

Newman Outreach

Volume XXXIII
Fall 2022

Mission Statement

As a Newman Catholic Student Center, we provide Roman Catholic ministry to those associated with The University of Iowa to promote their development within a faith community and to prepare them as disciples for the Church and for the world.

Website
www.iowacatholic.org

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Follow us online:
Facebook, Twitter,
Instagram, and YouTube
@IowaCatholic

Donations accepted online
at:
iowacatholic.org/support.html

WALK WITH STUDENTS ON FAITH JOURNEYS:

- Pray for the students
- Pray for our mission
- Share your time & talents
- Share your treasure
- Give to the Annual Fund
- Start a recurring donation




ROOTED IN THANKSGIVING

This year's Fall Retreat was entitled "Rooted." The theme invited the students to become rooted in Christ and rooted in a faith community at the Newman Catholic Student Center. Of all the things we do here at the Newman Center, nothing is as all-encompassing as a retreat. It requires most of the professional staff, all the FOCUS Missionaries, the Student Fellows and those who take on leadership specifically for the retreat: the emcees, the small group leaders, and those giving the talks throughout the weekend. Leading up to the retreat, particularly in the past few years, we have heard from alumni of the Newman Center offering words of encouragement and prayer for the success of the retreat, as well as sharing stories of how important their own retreat experience was in beginning friendships and fellowship at the Newman Center. Both alumni from afar and members of our community have jumped in, offering prayers and financial assistance to remove any barrier we can identify toward more student participation. And boy did it pay off. I would not doubt that sometime in the past there were larger retreats. But since I first came to the Newman Center in 2005, we have not experienced eighty-five people on retreat. Only time will tell the full benefit on those retreatants and the further impact they will have on the larger community here at the Newman Center and on the University of Iowa campus. We are *already* seeing new students getting involved, new groups of students hanging out together and many of them pursuing a deeper relationship with God through prayer and service. So, students are Rooted in good soil.

All this success is rooted in your participation in the mission of the Newman Center. It is your prayer and your financial gifts that make everything we do possible. Continuing with the example of our retreats and using that as a representation of all the various ministries we do throughout the year, success comes at a cost. Our Fall retreat expenses have increased by both normal price increases of things like transportation, lodging and food, and by larger numbers of students. Our total expense for this year's fall retreat is at \$10,000. Our revenue, what the students paid at \$40/person, added up to around \$3000. We strive to keep the retreat fee affordable for students, however, this semester we received more requests for financial help from students wanting to go on the retreat, but unable to afford the registration fee. We see the difference in cost versus income as a true investment in making disciples for the Church and the world. So, we need your continued support for all of our ministries.

Our retreats are just one example of how student ministries are growing at the Newman Center. Thank you for providing the vital nutrients of prayer and financial support to keep our ministry thriving. We invite you to prayerfully consider giving or increasing your giving to impact the faith of college students and make a positive impact for our Church and the world.


Fr. Jeffrey Belger
Priest Director

P.S. You may notice that our newsletter has a new look! There were so many stories to share about the good work we are doing in the name of the Lord. We think St. John Henry Newman would be proud! We thought it would be fun to have a little challenge. Somewhere in this newsletter St. John Henry Newman is hidden- **be the first** to find him and win an Iowa Catholic t-shirt! Email Kris-tie@newman-ic.org to claim your prize!



OUTREACH & EDUCATION



With so many possible opportunities offered on campus for students, our Outreach department is key to engaging students on a personal level. This fall, Outreach organized many activities for the Newman Center staff, Fellows, and FOCUS team to connect with students and invite them into our community. Creating a community for students is a great way to keep them engaged socially as well as spiritually. The Newman Center has hosted several social events in addition to spiritual activities this semester to foster community and fellowship among students. Faith formation and spiritual activities are at the top of our priorities at the Newman Center. We strive to create a community where students and University of Iowa community members can practice their faith as well as bond as friends.

During *On Iowa* Welcome Week the Newman Center hosted activities on campus and at the center for students to jump right into the new academic year. Months of planning and coordination resulted in the highest attendance ever at our opening week events and an influx of new students in the center.

Fall Faith and Science Series sponsored by the Rossi Center for Faith and Culture

Bump, Set, Spike- During *On Iowa* the Newman Center hosted volleyball on campus and enjoyed getting to know over 200 of our newest Hawkeyes.

Graduate Student Welcome Dinner- We welcomed our newest graduate students with dinner, dessert and fellowship at the Newman Center during *On Iowa*.

Welcome Mass and Kickball- Starting the year off right, we hosted our first student Mass of the semester during *OnIowa* with over 100 students coming together for worship.

First Day of School Photos- Student Fellows and FOCUS missionaries worked together to help students commemorate the first day of classes with a photo opportunity. They photographed hundreds of students, then shared photos on social media and with students to be able to send to their families.

