



The Pelican

North Coast Spirit TEC

Winter 2009

Unless a grain of wheat falls to the earth and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat; but if it dies, it produces much fruit. John 12:24

A word from our Chairperson...

A time to look back... A time to look forward...

By Pat Counselman

Looking over the past year 2 words pop! ... discernment and transition... both processes that challenge us to trust.

I know it's been said ...or thought many times ...
"Discernment is fixed. It's who you know...it's whose friend you are!" Discernment appears to be an event where people are chosen without clear guidelines. It's hard to believe or trust in something we cannot evaluate precisely but **spiritual discernment** is the calling of the **Holy Spirit** to lead or give direction. It is how the **Spirit** shows us what God wants us to do and be. **Discernment** is more than just a skill. **Discernment** is a gift from God. Thankfully, the Holy Spirit works through us imperfect people even when we come with attitudes and agendas. I've shared with many my awe in the process and tell you I am convinced the Holy Spirit is working within NCS TEC!

Often times I leave discernment with a huge pit in my stomach thinking, *"Oh boy am I going to get phone calls on this one... how in the world will this person handle being on the weekend with this person..."* but every time you see that those called to work were truly needed for those who were called to make a weekend!

Now this brings me to what I really want to share with you for spiritual discernment occurred this past November

when our next Chairperson was prayerfully determined by our Board. It was not a simple process. My thanks go out to each Board member for their serious attention to this task. We were so grateful for the 3 wonderful candidates who stepped forward trusting and open to this process. I truly wish each of you could've been with us because I'm sure you would've been as touched as we were. The night that **Nick Naugle** became our Assistant Chairperson will be a night to look back at. He will assume the role of Chairperson when my term is up in December 2009.

So now what? Ahhh, transition! A year of change! Nick will be working closely with Fr Barry & me to coordinate a smooth transition & I am so looking forward to that. Nick loves this community & is committed to it. We are blessed that he has stepped forward. Please keep us all in your prayers. Our community is large and has distinct concerns. We enjoy our comfort zones and transition or change can challenge us out of those zones... it's all good but not always easy!

There has been only one Board position change right now. Rich Liptak completed his term as 1st Adult Rep. Rich has been a great blessing & we will miss him. We call him our sage for he brings experience, wisdom and clarity of vision when it is needed! To fill his position we called upon Jack Liptak, his brother.

The transition will be smooth as Jack had already been helping Rich behind the scenes with the necessary technology for discernment! Kathy Scullin, Donna Hawk, Fr Barry Gearing, and Lisa Manocchio also complete their terms but were asked to continue in their positions for another term & they all accepted. Yeah!

We ask for your prayers as we continue to make decisions relating to the community & thank all for what has been done in this past year! Rooting ourselves in the vision of TEC & being open to change gives us the strong foundation to encounter Christ, loving more deeply!! And speaking of encountering Christ... please mark your calendars for the 2nd Annual North Coast Spirit TEC Day of Reflection. We are very excited to announce that Saturday, March 21, 2009 we will explore **"A Living Sacrifice...Encountering Christ through Paul"** through our call to conversion, to the cross and to freedom! The idea for the day actually came from the discernment questions! We are pleased that Fr Tim Gareau (TEC 73!) will be able to lead the day. We are not sure of much else at this point but look for more details to come shortly!!

And so looking back we can see that God is very much walking with us. Sometimes it's been a different plan or timetable than we thought it should be but looking forward in 2009 with trusting and hopeful hearts we can't wait for what He has planned next!! Jesus came in humility born of a virgin ...every moment meticulously planned out perfectly for our salvation... Praise God!

God's blessings to you and your family!

NCS TEC Board

Fr. Barry Gearing—

Spiritual Director

Pat Counselman—

Chairperson

Nick Naugle—

Asst Chairperson

Jack Liptak—

Adult Rep

John Psaras—

Adult Rep

Kathy Scullin—

Facilitator

Donna Hawk—

Treasurer

Hope Marcum—

Secretary

Stephanie Kess—

Registrar

Lisa Manocchio—

Young Adult Rep

Kurt Zabor—

Young Adult Rep

Rachel Borden—

Youth Rep

Kelly McCoy—

Youth Rep

John P. Gallagher—

Youth Rep

Andrew McQuillen—

Youth Rep

Welcome to those who made TEC 82 & 83!

