



La Verna E-Vision

Be the Bridge to Fraternal Life

Volume 12

2023 Fall edition



Jeff Gumz, OFS
La Verna Region Minister

My brothers and sisters in St. Francis.

This past summer my local fraternity, St. Ann in Green Bay, gathered to harvest vegetables from our community garden for the elderly and poor citizens of our city. In July we

gathered at the St. Anthony Spirituality Center in Marathon City, WI for our Regional Chapter to "Listen, Discern and Go Forth." I had the privilege to represent our Region at the National Chapter in St. Louis in August. At each of these gatherings I could sense the love and support of a family. The concept of the OFS as a family emphasizes the close-knit community and sense of fraternity among each and everyone of us. Like a family, we support and encourage one another in our spiritual journeys and in our efforts to live a life of simplicity, humility and service inspired by St. Francis. We certainly are a family indeed.

At our May 21, 2023 meeting the Regional Executive Council (REC) voted on the reactivation of the St. Francis and St. Clare Fraternity in Madison. Over the past two years, the St. Francis and St. Clare Fraternity has been working with the REC and going through a process to achieve reactivation. Br. Jerome Schroeder, acting as Provincial Spiritual Assistant, will soon issue a decree of reactivation with the official seal of the Province of St. Joseph in Detroit. A copy of this decree will be held by the Fraternity, the

Region and a copy will be sent to the Diocese of Madison.

These are exciting times for St. Francis and St. Clare Fraternity and for the La Verna Region. I am so blessed, along with the REC, to be part of this journey. St. Francis and St. Clare Fraternity is planning a ceremony of re-establishment for later on this year. I will keep you posted on the date.

At the Chapter in July, I mentioned the need to fill our Regional Formation Director position on the Regional Executive Council. An application process was put in place seeking someone with the gifts and talents to form our brothers and sisters throughout the La Verna Region. Applications were due on August 30th, 2023. At our September REC meeting, we voted to appoint Sue Bashynski, OFS as the La Verna Region Formation Director. Join me in congratulating Sue and please pray for her as she takes on this new service to our La Verna Region.

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The La Verna Region currently holds three District Gatherings: One in the Northcentral, one in the Fox Valley and one in the Southeast. We are considering reducing the number of district gatherings. At the National Chapter, I learned that many Regions throughout the nation hold only one District gathering outside of their Chapter. Many also have a yearly retreat for its members. At our September REC meeting we voted to hold two District Gatherings in 2024. The District Gatherings will take place in the Spring of the year and will be hosted by St. James Fraternity in Wausau and Saint Francis of Assisi Fraternity in Milwaukee. More details will be coming in the future.



La Verna Region council members attending the National Chapter: held in St. Louis: Jeff Gumz, Sharon Dale, and Jerome Schroeder.

I had the honor of representing our Region at the National Fraternity Chapter in St. Louis, Missouri from August 22-27. I was joined by our Regional Vice Minister, Sharon Dale, OFS, who is also our National Archivist and Br. Jerome Schroeder, our Regional Spiritual Assistant.

This was a fraternal and pastoral visitation for the OFS-USA. We welcomed Presidency Councilor Dina Shabalina, OFS, (Ukraine) and General Spiritual Assistant Fr. Carlos Campos Julve, TOR (Peru).

International Visitor Dina Shabalina, OFS, is from the Ukraine. Since her country is at war, she traveled to Poland to take a plane to Germany and then another to the United States. She became a Christian at 23 years old.



International Visitor Presidency Councilor, Dina Shabalina, OFS from Ukraine and Jeff Gumz

She soon discovered the Secular Franciscan Order and fell in love with Franciscan Spirituality. She was professed in 2009.

Our National Minister, Jane DeRose-Bamman, OFS, gave a State of

the Order Address. The Newly elected National Executive Council (NEC) has been on the job for 10 months. Their action plan for National Priorities: includes vocations, communications and relationships. There are 30 Regional Fraternities. (7-34 Fraternities per Region, 100-900 members) in the United States with a total of 12,240 members. We have a new database, enhancements for our National website (www.secularfranciscansusa.org/) and Facebook page. Our Regional Ministers are building relationships with one another and improving communicating through councilor groups meeting using Zoom.

The JPIC Peace Award winner is Steve Wasko, OFS. Steve is a member of the Divine Mercy Region and the St. Bonaventure Fraternity in Michigan. His work focuses on the Sustainable Community Resource Center in Detroit. Since 2017, his nonprofit has provided early childhood education, social and economic services, clothing and food assistance, athletic programs and after-school activities for youths of all ages. Steve's nonprofit provides learning and growth opportunities in the neighborhood centered around the principles of healthy living and sustainability. For example, rain gardens were constructed to reduce stormwater fees.

Minister's Message, continued from page 2

Steve said that Secular Franciscans can live out their vocation by being “hyper neighborhood centric”!

Two big decisions were made at our National Chapter on Saturday, August 26, 2023. The Fair Share we pay to OFS-USA will increase from \$17 per member to \$22 effective 2025. This increase in Fair Share to National will **NOT** increase the Fair Share that is collected in our Region. We raised our Regional Fair Share a few years ago and will be able to absorb the increase paid to OFS-USA. Thanks to Bob Henning, OFS, for his great work as our Regional Treasurer.