New Student Event- Incoming students were welcomed with a night of Mass, a BBQ dinner, a campus and downtown Iowa City scavenger hunt, student talks, small groups, and prayer. This was a wonderful way for new students to discover what the Newman Center is about and what we have to offer to grow their faith as well as their friendships while at the University of Iowa.



The Rossi Center for Faith and Culture further supports and integrates the mission of the Newman Catholic Student Center at The University of Iowa by helping students interface their faith and everyday lives. The Rossi Center generously finances fellowships, speakers and varied activities hosted at The Newman Catholic Student Center. Below is a list of activities and speakers that we have had the pleasure of hosting.

September 15
Catholic Trivia Night
The Catholic Contribution to Science

October 6
Science Experiment Night

November 3
Intersection of Faith and Science with Catholic Studies Scholar Senior Elizabeth Martin

November 9
Science Was Born of Christianity, guest speaker Dr. Stacy Trasancos

November 15
Gold Mass for Scientists



visit with guests at least twice each semester.

St. Joseph Cemetery in Iowa City- Focusing on integral human ecology, Catholic Relief Services at the Newman Center is engaged in bringing Pope Francis' encyclical *Laudato Si'* to our Newman Community. A number of efforts are underway at St. Joseph's Catholic Cemetery in Iowa City, ranging from cleaning and leveling headstones to prayer opportunities especially during the month of November. Our service at the cemetery began with our staff, Fellows and FOCUS missionaries in-service days in August. Students have returned two additional times work at the cemetery.

Red Cross Blood Drive-Twice a year the Newman Center hosts a Red Cross Blood Drive to support our community.

Service and Social Justice- Service opportunities are important to our students and allow students to give back to the community. The Newman Center is active with ongoing activities.

Advocacy efforts- through sponsoring weekly legislative actions that address climate change and protect the conscience rights of medical professionals.

Supporting expectant mothers- exploring new opportunities at Birthright, prayer at local clinics

Catholic Worker House in Iowa City- Students assist with meal preparation, help sort donations, serve, and



BUILDING COMMUNITY



Labor Day Canoe Trip- Fr. Jeff hosted 20 students plus the FOCUS missionary team on a canoe trip on Labor Day. Putting in at Palisades Kepler State Park and out at Sutliff made for a great time on the water. There was a stop at the Sueppel's cabin for Mass and a meal. This is the 10th annual Labor Day Canoe Trip hosted by Fr. Jeff.

Catholic Trivia Nights- College students are bringing on the competition during Catholic Trivia Nights. This fall the topics have included the Catholic Contribution to Science and the Eucharist.

Discernment Nights- This year student leaders are planning and hosting monthly discernment nights for college men and women. The topics this fall: The Universal Call to Holiness, Discerning Spiritual Gifts, and Discernment and Our Desires.

Family Weekend Treats and Tours- In conjunction with the Development staff, we held our first Family Weekend event. Families were invited to attend Mass together and following Mass, student Fellows were available to answer questions and offer tours of the Newman Center. Our Newman Liturgy Singers led Mass and students spoke about their retreat experiences in promotion of the Fall Undergraduate Retreat: ROOTED. And, of course- there were treats! This was a great way for families to see what we offer to students as their faith home away from home.

Hawkeye Watch Party- Our Outreach Fellows hosted students for a chili supper to cheer on the Iowa Hawkeye football team versus Illinois.

Homecoming Parade- This year's homecoming theme, **Bold in Black and Gold**, reinforces our mission on campus to empower students to boldly live their faith and share the Good News of Jesus Christ at Iowa.



ROOTED: Fall Undergraduate Retreat- Seventy-six students, five FOCUS Missionaries, two Newman staff, a visiting religious priest and sister enjoyed a weekend at Camp Wapsie to be rooted in community and in Christ. Student speakers presented about how God has worked in their lives. Planned and led by our Fellows, the retreat is a great leadership opportunity offering experience in planning a faith formation event and seeing fruits of their efforts come to life.

White Mass- In celebration of our medical community, the Newman Center hosted a White Mass to honor and pray for all healthcare professionals. Bishop Zinkula celebrated Mass with our local hospital chaplains concelebrating. Following Mass, a reception was held featuring guest speaker Dr. Tim Millea, President of the St. Thomas Aquinas Guild of the Quad Cities, A Chartered Guild of the Catholic Medical Association. We are working toward the possibility of establishing a Catholic Medical Association Chartered Guild to support of all those studying and serving in the medical field, especially our medical students and residents at the University of Iowa, and throughout our community.

We are blessed with amazing financial partners- without whom all of these engaging activities and events would not be possible. THANK YOU- for your financial support and your prayers.



