Adrian Dominican Sisters

Collaborating for the common good

2013-2014 Annual Report
About the cover

Adrian Dominican Associates process to the Congregation cemetery for a prayer service (page 27), top left; youth from Detroit work in the Capuchin Soup Kitchen Rosa Parks Peace Garden, top right; Sister Pat Siemen, OP, attends the first international summit of the Global Alliance on the Rights of Nature (page 14), bottom left; Sisters in the Philippines help in disaster relief after Typhoon Haiyan (page 2), bottom right. Above: Adrian Dominican Sisters Motherhouse celebrating the first National Catholic Sisters Week in March 2014.
Dear Friends of the Congregation,

It is with great gratitude that I invite you to peruse these pages of our Annual Report for FY2013-2014, highlighting the critical ways in which we collaborate with others to help bring about God’s justice and peace in our world.

Whether it is joining in disaster relief efforts after a devastating typhoon in the Philippines, partnering in bringing forth new music based on the works of an 11th century nun, or helping to obtain better pay and working conditions for migrant workers, our Sisters, Associates and collaborators in sponsored institutions and community-based organizations reveal the wide embrace of our Congregation’s gospel Mission.

In these pages we also pay tribute to our 2014 Jubilarians, whose lives represent 4,790 years of dedication to that Mission.

Collaborating for the common good of the whole Earth community is at the heart of each of these stories. None of these efforts would be possible without the generous support of individuals like yourselves, whose names grace the center of this publication.

On behalf of the Adrian Dominican Sisters, I thank you for your sustaining support and vital collaboration with us in Mission.

Peace and blessings,

Attracta

Attracta Kelly, OP
Prioress of the Congregation
Typhoon Haiyan brought devastation to the people of the three central islands of the Visayan region of the Philippines on November 8, 2013: thousands died and countless others lost their homes and livelihood. But the Sisters of the Our Lady of Remedies Mission Chapter, based in Pampanga, faced this disaster with the local spirit of Bayanihan: neighbors helping neighbors. In this case, the neighbors came from as near as Pampanga and as far as Korea, Great Britain, and the United States.

“It is really fantastic, as if the world becomes very small, with the international community helping the local community to save lives and to witness to the world that collaboration and team building will make our world a better place to live in,” said Sister Zenaida Nacpil, OP, Chapter Prioress of Our Lady of Remedies.

From November through the end of April, Oxfam, the British-based confederation of 17 international humanitarian organizations, provided water tanks to supply the people with potable water. Catholic Relief Services cleared the area of debris to prevent the spread of infectious disease. The government of Korea installed solar panels near the municipal building of Talosa, Leyte, to provide lighting during the night, making the village safer.

The Adrian Dominican Sisters in the Philippines reached out in numerous ways to the people of their nation, working with others to bring about relief. Our Sister Bibiana “Bless” Colasito, OP, traveled to her home province of Leyte—where her family had lost their home—to provide counseling and grief support. She was part of an effort by the Association of Major Religious Superiors of the Philippines to send representatives to the island to provide counseling and guidance to the people who had lost virtually everything.

Other Adrian Dominican Sisters involved in the Leyte disaster relief were Sisters Arsenia Marie Puno, OP; Alma Zapanta, OP; and Ma. Yolanda Manapsal, OP. In addition, Sister Ma. May Cano, OP, was part of a parish team that provided aid to the people in Samar, another island devastated by Haiyan.

Monetary donations came from the Adrian Dominican Congregation and from friends and benefactors. Other Dominicans throughout the area also helped in the relief effort.
The Dominican schools in the Philippines donated canned goods, noodles, and rice. The engineering department of the University of Santo Tomás Seminary—run by the Dominican Friars—donated small solar panels, which enabled the people to store solar energy during the day and light their homes at night.

The Remedies Sisters adopted Olot, Leyte—the hometown of Sister Bless—and brought the carpentry tools and building materials needed to rebuild walls and roofs lost in the typhoon. For this project, they relied on funding from the Star Apple Foundation, which also provided building materials to the people living in the coastal areas. The Archdiocese of San Fernando, in Pampanga, donated chainsaws. The families shared the tools, working together to build one house at a time.

Through the help of the barrio leaders, half of the village that previously had no water was able to obtain safe drinking water—some even piped into their own homes. “Half the barrio was already serviced by the water district,” Sister Zenaida explained. But the other half of the village had been without water. The Sisters reached an agreement with the barrio captain that the barrio would pay half the cost of the project. Now, many of the village residents have running water in their homes. “The people are so excited when they turn the taps in their houses,” Sister Zenaida said. “They say, ‘Oh, after 50 years, now we have running water in the house!’”

The people also benefit from the planting of fruit trees and vegetables, thanks to the 1,000 seedlings supplied by the nation’s Department of Agriculture at the request of the Sisters. Some of the families now have enough vegetables for their own needs and can sell the rest. Sister Zenaida recalled the joy of one man who was able to sell 500 pesos worth of vegetables, while adding a new dimension to his diet. The people of the area typically subsist on fish, rice, and coconut.

“Life is stronger than death, and when people work together, they have a bright future,” Sister Zenaida said in summing up the experience.

The Province of Leyte, circled above, was among the most heavily impacted by the typhoon. Our Sisters are based in the Province of Pampanga, highlighted in blue, just north of Manila.
The Adrian Crossroads Human Trafficking Task Force has not just been an example of a small group of Sisters working together to end modern slavery. It also stands as a witness of the effectiveness of collaboration with like-minded local, regional, and state coalitions.

Members of the Congregation’s Adrian Crossroads Mission Chapter created the task force in 2009 in response to the Congregation’s corporate stance to “stand in support of human rights by opposing human trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation and other forms of slavery.” The task force would help educate the Sisters and others on the “magnitude, causes, and consequences of this abuse, wherever we are missioned and throughout the world.”

Through the years, the Sisters invited others from the greater Adrian community to join the task force. Members of the local chapter of Zonta International and local law enforcement officials, professors, medical personnel, students, social workers, and concerned citizens worked with the Sisters. The Adrian Crossroads Human Trafficking Task Force met monthly and took a number of actions: offering workshops and presentations to the public and training sessions for law enforcement officers, as well as creating bags of personal items for people rescued from trafficking.

In 2012, Sister Thérèse Haggerty, OP, chair of the task force, invited professionals from Jackson, Monroe, and Hillsdale Counties to join the Adrian group to form the Southern Michigan Regional Task Force.

During the last meeting of 2013-14, the task force came full circle as the Congregation formally turned over leadership of the group to local Lenawee County community members. As of July 1, 2014, the organization became known as the Lenawee Human Trafficking Task Force, under the leadership of Kelly Castleberry, crime victim advocate for Lenawee County.

Sister Rosemary Abramovich, OP, of the Adrian Dominican General Council, acknowledged that the time was right to turn over leadership of the task force to the lay community. “We have helped the task force to grow, and it has become quite influential in the community,” she said. “We have empowered the members of the greater Adrian community and welcome them to assume the leadership role.”

The Adrian Dominican Sisters remain active in the new task force through continued financial support and the active membership of Sisters.
An afternoon of music, food, and fun on a beautiful fall day in the Detroit area impacted people across the ocean in Ghana. The Village Concert—held September 29, 2013, at Sacred Heart Church in Roseville, Michigan—brought in more than $12,000 for four programs in Ghana. Associate Carol Hofer took the donations with her in October 2013 when she, Associate Toni Adams, and two Sacred Heart parishioners traveled to Ghana for an October 14-31, 2013, mission. The mission brought Carol to familiar territory—to the village where she had served 40 years earlier as a Peace Corps volunteer.

“Some of my Peace Corps friends have gone back to Ghana and started foundations. I thought, why not support the good things that are already happening?” Carol and her companions visited four organizations, learned more about their work, and gave them their share of the donations.

