

Celebrating 30 Gears



ANNUAL REPORT and 2017 CALENDAR OF WOMEN

From the Executive Director

Mary's Pence is turning 30!

At the age of 30 women are poised to make a difference — both in the lives of loved ones and in the world. Many of us at this stage of life have an education, stable resources, and a professional and personal network. We have health and energy. Experience has given us wisdom to understand our values and who we want to be in this world. We are hopeful for our future!

These words also describe Mary's Pence at 30. We have a wonderful network of supporters, grantees, friends and collaborators across the Americas. We are financially stable many of our supporters have been with us for nearly all of our 30 years. And we have many new supporters who are just approaching or have recently passed 30 themselves. We are thrilled to partner with people on both sides of 30 who are united in hope and who are as passionate as we are about changing unjust systems.

Because of the work of the feminists whose shoulders we stand on, women today have more freedom than ever. Yet, women are still silenced and diminished by larger political and social systems and sometimes by personal relationships. In the United States we face a system where profits are valued above people and the environment; where race, gender and income are barriers to success; and where women's voices carry less weight than men's. In Central America and Mexico many of the ESPERA women live in communities where violence from gangs and repression from corrupt governments affect daily life, and it's difficult to earn an income that meets family needs. All across the Americas women are fighting to live lives with dignity.

Your support is still tremendously important. Together we will bring Mary's Pence's 30 years of experience and connections to



this work, along with the energy and enthusiasm of someone turning 30!

Katherine Wojtan

Grace Garvey-Hall



Staff in St. Paul, Minnesota

- Katherine Wojtan | Executive Director
- Grace Garvey-Hall | Development and Communications Liaison
- Nadine Sehnert | Bookkeeper
- Lizz Myers | Office Coordinator
- Svitlana lukhymovych | St. Joseph Worker
- Kathleen Milligan | Ignatian Volunteer Corp

Board Members

- Bridgette Kelly | Board Co-Chair | St. Paul, Minnesota
- Rita Lampe | Board Co-Chair | Glenshaw, Pennsylvania
- Karen Hurley | Treasurer | Cincinnati, Ohio
- Katie Lacz | Secretary | Boulder, Colorado
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- Julie Fertsch | Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
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- Andreen Soley | Los Angeles, California
- Claudia Preza | Los Angeles, California

ESPERA Staff

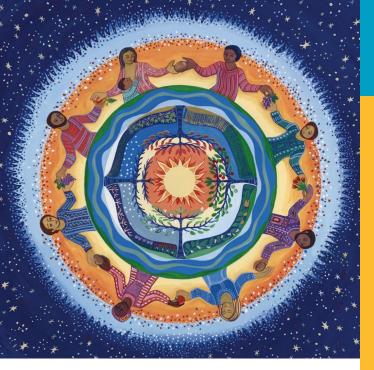
- Gilda Larios | ESPERA Team Lead | Mexico City, Mexico
- Gabriela Bandini | ESPERA Business Facilitator | Mexico City, Mexico
- Eva Martinez Menjiver | ESPERA Promoter | Suchitoto, El Salvador

Remember a Woman Each Day



This calendar offers a daily reminder of the many women throughout history who have challenged injustice.

You can read about these women at www.maryspence.org.



Mary's Pence Prayer | by Katie Lacz, 2016

God of the widow's mite, the five loaves and two fishes, the touch of a hand on a cloak's tassel, help us to remember that you create abundance from the smallest of gestures.

Take my crumb, my single thread, my penny of prayer, and join it with the beloved community of women in Mary's Pence so that it may become a nurturing feast an intricate tapestry an abundance of riches.

Bless las mujeres de ESPERA, who pay forward not only funds, but hope; our grantees — artists, lawyers, organizers, activists, all seeking change; and all those who support the empowerment of women —

Grant us the gift of being co-creators with You, knowing each small offering we bring takes us one step closer to creating your Kin-dom of justice and peace here on earth.

The Values of Mary's Pence

OUR FEMINIST VALUES

Our work is based in the belief that women have political, social, and economic equality with men. This equality is essential to a just society.

OUR SOCIAL JUSTICE VALUES

Dignity of the Human Person and of Work Every human life is sacred and should be honored and valued. All workers have a right to productive work, fair wages, and safe working conditions.

Call to Community and Participation

Everyone has the equal right and responsibility to participate economically, politically, and culturally in society. This creates strong communities.

Rights and Responsibilities

Every person has a right to a dignified life, including food, shelter, clothing, work, health care, and education, and each has a responsibility for the well-being of others.

Subsidiarity

Actions should be taken at the lowest, most local level possible, and decisions should involve those most impacted.

Preferential Option for the Poor and Vulnerable

We must put the needs of the poor first; a just society can be achieved only if its members give special attention to those most in need.

Global Solidarity

"Love your neighbor" stretches across all national, racial, ethnic, economic, and ideological differences. We are one human family.

Care of God's Creation

The earth's resources are intended for the benefit of all and should be cared for and preserved for future generations.

Is Catholic Important?

Our founders rooted this work in the values of Catholic Social Teaching and it remains our foundation today. Our work addresses the ongoing and emerging concerns of women in the Americas, and we are delighted by the people of all faiths and no faith who engage in our vision. We are grateful for this diverse community of Mary's Pence.

Who's Mary?

Mary's Pence was named for all the Marys of the Gospel, who embody the example of ministry practiced by the women at the foot of the cross. They dared to remain when the other disciples had fled. For 30



years Mary's Pence has been providing a tangible ministry of accompaniment and resourceful support for 'Las Marias' of the world — the poor, the imprisoned and the oppressed.

ESPERA

A Unique Model — Economic Systems Providing Equitable Resources for All

Mary's Pence partners with local grassroots women's groups in Central America and Mexico who share our vision of women thriving economically and personally. Our approach is holistic and values accompaniment and strong relationships.

A Lasting Resource

Mary's Pence provides the start-up funds for the community lending pools to our local partners — groups of women who are working on local justice issues. The women collectively own the funds and, with the help of Mary's Pence staff in the region, make decisions about how to manage their fund including loan amounts and terms. The money is repaid into the lending pool, which becomes a sustainable resource for the community.

