



# SERVUS FIDELIS

The Faithful Servant

Fall 2015

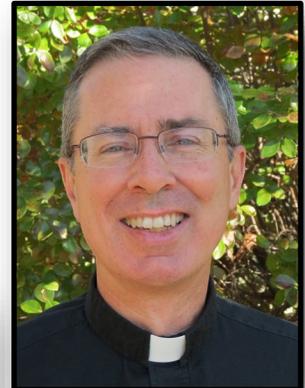
## A Letter from Fr. Sandy

**D**ear Parishioners,

On August 24, an important transition took place. Our parish's leadership Commissions discerned their representative to the parish Pastoral Council. This marks the first time that Pastoral Council members have been named from within Commissions. For the past year, the existing Council members who had been appointed or elected the year before continued to serve as we put our Commission structure in place. From now on, each of the six Commissions will select one of their members to serve on the Pastoral Council.

The new Pastoral Council members, by Commission, are:

**Administration - J. J. Darby**  
**Adult Faith Formation - Lisa Thibodeaux**  
**Prayer and Worship - Erika Langston**  
**Youth Faith Formation - Kathy Spires**  
**Community Life - Roger Lacson**  
**Outreach and Justice - Pending**



The Pastoral Council is made up of six members who are selected by the six Commissions, a representative of SJN School (selected by the School Board), a representative of the Hispanic community (selected by the leadership of the Hispanic community), the Pastor, Parochial Vicar, and School Principal. The Pastor can also appoint up to three additional people to help round out a good representation of the parish in the council.

I would like to acknowledge the following persons for their service to the Pastoral Council as they rotate off:

**Steve Rudnicki** (President), **Janice Harper** (Secretary), **Pat Fosberry**, **Khue Nguyen**, **Shelly Dunphy**, **Johnny Gasser**, **Marjorie Johnson**, **Roy Bullinger**, and **Steve Goodman**

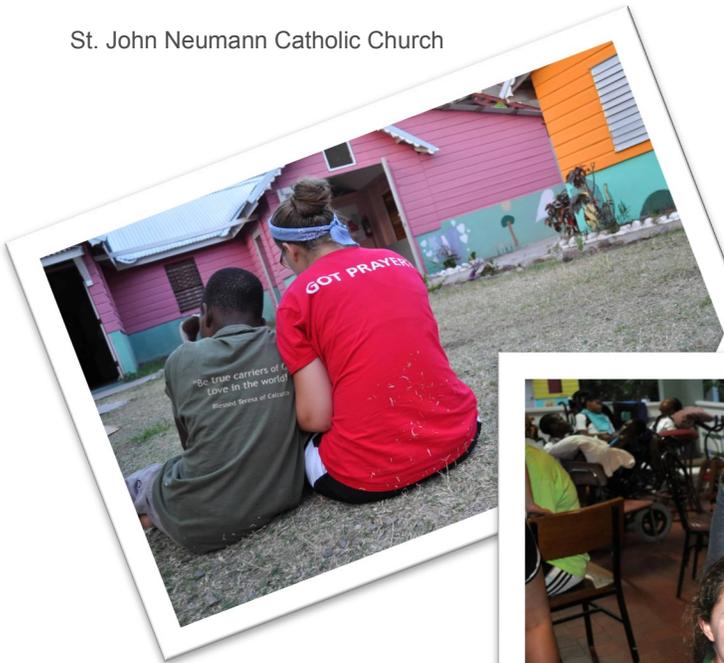
These members of the Pastoral Council have been a wonderful sounding board to advise me in setting pastoral direction in the parish. They have been honest in that advice, and they have been creative in their suggestions. I deeply appreciate their service.

At the August 24 meeting, the Commissions were also asked to select new

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## SJN to MSC

By Chelsea Breeden, Youth Minister

The St. John Neumann Mission Team would like to thank our parishioners for all of your prayers, donations, contributions, and support for our mission trip to Jamaica this summer. We had an incredible experience. We learned so much and met many amazing individuals while we were there. We loved being able to serve Mustard Seed Communities (MSC) through different work projects during the week; we farmed, weeded, painted, stained, cleaned, and organized. Our favorite part of the trip was getting to know the residents.

