

Annual Appeal 2018-2019

Newman Center is 100% self-funded by private contributions. Our Annual Fund is a mainstay of our ability to carry out the Center's mission to "prepare disciples for our Church and our world." We ask for your gift to the 2018-2019 Annual Fund drive, which ends on June 30, 2019.

According to Pew Research, of all Catholics who leave the church, 80% do so by the age of 23. We understand our window of time to reach students is brief. If we help them connect to Christ in meaningful ways, they will transform society. Here's our outreach to 5000+ Catholic UI students:

Inviting students into a deeper relationship with Christ and his Church

Opportunities for Bible studies, retreats, small groups, educational speakers & classes

Welcoming to all, although uniquely Catholic

Academic, emotional, social and spiritual growth

Committed to making faith the driving force in daily lives

Access to the Sacraments, Adoration, the Rosary

Time for fun, a place to chill, study, eat free food, attend social events

Home away from home; discover "who you are"

Open to UI alumni, undergrads, grad students, young professionals, faculty, staff & others

Loving, accepting, challenging & supportive faith family

Involved in service, social justice, stewardship & evangelization

Community to form knowledgeable & caring leaders and disciples

Newman Center Gala 2019

The Gala held on April 13th was a resounding success due to the time, talent and treasure of many individuals, families and businesses. At the event, **Mary and Lee Noel** (pictured) received the inaugural Stewardship Award in recognition of their many years of generosity and service to the mission of the Newman Center.

A special thank you to our Title Co-Sponsors, Hills Bank & Trust Company, and Lensing Funeral & Cremation Services and all other sponsors and cash donors.



We received much more than we gave to Newman Center. We are blessed to help impact young people at a critical period of their life ... when their faith becomes their own, not just that of their parents. — Lee Noel

The net proceeds from this special event totaled \$117,000. A majority of the proceeds benefit our ministry programs of worship, outreach, formation, music, service and social justice. The \$37,650 raised during the Fund A Cause portion of the Gala will be used to re-cushion and reupholster 470 thirty-year-old chapel chairs.

Fr. Ed Fitzpatrick 2019 Discipleship recipients

Annually, Newman alumni who carry on the Center's mission of discipleship for our Church and our world through involvement in a Catholic parish or non-profit are eligible for this award.

Fr. Ed, the Center's director from 1981-2015, envisioned an endowed fund, which on a yearly basis, would recognize the discipleship of Newman Center alums. Established in 2015, the Fund makes a \$500 financial gift to the respective Catholic parish or community non-profit in which recipients are actively involved. The 2019 recipients and receiving non-profits are:

- **Alicia Brock** '06, Carrick Ministries Foundation (Arizona)
- **Beth** '90 & **Mike Deninger** '91, St. Thomas More (Coralville)
- **Beth Elkin** '86, St. Catherine of Siena Youth Ministry (Texas)
- **Mary Finkbone** '13, Holy Trinity Young Adult Community (DC)
- **Cheyenne Kofmehl** '08, Iowans for Life (Des Moines)
- **Kamille Meyer** '13, Newman Club (University of Minnesota)
- **Rebecca Sanders** '17, Chicagoland Pelotonia
- **Shirley Schneider** '95, Area Substance Abuse Council (Cedar Rapids)
- **Claire Sevenich** '18, Ut Fidem (Des Moines Dowling Catholic HS)
- **Marcy** '95 & **Troy Sheeley** '97, St. James Catholic Church (MO)
- **Jasmin Tone** '17, Davenport West Cluster Youth Ministry
- **Kelly Ward** '93, St. Joseph Youth Faith Formation (Springville, IA)

More information and photos of these recipients, as well as an application form for the 2020 awards, may be found on the Newman Center's website: iowacatholic.org.

THE HOLY LAND

**10 DAYS:
MARCH 17 - 26, 2020**

Walk where Jesus walked... Cruise the Sea of Galilee... Visit Nazareth... Climb the Mt. of Olives & view the Old City of Jerusalem... Walk the Via Dolorosa to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre... Visit Bethlehem's Church of the Nativity.

Hosted by
THE NEWMAN CATHOLIC STUDENT CENTER AT THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA
With

FR. JEFF BELGER
Priest Director

APRIL ROUNER
Director of Development

\$4059 FROM CHICAGO
(Air/land tour price is \$3359 plus \$700 gov't taxes/airline surcharges)

For a Full Tour Itinerary and Amenities, Please Visit
www.iowacatholic.org or Contact April Rouner:
**Tel: (319) 337-3106 ext. 119 (Daytime) | Email:
april@newman-ic.org**

Other departure cities available upon request.



Newman Outreach

A Publication for Alumni, Parents and Friends of the Newman Center at The University of Iowa

Where are you coming from, where are you going?



