



*focus*



***Mindfulness of Christ's struggles sustains Sisters' passion for their vital ministry***

*It doesn't happen here. It's cultural. There's nothing I can do about it.*

Dear Friends,

As we joyfully celebrate our 125th year as a congregation, I want to share with all of you in the local area a special opportunity for prayer and fellowship. Members of our international leadership team from Rome and Salvatorian Sisters from our Brazilian and Colombian provinces will be with us for our Continental Meeting of the Americas in September. We will hold a **special Vesper service and reception at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 24** at the Community House, 4311 N. 100th Street in Milwaukee. Come, celebrate with us and meet our international guests. To help us plan the evening, please **RSVP** at 414-466-7414 or email [missionadvancement@salvatoriansisters.org](mailto:missionadvancement@salvatoriansisters.org). I truly hope you can join us!

In the Savior,

*S. Carol Thresher, SDS*  
Sister Carol Thresher, SDS  
Provincial Leader

Those are just three of many misperceptions about the crime of human trafficking. Those misperceptions are missed opportunities, says **Sister Jean Schafer, SDS**, who has been a standard-bearer to abolish this modern-day form of slavery for more than a decade.

In 2001, while serving as the Sisters of the Divine Savior international leader in Rome, Sister Jean guided our global commitment to the plight of enslaved women and children. "Our Sisters could not stand by idly, seeing what was happening to women struggling to find work in Eastern Europe, Africa and Asia. It was obvious they were being duped and exploited, broken and scarred."

In 2003, a year after returning from Rome, Sr. Jean went to California, where several major ports serve as entryways for international trafficking. She launched the *Stop Trafficking!* monthly newsletter, which is sponsored by 62 women religious congregations, the California Province of Jesuits, and California law enforcement

agencies. The e-newsletter provides jolting insights into a complex crime network that exploits women, children and men for labor and sex in the U.S. and around the world.

"It's uncomfortable to learn how complicit we are," says Sr. Jean, "but *Stop Trafficking!* is an invitation to people to do something about it." The newsletter spurs people to action by dispelling misperceptions and raising warning signals of human trafficking situations. Sr. Jean's effort to raise awareness has steadily gained momentum, which is crucial to achieve systemic change, such as state and federal laws that did not exist 12 years ago. In 2005, for example, Sr. Jean testified before the California legislature to pass a statewide Victim's Protection Act. It made human trafficking a felony and survivors eligible for victim services.

**Sister Sheila Novak, SDS** is also based in California, where she founded two coalitions for various agencies to share information and resources to aid trafficking victims. "With major ports of entry for trafficked persons in California, state agencies have paved the way to advocate for victims," Sr. Sheila says.

Sisters Sheila and Jean also speak to church and school groups, civic organizations, and hospital and law enforcement personnel about subtle signs of trafficking activity and how to respond. Their educational program, "Breaking the Snares," has been adapted for Catholic, Protestant and Jewish faith traditions.

Globally, we have Sisters active in women religious networks against human trafficking and exploitation in the Philippines and Europe. In Austria, Germany and Jordan, Salvatorian Sisters minister to trafficking

***Their vital ministry...***



**Sr. Jean Schafer, SDS**, was an honorary chair for the 2013 *Weekend of Prayer to End Slavery & Trafficking*. This national initiative for people of all faiths coincided with *Human Trafficking Awareness Day* on January 11, as declared by U.S. Congress in 2008.

**Sr. Sheila Novak, SDS**, sees herself as planting seeds in her SDS Hope House ministry. "You have to take it on faith—you don't always see what effect you're having on people you serve."



*continued on back page —>*



*When I came across Bishop Untener's reflection "A Step Along the Way," it struck me how perfectly his words characterize our 125 years in mission and ministry. We are deeply grateful for your faith in our Salvatorian Sisters' community, expressed by your gifts of friendship, prayers and financial support. Through those gifts, you sustain us. You give us hope. You are truly faith-filled companions in our apostolic works all over the world.*

— Sister Carol Thresher, SDS

## A Step Along the Way

It helps, now and then, to step back and take a long view. The kingdom is not only beyond our efforts, it is even beyond our vision. We accomplish in our lifetime only a tiny fraction of the magnificent enterprise that is God's work. Nothing we do is complete, which is a way of saying that the Kingdom always lies beyond us.

