



Editor's note:

In December, 10 students from the University of Great Falls (MT) traveled to El Salvador with Sister Karen Hawkins, campus minister, to spend 10 days helping to build a home.

This is the UGF group at the 40th year celebration of Pequeña Comunidad. Shown from left are (front row) interpreter Maria Zoila Márquez who receives an SP scholarship, Emily Busby and Cassandra Gross; (middle row) Ben Freiborg, Jennifer Stewart and Christina Bruce; and (back row) Andrea Spake, Nichole Danelson and Ben Johnson.

Nichole Danelson leads the way as Sr. Karen Hawkins walks with the children to a soccer game.



was not all. The sisters down in El Salvador were extremely nice and hospitable. So not only was everyone welcoming and friendly, but our group had some experience that will last a lifetime, from going to the fair to playing soccer with the kids. All in all I wish I could have built ten houses to just repay the people of El Salvador for what they gave me on this trip. It was a trip I would like to make again, and a trip I think everyone should make once in their lifetime. – Zach Johnson

We had the wonderful opportunity to help build a house for a lady and her children. On the first day we picked up leaves from the foundation. On the second day we worked on the foundation. On the third day we poured cement into the foundation. On the last day of the project, we started putting layers of bricks on the house. Along with that we walked around different neighborhoods to hand out candy to little kids. The experience was amazing because the people were so grateful even though they had so little. When we went to one couple's house, they talked about how they have not been able to grow corn for the last two years and that was their main source of food. They were the friendliest people I have ever met. They shook our hands and gave us all a big hug. It was by far the greatest experience of my life. In addition, we learned a lot about the history of El Salvador and the impacts that other countries have had on the culture and life of the Salvadoreans. – Zachary Liedtke

UGF students make a difference and broaden their perspectives in El Salvador

by Karen Hawkins, SP

Our main project was to help build a house for a family in need. Two of our students, Zachary Johnson and Ben Freiborg, brought rich experience from volunteering in Haiti in the spring of 2010. Wheeling cement and pouring concrete seemed to come naturally for them and their work ethic was contagious. The group followed in the footsteps of a delegation from Providence Health & Services, continuing work on a house in San Juan for a four-member family that has been instrumental in helping other families.

The students worked as well as learned about life for the region's residents. One of the presentations the students experienced involved the emergency fund supported by community members and how the fund has been the impetus for change. Generous contributions for those in need of surgery come from as far away as Venezuela. The administrators of the emergency fund shared how they have implored doctors to serve those in need. Many in the area suffer from kidney disease. The people are interested not only in serving those affected by disease, but to find the root causes and create change.

Another presentation moved the UGF students to profound reflection. A mother and daughter who survived the war shared experiences of terrors that haunt the soul. Students shed tears as they listened with rapt attention. Four of the bodies of those missing were recovered only recently

and were housed in the Romero Center where we stayed. The remains awaited burial, which took place on the feast of the Holy Innocents.

The UGF group experienced a different celebration of Church at the Pequeña Comunidad's Celebration of its forty-year anniversary. The community consists of Native women who serve the people in the Church. All shared in "breaking bread" and being welcomed as these women were recognized for their work with those in need.

We were privileged to share the delicacies of the country. A favorite meal consisted of beans or pupusas. A brief siesta in the hammocks at the Romero Center followed the morning work of pouring the foundation or layering concrete blocks.

Zoila, a local college student, helped Sisters Pauline Lemaire and Fran Stacey in translating. College students from the area exchanged stories with our students, comparing and contrasting their experiences. It was a learning opportunity for everyone involved.

