



Tidings

BENEDICTINE SISTERS OF ANNUNCIATION MONASTERY

FALL/WINTER 2014

St. Alexius Affiliates with CHI to Strengthen The Healing Mission of Jesus



The signing of the CHI and St. Alexius partnership agreement. Seated lt. to rt.: Mark Parrington (CHI); Sister Nancy Miller; Jeffrey Drop (CHI).

Standing lt. to rt.: Sisters Susan Lardy, Agnes Reinert, Mariah Dietz, Renee Zastoupil, JoAnn Krebsbach; Gary P. Miller, Sisters Rebecca Mayer, Gerard Wald, Patricia Schap, Nicole Kunze, Janet Zander, Agatha Mugli, Thomas Welder, Rosanne Zastoupil.

Sister Nancy Miller, prioress of Annunciation Monastery, and Gary P. Miller, president and CEO of St. Alexius Medical Center, answer questions about the affiliation between St. Alexius Medical Center and Catholic Health Initiatives (CHI).

Q: The affiliation between St. Alexius Medical Center and Catholic Health Initiatives (CHI) has been established. Why is this important to the future direction of Catholic healthcare in our region?

GM: Our affiliation with CHI presents an opportunity to develop and extend our purpose and mission through the development of a regional coordinated health system. This

Story continues on page 3



MESSAGE FROM THE

Prioress

Change. We know it's inevitable and we know it's necessary in order to grow. With confidence in knowing that God is in control, we can find peace in times of transition that may challenge us. We begin to find blessing in the subtle and even the not so subtle changes.

Recently we celebrated the affiliation of Catholic Health Initiatives (CHI) and St. Alexius Medical Center – now CHI St. Alexius Health. The culture of both entities is based on Gospel values and the healing mission of Jesus. As we look to the future, we move and adapt to the changing needs of the people we serve, responding with the same faith and collaboration of the pioneering Benedictine sisters who came before us. We are blessed to have this opportunity to strengthen our healthcare network and continue to provide excellent care here and in our rural communities.

Change occurs at all stages of life. Very recently, Sisters Kathryn Zimmer and Rose Schweitzer went home to God. They found peace and acceptance in their limitations, knowing full well God was with them. We thank God for these inspiring women who led our community in faith and service. Both were influential in their unique ways. They were steadfast in praying for the women who are in various stages of formation, confident that they will carry the mission forward in remarkable ways.

Certainly consecrated life is changing. Not in its foundation of prayer and ministry, but in the ways we express it in response to a changing world. As new needs arise, we are called to respond. In joyful response to Pope Francis proclaiming 2015 a “Year of Consecrated Life,”

our sisters will participate in events beginning the weekend of November 29, 2014, through February 2, 2016. In the sharing of resources and experiences of prayer, community life and service, we take up the Pope's challenge to “Wake Up the World.” We are currently participating in the development of a video series promoting vocations to religious life. As we engage with others in the work of the Church, we will explore more ways to help others awaken to God's call.

Changes occur in our monastic community. We are blessed to have five women in various stages of formation. We are awakened by their gifts, their joy and the hope they bring, as well as the way they serve God's people. We thank God for the women and men throughout the world who listen and respond to God's call. They truly bring the love and compassion of Christ to those in need. Please join us in praying for those who answer the call to consecrated life.

In a few weeks, you will hear more about how we “Wake Up the World.” We invite you to join us in that effort. Together, we can wake up the world, living each day in a joyful response to God's call and find blessing in this changing world!

Sister Thany Miller, OSB





The CHI St. Alexius Health flag was raised on October 16, 2014.

affiliation will provide even more opportunities to deliver viable, innovative, high-quality, integrated care to the region. We stand united by building on each other's strengths in rural and faith-based care. Enhanced service is our goal, and care delivered outside local communities will be better coordinated for patients and providers. Together we can do great things.

SNM: We have a rich history that we cherish, celebrate and honor. We know that we must always look to the future with the faith and trust in God's providence as the pioneering sisters did before us. Through CHI St. Alexius Health, we can offer a more efficient network of care through added expertise, technology and integrated sharing of health records. We know that God is in charge and we remain open to the spirit as we strive to meet the needs of the people now and in the future.

Q: How will this affiliation affect the mission of St. Alexius, which follows in the Benedictine tradition, "Let all be received as Christ?"

