

# NEUMANN INSTITUTE NEWS

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## University-wide Theme for 2016-2017: *Live the Truth in Love: Service*

Inherent in the mission of Neumann University is the challenge to place knowledge at the service of others. The call to service invites us to be attentive to the needs of all, especially the least among us. Francis and Clare of Assisi repeatedly referred to the Gospel accounts of Jesus' life and teachings to understand the meaning of service. They taught by word and example the importance of serving others with love, compassion, and respect.

As a Catholic university in the Franciscan tradition, we emphasize three aspects of service:

- ♦ We serve with humility, compassion, and love.
- ♦ We challenge unjust structures and work for social transformation.
- ♦ We embrace service as a life-long commitment.

A commitment to service is deeply engrained in all of us at Neumann University. Since 2012, Neumann University has been recognized annually for our commitment to service by inclusion on the [\*President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll\*](#). This national award honors colleges and universities whose commitment to service significantly impacts their communities.

In October 2014, 645 students completed the [\*National Assessment of Service and Community Engagement \(NASCE\)\*](#) survey. Interestingly, 49% of students stated that they participated in service at college; however, 81% said that they were engaged in service prior to college. Responses indicated that students engage most frequently in service related to combatting hunger, improving health, and supporting children and youth and to a lesser extent in service connected with civic participation, economic development, elder care, environmental concern and advocacy, homelessness, and religion and spirituality.

In Fall 2015, 259 faculty, staff, and administrators responded to a similar survey. 72% of the respondents reported that they participate in some type service. According to survey responses, Neumann personnel are highly engaged in service related to civic participation, eldercare, health, religion and spirituality, and youth. To a lesser degree personnel serve in areas related to economic development, environmental concern and advocacy, homelessness, and hunger.

Throughout the year, we will offer opportunities to reflect on *Service in the context of the Characteristics of Franciscan Higher Education*. The Association of Franciscan Colleges and Universities developed the statement on the *Characteristics of Franciscan Higher Education* to assist the 24 institutions to develop a common understanding of the basics of our Catholic Franciscan tradition. On Welcome Back Day, August 24, we shared an invitation to participate in these conversations. Be sure to register for the session in which you will participate!

Coincidentally, the Association of Franciscan Colleges and Universities (AFCU) has launched a National Service Initiative this year. During September and October 2016, all 24 AFCU institutions have been invited to promote and highlight service activities. In addition, the AFCU Board has signed a Message from the Franciscan Family in the United States in support of Pope Francis Jubilee Year of Mercy, identifying the National Service Initiative as an expression of the commitment of the Franciscan colleges and universities to be instruments of mercy, reconciliation, and peace.

### Mass of the Holy Spirit

Catholic colleges and universities traditionally begin the academic year with a special Mass asking for the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Our Mass of the Holy Spirit will be celebrated in Our Lady of Angels Chapel on Thursday, September 1 at 11:30 AM. After Mass we invite you to join in a Picnic and assist in serving lunch to our students as an expression of our value of *Service*.

### Feast of St. Francis of Assisi and Francis Week Celebrations

On every Franciscan campus, October includes special celebrations connected with the Feast of Saint Francis of Assisi.



On Sunday afternoon, October 2 at 4 PM, we invite you to gather with your pets in the Saint John Neumann Circle for the Blessing of the Animals.

On the evening of October 3 at 7 PM, we invite you to join the Sisters of Saint Francis in Our Lady of Angels Chapel to celebrate the Transitus of St. Francis. This ritual commemorates St. Francis's passage into eternal life.



The Campus Ministry office will sponsor a Service Fair on Monday, October 3, from 11:00 AM until 1:00 PM in the Bayada Atrium of the Mirenda Center. Please encourage students to attend and feel free to stop by to visit with some of our recent graduates who have chosen to participate in various service programs!

We will celebrate the Feast of St. Francis on Tuesday, October 4, with Mass at noon in Sacred Heart Chapel. On October 4, there will also be a Blessing and dedication of the new addition to the Bruder Life Center. Watch for additional details!

### Bock Book Award 2016

The winner of the 2016 Bock Book Award is *Maya's Blanket*. The author, Monica Brown, will be with us on campus for the award presentation in the library at 10 AM on Thursday, October 6, 2016. A forum with the author on Social Justice and Bilingual Writing in Children's Literature will follow at 11:20 AM.



