



Blessings

The Community Parish Nurse Program
Sponsored by The Carle Foundation

January 2008

Coordinator's Corner

Happy 2008!

I am composing this missive while it is 62 degrees outside. It is positively surreal to think it is January in the Midwest!

This month's Journal of Christian Nursing has a good article on what makes a parish nurse program successful—well worth taking the time to read.

Keep an eye out for ads in your local papers regarding our spring class. It will be held during three weekends this March and April. We are looking forward to it!

Jenny Trimmell (Spring 2000) and I are headed over to BroMenn on Feb 12 for an evening program. We will present the information that we gave to the Vermillion county nurses last fall. Jenny opens the evening with a great "rock" devotion that I am sure you will find meaningful. We then discuss what info makes for an

effective newsletter article and review some of the ministry ideas faith community nurses in our program have utilized. This is open to all parish nurses and not limited to those in McLean county. Please contact Jo Samara (jsamara@bromenn.org) for more information.

Several of your congregations offered services of remembrance for those members struggling with grief this holiday season. There was an interesting study published in 2007 regarding the effect of YEARNING on the grief process. This study talked about the peak of yearning (hoping, praying, waiting and wanting the person to come back) being at four months. I found this fascinating. One must be careful though not to confuse that timetable with one for the total grief

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process. I worked on a program this past summer/fall with JoVeta Wescott from Kansas on Grief based on the book *Transcending Loss*. It is an excellent resource for someone who desires more information on the grief/adjustment process.

For many the shopping has ended but the January bills will be arriving soon. This is a good time to schedule a program on credit cards and financial savvy. Statistics show that the majority of young couples/families truly do not understand how credit works and have grown up in a "whoever has the most toys wins" society.

This type of thinking may be deadly to a relationship. Money is listed as the number 1 reason couples divorce. There are several faith based consumer credit programs out there that you can use. For a secular based program, contact your local farm bureau for a good speaker/program.

I still have some dates open to speak for your Mother/Daughter programs this spring. Please let me know if we can find a day that will work for you.

NEED HELP? Write an article for your church newsletter, send a personal note to the nurses in your church to consider taking our class this spring.

Please take a moment to pray for those listed on our prayer list this month. Our hearts go out to our colleague Cathy Rinehart (Fall 2002) whose son died this past week. Cathy, his wife and young child are grieving the loss of an incredible son, husband and father.

Please contact Bev or me if you are in need of any resources.

Blessings,

Faith



Congratulations to Fran Renken (Fall 2003) of St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church on their 1st Healing Service in Flanagan, IL.

I have a prayer request for one of our clinic nurses. Deb Osterbur, RN, from our Orthopedics department, was diagnosed with lung cancer in October. She is going through treatment right now; radiation and chemotherapy. She would really appreciate our prayers for her and her family.

Jamie Nickell
Spring 1998

Deb Osterbur
2594 C.R. 2145 N.
St Joseph, IL 61873

Prayer List - Please Pray for:

Family of Mel Billman

Ackermann family

*Ross Carranza—8 year old nephew of Leticia Montesdeoca with
Stephen Johnson Syndrome*

Jim Brackney—friend of Jo Thompson

Kathie & Jim Buttitta

Faye Williamson & family

Sheri Sikma and her husband

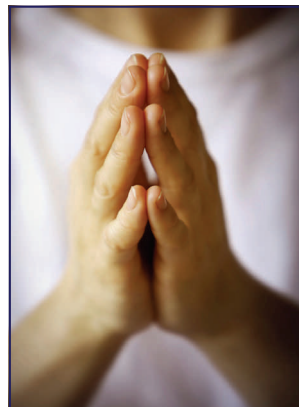
Nancy Roth

Mary Weicherding and her daughter

Nancy Bree

The parish nurse who is inactive due to poor health

*The church who is desperately hoping for calm leadership during a
rough transition of power*



Prayer Requests/Updates

Hello dear family and friends-
Dan and Cheryl are expecting twins in May. Last week at their 20 week ultrasound they learned that they are dealing with TTTS--translated means Twin to Twin Transfusion syndrome. The medical persons among you may know a lot about this, but for the others who may want to learn more, go to www.tttfoundation.org

THIS SYNDROME IS NOT A GOOD THING!!!! They are seeing a perinonatologist, who will be following her very closely--perhaps every week (or more) for awhile. She will need to have frequent amniocentesis, and she may have a laser type of treatment to try

My friend, Jolee Mohr, did pass away in July. She was 36 years old. She was given an investigational injection (genetic study for RA) on July 2nd and became gravely ill within 1 week and died shortly thereafter. It has been a very trying time for her husband and daughter (5 years old) and the rest of her family. She was my very dear friend from the age of 4 and we were each other's maids- of honor. I did get to see her before she died and am positive she knew I was there, even though she was on a respirator and was heavily sedated. She interacted with me and

to correct the problem. We are praying for the survival of the babies, and ask for your prayers for them as well. Also pray for Dan and Cheryl--it is hard to believe that they are again on such a tough journey not knowing what the outcome of this all will be. (Holli had neuroblastoma a few years ago) My heart cries out for them--Dan, Cheryl, and Holli and for these yet unknown wee little ones!!

Thank you for your prayers!!
Marge Nester
Fall 2003



tears fell when I said good-bye. She suffered greatly (liver failure, kidney failure, blood clots, respiratory failure, pancreatic failure) and you may read about her on going "case" through Google. Just type in Jolee Mohr and you can receive thousands of hits. Thanks for praying and those of us who loved her could use continued prayer for healing and peace.