SNM: Both Catholic Health Initiatives and St. Alexius are committed to the mission. This is why our partnership makes sense. It strengthens the way we deliver healthcare in a way that heals the body, mind and spirit. Our mission enhances the excellence we are known for. Although the wording in our mission statement and/or values

may change, the mission to "Let all be received as Christ," will always be exhibited through our shared values of integrity, compassion, excellence and respect for the dignity of every individual.

Q: How will this affiliation affect services offered in outlying clinics and hospitals?

GM: The regional health system will include, but is not limited to: CHI Carrington Health (Carrington), CHI Mercy Medical Center (Williston), CHI St. Joseph's Health (Dickinson), CHI Mercy Hospital (Devils Lake), CHI St. Alexius Health (Bismarck), St. Alexius Garrison Memorial Hospital (Garrison), Community Memorial Hospital (Turtle Lake), St. Alexius Garrison Clinic (Garrison), St. Alexius Mandan Clinic – North (Mandan), St. Alexius Minot Medical Plaza (Minot), St. Alexius Washburn Clinic (Washburn) and St. Alexius Regional Asthma Clinic (Lincoln).

Q: Will the name "St. Alexius Medical Center" change?

SNM: The name "St. Alexius" has always been associated with mission and excellence. This is why we felt it was important to keep St. Alexius in the new name. St. Alexius is now called CHI St. Alexius Health.

Q: What does this transition mean for St. Alexis staff?

GM: Basic staffing and operations will not be affected by our transition with CHI. We do not anticipate any disruptions in patient care or staffing for patient care needs. CHI does utilize strategic vendor partnerships for select services. There may be changes over time in how some of the jobs that fall within strategic partnerships are handled within St. Alexis. Titles and services may change, but the core of our care delivery will remain the same.

Q: Will the Benedictine Sisters of Annunciation Monastery continue as sponsors?

SNM: Yes. CHI St. Alexis Health will continue under the sponsorship of the Benedictine Sisters

of Annunciation Monastery. Our Benedictine foremothers came here in 1885 to start St. Alexis. We have been a strong presence at St. Alexis for almost 130 years and we will continue. One of our Benedictine values is stability. We are committed to CHI St. Alexis Health in this new partnership. As prioress of Annunciation Monastery, I will continue to serve on the Board of Directors, as will additional sisters.

We Sisters of Annunciation Monastery pray for all who serve at CHI St. Alexis. We are grateful for their dedication to the mission. In caring for one another, we become the face of Christ.

Sisters Susan Lardy and Stephanie Dolyniuk and a staff member enjoy the celebratory luncheon that followed a prayer service and flag-raising.





Jerome Richter, Sister Janet Zander, Monsignor James Shea and Father Al Bitz explore sacred sites in Rome.

University of Mary President's Club Rome Pilgrimage October 4-15, 2014

by Sister Janet Zander

Sent off in a morning blessing by Sister Nancy and Sisters at the monastery and with an envelope to be opened enroute "praying me on my way," I took to heart its sentiment. This pilgrimage promised to be one of blessed opportunity...of reunion with sights and sounds remembered from years back, discovery of sites and customs infused with story and communion with pilgrims touched by the sacredness of it all.

With thanks to Monsignor James Shea and friends who had earlier experienced this same opportunity, I thrilled in a pilgrimage shaped by Msgr. Shea and Jerome Richter, experts in planning, in leadership, and in infusing names and places with story and significance. In the company of warm and wonderful fellow-pilgrims, we were welcomed at the University of Mary Rome campus by staff and students. On a sunny October morning audience with Pope Francis in St. Peter's Square, we quickly sensed how the Church "mothers" all nations. We walked everyday locales in the hometowns of such saints as Thomas Aquinas, Catherine of Siena, and Francis of Assisi, and prayed at the final resting places of Saints Benedict and Scholastica and popes including the first, Peter, and our very own contemporary, John Paul II. Pondering the great art commissioned to catechize and communicate the human experience of God brought awareness that each generation has its own kind of awakening to the truth.

Joseph Campbell writes "Where we had thought to travel outward, we will come to the center of our own existence." I return renewed in the Sisters' blessing that sent me off, celebrating God's goodness and love, and so very deeply grateful.



