

PAXCHRISTI NEWS

Monthly Magazine of Pax Christi Catholic Community in Eden Prairie August 2016

**MONDAY WILL BE
THE BEST DAY OF
YOUR WEEK!**

*JustFaith begins
in September.*

Page 12

GROWING IN OUR FAITH!

Faith Formation classes begin week of September 18. Pages 6–11



PAX CHRISTI

Catholic Community

12100 Pioneer Trail, Eden Prairie, MN 55347-4208
Phone: 952-941-3150 Website: www.paxchristi.com

Office Hours

Monday–Thursday 8:00am–4:30pm
Friday 8:00am–12:00pm

Mass Schedule

Weekend Masses

Saturday 5:00pm
Sunday 9:00am, 11:00am, 5:00pm

Nursery available at all weekend Masses.
Interpreter for hearing impaired at 11:00am.

Weekday Masses

Mondays 8:30am
Tuesdays 8:30am with Rosary to follow
Wednesdays 6:00pm
Thursdays 8:30am
Fridays 8:30am

Sacrament of Reconciliation (private)

Saturdays 4:00–4:30pm

The Pax Christi News is printed monthly by the Church of Pax Christi of Eden Prairie. We accept unsolicited manuscripts and photos from parishioners but reserve the right to edit and publish such material at our discretion. Email submissions, photos, and/or questions to Melissa Nault, Communication Arts Director, mnault@paxchristi.com, or 952-405-7221. All contributions become the property of Pax Christi Catholic Community.



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BEFORE I FORGET...



Fr. Bill Murtaugh
Pastor

In his book, *Chasing Joy: Musings on Life in a Bittersweet World*, Fr. Ed Hays shares a wonderful story from the Taoist tradition of ancient China.

It's about an old holy man named Master Hu. Old Hu loved God, and God loved Hu. So whatever God did was fine with Old Hu, and whatever Hu did was fine with God, since they were such good friends. Being good friends, God and Hu liked to kid one another, and Hu would jokingly call his Friend God "the Great Clod." That was fine with God, who joked with Hu in return, like giving him warts on his face, arthritis in his hands and feet, a canker sore in his mouth, and even gout in his feet. God was such a great kidder, and that was fine with Hu, since they were such great friends.

As a result of God's numerous jokes, Old Hu grew lumpy as a toad and crooked as a human pretzel. "You Old Clod" Hu would shout at God, laughing, and that was fine with God. Just to show his old friend that He

was listening, God made Hu's right leg ten inches shorter than his left, and that made Old Hu walk around in little circles. Laughing loudly, Master Hu would say to the people in the village, "See how the Great Clod listens to me? Look how ugly and silly I'm becoming." Looking up to the sky, Old Hu would say, "Hey, Old Clod, you make me laugh and laugh, but that's what friends are for."

The villagers could only say, "Old Hu has gone crazy." Hearing them, Hu winked at the people and looked up to the sky, shouting, "Hey, Clod, are you awake or not? What's next?" And zap, another fresh wart on Hu's face. Now, the villagers were convinced Hu was crazy, and maybe he was. Had God also sent craziness down on him, along with warts, arthritis, and gout? If so, it didn't bother Hu; it was just fine with him since he loved God and God loved him.

As the years passed, Old Hu became the most twisted, arthritic, wart-covered, ugly, happy old man in China. Then, one day, looking up to heaven with his cataract-clouded eyes, he whispered, "Hey Clod, what now?" And God reached down and drew Old Hu right up into Himself. And that was just fine with Hu. That's what a friend is for.

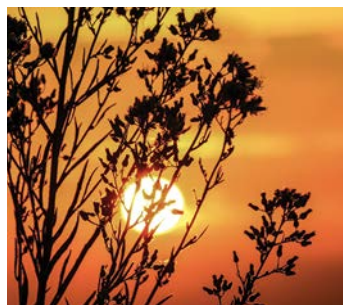
True. This is only a parable. Master Hu never existed. Nor did the Prodigal Son nor the Good Samaritan. Parables are teaching stories to show us how to live, and also how God behaves.

To be a Christian is to be in a relationship with God which transforms us into more compassionate beings, "into the likeness of Christ." Likewise, having an adult relationship with the Sacred Scriptures (Bible), a serious relationship that grows and evolves, has the potential to be transformative as well.

Many of us get in a rut with our language or image of God. We can find our view of God is narrow and constricting. As our life experience broadens our understanding, some of us become conflicted whether we can believe at all. Some people, young, old, middle aged, tell me they don't believe in God. I can only reply, "Tell me about this God you don't believe in; chances are I don't believe in that God either."

Mystics, theological thinkers, and the Bible itself have shown that there are as many images and ideas to express the Divine as there are experiences of God. The biblical writers use rich metaphors and poetic language to point toward what is ultimately a mystery. The Divine is described as a potter,

IT IS NOT THAT
CHRISTIANITY
HAS BEEN TRIED
AND FAILED, BUT
THAT IT HAS BEEN
FOUND DIFFICULT
AND LEFT UNTRIED.
— G. K. CHESTERTON





a cup (of cool water), a path, a safe place, a rock, a burning bush, an eagle, and a whirlwind — all wonderful metaphors that help us assign a variety of attributes to the Divine without being the exclusive last word.

One of the most common ways of imaging God is as a father. Listening to many prayers and liturgies, one might think it was the only image of God in scripture. However, God is also imaged as a mother in Deuteronomy 32:18, “You forgot the God who gave you birth”; as a woman in labor in Isaiah 42:14; and as a comforting mother in Isaiah 66:13. Is God a mother? Yes. A father? Yes. A rock? Yes. A wind? Yes. Everything we use to refer to God is simply a limited, human effort to explain

the unexplainable. To be aware of our language and its implications is a great exercise in thinking theologically — remembering that the language we use to describe the Divine will directly influence how we relate to the Divine.

This is not a minor question. A person’s — or faith community’s — view of God shapes everything else about it. The first question we need to think about for our spiritual lives is this: What is your image of God? Secondly, what is the content of your faith? What do you believe in? If you tell me you believe, what do you believe? There are certain faith-based initiatives that aren’t great. Al Qaeda is a faith-based initiative! So what is the content of your faith? Third, what is the function

of your church? Why do we assemble Sunday after Sunday? If you tell me we gather to worship God, then I’ll repeat the first question. Fourth, what is the purpose of your worship? If we come together to worship God, how does God want to be worshipped? Does God simply want us to say prayers — or is God more interested in prayers that lead to a life lived for the glory of God as we live lives of compassion, justice, mercy, peace, as we work for the Reign of God now? And then of course, it goes back to: What is the character of your God?

Those are the questions we have to face!

The ideas we hold about the nature of God and the language we use to describe God play out

in small ways — how or even whether we pray, how we think about our purpose in life, how we relate to those who do not share our beliefs. But they also influence how we see the world and, ultimately, God’s role in the world.

This issue is about faith formation — not only for our children, teens, and their parents. Faith formation is a lifelong adventure. It’s not just an intellectual formation of getting more knowledge. It’s about becoming Catholic-Christian believers who have a loving relationship with God and who live as disciples of Jesus and His Way of Living.

Explore your faith as an adult. It can and will enrich your life as you journey as a believer.



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WHAT IS FAITH FORMATION?

For a short answer, we could say faith formation is preparing ourselves to live as disciples of Jesus. In his latest book, *Generations Together*, John Roberto reaffirms that faith formation informs, forms, and transforms the person—whether child, youth, or adult—into a vital and life-giving Christian faith that is holistic: a way of the head, the heart, and the hands. Roberto goes on to say, “While expressed in many different ways, faith formation seeks to help people:

- Grow in their relationship with God for the whole of life
- Live as disciples of Jesus at home, at work, in the community, and in the world
- Develop an understanding of the Bible and their faith tradition
- Deepen their spiritual life and practices
- Engage in service and mission to the world
- Participate in the life and ministries of their faith community.”