No statement says all that could be said.  
No prayer fully expresses our faith.  
No confession brings perfection.

No pastoral visit brings wholeness.  
No program accomplishes the Church's mission.  
No set of goals and objectives includes everything.

This is what we are about.

We plant the seeds that one day will grow.  
We water seeds already planted, knowing that they hold future promise.  
We lay foundations that will need further development.

We provide yeast that produces far beyond our capabilities.  
We cannot do everything, and there is a sense of liberation in realizing that. This enables us to do something, and to do it very well.

It may be incomplete, but it is a beginning, a step along the way, an opportunity for the Lord's grace to enter and do the rest.

We may never see the end results, but that is the difference between the master builder and the worker.  
We are workers, not master builders; ministers, not messiahs.  
We are prophets of a future not our own.

—Bishop Ken Untener<sup>†</sup>  
<sup>†</sup>deceased

## Your Gifts Fill Our Hearts

We are truly grateful to generous donors who contributed to the pool fund for the Salvatorian Sisters' CEFORDS Center in Fortaleza, Ceará, Brazil. Many men, women and children benefit from medically prescribed water therapy at CEFORDS, including 13-year-old Felipe, pictured below with his parents. They report that hydrotherapy has greatly improved their son's impaired motor skills and balance associated with cerebral palsy. Sisters of the Divine Savior continue to seek additional funding sources for a new pool to meet the growing need for water therapy among the vulnerable population they serve. Your gifts have laid a firm foundation to make the pool project a reality. ☩



## Just like clockwork...

Many friends share their gifts with the Sisters of the Divine Savior just like clockwork and you can too. Monthly, quarterly, semi-annual or yearly donations can be set up through a bank draft or credit card, and we'll mail you an acknowledgement for each and every one. We know that personal financial situations can change over time, so you can change your preferred giving interval and amount at any time with a just a phone call or email. Contact Lora Rosenbaum at (414) 466-7414 or [rosenbauml@salvatoriansisters.org](mailto:rosenbauml@salvatoriansisters.org).

# MISSION. YESTERDAY, TODAY AND TOMORROW.



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Missioning on  
**CONTINENTS**



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Ministering in  
**COUNTRIES**



**66**  
**WOMEN**  
in Salvatorian Formation

## Pennies from heaven

It almost felt that way, when U.S. Lay Salvatorians shared a gift from a generous donor with the Salvatorian Sisters. Those funds sponsored tuition for 48 children to attend our Salvatorian school in Cebu City, Philippines, and helped Salvatorian Sisters in Sri Lanka buy a van for their home for orphaned children. Our Sisters will use it to take children to medical appointments and to shop for goods needed for the home. The Lay Salvatorians topped off their donation with \$2000 for drought relief in Tanzania,

where local Salvatorian Sisters live and work among the villagers of Masasi.

Since the 1980s, a resurgence of Lay Salvatorian membership and activity has renewed Father Francis Jordan's founding vision for men and women, ordained and lay to serve as equals in evangelizing the world. Lay Salvatorian national director Ken Drake calls such collaboration truly a blessing, saying, "We Salvatorians work together, guided by our passion." ☩

Below: Lay Salvatorians' generous donor's gift affords a van for children at the Salvatorian Sisters home in Mannar, Sri Lanka.



Above: Lay Salvatorians' generous donor's gift sponsors tuition for 48 children attending our Salvatorian school in Cebu City, Philippines.

### Our Mission As Sisters of the Divine Savior

Make known the goodness and kindness of Jesus, Savior of the world, and foster awareness of a loving God among peoples in whatever place and by whatever means the Spirit of God inspires.

As women of faith striving to be given over to the Father and open to all peoples, we collaborate to promote justice and improve quality of life in our world with a preferential option for the poor.

Lora Rosenbaum  
Director of Mission Advancement

Jan Penlesky  
Director of Communications/PR

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# Jubilee 2013

## CELEBRATING THE GIFT

As we rejoice in our 125th founding anniversary, we celebrate the gift of Salvatorian religious life of four Golden Jubilarians (this page) and six Sisters with 395 years of combined vowed service (opposite page).

