Personal Prayer
Finding God in a Secret Place

Shreveport
Praise Academy Stories

Trinity Schools
Honoring Kerry Koller

Mobile
Shrimp Scampi
On Monday, September 17, the women of the South Bend branch gathered at the LaSalle Building for community celebration women’s night. The building was the branch’s home from 1975–2000. The current owners recently renovated it as upscale apartments.

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FRONT COVER
Andy Bowar (Servant Branch) captured a morning personal prayer time for 8th- to 12th-graders during this year’s Servant Camp, held August 5 to 10 in Cannon Falls, MN.

BACK COVER
Kristin Kabele (South Bend) took this photo of Taggart Lake in August during a trip to Grand Teton National Park with other members of the Sisterhood.

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PHOTOS: LEFT: MARGARET ANDERSON; RIGHT: LOWER LEFT: RUTH MAINES; ALL OTHERS: ANDY BOWAR.

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SERVANT CAMP 2018
How Praise Academy Stole My Heart

BY JULIE BRUBER

F or 25 years I’d worked as an entrepreneur, saleswoman and leader in a fast-growing technology company. I’d helped build the company from the ground up, but by 2017 my fire and zeal had faded. So, after a lot of prayer, I sold most of my shares and walked away. I felt the Lord calling me to something new, but what?

I spent a few months enjoying the strange newness of my new schedule, but I became restless. I needed a purpose. The Lord told me to be patient. Then, in January of 2018, I got an offer to work in marketing and development for Praise Academy in the Allendale/Lakeside neighborhood of Shreveport. I had some apprehensions.

For starters, I hadn’t done fundraising before. I knew that the students would be depending on me. Would I be able to live up to their hopes? I love kids. I always keep gum or candy in my purse to pass it out to the kids at our community meetings in Servant Branch. But would the kids in Shreveport like me?

There was another problem: I’ve been part of the community since I was 18. I love our life, but when it came to our mission work in the new starts I was indifferent. Sure, I’d enjoyed hearing the missionary stories, and some of them even moved me, but for the most part they went in one ear and out the other. I’d heard other community members share about how the Lord had called them to move to the mission front, and so I’d chuckle to myself and think, Wow, we’re losing a lot of people. We’re like a triple-A farm team constantly feeding baseball players to the big leagues!

I’d never been disgruntled or resentful, but I also didn’t fully rejoice with my brothers and sisters about how the Lord had moved in their hearts. I had a terrible attitude. Brothers and sisters, please forgive me!

As part of my discernment process, I traveled to Shreveport to visit Praise Academy. When I got into town, I pulled off the interstate, turned left and took in the scene. I saw businesses with bars on the windows and crumbled sidewalks with grass poking up through the cracks. I saw a house with a damaged roof and weeds growing up out of it. It looked abandoned, but then a man walked out of it. Were people really living in places like this? I drove across a bridge, through an area that I later learned is renowned for drugs and prostitution. I felt a deep darkness in my spirit.

After getting turned around a few times, I finally made it onto Yale Avenue. I spotted a few very modest but well-kept houses all in a row. The contrast was striking and my spirits lifted.

When I walked in the door at Praise Academy, the children surrounded me. They kept hugging me and pepperling me with questions. “Who are you?” “Where are you from?” “You got kids?” “How come you talk funny?” One little boy gave me a hug, and as I bent over to hug him back he caught a whiff of my hairspray. “Mmm, your hair smell good! What you got in your hair?” The Praise Academy kids stole my heart. It took about 30 seconds.

During my visit I met a mom named Connie and her husband Aubrey. Connie had come to the very first camp the People of Praise ran in 2003 and now she and Aubrey have three children in the school. “Did you grow up in the People of Praise like Connie did?”, Aubrey asked me. I was blown away by that question. She is a part of our family, and we are part of hers. I hadn’t understood that before.

I took a walk with David Zimmel. Neighbors kept coming up to him to say hello. He knew all their names and they knew his. I saw that this isn’t a hopeless place. There is love here. The body of Christ is here.