The organizations included St. Agatha, a Catholic School for Girls and a health clinic for people with diseases like AIDS and leprosy, established by a doctor known as the “Mother Teresa of Africa.” The other two organizations that benefited from the funds raised were Collaboration with Women in Distress, which helps women who were victimized by trafficking, and a peace and conflict resolution program established by Catholic Relief Services in the wake of a potentially explosive situation after the murder of a tribal chief.

**Women’s Justice Circles Make a Difference in Tanzania**

Women in Tanzania meet every other week to discuss ways to tackle issues that affect their communities: illiteracy, lack of access to water and health care services, and early pregnancies. They are taking part in the 25 Women’s Justice Circles established in their country.

Women’s Justice Circles, a program of the Interfaith Peace and Justice Center (IPJC), is a grassroots movement for social justice which empowers women living in poverty to identify issues of concern in their community and act for change.

The Circles in Tanzania—all conducted in Swahili—involve from 15 to 30 participants each. The participants have been brought together through a partnership of the IPJC, the Women’s Center for Communication and Development (CEWOD), and the local government’s Community Development Department. Digna Peter, Director of CEWOD, had met in Seattle to work with Giselle Cárcamo, IPJC’s coordinator of Justice for Women.

The IPJC is sponsored by seven religious congregations, including the Adrian Dominican Sisters. Sister Judy Byron, OP, is the program director.

**IPJC’s Women’s Justice Circles empower women living in poverty to act for change.**

Women in Tanzania gather to mobilize in one of the Women’s Justice Circles.
Life Directions Celebrates 40th Anniversary

Life Directions, an intergenerational youth mentoring program, celebrated 40 years of making a difference in the lives of young people ages 13 to 35. The organization was founded in 1973 to address youth violence in Detroit, then the murder capital of the United States. Redemptorist Father John Phelps, CSsR, gathered a team to help him in this vital ministry: Adrian Dominican Sister Rosalie Esquerra, OP; Passionist Father Alex Steinmiller, CP; and Alex and Judith MacDonald, a married couple.

Sister Simone of ‘Nuns on the Bus’ Meets with Literacy Staff

Sister Simone Campbell, SSS, Executive Director of NETWORK, a National Catholic Social Justice Lobby, led a panel discussion of staff members and volunteers of the Congregation-sponsored Dominican Literacy Center in Detroit on February 26, 2014. She listened to their stories of struggle and triumph, promising to bring their experiences to the politicians in Washington, DC. In addition, she urged them to become involved in politics and to let their voice be heard.

Meta Peace Team Launches National Tour

The Meta Peace Team (MPT), formerly the Michigan Peace Team, launched a national tour of their nonviolence-training program during the spring and summer of 2014. The MPT’s basic skills workshop teaches participants how to use nonviolence techniques in their daily lives and in conflict resolution and introduces them to tools for group work. The nonviolence training was offered in California, Washington, and Washington, DC. The MPT is a grant recipient of the Congregation’s Ministry Trust Fund.

Grandmothers Find Safe Place to Share at Resurrection Home

Resurrection Home, a shelter in Lee County, Kentucky, for women and children affected by domestic violence, found another group that needed a safe place to gather: grandmothers who are raising their grandchildren. Through a new program, Grandmothers Helping Grandmothers, these women have the opportunity to meet every month to enjoy dinner together and to share their challenges and struggles.

Sister Simone Campbell, SSS, at the Dominican Literacy Center in Detroit.
achievements. Sister Mary Kay Drouin, OP, founded Resurrection Home in 1979 in response to the needs of the people of this Appalachian county. Grandmothers Helping Grandmothers receives funding from the Ministry Trust Fund.

**Siena Heights Recognizes Sister Jean Hughes for her Work in Social Justice**

Sister Jean Hughes, OP, received the St. Dominic Award from Siena Heights University in recognition of her long-time work for social justice. Sister Jean taught for 15 years in the Dominican Republic and Puerto Rico, and served as principal of Aquinas High School in Chicago. She was also a community organizer at the Eighth Day Center for Justice in Chicago and, for the past 20 years, has ministered at St. Leonard’s Ministries, Chicago, helping formerly incarcerated men and women to rebuild their lives. The Alumni Awards ceremony took place October 4, 2013, during the University’s homecoming weekend.

**Sister Donna Kustusch Receives Lifetime Achievement Award for Immigration Work**

Sister Donna Kustusch, OP, long-time minister to the people of Juárez, Mexico, was honored posthumously with the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Office for Immigrant Affairs and Immigrant Education of the Archdiocese of Chicago. “Her passion and commitment to standing in solidarity with the poor will be missed,” the Office noted in the awards program, “but her work will live on through the constant commitment of immigrants and advocates of immigrants who strive to work for justice.” Sister Donna died unexpectedly July 21, 2013, days after being injured in an automobile accident.

**Parish and College Team Offer Peace Initiative to Youth of Haiti**

St. Margaret Mary Parish in Winter Park, Florida—where Sister Rosemary Finnegan, OP, ministers—has teamed up with Valencia College in Orlando to offer a Peace and Justice Initiative to youth in Haiti. St. Margaret Mary Parish has, for years, been actively involved with their sister parish, St. Michael Parish in Jacmel, Haiti. In March 2014, Sister Rosemary, two parishioners, and representatives of Valencia College offered workshops on peace to parents, teachers, and parish youth leaders. St. Margaret Mary Parish receives funding from the Ministry Trust for its outreach to Haiti.
Collaborating in the spirit of Hildegard of Bingen

“The combination of Christopher Theofanidis, one of the most-performed living composers, with Hildegard, is a rare melding of art and spirit.”
—John Dodson

The spirit of Benedictine abbess and medieval mystic, composer, and artist Hildegard of Bingen cast a light—and an almost palpable presence—on the Adrian Dominican Sisters Motherhouse and much of the city of Adrian in the Spring of 2014. The saint and her lively music also brought about a spirit of partnership of symphonies in three U.S. cities with a noted composer; between the Adrian Dominican Congregation and the Adrian Symphony Orchestra; and among members of the Adrian Dominican campus family.

The signature event came on April 27, 2014, when the Adrian Symphony Orchestra (ASO) played the local premier performance of Virtue, based on Hildegard’s original morality play, Ordo Virtutum, written in 1151. The composition tells the story of an innocent soul who seeks to be united with God but who must first experience the world. The ASO, the New Haven (Connecticut) Symphony Orchestra and the Fairfax (Virginia) Symphony Orchestra commissioned internationally noted composer Christopher Theofanidis to write Virtue.

The Adrian Dominican Sisters were the lead sponsors of the local production, which featured soprano Tony Arnold as the Soul; Michael Lackey as the Devil who tempts the Soul; and sopranos Lindsay Kesselman, Kristin Eder, and Leann Schuering, as the Virtues.

“This is a project involving an internationally recognized composer creating a significant work,” explained John Dodson, Music Director of the ASO. “The combination of Christopher Theofanidis, one of the most-performed living composers, with Hildegard, is a rare melding of art and spirit.”

Under the leadership of Sister Kathleen Schanz, a member of the General Council, the Congregation expanded the project to communicate a larger message about the extraordinary life of Hildegard of Bingen—and the lives of women religious in our time.

In the month leading up to the ASO concert, the Congregation sponsored a series of performances in celebration of Hildegard. The series began in late March with a concert, “In Hildegard’s Footsteps: a Musical Celebration of Female Composers,” performed by the Siena Heights University Choral Group. It continued with a one-woman play on the life of St. Hildegard, by mezzo soprano Linn Maxwell Keller, on April 6; and an evening of St. Hildegard’s meditative chants, performed by candlelight on April 12 by soprano Norma Gentile. All three events were held in Holy Rosary Chapel on the Motherhouse campus.

