NOTICING: To live our moment fully.

To respond to our call to prophecy so we can journey into hope, we must lean into our contemplative identity; we must notice everything! Noticing with prophetic hope requires a long loving look that holds everything before it, no matter how strange, painful or different.

A spirituality of noticing will move us to the small meaningful acts of compassion that restore hope.

We need to be asking the right questions, not because we will find the answers but because questions will guide our noticing. Where is the need? What is ours to do? Who are we today?

Then we will join the restorers around us, restoring creation, human dignity and peace, one little step at a time!

*Excerpted from a presentation by Sr. Teresa Maya, CCVI
To a gathering of Superiors General in 2019*

Noticing: Is there need in the person beside me? In the neighborhood, city or world? We encourage and sustain each other and all through our small, meaningful acts of compassion.

*Susan, Suzanne, and Cathy*
Statement of Future Direction
Affirmed by the 2019 Congregational Chapter body

Called together for the life of the world, our 2019 Congregational Chapter compels us to live authentically our identity as the Congregation of the Great Love of God and our charism of loving God and neighbor without distinction.

The cry of the dear neighbor impels us to go deeper, to journey farther, to respond boldly and creatively. The world is waiting.

Urgent needs call us, Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet and Associates, Consociates, `Ohana and Familia de San José, to bold conversation and prophetic action.

Striving to be beacons of hope, we commit to:

- Respond to the crisis of Earth and global warming,
- Deepen awareness of our complicity and work toward dismantling interlocking systems of oppression,
- Articulate and authentically live our vows in ways that witness and speak to today’s realities,
- Walk with women as we claim our voice and work toward an inclusive church and society,
- Use our collective voice to accompany others in speaking their truth.

As we move into these commitments, we will:

- Make all decisions through the lens of unifying love,
- Embrace the spirit expressed in Vatican II,
- Implement Laudato Si’,
- Expand and deepen our partnerships,
- Use a variety of communication media.

We stand in communion with all who share our passion, charism, and mission: St. Joseph Workers, partners in mission and ministry, friends, emerging and ongoing relationships such as agrégées, and all those enlivened by our charism.

DARE TO BE PROPHETIC.
Over 30 sisters, associates, St. Joseph Workers, and partners in mission from the U.S. Federation of the Sisters of St. Joseph joined with over 400 individuals in the Catholic Day of Action for Immigrant Children, part of a “Stop the Inhumanity” campaign designed to increase the visibility of the Catholics who are willing to take risks on the issue to increase pressure on the U.S. government to end child detention.

Among this group were five sisters who participated in the non-violent act of civil disobedience to protest the traumatizing abuse of immigrant children and their families. These sisters — joined with 50 other participants who prayerfully decided to risk arrest as part of a nonviolent action — prayed in the streets of Newark for the end of child and family detention. The five sisters included Sr. Patricia Johnson, sister of St. Joseph of Carondelet (SL) and executive director of the U.S. Federation of the Sisters of St. Joseph; Sr. Joan Gallagher, sister of St. Joseph of Brentwood and co-chair of the Federation’s Leadership Council; Sr. Janet Kinney, sister of St. Joseph of Brentwood; Sr. Erin McDonald, sister from the Congregation of St. Joseph; Sr. Susan Wilcox, sister of St. Joseph of Brentwood. Archbishop of Newark, Joseph William Cardinal Tobin commented of the action, “The point of today is to be able to show the real face of children who are incarcerated.”

This was the second Catholic Day of Action event. The first was held on July 18 in Washington, D.C. at the Russell Senate Office Building where 71 Catholic leaders were arrested, including two Sisters of St. Joseph. A third Catholic Day of Action Event is planned for October at the border in El Paso, Texas, with a teach-in on Oct. 11-13 and a nonviolent direction action on Oct. 12.

*Excerpted*
As Sisters of St. Joseph, we share in the communal heartbreak of our nation in the face of unthinkable violence. The recent mass shootings in our country impel us to once again demand that all citizens and elected leaders end the rage and division that all too often result in mass, indiscriminate violence. We seem unable to stop the epidemic of hate that has overwhelmed us.

