God gives the growth

From modular homes to a food club, new projects take root in Evansville
Several times a year, members of the Yakima branch make sandwiches for the homeless at Holy Rosary Roman Catholic Church. L to R: Ron Rice, Kathy Rice, Caleb, Abigail Orthmann, Jeremiah Orthmann, Cathy Orthmann and Nathaniel in front.

STORIES

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Brothers and sisters in Servant Branch have found a fun way to help send more children to camp.
Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Recently, I had a chance to visit two branches in one week, Shreveport and Colorado Springs. In Shreveport, I saw the wonderful common life the branch shares. When I was there in the early years of our work in Allendale, whenever we needed to borrow a tool we would drive over to the neighborhood where most of the branch lives, knock on a door, and get whatever we needed from the garage. If the first house didn’t have it, we would go on to the next. I can’t recall ever being told “no.”

I witnessed something similar on my trip to Colorado Springs. One brother knocked on the door and asked if he could borrow the lawnmower. The other brother replied that it’s impossible to borrow something that’s already yours: “Well, you should say, ‘Can I use our mower?” (I learned later that those two families plus one more jointly own the mower.)

Springtime is a season for borrowing tools. Hopefully, this can be an occasion to remember that we aim to hold all we have in common, and to remember to return “our tools” to their proper garage!

You may notice that this issue of V&B is shorter than normal. We are experimenting with a shorter length in an effort to communicate with you more frequently. As always, we’d love to hear your thoughts about V&B, and we always want to know what’s going on in your neighborhood in the kingdom of God. Please write to us at thevine@peopleofpraise.org.

In Christ,

SEAN CONNOLLY, Editor
In mid-March, Vine & Branches launched a Facebook page. The page is managed by Anne Osterhouse, who works for the Center for Christian Studies and serves as the managing editor for Vine & Branches. In this interview, we introduce Anne and she answers some questions that community members have been asking about the new page.

**V&B:** What are your hopes for the Facebook page?

**Anne:** God is doing so much in the People of Praise. Our hope is that the Facebook page will be a place where community members can go to keep track of it all. One advantage of Facebook is that we’re able to share stories, photos and videos more quickly than we can with either Vine & Branches or the emailed news blasts. We’ve been averaging four or five Facebook posts per week. Also, Facebook is a more participatory medium, so community members can interact with one another across branch lines as well as with everyone working on Vine & Branches. To give an example, Katherine Brophy (Colorado Springs) was visiting the Tampa branch for Easter. On Sunday evening she emailed us some pictures of the branch’s Easter celebration brunch. We were able to post them the next day. Ultimately, we hope the page will help to unify us more as a community.

**V&B:** A lot of community members don’t have Facebook accounts for one reason or another. Aren’t they going to miss out?

**Anne:** That’s an important concern for us. Fortunately, you don’t need a Facebook account to see what we post there. You can go to www.facebook.com/thevinepop, or you can click on the “F” icon in the top right corner of the People of Praise website. Of course, if you want to leave a comment you will need a Facebook account. We have also republished some of the Facebook material on our news blog, www.peopleofpraise.org/news, and will continue to do that.

**V&B:** What’s your favorite thing that’s happened because of the page so far?

**Anne:** Can I pick two? Servant Branch made a video of themselves shouting “He is risen, alleluia!” at their community meeting on Easter and we posted it on Facebook. That’s something that would simply be impossible without the Internet! The Christians in Mission team in Allendale also texted me some photos of a few of their children racing live crawfish at a neighborhood crawfish boil. I thought that...
was a delightful snapshot of their life.

V&B: How can I contribute an idea or a picture for a Facebook post?
Anne: On Facebook you can either send a private message to the page or post it to our wall. You can also send an email to thevine@peopleofpraise.org or text or call 574-228-2820. By the way, when you send something through any of these options, I’m usually the first person to see it. Please do send us your ideas. There’s so much going on in all our branches, so we really do need your help to keep track of it all!

V&B: What brought you into the People of Praise and how did you end up working for the community?
Anne: I came underway in 2003 when I was a senior at Trinity School at Greenlawn. I had joined the Action division earlier that year, which got me going to community meetings as well as traveling on an Action trip to Allendale. That was my first real exposure to the charismatic life, and in the community I saw a sincerity and whole-hearted dedication to the Lord that I had never encountered before. I joined and never looked back.