Responsive Business Development

Approximately half of ESPERA businesses are agricultural, others include managing small stores, selling homemade food or artisan crafts. Mary's Pence staff partner with the women to improve their business skills through individual coaching, group sharing of ideas, and identifying best practices.

Strong Organizations and Relationships

Mary's Pence staff also work with our partners to develop strong structures and processes. Women are encouraged to participate fully and share leadership. Transparency is modeled and valued, and strategy and planning is supported. Strong organizations and relationships ensure women have a collective voice and impact in their communities.

Since the ESPERA program began in 2008, it has grown to partner with nine groups in six countries with over 1,000 women participants. Over \$520,583 — more than four times the original funds provided by Mary's Pence — has been distributed in over 1,500 loans to women. More than \$56,000 has been collectively generated in interest, ensuring the sustainability of the loan pools in each community.

ESPERA Groups

El Salvador

- Asociación de Mujeres Rurales
 "Olga Estela Moreno" (ASMUR)
 Bajo Lempa, El Salvador
- Concertación de Mujeres de Suchitoto Suchitoto, El Salvador
- Unión de Mujeres Salvadoreñas Across El Salvador

Guatemala

• Asociación de Mujeres Sembradoras de Esperanza Santa Cruz del Quiche, Guatemala

Haiti

• Mother's Club of L'Artiboliere Jérémie, Haiti



- Grupo Emprendedor La Epifania Tegucigalpa, Honduras
- Red de Mujeres Unidas Tegucigalpa, Honduras

Mexico

• Red de Mujeres Morelenses Por Una Economia Solidaria Morelos, Mexico

Nicaragua

• **CEPROSI** Nindiri, Nicaragua





ESPERA STAFF (left to right): Eva Martinez Menjiver, Gilda Larios, Gabriela Bandini

Mary's Pence Grants

Funding Women for Social Change

Mary's Pence funds projects in the U.S. and Canada that increase the economic security of women and amplify women's voices in their communities. We support efforts for systemic change that improves the status of women.

In our 30 years we have given over 600 grants to organizations across the Americas. We have provided over \$1,500,000 in funding to women.

Projects we fund are:

Women led —

for the benefit of women and their families

Community centered —

emerging from a need identified within the community, and collaboratively developed by members of the community, flexible enough to meet new, changing or emerging needs

Focused on social justice values —

human dignity, the common good, the right to economic security and dignified work, care for the earth, participation, subsidiarity, and nonviolence

Working for long term sustainable social change —

addressing underlying causes of injustice through any of the following:

- shifting public opinion about justice issues
- forming alliances and collaborations across diverse populations
- creating change in unjust structures or policies
- building capacity by building skills personal growth, leadership, organizing and advocacy, entrepreneurial

Fiscal Year 2016 Grantees

• Awamaki | Ollantaytambo, Peru*

Connecting Andean women artisans with the global market, and supporting creation of small cooperatives.

• Artistri Sud | Temuco Chile*

Building better lives for women artisans by capitalizing on existing artisan skills and cultural assets.

• Bridges | São Paulo, Brazil*

Working with new moms and pregnant women in prison to increase bonding.

Center for Women in Transition | Little Rock Arkansas

Preventing recidivism through life skills education for teen girls.

- Just Economics | Asheville, North Carolina Educating, advocating, and organizing for a just and sustainable economy, for women and for all.
- The Justice Project | Kansas City, Missouri Advocating for women navigating criminal justice and social services systems through a peer-based approach.
- Genesis | Oakland, California

Organizing and advocating for local social issues, and developing young women leaders.

• Kateri Tekakwitha Fund | Chimaltenango, Guatemala*

Increasing access to education and career internships for Indigenous Guatemalan women.

- Kinship Care Campaign | Cincinnati, Ohio Advocating for equal pay for caretaker relatives, who are primarily grandmothers.
- The Kitchen Table | Saint Louis, Missouri Growing a social enterprise partnership of women working to overcome barriers of poverty.

- MAYA Organization | Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania Counseling incarcerated women to address loss, trauma and addiction.
- New Sanctuary Movement Mujeres Lideres | Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Training immigrant women in leadership and community organizing skills.

- Sacred Valley Project | Ollantaytambo, Peru* Enabling Quechua girls to attend school by providing stable housing and support.
- Welcoming the Stranger | Warminster, Pennsylvania

Educating immigrants and refugees in a community with a high concentration of poverty.

- Wishwas | Queens, New York Empowering low-income immigrant women though community connections, training and social enterprise.
- WomenNC | Cary, North Carolina Advocating for women's human rights in a local to global / global to local context.
- Workers' Rights Center | Madison, Wisconsin Connecting Latina workers dealing with wage theft and discrimination though a support group and advocacy training.
- Youth Rise Texas | Austin, Texas Mentoring and organizing youth impacted by parental incarceration, immigrant detention, and deportation.
- * Only Latin American organizations that have received previous grants are currently eligible. New grants are only available to organizations in the United States and Canada at this time.

Maximize Your Giving

Become a Compañera

By giving monthly, Compañeras provide a steady base of support for this work. Gifts can be made by check, credit card or ACH withdrawal. We are deeply grateful for the commitment of our Compañeras!

Honor and Memorial Cards

Celebrate a special occasion or remember a loved one with a gift to Mary's Pence. We are happy to provide you with this lovely card to write and send a personal message, or Mary's Pence staff can send a notification on your behalf.



Donate Stock to Mary's Pence Please contact the office for information on how to direct your gift to us.

Employee Matching

This is a great way to double your impact. Ask your HR representative if your workplace participates in a matching program.

Contact the office at 651-788-9869 or inbox@ maryspence.org for more information on any of the opportunities described on this page.

Get Involved

We need your creativity and insight. You can volunteer in a variety of ways.

- write a blog post or newsletter article
- table with us at conferences around the U.S.
- translate documents into or from Spanish
- volunteer for a committee Grants, ESPERA, Finance, Development/Communications
- share art, prayers or poems that you've created

If you live near St. Paul, Minnesota you can always join us for a mailing party!

Legacy Circle

Have you already made a planned gift to Mary's Pence?

Please let us know, we would like to thank you for your generosity and include you in the Mary's Pence Legacy Circle. We will also honor any wish to remain anonymous.

