



## Naming and Shaping a Radical Invitation: A 25th Anniversary Reflection



By Shannon Curran | B SVM Director

As we conclude our 25<sup>th</sup> year of ministry, I reflect on one particular way that B SVM has deepened both in its mission and as an expression of the charism of Bon Secours. The practice of naming is a significant piece in the formation curriculum that I developed for B SVM. In Genesis, we read that God invites humanity into the practice of naming. This invitation to co-create, an essential step in the ordering of creation, is one of great love and great responsibility. In B SVM, we focus on naming as a first step in practicing God's justice, or the act of co-creating right relationship.

In recent issues of *The Companion*, we have celebrated the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Bon Secours Volunteer Ministry by naming how, through B SVM, the Sisters of Bon Secours extend an invitation to young people to immerse themselves in their charism. Here in this reflection, I name to recognize how the work of several great spiritual leaders, both lay and religious, have influenced me, and in turn, the shape of B SVM – the shape of this invitation. I also name to articulate the diligent, and often invisible, work of building a formation structure fully integrated with mission – a structure which ensures this is a radical invitation.

When I entered the role as Director of Bon Secours Volunteer Ministry in 2007, I brought over a decade of experience and work in this field with me to the position. This involved three years of full-time service and community life with Bill and Mary Frances Jaster of the Colorado Vincentian Volunteers (CVV) and Viva House, the Baltimore Catholic Worker, as well as years of graduate study in Education and Theology while teaching and

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# Editor's Perch



By Emily Thrush | BSVM Site Manager

If you are a regular reader of *The Companion*, you'll know that we have taken the last few issues to reflect on the gifts of 25 years of Bon Secours Volunteer Ministry, which began before any of our current Ministry Volunteers were born, and which exists as an invitation by the Sisters to participate in and engage with their

charism of compassion, healing, and liberation. In the last year, we have shared photos from across all our communities, we shared reflections from volunteers on each of our pillars, and we've marveled at the many ways that God has been revealed in and through the relationships that have been cultivated in East Richmond, West Baltimore, and the myriad locations beyond through the lives of our alumni, neighbors, colleagues, family, and friends whose lives have been touched by this ministry.

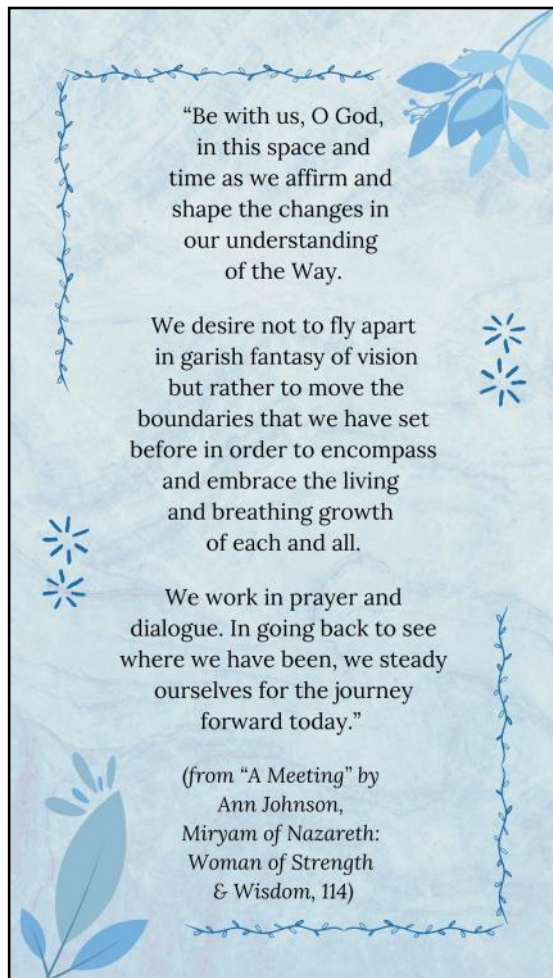
As we mark the end of our anniversary year of reflection, we also celebrate the newest BSVM community into the ranks of thoughtful, committed, generous-hearted young adults who decide to develop community, live simply, practice God's justice, learn through service with others, and grow spiritually – together. In this issue, you'll hear from each of our current Ministry Volunteers who said 'yes' to this commitment, and you'll learn more about what drew them to BSVM, and which pillar they're excited to explore further. There is something special in noting that our five Volunteers feel most energized to *develop community* and *practice God's justice* this year. As we see in BSVM Director, Shannon Curran's anniversary reflection, "building right relationship is the heart of BSVM's mission at work." This type of relational work requires each person within the community to "encompass and embrace the living and breathing

growth of each and all" (Johnson), which impacts every level of our lives, from the interpersonal to the social and structural.

