



June 2018

Carol Zinn, SSJ Named LCWR Executive Director

The LCWR national board approved the appointment of Carol Zinn, a Sister of St. Joseph of Philadelphia, as LCWR's next executive director. Carol was a member of the conference from 2009-2014, and during that time she served as chairperson of Region 3 (2010-2012), and in the LCWR presidency (2012-2015). Currently, she is concluding her employment as a senior vice-president for mission integration at Plante Moran, where her responsibilities included working with leaders and members of religious congregations as they discerned and planned for their mission into the future.



Prior to being elected to leadership in her community, Carol was the representative of the Congregations of Saint Joseph at the United Nations from 2001-2009, and was the education program director for Global Education Associates from 1996-2001. She also served as a teacher on the elementary, secondary, college, and post-graduate levels, in educational leadership in elementary and secondary schools, and in religious education and music ministry in various parish and diocesan venues.

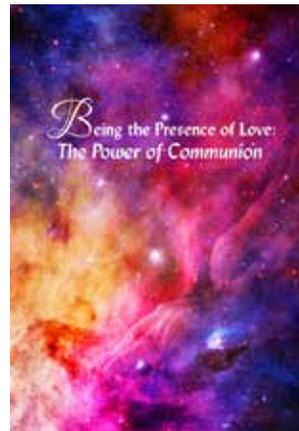
She holds a bachelor of science degree in education from Chestnut Hill College, a master of arts degree in theology from Saint Bonaventure University, and a doctorate in education foundations and curriculum

development from the University of North Carolina. In 1993, she was a research fellow at Harvard University.

In her letter of application for the LCWR position, Carol stated in part, "My deepest sense of call to this particular ministry lies in the awareness I have of the current and critical moment in which religious life and LCWR finds itself.... The main work of religious life and elected leadership at this moment calls for a clarity of vision, a consciousness of transformation, a courage of mind, heart and will, and a concerted, collaborative effort to embrace these times of transformation of the life we live and love and the missions and charisms with which we've been entrusted.

"This work focuses on addressing who we are called to be as carriers of our respective missions and charisms into a future that looks nothing like our past or present," she continued. "It also demands that we step into the creation of how we want to live this life, fully and well, to the space after our last breath. And it calls us to embrace this Paschal Mystery moment with the same courage, creativity and commitment as we have done in our past."

Carol will assume her new position on July 1, 2018, after Carole Shinnick, SSND completes her term as interim director on June 30. [Global Sisters Report covered the story of Carol's appointment.](#)



Register for the 2018 LCWR Assembly. Registration costs increase after June 21.

August 7-10, 2018
St. Louis, Missouri

From the LCWR Presidency

Why Do Women Need the Catholic Church?

by Sharlet Wagner, CSC — LCWR President-Elect

The campus minister of a Catholic women's college invited me to speak in April to a group of students. He explained that young women are leaving the church in large numbers, and the campus ministry staff hears students question why women should remain part of this institution. He asked me to speak to why the Catholic Church needs women, and why women need the Catholic Church.

Why the Catholic Church needs women was easy for me, but I found the second part of the topic unexpectedly challenging to address. What could I say to young women who look at our church and question whether they have a place in it? What could I say to young women who have grown up with an expectation that women and men will have equal access to leadership positions, and be equally enabled to develop and use their gifts?

As I pondered the topic, I recalled my first "official" experience as LCWR president-elect. In November the presidency and executive director attended the annual meeting of the USCCB in Baltimore as observers. I approached the gathering with some trepidation, fearing that it would be two-and-a-half days of listening to bishops promote orthodoxy, and talk about liturgical norms. In fact, we heard deeply engaged men discussing the importance of welcoming immigrants, how to combat racial discrimination, how to address the disengagement of youth, how to enliven our parishes.

As we watched this play out over the course of the gathering, two distinct realizations came to me. First, this is a roomful of good men genuinely doing their best and doing good and holy work. Second, they desperately need some women in this room! I was struck anew with the realization of how much the exclusion of



women's voices impoverishes our church, as I watched these men working hard on behalf of the church, but hampered in their efforts by the missing voices and gifts of women. I realized anew the deep truth of the observation that our church is not whole when half the voices are excluded.

