

**All creation is proclaiming the Glory of God,  
singing out from hill to valley  
to pond and beyond!**

The earth, with its own rising to this new season, lifts us up from whatever might bring us down. The Spirit of Christ has been given to us, poured out over us and through us! We are a spirited people. With all of creation we are called into this newness of life.

In our overly mechanized and sophisticated world it is hard to believe, isn't it, that light, bright, green things actually have the power and energy to carry us and care for us enough that we might be refreshed and carry and care for others. We are "of one family" as St. Francis would tell us.

Summer has truly come upon us. It passed this way yesterday in rich rains and loud thunder and has remained today drenching us all in warm sunlight as we go about the work of a Mountain day. The **Schichtel** family came with a huge truck load of trees and happily lifted up shovels, loaded wheel barrows full of topsoil, planting over sixteen trees around La Paz! I thank them now and you and so many others who build up, lift up the place and the life we call "The Mountain."



Our summer companions, **Jesse Altaville, Steven Kuzara** and **Allie Leis**, arrived and have cleared their tent sites, called "tent city." We planted a small hillside of native species of flowers and grasses and then found a spot for the last of our Easter lilies moved from the Chapel to a place where we were also able to scatter wildflower seeds.

Last night was the first night for our summer companions in their tents! This morning stories abound over breakfast after Morning Prayer. And now into a workday I have stepped aside to complete this letter to you, making it a summer bulletin, full of information that might entice you to come our way.

You may want to stay with us in a prayer cabin or a guestroom in one of our homes. You may also wish to tent somewhere on the land or sleep under the stars on Naomi's Knoll. Possibly it will be a day when you choose to take a ride in the country and then a walk on one of our trails, our labyrinth garden.

The Mountain awaits you! The Mountain and we are waiting for you!

Visit our website and give us a call for additional information.

**Mt. IRENAEUS**

**FRANCISCAN MOUNTAIN RETREAT**

Visit Mt. Irenaeus online at [www.mounti.com](http://www.mounti.com) or email us at [mountain@sbu.edu](mailto:mountain@sbu.edu)



## Pray with us as we pray with you

Our crowded and clouded sometimes troubled hearts tell us our needs if we would listen. If they are not troubled they might be numb. But even then they will awake us to our need for restfulness; our need for time and space, a place to step aside and be refreshed. You may have found such a space in your own backyard or park nearby as I mention each year. Find the Mountain a place and a home for yourself as well. Whether you visit here, you are here with us in our hearts and in our prayers.

**To rest ... to listen ... to find things fresh and new, re-newing**, is the activity of each day's quiet listening and coming to our hearts full of imagination, touched by the fire of hope ... the spirit of peace which fills us.

You will notice on the bottom of the front page our one line mission statement. Sharing it with a friend as I left Buffalo recently and returning to the Mountain, I thought about how truly rich and compelling it is, impelling me into this moment with you. It asks us to pause and place our hearts in the One who invites us to "join with Jesus Christ to make all things new."

**Simple practices of prayer, walking in the woods, sitting by the pond, finding a twig on a trail that might even sing to you ...** all of these practices and places ... as well as gathering vegetables from the garden, picking new greens, assembling a salad for others ... adding something new to pasta sauce and serving it up. This too is lending who we are to the "new creation." We find that by practicing our life here beside one another, blessed with the breath of prayer, meals and conversations together, we enter the life of each day and then go forth, as each of us will, to bear the "Good News," the hope and the possibilities of healing and new life to other places and other people.

**In a quiet moment, the stillness you might be enjoying now**, find the promise of the stillness of the Mountain as well. This stillness, the silence that is present between these words, is the gentle empowering for life which awaits us ... now. The spirit of peace now visits and enters our hearts ... open!

**Artisans we are!** *Each of us capable of crafting a new world and a new way! We are persons learning skills beside one another, teaching each other as we carefully shape, with delight and joy, forms of a new world for others. We practice, we try, we find our way and play beside one another as God's children now, heirs, co-heirs of Christ's Reign. One ancient Latin word for all of this is "tradere," which means, "to hand on." If we understand "tradition" this way we hear its activity and our movement leading each other by lending a hand, our hands to one another, lending a hand to the world, handing on the life that has been handed onto us. Our movement is the languaging, the flesh of the word "tradition." The Mountain is another place where we find out how to carry what seems at times to be burdensome, but in the embrace of God's own hands, God's love, and with the help of each other, is our tradition ... we have in our hearts and hands, we hand on the peace of Christ.*



With Br. Kevin looking on, Maggie Young offers us the Word of God at Sunday Mass.



Stay in touch with us through our website and hold us in your daily prayer practice. Be sure that we draw you into all of our prayers here at Mt. Irenaeus.

May the Lord bless you throughout this summer with days of bounty and bright lightness of heart.



Dan Riley, ofm

**GREENER** than any OTHER **GREEN**



## SUMMER WEEKENDS OF RENEWAL

### "WHEN WERE YOU LAST AT THE MOUNTAIN?"

**"We are Mountain people readying for the marketplace.  
We are marketplace people looking for the Mountain."**

**JULY 13-15, 2012**  
**AUGUST 3-5, 2012**



Our Mountain Team (Joe Flanagan, Brad Smith, Lilly Whelan, Joe Kotula, ofm, Dan Riley, ofm, Mike Gargin, Maggie Young) for "On the Road" to Austin, Houston and Dallas, Texas – thanks to our benefactors John and Kay Meisch and the generous hospitality of Mike and Pat Hahn.

