

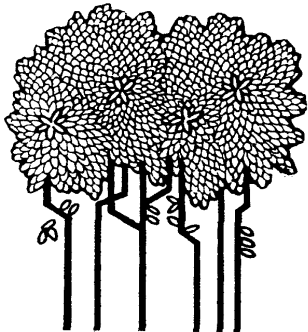
**St. Leo's
Church**

“Staying Connected” Newsletter

Volume 14; Issue 1

Fall/Winter 2011

“Young Adults in their 20's and 30's”



“Staying Connected” is a group of people in their 20's and 30's who share their faith, serve their community, and enjoy fun social events

**All are welcome!
single, married, or
married couples with
children.**

Contact Information

If you have any questions or wish to be a part of the quarterly newsletter, please feel free to contact John Gencarelli

Phone: 402-397-0407

E-mail: john@stleo.net

Website: www.stleo.net/
young_adult_ministry.php

Facebook:
www.facebook.com/
stleoyachtclub

Upcoming Events for Fall/Winter 2011

August 20: “Staying Connected” Kick Off: Join us for 5:30 PM Mass and then we'll grill out, have a few drinks, and play some volleyball on our court! Bring a side dish to share. Meat will be provided. Meet in the fireplace room to begin the night.

St. Leo Food Pantry Low on Supplies - The St. Leo Conference of the St. Vincent de Paul Society has been busy this summer. Our food pantry is low. In particular, we are in need of pasta, pasta sauce, peanut butter, jelly, canned meats and tuna, canned fruit, cold cereal, tuna and hamburger helper, macaroni and cheese. We also have a continuing demand for toilet paper, paper towels, tooth paste and other toiletries. Of course, anything is welcome. Thank you for your continuing support of the needy.

August 27: Habitat for Humanity News: Unfortunately, if you did not sign up in June, all the spaces are full. However, we could still use a few people to help on August 27 from 7:30 to Noon. We could use 2 people to help register the crew as they come in, and two people to help with the food serving at the 9:15 am break. The project for the day is the siding on the house, so you might be able to help with that also. Bring a hammer and an apron. Call Jerry Heinrichs at 402-778-7551 for more info or if you can help.

August 27: from 8:30am-10:30am at St. Leo Church, in the gym. St. Leo Parish, along with Alegent Health will be offering an in-service to learn adult and child CPR. This class is not for certification, but it will teach the basics of CPR. It is also a great refresher for those who have already been trained. The class is scheduled for Saturday, August 27, 2011 from 8:30am 10:30am at St. Leo Church, in the gym. Reservations are required and can be made by calling 1-800-Alegent or visiting www.Alegent.com/Lifesaver. This is a great opportunity to learn life-saving CPR for free; sign up today. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact our parish nurse Mary Stevens at mstevens@alegent.org or by calling 402-399-8669.

August 27 & 28: There is a tragedy in East Africa unfolding with over 12 million people suffering from a widespread drought and famine. Catholic Relief Services is there to serve, but they desperately need your help. Please consider making a donation to a special collection to be taken up next weekend, August 27 & 28 here at St. Leo for the East Africa Emergency Fund. Make checks out to St. Leo Church. If you choose to give outside of the special collection, make checks to Catholic Relief Services (memo: famine relief) and mail them to the Office of Missions & Justice at 100 N. 62nd Street, Omaha, NE 68131. Pope Benedict XVI himself has asked that we all contribute whether through prayer or through financial help. Thank you for your generous response. Visit www.crs.org for more information.

September 10: Men Only: Saturday Mornings, Starting on September 10 - Time: 5:45AM - 7:30AM. That Man is You is a 26 week interactive men's program combining the best research from science with the teachings of the Catholic faith and the wisdom of the saints to develop the vision of a man fully alive. By honestly addressing the pressures and temptations that men face in our modern culture, That Man is You Seeks to form men who will be capable of transforming homes and society. For more information, check out the website paradisusdei.org/tmiy/index.asp or call - Norm Tierney 402-289-4958

September 10: St. Leo Farmer's Market from 8:30 am to 11:00 am in the St. Leo Church Parking Lot - Tomatoes, Peppers, Sweet corn, Squash, Pumpkins, Melons, Eggplant, Apples, Crafts, Bake Sale, Fr. Harry's Chili, Canned Vegetables and more! Sweet rolls....Live Music ...Face Painting for the kids. Profits will be donated to the Stephen Center Family Shelter. Join us for the morning or stop by and get your veggies!

September 14: Join us at the Icehouse Sports Bar on 108th and Maple Streets from 5:30 to 8:30 pm for ½ price pints and pizza.

