



Sisters of the Precious Blood

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Please consider saving paper, ink and the environment —print only if necessary. We have eliminated much of the heavy color areas to minimize the use of colored ink. Thanks

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Stories from around our CPPS world

CPPS Global Footprint

It seems that every time I turn around someone is talking or writing about global warming.

In the past year, Pope Francis published Laudato Si. As a congregation we adopted an Assembly directive to “Act responsibly in the use and care of our planet’s resources,” LCWR Region VI also adopted a resolution dealing with global warming and other environmental concerns. All of this begs the question: What are we as a congregation doing to reduce our global footprint?

With the help of our friends at the University of Dayton we are conducting energy audits on our buildings, looking for ways to make them more energy efficient. We are also exploring the feasibility of converting some or all of the buildings to renewable energy sources, such as solar or geothermal.

This problem will not be solved by itself! It takes all of us! If not now, when? If not us, who?

—Patty Kremer

...we will act responsibly in the use and care of our planet’s resources.



ASSEMBLY DIRECTIVES

we will ...

- Continue to articulate and integrate our Spirituality in our sharing among ourselves and with others.
- Increase our use of social media to promote Precious Blood Spirituality.
- Stand with the marginalized, make a collective commitment to promote and witness nonviolence, and strive to effect reconciliation among God’s people.
- Act responsibly in the use and care of our planet’s resources.
- Network with other individuals, agencies, and groups to be effective in our current reality.

THE GLOBAL CATHOLIC CLIMATE MOVEMENT

—AN ECO-PARISH GUIDE

—BRINGING LAUDATO SI’ TO LIFE

ECO-PARISH BRINGING LAUDATO SI’ TO LIFE

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Go to www.CatholicClimateMovement.global to see a great listing of possible activities you might consider for your use.

Check out this “Election Guide”, designed by Pax Christi. A copy of “**A Revolution of Tenderness: A 2016 Election Pope Francis Voter Guide**” (one page, 2 sides) in preparation for our upcoming national elections.

For more information, go to:



STATE CRACKS DOWN ON HUMAN TRAFFICKING



Recent media reports indicate that an estimated 1,900 children and adults in Ohio are involved in human trafficking. To begin addressing the problem a statewide task force will coordinate rescue efforts, law enforcement investigations and prosecutions, and services for victims. Watch for their upcoming reports and recommendations.

Governor Kasich and Theresa Flores, a survivor of human trafficking, produced a 30-second public service announcement <https://youtu.be/ZC2ACndmWrA> that encourages Ohioans to call the National Human Trafficking Resource Center hotline at **(888) 373-7888** to report suspected forced labor or child prostitution. Suspected human trafficking can also be reported to the Attorney General’s Bureau of Criminal Identification & Investigation at **(855) 224-6446**.

“When you see elements of human trafficking, call your local police department” said Attorney General Mike DeWine, whose office leads a human trafficking commission of experts and law enforcement officials. “These people doing this are despicable and they need to be put behind bars.”

State Rep. Teresa Fedor, D-Toledo, is working on a bill that would require law enforcement to treat Ohioans under 18 years of age who are involved in prostitution as victims, not criminals. “Young girls do not want to be involved in prostitution. They are not criminals,” said Kasich, the father of twin 12-year-old girls.

Special efforts are being made to train workers at Ohio’s new casinos to notice signs of human trafficking to help ensure that this won’t take root at the new gaming facilities. Posters giving out the national hotline number and other information are required by the state in a conspicuous location at truck stops, hotels, fairs, hospitals, high schools, massage parlors and bars.

Catherine Nader

...we will strive to make a collective commitment to promote and witness nonviolence...

WOULD YOU BELIEVE?



Several months ago, Wheeling Jesuit University offered to fly 3 of us from Precious Blood Ministry of Reconciliation (PBMR) to offer their staff and students experiences in Restorative Justice Practices. Some of their students had visited our center and saw a need for their University to implement these practices.

So Tommie and Joe, two of our youth agreed to journey with me! It was their first flight and their eyes got bigger and bigger as the plane took off into the air!

It was an amazing 2 days as we gathered in circles with staff and students introducing them to the value of sitting in circle, telling stories and building relationships, healing hurts, lifting shame, reconciling differences and creating a campus where all are welcome and each person can be their best self.

In the evening we gave a presentation to the University and neighboring communities. I spoke of the key elements of restorative justice and the need and value of the paradigm shift from punitive practices to restorative practices. However, best of all were the stories of Joe and Tommie. They spoke of how their lives had been restored, how being in circles of healing had helped them through their struggles. They shared how punishing and shaming is not a deterrent to harming others but rather sitting in circle and becoming friends is what changes lives!

People came up after our presentation with tears in their eyes and with a desire to make changes in their own lives and in their college community! **WOULD YOU BELIEVE** how two of our youth from the “HOOD” were like the 1000 (only 2) tongues that St. Gaspar desired for bringing people to an understanding of redemption/restoration and healing.

Donna Liette

*...we will network with other individuals, agencies, and groups to be effective in our current reality;
...we work to effect reconciliation among God's people.*



THE WONDER OF MORELS

In May I was interviewed by 2 FM Radio Stations, and a local newspaper reporter came out and followed my group in our Educational Foray at a County Park. A front page article appeared the next morning in the *Morning Sun* as well as in its on-line edition. Everyone up here is 'crazy' about morels, so that topic gathers much interest.

