

Called to Service

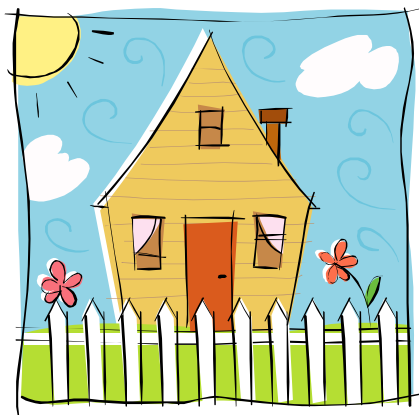
Joyce Tullbane

Study Abroad Coordinator

Third in the series, "The Communities That Call Us"

A look at the communities that speak to us, calling us to act.

I have been part of the SNC Community for 7 years. I have never before lived in one place for this long. Growing up, we moved 14 times before I ever started school. Military life continued this odyssey. I had gypsy blood, and often felt restless if we stayed in one place for more than 2-1/2 to 3 years. Something has changed since becoming part of this community. After far more than three years, I am still content to be part of this new family, and glad to call St. Norbert my home. Maybe I am getting older, but I believe it has more to do with the community outreach activities that have become such a major part of my life in Green Bay. Habitat for Humanity and Relay for Life have focused my desire to give back to the community.



In May of 1999, Joe and I were living in Springfield, VA when he interviewed for the position of Associate Dean of International Education at St. Norbert College. He returned home full of enthusiasm about the job, the college, and the community. He brought home a copy of the St. Norbert campus newspaper, containing an article about the first house that SNC built with

Habitat for Humanity, in celebration of the 100 year anniversary of the college. We had been financial supporters of Habitat for a few years, but I never had the opportunity to see a Habitat house, much less be a part of the construction crew. I told Joe that if we ended up in DePere, I wanted to be part of this exciting enterprise.

"After far more than three years, I am still content to be part of this new family, and glad to call St. Norbert my home."

Happily, we moved to DePere in July of that year, and my desire to become involved with the Habitat group became a reality. Within a few weeks of arriving in the city, I received a call from Don Henrickson, President of the Greater Green Bay Habitat for Humanity. He said that he had heard that I wanted to help, and asked what I could do. My first thought was that I didn't know a thing about building! I thought I could help make lunches for the workers. He asked if I would be willing to make phone calls, and I truthfully told him how much I dislike telephones, and calling. As our conversation continued, he found out that I had a lot of accounting experience, and asked if I would be willing to help the Treasurer. It seemed to fit! Finally, something that I knew I could do for the organization.

Before I knew it, I was actually finishing the accounting for the very house that I had read about in May. What a great introduction to the Green Bay area! As I reviewed the bills and invoices showing donated labor and materials, I got to know many of the local businesses and learned of the incredible generosity of the community.

I assisted the Treasurer for a year, and then

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took over the position when he became President of the organization. The next four years as Treasurer were exhausting, but enormously rewarding. I spent up to 20 hours a week on the computer, logging mortgage payments, paying invoices, preparing financial statements, and responding to the needs and concerns of the homeowners. But all the time and hard work disappeared when I went to the dedication of a new home, and saw the excitement and heartfelt gratitude of a family being handed a key to a home of their own. The worthiness of our efforts was reinforced every time a mortgage payment came in, with a big “Thank you” written on the check. I experienced firsthand the joy that the volunteers had while working on the builds, alongside the future homeowner and family. I learned so much! My building experience now includes installing drywall, windows and insulation, and putting up siding, in addition to sanding, painting, staining, and so many other basic jobs. I also ran my first publicity campaign for the inaugural Blitz Build, a house being constructed in only one week.

What is this organization that called me to community? As the mission statement says, “Habitat for Humanity works in partnership with God and with people everywhere, from all walks of life, to develop communities with God’s people in need by building and renovating houses so that there are decent houses in decent communities in which people can live and grow into all that God intended.” Every build starts with a prayer in the morning. The area churches are strong backbones, providing volunteers, money, and prayer. With the support of our community, Greater Green Bay Habitat for Humanity has built and renovated over 30 houses, helping families gain dignity and independence.

I have watched with great pride as the SNC student chapter came to life. The students have built two more “Houses that DePere Built”, in addition to constructing garages on campus to be moved to future homes. They sponsor Shack-A-Thon, a night of sleeping in cardboard boxes to underline the problem of homelessness during Poverty Awareness Week. They are truly committed to the Habitat Mission and bettering their local community.