Falling Into Blessing

by Sister Margaret Nelson

Falling backwards down the steps and breaking two bones in my right wrist was one of the best blessings of my life. It started me on the path to healing and wholeness.

In 2013 I was having excruciating abdominal pain every time I ate. So I didn't eat much and dropped from 105 to 82 pounds in about three months. I was at the lowest point in my life, in terrible physical and emotional agony, frightened because the pounds kept rolling off my slight frame, and my anxiety was sky high. The pain was so bad I wanted to give up and die. But I knew if I died I would hurt my family and my Benedictine Sisters so I had to keep going. I cried to God for help and it came in the most surprising way. I fell and broke my wrist.

It doesn't sound like a blessing, but it was. I no longer felt alone in my pain. After surgery on my wrist, I was completely dependent on others to help me dress, bathe and eat. Ordinary tasks became impossible. There were medical professionals around all day and night to help me. Besides the broken wrist and abdominal pain, I have other health issues that make me a complicated patient.

I also recalled an African proverb, “If a mountain is in your path, do not sit at its foot and cry. Get up and climb it.” That quote helped me to accept life as it is and keep climbing.



I have had a speech disability since 1948. As an infant I became sick with encephalitis, an inflammation of the brain. When I woke up from a week-long coma, my tongue, lips and swallowing mechanism were paralyzed. By the time I reached my 60s, eating became harder and harder. I choked often on solid foods and liquids. In 2007 I had a feeding tube inserted and that helped me gain more nourishment. Then about a year ago my balance went haywire so I use a walker to get around.

After being discharged from St. Alexius, I went to Garrison Memorial Hospital for recovery. It is a small, rural hospital 80 miles from Bismarck. When I got there I was depressed, malnourished, weak and in a lot of pain.

By this time I had been diagnosed with irritable bowel syndrome (IBS), the reason for the abdominal pain. There is no cure but some medications and lifestyle changes can reduce the pain. I switched my diet from feeding tube formula to a special IBS diet. Solid foods and almond milk were blended into a liquid so it could be put down the feeding tube. It was the first time the dietary staff at Garrison had prepared such food. I admired their courage.

I especially got to know the nurses because they fed me four times a day and it took a half an hour each time. We chatted a lot. Sometimes when getting air bubbles out of the syringe they would push hard on the plunger. Suddenly it would give way and food would hit the ceiling, the wall or their faces and clothes. It was quite a scene. We had many good laughs over that.

The staff at Garrison was kind and friendly. To distract me from my pain, they brought me movies and books, taught me the song “Tiny Bubbles” and even gave me a Christmas tree. Gradually my depression lifted and my sense of humor returned. I realized once again that I am a people person, being with people gives me energy and happiness. There were a lot of people at Garrison I could interact with. I also learned ways to distract myself from pain. I learned to let go and let life happen. At first I couldn’t pray because of the pain, but as I lay in bed, I repeated over and over, “Trust in God’s love.....Trust in God’s love.” Trust and let go. This brought me peace.

I also recalled an African proverb, “If a mountain is in your path, do not sit at its foot and cry. Get up and climb it.” That quote helped me to accept life as it is and keep climbing.

I have found blessing in suffering all my life. This time I found it in the people of Garrison Memorial Hospital. Their love and care made me want to live again. I will be forever grateful to them.

*“as I pray and relax in God’s love and the support of the sisters,
I am realizing how this novitiate year is a gift.”*

Gifts of the Novitiate

August 10 marked a special beginning for Idelle Badt as she was received into the year-long novitiate. As a novice, she is more deeply immersed in the study, prayer, reflection and work of the Sisters.

Idelle admits the first two weeks of the novitiate were an adjustment. “Having been completely independent and no longer having outside employment felt like a loss at first. Like many people, I was used to being really busy – always on the go,” she explains. “But as I pray and relax in God’s love and the support of the sisters,



I am realizing how this novitiate year is a gift. After all, who has the luxury of having a year to delve into study of self and faith and live day-to-day without being dictated by schedules and continual activity? I am relishing getting to know the Sisters on a deeper level as we live together, and I cherish the precious time I spend with the elders in community.”