Also, it was voted that the *Tau-USA* magazine will only be sent out once a year to our members. The other times it will only be sent out digitally or accessed on the OFS-USA website. This vote passed to help the National Fraternity cut costs and balance its budget. We will need to come up with a plan to help distribute the *Tau-USA* magazine to our sisters and brothers who cannot access the internet. Let me know if you have any ideas.

For more information on the August 2023 National Chapter held in St. Louis, please click on the link below and follow a wonderful article written in the St. Louis Archdiocesan newspaper: Secular Franciscans are called to embrace the Gospel in the ordinary circumstances of their lives | Articles | Archdiocese of St Louis (archstl.org)

This newsletter will be the last for our current editor, Ed Boss, OFS. I want to thank Ed for his hours of service to our Region as our newsletter editor. He has worked hard to bring you the latest and greatest in all things Franciscan. Fr. Frank Corradi, OFS, is considering taking on the role of Regional Newsletter Editor. Please pray for the future of our wonderful *La Verna Vision* newsletter. I would like to see it continue to be a source of

news and Franciscan spirituality for our sisters and brothers.

Peace and Joy!

Jeff Gumz, OFS - La Verna Region Minister

The Value of Letting Go

(Franciscan Herald, 1913)



That little hurt that you got from a friend, perhaps it wasn't intended, perhaps it was. But never mind. Let it go. Refuse to think about it. Give it to the Lord.

Let go of that bad feeling you have for another, the jealousy, the envy, the malice. Let go of all such thoughts. Sweep them out of your mind and you will be surprised what a cleaning up and rejuvenating effect it will have upon you, both physically and mentally. Let them all go; you house them at deadly risk. Give them to the Lord.

What about the big troubles, the bitter disappointments, the deep wrongs and heart-breaking sorrows, the tragedies of life—what about them? Why, just let them go also. Drop them softly but surely. Put away all the regret and bitterness. Let the sorrow be only a softening influence. Yes, let them go too. Give them to the Lord and make the most of the future.

Then that little pet ailment that you've been hanging onto and talking about, let it go. It will be a good riddance. You have treated it royally. Now abandon it. Let it go. Give it to the Lord. Talk about health instead, and health will come.

It is not so difficult after you once get used to letting go of these things. You will find it easier sharing them with God. They will no longer mar or embitter your life. You will enjoy letting them go. You will look forward to the coming of the next day. You will find the world such a beautiful place because you have let go and have given everything to the Lord.

-Author unknown; submitted by Sharon Dale OFS



We, the Secular Franciscans of the La Verna Region, commit ourselves to our Order on all its levels by faithfully following our Rule and the charism of Sts. Francis and Clare "...To see the face of God in all creation through dynamic formation, profound spirituality and joyful vocation." The La Verna Region of the Secular Franciscan Order in the USA consists of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan. The region's geographical area is divided into three districts: Southeast, Central, Fox Valley. The *La Verna E-Vision* newsletter is published three times a year, is a communication vehicle with the La Verna Region, and presents information that relates to the Secular Franciscan Order way of life.

Permission to copy materials printed in *La Verna E-Vision* is given freely except where the copyright is specifically reserved to the author or artist. *La Verna E-Vision* editor: Jeff Gumz, OFS, jagumz@gmail.com. For further information about the La Verna Region and the Secular Franciscan Order, please go to the La Verna Region internet site: www.laverna-secular-franciscans.com



The La Verna Regional Executive Council

The REC is here to help your Fraternity in any way possible. Do not hesitate to email or call any member of the REC with a concern you may have.

La Verna Region REC members:

Minister - Jeff Gumz, OFS -
jagumz@gmail.com 920-393-9087

Vice Minister - Sharon Dale, OFS -
shadale@wctc.net (715) 423-4136

Secretary - Kathy Sutliff, OFS -
katsut@charter.net (715) 369-3367

Treasurer - Bob Henning, OFS -
BMJHSFO@AOL.COM (906) 273-0374

Formation Director - Sue Bashynski, OFS
suebashynk@gmail.com (920) 463-0150

Councilor - Nora Kessel, OFS -
noraekessel@gmail.com (906) 458-4796

Councilor - Roxanne Miner, OFS -
rminers59@gmail.com (563) 210-5692

Councilor - Art Montgomery, OFS -
amontgomery1@wi.rr.com (414) 640-3298

Councilor - Charlie Neuman, OFS -
charlieneuman@sbcglobal.net
(414) 617-4199

Regional Spiritual Assistant -
Janet Dubec, OFS -
janetdubec@att.net (715) 835-7201

Regional Spiritual Assistant -
Br. Jerome Schroeder, OFM Cap -
jschroeder2345@gmail.com (262) 385-4630

by Ed Boss, OFS

Inspiration comes from someone whose heart, emotion, and service is able to lift up a high level of feeling and activity. Inspiration is also an idea that makes someone want to seek something good to benefit themselves or others.

Jan McRae has shown over the years a style of inspiration to help people in need of service, education, and motivational spirit.

St. Paschal Baylon fraternity member Jan McRae, OFS was congratulated by St. Joseph Catholic church pastor Monsignor Martin Heinz as the 2023 Woman of Inspiration. Jan's tribute not only comes from the pastor but also church members who enjoyed her parish activities. A Woman of Inspiration Dinner was held on September 17, 2023 at St. Joseph church.

