Guild Launches Prayer Network

April 13 has traditionally been the Guild's annual Day of Prayer to commemorate Guild Founders Day. This year, the Guild is planning something special to commemorate its 70th year.

Soon, each Guild member will receive a postcard both as a reminder to take a moment on April 13th to pray for the success of Valparaiso University and spiritual support for the Guild, but also to announce the launch of a Guild Prayer Network.

"This is a wonderful way to celebrate the Guild's 70th year," said Judy Mason, National Guild President.

"The Guild has seen the power of prayer work throughout its years. The prayer network will provide a way to celebrate the spiritual support our group gives to each other, the University and many others."

Simply, Guild members can submit prayer requests through the Guild office's web address (Guild@valpo.edu) or by mailing the request. Each request will be compiled into a monthly installment sent electronically to Guild members who choose to participate.

Guild members are welcome to send prayer requests of any nature. People submitting prayers can remain anonymous if they desire.

Depending on the success and use of the prayer network, it will last at a minimum through Convention 2001.

Spread the Word about the Valpo Prayer Book Project

Our Hope for Years to Come – A Valpo Prayer Book is underway with the anticipated publishing date of late April 2001. The University invited the Guild to participate in this unique project because of the Guild's concern for the Christian character of VU and its students.

The use of this attractive and inspirational book will advance the name and Christian values of Valparaiso University. It is the first such prayer book to be published by a Lutheran university.

As its 2000-2001 project, the Guild first pledged to complete the final $28,000 toward the $225,000 commitment to the Guild Endowment Fund for Undergraduate Research, then the rest of the money raised through June will support the publishing costs of the prayer book.

Individual donations to this current project, as well as to the Endowment Fund for Undergraduate Research, are eligible for matching funds. The Guild's dedication to this project will make it possible for every current student to receive a copy of this extraordinary book. The book will also be available for purchase.

Every Guild member can support this special project with her prayers, service in chapter fundraising projects, and personal gifts.

Message from President Harre

The celebration of Christmas and the dawn of a New Year are now past. Welcome to a new calendar year and the season of Lent. As the first line of stanza five of "O God, Our Help in Ages Past" expresses, time "like an ever rolling stream" passes by us, and each of the unfolding days reminds us of our own mortality and of our hope for eternal life with God.

Calendar year 2000 was filled with blessings. To name a few, VU dedicated the Kade-Duesenberg German House and Cultural Center; received an all-time high in gifts and grants from alumni, donors and friends of the University; showcased its musical ensembles in concerts at Severance Hall in Cleveland and Orchestra Hall in Chicago; welcomed the best academically-prepared freshman class in many years; experienced the wonderful events of Founders Weekend in September; and was again recognized by many college guides and by US News & World Report as an excellent university.

Numerous persons, organizations, companies and foundations made outright financial contributions through the Three Goals, One Promise campaign to support the continuing development of Valparaiso University. We also are gratified by the many deferred gifts that have been promised in the forms of insurance policies, annuities, trusts, bequests, etc. When these deferred funds are received by the University in the future, and when they are added to the outright gifts and cash pledges that will be paid over the next three to five years, the University's future will be more secure. All of us are very pleased and humbled by the overwhelming generosity we are seeing by so many friends of Valpo.

Members of the Board of Directors of Valparaiso University thank the Guild collectively for its commitment to the Three Goals, One Promise campaign, and each of you individually for what you will do to fulfill that pledge. Many Guild members have served as ambassadors for the continued on page 2
We are a community of Christian women using our gifts in volunteer service as unique and valued partners in the undiminished progress of Valparaiso University, as a leading Lutheran university. This is the vision we as Guild members adopted several years ago.

