



"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a . . .

# LIGHT

**Pathways T.E.C.**

. . . unto my path"

Volume 12 Number 2

April 2009

## Coordinator's Comments:

Dear Pathways TEC Family,

"God has everything taken care of, He loves us, we just need to trust Him." These very wise words from Janet Wood, a TECite in Caledonia, serve as a beautiful reminder to all of us during this lenten season of just why we are involved in the TEC movement. Please read Janet's reflection and continue to share the love of Christ with those around you every day. You do make a difference!

*I made Pathways TEC 51 back in January and it was an amazing experience. I didn't know much about TEC before I came, all I knew was that I needed to go because God was calling me to go. I didn't know what I was supposed to learn or find, I just knew that I need to be there. Going to TEC was definitely a step out of my comfort zone and I was really nervous. I didn't*

*realize that God would never make me do anything that I couldn't do. I was blown away by the whole experience. After I got home I knew that if I learned nothing else, I learned that I can trust God. He's got it all taken care of. My worrying was not helping anyone. Instead of worrying, I needed to trust.*

*I learned a lot from the small and large group discussions and the speeches. (Thank you to all the speakers of Pathways 51.) I was also intrigued to see my tablemates grow throughout the weekend. But I think I learned most from the example of the Wheat Team. The highlight of the weekend for me was getting to meet the Wheaties. I had no idea that they were there, and to find out that they had been praying for, cooking and cleaning up after us the whole weekend was very powerful for*

*me. I knew immediately that I wanted to be a Wheatie someday. Maybe I should have suspected something while reading my Wheat letters, but I didn't (I was participating, not anticipating). Along with letters from friends and family, there were letters from complete strangers telling me that they were praying for me! Why would strangers do that? Little did I know that we would meet the very next day! The feeling of surprise and love that filled the room was indescribable. Through the Wheaties I was able to see an example of how God has everything taken care of, He loves us, we just need to trust Him. Remember to let go, and let God!*

Janet C. Wood

Minnesota State University, Mankato.

Blessings,

Mary White, Pathways TEC Coordinator

## Pathways TEC 2009 Schedule

53 August 7-9, 2009 Rochester ~~~ 54 October 16-18, 2009 Pipestone

**Could you be a Director???** We sometimes have trouble finding Lay Directors for TEC weekends. We know it is a big responsibility and commitment and the entire Pathways TEC family owes a huge debt of gratitude to those who take on that role. For those who have thought about it but weren't sure of the qualifications, here is some information you might find helpful.

**Lay Directors** must be at least 23 years old, mature and experienced in Pathways TEC. They need to have served as Assistant Lay Director and must have worked enough Pathways TEC's to be familiar with all aspects of the TEC weekend, both on the wheat side as well as the conference room.

**Wheat Directors** must be at least 21 years old, mature and experienced in Pathways TEC and knowledgeable of what happens in the conference room.

**Wheat Spiritual Director** must be experienced and have worked on Wheat team before with leadership skills and understanding of the mission of TEC and the Church.

\* All leaders must be practicing Catholics committed to upholding the teaching of the Catholic Church and striving to live out the Gospel in their personal lives. They are also required to participate in Leadership Training options as they become available.

**Team Applications need to be received  
at least 5 weeks before the TEC weekend.**

**Apply Now!** Leadership and team applications are accepted up to one year before the TEC. If you like to plan ahead, send in your application now. If you are more of a 'last minute' type, that's okay too. Just be aware of the 5 week before TEC work application deadline—that's when team is chosen. If you can't get away for the entire weekend, please consider applying to direct or help with the Reunion.

*Send Applications to:  
Pathways TEC Program  
C/O Mary White, TEC Coordinator  
5091 Manor Brook Dr. NW  
Rochester, MN 55901*

**Coming Events...**

**August 2009**

7-9 PW TEC #53 (Rochester)  
8 Reunion, PW #53

**October 2009**

16-18 PW TEC #54 (Pipestone)  
17 Reunion, PW #54

**Pathways Reunion Schedule**

4:00 Registration, socializing  
4:30 Mass  
6:00 TECite Reunion

*"May all those  
on whom faith  
does not shine  
at last see the light!"  
St. Therese of Lisieux*

**Reflection from a recent TECite**

My TEC experience was amazing! If I could go back a re-live any day (or days) of my life it would be the weekend I went to TEC. I met so many new people that I will remember forever, and now we are all apart of a big TEC family. I was able to learn more about the Catholic religion and get a better understanding of God and who I truly was.

