

St. Leo the Great News

Serving the parishes of St. Leo the Great, St. Philip the Apostle, and Mary, Mother of the Church



Volume 14 , Issue 1

November 2010

Golf Outing Raises \$10,000

Thank you to all those who were a part of the Golf Outing this past summer. The 16th annual event raised \$10,000 to benefit our parish school.

Event organizers included Steve Kirchner, Paul Fazzini, Bill O’Leary, Clark Tomlinson, Todd Keagy, Nick Malzacher and chairperson Mike Schreder. The 2010 Golf Outing was Mike’s last year as chair; and the entire St. Leo community extends sincere appreciation for the years of leadership Mike brought to the event.

The success of the Golf Outing would not be possible without the generous donations of many individuals and businesses. Special thanks to Hole-in-One sponsor, Paul Fazzini of American Home Bank and to all of the sponsors listed below. God bless you!

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Meet Alan Schwartz

Director of Development & Parish Ministries

by Lisa Campbell

Alan Schwartz is glad to be back. Back to being directly involved in the work of the church, that is. “I missed being feet away from the Blessed Sacrament,” he explains. A former Director of Religious Education for St. John Neumann parish, Alan was most recently in sales with Toyota. He transitioned to car sales to meet the needs of his growing family, but the experience taught him that he had a knack for sales. That skill will be very valuable in his new role at St. Leo’s, as **Director of Development & Parish Ministries**. His position will require plenty of interaction with people, as well as leadership in fundraising and other aspects of development.



Part of Alan’s role at St. Leo’s will be to serve as a resource to existing ministry groups – connecting volunteers with the ministry leaders who need them and vice versa. “I really want people to know they can talk to me and I will be flexible with their needs,” he says.

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November 10, 2010

Feast of Saint Leo the Great

Dear Parishioners,

On this blessed feast of the Patron Saint of our Parish, I write in great joy and thanksgiving to God for all of His blessings to us.

Just over 46 years ago, on February 4, 1964, then Bishop George Leech announced that our Parish would be established on February 22nd, and on February 24th, Bishop Leech celebrated the first Mass at the “Barn in Silver Spring”. Guided by his wisdom and Divine Providence, construction was undertaken, just over a year later, to first build a School and a Convent, both of which were dedicated on June 19, 1965.

Our Parish and School have witnessed substantial growth and great successes over these last forty five years. My heart is filled with gratitude for the work and sacrifices of so many and, each day, I pray for our benefactors and all who continue to support our efforts at building up the Kingdom of God in our midst.

With an ever growing trust in God and hope for our children and grandchildren, we now look to the future. Bishop McFadden recently approved the Feasibility Study that our Parish presented on October 1, 2010, that proposed expansion and modernization of our School and some reconstruction of our Church Sanctuary, all of which were recommended through our Parish Survey, Focus Groups, and Open Forum Sessions conducted over the course of the past year.

Indeed, these are exciting times, as they were nearly forty seven years ago, when dedicated men and women came together under the patronage of Saint Leo the Great to form our Parish. May we, in that same spirit of faith, hope and love, embrace the call given to us, to do nothing less than continue this noble and prophetic mission in our own time, to proclaim Christ in our midst and to share His love and joy with all.

God bless you.
Father Hahn

Principal’s Message

by Georgia Steinbacher

At the start of the academic year at St. Leo the Great School, I find myself again thanking the dear Lord for the wonderful people He has brought and continues to bring to our Education Ministry. While the newspapers report an alarming number of teachers across the nation having limited ability and questionable practice and ethics, St. Leo the Great School has a faculty comprised of highly qualified educa-

tors who put the needs of the students before all else. Our fully certified, dedicated Parish School of Religion teachers come week after week to impart the faith to the children of our Parish. What a blessing these educators are to the St. Leo the Great community!

The news also raises concerns over parents who abdicate the responsibility for nurturing their children with loving discipline. St. Leo the Great Parish, on the other hand, benefits from active participation by the parents of our children. Our volunteers in both the Parish Elementary School and the Parish School of Religion enrich the lives of the children and provide the support they need to succeed. They guide the students in service projects and monitor their safety in and out of school.

Too often the public media is filled with tales of children who go through life unmotivated personally and unmoved by the plight of the less fortunate. Children from the very youngest through high school age seek opportunities to help through our Parish ministries. They work hard in school so that the future will find them growing into conscientious, contributing members of the community. Children are a gift from God, and St. Leo the Great Parish children make their lives their gift to Him.

The new year promises wonderful things. All of us in the Education Ministry of the Parish of St. Leo the Great thank the people of the parish for their faith, support, and prayers. God bless you!

