

The Shamrock

July/August 2009

St. Patrick's Teen Mission Trip

Written by:

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On July 7, 17 teens and three adults from St. Patrick's loaded into vans and headed to the St. Augustine Mission on the Winnebago Indian Reservation in Winnebago,

NE. There we met up with three other local parishes that attended this year's mission trip: St. Robert's, St. James, and St. Gerald's.

Our first day at the reservation was spent getting to know the kids from the other churches. We played a lot of "get to know you" games and learned about the Native American culture. The first speaker was the principal at St. Augustine's Mission school, Don Blackbird, who taught us about the history of the school, traditions, and the multiple outfits worn by the Ho-Chunk (Indian word for Winnebago) people. We compared our Catholic social teachings to injustices faced by the Indians. Father Mike and Father Dave, the Pastor and Assoc. Pastor at the mission, further explained the culture and lifestyle of both the Omaha and Winnebago tribes. They also shared connections between native spirituality and the Catholic faith.

The next day we went out into the community. Some groups went to Macy, on the Omaha Indian reservation while others stayed at the mission. Our St. Pat's crew went to Walthill on the Omaha reservation. We spent our time doing a variety of jobs at St. Joseph's Church. We cleaned and mopped the Church, weeded, landscaped, edged the parish grounds, and worked in the food and clothing pantry. When we got back to St. Augustine's, we had another visitor, Sarah "Auntie" Snake. She told us about what it was like growing up on the reservation. She also told multiple horrifying ghost stories about spirits of deceased tribal members, right before we went to bed. Oh, joy! We learned that story telling and the connection with the dead are parts of the native culture.

The following day, we stayed at St. Augustine's and helped Mary Jo, the janitor, clean the walls of the school due to rain. When the weather improved, we returned to our sites and worked for a couple of hours. At dinner, Sarah Snake came and brought the Red Life youth group to join us for Indian tacos. We played cards, basketball, and other games with them. After games, we were told more ghost stories by Auntie Sarah. On the way back to our dorms, we had to be extra quiet because it was tradition to not be out after dark when there was a body above the ground before a funeral. The native culture emphasizes respect for all creation whether living or deceased.

On our last day, everyone went to their sites for a few hours except for our group because there was a funeral being held at St. Joseph's Church. Instead, we stayed at St. Augustine's and did a variety of duties such as painting display cases, and cleaning the kitchen and dorm areas. After everyone gathered back for lunch, we headed off to Mass celebrated by Father Mike. We all participated by being a server, EMHC, lector, or a choir member. After Mass, we said our goodbyes to all of our new friends and headed home Friday evening, July 10th. We had a lot of fun making a difference in other people's lives.

Mark Your Calendars

- Aug 3-7—Summer school
- Aug 5—Safe Environment training—6:30 pm
- Aug 7—9th Annual Golf Tournament
- Aug 9—"Get Set for School" 12-5
- Aug 13—"Back to School night" a chance to meet your new teacher and drop off supplies—5-7pm
- Aug 19—First day of School at St. Patrick's
- Aug 30—St. Patrick's Parish Carnival
- Sep 2—First 2010 Dinner/Auction planning meeting—open to all
- Sep 9—First day of Religious Formation classes
- TASTE—"A Food & wine Experience" November 6th

www.stpatselkhorn.org

Welcome to our New Parishioners

- Bauer, Patrick; Victoria, Brandon & Brittain
- Gray, Kevin & Tiffany; Will
- Hummel, Jeff & Jennifer; Jack, Mary Kate, Maggie & Molly
- Koenig, Jean
- Leutinger, Joseph & Nancy; Kristi, Todd, Kara & Bridget
- McGill, Con & Jan
- McGlynn, Michael & Danielle; Kenzie, Carson, Kieran & Liam
- Overbey, Julie
- Palubecki, Michael & Anna Clements; Hendrix
- Schoneman, Matthew & Greta; Madalyn & James
- Schooley, Dale
- Theisen, Tony & Betsy; Emily
- Wendt, Chris & Wendy; Alexis & Katie
- Wilson, Jr. Keith & Jamie; Jaeda & Khiana

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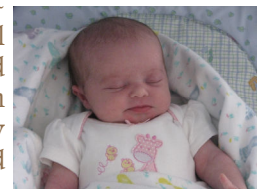


Caution: Entering a Construction Zone

If you have been in Boland Hall this summer, you have certainly noticed the construction going on in the parish offices. This project will help the staff to better utilize the space especially with the addition of a full time associate priest. Vicki Payton, Office Manager, says the renovations are being done cost-effectively and offer a huge cost savings versus demolition and starting from scratch. At this point some of the work has been donated and staff members have even pitched in by tearing out old carpet and moving furniture in order to save money. As a result of the project, the main parish entrance has been moved to better serve parishioners and a small work room has been added for volunteers and staff to utilize. Rewiring for the computers has also been completed

St. Patrick's Welcomes a New Bundle of Joy

On Friday, June 26, Gregg & Beth Kathol and their children, Margaret and Blaise, welcomed a new baby girl into their family. Lainey Carol weighted 5 lb 8 oz and measured 18 inches long. Beth, St. Pat's Adult Formation Director, says that family is adjusting well to the new addition and everyone is getting some much needed sleep. . .so far. Congratulations to the Kathol Family!