One of the missionaries, Sarah Kate Coleman, was particularly touched by one child. "One of the kids I became especially close to was Donovan. He arrived at MSC after being abused by his mother and he was very violent especially towards women. But through the hard work of those who worked for and with MSC, he is much more loving and happy. He loves to be read to, spell, tell you about what he is learning in school, and play make-believe. He was one of the residents that lived at Sophie's Place (where we stayed), and had limited verbal communication skills. One night, Donovan led me into the chapel, sat me in the pew, and stood up and acted out the process of Mass as if he were the priest. He had me read small sections of the Bible like I was reading the readings. Then, although he couldn't talk very much, he acted as if he was reading the Gospel and giving the homily. Next, he pretended to give me Communion, and then I sang a song as he proceeded out of the chapel. This really opened my eyes to the importance of God and the Church to the residents and how MSC is able to provide stability for them. It was amazing how even though many of the residents had been thrown away, they were still able to find love and grow through God."

The Mission Team thanks you for making it possible for the mission to not only serve this amazing organization and even more amazing people, but for also helping these missionaries see God in each encounter. They feel they are changed for the better, and hope to share the love they experienced and received with the parish community.





By Chelsea Breeden, Youth Minister

## St John Neumann Life Teen Mission Statement

**T**he **Youth Ministry** exists to *reach* teenagers and *gather* them into a Catholic community that *shows* them the love of God, helps them *develop* a deep personal and spiritual relationship with Jesus Christ, and *equips* them to go forth and share the Word with others.

### What is Life Teen?

**Life Teen** is an international Catholic movement that serves the Church by providing resources and faith experiences that help lead teens closer to Christ. This is accomplished through a vibrant Eucharistic spirituality and creation of widespread opportunities for teens to grow in their faith. **Life Teen** believes that this Eucharist-centered ministry has the power to transform teens, transform parishes, and transform culture. Above all, Jesus Christ is at the center of who we are and of all that we do.

### What makes it work?

The program educates by presenting the truth in the context of the teachings and theology of the Catholic Church. This is accomplished through transformation prayer, discussions, and the sharing of personal experiences. Teens are given the opportunity to become integral parts of the parish through service, outreach, and social gatherings. Media used to enhance the teens' experience of community worship are artistically worthy, appropriate, and appealing to them. Music and the art forms provide crucial links to the teens as well as the assembly and the liturgy they share. Like most teenagers, the teens of St. John Neumann Catholic Church face many pressures and difficult social choices. Depression, drugs, broken homes, shattered relationships, and extreme materialism are facts of life for today's high school teens. **Life Teen** provides sanctuary, hope, and acceptance for teens at a time in their lives when these positive elements can seem in very short supply. The **Life Teen** ministry at St. John Neumann has gatherings on Sunday evenings called **Life Nights** (open to 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders). During the week, **Into the Deep** (open to 11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders) meets to continue learning and studying together to delve deeper into their Faith. Twice a year, **Life Teen** sponsors weekend retreats. These events allow teens to leave familiar surroundings and routines to devote special energy to developing a better relationship with themselves, others, and especially with Jesus Christ. Throughout the year, there are also many opportunities for meaningful Christian service in the parish and the community in the **Diakonia** program. And **Life Teen** offers many summer activities, including youth conferences, summer camps, and mission trips, plus other recreational trips throughout the year. The recipients of all of this labor of love, aside from the parish and the community, are the teens. **Life Teen** provides an opportunity for them to feel welcomed and loved. They are given a constructive, loving, positive alternative to many of the negative,

See Life Teen continued on page 12



# Join the Parish on a “Walk to Bethlehem”

By Wendy Bobadilla, Parish Nurse

**A**re you looking to add a little something extra to your exercise routine? Or change it? Or start a new routine? The “Walk to Bethlehem” is a program designed to improve your mind, body, and spiritual health, by encouraging physical activity and prayer. It is a 10-week program during which parishioners are asked to be mindful of their physical activities ... including walking and other aerobic activities. And to incorporate prayer into those activities.

The “pilgrimage” to Bethlehem is a virtual walk from the SJN parish to Atlanta, across the Atlantic to Marrakesh in Northern Africa, then across Africa through Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Libya, Egypt and Israel. Along the way, participants will learn about holy sites and other interesting Catholicism facts. The trip is 7,396-miles long. That is some trip! But, being a large parish family, it is hoped that many will participate. When we virtually make it to Bethlehem, then we get to walk back!



All are welcome: adults, children, and youth. Watch the *Bulletin* and SJN website for more information about joining the walk and the distance we travel.

