



LEAVEN

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Summer 2023



LEAVEN

SUMMER 2023
VOLUME 41
ISSUE 2



From the PRIORRESS

Leaven

Published three times a year for the friends of St. Walburg Monastery.

Editor: Sr. Eileen O'Connell

Contributors: Srs. Aileen Bankemper, Christa Kreinbrink, Colleen Winston, Dorothy Schuette, Eileen O'Connell, Mary Tewes, and Rita Brink

Photos: Amy Holtzman, Soshana Bosley, Srs. Eileen O'Connell, Sarah Elizabeth McMahon, and Mary Tewes, and public domain.

On the cover: Butterfly in a monastery garden.

The Benedictine Sisters are deeply grateful for the support provided by our benefactors. You are remembered whenever the community gathers for prayer. For purposes of donations, bequests, and annuities, our legal title is

St. Walburg Monastery of Benedictine Sisters of Covington, Kentucky.

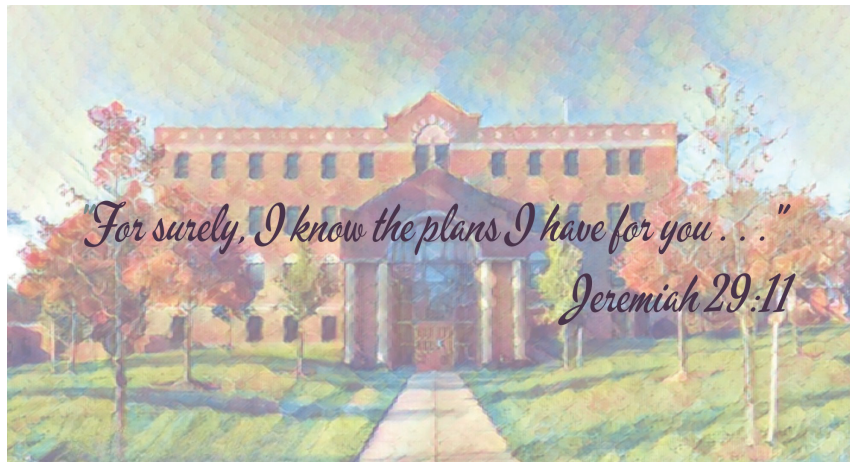
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Benedict instructs his followers that "First of all, every time we begin a new work, we must pray most earnestly that God will bring it to perfection." Prologue to the Rule of Benedict, v.4. Though the community has always engaged in meetings, the "meetings work" we are presently engaged in involves future planning. Collaboration, connection, communication are three dynamic words that influence our work. They are words used frequently by religious communities involved in looking to their future.

During the summer of 2019 we completed the sale of land to the west of the monastery property. The new development called Sanctuary Village is a thriving neighborhood. The sale was followed by community meetings in which we discussed "right-sizing" the monastery building. The building has outgrown us! However, these plans were short-lived as COVID struck and our "best laid plans" were put on hold. Since then conversations have resumed. Sister Rita's article in this issue of *Leaven* discusses what the *Visioning Our Future* committee planned for our recent three-day June session.



In the meantime, on our local diocesan level, the five religious community leaders and the Vicar for Religious regularly gather among themselves and quarterly with Bishop Iffert. We are dedicated to supporting one another's communities and searching out ways to be of help and assistance.

Last April, the Benedictine prioresses from Beech Grove and Ferdinand, IN and I began visiting with each other's councils. On August 26, nineteen council members from both communities will gather at St. Walburg's and meet with our council. Again, we will explore ways to collaborate, connect, and regularly communicate with one another. Later in the evening there will be an informal opportunity to gather with the rest of our community. We do know that we have the space to house all our guests!

"For surely, I know the plans I have for you, says the LORD, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope." Jeremiah 29:11. As we continue in hope to develop our plans for our future, know that we count on your continued support as we daily remember you in our prayers.

