



May 2018

## Letter to Our Ministry Associates

### Upcoming Events

**May 18-19:** Exploring Nature's Ways Retreat

**May 24:** Exploring the Book of Wisdom w/Sr. Jolynn Brehm (Know Your Faith)

**June 1-3:** Serenity Retreat for Recovering Alcoholics

**June 7-10:** Silent Solanus Casey Retreat w/Fr. Dan Crosby

**June 15-17:** Retreat for Those Left Behind by Suicide

**June 29-30:** Writing Workshop

**July 26:** Theology of the Body w/Fr. Bob Strevler (Know Your Faith)

**July 27-29:** Twelve Step Retreat

**August 4:** Continuing the Journey of Widowhood

**August 11:** St. Clare Day

**August 18:** Healthy Spirituality with Cancer or Chronic Pain



*Despite the calendar telling us it is spring, winter appears to still have us in its grip! Some days it snows, then the warmth of the sun melts the snow, and we look for the beginning of new life. My wood irises and crocuses were just beginning to poke through and open to the sun...then it snowed...and snowed some more! If you're like me, you're ready to trade your snow boots and winter mittens for garden boots and garden gloves. I'm anxious, but God says "wait; it will happen in My time." God calls me to wait and trust. Trust; a simple word, but it can be so very hard to do.*

*When I first heard of the opening for Ministry Associates Coordinator here at St. Anthony's, I was excited and anxious. I judged this was an opportunity for me, but I was afraid to make such a big change after so many years. God said, "trust Me." Trust can be difficult. When things are uncertain and situations are challenging, it becomes hard to trust God, yet this is when we most need to trust. God wants us to trust Him when we're having doubts and are unsure about what to do. He wants us to believe in His promises.*

*How do we find the courage to trust in a world that seems increasingly untrusting? How do we prove ourselves to be trustworthy when it appears that so many in the world are not? I read an article recently that talked about Edelman's Trust Barometer, which globally measures the level of trust*  
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**MARK YOUR CALENDARS  
FOR THIS SUMMER'S  
VOLUNTEER WEEK:  
JULY 31 - AUGUST 5, 2018**

*We need your help! We have many projects to accomplish around the building, grounds, and garden. You are invited to volunteer for a day or an evening, a few days, or the entire week!!*

*There will be evening activities, or just take time to relax and enjoy the Center and its grounds. There will be time for prayer and meditation, with a special mini-retreat on Friday evening.*

*Check in will begin Tuesday, July 31 at 6:00 p.m. Work projects begin Wednesday morning following the 8:00 a.m. breakfast. We wrap up on Sunday, August 5 with a Mass of Thanksgiving at 11:15 a.m. followed by a Volunteer Appreciation lunch.*

*RSVP to Marie Fleisner:*

- For overnight accommodations. Available starting Tuesday, July 31 at 6:00 p.m.
- For days/times you can help out, this helps for meal planning.
- For the type of work you would be interested in.
- For the Volunteer Appreciation Supper.



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in society. According to the article, trust has reached an historic low—plummeting to levels not seen since the great depression. What role can we play in building (or rebuilding) trust? There may not be much we can do on a global level, but we can begin in our personal life. The answer lies in our response to God's call to trust.

Trust means “firm belief in the reliability, truth, ability, or strength of someone or something.” The word “trust” is found nearly 150 times in the bible, with over 50 of the psalms speaking of trust. Trust is a core value, and it requires honesty, vulnerability, and authenticity. Trust begins with me—I have to be honest with myself. I have to trust myself, and I have to trust the people with whom I interact on a daily basis. At the core of trusting myself and others is that, first and foremost, I must trust God. I must open myself to God's will, make myself vulnerable to God, and trust that God will never leave me or forsake me. When I do that, I gain the courage to trust others as well.

Fortunately, being part of St. Anthony Spirituality Center helps build trust. We trust that God will keep the 100 year legacy of this sacred institution going. We trust that you, our devoted volunteers and benefactors, will continue to support and sustain us.

So, trust God with your life. Expect that God will do good for you. Expect greatness. This doesn't mean life will be easy, but it does mean that God will be with you in every situation. God can and will work miracles for me and for you. All we have to do is trust.

~Marie Fleisner



### Naturally Franciscan!

Frequently, persons who come to St. Anthony's to volunteer tell us they treasure the quiet, peacefulness, and prayerfulness of this amazing get-away place! St. Francis chose places of quiet, peace, and sanctuary all throughout his life. His places were churches, mountains, woods, caves, valleys; those places where he felt very close to God. It is the presence of our volunteers here in this place that continues the spirit of God's presence. Because this is true of our volunteers, you can claim to be **Naturally Franciscan!**

~Sr. Jolynn



### Centennial Celebration Volunteer Opportunities

Join us on Sunday, June 10 for our Centennial Celebration - honoring the laying of the Corner Stone.

Volunteers are needed in the following areas: Training will be prior to the event.

- Volunteers to welcome guests and hand out group tour slips (2 Shifts 1:30-3:30 & 3:30 until needed)
- Tour guides for the Inside tour, leading groups of 15-20 throughout the building (scripts will be provided) Tour from 2:00-5:00
- Tour aides, assigned to designated area to help with moving folks along, and assisting the tour guides when needed, from 2:00-5:00
- Volunteers to help organize the Procession 12:30 - 2:00, meeting at the Veterans Park on 4th street and walk 4 blocks to the Center.
- Parking attendants from noon until 2:30 and 2 @ 2:30 until needed

We are so excited about this event and folks who will be present. If you have questions please contact Barb Ceranski 715-574-4896 or [barbceranski@gmail.com](mailto:barbceranski@gmail.com).

If you would like to volunteer, please call Marie.

### How can you help us promote St. Anthony Spirituality Center? It's easier than you think:

- Talk to people about your own experiences as a volunteer or as a retreatant.
- Suggest to friends, neighbors, and family members to call and schedule a time for a tour.
- When you volunteer - bring a friend(s) along.
- Share your Ministry Associates Newsletter with a friend, or suggest they contact us so we can put them on our mailing list.
- If you know of a group/company/organization that would like to know more about St. Anthony Spirituality Center, we would be happy to visit them or invite them here for a tour and history of the center.
- Give the gift of a retreat to family members or friends.