What we are witnessing today is a terrorism that uses mass public communication against a particular individual or group. This incites acts of terrorism that happen seemingly at random. We are called to confront rhetoric that stokes racism and hatred of anyone perceived to be “different.” We are all responsible. Let us monitor our own language and actions and call attention when the language and actions of others cross the line.

While mass shootings capture our attention, we cannot forget that they are only part of the violence perpetrated by use of firearms. Homicides, suicides, domestic violence and accidents caused by guns are pervasive in all parts of the country, traumatizing families and communities every day. In the short term, we implore all legislative bodies to pass legislation that ban assault weapons, require universal background checks for all gun sales, provide funding for gun violence prevention research, and make the trafficking in weapons a federal crime. At the same time, we must continue examining the root causes of violence and work to change our culture.

The Sisters of St. Joseph pledge our support to end the scourge of rage and hatred, and we will consistently call for legislation to end gun violence.

*Excerpted*
In the News


National Catholic Sisters Week

CWR (Communicators for Women Religious), a professional organization dedicated to Advancing the Mission of Catholic Sisters, has agreed to assume responsibility for National Catholic Sisters Week, formerly associated with the National Catholic Sisters Project (NCSP). CWR said, “There is great untapped potential in the NCSW program and with the collective wisdom of CWR members onboard I am confident that NCSW is on the brink of a bright new future.”

www.nationalcatholicsistersweek.org.

More Than 660 LCWR Members Call on President Trump to Stop All Divisive and Polarizing Rhetoric

The Leadership Conference of Women Religious during its annual 2019 conference sent a letter to President Trump stating, in part, "We implore you to never use language that disrespects, dehumanizes, or demonizes others. We expect our president, and all who serve this nation as leaders, to be always mindful of the common good and the dignity of each and every person. You hold a position that has the potential to inspire the best of every one of us and we ask you to use this unique status to bring about healing and never seek to create division."

www.nationalcatholicsistersweek.org.
The September 7, 2019 Community Assembly, was themed Weaving Direction and Action: Moving Forward Together. The Assembly welcomed Sisters, Consociates, Friends of St. Joseph, St. Joseph Workers and Partners in Mission. Members of the Carondelet Novitiate Community from Los Angeles, Japan, and Albany also joined us. There were over 150 people in attendance to discuss and celebrate!

The Assembly acknowledged the hard work of the Provincial and Congregational Chapters. Participants committed to doing the personal work of asking how we think these directions and commitments are woven together and into our own call.

It is hard to capture with words on a flat page the energy and excitement, the movement and thrust of the morning. In response to the five powerful challenges of the Congregational Chapter we gave voice to our desire to be beacons of hope and committed ourselves to action. We were spurred on by the personal statements from community members who gave shape to their commitments.

To animate our Province Chapter theme of warp and woof, we covered each table with woven ribbons of teal and gold, working as teams to create a weaving to represent our actions. The statements of our action areas had been distilled from all the meetings, small and large group discussions, personal reflections and prayers before, during and after the Provincial Chapter. Following the caution to try for an economy of words, we were able to gift each of the participants with a bookmark containing the Commitments from the Congregational Chapter on one side and the Directions to Action from the Provincial Chapter on the other.
More energy sparked as each member wove their way around the room placing their Action Areas onto posters proclaiming the Congregational Commitments. The effect was a new weaving of stronger threads of bold responses. We will be using future assemblies to further unpack these calls to action.

The morning ended with the Assembly commissioning each other to Go deeper. Journey farther. Respond boldly. DARE TO BE PROPHETIC.

*Check the November Together for more Community Assembly highlights.
Questions for Sister Linda

What influenced your life choices? I was born and raised in Texas. My dream was to become a cowgirl. Later I learned, “A Cowgirl …. Is a woman who blazes her own trail.” St. Louis CSJs taught at my elementary school. I liked how they lived together, were fun to be with, and prayed. I wanted to be one. I entered the CSJs at Carondelet in St. Louis, MO after high school. I was 17.

