sisters will gather in-person for the Province Assembly December 12-16 at Pallottine Renewal Center in St. Louis. We will report on the story in Items of Interest after the assembly concludes.

Sri Lanka continues to live through one of the worst economic and social crises it has seen, and Myanmar continues its struggle for peace and order. Please pray for the Good Shepherd Sisters and people of these countries.

Domestic Violence Awareness Month begins on October 1.

October 4 is the Feast of St. Francis, Blessing of the Animals, and final day of the Season of Creation.

On October 4, YouTube Originals will release the documentary *The Letter*, telling the story of the Laudato Si' encyclical letter and the unfolding ecological emergency. The Laudato Si' Movement partnered with film producers and the Vatican to make the film.

October 11 marks the 10th anniversary of the UN International Day of the Girl.

October 17 is the UN International Day for eradication of poverty.



L-R: Sisters Marta Ceballos and Claudia Palacio deliver toiletry kits to newly arrived immigrants in the Washington, DC, area. Items for the kits were donated and assembled by the Good Shepherd Sisters and friends of the community.



Blessings to our Good Shepherd Latina Sisters and the contributions they make to the world.

PROVINCE NEWS



ZEAL

Mission Partners review history of Black Catholic nuns in US to deepen understanding of racism

Good Shepherd Mission Partners studied the book *Subversive Habits* through three online discussions in September.

The book study was a follow-up to the province Area Meetings this spring and early summer, when Sisters watched and discussed videos about systemic racism and white privilege.

“The book had been just released and it seemed like felicitous timing to study it as a next step in understanding racism,” said Mary Carol McClenon, a participant and member of the Province Leadership Team (PLT).

According to Sister Mary Carol, “The PLT has not yet determined what the next step is for the commitment in the Province Direction Statement to “acknowledge and address racism within ourselves, in our structures, and in the wider social context.”

More than 60 Mission Partners (lay and Sisters) participated in the online study. They acknowledged the book as being both interesting and painful to read, making such comments as:

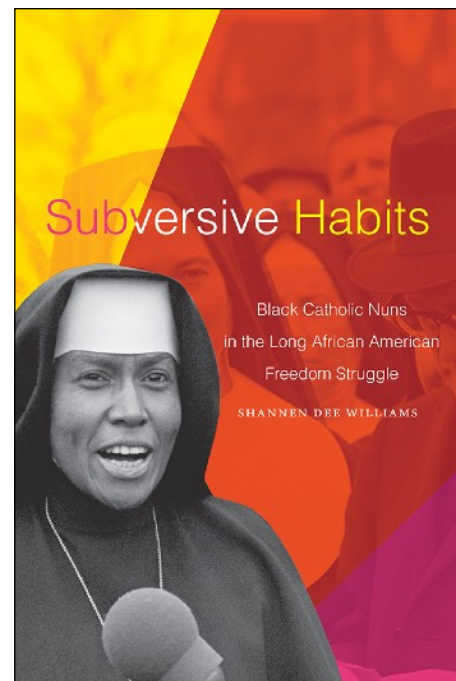
“It is a very difficult topic and can bring up painful memories.”

“I think it might help if at some point we can discuss where to go from here.”

“I had no idea that women religious congregations in the US had owned slaves. This was shocking.”

“I know a lot about racism and diversity, but this definitely included new information I had never encountered about racism in the church. Much appreciated!”

“The entire presentation was very well put together. The ending gave me so much hope - the panel discussion with the amazing and beautiful reconciliation between the



woman who had been rejected by the St Joseph congregation and the current leadership there. That filled me with joy and hope.”

