

Spirit

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Spring 2016



is the theme of this issue of the Spirit Newsletter

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Introducing the Emmett Schulte Garden

Madison Area Food Pantry Gardens continues its mission to plant and grow food for the hungry in our community

If you plant a seed, will it grow? What will it take to turn a little seed into something big, something amazing, something life-changing? Well, first you have to plant it, and not wait for anyone else to come along and do it. That's how the food pantry garden movement in Madison got its start, by two individuals planting a seed of faith and living out the call to care for those among us who have the least.

For 17 years, Madison Area Food Pantry Gardens has been helping to feed people in our communities who are facing hunger. The idea started when Ken Witte teamed up with Emmett Schulte, QP parishioner. Witte had been organizing collections of leftover produce from the farmers' market, but he soon realized that much more produce was needed to stock area food pantries. So, Witte approached Schulte, a retired soil science professor, about growing food for area pantries. A simple idea, but one that would require lots of work, cooperation from land owners, and plenty of volunteers. Now, this all-volunteer movement

produces over 100,000 pounds of fresh, local produce a year for food pantries in our area including the Catholic Multicultural Center and St. Vincent DePaul.

This year the gardening season kicked off with a very special dedication ceremony at one of the gardens, the garden that grows food for the Catholic Multicultural Center (CMC). On a sunny Saturday afternoon at the end of April, over 60 family members, friends, colleagues, and fellow gardeners of Emmett Schulte gathered at the garden to dedicate it in his honor, officially renaming it the Emmett Schulte Garden. Speakers shared thoughtful commentary on Emmett and the movement he helped create. Attendees learned never to call the brown stuff in the garden "dirt" because it's actually "soil," unless you track it inside your house after working in the garden. A new sign (pictured) was unveiled featuring a quote from Emmett about his ministry: "The pay is not that great, but the benefits are out of this world."

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Join Us for Our 5th Annual, ALL-PARISH Celebration of Faith, Service & Community!

Saturday, September 17, 3:00-10:00 p.m.

FREE ENTRY, LIVE MUSIC, LIVE CASH RAFFLE, GOOD FOOD & COMPANY!
Obstacle course, bouncy house, giant Jenga & craft projects FREE for kids!

Live music ALL DAY, great food, Steve Bolser Memorial Joggin for the Noggin 5K Walk/Run, All-parish Mass, beer tent, cake walk, tons of games, Badger Popcorn/sno-cones, bingo, Chocolate Shoppe ice cream, alumni displays!

Go to www.qpfestival.com for more and Like us on the QP Festival Facebook page!

Timetable:

3:00 p.m. All music, games, bingo, food, music, service projects,

activities, and beverages begin!

3:00-4:15 p.m. LIVE music: TBA

3:00 p.m. The Steve Bolser Memorial Joggin for the Noggin 5k for

Brain Tumor Research STARTING GUN

4:15 p.m. Cakewalk between bands!

LIVE music: TBA

4:45 p.m. Service projects, outdoor music & games **suspended for Mass**

(bingo suspended 4:30)

5:00 p.m. Mass of Celebration - Music by Mass Band. No 7:00 p.m. Mass.

6:15 p.m. LIVE music: TBA. Bingo, games service projects restart

8:00 p.m. LIVE Big Cash Raffle Drawing, \$10,000 in prizes! Service Raffle!

Games, service, activities close

8:30-10:00 p.m. LIVE music: TBA. Kids' games end.

9:00 p.m. Bingo ends

10:00 p.m. Event ends: Good night and thank you!





QP School Class of 1966 50th Reunion 3:00 p.m. Chair Mark Bjelde, megbjelde@yahoo.com

Displays, historical photos, great memories, reconnecting - meet inside the church main entrance

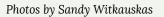
Wish your class was having a reunion too? Just go to facebook.com/qpalumni/ and post a time and place (the beer tent? the food tent?) to meet classmates – and instant reunion!





