I lived in St. Louis for about 25 years but appreciated St. Paul’s freedom of spirit and guts to say and do what they felt called to do. One day I heard St. Paul’s Rita Steinhagen, CSJ, give a homily, and my inner voice said “Someday, you will work with Rita.” Later Sisters in the Congregation were encouraged to find a place they could volunteer for a summer working for justice. I heard about St. Joseph’s House in Minneapolis, a place serving women and children in transition. I wanted to work with women who were poor and Minneapolis was where the Women’s movement was thriving. I called to volunteer. Rita answered the phone and said “YES.”

How did your justice interests evolve? I grew up with Jim Crow laws and was very bothered by the “White” and “Colored” signs at water fountains and bathrooms and people of color required to sit in the back of the bus. My father had been a prisoner of war in Burma and Java during WWII and suffered starvation and cruelty at the hands of his captors. He had great compassion for the poor and worked to alleviate their suffering. My childhood experiences, the Sisters’ teachings, and Saints I’d read about influenced my work for justice.

One day, as I was praying about how “being in the closet” was really painful, I had the impulse to “pray in the closet.” I told God how afraid I was that if the Sisters knew I was lesbian, they would be ashamed of me and ask me to leave. Then I thought of people like my gay brother, Clark, who were risking their lives to be faithful to who they are. I realized I was being a coward if I kept hiding in the “convent closet.” I asked God to help me come out. That day I began taking steps to live my life with integrity, truth, and freedom. I volunteer to help LGBTQ youth know that they are created and loved by God and that being faithful to who they are is their gift to God and the world.

Every day, I become more comfortable with who I am and I am grateful to be among the Sisters, Consociates, Partners in Mission, Partners in Ministry, Friends of St. Joseph, and all who are called to live the same mission.
Social Media Highlights

The CSJ St. Paul Community can be found on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and YouTube. Recent postings to these social media accounts include:

- There has been a lot of buzz on social media about Sister Helen Prejean’s new memoir. Make sure to check it out AND save the date for Sr. Helen’s next visit to Minnesota for Breaking the Impasse XI, hosted by the CSJ Justice Commission and St. Catherine University on February 27, 2020.
- Celeste’s Dream shared their favorite potluck recipe for 2019, Sesame Noodles and the Kitchen Sink (from community gardener, Barb Parisien). To see this delicious recipe, visit https://www.csjstpaul.org/community-garden/
- Wisdom Ways has reached 900 likes on Facebook!
- Sister Susan Smith and Sister Rosalind Gefre were featured in a Star Tribune article about Cycling Without Age.

SAVE THE DATE!

Community Assembly
Wednesday
November 13th
5:00 Light supper
5:30 to 8:00pm Assembly

BREWING CHANGE
in support of the St. Joseph Worker Program

October 28, 2019
5:30-8:30pm
Bauhaus Brew Labs
1315 Tyler St. NE
Minneapolis, MN 55413
Elizabeth (Rose Agnes) Schoeneberger, CSJ
June 10, 1925 ~ August 25, 2019

Elizabeth—Liz to her friends and community, Tommy to her family—was born the eighth of nine children to Bernard and Agatha (Nau) Schoeneberger in Perham, MN and died on August 25, at St. Joseph Hospital in St. Paul.

She entered the CSJ community in 1944. In 1955 Liz earned a degree in Sociology and Elementary Education from the College of St. Catherine and in 1960 an MED from Marquette University. She taught elementary education at Blessed Sacrament, St. Columba, Cathedral, St. James and Holy Spirit in St. Paul, and St. Stephen in Minneapolis. She taught religious education at St. Helena in Minneapolis and was principal at St. Eloi in Ghent, MN, and Basilica and South Parks in Minneapolis.