I found about TEC through my boyfriend (Bo Johnson) and his family and decided I had nothing to lose. I feel TEC has changed my life by me being able to let go let God. TEC taught me that when you feel like the world has walked out on you, you can always count on God. He is always there for you. And last but not least, Don't Anticipate, PARTICIPATE!! Thanks for the GREAT experience.

*AnnMarie Dykstra PW52*

**Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha**

Known as the "Lily of the Mohawks", was a member of the Mohawk tribe, born according to some authorities at the Turtle Castle of Ossernenon, according to others at the village of Gandaouge, in 1656; died at Caughnawaga, Canada, 17 April, 1680.

Her mother was a Christian Algonquin who had been captured by the Iroquois and saved from a captive's fate by the father of Tekakwitha. When Tekakwitha was about four years old, her parents and brother died of small-pox, and the Kateri was adopted by her aunts and an uncle who had become chief of the Turtle clan.

Because small-pox had marked Kateri's face and seriously impaired her eyesight her manner was reserved. In 1667 the Jesuit missionaries Fremin, Bruyas, and Pierron, accompanying the Mohawk deputies who had been to Quebec to conclude peace with the French, spent three days in the lodge of Tekakwitha's uncle. From them she received her first knowledge of Christianity, but although she forthwith eagerly accepted Christianity in her heart she did not at that time ask to be baptized.

Sometime later the Turtle clan moved to the north bank of the Mohawk River, the "castle" being built above what is now the town of Fonda. Here in the midst of scenes of carnage, debauchery, and idolatry, Tekakwitha lived a life of remarkable virtue, at heart a Christian. She often, with great risk to herself, resisted all efforts to induce her to marry.

When she was eighteen, Father Jacques de Lamberville arrived to take charge of the mission which included the Turtle clan, and from him, at Kateri's earnest request, received baptism. Kateri practiced her religion unflinchingly in the face of almost unbearable opposition, till finally her uncle's lodge ceased to be a place of protection to her and she was assisted by some Christian natives to escape to Caughnawaga on the St. Laurence.

Here Kateri lived in the cabin of Anastasia Tegonhatsihonga, a Christian native woman, Kateri showed extraordinary sanctity impressing not only her own people but the French and the missionaries.

Upon her death devotion to her began immediately to be manifested by her people. Many pilgrims visited her grave in Caughnawaga where a monument to her memory was erected by the Rev. Clarence Walworth in 1884.

The Councils of Baltimore and Quebec petitioned for her canonization. On 22 June 1980, she was beatified by Pope John Paul II; her feast day is celebrated on 14 July.

### **The Mystery of the empty Tomb**

On April 12 we celebrate Easter as a faith community. Easter is the Great Sunday. It is the celebration of Jesus's Resurrection from the dead. The historical event of Jesus's Resurrection is the final piece of evidence that proves he was who he said he was--the Messiah, the Son of God. When we gather as a faith community this Easter Sunday and each Sunday throughout the year, we celebrate again this glorious event of Jesus's rising from the dead. As we celebrate Easter through our various and diverse family and community traditions, let us never lose focus of Jesus's triumphant victory over death.

The Easter celebration is the feast of feasts, the Sunday of Sundays, the Great Sunday. There is no higher feast for Catholics because the Easter event is the culmination of all the truths Jesus taught his disciples. We have been reading about these truths in the Gospel of Mark, the predominant Gospel in this year's lectionary readings. Many times throughout the Gospel of Mark, we have come to know that Jesus is the Son of God and he will be glorified through his own Resurrection. The Resurrection of Jesus is the firm foundation upon which our faith in Jesus Christ stands. Jesus's Resurrection is his physical rising from the dead on the third day after his Crucifixion, death, and burial. The Resurrection of Christ is the central, glorious truth of our Catholic faith and is the basis upon which we believe all Christians will share in a resurrected life with the Triune God in heaven. We celebrate his Resurrection at Mass. When we proclaim the mystery of faith, one of the responses recognizes that Jesus died, Jesus rose, and Jesus will come again.