### Spirit of Assisi Celebration October 27, 2016



On October 27, 1986, representatives of major religions accepted the invitation of Pope St. John Paul II to gather in Assisi to pray for Peace. This experience came to be called the *Spirit of Assisi*. St. John Paul II chose Assisi as the location for this day of prayer because St. Francis is a symbol of peace, reconciliation, and brotherhood. In

January 1993 and again in 2002, religious leaders from all over the world returned to Assisi to pray for peace.

On Thursday evening, October 27, 2011, more than 150 members of the Neumann University community and Sisters of St. Francis of Philadelphia gathered to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the first *Spirit of Assisi* in solidarity with those who joined Pope Benedict XVI in Assisi as *pilgrims of truth and pilgrims of peace*.

The Neumann community gathered in silence with lighted candles which served as reminders that each of us can be a light to spread peace in our world today.



On Thursday evening, **October 27, 2016**, Neumann University will celebrate an inter-faith ***Spirit of Assisi* prayer vigil for Peace**.

The candlelight vigil will begin at 7 PM in the Sacred Heart Chapel and close with a re-dedication of the Peace Pole and procession to the Lourdes grotto on the grounds of Our Lady of Angels Convent. We invite you to join us for this special event!

### Greccio

St. Francis of Assisi was the first to commemorate the birth of Jesus with a live Nativity. Please join us as we commemorate this beautiful tradition on Sunday evening, December 6, 2015 at 6:15 p.m. in front of the Mirenda Center for Sport, Spirituality and Character Development. Sunday evening Mass will be at 4:30 p.m. in Sacred Heart Chapel.



## Mission programs for 2016-2017

### *Service in the context of the Characteristics of Franciscan Higher Education:*

This year the focus of our Mission programs will be *Service in the context of the Characteristics of Franciscan Higher Education*. The programs will offer an opportunity to reflect upon the meaning of *Service* in the context of the [Characteristics of Franciscan Higher Education](#).

The programs offer an opportunity to explore in depth our common identity and how we can ensure that we are bringing our "point of difference" to life on our campus.

On Welcome Back Day everyone received an invitation to participate in conversations around the value of Service. Please register at least two weeks before the program you wish to attend by contacting Sr. Mary Ann at [mccarshm@neumann.edu](mailto:mccarshm@neumann.edu)

*N.B. Due to the importance of this program, Sr. Marguerite and Sr. Pat are also happy to schedule additional dates for the convenience of any department or division.*

### **Online self-paced course on the Franciscan tradition**

The Association of Franciscan Colleges and Universities (AFCU) is offering a new resource for faculty and staff who wish to incorporate elements of the Franciscan Intellectual Tradition (FIT) into their teaching or ministry. This course will allow faculty and staff members to identify key elements of the FIT, to locate and utilize FIT resources, understand ways to incorporate the FIT in specific courses and programs, and develop learning activities. The course is designed to be self-paced and is in the form of a PowerPoint presentation.

You can access and download the course here: <http://franciscancollegesuniversities.org/portfolio-view/the-franciscan-intellectual-tradition-in-your-course/>.

The course is free and designed to be used flexibly. No prior approval is needed to begin the course, but we would like to identify the extent to which the course is used so please email Sr. Pat Hutchison if you choose to participate.

### **FRANCISCAN EDUCATION**



## Interfaith Programs

One of the suggestions from our recent Middle States visit was that we increase our efforts to foster interfaith understanding and dialogue. In response to this suggestion we are pleased to offer the following opportunities:

### [Beyond the Veil: Women and Gender in Islam](#)

Presenter: Michael Calabria, OFM  
September 23-24, 2016  
Begins Friday at 7 PM and ends on Saturday afternoon  
Franciscan Spiritual Center



***Spirit of Assisi Celebration*** October 27, 2016  
(See description on page 2).

### ***The Saint and the Sultan: Creating a Path to Peace through Personal Engagement***

Presenter: Sr. Pat Hutchison, OSF  
October 31, 2016  
2:30 to 4:00 Assisi Room (BMB 314)



This presentation shares the story of the encounter between St. Francis and Sultan Malik al-Kamil from the Franciscan perspective with a focus on the manner in which this meeting impacted Francis, the Franciscan perspective on the dignity of every human being, and the importance of engaging in interpersonal communication. The program will provide an opportunity to explore this encounter as a model for fostering mutual understanding and cooperation today.

### [Interfaith Dialogue](#)

How does your faith tradition express the common values of Joy, Mercy, Compassion?  
In what rituals of your faith tradition are these values most concretely reflected?