Notes from the School Board President

by Joe Woratyla

Welcome back to another year at Saint Leo’s. I hope everyone’s children have a safe, happy and fulfilling school year at Saint Leo’s.

I want to thank those that have been very busy with involvement and volunteer time here at school. I’d also like to welcome new School Board members, listed as follows:

Ruthanne Ashworth	Doug Dvorchak
Michael Diller	Tom Chairs
Barb Nichols	Marzena Wolnikowski

We would like to thank these individuals for their commitment to the Board. I’d also like to thank those who have worked with the Board, past, present and future. We really appreciate their time and effort.

Continued next page

Leadership News

Notes from the School Board, Continued

The School Board is working diligently on various subcommittee tasks. We are also working with the HSA committee and other committees to facilitate better communication to the families of St. Leo's. This is a goal the Board hopes to achieve this year, to promote better communication through all channels of Saint Leo School. In conjunction with this goal, we are excited to meet Alan Schwartz, our new development director. We all look forward to working with Alan on many exciting projects, and hope we can all work together as a group to promote the religious, academic, and financial goals for Saint Leo the Great School.

Call For Nominations

St. Leo the Great School Board is currently seeking school board nominees for the 2011-2012 school year. If you have any questions and are interested in becoming a nominee for the school board, please contact Michael Diller at 717-314-0782 or michaeled@comcast.net.

St. Leo Alumni

We ask that Alumni of St. Leo the Great School please send us your updated contact information as we are currently updating our Alumni database. Please forward your current mailing and e-mail address so that we can update your profile. Forward this information to: stleoalumni@comcast.net or call Doug Dvorchak at 717-682-9613. We ask that if you keep in touch or have family members who have graduated from St. Leo's that you would kindly pass along this notice. Thank You.

Home & School Association (HSA)

HSA would like thank all who attended the evening meeting in October. Due to this success, there will be 2 evening meetings in 2011. This year's HSA Board Members are:

President-Michelle Malzacher
Vice-President Heather Ott
Treasurer- Michelle Panyik
Secretary-Jill Day



Left to Right: Reverend Alexander & Pearl Veronis, Joanna Atlasik, Elizabeth Veronis and Miriam Reid enjoy **Grandfriends Day**.



Smiling faces on the first day of school! In the foreground: Tyler Moore, in the background: the Otto family.

Parish News

Fall Happenings In the Parish

by Fabien Baksh

Gospel Reflection Groups

This year, separate men's and women's gospel reflection groups have been started. They are from 7 – 8 am on Saturdays in Rms 1 and 2 (women), and Rms 3 and 4 (men). This is followed by 8 am Mass. All are encouraged to attend to learn more about God's Word.

Respect Life Sunday

Since 1972 (1 year before Roe vs Wade), the first Sunday of October has been designated Respect Life Sunday. Every year our parish participates in the Lancaster West Life Chain on Rohrerstown Road (between Marietta and Columbia Aves), a peaceful public demonstration of our support for life at all stages – from conception to natural death. Mark your calendar for next year (October 2nd) and show your support for life!

Parish Mission

Father Michael Sullivan presented the theme “A Time of Grace” on four evenings in November, **Sunday 14th to Wednesday 17th** from 7-8:30 pm.

Fall Harvest Picnic

The annual parish picnic (pictured below), was held on September 19th on the parish grounds. The sun was shining and the over 600 in attendance had a fun filled afternoon. This is / was a time of fellowship with other parishioners that we should all try to take advantage of in our often all too busy schedules - a time to renew old acquaintances and make new ones. See you next year!

Alan Schwartz

Continued from Cover

A father of three, Alan is grateful that his new job will allow him to recreate family life with his wife Marissa and children, Isaac, 7; Lucy, 5; and Rosa, 19 months. The family is very involved at St. Mary's, but that won't change Alan's dedication to St. Leo's. He is excited by the energy and level of activity at St. Leo's and is eager to meet the needs of the many ministry groups as well as focus on advancement for the school.



In his free time, Alan enjoys everything Old West – from movies to attractions such as Frontier Town in Maryland. Like many of us, his children's activities also keep him on the run. The older kids are pursuing a budding interest in theatre performance and will be in “Joseph and the Technicolor Dreamcoat” at York Little Theatre this December.

To contact Alan, call the church office at 717-394-1742 or email him at development@stleos.org.



School Community News

Meet Mrs. Jenny Harrington

by Barb Nichols

No one can fill Mrs. McCarthy's colorful shoes, but Mrs. Harrington is making 2nd grade her own. Mrs. Harrington is getting this year's class of 22 girls and 7 boys excited about math. Math facts have never been this fun before!

