

# INTERCOM

NEWSLETTER OF THE SISTERS OF ST. FRANCIS, CLINTON, IOWA JULY / AUGUST 2018  
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*We affirm our charism of ongoing conversion and rededicate ourselves to our mission of living and promoting active nonviolence and peacemaking.*

- 2016 Chapter Commitment Statement

## Summer Gathering Held July 15-20 at The Canticle

### **Monday – Cory Lockhart – workshop on nonviolent communication**

Cory Lockhart presented a nonviolent communication workshop based on the book, *Nonviolent Communication: A Language of Life*, by Marshall B. Rosenberg, PhD, which several of the Clinton Franciscan Wisdom Circles have been reading. Cory is the nonviolence resource person for the Clinton Franciscan Reflection Circle. “If you’re like me,” she said to the audience of Sisters, Associates, Sojourners, and employees, “there are things that we may know intellectually, but actually grounding ourselves in the practice (of nonviolent communication) is a lot harder, especially when we are immersed in a culture that does not value listening or acknowledge someone else’s truth . . .”

Cory instructed the group on the four elements of Dr. Rosenberg’s Nonviolent Communication (NVC) model: observations, feelings, needs, and requests. “NVC invites us to take ownership of our feelings,” she told the group as she conducted exercises in observation and feelings by asking a volunteer to vocalize a personal conflict. She then asked volunteers to draw out the feelings that the personal conflict provoked for the story teller, guiding each to a list of



Cory Lockhart (left) spoke about nonviolent communication during the Summer Gathering. She and Sister Janice Cebula hold cards used as tools during the presentation.

*Photo by Kate Marlowe*

true feelings (such as energetic, joyful, or scared) and instructed them to avoid words that express thoughts, not feelings (such as unappreciated, or isolated). “Everything we do is an expression of needs not expressed or met,” she said.

In closing, Cory shared an update on the Catholic Nonviolence Initiative (CNI), a project of Pax Christi International with which she is involved. “In the last year there have been five round tables that have happened on a global level . . . through Skype or Zoom . . . to

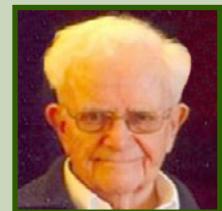
try to gather the best thinking in the world on these themes within the Catholic tradition: foundational theology, the biblical foundations for nonviolence, the new moral framework, integrating nonviolence into the life of the Church, and active nonviolence”

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### **Farewell to Associate Mike Johannsen**

The Associate Partnership lost a member and dear friend with the passing of Mike Johannsen.

Mike was born in Clinton, attended Clinton High School, and worked for DuPont in Clinton for 38 years. He and his wife, Mary, also an Associate, were married for 67 years. Together the couple raised three children.



Mike Johannsen  
Contributed photo

See page 4 - Sojourner Dick Roberts and Associate Eleanore Kilcoyne share memories of their friend.

## Summer Gathering

There are five papers that will be formally presented at a conference in 2019 and will hopefully lead to Pope Francis writing an encyclical on nonviolence and just peace. Topics are: failure of violence, nonviolence in Christian tradition, nonviolence

in other faith traditions, the theme of women and nonviolence, and nonviolence in its relation to climate change and the environment. Click [HERE](#) to learn more about Cory on her website.

Click [HERE](#) read more about Catholic Nonviolence Initiative.

The Catholic Nonviolence Initiative will be discussed at the diocesan Social Action Saturday, on October 27, at 9:30 a.m. at St. Thomas More Parish, Coralville, Iowa.

Sister Janice Cebula and Tom Streveler will lead the session.

Click [HERE](#) to learn more.

### Tuesday – Gabriel Uhlein, OSF – ‘Deepening Our Franciscan Charism in Today’s Evolving World’

Sister Gabriel Uhlein visited The Canticle to present “Deepening our Franciscan Charism in Today’s Evolving World” during the Summer Gathering. Gabe, a Wheaton Franciscan Sister, gave retreats at The Canticle in 2005 and 2011. She has been ministering at the Christine Center in Willard, Wisconsin, for the past eight years and is the facilitator for the Clinton Franciscan Reflection Circle.

