



Living in Harmony With Creation

by Lisa Martin
CHM Communications Director

This is the second in a four-part series focusing on the priorities identified by CHM at their Fall 2021 General Assembly. This article focuses on living in harmony with creation.

One of the most powerful arguments missing from the environmentalist's case is *reverence for what simply is*. Centuries before the term "carbon footprint" came into our collective consciousness, communities of women religious were caring for Earth and humankind with the attitude and respect for what "simply is" that is necessary for the sustainability that many believe to be threatened.

For over 150 years sisters have been focused on protecting the diversity

of nature—doing what was naturally the right thing to do even before the world climate crisis alarm went off.

Today, evidence of this dedication to creation can be found at Our Lady of the Prairie Retreat and at the Humility of Mary Center, where hybrid cars, recycling centers, an electric charging station, bee hives, organic gardening, composting, rainbarrels, solar panels, changes in investment choices and environmental lobbying are common place.

In 2017 CHMs formalized a Land Ethic and principles of Sustainability which can be found at chmiowa.org. The Land Ethic supports the CHM mission of "...caring for the poor, the powerless and Earth itself." It affirms, as a matter of justice, the prophetic call to ecological sustainability and nonviolence in relationships.

Our Lady of the Prairie Retreat has always been a focus of CHMs to protect, restore and care for the land. To that end, not long after the Land Ethic was adopted, the sisters dedicated approximately 83 acres of former prairie property as a conservation easement—an agreement between CHMs and the Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation which is recorded in the local land records and becomes a chain of title for property. CHMs rejoice that this portion of land is forever preserved in its natural, scenic, forested and open-space condition for the benefit of Earth and future generations.

The sisters are also involved in other ways such as:

- A commitment in 2014 to transition to renewable energy sources

-Creation continued on page 3

Photo: View of Our Lady of the Prairie Retreat

Summer 2022

Volume 20 Issue 2

“The Flame” is published three times a year for the Congregation of the Humility of Mary and friends.

Our Mission: We, the members of the Congregation of the Humility of Mary, call one another to live the Gospel with simplicity and joy following the example of Mary.

Like our founders, we strive to be attentive to the call of the Spirit in the signs of our times, especially the needs of the poor and the powerless.

We commit ourselves as individuals and as a congregation to work for justice within the human family and to care for Earth itself.



Sr. Johanna Rickl with the new electric car charging station at Humility of Mary Center in Davenport, Iowa.

Dear Friends,

What a whirlwind we’ve experienced, having just completed our first in-person all-community gathering in three years! It was wonderful being together and having the bonds of a loving community strengthened by personal witness, wisdom-sharing and opportunities to delight in each other’s presence. Our celebrations marked sorrows and joys and reaffirmed our abiding trust in the God who walks with us through all circumstances and persists in loving each of us unconditionally.

Our conversations about commitment to the goals in the Laudato Si` Action Platform raised up many ideas, suggestions and challenges. We CHMs think of ourselves as very committed to care of Earth and this issue of “the Flame” expresses ways that we live out that commitment.

However, I believe the urgency of our climate crisis hasn’t yet settled into me at a level that is needed. I think all of us will have to ratchet up the sacrifices we are willing to make. I know I have a long way to go to come closer to the ideal presented by St. Elizabeth Seton: “Live simply so that others may simply live.” We who are so privileged must reach deep to call forth the love and compassion required to respond with greater courage to the cry of a suffering Earth.

Thank you for your support as we seek to collaborate with you in saving our planet home and all its inhabitants.

Blessings,

*Sister Johanna Rickl
CHM President*

“You are called to care for creation not only as responsible citizens, but also as followers of Christ!”

-Pope Francis

Congregation of the Humility of Mary

820 W. Central Park Avenue
Davenport, IA 52804-1900
563/323-9466
sisters@chmiowa.org
www.chmiowa.org

Co-Editors:
Lisa Martin
Joyce Bieber

The editors reserve the right to make all editorial decisions. Reproduction of The Flame in whole or part is prohibited without permission.