You'll read about the intention and purpose behind naming the ministry pillars in Shannon's opening reflection, and see how the name points our attention and focus to the heart and mission of the ministry. We hear from Co'Dale Cook, an alum from ten years ago who shares the ways that BSVM accompanied him as he shared in the joy of service and was given space "to grieve properly at a time where everything in my life was changing." As Shannon affirmed to the Volunteers at their commissioning service in Marriottsville, "we give witness that you are not alone;" Christ accompanies all of us "in this space and time" (Johnson). Through "prayer and dialogue," communities grow deeper roots of love, trust, interdependence, and grace with one another and with every larger concentric circle beyond the BSVM house. While the end of a year may inspire reflection on "where we have been," may we lean into Christ to "steady ourselves for the journey forward today." (Johnson)



The 2024-2025 Bon Secours Ministry Volunteers share a group hug during their orientation.





# Meet our 2024-2025 Ministry Volunteers!

BSVM is grateful for the way God moved in and through so many people and experiences to bring this group of Ministry Volunteers to participate in our year of transformation through service with others. These profiles were written at the very start of their BSVM year and highlight what drew them to BSVM and what pillar they're hoping to explore further in our year of intentional living.



## Andrew Degele

**College:** University of North Carolina  
**Hometown:** Raleigh, NC  
**Placement:** Richmond Community Hospital, Behavioral Health Unit

I am serving with Bon Secours Volunteer Ministry because of the opportunity it provides to live a year in Gospel service. I first heard about BSVM when Emily came to our large group night at the UNC Catholic Center. I wasn't there at the time but several of my friends texted me to swing by and I'm thankful I did. After learning more about BSVM, I was eager to apply because I was looking for a year just like this one after my spring graduation.

I am excited to live this year not only serving the community of Richmond through healthcare but also sharing in life with the other volunteers: cooking, praying, and having fun as a house. I am drawn to the radical call to community, simplicity, faith, right relationship, and service, and I can't wait to see how I grow as a person professionally, relationally, and spiritually. Although this year is far different from any previous experiences I've had, I'm eager to start!

I am most excited about the pillar *Develop Community*. As young adults, we are great at having ambitions and pouring ourselves out working, but often we struggle to develop and maintain intentional and meaningful relationships with others. I am excited for the opportunity to not just serve others 9a-5p but also to have a community to return to afterwards, to both share the joys and also bear the challenges of our day together. I can't wait to share meals (I'm excited to learn some new recipes to add to my scant few) and pray together, hang out, laugh, and explore Richmond. Intentional community is hard to grow but will be very fruitful once it blooms, so I'm excited to make it happen!

I think one of the first things that stuck out to me about BSVM was the invitation to live more simply. Especially in such a fast-paced, technology-driven world, I am excited to slow down and become more intentional about how I interact with the community and environment around me. When we strip away things we truly don't need, God is able to increase so much more within us, and we are able to better share our gifts and talents.

Another thing that drew me to BSVM was its unique call to service. Last year I worked at the Newman Catholic Center at UNC Chapel Hill, assisting in campus ministry and coordinating the parish's service and justice ministries. In engaging in service there, it gave me an excitement to dive deeper into an understanding of solidarity and justice through the lens of my Catholic faith.

While all pillars of BSVM each excite and inspire me in different ways, the pillar *Practice God's Justice* is one I am most excited to explore further. I am eager to immerse myself into a new community and experience and reflect on what it means to truly practice God's justice. I think it also tugs at the core of my faith, which in Catholicism is often referred to as a Mystery. While there may be those inexplicable elements of our faith, we can still witness and experience all of the ways that Mystery of God's love, peace, and justice are at work within humanity. In turn, we can share that with the people around us and build up those relationships in a meaningful way. Over this year, I look forward to delving deeper into this pillar and developing a deeper understanding of my relational impact within God's creation.