**Sister Jean Schafer, SDS** (Mary Christopher) witnessed many poignant examples of Salvatorian Sisters' courage and compassion while serving in Rome as international leader for Sisters of the Divine Savior from 1989-2002. She recalls our Italian Sisters, already in their 70s, starting a mission in Albania to restore Catholic faith and provide a livelihood for local women after the fall of Communism. She also tells of local Sisters in the Republic of Congo gathering with village women in the dark of night to mourn the death of an infant during childbirth. Such courage and compassion inspires Sr. Jean today in her anti-human trafficking ministry, the subject of our Page 1 story in this issue. Sr. Jean describes her call to religious life as a "powerful gift" that has offered opportunities to discover and share her talents, help connect diverse people in meaningful ways, and achieve a balance of community, prayer and service.



Nurtured by parents who lived simply and with a deep sense of faith, **Sister Rita Vogelsang, SDS**, (John Mark) sees how her education, religious formation, and life of service have reinforced those values. Her primary ministry of nursing, both in clinic and home settings in rural Southeastern, Ky., was among people whose strong religious spirit helped them cope with realities of unemployment and lack of insurance. For more than 12 years, Sister Rita served with Salesian Ministries in Birmingham, Al. As a parish nurse, organizing a seniors' ministry, working in a food party and helping in an after-school program, Sister Rita advocated for people who struggled with broken families, addiction and poverty. She feels privileged and enriched for having served vulnerable populations, saying, "They know what's important in life and are close to God." She recently returned to Milwaukee and now lives at Hadley Terrace Senior Apartments, a safe, affordable housing complex sponsored by Sisters of the Divine Savior for elderly residents of Milwaukee's central city.



**Sister Mary Evelyn Zimbauer, SDS**, came to know Sisters of the Divine Savior as teachers at Holy Name School, growing up in Wausau, Wis. Ultimately, it was nursing rather than teaching that dovetailed with her call to religious life. "Nursing is part of who I am along with being a Salvatorian Sister," Sr. Mary Evelyn says. "My desire to help people and advocate for others is engrained." For more than 20 years, Sr. Mary Evelyn has worked at Community Memorial Hospital in Menomonee Falls, Wis. In recent years she has served in the day surgery and recovery areas. She readily credits tremendous team spirit among her colleagues for the joy and fulfillment she derives from nursing. Sr. Mary Evelyn's cancer diagnosis in 2005 strengthened the compassion and empathy she brings to her ministry. She says patients don't need to hear her story, but her own bout with serious illness, treatment and its lasting effects makes her more attuned to her patient's needs.



Educator first. Music lover always. And now, a member of the Sisters of the Divine Savior Generalate in Rome. Since her term began in February 2013, **Sister Marion Etzel, SDS**, has experienced many newfound challenges serving as one of four General Councilors and as General Secretary for the SDS international leadership team. She most recently ministered on the New Membership Team and previously served two terms as Provincial Leader for the North American Province. Taught by Salvatorian Sisters in grade school and early music lessons, S. Marion felt their influence in her call to religious life and her life's work in the classroom. With a music degree in violin performance, and a master's degree and doctorate in music education, S. Marion spent nearly 40 years as an educator. She specialized in training music teachers for schools in urban settings.

## SEND YOUR JUBILEE GREETINGS

to any of our Sisters pictured here c/o:

Mission Advancement Office  
SDS Community House  
4311 N 100th Street  
Milwaukee, WI 53222

Or:  
[missionadvancement@salvatoriansisters.org](mailto:missionadvancement@salvatoriansisters.org)

**Sister Clarice Steinfeldt, SDS**, came to know Salvatorian Sisters at St. Mary's Nursing School in Wausau, Wis. She soon diverged from nursing to teaching, but not her path to join the religious community. Back in her Wisconsin home Diocese of La Crosse, she shared her love for art with Holy Name elementary school students in Wausau for 11 years. Sr. Clarice was a teacher and principal at Mother of Good Counsel and St. Pius X parish schools in Milwaukee and St. Mary's School in Landover Hills, Md. She also served as principal at Divine Savior High School in Milwaukee. Sr. Clarice sums up her longtime education ministry, saying "Wherever I was, I loved it." Today, Sr. Clarice is best known for her paper cuttings, which she often frames or fashions into greeting cards and ornaments at the Gallery of the Sisters of the Divine Savior in Milwaukee.



