

Newman Foundation, Inc.  
628 N. Broadway Ste 303  
Lexington, KY 40508

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



## NEWSLETTER



**Newman's legacy:** Our inspiration, Cardinal Newman, supported an educated laity and presentation of Catholic thought to Catholics and non-Catholics on campuses of higher learning.

**Our mission:** We are an independent nonprofit corporation that seeks to deepen and integrate spiritual, intellectual, and personal development through the Newman Apostolate in the Catholic Diocese of Lexington, KY, by providing financial support and initiated programs.

**Our vision:** We will promote, foster, and support a parish-affiliated, community active and campus-recognized Newman group on each of the campuses in the Catholic Diocese of Lexington, KY.

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## GREETINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT



Newman Foundation, Inc. Executive Committee members Jan Swauger, Andy Garner, and John Considine discuss plans for 1994-1995.

It my great pleasure to bring some exciting news from the Newman Foundation, Inc. (NFI). Some of you may recall my involvement with the Foundation in the past. In 1994-95, I also had the privilege of serving as President when the Newman Center, Inc. Board decided to embark on its first ever strategic planning process to ensure the organization's continued success. Through thoughtful discussion and planning the Board came up with a strategy to strengthen its mission to serve the students, faculty and staff at the University of Kentucky through the Newman Apostolate. At that time, we were able to look back at our past accomplishments and build on the foundation that was laid by many faithful and dedicated board members and supported by many loyal friends and donors. In the end, only one thing changed and that was the name. Twenty four years later, Newman Foundation, Inc. is still

committed to its original mission, but is expanding its support to include all secular and non-Catholic campuses across the Diocese (see CrossRoads [digital.crossroadscatholic.com/guide/cross-roads-09-10-2017-e-edition/1.php](http://digital.crossroadscatholic.com/guide/cross-roads-09-10-2017-e-edition/1.php)).

Last year, the Board began discussions with Bishop John Stowe about campus ministry in the Diocese. He was extremely interested in how we could help his efforts to reach young Catholics to help them sustain their faith and develop future leaders for our Church. The Diocese of Lexington is a mission diocese and has many unmet needs so the timing of our discussion was important. Bishop Stowe assigned Deacon John Brannen, Director of Youth, Young Adult and Campus Ministry, to work with us. Deacon John now serves as an ex-officio board member.

NFI recently completed a new strategic plan to serve as its roadmap for the next 3-5 years. A guiding force to help measure our success are the "Six Aspects of Campus Ministry." These aspects have been adopted by the US Conference of Catholic Bishops to be used across the country. Two ways we hope to support campus ministry are to help provide professional development and networking opportunities for campus ministers and to bring Catholic college students from various campuses together to share experiences. We are excited about our new partnership with the Diocese and look forward to putting these objectives into action.

Many of you have enjoyed another important initiative that the Foundation offers to the public, the Distinguished Speakers Program (DSP). The DSP committee is planning for a great program in 2019. We are partnering with Dr. David Hunter, Chair, UK Cottrill-Rolfes Chair of Catholic Studies, to co-sponsor several events. Dr. Hunter serves as an ex-officio NFI board member. You can find a list of upcoming speakers on the next page of this newsletter, where you will also see information about our recent speaker, Fr. Thomas Reese, who delivered a thought-provoking presentation on Religious Freedom at Home and Abroad. If you missed his talk, there will be an article in the December issue of CrossRoads. If you would like to receive an email notification about upcoming speakers, please go to the website or contact our office. For those of you outside of central Kentucky, we hope to be sharing some of these talks via our website in the future.

Finally, as we move forward, we will continue to offer financial assistance to campus ministry programs through our Grants Program. This summer we traveled across the Diocese with Deacon John Brannen to twelve sites and met with pastors, campus ministers, students and parishioners to learn about their history and needs. We look forward to highlighting a few campus ministry programs in future communications, as we have done on the final page of this newsletter. No two programs look alike, but all had unmet needs presenting challenges to sustaining and advancing their own missions. There is much work to be done! During this Holy Season may the Light of Christ guide us as we continue our important mission and expand our services across the Diocese. Your financial support will help us fulfill our goals for the future of our Catholic faith through those we serve. Merry Christmas and a blessed New Year!

