



## 'Prayer Chain' Tots Donate Toys

Adults and children from the Stop the Violence Prayer Chain Foundation recently dropped off numerous toys at Hope House III, one of our shelters for women with children. The foundation's new headquarters are at 506 Church Street—the group rented the old MOC office when we moved out over the summer, and they didn't realize Hope House III was connected until they saw the plaque on the door while delivering their gifts!



## Kudos for Annie From the County

Carol Carr, a grant writer in the MOC Building, recently sent this great note to Hope House I director Annie Mountain:

*I just got off the phone with Nicole Waters, the Program Manager for Emergency Solutions at the County. She could not have been more effusive in her praise of you, your staff and Hope House I. She mentioned the respect she witnessed, the overall attitude of the staff and beautiful building. As she left with her new assistant, she said she told her to not expect such a great place at their next stop! She loved the phone cases that one of the staff was making for residents!*

Charlotte Draper makes those beautiful phone cases for the residents, and laundry bags, too!

## News and Notes

- Information about the **MOC open enrollment for insurance** was distributed by Marie Keefer via an email on Dec. 9. Those who wish to make any changes to their insurance must complete the forms provided in the email and return them to Marie by Wednesday, December 21.
- **General staff meetings** will be held every other month in 2017, in January, March, May, July, September and November, plus the Christmas breakfast in December. An overall 2017 calendar is being finalized and will reflect all these dates.
- Marie Cordero signed the MOC up to be a beneficiary of **Amazon Smile** on August 4, 2014. In the two years since, we have received \$397.31 through the program, reflecting about \$80,000 in Amazon purchases! To support us, simply go to smile.amazon.com before making your purchases, select the MOC, and 0.5% of your purchase comes to the Ministry of Caring, at no extra charge to the shopper.
- **Priscilla Rakestraw** is recovering after her fall. She says, "Thank you all. You will never know how much your caring and prayers mean to me. I have always said 'when the folks at MOC say they're praying for you, they mean it!' I'm so very fortunate and so very grateful."
- The **children staying in MOC shelters** were treated to a Christmas party, courtesy of Guild President Jimmy Horthy and his sister Caroline Horthy Dickerson! They visited with Santa and played games like the Frost Snowball Toss in the photo.
- The Ministry of Caring is selling **wood carved nativity sets** for \$30 each. Proceeds support MOC programs. Contact Sr. Gretchen or Sue at 302-652-5523.



## In Your Prayers

Please pray for the health of these members of the Ministry of Caring community: Sr. Stephanie Wilson, OSU, former MOC employee and former Superior of the Ursuline Sisters in Wilmington, is in hospice care; Fr. John LoSasso, OFM Cap., continues to face health challenges; Gene McLaughlin, a former program director, is ill; Ray Barney, a volunteer, recently had surgery; Deacon Ed Lynch has been experiencing serious health issues; Margarita Maldonado, mother of Capuchin Poor Clare Sr. Maria Guadalupe, was very sick and is now recovering; HHI administrative assistant Khadija Robinson's sister, Kenyetta Haynie, is recovering from brain surgery; John Loy, a benefactor, is in poor health; development director **Priscilla Rakestraw**, who is recovering from serious injuries from a fall; **Zanetta Morrow**, sister of HOJ2 director Sr. Christa Rowe, will have a biopsy on January 5; **John Thompson**, the son of MOC Building receptionist Sue Harris, was recently diagnosed with blood clots in his legs.