Two questions can be used as parenthesis for the academic year here at The University of Iowa and particularly here at the Newman Catholic Student Center: *Where are you coming from?* and *Where are you going?* To start the year, the collective question is: *Where are you coming from?* This is a question that celebrates diversity. As we gather at the Newman Center, we recognize the many geographic places, the many family situations, the many ethnicities, the many ways we identify ourselves, the many wounds we have experienced, as well as the many experiences of Church each of us has had. It is important to recognize these differences and know how

much God loves each of us individually. As we learn of our differences, we know that there is nothing that can adequately bring communion in all of this diversity. Not one thing, but three persons: Father, Son and Spirit. I cringe when God's love is referred to as a thing. We hear that God is love. And those who abide in love, abide in God, (1 John4:16) So that has been the game plan this year: To gather the people, in all their diversity, and then to abide in love toward communion.

This year has been magnificent. We have shared our lives with the students through all the ministries you have come to expect, with the student fellowships and the variety of liturgical music groups, including—but not limited to—the Newman Singers. In addition to these great ministries, we continue to expand our ability to bring nationally recognized speakers to the Newman Center to bridge the gap between faith and everyday life. Through the generosity of the Rossi Center for Faith and Culture and the Louise Wolf-Novak Service and Social Justice Endowment, we have been blessed by many great speakers. I would like to highlight two: Kate Hennessy, the granddaughter of Dorothy Day, spoke about her grandmother, and her own desire to live out the law of love for those children of God on the margins of society. Sarah Swafford came with the bonus of her 8+ month old child in the womb. This was her last speaking engagement before giving birth to her fifth child. She spoke on emotional virtue, and challenged our students, (and quite a few community members) to live out each and every relationship to the high standard of love. More than speaking about just romantic relationships, she encouraged everyone to grow a group of friends that will help us to become the saints we are called to be.

To our seniors, we have been asking: *Where are you going?* We are excited by the answers we are receiving. To our alumni, the question is slightly different: *What have you been doing?*

To see some incredible answers, check out the back cover of this newsletter to read about the Fr. Ed Fitzpatrick Discipleship recipients this year.



Jeffrey W. Belger

Fr. Jeffrey Belger
Newman Center Priest Director

A Baccalaureate Mass was held on May 10th to bless and send forth graduates.

Volume XXVII
Number 2
Spring 2019

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 for the world.

104 East Jefferson Street
Iowa City, Iowa 52245

Website

www.iowacatholic.org

E-mail

info@newman-ic.org

Fax

319-337-6858

Telephone

319-337-3106

Newman Singers

319-338-8812

www.newmansingers.com



www.facebook.com/iowacatholic



www.instagram.com/iowacatholic



www.twitter.com/iowacatholic

Donations accepted online at:

www.iowacatholic.org/support-us.html

Spring Semester Highlights

February 3, 2019

Super Bowl Party

February 5-March 5

Catholicism Ignited

Freedom to Love Series: Popular and well attended five-week student led exploration on the Theology of the Body for young adults.

February 15-17

Living on a Prayer Spring Retreat

Student-led retreat on prayer (below).



March 6

Ash Wednesday

2,300 students and community members came to four Masses and eight Prayer Services; also were visited by the School Sisters of Christ the King.

March 6-April 14

Two focuses during Lent

- 40 Days for Life: A Pro-life campaign of prayer, fasting, and vigil at Emma Goldman Clinic in Iowa City.

- Catholic Relief Services Rice Bowl: the Lenten program of CRS, to help put faith into action through prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Donations go to 45 countries.



In addition to providing music ministries at weekend Masses throughout the second semester, the Newman Singers have toured throughout the United States, completed service projects, performed at area retirement homes and the Newman Center Gala (right). Director Joe Mattingly (playing piano) also recently composed "Renew Our Hearts," the theme song for Bishop Zinkula's Vision 20/20 project.

Vision 20/20: From Pentecost to Pentecost is an ongoing, diocesan initiative to build a vibrant church whose members celebrate the joy of the Gospel with others. Mattingly says, "The song aims to evoke joy. I wrote it as a gift to the Diocese of Davenport."



April 28

Blessing of Current & New Fellows

Welcome to our 2019-2020 Fellows:

Thomas Asama (Faith Formation: Weekly Activities); **Grace Ahlers** (Service and Social Justice); **Tommy Kollasch** (Outreach); **Cade Naughton** (Prayer and Worship); **Elizabeth Starr** (Communications); **Julia Waters** (Outreach); **Lauren Whitesitt** (Liturgical Ministry); and **Jocie Zenner** (Faith Formation: Special Events)

Service Activities

Served at: Catholic Worker House, Ronald McDonald House Room at UIHC Children's Hospital, Hope Lodge, hosted a Red Cross Blood Drive at Newman, and held an end-of-the-year food drive.

Ongoing Activities

Graduate Student and Young Professional Group

A thriving group that meets weekly **Thursday Night Mass**; 9 p.m. weekly **Eucharistic Adoration with Exposition and Benediction** (below). New this year, weekly on Wednesday evenings a large group of students participated in a praise and worship led Holy Hour ending with Night Prayer.