The neighbors I met were unpretentious, warm, welcoming and easy to talk to. There is something very beautiful in them. They don’t abort their babies and they love their kids.

My heart was moved, so I prayed some more and took the job. I’ve been at it for a few months now. I work primarily from Minnesota, but I get to travel to Louisiana for meetings. God has been blessing the work. Last spring we held our first local fundraiser, part of a campaign called Give for Good. We finished second among all the participating nonprofit organizations in northern Louisiana, raising nearly $125,000.

We produced a video and this fall we are expecting two newspaper stories that will get the word out about Praise Academy to more than 200,000 people. We’ve launched a sponsor-a-student program to allow people to help give these kids a Christian education that can change their lives forever.

The Apostle John wrote, “But if anyone has the world’s goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God’s love abide in him?”

I may not have always felt that love in me, but I have seen and I know for a fact that that love abides in us and it abides in Allendale/Lakeside. I’m a part of that love, too, and that’s right where I want to be.
Joan Pingel sighed as she walked into the Bossier City, LA, shopping mall on a Saturday in July and saw the extremely long line. The mall was giving away backpacks loaded with school supplies, and Joan and two chaperones had brought seven Praise Academy students with them to stand in that line. It didn’t matter that they had arrived 45 minutes early. So had everyone else!

Adding to the pressure, one of the students had confided in Joan that there was no food to eat in his family’s house. “We’ll talk about that later,” Joan had told him, hoping that an answer to his needs would materialize in the meantime.

As the line snaked through the mall, Joan saw that they were standing in front of Victoria’s Secret, a lingerie store. She told the students to turn their backs so they wouldn’t see the store’s immodest displays. Facing in a new direction, they noticed a crew of mall employees trying to organize a Hula-Hoop contest to keep the kids in the line occupied. Most of the kids hadn’t noticed what was happening, but three Praise Academy students joined the competition. Two of them quickly fizzled out, their hoops and their hopes clattering to the floor. But the young boy who had told Joan about his hunger hung on until he was the last man standing. He was the champ and entitled to a prize. “What do I get, Miss Joan?” he asked. The prize was a $25 gift card to a fried chicken chain, Raising Cane’s!

“The Lord heard you asking me about food,” Joan told him.

The boy handed her the card for safe-keeping. “Don’t tell my mom yet,” he told Joan.

The line seemed to move more quickly after that. The students got their new backpacks and everyone returned to the van.

When Joan took the winning student back home, he excitedly told his mom about the contest. “What did you win?” she asked. He handed her the gift card triumphantly, proud to have made a contribution to the family.

“Look at what the Lord provided,” the mom said.

Later that evening, Joan went to pick up a chicken dinner for the whole family.
Paul DeCelles gave this talk in 1991, when he was the community's overall coordinator. His talk is a commentary on section 5 of *The Spirit and Purpose*, entitled “Holiness.” This version has been edited for length.

We’re coming up to the 20th anniversary of the first making of the covenant—October 15, 1971. I think it’s valuable for us to focus our energies on the one thing that has been most important to us during this period of time. There are lots of things that could be the most important thing, but in looking over *The Spirit and Purpose* the section on holiness is the part that I thought was most important. If we’re not getting holier, then our effort is not worth much. It’s not going anywhere. Our personal relationships are extremely important. You can measure them by the degree to which they lead us to a deeper love of God and love of one another. Even our love of one another has to be measured by our love of God. Our love of one another, if it just stops at that, isn’t going to have the eternal payoff. It must be connected with reality, which is that God is God and we are only his people.

I want to talk especially about personal prayer. It is true, I think—and everybody who's had any pastoral responsibility for anybody else can verify this—that when things are not going well for the people that you’re caring for, the first question that you ask them is, “Well, are you praying? Are you keeping your personal prayer time?” And the answer is invariably no. There is a real connection between how well people are making out in the life of the Lord and their personal prayer.

So, what is prayer? What is personal prayer?

There is a flood of books on the subject. It is one of the hottest and fastest-growing publishing ventures around!