With continued gratitude and appreciation,

Sister Aileen Bankemper
Prioress



Visioning Our Future

by Sr. Rita Brink

“The only task worthy of our effort is to construct the future.”
Teilhard De Chardin



We Benedictine Sisters of St. Walburg Monastery, faithful to our monastic profession, seek God in community, prayer and work. We celebrate the presence of Jesus Christ and serve him in all God's people, the young and the old, the sick and the poor, the stranger and the guest. We the Benedictine Sisters of St. Walburg Monastery, faithful to our monastic profession, seek God in community, prayer and work. We celebrate the presence of Jesus Christ and serve him in all God's people, the young and the old, the sick and the poor, the stranger and the guest. We the Benedictine Sisters of St. Walburg Monastery, faithful to our monastic profession, seek God in community, prayer and work. We celebrate the presence of Jesus Christ and serve him in all God's people, the young and the old, the sick and the poor, the stranger and the guest. We the Benedictine Sisters of St. Walburg Monastery, faithful to our monastic profession, seek God in community, prayer and work. We celebrate the presence of Jesus Christ and serve him in all God's people, the young and the old, the sick and the poor, the stranger and the guest.

VISIONING OUR FUTURE

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Heeding the wisdom of Chardin, the community engaged in three days of gathering in June, processing statistics, dreams, concerns and possibilities in pursuing our quest of creating the building blocks of the future.

Relying on five of our core Benedictine values, Christ Centered, Prayer, Hospitality, Stewardship and Community, the community's time together was graced-filled and productive, raising more questions than offering any clear view of what lies ahead.

What will bring the greatest freedom to our Benedictine life and mission? What will enhance our use of available resources? What opportunities await our discovery as we attentively listen to the voice of the Spirit among and within?

Grappling with the questions, we count on and appreciate the support and prayers, of each of you, our families, oblates, friends, donors and acquaintances, that we hear and recognize the voice of the Spirit.



Top: Srs. Emmanuel, Christa, and Mary Peter
 Bottom: Srs. Mary Catherine, Ann John, and Kimberly

VALUES

CHRIST-CENTERED

PRAYER

HOSPITALITY

STEWARDSHIP

COMMUNITY





meet the sisters

SISTERS DENISE AND STELLA GOUGH



by Sr. Colleen Winston

The family of Francis and Catherine Gough grew up in downtown Covington, KY, not

far from the home of the Benedictine Sisters and that of the bishop of the



Covington diocese and his offices at the cathedral. Neither of these two institutions knew that the family growing nearby would send three of their thirteen children to bring significant contributions to the church and the city.

outside the diocese.

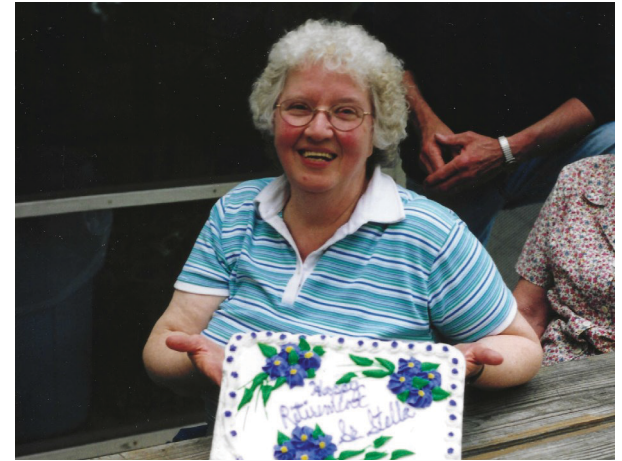
Frank and Catherine started their family on Robbins then later moved to Byrd, Scott, and Trevor Streets in Covington, at times living above and behind their grocery store. Most of the time it was close quarters for the growing family, and the children got accustomed to one room for boys, one for girls, and one for mother and dad. Stella, the 2nd youngest, has vivid memories of having lots of people around. She also has Saturday memories of a big pot of chili on the stove and a table with leaves to make room for the entire family. Denise remembers Margaret Mary as a teen preparing Sunday dinners and Mary Ellen, the oldest daughter, being her mother's sidekick to help with children and chores. In fact, she was so important to their mother that she didn't get to go to high school, even to learn secretarial skills at St. Benedict Commercial as did Margaret Mary, Denise, and Stella.