Rossi Center for Faith & Culture

Thanks to our benefactors, we offered two Rossi Center for Faith and Culture lectures this spring to help students interface their faith with culture:

Sarah Swafford, the founder of Emotional Virtue Ministries and author of *Emotional Virtue, a Guide to Drama Free Relationships*, inspired the 158 participants who attended the lecture "Relationships: It's Complicated" on April 9th.

Dr. Wes Ely, a physician and professor of medicine at Vanderbilt University Medical Center and co-director of the Critical Illness, Brain Dysfunction and Survivorship Center, spoke to 108 who attended "Maximizing Dignity at the End of Life: Insights from the ICU" on April 11th.

2019-20 Newman Catholic Student Center Academic Scholars

We are grateful for the contributions made through The University of Iowa Center for Advancement for the Newman Catholic Student Center Academic Scholarship Fund! Thanks to our benefactors we will award \$500 to 17 deserving students for the 2019-20 academic year:

Thomas Asama, Human Physiology/Pre-PT
Hannah Camposeo, Chemical Engineering
Samuel Conlan, Finance/Economics
Karissa Fjeldheim, Music Education/Trombone Performance
Rachel Hess, Nursing/Spanish
Leah Kinney, Pharmacy
Nicole Majerus, Human Physiology/Pre-PA
Ally O'Meara, Marketing/Finance
Megan Schnoebelen, Elementary Ed/Music Performance
Katie Sheehan, Medical Laboratory Science
Catherine Short, Dance/Social Work
Mikaela Thiel, Mechanical Engineering
Kelsie Tingle, Biology/Pre-Pharmacy
Julia Waters, Undergrad
Clara Wertzberger, English/Secondary Education
Rachel Whitesitt, PharmD/MPH
Jocie Zenner, Biomedical Engineering

Fellowship of Catholic University Students (FOCUS)

By team director Alan Goodenberger

The University of Iowa has proven to be a very ripe place for God's Mission and we four FOCUS missionaries. As our first year at the Newman Center on The University of Iowa campus wraps up, we are fortunate to see the many fruits the Lord has blessed us with, and we look forward to what He has in store! Over the course of this academic year, 116 students have been involved in FOCUS Bible Studies and 78 of those students come on a very regular basis. In the spring semester, 5 students committed to leading peers in Bible studies of their own. We expect this number to double during outreach in the fall.



A large part of what FOCUS does is to form intentional disciples. Students involved in FOCUS discipleship have made an explicit commitment to make living and sharing their faith the main focus of their life. This includes committing to daily prayer, regular reception of sacraments, scripture study, formative reading, and evangelization. These student disciples are also currently investing in other students who will, God willing, make a similar commitment to being disciples of Christ. There are currently 13 students in Discipleship.

Many of the students in discipleship attended FOCUS' national SEEK conference in Indianapolis over Christmas break. The conference was a week-long event that gathered 17,000 attendees from around the country and the world to hear inspiring speakers, participate in the sacraments, and learn about various aspects of their faith. The University of Iowa brought 39 students who, upon returning, were excited to continue their experience and build up the community here at Iowa.

This summer, the missionaries will be at FOCUS Summer Formation in Bismarck, North Dakota to continue our own growth and learn how to better serve the students here. While in Bismarck, we will stay in touch with, and invest in, the students in discipleship in an effort to keep their fires ablaze. We have experienced that summer can be particularly challenging for students who have been growing in their faith in college. Returning home and being separated from a community and even a regular schedule makes it easy to fall into old habits. By continuing to meet with these students, we hope to encourage and challenge them to live out their faith in various environments.

NATIONAL FOCUS STATS

- 153 Campuses where FOCUS serves including: Loras, Drake, Iowa State, University of Iowa
- 732 Men and women involved with FOCUS have pursued religious vocations

FOCUS MISSION TRIPS

139	49	2300
TRIPS	COUNTRIES	PARTICIPANTS

When we return in the fall, we will be ready to hit the ground running alongside the disciples God has built up this last year. We will continue Bible studies (as well as starting new ones), meeting new students, and helping them build up relationships with Christ. It is exciting to have a front row seat in witnessing the work God is doing here at Iowa and the Newman Center!

Jonathan Langenberg from the State of Iowa Knights of Columbus spoke at the Newman Center on May 5th. Representing 31,000 State of Iowa Knights, he stated the Newman Center at The University of Iowa will be awarded \$9,000 in mission support. The Knights have collegiate Catholic faith centers as a prioritized annual financial commitment. Priest Director Fr. Jeff Belger, and April Rouner, Director of Development, gratefully accepted the funds on behalf of the 5,000+ Catholic students at Iowa.



SEEK
2019

PRESENTED BY FOCUS

BY THE NUMBERS

nearly **17,000** total attendees
626 campuses represented

A FEW BREAKDOWNS

Collegiate	11,631
Lifelong Mission	1,734
Campus Ministry	499
FOCUS Staff	869
Student & Staff Alumni	857

And many more!



468 priests **441** religious **6** bishops

85 talks **55** speakers

over **6,500** confessions heard

30 fifty-gallon bags of donations were made to support the homeless & those in need

Thank you for your support with SEEK!