She enjoyed her years as a classroom teacher and was attuned to the needs of her more physically or emotionally mature or immature students, she worked to make lessons interesting and accessible to all her students and she greatly missed the classroom when she retired from teaching. Liz observed people closely and would remark that this one looked “sad around the eyes” or that the goodness just radiated from another. When dealing with someone she found difficult, she would remind herself that God loved her and that person equally. She said that growing up, they could have most of what they wanted but they were trained to want very little. She was never one to shop for enjoyment and when presented with a gift, her first thought was about who could use the item. She had also learned not to sit when someone else was working and, into her nineties, she came out to help with yardwork or snow removal or whatever project was being done. She spent hours sewing projects for herself and others. She knitted and gave away hundreds of dishcloths. She enjoyed being near water and went camping and fishing. In her later years she experienced many health problems enduring many surgeries and treatments. She valued daily mass and office. Her bible is well worn and she always requested a bible when she was in the hospital. She said that she could handle pain and discomfort as long as she was able to pray. Mass of Christian Burial, preceded by a Visitation, was celebrated Tuesday, September 3, 2019 in Our Lady of the Presentation Chapel with burial at Resurrection Cemetery in Mendota Heights, MN. Sister Liz, rest in love and peace.

Julia Olmstead, Consociate

Julia Olmstead, Consociate, died on September 2, 2019. She was born on September 22, 1933, and she entered religious life with the Sisters of St. Joseph in 1951. Although she later left religious life, the women in her reception year were life-long friends. She always stayed close to the community and became a Consociate in 1985. She spent many years as an English teacher and made a huge difference in the lives of her students, many of whom came to celebrate her life at Our Lady of the Presentation chapel on September 10, 2019. She had deep relationships with her family and friends. Many will remember her for her love of literature, her generous smile, and her incredible book collection.
Consociate Commitments

We continue the commitment statements shared at the annual Ritual of Consociate Commitment and Welcome on May 1, 2019 with Debra Barone Sheats.

“Behold, I make all things new”

The words on the altar at Our Lady of Victory Chapel at St. Kate’s that helped a quiet, shy 17-year old from Dyersville, Iowa find her voice, claim her education, and realize her passion for dietetics and nutrition as her path for helping “the dear neighbor” following in the footsteps of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet (CSJs).

“Behold, I make all things new”

The words on the altar at Our Lady of Victory Chapel at St. Kate’s that brought immense joy to a 24-year old, St. Kate’s alumna, Registered Dietitian/Public Health Nutritionist, as she celebrated the Sacrament of Marriage to her best friend and love, Bill Sheats, on September 9, 1978.

“Behold, I make all things new”

The words on the altar at Our Lady of Victory Chapel at St. Kate’s that welcomed a St. Kate’s alumna back in 1999 to her dream job as an Assistant Professor in Foods and Nutrition, following in the footsteps of Sister James Agnes Fogarty, Sr. Mary Catherine Stensrud, Phyllis Osborne, and Dr. Julie Jones, educating women to lead and influence in dietetics and nutrition, The Reflective Woman, and Global Search for Justice.

“Behold, I make all things new”

The words on the altar at Our Lady of Victory Chapel at St. Kate’s that have brought comfort, peace, and joy in worship, prayer, quiet reflection, and celebration, and that nurtured a desire to more fully align with the CSJ Community as a Consociate working for justice in the areas of food insecurity, housing insecurity, and health care as a basic human right. I look forward to walking this path of living the CSJ Charism with the CSJs and Consociates and I am excited to see where this journey of living as a CSJ Consociate takes me.

I, Debra Barone Sheats, commit myself to be a Consociate of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet, St. Paul Province, moving always toward profound love of God and neighbor without distinction.

I pledge myself to live the vision and values of the community within the context of my life and responsibilities.
“In these more secular times, we who are part of the bricks and mortar of St. Catherine take emotion from Our Lady of Victory Chapel. It’s the place on campus we can come and still feel at home.” Sister Mary Davida Wood ’31 (1911 – 1998)

October 7 (the Feast of Our Lady of Victory now known as Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary) marks the 95th anniversary of the dedication of Our Lady of Victory Chapel at St. Catherine University. October 14 marks the 75th anniversary of the death of Mother Antonia McHugh, the first president of the College of St. Catherine and the woman who had the faith to believe that this Chapel would one day be filled with students, faculty, and staff – as well as alumnae/i, parents, and friends.

