



Our Lady of the Lakes Catholic School Alumni Newsletter

Vol. 12 No 3
Spring 2009

A Word from Our Pastoral Associate

Deb Hamm

Take Time for Sabbath

We read throughout Scriptures about the importance of keeping holy the Sabbath. We often don't have a clear understanding about what that means. We reason with ourselves that we simply need to go to church on Sunday and we've fulfilled this commandment. Sometimes, we decide that even going to Mass isn't all that important and all we really need to do is spend a little time in prayer.



The importance of Sabbath time is so much more than that. Sabbath was first and foremost about respecting God, but it also provided a time for human beings, and all living things (even plants) to have a time to rest and renew themselves. Certainly, the most important aspect of Sabbath is that we are to make God the most important priority in our lives. We are to set aside time for God, not just on the Sabbath, but every day of our lives. But we make excuses: This is too difficult to do with all we have on our plates, especially for those who are parents. There are so many things we need to do. We are constantly running from school to sporting events to music practice, to work to a multitude of extracurricular activities. We have managed to cram our schedules so full of activity that we seldom get the chance to just sit down and rest, much less pray.

In fact, we have crammed our schedules so full of activity, that sometimes we don't even have time to just sit with our loved ones and *be* in their presence. When is the last time your family has sat down all together for a meal? When is the last time you've just spent the afternoon hanging around the house doing nothing but enjoying one another's

presence? When is the last time you've had an entire day when no one had to leave the house?

I'd like to challenge all of us this summer to take more Sabbath time. Certainly, put God first. Spend at least a few minutes each day with God. Read Scriptures, sit in silence listening for God's voice, go for a walk and appreciate the beauty of creation or have a little conversation with God. If you don't already, make it a weekly habit to attend Mass even when you are on vacation.

Then spend some Sabbath time with your loved ones. Begin a weekly "game night" with your family (everyone needs to be present and participate). Pick one day that no one leaves the house. Plan ahead if necessary. Go to the beach...just the family...no friends. Build a little silence into your daily routine and teach your children to do the same. Fight against society's "judgment" that you must be *doing* something to be valuable. Forego cleaning for a day and spend the time playing with your kids. The dishes, laundry and vacuuming can wait.

Next, spend some Sabbath time for yourself. Pick a day to pamper yourself in simple ways. Take a nap or a long bubble bath. Read a book you've been meaning to read. Find someone to watch the kids and just relax for a few hours (no shopping or errands allowed). Go on a regular date night with your spouse or go out to lunch with friends. Go for a walk or bike ride alone.

All of these are good ways to build Sabbath time in our lives. Summer is a good time to start. When we are more relaxed, more rested, we are better able to care for one another. Have a blessed summer and happy Sabbathing!

Deb Hamm
Pastoral Associate

From the Principal's Desk Catherine Pohl

It is with a heavy heart that I write what is my last column for your alumni newsletter. I will be leaving Our Lady of the Lakes Catholic School at the end of this school year.



As I meditate on leaving what has been my life for the past 8 years, I think of all the wonderful students I have met along with their wonderful parents. I often told people that working at OLL was like having a job in heaven – dedicated staff, dedicated parents, and wonderful students. As the school principal, I tried to give of myself, my children, and my husband in any way possible to make the school the best it could be. My family and I have put in countless hours as volunteers for the parish as well. This was the perfect opportunity to do what we could for our parish.

As the spiritual leader of the school for the faculty and students, I tried to offer guidance as teachers taught the children in a spiritual setting. I once read a story about the word “guidance” which really set the tone for how the school was run.

Here's the story:

“When I meditated on the word Guidance, I kept seeing "dance" at the end of the word. I remember reading that doing God's will is a lot like dancing. When two people try to lead, nothing feels right. The movement doesn't flow with the music, and everything is quite uncomfortable and jerky. When one person realizes that, and lets the other lead, both bodies begin to flow with the music. One gives gentle cues, perhaps with a nudge to the back or by pressing lightly in one direction or another. It's as if two become one body, moving beautifully. The dance takes surrender, willingness, and attentiveness from one person and gentle guidance and skill from the other. When I saw

"G: I thought of God, followed by "u" and "i". "God, "u" and "i" dance." God, you, and I dance.”

