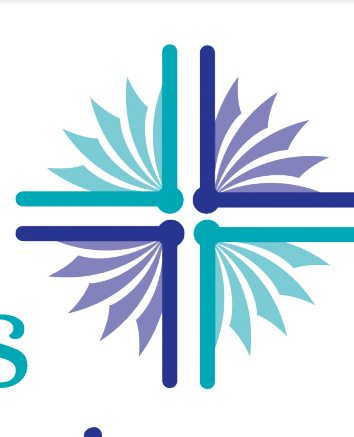


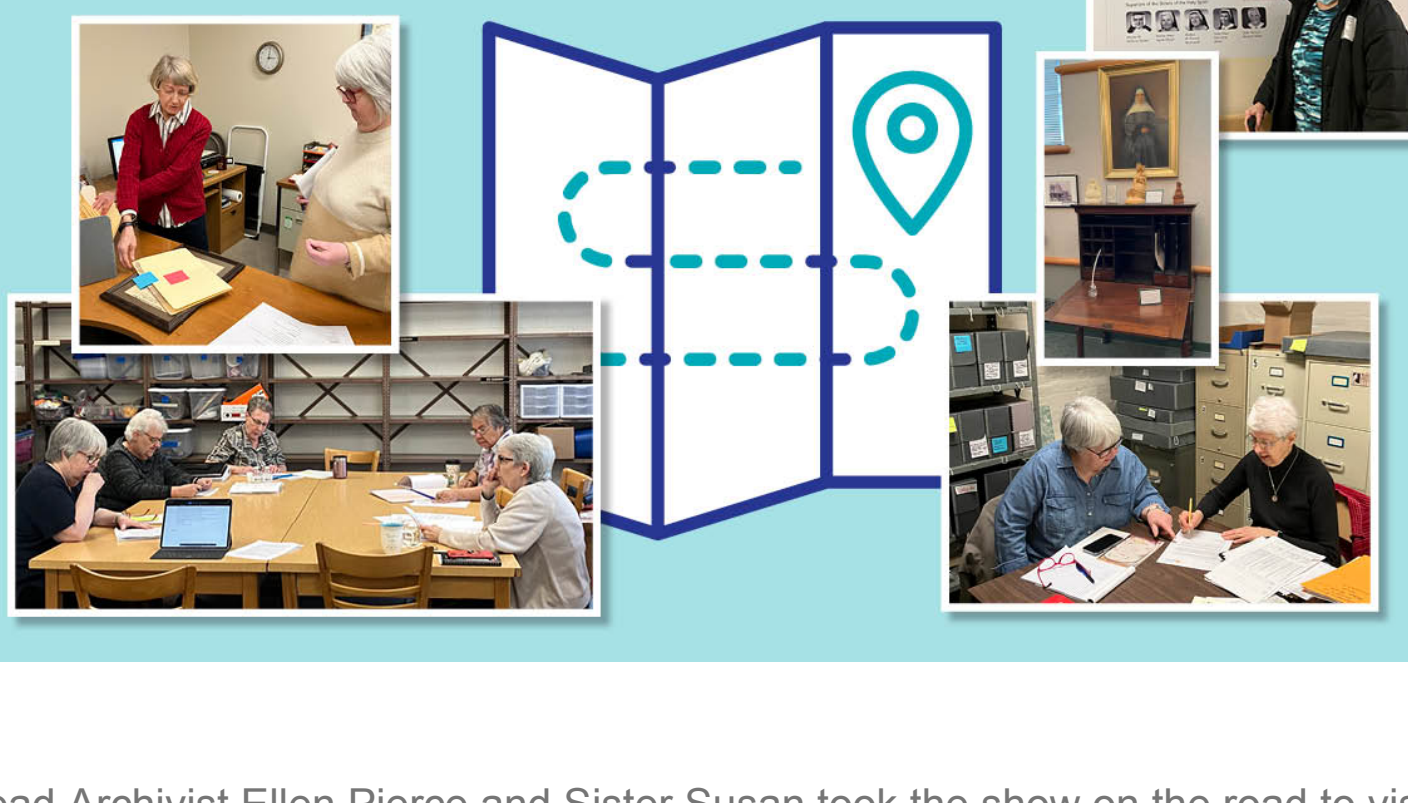
Women Religious Archives Collaborative



April 2023

Newsletter

-----Road Trip!-----



Lead Archivist Ellen Pierce and Sister Susan took the show on the road to visit the archives of eight WRAC congregations at the end of March. On this first leg of our journey, we traversed northeast and northwest Ohio to experience the unique archives located in each site. We were warmly welcomed at each stop and were able to experience the archives up close and personal.