At Pax Christi, the Faith Formation team includes all of the above in our programs for all ages. One of Pax Christi’s Mission and Values statements is “Lifelong Learning: We are in a lifelong process of learning how to live out our faith.” On the next few pages, we provide a selection of what we have to offer you to form your faith. In addition, we invite you to watch our website’s Faith Formation tab for updated information on adult, youth, and family faith formation opportunities that we are developing.

UPCOMING FAMILY EVENTS

Our all-parish Faith Formation kick-off events are scheduled for Sunday, September 18, and Wednesday, September 21. The theme is *We Are Called to Serve*. We will open the gathering with a family-oriented prayer reflection and a fun trivia challenge. Then everyone goes to the service activity of his/her choice. We will be making things, putting packages of items together, and creating art pieces for charitable organizations that serve people and pets. Watch for details.

Parenting sessions on spiritual life and practices in the family will be offered on Wednesday, November 16, Sunday, November 20, Sunday, March 26, and Wednesday March 29.

Family Bible Night is offered on Sunday, January 22, and Wednesday, January 25. This event will support adults and children in reading the Bible and integrating it in individual and family prayer life.

Watch for events from the Mom's ROCK group which offer monthly opportunities for family life.

Special needs resources for children with autism and other special needs are provided for preparation for the sacraments of First Reconciliation, First Eucharist, and Confirmation. For details, contact Lynn Schelitzche, Director of Faith Formation, 952-405-7230, or lschelitzche@paxchristi.com.



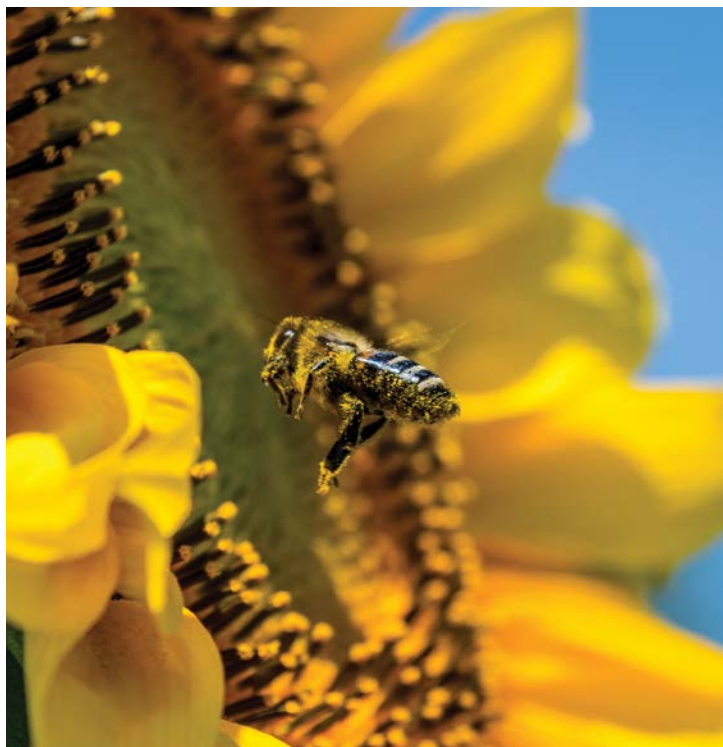
PAX CAFÉ: CATHOLIC ADULT FORMATION & ENRICHMENT

This year a variety of opportunities — including various Bible studies, simple artistic expressions of faith, meditation, speakers, workshops, and more — will be offered for adult faith formation at Pax Christi. Watch the PaxChristiNews and paxchristi.com for program information.

Women with Spirit Bible Study begins in September. This year's series, "Letters for Living — The Epistles of Paul," will study the letters of Paul — his words and how we can live them today. See the back cover of this magazine for more information.

FOR THOSE WHO ARE WONDERING: RCIA

Are you thinking about joining the Catholic Church? Are you a Catholic who needs to complete initiation through Confirmation and/or First Eucharist? The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is a process in which conversion of the heart brings one to Jesus Christ through learning, discussion, prayer, and community. Inquiry will start in September. Participants are invited to grow more deeply in their faith and discern if joining the Catholic Church or completing one's initiation into the Church is what they desire.



REGISTER ONLINE AT WWW.PAXCHRISTI.COM/EVENTREGISTRATION

GOOD SHEPHERD AND GODLY PLAY PROGRAMS

Ages 4 Years–Grade 3, Good Shepherd; Ages 4 and 5, Godly Play

**Level One: Sundays 6:30–7:45pm; Level Two: Sundays 6:30–8:00pm
Godly Play: Sundays 6:30–7:45pm, Wednesdays 4:30–5:45pm,
or Wednesdays 6:30–7:45pm**

These are both hands-on methods of faith formation based on the Montessori method of learning. Because children learn by using their hands, working with materials allows them to enter more deeply into their relationship with God. The catechist fosters a relationship between the child and God with carefully prepared materials based on wonderful stories from our Scriptures, the parts of our Liturgy, and quiet meditation.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

Ages 4 Years–Grade 4

During Sunday 9:00am and 11:00am Masses

The Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLOW) ministry enables children to participate in the Sunday worship experience, to nourish and guide their spiritual growth, and to immerse them in the Word of God in ways that are understandable to them. All children ages 4 years old through 4th grade are welcome to participate. The children are invited to come forward at the beginning of Mass and process to the chapel. They enjoy the Word of God on their level, shared prayer, singing, and activities. The children will return to their parents at the Offertory and join the community in celebrating the Liturgy of the Eucharist. CLOW is offered during the Faith Formation program year at the Sunday 9:00am and 11:00am Masses. Parents are always welcome to join their children if they want to check out our ministry. There is no prior registration or fee for participation.

SACRAMENT PREP: FIRST RECONCILIATION

GRADE 2 AND OLDER

Preparation for Reconciliation involves the child, the parents and the community. Sessions coincide with the classroom program day/time options on Wednesdays and Sundays (except for the retreat).

Parent Preparation: Tuesday, October 4, 6:30-7:45pm
OR Thursday, October 6, 6:30-7:45pm

Child Sessions: Included in Faith Formation program.
Must be registered.

Celebration: Saturday, November 19, 10:00am

FINDING GOD PROGRAM

GRADES 1–6

**Sundays 6:30–7:45pm, Wednesdays 4:30–5:45pm,
or Wednesdays 6:30–7:45pm**

Faith, Fun, and Friendships! The Finding God program option is open to children in grades 1-6. Children come together by grade level in small groups and are led by a trained catechist. The program takes the name from our curriculum *Finding God: Our Response to God's Gifts* by Loyola Press. This series supports children as they grow in their knowledge and understanding of the four pillars of our faith (Creed, Sacraments, Morality, and Christian Prayer). These timeless truths from the Catechism of the Catholic Church are taught every year on every grade level. The program also includes hands-on experiences of prayer, community and opportunities for service. We offer Random Acts of Kindness throughout the year as well as following the overall theme for Pax Christi. Our theme this year will be *We Are Called to Serve* based on Micah 6:8. In addition to the weekly sessions, parents and children will come together with those from other Faith Formation programs for Community Nights and other parish-wide events. Parents are urged to consider volunteering in the Finding God program as a catechist, aide, or other support role.