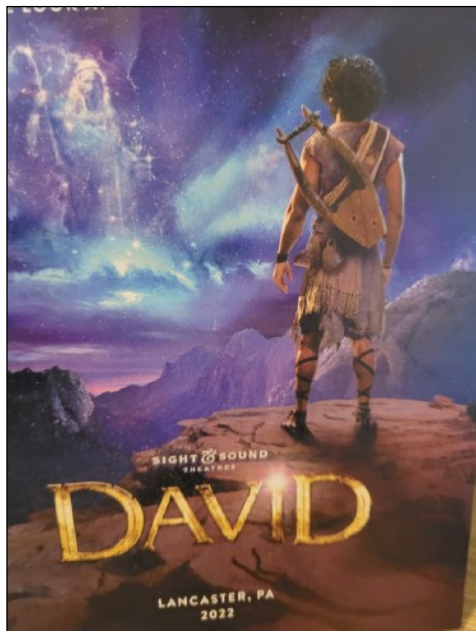


Construction nearing completion at Gracenter

Work is nearing completion on the new building at Gracenter. Workers poured accessible ramps and sidewalks on September 15, completing phase two of the construction. The building is expected to be finished by the end of the year. It will house five women in the recovery program at Gracenter in San Francisco. Gracenter received a grant for construction of the building.

COMMUNITY NEWS

ZEAL



Danville update

By Stella Mangona, RGS

Five Sisters from the Danville community traveled to Lancaster, Pennsylvania, to watch the stage performance DAVID at the Sight and Sound Theatre.

It was better than Broadway. Actors walked in the aisles, and we were thrilled to see real sheep, a llama, horse, and camel. The experience brought Israel directly to us.

I went to the performance with Sisters Mary Catherine Massei,



Marie Moore (L) and Sr. Kathleen Moore reunite in Danville after three years.

Frances Altavilla, Carmen Flores, and Charlotte Kirst. We saw Amish in their horse and buggies on the way home from Lancaster.

I continue my mission of online counseling with survivors of human trafficking and domestic violence. Three families traveled from Boston, San Francisco, and Seattle recently to meet with me and reunite with women family members who had been trafficked.

All of us in the Danville community are happy to see an abundance of wildlife where we live. We see deer, rabbits, foxes, possums, turtles,

coyotes, eagles, blue birds, robins, osprey with nests in the tower of the Basilica, and even a small bear cub who made himself at home in our outdoor prayer circle.

Sister Kathleen Moore and her sister Marie Moore saw each other in September for the first time in three years.

Marie lives at Mason Pointe in Chesterfield, near St. Louis. Sister Mary Carol McClenon is a member of the St. Louis community and brought Marie with her when she traveled from St. Louis to Danville to visit our community.



Sisters at Mason Pointe nurtured butterfly larvae this spring and then set the butterflies free after the caterpillars emerged from their chrysalis this summer. Sisters enjoyed many outings this summer including a ballgame.

COMMUNITY NEWS

ZEAL



Sisters rounded out the summer with a few trips to the ballgame at Busch Stadium in St. Louis. Left: Sisters Madeleine Munday and Mary Carol McClenon. Right: Sisters from the Mason Pointe Community L-R: Sharon O'Grady, LeeAnn Mackeprang, and Rose Henry Kern.



Contemplative Sisters L-R: Sharon Rose Authorson, Collette Sauer, and Elizabeth Garciano pose for a group selfie during the province area meeting in Cincinnati.

NAC News

Vote to protect the environment

In anticipation of the November 8th midterm elections, Catholic Climate Covenant presented a webinar on the theological foundations for why Catholics are called to vote to protect the environment. You can watch it at <https://bit.ly/3dKB13P>

While on the topic of voting, the National Advocacy Center of Sisters of the Good Shepherd (NAC) asks Sisters and Partners-in-Mission to exercise their right to vote November 8. Please be sure you are properly registered. You can update your record by visiting <https://bit.ly/NACVoters>.

Video release

NAC released a new video in August titled *Building a Culture of Justice*. The video amplifies the Good Shepherd voice for change in the structures of society. You can view the video on the NAC YouTube channel at <https://bit.ly/3ePAkGI>

Fran Eskin-Royer, Executive Director of the National Advocacy Center, and Sr. Claudia Palacio, province liaison for the Justice Peace office, attended a vigil on September 23rd in remembrance of human rights abuses of Haitians in Del Rio that took place a year ago. The vigil called attention to racism against migrants of color. See more about the vigil at <https://www.gsadvocacy.org/immigration--refugees.html>

COMMUNITY NEWS

ZEAL

L-R in each photo, clockwise around the photo collage:

- Large photo: Sisters Agnes Rose Richardson, Bernadetta Haviland, Victoria Andreoli's grandniece, Paulette LoMonaco, Victoria's two great grandnieces, Maureen McGowan, and Ann Sebastian Roussel.
- Sister Karen Keegan; Sister Jean Bernadetta Haviland.
- Center photo: Sisters Jean Bernadetta Haviland, Maureen McGowan, Ellen Kelly, Agnes Rose Richardson, Judy Mannix, Digna Rivas (Central America Province), and Debbie Drago.
- Center right: Sisters Mary James Clines and Maureen McGowan.
- Bottom row: Sisters Victoria Andreoli, Elena Lawless, Virginia Crowell, Dorothy Margaret Brown, and Ann Sebastian Roussel.

✝ Summer 2022
New York-Toronto Sisters
NY & MA



Galas, fundraisers, donation drives & more

Gracenter

Gracenter held a successful fundraiser in September to support the mission of supporting women in recovery.

Sisters of the Good Shepherd and the Good Shepherd Guild are celebrating 90 years of service to disadvantaged young women in San Francisco.

Sisters started their ministry in San Francisco in 1932 when they opened a school for girls who were in the juvenile justice system. Sisters ran University Mound School for Girls from 1932 to approximately 1980. Gracenter was a transitional home for graduates from University Mound from 1961-1980. In the late 1980s Sr. Jeanne Waddell asked Sr.

Sharon O'Grady to help figure out the greatest need of the women in Gracenter; it was the unaddressed addiction of most of the women, which led to their homelessness. Consequently, Gracenter became a drug and alcohol treatment residence for women in approximately 1990.

CORA Good Shepherd Mediation

CORA Good Shepherd Mediation presented Philly Peace Day on September 21 with a public Open House. The focus of the Open House was to inform about restorative justice, mediation, and other peacemaking tools through an interactive installation with arts and crafts, quizzes, and videos.

The Disney film *Encanto* was also featured, along with a post-film discussion about how the accountability and forgiveness expressed in the film connects to conflict resolution.

Good Shepherd Shelter

Good Shepherd Shelter will hold its annual gala virtually on October 8. The shelter has been giving survivors of domestic violence hope for the future since 1977, first as a sponsored ministry of Sisters of the Good Shepherd and now as a program of Catholic Charities. The shelter will honor Sr. Madeleine Munday, Mid-North America province leader, with the St. Mary Euphrasia Award for dedicated service to the shelter.

MINISTRY NEWS



ZEAL

CORA Services

Pumpkin painting, food, and dancing. Balloon animals and bubbles. Mental health screenings and mind-blowing magic. All of this and more are on tap for the second annual CORA Fest in Philadelphia on October 8.

Maryhurst

Maryhurst had a successful Back-to-School donation drive, filling more than 200 backpacks with school supplies to support students for a successful school year.

Republic Bank, a community partner of Maryhurst, assembled the bags and collected and donated items.



Mission Effectiveness

The Office of Mission Effectiveness held its first in-person mission retreat sessions since the pandemic for the staff at Maryhurst in Louisville.



L-R: Sister Barbara Beasley, Maryhurst Executive Director Paula Garner, and Judy Lambeth, former Executive Director of Maryhurst.



Vista Maria

Vista Maria's last fundraising event of the year, the Dolly Drive, is on October 20th, when participants bring dolls, action figures, and games for children who are on Vista Maria's holiday wish list.

CELEBRATION OF LIFE **ZEAL**

Nellie Marie Hawkins, RGS

June 5, 1934 – July 22, 2022

Sister Nellie Marie Hawkins was born on June 5, 1934, in Washington, DC. She was the oldest of 14 children born to George and Teresa Hawkins.

Sister Nellie grew up on a tobacco and animal farm in Prince George County, Maryland. Discerning a vocation to religious life, she first entered the Oblate Sisters of Providence and then came to join the Good Shepherd contemplative Sisters in Baltimore.

Ripples of prayer

If we were to describe Sr. Nellie in one word, it would be “faithful.” She was faithful to her contemplative vocation, to her family, and to her African American heritage. At a directed retreat in the 1970s she promised to rise at 3:00 am to be at prayer at 3:30. She kept this promise until the day before she died.