Mother Antonia was among the first Sisters to arrive at Derham Hall on December 26, 1904. Mother Seraphine Ireland and Archbishop Ireland knew that Mother Antonia was the Sister who would build and move the College of St. Catherine forward to become a college that would “educate women to lead and influence (St. Catherine University’s Mission).” Mother Antonia’s belief in the ability of the Sisters and students led her to do many things to make this happen. She worked to make education attainable for the Sisters so that they would be prepared to teach college-level courses. She worked to build buildings to foster the best possible learning environments for the students. And, she knew that the students needed a place of prayer that was as beautiful as it was welcoming. This she accomplished by completing what is arguably her second greatest and most visible achievement, the first being the College of St. Catherine (St. Catherine University).

Our Lady of Victory Chapel has been a symbol of strength for 95 years. The symbol of the strength of belief that Mother Antonia had when she assured the Archbishop that the chapel would be filled. The symbol of the belief the Sisters of St. Joseph had in the importance of educating girls and women. The symbol of the belief the students felt, and still feel today, when they walked on campus at the beginning of the academic year and feel the strength of those who came before them.

(Note – The same architect, H.A. Sullwold, who designed Our Lady of Victory Chapel also designed Mendel Hall. The two buildings at St. Catherine would be Sullwold’s largest and most complex designs. He moved to California in the late 1920’s.)

For more information about the history of the Sisters of St. Joseph check out the Archives website at https://csjstpaul.org/our-heritage-csj/, and our online collection at http://csjstpaul.pastperfectonline.com/. For more information about the Archives at St. Catherine University see https://www.stkate.edu/archives. For more information about the Chapel see Our Lady of Victory: Monument, Mystery, Mission, by Mary Ann Brenden. The book is available in the St. Kate’s bookstore.
WISDOM WAYS CENTER FOR SPIRITUALITY


Yes! Jesus had women disciples. Meet 16 of them with Sisters Joan and Ansgar in this short course. Put the word out to your friends, too. The morning time may make attendance easier for folks.

When: October 16, 23, 30.
10:00 a.m. to 12:00 pm.

Where: Carondelet Center

Cost: $60.00 for all three classes or $25.00 per session


ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL OF MUSIC

St. Joseph's School of Music is celebrating its 50th Anniversary in 2020. Watch for upcoming news about special events honoring this special legacy of the Sisters of St. Joseph.
The Justice Commission has started off another exciting year on Sept. 12 with their opening retreat: "Go deeper, journey farther, respond boldly, and DARE TO BE PROPHETIC." The commission members soaked in the spirit and celebrated the Congregational Chapter’s future direction and the recent St. Paul Community Assembly.

The commission begins its new year with renewed passion and energy coming forth from deep reflection, community input and a lot of hard work this summer from people from various cross-sections of the CSJ community who participated in Justice "think tank" meetings. This process helped clarify several emerging growth and opportunity areas for the Justice Commission. In addition, a clear and refreshing new spirit for the Justice Commission’s work for "a more just world for all" sprouted from the "think tank" process and emboldens the commission members as they restart their work again this Fall.

This year's retreat was filled with music, reflection, and sharing. The Justice Commission members also enthusiastically endorsed renewed vision, mission, and purpose statements as follows:

**Vision:** The Justice Commission and the CSJ community embody justice for creation in all forms as expressed in our profound love of God and love of neighbor without distinction.

**Mission:** Our mission calls us to educate, advocate, partner, and act for justice leading to systemic change in communion especially with our "dear neighbor."

**Purpose:** As an appointed commission of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet, the CSJ Justice Commission addresses the needs of the times and engages the community, both individually and collectively, in the work for justice.

