

# OutWORD

Magazine of the Sisters of the Living Word

www.slw.org

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*"In moments of crisis, the wise will build bridges and the foolish will build dams." — Nigerian Proverb*



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# OutWORD

...is published three times a year for the families, friends and benefactors of the Sisters of the Living Word. Readers are encouraged to send comments to:

## OutWORD

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## A MESSAGE FROM LEADERSHIP

Kristine Vorenkamp, SLW



**AS I PREPARE TO SHARE MY THOUGHTS WITH YOU,** I am still reeling, as most of us are, from the horrible mass shooting in Florida and, yes, the anger we feel at a seeming lack of will to change these senseless events killing our children. I am also feeling the sadness and frustration of the Dreamers who are still in limbo. And yet, as you read this, it is Eastertime, with flowering and new life all around.

How do we move forward together through so much tragedy, division and frustration in our country at the present time to new life for all who are suffering? By turning to the God who is the author of how transformation happens. Creating new life involves struggle and death. Sharing in Jesus' mission means following the same journey. And even Jesus didn't do it alone. So we are called into this together.

Our Living Word mission is still vibrant, even as we age. We are bridging racial divides, easing the lives of those caught in poverty, accompanying our lonely elderly, refugees and Dreamers. We are educating our youth, and reflecting God's Word in all we are and do. Day by day, little by little. I close with this verse from the beloved Irish poet, John O'Donohue:

On the Day when the weight deadens on your shoulders  
And you stumble, may the clay dance to balance you.  
And when your eyes freeze behind the gray window  
And the ghost of loss gets in to you,  
May a flock of colors, indigo, red, green and azure blue  
Come to awaken in you a meadow of delight.....

Eastertime blessings,

*Kristine Vorenkamp, SLW*

  
please visit us: [www.slw.org](http://www.slw.org)

Front cover: Stained glass windows from the Africa Chapel at Techny Towers Retreat and Conference Center, site of the Election Assembly.

# SLW ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEW LEADERSHIP



*Our past has been blessed and we give thanks. Our present is rich in possibilities that call for our “yes.”* ~ DAG HAMMARSKJÖLD

*Our future unfolds with hope.*  
~ CARRIE MILLER, SLW

*There are still many causes worth sacrificing for, so much history still to be made.* ~ MICHELLE OBAMA

*God’s promises always hold true, revealing love everywhere.*  
~ SHARON GLUMB, SLW

*There are two forces in the world: love and fear. Choose love for love is of God.* ~ ANNAMARIE COOK

*In this way can we walk in communion into our future.*  
~ KRIS VORENKAMP, SLW

**THE SISTERS OF THE LIVING WORD** had a late winter election assembly in anticipation of the end of the present leadership team this summer. The new leadership term which consists of two present team members and one new member are: SLW Sharon Glumb, Kristine Vorenkamp and Carrie Miller. The team will be installed this summer and they will assume full office afterwards. The team will attend a new leader orientation workshop at the University of St. Mary of the Lake in Mundelein, Illinois this spring. As the team begins to work together they will develop a theme that will channel them towards achieving our goals. The Sisters of the Living Word congregation in their last General Assembly adopted the theme: Awakening to a New Horizon.

#### THE CONGREGATION’S DIRECTION STATEMENT:

*Impelled by the Spirit, with revitalized joy  
and commitment to our Living Word  
Mission, we venture together into an unknown future,  
toward our new horizon.*

Speaking with Sister Sharon who has been an SLW for 50 years, and who is the Representative to the Church, she notes that “these five years will present challenges and opportunities as we venture together into an unknown future our new horizon.” Sister Kristine who has almost 50 years in the congregation notes that she is looking forward to this team and the next five years and asking for the grace of God as she continues in leadership role for the congregation. Sister Carrie who transferred to the congregation in 1980 stated that “this is an exciting time for the congregation and a lot to look forward to for the community as we live out our mission”.