As residents of Adrian and nearby cities and towns came to know Hildegard, they were also reminded of her modern-day counterparts who have been present in the area since the late 1880s—the Adrian Dominican Sisters and other women religious who followed in Hildegard’s path. Large, museum-standard panels—set up at ASO concert venues and St. Hildegard events—drove home the connection between Hildegard and local communities of Sisters. The panels depict individual Sisters who carry on Hildegard’s various gifts and ministries in their...
Art Exhibit Receives National Funding

Through funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Michigan Humanities Council, a special exhibit on popular art in Brazil went on national tour. *Bandits & Heroes, Poets & Saints*, which told the cultural history of Northeastern Brazil through the work of Brazilian popular artists, opened its U.S. tour at the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History in Detroit in August 2013. *Bandits & Heroes* is a project of Con/Vida, a non-profit organization founded by Sister Barbara Cervenka, OP, and Marion (Mame) Jackson to foster an understanding of the diverse cultures of the Americas through art created by the people of the Americas, particularly Brazil and Peru.

Dominican Sisters in the city of Adrian. “What I hoped might happen is a bigger, broader awareness of the Adrian Dominican Sisters and their contributions around the world—but also their presence here,” Maestro Dodson said.

Renovation of Mental Health Facility

“Stations of Recovery,” a series of photographs by Sister Suzanne Schreiber, OP, contributes to the peaceful environment designed to enhance the recovery and wellbeing of the patients at Mercy Health’s newly renovated behavioral health facility at Clermont Hospital in Batavia, Ohio. The photos reflect the principles of recovery used by the hospital. Among them are the beliefs that recovery emerges from hope, and is holistic, supported through relationship, and based on respect. Sister Sue had been invited to interpret the principles of recovery visually to encourage patients to tap into their own story as they reflect on the images. Sister Donna Markham, OP, president of Behavioral Health Institute, invited Sister Sue to create the artwork.
Students from several schools sponsored or served by the Adrian Dominicans learned valuable lessons during their 2014 Spring breaks, working with local organizations and communities to make a difference in the lives of others.

In one interesting exchange of service, Adrian Dominican Sister Pat Harvat, OP, took her students from St. Mary Dominican High School, New Orleans—sponsored by the Dominican Sisters of Peace—to serve children at the Escuela Espíritu Santo Fe y Alegría in the Dominican Republic, headed by Adrian Dominican Sister Basilia De la Cruz, OP. Students from Barry University in Miami Shores and Siena Heights University in Adrian, in turn, traveled to New Orleans, to work with organizations to rebuild areas of the city that had been devastated by Hurricane Katrina. Students from both universities had the opportunity to work together to help rebuild Camp Restore, set aside for volunteers who come to help the people of New Orleans.

Other Barry students traveled to Jamaica, where they worked in an impoverished area near Kingston. Service included serving meals to 200 homeless people, visiting homebound parishioners, and learning about the Jamaican health care system.

Siena Heights also sent students to San Jose, California, to work with a community of economically poor Hispanics; to Jacksonville Beaches, Florida, to help the local Habitat for Humanity build homes; and to Flint, Michigan, to work with Sister Carol Weber, OP, in St. Luke’s N.E.W. Life Center for women. Students from Regina Dominican High School, Wilmette, Illinois, traveled to Guatemala to serve at the school and farm of an orphanage.

Father John Grace, chaplain at Siena Heights, sees collaboration as a major aspect of alternative spring break experiences. He accompanied four students to San Jose, California, but only after they took the initiative. Father John said he also lets the community that they serve decide what they will do. “We become part of the community for a week,” he said. “The real change is by being with the people and learning from them—mutual transformation. People in both groups are changed by the other.”
**Sister Carol Weber Receives Ruby Award for Work with Women**

Sister Carol Weber, OP, received the Women Helping Women Ruby Award from the Grosse Pointe, Michigan Chapter of Soroptimist International. The award ceremony took place March 11 at Andiamo Trattoria Restaurant in Grosse Pointe Woods.

Sister Carol was honored for her work at St. Luke N.E.W. (North End Women) Life Center, which she and Sister Judy Blake, CSJ, founded in 2002 to meet the needs of the women in Flint’s impoverished north side. Through the Center, Sisters Carol and Judy work with the women to help them to be more self-sufficient. The Center includes a literacy center and a food pantry. In addition, through N.E.W. Life Enterprises, the women learn to sew and make a living by sewing and selling such items as hospital scrubs, patient gowns, and tote bags.

The Center has been recognized by Michigan Governor Rick Snyder as a model for public-private partnership that creates sustainable jobs in the state. Michael Finney, President and CEO of the Michigan Economic Development Corporation promised N.E.W. Life Enterprises $800,000 to help in its ongoing support of the women once they are trained as seamstresses.

**Rosarian Academy Pays Tribute to Retiring Principal**

Rosarian Academy concluded its 2013-14 academic year by paying tribute to Ms. Virginia Devine, who was retiring after serving the school for 31 years, the last four as principal. Ms. Devine’s tenure also included service as teacher, coach, admissions director, and assistant principal. Some 200 members of the school community gathered at an alumna’s home to honor the outgoing principal.

**DLC Director Named Champion of Literacy**

Sister Janice Brown, OP, director of the Dominican Literacy Center (DLC) in Detroit, was named Champion of Literacy during the 2014 Michigan Adult Education and Training Conference. She was recognized for her “outstanding leadership in adult literacy.” The award was named after Adrian Dominican Sister Marie Damian Schoenlein, OP, founder of the DLC, who died unexpectedly in September 2012 while serving at the Adrian Rea Literacy Center.
Barry University
Miami Shores, Florida
Founded in 1940
President: Sister Linda Bevilacqua, OP, PhD

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Siena Heights University
Adrian, Michigan
Founded in 1919
President: Sister Peg Albert, OP, PhD

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Siena Literacy Center
Detroit, Michigan
Founded in 1995
Director: Donna Nesbitt
Tutors: 157
Learners: 312

Literacy Centers

Adrian Rea Literacy Center
Adrian, Michigan
Founded in 2008
Director: Sister Carleen Maly, OP
Tutors: 101
Learners: 115

Aquinas Literacy Center
Chicago, Illinois
Founded in 1996
Director: Alison Altmeyer
Tutors: 157
Learners: 211

DePorres Place
West Palm Beach, Florida
Founded in 1996
Director: Sister Margaret Exworthy, OP
Tutors: 44
Learners: 156

Dominican Literacy Center
Detroit, Michigan
Founded in 1989
Director: Sister Janice Brown, OP
Tutors: 240
Learners: 463

N.E.W. Life Literacy Center
Flint, Michigan
Founded in 2008
Director: Sister Carol Weber, OP
Tutors: 23
Learners: 91

Regina Dominican High School
Wilmette, Illinois
Founded in 1957
President: Sister Mary Margaret Pachucki, OP

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Rosarian Academy
West Palm Beach, Florida
Founded in 1925
Principal: Virginia Devine

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The gathering of 400 people on January 26, 2014, for the blessing of the new home for Angela House was symbolic of a much larger move for this transitional, residential facility for formerly incarcerated women. Not only does the new facility in Houston, Texas, quadruple the living space over the original house, enabling many more women to be served, it also represents a coming together of the larger community.

The new neighbors were not always so supportive of Angela House. When staff members of Angela House prepared for the move to the new facility in a former Carmelite Friary, they received “a lot of pushback from the neighborhood,” based on misinformation, said Sister Maureen O’Connell, OP, director and a former Chicago policewoman, who founded Angela House in 2001.

To help pave the way for the move to the new neighborhood, Sister Maureen testified before the Houston City Council, receiving their support. Mayor Annice D. Parker worked with Sister Maureen to help the city planners and zoning officials understand the population of Angela House. She also met early on with the president of Cristo Rey High School, the Jesuit school that shares the same grounds with the newly relocated Angela House.

“What we’ve tried to do since we moved in December of 2013 is to continue to build alliances in the neighborhood,” Sister Maureen said. Angela House also continues its strong ties to longtime supporters. Students from Duchesne Academy of the Sacred Heart—a pre-K-12 all-girls school—have been involved with Angela House for more than 11 years. Each month, upper level students from Duchesne bring dinner and play bingo with the women. The students, in turn, learn more about the lives of the residents and gain greater awareness of the larger social issues impacting them.