Ministering from the moment of birth, to the dying and everything in between, **Sister Maryann Engelhardt, SDS**, (Joseph Marie) embraces the physical, mental and spiritual dimensions of health and wellness. Sr. Maryann found her lifelong nursing profession and healing ministry after graduating from Divine Savior High School in Milwaukee. She attended St. Mary's School of Nursing in Wausau, Wis., later receiving her bachelor's degree in nursing from St. Louis University. Sr. Maryann practiced nursing for 40 years in Wausau, the Madison, Wis. area and Phoenix, Az. In Arizona, she earned her master's degree in community mental health, and worked in hospital psychiatric departments and community mental health programs. Sr. Maryann was a member of Wausau Hospitals' first board of directors, and also served six years in provincial leadership for Sisters of the Divine Savior. Today, she uses her gift to support Salvatorian Sisters facing urgent or serious health care issues.



**Sister Marilyn Wegener, SDS**, recalls many childhood lessons about sharing and hard work growing up on an Illinois dairy farm. Her teachers at St. Peter School in the Chicago Archdiocese were Salvatorian Sisters, as were three maternal aunts. Sister Marilyn says, "I guess I got prayed into the community through them." She graduated from Milwaukee's Alverno College and was an elementary school teacher in Wisconsin for 38 years. She also taught in Tucson, Ariz. where she cared for her father. When she returned to Milwaukee, Sr. Marilyn coordinated care for retired Sisters at Salvatorian Heights and ministered to elderly adults in their homes. While a home health aide, she also tutored English as a Second Language (ESL) for the Milwaukee Achiever Program. Grateful for her years in active ministry, Sr. Marilyn now lives at Salvatorian Sisters Residence and ministers in the SDS Apostolate of Prayer.



When Communists took over mainland China in 1949, **Sister Malia Kao, SDS** came to the U.S., just a year after making her first vows. Leaving her homeland was hard, but S. Malia found support in the small group of Salvatorian Sisters who emigrated together. In 1952, S. Malia went to help out for eight days at St. Savior Hospital in Portage, Wis. It turned into nine years of service, eventually as a certified lab technician. She has fond memories of being warmly welcomed in Portage by our Sisters and the medical staff. After becoming an American citizen in 1961, S. Malia was asked to serve in Formosa, now Taiwan. Knowing the language enabled her to jump right into pastoral work, home visiting and catechizing. Three years later, she was overseeing kindergarten programs at five Salvatorian parishes there, a ministry that lasted nearly 30 years. After an active and generous life of service, S. Malia returned to the U.S. in 1996. Today she is cared for on a nursing unit at St. Anne's Salvatorian Campus in Milwaukee.



**Sister Bernadette Kline, SDS**, went from early education in a two-room school in rural Upper Michigan to earning a bachelor's degree in history and sociology at Mount Mary College in Milwaukee. She taught at Wisconsin elementary schools in Green Bay, Madison and Milwaukee dioceses, and then helped open a parochial school in Huntsville, Ala. In 1957, foreign mission service took Sr. Bernadette to Tanzania, England, Israel, and Rome. Upon returning to Wisconsin, Sr. Bernadette taught social studies at Newman High School in Wausau and Divine Savior High School in Milwaukee. After earning a master's degree in theology in 1982, she served in pastoral ministry in Wisconsin and Illinois. Now ministering as a vigil keeper, Sr. Bernadette supports residents in their final hours of life at St. Anne Salvatorian Campus in Milwaukee.



**Sister Georgene Faust, SDS**, began teaching at St. Paul School in Bloomer, Wis. in 1945, laying the foundation for lifelong ministry in education and school administration. She earned a bachelor's and master's degree from Marquette University, and credits a lifetime of "walking everywhere" for the youthful energy level that keeps her sharing her love for learning. Sr. Georgene works full time as an instructor at Rio Salado College in Phoenix, Az., preparing adults with special needs for GEDs and job training. She uses the word "miraculous" to describe how education can change attitudes and build self-esteem in her students. Sr. Georgene says, "Growth, be it mental, physical or spiritual, is definitely not restricted by age!"

# Woman of Faith Inspires Others to Extend Christ's Hand

Growing up in a small-town suburb of New York City, Ann Maguire and her seven siblings witnessed realities of urban life. For their neighborhood 4-H Club, which focused on community service rather than rural life, the Maguire kids performed skits, songs and dance routines at a nearby homeless shelter. Known as "Camp LaGuardia," the former women's prison owned by New York City's Department of Social Service housed up to 1,000 homeless men. "We really looked forward to those shows," Ann recalls with a laugh. She now knows visits to Camp LaGuardia were her mom's way to reveal the joy in serving others. "These were men dealing with alcoholism and mental illness," Ann says, "but even as kids, we saw in their smiles and applause what our visits meant to them."

