

weekly collection

Our weekly collection will be given to the Campus Ministry International and Domestic Service Immersion Trips. Each week, we will highlight one of the six trips that will be offered this fall, spring and summer. 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.

Trips:

Fall Break: St. Vincent DePaul Center, Philadelphia, PA

Spring Break: Habitat for Humanity Collegiate Challenge I & II (Locations TBD)

Summer: Cardinal Kelvin Felix Archdiocesan Pastoral Centre, St. Lucia

Wind River Indian Reservation, Wyoming

South America Trip To Be Announced Soon!

Habitat for Humanity Collegiate Challenge

February 26-March 4

Application due October 7

Over Spring Break, two separate groups will head south to take part in Habitat for Humanity's national alternative spring break program, Collegiate Challenge. Together with other college students from across the country, Neumann students will have the opportunity to work on various stages of home construction and rehabilitation. Students will work alongside the families to whom the homes will eventually belong.

St. Vincent DePaul Center Fall Break Trip

Friday, October 7- Tuesday, October 11

RISES First Year Retreat

Friday, October 21-Sunday October 23

Search Retreat (for Upperclassmen)

Friday, November 11-Sunday, November 13

Fall Break Trip Apps due Sept. 30, Spring and Summer Trip Apps due Oct. 7

@neuministry



this week in campus ministry

September 11, 2016

7:00 AM - I awoke as I had every day for the previous three years. My alarm went off, giving me just enough time to go through my normal morning routine: cereal with The Philadelphia Inquirer's Sports page, brush my teeth, put on my shirt, tie and blazer and if the mood struck me, maybe running a comb through my hair.

7:25 AM - It was a bright, sunny morning and our carpool commenced its journey from Lafayette Hill to North Philadelphia.

Reflecting on high school always brings a smile to my face. I know my experience was probably not a typical one, but I looked forward to walking through the doors of 18th and Girard each and every morning, greeted by that life-size bronze statue of St. Joseph with his hand stretched out. Each student who passed by St. Joseph would greet him with a handshake or high-five.

8:37 AM - This particular day was the first week of senior year. I was settling in to a new schedule - one that gave me first period free. As I think back, I can only imagine what the first period conversation was about - but I have guess. The Eagles had just lost the opening game of the season to the St. Louis Rams in overtime. With the Daily News spread across the table in between our Wawa Iced Teas and soft pretzels, we no doubt were reliving every play that Andy Reid had called.

9:17 AM - The bell rings, which means it's time for my trip to room 204 for Mr. Mendez's Spanish class. Walking up the stairs to the second floor, the hallways were abuzz about a plane crash in New York City. Somehow, a plane had lost control and crashed

into the World Trade Center. I remember as I was walking to the room only steps from the staircase being in a daze - feeling so bad for the victims of such a bizarre accident.

9:21 AM - As we sit down for class, our Principal, Dr. Coury, interrupted over the loud-speaker. He informed the community that at 8:46 AM, a plane had crashed into the World Trade Center, and that just minutes later, at 9:03 AM, a second plane had crashed into the South Tower...

The rest of the day is a blur. We were dismissed from school not long after this announcement. Many of my classmates had parents who were working in and around Manhattan and our administration thought it was best that we were home with our families. We would later learn, that we were sent home for an additional reason - they were uncertain if the attack was over, and if Philadelphia was perhaps another target.

The car ride home is etched in my memory. I remember vividly sitting behind the driver's seat, with my window down and staring blankly off into the distance listening to my friends in the car, who were much more informed than I, talk about Osama Bin Laden, the presumed mastermind behind the attack.

This past Sunday, I, along with my wife, brother-in-law Matt, his girlfriend Kate, and the pastor of my parish in Philadelphia went out for a bite to eat after the 6:30 PM Mass. Kate is a not Catholic and asked me if I thought it would be appropriate for her to ask our pastor questions about Catholicism.

(Continued inside)

Reflection by Patrick McKenzie, Campus Ministry

Interested in writing a reflection for this weekly newsletter? Talk to Maria or Patrick or email campusministry@neumann.edu

what you may have missed...



We kicked off the first week of classes by welcoming the Class of 2020 with a BBQ on the Mirenda Center lawn, and we celebrated the start of a new semester with a beautiful Mass of the Holy Spirit in Our Lady of Angels Chapel. Thank you to all who came out!



...what you CAN'T miss

Monday, September 12

Operation Hunger - 1:00PM in Campus Ministry (BMB 137)

Sign up online for our first service experience of the semester! Come make a PB&J for the families of Catholic Social Services in Chester.

Wednesday, September 14

Pancake Breakfast - 9:00AM-11:00AM in Campus Ministry (BMB 137)

Come by Campus Ministry for a free community pancake breakfast!

Confession - 11:30AM in Sacred Heart Chapel

Fr. Thorne will be available to hear confessions before noon Mass.

Assisi House - 1:45PM-2:45PM meet in Campus Ministry

Sign up online for this great service opportunity to visit the sisters of the Assisi House.

Sunday, September 18

Mass - 7:00PM Sacred Heart Chapel

SGA Commissioning Mass

(Reading Reflection Continued...)

I told her that it couldn't be more appropriate, and that Fr. Florio would be happy to answer any questions. Kate had wonderful, engaging questions about the mystery surrounding our faith...but the most profound question was her last, when she asked Fr. Florio what the limit to God's mercy was in regards to absolution in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. His response, simple: There is no limit.

As we hear today in Paul's first letter to St. Timothy:

"I was once a blasphemer and a persecutor and arrogant, but I have been mercifully treated because I acted out of ignorance in my unbelief. Indeed, the grace of our Lord has been abundant, along with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. This saying is trustworthy and deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners."

To this day, the events that transpired on the morning of September 11, 2001 still bewilder us. We don't why some people choose to make such devastating decisions that affect the lives of so many innocent people. What we do know, through our faith, is that God is love, and that that love is unbounded. Although it may be hard at times to see God's love through the evil that exists in our world, on this 15th Anniversary of 9/11, we must recommit ourselves to the call of St. Francis of Assisi to "Preach [Love and Mercy] at all times, using words when necessary."