Other organizations and individuals contribute specific programs and services. Sister Maureen gave the examples of a local young man who had begun holding weekly yoga classes and of a trained photographer who, through Photo Fest Houston, offers a weekly class in photography. One of the new neighbors, a Crísto Rey student on his way to an extended visit to the Holy Land, offered to give a presentation of his experience to the women in Angela House.

Angela House benefits from the financial support of a Ministry Trust grant from the Adrian Dominican Sisters; grants from the Incarnate Word Sisters and the Houston Dominican Sisters; support from the Archdiocese of Houston for the renovation of the new site; and individual donations that range from monthly gifts of $10 to an extraordinary, one-time gift of $500,000.

“All of this is collaboration,” Sister Maureen said. “It’s all about connecting with community resources and helping to engage the community in the work.”

“Collaborating in helping women help themselves”

“It’s all about connecting with community resources and helping to engage the community in the work.”

– Sister Maureen O’Connell, OP
Sister Patricia Siemen, OP, JD, was one of among 60 environmental leaders worldwide to attend the first-ever international summit of the Global Alliance on the Rights of Nature, held January 13-17, 2014, in Quito, Ecuador. She was accompanied by Sister Elise D. García, Director of Communications for the Adrian Dominican Sisters, who was sent by the General Council to help communicate the issues at stake to larger audiences.

This historic event, which included another first—a World Tribunal on the Rights of Nature—gave Sister Pat, an attorney, an opportunity to gather with other global leaders who have been involved in efforts to bring about a shift in consciousness in our relationship as humans with Earth.

In 2006, Sister Pat founded the Center for Earth Jurisprudence (CEJ) at the Barry University School of Law in Orlando, Florida—the first institution of its kind in a U.S. law school. The Center offers workshops and forums to shift human consciousness to understand humanity’s interdependence with nature and nature’s inherent right to exist and flourish for its own sake—not to provide raw material for human development.

Among the global leaders of this movement attending the summit were Indian physicist Vandana Shiva; South African lawyer and author Cormac Cullinan; North American indigenous environmental leader Tom Goldtooth; former Bolivian U.N. ambassador Pablo Solón; and U.S. community rights attorney Thomas Linzey.

The purpose of the global summit was to analyze the experiences of communities in Ecuador, Bolivia, and the United States that have already implemented Rights of Nature laws and to devise a unified global strategy to advance the movement throughout the world.

On the last day of the summit, the world’s first Tribunal on the Rights of Nature was held. A 10-member international panel of judges, presided by Vandana Shiva, heard nine cases where evidence of “violations of and crimes against the rights of nature” was presented. These included the 2010 oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico by BP’s Deepwater Horizon; genetic...
modification of crops throughout the world; the practice of fracking in the United States; oil production near the Great Barrier Reef in Australia; Chevron’s oil contamination of Ecuador’s rainforest; and government and corporate actions blocking action to reduce global climate change. All cases were ruled admissible for trial at a subsequent Tribunal.

In a series of articles published by the National Catholic Reporter, Sister Elise chronicled the events at the summit, day by day. In a concluding piece published after the event, she wrote:

For people of faith in the Christian tradition, a resonant connection to the ethic of Rights of Nature is available through the mystics and their sense of the natural world. “Mystics and theologians like Thomas Aquinas recognized creation as a sacred revelation of God—as God’s primordial Scripture,” Sister Siemen says. “Over the centuries, we have lost that sense of the sacred, but it is being reclaimed, especially among women religious.”

Through the teachings of the late Passionist priest Thomas Berry and the instrumental work of Caldwell Dominican Sister Miriam Therese MacGillis, women religious throughout the United States and elsewhere have embraced the mystics’ reverence for nature and care of creation as a constituent part of their peace and justice work.

“Rights of Nature language may not yet be widely known or adopted among Catholics,” Sister Siemen said, “but it’s a natural for Catholic Sisters, who could play a powerful role in advancing this movement.”
Dear Friends,

Working collaboratively through the Ministry Trust Fund makes a greater impact on helping others.

Through the years the Adrian Dominican Sisters have partnered with benefactors, families and friends, organizations, churches, and local charities to effect change for those in need. Today, that partnership is broadened as the Sisters collaborate with even larger groupings working together for a special need in society. For instance our Ministry Trust support of a homeless initiative may include working with a county social services office, a health clinic, a hospital, a church and/or a local agency for the homeless.

This annual report for fiscal year 2013-2014 focuses on collaboration and reflects the goodness and concern of so many friends, relatives and alumni. It is with deep gratitude that we acknowledge and thank you. Your generosity and partnership make a significant impact on our lives and the lives of those we serve.

The effectiveness of your gift to the Ministry Trust Fund is multiplied as grant initiatives join with other groups to bring about change. Your gift is deeply appreciated by all those who are recipients of your generosity.

Your gifts also provide comfort and care to our elderly Sisters. As the Dominican Life Center faces increasing population and decreasing funds, your gifts help create a safer environment, maintain independence and enrich the lives of the Sisters. The Sisters are deeply grateful for your care and generosity.

Your gifts for the missionary work in the Dominican Republic and the Philippines give support and encouragement, furthering the work of the Church.

We remember you in prayers of thanksgiving for the many gifts contributed, and we place in special honor the memorials and tributes you have requested.

Sincerely,

Adrienne Schaffer, OP
Director of Development
## Funding Sources – Fiscal Year 2013-2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Percentages</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Estates</td>
<td>$ 1,903,280</td>
<td>60%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friends/Relatives</td>
<td>730,276</td>
<td>23%</td>
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<td>Alumnae/Alumni</td>
<td>258,253</td>
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<td>Adrian Dominican Sisters</td>
<td>118,809</td>
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<tr>
<td>Schools/Parishes/Dioceses</td>
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<tr>
<td>Foundations/Trusts</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$ 3,187,769</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Use of Gifts – Fiscal Year 2013-2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Percentages</th>
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<td>Retirement</td>
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<tr>
<td>General Fund</td>
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<td>Restricted</td>
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<td><strong>Donor Specific Projects</strong></td>
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<td>Literacy Centers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Weber Center</td>
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<td>Disaster Relief</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
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<td>Global Missions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dominican Life Center</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ministry Trust</td>
<td>44,364</td>
<td>1%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Grand Total</strong></td>
<td>$ 3,187,769</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In the Spring of 2014, families in Live Oak, California—just east of Santa Cruz—benefited from an “unprecedented partnership” of Dominican Hospital with several community organizations. Their medical needs can now be met close to home with the opening of a new pediatric and family health center in the town’s East Cliff Village Shopping Center.

The new, 9,000-square-foot East Cliff Family Health Center is a “sister clinic” to the Santa Cruz Women’s Health Center, one of the community partners with Dominican Hospital. Also involved in the partnership are Sutter Maternity and Surgery Center and the Palo Alto Medication Foundation Santa Cruz. Together, these organizations are investing nearly $7 million to meet the health care needs of the community.

A 2006 study showed that Live Oak was an “underserved” community. The clinic will now provide the local community with primary care for men, women, children, and families, in addition to pre-natal care and individual and group counseling. East Cliff Family Health Center will help to provide services for 1,600 low-income children who had previously been served in Dominican Hospital’s Pediatrics Clinic. The second clinic will also allow the Santa Cruz Women’s Health Center to offer services to 10,000 patients.

Dominican Hospital has pledged $1.5 million over the next five years for the pediatrics program, and its parent company, Dignity Health, gave a $2.5 million loan, to be used for improvements of the facility.

“The partnership exemplifies the spirit of healthcare reform where collaboration will be essential,” Nanette Mickiewicz, MD, President of Dominican Hospital, said in a press release.

“Disparate health providers in communities are setting aside old boundaries and discovering the best ways to work together to keep all of us healthy and have the appropriate levels of care nearby when needed.”