Jan is a member of St. Joseph church in Richmond, Illinois and also council treasurer with St. Paschal Baylon fraternity in Wind Lake, Wisconsin. Jan professed on December 8, 2019.

Last year Jan and her son, along with another St. Paschal Baylon fraternity member, traveled together on a Franciscan Pilgrimage to Assisi and Rome.

The "Congratulations to Jan McRae" article appeared in the St. Joseph church bulletin on August 13, 2023. Permission to publish the bulletin article and photo in the *La Verna Vision* was given by Monsignor Martin Heinz.

Congratulations to Jan McRae, the 2023 Woman Of Inspiration

Born and raised in Richmond, her parish life at St. Joe's began in infancy and continued through the years. Sacristan, lector, religious education teacher, confirmation instructor, Bible study member, and prayer warrior, Jan's devotional spirit is



her hallmark of inspiration. She attends Mass daily here at St. Joseph's, and at churches in Lyons, Lake Geneva, and Twin Lakes. A regular at the National Shrine of Our Lady in Champion, Wisconsin, her photo albums from pilgrimages and trips to Rome, the Holy Land, and Greece have often added insight during Bible Studies. Never at a loss for inspiration, Jan's personal library is fully stocked with movies of Bible stories and saints' lives. In 2019, Jan professed a lifelong commitment in the Secular Franciscan Order, the 3rd order founded by St. Francis of Assisi, in addition to the Order of Friars Minor and the Poor Clares, approved by the Holy See. Secular Franciscans live the Gospel values by following the way of life and spirituality of Saint Francis, focusing on spreading the peace and love of Christ through parish ministry, visiting the sick and volunteer work.

A Community Garden

Queen of Heaven Fraternity by Patrick Ruesch OFS
and Sharon Dale OFS



This past January we started talking about getting involved in a new activity as a fraternity. We decided to reinstate our annual Garage Sale, but we wanted to do more as a JPIC activity as well. Our minister Patrick Ruesch, who is also a farmer, suggested we check out our South Wood County Extension Service-specifically their “Growing Friends Community Garden”. This idea struck us as just what we were looking for. We contacted WCE, got more information, signed a contract, paid a small fee, and within a few months found ourselves with our 4’ by 8’ plot of land.



We packed the area with compost and shopped for seeds. One evening, after our monthly fraternity rosary “by the river” we drove over to our plot and planted cherry and pear tomatoes, pole beans, radishes, cucumbers and corn. It’s amazing how much one can fit into the space we had! Patrick brought a statue of St. Francis and a plaque which identified our plot as property of the Secular Franciscans of Wisconsin Rapids.

Maintenance was our responsibility, of course. We took turns watering and weeding throughout the summer, and now we are harvesting that which was planted. We’ve provided tomatoes to Franciscans Downtown in Stevens Point, and tomatoes, beans and corn to our local Food Pantry.

Recently we said our Franciscan Crown Rosary by the Wisconsin River, in thanksgiving for all God’s blessings and prayed in remembrance of the victims of September 11th, 2001. One of our members had just picked another bowl full of tomatoes from our garden, and brought them to share. God is so good. We thoroughly enjoyed this entire project and are anticipating repeating it again next year.

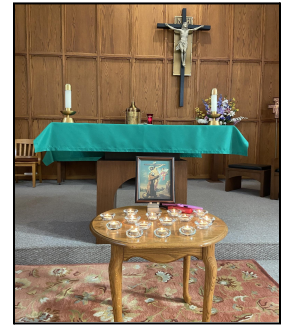
La Verna Region News - La Verna Region Chapter

The La Verna Regional Chapter gathering was held at the St. Anthony Spirituality Center in Marathon, Wisconsin from July 21 -23. Representatives from 18 fraternities and the regional executive council (REC) members were present. The theme of the 2023 Chapter was ‘Listening and Contemplation’.

La Verna Region Chapter - continued on page 7



On Friday evening, Janet Dubec, La Verna Region spiritual assistant, presented the evening prayer service for all Chapter attendees. The service was held in the St. Anthony Center chapel. Saturday morning began with a candle lighting memorial service for each of our deceased members who died in the past year. Following the memorial prayer service, members gathered in the main conference room where the Chapter began with welcoming, introduction, and weekend Chapter agenda review given by Jeff Gumz, La Verna Region Minister,



Jeff Gumz opened Saturday morning's meeting and gave each REC member the opportunity to outline their activity report to all the attending local ministers/delegates/observers, local formation directors, and those connected to the Zoom hookup. Following the REC regional reports, the local minister's reports were also presented to the entire assembly. Jeff Gumz gave a talk on the importance of members learning about New Servant Leader Mentoring.



Breakout sessions - The REC presented breakout rooms keynote discussions provided for all members. Regional council member Art Montgomery, OFS spoke on how to better listen to our members; Roxanne Miner, OFS spoke on discernment/contemplation, and Vice-Minister Sharon Dale, OFS gave a breakout session talk titled "Go Forth - JPIC".

Saturday evening in the chapel, spiritual assistant Janet Dubec, OFS along with regional councilor Nora Kessel, OFS,

presented a healing service. Sunday Liturgy - was by Fr. Frank Corradi, OFS celebrant of the service.