In the Gospel reading on Easter Sunday, John 20:1-9 we hear of the reactions of the three main characters in the passage as they encounter the empty tomb. Each of the three main characters in this passage, even though he or she has the same experience of seeing the empty tomb, has a different reaction. When Mary of Magdala arrived at Jesus's tomb early on the first day of the week (Sunday) and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb, she assumed someone had stolen Jesus's body. She ran to tell her assumption to Peter and the other disciple. When Peter arrived at the tomb, we know only that he entered and saw Jesus's burial cloths. We are not given Peter's reaction to the empty tomb. Was he perplexed and not sure what this meant? When the other disciple entered the tomb, after first waiting for Peter to go in, we know only that he saw it was empty and that he believed (20:8).

These three people each had a personal relationship with Jesus when he was alive. All three witnessed the evidence that Jesus had risen from the dead. We are only told that once the disciple entered the tomb, he immediately believed. We do not hear similar information about Mary of Magdala or Peter until a little later in the Gospel. In John 20:16, Mary of Magdala believed when she saw and spoke with the risen Jesus. In John 21:15-17, while in Jesus's presence, Peter professed his belief in the Risen Christ.

In this Gospel, we have examples of how three different people came to faith in the risen Christ. The first disciple to arrive at the tomb believed because he saw the body was no longer in the tomb. Mary of Magdala believed after she saw and heard Jesus speak. Peter reconfirmed his belief in Jesus in response to Jesus's question, "Do you love me?" (21:16). Mary of Magdala, Peter, and the other disciple came to believe more deeply in Jesus the Christ because of their personal relationship with Jesus, because of their love for Jesus. Could the Gospel of John be pointing to the importance of having a personal relationship with Jesus, a relationship in which we come to love Jesus more and more each day? Through daily prayer, frequent spiritual and scriptural reading, and acts of charity, we come to know Jesus more personally.

Why do you profess a belief in the resurrected Christ?  
*Dennis Kurtz*

### **Pathways TEC # 52**

On Valentines weekend February 14-16 God's people gathered at St. Adrian's to participate in Pathways TEC # 52. The theme for the weekend was God is Love (I John 4:8). What a special gift it was for all involved to reflect on the Paschal Mystery and reflect on what Love really is, a total self giving of ones self for the good of another. The theme song for the weekend was "Jesus Messiah" by Chris Tomlin. The chorus states, "Love so Amazing."

Love so amazing is what the tecites and team experienced through out the weekend. Much of the grace for the weekend came from the sacrifice and prayer of the wheat team of PW # 52. Thank you! There were 17 tecites of various ages and backgrounds who participated well and didn't anticipate much. The sense of God's unconditional love for us and genuine Christian community continued to grow throughout the weekend. For us personally it was nice again to see the Church (People of God) be Christ's Light to one another. As we continue our faith journey as a TEC community during Lent may we remember to pray for all our new friends, our TEC brothers and sisters. God is Love.

*John and Nancy Hust, Lay Directors PW#52*

~~~~~ **Welcome To The Family, Pathways #52 TECites:** ~~~~~

|                  |                  |                   |
|------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Kelsey Altman    | Heather Evans    | Stephen Lookbrock |
| Ethan Baatz      | Maggie Fornoff   | Kelsey Ray        |
| Brad Baumgartner | Josh Groeneweg   | Ashley Their      |
| Ben Cook         | Karlee Jackson   | Alex Wetering     |
| Karen Cook       | Smanatha Johnson | Carmen Wieneke    |
| AnnMarie Dykstra | Alyssa Koob      |                   |

*It's too early to have any info on the next TEC;  
Lay Director discernment still underway...*

**The cost of Pathways TEC is going up to help offset rising expenses.  
It will now be \$30 for team and \$50 for TECites. Still a great deal!**

*Team Needed! The upcoming TEC weekends are in need of team members and Lay Directors. Could you help? E-mail questions and applications to Mary White at [kdw4409@charter.net](mailto:kdw4409@charter.net).*

***St. Therese of Lisieux, Patron of TEC, pray for all team and TECites of Pathways #53***

***"Jesus, I believe firmly that you are the Light!"  
~St. Therese of Lisieux~***

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