

LAY LEADERSHIP UPDATE

SEPTEMBER 2015

VOL VI NO 2



A WORD FROM THE DIRECTOR

As we begin a new program year, a spiritual challenge awaits us! How do we ground our ministry in Christ! Laurie Cassidy, our October Ignatian Currents facilitator, will be offering insights from Ignatius Loyola and we also hear a challenging and inspiring message from Wayne Muller. (See pg. 2 - Deepening Our Awareness - Something to Ponder) Here is an update on our upcoming programs:

Praying with St. Ignatius Retreat. Team members will meet on September 10th in preparation for retreats that will be held beginning this month at **Gesu Parish, University Heights** and **St. John Bosco Parish, Parma Heights**. Under the leadership of **Margaret Balewski**, the Team Mentoring Committee has refined a process for leadership development which will be presented at the fall meeting.



Team Mentoring Committee

(From left to right) Kathy Haag, Margaret Balewski and Patrick Cleary-Burns (not pictured: Martha Campbell)

Called and Sent Spiritual Formation Program. The **Discernment and Decision-Making** module of this program will begin this fall on Monday, October 5th and continue for 6 weekly sessions through November 9th concluding with a day-long retreat on November 14th. Registrations are open to all who have participated in a *Praying with St. Ignatius* Retreat or a SPA retreat sponsored by St. Ignatius or Walsh Jesuit High Schools. Contact Pat Cleary-Burns with questions (pclearyburns@gmail.com) Register online at: www.jrhcleveland.org

Food for the Journey. 30 participants have registered for this 3-session fall series. We will reflect on three women doctors of the Church: Hildegard of Bingen, Catherine of Siena and Thérèse of Lisieux and work to deepen our understanding of Ignatian Spirituality in light of these women's teachings.

Nurturing the Call: A Practicum Series. Open to leaders of *Praying with St. Ignatius* and *Spirituality Program for Adults*, this 4-part series will highlight skills in leading large groups. Facilitators include: **Martha Campbell, Peggy Duffy, OSU, Kathy Haag, Janet Lehane and Jean Sullivan.** See next page for details.

COMING IN OCTOBER ...

Ignatian Currents Program



Facilitator, Laurie Cassidy, PhD



Kidnapped by Busyness? An Ignatian Remedy Cultural "Busyness" and The Ignatian "Two Standards"

Friday, October 30th
7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

With What Standard Do I Measure My Life?

Mary people in America are busy, very busy. As a result we seem to have disease with not being occupied, which can take a toll on all our relationships. Does this everyday reality have anything to do with being Christian? The Second Week of the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius is an invitation to explore the dynamism of responding to Christ's call to discipleship. Ignatius reveals the radical nature of this call in his meditation on the Two Standards. This evening's program will examine what Ignatius intended in this challenging prayer on accepting the standard of Christ amidst our, at times, overwhelming everyday life. We will pray together about the risky business of not being busy.

Saturday, October 31st
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.



The Kingdom is Here and Now!

This program aims to retrieve Jesus' message about the Kingdom of God. For Jesus the Kingdom is not the result of our good or perfect behavior -but is Passionate Love breaking into our world *right now*. We need to question the messages that reduce Christian discipleship to just one more responsibility added to a growing "to do list". We will explore how American culture reduces Christian life into a "spiritual way" to be more efficient, accomplished and "busy about many things". How do we allow God to transform our vision of discipleship? St. Ignatius offers us a path to freedom helping us to notice, to celebrate and to participate in God's Kingdom breaking through *here and now*. This day will weave together input, small and large group sharing and times of quiet and prayer.

See further details on the next page.



DEEPENING OUR AWARENESS - SOMETHING TO PONDER

REMEMBER THE SABBATH
A Reflection by Wayne Muller



In the relentless busyness of modern life, we have lost the rhythm between work and rest.