Sarah Cahal	Mean Daw
Karilynn Cotone	Lindsey Liptak
Mercedes Davis	Maggie Weizer
Philip Lombardo	Lisa Wilson
Ian Malave	Thomas Kondzer
Laura Manocchio	Joan Kuczek
Dany Diaz Mejia	Tara Marcic
Marissa Mendise	Jeanine Mooren
Michael Plas	Cassandra Zabor
Amar Shah	Mandi Zapotosky
Jordan Slavik	Emily Viancourt
Kristen Herrmann	Katie Payne
Brittany Zaun	Alice Marie Ribeton
Cassidy Keating	Paul Sozio
Maribeth Keppler	Jane Koch
Tim Moscarino	Ellen Wasserbauer
Alicia Sierra	Lisa Miller
Kelsey Bersuder	Becca Lauer
Diana Stopak	Cassy Weiner
Kelly Vicek	Daren Michalski
Pete Cardello	Grace Himmelright
Nancy Martin	Rosemary Weizer
Judy Mauser	Jack Powers
Erika Haren	Zachary Flores
Mark Spehar	Alexandra Diaz
Jon Hejny	Jude McFarlane
Rick Serio	

O Jesus! Meek and humble of hearts, Hear me
 From the desire of being esteemed,
Deliver me Jesus
 From the desire of being loved...
 From the desire of being extolled...
 From the desire of being honored...
 From the desire of being praised...
 From the desire of being preferred to others...
 From the desire of being consulted...
 From the desire of being approved...
 From the fear of being humiliated...
 From the fear of being despised...
 From the fear of suffering rebukes...
 From the fear of being calumniated...
 From the fear of being forgotten...
 From the fear of being ridiculed...
 From the fear of being wronged...
 From the fear of being suspected...

 That others may be loved more than I,
Jesus grant me the grace to desire it.
 That others may be esteemed more than I...
 That, in the opinion of the world, others may increase
 and I may decrease...
 That others may be chosen and I set aside...
 That others may be praised and I unnoticed...
 That others may be preferred to me in everything...
 That others may become holier than I, provide that I
 may become as holy as I should be. **Amen**

Litany of Humility

A special thank you to those who have served on TEC 82 and those serving on TEC 83:

Leigh Cullen, Kurt Zabor, Father Tim Kalista, Kevin Perrien, Kim Graham, Hope Marcum, Jurrell Sison, Jack Liptak, Dave Novicky, Angela Petrak, Dan Kurtz, Amanda Houska, Marcus Naugle, Krista Sison, Lisa Kondzer, Kelly McCoy, Nick Naugle, Maury Petrak, Lisa Manocchio, Amy Stephens, Kevin Kess, John Liptak, Kelsey Slavik, Desiree Rodriguez, Amy Brown, Maura Stepanski, Brianna Maloney, Kristin Fennell

Pat Counselman, Father Barry Gearing, Rachel Borden, Megan Walsh, Andrea Klonowski, Sara Lanzola, Eric Sidol, Karilynn Cotone, Jeanin Mooren, Mark Slavik, Jim Gajoch, Mandi Zapotosky, Carmen Popik, Nikki Rodgers, Anthony DiMarino, Kelly Hartnett, Mary Semenczuk, Matt Armbruster, Jim McCarthy, Tom Kurtz, Meghan Baron, Beth Davidson, Cathy Kolovich, Andrew Summerson, Maggie Weizer, Dorothy DiMarino, Philip Lombardo, John P Gallagher, Jessica Zienkowki, Mercedes Davis, Sister Pat Flores

We apologize in advance for any spelling errors, omissions, or errors in the names on this page! This newsletter was printed prior to TEC 83, so therefore it may be missing or have additional participants.

Thanks to all who helped make this edition of the Pelican possible!!!!

Come to HELP Clean-up...

We need help after every TEC. If volunteers do not come to help, the very tired team members must stay and clean. There are a few volunteers who come after every TEC. Now its time for you to lend a hand. Clean-up crew meets around 2:00PM in the kitchen of the retreat center. Remember there is still a retreat going on when you are there, please do not interfere with the completion of their weekend.

Remember: If you work Main Team on the previous weekend, you are committed to clean-up on the next weekend!



Upcoming Events:

- Festival of Praises at Saint Adalberts in Berea: Feb 16, March 16, April 20th, May 18th, June 15th, and July 20th at 7:30PM.
- Exalts at Saint John Neuman in Strongsville: Feb 12th, March 12th, April 9th, May 14th, June 11th, July 9th at 7:45PM in the Church.
- Tetelestai a Passion play many TECites are involved with Dates are listed at www.tetelestai-cpam.org.
- Keep your calendars open March 21, our annual day of reflection is in the process of being planned. Details to follow via the list serve! If you are not part of the list serve you may email Kurt or Lisa for details!