SACRAMENT PREP: FIRST EUCHARIST

GRADE 2 AND OLDER

The Sunday celebration of the Eucharist is the "source and summit" for our lives as Christians. Preparing children to come to the table of the Lord for the first time is a significant moment in their lives and the life of the community. Adequate preparation will also support their spiritual growth and make it clear that as they are nourished by the Eucharist, they are called to feed and serve others around them.

Parent Preparation: Tuesday, March 7, 6:30-7:45pm
OR Thursday, March 9, 6:30-7:45pm

Child Sessions: Included in Faith Formation program.
Must be registered.

Retreat and Practice: Parent and Child, Saturday,
April 22, 9:00am–12:00pm

Celebrations:
Saturday, April 29, 2017, 5:00pm
Sunday, April 30, 2017, 9:00am, 11:00am OR 5:00pm
Saturday, May 6, 2017, 5:00pm
Sunday, May 7, 2017, 9:00am, 11:00am OR 5:00pm

REGISTER ONLINE AT WWW.PAXCHRISTI.COM/EVENTREGISTRATION



PAXCONNEX

Grades 7–8

**Sundays 6:30–7:45pm, Wednesdays 4:30–5:45pm,
or Wednesdays 6:30–7:45pm**

The Faith Formation department, along with members of the Middle School Faith Formation sub-committee, catechists, and current middle and high school youth, has been working hard researching, gathering information, and discussing many ideas to develop a middle school program that truly reflects the Mission, Vision, and Values of Pax Christi. The new program has been named PaxConnex to reflect the spirit of Pax Christi and the connection of our youth to our faith community.

PaxConnex will be a bridge between the Finding God/Good Shepherd programs and the High School Faith Interest Connectors program. Equal emphasis on the three movements of faith formation: Head (Knowledge), Heart (Passions), and Hands (Service and Justice) will be the catalyst for increasing our youth's knowledge in an engaging and meaningful way which will strengthen their relationship with the Church.

The **HEAD** component will focus on increasing knowledge of our Catholic faith and will follow a traditional faith formation classroom learning format. Seventh and eighth graders will gain a deeper understanding of Scripture, Creed, Sacraments, Prayer, Social Justice, and Catholic Morality.

The **HEART** component is being modeled after Pax Christi's successful Faith Interest Connectors program for our high school youth. In this section, they will partake in experiences that will connect them with parishioners and learn how our faith can be applied in their daily lives.

In the **HANDS** component, they will integrate their knowledge learned into action throughout the community by participating in service projects in our faith community and in the community at large, and then discussing the relationship between service and faith.

We are very excited to introduce PaxConnex to the parish and look forward to our youth becoming increasingly engaged with our faith community!

FAITH INTEREST CONNECTORS

Grades 9–12

**Sundays 6:30–7:45pm, Wednesdays 4:30–5:45pm,
or Wednesdays 6:30–7:45pm**

So, you're a teenager in high school. Life is crazy, complicated, wonderful, and full of stresses. Between friends, family, school, your job (if you have one), sports, activities, clubs, volunteering, thinking about college, and romantic relationships, you are pretty busy. Did you know your generation of teenagers is the busiest and most stressed out in US history? Anxiety and depression are fueled by stress. The lack of silence and rest leads to illness, restlessness, and a lack of focus.

So, why join Pax Christi's Sr. High Faith Formation program? It might seem like just another thing to add to the "busy list," but maybe there's something more to it.

Scientists have proven that people who are engaged in a faith community, adhere to a prayer practice, serve others, and find meaning in life through faith are happier, healthier, less stressed, and more successful in life.

Pax Christi's Sr. High Faith Formation is a network of youth and trusted adult leaders, small groups, events, service and justice projects, and exciting activities designed to help YOU make sense of life through the lens of faith.

Sr. High Faith Formation primarily takes place in Faith Interest Connector groups. Faith Interest Connectors (FICs) are short-term, small-group courses that combine passion-based learning with faith formation. FICs are an approach to faith formation that builds relationships via accompaniment in discipleship formation through a comprehensive and holistic methodology. Teenagers and adult leaders form FICs based on a shared interest (such as basketball, music, sciences, business, cooking, etc.). The typical FIC is six or seven weeks long, though some groups may continue to meet indefinitely as long as there is a desire to continue. Each week the groups explore a different theme of discipleship and something related to their interest topic. Members of the FICs work together to explore connections between faith and daily life using resources from the faith tradition, scripture, Christian practices, and culture. This kind of theological reflection allows youth and adults to examine ways to live as Christian disciples through their discoveries.

FICs help you *learn* about the Catholic faith, develop prayer practices to help you *grow in relationship with God*, and provide you the tools and opportunities to *put your faith into practice* through service and justice.

REGISTER ONLINE AT WWW.PAXCHRISTI.COM/EVENTREGISTRATION

SACRAMENT PREP: CONFIRMATION

Grade 10 and older

Are You Ready for Confirmation? Preparation for the sacrament of Confirmation for high school youth at Pax Christi is available to students in 10th–12th grade. The preparation process begins in September and concludes in April with the celebration of Confirmation with the bishop. Those who are out of high school and wish to be confirmed are encouraged to inquire about the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults.

What is Confirmation? Confirmation is a sacrament of initiation originally part of the baptismal rite in the Early Church. When a newly baptized person emerged from the baptismal waters, he/she would be anointed with chrism oil by the Bishop, clothed in a white robe, and welcomed to the Eucharistic table. Today in the Archdiocese of St. Paul/Minneapolis, confirmation is typically the final sacrament of initiation for teenagers.

Confirmation is a moment of encounter with the Holy Spirit so that “believers are strengthened by power from heaven, made true witnesses of Christ in word and deed, and bound more closely to the Church” (from the introduction to the Rite of Confirmation).

The moment of Confirmation takes place within the celebration of Mass with the bishop. The sacrament of Confirmation is conferred through the anointing with chrism on the forehead, which is done by the laying on of the hand, and through the words: Be sealed with the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

Preparation for Confirmation is an opportunity to learn more about your faith and your parish community and to engage in service in the community and the world.

What Confirmation is Not: *It's not a graduation.* Confirmation is an initiation into the life of the Church and the Mission of God in the world.

It's not becoming an adult in the Church. Confirmation is becoming who you are meant to be at this particular moment in your life. You will become an adult in the Church when you become an adult (some of us are still working on this...).

It's not a “Get Out of Church Free Card.” Confirmation is a commitment to involvement, participation, and responsibility in the local and global Catholic Church.

It's not something you should do just to appease your parents or grandparents. While your family may strongly encourage you to go through the preparation process for confirmation, it is ultimately your own decision to receive the sacrament of confirmation. Confirmation, while an efficacious grace from God, requires you to be open to the gifts and responsibilities that come with Confirmation.



What is Involved in the Preparation Process for Confirmation? At Pax Christi the process for the preparation for Confirmation includes these steps:

1. Pre-Preparation To Do List:

- Sign up for confirmation through the Faith Formation Registration Form
- Attend the Confirmation Orientation (August 30, 7pm)
- Complete the Candidate and Parent Introduction Essays
- Complete the Confirmation Information Form

2. Preparation Process:

- Participate in Faith Formation
- Participate in a Conversation Group — 6 Online Learning Sessions, 3 Small Group Discussions
- Attend a Confirmation Retreat (3 date options: Oct 14–15, Nov 18–19, Dec 16–17)
- Serve in a Pax Christi Ministry/Service Group
- Find a Confirmation Sponsor and engage in sponsor-candidate conversations.
- Attend the Confirmation Celebration Rehearsal (TBD)

3. Attend the Confirmation Celebration at Pax Christi, Thursday, April 27, 2016

Why Should I Go Through the Preparation Process? The preparation for Confirmation gives you everything you need in order to make an informed decision about whether or not now is the right time to receive the sacrament. This process also gives you opportunities to build new friendships with peers, get to know Pax Christi better, and learn how to live as a fully initiated member of the Catholic Church.