The retreat ended with commission members committing to the work ahead and their being commissioned to "animate, prioritize, and be accountable for our community's work for justice in collaboration with Working and Task Groups, Province Leadership, the CSJ Community, our Partners in Mission, and all who share our passion, charism and mission for justice." Our blessings on the 2019-2020 Justice Commission members and their individual and collective work in the days and months ahead.
The Justice Office invites CSJ community members to consider joining NETWORK Lobby for Catholic Social Justice along with the School Sisters of Notre Dame for a special Racial Wealth & Income Gap Workshop being hosted at Carondelet Center on Sunday afternoon, October 20 at 2:30 p.m. SPACE is limited, so call the Justice Office to reserve your space at 651-690-7054.

Justice Commission liaisons are enthusiastically working to craft the Commission goals along with working with their respective work and task groups to develop their 2019-2020 goals.

The Justice office reports:

Anti-Human Trafficking Working Group, the Criminal Justice Working Group and Earth Partners members, together with Breaking Free and Amicus (Sisters Helping Sisters), will be supporting volunteer activities as a part of St. Catherine’s October 12 Citizen Kate event.

Criminal Justice Working Group members request prayers for member Sister Ruth Brooker, CSJ, as she begins her new work teaching at the Women’s Federal Prison in Waseca, Minnesota for a spirituality program called “Threshold.” They encourage us to learn about incarceration practices in Minnesota by reading the September 8, St. Paul Pioneer Press article, “Pain of Separation” detailing the current practice in Minnesota of separating infants from their incarcerated mothers.

Health Care for All Task Group invites you to join us for a special breakfast conversation, “Health and Housing: There is no place like home! The Impact of Housing on Health,” on November 1, at 7:30 a.m. with the Amherst H. Wilder Foundation’s Michelle Decker Gerrard, Dr. Ed Ehlinger, and possibly Lt. Gov. Peggy Flanagan. Please RSVP with the Justice Office or online at https://tinyurl.com/CSJHCFA2019.

Immigration Working Group members invite the CSJ community to save the date to join us for the second Tuesday of November (12) for a special prayer vigil at 7:30 a.m. at the Whipple Federal Building. The CSJ community will host this interfaith vigil with the Interfaith Coalition on Immigration (ICOM), the CSJ Ritual Task Group, St. Kate’s students, SJWs, Friends of St. Joseph, and Lumen Christi Parish.

Native American Awareness Working Group members attended the end of harvest season feast and Garden Warrior celebrations at the Dream of Wild Health Farm.

Ritual Task Group members thanks everyone that joined us for the 9/11 eighteen year memorial last month. Join us for our next peace prayer on October 11 with the Criminal Justice Working Group at 6:30 p.m. in the Our Lady of Presentation Chapel.

Carondelet Village Justice Liaison reports there have been many voter engagement activities at Carondelet Village the past few weeks including a meeting with City Council Candidate Patty Hartmann and a forum with Candidates for the St Paul School Board. Remember the City Council and School Board elections on November 5 with early voting options, including at St. Kates on October 30.

Justice Resource Room invites you to check out new additions to the resource room’s great reading selections especially the new books added to the Criminal Justice Resources.

To support CSJ Ministries visit the Ministries Foundation www.ministriesfoundation.org
SARAH’S... AN OASIS FOR WOMEN

You can do it! Is one of Sarah’s six mantras. This mantra in particular provides encouragement for Sarah’s residents to accomplish their goals. At Sarah’s we know ALL our residents can do it! Below are some reflections from current residents:

“I don’t have any family here. I am studying English and I am working!”

“Sarah’s helped me to get a job at a nursing home.”

“I have been so thankful and happy in my life and future because Sarah’s lets me live a stable life. I am going to school.”

“When I came to Sarah’s, I was under so many stresses and trauma but things started to improve with encouragement from Sarah’s staff to go to school.”

“Sarah’s is a good mother. She is like a mother. I love Sarah’s.”

Sarah’s Mantras:
- You are a good woman.
- You can do it!
- You come to Sarah’s in order to leave.
- Sarah’s will always be your home.
- One lesson at a time. One woman at a time. One day at a time.
- May peacemaking prevail on Earth today!