Jennifer Brackenhoff,
Fall 2004



Parish Nurse in the News

Nurses attending the Retired Nurses Luncheon at the INA 2007 Convention heard **Margaret Miller (Winter 2006)** present a progress report on efforts to organize retired nurses in District 10 over the past bi-ennium. Retired nurses' organizations have now been formed in the three counties of Monroe, St. Clair and Madison, Illinois.

The initial step is finding a name or two of retired nurses to form a nucleus. From them, other names are obtained, a date, time, and place for an initial meeting is set up, invitational letters are sent out, and articles are visited by retirees also helps generate new names. In Madison County, two local hospitals have alumni reunions at which brochures were distributed and many attended the next meeting as a result of the brochures.

Margaret later shared the future plans. By supporting nursing's past, Margaret is definitely making a difference in nursing's future. Margaret is a member of the Monroe County's group and is the only INA member in the group. Their group met three times in

2007. They have had presentations by a master gardener from the University of Illinois Extension office, the county ambulance service, and by one of the owners of a local company that makes soaps lotions and creams.

Documents and tools were provided for all luncheon attendees to help them with establishing retired nurse organizations in their own districts. All were reminded that INAF funds are available to cover any organizational expenses over the next bi-ennium. Persons involved in organizational activities that generate expenses need only send receipts to Margaret for reimbursement.

For more information on organizing retired nurses, interested persons can call one of the INA offices or contact Margaret Miller at 618-939-8124 or at fmnm@htc.net

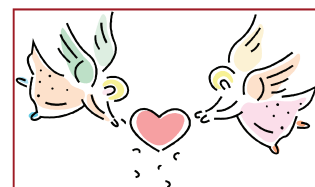
For the full article, go to page 14: www.illinoisnurses.com/associations/4741/files/illinoisnurse/IL012008.pdf

The Caring Touch of a Guardian Angel

At HCR Manor Care we are committed to providing the care and services our residents need to be as comfortable as possible. And, to meet their expectations we designed the "Guardian Angel" program, which pairs a staff member with an incoming resident to answer questions and ease concerns. Our hopes? To achieve high levels of customer satisfaction. It's just one more way that HCR Manor Care is striving to become

your first choice when it comes to skilled nursing and rehabilitation.

For more information about our Guardian Angel program and our services, call the location nearest you or visit our website at www.hcr-manorcare.com



In the New Year

Lord, give us a tender heart.
Let us do loving things
that surprise even ourselves.

Let us stop daily to
talk to people who need a good
word, mend what is broken, and
touch what needs to be loved.

Make us more aware
of the tiny surprises
that are scattered like secrets
all around us.

Let us notice such things we have
forgotten, and those persons of
whom we have grown weary.

May we see them in a new way
so that we have a new word from
them. As we busily set out to do the
large tasks, may we find more time
for small celebrations.

O Christ, give us the grace
to live out each day
as though it were a gift.
O Spirit, surprise us often.
Then let us show our great surprise.

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Please acknowledge Wheat Ridge in all reprints.

Health & Human Services tools for Pandemic Preparedness

HHS offers tools to promote local pandemic preparedness

The US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has released a toolkit to help community leaders educate their constituents about steps they can take to prepare for an influenza pandemic. The 21-item toolkit is aimed at groups such as churches and business, healthcare,

and civic organizations. The package of materials includes several components that groups can adapt to meet their needs, including talking points, checklists, fact sheets, sample e-mails, and sample newsletter articles.

[www.pandemicflu.gov/
takethelead/index.html](http://www.pandemicflu.gov/takethelead/index.html)

Education Resources

Winter 2008 Parish Nurse Class

*The Winter 2008 Community Parish Nurse Program
Basic Preparation Course will be held in Champaign on:*

March 7, 8

March 28, 29

April 18, 19, 20

Fridays 5:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

Saturdays 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Sunday 12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

*If you are interested in attending this course, call
(217) 326-2583 for a registration form.*

*College credit is now available through the
UIC College of Nursing. For further information,
contact Faith Roberts at
(217) 326-2683.*

SPRINGFIELD AREA

Springfield Parish Nurse Course

The class dates for the 2008
Springfield Parish Nurse Class are:

March 14, 15

March 28, 29

April 11, 12

April 25, 26

Fridays 5:00 pm—9:00 pm
Saturdays 8:00 am—5:00 pm

Classes are held in Springfield.

Contact Tracey Kreipe at
Tracey.Kreipe@st-johns.org



RESOURCES

National Health Observances

January

National Glaucoma Awareness Month

Prevent Blindness America
211 West Wacker Dr., Suite 1700
Chicago, IL 60606
(800) 331-2020

info@preventblindness.org

www.preventblindness.org

Materials available

February

American Heart Month

American Heart Association
7272 Greenville Avenue
Dallas, TX 75231
(800) 242-8721

inquires@heart.org

www.americanheart.org

Materials available



February 3-9

National Burn Awareness Week

Shriner's International Headquarters
PO Box 31356

Tampa, FL 33631

(813) 281-0300

www.burnawarenessweek.org

Materials available

February 14

National Donor Day

Division of Transplantation, Healthcare
Systems Bureau

Health Resources & Services Admin.

US Dept of Health & Human Services

Parklawn Bldg, Room 12C-05

5600 Fishers Lane

Rockville, MD 20857

(301)443-7577

ask@hrsa.gov

www.organdonor.gov

Materials available

February 24 (through March 1)

National Eating Disorders Awareness Week

National Eating Disorders Assoc.

603 Stewart Street, Suite 803

Seattle, WA 98101

(800) 931-2239

(206) 382-3587

info@nationaleatingdisorders.org

www.nationaleatingdisorders.org

Materials available