-Creation continued from page 1

- Focus on the goals of Pope Francis’ 2015 encyclical Laudato Si’ – On the Care of Our Common Home
- Endorsement of the U.N. Earth Charter
- Support of Living Lands and Waters river clean-up

The Congregation of the Humility of Mary is committed to these Principles of Sustainability:

- Recognize and honor the interdependence of all life communities. Be conscious of connections.
- Make choices that express our commitment to simple living and ecological sustainability. Be serious about simplicity and sustainability.
- Maximize the use of natural, renewable energies and minimize waste. Follow Earth’s waste-less ways.

- Promote ecojustice and ethical responsibility. Live in right relationships.

Sr. Johanna Rickl’s words ring true, “Each of us is part of the web of life and not separate from it. We do not exist in isolation but are in relationship with all life on Earth. From the perspective of the Christian Gospel, all humans are children of the same Creator, brothers and sisters equal in worth and loved into existence by a God who is Love. Our stewardship of God’s creation is a moral action that protects our children and grandchildren and vulnerable people everywhere. Pope Francis asks a foundational question: ‘What kind of world do we want to leave to those who come after us, to children who are now growing up?’”

Jubilee 2022

The Sisters of the Congregation of the Humility of Mary are motivated by compassion and justice and give themselves wholeheartedly wherever the needs are greatest. The following sisters and associates are celebrating their 2022 Jubilees. Cards may be sent in care of the sister, to Humility of Mary Center, 820 W. Central Park Ave., Davenport, IA 52804. Read more about our Jubilarians in the Sister Stories section at www.chmiowa.org.



Sr. Roberta Brich
70 years



Sr. Joan LeBeau
70 years



Sr. Caridad Inda
70 years



Sr. Margaretha Fitzgerald
60 years



Sr. Sue Sellers
60 years



CHM Assoc. Diana Gray
25 years



CHM Assoc. Evalee Mickey
25 years

“We are deeply grateful for sisters, associates, family and friends who have accompanied us on our journey into Jubilee. May God continue to bless all with a spirit of humility, simplicity and joy as the future unfolds before us.”

Upcoming Prairie Retreats

August 3 | Mass on the Prairie
 August 3 | Discovering Boundless Compassion
 August 5-7 | 12 Step Centering Prayer Retreat
 August 10 | Yoga
 August 15 | When the Well Runs Dry
 August 18 | ONLINE: "One River, Many Wells"
 August 19 | Qigong for Self-Care
 August 20 | Butterfly Gardening in Iowa
 August 24 | The Time is Now! Writers' Workshop
 August 27 | Growing YOUR Intuition
 August 31 | Servant Leadership
 Sept 7 | Mass on the Prairie
 Sept 7 | Discovering Boundless Compassion
 Sept 8 | Sourdough 101
 Sept 9 | Called to be Creative
 Sept 15 | ONLINE: "The Coming of the Cosmic Christ"
 Sept 15 | Yoga
 Sept 17 | ONLINE: "Spirituality and Justice"
 Sept 22 | Forest Bathing and the Fall Equinox
 Sept 22 | ONLINE: Group Spiritual Direction
 Sept 24 | PrairieFest
 Sept 28 | Love in Action Alongside Immigrants & Refugees
 Sept 28 | The Time is Now! Beginning Writers' Workshop
 Sept 30 | The Native American Journey
 Oct 5 | Mass on the Prairie
 Oct 5 | Discovering Boundless Compassion
 Oct 6 | Where is Human Dignity in Racism?
 Oct 10-12 | Unity: Assembling the Pieces of the Puzzle
 Oct 13 | ONLINE: Group Spiritual Direction
 Oct 13 | Yoga
 Oct 14 | Imagination Unbinds Hope
 Oct 15 | Photography for Beginners
 Oct 17 | Words are Powerful: Be Mindful of How You Speak
 Oct 20 | ONLINE: "Original Blessing"
 Oct 26 | The Time is Now! Writers' Workshop
 Oct 29 | Yoga - Bring Your Body and Mind Back to Balance

Mark Your Calendar!