But the fact is that most of the books are not very helpful. In part, that’s because it’s up to each individual to find his or her own way to pray. Prayer is personal. It involves your person. What you’re saying to the Lord and how you're relating to him is up to you. There is no one way to pray. We want our prayer to be that kind of prayer which rises from the depths of our hearts, a prayer which is inspired by the Holy Spirit, a prayer which is the Spirit of Christ praying in us and through us.

Prayer is a dialogue. There are two people involved. It’s between you and God. In John 11, Martha goes out to meet Jesus, who is on his way to raise Lazarus from the dead. Then she runs out ahead of him to get her sister Mary, and, as Mary approaches them, she is mourning Lazarus. Martha says to her, “The teacher is here and is calling for you.”

When a person turns to God, each of us meets God who is drawing near to us through the incarnation of his Word. “The master is here. Come.” He bids you to come and be present to him.

God is asking us questions when we meet with him. He is waiting for us and he wants to know what we have to say. God is waiting for each of us to set out to meet him. If each person’s life is destined to
end in a final and everlasting meeting with God, then prayer provides the way by which we proceed to this meeting. The ultimate contemplation of the presence of God, the full culmination of our prayer on earth, will transfigure us by means of the glory of Jesus that Jesus fulfills in us. Prayer is essentially a waiting full of impatience. It’s full of loving longing.

What do we bring to the dialogue? First, we must be able to put everything we are into prayer. At that very moment, we must concentrate all of ourselves so that we prefer Jesus absolutely to anything else in the world. This means that the first condition for praying is to have your heart free, so that you can give yourself to the Lord. Since we will never feel that we have reached such perfection and that our hearts are perfectly free, we must identify ourselves with the state of mind of the tax collector in St. Luke’s Gospel, who humbly, honestly, peacefully, acknowledges his sinfulness. “Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.”

But we must have more than just a humble heart. We have to have a humble mind. We encounter not only the Lord’s merciful love in prayer, we encounter his truth. Intellectual independence is one of the main obstacles to union with God in prayer today. Jesus warns us emphatically that we have to change dramatically. We must become like little children if we are to receive him.

Our purpose in prayer has to be to become of one mind and one heart with the Lord. The Lord says that our ways are not his ways, and so our ways have to change. We have to accept the Lord’s criteria for life and salvation. We have to accept the Lord’s plan for the world and for us in particular. We have to accept his truth, even though we might not understand it very well. And we have to like it. We actually have to want what the Lord wants for us. Can you imagine how difficult it would be to be in the situation that Jesus was in when he had to become of one mind and heart with the Father? It says in Scripture, Jesus learned obedience through the cross, “even death on a cross.” You can almost imagine something like a dialogue going on where Jesus would say, “Maybe there’s another way. Maybe we could just forgive them without the cross.” And of course, why not? The Lord could have simply forgiven us. But he had a better plan. He wanted to show us a better way to live, which includes dying. He wants to show us how to love, and in order to do it, it is necessary for him to love us to such a degree that he would shed his blood for us. We would not know that if he hadn’t taught us.

Now, I think that that’s pretty hard to take. It requires us to change our minds. The cross is a spirit of denial of things. It’s the way of salvation for us.

As we approach the Lord in prayer, our goal should be to become of one mind and heart with God, that is to say, to achieve unity with God in prayer. There’s the great passage in Matthew’s Gospel chapter 6 about prayer, and I’d like to spend a little bit of time on it with you. You might construe the whole chapter as a teaching on prayer. Our Lord says, “Don’t be like the hypocrites who stand out in front of the synagogues to be recognized as they pray. Rather, when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret, and your Father who is in secret will reward you.” I just want to point out that all through this chapter the spirit of what he’s saying is, “Be in secret.”