If you have any suggestion for TEC events or would like to have your event listed please email Lisa Manocchio (angel11883@yahoo.com) or Kurt Zabor (kurtzabor@yahoo.com) our Young Adult Representatives.

PRAYER CORNER...

We ask that as you look at this corner of the Pelican...that you take a moment to say a prayer for the intentions of all those in the TEC community. In a special way say a prayer for the formation of TEC 80! Prayer intentions can be emailed to the TEC community via the TEC list-serve. If you are not currently receiving emails from the TEC community and would like to be part of the list, please email Grant Winney at : grantwinney@sbcglob.net

—Peace in Christ!



Wheat Letters:

Throughout the TEC weekend, letters from the TEC community are read out loud to the TECites. These letters, which are meant to show support to the new TECites, are not written to individual TECites but rather to the group as a whole. Letters to individuals TECites are given on Rise Day (Saturday) only and are given as part of the Wheat bags. Letters will not be given to individuals TECites at any other time during the weekend.

When sending letters for the wheat bag please remember that the focus should be on the new TECites. With this in mind, please make writing letters to the TECites your priority over writing to the Main Team. Please do not send letters for Wheat.

Please get your Wheat, Die, Rise, and go Day letters to the Lay Director of the weekend or someone on the team. (This information is normally emailed out a week to two weeks before the weekend) Hand-written letters are always preferred.

Remember: When sending in items for Wheat bags, please limit them to letters, notes, and prayer cards. Please do not send in any type of food or individual gift for TECites.

TEC has an updated website! Check it at www.northcoasttec.com



TEC had a booth at the FEST this past August!

Board Meeting Dates:

All board meeting are open to the community. They are currently held at St Adalberts:

Stay tune to the TEC list serve for up dated board meeting dates!

This past October Reunion, North Coast Spirit TEC named its newest recipient of the Spirit of TEC award. This Year's recipients of the award are Kelly McCoy, Kristin Fennell, and Jurell Sison (pictured to your right). The Pelican has asked a member of the TEC community to write how they see each person show that spirit!

Jurrell Sison—by Bridget Dolan

It's no secret to anyone that Jurell has been and continues to be a spiritual leader in the TEC community. He has given so much of himself for this community, willingly expressing his faith through song, prayer, and offering his time in service to others. I know TEC means the world to him and he is so grateful for the relationships he has experienced through TEC. TEC has given Jurell a place to share his many gifts and talents with so many people, and he continues to grow because his faith gives him the courage to trust in the plans God has for him.

So I did a little facebook creeping (for those of you who know what that is) and I discovered one of Jurell's favorite quotes; "To be nobody-but-yourself, in a world which is doing its best, night and day, to make you everybody else -- means to fight the hardest battle which any human being can fight; and never stop fighting." - E. E. Cummings.

Jurell and I have been friends since seventh grade and I can honestly say he is the most genuine person I know. One of the ways the Spirit shines through Jurell is in his willingness to follow God anywhere. I remember talking to Jurell after he worked wheat on TEC 74, which was also when he told me he was thinking about going into the seminary. He was confused and scared but rose above those worldly fears to follow God and he continues to follow God the best he knows how.

During the summer I was struggling with my faith and Jurell really helped get me back on track. He went on the mission trip with St. Joe's to Charleston, WV, and everyday he was there, he wrote me a letter. The only condition was that I had to read them in the adoration chapel, with Jesus. In the letters he told me to seek God always and to never settle in my relationship with God. That's just who Jurell is though, he humbly follows God and leaves an amazing witness behind. Jurell definitely has a gift for bringing people to Christ and TEC has given him an amazing opportunity to do just that, bring people closer to Christ, to truly encounter Him. That's how I see the spirit of TEC in Jurell. It's in his willingness to give and never ask for recognition in return, and his love for God and his commitment to spread God's word.

Kristin Fennell-by Leigh Cullen

Webster's Dictionary defines the word "Spirit" in the following way: a special attitude or frame of mind; a person having character or disposition. With that definition, it's no wonder why Kristin Fennell was not only nominated, but received the Spirit of TEC award. As so many of us know, her words, actions, and time given to the TEC community is truly one of character and an amazing love for God.

I can still remember meeting Kristin about 8 years ago. She was serving as a teen table resource on a weekend I was leading. Almost instantly, you could see Kristin's love for God. Additionally, her spirited personality made you want to be around her. She has an infectious laugh and genuine approach which exhibits God's love in more ways than I can describe. Those that have come into contact with her over the years know exactly what I am talking about.