Although this formalized the purpose and reason for our existence, it is woven into the fabric of our history. The Valparaiso University Guild took the lead or planted the seed that provided new and improved facilities on the VU campus on more occasions than can be mentioned. For example, in 1989 the Guild pledged to raise $500,000 for the lobby of the VU Center for the Arts. This facility along with quality faculty has increased the number of music majors from 47 before completion to the current enrollment of 140. How did this happen? Why have we been so successful? The answer lies with the many volunteer hours we have given. Last year, as an organization, we Guild members volunteered more than 26,000 hours of time! Volunteer service is the Guild.

Why volunteer or more specifically why volunteer with the Guild? We all live busy lives that greatly limit free time. Giving some of this time as a volunteer means having even less for ourselves. Contributing even a small amount of time to the Guild can be equated to planting a seed that will some day grow into a great tree. Our communal volunteer efforts create, contribute to, and enhance the educational experience of the students at VU. These young people will in the future become active members of their communities, promoting the faith-based ethics they developed during their years at VU. So the time we give as Guild members, through the students, will provide immeasurable benefits to our community organizations and our churches. We, as Guild members, are planting that seed.

There are many ways to volunteer for the Guild. Romans 12:6 states that, "We have different gifts, according to the grace given us." That is why the Guild has a myriad of ways for you to get involved. We want you to use talents and interests to advance the work of the Guild. Do you want to see more promotion of VU in your church? Then participate in our Valpo Sunday program. Do you want to see more young people have an opportunity to attend VU? Then sell Guild cookbooks. The funds raised go toward our cookbook scholarship fund. Are you interested in enhancing the current academic environment at VU? Then spearhead an event for your chapter to raise money for our current national project - the establishment of the Guild Endowment Fund for Undergraduate Research. Do you want to increase the visibility of VU in your community? Then help to organize and publicize VU events occurring in your hometown. Are you concerned with the spiritual lives of students? Make a monetary contribution to our national project - funding the publication of a Valpo prayer book.

As a community of Christian women we are not only willing to volunteer our time and talents we are also committed to pray for our organization and for each other. Volunteering and the power of prayer is a combination that insures success. "With this in mind, we constantly pray for you, that our God may count you worthy of his calling, and that by his power he may fulfill every good purpose of yours and every good act promoted by your faith." 2 Thessalonians 1:11.

The work of the Guild is important. Your willingness to contribute several hours each month, to find a role that works for you in your chapter, to take a few minutes to pray for the Guild, your fellow Guild members, and for Valparaiso University will reap a multitude of future benefits for us all.
Graduating Women’s Luncheon Set for May

Each year, the Guild hosts an event for female Valparaiso University graduates. This year the tradition continues with a luncheon during Senior Week.

At the luncheon, students will enjoy listening to a guest speaker and will receive a list of chapter locations and contact information. Women who attend receive a coupon for a free Guild membership for one year to encourage them to join once they have settled in a location after graduation.

The Valparaiso chapter assists with the planning of this event and contributes homemade desserts—a special treat for students.

As a special gift this year, the Guild is seeking “sponsors” of graduating students who will purchase a Guild cookbook as a gift. For this promotion only, Guild members may purchase a Guild cookbook for $5 to be given to the graduate at the luncheon. Proceeds are added to the cookbook scholarship fund and the graduating woman will receive a momento from Valparaiso University.

To participate, watch your mail for information regarding this special opportunity. Individuals or chapters can sponsor a young woman. The order form will include space for a personal note, which will be inserted into the cookbook to be given to the student.

Marcia Eckrich from the St. Louis chapter, had the wonderful idea of giving the cookbooks to the graduating women. And, it will accomplish three goals: increase the revenue in the cookbook scholarship fund; reduce the number of cookbooks in inventory; and, most importantly, introduce the graduates to the rewarding work of the Guild.

Please encourage your chapter members to purchase a cookbook when the order form is received. The Guild office will choose the cookbook to be distributed depending on inventory at the time of the event.

If you are aware of a graduating woman from your area, please encourage her to attend this event. And, remember to contact her after graduation to invite her to your chapter’s events!

