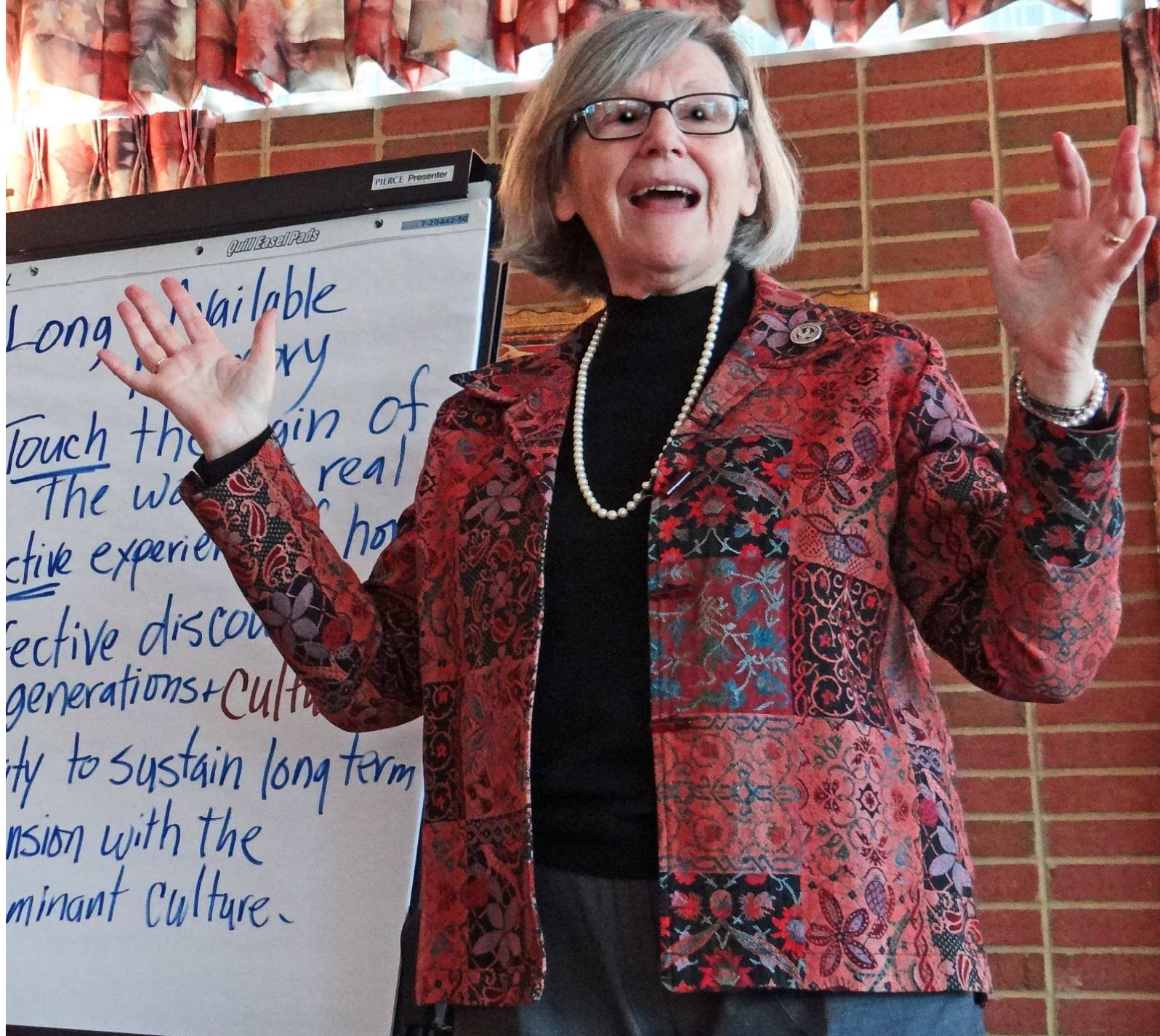


Corps Connector

Volume 9 Number 1

March 2014



Washington DC/
Metro Maryland
& Northern
Virginia Regional
Council

Mike Goggin
Joanie Coolidge
Regional Directors

Joseph Dempsey
Joseph Jones
James Kelley
Pamela Lucey
Dennis Lucey
Joseph McCloskey, S.J.
Francis Murphy
Joseph Raia
Grace Risetto
Richard Urban

Inside this Issue:

- Page 2 Notes from the Editor
- Page 3 The Nun on the Bus Comes to IVC
- Page 4 John Carr to Facilitate June Retreat
- Page 5 OAR: Strengthening Communities Through Second Chances New Volunteers
- Page 6 You're Invited to Evening of Gratitude
- Page 7 Celebrating Communities of Compassion
- Page 8 NETWORK: A National Social Justice Lobby
*Desert Island Spirituality
- Page 9 In Memoriam: Cecelia Sullivan
IVC Volunteers in News
- Page 10 Where are you? Where Am I? —A Poem
- Page 11 Growing Up with Kennedy
- Page 12 Upcoming Events

Corps Connector

is published three to four times annually by the Northern Virginia and DC/Metro Maryland Regions of the Ignatian Volunteer Corps.