MARY'S PENCE LEGACY CIRCLE

Marie Andrews • Lucille Bernier Marie Hogarty • Consilia Karli Mary Ellen McCarthy • Genevieve O'Hara Constance Miriam O'Hearn Barabara and Jack Reis Patricia Clemens Repikoff Maureen Tilley* Bastiaan and Johanna Vanden Berg* and 37 anonymous members

*Indicates those who have already passed away.

A "Soul-ution" for Superfluous Stuff



While looking for a birthday gift for my sister, I came upon this electric fly swatter! Eureka! I finally found something I was pretty certain my sister did not already have, and that she might find useful. My sister was thrilled. It

was unique, inexpensive and handy (not to mention, it gave her a laugh and would be a good conversation piece with her kids/ grandkids.) Besides, she knew that I was still committed by mutual agreement to send a donation in her honor to Mary's Pence.

Like most folks in the USA, my siblings and I have been fortunate and complicit in having surplus and superfluous stuff in our homes. We have each begun to notice a lack of storage for all that stuff we have accumulated. As a "soul-ution" to our problem we made a pact a few years ago. My sister, my brother and his wife, and I have been giving donations to Mary's Pence on gifting occasions, rather than spending/wasting money and our precious/ diminishing lifetime on this earth searching for material gifts that we don't need or want.

Because Mary's Pence gives grants toward multiple justice issues and limits its focus on the Americas, it was a cause we could each agree on. My sister still makes something for me in her "crappy crafts" group, and my brother and his wife are good for a bottle of my favorite "cheap" wine. And the world is a bit better for it.

> Consilia Karli Mary's Pence donor since 2009 Legacy Circle Member Wise Woman (Board Member 2008-14)

Individuals and Sisters – Our Strength for 30 Years

Our position is enviable. The majority of our funding, over 90%, comes from individual supporters. This profile gives us sustainability and flexibility. Sustainability because we are not dependent on a few sources that could fluctuate year to year. Flexibility because we are not committed to programs based on grant applications written long ago, or having complex measurement and reporting. *Thank you.*

Our second largest group of supporters is Women Religious — both Sisters' Congregations and individual Sisters. We are truly delighted that, throughout our history Sisters have held us in their hearts and prayers, worked diligently on the board or as grantees, and provided critical financial support. We are honored that they see in our work their charism and mission. *Thank you, Sisters.*

A Sisterhood of Sharing

The best way to help Mary's Pence grow is to spread the word. We appreciate all of you who have supported us by sharing Mary's Pence with your loved ones — mother, daughter, sister, close relative, or friend. Please let us know if you would like a set of materials to share with someone.

Our FY2016 Grant Sources

- CSJ Fund of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange, Los Angeles, California – \$10,000
- Sisters of St. Francis of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania \$5,000
- Shalom Fund of the Dominican Sisters of Peace, Columbus, Ohio \$3,000
- St. Joseph the Worker, Maple Grove, Minnesota \$2,000
- Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth, Kansas \$2,000
- Charles Foundation Charitable Trust \$1,000
- Church of the Epiphany, Louisville, Kentucky \$1,000
- Sisters of Providence of St. Mary of the Woods, Indiana \$1,000
- Sisters of Charity Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada \$500
- Sinsinawa Dominicans, Wisconsin \$350

If you know of other sources of grants that we should pursue, please let us know.

Financials and Governance

Fiscal Year 2016 (July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016)

Income

Contributions	\$479,852
Estate Contributions	\$25,901
Interest/Other	<u>\$18,353</u>
Total Revenue and Support	<u>\$524,106</u>

Expenses

Program	\$373,552
Support Services	
Management and General .	\$24,135
Fundraising	<u>\$67,561</u>
Total Expenses	<u>\$465,248</u>
Change in Net Assets	\$58,858



Net income allows us to invest in both the ESPERA program and Mary's Pence Grants, and build our capacity to grow this work. We have a policy of holding a reserve of 6-9 months, providing stability to the organization. Program costs are 80% of our budget, fundraising costs are 15%, and administration is 5%.

We are audited annually by a CPA firm serving nonprofits. Our 990 is available on our website and we are certified by Guidestar. Our board sets clear expectations and our finance committee reviews monthly financial reports. We welcome questions.

Below: Students from St. Catherine University work on a Mary's Pence mailing.







Kinship Care Campaign Cincinnati, Ohio

Advocating for Those Caring for Others

Kinship care is a foster care alternative in which children are raised by non-parent relatives and close family friends. The *Kinship Care Campaign* was launched by the Contact Center with a mission to improve kinship care policies in Ohio. Nearly all the women pictured are grandmothers raising one to four children. Government funding for these kinship guardians is disproportionately low. In the spring of 2016, *Kinship Care Campaign* introduced a policy to legislators that will provide kinship caregivers the same income support as foster care providers in the State of Ohio.

Mary's Pence Grant

January/Enero 2017

Sunday		Monday	,	Tuesday		Wednesday	,	Thursday	,	Friday		Saturday	,
World Day of Prayer for Peace	1	Sadie Alexander Lawyer, Civil Rights Activist	2	Bella Savitsky Abzug Activist for Peace and Justice	3	Elizabeth Ann Seton First American-born Saint, Founded Sisters of Charity	4	Sonia Sotomayor Associate Justice on the U.S. Supreme Court	5	Charlotte Ray First African-American Female Lawyer in the U.S.	6	Bernadette Soubirous of Lourdes Mystic, Visionary	7
New Year's Day Solemnity of Mary										Epiphany			
Fannie Bullock Workman Suffragist, Adventurer Travel Writer	8	Rigoberta Menchú 1992 Nobel Peace Prize Winner	9	Gabriela Mistral First Latin American Nobel Prize Winner	10	Remember All Women Brought Out of Africa into Slavery and Baptized Against Their Will	11	Dianna Ortiz Survivor of Torture, Founder of TASSC	12	Anne Reynolds Teacher of Tolerance for LGBT Community	13	Theresa Maxis Founder of IHM Sisters	14
Etty Hillesum Mystic, Writer, Died in the Holocaust	15	Catherine Booth Feminist, Labor Reformer, Founder of Salvation Army	16	Martha Cotera Chicana Feminist, Author, Civil Rights Worker	17	Coretta Scott King Civil Rights Leader, Nonviolent Activist	18	Mourning Dove Activist for Native American Rights	19	Pray for Victims of Domestic Violence	20	Sophia Louisa Jex-Blake Doctor and Women's Rights Advocate	21
		Martin Luther King Jr. D	Day										
Hildegard Goss-Mayr Nonviolence Movement Leader	22	Mary Ward Lay Founder of Institute of Mary	23	Maria Tallchief Prima Ballerina for American Ballet Theatre	24	Sandra Ware Co-founder of <i>Let's Start,</i> a Mary's Pence Grantee	25	Angela Davis Political and Social Activist, Author, Professor of History	26	Angela Merici Founder of the Ursulines	27	Honor All Women Theologians	28
Kaye Ashe First Mary's Pence Board President	29	Ritamary Bradley Feminist, Visionary, Activist	30	Ludmila Javorova Ordained Catholic Priest	31								