2022-2023 Student Fellows

Liturgy & Prayer
Emily Munger
Cayden Lambert

Liturgical Music
Anna Kelly

Faith Formation
Cassie McNitt
Renee Thomas

Service and Social Justice
Tyler Stallman

Catholic Relief Services
Maya Argenta

Outreach
Bennett Heisterkamp
Ethan Schmidt

Communications
Megan Wessels

Weekly Student Prayer Opportunities:

Sunday: Lectio Divina 10am

Monday: Friday Exposition
9-10am

Tuesday: Night Prayer at 9:15pm

Wednesday: Night Adoration at
9:15pm with Night Prayer at
10pm

Thursday: Night Student
Mass at 9pm



TOGETHER WE GIVE THANKS

Newman Center Staff

Fr. Jeff Belger, Priest Director
 Deacon Joe Welter
 Ronda Lipsius, Administrative Assist.
 Mike Leuck, Sacristan/Greeter
 Christine Wissink, Dir. of Outreach
 Ann Thomas, Outreach Assistant
 Joe Mattingly, Director of Music
 Kristie Wert, Dir. of Development
 Mary Rae Meyer, Development Assist.
 Dan Teets, Director of RCIA
 Doug Herrera, Facilities/Custodial
 Claudia Landaverde, Custodial

FOCUS Missionary Team

Luke Landiak, Team Director
 Elizabeth Foley, 3rd year
 Kobe Eischeid, 2nd year
 Katherine Hopping, 2nd year
 Carolyn Colbert, 1st year

Newman Center Board of Directors

Most Rev. Thomas Zinkula
 Rev. Jeffry Belger
 Rev. Thom Hennen
 Rev. Joseph Sia
 Roger Reilly
 Tom DePrenger
 Michelle Brock
 Colleen Rapp

Our Board members give of their time, talent and treasure and we are so thankful that they heeded their call to serve our Newman Center in this capacity. Their leadership, guidance and stewardship are key to our growth and success in preparing disciples for the Church and the world.

I am honored to be asked to share my belief in supporting the Newman Catholic Students Center. The students are our natural resources to keep our Catholic faith stronger. I am thankful for the support we have from the FOCUS team working with Fr Jeff to wel-



come our campus students for a truly sincere and faithful life closer to Jesus. It is enlightening and a blessing to watch students participate and support each other; especially while serving in our daily rosary and Mass.

-Olga, Benefactor

I am thankful for the wonderful team I work with at the Newman Center, the faithful and generous community members who belong, the great team of priests who preside over Masses and all of the wonderful students who are involved at the Newman Center!

-Ronda



I have been reading Chris Stefanick's book, "Living Joy". His first rule for joyful living is practicing gratitude. So, I am learning to "Be Thankful!" for everything, blessings and sorrows.

- Dan, Alumnus



I am thankful for the Newman Catholic Student Center as it brings together those who love Jesus and want to learn more about how He can guide and nurture them in life. Through interaction with University of Iowa students, faculty and staff and the Iowa City community, the mission of the Church is developed, communicated and carried out. The staff of the Newman Center, both current and in the past, do a wonderful job of preparing students for the discipleship of Christ.

- Roger Reilly, Board Member



I'm thankful the Newman Center has been walking with students for generations on their faith journey in growing their relationship with Jesus at a critical time in their lives. We only get one soul and the Newman Center helps nurture it.

-Michele Brock, Alumna & Board Member



Among all the many things there are to be grateful for at the Newman Center, I'm most grateful for our daily Holy Hour.

To know our staff and students have the opportunity to begin the morning in Adoration rightly orders the rest of our day and is always a source of clarity, strength, and grace.

-Ann, NC Staff & Alumna



I am thankful for being able to practice my faith away from home and to have a community here.

Abbey, Student

I am thankful for the Newman Center because it fostered my relationship with Jesus and set me on the path to a lifelong pursuit of heaven!

- Camryn Alumna



TOGETHER WE GIVE THANKS

I am thankful to be part of the Newman Center which provides an oasis for students as they navigate the campus culture. The energy and enthusiasm of the students growing in their faith and living it out is exciting and inspiring to me. I tell everyone who will listen about all the good work happening here through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.

- Mary Rae,
NC Staff &
Alumna



I am thankful for the Newman Center because it allowed me to encounter the person of Jesus Christ and taught me what it means to live out of a relationship with the Lord and to strive to live holiness alongside faithful friends.

-Julia
Alumna



I am so thankful that God pushed me out of my comfort zone and made it possible for me to move from Ohio to Iowa City. The Newman Center is an amazing Catholic faith community and the support from the Newman Center family is amazing and truly making a difference in our world. I am so thankful to be here.

-Kristie



We are thankful for the JOY we see in the students. Their lights shine brightly and give us hope.

- Sue and Colin
Derdeyn, Benefactors



It is a privilege and blessing to be able to live my Catholic faith in my work at the Newman Center. I am thankful for the opportunity to serve in a ministry that has meaning and inspires me. I love working with college students and seeing the Church alive and well in young adults.

-Christine



We are thankful that the Newman Center is a blessing to our students. It is a place where they can grow in their faith and friendships and leave as lights for our Lord!

-Jann & Lanny Kampfe,
Alumnus/Benefactors



I am thankful to be a part of the mission here at the Newman Center at the University of Iowa. To be able to help students encounter Christ is a blessing in my life. I am also thankful for our donors. Their support is important for us to be able to help students encounter Christ.