Sister Gabe referenced an article titled *Look Well to the Growing Edge* by Quaker elder and author Parker Palmer to challenge the Sisters of St. Francis community to anticipate and prepare for changes in religious life, to deepen and evolve the Franciscan charism. She asked the group, “What is the growing edge of your Clinton Franciscan community’s life?”

Using the image of the monarch butterfly, Sister Gabe talked extensively about all of life being in motion. “When things change it’s not because they are wrong, it’s because they are alive,” she said, advising that there are many stages to life and to the transformation process. The milkweed is nourishment before it goes to seed. The caterpillar must die in order to live. (“Just when the caterpillar thinks the world has



Sister Gabriel Uhlein speaks about growth and change using an image of a monarch butterfly during the Summer Gathering.

*Photo by Kate Marlowe*

ended . . . it has!”). The chrysalis contains a soupy liquid that makes it vulnerable during the change, and the wings of the newly emerging butterfly are very delicate yet vital for flight.

#### Cycles

of communities are similar to organic processes of nature, she said. Inspiration, rapid growth, destabilization and maintenance, dormancy and reemergence are all components of the life cycle of a community of Sisters. Sister Gabe compared the feeling of the

reemergence to not being able to rely on the sense of sight as an aid. “It’s like knowing that you’re in a dark room and something is there. But you don’t know what

. . . you have to be willing to become accustomed to the dark to be able to see in the dark. She cautioned, “. . . presuming you can see clearly is not helpful.” The analogy was used to describe what needs to pass away as well as what is emerging. “Accepting darkness allows our inner eyes to open and adjust,” she said.

After speaking about vowed religious life that has both been adapted and renewed since Vatican II she said, “We have a spiritual legacy that has over the decades given us the courage

to face reality, to face fears.” As a nod to future decades, Sister Gabe reminded the audience of Clare of Assisi. As the first woman to write

a new rule for her community in the 1200s, she influenced not only her congregation but the friars who followed Francis of Assisi.

“Our love has a future,” Sister Gabe added. “Hold steady in a difficult time.”

Continued on the next page

*We affirm our charism of ongoing conversion and rededicate ourselves . . .*

# Summer Gathering

## Wednesday – day of sharing information with Sisters

Sisters Janice Cebula, Marilyn Huegerich, and Kathleen Holland reviewed what they have learned from the LCWR

meetings and readings. They discussed information about shared leadership and what other communities are doing as they

move into the future.

Erin Meyermann, Director of Finance, presented the finance report.

## Thursday – Communications Working Team report – options for learning and conversations

Sister Ann Martinek, Chairperson of the Communications Working Team, presented a PowerPoint presentation about a new logo for the congregation.

Later in the day, those interested attended sessions on various topics, including advance directives and Catholic end-of-life teaching; what religious congregations can do today to thrive; immigration and the southern border; where science and theology meet; new options for end-of-life care; a fresh prospective on the vows, and contemplation and compassion.



Associate Marion Johnson, (left) and Sisters Joyce Zarnik (center) and Janet Ryan perform a skit during a presentation on “where science and theology meet” at the Summer Gathering.



Sister Ruth Cox speaks about the science of the heart.

Photos by Shelly Seifert

## Friday – Commissioning ceremony at The Canticle



Sister Judy McKenna (left) and Sojourner Connie Beck bless each other with the sign of the cross at The Canticle Commissioning ceremony.



Sister Kathleen Holland (far left) presents Commissioning cards to California Sisters (from left in back row) Sisters Carmel Jacobs, Mary Lou Carlson, LaVern Olberding, and Pat Weldon. Hugging Sister Celeste Hanigan is Sister Marilyn Huegerich.

## Commissioning ceremony and Sister Mary Paul Hummer's Jubilee Celebration at The Alverno



Sister Jackie Herrmann (right) congratulates Sister Mary Paul Hummer on her 70-year Jubilee during a Commissioning ceremony and Jubilee celebration at The Alverno.

