



Retreat Center to see changes

Change is always with us. Each day brings new encounters, new people, new technology and new possibilities. Change is about the birth of ideas and new possibilities. Change is hard sometimes but it also challenges people to look for new ways of doing things.

Changes are taking place at the Center. Sister Amelia Stenger, who has been director of the Center for the past 12 years, will be leaving the Center on June 30, 2010 to take the position of Director of Development for the Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph. Her new position will include development and fundraising for the ministries of the Ursuline community. The Center is a sponsored institution of the Sisters so she will continue to promote the good works of this retreat ministry but in a different way.

Sister Amelia came to the Center in 1998 when it was just completing a total renovation of the facilities and was in the midst of a capital campaign. During her time here she has helped develop programs and retreats, especially the Spiritual Direction Program, the Discover Nature, Discover Music Camp, and other environmental education programs. She also worked with the staff to provide a peaceful and welcoming atmosphere for over 5,000 people each year.

Through the guidance of the new director, Sister Ann McGrew, the Center will continue to offer retreats and programs and offer hospitality to hosted groups. The calendar for several months is published in this newsletter and also on the Center website: www.msjcenter.org. A number of programs are already scheduled for the coming year. New retreats and programs are always being developed.

In the future you will be able to follow the work of the Center in the publication *Ursulines Alive*. The Center Newsletter is going to become a part of that publication along with some of the other ministries of



Sister Amelia Stenger listens to children playing music during the first Discover Music, Discover Nature, Discover Maple Mount camp held in June 2009.

the Ursuline Sisters. This change will make it possible for you to experience the work of the Center along with some of the other great works of the Sisters. You will also be able to follow the work on Facebook.

The Center has touched over 60,000 people over the past 12 years. Many of those people come back year after year. After a recent retreat, one of the participants wrote a note on her evaluation that sums up the ministry of the Center that will not change. She said, "The minute I came into the Center I was greeted with warmth, kindness, and concern. My spirit was fed with love and my body was fed with delicious food. I am leaving refreshed and whole. Thank you for reviving my spirit with your hospitality and care. God is in this place."

God is in this place and the Center will be here for you when you need a place for peace and quiet. Remember—give peace, quiet and prayer a chance in your life. God will do the changing. ■

OUR MISSION

Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center offers and hosts programs in a rural environment of tranquility for people of all ages and faiths to nurture spiritual and personal growth, advance the arts, and promote lifelong learning.

Dear Friends of the Center,

Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center has been a wonderful part of my life for the past 12 years. At the end of this fiscal year, June 30, I will complete my work here. I have enjoyed meeting so many people from all over the United States and the world. Each one has touched my life in many ways.

Our mission to “offer and host programs in a rural environment of tranquility for people of all ages and faiths to nurture spiritual and personal growth, advance the arts, and promote lifelong learning” was the focus of everything we did and will continue to do at the Center. Our work of prayer, hospitality, and service will always be our most important gift to those who come to stay with us.

I want to thank each of you for the support you have given me and ask that you continue to pray for me as I begin my new work as Director of Development for the Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph. The Center will never be far from my mind and heart because it is a sponsored institution of the Sisters and I will be working to advance our mission of education and faith formation. I am sure I will see many of you as you come to the campus. You are welcome to come across the circle to visit.

I would also like to thank our Center staff for the support they have given over the years. I leave knowing they will continue to serve our guests. They are models of good hospitality, hard work, and caring.

Please continue to support the Center and our new director, Sister Ann McGrew. She and the staff will be here to serve you. You will always be in my thoughts and prayers. Please pray for me. God bless you.

Sr. Amelia Stenger, OSU
Sister Amelia Stenger, OSU

A NOTE TO OUR DEAR READERS:

This will be the last issue of Center News. Our “Center News” will now be included in the Ursulines Alive magazine. If you are not already receiving Ursulines Alive, we will be adding your name to that mailing list. Please contact us if you wish to be removed from our list. Thank you.



Sister Amelia Stenger, second from right, poses with family during the Center's April 24 Hawaiian luau annual dinner. Also pictured, left to right, are her nieces Joan Teder and Ellen Marquart, her sister Mary Teder, and niece Ann Jacobs, all of Missouri.