The Sisters of the Living Word, associates and friends also thank the outgoing leadership team member Kathleen Heer, SLW who worked tirelessly with SLW Kristine and Sharon to ensure that we as a congregation continue in our mission and ministry. ☩



## IN MEMORIAM JOYCE ROEHL, SLW

*"Sister Joyce impressed me with her enthusiasm, dedication, and intelligence. Add to those gifts a practical no-nonsense readiness to love and serve where she was needed and you have a shadow of her impact."*

**FATHER ANDREW LUCZAK**, retired pastor of St. Isaac Jogues parish in Niles, Illinois.

By Kathleen Heer, SLW

**SISTER JOYCE ROEHL** was born on June 8, 1937 in Hamtramck, Michigan, the only child of Henry and Mary (Krall) Roehl. Her father worked in the auto industry, served in the Navy, and fought in the South Pacific during World War II. Her mom worked to support the two of them until her dad returned.

During late elementary school, Joyce wanted to "go into the convent" but her mother advised her to wait. The seed of religious life was still growing. For seven

the very beginning. This was what she had been looking for in life. Joyce's formation years were under the guidance of Sister Genevieve Shea, SLW for Candidacy and Postulancy and Sister Josephita Berg, SCC for the Novitiate years. Joyce made her final vows on August 15, 1970. In August 1975 each Sister had to make the serious decision to either stay in the present community or move into a new community which eventually became the Sisters of the Living Word. She states in her

regretted that decision as I have never regretted leaving my family to join a religious community."

Joyce's first mission was at St. Isaac Jogues Parish in Niles, teaching from 1967 to 1973 when she became Assistant Principal, and then principal from 1977 to 1983. She worked as an office manager, then principal of St. Jerome and then St. Priscilla School until 2001. She taught social studies at St. Cornelius until it closed in 2003. Joyce decided to retire and volunteer as receptionist three days a week at our Living Word Center.

Joyce's final year was her most challenging. She was hospitalized in June, 2017 and never returned home. She rallied on some days and drifted on others. This was very difficult for her after having been active and involved for so many years. She chose to offer her sufferings with Jesus who gave her the strength to carry on each day. All of us will miss Joyce and her infectious smile and wit. We know she waits for us to be reunited with her once again. When she died early in the morning on March 9, 2018, Sr. Barbara Mass said that there was a peaceful smile on her face, perhaps because she now saw her Beloved face to face. ✚

*"Serving the people of God in many ways."*

years after graduating from high school, Joyce worked as a typist and secretary. During this time she went out often, got engaged, traveled, bowled, and enjoyed what she was doing but felt that there must be more to life.

At the ripe old age of twenty-five and during the professions of her two SCC cousins, Srs. Bonaventure (Judith) and DePaul (Carolyn Witchner), Joyce made the decision to enter the Sisters of Christian Charity. She went with the idea of "giving convent life a try" and felt at home from

autobiography, "When we came together in August of 1975, I still was not sure of which way I would go. I never asked anyone what I should do-it had to be my personal decision. However, after hearing both Sister Angelica and Sister Annamarie talk to the Assembly, a peace that I had not felt for many years came over me when Sister Annamarie had finished her talk and we had to decide what we would do. At that point I knew what God was asking of me and with full confidence in Him I made my decision to leave the SCC's and to join this new group. I have never

# RING THE JUBILEE BELLS



By Donna M. Williams, SLW

**OUR SLW JUBILARIANS FOR 2018:** Virginia Thoennes, 70 years; Jeannine Randolph, 60 years, and Sharon Glumb, 50 years, are not southern belles by birth, but are by years of ministry in Louisiana and Mississippi. Though all were born and raised in the greater Chicagoland area, the bell is an apt metaphor for them and their years in religious life. Many bells are shaped like hollow cups which symbolizes an openness on the part of these three sisters to be filled with whatever experiences, opportunities, and ministries God called them to.

**VIRGINIA** spent over 30 years in education as a teacher, principal, and administrator from New Ulm, Minnesota to New Orleans, Louisiana with three states in between. She taught grades 3 through college and served as principal to even younger children. Virginia says, "I love using God's language, the Living Word, whenever possible! Whether I was working with the teachers or with the children, I wanted to make it a friendly, warm, loving and safe place." Her great gift for organization and hard work, enhanced by her keen mind were vital to spearheading the consolidation of five small parish schools into one. She relates, "No matter where I was, it was the academic, social and spiritual growth of the children that gave me most satisfaction as an educator." Her last two decades plus were spent in a vast variety of ministries in parishes, prisons, and committees concerned with various issues. Virginia's life is full and her response is, "I am very lucky to have lived the life I had."