September 16: Work Release Program – Meet at 5:30 pm for dinner and drinks at the Phoenix Bar and Grill on 121st and Blondo.

September 17: "Extreme Scavenger Hunt for NE/IA Flood Victims Relief" Join us for Mass at 5:30 at St. Leo Church and then we'll begin the scavenger hunt at 6:30 from the parking lot. Teams will drive around the area to get items from a list and see which team can get their list for the cheapest price. All items will be donated to the Salvation Army for flood victim relief. Complete rules will be distributed that night. Afterwards we'll go out to a bar and grill in the area for dinner and drinks. (Cornhusker Home game is against Washington on ABC at 2:30 pm)

September 16-17: Catholic Women's Conference: Christ the King Catholic Church in Omaha. Speakers will include: Johnette Benkovic, Sharon Doran, and Kris McGregor. More on our website: www.archomaha.org/womensconference. We hope to make this Catholic women's conference an annual event in the Archdiocese of Omaha. As an effort of the Archdiocese we seek to provide Catholic women in our area with an opportunity to come to know their faith better, network with other Catholic women, and receive spiritual nourishment. Tickets are \$30, \$20 for students. No woman turned away for inability to pay, but you must have a ticket so register soon. This event will sell out!

September 18th through October 16th (Sundays) at 10:00 am - **A Biblical Walk Through the Mass:** In A Biblical Walk Through the Mass, Dr. Edward Sri takes us on a unique tour of the Liturgy. Based on the revised translation of the Mass which goes into effect Advent, 2011, this group study explores the biblical roots of the words and gestures we experience in the Liturgy and explains their profound significance. This intriguing look at the Mass is sure to renew your faith and deepen your devotion to the Eucharist. Cost is \$20.00 and will take place in 5 week sessions (one hour each week) on the following dates. Please choose which session from below that you would like to attend. You only need to attend one 5-week session. For information and registration, please call Sister Ann Marie at 402-397-0407 or sam@stleo.net.

September 20th through October 18th (Tuesdays) at 10:00 am, 2:00 pm, or 7:00 pm - **A Biblical Walk Through the Mass:** In A Biblical Walk Through the Mass, Dr. Edward Sri takes us on a unique tour of the Liturgy. Based on the revised translation of the Mass which goes into effect Advent, 2011, this group study explores the biblical roots of the words and gestures we experience in the Liturgy and explains their profound significance. This intriguing look at the Mass is sure to renew your faith and deepen your devotion to the Eucharist. Cost is \$20.00 and will take place in 5 week sessions (one hour each week) on the following dates. Please choose which session from below that you would like to attend. You only need to attend one 5-week session. For information and registration, please call Sister Ann Marie at 402-397-0407 or sam@stleo.net.

September 24: Ladies only: We have a new program called "She Shall Be Called Woman" that will meet at St. Leo on Saturday mornings from 8:30 to 10:00 am beginning on September 24. She Shall Be Called Woman reveals the beauty and dignity of the true feminine genius. By focusing on the mystery of woman revealed in the life of Our Lady, She Shall Be Called Woman avoids the polemics of our day to reveal the mystery of woman as she exists in the mind of God." at. For more information, check out the website sheshallbecalledwoman.org or call - Joyce Tierney 402-289-4958 or jtie1@msn.com or Kami Landenberger 402-502-4273 or kalanden@brownell.edu for info.

October 1: Go to the Ronald McDonald House, 620 South 38th Avenue, to serve dinner to the residents. Emily Howe will be coordinating this event. Please e-mail Emily at howee1212@cox.net or call her at 402-557-6701 if you can help bring food and serve a meal. Afterwards, we'll go out to a place to be determined that night. All are welcome to help!

October 2: Annual Life Chain Sunday from 2:00 to 3:00 PM - Please help defend life and join in the annual Life Chain. Our parish pro-life coordinator will provide signs at our location, or you may obtain signs just before the event at the parking lots of the Family Fun Center, St. Margaret Mary Church, or the 8712 Building. All signs should be returned to the people or sites from which they originated. St. Leo will be on Dodge St; north side of 78 St. going east across the bridge.

October 2: St. Leo Annual Pet Blessing - Join us at 4:00 pm for our annual Pet Blessing in the parking lot of St. Leo Church. Bring your furry or non-furry, two, four, eight, or no legged friends with you. Please act responsibly and clean up after God's other creatures though.