On Sunday morning, Jeff Gumz asked the assembled Secular Franciscans to attentively reflect and act on the 2024 La Verna Region Chapter of Elections scheduled in June 2024 at St. Anthony Spirituality Center in Marathon.



A Chapter group photo becomes a nice way to enjoy a memory and a moment with Franciscan family.

Mark Your Calendar

Secular Franciscan news on social media: St. Josaphat Fraternity (Milwaukee)

<https://www.facebook.com/St.JosaphatOFS>. This is a current news site on fraternity life, Franciscan media, archdiocese news, spiritual events, and much more.

- **Franciscans praying the rosary together** - La Verna Region Secular and religious
Franciscans meet to pray the Rosary together each Wednesday evening. To join us in praying the rosary, please call the following toll free number: **978-990-5000** and then enter the meeting **access code: 734545**. Rosary begins at 6:00 p.m. and usually runs for about 25 minutes. Friendships come alive here.
- **Marywood REC Planning Meeting and Retreat** - October 27 - 29, 2023
- **La Verna Regional Chapter (Elections)** - June 28 - 30, 2024 at St. Anthony Spirituality Center

Treasurer's Report



Bob Henning, OFS
La Verna Region
Treasurer

Greetings to all my OFS Sisters and Brothers. I hope and pray that you all are in good health and are enjoying the last of the summer days with family and friends.

As you may have heard, the National Council has voted and approved a Fair Share increase to be effective in 2025 because of increasing costs. This means we will be assessed \$22 per professed and candidate numbers as of 31 December, 2024.

You may be thinking "Oh no, not another Fair Share increase.", but you would be wrong. Our Region will NOT have to vote on such an increase because we are currently in good financial shape and will be able to absorb the increase even though our numbers have gone down from 320 last December 31st to presently 312.

On another note, some Ministers at the Chapter asked about utilizing the website company the Region uses, to develop their own websites. I have contacted the company's CEO,

Tony Beres, and he would be interested in working with any of our fraternities to develop their own websites. This would be an agreement and cost between La Dolce Video & Design and the fraternity. They could use the same template as the Region's or develop your own. Tony can be reached at (906) 226-6200 or tony@ladolce.pro

Finally, our Region has been blessed to have had bequest donations which have helped us tremendously. Please pray about remembering our Region and Fraternities in your will. The wording could be as follows.

A BEQUEST FOR GENERAL PURPOSES:

"I give and bequeath the sum of \$_____ (or _____% of my disposable estate) to: (name and address of fraternity, region)."

I hope everyone will be able to take advantage of the Fall season to view the many beautiful colors God will make available for us.

May the Lord bless you and keep all of you and your families.

Respectfully, Your brother, and Regional Treasurer, Bob Henning, OFS

September 12, 2023

**LaVerna Region
Treasurer's Report as of 9/8/23**

The overall status of the Region's finances is Green.

FINANCIAL REPORT (attached)

The Checking account balance is \$36,231.63 broken out as follows;

Regular Checking = \$ 23,833.06

To be deposited = \$ 410.00

Retreat Subsidy Fund = \$4,957.10

Education/Training Fund = \$6,411.47

Fair Share Fund = \$620.00

FAIR SHARE STATUS REPORT (attached)

1st Quarter 2023 Fair Share receipts = \$5,855.00 (18 Fraternities)

1st Quarter 2023 Fair Share still due = \$45.00 (1 Fraternity)

2nd Quarter 2023 Fair Share receipts = \$5,740.00 (17 Fraternities)

2nd Quarter 2023 Fair Share still due = \$470.00 (2 Fraternities)

3rd Quarter 2023 Fair Share receipts = \$4,550.00 (14 Fraternities)

3rd Quarter 2023 Fair Share still due = \$2,075.00 (4 Fraternities)

Coming bills;

Chapter - \$7,380.81 – paid

Marathon donation - \$1,000.00 - paid

Marywood REC planning meeting - \$1,600.00 est

We started 2023 with 320 Members (P & C), we now have 312.

The General Fund is currently at 169% of the current budget.

Respectfully submitted by
Bob Henning, OFS, Regional Treasurer
2 attachments: as

2023 OFS Financials--090823-Master

La Verna Regional Fraternity OFS
STATEMENT OF REVENUE & EXPENSE
FOR PERIODS ENDED DEC 31, 2023 and 2022

Approved Ammended 2022 Budget 25 Jun 2022
Approved Ammended 2023 Budget 22 Jul 2023