I took a year off between high school and college and moved to Servant Branch. While I was there, I worked with the high school students in their Action division and helped get things in place for the campus division that started in Dinkytown the following fall. In August, 2008, I graduated from the University of Chicago with a degree in history and I started working full-time for the community as part of the Center for Christian Studies. I spent a year working with Mary Frances Sparrow helping her with a few projects, such as editing a book she and Paul DeCelles have written on the Spiritual Exercises of Ignatius of Loyola. After that, I started working for Paul as his assistant, which is still one of my roles. I added the role of managing editor for Vine & Branches in late 2013. My husband, Jeremy, and I are expecting our first baby, so “mother” is also going to become a primary role for me. I’m excited to be working on Facebook now, too, and I’m looking forward to seeing what fruit it will bear for our common life in the community.

A selection of recent posts from the Vine & Branches Facebook page.
Before setting the agenda for this year’s Leaders’ Conference for Women, overall coordinator Craig Lent spoke with women across the community to get a sense for the topics that they wanted to learn more about. The result was an eclectic conference that included talks on early Christianity, on training daughters, on modesty, headship, women’s groups, ecumenism and exercising the spiritual gifts, as well as reports from the mission front and from around the branches.

Following the conference, Craig decided to make all the talks available to the community through the file library. This content is available in both video and audio formats and can be found at www.peopleofpraise.org/file-library/. (You will need your Peopleofpraise.org username and password to access the material. If you need help remembering your password, you can send an email to directory@peopleofpraise.org.)

Here’s a rundown of the talks with a brief description of each:

**First-Century Worldviews**
Craig Lent
Craig gave a series of nine talks whose goal was to help community members “grow in our understanding of what God was doing in the first-century New Testament communities that Paul was planting and shepherding.” He explained the predominant pagan, Roman and Jewish worldviews and contrasted them with the Christian way of life that Paul proclaimed and taught. Just as in the first century, he said, it can be a struggle for us to understand the worldviews of people who encounter the People of Praise for the first time—“how radically different we are and what changes they have to make in their thinking, their lives.”

**Training Daughters**
Sharon Rose
“The seeds of truth we plant in our daughters’ minds and hearts cannot be compromised but need to be watered and nourished,” Sharon said. In order to do that, she recommended that mothers spend “daily time with the Lord and weekly time with their daughters.”

**The Art of Women’s Group**
Carolyn Bassett and Dorothy Ranaghan
Dorothy and an ensemble cast of sisters demonstrated what not to do in women’s group through a series of short skits. Carolyn followed up with a talk on what to do instead.

**Mission Updates**
Nick Holovaty, Nano Farabaugh, Chris Vieck, Mike Zusi
Moving stories from Praise Academy at Lakeside and from Evansville. Chris Vieck described several women she has known over the years and how Christ is bringing peace into their chaotic and difficult lives. Mike Zusi gave an overview of the progress in Action from 2002 to the present.

**How To Be More Attractive**
Sean Connolly
Sean drew on video clips from the television show *Shark Tank*, Pope Francis and a TED talk called “Classical Music is for Everyone” to demonstrate attractive traits that we can all imitate as we strive to draw others to the Lord.
Providing Headship
Carmen Fraga
Carmen shared from her experience about this “crown jewel” of community life. Through headship, “we submit our lives to one another in the calm assurance that this is the Father’s will; that we live our lives together in Christ our Lord.”

Pastoral Care
Barbette Brophy
A talk aimed at women who serve as handmaids, given by Barbette Brophy, who served as the principal handmaid in northern Virginia for many years. The talk is based on material originally compiled by Jeanne DeCelles.

Using the Spiritual Gifts
Dorothy Ranaghan
In a fiery talk, Dorothy urged everyone to ask for and to pray with one another for the spiritual gifts. “We cannot bank the fires of Pentecost,” she said. After all, she quipped, “there wouldn’t have been an Acts of the Apostles, if the Apostles hadn’t acted.”