## Mary Catherine Hargrove

**College:** University of North Carolina  
**Hometown:** Charlotte, NC  
**Placement:** Cristo Rey Richmond High School, Student Support - Academics

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**Katie Lynch**

**College:** University of Pennsylvania  
**Hometown:** Penn Valley, PA  
**Placement:** Richmond Community Hospital, Emergency Department

I was drawn to Bon Secours Volunteer Ministry because of its unique focus on community living and health ministry. After the fast-paced environment of my undergraduate education, I felt the need to realign my priorities before beginning medical school. A year dedicated to simplifying my life, serving others, and building meaningful relationships within a community seemed like the perfect way to achieve this. This experience offers me the

opportunity to immerse myself in service while reflecting on my journey and preparing myself for a future in healthcare. I also felt drawn to the religious ties of the organization. Through this year of service and reflection, I am looking forward to further developing a faith-based support system and deepening my Catholic faith.

I feel most energized to explore the *Develop Community* pillar. The most rewarding experiences of my life have been centered around community and building personal relationships. I am a self-described “people-person,” and I am excited to learn more about those I will be living in community with as well as everyone else who will make up my community for the year, whether they are nurses and patients in the Emergency Department, members of the broader Richmond community, or others I will meet through Bon Secours.

I was drawn to a year with BSVM after getting to know our site manager, Emily Thrush. She and I are both members of a church on the East End of Richmond, Virginia, and together our church strives toward creating a beloved community where all share with and support one another in the joy and justice of God’s kingdom.



**Denzel Mitchell**

**College:** University of Virginia  
**Hometown:** Northumberland, VA  
**Placement:** Cristo Rey Richmond High School, Student Support - Corporate Work Study

One day, Emily and I were discussing our church’s justice ministry and she brought up her experience after college in an intentional community as one of the reasons why she helps lead the BSVM program. After working a couple of years as a community organizer, I decided I wanted to serve the communities I was helping to organize more intentionally and to spend a year reflecting on this work with a group of others who have similar values. I’m looking forward to growing closer to God, my housemates, and my neighbors, and in the process, learning more about myself and my purpose in life.

The BSVM pillar that I feel most energized to explore further is *Develop Community*. In college, everyone has flexible schedules, and spontaneous moments for grabbing milkshakes and debating politics are not rare. But after I graduated, I quickly realized that spontaneous moments such as those I experienced in college are few and far between. This left me feeling lost and lonely for a period. And in response, I filled my schedule. Though I enjoy many of the activities I take part in, they sometimes take more out of me than they give. So this year, I look forward to slowing down and clearing my schedule to be fully present with my housemates and neighbors and all the spontaneous moments that this program’s pace and structure allows for.



**Samuel Wood**

**College:** Virginia Tech  
**Hometown:** South Riding, VA  
**Placement:** Richmond Community Hospital, Spiritual Health

I had a conversion in my junior year of college. Leaving college, I wanted to find a place where I could prioritize people and prayer. The part of BSVM that I was most drawn to was the community living with my fellow volunteers as a way of practicing fellowship and communion. I also wanted a supportive community to grow with in my prayer life. Additionally, I wanted to practice the Gospel call to poverty by simple living and serving the poor. I was drawn to the work of BSVM because of how it

focuses on being present with people. Finally, I love women religious! St. Thérèse of Lisieux and St. Mother Teresa have been great inspirations to me, and I’m constantly inspired by Sisters for their total ‘Yes’ to God, so I am excited and honored at the opportunity to share in the Sisters’ work.

This year I feel especially called to explore and learn to *Practice God’s Justice*. First, I’m excited to learn through prayer and conversation what God’s Justice is and how it differs from human justice, because “God’s ways are not our ways.” I’m also excited to practice this pillar, which Bon Secours beautifully describes as living in right relationship with one another, because I want to learn how to live more fully in God’s love and how to put it into action.