Since arriving in the Green Bay area, I’ve increasingly learned that the draw of volunteerism is greater than one single organization. The problem is limiting yourself to just a few ways to get involved. That noted, there is another organization that has become part of my life here at SNC. This is The American Cancer Society’s Relay for Life. I had never heard of Relay for Life before moving here. During that first year, I became friends with Judeann Maslinski. She talked about the St. Nor-

bert Relay for Life, and told me that she was a member of the steering committee and also captained a team participating in the Relay. Having lost my mother to breast cancer just 4 years earlier, I told her that I wanted to donate in her memory. I went to Relay and saw all of the activities and excitement, but did little more than drop off my check. Judeann later suggested that I could become more involved, and join the planning for the next year. I told her that I was pretty committed to Habitat, and didn’t have a lot of free time. She said that she would be willing to volunteer with Habitat if I would help with Relay. Thus began another love.



This spring, I finished my sixth Relay, and am proud that through the hard work of SNC and community volunteers, we helped raise more than \$90,000 in the battle against cancer this year. Losing my dad to melanoma last year just strengthened my resolve to do as much as possible in this fight. My involvement with Relay led to my being asked to serve as Advisor to a new organization, Colleges Against Cancer. An outstanding group of caring, committed students makes my job easy. They are all so dedicated to the fight, and spend countless hours working on education, advocacy, survivorship, and of course, the Relay for Life. How can I not feed off their unbelievable energy? Yes, “Cancer Sucks” (as they wanted to print on our t-shirts), but with the dedication and hard work that this generation is showing, I feel that it will be eradicated in their lifetime.

Reflecting on the St. Norbert College Mission Statement that “embraces the Norbertine tradition of community through learning, prayer, and service”, it is easy to see how St. Norbert has pulled me into its bosom and made me a part of its family. When will I get the urge to move again? Who knows! For now, this is home and is the community that has called me to service.

FLV Begins Transition Year

Julie Massey, Director

While the semester is well underway, a preview of cold weather having snuck in and students and faculty alike bemoaning the ramifications of tests and papers, things still feel somewhat new in the Program of Faith, Learning & Vocation. This year we transition from our first six-year Lilly grant into a three-year sustainability grant. As we wrote our sustainability grant our program team and advisory council evaluated the work we had done, and suggested ways we could more fully encourage the exploration of vocation as a theme relevant to each person's life and work.

While some aspects of our program remain the same, we are in a new era. Our exciting developments include the following.

- *Mini-grant funds* available to faculty and staff for two types of endeavors:
 - Vocation initiative grants will support the work of our colleagues on campus who seek to offer opportunities for others to explore vocation. As more colleagues have experienced our retreats and study groups they have begun to develop exciting new ideas. Vocation initiative grants can provide the support to make these new ideas real.



- Vocation exploration grants support our colleagues who may travel off-campus for conferences or training clearly connected to the theme of vocation. There are 87 other colleges and universities in the United States that are part of the same vocation

initiative as our program. Many of these institutions have begun to host cross-institutional conferences. We hope to make it possible for our colleagues to enter into these, and other vocation-related, enrichment experiences.

- *Retreat-Seminar II*, offered to faculty and staff who participated in one of our Retreat-Seminars over the last six summers. Retreat-Seminar II will build on the common foundation established in the first experience, and move into closer examination of the institutional vocation of St. Norbert College. Mark your calendars for June 11 – 13, 2007 and watch for registration information to come.
- *Special retreats on vocation* – if your discipline, department, or group is interested in taking part in a special retreat on vocation, we would be happy to partner with you. Such retreats range from two hours to a full day, are designed with input from the requesting area, and involve no cost to participants. We would be happy to work on shaping an experience that would benefit those you work with.
- A second *retreat for our Board of Trustees*, scheduled for October 10, 2007 in which the trustees and administration will consider the vocation of the college.
- The work of *ALIVE Team* interns and apprentices focused solely on residence hall ministry, a ministerial context not deliberately addressed by other departments.
- Financial and integrative support for *students exploring ministry* by working in an off-campus ministry internship during the academic year or summer.
- A new full-time Assistant Director, *Rebecca Welch '00* who is introduced in this newsletter.

We hope you can see why we enter into this year with added enthusiasm and great hope in things to come!

Meet the 2006-07 ALIVE Team

This year, FLV has placed ALIVE Team members solely in the resident halls. After a week of orientation, team members started their programming the first week of classes. FLV would like to welcome this creative and enthusiastic group of students who are willing to share their faith and their talent with their peers.