One of the first things I think the Lord wants us to understand about prayer, and about ourselves as we go to prayer, is that we have to have that element of being childlike. A child is absolutely defenseless. There is no child who is able to defend himself or herself, and protect himself. And yet the Lord tells us that we have to become as little children. When people talk about having been imprisoned in the gulag, or in other torture chambers throughout the rest of the world, invariably they say that it wasn’t their fingernails being pulled out, it wasn’t their eyelids being cut off and it wasn’t their eyes being poked out or their skin being burned or their being branded, it wasn’t anything like that that was the problem for them. The thing that they feared the most and was the most painful for them was to be in solitary confinement. Why? I think that it’s in solitary confinement
that you become like a little child. You have absolutely nothing. When you’re in solitary confinement, you have sensory deprivation. There is nothing there that you are familiar with. There’s nothing you can identify with. Even your thoughts get jumbled and your memories fade away. You can’t make any sense out of anything, and you become completely disoriented, because you are absolutely helpless and there’s nothing there to stimulate you. So when somebody goes to solitary confinement and finds absolutely nothing, he has found himself, because he has nothing else to bring to solitary confinement.

So when we go to the Lord—in a certain sense, to confinement also—we should go in secret. We should, in fact, go before the Lord and say, “it’s true, I really don’t have anything. I don’t have anything to bring here. I have only needs. Lord, Father in hiding, I can’t justify myself.” When we get to solitary confinement, so to speak, in prayer, that’s when we’ll find God. God is there before you, rooting for you. We need to pray in secret. That is to say, we need to lay aside all those burdens which we bear daily. That’s why in Matthew 6 the Lord starts talking about alms right away. It’s a chapter about prayer, but the first thing he talks about is giving our money to the poor. We should be detached from our money so that, when we go to pray, we don’t have it on our hands, so to speak. It’s out of our minds. We’ve done with that. Now we’re just here sitting face to face with God.

He goes on to talk about fasting. He talks about reputations. Put it all aside! And then he talks about anxieties. He says, “There are all kinds of anxieties—I wish it weren’t so! But you must do this. Lay aside your anxieties, put them out of the way when you go to the Lord, and meet the Lord.”

Just say, “Lord, I have nothing to offer you but all of myself. Just myself, which I give you totally at this very moment.”

I have a suggestion for anxieties, because many people have many anxieties. They are the cause of us not going to the Lord sometimes. We are afraid to go to the Lord for fear that he is going to give us more anxieties! We’re going to ask him something and he’s going to tell us the truth, and we don’t want to hear it. We just sort of dread it. So, what I suggest you do is take each anxiety you have, identify it as well as you can. Write it on a sheet of paper. Get it clear in your mind. Don’t show the paper to anybody—it can be your own personal property. Then go to the Lord. I recommend that you imagine the Lord on a cross right next to you, his knee perhaps at the level of your eye. He’s bloody and scraped. He’s bleeding, and he’s still alive, and he hears you. Get a picture of him on the cross suffering for our sins. And then, say, “Lord, I am really concerned that you’re going to ask me to go to Timbuktu if I say yes to you unreservedly with my whole heart. I am terrified of it. I don’t want to go to Timbuktu. But Lord, if that’s what you want, I will do it. Send me. Do whatever you want to.” And just nail that anxiety right to the cross, and leave it there like an IOU. Take every concern that you have to the cross and leave it with Jesus, who is bearing our burdens for us.

I think that it is wonderful that our Lord continually reminds us that we need to be like little children. Little children are delightful to you by their presence, not because they’re immensely talented, but because they are an object of love. And that’s what our Lord is telling us. He says, “Come to me, and be an object of love for me. I love you, and I want to give you all good things if you will just put aside your own ideas and your own plans, and submit your will to mine.”

As we grow older, we are watching in our lives the continual unfolding of the immanence of God. He is always making himself and his presence more and more plain. He is revealing himself more and more, to more people, more deeply, more profoundly. It is clearly his goal to be present to us. All he asks is that we be present to him, and he will achieve that union which we so deeply desire in our hearts. As it says in the Anima Christi prayer, “at the hour of my death, call me and bid me come to thee that with thy saints I may praise thee for ever and ever.”

WHEN WE GET TO SOLITARY CONFINEMENT, SO TO SPEAK, IN PRAYER, THAT’S WHEN WE’LL FIND GOD.
WHATEVER THE COST

Honoring Kerry Koller

In August, faculty members from all three Trinity Schools and Trinity Academy in Portland gathered in South Bend for a weeklong summit. During the summit, Jon Balsbaugh, the president of Trinity Schools, Inc., hosted a dinner to honor his predecessor Kerry Koller (South Bend), who stepped down as president in the summer of 2017 after 36 years. (Kerry continues to serve Trinity Schools in the role of president emeritus.)

