

The Life Teen Connection

February 2009

Meet Denise Schmitz

It's time for the parish to meet one of Life Teen's newest youth members; Denis Schmitz, a freshman at Edmonds—Woodway High School. She is an active member in her school's Match Club and hopes to get involved with volunteer opportunities and attend more Life Teen activities at church!

Isabelle: *How long have you been attending St. Thomas More Church?*

Denise: I just moved to Washington at the beginning of the school year, so I have been attending STM for several months now.

I: *Why do you choose to go to Life Teen?*

D: I go to learn about my faith and meet other kids my age who are also members of the church. And, of course, to have fun!

What's Happened?

Community Potluck: The latest potluck planned by the Youth Commission and the Catholic Daughters of the Americas was a great success. Many families brought scrumptious dishes for all to enjoy and took part in a family game night. Groups played Apples to Apples, Yahtzee and other games. Don't miss the next one on March 1st after the Life Teen Mass. Bring a dish and come join in the fun! All are welcome!

Confirmation: We welcomed 41 people into our Catholic community this past February 5th. The Mass was celebrated by Bishop Tyson, Fr. Maurice and Fr. Armando Guzman. We thank everyone who participated in this great celebration and be sure to give a warm welcome to the new adults in our community!

New Semester, New Core Team Member: The new semester started off with a bang this January! The youth went through a silly tribal ceremony to bring in the new curriculum, getting a quick overview of the Sacraments, which is what the new semester is all about. Also new this semester is the wonderful Emily Hanson! She has graciously volunteered to join the Core Team, helping our youth program grow and become a bit stronger. Read more about Emily on

I: *What has been the best part about Life Teen so far?*

D: Getting to meet other young people like

me who are involved in the church has been the best part so far.

I: *Do you find any parts of Life Teen helpful*

in being a good servant and follower of Christ while you're in high school?

D: Yes, I think Life Teen has really helped

me connect the teachings of Christ with my daily life. It's easy to read the Bible or hear

what the priest says in church, but it can sometimes be difficult to find a meaning



Epiphany Party

While the snow was a beautiful surprise this December, it certainly threw a wrench into the festive plans for the youth group! The Christmas party and caroling unfortunately had to be cancelled, but the Epiphany party on January 4 was a blast! The youth room was decorated beautifully by the Leadership Team, full of white lights and a small Christmas tree.

Everyone enjoyed delicious food brought by all, and a big thank you to the wonderful parents that washed the dishes so we could hurry home quickly in the snow! All of the youth were told to bring a small, silly gift for the white elephant gift exchange. There were enough gifts brought that even the parents could take part in the festivities. Presents ranged from puzzles to



What a gift!

Some may find a group of-occasionally-rowdy high school kids a bit intimidating, but Emily Hanson has stepped up and taken the challenge. We are all so thankful to her for giving her time and talents in helping all of us learn and grow in our faith! I hope this inspires you to help in any way that you can!

Isabelle: *What made you decide to join the Core Team?*

Emily: I joined Life Teen to become more involved in the Parish. I had a great experience in my Senior High youth group at St. Thomas More and I felt that it would be good to give back to the youth ministry in our Parish.

I: *What have you found to be the best part so far?*

E: The best part has been the welcome from the other Core members as well as the teens who attend Life Nights. Everyone is warm and encouraging.

I: *Were you apprehensive about joining?*

E: I was not apprehensive about joining since I was already acquainted with Angela and knew we got along well. I was excited to contribute to the team and learn, too!



We Need You!

Volunteer To Be A Core Team Member and Join In The Fun!

Emily did it, what about you?

We also need Lectors and Altar servers for the 5pm Sunday Life Teen Mass.

Contact Angela @
angelac@stmp.org or
(425) 743-2929 x106

What's This?

Again, this newsletter is my senior project and I'm hoping to inform people of the happenings of the youth and to encourage teens and adults to become involved in the program! If there is anything you wish to see in this newsletter or have any suggestions or questions, please contact me at isabellemullen@hotmail.com.
Peace and God Bless!

Isabelle Mullen



Upcoming Events



- Feb 22nd Youth Group 6:00-8:00 Topic : Eucharist
- Feb 23rd The Edge 6:30 - 7:45 Dalton Hall
- March 1st Community Potluck
- March 2nd The Edge 6:30 - 7:45 Dalton Hall
- March 5th Taizé Prayer in Chapel 6:15pm—7:15pm
- March 7th Snow Shoeing Trip. Friends and family invited!
- More info at youth group and in the bulletin
- March 8th Youth Group 6:00-8:00 Topic : Reconciliation
- March 9th The Edge 6:30 - 7:45 Dalton Hall
- March 12th Taizé Prayer in Chapel 6:15pm—7:15pm
- March 15th Reconciliation for Senior High students 6:15-8pm
- March 16th Reconciliation for Junior High students 6:30-8pm
- March 19th Taizé Prayer in Chapel 6:15pm—7:15pm
- March 22nd Youth Group 6:00-8:00 Topic : Marriage
- March 23rd The Edge 6:30 - 7:45 Dalton Hall
- March 26th Taizé Prayer in Chapel 6:15pm—7:15pm
- March 27th Youth Passion Drama 7pm in Church
- April 1st Community Potluck
- April 5th Taizé Prayer in Chapel 6:15pm—7:15pm