Here is what a few of the students had to say about the experience:

I was not real sure what to expect when I volunteered for this trip, but I enjoy helping people so I thought that it would be a good experience, and the country did not let me down. The people in the community of Tierra Blanca were extremely nice and treated you like family. That in itself was enough to make someone want to make another trip, but that

John Lennon once wrote, "Imagine no possessions; I wonder if you can". I can honestly say that before the chance of going to El Salvador, I couldn't imagine a life without all the things society tells us we need here in America. A simpler life is now something I strive to live. They may not have material possessions or money, but the people of El Salvador have something much more beautiful; they have a spirit for life. The idea of family and love for their neighbor reigns high in the countryside. Never have I felt more welcomed by someone I just met. Families were eager to tell their stories and receive us into their homes. From the trip that the Sisters of Providence offered me, I have a new appreciation of life and a willingness to take any opportunity to help my brothers and sisters of mankind. I see the need in the world for not another American trying to impose our lifestyle, but to go with an open heart to learn and experience their lifestyle. – Andrea Spake

The trip to El Salvador was not only amazing, but life changing as well. It was my first time out of the country and it was way more than I ever could have imagined. The people in El Salvador have to be some of the most forgiving, kind, and humble people to have gone through what they have and still be able to find the silver lining in their lives. I noticed that I experienced almost a reverse culture shock when I came back to the United States. It hit me how materialistic and time oriented we are; everything is so rushed. It probably didn't help that I came back home during the holidays, but the trip definitely helped me realize and appreciate everything that I have in my life and the different opportunities that I have been so blessed to participate in, such as sports in college. The trip also helped to center my life. It's hard when you go off to school. Often you can get caught up in the craziness of school and the different pressures that are presented. But by going on the trip it really helped me to realize what is important to me in my life and also helped me to re-center my life around God and be thankful for all the wonderful blessings He has given me. It was truly one of the most amazing experiences in my life, and I am so thankful to everyone who donated either their time, money, or resources that made this trip possible! – Christina Bruce ●



Emily Busby joins others working in the trenches.

Emilie Gamelin Mission Fund Donations 2010

Donations from Sisters of Providence, Mother Joseph Province, were in the form of grants, memberships, table sponsorships, operating funds, salaries, stipends, capital campaign contributions, program advertisements, tuition, scholarships, etc.