The guest of honor, Emmett, humbly accepted all the attention that we insisted on giving him and said a few words to remind the crowd of the history and mission of Madison Area Food Pantry Gardens. Emmett and his wife Mary Ann are not only QP parishioners, but both have been actively involved at the CMC and helping in the food pantry gardens for many years.

A garden on the same property was renamed the Ken Witte garden last year, after Ken had passed away. Now each garden on the property holds the special name of each of the co-founders of Madison Area Food Pantry Gardens, so volunteers and supporters can remember and be inspired by their great work. Both gardens are located on land provided by the Hershberger family, who since the beginning of the project have generously let Madison Area Food Pantry gardens use a portion of their land rent-free, with the understanding that the land will be used to grow food for pantries and will be well cared for by volunteers. A third garden, Lacy garden, rounds out the core food pantry garden group, while affiliate gardens at Middle Outreach Ministries and Blackhawk Church also operate in collaboration with MAFPG.

The ceremony was a reminder of how a simple idea really can make a positive difference in the world, if only we take the time to plant the seed and help it grow. Hundreds of volunteers assist at the gardens each year, and more are always needed. In renaming the CMC garden, coordinators hope that more people will become aware of Madison Area Food Pantry Gardens, its mission, and how to become involved. All gardens are coordinated by volunteers who spend many hours year-round planning the gardens, figuring out how many plants and seeds are needed, ordering supplies, and coordinating volunteers in their garden. The Schulte garden is coordinated by another QP parishioner, Dick Reynolds, who has also been actively involved at the

CMC for years and is entering his fifth year of coordinating the CMC garden.

Everyone has something to contribute to the garden. Even if you don't know a broccoli plant from a tomato plant, a garden leader will guide you step-by-step on the volunteer tasks of the day. All ages are welcome. Gardening can be a great opportunity for families, volunteer groups, and people who might not otherwise meet to bond and enjoy time in the great outdoors. Even if you can only give a couple hours of your time a month, your help would greatly be appreciated. If you are knowledgeable about growing produce and have a passion for helping the community, we need you on our garden leadership team. Or if gardening isn't your cup of tea at all, you can volunteer at one of the pantries such as the CMC food pantry to help process the produce coming in from the gardens. From beginners to experts, there is a place for everyone in Madison Area Food Pantry Gardens.

To find out more about Madison Area Food Pantry Gardens, to volunteer, or to donate, please visit: http://foodpantrygardens.org.

Or contact: Laura Green (608-441-1180) for Schulte Garden, Tom Parslow (608-577-6685) for Lacy Garden, or Phil Cox (608-513-6546) for Witte Garden. Submitted By Laura Green

A message to Emmett from CMC staff:

"It **beets** me how we can really show our appreciation for all the work you've done. We can't give you a higher celery, a certificate might get **squashed**, and we cantaloupe with you either so *lettuce* simply say "thank you"! We are so grateful for the work you did to start Madison Area Food Pantry Gardens and for including the CMC in the mission to help feed the hungry in our community. You heard a calling and you answered it, never waiting for someone else or some other time. Your humble work has touched more lives than you can imagine, including many at the CMC. You are an inspiring example of how one person or small group of people really can make a difference. It is an honor to name the garden after you and we thank you for allowing us this honor. You will always hold a special place in our garden...right next to a row of beans that need picking."

Never Too Old-or Too Young-to Serve



Have you ever driven down the street and stopped at a stoplight to notice a person standing there holding a cardboard sign that states, "homeless and hungry"? One out of every seven people suffers from hunger in the United States. Many people are working hard, but don't earn enough money to support their families.

So you ask yourself, how are we helping these people? Good question!

Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish is very active in providing meals at some of our local shelters: the Catholic Multicultural Center, Luke House, and Grace Episcopal Drop-in Shelter. Each month, many volunteers put together meals to serve at each of the meal sites. It has become a family tradition for several of our parishioners including Bob and Lisa Maier and

Arnie and Jane Imholte and their families. Each of them picked a day to cook and serve at the CMC each month. Arnie said, "Teach them at a young age to learn to help out by sharing their [gifts] with others. [This is] a lifelong lesson."