Outward Turn Updates from Branches
Christine Brickweg, Martha Delaney, Rozann Schenkel, Jean Monaco, Therese McNichol, Chris Urbanski, Jo Clark and Beth Bulger
Sharings about the Marriage in Christ seminar, the outreach in Buffalo’s Black Rock neighborhood, feeding the hungry in Muncie, helping with an afterschool program in Corvallis, the campus outreach in northern Virginia, Trinity Academy in Portland and the outreach on the West Side of St. Paul.

Pastoral Issues
Craig Lent
Craig reviewed community teaching on dating (focusing on dating among high school and college students). He also discussed the movement for same-sex marriage in the US and Canada through the lens of community teaching.

Digital Communications
Craig Lent
Craig discussed smartphones and their impact on the culture of the People of Praise.

Ecumenism
Dorothy Ranaghan
Dorothy shared how the brothers and sisters who founded the community 45 years ago made a conscious decision to “remain one in Christ.” The fruit of that decision is a spirit that embraces the things that unite Christians while honoring our differences. That same spirit continues to breathe life into our relationships, relationships that allow us to “know richly the growing unity of the body of Christ.”
This spring the mission team in Evansville got to work on four projects: building two new modular homes, running a camp for children, organizing a food club for neighborhood women, and cultivating an urban farm. Like the cucumbers and purple bush beans that are pushing their way through the soil at the farm, these projects are in the sprouting stage, with much growth and fruit still to come as summer sets in.

The projects are also bringing new people into the mix. Peter Putzier has moved from Servant Branch to take charge of the farm. Later in the summer, Orest and Susan Holovaty plan to move from South Bend to join the mission team, and about 20 more brothers and sisters will arrive in June to help with the camp, returning to their home locations at summer’s end.

Urban Farm

This is the second year for the urban farm. Last summer the farm yielded 700 pounds of produce, which the households divided according to the shares each had purchased at the beginning of the season. Some weeks the farm provided nearly all the produce for the missionaries, and they needed to buy little else.

The planting for this year’s farm took place on April 16, a warm and sunny afternoon, and drew together missionaries and two families who are underway in the community, as well as several neighbors. The women and girls planted hundreds of seeds in a set of 22 raised beds: corn, peas, squash, even a box with flowers for cutting. The men and boys brought more soil over to the beds from another empty lot.

Peter says the plan this year is to...
allocate 70 percent of the produce for community members. Another 10 percent will be given away to those who need it, and 10 percent will be sold at a farm stand or the local farmers’ market. The final 10 percent will go toward compensating neighbors who help on the farm.

Next spring, they plan on expanding the farm substantially. They hope to provide most if not all of the produce for the households, to be able to sell a substantial amount, to be able to teach neighborhood children about the world and how to work, to produce food that can be used in the developing food club (see below), and perhaps even to be able to provide a source of employment for their neighbors.

**Food Club**

Chris Vieck has led a neighborhood women’s group in Evansville for almost six years. The women gather every week to put their lives in common, support one another and share life in Christ. Some of the members of the group are members of the People of Praise, some are not. A few months ago, a member of the group shared about a problem she was having. She needed a way to make her $176 food stamp allotment last the entire month for herself and her teenage child. She was also overweight, diabetic and having heart problems, so she needed to eat both affordably and nutritiously. The women’s group took this on as a challenge. They researched, planned and compared prices at several stores. Together they came up with a plan for the month and a couple of them took her shopping each week. She ended the month on budget.

These events helped crystallize a vision for the food club—a place where women can come together to learn to plan menus, to shop, to organize their kitchens and to cook tasty and nutritious meals for their families—all on a budget. The club is starting small, with one group of seven women who are learning more about meal planning and shopping in hopes that they can share what they learn with other neighborhood women. “Practically all the women in the neighborhood have kids in the house and are responsible for making a home,” Chris says. Her hope is that they will be able to start more clubs and that, taken together, the clubs will serve as a network that connects neighborhood women and allow them to share more of their lives.

**New Homes**

Last year Paul Hommes, a mechanical engineer by training, formed a new company, Linwood Construction. Paul and his employees have renovated a house on the missionary’s target block and they have taken responsibility for managing most of the property owned by the community and its members in Evansville, currently eight houses and six empty lots.

This year, Paul and his business manager John Earhart (also a mechanical engineer) have formed a partnership with Heckaman Homes of Nappanee, Indiana. Their goal is to place two new modular homes on the target block. One will be for Orest and Susan; the missionary sisters’ household will live in the second.