I shared that experience with the college women and spoke of my own struggles with patriarchy and church hierarchy, and why I choose to remain in the church. Disgust with some behaviors and attitudes of our church and its hierarchy leads many of us at different points in our lives to struggle with remaining members. We leaders in women's religious congregations have, for the most part, navigated that struggle. Young people are searching, questioning, and looking to us for some answers. We may not have the answers,

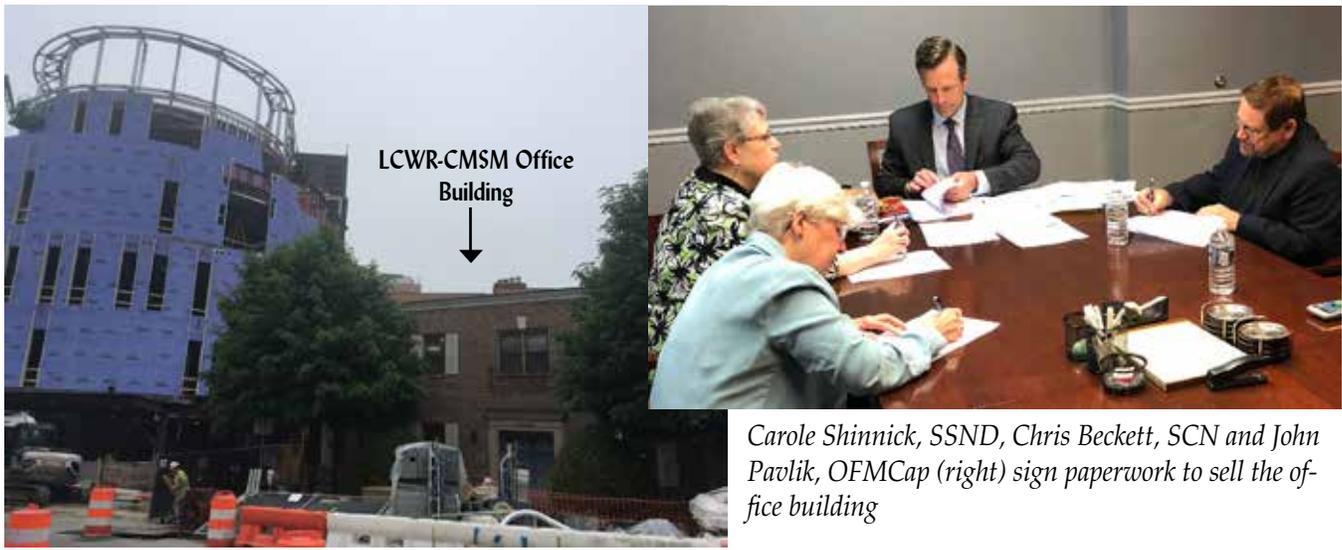
but we must be able to speak openly and genuinely to young women today, share our stories and our struggles, and explain why we choose to be a part of this institution.

Women are not currently accepted as full and equal participants in the Catholic Church, and so it can be tempting to turn our backs and say, "Who needs this?" But, I told the students, this is our church, too. It was handed on to us by our ancestors in the faith, and it is ours by right of our baptism. It calls us into a rich web of communion that stretches across space and time. It is filled with

mystery and beauty and humanity and divinity. Our church is too great a treasure for me to simply walk away from, so instead of abandoning it, I choose to embrace it. It is from this open-armed stance that we challenge it to be its best self, and ask that our church also continually call us to live what we profess.

Our church
is too great a treasure for
me to simply
walk away from,
so instead of abandoning it,
I choose to embrace it.

LCWR and CMSM Sell Office Building



Carole Shinnick, SSND, Chris Beckett, SCN and John Pavlik, OFMCap (right) sign paperwork to sell the office building

On May 1, LCWR and CMSM signed the paperwork to sell the office building that the organizations co-owned for 36 years at 8808 Cameron Street, Silver Spring, Maryland. As the needs of the two conferences have changed, they decided to accept an offer from a neighboring business to purchase the property. LCWR and CMSM will remain in the building through the summer and then will move to different nearby locations. The relocation plans are still being finalized.

