



NEWMAN NEWS

in the Catholic Diocese of Cleveland



Bridging Hope, Witnessing History

Case Western Reserve University

Witnessing History in El Salvador

In March 2009, eight students from Case Western Reserve journeyed with me to trace Cleveland's connections to El Salvador, and to become accredited international election observers. The lives, deaths, and witness of Clevelanders Jean Donovan (CWRU alumnae) and Sister Dorothy Kazel OSU were a bridge for us into the spirit and struggle of shalom, embodied by so many we encountered. These students are still unfolding this gift.

- Tony Vento

Being an election observer in El Salvador was one of those life-giving experiences I will never forget. To be in solidarity with others is our calling as Christians, and as human beings. I would never trade this opportunity to be a part of an election so formative and critical in El Salvador's long and sometimes tragic history. This trip really gave me a chance to act on the desire to live a more authentic life - a life in which my actions are in line with who I know I am called to be.

- Stephen Fleming, Physics & Biochemistry, CWRU

I had traveled overseas, but had only seen places that were designed for Western tourism. It was my first experience in human rights advocacy in an international setting. When I returned to campus, I added an international studies major. I am currently applying for both a Fulbright Scholarship to teach English in Azerbaijan and to the Peace Corps, with preference to Latin America.

- Mitchell Delaney, CWRU

The most life-giving part of my experience in El Salvador was the way in which every aspect permeated through any notions of the world I had before I went. Most importantly, the experience just kept giving after I returned and shared my experiences with others who knew nothing about El Salvador, but for whom El Salvador has a special place in their heart.

- Paige Rafoth, CWRU

(Paige then studied human rights for a semester in Chiapas, and worked on a speaking tour here for Latin American human rights workers.)

College of Wooster and Baldwin-Wallace College

Serving and Learning in Arizona

"One of the best and most enlightening experiences of my life. It's definitely something I'll never forget." This is what one of the eleven students who participated in a service/mission trip in March 2010 had to say in reflecting upon the experience. The trip brought together students from Baldwin-Wallace College and the College of Wooster to share a week of service, reflection, and prayer at Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha Parish, South Tucson, Arizona. Maureen Masterson Carr, Director of Missionary Cenacle Volunteers (MCV) and a Newman Foundation board member, led the trip. What made this trip stand out among other service trip opportunities that many colleges and universities offer over spring break is MCV's emphasis on reflection, prayer, and relationships as well as direct service. In addition to helping to renovate an apartment area at Blessed Kateri Parish, the participants spent time getting to know members of the parish, learned about and experienced the rich Native American culture of the community, and devoted time each day to prayer and reflection. Service trips offered through Newman Catholic Campus Ministry can be extraordinary experiences that form young women and men as witnesses and workers for the kingdom of God.

- Karen Hahn.



Oberlin College

Rising Student Leaders

At the Campus Ministry Leadership Institute, student leaders are introduced as “rising sophomores” or “rising juniors.” This prefix has an immediate effect as the introduced individual models effective student leadership during the Institute. The prefix was also a self-fulfilling prophecy as I’ve witnessed students I’ve interacted with at Oberlin continue to rise as leaders in grad school, their next parish communities and the Church.



I have shared in previous newsletters, that the student music ministry is something I’m particularly proud of. Initially when I began to focus my energies there, my vision was to identify the gifts and talents of my students and to give them the confidence to share them to enhance the celebration of our Masses.

Something that I hadn’t planned for, however, was that the ministry grew into a peer ministry. Val Karuzis was this community’s first formal Student Music Minister in a position that was funded by the Newman Foundation. During her senior year, she mentored rising sophomore, Patrick Haggerty. The

result was a seamless continuity in our music from last year to this. Pat now mentors others as he invites the new freshmen to participate. (Val, by the way, is rising in her role as a professional music minister in her home parish.)

In addition to the Music Ministry at Oberlin, students participate as sponsors for students in the RCIA process. Rising senior, John Geisler, has sponsored two fellow students in the RCIA. The year-long process has been enriching for John’s personal growth as he models a faithful life. In addition the friendships and support formed in the RCIA will last a lifetime. When these rising students stand before the community at the Easter Vigil I am filled with hope for the future of the Church.

