



St. Aloisius  
Medical  
Center

SMP Health System

# HEALING FIRE AND LIGHT

Marian Hase—Editor Staff News

July 2018

We are all God's people taking care of God's people.

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## St. Aloisius Medical Center

### Mission Statement:

St. Aloisius Medical Center,  
inspired by Jesus,  
in union with the Sisters of Mary  
of the Presentation,  
ministers health to all we serve.

### Values:

**Hope** – Creating an atmosphere of  
trust and confidence.

**Healing** – Caring for body, mind  
and spirit.

**Hospitality** – Welcoming, in a  
Christ-like way.



SMP Health System

Courtesy of J.T. Kennely

## Human Life is a Gift from God

*"We believe that life is a gift from God. Each person's life is of utmost value, regardless of the quality of life, and deserves respect and care at all stages from conception until natural death."*

(From SMPHS Philosophy)

## Gifts Have Purposes

- All gifts have an intended purpose
- If human life is a gift, then it has an intended purpose
- Jesus shows us that our lives are meant to be lived as a gift to others
  - Christian vocations are all aimed at the service of others
  - Living as a Gift: "the deepest and most authentic meaning of life" (EV, 49)



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## Employee Assistance Program (EAP) is here to help!

Too much to do? Family or money problems? Disagreements with coworkers? Illness or injury? Personal or workplace loss? Your employee assistance program can help. It's confidential and IT'S FREE! Our EAP counselor comes by appointment or you can meet with someone over the phone. Schedule an appointment by calling 1-800-327-7195.

## LTC Residents & Family Picnic

Thursday, July 12, 2018

Back Lawn of Unit B

Entertainment—Edie & Allie Schell

Come and enjoy an evening of food,  
music and fellowship!

Hope to see you there!



**Where is God in the pain day to day?**

"As a mother comforts her child, so will I comfort you..." Isaiah 66: 13

In our culture comfort is revered. We are made to feel that we're entitled to the good life of health, success, happiness especially if we're Christians.

Advertisements bombard us saying: Just take the right product, join the right group, say the right prayer; I think strongly enough and then the good life will open up to you. Is it any wonder that this is the culture of 'victim thinking'. Jesus taught that pain and suffering are part of this life.

"In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world" (John 16: 33) Having God on your side doesn't mean having no storms in your life. It means having a boat no storm can control. So true! When I experienced deep suffering that lasted for many years, I found great comfort in knowing that I was present and God was actively involved in choosing each adversity to be part of the life package he carefully and purposefully put together for me. So where is God in our suffering? (1) God wants to reveal Himself to us in a deeper way. Suffering stretches our souls so that God can put more of Himself into us. Suffering is the dark room in which the picture of God is revealed. (2) God sees potential in us which He wants to set free. "Consider it pure joy my brothers and sisters, whenever you have trials of many kinds," writes James, "because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance. Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything. (3) Suffering gives us a ministry. Suffering provides an opportunity to show the world that Christ is real, wants people to be surprised at us—surprised that we can keep on believing—given what has happened to persons, despite their pain, keep trusting God prove to the world the reality of God. Knowing that God engineers all of life—including the suffering—gives tremendous comfort. Suffering is then a measure by someone who loves deeply. Suffering is given with purpose and design. It all fits into the plan that God has chosen for me. Jesus, thank you for your promise: "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." (2 Corinthians 12:8)

Your Chaplain, Sr. Mary Agnes  
Pastoral Care Department

**HIPAA MEMO**

**PRIVACY**—patient names, addresses, birthdates, social security numbers—all this is protected information. Anything with medical information—protected.

**It's our job to do the protecting!**

If you see something in the garbage with identifying information—remove it if you can. And let me know.

If you have ANY questions, just ask me. I will get you an answer.

**St. Aloisius July Anniversaries**

Lori Wolf—39 years	Kim Rust—37 years
Kelly Christenson—29 years	Nicole Snyder—26 years
Sylvia Hager—15 years	Kimberly Peltier—11 years
Vikki Bentz—8 years	Cheryl Janzen—7 years
Susanne Wentz—6 years	Kimberly Thorson—5 years
Danita Rixen—4 years	Lori Martin—2 years
Sarah Schimke—2 years	Mark Nyhus—2 years

193 years of dedicated service to St. Aloisius Medical Center



**NEW EMPLOYEES**

Welcome to the St. Aloisius Family!

Macy Olson & Debra Buchwitz—Dietary  
Minerva Hoffmann & Shantel Muscha—Med/Surg  
Bonnie Helm—Switchboard  
Gary Barr—Maintenance

**Are you ready for Severe Summer Weather? Repeat of the April article because we are in the season NOW!!**

At St. Aloisius, we have two (2) alarms noted for our facility. These are announced overhead regardless of time of day. We receive these warning calls from Weathercall® when the warnings are specific to Harvey. Staff responsibilities are not optional!