**Dignity Health—St. Rose Breaks Ground for Tower**

The Siena Campus of Dignity Health—St. Rose broke ground in March for its new Siena Tower. The 220,000-square-foot, five-story tower will include 28 emergency bays, 19 observation beds, and 141 private rooms, six operation suites, and additional room for a number of special services. The expansion is expected to be completed in 2016.

**Covenant Community Care Links Patients with Service**

Starting in April 2014, the homeless population of Detroit has had access to the Moross Clinic, a new, 6,000-square-foot medical and dental facility at Moross Road and I-94. This is one of several health care facilities and clinics served by Covenant Community Care, established in 1999 to show the love of God by “providing integrated, affordable and quality health care to those who need it most.”
Paul Propson, CEO, explained that Covenant’s two partners—the Capuchin Soup Kitchen and the NOAH (Networking, Organizing, and Advocating for the Homeless) Project—identify clients who need medical and dental care. In turn, Covenant’s homeless outreach team, Gary Gray and Brittany Simpson, come to know the clients, provide transportation to the Moross Clinic, and help them to enroll in Medicaid. “The greatest thing about our homeless outreach is that it makes sure the neediest people get the best care,” Mr. Propson said. Covenant Community Care and the Capuchin Soup Kitchen are Ministry Trust grant recipients. Sister Mary Jane Lubinski, OP, serves on Covenant’s Board and Sister Nancyann Turner, OP, directs a youth project at Capuchin Soup Kitchen.

**Sister Donna Markham Receives Psychotherapy Training Award**

Sister Donna Markham, OP, PhD, received the prestigious Harold S. Bernard Psychotherapy Training Award from the International Board for Certification of Group Psychotherapists. Sister Donna was recognized for initiating two treatment programs that highlighted psychodynamic group therapy, at Southdown Institute in Toronto, a residential treatment program for priests and religious, and at Mercy Hospital and Medical Center in Chicago. The award ceremony took place during the March 3-8, 2014, convention of the American Group Psychotherapy Association in Boston.
For several years, Adrian Dominican Sisters in the Detroit area, along with members of a variety of ecumenical groups, have worked together to celebrate and honor a saint who has for too long been misunderstood. On the Sunday afternoon closest to July 22, they have drawn a large following of the local faithful to a church in Detroit to honor Mary of Magdala and, by extension, other women through the centuries who have faithfully followed Christ. July 22 is the feast day of Mary of Magdala.

In 2013 the Great Lakes Dominican Mission Chapter of the Adrian Dominican Sisters sponsored the event for the first time.

“St. Mary Magdala, in the western church, is very misunderstood and her role as disciple, partner, witness and evangelist has not been known and celebrated,” said Sister Cheryl Liske, OP, who, as a member of the steering committee, proposed that her Mission Chapter sponsor the event. “As such, Mary of Magdala is a stand-in for all those saints and holy women who are ignored in our church calendar.”

Mary of Magdala is often mistaken for a woman of ill repute who repented after meeting Jesus or who had seven demons cast out of her. She is actually one of the most important women in the New Testament, after Mary, the Mother of Jesus. Mary of Magdala stood with Jesus’ mother at the foot of the cross. The risen Jesus sent her to tell the Good News to his apostles. This special commission has led her to be named the “Apostle to the Apostles” and thus, as a woman preacher, as patron of the Dominican Order.

Sister Cheryl sees a number of fruits of this annual event. It provides an opportunity to educate the public about the Dominican mission, connects local Adrian Dominicans with the members of other faith-based groups who continue to plan the prayer service, and provides opportunities for workshops and parish events.

Adrian Dominicans serving on the 2013 steering committee were Sisters Cheryl, Nancynn Turner, OP; Anneliese Sinnott, OP; and Sue Schreiber, OP; and Associates Sylvia English, Marietta (Marti) Rozmys, and Geri Pleva.
**Sister Anneliese Sinnott among Top 100 Theology Professors**

Sister Anneliese Sinnott, OP, PhD, Professor of Systematic Theology at the Ecumenical Theological Seminary in Detroit, has been named as one of the Top 100 Theology Professors in the United States. Currently the coordinator of the Master of Arts program in Pastoral Ministry, Sister Anneliese has also served the seminary as Vice President for Academic Affairs and as director of the Master of Divinity Program. She is a frequent presenter at local, regional, and national gatherings, including the popular Holy Land Pilgrimage, held annually at Weber Retreat and Conference Center in Adrian. The list was compiled by the blog, Theology Degrees Online.

**Presentations on Mary Bring in $6,000 for Centro Santa Catalina**

Sister Mary Catherine Nolan, OP, PhD, a renowned expert on Mariology, brought in $6,000 for Centro Santa Catalina, a center for women and children in Juárez, Mexico, through two talks on Mary at Catholic parishes in El Paso, Texas. Sister Mary Catherine spoke on “Mary’s Song: The Magnificat” on April 29 at Santa Lucia Community Hall and on “Mary in Islam” on May 1 at St. Pius X Community Hall. Sister Mary Catherine holds a doctorate in sacred theology from the International Marian Research Institute at the University of Dayton, where she became interested in the devotion that Muslims show toward Mary.

**Sister Janet Schaeffler Writes on Spirituality for Catechists**

Sister Janet Schaeffler, OP, former Director of Adult Faith Formation for the Archdiocese of Detroit, continues to serve the needs of Catholic adults throughout the country. A prolific author, she recently wrote a book to help parish catechists develop their own spirituality, even as they work with the faith formation of young Catholics. *The Spirituality of the Catechist—Feeding Your Soul, Growing in Faith, Sharing with Others*, was written as the third book in Twenty-Third Publications’ new series, *The Essential Catechist’s Bookshelf*. Sister Janet has also written annual Advent reflection books, as well as practical books for catechists, adult faith formation ministers, Eucharistic ministers, and parents whose children are preparing to receive sacraments.
The Fair Food Program... is a model of social responsibility, calling for a partnership of farm workers, consumers, and corporate produce buyers.

Four Adrian Dominicans—Sisters Grace Flowers, OP, Yolanda Pomante, OP, and Andrea Balconis, OP, and Associate Maria McCadden—joined a coalition of groups in a public action on Labor Day 2013, urging Florida’s largest grocery chain, Publix Supermarket, to support the Fair Food Program.

The Fair Food Program of the Coalition of Immokalee Workers (CIW) is a model of social responsibility, calling for a partnership of farm workers, consumers, and corporate produce buyers to join in an agreement that gives farm workers respect, fair treatment, and just wages for their work.

CIW and the Treasure Coast Fair Food Chapter organized the Labor Day action that was directed at asking Publix to sell only Fair Food tomatoes in their stores. Companies such as McDonald’s, Subway, and Burger King have already signed on to the Fair Food program, which calls for paying an extra penny per pound of produce.

Although Publix does sell some fair trade products, which help ensure that the farmers who produce them receive just payment, the Florida food store has balked at adopting the Fair Food Program.

“Publix calls the growing Fair Food collaboration among buyers, tomato growers, and farmworkers a ‘labor dispute’ and says the company will not get involved in labor disputes,” explained Sisters Andrea Balconis, OP, and Grace Flowers, OP, in an article. The Fair Food Code of Conduct and a manual for growers across the state of Florida “welcome teams from the CIW on their farms to help workers learn, on the clock, about their new rights, and address abusive bosses, dangerous practices, and other threats to the industry as a whole,” they write. “Far from a labor dispute, the Fair Food Program is a vital and growing partnership.”

On another front, also involving food, the Congregation’s Portfolio Advisory Board (PAB) and other members of the Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility (ICCR) claimed at least partial victory in January 2014 when General Mills Corporation agreed not to make their original Cheerios cereal with genetically modified corn starch.

Margaret Weber, then a member of the PAB staff, began this campaign in 2000 by asking the Board of Directors of General Mills “to adopt a policy of removing genetically engineered crops, organisms, or products thereof from all products sold or manufactured by the company, where feasible, until long-term safety testing has shown that they are not harmful to humans, animals, and the environment.”