If you have questions, contact Peter Bierer, 952-405-7210 pbierer@paxchristi.com or visit the Confirmation website at www.paxchristiconfirmation.com.

REGISTER ONLINE AT WWW.PAXCHRISTI.COM/EVENTREGISTRATION

MEET PAX CHRISTI'S FAITH FORMATION TEAM

LYNN SCHELITZCHE

Hi, I'm Lynn Schelitzche, Pax Christi's Director of Faith Formation. I have been at Pax Christi for one whole year now and enjoy my position here very much. I have directed faith formation programs for ten years. I graduated from St. Thomas with an M.A. in Pastoral Educational Leadership and from St. Catherine's with a B.A. in Theology. I continually grow my spiritual skills, including Good Shepherd training, interfaith studies, and certifications as a Pastoral Minister and Spiritual Director. My husband Dave and I adore our two sons, one newly married and one entering his senior year in college. We delight in our dogs and cats. We enjoy hiking and biking. My favorite hobby is photography.

PETER BIERER

Hi, I'm Peter Bierer, Pax Christi's High School Faith Formation Minister. I have been at Pax Christi since 2012 and working in youth ministry since 2003. I recently graduated from St. John's School of Theology with an M.A. in Pastoral Ministry, and I hold a B.A. in Music. I married my wife, Lauren, in 2006 in Adelaide, Australia (her hometown). We have three daughters, Charlotte (8), Miriam (7), and Gianna (4), and a son, Hugo (1 month). I am also a singer/songwriter and perform regularly with Lauren under the name "Secret Hill." I enjoy all things creative, travel, and food!

Get to know your Faith Formation team! Let's play! Below are three statements about each faith formation staff member; two are true; one is not. Submit your guesses online at www.paxchristi.com/twotruths by August 31. Entries with the most correct answers will be entered into a drawing for a gift basket. Answers will be published in the September *PaxChristiNews*. Winners will be announced in the October edition.

RENEÉ DIGNAN

Hi, I'm Reneé Dignan, Pax Christi's Faith Formation Minister for preschool through grade 6. My passion is bringing families together for faith, fun, and friendships! I have been blessed to work at Pax Christi a long time. I have a B.S. in English and Speech Communications from the College of Education/University of Minnesota and a M.A. from the University of Saint Thomas in Religious Education. My three adult children and three grandchildren are my heartbeat. They are truly where I see the face of God. While not at work, I enjoy walking/hiking, theater, and making family memories. My favorite verse from scripture is: *I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.* –Philippians 4:13. Years ago I learned some motions for the verse from an inner city youth group. I have shared those motions with thousands of kids and hope the words mean as much to them as they do to me.

MICHELLE FREDERICK

Hi, I'm Michelle Frederick, the PaxConnex Coordinator (grades 7–8). I have been coming to Pax Christi since 2009, was a catechist for a number of years, and started as the Middle School Faith Formation Coordinator last fall. I hold a B.S. in Child Psychology from the University of Minnesota, a J.D. from the University of St. Thomas, and own way too many books as I am always looking to learn something new! When I am not at Pax Christi, I enjoy spending time with my daughter and dogs, fishing, coaching gymnastics, and helping others in my mediation practice.

ANDREA WARD

Hi! I'm Andrea Ward, and I am the administrative assistant for Faith Formation and Justice Ministries. I started working at Pax Christi last December but have been a member of Pax for over 11 years. My family and I joined the Pax family when we moved here from Michigan when I was 13. I was a founding member of the teen choir and sang at Sunday night mass for five years with both Kate Cuddy and Angie O'Brien. I am currently in school working towards a Marketing degree.

TWO TRUTHS AND A LIE

RENEE

- My work has been published
- I have been to 5 of the 7 continents
- I have met Ghandi's grandson

MICHELLE

- I own a hot rod
- I have my pilot's license
- I love sky diving

LYNN

- I know how to juggle balls, spoons, fruit and bowling pins
- I graduated college in the top ten with highest honors
- I backpacked off-trail in the Rocky Mountains for a week

PETER

- Studied Trombone in College
- Met Pope Francis
- Swam on both sides of the Pacific Ocean

ANDREA

- I have been out of the country but never been to Canada.
- I have sung back up professionally for a recording artist.
- My favorite book series is Harry Potter.

MONDAY WILL BE THE BEST DAY OF YOUR WEEK!

This world has presented some very challenging times, and we are called upon to see the Lord in the faces of all of those around us. Yes...ALL of those around us. As registration time winds down for the fall *JustFaith* program, take a few minutes to read what Pax Christi parishioners have to say about their past participation in this study of their faith and social justice practices.

JustFaith changed the way I look at the world and other people. It showed me the strength and relevance of the teachings of Jesus in my life today and inspired me to work harder to live His teachings out. (Doug Mertz)

I found that JustFaith deepened my knowledge regarding poverty and made me aware that, even if we live modest lives, we are still privileged in many unrecognized ways. The group's civil interaction helped me to broaden my view as I look out on the world. It's a wonderful program worth every minute spent on it! (Sharon Moeller)

In addition, the JustFaith program instills a sense of fellowship within the group, establishing relationships that continue long after the program concludes.

What I enjoyed the most was the ability to meet people of like values, great energy, and kindness I didn't know existed. I made friends with people whom I hope to keep forever. (Peg Tait Aguirre)

I found JustFaith to be more than I ever thought I would get out of it when I first signed up. Getting together each week with our group gave me a sense of belonging and community with people who would become friends. It also woke up my faith and enlightened me to how much poverty and injustice is in the world and how I could help and be part of the solution. (Jim Pare')

Come and stretch your mind. Look at things in a different light than you may have ever looked at them before. The readings and discussion will open your eyes to building a more just world.

JustFaith broadened my perspective of social justice issues. I learned real world examples of how ordinary people like us can make a real difference. And I had the opportunity to meet some very like-minded people that readily put words into actions to make a difference in both big and little ways. (Geri Martin)

For those wanting more information, there will be a "coffee and donuts" sharing time **between the 9:00am and 11:00am Masses on Sunday, August 7, in the Martin Luther King, Jr. Room.** At that time, people can come and meet some of the former participants, ask questions, and hear the enthusiasm of the people who have already enjoyed the program. We will also be taking formal registrations at that time. Space is limited to 18 participants, and the slots are filling quickly.

If you have already decided that you want to join us for this 24-week program beginning in September, contact parishioner Marcia Kladek, mk-2006@mchsi.com, or 952-240-4775, or staff contact Andrea Ward, award@paxchristi.com, or 952-405-2207. This promises to be a very fulfilling use of your Monday nights!

WWW.PAXCHRISTI.COM/JUSTFAITH

After attending "JustFaith" a couple of years ago, the way that I see the world has expanded. I feel like I want to get involved with the social issues that the Catholic Church encourages us to take part in. Now I look for opportunities to live my faith daily, and I got to learn all about this with the most wonderful group of people — my "JustFaith" Monday night group! (Victoria Gregus)





PASTORAL CARE IS ACTIVELY LISTENING

Listen with the ear of your heart. The first time I heard this well-known phrase of St. Benedict, I heard it deep in my soul. St. Benedict is teaching us that true listening involves more than just hearing words; it also includes what we feel in our heart. The Chinese characters which make up the verb “to listen” include ear and heart but also includes characters for you, eyes, and undivided attention. This is the kind of listening the Pax Christi Companion Ministers strive to do as they go out to visit parishioners and friends who are homebound and in need of a listening presence. Since listening is such an important component of ministry, we decided to discuss this topic of active listening at a recent monthly gathering.