**JEANNINE** heard the sound of bells calling her to a variety of ministries also. Her work began with the sound of the school bell in several grade and high schools throughout the Midwest. In her third decade as a minister she segued into parish work as a Pastoral Associate. Her degree in Religious Education served her well in this capacity. Jeannine's love of Scripture and her interest in health for the whole person led her to study Massage Therapy. With this added skill she is able to combine the discipline of spiritual direction and retreat work with massage. This vivacious and life-enjoying woman is often the chime-ringer calling the Community together at Assembly.



**SHARON** began her ministry teaching for six years; then moved on to become a Director of Religious Education for six years, and for almost thirty years invested in young people as a Campus Minister while working with women interested in religious life. In the latter capacity she served both the Community and the Diocese. Sharon's work as a Campus Minister coincided with her "call to a more missionary form of life" which took her from Chicago to Mississippi. Her main priority as a Campus Minister "was to provide an environment where [the students] might grow in faith." In a state with a small Catholic minority, faith-related struggles were very real. She accompanied students on mission trips and through their daily struggles. Since 2013 Sharon has served on Congregational Leadership. Her attention to detail, to follow-up and follow-through is a great asset for us as a Community during these changing times.

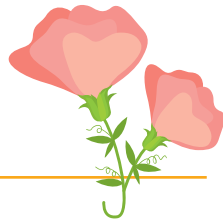


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## A CONVERSATION WITH MAUREEN O'REILLY, ASLW

By Mary Cornille, SLW



**EVEN AS A VERY SMALL CHILD**, Maureen O'Reilly was truly a Living Word. Growing up in Dearborn, Michigan, she lived in the neighborhood and played with the children on her block. One of the little boys across the street was Peter, a person with Down syndrome, who was one of the kids. A little later Maureen's own family was completed with twins. One of these siblings was also a child with special needs. It was right and good and normal to be together and care about each other.

In high school, Maureen and her classmates were driven by a nun, their teacher, to Detroit. They went to St. John the Evangelist Church where Sister Mariata Hartmann instructed them in religious education for kids with special needs. This was more of a predictor of the future than anyone may have guessed.



Joanne Fedewa, SLW and Mariata Hartmann, SLW



Maureen on her travels

In the next years Maureen finished college, taught fourth grade and pursued a master's degree in special education. At that time most children and young adults with special needs did not live at home and have programs in schools and churches. They lived in state institutions. One of these was in Lapeer, Michigan and was served by the priest of the local parish and volunteers.

A need was seen for more time and presence and the Archdiocese provided a grant for a full time chaplain. Maureen was hired for this position and says she learned so much from the residents. One day she showed a large picture of Jesus and asked Glenn, "Who is this?" He replied, "Jesus, and he likes me."

Later, Maureen showed the picture to a young woman resident and said, "This is Jesus and he likes me." The young woman asked, "How do you know?" "Jesus

told me," Maureen responded. "Well, I didn't think you could figure that out by yourself!" Maureen counts the wisdom of the residents as some of the most powerful lessons of her life.

In 1973, Maureen was asked and accepted a full time position as special education coordinator for the Archdiocese of Detroit. Sr. Mariata was also on the staff. They planned retreats, held at the Archdiocesan seminary or Columbiere Retreat Center, often hosting over a hundred participants—people with special needs, catechists, family, friends, and volunteers.



Maureen with friend Nora

During this time, Maureen often stayed at St. Elizabeth Convent in Detroit, where Sister Mariata was living. She made friends with the Sisters there and prayed with them in the morning. These were the years of the hope and planning for the new community of Sisters, Sisters of the Living Word, who were founded in 1975.



