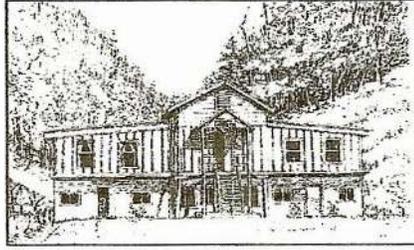


# MOUNTAIN MEMOS

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www.stvincentmission.org  
Executive Director  
Erin Bottomlee

**Spring**

**St. Vincent Mission Inc.**

**2017**

*Please remember St. Vincent Mission in your will.*

## *Thoughts from our Director*

Greetings Everyone,

2016 was a year of change here at the Mission. Sr. Kathleen retired as Executive Director and stepped into the role of Mission Speaker, and who better to speak on missions than Sr. Kathleen. She has spent years living a life of service and living out our mission here at St. Vincent. We also finished the Volunteer House. We would have never been able to do that without Keith and Janie Deck! They served so selflessly and worked day in and day out to make the Volunteer House a reality. We can't thank you both enough. We are also so grateful for all the volunteer groups that came and helped us with this project and many others as well!

We also decided that it was time for the Mission to get some much needed updates. A friend from the community laid tile in both the Thrift Store and the Social Services Office. Tracey painted the social services office and did a wonderful job. We all pitched in and painted the Thrift Store. Susan finished it all off by painting the Middle Room, the Kitchen and the back room. Susan worked incredibly hard painting the Mission and preparing the Thrift Store for reopening.

All of the change and newness that we are experiencing here reminds me of Ecclesiastes 3 where the Bible shows us that "To everything there is a season, a time for every purpose under heaven". As St. Vincent continues to change and develop I look forward to seeing God's purpose for us lived out each day we serve. Thank you all for being a part of what we do here.

We are still looking for someone to help lead our volunteer crews for this group season. We are searching for someone skilled in carpentry who can

lead jobs such as roof repair, ramp and deck building, floor repair, installation of doors and windows etc. This person must be able to work well with our volunteer groups and have a plan of action for each repair project. If you or anyone you know might be interested in serving in this capacity, please call the Mission at 606-886-2513 and speak with Erin.

I also want to thank those who have served here before us. You have and continue to lay a foundation for us and a very high standard of excellence for us to follow. I can only imagine the faith and hard work that you each put into building this Mission and serving those in this community. Which brings me to another exciting announcement. In 2018 we will be hosting our 50<sup>th</sup> reunion celebration. I am so excited at the prospect of having so many people here who have served and continue to serve this Mission. I can't wait to hear stories from the early years and where God has directed your lives now. You can expect to hear more about the reunion this summer, so be on the lookout for that information.

"To everything there is a season."

Peace,  
Erin Bottomlee

## *Board of Directors*

Erin Bottomlee, Executive Director	
Joyce Everly, President	
Steve Sanders, Secretary	
Br. Mike Lonsway, Finance Chairperson	
Mary Meadows	Jeff White
Pauline Allen	Billie Turner
Anna Cambron	Sr. Eileen Schepers
Marilyn Payson	Phillip Johnson

## *Christmas Store 2016*

St. Vincent Mission Christmas Store 2016 went off without a hitch. We served approximately 410 individuals this year. A wonderful time was had by all! We are so grateful to all of our donors, volunteers, and staff who work so hard every year to make sure we have a wonderful Christmas Store.

As always, we served our clients who we have extended an invitation to after having worked with them that year in another program, usually either Emergency Assistance, Food pantry, or Home Repair. Our returning clients, coming back for a 2<sup>nd</sup> year, have received mandatory classes from our local extension office to learn how to better handle their finances, and learned helpful information on health and nutrition. For those who are coming to us for a third year or more, they have given 12 hours of community service to the mission.

Other participants of the Christmas Store include the ladies from Hope in the Mountains which is a drug rehabilitation center, children and families from the David School, college students from Big Sandy Technical and Community College who are part of a ready to work program, and clients from Mountain Comprehensive Care Center which is a mental healthcare facility.

We also donated smaller toys and games to the local school and fire departments. Many people have benefited from our Christmas Store.