Active listening is a skill that has to be taught and practiced since it requires techniques for us to use as we listen. We want to be attentive, observant, and engage our entire body, including our heart. It involves being in tune to the other person’s feelings, words, and thoughts all at once. This can be done by watching for nonverbal clues, listening to the tone of the speech (language), and considering where the person’s emphasis is during certain points in the conversation.

Most of us are much more familiar with passive listening. We listen to so many things in a day that we often think we’re listening to someone when we’re really distracted. This list of distractions seems endless: television, internet, radio, cell phones, Twitter, Snapchat, political banter ... even our own internal dialogue can get in the way. Not all listening can or needs to be active, but when we do take the time to block out distractions and avoid interjecting our own opinion, then listening becomes holy listening. Once listening moves into the realm of holy listening, we begin to uncover a person’s story and bear witness to what he/she is trying to tell us or in many cases even understand for themselves.

My father is going through the stages of Alzheimer’s, and as I listen to him, I notice how repetitive he has become. There are stories that are buried deep within him that helped shaped who he became, and even to this day, he remembers every little detail. As I listen to him, I often wonder what he’s really trying to tell me. Rachel Naomi Remen says that story is just the container for meaning. Real stories take time and don’t always have endings because they are retold time and time again. Real stories go beyond the details of the event to the actual feelings associated with it. My father’s stories do change subtly over time, and I try to have the patience to listen for the deeper meaning. He challenges my active listening skills as he tries to communicate messages and lessons, not just words.

The Companion Ministers learned and discussed several practical ways we can be attentive to others while we listen, and these steps can easily be adapted to conversations you have with family, friends, and co-workers.

- Establish contact by looking at a person when he/she talks.
- Maintain a natural relaxed posture that indicates your interest.
- Clarify what he/she is saying rather than interjecting your personal assessment.
- Listen for themes or patterns that continue to surface.
- As much as possible, focus all your attention on the person speaking. Block out all physical, intellectual, and emotional distractions.

In our era of distractions and the current heated political discourse, I wonder how a dose of attentive, active listening would change the conversation.

Written by Jean Thoresen, Director of Pastoral Care.

engage^{PC}

en·gage: en-geyj (verb) To occupy oneself, become involved, participate in. Establish a meaningful contact or connection with.

MEMBER ENGAGEMENT – CHLOE AND TROY JOHNSON

When you have a chance, take a stroll through the St. Francis of the Woods area. You will see two great projects that are just being completed this summer. These two projects are unique in that they are both Scout achievement projects.

What makes them especially significant is that the Scouts are sister and brother. Chloe Johnson is completing our first Gold Award project, and Troy is working on his Eagle Scout rank. This is the first time we have had a brother and sister coordinate their Scouting achievement award activities on the Pax Christi Campus.

Troy began by creating a dry creek bed area that will control runoff and erosion around the paths. This is important because of the steep slopes and significant damage rainfalls have caused in this area. In the three years we have been re-landscaping the St. Francis area, we have had to rebuild sections of the paver path several times. The creek bed necessitated removal of a large section of the existing asphalt path. The area this creek bed protects is significant. There are large slopes, and a significant portion of the area above the creek bed is paved or otherwise impervious to water. Therefore, it was important to build a

creek bed that would protect the landscaped areas. Troy consulted with a parishioner who has some experience in designing just such a project. During the month of June, Troy led several people in the construction and completion of his entire project.

That brought up the need for a second project. Chloe Johnson stepped forward to offer a bridge construction to span the creek bed. It was important to design a bridge that would permit pedestrians to safely cross the creek bed and to allow small garden tractors to cross as well. This area is accessible all times of the day and night, so safety is an important aspect. Chloe consulted with a parishioner who has extensive experience in carpentry and outdoor building projects. Together, they designed a sturdy bridge frame with handrails and a closely matched contour to the original path. Chloe also plans to add some

engraving in the deck boards to reflect the contemplative nature of the area. Chloe's project is currently underway and is expected to be complete in late July or early August.

As you can see in these pictures, the result is something we can be proud of here at Pax Christi and is a significant accomplishment for these two young members of our church. They not only

have achieved impressive ranks in their scout troops but set a great example of engaged parishioners in our church.

Please stop by the St Francis area sometime this summer to see their great contribution to our campus.

Written by Ken Reineccius, Director of Operations and Staff liaison to the Arts, Campus, and Gardens Council.





DON'T LET YOUR GIFTS GO DOWN THE RABBIT HOLE

I needed to weed and mulch the front garden at my house and set to work one hot weekend day a few weeks ago. When I got to the hosta section, I knew I didn't have to do much weeding, as they had grown to cover the whole end of the garden, so I ran my rake around the perimeter rather lackadaisically thinking about other things when all of a sudden, the hostas started quivering and quaking, and I stepped back unsure of what living thing I had disturbed. My mind quickly considered and rejected the scarier animals, that being snakes, mice, or rats, until I recognized the hopping motions of bunnies. Eight baby bunnies hopped, scattered, and jumped every which way out of their nest under the hostas. Mom was nowhere in sight, but the terrified bunnies made tracks in every direction. I admit I was frightened first at the sudden movement, then with the possibility that I had hurt or killed one of the bunnies with my rake. What's a gal to do? Of course, I went and got my husband and brother-in-law to inspect as I could not look. No injured bunnies, but there were bunnies in the garage, something which my husband could not abide. I chased one bunny out and moved on to the mulching but will admit that I dumped the mulch over the former nest area and didn't spend any time patting it down as I was still suffering from bunny anxiety. Many hours later, I glanced outside, and there was the bunny mother. She sat outside the garden and just stared at the house. She sat there for hours. Her silent sentry filled my heart with guilt. Had I killed one of her brood and then covered it up with mulch? Was she plotting on how to get revenge for my actions? The next morning she was there again. I was starting to get nervous. I opened the door into the garage, and there in the middle of floor sat one of the bunnies. I opened all the doors and chased that bunny

for 20 minutes until the bunny hid behind a cupboard, and I gave up. At least I knew why mom was standing guard; she had a baby to gather. After work that evening, my husband managed to safely extract the baby bunny from the garage, and we haven't seen hide nor "hare" since.

So, what does this story have to do with Stewardship as a Way of Life? It's a great representation of how we make the plan of what we are going to do and start off. Then people, things, or in my case, animals, manage to create all sorts of havoc, jumbling up the perfectly orderly plan we had devised. In other words, life gets in the way. As a Christian Steward, we are called to accept the gifts we have been given, and all we have is gift from God. God is the silent sentry in the tale above. God is there for us, not only providing us with our gifts but then watching over us, always. We are asked to nurture our gifts, just like my weeding the garden. We are called to take our gifts and develop them, to make them grow and be fruitful. Sometimes that's when life's changes can come charging in, causing a move from the current plan A to plan B, C, or D. You may be challenged by family needs, job demands, health considerations, or just plain lack of enthusiasm to do the work to improve yourself. Your gifts sit there, under-utilized, needing your attention to thrive and grow. Without nurturing your gifts and learning how you can best utilize those gifts, there can be no next step towards generous sharing of the same gifts to those who could benefit from your talents. That call each of us received at Baptism is an urgent one, and our gifts can be just the perfect fit for somebody's need. So carry on, retain your focus after life's distractions, and hop to living as a steward with your gifts today. *Written by Mary Kennedy, Director of Stewardship and Development.*