Sister Nellie believed in prayer. She described her prayer as a stone

being tossed into a pool that intersected with the ripples of all others who were praying.

She felt that it was important to remember that she did not pray alone. During a retreat where clay was used, she made a boat and explained that she felt she was sailing in the boat with all of God’s people.

Sister Nellie had a special way of relating to others and people always looked forward to being with her.

One day when a Sister was coughing and clearing her throat constantly in chapel, Sr Nellie announced at the meal that she was delighted whenever she hears this happening. It makes her feel that she is not alone and that others are with her supporting her in prayer.

Altar bread prayers

Sister Nellie enjoyed baking and cutting the hosts for Eucharistic celebrations. As she prepared the hosts, she prayed especially for the people who would be receiving the altar bread that she had made.

Both Pope John Paul II and Pope Francis consecrated hosts that Nellie made when they were in Philadelphia. She was proud of this and kept a picture of Pope John Paul elevating her host.

Sister Nellie’s handcrafted Christmas cards were often the first cards her friends received during the holiday season. She liked



Nellie Marie Hawkins, RGS

making and sending Christmas cards and keeping in touch with others in this way.

Her face would light up when she received responses from those she contacted. She had a special way of relating to others and people always looked forward to being with her.

Sister Nellie felt that her gift to the community was to play the guitar at the liturgy. She also selected the theme and hymns that she believed to be appropriate for the celebrations. She took special care in doing this, and it was evident in her choices.

Sister Nellie was unique. She brought a special flavor to the community, adding spice and humor.

Submitted by Jude Ellen Golumbieski, RGS



Sister Nellie Marie Hawkins as a young Sister.

CELEBRATION OF LIFE **ZEAL**

Bernadette Bates, Companion

August 19, 1945 – July 31, 2022

Bernadette “Bernie” Bates and her twin sister Theresa were the 13th and 14th of 15 children born to Leonard and Margaret Bates.

When the newborns were taken to the convent to be celebrated, one of the Sisters laid the twins on the altar, consecrating them to God. For Bernie, this was providential, as she went on to live a life devoted to following Jesus.

After graduating from Our Lady of Grace High School in Indianapolis, Indiana, Bernie went to work for the Sisters of the Good Shepherd at Marydale. When the Sisters closed Marydale, she moved to Cincinnati, Ohio, and worked for the Sisters at Girls Town until the ministry closed.

Rose Virginie Warnig, RGS, invited Bernie in the early 1990s to become a Companion of Jesus the Good Shepherd. She accepted and took all four of the Good Shepherd vows.

Bernie had a simple and unassuming personality. She accepted people unconditionally and always let others know how precious they were in the eyes of God. She mentored other candidates, fed the homeless, organized home Bible studies, and worked with inmates in a women's prison ministry.



Bernadette “Bernie” Bates, Companion of Jesus the Good Shepherd

Bernie touched all of our lives. We miss her and are confidently assured of and grateful for her prayers. Be at peace, dear friend!

Submitted by Donna Sauer, Companion of Jesus the Good Shepherd

PLT CALENDAR

NAME	DATES	LOCATION
Full PLT	Oct 1 Oct 10 Oct 24 Oct 27 Oct 27-30 Nov 7	Update on Normandy property, Zoom Zoom Zoom Teambuilding & supper, St. Louis PLT events, St. Louis Financial Advisory Board Meeting, St. Louis (hybrid) <i>Continued on next page</i>