Margaret Mary became the first to join the Benedictine Sisters, but she was followed by two of her sisters, Denise and Stella Marie. Margaret Mary would eventually work for the diocesan bishop in the planning office and Stella would serve as head of the religious education department. Denise would serve hospitals both in and

When I asked Srs. Denise and Stella whom they considered a primary influence to entering St. Walburg, they both cited their sister Maggie who entered in 1950. Denise also named Fr. Ed Bauman who was spiritual director for the sodality to which she belonged. He took the group to visit the Sisters of Divine Providence and Charity of Nazareth. Five of the sodality girls entered the CDP's, but she chose the Benedictines where Maggie had already entered. Even before Stella considered religious life, during childhood she had years of experience of visiting St. Walburg regularly





Left: The Gough family
 Lower left: Srs. Stella Marie, Denise, and Margaret Mary
 Above: Srs. Stella Marie, Margaret Mary, and Denise
 Upper right: Sr. Denise on phone duty
 Lower right: Sr. Stella Marie

to see her sisters. She commented: “I swear Maggie and Denise prayed me in!” Because their graduation was from a commercial high school, all three sisters had to get additional credits before going on to advanced studies. They accomplished this with tutoring from sisters like Samuel and Carmella Azzolina and Maureen Ceboll. When this was completed, Maggie and Stella went on to Villa Madonna College. Denise volunteered for nursing school, largely due to the influence of her 1st cousin Florence Wolkerling who served during the war as a nurse in the branch of service attached to the Women’s Army Corps (WACS). Denise was sent to St. Elizabeth Hospital’s School of Nursing in Covington. After graduation from St. E’s, she served in the Benedictine community’s mountain hospital in Hazard, KY. Then in 1965 she went to St. Cloud, MN, to become an anesthetist; the school was run by the Benedictine sisters of St. Joseph, MN. Denise thinks of that community with great fondness, especially how they helped her when her father died in 1966; they were very compassionate and helpful. She remembers in particular their help with packing and taking her to the airport.

Stella worked a year or two before entering St. Walburg. Once a member, she

was assigned to be an elementary teacher, and like many of the community’s teachers, she got her college credits from Villa Madonna College by going in summers and on weekends, times she wasn’t in the classroom. After graduation she got her MA at Xavier University and a theology certificate from the University of Notre Dame. While teaching at St. Henry and other schools she began working extensively with religious education for adults and with CCD for students who weren’t able to get religion classes at the schools they were attending. This ministry paved the way for her being hired in time to be head of religious education for the diocese of Covington.

Since becoming part of the Benedictine community, their ministries have taken Srs. Stella and Denise on different paths around the state and beyond. Denise served in the community’s mountain hospitals and those in Colorado, as well as in St. Clare Medical Center in Morehead, a facility run by the Covington Sisters of Notre Dame. Besides her education ministries around the diocese, Stella has had a number of ministries within the monastery house. Currently she is coordinator for health care scheduling and purchasing, and on the side, she is a cantor for liturgies. In the past she also wore the

hat of house and transportation coordinator.

When asked what her favorite period of ministry was, Stella said it was her time at St. Henry Parish when she was working alongside so many generous, capable, hardworking laypeople in CCD. Another favorite period was 25 years as a member of the Athenaeum chorale, organized as part of the Cincinnati Archdiocesan seminary. The enrichment that was hers through this experience in turn has enriched the music ministry of the St. Walburg community.

Denise said she liked everywhere she served, but Morehead had the added benefit of her being able to get back to the monastery more frequently than when she was in other places.

Born in the shadow of the Cathedral, despite all the ups and downs, gains and losses over the years, Stella and Denise remain faithful servants of the church. Always sisters in more ways than one, as the years pass they persevere in a ministry of care and prayer for each other, the community, and all who share their life in any way. Frank and Catherine, through Stella, Denise, Margaret Mary, and all their siblings, left a significant gift to this Northern KY community.



The Chronicles

by Sr. Mary Tewes

April 2-9: Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday liturgy and goes through Easter evening. Many folks join the community for the special liturgies of Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday and Easter Sunday.

April 3: **Sr. Andrea Collopy** (96) died peacefully just four days shy of her 97th birthday. Her Vigil was on April 11; funeral and burial on April 12. Many of her former students from VMA attended as well as her large family. She taught at Villa Madonna Academy for 40 years.

April -July: **Pat Swanke** came back to the monastery each month from the cold North to pitch in with tasks. She receives a warm welcome.