PARISHIONER NEWS

JUNE BAPTISMS

| | |
|----------------------------|-----------|
| Ashlyn Gray Onan | 6/5/2016 |
| Jackson Guinn Teigland | 6/5/2016 |
| Charlotte Elisabeth Wieser | 6/9/2016 |
| Braden Andrew Benusa | 6/12/2016 |
| Charlotte Lillian Blom | 6/12/2016 |
| Nolan Roger Blom | 6/12/2016 |
| Carlie Jo Harris | 6/12/2016 |
| Ayla Anatolia Ringus | 6/12/2016 |
| Olivia Kate McDouall | 6/19/2016 |
| Cole Wallace Straub | 6/19/2016 |
| Kate Mary Burgess | 6/26/2016 |
| Kylie Anne Burgess | 6/26/2016 |
| Lyla Marie Gruhlke | 6/26/2016 |
| Jonah Wayne Jensen | 6/26/2016 |
| Eleanor Jane Langhart | 6/26/2016 |
| Wesley Brooks Raymaker | 6/26/2016 |

JUNE WEDDINGS

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----------|
| Sabrina Nesbitt & Joseph Hunt | 6/4/2016 |
| Katie Davis & Nick Meiers | 6/11/2016 |
| Linnea Johnson & David Dylong | 6/18/2016 |
| Sarah Bulger & Steven Brunner | 6/25/2016 |

JUNE FUNERALS

| | |
|-------------------------|-----------|
| Don Olmsted | 6/13/2016 |
| Ronald Boe | 6/18/2016 |
| Gerald (Jerry) P. Burns | 6/20/2016 |
| Joseph Schwalen, Sr. | 6/22/2016 |
| Thomas R. Larkin, DDS | 6/27/2016 |

JUNE NEW MEMBERS

John Ashley and Sonia George
 Thomas Cherry and Darlene Hafner-Cherry
 Edwin Korte
 Gunther and Stephanie Langhart
 Margaret L. Mahony
 Chris and Erin Michael



READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF AUGUST 7, 2016

Sunday: Wis 18:6-9/Ps 33:1, 12, 18-22/Heb 11:1-2, 8-19
 Monday: Ez 1:2-5, 24-28c/Ps 148:1-2, 11-14/Mt 17:22-27
 Tuesday: Ez 2:8--3:4/Ps 119:14, 24, 72, 103, 111, 131/
 Mt 18:1-5, 10, 12-14
 Wednesday: 2 Cor 9:6-10/Ps 112:1-2, 5-9/Jn 12:24-26
 Thursday: Ez 12:1-12/Ps 78:56-59, 61-62/Mt 18:21--19:1
 Friday: Ez 16:1-15, 60, 63 or 16:59-63/Is 12:2-6/Mt 19:3-12
 Saturday: Ez 18:1-10, 13b, 30-32/Ps 51:12-15, 18-19/Mt 19:13-15

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF AUGUST 14, 2016

Sunday: Jer 38:4-6, 8-10/Ps 40:2-4, 18/Heb 12:1-4/Lk 12:49-53
 Monday: Vigil: 1 Chr 15:3-4, 15-16; 16:1-2/Ps 132:6-7, 9-10, 13-14/
 1 Cor 15:54b-57/Lk 11:27-28
 Day: Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/Ps 45:10-12, 16/
 1 Cor 15:20-27/Lk 1:39-56
 Tuesday: Ez 28:1-10/Dt 32:26-28, 30, 35-36/Mt 19:23-30
 Wednesday: Ez 34:1-11/Ps 23:1-6/Mt 20:1-16
 Thursday: Ez 36:23-28/Ps 51:12-15, 18-19/Mt 22:1-14
 Friday: Ez 37:1-14/Ps 107:2-9/Mt 22:34-40
 Saturday: Ez 43:1-7a/Ps 85:9-14/Mt 23:1-12

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF AUGUST 21, 2016

Sunday: Is 66:18-21/Ps 117:1-2/Heb 12:5-7, 11-13/Lk 13:22-30
 Monday: 2 Thes 1:1-5, 11-12/Ps 96:1-5/Mt 23:13-22
 Tuesday: 2 Thes 2:1-3a, 14-17/Ps 96:10-13/Mt 23:23-26
 Wednesday: Rv 21:9b-14/Ps 145:10-13, 17-18/Jn 1:45-51
 Thursday: 1 Cor 1:1-9/Ps 145:2-7/Mt 24:42-51
 Friday: 1 Cor 1:17-25/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 10-11/Mt 25:1-13
 Saturday: 1 Cor 1:26-31/Ps 33:12-13, 18-21/Mt 25:14-30

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF AUGUST 28, 2016

Sunday: Sir 3:17-18, 20, 28-29/Ps 68:4-7, 10-11/Heb 12:18-19,
 22-24a/Lk 14:1, 7-14
 Monday: 1 Cor 2:1-5/Ps 119:97-102/Mk 6:17-29
 Tuesday: 1 Cor 2:10b-16/Ps 145:8-14/Lk 4:31-37
 Wednesday: 1 Cor 3:1-9/Ps 33:12-15, 20-21/Lk 4:38-44
 Thursday: 1 Cor 3:18-23/Ps 24:1-6/Lk 5:1-11
 Friday: 1 Cor 4:1-5/Ps 37:3-6, 27-28, 39-40/Lk 5:33-39
 Saturday: 1 Cor 4:6b-15/Ps 145:17-21/Lk 6:1-5

THE 2016 – 2017 GUIDEBOOK WILL BE ARRIVING IN MEMBERS' MAILBOXES SOON!

Remember when the new phone book would arrive, and you would replace the old phone book and its doodled and inked-in number enhanced cover with the new model, surreptitiously checking to make sure your name was noted and spelled correctly? Well, it's time to reclaim that piece of history once again as the 2016–2017 Guidebook and Directory will be coming to members' homes this August. It's not just members' phone numbers, though! The 2016–2017 Guidebook is chock full of staff contacts, the calendar of events, holy days, and holidays, job descriptions from our ministries and activities, a Time/Talent form, the Gift Inventory form, and a few photos taken over the past 35 years of Pax Christi.

The cost of producing this great tool is paid for by members and area businesses who advertise in the pages, so please take the time to thank them for supporting Pax Christi as you patronize their businesses.

MISSION WEEKEND 2016

On the weekend of August 27 and 28, Fr. Paul M. Gins, O.S.M., a Servite priest of the USA Province, will be presiding and preaching at all Masses, here to talk about the missionary work of the Servite Order in KwaZulu-Natal, Republic of South Africa.

The Servites are one of the mendicant orders and were founded in 1233 in Florence, Italy. At the present time, they serve all over the world in every type of apostolate.

The USA Province of Servites is responsible for the missions in KwaZulu-Natal. The main task of the missionaries today continues to be the proclamation of the Gospel and the establishment of viable Catholic communities. The missionaries there preach the spirit of Vatican II in that the church is the people of God, and encourage participation of the lay faithful in the liturgy and in the work of the Church. Other ministries that envelop the outreach of the missionaries is education and building primary health care centers. The Servite brothers and priests also minister to victims and orphans of the AIDS epidemic, including building homes for them to be cared for properly. Through the parish's generosity on Mission Weekend, the Servite ministries can continue the work of providing funding to improve the water system to root out malaria.

Not only are your prayers needed for the good work of these missionaries, but your financial sharing is vital as well. Thank you for your generosity that enables the Servites' good work to continue in this impoverished region of the world.