In a beautiful ceremony welcoming Idelle Badt to the novitiate, Sister Nancy Miller presented Idelle with the Rule of St. Benedict which will be a source of study and guidance through this year. Sister Mariah Dietz (far right) directed Idelle through the postulancy and Sister Agatha Muggli (far left) is novice director.

Taizé Prayer Brings Peace, Hope, Healing

Novice Idelle Badt explains Taizé prayer services at Annunciation Monastery

Taizé is an ecumenical community in France, whose prayer is at the heart of their life. Founded in 1940, the community is made up of Protestants and Catholics from some 20 countries. Taizé prayer was started after World War II to spread prayer among people of differing cultures and religions. It is a universal prayer of peace, hope and healing. The service involves contemplation of God through beautiful chants, silence, and scripture.

Taizé is a powerful experience. The chapel is kept relatively dark and lit only by votive candles. Taizé includes repetitive chant, the Gospel read in several different languages, prayer petitions and reflective silence.

After our first Taizé prayer service was held Nov. 1, we are excited to offer more Taizé prayer opportunities in the future.



Diane Krupinsky and Linda Stewart were received as Oblates of Annunciation Monastery on October 5. (Lt. to rt.): Sister Patricia Schap, oblate director, new oblates Diane Krupinsky and Linda Stewart; Sister Nancy Miller, prioress, and Sister Rosemary DeGracia, assistant oblate director.

Welcome New Oblates, Diane and Linda!

In a special oblation ceremony, Diane Krupinsky and Linda Stewart were received as oblates of Annunciation Monastery. This blessed event took place in the chapel where they each signed the oblation documents in the presence of the sisters, family, friends and oblates.

“Oblates are Christian people who want to enhance their spiritual journey through living according to the Rule of St. Benedict as their state in life permits,” explains Sister Patricia Schap, oblate director. “They are supported by our sisters and other oblates through prayer and monthly meetings as they delve more deeply into the study and practice of living with greater attention to God’s presence in daily life.”

Diane was drawn to the study of the Rule of St. Benedict and the opportunity to engage in dialogue with others. “That deep exploration of the Scriptures and how it applies to life today is valuable because these are things people don’t often discuss on a regular basis,” she says. A lifelong learner, she finds value in the monthly oblate meetings. “To experience the kind of hospitality one receives at the monastery and at oblate meetings is such a gift. The atmosphere is serene. The meetings are respectful and comfortable. People speak from the heart.” When asked how living according to the Rule of St. Benedict influences her life, Diane says, “I can let go of things more easily. Rather than letting situations beyond my control upset me, I pray. We are all on the same journey.”

Both Diane and Linda say the oblation ceremony was a deeply moving experience. They were overwhelmed by the unconditional love and support of those who blessed them with their presence.

“The day of oblation felt so good. I had been looking forward to it but when I was standing in front of the prioress, Sister Nancy Miller, it was so charged,” shares Linda. “I said those words with more commitment than I have ever spoken anything. I have had such a happy glow ever since.” She says her Benedictine medal, a gift from her parents, serves as a daily reminder of her Benedictine heart. “Each morning, I pray that I can see Christ in everyone I encounter, and that I can be the face of Christ to others through my own words and actions.” The oblate meetings serve as a strong source of support to Linda. She says, “I’m always amazed at the insight I receive from others. The meetings bring people together, people who read the same Scripture reading or section from the Rule of Benedict, and hear a completely different message. This enriches and expands on what I could ever hope to attain on my own.”

“Our oblates are a vital part of our monastic community,” says Sister Patricia. “Several of our oblates, including Diane and Linda, also volunteer at the monastery switchboard. They contribute so much to our lives and it is a joy to seek God together with this amazing, committed group of people.”

The Circle of Life

by Sister Hannah Vanorny

The *Lion King* was the first VHS movie our family ever owned. I was around 10 years old when our family finally got a VCR and joined the rest of the country in modern movie viewing. Since it was the only movie we owned for quite some time, my family watched it probably close to 30 times. I bring up that movie because a song from the film, entitled *The Circle of Life*, has been playing in my head repeatedly this past year.

The circle of life refers to the birth and death of people and generations; every time someone dies in the world, a baby is also born somewhere... and the circle of life continues. The end of life – death – is what has hit me lately. Last month I was shocked to hear that my Little Sister from the Big Brother/Big Sister program had died suddenly in her sleep at age 19.