April 21-22: **Sr. Aileen** and **Sr. Julie Sewell** from Beech Grove, IN met with the council of the Ferdinand, IN monastery to discuss intercommunity collaboration.

April 21-23: **Sr. Dorothy Schuette** to Milford Retreat Center to be a spiritual director for some of the participants.

April 22: Spring Spirituality Day featured Rabbi Miriam Terlinchamp, of Temple Shalom in Cincinnati; "Women in Scripture: A Jewish Perspective." About 65 participated from the greater Cincinnati area. Benedictine Oblates helped to set up and host the day.

April 22: **Sr. Cathy Bauer** joined with local vocation directors to host a service day at Covington, KY area agencies for interested young people.

Feb. – May: Sisters prepared reflections on the Sunday gospels throughout the Lent/Easter Season: **Srs. Aileen, Deborah, Dorothy, Rita, Kimberly, Eileen, Mary Tewes, and Christa**. These were included in the live-streaming of Saturday Evening Prayer.

April: St. Walburg welcomed **Becky Motley** as part of the Advancement office. She and **Sr. Eileen O'Connell** work together to keep our publics informed about the monastery, its needs and news.

April 24: Students from VMA Elementary Student Council returned for a bingo party with the Sisters. Everyone enjoyed the time together and the prizes they brought.

April 26: **Srs. Rita and Kimberly** hosted Poetry Night.

May 1-2: The LCWR Regional meeting was held at the Sisters of Charity motherhouse in Cincinnati. **Srs. Aileen Bankemper & Rita Brink** attended along with **Sr. Anita Louise Lowe**, prioress of Immaculate Conception Monastery, Ferdinand, IN.

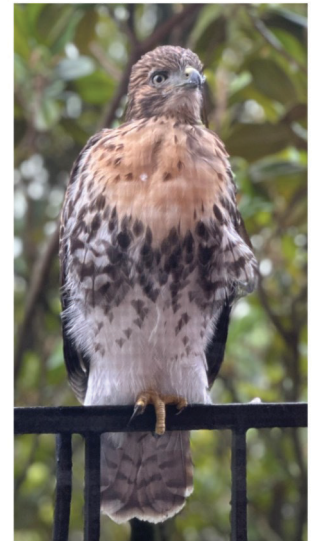
May 10: **Sr. Kathleen Ryan** was invited to attend and speak at the 1959 Time Capsule Opening ceremony at St. John School in Georgetown, Kentucky. Sr. Kathleen (as Sr. Patrick) was a first grade teacher along with Sr. Scholastica and Sr. Jean at that time. Sr. Kathleen was invited to attend because she is the oldest living teacher from that time. You can hear her stories on Facebook.

May 10: **Sr. Barbara Woeste** hosted 13 of the cathedral RCIA participants at the monastery for dinner, Night Prayer and a tour.

May 20: Nine of our sisters joined in the zoom workshop on "Laudato Si: Spirituality, Challenges & Opportunities", hosted by the Franciscans of Oldenburg, IN. Carolyn Cromer, the director of Environmental Office for the Sisters of Charity in Nazareth, KY, presented.



Pat Swanke and Sr. Martha Walther



A Cooper's (perhaps) hawk visits.



VMA student and Sr. Rosemary



May 22: **Sr. Anita Louise Lowe**, Prioress of Immaculate Conception Monastery in Ferdinand, IN and **Sr. Julie Sewell**, Prioress of Our Lady of Grace Monastery in Beech Grove, IN, came to meet with Sr. Aileen and the Monastic Council to discuss intercommunity collaboration.

May 25: **Sr. Rebecca Abel**, the archivist for the Ferdinand, IN community, came for lunch and a tour of our monastery along with her assistant, Pat and his wife and two other sisters from the Philippines.

June 6-11: **Sr. Kimberly Porter** traveled to Mt. St. Scholastica Monastery in Atchison, KS to facilitate the discernment process for election of prioress, along with **Sr. Sharon Nohner** and **Sr. Lynn McKenzie**, Congregation President.



Sr. Cathy and Kyle Isaack at the Serra Club picnic



Sr. Mary Carol and students

multitude of appreciative students. She continues to play for Eucharist and Liturgy of the Hours at the monastery.

June 17: Sisters enjoyed the 10th annual Women Religious Picnic at Ryland Lakes Country Club sponsored by the Serra Club.