Sharing the gift of laughter with Roland

When asked how she came to be an Associate, Maureen said, "Sister Joanne Fedewa called and invited me." Maureen is an Associate in the Detroit-Flint group and has coordinated some retreat activities. She began attending ASLW gatherings in 2010 and became a member in April 2015. ✚

## CORE VALUES

### LIFE OF FAITH

Being rooted in God's Word as followers of Jesus and in communion with all people and creation

### RESPECT

Respecting the dignity of each person, and valuing each person's word through the gifts of listening, presence and compassion

### SIMPLICITY OF LIFE & CARE FOR EARTH

Sharing our gifts and creating sustainable ways of living so all will have what they need

### LIVING THE GOSPEL

Trusting in God's providence, sharing in mutuality with people who are poor and marginalized, working in collaboration, and searching for truth in dialogue with others

### PEACE & JUSTICE

Promoting the common good through systemic change and accompanying and empowering others to bring new life



*If you would be interested in learning more about*  
**BECOMING AN ASSOCIATE OF THE SISTERS OF THE LIVING WORD,**  
*please contact:* Donna Williams, SLW, *at* [associates@slw.org](mailto:associates@slw.org) *or*  
Barb Aretz, ASLW, *at* [baretz9025@aol.com](mailto:baretz9025@aol.com)



# IMPACTING WORLD NEEDS, YOUNG

*The Mississippi river flows and ebbs, moving ever forward, from Lake Itasca in Minnesota all the way to Louisiana on the Gulf of Mexico, touching and influencing people's lives. So too, the Sisters of the Living Word reach out, trying to help people through the changes in their lives, whether they are seasoned people looking back over their lives or young people just starting out.*

**RITA WORM, SLW**

**ITRY TO LIVE OUR MISSION** reflecting the life and spirit of Jesus. After forty years as a teacher and administrator in several states I left Louisiana to continue teaching and then to begin a new field of service in Minnesota. Here I give my time and attention to older persons living with the



**Sr. Rita with George at St. Peter's**

challenges of what is often called "the golden years." My ministry with St. Peter's Parish now takes me to a retirement complex for assisted living, to nursing homes, and to homebound persons. In all of these I try to provide attentive presence and supportive help.

Perhaps my most extensive outreach is to families in grief. My sympathy is shown in and with the volunteers who gather to join in this ministry. Families in grief often need help handling the many details involved in funerals. Wake services, funeral services, the luncheon after the funeral—all require planning that can be overwhelming.

My volunteers and I help to relieve this stress and give support to the family.

The Senior Club is an enjoyable group with whom to interact and guide. This is a monthly spiritual and social group gathering for Mass, lunch and entertainment, or a day out to a play at a theater. We enjoy each other's company and the always-good home-cooked food.

In the pursuit of social justice my efforts before the Super Bowl in Minneapolis focused on sponsoring conferences on Human Sex Trafficking. The dark side of the Super Bowl is that it creates numerous opportunities for exploitation. We also raised awareness of the issues immigrants are facing. Recently, I initiated a project to collect funds in the parish to dig a clean water well for the people of Haiti who are in great need.

Local outreach is also an important concern for me. Our parish is very conscious of charitable works,



**Sr. Rita with John, a local funeral director**

a few of which include a prayer shawl ministry, knitting and giving blessed shawls to the bereaved, ill or pregnant, and donating to a local food pantry. At Christmas time I coordinate the Angel Tree, a collection of Christmas gifts for two homes for women and one for men who are re-establishing themselves in the world after homelessness or addictions. At Easter, we fill 100 baskets with donations from the parishioners which are given to a children's

## *social outreach*

home in Minneapolis. In all of this, we follow Christ's example in reaching out and we encounter Christ in both the giving and the receiving. ✚



**ELIZABETH HEBERT, SLW**

**TEACHING IN AN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL** allows me to live out our SLW core values in very concrete ways, and to motivate others to embrace those same values.





## AND OLD, THROUGH MINISTRY

Every day in each class, we begin with prayer that is rooted in God's Word. We use Scripture to explore God's faithfulness and action in the lives of the students and in the lives of God's people from the first call of Abraham until now. Students are invited and challenged to live a life of faith.

As the moderator for the Saint Margaret Mary Mission/Service Club, the members of the club and I engage the whole student body in reaching out to the poor

peace and justice will hopefully develop a consciousness in the students that they are called to work for the common good.

"Sister, does this go in recycling?" I have a small bin on top of the bigger trash can in my classroom, and it is marked "Recycling." All the students who come through my room are conscious of our call to stewardship. Paper and plastic bottles are put into our class recycling bin as we practice being good stewards every day. In this simple way, we are caring for the earth.

"Are you setting a good example?" Asking the students to reflect on their own behavior in those teachable moments is a way of listening with compassion, valuing their words, and acknowledging their dignity. Fostering mutual respect between students and between teacher and students lets the Christ-light shine in and through each of us.

