



**PRAYER**

**BOLD**



**FELLOWSHIP**



**LOVING**



**UNSTOPPABLE**

**SERVICE**



**FAITH**



*Newman Outreach*

Fall 2023

### Newman Center Staff

Fr. Jeff Belger

Priest Director

Joe Welter

Deacon

Ronda Lipsius

Administrative Assistant

Mike Leuck

Sacristan/Greeter

Christine Wissink

Director of Outreach & Education

Ann Thomas

Outreach Assistant

Kristie Wert

Director of Development

Mary Rae Meyer

Development Assistant

Anna Kelly

Director of Liturgical Music

Dan Teets

Director of OCIA

Zita Sibenaller

Bookkeeper

Douglas Herrera

Facilities/Custodial

Claudia Landeverde

Custodial

### Newman Center Board of Directors

Most Reverend Thomas Zinkula

Reverend Jeff Belger

Reverence Thom Hennen

Reverend Troy Richmond

Michele Brock

Ron Meyer

Colleen Rapp

Roger Reilly

The Newman Center Board of Directors provide leadership, guidance, stewardship and support to help further our mission on the campus of The University of Iowa. We are grateful to them for accepting this call to serve in this capacity.

We are so thankful for our financial partners. Your support is key to our mission to make students commissioned disciples. You may find our Donor Honor Roll on our website at [www.iowacatholic.org](http://www.iowacatholic.org). Thank you!



My assignment as the Catholic chaplain to the students at The University of Iowa, and Priest Director of the Newman Catholic Student Center is one that is sometimes hard to describe. I invest in the students by bringing many others into the equation, like staff, missionaries, community members, alumni and board members. It truly is an art of directing, not much different from a conductor of an orchestra. As I work with one group or individual, the other members are still actively

doing their part. When I turn my attention from one thing to the next, nothing stops. We are either preparing, executing or evaluating all that we do. It often feels a little overwhelming. But sometimes, there is enough calm that I catch something. I either see it, hear it, or it is brought to my attention that all that we are doing is paying off in remarkable ways. It is not world peace that we are celebrating. Heaven knows that we have not accomplished that yet. But glimpses of the Kingdom of God keep breaking through.

The other day I was making my rounds when I overheard three guys talking. They had plans to go to Burge for lunch. Two of the guys had finished what they were doing, but the third guy said he had to go into the chapel and pray for a bit. There was a little push back about how hungry they were, but the guy in need of prayer held his ground. He said that prayer was something he wanted to be more intentional about. He might as well have said, "What are you really hungry for?" The response from the hungry guys was my breakthrough that day. Instead of continued griping, he said: "You know, you are right! I will come and pray with you." These are guys that you would see lifting at the gym at 6am. (If you are crazy enough to be active at that time of the morning.) They are fully living all that the university has to offer, but they want more. They are holding each other accountable to the highest level. And what is more, we are seeing more and more guys from the gym finding their way into the Newman Center. Because these guys know how to invite.

This is another facet of what we mean when we say, "We are **UNITED in CHRIST**." Our diversity is growing because our unity is working. We have much more to do, but relying on the grace of God and all the members of the Newman Center family, we are **Bold, Loving and Unstoppable**. I hope you can enjoy and celebrate all that we are doing here by reading some of our success stories.

I am thankful for your past prayers and generosity, and I humbly request your help for our future together.

Blessings,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Fr. Jeff Belger".

Fr. Jeff Belger



## Joe Mattingly Retires After 40 Years of Service

After forty years of service to the Church, Joe Mattingly retired on July 1, 2023 to pursue other interests. Our Newman Center family associates Joe with the Newman Singers, a liturgical and concert group that originated as part of his music ministry to Newman students. The group toured across the country, building a reputation for leadership in contemporary liturgical and inspirational music. Hundreds of Newman Center alumni participated throughout the years and the Newman Center community had a front row seat as the group performed at Masses and other Newman events such as: Christmas concerts, the Gala, and Newman Night Out. We are thankful for the strong foundation Joe build here at Newman and are looking forward to seeing how our music ministry grows and continues to uphold the high level of excellence that has come



We dug into the archives for these photos! Left: Newman Singers perform at the Newman Center in 1998, Right: Joe Mattingly- circa 2001.



