

"The Open Window"

Bergamo Center for Lifelong Learning
Newsletter
Winter 2020
<http://www.bergamocenter.org/>



Renew, Rebuild, Restore

Work was completed for Phase 1/Unit 1 in early December on the Bergamo Center capital improvement project to upgrade the lodging units. Unit 2/Phase 2 is underway and anticipated to be done by the end of April. Over half of the lodging units will be completed by midsummer. There are 5 lodging units and each unit will be completed as a separate phase. The work is anticipated to take 2 years. The phased areas are sealed from other parts of the building as the work is conducted. We apologize in advance for any inconvenience and noise the project may cause. These capital improvements represent an opportunity to **Renew, Rebuild and Restore** the Bergamo Center.

The project is funded collaboratively by the Marianist Province of the United States and the Bergamo Center. The project is designed to enhance the reflective atmosphere of the center as well as guests' health, safety and comfort during their experience at the Bergamo Center. The project includes:

- New roof gutters - **Completed!**
- New windows - **Completed!**
- Exterior maintenance - **Completed!**
- Kitchen ceiling replaced - **Completed!**
- Increased water pressure – soon, very soon!
- Bedroom wall insulation – Unit 1 done!
- Interior painting and wallboard work - Unit 1 done!
- Upgraded HVAC system
- Humidity control
- Replace plumbing and bath fixtures
- NEW bath tub surrounds

The Bergamo Center will remain open, guests and groups are welcome while the capital improvement work is being completed. If individuals or leaders have concerns about lodging, they should contact either Brent Devitt, the Executive Director of the Bergamo Center, at 937-426-2363 brentd@bergamocenter.org or Jeff Bohrer, Director of Mount St. John Facilities, 937-429-0795 jbohrer@sm-usa.org.

How Well Are We Serving You?

If you have been to the Bergamo Center recently and would like to share feedback with us you may be interested in knowing we have recently developed an online version of our satisfaction survey through Constant Contact. If you have visited the Bergamo Center in the last 6 months and would like to give us your feedback on your stay please follow this link to the [Bergamo Evaluation Survey](#).

Thank you for your recent visit to the Bergamo Center for Lifelong Learning. We are committed to making your visits with us fulfilling and enjoyable. We value your feedback. Thanks for taking the time to complete our survey!

World's Greatest Retreat

"World's Greatest Retreat" is scheduled for Feb. 28 - March 1. Registration is open, (please see our Facebook page.) This popular youth retreat at Bergamo tends to fill up each year. The title *World's Greatest* refers not so much that this is the greatest retreat ever, but rather that we are the only inhabitants of this planet that are made in the image of God, so that means we are the greatest gifts to this earth and we should respect the earth, respect all life, respect each other, and make the choices in our lives likewise.



Cycling at Bergamo

Frequently guests at Bergamo comment on what a beautiful setting Mount Saint John is for a retreat. Mount Saint John is an inspiring place to walk and cycle through. It has been evident recently that more can be done to welcome cyclists to the property and to the Bergamo Center. One amenity added



recently at the Bergamo Center is a new bike rack made of repurposed materials that offers guests a place to park their bikes. Details about this and other initiatives Bergamo is taking to become a more Bike Friendly Business may be found at the Bergamo website. Link to

Bicycle newsletter.

Bergamo Information Packets

For all current retreat groups and new inquiring groups Bergamo has updated its website with new online information packets for both adult and youth groups. We ask all organizers to look over the updated information carefully. The packets provide information about available spaces and new rates. Additional documents for Retreat and Conference Organizers have been added to the Conference Services tab as well.



The Bergamo Website has been updated to make it more mobile friendly for devices like smart phones and tablets. Please check it out and notice the changes.

Celebrating the Kozlowski Family Contributions to Bergamo



For years when you visit Bergamo there is one family name that seems to pop up all over the center. **Kozlowski!** After serving 23 years as programming coordinator at Bergamo Barb Kozlowski retired at the end of 2019. Barb's legacy is the nurturing support of many high school junior and Kairos programs, to the extent that today Bergamo hosts over 16 different Catholic high schools. Barb's

greatest contributions in adult programs include the development of Spiritual Direction programs at Bergamo and the introduction of the *Ignatian Spirituality Program*, also known as ISP. In the last decade the ISP program has bolstered the spirits of hundreds of men and women experiencing homelessness and recovery from addictions.

Barb's son Kevin Kozlowski has had a good share of impact at Bergamo as well. Kevin, who serves as youth programming coordinator at Bergamo was recently honored with the *Founder's Award* by Archbishop Moeller High School for his service demonstrating the Marianist charism with Moeller junior retreats.

Barb's husband, Deacon Bob Kozlowski has partnered with Barb in leading countless Pre-Cana days at Bergamo with hundreds, if not thousands of couples as they prepared for the sacrament of marriage. Son Doug Kozlowski has been a regular volunteer in most if not all of the 18 previous annual *World's Greatest Retreats* and son Dave Kozlowski has served as a bartender for numerous adult functions at the center. So the Kozlowski name and service continues on at Bergamo.



Eagle Scout Project "Tranforms" Bergamo

Eagle Scout Tom Connell of neighboring Ascension Parish in Kettering added a nice amenity to the campus with a pair of bench seats that transform into a picnic table. Tom is pictured here with the Bergamo Board of Trustees. Thank you Tom!



Views of Capital Improvements

New bathtub fixtures. (New tub surrounds on the way, and water pressure booster, soon!)



Courtyard regraded, new native prairie garden planted.



Windows replaced on all bedrooms.



Roof & Gutters



Chapel Support Beams replaced.



New HVAC units in all bedrooms.



Insulation outside walls.

Marianist Feast Days - Winter 2020

- Jan. 10 - Adele de Batz de Trenquellon
- Jan. 22 - Blessed William Joseph Chaminade
- Feb. 2 - Feast of the Presentation
- Feb. 11 - Our Lady of Lourdes
- March 19 - Feast of Saint Joseph
- March 25 - Annunciation



Winter Staff Birthdays

- Amy Lehmann - Jan. 29
- Sam El-hajj-moussa - February 5
- Ginny Snead - February 21
- Gina Gregory - February 27



He is faithful to His promises; whoever hopes in Him will never be disappointed."

Adele de Batz de Trenquellon