



# *CDP Associate News*

Volume 6 ♦ Number 5 ♦ October 2014

## **Associates in Action Gathering 2014**

A year of planning bore bountiful fruit from October 30 to November 4, 2014. Travelers from Missouri, California, Ohio, New York, Michigan, and Puerto Rico arrived on Thursday evening and were met by members of the Gathering Committee who were applying final touches at Kearns Spitiyuality Center. Registration began at 9 am on Thursday and launched participants into a steady flow of activity which ranged from reuniting with old friends and meeting new ones to spending a few hours attending to business, especially as regards self-governance and sustainability.

During the “free choice time” some drove to Providence Connections, our Ministry on the North Side of

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**Above: Associates Sally Shamala and Jimmy Dunn during a break.**



**Left: Associates Julia Lynn, Elie Field and Tish Donze during table talk time.**

**Below: Sr. Michele Bisbey shares God's abundance.**



# Gathering 2014

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Pittsburgh. They were treated to a tour that demonstrated without doubt why this Early Childhood Education Center recently received the coveted Three Star Award. Others went swimming, played board games, and rekindled friendships.

Dr. Frank Adamson, fiancé of Associate Erin Dowling Middleton, entertained with his classical piano playing using sheet music that belonged to his father and mother, dog-eared and yellowed with years. Music continued to fill the rafters following his performance as the group sang Broadway musical numbers, old ballads, and pop songs.

Sr. Michele Bisbey presented an in-depth examination of the new Vision Statement of the Sisters: "God's Indiscriminate Gracious Abundance." Her PowerPoint slides were packed with enough food for thought to last in our minds and hearts for a long time to come. Father Greg Swiderski celebrated the Liturgy which included a ceremony of remembrance of deceased loved ones. This was followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction.

The Vision Statement exposé continued on Sunday morning with further inspection of its "Therefore" portions. This led up to a bread ritual and closing before lunch. Sr. Donna Marie Gribshaw shared with us her impressions and reflections of the entire weekend.

Sr. Janet Schaffran and Tish Donze, Local Coordinators of the Pittsburgh area Associates, announced that Sandy Stevenson will join them on that leadership team to replace Jeanne Kohser who's current employment interferes with her continuing in the role.

We parted to go forth into another year of Associate relationship with the Sisters of Divine Providence.

**Associate Millie Howard follows along with the Scripture.**



**Associates Marlene McClain and Pat Schneider**



**Sisters Marie Torres, Janet Schaffran and Donna Marie Gribshaw**



**Dr. Frank Adamson plays Bach in the Chapel.**



## Mission Project -- Prong Two -- Alive In Raleigh

*Editor's Note: In the February 2014 issue, Associate Nuala Filberg invited all to share what we do in our local areas to make Providence visible in the world and, at the same time, show how we are following through on the second prong of our Mission Alive Project for 2014: Contributing to our own local "missions" in our own ways. This is Candice Martin's response to that invitation. Please consider sending yours!*

I have been working as a volunteer for Note in the Pocket Ministry for almost two years now. When asked if I had any time to help out, I quickly answered yes.

It all started when I lost my job, and didn't have many prospects of getting a new one. I really needed something to do to not only keep my mind occupied, but also to help other people less fortunate than myself. Little did I know at that time that volunteering for this ministry would strengthen my faith in God and help me to realize how blessed I really was.

This ministry focuses on providing decent clothes for needy school children, which in turn provides the recipients with dignity and a chance to fit in with their classmates. There are over 4000 children in my county in need of clothing and food and this ministry has been able to provide for all of them so far.



According to their website, "Note in the Pocket grew out of a family ministry started in 2005. One family took it upon themselves to provide clothing for some children in an impoverished school. As word spread, more people became interested in helping and more needs were identified. In the spring of 2012, this family ministry became a ministry of Our Lady of Lourdes, operating under their nonprofit status. In March of 2013, Note in the Pocket became a legally formed

North Carolina corporation." Visit [www.noteinthepocket.org](http://www.noteinthepocket.org) for more about this ministry.