Dick Bowling, Editor
Associate Editor for Northern Virginia: **Jenny White**
Associate Editor for DC/ Metro Maryland: **Cliff Hackett**

Send submissions or comments to
dbowling@ivcusa.org.

Notes from the Editor



Marty called yesterday. Marty Walsh. We talk about Ash Wednesday. He says that when he feels the ashes on his forehead and hears the words: "Remember, you are dust," Ash Wednesday becomes for him the one day in the liturgical year when we are called to reflect on and celebrate our own personal dying. I agree. And this gives me an excellent theme for this issue's column. Let me invite you on this ritual journey. Though your journey will be your journey and quite different from my own, let's begin....

I read somewhere that "death" doesn't really exist, that death is only a philosophical concept, an attempt to generalize the experience of dying. But dying is an individual experience for each and every person. Death can come suddenly, unexpectedly, it can come after much lingering even many years, it can come when we're very young but it cannot be generalized.

Dying is such a mystery. My reflection is taking me deeper. It seems I can walk right up to the door of this mystery of dying. Turn the handle, but as the door swings open, and I step inside, I'm surrounded by total darkness. In this blackness I see nothing. I seem to understand this mystery is, for me, a mystery not of seeing but of listening. Now when I try to listen to someone else—I mean truly listen—I find I've got to abandon my self—let go of me—concentrate on the other. But a part of me always intrudes, tries to hold me back, prevents me from totally listening.

To travel deeper into this dying, I must, then, listen. The 'truly listening' has to start now and the letting go has to begin, now! and ... then, what? Concentrate on the other! Will the other speak? (I wait.) What is that? A gentle whisper? A soft voice? Or is it a melody long forgotten from childhood? (Still I wait.) Now that part of me intrudes. Holds me back. Grows louder. Interferes. Tells me: This mystery of your dying, it's enveloping you but in its blackness you will never hear anything—give it up!

Wait! . . . The other's voice... So soft, so gentle, so like a melody. It whispers: "Can you touch? Like Thomas touches when he encounters the dead yet risen Jesus?" I do touch. The wounds: In hands. In feet. In side. . . . My dying meets His dying.

Dick Bowling

An E-mail from Marty Walsh

Dick,

On January 25, 2014, I went over to Georgetown University to listen to Fr. Greg Boyle SJ, speak He's the author of IVC's book for the year, *Tattoos on the Heart*. Afterwards I wrote the following impressions in my daily journal.

Greg is the one of the best/ most authentic messengers of God I've ever heard. He looks at God, Christ and the Church through the eyes and lives of the Homeboys he serves. He is a poet, a story teller, a live-action hero who sees himself as blessed, fortunate and lucky that the homies are so much a part of his life. They are the heroes, not him, because of all they've endured, just to be alive.

His stories hurt, uplift, bring tears to our eyes and his too (even though he's shared them many times), make us smile, laugh out loud and leave a lump in our throats. He speaks in numerous voices—some words Spanish, some startling street, some stretched out like pulling on the string of a sweater, some so funny that tears of laughter roll down our cheeks, some dance and float like a symphony in motion, some so silent that the only sound we hear is stillness.

Beneath all the words, the silence, the laughter, the pain, the message is a deep down-to-earth love of his homies, the kids on the margins, the gang members, the tattooed guys in the barrio, the rejected, the discarded, the throwaways who make his life so meaningful. In a word, his teachers of God's love!

How blessed I am to have met such a special humble Jesuit on this cold freezing night before the snowflakes accompanied me on my drive home to Old Town this silent night!

Marty

The Nun on the Bus Comes to IVC

THE IVC WINTER DAY of Reflection, held at the Washington Retreat house focused squarely on the Gospel imperative to hear and respond to the cry of the poor. The speaker was Sister Simone Campbell, SSS, the executive director of the Catholic social justice lobby NETWORK in Washington, DC and the leader of the widely publicized NUNS ON THE BUS. As an advocate for the poor, she lobbies on issues of healthcare, economic policy, and immigration reform.

The day was punctuated by three presentations by Sr. Simone, each followed by small group sharing. The opening talk, *The Gospel Imperative to Serve the Poor*, centered around the many ways available to serve the poor and that they all function best when rooted in direct service.

Working from Walter Bruggeman's *The Prophetic Imagination*, Sr. Simone addressed the importance of community and its "available memory" to provide insight, continuity, rootedness, and a sense of "being in this together". It is not just "the one", but the community that is called to the sacrament of compassion—"Do this in memory of me."

