



Sisters of  
St. Francis  
of Assisi

# NOJOSHING NOTES

Spring 2019  
Volume 33, Number 2

3221 SOUTH LAKE DRIVE, ST. FRANCIS, WISCONSIN 53235-3799 [www.lakeosfs.org](http://www.lakeosfs.org)

*NOJOSHING is an Indian word. It means "Straight Tongue."*

*In 1849, the Sisters of St. Francis of Assisi built their Motherhouse on land that was called Nojoshing by the Indians, because it protrudes out into Lake Michigan like a straight tongue.*

## *OSF Election:* 2019-2023 Team Named



**A**t Chapter of Elections held in April, the congregation elected its Administrative Team for 2019- 2023. The Team will be installed at a special Mass in St. Francis Chapel at the Motherhouse on June 9, Pentecost Sunday.

**T**he Team consists of Sr. Diana De Bruin, OSF, (center), who will continue to serve as the director of the congregation. Sr. Ellen Carr, OSF, (left), was elected to the position of associate director and vicar, and Sr. Kathryn Dean "KD" Strandell, OSF, (right), was chosen as associate director.

**E**lections are held by the congregation every four years, and the Team is elected from a group that has been nominated by the members of the congregation. Those nominated then spend time in discernment to determine if congregation leadership is their calling. Those who discern a positive response are then part of the election process.

## Three Make OSF Associate Commitment

On April 28, associates, sisters, family and friends gathered for the first associate commitment of Carol Wilant, Wendy Cetera and Teresa Mrnik. The joyous celebration for these three dedicated women was held in St. Francis Chapel at 2 p.m.

Wendy, Teresa and Carol had been preparing diligently for this day, and were accompanied by their sponsors, Sisters Marlene Stawski, Joan Bukrey, Ceil Struck and Mary Kemen.

The three new associates are very committed to living the OSF charism and mission, and have had significant experiences to help them deeply embrace cherished Franciscan values.

See photos on Page 3

# The Rippling Sounds of Water Music

Beautiful music filled the halls of St. Francis Convent and Chapel on Saturday, January 26. The Gutekunst Flute Ensemble from Milwaukee, Wisconsin, provided a free concert for the Sisters of St. Francis of Assisi and the people of the Greater Milwaukee community. The Ensemble was founded in 2002 by Karen Gutekunst, and it originally was known as the “Ladies of the Flute.” In 2010, it became known by its present title in tribute to its founder. Today the Ensemble performs throughout Southeastern Wisconsin.

It was fitting that the theme of the concert was water since Lake Michigan is across the street from St. Francis Convent. Musical selections, written by well-known composers from the Baroque era to the present day, were performed. All of the music was inspired by water in all its forms: rain, snow, ice, rivers, and lakes.

The audience was introduced to various types of flutes which, when played together, filled the air with beautiful harmonious melodies. The music brought to mind images and memories of one’s own experience of water in its many forms.

St. Francis of Assisi, in his *Canticle of the Sun*, refers to water as “Sister Water.” He describes her as “useful, lowly, precious, and pure.” Along with Francis, the Gutekunst Flute Ensemble reminds us



that water is one of God’s gifts entrusted to our care.

The sisters are grateful for the free-will donation that was collected at the concert to help with the construction of their new convent.



# Bequests

## With Gratitude to

*Since January 2018*

Margherit Ratto  
Mary Grahe  
Jeannette Maschmann  
Mary Carl  
Carl Wagner  
Silvia Calesini  
Melvin Michalski  
Kelm Erdmann  
Eleanor Lindsley  
Dorothy Wolf  
Frances Kober  
Geraldine Pekarek

**Total \$693,388**

## Keys to New Convent



A symbolic ceremony of handing over the key to the new convent was held on April 23. Sr. Diana De Bruin, director of the congregation, is seen here unlocking the front door for the first time. However, the building has a few more inspections to pass and some details to finish up before occupancy takes place.

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## OSF Associate Commitment

New associates (left to right) Wendy Cetera, Teresa Mrnik and Carol Wilant.



# CONSTRUCTION ADMINISTRATION UPDATE



**NEW CONVENT COMPLETION**  
April 2019

**SQUARE FEET**  
130,000

**GROTH DESIGN PARTNER/ARCHITECT**  
Steve Petitt, AIA

**GROTH DESIGN PROJECT MANAGER**  
Nathan Pamperin

**CONSTRUCTION ADMINISTRATION**  
Mike McGraw, CDT

**VJS PRINCIPAL IN CHARGE**  
Chris Sauve'

**VJS PROJECT MANAGERS**  
Ben Baenen - Senior PM  
Chad Kucik - PM

**PROJECT COORDINATOR**  
Erika Lingle

**SITE SUPERINTENDENT**  
Dave Lamb



## Sisters of St. Francis of Assisi New Convent



## WHAT'S HAPPENING NOW?

### Clare Circle (Building 1):

- Final cleaning is ongoing.
- Elevator installation is nearing completion.

### Town Square (Building 2):

- Basement flooring complete.
- Interior carpentry is ongoing and nearly complete.
- Installation of rosette windows has begun.
- Level 01 lobby tile installation is nearly complete.

### Elizabeth Hall (Building 3):

- Final cleaning is ongoing.
- Level 02 patio screen installation is complete.

### Exterior Site Work:

- Sidewalk installation nearing completion.
- Landscape to start as weather permits.

*Issued 4/18/19*

**Please remember the  
Sisters of St. Francis of Assisi  
in your will.**

**A bequest is a wonderful way to support  
our retired sisters and is a testimony of  
your care and concern for them.**

**Nojoshing Notes is a publication of the  
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