All life requires a rhythm of rest. There is a rhythm in our waking activity and the body's need for sleep. There is a rhythm in the way day dissolves into night, and night into morning. There is a rhythm as the active growth of spring and summer is quieted by the necessary dormancy of fall and winter. There is a tidal rhythm, a deep, eternal conversation between the land and the great sea. In our bodies, the heart perceptibly rests after each life-giving beat; the lungs rest between the exhale and the inhale.

We have lost this essential rhythm. Our culture invariably supposes that action and accomplishment are better than rest, that doing something-anything-is better than doing nothing. Because of our desire to succeed, to meet these ever-growing expectations, we do not rest. Because we do not rest, we lose our way. We miss the compass points that would show us where to go, we bypass the nourishment that would give us succor. We miss the quiet that would give us wisdom. We miss the joy and love born of effortless delight. Poisoned by this hypnotic belief that good things come only through unceasing determination and tireless effort, we can never truly rest. And for want of rest, our lives are in danger. ...

As Brother David Steindl-Rast reminds us, the Chinese pictograph for "busy" is composed of two characters: heart and killing. ...

Also, Thomas Merton says this: "There is a pervasive form of contemporary violence ... [and that is] activism and overwork. The rush and pressure of modern life are a form, perhaps the most common form, of its innate violence. To allow oneself to be carried away by a multitude of conflicting concerns, to surrender to too many demands, to commit oneself to too many projects, to want to help everyone in everything, is to succumb to violence. The frenzy of our activism neutralizes our work for peace. It destroys the fruitfulness of our own work, because it kills the root of inner wisdom which makes work fruitful." (*Conjectures of a Guilty Bystander*, p. 86)

How have we allowed this to happen? I suggest that it is this: We have forgotten the Sabbath.

To be continued ...

Wayne Muller is an ordained minister, therapist and founder of Bread for the Journey. This is an excerpt from his book, *Sabbath: Finding Rest, Renewal, and Delight in Our Busy Lives*.

COMING THIS FALL ... NEW PROGRAMS ...

IGNATIUS CURRENTS PROGRAM
KIDNAPPED BY BUSYNESS? AN IGNATIUS REMEDY
Cultural "Busyness" and The Ignatian "Two Standards"
Facilitated by Laurie Cassidy, PhD
OPEN TO ALL

Friday, October 30th
7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Coffee and Conversation from 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, October 31st
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Coffee and Conversation from 8:30 a.m.

Program Options

Friday Evening Only: \$25

Saturday including lunch: \$50

Friday Evening and Saturday including lunch: \$65

Friday Evening and Saturday including lunch + overnight accommodations including breakfast: \$98

Although the programs can be taken separately, it is encouraged that you participate in both the Friday and Saturday programs to receive full benefit of the experience.

Register online at www.jrh-cleveland.org or by phone with Barbara Leggott at the JRH, 440-884-9300 X310

FOOD FOR THE JOURNEY PROGRAM

Accidental Theologians:

Four Women Who Shaped Christianity
by Elizabeth A Dreyer

A Book Reflection Group Facilitated by Martha Campbell

Saturday Mornings from 9:30 - 12 noon

(Coffee and Conversation beginning at 9:00 a.m.)

September 19, November 21, December 12

Held at Franciscan Center, Garfield Heights

Registrations are closed.

NURTURING THE CALL PROGRAM

Open to Leaders/Facilitators of *Praying with St. Ignatius*
and the St. Ignatius & Walsh Spirituality Program for Adults

Tuesday Evenings from 6:30 - 8:30

(Coffee and Conversation beginning at 6:00 p.m.)

September 15, September 29, October 13

Saturday Morning from 9:00 - 12 noon

(Coffee and Conversation beginning at 8:30 a.m.)

December 5

Register with Martha Campbell

(campbellmarthal@gmail.com) by September 8th

Held at St. Ignatius High School

The Violence of Everyday Life

To allow oneself to be carried away by a multitude of conflicting concerns, to surrender to too many demands, to commit oneself to too many projects, to want to help everyone in everything, is to succumb to violence.

- Thomas Merton, OCSO



Lay Leadership Program - Martha Campbell, Director

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