**What activity counts for steps?** Twenty minutes of aerobic activity, including walking, equals one mile on the pilgrimage. Play sports like soccer? Count it. Come to the exercise classes at church? Count that. Whatever activity you do that increases your heart rate and lasts at least 20 minutes, equals one mile. Everyone who participates records mileage for each week and reports it to the Tour Director (via e-mail) or in a box in Gillin Hall. Also, in Gillin Hall, there will be a world map showing the group’s progress.

The Health Cabinet handed out booklets for the program the first week in September at Fellowship Sunday. If you did not receive one, download a copy from the St. John Neumann website at [www.stjohnneumannsc.com](http://www.stjohnneumannsc.com).

The pilgrimage continues until November 23. If you have any concerns/questions regarding your health or beginning this or any exercise program, please consult your health-care provider.

E-mail the Tour Director, Kathy, at [kscharer@bellsouth.net](mailto:kscharer@bellsouth.net), for further information. Or call Wendy Bobadilla at (803) 788-3252, ext. 327.



# Security at St. John Neumann Catholic Church

By Genie O'Shesky, Business Administrator

**E**vents over the summer have shown that churches of all denominations must become proactive about—instead of reactive toward—the security, safety and well-being of all who worship. The phrase “all are welcome here” can also welcome those who have the ability to create havoc and harm to others. Accessibility and security/safety are concepts that often conflict with each other.



This church must be accessible; yet, the safety and security of all have to be considered. In July, the City of Columbia Police Department conducted a security assessment of the interior and exterior of the church. Here are some of the steps that have been or will be taken to improve the security and safety of the church and grounds, while maintaining as much of the accessibility as possible:

- Change the locks and re-key interior and exterior doors and implement a key-tracking system. The assessment also recommends that keys be issued only to essential personnel. The locks and keys have been changed, a key-tracking system has been implemented and the new keys cannot be duplicated.
- Install a surveillance system and post surveillance signs in the church parking lots. This system will monitor all the doors into the church, as well as all three parking lots. Signs will be posted announcing the areas are under video surveillance. Options for identifying the appropriate system are being researched and a system should be installed soon.
- Install peephole and doorbell buzzer in the kitchen door as well as a peephole in the handicap-access door in Gillin Hall. Groups working in the kitchen or the hall can keep the exterior doors locked and be able to visually identify anyone outside before opening the door. A wide-angle peephole will be installed.

Some recommendations in place:

- The exterior parking lot lighting is appropriate for the location and is well maintained. The brightness of the door lighting will be increased.
- There already are ushers and greeters at the doors of the church during weekend Masses. They play an important role in welcoming visitors and parishioners to the church.

The safety and security of the church facilities will continue to be assessed and monitored and any necessary updates and changes will be made. Ways to maintain a safe and secure location will continue to be sought; so, truly, “all are welcome” to worship at St. John Neumann Catholic Church.





## A Great Year Begins

By Barbara Cole, Principal

**A**nother great year has started at the parish school. The children and parents entered SJN Catholic School's doors with smiles on their faces, ready for the year's excitement. There are a few changes at the school.

First, we welcome two new teachers: Virginia Schreffler and Leticia Gomez. Mrs. Schreffler moved from Illinois to this sunny state. This is her fifteenth year of teaching and she will teach fifth grade here this year. Mrs. Leticia Gomez is the new computer teacher. Her name may sound familiar, since she is a member of the parish. The school also welcomes Emily Correa, who will be a part of the *Extended Care* program. Ms. Correa is a freshman in college. We welcome all three to our SJN family.

As the doors opened this year, three-year-olds were welcomed for the first time. This program was added to the Preschool setting. There is a full class. So far, the children seem to be enjoying school.

Of course, we are always working to keep our academics strong. As a part of our Diocese, SJN is working with Notre Dame University to develop our curriculum to further engage the children at their level, challenging them without frustration. This year, the math curriculum is in full implementation. This is the second year of development for social studies and the first year for science. Each curriculum takes three years of training to implement into our schools.

If at any time, you would like to see our parish school in action, please call. We would love to give you a tour. St. John Neumann Catholic School is a very special place. Thank you for your support and your prayers daily.



# What's Rite?

Catherine Combier-Donovan, MLS

Pastoral Associate, Director of Liturgy and Adult Formation



## WHAT EXACTLY IS THE LITURGICAL YEAR?

**O**ur secular lives are ruled by the waxing and waning of the seasons, for some according to the academic year, for others the lunar year, and for many, the fiscal year. But for us as Christians, our lives of prayer and worship are shaped according to the Church year, better known as the liturgical year, the high point of which is Easter. The paschal mystery of Jesus Christ is the center and pivot of all our liturgical celebrations. The Church celebrates this whole mystery by means of the yearly cycle, from his incarnation until the day of Pentecost and the expectation of his return.