June 7-8: **Sr. Aileen** and **Sr. Anita Louise Lowe** from Ferdinand, IN met with the Council members of the Beech Grove, IN, monastery to further the discussion of intercommunity collaboration.

June 10: **Sr. Mary Tewes**, Oblate Director, conducted an information/formation session for new oblate inquirers along with the coordinating committee in the morning. In the afternoon the Oblates prepared an ice cream social for the sisters, with music by The Hills of KY Dulcimer Group and bingo.

June 11: **Sr. Mary Carol Hellmann** held her last piano recital. Five of her students performed with family and sisters in attendance. Sister Mary Carol enjoyed many years with a

June 22-24: **Sr. Mary Hughes, OP** facilitated Community Days on Future Planning. Much work to prepare for the extended meeting, and much yet to accomplish.

June 28-July 14: An ECGMG-certified international medical student from Nepal is pursuing her medical residency training in the United States. **Dr. Ayushi Awale** did an internship at St. Elizabeth Healthcare in Edgewood, KY. **Srs Barbara** and **Cathy** hosted her at Cottage 7 during her time in NKy

July 1: Four Benedictine Sisters, tech specialists from various monasteries, came for a tour. They are preparing for the July gathering of the Under 55 Group in Norfolk, NE.

July 21-25: **Srs. Kimberly Porter & Eileen O'Connell** joined the gathering of the under 55 group of Benedictine women in Norfolk, NE at the monastery of the Missionary Benedictine Sisters.

July 26: **Sr. Cathy** led the Seek Retreat for the youth of St. Joseph Parish, Crescent Springs, KY.

July 30 – Aug. 4: **Sr. Cecilia Dwyer, OSB**, of Bristow, VA directed the community retreat: “A Single Ray of Light: The Dimensions of an Extravagant Heart.”

Aug. 5: Jubilee: **Sr. Mary Carol Hellmann** (70 years) & **Sr. Sharon Portwood** (60 years) renewed their monastic profession at Evening Prayer, followed by a festive dinner.

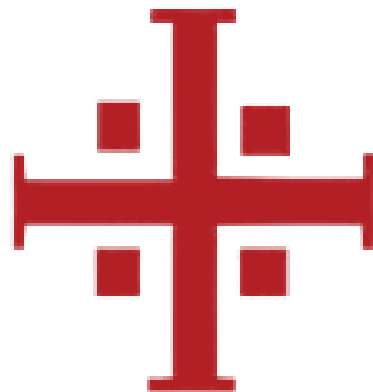


Sr. Cecilia Dwyer, OSB



in memoriam

sr. andrea collopy



Sister Andrea Collopy was born on April 7, 1926 to Edward Charles Collopy and Marie Schawe Collopy and given the name Ruth Cecilia. Ruth was the oldest of eight; three brothers and four sisters followed.



Ruth entered St. Walburg Monastery in 1944, became a novice in 1945, and received the name Andrea. First profession followed in 1946, perpetual in 1949, silver jubilee in 1971, golden in 1996, 60th in 2006, and diamond in 2021.

Sister Andrea taught for a year at St. Benedict’s in Covington before moving in 1950 to Villa Madonna Academy, where she served for 40 years, including five as director of the boarding school. She completed her bachelor’s degree in English and History at Villa Madonna College in 1950, and her MA in English at the University of Notre Dame in 1955.

Sr. Andrea taught English, History and Latin at VMA. To one Current Events student, Sr. Andrea seemed to have comprehensive knowledge of the entire world; it was daunting to take one of her exams. She invited students to meet her high standards with warmth and understanding. In 40 years of teaching Sr. Andrea taught generations of students who remember her with love and respect.

Sr. Andrea took on several roles within the Benedictine community: community secretary, procurator, house coordinator, infirmary coordinator, and subprioress. Sr. Mary Catherine Wenstrup comments: “She kept me [as prioress] from making many mistakes and foolish judgments.”

Sr. Andrea’s file gives 2003 as her “retirement”, although her generous and hard work persisted. She was the first to sub for someone who needed it. She wrote thoughtful thank-you

notes to donors, conducted exercises for the sisters, kept up the Chronicles for *Leaven*, and crocheted endless baby booties while on phone duty: cowboy boots, inline skates, saddle shoes and work boots. Humble, honest, and gracious, she still worried that she might not be good enough for heaven.