-Liz Foley, FOCUS



Thankful for YOU!

We are so thankful for all our financial partners. Your support is key to our mission. This year, we made a decision to make the Donor Honor Roll available on our website at www.iowacatholic.org.

This allows us to use the newsletter space to share more stories and information with you about our mission. We would love to hear your feedback on this change as well as the change in the format of the newsletter. Let us know what things you would like to learn more about! Please feel free to email kristie@newman-ic.org with any comments.

FOCUS BRINGS LIFE TO MINISTRY



The purpose of the Fellowship of Catholic University Students (FOCUS) established in 1998 is to advance the teachings of Jesus Christ and the Church- and respond to the call for a “new evangelization”. We are proud to be the sponsor organization for our FOCUS team at the University of Iowa for the past five years. We are so blessed to have a strong team that understands the importance of their ministry and connection to the Newman Catholic Student Center. As a result of the generosity of our financial partners who specifically support our FOCUS ministry, we were able to welcome a fifth member to the team this fall to help increase our outreach.

Walking in Faith with Students

Missionary, Liz Foley shares her experience working with two junior students who are on the club soccer team here at Iowa. The pair are also consistent Bible study participants. Liz shares, “They come each week and it has been a gift to get to know them better and support them in club soccer. It has been so cool to watch their relationship with the Lord grow deeper as they can’t help but invite other club soccer girls into this encounter with the Lord through scripture.” Recently, after Bible study, one of their teammates who came to Bible study, texted Elizabeth and said, “I went home and had never been more excited to tell my roommates about Bible study. I read them the passage we read and just talked about my relationships realizing things about myself I never really thought of until today. I think learning about my identity in Christ really felt like I was learning so much more about myself and who I want to be. So in all that, thank you for being the one to teach me this and truly making me see God in other people.”



FOCUS by the Numbers

127

Students in Bible Study

25

Bible Study Groups

34

Growing Disciples

Growing Disciples have to commit to a weekly meeting for faith formation, growing in understanding, and living out prayer, sacraments, authentic friendship, and teaching of the Catholic Church.

19

Commissioned Disciples

Commissioned Disciples have those that have sacrificed to know Jesus through their own faith formation and are also sacrificing to make Jesus known on campus through leading a small group of Growing Disciples.

Upper Room Meeting

Each month FOCUS hosts an Upper Room Meeting for Commissioned Disciples to reconnect them to the vision and remind them their “why”. Why they are leading others alongside them to Jesus.

FOCUS Fellowship

The Team hosts groups of students 1-2 times per week for dinner. Early in the semester the team hosted bonfires and other activities for larger groups of students to facilitate developing authentic friendships.

Christ-centered Friendships

A big part of the FOCUS ministry is preparing and inspiring students to a life of Christ-centered friendships. This fall, team member, Kobe Eischeid took four freshmen students with him to Champaign, Illinois for the Illinois vs Iowa football game. As a part of this trip, they spent the weekend with missionaries and students from their hosts- Illinois and Valparaiso University which is



in Northwest Indiana. They also had a chance to tour and pray in St. John’s (the Newman Catholic Student Center at Illinois).



22-23 FOCUS TEAM

(L-R) Luke Landiak, Katherine Hopping, Carolyn (Carly) Colbert, Elizabeth (Liz) Foley, Kobe Eischeid



Women’s Bible Study with Liz

FOCUS Team with Megan Wessels, Communications Fellow on the 1st day of school



Upperclass Men’s Bible Study with Fr. Jeff

MUSIC MINISTRY IN FULL SWING

Music ministry at the Newman Center is now in full swing! After a long pandemic, participation is up and the Newman Singers are back in action!

The group features instrumentalists, Liturgy Singers, pianists, and guitarists. A new and growing addition to the group is the cantor ministry. A cantor is a person that sings solo verses or passages to which the congregation or choir responds.

We are excited to see that the number of participants in the Newman Singers has increased from 2021 and look forward to continuing growth in our music ministries here at the Newman Center. We are happy that the group has been able to sing regularly with full ensemble for several Newman Center Masses including Family Weekend Treats and Tours event Masses. October was an exciting month with the fall tour to the Des Moines area. Watch for upcoming information on their winter tour which is planned for January.



Newman Catholic Student Center Student- Athlete Scholarship

Through the generosity of numerous benefactors, the Newman Center established a fund through the University of Iowa Center for Advancement for two annual partial scholarships. One of the requirements is that the student-athletes are involved at the Newman Center. The selection process, with participation at the Newman Center as a focal point is conducted by the UI Athletic Department. We are proud to have Abbey Klostermann and Keaton Anthony selected as recipients this year.