Cookbook Earns Entry in Hall of Fame Cookbook

Two Valparaiso University Guild Cookbook recipes have been selected to appear in the Recipe Hall of Fame Quick & Easy Cookbook. Volume I’s Quickest Brownies Ever (submitted by Guild member, Doris Copeland) and Herb Bread submitted by Karen Kreinheder Moseley for Volume II were included in the Best of the Best from Indiana and subsequently chosen to be included in the Hall of Fame Cookbook.

The Recipe Hall of Fame Quick & Easy Cookbook is made up of the most exceptional quick and easy recipes.

The cookbook, published by Quail Ridge Press, will be published in April. A recipe for Apple Crisp from Volume IV was recently included in the 2000 Recipe Hall of Fame Dessert Cookbook.

Cookbook Update

Can it be?
Yes, no more Volume III
The Guild office is out of Guild Cookbook Volume III. Please place orders for Volumes I, II, and IV because quantities are limited.

Over the Years

Former national officers seated together at the banquet in 1966.

The Brandt Campanile being installed - an appropriate way to ring in the Guild’s jubilee year.

Past Guild Presidents pose for a photo at the twenty-fifth convention 1956.
Grace Notes for Easter and Lent

Chapter Presidents were sent a packet in early January including the latest Easter and Lent selections from Creative Communications.

As a fundraiser, selling Grace Notes and other products has proven to be very successful and very easy. Demand has continued to be high, so please order early and order often!

To participate, mail or fax (219-464-5381) the most recent order form to the Guild office. The office will forward to Creative Communications. You will receive your order within a few days with the invoice enclosed.

Chapters can sell the cards at special events, at church, to chapter members, or all three!

Matching Gifts

When submitting contributions to the Guild office for matching funds, please remember to include a matching gift application, a commemorative giving form to designate where your contribution should go, and a check for at least $25 made payable to Valparaiso University Guild.

Valparaiso University’s Office of Institutional Advancement will submit the gift to Aid Associations for Lutherans or Lutheran Brotherhood for matching funds. Please remember that to qualify for matching funds, the gift must be made by an individual—not a chapter.

Also appreciated are matching gifts from employers. If your company matches personal contributions to non-profit organizations, please consider applying for matching gifts when you give to the Guild or Valparaiso University.

If you have questions, please call the Guild office at 800-748-4538.

Targeted Leadership Forum Round-up:

In November, Guild leaders met in Chicago for the Targeted Leadership Forum. The purpose of this meeting was to begin preparations for the next year and the future. After a session to improve team building skills, the larger group broke into two groups to brainstorm and plan.

The first group consisted of Area Directors. This group shared the ideas and concerns from the chapters in their area.

Committee chairs concerned with marketing, fundraising and communication made up the second group. Their objective was to evaluate the success of what the Guild is currently doing to promote itself and raise money.
Catered an AAL meeting and had a chapter meeting in January. They will also support a Christian higher education day at a local church.

Erie County chapter went well this year. The Northern Virginia chapter even sold pecans (fresh and spicy) at three local craft fairs in November. In addition to the pecans, they sold soup mixes in gift bags, ready to eat soup, cutlery and took orders for wreaths from area churches.

The Central New Jersey chapter even sold pecans at a spaghetti dinner meeting in Rochester, NY. At the November meeting, they enjoyed an annual Christmas party potluck and gift exchange in early December. They delighted in sharing the joys of the holiday season.

About 25 people gathered for the Glenbrook chapter's annual survival kit packing night on a cold December evening. They packed nearly 600 kits this year and once again transported them to campus in a rented van. It was an incredible display of teamwork and organization!

The Quad Cities chapter enjoyed an interesting program by Isabel Bloom Inc. The Stone Sculpture, which is made in the Quad Cities but sold nationally (and has been on sale at the Guild Bazaar/Silent Auction for the last several years) The presenter showed a video of the entire process used for each handmade piece. A meeting and lunch followed.

