

2023 Women's Leadership Luncheon

March 30, 2023

Mendakota Country Club
Mendota Heights, Minnesota

Learning today



transforming tomorrow



School Sisters of Notre Dame
Central Pacific Province



“Love is the bond that unites us with one another and with God.”

*~Blessed Theresa Gerhardinger
Letter #949, December 8, 1850*

Dear Friends,

Welcome to the School Sisters of Notre Dame's (SSND) 2023 Women's Leadership Luncheon. Today, you can expect to be inspired with a passion to bring change within yourself and others. It is a pleasure to spend this time with you. Thank you for joining us.

The theme of the 2023 Women's Leadership Luncheon is, ***Learning Today – Transforming Tomorrow***. The focus is mental health, a primary health concern that has far-reaching influence on all aspects of society. We know that by learning more about mental health, starting conversations, building relationships, and fostering a community approach to mental and behavioral health, we can transform lives and support each other as we each strive to reach our fullest potential.

Started in the late 1990s, the Women's Leadership Luncheon is SSND's annual event honoring women and recognizing their contributions in making this a better world. Guided by the SSND commitment to transforming the world through education, our goal today is to educate and empower others to learn how they also can make a difference.

Events like this take many generous individuals and businesses to be a success. We thank our supporters for their prayers, work and donations. Our individual and corporate sponsors listed in this book allow us to offer the Women's Leadership Luncheon free to all guests.

Yours in peace,

Sister Debra Sciano, SSND

Sister Debra Marie Sciano, SSND
Provincial Leader



Does the mission of Christ tug at your heart?

We invite women and men to become SSND associates and deepen their commitment to Christ's mission.



School Sisters
of Notre Dame
Associates



To learn about the associate program visit
www.ssndcentralpacific.org/get-involved/become-an-associate.



Program

Welcome **Sister Debra Marie Sciano, SSND**
Provincial Leader

Prayer **Sister Linda Wanner, SSND**
Sister Donor Representative

Introduction of Speaker **Sister Helen Jane Jaeb, SSND**
Provincial Councilor

Keynote Speaker **Louise Blissenbach Stemp**
Founder Marillac Counseling

Q&A

Closing Remarks **Heather Spann**
Development Coordinator



Speaker



Louise Blissenbach Stemp
Founder Marillac Counseling

Louise J. Blissenbach Stemp is a licensed independent clinical social worker with over 40 years of experience in mental health. She is presently the owner of Marillac Counseling, providing individual, marriage and family counseling in a rural southeast Minnesota community. The School Sisters of Notre Dame (SSND) have been an integral part of her life starting at St. Matthew's School, St. Paul, Minn., Good Counsel Academy, Mankato, Minn., and Mount Mary College (now University), Milwaukee, Wis. The SSND enhanced her desire to serve others with faith and shaped her choices in the process.

She received her Master's in Social Work from St. Louis University with an emphasis on children and family. Louise also had licensure in addictions and chemical dependency for over 30 years. Her career began with Catholic Charities in Mankato and later in Winona, Minn. Her focus was unmarried parents, foster care, adoptions, marriage and family, plus various groups.

Most of her career has been spent in the private sector with a multi-disciplinary team emphasizing individual, marriage, family and group counseling. Throughout her career she has been blessed with wise figures who encouraged and challenged her skills.

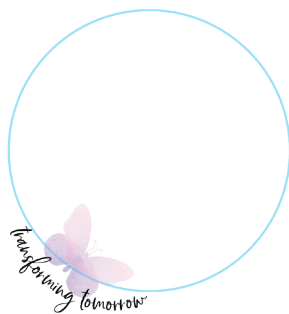
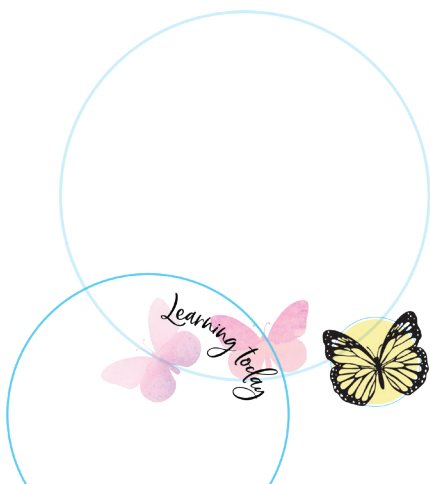


She has continued her involvement in the religious community personally and professionally by assisting seminarians, priests and religious groups in various capacities. Louise is active in her parish and diocese and served as an advocate for sexual abuse victims for five years.

The seed to help others was planted when Louise was in the primary grades. She recalls telling her grandmother that when she grew up, she wanted to give all the kids who did not have a home – a home. Thus, began a journey led by the Spirit for which she feels so grateful and so blessed.

Louise has a wonderful, patient husband and two sons, one in heaven from a miscarriage, and one a young adult. She enjoys cooking, entertaining, hiking, cross country skiing, ice skating, reading and having fun.

It is her faith that sustains her and is woven throughout her life.



Presenting Sponsor



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who helped to make this event possible.



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Louise Blissenbach Stemp
and David Stemp*

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All of my Catholic family and
friends who lived lives of
thoughtful service to others

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Women Honorees



Mariellyn Kuske

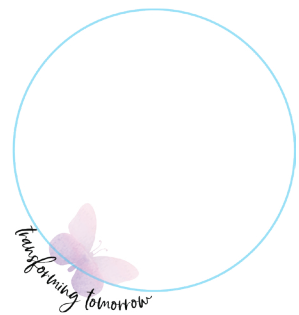
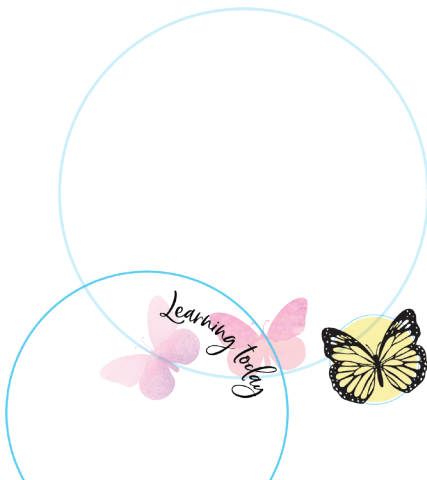
In memory, 1948-2023

The Kuske Family

Mariellyn was born on May 15, 1948, in Dickinson, North Dakota. She was joined in holy marriage to Michael J. Kuske on June 1, 1968, at St. Stephen's Catholic Church in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Mariellyn and Mike raised two amazing daughters, Margaret and Michelle.

Mariellyn and Mike built an amazing business in Cokato, Vitalsdyne, making a difference in the medical field. They also loved gardening, bird watching and spending time with family. Mariellyn was a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Waverly, an active member of Alanon and an Associate of the School Sisters of Notre Dame. She was a volunteer at Love Inc., she supported the Theresa Living Center, she was active with the Women's Health Initiative of Multicolores, and she worked with Wild Rivers Conservancy.

We are grateful for Mariellyn. She has made an impact on all our lives and on the School Sisters of Notre Dame as a faithful donor and as an Associate. Her love will live on in us all.



Save the Date

2024 Women's Leadership Luncheon

*Women as Peacemakers in a
Fractured World of Violence*

Date and location are to be determined.



School Sisters of Notre Dame
Central Pacific Province

Transforming the world through education

Our Lady of Good Counsel
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