Another perfect example of teaching service at a young age is the one set by Francisco and Julie Arriaga with their soon-to-be 3-year-old Caroline. Every month, Caroline and her mom deliver milk to the Parish Center for the Grace House meal. Caroline is very determined to pull her wagon into the Parish Center on her own "because it is her job"!

Each of these families have said it is not a chore, it is a choice to help others. If you have served at any of the shelters, you know it is a humbling experience, and each individual is very grateful for the meal that they receive. So I personally want to thank you on their behalf! As the saying goes, it takes a village to raise a child. In my village, even if I don't know everyone personally, they may one day touch my life. So be generous and become a volunteer, even if it is one time a year! You will be making a difference. If you want more information about helping with one of the shelters, please contact me at Annette.fox@qopc.org. I would be happy to share information with you.

Submitted by Annette Fox, Dir. of Social Action & Community Enrichment

"April Showers Bring May Flowers."

The month of April brought the delight of young voices singing praise to Jesus and planted the seeds of future music ministers at Our Lady Queen of Peace.

The Children's Choir, co-directed by Gayle Westfahl and Amy Yanzer, met for an additional rehearsal to review our best loved songs from the year. On the afternoon of April 20, we visited Magnolia Hill (formerly Sunny Hill) Nursing Home to sing for the residents. It was for these same residents that the choir members made Valentine's Day cards just two months before. What joy the children brought to that supper hour! We ended our time together by inviting everyone to sing that toe-tapping favorite, "This Little Light of Mine."

A second children's group blossomed in late April under the inspiration of parishioner and school parent Melissa Cary, with Mass Band "Junior." This group of 4th through 7th graders met to rehearse contemporary Christian music in addition to the hymns and acclamations of the Mass. We prayed together and took turns singing lines of "O Glorious Day," the special prelude piece for The Ascension of the Lord. Mass Band Jr. led the music at the 5:00 p.m. Mass on May 7 and stayed for pizza with their families in the Gathering Space. Great job, Mass Band Junior! We hope you join Mass Band when you have grown into 8th graders.

As May flowers are watered and nurtured before they

bloom, so must music ministry be planted in the hearts of our young people. For they will soon be called upon to become the cantors and the choir members of the Church! The Children's Choir and Junior Mass Band allowed children the opportunity to sing Christian music in a positive, faith-filled atmosphere. Moreover, these groups offered the true gift of sharing Christ's love and peace





with others through music. May we continue to encourage our young music ministers and be inspired ourselves to sing praise and thanks to God when we come together to celebrate Liturgy.

Submitted by Amy Yanzer, Director of Liturgy and Pastoral Music



Congratulations to all our parish First Communicants.

April 30, 2016

Something with the second seco









Students reflect on receiving the Eucharist for the first time...

"I was excited and nervous about my First Communion, but definitely way more excited than nervous. I felt like all the angels were surrounding me!" *Claire*

"First Communion was fun and peaceful and you had lots of love in you that day! I felt so much joy in my heart." Abigail

"I felt Jesus by my side at First Communion." Ruby

"I think this day was more special than my birthday." Ben

"It was the happiest day of my life!" Nadia

"I became [closer] to Jesus!" Maya

"When I first looked at the host I saw Jesus and I could not stop smiling!" Fin

"I felt thankful [the Eucharist] was Jesus' special gift to me." *Katarina*

"I've wanted to receive [the Eucharist] since I was very little. My wish came true." *Arianna*

"It felt like I was getting my First Communion from Jesus." *Riley*

"I felt the [Eucharist] was really Christ." William

"I felt closer to Jesus." Maggie

"I really felt that I was part of the family of God." Connor

"I felt like I was touched by the hand of Jesus." Aiden

"I felt loved because my mom, Lottie, dad, grandpa, aunt, and uncle were with me at my First Communion Mass." *Poppy*

"I heard Jesus' kind words speak to me. Thank you, God!"
Rose

"I actually felt really good to receive God in my heart."

Lydia

"I believe Jesus was happy when I received my First Communion." *Evan*

"After learning about the Eucharist and receiving Jesus for the first time, I believe God is merciful." *Camryn*

Written by second graders from Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish

Thank you!

