

Be the Light⁺

CHRIST OUR LIGHT CATHOLIC PARISH NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2018



Anchor Kids in the Truth during Shipwrecked Vacation Bible School

By Wendy Rappé, Director of Faith Formation



Ahoy! Summer is finally on its way. Make sure to register your kids for this year's fun-filled adventure, **Sunday, July 29—Thursday, August 2**, at COL-South from 5:00—7:30 PM. "Shipwrecked" is the theme of Christ Our Light Catholic Parish's five-day Vacation Bible School program. This program will be held in the evenings to accommodate families' busy schedules. In addition, because many families have weekend plans, we designed a *Sunday-Thursday* program. Please note this year's Vacation Bible School will be held at COL-South in Zimmerman.

Each evening will begin with a meal served at 5:00 PM. From 5:30—7:30 PM, the line-up of faith-based adventures will set sail: Castaway Sing and Play, Bible Discovery, Imagination Station, Shipwreck Games, Tropical Treats, and Sail Away Sendoff. Then the little sailors go home to their bunks, returning for the next day of high-seas fun.

Parents want their children to grow up strong in body, mind, and spirit. This year's Vacation Bible School theme is strong in building the child's Christ-based resilience. It emphasizes the message that Jesus will find us when life seems "shipwrecked." Jesus Christ will rescue us when we are lonely, when we worry, when we struggle. He wants to help us when we do wrong, and especially when we feel powerless. Jesus Saves!

We are now taking registrations for children entering Kindergarten through entering fifth grade. We are in need many youth volunteers as crew mates, so if you have a student entering sixth grade or older, please contact Wendy Rappé, Director of Faith Formation, or Matt Kehrer, Coordinator of Youth Ministry & Confirmation. Adult volunteers are also needed. There will be plenty of space on the island for kids, youth and adults to make this year's Vacation Bible School the best one ever!

Jump aboard! Registration forms are available in the main entrances of church at the kiosk and on the parish website. Cost is \$30.00 per child, or \$75.00 for a family with three or more children. Vacation Bible School is free for families with a parent volunteer. PLEASE NOTE: no family will be turned away because of finances. Registration is due to the parish on or before **July 13**. Contact Wendy or Matt with any questions.



Photo by Jay Grammond

A beautiful view of the future site of Christ Our Light Catholic Parish.

The Sun Rises: Capital Campaign Update

By Fr. Kevin Anderson, Pastor

I have always been a morning person. After a good night's sleep, I enjoy nothing better than waking early, settling into my prayer chair with a cup of coffee and spending time communicating with God. With warmer days, I do this outdoors on the deck of the rectory.

Usually my prayer time revolves around journaling and spiritual reading, but I always begin with scripture. The psalms, especially, help me articulate what is resounding in my spirit. For example, Psalm 143:8 says, "Let the morning bring me word of your unfailing love, for I have put my trust in you. Show me the way I should go, for to you I entrust my life."

This verse not only reminds me to rely on God in the affairs of my day, but has become my mantra for approaching the *One In the Light Campaign* of our new church property and building. That is, with trust. Trust that the entire process has been a demonstration of letting go and letting God be in charge.

From the onset of our existence as a parish back in 2010, we were given the invitation to trust the Holy Spirit. As hard as that has been at times, it's amazing how wonderful things have worked together.

It all started as Bishop Kinney asked us to merge and then invited us to consider worshipping in one space. From choosing a location, reflecting on our needs, listening to parishioners' hopes for the design and layout of the church ... I humbly admire all the ways this process has reflected our oneness and desires to *Love God. Live the Eucharist*.

As of May 15, we have \$1,938,035.00 pledged for the new church, with \$605,289.42 already received in cash. This will enable us to purchase the land and begin the process of moving our parish rectory to the new property. This will allow the current rectory on the South campus to be used for other purposes, such as classrooms and office space.