Kristin has served on countless weekends in pretty much every capacity. Even when she was attending college, Kristin worked weekends or attended reunions when she could, and always offered prayer support. The dedication and commitment she exhibits each weekend she serves is felt not only by the team she works with or leads, the TECites, but more importantly, to God who makes it all possible. She has shared a piece of herself through her talks, actions, the activities that take place, and with one on one conversation. Along the way, she even welcomed into the community her husband, mother, and sisters...just to name a few.

As a member of this community (as well as her friend!), I've enjoyed watching her transformation from teen table resource to lay director over the past several years. Her contribution to this community may have started back in high school, but is far from over. Her commitment to spreading God's word continues to be a part of her future and I know that we are all grateful and blessed as a result. Congrats my friend on your Spirit of TEC Award – much deserved

Kelly McCoy—by Krista Sison

"Have you ever wondered what marks our time here? If one life can really make



an impact on the world? Or if the choices we make matter? I believe they do. And I believe that one man can change many lives."

-Lucas Scott-

If you have ever lost faith in good-hearted, genuine people, and wondered why bad things happen to good people, you know there's always that one person that renews your faith. That person has an unequivocal faith in God and His works that he or she can spread it to thousands of people without ever losing any of it. Kelly McCoy does that for me.

This past October, Kelly received the Spirit of TEC Award, and I couldn't think of anyone to better fit the job. Kelly deserves to know that she is great. Even if she does little things, they have a big impact on many people. After reunion was over that night, I told her, "I knew you would get it!" She replied back to me, "Aw, Krista! I tried so hard to get the Board to nominate someone else!" Kelly, who entered TEC Community in July of 2007, has done wonders for us all. She continually gives herself up to God and contributes to the community. She is also a Youth Representative on the TEC Board. Kelly has even reached out to larger communities in need, traveling to New Orleans and West Virginia. Though she may not realize it, Kelly McCoy is a beautiful, talented girl and a great friend. I think we all can agree that Kelly is the rightful owner of the Spirit of TEC Award, and we wouldn't want to see it any other way.. As far as we know, she has just begun to make her mark on the world..

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My time in Tanzania, Africa

Jambo (greetings). On November 28th I departed the snow and freezing weather of Northeast Ohio and went on a journey to Tanzania, Africa for a study abroad trip with Hiram College. After a 20 hour plane ride, I found myself walking out of the airplane and looking at Mount Kilimanjaro, Africa's tallest peak. The first week in Africa was one for us to get acquainted with the culture with our daily Swahili lesson and interacting with many of the people on the streets. Interestingly enough, we actually stayed at a hostel that was owned by the Catholic Archdioceses of Arusha, Tanzania. Every morning I would wake and greet the sisters of the Hostel. Since they did not really know English, all they would say is 'Mungubariki wewe,' which means God Bless you always. One Sunday I was fortunate enough to go to a mass and it was one of the few times in my life where I was completely blown away. There I was witnessing true witnesses of faith from hundreds of natives who made less than a dollar a day; some did not even have the basic needs that someone deserves in life. It is truly amazing because I know many people who are financially wealthy and materially sound in America that are not half as in peace or as happy as some of the individuals I saw. It really made me put my life in perspective.

After the first week, my fellow students and I departed to our individual home stays where we spent two and a half weeks. I was blessed to be placed with a wonderful 3 person family that really seemed to enjoy my company. The family consisted of my house mom, a 52 year old woman that grew and sold crops, and her two boys. They truly treated me as one of their own and taught me about the African culture that they live in. For the rest of my life I will be forever grateful to all three of them.

Meanwhile, while I was staying at my home stay, I was working at an orphanage during the day. Inhabiting this orphanage were 32 children that used to live and beg on the street, many of which have no families to turn to. It is also important to know that most of these children did not even know their real age because their birth records are lost or destroyed. Nevertheless, these 32 children were full of energy and really seemed to understand the importance of a good education. While there, I mostly taught mathematics and played games with many of the younger kids.