– *Debbie Dacome*



Learning, Leading, and Growing

Many colleges and universities boast various types of off campus learning and leadership experiences; from “study abroad” programs to service opportunities, and the like. With the help of funding from The Newman Foundation of Northern Ohio and the Catholic Diocese of Cleveland our Newman Catholic Campus Ministers in the diocese have been able to help students take advantage of a number of “off campus” service and learning opportunities. Working with our local universities and such organizations as Mission Cenacle Volunteers and the Catholic Campus Ministry Association (a national organization), our campus ministers and students are, together, designing and implementing some wonderful leadership development opportunities which will benefit the students now and for the rest of their lives. Walk with us through the pages of this newsletter to discover how our wonderful Newman student leaders are learning and leading and growing as they minister to and with other members of the body of Christ.

– *Bill Miller*

Ashland University

Empowered By The Spirit

Newman Catholic Campus Ministry at Ashland University does a wonderful job at developing leaders within the Newman community and in the campus community as well. One of the best opportunities for students to build leadership skills is attending the Campus Ministry Leadership Institute (CMLI). This weeklong conference gives campus ministry teams an opportunity to come together to study the U.S. Bishops’ pastoral letter, *Empowered by the Spirit*.^{**} By reflecting on this letter, students have an opportunity to look at themselves and at their own strengths and talents. By looking at ourselves we are able to see where our greatest gifts are and where our weaknesses are too. After a comprehensive look at ourselves, we can then look at campus ministry and begin to formulate a plan to improve our ministry program or strengthen it even more. The conference gives us a wonderful opportunity to deepen our relationships with God, with each other, and with Catholic college students around the country. A student had this to say about CMLI: “CMLI not only gave me the tools to be a leader on a college campus, but the tools to be a leader in the world and in my future parish community after I graduate.”

– *Jordan Trejo, Ashland University*

Figure captions and footnote:

- Front: Wooster student Lauren Smith in Arizona.
- Page 2 top: Oberlin student John Geisler.
- Page 2 bottom: Wooster representatives at CMLI.
- Page 3: Eucharistic adoration at XLT in Akron.

^{**} www.nccbuscc.org/education/highered/empowered.shtml.

CMLI

Campus Ministry Leadership Institute

SPONSORED BY THE UNITED STATES
CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS

Every summer, students and campus ministers from around the country gather for a week of intensive training, planning, and prayer at the national Campus Ministry Leadership Institute (CMLI). In June 2010, thirty-five participants from the University of Akron, Case Western Reserve University, Oberlin College, Cleveland State University, Ashland University, and the College of Wooster attended the institute, making up nearly a fourth of the total participants! In addition to keynote lectures focusing on aspects of the U.S. Bishops' pastoral letter, *Empowered by the Spirit: Campus Ministry Faces the Future*,** the institute includes intensive project work sessions in which each campus team spends focused time planning a project to benefit their campus community. These projects have included retreats, outreach to new students, liturgical celebrations, and service programs. Generous funding from the Newman Foundation makes it possible for campus ministries in the Diocese of Cleveland to offer this extraordinary leadership opportunity to students year after year, with incredible results not just in the spiritual and leadership development of those that participate in the institute, but to the wider campus communities they represent as well.

– Karen Hahn.

CMLI was a great experience. Not only did it help us in our foundations of planning a great student organization based on our faith, but it also incorporated aspects of a retreat while helping us grow as Catholics. There were many different types of prayer that we learned about and got to experience since different people have different ways of worshiping. It also helped us grow together as a team and allowed us to meet new people from other schools and share ideas.

– Jess Walsh, CSU

CMLI was a week-long planning retreat for schools to come together to work on a program of their choice that they hoped to carry out in their campus ministries at their school. It was awesome to see and meet so many different people with all sorts of ideas coming together in Philadelphia with a passion for service, social justice, ministering to others, and spreading God's love. It was great bouncing ideas off other people and seeing what worked or did not work at other schools. Throughout the week there were also empowerment sessions, in which speakers got up and spoke on different issues of faith, leadership, and community. Praise and worship, Mass, and prayer and reflection were all major components of the week as well. All in all, it was a productive, Spirit-led week that made us grow together as a group and build an awesome base for an even stronger Newman community at Cleveland State!

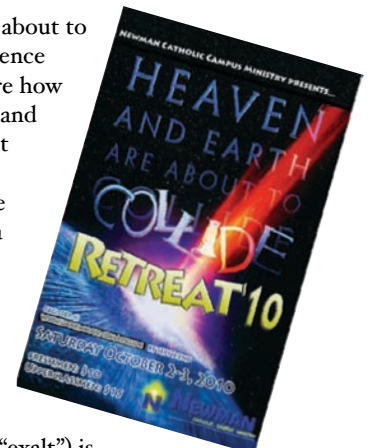
– Amanda Perusek, CSU

University of Akron

Praise, Worship and Spirituality

Newman Catholic Campus Ministry at the University of Akron has defined this academic year as a year of Praise and Worship with a good measure of Spirituality thrown in. As an outcome of this year's Campus Ministry Institute (CMLI) those students in attendance: Maria Bedell, Michael Kulig, Andrew White, Justin Hummer and Vince Greczanik along with the remaining Leadership Team members have identified two major projects to enhance the spirituality of the individual and grow an understanding on how to provide an example of faith to the Real World.