Modular homes are built in a factory to specifications set by the customer. Paul notes that they’re not trailers or manufactured housing. In fact, they can be hard to distinguish from traditionally built homes once they are finished. They are normally built with 2x10 floor joists and 2x6 framing in the exterior walls, making them stronger than many traditionally built homes. (They need this extra strength so they can...
Paul explains, “Because a modular home can be built inside, on an assembly line with a consistent workforce, the costs are much lower and the home can be completed in as little as half the time it takes to build a traditional home.”

Paul spent the month of April communicating with Orest several times each day by phone and email while also conferring with his contact at Heckaman in an effort to settle the home’s design and budget. Eventually, Linwood Construction will procure the necessary permits and the houses will be constructed in a factory in Nappanee before being shipped in several pieces down to Evansville.

### Summer Camp

From the first moment they moved into the neighborhood, the missionaries have been interacting with local children; singing with them, teaching Bible stories and skits, organizing games and crafts. This summer, they will run their first camp, which Evan Lent and Mary Timler are planning. The camp will run from June 20 to July 8 and will be staffed by missionaries, high school and college students, and others sent by the Action program office. Jo Zimmel (Servant Branch), who helped establish the camps in Allendale and Indianapolis, will be on hand to lead the charge. The camp will be held on empty lots and at a local public park.

Evan says the goals for the camp are to have fun, to learn about the Lord and to work on good relationships. He hopes that by the end of the summer they will have a foundation for relating with the kids that could eventually turn into something more. Just as in Allendale, he hopes this camp could one day feed into a Praise Academy.

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Nick Holovaty, who leads the mission team, says all four of these projects have been shaped by a consultation process that lasted more than a year. It involved knocking on 400 doors and collecting input from neighbors about the needs of the neighborhood and what they wanted to see happen. They noticed themes. There was a need in the neighborhood for dignifying work, especially for the men. There was interest among the women in learning more about meal planning and nutrition and about how to address nutrition-related health concerns, including child obesity. There was a desire to clean up the neighborhood and make it look better. There was also a concern repeated again and again for the children in the neighborhood, for their safety, for their need for purposeful activity and for them to learn more about the Lord.

The mission team collated the input, brainstormed practical actions they could take, and then ranked their ideas by importance and feasibility before settling on these four. In addition to taking on these projects, Nick says, they continue to send out teams daily to knock on doors and share the gospel the same way the missionaries have done since they arrived in the city in 2010.

“We have been trusting in the Lord to lead us through this process,” he says. “Now we are counting on him to water these seeds and give the growth.”
Servant Camp: Fundraising at the Finish Line

BY ELIZABETH PEASE

Servant Branch members have found a fun way to raise funds for Servant Camp.

About 6:00 in the morning on a Saturday, a group of 20 or so brothers and sisters will go to the site of a local race like the Monster Dash 5K, an event that attracts 10,000 runners. The race is organized by Team Ortho, a nonprofit organization that organizes races and staffs them using pre-existing groups of people, typically groups of volunteers associated with local nonprofit organizations. The People of Praise volunteers will spend the morning checking in gear for runners or passing out water, and Team Ortho will donate $500 for their efforts. The money goes to the branch camp fund, where it is used to cover the fees for kids who could not otherwise afford to go to camp.

The races are festive events, and the volunteers often find themselves greeting costumed runners. Kathy Stauble says, “That’s easy conversation, to say, ‘Oh, you’re a great banana! Have fun running in that thing!’”

Since last year’s camp, Servant Branch members have worked three races and earned enough money to take care of all the estimated needs for the 2016 camp.

The idea began three years ago when Pat Ficker, director of Servant Camp, started looking for a fundraiser to fill a need. A number of grandparents in the People of Praise had asked about financial help for their grandchildren to go to camp. “I started telling our team of directors, ‘I wonder if we could find a way to support these other campers.’” Jeanne Oberg had worked with Team Ortho, and it gave her an idea. “I thought, What the heck? They’re always looking for extra groups.”

One People of Praise grandmother rejoices in the impact the camperships have had on her granddaughters. Two of them have been baptized in the Holy Spirit at camp, and they keep in touch with the friends they’ve made there. She says, “They don’t go to church. This is the only exposure they have to the love of the Lord or a solid Christian environment. I love them, but I’m just grandma. To me, it’s evident that they’ve had a profound experience because they want to go back every year.”

