

# JPIC NEWS

## SEPTEMBER, 2017



From July 31 to August 4, Ursuline sisters and our lay collaborators gathered at Brescia House, Bryanston South Africa for the second Global Education Conference, *Ursuline Educators in the service of reconciliation, justice & peace*. There were 90 participants representing schools from all our regions: **Asia/Pacific:** Taiwan, Thailand, Indonesia, Australia; **Africa:** S. Africa, Kenya, Senegal, Botswana, a Companion of St. Angela; **Europe:** France, England, Ireland and Germany; **Latin America:** Brazil, Chile, Peru; **USA:** New York, Dallas, Wilmington, St Louis, New Orleans and Cincinnati.

Keynote was Bishop Kevin Dowling of South Africa and currently President of Pax Christi International. He spoke movingly of his own personal experiences in Sudan and elsewhere and the ongoing work of Restorative Justice throughout Africa.



Another highlight was the rich sharing of five sisters from Africa on their realities of working toward reconciliation, justice & peace in education in their countries. This opened up time for countries and regions to share their experiences and a reporting to the whole group found some key themes emerging: recognition of the need for networking, the sharing of persons and resources; honest and responsive governments; tolerance on all levels; teacher training; paying attention to our students; women's empowerment and advocacy. Two questions that surfaced throughout the conference: What are we being called to do differently? What kind of student will our world need?





I was privileged to address the assembly at the Women's Prison after our tour of Constitution Hill where people were imprisoned during apartheid. The connections between what had been spoken of during the African sisters presentations and the UN's agenda on the global scale were amazing as were initiatives undertaken throughout the Institute in promoting the "two feet of love": works of charity and social justice.

Tours included Soweto, Constitution Hill, a traditional African dinner with drumming and a visit St. Ursula's in Krugersdorp.

*Maureen Welch, osu*

## **REMINDER:**

### **SEASON OF CREATION**

**SEPTEMBER 1 –  
OCTOBER 4**



## **SEASON OF CREATION**

Many resources are available on the web.

Please share your events/actions with us.

*Please keep in your prayers JPIC coordinators from Europe I who are meeting Sept 11-15 at Tours. They will share with all of us the outcomes of their time together.*