Mother's Club of L'Artboliere Jérémie, Haiti

Supporting Mothers

The community of Artiboliere has 25 core members in its mothers' group. The women convene regularly to discuss issues of concern and support each other in the difficult circumstances they confront daily as mothers and women such as fear of sexual violence, lack of access to education, and insufficient community infrastructure. As of 2016, the Haitian economy is very much struggling, and it is hard for the women to get ahead. This was only worsened by Hurricane Matthew. "If it was not for the ESPERA Fund grant, I would not be able to send my children to school," says Dieula, 38, mother of four. With funds from an ESPERA loan she buys corn and beans or seasonal crops from the farmers, and sells these items in the city of Jérémie.



February/Febrero 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			The Kuna People of Panema Peaceful, Matriarchal Society	Civil Rights Sit-Ins, 1960 Remember the Women Who Would Not Be Moved	Mary Elizabeth Lange Founder of Oblate Sisters of Providence	Betty Friedan Social Reformer, Feminist, Author
Agatha of Sicily Martyr	Tullia d'Aragona Intellectual, Author, Feminist	6 Marian Anderson First Black Woman to Receive Medal of Freedom	Josephine Bakhita Taken in Slavery, Woman of Faith and Forgiveness	Alice Walker Author, Social Activist	Scholastica Major Influence on Her Brother St. Benedict's Rule	Mokarrameh Ghanbari Artist, Freethinker, Woman of the Year, 2001
Margaret Traxler Social Justice Advocate, Founding Mary's Pence Board Member	Rana Husseini Anti-violence and Equality Advocate, Journalist	3 Ruchira Gupta Journalist, Social Worker, Humanitarian	Susan B. Anthony Abolitionist, Women's 15 Rights Activist	Mildred Fish Harnack Executed as WWII German Resistance Leader	Mary Breckinridge Founder of Frontier Nursing Service	Toni Morrison First African- American Nobel Prize Winner for Literature, 1993
Judith F. Baca Contemporary Urban Artist	Mary Coffin Starbuck Quaker Minister	Valentine's Day Our Lady of Copacabana, Bolivia	Isabella Beecher Hooker Founder of New England Woman Suffrage Association	Frances Harper Abolitionist, Suffragist, Poet	Mary Jane Seacole Nurse, Heroine of the Crimean War	Alicia 25 Dickerson Aontemayor Feminist, Activist, Leader
	President's Day					
Mabel Keaton Staupers Organized Harlem Clinic for African- American Doctors	Advocate for Deaf and Blind Persons	7 Lydia Allen 28 Founder of Lydia's House — a Daycare Center for Children with AIDS				
		Mardi Gras				





The Kitchen Table St. Louis, Missouri

Building Community and Cooking Confidence

The Kitchen Table is a start-up social enterprise created by women attending a support group at Epiphany United Church of Christ. The women struggle to find employment. Many struggle with unstable housing situations or mental health concerns. At *The Kitchen Table*, women work together in pursuit of gaining economic independence as they prepare and serve food to the community in a sustainable local business. Darlene, one of the partners, is pictured here preparing a homemade meal-of-the-day, which is served for lunch every Thursday.

Mary's Pence Grant

March/Marzo 2017

ha Vladimirovna 6 ova oman to Travel	Perpetua and Felicity Martyrs 7	Margaret Randall 1 Feminist, Political, and 1 Social Activist 1 Ash Wednesday 2 Zahra Rahnavard 8 Educator, Non-Violent 8 Activist for Women's 2 International Women's Day 1	Nawal El Saadawi Feminist, Sociologist, Author, Doctor2Catherine of Bologna Visionary, Writer9	Katharine Drexel Founder of 62 Orphanages and Schools for the Poor3Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad Leader10	Young Shin Founder of AIWA Hallie Quinn Brown Educator, Reformer, Social Activist
man to Travel	Martyrs	Zahra Rahnavard Educator, Non-Violent Activist for Women's Equality		Underground	
man to Travel	Martyrs	Educator, Non-Violent Activist for Women's Equality International Women's Day		Underground	
izabeth 13	Fannie Lou Hamer				
izabeth 13	Fannie Lou Hamer				
nist, Spy for S. Grant	Civil Rights Leader	Anna Marie Dengel Founder of Medical Mission Sisters	Myrlie Evers-Williams Civil Rights Activist	Brigid of Ireland Abbess of Kildare	Golda Meir Politician, Humanitarian
				St. Patrick's Day	
ills 20 Recipient of Iler Award	Belle Sherwin Suffragist and Philanthropist	Dorothy Stratton Educator, Naval Officer, Executive Director of Girl Scouts	Ada Maria Isasi-Diaz Theologian, Chief Theorist of Mujerista Theology, Past Mary's Pence Board Member	Esther Jewish Queen, Savior of Her People	Margaret Chase Smith Advocate for Freedom of Speech
of Spring					
varez Educator 27	Asma Jahangir Human Rights Activist, Founded First Women's Law Firm in Pakistan	Pearl Bailey Theologian, Humanitarian	Kathy Kelly Founder of Voices in the Wilderness, Peace Activist	Marjorie Agosin Human Rights Activist, Voice for Latin America	
	ecipient of er Award of Spring arez 27	ecipient of er Award 20 Suffragist and Philanthropist 21 of Spring Asma Jahangir Human Rights Activist, Founded First Women's 28	ecipient of er Award Suffragist and Philanthropist Laure Educator, Naval Officer, Executive Director of Girl Scouts of Spring Asma Jahangir Human Rights Activist, Founded First Women's 28 Pearl Bailey Theologian, Humanitarian 29	ecipient of er Award Suffragist and Philanthropist Educator, Naval Officer, Executive Director of Girl Scouts Isasi-Diaz 23 off Spring Asma Jahangir ducator Pearl Bailey Theologian, Human Rights Activist, Founded First Women's 28 Pearl Bailey Theologian, Humanitarian Suffragist Aducator 30	Ils 20 Belle Sherwin 21 Dorothy Stratton 22 Ada Maria 23 Esther Jewish Queen, 24 er Award Philanthropist 21 Dorothy Stratton 22 Ada Maria 23 Leine Sherwin Savior of Her People 24 of Spring 26 Asma Jahangir Pearl Bailey Savior of Girl Scouts Savior of Voices 30 Marjorie Agosin 31 arez 27 Asma Jahangir 28 Pearl Bailey Theologian, 29 Kathy Kelly Sounder of Voices 30 Marjorie Agosin 31 iducator First Women's 28 Pearl Bailey Pearl Bailey Sounder of Voices 30 Marjorie Agosin 31