Making that experience possible motivates the branch members who volunteer. Says Phil Gaffney, “I was baptized in the Holy Spirit at Servant Camp. Even though I haven’t been able to go in recent years, Servant Camp means a lot to me. To give kids an opportunity to go when they might not normally be able to— I see a lot of value in that.”

Team Ortho has asked if People of Praise teams would be available to run the gear check at five more races this year. At the Get Lucky race, Kathy talked with the organizer in charge of all the volunteers. The organizer said, “You guys are on time and you work hard.” “She was really appreciative,” adds Kathy.

The chance to spend four or five hours working together is a highlight for branch members. Says Marya Waletzko, “I am relatively new to the community. I came in not knowing anyone, really. At the last race I was talking to Paul Hrbacek. He told me all about his experience taking his dad to Washington, DC, to see the war memorials. Every time I volunteer at a race, I hear a similar story. I connect with someone I wouldn’t have otherwise known, and then I know another smiling face at community meetings.”

It takes a lot of volunteers to support a larger race, and Team Ortho recruits all sorts of different groups to help. Phil spent some time working next to members of a fraternity, and he noticed branch volunteers talking to them about camp. “If you work with a new group of volunteers, a frequent topic is why you are helping with the race. So, there’s an opportunity for us to share about the People of Praise and about Servant Camp. Everybody is really willing to share.”

PHOTO: KATHY STAUBLE
This recipe began with Jo Marie Hansen (Vancouver-Portland), who used the parsley dressing with her mandarin orange salad for years. As part of a Christmas gift one year, she shared the recipe with her women’s group, which included Kathy Freeman.
Kathy prepared the same salad for a Lord’s Day opening at least 15 years ago, and that was where Jenny Ridenour first had it. Jenny says, “This is the recipe that got me onto salads. I realized that salads can be done creatively and be one of the tastiest parts of a meal. Also at that dinner, Kathy explained how to make the candied nuts. I’ve used her method on all sorts of nuts to candy for salads.”

Jenny later updated the recipe and decided to combine the parsley dressing with her pear/pecan/gorgonzola salad (below). All three women agree that the dressing is very versatile, and Jenny’s alterations are only one manifestation of the creativity that Jo Marie’s original recipe inspired.

**PEAR, PECAN AND GORGONZOLA SALAD**

**SERVES 8**

**Parsley Dressing**

**Ingredients**
- 1/4 cup parsley, chopped
- 2 tablespoons white sugar
- 2 tablespoons apple cider vinegar
- 1 garlic clove, chopped
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- Fresh ground pepper, to taste
- 1/2 cup vegetable oil

**Directions**
1. Combine all ingredients except oil in a food processor and pulse several times until well mixed.
2. Add in oil a little at a time and pulse between additions. Be careful not to overmix. Add extra salt to taste.

**Salad**

**Ingredients**
- Large bowl of mixed greens
- 1 red onion, thinly sliced
- 2 pears
- 1 cup pecan halves
- 1 cup white sugar
- Gorgonzola or blue cheese, crumbled

**Directions**
1. Heat a medium nonstick pan over medium heat. Add ¼ cup sugar and spread evenly across pan. Cook until sugar is liquid, then add ¼ cup of pecans. Stir pecans until coated with sugar, then remove from pan. Immediately separate pecans using two forks and allow to cool. Repeat the process, in batches, with the remaining pecans and sugar. Once candied pecans are cool, break the single pecans into pieces. Set aside.
2. When ready to serve salad, thinly slice the pears and toss all ingredients together. Add dressing to coat, being careful not to saturate salad.

For some of us, the realization that our individual salvation is really a subplot of a much larger story can be a radical change in perspective. It’s easy to get so excited about the subplot–namely, our salvation—that we forget the larger picture. Because God really has done great things for us, we begin to think that is all he is about.

Sometimes, without really realizing what we are doing, we begin to talk as if personal well-being and happiness are what Christianity and life in Christ are all about. We start talking as if the really important thing about service is that it helps me to become a better person. Or, instead of talking about the People of Praise as a place where it is possible to love in real and concrete ways, we talk about the People of Praise as a place we can go to receive love. Similarly, we might find ourselves saying that the community is a great place for my family to prosper, instead of thinking, this is a great place for my family to serve the Lord.