Franciscan Spiritual Center  
March 16, 2017  
7:00 PM to 8:30 PM  
Panel Members:  
Rabbi Linda Potemken,  
Pastor, John Inghram,  
Imam Cheblie,  
Sr. Julie Keegan

Please register at least two weeks before the program by contacting Sr. Mary Ann at [mccarshm@neumann.edu](mailto:mccarshm@neumann.edu)

*Special Note: if you have a suggestion for an interfaith program, please contact Sr. Pat Hutchison at [hutchisp@neumann.edu](mailto:hutchisp@neumann.edu)*



## Programs from the Institute for Sport, Spirituality, and Character Development

**Institute for Sport, Spirituality and Character Development Award** recognizes outstanding individuals and organizations for their contributions in athletics. Recipients exhibit strong character through athletics, exemplify spirituality, and embody the good that exists in and through sports. The 2016 ISSCD Award will be presented on October 20. For more information click here: [ISSCD Award](#)

### Perspectives on Sport and Inspiration Conference

Friday, October 21 – Saturday, October 22 in the Mirenda Center

This inaugural conference will kick off a new, online publication of the same name and bring researchers, athletic administrators, sport chaplains, and coaches together to explore the importance of inspiration through sport. Full details on the conference (including registration) can be found online at: <http://isscd.org/sport-and-inspiration/>. That page will be regularly updated with new details as they become available.

## Lenten Soup and Sharing

For the past several years, the Lenten Soup and Sharing opportunities have focused on Care for Creation. This year there will be three Soup and Sharing sessions from 12:30 to 1:30 in the Library classroom. The sessions and topics follow:

March 10: **Revisiting Laudato Si: Awakening the Spirit**

Presenter: Jenelle Abnett, Ph.D.  
Assistant Professor of Education

March 24: **Suggestions welcome!**

Title and Presenter: **TBD**

April 7: **Fair Trade: More than Chocolate and Coffee**

Presenter: Patrick McKenzie  
Director of Campus Ministry

## The AFCU Journal

Copies of the AFCU Journal will be distributed to a number of offices, including the offices of all Deans as soon as they arrive. Please see your department or unit supervisor if you wish a copy of the journal or contact the NIFS office.

## The Association of Franciscan Colleges and Universities Symposium 2016

Marian University in Indianapolis, IN hosted the 2016 AFCU Symposium from June 7-9, 2016. Eleven members of the Neumann community participated, including recent graduates Marykate McGurk and Amanda Saunders who presented on their research on ***Transforming the Institute for Student Leadership Formation!***

Other Neumann personnel and their presentations included:

Dr. Jenelle M. Abnett, Assistant Professor of Education  
***Maximizing the Effect of Service-Learning on Pre-Service Teachers***

Sr. Janet Thiel and Sr. Pat Hutchison  
***Shaping Faculty as Classroom Leaders of Mission and Values***

Dr. Beth Toler, Assistant Professor of Pastoral and Theological Studies  
***Not Just the Object of my Affection: Implications of a Relational God for Clinical Counseling***

Dr. Mary Beth Yount, Assistant Professor of Theology  
***Modeling Justice: Institutional Support for Leaders***

Dr. Geoffrey Karabin, Assistant Professor of Philosophy  
***Enhancing Student Leadership through the Integration of Athletics, Academics, and Study Abroad***

Patrick McKenzie, Director of Campus Ministry  
***Collaboration: Mission Trips***

Sr. Pat Hutchison, Director of the Neumann Institute for Franciscan Studies  
***Giving Students Voice: Learning from Student Reflections on their Transformation during the College Years***

**If you would like to learn more about any of the presentations, please contact Sr. Pat Hutchison or any of the presenters.**



## Programs at Franciscan Spiritual Center

### *20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Programs*

We are pleased to support participation in the following special programs at the Franciscan Spiritual Center. Dr. Janet Massey chairs the Anniversary Committee and Sr. Mary Ann serves on the committee.

Please register through Sr. Mary Ann McCarthy at least one month prior to the program because spaces are limited.