Abbey Klostermann
Rowing, Class of 2023



Keaton Anthony
Baseball, Class of 2024

Thank you to our financial partners for supporting scholarships, fellowships, and awards for our students and alumni. For the 2022-2023 academic year, you have provided the following:

- 14 Academic Scholarships
- 1 Catholic Study Scholarship
- 2 Athletic Scholarships
- 21 Nic Goeres Scholarships
- 11 Student Fellowships
- 1 CRS Fellowship
- 10 Fr Ed Discipleship Awards



2022 Nic Goeres Scholarship Recipients

For the 2022-2023 academic year, twenty-one Beckman High School graduates will receive a \$1,000 scholarship from the Nic Goeres Scholarship Fund. The scholarship is available to Beckman High School alumni who attend the University of Iowa and participate at the Newman Catholic Student Center. In September, students attended a celebratory dinner and Mass in honor of being recipients of the scholarship. "I want students to know the background of this scholarship and why it is important to me that they can stay connected with their Catholic faith. I hope someday, these students can pay this forward in their own lives," says Goeres. A Dyersville native, Goeres is committed to helping students at the University of Iowa balance college life

while keeping their Catholic faith a priority. Goeres, who is a graduate of St. Francis Xavier High School (now known as Beckman High School) and the University of Iowa, began an effort in 2012 to support Beckman graduates. In partnership with the Newman Catholic Student Center to identify eligible students, Goeres has awarded a total of 125 scholarships in the past 10 years through his endowment at the University of Iowa. This living legacy springs from his passions for his Catholic faith and for his college and high school alma maters.

Recipients of the 2022-2023 scholarship include: Isabelle Bennett, Claire English, Megan Ertl, Riley Fangman, Nicholas Hageman, Ashley Hermsen, Morgan Hermsen, Jasmyn Hoeger, Kamryn Klas, Chelsea Koopman, Leah Krantz, Madeline Michel, McKenna Milbert, Sam Oberbroeckling, Lauren Osterhaus, Nathan Schaefer, Brooke Scheiltz, Kylie Steffensmeier, Sydney Steger, Elizabeth Wessels, Evan Wulfekuhle.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHTS



“The community I had at the Newman Center was constantly building me up, especially at times that I didn’t notice. It was where my relationship with the Lord blossomed, where I found some life-long friends, and a family where I never thought I would. When I came to college, I desired to be in a community, but didn’t really care which one and always felt as if I was jumping from friend group to friend group. Throughout it all, the Newman Center community was always there, constant and ready to welcome me back with open arms as if I had never left. The friends that I made in this Newman Center are people in my life that lift me up, remind me of my identity as a daughter and constantly push me to be a better in all aspects of life. A piece of my heart will always be at the University of Iowa Newman Center.

My Newman Center experience is impacting my life now because I desire others, specifically college students, to have a community like the one that I had. To have a community that is striving for the same thing, that truly desire the best for you, and have found what fills that ache (a relationship with God), a community like that is what we were made for. As a missionary now, my team and I are constantly striving to make our Newman Center that, a haven for students amid the chaos that is college.

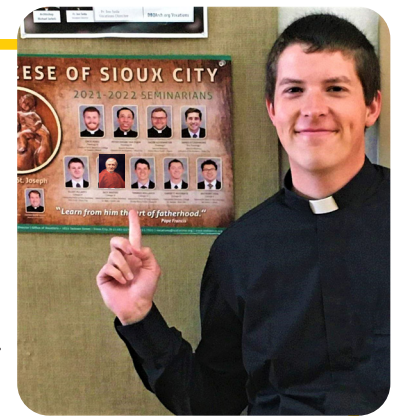
Lucero Manzanares, Class of ‘21 is currently one of 8 Newman Center alumni serving as FOCUS missionaries across the nation. Lucero is serving at Temple University in Philadelphia.

Newman Center Alumni Serve Across the Nation

This fall, eight Newman Center alumni are serving as FOCUS missionaries at universities across the country. Citing their positive experience here in Iowa City, these students have answered the call to serve and working to bring others to Christ. We are so proud to see these graduates embrace their faith and walk with others to find the joy and love in a relationship with Jesus.

Although he thought about the priesthood during his high school years, **Thomas Kollasch** made the decision to attend UI. Joining the Newman Center at the invitation of a FOCUS missionary, Thomas says he learned what it meant to live a reflective lifestyle in the joy of choosing Jesus through the discipleship of the FOCUS program. His favorite memories of the center are Thursday Night Mass with Fr. Jeff and hearing the messages of visiting priests. He related an impactful experience during Adoration that made him understand and realize Jesus saw him and was calling him to serve in the priesthood. He said during his time at the Newman Center he learned how to accept himself and felt the Lord pulling him in

Thomas Kollasch enrolled at the Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary in Minnesota after 2 years at UI. He is now studying in Rome for the next 5 years.



Jessica relates that her experience at the Newman Center had a major impact during a pivotal time in her life. She says that she knew she was being called to be discerning a religious life; yet she was freshly out of a long-term relationship after the first semester of graduate school. It was during her second semester that she began coming to the Newman Center. She attended a retreat, got more connected then began spiritual direction with Laurie Harris (former Director). Jessica states that Laurie, Fr. Jeff, and the FOCUS missionaries helped her through her years at UI. She felt known and cared for by Fr. Jeff and continues to have a relationship with him and Laurie. Eventually, Jessica became the Graduate Fellow for graduate students as well as co-fellow of Service and Social Justice; expanding her involvement at the center.