Thank you! Retirements: Linda Fronczak Thank yo 28 Years of Service to QP School Thank you





Linda Fronczak has served Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish as School Nurse for most of her 28 years here, helping with everything from little scratches to big scrunches.

"I was a stay-at-home mom - my children were in school here - and I volunteered a lot for ... whatever [they asked me to do]," Linda recounts. "Knowing my background was in intensive care and emergency nursing, the school started calling me with questions occasionally if they couldn't immediately reach a parent. Then [principal] Steve Bolser said he wanted a nurse on staff. I started full time, split between kindergarten aide and nursing. I said I would do it for a year or two," she laughs.

"I feel passionately that for kids to be learning we have to address how they're doing emotionally and physically before they can go back to learning," she says, explaining her philosophy

for school nursing. "[When children come to the school nurse], they usually need someone to listen to their story. It can be a very long story. If there's a scrape or a bump, I give them ice to hold on it. I call it magic ice. Then they can go back to being a learner. You have to be a good listener - even for the big kids. Teachers don't have that time, but they need someone to hear their story."

"My favorite thing about working at QP has been watching the kids grow and develop from 4 to 14. It's a - wow - it's a joy to watch that," she smiles. "Best of all is seeing the awareness develop in the children for being sensitive to their little world of classmates, then school. Then as they get older and we reach out to the community, the sense of service that they develop and will stay with them through their lives."

"The kids will always make you laugh - if you're in this building for an hour and you aren't laughing about something you've got a problem. There's a lot gained in having a great school with students 4-14. The little kids love their big faith buddies and vice versa. The older kids rise to the responsibility."

"The hardest part of my job has been when we've lost a student or faculty member. We're a close knit faculty and staff, and few things compare with losing a student. That has happened just once since I've been here," she remembers. "Then Steve was diagnosed with a brain tumor, just weeks after. Whenever we've had a tragedy, or significant painful experiences going on, the support of the parents, the faculty, and going to church and praying together has been so helpful in dealing with the losses."

"At one point there was an opening in hospital nursing that I was considering. My husband said, 'Think carefully about this. Why would you walk away from something you love? Don't do it for the money.' That made a very strong impression on me, and I stayed."

"QP is an exciting place right now. The teachers are embracing new technology. Msgr. Ken is so supportive of the school. I don't think they could do what they do without his support. I'll miss all the excitement."

"We're planning to travel after I retire. (Husband Frank is already retired.) Our first trip will be to the Baltic," she smiles. The Fronczak children, Jenny and Joe, graduated from Queen of Peace School. Jennifer has a degree in biotechnology, is a

Other Faculty and Staff Also Moving On



Kate Kollman, 3rd Grade Teacher and Primary Unit Leader, eight years. Ms. Kollman is moving back to her home state of Colorado, where much of her family is located.



Nora Reynolds, Classroom Aide and Afterschool Childcare Director, nine years. Mrs. Reynolds, who is widowed, is retiring and also getting married. Congratulations Mrs. Reynolds!



Megan Demeter, 6th grade Teacher, one year. Megan was an aid in the After-School program in 2010. She is engaged and is moving to Milwaukee with her fiance.



Sylvia Luce, Parish Administrator, six years. Sylvia is looking forward to spending more time with her daughter, Deanna, and volunteering at Three Gaits, where her horse, Jack, hangs out. She will also enjoy more frequent trips to Connecticut to visit her family.

Thank you all for your service to Queen of Peace and may God bless your futures!

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New Leadership at QP School



Mary Jo Vitale, Assistant Principal and now Acting Principal of Our Lady Queen of Peace School, will become Principal beginning June 30. Mary Jo has been Queen of Peace Assistant Principal for almost two years and has been a member of our QP Pastoral Staff as Early Childhood Education Director since 2002, prior to working in the school.