- Afrique Future, Cameroon
- Alaskan AIDS Assistance Association, Anchorage, AK
- Bread of Life Mission, Seattle, WA
- Cabrini Ministry Training, Seattle
- Call to Action, Chicago, IL
- Camp Prime Time, Yakima, WA
- Campaign for Equal Justice, Seattle
- Cancer Patient Care, Spokane, WA
- Carmelite Sisters of Our Lady, Philippines
- Catholic Charities, Spokane
- Catholic Community Services, Seattle
- Catholic Diocese of Spokane, Prison Ministry, Spokane
- Catholic Family & Child Services, Yakima
- Catholic Relief Services, Baltimore, MD
- Catholic School Fairbanks-Monroe Foundation, Fairbanks, AK
- Center for Immigrant Healthcare, St. Louis, MO
- Chief Seattle Club, Seattle
- Children and Family Life Center, Fairbanks
- Children's Alliance, Seattle
- Christian Brothers Conference, Washington, DC
- Coalition for Justice in the Maquiladoras, Missouri City, TX
- Community Frameworks, Spokane
- Congregacion Las Hermanas de la Providencia, Santiago, Chile
- Congreso Catolico de Evangelizacion Familiar, Yakima
- Daughters of Mary, Uganda
- De La Salle Blackfeet School, Browning, MT
- Doctors Without Borders, NY, NY
- El Salvador scholarships
- Faith in Action, Sammamish, WA
- First Place, Seattle
- Food Bank at St Mary's, Seattle
- Food Lifeline, Shoreline, WA
- Fort Belknap Indian Community, Harlem, MT
- Habitat for Humanity, Tukwila, WA
- Hope House, Spokane
- Hospice of Spokane
- Housecall Providers Inc., Portland, OR
- Ignatian Spirituality Center, Seattle
- Immaculate Heart Retreat Center, Spokane
- In His Service Amianan, Auburn, WA
- Intercommunity Peace & Justice Center, Seattle
- Jesuit Volunteer Corps NW, Portland, OR
- Jonestown Family Center, Jonestown, MS
- Jubilee Women's Center, Seattle
- Kennedy High School, Burien, WA
- Kids Community Dental Care, Burbank, CA
- La Casa Hogar, Yakima
- La Casa Hogar Foundation, Yakima
- La Salle High School, Union Gap, WA
- L'Arche Noah Sealth of Seattle Life Services, Spokane
- Loyola Sacred Heart Foundation, Missoula, MT
- Marie-Rose House, Wapato, WA
- Mary's Pence, Staten Island, NY
- Mercy Corps, Portland, OR
- Missoula Food Bank, MT
- Monastery of St. Gertrude, Cottonwood, ID
- National Catholic Reporter, Kansas City, MO
- National Religious Vocation Conference, Chicago
- New Beginnings, Martin, GA
- New Horizons Foundation Inc, Colorado Springs, CO
- Nuestra Casa, Sunnyside, CA
- NW Catholic Counseling Center, Portland, OR
- NW Communities Education Center, Granger, WA
- NW Immigrant Rights Project, Seattle
- NW Regional Office for Hispanic Affairs, Portland, OR
- Oblate Sisters of Providence, Baltimore, MD
- Our House, Portland, OR
- Our Lady of Guadalupe, Seattle
- Our Place Community Ministries, Spokane
- Providence Health & Services Mission Fund, Renton, WA
- Poverello Center, Missoula
- Providence Associates, MJP, Spokane
- Providence Child Center Foundation, Milwaukie, OR
- Providence Health Care Foundation, Centralia, WA
- Providence Health International – for Haiti
- Providence Heritage House, Seattle
- Providence High School, Burbank
- Providence Holy Family Foundation, Spokane
- Providence Hospice of Seattle
- Providence Hospitality House, Seattle
- Providence Marianwood, Issaquah, WA
- Providence Milwaukie Hospital Foundation, Milwaukie, OR
- Providence Mount St. Vincent, Seattle
- Providence Mount St. Vincent Foundation, Seattle
- Providence Newberg Hospital Foundation, Newberg, OR
- Providence O' Christmas Trees, Seattle
- Providence Pariseau Corporation, Renton
- Providence Sacred Heart Medical Center, Spokane
- Refugee Women's Alliance, Seattle
- Rose Haven, Portland, OR
- Salvation Army, Olympia, WA
- School of the Americas (Watch), Washington, DC
- Seattle University, Seattle
- Second Harvest, Spokane
- Sisters of Divine Savior, Vista, CA
- Sisters of the Holy Family, New Orleans, LA
- Sojourner Place, Seattle
- South Seattle Catholic Schools, Seattle
- Spokane Child Abuse Network, Spokane
- St Joseph Parish, Yakima
- St Vincent de Paul, Portland, OR
- St Vincent de Paul, Yakima
- St. Alexander Catholic Church, Cornelius, OR
- St. Andrews Catholic Church, Portland, OR
- St. Edward Parish, Seattle
- St. Jerome Parish, Ocean Shores, WA
- St. Joseph Family Center, Spokane
- St. Joseph Marquette School, Yakima
- St. Martin De Porres Mission, Great Falls, MT
- St. Thomas Child and Family Center, Great Falls
- Swedish Medical Center Foundation, Seattle
- The Fig Tree, Spokane
- Transitions, Spokane
- United Way of King County, Seattle
- University of Great Falls, MT
- VAMOS! Westin, VT
- Washington Association of Churches, Seattle
- Witness For Peace, Washington DC

Rest in Peace

Dorothy St. Germaine, PA



Dorothy Mae St. Germaine, of Great Falls, Mont., died December 15 at a local hospital at the age of 89. She had been a Providence Associate since 2006.

She was born April 19, 1930, in Poplar, Mont., to David and Emma Moran. She married Joseph St. Germaine in 1946 in Sidney, Mont. They were married for 41 years before his death in 1987.

Dorothy worked at Columbus Hospital in Great Falls for more than 26 years as a surgical tech. She retired in 1989. Dedicated to her faith, she was very involved in the Emilie Center and volunteered many hours at the St. Vincent de Paul food bank.

Vigil service was held December 28 at Hillcrest Law Chapel in Great Falls. Funeral liturgy was celebrated December 29 at St. Ann's Cathedral. Schnider Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

In addition to her husband, Dorothy was preceded in death by a grandson, Michael Campbell.