The radio interviews appeared on "All things Considered", and the 2nd one on Morning Edition. The first was a 2 stage interview purely on the phone. The second was based on a reporter

whom I toured through one of our CWC preserves; he asked me all kinds of questions, audio taped them, and then sorted out the conversations for a program on "Morning Edition" <http://wkar.org/post/morel-code-tips-mushroom-hunting-nun#stream/0>. I never got to hear the radio results, but some of my friends did.

Not long after this, I got a call from WCMU FM, Central MI University public radio station in Mount Pleasant, MI. This time I was interviewed by reporter Ben Thorp while walking with him during a live 'Foray' through our Sylvan Solace Nature Preserve, one of our Chippewa Watershed Conservancy public properties. Go to: <http://wcmu.org/news/?p=23350> (4:31 minutes) to listen and to read the dialogue which was on NPR's "Morning Edition". It was entitled "Morel hunters may not need a certification to sell thanks to a new bill (in Michigan)". It included the latest information from a variety of experts about the pros and cons of having morel mushrooms foraged in the wild inspected before selling them to the public because mistaken identity can lead to illness and even death in some cases.



Deerfield Park Photos Specimen Table May

—Marie Kopin

...we try to act responsibly in the use and care of our planet's resources

MERCY AND PRECIOUS BLOOD SPIRITUALITY



Opening with the conference, "Mercy: Essence of the Gospel," Father Barry Fischer, CPPS led thirty-four members of Precious Blood communities in a retreat focused on Pope Francis' call to a year of mercy. Retreatants represented: the Adorers of the

Precious Blood (Ruma), the Sisters of the Most Precious Blood (O'Fallon), Sisters of the Precious Blood (Dayton) and the Missionaries of the Precious Blood (Cincinnati and Kansas Provinces). Two conferences, Eucharistic liturgy and small evening discussion groups provided the format for each day. The theme of mercy was intertwined with aspects of Precious Blood spirituality: the cry of the blood; the Eucharist as the table of mercy; the works of mercy (spiritual and corporal works of mercy); the symbols of the Precious Blood (the cross, the cup of blessing, the Lamb of God); and Mary, Mother of Mercy. It is impossible to summarize all the insights received in these four days but this statement makes an attempt to do so. ***To live as Precious Blood/Eucharistic people, people of mercy is to: recognize God's face in ALL peoples; to be forgiven ourselves by God's mercy; to extend that mercy to others; to be Christ incarnated – His body, his blood through our eyes, hands, hearts of service.***

(In attendance from Dayton CPPS: Martha Bertke, Jeanette Buehler, Charlene Heidenreich, Dolores Keller, Judy Kroeger, Marie Kopin and Pat Will.)

—Jeanette Buehler

... we work to integrate our Spirituality in sharing among ourselves and with others.

Outreach to Northern Region Hispanics — *one way I “stand with the marginalized”*

I have found joy and challenge in working with the Hispanics in the northern part of the Cincinnati archdiocese. Although relatively few in number and in the States for only a relatively short time those working in restaurants of the area have goals of bettering themselves and of helping their families back in Mexico for two years or so and then moving on. Still others come to work in the St. Henry canning factory from May to October before returning home to Texas.

Isabela, who has been here now eight years, came with her brother to help pay the bills for their education and to help educate the younger members of the family. They also wanted to help build a house for their parents. I shared their joy when the roof was finally on the house, when the windows were in, when they had the doors on!! Each step was a "hurrah" moment. Then the father went over the mountain in his truck and was killed. I was there to share their grief, especially of not being able to return for a final good-bye. The goals for Isabella became confused and sad. "Now we have to help my mother", she said. The thought of returning home to Mexico has become only a distant dream. With her child going to the first grade should she stay?

On the other hand, those working in the canning factory regularly live in Texas, some have their own homes there, and have been in the States more than thirty years. They take part in parish life in Texas, and live settled lives. While here, they have the joy of attending Mass each Sunday in the small chapel at 10:00 A.M. at St. Charles Retirement Center presided over by Fr. Juan Gonzales, who shares this ministry with me.

With the restaurant people, we have Mass in the restaurant at 8:00 A.M. Some have no cars, only a bike. We come to where they are to share God's love. There have been Baptisms, Marriages, Confirmations. Recently one 18 year old who “fell between the cracks” made his First Communion. Another one has asked to be confirmed, and a couple wants their marriage blessed. Little by little we march forward with the joys and sorrows that life sends.

—Regina Albers



“Women religious in the United States, who live the border-crossing spirit can rekindle the spirit of the early immigrant sisters. By creating multi-ethnic and multi-cultural communities, while continuing their ministry for social justice and equality, they will be transformed and will, in turn, transform the world.”

—Sr Sophia Park, SNJM

Jul. 16, 2015 in NCR-Global Sisters Report

✧ To keep all of us focused in the months ahead, as you contribute your articles would you please mention how your experience is rooted in the 2015 Assembly Directives.

send us your articles (approximately 125 words or less) for our next issue Grassroots is due **AUGUST 1** so we can meet our goal of having it in your hands by **8/8/2016**.

Please submit to Marty Bertke m.bertke@hometowncable.net

....or to Mary Lou Schmersal cppsnews@bright.net

Your contributions make all the difference!

We're on the Web!

www.preciousbloodsistersdayton.org