

LAY LEADERSHIP UPDATE

JUNE 2014

VOL IV NO 11



A WORD FROM THE DIRECTOR

As we begin the summer season, we look back at our past program year in gratitude and forward with an eye to the future, learning from our experience. What is the “something new” that God will inspire? We are open, listening and ready!

Ignatian Currents Program. On May 30th and 31st, 80 people gathered to share community and experience the deft leadership of Howard Gray, SJ who led a program entitled “Searching for God through Imagination and Story: Living Out the Ignatian Tradition.” One participant reflected, “I came away with more than I anticipated - a renewed spirit, a sense of God in my life and food for thought as I continue to reflect on God’s revelation in my life. Thank you!”



Rita Carfagna and Rick Krivanka, program participants, enjoy a chat with Howard Gray, SJ

The *Praying with St. Ignatius* Retreat. Members of the St. Basil the Great retreat team will gather for a Ministry Reflection Evening on Tuesday, June 10th. We will take time to prayerfully reflect on inspiring moments that occurred during the retreat as well as those challenging times from which new insights will be taken. **Margaret Balewski, Martha Campbell, Joan Carney and Jean Sullivan** will form the retreat handbook revision committee. Feedback from the 24 leaders who served as retreat team members during this past year will be included in the revision process.

The Pilgrim Way of Ignatius Loyola. 40+ Members of St. Angela Merici Parish, Fairview Park, gathered to pray and to hear the witness of **Valerie Stultz** who addressed the question, “How Can I Love As God Loves?” “Thank you for opening my heart to an even deeper desire to grow in my love for God. I am truly interested in the 8 week [Praying with St. Ignatius] retreat.” At the conclusion of this 4-part series, this representative reflection from a program participant says it all! God has blessed us!

Nurturing the Call. 8 participants completed the pilot program, Leading Contemplative Group Retreats, designed to support individuals called to this leadership. This program, facilitated by **Martha Campbell** and **Joan Nuth**, empowered the participants to design and develop retreats based in the *Spiritual Exercises*. Watch for their retreats in the upcoming fall retreat schedule at Jesuit Retreat House! The program will be repeated this coming program year.



Joyful at the close of the Nurturing the Call Pilot Program, Leading Contemplative Group Retreats are (left to right, back row) Kathy Haag, Claudette Matero, Margaret Balewski, Sue Palmer, Mary Ann Burke, SND and (left to right, seated) Janet Lehane, Amy McKenna, Andy Kereky

CALLED AND SENT SPIRITUAL FORMATION PROGRAM Module Update

Living Prayer: My Life in God. St. Mary Pastor, **Rev. Dan Begin** will host a “reunion supper” on June 12th as plans are made for cultivating the spiritual seeds planted in the hearts of the 35 parishioners who participated in this Lenten retreat.

Ignatian Spirituality: Grounding for Life and Leadership. This module of the Called and Sent Spiritual Formation Program continues this month when 34 members of the Sisters and Associates of the Incarnate Word will gather to continue this six month program. Co-facilitators are **Martha Campbell** and **Matt Roche, SJ**.

Continuing Developments. Leaders of the six modules of this spiritual formation program continue to make preparations for the coming program year. **Martha Campbell** and **Debbie Riddle**, Graphic Design Artist, continue to collaborate on designing new marketing materials to support this program.



DEEPENING OUR AWARENESS - SOMETHING TO PONDER

WHAT MAKES A LEADER, REALLY?*

A Reflection by Chris Lowney

"Leadership" no longer brings to mind the one person in charge but a set of behaviors needed from every person. After all, the dictionary tells us that leaders "show the way ... by going before or along with." They "guide or direct, as by persuasion or influence, to a course of action or thought." ... I often tell attendees at leadership conferences to imagine four words stamped onto their foreheads: *direction*, *influence*, *choices*, and *results*. They are effective leaders ... by modeling those four words in whatever platform life presents them, starting with the platform they have right now. ...

Let's think about our seventy-six-year-old Argentine pope, for example. By some conventional measures, let's be frank, he doesn't seem so well prepared for what he has inherited. He has never worked in the "headquarters" he now oversees. We are living in a wired world, and in one book-length interview, he self-deprecatingly described himself as not very competent with the Internet and joked that he might pursue it more in earnest when he retired.

But he has nonetheless been leading us energetically and effectively. Long before he preached his first sermon, he had started "showing the way," as that dictionary definition of leadership puts it, with gestures like hopping the bus instead of the limo, forsaking a golden pectoral cross for his plain one, and stopping his pope-mobile to embrace a disabled man. We all got the message about what the Church should be about: be humble, be simple, take care of the poor and marginalized. ...

And his willingness to make choices that broke from tradition has already been influential, another element of great leadership. ... The pope had not issued a single directive to his team about lifestyle and may never have to. His actions may have spoken for him. That's leadership.

In a leadership-starved new century, the pope's approach seems incredibly well suited to the broader demands of leadership. If we commit to approach life and work similarly, we will lead effectively too.

* Excerpted from *Pope Francis: Why He Leads the Way He Leads*, pp. 23-24

SAVE THESE FALL DATES ... MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW

IGNATIAN CURRENTS PROGRAM WITH SR. CLARE WALSH



Clare Walsh, MSHS

SEPTEMBER 12 & 13, 2014

WHAT IS MY PERSONAL GRACED HISTORY AND HOW DO I PRAY WITH IT?

Clare Walsh is a Mission Helper of the Sacred Heart and an experienced spiritual director and retreat director. For close to twenty years, Clare served as the director of Pastoral Care at Tufts Medical Center. She is a graduate of Weston Jesuit School of Theology and the Center for Religious Development where she later served on staff. Clare presently serves as Provincial Assistant for Ignatian Spirituality. She is also Director of Programming for The Jesuit Collaborative.

PROGRAM IS OPEN TO ALL.

Friday, September 14th

7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Saturday, September 15th

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

FOOD FOR THE JOURNEY

THE PROCESS OF CONVERSION: INSIGHTS FROM "THE
SPIRAL STAIRCASE" BY KAREN ARMSTRONG
A Book Reflection Group Facilitated by Martha Campbell
Open to Spiritual Directors, Retreat Leaders, Pastoral
Ministers and Those Who have Made the Full Spiritual
Exercises

Saturday Mornings from 9:30 - 12:00 noon
(Coffee and Conversation beginning at 9:00 a.m.)

October 11

November 8

December 6

WHAT IS LEADERSHIP, REALLY?

Everyone has the chance to lead by manifesting a sense of direction, exerting positive influence on others, and accepting accountability for results.

- Chris Lowney

Lay Leadership Program

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