



CATHOLIC NEWMAN CENTER

Newman News

UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI - ST LOUIS

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By Fr. Bill Kempf

Recently, a student described coming to the Newman Center as entering a 'black hole.' It was one of the best compliments I have heard about our ministry at UM-St. Louis. As she continued to describe the experience, she said, "You come here expecting to spend just a few minutes talking with folks, getting a bit of homework done, or hanging out. Then you look at your watch and discover that four hours have gone by. And you don't mind one bit...You don't mind it one bit."

I know the feeling. I have been serving the Newman Center at UMSL part time since 1994 and full time since June 2000, and I have no idea where the time went. Nor do I mind one bit. I never get tired of the students - their energy, their questions about faith and life, and their willingness to serve and love God. I come here many days expecting to only be at the house for a few hours before I return to my other full time job at St. Ann's - and suddenly it is 11:00 p.m., and the black hole of time and space has struck again.

And as I ponder this mystery of time disappearing in a heartbeat, it strikes another chord in me. What if Msgr. Bill Lyons, when he began his ministry here in the late 60's, had set some money aside and let the interest grow and compound? Or what if I had done the same when I began back in 1994? Or in 2000? Time slips away so quickly into that black hole, that in a blink, what began so slowly suddenly would have become a sizeable amount, enough to grow this ministry of presence for all the future generations of UMSL students. What if, what if, what if...

It is 'what if' no longer. I have established an Endowment Fund for the UMSL Newman Center. A committee has been recruited, and the necessary paperwork now waits approval from the Archdiocese. Soon, we will be able to begin our own Newman-Super-Nova - the black hole where our funds will gather and grow until, in what will seem like a heartbeat, those funds will explode in a whole new range of ministries and services for the campus community.

In the meantime, students will continue to enter the black hole that is the Newman Center. And their time will disappear in the hours that seem like seconds. And in those 'black hole' moments when time seems to stop, they will continue to become children of the Kingdom, where they will live with the Father and the Son through the Spirit, into the eternity God has in store for us all...

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What's Your Favorite Thing About the Newman Center?

By Katie Williams

In a recent poll, we asked our Newman Center Officers exactly what it is that keeps bringing them back. Here's what they said...

Julie Schneider, President

Major: Psychology

"My favorite thing about Newman is when I get caught up in good conversation or silly laughter for endless amounts of time."

Janice Koziatek, Treasurer

Major: Nursing

"My favorite thing about CNC is what we like to call the "Black Hole" effect. Whenever I'm at the house, I always lose track of time because I'm having a great conversation, hanging out with my friends or meeting new people. And each time before I know it, hours have passed...that's why we call it the black hole! And no matter how much we pretend to complain about it, we love it."

Joe Sanchez, Student Government Representative

Major: Communications

"My favorite thing about the Newman Center is the closeness of everybody that hangs out here. They are all people with the same religious background as me. We all care enough to put extra time to strengthen our relationship with God while attending school and we are all pretty much like a big college family."

Angie Burton, Fundraising Chair

Major(s): Psychology and Elementary Education

"My favorite thing about the Newman Center is the spirit of the place. We are a huge family because we welcome all people, and we live the gospel through our actions not just through our words."

Jennie Gildehaus, Outreach and Publicity

Major: Nursing

"My favorite thing about the Newman Center is that no matter what kind of day you are having, good or bad, there is always someone here to help cheer you up."

Jenny Ebel, Social Chair

Major: Nursing

"My favorite part about the Newman Center is the love. It's hard sometimes since my family's halfway across the country, but the Newman Center is a place I can go and see people that I really care about. There are always friendly faces there, and I know it sounds cliché but I can't help but to feel like I'm part of one big family."

Dan Sinnett, Horticulturalist

Major: Horticulture

"I most enjoy being able to celebrate mass with my peers."

Chase Sims, Athletic Director

Major: Biochemistry

"My favorite thing about the Newman are the social events around the house where no matter how stressed out you may be at the time, you drop in to have fun with friends. I see God in those interactions. I also enjoy the basement."

Katie Williams, Member at Large

Major: Political Science

"My favorite thing about Newman is that it's a second home. Whenever I come here, all other problems in life become remote because of the comfort, happiness, and hugs we provide and receive from one another, and our shared faith community."



The Newman Officers. From Bottom Left: Joe Sanchez, Jenny Ebel, Dan Sinnett. Second Row: Katie Williams, Janice Koziatek. Third Row: Jennie Gildehaus, Julie Schneider. Top Row: Angie Burton.