Here are several excerpts from the sharings that evening.

KEVIN RANAGHAN

It’s been a privilege for me to know Kerry and Barbara for more than 50 years. I remember first noticing them, a young married couple at Little Flower Church, when Dorothy and I were dating. I wanted to know more about them. Hanging around the Cursillo crowd at Notre Dame, I soon learned that Kerry, a philosophy grad student, was a deeply committed Catholic Christian, seriously intellectual, with a heart for church renewal and building God’s kingdom now. I can see now that he had already been in pursuit of the good, the true and the beautiful.

In so many endeavors, Kerry has been on the cutting edge of what the Lord seeks today. He was an early leader in the charismatic renewal, a founder of a covenant community in San Francisco, and also of a leadership formation program in South Bend called the Apostolic Institute, which was key both in the development of the permanent diaconate in the Catholic Church and the People of Praise ecumenical community. Later, he led a large band of folks to leave San Francisco and move here to join the People of Praise. He is a courageous risk-taker in the Lord. I think it was about this time that the Lord spoke to him about Trinity School.

Kerry is one of the hardest-working men I have ever known. In building Trinity, and also as a leader and teacher in our community, he has spared no effort over long and hard hours of research and writing and speaking to get it right and to express it clearly in a convincing way. Our offices have been next door to each other, and I’ve seen this quality for many years. Whatever it costs him, he has spent himself for Trinity, for its goals and vision, and for its achievement.

TOM FINKE

Kerry, more than anyone, has held the vision bright. He consistently held up the goal that the formation of the intellect was foremost. Memos and talks that I have from the early 1980s sound remarkably like those he sent out and gave in the middle of 2010. This theory turned into practice under his direction, and the community of learners became not just a trite phrase but a reality.

Another aspect of his life has been his missionary spirit. You’ve heard about him moving to South Bend from San Francisco, but he has also served as head of school at each of the campuses, which of course meant uprooting his family life to do so, as well as adding to his already sufficiently busy job as president of Trinity Schools.

Kerry has also always been a collaborator, being a member of the community even as he gave direction. My best example of this occurred when, in 2004, he suggested to me that he and I become a “Head of School team.” Now, he could have just done this job himself. Instead, for the next six years, we worked as a team, which required many hours of communication and trust in each other.
**STEPHEN KOLLER**

*When I heard my dad* was stepping down from day-to-day operations of the school, I asked him whether he would want some sort of formal acknowledgment. He said, “No, I am part of a team. We all have different roles and parts to play, and this was my part. I am no better than anyone else.” This is a window into how Dad has always viewed his place within the Trinity narrative.

I reached out to my siblings and our mom for stories and they responded with many.

First I want to honor you for your servant’s heart. As my brother Peter said, “I remember going to Trinity on Saturdays to refresh and clean the building, along with associated trips to TruValue to buy light bulbs, paint and cleaning supplies.” From Jack, “He would go to the copy room at Greenlawn and spend countless hours copying teacher seminar handouts and materials.” From Jack, “I can still remember him buying a PC and setting it up at home to fully demo it before they were bought for the new computer lab.” There were no school IT people back then. And Mom relayed, “Before his stepping down, while we would be on vacation, he would spend the first couple hours every day on email and working on items that needed attention.” He was a founder, curriculum builder, head of school, president of three schools, with all the associated work that comes with that. And he did that while serving on the People of Praise board of governors, being a head coordinator, giving a leading role in the vision of the community, writing talks, giving talks, and providing pastoral care, all while also raising a family. That’s hard work.

Dad also always had the respect of his students. As Peter said, “The respect he had from students in classes where he was teaching and where I was present was real and unequivocal. No one ever joked about him, and they behaved themselves, and often raised their game in his presence.” When I was there, the school was not my favorite thing at the time, but I also did not want to hear people disparage my dad or my mom because they worked there. In speaking with a friend then, I thanked him for not ripping my dad around me. He said, “I won’t, because some people treat you like children unless you prove otherwise, and your dad has always treated us like adults unless we prove otherwise.”

