EGSIIE 1905

Heritage Happenings

Archives Office June 2025



Celebrating Good Samaritan Hospital School of Nursing 1905—1975 June 2025—50 years since Closure

The Franciscan Sisters of Christian Charity came to Zanesville in 1889 to manage the Margaret Blue sanatorium. In 1905, In order to provide adequate nursing care for its patients, Good Samaritan developed a nurses' training school. Good Samaritan's first superintendent was Sister Dolorose Goetzler, assisted by Sister Matthew Hegy. With no standards to guide these first Ohio schools, each was free to work out a program best suited to the needs of the hospital. The first two graduates of the initial program received a two-year course but succeeding classes followed a three-year program until the school closed in 1975.





School Pins



Graduates





Good Samaritan School of Nursing closed in 1975. Factors influencing closure included: 1) difficulty in recruiting qualified faculty; 2) development of 5 associate degree programs in Zanesville area; 3) existence of a Practical Nurse Program in the city; 4) decrease in clinical facilities; 5) ongoing hiring of A. D. graduates.



PROGRAM DIRECTORS

Good Samaritan Medical Center School of Nursing would not have flourished without the dedication and commitment of the Directors of the program. We honor: 1. Sr. Dolorose Goetzler—1905-1913; 2. Sr. Mary Joseph Fix—1913-1935; 3. Sr. Mary Lawrence Bauer—1935-1944 & 1952-1970; 4. Sr. Liboria Kegel—1944-1952; and 5. Sr. St. Barbara Haen—1970—1975.

In June Sister Helena will attend the 50th anniversary of the closure of the school. She will wear her nursing pin with great pride for her years of service as an RN Graduate of Good Samaritan Hospital School of Nursing.













Who remembers Sister Aquinas "The Flying Nun"?
Do you have any stories to share about her?
Now is your chance!!

On April 29, Kim Sipperly emailed: I am a teacher and researcher. I began my teaching vocation at Saint Francis of Assisi Catholic School in Oakville, MO. I taught 6-8 grade students. I was blessed to work with Franciscan Sisters,

including our beloved principal. Eventually, I obtained my doctorate and taught at the University of Missouri and Saint Louis University. I am currently designing educational programs and materials for K-12 students. One of my focus areas is STEM studies. We first learned about Sister Aquinas through pictures online. Brendan, my husband, saw a photograph of Sister Aquinas taken by Ann Rosener. He sent me the picture as Rosener is my mother's maiden name and said, "I doubt you are related to this Rosener, but look at the subject of these photographs. Have you ever heard of Sister Aquinas?" Brendan knew I would be interested in a faithful Christian woman who taught STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) areas. So, I looked for more information online about her. I was inspired by her story and believed others would be enriched by it. Her legacy is remarkable. Her story could inspire students. Do you have any records on her?

Kim and her husband arrived here May 7 and immediately set to work reviewing archive records on Sister Aquinas. Time was way too short. After supper, a trip to "The Cow" ended their day with a promise to return in July (coming July 18-21) They hope to have time to talk with any of you who have memories, stories about Sister Aquinas and her teaching, her life story.

They ended their time here stating: After visiting you, we discussed that your beautiful community, charisms, and other Sisters must have helped Sister Aquinas immensely. Her story is best understood when remembering that she was in and supported by a community of talented, loving Christian women.