Photos by Kate Marlowe

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## Jubilee



Bishop Thomas Zinkula of Davenport (left) presided at the Jubilee Mass held at Prince of Peace Catholic Church on July 21. Also pictured are Jubilarians (front row, from left) Sister Rosalie Noder, celebrating 70 years; and Sisters Paschal Hocum, Judith McKenna, and Dorothy Stolmeier celebrating 60 years, and members of the Leadership Team (back row, from left): Sisters Kathleen Holland, Marilyn Huegerich, and Janice Cebula.

*Photo by Kate Marlowe*

Click [HERE](#) To read excerpts from the bishop's homily.



Standing at a brunch held at The Canticle for the Showboat crew are three of the brunch's hostesses, Sister Theresa Judge, (left) her sister, Rose Judge; and Sister Hilary Mullany. Seated are personnel of the Clinton Area Showboat Theater, Amanda Asay (left) and Aria Braswell.

*Photo by Kate Marlowe*

## Showboat Brunch at The Canticle

Clinton Area Showboat board members Sisters Theresa Judge and Hilary Mullany, along with Rose Judge, hosted a brunch at The Canticle for about 35 professional performers, interns, board members and other

Showboat personnel — some new to Clinton and some returning members. For more than 10 years the Sisters have provided a meal to welcome the summer stock participants and show their support of the local theater.

## Fond Memories of Mike Johannsen

"Most of the good things I've done in my life outside of my family I can attribute to Mike Johannsen," said Sojourner Dick Roberts. "Mike was firm in his belief that God is a God of justice. He felt that it was every person's job to work for peace and justice."

The two met in 1961 when Mike invited Dick and his late wife Nancy (also a Sojourner) to join Christian Family Movement (CFM), a group for parents in their parish.

"At CFM we learned a technique about observing personal attitudes and taking action." Each year the group studied a book and a theme, and that year's theme, racial justice, was the topic that encouraged the more experienced CFM members in all five of the Clinton parishes, Mike and Mary among them, to form the Interfaith Interracial Council. Though the group no longer exists, Dick feels it left a lasting impression. "The group did a lot to promote social justice in Clinton that I believe is still felt today . . . on the whole we are better than most cities because of the collaboration begun by the Interfaith Interracial Council."

Associate Eleanore Kilcoyne remembers Mike as a strong presence. "Mike and Mary were the first friends my husband and I made when we came to Clinton. Mike was very active in promoting social justice and civil rights in Clinton."

"On a smaller scale, I remember Mike speaking out at a meeting when someone had been thoughtlessly insulted, to say it was wrong," she continued.

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## Welcoming International Students to Clinton

Sister Janice Cebula, President of the Sisters of St. Francis, spoke about the history of Mount St. Clare Academy and College at a welcoming ceremony held the first week of July for approximately 15 international students in the Durgin Center of the former campus.

The prospective students were guests of Confucius International Education Group (CIEG), invited to attend a summer camp that allowed them to see the campus and explore Clinton and other U.S. cities in an attempt to encourage enrollment at the new academy.

"It's a story about lots of prayers offered here and a story of relationships," Sister Janice said as she outlined the congregation's ties to



A student visiting Clinton from China presents a gift to Sister Janice Cebula at a summer camp ceremony held at Confucius International Education Group (CIEG).

Photos by Kate Marlowe



CIEG New Six Arts International Education Park

the campus with Mount St. Clare Academy and College (1911 to 2002) and The Franciscan University, (200-2004), and The Franciscan University of the Prairies (2004 to 2005). In 2005 the Sisters sold the property to Bridgepoint Education, Inc. From

2005 until 2016, the property at 400 N. Bluff Boulevard was named Ashford University.

Today the campus is named the CIEG New Six Arts International Education Park.