In addition to each family receiving many new items, they are also given a blanket and a bucket of cleaning supplies for their families. Each child is given a stocking full of things from toys to school supplies. Individuals are given stockings with personal hygiene items. Each family is also given a voucher for Christmas dinner to one of our local grocery stores.

Again, we are so grateful for your generosity, your love, and your compassion. Without our donors, we would be unable to do what we do for the people of Eastern Kentucky.

I leave you with my favorite scripture to remind us we are all loved, we are all children of God, and it is my joy to share that love with all of our participants.

“Clearly, all of you who were baptized in Christ’s name have clothed yourselves with Christ. There are neither Jews nor Greeks, slaves nor free people, males nor females. You are all the same in Christ Jesus.” Gal. 3:27

Princess Lyons  
Director of Social Services

“It’s what we do for Christ in the here and now that will make a difference in the then and there.” Max Lucado

It is a joy for me to be able to share with you what I have been up to since I retired as the Executive Director of St. Vincent Mission and moved into a part-time position as Mission Speaker and Public Relations for the mission. First, I want to acknowledge that Erin is doing a wonderful job as the “not so new” Executive Director. She has helped to make this transition a good one.

I am blessed to be able to go around the country and visit with some of our volunteers and volunteer groups who come to us each year. In my travels, it also allows me to meet up with some of our donors. Usually I will go for the weekend and will have the opportunity to speak at their church or churches about the ministries of St.

Vincent Mission as well as meet those in the congregations who have supported the volunteers when they come to us. The church or organization usually has an opportunity for their people to donate to the mission while I am there visiting. In August I made a trip to Sacred Heart Parish in Portland, Oregon. Their parish has been supporting the mission for many years with their donations of new items for our Christmas Store.

That was followed by a trip in December of 2016 to my home parish of ST. Athanasius in Pittsburgh PA. In February of this year I was invited out to Bethlehem and Light of Christ, which is a Lutheran and Ecumenical Catholic community, to share about the mission at their kick off for enlisting volunteers for their trip in September-October of this year. By the time you get this letter I will have been in Cincinnati visiting with the Parishioners’ of St. John Fisher.

This will be followed by a trip to:

St. Joseph and St. Joseph the Worker in DeWitt and Dubuque Iowa with a stop in Morris, Illinois. March 4-March 14<sup>th</sup>.

St. Bonaventure’s Women’s Group in Allison Park, PA. March 21<sup>st</sup>.

Trinity Lutheran in Waupaca, WI. May 12-14<sup>th</sup>.

If you can arrange with your Pastor for me to come and speak to your congregation for a weekend I would be delighted. At the present time, I have the months of October and November open. Just give me a call or email at: [kathleen@stvincentmission.org](mailto:kathleen@stvincentmission.org) and we will see what we can work out. You all are an important part of the mission and we would not be able to extend to our participants the services that we do without your help and support.

Bless you all,

Sr. Kathleen Weigand, OSB

Public Relations/Mission Speaker

Greetings from the garden! Erin and I attended the Grow Appalachia Gathering at Berea, KY and we had a wonderful time. We met the whole GA family from Kentucky, to West Virginia, to Virginia and Tennessee,

and had the opportunity to network with the Berea directors. We got a good line on fertilizer and learned many techniques of organic gardening, along with helpful tips from the other growers. There was information provided regarding managing effective partner sites, as well as site sustainability. We ate delicious food, locally grown and prepared by local chefs. It was an educational and heartwarming experience, certainly getting us all off to a good start on 2017 garden season.

Speaking of the garden season, we are also off to a good start recruiting families. Our opening meeting was held on Feb 3, and we had 36 interested parties in attendance. More than I could have wished for! Twelve participants are located in Johnson County, two are from Magoffin County, and twenty two are located in Floyd County. We are going to have a very busy year!

Right now we are concentrating on getting all our soil samples collected and sent off to UK, and then it will be time to turn our attention to tilling, selecting plants and getting ready to plant by May 1 Why don't you come for a visit and let's talk gardens!