Ellen was able to spend time with each archivist, answering questions, learning about needs and offering advice and assistance. Sister Susan met with leadership team members to discuss the project's progress, site choices, and strategy for fundraising. We shared a draft of the Case for Support for their input. This document will be used to solicit donations.

We heard many congregational stories and were impressed with the work that has been done through the years to preserve the stories, records, and artifacts. Congregational archivists hold the knowledge and history of their respective institution. We are grateful for the warm hospitality we experienced and look forward to our next group of visits in June.

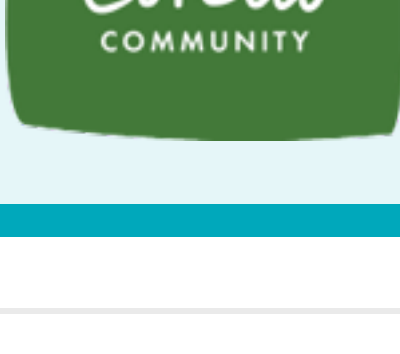


Sr. Joanne Gardner HM sharing an HM Corporate Stance display

New Member

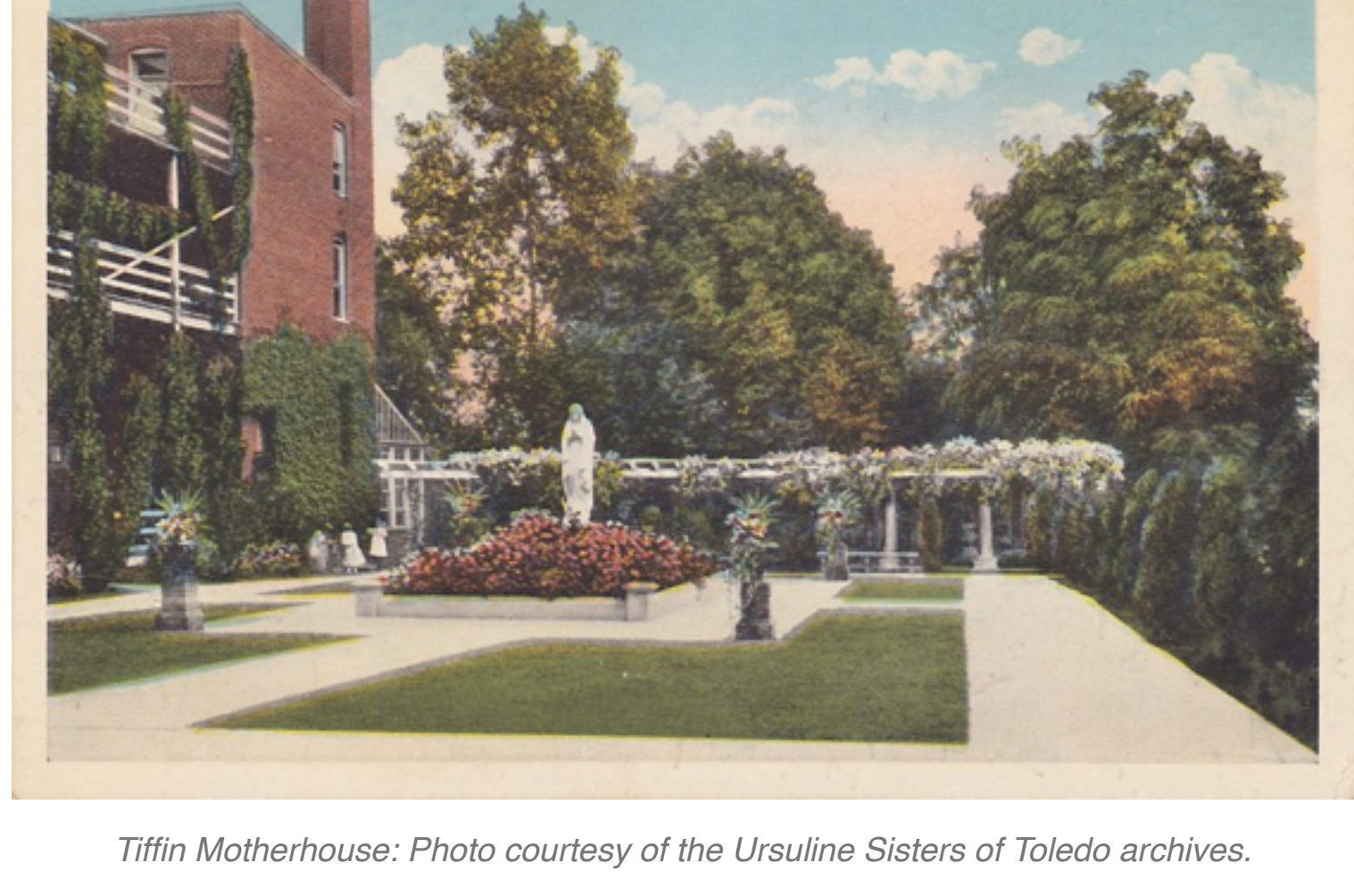
We are pleased to announce that a fourteenth congregation has joined the Women Religious Archives Collaborative. The Sisters of Loretto-Loretto Community of Nerinx, Kentucky, has signed a Memorandum of Understanding and is now officially a member of WRAC. The archives of the sisters date back to 1812 and include organizational, institutional and personal records of the sisters.