After a few years of worsening memory, Sister Andrea died in the evening of April 3, 2023. She is preceded in death by her parents Edward C. and Marie Schawe Collopy, her brothers, James, Thomas and Edward, Jr. She is survived by her sisters Mary Wright, Rita Thaman, Ann Egbers, Claire Heringer, many nieces and nephews, and her Benedictine community.

Vigil service was held the evening of April 11, 2023 and the Mass of Christian Burial on April 12, 2023 followed by interment at St. Walburg Cemetery.





Above: Participants in the 55 and Under Conference
 Right: Srs. Eileen O'Connell and Kimberly Porter
 at Immaculata Monastery, Norfolk, NE

This past July, Srs. Kimberly Porter and Eileen O'Connell attended the 55 & Under Conference: Companions on the Journey: Building Bridges of Hope. The conference took place at the Missionary Benedictines in Norfolk, NE. This was the second gathering in a three-year process of collaboration, vision, and future planning and included Benedictine sisters from across North America.

55 and under

The keynote speaker was Sr. Lynn McKenzie, president of the Congregation of St. Scholastica. Sr. Lynn said, "Listening is the key to collaboration." We must be genuinely interested in what the other person has to say and follow the instruction of St. Benedict: listening, bearing with one another, being the first to show respect, and not being obstinate. Sr. Lynn continued by saying in the future, there will be new forms of networking and collaboration with Benedictines, nationally, internationally, and intergenerationally in order to foster new ways of living monastic life.

"Alone we can do so little. Together we can do so much." Helen Keller

The approximately fifty sisters in attendance then practiced collaboration skills by volunteering for one of two service projects. Sr. Eileen sorted and re-boxed clothes for the Orphan Train while Sr. Kimberly spent the afternoon at Mercy Meals packaging nutritious meals to help reverse malnutrition.

What is something you think needs to be addressed for the future of Benedictine life that can result in action? After brainstorming in groups, each sister submitted her choice for a project to work on with others. Coincidentally, Srs. Kimberly and Eileen both chose leadership as their topic. We will meet with our group via Zoom several times in the coming year. Then the 55 & under group will reconvene in Yankton, SD and present their projects to the congregation presidents.

by Sr. Eileen O'Connell



Sr. Eileen O'Connell with Sr. Jill Reuber from Ferdinand, IN and Sr. Barbara Kowalkowski from Yankton, SD



BENEDICTINE OBLATES

dottie
due

in memoriam

by Sr. Dorothy Schuette



Benedictine oblate Dottie Hellmann Due passed away on May 10 of this year after several years of following the Lord through the path of cancer and its effects in her life. Dottie and soulmate, Dave Due married in 1961, raised daughters Terri (Kurt) Stetter, Christi (John) Doyle and Cyndi (Chuck) Davis whom they continue to nurture along with several grandchildren and extended family.

Dottie embodied Benedictine values. With (9-10) siblings in the Hellmann family including Benedictine Sister Mary Carol, she embraced a community orientation with active concern for each other. Her Christ-centeredness was apparent in her decision to try out becoming a sister of St. Walburg Monastery where she discovered God's voice calling her to her true vocation as wife and mother. After a career as support staff for medical professionals, Dottie was drawn to explore spiritual ministry in the church and as a hospital chaplain. She was a recognized spiritual mentor by many in her circle as well as by the sisters to whom she ministered here in the monastery infirmary as they encountered her loving presence. Dottie became an oblate in October, 2010, and was appreciated for her spirituality by many of the other oblates. She is held with gratitude in our prayers.

For an extended obituary go to: <https://www.middendorf-funeralhome.com/obituaries/dorothy-due>

Interested in becoming an oblate?

Sr. Mary Tewes hosted an oblate inquirer orientation session the morning of June 10. We were happy to have the assistance of Sr. Dorothy Schuette and several seasoned oblates here with us to share the message and witness to their Benedictine vocation. Formation sessions culminating in a formal oblation ceremony at St. Walburg Monastery will be held in the fall-winter. Interested persons are very welcome. Contact Sr. Mary Tewes at 859-331-6324 or email marytewes@gmail.com.