	THIS YEAR Y. T. D. 2023	Budget 9 months period 2023	Budget Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)	Approved Last Year Actual 2022	Approved Ammended 2022 Budget 25 Jun 2022	Approved Ammended 2023 Budget 22 Jul 2023
BEGINNING BALANCES:						
REGULAR CHECKING -----	17,348.75			29,828.16		
RETREAT SUBSIDY FUND -----	4,267.58			4,642.08		
EDUCATION/TRAINING FUND -----	5,721.96			4,866.46		
RETREAT/EDUCATION ENDOWMENT FD ---	25,000.00			25,000.00		
CUSTODIAL FUND -----	25,547.00			25,547.00		
CASH ON HAND -----	0.00			0.00		
FAIR SHARE FUND -----	620.00			600.00		
TOTAL CASH ON HAND & IN BANKS -	78,505.29			90,483.70		
REVENUE:						
DONATIONS -----	12,216.74	8,282.63	3,934.11	1,582.08	4,515.00	11,043.50
FAIR SHARE FUND -----	0.00	0.00	0.00	20.00	0.00	0.00
INT. RETREAT ENDOWMENT FUND	689.52	517.14	172.38	855.50	855.50	689.52
INTEREST EDUCATION FUND	689.51	517.13	172.38	855.50	855.50	689.51
SPECIAL MEMORIALS -----	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CHAPTER -----	1,111.00	327.00	784.00	436.00	-	436.00
FAIR SHARE -- 306 + 14 @ 80-40	16,145.00	13,927.50	2,217.50	19,675.00	25,960.00	18,570.00
SA WRKSP -----	0.00	562.50	(562.50)	0.00	750.00	750.00
INTEREST CUSTODIAL FUND -----	1,425.14	1,068.86	356.28	1,768.00	1,768.00	1,425.14
MISC & FORMATION WS INCOME -----	20.00	0.00	20.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL REVENUE -----	32,296.91	25,202.76	7,094.15	25,192.08	34,704.00	31,705.00
TOTAL AVAILABLE FUNDS -----	110,802.20			115,675.78		
EXPENSES:						
STIPENDS & EXPENSES -----	3,150.00	3,150.00	0.00	5,400.00	6,000.00	4,200.00
RENT INCLUDING EQUIPMENT -----	682.50	397.50	(285.00)	507.50	530.00	530.00
MATERIALS & SUPPLIES -----	0.00	37.50	37.50	442.33	50.00	50.00
EDUCATION/TRAINING -----	0.00	2,688.75	2,688.75	63.24	3,585.00	3,585.00
MEETING ROOM & FACILITIES -----	0.00	150.00	150.00	1,403.00	200.00	200.00
OFFICE SUPPLIES -----	0.00	375.00	375.00	289.74	500.00	500.00
DONATIONS -----	1,101.90	375.00	(726.90)	0.00	0.00	500.00
ADMINISTRATIVE & WEB EXP -----	910.00	1,062.00	152.00	4,042.71	916.00	1,416.00
NEWSLETTER -----	0.00	450.00	450.00	0.00	600.00	600.00
TRAVEL EXP & EXPENSES -----	5,086.86	5,287.50	200.64	7,130.36	7,500.00	7,050.00
FAIR SHARE TO OFS-USA ---320@17---	5,440.00	4,080.00	(1,360.00)	5,967.00	5,712.00	5,440.00
ANNUAL CHAPTER -----	7,389.81	6,539.25	(850.56)	6,224.11	1,500.00	8,719.00
VISITATION / ELECTION -----	0.00	-	0.00	569.30	1,500.00	0.00
RETREAT SUBSIDY -----	262.50	172.50	(90.00)	1,260.00	1,230.00	230.00
FAIR SHARE FUND -----	0.00	-	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
SA WRKSP -----	0.00	742.50	742.50	0.00	990.00	990.00
MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSE -----	0.00	93.75	93.75	3,871.20	125.00	125.00
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS -----	24,023.57	2,430.50	1,577.68	37,170.49	30,938.00	29,166.00
GAIN OR (LOSS) FOR PERIOD ---	8,273.34	22,772.26	8,671.83	(11,978.41)	3,766.00	2,539.00
ENDING BALANCE -----	86,778.63			78,505.29		
CURRENT BALANCES:						
REGULAR CHECKING -----	23,833.06	36,231.63		17348.75		
RETREAT SUBSIDY FUND -----	4,957.10			4267.58		
EDUCATION/TRAINING FUND -----	6,411.47			5721.96		
RETREAT / EDUCATION CATHOLIC FUND *--	25,000.00			25000.00		
CUSTODIAL FUND INVESTMENT (JC)-----	25,547.00			25547.00		
CASH ON HAND -----	410.00	169%		0.00		
FAIR SHARE FUND -----	620.00			620.00		
TOTAL CASH ON HAND & IN BANKS --	86,778.63			78505.29		
CUSTODIAL FUND(5283)-JC bequest + St Pascal Baylon gift as of 7/31/23, last 12 mo = 6.71% Gain / (loss)	29,914.60	5% \$	1,495.73	29308.44		
CATHOLIC FOUNDATION FUND (5205) as of 7/31/23	4,367.60			3761.44		
* St Francis of Assisi + Anonymous + REC Last 12 mo 6.71% Gain / (Loss)	28,946.85	5% \$	1,447.34	28360.30		
Bob Henning, OFS, TREASURER 09/08/23	3,946.85			3360.30		
PROOF	0.00				0.00	
						Outstanding Checks 150.00