We are called, she said, to "touch the pain of the world", not to fix it but to so experience it that we "let our hearts be broken, expanded, opened." Our hearing and holding the stories of others then becomes an "experience of hope that brings us together in a community of joy." Touching the pain of the world, she said, is "a journey of hope that the pain isn't the end of the story."

We are called to engage in "effective discourse" across barriers of culture, language, generations, and economic disparity. Such discourse allows people to find common points, to discover that we, individually, are not all there is. And finally, she said, we need to develop the capacity to sustain long-term tension with the dominant culture. We must remain faithful to this compassionate journey that never ends this side of death. We are always "on the road." We have never "arrived."

NUNS ON THE BUS is a project sponsored by NETWORK aimed at bringing attention to the poverty, economic injustice and need for immigration reform in the U.S. As the leader of NUNS ON THE BUS, Sr. Simone "saw massive hunger—hunger for food and hunger for God." She also witnessed beauty, togetherness and a willingness to "make things beautiful" in the crowds that greeted the bus at each stop. She carries the names of some of the people she met on the road in her bible; where she is reminded often of their



shared stories and her promise to remember them in prayer. (See an interview with Sr. Simone at billmoyers.com/episode/full.)

Sr. Simone's second talk, *Doing Justice, Identifying the Principles in Policy Issues*, focused on the themes of Catholic Social Teaching. For each of us, Sister noted, there are those themes of Catholic Social Teaching that "reverberate in our bones," catch our attention, refuse to allow us to "not act." Other Catholic Social Teaching themes do not so attract us, may even engender some resistance on our part. Wherever we encounter that "resistance" she said, is "the edge of our spiritual growth."

After lunch, Sr. Simone addressed *Living the Life of a Contemplative in Action*. "Contemplation," she said, "is a nudge from within to do the right thing...and making time in our lives to listen for the

nudge." The only thing of value we bring to the contemplative life, she told the group, is "a willing heart." We must regularly quiet our bodies and our overly busy minds to settle into that deep place where God resides within us. "Imagine the snow-globe," she said. After the shaking, in silence and peace, all begins to settle and become clear.

"Grace puts an indelible hold on the soul and draws it constantly to God."

Much of what Sr. Simone has to say is deeply rooted in Scriptural images. When Moses encountered the burning bush on the mountaintop, he recognized that while the bush was ablaze with fire, it was not consumed. This is because the fire came, not from the bush, but from God. Similarly, we are called to "let God flame-up in our lives" as we "listen, in silence, for our mission."

NETWORK is an IVC partner and currently has two IVC volunteers. The role of the IVC volunteer, as Sister sees it, is to be "seeds of possibility" in all our sites.

Carolyn Burstein, one of two IVC members whose volunteer site is NETWORK, found the "talks surprisingly light-hearted, even humorous, yet profound and insightful. [Sister Simone] is able to use self-deprecating humor with a comedian's sense of timing to bring her audience to wonderful "aha" moments. I especially enjoyed the fact that her presentations were highly interactive, and the IVC audience loved it."

Sister's parting words to IVC volunteers come from her book *A Nun on the Bus* (to be published in April 2014.)

"Blessed and broken, you are enough.
Savor the blessed.
Cower before the broken.
Pray to be enough."



by Judy Allison

Save
the
Date
June
10-12,
2014

**June 2014
RETREAT**
Loyola-on-the-
Potomac
Faulkner, Maryland

The theme for the June
Retreat will be:

John Carr Will Facilitate 2014 June Retreat

For over two decades, John Carr served as director of the U.S. Catholic Bishops Department of Justice, Peace and Human Development. There he assisted the bishops in applying and advocating Catholic social teaching on a broad range of national and international issues. He helped shape the Catholic community's ability to defend human life and dignity and pursue justice and peace. He supported the bishops in developing several statements, including *Communities of Salt and Light*, the 1993 statement on parish social ministry; *Everyday Christianity*, 1998 Pastoral Reflection on Lay Discipleship for Justice in a New Millennium; and *Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship*, A Call to Political Responsibility.



Internet Photo

He represented the U.S. Bishops' Conference at the Vatican and in the Middle East, Central America, Southern Africa, Southeast Asia and Russia. He originally convened the Circle of Protection, an ecumenical coalition to defend the poor and vulnerable in debates over US budget priorities.

Carr retired from the USCCB last year to accept a Residential Fellowship on "religion and politics" at the Institute of Politics of Harvard University. This effort seeks to encourage Catholic lay men and women to bring the fullness of Catholic social thought into public life in a consistent and effective way.

