

STONE

A publication of the Ursulines of Brown County St. Martin, OH 45118-9507

Number 94 Spring 2022





It was "GOD'S WISDOM" that brought Julia Chatfield and her 10 companions to Ohio. In 1845 those Sisters gave an example of deep faith, immense courage, and determination in the establishment of a boarding school in the wilderness.

It was "GOD'S WISDOM" that provided the personnel and resources for the Sisters to open a day school in the City in 1896, known as Ursuline Academy. It was "GOD'S WISDOM" that encouraged the residents of Brown County to request the opportunity to experience College courses in 1971, thus initiating Chatfield College.

It is "GOD'S WISDOM" that allows the Sisters to meet the challenges, adapt to the changing times and nurture the Ursuline charism with students, faculty and administrators for 176 years.

It is GOD'S WISDOM PREDETERMINED BEFORE THE AGES FOR OUR GLORY that continues the Legacy of the Ursulines of Brown County, honoring the past, celebrating the present and anticipating the future with hope. For the Ursulines, it is "GOD'S WISDOM" that encourages us to establish a relationship with our educational ministries that will continue and promote that Legacy for generations to come.

The Legacy Statement for the Educational Institutions was written and unanimously accepted by the Community in 2010 and presented to the Boards of Trustees of both Ursuline Academy and Chatfield College. Both Boards accepted the statement and the responsibility of transitioning to ownership Boards in February of 2011, under the Legacy terms.

Legacy Statement for Educational Institutions

"We, the Ursulines of Brown County, are women whose mission is to bring wholeness to the Body of Christ. In 1845, Julia Chatfield with 10 other Ursulines accepted the invitation to establish schools in Southwest Ohio. The School of the Brown County Ursulines was founded in St. Martin in 1845 and closed in 1981. In 1896 Ursuline Academy began as a day school in Cincinnati. In 1971 Chatfield College was established in St. Martin.

(continued on page 2)

mysterious, hidden, which God predetermined before the ages for our Glory

(continued from page 1)

We want to guarantee that these educational institutions founded in the Ursuline tradition will maintain the values

we treasure, of which there are three:

First and foremost, every endeavor of the institutions must reflect Gospel values.

Like our foundress, Angela Merici, we value each individual person, and we believe in the potential of every student.

Finally, our Ursuline institutions will be faithful to the purposes for which they were founded:

- provide a Catholic education
- foster moral and spiritual development
- inspire committed service to society.

We encourage the support made possible through interdependence with other Ursuline schools and the benefits afforded by being interactive with the organization incorporated as Ursuline Educational Services. We value the educational legacy we have nurtured and earnestly desire to protect and preserve it. We hope and expect that the heritage being passed on will be a source of direction and vitality for generations to come."

Ursuline Education Network, UEN (formerly known as Ursuline Education Services) was formed in 1987 as the National organization of Ursuline Schools in the U.S. with the following mission statement: "In the Christ-centered Spirit of Angela Merici, the mission of Ursuline Education Network is to foster collaboration among educational institutions sponsored by or affiliated (continued on page 4)

Sister Joan Roach . . .



always appreciated the opportunity to be where the most important action was taking place. Is it any surprise then that on Christmas Eve 2021, Death found her at Mount Notre Dame Health Center, waiting to begin her journey into eternal life? Sister Joan died peacefully and went to spend the first day of her new life at the center of eternal action.

Joan grew up in Saint Vivian Parish and spent her High School years at Ursuline Academy where she graduated in 1956. Soon thereafter she left her parents and three sisters, Sheila, Debby and Mary to join the Ursulines of Brown County. At the time of her Reception of the habit she was given the name Sister Kathleen but after Vatican II returned to her Baptismal name.

After completing her Ursuline formation and making her Religious Profession Joan earned her Baccalaureate Degree from the College of Mount St. Joseph and began her life as a teacher. Her early experience was in elementary school at St. Louis School in Owensville,

Ohio. Teaching English and Religion at Ursuline Academy moved Joan toward earning her master's degree and she began studies at Fordham University in New York. This opportunity increased her value as a teacher during the important days of change in the Church following Vatican II and led to her position as Head of the Ursuline Academy Religion Department for several years.

In order to broaden her horizon, Joan moved to Atlanta, Georgia to serve as the Religion Department Chairperson at St. Pius High School for several years. On her return to Cincinnati, she resumed her work at UA as well as involvement in the Inter Parish program, designed to provide religious instruction to the surrounding parishes.