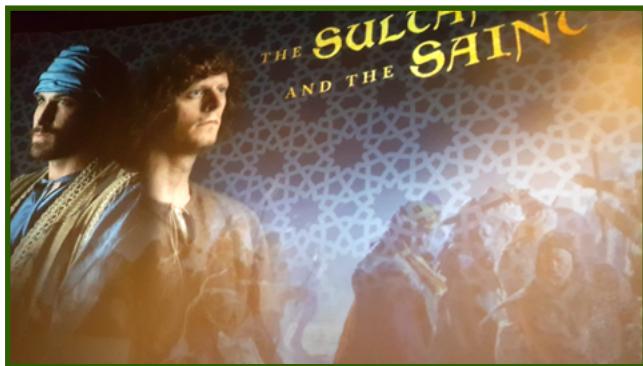
Approximately 20 students will live on campus and attend

classes at both Clinton High School and the Pangaea International Academy on the campus.

Iowa Senator Rita Hart and Clinton Community School District Superintendent Gary DeLacy also welcomed the students at the ceremony.

### Worthy of Note

#### *The Sultan and the Saint* nominated for an Emmy Award



Premiere of *The Sultan and the Saint* at The Putnam Museum in Davenport, Iowa, in 2017.  
Photo by Kate Marlowe

The News & Documentary Emmy Awards nominated *The Sultan and The Saint* film for Outstanding Lighting Direction and Scenic Design. The awards will be presented October 1 in New York City.

In 2016, with support from the Sisters of St. Francis, Unity Productions Foundation produced the docudrama film about Muslim-Christian peacemaking, the story of the encounter between St. Francis and Malek al-Kamil, the Sultan of Egypt.

Click [HERE](#) To read more about the nomination. Please call 563-242-7611 if you would like to view the DVD.

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## Sister Phyllis Morris - nearly 50 years in Peru

Sister Phyllis Morris had been a Sister for 13 years in 1965 when she and three other Clinton Franciscan Sisters left behind electricity, reliable telephone service, quality medical care, paved roads, familiar food, and running water to answer the call to teach at a grade school 3,000 miles away in the Diocese of Chulucanas, Peru.

The director of the Papal Volunteers for Latin America, a priest from Iowa, had suggested the Sisters of St. Francis to Bishop John McNabb of Chulucanas as candidates to administer and teach at the newly-created school. Aside from two years teaching science and math at Mount St. Clare Academy, and two years working at a retreat center in Oregon, Sister Phyllis lived and ministered in Peru until she retired earlier this year.

### Teacher

Teaching at the grade school in Peru was just the beginning of the lasting impact Sister Phyllis would have during the nearly 50 years she was there.

Sister Phyllis, along with Sisters Pauline Logsdon, Mary Frances Halligan, and Constance Ludwig, began teaching alongside the young and inexperienced Peruvian women, half of whom had not finished high school, who were hired to staff the school. "This presented a great opportunity to improve on the traditional rote type learning

that was the accepted practice at that time in almost all Peruvian schools," Sister Phyllis said.

"Training the memory is invaluable to a broad education, but so are observing, analyzing, reasoning, and shaping moral and common sense thinking, aspects of education largely neglected in Peruvian education. We helped our young colleagues with these aspects of teaching and preparing our students to enter their world as thinking, responsible, Christians and citizens."

### Pastoral Associate

Sisters Pauline and Phyllis stayed in Peru for 10 years before returning to Iowa, but two years later Sister Phyllis returned at the request of Bishop John to minister as a parish pastoral associate and later to start a catechetics department for the Diocese of Chulucanas.

With a young Peruvian partner, she created the materials to be used by the catechists who were being recruited in all the parishes. The team traveled precarious

Andes roads, twice yearly to each parish with the use of an SUV donated by the Sisters of St. Francis, Clinton.

The work was to train hundreds of local catechists, giving them a basic education in the teachings of Jesus, and the educational skills

necessary to share their training with their own people of the 1,500



Sister Phyllis Morris in a classroom in Peru in 1965

villages of the 20 parishes.

Sister Phyllis was responsible for a number of projects that generated indelible results for the people in her diocese in Peru.

### Finance

In addition to the educational and pastoral programs she initiated in the earlier years, in the late 90s, when 24-hour electrical service came to Chulucanas she was asked by the bishop to organize and computerize the financial system of the diocese.

She trained two women in the operation of the software for accounting. When help was needed with the English language customer service part of the software, Sister Phyllis was able to translate to Spanish for them. Over the years the women learned to handle the day-to-day accounting without her assistance.