Unión de Mujeres Salvadoreñas Across El Salvador

Collaborating for the Benefit of All

Unión de Mujeres Salvadoreñas is a union of local women's organizations, working to strengthen their member associations to raise the participation of women in the political, social, economic, and cultural spheres. The three women pictured are mothers from various cantons and villages of Santo Tomás, El Salvador. They work together to market and produce different varieties of food such as pupusas, cakes, and tamales. They hope to increase economic autonomy and work to make alliances and share experiences with other women who strive for the same goals. The empowerment of women in their member organizations will improve the quality of life for all women.



April/Abril 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						Wangari Maathai Founder of the Green Belt Movement, Nobel Peace Prize Laureate
Barbara Caine Writer, Feminist, Professor	Dorthea Dix Advocate for Prisoners and the Mentally III	Maya Angelou Poet, Historian, Civil Rights Advocate	Pandita Ramabai Mukti Mission Founder, Reformer, Author	Gloria Macapagal Arroyo Former President of Philippines, Women's Rights Activist	Joyce Banda Founder of NABW, Women's Advocate	Diana Fletcher Preserver of Seminole Culture
Catherine Macaulay Historian, Political Activist	Dolores Huerta Leader of United Farmworkers Movement	Rosalyn Yalow Physicist, Nobel Prize Winner	Clara Barton Founder of the Red Cross in the United States	Julian of Norwich Motherhood of God Theologian	Anne Sullivan Educator 14	Corrie Ten Boom Survivor of the Holocaust
Palm Sunday				Holy Thursday	Good Friday	Holy Saturday
Joan Sawyer Martyred in Peru 16	Jo Ann Gibson Robinson Civil Rights Activist	Augusta Savage Artist, Promoted Black Culture	Betty Greene Founder of Missionary Aviation Fellowship	Maria Varela Photo-Documenter of African-American Culture	Nina Simone Musician, Social and Political Activist	Loretta C. Argrett Assistant U.S. Attorney General
Easter						Earth Day
Maria Teresa Tula Humanitarian, Leader of Co-Madres Group Sima Urale Filmmaker, Promoter of	Willa Cather Pulitzer Prize Author 24	Martha George Founder of Small Tribes of Western Washington	Amy Biehl Martyred in South Africa	Mary Wollstonecraft 27 Author, Women's Rights Activist	Catherine of Siena 28 Doctor of the Church	Founders of Mary's Pence and All Wise Women Mary's Pence





Sacred Valley Project (SVP) Ollantaytambo, Peru

Diminishing Povery through Education

SVP was founded in 2009 with a mission to enhance the education of indigenous young women from low-income families in the rural Andes of Peru by providing accommodation, meals, and educational resources. Mariela, Marisol, Nilda, and Elizabeth, pictured from left to right, are the first scholars in their families. Here, they are working on homework in their dormitory in Peru, which was established by SVP. The girls' historic cultural values and customs are recognized in their formal education, empowering them to embrace their roots. SVP's third grant from Mary's Pence has enabled them to hire tutors who incorporate the cultural traditions of their geographic location into their education.

Mary's Pence Grant

May/Mayo 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	Anna Marie Jarvis Founder of Mother's Day	Nannie Helen Burroughs U.S. Educator, Activist for Education of Black Women	Our Lady of Czestochowa, Poland	Yom Hashoah Remember All Holocaust Victims	Barbara Ford Martyred in Guatemala 5	Mary McLeod Bethune Founder of School for African-American Women
				National Day of Prayer	Cinco de Mayo	
Marie Louise Trichet Founder of Daughters of Wisdom	Our Lady of Lujan, Argentina	Septima Poinsette Clark Freethinker, Civil Rights Activist	Maggie Kuhn Founder of Gray Panthers, Advocate for Women's and Seniors' Rights	Mercedes Lopez Folk Artist, Focus on Mexican Culture	Elizabeth Garrett Anderson First British Female Medical Doctor	Marjory Stoneman Douglas First Woman in Navy, Journalist, Environmentalist
Honor All Mothers and All Nurturing Women	Digna Ochoa Lawyer, Civil Rights Advocate	Margaret Anna Cusack Founder of Sisters of St. Joseph of Peace	Theresa Czervionke 17 Faithful Woman	Ida B. Wells Intellectual, Journalist, Civil Rights Activist	Lorraine Hansberry Playwright, Human Rights Activist	Rose Hawthorne Philanthropist, Writer 20
Mother's Day						
Mitsuye Endo Key Plaintiff, Held Illegally in Japanese- American Internment Camps	Judy Chicago Intellectual, Contemporary Feminist Artist	Concha Ortiz y Pino de Kleven Politician, Civic Leader	Virgin of the Papantla, Mexico 24	Forugh Farrokhzad Feminist, Author 25	Mary Ellen Butcher Fought for Economic Justice	Rachel Carson Environmental Advocate, Author
				Ascension of Jesus		
Julia Ward Howe Author, Reformer, Abolitionist	Jehan Sadat Advocate of Peace and Women's Rights	Joan of Arc Visionary, Leader	Elizabeth Blackwell 31 First Female MD in US			
	Memorial Day Remember Our Grandmothers					





Red de Mujeres Morelenses por una Economia Solidaria Morelos, Mexico

Collaborating for a Better Tomorrow

The women in Red de Mujeres Morelenses come from marginalized rural communities with a high incidence of violence, unemployment, lack of basic services and infant malnutrition. In this ESPERA network, they emphasize savings in addition to providing loans to groups of women who intend to establish small businesses. Rosa is a hard-working artisan who learned to paint ceramics and now, with the help of her children, runs two ceramics shops in Tlayacapan. Recently, when ceramics sales diminished, Rosa utilized some of her savings to open a small restaurant in the area where she offers fresh food to locals and travelers.