Before he joined the USCCB, John served as Education Director of the Catholic Campaign for Human Development, under Cardinal Hickey's Secretary of Social Concerns in the Archdiocese of Washington,

John served under President Jimmy Carter as executive director of the White House Conference on Families and as director of the National Committee for Full Employment, a civil rights-labor-religious coalition led by Coretta Scott King.

He currently serves as director of the Initiative on Catholic Social Thought and Public Life at Georgetown University; as Vice Chair of the Board of Bread for the World and is on the Board of the Law School of the University of St. Thomas.

John received the "Vision Award" from Catholic Charities USA, the John A. Ryan Award from St. Thomas, the George Higgins Award from the Archdiocese of Washington and was named a "Hunger Hero" by Bread for the World. John graduated from St. John Vianney Seminary and the University of St. Thomas in Minnesota. He and his wife, Linda, have four children and two grandchildren.

SEE JOHN'S "GROWING UP WITH KENNEDY" TRIBUTE TO JOHN F. KENNEDY, PAGE 11

OAR Offender Aid and Restoration

Strengthening Community Through Second Chances

By Jenny White, NoVa Regional Intern

“EVEN THOUGH I AM A VOLUNTEER, I am treated like a part-time staff person,” says Mike Bates a Northern Virginia region IVC volunteer at Offender Aid and Restoration (O.A.R.) in Arlington. “Everyone here is so welcoming,” he says of the staff people at O.A.R.

As a member of IVC, Mike began his volunteer work with O.A.R. two years ago and originally worked greeting folks at the front desk. Now Mike does invaluable work with O.A.R.’s re-entry program, which seeks to provide employment and rehabilitation to individuals moving from prison to civilian life. After just a few minutes of speaking with Mike, it is easy to see his passion and enthusiasm for his work. He enjoys the chance to work closely with clients and help them become engaged members of the Arlington community.

For Mike, one of the most exciting and challenging aspects of his volunteering is to understand the penal system in Northern Virginia and the other re-entry services available to ex-offenders. He says his work “requires familiarity with O.A.R. and other programs in the area to find the right opportunities to meet the needs of the client. There is a role for government and for non-profits to do this work in the community, and I am learning how it all fits together.” Mike has even learned how to provide guidance for meeting immediate needs over the phone, such as talking someone through getting an I.D. or finding a temporary place to stay.

Mike visited O.A.R. and was drawn to their mission; the rest is history. Mike’s first IVC event, however, was not related to his work with O.A.R. He attended a city group discussion with other IVC volunteers where they shared experiences from their work sites and the way this has impacted their faith. Mike appreciated the uniqueness that comes from IVC in the combination of service work and encouragement from a community of fellow volunteers. As a member of the IVC community, Mike is a part of a body of 10,000 Christians in the Northern Virginia and DC area who lift one another up in the work they are doing.

The opportunity to hear other volunteers share their experiences has impacted his work at O.A.R. and his faith, says Mike. “Everyone comes from such different backgrounds and volunteer in a variety of organizations. I learn so much just from hearing their stories.”



Mike Bates

“I committed a crime. I paid the penalty. Then OAR gave me a second chance. They saved my life.”

Ron, OAR Client

New Volunteers

Seven new volunteers from Northern Virginia and DC/Metro Maryland attended New Volunteer Orientation at Missionhurst on February 20, 2014.

Jack Fenwick (DC / Metro Maryland) is a member of Blessed Sacrament Parish, Chevy Chase Circle, and has been retired for eight years. He worked professionally in the automobile and banking industries. He is currently considering volunteer placements with either Friendship Place or SHARE. He is already an active SHARE volunteer in his own parish.

Monique Garrity (DC / Metro Maryland) emigrated from Haiti as a young adult in 1959. She earned her Ph.D. in Economics from Boston College eleven years later. While working for the World Bank for twenty years, she lived in seven different countries in all corners of the world. She is Founder and President of the non-profit organization Partners for Haitian Children. Having taught at UMass-Boston, the University of Dakar and Wellesley College, she looks forward to serving with an educational organization like the Washington Middle School for Girls with IVC.

Continued Page 7

You are Invited

To the 8th Annual Evening of Gratitude Sunday, April, 27

submitted by Grace Rissitto, Regional Council member

FR. MARK HORAK, S.J. PASTOR OF HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, will be presider and homilist at the 8th annual Evening of Gratitude Liturgy at St. Aloysius Church, Sunday April 27 at 5:00 p.m. The Holy Trinity combined choirs will join us in the liturgy.

At this Evening of Gratitude, we honor the IVC Volunteers who work in 44 local agencies that daily serve the physical, mental, and economic needs of the poor. We give thanks for their service, and for their Spiritual Reflectors, who walk with them to deepen and strengthen their faith and sustain them in their service.