"I feel good about the financial assistance I was able to offer many poor and destitute persons and families," she said. "Nevertheless, I always felt a deep frustration and helplessness at not being able to change the chronic poverty of the

*"We helped our young colleagues with these aspects of teaching and preparing our students to enter their world as thinking, responsible, Christians and citizens."*

- Sister Phyllis Morris

# Sister Phyllis Morris - nearly 50 years in Peru

great majority of the people who never seem to be able to escape the suffering that accompanies their economic condition."

## Peru Mission Fund

Through the Sisters of St. Francis Peru Mission Fund, Sister Phyllis was able to help many sick persons seek medical attention, purchase medicine, and procure prosthetics.

One special long-lasting project was helping a family affected by Denny Brown Syndrome, a congenital disease for which there is no cure and no real treatment. The family was able to receive medical care, including amputations and prosthetics and receive tuition assistance for two of their sons, one of whom is now a legal consultant.

## Higher Education

Sister Phyllis also put forth her energy and resources to enable a number of students and teachers to achieve higher education. There was no college in Chulucanas until 2013 so those who wanted to attend college or get a teaching title had a 14- to 18-hour bus ride to Lima.

"Those we sent to Lima were mostly teachers in public schools who were also volunteer catechists in our parish programs. In order to get them legitimized as teachers with a government salary I helped them go to school in the summers."

Sister Phyllis also had to endure the long drive to Lima. "It was difficult when I was working on my own Peruvian teaching degree and driving to Lima on weekends while continuing

to teach in Chulucanas. It was a 14-hour trip each way once a month for six months in order to get my U.S. teaching degree revalidated by the Peruvian Department of Education," she recalls.

Sister Phyllis endured other trials: lack of electricity, the slow and unreliable communication, the impact of El Nino rains, and the threat of terrorism in the diocese.

## Electricity

In her first 32 years electricity was available from 6 p.m. to 11 p.m. In 1997 it became available

*"I ran the laptop from a car battery, tapping off five of the six cells,"*

- Sister Phyllis Morris

24 hours a day. When she brought a laptop to Peru in 1990 to do catechetical programs, it was the only computer in the diocese.

"I ran the laptop from a car battery, tapping off five of the six cells," she said. She charged the battery using a small solar panel

*"People are people wherever they are. We're all much more alike than we are different . . . we share the same basic needs, dreams, aspirations, and the desire to make life better for our families, and especially for the children."*

- Sister Phyllis Morris

which she placed on the roof and ran a wire to her bedroom.

When 24-hour electricity



Sister Phyllis Morris (left) at the rebuilding of the community center after 1983 El Nino flooding.

became available in 1997, the diocese was able to provide computers for all the offices. Sister Phyllis then set up the Internet and email for Bishop McNabb and the employees of the diocese.

## Communication

Prior to that, communication from home made its way to Peru by mail, a three-week journey. In 1968 the Sisters living there received a letter that modifications to the habit had become an option for the congregation.

Sisters Cortona Phelan (President 1968-1976) and Sister Hilary Mullany visited that year. With only the letter as their guide, the four Sisters in Peru weren't sure if they were dressing appropriately in their simple tan or white dresses.

"It wasn't all clear to us what was happening," said Sister Phyllis, "but we said, 'well let's go to the airport the way we are and let the chips fall.' When Hilary and Cortona got off the plane they wore big floppy hats and polyester suits! We couldn't stop laughing!"

Continued on the following page

## Sister Phyllis Morris - nearly 50 years in Peru

### El Niño

Sister Phyllis was present in Peru for three of the El Niño rains: 1983, 1998, and 2017. "That first El Niño was especially difficult because we had no running water for 10 months," she said.

"It was physically difficult to reorganize neighborhoods, provide soup kitchens, and rebuild the structures which were mostly made of adobe or of tabique (sticks with mud coating)." All of this was complicated by the many washed-out roads and faulty telephone service.

### Terrorism

Sister Phyllis experienced the terrorism that descended on Peru in the mid-1980s and the 1990s. Working in catechetics that served an average of 20 parishes meant driving mountain roads while hoping to avoid an ambush.