We welcome Fr. Troy Richmond to Iowa City and to our Board of Directors! Over the past twenty years, Fr. Troy has served as a priest in the Diocese of Davenport in a number of assignments. In particular, he has enjoyed the opportunity to serve in culturally diverse parishes. His passions include preaching, celebrating Liturgy, and the ministry of healing and deliverance. Fr. Troy graduated from Iowa State University with a Bachelor of Arts in Music and then attended seminary first at Saint Ambrose University and then at Mundelein Seminary. During his time at Iowa State, he was very active at the St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Student Center and it was there that he was able to discern his vocation to the priesthood. Fr. Troy said, "I am excited to be part of the Newman Center Board and support their ministry of forming students at The University of Iowa to be committed disciples of our Lord for the building up of His Church."

**Welcome Fr. Troy!**



Anna Kelly has served the Newman Catholic Student Center as the Liturgical Music Fellow since 2021. Our Fellows program offers students leadership opportunities and the chance to learn skills they can carry with them after graduation. With our music ministry in transition, Anna has taken on additional responsibilities and is flourishing in her expanded role. She planned and hosted a fellowship event open to those in our Newman Community that may be interested in the music ministry, recruited a group of over 20 students to serve as a Sunday Choir as well as a new Gregorian Chant group, each of which practice weekly. She has been a great help in restructuring the music area in the chapel, organizing the music office, and assisting with an equipment and supply inventory. In addition to those tasks, she has been instrumental (pun intended!) in helping Newman staff find musicians for Masses as well as playing and cantoring herself. We are thankful for her leadership and willingness to take on these additional tasks.



***As a final edit to this newsletter, we are thrilled to announce that after completing the interview process, Anna Kelly has accepted the offer to be our new Director of Liturgical Music! Anna says she is looking forward to helping the music ministry grow in worship, build strong relationships, and foster community in the music ministry. Welcome to the Newman Staff, Anna!***



### MISSION STATEMENT

As a Newman Catholic Student Center, we provide Roman Catholic ministry to those associated with The University of Iowa to promote their development within a faith community and to prepare them as disciples for the Church and the world.

# UNITED IN MISSION



Kobe Eischeid  
Team Director  
3rd Year Missionary



Carolyn (Carly) Colbert  
2nd Year Missionary



Nathan Seiler  
1st Year Missionary



Alayna Moscinski  
1st Year Missionary



Caitlyn Dempsey  
1st Year Missionary



## What is FOCUS?

The Fellowship of Catholic University Students is an effort across the country to advance the teachings of Jesus on college campuses. Our missionary team works in tandem with our campus ministry and complements the efforts of our Outreach and Education department.

We are blessed to be able to host this team thanks to the generosity of financial partners that specifically fund this ministry which has greatly increased our capacity for outreach on campus.

We experienced big changes in our FOCUS team to begin this academic year. Third year missionary, Kobe Eischeid became our Team Director. Kobe has spent his first three years as a missionary here at Iowa. We are thrilled to have him leading our team this year. Carly Colbert returned to campus for her second missionary year. This past summer, Carly got engaged and one of our new first year missionaries, Nathan Seiler is the man who proposed to her! Nathan is from southern Indiana, and he and Carly met while at Indiana University. We are excited to walk with them through their marriage preparation and wedding planning. They have set a date for February 2024. In addition to Nathan, we also welcomed two more first year missionaries: Alayna Moscinski and Caitlyn Dempsey. Alayna is from Ohio and attended the University of Toledo. Caitlyn is from southern California has just moved to Iowa after graduating from Cal State-Fullerton! This is her first time in the midwest!



## FOCUS by the Numbers- Fall '23

- 30 Bible Study Groups
- 34 students leading Bible Study
- 165 students have attended Bible Study at least 1 time
- 60 students in Discipleship formation
- 7 students interviewing for an opportunity to become a FOCUS missionary next academic year
- 7 Newman Center alumni currently serving at FOCUS missionaries across the country

Each morning, our FOCUS missionary team and staff members gather for a team huddle to start our day. Each person shares what they have on their schedules and to-do list for the day and prayer intentions. Our missionaries begin their day with such things as run club and morning swim workouts, then head to the Newman Center for 8:30am rosary walk, then 9am holy hour. From there the day is filled with outreach and invitation to students - think dining halls, meetings with Bible study leaders, students being formed through missionary discipleship. They spend time each week in team meetings, preparing for the Bible study groups that they lead, and stewarding their own mission partners. Many days, they are still 'on duty' into the evening hours: hosting gatherings at their homes, participating in events here at the Center, and assisting with post-Thursday Night Mass activities. As you can see, although our investment is significant to host a FOCUS team on campus, they are bold, loving, and unstoppable in the mission to help us make students commissioned disciples.