A Mathematics major from Boston University, Mrs. Harrington brings years of experience and a love of teaching to St. Leo's class. This is her 2nd year at St. Leo's. Last year, she worked as an instructional aide to 7th grade. Over the years she has taught every grade from 1st to 7th. She finds that the challenge in going back to the early grades lies in taking the subjects and "really breaking down the concepts." Second grade is all about "building firm foundations in reading and math." She achieves this through incorporating hands-on activities, educational games and encouraging a love of reading. Her class loves nothing more than to sit down to a good story everyday.

What she finds most inspiring is that children at this stage have a natural curiosity to learn. They love to bring in items from home that relate back to something they are learning in class. "It's all about making connections to the things they learn," she stated. The class is underway in preparing for the sacraments of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion and Mrs. Harrington is pleased to be a part of what's sure to be a memorable year.



When she is not teaching, Mrs. Harrington enjoys baking, knitting and spending time with her family; her husband Greg and their children, Alexandra and Danny, as well as a new member to the family, a puppy named Bandit. Mrs. Harrington has moved several times over the years, but a Lancaster native, she is happy to feel at home once again. We look forward to her being a part of the St. Leo family for many years to come.

Welcome to 2nd grade Mrs. Harrington!



New teachers joining the faculty this year include: (from left): Ms. Lauren Francos, Mrs. Stacey Berger, Ms. Molly Kovatch.

New Faculty Spotlight: Meet Mrs. Stacey Berger

One of the new developments this school year has been the split of the fourth grade class. Joining Mrs. Chris McLean as a fourth grade teacher is Mrs. Stacey Berger. Get to know Stacey below and look for future faculty spotlights in upcoming issues.

My name is Stacey Berger. I graduated from Millersville University in May 2008 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary Education and Early Childhood Education. I am married and we have 18 month old twin boys. I am originally from Sinking Spring, but after I graduated from school and got married in June of 2008, my husband and I moved to North Carolina. In North Carolina, I was a 4th grade teacher for a year and a half when we then decided to move back to Pennsylvania so the boys could grow up near family. When we returned to PA, I took a half year off to be a stay at home mom. I was born and raised Catholic and went to Catholic school until fourth grade. I belong to St. Ignatius of Loyola Parish in West Lawn. What brought me to St. Leo's is the Catholic Education. I am ecstatic to be a part of guiding our students in the right direction and being followers of Christ. I also enjoy being able to encourage students to pray to God for guidance. I want to be a positive role model for the students and be a part of their progress and success. To me teaching is not just a profession, it is a passion!

Welcome to 4th grade Mrs. Berger!

School Community News

Let's DANCE Proceeds

by Maureen Leader

As you know the Let's DANCE event was a lot of fun...but it also made a lot of money. From the generosity of St. Leo's parishioners and friends Let's DANCE made \$30,000.

The decision was already made before the event to use \$8,000 for two Smart Boards. But decisions had to be made about the rest of the proceeds.

Who better to ask than the people who actually helped raise the money? A survey went out to all St. Leo school families to get their opinions on how the remaining \$22,000 should be spent. The survey gave the following choices:

- Remodel the boys' bathrooms
- Remodel the girls' bathrooms
- New desks and chairs for grades three, four and five
- New gym equipment
- Projection whiteboard for the library
- Tennis club expansion for lower grades
- Horseshoe tables for first and second grades
- Playground recess package
- Bibles for fifth grade, meter sticks for fourth grade and tape recorders and headphones for first grade.
- Preschool playground equipment
- Technology/robotics program for grades five to eight
- Two enclosed rolling bookcases for first grade
- One mobile cart for math supplies

Families were asked to rank the choices from least important to the most important. About 1/3 of our school families returned the survey. The following is the list of items that

were chosen based on returned surveys, with final expenditures totaling \$30,300.

- Smart boards and hook up supplies – \$8,000
- Desks and chairs for grades three, four and five – \$10,000
- Whiteboard for library – \$800
- Cabinets, bookshelves – \$1,400
- Tables cubbies – \$4,200
- Gym and playground equipment – \$1,500
- Bibles, meter sticks audio equipment – \$1,400
- Robotics program – \$3,000

A security upgrade has also been added to the school.

Pre-K Trike-A-Thon

The second annual Pre-K Trike-A-Thon exceeded last year's event in total funds raised for a total of \$2,900 benefitting play area maintenance, supplies and equipment. Way to go Pre-K!!