Jessica Elliot, Class of ‘19 recently left her home in Illinois to enter as a postulant with the Community of Franciscan Sisters of the Renewal.



Reconnecting with Alumni

This fall we have been working hard to re-connect with our Alumni. Outreach includes social media as well as a new monthly email newsletter to alumni. Thank you to KC Kofmehl for setting up the new Facebook group page that is just for our alums! This page is a great place to share about what is happening at the center, promote upcoming events, and share alumni stories. We have even thrown in a contest! If you are a Newman Center Alum- please join us. Search **University of Iowa Newman Catholic Student Center Alumni**. Future outreach may include Alumni events, recruiting alumni ambassadors to help us more fully engage alumni, and facilitating “Newman Center alumni gatherings at locations across the country.

MORE NEWMAN NEWS

Class of 2022 Gives Gift to Newman Center

Showing a love for their faith and the impact that the Newman Center had on their college years, the spring and fall Class of 2022 gifted a grotto to the center. The grotto's creation was the result of conversations among students in the class who recognized a need for more religious art at the center. The grotto not only fills that need, but also honors our Blessed Mother and our strong Catholic culture. Graduates and current students worked together on the design with Fr. Jeff and Newman Center staff. Earlier this fall, students with landscaping and construction experience volunteered to help construct the foundation and arch. Some helped with design and others with labor. Fr. Jeff blessed the grotto at Thursday Night Mass on September 15, 2022- the feast day of Our Lady of Sorrows. The statue was purchased from an artist on Etsy. The limestone bricks used in the grotto are left over from the Newman Center's construction connecting the past to the present and future of the Newman Center. The grotto is visible through the sanctuary windows for all to enjoy.



Gala Gets a Makeover and is now Newman Night Out!

We are excited to announce that our fundraising event, formerly known as Gala, has a new name, a new look, and a new attitude! **Newman Night Out** will be our "new" gala event. The heart of the event remains the same; focused on support of the Newman Catholic Student Center, but the event will look a bit different.

Changes in format include removing the live and silent auctions to give guests more time to socialize with friends and catch the spirit of supporting the Newman Center. Students, alumni, staff and others will be there to share their love for the center and why your financial support makes a difference every day in the lives of our University of Iowa community.

Guests will be asked to give a heartfelt stewardship gift before the end of the evening in support of our Newman Center ministries.

If you have attended our event in the past, you know what a big impact our attendees, donors, and sponsors have made at past events. This spring fundraiser event traditionally funds 10-15% of our annual budget, so it is an important event for our Newman Catholic Student Center ministries. Our fundraising goal for this event is \$92,000! We are recruiting sponsors and matching gift challengers to help us reach our goal.

Sponsorships- Sponsorships are a great way to not only show your support for the Newman Center, but to also advertise your business. Sponsors will be recognized in our social media, digital print as well as other publication leading up to the event, during the event, and post-event.

Matching Gift Challengers- Becoming a Matching Gift Challenger is a great way for you to show your passion for our Newman Center ministries as well as encourage and challenge others to give at the same level. Matching gift challengers will be acknowledged prior to and during the event.

If you would like to be a sponsor or become a matching gift challenger, please contact Kristie Wert at kristie@newman-ic.org or call the Development office. Matching gift challengers will offer their gifts prior to the event as an encouragement to others.

We ask for your prayers during this transition. The event impacts so much of what we do at the center. Pray for our committee as we continue to plan, pray for sponsors to open their hearts and minds to our event, and for those presenting to be able to clearly share their love for the center.

Fr. Ed Fitzpatrick Discipleship Award 2023

Annually, Newman Center alumni who carry on the mission of discipleship for our Church and world through involvement in a Catholic parish or community non-profit organization are eligible to apply for this award.

Fr. Ed was the Priest Director of the Newman Center in Iowa City from 1981-2015. His vision for an endowment fund to recognize discipleship of Newman Center alumni came to fruition in 2015. The fund makes a \$500 financial gift to the respective Catholic parish or non profit organization on behalf of the recipients.

The application window is now open. Applications will be accepted until April 3, 2023. You may apply personally, or nominate a fellow alumnus for their work. Ten to twelve recipients will be selected from the applications received. Applications are available on our website www.iowacatholic.org on the Alumni page, or contact Kristie Wert, Director of Development to have one sent to you.