**PAUL DECelles**

*I want to say a word* about the role of friendship in Kerry’s life and our life. The first thing about friendship that everybody knows is that you have to be present as often as you can with the one with whom you are a friend. But sometimes friends have to be separated, like Francis Xavier was separated from Ignatius for years at a crack. Francis would get a letter or two a year, which he would put in a pouch around his neck to carry around. They had a sense of being present to each other across the distance. They were one. They were in sync. Several years after I ceased being overall coordinator, I also stopped being the chairman of the board of Trinity Schools. And so the weekly meetings that Kerry and I had with each other up until that time, which we had been doing for years, these really wonderful times, ceased. We both wanted to do something about that, but it turns out that we hardly ever saw each other thereafter. He had new responsibilities. I had very different responsibilities, and our paths didn’t cross. There were a lot of intervening life experiences that had to take precedence over our being together. But when I do run into Kerry, it’s as though we hadn’t skipped a beat. We start up the conversation in exactly the same place. I don’t mean that it’s routine and automatic. It’s ratcheted up a bit. It’s improved. It’s moved on. It’s more real, still alive. It is really the case that Kerry and I have one heart. And as long as we’re of one heart, we’ll always be friends. Kerry has a huge capacity for being a friend of all of us.

**JON BALSBAUGH**

*Kerry never sought reward,* honor or prestige for the school or himself. Instead, he’s lived by the light of the truth and the leading of the Holy Spirit, demonstrating for us all what it means to live a meaningful, moral, self-sacrificing life.

He has borne consistent witness to education as a human awakening, both for himself and for his students. Whether inspiring students with his talk on the Habitual Vision of Greatness, guiding the faculty through a major adjustment to our philosophy of education that became known as the New Paradigm, engaging *The Matrix*, the sci-fi film, as a metaphor for our education, or simply sharing *New York Times* articles with those he thought would find them interesting, Kerry has shown us all that one can live a life of wonder that does not cease.

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Kerry teaching around 1984.
SHRIMP SCAMPI

RECIPE BY STEVE AND LYDIA GAUDET

PHOTO BY JENNIFER KENNING
Steve and Lydia Gaudet’s (Mobile) shrimp pasta boasts some impressive credentials: “This is a recipe I take to a lot of families with new babies,” Lydia says. “So far, I have a 100% recipe request rate … from the dads!”

The recipe is simple and adaptable. “It is easy to substitute ingredients you have on hand,” Lydia says. “The sauce is quick to make, since it only takes a few minutes to cook the shrimp. I often use the bags of frozen shrimp that Wal-Mart sells—any size will do. You could substitute chicken if seafood is not your thing. My husband and I used to use powdered milk instead of cream, whatever we had on hand. We could put it together with not much money,” she says, remembering the days earlier on in her and Steve’s marriage when they had eight growing children to feed.

She recommends it for Lord’s Day opening dinners as well: “With french bread, a bottle of wine and a salad, you’ve got a nice meal!”

**SHRIMP SCAMPI**

**SERVES 12**

**Ingredients**
- 2 lbs. spaghetti, linguine, angel hair or other pasta
- 1 medium onion, finely chopped
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 4 tablespoons olive oil
- 2 tablespoons butter
- 2 28-oz. cans crushed tomatoes*
- ½ cup white wine
- 4 teaspoons Italian seasoning or to taste*
- 2 cups half and half or evaporated milk
- 3 lbs. shrimp, peeled and deveined
- Salt and pepper to taste
- 1 teaspoon sugar (optional)

* Canned or jarred pasta sauce can be substituted for the tomatoes and herbs.

**Directions**
1. Cook pasta according to package directions. Drain and set aside.
2. Sauté onion and garlic in oil and butter until soft.
3. Add tomatoes, wine and Italian seasoning. Bring to a low boil, then simmer for 15 minutes.
4. Add half and half, and bring back to just simmering. Add shrimp and stir gently until shrimp are pink, about 5 minutes (DON’T overcook or boil the milk).
5. Season to taste, then add sugar if desired. Toss sauce and shrimp with cooked pasta to coat.