Above: Inquirers Karen Bowe, Yulli Nieves, and Carol Leonhart (seated)
To the left: Jessie Lamantia, Gail and Dick Michalack, Mary Jo Rechtin, Margie Hardebeck, and Gayle Underdown





On June 10, the sisters enjoyed a concert by the Hills of Kentucky Dulcimer Society. Benedictine oblate Gail Michalack, pictured in the front row second from the right, is part of the group and arranged for the concert and procured the ice cream for the social.

Thanks, also, to Mary Easterling for planning and organizing the afternoon of bingo and to the many oblates who participated and visited.

ice cream social



Above: Vickie and John Cimprich, and Sr. Nancy
 Top right: Louise Jewett, Margie Hardebeck, and Sharon Rust
 Bottom right: Sr. Ann John, Yulli Nieves, Jessie and Stephen Lamantia



vma: here, we belong

In a year filled with community and hospitality, we educated students in the Benedictine tradition. Our theme of *Here, We Belong* was the focus for all endeavors. It will be our theme, again, for the new school year as we welcome with hearts full of love and joy the 2023-2024 school year! As grades K-12 share the main building, we look forward to the renovation on the Center Building. If you are interested in donating to the capital campaign, please contact Sr. Nancy Kordenbrock at: nkordenbrock@yahoo.com. Keep an eye on social media for the

official groundbreaking in September!

Other events to look forward to this year include a first ever homecoming soccer double-header and homecoming dance, and plays in the fall, at Christmas, and the spring musical. The elementary school will also have plays and musicals to look forward to throughout the year.

The year will begin with a special mass in the gym with Bishop Iffert at 10:00 a.m. You are invited to any and all events. We'd love to see you there!



in memoriam

The Sisters of St. Walburg Monastery, along with the Villa community, mourn the loss of Chase (VMA '23) and Cole (8th grade graduate) Fischer. The brothers died in a boating accident in July. In words from their memorial booklet, "They will be remembered every single day for the smiles and love they gave

others. And in remembering, we are filled with overwhelming gratitude for their presence in our lives, making each day more special." Our prayers will continue for all of the family and friends of Chase and Cole, especially their parents Greg and Amy, and their sister Isabelle.



Villa Madonna
Academy





vma class of 2023



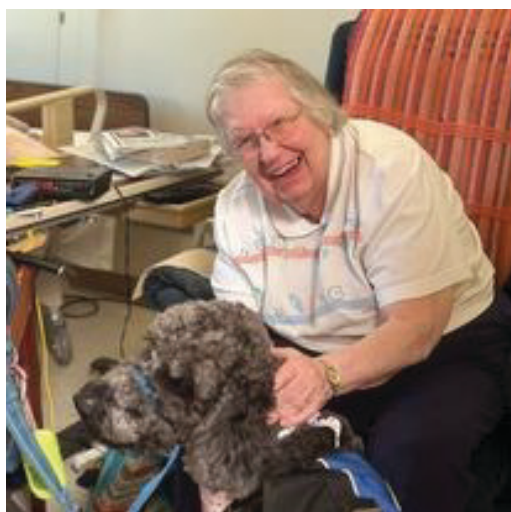
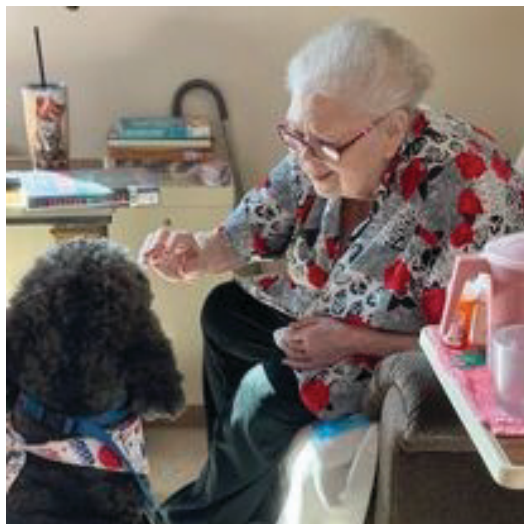
VMA graduate Eli Cordonnier received a special blessing from Fr. Steve Walter and the community before Eli left for the Marines later in the day. Eli was greeted by teachers, classmates and other friends lining the driveway as he left the chapel.



Elementary school principal Soshana Bosley at this spring's kindergarten graduation



the dog (and bird) days of summer



Summer always brings visitors and many activities! Corey, Maria Borchardt's therapy dog (pictured center left with son, Brian, and Sr. Nancy) makes regular visits to the infirmary. Sr. Deborah (top left) and Sr. Colleen (bottom left) were happy for the visit.

Meanwhile, Sr. Grace Schmersal, CDP comes on Mondays to lead the sisters in various activities. Seen at the table making "be kind" birds are Sr. Grace, Sr. Mary Rabe, Sr. Martha, Sr. Emmanuel, Sr. Nancy, and Sr. Mary Carol. The birds landed on the dining room tables after the project.



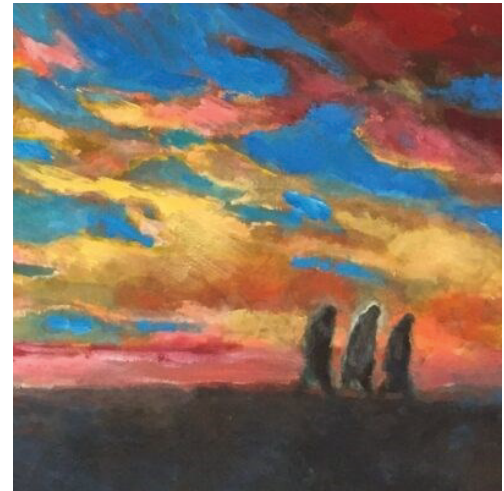
looking ahead . . .

day of spirituality

St. Walburg Monastery is pleased to welcome Sr. Olga Wittekind to be our next speaker at our September 30 Day of Spirituality, entitled *The Spirituality of Presence*. When asked about the morning, Sr. Olga sent this description:

When you think of God, what images come to mind? Do you see God in others? Do you acknowledge God's presence in you in each circumstance and situation of your everyday life? Listen to your life. Listen to what happens to you, because it is through what happens to you that God speaks to others. A favorite Bible story of Jesus meeting the disciples on the Road to Emmaus might encourage us today. God's presence with us, in us on our journey of life enables us to bring God's divinity and divine energy *through us* to the world. We can be a Spirituality of Presence. Aren't we blessed!

Please see the back cover of this issue of Leaven to register.



wish list

The community recently received a grant to replace the 25-year old mattresses on the beds in the infirmary. There are approximately twenty beds in the infirmary. When the mattresses arrive, new extra long sheets are also needed due to the larger size. If you would like to help,

TWIN SHEET SETS, XL

As always, we thank you for your prayers and support.



Benedictine Sisters Annual
Thanksgiving Pie Sale
PROCEEDS WILL BENEFIT THE EMERGENCY SHELTER OF NORTHERN KENTUCKY



Mark your calendar for Tuesday, November 21

For more information, follow us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/Benedictine Sisters of St. Walburg Monastery of Covington, Kentucky](http://www.facebook.com/Benedictine%20Sisters%20of%20St.%20Walburg%20Monastery%20of%20Covington,%20Kentucky) or email swm.development@gmail.com



DON'T MISS OUT!

Each week on Facebook, we have been sharing memories of the past in our Throwback Thursday features and on Mondays, the art of Sr. Emmanuel.

We will be sharing some exciting news soon!

Follow us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/Benedictine Sisters of St. Walburg Monastery of Covington, Kentucky](http://www.facebook.com/Benedictine%20Sisters%20of%20St.%20Walburg%20Monastery%20of%20Covington,%20Kentucky) or email swm.development@gmail.com.





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Permit No. 1611

SAVE THE DATE

The Spirituality of Presence

Sr. Olga Wittekind, OSF, Ph.D.

Saturday, September 30, 2023

Time: 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Lower Level of Monastery



Dr. Wittekind is a Franciscan Sister from Oldenburg, IN. Former teacher of clinical psychology at Marian College, Indianapolis, IN., she is currently the Director of Oldenburg Franciscan Center, Jungian analyst, spiritual director, and retreat director.

**To register, email kybenedictines@gmail.com or call 859-331-6324
\$25 suggested registration fee by check or cash only.**