FINANCIAL REPORT 2021-2022

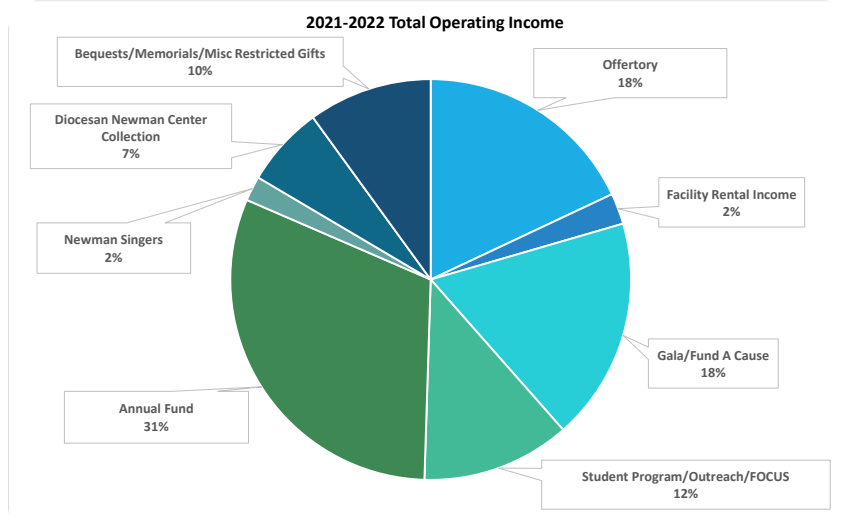
Oh Lord, giver of life and source of our freedom, we are reminded by the Psalmist that Yours is "the earth and its fullness; the world and those who dwell in it." We know that it is from Your hand that we have received all we have and are and will be. Gracious and loving God, we understand that You call us to be the stewards of Your abundance, the caretakers of all You have entrusted to us. Help us always to use Your gifts wisely and teach us to share them generously. May our faithful stewardship bear witness to the love of Christ in our lives. We pray with grateful hearts, in Jesus' name. Amen.

Thank you to the 650 donors who gave to our Newman Catholic Student Center in 2021-2022. Your financial partnership is valued and is key to our mission to prepare disciples for the Church and the world. The Newman Catholic Student Center is 100% self-funded with private contributions from individuals and business partners. We depend on the generosity of our benefactors to help fund our ministries so that we can serve our

University of Iowa community. Being self-funded means we work to make the most out of every gift to the center. Our staff works diligently as well as mindfully to be efficient and resourceful with gifts from our partners. Your gift has a lasting impact on students and the Church today and into the future.

Our Annual Fund and Offertory funds are the foundation of our finances which are supplemented by our endowments.

INCOME



Offertory:

Last fiscal year 2021-2022: \$137,098
 Previous fiscal year 2020-2021: \$122,950
 Pre-pandemic 2018-2019: \$222,632

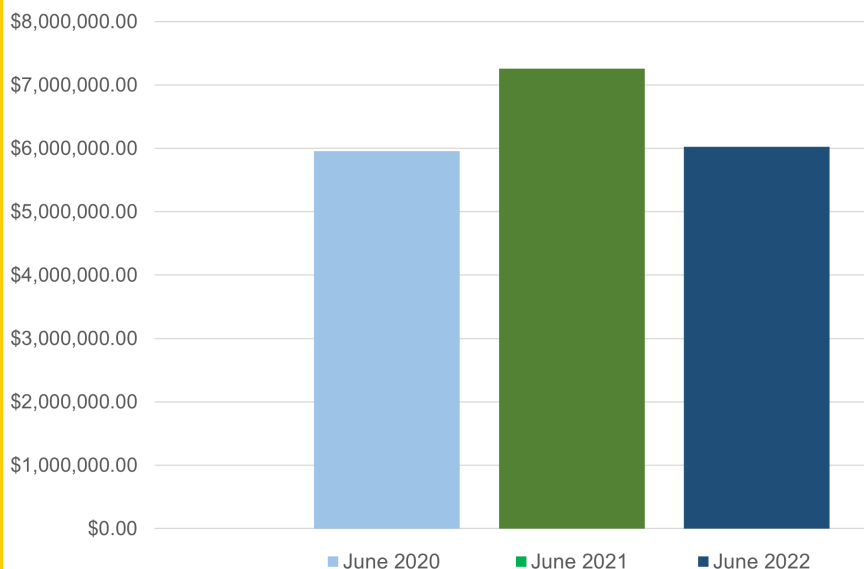
Annual Fund:

Last fiscal year 2021-2022: \$240,370
 Previous fiscal year 2020-2021: \$232,191
 Pre-pandemic 2018-2019: \$208,211

Offertory is an integral part of our operating budget and relies on gifts given at Mass. Mass attendance has not recovered from the pandemic and we are still not reaching pre-pandemic figures in Offertory contributions.

The Annual Fund is our main funding stream is supported with a core group of donors in our Founders Club. Although this fund has remained steady throughout the past three years, we have not seen significant growth to overcome the loss in Offertory gifts.

Endowment Value Comparisons



ENDOWMENTS:

We are fortunate to have our endowment funds to help subsidize our mission. In fiscal year 2021-2022, our endowment subsidy to our income and help cover expenses was approximately \$275,000. Unfortunately, in this economic climate, we are seeing losses in our investments that negatively affect the subsidy to our income. The graph below shows the activity in our endowments over the past 3 fiscal years.