General Mills’ agreement to this policy only applies to their manufacture of original Cheerios, which is made up mainly of whole-grain oats. Refraining from using genetically
modified organisms in other varieties would not be feasible, General Mills stated, because of the common use of genetically modified seeds for such crops as sugar beets, soy, or corn.

The Adrian Dominican Sisters also joined more than 350 organizations from 37 states as signatories to a letter calling on President Obama to direct the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to “significantly strengthen the current permitting requirements and effluent limitation guidelines for concentrated animal feeding operations, or CAFOs, under the Clean Water Act rules.”

In the letter to President Obama, the signatories noted that “CAFOs generate millions of tons of animal waste every year that can impair waterways with pollutants dangerous to human health and the environment.” The letter further stated that “animal confinement facilities generate three times as much waste as people do nationwide, but these factory farms lack treatment facilities even remotely comparable to those that treat human sewage. As a result, many operations deliver pollutant loadings—chronically and during storm events—that have contributed to the impairment of rivers, streams, and lakes across the country.”

The other signatories include national, regional, and state organizations, from the National Audubon Society to the Chesapeake Waterkeepers and Wisconsin League of Conservation Voters. The groups call on President Obama to “restructure the current CAFO rule to correct regulatory deficiencies and confusion,” detailing six elements that “will help to safeguard the nation’s waters from discharges of untreated livestock waste.”

**Congregation Honored for Community Investment Work**

The Adrian Dominican Sisters have been recognized this year for their long-time commitment to socially responsible investing.

The Congregation received the Orders for World Service Award from Oikocredit USA during the organization’s first-ever National Investors Summit, held September 5 and 6, 2013, in Washington, D.C. The award recognizes religious orders who are “active, engaged, and patient investors in Oikocredit USA, utilizing the body of their membership to spread the mission of Oikocredit and support our work through a shared goal of poverty alleviation and economic empowerment.”

“The Adrian Dominican Sisters are more than deserving of this award,” said Sharlene Brown, National Director of Oikocredit USA. She cited as reasons the Congregation’s “consistent support of our work through your own communication channels; your active and engaged membership in the Oikocredit International cooperative in recent years; and your long-term investment in Oikocredit, creating impact and supporting our work for over 25 years.”

Continued on page 24
Continued from page 23

A worldwide cooperative society, Oikocredit USA challenges faith communities and individuals to invest their resources to promote justice. The investments, in turn, are used to enable disadvantaged people throughout the world to better their lives. The investments touch the lives of 26 million people throughout the world through credit, other financial services, and education.

**Sister Corinne Florek Recognized for Leadership in Community Investing**

Sister Corinne Florek, OP, received the Community Impact Award from the Northern California Community Loan Fund (NCCLF) for her “unwavering support of low-income communities and continuing leadership in the CDFI (community development financial institution) field. The award ceremony took place May 15, 2014, at the City Club in San Francisco.

Sister Corinne is executive director of the Religious Communities Investment Fund, sponsored by 15 congregations of women religious, which pools their funds to invest in organizations such as the NCCLF. Community loan funds such as the NCCLF, in turn, use these investments to grant low-interest loans to local non-profit organizations.

Sister Corinne has been involved in community investments for much of her ministerial life. After earning her MBA from the University of Notre Dame, Sister Corinne began her work in community investments in Appalachia, fostering cooperatives and creating economic opportunity for the local people. She later managed the community investments work of the Adrian Dominican Sisters’ Portfolio Advisory Board.
Commercial Facilities
Development
- Detroit Catholic Pastoral Alliance
  Detroit, Michigan
- IFF
  Chicago, Illinois
- Institute of Women Today
  Chicago, Illinois
- Northern California Community Loan Fund
  San Francisco, California
- Red Tomato, Oké USA Fruit
  Canton, Massachusetts

Community Banks
- Fonkoze Capital LLC
  Port-au-Prince, Haiti
- Southern Development Bancorp
  West Helena, Arkansas
- Appalachian Community Federal Credit Union
  Berea, Kentucky
- Communicating Arts Credit Union
  Detroit, Michigan
- Hope Community Credit Union
  New Orleans, Louisiana
- Latino Community Credit Union
  Durham, North Carolina

Community Credit Unions
- National Federation of Community Development Credit Unions
  New York, New York
- Shreveport Federal Credit Union
  Marks, Mississippi
- Sisseton-Wahpeton Federal Credit Union
  Agency Village, South Dakota

Community Services
- Kentuckians for the Commonwealth
  London, Kentucky
- Dawn Farms
  Ann Arbor, Michigan
- Neighborhood Economic Development Corp
  Springfield, Oregon

Housing
- Chicago Community Loan Fund
  Chicago, Illinois
- Cincinnati Housing Partners
  Cincinnati, Ohio
- Community Housing Fund
  Beaverton, Oregon
- Cornerstone Corporation for Shared Equity
  Cincinnati, Ohio
- Disability Opportunity Fund
  Albertson, New York
- Habitat for Humanity of Lenawee
  Adrian, Michigan
- Home Wise, Inc.
  Santa Fe, New Mexico
- Housing Development Center Inc.
  Portland, Oregon
- New Hampshire Community Loan Fund
  Concord, New Hampshire
- New Hope Community Development
  Detroit, Michigan
- Opportunity Resource Fund
  Lansing, Michigan
- San Francisco Community Land Trust
  San Francisco, California
- St. Ambrose Housing Aid Center
  Baltimore, Maryland

Other Domestic Loan Funds
- ACCION
  Texas, Inc.
  San Antonio, Texas
- Citizen Potawatomi Community Development Corporation
  Shawnee, Oklahoma
- Common Wealth Revolving Loan Fund
  Kent, Ohio
- Cooperative Fund of New England
  Hartford, Connecticut and Wilmington, North Carolina
- First Nations OWEESTA Corp.
  Rapid City, South Dakota
- FORGE, Inc.
  Huntsville, Arkansas
- Forward Community Investments
  Madison, Wisconsin
- Genesis Fund, Inc.
  Damariscotta, Maine
- Greater New Haven Community Loan Fund
  New Haven, Connecticut
- Isaiah Fund, LLC
  Jenkintown, Pennsylvania
- Local Enterprise Assistance Fund (LEAF)
  Brookline, Massachusetts
- Leviticus 25:23 Community Fund, Inc.
  Yonkers, New York
- Nehemiah Community Reinvestment Fund
  Sacramento, California
- Partners for the Common Good
  Washington, DC
- PeopleFund
  Austin, Texas
- Solar and Energy Loan Fund
  Fort Pierce, Florida
- Vermont Community Loan Fund
  Montpelier, Vermont

International Loan Funds
- Fonkoze
  Port-au-Prince, Haiti
- Global Partnerships
  Seattle, Washington
- Oikocredit USA
  Washington, DC, for Asia, Africa, Latin America, Caribbean
- Shared Interest
  New York, New York, for South Africa
- Sostenica, Inc.
  Westchester, Pennsylvania, for Nicaragua
- Working Capital for Community Needs
  Madison, Wisconsin, for Latin America
About 50 Adrian Dominican Sisters, ages 65 and younger, emerged from an intense, three-day gathering in August 2013 focused on “Envisioning the Future.”

Called by Sister Attracta Kelly, OP, Prioress, the gathering provided an opportunity for the Sisters to get to know one another and to envision their shared future. They came from throughout the United States, the Dominican Republic, and the Philippines, representing a wide span of years in religious life, including a number who entered in the late 1960s through 2010.

Participants joined with other Sisters, Associates, and Co-workers on the Motherhouse campus on August 8 to celebrate the Feast of St. Dominic. But they spent much of the first two days listening to input. Sister Jeanne Lefebvre, OP, of Siena Heights University, spoke Thursday on the Dominican story, emphasizing Dominican women whose accomplishments often go unnoticed in history.