June/Junio 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				Helen Keller Advocate for Blind and Deaf, Author	Hanan Ashrawi Palestinian Leader	Josephine Baker Jazz Singer, Civil Rights Activist
Marian Wright Edelman Founder of Children's Defense Fund	Kady, Daughter of Ann Feminist, Political Peace Activist	Ann Manganaro Medical Minister to the Poor in El Salvador	Elizabeth Flynn Founder of ACLU	Magdalen Taylor Founder of The Poor Servants of the Mother of God	Anne O'Hara Graff Feminist Theologian, Professor	Equal Pay Act Enacted, 1963
Pentecost						
Jeannette Rankin First Woman in Congress	Anne Frank Author, Visionary, Died in the Holocaust	Gloria Rolando Filmmaker Concentrating on Caribbean Culture	Alicia Partnoy Survivor of Abuse, Author, Human Rights Activist	Evelyn Underhill Theologian, Mystic 15	Margaret Bondfield 16 Women's Rights Advocate	Marita Bonner Freethinker, Essayist 17
Fay Bennett Watts Advocate for Farm Laborers and the Poor	Patria Jimenez First Gay Person Voted into Office in Latin America	Neda Agha-Soltan Iranian Freedom Martyr	Miriam Sister of Moses and Aaron	Anne Morrow Lindbergh Spiritual Writer, Aviation Pioneer	Wilma Rudolph Athlete, Activist for Women's and Disabled Persons' Rights	Zora Neale Hurston African-American Author
Father's Day			First Day of Summer			
Women in Black Protestors of War and Violence	Pearl S. Buck Author, Civil and Women's Rights Advocate	Jovita Idár Organized Liga Femenil Mexicanista	Marjorie Tuite Committed to Struggle for Justice	Shamita Dasgupta Civil and Women's Rights Advocate	Lena Horne Entertainer, Civil Rights Activist	





The Center for Women in Transition (CWIT) Little Rock, Arkansas

Preventing Recidivism by Finding Courage, Strength and Stability

Recidivism "refers to a person's relapse into criminal behavior, often after the person receives sanctions or undergoes intervention for a previous crime," according to The National Institute of Justice. This often occurs as a result of societal barriers that occur after incarceration and the tendency to return to old habits. Since their establishment in 2005, CWIT has helped over 2,000 incarcerated and formerly incarcerated women re-enter society with courage, strength, and stability. CWIT diminishes trends of recidivism by mentoring and empowering the women through life-skills classes and resources and by supporting them as they transition back into society.

Mary's Pence Grant

July/Julio 2017

Sunday		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
							Harriet Beecher Stowe Abolitionist, Author
Christine Hakim Actress, Humanitarian	2	Angela Eunjin Oh Attorney for Civil Rights 3	Maria del Carmen Calvillo Chicana Peace Advocate	Anna Arnold Hedgeman Politician, Civil Rights Activist	Maria Goretti Pray for Victims of Sexual Abuse	Luisa Moreno Organizer, Congress of Spanish-Speaking People	Prisca Apostle at Corinth, Ephesus, and Rome
Alice Paul Authored the ERA	9	1st Meeting of National Women's Political Caucus, 1971	Independence Day Claudia "Lady Bird" 11 Johnson Business Woman, Politician, Author	Mary Eliza Mahoney 12 First US African- American Nurse	Satya Rani Chadha Leading Voice for Anti-Dowry Movement in India	Kateri Tekakwitha Native American Patroness of Ecology	Violette Neatley Anderson 15 First Black Female Lawyer to Argue a Case Before the Supreme Court
Our Lady of Carmel, Chile	6	Hannah Szenes Poet, Returned to Nazi Territory to Save Others	Morenci-Clifton Picket Line 18	Mary Ann Ball Bickerdyke U.S. Civil War Nurse, Advocate of Homeless and Veterans	Eulalia Arrila de Perez Mission Leader, Healer	Hortense 21 Sparks Ward Writer, Social Reformer	Mary of Magdala Apostle to the Apostles
Nancy Mairs Writer, Educator	23	Amelia Earhart Pilot, Adventurer 24	Mev Puleo Witness of Solidarity 25	Anne Mother of Mary, Grandmother of Jesus	Linda Richards First Trained Nurse in the US	Mary Luke Tobin Advocate of Peace and Justice, Founding Mary's Pence Board Member	Martha of Bethany Friend of Jesus 29
Antonia Hernandez 3 Latino Civil Rights Advocate	80	Azar Nafisi Author, Educator					





Red de Mujeres Unidas Tegucigulpa, Honduras

Providing Access to Financial Resources in a Place of Conflict

Red de Mujeres Unidas has funded 42 women from four communities over four years through their ESPERA community lending pool. Doris and Marcela are a mother-daughter team from the Ramón Amaya Amador who make filigree cards in their pursuit of economic autonomy. The women of this ESPERA group also work to reduce violence among women. Among the 19 women currently involved in the network, there are 25 businesses: 44% are shops, 16% sell food, 20% are bakeries or sell prepared food, 8% raise crops and 12% are involved in other businesses. Despite social adversity such as mental health and gang violence, the women of Red de Mujeres Unidas continuously seek opportunities to generate income and support their families.