First, heaven and earth are about to "COLLIDE": A weekend experience for students who want to explore how their individual spiritual beliefs and the Real World are sometimes at odds with each other and sometimes come together in the same space to make this world a better place. Young Catholic adults will come together off campus to COLLIDE with nature, friends and the Lord and to learn how to interact with each other and the world.



Second, XLT (pronounced "exalt") is a praise and worship experience unlike any other, geared toward young adults, and the young at heart to encounter Christ through Eucharistic adoration, inspiring Christian music, and a powerful speaker. In collaboration with St. Mary's, Hudson, and the parish of St. Bernard-St. Mary in Akron, the Newman Catholic Campus Ministry at The University of Akron is hoping to provide this praise and worship opportunity twice per year, in the Fall and Spring.

These projects along with weekly gatherings for prayer, bible study, spiritual direction, service and enlightenment from guests allow students to explore and enhance their faith beliefs and then add to the community at large and to the Newman Catholic Campus Ministry at the University of Akron.

– John Szarwark



President's Message



It is with great admiration and gratitude that I observe the activities of our Catholic students serving others in the practice of their faith. Their selfless acts of service extend far beyond just the local campuses as indicated by the articles in this issue. Whether it is the Missionary Cenacle Volunteers' trip to South Tucson or the trip to El Salvador to monitor elections or the Campus Ministry Leadership Institute, these students are living their Faith in vibrant ways to help others.

They are taking advantage of the opportunities provided through Newman Catholic Campus Ministry (NCCM) and the

dedicated campus ministers on the secular college campuses in the Diocese of Cleveland. A strong Catholic presence on these campuses through NCCM makes these experiences possible.

We at the Newman Foundation are proud to help support NCCM and the students financially, in prayer, time and talent. Help us to keep this ministry strong. Your financial consideration is greatly appreciated. Please keep the students and campus ministers in your prayers.

To all, a sincere thank you....

*Alberta R. Hensley, President,
The Newman Foundation of Northern Ohio*

MEET THE CAMPUS MINISTERS

Ashland University

Rev. Vincent J. Hawk
frvhawk@aol.com
419-994-4396

Baldwin-Wallace College

Kirsten Vilinsky
kkolaja@dioceseofcleveland.org
440-243-4955
Mindy Kushlak
mkushlak@dioceseofcleveland.org
440-243-4955

Case Western Reserve Univ.

Tony Vento
tvento@dioceseofcleveland.org
216-421-9614 ext. 302

Cleveland State University

Greg Stevens
gstevens@dioceseofcleveland.org
216-687-2371

College of Wooster

Karen Hahn
khahn@dioceseofcleveland.org
330-287-3000 ext. 4504

Oberlin College

Debbie Dacone
ddacone@dioceseofcleveland.org
440-775-5190

University of Akron

John Szarwark
216-696-6525 ext. 3000
jszarwark@dioceseofcleveland.org

Rev. Norm Douglas

330-376-3585

Newsletter Editor

David Perry
dperry@uakron.edu
330-972-6825

The Church on Campus

The Church on campus will be seen more clearly as a genuine servant community, dedicated to social justice, and therefore will be a more effective sign and instrument of the kingdom of peace and justice in the world. In the new era, the Church and higher education will find more productive ways of working together for the well-being of the whole human family. In our vision, campus ministry, empowered by the Spirit, faces a future bright with promise.

*- U.S. Catholic Bishops,
concluding remarks from "Empowered by the Spirit"*

Diocesan Director of Newman Catholic Campus Ministry

Bill Miller, wmiller@dioceseofcleveland.org
1-800-869-6525 X2880
Judy Viancourt (Administrative Assistant)
jviancourt@dioceseofcleveland.org
216-696-6525 X1032

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Cleveland, Ohio
Permit No. 688

Diocese of Cleveland
The Newman Foundation of Northern Ohio
1404 E. 9th St., Second floor
Cleveland, OH 44114
Voice (216) 696-6525 X1032