Survivors include daughters Barbara and Loretta St. Germaine and sons Sylvester (Donette Mader), Lawrence and Rodney St. Germaine, all of Great Falls; sisters Gertrude Wilkie and Betty McKenzie, both of North Dakota, and Leona Olson and Lorraine Axelson, both of Montana; brothers Gary and Walt Moran, both of North Dakota; nine grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren. ●

Paul-Gabriel Desilets, SP (Marie Cecile Gilberte Desilets)



Sister Paul-Gabriel Desilets, SP, died January 9 at Mount St. Joseph, Spokane, at 96 years of age, and after 75 years as a Sister of Providence.

She was the first child born to Denerie and Emeranda (Bineault) Desilets on October 20, 1914, in St. Wenceslas, County of Nicolet, Quebec, Canada. Her given name at baptism was Marie Cecile Gilberte Desilets. She and five brothers and two sisters were raised on a maple tree farm where she had a joyful childhood. She attended public grade school and in 1932 graduated from St. Wenceslas High School, where she was taught by the Assumption Sisters of Nicolet, Quebec, taking all her studies in French.

Sister Paul-Gabriel entered the Sisters of Providence on February 26, 1935, and became

a novice on August 27, 1935. After she made her first profession in 1937, the religious community sent her to the West to learn English. She then took her final vows at Mount St. Vincent, Seattle, in 1941. Her great aunt was a member of the Sisters of Providence religious community. Sister Paul-Gabriel became a U.S. citizen in 1945.

She received a certificate in home nursing from St. Ignatius School of Nursing (now Whitman Hospital and Medical Center), Colfax, Wash. She participated in five summers of food service education conducted by the Food Research Center for Catholic Institutions, North Easton, Mass., and received a certificate of completion in 1968. She and Sister Cecile Laprise participated in Dietary Administration for Food Service Managers, sponsored by the Catholic Hospital Association, St. Louis University, St. Louis, Mo., and received certificates of completion in 1971.

Sister Paul-Gabriel's first mission was in food services at Providence Hospital in Seattle, where she took several dietary courses, 1937-41; followed by Columbus Hospital (now Benefis Healthcare), Great Falls, Mont., domestic duties, 1941-43; St. Ignatius Hospital (now Whitman Hospital & Medical Center) Colfax, Wash., dietary and later supervisor, 1943-62; St. Clare Hospital, Fort Benton, Mont., dietary supervisor, 1962-64; St. Joseph Academy, Sprague, Wash., culinary department, 1964-65; and at Mount St. Joseph, Spokane, culinary department, 1965-79; part-time infirmary aide, 1979-85; dietary aide and beautician, 1980-82. She assisted in community service with the sisters at Mount St. Joseph until she fully retired in 2007. In retirement, Sister Paul-Gabriel resided at Mount St. Joseph.

She loved music and sang with her mother at a very early age. She played the piano, and also enjoyed playing the harmonica and guitar.

Sister Paul-Gabriel was preceded in death by her mother and father, and seven of her siblings. Survivors include her sister, Rejeane Roy, Sherbrooke, Quebec; sisters-in-law Germaine Desilets and Laurette Desilets, Drummondville, Quebec; a niece, Gilberte Daneau, Drummondville, Quebec; a great-niece, Marilyn Daneau, Drummondville, Quebec, and her community of Sisters of Providence.

The Vigil Service was held January 13 at Mount St. Joseph, Spokane, followed by the funeral Mass on January 14. Burial was at Holy Cross Cemetery in Spokane. Hennessey-Smith Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Sisters of Providence Retirement Fund, 1801 Lind Avenue SW, #9016, Renton, WA 98057-9016. ●

Renate Hayum, SP

Sister Renate Hayum died January 27 at St. Joseph Residence, Seattle, at 80 years of age and after 25 years as a Sister of Providence.

She was born on January 29, 1930, in Tübingen, Germany, the only child of Henry and Ellen (Oppenheimer) Hayum. The family immigrated to the United States in 1938, moved to Olympia, Wash., in 1939, and then to Seattle. She became a U.S. citizen on March 27, 1944.