Several new things were tried by the Rochester, NY chapter. At the November meeting, they hosted a Pampered Chef party with a percentage of the sales going towards the chapter. In early December, they had a fundraiser with Zany Brainy which included gift-wrapping for tips.

Fruitcake sales for the Southtowns of Erie County chapter went well this year. At their meeting in March, the chapter will have a local high school exchange student as a guest speaker.

The Northern Virginia chapter had a tureen dinner meeting in December. To support Valpo Sunday at a local church, Guild members were readers and ushers during the service, purchased altar flowers, provided coffee after the service and ran a cookie sale.

The Northern Virginia chapter had a brunch at the home of new member, Dawn Rathmann. "Holiday survival kits" were created as they sang carols and heard the Christmas message.

Brunches seem to be gaining popularity with various chapters. The Greater Kansas City chapter had a brunch on January 27; the Denver and Lincoln chapters plan to have one in April. Denver's chapter is also having a breakfast to which supporting members and new members are encouraged to attend. Several chapters are having regular meetings during the winter months but have special programs planned for later in the year.

February was the month of Presidents' Day. While this day refers to US Presidents, we also honor the presidents in chapters of the VU Guild. The presidents or contact persons of chapters in Area III are as follows: Boulder: Janie Lichtfuss; Denver: Sandi Stevenson; Pikes Peak: Ann Wagner; Des Moines: Kathleen Wagaman; Greater Kansas City: Pat Ilen; Land of Lakes: Jean Small; Minneapolis: Diane Margenau; St. Paul: Lydia Volz; St. Louis: Marcia Eckrich; Lincoln: Ruth Griswold; Omaha: Ellen Lessmann and Carol Lewis: New Mexico: Joyce Ewing and Houston: Linda Talbot.

These persons and others who do work for the VU Guild are greatly appreciated. This Area Director very much appreciates those officers who take time to answer questionnaires; send her minutes, meeting notices, handbooks, etc.; and are cooperative in so many ways.

"One young man and his father wanted information; he will be off to school soon and is getting into information on many colleges, so he was quite interested. Several men wanted to know why the name Valparaiso was so familiar—bingo, we talked NCAA tournament. "One gal came by and said, I don't believe it! Valparaiso University—my grandfather was the first president there. His name was President Due." We asked why she didn't belong to the Guild; she didn't know one was in the area. We got her address and phone number and will include her in our activities. Hopefully we'll get a new Guild member.

"The people at Zany Brainy were pleasant to work with and are willing to do this as many times as we want. I think we'll try again around Easter. Such an easy fundraiser—just what we need to attract others outside the Guild, church, and Valpo family."

Ethel Klassen (San Diego chapter) writes of their Zany Brainy fundraiser, "It was loads of fun and so easy. We made $361 with very little effort. We will certainly do it again next year (or sooner) with even more marketing. We had a Valpo display and VU banners over the cash register. The manager later opened up ALL registers for VU as the line was so long to wait for the VU register. Hurrah!" President Sandy Tracy adds that next time they will also do gift wrapping. Zany Brainy provides the space, wrapping paper and supplies; Guild members will wrap purchases for donations.

Zany Brainy is a national company dedicated to helping education groups. Each store manager determines the procedures and arrangements, but this is an easy fundraiser that other chapters can do. Look into AAL and/or Lutheran Brotherhood matching funds to double your proceeds.

"We had our Zany Brainy fundraiser at two stores in Concord and Dublin. Together we made almost $750...Not only was it a success moneywise, but in other ways too. The Dublin store let us have a table outside the store to pass out brochures and pencils, asking people to use our cash register. Lots of people stopped by our table and wanted to know about Valpo and what it was.
The Wausau chapter calendar is busy one. At a chapter luncheon and program in February, members enjoyed a presentation by the curator of the Leigh Yawkey Woodson Art Museum in Wausau. Other monthly meetings will include programs on estate planning, longevity and wellness.