The Newman Center is proud to have seven alumni serving as FOCUS missionaries throughout the country.

- Lucero Manzaneres- Queens College, New York
- Julia Waters- Bowling Green State University, Ohio
- Peter Laubenthal- University of Wisconsin, Platteville
- Thomas Asama- University of Miami, Ohio
- Hannah Camposeo- St. Francis University, Pennsylvania
- Olivia Ahlberg- University of Illinois at Chicago
- Camryn Miller- University of Wisconsin-Madison



There are seven students currently interviewing with FOCUS this fall for missionary positions for the 2024-25 academic year. We also have several other students discerning FOCUS in coming months. Kobe Eischeid, our Team Director shares, "One story is about a student, David. He has been primarily involved with his fraternity - Delta Upsilon - throughout college. After not being involved through most of college, he recently began to be a Eucharistic Minister at 6pm Mass. He met a missionary at a beginning of the year bonfire at Newman. After going to a recruitment event in Madison, Wisconsin, he has felt a call to give his life to God in a deeper way and is considering becoming a missionary."



"FOCUS has helped me to understand who Jesus is and showed me what a relationship with Him looks like. Whether it's through our missionaries at The University of Iowa or the Bible studies that FOCUS offers, FOCUS has given me the resources I need to build my own relationship with Jesus and taught me how to incorporate Him into all aspects of my life. FOCUS has also given me the resources to bring Jesus to others and be able to share my story with others. FOCUS has given me a

community within the Newman Center that I did not ever think I would have. I have met my best friends through the Newman Center and that is because of what FOCUS has done on campus. If FOCUS wasn't on campus, I think I would be a Catholic that just goes to Mass on Sundays and not taking my faith seriously. FOCUS has made me dedicated to my faith and sharing that faith with others." Joe serves as our 23-24 Liturgical Ministry Fellow.

- Joe Bussey, Class of 2024

### Spring Break Mission Trip to Brazil!

For Spring Break 2024 the whole FOCUS team is leading a Mission Trip to Brazil. Their goal is to have twenty Iowa students travel with them. Working with Christian Life Movement, their mission will be focused on catechesis and evangelization at a local Church there. Carly Colbert is serving as Mission Director for the trip.



### Summer Projects 2023

Fr. Jeff served as Chaplain for one week at the 2023 Summer Projects at Big Sky Resort in Montana. This 10-week formation and mentorship experience is designed to help students take their faith to a greater depth. Partnering mainly with the hospitality industry, Summer Projects aims to give its participants the lifelong mission experience of working a nine-to-five job while striving to live as a disciple of Christ. Throughout the summer, students are accompanied by missionaries, formed by top speakers in the faith, and grow in their understanding of the "why" of the faith. Two University of Iowa students participated in Summer Projects.



### SEEK24 - Be the Light

*"You are children of the light!*

*You belong to Christ, and He has called you by name."*

— POPE ST. JOHN PAUL II

The university Catholic community will again descend on St. Louis the first week of January 2024. SEEK is a collaboration led by FOCUS, that shares the hope and joy of the Gospel with the world. Through encounter, transformation, and community, SEEK calls us to a deeper relationship with Jesus and each other. Featuring nationally renowned speakers, events, entertainment and more, SEEK is a great experience for all. The conference is open to all ages, but primarily focuses on college age students. Our FOCUS team hopes to take at least 100 UI students to SEEK24. Last year, 78 students attended SEEK23, which was also held in St. Louis. For more information or to register, visit: [www.seek/focus.org](http://www.seek/focus.org).