October 6: Theology on Tap - Join us for Dinner and Drinks at 7:30 pm. **Details on speakers and location to come soon.**

October 11: "Agape Latte Series": Freedom to Love! This DVD and discussion series will run once a month for five months on Tuesday nights from 7:00 to 9:00 pm. What is Freedom? The world tells us that freedom is the ability to do what you want, whenever you want, with whomever you want. But has this led to strong relationships? In reality the exact opposite

has played out. Every day we see rampant sexual chaos, exploitation, broken families, and a lot of pain – all as a result of a misunderstanding of “freedom.” In this powerful five-part study for young adults, Christopher West lays out a convincing and refreshing road map to living a life of freedom. The concepts presented in this study will change everything, including your worldview. You must pre-register for this! Cost for workbooks will be \$15.00. You need to register by e-mail to John at john@stleo.net or call 402-397-0407.

October 12: Join us at the Icehouse Sports Bar on 108th and Maple Streets from 5:30 to 8:30 pm for ½ price pints and pizza.

October 13: Theology on Tap - Join us for Dinner and Drinks at 7:30 pm. [Details on speakers and location to come soon.](#)

October 16th through November 20th (Sundays) at 10:00 am - **A Biblical Walk Through the Mass:** In A Biblical Walk Through the Mass, Dr. Edward Sri takes us on a unique tour of the Liturgy. Based on the revised translation of the Mass which goes into effect Advent, 2011, this group study explores the biblical roots of the words and gestures we experience in the Liturgy and explains their profound significance. This intriguing look at the Mass is sure to renew your faith and deepen your devotion to the Eucharist. Cost is \$20.00 and will take place in 5 week sessions (one hour each week) on the following dates. Please choose which session from below that you would like to attend. You only need to attend one 5-week session. For information and registration, please call Sister Ann Marie at 402-397-0407 or sam@stleo.net.

October 17th through November 21st (Mondays) at 10:00 am, 2:00 pm, or 7:00 pm **A Biblical Walk Through the Mass:** In A Biblical Walk Through the Mass, Dr. Edward Sri takes us on a unique tour of the Liturgy. Based on the revised translation of the Mass which goes into effect Advent, 2011, this group study explores the biblical roots of the words and gestures we experience in the Liturgy and explains their profound significance. This intriguing look at the Mass is sure to renew your faith and deepen your devotion to the Eucharist. Cost is \$20.00 and will take place in 5 week sessions (one hour each week) on the following dates. Please choose which session from below that you would like to attend. You only need to attend one 5-week session. For information and registration, please call Sister Ann Marie at 402-397-0407 or sam@stleo.net.

October 20: Theology on Tap - Join us for Dinner and Drinks at 7:30 pm. [Details on speakers and location to come soon.](#)

October 21: Work Release Program – Meet at 5:30 pm for dinner and drinks at the [Place to be determined.](#)

October 24: Young Adult Co-Ed Volleyball at St. Leo Church in the gym from 6:30 to 7:30 pm

October 27: Theology on Tap - Join us for Dinner and Drinks at 7:30 pm. [Details on speakers and location to come soon.](#)

October 29: (TENATIVE) Hayrack Ride and Bonfire at Shady Lane Ranch – **OPEN TO ALL PARISHES!** Join us for 5:30 pm mass and then we will leave from The St. Leo Parking Lot by 7:00 pm. Meet at Shady Lane Ranch (17744 Shady Lane, Council Bluffs) at 7:30 pm. The ride will start at 8:00 pm, and then enjoy a bonfire with friend. If you would like to carpool, meet at St. Leo Parking Lot at 7:00 pm. Please look for a group with a “Staying Connected” Sign, so you can all meet up and go on the reserved racks. I have two racks booked (40 people minimum and 60 people maximum) Cost is \$10.00 per person with a minimum of 20 people and a maximum of 30 people per rack! You can pay out there that night, but please bring cash. I need a head count to cancel a rack if need be. Bring your own beverages, things to cook over the fire (marshmallows, hot dogs, whatever), and chairs, etc. **YOU MUST RSVP BY OCTOBER 20TH.**

November 5: Go to the Ronald McDonald House, 620 South 38th Avenue, to serve dinner to the residents. Emily Howe will be coordinating this event. Please e-mail Emily at howee1212@cox.net or call her at 402-557-6701 if you can help bring food and serve a meal. Afterwards, we’ll go out to a place to be determined that night. All are welcome to help!

November 9: St. Leo Generations of Faith Event – open to all ages and families. Join us at 5:30 for a light dinner, prayer and an intergenerational night on “Living the Mass”. How can we incorporate the New Roman Missal used at Mass beginning in Advent into our daily lives? Join us to find out!

