



# Newman News

University of Missouri - St Louis

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## *Director's Pen*

*By Fr. Bill Kempf*

An investing firm has as their tag line the question: "How do you measure success?" The response is: "One investor at a time." Sometimes, I measure success at the Newman Center exactly the same way – one student at a time. When one student signs up to be a lector at Sunday night mass, that is a success. When another student, who is extremely quiet, finally opens up their heart and shares during a scripture reflection, that is a success. When a student makes the choice to continue singing in the choir, even when they are struggling with faith issues and church issues, that is a success. Anytime a student in college puts their faith into action by volunteering with Habitat for Humanity or the Child Center of Our Lady, the Newman Center has fulfilled its mission to prepare students "for their active roles in the church and in the world."

When a student was killed tragically in a one car accident a few Sunday's ago, the University contacted the Newman Center and asked if I would lead a prayer service for the students in her memory – another way to measure success. When hurricane Katrina hit and a number of students arrived on the Umsl campus with little but the clothes on their backs, they contacted our center to see what we could do. Pairing up with St. Ann parish, we collected enough clothing and supplies to see them through the winter – yet another way to measure success. When St. Ann's parish council wanted to begin a youth program at the parish, five of our college students volunteered to staff the Luke 18 retreat that will be the major spiritual beginning of the process. Five more ways to measure success in the five students who volunteered.

Sometimes it is good to sit back and take stock of the amazing decisions that our Newman students are making for God, for the world and for themselves. And it is even more of a blessing to be able to tell you the story – the story of how your prayer and support bears fruit in the lives of the young adults of today. How do you measure success in a ministry that deals in the realm of 'spirit'? You measure it by its effects in the choices and lives of our students. One student at a time.

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## Alumni Spotlight: MIKE ROGAN

By Angie Burton

Have you ever wanted to get dirty, help to pour cement, put up drywall, or help build the roof of a house? These are things that our alumni spotlight Mike Rogan, a May 2005 graduate of UM-St. Louis, does on a daily basis. Mike works at Habitat for Humanity as an Assistant Site Coordinator. In this position, Mike is responsible for a wide variety of tasks. He supervises volunteer groups and makes sure the work schedule is being followed as closely as possible. Mike makes sure that everything runs smoothly when volunteers come to the building sites by coordinating with his co-workers, subcontractors, and contractors the details of building the houses. According to Mike, the most challenging part of his job is conflict



management and problem solving between the subcontractors, contractors, and volunteers.

Mike began volunteering with Habitat for Humanity while he was studying Criminal Justice and Criminology at UM-St. Louis. Mike actually launched the Newman Center's monthly service project volunteering with Habitat for Humanity. He organized the budget for the program as well as coordinated the volunteers from UM-St. Louis. Mike said, "Had it not been for the CNC, I probably would not have had such a wide variety of experiences volunteering with Habitat." His volunteering experience with Habitat definitely helped him to secure the job that he now holds.

Throughout this past summer, Habitat worked in Hillsdale building 20 homes for low-income families. All 20 houses are expected to be completed by November 17, the official dedication date.

Mike really enjoys his work with Habitat. He really appreciates the opportunities that he had to volunteer so much during his years as a student here at Newman. He is really looking forward to helping and serving at the Newman Center in the future. Mike really enjoyed his years at the Newman Center and wants to help all future students to have the same experience.



Mike cutting plywood that was used for trusses for the Hillsdale build site.

### Staff and Officers:

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### Newman Center

#### Wish List

- Black and White Laser Printer
- PlayStation 2
- White plastic lightweight 8' indoor/outdoor table
- Stamps
- Collapsible easel

## ***This Old House***

***By Bobby Wassel***

Our old and tired Newman Center kitchen was lucky enough to undergo a much needed and well-deserved renovation this past summer. As many of you may remember, parts of the kitchen were stained and ruined from the great flood of '04. The walls were in bad shape, the cabinets had seen better days, and our dishwasher was acting as a storage unit for paper products.