# UNITED IN FELLOWSHIP

What a busy, fun, and faith-filled start to the fall semester! Our student leaders, FOCUS Missionaries, and staff have enjoyed engaging new and returning students in all the various campus ministry activities we offer through the Newman Center. Our Fellows and Lead Teams are working hard to put their own mark on the faith formation and social activities that we offer through the Center.



Once again, our Onlowa/Welcome Week activities were a big hit for new and returning students. We started our outreach with **Bump, Set, Spike**, our volleyball night on the Pentacrest, and enjoyed getting to spend time with over 200 new and returning students. Later in the week over 100 students came together for Mass and fellowship during our **Welcome Mass and Bonfire**. After Mass, students enjoyed a bonfire with s'mores and music. Our traditional **First Day of School Photos** took place on campus with lots of smiles despite the late summer heat. At the end of the first week of classes we invited incoming students to our **New Student Event**. It was a full night with Mass, a BBQ dinner, scavenger hunt around campus, student talks, small groups, social time, and prayer. This was a great opportunity for our student leaders and FOCUS missionaries to get to know new students and for those new to UI to discover what the Newman Center is all about.



## Christian Healthcare Ethics Seminar Series

New this year, the Newman Center is hosting a monthly Christian Healthcare Ethics Seminar Series led by Dr. Lauris Kaldjian from the Carver College of Medicine and sponsored by the Rossi Center for Faith and Culture. This series is targeted toward students in or planning to enter the healthcare or related fields and includes topics such as the Christian Foundations for Ethics, Beginning and End of Life Issues, and Conscience in Healthcare.

College students are bringing on the competition during **Catholic Trivia Nights** which are a favorite post-Thursday Night Mass activity. This fall the topics included the Holy Spirit and Mary. Each month, the winning team receives a cool

prize like these saint socks from Sock Religious. **Iron Sharpens Iron**, our fall undergraduate retreat, is a highlight of the fall semester. Planned by our Fellows and Lead Teams, retreats give students an opportunity to get off campus and deepen their relationship with Jesus and each other. Sixty-two students, four FOCUS Missionaries, and two Newman staff members enjoyed a weekend at St. Mary's in Solon reflecting on the gospel and virtuous friendship.



We have continued our **Discernment Nights** this fall. This year student leaders are planning monthly discernment nights with topics important to college men and women. In September, students reflected on discernment and heard from guest speaker Brother James Jensen from St. Meinrad Archabbey. The universal call to mission was the October topic. During discernment nights, student leaders incorporate scripture, the Catechism, and use a small group format for discussion.

## Weekly student prayer activities include:

- Sunday: Lectio Divina 10am
- Monday - Friday: Exposition 9-10am
- Tuesday: Night Prayer at 9:15pm
- Wednesday: Eucharistic Exposition 6-10pm with Night Prayer at 10pm
- Thursday: Night Student Mass at 9 pm



Fr. Jeff hosted his annual Labor Day canoe trip for new students. Joined by our new FOCUS missionaries, over twenty students spent the day on the water with Fr. Jeff and crew. They enjoyed an outdoor Mass and lunch.

One of the highlights of the year is participating in The University of Iowa's Homecoming. Over 100 students attended Thursday Night Student Mass (TNM) as we welcomed Fr. Max Carson, St. Albert High School Chaplain and Assistant Vocations Director, as well as two seminarians from the Diocese of Des Moines. It was a Catholic homecoming as many students know him from his time at Dowling High School, St. Albert's High School, and from Catholic Youth Camp in Panora. After Mass over 80 students stayed for our first Homecoming Bonfire and S'Mores post-TNM event! As a recognized student organization on campus, the Homecoming Parade is a great way to create awareness for our Newman Center in the community. This year's homecoming theme, the Golden Age, reminded us that our faith is more precious than gold.



Our students are dedicated to serving the community. One of the ways students serve is by hosting a Red Cross Blood Drive at the Center. Students assist with check-in and hosting the snack table for blood donors after giving blood. Over 30 donors gave blood here in September. We will host another drive on December 1, 2023. Students also enjoy serving at the Iowa City Catholic Worker House. There are many opportunities for them to serve by cooking a meal, visiting with guests, and doing projects around the house.