— Jan Swauger, President

### SAVE THE DATE FOR DINNER WITH BISHOP JOHN!

Last April, Bishop John delivered an address to NFI supporters entitled "Bringing the Joy of the Gospel to Millennials" (see CrossRoads [digital.crossroadscatholic.com/guide/cross-roads-05-13-2018-e-edition/1.php](http://digital.crossroadscatholic.com/guide/cross-roads-05-13-2018-e-edition/1.php)). Bishop John underscored the importance of NFI's mission, stating "the goals of campus ministry are threefold: to help young people form community, appropriate the faith, and develop leaders for the Church." Please plan to join us next year for dinner and a special program with Bishop John on **Friday, April 26<sup>th</sup> 2019.**



## Welcome New 2019 Members

Hannah Busroe, University of Pikeville Student

Dr. Theresa Dawahare, University of Pikeville

Colby Blair, Transylvania University

Zach Hall, Transylvania Student

Alan Trotter, Eastern KY University

Mary Hines, Georgetown College Student

## Returning Board Members

Jan Swauger, President, Chair of Development

Katherine Yunker, Vice President

Rahul Karanth, Treasurer

Katie Bilkha, Secretary

Liz Knapp, Chair of Public Relations

Ed Powe, Chair of Nominating, KY State University

Dr. John Conklin

David Elbon

Dr. Marcus McEllistrem

Tim Wills

Tom Rolfes

Alanna Sininger, Eastern KY University

Fr. Gary Simpson, Berea College

Dr. Fidelis Achenjang, Union College

## Ex officio Members

Dr. David Hunter

Cottrill-Rolfes Chair of Catholic Studies, U of KY

Dcn John Brannen  
Director of Youth, Young Adult & Campus Ministry  
Diocese of Lexington

Maria Bane, Executive Director

## Thank You to These Members for Their Service

Dr. Tom Butler, Chair of Grants, Eastern KY U

Dr. Margaret Ralph, Chair of Distinguished Speakers

Sarah Nolan, U of KY Student

Fr. Linh Nguyen, Georgetown College

Daniel Kelly, Past President

## DISTINGUISHED SPEAKERS PROGRAM 2017-2018

The Foundation has a long tradition of providing our local community with powerful thinkers and interpreters of Catholic Christian thought and social action. The Foundation seeks national and international scholars, theologians, philosophers and others who will present topics of current interest to challenge and excite audiences to examine the principles and concepts of Christianity in new and illuminating ways. We welcome suggestions for future speakers, which you can send to us via our website at [www.newmanfnd.org](http://www.newmanfnd.org).

**Joy Schroeder, PhD** on the Communion dimension of the Catholic-Lutheran dialogue on 10/8/17 as part of the Commemoration of the Protestant Reformation, a month-long program supported by the Catholic Diocese of Lexington and the local Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.



**Thomas J. Reese, SJ** spoke on Religious Freedom, At Home and Abroad both in Lexington and in Frankfort, KY 12/3-12/4 2018. His presentation was well-received at Christ the King Cathedral and at Kentucky State University. Fr. Reese's three-part discussion focused on defining religious freedom, religious freedom in the international arena, and religious freedom within the United States. The CrossRoads article discussing his presentation can be found in the December edition.



"Religious freedom is a fundamental human right that every person in the world should be able to enjoy. Sadly, for millions of people, this right is limited and sometimes nonexistent. People—Christians, Muslims, Jews, Hindus—are discriminated against, imprisoned and killed because of their religion. Some of the worst offenders are states like China, Saudi Arabia, Burma and Iran. Countries like India, Nigeria, and Pakistan do not do enough to protect the religious liberty of minorities when they are attacked by non-state actors. While the religious freedom situation in the United States is not as drastic as it is in many other countries, there are conflicts when the right of religious freedom for some citizens comes into conflict with the rights of others. It was wonderful to see the great interest in these issues by the audiences at Christ the King Cathedral and KSU." — Fr. Thomas Reese



## SAVE THE DATE FOR THESE UPCOMING SPEAKERS!

All talks to be held at 7pm in the Alumni Association Auditorium of W.T. Young Library in collaboration with the UK Cottrill-Rolfes Chair of Catholic Studies:

- **March 7:** John Baldwin, SJ of Boston College School of Theology and Ministry, will speak on (defending) the liturgical changes of Vatican II.
- **March 27:** Gregory Hillis, Bellarmine College, will speak on Thomas Merton and the Civil Rights Movement.
- **April 11:** David Wheeler-Reed, Albertus Magnus College, will speak on Early Christian Sexual Ethics and Contemporary Political Discourse.

