

INTERCOM

SEPTEMBER

2011

Immigration Reform and the DREAM Act

The [CLINTON FRANCISCAN CORPORATE STAND ON IMMIGRATION REFORM](#), begins by calling for *A realistic path to earned legalization for people in the U. S. without status.*

The US Bishops have done likewise is speaking out boldly and directly to Congressional leaders and parishioners about the need to allow current, former, and future undocumented high-school graduates and GED recipients a pathway to legal status by obtaining a college degree or serving two years in the armed services....namely, **The DREAM Act**, which was re-introduced in Congress.

Interfaith Immigration www.interfaithimmigration.org/ is sponsoring the **DREAM Act Sabbath** to call attention to this first step in comprehensive reform. From September 16 through October 7, all faith traditions are urged to speak and pray and advocate for passage of the **DREAM Act** in their place of worship.

→ Check to be sure your temple/church/synagogue/mosque is participating. If you need materials, visit the Interfaith Immigration site or **Justice for Immigrants**, www.justiceforimmigrants.org/ or contact the **Center**.—center@clintonfranciscans.com ; 563-242-7611.

→ Go to our website-www.clintonfranciscans.com—for stories about **DREAM Act** applicants and how to help them.

Support your Sabbath prayer with political action.

→ Go to www.senate.gov or www.house.gov and follow the prompts to find and email your Member of Congress. **OR**—call your legislators' local offices and ask about their stand on immigration reform. **OR**—call the main switchboard for Congress: (202) 224-3121 and ask to be connected to your legislator's office.

→ **Go to the current Action alert DIGEST** <http://www.clintonfranciscans.com/news-and-events-take-action.html> to email President Obama about the DREAM Act.

Act today on behalf of thousands of young people who only need a chance to prove how valuable they can be to the future of the U.S. According to Senator Durbin in a statement on Sept. 13: Even though the DREAM Act will not come up for passage in the next few weeks, it is important that we contact our legislators NOW so they know where we stand. *If we wait for the bill to reach the Senate floor, he said, it will be too late.*

SOA WATCH Prayer Vigil Nov. 18-20

The Clinton Franciscans are sponsoring the bus to the SOA this year.

Sisters, Associates and friends, including lots of students, have made the trek to Fort Benning, Georgia, annually since 1996 to stand up for justice and to advocate shutting down the infamous "School of the Americas" - now called the Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation (WHINSEC).

For more on the SOA see:

www.soawatch.org where you can visit the **RIDEBOARD** and find a ride from your area or folks who would ride with you.

The Eastern Iowa charter bus will leave on Friday, Nov. 18, from Dubuque at 11 am; from DeWitt at 12:30 pm; and from Davenport at 1:30 pm. It will return to those stops between 8 am and 10 am Monday, Nov. 21.

Per person cost for the bus is \$160. Added expenses include meals and \$115 for the motel room on Saturday night (or \$28.75 each if four persons share a room) which includes Sunday breakfast.

Space is limited, so register soon.

The registration form is available on our website:

www.clintonfranciscans.com.

Or call Anne Martin Phelan OSF (563-242-7611) for a print copy.

The heart of our Franciscan charism, our corporate mission, is active nonviolence and peacemaking

DAY OF COMMUNION

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

In this autumn season of beauty and fruitfulness, may we be in communion with the fruitfulness of the 2,000,000 + peace groups around the world. As change happens in nature, may change for peace happen in our hearts and in the hearts of all peoples.



Congregational Sharing Fund grant requests due October 3

Sisters who wish to apply for a Congregational Sharing Fund grant for an organization which meets the criteria published in the Policy Manual [V-4,5] may download the form from the Login page of our website (www.clintonfranciscans.com) or request a printed form from the Finance Office.

Request forms are due to Erin Meyermann by October 3.



Our prayers are requested for the repose of the souls of

Sister Eleanor Dunning
Associate Roger Welty
Associate Edith Youmans

Jack Holland, brother of Joan Holland OSF.

Kathy Clausen, sister of Joan Holland OSF.

Ellen Jacobs, sister of Carmel Jacobs OSF.

Barbara Golby, sister-in-law of Eileen Golby OSF; wife of her brother John.

Betty Westmoreland, cousin of Ruth E. Westmoreland OSF.

Annelle Weber, sister-in-law of the late Sister Dorothy Weber.

Wilhelmina "Billie" Bubon, cousin of Teresa Kunkel OSF.

Lillian Bowden, sister of the late Sister Catherine and Sister Agnese Bowden.

Don Coupé, brother of the late Sister Catherine Coupé.

Mary Griffin, mother-in-law of Associate Patricia Griffin.

Jeanne Coverdale, cousin-in-law of Steve Notz.

CALENDAR ITEMS
REGIONAL MEETINGS

Fall 2011

September 24 Western, at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish, Lakeside Calif.

October 22 Southern, Chicago, Iowa (combined) at The Canticule

Spring 2012

February 18 Western, at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish, Lakeside

March 3 Chicago, at Tinley Park

March 3 Southern, at Kordes Retreat Center, Ferdinand, Ind.

March 31 Iowa at The Canticule

OCTOBER

2 Pacem in Terris Award, St. Ambrose University, Davenport, Ia.

6-7 Council meeting in Clinton

8 Iowa Institute of social Action, St. Patrick Church, Iowa City

14-15 Co-sponsoring: *"US Policy in Israel-Palestine: Engaging Faith Communities in Pursuit of a Just Peace,"* Ankeny, Ia. See website for details.

25-26 Iowa Bishops / Religious Leaders meeting

27 *"Spirit of Assisi"* - 25th anniversary of the ecumenical gathering to pray for peace.

A-Frame on the Wapsi River

The A-Frame on the Wapsi in Long Grove, Iowa, (3 miles from DeWitt; about 20 miles from Clinton) was established for our sisters' relaxation, recreation, prayer and contemplation. As of September 2011, the availability of the A-Frame is extended to Associates, Sojourners, congregational employees, members of other religious congregations, and persons accompanying these guests.

Check the Login section of our website (www.clintonfranciscans.com) for the procedures for use of the A-Frame as well as a description of the accommodations and how to arrange for a retreat while there, if so desired. Brochures about the A-Frame are available from the coordinators: Mary Ann Phelan OSF, Mary Smith OSF, Phyllis Morris OSF.

Worthy of Note

Western Region

Associates, Sojourners and friends hosted their second Sister To Sister Accessories Party on April 30. The number of participants and volunteers each doubled; the amount of donated accessories and clothing quadrupled. Each of the 55 women in transition from drugs, alcohol, prostitution and domestic violence received a door prize in addition to the shopping bags of clothing, shoes, belts, scarves, purses and jewelry. The new volunteers have already committed to work on the next event.

Now the Western Region is eagerly preparing for their first Transitus celebration on October 2nd. Members are “impersonating” associates of Francis and reflecting on how Francis impacted his/her life while he was alive and after he died. Lodi Pippen has volunteered to be the Wolf of Gubbio!

Kathy Holland OSF and other members of the Ashford University Continuing Education faculty, including Dr. Charlie Minnick, college dean, made a presentation entitled “Implementing Strengths in the First Year Experience and Beyond” at the 2011 Strengths in Education Conference in June at Gallup University in Omaha, Neb.

The Clinton Franciscans who ministered at St. Gerald School or Parish in Oak Lawn, Ill., were honored at an Alumni Mass and Reception on June 26. The announcement read: “*The sisters have prayed, laughed and cried with our families for over 80 years. They are an important part of the rich history of St. Gerald Parish.*” A bench with a

(L. to R.) Sisters Evelyn McKenna, Pauline Logsdon, Anne Martin Phelan, Dorothy Mae Stolmeier, Marcella Marie Narlock, Maureen Becker and Martinelle Bonnell, all of whom taught at St. Gerald’s, represented the 86 sisters who ministered there.

memorial plaque was placed in the parish garden.

Janet Ryan OSF, leader of the new L’Arche community in St. Louis, reports that their first state survey went well.

Eileen Golby OSF is the featured writer in this month’s reflection on the Franciscan Peace Center (Lexington, Ky.) website (www.franciscanvision.org/reflection.htm) entitled, “Peace Good People,” Eileen challenges—*“the American people to take a stand against negative campaigning. Begin to bring truth, honesty, respect and loyalty back to our government. Let’s start by writing letters to all media sources, political party organizations and each candidate who chooses to run. We can make a difference. If we stand together they will listen to us if they want to be elected.”*

Ruth E. Westmoreland OSF was featured in a story about the first anniversary of Davenport’s new Catholic Worker House. *“Often, people come to Café on Vine because they just want someone to recognize they’re a person,”*



Following in the Footsteps

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The introductory course to Franciscanism and the Clinton Franciscan charism is spreading cross-country.