Last winter, both of **my parents** were hit with cancer *at the same time*. While they are both doing okay now, I was made keenly aware of how easily I can lose them.

Living in a multi-generational community, I have seen death up close, but the recent death of our 100-year-old **Sister Rose**, who entered eternal life on November 2, All Souls Day, has been particularly difficult. We will miss her always.

Death is all around us. It is a natural part of the circle of life for humans. As a Christian, I am comforted by my belief that death is not the end of everything, but the beginning – the beginning of an eternal happiness with God. Life on earth is short and so now, more than ever, I believe that we need to live it to the fullest. How do we do that? Be kind! Be joyful! Interestingly, in his Holy Rule, St. Benedict speaks the most about joy in his chapter on Lent. He instructs us to go about the fasting and hardships of Lent “with the joy of the Holy Spirit” within us (49:6).

We all have “Lent” times in our lives, especially when our loved ones die. I am continuously encouraged by the positive spirit that is passed from



My Parents
Tom and Sharon
Vanorny



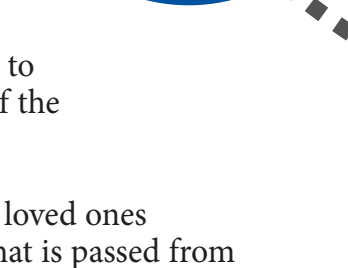
Sister Rose Schweitzer



Sister Francis Schweitzer



Sister Gerard Wald



Sister JoAnn Krebsbach

Life on earth is short and so now, more than ever, I believe that we need to live it to the fullest. How do we do that? Be kind! Be joyful!

those Sisters who have left us to the next generation of Sisters. The circle of life, in the form of kindness and holy joy, is alive and well in the monastery.

Where do I see it?

I see it in 93-year-old **Sister Francis**, who sings with joyful gusto even through her physical pain.



Sister Joseph Dukart

I see it in **Sister Gerard**, who remains doggedly optimistic through every hardship and death in her life.



Sister Miriam Schmitt

I see it in **Sister JoAnn** who exhibits such a natural joy in the simple living of monastic life.

I see it in **Sister Thomas** who takes the time to really listen to every person she speaks with.



Idelle Badt

I see it in **Sister Ruth Margaret** who quietly goes about creating joyful spaces with her decorating expertise.

I see it in our novice, **Idelle**, whose love and compassion for the elderly and the weak leads to deep and real friendships with them.

Sister Ruth Margaret
Karabensch

I see it in **Sister Miriam** who, even though she suffers from dementia, can still giggle so infectiously that it makes me happy just to think about it.



Sister Thomas Welder

I see it in **Sister Joseph** who maintains her wonderful sense of humor through life's difficulties. I do not have space here to name the positive spirit I see in every Sister, but each one of us carries on that joyful monastic spirit in our own way.



For women who are considering religious life – I say try it out! Life is too short and too full of hardships to waste time waffling. Explore and see if being a Sister brings you the kind of spirit that fills you with a steady joy - a joy that was experienced by the Sisters who came before you and a joy that you can pass on to the next generation.



Sister Rosanne Zastoupil

“I look forward to having some time to re-center, to pray, reflect and read.”

“I don't think I'll be bored...”

After an impressive 42 years of ministry at the University of Mary, Sister Rosanne Zastoupil retired on October 31. She says those years have been blessed with rich relationships with students, faculty and staff. Retirement has been on her radar for a couple of years but her workaholic tendencies kept her from doing so. “I realized it’s time for me to step back and pass the torch to the next person,” she admits.

Sister Rosanne has served in financial aid, the business office and payroll and benefits since she first entered religious life. She says the decision to retire was difficult because her ministry at the University of Mary has been such a huge part of her life. And she reassures, “It will continue to be – just in a different way.”

As Sister Rosanne continues to be active on the board of directors and as chair of the finance committee at CHI St. Alexius Health, she prays that the deepening of the Benedictine values of prayer and hospitality are expressed to and through faculty, staff, patients and students at the hospital and the University of Mary, the sisters’ sponsored ministries. Sister Rosanne is treasurer at Annunciation Monastery and serves on the monastery council and chairs the finance council.