The collection features Sister Mary Luke Tobin's participation in the Vatican Council, the congregation's 150 schools, two colleges, sisters nursing in Vietnam orphanages during the Vietnam War, and follow-up services for orphans placed in homes. WRAC warmly welcomes this collaborating congregation!



A Treasure Within

During our visit to the Ursuline Sisters in Toledo, we were fortunate to find a treasure maintained within their archives. In 1863 a request was made by Bishop Amadeus Rappe to the Ursuline Sisters to begin a new foundation in Ohio. In response to his request, four Ursuline Sisters from Cleveland and two Ursuline Sisters from Toledo founded The Ursuline Sisters of Tiffin. This community was devoted to education and founded schools in the Tiffin area. Eventually a decision was made by the Tiffin Ursulines to merge with the Toledo Ursulines. In the 1970's the Tiffin motherhouse was sold. Since that time, the Tiffin Ursuline history and documents have been carefully preserved and maintained by the Toledo Ursulines.



Tiffin Motherhouse: Photo courtesy of the Ursuline Sisters of Toledo archives.

COMING IN MAY

will be our official announcement regarding the future home of WRAC and your introduction to the WRAC design team.



How can you assist?

WRAC is preparing to launch a Capital Campaign to provide funding for the facility. If you know of an individual or an organization that may be interested in supporting us, please reach out to Susan Durkin at sdurkin@archivescollaborative.org or 216-287-5176. We are happy to share information about the project. We welcome your prayers. How often we read community stories where a check in the appropriate amount needed appeared just when needed! As a part of our funding strategy, we have submitted several grant proposals which are pending. We will continue to seek out funding organizations and private foundations in support of our work. We would ask for your daily prayers not only for the success of these proposals, but also for the project.

Participating Congregations to Date:

- Carmel of the Holy Family
- Sisters of Charity of Saint Augustine
- Sisters of St. Francis of Tiffin, OH
- Sisters of St. Francis, Clinton, Iowa
- Sisters of St. Joseph of the Third Order of St. Francis
- Sisters of the Holy Spirit
- Sisters of the Humility of Mary
- Sisters of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament
- Sisters of Loretto-Loretto Community of Nerinx, Kentucky
- Sisters of the Precious Blood
- Ursuline Sisters of Cincinnati
- Ursuline Sisters of Cleveland
- Ursuline Sisters of Louisville
- Ursuline Sisters of Toledo

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