Some of us have traveled "On the Road" and have gathered in our homes with others eager to rediscover what it means to be "Church."

Some of us have come to the Mountain possibly as "Students for the Mountain," "Mountain Sojourners," "Franciscan Volunteers," "Mountain Leaders" or as someone who found their way up the hill.

We walk in a world that is aching to hear the Good News. We walk with families, friends and communities longing to hear God's voice, to feel God's touch, to know God's love and mercy and find companionship.

Along the road of our own "good journey" we hear God calling us to "go out to all the world" as God's instrument of peace and healing.

Return to the Mountain for a summer weekend of rest, renewal and enrichment as we explore together the joys and the challenges of sharing the Spirit and Franciscan message of the Mountain with others.

For more information contact Fr. Dan, Kate or Paul. If you can't complete the whole weekend, join us for an overnight or a day.

**Dan Riley, ofm (mmarc@sbu.edu) • Kate Nolan Clemens (kclemens@snet.net) • Paul Kline (klinep@bc.edu)**

Register at: mmarc@sbu.edu



## TAKE TIME TO LISTEN AND REFLECT

"Digital" ministry is becoming an important extension here at Mt. Irenaeus. From our website to Facebook to other online tools, we want to offer you many options to pray, reflect and spend time when you cannot join us in person. For nearly a year, Fr. Dan has been recording audio reflections. We invite you to walk with us on this journey and listen as you have time. Slow down, pray, reflect, listen to Fr. Dan's words and the music of our friend Cyprian Consiglio. You may find the podcasts on our website at [www.mounti.com](http://www.mounti.com) or search "Fr. Dan Riley" on iTunes.

~ Greg Licamele

## SUMMER EVENINGS OF RE-CREATION 2012

### "GROWING IN THE SPIRIT"

Our Summer Evenings of Re-Creation are designed this year to help us rediscover ancient spiritual practices, those of *Lectio Divina*, healing, food, faith and contemplation. All rooted in a Franciscan practice of life and the delight of life itself, we invite you to join us for the opportunity to learn these basic practices of spiritual renewal.

You and those you might bring with you are welcome to join us anytime during these Wednesdays, coming for a walk, rest by the pond, or taking early time at the Chapel before our evenings begin at:

#### 5:15 Evening Prayer

When the theme will open up and consideration will be given to the time we will spend together on this evening.

Leisure as we approach supper.

*SUMMER EVENINGS OF RE-CREATION*

#### 6:30 Dish to pass supper

Sharing cleanup as a community we will take some quiet time before a Eucharist in the Chapel.

#### 7:45 Eucharist in the Chapel

Continuing the theme of the evening.

After listening to local ministers and members of faith communities, we wanted to enrich our practice here again by opening simple themes, but welcoming you to open your heart to our life, to the gift of the Mountain. More than anything else the simple walking here, the quiet, the restfulness of the place, the weather that might be with us on an evening like that, opens us to God's presence. God is with us everywhere and at all times.

- July 11** Lectio Divina: Dan Riley, ofm and team
- July 18** Healing: Kevin Kriso, ofm and team
- July 25** Food and Faith: John Coughlin, ofm and team
- August 1** Contemplation in the Franciscan Tradition:  
Lou McCormick, ofm and team



Senior Week for SBU Class of 2012 began with Mass and a cookout on the Mountain.



Sherri Bensen, Kathy and Mike Shon enjoy time together at a Napa Valley "Mountain in Your Home" event.

## WE REACHED AND EXCEEDED OUR MT. FUND GOAL!

Our goal was \$147,000, your donations totaled over \$151,000! Many thanks to all of you who made a gift to our Mt. Fund and to those who volunteered their time to make Phonathon calls. We could not have achieved our goal without you! As you know the annual Mt. Fund supports one third of the Mountain's operating budget, continuing "our Gospel manner of life and ministry" open to all.

*WE ARE THANKFUL TO YOU!*

*Mountain Auction!*

**MOUNTAIN AUCTION TO TAKE PLACE NOVEMBER 3, 2012**



The planning for the Auction is underway. The evening begins with the celebration of mass remembering living and deceased members of the Mountain family at 5:00 pm. This evening has become a very popular social, spiritual and beneficial one for the Mountain and all who attend.

We continue to thank **Margaret Bryner** for founding our Mountain Auction and assembling an amazing hardworking committee over the years. She is dedicated to mentoring - and we welcome - our new Chair and Co-Chair, **Vic and Bonnie Vena**.

The Auction has been our largest fundraising gathering each year with over \$24,000 raised and donated last year. The gathering is successful each year because of the generous gifts donated. If you would like to donate a gift, host a gift gathering party, or receive additional information please contact Michelle Marcellin at [mmarc@sbu.edu](mailto:mmarc@sbu.edu) or call 716-375-2096.



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**Visit us online.**

**[www.mounti.com](http://www.mounti.com)**



**Summer Evenings of Recreation - "Growing in the Spirit"**

**July 11 • July 18 • July 25 • August 1**

## *Mountain Daily* **PRAYER**

### **DAILY SCHEDULE:**

**Monday – Wednesday – Friday**

Morning Prayer – 8:00 am • Mass – 4:45 pm • Evening Prayer – 7:45 pm

**Tuesday – Thursday**

Morning Prayer – 8:00 am • Evening Prayer – at table • Mass – 7:45 pm

**Sunday**

Mass – 11:00 am followed by a dish to pass brunch • Evening Prayer – at supper

### **SUMMER CALENDAR:**

**July 13-15, 2012** Summer Weekend of Renewal

**August 3-5, 2012** Summer Weekend of Renewal