Thank You

to all current and former members of the Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center Board of Directors who have served faithfully throughout the years.

CURRENT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Mr. Jerry Birge, OSUA
- Mrs. Margaret Birge, OSUA
- Ms. Sandra Elder
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- Sister Sharon Sullivan, OSU

**OSUA designates an Ursuline Associate*



Marian Retreat Oct. 1-3, 2010

With Retreat Director Msgr. Bernard Powers

The annual Marian Retreat includes opportunities for solitude as well as communal prayer, recitation of the rosary, the sacrament of Reconciliation, and Eucharistic Liturgy.

The \$175 fee includes retreat, meals, and accommodations.

Commuters can attend for \$120. Take 10% off if paid in full by Sept. 1, 2010.

Contact Kathy McCarty: 270-229-0200 ext. 413

kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org

Center News is published by Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center, a sponsored ministry of the Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph

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COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST/GRAPHIC DESIGN: Jennifer Kaminski

Sister Ann is new Center director



Sister Ann McGrew stands in front of Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center in April.

Sister Ann McGrew, serving in her 45th year as an Ursuline Sister of Mount Saint Joseph, will become the director of the Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center this summer.

A seven-member search committee recommended Sister Ann for the position, and the Leadership Council unanimously approved her selection. Sister Ann concludes her term on the Leadership Council this July, and will take over as director of the Center on July 1. She replaces Sister Amelia Stenger, who will become the development director for the Ursuline community on Aug. 1.

Sister Ann is a native of St. Paul, Ky., in Grayson County, and has ministered as a teacher, the director of novices and formation for the community, as director of the Newman House at Murray State University, and as supervisor of the Women’s Discernment House and ministry formation program at Brescia University. Her great love is in parish ministry, in which she’s served at St. Leo in Murray, St. Stephen in Owensboro, St. Anthony in Browns Valley, and most recently at St. Martin Parish in Rome, where she led RCIA and prepared children to receive the sacraments.

“RCIA is my favorite ministry,” Sister Ann said. “Participants really want to learn about their faith, and a relationship with God. That’s the most exciting part.”

Sister Ann is one of three Ursuline Sisters who coordinate the Spiritual Direction Institute at the Center, a two-year program that attracts people from across the country who are seeking certification to become spiritual directors. She also served as program facilitator at the Center in 2006-07. She has a master’s degree in religious studies from Loyola University, Chicago, and a master’s

in elementary education and principal certification from Western Kentucky University.

“I hope to be able to take programs out to the parishes, as well as offer retreats here,” Sister Ann said. “An Advisory Board will be put in place to give input with planning and researching possibilities for programs in the parishes and in the Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center.”

Sister Ann will spend the next few months learning about the job. “As an Ursuline Sister of Mount Saint Joseph, I’ve been given opportunities to develop my spiritual life,” she said. “Those experiences gave me the skills I’ll need for the task of director. It’s a risk because I’ve never done it before, but I’m excited about it.”

Sister Ann will also serve as director of the Office of Spiritual Life for the Diocese of Owensboro.

The Conference and Retreat Center opened in 1983, and offers and hosts programs in a rural environment of tranquility for people of all ages and faiths to nurture spirituality and personal growth, advance the arts, and promote lifelong learning. It serves more than 5,000 people a year. ■



CENTERING PRAYER EIGHT DAY INTENSIVE RETREAT

Aug. 27-Sept. 3, 2010

INTENSIVE RETREAT: An in-depth retreat for those interested in entering into the more profound levels of spiritual practice in an atmosphere of silence, solitude, and community. The Intensive Centering Prayer Retreat provides an opportunity to be immersed in the practice of Centering Prayer as taught by Contemplative Outreach. The Intensive features Parts I, II, III of the Spiritual Journey DVD series by Father Thomas Keating. Prior Centering Prayer experience is required.



SISTER MARIA TASTO, OSB

PRESENTER: SISTER MARIA TASTO, OSB
She is a certified presenter of Centering Prayer and a spiritual director. Sister Maria has facilitated many retreats, programs, and workshops nationally and internally and has been a member of the resource faculty.