"A young Peruvian woman teacher was my partner to go every weekend to a different parish. Sometimes we would have to stop the car and get out to remove boulders or tree trunks from the road.

"When you drive on those mountain roads there's no way to go around anything, it's abyss on one side and cliff on the other so you've got to clear the way or you can't move on. Between the two of us we were able to do it but we never knew if we were going to be ambushed. Some of our parish leaders, catechists, and coordinators had been murdered by terrorists. That was very nerve-wracking to say the least."

Another time the front door of the bishop's house was bombed. "Terrorism was all over the place," she said.



Sister Phyllis Morris works on the clay phase of a ceramic creation. *Photo by Kate Marlowe*

system, and medical care. "After becoming used to the poverty there, when I came back to the states I was always astonished by the agricultural wealth of this country."

### Cherished Memories

Sister Phyllis has had many pleasant memories in her time in Peru, but those that rise to the top involve the service she was called to and the friends she made. "My creativity was put to work in the educational and pastoral programs I had occasion to create and execute with many coworkers. I cherish all the friendships that I made with Peruvians as well as with coworkers, missionaries from more than 20 countries."

Her service in Peru reinforced in her a common belief that "people are people wherever they are. We're all much more alike than we are different. We are all children of God who share the same basic needs, dreams, aspirations, and the desire to make life better for our families, and especially for the children."

Sister Phyllis has retired to The Canticle and spends time volunteering and creating ceramics to promote peace.

## Promoting Peace in Clinton



Sister Theresa Judge offers a free children's book to visitors at the Clinton Peace Coalition table at the Youth for a Nonviolent Summer event held at Clinton Park in August. *Photos by Kate Marlowe*



Sister Eileen Golby greets passersby at the Back-to-School Bash at Riverview Park in August.

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## LCWR Conference

As elected leaders of the Sisters of St. Francis, Clinton, Sisters Janice Cebula, President; Marilyn Huegerich, Vice President; and Kathleen Holland, Councilor attended "Being the Presence of Love: The Power of Communion," the annual assembly of the Leadership Conference of Women Religious (LCWR) held in St. Louis in August. Sister Janice remarked, "This was one of the best LCWR assemblies I've ever attended. Theology, new science, social justice, and addressing racism were all integrated into this conference."

Sister Teresa Maya, President of LCWR, gave the opening address on the topic of the future of religious life in these tumultuous times. One of the three keynote speakers, Gloria Schaab, SSJ, spoke



Sisters Jan Cebula, Marilyn Huegerich, and Kathleen Holland gather with others on the steps of the St. Louis Old Court House during the Leadership Conference of Women Religious (LCWR) assembly.

*Photo by Linda Behrens*

about vows, community, and the Trinity. Heidi Russell spoke about the Trinity in terms of love, and Simon Pedro Arnold drew on his experience in the Andes of Peru to divulge what he has learned about the Trinity and the fragility of God. At the assembly Sister Anita Baird was given the 2018 Outstanding Leadership Award for her work in helping eradicate racism from parishes, schools, and other institutions and agencies in the Archdiocese of Chicago. Click [HERE](#) to view the text of the presentations. Contact Shelly Seifert, 563-242-7611, if you are interested in receiving a video version of the entire assembly.

Sister Marilyn collaborated with others to plan the social justice witness, a silent procession from the assembly location to the Old Courthouse in downtown St. Louis, the site of the first two trials of the Dred Scott case in 1847 and 1850. Hundreds of women religious stood on the steps of the old courthouse to repeatedly sing, "We stand in communion with God's human race." A few Sisters held posters that read "Being in community, standing against racism."

Sister Janice attended the LCWR board meetings that followed the conference.

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## Institute for Nonviolence Chicago visits Su Casa

By Sister Janet Ryan

The Su Casa Catholic Worker Community recently hosted outreach staff from the Institute For Nonviolence Chicago (INVC) to speak with us about safety in the neighborhood. Three members of the INVC — Darryn, Anthony, and Elias — spent part of an afternoon sharing their wisdom and insights. They spoke of the importance of always being aware of our surroundings and of getting to know our neighbors and them getting to know us.