Our life in Christ is not a means to our own personal ends. Our life in Christ is the way the Father is accomplishing his purposes, rescuing the world from sin and filling it with his glory, his word, his wisdom, his Son.

If we slide into thinking that Christianity is all about my growing and becoming a better person, we can lose our perspective regarding sin. It becomes simply an impediment to my happiness and my growth as a human being. Sin no longer is an interpersonal reality, an offense against God and neighbor. It loses its character as a trespass or debt. When we choose to leave our Father’s house, it’s a matter of disloyalty, unfaithfulness. And when we sin against our brethren, we sin against Christ, because my brother is Christ. So when we grieve for our sins we should not be grieving that we are less than perfect or that we have failed to be fully human. We should grieve that we have sinned against Christ.

You can listen to these talks on “Christ in You: The Hope of Glory” on the People of Praise File Library. To access it, go to https://peopleofpraise.org/file-library/226/ and log in.
RON FOLVARCIK
By Kevin Weilbacher

Ron never met a stranger who wasn’t family. He would literally give you the shirt off his back, his last morsel of food and all the money in his wallet.

A true romantic, he loved to describe his first date with Bonnie: “Looking up the stairs, I saw this gracious lady coming down who looked like Loretta Young.”

In the early 1980s, Ron and Bonnie came underway in Tampa. In those days, branch members spent many a Saturday morning serving at the local food bank. Working side by side with Ron sorting potatoes cemented our relationship and showed me that being a servant was in his DNA.

After several years, family and work demands required them to leave the branch, but their love for community and serving God never wavered. In 1999, during a year of work in Minneapolis, Ron attended a retreat sponsored by Servant Branch. He heard the Lord’s call to rejoin community, so they came underway again and made the covenant January 14, 2007.

Ron was the epitome of the phrase, “Whatever is worth doing is worth overdoing.” If the doctor said walk half a mile a day, Ron walked five miles a day. For him, it was all or nothing.

Ron was committed to three hours of prayer daily. His words, “I always pray for you,” were sincere and genuine. You could depend on him praying for you.

Ron and Bonnie were blessed to take a long-desired trip to the Holy Land in 2015. While at Cana, they renewed their marriage vows.

Facts

- Ron was born January 1, 1943, in Robertsdale, PA, and died January 6, 2016, in Brandon, FL.
- He and Bonnie Bartosch were married on July 26, 1969, and were blessed with two children and six grandchildren.
- Ron received an A.S. degree from the University of Buffalo and a B.A. in business management from National Louis University.
- In his career he was proud to have contributed to the early stages of Bell Aerospace (a division of NASA in Niagara Falls), United Nuclear of Mulberry, FL, and Silor Optical of St. Petersburg, FL.

TERRY GRISMER
By Jean Monaco

Terry was an active woman, participating in Catholic Daughters, Caritas and Right to Life, and also serving as a hospice and hospital volunteer. Fellowship with her community brothers and sisters was always a priority. She attended all gatherings and supported any outreach—even showing up to cheer community children on when they acted on stage. She and her women’s group enjoyed brown bag meals together at the noontime (free!) concerts at the university. She was a good listener and could converse easily.

Years ago, when we changed the location of our prayer meetings, Terry accidentally showed up at the old location. Several other people also came, expecting a prayer meeting. So Terry prayed with them! It’s possibly the shortest prayer session on record, but she wasn’t about to let the Lord or her community down.

Terry liked to travel. She’d decide it was time for a trip, find one, sign up and go! She and Lori Zimmerman often traveled together, visiting Boston, the UK, Italy, Bosnia and British Columbia.

Terry took pride in maintaining her house and yard by herself. Still, after a fall on the ice and a severe head injury, she was patient and open to receiving help. She also appreciated assistance and care as she battled terminal cancer.

Three weeks before she died, I stopped by the apartment. Terry wrote out a check, put it in an envelope and handed it to me. I said, “Terry, you don’t owe me any money.” (She was always meticulous about reimbursing people.) But the check was for community support. “I don’t want to forget that,” she said.