**To register, contact Kathy McCarty
(270) 229-0200, ext. 413
kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org**

RESIDENT: \$450 INCLUDES ROOM, MEALS, PROGRAM, AND MATERIALS
COMMUTER: \$275 INCLUDES MEALS, PROGRAM, AND MATERIALS
DEDUCT 10% FROM THE TOTAL IF PAID IN FULL BY JULY 27

Center Wish List

New Twin Bedspreads • Twin Sheets • Pillows

Your direct donation or monetary support for any of these items would be greatly appreciated!



Students from the Confirmation classes of Immaculate Conception, Hawesville, and St. Columba, Lewisport, both in Kentucky, play a game during an April 16-17 retreat.



Fr. Larry Hostetter, Brescia University president, addresses the Spiritual Direction Training class at its quarterly session in January.



Participants clap during the April 16-18 Christian Women's Retreat. LEFT: Saint Meinrad seminarians enjoy a wine reception in the Madonna room during their week-long retreat in March.



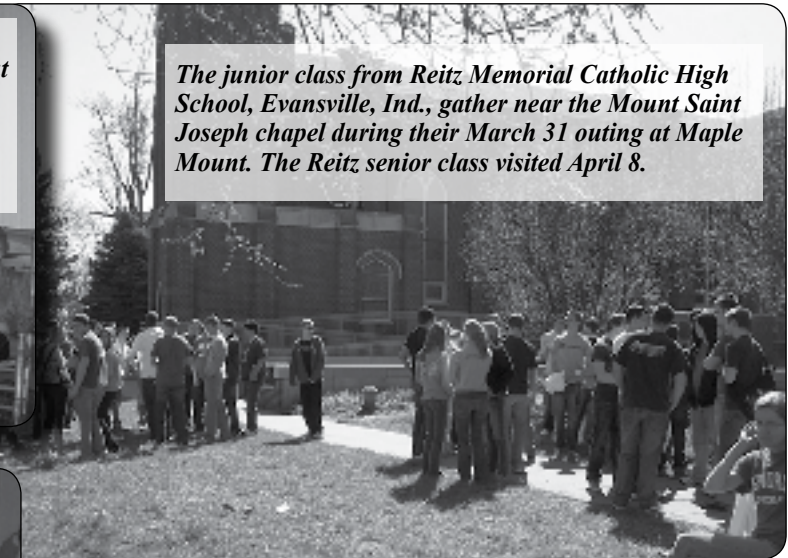
Attendees at the March 6 Writer's Workshop discuss ideas and writing techniques.



Quilters from Paducah study a project at their March 16-19 workshop.



The March Taize retreat combined prayers, songs, and candles.



The junior class from Reitz Memorial Catholic High School, Evansville, Ind., gather near the Mount Saint Joseph chapel during their March 31 outing at Maple Mount. The Reitz senior class visited April 8.



ABOVE: A couple with Catholic Engaged Encounter enjoy a candlelit dinner in the cafeteria in March. LEFT: Singers entertain at the United Methodist Church January retreat.



RCIA participants from Precious Blood Church, Owensboro, pray in the Center chapel Feb. 28.



YARN SPINNING (above) took place at the Yarn Spinning workshop visited Feb. 6 for...



HAWAIIAN LUAU



FAR LEFT: The Mount Saint Joseph gym was full for the Center's April 24 Hawaiian luau fundraising dinner. ABOVE: The main course, a roasted pig with an apple in its mouth, is carried into the gym.



ABOVE: Bishop Emeritus John J. McRaith welcomes everyone to the luau, along with emcee Jerry Birge at right. LEFT: Calvin Gilbreath, followed by Ann Howard, attempt the limbo. Paula Hayden at left holds the limbo mop.



Al Mattingly, Sister Susan Mary Mudd, and Joe Lowe share a laugh during the dinner. The event featured a live auction and a ticket drawing for a trip to Hawaii.