In her transition from full-time ministry to a less-scheduled routine, Sister Rosanne says, “I look forward to having some time to re-center, to pray, reflect and read. I want to learn to play cards with the sisters and get serious about an exercise program. I want to spend time in my flower bed and be in nature. I want to bake again. I love to bake. And then there’s sleep – I need to catch up. It’s funny how one busy schedule seems to just fill up with another busy schedule. I’ll have to work on that but this much I know, I don’t think I’ll be bored!”



A Heavenly Harvest

Idelle Badt and Sisters JoAnn Krebsbach, Hannah Vanorny and Gerard Wald put a lot of TLC into the monastery garden which yielded a generous crop of beets, rhubarb, tomatoes, lettuce, onions and pumpkins.

Sister Kathleen Atkinson Honored with Caritas Award



Congratulations to Sister Kathleen Atkinson, the recipient of the 2014 Caritas Award. On October 8, guests gathered in Fargo for the Catholic Charities North Dakota annual luncheon where the award was presented to Sister Kathleen.

Sister Kathleen is the founder of Ministry on the Margins, a ministry formed to support those who fall through the cracks during difficult times of transition, on the margins of life - particularly those re-entering the community from prison and those who are homeless. The organization recently opened food banks in downtown Bismarck and Wilton, and donated to the Fort Yates Food Bank in order to keep it open to the people in need.

The Caritas Award is given annually to persons or organizations in recognition of outstanding service and love for humanity. The purpose is to recognize an individual or an organization that has, by example and deed, served persons in need and/or advocated for justice and/or convened other persons of good will to do the same in a manner consistent with Catholic Social Teaching.

Thank you to Sister Kathleen and the many volunteers who commit themselves to meeting the needs of the people, where they are, with compassion, love, respect and hospitality.

Sister Thomas Welder Named Woman of Honor

Sister Thomas Welder, and two other deserving women, Meghan Wilkinson and Paula Klein, were surprised with top honors from Center for Technology & Business (CTB) at the third annual Women's Business Summit luncheon in October.

In honor of National Women's Small Business Month, the event brought together women from across the state for a unique networking and professional development opportunity designed to strengthen the state of women-owned businesses in North Dakota.

As she applauded the accomplishments of others, Sister Thomas did not expect her name to follow as she was named the 2014 CTB Woman of Honor, which brought the crowd to their feet.

Sister Thomas was recognized as "a woman who lives, serves and leads by example. She has served on numerous boards and has been actively involved in professional organizations and religious affiliations on both a state and national level. Her personal achievements, character and leadership have been an inspiration to countless individuals, students, entrepreneurs, and business and state leaders."

The women are chosen in recognition of their spirit of mentorship leadership, strength, wisdom and foresight. "CTB is honored to be able to recognize these amazing women and to celebrate not only their professional accomplishments but their personal desires to give back and to help other women grow," says CTB Executive Director, Deb Eslinger. "We hope that by sharing their stories we're providing inspiration for other women to know that they have it in them to do great things and to make a difference in the lives of others."





“Architecture cannot be understood without some knowledge of the society it serves.”

Sir Hugh Maxwell Casson: 1948 *An Introduction to Victorian Architecture*

Architectural Documentary to Include Sisters

The unique architecture of Marcel Breuer draws many visitors to Annunciation Monastery and the University of Mary. Architecturally-trained eyes observe the spaces with appreciation and reverence. With a greater understanding of how Breuer’s buildings complement the mission of the founding sisters, one’s appreciation widens with the sweeping views of the Missouri River, wind-swept prairie, grassy bluffs where Breuer marveled, “Even the earth is friendly here.”

Two such visitors included Carl Stein, an architect from New York, and his daughter, Jesse deNeeve. They are producing a video based on the works of Marcel Breuer and Hamilton Smith. In expressing his interest in the buildings and bell banner, Stein stated, “Your banner and the one at Saint John’s Abbey are important examples of Modernism’s ability to find fresh, contemporary forms to serve similar functions as those provided by historical architectural elements. Although I was not involved with either St. John’s or the Annunciation Monastery, I did work very closely with Breuer (Marcel) and Ham (Hamilton) Smith on the Atlanta Central Library and consider both men to have been mentors, teachers and friends.”

In an animated interview, Stein and the sisters shared insights about Breuer’s architecture and how it supports their mission and Benedictine values. This interview is one of several that will be incorporated into a documentary Stein and deNeeve, are making based on recent interviews with Hamilton Smith.

