

Supporting YWCA Kalamazoo

On May 23rd, sisters showed their support for YWCA Kalamazoo by attending their annual Women of Achievement Awards event. The event celebrates women who dedicate themselves to social justice and systemic change, and act as positive forces within their communities. Sister Rita Ann Teichman (far left) presented the Woman of Achievement award to Jeanne Hess, Vice-Mayor, City of Kalamazoo. The congregation was honored to receive the Lifetime Women of Achievement award at last year's event. ●



Caring for Creation

Sisters Betsy Meagher, Ginny Jones, and Christine Parks attended the 10th anniversary celebration of Hope for Creation, the Kalamazoo/Portage chapter of Interfaith Power and Light. Hope for Creation is an interfaith network of people whose faith traditions teach that people and the planet flourish when social and natural communities are in harmony. Sister Ginny is a founding member of the organization. The congregation is committed to sustainability and caring for Earth, our common home. ●

Wear Orange Weekend

Sisters, lay residents, and others at our Nazareth center showed their support for Wear Orange Weekend which took place June 7-9th. Part of Gun Violence Awareness Month, Wear Orange Weekend asks us to remember and honor the victims and all those affected by gun violence by wearing orange, holding prayer services, and calling for an end to gun violence. ●



Jubilee

2024

The following sisters from our founding community of Nazareth or who currently live in Kalamazoo are celebrating Jubilee this year. Jubilee is the anniversary of a sister's entrance into religious life.



Sister Ann Carolyn
Gervais, CSJ

80 Years



Sister Betsy Meagher, CSJ

60 Years



Sister Marie Ursula
Antczak, CSJ

75 Years



Sister Rose Roberts, CSJ

60 Years



Sister Frankie Dutil, CSJ

70 Years



Sister Bernadette Dean, CSJ

50 Years



Sister Bonita
Janiszewski, CSJ

60 Years



Sister Pamela Owens, CSJ

50 Years

*Congratulations to all our sisters celebrating jubilee from
around the congregation this year!*

IN THE COMMUNITY



In April, Sisters Mary Ellen Gondeck and Betsy Meagher (center), along with friends of the congregation, Christina Dorett (left) and Michele Gossman (right), helped with spring cleanup at Kalamazoo River Valley Trail.



In February, sisters attended a gala for OutFront, an organization that supports and serves the LGBTQ+ community in West Michigan. From left are Sisters Rita Ann Teichman, Wanda Wetli, Pam Owens, and Janet Fleischhacker. Then in June, Sisters Marcella Clancy and Erin McDonald (right) showed their support by marching in the Detroit Pride Parade. The sisters were part of a delegation from Gesu Catholic Church.



On April 2, sisters and staff gifted goodie bags to Lighthouse Autism Center in Kalamazoo in recognition of World Autism Awareness Day.



In March, sisters and associates continued their annual tradition of making bread for their St. Joseph's Day table. St. Joseph's Day is celebrated on March 19th. Above left are Sisters Jacquie Weatherholt and Pat Altermatt, and center are Associates Leah Hineman, Mary Francis Ross, Sharon Goff, and Janet Frayer who helped with the baking. The bread was blessed by Bishop Edward Lohse (right), then distributed to those in need in Kalamazoo.

Life at *Nazareth Center*

As Sisters of St. Joseph, we believe relationship is at the heart of who we are. This philosophy extends to our residential centers, which are vibrant places of activity that offer a warm and friendly community environment, places for gathering and quiet reflection, and activities for mind, body and spirit. There are also opportunities for service to others.

We invite you!

A limited number of apartments at our Nazareth center are available to women and men who are looking for a licensed assisted living residence.

If you are interested in a unique kind of living experience for yourself or a loved one, we invite you to consider joining us!

For information or to schedule a tour, contact **Tammy Nelson** at **269.244.3580**, or **tnelson@csjoseph**.



In March, Sisters Betsy Meagher and Kit Kaiser, friend of the sisters, Michele Gossman, and Sister Goretta Germain readied the Nazareth Chapel with beautiful spring flowers and other decorations in preparation for the Easter celebration!



Sisters and lay residents gather every other month to make sandwiches for Ministry with Community, a daytime shelter and resource center for those experiencing homelessness in Kalamazoo. They made over 600 sandwiches which were picked up by Kelli Henderson of Ministry with Community to be distributed at the center. This is just one example of service opportunities regularly offered at our Nazareth center.

In March, sisters and lay residents enjoyed a March Madness basketball themed party organized by staff. The party featured games including a free throw competition, snacks, and music! At right, Sister Mary Claver Hickmott gets in the spirit as her team narrowly wins the freethrow competition!





In honor of Mother's Day, Sisters Bernita Marie Gensterblum and Margot Eder, lay resident Josephine Sullivan, and Sisters Mary Rene Poirier and Kit Kaiser put together a puzzle depicting famous women in history. They surrounded it with photos of the mothers of some of the sisters.

On a beautiful summer day in June, sisters and lay residents in Nazareth enjoyed an outing to watch a Kalamazoo Growlers baseball game. The Growlers are part of a summer collegiate baseball league. From left are Sisters Theresa Howard, Tami Schab, and Rose Roberts, lay residents Cecil and June Austin, and Sister Katie Tragesser.



As part of their observance of Earth Day this year, sisters and lay residents gathered to create natural birdfeeders which were made by covering pinecones with peanut butter and seeds. Afterward, the feeders were hung on trees around the Nazareth campus for all our winged and furry friends to enjoy!