Saturday, September 24, 2022
11:00 am - 4:00 pm
Our Lady of the Prairie Retreat
2665 145th Avenue - Wheatland, Iowa
FREE ADMISSION

Join us for a day of music and family fun at PrairieFest! Pack a picnic or enjoy Smokin' Butt BBQ available for purchase. Take a stroll around the Prairie's beautiful grounds including a labyrinth, gardens, The Cosmic Walk, nature pond, prairie fields, timber, trails and retreat center.

With Live Music all Day!
 Dwayne Hodges - Gospel/Spiritual
 Wes Wells - Americana/Folk
 Angela Meyer - Country Western
 Troy Troftgruben Band - Folk/Rock
 Charlotte Blu - Contemporary Pop/Soul
 Levi Craft - Classic/Rock
 Quarter Moon Tin Snips - Bluegrass

563-374-1092 • theprairieretreat.org

Reasons to Attend a Retreat

- Hear God's voice in your life
- Discover new ways to worship and pray
 - Find strength and inspiration
 - Take a spiritual journey
- Develop a stronger connection to you
 - Review your priorities
 - Seek guidance
 - Our retreats are affordable

(ask about our scholarship opportunities)

Honor and Remember

The Congregation of the Humility of Mary is grateful for the donations received in memory or honor of loved ones between January and May 2022. CHMs remember these individuals in our daily prayers and Masses.

In honor of:

Sr. Miriam Anstey, CHM

Donor: Dr. Eleanor Anstey

Sr. Rachel Beeson, CHM

Donor: Dick and Phyllis Cacciatore

All CHMs

Donors: Mary Ohm

Janet Walther

CHMs who worked at Marycrest

Donors: Dolores Nanninga

Nancy Stipp

CHMs who taught at Ottumwa Heights

Donor: Veronica Migatz

Sr. Marcia Eckerman, CHM

Donor: Jeffrey and Crista Ashcraft

The Glory of God

Donor: John and Kathy Prochaska

Roxanne Gray

Donor: Lisa Schwarz

Good Health

Donor: James and Marcia Strieck

Mary Jo Henneberry

Donor: Sr. Kathleen Henneberry, CHM

Sr. Kathleen Henneberry, CHM

Donor: Becky Pracht

Sr. Joann Kuebrich, CHM

Donors: Jeffrey and Crista Ashcraft

Patrick Henry

James Quinn

Ed and Helen Lammers family

Donor: Mary Kay Lammers

Personal Intentions

Donor: Sr. Judith Carrara, CHM

Margaret Peters

Donor: Michael and Loretta Peters

Sr. Cathleen Real, CHM

Donor: Margaret Maher

Sr. Mary Rehmman, CHM

Donor: Joanne Griesbach

Sr. Dolores Schuh, CHM

Donors: Patrick Henry

Deanna Kern Ludwin

Sr. Sue Sellers, CHM

Donor: Carole Belisle

Sr. Mary Bea Snyder, CHM

Donor: Joann O'Brien

Wedding Anniversary

Donor: Marion Henneberry

In memory of:

Betty and Maurice Albrecht

Donor: Susan Albrecht-Felt

Paul Allen

Donor: James Block

Dick and Alice Anstey

Donor: Barbara Hoerner

Jim Belisle

Donor: Carole Belisle

Sr. Kevin Bissell, CHM

Donor: Barbara Ahearne

Sr. Hugh Brady, CHM

Donor: Ellen Hines

Charles Brogan

Donor: Mary Brogan

Carbonell family members

Donor: Columba Carbonell



After three years, Sr. Joann Kuebrich, Associate Phyllis Ammeter, Sr. Jeanie Hagedorn and Sr. Elaine Hagedorn were happy to be together again during the CHM Annual Assembly.