For many years, Saint Margaret Mary School has not had the presence of a religious on their faculty. I believe that God has gifted me with being in this ministry at this time and at this place. On February 9 at a school mass, I renewed my vows in front of the congregation that was



Sr. Elizabeth reaches out to students.

### *teachable moments*

by collecting donations for the world-wide efforts of Missionary Childhood Association and for Catholic Relief Services. In addition, in collaboration with Dos Amigos, a non-profit organization that provides dental care for the indigenous people of Belize, we have collected over 3000 toothbrushes to support their work. We make living the Gospel a daily endeavor.

As we learned about the life of St. Josephine Bakhita in our religion classes and mission club, we discussed the evils and the prevalence of human trafficking in our global society today. We raised an awareness of this particular social injustice, and began to explore the many ways that people can be "enslaved" in today's society. Taking the time to learn about current issues of

made up of students, faculty, parents, and parishioners. Afterwards, comments were made that they had never witnessed such an occasion before. One grandparent shared that she believes the presence of a religious helps to strengthen the faith life of her grandchildren as they see someone living a consecrated life. One of my sixth grade students touched my heart when she sought me out after class and told me that she felt God was speaking to her at mass, and that maybe she has a call to religious life. She asked me to pray with and for her to know God's will for her life.

The ministry of teaching in an elementary classroom is life-giving for me. Every day I await what new surprises God has in store for me through the children. I hope I am an instrument of blessing for these students as I live out the Gospel: "Jesus welcomed the children and blessed them." ✚



From left: ASLW Nancy Russell, Linda Nicholas, Margaret McDonald and Sue Geimer.

By Barbara Aretz, ASLW,  
Bobby Mills, ASLW, and  
Donna M. Williams, SLW

in spite of the “hairpin turns” their roller coaster may take, we share who we are and what we have been given. Our association is the spirit of new life for each person, a spirit of being valued.

**THE LIVING WORD COMMUNITY** is celebrating a momentous event! Twenty five years ago, on April 18, 1993, six Associates made commitment for the first time. Pat Peters, Toby Andersen, Trish Pepler, Graciela and Dennis Van Gemert, and Alyce Vesley were called to live out the SLW Mission Statement—to free the oppressed and bring new life.

“Association is a present; let’s unwrap it” has been a guiding principle of development over the past decades. “Sisters and Associates—two distinct vocations, two distinct life styles, one spirit, one charism, a shared call, a shared mission—a relationship which blesses today’s church and world!” This is how Carrie Miller, SLW defined Association.

Associates live their call in Idaho, Illinois, Iowa, Texas, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, North Carolina, West Virginia, and Wisconsin. Each area has unwrapped the present according to the gifts, needs, and schedules of the Associates and all are

committed to prayer and service.

ASLW Barbara Aretz and Bobby Mills share how they have unwrapped Association:

Association is a gift, it’s the opportunity for people to relate to each other. Over the years, our journey as West Texas Associates has been like a wonderful, wild roller coaster ride; full of ups and sometimes jolting downs, but a ride full of fun and laughter as we began our service to our local community. We have discovered that we all share a common vision of the Word, identifying with the mission and spirit of the Sisters of the Living Word.

We have all learned that our lives have often begun where our comfort zones ended! The one thing that has kept us going, helping us to live a life worth living, has been our constant bond of community. Our individual stories are very different, yet we help each one not to take ourselves too seriously. One or more of us has helped the others to see that

Our Partner-in-Prayer, Pat Stanley, works to highlight affordable housing resources here in our community of Midland. When a panel of representatives met at the Midland College Cogdell Learning Center, Pat pointed out how rents have increased nearly 28% over the years. She hoped that people would walk away from the event with some knowledge about the many resources available in our community. One of our Associates, Anacani Medina-Rodriguez and her son, Cristiano, who is six years old, took part in a Sweetheart Dance at our local YMCA. We find, that whatever we do, our lives are truly worth living! It helps to unite us, mutually supporting one another as we each, in our own way, live to reflect and affirm His Word in our world.