All these volunteers, spiritual reflectors, and their spouses, are honored guests of the Regional Council and are invited. No donation expected. It is these, and the generous hands and hearts of the many friends of IVC, that make the mission of the Ignatian Volunteer Corps possible.

Immediately after the Mass the Madonna Della Strada Awards will be presented in the Lower Commons of Gonzaga College High School at a seated reception. The Della Strada Award is named after Santa Maria della Strada, the first church that Ignatius and the early Jesuits obtained to serve the urban poor in the center of Rome.

The award honors lives that reflect the Ignatian values of direct service to the poor, and of working and educating for a more just society. The award recognizes outstanding contributions for creative, and practical service to those in need. This year's honorees represent decades of individual commitment and community leadership, and embody the Ignatian ideals as men and women for others, and as contemplatives in action giving service to the materially poor.

Fran Butler, former member of the IVC National Board of Directors, was Chair of the IVC Regional Council for many years. A dedicated volunteer, and dynamic leader of many social justice projects, she will be honored along with her husband, Frank. Frank is the former President, for

over thirty years, of Foundations and Donors Interested in Catholic Activities (FADICA)

Frank Butler and Fran currently volunteer with the Ignatian Spirituality Project that offers Ignatian spirituality and retreats to men and women who are homeless and in recovery. They are members of Holy Trinity Parish and represent the DC/Metro Maryland Della Strada awardees.



Madonna Della Strada

Anne Murphy, has been a lifelong advocate for justice for all, especially those who struggle with poverty and are marginalized, serving in a variety of capacities. Professionally, she worked for The Nature Conservancy, Carpenter's Shelter, Blessed Sacrament Catholic Community, and as the Program Director for Parish Social Ministry under the auspices of Arlington Diocese Catholic Charities. Anne served for 10 years on the Board of Directors of the Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy

and now serves as the co-chair of the Center's Northern Virginia Chapter. Other Board service includes 3 years on the Ignatian Volunteer Corps Regional Council, and seven years on the JustFaith Ministries National Board. Over the years she has been instrumental in IVC's growth throughout the region.

For sponsorships (many levels available), Tribute Ads (scrolling Power Point tributes at the Reception to our Honorees), and for Reservations Information, please contact:

Joanie Coolidge, Regional Director, Northern Virginia
703-352-4140 jcoolidge@ivcusa.org

Mike Goggin, Regional Director, DC/Metro MD Region
202-277-4447 mgoggin@ivcusa.org

Or register online at <http://www.ivcusa.org/ivc-offices/welcome-to-ivc-northern-virginia/evening-of-gratitude/>

When page opens click on "Register here." Registration information is at the bottom of the next page.

Celebrating Communities of Compassion

by Bob Thomsen

IVC NORTHERN VIRGINIA had their first ever *Celebrating Communities of Compassion* at St Charles Borromeo Hall in IVC Northern Virginia had their first ever *Celebrating Communities of Compassion* at St Charles Borromeo Hall in Arlington on Thursday, February 27, 2013 as a way of thanking the partner agencies where IVC Northern Virginia volunteers are assigned. Father Tuck Grinnell, pastor of St Charles Borromeo and one of the Spiritual Reflectors for IVC Northern Virginia, welcomed us and said grace before we had our wonderful buffet meal from one of the local restaurants. Joanie Coolidge, Northern Virginia IVC Regional Director, introduced each representative from the partner agencies and their volunteers. Each partner representative and volunteer said a few words about the agency where they served and Joanie presented a certificate of appreciation from IVC to each agency. Dick Bowling took pictures of all of the participants at the event who are too numerous to list individually here in this article.

Among those present at the celebration were representatives and volunteers from the following agencies: Adult Day Care (Fairfax County); Alive; Arlington/Alexandria Coalition for the Homeless (AACH); Arlington Street People's Assistance Network -A-Span; Catholic Charities Refugee Immigration Service; Catholic Distance University (CDU); Langley Residen-

tial Support Services; Network Inc; OAR (Arlington County); Pathway Homes, INC; Rising Hope (UCM); St Charles Borromeo School; Social Action Linking Together (SALT); and the The Lamb Center. Joanie also thanked those agencies and volunteers who were unable to attend who were listed in the program for this event.

Joanie talked about the vision of wanting to have IVC grow regionally and nationally and of the work being done by the partner agencies and their volunteers. Joanie said that "a good person communicates life to others" and that is what all of us are doing

Mary Lou Miller, IVC Northern Virginia Spiritual Director, read a poem entitled "Help Me Believe in Beginnings" by Ted Loder. Here are a few lines from that poem:

"Help me to be a beginning for others, to be a singer to the songless,

A storyteller to the aimless, a befriender of the friendless....