**SELF-INDULGENCE OR SELF-DISCIPLINE?**

**Being an Effective Servant**

**BY CLEM WALTERS**

Clem Walters’s book *To Serve As Jesus Served* was published in 1983 by Greenlawn Press. We thought you might find this excerpt inspiring alongside the talk by Paul DeCelles on personal holiness in this issue.

You cannot be an effective servant of God if you are enslaved by your own excessive desires, or even by your legitimate needs. If you are constantly seeking your own pleasure and relaxation, you will not be available to meet the needs of others. Many a would-be servant dulls himself to the Lord’s voice by overuse of alcohol, tobacco, drugs or rich food.

As a perfect servant of God, you must be willing to put aside your own legitimate needs as well as your excesses. Are you willing to forego an hour of sleep to intercede when the Lord awakens you with a need for intercessory prayer? Do you fast in order to make your intercession more effective? If you practice deliberate self-denial in these areas, you will be prepared to meet unanticipated needs, whether they arise at midnight or noon. St. Paul reminds us of the runner and the athlete always training themselves in self-discipline (1 Corinthians 9:23-27), ready for the contest.

If you discipline yourself through prayer and fasting, you will discover a new attitude toward your bodily needs. Instead of insisting on your right to have these needs and wants fulfilled, you will be able to receive God’s generous care for your needs as a gift. If a higher demand intervenes, you can set your needs aside temporarily in order to respond to God’s urgency.

*To Serve As Jesus Served* is out of print, but a .pdf is available on the file library. Go to https://peopleofpraise.org/file-library/112/ and log in. You can also find used copies at many online resellers.
GLADSTONE BROWN
By Vince Keaveny

Gladstone was a humble, quiet, hardworking, strong man of God. He was a dedicated husband to Cis and a wonderful father to his son Joel and his stepson Michael. He was also a deeply committed Catholic who delighted in the sacraments of his church and he quietly went about looking for opportunities to talk about the Lord to anyone he met.

Whenever anyone visited his home, Gladstone's welcome was "Enter and be loved." If anyone found it necessary to apologize to him, his response was always, "You're loved and forgiven." Gladstone also had an awesome sense of humor, witty and dry but always hilarious. The exception to this was during chess or checkers! There was no joking, and there were no prisoners!

The story goes that in April, 2013, Gladstone went to the doctor for a checkup. They got to talking about death, and the doctor said he wanted a quick death, no pain. Gladstone said he would prefer a slow death, because he would offer up his sufferings for others. Later on, after his second heart attack, he shared this conversation with Cis and added, "I didn't know God was listening."

Gladstone was a witness to us all. He showed us that loving and serving God come first, and that family and friendships must be highly valued. He helped us to see the value in being content with little or much, basing everything on the foundation of a prayerful life.

facts
- Gladstone was born November 15, 1946, in Kingston and died June 17, 2018.
- He married the love of his life, Merline Cecelia "Cis" Levien on October 29, 1983, and they had one son, Joel. Both are members of the community. Gladstone made the covenant December 14, 1991.
- Gladstone worked with the Jamaican Government Printing Services for almost 45 years. He was very active in his Catholic parish, especially with married couples and youth, and joined the Catholic charismatic renewal in the 1970s. He became a member of Family of God community here in Kingston, which joined the People of Praise in 1987.

JANE FESLER
By Kevin Weilbacher

Jane was a loving, kind and generous person, always soft-spoken and calm, who was loved by all who met her. To the responsibilities of home, church and school, Jane added many interests: arts and crafts, painting, French classes, music of all kinds, interior design, gardening, study of birds and wildlife, sewing and embroidery, cooking and a love of reading. The Feslers' home in South Bend was always open to community life, and many single adults joined them in a variety of Christian living situations.

