



exists to connect SSSF and Associates serving in ministries of Word, sacrament and liturgy, pastoral care & faith-community leadership; and to encourage professionalization in these ministries. Through various means the Network assists SSSF to examine issues affecting ministry and the life & work of the Church.

Brief History: School Sisters have been meeting since 1972, looking at the needs of SSSF pastoral ministers and their place in the Church.

After several ministry-related gatherings, S. Joann Brdecka and other School Sisters in pastoral ministries collaborated with Alverno College to convene the “Telesis Seminar on Religious Education & Pastoral Ministries” in June, 1978. At the end of this seminar, the Sisters established an ongoing *Pastoral Ministry Network* with a Steering Committee of six.

The Committee established goals and planned a one-day Network meeting for August, 1979, before the School Sisters' U.S. Regional Assembly; sixty sisters attended. Subsequent Network seminars,

usually one or two days in length, have been offered biannually, in even-numbered years. Examples: “Vatican II at 50” (2012); “Francis: The Saint, The Pope, The Franciscan Spirit” (2014); “Peacebuilding: Global & Local” (2016).

Network Membership:

“Ministry” comes from a Latin word for *service*; “pastoral” (from the Latin for *shepherd*) adds the note of tender care, guidance and protection. This Network, originally designed for SSSF and Associates engaged in ministries of the Word, sacrament and liturgy, pastoral care, spiritual direction & faith-community leadership, now welcomes *all interested service-giving persons* as members.

Steering Committee: Sisters Theresa Engel; Joelyn Hayes; Angela Ireland; Carol Ann Jaeger; Jane Russell; Winifred Whelan (Chair); Associates Colleen Gulling & Maureen Hellwig. Provincial Liaison S. Marilyn Ketteler

Publication: *PMN Newsletter*, published once or twice a year.

Meetings: The total Network meets at the biannual summer seminars.

Sources of Funding, to cover publications, mailings, Steering Committee meetings, and seminar scholarships:

- Membership fees: \$10.00 annual dues, payable by Jan. 1 for the academic year in progress.
- Donations from supporters of women in pastoral ministry.

The SSSF Pastoral Ministry Network welcomes your participation as a member for the current year. Date:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Ministry: _____

Enclosed is: _____ (\$10 membership)
_____ (\$4 for 2nd newsletter to same address.)

- Checks payable to *SSSF Pastoral Ministry Network*. Mail to Membership Secretary **S. Carol Ann Jaeger** (4031 W. Morgan Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53221).

We also appreciate anyone's participation as a **sponsor:** _____ donation. (Gifts tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.)

Network Goals:

- To identify SSSF in pastoral ministry:
 - to ourselves as pastoral ministers
 - to the SSSF community.

- To recognize outstanding members by conferring the biannual Joann Brdecka Award for Pioneering in Pastoral Ministry.

- To provide for sharing among SSSF and others in pastoral ministry regarding
 - our experiences in ministry
 - our faith & theological vision.

- To encourage professional preparation for pastoral ministries.

- To engage in ongoing dialogue with other professionals in the field.

- To make a corporate impact on the structure of the Church:
 - by helping laity grow in participation in the ministry of Christ;
 - by articulating a vision of how various ministries fit into the pastoral mission of the Church.

*School Sisters of St. Francis
Pastoral Ministry Network, 2017-18*