Help me believe in beginnings,

To make a beginning,

To be a Beginning

So that I may not just grow old, but grow old new each day of this wild amazing life

you call me to live with the passion of Jesus Christ "

Joanie concluded by thanking the agencies and their volunteers for their work which continues to be inspirational and transformative for all of us and those we serve.



Catholic Distance University's Damien Lenshek and volunteer Bob Thomsen

New Volunteers, continued from Page 5

Barbara Hairston (DC / Metro Maryland) came to IVC through her friendship with long-time IVC volunteer Madeleine Kirk, who is one of our founding mothers in this area. For twelve years, she was a School Sister of St. Francis and taught all grade levels except first grade. She brings extensive experience in the Catholic parishes of Prince George's County and lives in Upper Marlboro, Maryland. She is also an active volunteer in the Archdiocesan Legislative Network and knows a number of members of the Jesuit Community at Georgetown University

Luigi Toma (DC / Metro Maryland) converted to Roman Catholicism from the Eastern Orthodox Church in 2013 at Blessed Sacrament, Chevy Chase Circle. At age 53, Luigi will be one of our youngest members and since he is still working part-time, he hopes to begin serving one day per week initially. Possible placements include L'Arche, the Mattie Stepanek Foundation and Joseph's House. Like Monique Garrity above, Luigi has a Ph. D in Economics, earned at an institute in Bucharest in his native Romania. He went on to study at MIT through the Alexander Hamilton Fellowship.

Austin Acocella (NoVA) worships at Holy Trinity Catholic Church and lives in Burke with his wife and daughter. He is newly retired from government service with the Government Accountability Office, where he served in numerous capacities specializing in IT, organizational change and efficiency. He has also used his strong interpersonal and communication skills while volunteering with parish-based programs in R.C.I.A., youth ministry, and religious education. He has long been active with social justice projects and service. Austin will begin his volunteer service with the Centerville Labor Resource Center.

Continued Page 9

NETWORK

A National Catholic Social Justice Lobby



by Cliff Hackett

DC/Metro Maryland Associate
Editor

If HISTORY SEEMS TO MOVE IN cycles, NETWORK today is on its right side. The arrival of Pope Francis brings an emphasis on the poor and on economic justice, two of NETWORK's major concerns. Since its founding in 1971, NETWORK has been waiting for this Pope.

The organization started when four dozen Catholic sisters across the United States came together at Trinity College in Washington, DC. They wanted to demonstrate that the Vatican II call for "Justice in the World" was limited neither in time nor place nor to traditional religious leadership. The sisters were on their way.

The sisters first opened a modest Washington, DC office with funds they donated themselves. Next, they started a decades-long educational and lobbying effort directed toward members of Congress and their staffs on national and global issues of justice and peace. From the start, NETWORK benefit-

ted from support from the Leadership Conference of Women Religious.

This year two women – Carolyn Burstein and Nancy Brouillard McKenzie – became the first IVC volunteers to work at NETWORK. Both bring needed skills to the operation: Carolyn in research and writing for the communications director and Nancy in grant research and proposal writing for the NETWORK Education Program, the non-profit side of NETWORK. Their work promises important support for NETWORK.

As NETWORK moves through its fifth decade, its expanded office (currently 11 full-time staff, three Associates, and many volunteers) lobbies for national legislation, especially for those issues heading for early action. NETWORK is closely watching immigration reform, a revised farm bill and federal budget decisions. In the past, NETWORK's famous legislative seminars brought hundreds of participants and presenters together on

these and other important issues. Now, NETWORK uses campaigns, notably NETWORK's NUNS ON THE BUS, and new electronic media, including webinars, social media, and its websites.

Both Carolyn and Nancy find that their office routine brings them together with many younger colleagues, including recent college graduates who serve as Associates. Nancy smiles as she remembers the youth of the 1960's who advocated for civil rights and other government reforms. "This year is the 50th anniversary of President Lyndon B. Johnson's "War on Poverty" speech. The Associates have the same 1960's glint in their eyes to make a change in the world on social justice issues."



Desert Island Spirituality

with Dick Bowling, Editor

"If you knew you were to be stranded on a desert island for ten or more years, what five spiritual books including the Bible would you take with you?" I sent this question to the Spiritual Reflectors and selected others in the DC/Metro Maryland and Northern Virginia regions. These books were to include what Bible translation they would take, a couple of Spiritual "Classics" and a se-

lection of Contemporary Spiritual Books. From time to time I will publish in the Newsletter a selection of the books they said they'd like to have by their side. Here are some of their suggestions:

Bibles (according to the translations used):

- New Revised Standard Version (NRSV) translation called *The Catholic Prayer Bible: Lectio Divina Edition*. Paulist Press

Favorite Spiritual Classics:

That Man Is You--Louis Evelyn, translated by Edmund Bonin, Paulist Press., 1964, 1967.

