

CSA JUBILARIAN 2017

Name of Jubilarian: Rhea Emmer

Name of Birthplace/Hometown: Milwaukee, WI/Mayville, WI

Education: Schools/colleges/universities attended and degrees received:

Marian College, Fond du Lac, WI – BSN

Creighton University, Omaha, NE – MA Spirituality

Wisdom University, Oakland, CA – D.MIN Spirituality

Please name the places where you have ministered; if possible, list years. If you were a teacher, please name the parish or school, location, dates, and grade levels taught:

1968-69 St. Agnes Hospital, Fond du Lac, WI

1969-71 St. Anthony's Hospital, Hays, KS

1978-93 Catholic Health Association, Madison, WI

1985-89 CSA Leadership

1985-93 CSA Formation

1993-present Spiritual Health Consultant; Retreat/Spiritual Direction

Share a story about a time, an event, or an experience in your vowed life that affirms or speaks to your lifelong commitment as a vowed woman religious.

Share what it means to you to be celebrating jubilee in CSA and in the global Church.

Share a poem, a prayer, a reflection that has captured for you, the story of your journey in religious life.

WE WERE MADE FOR THESE TIMES

My journey as a woman religious has challenged me to grow in wonderful ways. As an "itinerant minister" – teaching spirituality to healthcare professionals across the country – I have met people from all faith backgrounds and spiritual traditions. This richness of spiritual diversity has widened my own understanding of God and all the creative ways the Mystery we name God manifests.

The ministry of retreat and spiritual direction has revealed the many ways the Spirit continues to transform our human journey into a Divine one: sometimes in joy and suffering; other times in raw faith and deep despair. The "Word-made-flesh" continues in our day and time.

The gift of living a vowed life in community for 50 years has prepared me to respond to those who faith life and human dignity are threatened in our American culture and global world...aware that I, too, am among the needy and always enriched by those I serve.