2nd Annual Msgr. Bill Lyons Open: Another Hole in One!

By Angie Burton

Here ye, Here ye...the 2nd annual Msgr. Bill Lyons Open was officially an enormous success. On Sunday October 15th, fifty-five plus people came out to play mini golf at Par Tee Recreation Center in Florissant.



There were many activities for the golfers, young and old, to participate in before the actual tournament began. There were clowns juggling, balloon animals, face painting, picture taking, and visor making.

At 1:00 p.m., the announcement came from Fr. Bill (Kempf) that the tournament was about to begin.

The players reported to their holes for the shotgun start. The players started swinging their clubs and the balls went flying. For some players, such as myself, the balls actually did fly places they probably were not supposed to, like in the bushes or the water.

At the end of the tournament, all the teams turned in their scorecards to the officials. Many of the scores were close and the officials had to look to a tie breaking ball. Paul Schneider, Mike McMahon, Mark Bujesky, and Matt McGarvin scored a total team score of 31 and won the coveted First Place plaque and some lovely gift certificates.

The tournament was a fun time for the families, friends, and alumni of the Newman Center. The tournament also proved to be a huge success! We raised over \$1,250, which is double the amount we raised last year. Thanks to all the participants, sponsors, and to everyone who made this tournament a success!



The Winning Team: (Left to Right) Mike McMahon, Paul Schneider, Matt McGarvin, and Mark Bujesky.

What's New at Newman?!

By Jennie Gildehaus and Angie Burton

A main part of the Newman Center's purpose is to provide exciting and interesting programming for UMSL students. This semester we have added several new programs to meet the needs of the students.

First, several students expressed interest in wanting to know more about the November ballot, specifically Amendment 2. A guest speaker was brought in to educate us on the bill. It was a very informative and well-attended evening and many students agreed that they feel better prepared to vote now.

A few weeks ago, we began our first student-led Rosary Prayer Group. Such a large number of people attended the first meeting

that the living room was used as a meeting space instead of the upstairs chapel! It was very exciting for so many people to come to this event. The Rosary Prayer Group meets on Tuesday evenings at 7:15 p.m.

Another change to the Newman calendar was the addition of Tuesday evening Soup with Sister. Soup with Sister is a simple meal of soup and bread that we share with local religious sisters after our evening mass. Everyone enjoys talking with the sisters and listening to their stories. It is always a fun and informative experience. Tuesday evening Mass was switched to 5:30 p.m. allowing for Soup with Sister to happen around dinner time. Attendance has been great! Our newest Soup with Sis-

ter really allows us to build community by sharing a meal together. We are grateful for the St. Ann parishioners who provide the delicious soup for us each Tuesday.

The Café Newman Book Club is another new program at the CNC. We have not had a meeting as of yet, but many people are excited at the prospect of a book club. The first book to be read is *Living Your Strengths Journey* by Albert Winseman, Donald Clifton, and Curt Liesveld. Everyone is excited about the process of uncovering the strengths and gifts they have to offer the church and the world.

The year is looking good and is so filled with new and exciting events you can't help but join in!

Windows and Lawn Equipment = A Successful Summer

By Dan Sinnett



Along with the excitement of another whole year of fun Newman activities, students were greeted this school year with a few notable changes around the Newman House.

Most obvious to students and guests are the new windows. The Newman House has always been lucky to have many windows in each room, and the new windows make it much easier to enjoy a beautiful day while sitting at the dining room table drudging through homework. The main benefits are threefold: The new windows are airtight and energy efficient, meaning we save money heating and air conditioning bills; the windows are clearer to see through and aesthetically much more pleasing; and they open easily, allowing for fresh breezes to circulate on particularly nice days.

Window World began the removal and installation of our thirty-nine windows on July 20 and completed

the project in about a week. Prepping and finishing work was done by Kim Cowan, Cheri Smith, Laynie Smith, Julie Schneider, Dan Sinnett, and Tracy Van de Riet. Financially, the new windows were made possible by a grant from the Annual Catholic Appeal. To see the new windows, visit the Newman website or just stop by.

Another change was made to benefit the Newman facility over the summer. This change is one that perhaps only Fr. Bill and a horticulturist can truly appreciate. New lawn equipment was purchased. The old, rusty riding lawn mower has been replaced by a brand new Cub Cadet garden tractor with a 42-inch cutting deck. The other major purchase was a gas powered Echo string trimmer for those places that the Cub Cadet can't quite reach. The new equipment makes the upkeep of the yard much easier. Thanks to Richard Muckermann who cut our grass this past summer and our many other volunteers who helped beautify the Newman Center!