Sarah’s... an Oasis for Women values their strong partnership with The Center for Victims of Torture (CVT). Approximately 30% of Sarah’s residents are referred through CVT.

Join us in supporting CVT! Sarah’s Director Cheryl Behrent is hosting a table at a free CVT breakfast event on October 10 and we would love for you to be there. This is also a great opportunity to network and spread the message of Sarah’s!

Contact director@sarasoasis.org.
ST. JOSEPH WORKERS

Collaborations have always been a vital part of the life of the St Joseph Worker Program, both within the CSJ Community and beyond. Building relationships and working in connection with many individuals and groups help our program respond in relevant ways and share the vision and mission. The St Joseph Worker Program is part of collaborative efforts with mission engagement circles, partner placement sites and many individuals in the community who share skills and build relationships with our St Joseph Workers.

Although the Program has always been in connection with our area faith-based year of service programs, a recent initiative funded by the Catholic Volunteer Network’s Service to Sisterhood. These efforts build our local community and helping vision programming for our current, past and future volunteers to explore vocation in an inclusive sense through common programming. Lutheran Volunteer Corps, Jesuit Volunteer Corps, From Mission to Mission, Maryknoll Lay Missioners, Quaker Voluntary Service and Circle of the Beloved—Episcopal Service Corps have been focusing on staff skill building, creating professional and personal development opportunities for our current and past volunteers and networking gatherings to build opportunities for the whole community.

We also collaborate continuously with our other St Joseph Worker Program locations in Los Angeles, Orange and New York to build a strong unified program and make common decisions about the operations and functions of the Program. In January, all of our St Joseph Workers will gather in McAllen, Texas to learn about the realities at the Border and be of service to those efforts. We’ll also have time to meet as Program staff to plan and work on joint efforts, like our collective Diversity and Inclusion Commitment Statement and our corresponding action plans.

All of these relationships and partnerships make the St Joseph Worker Program richer, more responsive and more connected to the current realities and our community of neighbors.
SJWP Welcoming Ritual Highlights, August 22, 2019

The St. Joseph Workers received a warm and supportive welcome to the community. They were able to share their hopes for their service year as well as meet many of the CSJs, consociates, SJW community and partners in mission.
CELESTE’S DREAM

As part of an orientation to the CSJs, Jennifer Tacheny and Jill Underdahl, CSJ, traditionally show their St. Kate’s interns significant CSJ sites. This year they were also able to share this tour with the Carondelet Novitiate Community. Together, the groups visited the site of the original CSJ cabin/St. Joseph’s Academy and Hospital at corner of Kellogg and Robert Streets in downtown St. Paul, the museum at St. Joseph’s Hospital and the Cathedral of St. Paul. Along the way we also showed the 1905 CSJ route to St. Catherine’s by driving down Grand and Cleveland Avenue to Derham Hall.

Meet the St. Kate’s Community Leader Interns Working with Celeste’s Dream and Justice

We are excited to work with these talented and passionate students to increase awareness and action regarding food insecurity on St. Kate’s campus and build stronger collaboration and relationship between St. Kate’s students and the CSJ community. Building relationships through social justice action is the focus of this work. Please welcome Alma and Clara when you see them on our campus.

Clara Godoy-Henderson

I’m a sophomore at St. Kate’s and I am majoring in Dietetics. I’m passionate about food and

Carondelet Novitiate Community tour significant CSJ sites with St. Kate’s student interns.

Alma Silver, front center, Clara Godoy Henderson, 4th from right, along with St. Kate’s Student Sustainability Coordinators, Rachel Schauer, 3rd from right and Moe O’Keefe, 2nd from right, on a tour of significant CSJ St. Paul sites, are joined by Celeste’s Dream’s Jill Underdahl, CSJ, far left, and Jennifer Tacheny, far right, with the Congregational Novitiate group including Jeanne Marie Gocha, Carol Brong, Sally Koch, and Chizuru Yamada.
serving others in my community. Because of my love for people and food, I’m excited to be given the opportunity to be a Celeste’s Dream intern. I’ll be working on a few projects throughout the semester as an intern at the St. Kate’s food shelf and the CSJ community gardens. This semester I look forward to working at the food shelf to better the signage and direct people more clearly to different food groups. In addition, there is an opportunity to create signage in the three languages that are most spoken in the St. Paul area: English, Spanish, and Hmong.