PLT CALENDAR CONT'D

NAME	DATES	LOCATION
Sharon Rose Authorson	Full PLT schedule +	No additional events or activities
Barbara Beasley	Full PLT schedule + Oct 3-9 Oct 4,11,18,25 Oct 6,13,20,27 Oct 14 Oct 23 Nov 3,10,24 Nov 10 Nov 17 Nov 23	Retreat, Pallottine Renewal Center, Florissant Religious Formation, Zoom Mission Effectiveness, Zoom Vocation Fair, St. Louis NBSC, Zoom Mission Effectiveness, Zoom Province Zoom Core Values Retreat, Pallottine Renewal Center, Florissant NBSC, Zoom
Gayle Lwanga Crumbley	Full PLT schedule + Oct 14 Oct 26-31 Nov 2 Nov 7	No additional events or activities Vacation PLT business, St. Louis NRVC Convocation, Spokane, WA LCWR Region VI Regional Meeting
Elizabeth Garciano	Full PLT schedule + Oct 16 Oct 25 Nov 1-4 Nov 4-6 Nov 8	Central South US Assembly, Carrollton Formation Team meeting, Zoom NAMVT Assembly, Detroit Visit to convent Return to Carrollton
Mary Carol McClenon	Full PLT schedule + Oct 3-7 Oct 7-8 Oct 15-22	RCRI (Resource Center for Religious Institutes), Dallas Visit Dallas community Visit Carrollton, OH, for Central South Assembly
Madeleine Munday	Full PLT schedule + Oct 8 Oct 10 Oct 11 Oct 13 Oct 15 Oct 20 Nov 1-4 Nov 10 Nov 17	Gala, GS Shelter, LA MO Bishops Meeting w/major superiors, St. Louis DeNeuville Board of Directors Meeting, Zoom LCWR Region X, St. Louis Knights of Columbus clergy appreciation dinner, St. Louis Webinar on collaborative archives with archivists for congregations of women religious NAMVT Gathering, Detroit LCWR Region X, St. Louis Staff/PLT retreat day

PLT CALENDAR CONT'D

NAME	DATES	LOCATION
Claudia Palacio	Full PLT schedule + Oct 3-7 Oct 7-8 Oct 11-17 Oct 23 Oct 25	RCRI (Resource Center for Religious Institutes), Dallas Visit Dallas community Vacation, Houston NY Province Gathering, Connecticut Vocation Formation, Zoom
Christine Truong	Full PLT schedule + Sep 29-Oct 11 Nov 1-4 Nov 12 Nov 26	40 years serving "Boat People" in Hong Kong camps Melbourne, Australia NAMVT Gathering, Detroit Thanksgiving celebration with GS Atlanta Meeting with RGS in Vietnam, Zoom

Domestic Violence Awareness Month

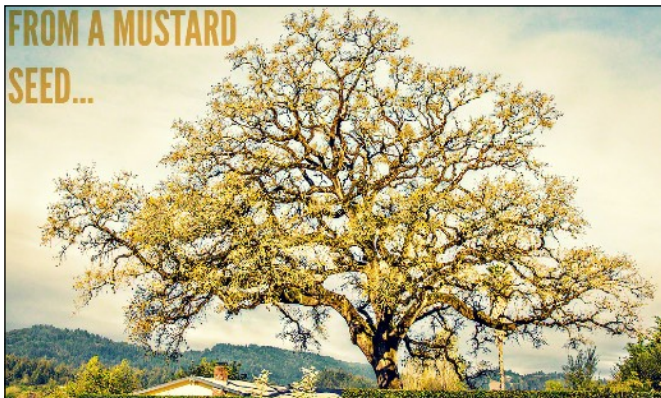
National Domestic Violence Awareness Month is recognized each October as a time to raise awareness of domestic, spousal, and dating violence. The color purple is used to represent seeking justice. The Good Shepherd Shelter in Los Angeles has been empowering survivors of domestic violence more than 40 years. We send them blessings.



PROVINCE CONTACT

ZEAL

FROM A MUSTARD
SEED...



"You have been asked to cultivate the grain of a mustard seed destined to become a great tree."

St. Mary Euphrasia

Contact us

Sisters of the Good Shepherd
Province of Mid-North America
7654 Natural Bridge Road
St. Louis, MO 63121

314-381-3400; 314-381-7102 fax
www.sistersofthegoodshepherd.com

Jeanette McDermott, communications coordinator
314-399-4028

jmcdermott@gspmna.org

Follow us on facebook & Twitter

www.facebook.com/Sistersofthegoodshepherd
@GoodShepherdRGS (twitter)

ITEMS OF INTEREST

Sisters of the Good Shepherd
Province of Mid-North America
7654 Natural Bridge Road
St. Louis, MO 63121