The UI Graduate Students and UI/UIHC Young Professionals group continues to thrive. We have seen great growth again this semester. Popular activities of the fall include: Bible studies, game nights and a weekly Rosary Walk at St. Joseph's Cemetery. A retreat is scheduled for this group in December 2023.

Making a connection between faith and culture is an important piece of what we do here in service to students. One of the ways we make this important connection is by celebrating traditional "color" masses in honor of different professional fields.

In early October, we hosted our first Red Mass to honor and pray for all legal professionals and students. Archbishop-Elect Thomas Zinkula presided at Mass and Tom Chapman, Executive Director of the Iowa Catholic Conference, spoke at the reception.

Later in the month, we hosted a celebration of our medical community in conjunction with our second annual White Mass and reception to honor and pray for all healthcare professionals. Fr. Joseph Sia presided at Mass with our local hospital chaplains; Fr. Terry Ball and Fr. Louis Hammond concelebrating.

November brings the opportunity to celebrate and honor all in the science fields during our second annual Gold Mass for Scientists.



Our student leadership program includes ten Fellows and nineteen Lead Team members serving across these area of ministry: liturgy and prayer, faith formation, service and social justice, advocacy, outreach, and communications. Each year, students apply for these leadership opportunities. Through the generosity of many financial partners who support various endowments, we are able to offer Fellows a stipend each year as well as funds to attend a conference or other training that pertains to their ministry area and the Catholic faith.

As part of their duties, Fellows manage a small team, called their Lead Team. These students make up our student leadership that we reference often. They are the "worker bees" of the Newman Center. This program offers many opportunities for students to not only engage in a meaningful way in their faith, but this opportunity also exposes them to important leadership, management, and planning skills.

Our 2023-2024 Fellows are pictured above:

**Front Row:**

- Ellie Behrens – Advocacy
- Anna Kelly – Liturgical Music
- Gianna Vitale – Communications
- Carrie Field – Prayer and Worship
- Christina Pagano – Faith Formation: Weekly Activities
- Avery Nelson – Outreach

**Back Row:**

- Joe Bussey – Liturgical Ministry
- Matthew King – Outreach
- Ethan Stallman – Service and Social Justice
- Matthew Freedlund – Faith Formation: Special Events

# UNITED IN PERSPECTIVE

Our financial partners come from all over the country. Our donor base includes: alumni, parents of current and former students, community members, parishes and parishioners across the state, and local businesses. Their support is both affirming and inspiring to our work here at the Newman Center. As we prepare for Giving Tuesday in November, we are grateful for the spiritual and financial support that we receive each year. We thought you would enjoy reading others' perspectives about the Newman Catholic Student Center and our impact on campus and on the Church.



The Newman Center is alive with both University of Iowa students and the community at large. I always feel at home. Giving back is what life is about. To share, to embrace, and care for all.

- Michael Lensing

For 27 years, we have considered the Newman Center our faith home. We enjoy the life and ministries at the Center and being able to share our faith and UI connections with students and other members of all ages. There have been many changes throughout the years - most significantly, the Newman Center has recently witnessed a surge in student participation in all aspects. Our faith journey has been nurtured by the gifts of the Holy Spirit in many ways through the students, staff, fellow attendees and music and we are grateful for each and every one. Led by the Holy Spirit, we hope to play a small part in preparing our students for their faith lives after Newman.



- Ken & Lynne Reimers

My name is Matthew Freedlund, and I am serving as this year's Faith Formation Special Events Fellow at the Newman Center. In this position, I have the opportunity to work with Newman Center staff, the other fellows, and my lead team of three other students to plan and run our undergraduate retreats each semester. It has been a great experience to see Christ working through us as we took almost 70 students to Solon to encounter Jesus in the sacraments, prayer, and community! Looking back on my freshman year, I know that attending the fall retreat is what led me into deeper relationship with Christ and His church and it has been an honor to help facilitate these encounters for all University of Iowa students. Please continue to pray for the success of the Newman Center's mission as well as for all students on this campus who seek a deeper relationship with God.