PARISHIONER ART EXHIBIT: ENTRY INFORMATION

EXHIBIT: December 4–18

APPLICATION DEADLINE: November 14

Artists interested in having their work considered for the exhibit are encouraged to submit an application by Monday, November 14. All fine art and fine craft media accepted, including sculpture, pottery, and photography, with the exclusion of film and/or video. Three-dimensional entries encouraged. Guidelines and application forms are available online, www.paxchristi.com, or in the church office. An opening reception with the artists will be held on Sunday, December 4, 10:00am–1:00pm. Questions? Contact the parish office, 952-941-3150.

MOMS ROCK REGISTRATION INFORMATION 2016–2017 PROGRAM YEAR

MOMS ROCK welcomes all parents, parents-to-be, and anyone else interested in joining us. Gatherings are held once or twice each month on Wednesdays beginning September 14, from 9:30–11:30am in the Mahatma Gandhi Room, #212. Each gathering includes brunch and relaxing social time followed by uninterrupted time to focus on the day's guest speaker. Whether you can come to one or all of the gatherings, you are certain to leave with a feeling that you are part of something wonderful!

The cost to attend each gathering is \$10, which includes childcare for those that have preregistered. Those who choose to register and prepay for the whole year of 16 sessions will pay a non-refundable \$130. Scholarships are available. There are two special Saturday night Moms ROCK gatherings this year, October 15 and March 18. A main course will be provided and attendees are asked to bring an appetizer, salad, or dessert. Childcare will be available. \$10 per person/\$20 per couple (\$15/person, \$30/Couple on the night of the event). Register now at www.paxchristi.com/eventregistration.

Questions? Contact Mary Kennedy, Dir. of Stewardship and Development, 952-405-7220, or mkennedy@paxchristi.com.

AUGUST

SPIRITUALITY AND MENTAL WELLNESS GROUP

First Thursday of Each Month: August 4, 3:00–4:30pm

This group meets monthly and provides an opportunity for anyone with mental health concerns to both give and receive support. If you would like to make a deeper connection with God and oneself and be exposed to tools which might help make one's life more manageable, you are welcome to join this group.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK MASS

Wednesday, August 10, 6:00pm

Please join us for a communal Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick. If you or someone you know could benefit from this sacrament, please contact Mary Ann Callahan in Pastoral Care, 952-405-7227. Following Mass, a light dinner will be served in the Dorothy Day Social Hall.

CHANGE THE WORLD SUMMER FILM SERIES

Wednesday, August 10, 6:00–9:00pm, Hall of Martyrs

Teens ages 14–18, come be inspired! We'll be watching *American Denial*. Where did American racism come from? Why does it continue today? What can we do to end racism once and for all? We will begin with 6:00pm Mass in the Thomas Merton Chapel followed by pizza, movie, discussion, and root beer floats in Hall of Martyrs. RSVP online to let us know you are coming. This event is free! Friends are welcome.

BACK TO SCHOOL DRIVE

Weekend of August 13/14

Have you noticed the stores are filling their shelves with back-to-school supplies? Nothing can get a child more excited about school than a new backpack filled with crayons, pencils, cute folders and other items. Not every family can afford all of these items so Twelve Baskets is busy planning the Back to School Drive in order to have school supplies for some of the poorer members of our society. This year, the Back to School Drive will be held on the weekend of August 13–14. Display tables will be set out starting the weekend of July 23–24. Take a flyer with suggestions and have fun shopping. Stick with the basics. A 24-box of crayons is very adequate. No need to purchase the box of 64. Having your child help pick out items for a child less fortunate will help them learn about the value of sharing. There will be red bins at doors 1 and 3 ready to receive your contributions. We will be donating the collected items to Risen Christ Catholic School in South Minneapolis, Blessed Trinity Catholic School in Richfield, Gichitwaa Kateri Catholic Church in Minneapolis, Community of Saints Regional Catholic School in St. Paul, and PROP. So fill a backpack and make a child excited to go off to school come September.

ASSUMPTION OF MARY

Monday, August 15

This year the Assumption of Mary, August 15, is NOT a holy day of obligation because it falls on a Monday.

100 MILE DINNER IN PAX CHRISTI'S BUTTERFLY GARDEN

Thursday, August 18, 6:00pm

Fresh air, fresh food, fresh people! Join us as we gather in the Butterfly Garden to enjoy our 100 Mile potluck dinner. The 100 Mile Dinner is a pot luck where all our food comes from within a hundred mile radius of Pax Christi. That means the food dishes will be FRESH. This year's speaker is from the CSA (Community-Supported Agriculture) organization. All are welcome!

MISSION SUNDAY

Weekend of August 27/28

Mission Sunday is on August 27/28. Missionary Paul Gins, OSM, Servite priest, will preach at all Masses that weekend. Additional details on page 17.

MAKE PLANS NOW

BOOMERS AND BEYOND OPENING EVENT

Monday, September 12, 8:30–11:00am

Our day will begin with Mass at 8:30am, followed by brunch with speaker Fr. Jim Van Dorn, OFM Conv. presenting, "Life Transitions: Our Journey of Faith as we Grow Older." Watch for complete details to come.

THE CATHOLIC'S DIVORCE SURVIVAL GUIDE

Monday, September 12 for 12 weeks, 6:30–8:30pm RSVP

The Ministry of the Separated and Divorced Catholic Coalition member churches have come together to support a twelve-week program that brings healing and hope to divorced and separated Catholics. The meeting format includes DVD presentations, small group discussion, and a full group wrap-up each evening. Participants will learn how to gain personal healing and hope, obtain wisdom from experts and others who have shared their experiences, as well as navigate financial concerns and questions about forgiveness and forming new relationships. St. Hubert's Catholic Church will host the fall session. Preregistration is required by calling 952-374-5049, or diane.potts@sthubert.org. Cost of \$10 per person includes a "Personal Survival Guide," refreshments, and all materials. This program will be offered again in the winter and spring at new locations.

MOMS ROCK: WELCOME BRUNCH**Wednesday, September 14, 9:30–11:30pm RSVP**

Additional details on page 17 or online at www.paxchristi.com/momsrock.

JUSTFAITH: 24-WEEK PROGRAM**Mondays beginning in September xx, 6:30–8:30pm RSVP**

JustFaith is a small-group transformational process in which people of faith examine critical realities through the lens of the Gospel and the teachings of our faith. This process bridges concern for the exploitation of God's planet and God's people with a special care for those who are poor and vulnerable.

Pax Christi will be hosting a JustFaith program this fall. The process unfolds in four phases, the first phase beginning in September 2016 and the last phase ending in the spring of 2017. There will be at least one Saturday immersion/retreat experience. Cost for materials is \$110 per person. Group size is intentionally small, with a maximum of 18 participants.

For additional information contact parishioner Marcia Kladek, 952-240-4775, mk-2006@mchsi.com, or Pax Christi staff, Andrea Ward, 952-405-7207, award@paxchristi.com.

LIVING YOUR STRENGTHS SESSION STARTS SOON!**THURSDAYS, SEPTEMBER 15–OCTOBER 20, 6:30–8:00pm, Fee is \$17 RSVP**

Are you a list maker? Do you make friends while standing in the checkout line? Do you always strive to make sure everyone is included in the fun? Are you the one who is always early, or the one who likes to cram a few more tasks in before you call it a day? Do you love to learn? Are you a planner or the person that dreams big dreams? None of us are all of these things, but each of these traits are gifts that, when developed, can help us be the best possible person God calls us to be, in our work, personal relationships, and in our faith journey. Perhaps it's time for you to find out what talents/strengths you bring to the table. Join the over 1,200 people who have taken the Living Your Strengths assessment and classes through Pax Christi. The small group sessions run for six weeks. Participants will receive a copy of the *Living Your Strengths* book, a journal, a code for online talent assessment, and will work with others in a small group environment with a certified facilitator to maximize talents and discover one's individual calling. Please register online or contact Mary Kennedy, mkennedy@paxchristi.com, or 952-405-7220.