**Severe Thunderstorm Warning** – this is the time to protect your patients and residents by pulling curtains, shutting blinds, moving patients/residents away from windows – or moving them to an inside room without windows. Visitors need protection, too. Have them move to an inside room without windows.

**Tornado Warning** – this is when you need to protect yourself by going to an inside room without windows. You, as an employee, need to be available to take care of patients/residents after the tornado (hopefully not actual) so don't be an additional victim should SAMC be damaged by a tornado. (Your patients/residents, visitors should have been put in their safe place earlier – severe thunderstorm warning.)

If you have questions—contact Marian. [mhase@staloisius.com](mailto:mhase@staloisius.com)

New **BlueCrossBlueShield** cards coming your way. Please remember to provide the card to the front desk when registering as a patient.

#### **R&R Committee (Retention & Recognition) NEWS**

1. Meetings are held the 2nd Wednesday of the month.
2. MORE MEMBERS ARE NEEDED FOR THIS COMMITTEE, which is employee driven—no management allowed. :-)
3. 2nd Wednesday is also a day to WEAR JEANS for \$1 with the money going to the R&R Committee to provide STUFF.
4. An employee potluck picnic will be held July 17 at noon in the Serenity Garden—hosted by LTC employees. Watch for postings!!

**CONGRATULATIONS TO THE LPN NURSING STUDENTS** who will be graduating—celebration on Thursday, July 12, 2018 at the Cobblestone.

Good Job! See —>

#### **DEB McAVOY NAMED RURAL EDUCATOR**

*Our own St. Aloisius Medical Center Education Director has been named Outstanding Rural Health/Mentor at the 2018 Dakota Conference on Rural and Public Health June 14 in Grand Forks. The award recognizes a professional who has made outstanding contributions to the education, development, and placement of new healthcare professionals in rural ND communities. We're proud of you!!!*

*St. Aloisius Medical Center Clinic  
Is a reality!!*

*Rick Geier, M.D.*

*And*

*Kim Thorson, N.P.*

*Grand opening to be announced—  
planned for early August.*

Do you need to call someone at St. Aloisius Medical Center?  
We have many direct dial numbers:

Do you need **Medical Floor?** 324-5112

Do you need **Unit A?** 324-5121 Do you need **Unit B?** 324-5118

Do you need **Daycare?** 324-5109

Do you need **Sherri Engkvist?** 324-5120

Do you need **Candie Thompson?** 324-5113

**Lab?** 324-5116

**Radiology?** 324-5107

**Physical Therapy?** 324-5119

Enter these numbers in your phone! Cut this out and put on your fridge!

## FORMATION MINUTE

As Americans, one of the things we value most is our independence. Not only do we value our political independence from England which we celebrate this month on the Fourth of July, but also our individual independence. We hold up as a model the “self-made man”—the person who started with nothing, worked hard, and achieved his or her dreams. We don’t like having to rely on someone else.

While being self-reliant is good, we also realize that this is not always possible. In health care, all that we do is geared towards caring for others who are dependent upon us. While serving others is often rewarding, at times, it can be difficult. We can get frustrated caring for patients or residents.

When I start to think like this, I find it helpful to remember that I, too, am not completely independent. We all rely on others to help us with some aspects of our lives. We depend on others to raise us as children, to pave the roads we drive on, make our clothes, etc. We depend on God to give us our life. In other words, true independence is somewhat of an illusion. We are social creatures because we need each other and we need to help each other. We are *interdependent*.

This month marks the anniversary of the death of Laurence Lemarchand (July 31<sup>st</sup>), one of the foundresses of the Sisters of Mary of the Presentation. She reminds us of how the early Sisters understood this principle of interdependence well. Desiring to help those most dependent in their community, these early Sisters had to acknowledge their own dependence on others. They write in their history of a shortage of bread, and how they were forced to beg in the city “to satisfy their immediate needs until [they] could find flour to make and wood to bake bread at the community” (History, Vol. I, 36). Also, when they outgrew their first house, the Sisters had to depend on the people of Broons, France to help them complete their new convent. Through these examples and countless others like them, the Sisters grew in their understanding of their dependence upon God and others. This life of dependence not only helped them grow in humility, but it also helped them grow in solidarity with those whom they served. It is easier to feel connected to someone who is dependent on you when you can acknowledge your own dependence on others.

This month, when we find ourselves frustrated with a patient, resident, coworker, family member, etc., perhaps instead of getting annoyed we might say a prayer in gratitude for all those who have helped us when we were in need.

JT Kennelly  
Director of Formation  
SMP Health System

*Think About It*  
*Compassion is difficult to give away*  
*because it keeps coming back.*