CHMs who taught at Great Falls Central

Donor: Fr. William Cawley

CHMs who taught at St. Joseph's in Ottumwa

Donor: Susan Bay

CHMs who taught at St. Theresa's in Des Moines

Donor: Michael and Candace Conlan

Jennifer Colarusso

Donor: Helen M. Delacluyse

Margaret Ann Comito

Donor: Joseph Comito

Sr. Frances Comito, CHM

Donor: Joseph Comito

Sr. Marcia Costello, CHM

Donor: Cheryl and Emily Hays

Cathy Dale

Donor: Elizabeth Bradley

Dick Daters

Donor: Jo Ann Daters

Mary Loretta Davis

Donor: Sr. Kathleen Henneberry, CHM

Lawrence R. Dawson

Donor: Mary Ann Dawson

Larry and Mary Ann Denning

Donors: Sr. Miriam Ehrhardt, CHM

Sr. Kathleen Henneberry, CHM

Anita Hunold

Helen Stajcar

Lawrence and Cecelia Denning

Donor: Sr. Justine Denning, CHM

Sr. Donna Donovan, CHM

Donor: Robert and Joanne Heise

Michael L. Duffy

Donors: John and Nancy Danico

Gail Votroubek

Fr. Daniel Durken

Donor: Sr. Dolores Schuh, CHM

Terry Edens

Donor: Kathryn Edens

Sr. Lucille Feehan, CHM

Donor: Claudia Scharf

Sr. Margaret Fines, BVM

Donor: Frank Vito

Sr. Marie Finnegan, CHM

Donor: Dan and Julie Swick

Srs. Rita Lenaghan and Marie Finnegan, CHM

Donor: Mary Tracy

Cornelius and Dolores Fischer

Donor: John and Mary Fischer

Sr. Corrine Foley, CHM

Donor: Dick and Phyllis Cacciatore

Sr. Mary Ellen Freeman, CHM

Donor: James Freeman

Deceased members of the Galey family

Donor: Carol Galey

Sr. Toni Geiger, CHM

Donor: John and Kathy Prochaska

Marie and Joseph Gregorich

Donor: Nancy Jebsen

Debbie Gripp

Donor: Michael Gripp

Charles Hagner

Donor: Rita Hagner

Sr. Kathleen Hanley, CHM

Donors: Barbara Bruski

Claudia Scharf

Bernard Herber

Donor: Jean Herber

James Loftus Hesse

Donor: Kathleen Hesse

Fr. David Hitch

Donor: Michael Hitch

Carl and Bertilla Hogendorn

Donor: Norman and Jo Rae Peiffer

Gordon Horras

Donor: Sheila Horras

Marjorie Hult

Donors: Tom and Stephanie Hull

Eloise Hult

Fred L. Hutton

Donor: Davie Hutton

Mary "Nicky" Irving

Donor: Jerry Irving

Eugene Jebsen

Donor: Nancy Jebsen

Jim Jensen

Donor: Sr. Joann Kuebrich, CHM

Sr. Esther Jordan, CHM

Donors: Lenore Clark

Jack Gilroy

-in memory of continued

Sr. Ramona Kaalberg, CHM

Donors: Dick and Phyllis Cacciatore
Joseph Coco
Gayle and Carol Kaalberg
Phil Krueger
Sally Smith
Mary Jane Vens
David Werthmann

David W. Kendall

Donor: Barb Kendall

Sr. Barbara Kopel, CHM

Donors: Bonita Dineen
Claudia Scharf

Sr. Marilyn Kraus, CHM

Donor: Dan Kraus

Alice and Charlie Lasack

Donors: Sr. Kathleen Henneberry, CHM

Sr. Joann Kuebrich, CHM

Mary and Paul Lasack

Donor: Sr. Kathleen Henneberry, CHM

Bette Limpus

Donor: Sr. Claudellen Pentecost, CHM

Jean and Myrna Linnenkamp

Donor: Don Linnenkamp

Ray and Marge Linnenkamp

Donor: Donna Fiems

Sr. Vincent Marie Luttrell, CHM

Donor: William and Mary Kay Zeter

Sr. Karen Macksey, CHM

Donor: John Moreland, Jr.