- Matthew Freedlund  
Class of 2024



Iron Sharpens Iron, Fall 2023 Undergraduate Retreat



Without God we do not have anything. We are all called to be good stewards of God's blessings. We see these young college students being pulled away from their faith in so many ways every day. Knowing that my sacrifice can help connect more students

to a relationship with Jesus means I am answering the call to evangelize by supporting those that are evangelizing on campus. The stories shared by the Newman Center show that they are working hard to support students and giving them an opportunity to invite others to be a part of a strong community rooted in Jesus. I want these students to know they are valued and loved as children of God and the future of our Church!

- Mary Fowler



## A Parent's Perspective

"If you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you". Matthew 17:20-21. I believe this verse is very true for our family. We are raising our kids in a small rural town where the Catholic faith is a minority. However, this has not stopped us from planting even just a tiny seed of faith in our 4 children. It has been such a blessing watching this seed of faith take root in each of our children and watching it grow in different ways in their lives after high school.

Our two middle children, Jenna and Matthew have found the place to grow their faith at the University of Iowa- with the help of the Newman Catholic Student Center. Even before leaving our home, they registered at the Newman Center so they would already be connected when they arrive on campus. Attending Sunday Mass regularly, participating in weekly Bible studies, Thursday Night Student Mass and retreats were highlights for my children during their first year on campus. This year has already provided them with opportunities to be Bible study leaders, Eucharistic ministers, On Iowa event hosts and retreat organizers. Matthew is serving as an Outreach Fellow and Jenna is on the Outreach Lead Team. Not only are these experiences providing faith-based enrichment and being "doers" of God's work, but it also lends itself to a skillset that will be put to use in their careers and their parishes after college.

The presence of the FOCUS team on campus has truly been impactful in the lives of my children. These missionaries are on fire with God's love and so captivatingly share it with those around them. I am so glad their light of Christ's love has shone on my children and others in the Newman Center community in Iowa City. It is a true delight and an answer to this mom's ongoing prayer for my children to keep their Catholic faith by watching their faith grow.

Thank you to the Newman Center for welcoming, nurturing and helping my children grow in their Catholic faith. I am excited to see what you have in store for students this coming year. We were honored to have you come out to cheer for our daughter Jenna and her Lady Ice Hawks Hockey team during one of their home games last season. Your support goes beyond the church walls and is felt in many ways throughout the community. Continue to grow the seeds of faith in all the students on campus and beyond as Jesus said, "Nothing will be impossible for you." Matthew 17:20-21.

- Colleen Wurm King, Parent



**The King Family:**  
Front: L-R: Gregory, Patricia, Jesse, Amanda, Jenna, Matthew  
Back: L-R: Colleen and Mike



Being the Prayer and Worship fellow at the Newman Center has been an amazing experience for me so far.

Inviting people to and spreading awareness of our prayer events has allowed me to grow as a leader and to develop outreach skills. Worshiping the Lord as a community, like at Night Prayer, has been a wonderful way to grow closer with other students.

Participating in this ministry and others, like faith formation and Service and Social Justice/Advocacy events, has done so much to develop my personal faith

life. The Newman Center provides many opportunities to grow in relationship with Jesus, and being a fellow has allowed me to participate in them in a much deeper way than ever before. I am so grateful for how being a fellow has benefited me, and I am excited to continue serving and growing!

- Carrie Field  
Class of 2025

The Newman center is so important to my faith life. When I entered college it was the place that encouraged me to grow in my faith and strive to live more like Christ. Through my involvement at Newman, I was able to see all the work that the students put in to make this a place that could foster that kind of growth. I wanted to help create that environment like they helped create it for me. In my own fellowship, I strive to make an atmosphere that allows for growth through being comforted and challenged by our faith. We need both of these things to fully embrace our Catholic beliefs. When Jesus came into the world he challenged people in a radical way. He made the Catholic church to be a radical faith; therefore, we need to live out our faith in radical ways.

