

TidBytes – August 2020

CHM internal community news to CHM sisters, associates, and staff

We invite anyone interested in editing the internal community news (*TidBytes*) for the monthly mailing to please let Sr. Mary Ann know of your interest. Thank you to Kelly for editing this month's mailing. S. Mary Ann

From Des Moines – Sr. Jeanie Hagedorn

In these days of continued quarantine Sisters Elaine and Jeanie Hagedorn have enjoyed the many opportunities for “continuing education”, daily Mass and retreats on Zoom. These included a presentation on the 75th anniversary of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombings, focusing on preventing future use of nuclear weapons. Prayer with Mary Magdalen on her feast day (by Future Church); and a powerful webinar on the negative influence of “Christian Zionism” in international policies. Retreat experiences included OLPR with Diane Prichard on “Finding Faith” and a five day Zoom retreat sponsored by the CSJs in LaGrange. That retreat was led by author and pastor Mark Burrows who used poetry and our own life experiences to lead us into beautiful reflections on the gift of Wonder.

This month the Hagedorn sisters also served as the prayer leaders for the Des Moines Intentional Eucharistic Community via Zoom. The virtual service each Sunday during the pandemic often includes guests and friends who are always welcome. Some Dubuque OSFs have been joining the regular 65-80 DMIEC community members.

These weeks, of course, are filled with anticipation of the upcoming Presidential and Congressional Elections. In addition to making sure everyone sends in our requests for an absentee ballot we need to remind each other to return the ballots soon after receiving them in early October. This is a critical election and every vote is SO important! Nuns on the Bus will be doing a Virtual Ride to get out the vote; let's do our part by encouraging family, friends and colleagues to be sure to VOTE.

From S. Kathryn O'Meara

“Not much activity here. Still pretty much in quarantine. Not much news!”

From S. Mary Rehmman

Movies this month: “Singing in the Rain” was very popular and another movie was “Yesterday.” HMC Elevator stories: All celebrated the approval of elevator servicing by the inspector on Monday morning, August 10. CHMs had the noon meal together before the severe wind storm – a derecho – struck while many sisters were still in the dining room. With power out, some on walkers were driven upstairs and ate again in the east wing dining area that evening meal and the next morning. Just minutes before we concluded the vigil service for Sr. Lucille later in the morning, it was like “sunrise” when the lights came on again. Some said Lucille was playing

tricks on us. The vigil service could not be shared on ZOOM, and the portable microphone did not last very long.

Printed Tributes for deceased sisters are: 1) at HMC: on the shelf below the big Webster dictionary in the Community Room, at the far-right end in a 3-ring binder, alphabetically by last name; 2) at www.chmiowa.org under “sister stories” deceased, by date of death. That same shelf in the Community room has many other CHM historical documents. Shelves below in the cabinet have more books of historical interest to the community.

For the feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Magnificat Chapel was decorated with the beautiful statue of Mary, bordered by the pair of tall, gold candlesticks that had been brought from France when the original sisters came to America. They were given to us by the HM sisters in 2014, at the time of celebrating the 150th anniversary of coming to the United States.

Two more Vietnamese sisters were welcomed as residents at Humility of Mary Center. Srs. Hoa and Nguyet join Srs. Huyen and Nuong attending Scott Community College, the latter traveling to Clinton for LPN classes. They all wear masks, eat at a distance from the other HMC residents in the dining room, and come in and out through back entrances.

CHMs watched the four nights of the Democratic Convention in the Community Room, moving among cable and PBS channels throughout the evenings. They applauded the inspiring and engaging format, and the number of women speakers throughout the week. All gave high scores especially to the Obamas. Some have returned absentee ballot applications. There will be CHMs watching the Republican convention too.

CHMs are preparing for the annual assembly, this year shared virtually with sisters and associates near and far. The Associate Welcoming Service begins the event on Thursday, August 27, and it concludes with Jubilees celebrated on Sunday, August 30.

Directory Revisions

Sr. Regina Mary Cratty: extension 163

Paula Evitts: 600 13th Ave S, Apt 221; Great Falls, MT 59405-4338; 406-727-3620; same email

Marilyn Sersig: 3320 Spring St.; Davenport, IA 52807-3744

Elizabeth Wallace: 2114 Emma Lane Unit C; Salida, CO 81201-9274

Deaths

Sister Marie Vittetoe – July 31, 2020

Sister Lucille Feehan – August 4, 2020

Associate Gertrude Vogel – August 11, 2020