I became aware of Note in the Pocket's strong dedication to its mission when we participated in the Activate Raleigh 9/11 service day. We worked with over 30 corporate volunteers, showing them what goes into preparing

clothing donations before they even reach the kids.

All of the volunteers that I have met have been very understanding and caring for those less fortunate. I feel very blessed to be a part of this wonderful ministry and look forward to continuing in the future volunteering and sharing my faith with other people.

Being an Associate with the Sister's of Divine Providence has reshaped my thinking and allowed me to witness to others through little random acts of kindness. I am very proud to be an Associate in this wonderful community.

*Candice Martin, Raleigh, North Carolina*

## Around the Province

**Associate Rosemary Davison**, Florissant, MO, died on September 23; she was 96 years old. She had a long and illustrious career as a lawyer in the St. Louis area.



She served for some time as the volunteer chair of the Archdiocesan Committee on Human Rights which was to research issues of human rights and justice and determine whether they were in accord with the Church's social justice teachings. Their focus was on studying racial justice, economic inequality, war, nuclear and chemical weapons, and the environment. Rosemary was known for her scholarly approach to these studies, examining each issue thoroughly before forming an

opinion. People who knew her testify that she was a "meticulous worker" and a "truly inspiring leader." She brought those same talents and qualities to her role as an Associate. May she rest in peace.

**Associate Mary Arenth**, Mars, PA, passed away on October 12. Mary was part of the Sophia Group in the Pittsburgh area for almost 25 years. She also volunteered once a week in the Development Office at Providence Heights for many years. Her nephew notified the Sisters; he commented on the devotion she had to the Associate way of life and he posted in her obituary that "...in lieu of flowers, donations should be made to the Associates of the Sisters of Divine Providence of Allison Park, PA." May she rest in peace.



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## Associate Birth Dates and Death Anniversaries

### December

Eileen Sheck 12/6  
Diane Eftink 12/8  
Sandra Strohmeier 12/9  
Diane Klimo 12/12  
Colleen Price 12/13  
*†Jim Montgomery 12/13/07*  
Julia E Lynn 12/15  
Elaine Lafayette 12/16  
Winifred Stanghellini 12/17  
Shirley Grab 12/18  
Karen Lutz 12/20  
*†Joyce McKinny 12/25/88*  
Gertrude Sanders 12/25  
Janet Schaffran, CDP 12/28  
Carolyn Nelson 12/31

### January

Janette H Reynolds 1/1  
*†Marge Albers 1/1/11*  
Mary Bittner 1/7  
Hilda De Jesús Reyes 1/9  
Paula Lizak Gilchrist 1/13  
Jeanne Kohser 1/14  
Mirna Vélez 1/15  
Patricia A Donze 1/16  
Alice Lamont 1/16  
*†Ruth Garret 1/18/12*  
Joe Lempicki 1/20  
Paul Turnbull 1/22  
Kathy Rogers 1/24  
*†Ann Borsari 1/28/04*  
*†Carmen Torres 1/28/04*  
Denise Marotta 1/29  
*†Joella Gipson 1/31/12*

### February

Mary Gallek 2/2  
Joseph Mertz 2/3  
Sally Shamalla 2/3  
Gil Weyhaupt 2/3  
Reverend J. Friedel 2/4  
Caroline Crowley 2/6  
Virginia Szejnar 2/10  
*†Nancy Merrill 2/11/10*  
Eulalia Arroyo 2/12  
Helene Mukankusi 2/12  
Mary Dieter 2/14  
Anna Plant 2/18  
Diane Vierling 2/21  
Pat Schneider 2/22  
*†Frank Koehler 2/23/08*  
Judith Meinert 2/24  
Ruthanne Curran 2/26  
Beverly Camper 2/27  
Rita Kramer 2/28



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