Claire Kimilu, BSVM 2017-2018, at the former Bon Secours Hospital in Baltimore.

working in non-profits. I brought these experiences, and more, with me as I began leading this ministry. These years were fundamental to my spiritual formation and shaped my approach to directing BSVM.

After spending a year becoming familiar with the ministry and the strong foundation laid by founding Director Eileen Kiefer, one of my first steps was to spend time reflecting on the mission and pillars of BSVM. I made a few small, but deeply intentional, changes that have since shaped our approach with formation. From its founding in 1999 to 2007, the pillars of BSVM were: Spirituality, Service, Community, and Simplicity. Inspired by the Congregation’s Common Vision, as well as my previous experience in justice work, I added a fifth pillar to the ministry: Practice God’s Justice.

Two lines from Bon Secours’ Common Vision led me to see that we needed to acknowledge a significant dimension at work in this ministry. The sisters write:

*“As prophetic women totally committed to do justice in radical solidarity with the poor, the suffering and those most in need, we proclaim the Gospel where it is not. Our witness to God’s presence is marked by a passionate spirit and enthusiasm for the kingdom.”*

The Common Vision called me to articulate how justice was at work in the mission and ministry of BSVM. At the time, I was studying with Fr. John R. Donahue SJ, a renowned New Testament scholar, and diving into the roots of justice in the Hebrew Scriptures. Fr. Donahue helped shape my understanding of biblical perspectives on justice which, in turn, influenced the shape of BSVM.

Fr. Donahue defined the biblical idea of justice as “fidelity to the demands of a relationship.” Fr. Donahue writes, that “biblical justice is fundamentally ‘making things right’.” Biblical justice is the work of “describing and enacting the “right relation” of human beings to God and to each other” and to creation (Donahue, p. 12-13).

Led by the Jasters in CVV and many others, I had come to understand biblical justice as right relationship through my years in service and community and had come to understand that this justice is quite distinct from how our society perceives justice. While this experiential knowledge gave me the awareness to add another pillar to the BSVM mission, my time studying with Fr. Donahue guided me to name this new pillar with thoughtful care and theological reflection.

*Practice God’s Justice.* Being precise about naming the type of justice at the heart of our ministry helped shift our focus to the building of right relationship that God’s Justice requires. Since introducing this pillar in 2008, much of the volunteers’ experience has involved uncovering symptoms of structural injustice and reflecting on how these symptoms point us to restoring relationships, and the lifestyle changes inherent in this restoration, within our one human family and with creation.

Building relationships “right” helps us to reflect God’s justice and, in so doing, resist unjust social structures. Building right relationship is the heart of BSVM’s mission at work — it’s the focus of our ministry volunteers’ time while immersed in BSVM — and because they have been shaped by this formation, we regularly witness how our BSVM alumni continue to center their lives in the restorative, relationship work of practicing God’s justice.

Creating this program pillar and adding it to the others that uphold our mission is an example of the small, intentional work of building a program structure that is consistent with our mission. After creating and naming

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Paula Hastings, BSVM 2018-2019,  
at the former Bon Secours Hospital in Baltimore.

Practice God's Justice as our fifth pillar, I looked more closely at the original four. Being precise with naming the type of justice that is our focus helped me structure our formation in a way that allowed BSVM to more fully and closely fulfill our mission.

This precision carried over to clarifying the action each pillar requires. Activating the nouns Spirituality, Service, Community, and Simplicity was the next step I took to strengthen our pillars to more fully actualize our mission. Our mission speaks of transformation, and I renamed the pillars to speak to that transformation. Grow Spiritually, Learn through Service with Others, Develop Community, and Live Simply were revised to align with Practice God's Justice. Naming the pillars in this way was not just to actualize them, but to also center the relationship building which lies at the heart of our mission. One of the most significant changes came through the addition of

the small, but powerful, word: *with*. In my undergraduate years at Loyola University Maryland, Sr. Catherine "Missy" Gugerty, SSND taught that service occurs *with*, rather than *for*, others. Sr. Missy Gugerty introduced the power of service *with* to countless students and leaders at Loyola. It's been so powerful that it has transformed how Loyola articulates its core value, justice.