CAMPAIGN UPDATE

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Fall Back to *Fall Fest*

By Jay & Carrie Grammond, *Fall Fest*
Parish Festival Co-Coordinators



Fall Fest is right around the corner! What happened to *Summer Bash*? It has been decided to move our annual parish celebration back to the Fall. *Fall Fest* will take place on **Sunday, September 16**, at COL-North and will kick-off with an outdoor Mass at 10:00 AM.

The fun has already begun. Many hours of preparation and planning go into creating a successful festival. Most activity chairpersons are in place. We will still need a lot of support from you in order to put together a great event.

The first thing that each of you can do to help is to sell your *Fall Fest* raffle tickets, which will be coming in the mail sometime in the upcoming months. This raffle is a major source of revenue for the *Fall Fest*, and one of the really exciting parts of the event. If you do sell all of your tickets, additional tickets can be picked up at either office (North or South) during the week; or at Mass on the weekends. There will also be a 50/50 Raffle going on during *Fall Fest*, and the *Big Cash Raffle* is also returning.

Most of you understand the philosophy behind a parish festival... that it is intended to be a fun day for all, because it will involve us all. A big event like this cannot occur with only a few "regulars" volunteering their energy. It takes an entire parish to put on a festival. Please step up and help out where you are able. Soon, you will be able to sign up on-line to volunteer with the festival. There will be opportunities to sign up in person as well. We have a need for all ages to help out, somewhere, in some capacity.

The *Fall Fest* Committee has a list of needs for all of us to fill. They include:

- 2-liter bottles of pop for the Ring-Toss Game
- Cakes for the Cake Walk
- Bars for dessert
- Craft Items (please donate only new items)
- Homemade/homegrown goodies for the Farmer's Market
- these include plants from your garden and home-canned preserves, jams, salsa, etc.

In addition to these items, keep planning to offer your talents and unique opportunities for the silent auction. We would like to offer an impressive array of items which could include experiences such as: meals, wine-tasting parties, tickets to a sports event, or a "get-away" to a resort or a time-share. Present your auction item in a basket (here's your chance to think creatively). Of course we appreciate all items that are received, but we would like to again make this event bigger and better again this year and include some more unique and exciting offerings to the auction. Please note that the silent auction is not intended for used or worn items.

Watch for updates on the *Fall Fest* in the bulletin and online.



Photo by Matt Kehrer

MAKE A RUN FOR IT: The *Summer Bash Dash* is returning as the *Fall Fest Fun Run* on Saturday, September 15. Watch the bulletin and the parish website for information on how you can participate as a runner/walker or volunteer.

Connecting with Red Lake

By Molly Weyrens, Pastoral Associate

We continue to make connections and work on relationship building with our sister parish, Saint Mary's of Red Lake. There have been several van loads of people who have taken part in Red



Lake Sunday experiences. A group leaves about 6:30 AM on a Sunday and attends Mass, enjoys a meal with community members, hears about the mission, and then usually gets a tour of Red Lake. Some of the same people have been going so it has been great for them to re-connect with community members at Saint Mary's.

Another experience, our youth were able to assist in leading a Triduum retreat on Holy Thursday at Saint Mary's Mission School. It was a great time of enjoying the students and being connected through prayer and activities. The group was also able to tour Red Lake. Some of the words our youth used to describe their experience were: inspiring, faith, enjoyable, and fun. This retreat is open



to all high school students and will be offered again in **April 2019**. Special thanks to Stacy Manning who assists with our sister parish organizing this opportunity. Contact Stacy to find out more: stacy@tohavehope.org.

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As a reminder, our new property is 110 acres located at 11604 293rd Ave. Princeton. This is on County Road 9, one mile east of Highway 169. It is a beautiful piece of land, overlooking a pond, and contains many possibilities for our needs and partnering with others to serve the community.

We are also happy to report that our North campus is being strongly considered for purchase and that our South campus is also receiving new interest. Whatever does happen, I am sure that our parish history will reflect that we, as Psalm 143 says, were shown the way we should go, as we entrust ourselves to God.