Scholarships Available for LCWR Assembly



The LCWR assembly keynoters, liturgist, facilitator, and contemplative guide have been meeting online with LCWR president Teresa Maya, CCVI and the national office staff to work on assembly plans. Any congregation leader who wishes to attend the assembly but needs assistance is asked to contact Chris Beckett, SCN (cbeckett@lcsr.org) to request a partial scholarship. Partial assistance with registration and/or hotel accommodations is available through the LCWR scholarship fund. Any congregation that has the means to enable the attendance of another member is invited to consider a donation to the LCWR scholarship fund. The conference is grateful to those congregations who have already sent in contributions.

Facilitators Invited to LCWR Assembly: Any LCWR members who are working with a facilitator who has not already received an invitation to the 2018 assembly and who would like that person to be on the assembly invitation list are asked to send the facilitator's name and email address to Carol Glidden at cglidden@lcsr.org.

LCWR Makes Annual Visit to Rome

by Carole Shinnick SSND, LCWR Interim Executive Director

Each year, shortly after Easter, the LCWR presidents and executive director, along with their counterparts from the Conference of Major Superiors of Men, head for Rome to visit to a variety of Vatican offices. Some of the appointments are made jointly with CMSM and others by LCWR alone. This year's visit took place from April 16-22, 2018.

This year's delegation from LCWR included LCWR president Teresa Maya, CCVI; president-elect Sharlet Wagner, CSC; past-president Mary Pellegrino, CSJ; and me.

The most essential visit each year is with the Congregation of Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life. This year, on April 19, the LCWR delegation was warmly welcomed by the prefect, Cardinal João Bráz de Aviz as well as several members from the office, including Henry Lemoncelli, OMI who serves as LCWR's liaison in setting the agenda for the visit. Cardinal Bráz de Aviz greeted LCWR and welcomed the delegation to its "home." The conversation was engaging, transparent, and very inclusive. The delegation presented both the Cardinal and Father Lemoncelli with



LCWR with Archbishop DiNoia, OP and his assistant on a veranda outside the offices of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith

copies of LCWR's book, *However Long the Night*, which they gratefully received. The picture of the cardinal, the office staff and the LCWR delegation that accompanies this article bespeaks the solidarity and "at-homeness" that characterized the time together.

Another special visit was with the adjunct secretary of

Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, Archbishop Joseph Augustine Di Noia, OP. When presented with *However Long the Night*, Archbishop DiNoia eagerly thumbed through the book, saying, "Where are the pictures? I know all these people!" There we spoke of concerns related to the absence of English translations of Vatican documents as well as incomplete communication of Vatican events to the major superiors in the English-speaking world including the United States.

LCWR enjoyed other very cordial and engaging conversations with Cardinal Marc Ouellet, prefect of

(continued on page 5)



Several members of the Congregation for Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life. Cardinal Bráz de Aviz is first person to the right in the back row and Hank Lemoncelli, OMI is next to him

LCWR Makes Annual Visit to Rome

(continued from page 4)

the Congregation of Bishops, with Cardinal Peter Kodwo Appiah Turkson at the dicastery for Integral Human Development and with Cardinal Pietro Parolin, Vatican secretary of state. Topics ranged from the humanitarian crises of mass migrations, human trafficking, and ecological devastation to better understanding of the healthcare system and the pain of political polarization in the United States.

The LCWR delegation had a wonderful lunch and visit at the offices of the Union of Superiors General with Pat Murray, IBVM and the office staff of UISG. The week was concluded with a gathering of about 30 sisters now located in Rome whose members include sisters in the United States. Many of those gathered are former members of LCWR and the delight of being together and of “catching up” was clearly evident. The week was a positive series of meetings and honest exchanges. Well worth the trip!



LCWR presidents and executive director with Cardinal Peter Turkson in the Courtyard outside the dicastery for Integral Human Development



LCWR presidents and executive director at the UISG offices visiting Pat Murray, IBVM (third from left in front row) and the UISG Staff



Joint delegations of CSM and LCWR after visiting the Vatican Office for Communications.