LEFT: George and Pam Collignon, Sue Gough, and Gene Lyons of St. Stephen's parish in Owensboro enjoy the meal which included chicken, rice, sweet potatoes, and coconut desserts. Behind them is a tiki bar where drinks were

Summer Retreats for Women Religious "NEW FIRE FROM THE OLD"

JULY 18-24, 2010

RETREAT DIRECTOR: FR. DAVID KNIGHT

Retreat begins 6 p.m. Sunday, ends 9 a.m. Saturday, and includes conference, Sacrament of Reconciliation, Eucharist, and Anointing of the Sick. Participants in the Directed Retreat will meet each day with a spiritual guide:

Sister Mary Matthias Ward, OSU • Sister Helen O'Brien, OSU



NG: A spinners' weekend retreat ce March 12-14. A weaver (right) r the quarterly spinning gathering.



Journey Into Faith with Thomas Merton
Nov. 12-14, 2010 • Retreat director Fr. Anthony Shonis
Fee: \$175 for residents, \$120 for commuters

To register for any of our retreats, contact Kathy McCarty (270) 229-0200, ext. 413 • kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org

MOUNT SAINT JOSEPH CONFERENCE AND RETREAT CENTER IN MAPLE MOUNT, KENTUCKY

CALENDAR OF EVENTS THROUGH 2010

May

- 15-16 Mount Saint Joseph Academy Alumnae Weekend
27-28 Riney Hancock Workshop
29 Private Wedding Reception

June

- 1-5 **Discover Music, Nature and Maple Mount Camp for ages 10-12**
5 Private Wedding Reception
10-19 Writers Retreat Workshop
9-10 Brescia Cabinet Workshop
12 Private Wedding Reception
25-27 Private Family Reunion

July

- 4 Private Wedding Reception
5-9 **Spiritual Direction - Week 8**
10 Associates & Sisters Day
11-16 St. John's Youth/Michigan/Owensboro Habitat
12 Holy Name Staff Day
13-16 Ursuline Community Days
17 Ursuline Jubilee Celebration
17 Private Wedding Reception
18 Ursuline New Council Installation
18-24 **Sisters' Conference with Fr. David Knight/Directed Retreats**
30-1 Swarm Scrapbooking

August

- 1-6 Youth Choir Retreat - St. Francis de Sales Oratory
7 **Yarn Spinners (open to all)**
13-15 Retrouvaille
14 Sierra Club
20-22 Yoga and Meditation Retreat
27-29 **Retreat for Married Couples**
27-3 **Centering Prayer Retreat**

September

- 12 40th annual Mount Saint Joseph Barbecue Picnic
13-16 Glenmary Retreat
17-18 Leadership McLean County
21-24 Runaway Quilters

October

- 1-3 **Marian Retreat**
1-3 Yoga Retreat
2 Private Wedding Reception
8-9 United Methodist, Madisonville, Women's Retreat
10 **Rosary Walk**
15-17 Mount Hope Weekend
18-22 **New Spiritual Direction Class**
22-24 Catholic Engaged Encounter
25-29 Priests Retreat Week

November

- 5-7 Academy for Young Leaders
12-14 **Thomas Merton Retreat with Fr. Anthony Shonis**
13 **Yarn Spinners (open to all)**
19-21 Pax Christi/Women's Retreat Lexington

December

- 9 **Advent Day of Prayer (open to all)**

Center-sponsored programs are **bold** and registration is usually open to all. To register or schedule an event, contact Kathy McCarty: 270-229-0200, ext. 413
E-mail kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org



Schedule your next event at Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center. Call 270-229-0200.

Visit us online! www.msjcenter.org • We're on Facebook! www.facebook.com/ursulinesmsj

The Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph in Maple Mount, Ky.



invite you to our 40th annual

PICNIC

Sunday, Sept. 12, 2010

For the benefit of the retired Ursuline Sisters

Serving barbecue pork, mutton, chicken 11:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Barbecue! Burgoo! Ice Cream! Booths! Games! Yard Sale! Silent Auction!

Raffle tickets only \$2 each

Win \$3,000 • \$1,000 • \$500 • King-size Quilt • Mirror • BBQ Ham

Get your tickets from any Ursuline Sister or call:

270-229-4103 ext. 278



Ursuline Sisters
of Mount Saint Joseph

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License #0290

Join our next spinning day Saturday, Aug. 7

Whether you are an experienced spinner, knitter, or a beginner, you are welcome to attend the Arts at the Mount quarterly spinning gatherings at Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center. Enjoy the fellowship of those who appreciate this traditional skill.