“Open windows in your consciousness. Accept what is now, let go of what was, and have faith in what will be.” Anonymous

How will we continue to unwrap this gift that our Creator God has given? ✚

# DO YOU REMEMBER?

## PROJECT IRENE: A POWERFUL VOICE FOR WOMEN & CHILDREN

By Rebekah McFarland, SLW Archivist

**PEACE AND JUSTICE: PROMOTING THE COMMON GOOD THROUGH SYSTEMIC CHANGE AND ACCOMPANYING AND EMPOWERING OTHERS TO BRING NEW LIFE.**

FROM THE SLW CORE VALUES

**THE SISTERS OF THE LIVING WORD** are no strangers to standing up for the voiceless, and so it comes as no surprise that they work so closely with Project IRENE. Project IRENE (Illinois Religious Engaging in Nonviolent Endeavors) serves as a voice for women and children throughout the state of Illinois. An initiative of the Leadership Conference of Women Religious (LCWR) Region 8, Project IRENE was proposed in 1995 and formed in 1996. Currently directed by the indefatigable Rose Mary Meyer, BVM, Project IRENE utilizes liaisons, reports, visits to elected officials, and more to advocate for those unheard.

SLW has been a part of Project IRENE since its beginning. Through the work of those such as Mary Ann Zrust, SLW - who served as one of the founding members from 1993-1998 - and liaisons such as Kris Vorenkamp, SLW, Project IRENE remains a powerful voice for the women and children of Illinois.

For more information on Project IRENE visit [www.projectirene.org](http://www.projectirene.org). Additionally, a display on Project IRENE is

up in the Living Word Center lobby.



Left: The Director of Project IRENE, Rose Mary Meyer, BVM. Courtesy of [www.projectirene.org](http://www.projectirene.org)



Above: Current Project IRENE liaison Kris Vorenkamp, SLW and emeritus founding member Mary Ann Zrust, SLW. Taken on 11/16/2014 Courtesy of SLW

## PRAYER CARDS FOR SPECIAL OCCASIONS



### NEED A MEMORIAL CARD?

How about a birthday card for a co-worker? Or a thank you card for a neighbor? The Sisters of the Living Word have cards that include the gift of prayer. Designed by **KATHLEEN HEER, SLW**, the four-color cards are available for the following occasions:

- **MEMORIAL**
- **HEALING**
- **GRATITUDE**
- **BIRTHDAY**
- **CELEBRATION**

The Sisters will include the name of your loved one during Mass every Tuesday, during their daily prayers, and at a special gathering on the first Monday of the month. Your donation will be noted in the next issue of **OutWORD**.

Your donation will enable the Sisters to continue their ministries. In any amount, every donation is greatly appreciated.





Kristine Vorkamp, SLW

## PARTNERS IN MISSION

### DEAR FRIENDS OF THE LIVING WORD SISTERS

My name is Sister Kristine Vorenkamp. I have been in religious life since 1969, so I am near celebrating my 50<sup>th</sup> year as a Sister. I was very blessed to be raised with two loving parents, five brothers and one sister. We were raised to be responsible and frugal. For a living my father supervised oil rig moves in the Gulf of Mexico, and later was Vice-President of Estimation for a shipyard. When he retired he became a consultant for shipbuilders. When I would walk into his office I would see sketches of ships drawn by architects. Dad would work with these and be able to estimate the materials needed. I would marvel at his ability and wonder why God hadn't given me gifts in the area of math and money.

Why am I sharing this with you? When the idea of **CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITIES** for businesses was first introduced many years ago my dad told me that the Sisters of the Living Word ought to get into the program; that it would be funding for the community, and at the same time a sure retirement benefit for people. I believe that he was the first to do so. He was also a caring and *forward thinking* businessman.

Please visit our site and download a Charitable Gift Annuity brochure at [www.slw.org/donate/planned-gifts](http://www.slw.org/donate/planned-gifts) or call me for more information: **847-577-5972 ext. 232.**

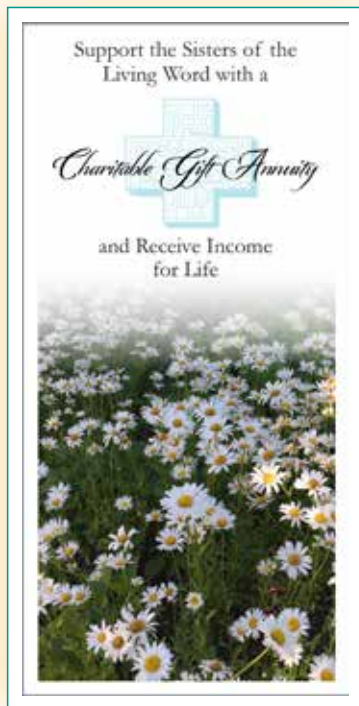
## Share in our mission!