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Michigan - Ann Arbor, Battle Creek, Detroit, Detroit Suburban West, Rochester, Saginaw

The Ann Arbor chapter hosted their annual themed Medley Dinner for February and are planning a Membership Tea in the spring. They have also had success with the Creative Communications cards.

As for Battle Creek's chapter calendar, they've found an idea that works. Each group of Guild women belonging to a particular church is responsible for spearheading one social activity and one general meeting for the year. They had a favorable pecan (chocolate-covered, too) sale this fall. A mother of a new VU student manned the college fair booth with much enthusiasm. VU Sunday and the annual Corn Roast in July are other events on their calendar.

The Detroit chapter helped with arrangements for the VU Chorale visit to Historic Trinity Lutheran Church on October 22 as part of the University's 75th anniversary celebration. In fact, the 75th celebration service was attended by members from each Area VI chapter. Historic Trinity, with over 60 decorated trees and nativity sets from all over the world, also provided the backdrop for their annual Christmas Tea held on December 4 and attended by over 100 people. The chapter participated in VU Sunday and will have their Spring Fashion Show and Luncheon on May 11. Detroit will be celebrating their chapter's 70th anniversary this year.

This fall, the Detroit Suburban West chapter had a successful nut sale supplemented by matching funds from AAL. They sold pecans, cashews, mixed nuts and dried fruit from Terri Lynn, Inc, a company headed by a VU alumna. They also celebrated VU Sunday in February.

The Rochester chapter was present for an informal get-together when the VU men's basketball team played in Rochester against Oakland University on February 15. A Chili Supper in February and a bake sale on Palm Sunday rounded out the spring events.

The Saginaw chapter also had a successful pecan sale this fall, again, wonderfully matched by AAL. Their annual Christmas Luncheon with joyful entertainment by David Britton, a self-described musical missionary, was December 4 at the Saginaw Club. In addition to participating in VU Sunday, the chapter will have a luncheon meeting at Olive Garden in March and a catered dinner meeting with installation of new officers in May.

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Indiana - Decatur Circuit, Hammond, Indianapolis, Michigan City, Mishawaka-South Bend, Valparaiso

It was another successful year with the concession stands at the Crusader football games operated by the Valparaiso chapter. The chapter also continues to raise funds with the B&G and cake projects. So far this year, they have welcomed more than 10 new members, including mothers of new students and several recent graduates. In November, an interesting talk was given by VU professor Mark Schwehn and his wife, Dorothy Bass, about Holden Village, a Lutheran retreat center in the Cascade Mountains in Washington.

Changing their annual tasting luncheon to a tasting brunch, the Indianapolis chapter had the opportunity to use wonderful, new recipes from the Guild cookbooks for the menu. The group enjoyed a program by the VU student group, Student Life, at the event. Grace Notes (available for sale at the brunch) sold out very quickly!

A co-presidency and a co-vice presidency have worked for the Mishawaka-South Bend chapter this year which has welcomed two new members. Recently they completed another successful pecan sale and participated in a holiday craft fair at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in South Bend. The Michigan City chapter held their annual card party in September rather than January to accommodate their snowbird members and had a wonderful time.

Also completing another successful pecan sale is the Hammond chapter.

Selling Entertainment books, washcloths and Baptism anniversary cards has also been successful. They report that their 17 members continue to be dedicated, faithful and prayerful.

The Kentuckiana chapter is planning their annual spring book fair at a local bookstore in April and recently completed another successful pecan sale.

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Ohio - Cincinnati, Cleveland, Columbus Capital Bells, Greater Dayton, Lorain County, Medina, Union County

Winter in Area VIII means many of inches of snow which gives us motivation to think ahead to our spring events.

Cleveland, Lorain and Columbus chapters will be enjoying a winter brunch/lunch together. Medina chapter visited a local mansion, decorated for the holidays, and enjoyed a Christmas lunch.

Spring plans include the annual theater party in Lorain chapter, a Spring breakfast meeting in Cleveland, the annual plant sale in Medina and Columbus chapter which also will be taking part in "Lutheran University Sunday." Columbus and Medina have welcomed new members to their chapters. Happy Spring!!