As Sister Joan matured, she became more involved in broader Church issues and spent time in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania as Assistant Executive Director at Ursuline Center where she developed a public guardianship program for elderly clients in Alleghany County. She returned to Atlanta where she served for several years as a Chaplin at St. Joseph's hospital. Returning to Cincinnati she served as a Pastoral Minister for St. James Parish in White Oak.

Ever friendly and always curious, Joan will be remembered as one who loved a good story, wanted all the details and enjoyed being with friends and family.

Sister Mary Doeker. . . died peacefully at Mt. Notre Dame Health Center on March 5, 2022



Angela Doeker and her sister Mary out for a ride

In a letter to the Ursuline community in 1985 Sister Mary said, "I could write quite a long list of the Ursulines of Brown County who have loved me and whom I have loved since....my Mother and Father brought me to Ursuline

Camp when I was five years old." The following twelve years of her education took place at Ursuline Academy.

By entering the Ursuline Novitiate at Brown County in 1946, she made the relationship a lasting one. From the very beginning her aim was to follow the path of St. Angela. She moved forward through her years of training as a postulant, a novice and made her Profession in August of 1949.

Soon after their ceremony, the five newly Professed Sisters began a new adventure: full time education courses at the Athenaeum Teachers College. For Sister Mary that eventually led to a Bachelor's degree at Our Lady of Cincinnati and a Master's at Xavier University. Sister Mary began her teaching career at Brown County, later teaching at her beloved Ursuline Academy. Her next

assignment was St. Vivian's School followed by St. Louis School in Owensville. Her experience among Primary students, especially First Graders gave her a deeper understanding of the simplicity that was becoming a natural characteristic for her.

In 1974 Mary had the opportunity to participate in the Ursuline Tertianship in Rome, a year-long program that nurtured her soul and deepened her love of St. Angela. On her return to Ohio, she became involved in Religious Education and served as the Religious Education Coordinator at St. Joseph Parish in Springfield, Ohio.

At the time of her Father's final illness, she responded to his need for care. That response opened her heart to a new way of service. After his death she became Assistant Pastoral Associate at St. Gabriel Parish in Cincinnati and began working among the elderly at Maple Knoll Village and in the Parish community for the final sixteen years of her active ministry. The understanding she gained from the elderly was a fitting completion to the knowledge she had acquired as a teacher of young children in the first years of her ministry and as a daughter of St. Angela.



Sister Mary continued to enjoy a good cart ride

URSULINES OF BROWN COUNTY 20860 STATE ROUTE 251 ST. MARTIN, OH 45118-9507 www.ursulinesofbc.org

Non Profit Org USPostage PAID Cincinnati, OH Permit #4959









(continued from page 2)

with Ursuline congregations in the United States and Canada. The organization promotes the preservation and development of the Ursuline charism and fosters educational excellence, innovation, and global connectedness." Both Chatfield and Ursuline Academy have been members of UEN since the beginning of that organization. Through the years various members of the Chatfield or Ursuline administration have served on the UEN Board. Ramona Payne, President of Ursuline, and Sr. Patricia Homan, representing Chatfield are the current representatives of the BC Ursulines involved with the UEN Board.

In support of the Legacy agreement, both Chatfield College and Ursuline Academy have adopted a Mission Effectiveness committee as a standing Board committee. These committees are charged with assisting the Board of Trustees in fostering an understanding of the history and heritage of the Ursulines of Brown County and incorporating the Legacy into every aspect of the school and each group of constituents.

The Legacy commitment also supports an ongoing evaluation of instructional performance measured against specific characteristics. Developed by the Ursuline Education Network, the evaluation tool is based on the essential characteristics identified in all Ursuline educational institutions.

All Ursuline schools have the opportunity to evaluate the depth and richness of their institutional legacy. Legacy, however, is more than adhering to the traditional Ursuline characteristics, although that is basic. Legacy is lived and nurtured in the schools by the faculty, staff, and administration. It is passed down from student to student and former students to current students in the form of stories and traditions. Legacy establishes an attitude of unity and support for others with bonds that go beyond educational experiences. Initially created by the Ursuline Sisters, the Legacy continues to thrive and is being intentionally imbedded within the curriculum, programs and events of Chatfield College and Ursuline Academy. The Ursulines look forward to the continuation of our Legacy for decades to come.