The God Who Comes--Carlo Carretto, Orbis Books, 1974, 1976.

Contemporary Spiritual Books:

Housing Heaven's Fire: The Challenge of Holiness--John Haughey, S.J., Loyola Press,
The Selected Poetry of Jessica Powers (ICS). Also *Love Poems from God* collection with Tagore, Rumi, John Donohue. *Doing the Truth in Love*--Michael Himes
Why I Wake Early--Mary Oliver

In Memoriam

June 5, 1942



February 4, 2014

Cecelia Sullivan

IVC Volunteer, Cecelia Sullivan, 71, of Vienna, VA., died on Tuesday, February 4, 2014 at her residence with her family by her side. Loving sister of Peggy Ann Corrigan, Eileen, Michele (Bob) McGrath and the late Imelda Gilleran, she is also survived by many nieces and nephews; 9 great nieces and 3 great nephews. Cecelia retired from Singapore Airlines after many successful years. Her wish was that in lieu of flowers donations be made to Ignatian Volunteer Corps. IVC is grateful to the many friends of Cecelia who have made generous gifts in her memory.

Cecelia joined IVC in March 2008 and volunteered at the Lamb Center at Fairfax Circle for about four years. She did bookkeeping for the Center, staffed the Front Desk, greeting guests and answering the telephone. She also assisted in the kitchen serving meals to the over 100 poor and homeless guests who visited the Lamb Center each day. She also volunteered at St. Mark's Church for many years counting the collection every Monday morning.

IVC Volunteers In the News

Ann Johnson is quoted in *The Arlington Herald* article on NoVA's "IVC Celebrates Communities of Compassion," which honored active Partner Service Agencies and current volunteers. (March 6-12 print-only edition, pg. 7)

Carolyn Burstein of NETWORK has been blogging on current economic policies (and more) regarding the pending budget proposals before Congress. See: <http://www.networklobby.org/blog/2014-2-6/blog-political-firestorm-about-cbo-report>

Mary Ann Cummins was profiled for her work with Pathway Homes in The Fairfax and Burke editions of *The Connection* newspapers. The article was written by Jen White as a "Letter-to-the-Editor."
See: <http://connectionarchives.com/PDF/2014/022614/Fairfax.pdf> (p. 6)

New Volunteers, continued from Page 7

Jim Gillespie (NoVA) attends St. Charles Borromeo with his wife Cynthia who is an active volunteer there. Jim has also volunteered with A-SPAN and ADFAC in their food-pantry and homeless shelter. He is retired from a government career as an analyst and has a BA in History from the Virginia Military Institute (VMI) and a law degree from the University of Virginia. He is currently tasked by Fr. Tuck Grinnell to help folks obtain the health care insurance they need.

Josephine Lopez DiCalogero (NoVA) goes by "Chepi". She worships at Holy Trinity Parish and at Barnabas' Episcopal, and resides with her husband in Fairfax. She has juggled raising two children while pursuing a teaching career, followed by administrative work and extensive volunteer service with OAR in Arlington and Alexandria Detention Centers. She has a BA (French, Spanish, Theology) and MAT (Graduate School of Education) degrees from Fordham University in New York. Chepi has been engaged in Ignatian Spirituality for some time and is eager to share in this component of IVC.

Where are you? Where am I?

W

here are you—Oh, where are you when I stop by?
Curled in your bed or slouched in your chair—So tiny and fragile I'm afraid you might break
Mouth often open and yet you don't speak—or chatter not stopping but what does it mean?

Your eyes they gaze widely but seem only to see those people and objects not obvious to me.
You pick and you pull at a myriad of things—even pinch my arm hard—I'm wondering why.
I see you. I know you are there—but where you really when I stop by?

I thought I could change things—who told me to try?
I have to do something; isn't that why I stop by?
What shall I say? What shall I do? Take over—make things better—surely that's what I must try.
It comes to me slowly, my ideas are not right.
I can't really change things even though I might try.
I know in my heart this is how it's to be and yet it is hurtful. So very hurtful to see.
I've found you, I think, but lost my own way.
Where am I in all this? I can't really say.

Slowly then. I'm beginning to see the “you” who has been there and the “who” I should be.
The past is often cloudy. The future unclear.
But of this I am certain—we have our moments when I stop by.
I am here for the you who has always been waiting.
Just not easy to see.

Who speaks to me now and wants me to be—a friend a companion in these travels so hard.
No longer do I wonder what it is I should do.
I know now—just be here, just be here with you.
Where are you? Where am I?

Emilie Gillanders
Companioning
the Dying
August, 2013



“—for the healing of suffering is compassion not expertise.”