My prayer for all of you is to dance with God, trusting God to lead and to guide you through each season of your life. Work together in a flowing, gentle, peaceful way for the betterment of your children.

I always put my trust in God to give me guidance in my life. Once again, I am now willing to let God lead me into the future with new beginnings. After all, new beginnings are a gift from God.

Thank you for the wonderful memories. Blessings on all of you and I hope you dance with God, letting Him lead Our Lady of the Lakes School into a promising future.

Needed: Aluminum Cans

It is time to clean out the garage and donate all your aluminum cans to Our Lady of the Lakes! Jeff and Tracy Hiller volunteered to coordinate this fundraiser year-round. It's a great opportunity to make money for the school! No need to stack them in the garage until you can take them somewhere – drop them off at the Cedar Valley Cheese Store any time!



May Crowning

Teacher in the Spotlight

Mrs. Goetsch

It's hard to believe that in 1964-69 I was a student at O.L.L. Now, it is 2009 and I'm still walking through the same doors.



I grew up in Random Lake, the second oldest of seven children. I guess all the years of sibling control I had to help with began my love of teaching children.

I graduated from UW Milwaukee in 1979 with a BS in Education. In 1980 I was delighted to get a job at O.L.L. This year was my 29th year of teaching third grade.

My husband Roger and I live in Sherman Center where we are the fourth generation to live on the family homestead. In our free time, if we are not mowing our huge lawn, you will find us working on a pit crew for a Sprint race car at Plymouth.

One of my greatest joys is to know that my past students are enjoying a successful life. Time and again, I'll be out and about and I'll hear, "Hi, Miss Mueller or Hi, Mrs. Goetsch, remember me?" I turn and there is a face from the past. They give me an update of what they have been doing and usually share at least one or two memories of third grade.

Many of my current students resemble my past students. That is probably because they are my past students' children. Wow! How time flies!

I always try to encourage my students to do their best work, use their imaginations, and to be respectful.

The best part about teaching at O.L.L. is that I'm allowed to educate the children not only academically, but also spiritually.

I feel very blessed that I can get up each day and go to a job that I love.

First Communion – May 2009



Isaac Mayer, Jacob Sagal, Jason Bares, Megan Bichler, Marley Mendez, Eli Bichler, Andrew Bichler

Alumni Search

We continue to work on putting all of our alumni into a computer database. If you know any alumni of our school who are not currently receiving our newsletter, please share this with them, or send us their address and we will make sure they receive a copy of our newsletter. It is really great to hear from past students, especially when they share some of their favorite memories and interesting stories of St. Mary's in years past. Also we love to hear about what you are doing and about your families. Please send us a note!

We've made it easy for you to contact us, just mail in the Alumni Update Form found on the back page of our newsletter. Feel free to attach a separate piece of paper with any additional stories you might have.

You can also reach us by e-mail at ourladyrls@archmil.org

Current information is available on our website: www.ourladylakes.org

School Address:

Our Lady of the Lakes Catholic Grade School
306 Butler Street, Random Lake, WI 53075
920-994-9962

Parish Address:

Our Lady of the Lakes Catholic Congregation
230 Butler Street, Random Lake, WI 53075
920-994-4380

Home and School Update

Our annual School Auction was held in April at the school. From everyone at OLL we would like to extend a truly heartfelt Thank You to all of our sponsors who so generously donated items. And special Thanks to those who worked and/or attended the event and more Thanks to those that bid on items.

We have had a great school year and at this point everyone is beginning to look forward to summer. The Home and School Association successfully met our 2008-2009 budget. A huge THANK YOU goes out to everyone who planned, participated and supported our events this year. Our children and their families are truly grateful.

