

## weekly collection

Our weekly collection will be given to the Campus Ministry International and Domestic Service Immersion Trips. All proceeds will be distributed among participants, each of whom are responsible for their own fundraising to cover travel, accommodations, meals and a donation to the service site.

### Habitat for Humanity Collegiate Challenge

Two groups of students will head south over spring break to take place in the national "Collegiate Challenge" facilitated by Habitat for Humanity. In South Carolina and Louisiana, students will pick up where a previous group of college students left off in building and refurbishing homes for those in need.

### Cardinal Kelvin Felix Archdiocesan Pastoral Centre

In May, a small group will travel to Gros Islet, St. Lucia to serve with Sr. Frances Nosbisch, OSF at a pastoral centre which serves to meet various community needs in St. Lucia.

### Carmen Pampa Fund

For the first time this June, Neumann students will partner with the Franciscan Mission Service (based out of Washington, DC) to travel to La Paz, Bolivia to participate in service projects and cultural immersion experiences alongside local Bolivian college students.

### Wind River Indian Reservation

Neumann students will continue a long-standing tradition of journeying west to serve with Sr. Teresa Frawley, OSF at the three Catholic parishes on Wyoming's Wind River Indian Reservation of the Arapaho and Shoshone tribes.

If you would like to further support the 30 students participating in Service Immersion trips this spring and summer, visit:

**[www.neumann.edu/knightfunder](http://www.neumann.edu/knightfunder)**

Thank you for your generosity and support!



**@neuministry**

## this week in campus ministry

January 22, 2017

In today's first reading, Isaiah proclaims, "The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone. You have brought them abundant joy and great rejoicing."

As I reflect on Isaiah's words, I think about the dark times that I have experienced and the many ways in which I have been able to see God's light through them. In my sophomore year of high school, I was diagnosed with a kidney disease. While I was recovering at the hospital, I witnessed the connections between a nurse and her patients. Watching the way one particular nurse interacted with her patients was what inspired me to become a nurse. I had never before thought of nursing as a way of changing a child's life. Throughout high school, I thought I wanted to help children by becoming a teacher, so I decided to major in education. Two weeks into my freshman year at Neumann, I knew that becoming a teacher was not what I truly wanted. Then, I decided to pursue my dream of becoming a nurse. As I finished my fall semester of my third year at Neumann, I found myself in a dark

place. As most students do I sat on Blackboard eagerly awaiting my final grades to be posted. I quickly became filled with mixed emotions when I saw that I received a 75 as my final grade in the nursing course I took. Many will know that with Neumann's vigorous nursing grading system, I failed the course by two points. This devastating news meant in order to continue in the program I needed to add a full year to my already extended education path. I cried for many reasons that night. I was upset that I failed the course, but I knew I had tried my best. I realized that to pursue my nursing dream it would take me a total of six years to complete the degree. I was strongly against adding an extra year when I looked back at the 2 ½ years that I have been here with very little to show for it. With the help of my very supportive fiancé and parents, I was able to see the light in this moment of darkness. They helped me to realize that if becoming a nurse is what I want, I need to be willing to do whatever it takes to achieve that goal. The spring semester has begun and I am finishing my third year. I look forward to continuing to pursue

*Continued inside...*

Reflection by Katie Marsh '19

*Interested in writing a reflection for this weekly newsletter? Talk to Maria or Patrick or email [campusministry@neumann.edu](mailto:campusministry@neumann.edu)*

# what you may have missed...



As a part of their pre-trip formation, service trip groups serve together in the local community. Last week, the Bolivia and Louisiana groups served at the Habitat for Humanity ReStore in Philadelphia. If you're interested in local service experiences, check out our monthly local service outings or stop in to see Megan Camp for information on all of our community partners!



We celebrated Martin Luther King Day with a service fair and with cultural song and dance performances. Stay tuned for more events like this during Black History Month!

## *Reading Reflection continued...*

my dream to become a nurse.

This experience has helped me to understand that everything happens for a reason, even in ways you may or may not expect. I found, as Isaiah expresses, that it is important to find God's light in moments of darkness, because along with that light often comes "abundant joy and great rejoicing."

# ...what you CAN'T miss

## Thursday, January 26

**Anna's Place**—11:00AM-1:00PM, meet in Campus Ministry

Head to a weekly soup kitchen in Chester to serve a meal to community members.

## Sunday, January 29

**Mass**—7:00PM, Sacred Heart Chapel

## Tuesday, January 31

**Blood Drive**—11:00AM-4:00PM

To sign-up go to [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) and enter sponsor code: Neumann  
Sign up now to help save lives!! All donors will receive a Dunkin Donuts coupon and a "We Challenge U" T-shirt (while supplies last).

# Sign up!

## Senior Retreat

February 17-19, Long Beach Island



**Search Retreat** March 10-12, Long Beach Island

All sign up forms can be found outside Campus Ministry or online at [Neumann.edu/ministry](http://Neumann.edu/ministry)