November 11: St. Leo “Staying Connected” Annual Thanksgiving dinner – Join us at Grisanti’s Restaurant, 108th and Dodge, in the “The Market” room. We can fit a maximum of 25 people in this room, so please RSVP to John at 397-0407 for reservations. This is our traditional Thanksgiving dinner (Italian Style) as a group. You can order off the menu, and there will be separate checks. Meet there at 6:30 pm. RSVP’s are needed by November 7th, so I can call in a final count for dinner.

November 16: Join us at the Icehouse Sports Bar on 108th and Maple Streets from 5:30 to 8:30 pm for ½ price pints and pizza.

November 17-19: The National Catholic Collegiate Conference (NCCC), held simultaneously with the National Catholic Youth Conference (NCYC), is a NEW way for young adults (ages 18 to 25) to gather, to celebrate, and to pray. In a world marked by continuous change, stress, overburdened schedules, and a culture that often discourages the Christian message, this is a time to be defined, inspired, engaged, renewed, and to look forward; to once again hear the voice of God calling us to holiness and glory! Join other college-age and post-graduate young adults from around the country for three days of inspiring keynotes, engaging workshops, dynamic prayer and worship, exceptional music and entertainment, networking with peers, and hundreds of resource exhibits. For Information and registration: <http://www.ntlccc.org/>

November 18: Work Release Program – Meet at 5:30 pm for dinner and drinks at the Place to be determined.

November 27: First Sunday of Advent – the use of the New Roman Missal will begin this weekend.

November 28: Young Adult Co-Ed Volleyball at St. Leo Church in the gym from 6:30 to 7:30 pm

November 29: “Agape Latte Series”: Freedom to Love! This DVD and discussion series will run once a month for five months on Tuesday nights from 7:00 to 9:00 pm. What is Freedom? The world tells us that freedom is the ability to do what you want, whenever you want, with whomever you want. But has this led to strong relationships? In reality the exact opposite has played out. Every day we see rampant sexual chaos, exploitation, broken families, and a lot of pain – all as a result of a misunderstanding of “freedom.” In this powerful five-part study for young adults, Christopher West lays out a convincing and refreshing road map to living a life of freedom. The concepts presented in this study will change everything, including your worldview. You must pre-register for this! Cost for workbooks will be \$15.00. You need to register by e-mail to John at john@stleo.net or call 402-397-0407.

December Service Projects: Christmas Assistance Program: I will have the information and details by November for the Christmas Assistance Program with the Juan Diego Center. We will be sponsoring two families this year for Christmas. All gifts must be to John at St. Leo by Sunday, December 11th. Complete instructions will come with the e-mail that is sent out separately.

December 10: St. Leo “Staying Connected” annual “Progressive Dinner” – We will begin here at St. Leo’s for ordure’s. We will meet after Mass in the fireplace room for some beverages and ordure’s for a short time (6:30 to 7:00 pm), and then go to two other houses for the main course and dessert. Cost per individual to \$10.00. St. Leo church will pay for the ordure’s and beverages at St. Leo. Join us for some really great food and friendship. You can just pay cash at the first house. We do need you to call or e-mail John Gencarelli by November 26th, so we know how much food to prepare. At the last house, there will be a social afterwards that will go until everyone leaves. (Maps and details to come soon)

December 14: Join us at the Icehouse Sports Bar on 108th and Blondo Streets from 5:30 to 8:30 pm for ½ price pints and pizza.

December 16: Work Release Program – Meet at 5:30 pm for dinner and drinks at the Place to be determined.

December 20: Reconciliation Service at 7:00 pm at St. Leo Church - The Sacrament will be celebrated in community liturgies, with sacred scripture and music providing a continuing context of prayerful reflection during the time for individual confession and absolution. A large number of priest-confessors will be with us for the liturgies.

December 21: Reconciliation Service at 1:30 pm at St. Leo Church - The Sacrament will be celebrated in community liturgies, with sacred scripture and music providing a continuing context of prayerful reflection during the time for individual confession and absolution. A large number of priest-confessors will be with us for the liturgies.

December 23: Individual celebration of the Sacrament in our Reconciliation Room at St. Leo Church behind the Chapel from 12:00 pm-1:00 pm

December 24: MASS SCHEDULE - 5:00 in the Church; 5:05 pm Great Room; 7:00 pm; Midnight

December 25: MASS SCHEDULE - 7:30 am; 9:00 am; 11:00 am. No 12:45 or 5:30 pm Mass on Christmas Day

December 30: MASS SCHEDULE for Feast of the Holy Family Masses 6:40 am, and 8:00 am

January 1: MASS SCHEDULE - The Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God – Regular Mass Schedule

January 7: Epiphany Vigil Mass at 5:30 pm

January 8: MASS SCHEDULE - Epiphany Masses at 7:30 am, 9:00 am, 11:00 am, 12:45 pm and 5:30 pm

January 7-8: St. Leo Chili Feed Fundraiser after all the Masses this weekend (except the 5:30 pm on Sunday Night), We’ll be serving a chili meal including veggies, cornbread, and brownies. This is a fundraiser for all the students going on summer mission trips in 2012. We need some help throughout the weekend from some young adults! Come help out or stop by to get your Chili to stay or go!