In the document *General Norms for the Liturgical Year and Calendar, 1*, the Church says the following:

*Christ's saving work is celebrated in sacred memory by the Church on fixed days throughout the year. Each week on the day called the Lord's Day the Church commemorates the Lord's resurrection. Once a year at Easter, the Church honors the resurrection and passion with the utmost solemnity. In fact through the yearly cycle the Church unfolds the entire mystery of Christ and keeps the anniversaries of the saints. During the different seasons of the liturgical year, the church, in accord with traditional discipline, carries out the formation of the faithful by means of devotional practices, both interior and exterior, instruction, and works of penance and mercy.*

### ORDINARY TIME

Our current liturgical season is Ordinary Time. Ordinary Time is the time of the Church, of the daily life of every Christian community, and of each one of us. It is not a season but rather a time between seasons, the opportunity for us to take our time without wasting it. Interspersed by a certain number of holy days of obligation, it allows us to fully celebrate the special character of our original feast day, Sunday, called the Lord's day, the first day, the eighth day, the day beyond our cycle of time.

During Ordinary Time, tradition marks certain days to remember and celebrate some of the saints, a title of Mary or Jesus, or a mystery of faith. Here is more information about Ordinary Time:

- called "ordinary" from the word "ordinal" meaning "counted"
- weeks are counted in the Lectionary and the Roman Missal
- two periods: 1. from Epiphany to Lent, beginning with right after the feast of the Baptism of the Lord until the day before Ash Wednesday; and 2. from the day after Pentecost to the day before Advent

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# Carta del Vicario Parroquial

## Queridos hermanos en Cristo,

Me da gusto saludarlos por medio de *Servus Fidelis* y le pido al Señor que continúe derramando abundantes bendiciones sobre cada uno de ustedes y sobre sus seres queridos. Hoy quiero reflexionar con ustedes acerca de la importancia de la Catequesis. Quizás muchos de ustedes tienen hijos o ahijados de bautismo, pero ciertamente la mayoría de nosotros hemos recibido el bautismo. La razón por la cual menciono el bautizo es porque en ese día nuestros padres y padrino prometieron que nos ayudarían a conocer y vivir los mandamientos para poder amar a Dios y a nuestro prójimo.

Muchas veces hemos escuchado que los seres humanos somos creados en la imagen y semejanza de Dios. La característica principal nuestra es que tenemos un alma espiritual unida a un cuerpo y por esa razón “somos un poco inferior a los ángeles” (Salmo 8). Esa imagen y semejanza con Dios, ese haber sido creados un poco inferior a los ángeles, se manifiesta principalmente en que somos seres libres y que tenemos inteligencia. Cuando unimos la inteligencia con la libertad descubrimos que tenemos la capacidad de amar. Esa capacidad de amar es lo que nos hace ser hijos de Dios creados a imagen y semejanza suya. Podemos amar porque tenemos un Dios que nos ama y que nos ha mostrado el camino hacia el amor verdadero.

No basta con creer que Dios existe porque hasta los demonios creen y tiemblan (Santiago 2:19) Para estar unidos a Dios es necesario un conocimiento de la fe, de la religión. Religión viene de la palabra latina religare que significa volver a unir. Jesucristo vino con el propósito de unir lo que estaba desunido. Y para re-unirnos con Dios Padre fundó una Iglesia en donde podemos encontrar de una manera clara y unificada la verdad que Dios se ha dignado revelar.

En la Biblia encontramos muchos pasajes que nos invitan a profundizar nuestra relación con Dios mediante el conocimiento de Dios. Cuando el joven rico le pregunta a Nuestro Señor que hay que hacer para alcanzar la vida eterna, Él le contesta que hay que cumplir los mandamientos (Mateo 19:17) Es triste darse cuenta que hay personas que no se saben de memoria los Diez Mandamientos y hay muchos más que ni siquiera saben que existen los Preceptos de la Iglesia. San Pedro nos invita a dar razón de nuestra esperanza (1Pedro 3:15) y para eso hay que conocer el contenido de nuestra fe. También encontramos en Hechos de los Apóstoles el dialogo entre Felipe y el Eunuco en donde este último estaba leyendo una profecía de Isaías y Felipe le pregunta que si entiende aquello que está leyendo, y el Eunuco le responde: “¿Cómo voy a entender si nadie me explica?”