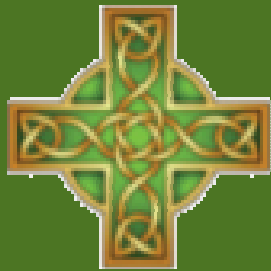
9th Annual Golf Outing Just a Few Days Away

It's not too late to sign up and enjoy a great day on the links at the 9th annual St. Patrick's Golf Outing at Tiburon Golf Course on **Friday, August 7th** with a noon shot-gun start. The day includes access to the driving range, golf cart, pin prizes, raffle drawing and dinner. All proceeds from the event go directly to the building fund at St. Patrick's. Contact Sydney Peters at sydney-rae23@gmail.com or call the office at 289-4289 to get signed up now. Registration for individuals is \$150 and a foursome is \$450.



St. Patrick's Baptisms

Abigail Elizabeth Else, Daughter of Robert & Christina
 Reese Micaela Noona, Daughter of Mark & Stephanie
 Jackson Reed Widhalm, Son of Steve & Summer
 Talya Grace Borgrebe, Daughter of Kurt & Kristina
 Samantha Joy Dodds, Daughter of Cameron & Jill
 Max Ambrose Newman, Son of Matthew & Ellie
 Jacob Bruce Zymola, Son of John & Jennifer
 Samantha Frances Nelson, Daughter of Michael & Megan
 Alaine Grace Swerczek, Daughter of Nathan & Amy
 Hudson Thomas Schraad, Son of Daryl & Sarah
 Alexis Ann Randazzo, Daughter of Joseph & Laurie
 Avery Marie Crom, Daughter of Nicholas & Stacey
 Emma Grace Barkmeier, Daughter of Wayne & Kelly
 Luke William Thomas, Son of Leon & Lori
 Samanth Yin-Yee Sumner, Daughter of Mark & Joyce



Key contact information
for 5-day School &
Religious Formation

School Phone: 289-5407

RF Phone: 289-4947

Website:
www.stpatselkhorn.org

Religious Formation & 5-Day School Getting Ready for a New Year

The halls will be buzzing with the sounds of children's laughter and eagerness to learn when school starts in a few short weeks. Between Religious Formation (RF) and 5-Day school, St. Patrick's will serve over 1,400 students this year.

Religious Formation: When the doors open on Wednesday, September 9th, the RF program will welcome 643 students. The first session will begin with a prayer service for children and their parents before they visit their classrooms and meet their catechists.

Over 150 volunteers are needed each week to ensure the program runs smoothly and to provide the best religious education to our children. If you are looking for a unique and rewarding volunteer opportunity, whether you have a child in the program or not, the RF program could use your help. Registrations are also still being accepted for all grade levels. Contact Mary McMahon at mmcmahon@stpatselkhorn.org or 289-4947 ext 1505 for additional information about registering your child or to find out more about volunteer opportunities. You can also check out the following link to read brief descriptions about each volunteer position: http://stpatselkhorn.org/religious_formation/index.cfm

Two new staff members have also joined the RF program. Gazelle Johnson is the new Administrative Assistant and Chris Else will serve as the new Coordinator for Liturgy of the Word for Children and Sunday Morning Preschool. These programs begin the weekend of September 12th and 13th. Registration for Sunday morning preschool will take place after all Masses on August 8th and 9th.

5-Day School: The 2009-2010 school year marks the 10th anniversary for the school which opened its doors in the fall of 2000 with only 80 students. This year we are one step closer to the goal of reaching capacity of 900 students in 2011 with a current enrollment of 725 children. There are waitlists for Pre-School, Prek, Kindergarten and 1st Grade. A few new faces will join the staff as well.

Mr. Kevin Welch, 7th & 8th Math/7th Religion

Ms. Lindsey Korth, 6th Grade

Mrs. Diana Jensen, Art

Mr. Steve Slater, TEAM

Mrs. Ann Rasmussen, Part Time Music/Spanish for Kindergarten & 1st

Mrs. Betsy Bender, Part Time PE Kindergarten

Watch your weekly Principal's Notes for important information and for more details about plans to celebrate ten years of success at St. Patrick's.

Wanted: Shamrock Contributors

This monthly e-newsletter is produced entirely by volunteers and we are looking for a few more people to help with everything from writing articles, editing, and layout. It requires just a few hours a month to create a useful tool for all parishioners. To find out more, contact Laura at lgeisinger@stpatselkhorn.org or 289-4286 x 1526.