January 11: Join us at the Icehouse Sports Bar on 108th and Maple Streets from 5:30 to 8:30 pm for ½ price pints and pizza.

January 17: “Agape Latte Series”: Freedom to Love! This DVD and discussion series will run once a month for five months on Tuesday nights from 7:00 to 9:00 pm. What is Freedom? The world tells us that freedom is the ability to do what you want, whenever you want, with whomever you want. But has this led to strong relationships? In reality the exact opposite has played out. Every day we see rampant sexual chaos, exploitation, broken families, and a lot of pain – all as a result of a misunderstanding of “freedom.” In this powerful five-part study for young adults, Christopher West lays out a convincing and refreshing road map to living a life of freedom. The concepts presented in this study will change everything, including your worldview. You must pre-register for this! Cost for workbooks will be \$15.00. You need to register by e-mail to John at john@stleo.net or call 402-397-0407.

January 19th through February 16th (Thursdays) at 2:00 pm or 7:00 pm **A Biblical Walk Through the Mass: In A Biblical Walk Through the Mass**, Dr. Edward Sri takes us on a unique tour of the Liturgy. Based on the revised translation of the Mass which goes into effect Advent, 2011, this group study explores the biblical roots of the words and gestures we experience in the Liturgy and explains their profound significance. This intriguing look at the Mass is sure to renew your faith and deepen your devotion to the Eucharist. Cost is \$20.00 and will take place in 5 week sessions (one hour each week) on the following dates. Please choose which session from below that you would like to attend. You only need to attend one 5-week session. For information and registration, please call Sister Ann Marie at 402-397-0407 or sam@stleo.net.

January 20: Work Release Program – Meet at 5:30 pm for dinner and drinks at the **Place to be determined**.

January 23: Young Adult Co-Ed Volleyball at St. Leo Church in the gym from 6:30 to 7:30 pm

February 4: **Community service event on this day.** Details to be announced soon

February 8: Join us at the Icehouse Sports Bar on 108th and Maple Streets from 5:30 to 8:30 pm for ½ price pints and pizza.

February 17: Work Release Program – Meet at 5:30 pm for dinner and drinks at the **Place to be determined**.

February 21: “Agape Latte Series”: Freedom to Love! This DVD and discussion series will run once a month for five months on Tuesday nights from 7:00 to 9:00 pm. What is Freedom? The world tells us that freedom is the ability to do what you want, whenever you want, with whomever you want. But has this led to strong relationships? In reality the exact opposite has played out. Every day we see rampant sexual chaos, exploitation, broken families, and a lot of pain – all as a result of a misunderstanding of “freedom.” In this powerful five-part study for young adults, Christopher West lays out a convincing and refreshing road map to living a life of freedom. The concepts presented in this study will change everything, including your worldview. You must pre-register for this! Cost for workbooks will be \$15.00. You need to register by e-mail to John at john@stleo.net or call 402-397-0407.

February 27: Young Adult Co-Ed Volleyball at St. Leo Church in the gym from 6:30 to 7:30 pm

February 29: St. Leo Generations of Faith Event – “Leap Into The Mass” - open to all ages and families. Join us at 6:00 pm for a light dinner, prayer and an intergenerational night on “Living the Mass”. Join us to learn a more in depth meaning to the Mass and why we do what we do. This is a great way to begin the Lenten season and learn a greater appreciation of the Liturgy.

March 3: **Community service event on this day.** Details to be announced soon.

March 10: St. Leo Women’s Retreat from 8:30 am to 1:00 pm. Details to be announced soon.

March 14: Join us at the Icehouse Sports Bar on 108th and Maple Streets from 5:30 to 8:30 pm for ½ price pints and pizza.

March 16: Work Release Program – Meet at 5:30 pm for Stations of the Cross at St. Leo church and then at 6:00 pm for dinner and drinks at the **Place to be determined**.

March 19-21: St. Leo Parish Lenten Mission. 7:00 pm every night Monday to Wednesday. Details to be announced soon.

