

**L'Arche Clinton  
ARCH INC.  
P.O. Box 0278  
Clinton, IA 52733-0278  
563.243.9035**



Return Service  
Requested

Non-Profit Org.  
US POSTAGE PAID  
Clinton, IA 52732  
PERMIT #5

*L'Arche Clinton* — A Community of  
faith, rooted in prayer and trust in God



May 2017

## March Madness — a new meaning for L'Arche Clinton



Brigitte, Bethany and Becky welcome students to our monthly community meeting.

ings working on various service projects throughout the homes, such as readying gardens for the summer and deep cleaning basements, for which we are all so grateful.

It's not just the physical help that students offer, though, during their weeks with L'Arche. Often it's easy for us in community to start feeling bogged down by the tasks of everyday life. We lose sight of our mission and the beauty that surrounds us in our homes and apartments. Student volunteers are able to point us back to the "why" of what we do, to our purpose. As Jean Vanier says, when we enter into friendship with one another, we enter into friendship with God. It's a communion that shows us not just the value of others, but also our own self-value. That is a lesson that is infinitely worth all of the madness of March and keeps us looking forward to the visits from Lewis and Loyola Universities in May.

By Bethany Luzny  
Community Life Coordinator

While many throughout the United States were filling out their NCAA brackets for the 2017 men's basketball play-offs at the beginning of March, we at L'Arche Clinton were preparing for a different kind of March Madness: student volunteer groups. We checked and double checked our monthly planners, stocked our pantries, made welcome sign after welcome sign, and paired the perfect blankets with the perfect pillowcases on our various twin beds reserved for guests.

In March alone, we welcomed five different student groups from colleges and seminaries across the Midwest which, when combined, totaled approximately 50 student volunteers and leaders. Most groups came for about a week, allowing them to fully participate in the many aspects of community life such as church and prayer services, outings to karaoke and a St. Patrick's Day dance,

meals, and the "ever-riveting" community meetings with assistants and core members. They also spent most morn-

## Students arrive weary, leave jubilant

By Devin Land  
Community Leader

We love it when student groups visit our community. These groups most often come as part of a college service trip, and typically the students have no idea what to expect for the week. They usually arrive tired from their drive, hesitant about being in an unfamiliar place, and often nervous about being with people with intellectual disabilities: most have never had

that experience. Inevitably, within a day or two, they are completely relaxed and having a great time, the byproduct of experiencing the welcome of a L'Arche community and especially the welcome by the core members. By the end of the week it is clear how they have been moved, as they share their week's experiences through laughter and tears. Their week at L'Arche Clinton will be a week they'll never forget!!

**L'Arche Clinton is looking for interested persons to serve on the development advisory committee and to be on-line ambassadors.**  
If you could lend us a little of your time — call Jean Bormann at 563-243-9035 or email [development.larcheclinton@gmail.com](mailto:development.larcheclinton@gmail.com)

Thank you in advance for your service to our community

## Fundraiser

Join us the Third Monday of every month at  
**Pizza Hut**  
1616 N 2nd St., Clinton  
Just mention our name and we receive 20%  
of whatever you order!



Thank you to those who donated February 1-April 30, 2017

Bob and Marilee Mueller, Clinton, IA  
Bob and Sonya Housenga, Clinton, IA  
Dan and Jan Kness, Clinton, IA  
Danielle Miller, Fulton, IL  
Dr. James A. Sweeney, Bloomington, MN  
Fr. Thomas Hennen, Davenport, IA  
Frances M. McDonald, Clinton, IA  
Frances Rita Burke, DeWitt, IA  
Gerald and Marcia Jane Land,  
Pleasant Hill, MO  
Greg and Margaret Mary Luzny,  
Reynoldsburg, OH  
Jean and Ron Bormann, Charlotte, IA  
Jean Roeder, Fulton, IL  
Jessica Gustin, Wells Fargo, ND  
Joan Burke, DeWitt, IA  
Joe and JoElla O'Connell, DeWitt, IA  
John and Cynthia Roth, Clinton, IA

Jon Kuiper, Clinton, IA  
Kayla and Corey Brown, Clinton, IA  
Kelli and Eric Totemeier,  
Columbus Junction, IA  
Larry and Carolyn Kramer, Clinton, IA  
Lisa and Jay Griswold, Fort Madison, IA  
Marcella E Burke, DeWitt, IA  
Marcia Lass, Clinton, IA  
Marilyn Mahoney, Kansas City, MO  
Martin Amos, Davenport, IA  
Mike and Jeanne Jacobs, Grand Mound, IA  
Paul Henry, Pittsburgh, PA  
Peggy Sue McClure, Clinton, IA  
Pizza Hut, Clinton, IA  
Potter Dairy, Preston, IA  
Scott and Laurent Spalding, Maquoketa, IA  
Sister Maria Zeimen, Chicago, IL

**THANK YOU**  
to all who donated or participated in our  
**April 2017 TRIVIA NIGHT!**  
Our success was even greater because of  
your participation.