The LCWR delegation in St. Peter's Square

Contemporary Religious Life Committee Meets in DC

The LCWR Contemporary Religious Life Committee met on April 23 and 24 to continue its work of exploring many of the questions, opportunities, and challenges facing US religious life and how LCWR may respond to them. Some of the topics noted by the committee include: interculturality, right-sizing institutes for the future, defining the work of leadership for these times, how to attend to the meaning-making dimension of leadership, using the collective voice of religious as advocates for change, attending appropriately to elders and young members, understanding the realities of the millennial generation, a desire for new leadership and governance models, re-imagining chapters, the role of associates, and the role of LCWR in tending to the whole of religious life as it moves into the future.

The committee also reviewed plans for the 2018 LCWR assembly, and began initial planning for the 2019 assembly.

The committee will continue to share some of the questions it has been exploring through the “Emerging Questions for Reflection and Conversation” section of the LCWR newsletter. Members are encouraged to spend time with these questions and consider discussing them as leadership teams.



Members of the committee at the Washington Retreat House: Pat McDermott, RSM; Sheila Lemieux, CSJP; Ana Lydia Sonera Matos, CDP; Marie McCarthy, SP; Cathy Bertrand, SSND (facilitator); Annmarie Sanders, IHM; and Maria Hughes, ASC. Missing is Miriam Ukeritis, CSJ. Carole Shinnick, SSND joined the committee for part of its meeting.

EMERGING QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION AND CONVERSATION

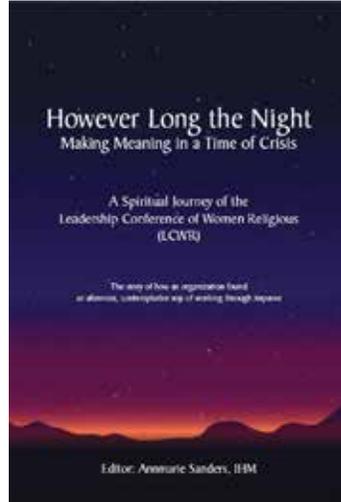
How do we lead our religious institutes mindful of the reality that US religious life is becoming more inter-congregational? How are we planning with this reality in mind?



LCWR Book Receives Media Coverage

The new LCWR book, *However Long the Night: Making Meaning in a Time of Crisis*, has received coverage from several media outlets.

- “In new book, former LCWR leaders reflect on years of Vatican scrutiny” by Gail DeGeorge, Global Sisters Report
- “Women Religious: Making meaning in a time of crisis,” State of Belief radio program, an interview with Sharon Holland, IHM
- “In new book, LCWR revisits doctrinal assessment,” podcast by the National Catholic Reporter, an interview with Betty Thompson of Solidarity with Sisters and Annmarie Sanders, IHM



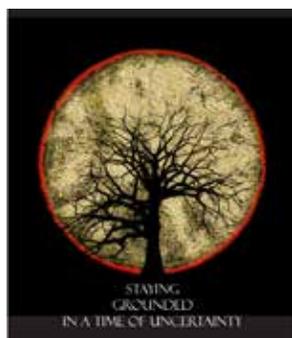
The Leadership Collaborative board and staff: Front: Deb Troillett, RSM; Teresa Posakony; Barbara Hagedorn, SC; Tina Bernheimer, SND associate; Annmarie Sanders, IHM. Middle: Montiel Rosenthal, SC; Rita Waters, RSM; Ellen Dauwer, SC. Back: Joan Gallagher, CSJ; Vicki Wuolle, CSA; Michelle Stachowiak, CSSF; Charlene Diorka, SSJ

However Long the Night is available in print and Kindle editions through Amazon.

Order Copies of Occasional Papers by June 6

Orders must be placed by June 6 for the Summer 2018 issue of Occasional Papers: “**Staying Grounded in a Time of Uncertainty.**”

This issue focuses on how humanity might effectively thrive in the uncertain and difficult situation in which the world finds itself. How can one be grounded in one’s deepest self and with God at a time of great outrage, disbelief, and fear for what is ahead? How does one sustain oneself and not become hopeless or numb in light of disconcerting political and ethical decisions we watch being made? What is the role of religious life in response to this milieu? How might religious life leaders make a contribution to the spiritual hungers and needs that are present in society today and among their own members?