Following his visit, Stein sent the following heartwarming note and some magnificent photos. “I can’t begin to properly thank you and the sisters for the time you spent with us last week. Jesse and I both came away with wonderful feelings about the community and the place. Jesse and I recorded some additional material with Ham Smith. In the course of our discussion, Ham commented that every architect should have clients like the Benedictine sisters.”

Photo 1: Sr. Thomas Welder, Sr. Susan Lardy, Carl Stein, Sisters Agatha Muggli, JoAnn Krebsbach and Gemma Peters enjoyed sharing stories about the architecture of Marcel Breuer and Hamilton Smith. Photo 2: Sister Gemma points out the expansive views to Jesse deNeeve. Photo 3: Historic photo of Marcel Breuer, Hamilton Smith and Mother Edane Volk discussing building plans for Annunciation Monastery. Photo 4: Photo of the bell banner at sunrise (courtesy of Carl Stein).



In Loving Memory



Sister Kathryn Zimmer, OSB

Born: April 16, 1917

Professed: July 11, 1953

Died: September 30, 2014

Sister Kathryn Zimmer, OSB

Sister Kathryn, a visionary leader with the ability to draw out the gifts of others, always sought to look at the bigger picture to make the world better for others. She was a leader in nursing education on the state and national levels and directed nursing programs at the University of Mary and the United Tribes Technical College. She was undaunted in her commitment to create excellence in nursing education.

As prioress of Annunciation Monastery from 1966 to 1976, she led the community through the renewal and many changes in the Church and religious life after Vatican II. A forward-looking woman, Sister Kathryn was open to trying new ways of responding to the needs of people in the monastery, Church and nursing education. For her there were always more ideas to think, more possibilities to consider and more people to love.

Sister Kathryn often referred to life as a pilgrimage – a journey to God. Now that she has completed her pilgrimage in this life, may she rejoice forever in the warm embrace of God's love.



Sister Rose Schweitzer, OSB

Born: November 10, 1913

Professed: July 11, 1939

Died: November 2, 2014

Sister Rose Schweitzer, OSB

One couldn't help but love Sister Rose Schweitzer. Her kindness, sense of humor and love for others endeared her to many. She had a gift of making people feel at home and comfortable in her presence.

Her lifelong ministry was hospitality through food service. She won the hearts of many through delicious home cooked meals in convents and health care settings in Minnesota and North Dakota.

Sister Rose carried Jesus in her heart and had a special devotion to the Blessed Mother, sometimes praying the rosary two or three times each day. Her view on life was simple: "Pray, eat good food, get good sleep, laugh, enjoy others, and trust in God." A Benedictine Sister for 75 years, she said community life and prayer brought her peace.

May Sister Rose, who in the last months of her life longed to go home to God, now live forever in the peace and joy of the Lord.

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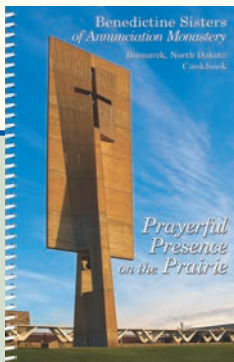
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Now Available - Annunciation Monastery Cookbook

As North Dakota celebrates its 125th anniversary of statehood, we offer a collection of recipes to gratefully commemorate the Benedictine Sisters who came from St. Benedict's monastery, St. Joseph, Minn., to Dakota Territory in 1878, 11 years before North Dakota was declared a state.

Today the Sisters, rooted in the experience of God's presence on the prairie, continue to cultivate the welcoming hospitality in the Rule of St. Benedict. They see the common table as an extension of God's nourishing grace.

Sister Hildegard Urlacher and Sister Denise Ressler compiled the most beloved and requested recipes into the new Annunciation Monastery cookbook, with the help of Regina Reale who typed and edited with great care. Special thanks to all who contributed!



Cookbooks are available at Annunciation Monastery for \$15.00/per book. If you would like to order cookbooks to be mailed, please contact Sister Denise at (701)255-1520 or mail a check to: Annunciation Monastery Cookbook, Attn. Sister Denise Ressler, 7520 University Dr., Bismarck, ND 58504. Please be sure to include the number of books you are purchasing. Add \$3.50/per book for shipping/handling.