March 26: Young Adult Co-Ed Volleyball at St. Leo Church in the gym from 6:30 to 7:30 pm

March 27: “Agape Latte Series”: Freedom to Love! This DVD and discussion series will run once a month for five months on Tuesday nights from 7:00 to 9:00 pm. What is Freedom? The world tells us that freedom is the ability to do what you want, whenever you want, with whomever you want. But has this led to strong relationships? In reality the exact opposite has played out. Every day we see rampant sexual chaos, exploitation, broken families, and a lot of pain – all as a result of a misunderstanding of “freedom.” In this powerful five-part study for young adults, Christopher West lays out a convincing and refreshing road map to living a life of freedom. The concepts presented in this study will change everything, including your worldview. You must pre-register for this! Cost for workbooks will be \$15.00. You need to register by e-mail to John at john@stleo.net or call 402-397-0407.

March 31: St. Leo Men’s Retreat from 8:00 am to Noon. Details to be announced soon.

April 11: Join us at the Icehouse Sports Bar on 108th and Blondo Streets from 5:30 to 8:30 pm for ½ price pints and pizza.

April 14: **Community service event on this day.** Details to be announced soon.

April 20: Work Release Program – Meet at 5:30 pm for dinner and drinks at the **Place to be determined**.

April 23: Young Adult Co-Ed Volleyball at St. Leo Church in the gym from 6:30 to 7:30 pm

SEE PAGES 6 AND 7 FOR EVENTS THAT YOU MUST SIGN UP FOR OR PRE-REGISTER FOR.

Events that need pre-registration

Ladies only: We have a new program called "She Shall Be Called Woman" that will meet at St. Leo on Saturday mornings from 8:30 to 10:00 am beginning on September 24. She Shall Be Called Woman reveals the beauty and dignity of the true feminine genius. By focusing on the mystery of woman revealed in the life of Our Lady, She Shall Be Called Woman avoids the polemics of our day to reveal the mystery of woman as she exists in the mind of God." at. For more information, check out the website sheshallbecalledwoman.org or call - Joyce Tierney 402-289-4958 or jtie1@msn.com or Kami Landenberger 402-502-4273 or kalanden@brownell.edu for info.

Men Only: Saturday Mornings, Starting on September 10 - Time: 5:45AM - 7:30AM. That Man is You is a 26 week interactive men's program combining the best research from science with the teachings of the Catholic faith and the wisdom of the saints to develop the vision of a man fully alive. By honestly addressing the pressures and temptations that men face in our modern culture, That Man is You Seeks to form men who will be capable of transforming homes and society. For more information, check out the website paradisusdei.org/tmiy/index.asp or call - Norm Tierney 402-289-4958

September 16-17: Catholic Women's Conference: Christ the King Catholic Church in Omaha. Speakers will include: Johnette Benkovic, Sharon Doran, and Kris McGregor. More on our website: www.archomaha.org/womensconference We hope to make this Catholic women's conference an annual event in the Archdiocese of Omaha. As an effort of the Archdiocese we seek to provide Catholic women in our area with an opportunity to come to know their faith better, network with other Catholic women, and receive spiritual nourishment. Tickets are \$30, \$20 for students. No woman turned away for inability to pay, but you must have a ticket so register soon. This event will sell out!

"Agape Latte Series": Freedom to Love! This DVD and discussion series will run once a month for five months on Tuesday nights from 7:00 to 9:00 pm. What is Freedom? The world tells us that freedom is the ability to do what you want, whenever you want, with whomever you want. But has this led to strong relationships? In reality the exact opposite has played out. Every day we see rampant sexual chaos, exploitation, broken families, and a lot of pain – all as a result of a misunderstanding of "freedom." In this powerful five-part study for young adults, Christopher West lays out a convincing and refreshing road map to living a life of freedom. The concepts presented in this study will change everything, including your worldview. You must pre-register for this! Cost for workbooks will be \$15.00. You need to register by e-mail to John at john@stleo.net or call 402-397-0407. Dates are October 11; November 29; January 17; February 21; and March 27.

A Biblical Walk Through the Mass: In A Biblical Walk Through the Mass, Dr. Edward Sri takes us on a unique tour of the Liturgy. Based on the revised translation of the Mass which goes into effect Advent, 2011, this group study explores the biblical roots of the words and gestures we experience in the Liturgy and explains their profound significance. This intriguing look at the Mass is sure to renew your faith and deepen your devotion to the Eucharist. Cost is \$20.00 and will take place in 5 week sessions (one hour each week) on the following dates. Please choose which session from below that you would like to attend. You only need to attend one 5-week session. For information and registration, please call Sister Ann Marie at 402-397-0407 or sam@stleo.net.