#### *“The Gift of Mercy: Received and Given”*



October 23, 2016  
Liturgy 11 AM, Lunch 12:30,  
Presentation 1:30  
Bishop Robert Morneau  
Auxiliary Bishop Emeritus of Green Bay



#### *Annual Charism Day*

##### *Turn My Heart*

March 19, 2017  
1:00 p.m. 4:00 p.m.  
Marty Haugen

#### *Concert*

Friday, May 12, 2017  
Our Lady of Angels Chapel  
7:00 p.m.—8:30 p.m.  
Andrea Likovich OSF,  
Barbara Jaffee, & OLA Choir



#### *An Evening with the Brothers of Taizé*

Friday, June 2, 2017  
Our Lady of Angels Chapel  
7:00 p.m.—8:30 p.m.  
Brother John  
Light Refreshments will follow



### *Other Franciscan Spiritual Center Programs of Interest*

#### *Annual Trafficking Day*

October 15, 2016  
9:00 AM to 12:30 PM  
Presenter: TBD

#### *Celtic Spirituality*

5:30 to 9:00 (dinner)  
6:30 to 9:00 (without dinner)  
March 13, 2017  
Carmel Boyle

#### *The Environmental Benefits of Locally Grown Organic Food*

April 24, 2017  
7:00 PM to 8:00 PM  
Joanne Rosenbaum and Margaret Lilley

### *Weekend Retreats*

#### *From Stump to Star: Images of Incarnation*



December 9-11, 2016  
Advent Retreat with Sister Clare D'Auria OSF

This program begins at 7 PM on Friday, December 9, 2016 and it ends at 11 AM on Sunday, December 11, 2016.

The cost is \$180 for residents or  
\$130 for commuters  
There is a \$40 Non-Refundable Deposit.  
Your registration is not confirmed until your deposit is received.

#### *The Name of God is Relationship: Exploring Prayer and Mercy in the Franciscan Tradition*

March 24-26, 2017  
Lent Retreat with Dan Horan OFM

This program begins at 7 PM on Friday, March 24, 2017 and ends at 11 AM on Sunday, March 26, 2017.

The cost is \$180 for residents or  
\$130 for commuters  
There is a \$50 Non-Refundable Deposit.  
Your registration is not confirmed until your deposit is received.



## Service Videos

The Neumann University mission statement proclaims that “knowledge is a gift to be shared in the service of others and that learning is a lifelong process.” At our May 2016 Personnel Day, Sr. Marguerite invited all of us to share our personal stories of the meaning and value of service.

We are grateful to all who accepted this invitation. We have included information about the various service sites with which our faculty and staff are connected in the Service Booklet which is available by clicking the Service icon on the Mission and Ministry website.

Many of those who shared stories of service engagement also agreed to be filmed. Throughout the year we will feature these films on the Mission and Ministry website. Special thanks to Pat Fahy for filming and editing the service stories! If you did not have an opportunity to share your story of what service means and would like to do so, please contact [Sr. Pat Hutchison](#) or [Megan Camp](#).

## Sacred Spaces Booklets

Last year, 89 members of the Neumann community participated in reflections on Solitude and Sacred Spaces. At the reflections we shared two documents which describe all the sacred spaces on the campus of Neumann and Our Lady of Angels Convent. These booklets are now available on the NIFS website. Please take time to reflect on the beauty of our “sacred spaces.”

### [Sacred Art Sacred Spaces part 1](#)

Neumann University

### [Sacred Art Sacred Spaces part 2](#)

Our Lady of Angels

### Neumann University

Sacred Art and Sacred Spaces



*A guide to the beautiful art work and peaceful spaces around  
Neumann University and Our Lady of Angels Convent*

## NIFS Committee for 2016-2017

Sr. Patricia Hutchison, OSF, Chair  
Jenelle Abnett  
Gail Corso  
Lee DelleMonache  
Jackie Martin  
Janet Massey  
Sr. Suzanne Mayer, IHM  
Andy Miller  
Sophia Park  
Ann Ramirez  
Lauren Salvitti  
Rev. Stephen Thorne  
Sr. Diane Tomkinson, OSF  
Jo Lynette Watley  
Pat Zawislak  
Sr. Marguerite O’Beirne, OSF, ex officio

A special thanks to former members for their dedicated service on the NIFS Committee.

Geoffrey Karabin  
Sam Lemon  
Maura Berenato  
Mary Beth Yount  
Rev. Philip Lowe  
Elizabeth Loeper



Thank you also for the former members of the Care for Creation Committee. The work of this committee has been combined with the NIFS Committee.

Jacqueline Martin, Chair  
Jason Bell  
Scott Beadenkopf  
Randall Detra  
Patricia Fallest-Strobl  
Joseph Gorman  
Sr. MaryAnn McCarthy, OSF  
Lauren Salvitti  
Laura Strubeck  
Sr. Diane Tomkinson, OSF  
Jo Lynette Watley  
Kelsey Sullivan, student  
Sr. Patricia Hutchison, OSF, ex officio

Peace and All Good as we begin another academic year!

Patricia Hutchison, OSF, Ed.D.

*Sr. Pat Hutchison, OSF*