

Dominican Center Newsletter

2470 W Locust Street, Milwaukee, WI 53206 414.444.9930

www.dominican-center.com

Volume 10 Issue 2



From the Director: Ann Halloran, OP



Dear Friends,

After 20 wonderful and exciting years I will be living the Dominican Spirit in a new place. I am deeply grateful for the years of my life spent here at 2470 W. Locust. It was a transformational time for me—words cannot adequately express all that is in my heart. One thing I can say, however, is that Sara Kierzek, your new director, is upbeat, willing and ready to assume leadership. This makes me feel confident and assured about the continuance of the Dominican Center mission.

Please enjoy the beauty of the women's writings and maybe catch some of the vibrant atmosphere that was so present at "The Dream Lives on" celebration on April 10, at Cardinal Stritch University.

Thank you for your past years of support. Thank you for your future years of support. I am and will be grateful for both.

S. Ann Halloran, OP

S. Ann Halloran, OP
Director

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Sara Kierzek knew from the moment she walked in the door five years ago that the Dominican Center was a very special place. At the time, Sara was working as Director of Milwaukee's Habitat for Humanity, a house-building agency that was preparing to expand in the Amani neighborhood on the city's North Side. It was Leo Ries, director of a resource center for Milwaukee's neighborhoods, who gave Sara some simple advice: "The best way to know the Amani neighborhood is to talk to Sister Ann," Leo advised.

Sara not only got to know Sister Ann but also was soon urged to join the Dominican Center Board on which she has served for the last four years. On July 1, 2010, Sara will become the Dominican Center's new director, a job she sees as a mission to make a real difference for all those whose lives the Center touches.

"I think this is a great opportunity," Sara said, after being named to replace Sister Ann Halloran, who has guided the Center since its founding 20 years ago. "I like to work one-on-one with people and want to be making a difference."

Fran Bauer

A big thank you to all who donated, helped and came to our 2010 "The Dream Lives On" Fundraiser. Without you, the Dream would not be possible!

The highlight of the evening for me was seeing all the love displayed. Knowing that God's word always comes true: "give and it will be given to you; good measure pressed down, shaken together and running over." Sister Ann has shown and given so much love over the years that it was truly a blessing to me to see all the love being poured out and given back to her. To me, that was the highlight. **Belinda Sims**

What was the highlight of Saturday night for you?



My highlight was seeing Sister Ann so happy and all the wonderful things said about her. **Minnie**



The part I enjoyed the most was when we shared our feelings about Sister Ann and her leaving. The food was good. The singing was pretty. I had fun with my friends. **Gwen**



I loved when the group had got up on stage to sing, also when I got up on stage to speak. The entire night was all about Sister Ann and just meeting all the different people and hear them speak of Sister Ann: how she changed their lives and encouraged them to become homeowners and also fed them when Sister Ann had a little bit of nothing. **Abigail**



It was a dream come true because I never have been to anything like it. It was special because it was about Sister Ann. She is a very special lady in my life. I will miss her and I am going to do the best I can to carry her dream out. I loved everything about the evening. **Georgiana**

I loved when Sister Ann spoke, it was great. I loved the music, the women dancing and singing. Everything was lovely; a beautiful evening. **Irole**



My favorite part of the night was everything. It all was wonderful. I really liked the "Praise Dance." Sister Ann looked so happy that night. The night was wonderful. **Jovernita**



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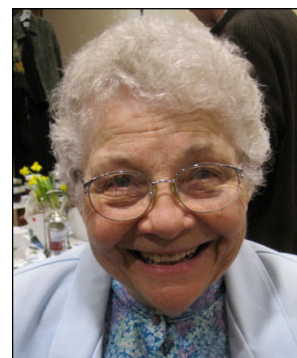
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We DO appreciate your donations!*

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The Dream Lives On!



If you could be any animal, what would you be?

I would be a singing bird because I like singing. I could fly all around and spread my wings. I could sit on houses and sing; I could sing in bushes, and sing in trees; over water and on a mountain. I could let my voice be heard. Maybe on your window sill on a summer day I would sing you a song. Most of all I could see lots of the land that God prepared for us.

Elizabeth McCullar, March 20, 2010



I don't talk to God too much,
Because I feel like my life
Is the way it is
Because of my own mistakes,

And that I shouldn't bother him
With my problems,
Especially since,
I never follow his lead in the first place.
I feel like I am wasting his time.

I could have made my life
Better than what it is,
A long time ago.
But I just wanted to be a wild teenager.

I regret some of the things
I didn't listen to
Because now,
I come across situations where
I don't know what to do.

That really scares me.

I mean, "How can I be a good father
To both of my daughters and
Give them what they need,
When I am in need myself?"

How can I show them the way of rightness
When I'm scared of the road myself?"

I know that God has placed me
Here at the fork in the road.
He's saying, "Go right."
But I don't even try to go
Left or right.

I stand there, shaking
Like a lost child.

Honestly I'm lost
and
scared
to find out where the roads lead.

Malcolm Ford, February, 2010



Growth

Rain springs from the air
Tulips stretching with no care
Growing up to meet the sun
Budding plants lots of fun.

Children of the earth
Playing in the dirt
Making mud pies
Shooing away the flies.

Fresh new life all joy no strife
Running all around, jumping up and down
New life growing everywhere
Thank you God
that you care.

Belinda Sims



Shame used to play a big part in my life. Then God came and gave me hope to move my dream. Everything used to seem so cold and out of place, like there was nothing to live for. However, God came and gave me a husband and six children. God gave me my education and my education gave me college and wonderful opportunities like writing poems. My poems help me to stay in touch with God and with me. Shame and depression tried to sneak in, but I am doing too good for either of them to be able to come in and attack. My shame has been a blessing: I can take the good with the bad and use it for my best, It's like flying higher than the eagle, shining brighter than the sun, talking louder than a woman giving birth and walking faster than a wild animal. God told me if I took one step, he would take the rest. So I did. God kept my shame and depression hidden from me so I could do my best. So don't be afraid of shame. Deal with it or you will die with it. God is for all of us who have heavy burdens. Give your burdens to Him and pray with Him; peace will come. Amen

Doris Gant



Dominican Center for Women, Inc.
2470 West Locust Street
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Dominican Center Mission Statement:

The Dominican Center for Women partners with the community to maintain and enhance a beautiful, stable, healthy and safe neighborhood consisting of residents who are community-minded and are striving to be meaningfully educated and employed.

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Calendar

Neighborhood Cleanup: 9:00 am—1:00 pm	5/22
Community Garden Installation	5/22
COA-DC Interactive Discussion Group: 9:00 am—11:00 am	6/4, 7/9, 8/6
Homeowner Action Meeting: 8:00 am, Workgroup: 9:30 am	6/5, 7/3, 8/7
Advisory Group: 1:00 pm	6/7, 7/5, 8/2
Senior Meeting: 1:00 pm	6/10, 7/8, 6/12
Last day of school	6/11
Healthy Housing Healthy Community Fair	6/12
Catholic Heart Workcamp	6/22-6/24
Parent Neighborhood Organization: 10:00—11:30 am	6/21, 7/19, 8/16
Fall Festival	8/28

We are on the Web!

www.dominican-center.com

Please check our website for more about us and for our current calendar of events!