They offered to introduce one of the young men in our home to folks in the neighborhood who can provide job resources, soccer contacts, and information about events and happenings in the area.

One of Su Casa's summer volunteers, Ewa, reflected, "I was really grateful for the

encounter. As a guest in this community, my heart goes out to our families and neighbors who have to navigate this kind of violence every day, on top of the structural violence they face . . . I was especially glad that the young man in our home could meet with the INVC folks and find support in them. He has a bright future and I was happy that Su Casa could facilitate this connection."

"It was nice meeting them and I didn't expect to see my old friend, Anthony . . . I learned a little more about how things roll around here," said the young man who met with the INVC representatives.

Everyone at Su Casa was grateful for the time INVC took to meet with us and to help us deepen our connections in our neighborhood.

*"True Peace is not merely the absence of tension: it is the absence of injustice."*

## Interfaith Awareness Week in California

By Sister LaVern Olberding

The Interfaith Awareness Week (IAW) 2018 in California was such a powerhouse full of individuals with zeal and vision for the journey to a culture of love! Twelve presenters from 12 different faith communities spoke to approximately 600 people during the week-long program that took place in Poway, Encinitas, Solana Beach, Escondido, LaMesa, and San Diego August 5-12.

Activities included a youth and two adult interfaith panels, a documentary titled [The Homeless Choir Speaks](#) and a concert by people who are homeless; a “lunch and learn” session with a Zen Master-peace activist, a prayer vigil with the NAACP to honor and remember all people of color killed by police officers, a mosque tour, a Buddhism and interfaith ministry dialogue, an antique car show, an interfaith craft booth, and an



Sister LaVern Olberding displays an Interfaith Awareness Week banner containing symbols and corresponding names for 21 groups.

*Photo by Sister Kathy Warren OSF*

evening with the fastest growing spiritual group in the United States: the Nones. The Nones are people whose religious affiliation is “none of the above.”

The closing event was hosted at St. Martin of Tours in La Mesa and co-sponsored by the Franciscan Peace Connection, St. Martin of Tours Social Justice Committee, and Interfaith Council of La Mesa. The IAW Finale was memorable on three diverse levels: 12 interfaith responders

(including a homeless person), in three minutes, summarized what their traditions/faith communities were doing and how they were willing to collaborate to build a culture of love in San Diego County and beyond; the festive ice cream sundae break with excellent ice cream and 24 topping choices; and the closing at-large dialogue between the responders and the attendees about “where from here.” The most profound challenge was

a participant’s suggestion that we “dump our dualistic thinking. Let’s begin/continue to engage in conversation with/really listen to others whose opinions conflict with ours . . . no matter what the topic is. Listening is an essential tool for a peacemaker.”

The ongoing service project for the week was the invitation to bring canned goods, other non-perishables and toiletries for clients at the various sites associated with the event hosts.

## MSC Charitable Education Trust Scholarship Recipients



David Helscher, Clinton National Bank Senior Vice President, Trust Officer (far left) and Sister Janice Cebula, (far right) stand with many of those awarded scholarships from the Mount St. Clare Charitable Education Trust. The scholarships totaling \$163,500 were awarded to 65 students. Clinton National Bank manages and administers the trust and its individual scholarship funds.

*Photo by Kate Marlowe*

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# Ashford University Week in Clinton

By Sister Kathleen Holland

Ashford University, and its predecessors, Mount St. Clare College, The Franciscan University, and The Franciscan University of the Prairies, have had a continuous presence in Clinton, Iowa, since 1918.

In celebration of 100 Years Strong in Clinton, the City of Clinton declared the week of August 19 as Ashford University Week. Ashford University – Clinton Campus, is located at 1310 19th Avenue Northwest.

Events planned throughout the week acknowledged the Sisters of St. Francis — a reading of the proclamation and ribbon cutting ceremony on Monday, a lunch with campus employees on Wednesday, a panel on Thursday, and a dinner and ballgame on Saturday.