First Place  
"SOMETHING ELSE"



Second Place  
"SIX PACK"



Questions about how to become a  
full-time or live-in assistant  
contact Devin Land by email at  
[Communityleader.larcheclinton@gmail.com](mailto:Communityleader.larcheclinton@gmail.com)

*The following are quotes from students who visited our L'Arche community this past March on their alternative spring break trips. Thank you to all of them for the time they spent in our community and all the service jobs they completed.*

"L'Arche is nothing like I've seen before. I love that there is such a loving and safe community for such wonderful people! I loved cooking and dancing with the core members."

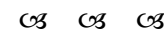
—Emily Furtado, freshman  
University of Michigan

"L'Arche gave me a sense of what it means to be truly present with the Lord and in communion with those around me."

Henry Burns, sophomore  
University of Michigan

"I love the love at L'Arche Clinton, everyone was so welcoming. I'm going to take home the idea of unconditional love."

Mikala Gwinn, freshman  
St. Norbert College



"I felt welcomed into the community as soon as I arrived, and was surrounded by so much love all week. I have learned so much about myself as well and I will leave L'Arche a different person than when I came."

Megan Lau, sophomore  
St. Norbert College

"Thanks to the core members within the community, I realized that love is so easy. Nobody is outside the reach of the hearts of L'Arche. That's how all of life should be."

Isabel Detienne, sophomore  
St. Norbert College



"Throughout my time at L'Arche this week I have learned what true unconditional love looks and feels like. The entire L'Arche community has opened their hearts to us, and we will continue to share life beyond Clinton!"

Paige Bonner, sophomore  
St. Norbert College

"When I came to L'Arche, I had no idea what to expect. Now that our time is coming to an end, it has been nothing shy of amazing and I would not trade it for the world. The love, hospitality and compassion shown by the core members was so magical. I definitely would visit again!"

Gianna O'Malley, senior  
Saint Xavier University



"My experience at L'Arche Clinton blessed me with understanding, laughter and unconditional love. I am thankful for the core members and assistants who shared life with me, but I am even more grateful for the chance to share my life with them."

Ciara Nichols, sophomore  
Saint Xavier University

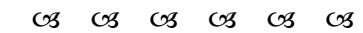
"I fell in love with the L'Arche community, it is truly one-of-a-kind. I am so thankful to have met so many people that are as devoted as the assistants at L'Arche."

Laura Gomez, senior  
Saint Xavier University



"L'Arche Clinton has been a blessing in my life. It is unlike anything I have experienced. There is an overwhelming amount of joy, love and kinship in the Arches. Core members and staff have been very welcoming and make me feel like I'm at home. I've developed amazing relationships and I hope to be back soon."

Jessica Diaz, senior  
Saint Xavier University

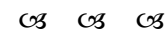


"The words 'Sharing Life' have now taken on a new meaning in my life."

Joseph "Joey" Preston  
Director of Pastoral Ministry  
Saint Xavier University

"I am so amazed by the L'Arche community. Everyone has welcomed us with open arms. The community is full of joy, acceptance and kindness. I'm so blessed to have spent this week with the community."

—Giuliana Bresnahan, sophomore  
University of Michigan



"L'Arche broke my heart open to sharing and communicating in new ways and showed me the face of Christ in ways I'd never seen before."

Emily J. Stumpo, sophomore  
University of Michigan



"I am having a wonderful time meeting core members who have personalities that brighten my day and a staff that shares incredible stories."

EJ Mier, junior  
University of Michigan



"L'Arche is an intuitive way of living. I heard that it's all about 'Sharing Life,' but I didn't understand its depth until I saw it for myself."

Jesse Newton, senior  
University of Michigan



"L'Arche Clinton is a special place, one like I have never experienced before. It is a place where many different people, with many different backgrounds and experiences, can come together and just share life. It is such a simple concept with such a powerful and truly beautiful execution."

Sarah LaSata, sophomore  
University of Michigan



"L'Arche Clinton has helped to truly see what living as a community looks like. Sharing life with the core members and assistants has been an amazing experience."

Laur en Dunstan, sophomore  
University of Michigan



"Being at L'Arche has inspired me to be more welcoming and love unconditionally. The people of L'Arche are wonderful and will remain forever in my heart."

Beverly Lee, senior  
St. Norbert College

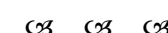


"Thank you for welcoming us into your homes! I loved getting to know you all and I hope that I get to come back and visit soon!"

Danny Wilson, junior  
St. Norbert College

The personalities of the core members surprised me. Some are sassy, witty, sneaky and quick. But they are all so loving and supportive of each other."

Rachal Brooks, junior  
Saint Xavier University



"Spending a week with the L'Arche community was an enriching and rewarding experience! The core members are absolutely wonderful and have taught me many things about life in a short time!"

Sinead Finnerty, senior  
Saint Xavier University



Thank you,  
Students!!