



NEWS

from the Northside

Living in Spirit at the Heart of the World

by S. Mary Frances Reis

This summer we Sisters had the ecstatic joy of spending a few days at the head waters of the Mississippi River in Itasca State Park, MN. This River has a unique significance for us, in that a sizeable number of our Visitation monasteries were founded on or near its banks. While delighting in all the beauty and sounds of this historic sacred ground, we were aware of the destructive waters of Hurricane Harvey brewing off the coast off Texas. In subsequent days and weeks this has proven to be the most devastating natural disaster in U.S. history.

How does one hold in one's being both beauty and destruction?

Edith Stein once wrote, "To be a true contemplative one must live in spirit at the heart of the world." The heart of the world holds beauty and destruction; we are called to do the same. And out of this contemplative holding of beauty and destruction, loving action must flow. (See Luke 4: 16-30 for Jesus' Mission Statement.)

As we live our ministry of prayer, presence, and hospitality in north Minneapolis, we pray for the grace to witness to a style of authentic and peaceful living that points to another way of being in the world...a way of love and neighborliness.

In this pictorial issue of our newsletter, we trust that the gentle strength we hope to convey will nourish the way you live in spirit at the heart of the world....wherever you are!

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, She has sent me to bring liberty to captives, and recovery of sight to the blind . . ."



We enjoyed 3 days at Lake Itasca where we introduced S. Brenda to one of our favorite places, the Mississippi headwaters.



www.visitationmonasteryminneapolis.org

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We are an urban monastic community. Please contact us for more information about our way of life.

-  Visitation Monastery North Minneapolis
-  @MinneMonastery
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This newsletter is available on our website. If you prefer the online format, please contact the Sisters at vmonastery@aol.com.



The sounds of our National Night Out block party were amplified by the expertise of our teen DJ, Pedro Ochoa, assisted by his father!



S. Karen welcomes neighbors to the block party.



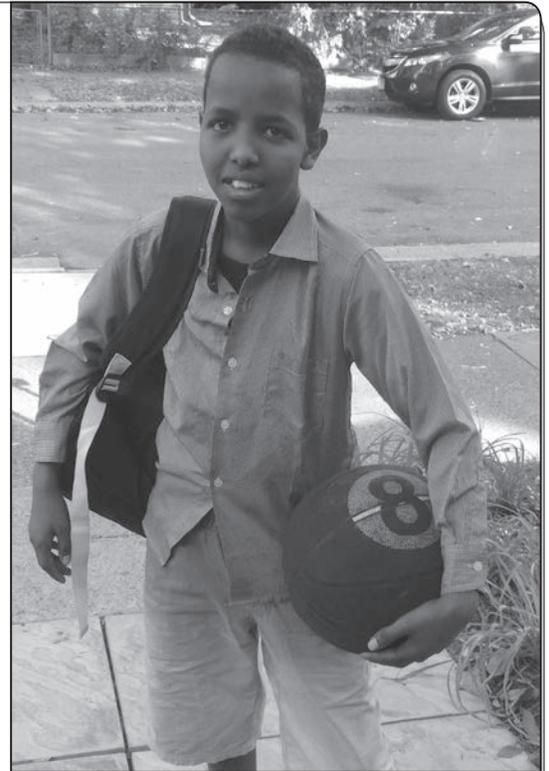
The Fremont house gardeners: neighbors, alum, companions and nuns, appreciate a cool treat after weeding, watering and watching our veggies grow.



Prayer is at the heart of all we do. The Wednesday and Friday morning Masses find our living room full of praise! Visitation Companion, Linda Goynes, often joins us.



Newlyweds Marilyn and Carlos visit with S. Mary Margaret on their wedding day!



Our neighbor, Mohammed, is all ready for school thanks to the annual "Back to School" afternoon at the Sisters! Supplies and treats, provided by Vickie Bailey and Maddi Simon's "Simon Says Give" program, bring joy to all participants!



Meet the next generation of Church leadership! Thank you, YTM (Youth, Theology, Ministry program) for presenting your ministry projects to us!



Family members of Sisters Brenda and Virginia were impacted by the recent hurricanes in Texas. Shown here is the flooded home of S. Brenda's uncle.



Jenny is congratulated by her mother as she completes the St. John's University program, YTM

Two very dear friends of the Visitation died in September: Thomas Schreier, a member of our first Advisory Council, and Dave Maley, advocate for young Black men and co-founder of "Two or More", forerunner of Summit Academy. Please pray for them and for all the faithful departed. May they rest in eternal peace +

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*We dream that the liberating spirit that is part of our
charism will foster the 'prophetic' in all of us.*

—Visitation Monastery of Minneapolis
Mission Statement



Non Scholae, Sed Vitae: Not for School, but for Life



The Sisters continue to host “soon to be” graduates from Mendota Vis for a two week immersion experience in the neighborhood. Their home base is the St. Jane House where lunch time guest speakers broaden the seniors’ awareness of social concerns. Will Wallace always speaks with knowledge and spirit!



This year's VISTORY brought together teens from our neighborhood and Visitation schools across the country for a week of service, Salesian spirituality and community. S. Suzanne and Vis Companion, Nancy Timmerman, accompanied our girls to the St. Louis VIZ, host for this year. Service becomes fun when Visitation girls unite!