



2734 Seminary Road S.E.
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If Our Walls Could Talk.....

Groups Visiting Us In August

<i>St. Pius X youth group</i>	<i>8th</i>
<i>St. Paul Westerville Staff</i>	<i>11th</i>
<i>Engaged Encounter</i>	<i>13th</i>
<i>1st Presbyterian Fredricktown</i>	<i>14th</i>
<i>Asbury Theological Seminary</i>	<i>20th</i>
<i>St. Paul School Staff</i>	<i>23rd</i>
<i>Church of Resurrection</i>	<i>29th</i>

Special points of interest:

Golf Outing scheduled for September 24, 2010, will be held at the Links at Echo Springs call 740-928-4246 for information or to volunteer. Would you like to be a hole sponsor for the outing?

Sponsorships are available for \$100.

I'll bet they would recount a visit from Andrew. On June 9, 2010 we had a graduate from the class of 1990 drop in the retreat center. He was in Ohio on business and took the opportunity to look around his old school.

I'm unsure at this point who benefited the most by his visit, Andrew or our staff. He was able to supply answers to some questions we'd had for some time. He reviewed a typical daily and weekly schedule for us. He could

identify the original purpose of each of our rooms. He remarked on the many changes that have taken place here. The redecorating, the fresh coats of paint and the addition of the solarium were a few that caught his attention. Andrew was able to share with us that his graduating class size of ten was large. In classes two years earlier the number had been 2 or 3 students per year. Andrew departed for his return trip to Michigan leaving us each

a little bit wiser about the building with which we have been entrusted. We have a history to uphold and many more stories to be told. We look forward to other visits from former students.

For those who were P.I.M.E. alumni there is a reunion being planned for June 24-26, 2011. You can call the retreat center for information (740) 928-4246.

Numbers

We are each a product of numbers-there is your birth date, your current age, the last four digits of your social security number seem to be increasing in importance in our daily lives. We have cell phone numbers, debit card num-

bers, and insurance card numbers to protect. We deal in slightly different numbers here at the retreat center. In the first quarter of 2010 we served 43 groups and individuals. I'll admit it doesn't sound really all that impressive

in those terms. A closer look shows it was 3,366 guests spending 72 days with us and consuming a number of meals! We feel blessed by each and everyone of them.....they aren't numbers to us but our guests.

Prayer Reminds Us

Once in awhile I come across sayings that impact my thinking. I have been spending time with a few of these. The way we are going to think tomorrow depends on what we are thinking today. Silence leads to prayer. Prayer leads to faith. Faith leads to love. Love leads to service. Service leads to peace.

How do I pray so that it doesn't all sound like every other prayer I have

offered? I wonder if God ever tires of hearing my requests and concerns?

Answers come to us in the strangest of ways. Last evening a friend and I were talking about the days events. One of the items she brought up was something she had read. A lady discussed with her friend that she didn't know how to pray. The friend had a lovely reply. She stated to simply pray as though you were in

conversation with a friend. Speak from the heart, trust the other person will understand your needs. What a simple yet affirming way to look at prayer. Perhaps the final sentence sums it up, better to pray awkwardly than not at all.

Everything that I am and everything that I have, I have because of you Lord.



When a believing person prays, great things happen. James 5:16

Golf Outing

Earlier in the newsletter I referred to the rich traditions we have here at the retreat center. Many years ago one of the annual events hosted was a golf outing. This year Michael Kane has stepped forward to organize and design a day of fun for everyone. Michael is

hard at work securing hole sponsorships, door prizes, and events for an afternoon full of surprises. After the day of golf the retreat center will host a steak dinner for the golfers.

It has been an interesting challenge to begin anew on this project. We

are currently looking for volunteers to help with the event on September 24th, 2010. If you have a few hours to donate or part of the day we would like to have you join us. You can contact Michael at the email address: info@stspeterandpaulretreatcenter.org or telephone (740) 928-4246.

Everyone who asks will receive. Everyone who searches will find.

Matthew 7:8

Are You Listening?

Once there was a man who dared God to speak: Burn the bush like you did for Moses, God. And I will follow. Collapse the walls like you did for Joshua, God. And I will fight. Still the waves like you did on Galilee, God. And I will listen.

And so the man sat by a bush, near a wall, close to the sea and waited for God to speak.

And God heard the man, so God answered. He sent fire, not for a bush, but for a church. He brought down a wall, not of bricks, but of sin. He stilled a

storm, not of the sea, but of a soul. And God waited for the man to respond. And he waited...and he waited. But because the man was looking at bushes, not hearts; bricks and not lives, seas and not souls, he decided that God had done nothing. Finally he looked

to God and asked, Have you lost your power? And God looked at him and said, Have you lost your hearing?

A Gentle Thunder