Pues bien, existen muchas maneras en las que uno puede crecer en ese conocimiento de Dios y de Su Iglesia para poder amarle más. Ciertamente la oración y el asistir a Misa son elementos indispensables y de suma importancia. También existen muchos sitios de internet que enseñan apropiadamente la fe. Pero hay muchos





sitios de internet que pueden confundir y desunir en vez de enseñar y de unir. Por eso en nuestra Parroquia ofrecemos principalmente dos opciones para que quienes lo deseen puedan aumentar ese conocimiento de Dios, para poder alimentar ese deseo que tenemos de conocer la verdad. 1) Existen pequeños grupos de oración y catequesis que se reúnen semanalmente con ese propósito de amar más al Señor. Ahí se ora con un corazón sencillo pero sincero y también se enseñan temas básicos de nuestra fe basados en las Sagradas Escrituras y el Catecismo de la Iglesia. Ejemplos de algunos temas son: ¿Por qué soy

católico? ¿Quién fundo tu Iglesia? ¡Imágenes si, ídolos no! ¿Qué dice la Biblia de María? ¿Puede un hombre perdonar los pecados? ¿Debemos bautizar a los niños? Jesucristo único salvador. Y muchos más. 2) También ofrecemos los miércoles educación religiosa para adultos, basados en El Catecismo Católico de Los Estados Unidos para los Adultos. Ese día es conveniente para los papas que traen a sus hijos a las clases de Religión ya que mientras los hijos aprenden de Dios los papas pueden quedarse y también conocer más de Dios y así poder responder a las preguntas de sus pequeños.

Las dos opciones están abiertas para cualquier persona; todos son bienvenidos. Quizá es usted un católico que conoce bien su fe y desea profundizar aún más en ese conocimiento. Quizá es usted un católico quien no tuvo la bendición de que alguien le hablara de Dios. Quizá es usted un católico que se apartó de la verdadera Iglesia de Cristo por algún mal ejemplo o por algún malentendido. Quizá usted no sea católico y quiere saber si lo que le han dicho de los católicos es verdad. Cualquiera que sea su situación le invitamos a que se incorpore a un grupo, o a ambos si así lo desea, para que pueda adueñarse de las palabras de Cristo cuando dijo: “conocerán la verdad y la verdad los hará libres” (Juan 8:32) ya que sabemos que Jesucristo es el “camino la verdad y la vida” (Juan 14:6).

Si desea incorporarse a una Pequeña Comunidad de Oración y Catequesis por favor comuníquese con Eugenia Juárez al teléfono (803) 553 5214. Para informes relacionados a la clase de los miércoles comuníquese con Margarito Jacobo al teléfono (706) 533 9927 o con José Fernández al teléfono (803) 767 8306 o con Felicita Velázquez al teléfono (803) 743 6477

En verdad espero y consideren la invitación que les hemos hecho. Y si ya atienden uno de esos grupos pues inviten a aquellos que pudieran beneficiarse de estas opciones. Hay quienes dicen no tener tiempo para Dios pero la verdad es que el tener tiempo está relacionado con el cómo organizamos nuestras prioridades. Nuestro Señor nos dice en Mateo 10:33 “El que me niegue ante de los hombres, yo también lo negare ante mi Padre del cielo”

Dios les bendiga y les conceda la paz.

Padre Javier Heredia,  
Vicario Parroquial



## Life Teen and EDGE Cookout

By Chelsea Breeden, Youth Minister

**T**he **Life Teen and EDGE Cookout** over the Labor Day weekend was a great night. As always, one of the highlights was dodgeball. This year, the parents definitely brought their “A” game. In the last match of the night, the game was quite intense. Jeff Johnston, father of four and always up for a challenge, played one of the best games of dodgeball in his life. At one point, as a ball was headed his way, he dove to the ground, and rolled to safety. From the other team, his son shouted, “Whoa, nice moves, Dad!” Everyone was visibly impressed, but could not have guessed what would come next. As the game continued, it finally got down to one team member from each side remaining. Not surprisingly, Jeff was the one adult left standing. On the teen side stood Brennan Ravan, a fearless sophomore and an avid dodgeball enthusiast. It was no surprise, either, to see him left, being usually the one to beat. Knowing Brennan’s strength, skill, and passion for the game, the teens did not think there was much hope for the adults. However, with Jeff on their side, the adults were confident they stood a chance. If ever there were an epic matchup, that one was it. Everyone held their breath. As a ball rolled to the adult side, Jeff cautiously leaned in to grab it. Brennan backed up and looked for it, but did not react quickly enough. Jeff and another player from the back teamed up, and Brennan was out within seconds, having been hit from both sides. It certainly was some game.