Now when referring to the 1973 address by Fr. Pedro Arrupe, SJ to promote justice by training "men for others," Loyola speaks and writes of students becoming "men and women for and *with* others." Sr. Missy Gugerty's years of experience in ministry and, then, leading the Center for Community, Service, and Justice at Loyola influenced my spiritual formation. Like the Jasters' work and Fr. Donahue's work, Missy's work, in turn, has had a great impact on how I have structured the formation at BSVM.

No doubt, over the years, in *The Companion* you've read many volunteers' reflections on the *with* in Learn through Service with Others. Shifting this pillar from the original Service to Learn through Service with Others allowed us to focus formation on the reciprocity and building of mutual relationship that is inherent in true Christian service. Images and messaging around service tend to focus on the generosity and sacrifice of "the giver" which, among many other harmful narratives, essentially makes service look one-sided. In true Christian service, there are no "givers" and, therefore, no "takers."

Over the past few decades, I have come to understand and develop a definition of Christian service: service is meeting the dignity, or God's presence, within another with the dignity, or God's presence, within oneself. At times, service occurs in relation to responding to a wound of human injustice — a point at which humans create extreme need and vulnerability by failing to live in right relationship with God, with others, and with creation. If sown with the love that allows the dignity of one to meet the dignity of another, acts of Christian service work at restoring "the demands of a relationship" between people and within unjust structures where that fidelity or faithfulness to the relationship was broken. Acts of service *with* others can lead us to moments of reflecting God's justice.

In 2019, I created another intentional change in the language BSVM uses around God's justice and naming injustice. Again, this naming was influenced both by my experiential knowledge and my studies — this time working with Dr. Michael Gorman on my thesis which focused on God's Justice and the preferential option in Paul's letters to Corinth. To indicate structural injustice at work, for the past five years, you have seen BSVM refer to Catholic Social Teaching's preferential option for the poor as the preferential option for those who have been *made* poor and vulnerable.

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Or, in terms of Bon Secours' Common Vision, Bon Secours Volunteer Ministry refers to being "totally committed to do justice in radical solidarity with those who have been *made* poor, who face suffering, and those most in need."

The years I spent living at Viva House, learning first-hand the upside-down nature of the Gospel certainly influenced this change in language. Hearing Brendan Walsh and Willa Bickham of Viva House say, "we need to stop asking what's wrong with the poor and start asking what's wrong with the rich" flipped the paradigm for me and, most importantly, flipped my questions. Like the Jasters, Fr. Donahue, Sr. Missy Gugerty, and Dr. Gorman, Viva House's influence on me has actively shaped and continues to actively shape the formation structure I've developed at BSVM.

Just like the power of that little word *with* introduced by Sr. Missy, I've witnessed others also begin to shift their language in this way when referring to the preferential option. *Made* is also a little word that can have a big impact when we are clear about the causes of structural injustice and clear that poverty is a symptom of structural violence. More clearly naming structural injustice can help us move closer to restoratively meeting the demands of relationship with neighbor and, therefore, closer to more fully reflecting God's Justice.

You can hear the Spirit at work in the life of BSVM — in the co-creative acts of naming, in the organic flow of formation deepening and evolving, in the very intentional and thoughtful work of making consistent, mission-centered decisions that builds our formation structures, in the work of remaining committed to that deepening by being in it for the long haul (25 years young!), and in tending to how BSVM has become a radical invitation for young people to grow in the charism of Bon Secours.



Willa Bickham of Viva House, Shannon, Mary Frances Jaster of CVV, Brendan Walsh of Viva House at Catholic Volunteer Network conference in 2018.

## In Memoriam



Fr. John R. Donahue, SJ

Bon Secours Volunteer Ministry remembers two great theologians who have influenced this ministry. In late October, both Fr. Gustavo Gutiérrez, OP and Fr. John R. Donahue, SJ transitioned to the next life.

The work of Fr. Gutiérrez, known as the Father of Liberation Theology, has greatly influenced the location, structure, and formation curriculum of our ministry. Fr. Gutiérrez's work helps us invite ministry volunteers to uncover the Gospel in service and community and through the lens of compassion, healing, and liberation — or the charism of Bon Secours.

