



# KOINONIA N.E.W.sletter

## Winter 2015

### CORE TEAM

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*Debbie Schutte*

715-278-3724

#### Treasurer

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#### Outreach Coordinators

*Missy Wiener*

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*Laverne Vinzant*

715-665-2023

### FROM OUR CHAIR.... BLUETTE PUCHNER

Dear Koinonia Sisters & Brothers,

While reflecting on the retreats of 2014 the following statement of St. Teresa of Avila came to mind:

*Christ has no body now on earth but yours,  
No hands but yours, No feet but yours.  
Yours are the eyes through which he looks with  
compassion on the world.*

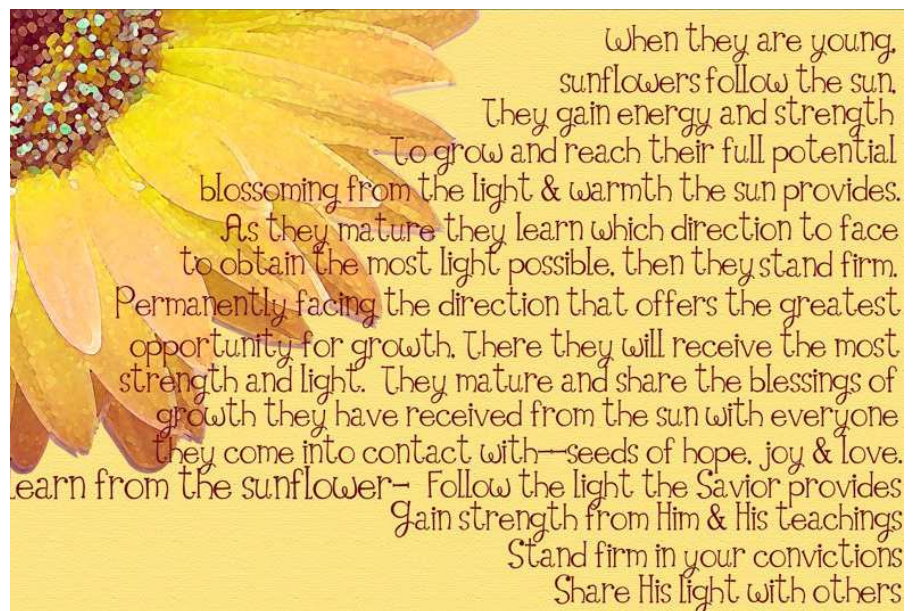
*Yours are the feet with which he is to go about doing good;  
Yours are the hands with which he is to bless men now.*

I close my eyes and see each of you bathed in the light of Christ through your dedication to Koinonia and to serving one another unconditionally. Your willingness to share your gifts and talents is at the very heart of Koinonia. Without you, there would be no Koinonia retreat program. What a blessing it is to be a part of this holy company.

May the peace of Christ fill you.

Your Sister in Christ,

*Bluette*



**Put these Dates  
on your Calendar**



#### **#44 Phillips Retreat Schedule**

- **Team Application** due to *Lucille Brandner* by **March 16, 2015** *list the position you most want to serve in*
- **Planning Meeting**— **March 28, 2015**
- **Retreat at *St Therese of Lisieux***—**April 17-19, 2015**
- **Prayer Gathering**—**May 3 , 2015**

Team application forms are available on the Koinonia website:

<http://www.newkoinonia.org/team.html>

Mail to: **Lucille Brandner** at:

**Koinonia Retreat Weekend—  
N3102 Hall Dr—Medford, WI 54451**



#### **#45 Park Falls Retreat Schedule**

**Team Application** due to *Lucille Brandner* by **Sept 19, 2015**

- **Planning Meeting**— **October 3, 2015**
- **Retreat at St. Anthony's** — **October 16-18 ,2015**
- **Prayer Gathering**— **November 1, 2015**

## KOINONIA #43 COMMUNITY ROOM LAY DIRECTORS...

N.E.W. Koinonia ventured outside the *Superior* Diocese once again, this time to Edgar in the Diocese of LaCrosse. Fr. Bob, St John the Baptist Church & School welcomed us and made us feel right at home. The retreat gave us all an opportunity to leave the world behind and concentrate on our Lord and the blessing our Catholic faith gives us through the Sacraments. We were blessed to have Fr. Bob Streveler, the pastor at St John's serve as our Spiritual Director and Deacon Jeff Austin as our Assistant Spiritual Director. Our wonderful Community Room Team guided our candidates well and the awesome "Wheaties Building God's City" did just that as they provided for our needs. Eight Candidates committed themselves to spend the weekend to enrich their faith lives. We welcome Rita Austin, Joanne Berens, Lynn Hilts, Deacon Greg Kaiser, Tricia Kaiser, Maureen Knetter, Steve Schaefer and Denise Schindler to the N.E.W. Koinonia Family.



Michelle Socha & Sharon Voldberg, Co-Lay Directors #43

### KOINONIA #43 WHEAT LAY DIRECTORS...

"The glory of God is person fully alive." St. Irenaeus

This statement fully describes the Wheaties of Koinonia #43 as they went about their tasks for *Building the City of God*. Gifted hands designing and developing the banner to be presented to the Community Room, more hands making place mats, gift bags, engraving crosses, kitchen duty to assist our incredible cooks with meal preparation, Agape meal set up, and so many other tasks in a true example of servitude.

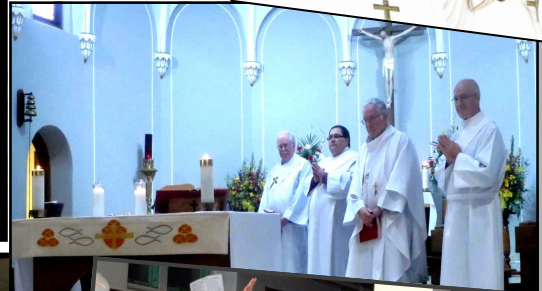
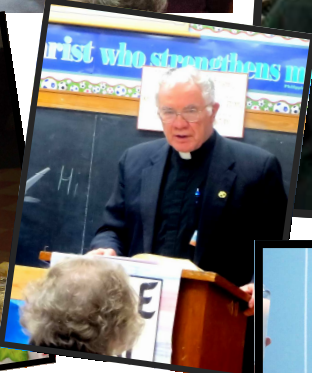
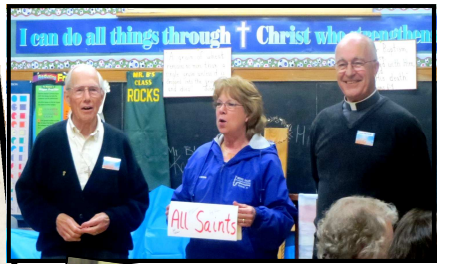
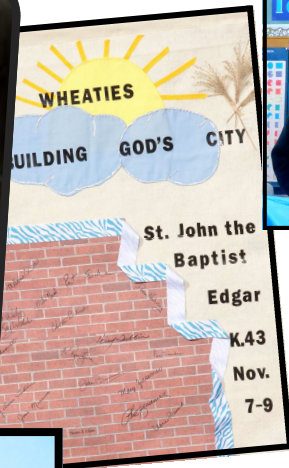
How wonderful it was to come together to share the love of our Lord and to serve others! To each member of the Wheat Team, my gratitude for all stairs you climbed, the talents, joy and laughter shared.

