

Two Locations. One Mission.



Franciscan Life Process Center

WINTER TROUBADOUR 2021

To promote a relationship with God that brings dignity and hope to the sacred process of all life through programs that assist, educate, enrich and inform.

Memorial Plantings Draw Community to Lowell Campus

One of the many aspects of the Land program at the Franciscan Life Process Center (FLPC) is the Memorial Planting Service held each September. Over the last seven years, 146 plants including oaks, red buds, peonies, and hydrangeas have been added to the land at the Lowell Campus through this offering.

"The plantings serve several purposes for the Center," Cris Ritsema, site manager states. "They provide families and friends a way to memorialize someone they love who has died. Our Environmental Education School and other groups use them as part of our outdoor education opportunities. The trees and plants also add native trees and bushes to the land that aren't currently on our site and, of course, they add beauty to the land for all who visit."

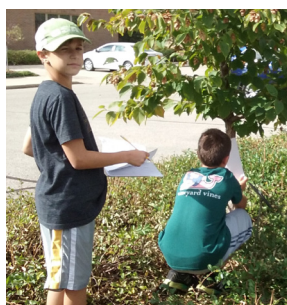
loved one needed the protection of others during her life. When the catalpa tree blossoms each year, the family of a Center volunteer who died stops by to visit. A serviceberry tree located near the St. Joseph Workshop honors someone who was a talented woodworker.



Catalpa tree

How can you participate? Memorial Plantings are supported by donations. In addition, visitors are always welcome to walk the land to view the plantings, which are marked with a plaque. Finally, school groups and families are encouraged to visit and use the plantings as a way to learn about trees and other plants.

The FLPC welcomes your donations to the Land Program. To remember a loved one with a planting, please contact Cris Ritsema at critsema@lifeprocesscenter.org or call 616-897-7842.



Students gather information about trees

Families who participate often find a connection between the plantings and their loved ones. A dogwood tree, which grows best under other trees, spoke to a family because their

"Wherever he went, he sowed seeds of peace and walked alongside the poor, the abandoned, the infirm and the outcast, the least of his brothers and sisters."

- Pope Francis speaking of St. Francis of Assisi in *Fratelli Tutti*

Dear Friends,

In this new year, we must ask ourselves a very basic question, "Who Is My Brother or Sister"? The answer is also basic, "Your Brother or Sister is the person right in front of you."

The staff of the Franciscan Life Process Center works diligently to serve each person who comes to us through our four major programs: Music Therapy, Counseling, Art, and Land Experiences. Our programs provide vital assistance fired by a strong belief in the sacredness and potential of each human person.

In union with my staff members and the Franciscan Sisters of the Eucharist, I offer you sincere thanks for your support of our work through the 2020 Annual Appeal. Without your generosity, we could not continue to fulfill our mission of walking side by side with others as they reach toward their human potential.

Please come and join us, come and see, walk on our trails, take time away, learn something new, all in 2021.

A blessed and happy New Year,

Sister Colleen Ann Nagle, FSE
Sister Colleen Ann Nagle, FSE



The Franciscan Life Process Center Presents
Spark a Conversation Speaker Series

Food, Farming & Faith The Next Generation

March 24th, 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

The Lit, 61 Sheldon Blvd. SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503

Join us as the Franciscan Life Process Center features a panel of local farmers and gardeners sharing the ways they are providing for the next generation, what they see as key issues for the future of farming and food production, and how faith is highlighted in their farming. This event supports our Land Program and will be moderated by Sister Damien Marie Savino, FSE, Ph.D. The cost is \$50. Go to <https://spark2021.eventbrite.com>

The Franciscan Life Process Center is committed to maintaining a 230-acre sanctuary that offers a safe environment for individual and communal enjoyment, education, and exploration. Our Franciscan Land Program, by providing opportunities for persons of all ages to explore and work on our small working farm, restored prairie, gardens, trails, and orchard, has helped many gain an understanding of the value of caring for the natural environment.

This event may occur virtually due to Covid restrictions.

Coming Events!

Checked out our WEBSITE lately? To learn more about these offerings and our other services, please go to www.lifeprocesscenter.org



Art Workshops

- February 25** Dmitrii and Tatiana Berestova - Basic Iconographic Drawing
March 1 Dmitrii and Tatiana Berestova - Icon Painting
March 11 Larry Blovits - Introduction to Oil Painting
March 19 Larry Blovits - Creating an Oil Painting from General to Specific
March 19 Jim Johnson - Watercolor Painting: Let's Start at the Beginning
March 25 Larry Blovits - Introduction to Acrylics
April 21 Kathleen Conover - Chaos to Order: Watermedia Workshop

Community Workdays

- March 13** Community Workday
April 10 Community Workday
May 8 Community Workday

Fertility Education and Support

- January 14** Introduction to Natural Family Planning (NFP), Grand Rapids Campus
February 15 Creighton Model Introductory Session

- March 15** Creighton Model Introductory Session
April 15 SymptoPro Classes - Series of 3 Sessions, Grand Rapids Campus
May 3 Creighton Model Introductory Session
May 20 Introduction to Natural Family Planning (NFP), Grand Rapids Campus

Music Department

- May 23** Spring Music Program
May 28 Spring Semester for Music Lessons ends
June 7 Summer Semester for Music Lessons begins (10 lessons)

Once a Month Kitchen

- January 19** Super Calzones with Sister Margaret Dahl, FSE
February 9 Cook with your Valentine and Sister Kateri Visocky, FSE and Sister Colleen Ann Nagle, FSE
March 16 Zeppoles and Sfingis for St. Joseph's Day with Sister Damien Marie Savino, FSE
April 13 Quiche 101 with Sister Anna Rose Kalinowski, FSE
May 11 Summertime Gluten-Free Desserts with Jan Hendrick, Franciscan Apprentice

All sessions are held at Lowell Campus unless otherwise noted



Franciscan Life Center Network, Inc. dba
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Touched by Mercy, a Day for those Affected by Suicide

February 6 from 10:00 am - 3:00 pm.

The Franciscan Life Process Center invites all who have been touched by suicide to a day of reflection, sharing, and prayer led by Sister Colleen Ann Nagle, FSE, MA and Father Ron Hutchinson, MA. Lunch and Mass included.
Go to <https://touchedbymercy2021.eventbrite.com>

Summer Children's Programs 2021

Children ages 8 - 12 are invited to join Sister Mary Paul Moller, FSE for the following nature camps for children ages 8 - 12: **Summer Crafts; Earthmovers: Black Gold (worms); Pioneer Days; Bubbles and Water**

Sign up today! Go to www.lifeprocesscenter.org and click on Hands on Learning.



LIFefest 2021 SAVE THE DATE

Location:
**Franciscan Life Process Center
Lowell campus**

Date:
June 3, 2021

Time:
6:30pm

The proceeds from
this event support the
counseling program.