Fr. John Donahue, SJ was born at Bon Secours Baltimore Hospital. Fr. Donahue presided at several BSVM commissioning and closing liturgies and would always give credit to a Sister of Bon Secours who helped bring him into the world! Fr. Donahue's birth had complications and Sr. Theophane, CBS ensured that he arrived safe and sound. Fr. Donahue supported BSVM over many years and spoke well of our ministry. On several occasions, he shared that BSVM "is what this, the Gospel, is all about."

We are grateful for their lives and their work. Please join us in honoring their legacy by reading and sharing their work. Both were prolific writers. Fr. Gutiérrez's *We Drink from Our Own Wells: A Spiritual Journey of a People* is one you might try. Fr. Donahue's *Seek Justice that You May Live: Reflections and Resources on the Bible and Social Justice* is referenced above.



Fr. Gustavo Gutiérrez, OP



# 2024-2025 Welcome & Commissioning

By Shannon Curran | BSVM Director

*The following reflection was shared at our commissioning ceremony in September 2024*

I am pleased to welcome you to celebrate the commitment these five young adults have made to a year of transformation through service with others. Throughout this year we have been celebrating the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Congregation of Bon Secours and the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Bon Secours Volunteer Ministry. It's a special time to celebrate our newest community.

As I looked over today's gospel, I envisioned the volunteers in a boat together. Volunteers, I saw the five of you in a boat together and you were in deep water. I'd say that is a pretty accurate vision. Because of your commitment to community, you are in this together. Because of the Congregation of Bon Secours' long history of both locating ourselves in spaces of deep need and, more importantly, staying there, the boat you just hopped on is in deep water.

From Luke's gospel today, we learn that when the disciples lower their nets without Christ they catch nothing. No matter how hard they work, they catch nothing.

Yet, when Christ is in the boat with them and they act after listening to Christ, they catch so many fish that their boat, actually multiple boats, "are in danger of sinking."

Volunteers, you may be in deep water but, because there is deep need here, God is deeply present here.

While you may be in a boat together and you may be in deep water, you are not alone.

You've already taken the risk to say yes to this commitment. You took another risk to actually make the trip to arrive to BSVM. Your parents took the risk when they dropped you off, when they let you go.

With your commissioning today, we ask you to continue that yes. We ask you to say yes to Christ's invitation to accompany you in service in this deep water. We ask you to **move over** in your boat and let Christ into your community. We ask you to try acting or serving **after listening** to Christ.

The gospel tells us that those yesses will lead to abundance. We are all here with you because, in some way or to some degree, we've experienced that abundance and we are happy to have you with us. We are excited that you are here and we celebrate this good news -- that yes, God is here and yes, we can find abundance even within deep need.

We gather today to celebrate the good news, to celebrate you and the start of your journey this year. With this commissioning, we give witness that you are not alone.



Top to bottom:

- Ministry Volunteers at Commissioning.
- BSVM 2024-2025 with Sisters of Bon Secours.
- Sr. Elaine blesses the Volunteers' hands and hearts for service.



## Alumni Reflection



By **Co'Dale Cook** | BSVM 2014-2015 | A Graduate of St. Mary's College of California

### ***How did your experience with BSVM shape the years following your year of service?***

My experience with BSVM opened my heart to receiving Jesus in all ways and gave me the courage to go into the world and proclaim Jesus in every conceivable manner. BSVM created a safe space for me to develop my relationship with God and what it means to have an active faith. It provided opportunities for me to grieve properly at a time where everything in my life was changing. Every moment was a call to worship – whether it was prayer together, socializing with friends and creating meaningful relationships, volunteering in the community, or engaging in community advocacy. My entire experience prepared me to work in various public health leadership roles and serve with compassion to strengthen communications between vulnerable populations and decision makers and professionals to improve health policy and health systems.

***What advice do you have to offer former volunteers as they continue to process their BSVM experience?*** I believe it's the joy of the Lord that connected us all to BSVM, so I would say to remember the joy of the Lord is your strength (Nehemiah 8:10). This also reminds me of what Mahatma Gandhi said, that service "without joy helps neither the servant nor the served," so remember the reflection is a gift and hold on tightly to that reflection of how refreshed your spirit was during service, and the impact service had on others. Paint those smiles in your heart, journal those conversations, and always carry with you the warm embraces you shared with each person.