Sisters and lay residents at Nazareth have a variety of activities they can choose to participate in, including arts and crafts activities where they are able to express their creativity! Everyone enjoyed the above winter painting activity including (from left) lay resident June Austin, Sisters Pat Mullen and Joan Hastreiter, and Sister Georgianna Simon.

In Memoriam



Sister Rose Canuelle, CSJ

Entered into eternal life on May 28, 2024, after 68 years of religious life.



Sister Laura Smith, CSJ

Entered into eternal life on January 4, 2024, after 62 years of religious life.

Sister Elizabeth Farrer, CSJ

Entered into eternal life on May 12, 2024, after 47 years of religious life.



Sister Agnes Breitenbeck, CSJ

Entered into eternal life on October 3, 2023, after 77 years of religious life.



Sister Beverly Nonte, CSJ

Entered into eternal life on May 8, 2024, after 66 years of religious life.



Sister Colleen Hickey, CSJ

Entered into eternal life on October 2, 2023, after 70 years of religious life.

Sister Helen Travis, CSJ

Entered into eternal life on April 18, 2024, after 73 years of religious life.



Sister Mary Pat Denny, CSJ

Entered into eternal life on September 21, 2023, after 76 years of religious life.



Sister Patricia Foley, CSJ

Entered into eternal life on April 18, 2024, after 70 years of religious life.



Sister Veronica Brune, CSJ

Entered into eternal life on August 29, 2023, after 66 years of religious life.

Sister Patricia Roy, CSJ

Entered into eternal life on April 16, 2024, after 68 years of religious life.



Sister Rosemary Balog, CSJ

Entered into eternal life on July 27, 2023, after 72 years of religious life.



Sister Mary Ellen Walenta, CSJ

Entered into eternal life on January 15, 2024, after 70 years of religious life.

*We Remember
We Celebrate
We Believe*

Michigan Associates Update



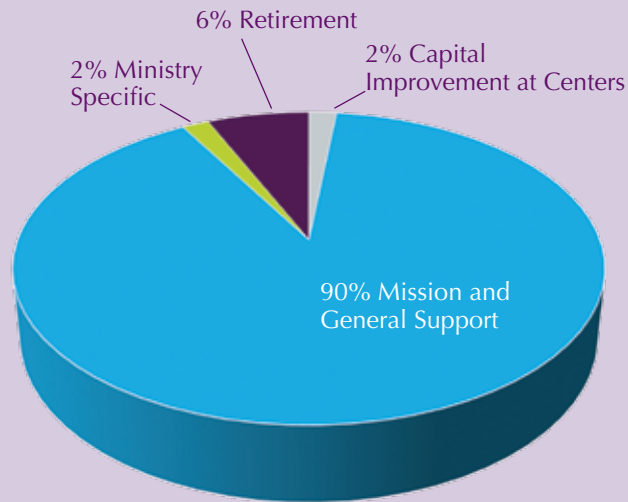
This past February, Michigan associates partnered with Sacred Heart Church in Detroit to organize a donation drive to benefit the Pope Frances Center, which provides services to community members in need, especially those experiencing homelessness. Participating were, from left, Associates Angie Michelini and Stephen Ogundipe, Sisters Cathey DeSantis and Nina Rodriguez, and Associates Taryn Winston, Carmen Pas, and Janet Moss (seated). The volunteers organized clothing, blankets, and toiletry items which were then donated to the center.

Then in June, the Michigan associates hosted a Meet and Greet social for area associates and sisters. Twenty-three associates and sisters attended the event, which was held at the Delta Township District Library in Lansing. ●



Bless You!

We are so very grateful for your kind gifts of financial support. Your kindness helps care for our retired and infirm sisters, continue our ministries, and fosters our mission as we live and work so *that all may be one*. Here is how we used your contributions for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023:



Ways to Deepen Your Support

- Direct a qualified charitable distribution (QCD) from your IRA to “Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph,” EIN No: 83-0481134.
- Consider a charitable gift annuity (CGA). For gifts of \$10,000 or more, you receive tax advantages and a lifetime stream of income payments – often at above market rates.

Single Life Rates

American Council on Gift Annuities 1.1.2024

Age	Rate	Annual Income \$10,000 Annuity
60	5.20%	\$520
70	6.30%	\$630
80	8.10%	\$810
90	10.10%	\$1,010

To Learn More, contact Melissa Haley O’Leary, Director of Development at moleary@csjoseph.org or **216-688-3474**

The Congregation of St. Joseph cannot give you financial or tax advice, so please consult with your financial advisor before making any final decisions.



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Spotlight Photo



On April 8th, sisters, associates, staff, and friends gathered at our Nazareth center to watch the solar eclipse. Above are “sister Sisters” Phyllis and Shirley Tousignant.

If you prefer to receive this newsletter electronically, please email communications@csjoseph.org.

We invite you!

to join us in a truly unique living experience.

If you are looking for a licensed assisted living residence in a warm and friendly community environment for yourself or a loved one, we invite you to consider joining us!

Our residents enjoy:

- Modern, comfortable suites
- Beautiful grounds and walking paths
- Life enrichment and wellness programs
- Volunteer service opportunities
- Mass and prayer offerings

For more information, contact **Tammy Nelson** at **269.244.3580**, or tnelson@csjoseph.org.

We look forward to hearing from you!