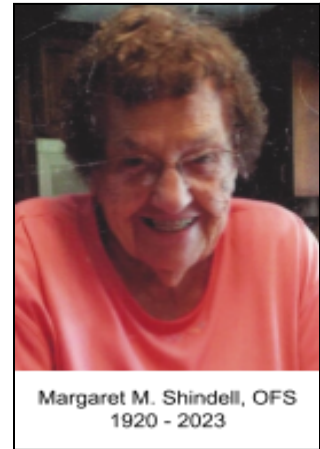
		Names and addresses of Fraternity Treasurers										Date	7/5/2023	As of	09/08/23		
RED means OVER-Paid		2022 & 2023															
		2023		2023		2022		2022		2023		2023		2022		2022	
		3rd Qtr Pd	2nd Qtr Pd	1st Qtr Pd	4th Qtr Pd	3rd Qtr Pd	OWED			3rd Qtr Pd	2nd Qtr Pd	1st Qtr Pd	4th Qtr Pd	3rd Qtr Pd	OWED		
St. Francis Of Assisi Escanaba, MI	65-10801	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	125.00	0.00	St. Katharine Drexel Beaver Dam, WI 53916	65-11101	80.00	100.00	60.00	60.00	37.50	0.00		
Treasurer:	10	10															
Bonnie Matusak OFS	0	0															
111 N. 12th St. Apt 101																	
Escanaba, MI 49829																	
Treasurer:	4																
Janice-Tischler, OFS	0																
468 Lake Shore Terrace	3																
Beaver Dam, WI 53916	0																
St. James Wausau, WI	65-12501	320.00	340.00	340.00	340.00	360.00	0.00	St. Ann Green Bay, WI	65-10101	350.00	350.00	390.00	330.00	206.25	0.00		
Treasurer:	16	17															
Patricia Steg, OFS	0	0															
St. James Fraternity OFS																	
P.O. Box 334																	
Wausau, WI 54402																	
St. Anthony of Padua Marquette, MI	65-10901	310.00	310.00	180.00	370.00	231.25	0.00	Holy Innocents Manitowoc, WI	65-11401	180.00	180.00	112.50	180.00	112.50	0.00		
Treasurer:	15	15															
Rose Marie Mahl OFS	1	1															
612 Brule Rd																	
Marquette, MI 49855-5267																	
Treasurer:	9																
Sharon Bell, OFS	0																
1388 Irving Cir.	9																
Manitowoc, WI 54220-1610	0																
St. Anthony of Padua Marathon City, WI	65-11501	280.00	280.00	280.00	280.00	225.00	0.00	Sacred Heart Oshkosh, WI	65-12301	420.00	420.00	400.00	400.00	250.00	0.00		
Treasurer:	14	14															
Monie Wilkom, OFS	0	0															
2401 Meadowbrook Dr.																	
Marshfield, WI 54449																	
Treasurer:	21																
Dione Gunther, OFS	0																
284 N Campbell Rd., # A	20																
Oshkosh, WI 54902	0																
St. John Neumann Rhinelander, WI	65-12401	0.00	380.00	380.00	400.00	262.50	380.00	St. Pascal Baylon Burlington, WI	65-10301	0.00	690.00	690.00	720.00	900.00	690.00		
Treasurer:	19	19															
Janet Sprink, OFS	0	0															
707 W Pioneer St. #503																	
Crandon, WI 54520																	
Treasurer:	34																
Jan McRae OFS	1																
2431 South Rd.	34																
Burlington, WI 53105	2																
St. Peter Stevens Point, WI	65-10201	400.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(115.00)	St. Clare Greenfield, WI	65-13001	180.00	200.00	220.00	220.00	150.00	0.00		
Treasurer:	6	6															
Nick Grene, OFS	0	0															
2833 Church St.																	
Stevens Point, WI 54484																	
Treasurer:	9																
Carol Nelson, OFS	0																
6171 S 120 St.	11																
Hales Corner WI 53130	0																
Queen of Heaven Wisconsin Rapids, WI	65-12801	160.00	160.00	160.00	160.00	100.00	0.00	St. Josaphat Milwaukee, WI	65-13001	330.00	330.00	330.00	330.00	143.75	0.00		
Treasurer:	8	8															
Carla Dewitt, OFS	0	0															
2241 8th St S.																	
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494																	
Treasurer:	16																
Linda Faust, OFS	1																
8629 Greenhill Ln	16																
Greendale, WI 53129	1																
Our Lady Queen of the Univ Woodruff, WI	65-12901	600.00	600.00	600.00	672.50	425.00	0.00	Portiuncula Franklin, WI	65-13601	0.00	310.00	292.50	297.50	206.25	310.00		
Co-Treasurer	30	33															
Eileen Braeger-OFS	0	0															
1964 Bluebird Lane																	
Woodruff, WI 54968																	
Treasurer:	15																
Karen Pierce, OFS	1																
7710 S. 51st St. Apt 101	14																
Franklin, WI 53132-9922	1																
St. Joseph Appleton, WI	65-11001	0.00	620.00	620.00	620.00	375.00	620.00	St. Francis Of Assisi Milwaukee, WI	65-10002	700.00	0.00	350.00	242.50	340.00	0.00		
Treasurer:	30	30															
Roland Probst, OFS	2	2															
219 Calumet St # 1																	
Appleton, WI 54915																	
Treasurer:	17																
Cindy Walsh, OFS	1																
131 S 3rd Street	17																
Ootsburg, WI 53070	1																
Sts Francis & Clare EF Madison, WI		0.00	190.00	170.00	230.00	143.75	190.00	St Elizabeth of Hungary Chippewa Falls, WI 54719	65-13701	40.00	80.00	80.00	80.00	50.00	0.00		
stfrancisclare.ofs@gmail.com	9	11															
Elizabeth Anderson, OFS	1	1	Became an Emerging Fraternity on 01 Jan 2022														
N8904 Hay Hollow Road																	
Blanchardville, WI 53516																	
Treasurer:	2																
Judy Kucera, OFS	0																
4240 Erin Rd	4																
Eau Claire, WI 54703	0																
Totals								Second Column Totals									
First Column-professed	157	2,270.00	3,080.00	2,930.00	3,272.50	2,391.25	1,075.00			2,280.00	2,660.00	2,925.00	2,860.00	2,396.25	1,000.00		
First Column-candidates	4																
Second Column-professed	142	2,280.00	2,660.00	2,925.00	2,860.00	2,396.25	1,000.00										
Second Column-candidates	9																
Grand Totals	312	4,550.00	5,740.00	5,855.00	6,132.50	4,787.50	2,075.00										
Total Collected all rows							27,065.00										
Total Owed all rows							2,075.00										
2023 FS Income		\$16,145.00															
From 2022 Annual Reports																	
Total Professed																	306
Total Candidates																	14
Total																	320