But this past summer, we recruited the finest of kitchen rehabbers to completely redo our entire kitchen. With the help of the Big and Little Mike Rogans (see Alumni Spotlight, pg. 2!), we gutted it, repaired the walls, laid down all new flooring, and re-did all our plumbing and electric work. Then, UM-St. Louis and Newman alumni Brian and Jen (Haines) McCormac brought their brushes and mad painting skills, and gave our walls a much more bright and friendly look.

Finally, it was time for new cabinets and appliances! Dave Gullede, our master cabinet designer, installed all new custom designed cabinets and countertops, giving us way more space for all our goodies. Then Mike Rogan Sr. installed our new dishwasher, stove and sink – now there won't be any more burnt meals and piles of dirty dishes (well, maybe dishes...)

Special thanks to the Rogans, McCormacs and Dave Gullede, for donating all their time and talent to making our kitchen look wonderful! We appreciate the hard work they put into it – come by anytime to check it out!

### ***Before the renovation....***



### ***....and After!***



***Check out our website for all the kitchen remodeling pictures!***  
***[www.umsl.edu/~newman/cnc/photos.html](http://www.umsl.edu/~newman/cnc/photos.html)***

## Mini Golf Tournament a **HUGE** Success!

By Bobby Wassel

The 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Msgr. Bill Lyons Miniature Golf Tournament is in the books! On Sunday, October 2, 74 mini-golfers of all ages hit the links to help raise money for the UMSL Catholic Newman Center. The event was hosted by Par-Tee Recreation Center in Florissant, Mo.



At 1pm, 18 teams lined the 18-hole course, and putt-ed to the finish. We had teams from a wide range of backgrounds; students, alumni, parishioners and students from around the Archdio-

cese came out for a chance to win 1<sup>st</sup> place. When it was all said and done, an alumni team of Meg Bugg, Amanda Harrod, Cathy Modde, Glenn Frei and Patti Curran took home the gold (well, a free Family Fun Pass to Dick Weber Lanes in Florissant...)

Along with the golf, there were also batting cages, a raffle, and of course, plenty of good food. People also had the opportunity to “Pose with the Priest”, by taking a team picture with the Newman Center’s very own Fr. Bill Kempf. The event was a tremendous success, and all the participants had a blast. Overall, we were able to raise over \$500 to help sup-



port the mission of the Newman Center! A special thank you goes out to all the players and volunteers for helping make the day so much fun, as well as to our Advisory

Board and Golf Committee who planned the event and helped make it possible. Thanks also to Al and Rita Haines, owners of Par-Tee Recreation Center, for hosting the event. And of course, we are eternally grateful for all the donors and benefactors of the CNC – without you,



none of this would be possible!

## “I’ll Take You There:” The Largest Homecoming Ever

By Kate Drolet

This year UM-St. Louis hosted the University’s largest Homecoming dance in its 40-year history. A record 750 students attended the dance on October 8, finishing up a week’s worth of school spirit activities.

Last year, UMSL’s Student Government Association officially decided to move Homecoming week to the fall semester rather than the University’s traditional spring spirit week. This year’s Homecoming corresponded with UMSL’s soccer season, while basketball has been the athletic focus.

The week began with a canned food and blood drive sponsored by the American Red Cross. Students also began Banner Wars on Monday, a competition during which organizations and individuals hung large ban-

ners on the bridge connecting the student center to the quad. Banners depicted the week’s theme “I’ll Take You There,” supported Homecoming candidates and represented UMSL life.

UMSL men competed on Wednesday to earn the coveted title “Big Man on Campus.” Nine contestants competed in four categories this year, showing off their skills in the active/sports wear, talent, formal wear and question-and-answer categories. Students supported the BMOC candidates through a penny war. The war raised over \$800 for the American Red Cross and Hurricane Katrina Survivors.

The Homecoming Parade made its way through campus on Thursday. Students, faculty and staff organizations decorated vehicles and designed

floats, competing for the best float prize.

Spirited students turned into soccer fans on Friday night at UMSL’s Homecoming games. Those who came to support UMSL athletics also enjoyed a bonfire Friday night, and found out the BMOC and spirit competition winners.