Blessings,

Bluette Puchner,  
Wheat Team Lay Director









# Community Room



**Sitting:** Fr. Bob Streveler, Sharon Voldberg, Michelle Socha, Deacon Jeff Austin

**Row 1:** Joanne Berens, Denise Schindler, Vicky Elias, John Williams, Maureen Brunner, Kathy Johnson, Deacon Joe Stefancin, Jane Schiszik, Lynn Neeck, Deacon Greg Kaiser, Tricia Kaiser, Steven Schaefer, Rita Austin, Lucille Bradner, Maureen Knetter, Mary Hackel, Lynn Hilt

# #43 Edgar

# Wheat Team

*Your task is to build a better world, said God.  
I answered: How? The world is such a large, vast place, so complicated now and, I am so small and useless. There's nothing I can do.  
But God in His great wisdom said: Just build a better you.*

Anonymous



**Front:** Fr. Ron Levra, Mike Novak, Bluette Puchner, Adele Archambeault  
**2nd Row:** Phil Ziesemer, Mary Ziesemer, Karen Olson, Betty Tubbin, Harry Tubbin, Pat Stein, Melanie Olson, Diane Freund, John Brunner, Pat Socha, Deb Osborn, Leon Brandner, Margie Novak, Joan Messina, Kay Walsh, Diane Weber

***Many Koinonians are wondering... how long do I have serve as Wheat before serving in the community room for a retreat?***

That is an excellent question! It is not as complicated as it might seem.

The requirement for serving in the Community Room for a Koinonia Retreat is—

- ✦ Must have worked Wheat at least once
- ✦ Send in a Team Application putting down the desired position you would like to serve in.
- ✦ Be willing to present a meditation.

The Community Room positions available to serve in are: Table Leaders, Assistant Spiritual Director, Lay Director, Co- Lay Director, musicians and Gopher.

Each of the positions in the Community Room require that the person present a meditation. If you look at your Koinonia booklets from being a candidate you will see what the meditation topics are.

**Do not be nervous or afraid** to serve in these positions!! Why? Because each position comes with a detailed manual explaining the duties and guidelines of the position. There is also a guideline booklet for each of the meditations.

During the planning meeting there is table leader training and your meditation is presented in front of the Community Room team.

We **STRONGLY ENCOURAGE** you to experience serving in the community room.

**Please submit your Team Application as soon as possible for K #44 in Phillips coming in April. Positions are assigned on a First Come - First Serve basis. The sooner your application is received the better chance you have to get the position you want! If interested in presenting a specific meditation, list the meditation name on your application.**

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When filling out the team application, many people do not put what positions they are interested in. 80% of the applicants fill out state—“Where ever needed” this makes it very difficult to know where you desire to serve.

Please be Specific in what your 1st, 2nd and 3rd choices are. If your gifts and strengths are with computers and typing, put down that you would like to be in charge of the Roster on Wheat. If you sing like an angel and love music, put down you want to be musician!

***Each and every one of you has amazing gifts and talents to share...step forward and offer these talents at the next retreat and the one after that...***

Looking forward to seeing you at K #44 at Phillips in April!

*Hugs,*

*Lynn Neeck*



**Ride the Train of Life**

At birth we boarded the train and met our parents, and we believe they will always travel on our side. However, at some station our parents will step down from the train, leaving us on this journey alone.

As time goes by, other people will board the train; and they will be significant i.e. our siblings, friends, children, and even the love of your life.

Many will step down and leave a permanent vacuum. Others will go so unnoticed that we don't realize that they vacated their seats. This train ride will be full of joy, sorrow, fantasy, expectations, hellos, goodbyes, and farewells. Success consists of having a good relationship with all passengers requiring that we give the best of ourselves.

The mystery to everyone is: We do not know at which station we ourselves will step down. So, we must live in the best way, love, forgive, and offer the best of who we are. It is important to do this because when the time comes for us to step down and leave our seat empty we should leave behind beautiful memories for those who will continue to travel on the train of life.

I wish you a joyful journey on the train of life. Reap success and give lots of love. More importantly, thank God for the journey.

Lastly...

**I thank you** for being one of the passengers on my train.





**N.E.W. KOINONIA**

865 Elk Lake Dr  
Phillips, WI 54555

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**