Sessions begin at 10 a.m.

Lunch is \$10.

Future dates: Nov. 13, 2010,
Feb. 5, 2011, and May 7, 2011

Contact Kathy McCarty to register

270-229-0200 ext. 413

kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org

A camp for kids ages 10-12

Discover Music, Discover Nature,



Discover Maple Mount



June 1-5, 2010



For five days, campers will gain an appreciation for planet Earth, learn musical techniques, and participate in their choice of classes such as clogging, songwriting, fire making, and edible plants.

Campers will experience staying overnight at Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center for four nights.

The cost per camper is only \$195. For details, visit:

www.discovermaplemount.org



270-229-0200 • kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org

SPIRITUAL DIRECTION TRAINING PROGRAM

2010-2012

Registration is now open for the next program, which begins in October 2010.



The program's mission is to prepare people for the ministry of spiritual direction and to enhance the skills of experienced spiritual directors. Participants meet for eight weekly sessions over a two-year period and are awarded a certificate. Each weekly session will be led by a team of trained spiritual directors. Please register by Aug. 31.

TOPICS STUDIED:

- Spirituality • Spiritual Direction • Theology • Supervision
- The Inner Journey • Prayer and Scripture
- Ethics of Spiritual Direction • Case Studies and Retreat

To register or for more information, contact Sheila Blandford

270-229-0200 ext. 427

sheila.blandford@maplemount.org

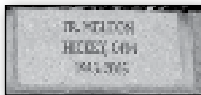
A brochure can be found at www.msjcenter.org

Come and pray at the Rosary Walk
Remember your loved ones with bricks or beads

**Join us as we pray
 the rosary at the Rosary Walk
 Oct. 10, 2010**

Yes, I/We want to support the mission of the center and the effect the retreat ministry has on the lives of those who attend by contributing to the Memorial Rosary Walk. I/We want to support this ministry by contributing:

- \$ 500 to sponsor a bead
- \$ 125 to sponsor a brick
- \$ _____ Other



If donating \$125 or more, please fill in the blocks with the name of the person or persons to be inscribed on the brick, stone or bench. One letter, comma, period or space must go in each box (15 maximum per line up to 3 lines):

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____
 State _____ Zip _____
 Phone _____ Email _____

Please make checks payable to: Mount Saint Joseph Center
 c/o Rosary Walk, 8001 Cummings Rd., Maple Mount, KY 42356-9999

Credit Card: Visa Mastercard
 Card # _____
 Expiration Date _____
 Signature _____

Please mail this ad with your contribution to help complete the Memorial Rosary Walk. For further information about sponsorship opportunities, contact Sister Amelia Stenger, OSU, (270) 229-0200, ext. 284 or e-mail amelia.stenger@maplemount.org



Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center

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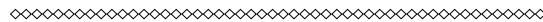
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"Give Peace, Quiet, and Prayer a Chance"

Please help us update our mailing list. If there are errors in your address, please inform us so that we may correct them. Call 270-229-0200 or e-mail msj.center@maplemount.org



RETREAT FOR MARRIED COUPLES Aug. 27-29, 2010



Spend a special weekend with your spouse. Renew your relationship, and rejoice in the graces that God has blessed you with. Renew your commitment before God in an atmosphere of tranquility, beauty, and spiritual awareness.



The retreat director is Fr. Noel Mueller, OSB, a monk and visiting instructor in the department of pastoral studies at Saint Meinrad School of Theology. Fr. Noel has a master of arts in English literature from the University of Louisville and a master of divinity degree from Saint Meinrad. He has worked in hospital ministry, Marriage Encounter, and with youth and disabled persons. He is a secretary to the archabbot and a popular retreat director.

*Retreat begins 6 p.m. Friday
and ends 1 p.m. Sunday*

To register, contact Kathy McCarty
(270) 229-0200, ext. 413
kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org

**Cost: \$225
per couple**