Leadership Collaborative Board Explores New Directions

The board of directors and staff of *The Leadership Collaborative*, a working group of women’s religious congregations and organizations committed to developing the capacity for transformational leadership among women religious and their associates, met in Baltimore from May 2-4. The collaborative oversees the Collaborative Leadership Development Program (CLDP) which is offered for women religious and associates ages 60 and younger, as well as various offerings for those who have completed the CLDP or other leadership formation programs. Representatives from LCWR, RFC, and several LCWR member congregations serve on the Leadership Collaborative board, along with graduates of some of the leadership development programs.

The collaborative’s executive director, Vicki Wuolle, CSA, is available to visit LCWR regions to speak not only about the offerings of the collaborative, but also to share some of the insights that are coming from its various programs and initiatives.



Nuns & Nones Explore Collaboration Possibilities

LCWR members Pat Bergen, CSJ; Maureen Geary, OP; and Liz Langmead, MSHH; LCWR communications director Annmarie Sanders, IHM; and several other women religious were among a group of approximately 25 people who gathered at the Fetzer Institute in Kalamazoo in April for a meeting on Nuns & Nones. The group met to discuss and reflect on the connections being made around the country between women religious and “nones,” (millennials who identify themselves as spiritual but not religious) who are seeking and creating communities of purpose and service. The millennials feel called to serve something larger than themselves and live and work in ways that are counter-cultural to what they find in US society today. The gathering looked at what might be emerging for possible collaboration between both groups.

Working groups have formed around various topics including: supporting local gatherings of Nuns & Nones, developing online networking and learning opportunities, fundraising, and a pilot residency with millennials living with women religious. More information on the Nuns & Nones movement is available on [the group’s website](#).

Honor the Courage of the World’s Refugees on June 20

[World Refugee Day](#) commemorates the strength, courage, and resilience of millions of refugees. This year, World Refugee Day also marks a key moment for the public to show support for families forced to flee. More than 50 million people are currently displaced by war and violence, some 33.3 million in their own country and 16.7 million as refugees, mostly in neighboring countries. Every 15 minutes one family is forced into flight. This year the people of the world are being invited to [stand with refugees](#).



Justice for Immigrants (JFI), of which LCWR is a core member, has prepared a [World Refugee Day 2018 Toolkit](#) which offers advocacy suggestions, talking points, and prayer resources. It also provides several helpful suggestions for planning local events.

Refugee advocates and service providers believe that World Refugee Day 2018 is a particularly important moment to demonstrate that refugees are welcome in the United States. Given the current climate surrounding refugees and refugee resettlement, raising awareness among friends and family of these vulnerable populations, advocating for their right to safety and dignity, and welcoming them into local communities is critical.

Catholic Climate Covenant Launches Campaign

The Catholic Climate Covenant (CCC) has launched a campaign to collect endorsements from Catholic organizations to the [Catholic Climate Declaration](#) (CCD). The declaration is a complementary Catholic expression of solidarity with the “[We Are Still In](#)” campaign (WASI). The effort is being coordinated by the CCC’s steering committee of which LCWR is a member.



CCC members hope thousands of Catholic institutions across the United States will sign the declaration thus representing the largest expression of support for climate action by the Catholic Church in America since *Laudato Si'*. The plan is to announce the number of declaration signatories on June 18, 2018, in celebration of its 3rd anniversary of the encyclical.

The Catholic Climate Declaration is a public expression of support by the Catholic community in the United States for action to address climate change. It is to be signed by the leader with the authority to sign on behalf of his or her institution (e.g., diocese, parish, healthcare facility, university, parochial school, religious order, non-profit organization).

The campaign was announced to the Catholic community in a [letter](#) from Bishop Richard Pates of Des Moines urging Catholic leaders to sign the declaration.