As Assistant Principal, Mrs. Vitale has facilitated the 1:1 iPad program for QP middle school students; faith development throughout the school; staff development opportunities; the parent groups School & Family Association, Education Commission and Wellness Committee to enhance the policy, curriculum and environment of the school; and communication between administration and parents, staff, and students. She also pioneered the FUN/Run, which has become a major School & Family fund raiser for QP School needs and academic enrichment.

Mrs. Vitale brings a wealth of education and

experience to this new leadership role. She was a long-time primary teacher, learning center teacher, and unit coordinator at Blessed Sacrament School nearby, and religious education director for Blessed Sacrament Parish. She has also tutored special needs students for many years.

"I'm excited to have the privilege within this great Queen of Peace community," says Vitale, "to nurture a program of academic excellence while infusing the love of Christ into the student's everyday lives."

She continues, "When I think of how we are transforming the classroom with 21st century learning and technology, I think of what Benjamin Franklin said: "Tell me and I forget. Teach me and I remember. Involve me and I learn.' By involving our students more and more in the pursuit of knowledge and critical and moral thinking, my prayer is that they will gain the confidence and wisdom to both succeed in the future and be growing disciples of Christ."

Mary Jo is Catholic school-educated from Grade 1-8 at St. Maria Goretti and high school at Edgewood, through her bachelor's in Elementary Education, master's degree in Educational Administration, Director of Instruction Certificate, and advanced studies in Special Education, Curriculum, and Technology at Edgewood College.

"I'm excited to have the privilege within this great Queen of Peace community," said Vitale, "to nurture a program of academic excellence while infusing the love of Christ into the student's everyday lives."

She has chaired Wisconsin Religious Schools Accreditation (WRSA) Visiting Team for the Diocese of Madison since 2010, and has served on Diocesan committees on Religion Curriculum, Report Card Development, Mentorship Program, and Curriculum Standards Development.

"I am confident that Mary Jo will ensure that Our Lady Queen of Peace School continues to maintain the highest standards of academic excellence," says Msgr. Ken Fiedler.

Principal Mark Quinn departed the school on March 31, and in the fall will be principal at a Catholic school in his hometown of Racine. We will miss the Quinn family and wish them the very best.

"I am grateful to Mark for his nearly four years of service to our school, to our staff and faculty, and to our children," expresses Msgr. Ken. "Please join me in wishing Mark and his family well."

Submitted by Kate Ripple, Director of Stewardship & Development

QP School has openings!

Contact maryjo.vitale@qopc.org to set up a visit.





Join us for this exciting week of prayer, fun, and community!

June 13 – 17 • 8:30 a.m. – 11-30 p.m. For ages 4 – 4th grade

What will Vacation Bible School week be like?

Imagine...

- ...a child discovering for the first time that Jesus is the light of the world.
- ...kids worshiping in powerful ways.
- ...children praying for each other in the challenges they face.
- ...adults and teens modeling Jesus' love to children.
- ...the kids in our church showing God's love to families in need across the United States.
- ...children serving each other.

This summer at Cave Quest VBS, kids will go on an over-the-top underground adventure where they'll discover Jesus can be their trusted guiding light through life! Be a part of Vacation Bible School at Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish June 13 – June 17. It's an adventure that'll help everyone involved to begin or grow in their relationship with Jesus!

NEW this year! A field trip to the Cave of the Mounds! On Friday, for the elementary students, our week will end at the Cave of the Mounds. We will have sessions reflecting on Jesus' power, take a tour through the cave, and have lunch together. The preschool students will have various activities at Queen of Peace to culminate the week. Please see the additional information for details about the field trip.

We're praying this awesome VBS program will touch children's hearts and lives with Jesus' love and power. Help kids in our community discover that:

Jesus gives us hope. Jesus gives us courage. Jesus gives us direction. Jesus gives us love. Jesus gives us his power.

As we plan and prepare for Cave Quest, our team would cherish your prayers. Pray that God would give us wisdom in planning.

If you are interested in joining our team by participating as a student or volunteering, please go to our website: https://www.groupvbspro.com/vbs/ez/qp2016

Please pray that God will begin working in the hearts of the children who come to Cave Quest!