Monday morning the Clinton Chamber of Commerce presented Ashford University with a Progress Award. Following the presentation, long-time faculty member Sister William McCue cut the ribbon at a ribbon cutting ceremony.

Prior to lunch on Monday, the 150 campus employees attentively listened as I presented a PowerPoint narrative of the 98-year history of the former Mount

St. Clare College campus located at the corners of Bluff Boulevard and Springdale Drive. Shelly Mohr, Vice President of Campus Operations, gave a history of the Ashford Online Center which opened in 2007 (now Ashford



University - Clinton Campus).

Several Sisters joined campus employees for lunch on Wednesday and were gifted with commemorative shirts proclaiming higher education "100 Years Strong in Clinton, Iowa."

Thursday afternoon, a panel of Sisters and campus employees shared stories. There was a representative of each of the departments of Ashford University - Clinton Campus who shared what they do in Clinton.

Sisters William McCue, Marilyn Shea, Hilary Mullany and I told

stories of our memories at Mount St. Clare College, The Franciscan University, The Franciscan University of the Prairies, and Ashford University.

"It's been a century of lasting memories in Clinton and this is all due to the Sisters of St. Francis," Ashford's Clinton Campus President, Dr. Charles Minnick, reminded the campus employees. "Through the week, as the Sisters have told stories, we realize that today we are still building on their foundation of providing higher education to all."

The events ended on Saturday evening when current and former Ashford students, faculty, staff, and Sisters gathered at Ashford University Field to enjoy dinner and a Clinton LumberKing baseball game. I had the honor of throwing out the first pitch of the game.

## Prayers Requested for the Repose of Souls

**Dewey Whited**, brother-in-law of Sister Maria Zeimen – June 30.

**Garrett Matthias**, great-grandnephew of Sister Maria Zeimen – July 6.

**Aloysius "Al" Kunkel**, brother of Sister Teresa Kunkel – July 19.

**Mike Gehant**, nephew of Sister Yvonne Gehant – July 22.

**Julie Yepsen**, niece of Sister Eileen Golby - August 7.

**Associate Mike Johannsen** – August 9.

**Ruth Schau**, cousin of Sister Ida Green – August 10.

**Mildred Daley**, sister-in-law of the late Sister Angela Daley – August 12.

## 2018 Fall Regional Meetings

**Oct. 13** - Western - Cameron Estates Club House  
8712 North Magnolia  
Santee, California

**Oct. 20** - Clinton - The Canticle  
841 13th Ave. North  
Clinton, Iowa

**Nov. 10** - Chicago - St. Francis of Assisi Parish  
15050 Wolf Rd., Orland Park, Illinois



## Events planned for Campaign Nonviolence Week

### & International Day of Peace



## Encountering Racism

Celebrating the International Day of Peace & Campaign Nonviolence

Please join us for a panel discussion on overcoming bias and hatred in today's America

**Sunday, September 16, 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.**

DeWitt Operahouse Theater, 716 6th Avenue, DeWitt, Iowa

Panelists: Dr. Bianca Sola-Perkins - Ty Perkins - Tahera Rahman - Dr. Savannah Mussington



*Please join us in this statement of hope and witness for peace in our community.*

**Thursday, September 20**

4:45 p.m. - Gather at Jefferson Elementary School

5:15 p.m. - Musical Program Featuring Performances:

CHS Choir      Clinton Community Children's Choir

Clintonettes      Jefferson Elementary Choir

6:00 p.m. - Walk for peace along Jefferson Walking Trail,  
Closing Remarks, Butterfly Release

Sister Emily Brabham and Lori Freudenberg, Community Outreach Director for the Franciscan Peace Center, will attend the

**MOMENT OF TRUTH**  
**Campaign Nonviolence National Convergence March and Action in Washington, DC September 21-22**



Sept. 21: Nonviolent training with speakers Rev. John Dear, Ken Butigan, George Martin, and Kit Evans-Ford  
Sept. 22: Rally at the statue of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., silent march to the White House

[Click HERE to learn more about the event](#)

*We affirm our charism of ongoing conversion and rededicate ourselves to our mission of living and promoting active nonviolence and peacemaking.*

- 2016 Chapter Commitment Statement