Charitable Gift Annuities can be an advantage, especially for those 70 and ½ years of age and older. Therefore, though I don't have abilities in business that my dad did, I can, in his name, ask you to please consider this kind of donation to help us continue our Living Word mission. It is a win-win. You get a guaranteed quarterly income for life and at the time of your death the Sisters of the Living Word would receive what would be left. I also invite you to share this with friends and relatives who might be interested in receiving income from a Charitable Gift Annuity. A minimum of \$10,000 is needed to establish an annuity with us.

Thank you for considering this way to share in our mission. Our spirit of bringing the new life of Christ to the oppressed is the Gospel call to a weary world. May you be blessed with the grace of God's love extended to you and yours and from your generous hearts to others.

Gratefully,

Sr. Kristine Vorenkamp, SLW  
Congregational Leadership



## MISSION ADVANCEMENT SOCIETY: \$25,000 - \$49,999

Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Buehlman  
Crary Family Legacy Fund

## NEW LIFE CIRCLE: \$10,000-\$24,999

Anonymous  
Mr. and Mrs. Michael J. Kimble  
Mr. and Mrs. Augustine Tsang

## POWER OF THE SPIRIT CIRCLE: \$5,000-\$9,999

Anonymous  
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## PEACE & JUSTICE PARTNERS: \$1,000- \$4,999

Addolorata Villa  
Anonymous  
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Mr. and Mrs. Raynald L. Bordelon  
Clerics of St. Viator  
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Flood Brothers Disposal  
Mrs. Colette K. Mittelstaedt and Mrs. Marie  
K. Lobre  
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Ms. Janet Raiche  
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Mr. George Schmid  
Mrs. Geraldine A. Taylor  
Village Bank & Trust  
Mr. and Mrs. Michael A. Walsh

## FRIENDS OF THE LIVING WORD: GIFTS UP TO \$999

Ms. Lois Abbott  
Mr. Perry Achee  
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas J. Adam  
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A luncheon and prayer service was held in Arlington Heights, Illinois, on December 11, 2017 in memory of **ASLW JEANNETTE BERGESON**. Jeannette was 88 and died on December 5, 2017. She was the mother of 5 children and grandmother of 6. May she rest in peace.

Mr. and Mrs. Wayne DeLaune  
Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Derhake  
Mr. and Mrs. William Deris  
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In lieu of the Grand Raffle the Sisters of the Living Word will be participating in **JOHN DEERE'S CLASSIC BIRDIES FOR CHARITY, JULY 9-15** Please watch your mail in May for pledge forms.

Network for Good  
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 Ms. Kathleen Newgard  
 Mrs. Beatrice L. Nielsen  
 Mr. and Mrs. Michael L. Nolan  
 Mr. and Mrs. Michael Nugent  
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### *Kathy and Jim Homman*

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### *Debbie Hufft*

Julia Stump, SLW

### *Margaret Kaepplinger's 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday*

Anonymous

### *Barbara Mass, SLW*

Ms. Mary Ellen Cherry  
Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Mass  
Mr. and Mrs. Mark Mass

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### *Norma Thelen, SLW*

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Thelen

### *Catherine Vairin's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday*

Julia Stump, SLW

### *Kristine Vorenkamp, SLW*

Mrs. Rose J. Mabry

### *Rita Worm, SLW*

Mr. and Mrs. Mark G. Brodersen

### *Mary Ann Zrust, SLW*

Mr. and Mrs. Gerard Laurent



Top: Kim Boyce-Hagerty  
Both middle: Larry Schimka  
At right: Darlene Bulak



## MEET NEW PART-TIME STAFF AT SLW

**WELCOME TO THREE NEW EMPLOYEES** at the SLW office in Arlington Heights. Kim Boyce-Hagerty is the Communications Coordinator, Larry Schimka is the Accounting Manager, and Darlene Bulak is the Receptionist.