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Alabama - Alabama Florida - Orlando, St. Petersburg, Treasure Coast, Winter Haven Georgia - Atlanta, Savannah Louisiana - New Orleans North Carolina - Southern Piedmont South Carolina - South Carolina, Tennessee - Middle Tennessee

South Piedmont chapter's focus this year will be to promote itself within the Charlotte area Lutheran churches. Members will contact their...
assigned churches for VU Sunday celebration and in the Spring for confirmation lists.

According to Barbara Oster, if you miss the pralines the New Orleans chapter used to bring to the Bazaar, the cinnamon pecans from Schermer's are a good likeness.

Mary Anne Whitel is the new president for the Middle Tennessee chapter. Mary Anne is a VU graduate and has been an active Guild member for years. She remembers bringing the kids in diapers to Convention. The chapter has done a Pampered Chef party and they round robin the "Grace Notes" greeting cards catalog among their members. The Atlanta chapter did a post Christmas dinner and gift exchange. They agreed on no desserts, "but if something chocolate shows up no one will complain." Go girls go!

The Treasure Coast chapter celebrated their 10th year anniversary with a special donation to the Guild Endowment Fund in honor of their anniversary and in memory of their first president, Mary Louise Westerman, who passed away five years ago. She was a strong supporter of VU and did much to get the chapter started.

The Four Winds directory has been distributed. If you know of people who are interested in the Guild, but not located near a chapter, ask them to contact Linda Deal.

How do Four Winds members support the mission of the Guild? One way is by promoting Valpo Sunday in their churches. Dorothy Hill (Fort Collins, CO), Eleanore Hansen (Midland, MI), and Julietta Nehring (St. Joseph, MI) have celebrated Valpo Sunday by hanging a VU banner, providing flowers for the altar, including an appropriate hymn in the service, having the pastor say a prayer for VU, arranging for Valpo bulletin inserts, and/or having Valpo brochures available. Julietta Nehring serves as a Bed and Breakfast hostess. Sammy Keller (Evansville, IN) reports that she and her husband represented Valpo at college fairs in their area. Gretchen Koehler Stoeppeleswerth (Calpeper, VA) and Maralyn Marsee-Walker (East Berne, NY) have found opportunities to promote Valpo in conversation whether they are cheering on the basketball team or munching on a bag of Valpo pecans. As ambassadors for VU in their communities, Four Winds members are lifting up Valparaiso University whenever they can.

The Christian Women's Conference in May has had an enthusiastic response. So enthusiastic that the conference was full in early March. A waiting list has been established. If you have any questions about the conference, please call the Guild office. We look forward to seeing many of you in May for this special event.

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SAVE THESE DATES

The St. Matthew Passion by J.S. Bach
Conducted by world renowned Helmuth Rilling  March 25

Ansel Adams - A Legacy Exhibit  April 8-June 10

Guild Day of Prayer        April 13

Wisconsin State Unit 55th Annual Meeting  April 21

Admissions Visit Day (prospective Juniors)  April 21

Christian Women's Conference, Valparaiso, IN  May 4-6

Graduating Women Guild Luncheon  May 15

Commencement  May 20

Convention 2001 - Guild 70th Convention  September 28-30

Homecoming 2001  October 12-14

Parents Weekend  October 27-28

Valparaiso University Guild
Kretzmann Hall
Valparaiso, IN 46383-6493

Vision
The international community of Christian women, using their gifts in volunteer service as unique and valued partners in the undiminished progress of Valparaiso University as the leading Lutheran university in the world.

Mission
We create and develop a greater interest in the University as an institution of Christian higher learning.

We give financial assistance to the University.

We assist in increasing student enrollment.

We provide facilities necessary for the students' physical and spiritual welfare.

We emphasize and reinforce the call of the University to provide highly educated and committed Christian leaders for the nation and the world.