We are also busily working on our Home and School events for next year so stay tuned for more information or visit our website. A few dates to mark on your calendar now are:

- Golf Outing – August 29th
- Brat Fry and Bake Sale @ The Cheese Store – September 4th
- Wine and Cheese Tasting – October (TBD)
- Craft Fair and Marketplace – Nov. 14th

During the summer please remember to:

- Continue to purchase and use Scrip which now can be ordered at The Cheese Store.
- Save aluminum cans which can be dropped off at The Cheese Store anytime.
- Save Box Tops for Education, Campbell Soup Labels as well as ink and toner cartridges.
- Use GoodSearch for internet searches and most importantly for internet shopping.
- Eat at the Five Pillars OLL Family Nights, which will be held on June 29th, July 27th and August 31st.

Have a great summer,

Curt Blaszczyk
Home & School President
262.692.3521 – Home

OLL School Wish List

Thank you for your interest in donating money or items to Our Lady of the Lakes School. If you would like to make a donation toward one of the items on the wish list, please contact the school office at 920-994-9962 or Marilyn in the parish office at 920-994-4380. The following is some of the items on the list:

Computer Wishes

- 512 MB jump drive
- SDRAM 128 MB or better
- HP Scanner
- Surge protector power strips
- Carts for classroom computers

Classroom Wishes

- Book Shelf / Cart (4th grade)
- Painting easel
- Venn diagram pocket chart
- Teacher's Easel
- Mailbox cubbies
- Bookshelves
- USB flash drive
- Novels with teacher's guides (5th)

School Wishes

- TV for classroom (3rd grade)
- Carpet for classrooms
- Paper cutter
- Play Doh: rolling pins, cutters, cookie cutters (Pre 4)
- Cash Register (Pre 4)
- Religious puzzles & coloring books (Pre 4)

Day Care Center Wishes

- ◆ Step Ladder
- ◆ Board Puzzles (more than 12 pieces)
- ◆ Floor Puzzles (12 – 48 pieces)
- ◆ Kitchen center play food, dishes, dress-up clothes for boys and girls etc.
- ◆ Playground balls
- ◆ Ethnic baby dolls
- ◆ Ethnic foods for play
- ◆ Religious story books
- ◆ Religious posters and figurines
- ◆ Veggie Tale movies
- ◆ Play toy animals
- ◆ Double stroller



OUR LADY OF THE LAKES SCHOOL 4TH ANNUAL GOLF OUTING AND DINNER



Where: West Bend Lakes Golf Club
1241 Hwy 33 East
West Bend, WI 53095

When: Saturday, August 29th, 2009
1 p.m. Shot Gun Start – 4 Person Team Best Ball Scramble
Noon – 12:45 Lunch, Registration & Putting Contest

Cost: \$80 includes:

- *18 holes of golf with a cart
- *Hamburger or Brat with chips before golf
- *2 drink tickets
- *Buffet dinner after golf (6 p.m.)
- *Entry into the Hold'em Raffle
- *Entry into the Putting Contest
- *\$25.00 Hole Prize On Every Hole
- *Place Prize For Every Team

Questions - Call Andy or Janice Spaeth at 920-994-2586

Our Lady of the Lakes Golf Outing

Team Captain: _____ **Phone #:** _____

Name of Golfer #2: _____

Name of Golfer #3: _____

Name of Golfer #4: _____

\$320 per team due August 21st

() Check here if you do not have a full team and would like us to help you fill a foursome.

Dinner Only: _____ (Name)

Dinner Only: _____ (Name)

Dinner Only: _____ (Name)

Dinner Only: _____ (Name)

*** \$20 per person due August 21st**

Return form and money to: Our Lady of the Lakes Rectory

Attn: Golf Outing

230 Butler Street

Random Lake, WI 53075

Please make checks payable to: Our Lady of the Lakes School

OUR LADY OF THE LAKES
CATHOLIC CONGREGATION
230 Butler Street
Random Lake, WI 53075

Nonprofit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Random Lake, WI
Permit No. 23

Return Service Requested

**Our Lady of the Lakes Catholic School Alumni Update
(formerly St. Mary's Catholic School)**

Name: _____ Attended from 19__ to 19__

Maiden Name: _____ Spouse: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

Date: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Here's my update: _____

Can we use this information in our school newsletter? Yes _____ No _____

Alumni Approval