IN JUNE, LaVern Olberding OSF led a group of 32 at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish in Lakeside, Calif. LaVern reported that, “*The parish coordinator said it was the largest response she has had for anything at the retreat center. The group was very attentive and the hour and a half flew by.*”

The second offering of the five session course began in **CLINTON** on September 13 with 13 new “students.”

she said. “They want a smile, someone to talk to, some human contact that’s not confrontational. A Catholic Worker model offers that.” CW House coordinator Michael Gayman, works with Ruth E. at the Café. He is also a “graduate” of the Following in the Footsteps” course.

Southern Associates and the Franciscan Peace Center in Lexington, Ky., are again sponsoring “**Paws for Peace Dog Walk & Festival**” on Saturday, Oct. 2nd in celebration of the Feast of St. Francis. This expression of FrancisFest benefits Wolf Run Wildlife Refuge and includes a 2 K walk (for humans with or without animal

companions), local music, vendors, demonstrations, games and fun!



Remembering 9/11

The Western Associates in San Diego held a Taizé Prayer Around the Cross on Sunday, 9/11/2011. Former Associate Sarah McTimmonds, SFO, played the flute for the service.

In Clinton, Mary Ann Phelan OSF, co-chair of Clinton Trees Forever, chaired the community memorial at the Freedom Tree site that Trees Forever established in 2002. Hilary Mullany OSF, seen in the photo at right flanked by the Clinton Fire Chief and Police Chief, delivered the closing keynote address.

Her speech, "Being Worthy of the Future," is available on our website—

www.clintonfranciscans.com/news-and-events.html

Pacem in Terris Award

Hilary Mullany OSF will deliver the closing prayer at the annual Pacem in Terris Award ceremony on Sunday afternoon October 2nd, at St. Ambrose University, Davenport, Ia.

This year's recipient is Most Rev.

Alvaro Leonel Ramazzini, Bishop of the Diocese of San Marcos, Guatemala. Bishop Ramazzini has been selected as this year's recipient for his forthright defense of Guatemala's most vulnerable communities and for his leadership defending the rights of the indigenous people against the exploitation of mineral resources by multinational companies.

Hilary was asked to do the closing prayer because she met Bishop Ramazzini when she travelled to Guatemala with a Diocesan delegation.

**Christian Peacemaker Teams
Peacemaker Congress XI**

**Re-imagining Partnerships
for Peacemaking**

October 13-16

Reba Place Church

535 Custer Ave., Evanston, Ill.

Bible Studies, Workshops,
Plenary Addresses by Ched Myers
and many others.

Register at www.cpt.org



DEVELOPMENTS IN DEVELOPMENT

IN AUGUST we spent three weeks driving to the West Coast and back. We visited many wonderful people. Some highlights were our Reunion in Reedley honoring Sr. Mary of the Angels and all the sisters who served there; lunch with our former sisters in Anaheim; two gatherings in Nevada; and the many friends and OSF relatives who sheltered us for the night(s). We are most grateful to these generous people who support our life and ministries, and to all of you who help with prayers and good wishes and your constant support.

*Sister Anne Martin and
Sister Mary Ann Phelan*



For details and photos from our most recent Development trip, visit our website:

www.clintonfranciscans.com/support-us

Women & Spirit Catholic Sisters in America

The award-winning LCWR exhibit opened **September 2, 2011** at the [Center for History](http://www.centerforhistory.org) in association with the [University of Notre Dame and Saint Mary's College](http://www.univnotredame.edu) (South Bend, Indiana). It will be available there through **December 31, 2011**, after which it will travel to **The California Museum of History, Women & the Arts** in Sacramento, Calif., where it will be on view from **January 24—June 3, 2012**.

Be sure your parish / school / church group doesn't miss the opportunity to experience this outstanding perspective on American history. Follow the link

(www.centerforhistory.org) to read an excellent review.

A documentary on the exhibit, narrated by Cokie Roberts, is now available for purchase via the Women and Spirit website—www.womenandspirit.org.

You may also call the Communications Office for an order form. Cost is \$19.95 + \$1 shipping. **AND** – watch for the documentary on **YOUR PBS station**. You can call your local station and ask that it be shown!

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