August/Agosto 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	/	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		Linda Chavez-Thompson Political Activist	Our Lady of the Angels, Costa Rica	2	Flannery O'Connor Author, Feminist	Isabel Allende Author, Feminist	Mary McKillop Founder of Sisters of St. Joseph of the Sacred Heart
Susie King Taylor 6 Educator, Nurse during the U.S. Civil War	Lydia Villa-Komaroff Scientist, Promoter of Women in STEM Careers	Maureen Gallagher Original Founder of Mary's Pence	Edith Stein Jewish and Carmelite Martyr at Auschwitz	9	Cunegunda Advocate for the Poor	Clare of Assisi Founder of the Poor Clares	Dr. Alexa Canady First Female African- American Neurosurgeon
Maude Dominica Mary Petre 13 Woman of Great Faith, Modernist, Author	Irene Fitzgibbon Advocate for Unwed Mothers and Foundlings	Edna Ferber Pulitzer Prize-winning 15 Author	Marilyn Waring Feminist, Activist, Politician	16	Raissa Maritain Poet, Philosopher	Sojourner Truth Abolitionist, Feminist 18	Simone Weil Philosopher, Political Activist
Carolee Schneemann Contemporary Artist, Author	Alice Garg Social Reformer, Worked to Eradicate Caste System	Assumption of Mary Queenship of the Virgin Mary	Rose of Lima First Saint from the Americas	23	Clara Maass Nurse, Died in Yellow Fever Immunization Experiment	Sumi Sevilla Haur Equal Opportunity Activist	Women in U.S. Achieve Right to Vote, 1920
Monica of Hippo Patron of Mothers 27	Lydia of Philippi Early Apostolic Church Leader	Tz'u-hsi 29 Co-Regent for the Emperor of China, Worked to Eliminate Corruption	Jeanne Jugan Founder of the Little Sisters of the Poor	30	Maria Elena Zavala Biologist, Activist for Hispanic Access to Medical Professions		Women's Equality Day

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Wishwas Queens, New York

Workers Cooperatives Designing Empowerment

Wishwas is a non-profit organization working to empower low-income, Bangladeshi migrant women who face barriers like isolation and domestic violence. Founded in 2010, Wishwas promotes the importance of these women's involvement in financial decision-making processes within their families and communities. The women collaborate in a sewing cooperative where they create handcrafted designs and products which they sell. Wishwas women also have the opportunity to take courses in conversational English, health, hygiene and nutrition as well as training in entrepreneurship, design, and skills required to form a cooperative business. They practice a holistic approach which promotes the empowerment of women today for a brighter future tomorrow.

Mary's Pence Grant

September/Septiembre 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					Ela Bhatt Founder of SEWA, Indian Politician	Delany Sisters Authors, Breakers of Color Barriers
Mother Teresa of Calcutta Advocate of the Dying and Poor	Gertrud Heinzelmann Promoter of Women's Equality in the Church	Give Us Bread & Roses — 1912 Textile Worker's Strike	Jane Addams 6 Worker for Social Justice, Advocate of Peace	Kiran Bedi Humanitarian, Social Reformer	Birth of Mary, Mother of Jesus	Louise Thompson Patterson Educator, Political Activist
Lillian Wald Nurse, Social Worker, Founder of Henry St. Settlement	Labor Day Honor All Women's Work Remember Worldwide Victims of Terrorism	Ngoan Le Founder of the Asian American Institute in Chicago	Antonia Pantoja First Hispanic Woman 13 to Receive the Presidential Medal of Freedom	Catherine of Genoa 14 Nurse, Mystic, Writer	Shirley Graham du Bois Civil Rights and Social Reform Activist	Mary Beth Edelson Feminist Artist, Creator of Goddess Movement
Hildegard of Bingen 17 Musician, Mystic, Artist, Physician, Doctor of the Church	Helen Zia Journalist, Social Activist	LaDonna Harris Founder of Americans for Indian Opportunity	Billie Jean King Tennis Player, Feminist	Pray for 21 World Peace	Phu Xiong Physician, Promoter of Equality	Mary Church Terrell African-American Suffragist
Dorothy Stang Environmental and Human Rights Activist	Yuri Kochiyama Human Rights Activist	Mary Brave Bird Lakota Writer and Activist	Liu Sola Artist Whose Work Promotes Tolerance in China	International Day of Peace Ada Deer First Woman Assistant Secretary of the Interior Bureau of Indian Affairs	First Day of Autumn Gabriela Silang Leader for Filipino Independence 29	Ruth Cheney Streeter Women's Advocate
		Women's Equality Day				

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Asociación de Mujeres Sembradoras de Esperanza Santa Cruz del Quiché, Guatemala

Strengthening Equality and Community

Asociación de Mujeres Sembradores de Esperanza is a group of women within the Department of Quiche in Guatemala. As Mayan women, they prioritize the community over the individual and solidarity over competition. This reflects their cultural values of complementarity, duality, and balance within their lives. With their first participation in the ESPERA program in 2009 they invested loans in animals like cows, pigs, and chickens, which are traditionally raised or owned by men. Ownership of animals represents savings that allows them to reduce vulnerability around unexpected needs like children's healthcare. Having their own funds empowers them to make decisions about their own lives.



October/Octubre 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Thérèse of Lisieux Mystic, Doctor of the Church	Kathe Kollwitz Socially Conscious Artist	Penny Lernoux Champion of Latin American Poor	Kek Galabru Humanitarian, Founder of LICADHO	Maya Lin Architect, Designer of Vietnam Veterans Memorial	Rosalie Muschal-Reinhardt Leader of Sage-ing Guild, Mary's Pence Founding Board Member	Our Lady of the Rosary, Guatemala
Vilma Martinez Civil Rights Advocate	Mary Josephine Rogers 9 Founder of Maryknoll Sisters 9 Columbus Day Pray for Indigenous Peoples	Aparna Basnyat Humanitarian, Reformer	Eleanor Roosevelt 11 Humanitarian, Diplomat, Teacher	Our Lady of Aparecida, Brazil	Mary Williams Equal Rights Activist, 13 Economist	Sor Juana Ines de la Cruz Mexican Feminist, Mystic, Writer
Teresa of Avila Doctor of the Church 15	Sarah Winnemucca Hopkins Native American Educator, Lecturer, Tribal Leader, Writer	Mae C. Jemison Astronaut, Physician 17	Violeta Barrios de Chamorro President of Nicaragua from 1990-1997	Ellen Malcolm Politician, Equality Advocate, Founder of EMILY's List	Mary Joel Kolmer, 20 Shirley Kolmer, 20 Kathleen McGuire, Agnes Mueller, Barbara Ann Muttra ASCs Martyred in Liberia	Ursula Teacher, Martyr 21
Barbara C. Harris First Woman to Be Ordained a Suffragan Bishop	Shahla Sherkat Publisher of Controversial Socialist Magazine in Iran	Rebecca Rouse Humanitarian, Founder of Women's Work in Cleveland	Irena Sendler 25 WWII Catholic, Saved Jewish Children	Juliette Gordon Low Founder of the Girl Scouts	Carrie Chapman Catt Suffragist and Peace Advocate	Elizabeth Cady Stanton 28 Abolitionist, Suffragist
Maxine Hong Kingston Prominent Chinese- American Author	Abigail Adams Freethinker, Women's Advocate	Catherine Hoffman Founder of Youth Peace and Justice Corps Halloween				