Facts

- Theresa Beard was born in Baker City, Oregon, in March, 1926, and died in Corvallis September 11, 2015.
- She received her degree from St. Vincent’s Hospital School in 1947 and began working as a nurse.
- In 1954 she and Jerry Grismer were married. After their divorce in 1979, Terry moved with the youngest of their seven children to Corvallis, where she worked as a secretary/office manager for two small companies, including one operated by community members.
- Terry made the covenant of the People of Praise October 14, 1984.


Covenant:
Congratulations to these brothers and sisters who made the covenant of the People of Praise since our last reporting:
Kingston, October 31, 2015: Joel Brown Indianapolis, March 27: Shelley Gilliam
Buffalo, April 3: John Broxup

Births:
Welcome to our youngest brothers and sisters in the community:
Veronica Christine, born November 6 to Matt and Mary Brickweg (Servant Branch).
Lincoln Michael Thomas, born November 12 to Mike and Sarah Stapp (Servant Branch).
Rachel Marie, born December 17 to Peter and Sheila Timler (South Bend).
Greta Noël, born December 23 to David and Laura Salmon (South Bend).
Augustine Francis, born December 29 to Michael and Gina Busk (South Bend).
Esme Irene Mercy, born January 6 to Therese (northern Virginia) and Bryan Rosenthal.
Katherine Helen, born January 27 to James and Alicia McShane (Servant Branch).
Vivienne Renee, born February 2 to Rob and Laura Brickweg (Servant Branch).
Robert McNeill, born March 8 to Tim and Jenny Deusenbury (northern Virginia).
Leon Douglas, born March 9 to Pete and Christine Gaffney (South Bend).

Weddings:
Best wishes to Collin Anderson and Margaret DeCelles (both South Bend), who were married January 16 at Saint Joseph Catholic Church in South Bend.

Graduations:
Congratulations to these brothers and sisters, who recently graduated:
Alanna Crimmins (northern Virginia), B.A., English, George Mason University.
Brian Rice (Mission Division, Indianapolis), B.S., agronomy, Purdue University.
Matt Rubio (Mission Division, Indianapolis), B.S., electrical and computer engineering, Purdue University.

Deaths:
We’ve received word of the deaths of these members of the People of Praise. We pray for their families and friends in this time of loss.
Terry Grismer, Corvallis, died September 11, 2015.
Mary Bilby, Muncie, died November 21, 2015.
Ron Folvarcik, Tampa, died January 6, 2016.
Mike Seidle, Muncie, died January 27, 2016.
Gene Schmelzer, Appleton, died January 28, 2016.
Ken Larsen, Servant Branch, died February 23, 2016.

Executive Office Announcements:
Mary Asselin was transferred from Servant Branch to the branch in northern Virginia, effective January 19, 2016.
Muncie:
Bill Bolkwa was appointed to a three-year term as area coordinator, effective March 1, 2016.
Roy Connor was appointed to a one-year term as a nonvoting coordinator for purposes of training, effective March 15, 2016.

Gregg and Patti Sorg were released from the covenant of the People of Praise March 21, 2016.

Servant Branch:
Matt Brickweg has been appointed to a three-year term of office as area coordinator, effective January 26, 2016.
Harold Coulter was granted tenure as a coordinator of the People of Praise December 4, 2015.
John Fasbender was granted tenure as a coordinator of the People of Praise December 4, 2015. John has also been appointed to a third three-year term of office as area coordinator, effective January 26, 2016.
Dick Stauble has been appointed to a second three-year term of office as area coordinator, effective January 26, 2016.
Jon and Lea-Ann Virnig were released from the covenant of the People of Praise April 11, 2016.

South Bend:
Brian and Beth Couch were released from the covenant of the People of Praise March 2, 2016.
Tim Pingel has been appointed to a second three-year term of office as area coordinator, effective January 17, 2016.
Pete Sgroi has been appointed to a three-year term of office as area coordinator, effective January 18, 2016.

Vancouver-Portland
Pat Clark has been appointed to a one-year term as a nonvoting coordinator for purposes of training, effective December 15, 2015.
Fred Dang has been appointed to a third three-year term of office as area coordinator, effective December 15, 2016.
“My heart and flesh sing for joy to the living God” (Is. 44:23).