St. Leo the Great News

Published four times per year for our student and parish families, and friends of St. Leo the Great.

Editor	Georgia Steinbacher
PR Committee	Tom Chairs, Chairman Jamie Alton Darlene Black Barb Nichols Kim Overbaugh Maureen Leader Beth Silvaggio Isabel Bowen Robin Hohman Lisa Campbell



Don't forget...all are welcome each Friday morning at 9:05 for our school community Mass.

Parish Community News

Fall Sports at LCHS

compiled by Robin Hohman

Best wishes to the following SLS alumni as they participate in fall sports and activities at LCHS. Go Crusaders!

Football

Anthony Juliano
Trevor St.Clair
Greg Kirchner
Charles Sweigert
Patrick Kenney
Patrick Anstett
Stephen Loiseau
Sean Gibbons
Ed Kuchinski
Will Rothfus

Cross Country

Baily Hohman
Peter Stengel
Andrew Murphy
Danielle Murphy
Shannon Cruz
Ashley Sargent
Danielle Atkinson

Field Hockey

Ali Graham
Victoria (Tory) Carroll
Amanda Schlager
Jen Roehm
Shannon Cruz

Golf

Alex Abel
Bobby Stengel
Matt Schreder
Chris Schreder
Patrick Warren

Band

Rebecca Fix
John Wachsman

Soccer

Sarah Flick
Tyler Givens
Emily Martin

Cheerleading

Alaina Olson
Janelle Tresselt
Amanda LeBreton

Youth Ministry Update

Middle School Youth: All 7th & 8th graders are invited to join us in the Weber Center on Monday, Nov. 22nd, Dec. 6th & 20th (Christmas Party) from 4:30-5:45 pm for fun, food & faith!

High School Youth: Join us for fun, food & faith! All high school youth are welcome to join us on Mondays from 7-8:30 pm on Nov. 22nd, Dec. 6th (Bowling at Clearview Lanes) & Dec. 20th (Christmas Party).

Catholic Heart Work Camp: 8th-12th Grade youth are invited to join on our mission trip June 25th-July 1st as we serve the community of Louisville, KY. Come and make a difference in someone's life—maybe even yours! Registration forms are in the Narthex and on the parish website. Please contact the YM office for more info.

World Youth Day Car Raffle: Thanks to all who purchased raffle tickets to help offset the costs of attending World Youth Day. Your generosity is a blessing to our kids.

NET Ministries—Soul Satisfaction: 7th and 8th grade youth are invited to this retreat which examines the two places we can look to satisfy our spiritual hunger. Tues., Dec. 7th, 8:45am—3pm in the school gym.

Save These Dates!

12/18/10 - Cookie Walk - Buy a \$10 container and fill it with your favorites! See www.stleoschool.org for details.

12/11/10 - Advent Adventure for all K-3rd graders Activities, prayers, crafts and more!

1/24/11 - March For Life, Washington, D.C. - Grades 7-12

2/20-21/2011 - Antioch Retreat - Grades 6-8

2/25/11 - St. Leo the Great Italian Fest

PSR Update

PSR students come from more than 20 different schools in Lancaster County to attend religious education classes on Sunday mornings and weekday evenings. At present, the second graders are preparing for First Reconciliation and First Communion. Other classes are "saints in training" and the first graders are doing good deeds every week to add links to a colorful chain to celebrate Christmas and show Jesus how much He is loved. All of our wonderful students and volunteer catechists are lead by the much loved Sister Dorothy.





Above: St. Leo graduates, Andrew Murphy, Connor Lent and Baily Hohman run for LCHS Cross Country. **Right:** Charles Sweigert plays for Crusaders Football. See page 7 for related story.

Upcoming Parish Events

Nov. 23	Thanksgiving Prayer Service 2:15 pm - Church	8	Mass, 9:05 am - Feast of the Immaculate Conception	18	Cookie Walk, 9-12, school gym
Dec. 1-3	Scholastic Book Fair	13	School Penance Service, 9:30 am - Grades 3-8	19	SLAA Meeting, 7 pm - Rms 1,2
4	First Reconciliation, 10 am (Snow Date, 12/11/10)	14	School Christmas Concert 7 pm - Church - Gr. K,1,2,5,6	20	Middle & High School Youth Christmas Parties
7	N.E.T. Ministries Retreat All Parish Youth, Grades 7 & 8 LAMBS Luncheon, 12:30 at Historic Revere Tavern	17	PreK 4 Christmas Celebration	21	PreK 3 Christmas Celebration Parish Penance Service
		11	Advent Adventure - Gr. K-3		

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