- ◆ Tuesday's - September 20th through October 18th at 10:00 am, 2:00 pm, or 7:00 pm
- ◆ Sunday's - September 18th through October 16th at 10:00 am
- ◆ Monday's - October 17th through November 21st at 10:00 am, 2:00 pm, or 7:00 pm
- ◆ Sunday's - October 16th through November 20th at 10:00 am
- ◆ Thursday's - January 19th through February 16th at 2:00 pm or 7:00 pm



Events that you need to sign up for

Rotating Rosary: We would like to begin a rotating Rosary once a month in different people's homes/apts. We can have a different intention each month, such as flood victims, and end to violence, etc. E-mail John at john@stleo.net if you would like to be a part of this, and/or you would like to host it in your home/apt. once during the year. I need to start organizing dates and groups for this.

Bible Study: "Coco and Conversation": We will begin a lectionary based Bible Study group this Fall that meets as often as each groups want to. "Sharing God's Word through the Year" helps young adults reflect on the Scriptures and relate them to daily life in a small faith-sharing group, and uses the Gospel readings from each Sunday as a springboard for reflection. A short historical-cultural commentary helps young adults understand the context of the Sunday readings. Each Sunday includes a story written by a young adult on the meaning of the Gospel theme. The questions for discussion and sharing, along with the action suggestions are geared to the needs and issues of young adults. I will provide all the materials and we would like this group or groups to meet in people's homes/apts. E-mail John at john@stleo.net if you would like to be a part of this, and/or you would like to host it in your home/apt. I need to start organizing dates and groups for this.

Young Adult Co-Ed Volleyball at St. Leo Church in the gym from 6:30 to 7:30 pm once a month on the fourth Monday.

October 29: (TENATIVE) Hayrack Ride and Bonfire at Shady Lane Ranch – OPEN TO ALL PARISHES! Join us for 5:30 pm mass and then we will leave from The St. Leo Parking Lot by 7:00 pm. Meet at Shady Lane Ranch (17744 Shady Lane, Council Bluffs) at 7:30 pm. The ride will start at 8:00 pm, and then enjoy a bonfire with friend. If you would like to carpool, meet at St. Leo Parking Lot at 7:00 pm. Please look for a group with a “Staying Connected” Sign, so you can all meet up and go on the reserved racks. I have two racks booked (40 people minimum and 60 people maximum) Cost is \$10.00 per person with a minimum of 20 people and a maximum of 30 people per rack! You can pay out there that night, but please bring cash. I need a head count to cancel a rack if need be. Bring your own beverages, things to cook over the fire (marshmallows, hot dogs, whatever), and chairs, etc. **YOU MUST RSVP BY OCTOBER 20TH.**

November 11: St. Leo “Staying Connected” Annual Thanksgiving dinner – Join us at Grisanti’s Restaurant, 108th and Dodge, in the “The Market” room. We can fit a maximum of 25 people in this room, so please RSVP to John at 397-0407 for reservations. This is our traditional Thanksgiving dinner (Italian Style) as a group. You can order off the menu, and there will be separate checks. Meet there at 6:30 pm. RSVP’s are needed by November 7th, so I can call in a final count for dinner.

December 10: St. Leo “Staying Connected” annual “Progressive Dinner” – We will begin here at St. Leo’s for ordure’s. We will meet after Mass in the fireplace room for some beverages and ordure’s for a short time (6:30 to 7:00 pm), and then go to two other houses for the main course and dessert. Cost per individual to \$10.00. St. Leo church will pay for the ordure’s and beverages at St. Leo. Join us for some really great food and friendship. You can just pay cash at the first house. We do need you to call or e-mail John Gencarelli by November 26th, so we know how much food to prepare. At the last house, there will be a social afterwards that will go until everyone leaves. (Maps and details to come soon)

What? No More YACHT Club?

You’re probably wondering... What is “Staying Connected”?

In an effort to update the St. Leo YACHT club into the new millennial generation and also keep a flow from high school to young adulthood, I have decided to rename the YACHT club to “Staying Connected”. This will flow from our ministry with high school students, “Connections”; to the brand new ministry with college students (ages 18-22), “Re-Connect”; to our ministry with young adults (ages 21-39), “Staying Connected”.

My thinking behind this is twofold. First, the similarity of the names provides continuity to our programming. Secondly, in our world, “staying connected” has perhaps never been easier. TV, Internet, Cell Phones, iPods, Laptops, BlackBerrys, Webcams...and the list goes on. Amazingly, though, amidst all of this “connection” we continue to see more and more loneliness and isolation.

