# **Senior Companion Program**



*Spring, 2013* 

# Our Vision

We recognize and respect the dignity and value of each human being.

# Our Mission

The Senior Companion Program enhances the quality of life for adults through socialization and information.

# About Us

SCP is a sponsored ministry of the Racine Dominicans

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# The Abundance of Gifts



by Sister Joyce Ballweg, OP

We have all sorts of gifts in our lives. Some are new, others have been around for years; some are worn out and have weathered many a storm. If we think about the gifts of hearing, seeing, touching, smelling and tasting, we will come to our senses and acknowledge —

these precious gifts may be waning, yet they are priceless gifts beyond any commodity.

People who are present to us are pearls of great price! The presence of someone who cares, shares, visits or calls, smiles and listens is a gift. Our presence is special and makes a difference in another person's life. Whether it be a family member, friend, neighbor, volunteer visitor or the person being visited, consider these people as your gifts!

John Steinbeck observed, "When two people meet, each one is changed by the other so you've got two new people." During this springtime, may we feel the newness, excitement and pleasure of the GIFT of one another's PRESENCE.

All too often, we make note of what is not to our liking. During this springtime, will you add to the list below making note of your gifts, blessings and joys? Watch the list grow!

- 1. The birds are chirping their songs.
- 2. Daylight arrives earlier and stays longer.
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_
- 4. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5. \_\_\_\_\_

(Take another piece of paper and continue your list. If your list is more than 50, call and let us know.)





# The Gift of Sister Audrey Affholder

by Laurie Radewan, adapted from Dialogue Newsletter article by J. Mullooly

For the past 16 years, Sister Audrey Affholder has ministered in the Senior Companion Program, helping to enhance the lives of others in the Racine county by visiting and befriending them. "It's such a worthwhile ministry," she says. "It gives the people a chance to express themselves, to share their lives, and I so enjoy visiting them."

For 10 years, Sister Audrey visited over 110 different people, sometimes helping them with tasks they couldn't do on their own. She would prepare "treat bags" to take on visits, filling them with cookies or candy, magazines, holy cards and inspirational books.

But a fall in 2006 changed Sister Audrey's life. After surgery, months of painful physical therapy and recuperation, she was determined to return to her ministry. Though she has not returned to the mobility she'd hoped for, the kind and cheerful spirit she brings to her current 16 companions is a strong message of hope for them.

Sister Audrey is not able to visit as many people as she used to. "Now I have more time to pray for the problems of the world. Every day I spend time praying for people in need and for healing the troubles in our world."

Thank you Sister Audrey, for your many years of service, and for being such a powerful witness of hope to your companions!

# Energy Assistance



May 15th, 2013.

If you are in need of energy assistance, applications are presently being accepted. The number to reach the Energy Assistance Program is 262/633-6000. The deadline is

and ITN Racine County will host an **Appreciation Brunch** 

The Senior

that will be held on Saturday, April 13th. This event is graciously

**Companion Program** 

Voluntger/Visitge

Appreciation Brunch



sponsored by The Milwaukee County Dept. of Family Care. Formal invitations will be sent soon to SCP volunteers and visitees as well as ITN Racine County drivers and riders. We are so grateful and want to show our appreciation to all who share their gifts in our programs.

# Websites of Interest



www.ITNRacineCounty.org Dignified transportation for seniors

#### www.familycaremilwaukeecounty.com

Offers experience and trust when you need long term care support.

#### www.lincare.com

Provides respiratory care and medical equipment for patients in their home.

# Mark Your Calendars

Sunday, March 17th: St. Patrick's Day

Wednesday, March 20th: Spring Begins

Sunday, March 24th: Palm Sunday

Friday, March 29th: Good Friday + 1+



Saturday, April 13th: Volunteer / Visitee Brunch

Wednesday, April 24th: St. Monica's Health Fair

Sunday, May 12th: Mother's Day

Saturday, May 18th: Armed Forces Day

Monday, May 27th: Memorial Day



# Are You a Reader?

Our friends at Bright Star have graciously included us in their book share program. We have over 20 books to distribute from their seniors to our seniors to enjoy. Although we have not read them ourselves, we would like to pass them on to anyone who is interested. You may take and read and then pass them on to someone else. No need to return them to us. We also have a few jigsaw puzzles with large pieces to give away. Please let us know if you are interested.



#### **Word Search**

HLENTNWEUBLOOMI NGMAOLA USUTTXMQAPBUDDI NGUWZAF 1 P E V H T R E A S L P S L C V K Y A N L C S Z Z U C E U E L P T E S H C H N W K B L V BUNNYNQLLTREAWI NDYEFEA O A C J C D F C I A I I R S E A A H N R L B WF B R E E Z Y L P X N L S A E A J I A U U FCHEERFULOSI GHGNTANGI Z RENEWI NGTYUBNNSKTSGRAZ ERESURRECTEDI GTGPYSANI S O D E L I G H T F I R Y R F H P Y B N X N HWARMWCHI RPI NGDPUDYTEG L WNAROBINSOYQOASMBQVUJ SUNSHI NEAPKJSHOWERSPAL

| ALLELUIA | APRIL    | AWAKENING   |
|----------|----------|-------------|
| BIRDS    | BLOOMING | BREEZY      |
| BUDDING  | BUNNY    | BUZZING     |
| CHEERFUL | CHIRPING | CLOUDY      |
| DELIGHT  | EASTER   | FRAGRANT    |
| FRESH    | HAPPY    | LENT        |
| LUSH     | MELTING  | PLEASANT    |
| RELAXING | RENEWING | RESURRECTED |
| ROBINS   | SHOWERS  | SPRING      |
| SUNSHINE | SWEET    | TENDER      |
| TULIPS   | WARM     | WINDY       |

### **Donations** Received

November 16, 2012 to February 15, 2013

*In Memory of* Bernice Broslavick • S. Christine Broslavick

*In Memory of* Sisters Catherine and Barbara Wildenberg, Josephine Beyer and Helen Eckes • Leo and David Beyer & Anna Marie Foti

In Memory of Sister Alma DeGroot & Sister Cathy Grimm

James & Joyce Grimm

Indidual Donations:

- Laurie Radewan
- Helen NormanConcesa Eifler
- Concesa EfferMarcia Meracle
- Marcia Meracle
  George Leopold
- Pat & Gene Bochek
- Eleanor Sorenson
- Sylvia Quadracci
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- Barb Tylenda
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- Arnie Froode
- Martha Washburn
- Donna & Lawrence Pias
- Harriet Simovic
- Margaret Johnson
- Monica Ply
- Rosalie & Roland Rheaume
- Timothy & Jeanne Crawford
- Tim, Kira, Rita & Emily Lafond
- Eleanor Reynolds
- Gloria & Bernie Brown
- Faye & Steven Endres
- La Verne & Richard Poplawski
- Comfort Keepers
- St. Rita Parishioners
  - Sacred Heart Mission Circle
- Rainmaker Polymers, LLC

You're a Blessing Sisters of St. Dominic **Senior Companion Program** 5635 Erie St. Racine, WI 53402

Non-Profit Organization U.S. Postage PAID Racine, WI Permit No. 1614

### We are grateful to all who contribute and participate in the Senior Companion Program

- The Racine Dominicans
- SC Johnson
- Donald J. Costello Estate
- US Navy SKC Robert W. Ply & Mrs. Monica Rotkis Ply