## EDGE

By Chelsea Breeden, Youth Minister

**S**t. John Neumann Catholic Church **EDGE** (Middle School Youth Ministry) had an awesome Kickoff night.

The group focused on the verse John 10:10 / ***came so that they might have life, and have it abundantly.*** The night included fun-filled games for the teens to get to know each other, plenty of colorful activities, and even an all-out color war. Everyone was definitely living life abundantly. At the end of the night, the group came together in prayer and thanked God for all He had given, and for the opportunity to have fun and learn about Him at the same time. **EDGE** is open to all 6th-8th graders. It meets every Wednesday, from 6:30 to 7:45 p.m.

The theme for the year is **Glorify**. The group will be offering all actions for the Glory of God and striving to find ways to glorify Him in everything and at all times.



# GRIEF SHARE®

By Wendy Bobadilla, Parish Nurse

**G**riefShare is a program new to SJN. It is a 13-week support group that meets weekly to offer and extend help to those facing the challenges of rebuilding life after the loss of a spouse, child, family member, or friend.

It has three components:

-**Video seminar** - Each week, there will be a video seminar featuring experts on grief and recovery.

-**Support Group Discussion** - After viewing the video, the group will discuss what was presented in that week's video seminar and what is going on in their lives.

-**Person Study and Reflection** - During the week, there will be opportunities to use the workbook for further personal study of the grieving process and to help sort out emotions through journaling. The group will spend time discussing comments and answers to questions from the workbook study.

## Who Should Come ... who should not

**GriefShare** is for people grieving the death of a family member or friend. There are other losses in life for which we grieve, such as job loss, divorce, or estrangement from a child. These causes of grief are real, but are not the kind dealt with in **GriefShare** sessions. Get in touch with the parish nurse for help in finding resources to deal with other causes of grief.

You are welcome to begin attending **GriefShare** at any session. Since each is "self-contained," you do not have to attend the sessions in sequence. You will find encouragement and help whenever you begin, and can continue with **GriefShare** at the next 13-week cycle.

**Registration is required** to ensure there will be enough materials on hand. Call (803) 788-3252, ext. 327 to register and for questions. There is a **fee of \$20** for the 13-week session (for the cost of the workbook). If it is a hardship to pay the fee, let the parish nurse know when registering.

**GriefShare meets on Tuesdays, at 6 p.m. in the SJN Catholic School small conference room.**

**G**et ready for some fun! If you are like many people, it is time to make some changes in your lifestyle and improve your health.

**Tai Chi** is a gentle exercise meant to increase flexibility, muscular strength and fitness. Studies have shown that 30 minutes of *Tai Chi* is comparable to 30 minutes of walking. There are five major styles of *Tai Chi*. The style taught at SJN is the **Sun (Sung)** style, which is very good for anyone with a chronic condition such as arthritis or fibromyalgia. The *Sun* style is characterized by "agile steps." This means that when one foot moves forward or backward, the other foot follows. The movements flow smoothly like "water in a river." Classes are offered in Gillin Hall on Mondays and Thursdays at 4:30 p.m. There is no cost to attend and everyone is welcome. Wear loose, comfortable clothing. For more information, call Wendy Bobadilla at 788-3252, ext. 327.



**Life Teen Continued From Page 3**

destructive activities of contemporary society. With the help of *Life Teen*, teens can experience real joy and, with hope, find their lives transformed forever.

## Life Nights

**Life Nights** are held every Sunday night starting with the celebration of the Mass at 5:00 p.m., dinner at 6:15 p.m., the main **Life Night** from 6:45-8:30 p.m., and dodgeball until 9:00 p.m.. **Life Nights** provide an opportunity for teens to go deeper into their Faith, share their Faith with their peers through witness talks and interactive discussion, learn more about issues facing teens today and how to deal with them, as well as opportunities to grow in community. These nights are presented by the **Core** team made up of adults from the parish under the guidance of the Director of Youth Ministry, Chelsea Breedon. Topics for these nights come from the **National Life Teen** office, from the **Core** team's own ideas, and ideas suggested by teens.

