**Women Weaving**

*Weaving Our Lives*

Together

an opportunity to share our faith and spiritual journeys.

First Thursday of the month

September 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

**Blue Christmas** by Doug Boyer

Not everyone is up and cheery for the Christmas holidays. Dealing with the death of a loved one, facing life after divorce or separation, coping with the loss of a job, living with cancer or some other dis-ease that puts a question mark over the future, and a number of other human situations make parties and joviality painful for many people in our congregations and communities.

The King’s House is pleased to offer an evening of gentle, ecumenical prayer and fellowship to anyone who finds themselves feeling “blue” this Christmas season.

Please join us on the Tuesday, December 20, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. in our chapel.

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Recycling

Wasting trouble is the perfect “lens” through which to write about letting go, saying good-bye, and moving on. These are regular human passions, even if we find them challenging to navigate.

In the midst of my seventh year here at King’s House, a pretty “sustainable” transition took place. I was asked to prepare to become Director of Vocations by my Oblate superior, and Deacon Doug Boyer was named as new Director of King’s House. Because of good work by our King’s House Advisory Council and the King’s House Staff, this transition is underway smoothly and effectively.

I have requested a six-month period of sabbatical time for personal study and prayer as I prepare for my new ministry. In mid-December, I will move to St. Paul, Minnesota, for these six months, and then I will begin to move out of our novitiate. Between now and then, I hope to remain available to help Doug and the staff, while at the same time “stepping out of the way!”

The ministry of preaching and hospitality at King’s House will continue to flourish because it is a collaborative and team effort. My years here have been richly blessed, firstly by God’s grace, and then through associating with many of you who are friends of King’s House. We are all loved deeply by God, and with this assurance we can say, “carry on!”

We Remember in Prayer

A Memorial has been placed in the lobby of King’s House in memory of:

Denis Hackett
Norbert Althenius
Jonathan Carry
Donald Lohman
Robert L. Jennings

Insure the Future

Please remember King’s House Retreat and Renewal Center in your Will, Gifts, and gifts in kind. Occasionally, someone remembers us in their Will. These gifts are added to our long-term fund that is invested through our religious order, the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate. This fund will help insure retreat ministry for years to come.

Annual 12-Step Retreat at King’s House

“Is There Any True Self at All?”

November 18-20, 2016

Join us to reflect together on living our lives as recovering people, using the Steps and the Traditions. Enjoy the beautiful grounds and facilities of King’s House.

Start: November 18, 2016 6:00 p.m. check-in, Dinner: 6:00 p.m.

Conclude: November 20, 2016 12 noon lunch

Cost: $170 Lodging/$130 Commuter

New Year’s Eve Retreat

“Peering into the Well: Conversations with Jesus about Yesterday, Today & Tomorrow”

December 31, 2016-January 1, 2017

Start: December 31, 2016 6:00 p.m. check-in, Dinner: 6:00 p.m.

Conclude: January 1, 2017 5:30 p.m. dinner then departure

Cost: $150 (extra overnight 1/1/17 for additional $50)

Advent Candelight Vespers Service and Open House

December 9, 2016

Open House 5:00 - 10:00 pm

Vespers Service 6:30 pm

Congratulations!

Recognizing milestones within our Journey is important. Fr. Mark recently celebrated his 40th Jubilee of religious life in 2016. A Mass and dinner to mark the commemorative event was held at The National Shrine of our Lady of Snows on September 12, 2016. Among those attending were Deacon Doug & Geri Boyer, Richard & Nancy Dalem and several other Oblates priests and brothers, some of whom also celebrated Jubilees.

Director’s Corner

I was introducing myself to one of the sisters on a directed retreat this summer and I told her that I had recently retired and was just beginning in Director of King’s House. She gently informed me that I wasn’t retired, only recycled. She was beginning her third “recycled” ministry since she retired, so I figured she knew what she was talking about. I am very grateful to the Oblate community and to Bethel Brothers for allowing this opportunity to use my gifts and talents in new ways. I am hopeful that the many skills I acquired during these decades in ministry can be recycled and renewed in my ministry here.

For those of you that I haven’t met, let me tell you a little about myself. I have been married to another member of the preaching team, Geri Boyer, for 35 years. We have two adult children, Matt and Becca. We have one granddaughter, Connor, who is in little four year old and we another granddaughter on the way. We have been a part of the Diocese of Belleville for nineteen years. In addition to my ministry at King’s House, I also have some duties at St. Mary Parish in Belleville and also serve as Chancellor of the Diocese. I have been on the preaching team at King’s House for four years and have helped lead several Prayer for Peace retreats.

There is a great team at the King’s House. I am so thankful to Brother Pat for his guidance during the transition. I have had the good fortune to work with Fr. Mark Dean, OMI for the past several years and he is not only a great co-worker but a treasure to have as a friend. I am not the only new face around here. I am excited to have Fr. Salvador (Chava) Gonzalez, a newly ordained priest and brothers, some of whom also celebrated Jubilees.

Many of you have heard about and have contributed towards our Sustaining Friends campaign. We want to extend a huge THANK YOU to those who responded and are continuing to help us. We are very grateful for your generosity. Raising money to support our operation is necessary and an ongoing process. While we continue with the Sustaining Friends campaign, we have designated a No Attend Gala.

The theme of this No-Attend Gala on November 12 will be “Raise the Fund.” Our chapel roof is 40 years old and it is not in good shape. It will cost roughly $45,000 to replace it. The advisory council considered having a traditional gala to fund the repair, but we realized that most people are tired of galas. So much of the money goes to a meal that you don’t really want to eat and then you have to buy tickets to attend a show. We are sending out an invitation to our e-news subscribers to give a donation (in amount is in large) and then send us pictures of you not attending that night. We think you in advance for your generosity and we look forward to sharing pictures of everyone having a good time not having to attend that night.

To register: send registration form and deposit of $25 to:

King’s House, 700 N 66th St., Belleville, IL 62222
OE e-mail with credit card information to info@KingsRetreatCenter.org