- Christina Pagano  
Class of 2025



# 22-23 Financial Report

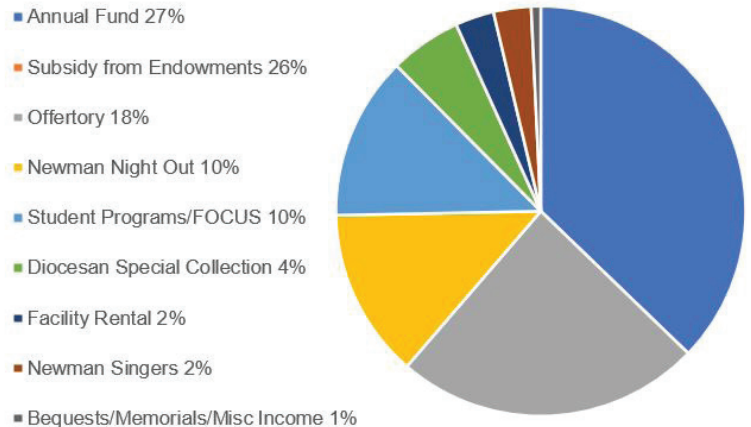
For fiscal year 2022-2023, we were blessed to have 794 total donors financially support the Newman Catholic Student Center. This is an increase of 149 donors over the previous year. Our Development staff has been working hard to create awareness about our mission and need for support through communication, marketing, and outreach to alumni, parents, and others in our Catholic faith community. Campaigns like Giving Tuesday; Surround Support, Strengthen; and Newman Night Out 2023 were key events contributing to this growth.

## Foundation of our Finances: Annual Fund and Offertory

The Annual Fund is the Newman Center's main funding stream and is mainly supported through our Founder's Club. In the past two fiscal years we have seen growth, however, we have still not reached levels to overcome the deficit in offertory giving created by the pandemic, although we are beginning to see that gap closing.

Our Offertory fund is an intergral part of our operating budget and relies heavily on gifts given at Mass, although we do have donors that give electronically to this fund. With our Mass attendance being primarily students, it is not surprising that our offertory averages only \$3040 per week. Although we are not back to pre-pandemic figures, we are seeing growth in our offertory gifts in each of the last two years.

2022-2023 Operating Income



### Offertory:

Last fiscal year 2022-2023:	\$158,059
Previous fiscal year 2021-2022:	\$137,098
Pre-Pandemic 2018-2019:	\$222,632

### Annual Fund:

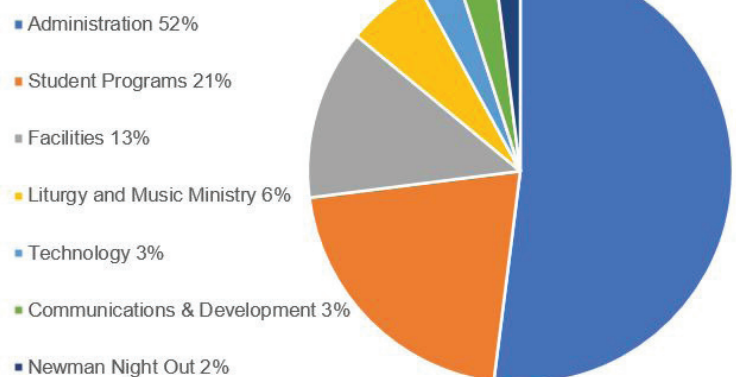
Last fiscal year 2022-2023:	\$243,640
Previous fiscal year: 2021-2022:	\$240,370
Pre-Pandemic 2018-2019:	\$208,211

Balancing growth with fluctuating income and expenses is a tough act. This past fiscal year, we were able to reduce expenses by an estimated \$27,000 over the previous fiscal year. Traditionally, year to year we see this fluctuation due to different activities, staffing changes, and needed facility maintenance/repairs. Throughout this newsletter, you can see through the stories we share that we are experiencing a time of great growth in the number of students that we serve. Your financial partnership makes our outreach on campus and our growth possible. Your financial stewardship is making an impact daily for students involved with the Newman Center.

Our operating expenses include everything we do- from student activities to utilities. When financial partners give unrestricted gifts to our Annual Fund, it allows us to determine how and where those funds are most needed at that time.