Obituary - Margaret M. Shidell, OFS

It is with deep sorrow that we announce the death of Margaret M. Shidell of Marathon, Wisconsin, born in Allenton, Wisconsin, who passed away on July 31, 2023, at the age of 102.

Margaret was born on October 23, 1920 in Allenton, Wisconsin to the late Peter and Lena Bingen. She married Joseph Shidell in Marathon on June 28, 1941 at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Marathon, Wisconsin. Joseph preceded Margaret in death on April 17, 1990.



A Secular Franciscan neighbor invited Margaret to come and see a fraternity gathering and witness what it means to be Franciscan. Margaret visited the fraternity, and under the guidance of the formation director, Germaine Ritger, she went on to profess at the age of 68. Margaret became a member of St. Anthony's Fraternity, the very same fraternity her mother professed years earlier. After her profession, she committed herself to follow the gospel and the way of St. Francis and St. Clare of Assisi.



Earlier this year, Lori Kieffer, OFS, and St. Anthony Fraternity Minister stopped by and visited with Margaret at her senior home.

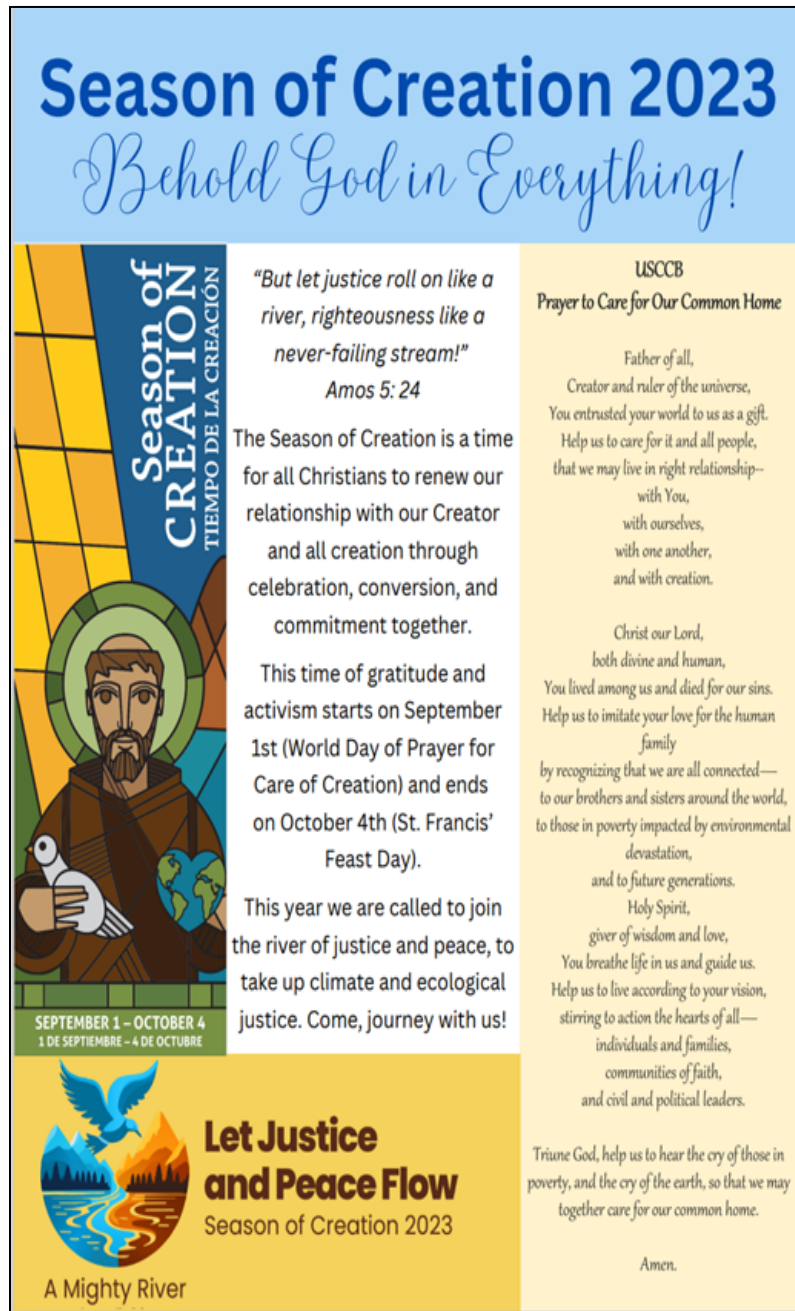
Margaret was employed at Marathon Cheese and Pauly Cheese from 1955 to 1982. She was a member of St. Mary's Church, Parish Council of Catholic Women, and Marathon Auxiliary. Margaret volunteered at St. Anthony Retreat Center, St. Mary church and school, and the Tomah VA Medical Center. She loved cooking and baking, and welcoming lots of gatherings at her home with all of the families. She enjoyed all sports, especially the Green Bay Packers, quilting, crocheting, and playing cards. Survivors include her three children, 11 grandchildren; 20 great-grandchildren; one great-great-grandchild.