That evening, Sister Attracta and Sister Tarianne DeYonker, OP, Vicaress of the Congregation, addressed the critical issues the Congregation faces, identifying leadership, interdependence and other salient factors vital to “Sustaining the Mission.” Three former Prioresses addressed the Sisters on Friday morning about what sustained them during their terms of office. Sister Nadine Foley, OP (1986-1992) and Sister Pat Walter, OP (1992-1998) each spoke of the support they received from their General Councils. Sister Rosemary Ferguson, OP (1968-1974 and 1974-1978) compared this time of radical transition to Vatican II. “You are the emergent community,” she said, urging the Sisters to open their hearts to one another and to face their future with confidence, knowing they have the support of their elders.

On the final day, the Sisters drew on what they had heard in the previous two days—and on their own experiences, hopes, and dreams—meeting in “open space” discussions. The Sisters then formulated the underlying values that will carry them into the future, presenting them to the Sisters at the Dominican Life Center.

“We stand on the shoulders of valiant women who have gone before us and all of our Sisters.”

– Statement by “65 and Younger” Adrian Dominican Sisters

“We continue to lean on the foundation of Dominican life—study, prayer, common life, and ministry.

For the sake of the Mission, we accept the challenge of all the letting go that we know is in our future.

We accept the challenge from Guilhelma, Founding Prioress of Prouille, to spread the Holy Preaching as vowed religious, engaging other companions on the journey.

Recognizing the diminishment of life in all its forms on Earth, we embrace the Dominican charism of reverencing God’s creation in all our actions.
We know that the only way forward into an uncertain future is by nurturing right relationships with one another, honoring our diversity and treasuring how we journey together as Sisters.

“Envisioning the Future” was coordinated by a Planning Committee, chaired by Sister Mary Priniski, OP. Committee members were Sisters Maribeth Howell, OP; Cheryl Liske, OP; Elise García, OP; Aneesah McNamee, OP; and Nery (Luchy) Sori, OP.

**Associates Celebrate Partnership with Adrian Dominican Sisters**

Called by the General Council, and in the planning since early 2013, the August 2013 “Partners in Mission” gathering gave approximately 60 participating Associates and Sisters the opportunity to get to know one another, pray together, listen to presentations, discuss their role in the Adrian Dominican Mission, and welcome four new Associates.

While numerous individuals and organizations collaborate with the Adrian Dominican Sisters on a variety of services and issues, about 200 women and men have entered into a formal, non-vowed relationship—or association—with the Congregation.

“Our greatest joy and desire is to have you, our Associates, share more intensely in the spirituality and Mission of our Adrian Dominican Congregation,” Sister Attracta Kelly, OP, Prioress, told the group. “This time, this weekend together, is a grace—a time for you to get to know each other, to get to know us, for us to get to know you.”

In her talk, “Dominican Charism Alive,” Sister Attracta noted that the Vatican II document, *Lumen Gentium*, describes charisms as “special graces given to any of the faithful as enabling gifts within the Body of Christ to make them fit and ready for various tasks for the renewal of the Church.” A later document, *Vita Consecrata*, notes that the laity can share in the mission of religious orders.

Sister Attracta’s presentation focused on the Dominican charism, particularly the call to seek and speak truth to Church and society.

St. Dominic “wasn’t thinking about founding an order, being a saint, being canonized. His whole life was to preach the Gospel where it is needed most, in whatever way would make it most effective,” she said. The Dominican motto—“Contemplare et contemplata aliis tradere” (to contemplate and to share the fruits of contemplation)—is “the foundation, our rock from which we speak.”

Sister Margarita (Margot) Ruíz, Representative of Associate Life (RAL) for the Dominican Republic, spoke of the active life of the 30 Associates in her country, including five who attended Partners in Mission. Locally, Associate Life was established in the Dominican Republic in 2004. The 28 women and two men were invited to become Associates because of their recognized qualities of self-giving, dedication, and commitment to the poor.
National Project Turns Spotlight on Catholic Sisters

In the past year, Catholic Sisters have been in headlines and television and computer screens across the nation for a number of reasons. One reason is a new “Catholic Sisters Initiative,” funded through a three-year $3.3 million grant from the Conrad Hilton Foundation.

Adrian Dominican Sister Mary Soher, OP, and laywoman Molly Hazelton are the co-directors of the effort, based at St. Catherine University in St. Paul, Minnesota. A key project of the Initiative is the launching of “National Catholic Sisters Week” as a new and permanent feature of Women’s History Month observed annually in March.

Religious congregations throughout the country were invited to celebrate National Catholic Sisters Week, March 8-15, 2014, in their own ways, and to send college-age women, along with one of their Sisters, to a special weekend event at the university.

Shown during the April 27, 2014, Ritual of Acceptance are, from left: Sister Charlotte Hoefer, OP; Associate Susan Jacobson; Associate Maria Castillo; and Sister Ann Rozalia Szabo, OP.

That evening, the Associates, Sisters on campus, and other friends gathered in Holy Rosary Chapel to celebrate the Ritual of Acceptance of four new Associates.

Partners in Mission was brought about through the efforts of Associate Life Director Mary Lach and the Planning Committee: Associates Janice Donner (chairperson), Arlene Bachanov, Nancy Mason-Bordley, Carol Hofer, Geri Pleva, Joanne Bellaire, Roberta Clemak, Marti Rozmys, and Sister Tarianne DeYonker, General Council liaison.

In 2013-2014, 16 women and men were accepted into Associate Life:

- **July 15, 2013, Adrian:**
  Mary Margaret Bommarito

- **August 2, 2013, Adrian:**
  Robin Aldrich, Jacob Boor, Camille Klimecki, and Karen Hagen.

- **October 6, 2013, Adrian:**
  Joanna Steffel

- **April 27, 2014, Adrian:**
  Maria Castillo, Susan Jacobson, Lisbeth Hentschel Johnson, Lonnie Kison, Katie Love, and Amy Bartels Roe.

- **June 9, 2014, St. Louis, Missouri:**
  Mary Mills, Brenda Pehle, Kathleen Pimmel, and Cheryl Seruya.

“A St. Dominic’s whole life was to preach the Gospel wherever it is needed most, in whatever way would make it most effective.”

– Attracta Kelly, OP
In an article on the website of St. Catherine University, Sister Mary noted the challenge that concerns many people: inviting young women to enter religious life. “How easy have we made it for them to find us? Why aren’t we going to where they are? That’s what this grant allows us to do, to go to the young people where they are hanging out.”

*Sister Rosemary Abramovich, OP, Takes Office on General Council of Adrian Dominican Sisters*

Sister Rosemary Abramovich, OP, was formally called forth to serve on the General Council of the Adrian Dominican Sisters in September 2013 during the Sunday Mass at St. Catherine Chapel on the Motherhouse Campus. She officially assumed office on September 9.

The General Council provides for and directs the life in mission of the Adrian Dominican Sisters. They elected Sister Rosemary to complete the six-year term left vacant by Sister Julie Hyer, OP, who resigned for health reasons. Sister Rosemary will serve through June of 2016, when this General Council completes its term in office.

“I’m very humbled and very honored by the trust,” Sister Rosemary said. “I have great hopes for the Congregation, and am looking forward to being part of the team on the General Council.”

Sister Rosemary is well-known to many of the Sisters who reside and minister at the Motherhouse. In 1995, she began her ministry at the Dominican Life Center, a residence that provides a continuum of care for retired Sisters, and served as administrator from 1998 to 2010. During her tenure, she oversaw three major renovation projects.

Most recently, Sister Rosemary served as Director of Mission Services at ProMedica, a healthcare system encompassing Northwestern Ohio and Southeastern Michigan. She helped to organize spiritual care services in the system’s 11 hospitals and served as chaplain at Bixby Hospital in Adrian and Herrick Hospital in Tecumseh, Michigan.