Sister Renate entered the Sisters of Providence on August 22, 1986, made her first profession on August 15, 1988, and professed final vows on June 13, 1992.

She attended public schools throughout the elementary grades and graduated from Franklin

High School, Seattle. After two years at Reed College in Portland, Ore., she finished her bachelor's degree in accounting in 1952 at the University of Washington, Seattle. She earned her master of library science degree from there in 1968.

Sister Renate had worked as an auditor in San Francisco and in accounting positions in New York and New Jersey before serving for 11 years as an editorial assistant to Monsignor John M. Oesterreicher, director of the Institute of Judaic-Christian Studies at Seton Hall University in South Orange, N.J. For 19 years she was a reference librarian and administrator for Seattle Public Library. After entering the religious community, Sister Renate's ministry assignments included accounts representative and office assistant at Providence Seattle Medical Center, and research assistant in the provincial offices in Seattle. She was one of five founding sisters sent to the Philippines and spent 17 years as school librarian and an administrator at Providence High School in Burbank, Calif. She loved classical music and reading.

Sister Renate was preceded in death by her parents. Survivors include an aunt and uncle, two cousins, and her community of the Sisters of Providence.

The Vigil Service was held January 31 at St. Joseph Residence, Seattle, followed by celebration of the funeral Mass there on February 1. Burial was at Calvary Cemetery, Seattle. Bonney-Watson Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Sisters of Providence Retirement Fund, 1801 Lind Avenue SW, #9016, Renton, WA 98057-9016. ●

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Marianne (Strope) Holling, sister of Linda McKnight, PA, died December 8, 2010, in Wallace, Idaho.

John Bochsler, brother of Maryann Bochsler, SP, died January 4, 2011, in Mt. Angel, Ore.

Ida Marszlek, sister of Julie Ziocchi, SP, died January 7 in Texas.

Ken Allen, brother of Judi Roberts, SP, died January 13 in Indianapolis, Ind.

Jerry Kelly, brother of Margaret Kelly, SP, died January 16 in Los Altos, Calif.

John Fox, brother of Mary Fox, SP, died January 17 in Battle Ground, Wash.

Catherine Adell Burriss Werner, sister of Anna Burriss, SP, died January 19 in Chicago, Ill.

Credo Desire, father of Mirlande Desire, SP, died February 10 in Haiti.

Briefs

"New" Novitiate Director is selected



Margaret Botch, SP

The provincials and councils of Mother Joseph and Holy Angels provinces have announced that Margaret Botch, SP, has accepted appointment to a three-year term as novitiate director, effective August 1. Sister Margaret, former provincial superior, will be serving as novice director for the third time. She was novice director for Holy Angels Province and the former Sacred Heart and St. Ignatius provinces from March 25, 1996, to March 24, 1999. That term was extended through July 31, 1999. Now, she will succeed Sister Marilyn Charette as novitiate director for the bi-provinces from August 1, 2011, to July 31, 2014. Sister Margaret also was director of formation from 1969 to 1976.

"We appreciate all that Marilyn Charette, SP, has been contributing to the formation program during her years of service as assistant and then novitiate director," MJP Provincial Karin Dufault said in a communication to the sisters. "We keep her in our prayers in special ways during the remainder of her term and time of transition."

The discernment process was held in January at St. Joseph Residence, Seattle, and was facilitated by General Councillor Betty Kaczmarczyk, SP. In addition to Sister Margaret, participants included Sisters Celia Chappell, Beverly Dunn, Clare Lentz and Annette Seubert. Participating as supports were the provincials from both provinces, Sisters Gloria Keylor of Holy Angels Province, and Karin Dufault of Mother Joseph Province; and Provincial Councillor/Formation Team liaisons Sisters Toyleen Fook and Maureen Newman. ●

New Providence Associate in Spokane

Theresa Stallman was received as a Providence Associate in the Spokane region by Executive Director GeriAnn Johnson, PA, at the annual Christmas potluck on December 5. Theresa is an employee of Providence Health Care and is active in the ministry to provide lunch to the homeless at St. Ann's Parish. Together with Darlene Mason, PA, Theresa organized the Spokane Providence Associates' project to donate to a single mother with three school-aged children from St. Margaret's Shelter. ●



Theresa Stallman, PA

Vocation events

LENT Vocation Discernment Retreat Day

On Saturday, April 2, Sisters of Providence will join other religious communities of women and men in sponsoring a LENT Vocation Discernment Retreat Day in Bellevue, Wash. It will be held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Peace & Spirituality Center of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Peace, 1663 Killarney Way.