Sr. Leona Mary Manning, CHM

Donors: Tom and Mary Manning
Judy Quade-Anderson

Sr. Maria Luisa Marchello, CHM

Donor: Katherine Marchello

Sr. Joanne Mauro, CHM

Donor: Frank Vito

Sr. Veronica McAndrews, CHM

Donor: Judith Marlin

Sr. Gretchen McKean, CHM

Donor: Rita Louviere

Hallie McNamara

Donor: Joan Marie Resnick

Doris Bohr Miller

Donor: Judy Sieren

Rex Miller

Donor: Patricia Miller

Sr. Miriam Clare Miller, CHM

Donors: Myles and Patricia Miller

Anita Sasaki

Miller family

Donor: Patricia Miller

Mary Rose Costello Mooney

Donor: Joan Marie Resnick & Frank Wessling

Sr. Mae Murphy, CHM

Donor: Marguerite Joyce Murphy

Frankie J. Nekola

Donor: Marce Nekola

Christine L. Norton

Donor: Michael Norton

Wanda Olson

Donors: Len and Lory Cockman

Brian and Theresa Doran

Sara Duffy

John and Jill Guenther

Janet Love

Linda Molyneux

George and Mary Pitcher

Lori and Scott Rochau

Sr. St. Jude O'Neill, CHM

Donor: Mae Marie Heinje

Sr. Luz Maria Orozco, CHM

Donors: Michael and Hedy Hustedde

Claudia Scharf

Mary Jane Vens

James Orr

Donor: Jerry Tutor

Joe Oswald

Donor: Sr. Justine Denning, CHM



In June, Associate Evalee Mickey (top center) hosted three Mandela Washington Fellows from Zimbabwe and South Africa for dinner at her home in North Liberty, IA. They are from a group of 700 entrepreneurs, chosen from 35,000 applicants from Africa to come to the US. Associate Mary Martin Lane (top left) and the driver are also in the picture.