The Catholic Climate Covenant has prepared a [background document](#) that explains the issue and the project in some detail, as well as a [Catholic Climate Declaration FAQs](#). Additional information is available [here](#) and from the Covenant at info@catholicclimatecovenant.org or 202-756-5545.

Catholic Energies Helps Institutions Become More Energy Efficient

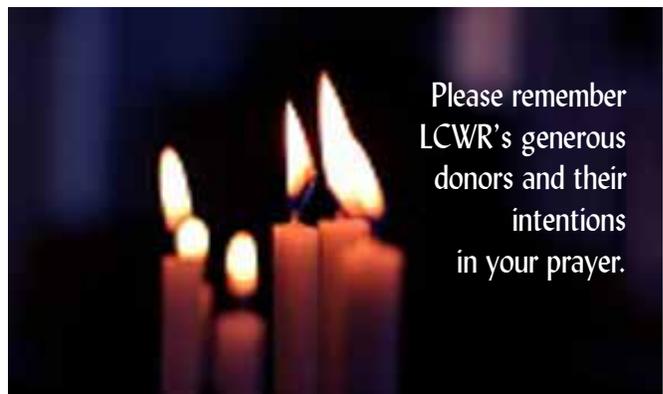
Catholic Energies is the first nonprofit energy program designed with the specific needs of Catholic facilities in mind. A program of the [Catholic Climate Covenant](#), Catholic Energies helps Catholic facilities investigate, pay for, and implement energy projects in schools, houses of religious congregations, parishes, diocesan offices, etc. Their programs help Catholic institutions with:



- Energy Procurement - buy greener, cleaner energy at a lower cost;
- Energy Efficiency - lighting, HVAC and controls projects can save facilities thousands annually;
- Renewable Energy - generate more power locally;
- Energy Storage - capture excess energy and use it later.

Best of all, the program costs participating organizations nothing, and Catholic Energies provides a no-cost assessment to help decision-makers understand the opportunities on their own campuses. Catholic Energies offers unique financing options to help institutions move ahead with projects with no money upfront and a full performance guarantee.

Buildings waste approximately 40% of the energy they consume. Catholic Energies can help reduce energy waste and mitigate the environmental harm this waste causes, especially to the poor and vulnerable. More information can be found on their newly redesigned [website](#).



Please remember
LCWR's generous
donors and their
intentions
in your prayer.



- Letter to members of Congress calling on them to craft a Faithful Budget that prioritizes the well-being of those who are struggling to overcome poverty, fight injustice, or are especially vulnerable, including future generations; addresses and remedies the inequities that result from institutional racism, a broken immigration system, isolationism, and mass incarceration; creates a world where everyone may realize their potential as God intends; and enhances the transformation of conflict with creative and courageous nonviolent peacebuilding. LCWR (4/23/18)
- Letter from faith leaders to Domenic Sarno, mayor of Springfield, MA, expressing solidarity with South Congregational Church and the network of local clergy and congregations that are providing sanctuary to Gisella Collazo and her family and urging him to stop demonizing immigrants and threatening South Congregational Church. Ann Scholz, SSND (4/23/18)
- Letter from faith-based organizations to Senate and House appropriators expressing appreciation for the bi-partisan support for the FY18 International Affairs Budget, particularly for programs that work to alleviate suffering for people living in extreme poverty and requesting support for a strong 302(b) allocation of \$57.4 billion or higher for the FY19 State-Foreign Operations Appropriations bill. LCWR (4/26/18)
- Amicus brief in connection with asylum proceedings *Matter of A-B-*, 27 I&N Dec. 227 (A.G. 2018) before Attorney General Jeff Sessions opposing attempts to exclude those who suffer religious persecution as a result of “private criminal activity” from eligibility for asylum. LCWR (4/26/18)
- Joint written testimony by the Interfaith Immigration Coalition to a hearing of the House Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Subcommittee considering fiscal year 2019

- appropriations for several programs that impact immigrant communities. LCWR (4/28/18)
- LCWR statement in opposition to the decision of the Trump administration to terminate Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for more than 57,000 Hondurans. LCWR (5/8/18)

Catholic Social Innovation Making a Difference for Migrants and Refugees

The largest humanitarian crisis on record is underway today. More people are displaced now than at any time in history. While there is no permanent solution on the horizon, Catholic social innovators around the globe have created viable and compassionate programs to help people on the move.