## Blessed Are Those Who Die in the Lord

Clarence VanRaymond Johnson Sr., Jan. 7 • Denis Edward LaSota, Jan. 10 • James P. Brennan, Jan. 30 • Lois McGinnis, Feb. 2 • Theresa M. Merlini, Feb. 3 • Lillian G. Reilly, March 6 • Viola Caserta, March 9 • Janiya Battle, March 18 • Diane Lima, April 1 • Sr. Evelyn Hartnett, OSF, April 6 • Josephine A. Dal Bello, April 6 • Virginia Longobardi, April 7 • Terri Casey, April 18 • Thomas Marconi • Joseph Prucino, April 18 • Marie Angeloni, April 28 • Fleecie Dahl, April 28 • Anthony Teoli, May 9 • Joseph Yacucci Sr., May 17 • Mary Etta Faulk, May 21 • Donald Tarker, May 25 • Donald Figurelli, June 6 • William H. Goode, June 11 • Matt Lynch, June 26 • Fulvio Delfino, July 4; Maria Gonzalez, Aug. 9; Eugene A. Petrella, Aug. 28; Christine M Best, September; Edward Calio, Sept. 12; Renate Klein, Sept. 14; Bangalore T. Lakshman, Sept. 16; Etta Mae Monardo, Sept. 21; Philip Faix, Sept. 22; Beverly Sanford, Sept. 30; John Smith, Oct. 5; Genevieve Lynch, Oct. 13; Bernadette Kwoka, Oct. 16; Clara Terris, Oct. 19; John Owens, November; Josephine Campbell, Nov. 10; Br. Stan Kobel, OFM Cap., Nov. 12; Sr. Peggy Mahoney, RSM, Nov. 14; Joseph Maddams, Nov. 18; Dr. Charles Edward Robinson, Nov. 20; Richard Knee, Nov. 29; **Joan Elizabeth Homan**, Dec. 7.



*It's a wholesome thing to pray for the dead.*

## Upcoming Birthdays



12/18-Davida Alladin  
 12/23-Kathleen Murray  
 12/25-Helen Wilmer  
 12/26-Sr. Margaret Mary Graney, OSB  
 12/26-Dan Habbart  
 12/26-Pat Phillips  
 12/28-Libby Larson  
 12/29-Devon Watson  
 1/2 -Melissa Molitor  
 1/5 -Br. Bill Arlia  
 1/6 -Brenda Washington

## Upcoming Events

- Monday, January 16 — **Martin Luther King Day holiday**
- Sunday, January 22, 5:30pm — **International Night: Polish**, Francis X. Norton Center
- Wednesday, January 25, 8am — **General staff meeting**, Francis X. Norton Center
- Sunday, February 19, 4pm: **Sinatra show**, Sacred Heart Oratory
- Saturday, February 25, 6-10pm: **Mardi Gras**, New Castle County Irish Society
- Sunday, February 26, 5:30pm — **International Night: Spanish**, Francis X. Norton Center
- Wednesday, March 22, 8am — **General staff meeting**, Francis X. Norton Center

## Staff News

- Katrina Rockwell has joined our AmeriCorps program, serving as the Financial Literacy Navigator.
- Sr. Gabriella Strachowska, SSCJ has joined Il Bambino as a permanent volunteer.
- Rachel Oranzi has discontinued her service with AmeriCorps at Hope House I as the Client Support Coach.
- Br. Balaswamy Thippabathini, OFM Cap. is resigning as of January 6, 2017. He will be returning home to India.

## Staff Vacancies

- PT Curriculum Coordinator; plus substitutes for all 3 child care centers
- House of Joseph II – PT Cook & C.N.A.
- AmeriCorps Program – Assistant Job Counselor/RRH Assistant @JPC & RRH
- Temporary Site Manager for EDR
- Live-in Maintenance Person at SHV II
- Teacher's Assistant

We put together this photo array of our child care programs for a foundation, and thought it was worth sharing here, too!



THE MINISTRY OF CARING INC.  
115 East 14th Street  
Wilmington, DE 19801

## Early Learning Centers

The Ministry of Caring operates three child care centers, which are bright and lively places of learning and play. The children in these three facilities receive the attention, education, nutrition and stability they need to grow into intelligent, responsible adults.



### Guardian Angel Child Care

*Early learning center for children of working parents*  
1000 Wilson Street  
Wilmington, DE 19801-3432  
Licensed capacity: 83 children  
Established 1998

### Child Care Center

*Early learning center for poor & homeless children*  
221 North Jackson Street  
Wilmington, DE 19805-3649  
Licensed capacity: 73 children  
Established 1992



### Il Bambino

*Infant care for children of working parents*  
903 North Madison Street  
Wilmington, DE, 19801-1439  
Licensed capacity: 23 infants  
Established 2003





Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

2016