In October, 1987, after Bob's retirement, they were assigned to the Tampa branch to prepare for joining the Peace Corps. A medical condition derailed those plans, so they stayed in Tampa, working untiringly with Holy Innocents Episcopal Church and volunteering at the Straz Performing Arts Center. In 1991 they moved to Arizona, closer to family, eager to continue building God's kingdom there.

After Bob died, Jane continued to make more friends. She attended Episcopal and Lutheran services in Mesa, and returned to Tampa for several women's retreats.

Once people joined her circle of friends, Jane didn't let them go. She corresponded for as long as she could, sending cards for special occasions. Lillian Wiebeld recalls fondly, "When I met Jane in the People of Praise, I felt that I had already known her for a long time. She was unique and interesting, and I just loved her dearly." Marlene McLaurin added, "Jane never forgot to call me on my birthday. We would share funny stories and laugh until our eyes watered. She was a great lady."

facts
- Dorothy Jane Powell was born February 17, 1924, in Mishawaka, IN, and died November 17, 2017, in Mesa, AZ. She attended the University of Kentucky in Louisville.
- Jane married Bob Swadener in 1945 and they had five children. They divorced after about 20 years. Jane's family also includes three stepchildren, nine grandchildren, two great-grandchildren and four great-great-grandchildren.
Correction: In our last issue, we misidentified Ruth Adams, from South Bend, in a caption on page 8. It is Ruth Adams, not Claire Harris. We apologize for the mistake.

Birth and Anniversaries:
Congratulations to Martin and Ann Martinez (Vancouver-Portland) who welcomed their son Leonardo Martin on August 22.
Warm congratulations to these brothers and sisters who recently celebrated wedding anniversaries:
Michael and Christine Rodriguez (Kingston), 40 years on July 29.
Bill and Danette King (Servant Branch), 20 years on August 7.
Jim and Jean Shaw (South Bend), 50 years on August 17.
Vince and Dawn Keavery (Kingston), 40 years on August 19.
Mike and Christine Rosener (Servant Branch), 50 years on August 27.
Bernie and Louise Schwab (Servant Branch), 30 years on August 27.

Covenant:
Congratulations to these brothers and sisters, who made the covenant of the People of Praise in Servant Branch on September 9:
Christina LaVergne, Rebecca Maslow, J.T. McManmon, Elena Radtke, Bob Treiber, Kate Zenker.

Work and Achievements:
Paul Putzier (Servant Branch) supervises the Hydrogeologic Atlas team for the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, which recently received the state’s annual Commissioner’s Recognition Award for natural resources economy.

Michael Madden (Appleton) retired August 30 after 42 years of medical practice, the last 10 of which were spent at the Appleton Community Health Center for the poor and underserved.

Kevin McShane (Mission, Allendale) received his lifetime commission as a notary public in the State of Louisiana on July 26.

Nick Raway (Mission, Allendale) began a new job assisting Rus Lyons at The Custom Cottage in the South Side of Indianapolis in September.

At the end of August, Kaitlyn Raway (South Bend) began a new job as a graphic designer at Holt Bosse, a marketing firm in St. Joseph, MI.

On September 13, Beth Sanford (South Bend), five student leaders and various community and city representatives, including the mayor, participated in a ribbon-cutting ceremony to mark the grand opening of Kelly Park (see Summer, 2018, V&B). Beth and neighbor Luella Webster were honored as volunteers of the year for their five-year effort to help revitalize the park.

Mae Cheung (northern Virginia) has a new position as general counsel and senior director for compliance at the Bainum Family Foundation in Bethesda, MD.

President of Trinity Schools, Inc., Jon Balsbaugh (South Bend), has announced a new website for Trinity School at River Ridge (trinityriverridge.org or TSRR.org), to be followed by similar websites for the Meadow View and Greenlawn campuses.

Deaths:
We’ve received word of the deaths of several community members. We pray for their family and friends in this time of loss.

John Gehl (Buffalo) died August 16.
Amalia Lim (Oahu) died September 13 while on assignment in Iloilo, Philippines, living with family members.
Jack Busekrus (Oahu) died September 6.

LIFENOTES
“From everlasting to everlasting thou art God” (Ps. 90:2).