*Co'Dale served at the former Bon Secours Hospital in Baltimore during his ministry year.*

***What reading have you found to be informative, helpful and/or inspirational for volunteers in the BSVM formation or for those wishing to continue to explore the pillars of BSVM?*** The *Common Prayer: A Liturgy for Ordinary Radicals* helped me become more contemplative or thoughtful in my faith. It's a comprehensive reflection of communion. The diverse readings and teachings guide the understanding of what it means to have unity in the body of Christ, salvation and intimate fellowship with God, and how to live with and serve others. This book strengthened prayer within my own family structure.

### ***What were some of the gifts you received during your time of service? How have these gifts helped you now?***

Living in West Baltimore during the civil unrest that ensued after the death of Freddie Gray was a pivotal moment in history and it was a blessing to be working in the community and actively participating in some of the community advocacy that took place. It certainly has influenced my passion for addressing health disparities and advocating for policies that promote equity and social justice.



*Co'Dale Cook, Andy McAssey, Meghan Krenger, Alexis DiGasso, August Kunkel (2014-2015)*

*Co'Dale with his 2014-2015 community.*

## Family Day | Saturday, October 5, 2024

Bon Secours Family Day took place on Saturday, October 5, 2024 to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the Sisters of Bon Secours.

The event drew many attendees from the Bon Secours Family, including Sisters, Associates, Young Adults, BSVM Volunteers, BSVM Alumni, employees of the Sisters of Bon Secours, Bon Secours School of Nursing Alumni, and former Sisters of Bon Secours.

Attendees enjoyed a catered lunch, participated in craft and games, and had the chance to meet new faces within the wider Bon Secours community. It was a beautiful day dedicated to honoring the remarkable legacy of the Sisters and commemorating 200 years of their service and dedication.





# Family Day | Saturday, October 5, 2024







## Bon Secours Volunteer Ministry

Transformation through Service with Others  
Celebrating 25 Years

Sisters of Bon Secours, USA

1525 Marriottsville Road  
Marriottsville, MD 21104

## Cover Photo

2024-2025 Bon Secours Ministry Volunteers at the Commissioning Ceremony in September 2024. Taken by Liz O'Neill, Director of Communications.

### BSVM Staff

**SHANNON CURRAN**, Director  
shannon.curran@bonsecoursusa.org

**EMILY THRUSH**, Site Manager  
emily.thrush@bonsecoursusa.org

**ANN SCHWARTZ**, Recruitment Leader  
ann.schwartz@bonsecoursusa.org

**LIESEL RUPPRECHT**, Program Coordinator  
liesel.rupprecht@bonsecoursusa.org

**OFFICE EMAIL**  
volunteer@bonsecoursusa.org

### Our Mission

Bon Secours Volunteer Ministry, sponsored by the Sisters of Bon Secours, provides the opportunity for women and men to participate in the Sisters' commitment to justice in radical solidarity with the poor, the suffering, and those most in need. By sharing the Bon Secours charism of compassion, healing, and liberation, the ministry nurtures and sustains individuals in their personal and communal journeys towards transformation through service with others.

To nurture this transformative journey, Bon Secours Volunteer Ministry supports individuals through a year of spiritual formation. The ministry is structured with five pillars that support this growth. Volunteers commit to: grow spiritually, develop an intentional community, live simply, practice God's justice, and learn through service with others. Throughout this year, volunteers discover that by sharing the charism of compassion, healing, and liberation with others they, in turn, receive the charism from those they serve.

## DO YOU KNOW A YOUNG ADULT WHO IS R.E.A.D.Y. FOR A YEAR OF TRANSFORMATION?

- **Reflective** on community & justice
- **Eager** to build relationships
- **Able** to live simply
- **Dedicated** to spiritual growth
- **Yearning** to grow through service with others

REFER THEM TO BSVM FOR OUR 2025-2026 MINISTRY YEAR!

Send contact info to  
volunteer@bonsecoursusa.org  
or fill out contact form at [bit.ly/joinusapply](https://bit.ly/joinusapply)