**WOMEN WITH SPIRIT BIBLE STUDY****Tuesdays, Beginning September 20, 9:30am RSVP**

Women with Spirit Bible Study invites women of all ages and all faiths to join us for 20 weekly hour-long presentations by university based biblical scholars, followed by an hour of small group discussion. This year's series, *Letters for Living: The Epistles of Paul*, will study the letters of Paul — his words and how we can live them today. Tuition for the series is \$100 which covers teachers, books, three mornings of reflection, and childcare. Register online today! REGISTRATIONS REQUESTED BY SEPTEMBER 9, 2016.

ST. FRANCIS BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1, ST. FRANCIS SHRINE**

Complete details in the September PaxChristiNews.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY BUILD**Tuesday, November 1 THROUGH Saturday, November 5 and Tuesday, November 8 THROUGH Saturday, November 12**

Additional details online or contact Joan Pare', jpare1@hotmail.com, or 612-618-0287, or Marcia Kladek, mk-2006@mchsi.com.

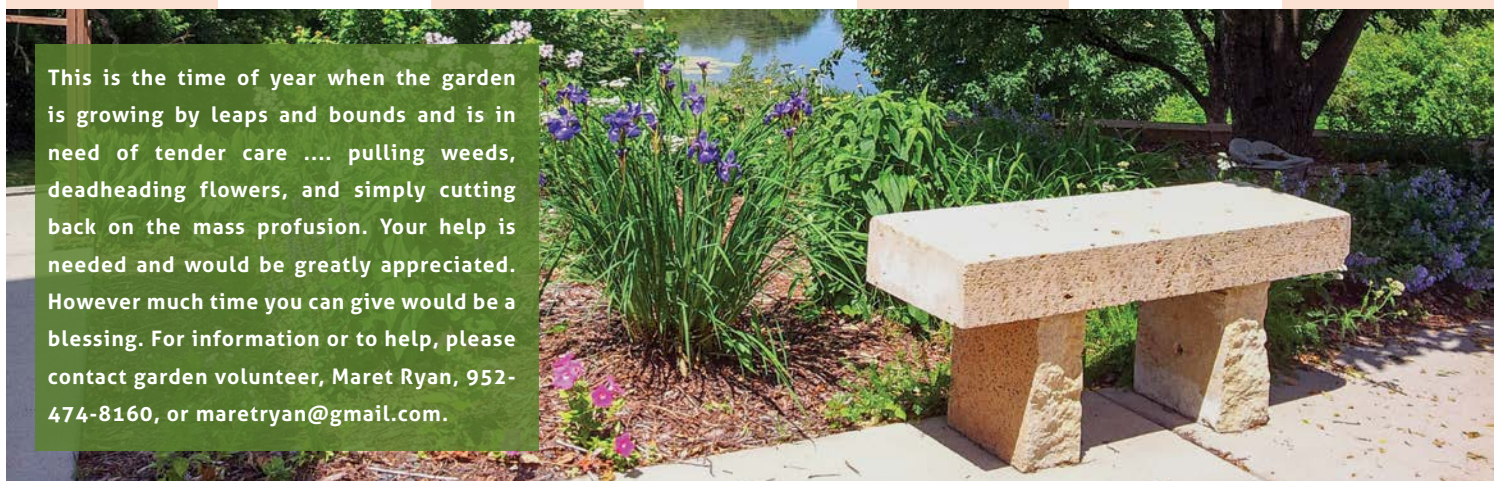
A NOTE ABOUT EVENTS AT PAX CHRISTI

Due to the large volume of events we offer at Pax Christi, we have to keep our announcements brief. Please visit us online at www.paxchristi.com for additional information and details. If an event indicates RSVP, you may register/signup online at www.paxchristi.com/eventregistration. Questions? Contact the parish office, 952-941-3150.

AUGUST

See pages 18-19 for details
or visit us online at www.paxchristi.com.

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|--|---|-------------------------|--|---|--------|--|
| 31 | 1 | 2 BAPTISM PREP CLASS | 3 | 4 SPIRITUALITY & MENTAL WELLNESS GROUP | 5 | 6 |
| 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 ANOINTING MASS CHANGE THE WORLD FILM SERIES | 11 LAST DAY TO RECEIVE FAITH FORMATION SUMMER RATE - REGISTER TODAY! | 12 | 13 NAME TAG WEEKEND BACK TO SCHOOL DRIVE |
| 14 NAME TAG WEEKEND BACK TO SCHOOL DRIVE | 15 ASSUMPTION OF MARY <i>NOT A HOLY DAY</i> | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 YOUTH FILM SERIES | 25 | 26 | 27 MISSION SUNDAY WKND |
| 28 MISSION SUNDAY WKND | 29 | 30 | 31 | 1 | 2 | 3 |



This is the time of year when the garden is growing by leaps and bounds and is in need of tender care pulling weeds, deadheading flowers, and simply cutting back on the mass profusion. Your help is needed and would be greatly appreciated. However much time you can give would be a blessing. For information or to help, please contact garden volunteer, Maret Ryan, 952-474-8160, or maretryan@gmail.com.



**PAX CHRISTI
CONTACTS**

PASTOR

Fr. Bill Murtaugh 952-405-7245

ASSOCIATE PASTOR

Fr. Marc Pavaglio 952-405-7219

DEACONS

Al Schroeder 952-405-7205
Terry Beer 952-405-7231
Charles Bobertz 952-405-7239

PARISH DIRECTOR

Jane Schmitz 952-405-7238

PARISH FINANCIAL MANAGER

Anne Swenson 952-405-7202

ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT

Maria Miller 952-405-7217
Andrea Ward 952-405-7207
Sally Bergum 952-405-7229

COMMUNICATION ARTS *Editor*

Melissa Nault 952-405-7221

FAITH FORMATION

| | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------|--------------|
| Director | Lynn Schelitzche | 952-405-7230 |
| Middle School/Senior High | Peter Bierer | 952-405-7210 |
| Preschool through Grade 6 | Reneé Dignan | 952-405-7212 |
| Middle School Coordinator | Michelle Frederick | 952-405-7213 |

OPERATIONS

| | | |
|-------------------|----------------|--------------|
| Director | Ken Reineccius | 952-405-7250 |
| Building Services | Terry Lee | 952-405-7233 |
| Building Services | Todd Nelson | 952-405-7233 |

PASTORAL CARE

| | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| Director | Jean Thoresen | 952-405-7211 |
| Pastoral Care Specialist | Mary Ann Callahan | 952-405-7227 |
| Pastoral Care Coordinator | Reneé Reardon | 952-405-7200 |

STEWARDSHIP AND DEVELOPMENT

| | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------|--------------|
| Director | Mary Kennedy | 952-405-7220 |
| Nursery and Hospitality Coord. | Janell McBeain | 952-405-7242 |

WORSHIP AND MUSIC

| | | |
|----------------------------|------------------|--------------|
| Director | Donna Kasbohm | 952-405-7240 |
| Liturgy and Funeral Coord. | Joan Howe-Pullis | 952-405-7247 |
| Teen Choir | Angie O'Brien | 952-405-7243 |

COMMUNITY COUNCIL

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Jane Schmitz, Parish Director
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Mark Cox
Mike Karas
Pat Kelly
Mike Kennedy
Marcia Kladek
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Questions? Contact Bible Study members
Kathy Ogrin, 952-934-3639, Jean Allen, 952-947-0717,
or Pax Christi Staff, Lynn Schelitzche, 952-405-7230.

**REGISTRATIONS REQUESTED
BY SEPTEMBER 9.**