Sister Rosemary holds a bachelor’s degree in history, with minors in English and sociology, from Siena Heights University in Adrian and a master’s degree in theological studies from Catholic Theological Union in Chicago. She is certified as a chaplain through the National Association of Catholic Chaplains.
### Congregation

**Membership on July 1, 2013** 777
- On July 1, 2013
  - Sisters with Final Vows 771
  - Sisters with Temporary Vows 6
- **TOTAL** 777

**Membership on June 30, 2014** 754
- On June 30, 2014
  - Sisters with Final Vows 747
  - Sisters with Temporary Vows 7
- **TOTAL** 754

*During fiscal year 2013–2014, there were:*
- Deaths 24
- First Profession 1

### Associate Life

**Total in the Associate Program on July 1, 2013** 187
- Number who joined the Associate Program 16
- Number who withdrew from the Associate Program 1
- Associates who died 0

**Total in the Associate Program on June 30, 2014** 202

### Formation

**Women in Formation on July 1, 2013** 3
- Novices 1
- Candidates 2

*Changes during fiscal year 2013–2014*
- Made Profession of Vows 1
- Withdrew from Candidacy 2
- Entered Candidacy 3

**Women in Formation on June 30, 2014** 3
- Candidates 3

### Congregation Membership

- **General Council** 5
- **Adrian Crossroads**
  - Mission Chapter 128
  - *Mary Ellen Youngblood, OP, Chapter Prioress*
- **Dominican Midwest**
  - Mission Chapter 95
  - *Patricia Ann Dulka, OP, Chapter Prioress*
- **Dominican West**
  - Mission Chapter 77
  - *Judith Benkert, OP, Chapter Prioress*
- **Florida Mission Chapter** 59
  - *Mary Ann Caulfield, OP, Chapter Prioress*
- **Great Lakes Dominican**
  - Mission Chapter 156
  - *Frances Nadolny, OP, Chapter Prioress*
- **Holy Rosary**
  - Mission Chapter 136
  - *Josephine Gaugier, OP, Chapter Prioress*
- **Mid-Atlantic**
  - Mission Chapter 61
  - *Mary Margaret Priniski, OP, Chapter Prioress*
- **Our Lady of Remedies**
  - Mission Chapter 36
  - *Zenaida S. Nacpil, OP, Chapter Prioress*
- **In Transition** 1

**Total Membership** 754

### Geographic Distribution of Adrian Dominicans – June 30, 2014

**Residing in the United States**
- Arizona 11
- California 32
- Colorado 1
- Florida 52
- Georgia 4
- Illinois 69
Indiana ............................................................... 3
Kentucky ........................................................... 5
Louisiana ........................................................... 5
Michigan ....................................................... 460
Minnesota .......................................................... 1
Mississippi ......................................................... 2
Missouri ............................................................. 1
Nevada ............................................................... 8
New Mexico .......................................................... 1
New York ........................................................... 4
Ohio ................................................................ 10
Oklahoma ............................................................ 1
Oregon ................................................................ 3
Pennsylvania ....................................................... 1
Rhode Island .................................................... 1
South Carolina .................................................. 6
Texas ................................................................ 4
Vermont ............................................................. 1
Washington .......................................................... 22
Wisconsin ............................................................ 1

Residing outside the United States
Canada .......................................................... 4
Dominican Republic ........................................... 4
Norway ............................................................ 2
Philippines ........................................................ 32
Puerto Rico ........................................................ 1
Taiwan ............................................................ 2

Deceased Adrian Dominicans
July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014

Donna Kustusch, OP ....................... July 21, 2013
Denise Walsh, OP ............................ July 21, 2013
Shirley Ruder, OP ......................... August 2, 2013
Michele Gebhardt, OP .................... August 10, 2013
Helene Dompierre, OP ................... August 14, 2013
Jean Harlan, OP ......................... August 17, 2013
Martin Mary Ryan, OP ................. August 26, 2013
Anne Wasco, OP ......................... September 9, 2013
Mary Anthony Marelli, OP ............ October 17, 2013
Mary L. Russell, OP ...................... November 19, 2013
Catherine Henry Schmid, OP .......... November 25, 2013
Francesca Bartos, OP ................. November 30, 2013
Sean Therese Halpin, OP .............. December 17, 2013
Mary Eileen Sullivan, OP .............. December 22, 2013
Mary Frances Coleman, OP .......... January 13, 2014
Mary Dougherty, OP .................. January 22, 2014
Bernadette Therese Vozobule, OP ........ January 25, 2014
Alice Marie Lacina, OP ................. April 14, 2014
Bernadette Marie Dwyer, OP .......... April 24, 2014
Bettina Mollica, OP ..................... May 16, 2014
Leona King, OP ............................. May 28, 2014
Maureen Rose, OP .................... May 30, 2014
Anna Kosenski, OP ..................... June 4, 2014
Mary Patricia Dewey, OP ............ June 6, 2014

2013-2014 Leadership Council

Standing, from left: Sisters Rose Celeste O'Connell, OP; Mary Ellen Youngblood, OP; Rosemary Abramovich, OP; Tarianne De'Yonker, OP; Attracta Kelly, OP; Prioress: Mary Ann Caulfield, OP; Corinne Sanders, OP; Kathleen Schanz, OP; and Zenaida Nacpil, OP.

Seated, from left: Sisters Patricia Dulka, OP; Judith Benkert, OP; Josephine Gaugier, OP; Mary Priniski, OP; and Frances Nadolny, OP.
The Adrian Dominican Congregation paid tribute to 78 Jubilarians in 2014, including one 85-year Jubilarian; nine 75-year Jubilarians; 17 Double-Diamond (70 years) Jubilarians, 34 Diamond (60 years) Jubilarians, 15 Golden Jubilarians and two Silver Jubilarians.

Together, these dedicated women represented 4,790 years of consecrated life, given as gift to the Congregation, the Church, and the world.

During the year, Adrian Dominicans also remembered our deceased Jubilarians: 37 85-year Jubilarians, 28 75-year Jubilarians, 22 Double-Diamond Jubilarians, 11 Diamond Jubilarians, and three Golden Jubilarians.

May all of our Jubilarians, living and deceased, be blessed for their years of dedication, commitment, and loving service.

2014 Jubilarians representing 4,790 years of service

Golden Jubilarians

*Front row, from left:* Sisters Mary Margaret Pachucki, Judith Friedel, Dianne Koszycki, Myra Jackson, Carmen Rose Alvarez, Rosemary Asaro, and Mary Ellen Plummer. *Back row, from left:* Sisters Jacqueline Phillips, Mary Frances Fleischaker, Patricia Millenbach, Attracta Kelly (Prioress), Patricia Walter, Mary Ann Caulfield, and Adrienne Piennette. Not pictured: Sisters Judith Bisignano and Viviana Custo

Silver Jubilarians

*Left to right:* Sisters Remedios Basilio and Cheryl Liske
August Diamond Jubilarians

Front row, from left: Sisters Jeanine Boivin, Anele Heiges, Yolanda Pomante, and Ruth Anne Kelly
Second row, from left: Sister Dorita Wotiska, Beth Ellen Butler and Phyllis Kreiner. Third row, from left: Sisters Diane Weifenbach, Barbara Gentry, Mary Trzasko, and Dorothy Dempsey. Back row, from left: Sisters Attracta Kelly (Prioress), Ana Feliz, Susan Mary Parker, Joyce Hibbert, and Patricia McCarty. Not pictured: Sister Louise Borgacz and Rose Irene Calvert

December Diamond Jubilarians

Front row, from left: Sisters Evelyn Piche, Joan Baustian, Marianne O’Neill, Teresita Ruiz, and Therese Reynolds
Middle row, from left: Sisters Attracta Kelly (Prioress), Norlee McDonnell, Mary Ann Letzgus, Marlene Ptaszynski, Alice Marie Schmid, and Ellen Schmitz. Back row, from left: Sisters Jeanne Marie Stickling, Gail Himrod, Marilyn Francoeur, Rose Ann Schlitt, Esther Kennedy, and Clarice Moyle.
Collaborating for the common good

Editor: Elise D. García, OP
Writer: Barbara Kelley, OP
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