Peas and love,

Tammy Ball  
Grow Appalachia Director

### Volunteers 2017

Mercy College of Ohio	March 6-11
Jacob's Lutheran Church	March 25-April 1
Sacred Heart Catholic Church	May 7-13
Christ Our Light	May 20-27
Lexington Catholic High School	May 28-June 2
Jacob's Lutheran Church	June 5-10
St. John Fisher Catholic Church	June 11-16
DAO Adult Group	June 11-17
Project Hope	June 17-24
St. Mary's Catholic Church	June 18-23
Franciscans in Action	June 24-30
Old St. Patrick's Catholic Church	July 2-8
Mission Council 8	July 9-15
St. Joseph Catholic Church	July 16-22
St. Athanasius Catholic Church	July 17-22
Holy Spirit Parish	July 23-29
Our Lady of Mt. Carmel	July 30-August 4
ABLE	August 7-14
St. Thomas Moore Catholic Church	August 6-12
Sacred Heart Catholic Church	August 16-23
Bethlehem/Light of Christ	September 24-October 3
Stewards of Appalachia	October 8-14



**Don Stumbo, SCSEP**

Don Stumbo comes to St. Vincent Mission through the Senior Community Service Employment Program. This program is used to provide useful community services while fostering self-sufficiency through training and job placement for the low income elderly. Participants are placed in a local non-profit and may work up to 20 hours per week. We are thankful to have Don joining us for the season!

#### **In Memory of**

Donna Durham  
Sr. Carolyn Lambert Pat Tabor, Tammy Ball, Janie McCarthy  
Christopher Wonderly Pat Tabor  
Fr. John Weibel  
George Gilbride  
Paul Jung  
Joan Muchow  
Bobbi Palmisano  
Emilie Collopy

#### **Given by**

Bob & Dara Burke  
Kathleen Weibel  
Frank & Emilie Collopy  
The Deslauriers Family  
Ann Krome, Scott & Mitzie Jackson  
Frank & Emilie Collopy  
Mary Pineau, John & Alice Woidyla, John & Joyce Everly, Brothers or Charity, Kathleen Weigand, David & Margaret Manning, Robert & Cheryl Finkelstein  
Dennis Bovaria, Michael Giblin  
Joanne Hoffart  
Pat Tabor  
Sheila Berns  
Bev Mishler, Brothers of Charity, Don, Amy, Rachel & Jenna Woelke, Tom & Pam Burns, Mary Pineau, Randy & Carol Schubert, Sandy DiVecchio, Kathy Brunner, Mary & John Ryan, Kathy Morgan, Janie & Mike McCarthy, Pat Tabor, Kathleen Weigand, Marion Kalbacker, Mt. Tabor Benedictines  
Ann Stansberry  
Shirley Di Joseph  
Harry & Nancy Reukauf  
Emily Kozar, Nancy Terrier, The Dockery & Myers families, Paul Kozar, Marybeth Kozar, Kathy Morgan, Doug & Kim Morrison, Sandy DiVecchio, Cathy Brunner, Mike & Janie McCarthy, Mary & John Ryan, Kathleen Weigand, Mt. Tabor Benedictine

Claire Bavaria  
Ron & Lynne Zaraza  
Donald Bowman  
Sara Reffett  
Sr. Norma Weigand

Bob Stansberry  
Jen & Norm Stard  
David Reukauf  
Norman Weigand

#### **In Honor of**

Sr. Kathleen Weigand  
John & Joyce Everly  
Judith Schuler  
Sonny Schultz  
Carol Reed  
Stuart & Rosemary Clarey

#### **Given by**

Mary Votruba, Dalvin Tobin, Marion Kalbacker  
Jack & Valerie Crawford  
Clara Del-lardes  
Don & Mary Jo Ketchum  
Pamela Perkaus  
Richard & Kathleen Lach

Drs. Carol SteltenKamp and Jack Jansen & Family gave in Honor of:  
Bob & Donna Patton & Family, Doug Barnes, Marilyn Murray, Dan & Julie Metzger & Family, Julian & Sharon Gorham & Family, Terry & Ruth Grim & Family, Mark & Kim Bougie & Family, Kevin & Marilyn McGarry & Family, John & Susan O'Brien & Family, Jack Kim & Family, Allen & Mary Brenzel & Family, Lynda & John Sanders & Family