The question is, “Who and what are we connected to?” John 15: 4-5 Remain in me, as I remain in you. Just as a branch cannot bear fruit on its own unless it remains on the vine, so neither can you unless you remain in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit, because without me you can do nothing. Jesus’ words are clear – if we’re not connected to Him, the branch withers and dies. Christ is the connection we all desperately need. Christ’s death and resurrection connects us to God and it connects us to each other.

I hope everyone will embrace this new “name” of our ministry with young adults. I haven’t changed the website yet, but hope to before the end of August, so watch for the upcoming changes to the following:

St. Leo Website at http://www.stleo.net/ministries/young_adult/index.php
Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/stleoyachtclub>

Need the color code for the upcoming events? Events use a different color text to designate what type of event it is:

- ◆ **Service and Justice:** Green
- ◆ **Social and Community Building:** Purple
- ◆ **Spirituality and our Catholic Faith:** Blue
- ◆ **Groups meeting in homes:** Brown
- ◆ **Prayer:** Black

WHAT CAN YOU DO? With the wide range of ages and styles that exist in most churches, integrating young adults within the mainstream of church life can seem like an impossible task. Yet this mission is possible, and necessary for the long term success of our young adult ministry. Young adult ministry that's integrated into the larger church receives increased support by church leadership. That's because the results of the ministry become more visible when this age ceases to be a church within a church. A strong young adult ministry can produce many capable workers for the church. How can young adults serve other ministries, and invite him to join with others for dinner or coffee after service. Sometimes young adults assume that older leadership can't understand them, and that the leadership is simply out of touch. But building relationships between the leaders and our group can help bring mutual understanding and friendship. If you feel like the church isn't supporting you, perhaps you should ask if you are supporting the church. Are you promoting and serving in the ministries that are vital to the church? Are you well represented at major events and outreaches? Do you know what your church's leadership is passionate about? Do you know their vision, and how young adults fit into that vision? It's pretty hard to support the goals of the church if you're planning camping trips every other weekend, and difficult to serve other if your burgeoning event calendar leaves no margin for involvement in the Church. So make sure our young adult ministry is not an end to itself, but rather see the important role it can play in strengthening our Church. Our ministry will reap the benefits of a Godly covering by leadership. Another facet of integration of young adult ministry should be connection with our church's youth. It is a well-documented fact that many leave the church at the age of 18, and increasing numbers of them will not return later in life. Additionally, many young adult ministries have short life spans because the group grows old, and there are insufficient numbers of younger people coming in to replace them. What can you do? We need your gifts and talents... today! Join us in leadership of "Staying Connected"

We need your gifts and talents to make it work!

After meeting with a few young adults in the parish, I still need some help in certain areas of ministry that I think would improve our ministry with young adults.

I am looking for at least 2-3 people to "head up" the four aspects of our ministry with young adults. These people would make themselves available at different events, so that we are always sure that someone would be available at any event to answer questions and welcome new people. They might also make suggestions and/or organize events and activities, but I don't expect that this would take too much of your time; maybe an hour or two each month. I will still attend events as my schedule allows, however, I might not be the only contact person for specific events. Know that I will continue support all activities and those involved.

The four aspects of our ministry include:

- ◆ **Hospitality and Welcoming:** I can give these people some training and an actual "program" that works very well at making sure all people feel welcomed and really want to join us again.
- ◆ **Service and Justice:** We can work out details of this together.
- ◆ **Social and Community Building:** We can work out details of this together.
- ◆ **Spirituality and our Catholic Faith:** We can work out details of this together.

If you feel called to help on one of these teams, please e-mail John at john@stleo.net or call 402-397-0407. Obviously, I will provide you with any resources that you might need, and everything will take place under the supervision of John Gencarelli.

Young Adult Ministry at St. Leo Church

Ministry with Young Adults at St. Leo Church is woven throughout the life of the parish. "Staying Connected" is a group for people in their 20's and 30's who meet for social, spiritual and service experiences. A bi-monthly electronic calendar can be downloaded from our website or can be sent to your e-mail address by contacting John Gencarelli at john@stleo.net.

For more information or for a current calendar of events, contact John at 397-0407.

You're always welcome to stay connected!



Contact John Gencarelli at:

- ✚ 402-397-0407
- ✚ john@stleo.net
- ✚ www.stleo.net/young_adult_ministry.php
- ✚ www.facebook.com/stleoyachtclub

Spiritual - Service - Social: We invite you to attend any of our events! For a current list of events, contact John Gencarelli

We believe we are all on a journey toward God, our home. And who likes to make a trip alone, so stay connected!