[Foundations and Donors Interested in Catholic Activities \(FADICA\)](#), the leading Catholic philanthropic network in the United States, has just completed a [global study](#) examining the innovative Catholic response to this crisis that has forcibly displaced more than 50 million people worldwide.

“The global refugee crisis is extensive and complex – it’s not going to be solved imminently,” says Alexia Kelley, president and CEO of FADICA. “But the projects spotlighted in our study represent effective and sustainable solutions that Catholic social innovators and organizations are leading globally.”

The study was completed in partnership with [Boston College’s Center for Social Innovation](#) and identified 64 uniquely Catholic, innovative, high-impact ministries that are helping refugees and migrants around the world. More than half of the projects highlighted in the study are sister-led. They include:

- LCWR Region 9—Created and distributed anti-human trafficking toolkits throughout Wisconsin.
- The Sisters of Charity of Nazareth—Converted convent in Pittsburgh into Stone House shelter.
- The Good Shepherd Sisters—Offer job training programs which help to prevent migration by successfully securing Bolivian women jobs in their home country

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News from the United Nations

June 5—World Environment Day

is the United Nations' most important day for encouraging worldwide awareness and action for the protection of the environment. Since it began in 1974, it has grown to become a global platform for public outreach that is widely celebrated in more than 100 countries. This year's theme, "[Beat Plastic Pollution](#)," is a call to action for all people to come together to combat one of the great environmental challenges of our time. Chosen by this year's host, India, the theme of World Environment Day 2018 invites people around the world to consider changes they can make in their everyday lives to reduce the heavy burden of plastic pollution on the health and well-being of the planet, wildlife, and human beings.



June 12—World Day Against Child Labor was launched by the International Labor Organization in 2002.

Throughout the world today, approximately 168 million children work, many full-time. They do not go to school and have little or no time to play. They are denied the chance to be children. More than half of them are exposed to the worst forms of child labor such as work in hazardous environments, slavery, and illicit activities including drug trafficking and prostitution, as well as involvement in armed conflict. Each year on June 12, the world day brings together governments, employers, workers, and civil society to highlight the plight of child laborers and to explore what can be done to help them. This [year's theme](#) shines a spotlight on the global need to improve safety and health of young workers and end child labor.

Upcoming LCWR Dates

LCWR Assembly

St. Louis, Missouri
August 7— 11, 2018

Leading from Within Retreat

Bethany Retreat Center
Lutz, Florida
February 10 – 15, 2019

LCWR New Leader Workshop

Conference Center
University of St. Mary of the Lake
Mundelein, Illinois
April 4 — 7, 2019

LCWR Assembly

Scottsdale, Arizona
August 13 — 17, 2019

Leading from Within Retreat

Redemptorist Renewal Center
Tucson, Arizona
January 12 – 17, 2020

LCWR Assembly

Dallas, Texas
August 11 — 15, 2020

Catholic Social Innovation Making a Difference for Migrants and Refugees

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- LCWR—Built a national network of advocates for immigrants and refugees
- Bethany House—Offers hospitality to young women seeking asylum, a project of 23 women's congregations in Chicago

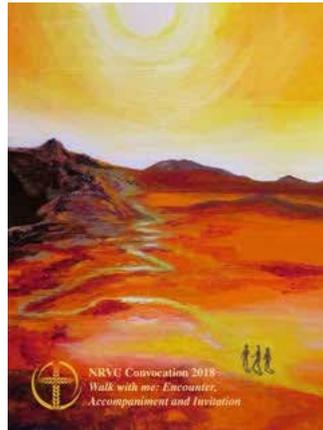
The report also outlines funding principles and practices for effectively supporting Catholic social innovation in the refugee crisis.

The study was inspired by the recognition that Catholic priests, sisters, and lay people are among leading social innovators, yet their faith-based innovation is not well known. The [executive summary](#) of the report is available on the FADICA website. Additional information may be obtained by contacting Loretta Dees, ldees@fadica.org.