Another project I’m working on is getting healthy recipes and sampling these recipes on food shelf days to promote healthier eating. I hope to beautify the food shelf by collaborating with an art student to create artwork that is related to food or general health. Later in the fall, I’m looking forward to inviting the CSJ community to participate with the St. Kate’s Empty Bowls soup event social to raise money for Open Arms. (A local nonprofit delivering meals to people with life-threatening illnesses.) I firmly believe in the Sisters of Saint Joseph’s mission and am inspired by all of their work in the community. I feel fortunate to be working with such a great group of classmates at St. Kate’s and the Sisters who exemplify that faith is truly about loving and serving others.

Alma Silver

My name is Alma Silver, and I am thrilled to be working as a Spirituality and Justice Program Coordinator Intern for Celeste’s Dream. I have previously networked and collaborated with CSJ Provinces during my time as an intern for the Association of Colleges of Sisters of St. Joseph, and I am excited for the opportunity to continue justice-oriented community work, and foster connections between the CSJs and students on the St. Catherine University campus. In my role as an intern, I strive to elevate the visibility and awareness of the initiatives sustained by Celeste’s Dream, including the food shelf and community garden, which directly enrich students’ success and well-being. I happily welcome feedback and suggestions for creating opportunities that encourage St. Kate’s students to grow more involved with the mission and work of the Sisters of St. Joseph.

I am a senior at St. Kate’s finishing a major in Communications and Journalism. I am passionate about advocating for disability rights, challenging misrepresentations within the media, and creating more progressive and inclusive narratives through writing. In my free time, I love to write, read, explore the outdoors, and go on spontaneous adventures in the Twin Cities.
LEARNING IN STYLE

NEW YEAR, NEW FRIENDSHIPS

MARY LANG TEACHING CITIZENSHIP

COMPUTER LAB IN ACTION

LIS OFF TO A GREAT START FOR 2019-2020 SCHOOL YEAR

NEW TEACHER, BRENDA, USING NEW TECHNOLOGY!
SMHC UPDATE

Sue Gehlsen, MA, BSN, RN, NEA-BC, FACHE  
Executive Director, St. Mary’s Health Clinics

Coming to St. Mary’s Health Clinics from a large, corporate health system has provided me with some interesting perspectives. Over the course of my career in health care, primarily nursing, I’ve seen incredible advances in technology which has yielded both benefits and drawbacks. At SMHC, less steeped in technological advances, our manner of care reminds me of the early days of my career when nurses had greater opportunity to spend uncounted time with patients, relying on touch and connection to assess and care for the whole person including their physical, spiritual and psychological needs. This personal attention can be more difficult to find in today’s fast-paced, high tech health care environments. I appreciate SMHC’s approach and so, I believe, do our patients.

As I settle into the Executive Director position I am adjusting to the SMHC and CSJ cultures and looking forward to the many possibilities before us. We will be sharing more about future directions in the near future. Until then, please hold us in your hearts and prayer.

WELCOME SUSAN GEHLSEN, MA, BSN, RN, NEA-BC, FACHE

Sue Gehlsen joined SMHC as Interim Executive Director in November, 2018 and assumed the position of Executive Director in July, 2019. Born/raised in Duluth, Minnesota, she spent many years working in nursing and health care administration in Iowa, including a strong focus in Women’s Health. She returned to Minnesota in 2012 to be with family. With her husband, Tom, they are parents of five daughters, one son and 14 grandchildren.
HAPPY HOUR
The Ministries Foundation thanks every guest, volunteer and sponsor who helped make Septemberfest 2019 a success. It was an evening filled with community, music, and fun. See everyone next year!