The Workers' Rights Center (WRC) Madison, Wisconsin

Taking Action Against Unfair Employment Practices

WRC was created by the Interfaith Coalition for Worker Justice after an investigation into the working conditions of Latina/o immigrants. The study found that 43% of Latina/o workers experience some form of wage theft. WRC works to help recover unpaid wages, fund basic worker training in multiple languages, and provide training in self-representation, leadership and organizational skills. Funds from Mary's Pence allowed WRC to form an advocacy support group called Women Workers United for Latina women dealing with work place issues including discrimination and unsafe working conditions. This group provides a space for women to share challenges and triumphs as well as to plan and organize for actions.

Mary's Pence Grant

November/Noviembre 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			Olympe de Gouges Feminist, Political Writer	Pray for All Those Who Have Gone Before Us	Anne Knight British Abolitionist and Feminist	Janemarie Luecke Scholar, Mary's Pence Founding Board Member
			Feast of All Saints	All Souls Day Dia de los Muertos		
Margaret Lucas Cavendish Feminist, Socialist, Author	Jeanne Chezard de Matel Founder of the Order of Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament	Marie Curie Won the Nobel Prize in Physics and Chemistry	Fanny Kemble Actress, Author	Diana Hayes Black Catholic Womanist, Theologian	Lynda Van Devanter Nurse, Activist	Catherine McAuley Founder of Sisters of Mercy
Daylight Savings Ends						Veterans' Day
Mary Astell Philosopher, Writer, Women's Advocate	Juliana Dogbadzi Survivor of Abuse, Advocate for Victims	Julia and Celina Ramos Martyred with Jesuits	Women of Liberia Mass Action for Peace Nonviolent Peace Demonstrators	Rose Phillipine Duchesne Minister to Native Americans	Winson Hudson Suffragist, Civil Rights Activist	Wilma Mankiller First Woman Chief of the Cherokee People
Mother of Divine Providence, Puerto Rico	Nora Kizer Bell Advocate of Single-Sex Education	Our Lady of the Presentation of Quinche, Ecuador	Cecilia Patroness of Music, Martyr	Our Lady of Peace, 23 El Salvador	"Las Mariposas" Fought to Overthrow Dominican Dictator	Gregoria Ortega and Gloria Gallardo Founders of Las Hermanas
				Thanksgiving Day		
Emma Goldman American Radical, Feminist	Dorothy Day Founder of Catholic Worker Movement	Mary Walker U.S. Civil War Surgeon, US Medal of Honor	Shirley Chisholm First African-American Congresswoman	Elizabeth Kenny Innovator in Treatment of Polio		





CEPROSI Nindiri, Nicaragua

Establishing Economic Autonomy

When Marta (far left) joined ESPERA, she was actively involved in The Center for Education and Promotion of Holistic Health (CEPROSI) in Nicaragua and wanted to begin working toward economic autonomy. For many ESPERA women, a loan is the first step toward achieving financial autonomy. With the help of ESPERA loans, Marta began a small roadside stand selling fruit and some sweets. Now, her business has flourished and she is able to sell a wide variety of products including day-to-day necessities such as soap, hair combs and snacks. Pictured here with her daughters and granddaughters, who help her manage the business, Marta is now well-respected in her community because she controls her own income.



December/Diciembre 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					Rosa Parks Civil Rights Activist	Jean Donovan, Ita Ford, Maura Clarke, Dorothy Kazel Martyred in El Salvador
Patsy Mink Advocate of Women and the Poor	Edith Cavell British Nurse, Executed as POW	Alabama Bus Boycott 1955, Remember the Women Who Walked	Elizabeth Johnson Catholic Feminist Theologian, Professor	Cynthia Maung Humanitarian, Doctor	Mary Aloysia Hardey Founder of Convents	Ruby Dee Civil Rights Activist
First Sunday of Advent					Immaculate Conception	
Emily Dickinson Poet, Mystic	Marie-Marguerite 11 d'Youville Founder of the Gray Nuns	Our Lady of Guadalupe, Mexico 12	Ella Baker Civil Rights Leader and Organizer	Catherine de Hueck Doherty Founder of Madonna House	Senal Sarihan Lawyer for Socialist and Humanitarian Causes	Margaret Mead Anthropologist, Intellectual
International Human Rights Day						Las Posadas Begin
Amy Carmichael Founder of the Dohnavur Fellowship	Clara Hale Founder of Hale House for Children	Sacagawea Explorer, Peacemaker 19	Madam C.J. Walker 20 Economic Empowerment Pioneer	Emma Tenayuca Latina Labor Leader 21	Frances Xavier Cabrini First US Citizen to Be Canonized	Mary Antoinette Missionary, Martyr 23
				First Day of Winter		
Hortense Powdermaker Socialist, Author Christmas Eve	Mary Births Jesus 25	Our Lady of Chiquinquira, Colombia	Eve Ensler Author, Speaker, Revolutionary	Arundhati Roy Author, Human Rights Advocate	Thea Bowman Professor of African- American Catholicism and Spirituality	Pray for Families Living in Poverty 30
Marie Augusta Neal Author, Social Activist						
New Year's Eve	Christmas					



Celebrating 30 Gears

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