- **Administration:** office management supplies, phones, office equipment, salaries and employee benefits, professional development and training, VIRTUS safe environment requirements, postage, banking fees
- **Student Programs:** Welcome Week, retreats, post Thursday Night Mass, fellowship stipends, FOCUS missionary program, all student related events and supplies
- **Facilities:** all building maintenance, contracted services, furnishings, repairs, and supplies
- **Liturgy and Music Ministry:** musicians, Newman Singer tour expenses, singer stipends, music copyright licenses, hymnals, missals, altar flowers, candles, hosts, altar wines
- **Technology:** computers, all other technology equipment, software, networking, all maintenance and repair
- **Communications and Development:** non-student events, donor outreach events, campaign/appeal materials, donor database expense, postage, newsletter and other printing costs
- **Newman Night Out:** spring fundraiser event expenses- venue, meal, decorations, entertainment (Newman Singers), bank processing fees on credit card ticket sales and donations

2022-2023 Operating Expenses





**Friends in Faith** is the Newman Catholic Student Center’s new sustained giving program. There is no pre-requisite to become a Friends in Faith partner, however a total annual pledge of \$1,000 is required. Our mission depends on partners like you to be successful. Without the stewardship of our benefactors, we would be unable to continue to grow our outreach and ministry to The University of Iowa community. For more information on this giving program, please contact Kristie Wert, Director of Development.

**Why join Friends in Faith?**

Through your gift, you are supporting our mission and God’s call to evangelize.

As Christian disciples we are asked to be good stewards of God’s blessings. Through your stewardship, you are setting an example for others to follow. Your faith-filled support will inspire students in their faith journey.

Your gift will make it possible for students to have an opportunity to deepen their relationship with Jesus and with others in our faith community. Your support also helps fund leadership and educational experiences through our student leadership program.

Sustained giving allows the Newman Center to project accurate and secure income for our ministry when planning student programs like retreats, special Masses, and social activities as well as budgeting facility maintenance, salaries, and utilities.

**Nic Goeres Scholarship Funds Provides Twenty Scholarships**

Twenty Beckman High School graduates each received a \$1,250 scholarship at the University of Iowa for the 2023-2024 academic year. The scholarship is available to any Beckman alumni who attend The University of Iowa and participate at the Newman Catholic Student Center.

The scholarships are provided by the Nic Goeres Scholarship Fund at the University of Iowa Center for Advancement. The fund was started in 2012 by Dyersville native, Nic Goeres, to help students sustain and strengthen Catholic values they learned in high school as they take on college life. The scholarship fund is managed by the University of Iowa Center for Advancement and the application process is coordinated by the Newman Catholic Student Center Development Office with input from Mr. Goeres.



**Front Row: I-r:** Brady Bockenstedt, Fr Jeff Belger ( Priest Director), Elyse White, Elisabeth Kerper, Alex Hageman  
**Middle Row: I-r:** Lauren Osterhaus, Mia Maiers, Gracie Hinerichsen, William Roling  
**Back Row: I-r:** Addisyn Burlage, Morgan Hermsen, Nick Hageman, Nate Schaefer



**Newman Catholic Student Center Student- Athlete Scholarship**

We are thrilled to announce our athletic scholarship recipients for the 2023-2024 academic year. Junior, Myah Lugar of Kalona, Iowa is a member of the Hawkeye Women’s Rowing Team. Last year, Myah was named a Big Ten Distinguished Scholar and Academic All-Big Ten honoree. In addition to Myah, the University has also named freshman, Joe Connolly of Omaha, Nebraska as a scholarship recipient. Joe will be representing the Hawkeyes on the baseball field. Each year, the UI Athletic Department handles the selection process, the focal point of which is the student athlete’s involvement at the Newman Center. Through the generosity of numerous benefactors, the scholarship fund was established through The University of Iowa Center for Advancement.



Newman  
Catholic  
Student  
Center

104 E. Jefferson St.  
Iowa City, IA 52245

Address Service Requested

The poster features a dark blue background with a starry night sky. In the center, a large white cross is superimposed over a stylized building. Below the building is a silhouette of a city skyline. A yellow banner at the bottom contains the event title. The text 'Save the Date!' is written in a large, yellow, cursive font, with 'Celebrating 80 Years on Campus!' written in a smaller, yellow, cursive font below it. The event details are listed in white text: 'Saturday, April 20, 2024', '5:30 pm', 'St. Patrick Church Hall', and 'Iowa City'. A small Newman Catholic Student Center logo is in the bottom left corner.

*Save the Date!*  
*Celebrating 80 Years on Campus!*

Saturday, April 20, 2024  
5:30 pm  
St. Patrick Church Hall  
Iowa City

Newman Catholic Student Center

**Newman Night Out 2024**