Bergstrom

Rachelle Barina, ATM Intern
Terra Alvarez, Apprentice
Eric Holtger, Apprentice

Burke

Tanya Simon, ATM Intern
Tom McCarthy, Jr, Apprentice
Amanda Russo, Apprentice

Madeline/Lorraine

Angie Knutson, ATM Intern
Sam Hanson, Apprentice
Jessica Sandmeier, Apprentice

Sensenbrenner

Caitlin Froemming, ATM Intern
Kate Botsford, Apprentice
Alexa Hollnagel, Apprentice

Michels/VMC

Lindsay Koepfel &
Gina Leonardelli
ATM Interns

MMM

Linda Maier & Wendy Morrison
ATM Interns



Alive Team member enjoy dinner together during fall training.

Rebecca Welch '00 Joins FLV

Rebecca Welch '00 joined our program staff this August as our new Assistant Director. A philosophy and religious studies double major in college, Becky went on to complete a master's degree in theology at the University of Notre Dame. After completing her MTS, Becky taught high school religion on the East Coast, and spent time volunteering with Christian Appalachian Project and helping with Hurricane Katrina relief efforts.

Becky has primary responsibility for the ALIVE Team, spiritual leadership workshops, vocation dinners, service trips supported by FLV, and other opportunities for our undergrads to explore their life's calling.

Becky brings to our program solid intellectual grounding, a warm and approachable presence, a wise spirit, and enough energy to keep up with our wonderful student leaders. She has been with us only a short time, but it is already clear that we are graced by her presence! We are confident you will help Becky feel welcome when you have the opportunity to meet her.



Meet the FLV Ministry Interns

FLV is pleased to offer financial support, as well as ongoing reflection experiences, for students exploring ministry throughout the community.

Jess Bahrke
McCormick Memorial Home

Molly Dillon
Brown County Jail

Justin Gasner
Parish ministry

Andrea Kroll
Brown County Jail

Justin Krueger
Old St. Joe's Music Ministry



Intersections is an occasional newsletter published by the Program of Faith, Learning, and Vocation.

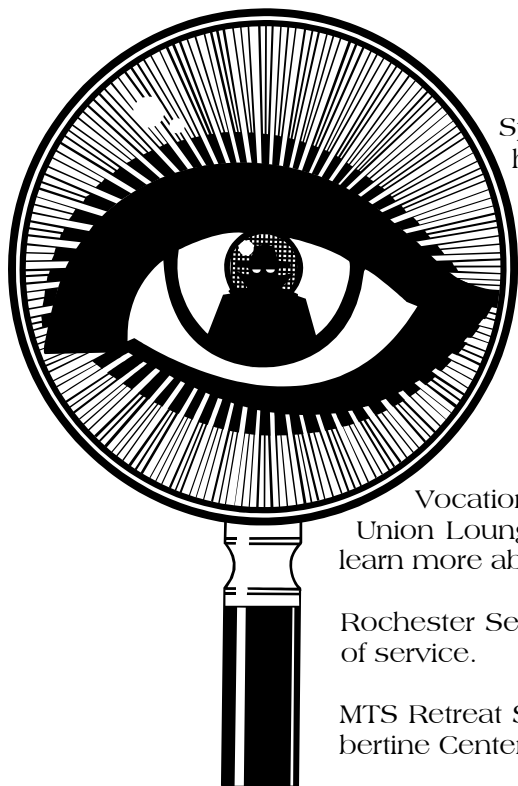
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LOOK WHAT WE'RE UP TO!



Spiritual Leadership Workshop Series (SLWS) - All sessions are held in PAC 206 from 6:30—8 PM Remaining Sessions:

Monday, November 6— “Strategies for Leading Small Groups” Led by Sandy Murphy, Campus Ministry, and Wendy Morrison '09.

Monday, November 13 “Finding Spirituality in Contemporary Music” Led by Rebecca Welch, Program of Faith, Learning and Vocation, and Gina Leonardelli '09.

Vocation Dinner: The Search of the Scientist — November 14, 2006— Union Lounge A panel discussion and dinner for natural science majors to learn more about vocation choices.

Rochester Service Trip— January 13—20, 2007 urban poverty and living a life of service.

MTS Retreat Seminar on Vocation — Saturday, February 24, 2007— The Norbertine Center for Spirituality, St. Norbert Abbey.

Spring Book Discussion—Tuesday, March, 6, 2007 - Kress Inn's conference room. Please join us as we discuss Tracy Kidder's *Mountains Beyond Mountains*. Register and request your copy by calling Debi Nejedlo at Ext. 3155.

Summer Retreat-Seminar 2 — June 11—13 — The Norbertine Center for Spirituality, St. Norbert Abbey.

Alumni Retreat on Vocation — June 15 & 16 — The Norbertine Center for Spirituality, St. Norbert Abbey.

Please deliver to:

