

"The Open Window"

Bergamo Center for Lifelong Learning
Newsletter
Fall 2018
<http://www.bergamocenter.org/>

Hope & Joy Feedback

Bergamo Center regularly receives heartwarming feedback from parents and students alike regarding their participation in our Junior retreats led by our Bergamo staff. It is feedback like this that brings us joy in our mission and hope for our ministry...

"Just a quick note to let you know how much my daughter loved the junior retreat this past week. She came home exhausted but felt so much closer to her classmates. This retreat gave her a safe place to express herself and feel closer to her faith without the worries of homework, work, sports and keeping up with friends/family. So blessed! Sincerely, A Parent"



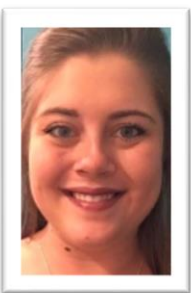
And another from a student participant...

"Hello, I recently attended my Junior Retreat at Bergamo. I would just like to extend my thanks and gratitude to you and all the facilitators. The activities, group bonding, and talks were absolutely amazing and something I will never forget."

"During the High/Low activity, I shared that my grandma had recently been diagnosed with pancreatic cancer, just a year after becoming cancer free. I told the group that it was an extremely hard time for me and my family, especially because the doctors told us they would be surprised if she made it to Christmas. I felt the love and support of the facilitators and my classmates immediately after sharing."

"But after I got back from Bergamo, my grandma took a turn for the worse and passed away less than 2 weeks later. My whole family was heartbroken. But through the love from God and my classmates that I was reminded of at Bergamo, I was able to stay strong through this difficult time."

"So from the bottom of my heart, thank you for doing what you do and changing the lives of those around you everyday."



Youth Intern

Please meet Abby Zimmerman, Bergamo's new 2018-19 youth intern. Abby has been a facilitator here at Bergamo for the last 7 years and also has a Social Work position in Piqua. She is very excited about helping out with the retreats and has done an amazing job so far.

Spiritual Formation and Direction Courses

The Bergamo Center for Lifelong Learning will offer two programs in spiritual formation and spiritual direction beginning in October of 2018.

Deepening Spirits...exploring personal spiritual formation

Open to any interested persons, the *Deepening Spirits: exploring personal spiritual formation program* will provide participants with a comprehensive overview of the dynamics of the spiritual journey. This 18 session program is designed for those who desire to deepen their own spiritual lives as well as those possibly discerning a calling to a spiritual direction ministry and subsequent training. Successful completion of this program is a requirement for the Spiritual Direction Training Program. The *Deepening Spirits* program meets on Thursdays, 6:30pm-9:00pm from Oct. 4 – Dec. 6, 2018 and Jan. 10 - March 7, 2019. Cost of the program is \$375 per semester. Registration deadline is Sept. 15, 2018. [Link for Deepening Spirits: exploring personal spiritual formation program Description PDF](#)



For more information, please contact Barb Kozlowski at barbk@bergamocenter.org
[Deepening Spirits Application Link](#)

Spiritual Direction Program

This 18 session program will provide participants with comprehensive training in the ministry of spiritual direction. This program is open to those who have discerned a call to direction training, have had significant experience in receiving direction, and have completed the *Deepening Spirits* Spiritual Formation program.

Equivalent training will be considered, Personal interview may be required. The class meets on Tuesday evenings from 6:30-9:00 pm from Oct. 2 through Dec. 4, 2018 and Jan. 8 through March 5, 2019. An additional hour a week will be expected outside of class in both giving and receiving direction throughout the semester. Cost of the program is \$375 per semester. Registration deadline is Sept. 15, 2018.

[Link for Spiritual Direction Program Description PDF](#)

For more information, please contact Kathy Sales at kathys@bergamo.org
[Spiritual Direction Application Link](#)

Bergamo Board of Trustees

Bergamo has a distinguished group of professional members of the community who help assist the leadership of our Center.

David Conard	George Lisjak
Amy Doorley	Kathleen Molnar
Karen Emmerich	Jim Murray
Bro. Victor Forlani	Martha Saurine
Susan Ferguson	Paula Smith Chambers
Bob Jackson	Dan Wade
Mike Lehner	Tom Westendorf

Each board member serves a three year term with an option for renewal of a second term. We thank these trustees for the contribution of their time and expertise and willingness of most to serve a second term.



Oh Deer!

One of the great benefits of being at the Bergamo Center is close proximity to the natural beauty of Mount Saint John that surrounds the center. All sorts of wildlife from butterflies to buck deer are sighted near the Bergamo Center. Guests are encouraged to admire the wildlife from afar. Generally these wildlife visitors mind their own business...read on...



Photo by Kevin Kozlowski 9/7/18

“Sometime in the 1980’s a local guest to the Bergamo Center, Marilyn Schwieterman was driving by Bergamo and a deer came bounding across the road and towards the center. It jumped through the glass windows of one of the bedrooms. She continued to watch as the deer managed to jump back out of the window after wreaking havoc in the bedroom. Marilyn parked her car in the parking lot and went on to the front desk to inform the staff, “I’m not sure how to explain this but I think you have a deer wanting to check into the Bergamo Center.””

This story was taken from *The History of the Bergamo Center for Lifelong Learning*, published in 2017 for the Bergamo jubilee. [A link to this free document is on the Bergamo website.](#)

Marianist Feast Days - Fall 2018

- Sept. 5 - Mary, Queen of the Apostles
- Sept. 8 - Birthday of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- Sept. 12 - Holy Name of Mary
- Sept. 18 - Blesseds, Brothers Fidel, Jesus, and Carlos
- Oct. 2 - Feast of the Guardian Angels
- Oct. 12 - Our Lady of the Pillar
- Nov. 6 - Marianist Martyrs of Madrid
- Nov. 21 - Presentation of Mary
- Dec. 8 - Feast of the Immaculate Conception
- Dec. 12 - Our Lady of Guadalupe



Fall Staff Birthdays

- Connie Chatterton - November 13
- Ann Sherman - Dec. 4
- Launa Eby - Dec. 31
- Jennifer Wourms - Dec. 31

Quotable Quote

“Ours is great work, a magnificent work. “

Bl. William Chaminade



William Chaminade

by students of Chaminade Madonna College Preparatory HS Hollywood, FL.

Fall Retreats/Events (Approx. # of Participants)

- Badin Kairos (50) – Sept. 4-7
- So. OH Dist. Brethren Women (50) – Sept. 7-8
- Bishop Fenwick HS Retreat (45) – Sept. 9-10
- Seton HS Retreat (45) – Sept. 10-11
- CJ HS Kairos (70) – Sept. 11-14
- Bergamo Board (15) – Sept. 13
- Enneagram (50) – Sept. 14-18
- Individual Retreat Day – Sept. 17
- Moeller HS Kairos (58) – Sept. 18-21
- St. Ursula HS Retreat (40) – Sept. 21-23
- Ignatian Spirituality Project ISP Women (30) – Sept. 22-23
- Moeller HS Retreat (55) – Sept. 24-25
- Alter HS Kairos (45) – Sept. 25-28
- Warren Co. Quilters (30) – Sept. 27-30

- Mount Notre Dame HS Kairos (45) – Oct. 1-4
- Spiritual Formation (12) – Begins Weekly Oct. 2 - Dec. 4**
- Spiritual Direction (12) - Begins Weekly Oct. 4 – Dec. 6**
- Wright Pat Youth Confirmation (20) – Oct. 7
- Carroll HS Retreat (60) – Oct. 7-8
- Mount Notre Dame HS Retreat (45) – Oct. 8-9
- Badin Kairos (50) – Sept. 9-12
- Led by the Light Ascension Women (60) – Oct. 13-14
- Ignatian Spirituality Project ISP Men (20) – Oct. 13-14
- Alter HS Retreat (50) – Oct. 14-15
- Individual Retreat Day – Oct. 16
- Visitation Marianist State Fall Retreat (55) – Oct. 19-21
- Yoga Workshop (40) – Oct. 19-25
- Creative Get Aways (30) – Oct. 20
- Ignatian Spirituality Project ISP Women (20) – Oct. 20
- Goldsmith Group (10) – Oct. 20-21
- Friends of the Creche Annual Meeting (100) – Oct. 25-28
- Hartley HS Retreat (60) – Oct. 28-29
- Villa Madonna HS Retreat (40) – Oct. 29-30

- Journal of Curriculum Theory (90) – Nov. 1-4
- Incarnation Confirmation Group (90) – Nov. 4
- Carroll HS Retreat (55) – Nov. 4-5
- Moeller HS (58) – Nov. 5-6
- CJ HS Kairos (70) – Nov. 6-9
- Spinning Road Baptist Church Women (30) – Nov. 9-10
- Calling All People Ministries (50) Nov. 9-11
- Ignatian Spirituality Project ISP Women (30) – Nov. 10-11
- Bergamo Board of Trustees Retreat (15) – Nov. 9-10
- Incarnation Confirmation Group (80) – Nov. 11
- Seton IN HS Retreat (30) – Nov. 12-13
- Seton HS Kairos (50) – Nov. 13-16
- Matt Talbot Group (40) Nov. 16-18
- Ignatian Spirituality Project ISP Men (20) – Nov. 17
- Hartley HS Retreat (60) – Nov. 18-21
- Bergamo Center Closed for Thanksgiving – Nov. 22-23
- Mount Notre Dame Kairos (50) – Nov. 26-27
- Alter HS Kairos (55) – Nov. 27-30

- Wright State Day Reflection (20) – Dec. 1
- Enneagram Basics (20) – Dec. 1
- Individual Retreat Day – Dec. 3
- Springfield Catholic HS Retreat (65) – Dec. 3-4
- Lehman HS Kairos (70) - Dec. 4-7
- St. Albert the Great Confirmation (50) - Dec. 8
- Mount St. John Charism Luncheon (100) - Dec. 13
- Ignatian Spirituality Project ISP Women (25) – Dec. 15
- Hispanic Ministry Couples Retreat (70) – Dec. 15-16
- Bergamo Closed for Christmas/New Years - Dec. 18-Jan. 1