## GRANTS 2017-2018

**\$500 Campus Ministry Start-Up Gifts** were offered to the following campuses in the Diocese of Lexington, and NFI is committed to offering a second gift to kick off the 2018-2019 academic year.

- Eastern Kentucky University & St. Mark
- Union College & St. Gregory
- Centre College & Sts. Peter and Paul
- Kentucky State University & Good Shepherd
- Morehead State University & Jesus Our Savior
- University of Pikeville & St. Francis of Assisi
- Transylvania University & St. Peter Claver
- University of the Cumberlands & Our Lady of Perpetual Help
- Georgetown College & Sts. Francis and John
- Berea College & St. Clare
- Ashland Community & Technical College & Holy Family
- University of Kentucky & Newman Center/ Holy Spirit

Grant for a student mission trip to underprivileged areas of Southeast Alaska, serving youth, adults, and elderly in the community.

Grant to a student and Fellow in the Gaines Fellowship for the Humanities to complete a jury project, a virtual tour of the religious art at the UK Newman Center (<https://vizor.io/amertka/the-religious-art-in-the-newman-center-at-the-university-of-kentucky/>).

## CAMPUS SPOTLIGHT

**EASTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY/ ST. MARK:** For over 45 years, the ECU Newman Center has served students, faculty, and staff. We provide outreach to 175 students (a growing number in part due to NFI's support of our promotional efforts) currently registered with our campus ministry and to the campus community as a whole. This year, we have continued our mission through a welcome back cookout hosted by the Knights of Columbus, weekly bible studies, and student mass (made possible by student ministers). Our weekly small group meetings encourage discussion of everyday issues confronted by college students, while guest speakers offer insights on a variety of topics, and our 2018 in-house retreat addressed the topic "how to live your Catholic faith as a college student." Among our favorite traditions is Sunday Suppers, a program which has previously been supported by a grant from NFI (2013). The Sunday Suppers program offers a meal as well as fellowship to ECU students, faculty, staff, and St. Mark parishioners. As we look forward to the upcoming spring semester, we plan to spread the joy of the Gospel by putting our faith into action through a service trip to serve underprivileged areas of Eastern Kentucky. We look forward to continued nourishment of college students who will serve as future leaders in our community and in others, and to future collaboration with NFI. — Alanna Sininger, Campus Minister

**UNION COLLEGE/ ST. GREGORY:** Union College is a United Methodist College in Barbourville, Southeastern KY. The College Minister, Dr. David Miller, coordinates events among various religious/ spiritual groups on campus. Catholic representatives are welcomed to the Spiritual Life Council to share the vision of the Newman Club, and are actively seeking a Catholic student to serve the Newman Club in exchange for a monthly stipend. At present, an unpaid student Good Will Ambassador serves the Newman Club, Acha Gisela, and is also involved in the St. Gregory choir. We offer mass every semester on campus in collaboration with St. Gregory. This fall, the mass of the Holy Spirit was celebrated in the College chapel followed by a reception and distribution of surprise care packages to students. Our plans for the spring semester include an Ash Wednesday service on campus. To improve recruitment, we used a recent gift from NFI to acquire shirts and start our Share It, Wear It Program. At our last Newman Club meeting, we also agreed to use funds from the Newman Club Food-Fun-Fellowship initiative at St. Gregory to host a weekly devotional class, "An Hour with Christ on Campus." During this Season of Hope (Advent), the Union Newman Club encourages your support of our ministry so that we may be witnesses to the Good News. — Fidelis Achenjang, Faculty Advisor



**UNIVERSITY OF PIKEVILLE/ ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI:** UPike is a small school serving Eastern Kentucky in a largely non-Catholic area, but we have been building our ministry from the ground up! In this sense, the Newman spirit is alive and well, responsible for presentation of Catholic thought to Catholics and non-Catholics. About 10 students are affiliated with our parish, and the UPike community is friendly to us. Currently, we offer weekly mass at the University and a Simple Supper (potluck) following mass. Thanks to a recent gift from NFI, we have just started a Faith on Tap program at Tap St. Bank 253, pictured right. It is worth noting that the Protestant chaplain of the University joined us! — Fr. Rob, Associate Pastor

