

UIW Mission Newsletter

Volume 3 Issue 7

November-December, 2007

Special points of interest:

- **Elf Louise (Louise Locker)** attended Light the Way ceremony and received gifts from student groups for her Christmas gift-giving project for needy children.
- **S. Martha Ann Kirk and Dr. Jessica Kimmel** are planning a study abroad option entitled, "Turkey, Crossroad of Religions and Civilizations, Dialogue Across Cultures" from May 12-25, 2008. Students will be hosted by the Institute of Inter-faith Dialogue and will visit ancient religious sites and learn about Muslims, Christians, and Jews—part of the family of Abraham.
- **Lacey Halstead, Director of the Headwaters Coalition**, is offering grand tours of the Headwaters forest area where participants can distinguish between plants and trees that are native to the region and those that have infiltrated the area. The latter are being removed gradually so that the native plants have more room to grow and to attract birds and animals back to their natural habitat. Anyone interested in these tours may arrange with Lacey: info@headwaterscoalition.org.

CCVI Spirituality in Ministry Office Ready to Pilot Retreat Series

Mrs. Pat Kerwin, Director of Spirituality in Ministry for the two CCVI Congregations, announced that a three-part retreat series will be offered in spring 2008 for all who work in CCVI sponsored ministries.

In extending the invitation, Mrs. Kerwin pointed out that "associates and co-ministers are important partners in carrying forward the mission of the Congregations and furthering the work of peace and justice in the world." She emphasized that the Sisters have seen "the value of taking time to reflect on the mystery of God's call and our capacity to respond" and wish to offer similar op-

portunities to those who now bear the responsibility for mission in various institutions and pastoral work.

Themes for the retreats will center on call and mission; experiences in culture, identity, and diversity; and creating a culture of peace and justice in the world.

Each retreat will be a day and a half long and will take place at sites meaningful to the topic being covered. Retreat groups will be limited to 25. Invitations will be sent to a cross-section of participants within the next few weeks.

22nd Annual "Light the Way" Ushers in the Advent Season



In a traditional pre-Thanksgiving ceremony, UIW turned on the million Christmas lights so that students could enjoy them during the final weeks of class.

Faculty Reflect on Leadership in Mission

Immediately after graduation, a group of 15 faculty and administrators withdrew from the semester's pressures to take a little "Sabbath" time for reflection and prayer.

Composed of persons from across schools and

disciplines, the participants spent time talking about their call to UIW and to mentoring students. They considered the characteristics of leadership, especially the dark side, noted by Parker Palmer in his article "Leading from Within" and pondered how

they can improve their efforts to develop the "possibilities" within their students.

Getting to know one another and forming community over delicious meals was a significant part of the days together.

Fall 2007 Closes in the Christmas Spirit

Dr. Agnese's **Spaghetti Dinner** on November 29th ushered in the last week of classes for the fall semester. Faculty and staff volunteered to roll meatballs and to serve the students and guests during the traditional dinner for which Dr. Agnese cooks his special family spaghetti sauce recipe.

November 26, 2007



Dr. Agnese, Mary Ann de la Garza and the Madrigals attended ARA's Housekeeping Recognition Ceremony.

Women's Global Connection held its Annual Basket Sale at Bazaar Sabado sponsored by the San Antonio Museum of Art on December 8th. Proceeds from the sale go directly to the Zambian and Tanzanian women who make these baskets to support their families.

Campus Ministry is again sponsoring an Angel Tree for community members who are in need of assistance this Christmas. You are invited to consider sponsoring a child or family this holiday season. The Angel Tree is in the foyer leading to Our Lady's Chapel in the Administration Building and will be displayed through Dec. 17. Bring items in a holiday bag with the original tag to Campus Ministry.



Mock-up of **Core Value Banners** which hung over the stage in the Convocation Center during Commencement. The banners were designed by Mike Hood, Director of Graphic Design, in consultation with the Registrar, Dr. Bobbye Fry.

World Youth Day 2008 Planned for Sydney, Australia

At the 2005 **World Youth Day** in Germany, Pope Benedict announced that, at the invitation of the Cardinal Archbishop of Sydney, Australia would host the next occasion. Several UIW students hope to join young people from all over the world helping to build bridges of peace among all the cultures represented.

The **World Youth Day cross and icon of Our Lady** given by Pope John Paul II arrived in Australia in July 2007 and is being carried by young people to all the **Australian** dioceses and will arrive in Sydney in July, 2008. It is accompanied by an indigenous mes-

sage stick to extend a special invitation to indigenous youth

The theme for the event is "**You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you and you will be my witnesses**" (Acts 1:8).

"We will set out in our hearts on a pilgrimage toward the world encounter with young people that will take place in Sydney in July 2008." Pope Benedict XVI

UIW Remembers...

Dr. Glenn James led the UIW Veterans' Day celebration by placing a large commemorative wreath on the Brackenridge lawn. He asked that the audience recognize all those present who had served in the armed forces. Three UIW students who now serve in the military expressed gratitude for the opportunity of an education as well as for the comradeship they experience as members of



the military services.

UIW and Congregation Will Commemorate 150th Anniversary of Lourdes Apparition

This year marks the 150th anniversary of the apparitions of Our Lady to Bernadette Soubirous at Lourdes, France. Several Congregational and UIW groups are planning prayer services at the campus Grotto (built in 1904) to commemorate those apparitions. Look for a schedule of events in the daily news bulletin.