Jim Pentecost

Donor: Sr. Claudellen Pentecost, CHM

Sandy Pewe

Donor: Dawson Pewe

Sr. Bernadine Pieper, CHM

Donor: Marcia Kruse

Sr. Maria Trinitas Rand, CHM

Donor: Bob and Terry Ratcliff

Mary Rizzo

Donor: Stella Herzig

Sr. Marilyn Schierbrock, CHM

Donors: Sr. Rachel Beeson, CHM

Sr. Roberta Brich, CHM

Ann Drop

Sr. Miriam Ehrhardt, CHM

Kent Ferris

Msgr. Francis Henricksen

Ann Kautz

-Schierbrock continued

Sr. Joann Kuebrich, CHM

Evalee Mickey

Con-E Osmer

Rodger and Mary Routh

Sr. Dolores Schuh, CHM

Roberta Shadensack

Joan Smith

Sr. Mary Bea Snyder, CHM

Sr. Michelle Schiffgens, CHM

Donor: John and Barbara Shie

Sr. Donna Schmitt, CHM

Donor: Claudia Scharf

Sr. Elizabeth Anne Schneider, CHM

Donor: Diane Schlachter

Bob Schulze

Donor: Mary Schulze

Joseph Scott

Donors: Amy Lotz

Joan Marie Resnick and Frank Wessling

Kristine Sherman

Karl and Kay Ungurean

Shirley Sinnott

Donors: Anonymous

Steven C. Arp

Debra Case

Karen Cawiezell

Liz Dorton

Sr. Miriam Ehrhardt, CHM

Kathy Hall

Kathryn Henningsen

Dean and Judy Hiles

Donald Laude

Susan Schreck

David and Betty Zimmer

Richard L. Smith

Donor: Jean Herber

Elizabeth Swoboda

Donor: Ray and Molly Swiercek

Sr. Carla Takes, CHM

Donors: Deanna Kern Ludwin

Claudia Scharf

Sr. JoAnne Talarico, CHM

Donor: Ed and Cecelia Arnold

Talarico family

Donor: Sara Sedgwick

Margaret Toeber

Donor: Judy Sieren

Sr. Kathleen Tomlonovic, CHM

Donors: Carl and Marie Bond

Todd and Christy Damon

Tim and Irene Mulvany

Sr. Pauline Tursi, CHM

Donor: John and Stephanie Bryan

Sr. Cecelia Vandenberg, CHM

Donor: Claudia Scharf

Sr. Mary Hilary Veith, CHM

Donors: Beth Austin

Sr. Rachel Beeson, CHM

Sr. Roberta Brich, CHM

Dave and Judy Butters

Devora Cantu

Nena Deguzman

-Veith continued

Sr. Miriam Ehrhardt, CHM
 John Engelhardt
 Mary Gaskill
 Sr. Marilyn Jean Hagedorn, CHM
 Sr. Elaine Hagedorn, CHM
 Barbara Hawley
 Sr. Kathleen Henneberry, CHM
 John and Sylvia Hunolt
 Sr. Joann Kuebrich, CHM
 Kathy Menke
 Sr. Irene Muñoz, CHM
 Sr. Molly Muñoz, CHM
 William and Karen Reece
 Robert and Margaret Reichmuth
 Rodger and Mary Routh
 Sr. Mary Bea Snyder, CHM
 Thomas and Margaret Veith
 Charles and Mary Beth Wasko
 Todd and Deborah Webb
 Ed and Kathy Wilson
Sr. Marie Vittetoe, CHM
 Donors: Audrey Reed
 Claudia Scharf

Mary Heffernan Wachter
 Donors: Mary Elliott
 Julia Sullivan
Sr. Mary Suzanne Wickenkamp, CHM
 Donors: Mae Marie Heinje
 Nancy Jo Hillard
Robert Wilkinson
 Donor: Joanne Wilkinson

We regret that in the Spring donor issue of "the Flame" Kay Jinks was left off of our list of 2021 CHM donors. We apologize for the oversight.



Sisters, friends and family of Sr. Kathleen Tomlonovic gather at Our Lady of the Prairie Retreat, where Sr. Kathleen's stone was placed in the Memorial Garden.

Help us Save Trees

In accordance with CHM's priority to live in harmony with creation, we have identified reduction in use of paper as an action we can take for ecological sustainability. Many of our donors have requested that we send only year-end donation summaries rather than acknowledgment letters with each donation. If that is your preference, we are happy to oblige. We also have the option of emailing donation receipts. If you would like a year-end statement only or an emailed receipt, please indicate this when you send in your donation. Thank you for supporting CHM and our mission.

In Loving Memory



CHM Associate Cleo Studt
 January 22, 1924 -
 June 14, 2022

CHM Direction Statement 2022-2026

We CHMs, recognizing the challenges to our democratic system, will direct our lives, in collaboration with others to:

- ☀️ Be peacemakers and to promote non-violent actions at all levels of society.
- ☀️ Advocate for just and comprehensive immigration reform and resettlement of refugees.
- ☀️ Live in harmony with creation and to reduce our carbon footprint.
- ☀️ Work for greater inclusion in society, especially for racial and gender equity, with liberty and justice for all.

CHM Annual Assembly

A weekend of meetings and special events occurred during the annual General Assembly of the Congregation of the Humility of Mary (CHM), which took place June 23-26, 2022 at Humility of Mary Center in Davenport, Iowa. More than 55 sisters and associates attended the annual meeting, with some traveling from across the United States and Mexico to be present.

The CHM General Assembly is a time for spiritual renewal, community business, sharing among members, and celebration. This year's theme was "Embracing Transformation – Growing in Solidarity."

Sisters reflected on these words from Pope John Paul II, "Solidarity is not a feeling of vague compassion or shallow distress at the misfortunes of so many people, both near and far. On the contrary, it is a firm and persevering determination to commit oneself to the common good; that is to say to the good of all and of each individual, because we are all really responsible for all. There is no true peace without truth, justice and solidarity."



Above: Sisters were honored with a visit from Cardinal Gregorio Rosa Chávez of San Salvador, who visited Humility of Mary Center prior to Assembly. Greeting him at the front door was the CHM Leadership team L-R: Sisters Johanna Rickl, Marcia Eckerman, Mary Ann Vogel, Lynn Mousel, and Mary Bea Snyder. Below: Sisters gather in the new conference center at Humility of Mary Center during their Annual Assembly.