To finish off the week’s events, students, faculty and staff got their groove on Saturday night at the Homecoming Dance, held at the Airport Marriott hotel.

The Newman Center participated in several of the week’s events, and looks forward to getting even more involved in next year’s Homecoming celebration.

## Newman's Own Haunted Garage

By Julie Schneider



With all the leaves changing colors and the cool breeze blowing, fall becomes a comforting time of year that puts almost everyone in a good mood.

It's hard not to look forward to the many pleasures fall brings us - homemade soup, hayrides, pumpkin patches, apple picking, and even those huge piles of multi-colored leaves. These are just a few things we all know and have experienced this time of year.

Here at the Newman Center, we especially love this season because it is also when the al-

ways-scary Newman garage in the back is transformed into our very own *haunted* garage. The garage is

spooky enough as it is, but with a little help from the clean-up and decorating committees, we turn it into a terrifying sight. This year, the planning team is working very hard to come up with some creative ideas for a theme or story for the haunted garage.

In years past, kids from all over the neighborhood start gathering outside the Newman Center around six

o'clock on Halloween evening. Our lighted jack-o-lanterns from our annual Pumpkin Carving Contest line the driveway. Newman tour guides lead the kids through the garage and

as soon as they survive going through, candy is distributed and they are free to go on trick-or-treating.

Each year, we have at least 300 children from the neighborhood attend.



Newman Center students dress in costume at last year's Haunted Garage.

Be sure to come and join us for a frightfully good time on **October 31 from 6-8:30pm** at the Newman haunted garage.



## Upcoming Events at the CNC...Please Join Us!

### Hunger Awareness Week November 14-17

Our events for Hunger Awareness Week include a **SOUP LINE** in the Nosh Cafeteria in the Millennium Student Center on **Monday, November 14 and Tuesday, November 15 from 11am-1pm**. Our annual **HUNGER BANQUET on Wednesday, November 16 at 12:30pm in the Pilot House**. On **Thursday, November 17**, we will be hosting a **(TEXAS) HOLD 'EM FOR HUNGER TOURNAMENT**. The tournament will be in the **Pilot House** on the first floor of the Millennium Student Center starting at **7pm**. We will be providing food, music, and prizes. Please join us for any of our Hunger Awareness Week Events.

### Alumni Mass Sunday, December 4

Come see our new location for mass on Sunday nights on **December 4 at 8:30pm** for an **ALUMNI MASS!** We are now hosting mass at the Provincial House Chapel. All alumni, friends of Newman, students, staff, faculty, and families are invited to join us as we celebrate the Second Sunday of Advent. A reception will follow mass. For directions to the Provincial House Chapel please see our website at [www.umsl.edu/~newman/cnc/contact.html](http://www.umsl.edu/~newman/cnc/contact.html) or call the CNC at 314-385-3455.

### Christmas Caroling Tuesday, December 20

Remember how excited you were as a kid at the mention of the word "Christmas"? Everything made you

smile; from the lights, to the cookies, and that special visit with Santa. For those of us in college and beyond, the busy-ness surrounding Christmas unfortunately seems to dominate the season. And for some of us, the child-like excitement doesn't kick in until we rush home on December 24 with those last minute presents in hand. The Catholic Newman Center would love to help you put some of that child-like Christmas cheer back into the season with our **CHRISTMAS CAROLING AND PARTY on Tuesday, December 20 at 6:30pm**. We'll provide lots of Christmas goodies, warm beverages, and festive fun. At the party, we will have our **2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Best Ornament Contest**. All alumni, friends of Newman, and students are invited.

Address Service Requested



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## **AWAKENING 2006**

**Mark your calendars for our annual Awakening Retreat February 10, 11, and 12, 2006. All College-aged students are welcome. Contact the Newman Center at 314-385-3455 or [cncumsl@aol.com](mailto:cncumsl@aol.com) for more information.**

**Sunday Night Mass is now being held in the Provincial House Chapel at 8:30pm**

### 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.