Retirements: Linda Fronczak continued

product manager for a local firm, and will marry this August and continue to live in Madison, "much to her parents' delight." Joe teaches history at Princeton University in New Jersey. The Fronczaks have three grandchildren, ages 7, 5, and 2, with whom they look forward to spending more time.

"Yes, I've decided it's time – it's the right decision, but it's also sad for me. I'll miss laughing with the kids. And their hugs, I get the best hugs."

Thank you, Linda, for your years of committed service to Our Lady Queen of Peace students! Our prayer for you will be that all those extra hugs and laughs you'll be getting from your grandchildren will make up for those you'll be missing from your QP kids.

Submitted by Kate Ripple, Director of Stewardship & Development

Faces in the Pew-Mary & Octavio Tejeda

Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish is blessed to have these two remarkable people in our parish – Mary and Octavio Tejeda, parish members since 1981. Both Mary and Octavio share their many talents:

Mary has always loved to sing and notes, "when you sing, you pray twice." She joined the choir and has volunteered music ministry since 1983. She serves as a Eucharistic minister, lector, and commentator. With her gift for languages, she volunteers as QP's Spanish translator when the need arises. Mary is also a wonderful quilter and has lovingly made many banners, altar frontals, and stoles for QP.

Without the hard work and dedication of Octavio Tejeda, we would not have our sister parish in Chiapas, Mexico. Twenty years ago, he took a trip to a remote area in Mexico where the Jesuit priests of his youth had established a mission. At the same time, back at QP, Mary was discussing the possibility of having a sister parish with fellow parishioners, Mary Ann and Emmett Schulte. Their daughter, Eva, was working in that same remote Mexican state, Chiapas. Thus, the idea was born. They proposed it to the QP Social Action committee, it was approved, and today the relationship between QP and San Geronimo parish flourishes.

Octavio currently dedicates his efforts to selling coffee and artisan crafts from Chiapas during QP Hospitality weekends and to guiding small groups of parishioners traveling to Chiapas. As a civil engineer focusing on foundations, he has been instrumental in beginning several projects in the San Geronimo area, including a cooperative coffee business and another new project just in the works.

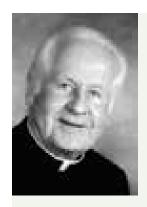


The Tejedas have been married for 48 years and have four children, 16 grandchildren, and one on the way! Octavio continues in his engineering business. After 30 years teaching at Edgewood College, Mary now serves as a Spanish medical translator in the Madison community. Both love photography – while Octavio prefers travel photos, Mary has all those children to photograph!

Family is important to Mary and Octavio – both their wonderful immediate family and their QP Parish family. Their efforts to reach beyond boundaries, and beyond the familiar, bring us closer to both the people of Chiapas and to Spanish-speaking friends in our own community. Thank you Mary and Octavio!

Submitted by volunteer Faces in the Pew contributor Char Lodl

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Msgr. Ken's Column

Dear Parishioners,

It's hard to believe that another school year has come to a close. I would like to thank you for your support in all the parish ministries and programs during this past year. God bless you!

This May, I celebrated my 45th Anniversary as a priest. It's really hard to believe it has been 45 years. Where did the time go? I truly believe God called me to this ministry and I have no regrets. Yes, I did have a few painful moments, but who doesn't? I encourage all of our young people to consider a vocation to priesthood or religious life.

This time of year we also say goodbye to several wonderful people who are moving on, called by the Holy Spirit. On the school front, we have Linda Fronczak, who has been with the school for 28 years as the school nurse and office assistant. Nora Reynolds has been with us for nine years, Kate Kollman for eight years, and Megan Demeter for one year. They will all be missed. Carol Hudson will take a one-year sabbatical to take care of her aging parents. And we look forward to her return. On the parish side, Sylvia Luce, who has served as our business manager, is stepping down after six years of service. I thank all these wonderful people and wish them the very best. We will welcome the new staff and faculty members in the next issue of Spirit.

My thanks once again to all of you for all you do for our parish community and all your support for me as your pastor.

God Bless!

Msgr. Ken