Value of Endowments:

(end of fiscal year):
2019-2020: \$5,955,417
2020-2021: \$7,258,778
2021-2022: \$6,027,901

EXPENSES

As you can see from the stories in this newsletter, the Newman Center in Iowa City is an active and growing place. Each year, the fruits of your financial partnership and outreach ministries are resulting in more students coming through our doors to encounter Christ. As you can imagine, with the increase in students being served, we are also experiencing a significant increase in our operating expenses regardless of the state of the economy. At the end of fiscal year 2021-2022, we experienced a 14% increase in expenses, which far exceeded the income increase of 4%.

What Does “Operating Expense” Mean?

This is an important question- one that we are asked a lot as donors are normally hesitant to give just to “keep the lights on”. Hopefully this breakdown helps you understand where our funds are used. By giving unrestricted gifts, donors allow us to best utilize our funding where most needed.

Student Programs- Welcome Week, retreats, scholarships, student fellowships, Fellowship of Catholic University Students (FOCUS) missionary program

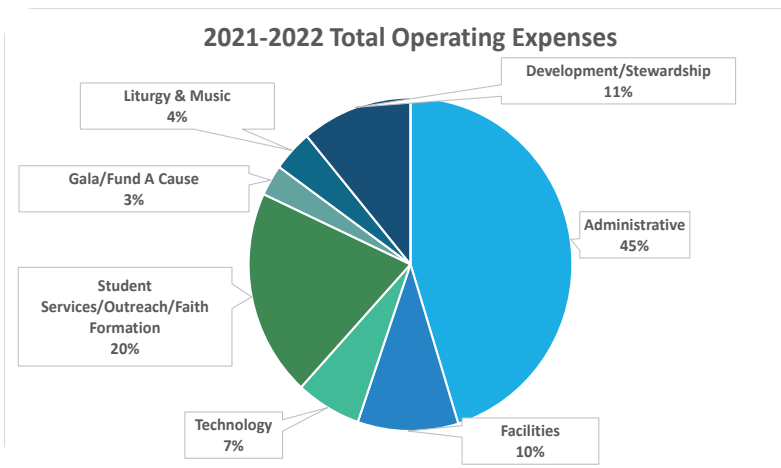
Administration- office supplies, phones, office equipment, salary, employee benefits, professional development, required VIRTUS safe environment for staff and volunteers

Technology- computers, software, database, internet

Facilities- utilities, furnishings, maintenance, contracted services, and repairs

Communications and Development- non-student events, donor events, campaign/appeal supplies, mass email capability, postage, and printing costs

Liturgy and Music Ministry- musicians, candles, altar flowers, copyright licenses, hosts, altar wine



What does this loss in Endowment Value mean?

Since the income from endowments is used to subsidize our operation income to cover operating expenses, it is important that we continue to find new ways to financially support our mission.

How can you help?

Prayerfully discern a new or increased gift today.

Become a member of our Founder's Club.

Talk to others in your social circle, workplace, and community about the Newman Center- share our story and encourage them to become a financial partner.

Share our communications- Friday emails, newsletters, and even social media posts. All of those help create awareness about the good work we are doing.

BECOME A PARTNER

Become a **Founders Club Member** by gifting \$5,000 or more to the center through an annual gift commitment of \$1,000 or more per year. You may designate your gift fund, however at least \$250 must be designated to Annual Fund.

Become a **Foundation Member** through a deferred gift to the center through a charitable trust, bequest, or life insurance policy.

Planned Giving by utilizing a qualified charitable distribution (QCD). A QCD allows individuals who are 70 1/2 years old or older the ability to donate up to \$100,000 total to charities directly from a taxable IRA instead of taking their minimum distribution.

Support **Newman Night Out** by becoming a Sponsor or Matching Gift Challenger.

Giving Tuesday- November 29th

Give a one-time gift to our Giving Tuesday campaign

Have a special project or student activity that you are passionate about? Contact Kristie Wert, Director of Development to discuss ways to designate your gift for that project or activity.





Newman
Catholic
Student
Center

104 E. Jefferson St.
Iowa City, IA 52245

Address Service Requested



Give a gift of \$100 or more
for Giving Tuesday and receive a
water bottle or Iowa Catholic t-shirt.



GIVING
TUESDAY
Tues. Nov 29



Together We Give Thanks

Your partnership impacts students today and into the future as we prepare them to be disciples for the Church and the world. Through our ministry they learn to be faith-filled leaders of their family, parish, workplace and community. We are so thankful for your support.

- Give a \$100- \$199 gift and receive a Newman Center water bottle
- Give a \$200 or more gift and receive a Newman Center t-shirt

Use the QR Code or visit our website at
www.iowacatholic.org

The link to the **GIVINGTUESDAY** page is on the Home Page

For where your treasure is, there your  will be also.

Matthew 6:21