Kim has a background in writing, editing, and graphic design and worked for the Archdiocese of Chicago in the Family Ministries Office. She is also a proud St. Juliana graduate, which is the parish that offered the use of their former convent to the SLWs in 1975! She and her husband of 39 years, Pat, spend a lot of time being exhausted from their four grandchildren who are all three years old and younger.

Larry comes to us from suburban Chicago and the West Coast and is shown participating in a Mud Run to benefit MS research in honor of his wife Melanie who has MS. He comes to work all cleaned up, however, and is anxious to use his background in accounting and finance to help keep the finances of the SLW in great shape.

Darlene comes to us after working for St. Colette in Rolling Meadows, Illinois, and has a background in desktop support. She will be at the reception desk at the Living Word Center on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. She and her husband of almost 40 years have three children and three grandchildren. ☩



# THE 6<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL DAY AT THE RACES...

By Margaret Mei

**WAS HOSTED BY** the Sisters of the Living Word at the New Orleans Fairgrounds on March 10, 2018.

We gratefully acknowledge our event Sponsors:

- Jefferson Sprinkler, Inc.
- The Tsang Family
- Dr. and Mrs. Moises Arriaga
- The Kimble Family
- Louie and Sally Roussel
- Gwen & Ronnie Briggs, ASLW
- Sylvia Trepagnier
- M. D. Descant, LLC
- Gary and Diane Michel, ASLW

**WE THANK ALL ATTENDEES** and all who donated items for the raffle. The 5<sup>th</sup> race was named for the Sisters of the Living Word. The winner of the 50/50 raffle was Jackie Schroeder.



**THE PARTNERS IN MISSION AWARD** was presented to Bob and Marilyn Lobrano, long-time benefactors of the Sisters who first became acquainted with them when Miriam Cossich, who taught with Sisters Judiann Derhake and Jeannette Daniel at St. Anthony School in Gretna, invited them to the Lobrano's camp in Braithwaite, LA.

The Sisters have celebrated many life events with the Lobranos – first communions, baptisms, birthdays, graduations, etc. Bob and Marilyn believe that a good, well-grounded and faith-filled education will give students a great start in life and to that end have supported the efforts of the Sisters of the Living Word. Prayers abound for everyone involved!



Myrle, Maurice, and MeMe Leblanc

**FOR MORE PHOTOS** of Day at the Races and Outreach to Children's Advocacy Center and Cafe Reconcile, visit our website at: [www.slw.org](http://www.slw.org)



Mirl Bergeron and Gary Michel



**THE VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARD** was presented to Emma Scheuermann who considers the SLW Order a gift in her life. Emma put it this way, "I have said for years that the gifts I've received far outnumber what I do for the Order! I can't begin to thank Sisters Lynda Rink, Jeannette Daniel and Judiann Derhake for all they did and continue to do for me and my family. I will always hold the Sisters and their mission in my heart and prayers! Thank you so much for such a wonderful honor, I'm overwhelmed and humbled!" Emma has worked tirelessly on many fundraisers for the Sisters of the Living Word starting with the Crescent City Food Connection and continuing with the Day at the Races.



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IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE **OutWORD** WITH FAMILY MEMBERS OR FRIENDS, PLEASE CONTACT: [ADVANCE@SLW.ORG](mailto:ADVANCE@SLW.ORG)


**2018 DATES TO SAVE**

**april 28**  
 ASSOCIATE RETREAT  
 LIVING WORD CENTER  
 FLINT, MI

**may 23**  
 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE 101  
 LUNCH & WORKSHOP  
 @ NOON - 2 PM  
 LIVING WORD CENTER  
 ARLINGTON HEIGHTS, IL

**june 22**  
 LEADERSHIP INSTALLATION  
 LIVING WORD CENTER  
 ARLINGTON HEIGHTS, IL

**june 23**  
 JUBILEE @12 NOON  
 ST. EDNA CHURCH  
 ARLINGTON HEIGHTS, IL

**mark your calendar!** 

**august 19**  
 FOUNDERS DAY/SUMMERFEST  
 1 - 4 PM  
 LIVING WORD CENTER  
 ARLINGTON HEIGHTS, IL

**november 4**  
 ANNUAL MEMORIAL  
 SERVICE @ 2 PM  
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