Funeral Mass was celebrated August 7, 2023, with Rev. Msgr. Joseph Diermeier presiding. Visitation and funeral mass was held at the St. Mary Catholic Church Marathon, WI. Burial in parish cemetery.



Season of Creation – Let Justice and Peace Flow 2023

by Coletta Cody, OFS
St. Katharine Drexel Fraternity - Beaver Dam, WI



Season of Creation 2023
Behold God in Everything!

Season of CREATION
TIEMPO DE LA CREACIÓN

"But let justice roll on like a river, righteousness like a never-failing stream!"
Amos 5: 24

The Season of Creation is a time for all Christians to renew our relationship with our Creator and all creation through celebration, conversion, and commitment together.

This time of gratitude and activism starts on September 1st (World Day of Prayer for Care of Creation) and ends on October 4th (St. Francis' Feast Day).

This year we are called to join the river of justice and peace, to take up climate and ecological justice. Come, journey with us!

SEPTEMBER 1 – OCTOBER 4
1 DE SEPTIEMBRE – 4 DE OCTUBRE

Let Justice and Peace Flow
Season of Creation 2023

A Mighty River

USCCB
Prayer to Care for Our Common Home

Father of all,
Creator and ruler of the universe,
You entrusted your world to us as a gift.
Help us to care for it and all people,
that we may live in right relationship—
with You,
with ourselves,
with one another,
and with creation.

Christ our Lord,
both divine and human,
You lived among us and died for our sins.
Help us to imitate your love for the human family
by recognizing that we are all connected—
to our brothers and sisters around the world,
to those in poverty impacted by environmental devastation,
and to future generations.

Holy Spirit,
giver of wisdom and love,
You breathe life in us and guide us.
Help us to live according to your vision,
stirring to action the hearts of all—
individuals and families,
communities of faith,
and civil and political leaders.

Triune God, help us to hear the cry of those in poverty, and the cry of the earth, so that we may together care for our common home.

Amen.

The Season of Creation began on September 1st with the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation. It extends through Oct. 4th – the Feast of St. Francis. Pope Francis, in his letter regarding this year's Season of Creation, states: "God wants justice to reign; it is as essential to our life as God's children, made in his likeness, as water is essential for our physical survival." The Pope said that this year's theme (Let Justice and Peace Flow) is inspired by the words of the prophet Amos: "But let justice roll on like a river, righteousness like a never-failing stream." Amos 5:4

St. Katharine Drexel Fraternity in Beaver Dam has chosen to celebrate the Season of Creation by sharing with the parishioners at St Katharine's weekly flyers in the parish bulletin, which focus on climate and ecological justice. This information was made available by the Diocese of San Diego and the Office of Life, Peace and Justice.

Season of Creation cont'd on page 14

A Parish monthly mailing also included information on being good and thankful stewards, by offering suggestions for individuals, families, and communities, on the topic of counteracting the “throwaway culture” as Pope Francis talked about in La Laudato Si.

Our Fraternity’s goal is not only to educate others about the importance of caring for all of God’s creation, but also to introduce them to the OFS. We have introduced a weekly “Franciscan Focus” article in the parish bulletin which we hope to continue after Season of Creation. We supplied the parish decorating committee with an assortment of Franciscan items to use in the seasonal nook in the narthex. And of course, will end the celebration with treats and prayers for our pets and a Pet Blessing on Oct. 3rd.



Franciscan items put on Season of Creation display in the St. Katharine Drexel parish church narthex.

POEM - by Ellen Jennings, OFS - Portiuncula Fraternity, Franklin, WI

PICTURES

Pictures on our wall of life are hung there for all to view. Will they show a loving air by frames shined and new? Or will they be seen in disrepair, dusty, old and worn, showing a life filled with strife that one can only mourn?

Pictures on our wall of life show our attitude - Is it a demand for others’ praises, or one of gratitude? Gratitude to a God of love who fills our life to the brim. Each day, in return our goal is to keep that picture trim.

Trim by cutting away the core of discontent and of greed; a steadfast spirit with our soul is all that God will need to help us show to all who view the pictures on our wall. Someone who has left behind a legacy to all.

The legacy of faithfulness and love and kind concern. Heaped upon the lonely and poor and all those who will turn to us so they may know our Savior’s love which conquers all; and Christ, then, will be reflected in our pictures on the wall.



Welcome Autumn - A Season of Transformation



Autumn Harvest - watercolor by JoAnn Boss, OFS