## EDGE (6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> graders)

**EDGE** is a Catholic middle school youth ministry experience created for early adolescents in 6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> grades. **EDGE** is designed to meet the educational, spiritual, emotional, and social needs of young adolescents. Many of the values and beliefs that they held as children are now questioned and challenged. As young adolescents, they are trying to figure out who they are and what they believe. In many respects, those in middle school are on the edge because so much is going on in their lives physically, mentally, spiritually, and socially. It can be a very stressful and difficult time for them and their parents. As a parish, we strive to give these middle school youth The **EDGE** they need in life: Jesus, the Word, the Eucharist, and the Church. Within the context of Faith, middle school students are moving from a child-like spirituality to one that will, with hope, reach its pinnacle, through the work of **EDGE**, into an adult Faith commitment to Jesus Christ and the Catholic community.

Our theme this year is **Glorify**. We will strive to **glorify** God in all that we do, and proclaim His **glory** by the way we live our lives.

### 1 Corinthians 10:31



Rite continued from page 7

begins (this year November 28)

- time is marked by the reading of scripture in a three-year cycle: Matthew in Year A, Mark in Year B; and Luke in Year C.
- 33-34 weeks between Church seasons
- four “movable” solemnities of the Lord: the Trinity, the Body and Blood of Christ, the Sacred Heart of Jesus, and Christ the King
- liturgical color is normally green
- liturgical environment should reflect the time of year: spring, summer, fall and winter

And you can find the current liturgical calendar on the website of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops: [www.usccb.org/calendar/index.cfm?showLit=1](http://www.usccb.org/calendar/index.cfm?showLit=1) . So take advantage of this season to celebrate the wonderful ordinariness of today!

**Submit your questions to Catherine Combier-Donovan, Pastoral Associate for Liturgy and Adult Faith Formation. [CCombierDo@SJNChurch.com](mailto:CCombierDo@SJNChurch.com)**



## ST. JOHN NEUMANN CHURCH

### Annual Report 2015 Children's' Stewardship

From July 2014 - July 2015 the young people of St. John Neumann Parish contributed to Children's Stewardship a total of \$1,184.73! Their generosity has gone to help these worthy causes and people in need.



#### Project San Pedro - \$600 to sponsor two children in Guatemala for one year

Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Charleston helps to support the work of the Sisters of Bethany in Guatemala in their school and medical clinic. We are sponsoring 15-year-old Victor Rolando Cotuc and 9-year-old Chusita Mendez González. Your donation of \$600 covers the cost of their education, medical needs, clothing and meals at school for one year. The picture of Victor was taken this past year when



the Diocese sent a medical mission team to San Pedro La Laguna in Guatemala. The picture of Chusita, her mother and two sisters with Rhina Medina, the Director of Hispanic Youth Ministry, was also taken this year.

#### The Mass for Children/ La Misa para los Niños - \$295.32

100 copies in English and 100 copies in Spanish The Children's Mass booklets you see in the pews are given to the parish through your generosity. The booklets get a bit raggedy because they are used so much at Mass - and that's a good thing! So we periodically replace the torn and tattered copies with new ones.

#### Epworth Children's Home - \$289.41

Epworth Children's Home provides a safe, stable and loving environment for every child who calls this beautiful 32 acre campus "home." For 119 years, Epworth alumni have transitioned from children from a disrupted childhood to become independent and successful adults. Their annual BBQ raises much needed funds to continue operating. Through the "Cookout for Kids" the alumni return to the Epworth campus to give back to the place that helped raise them and provide for the next generation of children.



The kindness our children have shown to other families, not just here at St. John Neumann but in places very far away, is sharing the love God has for us. One person - no matter how big or small - can make a large difference in someone's life. May God bless you and keep you now and forever.



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chairpersons. The following were chosen:

<u>COMMISSION</u>	<u>NEW CHAIRPERSON</u>
Administration	Roy Bullinger
Adult Faith Formation	Janet Spring
Prayer and Worship	Terra Chadwick
Youth Faith Formation	Chip Schmidt
Community Life	Ericka Wooten
Outreach and Justice	Pending



Congratulations to these chairpersons, and many thanks to their predecessors: **Roy Bullinger, Marie Mason, Roger Catarino, Shelly Dunphy, Roger Lacson and Jeannie Hurlbert!** Each Commission is working on implementation of a primary goal. We will keep the parish informed of the progress toward goals during the year.