Halfway throughout our trip, we were fortunate enough to go on a three day, two night, wild Safari tour. While on Safari, I saw some of the most beautiful landscapes and animals that I have ever seen. Just to name a few, we saw Lions,

Elephants, Giraffes, Hippos, Zebras, Baboons, Antelope, Wildebeest, Hyenas, Cheetahs, Rhinos, etc. It was incredible to see many of the animals that I heard about so much growing up in their natural habitats. To finish our trip, we spent the last four days on the island of Zanzibar, which is an island off the Tanzanian mainland. During our stay, we went on a tour of the Spice farms, snorkeled in the Indian Ocean, and went on a tour of the historic city, Stonetown. In addition, we were also fortunate to go on a tour of the last open slave market in the world, which shut down in 1864. It was quite the experience to enter into the chamber where 50 to 70 slaves were incarcerated for three weeks (many died) with little food and water before they were whipped and sold. After witnessing and hearing about the lives that the slaves of the past had to endure, I definitely have a greater appreciation of my own life and the lives that we Americans live on an everyday basis.

Overall, I had the experience of a lifetime. I definitely treated my study abroad trip as a mission trip and really believe that I did something good, especially at the orphanage I worked at and with host family I lived with. I really learned to appreciate my life and realize that we as Americans are truly blessed. If you have any questions or want to see pictures from my trip, please feel free to e-mail me at kifferK@my.hiram.edu. Asante (thank you).
—Kyle Kiffer

This, that and the other..

- Congrats to Erin and Nick Naugle; Kristin and Sean Fennell; Melissa and Paul Koeing; Lindsey and John Liptak; Stephanie and Kevin Kess; Sean and Michelle Kramer who are all expecting in the next couple of months!
- Congrats to Brett Lime and Kayleigh Hawk, as well as Melissa Garrett on their recent engagements
- Congrats to Desiree and Matt Gould; Kristina and Mike Yako; John Shively and Catherine Frantisak (TEC 23) on their recent marriage.
- Congrats to Maury and Angela Petrak who will be adopting Bryan Fennell very soon!



- Congrats to Julie and Adam Vavroch (baby Elise); Chuck Hirsch and his wife (baby Logan); and Brett Lime and Kayleigh Hawk (baby Kelli); Hope and Kevin Marcum (baby Brady); Lisa and Ben Baranovic (baby Aiden) on their recent deliveries!
- Congrats to Father Barry on being named administrator of Saint Adalberts in Berea.
- Congrats to SISTER Patty Flores who will take her first vows Feb 28th with the Humility of Mary sisters.

If you have good news to share in the next issue of the Pelican please email it to:

pelican@northcoasttec.com

Application for Serving on Teens Encounter Christ Retreat Teams

Name:	
Address:	
City, State, Zip:	
Phone #:	
Email address:	
Parish:	

=Practicing Catholic: YES__ NO__

(Sunday Mass and regular sacraments)

Check One:

Teen__

Young Adult (18-30)__

Adult__

Prior TEC Information: I made TEC#: __ Last TEC I worked #: __

Prior Teams	
Roles	
Talks	

Desired Position: (Please Mark 1st, 2nd, 3rd, choices using numbers)

	Main	Wheat	Reunion
Lay Director			
Asst. Lay Director			
Spiritual Director			
Asst. Spiritual Dir.			
Team Member			
Musician			
Gopher	Main	Wheat	
Peace Talk			

Talk: (Growth & Ideals; God Experience; Paschal Mystery; God, Community of Love; Church, People of God; Christian Life; Signs; Mary, Mother of God; Young Christian as Disciple) _____

Explain why you want to work this TEC:

If you have any questions please contact: Fr Barry Gearing at 440-238-5555, Pat Counselman at 440-255-5861, or Jack Liptak 216-524-08800

Applications must be received by the Wednesday after Comeback to the prior TEC to be considered. Please mail or email the following address:

**Jack Liptak
5550 Pin Oak Court
Independence, OH 44131
216-524-0800**

Remember the new regulations regarding fingerprints/background checks/VIRTUS information. (This information will be sent to you once you are place on a team!)



Upcoming Dates:

February 4th, 2009: Applications for Discernment are due for the April TEC.

Apr. 17th-19th, 2009 TEC Weekend-- Saint Leonard's Retreat Center

April 18th , 2009 Reunion (6PM)

April 19th , 2009 Clean-up (2PM)

May 6th , 2009: Applications for Discernment are due for the July TEC.

July 10-12th, 2009 TEC Weekend-Saint Leonard's Retreat Center

July 21th , 2009 Reunion (6PM)

January 25th, 2009 Clean-up (2PM)

July 22nd, 2009: Applications are due for the October Discernment



TEC Pelican

348 Paul Street

Bedford, OH 44146

The Pelican was generously donated by OBM
and salesman Matt Gould



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Parma, OH 44134

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