Kitchen Table Wisdom
Rachel Naomi Remem



Harvard University IOP Photo

*Authored by Institute of Politics Fall 2012 Resident Fellow **John Carr**. **

Growing Up with Kennedy

A half century is a long time, but I remember meeting John F. Kennedy when I was 10 years old. Meeting might be a little strong. After watching the motorcade, a family friend took me to a fundraiser, but we couldn't get in. We found our way into a back hallway and Kennedy's outstretched hand.

Kennedy's narrow election was a sign of Catholic acceptance and achievement. I came from a bi-partisan home, but we watched Kennedy's rise and made it our own. I was obsessed with Kennedy, watched the convention, debates, election returns and Inauguration. I continued to watch his speeches and press conferences, his leadership in times of crisis and his confident style and humor.

The hope President Kennedy represented for our nation was matched by a different leader named John who represented renewal for our Church. John XXIII also made us proud to be Catholic. It was a time of optimism for the two institutions that made us who we were: Catholic and American. Those two John's shaped my life and guided my work at the intersection of faith and public life, recognizing in Kennedy's inaugural address "here on earth God's work must clearly be our own" and in challenge of John XXIII that Christians must be a "point of light in the world and a heaven" in society. (*PIT 164, 65*)

On the day John F Kennedy was assassinated I was 13 and home sick. I watched Walter Cronkite announce his death and turn away to hide his tears. I could not hide my tears. I could not believe that our young, vital President, my hero, was gone. I read and collected the coverage, his speeches and JFK biographies. We learned there was a dark side of marital infidelity, hidden illness, political calculation and hesitation, but what we remember most is a legacy of service, idealism and that politics can make a difference. Those values and their links to Catholic faith are at the heart of our new Initiative on Catholic Social Thought and Public Life at Georgetown.

Last fall, I had a fellowship at the Institute of Politics of the John F. Kennedy School of Harvard University. The Kennedy legacy was alive and powerful. At Thanksgiving, my adult children stayed in the restored dorm room where John Kennedy lived as a Harvard senior. At the Kennedy Library, I tried to explain what it was like to be young, Catholic and American and to see our identities come together in a leader of great skill, humor and style. He inspired us, challenged us to serve others, to seek new frontiers, to go to the moon, to honor the rights of all. I don't think they understood, but they could see in me... the grown up 10 year old he touched.... the sense of pride and the sense of loss we felt 50 years ago.

In fact, a half century later when I recall John F. Kennedy, how his life made us proud and his death broke our hearts, what was and what could have been, it still brings a smile to my face and a tear to my eyes.



*** John Carr is Facilitator for our June Retreat, see page 4**

This article originally appeared on the Harvard University Institute of Politics Website

Upcoming Events

Spring 2014

Retreat:

June 10-12, 2014

Loyola Retreat House
Faulkner, MD.

JOHN CARR, FACILITATOR

New Volunteer Orientation

September 25, 2014

Missionhurst
4651 25th Street, N
Arlington, VA 222017

Fall 2014

Retreat:

September 8-10, 2014

Loyola Retreat House
Faulkner, MD.

FACILITATOR: TBD

Put a little Zazzle in your life?

IVC has opened its own online brand of many popular household and gift items, such as coffee mugs, shirts, key chains, aprons etc. So if you find yourself in need of hospitality gifts, office presents and such, please do check out the website below and shop the IVC brand! Zazzle provides fast turnaround on most orders, and often has the items shipped within a day or two of the order. And the best part is, Zazzle pays IVC a 5% royalty for all IVC items purchased on their site. You can access Zazzle from the IVC website as well! Thanks for all that you do to spread the word about IVC to your friends, colleagues and families.

<http://www.zazzle.com/ignatianvolunteer/gifts> (If website doesn't open press "Esc" on your keyboard).

Northern Virginia Region 2013-2014 City Groups

Our Lady Queen of Peace 2700 19th Street South Arlington, VA 22204 2nd Tuesday 10:00-12:00	St. Charles 3304 Washington Blvd Arlington, VA 22201 Room 103 2nd Thursday 10:00-12:00	St. John Neumann's 11900 Lawyers Road Reston VA 20191 3rd Tuesday 10:00-12:00	St. Joseph's 701 Columbus Street Alexandria, VA 22314 3rd Wednesday 10:00-12:00
Apr. 8, 2014	Apr. 10, 2014	Apr. 15, 2014	Apr. 16 2014
May 13, 2014	May 8, 2014	May 20, 2014	May 21, 2014

DC/Metro MD Region 2013-2014 City Groups

Albrechts' 5814 Ogden Court Bethesda, MD 20816 1st Thurs.—9:30-11:30 Apr. 3, 2014 May 1, 2014	Wash. Jesuit Academy 900 Varnum St., NE Washington, DC 2nd Tuesday—11:00-1:00 Apr. 8, 2014 * May 13, 2014 * an alternative location may need to be found, likely the nearby Stuart Center
---	--