

Mission Moment



Br. Jim Ballmann, C.P.P.S.
Database Administrator

Br. Jim has worked here at CCSJ for 40 years in a variety of capacities. He was born in Ohio and lived there for a number of years. He made his profession as a Brother in the Missionaries of the Precious Blood 55 years ago.

It was not my original intention to minister here at the College. However, when I met with our provincial director years ago to discuss a new assignment, he asked me to try ministry at the College for one year. That was 40 years ago and I have never had any regrets. I have held several positions including administrative assistant to the business office, payroll manager, accounts payable, facilities and staff manager, database administrator, IT director, adjunct professor and currently, institutional database coordinator/programmer.

However, the title which I value most, the Ministry of Presence, is not listed in any of my titles. As a member of the C.P.P.S. I have tried to be available to students, staff and faculty to apply the merits of the Precious Blood of Jesus to life's daily joys and struggles. Through my actions I strive to be a calming influence to all I meet here on campus and in the community, especially by following the maxim "preach the gospel at all times, use words only when necessary".

When I came to the College I did not know how to swim and one of the members of our Board of Trustees paid for my swimming lessons. After I learned to swim, I became a swimming instructor to return to the community what had been given to me. I am currently a lifeguarding and swimming instructor at the Hammond YMCA. My interactions with the diversity of the College family have enabled me to apply the same benefits to the local community.

I thank God every day for that one-year trial that has helped me to minister here at the College and to be an instrument of grace and peace to all I meet.