NRVC Convocation Walk with Me: Encounter, Accompaniment and Invitation

The National Religious Vocation Conference invites all to its 30th anniversary convocation in Buffalo, New York from November 1-5. The schedule includes four keynote presentations, as well as member area meetings, exhibitis, and an experience with young adults at Canisius College.



Pre-convocation workshops include:

- Finding your Digital Balance and Reducing Social Media Stress
- Screening Yellow and Red Flags in Candidate Assessment
- Vocation Ministry and the Issues of Civil, Canon and Immigration Law
- Vocation ROI: Grace or Grim

More information about the convocation and the registration link can be found [here](#).

Is Your Leadership Term About to End?

If your leadership term is ending this month, we ask you to submit a change of leadership form found in the LCWR Members' Information section (password-protected) of the website at lcwr.org/members/lcwr-membership-information.

National Religious Retirement Office

The 2017 Retirement Fund for Religious national collection received nearly \$25 million in (arch)diocesan donations, with not all (arch)dioceses having reported at this writing. Individual and organizational contributions totaled almost \$3 million.



In mid-June, the National Religious Retirement Office (NRRO) will distribute \$25 million in Direct Care Assistance, which is made possible by the national appeal. These funds offer religious institutes supplemental support in meeting the current and future needs of senior members. Among other factors, the distributions are based on census, cost of care, and assets. Participating institutes submit this data to the NRRO each year. Any institute that is not providing information is asked to call NRRO to become part of the process for 2019.

More information on NRRO educational, financial, and consultative services is available on its [website](#).



RFC and CTU Offer Theological Program

The Together program, a collaborative for theological education, formation, and community cosponsored by Catholic Theological Union and the Religious Formation Conference, continues to invite applications for the inaugural cohort commencing this fall.

Information and registration materials are available on the [Together website](#).

Questions about this new innovative program can be directed to the coordinators at contact@together-formation.com or 773.675.8362.



by Joan Mumaw, IHM
President
www.solidarityfriends.org

'Pentecost is here! It's almost Advent.'

Such was a comment made by a Friends Board Member at our annual face to face meeting in Silver Spring, Maryland on May 12. She was reminding us that we have an Advent Project for schools and adults "ready to go" for those who are beginning to plan for the coming year. The *Advent Journey Calendars for 2018* will be posted on the website on the Resources Page in mid-June. Please alert persons in these ministries to these resources. Last year's calendar is still posted for those who wish to see what the calendar will look like. This is a great way to introduce students and adults to the people of South Sudan.

A Solidarity Tool Kit that provides much information about South Sudan, Friends in Solidarity, and the work

of Solidarity with South Sudan can be accessed on our Resources Page. <https://wp.me/P7wB7z-3cb>

If you are planning Jubilee and graduation gifts, you may want to make a donation and access a card that can be downloaded and folded to be sent to your friends and relatives. <https://wp.me/P7wB7z-3cb> Friends in Solidarity is working hard to increase its presence on social media. You can help us by liking and sharing us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/solidarityfriends/> and by posting a link to our website and Facebook on your community website. <https://www.solidarityfriends.org>. The website is secure and tax deductible donations can be made on either Facebook or the website.

Note: The US government has issued a statement regarding the US position on assistance to South Sudan. The US is a major supporter, along with Britain and Norway, of the people of South Sudan. We are closely monitoring this situation. The statement can be accessed here. https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/statement-press-secretary-civil-war-south-sudan/?utm_source=link

Thank you for your interest and your support of this ministry of religious from around the world.

Looking for a Gift?

Consider supporting LCWR and purchasing sets of 10 greeting cards based on contemplative insights of its members. Priced at just \$10.00 for the set of 10, these folded cards make great gifts and are a means of sharing ideas about contemplation, communion, and Gospel-centered living. All proceeds from the sale of cards go toward supporting the work and mission of LCWR.

Cards may be purchased online at lcwr.org/item/contemplative-greeting-cards. For more information, contact Carol Glidden at cglidden@lcwr.org.



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