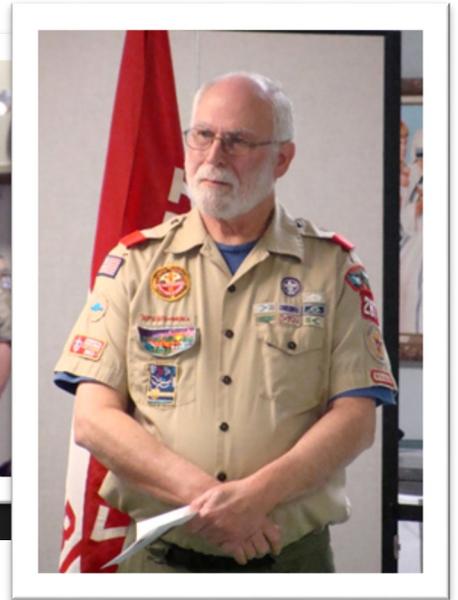
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## Thank you Catechists!



The St. John Neumann Religious Education program is blessed to have so many wonderful Catechists. We offer prayers and thanks for their service.





## St. John Neumann Boy Scout Troop 287

**S**t. John Neumann Catholic School’s Boy Scout troop has had a very busy year. Five boys became Eagle Scouts, with others almost ready, too.

Please join the troop in congratulating the following new Eagle Scouts (from left to right): Campbell Barker, Hunter Dabbs, Dalton Deaver, Seth Lyons, and Ford Tolar.

Also, the troop extends its heartfelt appreciation to Stuart Goodwin, who has been a troop leader for the past 23 years. Mr. Goodwin has been a scout, in one capacity or another, for 50 years. The troop sincerely thanks him for the many years of service and wishes him well on his move to Israel later this year. The troop also welcomes and congratulates Steve Cronin, the new Scout Master, as well as Rodel Bobadilla, the new Committee Chairman.

Troop 287 meets every Tuesday night at 7 p.m. at the SJN Catholic School cafeteria. If you are interested in joining the Boy Scouts, or would like to be an adult volunteer for Boy Scouts, please call Scout Master Steve Cronin at (803) 404-1930 or e-mail him at [scronin54@mac.com](mailto:scronin54@mac.com).

## Seniors’ Luncheon

**O**n the second Wednesday of every month the St. John Neumann Parish hosts a Seniors’ Luncheon. Seniors (parishioners 50 and over) gather together in Gillin Hall to share food and fellowship. This is one of the longest running social traditions in our parish and it continues to be a favorite. Today, Anna Santana, Trudy Dischinger, Angela Hart, Tim O’Shesky, Paul Dischinger and Rose Smerdell take on the task. They shop, prep, cook, serve and clean. Once they know how many parishioners are expected, they head to the grocery store to buy the ingredients that will soon become a delicious meal. Service begins following the second Wednesday noon Mass in Gillin Hall. The volunteers usually serve salad, a delicious main course and a dessert.



If you would like to join the St. John Neumann seniors for lunch, please call the church office at 788-3252, ext. 318 and ask to be put on the list for the Seniors’ Luncheon.



## Join Us!

**GRace Dialogues:** St. John Neumann Catholic Church will host a series featuring the extraordinary PBS documentary, *“Race: The Power of an Illusion”* October 14 and November 4, at 6:30 p.m., St. John Neumann Catholic School cafeteria. Table discussions will follow viewing each episode. More information may be found at [www.StJohnNeumannSC.com](http://www.StJohnNeumannSC.com).

The Columbiettes present **“A Walk through the Mass”** with Catherine Combier-Donovan, Saturday, September 26, 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. in Gillin Hall. Come spend a morning renewing your understanding of how we celebrate Eucharist, the source and the summit of our Faith.

The **“Walk to Bethlehem”** program is designed to improve your mind, body, and spiritual health, by encouraging physical activity and prayer. It is a 10-week program during which parishioners are asked to be mindful of their physical activities, including walking and other aerobic activities. And to incorporate prayer into those activities. Please see page 4 for more information.

**GriefShare** is a program new to SJN. It is a 13-week support group that meets weekly to offer and extend help to those facing challenges to rebuilding life after the loss of a spouse, child, family member, or friend. Please see page 11 for more information.

## St. John Neumann Catholic Church

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Visit us on the web at  
[www.stjohnneumannsc.com](http://www.stjohnneumannsc.com)

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CURRENT RESIDENT

