

TidBytes for March 2020

From Jeanie in Des Moines

IA. Representative Cindy Axne along with Iowa's other two women Representatives scored a 100% voting record in agreement with NETWORK. In recognition of their social justice votes all three were awarded a certificate from NETWORK. Srs. Elaine and Jeanie Hagedorn were asked by NETWORK to present the certificate of appreciation to Axne at a public informal gathering in Des Moines at the end of February. A group of about 50 including Sr. Cathy Talarico were also on hand to hear and affirm our Representative's efforts.

The DM Intentional Eucharistic Community (DMIEC) serves the evening meal at the Central Iowa Shelter and Services several times a year. The Hagedorn sisters have been joining in this service and drafted several cousins as well.

The Hagedorns were also prayer leaders for the DMIEC Sunday service for the second Sunday of Lent. They chose to use the day's Gospel to focus on the Transfiguration: Jesus' encouraging his disciples to take up our cross and follow him. That cross would include "coming down the mountain" to serve the needy, to suffer and die, but would be rewarded with sharing in his resurrection.

Sister Justine Denning joined other CHMs for retreat at Humility Center in March.

Since everyone is "social distancing" because of the Coronavirus the DM sisters are making an effort to call to our CHMs at Bishop Drumm to assure them of our thoughts, prayers and loving support. The CHM staff who are also barred from BD, are doing likewise. Even though we cannot visit in person, the sisters and we have enjoyed our phone visits. Sister Virginia (Marita) who even entertained Jeanie and Elaine by singing "Montana" and her contagious laugh.

FROM Evalee Mickey, CHM Associate, in Coralville:

In February, I was in San Antonio for the fourth year at Father Rolheiser's retreat on Prayer. It is always a treat to be there and, see people I know and, meeting new people. I and others were to report at our parish's Spring retreat in April, now cancelled.

From Kathryn O'Meara in Virginia

- Attended a local Democratic caucus - voted on Super Tuesday.
- Our Women's study group in parish now studying Fulton Sheehan's, Way to Inner Peace.
- We had a tour of the African American Museum in D.C. (very well done).
- I am presenting to a book club: Lafayette in the Somewhat United States.
- Getting more practice at "Rummykub."
- Otherwise I am fine & busy (thankfully)

From Mary Rehmann at HMC

The annual retreat with Father Jim Bergin, SVD, had good reviews. Sisters appreciated the 30-minute presentations on the theme “Keeping in Touch...with God, with ourselves, with each other.” with Scripture references.

New security doors have been installed on the front entrance to Humility of Mary Center. Sisters and others have been informed of their new code numbers.

Some sisters watched the Biden/Bernie debate before the South Carolina primary.

We watched film “The Trip to Bountiful” with Cicely Tyson.
Due to “sheltering in place”, more frequent movies are planned.
Overnight staff-person, Deb Williams, gave us a big box of DVDs for this purpose.

The Metropolitan Opera website (www.metopera.org) is streaming the “Live in HD” operas “around the clock”. The schedule is there, subtitles are easy to read, and you see more than those in a theatre.

We have a new archivist, Amy Yuncker-McCoy, and her “distinguishing mark” is the “wearing of hats” and here is her description of how it came to be!

“In my previous job, there was a spotlight directly over the library reference desk, and so all the librarians began to wear hats. Two of us had chronic migraine issues and were used to wearing them when we went out, but for work, we started wearing more “fun” ones. Somewhere along the line, I gained a reputation, and soon even people I barely knew were giving me hats from their closets that they never wore. I prefer a cloche above all others; it works with my face shape and protects my peripheral vision from glare. But I also branch out into pageboy, derby, military, and occasionally a cowboy hat just for laughs. Alas, nothing with feathers, because my cat would eat them. I have dabbled in millinery, but only in rigid forms, such as my husband’s cartoon-kitten-encrusted top hat. Fun fact: it was in a monthly visit to a local antique store to check their new hat acquisitions that I found my wedding dress!

And from news from former HMC resident Sr. Candida Massabo now in San Diego:

Following Covid-19 protocol, she “covers up completely” when seeing patients in her social work job in a San Diego hospital. Over her habit she wears a protective gown, mask, goggles and gloves, changing completely and washing hands when going to another patient. She really misses Davenport, especially St. Joseph’s court and Vander Veer Park, as she lives in the city. She would like to visit before going home for a visit to Tanzania at Christmas time.

NON-EVENTS: The planned associate/sister gathering to view “The Invisible Class” about homelessness--cancelled. Opening events on April 9, for celebrating the 30th anniversary of CHM ministry to homeless are on hold. This film was to be shown at the Figge Museum.

Directory updates:

Amy Yuncker-McCoy. Extension 339, amyym@chmiowa.org.
Sister Marcia’s extension is now 403.