The retreat is for single young adult women and men who are considering a call to religious life. Morning coffee and donuts and lunch will be provided.

Interested individuals are asked to sign up by March 29 by calling Sister JoAnne Miller, CSJP, at 425-451-1770, ext. 118, or by emailing her at jmiller@csjp-olg.org. Walk-ins also are welcome. The cell phone number to call the day of the retreat is 206-920-8560. ●

Summer weekend vocation retreat scheduled

A weekend retreat is planned for July 9-10 for single Catholic women, ages 18 to 40, who are seeking the meaning of life by exploring a call to become a sister. The retreat begins with arrival and check-in at 9:30 a.m. Saturday, July 9, and continues until 3 p.m. Sunday, July 10. It will be held at St. Placid Priory/The Priory Spirituality Center, 500 College St. NE, Lacey, Wash., 98516-5339.

The retreat, limited to participation by 20 women, is sponsored by the Sisters Vocation Committee of the Seattle Archdiocese and by the Western Washington SERRA Clubs. The gathering will include vocation stories, sharing time, quiet time, Mass, prayer, nature walks and fun activities. The registration fee is \$10 and covers the cost of overnight accommodations (most are double occupancy), meals, beverages and snacks.

For more information, contact Sr. Monika at 360-438-1771 or at mellis@stplacid.org. ●

Providence Pariseau welcomes three new board members

Two new members recently were appointed to the board of directors of Providence Pariseau Corp. by the provincial and council. They are Sister Kaye Belcher, SP, and Gemalee Morrison. Providence Pariseau includes three ministries: Providence Hospitality House and Sojourner Place, both in Seattle, and Building Bridges, which operates out of Portland, Ore.

Sister Kaye is a former provincial councillor and currently is assistant administrator at St. Joseph Residence, Seattle. Gemalee worked for 27 years for Marsh, insurance broker for Providence Health & Services, and considered PH&S her favorite account. She retired last December. At the invitation of Sister Mary Wilson, SP, she joined the board of Sojourner Place in 1994 and served until 2009. She has continued to volunteer for various Providence events.

The third new board member for Providence Pariseau is Matthew Volta, PH&S system director for Human Resources, EPIC and System Support Services Operations. ●



Kaye Belcher, SP



Gemalee Morrison

Find us on Facebook!

We embrace being an international, intergenerational, intercultural congregation.



We invite you to

Come and See

Sisters of Providence, Mother Joseph Province

Judy George, SP Vocation Office Manager Spokane, WA (509) 474-8393 vocations@providence.org
Joan Gallagher, SP Vocation Director Seattle, WA (206) 923-4021 joan.gallagher@providence.org

www.sistersofprovidence.net

Caritas

Sisters of Providence
Provincial Administration, Mother Joseph Province
1801 Lind Avenue SW, #9016
Renton, WA 98057-9016

Non Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Seattle, WA
Permit #5544



CARITAS is published by
The Office of
Communications,
Sisters of Providence,
Mother Joseph Province.

Jennifer E. Roseman,
Director of
Communications
& Development

www.sistersofprovidence.net

Celebration IN UGANDA

Sisters of Providence join Daughters of Mary for 100th anniversary events; also visit Cameroon

16

Preschoolers in Cameroon celebrate the arrival of the sisters from the West.



Sr. Judith Desmarais extends a hand to one of Cameroon's schoolchildren.



Sr. Mary Wilson (left) is pictured with Marie-Joseph Mballa, communications director for Afrique Future, and a child in Cameroon.



"Yes we can with America," reads a child's sign greeting the visitors in Cameroon.



A child in Cameroon plays with a homemade toy.