RCIA Update

by JoAnne Tinsley

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) classes promise to be a great adventure this year because we have such a diverse community of participants. Since the RCIA participants are of varying ages, nationalities, and religious backgrounds, the discussions each Wednesday evening have been lively.

We have been busy examining our own relationship and images of God. Our group has several mem-

bers who are already familiar with many parables, which has helped us learn different ways to approach the Bible. We've only had six meetings and we have already had very interesting conversations and debates, especially about stem cell research.

The year of RCIA class promises to be informative, educational and full of lively conversation. Please pray for us as we continue on the journey of discovering the Church.

Calendar Highlights

Chevy's Night

The CNC is sponsoring a Chevy's Night fundraiser on Thursday, December 7 from 3-10pm. Fifteen percent of each participants' bill will be donated to the CNC. To get a flyer, please contact the CNC.

Christmas Caroling

Please join the CNC as we sing carols around the Bel-Nor neighborhood on December 19 at 6:30pm. Warm beverages and cookies will be served afterwards.

May He support us all the day long,

till the shadows lengthen, and the evening comes, and the busy world is hushed, and the fever of life is over, and our work is done.

Then in His mercy, may He give us a safe lodging, and a holy rest, and peace at the last.

-Cardinal Newman

Wish List

\$.39 stamps

Gift certificates to Home Depot, Office Depot, Sams Club, or Shop 'n Save.

New fax machine

New Vacuum

Ping Pong Paddles and Ping Pong Balls

Sports Corner

by Chase Sims



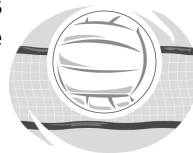
When it comes to competitive sports, there's one place on UMSL's campus that might get overlooked. It's the Catholic Newman Center. Generally to the students of UMSL, the Newman Center represents community service, a great place to socialize and a home to worship, it boasts something unforeseen beneath the clockwork: a competitive spirit. That's right, this year holds exciting potential for Newman Center students, with great sporting events already having played out.

The Volleyball and Ice Cream Social in September began the school year off right. It was hard to tell what attracted people more: chocolate ice cream, endless favorite toppings, and enough caramel syrup to float a raft, or a thrilling and fun-filled game of volleyball. Following

the sugar and adrenaline high, we organized a ping-pong tournament in the Newman basement. It was a night of sports sure to make the highlight reel.

Later in September, we held the First Annual CNC Washers Tourney. To follow along with the tradition of Washers in the St. Louis area, we topped the evening off with some delicious toasted ravioli. It was a great night of interactions, friendships, and pitchin' metal donuts. With the excellent turnout, the potential for a second tourney is high.

October brought one of the most exciting events in Newman athletics: intramural soccer. Last spring, intramural 6-on-6 indoor co-ed soccer held a third place finish for the Newman team. This season, we hope to bring the Rec Sports Champion title to the CNC once again!



Check out our website!
www.umsl.edu
 ~newman

Staff and Officers:

Director:
Fr. Bill Kempf

Campus Minister:
Tracy Van de Riet

Staff Assistant:
Cheri Smith

Peer Ministers:
Julie Schneider
Dan Sinnett

Director of Mission Advancement:
Teresa Roberson-Mullins

President: Julie Schneider Outreach & Publicity: Jennie Gildehaus

Treasurer: Janice Koziatek Horticulturalist: Dan Sinnett

SGA Representative: Joe Sanchez Athletic Director: Chase Sims

Fundraising Chair: Angie Burton Member at Large: Katie Williams

Social Chair: Jenny Ebel

Thank you to this year's donors...

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Catholic Newman Center-UMSL



Chevy's Night
 Help raise money for the CMC by eating at Chevy's on...

Thursday, December 7

3:00-10:00 p.m.

919 Olive Blvd.

Just west of I70

Alumni and Friends
of Newman
Happy Hour

Friday, March 9

6:45 p.m. - ???

Mission Statement

The Catholic Newman Center serves the campus community at UM-St. Louis through liturgy, fellowship, prayer, and education. As a welcoming faith community, we offer service and leadership experiences, spiritual guidance and faith development, and recreational and social opportunities, forming people for their active roles in the church and the world.