Today, the 4-H motto "Head, Heart, Hands and Health" epitomizes Dr. Ann Maguire's life. She has a genuine comfort level with society's outcasts that many people never find. Dr. Maguire is not afraid to hold a hand, look

right into the eyes of a homeless patient and ask, "What can I do for you?" She knows she can't just say, "Make healthier food choices" to a patient with Type II Diabetes living miles from a supermarket without a car. In her internal medicine practice, Ann strives to treat the whole person and knows there's often so much more than meets the eye. She takes that lesson into Medical College of Wisconsin classrooms, teaching students how seemingly unrelated needs affect health and wellness.

Nominating Ann for the 2013 Woman of Faith Award, Michelle Schmit describes her friend as a "fierce advocate for the poor." She might have been thinking of the time Dr. Maguire's uninsured patient seeking pain relief was found to have a brain tumor. Ann knew her patient's best chance for effective treatment depended on getting insurance coverage, and she did everything in her power to make it happen.

Colleague Barbara Horner-Ibler calls Ann a bridge builder who takes to heart God's call for justice to the poor. Barbara says,

"Centeredness in her faith gives Ann courage, strength and focus to be that bridge" between individuals, institutions and community agencies to bring health and wholeness to people she serves.



Dr. Ann Maguire

Beyond Ann's personal commitment, she models Christ-like service to her two sons, her medical students and even professional colleagues. Mary Jo Lo says of her friend, "Ann sees service to others as an opportunity to quietly demonstrate a humble faith in God. Her faith can be heard in casual conversations, and her small acts of kindness are a window into her heart and faith." Mary Jo says one or the other of Ann's sons is often by her side, learning by example. "She's always guiding, inspiring and gently nudging those around her to see value, positive spirit and hope in all."

As a physician and mentor, Dr. Maguire serves Milwaukee's most vulnerable populations--people living in poverty, homeless military vets with mental illness, women released from prison trying to make a fresh start. "She embodies faith in God and His work, as she lives and works in our community," says Mary Jo.

Ann Maguire's greatest gift to patients, colleagues, students, family and friends just might be a life so intimately linked to faith-inspired service that it no longer seems extraordinary. ☩



Please join us to honor  
**Ann M. Maguire, M.D.**  
Clinical Associate Professor of Medicine,  
Medical College of Wisconsin

for building bridges to health and wholeness,  
through faith-inspired, person-centered care.

**Thursday, October 10, 2013 • 7:00 p.m.**  
SDS Community House • 4311 North 100th Street, Milwaukee

If you wish to attend this free event, please reply by October 4 to  
(414) 466-7414 or [missionadvancement@salvatoriansisters.org](mailto:missionadvancement@salvatoriansisters.org).

## *Their vital ministry* continued from page 1

victims in shelters. Sisters of the Divine Savior are among 17 Catholic Sisters' congregations who belong to UNANIMA International, a non-governmental organization (NGO) based at United Nations headquarters in New York. UNANIMA's work for justice through systemic change includes providing women with opportunities to earn a living wage to avoid lures into trafficking traps.

Five years ago, Sisters Sheila and Jean established SDS Hope House, Inc. in

California. Sponsored by our North American Province, SDS Hope House offers safe transitional housing for women who are ready to begin their journey of healing from situations of enslavement. The Sisters guide Hope House residents as they strive to regain self-esteem and self-reliance, but often, it's an uphill path. Sister Sheila looks to the life of Christ for a humbling perspective on their

ministry to help women become whole again.

"In the end, Jesus really seems like a failure," Sister Sheila says. "Crowds walked away from him, his apostles abandoned him, a friend betrayed him, and Jewish leaders condemned him to death out of jealousy. So then I ask myself, 'Who is greater than their master? Who am I to expect an easy path?'" ☩

**Stop Trafficking! newsletter online: [www.stopenlavement.org/index.html](http://www.stopenlavement.org/index.html)**  
**SDS Hope House website: [www.stopenlavement.org/sdshopehouse.html](http://www.stopenlavement.org/sdshopehouse.html)**

